

S O U T H E R N

# VOICE

TAKING PRIDE IN OUR CULTURE

MARCH 24 - MARCH 30 / 1994

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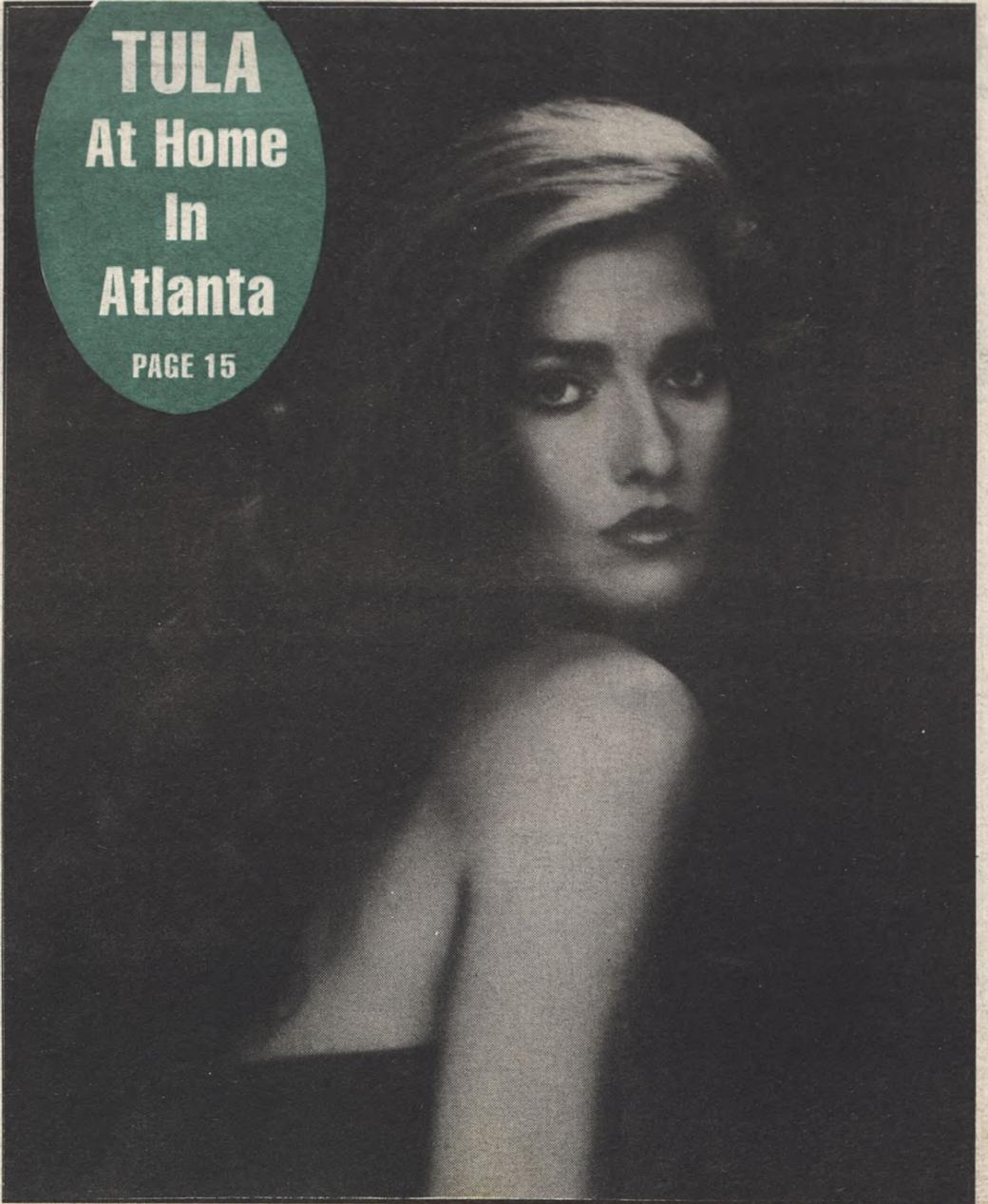
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## The Living Memorial

*The initial phase of construction begins this spring on John Howell Park, the first park in America dedicated to those lost to AIDS*

by CHRIS CASH

Virginia-Highland is one of the trendiest, and busiest, neighborhoods in Atlanta. Restaurants and retail stores are packed; parking is a pain. Yuppies, buppies and guppies stroll the sidewalks, browsing and dropping big bucks. Children dressed in Osh Kosh B'gosh hold on to their parents hands and lick low-fat cones. Everyone looks healthy and happy and eager to buy.

But there is another side to Virginia-Highland, one that has nothing to do with the latest dish from the hottest new chef or the best buys on designer sweaters. John Howell Park, just a few blocks away from the center of all the consumer madness, is soon to become the first public park in the United States dedicated to the memory of those who have been affected by HIV.

A ribbon-cutting ceremony on April 30 will mark the first phase of construction, the installation of the Contributors Walkway. The walkway, formed by a series of brick pavers with names of contributors inscribed on them, will wind throughout the park and surround a commissioned sculpture, slated for construction in 1995, which will serve as a memorial to lives lost to AIDS.

"It was really Julie Hamilton's idea," explains Rick Porter, project manager for the John Howell Park Project. "She saw the NAMES Project Quilt in 1987 and decided Atlanta needed a place to memorialize the lives of people lost to AIDS. So she started LAMP (Living AIDS Memorial Project) toward that end."

Now a joint project of LAMP, the Virginia-Highland Civic Fund and Volleyball Atlanta, John Howell Park represents a partnership of some very diverse groups of people. Porter, a gay man who is HIV-

positive, works on a day-to-day basis to realize not only Hamilton's dream but also the dreams of the other two groups who are very involved in the planning of the park.

"LAMP wanted to have the first public park tribute in the country to lives affected by HIV, Volleyball Atlanta wanted a world-class arena in which to play and the neighborhood wanted a beautiful park for themselves and their kids. John Howell Park will have all of that," Porter explains. "That's what John was all about—bringing people together."

In the summer of 1988, Howell, a member of the Civic Fund and a staunch supporter of the revitalization of what was then known as Virginia Avenue Park, died from AIDS.



John Howell

Atlanta City Councilwoman Mary Davis requested that the park be renamed in Howell's honor, making it the only public park in the country to be named for an openly gay man. At the official dedication in 1989, a rainbow flag draped the sign until its unveiling, and LAMP planted flowers around the sign facing Virginia Avenue.

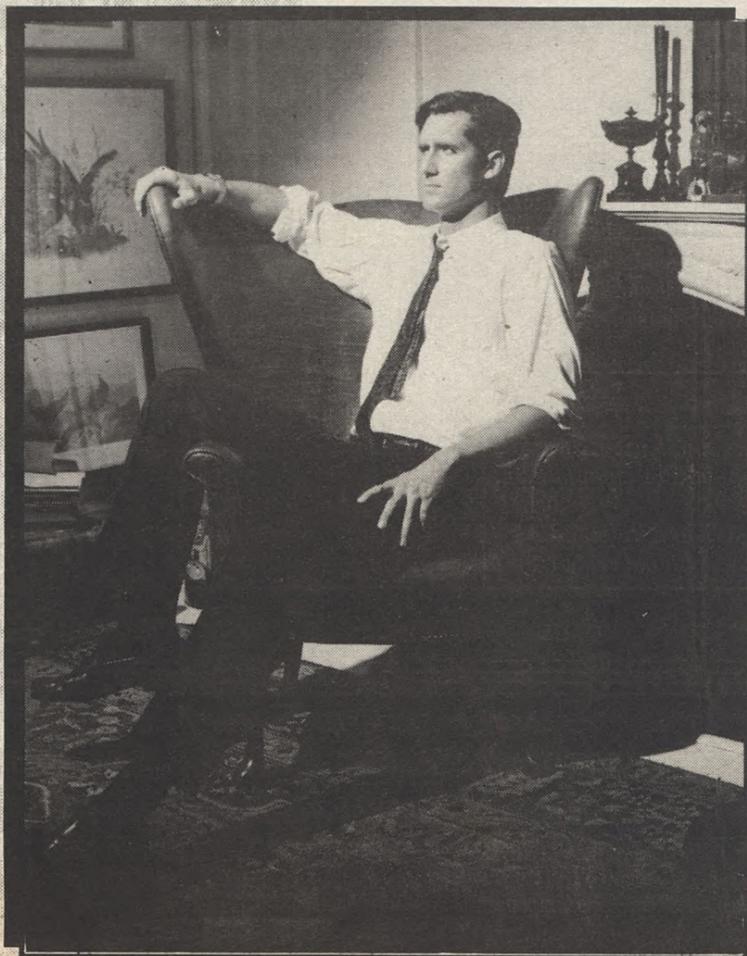
"LAMP wanted a place where people could sit and reflect, maybe even plant something if they wanted, to replace in a sense the lives we were losing to AIDS," said Hamilton. "We didn't know exactly

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that's their problem."*

*Glenda Jackson*



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The Gay & Lesbian Community*

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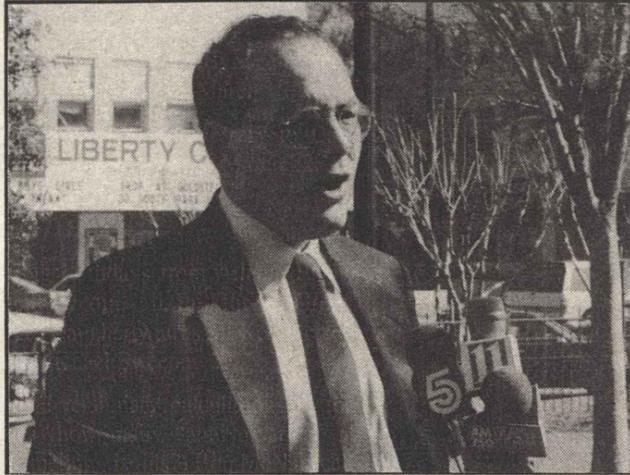
## Report calls Cobb County a hotbed of hate group activity

*County leaders urged to target extremists, not law-abiding gays and lesbians*

**Marietta**—An extensive report on hate group activity reveals that the Ku Klux Klan, Nazi skinheads and other racist, anti-Semitic and anti-gay groups have made the Cobb County their base of operations, with little resistance from county officials.

And since last August, when the Cobb County Board of Commissioners passed a resolution condemning homosexuality, the report found that harassment against gays and lesbians has increased in the county that J.B. Stoner and Ed Fields and a host of other white supremacists and hatemongers call home.

Walter Reeves, co-chair of the education and outreach committee of Neighbors Network, which produced the report at the request of the Cobb Citizens' Coalition, took the commissioners to task for targeting gay and lesbian people while ignoring KKK and Nazi activity,



Walter Reeves of the Neighbors Network unveiled the report last week.

including recruitment of Nazi skinheads in the county's public schools.

"It was clear to us that the official action of a government authority singling out a specific class of otherwise law-abiding citizens had great ramifications in a county where this level

of hate group activity occurs," said Reeves at a press conference last week at which the report was released.

Noel Lytle, co-chair of the Cobb Citizens' Coalition, which formed last summer to counter the commission's anti-gay/lesbian stance, said he found the report "shocking and appalling."

"Rather than condemning a portion of its peaceful citizenry, the commissioners should have been condemning the activities of these often violent hate groups,"

Lytle said. "The people who argue for white supremacy and contend that the Holocaust never happened are the same people we saw on Marietta Square last summer holding 'Praise God for AIDS' signs."

Calling on the commissioners to speak out

against the hate groups' activities, Lytle said, "Cobb County is our home. All that we ask is that our home be made safe, not only for gay residents, but for all residents."

The Neighbors Network's report, titled "In the Shadow of Hatred," details the Cobb activities of KKK leader Ed Fields and others, as well as the newer development of violent Nazi skinhead groups. The report shows the connections these groups have to one another, as well as to international ultra-right groups in Britain and Germany.

Pointing out that at least 16 leaders of various KKK and Nazi factions were observed at the commission's public hearings and at rallies against gays and lesbians in Cobb County last summer, the report concludes that the Cobb commissioners' actions signaled a tacit approval of their activities.

"Whether or not people agree with something is not the issue," Reeves said. "The issue is the irresponsibility of public officials grandstanding...in a county where hate group activity is so rampant. It has created a situation that can only lead to harassment and violence...Pandering to the politics of hatred

CONTINUES ON PAGE 18

## Queer Nation/Atlanta decides to call it quits

*Group cites low attendance, other commitments by members*

**Atlanta** — After nearly four years of street activism, the members of Queer Nation/Atlanta decided last week to call it quits.

"We continued to have low attendance, and a lot of the members were focused on other commitments," said spokesperson Dave MacDonald. "It feels like an appropriate closure for us right now."

Started as part of a loosely-organized national movement, Queer Nation/Atlanta burst on to the scene in October 1990 with its bold slogan, "We're Here, We're Queer, Get Used To It." It targeted a straight Midtown sports bar, Jocks 'n Jills, with a kiss-in and released a report card on then-Mayor Maynard Jackson, giving him an "F" for keeping his promises to the lesbian/gay community.

Many gays and lesbians in the assimilationist camp found Queer Nation's in-your-face approach disconcerting. But the Atlanta chapter's insistence on using peaceful demonstration, based on the philosophies of Martin Luther King Jr., was equally controversial among people who thought the group

needed to be more radical. Even Queer Nation chapters in other cities criticized the approach.

"There were some groups that were angry at us because we weren't angry enough at our oppressors," MacDonald said.

Queer Nation reached its zenith in 1991,

*Queer Nation reached its zenith in 1991, when it took the lead in protesting the firing of gay and lesbian employees by the Cracker Barrel restaurant chain.*

*Several members of the group were arrested during sit-ins at Cracker Barrel restaurants in Lithonia and Union City.*

when it took the lead in protesting the firing of gay and lesbian employees by the Cracker Barrel restaurant chain. Several members of the

group were arrested during sit-ins at Cracker Barrel restaurants in Lithonia and Union City. A DeKalb County jury acquitted the Lithonia protesters, prompting prosecutors in Fulton County to drop charges against those arrested in Union City.

Despite the demise of Queer Nation, the members say they plan to stay involved in the Cracker Barrel fight, working through the Boycott Cracker Barrel Coalition and the Buy One Campaign, which encourages people who support lesbian/gay rights to buy a share of stock in the company.

"[The Cracker Barrel fight] has taken on a life bigger than Queer Nation," MacDonald said.

