

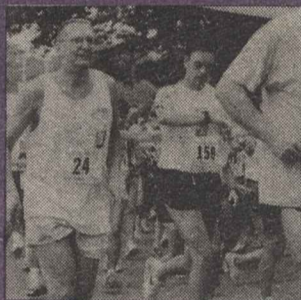
S O U T H E R N V O I C E

TAKING PRIDE IN OUR CULTURE

MARCH 10 - MARCH 16 / 1994

Front Runners talk fitness

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JoAnn Loulan thinks lesbians don't talk enough about sex. In her own irreverent (and sometimes politically incorrect) way, she's on a mission to change all that.

by CHRIS CASH

Butch. Femme. Dildo. Top. Bottom. If the words make you cringe, you're not alone. If they make you laugh, then you may have already heard about JoAnn Loulan.

The topic of sex may pepper conversations among gay men, straight men and even straight women, but the last thing lesbians tell each other is what they are doing sexually, says Loulan, who is in town this weekend for a lecture and a workshop. She is on a mission to change that.

"We are so frightened of being seen as male-identified, sick or wrong that we have become unwilling to tell the truth about our sexuality. What results is a distortion of the richness of lesbian sex."

And Loulan knows lesbian sex. A licensed marriage, family and child counselor with a 98 percent lesbian practice, she is also the author of three books on lesbian sexuality—"Lesbian Sex," "Lesbian Passion" and her most controversial work, "The Lesbian Erotic Dance," published in 1990.

But she's also well known as the "stand up therapist," peppering her lectures and books with humor that breaks down inhibitions. Each of her books, and her lectures, are like new friends who challenge and startle—forcing women to take a mighty hard look at who they are, what they believe and what they want. Though the examination may be hard, the questions feel right.

Even breast cancer hasn't tempered Loulan's irreverent style. She was recently diagnosed and underwent radiation therapy and a lumpectomy.

"I'm feeling better and I'm almost 100 percent, but lesbians are never going to hear the end of me talking about it," she says. "They thought I was bad before, ragging on them to do their monthly exams. Just wait."

Loulan is writing two books about what she has learned—"Making Cancer Fun" and "I Hate Having Cancer." While she describes the tone of the books as "fun," she is also very honest about how she feels.

"I'm not one of those inspired people who have become Buddha-esque from having cancer. I'm pissed

off about it, I'm scared and I don't like it."

The popularity of Loulan's work—her first three books all remain best sellers—would seem to fly in the face of the premise that lesbians are scared or disinterested in sex. Indeed, their popularity seems to be an indication that somebody must be doing something to somebody somewhere.

"What happens with my books is that lesbians freak out about what I say and then they come around," says Loulan in a telephone interview from her home near San Francisco. "They come around because the books make sense."

"Lesbian Erotic Dance" explored who and what lesbians are attracted to, including archetypal lesbian behaviors such as butch/femme. It created quite a stir.

"Everyone was freaked out because they thought I was saying that they had to choose to be butch or femme," says Loulan. "That's not true. What I'm really asking women to do is examine the role that our own misogyny and homophobia play in our ideas about butch/femme. You can't give up a whole cultural phenomena because it's politically incorrect."

A glimpse at Loulan's photo on the cover of "Lesbian Sex," published in 1984, would lead one to believe she was leaning a bit to the butch end of the scale—short hair and flannel shirt.

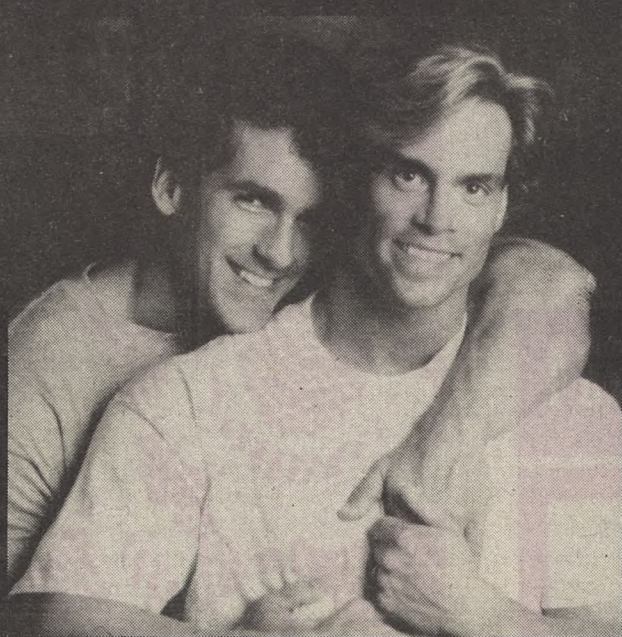
That was then and this is now.

Loulan has undergone her own metamorphosis, shedding all the appropriate androgynous trappings and now proudly claiming her femme side. Giving up what felt right just to fit a mold seemed downright punishing.

"When I came out, there was all this hoopla about how you had to dress," Loulan explains. "It was regulation clothing they gave you at the border

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JACKSON-PARIS



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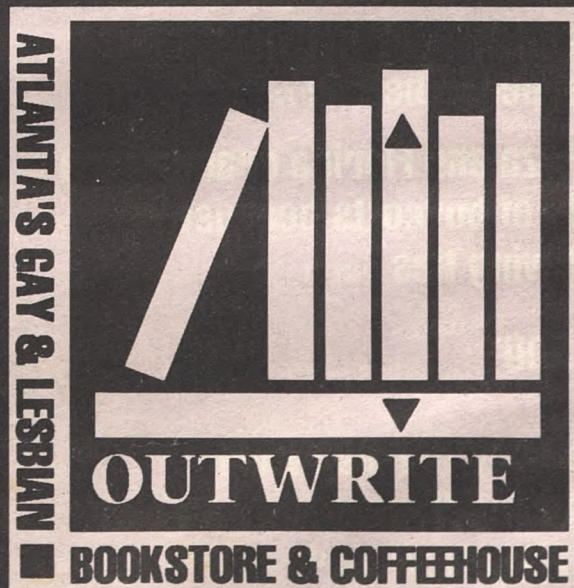
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Marietta woman sues city after harassment nightmare

Gail Jestus claims abuse by male co-workers took her job, her health and her relationship

Marietta—A Cobb County woman who says she was forced to quit her job with the city of Marietta because of sexual harassment by her male co-workers has taken her fight to court.

In a lawsuit filed in Cobb County Superior Court, Gail Jestus alleges that the harassment by her fellow employees in the meter shop of the city's power company went on for five years, despite her complaints to supervisors and other city officials.

She resigned last summer, suffering from ulcers and acute insomnia that she says were caused by the stress she suffered because of the harassment. She says the ordeal also shattered her personal life, leading to the end of an eight-year relationship with her lesbian partner.

But the fight didn't end there. After she applied for and received unemployment, the city contested her claim and won, although she is ultimately not required to pay back what she had already received.

Angry about her treatment at the hands of the city and its employees, Jestus filed the lawsuit.

"Women need to know they don't have to put up with this anymore," she said. "I wonder how many other women have lost their jobs and quit over the years."

The stress took its toll over the years, she

says. In addition to the physical and emotional damage, Jestus blames the harassment for the destruction of her relationship.

"She watched me deteriorate over the years," she said, "and she couldn't handle it, and she left. They've already taken everything they can. They can't take anything else."

Jestus' complaint says that fellow workers subjected her to details of their sex lives, to complaints about having to work with women and to physical sexual advances. She says they left her stranded on a roof during one lunch break when they took the ladder and threw rocks at her from the ground. One co-worker waved a fake penis impaled on a stick at her, and another recklessly drove a fork lift toward her, an incident that resulted in an injury to Jestus' hand, according to the suit.

Jestus says she reported the incidents as they happened to supervisors, who told her "if a woman wants to work in a man's job, she'd have to deal with his world."

Even an investigation by the city's Human Resource Department last spring—spurred by a grievance her supervisor urged her not to file, saying he believed they could "work it out"—and the subsequent reprimand of three of the employees, did nothing to ease the situation.

"Basically, it became hell," Jestus told Southern Voice. "I was willing to forgive and forget, and just go on with my job. But it became unbearable working in the meter shop."

After the written reprimands, she says the men began slamming objects and doors whenever they were near Jestus, making it difficult to work. She says she also overheard conversations—meant for her ears, she believes—in

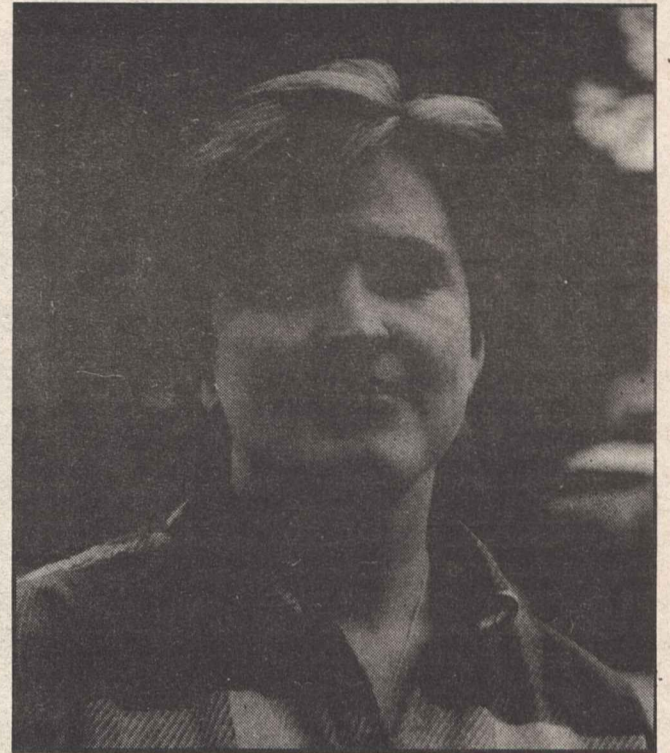
which the men made comments like "someone could get backed over by a bucket truck" and "who knows, maybe the KKK will burn someone's house down."

Jestus wanted to tell her story because she wants other people to know just how difficult it can be for women who work in areas not traditionally open to women. Although her sexual orientation was never an issue while she worked for the city of Marietta—she did not disclose that during her tenure—Jestus believes homophobia did play a part in the treatment she received.

"They would call me 'butch' and 'dyke' because any woman with short hair who wants to do 'a man's work' must be a lesbian," she said. "And I could do everything they could do. I think it threatened them."

The city and the other four defendants deny all of Jestus' allegations, and the suit has been referred to mediation by the court. No date for the mediation has been set.

For now, Jestus is waiting, working in a low paying job and trying to piece her life back together. After her experience with the city, and the Cobb Commission's vote last summer condemning homosexuality, she feels



Gail Jestus says, "I will not spend any money in Cobb County. I don't care if it's a Kleenex. I don't give them anything. They've taken enough."

unwelcome in her home county.

"I won't buy anything in Cobb County. I drive all the way into Atlanta for everything," she said. "I will not eat here. I will not spend any money in Cobb County. I don't care if it's a Kleenex. I don't give them anything. They've taken enough."

KC WILDMOON

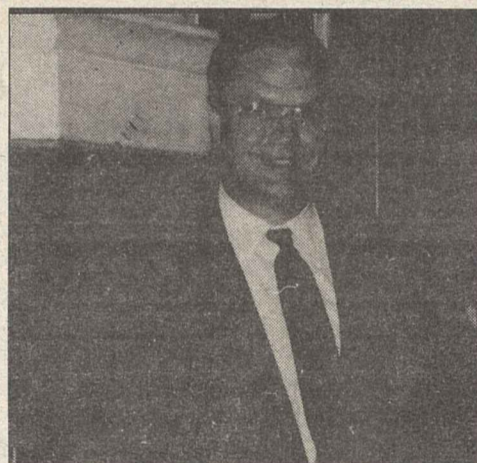
Anti-gay activist may have misled committee on teenage sex bill

Linda Hamrick intimated she was speaking for the governor, but Zell's spokesperson says she wasn't

Atlanta—An anti-gay/lesbian activist at the state Capitol may have misrepresented herself before a Senate committee in an effort to have consensual sex between teenagers declared a crime.

Linda Hamrick, an Athens woman who served on a state sex education study committee in 1992, testified before the Senate Special Judiciary Committee in support of legislation that would have made consensual sex between teenagers a crime punishable by up to 20 years in prison. After hearing from Hamrick, the committee supported her position.

But according to observers who attended the hearing and at least one senator, Hamrick led senators on the panel to believe that she was speaking for the sex education commit-



Sen. Steve Langford has asked Hamrick to provide evidence that she spoke "with authority."

tee, Gov. Zell Miller and the state Department of Education.

"It was clear to me that...she put it in the context that she was representing them," Sen. Steve Langford, D-LaGrange, told Southern Voice. "She said that that committee, the De-

partment of Education and the governor supported abstinence."

A spokesperson for the governor, Rick Dent, says Hamrick was not speaking for Miller.

"The governor has not taken any position on that bill, and the governor usually speaks for himself," Dent said.

As originally drafted, the bill in question, sponsored by Langford, would have raised the age of consent for sex in Georgia from 14 to 16 but would have required a three-year differential in age between partners before statutory rape laws would apply. When it got to the Senate floor, the bill was attacked as promoting promiscuity in teenagers. The Senate then approved an amendment from Sen. Perry McGuire, R-Douglasville, that dropped the age differential and made all consensual sex between teenagers a crime.

The bill was then sent back to committee in an attempt to strip McGuire's amendment from the bill. That was the point at which Hamrick addressed the committee, which then backed the McGuire amendment. Langford then dropped his support of the bill, which has

since died in committee.

Langford fired off an angry letter to Hamrick, a copy of which was acquired by Southern Voice. In it, the senator requested that Hamrick "provide evidence that you did indeed speak with authority."

"I was shocked that you supported a measure that could send two kids to jail for up to 20 years for making a decision...to consensually involve themselves in a sexual relationship with someone of like age," Langford wrote. "Only hate for children could be a motivator for such action."

In September 1992, the sex education committee recommended a curriculum that included, but did not stress, abstinence for teenagers, and virtually ignored homosexuality. Hamrick co-authored a minority report from that committee that blasted the committee's official report and called for condemnation of homosexuality in school curriculums.

Langford told Southern Voice on Feb. 28 that Hamrick had not responded to his letter. Attempts by Southern Voice to reach her by telephone were not successful.

KC WILDMOON

Gay and lesbian tourism group considers center in Atlanta

Atlanta—A New York-based gay and lesbian tourism group is considering opening a visitors' center here in Atlanta.

The Gay and Lesbian Visitors Center of New York has filed papers to incorporate in Atlanta under the name "Gay and Lesbian Visitors Center of Atlanta, Inc." The Atlanta Business Chronicle reported the incorporation last week and said that the New York group plans to open similar visitors centers in 17 other cities.

"We did a big demographic study and decided to target 18 cities," Judi Goldstein, ex-

ecutive director of New York's center, told Southern Voice.

Goldstein said that her organization would be looking for people in Atlanta to put up equity for this city's center, but she could not provide names of any local contacts the group had made to date.

"We're filing the business papers so that when the time comes to start looking for people, we'll be ready," said Mark Gilbert, president and founder of the New York organization. "But it's not imminent—maybe late '94 or early '95."

Gilbert said that he intends to contact "leaders of the community" for feedback before proceeding.

"We're not coming in from New York to set up anything," he said. "This is not an outreach of New York, or anything that competes with the lesbian/gay community there."

The visitors center will be funded by memberships, similar to other tourism organizations such as the Atlanta Convention and Visitors Bureau. In addition, the center will publish a magazine called "The List," as it does in New York.

"[The List] is a tourism publication aimed at letting people know what's going on," Gilbert said. "It has no pornography, no 900 numbers, no nudity, no questionable advertising. In each of the cities [where it will be published], it's locally produced and of local interest."

"I would like the straight community to know that we are not a political organization," he added. "We are a business organization to help coordinate gay/lesbian friendly and gay/lesbian-owned businesses. We try to bring the groups together."

KC WILDMOON

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Viatical company deceived PWAs, Florida's attorney general says

Tallahassee, FL—A Florida company that buys life insurance policies from the terminally ill has deceived consumers by delaying payments to them, according to Florida's attorney general.

In a civil complaint, Attorney General Bob Butterworth accused Credit Life Corp. of deceptive, unfair and unconscionable trade practices. The complaint, filed in Pinellas County, also names Great Western Credit Corp., which funnels business to Credit Life.

Credit Life pays people with AIDS or illnesses for their life insurance policies. Such contracts between companies and policyholders are known as viatical settlements.

"The nature of the people victimized by these companies makes these practices particularly deplorable," Butterworth said. "These are people who were often in need of cash to cover medical expenses."

A Credit Life executive said the problem stemmed from a dishonest middleman and a payment difficulty that has been corrected.

Les Garringer, an assistant deputy attorney general, said he didn't know how many people had been misled by the two companies, which he said were run by the same people. However, complaints have been received from as far away as California, he said.

According to the complaint, people who had agreed to sell their interest in life insurance policies to Credit Life didn't get their money on time—or at all.

The state is seeking penalties of \$10,000 for each alleged violation of Florida's Unfair and Deceptive Trade Practices Act and is asking the court to ban the two companies from doing further business. The total fine could be in the millions of dollars.

Torrey Cooper, chief executive officer of Clearwater-based Credit Life, said he hadn't seen the complaint but that the problem occurred when a brokerage company deceived Credit Life customers about the timetable for payments.

He added that 18 to 20 people were caught in the middle when investors in Credit Life withdrew their backing of the company last July.

The company has advanced \$300,000 to those customers since then, said Cooper.

Butterworth's office also accuses the two companies of hiding documents that had been subpoenaed in a storage room during an inspection by his office and of erasing computer files. The company denied the charges.

The viatical industry is largely unregulated, although in January the state Insurance Department passed emergency rules for three months.

Insurance Commissioner Tom Gallagher wants state lawmakers to pass permanent rules requiring registration of viatical providers and brokers and trust funds. The rules would also require payment of the funds for a policy within three days, and establishment of a 15-day period in which customers could back out of the agreement.

ASSOCIATED PRESS

Ministers denounce sign vandals

Auburn, AL—The Auburn Gay and Lesbian Association has gotten some unexpected allies in the battle to maintain its anti-litter sign—a group of local ministers.

The Auburn Ministerial Association has condemned vandalism of the Adopt-a-Mile highway sign, which has been defaced repeatedly since it was first erected in January. In a statement released Feb. 22, the association said it "deplores the defacing and thefts of the signs" and referred to Auburn as "an inclusive community."

"There was a strong consensus that there was something we could and should say as representatives of part of the religious community," said the Rev. Howard W. Roberts, pastor of the First Baptist Church, who signed the statement.

Roberts said regardless of whether

people approve of homosexuality, "what we need to try to do is to respond to all people with love. And to do that does not mean you condone everything they do. It also doesn't have to mean you condemn them."

The rest of the Auburn community, however, has reacted with silence. Neither Mayor Jan Dempsey nor Auburn University President William V. Muse have commented publicly on the vandalism incidents.

The Gay and Lesbian Association is participating in an Alabama Department of Transportation program to beautify highways. The group agreed to remove litter from a mile-long stretch of highway. The signs tell passing motorists that the group "adopted" the highway.

ASSOCIATED PRESS

Library approves Washington Blade

Manassas, VA—The Washington Blade can be stocked in libraries in suburban Prince William County, the local library board has decided.

The decision came after a two-hour public hearing in which Christian supremacists objected to having the gay/lesbian weekly in the library. Opponents, including members of the Christian Coalition, told the board the newspaper attracts young people to a deviant and deadly lifestyle.

"I was brought up in a lesbian household. It was very painful for me," said James Athey, 33. "Don't get me wrong, I love my mother to death, but it is wrong."

He said he didn't want his 5-year-old daughter to be as aware of homosexuality as he was during his childhood.

But other speakers told the board the First Amendment right to free speech was at stake. Some also said the gay themes

and advertisements in the Blade are widely available.

"What can you find in the Blade that you cannot find elsewhere?" said Lee Stinnett of the northern Virginia chapter of the American Civil Liberties Union.

After the board's 8-2 vote in favor of accepting the paper, supporters applauded and critics called out, "Absolutely unbelievable," and "Lawbreakers."

The county's 10 libraries do not currently stock the Washington Blade among the free-distribution papers, and Blade publisher Don Michaels said there are no immediate plans to include Prince William in the circulation area.

The same issue arose in December 1992 in adjacent Fairfax County. The Fairfax library board also decided to allow the paper to circulate in its library.

ASSOCIATED PRESS

Government Moves To Allow Foreigners With HIV To Attend Gay Games:

The U.S. Immigration and Naturalization Service is drawing up plans to allow foreigners with HIV to obtain visas to attend the Gay Games in New York in June. "We're developing options and they will be sent to the attorney general to determine exactly what course of action will be taken," said INS spokesperson Duke Austin. "The State Department has asked us to develop some options on how we would admit these people on some sort of broad waiver of their inadmissibility." U.S. policy is to deny visas to anyone with a "communicable disease of public health significance," which includes HIV, said Austin.



JIM MARKS

Taylor's Birthday Bash Raises Money For AIDS Research:

Elizabeth Taylor's 62nd birthday party was a fundraising bash for AmFAR, the AIDS research foundation established by the actress. Among the crowd at the "Two-Stepping for the Cure" benefit were country singer Clint Black, who did the honors for "Happy Birthday," Penny Marshall, Justine Bateman, Angela Bassett, Sidney Poitier and Lisa Hartman. At the celebration, AmFAR also honored a variety of people for their work in the fight against AIDS. "Each of the people we're recognizing has really given above and beyond the call of duty in the cause of AIDS," said AmFAR president Merv Silverman.

Episcopal Group Condemns Letting Gays Live Together At School:

A decision by the General Theological Seminary, one of the country's oldest and largest Episcopal seminaries, to allow gay and

lesbian students to live together in on-campus housing has drawn a rebuke from the nation's largest traditionalist Episcopal group. The Rev. Samuel L. Edwards, executive director of the Episcopal Synod of America, issued a statement last week blasting the new policy as disgraceful. "The Episcopal Synod of America sees this new development as further evidence of the moral decadence rampant within the institutional Episcopal Church," Edwards said.

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Britain Lowers Age Of Consent, But Not Far Enough: More than 1,000 gay rights supporters shouted "Burn the place down!" outside Parliament after lawmakers refused to lower the age of consent for sex between men to 16—the age of consent for heterosexuals and lesbians. The House of Commons voted last week to lower the age of consent for gay men from 21 to 18, but rejected an amendment that would have put the age at 16. Parliament "voted to deny us human rights," said a spokesperson for the gay rights group Outrage. "Eighteen is not a compromise. It's discrimination."

Gay Man Fights Two Lesbians For Visitation: A San Francisco gay lawyer fighting for visitation rights with his biological daughter told a court he wants to have a "warm and loving relationship" with the 12 year-old girl, who lives with her lesbian mothers in New York City. But a lawyer for the child's two mothers argued last week that the father is trying to change the ground rules he agreed to when he donated his sperm. "They accepted him because he made them feel comfortable that he was accepting their family," said Bienstock, the mothers' attorney. "This lawsuit is an attack on that family and an attempt to change the ground rules."

