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## Steffan back in Navy

PAGE 15



### NEWS

Emory students riled over gay  
bashing PAGE 8

Settlement of anti-gay complaints  
may give Lambda Center a home PAGE 8

Top Project Open Hand official,  
Aubrey Morris, dies suddenly PAGE 8

What Atlanta is doing to observe  
World AIDS Day PAGE 8

### SOUTHEAST

New Orleans mayor vetoes domestic  
partnership benefits PAGE 4

### NATION

AIDS researcher Robert Gallo  
cleared of scientific misconduct  
charges PAGE 17

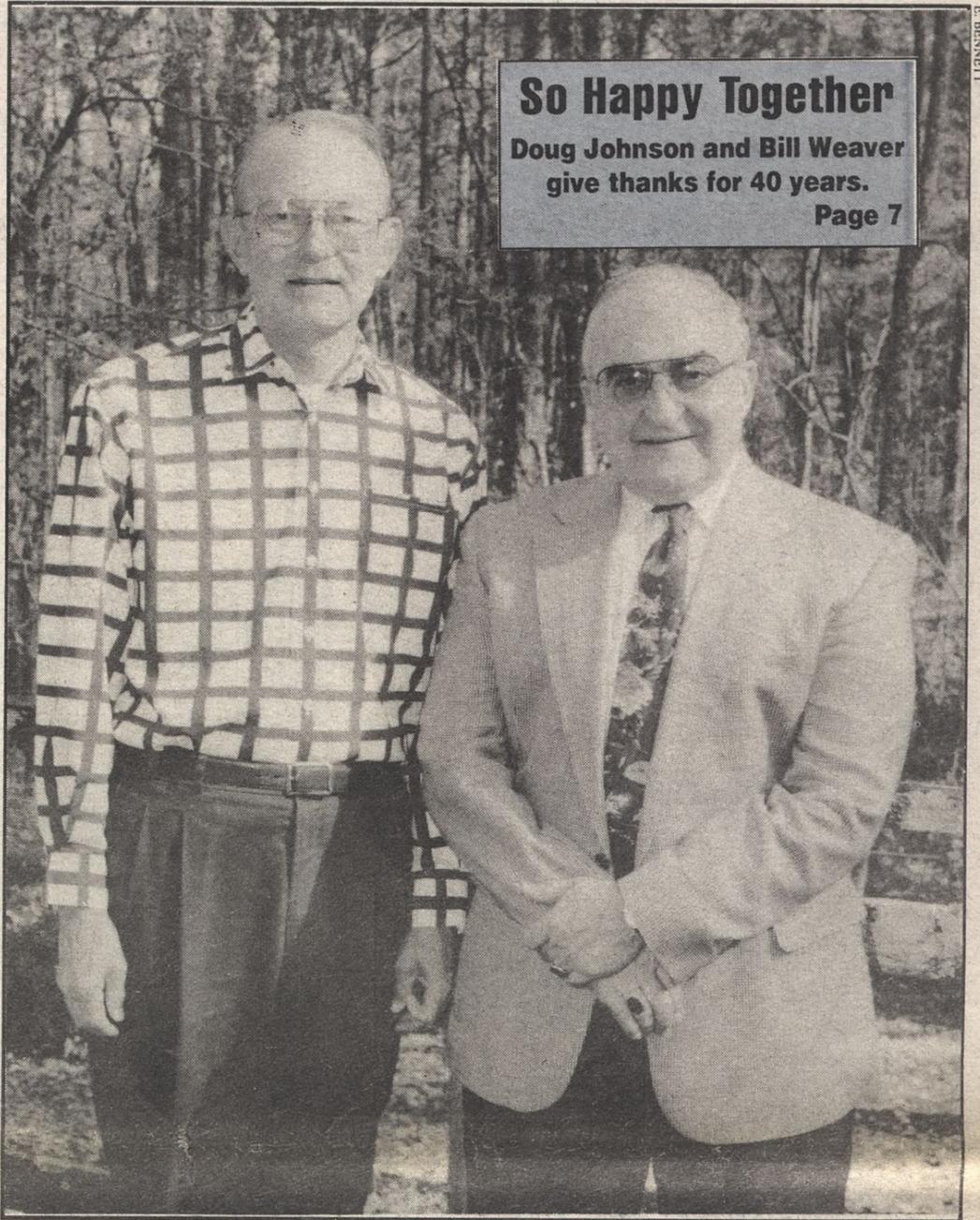
### OUT AND ABOUT

FILM

A review of the acclaimed "Sex  
Is....," which opens Friday at the  
screening Room PAGE 25

TV  
PBS's "Frontline" series looks at  
AIDS, Blood and politics PAGE 31

## HAPPY THANKSGIVING



### So Happy Together

Doug Johnson and Bill Weaver  
give thanks for 40 years.

Page 7

## Victory in Macon

City Councilman W.M. "Dick" Dickey's resolution denouncing  
"alternative lifestyles" tabled in committee

by KC WILDMOON

Macon—In a setback for the religious right, a Cobb County-style anti-gay/lesbian resolution has been rejected by a committee of the Macon City Council.

The resolution, submitted by Councilman W.M. "Dick" Dickey, was nearly identical to the resolution passed by the Cobb County Commission in August, except that it substituted vague phrasing about "alternative lifestyles" for the Cobb measure's direct references to homosexuality. However, in newspaper reports, Dickey made it clear that he was referring to lesbians and gay men as well as unmarried heterosexuals living together.

But the committee, by a 5-to-3 vote, tabled the resolution, refusing to send it on to the full City Council. Ironically, two of the three council members who voted against tabling the proposal were opponents of the measure who wanted to see the full council vote it down.

Some 75 opponents of the measure packed the committee meeting on Nov. 15, easily dwarfing the half dozen supporters.

"One of [the supporters] was a gas station jockey who said he was afraid his children would be molested," said Joseph Powell, a gay Macon activist. "Those on our side reminded the council that [the resolution] was a form of hate mongering and censorship."

Only Dickey, of the eight committee members, voted to pass the resolution on to the full council because he believed in its message. Two others, Thelma Dillard and Dee Shields, said they voted against the tabling because they felt a resounding defeat by the full council would send an even stronger message.

"This country is built on diversity," said Dillard. "This resolution goes against what this country was founded on."

Councilman Theron Ussery voted to table the measure, saying that he does not agree with the "gay lifestyle," but the resolution "serves no purpose."

"There is too much hate in the world now, and I don't think we should do anything to breed more hate and contempt."

"We had the votes to defeat it [in the full council]," said Powell. "What we were hoping is that it would go on and be soundly defeated that way. Now, what will probably happen is it will die."

Powell said that the African-American members of the council are particularly opposed to Dickey's resolution because "they see it quite rightly for what it is."

"The same people who are for this are against them," he said.

Dickey, or any other council member, can bring the measure to the full council, but only after 30 days, and the measure would come before the body without the support of a committee. Dickey has said that he probably will not pursue the matter, but Powell says lesbians and gay men in Macon will be watching closely.

"I don't trust him," he said. "We have to be prepared."

After Cobb's action in August, there were fears that other cities and counties in Georgia, spurred on by the Christian supremacists, would follow suit with measures officially denouncing lesbians and gay men. But so far, Macon has been the only other community where that tactic has been tried.



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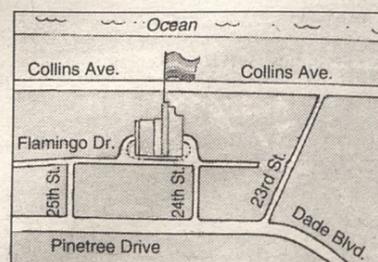
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## Emory gays fearful after attacks

*Campus visitor beaten in Lullwater Park*

Atlanta—A gay bashing at an Emory University park has left gay and lesbian students angry and afraid.

About 30 students gathered on the steps of the Candler Library on Nov. 19 to speak out about the attack and other anti-gay incidents on campus.

"One person was attacked, but all of us were targeted" said Laura Brown, president of the Emory Lesbian/Gay Organization, at the rally called by Queer Emory, an unofficial campus group.

According to the police report of the attack, the victim, who was not identified, was visiting a friend at a dormitory and was not a student himself. He went for a walk at the school's Lullwater Park at about 6 p.m. on Nov. 15, where he was attacked by two men who pushed him down an embankment toward a creek. The victim told police that the men "struck/kicked...about his body and in the groin several times."

The victim, who said he feared for a time that the men would drown him, escaped when he gouged one of his attackers in the eye. The police report said that during the attack, the victim said the men "made numerous statements such as, 'We don't like/need fags like you at Emory; We're going to teach you what being a fag is all about; Die fag.'"

Police documented his injuries as "predominately swelling/dyscoloration on the left side of his cheekbone/eye...[and] a little discoloration under his left eye as well."

Students at Friday's rally complained that the university failed to respond adequately to the attack by delaying notifying the campus community of the assault until the following day and by not including the anti-gay nature of the attack

in that notification. Nancy Seidman, of Emory's news and information department, said that the notification was of necessity short.

"We knew the details would come out in other places, like [the campus newspaper]," she said.

Seidman said that police contacted DeKalb Medical Center and the Emory University Hospital as soon as they learned of the attack, asking staff there to look out for anyone reporting an eye injury. Additionally, a notice was sent to resident advisors on Monday evening telling them to be on the alert for a student complaining of such an injury.

"There's been nothing yet," she said of the investigation. "But [police are] still talking to the victim, trying to get more identifying features."

Gay students and straight supporters alike spoke out at the rally last Friday about the need to combat anti-gay/lesbian violence. But some students said the violent attack had left them worried.

"I'm scared," Erin O'Brian told the nearly 40 spectators gathered to hear the speakers. "Who's following me and waiting in the bushes to beat me up?"

But the students unanimously agreed that such incidents would not send them scurrying for cover.

"We're not going to hide," said Amy Madison. "We're not going to lie down. We're not going back into our closets. We're here, we're queer. This is our space, too."

Ironically, the attack came as Emory began Unity Week, a yearly celebration of the diversity of the school's community. And the attack follows a series of anti-gay/lesbian incidents that have occurred throughout the fall.

A group calling itself Heterosexuals United for a New Generation has posted flyers all over the campus touting speakers on such subjects as "Homosexuality: Disturbed Childhood or Chemi-

CONTINUES ON PAGE 6

## Open Hand official dies suddenly

*Aubrey Bowie suffers fatal heart attack at 51*

Atlanta—Already reeling from the sudden departure of executive director Karen Boyles earlier this month, Project Open Hand suffered a more tragic blow last week when development director Aubrey Bowie suffered a fatal heart attack at his home.

Bowie, 51, had guided the agency's fundraising and marketing efforts since early 1991. Prior to joining Project Open Hand, Bowie served as executive director of the Artscenter in Chapel Hill, N.C. and the Fine Arts Center of Kershaw County in Cambden, S.C. and worked in the editorial department of the Greenville News-Piedmont newspaper in Greenville, S.C. from 1968 until 1985, including serving as editorial page editor during the last five years of his employment.

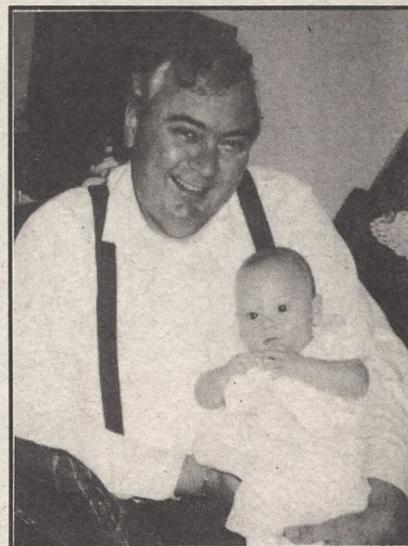
"It was a shock to all of us, and we're very sad about it," said Dick Dailey, president of Project Open Hand's board of directors. "He's going to be greatly missed."

Dailey said the board of directors would not immediately replace Bowie as development director, instead concentrating their efforts on finding a replacement for Boyles, who resigned on Nov. 5.

"What we're trying to do is find new executive director and then let her or she select a development director," he said. "Hopefully that won't be very long."

Dailey added that the search for a new executive director was being conducted by a search committee, and that the committee was "in the process of making a lot of contacts."

During his tenure at the Greenville newspaper, Bowie won the South Carolina Education Association's School Bell Award for editorial commentary dealing with education issues on three occasions and the South Caro-



Aubrey Bowie

lina Press Association's Ramscur Award for outstanding editorial in a daily newspaper. He also was active in numerous community activities throughout his life and served as president of the National Conference of Editorial Writers in 1984.

Bowie, who was born in Anderson County, S.C., on Jan. 8, 1942, graduated from Berea College in Kentucky in 1966. The funeral was held on Nov. 18 in Easley, S.C., and he was interred at St. Paul United Methodist Church in Anderson.

Bowie is survived by a niece and nephew, Dixie and Don Cely of Atlanta, his former wife, Linda Julian of Greenville, his mother, Mildred Bowie of Easley, and two brothers, Jim and Gene Bowie of Easley and Greenville.

A memorial service will be held at a later date in Atlanta. The family requested that donations be made to Project Open Hand in his name in lieu of flowers.

KC WILDMOON

## Ansley's managers offer Lambda space to settle anti-gay complaints

Atlanta—The management company that runs Ansley Mall says it is willing to give free office space for the Atlanta Lambda Community Center in order to settle complaints of alleged homophobia by one of its tenants.

The offer was made during a Nov. 16 meeting between SELIG Enterprises and members of Dykes and Faggots Bash Back, the activist group that had been having discussions with the company in the wake of the anti-gay incidents.

"We are agreeable to discussing an opportunity with them whereby we would lease space gratis until we find a tenant," said SELIG Enterprises leasing representative Shirley Gouffon.

The Lambda Center organization, which has launched a fundraising campaign that will eventually allow for purchase or construction of a lesbian/gay community center, now has a development office at the 14th Street Playhouse. SELIG's offer would allow the group to move that office to free space, saving the cost of rent.

The company's offer would not provide a home for the proposed community center itself.

And if an agreement is reached, it wouldn't necessarily mean that the Lambda Center office would go into the mall. SELIG, which manages a number of properties around the city, did not commit to using any particular location but has agreed that the space would be somewhere in the Midtown area.

Joan Garner, head of the Lambda Center's research and design committee, said that Gouffon had requested a list of their requirements for office space and that those requirements had been faxed to SELIG.

"We're in the process of waiting now," Garner said. "But we're real excited."

The agreement was the culmination of a series of letters and conversations between Dykes and Faggots Bash Back and SELIG that began in early August after altercations between gay and lesbian mall patrons and the owner of a shoe

repair shop in the mall.

According to sworn affidavits, in early July two gay men overheard Richard C. Dennard, owner of the Shoe Repair and Factory Outlet, calling President Clinton the anti-Christ because he wanted to allow gay men and lesbians into the U.S. military. After the two men identified themselves as gay, Dennard allegedly yelled anti-gay epithets at them as he ordered them out of his store.

It was not the first complaint about Dennard. Members of another mall tenant, Boot Camp Fitness Center, have alleged harassment, and Dennard has sued the health club over the volume of its music.

In October, the activist group sent a letter reminding the company of the heavy patronage of Ansley Mall by gay men and lesbians, prompting the meeting with SELIG.

"It wasn't a threatening letter, but it kind of pushed it," said Tim Davis of Dykes and Fag-

gots Bash Back. "But [Ansley Mall] is our backyard."

Davis and Joe deRose met with Gouffon and another company official. The SELIG representatives explained that they could not break their lease with Dennard, as the activists originally demanded.

"At the end, it came down to 'What do you want from us?'" Davis said. "And we said, 'Office space for the Lambda Center.'"

SELIG agreed to negotiate with Lambda for use of one of their holdings in or near Midtown, and Davis brought the two groups together.

"They're going to take it from here," Davis said. "We've done our part."

Garner said she was pleased with the turn of events.

"It was so thoughtful of Dykes and Fags Bash Back, thinking 'community.' We need to do more of that," she said.

KC WILDMOON

## Capitol speak out, stamp unveiling part of AIDS Day events

Atlanta—AIDS awareness will take a step up in focus on Dec. 1 as the Atlanta AIDS community's activists, advocates, service providers and people living with AIDS/HIV mark World AIDS Day.

Begun by the World Health Organization in 1990, World AIDS Day's purpose is to foster awareness of the extent of the disease—and the progress or lack thereof toward a cure—worldwide. In Atlanta, AIDS organizations have planned a variety of events for the day.

AID Atlanta has set aside much of its day for activities, beginning with an unveiling of the U.S. Postal Service's new AIDS awareness stamp

at 10 a.m. in the organization's conference room. Atlanta's postmaster will be on hand, and through a special arrangement with the Postal Service, stamps will be available for purchase at the offices.

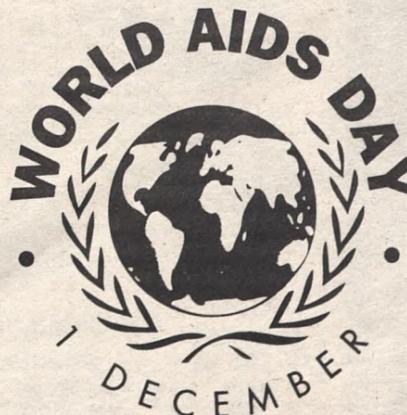
The city's largest AIDS service organization will also host an open house at its offices at 1438 West Peachtree St. from 4 p.m. to 7 p.m., with special presentations by the agency's two youth groups. Ask Us, a youth outreach group, is scheduled for 5 p.m., and Teen Teatro, an Hispanic youth group that performs in Spanish and English, is set for 6 p.m. Additionally, AID Atlanta will host the dedication of new panels for the

Names Project Quilt from 7 p.m. to 8 p.m.

"I think when we look at World AIDS Day, it's a tremendous opportunity to call attention—again—to the disease and the epidemic, as well as bring the community together through various activities," said AID Atlanta executive director Becky Clayton. "We're really looking forward to this—to it being an extraordinary day of learning and healing."

Clayton added that AID Atlanta has made educational public service announcements available to television and religious radio stations for the day and that Teen Teatro will be seen on

CONTINUES ON PAGE 6



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## New Orleans mayor vetoes city partnership benefits

New Orleans, LA—Lesbian and gay employees of this city will not be allowed to enroll their "domestic partners" in the city's health insurance plan, as the City Council planned.

Mayor Sidney Barthelemy vetoed the ordinance Nov. 10, saying the city could not afford it.

"Faced with severe financial constraints in 1994, which call for the layoff of hundreds of employees, the city cannot afford to add to the cost of the operating budget by expanding the number of participants eligible for coverage under the city's self-funded health care plan," Barthelemy said.

Barthelemy said the minimum cost to the city as a result of the ordinance would have been \$1,680 per individual added, per year.

The ordinance sponsored by Councilman Johnny Jackson, approved 5-2 by the seven-member council last week, applied only to gay men and lesbians. Unmarried heterosexual partners of city employees were not included.

Councilwoman Jackie Clarkson, who voted for the proposal, argued that the additions of gay, live-in partners would cost the city no more than it would to add the same number of heterosexual spouses.

Randy Evans, a leader of the Forum for Equality, a gay/lesbian-rights group, told the council that New Orleans could have expected up to 2 percent of its workers, or about 80 employees, to enroll their partners in the health plan. Some activists estimate the total cost at \$134,000 a year.

Chief Administrative Officer Leonard Simmons estimated that the city health plan will pay out about \$26 million in 1994—



Mayor Sidney Barthelemy says the city can't afford to cover partners of gay and lesbian employees.

without the ordinance.

"Our position then (last week) was the same as the mayor's today...The budget precludes that kind of spending," Simmons said.

Councilwoman Peggy Wilson, who voted against the ordinance, noted that the city has a maximum liability of \$500,000 for each person in its health plan. If several of the new members contract serious illnesses and run up large medical bills, the city could have to pay millions of dollars, she said.