The most lasting legacy of Queer Nation may be the community leaders it produced — people who got involved in the gay movement through the organization and went on to other positions. Among them are GAPAC lobbyist Larry Pellegrini and Jeff Cheek, who served as gay/lesbian liaison to former Fulton County Commission Chairman Michael Lomax.

And though Queer Nation may be gone, MacDonald said a network still exists that will allow people to be pulled together for direct action if events warrant.

RICHARD SHUMATE

## Hit-and-run blamed on gay stickers

**Roswell**—A Cobb County man was nearly run off the road on Georgia 400 last week, apparently because the driver of a white Ford pickup truck didn't like the gay bumper stickers he saw.

Tony Vicari was on his way to work on March 15 and had just turned onto northbound Georgia 400 from I-285 when he noticed the truck tailing close behind.

"I was going with the flow of traffic, so I got into the other lane," said Vicari. "This person got on my tail in that lane too. I got back into the fast lane and sped up. I was going 95 miles per hour, and this person was on my tail at 95 miles per hour. So I slowed down."

Vicari's pursuer slowed as well, staying as close as a foot from his rear bumper. Eventually, the truck pulled alongside Vicari's car, and Vicari saw the driver laughing.

"I was honking my horn, and he started coming in at me, swerving more, trying to ram into me," Vicari said. "He meant to ram me into the [retaining] wall, but he didn't."

Instead, the truck's bumper caught Vicari's wheel well and ripped his front bumper from his car. Vicari was uninjured and managed to get the truck's license number. He reported the hit and run to Roswell police, who told him a detective would be assigned within a week but that an arrest would not be made for probably three weeks.

Vicari believes that his gay-positive bumper stickers—"homophobia is a social disease" and others—incensed the truck's driver.

"The cop told me I was asking for trouble [with the bumper stickers]," he said. "But you can't be intimidated by people. I've been told by everybody to take them off, but you're torn."

For now, Vicari says he'll leave only a rainbow sticker on his car—but the rest will be gone.



Tony Vicari

## Pride gets more time to settle with T-shirt maker

**Atlanta**—A Fulton County judge has given the Atlanta Lesbian and Gay Pride Committee and a T-shirt maker additional time to negotiate a settlement of a \$65,000 unpaid bill.

Last week, a lawsuit filed over the debt reached the docket of Fulton County Superior Court Judge William H. Alexander, but the judge granted attorneys' request for more time to negotiate a settlement before hearing the case.

"We were prepared to go to trial," said Carolyn White, the Pride committee's attorney. "But the judge has given us more time to work out the settlement. And we feel confident we can work out a settlement."

White and an attorney for Screenpeace, which made the official 1993 shirt, met privately with Judge Alexander on March 14 before he granted the delay.

Screenpeace filed the suit against the Pride committee and its 1993 co-chairs, Skip

Marklein and Paul Stone, last fall when the committee failed to pay a \$65,000 bill for T-shirts for last year's event. In July, the committee reported a loss of about \$50,000 for the annual event, due largely to less-than-anticipated merchandise sales and sluggish fundraising efforts.

While fundraising efforts have been continuing since Marklein and Stone resigned, replaced by Richy Howard and Donna Narducci, no monies have been paid to Screenpeace pending resolution of the lawsuit.

Bart Hardison, co-owner of Screenpeace, said he had not spoken with his attorney since the two parties appeared at court, but that he was hoping for the best.

"I took out a personal loan to do this," Hardison said. "It has crushed me financially over this one deal."

Hardison said earlier negotiations have been unsatisfactory, including a proposal to

drop Marklein and Stone from the suit and a payback amount of less than the original \$65,000.

"I don't see how they can do that," he said. "[The \$65,000 amount] doesn't even include attorney fees or interest. It's left a bad taste in my mouth."

Hardison did say that he believes this year's committee appears to be better organized.

"It sounds more professional," he said. "They've got some pretty good ideas for raising money. It seems a little bit better planned, and that's good. All I can do is hope they do real well this year and they can pay me off."

But unless the Pride committee's latest offer satisfies him, Hardison says the issue will be Judge Alexander's to decide.

"Until they can come up with what we feel is a reasonable offer, we're going to court," he said.

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## Custody fight with grandmother prompts sex charges, couple says

Lexington, NC—A lesbian couple facing charges that they sexually abused their daughter say the child's grandmother instigated the case in order to get custody because she disapproves of their relationship.

Shirley Edwards and her partner, Donna Madren, have been accused of kissing the genitals of their 2½-year-old daughter. They face first-degree sex offense charges, which carry a maximum penalty of life in prison. They also are charged with hitting the girl and biting her on the leg.

Madren, 34, and Edwards, 26, claim the charges, which they deny, are being used by Edwards' mother, Elaine Vanzant, in an attempt to gain custody of the little girl. Madren says the case began stewing last fall when Edwards told her mother of her sexual orientation.

"It's pretty dirty tactics," said Edwards' attorney, Jeffrey Koenig.

Vanzant, who has temporary custody of the girl, says the charges have nothing to do with the fact her daughter is a lesbian.

"I could care less who she sleeps with," Vanzant said. "All I care about is my granddaughter and her welfare."

The case is similar to a Virginia case, where a judge ruled that a grandmother was more fit to retain custody of a young boy than the child's lesbian mother, says the cofounder of a gay-rights group.

Both women vehemently deny that they sexually abused the girl.

"I might be gay, but I'm not a perverted person," Madren said. "There are a lot of times when I sit at the house and

wonder why, what have I done to these people. I just don't understand it."

Edwards has been in jail on \$75,000 bond since both women were arrested on Jan. 11. Madren's family bailed her out after 26 days.

A social services report to the court said the girl told a babysitter that Edwards and Madren "kiss her 'kitty kat' and they are mean to her." The child was examined by a local physician who found no evidence of sexual abuse but did see some fading bruises.

"There is something strange about the case," said Jennifer Brock, Madren's attorney. "Typically, there are all kinds of doctors and tests done."

"It boils down to some statements of a 2½-year-old child without any medical documentation," Brock said. "I believe there are better ways to try to extract the information from a young child, experts in the field. None of that's been done with this child."

Vanzant says she believes her granddaughter.

"When I asked her about it, she told me who did it without a blink of the eye," she said.

Madren, who says the store she owns has been broken into and that she has been shot at since the charges were brought, said it's her love for her partner that has kept her fighting the case.

"I would not go through what I have gone through and continue to go through if I did not love her," Madren said.

ASSOCIATED PRESS

## Gay candidate loses Florida runoff

Ft. Lauderdale, FL—With the city's gay/lesbian community split between candidates, an openly gay man has lost his bid for a seat on the Ft. Lauderdale City Commission.

Cary Keno, the straight incumbent, beat Ken Wolf, his gay challenger, in a runoff March 8 by a 61 percent to 39 percent margin at the end of a highly contentious campaign. Wolf had led after the first round of balloting, but a runoff was held because no candidate received a majority.

Keno had courted the gay/lesbian community since his election in 1992, and during the campaign, he placed an ad in a gay

publication saying that "I can't help that I am heterosexual. I was born that way." The day after the election, in which he received significant gay/lesbian support, he was pictured in a photograph in the Ft. Lauderdale Sun-Sentinel, waving a rainbow flag.

But Wolf's supporters claimed Keno was at the same time trying to appeal to conservative voters in the city with anti-gay fliers that featured a picture of Wolf superimposed over the face of another man with his arms around other men clad only in underwear.

FT. LAUDERDALE  
SUN-SENTINEL

## Compound Q trial leader dies at 32

Ft. Lauderdale, FL—Paul Sergios, an author, filmmaker and crusader in AIDS research who led an underground trial of Compound Q, died March 6 from AIDS complications. He was 32.

Sergios, a Fort Lauderdale native, was active in a successful effort to expedite U.S. Food and Drug Administration approval of new drugs for life-threatening diseases and helped to gain legal access to promising drugs before they were approved.

His account of that struggle, "One Boy at War, My Life in the AIDS Underground," was published in April 1993.

He graduated from the University of Southern California with a double major in film and psychology and landed a job in the development department of a Los Angeles film production company. He later moved to San Francisco to work for an ad agency. Within months, he learned he had contracted HIV. He was 22.

Sergios talked his way into the first AZT drug study, even though he didn't meet the criteria. He made contacts with top researchers around the world to learn about promising drugs.

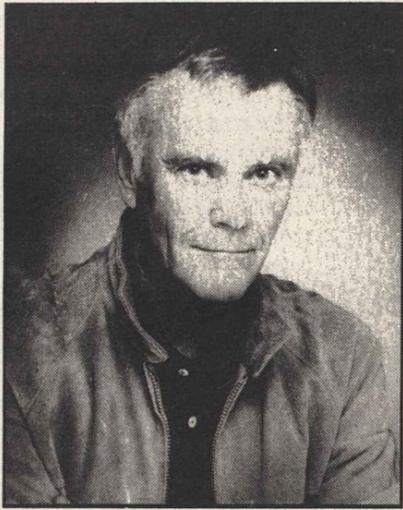
He returned to South Florida to participate in a drug trial at the University of Miami and to be near his mother, Madeline Sergios, a local artist.

When he read about a Chinese drug called Compound Q, he called China and talked a doctor into selling him some. Fearing the normal drug approval process would take years, he recruited volunteers for an underground trial working with North Miami Beach physician Robert Mayer. The trial, which followed a strict protocol, expanded to four cities, including New York, San Francisco and Los Angeles, and its results, which were mixed, were presented to an FDA panel.

ASSOCIATED PRESS

## "Wacko" Says No Parade If Queers March:

Organizers of Boston's St. Patrick's Day parade have said they will cancel the parade rather than be forced to abide by a court order to allow an Irish lesbian/gay group to march. "They're not going to shove something down our face that's not our traditional values," said John "Wacko" Hurley, president of the South Boston Allied War Veterans Council. "A lot of people in the Irish community are frankly embarrassed by the veterans' behavior," said David O'Connor, of the Irish-American Gay, Lesbian and Bisexual Group. Boston Mayor Thomas Menino has said that the city will sponsor the parade next year, and it will include the gays. U.S. Supreme Court Justice David Souter, who handles emergency appeals for New England, refused a request by the veterans' group to intervene.



Dick Sargent says he'd be proud to tell the world if he had AIDS.

against CommunitySpirit, sending out press releases implying that the long distance service embezzled money. Additionally, TNC has started its own gay/lesbian long distance carrier, calling itself Pride Network. CommunitySpirit has signed a new contract with Kansas-based Americconnect, which allows CommunitySpirit more autonomy to create its own services. "Finally we can put together a program our people deserve," said Jeffrey Vitale, CommunitySpirit's president.

**Burr's Family Sues For Estate:** The family of Raymond Burr has filed a lawsuit contesting the late actor's will, which left his entire estate, estimated to be worth around \$32 million, to his longtime companion Robert Benevides. Niece Minerva Burr claims that Benevides "unduly influenced and persuaded" Burr to cut the family out of the will. But Burr's attorney, John Hopkins, says that none of the three wills he prepared for Burr during the last 20 years included any sizeable bequest to family members.

**Washington Senate Warns Against Hate:** Just a week after the Washington state Senate killed a bill that would have outlawed discrimination against gays, the senators overwhelmingly approved a resolution condemning such discrimination. The sponsor of the gay rights bill, openly gay Rep. Cal Anderson, said he had hoped for more out of the session, but that the Senate resolution sends the right message. "I think what this is saying is that we're serious about this issue, but couldn't get it together this year," Anderson said. The resolution, approved by a voice vote, specifically condemns the campaigns waged in Oregon and Colorado to restrict the rights of lesbians and gay men.

**Zimbabwe Police Are After Gays:** The British weekly Capitol Gay has reported that police in the southeastern African nation of Zimbabwe have launched a campaign against gays. "We are going to arrest them," Home Affairs Minister Dumiso Dabengwa told Zimbabwe's Daily Gazette on Jan. 24. "It is illegal in this country." Dabengwa added that police are "anxious" to arrest gays. Police have already raided the homes of several members of the Gay and Lesbian Association of Zimbabwe.

**Anti-Gay Incidents Drop In Six Cities:** The National Gay and Lesbian Task Force's annual anti-gay violence report shows that such incidents declined in six surveyed cities over the last year, but NGLTF anti-violence project director Martin Hiraga says that "anti-gay violence still pervades the country." "Whether reports of anti-gay incidents are up or down, anti-gay violence remains an epidemic that is out of control," Hiraga said. The number of anti-gay incidents reported to gay and lesbian service agencies in Boston, Chicago, Denver, Minneapolis-St. Paul, New York City and San Francisco declined 14 percent, the report found.

**And...The Christian Action Network** is criticizing the United Way, claiming the organization donated money to help bring "homosexual" textbooks into schools. United Way's donation to the Bay Area Network of Gay and Lesbian Educators went to provide anti-discrimination materials...Lawmakers in Wisconsin are opposing a plan by the University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee to establish a **gay studies course**...**Leslie Perez**, a transsexual, has forced a runoff in an election to choose the head of Harris County, Texas' (Houston) Democratic Party...**Jeffrey Dahmer** told "Dateline NBC" that he still feels the compulsions that caused him to kill, dismember and cannibalize men and boys...and **David C. Sobelsohn**, a former law professor and legislative aide in Michigan, has been named Chief Counsel for Legislation and Public Policy by the Human Rights Campaign Fund.

### Former "Bewitched" Star Says Cancer Has Spread:

Dick Sargent, the openly gay actor who played Darrin Stephens on "Bewitched" from 1969 to 1972 and was diagnosed with prostate cancer 4 1/2 years ago, says the disease has spread and he's close to death. "I don't know how much longer I have and nobody can predict it," he told "Entertainment Tonight." "I don't have AIDS. I am HIV-negative. But if I did, I would wear that badge as proudly as everybody else who has it."

### CommunitySpirit Cancels Contract:

Gay long distance service CommunitySpirit has cancelled its long distance contract with Trans National Communications, claiming that TNC failed to fulfill contractual obligations. TNC has responded by launching a smear campaign

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## Fair to address HIV housing crisis to be held this Saturday

Atlanta—As HIV/AIDS organizations have continued to extend services, options for the growing number of individuals who need shelter have failed to develop with adequate urgency.

It has been estimated that more than 25 percent of the homeless population in Atlanta is living with AIDS, or is HIV-positive. In response to the need for more housing options, several community HIV/AIDS organizations—The AIDS Survival Project, Jerusalem House, AIDS Legal Project and AIDS Education Services for Minorities—will sponsor an HIV Housing Fair on March 26 at the Grady Infectious Disease Center from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m.