225 House Members Promise No Discrimination: A majority of the members of the U.S. House of Representatives have promised not to discriminate against gay men and lesbians in hiring and promotion, according to the Human Rights Campaign Fund. A total of 225 of the 435 members of the House signed and returned statements to HRCF reading "The sexual orientation of an individual is not a consideration in the hiring, promoting or termination of an employee in my congressional office." Among those signing the statement were four Georgia representatives—Democrats Sanford Bishop, John Lewis, and Cynthia McKinney, and Republican John Linder.

Gay Minister Ordered Out; Parish Plans To Defy Ruling: Church officials have given a gay Lutheran minister a month to leave the parish he has served more than a decade, but the congregation plans to defy the ruling. "I guess we'll just be an unauthorized congregation," Paul Basting, president of Oakland's St. Paul Lutheran parish, said last week after hearing of the decision to oust the Rev. Ross Merkel. Merkel told his 270 parishioners last year that he is gay and in a "committed relationship with another man."

And... An election official in Cincinnati, Ohio, has asked for an investigation into a \$390,000 donation from **Colorado for Family Values**, used to support an amendment to the city charter that voters approved last year, nullifying a gay rights ordinance...The 9th Circuit Court of Appeals has upheld a **ban on lawsuits over military incidents**, barring an Air Force officer from suing after military police searched his home for evidence of his homosexuality...and **Asian and Pacific Islander gay, lesbian and bisexual groups** marched for the first time last month in San Francisco's Chinese New Year Parade.

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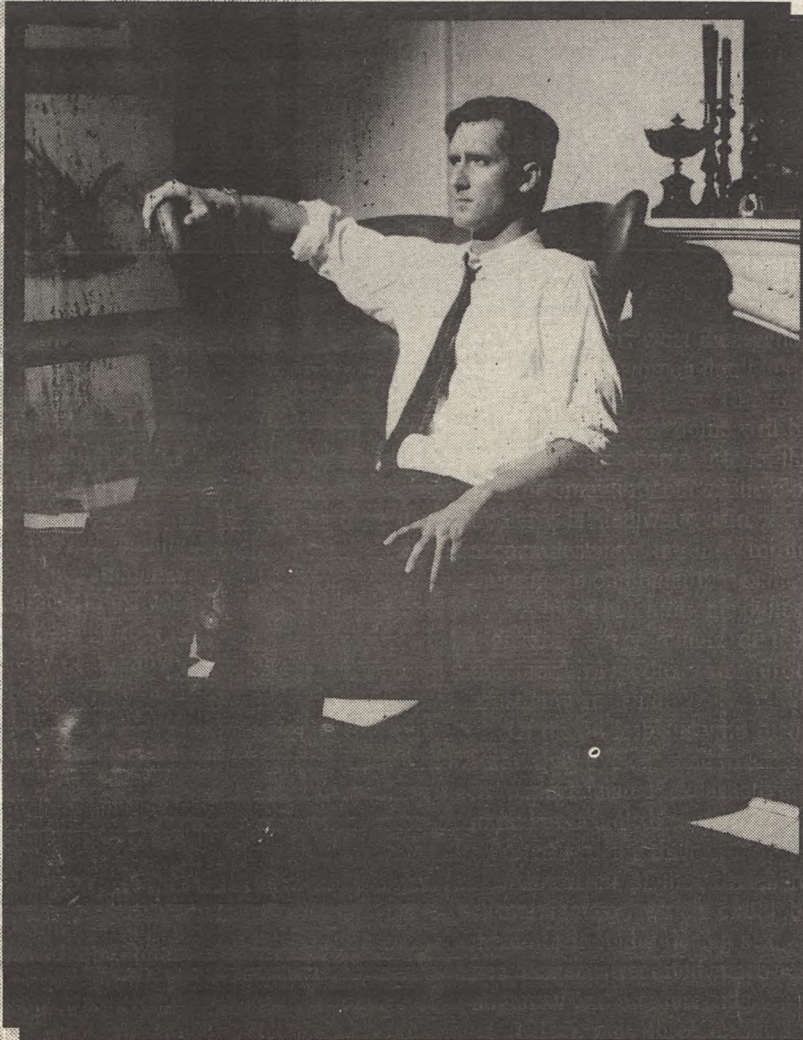
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Florida initiative struck down

Tallahassee, FL—A proposed initiative that would have repealed civil rights protections for gays and lesbians in Florida will not be on this year's election ballot.

In a major victory for anti-initiative forces, the Florida Supreme Court last week ruled that the ballot question being pushed by the Florida chapter of the American Family Association is unconstitutional.

"Today's ruling drives a stake through the heart of the American Family Association's efforts to divide the people of Florida through its self-serving agenda of hatred and discrimination," said Jeff Peters, chair of Floridians Respect Everyone's Equality (FREE), one of the statewide groups fighting the initiative.

"This ballot measure would have radically restructured the political system as we know it in Florida. Not only would lesbians and gay men face legalized discrimination in the areas of housing, employment, insurance and access to public accommodations, but this amendment would have had dire consequences on hundreds of statutes and constitutional provisions that currently provide protection for most Floridians."

In fact, the broad scope of the proposal was one of the reasons cited by the court in striking it down. Florida's constitution requires that referendums deal with a single subject, with a narrowly-defined focus. The initiative, however, listed 10 different classifications of people that would have been entitled to protection from discrimination—gays and lesbians not among them.

"The voter is essentially being asked to give one 'yes' or 'no' answer to a proposal that actually asks 10 questions," said Justice Parker McDonald in his written decision striking down the initiative.

"The voters should never be put in a position of voting on something that, while per-



Jeff Peters of FREE says the ruling "drives a stake through the heart" of the anti-gay/lesbian initiative.

haps appearing to do only one thing, actually will also result in other consequences that may not be readily apparent or desirable to the voters," wrote Justice Gerald Kogan. "There is much the people may do by way of initiative, but they may not lawfully propose a measure that has a serious potential disrupt the harmonious operation of Florida law and government."

Anti-lesbian/gay ballot initiatives have been spreading across the country ever since voters in Colorado approved one in 1992. Florida is the only state in the South facing an initiative fight, primarily because most Southern states, including Georgia, do not allow ballot initiatives.

RICHARD SHUMATE

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Could research into the "gay gene" lead us to disaster?

The scientists doing the work say no, but one historian warns that it has happened before

by BRUCE MIRKEN

San Francisco—Scientists seem increasingly hot on the trail of possible biological causes of homosexuality. Simon LeVay has reported apparent differences in brain structures between gay men and nongays. Dean Hamer of the National Institutes of Health has noted genetic similarities between gay brothers that straight siblings don't seem to share.

Some speculate that discovery of a "gay gene" may lie just around the corner, and that it could be a boon for gays and lesbians who would then be freed from condemnation of their "sinful chosen lifestyle."

Not so fast, warns historian Daniel Kevles of Cal Tech.

Kevles, speaking at a Feb. 21 panel discussion on the social and ethical impact of such research at the annual meeting of the American Association for the Advancement of Science, reminded his audience of the horrifying results of past efforts to ascribe human behavior to genetic programming.

"Historical experience," he declared, shows "that it is surely hazardous to build an argument for civil rights on a biological foundation."

The recent research is nothing new. "Attempts to identify biological bases for human behavior and to build programs of social action upon them have been going on for the better part of a century," Kevles explained, with early 20th Century scientists convinced that the genetic discoveries of Gregor Mendel had given them a simple key to understanding why people do the things they do.

From this sprang the "science" of eugenics, aimed at "maintaining or improving the biological qualities of the human race." It was an ill-fated attempt based on bad science, but it had a huge and tragic impact.

In 1908, psychologist Henry Goddard pioneered the American use of intelligence tests originally developed in Europe. Running a research lab at a "school for the feeble-minded" in New Jersey, Goddard used the tests extensively to study the school's students and their

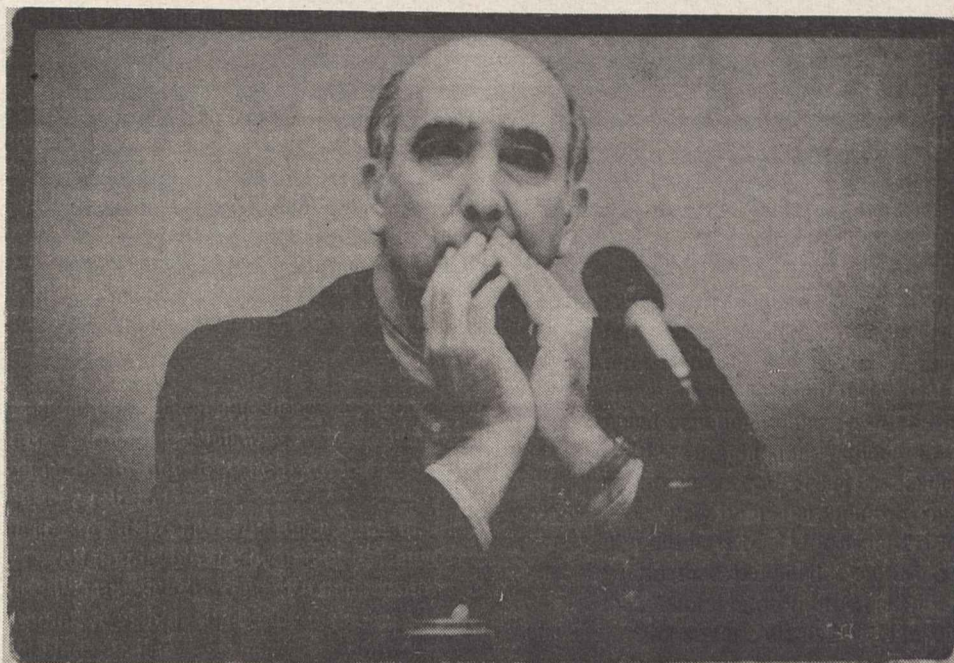
relatives. His conclusion, Kevles explained, was that (to quote Goddard), "Feeble-mindedness was a condition of mind or brain which was transmitted as regularly and surely as color of hair or eyes."

But Goddard went further. "Feeble-mindedness," he decided, included a lack of understanding of right and wrong, making the mentally deficient likely to become criminal. Meanwhile, intelligence tests run on prison inmates were showing such "mental deficiency" to be common among them. He and others concluded that criminality, poverty, prostitution and many other socially undesirable traits or behaviors were an inherited genetic curse. Biology was destiny.

This conclusion, noted Kevles, seemed naturally to lead to a plan of action—if these social ills all sprang from inherited traits, the solution was to stop those who bore those traits from reproducing. The result was one of the most shameful episodes in American history, with more than two dozen states passing laws allowing forced sterilization of the mentally retarded and others.

"In the end," Kevles told the by now quite somber audience, "several tens of thousands of people were sterilized under state eugenics laws in this country." Hitler copied his eugenics law, under which hundreds of thousands were forcibly sterilized, from California's statute.

The point, said Kevles, is not only that science was used as a basis for atrocious laws, but that huge numbers of people were harmed irreparably based on science that was quickly and utterly discredited. By the early 1930s, the historian noted, "It was clear that the early I.Q. tests were culturally biased and that performance on them depended a great deal on prior education. It was also clear that the kind of family pedigree studies on which the genetic basis of feeble-mindedness had been established were deeply flawed methodologically and completely unreliable." What had once seemed like scientific certainty was soon shown



JUDI PARKS

Daniel Kevles of Cal Tech warns that historical experience shows "that it is surely hazardous to build an argument for civil rights on a biological foundation."

to be flat wrong.

What does all this have to do with modern, sophisticated studies of sexual orientation? Simply this, Kevles explained: As clearly wrong as Goddard and his contemporaries look now, at the time their work was considered "advanced, sophisticated and...thoroughly on the cutting edge." Scientists have been tragically mistaken before, and those who would rush to base social policy on their newest theories would be wise to consider that they might be wrong again.

What happens, Kevles asked, if the work of Hamer, LeVay and others proves to be in error? If civil rights laws are based on these studies, would they then be repealed? Or if the research is correct, could it be put to uses its authors clearly do not intend? Could genetic tests be used to exclude people from the military or other jobs, for example? Or to identify potentially gay fetuses and abort them? Such research should not be abandoned, he said, but its results should be dealt with cautiously.

Most others on the panel shared at least some of Kevles' concerns, though some put a more optimistic spin on things. UCLA biologist Laura Allen even went so far as to suggest a benign future in which a parent might be

able to identify a potentially gay or lesbian child through a brain scan and then use that information to create a more humane home environment for that child, an environment in which the child didn't feel pressured to become heterosexual.

Dean Hamer, author of the study of gay brothers, was generally optimistic about scientists' ability to keep their work from being misused. "I think there are things that scientists like myself can do, and indeed must do and are responsible for doing, to make sure that the research is not abused," he commented, ranging from taking a firm public stand against things like the aborting of gay fetuses to "asserting our intellectual property control over findings to make sure they are not commercially exploited."

Although Hamer testified in the recent Colorado trial over the constitutionality of Amendment 2, the anti-gay/lesbian rights initiative approved by voters in 1992, he agreed that it would be unwise to rush to use his work as a basis for civil rights claims. Hamer called it "extremely naive to think that any sort of scientific research...is going to eliminate homophobia," adding, "I don't think that rights should be based on biology."

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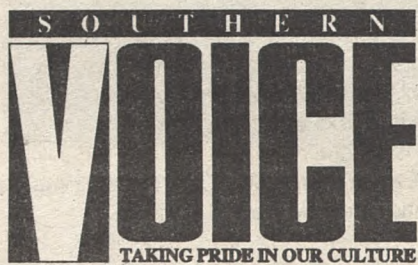
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NEXT WEEK

Library lifeline

For people living with HIV/AIDS, knowledge is power. In the next Southern Voice, a look at the place where many of them find that power.



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We should turn our homes into "Izzy-free" zones

After months of hype and hyperbole, eyes a trifle bleary from watching all those sit spins and triple lutzers, we have finally reached the end of the Lillehammer Olympics. May we never again have to hear the names Tonya Harding and Nancy Kerrigan.

On the very day the Olympics were wrapping up in the freezing temperatures of Norway, a small group of people gathered in the breezy sunshine here in Atlanta, the next Olympic city, to send another message—get the 1996 Olympic volleyball competition out of Cobb County because of its government-sanctioned homophobia.

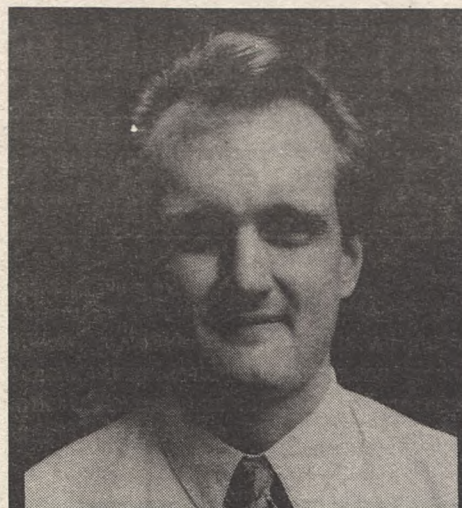
Of course, mixing politics with the Olympics can cause a significant degree of mischief. For three consecutive Olympics, in 1976, 1980 and 1984, political considerations led to boycotts that, in retrospect, didn't do much to accomplish the political goals that led to the boycotts in the first place. The Munich massacre of 1972 stands as the most grievous example of what can happen when sport collides with politics.

And though the Olympics in Atlanta have lost some of the luster they held when the city was first picked to host the games four years ago, anybody who is seen trying to muck things up will still likely come in for some significant civic hostility.

So the question is this: Should Atlanta's gay and lesbian community press this issue and continue to loudly demand that the Atlanta Committee for the Olympic Games reverse its incredibly insensitive decision to have volleyball matches in Cobb County?

Absolutely. This is where we need to draw a line in the sand and, if we have to, go nuclear.

Why? Why pour this much effort protesting the location of a volleyball match? Because elected officials who use homophobia



Letter from the editor

BY RICHARD SHUMATE

as a political device need to know that there will be consequences to their actions. Because, if we can get the ACOG to move the volleyball competition from Cobb County, such a high-profile victory will have a chilling effect on similar resolutions, not just here but around the country. Because ACOG needs to know that this decision is a slap in the face to Atlanta's lesbian/gay community and we don't appreciate being slapped.

So far, ACOG officials have not gotten the message. They are saying the Cobb volleyball site is a done deal and seem to be biding their time, hoping the whole thing will blow over.

Keep in mind that these were the same

people who wanted to bring golf to the Olympics, picked an all-white country club in Augusta as the host site and then expressed amazement at the ensuing uproar. Only the adamant opposition of Atlanta's African-American leaders, who expressed their outrage to members of the International Olympic Committee, forced ACOG's leaders to back down. So these folks will win no gold medals for their sensitivity to diversity.

However, organizers of the Olympics Out of Cobb Coalition vow that they will keep up the battle for as long as it takes. Recognizing that Atlanta's community might not be able to exert enough pressure alone, they are already trying to get groups from around the country involved. It is vital that they succeed with both of those goals.

Individually, supporters of gay and lesbian equality can help by not doing anything that will advance the Olympic effort. They can refrain from buying any more of ACOG's merchandise, including those Olympic car tags that are now on sale. They can declare their homes "Izzy-free" zones.

What helps the Olympics-out-of-Cobb effort most of all is the fact that the International Olympic Committee hates protest and adverse publicity more than anything else. The first rule of the Olympics seems to be to avoid controversy at all costs. ACOG is also very sensitive about its public image.

So perhaps the prospect of two years of nagging protest, not to mention thousands of angry gays and lesbians descending *en masse* on the 1996 Games, will prompt the IOC and ACOG to revisit this decision.

But even if they don't, the controversy will make other groups think twice before selecting Cobb County as a site for anything. Either way, we win.

L E T T E R S

Don't support those violating children

In a recent letter [SoVo, Feb. 17,] Bob Schwartz stated that NAMBLA does not advocate sexual abuse because it supports consensual sexual relationships between boys and men. Whether or not it appears to be consensual, sexual contact between children and adults is always sexual abuse.

Children may be aroused and appear to be consenting to sexual contact but be terrified inside and unable to speak out or fight against unwanted sexual contact. Children are unaware of the inevitable pain and long-term harmful effects they must endure because of their sexual contact with adults. NAMBLA is an organization which tries to make sexual abuse of boys appear harmless and respectable.

I applaud organizations such as Stonewall 25 which have banned NAMBLA. I urge the

Atlanta Lesbian and Gay Pride Committee to ban the appearance of NAMBLA at the Pride celebrations if they have not done so already. In fighting for our rights, we must not support any organization that supports the violation of children.

Maggie Turlington
Atlanta

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.

In appreciation of Chris Cash

Having read this week's SoVo with particular interest due to Chris Cash coming out as a staff writer [SoVo, Feb. 24], we would like to share a few thoughts regarding the history she relates. We have known Chris (and Leigh-and-Chris) for years, always appreciating them, each and together, as wonderful caring friends and conscientious honorable human beings with an enviable sense of commitment.

Chris addressed the growth process of Southern Voice in appropriately personal terms. We have watched, and in some measure, been a part of her becoming herself of today with the paper. There are many, many things for which she might be applauded in that journey.

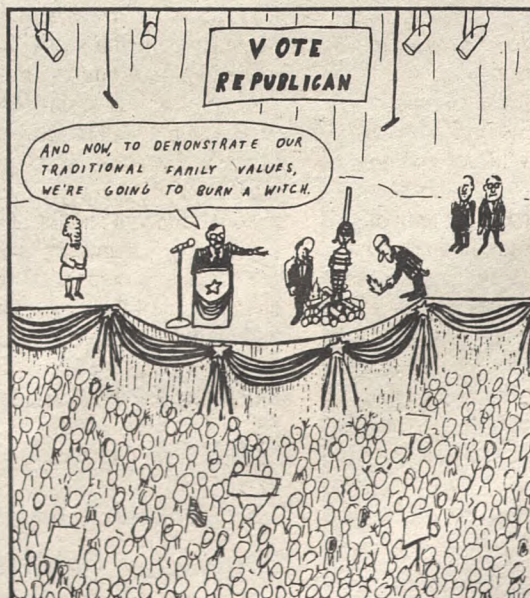
Chris has used reason and fairness in developing the paper and her own growth. In this process, she has assumed much of the pain that comes with accepting positive change head-on. The nature of change mandates that. Offense is often taken, even if not given. Postures are assumed and intent ignored. Agendas diverge and defensiveness appears without attack. Sometimes too, friendships suffer through change, as do the individuals involved.

Chris told us all these things in her article reflecting on SoVo's first six years. We would like to commend, to *all* our diverse community, the honesty and forthright good sense of Chris Cash that those of us who know her have loved and learned to benefit from for a long time.

Daryl White
Philip Carpenter
Michael Edwards
Dan Pruitt
Tom Murphy
Richard Fitzpatrick

STONEWALL RIOTS

BY ANDREA NATALIE



True confessions of a Figure Skating Queen

The year is 1968. I am 10 years old. My father has gone back to school, so we are spending the winter with my grandparents in the backwoods of middle Tennessee. I remember school in a three-room schoolhouse. I remember snow cream, and my grandmother's biscuits, and the comic book collection my other grandmother started for me.

But my most vivid memory is Peggy Fleming. The 1968 Winter Olympics were in Grenoble, France and had all the usual skiing and bobsledding and such. But it was the magic of Fleming's perfect figure skating program that infused my entire stay in Tennessee. Here was a woman sports star showing that someone could win the world's adulation by doing something both athletic and beautiful, telling a story, evoking an emotion.

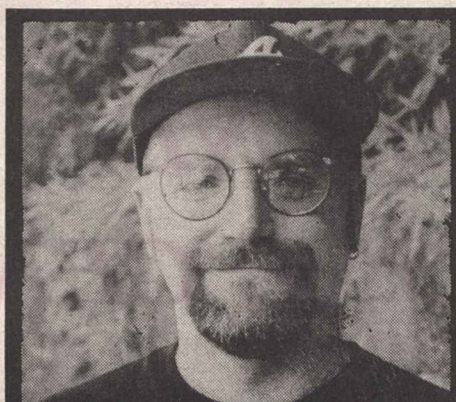
During that visit, I remember my uncle brought home the family's first color TV. And the way I remember that he didn't keep it is because I didn't know that Peggy Fleming had worn a fluorescent lime green skating outfit until Life magazine arrived with her on the cover. It took my breath away, and I immediately began re-imagining the performance, superimposing green on the memory of the gray outfit that TV had misled me into thinking she had performed in.

Twenty-six years and seven Olympics later, my love for figure skating remains intact. And considering how many of my gay friends paid excruciatingly close attention to the competition this year at Lillehammer, completely unrelated to the sensationalism of the women's competition, it seems I'm not unique in our community.