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## 1 dead, 1 hurt in Charleston attacks

Charleston, SC—Police in this South Carolina city are investigating two attacks—including one murder—that they believe may be anti-gay hate crimes.

Both victims are believed to have met their attackers at Charleston's Adult Book and Video store, according to the North Carolina gay newspaper, The Front Page, and Charleston police are warning gay men to take caution with strangers.

The body of James D. Small was found in his Charleston home on Oct. 10, his throat slashed. Small had been at the bookstore earlier in the evening.

On Sept. 13, another Charleston man left the bookstore with three other men and was attacked by one of the men while riding in the

back of a late model, black pickup truck. The victim received a five-inch gash on his throat. He survived the attack by jumping from the vehicle and seeking help from a nearby home.

"There are homosexual overtones to both crimes," police Captain Bob Roberts told The Front Page. "The gay community should be particularly cautious in their contacts with strangers."

Police have descriptions of all three men, including the man they believe killed Small and used his credit card to buy gasoline later in the evening. That man's description also matches the man who rode in the back of the pickup truck with the earlier victim.

THE FRONT PAGE

## Virginia Baptists say gays are "sinful"

Richmond, VA—Virginia Southern Baptists have approved a statement condemning homosexuality as "sinful and unacceptable for Christians" and discouraging the elevation of gays and lesbians to church leadership positions.

The measure was overwhelmingly approved by delegates to the Baptist General Association of Virginia annual meeting. The declaration is nonbinding for the state's approximately 600,000 Southern Baptists.

The Rev. Charles Fuller, pastor of Roanoke's First Baptist Church, said the resolution leaves "room for compassion" for a person in a lifestyle denounced by the Bible.

The resolution includes a call to "bring all people to a loving and redeeming savior."

However, some of the approximately 2,500 delegates opposed making any statement on gays and lesbians. The Rev. Henry Langford, a retired pastor from Richmond, said speaking out against homosexuality unfairly paints it as a more severe sin than others.

"We have no business picking on the homosexuals or anybody else," he said. "As Christians we have to question 'What right do I have to try to tell people to think and live and believe and act as I do?'"

The Rev. John Boquist, music minister of Yorktown's Bethel Baptist Church, disagreed.

Society "is teaching us that we accept homosexuality as normal," he said. "I feel the world wants to hear how we feel."

Several church members attending the two-day assembly said the vote should put to rest the association's debate on lesbians and gays, which started last year as the body discussed a measure calling for redemptive ministry for all people, including gay men and lesbians.

"We are wasting our time arguing over making a statement that these people in this room agree on," said the Rev. Ben Thomas, associate pastor of Orange Baptist Church near Charlottesville.

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**South Africa Bans Gay Discrimination:** The bill of rights attached to the constitution approved by South African leaders last week includes a ban on discrimination on the basis of sexual orientation, as well as "race, gender, sex, ethnic or social origin, color...age, disability, religion, conscience, belief, culture or language." African National Congress leader Nelson Mandela, who is expected to become the nation's president when elections are held next spring, said of the new constitution, "Gone will be the days when one culture was elevated to a position of superiority and others denigrated and denied."



JAMES ARONOVSKY

**Trial Over FBI's Gay Policy Postponed Again:** A U.S. District Judge has postponed a trial over the FBI's policies on gay agents and applicants at the government's request. The trial was to begin Nov. 15, but U.S. District Judge Sandra Brown Armstrong plans to start the long-delayed proceedings sometime between Nov. 29 and Jan. 3, lawyers for fired FBI agent Frank Buttino said. Buttino originally filed suit to protest his firing from the FBI in 1990, after 20 years of service, when he disclosed his homosexuality during an investigation prompted by an anonymous letter. Judge Armstrong has broadened the suit into a constitutional challenge of the FBI's policies on behalf of all gay employees and job applicants.

Frank Buttino's case against the FBI has been broadened to include the rights of all lesbians and gay men.

**International Gay Group Moves To Expel NAMBLA:** The International Lesbian and Gay Association, attempting to squelch attempts by the U.S. government to have it removed from its newly acquired consultative status at the United Nations, has moved to expel the North American Man-Boy Love Association (NAMBLA) from its membership roster.

NAMBLA's membership in ILGA caused a flurry of protest from the U.S. Mission to the UN, based on the group's work to legalize consensual sex between adults and children. ILGA has planned a meeting with the U.S. Mission to clarify the organization's standing on the issues of pedophilia and child abuse.

**Judge Enjoins Amendment That Strips Gay Rights In Cincinnati:** U.S. District Judge Arthur Spiegel has granted an injunction preventing a city charter amendment that repeals Cincinnati's gay rights ordinance from going into effect. The amendment, passed by the voters on Nov. 2, was immediately challenged in court by several activists and organizations in the Ohio city, claiming that it illegally deprives gay men, lesbians and bisexuals of their right to equal protection under law. The injunction proscribes implementation of the amendment until after the lawsuit is heard by Judge Spiegel.

**Mass. Blue Cross To Offer Benefits To Domestic Partners:** In an unusual move for a health insurance company, Blue Cross and Blue Shield of Massachusetts will expand its employee medical benefits to also include unmarried couples of the same or opposite sex. Arthur Banks, Blue Cross' senior vice president for human resources, said the decision demonstrates the company is "committed to supporting the needs of a diverse work force." At least one other Blue Cross plan, in Vermont, also plans to offer similar benefits to its employees next year, a spokesman said.

**Christians Plan To Boycott San Francisco:** Religious groups in San Francisco have threatened to boycott the Gay Mecca to protest what they call lax enforcement against gay activists who allegedly vandalized a church where the Rev. Lou Sheldon, founder of the virulently anti-gay Traditional Values Coalition, was speaking. Activists protesting Sheldon's speech caused \$2000 in damage to a concrete bench and a church door on Sept. 19. The religious groups made their threats at a Board of Supervisors meeting that was disrupted several times when shouting matches broke out between the fundamentalists and lesbians and gays last week.

**Board Tentatively Approves Health Books:** New high school health textbooks have won tentative approval from the Texas Board of Education despite concerns raised about their references to sex, homosexuality and birth control. The religious right campaigned vigorously against the textbooks, which will be available to students at least 15 years old. "Students may not be able to locate Europe on a map," said Anne Newman, director of the Texas Council for Family Values, "but they will be able to locate erogenous zones and sources of condoms and contraception." This is a problem?

**Hate Campaign Backfires, Gay MP Wins Re-election In Canada:** Canada's only openly gay member of parliament, Svend Robinson handily won re-election in the Oct. 25 national elections there, but only after his chief opponent made derogatory anti-gay remarks in a letter to Chinese-Canadian voters. Liberal candidate Kwangyul Peck said in the letter that Robinson was unfit to be a member of parliament and had a bad influence on children. "That really caused outrage generally in the community," said William Siksay, Robinson's campaign manager. "We had a phenomenal number of calls...from people who said they had a Liberal sign up and wanted to replace it with one of Svend's. A real momentum came to our campaign after that, and it was a turning point."

**Gay Activists Pelt Perkins With Condoms:** Everything appeared normal at Village Seven Presbyterian Church in Colorado Springs, Colorado, on Nov. 7 until someone blew a whistle and showered the congregation with condoms. A dozen or so members of "Savage Homos Into Truth" stood, removed their coats and chanted "Gays and lesbians under attack in Colorado Springs. We act up. This is for Will Perkins. Enjoy your Sunday." Perkins, the founder of Amendment 2 sponsor Colorado for Family Values, was one of about 1000 church members in attendance. No arrests were made, but Chris Baka, a co-founder of SHIT, said the group will strike again. "The gay community here is, for the most part, conservative," he said. "But there have to be those of us who push the envelope."

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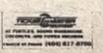
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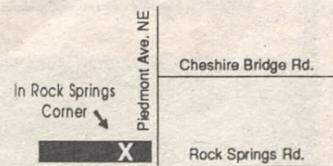
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## Emory attack

Continued from page 3

cal Imbalance?" Most students believe the flyers are a joke, but the sentiment behind the "joke" is disturbing.

"I've done freshman seminars," said student Angela Parris, "And the freshmen say we shouldn't be out, we shouldn't flaunt it. The usual stuff."

Also, a "Queer Walk of Fame" with the names of well-known gay men and lesbians chalked onto a sidewalk as part of National Coming Out Week festivities was defaced with slogans like "Straight Pride," "Celebrate Normalcy," and "Silly faggots, dicks are for chicks."

"The [students at the seminars] told us the Queer Walk of Fame was offensive," said Parris.

"But it wasn't about straight people at all. It was gay positive."

Saralyn Chesnut, director of Emory's Office of Gay/Lesbian/Bisexual Life, said such incidents are a response to the increased visibility of lesbians and gay men, both on campus and in the world at large.

"I think people are pretty much right when they say it's backlash," she said.

The university, Chesnut added, is supportive of her office's efforts to combat such incidents.

"That's why we have the office," she said. "There's disagreement and resistance, just like in the student body, but there are also some real progressives."

KC WILDMOON

## World AIDS Day

Continued from page 3

Clark Atlanta College's public access television station.

On a more political note, ACT UP/Atlanta will be sponsoring a speak-out in the rotunda of the Georgia Capitol from noon to 1 p.m. ACT UP member Jeff Graham said that the event is open to "anyone affected by HIV and AIDS."

"We want it to be self-empowering," he said. "We want to bring our words directly to the powers that be at the Capitol, to bring out the true diversity of the community to share what our experience has been."

At noon, the Atlanta chapter of the National Association of People With AIDS will unveil a giant card addressed to Hillary Clinton at its offices at 44 12th Street, which will be shipped to the White House.

"[The card is] telling Hillary Clinton not to forget people with AIDS during her health care campaign," said NAPWA/Atlanta director Mark King. "It will be on display in our offices and

signed by people who come through."

Also at the unveiling, NAPWA will unveil its new name, to go into effect on Jan. 1, when NAPWA Atlanta become the AIDS Survival Project.

"The word 'survival' has so much to do with our programs," said King. "We work hard to promote this feeling among our members, and the message is crucial to get out. Surviving HIV isn't the ridiculous notion it may have once seemed."

The AIDS Survival Project will also be severing its official ties with NAPWA—"a natural process," according to King.

"We are becoming our own entity," he said. "Our agenda is so Atlanta specific that it makes sense."

King pointed out that other NAPWA chapters across the country have branched out on their own, notably Being Alive in Los Angeles.

KC WILDMOON

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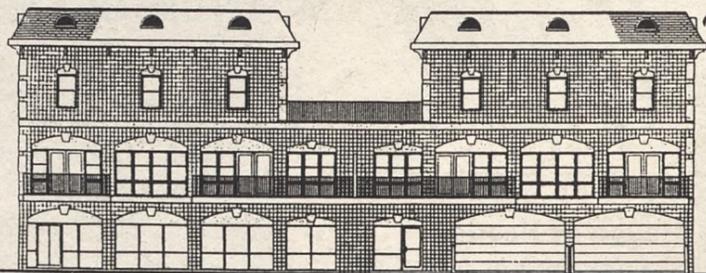
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Stop By or Give Us A Call

## Dunwoody men celebrate 40 years together on Thanksgiving

by JAMES FITCH

Bill Weaver and his partner Doug Johnson get animated when they talk about the first trip they took to New York.

It was Christmastime in 1948. Both were students at the University of Florida, and they caught a train from Jacksonville and rode all night without sleep. New York was like a dream: opera at the Met, two Broadway shows a day, new movies at night and the midnight service at St. Mary the Virgin. New Year's Eve was spent on Times Square and later at a party in the Village—"Very daring when you're 17," Bill says.

"Was it a date? I don't know," Doug says. "We perceived we were good friends having a good time together."

"There was no hanky panky going on. I don't think you can call it dating unless you both acknowledge that you're gay," Bill adds. "And I didn't think I was. I knew I had the urges, but I knew I was gonna be OK when I grew up."

Forty-five years later, Bill, 62, and Doug, 66, enjoy retirement in the spacious Dunwoody ranch where they've lived since 1966. This week, they're contemplating a big party they're throwing Thanksgiving weekend to celebrate their 40th anniversary. It will be an unabashedly mixed party, with straight couples from church, generations of gay friends and maybe even Bill's mother.

"She has genuinely accepted us," Bill says. "She's not wildly enthusiastic about us having a 40th anniversary party and she's not sure if she's going to come—but I think if she comes she's going to have a good time."

A 40-year same-sex union will deservedly evoke wide-eyed gazes from even the most forthright gay or lesbian, but Bill and Doug talk about their relationship casually. When asked about their secret for success, they reel off the same answers you'd get from a couple celebrating two years together: "We have similar interests—words and music. We have complementary personalities—he's the extrovert, I'm the shy one. He likes to cook, I like the yard work—neither of us likes to clean so we have a maid. We never argue about basic things—we argue about stupid things." They say these things interchangeably.

*But 40 years?*

Appropriately enough, it began as a college friendship. It was not a romantic thing in those days, or at least they didn't recognize it as such. But friendship was friendship, and after graduation they went separate ways. In 1953, however, they both ended up in Atlanta with jobs. Somewhat wiser by then, they decided to move in together and share their future. They rented a 7th Street garage apartment on Thanksgiving Day.

A year later they took advantage of a GI loan for which Doug, having served a year in the Navy during World War II, was eligible. The loan made possible their first house, located in a subdivision of Decatur.

"Now this was a totally straight neighborhood," Doug says. "We were the only gays on the street. But everybody was in basically the same walk of life. We were all getting our work lives, we were all furnishing new houses, we were all landscaping bare dirt. There were



Bill Weaver (left) and Doug Johnson together at their home in Dunwoody.

several straight people in the neighborhood who became our close friends."

Bill was organist/choirmaster at an Episcopal Church in Decatur; Doug was teaching at Southern College of Pharmacy in Atlanta. Life was complicated—the workplace was straight, the neighborhoods were straight and the places for entertainment were straight. There were no gathering spots for gays, no support groups. And "gay" back then was synonymous with "illness."

"Essentially that meant you had to de-

velop your own rules for living," Doug says. "What we came up with was that in public we would never show our affection for each other, and, on the other hand, we would never pretend to be straight. In socializing, we would only accept invitations if both of us were invited. I think people who got to know us well certainly realized the situation. We kept the secret long enough so that they got to know us personally. Once they got to know us personally, I don't think it really mattered."

CONTINUES ON PAGE 14

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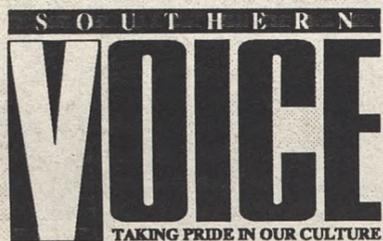
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## EDITORIAL

**Pride board's actions are a positive development**

With its recent change of leadership and call for an outside audit, the Atlanta Lesbian and Gay Pride Committee's board of directors has taken a huge step in the right direction.

Since last summer's celebration, the committee has been dogged with the problem of how to erase a nearly \$70,000 debt. As months and months went by—as the community perceived that the efforts to deal with the financial problems were not aggressive enough—erasing the debt became harder and harder because the community increasingly came to lack confidence in the Pride board itself.

There is currently no evidence that anything nefarious was taking place behind the scenes. From what we know right now, the root causes of the debt were what even some Pride board members characterize as bad decisions and poor planning. But, rightly or wrongly, the perception that something funny was going on was enough to make some people reluctant to donate money to erase the debt.

So an outside audit of the Pride committee's books—publicly disclosed—will go a long way in repairing its tattered image. And the board's renewed commitment to a more aggressive program of fundraising activities is a welcome sign.

In another positive development, Richey Howard and Donna Narducci have replaced Paul Stone and Skip Marklein as co-chairs of the Pride board. That is not to say that the blame for Pride's problems lies solely at the feet of Stone and Marklein, who devoted a considerable amount of time to their duties and who now face the possible loss of their personal assets if the board cannot deal with the debt. Their removal alone will not solve these problems. But the criticism of their management of Pride within the community had become a distraction that the committee—literally—could no longer afford.

The members of the Pride board also wisely decided to distance themselves from the perception that they were trying to blame the debt problems on the lesbian/gay community instead of taking responsibility for their own decisions. While the debt is not the fault of the community, they said, the community does have a responsibility to erase it.

Indeed we do. The board doesn't own Pride. We do. Anyone in the community who is interested can run for the Pride board when elections are held in January. We can all volunteer, and we can all write a check.

The debt debacle shows that the current

structure of Pride—all volunteer with a great amount of turnover from year to year—needs to change. The next Pride board will have to pursue new ideas, including, when finances permit, the idea of hiring a skilled event organizer to give Pride's planning planning process greater continuity and professionalism. Anyone with enough time and skills that could be useful in this restructuring effort should get involved.

After years of drawing small crowds and little attention, Pride has, in the past three years, become the major lesbian/gay event of the summer—to the point that it would now be hard to imagine June in Atlanta without it. But if we don't come out and support the Pride committee over the next few months as it hosts a series of fundraisers, we won't have to imagine. The debt from Pride '93 may kill Pride '94.

The Pride board of directors is doing what it needs to do in order to restore public confidence and get its financial house in order. The community seems ready to do its part. Working together, the problems with Pride can be overcome.

RICHARD SHUMATE

## LETTERS

**Man at center of Eagle battle wants fighting to end**

I want to thank you for your fair coverage of my recent legal battle with the family of Jaye Evans [SoVo, Oct. 28]. Until you have had to fight for the wishes of a dead friend, it is impossible to comprehend the emotional strain involved. Since the printing of that article, you have printed letters attempting to refute your objectivity and present "the other side of the story." I am in no way interested in contesting every factual allegation, no matter how untrue, nor am I interested in engaging in personal attacks. Rather, I want to thank the community for standing by me during the 18 months I managed the Eagle, and ask that a sense of closure and healing can finally be put on this very difficult chapter in our communal life.

Those people who know me understand the passion that guided me in running the Eagle. The growth and support of Atlanta's leather community, a community I have been part of for almost 10 years, is of utmost importance to

me. Much of that commitment to community I learned over the years (not months) from Jaye Evans. He taught me the importance of community and of extended family as these concepts apply to the gay and lesbian community, in general, and the leather community specifically.

For whatever reason, Jaye's ideals and desires have been overshadowed by a series of personal battles. It sickens me to see this happen, and in my heart I know that Jaye is equally disturbed. Personal attacks and vicious accusations against me will not bring Jaye, or any of our friends, back. I continue to be dumbfounded by those who think their "righteous battle" will somehow raise the dead. It would be so much more productive for this energy to be put toward the battle against our many enemies, including HIV. To pretend that I am in some way responsible for all the injustice brought upon Jaye Evans is to simply deny reality. I understand this denial—anyone who

has lost a loved one knows that it's easier to fight a mortal enemy than to admit the injustice of death.

What I did for Jaye was to help a friend afraid of his own mortality arrange his affairs. I advised him to seek the advice of another attorney, which he did, but unfortunately a new will was never signed. I am not responsible for the fact that Jaye waited until January to prepare a will, nor am I responsible for its contents. Everything contained in Jaye's will was, to the best of my belief, Jaye's desire. The greatest injustice is that Jaye will never be able to tell us.

I must, of course, take exception to Ellen Evans' assertion that I should be disbarred. I must first say that I am discouraged that such a bitter and apparently vindictive straight person is now part owner of the Eagle. Be that as it may, as I have already stated, I advised Jaye to seek independent legal advice, and I feel that I did everything I could to protect Jaye's interests. At the time Jaye's will was drafted, he was afraid of impending surgery, and I saw my first duty to Jaye as his friend, and as his friend my duty was to minimize that fear.

All I ask at this point is that the fighting stop, and that the living be allowed to do so and that the deceased be allowed to rest in peace. I thank my attorney, M.P. Schildmeyer, for her valiant efforts. I thank the staff of the Eagle for their support and concern, and I thank the community as a whole for the outpouring of support and encouragement I have received in the past three weeks—a time harder for me than any time since Jaye's death. Please, let the healing begin.