"We feel helpless when trying to refer people who call us to a place where they can sleep tonight, or to an apartment that they can afford next month," said Mark King, director of the AIDS Survival Project. "Even with medical care we [providers] can all, with some

assurance, send someone to Grady and feel like their needs are going to be met. With housing, there's no phone number to call...It is a crisis in the city of Atlanta."

When calls asking for help do come in, the options are bleak. They range from getting on a waiting list at Jerusalem House to locating a "friendly landlord" who will provide a room at a reduced rate for people with HIV/AIDS.

"Beyond that, we're groping around in the dark," King said. "You could probably add up all of the rooms available in Atlanta for people with AIDS and come up with a number under 100."

Atlanta's housing problem was thrown out as a top priority last fall during a housing congress, "Housing Works," which was sponsored by the AIDS Legal Project.

The upcoming Housing Fair will help current providers and potential ones to network, identify specific needs and locate the funding

to fulfill them.

"Hopefully it will give us all a clear picture of what is out there," King said. "And, unfortunately, what it will probably accomplish is just to show what a bad job we're doing providing real housing opportunities for people living with AIDS. At that point it will probably be a call to action, a wake-up for the community."

People with HIV/AIDS will be able to declare their needs related to housing, as well as find out what options, if any, are available. There will be displays and exhibits from housing providers that have programs in place.

Another important function of the fair is that of needs assessment. A panel discussion will take place between housing providers and those with access to funding, namely representatives from the Ryan White Fund and Housing Opportunities for People With AIDS (HOPWA).

HOPWA, a federally funded program for major cities, started last year. Atlanta's HOPWA money is administered through the city of Atlanta and is allocated through Ryan White.

King, who serves on the HOPWA allocations committee, said that last year there were so few housing programs in Atlanta that a relatively small percentage went to fund actual housing projects. Much of the money went to general AIDS service providers.

"That was a year ago," King said. "As I understand it, a lot more requests have come in [this year] for actual housing programs... We will have people at this fair participating in discussions and in needs assessment who are directly connected to this HOPWA money. We want to send them a real clear message that HOPWA must fund housing."

JAMES FITCH

# LIVE YOUR DREAM WHEN YOU OWN A MERCEDES!

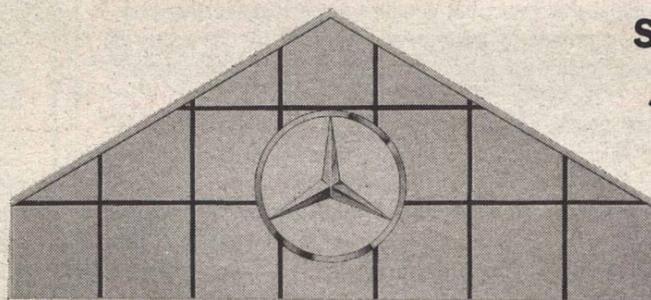


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Turn off the lights and gather 'round the campfire, boys and girls, for some stories guaranteed to chill you to the bone.

High on a hill in downtown Atlanta stands an imposing old building. Built in 1889, its limestone walls and gold-domed top dominate the square on which it sits. For most of every year, its halls are quiet, the silence broken only by the steps of tourists and the staff that maintains its business.

But every year, for three months, the sleepy humdrum of activity is disturbed by the most horrific of spectres and apparitions, demons and ogres, all shouting and tossing things about the chambers of the old building, pontificating and posturing—creating an inferno that Dante himself could not have adequately described.

And in the end, by the time their three-month haunt is over and they return through the crack in the veil between here and there, they have changed our way of life. Their laws and bills and acts have found their way to the Official Code of the State of Georgia, and we, mere mortals we, must abide by them.

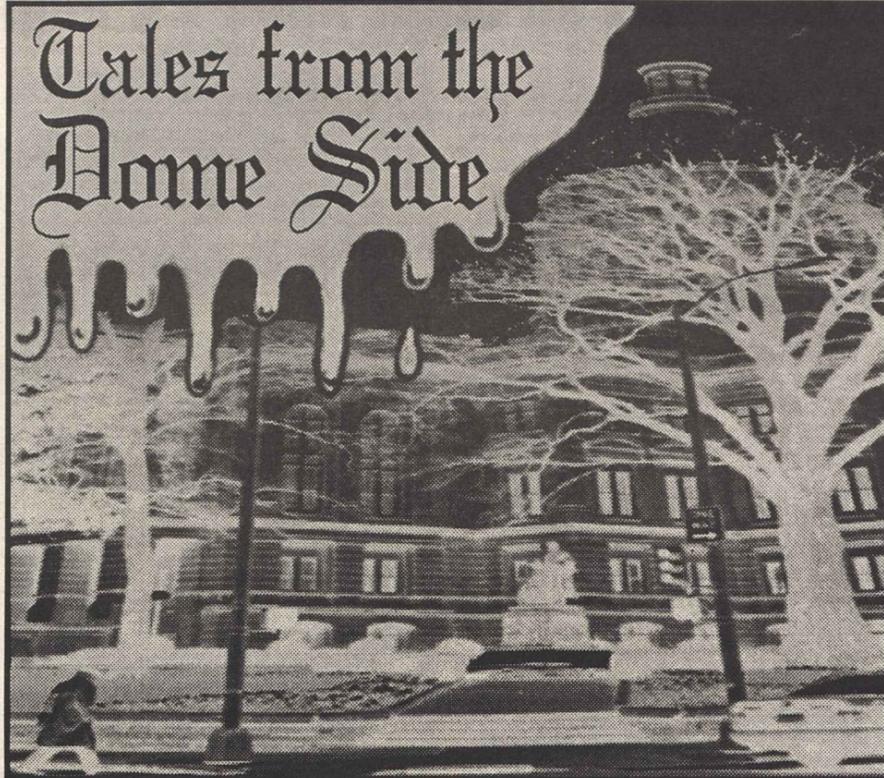
Two hundred and thirty-six of them congregate in that building each year. Some remain anonymous, identifiable only by their actions, an invisible poltergeist secretly spiriting away pieces of the lives of Georgians by the light of day. Others, however, we know by name.

Take, for example, one Charles N. "Judy" Poag. On one occasion, Poag announced that he had once been hexed by an Indian chief, and on another he urged his fellow spooks to pass a bill allowing a moment of reflection in the public schools because "we've got to do something to get rid of the boogeyman." Just who Poag believes is the boogeyman remains uncertain, although once he complained that "homosexual reporters" had made far too much of an issue out of an incident regarding one of his brethren and a novelty apron that had a penis attached.

Poag told his listeners, during a debate on a crime bill, that he knew "all about these things because I used to be sheriff for a while before people found out."

Found out what? Poag didn't elaborate. He's now running for governor and even sent a letter to a gay lobbyist—one of the brave men and women who roam the halls every year trying to influence these hobgoblins—asking for his help in attaining that position.

It might be tempting to laugh at the inanity of it all, but the mysterious workings of the



annual haunt have, or threaten to have, a severe effect on Georgia's citizenry. Like the day when consensual sex between teenagers almost became a felony and they actually debated whether pregnancy was sufficient "proof of fornication" to put a teenaged girl in jail.

And lest you take these frightening creatures too lightly, hear now the tale of Brian Joyce.

Joyce is from the county that's home to Georgia's magnificent Cloudland Canyon and, until last year, the women's music festival known as RhythmFest. Still, Joyce urged those confused about the meaning of the catch-phrase "family values" to "just come to my county."

This same Joyce argued in favor of a bill to require doctors to spell out to patients the details of any surgical procedure they perform—most specifically abortion—before performing any procedure. Joyce, who said that he had been a "sidewalk counselor" for a number of years, said he thought the bill would be better for women who want to undergo an abortion than screaming and yelling at them.

And if that weren't enough from Joyce, he also tried to have a law enacted that would have allowed juries to disregard the law if

they felt the perpetrator had a good enough reason to commit the crime. He agreed that such a law could allow for abuse, but Joyce said that "you have to have faith in Georgia."

Fortunately, much of Joyce's shenanigans fell by the wayside, as did a bill to create an undissolvable marriage (except if one of the parties involved engaged in "homosexual conduct"), another that would have allowed religious tracts to be posted on school walls and yet another that would have banned "Satanic" designs for tattoos. However, a bill to stop ministers from sexually harassing and abusing their parishioners was halted, on Valentine's Day, after pressure by, well, ministers.

For two hours one stormy afternoon, the denizens of the haunted hallways debated whether hybrid wolf-dogs should be considered domestic or wild animals. Finally the issue was decided. They were domestic animals because to deem them otherwise would infringe upon people's personal rights to have pets of their own choice.

What? People can choose their pet but not their lover? Yes, it's true. That argument was put forth by the very ghosts who oppose your right to love whom you choose.

The crowning moment of hypocrisy this year may have come from Billy McKinney.

Yes, the very McKinney who created such a stink when Atlanta tried to enact domestic partnership measures and joined a lawsuit saying the city had no home rule right to do so. McKinney opposed a law that allowed the state to regulate nude dancing but prevented local governments from doing so. Why? Because, said McKinney, *he is a strong proponent of home rule.*

McKinney was later honored by his fellow haunts, who named a bridge after him, citing his "commitment to the interests of Georgia's disaffected citizenry."

But the madness was not confined to those who make the laws—others seem to be affected as well.

The Department of Transportation argued that the proposed Outer Perimeter would raise the air quality of the city of Atlanta—*because cars would be moving faster.* The sign language interpreter for a group of children singing "This Land is Your Land" during a performance under the Gold Dome signed "this land is your potato" instead. Perhaps Dan Quayle would have understood.

Some of the antics were more ironic than frightening. A group of teenagers from Nancy Schaefer's anti-gay Family Concerns Group had been working the halls in support of some of the more bizarre bills. At the end, they were presented with hard hats, calling themselves "Hard Hats for Jesus." Then on the last day of the session, Family Concerns presented hard hats to the leadership of the spirits. Inside the hats was a brochure about "AIDS: The First Government Protected Disease" and a salad—a fruit salad.

The question remains—who are these spectres, and how is it that they return annually to wreak havoc on our state? No one knows with certainty, but it is believed that every two years there is some kind of reckoning. Some return, while others disappear, replaced by a seemingly endless line of lost souls. However, it must be noted that some of the 236 seem to genuinely care about the mortal citizens of the state. Perhaps they know something that the others do not.

It's over now. The great building on the hill downtown has returned to its everyday operations, its gold dome shimmering in the spring sunlight. But every now and then, a creaking door or a gust of wind serves as a reminder that soon—too soon for some—they'll be back, and the nervewracking, alarming haunting will begin again.

KC WILDMOON

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## NEXT WEEK

## Stage Scribe

In the next Southern Voice, an interview with one of America's hottest, funniest—and gayest—playwrights.

# SOUTHERN VOICE

TAKING PRIDE IN OUR CULTURE

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## A sign that straight America might catch clue bus

Some days in this business, the news can seem uniformly discouraging, what with anti-gay initiatives popping up here and fundies rampaging there and AIDS taking its seemingly endless toll. That old mythological fable about rolling the stone to the top of the hill, only to have it roll back down again, has come to mind more than once. I'm sure you, as readers, no doubt feel the same way some weeks.

But then every once in a while, something happens that restores one's faith that heterosexual America might some day hitch a ride on the clue bus.

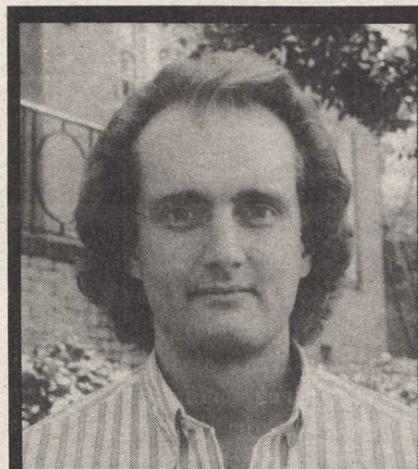
For me, that something came in Macon during the first weekend of March, when I was invited by a local journalists' group to be part of a panel on how the media can better cover the gay/lesbian community.

First, a little background. In April of 1993, a nationally-syndicated mainstream comic strip, "For Better or For Worse," had a storyline in which a gay teen—a friend of one of the strip's central characters—came out. Because of the subject matter, there was plenty of press attention before the strips actually ran, and 19 newspapers decided to pull the strips involving the coming out story.

The Macon Telegraph, generally regarded as one of the better papers in Georgia, was surprisingly among those 19 papers. At the journalists' panel, two top editors at the paper were joined by a number of people from the city's lesbian/gay community in a candid discussion of the fallout from that decision.

The editors decided to pull the strips because they thought running them would irritate and offend people in the newspaper's generally conservative audience. Many people in Macon view the Telegraph suspiciously as a bastion of liberalism. The editors decided they just didn't want to deal with the hassle that running the strip would create.

What they didn't anticipate was that there would be a revolt from the *other* direction. Readers offended by this act of censorship



### Letter from the editor

by RICHARD SHUMATE

wrote and called and cancelled subscriptions. But what had the most impact was an open revolt by the Telegraph's editorial staff, spearheaded by an open lesbian who worked on the copy desk. A group of staffers marched into the editor's office, and the newspaper's top management agreed to hold a meeting for them to vent their frustration.

"I've been [at the Telegraph] 20 years, and I've never seen anything like it," said Barbara Stinson, the Telegraph's managing editor for features who was in on the decision to pull the comic strip—and now admits it was a mistake.

Realizing the unfortunate message they had sent not only to their gay and lesbian readers but their gay and lesbian employees, the powers that be at the Telegraph decided to rectify things by initiating a news project on what it was like to be gay or lesbian in middle Georgia.

The resulting four-day series, published in the Telegraph last December, was nothing short of outstanding. And while the series itself stands as an important achievement, the process of putting it together may have provided an even more lasting legacy.

In the beginning, editors and writers were at a loss on how to proceed. The subject was very broad. Most of those working on the series were straight. So they rounded up a group of gays and lesbians in the community for advice, and those people supplied them with ideas and sources. As a result, the series was thorough, complete and, most importantly, rang true about the lives of gays and lesbians.

Now, those people within the community who helped, some of whom attended the panel discussion, are on a first-name basis with the people at the Telegraph who worked on the stories. Gays and lesbians are no longer an abstract concept at the newspaper. They have become real faces and names. And as a result, people within the Macon lesbian/gay community say that the newspaper does a much better job of covering gay/lesbian and AIDS issues that it did previously.

"Our consciousness," Stinson admits, "has been raised."

There are important lessons here. The value of diversity in the workplace. The value of speaking out when insensitive actions are taken against gays and lesbians. The value of showing people that placating the right wing won't necessarily bring them peace.