In his brilliant and passionately written book, "The Queen's Throat: Opera, Homosexuality and the Mystery of Desire," Wayne Kostenbaum explains how and why gay men have devoted themselves to the lore of opera divas for almost a century. Where they sang, what they wore, legendary performances and temper tantrums have fascinated gay men ever since the phonograph liberated opera from the opera house. Hence the term "Opera Queen."

Now, with opera as a dying art form, the one place in popular culture where we can see women displaying this type of power, artistic expression and emotion is figure skating. I believe figure skating is supplanting opera as a gay male devotion.

Take the results of a recent poll in USA Today. What is your favorite Olympic sport? Those who said figure skating included 65 percent of women and 8 percent of men. Hmmm. Do you know any straight men who



Southern Queer-ies

by AL COTTON

adore skating? Any gay men who loathe it? I love statistics that seem to almost accidentally confirm our existence.

I do not hesitate to claim for myself the classification of Figure Skating Queen. Like lines to mark height on a refrigerator, I use skaters to recall the age I was and the psyche I had when they were skating. There are the ones who attained fame, such as Dorothy Hamill (1976, my last year at home while attending junior college) and Katarina Witt (1988, four years after coming out)—certified stars, with gold medals to prove it.

But the stripes of a Figure Skating Queen are earned with the obscurities. My favorite obscurity is Janet Lynn, the tiny blonde who followed Fleming as American champion. I transferred my affections immediately, but Lynn never finished higher than third in any international competition. A gold medal would have made her America's Little Sister, her smile beaming on cereal boxes everywhere. But her whereabouts today are lost even to me. They don't often do retrospective reports on bronze medalists.

As I have come further out, my allegiance has shifted to the men's competition, where, letting my "gaydar" run free, I finally started seeing signs of fellow tribesmen on the ice. The first Olympics after I came out, Calgary in 1988, was the year of the Brians—our American Boitano and Orser of Canada. I still had major work to do on myself back then. I remember rooting for Boitano over Orser as the "more masculine" (read "less faggy") of the competitors.

Imagine my surprise three months later at

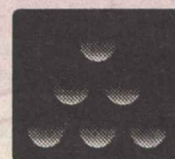
Bulldogs when a short, athletic guy in a sorta-fouffy leather jacket began to look familiar. Gathering my courage, I went up and asked, "Don't I know you?" "Who do you think I am?" he responded suspiciously. "Brian Orser," I said. And, relieved that I knew which Brian he was, he smiled and we chatted for about five minutes. As he graciously accepted a compliment, I thought back to Dick Button's thinly veiled comment about the "special relationship" between Orser and Boitano. Hmmm...

Now, lest you think I am outing anyone, let me remind you that being at gay bars and being dished by commentators does not a queer make. But figure skating is still back where I was in 1988, trying to look "less faggy." A brouhaha erupted last year when skaters, including Boitano, felt the need to contradict reports that AIDS was devastating male figure skating. After that, John Curry, English champion and 1980 gold medalist, announced that he had AIDS. Could they have not known he was sick? Do they really think, in a sport so focused on beauty and grace, that we'll believe that no one in it is gay?

This year's Olympics will be remembered by me less for the drama on the ladies side than for the appearance of the first truly queer skater, Elvis Stojko. Let me be explicit—I have no inside information about Stojko. For all I know, he's completely straight (even though a girl friend wasn't mentioned in his TV profile).

But gay or not, Elvis is certifiably as queer as they come. Skating in leather to techno music, his short program made those judges as uncomfortable as a 20-year old can make nine fiftysomething fuddy-duddies. And of course he lost, to a traditional and uninspiring Russian in a Prince Charming suit. The staid world of figure skating is not yet ready to accommodate either queers or Generation X-ers. And maybe coming out would ruin a skater's chance at a comeback, though we'll never know until someone tries.

I'm out of room to continue, so I'll sum up by saying that in figure skating, I have found what Kostenbaum found in opera—a place where a devoted, long-term attachment to an competitive artistic endeavor serves as a landmark in my life. By watching it, I can see how I've changed over the years, and it still stands as one of the places where I first started "figuring it out." To paraphrase a song, even Tonya can't take that away from me.



GLAAD News

by CARL LANGE

GLAAD Media Awards

Society reflects itself through its mass media, but too often, the reflection of lesbians and gay men is distorted—by defamation, bias, inaccuracy or invisibility. Individuals who challenge these distortions and promote understanding need to be recognized and encouraged to continue their work.

On March 13 in New York and March 19 in Los Angeles, the GLAAD Media Awards will honor some of these individuals. LA awards include:

Special Award: Aaron Spelling in honor of his consistent and early support of the rights of lesbians, gays and people with AIDS and gay/lesbian inclusive television programming, such as "Dynasty," "Beverly Hills 90210," "Melrose Place" and "And the Band Played On."

Roberta Achtenberg, assistant secretary of the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development, and Harvey Fierstein, playwright, actor and activist, for their contributions in increasing the visibility, awareness and understanding of the lesbian and gay community

Outstanding Studio Film: "Philadelphia," a film that brings a message of compassion and understanding about gay men and AIDS to the American audience.

Outstanding Independent Film: "The Wedding Banquet," an insightful Chinese comedy illuminating the lives of an interracial gay couple.

Outstanding Dramatic Movie for Television: "And the Band Played On," an HBO production

Outstanding Recording Artist: Melissa Etheridge, for her courage in coming out and her outspoken support of other lesbians and gay men.

Outstanding Television Comedy Series: "Seinfeld," for its continued inclusion of lesbian and gay characters in this NBC-TV hit series

Outstanding Television Dramatic Series: "Sisters," for incorporating a lesbian character in an ongoing storyline

Outstanding Television Dramatic Episode: "Law and Order," for the compelling episode entitled "Manhood," which dealt realistically and compassionately with homophobia within the field of law enforcement.

Outstanding Television Special (Drama): "Other Mothers," a CBS-TV Afterschool Special illustrating a young boy coming to terms with peer pressure regarding his lesbian mothers.

Outstanding Independent Film (Lesbian): "Forbidden Love: The Unashamed Stories of Lesbian Lives," portraying a diverse group of lesbians sharing their experiences.

Outstanding Community Service: "Highways Performance Space," for providing a performance outlet for innovative and challenging lesbian and gay artists.

NY awards include:

Outstanding Achievement in Theater: "Angels in America"; Outstanding Achievement in Television (Comedy): "Dream On," HBO; Outstanding Achievement in Journalism (Television): Gays in the 90s; Outstanding Achievement in Journalism (Magazine): Hip-Hop's Black Eye/Spin Magazine; Outstanding Achievement in Journalism (Syndicated Columnist): Deb Price, Detroit News; and Special Award to MTV.

Michael Brown
Atlanta

LIBERALS

It's time to liberate the gay agenda from the liberals

In order for the gay and lesbian community to become fully franchised, we must be represented by Republicans and conservatives as well as Democrats and liberals. Although we share a common sexuality, we are individuals, with experiences and backgrounds as diverse as any collection of people, and as a diverse community we should seek diverse representation. Otherwise, we risk being taken for granted by one political party and being written off by the other.

Rick Maher, writing in the February 3 issue, would have us believe that Democrats have a monopoly on tolerance and personal freedom. This is not so. Look at Georgia's own [U.S.] Sen. Sam Nunn, chairman of the Senate Armed Services Committee and the person most responsible for denying the end of the ban on gays in the military. Or Kansas' Rev. Fred W. Phelps, who seeks the Democratic Party's nomination for governor. You remember Phelps, the fellow who shows his Christian compassion and brotherly love by picketing the funerals and memorial services

of gay men who died of AIDS and berating their families and friends for supporting "fags." Even now, the Clinton administration fights to discharge Joe Stefan from the Navy, following his return to active duty.

All Democrats are not our friends, and all Republicans are not our enemies. Former [U.S. Sen.] Barry Goldwater, founder of the modern conservative movement, has been a vocal advocate for unconditionally lifting the ban on gays in the military. Gov. William Weld of Massachusetts is a long-time champion of gay rights and ending discrimination against gays and lesbians. He has signed laws, implemented programs and appointed openly gay members to his administration during the first three years of his term.

I am gay and conservative. I have nothing in common with members of North American Man-Boy Love Association. For years we have fought the shibboleth that gays are pedophiles, and yet we foolishly include their agenda with ours. That we as a community are now questioning such thinking is a sign that our move-

ment is coming of age and growing more sophisticated. It is time to liberate the gay-rights agenda from the liberal agenda.

ACT UP and Queer Nation play vital roles in the gay rights movement, but their members are not representative of the entire community. My point is simply this—it is time for all gays and lesbians to do their part in winning our freedoms. Rather than conceding the Republican Party to the religious right, I will work to move the party back to its roots of personal freedom and fiscal conservatism.

The gay community is fond of using the line "Diversity is strength" to win heterosexuals to our quest for rights. That motto ought to apply within our own community. In fact, we ought to appropriate Lee Atwater's "Big Tent" philosophy for the Republican Party for the gay community. There's room enough under the big top for everyone.



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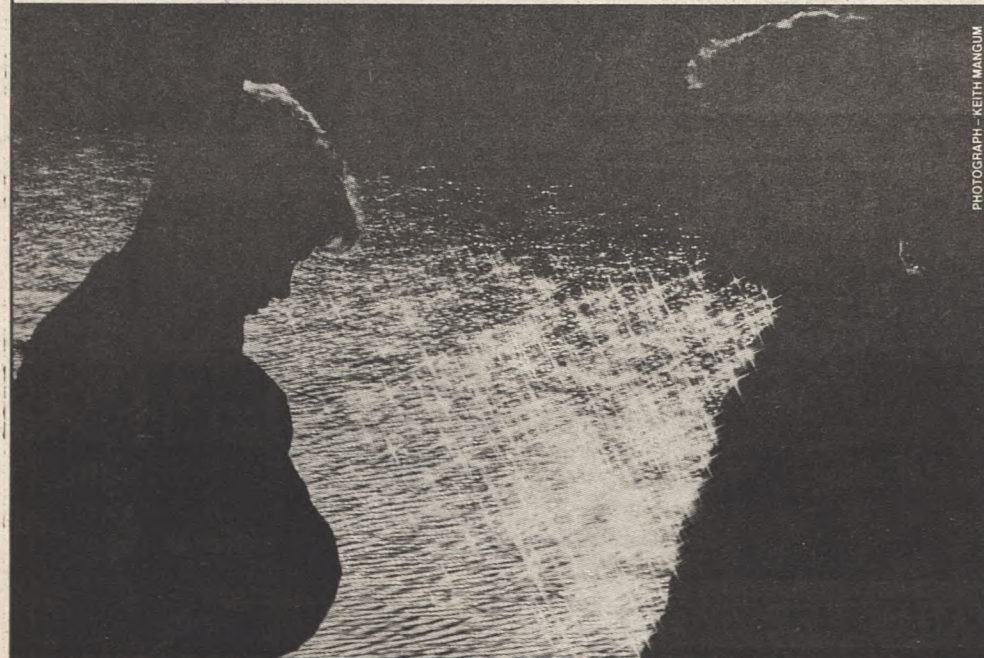


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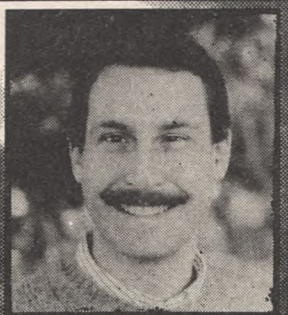
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AIDS

BRIEFS

by Bruce Mirken



Promising Drugs Being Ignored?: The February 4 issue of AIDS Treatment News features a major article about a fairly new class of potential anti-HIV drugs known as long-terminal repeat (LTR) inhibitors. Last year a team of researchers at Dana Farber Cancer Institute and Harvard Medical School reported lab results on three promising candidates—two of which are already known to be safe in humans. Two community-based groups have started studying one of these, curcumin, a component of the spice turmeric. But Dr. Arthur Pardee, who headed the research team, expressed great unhappiness to ATN about lack of government and pharmaceutical industry support for work on LTR inhibitors. "I wish that what might be called the AIDS establishment was a little more open to innovative approaches," Pardee told the newsletter. "I have not been able to get one penny from the National Institutes of Health to do any of our work." Pardee also noted that one of the three substances, topotecan, is quite far along in development as an anti-cancer drug, but the company that owns it, SmithKline Beecham, has shown little interest in testing it as an AIDS treatment.

Importance of CD8 Cell Counts: Doctors closely monitor CD4 cell counts in people with HIV/AIDS in order to keep tabs on the disease's progress. Now a report from Kaiser Permanente in Los Angeles suggests that, at least in late-stage disease, CD8 cell levels may be an important indicator as well. Doctors followed 133 patients whose CD4 counts were 50 or below for one year. They found a sharp difference in survival rates, depending on CD8 count at the start of the study. For every increase of 100 cells in the CD8 count at enrollment, the risk of death dropped by 16 percent, and those who started the year with CD8 counts below 415 were more than twice as likely to die as those with counts above that number. The researchers noted that this "warning level" of 415 cells corresponded with previously published data showing an increased risk of cytomegalovirus (CMV) and mycobacterium avium complex (MAC) when CD8 counts drop below 400. They recommend patients with advanced HIV disease whose CD8 counts reach that level "be strongly considered" for preventative treatments as they become available (the drug Rifabutin was approved last year for MAC prophylaxis; a number of drug regimens are being tested for CMV prophylaxis). They also suggest that potential treatments aimed at boosting CD8 counts may prove helpful.

The AIDS Disaster Among Hemophiliacs: A survey of death certificate data recently published in the American Journal of Hematology documents the staggering toll HIV has taken among hemophiliacs. From 1979 to 1989 the annual death rate nearly tripled, going from 0.5 to 1.3 per 1,000,000 persons, while the median age at death plunged from 57 to 40. There seems little doubt that HIV-related illness is the reason hemophiliacs have been dying more frequently and younger: While the percentage of deaths caused by hemorrhage or other circulatory problems common in hemophilia declined, by the 1987-1989 period HIV-related causes accounted for over 55 percent of deaths. And, the researchers note, that 55-percent figure doesn't take into account an increase in deaths from several infections commonly associated with AIDS among cases in which HIV or AIDS was not specifically cited on the death certificate. Although the researchers don't bring up the point, their data knocks another leg out from under the theories of U.C. Berkeley Professor Peter Duesberg, who has claimed that HIV does not cause AIDS. Duesberg has repeatedly asserted that the spread of HIV among hemophiliacs in the early eighties due to contaminated blood products has had no impact on their health or death rate.

Information—Free or Cheap: New York's Community Research Initiative on AIDS is making available free summaries of a two-day forum held last October covering research into long-term survival with HIV/AIDS. Speakers included such noted researchers as Dr. David Ho of the Aaron Diamond AIDS Research Center and Dr. Susan Buchbinder of the San Francisco City Clinic Cohort Study, as well as many other noted physicians and community activities. For a free copy, call Spencer Cox at CRIA, (212) 924-3934. For the electronically inclined, four computer databases of AIDS information, formerly available only to paying subscribers, are now available free from the National Library of Medicine. The only cost involved is \$29.95 for a software package known as Grateful Med needed to easily access the system. For information, call (800) 638-8480. (Although recordings give the basic information, those unfamiliar with NLM's various databases might do best to speak to a live assistant who can give the complete rundown. The person we spoke to was extremely helpful.)

Cats carry bacteria fatal to PWA's

According to an article in the Feb. 16 issue of the Journal of the American Medical Association house cats often carry bacteria that can cause potentially fatal infections in people with HIV/AIDS

The Washington Blade reported that the researchers said cat fleas can transmit a newly discovered species of bacteria, *Rochalimaea henselae*, from cats to humans. In people with weakened immune systems, these bacteria can cause bacillary angiomatosis (BA), characterized by skin and bone lesions; cat scratch disease (CSD), a persistent inflammation of the lymph nodes; and endocarditis, a heart disorder.

The scientists reported on four patients with BA, three of whom were HIV-infected. The patients had been exposed for "prolonged" pe-

riods of time to seven cats that were all found to carry *R. henselae* bacteria. All patients were found to be infected with *R. henselae*.

Also, to prove the prevalence of *R. henselae* bacteria, the scientist took blood samples from 61 cats in the San Francisco area, finding 41 percent to be infected.

"Pet ownership," they said, "is often encouraged for people with HIV...to provide companionship." But physicians of HIV-infected people "should be especially aware of the potential risk" of *R. henselae* infection and the fact that it can be cured with antibiotic drugs, they said.

The scientists advised HIV-infected people who have cats to treat their pets for fleas, and said cats carrying *R. henselae* should be treated with antibiotics.

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General Practice

Blue Cross of CA to accept all applicants

In a move designed to strengthen its position as California's largest health insurer, Blue Cross of California has become the first health organization in the nation to offer health insurance to all applicants, regardless of their health status or preexisting conditions.

With close to six million customers, Blue Cross of California previously rejected over 50,000 people a year who were considered "high risk" because of illnesses such as AIDS, heart disease, and cancer. The new insurance plan, which goes into effect immediately, divides health conditions into three "Levels."

Level I will cover healthy individuals and have premiums of about \$96 per month per person. Level II will cover individuals with conditions such as diabetes, Hodgkin's disease and hypertension with monthly premiums averaging \$143 a month. Level III will cover applicants with AIDS, cancer and heart disease; premiums will average \$214 per month with annual maximum coverage of \$50,000 and lifetime maximum coverage of \$500,000.

Applicants for Level III must also be on the waiting list for California's Major Risk Medical Insurance program which has been the state's traditional coverage of last resort for those with severe health problems. The Major Risk program has a waiting time of about seven months.

The new plan has a "preexisting condition" waiting period of six months, but Blue Cross says it will offer an "Interim High Risk Plan" for those in the waiting period.

"All applicants will qualify for one of these programs," said Mark Weinberg, executive vice president of Blue Cross consumer services group, in a statement.

But the good news from Blue Cross in California does not necessarily mean similar changes are underway in other states, includ-

ing Georgia.

There are 67 Blue Cross operations in the United States, each with separate boards of directors and finances. What they share is "a name, a logo, and certain standards" according to Rob Rickles, a spokesman for Blue Cross & Blue Shield of Georgia.

And, according to Rickles, Georgia's Blue Cross supports the idea of "guaranteed issue" health insurance for Georgians.

"We strongly support legislative initiatives at the state capitol and in Washington that would require all insurance companies to accept all applicants regardless of their health status," said Rickles. "We want to compete on our ability to manage risk not avoid it."

"But," he warned "if we were to do this unilaterally in Georgia, after a certain point we would attract so many bad risks that we wouldn't be able to raise premiums fast enough to pay claims."

Profitability is the bottom line for insurance companies and Blue Cross of California predicts that the three levels of the new plan combined will be profitable.

The AIDS Survival Project's Mark King agrees.

"Just offering this kind of product is going to encourage people to seek early intervention for all kinds of problems," he said, "which will save them [the insurance companies] money in the long run."

But King doesn't believe that profits are the only motivation for the new Blue Cross policy in California.

"This is a direct response to national healthcare reform. The insurance companies are trying to look attractive compared to what the President is proposing."

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Merck's protease inhibitor, successful at first, fails after several weeks' use

Trenton, NJ—A drug to block an enzyme from making HIV multiply appears to stop working early in treatment, marking the fifth failure of a Merck & Co. AIDS drug after human trials began.

Researchers at the world's largest drug maker, one of 15 companies developing AIDS drugs, said they will continue work on other potential AIDS drugs while trying to determine exactly why this one failed. They will test other ways of using it.

The drug, called L-735,524, worked by blocking action of the enzyme protease

that HIV needs to replicate itself, spreading from cell to cell. Initially, the level of HIV in test patients declined.

"They were feeling better, they were putting on weight," Merck spokesman John Doorley said. "Everybody was getting optimistic."

Merck was preparing to expand the year-old human drug trial from 60 patients when its scientists got bad news late last month.

A complex test done sporadically on patients found levels of HIV in their genetic material unexpectedly rebounded to earlier levels. The most likely explanation was the virus had changed its genetic code during the treatment and become resistant to the drug, Doorley said.

Dr. Anthony S. Fauci, director of the National Institute of Allergy and Infectious Diseases, said Feb. 25 it appears the protease in-

hibitor is "an extremely potent antiviral agent" for the first several weeks it is taken.

"The problem is that resistance does emerge after a relatively short period of time," said Fauci, one of the nation's top AIDS researchers.

"I think rather than throw our hands in the air we should try to figure out how we can best use these drugs to their maximum, even though they're not in and of themselves going to end replication" of HIV, said the NIH's Anthony Fauci.

Much the same thing happens with current AIDS drugs, such as Burroughs Wellcome's AZT, which appears to have more side effects than Merck's drug.

Fauci said the best strategy now is for scientists to find the optimal way to use the protease inhibitor and other ex-

isting drugs while new ones that act on different parts of HIV are developed.

"I think rather than throw our hands in the air we should try to figure out how we can best use these drugs to their maximum, even though they're not in and of themselves going to end replication" of HIV, Fauci said.

Hoffman-LaRoche has also been working on a protease inhibitor and several companies are developing drugs to block other enzymes crucial to HIV replication.

Merck will try different dosages of the drug on patients already in the trial, Doorley said. The company belongs to the Inter-Company Collaboration for AIDS Drug Development, an industry consortium, and has already discussed the problems with the other 14 members, he said.

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IHS News Release:

Integrated Health Services Sponsors Benefit Performance for AIDS Education

ATLANTA, GA—Robert N. Elkins, M.D., Chairman and CEO, today announced that Integrated Health Services of Atlanta of Briarcliff Haven will be the Corporate Sponsor for the benefit performances of Straight from the Heart, to be presented at the Coca-Cola Roxy on March 10 to 12.

The proceeds from the show will go directly to benefit the AIDS Survival Project and the Metropolitan Atlanta Community Foundation. The AIDS Survival Project is a coalition of people affected by HIV who work toward enhancing the quality of life through education, advocacy, and community service. The Metropolitan Atlanta Community Foundation is a not-for-profit, permanent and flexible endowment fund which distributes money to the areas of art and culture, civic affairs, community development, education, and health and social services.

"IHS is committed to improving the quality of life in the cities across the country in which we're located," says Dr. Elkins. "Returning part of what we gain is a way of saying thanks for the success we have enjoyed in Atlanta. We are proud to be associated with Straight from the Heart as the Corporate Sponsor."

"IHS is proud to play a part in educating the public about HIV issues and the AIDS epidemic. We've actively supported this effort in other communities with our time, money, and effort, and are happy to do the same for such a worthy event in Atlanta. We take our responsibilities as a corporate citizen quite seriously, and here we have a great chance to fulfill that promise by making a contribution that touches so many."

Straight from the Heart is a musical that celebrates the courage shown by children in the struggle against AIDS. It features performers from the Atlanta area, including singers, actors, dancers, and musicians. The production debuted in 1990, and challenges audiences to view the crisis from the perspective of those most directly affected. The goal is to educate, advocate, broaden awareness, and motivate the Atlanta community in dealing with the wide spectrum of HIV illness. Following each performance, volunteers will be available to answer questions from the audience on HIV, AIDS, and human rights.