Mike Feinstein  
Atlanta

## STONEWALL RIOTS

BY ANDREA NATALIE

**Send us a letter**

Southern Voice welcomes your point of view. Letters to the editor should be no longer than 200 words and must include your name, address and daytime phone number. Names can be withheld on request, but anonymous letters are not accepted. We reserve the right to edit or reject any submission. Send letters to: Southern Voice, P.O. Box 18215, Atlanta GA 30316. Or fax them to the attention of Richard Shumate at (404) 876-2709.

# Holidays are the time to hug your lavender bookstore

How's your bookstore doing, if it's not too impertinent of me to ask?

If your hometown is anything like mine, you're lucky enough to have a pink triangle establishment run by some brave literary adventurer who firmly believes that there's actually enough money in a bookstore operation to pay rent and order from New York in the same month. Probably somebody who reads, and thinks that maybe other people do too. And so far, nothing's happened to totally disavow them of that flimsy conviction.

If your community is also anything like mine, you probably don't even think much about the bookstore. It's just there. Whenever you need it. Kind of like the living room furniture. You know exactly where everything is, but if you woke up one morning and sat down suddenly in a surprisingly empty room, you'd be in for a rather rude awakening as your derriere made acquaintance with unoccupied space.

Now, I'm not meaning to suggest that anything's fiscally critical with your bookstore in particular at the moment, but in my neck of the woods, we've had two such lavender enterprises head for entrepreneur's heaven in the last couple of years. And, since I started writing books exclusively for our community, I've become very close to the brave local souls who took on the task of serving the literary whims of the rainbow flag. Talk about risky business. Phew. 'Bout the same odds for success that my dad had when he bought himself a Geiger counter in the late 1950s and set out into the Nevada desert in search of our weekend fortune. He didn't die from the enterprise, but we sure didn't get rich and famous for the effort, either.



## Cleaning Out My Closet

by SHELLY ROBERTS

And as the jingle bell season freight trains rapidly toward that part of our disposable income that's so far been undisposed, it seems to me that this is a really good time to remind us exactly what our local bookstore means to the community and the stuff it does that we hardly ever pay for.

Need the pride newspapers? The local community map? A roommate service? Where ya gonna go? The bookstore.

Have an occasion for some amethyst anything? The bookstore's got it in a showcase that has little literary in its occupation. If you want a rainbow bumper sticker, or a set of values to adorn the Acura, that's right, the bookstore. When you want to know where the meeting is, what the neighborhood is like, who

to trust with your trusty roof repairs, spare time or loose change, there's almost always an Aunt Blabby behind the counter perfectly willing to tell you where to go. Want a doctor's referral? Ask at the bookstore. Real estate agent? Chiropractor? Astrologer? Check out the bulletin board, or any of the local periodicals. (Usually free.) Where? You guessed it. At the bookstore. One bookstore I visited had classes in everything from cookery to crockery, from American Sign Language to Being Careful What Papers You Sign.

And this is in addition to offering the even the remotest editions from Naiad, Alyson, Firebrand, Paradigm, Rising Tide, Cleis, Clothspin, Spinsters or New Victoria, not to mention either Simon or Schuster. The kind of specialty titles we want to have at any available whim, but what Books R Us never bother to carry.

What's the reward for such community contributions? All too often, it's checkbookless folks, killing an hour mindlessly meandering the merchandise. People who are more than happy to tell the staff exactly how much less any given tome is at Barnes and Ignoble (who can afford to buy titles by the truckload and who almost never carry buttons that tell anyone in your immediate vicinity what they should or shouldn't presume about your orientation). And, of course, there are the folks who mistake the bookstore for the local lending library. Browsing is one thing, but going into the back room and drooling over everything hunky, without ever once even offering a farthing, or a phoenig for the privilege...Well, is it any wonder that most of the bookstores I've met have lately taken to stapling and Saran

Wrapping the stock?

Did I mention shoplifting? How an appalling amount of merchandise seems to depart without benefit of cash register receipts? I mean, I understand how that could happen in your basic anonymous corporate Humungo Emporium, with faceless checkers amidst boring, irrelevant displays. But to steal from your friends and family? Why?

I'm sorry, I didn't mean to tie on a tirade. And I know that you know that I really don't believe we owe any business a living just because they are community members, if they don't deliver the goods and services in a pleasant, businesslike manner. But the bookstore is the single exception I am universally willing to make. Even if inefficiently run, it still delivers more, dollar for community dollar, than even the most generous buyers actually pay for.

In case you haven't glanced at your Rolex lately, it's that time again, when you start to scour the landscape for green-and-red or blue-and-silver wrappable trinkets and doo-dads. Could I suggest putting the mall aside, and considering a new starting place for this year's annual scavenger hunt? Your gay and/or lesbian bookstore. In addition to incense and harmony balls, freedom rings and unguent oils, satin boxer shorts and T-shirts defying all discription, there are wonderful books there. Titles that tuck snugly into stockings, that fit flatly into the post office slots and that pile impressively under a pine.

Maybe there is one place in our world, after all, for all they do for us, that we do actually owe a decent living to.

# L E T T E R S

## When it comes to on-air hate, WRFG leaders don't follow policy

One of the saddest things about the current situation at WRFG [SoVo, Nov. 11] is that in fact the station has had a policy banning the broadcast of racist and sexist material—except in critical context—since 1976 but has consistently failed to enforce this policy in recent years.

Most people involved with WRFG profess pride in the fact that the station has aired programming by and for the gay and lesbian com-

munity since it began broadcasting in 1973. During the early 1980s, the station manager was an out lesbian. But since the late 1980s, when the small extremist black nationalist faction which call itself the Griots began organizing, things have steadily deteriorated.

During my term as a member of the station's volunteer staff and board of directors, I frequently heard about gay bashing on the air during the Griots' programs, but I didn't

actually hear it or see a documented complaint until recently. However, three years ago, well-documented listener complaints about anti-Semitism began coming in. The program committee failed to take action, perhaps because two committee members were affiliated with the Griots, and instead asked the board's executive committee to "clarify" the program content policy: Is anti-Semitism really a form of racism? Is homophobia a form of sexism (Is

the Pope Catholic?)

Astonishingly, the executive committee never succeeded in formulating a reply. After a year, at an open board meeting, I attempted to propose a detailed clarification of the policy but was shouted down by some of the volunteers in attendance. The board failed to discuss the proposal and instead voted to appoint a committee to see that all station personnel attend workshops to air the issues. They appointed one of the Griots to chair the committee.

Of course, no workshops ever took place. During all this, Tom Davis, the station manager then and now, exerted no leadership whatsoever, nor did any other member of the board of directors, although most of these people privately expressed dismay at what they heard in the Griot's programs. Everyone—blacks and whites alike—seemed to be thoroughly intimidated. At that point I could no longer in good conscience maintain my relationship with a station that will not enforce its own policies and allows its airtime to be used as a soapbox for hate propaganda.

I don't have to remind Southern Voice readers how important it is to support information sources which serve marginalized communities. But it's also important to hold them accountable to reasonable standards of decency. For too long, we on the board of directors gave lip service to the contributions made by gay broadcasters but failed to give them much encouragement or support—more like benign neglect.

The board's failure to pay attention to what was being broadcast is no excuse. It's time to demand that the manager and directors enforce their own policies, which are the minimum required for any medium whose purpose is to help build a climate of mutual respect and understanding among Atlantans.

Barbara Joye  
Atlanta



## Studies show strong links between free radicals and effects of HIV

Washington, DC—An imbalance of certain nutrients may accelerate the collapse of the immune system in patients infected with HIV, scientists at the National Institutes of Health said.

Studies presented at an NIH-sponsored conference in early November suggested that after infection with HIV, the body slowly loses its ability to process oxygen free radicals, a naturally occurring molecule that can be highly destructive if not controlled in the bloodstream.

Oxygen free radicals are normally neutralized in the body by the so-called antioxidant nutrients—such as a betacarotene and vitamins A, C and E. But HIV has been found to destroy the body's absorption and use of these nutrients, said Dr. Howard C. Greenspan, the chairman of the NIH conference. And in a recent California study, a lack of carotenes was found to be a marker for

increased risk in the development of Kaposi's sarcoma.

"The virus has some mechanism that shuts down the body's defense against the overproduction of these free radicals," Greenspan explained. "There are studies now that show that HIV creates an overabundance of these free radicals."

Among the papers presented at the conference:

- A John Hopkins School of Hygiene and Public Health study showed that among AIDS patients, a deficiency in vitamin A led to a more rapid decline. The study found that the mean survival time for patients with normal vitamin A levels was about 50 months, while those with vitamin A deficiency had a mean survival time of only 39 months. "These studies suggest that vitamin A and other [related nutrients] may have promise as therapy during HIV infection," the study said.

- A Harvard University study suggested that the use of antioxidants could inhibit the abnormal signaling between cells that occurs in response to the HIV virus.

- A study by Dr. Luc Montagnier, the co-discoverer of HIV showed that the rate of oxidative death of lymphocytes, which are killed by HIV, can be experimentally modified through use of tetracycline, an antibiotic.

An overabundance of oxygen free radical molecules creates what is called "oxidative stress" in the body, said Greenspan. This, in turn, has been shown to destroy some of the key cells of the immune system, thus, amplifying the destructive effect of the virus, he said. "This may be a major factor in killing off the immune system," he concluded.

Oxygen free radicals are naturally created during normal metabolism in the body. The molecules are used by the body to de-

fend against some viruses. But an overabundance of the radicals destroys cells. Oxidative stress has previously been associated with the aging process as well as with cancer, heart disease, muscular dystrophy and other diseases, said Greenspan.

Now the poor processing of free radicals has been linked to AIDS. "It's not just suppression any more that overoxidation does two things in AIDS," said the scientist.

He said over-oxidation is a factor in the replication of HIV, and the virus, in turn, destroys the body's ability to defend itself against a surplus of the oxygen free radical. "If we can identify this mechanism in HIV, then there is a potential to correct the effects that cause the body to decline into AIDS," said Greenspan.

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HEALTH

## Smokers more likely to quit by tapering off, not going cold turkey

Atlanta—Tapering off may top going cold turkey when it comes to quitting cigarettes, addiction researchers reported Nov. 13.

Those who can delay the day's first cigarette or give up smoking for seven days have a good chance of eventually dropping the habit for good, according to a new study.

"Maybe our goal shouldn't be to get them to quit," said study author John P. Pierce of the University of California, San Diego. "Maybe it should be to get them to quit for at least a week or to get them under 15 cigarettes a day" he offered at a meeting of the American Society of Addiction Medicine.

The study provides a new view of quitting in which smokers are encouraged to make progress by smoking less and quitting intermittently, rather than making the difficult choice to stop immediately.

A no-smoking program designed for the state of California was based on Pierce's findings and has enabled 26.7 percent of smokers to quit, roughly twice the rate of those quitting without the program, said Shu-Hong Zhu, another UCSD researcher who helped develop the program. A key feature of the program was repeated follow-up calls from counselors. Without such follow-up, "doctors' advice is useless," Pierce said.

Pierce also found that restriction of smoking at home and in the workplace was a factor contributing to successful quitting when combined with assistance like that in the California no-smoking program.

David Abrams of Brown University in Providence, R.I., an authority on smoking cessation, praised Pierce's work, saying it confirms an emerging view that quitting is often a gradual process. "You've got to see

a slip or a relapse as a learning process, rather than a failure," Abrams said.

Ninety percent of smokers who try to go cold turkey fail to quit, most of them relapsing within four days, Pierce said.

Pierce and his colleagues based their study on interviews with 4,624 Californians who were asked about their smoking habits and history and then interviewed again an average of 18 months later. Of those smokers who said in the first interview they had quit for a week, 18 percent had quit altogether by the time of the second interview. Of smokers who had never quit for a week, only 10 percent had quit by the time of the second interview.

Likewise, 18 percent of smokers who said they lit up fewer than 15 cigarettes a day had quit by the time of the second interview. Only 8 percent of pack-a-day smokers had quit, and only 5 percent of heavier smokers had managed to kick the habit.

Those who said they waited 30 minutes or longer after waking up to have their first cigarette were also more likely to quit than those who took a puff soon after waking up. "If you can't have a shower before your first cigarette in the morning, you're in real trouble," Pierce warned.

Pierce said smokers who quit for a week and relapse should understand they have progressed to a new stage at which they are more likely to succeed in quitting. In the same way, smokers who can be encouraged to light up fewer than 15 cigarettes a day should be encouraged.

"We're looking for progress," he said. "If you don't start, you're not going to win."

PAUL RAEBURN

## Lung cancer death rate surpasses breast cancer in women

Atlanta—The lung cancer death rate for women has shot past that of breast cancer and probably will increase into the next century, years after the death rate from lung cancer in men peaks and starts to fall, the government reported Nov. 12.

In a separate finding, the American Cancer Society reported that gains in preventing heart disease deaths in all U.S. smokers are being more than offset by the rise in deaths from lung cancer and other smoking-related cancers. Heart disease deaths have declined in smokers as they have in nonsmokers, due to factors other than smoking, including healthier diets and lifestyles. But lung cancer deaths have increased, the cancer society said.

Gary Giovino of the U.S. Surgeon General's Office on Smoking and Health reported that smoking rates continue to decline among all groups of men and women in the United States except white men 18-24. Their rate hasn't changed since 1980.

In 1950, white women had a breast cancer death rate of 26.4 per 100,000. In 1990, the rate showed little change at 27.4. In 1950, the death rate from lung cancer among white women was 4.9, but it climbed to 32.1 in 1990.

For black women, the breast cancer death rate was 21.4 per 100,000 in 1950 and 31.7 in 1990. During the same period, their lung cancer death rate soared from 3.8 to 32, surpassing breast cancer in 1990.

"The continued increase in lung cancer death rates primarily reflects patterns of cigarette smoking throughout this century," the government reported.

Smoking among white American men, for example, peaked at about 67 percent in the 1940s and 1950s. Smoking among women peaked at about 44 percent in the 1960s. "The lung cancer death rate for men is expected to peak before the year 2000, then begin to decline," the government said. "For women, the rate will probably continue to increase into the next century."

Dr. Michael Thun of the American Cancer Society reported that heart disease made up 41 percent of smoking-related deaths in white men in the 1960s, but fell to 21 percent of the smoking deaths in the 1980s. During the same period, the percentage of smoking deaths in white men due to lung cancer rose from 15 percent to 28 percent, he said. Similar trends were seen in women.

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## Sex raises heart attack, but not as much as getting out of bed

*Atlanta*—Sexual activity raises the risk of a heart attack slightly, but is far less dangerous than getting out of bed the next morning, according to a study presented here to cardiac specialists.

In the study of 1,712 men and women recovering from heart attacks, Dr. James Muller found that one percent of the heart attacks were triggered by sexual activity. In comparison, 10 percent were triggered by awakening.

But the Harvard Medical School researcher isn't advising people to give up sex and stay in bed. "These data shouldn't be used to scare people, to say that sex is a dangerous activity," Muller said. The findings underscore the importance of research into other heart-attack triggers, such as cigarettes and stress, he added.

The results of the study, reported last week at the annual meeting of the American Heart Association, confirm less rigorous studies that had suggested a link between sex and heart attacks.

"But more importantly, they demonstrate that the absolute risk is extremely low," Muller said. A healthy 50-year-old man faces a one in a million risk of a heart attack. After sex, he faces a two in a million risk, he added.

Dr. Thomas Pearson of the Mary Imogene Bassett Hospital in Cooperstown, N.Y., said the research complements other studies showing that heart attacks may be caused not by total blockage of the coronary arteries but by disruption of the partial blockage. That can lead to clot formation

and a heart attack, he said.

In a separate study, Dr. Prakash Deedwania of the University of California, San Francisco, showed that brief interruptions of blood flow to parts of the heart were more common in the morning, providing a possible explanation of why heart attacks are more likely to occur then.

Further, Deedwania and colleagues at 34 medical centers across the country showed in a study of 1,368 patients that the commonly used heart drugs called beta blockers could prevent those morning blood-flow disruptions.

Muller's study contained a bit of good news for patients who have had a prior heart attack. "Partners of individuals who have had a heart attack often have fears that sex will trigger another heart attack," Muller said. "But our data show that the relative risk for a person who had a prior heart attack is no greater than for the general population."

Muller also found that 1 percent of heart attacks were triggered by anger and 4 percent by heavy exertion, such as shoveling snow or jogging.

Taken together, the four triggers may account for 16 percent of the 1.5 million heart attacks that strike Americans each year, he said. Some of the triggers, such as getting out of bed in the morning, can't be avoided. But others yet to be discovered might offer new ideas about prevention, he concluded.

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## Yet another study suggests sexual orientation is genetic

Denver, CO—Brains of gay males are stimulated by sound differently than those of heterosexual men, indicating genetic and biological differences, a psychiatrist said on Nov. 11.

Dr. Martin Reite, professor of psychiatry at the University of Colorado Health Sciences Center, said the findings are based upon a study of 17 adult males. Reite reported his findings to an annual meeting of the Society for Neurosciences in Washington, D.C.

The 17 men were divided into groups of nine heterosexuals and eight gay. Brain function was mapped through magnetoencephalography, a non-invasive method of recording magnetic fields of brain activity while tones were delivered through an earphone.

Reite said brain waves of the heterosexuals was asymmetrical, with processing sites in the right hemisphere being further anterior than those in the left hemisphere. Past studies had shown that heterosexual women process such stimulation symmetrically in both the left and right hemispheres of the brain.

Brains of gay males processed the sound

stimulations somewhere between heterosexual males and heterosexual females, the study determined.

"This indicates that there are genetic and biological differences in the brain that correlate to sexual orientation," Reite said. It is unclear at what point during development the difference becomes apparent, whether prenatally or, for example, during puberty, he said.

Reite said he hopes to continue the research in Denver to include lesbians in the future.

An earlier study by a group of National Cancer Institute researchers announced in July also found evidence supporting the theory that the tendency to be gay may be inherited. Dean Hamer, principal author of that study, said his research does not prove that sexual orientation is compelled genetically, but it does indicate that sexual orientation is powerfully influenced by inherited genes.

Hamer's research found a common genetic pattern for homosexuality in a part of the X chromosome in 33 of 40 gay brothers.

Three other experiments in recent years have also found possible biological explanations for sexual orientation.

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## AIDS vaccine candidates fail test

Washington, DC—Promising vaccines against the HIV virus have failed in key laboratory tests, raising the possibility that large-scale trials may be delayed, researchers report.

Several vaccines that had triggered neutralizing antibodies in tests against laboratory strains of HIV were not able to cause the same disease protection effect when tested against fresh virus that had been taken from patients, researchers reported at a recent conference sponsored by the National Institutes of Health.

"It certainly does make me anxious about going forward with large-scale efficacy trials," Dr. Anthony Fauci told Science magazine.

Science, the journal of the American Association for the Advancement of Science, said in a report released in mid November that three new studies have shown that candidate vaccines injected into healthy volunteers did cause production of neutralizing antibodies that were effective against laboratory strains of HIV.

But these same antibodies were ineffective in lab tests against "primary field isolates," or fresh strains of HIV that had been taken recently from the blood of actual pa-

tients. This test is considered to be a more realistic challenge of the vaccine because the general population has strains of the virus that may differ slightly from those used in the laboratory.

"We all had anticipated that [neutralizing antibody]...against the lab strains would translate to field isolates," Dr. Dani Bolognesi, a prominent Duke University AIDS researcher, told Science.

To be effective, a vaccine has to cause the body's immune system to make antibodies that will specifically attack the target virus. But the HIV is notorious for making rapid changes, creating a variety of strains that, in turn, are constantly changing. As a result, antibodies that may attack one variant of HIV, may be less effective against others strains.

In tests at Duke, antibodies taken from 40 volunteers who had received a candidate AIDS vaccine were tested against virus from current AIDS patients. The antibodies were ineffective against the fresh strains of AIDS. Similar tests, with similar results, were conducted by researchers at the Walter Reed Army Institute of Research and at the Chiron Corp. in California, Science reported.