But the most important lesson of all is that old chestnut that educating straight people about the realities of gay and lesbian lives is the best way to change attitudes. The people at the Telegraph have gone through that educational process, and, as a result, so have the people of middle Georgia who got to read the series.

The clue bus has a few more passengers, and there's nothing better for one's faith than that.

## L E T T E R S

### Critics of Southern symbols are just whistling Dixie

This is a letter in regard to recent articles and letter correspondence concerning the Rebel battle flag and the use of the word "Dixie."

When I moved here from Florida a year ago, I was appalled of the possible change of the Georgia flag. Being a Georgia native, and "Southerner," I felt it a threat to my Southern heritage. I now, however, am in favor of the change of the state flag. It was a move by the state of Georgia in defiance to segregation. Therefore it is a racist flag and must be changed. If I were African American, I would be very bitter of the state flag and would refuse to accept it.

However, the notion to change every Southern word, song or flag because of racism is nothing more than bigotry toward my Southern heritage. The man at the bar with a Southern battle flag emblem on his shirt has just as much right of the First Amendment as a black man with an "X" on his hat, without having some "queen" giving him the third degree. People, including my gay patrons, need to get a grip and quit being hypocritical. Also, how in the world is the word "Dixie" racist? The dictionary defines the word as simply "The Southern States."

Watch out, Southern Voice—these politically correct Southern gay activists will be wanting y'all to change your name next. I salute SEGRA for ignoring the ignorant views of some very misinformed people.

I, like millions of other people born in the Generation X era, were not around or had nothing to do with what happened in the 1860s

or even the 1950s or 60s and have no apologies to make. I am Southern and gay by the grace of God and am very proud of it. People have every right to be proud and honored to be

Southern. Those who try to label everything Southern to be racist are just whistling Dixie.

William White  
Atlanta

### STONEWALL RIOTS

BY ANDREA NATALIE



Divine intervention

## Odds and ends from columns that didn't survive

I've discovered that I often have more ideas than a biweekly column can accommodate. Lots of topics seem to end up circling the runway until they run out of gas and crash. So this week, I thought I'd give you a sampler of columns that almost survived to adulthood:

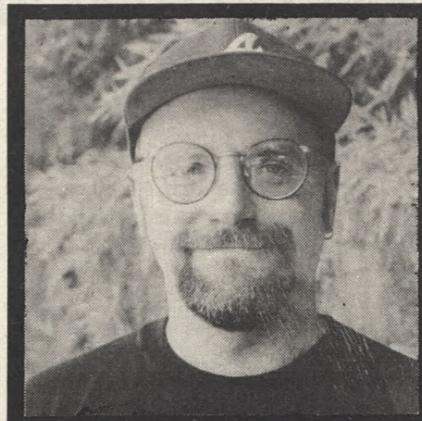
• I can't remember the last time I've seen such a romp through Gay Celebrityhood as Atlanta witnessed with Bob and Rod Jackson-Paris. The line in front of Outwrite Books stretched halfway down the block, their faces graced every local publication, the Atlanta Journal-Constitution ran a glowing article and tracked them in Peach Buzz, a local theatrical production was written around them and interviewers fought over the chance to either fawn over or be infuriated by them—and all this for the authors of a book that falls somewhere along the applause meter between banal and insipid.

How have they become the gay couple that America loves to overexpose (so to speak)? Is it because one of them is a former Mr. Universe, earning them a level of celebrity that is often off limits to gay people? Do straight people find their coupled-ness unthreatening enough to actually relate to them? Does their work with kids improve their karma? Or is it purely because one is so gorgeous and the other so blonde?

The backlash came from people who have dealt with their impending arrival for awhile—or have read the book—and runs the gamut from "Is this a sick relationship, or what?" to that old Pet Shop Boys' refrain, "What have they done to deserve this?" The recipe is one part jealousy—"If they can become famous, where would I be if I got marketed right?"—and one part overexposure, a la Nancy Kerrigan, who never claimed sainthood yet now is excoriated for not being who the media said she was. And they deserve credit for their willingness to be visible. The Jackson-Parises are out there in a way not even Elton matches.

I'm just glad to see Peach Buzz giving a gay couple the same treatment they give Jane and Ted Fonda-Turner. So what if the book is nothing more than at \$20 opportunity to stare longingly into the eyes of a gay Mr. Universe? We deserve the chance to finally be positively overpublicized.

• Everyone has a favorite Cove story—not surprising for a place that served gay Atlanta 24 hours a day, 7 days a week for more than 20 years. One of mine is the fact that the Cove



### Southern Queer-ies

by AL COTTON

was where my abusive relationship began to end, on Halloween night 1989. But what was truly special about the Cove is the way it brought all sorts of people together, reminding us of the universality of unpretentious sleaze.

My Cove story is about witnessing a coming together one night. I was standing by the dance floor and noticed two guys dancing separately, about 10 feet apart. One was black, wearing the usual assortment of oversized clothes that I associate with rap; the other was white, dressed in a very '70s retro white sailor outfit, perfect for an audition to be the sixth Village Person. I can't imagine how they might ever have met out in the real world.

As I stood watching, the music glided effortlessly back and forth between their styles—hip-hop followed by B-52's, then an older disco classic, then back to Black Box/Martha Wash—and slowly but surely they began to dance in each other's direction. Forty-five minutes later, they were still going strong, but by now dancing directly with each other in a "Can you top this?" that would have befitted Fred Astaire and Gene Kelly.

I did not hang around long enough to learn the denouement of their evening, but my fantasy created two logical outcomes. They either went home together and had the hottest sex in all of Atlanta that Sunday morning, or they nodded politely, one hand brushing the other's shoulder, and went back into their own worlds, ever so slightly changed.

Either way, I know of no other place in

Atlanta, gay or straight, where differing cultures met and blended with as little judgment as at the Cove. We have no idea how badly we will come to miss it.

• GPTV has escaped the "Tales of the City" fiasco with its \$19.8 million broadcasting facility intact. The lesson for us out of this is how willing politicians are to abuse gay people when there's no consequence for doing it. With the cover of lieutenant governor calling the program inappropriate without even seeing it, the yahoos ran wild. We need to write the lite gov a letter and make an enemies list of the worst offenders among legislators.

And this is the time, ladies and gentlemen, to pledge to GPTV, and make certain that the pledge taker knows why. Remember, they've just begun work on "More Tales of the City." If we don't act now, our chances are of getting to see that next year are right up there with the U.S. bobsled team.

• Before choosing my East-of-Avondale townhome, what I thought would bother me most about moving to the wilds of unincorporated DeKalb County would be something mundane, like the commute or a lack of gay neighbors. Well, the commute is fine and there are at least four other rainbow flags dotting various bumpers and decks out here. What I don't like is feeling as though I've abandoned Atlanta.

Take the elections. I'm used to the drama of evaluating at least seven City Council posts, hooting at the mayor wanna-bes, chuckling at provincial, tax-hating North Fulton. Now, I listen when the topic of property taxes comes up. More pointedly, not being in Atlanta puts me on the periphery, whereas not being in Decatur puts me officially in the boonies. And I'm not at all pleased about swapping John Lewis for John Linder.

For a while I wondered, "Did I betray Atlanta by not buying that ratty old condo in Virginia-Highland?" My back porch with a stream gurgling behind it generally stops that train of thought. But I realize now, that however much doesn't work right, Atlanta remains a luminously special place, and if you live in one of its suburbs, you are lit only by its reflection. I like where I am, but I hope I'll be back in the city before it's all over.

• And finally, from the Stuff You Hear in Bar Bathrooms file (and this is where we'll really miss the Cove): "I was being discreet—I wasn't on my knees."

## LETTERS

### Volunteer says she's turned off by Lambda's cold shoulder

For the last decade, I've realized the need for a community center here. I envisioned an egalitarian, open-to-all-suggestions membership, with friendly, open meetings for anyone to participate.

It was heartening to finally hear of Lambda. At first, there were no names or numbers to reach so that I might be a part of the beginnings. Finally, some better publicity became available, and I called. And called. Months went by, trying to reach someone who would tell me when and where meetings were held. At last, someone did, telling me of an open monthly meeting. I was elated. By now, I found out there was a closed board, and I felt rather left out, but [I was] willing to attend the open meeting.

I had really counted the days. We came in, sat down and almost immediately were asked to leave. It seems there was to be, next on the agenda put in my hand, a closed vote. A few words were spoken that we were "observers" and thanks for coming. It would only be a few minutes, then we could return. The door locked behind us, and there we stood, thankful it wasn't raining or cold. We decided seven minutes would constitute "a few."

Then we left, horribly disappointed,

stunned and wondering what was going on. Why could not the agenda be changed to vote at the end so we would not be put out? Is this group to be an elitist closed society deciding everything, with no "outside" input?

I have worked successfully for several conferences. I feel I had something to offer, but now I am pretty well turned off. I am not going to speak out to others about how they

must support the center, for I don't want anyone else to feel as badly as we did.

We all know what happens to groups that get to feel so important that no others can create change. People get fed up and turn off. That's my current position.

Miriam Carroll  
Atlanta

### Rebel defender should look inside

This letter is in response to the letter entitled "Gay man proud of his Rebel heritage" [SoVo, March 3].

I was greatly disturbed, upset and very disappointed at first. These feelings changed quickly, however, to one of an analytical approach.

The Rebel battle flag and a white man with a black lover are two very distinct issues. The ancestors "who fought for the cause" as we know it, did not include a gay cause.

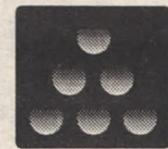
Furthermore, homosexuality is innate. It is not chosen as one would chose a profession, and, by the same token, love for another human being is from within and not contrived

and therefore has no color barrier.

Should the person who wrote the letter examine his conscience further, he may discover deeper more troubling issues that he may need to examine and address in the future.

I should hope that in the future your readers understand that one's civil rights, regardless of color, race, religion and sexual preference, have been defended by the NAACP and people who, like Dr. Martin Luther King Jr., stand for the rights and equality of all men and women—20 years ago, today and tomorrow.

Anthony Brown  
Chamblee



GLAAD  
News

by CARL LANGE

### Olympic Bigotry

Are the Olympics to be held in a place of hate? They will if the Atlanta Olympic Committee for the Olympic Game's (ACOG) decision to hold volleyball matches in Cobb County stands.

ACOG awarded the event to the Cobb Galleria Center despite the county's resolution condemning lesbians and gays.

The event should not be held in Cobb as long as the resolution stands. The Olympics are a time and place for the celebration of the diversity and unity of all people. Holding an event in Cobb County clearly contradicts this mission of inclusiveness.

"We have no plans to move the venue, and that's not negotiable," is the official response from ACOG spokesperson Lyn May. "Our decision is not an endorsement of any group or policy."

ACOG is distancing itself from the controversy by saying that the Olympics "are not about politics." Wrong.

When Atlanta's black leaders protested the bringing of Olympic golf to the all-white country club in Augusta, ACOG backed down.

For years South Africa had been excluded from the games because of apartheid, and, most recently, International Olympic Committee (IOC) President Juan Antonio Samaranch has focused Olympic attention on Sarajevo.

The Olympics are about politics—the politics of providing all citizens of all nations with the opportunity to come together in shared experience, despite cultural and national boundaries...and with these politics comes the responsibility of ensuring a safe and friendly environment for all athletes and spectators.

Cobb is clearly not friendly, and has proved itself unsafe, for an entire class of citizens, namely gays, lesbians and bisexuals. The Olympics must be made to recognize these facts.

Please write and/or call Shirley Franklin, Senior Policy Advisor, Atlanta Committee for the Olympic Games, P.O. Box 1996, Atlanta GA 30301-1996; phone (404) 224-1908; fax (404) 224-5176.

Write or fax Mr. Juan Antonio Samaranch, President, International Olympic Committee, Chateau de Vidy, CH-1007, Lausanne, Switzerland; fax 011-41-21-624-1552. A simple one-page air mail letter requires a 50-cent stamp.

For more information, contact the Olympics Out of Cobb Coalition, a coalition of individuals and groups dedicated to fighting the decision by ACOG. Write OOC, P.O. Box 77341, Atlanta GA 30357-1341; phone (404) 798-7822.

*This column is a product of the Gay & Lesbian Alliance Against Defamation/Atlanta, Incorporated. For more information about GLAAD/Atlanta write P.O. Box 55111, Atlanta, GA 30308 or call (404) 876-1398.*

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# Women hurt by miscarriage drug fight for right to sue company

Hartford, CT—They call themselves the "DES daughters," women whose mothers took what was being billed as a wonder drug to prevent miscarriages.

While the drug helped their mothers carry a child to full term, in many cases it also had a serious side effect that showed up decades later: cancer.

The drug is diethylstilbestrol, or DES, a synthetic estrogen used primarily in the 1940s and 1950s, but also to a lesser degree up until the 1970s. These days, the offspring of women who ingested DES view the wonder drug as a "killer drug."

"We're dealing with generations of lives," said Marylou Wayland, a 42-year-old Guilford woman whose mother took DES and who has battled myriad medical problems since age 12.

Since many of the side effects of DES don't develop until at least a decade after the drug is administered, its victims are hampered in bringing lawsuits against the drug companies that marketed the product.

A bill before the Connecticut Legislature's Judiciary Committee would exempt DES-related cases from the state's 10-year statute of limitations concerning product liability lawsuits.

Under the bill, DES victims would have three years from discovery of the drug-related illness to file a lawsuit. The state's statute of limitation laws have similar exemptions for illnesses attributed to asbestos and Agent Orange.

Many of the cancers believed to be caused by DES affect the reproductive organs and do not recur until during or after puberty.

The current law "would require that the cancer resulting from the exposure of DES would have to develop and be discovered before the child's 10th birthday," said Sarah Wilson, a lobbyist for the state chapter of the National Organization for Women, which supports the bill. "For many reasons, this is highly unlikely."

The issue first was raised in the Legislature in the early 1980s. But lawmakers, worried that the bill would open the doors to other exemptions or that it was simply a ploy by lawyers to drum up business, rejected it.

In 1985, Superior Court Judge Nicholas A. Cioffi ruled that the 10-year statute of limitations contained in the state's product liability law was unconstitutional in DES cases.

The woman who pressed the lawsuit, Nancy McCurdy, was apparently exposed to DES while in her mother's womb in 1952. Twenty years later, it was discovered she had

a cancerous tumor.

In an operation, the tumor, her uterus, part of her vagina and a number of pelvic lymph nodes that contained metastatic cancer cells were removed. She died seven years later, on Dec. 29, 1979.