Integrated Health Services has been the nation's leading provider of subacute care since 1986, offering the industry's broadest array of subacute medical programs and services. Headquartered in Owings Mills, IHS operates 146 skilled nursing and rehabilitation facilities in 27 states, including IHS of Atlanta at Briarcliff Haven. This nationwide network features advanced technologies, high staffing ratios, and dedicated units for seriously ill, but medically stable patients of all ages.

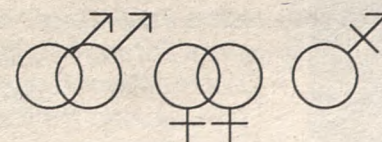
Industry studies generally indicate subacute services are 20 to 60 percent less costly than comparable treatment in traditional hospital settings, with a comparable level of care. "With the current attention on national healthcare reform, subacute care is expected to play an even greater role, as this high-quality, cost-effective innovation becomes more widely recognized as a ready solution to the demand for affordable healthcare," Dr. Elkins said. "Caring projects that unite us in a shared goal, such as Straight from the Heart, effectively complement and expand on the efforts of our facilities in educating as many people as possible on the facts about AIDS."

"I'd like to take this opportunity to applaud the outstanding efforts of the two major beneficiaries of this event, the AIDS Survival Project and the Metropolitan Atlanta Community Foundation," Dr. Elkins concluded. "The great work they do contributes significantly to our common health, humanity, and well-being."

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Two new studies say AZT effective

Two new studies suggest that the controversial antiretroviral drug AZT is effective in slowing the progression of HIV infection in adults and preventing the transmission of the virus from infected mothers to their unborn children.

An Italian study published in the January issue of the Journal of Acquired Immune Deficiency, supports the findings of previously published studies such as AIDS Clinical Trials Group 019 and the European Australian Collaborative Group 020, which showed that initiating therapy with AZT relatively early in the course of HIV infection (when CD4 levels fall below 500) can significantly delay the progression of the infection to clinical AIDS.

Sponsored by the Italian National AIDS Committee, the study was a prospective analysis of a group of 936 individuals infected with HIV but not yet manifesting symptoms, who were receiving therapy with AZT. While not a placebo-controlled trial, the study subjects—72 percent intravenous drugs users, and 27 percent women—met the same criteria as those followed in the ACTG 019 trial.

The rate of disease progression among patients who entered the study with CD4 counts between 200 and 499 was nearly three times lower than patients who began the study with CD4 counts of less than 200.

At 124 weeks of follow-up, the overall rate of progression to AIDS among study participants was lower than the rate of progression observed in the placebo arm of ACTG 019. The study also showed that a dose of 500 mg/day appeared to have a beneficial effect on rates of disease progression when compared with a dose of 1000 mg/day, though the authors point out this finding might have been

explained by lower patient compliance in the 1000 mg/day group.

In general, the majority of patients who progressed to clinical AIDS either had CD4 cell counts of less than 200 at study entry, P24 antigenemia or had been treated with the high 1000 mg per day dose.

While the study suggests that early use of AZT has a beneficial effect in delaying progression of HIV disease for at least two years, it did not attempt to answer questions related to survival benefits. Several studies have suggested that those who take the drug do not live any longer than those who do not.

U.S. health officials have released the results of an incomplete study that indicated AZT reduces transmission of the HIV from infected mothers to their newborns. The data were deemed so significant that federal officials notified the 59 participating medical centers in the United States and France to stop giving women and children the placebo and offer them AZT.

The new data raises social, political and ethical questions about whether HIV testing should be required for all pregnant women.

One researcher involved in the study, Dr. Ross McKinney of Duke University's School of Medicine, said the results suggest a need for mandatory HIV testing of all pregnant women. "There are very few victories that we've had in the world of HIV treatment," McKinney said. "This would be the best way to prevent infection. And so you're balancing rights. And I think the net is that we would want to save lives."

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Running and walking are sports easily available to everyone

by JIM STRUVE

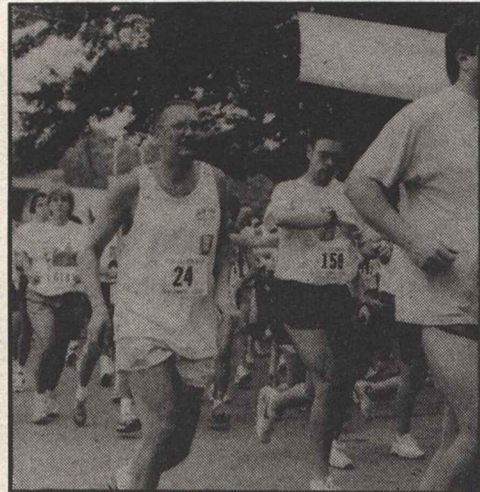
This is the first in a series of articles that will appear in Southern Voice to address topics related to running and walking. Each article will be written by a member of Front Runners-Atlanta, an organization that provides support and encouragement for gays and lesbians who enjoy running and walking. Front Runners-Atlanta is available to runners and walkers at all levels of interest, from beginners to hard-core enthusiasts.

Perhaps this series will increase your interest in running or walking as an avenue for regular physical activity. We also hope that these articles will encourage you to join us for our weekly run/walk activities and to participate in our 1994 Pride Day 5K Run/Walk (which will be held on June 11). More than 650 people participated in our 1993 5K Run/Walk, making our race the second largest such event in the country. Yes, Atlanta had more participants than Pride races that were held in other traditional gay/lesbian enclaves such as San Francisco, Chicago and Los Angeles. With your added participation, we can achieve our goal of surpassing New York City to become the largest Pride race in 1994.

Running and walking are perhaps the most accessible forms of exercise. They are really sports for the common person, available to you no matter what your level of athletic ability. Age is only a barrier when it is self-imposed. Physical disability may alter the way in which a person engages in running or walking, but there are few limitations that create truly insurmountable barriers. However, if you have a history of health-related problems or if you are older, it is advisable to consult with your physician before jumping into a regular routine of running or walking.

Unlike most other sports, minimal equipment is required for running or walking. All you really need is a solid pair of shoes. To avoid injury, it is important that you purchase a good pair of shoes. Most running stores can give you advice on the shoes that are best for you. Beyond shoes, no other special equipment or clothing is required.

Running and walking can be done alone or with friends, in any kind of weather (if you don't mind braving the elements in extreme conditions) and any time of day or night (it's wise to purchase a reflective vest



so that you are more visible during darkness, and safety concerns should prompt you to use discretion about where you exercise during both daylight and darkness). Even when you are traveling, it is easy to take along a pair of shoes to continue your exercise routine.

The basic requirement is to exercise a minimum of 30 minutes at least three times weekly. You will gain the same health benefits from walking as from running, from slowly jogging as from fast running. Whether you walk, jog or run is mostly a matter of personal preference. If you wish to maintain a regular schedule of running or walking, it is important that you find a style and pace that is comfortable. The basic rule is that you are unlikely to maintain any kind of exercise about which you feel miserable.

Participation in races can be very satisfying. Being in the presence of other runners and walkers can enhance self-esteem and can be physically and psychologically stimulating (not to mention that runners and walkers are frequently gorgeous specimens of physical health). Races can also provide goals that help to overcome the drudgery of any regular exercise routine. However, racing has no additional health benefits over casual running or walking. To the contrary, the chances of an exercise-related injury actually grow as your mileage and level of competition increase.

Future articles in this series will address a variety of topics about running and walking, including training techniques, nutrition and injuries.

Struve is the race director for the Atlanta Pride run.

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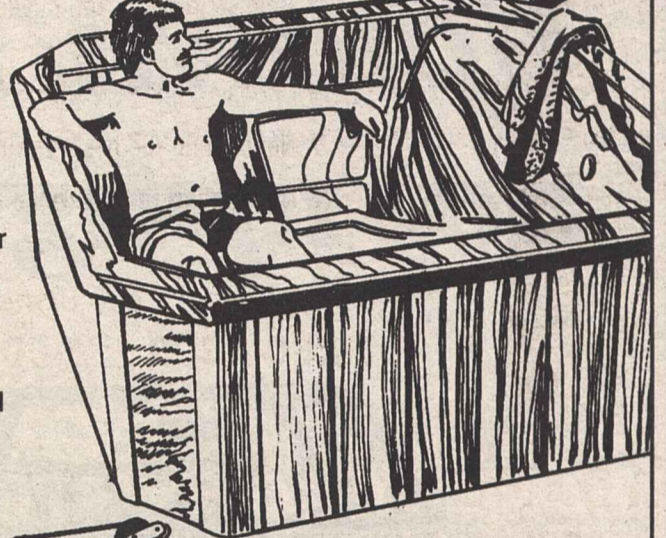
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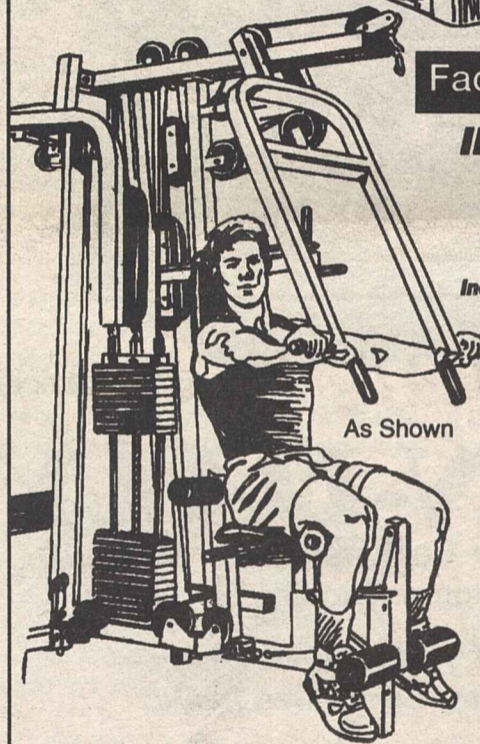
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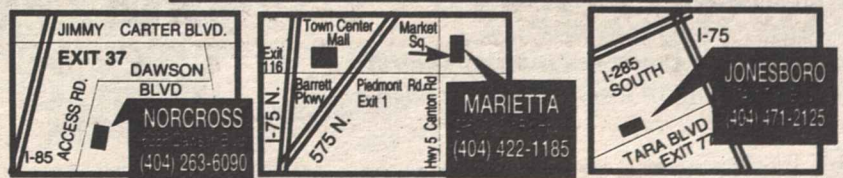
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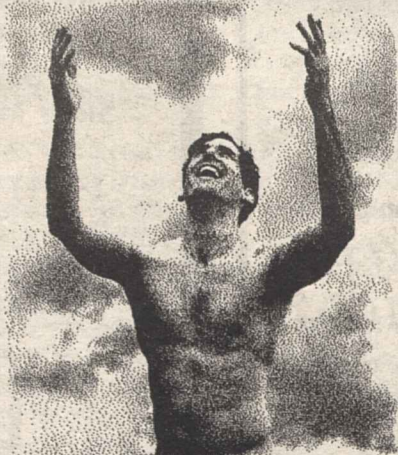
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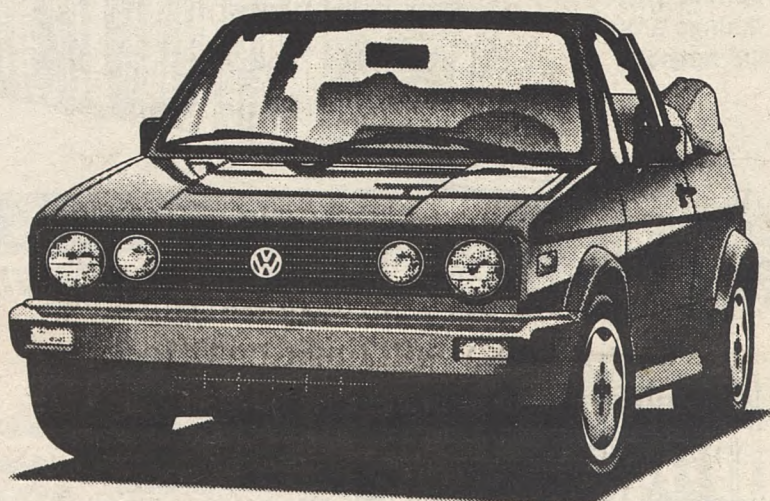
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Better sex

Continued from page 1

when you came out in the '70s. But after years of being out, I thought, 'I can be how I want to be.' So gradually I got back into my own clothes and hair and jewelry, the way I had been all my life but had given up to fit in."

Loulan believes that the rejection of butch/femme and the embracing of androgyny is rooted in the feminist movement. In the early '70s, she says, a distinction began to be made between "old-culture" and "new-culture" lesbians. Jokes were made about butch and femme women. Androgyny—a genderless conformity—became the norm.

"It is my belief that...most of us made a deal with straight feminists," Loulan says in "The Lesbian Erotic Dance." "We said we would be good if they let us be part of their movement...that we would not be affectionate in front of their funders, not be out as lesbians on a public level. We were supposed to understand. We understood all right, and in understanding we let our homophobia become more entrenched. We also took the idea that butch/femme was an inherently heterosexual idea."

But that's not so, says Loulan. What lesbians have inherited is sexual activity defined by heterosexuals. They call it male/female role playing, so lesbians call it that. They say lesbians are not sexual, so they aren't.

Because lesbians have not claimed their sexuality or defined it or created a language for it, Loulan says this causes them to think of themselves in stereotypical ways, to be ashamed of who they are. And that has effectively stopped the development of lesbian erotic images.

Loulan is writing a new book on lesbian sexuality that expands on the theory she set forth in "Erotic Dance"—namely, that there are more than two genders, that there are actu-

JoAnn Loulan

will lecture on Friday, March 11 at 8 p.m. at the Unitarian Universalist Church, 1811 Cliff Valley Way. She will also conduct a workshop on relationships on Saturday, March 12 from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. at the Sheraton Colony Square. The events are for women only and are presented by Fouth Tuesday and Dr. Ann McAllister.

ally *thousands* of genders, among lesbians. The book, entitled "Gender Jail," will look at how lesbians grew up without a gender identification and how that effects their sexuality as adults.

"For example, the lesbians everyone called the "tom-boy"—many of them tell me they identified with the boys. They knew they weren't boys, but there were only two choices so what were they to do? Then there were girls like me who weren't tom-boys, but we weren't 'girls' either.

"There's great difficulty in growing up and not identifying with the gender you're assigned to. It effects our sexuality in profound ways. It is the reason we engage in certain sexual practices and do not engage in others."

But Loulan will likely feel some heat for "Gender Jail" from those women she describes as the lesbian police—"those women who always tell us how poorly we are doing in the politically correct behavior department."

"They make sure all of us feel guilty about whatever we are doing," she says.

So if any of what Loulan is saying strikes a chord, tell the lesbian police in your head to shut up and catch Loulan's lecture or workshop this weekend.

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Lesbians have less sex than straight women, but relationships are better

New study in Texas compares the intimate lives of two groups of women, one straight and one gay

by KIMBERLY GRIFFIN

Echoing the findings of previous studies on lesbian relationships, two sex researchers in Texas have concluded that women in lesbian relationships have sex less often than do their heterosexual counterparts.

What is significant about the study, researchers David Farley Hurlbert and Carol Apt say, is that it is believed to be the first to compare intimacy, compatibility and interpersonal dependency among women in lesbian and heterosexual relationships.

Their findings? Lesbians in the study reported higher levels of relationship satisfaction, even though they reported having less active sex lives than the heterosexual women. An average of two sexual activities a month was reported by the lesbians, compared to 11 for heterosexual women.

"According to popular myth, lesbians don't have sex very often," said Apt, a sex educator who has conducted sex research for five years. "But that's not the point. The point is that their relationships are extremely satisfying to them."

What's more, the researchers concluded that the difference in frequency of sex between the straight and lesbian couples was not because of the difference in sexual orientation. The difference in gender, they concluded, is a more important factor in determining someone's attitude and behavior.

"We got the results we got because we were dealing with men and women, not gays and straights," said Apt, who wrote her doctoral dissertation at Northeastern University on gay relationships. "Perhaps women in heterosexual relationships are socialized to be compliant to male sexuality. Women in homosexual relationships don't have to bother with that crap."

But a number of lesbians who read the study said that perhaps efforts to define their sexuality from a heterosexual perspective will never truly capture the experiences of lesbians.

"They're treating lesbianism as some sort of romantic, natural state of being where women can be women, unsullied by the influence of the powerful cock," said Polly Thistlethwaite of the Lesbian Herstory Archives in New York. "Guess what? When that happens, viewed from a heterosexist bias, women's sexuality dissipates."

Hurlbert, a former army captain who is now in private practice as a marriage counselor and sex therapist, and Apt (both are straight) said their fascination with the topic of sexuality in general led them to conduct the study. And while the researchers set out to explore some of the differences between homosexual-

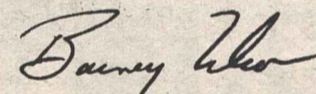
CONTINUES ON PAGE 18

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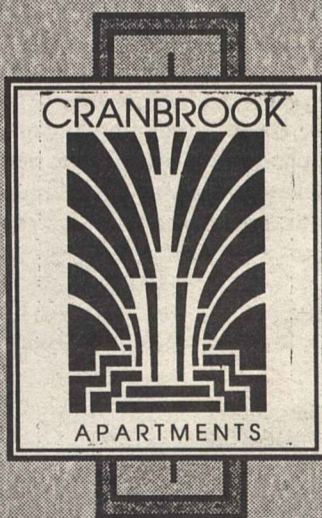


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Lesbian sex

Continued from page 17

ity and heterosexuality, they actually found out more about women than they did about lesbians, Apt said.

"Women are socialized the same whether they eventually turn out to be homosexual, bisexual or heterosexual," she said. "They're taught to consider other people's feelings and the consequences their actions might have on other people."

It is these qualities that take a relationship consisting of two women to higher levels of intimacy, compatibility and interpersonal desire, the researchers concluded.

The study, titled "Female Sexuality: A Comparative Study Between Women in Homosexual and Heterosexual Relationships," was published in the Journal of Sex and Marital Therapy. Volunteers for the study were solicited at three universities in the San Antonio area. The subjects had to be at least 22 years old and had to have been living with their partner at least one year.

Of the 118 women who responded to the posted notices, 68 (half lesbian, half heterosexual) were chosen to participate in the study, which involved completing a series of questionnaires and returning them by mail with complete confidentiality.

C.A. Tripp, a sex researcher who was a close colleague of Alfred Kinsey's, said he questioned the researchers' decision to look only at relationships of one year or longer. By not looking at the entire spectrum of female sexuality—including what he referred to as the "high romance" stage of a budding relationship—the researchers overlooked a valuable component.

For example, the beginning of a lesbian relationship, Tripp said, is "super high quality and high activity. But then the compatibility is so high that fatigue develops rapidly."

Apt acknowledged that yes, of course, the research was taken at one particular point in time. She and Hurlbert consciously chose not to include "one-night stand" relationships or couples that were still in the "honeymoon phase."

"The reason we stipulated one year is because we wanted there to be a certain amount of stability to the relationship so a pattern could be established," Apt said. "The passion that comes from having a new relationship—we wanted that to wear off a little bit."

The demographics—age, relationship length, student status and religion—of the two groups were matched as closely as possible, the researchers said. The mean age of the participants, most of whom were college seniors or graduate students, was about 26. Reflecting the racial makeup of San Antonio, the researchers said, the group was approximately half Hispanic and half white, with two black women. More than half of the women were

Catholic.

Although some might challenge the validity of broadly applying conclusions drawn from a group that consists of a much higher percentage of Hispanic and Catholic women than is found in the United States as a whole, the researchers maintained that because their findings were consistent with the findings of other studies, such as Masters and Johnson's 1979 study of homosexuality, the sample is indeed representative of women in general.

"It's probably not representative of every female in the United States, but if you look at the demographics of our group, they're pretty close," Apt said.

In sex studies, Tripp said, the different religions of the participants does not alone affect the participants' answers. Rather, it is the devoutness with which the participant believes in the religion.

"It doesn't make any difference what the person's religion is, but the degree of devoutness does," Tripp said. "Whether it happens to be Catholic, Jewish or something else doesn't matter. They're all anti-sexual."

Although it is not indicated in the published study, very few of the women who associated themselves with a particular religion were regular churchgoers, Hurlbert said. In addition, Hurlbert said that through his clinical observation as a sex therapist, he has found that there "isn't much differentiation" between the way people of different racial backgrounds approach sex in relationships.

One shortcoming of any research on a stigmatized group such as lesbians, Apt said, is that there will always be a self-selection bias. Even though a study is anonymous, the researchers are still asking lesbians to come forth and declare their orientation, something which may lead the sample to be composed mainly of lesbians who are more open and politically active.

One of the biggest criticisms of the study expressed by Tripp was the ambiguity in crucial phrases used in the questionnaire. The participants were asked about their use of "sexual fantasy," "pleasure aids" and "exotic clothes." In the published study, these terms are not defined.

"Prudery in the writing of sex articles is verboten," Tripp said. "I don't know why they don't talk about what they're talking about."

In the actual questionnaire, the researchers offered a list of examples of what they had in mind for the terms: pleasure aids could include anything from vibrators and dildos to creams and flavored lotions, exotic clothes anything from whips and chains to sexual lingerie, and pornography any type of image of couples interacting sexually.

The danger of not precisely defining terms is that each person who answers the question may have something entirely different in mind. For instance, it makes a difference whether "pornography" means only pictures of genital

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Intimate Differences

In a new study, 68 women—half gay, half straight—were asked which of the following practices they incorporated into their sexual encounters with their partners:

Practices	Heterosexual Women		Homosexual Women	
	Yes	No	Yes	No
Sexual Fantasy	29	5	28	6
Masturbation	26	8	34	0
Pornography	16	18	2	32
Pleasure Aids	9	25	3	31
Exotic Clothes	33	1	2	32

Source: *Journal of Sex and Marital Therapy*. Figures are raw numbers.

activity. That is what men generally consider to be porn but women don't, Tripp said.

"At the very least, [the method] is random," Tripp said. "Some will have one thing in mind, some people another thing."

The ambiguity of "exotic clothing" in particular, Thistlethwaite said, did not take into account lesbians' tradition for drag and cross-dressing among other things.

"A lot of butch/femme dykes I know are in high drag every minute of their lives—and that certainly constitutes erotic clothing," Thistlethwaite said.

Of the 34 lesbians who participated in the study, only two reported wearing exotic clothes in "partner-related sexual activities," compared to all but one of the heterosexual women who reported wearing them.

Almost all of the women reported using sexual fantasy, which could be any sexual dream or thought, during sex with their partner. Lesbians reported much less use of pornography and pleasure aids.

In fact, only three lesbians out of the 34 total reported using "pleasure aids," a number to which some lesbians took extreme exception.

The researchers concluded that "lesbians generally do not like to engage in forms of sexual interaction that resemble male/female couplings," as would be the case with dildos.