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## Kentucky researcher develops new contraceptive that kills HIV

Lexington, KY—A University of Kentucky researcher has developed a vaginal contraceptive capsule which also kills HIV.

George A. Digenis, a UK College of Pharmacy faculty member, has combined the drug nonoxynol-9, a spermicide which also destroys the HIV virus, with an anti-bacterial agent in a capsule.

"The other part of our mission is to produce a delivery system that will release the drug immediately in the vaginal cavity within seconds and keep releasing for a minimum of six hours," said Digenis, a professor of medicinal chemistry and pharmaceuticals.

He would not disclose the name of the anti-bacterial drug because the university

has applied for a patent on the contraceptive capsule, which he has called "triad" because of its time-release quality. The capsule also can be used with condoms.

Laboratory studies will begin within a month, and then include clinical trials beginning in 1995 or earlier. Women between the ages of 18 and 45 who have had a prior tubal sterilization will be invited to participate.

Digenis said the capsule in a different form may be used by gay men involved in anal intercourse. "But that is not the mission of our contract with the NIH for the first three years," he explained.

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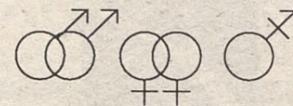
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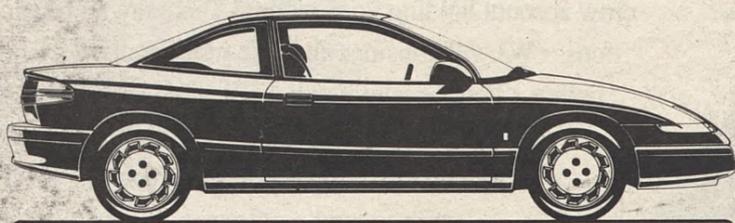
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## 40th Anniversary

Continued from page 7

In 1960, Bill took a job as organist/choir-master at St. Ann's Episcopal Church in Northwest Atlanta. After 10 years together, in 1963, Doug, too, changed jobs, moving to the University of Georgia—and a new apartment in Athens where he stayed during the week. In 1966, they built a new home together in Dunwoody. Bill lived there full-time, Doug came home for the weekends. That was the true test of the relationship, they say, but the arrangement proved successful for 27 years until Doug retired three years ago.

"And having each under foot all the time now has taken some accommodating too," Bill says. "We were both used to parts of the week by ourselves."

As quickly as the years have gone, coming out has been a slow process. Now the time seems right, and Bill and Doug are more comfortable than ever.

"It's been fascinating in Atlanta, in 40 years, to watch the ups and downs," Bill says. "The amazing thing to me, whether Sam Nunn likes to think so or not, things can never be like they used to be. Too much has been said and too much has come out."

Three years ago, Bill and Doug became members of the Episcopal Church of the Epiphany. Deciding it was time to be honest in their church life, they came out to the rector. That was that, they thought.

A few months later they were approached and asked to serve on a church-sponsored adult education panel about gay and lesbian families. And the next thing they knew, they were featured in a nationally-released video about homosexuality and the church.

Since coming out within the church, Bill and Doug say they sense a warmth in the people around them that wasn't there before. Recently, they have even been asked, as a couple, to bring bread and wine to the altar.

"It's not a big deal," Doug says. "But it feels good."

As in most churches, at Episcopal Church of the Epiphany it's customary to acknowledge the week's birthdays, anniversaries and special occasions in prayer during service. At that point next Sunday, the congregation will give

*"The amazing thing to me, whether Sam Nunn likes to think so or not, things can never be like they used to be. Too much has been said and too much has come out."*

—Bill Weaver

thanks for Bill and Doug's 40-year commitment.

Despite the rector's decision to make the announcement, it's still controversial, considering the Episcopal Church, at this point, doesn't officially bless same-sex unions. Bill and Doug don't know quite what to expect, but they're sure there will be congratulations, as well as some angry members in the congregation. Keeping with his sense of humor, Bill is optimistic.

"I think it's gonna be okay. They pray for boat races and pets," he laughs. "So I don't know why they couldn't pray for us."

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# Joseph Steffan wins appeal

*Federal appeals court orders reinstatement of gay man kicked out of the Naval Academy*

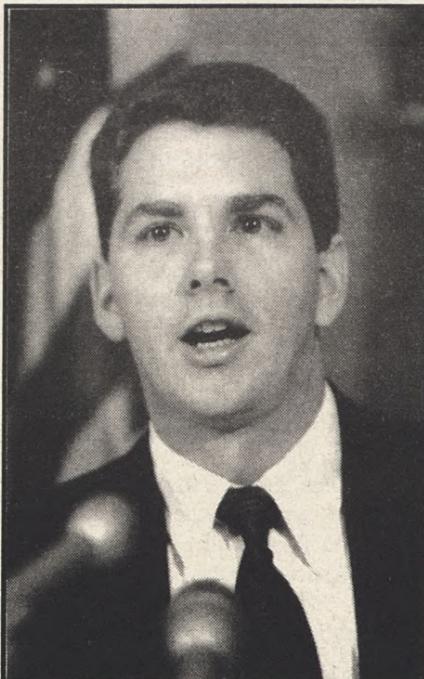
Washington DC—Six years after midshipman Joseph Steffan was forced to leave the U.S. Naval Academy just weeks before graduation because he acknowledged he was gay, a federal appeals court ordered the Navy to graduate him and commission him as a naval officer.

"America's hallmark has been to judge people by what they do and not by who they are," Chief Judge Abner Mikva wrote for the three-judge panel of the U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals in Washington.

The appeals court said that the Navy could not justify its policy on the grounds that allowing openly gay people in the military would hurt morale.

"The government cannot discriminate against a certain class in order to give effect to the prejudice of others," Mikva wrote. "Such discrimination plays directly into the hands of the bigots; it ratifies and encourages their prejudice."

The ruling last week marked the fifth time this year that a federal court has ordered that a gay man kicked out of the military be allowed to return to duty. And the Nov. 16 decision may be the strongest indication yet that the final word on gay men and lesbians in the military may be spoken by the courts—very likely the Supreme Court—and not by Congress or President Clinton.



Joseph Steffan says he looks forward to serving as a naval officer.

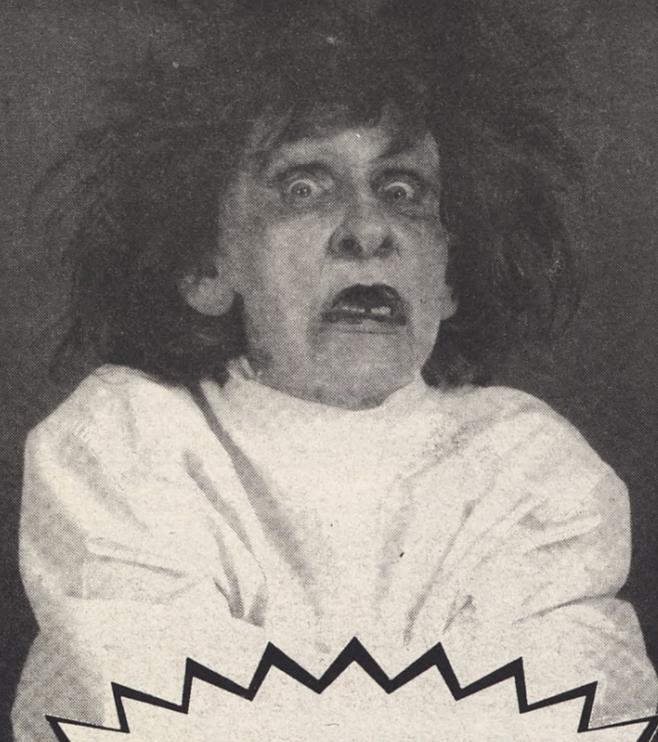
The court ruled the Navy's ban of declared gay men and lesbians was based on prejudice and served no legitimate purpose.

"It is fundamentally unjust to abort a most promising military career solely because of a truthful confession of a sexual preference different from that of the majority, a preference untarnished by even a scintilla of misconduct," the court held.

Steffan said he looked forward to serving the country as a naval officer.

CONTINUES ON PAGE 16

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## Steffan wins

Continued from page 15

"The opinion underlies a very important reality...that no court decision, no action by Congress or the president or anyone, is going to change the fundamental reality that gay people have always served in the military, and we always will serve in the military."

Steffan, whose stellar performance at the Naval Academy won him an appointment as one of 10 battalion commanders during his senior year, was forced out in 1987, six weeks before his scheduled graduation in the top 10 percent of his class.

Steffan had come out to a friend who provided the information to the Naval Investigative Service. When he was confronted by a superior officer, Steffan admitted he was gay.

"It was a moment I will never forget, one of agony and intense pride," Steffan wrote in "Honor Bound," his book about his days at Annapolis. "In that one statement, I had given up my dreams, the goals I had spent the last four years of my life laboring to attain. But in exchange, I retained something far more valuable—my honor and my self-esteem."

The next day, academy officials lowered his military performance grade from an A-minus to an F.

Steffan, 29, is now a third-year law student at the University of Connecticut.

Last week's decision did not deal with Clinton's new "don't ask, don't tell" policy on gays in the military. But under the president's policy, Steffan could still have been discharged for having told a friend he was gay.

Pentagon spokeswoman Kathleen deLaski said the Defense Department "will follow the order." She said officials have not yet decided

whether to appeal.

White House spokeswoman Dee Dee Myers said the case could have "some implications" for Clinton's policy, although she noted that the suit was filed against the old standard. "The Justice Department and the White House [lawyers] are reviewing it now."

The decision was the fifth court ruling this year favoring the rights of gays to serve openly in the military.

"What you see in the last year is a real concentrated set of cases where courts have said it's likely that this policy is unconstitutional," said William Rubenstein, director of the ACLU's Lesbian and Gay Rights Project.

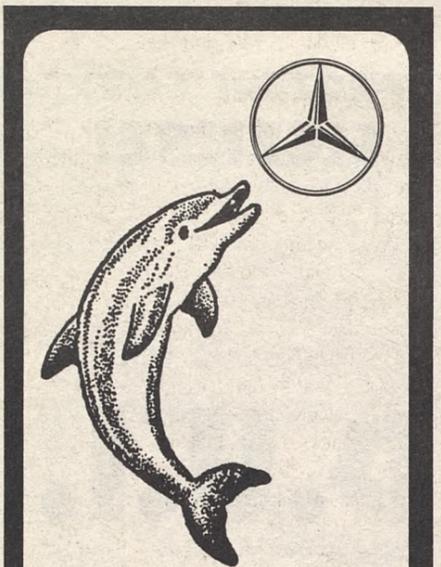
In separate cases, four U.S. district judges have enjoined the military from discharging gay servicemen on the basis of their homosexuality. Three of these judges were appointed by Carter and the fourth by President Reagan. All three judges in the Steffan case were appointed by Carter.

In two California cases, the judges have declared the Pentagon's policy unconstitutional. Two federal judges in Washington issued preliminary injunctions barring the discharge of a Navy petty officer and a Marine while their lawsuits challenging the policy were heard.

The most celebrated case involves Navy Petty Officer Keith Meinhold, who was discharged last year after saying he is gay. A federal judge in Los Angeles declared the gay ban unconstitutional and ordered Meinhold reinstated.

Beatrice Dohrn, legal director of the Lambda Legal Defense and Education Fund, said the latest ruling "establishes the proposition that other people's prejudice against us should not be the basis...for government policy."

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# Gallo cleared of misconduct

*But the decision doesn't end the controversy swirling around the co-discoverer of the HIV virus*

Washington, DC—In 1984, Dr. Robert Gallo co-authored a series of studies that established the HIV virus as the cause of AIDS and led to a blood test to detect the virus.

That work has been described as perhaps the most important research in virology in the 20th Century. But in the intervening decade, Gallo has been hounded by a series of investigations, hauled up before Congress, attacked in the press and turned into the villain of a made-for-television movie.

The most famous charge against him is that Gallo took credit for discovering HIV when, in fact, French researchers actually found the virus.

Two weeks ago, the government dropped its misconduct case against Gallo, just days before he would have gotten the first chance to defend himself in public. But that hasn't ended the controversy. Dr. Lyle W. Bivens, the head of the Public Health Service's Office of Research Integrity, which was pursuing the charges against Gallo, said they were dismissed not because Gallo had been vindicated but because of a technical legal ruling in a related case.

Gallo's lawyer, Joseph Onek, denounced Bivens' characterization as "outrageous" and hinted that Gallo may pursue legal action to clear his name.

"The reason that they didn't pursue the case is that the ORI knew that it couldn't prove its false charges before a fair and independent tribunal," Onek said. "[Gallo] never got his day in court, but that may happen yet."

Gallo declined to be interviewed but released a statement saying he has been "completely vindicated." The 56-year-old scientist is now the head of the laboratory of tumor cell biology at the National Cancer Institute.

Last December, Gallo and one of his senior scientists, Dr. Mikulas Popovic, were found guilty of misconduct by the Public Health Service's Office of Research Integrity. The punishment was that both men were to be "closely supervised" for three years. Popovic lost his job after the investigation started.

Both men appealed, and a review board overturned Popovic's conviction Nov. 3. In its ruling, the review panel imposed "a new definition of scientific misconduct," Bevins said, which led to the dismissal of the case against Gallo.

"It is clear that the panel now applies different standards from those applied by ORI to review findings of scientific misconduct," Bivens said.

Some of Gallo's colleagues are now saying the whole investigation was a waste of time. Dr. Howard Temin, a Nobel Prize-winning virus researcher from the University of Wisconsin, said that Gallo probe "had all of the elements of a witch hunt."

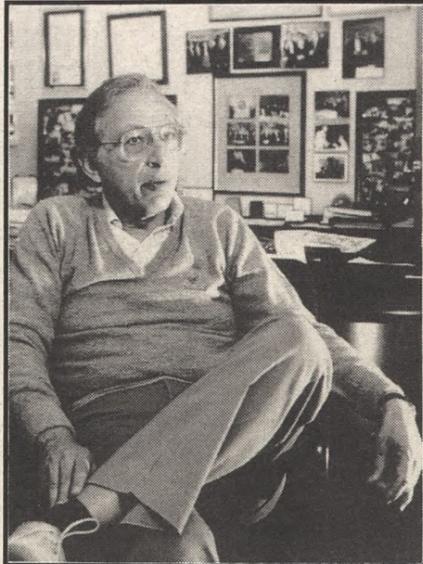
"The kind of things found by the ORI were so trivial that very few scientists thought much about them," said Temin. "It was really not fair treatment."

In early drafts of investigative reports, there were more than a dozen allegations against Gallo, ranging from charges that he stole credit for an AIDS virus discovered by the French to claims of deliberate misrepresentation of data.

By last December, the case against Gallo had been reduced to just three charges:

- That Gallo failed in 1984 to give credit to other scientists who produced the cell culture used to grow the AIDS virus

- That he stated in a report in the journal Science that his lab had not grown the French



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**Dr. Robert Gallo says he was "vindicated" by the decision, but the head of the board pursuing charges against him says they were dropped for technical reasons.**

AIDS virus when, in fact, it had been cultured • That Gallo had inappropriately restricted distribution of the virus cultures that his lab had developed.

The cell culture credit issue arose when several samples frozen in Gallo's lab carried the same name. When Popovic began working with one, he gave it another name to avoid confusion. This name was later published.

Subsequently, the National Institutes of Health, with the help of Gallo and Popovic, analyzed the genetic pattern of the cell line and determined that it had been developed by federal researchers Adi Gazdar and Paul Bunn. A letter giving those scientists credit was published in 1989 in a journal called AIDS Research and Human Retroviruses.

This was among the things Temin said scientists consider "trivial."

On growth of the French AIDS virus in Gallo's lab, Onek said that dealt with the interpretation of one sentence in a research report about "a permanently growing cell line." The lawyer said that the ORI interpreted this one way, and Gallo another. The ORI claimed the phrase "is intended to mislead," but Onek said, when taken in context of the whole paragraph, it is not misleading.

Onek said he had powerful evidence to disprove that Gallo restricted distribution of the virus cultures. He said Gallo's lab sent the cultures to labs all over the world and placed restrictions only on samples sent two places. Those labs were asked not to perform a specific analysis because similar work was under way at the Pasteur Institute and at Gallo's lab, he said.

The ORI never endorsed the most famous charge against Gallo—that he took French AIDS culture and claimed it as his own.

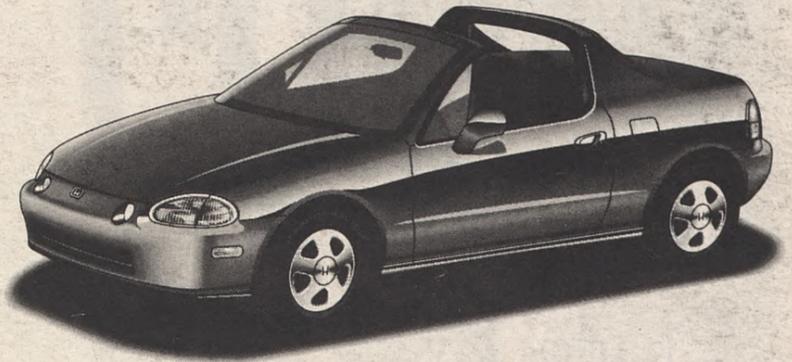
The conflicting French and American claims were settled in 1987 when it was agreed that Gallo and Dr. Luc Montagnier of the Pasteur Institute would share credit for discovery of the AIDS virus. They also would share royalties from the AIDS blood test.

Those royalties have amounted to hundreds of thousands of dollars since 1987. The Pasteur Institute has hired a New York law firm to renegotiate the agreement, seeking sole credit and all of the royalties. So far, the U.S. government has rejected the claim.

The controversy over Gallo and the discovery of the HIV virus was one of the central storylines of "And The Band Played On," the recent HBO movie adaptation of Randy Shilts epic about the early years of the AIDS crisis. The movie contained an extremely negative portrayal of Gallo by actor Alan Alda.

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## OCCASIONS

### BIRTHDAYS

Happy birthday to Karen Knapper on Nov. 17 from Sugra.

Happy birthday on Nov. 19 to Jennifer Chaffin. Her friends Kat, Elizabeth and Susan celebrated by throwing her a karaoke party.

Steve Hauger celebrated his 25th birthday, and first gay birthday, Nov. 19 with his lover, Tim Sinclair. It also marked their first anniversary. Friends threw Steve a surprise party complete with cake and other goodies. Later everyone hopped into a superstretch limo to the Ritz in Buckhead and then back to the Midtown clubs.

### ON THE SCREEN

Well-known local Atlanta actor Thomas Boyd, associated with the 7 Course theater group, can be seen in the recently released movie "Robocop 3." He plays a blond "bombshell" hooker who is licking a lollipop. And he really knows how to walk.

### NEW DIGS

Al Cotton is pleased to announce his new status as a homo-homowner, having closed Nov. 11 on a townhouse just east of Avondale Estates. He promises a housewarming party on Jan. 15—he just hasn't decided what year yet.



Steve Hauger, shown here on Halloween, celebrated a slew of events.

### ANNIVERSARIES

Congratulations to Jack Schiffman and Tom Dunn who will celebrate 14 years together on Thanksgiving Day. Each year, Jack says, is better than the last.

Merri Spohn and Susan Malone celebrated their 19th anniversary on Nov. 19.

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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## Vaccine study to proceed despite opposition of Congress

Meriden, CT—The U.S. Army will go ahead with plans to test a controversial HIV vaccine made by MicroGeneSys Inc., despite a vote in Congress to reconsider the study, a Pentagon spokesman said.

"Nothing has changed as far as the Army is concerned," Sgt. Pete Durban said on Nov. 12, one day after a new defense spending bill was signed into law that contained a provision asking the Army to delay the study for another six months.

The Army's decision to proceed, in defiance of congressional action, came as a surprise to some.

"If it does result to be the case, it's deeply disappointing from a scientific point of view," said Avive Lavelle, spokeswoman for the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services.