The administratrix of McCurdy's estate sued Eli Lilly and Co., E.R. Squibb and Sons, and Dexter Corp., on her behalf.

A year after Cioffi's decision, the state Supreme Court upheld the constitutionality of the state's product liability statute of limitations. The case did not involve DES, however, leaving in question Cioffi's decision.

"We don't know if that would be upheld in court," said Rep. Richard D. Tulisano, D-Rocky Hill, the committee's co-chairman who is sponsoring the measure.

Despite the horrors attributed to DES, members of the business community told lawmakers they are wary of making exceptions to the state's product liability statute of limitation laws.

Carving in an exemption for DES would "open the door for a patchwork of legislation" that would create confusion and make it difficult to attract companies to the state, said Elizabeth Gara, assistant counsel for the Connecticut Business & Industry Association.

"Modification of the statute, in this instance, would serve as a disincentive for companies to market new prescription drugs and vaccines," Gara said. "Manufacturers of products should not be forced to face indefinite potential liability for past efforts over which they no longer exercise control."

An estimated 4 million to 6 million women were prescribed DES between 1945 and 1955.

Women whose mothers took DES appear to have higher incidence of clear cell adenocarcinoma, an extremely rare form of vaginal cancer, than other women. They also seem to be susceptible to other problems with vaginal or cervical abnormalities, and tend to have greater difficulty in conceiving.

Men born to women who took DES also do not appear to be immune. DES-exposed sons have been known to develop testicular cysts and infertility.

Wayland's problems first surfaced at age 12, when she sprouted an unusual growth of body hair. By age 17, she'd yet to experience her first menstrual cycle. And by her mid-20s, she'd been diagnosed with precancerous cells in her vaginal area.

"There are DES daughters who are still getting cancer in their 40s," she said. "I'm one of the oldest. I'm 42."

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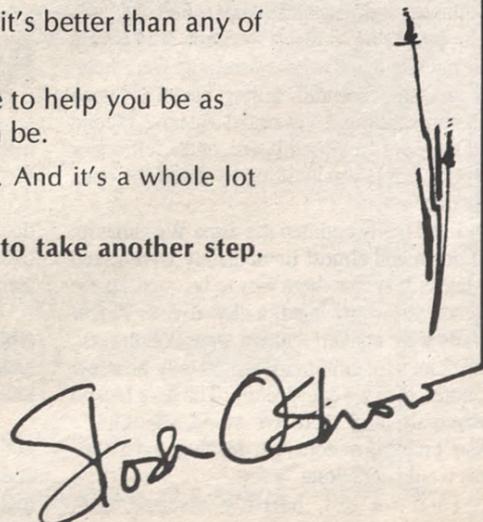
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## Too little funding for minority AIDS education, study says

San Francisco—A study reporting high rates of AIDS cases among gay and bisexual minority men has given AIDS activists new ammunition to appeal for additional funding.

The study, initiated by the U.S. Conference of Mayors and funded by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, showed that gay and bisexual minority men make up about 20 percent of the more than 61,700 AIDS cases in the United States.

AIDS activists said they planned to use the findings released Feb. 28 to appeal for increased funding from President Clinton, who awarded no additional monies for AIDS services in 1993.

One in five AIDS cases in the United States occurs among gay and bisexual men who are black, Hispanic, Asian/Pacific Islander or American Indian, the yearlong study showed.

Despite the high rate, those populations receive only 1 to 13 percent of available city or county funds for prevention programs, according to the study.

"This country cannot stop HIV transmission and cannot indicate that it's even serious about doing so until it spends the adequate dollars in gay and bisexual (minority) communities," said Mario Solis-Marich, of the National LLEGO, an organization for Hispanic gays and lesbians.

The study surveyed agencies, community workers, individuals and state and local health departments. It found the most effective AIDS prevention programs for ethnic minority gays and bisexual men were those designed for them specifically and run by their peers, said Gilberto Gerald, whose consulting firm in Los Angeles conducted the study.

The study compiled data from interviews with 285 residents of Chicago, Los Angeles, New York City, Oklahoma City and San Juan, Puerto Rico. The report showed AIDS cases were prevalent among gay and bisexual minority men in all of the cities.

In Los Angeles sexual contact between men was responsible for 76 percent of the cases

were found among black participants, 80 percent among Hispanic men, 86 percent among Asians and Pacific Islander men and 41 percent among American Indians.

The Asian and Pacific Islander and American Indian communities in all of the cities were found to receive the least amount of prevention services for the transmission of HIV, the virus that causes AIDS.

According to the study, some of the factors involved in the prevalence of cases among gay and bisexual ethnic minorities included:

- A lack of prevention programs and educational materials geared for non-English speaking gays and bisexuals, particularly in Asian and Pacific Island languages.

- Under funded and understaffed AIDS prevention programs for gay and bisexual minority men.

- Prevention programs identified as white gay organizations, which many minority groups consider inaccessible, frequently do not target members of gay and bisexual minority groups for health education, outreach, HIV testing and counseling.

"For far too long gay men of color have been rendered invisible in this epidemic," Solis-Marich said. He blamed "racism, homophobia and lack of cultural sensitivity."

Although many gay men of color advocates were pleased with the final release of the needs assessment, there is some concern about follow-up.

"What is the next step?" questioned Joshua Volle, Director of Research and Evaluation at the National Task Force on AIDS Prevention. "It makes no sense to conduct a needs assessment without using the information."

The study concludes with a specific recommendation for substantial increases in funding for targeting gay men of color that are designed, developed and implemented by gay men of color.

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## Feds sue firm selling algae as AIDS cure

Albuquerque, NM—The Federal Trade Commission is suing an Albuquerque company and its owner, alleging an algae-based food supplement was promoted as a cure for AIDS.

The FTC contends Robert Danek and his Lifeline Inc., among others named in the 1993 lawsuit, promoted Immuno-Plex "as a treatment or cure for HIV disease, AIDS and AIDS-related complex and their symptoms." Danek and Lifeline were added to the lawsuit this week.

In 1988, Danek pleaded guilty to charges involving illegal marketing of telephone access codes and received probation.

But he denies these latest allegations, al-

though he told The Albuquerque Tribune last week that he did mail distributors confidential testimonials, including some from people with HIV, praising the product's benefits. They said it raised their white blood cell counts, he said.

"We never claimed that it would cure anything," Danek said.

Danek said the testimonials weren't meant to be made public and ended up being "misused and misrepresented" in various promotions, and he stopped circulating them last year.

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## New AIDS cases doubled in 1993

Atlanta—The number of new AIDS cases unexpectedly more than doubled last year under a broader definition of the disease and boosted by a sharp increase in the number of infections among heterosexuals.

The federal Centers for Disease Control and Prevention had projected the number of new AIDS cases would jump 75 percent in 1993, the first year of the new definition. It actually increased by 111 percent, from 49,016 in 1992 to 103,500 in 1993, the agency reported last week.

Of the new cases, 9 percent were from heterosexual transmission still a small fraction but a rising one.

Last year, the CDC expanded its definition to include those infected with HIV who also have CD4 counts below 200, tuberculosis, recurrent pneumonia or invasive cervical cancer.

Most of the AIDS cases under the new definition were reported in the first three months of the year. The surge had dropped off by the end of 1993, and the CDC expects the number in 1994 cases to drop below last year's figure.

The groups most affected by the expanded definition were women, blacks, heterosexual intravenous drug users and hemophiliacs.

The increase was greater among women (151 percent) than among men (105 percent), and greater among blacks and Hispanics than whites.

The largest increases reported were among teens and young adults, mostly from hetero-

sexual transmission.

"This is where the growth of the epidemic is," said Dr. John Ward, chief of the CDC's AIDS surveillance branch.

Although the epidemic overall still mostly infects gay men, heterosexuals represented the largest proportionate increase in 1993, said Pat Flemming, chief of reporting and analysis in the CDC's AIDS division.

AIDS cases resulting from heterosexual contact jumped 130 percent last year over 1992, from 4,045 or 8.3 percent of the total to 9,288, or 9 percent. Cases attributed to male homosexual or bisexual contact increased 87 percent, from 25,864 to 48,266.

At highest risk among heterosexuals, Flemming said, were those with several lovers who were infected with HIV or other sexually transmitted diseases, or were intravenous drug users.

Women accounted for about two-thirds of heterosexual cases, but the number of men who are infected through heterosexual contact is also increasing.

Half of the heterosexual cases were among blacks, with Hispanics and whites representing about 25 percent each. And young adults ages 13-29 accounted for 27 percent of the heterosexual cases.

The total number of AIDS cases in the United States through Sept. 30, 1993, was 339,250. The total number of deaths from AIDS through the same time period was 204,390, according to the CDC.

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### The CDC's Latest AIDS Statistics

	1992	1993	Increase
New AIDS Cases	49,016	103,500	111%
Men	42,445	86,986	105%
Women	6,571	16,514	151%
Race/Ethnicity			
Whites	23,305	47,003	102%
Blacks	16,582	36,951	123%
Hispanics	8,541	18,318	114%
HIV Exposure Categories			
Male homo/bisexual contact	25,864	48,266	87%
Heterosexual contact	4,045	9,288	130%
IV Drug Use			
Heterosexual	12,163	28,687	136%
With gay/bisexual contact	3,028	5,745	90%
Hemophilia	360	1,041	189%
Transfusion	710	1,219	72%

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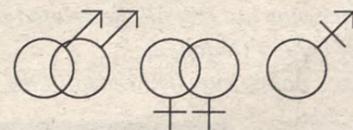


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# RUNNING ON



by RAY ZAVACKI

Often I am asked, "Why do you run?" or "What do you get out of it?" The real question they are asking is: What motivates me to run?

For me as well as my fellow runners, the answer is somewhat complex. I'll try to give a runner's insight to non-runners as why I run.

Personally, I am running for my life. By that I mean I am trying to escape the terrible family legacy of the men on my father's side of the family, where living past 65 is a major accomplishment.

The recent American Heart Association conference here in Atlanta substantiated many of my long-held beliefs about aerobic exercise being vital to a healthy heart. State-of-the-art research has proven that moderate aerobic exercise at least three times a week for 30 minutes or more has a significant benefit in reducing the risk of heart disease and stroke.

Running, of course, is an excellent form of aerobic exercise, and three times a week for half an hour is a small price to pay for avoiding a heart attack.

Health is not the only reason I run—a sense of accomplishment and esteem are two others. Living in a world where one is constantly trying to battle the negative stereotypes with which society is trying to label us, I find that running provides a sense of accomplishment and self-worth.

By finishing that last mile, by completing that race, by putting on that Peachtree shirt, you feel great, like you've done something real special that not everyone can do.

In short, you are a winner, not because you've won the race but because you've finished, and the proof is on your back. I always love watching the clock as I am nearing the end of a race, then crossing the finish line. It's exhilarating when you push yourself to the limit as you surge across the finish line, trying to beat the next tick on the clock.

For those who like to be competitive, running affords you the opportunity to beat somebody as well as to compete against yourself. I keep track of my times from year to year and am constantly trying to beat the previous year's time.

Last year, I ran in 21 races and certainly have a lot of times to beat. As far as being competitive against others, my favorite story is my first race in June 1986. In this five-mile race, the last 100 yards saw me battling some hulking 6-foot-6 football-player-type for the bragging rights of who is faster.

Though most assuredly he was stronger, I wasn't going to let him be faster. The last 20 yards I pumped out and passed him as though he was standing still. Caution to the wind, I was going to win at any price. And I did.

The last major motivator for my running enthusiasm is social. Running is a good way to meet people outside of bars or parties—gays and lesbians from all walks of life who have in common a dedication to health and fitness through walking and running. This social aspect is a part of Front Runners, Atlanta gay/lesbian running group.

I hope by now you can see why I enjoy running so much. New Year's resolutions have come and gone, but have you gotten in shape or lost that unwanted weight? If not, now is the time to start just as the days are getting longer and the weather warmer.

Be careful, though, if you're leading a sedentary life. Consult a doctor first. Buy a book on running or walking, and start slowly. You'll be surprised how much better you feel mentally and physically.

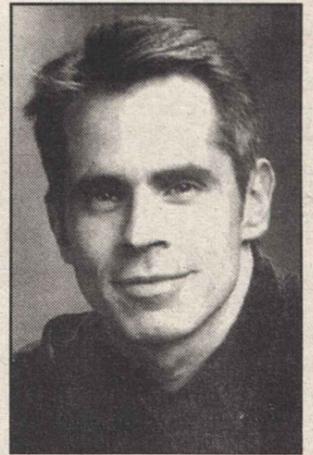
*This column is part of a series written by members of Front Runners Atlanta, which meets for runs and walks at 6:30 p.m. on Wednesdays and on Saturdays at 8 a.m. in the parking lot below the tennis courts in Piedmont Park. For more information, call 621-5007.*

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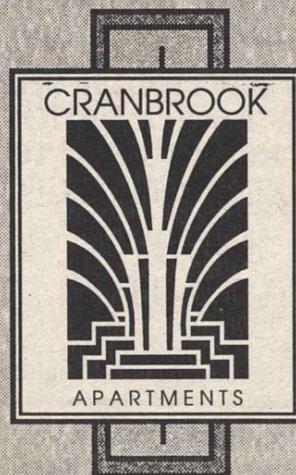
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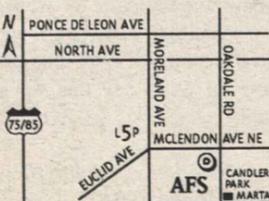
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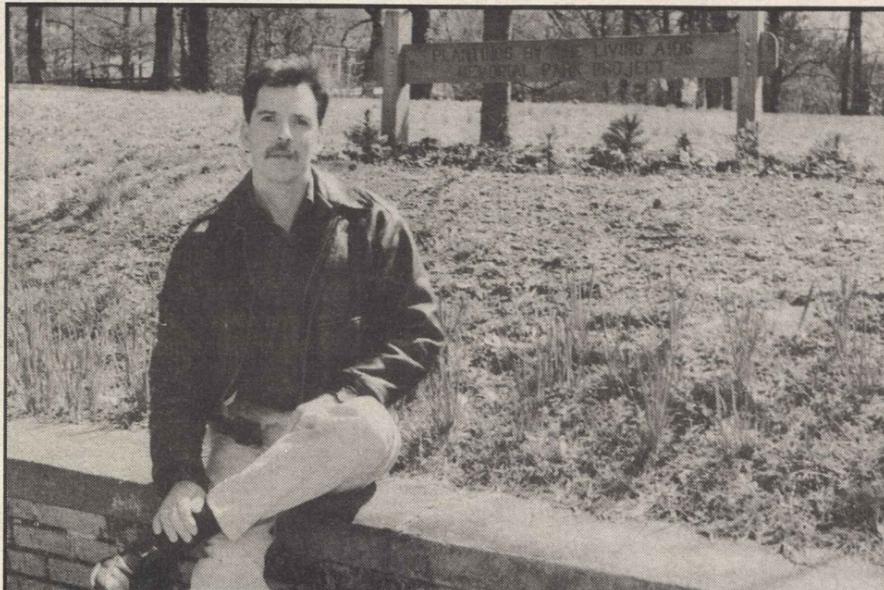
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Rick Porter is the project manager for the John Howell Park project

## John Howell Park

Continued from page 1

what we wanted, but we had begun to fundraise and set the wheels in motion. A few months after we started, I heard that the Civic Fund was also planning something for the park, and they had their own design. It seemed natural to join forces, but it took a few years to work out our differences."