"They weren't talking to any of my friends," Thistlethwaite said. "Do you think straight people use dildos more than lesbians? I've never known a straight man to use a dildo on a woman and go down on her at the same time. That's a lesbo thing."

Although heterosexual women reported engaging in sexual activity more often (ranging from seven to 19 in the four weeks before the study was conducted) than for lesbians (ranging from 0 to 11), the sexual satisfaction reported in both groups was nearly identical.

"What this says is that when women get together, they don't have sex very often," Apt said. "Maybe heterosexual women are having

sex more often just because men want it more. When lesbians do have sex, it's a hell of a lot more satisfying."

In conducting the study, Apt and Hurlbert said they wanted to take their previous finding that in heterosexual relationships, the better the relationship dynamics, the more frequently the partners have sex, and put it to the test comparing lesbians and heterosexual women.

"We found that theory not to hold true in lesbian relationships," Hurlbert said. "Between women, there's more of a homo-emotional relationship rather than a homosexual relationship."

The bottom line, the researchers concluded, is that the lesbians' gender, not their sexual orientation, accounts for the difference in sexual frequency.

"The lesbians in this study have revealed themselves to be women first and lesbians second," they concluded.

Given the limitations of the study, some lesbians said, that conclusion is shallow at best.

"This kind of sociology flattens the whole terrain of the lesbian sexual dynamic, and heterosexuality, too," Thistlethwaite said. "The conclusions downplay the validity of lesbian sexuality."

Hurlbert, who has been a sex therapist for nearly 10 years, said trends he has seen in the clinical setting lead him to believe that a similar study of lesbian and heterosexual women conducted in the future could yield much different results.

"I anticipate that both heterosexual and homosexual women are going to start demanding a much more active, enjoyable sex life, and I've seen that clinically," Hurlbert said.

He and Apt are currently conducting a study comparing lesbians who have only had sex with other women to lesbians who have had sex with men.

Griffin is a writer for the Windy City Times in Chicago, where this article first appeared.

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International gay and lesbian friendship force forming in Atlanta

GLOBUS International, a new group that plans to launch international visitation/cultural exchange programs for gays and lesbians, is hosting an organizational meeting for its Atlanta chapter this week.

Recently headquartered in Atlanta, GLOBUS will establish chapters in key cities throughout the United States, Europe, South America, Asia and Australia. GLOBUS chapters have already been formed in Munich and Berlin, Germany, and in June, a group of approximately 40 Germans will be coming to Atlanta to stay in the homes of local GLOBUS members.

The match-ups between hosts and guests will be made according to participant-selected criteria—mutual professional background, mutual avocation, or, finally, age compatibility. Match-ups will be based on personal profiles established through questionnaires, with subsequent interviews

administered by members of the organizing committees of participating chapters.

According to GLOBUS organizer Jurgen Ahlers, the underlying purpose of the seven-day visit will be to share the host city and its cultural life—not the way a tourist would see it but the way a family member or good friend would experience it. For example, if the match-up were based on mutual professional background, the host may want to invite the guest to accompany him/her on a given day to the workplace, experience the business or meet colleagues. On the other hand, guests will have plenty of time to explore the life of the host city at his or her own pace. There will also be a couple of GLOBUS chapter get-togethers with their guests, with activities that may include an area bus tour or an evening at the Laser Show.

After the week of experiencing Atlanta

life, the group will then head for New York City for a second week to take in the Gay Games and Stonewall 25 festivities.

In late September, a group of approximately 40 Atlantans (not necessarily the same people who served as hosts) will venture to Munich, just in time for Oktoberfest. The program will be similar to the stay in Atlanta—spending the first week as personal guests with matched-up hosts and, during the second week, visiting Prague, Vienna and Salzburg before returning to Atlanta on Oct. 7. Or they may spend the second week traveling independently.

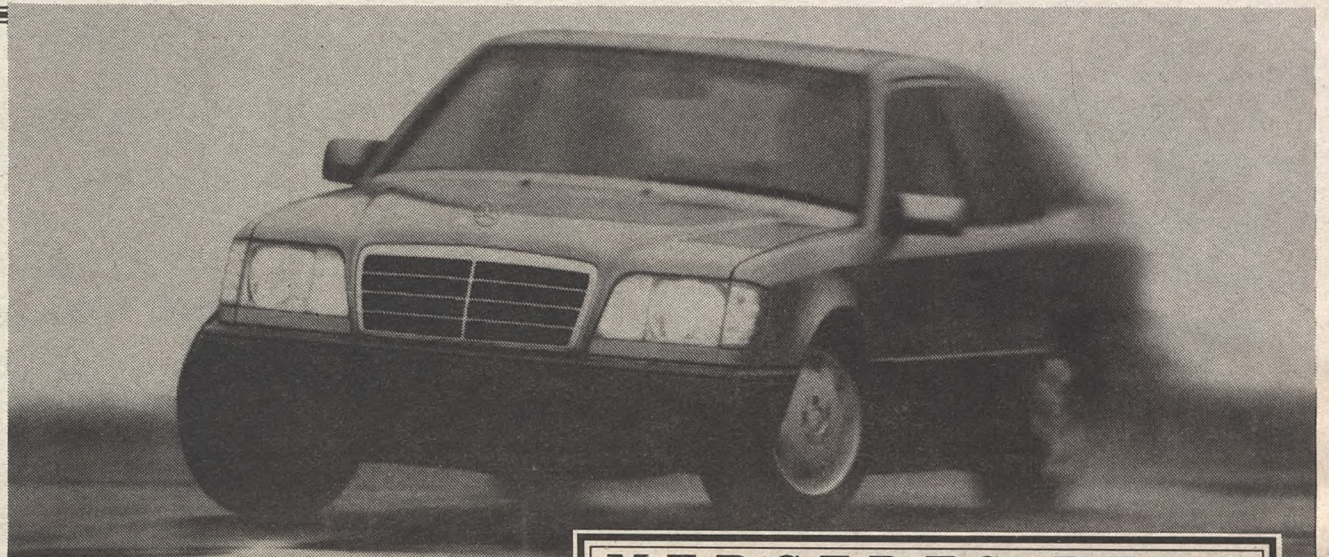
Aside from the advantages of intercultural, interprofessional enrichment, another key advantage would be costs. There will be essentially no costs during the week of home-hosting. Members going will pay an administrative fee and group travel discount rates on air fares and second-week travel/

host costs. The cost of the September trip to Europe will be about \$2,000 per person.

GLOBUS International will be filing for 501(c)(3) (nonprofit) status. Plans are for a fund to be established to aid individuals and entire groups—for example from eastern European cities—to partake in GLOBUS exchanges.

Anyone interested in helping organize the GLOBUS Atlanta chapter is invited to attend the initial "charter" meeting to be held on Wednesday, March 15, at 8 p.m. The meeting will be at City Hall, second floor, Room 2550 (entrance from Trinity Avenue). Free parking at Trinity and Central. For further information call Jurgen Ahlers at 875-1252, or write GLOBUS International Inc., 500 R Amsterdam Avenue, Atlanta, GA 30306.

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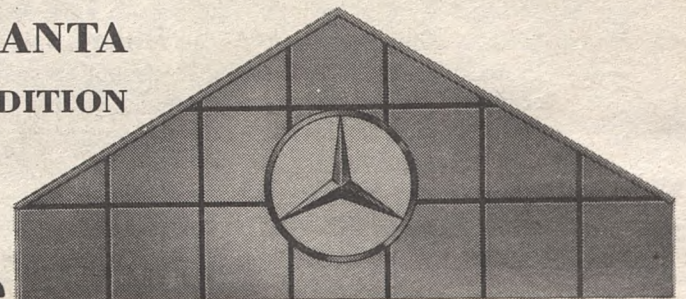


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From now on, it's Pizza Hut and California orange juice

Domino's, Florida juice target of gay/lesbian boycott

Lesbians and gay men are being asked to give up their morning orange juice and those 30-minutes-or-less pizzas.

Two boycotts are now underway, one aimed at Domino's Pizza and the other at Florida orange juice. Both actions stem from ties between those businesses and prominent right-wing activists.

A group in San Diego, called The DomiNO Pizza Theory, wants the gay/lesbian community to stop patronizing Domino's because the company recently awarded its humanitarian award to James Dobson, president of Focus on the Family, a Christian supremacist group based in Colorado Springs, Colo.

"Focus on the Family is one of many fronts for the political and financial machine responsible for Amendment 2 in Colorado, for what happened in Cincinnati and for what is happening in Ovett, Mississippi," said B. Allan Ross, spokesperson for The DomiNO Pizza Theory. "This is a call to arms for an action in which even armchair activists and the cowardly closeted can participate."

This is not the first time Domino's has been the target of economic action. Many supporters of abortion rights don't buy the company's pizza because of ties between its founder, Tom Monaghan, and anti-choice groups.

Ross, the associate editor of Update, a Southern California gay and lesbian weekly newspaper, also sent out a press release across

the country encouraging activists to picket at the 5,000 Domino's locations across the country.

"The locations are great. They'll provide wonderful possibilities for some 'Faerie magic' and ongoing visibility for the civil rights war," Ross said.

The boycott against Florida orange juice stems from the decision by the Florida Citrus Commission to sign anti-gay/lesbian talk show host Rush Limbaugh to a \$1 million, six-month deal to promote citrus products on his show.

For one week, from March 12 to 19, Gay and Lesbian Americans are asking people not to buy Florida orange juice. Sixty gay bars across the country have agreed to join the action.

"While the [citrus] commission may find it easy to swallow Limbaugh, we as consumers find Florida orange juice leaves a bitter, homophobic, un-American taste in our mouths," said Jonathan Bauer of the GLA's Arizona chapter, which instigated the boycott. "In choosing to spend \$1 million...the Florida Citrus Commission explicitly endorses Limbaugh's anti-gay political views."

Ivy Leventhal, a spokesperson for the Citrus Commission in Tallahassee, said "We regret that anybody is upset by our decision to purchase advertising time."

In 1980, the commission was involved in a similar controversy after its longtime spokesperson, Anita Bryant, spearheaded an effort to repeal a lesbian/gay rights ordinance in Miami. Bryant was eventually dropped from the ad campaign for Florida orange juice.

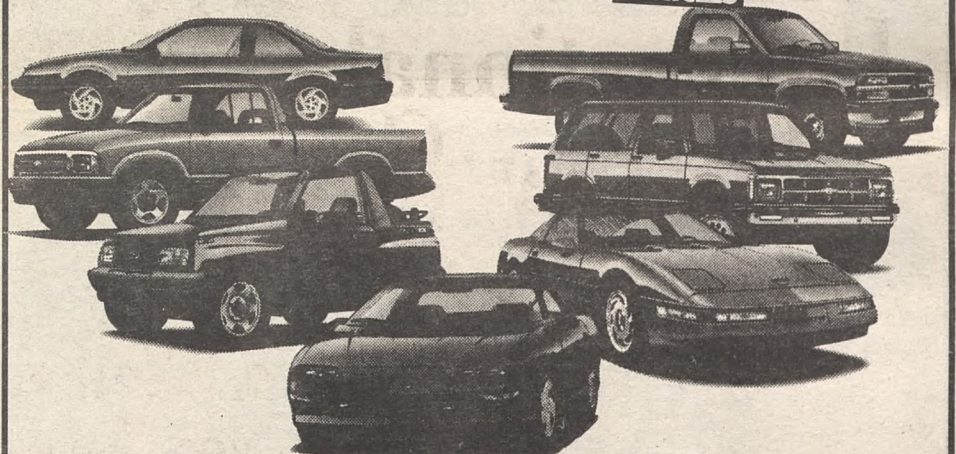
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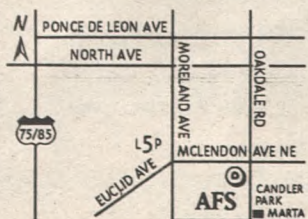
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OCCASIONS

ANNIVERSARIES

A very happy anniversary to Diego Sans and Jon Ivan Weaver, who celebrated 18 years together last weekend.

Sherry Kushner and Karen Elliott celebrated their second year of sharing a home together on Feb. 27. Their two dogs and two cats are very happy too.

Angela Verricchia and Rebecca Hewett celebrate their one year anniversary March 11.

SoVo publishers Leigh VanderEls and Chris Cash celebrated their 7th anniversary on March 6. They celebrated with a romantic getaway weekend, and, more importantly, a "jubilee" anniversary ritual to forgive the past and start their relationship afresh. Congratulations and good wishes for the next seven years, Chris and Leigh!



It's really late, but happy birthday to Jessi McVay.

BIRTHDAY

A way belated but still happy birthday to Jessi McVay who turned 34 back on Jan. 23.

FRIENDSHIP

On March 1, it was 14 years since Sherry Kushner and her friend Sydele Feldman moved to Atlanta from Brooklyn. They are also celebrating a long time, loving friendship of 22 years.

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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The Leathermen Atlanta sponsored a bake sale and giveaway on Feb. 13 as a Valentine's Day benefit for Jerusalem House, with the help of The Heretic and members of Panther L/L. The event raised \$1,000, which was donated along with a food processor for in-house use. Special desserts were taken to the house on Valentine's Day for the residents to enjoy. The event was held at The Heretic. Pictured, from left, are Dale Biggers from The Heretic, Louisa Basarrate from Jerusalem House, John Hance of The Leathermen and Rob Lee of Panther L/L.

Stonewall seeks 500 to host parties

Stonewall 25 has announced plans for a national effort to coordinate 500 dinner party fundraising events across the country.

The dinner parties are designed to benefit the Stonewall 25 march, to be held in New York City on June 26. The Stonewall 500 Club planners are encouraging host participants to concentrate their efforts during the month of March.

"Many people have already volunteered to host events in a variety of distinctive ways in towns and cities throughout the country, but more are needed if we are to meet our goal of 500. The Stonewall 500 Club is a unique avenue for people nationwide to get involved in the planning of Stonewall 25, the largest human rights march in history," remarked Susan

Jester, executive administrator of Stonewall 25.

According to Jester, an innovative approach to each event is important. "Some people are planning a comfortable night by the fireplace with friends, others are traveling from house to house hosting progressive dinner parties. We even have a group from Texas reenacting the Stonewall rebellion in 1969. Participants have been asked to set the flavor of the event, the time and place along with what they feel comfortable asking for donations. Proceeds go towards the \$3 million needed for the events in New York."

For information on the Stonewall 500 Club, contact the event line at (202) 544-7743.

Stonewall 25 volunteers BWMT mixer

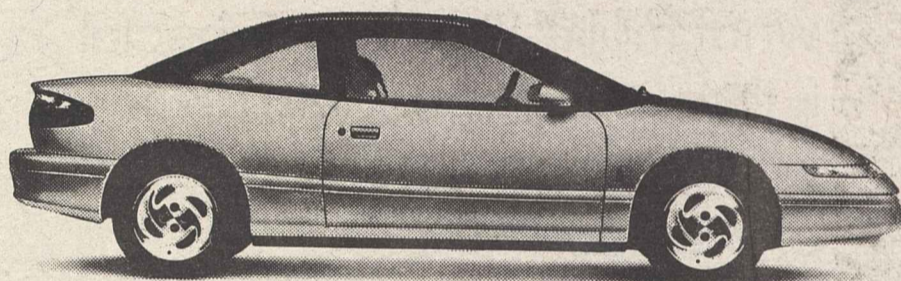
Stonewall 25-GA, the local organizing committee for Stonewall 25, is announcing the kickoff of its volunteer recruitment push.

Tony Leonard, cochair of SW25-GA, said, "We need people to help in all areas—fundraising, outreach to different groups and helping generally to get out the word about this historic event."

Anyone interested in volunteering, or contributing funds or services, can contact Stonewall 25-GA at (404) 662-6753.

On Thursday, March 10, Black and White Men Together of Atlanta will host a mixer for anyone interested in finding out more about the organization, a social group that seeks to tear down the barriers of racism, sexism, homophobia and AIDS/HIV ignorance. The mixer starts at 8:10 p.m. at 227 Mitchell Street, Studio 3-B. For more information, call 892-BWMT.

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What makes the SoVies special is that you, the readers, decide who the most deserving nominees and winners will be.

Please submit your ballot at any of these locations before March 23, 1994:
Brushstrokes ☛ Charis Books ☛ Maddix Deluxe
Outwrite ☛ Poster Hut ☛ Southern Voice
and The Waterworks.

OR

Fax or mail your ballot to:
Southern Voice
1189 Virginia Ave., NE
Atlanta, Georgia 30306
FAX (404) 876-2709, Office 876-1819

Tickets for the Southern Voice
Community Awards Celebration,
8:00 p.m., April 23 at Zoo Atlanta,
are sold at the above locations.

**Write in your nominees here
for the categories of...**

Business/Professional Person of the Year

Community Volunteer Extraordinaire

Glamour Goddess of Drag

Excellence in Activism (person or group)

Excellence in AIDS Activism (person or group)

Hippest Heterosexual

Most Active Social Organization

Most Bodacious Bar

Most Community Minded Arts Organization

Most Community Minded Entertainer

Most Welcoming Religious Organization

Newest Mover & Shaker (person or group)

Our Closest Political Ally

Public Enemy #1

Did we forget something?
Write in your own category and nominee!



OUT & ABOUT

THE ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT GUIDE OF SOUTHERN VOICE

RAISE THE RAINBOW

People are still needed to help carry the world's largest flag down Fifth Avenue during the Stonewall 25 march in June.

by KC WILDMOON

It will be the world's largest flag—180,000 square feet of material weighing 6,500 pounds and stretching an entire mile.

And when it unfurls along New York City's Fifth Avenue on June 24 during the Stonewall 25 march, it will be the world's largest symbol of a movement—a rainbow flag, carried by thousands of lesbians and gay men proudly hoisting the colors of their struggle for equality.

The project is called Raise the Rainbow, and in addition to being symbolic, it will also raise money for the fight against HIV/AIDS.

"I'm interested in symbols that work, that touch people, move people, encourage people," says Cleve Jones, who is

involved in the project as the chair of the AIDS advisory board of the Stadlanders Foundation, which is organizing the event. "I think symbols are important—to people, to communities and certainly to the movement."

Jones should know. He is the founder of the NAMES Project Memorial Quilt, which has become a moving and enduring symbol of the destruction wrought by AIDS.

"I seem to have a thing for big fabric," he says with a laugh. "The quilt was a clear symbol of the epidemic—the toll it's taken and also the love and solidarity that exists in the face of it. The rainbow flag has already been adopted by



Cleve Jones, left, and Gilbert Baker sit amidst the miles of fabric being stitched together to form the mile-long rainbow flag.

the gay and lesbian community worldwide. It's a peaceful, positive statement of our dedication to endure and ultimately prevail and move forward."

Gilbert Baker, creator of the original rainbow flag for San Francisco's 1978 Gay and Lesbian Freedom Day parade, is already at work, with a handful of volunteers, in a

CONTINUED ON PAGE 26

Art goes on the auction block to benefit Pride '94

by CHRIS CASH

A collection of fine art, from the European masters to Peter Max, will go on the auction block this weekend, all to benefit Atlanta's 1994 Pride celebration.

The second annual Pride Art Auction will be held Sunday, March 13 at the Sheraton Colony Square Hotel. The fundraiser is being held in conjunction with Park West Gallery, which will provide more than 300 pieces of art for auction, including original paintings, watercolors and hand-signed limited edition graphic works from more than 40 artists. Also up for bid will be original etchings and lithographs by such big guns as Cezanne, Chagall, Dali, Goya, Rembrandt and Picasso.

The 1994 auction will also feature more than 40 works from Peter Max, one of the foremost pop artists of the 1960s and 1970s,

who has evolved into a master of New Expressionism.

A passionate environmentalist and defender of human rights, Max frequently uses American symbols in his work. He recently created "100 Clintons," a multiple portrait installation used during the presidential inauguration. Max also designed the poster for the Grammy Awards this year and was named official artist for World Cup USA '94.

Park West, one of America's leading fine art auction companies, conducts auctions, including benefits, in cities throughout the United States. They have worked with groups such as the Fort Myers, Fla. Junior League, CONTINUES ON PAGE 28



Tarkay's "Lady in Red" will be among the offerings at the auction.

Pride Art Auction
will be Sunday,
March 13 at the
Sheraton Colony
Square Hotel
in Midtown.
Admission is \$5.
Preview starts
at 1 p.m., and
the auction
begins at 2 p.m.
For information,
call 662-4533.

Rainbow

Continued from page 25

Chelsea workshop, piecing together the miles of nylon fabric to form the Stonewall 25 flag.

"It's literally unfurling before my eyes," he says. "We just finished orange, and we're hemming red before we sew red onto orange."

That will finish the first third of the flag. Baker is creating the symbol in three sections. Each strip of color sits folded on a table, two feet high and four feet wide.

"It's a challenge because of the size of it," says Baker. "I've made a lot of large things, but nothing one piece solid like this."

Baker began organizing the project last fall, and the first stitches were put down by a three needle machine—the type machine that sews stitching on the butt of denim jeans—in mid January. The flag must be unfolded in

the 25-by-60-foot main sewing room to attach the strips of each color, leaving a "drift of fabric through the whole room a foot deep."

The project is of enormous proportions. Baker says he has spent "a lot of time on Fifth Avenue," trying to imagine how the flag will look on June 26.

"It's such a vertical city, and the flag is so horizontal that it's going to create an optical illusion of curving to the public," he says.

Because such a long flag will not be able to take any of the corners along the march route, it will travel only down Fifth Avenue from 42nd Street to 72nd Street. It will be the flag's first and only flight, and even Baker himself will be seeing the completed flag for the first time.

"No one will see it until that moment," he vows.

Stadtländers Foundation is the philanthropic arm of Stadtländers Pharmacy, a 60-year-old, family owned business in Pittsburgh.

It was formed last year with a \$100,000 grant to provide money for frontline HIV/AIDS service organizations. The pharmacy is footing the bill for the Raise the Rainbow project.

"Every single penny raised will go to the foundation," says Jones. "There is nothing hidden. There are lots of companies that have put on their red ribbons...but I can't think of another company that has embraced the cause of gay and lesbian liberation, embraced the symbol of gay and lesbian pride, like this one."

Organizers hope Raise the Rainbow will raise \$500,000 for the Foundation.

"We have no illusions about the size of our foundation," says Jones. "We are a small organization. But [there is a] need for additional funding at the grassroots level."

Jones says that his travels around the country produced a concern about the number of "high ticket" fundraisers promoted in for HIV/AIDS funding.

"We need to keep doing them," he says. "But they don't involve the whole community. Here, we thought, was a different approach. Let's spread it out and see if we can raise a big chunk of money."

A \$50 donation to the foundation will guarantee participants not only a spot holding the flag during its historic trip in June but also a strip of the flag itself. Jones says that "several hundred" participants have already signed up, and he urged those interested to call as soon as possible.

"We would like to hear from them now," he says. "The earlier people make reservations, the more it benefits not only Raise the Rainbow, but Stonewall 25 too."

To register for Raise the Rainbow, or for more information, call (800) NYC-1994, or send a check of \$50 or more to The Stadtländers Foundation, 600 Penn Center Boulevard, Pittsburgh, PA 15235.