MicroGeneSys, based in Meriden, Conn., announced in August that tests were to begin before the end of the year under the direction of the Walter Reed Army Institute of Research in Washington, D.C. But Congress put the provision for a six-month delay into the defense spending bill to give government scientists opposed to the study six more months to make their case against the tests.

The tests, which will include 5,000 to 10,000 HIV-positive people across the country, will determine whether the pharmaceutical company's vaccine, called gp160, is effective in preventing the development of full-blown AIDS and increasing longevity in infected people.

Some researchers and members of the AIDS activist community believe the vaccine is ineffective and want to see other research take precedence.

"Hopefully, this money can be spent in the absolute best possible way," said Mervyn Silverman, a physician who serves as president of the American Foundation for AIDS Research and a critic of the gp160 study. "We are dealing with such scarce resources that all of us want to be sure every dollar spent is well spent."

In 1992, after MicroGeneSys had been rebuffed by the National Institutes of Health when it sought special consideration for the tests, the company hired former Louisiana U.S. Sen. Russell Long, who chaired the Finance Committee for more than 15 years, to lobby. He

convinced Sens. Sam Nunn and John Warner to include \$20 million in the Defense Department budget for the vaccine trial.

Scientific researchers were outraged by the back-door approach, with then NIH Director Dr. Bernardine Healy calling the action "unconscionable" since politicians, not scientists, were deciding what drugs would get special treatment.

In the wake of the controversy, Congress gave the Department of Defense, the National Institutes of Health and the Food and Drug Administration six months to decide whether the money could be put to better use for wider-ranging AIDS research. That time period passed in April, and planning for the large-scale clinical tests got under way. But the amendment included in the defense bill for the new fiscal year gives the agencies until April 5, 1994 to certify to Congress whether the money should go for some other use.

U.S. Rep. Henry Waxman, D-Calif.,

sponsored the measure asking for a six-month delay.

"I do not believe that we should force these agencies to carry out research that none of them believes to be valid. Congress should not be in the business of picking commercial products to test, especially in a situation as critical as the AIDS epidemic," said Waxman, chairman of the House Energy and Commerce subcommittee on health and the environment.

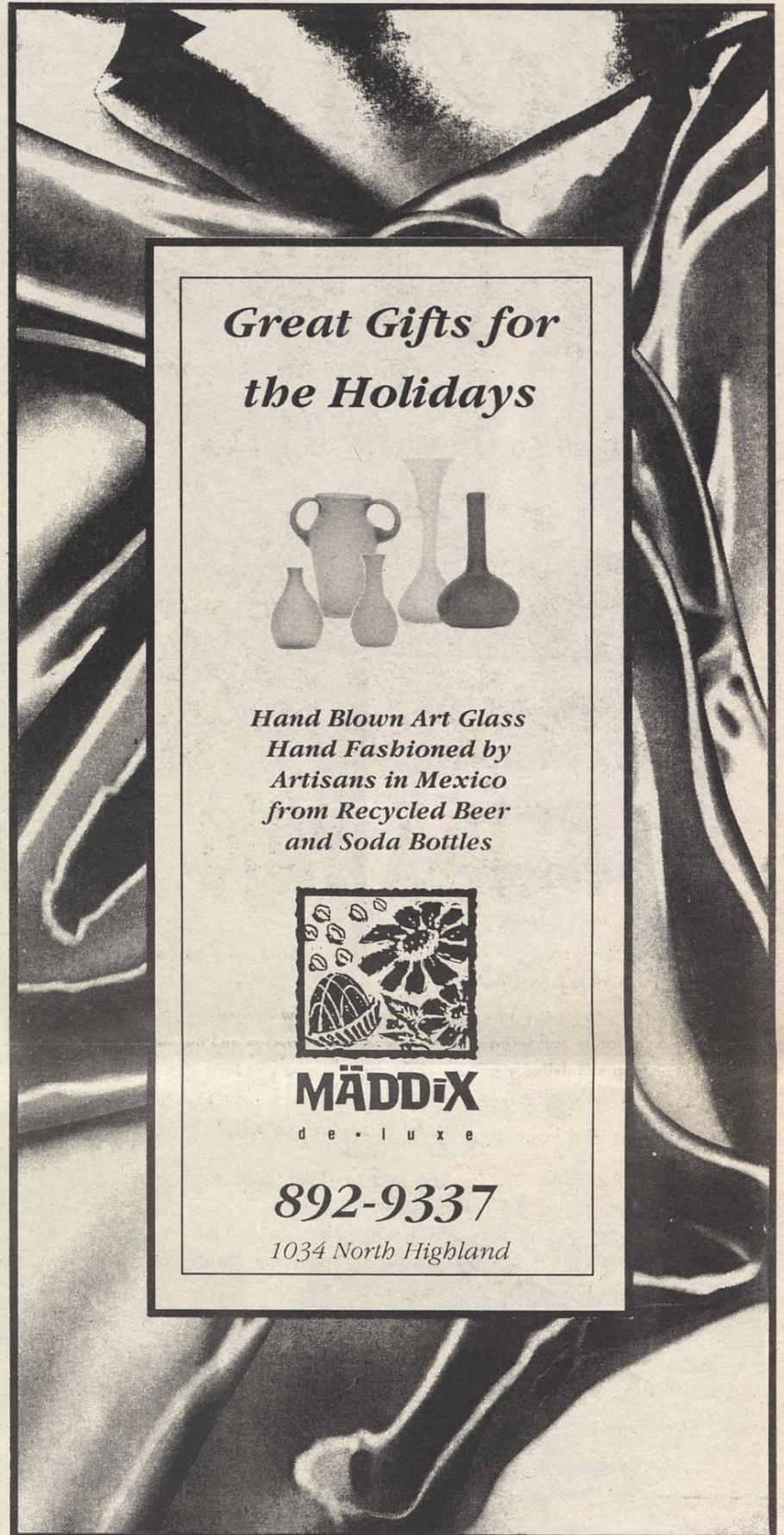
He said that if scientists want to research the developmental drug, he would not oppose it, but "that is their job, not the job of lobbyists and politicians."

MicroGeneSys rapped Congress' approval of Waxman's amendment, saying that any delay in the tests would have a detrimental affect on people living with HIV.

"The most serious consequence of this delay is that millions of HIV-positive people worldwide will have to wait yet even longer before they learn whether the promise that gp160 has shown in earlier tests will be confirmed in the final... trials," said Franklin Volvovitz, president of MicroGeneSys. The drug has shown promise in recent foreign tests, said the company's prepared statement.

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*U.S. Rep. Henry Waxman, D-Calif., sponsored the measure asking for a six-month delay in the gp160 vaccine trial. "I do not believe that we should force these agencies to carry out research that none of them believes to be valid. Congress should not be in the business of picking commercial products to test, especially in a situation as critical as the AIDS epidemic."*



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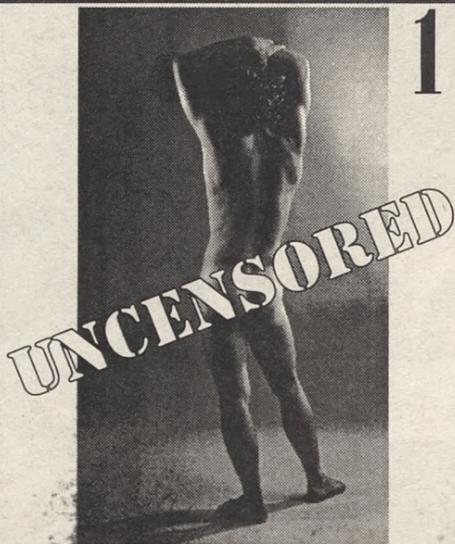


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# OUT & ABOUT

THE ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT GUIDE OF SOUTHERN VOICE

## A Personal Journey

*Iris Ruskin's photographs chronicle the spirit she showed in her fight against cancer*

by BRIAN COCHRAN

Light, spirit, hope—it was these qualities that late photographer Iris Ruskin endeavored to capture in her art, and capture them she did, as her exhibit at the Southeastern Center for the Arts demonstrates.

In black and white photography that evokes mystery, spirituality and the unknown, Ruskin also expressed her own personal journey through the cancer which finally took her life this past September.

As a photographer, Ruskin described her work as being concerned with the essence of a subject, not the literal recording of it, such as sunlight streaming through a window, cascading down a staircase and finally into the eye of her lens. As she

CONTINUES ON PAGE 24

**Transition to the Light,** an exhibit of the photographs of the late Iris Ruskin, runs through Dec. 17 at the Southeastern Center for the Arts, 1935 Cliff Valley Way, Suite 210. Call 633-1990 for more information.



A self-portrait of Iris Ruskin

## Red, Hot and Alternative

*Who's who of alternative music featured on new AIDS fundraising album*

Over the past three years, one organization has consistently put a fresh spin on the "benefit album." Founded in 1989, the Red Hot Organization is the leading international group dedicated to raising AIDS funds and awareness through popular culture.

"Red Hot + Blue," a carefully curated music and video project released in 1990, recruited artists from across the board and came up with something palatable for anyone: Cole Porter classics performed by artists ranging from Jody Watley to Tom Waits.

The summer of 1992 brought "Red Hot + Dance," which featured remixes of club hits, a previously unreleased track by Madonna and three new ones from George Michael.

This year we get something a little different. How often do you hear someone say, Hey, isn't that Buffalo Tom?

The Red Hot people say that "No Alternative" is geared toward teenagers and twentysomethings. Through the release of this album and a related MTV special, they hope to deliver messages about personal responsibility, self-protection and fighting bigotry and discrimination around the world.

"It's not us versus them. It's just us. And this is the way we sound," writes the album's co-producer Chris Mundy for the liner notes.

While the assemblage of artists here may not attract interest from the crossover audiences its predecessors did, it will probably do just as well—if not better—in sales, the proceeds of which will benefit AIDS treatment and care facilities worldwide. It's a virtual who's who of "alternative" acts (read: young musi-

cians with integrity). Unlike its counterparts, though, "No Alternative" doesn't provide much in the way of context. It's more of a pot luck, and these bands didn't come together to lock hands and sway in the bleachers, anyway. They've contributed live cuts, covers and previously unreleased oddities—just the kind of stuff their fans want to hear.

"My blood is still warm, but I'm superdeformed," sings Matthew Sweet on the opening track. It would be a stretch to say that Sweet is singing about having AIDS, but somehow the song works well in that light, like several of the 20 tracks included here. There's irony in Soul Asylum's cover of Marvin Gaye's "Sexual Healing," and a personal, melancholic quality in many of the deliveries, particularly those from Sarah McLachlan, Bob Mould and Urge Overkill.

At least one of the songs was directly inspired by AIDS. American Music Club's "All Your Jeans Were Too Tight" manages an amazing balance of loss, apology and humor. It's about a friend of the band who died of AIDS: "I can understand liking Barbara Streisand, but I'm not sure about the soundtrack from Diva," drones singer Mark Eitzel, "And what was up with the tanning salon? I'm sorry I said anything about the tattoo, but did you really need another earring? And I hope you know that I really loved you. And we had a good time, didn't we."

That, by the way, backs right into a lite-metal version of the Rolling Stones' "Bitch" as performed by the Goo Goo Dolls. No real consistency here. Just a lot of rockin' tunes.

While some tracks, with loose interpretation, can be lent to the cause, others don't come close. Pavement, for example, does "Unseen Power of the Picket Fence." What starts out as an ode to

# NO ALTERNATIVE

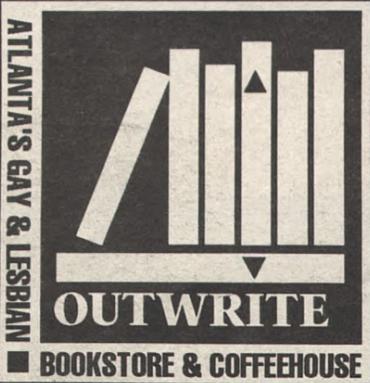
R.E.M.'s discography shifts to a chant about Sherman and his mates marching through Georgia where they finally end up in a confrontation with, yes, R.E.M.

Ironically, the only track that doesn't fit comes from Patti Smith, who has been quite eloquent in past homages to her late friend Robert Mapplethorpe. Here, on "Memorial Tribute," she sounds more like a sentimental dinosaur as she cloyingly renders a poem she wrote for him. Sure, you can tell it's an awkward moment for her, but doubly so for us when it's sandwiched between Jonathan Richman and Nirvana, who appropriately have the unofficial (uncredited) honor of closing the album.

"No Alternative" won't have any big hits by the standards of pop music. This big effort, however, should do plenty to build upon the \$7 million the other two Red Hot productions have raised.

JAMES FITCH

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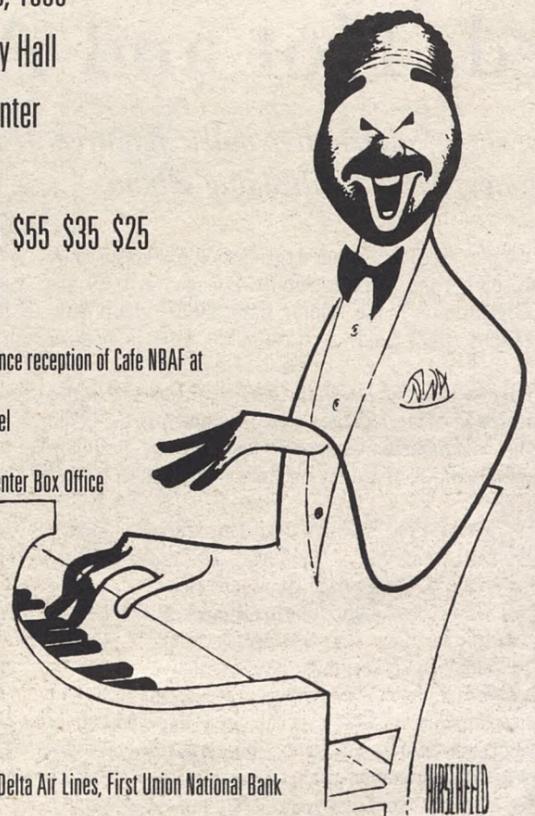
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**25 THURSDAY**  
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**GAY GRAFITTI.** Out and loud lesbian and gay radio. 7-8 pm, WRFG, 89.3 FM.



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**26 FRIDAY**  
**FIDELITY TREE LIGHTING AND CONCERT.** The day after Thanksgiving, and along with the shopping, Decatur lights its Christmas tree. A 45-minute program ends when the lights go on. 7pm, downtown Decatur.

**27 SATURDAY**  
**A LITTLE BIT OF THIS AND A LOT OF THAT.** The photographic images of Skye Mason fill King Plow Arts Center, with music guests Garr & Keiffer. 7-11 pm.  
**LAUGHING MATTERS.** Improv troupe is wild and wacky at Manuel's Thursdays & Saturdays throughout November. 8pm. 717-4714.

**28 SUNDAY**  
**RAGE FOR HUNGER.** The Rage, Atlanta's Sunday Night Dance Sensation featuring DJ

Yvonne Monet, comes to the Coca-Cola Roxy to benefit the Atlanta Community Food Bank. Free admission with three canned goods. 10 pm  
**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.

**29 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. 10:30 p.m. and again, Wed. 5:30 p.m. Cable Ch. 12.



rotunda, sponsored by ACT UP, from noon to 1; unveiling of the AIDS Awareness stamp at AID Atlanta at 10 am; open house from 4-7 pm at AID Atlanta, with presentations by the agency's youth programs; dedication of new Georgia panels for the AIDS quilt, sponsored by the NAMES Project, at AID Atlanta from 7-8pm; the unveiling of a greeting card, to be sent to Hillary Clinton, at NAPWA at noon; A Day Without Art at Nexus Contemporary Art Center, with AIDS information videos in lieu of gallery viewings.  
**GIFTS FROM THE ART.** City Art Works presents a holiday art exhibition featuring works by more than 350 artists

from across the country. Opens today through Dec. 31. 953-0850.  
**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.

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

**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 LEIBOVITZ: 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 Auditorium. 378-8646.

**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. Gerogia Tech Westbrook Gallery. Reception today 2:30-4pm. 992-6175.  
**STEEL MAGNOLIAS.** Truvy's beauty salon comes alive at Neighborhood Playhouse, through Dec. 18. Thurs-Sat 8pm, Sun 2pm & 7pm. 373-5311.

**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.

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

**A CHRISTMAS CAROL.** The Alliance Theatre's annual classic with Scrooge, Tiny Tim and the rest. Directed by Kenny Leon and adapted by Sandra Deer. Through Dec. 26. 892-2414.

**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.

**1940S RADIO HOUR.** Theatre in the Square's annual holiday offering 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.

**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.

**ATLANTA FEMINIST WOMEN'S CHORUS & MARGIE ADAM.** Sat, Dec. 4. Tickets on sale at Charis, Atlantis Connection, Brushstrokes, ArtSouth, and Georgia Tech Theatre for the Arts box office. Concert is at 8pm (one show only) at the GT Theatre for the Arts. \$15/advance; \$16 at the door; \$12 children & with GT ID.

**ARTS FOR PRIDE FESTIVAL.** SAME's annual holiday sale is coming soon—Sun, Dec 5, 10am-6pm, at TULA Galleries. \$1 admission.

**ATLANTA GAY MEN'S CHORUS.** Annual holiday concert set for Fri & Sat, Dec 17 & 18 at Cannon Chapel of Emory University at 8 pm.

**30 TUESDAY**  
**CANDLELIGHT TOURS.** Tours at the Atlanta History Center recapture the magic of holidays past. Tullie Smith Farm and the Swan House are decorated for the season, and music and storytelling fill the air. Tonight is an invitation only party, but tomorrow and Thurs tickets may be had by calling 814-4106. 6:30-9:30 (Tonight 7-10).

**1 WEDNESDAY**  
**WORLD AIDS DAY.** Events in Atlanta include a speakout at the Capitol



PICTURED:  
ABOVE: Dikran Tulaine is "Doctor Faustus" at the Shakespeare Tavern through Dec. 5. Photo by Michael Holland  
LEFT: Theatre in the Square is happening at the Southern Tech performing arts space with "The 1940s Radio Hour" through Jan. 1.  
BELOW: The photographs of Skye Mason are on display at King Plow Arts Center on Nov. 27.

## Journey

Continued from page 21

herself once put it, "The light is spirit...the light is hope."

Her themes, mainly concerned with the contrast between light and dark, the known versus the unknown, come through brilliantly in her interpretations taken mostly (for the purposes of this show, at least) in Atlanta historical landmarks, such as Callanwolde, Rhodes Hall and Ebenezer Baptist Church. A photograph of church pews at the latter suggests spirits sitting there in the dark, waiting on the next service. Another, taken looking up the main staircase at Callanwolde, puts the viewer on an uphill angle, much like the artist's own uphill struggle against cancer and the pain that accompanied it. "I always put myself in the photographs, as if I were climbing the stairs and finding the me that is there," Ruskin once said.

Guarding the memory of her work and promoting it at the same time is a close knit circle of friends and family including Iris' partner, Alice Hardin. Though the two had only about two

years to share together, Hardin believes that she "knew Iris at her best."

Upon learning that she had cancer, Ruskin left a job as an x-ray technician, which she worked at because it was a job she was "supposed" to have, and gave her full attention to her real interest, black and white photography. When she learned that her chemotherapy would probably not save her from her illness, her work began to show the great leap that is understanding and acceptance—and to look beyond into the peace and calm that is light. It is from this period that the photographs on display at the Southeastern Center for the Arts are taken. "Face the fear and do it anyway," became Ruskin's creed.

Close contacts of Ruskin's say that her attitude was positive until the end. Evelyn Barnes, one of her mentors, remembers her as "a small woman with a large talent and an addictive smile." Barnes recalls a quiet sense of humor that manifested itself mostly in private moments.

"Once, Iris had gone out to Carmel, Calif. for a workshop. She and another woman got separated from the group, and when the other woman turned around, Iris mooned her. The

other woman took Iris' picture—wearing nothing but her camera." Not really all that surprising coming from a woman who wore "Batman" high tops most of the time. Or who once played on a softball team called the "Meshuggineh's," meaning, in this case, "crazy ladies."