Jerry Bright is president of the Civic Fund and the director of the John Howell Park Project. He admits there were problems between the two groups initially but feels that the compromise that was reached—the AIDS memorial sculpture, a children's playscape and a new volleyball court—serves all of his neighborhood.

"There were some turf battles in the beginning," Bright said. "The main hesitancy that the neighborhood people had was with parking and the number of people who might come in. But the way it's designed, people aren't going to spend all day in the park. It's green space mostly, with the exception of the courts and the playscape."

And Bright is wholly committed to the AIDS Memorial section of the park. He and Porter have been lovers for more than 13 years and work side-by-side on the project. Both men say their commitment comes from a deep spiritual need to remember those who have died from AIDS.

"John was a very spiritual person, I am, Jerry is, and most of the board members of the project are," said Porter. "In a society where so many gay people choose to be cremated, there aren't a lot of ways to commemorate a gay person's life. People need a place to go to and remember a lost loved one. The park can do that for the gay community. To the straight community, it represents a beautiful place to take their kids that's peaceful and fun. And that's spiritual too."

Hamilton says she is amazed that Bright and Porter have been able to bring together the various factions and create an environment that will appeal to everyone.

"What LAMP wanted originally was an area dedicated to people who had died of AIDS," she said. "That important part was not lost in the process, and now the people in the neighborhood are aligned with it as well. I credit Rick and Jerry with that. They've done an incredible job."

Porter, who receives no compensation as project manager for the project, says he feels lucky just to be able to do the work.

"The park saved my life," he said. "I was given up for dead a year or so ago, and I had to go on disability. But my health is great now, and I owe it to working on this project."

Porter credits other people for their dedication to the park. Mary Davis, he says, secured funding for the City of Atlanta's Parks

and Recreation Department to begin construction of the Contributors Walkway. Fulton County Commissioner Nancy Boxhill is working to secure funds for the construction of the AIDS Memorial sculpture, and park board member John Baldwin is planning the design competition for the artwork.

"I think a lot of people get the Contributors Walkway and the AIDS Memorial mixed up," said Porter. "The names inscribed on the brick pavers are not necessarily those of people who have died from AIDS, although you can certainly do that. The pavers are bought by neighbors, local businesses, anyone who wants to contribute to the completion of the park. Some people put their own names on them, some put their kids' or their pets' names."

It will take 24,000 pavers to fill in the walkway, and, to date, only 300 have been bought. But Porter is optimistic.

"We will be selling them during gay Pride and during Summerfest, the Virginia-Highland block party that's held every June. Also, we do have two professional grant writers who are working to see we have the \$600,000 it will take to complete construction of the park by our target date of late 1995."

Installation of the first 300 pavers in the Contributors Walkway, is set for the April 30 ribbon-cutting ceremony.

"It will look kind of funny for a while," Porter explained. "The first section we will install is the ellipse around the AIDS Memorial, and of course, it won't be there yet. As we continue to fundraise we will lay more pavers throughout the park."

Subsequent phases include the removal of DeLeon Street, which now runs through the center of the park. It will be graded and planted this fall and will become the main entrance. Five storyboards will record the history of John Howell Park, including one each for the Virginia-Highland Civic Fund, LAMP, Volleyball Atlanta and the fight to stop construction of I-485 in 1980, which would have destroyed the neighborhood. The final storyboard will tell about John Howell.

The children's playscape is also slated for construction this summer or fall, followed by new sidewalks for Virginia Avenue and Arcadia Street and a third volleyball court complete with dressing rooms. New ornamental cherry trees and 84 varieties of native perennials will also be planted.

"The park is laid out so there is an active side, where the playscape and the courts are, and a passive side where the AIDS Memorial will be," Porter said. "We hope to commission a local artist to build the sculpture by the summer of 1995. It's something Jerry and I, and a lot of others, have dreamed of for a long time. It will feel good for us to say that we left something behind."

For more information on John Howell Park, call Rick Porter at 876-0105.

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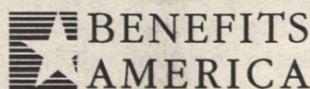
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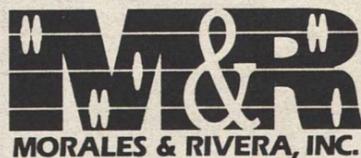
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## TALKING WITH TULA

*Married and considering motherhood, the world's most famous transsexual has settled into life in Atlanta's suburbs*

by PETER NEWTON

She has married and settled into life in the suburbs, contemplating both motherhood and starting her own business. Not an unusual story.

Except that the woman in question, Caroline Cossey, is no ordinary suburbanite. She flowered from a tortured adolescence to become the toast of London and Rome and James Bond's love interest on the big screen. She took a landmark fight for human rights all the way to Europe's highest court. And she found herself in the middle of an unfortunate episode that displayed Atlanta's sometimes bucolic tendencies.

Cossey is better known as Tula, the world's most famous transsexual. That is the label she has lived with since 1981, when the tabloid press in her native Britain disclosed that the international model and star of "For Your Eyes Only" had undergone gender reassignment surgery seven years earlier. "JAMES BOND GIRL WAS A MAN," one headline screamed.

The disclosure made her a high-profile spokesperson for the rights and dignity of the transgendered, a cause she continues to embrace.

"Since I was forced out into the open by the newspapers, I only had two directions to go," she says. "And I thought, I'm certainly not going to be apologetic for something I had no control over. This is me. I'm not a criminal."

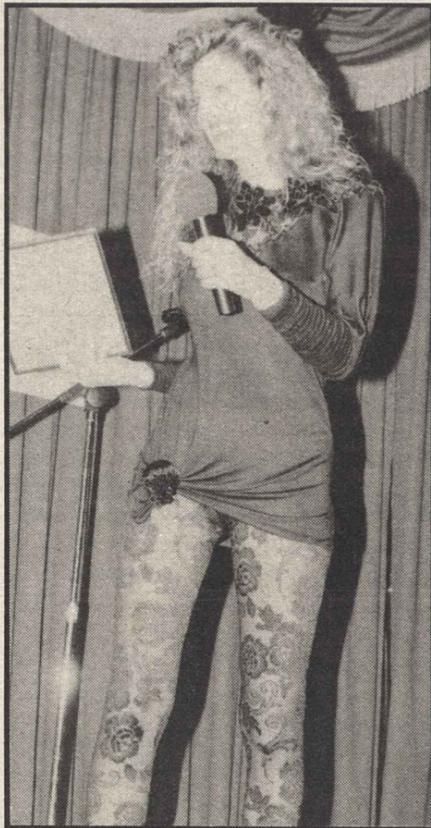
Her life since then has been a public rollercoaster, and it was one of the dips on that rollercoaster that indirectly led to her move to Marietta in 1992.

During a trip to Atlanta in the fall of 1991, her celebrity status earned her a key to the city, an honor bestowed by the office of then-Mayor Maynard Jackson. However, soon after the ceremony, Jackson, acting on an anonymous tip, rescinded the honor, releasing this statement: "I never would have given a key to the city to a person whose sole claim to fame was that she was transsexual."

Hurt by Jackson's humiliating remark, and angry at his belief that her transsexuality was responsible for a career that was already secured before the papers took her story public, Cossey offered to give the key back. She still has it, though—the mayor's office never came to reclaim it.

In fact, the mayor's action brought on an avalanche of publicity that was decidedly pro-Tula. The Atlanta City Council later proclaimed Tula Day, and the celebration has become an annual event that raises money for area transsexual support groups, such as the American Education Gender Information Service (AEGIS) and the Atlanta Gender Explorations Support Group. Moved by the support she received, Cossey said at the time that she was considering relocating here.

In 1992, after Cossey married David Finch in Montreal, she did. The couple settled in the quiet suburbs of Cobb County.



Caroline Cossey accepts an award during the recent TulaFest celebration.

"We all get to a point when our body clocks want to slow down," she explains. "After living in all the cities I've lived in, being here in the South just suits me fine."

"Having met Caroline, I've been put in an unique position," says Finch. "Now I can look at society from a different perspective, one that I might not have seen before. Everyone tries so hard to be normal that normal loses it's meaning. No one's normal."

Finch's voice becomes urgent. "I hope I'm not getting too philosophical," he jokes. What is most obvious is a man's support and love for his wife.

"Caroline has gone beyond being a spokesperson for the transgendered community," Finch says. "She is a spokesperson for equality. And that's what makes me so proud of her."

*"We all get to a point when our body clocks want to slow down," Cossey says. "After living in all the cities I've lived in, being here in the South just suits me fine."*

Cossey has been lucky throughout her very public life to have the unwavering support of her family. And now, that family support may be taken to a new degree, as Finch and Cossey contemplate parenthood.

"Yes, we've already discussed the possibility of surrogacy with Pam, my sister," Cossey says. "I don't think there will be any legal problems there. It's just a matter of adoption."

They are also still considering plans to open a show bar here in Atlanta. Cossey talks about creating a place where people can relax in a comfortable lounge setting, with transsexuals providing a variety of entertainment from comedy to dance.

"This is still very much in the planning stage. But as far as a bar goes, what I'd like

CONTINUES ON PAGE 16

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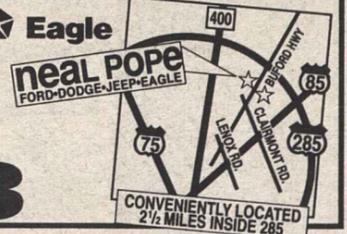
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## Talking with Tula

Continued from page 15

to do is similar to a couple of clubs that used to exist in Paris. One was called Carousel and the other Alcazar. They were very classy, well done and professional. They were run by transsexuals, and it really was an education for the people who went there—the tourists and the businessmen mostly.”

In 1989, the case of *Cossey vs. the United Kingdom* appeared before the European High Court of Human Rights in Strasbourg, France. Fighting for her legal right to marry and the right to change her sex on her birth certificate, Cossey saw her case through eight

years of litigation before it reached Europe's highest court. But by a vote of 10-8, Caroline Cossey was denied the right to be legally recognized as female.

Reflecting on the ordeal, Caroline mentions something that strikes her as ironic. “I'm sitting there in Strasbourg with about 18 men listening to my case. I mean, there I was, trying to be legally accepted as a woman in Britain, and there they were—in long white wigs and silky black gowns. These were my judges.”

Since that setback, Cossey has formed an organization called Press for Change in Britain that has been instrumental in pressuring the British government on the issue of transsexual rights.

“Since I lost in Strasbourg, the only way we can affect any real change is by encour-

aging more people to come out, like what's been happening in America with the gay movement,” Cossey says. “I keep very busy. I did two magazine interviews [recently] from London, and I'm always interested in taking part in edu-

cating the public about transsexualism, like

I tried to do with the book.”

The book to which she is referring is her

autobiography, “My Story,” which reads like an adventure novel. Born in a small village in northern England, Cossey chronicles her development through a tortured adolescence to a spec-

tacular life as a showgirl and high fashion model. The journey was not easy.

“My father would instruct my brother to take me out to the garden and have a boxing match,” Cossey recalls. “He wanted to toughen his little boy up. Of course, that type of ignorance can cause awful emotional scars.”

Finally, after she saved enough money to undergo reassignment surgery, she found peace of mind—and incredible success. Dubbed by an early modeling agent as “Tula,” Cossey, in her book, takes the reader on a whirlwind tour of London, Paris and Rome. At a height of six feet, her commanding figure landed a supporting role in “For Your Eyes Only.” Her natural good looks graced scores of magazine covers, billboards and television screens. Playboy even offered up a contract.

Hers is the story of literally forging an identity and having to fight for the right to keep that identity. And having endured the life that she has, Cossey is pleased with the reception of her story.

“It's nice that I've managed to get through to people in the community—not just in the gay community and the transgendered community. But I get responses from people who say, ‘I was embarrassed about my ignorance when I read your book.’ I think that's what it's all about. Reaching people.”

“When people come up to me and say, ‘Oh, you've had the best of both worlds. You were a man and now you're a woman,’ they don't understand. The fact that I had this piece of equipment, this penis, which I had absolutely no use for, made me a man, but as far as inside goes, I always identified myself as a woman.”

Helping people to acknowledge and accept the fact that there are all types of people in the world is, at times, a “tedious chore,” Cossey admits. While Cossey agrees that the United States still has a way to go, life here is better, relatively speaking, than in Britain.

“I came to America feeling sort of alien because that's the feeling one gets after having lived in Britain as a transsexual. Living here as compared to Britain, I mean, you just laugh because Britain is such a closeted country. The city gents are the most perverted of all. Everything is just brushed under the carpet.”

As for the notion of “outing” of other transsexuals, Cossey is strongly opposed.

“I'd like to feel that society could develop a different attitude so it's not called ‘outing’ anymore. But in the meantime, it's completely up to the individual. I would never say to somebody, ‘Don't be so silly and closeted.’ It's very difficult to come out. People are afraid for their jobs.”

“For their lives,” she adds, referring to a string of unsolved murders of transsexuals in Atlanta.

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## Questions about PWA's firing dog Senate candidate in Ohio

*Clarence Cain's dismissal by Joel Hyatt's firm was one of the cases on which "Philadelphia" was based*

Cleveland, OH—Joel Hyatt might be the candidate who has it all—good looks, name recognition, a reputation for sticking up for the little guy, lots of money and the drive to campaign to replace his father-in-law, Howard Metzenbaum, in the U.S. Senate.

But one shadow looms large over the Ohio Democrat's carefully-crafted image. In 1987, his company, Hyatt Legal Services, fired a lawyer in its Philadelphia office because he had AIDS.