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PHOTO BY IRENE YOUNG

JOANN LOULAN

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Friday, March 11, 8:00 p.m.

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Unitarian Universalist Church, 1811 Cliff Valley Way off N. Druid Hills exit, I-85

\$15.00 in Advance, \$20 at Door

Saturday, March 12, 10 a.m.-4 p.m.

Workshop: "Lesbian Sexuality and Relationships"

Colony Square Hotel, \$65.00 in Advance, \$75 at Door

Package Pricing Available: \$75 for both events purchased in advance, \$85 for both if purchased at the door Friday evening.

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C A L E N D A R

10 THURSDAY

SISTER'S TIME. An audio magazine featuring the rhythms of African women's health. 6-7pm, WRFG, 89.3 FM.

GAY GRAFFITI. Out and loud lesbian and gay radio. 7-8pm, WRFG, 89.3 FM.

DR. ALMA VINEYARD. Associate professor of English at Clark Atlanta speaks on the life and times of Harriet Tubman at Charis, 1189 Euclid Ave. 7:30pm 524-0304.

ATLANTA SYMPHONY. 16-yr-old violinist Leila Josefowicz joins the

Symphony in an all-French program, thru Sat. 892-2414.
LAUGHING MATTERS. Comedy improv troupe performs Thurs & Sat at Manuel's, 8pm. 717-4714.

11 FRIDAY

JOANN LOULAN. The expert on lesbian sex speaks about sex and relationships at the Unitarian Universalist Ch, 1911 Cliff Valley Way. \$20. Tomorrow, a day long workshop, "Enhancing Lesbian Sexuality and Relationships," at Colony Square Hotel. \$65 adv/\$75

door. Package deals available. Sponsored by 4th Tuesday (discount to 4th Tues. members) 662-4353.

SINGLES' NIGHT. No, not a chance to pick up a date, but Dance Force's salute to the solo dance artist. Agnes Scott College's Presser Hall, 8pm tonight and tomorrow. 724-9663.

CAROLE KING. A taped concert featuring highlights of the songwriter's 30-year career. 9pm, GPTV Ch 8.

U. A Hollywood party where you dress as your favorite fantasy. The theme of the evening is "Something for Everyone." 8 p.m. at Bondshakers, 433 E. Hancock Avenue in Athens. (706) 543-1555.

women's artistry in country music over the last century. 9:05pm, GPTV, Ch 8.

MILDRED HARRIS VISITS THE WREN'S NEST. Janan Henry portrays the daughter of Joel Chandler Harris in celebration of Women's History Month. 2pm.

13 SUNDAY

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.

EDER STRING QUARTET. Hungary's world-renowned string quartet performs at 3pm in the GA State Univ Concert Hall, sponsored by the Pro-Mozart Society of Atlanta. 399-8105.

GUITAR MUSIC OF LATIN AMERICA. The Hispanic Festival of the Arts continues with guitarist Héctor Garcia and others. 4pm, Presser Hall of Agnes Scott College. Pre-concert talk at 3pm on "Poetic Themes in Cuban Music." 938-8611.

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

DYKE TV. Activist television from a dyke perspective. 9:30pm, People TV. Cable Channel 12. Also airs Tues, 5:30pm.

PROJECT OPEN HAND BENEFIT. Bring a can of food and see the final dress rehearsal of the Theatrical Outfit's "Children of Jazz" (see Wed. for show details). 8pm. 872-0665.

SARAH McLACHLAN AND THE DEVLINS. Canadian folksinger performs with two brothers from Ireland. Variety Playhouse. 8pm. 1099 Euclid Ave. \$16. 524-7354.

CRIS WILLIAMSON AND TRET FURE. Mar 25. Perennial women's music artists take the stage at the Variety Playhouse, 1099 Euclid. \$16 adv/\$18 night of show. 524-7354.

ATLANTA GAY MEN'S CHORUS. Mar 25&26. Get set for a visit from Lenny (Bernstein), George (Gershwin), Steve (Sonheim) and Fats (Waller) as the Chorus hits the Grady High Stage. 8pm.

WOMEN'S MUSICAL EXTRAVAGANZA. May 7. A benefit for battered women in Norfolk, VA, featuring Karen Williams, Deidre McCalla, and Lana Puckett & Kim Person. 8pm, The Wells Theatre. (804) 392-5681.



12 SATURDAY

OUTLOOK. Radical talk for revolutionary intellectuals—feminist, Afro-centered and pro-gay radio on AM, with Alicia Banks. New time: 4pm-8pm, WIGO, 1340AM.

ATLANTA PHOENIX CAT SOCIETY SHOW. Meow! Hundreds of top cats at the Radisson Hotel and Convention Ctr in downtown Atlanta. 10-5 today and tomorrow. \$5.

THE WOMEN OF COUNTRY. Special featuring the evolution of

14 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. 10:30pm and again, Wed 5:30pm. Cable Ch. 12.

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15 TUESDAY

TUESDAY NIGHT AT THE OPERA. Tenor Cory Scott Colton hosts the Capitol City Opera in Verdi's "Rigoletto" at San Gennaro, 2196 Cheshire Br. Rd. \$45 includes dinner and wine. Hor d'oeuvres at 6:30. 633-2848.

ROGER McGUINN. Legendary frontman from the Byrds performs at the Variety. 8pm. \$12 adv/\$18 door. 524-7354.

JERUSALEM HOUSE BENEFIT. A benefit performance of the Theatrical Outfit's "Children of Jazz" at 8pm. See Wed for show details. \$15. 872-0665.

16 WEDNESDAY

POSITIVE LIVING. This locally produced show about people living with AIDS airs twice every week on People TV Ch. 12, 2:30pm and again on Sat, 10pm. Also airs on City Ch. 6, Thur 5pm.

LAUGHING WILD. Thru May 15. The Alliance presents Christopher

Durang's satirical comedy. Tu-Sat 8pm, Sun 2:30 & 7:30pm. \$20-25. 898-1127.

CHILDREN OF JAZZ. A comedy with music inspired by the short stories of F. Scott Fitzgerald is the last performance at the Theatrical Outfit's 10th and Peachtree location. Directed by Phillip DePoy and choreographed by Amy Gately. Wed-Sat 8pm, Sun. 3pm. 872-0665.

THE WHO'S TOMMY. Thru Mar 20. The Tony Award winning sensation comes to the Fox, starring former MTV VJ Steve Isaacs. Tues, Wed, Fri 8pm, Thu 5:30 & 9:30pm, Sat 2&8pm, Sun 1 & 5pm. Tickets \$10-\$36.50. 817-8700.

THE JUDDS: THEIR FINAL CONCERT. Need we say more? 8pm, GPTV, Ch 8.

PICTURED: ABOVE: Edward Serotta's powerful photos of daily life in Sarajevo are on display at the Dorothy McRae Gallery thru Apr 6.

LEFT: Sarah McLachlan performs at the Variety Playhouse on Mar 14.

BELOW: Hungary's Eder String Quartet performs at the GA State Univ Concert Hall on Mar 13.

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

SOAP. Comedy Central has the controversial 70s TV series. 2pm & 7:30pm, Mon-Fri.

DYING WITH OSCAR—THE ACADEMY AWARD MURDERS. Agatha's Mystery Dinner Theatre opens its first production of 1994 tonight with murder during the Academy Awards ceremony. Tu-Sat 7:30 pm, Sun 7pm. \$33-\$38 includes 5 course dinner and the deadly show. 875-1610.

MY CHILDREN, MY AFRICA! Thru Mar 13. The Athol Fugard play returns to 7 Stages. Wed-Sat 8pm, Sun 5pm. \$12-20. 523-7647.

PLANET EARTH INC. Thru Mar 14. Lee Bryan's fast paced musical weaves magic, puppetry and music into a variety of featured acts. Center for Puppetry Arts. 11am and 2pm. 873-3391.

WOMEN IN FOCUS. Thru Mar 19. An exhibit of women photographers at the Red Light Cafe, 553 Amsterdam. 7-9 pm.

THE LOVER. Thru Mar 20. Harold Pinter's comedy about a young professional couple and their sexual fantasies is presented at 7 Stages' Heart of Gold Theater. \$7. 523-7647.

LA BÊTE. Thru Mar 20. David Hirson's side-splitting comedy about a troupe of actors in the service of a

prince who has become infatuated with a preening, blithering phony—the beast of the title. The Alliance Theatre. Tu-Sa 8pm, Sun 2:30 & 7:30pm. 892-2414.

DRUMS AND SHADOWS. Thru Mar 20. Photographs of African-Americans from the Georgia Coast—taken by Malcolm and Muriel Bell in the 1930s—are on exhibit at Emory's Schatten Gallery of the Robert W. Woodruff Library. 727-6861.

LAGERS. Thru Mar 24. Acrylic on paper works from Sherry Zvares Sanabria at the Dorothy McRae Gallery, 3193 Roswell Rd. 266-2363.

THE TIME AT THE END OF TIME. Thru Mar 27. SAME/OutProud Theatre presents the Southern premiere of Troy Tradup's play about family, ruth, acceptance and love. OutProud Theater, 75 Bennett St. 609-9590.

THE SKIN OF OUR TEETH. Thru Mar 27. Stage Door Players presents Thornton Wilder's play of superhuman survival in the face of barbaric violence and genocide. 5339 Chamblee Dunwood Rd. Th-Sat 8pm, Sun 2:30 pm. 396-1726.

MACBETH. Thru Mar 27. Shakespeare's classic Scottish tragedy plays at the Shakespeare Tavern, 499 Peachtree. Stars Janet Metzger and Dirkan Tulaine,

who appeared together in "Dr. Faustus." Thurs-Sat 7:30pm, Sun 5:30 pm, thru Mar 27. 874-5299.

MARY CASSATT. Thru Mar 27. Paintings of the American Impressionist are on view at the High Museum.

LIFELINE: JEWS, MOSLEMS AND CHRISTIANS IN WARTORN SARAVEJO. Thru Apr 6. Edward Serotta's photos on the daily experiences of life in Sarajevo. The Dorothy McRae Gallery, in conjunction with the Atlanta Jewish Federation. 3193 Roswell, 266-2363.

RAIN. Thru Apr 16. Theatre in the Square's revival of Somerset Maugham's play about the legendary fictional character Sadie Thompson. 11 Whitlock Ave in Marietta. Tue-Sat 8pm, Sun 3&7pm. \$13-\$23. 422-8369.

IMAGES OF SOUTHERN JEWISH LIFE. Thru Apr 20. Bill Aron's photos of Jewish life in Arkansas, Louisiana and Mississippi, on display at the Schatten Gallery in the Robt. W. Woodruff Library of Emory University. 727-6861.

TREASURES FROM THE AFRICAN KINGDOM OF BENIN. Thru Apr 24. Royal treasures of brass, ivory, terracotta and wood from the ancient kingdom are on view

at the High Museum. 898-9284.

DISTURBING THE PEACE: WOMEN, SUFFRAGE & POLITICS. Thru July 16. An exhibition exploring the battles women fought to win the right to vote. Atlanta History Center Downtown, 140 Peachtree. 814-4150.

HEARTLIGHT AFFAIR. Mar 19. An evening of dinner parties followed by a Dessert Extravaganza at NationsBank Plaza's 26th floor to benefit Jerusalem House. To host a dinner, call 527-7627 before Feb 15.

CRIS WILLIAMSON AND TRET FURE. Mar 25. Perennial women's music artists take the stage at the Variety Playhouse, 1099 Euclid. \$16 adv/\$18 night of show. 524-7354.

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Art auction

Continued from page 25

the St. Louis Chamber of Commerce and Temple Emanuel in Dunwoody.

So how did the Atlanta Lesbian and Gay Pride Committee get on that list?

"I was at a Park West auction looking for a Dali, which I collect, and an announcement was made that the gallery did benefit auctions for organizations," explains Pride co-chair Richy Howard. "So I called and set it up for 1993. It's a great way to raise money for Pride and at the same time offer fine pieces of art to the community at really reasonable prices."

The Pride committee receives a percentage of the auction's proceeds. Last year's auction, where the highest bid was \$10,000 for a Goya, netted more \$6,000 for Pride.

"There weren't a lot of people at the 1993 auction because we had to postpone it due to the snowstorm last March," Howard says. "They got great prices because there weren't a lot of people bidding."

For those who have never been to an art auction, Howard says the process is simple and fun.

"All of the pieces are displayed for an hour before bidding begins. There's a cash bar if you want a soda or wine, and you stroll around and see what you like. Park West provides a catalog with information on all the art and the artists and the gallery price. If you have any questions, the auctioneer is there to answer them for you."

The auctioneer displays each piece dur-

ing the bidding. If this is the first time that particular artist's work has come up, the auctioneer will fully describes the artist and the piece and how Park West purchased it.

"They even tell you how to bid, when to jump in and how to get the best deals," Howard said. "They treat the auction like it's all novice bidders. Last year, half of the people there had never been to an auction."

Winning bids this year are expected to be between \$100 and \$5,000, with several of the works bringing more. All of the artwork is custom framed and carries a certificate of authenticity.

"With works of this fine quality being offered, the Lesbian and Gay Pride Committee benefit presents an extraordinary collecting opportunity," says auctioneer Jim Brenz.

While the Pride committee continues to pay off a \$64,000 debt from last year, Howard says money raised from the art auction will go toward the 1994 Pride celebration.

"Right now, our focus has to be on producing this year's Pride event. We know we have a creditor out there who could freeze our assets, but that would not get them what they want and it certainly would not help us. Nobody would win in that situation. We have worked hard to present them with a plan for repayment."

Atlanta's Pride '94 is scheduled for June 10-12, a few weeks earlier than usual, to allow people to attend Stonewall 25 and the Gay Games in New York City during the last week of June.

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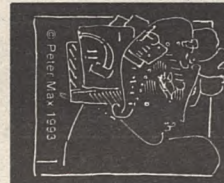
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THEATRE

THE TIME AT THE END OF THIS TIME

There is no question "The Time at the End of This Time" is a heart-wrenching, emotional roller coaster. True, it is a play without suspense, but then again, because it does deal with the impact of AIDS on a small town, the end is a foregone conclusion as soon as the play starts.

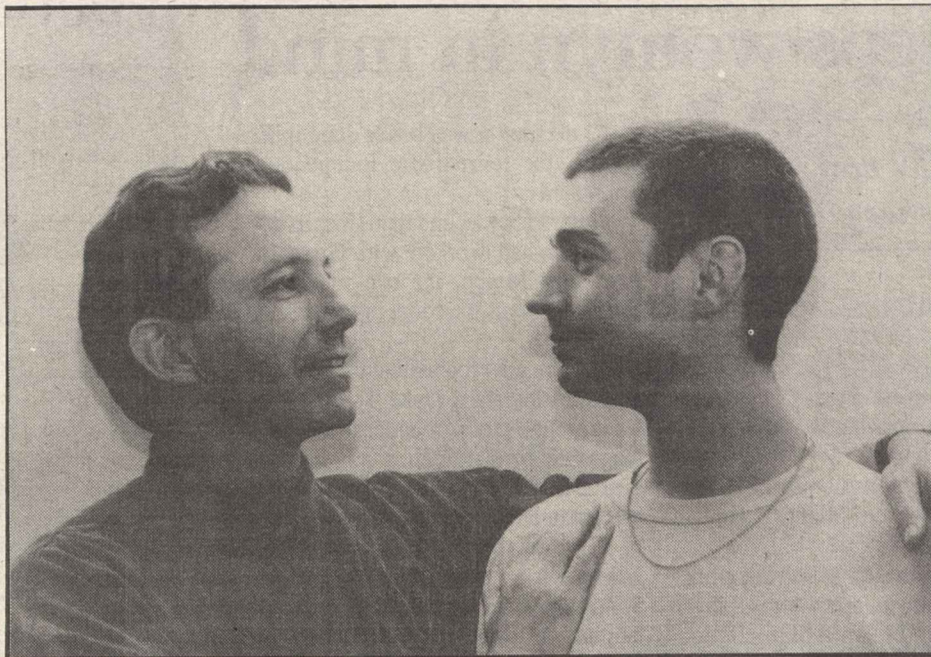
SAME/OutProud Theatre's production of the play, while having its faults, does allow the power of the piece to shine through. Troy Tradup's drama, now enjoying its Southeastern premiers at OutProud prior to a New York run, is a piece that has to touch whoever sees it. It grips us because it speaks to our fears—not so much our fears about AIDS as much as our fears of our families.

"The Time at the End of This Time" is the story of Joshua Tucker (John Fischer) who goes home to the house in the small town where he grew up. His parents, Margaret (Graciela Marin) and Jacob (Jim Braude), welcome him with less-than-open arms, though his brother Marcus (Harold Skinner) immediately understands what is going on.

Small town denizens—the same the world over—are quick to speculate about why Joshua has come home so unexpectedly. Only his onetime girlfriend, Rebecca (Emily Reily) is glad to see him back, while his best friend Brian (Mark Towers) is furious. The high school football coach always thought Josh was "light in the loafers—or should I say Nikes." The town gossips are quick to spread the word that Josh is "sick," though they're led to believe it's from a bad blood transfusion. They think this because Josh's mother is in a major state of denial. She can't accept that her son is gay and dying.

But he is.

His late lover, David (Jeffrey Laymon), is always a presence in Josh's life, always there with a kind word or a piece of advice. It is David who helps Josh deal with the frustrations



Jim Braude (left) and John Fischer play a father and son dealing with the specter of AIDS in OutProud's "The Time at the End of This Time."

his family puts forth in confronting the prodigal son.

"The Time at the End of This Time" is an emotionally charged theatrical piece. There are moments of comfort and confrontation that rile us, forcing us to remember scenes in our own lives when our loved ones may have rejected us, or when we lost a friend or lover to AIDS.

OutProud's production—featuring a cast of 12 in that very small space—mostly does justice to the play. Yet it could have been far better if it had been paced better. Director Rebecca Ranson's plodding staging seemed very confined. Granted, this may have been caused in part by Linda Burgess' claustrophobic set design, which crammed in six acting areas into very little space. Still, the play feels very static, as if Ranson couldn't figure out how to keep her large cast moving in a natural motion.

Fortunately, there are some very strong performances that

keep the show forging ahead. John Fischer as Joshua is at the center of the drama, and he handles the emotional upheaval with a moving force and shining strength. The play rests squarely on his shoulders, and he carries the burden well.

Jim Braude as Jacob and Graciela Marin as Margaret have the two thankless roles of the play, yet they do well by them. Braude underplays his role, yet he has a powerful scene with Josh in which he proves he loves his son no matter what. Marin must be the villain of the piece, unable to accept her son's impending death and its cause. She is steely cold yet understandable.

Emily Reily plays Rebecca, the girl Josh allegedly left behind (though she always knew he was gay), with a great deal of fun, probably handling in the one lighthearted performance of the

evening. Mark Towers is intense and brooding as Josh's best friend, and at the end of the play, his performance is the one that brings the crowd to its feet. The rest of the cast does a good job, with Harold Skinner, Jeffrey Laymon and Nick Danna being standouts.

Usually, one of OutProud's great strengths is its effective use of its tiny space in the TULA Arts Center. This time, however, the confining space works against the drama. If there were any way this play could be transferred to a larger venue, it would be enhanced considerably. But that's just a quibble with the production, not a major flaw.

And that should not discourage you from seeing "The Time at the End of This Time." There's such a strong play here, such an emotional moment of theater, it's worth going to see. Yes, it will punch you in the gut, but it will uplift you as well.

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TV that keeps womyn in mind

New York-based Dyke TV now airing in Atlanta and 12 other cities

by KC WILDMOON

Television—the final frontier? Maybe or maybe not, but up in New York City, some lesbians are treating it as such, launching what is fast becoming a national lesbian television program.

It's Dyke TV, and it's coming into your homes in all its culturally diverse wonder twice a week on Atlanta's public access channel, People TV Channel 12.

The brainchild of film and video maker Mary Patierno, director and administrator Linda Chapman, and activist/playwright Ana-Marie Simo, Dyke TV premiered on the Manhattan Neighborhood Network on June 8, 1993, and it's grown since then, now airing in 13 cities, including Atlanta, with more on the way.

Simo, one of the original founders of the Lesbian Avengers, hit upon the idea last fall, and the show quickly found its way with Chapman and Patierno joining Simo for the initial brainstorming.

"It was in November of '92, in the course of working with the Avengers, [that] I became aware that lesbians had no access to television, including gay television," Simo said. "It was extremely difficult to get their attention."

And media attention, Simo believes, is crucial to political organizing. She initially thought to create a media project with the Avengers but abandoned that idea because she feared the work would overwhelm the group.

"I decided it was better done independently, for journalistic independence," Simo said.

Enter Patierno, and then Chapman, both of whom had worked with Simo in the past. Last March, the trio rented studio space and began producing segments of the show.

"We're not procrastinators," Simo said.

From the start, Dyke TV was to be a weekly half-hour broadcast, done in a magazine format with a news segment, sports, health, the arts and other segments that rotated from week to week.

"One of the problems of lesbian and gay television is that it is not sustained," Simo said. "We felt continuity was important and that we had to do a weekly program from day one."

A formidable task, Simo admitted, "but we are lucky because there is a very large amount of media artists [in New York City] not afraid to say 'I am a lesbian artist.'"

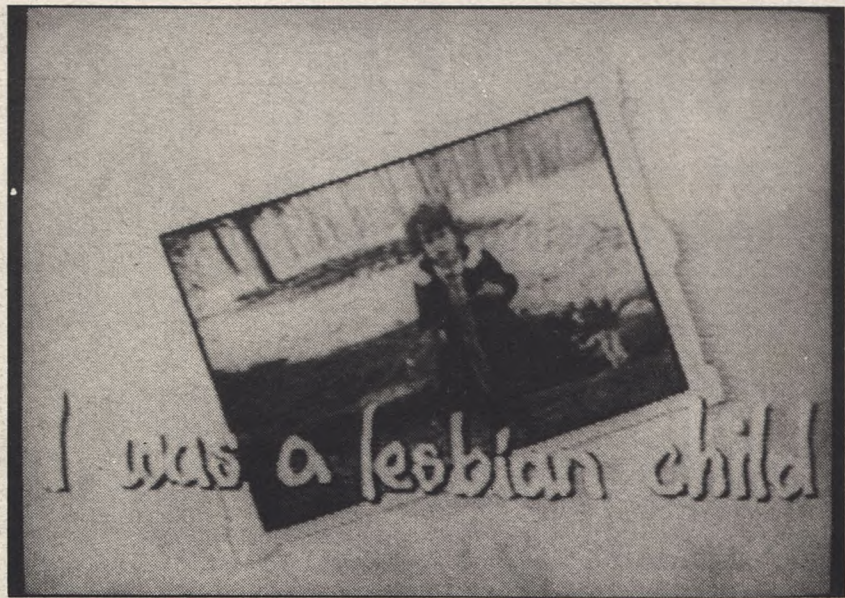
But Dyke TV hasn't stopped in New York. With stringers from all over the country sending in tapes (and the producers are always looking for more), Dyke TV is well on its way to being a national lesbian television program.