The show was planned by Ruskin. Hardin, says that "Iris would be thrilled to know that her photography had generated so much interest and pleasure in people. She really did her work for love—that's the only reason." Her devotion to her work, which was her outlet for self-expression in what was undoubtedly the toughest time of her life, helped her to create images whose spirituality is undeniable. The photographs speak for themselves, and as the artist wrote, "If my photographs could talk, I'd never have to say anything again."

Though her photography is emotionally charged and ultimately uplifting, no human subject is seen in this exhibit. The light in the images leads to a better place—one with no fear or pain, only hope and peace. In capturing the stark physical reality of the location, Ruskin's work transcends it, leading the viewer out of darkness. Of the period in her life during which the photo-



One of Ruskin's studies in light and form

graphs were taken, she wrote: "It is where I am right now—in chemo—and reality stinks. But if I can look beyond it, it can be beautiful."

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FILM

**Sex Is...** The producers of "Sex is..." bill it as a feature-length documentary exploring the attitudes of men toward sex and sexuality in the age of AIDS.

Well, almost. The film, which opens this week in Atlanta, might be better described as exploring the attitudes of men in

**Sex Is...** opens Friday, Nov. 26 at the Lefont Screening Room in Lindbergh Plaza.

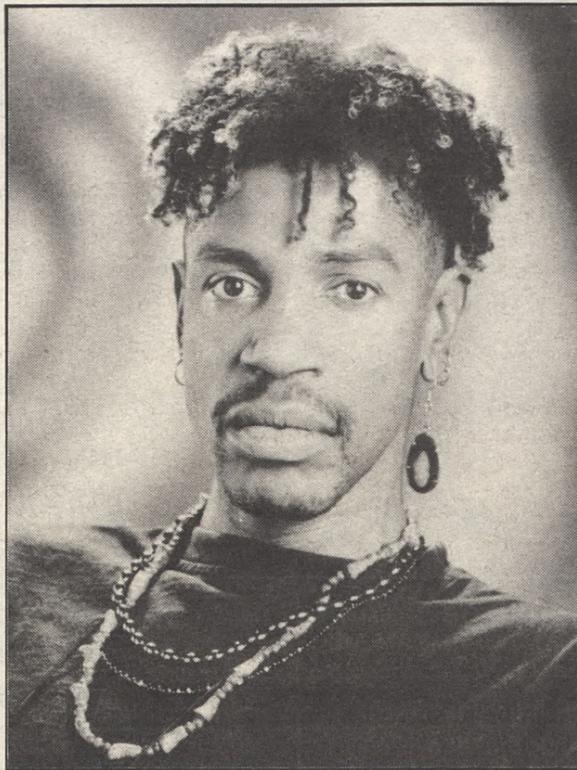
San Francisco toward sex and sexuality in the age of AIDS—which is not necessarily the same thing.

We get to see an African-American man into S&M tell us of the titillation he felt on his knees before a white South African. And a

transsexual street walker who describes himself/herself as a community social worker bringing "joy to the lonely and the oppressed. For a fee." And porn star Brad Phillips revealing that men want to have one night stands with him because they've seen him on film. And the producer/director of "Sex is..." Marc Huestis, describing how, as a teenager, he picked up men in train stations, often several in the same afternoon.

"Sex is..." which was voted best gay film at the 1993 Berlin International Film Festival and has been a smash hit in New York and San Francisco, consists of interviews with 15 gay men, diverse in terms of race, age, HIV status and outlook. Their comments on everything from losing their virginity to fantasies about Mexican baseball players play over a choppy video track that jumps from their faces to snippets of erotic video footage, news clips and campy segments from those educational training films that were such a staple of schoolrooms in the 1950s and 1960s.

What the filmmakers say they wanted to accomplish with



DANIEL NOCOLETTA

Wayne Corbitt is one of the subjects of "Sex Is..." an award-winning documentary looking at the scope of gay male sexuality

the film was to take a frank, non-judgmental look at sex—as they put it, make "a reality-based dialogue that will serve as a tool to promote public education regarding gay men." They describe what they give the audience as "positive, honest sexual imagery."

Much of what some of these men have to say—and the men themselves—can be insightful and intriguing. The description by Lulu, a 41-year-old self-described single celibate housewife, of life in San Francisco and the bathhouse scene in the 1970s would alone almost be worth the price of admis-

sion, as is the diatribe by Madame X, the aforementioned streetwalker, complaining about how some men want to play with his/her tits like they are tuning a radio dial.

Wayne Corbitt, the man who had such a festive time with the South African, is on the screen more than almost any other member of the cast, waxing philosophical about AIDS, relationships and, of course, sex. Two partners in their 40s, Larry Brinkin and R. Wood Massi, will give the "relationship-challenged" hope to carry on when they describe how they found and kept each other. The film's token extremely-politically-correct queer, Gerard Koskovich, shows just how irritating hyper-political queers can be. He will probably be their favorite character—everyone else will want to choke him.

The movie utilizes a stream-of-consciousness technique that, for the most part, works. But Huestis sometimes lets people drone on a bit too long when they are saying nothing interesting, which slows the film down. Huestis himself is on the screen quite a bit as one of the interviewees, and sometimes it seems a trifle self-indulgent.

Taken as a slice of life look at an interesting group of gay San Franciscans, "Sex is..." works. However, what the filmmakers seem to be aiming toward, and what many reviewers have chosen to read into the film, is that "Sex is..." is somehow honestly demonstrative of the attitudes of gay men as a whole toward sex.

Such a sociological perspective should not be read into this film. While it is true, as the filmmakers contend, that presenting gay men in "sanitized, monogamous relationships" doesn't reflect the breadth of gay male sexuality, their approach doesn't give the viewer any better sense of the sex lives of most American gay men, either. This is a view of gay male sexuality seen through a lens forged in 1970s San Francisco. Most of the men in the film describe lives and experiences that are probably more unconventional than those of most of the men who will see the film.

Still, "Sex is" for the most part will provoke, titillate and entertain. Just don't try to read too many things into it.

RICHARD SHUMATE



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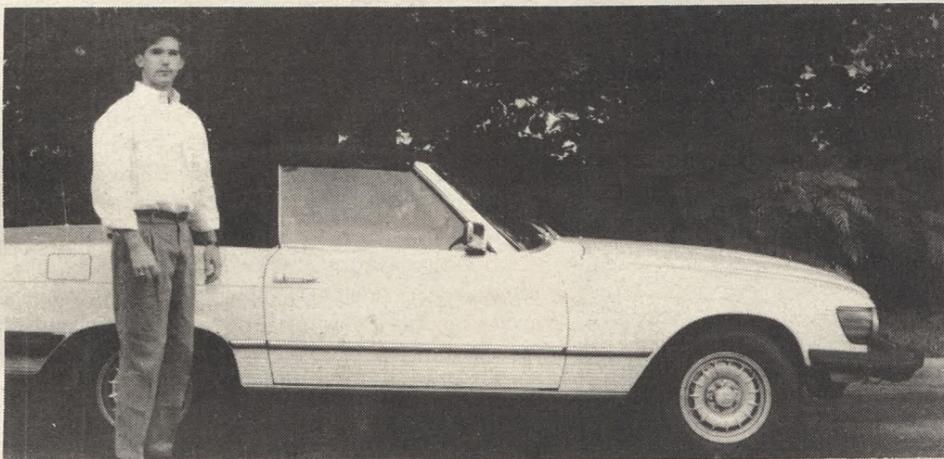
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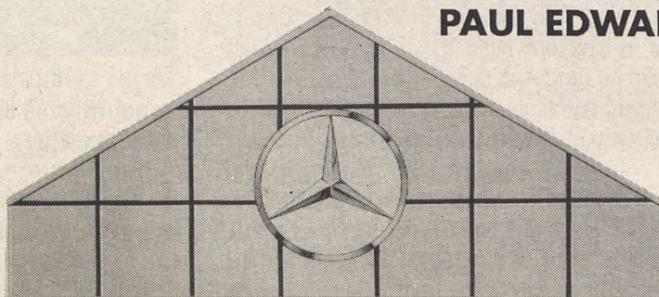
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OUT & ABOUT 27

# Will Hollywood's more queer-positive attitude last?

*The success or failure of "Philadelphia" may determine if gay-themed movies survive in the commercially-conscious film industry*

by BRENT HARTINGER

In "The Man Without a Face," a 1972 young adult novel by Isabelle Holland, a sexually ambiguous boy befriends an older disfigured man who turns out to be gay. But when the film version of the novel—directed by and starring Mel Gibson—reached movie theatres this summer, both the man and the boy were—surprise—heterosexual.

If fact, Hollywood has a long history of taking novels and books with gay themes—"Midnight Cowboy," "The Color Purple" and "Fried Green Tomatoes," to name but a few—and "straightening" them out for film-going audiences. Tinseltown's "original" screenplays have been just as blatantly heterosexual—or, worse, they've been openly homophobic.

That was then, this is now.

For the first time in its less-than-luminous history, Hollywood is making major movies about positive lesbian and gay characters. Later this year, Tri-Star will release the big budget, high-profile "Philadelphia," a movie about a gay lawyer, played by Tom Hanks, who is fired for having AIDS and who turns to a homophobic attorney, played by Denzel Washington, to sue his old law firm.

Respected directors such as Barbra Streisand, Francis Ford Coppola and John Schlesinger also reportedly have gay-related AIDS films in the works. And planned screen adaptations of gay novels and plays include Stephen McCauley's "The Object of My Affection," Tony Krusher's "Angels In America" (to be directed by Robert Altman), Rita Mae Brown's "Rubyfruit Jungle" and Peter Lefcourt's "The Dreyfus Affair" The latter, an interracial gay love story, is being developed at Disney Studios, no less.

Producer Bruce Campbell has seen Hollywood's gay turnaround first-hand. Trying off and on-again since 1978 to make a



In his upcoming movie "Philadelphia," Tom Hanks puts his box office bankability on the line by playing a gay lawyer with AIDS.

film version of the lesbian classic "Rubyfruit Jungle," the movie may finally be filmed.

"There are more people who are giving me yes nods on 'Rubyfruit' than ever before," he says. "Virtually everyone. The climate is so perfect right now for this book." According to Campbell, a "major" director has been signed, and Juliette Lewis is a strong contender to play the lead. Lily Tomlin, who was once set to direct, may play the mother.

Howard Rosenman, executive producer of the Oscar-winning "Common Threads: Stories from the Quilt," also sees Hollywood's change of heart about gays—at least with regards to AIDS. "Right now it's quite chic [to do an AIDS film]," he says. "There's still a lot of hate [in the country], but the people who are running the studios are pretty liberal." Rosenman himself has an AIDS film in the works—"Blue Earth," about a gay man who goes back to his small hometown to die.

"In the world of movies and screenplays, I suppose we like to think we're all open-minded and liberal," says Marc Platt, president of Tri-Star, the studio that is releasing "Philadelphia." Not everyone in Hollywood is open-minded, he says, but when he reads screenplays and movie ideas, "if it's a good story and has some accessibility, that there are gay characters is not necessarily a plus or a minus, at least not in the way [Tri-Star] looks at things. If it's a good story, it's a good story."

Platt refers to "accessibility," and for most of the upcoming Hollywood movies about gays, it's a key word. Movie making is a business like any other, and because studios can't count on gay movie-goers alone to recoup the \$50-100 million that the average major film today costs to make and advertise, that means gay-themed films must also be made to appeal to heterosexuals.

"We can't just make gay films," says John Schlesinger, the openly gay director of such films as "Marathon Man" and "Pacific Heights." "It's only going to work if we can make something that appeals to, or opens the eyes, of a wider audience."

In fact, says Schlesinger, the only way he got to make "Sunday, Bloody Sunday," his gay-positive 1971 film, was because of his enormous success with the Oscar-winning "Midnight Cowboy" in 1968. Gay films are already "pretty difficult to get on screen," Schlesinger says; if future gay films force the studios to lose money, it will become all but impossible.

Why Hollywood's sudden willingness to take on lesbian and gay themes? Rosenman sees it as part of a general societal shift towards acceptance of gays. No doubt the surprise success of last year's gender-bending "The Crying Game" has also played a part. Grossing more than \$60 million, "The Crying Game" proved once and for all that American audiences would sit still for—even rave to their friends about—a "gay" film.

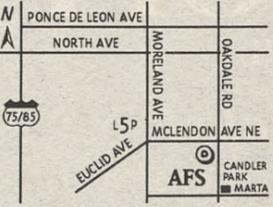
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# Hollywood

Continued from page 27

Scott Robbe, a spokesman for a group of lesbians and gays in the film industry called Out in Film, sees the "Basic Instinct" controversy of 1992 as the turning point. "There was a very vocal protest about the images of gays and lesbians and the fact that AIDS was not being covered in any films," Robbe says of the demonstrations that followed the filming and release of the infamous Michael Douglas-Sharon Stone thriller about killer lesbians. Further demonstrations at that year's Oscar ceremony further drove home the point. "It sort of put Hollywood on notice that they had to respond, and they did respond," Robbe says.

Still, there are those who are deeply suspicious of any supposed "change of heart" on the part of Hollywood regarding lesbians and gays. Most of these Hollywood insiders have reason to be skeptical.

Producer Sarah Pillsbury ("Love Field," "Eight Men Out," "And the Band Played On"), for example, would like to believe that Hollywood is finally becoming more sensitive to minorities like gays and women, but she's not sure.

"I wish I could agree [about the changes]," she says. "But as a woman in this business for over 10 years, I still think this is a pretty conservative town. I think that there are some changes, but I think that they are really, really slow."

And screenwriter Craig Lucas is still understandably bitter about the difficulties he faced while making 1989's independent AIDS film "Longtime Companion." Though eventually released to critical acclaim, Lucas, producer Lindsey Law and director Norman Rene met with fierce resistance on the part of most actors and all the major studios when making the movie. "No studio would touch it," he says.

According to Lucas, the climate in Hollywood right now is such that commercial considerations are paramount to all other concerns;

first and foremost, a movie must make lots of money. "There are plenty of brilliant writers who would love to make movies, not just about AIDS, but about gay characters—central characters, gay people in love" he says. But, he warns, strictly gay-oriented movies probably won't happen any time soon. Lucas' own plans to write a movie about the birth of ACT UP, for example, went absolutely nowhere.

To make matters worse, there are indications that Middle America may not be quite ready to embrace a full-fledged gay film. Last spring's "Three of Hearts," for example, included a love triangle between two women and a man, and it was openly advertised as a lesbian-themed movie. It flopped at the box office. Most other recent major gay films, including "Longtime Companion," 1987's "Torch Song Trilogy" and this fall's "M. Butterfly," also didn't hit in theatres, though "Companion" and "Trilogy" have done quite well on video.

For now, all eyes in Hollywood are on "Philadelphia," to be released in December in Los Angeles and New York to qualify for the Oscars, then going into wide release in January. Early word on the film, which stars, along with Tom Hanks and Denzel Washington, Mary Steenburgen, Jason Robards and Joanne Woodward, is very, very positive.

The movie has plenty of true believers. Director Jonathan Demme has staked much of the clout he earned from his Oscar-winning "The Silence of the Lambs" on the film, and Tom Hanks, one of Hollywood's hottest leading men, has taken the risky move of playing a gay man with AIDS (he reportedly kisses his male co-star, Antonio Banderas).

But, insiders warn, Hollywood's brief gay renaissance could come to a sudden end should "Philadelphia" bomb at the box office. "If it is panned by the critics, it doesn't matter," Rosenman says. "Critics don't mean a thing in Hollywood. But if it flops, it'll matter." Should the movie perform poorly, other movies about gays or AIDS will suddenly become very difficult to get made, Rosenman says.

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**THEATER**

**STEEL MAGNOLIAS**

This play by Robert Harling, directed by Greg Ansley, now at Neighborhood Playhouse in Decatur, is a disappointment. While the play is better than the movie, it remains one more tired peacan to Southern eccentricity.

Set in Truvy's beauty shop in Chinquapin Parish, Louisiana, the play introduces an assortment of Southern women characters and follows the story of steel-spined Southern mother M'Lynn and her willful daughter, Shelby, a stubborn belle who insists on living a traditional life in defiance of diabetes.

Shelby is a type recognizable to readers of Florence King ("Southern Ladies and Gentlemen") or observers of real life in upper-middle-class Southern life, a small-town socialite who has her wedding "signature colors" of Blush and Bashful, who marries a stuffy but prosperous man whom she proceeds to dominate in time-honored upper-middle-class Southern tradition and who defies diabetes and her mother in order to bear a child, a choice that results in her death.

As background to Shelby's story, we meet an assortment of eccentric characters who gather in the beauty shop to talk, bond and support one another. The ties that hold Southern society together, we realize, are forged in beauty shops, kitchens and other women's meeting places.

The best part of this play is its gallery of characters and its emphasis on the solidarity of women's friendships. Each character is played with accuracy that avoids caricature. The director and women actors know that in the South, some women really do look and talk like this.

Angela Bratcher as Shelby has just the right dash and flair of a small-town queen who has never realized she cannot have whatever she wants, even "a little bit of immortality." Patricia French plays Shelby's mother M'Lynn, as authoritative, cool, controlling and self-controlled.

Two characterizations that stand out are Susie Caldwell's Truvy and Anna House's Ouiser. Truvy is a recognizable South-



The cast of "Steel Magnolias," which runs through Dec. 18 at the Neighborhood Playhouse in Decatur.

ern type, the working-class philosopher who can turn a phrase and come up with a deft bit of wit for any occasion and whose philosophy of business is, "There is no such thing as natural beauty." Anna House is a familiar presence at Neighborhood Playhouse. Her Ouiser is a delight of carefully observed characterization: voice, gestures, everything is just right.

The only character in this play that doesn't ring true is Annelle, the beauty shop assistant. The character shows no development but is simply different in each scene. The problem is

that the character is written as a simple-minded caricature of a lower-class woman.

But while each woman gives an individually good performance, the actors do not meld together sufficiently into an ensemble. They seem to stand out too much as individuals, especially French. Also, the playing space seems cavernous and empty, and the actors are not given enough to do to create the atmosphere of a cozy beauty shop, with lots of activity going on.

But the most objectionable aspect of this play goes deeper and concerns the script itself. This play is, as Ansley says, a tribute to strong Southern women. It is indeed a tribute—a simple-minded tribute to the glorification of surface, that Southern surface of eccentricity, barbed wit, and melodrama that so often masks tragedy, wasted lives and genuine emotion.

The play invites Southern audiences to wallow in self-admiration and to admire these women for sacrificing themselves to surface. It celebrates "family values"—the values of women holding things together in a traditional way, the way the British held their empire together, when all along it wasn't worth the effort.

M'Lynn and Shelby receive uncritical praise for their self-sacrifice, their conviction that donating a kidney and keeping one's hair perfect are equally worthy goals. Shelby chooses to have "a child of her own" when she knows there's a good chance she will not live to raise it. Evidently, simply reproducing is more important than taking care of the child once it's born. Shelby declares to her mother that giving birth to a child gives her "a little bit of immortality." Many gays and lesbians are expressing this same sentiment, forgetting that living for something outside oneself and making the world better might be a more solid immortality or at least a contribution.

The play has a gay subtext: Claree, the ex-mayor's widow, tells of a friend whose son comes home and tells his parents he has a brain tumor. Then while they are stunned with this news, the man tells them it's not true, that he's only gay. Shelby retorts, "If that's all they ever have to deal with, they should just get over it." An admirable sentiment, of course. But in spite of its gay-tolerant ambiance and big hair, "Steel Magnolias" remains a cutesy Southern saga that invites Southerners to congratulate themselves and preen uncritically. Sure, Southern women can be tough and courageous. And they can, and do, also sacrifice their lives to things that don't deserve the sacrifice.