The plot line is strikingly similar to the movie "Philadelphia." In fact, the people who made the film, while saying it is fiction, admit that the case of Clarence Cain was one of a number of cases they researched while developing the picture. And unfortunately for Hyatt, the movie opened just as he was launching his Senate campaign.

Hyatt, along with his wife, Susan Metzenbaum Hyatt, founded the nationwide chain of low-cost legal service centers in 1977. Hyatt stars in the firm's television commercials, using the catch phrase, "You have my word on it."

Prior to his firing, Cain, an ambitious young African-American attorney, had been the managing partner of Hyatt's Philadelphia region. Like the character played by Tom Hanks in the movie, Cain sued Hyatt. The company fought back, alleging that his work had been substandard. Though Hyatt offered to settle the case by giving Cain a transfer to a lower-level position, he refused, and, in 1990, won a \$157,888 judgment.

But Cain didn't have much of a chance to savor the victory. He died just two months later.

Hyatt now says his company made a mistake.

"I wish that I could undo that history, but unfortunately that's not something any of us can do," Hyatt said. "If something like that were to happen again, I know that I would handle it differently."

Metzenbaum, a Democrat who is retiring, has been one of the strongest progressive voices in the Senate. His base of support has included many of the people most likely to be upset by what Hyatt did to Cain.

So the Hyatt campaign has been going out of its way to shore up its support among HIV/



Joel Hyatt now says the dismissal of a lawyer with AIDS was a mistake.

AIDS groups, including meeting with ACT UP. Hyatt stresses his work on AIDS-related issues that dates to before 1987.

To some degree, the strategy seems to be working. The Gay People's Chronicle in Cleveland questioned Hyatt about his handling of the Hyatt case, and writer Joe Carroccio says he came away satisfied with Hyatt's answers. John Nolan, coordinator of the AIDS Commission of Greater Cleveland, has offered support, noting that Hyatt has given personal assistance—both moral and financial—to friends who have been diagnosed as HIV positive.

Nolan said he didn't like the way Hyatt handled the Cain case but added, "It's easy in 1994 to judge 1987 behavior by our current level of comfort and knowledge" about AIDS.

Hyatt says that, had his firm known in 1987 what is known today about AIDS, the case would have been handled differently.

Pam Young, 40, of Cleveland Heights, a Hyatt supporter and campaign contributor, saw "Philadelphia" and says Hyatt's admission that he made an error reflects well on him.

"I would think a person in Washington who would admit a mistake and grow from it would be a welcome relief," she said.

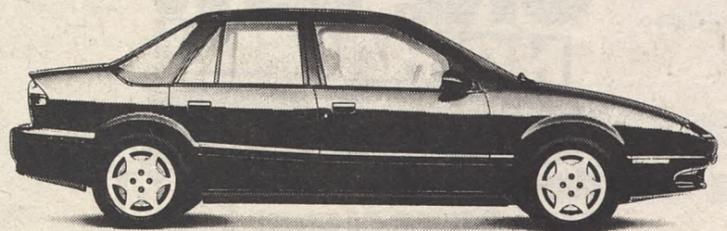
Cain's family, however, remains unimpressed. His mother told a network news magazine that she considered Hyatt "a sorry human being."

So far, none of Hyatt's opponents has made an issue of the case. His first test comes in the Democratic primary May 3, where he faces Cuyahoga County Commissioner Mary Boyle.

Bob Bennett, chairman of the Ohio Republican Party, said he doubted the case would be a factor in the campaign.

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## OCCASIONS

### ANNIVERSARIES

Christy and Karrie Quigg-Byrd celebrated their first anniversary on March 18.

A very happy first anniversary to Dale Carrico and Jules Tuyes on March 22.

### BIRTHDAYS

Three big birthdays from Atlanta Entertainment Media, all in March: Gregg "Debbie" Daugherty turns 21, Ken McNeil 23, and Michael Sweeney 29.

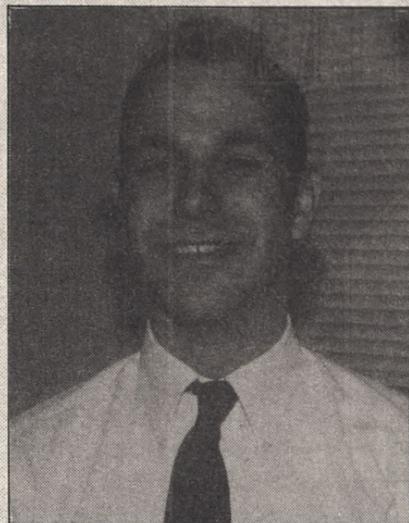
Despite diversionary calculations to the contrary (how many "anniversaries" of thirtysomething is this?) Bob McNair celebrates his 38th on March 28.

March 28 brings three birthdays from Congregation Bet Haverim's Burning Butches softball team, although all from different decades: Bob Schwartz, Toni Whistler and CBH president Susan Levy.

Warning friends that it's only one more year till "the big one," Jayne Pleasants turned 49 on March 20.

A happy belated 26th birthday to Anthony "Miss Westchester County" Ricciardi on March 12.

Another belated birthday wish to Jon "Ditch Dweller" Allen on March 13. Jon was also 26.



Anthony Ricciardi celebrates a birthday on March 12.

And another to Bil Boozer, who turned 28 on March 20.

### ORDINATION

A happy Presbyterian ordination to Jennie Thomas on March 13.

*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.*

## Bob and Rod draw fundies' prayers

Atlanta—Fundamentalists took a place alongside gay men and lesbians in line to see Bob and Rod Jackson-Paris at an Ansley Mall bookstore last week, politely telling customers their lifestyle was an "abomination" and that they were praying for them.

Katie Parker, vice president and buyer for Chapter 11, said that two young men, with a small girl in tow, spent the entire hour of the Jackson-Paris' visit to Chapter 11's Ansley Mall store on March 12 handing out flyers and talking with customers.

"I told them I appreciated the courage of their convictions, but that they couldn't hand out flyers unless they had the permission of

the landlord," Parker told Southern Voice. "At that point, they said they would leave."

Chapter 11 was apparently the only Jackson-Paris book signing that was targeted. Two others drew no protest.

Southern Voice was unable to obtain a copy of the flyer passed out during the afternoon, but one customer reported that the young men came from a church with the word "Victory" in the name, and that the church was in Marietta.

There were no confrontations while the fundamentalists were at the store, prompting Parker to call the protest "low-key."

KC WILDMOON

## Cobb County

Continued from page 3

is no different from joining a hate group."

"The commission played right into [the hate groups'] hands and legitimized hatemongering," said Leon Berry, of the Network for Social Responsibility. "They made it official that one group was to be despised because they did not fit the mold...Do you think the commissioners are so naive they did not realize the effects of their actions?"

The report details arrests for violent crimes of a number of hate group leaders, Adolf Hitler birthday parties, speeches by leaders of the movement that deny that the Holocaust occurred and recruitment of Nazi skinheads in at least two public schools in Cobb County.

Lytle played a tape for reporters, sampling some of the more hateful messages the Cobb Citizens' Coalition has received since launching its campaign to rescind the anti-gay/lesbian resolution. He pointed out that the negative messages were outnumbered by positive messages, but the tone and language was similar to that used by hate groups against whatever group they target.

• "Come get my signature. I'll sign it with a 12-gauge."

• "You faggots don't deserve to live. You brought disease and pestilence to an otherwise straight and normal heterosexual society."

• "You've brought disease and social distress to this country. You need to crawl back in the closet or dig a big hole and bury yourselves."

• "Look. We want queers to stay out of Cobb County or we're gonna drive you out. Keep your AIDS in Midtown, not in Cobb County."

• "I think y'all are all a bunch of worthless, sorry piece of nigger loving, queer butt fucking shits is what I think, so go fuck yourselves."

• "It's true AIDS stands for Another Infected Dick Sucker. Y'all come messing around here too much, we'll get the boys on you."

Mainstream media coverage of last week's press conference was minimal at best, often ignoring the connection to the Cobb Commission's anti-gay resolution, focusing instead on the report's revelations about Nazi skinhead activity. Only the Marietta Daily Journal carried coverage of the complete press conference, with a front page story.

KC WILDMOON

OBITUARY

Thomas Andrew Keller

Tom Keller, a longtime Atlanta resident, died on March 15 in Washington D.C. from AIDS-related complications. He was 31.

Born in Jacksonville, Fla. in 1963, he grew up in various locations around the world during his father's service in the U.S. Navy. While getting his degree in business management from the University of Maryland, he worked in the finance department of the Republican National Committee.

Keller moved to Atlanta in 1989, where he went to work in the advertising department of Atlanta Magazine. At the time of his disability retirement in 1993, he was an account supervisor at the magazine. He returned to the Washington area, where his parents reside, in the fall of 1993.

Survivors include his mother and father,

Harry and Mary Jane Keller of Bethesda, Md.; two brothers, Richard, of Takoma Park, Md., and James, of Starkville, Miss., and a sister Margaret, of St. Petersburg, Fla.



Funeral services were held in Bethesda on March 19. A celebration in his honor was hosted by friends in Atlanta on March 20. Memorial contributions in his name can be made to Damien Ministries, P.O. Box 10202, Washington D.C. 20018.

To place an obituary

Southern Voice publishes obituaries of members of the gay and lesbian community as both news and a community service, free of charge. To report a death call 876-0789 or write:

Southern Voice, 1189 Virginia Ave., NE, Atlanta, GA 30306  
Please include a name and phone number for verification.

COMMUNITY NEWS

Avengers host forum on Christian right

Local lesbian activists and the national Lesbian Avengers' Civil Rights Organizing Project will be hosting a forum on the Christian right and its efforts to enact anti-lesbian/gay/bisexual legislation.

The program, open to the entire community, will be held Sunday, March 27 begin-

ning at 3 p.m. at The Red Light Cafe, 553 Amsterdam Avenue and will include a screening of "Gay Rights, Special Rights," a propaganda film being circulated by Christian supremacists.

For more information, contact Nancy Greenwood at 377-6074 or 572-3416.

"Heat" star joins AIDS education effort

Denise Nicholas, star of CBS's dramatic series "In the Heat of the Night," has joined the cast of Georgia Women Preventing AIDS (GWPA). The newest member of the statewide coalition will be featured in a GWPA television public service announcement sent to stations throughout Georgia.

The actress, who portrays strong-willed councilwoman Harriet DeLong in the series, is a committed AIDS advocate in real life. "The end of AIDS begins with each one of us," says Nicholas.

The Georgia Women Preventing AIDS coalition is a collaborative community effort to empower African-American women in Georgia to prevent the spread of HIV. The

coalition brings together civic and service organizations, businesses, non-profit organizations, elected officials, state health agencies and private citizens active in health issues to participate in a statewide public awareness campaign.



Denise Nicholas

First MCC adds second service

After serving the gay and lesbian community for over 22 years, First Metropolitan Community Church of Atlanta has announced the addition of a second weekly Sunday morning service, starting Palm Sunday, March 27, at its new location on Tullie Road.

Morning services will now begin at both

9 a.m. and 11 a.m. Sunday and Wednesday evening services will continue to be held at 7:30 p.m..

According to church officials, the new 9 a.m. service was necessary because of increased membership and participation in the church's programs.

Fourth Tuesday seeks scholars

Fourth Tuesday, the women's professional networking group, is offering a \$1,500 scholarship.

The award is offered annually to an Atlanta lesbian who is attending an institution of higher education to further her professional

skills. The scholarship is to be used during the fall term of 1994.

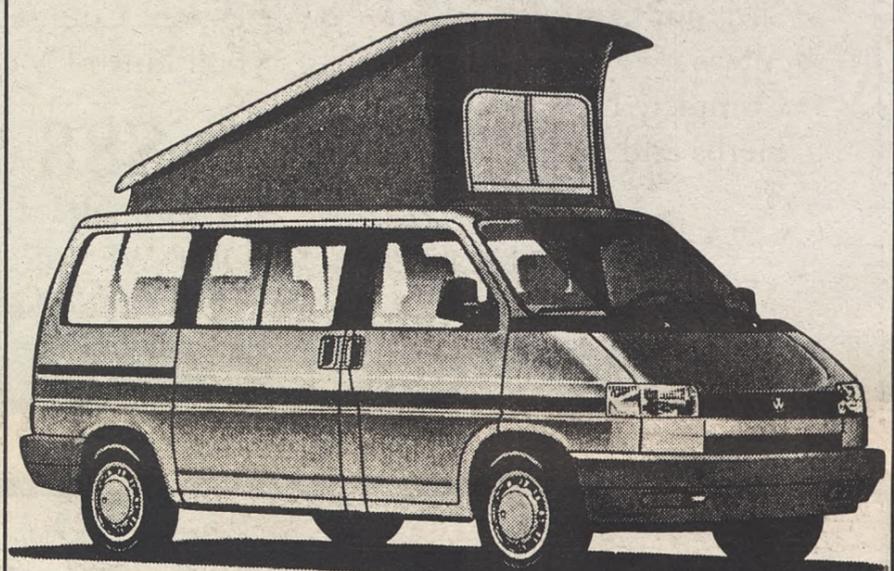
The application deadline is April 15. The scholarship will be awarded on June 28.

For more information, call Dr. Ann McAllister at (404) 231-0751.