"Our goal is to make it a national program," Simo said. "We would like to make it a national network. And we are growing every week."

"We want to share the diversity and talents of the lesbian community through television," said Barbara Snell, Dyke TV's Atlanta correspondent. "I see the 90s as the time for the video 'boom.'"

And Dyke TV is in position to be a part of that boom. Already available through subscriptions, this week the show begins a 4-week trial run on a satellite feed, an option Simo hopes Dyke TV will be able to use on a regular basis in the future.

"Look at what Christian broadcasting has done with satellite networks," she said. "We will be available to 40 million



households that have satellite dishes. We have found out that a lot of the satellite dishes are in suburban areas, and a lot of lesbians live in those areas."

Dyke TV has brought segments on the repercussions of last year's Dyke March in Washington, D.C., lesbians in the military, domestic partnership, the battle over Camp Sister Spirit in Overt, Mississippi and more. Lots more. With more than 40 shows already broadcast, Dyke TV is currently on temporary hiatus, but will begin its second season at the end of March.

And to do that, more lesbians are needed from across the country.

"I encourage all visually creative lesbian artists to produce, produce, produce," said Snell, who also provides footage for "Out in Atlanta" and New Orleans' "Visual Salon." "As the airwaves expand, there will be a real need for those projects."

For more information on Dyke TV, call (212) 343-9335 or write Dyke TV, 588 Broadway, Suite 504, New York, NY 10012. To get involved with Atlanta production, call Barbara Snell at 876-0887.

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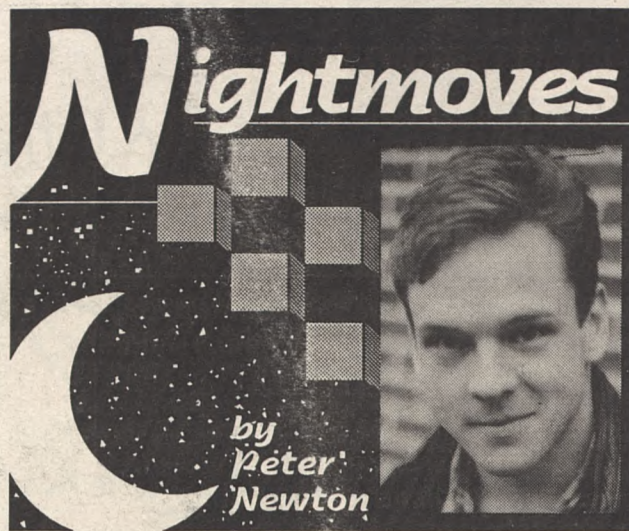
Here's the **Homage** update: For those of you just joining the program, Homage is an Atlanta institution among the bohemian tacky-is-in crowd that has recently opened a second location in the heart of Little Five Points. Doors opened quietly on Feb. 20 in the former Dr. Rib/Fellini's Pasta/Little Five Points Pub spot. Homage is giving the space back to the people, so to speak. After a series of restaurants failed, Homage is picking up on a failsafe theme: relaxed cheap gourmet, occasional music, couches, coffee tables and no neon. It's like sitting in someone's living room, circa 1969. The premiere place to mellow out.

Combine all that and more for their grand opening celebration coming our way on Thursday, March 17. Homage owner, **Meg Enns** invited a jazz trio from New York City, **Mediski, Martin & Wood**, to provide the evening's music. Enns welcomes everyone, "no matter who you are or what you are," to join in the St. Patrick's Day Jazz Bash. There's plenty of furry throw pillows and lava lamps for all. And if you think that's psychedelic, take a spin in their hanging basket chair.

If you like what you hear, Mediski, Martin & Wood will also be opening for **Colonel Bruce Hampton & The Aquarium Rescue Unit** the following night, Friday, March 18 at Variety Playhouse. The Colonel's been around the city a long time. A master musician, Hampton justifies his virtual cult following.

An evening that provides just as much musical entertainment without the crowd would be at Oxford Book's Acoustic Cafe on Pharr Road. Playing Tuesday, March 15 is **Matthew Kahler**. He's got a guitar, he's got his bongos and he definitely has a set of lungs on him. Music gets going each Sunday, Monday and Tuesday at the Acoustic Cafe. 8:30 p.m. Of course, it's always great to get there a few hours early so you can browse.

Practically across the street is **Revolution** where one can find lots of things to see and do. Performing Saturday, March 12 in the upstairs bar, also known as Jake's, is **PlainJane**. They are two women and a man. They all have guitars. Last time I checked them out, they were doing about half cover songs and half original stuff. Either way, they're a talented trio right down to their cappellas. PlainJane carry



their tunes all the way from Jackson, Miss.

Recently, I ventured across I-20 into Grant Park. I was there to do my part for the revitalization process of this transitional neighborhood. That and to get some dinner with a friend. This may not be the food column but if you want to escape the usual dining out routine, why not head over to **Grant Central**, at 451 Cherokee Avenue. It's "a clean, well-lighted place," as Hemingway might put it. They serve pizza and pasta in a comfortable, relaxed neighborhood atmosphere. We almost forgot we were in Atlanta. This is not a paid endorsement, I just like the place. So, there you have it, next time you're in the mood for pizza, beer and a date.

I've never won a nickle from the Georgia Lottery. I just wanted you to know that before we go any further. However, I'm not opposed to gambling. Your odds of winning are probably better at **Buddie's** in Midtown where they have recently moved their weekly pool tournaments to Monday night at 9 p.m. House

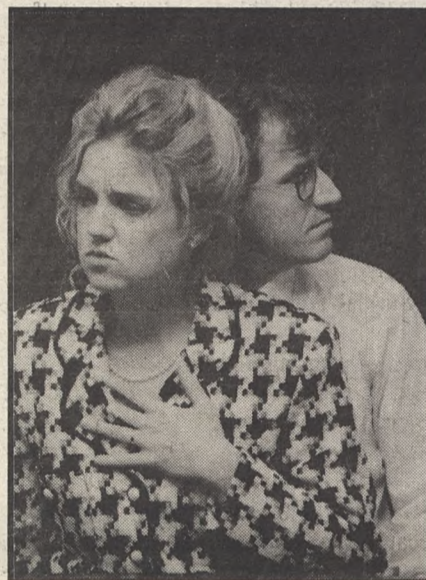
rules, double elimination. Cue ball in the side pocket. Chip, one of the managers at Buddie's, invites everyone.

After all the hullabaloo surrounding the Olympics and Tonya and Nancy, I want to stay away from nightly news for awhile. Charlie Chaplin's silent film, "**City Lights**," might be just the thing to take off that serious edge. The Atlanta Symphony presents the 1931 classic Friday and Saturday, March 18 and 19 at 8 p.m. Charlie Chaplin wrote the musical score for the film. It's an old movie with a live soundtrack, provided by the members of the ASO. Sounds like one of those unique multi-media nights at Symphony Hall. 892-2414.

7 Stages' Heart of Gold Theatre, formerly the Back Door Theater, presents Harold Pinter's play "**The Lover**" now through March 20. **Tim Habeger** directs this comedy and three other short pieces also by Pinter. "The Lover" is a play about what's expected in a conventional marriage or any marriage for that matter. But is more a play about what is not expected. Threesomes? Sex toys? Rampant cheating? This production challenges the audience to look at the animal in each of us. If you've ever had an erotic sexual fantasy or

perhaps are thinking of having one in the future, you might want to go see this play. Pinter at his best is provocative. And if this play does nothing more than provoke an argument about what it means to be faithful, then I'd say it hits the mark. Fidelity can be a funny thing.

Keep an eye on 7 Stages. Thanks to a generous grant from the Woodruff Foundation, they are planning a major remodeling of their Euclid Avenue location this summer. The Heart of Gold Theatre is an intimate space, perfect for the one-person shows they have slated for this spring. I'm glad to know they'll be around for awhile. Call for more info. 523-7647.



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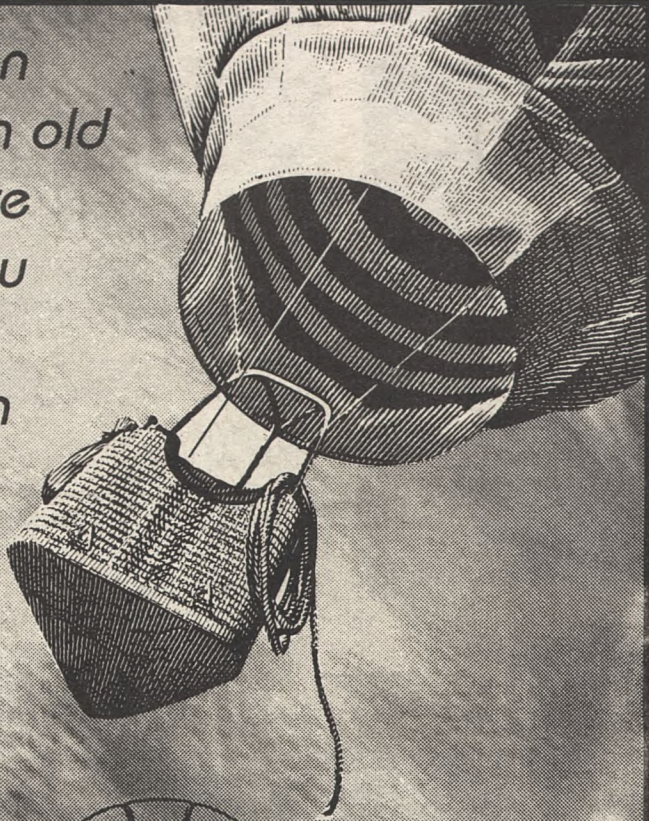
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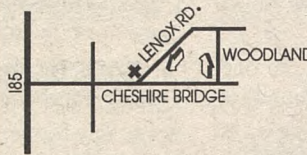
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Mon Dieu. First Brasserie au Bar now **Brasserie Le Coze** (next to Neiman's in Lenox Square 266-1440). Whatever have we done to deserve this explosion of traditional Gallic yumminess?

Foodies' tongues have been aflap for months about the fact that the owners of Gotham's tres haute Le Bernadin were going to open a restaurant in Lenox Square. Brother and sister Maguy and Gilbert Le Coze have a reputation that cuts a wide swath through America's culinary scene: fabulous food; superb service and prices reminiscent of the Reagan era.

Is neo-provincial Atlanta ready for our very own outposts of other cities' big restaurant names? Could it be Jeremy Tower and Mark Miller are next?

M. & M. Le Coze's designers have made the best of an otherwise very pedestrian single level, rectangular shopping mall space. The front of the restaurant is a sidewalk cafe that sports little round tables, handsome wicker chairs and an abbreviated menu of appetizers, sandwiches, desserts and wines. There's nothing else like it at Lenox (or in the city), and it's hard to imagine that this (albeit enclosed) patio won't soon be packed by folks who want to see and be seen as they sip a little Chablis and nibble on a slab of paté.

Next comes a very French looking bar—dark banquettes on one side, traditional dark wood bar on the left. Perfect for the same sort of endeavors as the patio, just with a little more privacy.

The dining room is equally classic in design—white tile floors, banquettes running down the middle and both walls of dark wood inset with yellow and blue tiles, beaucoup mirrors and brass accents. Light fixtures and palm/fern pots are well executed art nouveau, elegant and efficient all at once. Were there not windows in the back overlooking the parking lot, it would be mighty easy to imagine that you were in Paris.

Most of the menu is textbook traditional, too. Grilled salmon with bearnaise, Toulouse duck confit cassoulet, creamy onion soup and coffee eclairs are the stuff of legend. Properly prepared, they make hard hearts melt with joy and unfortunately clog the arteries that feed those hearts. So for those who live in fear of succumbing to cardiovascular crud, there are a few less traditional offerings:

CONTINUED ON PAGE 34

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Restaurant Listings

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 32

Dusty's - Winner of Taste of Atlanta '91, '92. North Carolina-style pork, Brunswick stew, chicken, beef and ribs. Lunch and dinner 7 days. Catering any occasion. Prices \$2.75 & up. 1815 Briarcliff Rd • 320-6264

Einstein's - Featuring massive salads, pastas, sandwiches & more. Located 1 block from Piedmont Park. Free parking. Sun-Thur 11:30am-1am, Fri & Sat 11:30am-2:00 am. 1077 Juniper St • 876-7925

The Flying Biscuit Cafe - Eclectic, healthy, hearty cuisine. From virtuous vegan to downright decadent. Breakfast all day. Lunch and dinner specials. Cappuccinos, espressos, and organic coffees. Closed Mondays. Cash only (for now). Right in the heart of Candler Park. Takeout welcomed. 1655 McLendon Ave. • 687-8888

Galette Espresso-oh! - European coffee café with cozy seating and delectables. Coffees from around the world. Gift Baskets. 985 Monroe Dr. at 10th St. • 724-0204

Gallus - Atlanta's first Gay restaurant serving the community since 1974. Will reopen soon. 49 Sixth Street • 892-8983

Harry & Sons - Harry & Sons puts the fun back in dining in Virginia-Highland. "Good Bites," elegant entrees, great desserts and Atlanta's only Satay Bar. Mon-thur 11:30-10:30, Fri 11:2am. Sat/Sun open at 10. 820 N. Highland • 873-2009

Hot Pepper Thai Cuisine - Outstanding and authentic flavors, friendly service, casual atmosphere, moderate prices, Hot Pepper Thai has it all waiting for you. Closed Mondays. 2257 Lenox Rd. • 320-1532

Jalepenos - Authentic Mexican food with a wide variety of dinner entrees. Great Margaritas. Daily lunch specials. Serving 7 days a week. 11am-11pm. 2520 Piedmont Rd • 237-0500

Luna SI - The magic of Paul Luna. Creating lunch 11:30-3:00, dinner 6:00-11:00. Late night fare. 1931 Peachtree Rd • 355-5993

Mambo - Voted "Best Cuban Restaurant" by Atlanta Magazine for '92, '93. Specializing in seafood with a Cuban accent. 1402 N. Highland • 876-2626

Marra's Seafood Grill - Serving Atlanta's finest seafood for 14 years. This "Best of Atlanta" restaurant offers only the freshest fish and shellfish—grilled to perfection or prepared with eclectic creativity. Lunch M-F 11:30-2:00, Dinner 7 days a wk.

Lunch \$3.-10, Dinner \$8-14
1782 Cheshire Bridge Rd • 874-7363

Mary Mac's - Featuring traditional southern cooking. Atlanta's best fried chicken and fresh vegetables. Don't miss the GA peach cobbler or the Carter custard. Mon-Fri 11-3, 5-10. Closed Sat/Sun. 224 Ponce de Leon Ave • 876-1800

Mick's - Mick's restaurants have been serving our community for 20 years. Check the hours and menu of the Mick's nearest you. Lunch & Dinner, and don't forget those decadent desserts.

Mid City Fish - This casual neighborhood meeting place feature peel-your-own-shrimp, priced right crab cakes and a "we shuck 'em - you suck 'em" oyster bar. Happy hour daily 5-7 p.m. Dinner daily 5-11 p.m. 961 Amsterdam Ave • 872-0114

Milano's Pizza & Subs - Complete menu, salads to desserts. Common Market Place. 736 Ponce de Leon • 874 CALL (2255)

Palisades - Intimate dining in a European atmosphere. The finest meats, seafood, pastas and desserts make this a satisfying and romantic interlude. Sun-Thur 6-10, Fri/Sat 6-10. Mon-Fri 11:30-3, Sun 11-4. 1829 Peachtree Rd N.E. B'head • 350-6755

Peasant Restaurant & Bar - Casually elegant dining in the heart of Buckhead. The Peasant Restaurant & Bar is the perfect place for a relaxed Sunday Brunch. 3402 Piedmont Rd. NE • 231-8740

Pelle Auberge - Featuring 18 years of family directed qualified service in an elegant atmosphere. Continental French restaurant with a wide range of Food Festivals. German specials on Fri & Sat. 2935 North Druid Hills Rd. • 634-6268

RJ's Uptown Kitchen and Wine Bar - Enjoy Chef Scott's creative menu while dining on the patio or in the cozy dining room. Largest selection of wines by the glass in Atlanta. Great vegetarian selection. Dinner 7 nights. Brunch Sunday. 870 N. Highland Ave • 875-7775

San Gennaro - The home of award winning fried calamari and hearty Italian cooking. Two patios allow dining "al fresco." Full service bar. Separate banquet facilities available. 2196 Cheshire Br Rd • 636-9447

Surin of Thailand - Chef Surin brings to VA-Highland the cuisine for which his native country is famous in his own superb style. Mon-thur 11:30-10:30, Fri 11:30-11:30. Sat/Sun open at 12. 810 N Highland Ave • 892-7789

EAT

A FOOD COLUMN BY GARY KAUPMAN

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 33

shrimp and seaweed salad, a ceviche of grouper and poached skate.

But all the latest surveys suggest that Americans are tired of worrying about what they eat. And even if my cholesterol goes up when I eat celery, I'll be damned if I'll order shrimp and seaweed salad when there are mussels marinere on the menu.

A huge plate of those mollusks are simply the best that I've ever eaten in Atlanta—no small accolade after the gushing spell that I had about the mussels at Brasserie au Bar just last week. These—bathed in a cream and shallot-rich broth—are tender as butter and packed with flavor. Close to perfection.

Buttery, too describes the ethereal layer of light-as-air mashed potatoes that tops a bunch of tiny cubes of perfectly seasoned lamb in a rich gravy. The menu calls it French style shepherd's pie, but it bears little resemblance to the dry and boring takes on the form that we're used to from the other side of the English Channel.

A thick slab of onion tart is, once again, sweet, creamy and exquisitely spiced. A friend who had the creamy onion soup used almost identical words to describe its pleasures.

Unfortunately, none of this happiness comes cheap. That bowl of mussels was a

cool \$12 at lunch, though two folks could share it, a couple of dreamy, chewy rolls and a small salad and be happily fed. Most lunch entrees are similarly priced; at dinner they go up a couple of bucks. In line with current fashion, salads and appetizers are pricy (\$5-10), but portions are generous and quality impeccable.

I sampled way too small a portion of the menu to assume that everything which exits the kitchen is equally close to perfection. But I'll wager that the winners far out number the duds.

Service (on the restaurant's third day) was a mite tentative but friendly and appropriate. The welcomes and good-byes feel solid and genuine.

How will all this transplanted urban grandness play ensconced in the concrete confines of the South's oldest (but oft-remodeled) mall? Will le tout Atlanta be comfortable sipping vintage Bordeaux and gobbling cassoulet only yards away from the proletariat masses that regularly mob Lenox? Or will those masses throw budgetary caution to the winds and claim Brasserie Le Coze as their own? Or might the two mix and mingle?

Only time will tell.

But while the big bucks crowd and the wanabees are trying to decide if the place suits them, you should get yourself to Lenox and check it out.

Have you tried the chocolate truffles? Great Scott!

Check out the sinful deserts Chef Scott has cooked up like truffles, creme caramel, chocolate melt cake... just don't spoil your appetite for dinner.



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OUTLINES

MATT MONTGOMERY

Age: 26

Hometown: Reynolds, Ga

How long in Atlanta: 3 years

Occupation: Associate editor of the Emory Report, a weekly for faculty and staff

Last Book Read: "A Matter of Life and Sex" by Oscar Moore

Hero: My mom

Relationship: Single, but dating



Matt Montgomery knew he was gay long before he knew he was Japanese. Raised in a small town near Macon, he grew up in a white Southern middle class community. Because he "felt that way on the inside," Matt assumed that was who he was.

"I didn't realize I was a different color until I was 10 when the teacher asked us where we were from," he explained in his soft Southern accent. "I told her I was from South Carolina. She said, 'No, you're not from South Carolina,' but I insisted. I was very upset because I'd always thought of myself as a Southerner, nothing else. I went home and asked my mom, and she explained that I was Japanese-American. I stayed confused for the longest time. I'd have to ask her over and over if I was Japanese or Chinese."

But when Matt reached adolescence, he became very aware of his color. And so did his schoolmates.

"Everything in my high school was very segregated," he explained. "We even had separate proms and separate prom queens. I was able to move between those two worlds, I was accepted by the black kids and the white ones—but only up to a point. It was understood that I could not date anyone from either side. That's the point at which it would have become scandalous."

Fortunately, he says, not being able to date girls was not a huge problem. He knew very early in his life that he was gay.

"I was even out in elementary school," he said. "Not in a sexual way, but I was a sissy and knew it and I didn't care that people called me that. In fact, I even played it up. My best friend and I would hold hands and skip down the hall."

But again adolescence put a halt to innocence. Already feeling isolated because of his color, Matt decided to temper his sissy side.

"In seventh grade, I wanted to be popular but I couldn't be because I wasn't part of the

clique. I thought maybe it was time to stop being so flamboyant, to adjust myself. I had been a happy kid, happy with myself, but I had to change. That was when I first really felt oppression."

Matt, however, is not bitter. He seems quite content with all the things he is—Southern, Japanese, gay. He's had the advantage of being a part of several different cultures and all of them, he believes, will help contribute to his dream of becoming a writer.

"That's really the most important thing to me," he admitted. "I want to become the best writer I can become."

He is currently enrolled in graduate school at Georgia State studying English literature. And although he reads a lot of gay literature, Matt is also a big fan of the work of black women.

"Black women's writings are very similar in theme and tone to gay literature. They both talk about trying to find a voice for what otherwise is a silent group. I relate to them so much. Toni Morrison is my favorite. Her language is so beautiful."

Matt explores his own differentness, and his own culture, in his work. He is writing short stories and recently submitted a piece to the GSU literary magazine.

"I have had a different experience from white gay people. I was different looking, I was the only Asian-looking person I knew in school except for my sister, and I was different on the inside. Sometimes my stories don't come out on paper as particularly gay or Asian, but the themes are there—being isolated and not having much of a voice."

While he is studying to be a writer, Matt works in public relations to keep paper and pencils bought. He had worked at several different colleges in the state before taking his current job a few months ago as associate editor of the Emory Report, a weekly newspaper for the faculty and staff of Emory University.

MEET THE AUTHOR



E. LYNN HARRIS

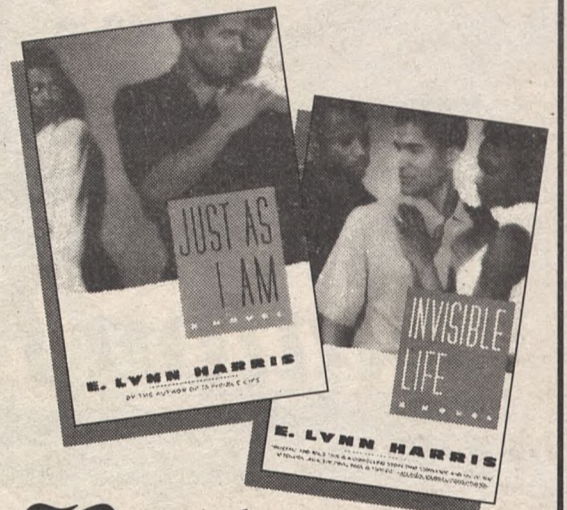
is a former computer sales executive with IBM and an honors graduate of the University of Arkansas. He achieved success as a writer with his first novel *Invisible Life*. Its combination of romantic storytelling and controversial issues such as race, bisexuality, and AIDS won Harris many fans. His new novel is *Just As I Am*.