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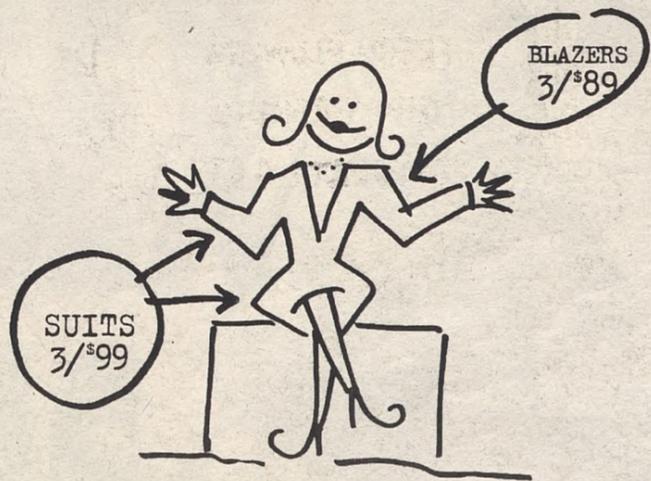
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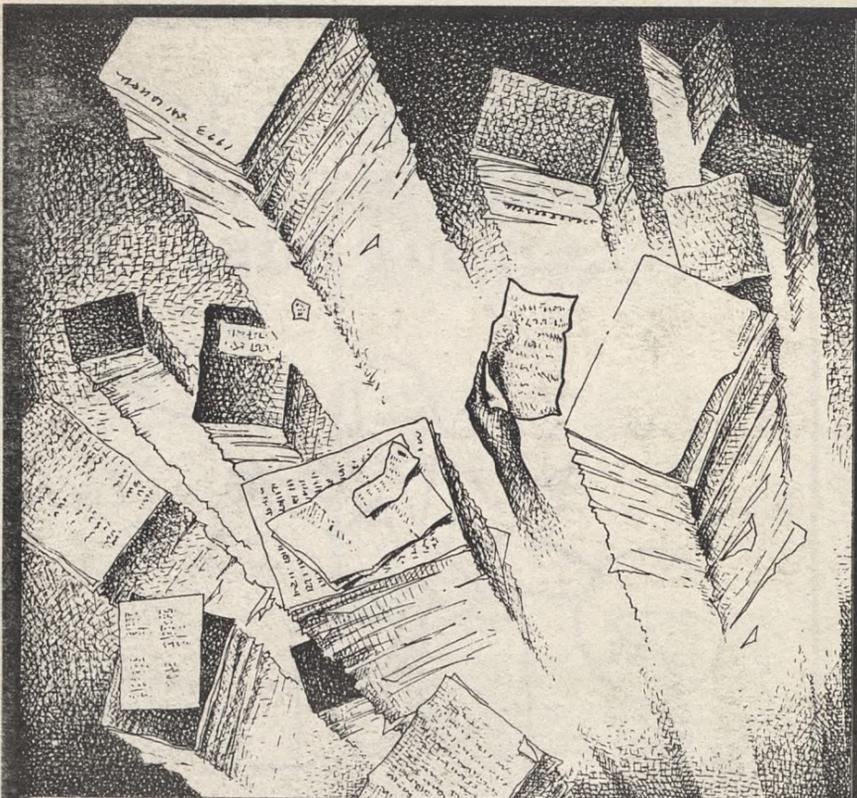


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# PBS series investigates AIDS in the American blood supply

Since the outbreak of AIDS more than a decade ago, the U.S. blood supply has been at risk. An estimated 30,000 Americans have become infected after receiving HIV-contaminated blood or blood products.

Among the casualties: tennis superstar Arthur Ashe, dead from two pints of blood received during open-heart surgery; Brendan O'Rourke—the five-year-old boy embraced in California by Pope John Paul II—dead from a blood transfusion; and thousands of hemophiliacs who were infected with the AIDS virus through clotting medications made from blood plasma.

In "AIDS, Blood and Politics," airing Tuesday, November 30, at 9 p.m. (check local listings), PBS's "Frontline" investigates the ten-year history of AIDS and the blood supply. The program, airing on the eve of World AIDS Day, examines why the nation's guarantors of safe blood, including the American Red Cross and the Food and Drug Administration, failed to safeguard the blood supply from the deadly virus in the early 1980s, and why, still today, some of the nation's largest blood banks are not yet in full compliance with federal regulations on blood safety.

"The response of the blood industry and the FDA to the first days of the AIDS crisis is truly frightening," says "Frontline" producer Carole Langer, who spent a year investigating the story. "Their failure to act swiftly and decisively to protect the recipients of blood products raised serious questions about the ability of blood banks to recognize and respond to the inherent dangers of blood transfusions and about the ability of the FDA to regulate the industry."

Langer focuses on a critical Jan. 4, 1983 meeting of the blood industry and its regulators during which scientists from the Centers for Disease Control warned that AIDS had entered the blood supply and urged the blood banks to take swift action to screen out gay male blood donors by direct questioning. Because no test was then available to screen for the AIDS virus, CDC scientists also recommended that blood banks begin using a hepatitis test to screen all blood, as their data showed there was a high probability that donors with hepatitis were also carrying the AIDS virus. But neither action was taken by the industry, nor recommended by the FDA.



RICHARD GREEN

Eddie Hanefant, a 9-year-old hemophiliac who contracted HIV from the blood supply, is one of the subjects of the "Frontline" report.

"There is no question that the government blew it as badly as the blood banking industry," says Dr. Ed Engleman, medical director of the Stanford University Blood Center.

Throughout 1983 and 1984, as the HIV virus was spreading rapidly into the blood supply, the industry seemed to move in slow motion, delaying the use of aggressive new screening tactics, banking instead on the development of a test that would directly detect HIV in blood. "This combination of the first year sticking your head in the sand and the second year having your expectations that we have a test around the corner, when you knew it would take a long time, just combined to kill tens of thousands of Americans," says Don Francis, one of the CDC scientists who sounded the original warning.

The crisis in blood safety appeared to be over in 1985 with the introduction of a specific test to detect HIV antibodies. But "Frontline's" investigation reveals that many blood banks have had great difficulty in implementing the complex testing and

tracking procedures now required of them. Despite increased pressure from the FDA, serious deficiencies persisted in some large blood banks into the 1990s, as FDA inspection reports obtained by "Frontline" reveal. "At least in some cases, blood banks are committing terrible errors," says Engleman, who reviewed the reports at "Frontline's" request.

Typical is a 1992 inspection report pertaining to the Irwin Memorial Blood Center in San Francisco. It is cited as "not in a state of control" for failures to test blood properly for HIV and other viruses. In many of the FDA inspection reports, blood banks are repeatedly faulted for failing to report their errors and accidents, as required by law.

"Frontline" also tracks the checkered history of Red Cross Pacific Northwest Regional Blood Services in Portland, Ore. Despite a string of FDA citations for incorrect testing and labeling of blood and a temporary suspension of its testing for HIV, it remains open as one of the largest blood-processing centers in the country.

"Frontline" examines how donor screening and blood testing problems at the Portland blood bank may have led to the tragic case of Bob Jones, a 61-year-old Montana carpenter who contracted AIDS after receiving a blood transfusion during surgery in 1989. "There is no excuse for me having this," says Jones.

Other FDA inspection reports reveal that as late as 1990, Red Cross headquarters in Washington had no system in place to report new AIDS transfusion cases to the FDA, and one large regional blood center had files on at least 230 AIDS transfusion cases it had never reported to federal officials.

The continuing problems inside many American blood banks finally led Dr. David Kessler, the head of the FDA, to secure a court order against the Red Cross in 1993. Kessler later testified to Congress that the blood banks must be brought into compliance or face closure.

"The story of AIDS and the blood supply is a political tragedy," says "Frontline" senior producer Michael Sullivan. "And despite its dire lessons, 10 years later we are still asking questions about whether the blood industry is capable of protecting the public from catastrophic diseases like AIDS and whether our government has the muscle to ensure we are safe."

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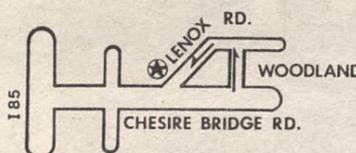
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# EAT

A FOOD COLUMN BY GARY KAUPMAN

Given that the very words "Lenox Square" cause me to break into hives and that my feelings for Buckhead's trendoid glitz palace Azalea are miles less than ecstatic, you'd think that I'd be totally turned off by Tom Tom (in Lenox Square, 264-1163). The Tom of Tom Tom, you see, is the very same Tom Catherall who has won numerous culinary competitions and who gave us what many in town consider to be the ultimate in fusion cuisine at Azalea. Me? I think con-fusion is a far better way to describe all too much of chef Tom's repertoire.

But a friend who loves all things new and beautiful, and who works near Lenox, called me a couple of weeks ago and insisted that we pow wow for chow at Tom Tom.

The new restaurant (in the space formerly habited by Ruby Tuesday's) looks just great. It's done up in 30 or so shades of tasteful beige highlighted by architectural detail, wood inserts, modern tapestry upholstery and big, bright modern art. A slick, aerodynamic bar sits next to the open kitchen adding to the ultra-urban, trendoid feel of the place.

There are two mega-negatives in the look and feel of the place. The main dining space sports a (very attractive) tile floor that yields a noise level that's way too high. Ask to be seated on the carpeted, raised balcony in the rear if you're in search of a respite from the ravages of malling. And too much of the music being played has an insistent bass beat that makes the place feel a little like a dance hall. Luckily the sound system is tinny sounding, so the booming doesn't get at your marrow, but a little Enya or (given that the owners refer to the place as "a bistro") Edith Piaf would be way easier on the nerves. Or, if the proprietor's had a sense of humor, how about some vintage Tom-Tom Club?

At first glance, the menu gave me the willies. Much of it—like potato chips with three dreary dips and shrimp wrapped with prosciutto served with cheese tortelloni and two sauces—is the same cutesy crap that I hated at Azalea. Then there's the slightly nauseating possibility of crabmeat, feta and spinach wrapped in phyllo and baked which sounds too much like Houston's for comfort. Or grilled (and smoked) salmon served on shrimp jambalaya with (again) two sauces.

Is this a bistro or an ego-driven kitchen hellbent on turning out cutesy cuisine designed to win more medals?

But don't despair. There's some better than decent food to be had here too.

Pizza crust—light, moist, yeasty and anointed with olive oil and basil—served with little side dishes of black bean hummus, tart feta and an assortment of especially tasty olives hits the mark on a cool fall night. The hummus is especially enticing, smooth, smoky and loaded with garlic. Add a glass of red wine and you've got a nice light meal. The \$6.50 tab pushes the edge of the pricing envelope, but rent at Lenox is not cheap.

Almost as pleasing, fat, crisp croquettes of polenta and mozzarella served with a simple tomato sauce are easy on eye and the tongue. Can the same soul who gave us oily cilantro pesto in which to bathe our gummy fried calamari have produced such a simple pleasure?

A pizza topped with caramelized onions, anchovies, ripe olives and Fontina cheese totters on the line between gutsy-rustic and designer-precious. But the light crust and earthy flavors balance each other beautifully, producing a rich, musky whole that's not unlike good sex.

Those on a budget will want to note that two courses of the cheapest food and wine in the place will set you back \$20 a head. But seekers of the new and stylish will definitely want to give it a try.



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Some November, thinking about the Thanksgiving holiday is unavoidable. Yet its significance has been rather fluid over the years. For instance, mere centuries ago, "non-participating Episcopalians scornfully referred to the holiday as 'St. Pumpkin's day.'" (Rebecca Rupp, in "Blue Corn and Square Tomatoes.")

Currently, it is regarded as an unconscionable celebration of genocide in some circles; cast my vote in this pile, please. To others, it represents the modern descendant of ancient European harvest festivals.

I suspect that, for most folks, it simply means a paid day from work and a time when "family" gathers for a "traditional" meal. But where do these traditional foodstuffs come from? Let's examine the legacy of four items invariably associated with the holiday.

Now, many folks in the land have made the evolutionary leap into vegetarianism. However, you'll find some backsliding over the holidays, especially where turkey is concerned. Some people justify this by saying that, after all, their forebears ate this self-same fowl. I'm afraid that the *Meleagris gallopavo* consumed here nowadays is not, in fact, a direct descendant of the *Agriocharis ocellata* the Spaniards found upon arriving in the New World.

In his book "Why We Eat What We Eat—How Columbus Changed the Way the World Eats," food historian Raymond Sokolov writes, "turkey history does not begin at Plymouth. Its first apotheosis came, as far as we know, among the Aztecs, who braised it and ate it on special occasions in a hot sauce containing chocolate." (Indeed, the world is forever indebted to that culture for their gifts of chocolate and hot sauce—i.e., marinades containing chili peppers.)

"The Daughters of the American Revolution cannot even fall back on claiming that the turkeys they now eat descend from wild fowl domesticated by their foremothers on American soil. The first domesticated American turkeys were, in fact, imported from Europe...the first truly American hybrid, the Mammoth

## THIS OLD HOE

### EARTHSHAKIN' OBSERVATIONS

Bronze, was bred later from birds (also) with a European heritage, at Point Judith, Rhode Island." Thus, present-day turkeys represent an Anglo-Yankee heritage, not a native-southern one.

Surprisingly enough, "the English custom of the Christmas turkey was established in 1585, 35 years before the first Thanksgiving. So the Thanksgiving myth should be rewritten to take into account the historic reality of turkeys and to show how neatly they fit into our frontier cuisine. The earliest settlers ate wild turkeys, but once they were truly settled, they brought better turkeys in from Europe, and improved on them further, and adapted them to the thanksgiving meal.

"It is the menu of turkey combined with local foods (cranberries, sweet potatoes, pumpkin pie) that makes it special, not turkey alone."

Holiday meals would hardly feel complete without some form of sweet potato. Yet there's an improbable amount of confusion about the difference between a sweet potato and a yam.

True, both are fleshy tubers. But they're in completely separate families, vegetatively speaking, with different tastes and wholly different origins.

The true sweet potato is the *Ipomoea batata*, a member of the morning glory family. Its above-ground vine is readily identifiable to anyone who grows them. The sweet potato uncontestedly originated in tropical America. Nowadays, however, the world's largest producers and consumers of sweet 'taters are the Chinese.

The yam (of which there are about 600 varieties, worldwide) is in the *Dioscorea* family, and related to lilies. The point of origin is contested in botanical circles (you wouldn't think this realm was subject to heated debates, but in fact, it is).

However, based on the evidence, I'm personally betting on Africa. The name even seems derived from a Yoruba word. And as a final note of differentiation, true yams are starchy, not sweet, which accounts for why folks serve them 'candied.'

Think red. Think cranberry (or technically, *Vaccinium macrocarpon*, in the heath family). The name of this tart little

berry seems to have originated from the Middle Low German *kraanbere*, or 'crane-berry,' so called because the stamens resemble a crane's beak.

According to "The Cranberry Book" by Elizabeth Gemming, native people considered it a symbol of peace and employed it in a wide variety of ways: "eaten fresh, ground or mashed with cornmeal and baked into bread, and also stored both fresh in spring water and dried. Indians mixed dried, mashed cranberries with smoked venison, fat, and wild onions, boiled the mixture, pounded it to a pulp, formed cakes, and dried them on rocks in the sun. This was pemmican, a survival ration carried on long journeys by natives and later by white settlers.

"Indians dyed rugs and blankets with cranberry juice, and also used cranberries for healing. They made poultices from unripe cranberries, roasted and mashed, to cure scrapes and sores, especially wounds from poisoned arrows. They believed in the berry's special power to calm the nerves." Today, we know that the cranberry contains a natural antibiotic, and doctors often recommend cranberry juice to people who suffer from bladder infections because it acidifies the urine and discourages the growth of bacteria. Cranberries also have a very efficacious effect on the male prostate gland and are recommended for that purpose by many naturopaths.

Very high in Vitamin C, this little berry was used to stave off scurvy on long sea voyages by Yankee sailors. It has graced holiday tables since Plymouth Rock days in a variety of forms.

And finally, there is the pumpkin, *Curcubita pepo*. She's been cultivated in the Americas for around 9,000 years and was a staple of the native diet. Europeans adapted to it readily after the first winter.

Indeed, colonists employed pumpkin in such now-forgotten forms as pumpkin beer, dried pumpkin chips, a tea to treat 'female problems,' a mash which held the cure for bladder complaints, etc., as well as pie.

Botanically speaking, it's funny that what is essentially a summer squash manages to thoroughly mimic a winter squash. It ripens by fall, has a hard shell you can't eat, and contains large, hard seeds, like any good winter squash should.

High in vitamins A and C plus a wealth of minerals, and able to keep quite a while, the pumpkin helped the colonists survive those harsh New England winters.

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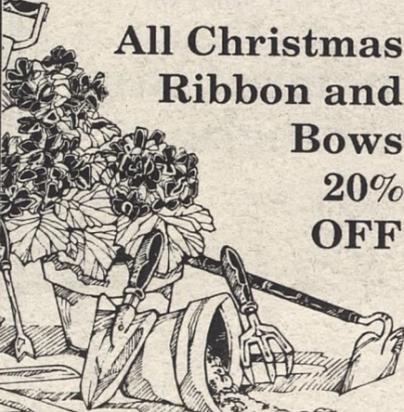
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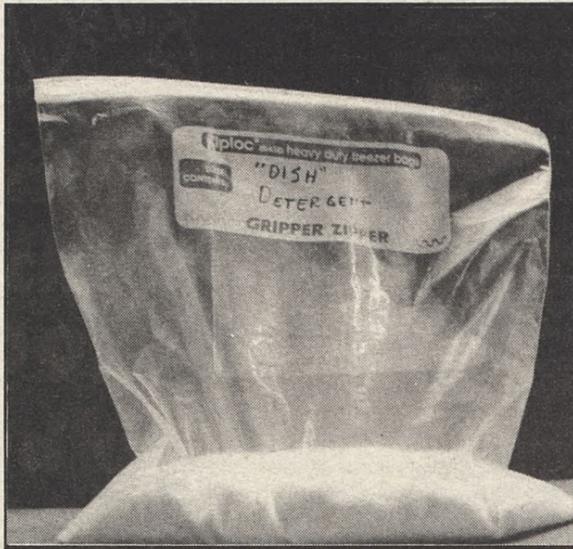
**Clean Queen:** Dish has received quite a few comments about our criticism of the (all-white, all-male) Lavendar Menace's demo against feminist icon Betty Friedan. Several folks offered "right-on sister," but the guys in Lavender Mean Mob were so upset that they sent us a zip-lock bag of "Dish Detergent" to suggest (we guess) that we should clean up our act and "criticize the people who aren't doing anything rather than the people you think did the less important." You missed our point guys. We think what you did was pretty important; not many homos have had the chutzpah to picket Friedan lately. We also think that she's the wrong target. And no, what you did was not enough to earn you a place on our dart board. It's reserved for folks with we loathe, not for those with whom we merely disagree.

**Family Secrets?** We understand that Ron and Nancy's ram-bunctious daughter Patti (Davis) is writing a novel. It's title is "Bondage." According to New York Magazine, it's about "sadosomachism." Now quibbles aside (we'd hope that the folks in Gotham would know the difference between S&M and bondage), we find ourselves fascinated by images of the Reagan family decked out in leather and chains and sporting black hankies. Nancy, we think, would definitely be the top in this bunch. The rest of the picture is more blurred, but we keep seeing Ron Jr. *en pointe* bouncing excitedly around the room in naught but tight leather chaps. Yum!

**The Joys of Compromise:** Speaking of presidential types, it appears that homos aren't the only folks in America who feel betrayed by Slick Willie Clinton. Environmentalists are also more than a little put out by the way Bill is backpedaling on their issues. After promising the moon (and choosing eco-aware Al Gore as a running mate and green god Bruce Babbitt as Secretary of the Interior), Clinton is starting to act not unlike George Bush. His program to reduce global warming has industry types jumping for joy and guys and gals from the green brigade mumbling in their beer. They also claim that Brucey B. has

# Dish

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



The Lavendar Menace sent soap so Dish's act could be cleaned up

caved into the sugar industry on clean-up in the Everglades and are furious about the compromise on allowing the cutting of old-growth forests. Says the National Wildlife Fund's vice president Sharon Newsome, "I wondered early on if the environmental community was capable of playing an insiders game. I've come to the conclusion we're not." Dish thinks Newsome's words may be right on the money for queers, too.