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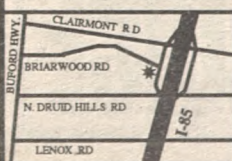
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s She Better in Bed?: We've just finished reading Rita Mae Brown's "Venus Envy" and we are *not* impressed. Seems like Rita (who turns 50 this year) keeps going back over the same old stuff in the same old way. These are the '90s, woman. Get a clue. Though we have to admit that we did like the last 40 pages or so, where she spends some time in a sometimes torrid, sometimes touching fantasy triangle with Venus and Mercury. Then we spotted an article in Chicago's Windy City Times in which writer Garbo says of Rita: "Although she's a famous novelist, Brown is best known as Girlfriend to the Stars." Dish can only hope that her lovemaking is better than her prose.

Lesbian Angels: Speaking of famous women, we're indebted to our friend Elmo for sending us a 1980 obituary for Dr. Pearl Kendrick of Grand Rapids Michigan. Dr. Kendrick (along with her "co-worker and lifetime friend Dr. Grace Ederling") developed the vaccine for whooping cough back in 1939. Lest you be not old enough to remember, that disease killed as many as 6,000 children a year—more than all other childhood diseases combined—before the vaccine was invented. Now given that Kendrick and Ederling also lived together and that the two of them steadfastly avoided the glare of public exposure, Dish and Elmo are both forced to assume that they were lesbians. Which makes us pretty damn proud. Especially when bigots continually sheath their homophobia in the guise of caring for "the children." Dish doubts that Anita Bryant or Nancy Schaefer has ever saved the life of even one kid; these two dykes saved hundreds of thousands. Kinda' gives you a new angle on "family values."

Dish

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



Dish thinks this new use of the Darwinner fish symbol is truly evolutionary.

Dish's Top 5: Dish had insomnia a few weeks ago and thought Late Night with David Letterman would be the perfect sleeping aid. But guest Richard Simmons' queenliness and Letterman's discomfort with it kept us wide awake. Don't expect to see Simmons on the show again anytime soon. Why? Here are Dish's Top 5 Reasons Richard Simmons Will Never Appear on Late Night Again. #5: Richard's thighs look better than Dave's; #4: He wore the same pink workout suit

Dave had just bought; #3: Paul Schaefer cruised Simmons a little too long during "Sweating To The Oldies"; #2: Richard refused to accept Dave's cigar; and the #1 reason Richard Simmons Will Never Appear on Late Night Again is—Dave doesn't have a girlfriend to come on the show to let viewers know he really is straight.

Buckhead Hospitality: Dish is indebted to the women of Hospitality Atlanta who sent us their calendar of events which includes "Erotica Nights" every Sunday at the Metropolis. Sounds way cool to us, but then we saw the address—1923 Peachtree Road. Hey, girls, that's in Brookwood Hills, which is one of the whitest (and most heterosexual) bastions of power in town. Dish loves the idea of a bunch of hot, black dykes getting down right in the front yard of some of the cities most snobbish power brokers. Check it out.

You Tell Me That It's Evolution: Weary of all the "fish" (read, Jesus) symbols you see adorning the rear ends of cars belonging to Christian folks? Well, we are, so we were most pleased to spot a car recently at Hot Pepper Thai with its own unique version of the fish, complete with feet and "Darwin" instead of "Jesus" inscribed inside. We rushed back into the restaurant and asked the owner where she had purchased the plastic icon. A friend from California had sent it, and she had no idea where Dish could buy one. As fate would have it, a few days later while reading the Utne Reader, we came across an ad for the "Darwinner." You can have one for yourself, and help spread "the greatest theory ever told," by sending a mere \$6 to: Darwinners, 6671 Sunset Boulevard, Suite 1525, Los Angeles CA, 90028.

MARCH 10 - MARCH 16, 1994

The new moon in Pisces arrives on Friday, March 11, bringing us closer to all the wonderful sensual energy of spring. Finish up any winter projects that are still hanging around, do your taxes and get ready for a burst of new life and excitement. New moons are perfect for starting projects or more productive habits.

ARIES, as Venus moves into your birth sign on March 8, you can count on wonderful experiences coming your way. This is also an excellent time to take inventory of all your talents, gifts and abilities. Do this to build your confidence, not your ego. **TAURUS**, now that Mercury is moving forward in your 10th house of career and public relations, you may find it much easier to get projects at work moving ahead. Communications with others will be smoother as long as you are clear in your own mind. **GEMINI**, Mercury is direct and heading back to your 10th house of career. Do you have a career, or are you working a job just to keep things going? If you are involved in a career path, is it yours or someone else's dream? Give it some thought.

CANCER, have you been thinking about moving to a different career path? Are you somewhat bored with your work or your

STARSIGNS

job? What is it you have always wanted to do? What do you get really excited about? You can easily start moving in a new direction. **LEO**, how about getting in touch with a few of those friends that cross your mind but who you don't see or talk to very often. Maybe there is a reason someone is on your mind right now. They might have important information for you or need to talk. **VIRGO**, with jolly and expansive Jupiter moving through your second house of personal finances and material resources, you might be tempted to take a little risk with your money. Jupiter can be overly optimistic, so be sure you have expert guidance.

LIBRA, with Venus in your seventh house of close personal relationships, someone meaningful and delightful could be moving in your direction at this very minute. Are you ready for love and sharing? This could be the start of something good. **SCORPIO**, with Mars joining Saturn in your fifth house of creativity, passion and play, you may feel driven to create

great masterpieces and take off for the beach at the same time. Harness these wonderful energies, complete projects and then go for fun. **SAGITTARIUS**, Mars is now in your fourth house of home and relations with family and loved ones. You may have to make a short trip to visit parents and help out a little, or you may need to invest more time and effort in your home base.

CAPRICORN, life in the fast lane can be fun and exciting, but you also need time to nourish your spirit and feed your mind. You also need time in the great outdoors to heal and regenerate your body. Use this week to take really good care of yourself. **AQUARIUS**, how are your finances? If you are a little vague about having your needs met or about living a lifestyle of abundance and well being, then you may want to rethink your approach to money and having a steady flow to meet your needs. Happy birthday, **PISCES**. With Mars in your birth sign, you may feel more like being super active and getting out there with life to have fun with good friends. Remember, you have a deep spiritual reservoir to draw upon whenever you need an extra boost.

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) 473-0095 to order charts or arrange a chart interpretation.

The Mostly Unfabulous Social Life of Ethan Green... Eric Orner 2/94

A concerned Charlotte has pried the nearly catatonic Ethan from his living room sofa, site of the recent suspension of his romance with Doug, for a cup of coffee at the Nellie Deli...

MEANWHILE, AT THE HOSEICE ACROSS TOWN;

SWEETHEART, I CAN HANDLE THE SLOPPY, "I'LL NEVER FALL IN LOVE AGAIN" ETHAN. THE PEEVISH, EMBITTERED ETHAN, OR THE DESPERATELY & PATHETICALLY ABANDONED ETHAN. BUT THIS—THE ENTIRELY MOROSE ETHAN... WELL THIS I SIMPLY CANNOT STAND. YOU GOTTA EMOTE BABY, OR YOU'RE GONNA DRIVE ME INSANE! HERE... EAT SOME SCONE. C'MON, CHEW... SWALLOW...

GIRL, WHEN'R YOU GONNA CHECK OUT OF THAT LOVE LIFE & CHECK INTO THIS ONE.

I WILL NOT THINK ABOUT ETHAN, I WILL THINK ABOUT VOLUNTEERING. I WILL NOT THINK ABOUT ETHAN, I WILL THINK ABOUT VOLUNTEERING. I WILL NOT THINK ABOUT ETHAN, I WILL THINK ABOUT VOLUNTEERING.

... So at 3:30 I've gotta bring lunch to Juan.. He doesn't like it any earlier. Gives him trouble sleeping at night... At 4:30 I'm gonna help Dawn bathe... At 5:15 I'm due at Paul's. At 6:00 I'd like you to visit Lev... Lev.. shit... I'm so sick of these fuckers dying on me

JESUS ANTON, THAT'S A HELLVA THING TO SAY...

SORRY DOUG JUST A LITTLE COMPASSION FATIGUE... ALL BETTER NOW... OK AT 7:15 WE NEED TO MEET

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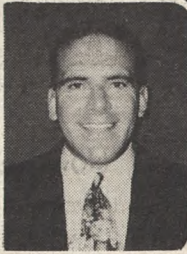
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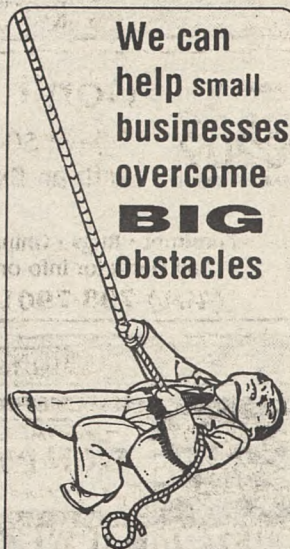


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Ourstory

Margaret Fuller

"A woman may be in love with a woman"

Margaret Fuller, writer, educator, feminist and rebel, was born at Cambridgeport, Mass., in 1810. Fuller's life included several complex, deeply emotional relations with other women—such as English feminist Harriet Martineau and New Englanders Caroline Sturgis and Elizabeth Peabody. Fuller's birth had been a disappointment to her father, who, wanting a son, decided to give his daughter the education then reserved for males. Her unusual learning made Fuller intellectually mature beyond her age, but took its toll in much physical and mental anguish.

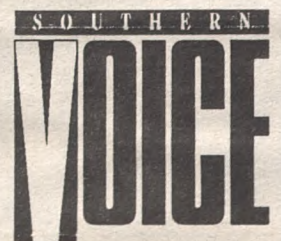
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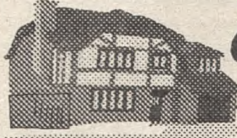
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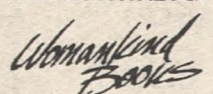
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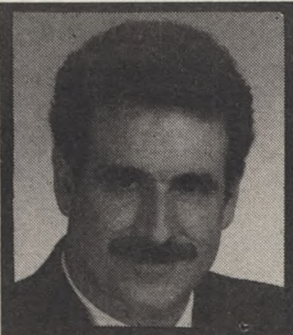
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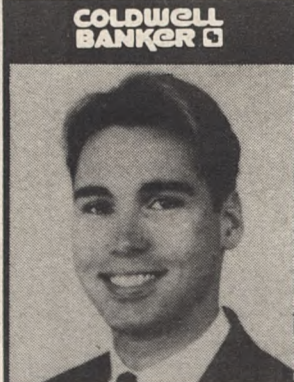
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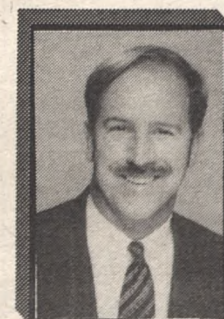
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Light-skinned GBM 34, with stocky build seeks GWM 25-40 masculine with stocky build for friendship/relationship. ☎ 1200

Good-looking, masculine GWM, 32, 6'2", 185 lbs, br/gr, bodybuilder, bottom, HIV+, healthy. ENJOYS movies, working out, quiet time and being in good company. ISO similar gdlkg, masculine, relationship-oriented top guy between ages 28-38. No heavy drinkers, drug users, bar flies. Serious replies only. ☎ 1199

Horny, hairy cowboy/bearcut, 34, 5'8", affectionate, intelligent, sexy, seeks hairy non-smoking dominant cowboy/bear w/brains, libido, facial hair. ☎ 1197

GWM, 39, 5'7", 140, versatile leather playmate willing to try almost anything once as long as it's safe. Looking for morning/daytime action. ☎ 1209

Versatile GWM 39 seeks kinky daytime f... buddy for all types of kinky hot sessions. Expand my limit. ☎ 1208

Curious BM, 29, 6', 175#, laid back, runner's build, seeks tall masculine aggressive WM, 25-35, for relationship. No fats or fems. Serious only. ☎ 1206

Versatile young working, slim preppie WM wanted by GWM as exclusive live-in companion with home duties. Must have car. ☎ 1205

Boish GWM 30 still believes in fairytales and happy endings, seeks GAM prince. Must be masculine, honest and caring. ☎ 1216

GWM, 30, 5'10", 175#, brown/hazel, Auburn graduate student, seeks Zeusman-type buddy for rough weekends. Tobacco/drug free only. ☎ 1217

ATTRACTIVE WM 37 seeks other HIV+ WMs for cuddling & watching movies - most of all friendship. No bar types please. ☎ 1213

All work, not enough play. GWM couple, 28, 5'8, 145, bl, gr and 34, 6'0", 175, br, br, seek new friends for hot/safe fun. ☎ 1210

GWM, 28, smart, handsome, outgoing...loves travel, reading, Little Five, music, workouts, healthy cooking. ISO 23-35...dates, maybe more. ☎ 1218

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

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6' top, 30's GWM, 170 lb, brunette, HIV+, seeks 6' blond bottom for friendship (classical music, movies at Screening Room...). HIV+ ONLY. ☎ 1156

Masculine WM, 33, gdlkg, hairy, private, seeks attractive, ultramasculine, private black man for very private, masculine activities. ☎ 1191

GWM, HIV+, very healthy. 5'10", 160, brown, blue, late forties. Successful, trim. Attractive, looking for someone to share life's exciting & unpredictable journey, non-smoker. ☎ 1190

Masculine, intelligent, muscular, Italian, young looking GWM, 47, bl/br, 165, 5'7", leather bottom seeks masculine endowed HIV-, leather top. ☎ 1179

Into bodybuilding? Well-built 35yo GWM, 5'10 1/2", solid 190 lbs, seeks similar for friendship, workouts and safe/hot fun. ☎ 1184

Unconventional - Nonconforming, GBM - Bewitchingly Attractive, seeks very masculine GWM or Hispanic top, relationship-minded for romantic and eventful times. ☎ 1178

GWM, 40's, youthful, fun, likes music, gardening, long mornings under heavy quilts, hiking & hot tubs. Seeks sincere, intelligent laughing men. ☎ 1169

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Shy at first, 6'2" bld/blu GWM seeks romantic monogamous relationship with tall/shrt non-fat/fem GWM w/Blk/As/Lat 20-35. "I love strongly, steadfastly, & exclusively." Serious romantics only! ☎ 1181

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GWM, 42, 5'9", 160, Gray/Blue, ISO GWMs 35-45 for friendship, possible relationship - enjoys movies, dining in/out. ☎ 1171

VGL GWM 33, 5'8", 145 lbs, bl/br, smooth, masculine, work out, swimmer's body, prof, romantic, non-smoker, seeks same for dating, possible relationship. ☎ 1170

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Handsome, intelligent, humorous, Top WM, 30, 6'1", 210 seeks humorous BM with big, beautiful butt, smooth skin. No fats, fems. ☎ 1165

Top GWM, 35, 5'7", 135 lbs. Br/Br/beard seeks bottom GWM for monogamous relationship. No smokers/barflies/one nighters. ☎ 1163

2 easy going to be this goodlooking, 5'10", 160, 30" Levi's for hot boys & men 30339, 30080, 30001. ☎ 1161

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GWM, 33, HIV-, brn/blue, 180 lbs, muscular build. Wanted - GWM 40s, HIV-, hairy chest, moustache, endowed top or versatile, relationship oriented. I'm a great catch! No fats or fems. ☎ 1031

GWM, 29, brn/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

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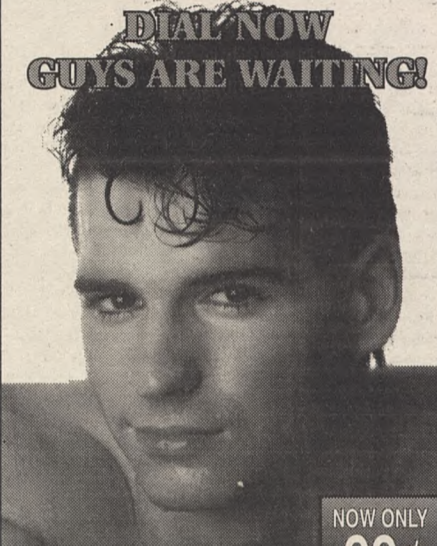
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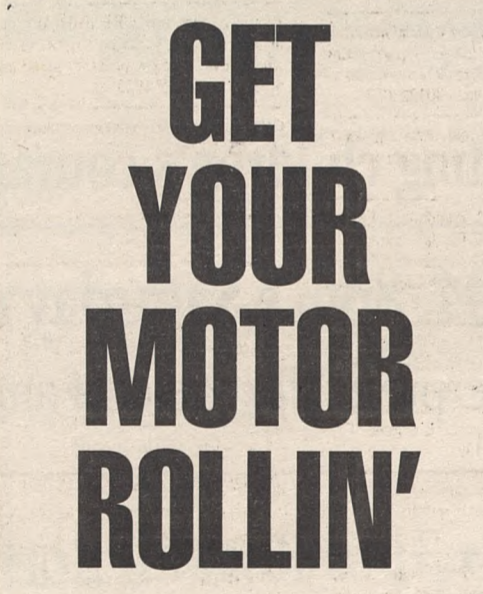


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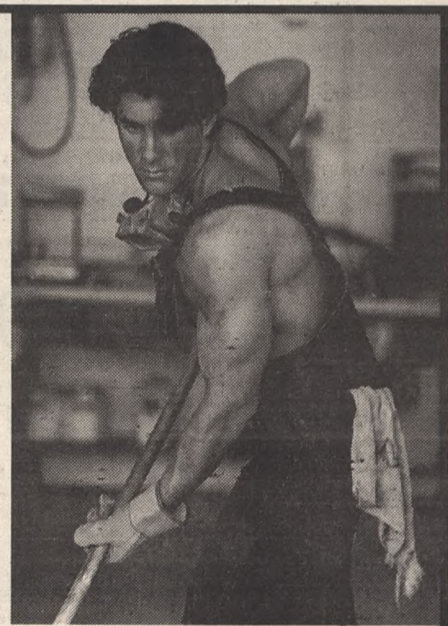
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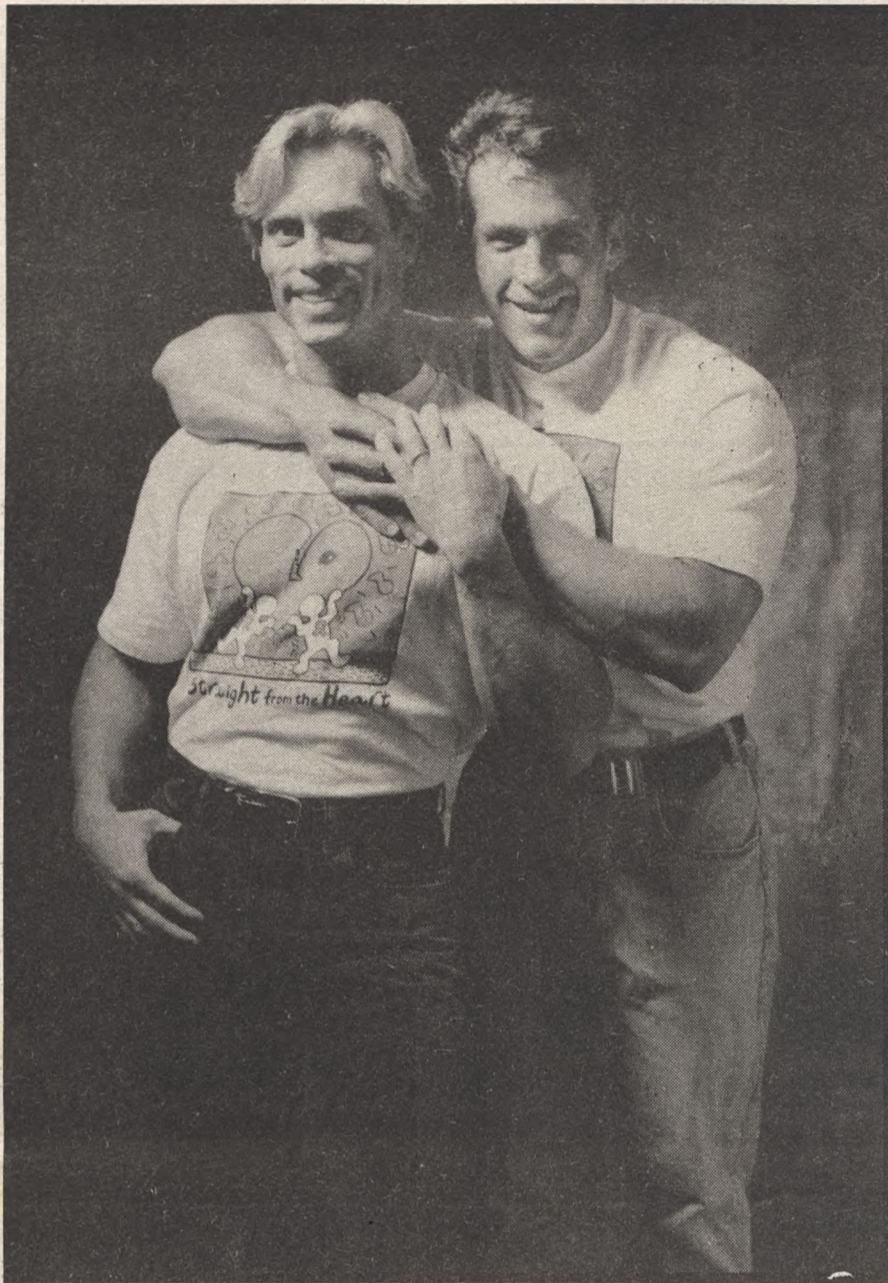
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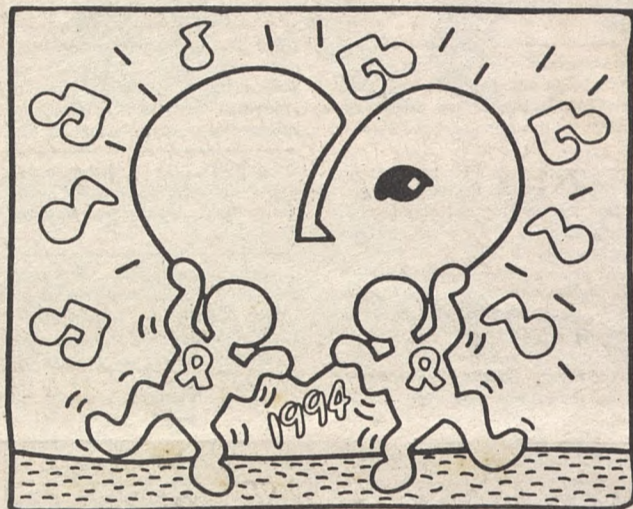
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