**Equal Opportunity:** We forget where we read this (Cosmo or Ms. or Family Circle, maybe) but when a bunch of women were asked to name their ultimate fantasy lover, the big name boys like Michael Bolton, Billy Ray Cyrus and Mel Gibson were at the top of the list. But then in spot number nine we found none other than our ultimate femme fatale kd lang. This speaks volumes we think about the increasing acceptance of androgyny by American women in the '90s. Just try to imagine the readers of Sports Illustrated or Soldier of Fortune putting the likes Elton John or RuPaul in a similar place. Just try.

**Jesus Love Him:** We were tickled pink to read that one Chevy Dinkins of Vidalia discovered the numbers that he used to win his recent Lotto jackpot from in the pages of the Holy Bible. (Specifically from the Book of Psalms, in case you want to try to duplicate his heavenly inspired good luck.) Dish hopes this means that more and more church goers will disobey the messages of hate, bigotry and discrimination (along with the advice to avoid the Devil's ways and not play the lottery) that they regularly hear from the pulpit. We've not particularly been fans of the lottery, but if it can cause Bible thumpers to question authority, we might just learn to love it.

**Sin South of the Border:** The Mexican government it seems has more than NAFTA on its mind. Anti-abortion activists down that way have petitioned the lawmakers to deny visas to Madonna (the performer, not the blessed mother) because she would "violate our Penal Code, which prohibits public displays that could cause violence, vice and promiscuity." The (Roman Catholic) folks behind this bit of mischief are the very same ones who recently raised all kinds of hell about condom advertising on TV. Sure makes sense to us in a country wracked with poverty and overpopulation, not to mention AIDS and other sexually-transmitted diseases. Just makes you want to hug the Pope, doesn't it.

NOVEMBER 25 - DECEMBER 1, 1993

Thanksgiving Day is always in the first week of the Sagittarius cycle, giving us the perfect example of how to work with this expansive, mutable Sagittarian fire energy. During the next month we can all benefit by paying attention to everything we appreciate and enjoy in our lives. It's time to be grateful.

**ARIES**, with the Sun and Mars (your ruling planet) moving through your 9th house of higher learning, new visions and world travel, you may have some unique opportunities come your way. An excellent time for adventure but not for impulsive extravagance. **TAURUS**, Venus (the planet of beauty and harmony) and Jupiter (the planet of expansive energy) have joined forces in your 7th house, energizing all of your close relationships/partnerships. Be social, be gracious, be forgiving and have fun with friends. **GEMINI**, hope springs eternal, so if you are feeling the least bit cynical or morose, then shake it off. The Sun and Mars are in your 7th house of close personal relationships and partnerships, energizing all kinds of possibilities for you.

**CANCER**, are you emotionally prepared for the holidays or are you too tense and exhausted from life's uncertainties to enjoy friends and family? If so, take a break, get some rest and decide

## STARSIGNS

right now exactly what is fun and fulfilling for you. **LEO**, with the Sun and Mars circulating through your 5th house of creativity, play and passion, you could certainly have a very exciting holiday riding on this exciting and exhilarating energy. Have a great time and watch the road signs as you go. **VIRGO**, there's no place like home for the holidays, right? Well, if home isn't comfortable right now, then do whatever you can to improve the atmosphere and/or the physical surroundings and if necessary, visit someone you love for a few days.

**LIBRA**, don't sit on the fence too long if you are faced with any major decisions before the year's end. Make choices based on your values and your priorities, and other things will fall into place. Keep your train of thought on a positive track. **SCORPIO**, ready for your new solar year? Are you all rested and feeling positive and excited about life or are you a little uncertain/anxious? Remember to use your wonderful creative abilities to

see and feel a better life for yourself. Happy Birthday **SAGITTARIUS!** This is your time of the year, with all the planets in direct motion, it is time to celebrate! If you have had a difficult year, then be sure to have a wonderful birthday, just to acknowledge your faith and tenacity.

**CAPRICORN**, pay attention to your dreams, visions and intuition. The Sun and Mars are activating your 12th house, the gateway to the collective unconscious. Try not to make any decisions based on fear or rumors. Be as centered as possible. **AQUARIUS**, you may find it easier to think about things rather than feeling your own feelings. It is not just enough to describe your feelings, you also need to experience your feelings and emotions. Remember, you can release whatever you don't want. **PISCES**, you can make some real progress with your career for the next month, but do not sacrifice too much personal time. It is your creativity and sense of vision that fuels and supports your career. If you haven't found your niche, keep on looking.

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

### Dykes To Watch Out For



ORGANIZATIONS

AIDS Organizations

AID Atlanta—872-0600  
 AIDS Education/Services for Minorities—POB 87277, Atlanta, 30337, 762-6002  
 AIDS Hotline for Women—888-9991  
 AIDS Info Line—876-9944 (Atlanta); 1-800-551-2728  
 AIDS Legal Project—688-5433  
 AIDS Outreach Sewing Guild—872-2246  
 AIDS Research Consortium of Atlanta (ARCA)—876-2317  
 AIDS and Substance Abuse Speakers Network—977-7797  
 AIDS SUPPORT—Jewish Family Services—888-6400, #76  
 Atlanta Buyers Club—874-4845, or POB 77003, Atl, 30357  
 Atlanta 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

Bars

The Armory—836 Juniper. 881-9280  
 Babylon—Piedmont Grove, 10th & Monroe.  
 Backstreet—845 Peachtree St. 873-1986  
 Bellissima—688 Spring Street.  
 Blake's—227 10th St. 892-5786  
 Buddies Cheshire Square—2345 Cheshire Br. Rd. 634-5895  
 Buddies Midtown—239 Ponce de Leon. 872-2655  
 Bulldog & Co—893 Peachtree. 872-3025  
 Burkhardt's—Ansley Square. 872-4403  
 Club Fetish (Weds.) 695 North Ave.—577-8178  
 The Cove—586 Worchester. 875-2477  
 Crazy Ray's—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 Federation of Career Women—(404) 659-0315  
 OUTstaff (Emory)—727-2787 (Donna)

Spiritual

All Saints Metropolitan Community Church—622-1154  
 Catholic Gay and Lesbian Outreach—876-0631  
 Christ Covenant MCC, Stone Mountain—297-0350  
 Congregation Bet Havrim—642-3467  
 Emergence/Atlanta (Christian Scientists)—565-2126  
 First Existential 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 Naturalist 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, Lwrmc'ville 30246, 871-GAYS  
 Hospitality Atlanta—627-0520  
 Interact of Atlanta—984-9875  
 KO-Existence—875-8936  
 John Howell Park Project—876-0105  
 Lambda Group/Narcotics Anonymous—237-6262  
 Latinos En Accion—621-5743  
 Lesbian Alcoholics Anonymous—325-4909  
 Lesbian Narcotics Anonymous—703-3897  
 Lesbian Support Group—627-7387  
 Lesbians 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 Kahoots—(WINK) 438-1421  
 Women of Wisdom—289-8819  
 Wordsmith Society—Chris at 498-0137  
 Young Adult Support Group—876-5372  
 Zami—908-3356

Students/Alumni

Agnes Scott Lesbian & Bisexual Alliance—Box 501, Decatur 30030; 373-1632  
 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

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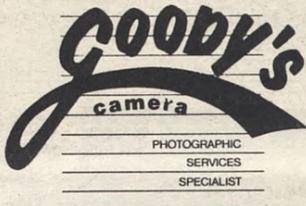
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OUTLINES

**STEPHANIE MILLER**

**Age:** 48 in December  
**How long in Atlanta:** 18 years  
**Relationship Status:**  
 Permanent fiancées  
**Last Cultural Event:**  
 The Bulgarian Woman's Chorus  
 —"It was transformative"  
**Pet Peeve:** Paper towels that  
 don't tear off one at a time



"Let's discuss NAFTA. It's what everybody else is discussing."

So Stephanie Miller—Dr. Stephanie Miller to some of her closest friends—begins the interview. It's a joke, of course, and the conversation, over a coffee cup she recently bought while in Conyers for the monthly appearance of the Virgin Mary—the Blessed Mother appears when hot liquid fills the cup—turns more serious. Or rather, as serious as Miller ever is.

"I had this really great thing happen," says Miller. "I've been saying I want to do chiropractic and art, and when it started working out, I didn't get scared."

It's been eight years, Miller recalls, since she moved her Little Five Points chiropractic office to her Candler Park home to devote more time to painting.

"I used to think that if somebody did two things they only did each one half well," she says. "But now I've found out different, and it's expanded not only my opinion of myself, but also other people."

Miller's paintings—fanciful creatures populating fanciful locales in vivid colors—fill the house. So do her painted bowling balls and a Christmas tree that has been up since last year. And there are the ornate commitment ceremony announcements she has created.

"I want to create a body of art that is a record of what's going on in the gay community," she says of them.

But chiropractic and art are not the only things that fill Miller's days. Four dogs mill about the kitchen as she speaks—two greyhounds rescued when their racing days were over, a collie ("I do collie-care. That's like kinder-care but for collies."), and Maybelle, the "pig-possum" dog dwarfed by the larger animals—and the cats are asleep upstairs.

"I've started running," she says. "I had to start running because of an injury."

She's running two to seven miles a day and hopes to get up to ten by her birthday.

"But I'm very slow," she says, adding that she won't be seen in the Atlanta's annual Thanksgiving marathon. "If I were in the marathon, you'd see me for a long time. My official name

is 'Running Turtle.'"

Beyond running, Miller is into menopause. "It's been six months to a year now, and it's not been so bad," she says.

It's manifested largely in regular hot flashes. "Sometimes I think it's retribution for all those times I should have been embarrassed but wasn't," she jokes. "But I've gotten used to it. I'm finally where I've always heard about."

Miller graduated with a BFA in lithography from an all women's college near Philadelphia—Beaver College, she says with a long laugh. "It seemed the right thing to do." And after college, she taught Headstart in the South Bronx, spent a two year Peace Corps stint in Bolivia and worked as a caseworker on Manhattan's Lower East Side.

While again working as a teacher, she recalls answering the question "What would you change if you could do it all over again" with a simple "Go to chiropractic school." And so she did.

"I'd been going to a chiropractor since I was four or five," she says. "It took me a long time to believe that I could really be a chiropractor."

Miller's practice has been a successful one since she arrived in Atlanta 18 years ago. She came south because she liked the Southerners she met while doing voter registration work, and Atlanta won out over New Orleans and Nashville.

Long involved politically in such issues as animal rights, Miller brought her special brand of activism to Atlanta, where she worked against the Presidential Parkway in the 80s with the Roadbusters.

Although she came out (politically) around 1970, she has never been deeply involved in lesbian/gay politics, Miller explains that her brand of political analysis "never fit with the gay community's."

"I'm definitely supportive," she says. "But I believe that we are each whole individuals, and that the government should reflect us as whole individuals and not as couples."

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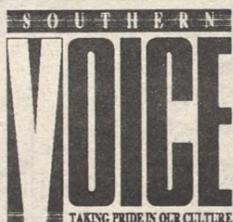
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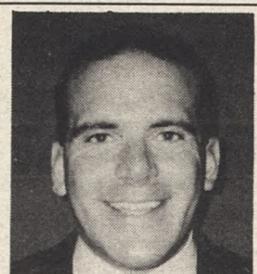
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**Volunteers**

**Volunteers** needed for anonymous survey of positive or negative experiences of physical contact in psychotherapy. Call Judith for more information-622-8507. (6.43)

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Southern Voice is looking for someone to deliver a very Special Route. The Cobb County Route. Must have reliable transportation, proof of insurance & great personality. Pls call Shane M-F, 9-6, 876-1819.

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**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)

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

**MORE ON PAGE 42**

**INDEX**

- AIDS SERVICES\*
- ANNOUNCEMENTS\*
- ACCOUNTING/TAXES
- EMPLOYMENT
  - Part Time
  - Full Time
  - Seeking\*
- HEALTH
  - Fitness
  - Personal Growth
  - Massage
- INSURANCE
- LEGAL
- LOST/FOUND\*
- MERCHANDISE
  - Household Goods/
  - Garage Sales\*
  - Retail
- PETS\*
- PUBLICATIONS
- REAL ESTATE
  - Financing
  - For Rent
  - For Sale
- ROOMMATES\*
- SERVICES
  - Residential
  - Commercial
- TRAVEL
- VOLUNTEERS\*
- FREE VOICE CONNECTION
  - Men
  - Women
  - TV/TS

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Voice Connection

WOMEN

WANTED! GWF, fem 25+. Looking for that woman who has an untamed personality like myself. Me, aggressive GWF, blond, 25. ☎ 1016

GWF, 32, feminine, funloving, adventurous, professional, honest, attractive, seeks similar ladies who have high ideals, are reliable and not promiscuous. ☎ 1020

Attractive, feminine, GBF, early 20's, mature and settled, seeks an aggressive GF who enjoys being pampered for friendship, possibly more. ☎ 1023

GBF seeks same for conversation & friendship. ☎ 1029

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

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

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, inexperienced, 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

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

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, leader? 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 wine'd 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, 42, 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 femine 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. Seeks 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 GBFs for friendship. Will answer all calls. ☎ 1671

GWF, 23, 5'11" 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, 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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

GWM, 29, br/grn, 150 lbs, wants true romance, enjoys music, 101.5 to 99.5, long walks, dining out, looking for someone who understands waiters' hours. Loves dogs and lesbians. Non-smoker, non-drugs. ☎ 1030

Stocky GWM, 29, 5'11" wanting to meet other GWMs who're sincere and honest, who can handle a safe intimate encounter. ☎ 1027

Discreet, professional, HIV-, GWM versatile top, 40, 5'10", 155, wants buddies into exploring mutually satisfying mental/physical desires/fantasies in leather, 3-ways, spankings, etc. Inexperienced/curious OK. ☎ 1026

GWM, goodlooking, 29 yo., 5'11", 150 lbs. Seeks same - 25-35, Hispanic or Latin a plus. Couples welcome. ☎ 1025

GWM tired of maybe!! Looking for yes, ready!! Relationship!! 31, 5'9", 170, bl/bl, varied interests. Seeking 29+, 5'9"+, serious only!! ☎ 1021

Oriental man, fit, clean, 27, 5'9", 145, seeks English teach man GWM up to 38. Will be paid \$XXX. No smoker. ☎ 1019

Wanted: Big, butch WM with muscles, good looks, personality, by sexy BM HIV healthy. For fun, whatever. ☎ 1018

GWM Couple, Hot, Prof., Stable, 34, 5'11", 170#, brn/hzl, & 35, 5'11", 155#, brn/bl, seeks versatile, hot, masculine guys or couples, to 35, for safe fun. ☎ 1017

Lonely incarcerated man, Black, age 37, 6'1", 215 lbs, brown eyes, seeks correspondence and a long lasting friendship from anyone. Gerald Sampson #048268, Florida State Prison, P.O.B. 747, Starke, FL 32091.

Hot and Hairy 30 yr. old GWM seeking handsome big brother for fun and more. FFBB. ☎ 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, bl/bl, 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-your-basic WM seeks BM for friend/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, dominate, 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, physically 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 lb/br HIV seeks hairy, affectionate, nonsmoking, intelligent, kinky, horny, top/daddy to 45. ☎ 1840

Handsome GWM, 21, mature professional,

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6'1" 185, brwn/trwn 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, 5'7", 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 endowed 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

Handsome 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 boyfriend. 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

BiBM, 32, handsome newly relocated to At-

lanta. 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 Irogas. ☎ 1776

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

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

GWM, 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

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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 Fan. 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/Hzl, 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. Seek 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 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, intelligent, honest, dependable, dominant seeks Bi-DWM with similar qualities for friendship. Sincere inquiries encouraged. ☎

PERSONALS

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 montano, 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, Bl/G, 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-preentious, 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", Bl/Bl, 189, wishes to relax, love, and move on with life again. Desire attractive GWM 30-40+. ☎ 1573

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

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

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

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

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

TV/TS

Full figured transvestite would like to have discreet encounters with real men who are honest, sincere to appreciate my company. ☎ 1024

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, HIV+, seeks F or TV. Am healthy. Spend this winter in Florida with me. ☎ 1022

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

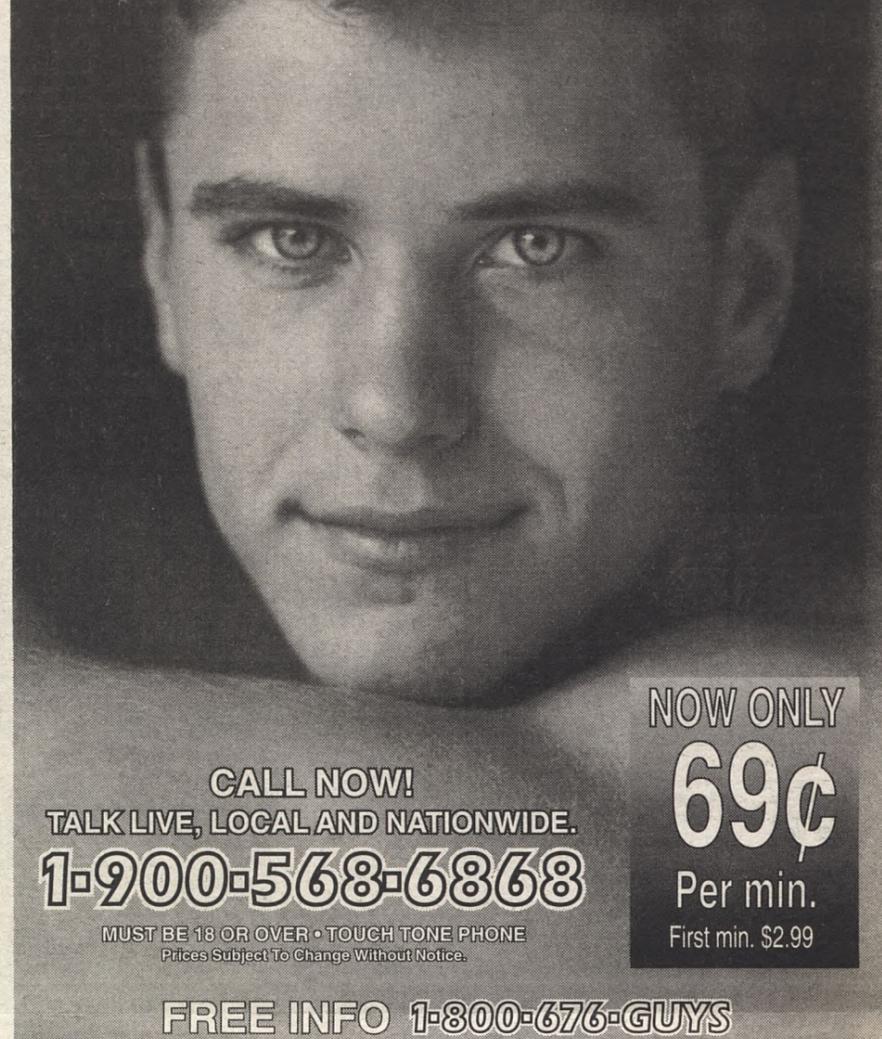
WANTED: fellow traveler(s) to go Dutch with bi guy 65 on land/sea/air jaunts worldwide. Leave your message anytime. ☎ 1844

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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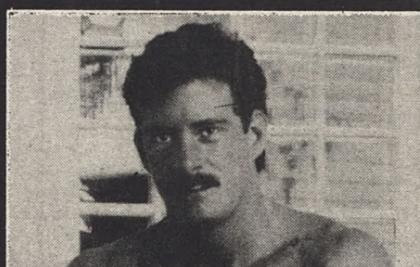
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