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### Easter Sunday, April 3rd

6:00 Sunrise Service  
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on the pier, Piedmont Park Lake

9:00 Service at First MCC of Atlanta

11:00 Cantata and Service at Christ Covenant MCC

11:00 Service at First MCC of Atlanta

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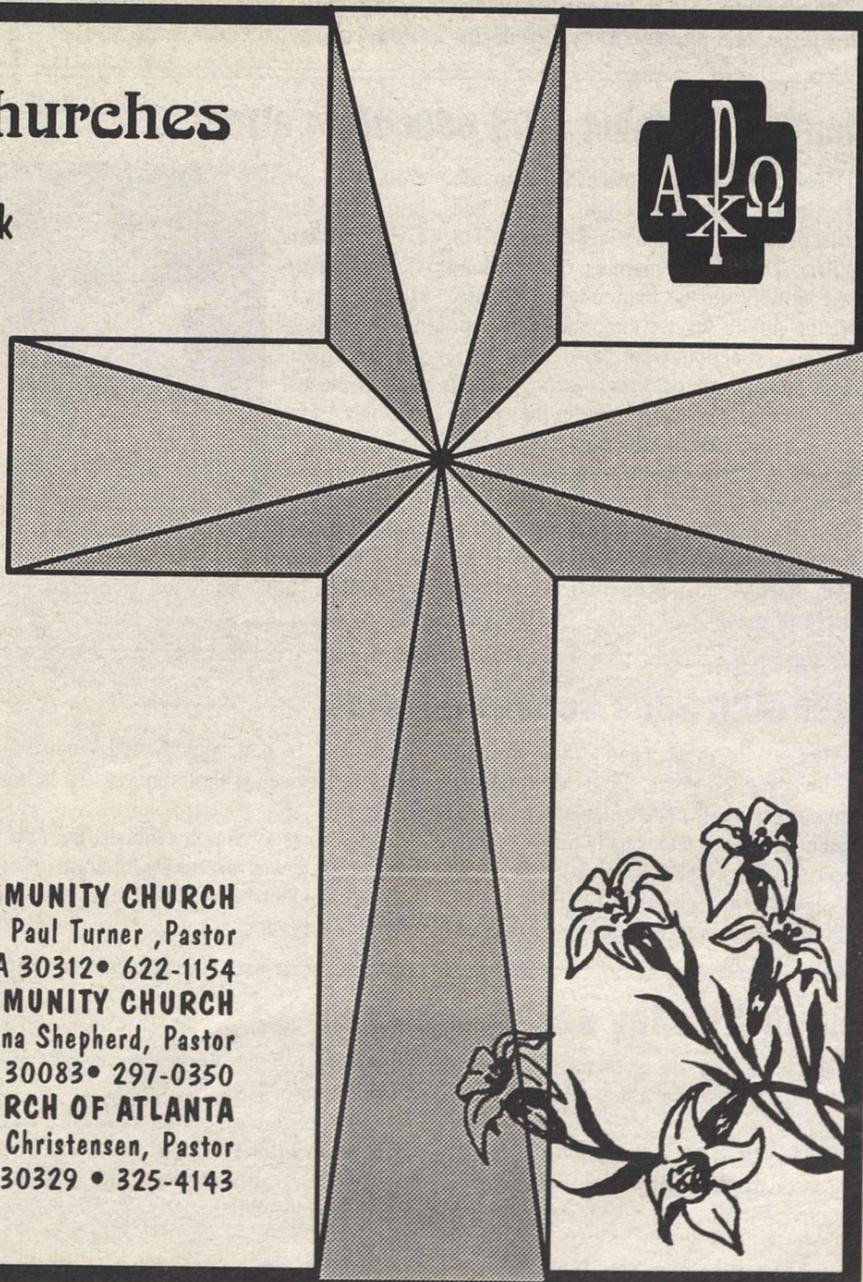
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# OUT & ABOUT

THE ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT GUIDE OF SOUTHERN VOICE

## SAVAGE NIGHTS

Acclaimed French film, centering on an HIV-positive man, goes for emotional truth, not social responsibility

by STEVE WARREN

America has given the world McDonald's and Jurassic Park—no one can take that away from us—but while our film industry was tiptoeing into HIV waters with "Philadelphia," France had already gone infinitely further in "Savage Nights."

The French film, which is now playing in Atlanta, is actually closer to Gregg Araki's "The Living End" in its independent spirit, but it received major financial backing and major recognition. And last March the French film academy gave "Savage Nights" four Cesar awards—for Best Picture,

Best Debut Film, Best New Actress (Romane Bohringer) and Best Editing—three days after director and star Cyril Collard succumbed to AIDS at the age of 35. Collard also adapted the film from his own novel and sings several songs, some original.

Before you get too excited, know that "Savage Nights," a romantic triangle with an HIV-positive man at its apex, is often wildly irresponsible, being more concerned with emotional truth than political correctness. It's set in 1986, when

HIV testing and safer sex were new concepts to the French. Sadly, the things it shows still go on today.

Collard plays Jean, a filmmaker who's as much in denial of love as he is of

**Savage Nights**  
is now playing at the  
Midtown 8 theaters

CONTINUED ON PAGE 24



MARTIN CHRISTOPHER

Cyril Collard (left), Romane Bohringer and Carlos Lopez play three characters caught in a love triangle in "Savage Nights."

## Cris Williamson's private composition

*Women's music pioneer more willing to talk about her music than herself*

by PAMELA EVANS

Ask about her music and Cris Williamson's voice is rapturous. She barely allows the interviewer to pose a complete question before she, too, is talking, discussing her art—her lyrics, her sound—in rich, vivid detail.

But ask about Williamson the woman, and she becomes reticent, almost silent. Although the interview is via telephone, the writer imagines Williamson shrinking, rapidly disappearing—so obvious is the reluctance of this talented artist, an inspiration to women and women's music for more than 20 years, to talk about her own life.

"It isn't always the most important thing," said Williamson, who seems unable to understand why fans might want to know her in more ways than just through her music.

Williamson, who will be in concert with Tret Fure, vocalist and guitarist, at Variety Playhouse on March 25, began her musical career as an unknown in the folk and rock clubs of the early 70s. She recorded her first commercial album in 1971 and helped found Olivia Records, the well-known and first

national women's record company, in 1973. Williamson's album, "The Changer and the Changed," sold more than a quarter of a million copies. Since then, she has another 13 albums to her credit on the Olivia label, mak-

ing her a sought after celebrity, particularly to women.

Throughout the interview, she struggled to talk only of her art and to conceal much about herself. And yet, Williamson might be surprised to know how revealing she really was during the conversation.

Yes, she cares about her art. Yes, she wants people to focus on her music. But spend time talking with Williamson and she will, perhaps unknowingly, open up enough to express many of the other facets that make up this complex and irresistible personality.

Fiercely private, Williamson grudgingly reveals she has lived with partner Tret Fure, her collaborator on the new album "Postcards From Paradise," for 12 years. Though she prefers not to discuss their personal relationship, she cannot contain her respect for Fure, the fun they have, the satisfying relationship they have forged.

"Tret's my best friend. There's such grace about her," she says.

And, "Tret isn't like I am. She would have answered your questions graciously."

And, "We make traveling fun. I've got a partner who travels with me. We've figured out ways to do it that are civilized."

Williamson also does not want to speak about where she lives, how she lives. With reluctance, when asked, she says, yes, she lives in Oregon, and yes, they own two horses, two cats, and two ducks. Then later in the interview, unsolicited, she describes a time when she is working on her land. As she speaks, her love of home, of family, of how important these things are to her, are evident.

"It is my private place where I come and the world falls into place. I don't feel minds upon me all the time," she explains.

Williamson, fairly vehemently, also does not want to talk about being a lesbian. She wants to reduce this part of her life into a simple attribute, not any more worth discussing than her hair color or her age. "I want to be like a plant," she says,



SUSAN DETROY

Cris Williamson (right) and Tret Fure

attempting to explain what it means to just "be."

"For me, it wasn't any kind of big coming out. I just put one foot in front of the other. I was just being with women," she says. "When asked if I was gay, I said, 'I guess so.'"

Yet later in the interview, when discussing her audience, she describes how much she loves lesbians and appreciates their support of her work. "I'm very proud to be one," she goes on to say.

Williamson likes to talk about her work and her staying power and belief in Olivia Records. Yet, sometimes, the struggle for funds, the struggle for air play on stations other than college and public radio stations, can be frustrating.

As she talks, Williamson reveals how she sometimes yearns for more. She wonders what it would be like to have more money, to have commercial success. If she were a household name, more people would hear her music.

CONTINUES ON PAGE 26

**Cris Williamson and Tret Fure**  
perform in concert Friday,  
March 25, 8:30 p.m. at  
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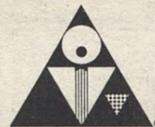
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## C A L E N D A R

## 24 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.

**LAMBDA CENTER FOUNDERS' BENEFIT.**

The Atlanta Lambda Center kicks off its major donors campaign with a \$1000 a head party at the Grand Hotel. 662-9010.

**LEE EBERHART.** A survivor of stage four breast cancer, Eberhart talks about the experience. Charis, 1189 Euclid Ave. in LSP. 7:30 pm.

**SISTER OUTSIDER'S SONG.** A memorial festival honoring the late poet

Audre Lorde at Spelman College. 1-3pm panel discussion, 3-3:30pm reception, 3:30-5pm performance, 8pm Cultural Odyssey. 223-7654.

**LAUGHING MATTERS.** Comedy improv troupe performs Thurs & Sat at Manuel's, 8pm. 717-4714.

**INTERIORS TODAY.** A tour thru designer Nancy Braithwaite's home. GPTV Ch 8. 8:30 pm. Also Sun 4pm.

**ATLANTA HOME SHOW.** It's big. And it's everything you need to find for your home. Georgia World Congress Center, thru Sun. \$7.

**DANCE FOR LIFE.** A full moon dance celebration at the 1st Existentialist Cong. 7:30-9:30pm. \$15. 373-0111.

of show. 524-7354.

**ATLANTA GAY MEN'S CHORUS.** Get set for a visit from Lenny (Bernstein), George (Gershwin), Steve (Sondheim) and Fats (Waller) as the Chorus hits the Grady High Stage. 8pm tonight and tomorrow. \$12.50 adv/\$15 door. Available at Outwrite, Brushstrokes and Funny Business. 977-6310.

**COLD CUTS.** In French, "Buffet Froid." The 1979 film stars Gerard Depardieu as an unemployed drifter obsessed with murder and death. High Museum. 8pm.

870-6553.

**VICKY McCLENDON.** NOW Georgia president speaks on "Backlash: how it affects women's lives to celebrate Women's History Month" at Barnes & Noble Bookstore, 4766 Ashford-Dunwoody Rd. 7pm. 393-9277.

**MAN AND SUPERMAN.** Thru May 1. George Bernard Shaw comes to Actor's Express. Actually, his play does—a battle of the sexes between a voluptuous, conniving woman and a genius of heroic proportions. \$12-\$15. Th-Sat 8pm, Sun 7pm. 221-0831.

**BABETTE'S FEAST.** Nothing else to do? Catch this Academy Award winner on GPTV, Ch 8 at 9pm.



tonight. 10pm, GCTV Ch 12.

1990 national title. 10pm. GPTV Ch 8.

## 26 SATURDAY

**OUTLOOK.** Radical talk for revolutionary intellectuals—feminist, Afro-centered and pro-gay radio on AM, with Alicia Banks. New time: 5pm-8pm, WIGO, 1340AM.

**VOIDECHO.** Harpist Susan Ottzen's chamber music composition benefits the Georgia Council on Child Abuse. 8pm, GA State Recital Hall. \$10.

## 25 FRIDAY

**CRIS WILLIAMSON AND TRET FURE.** Perennial women's music artists take the stage at the Variety Playhouse, 1099 Euclid. \$16 adv/\$18 night

## 27 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.

**HISPANIC FESTIVAL OF THE ARTS.** Women composers and the sounds of ancient Mexico. 4pm in Agnes Scott's Presser Hall. Pre-concert talk at 3pm. \$10. 371-6294.

**BET HAVERIM SEDER.** There may still be time to get your reservations for Congregation Bet Haverim's annual congregational seder. Morning services will be held at 10:30 am, and the seder begins at 6:30pm, both at the Friends Meetinghouse on Howard Ave in Decatur. \$18 for nonmembers. 642-3467.

**THE SUSAN BALLARD SHOW.** A comedy and variety series with special guest Leigh McClelland

## 28 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.

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

## 30 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.

PICTURED:

ABOVE: Peter Gamin and Luann Purcell star in GBS' "Man and Superman" at Actor's Express, opening Mar 26. Photo by David Zeiger

LEFT: Jennifer Azzi and Sonja Henning led the Stanford women's basketball team to a national title in 1990. See the story on Frontline, Mar 29.

BELOW: "Study of a Male Nude" by Agnolo di Cosimo Tori is part of the High Museum's "Italian and Netherlandish Drawings" exhibit.

## 29 TUESDAY

**IN THE GAME.** The PBS series "Frontline" presents a look at the Stanford University women's basketball team, including a



## 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.

**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 Dunwoody 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 SARAJEVO.** 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.

**DOWN THE ROAD.** Thru Apr 9. The Essential Theatre presents Lee Blessing's gripping drama about two writers interviewing a serial killer. 14th St. Playhouse. 876-8471.

**CHILDREN OF JAZZ.** Thru Apr 10. 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 theatre before their move to the 14th St. Playhouse. Directed by Phillip DePoy and choreographed by Amy Gately. Wed-Sat 8pm, Sun. 3pm. 872-0665.

**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 today at the High Museum. 898-9284.

**LET'S PLAY TWO.** Thru Apr 24. Horizon Theatre company presents a witty romantic comedy about love and baseball. Th & Fr 8pm, Sat 8:30pm, Sun 5pm. \$8-\$16. 584-7450.

**A LITTLE NIGHT MUSIC.** Thru Apr 24. A musical adaptation of Ingmar Bergman's "Smiles of a Summer Night" at the Neighborhood Playhouse. 430 Trinity Pl in Decatur. 8pm Th-Sat, 2pm Sun. \$10-16. 373-5311.

**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.

**JOURNEY TO THE BOTTOM OF THE SEA.** Thru May 28. A visual treat from puppeteer Jon Ludwig, follows a fanciful crab on his adventures as he accidentally falls into a submarine. Ctr. for Puppetry Arts. 873-3391.

**ITALIAN AND NETHERLANDISH DRAWINGS.** Thru May 29. Old master drawings from the Steiner Collection. High Museum.

**GERTRUDE KASEBIER PHOTOGRAPHS.** Thru June 11. A contemporary of Alfred Steiglitz, Kasebier also photographed American Indians in Buffalo Bill's Wild West Show. High Museum.

**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.

**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.

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## Savage Nights

Continued from page 21

death. He has one girlfriend and one boyfriend through most of the film, but, being over-bisexual, he remains promiscuous, albeit with a growing sense of responsibility toward protecting his partners. The film has a happier—or at least less conclusive—ending than real life.

In a dream, a former sex partner tells Jean, "Learn from your disease." This is the film's message, as he begins to open up to other people for the first time. But it can be extended beyond the HIV community—one doesn't have to be facing death to embrace life.

Jean flirts with Laura (Bohringer), who is about to turn 18, then with Samy (Carlos Lopez), a rugby player who lives with a jealous woman. "What's your story?" Samy asks. "I am...me," Jean tells him, inviting him to "lie down. I won't rape you." Samy needs work, so Jean offers to find him some in exchange for sex.

We see Jean in an active cruising spot on the banks of the Seine, and in a gay bar where a drag queen debates the meaning of happiness and sings "My Man." Samy's team is invited, after a match, to the home of M. Andre, "an old bitch," for "a bit of fun." He declines the first time but later goes and discovers he gets a hard on when he's invited to beat M. Andre to a pulp.

Jean goes out with Laura but won't go to bed with her, even when she begs. "I have to tell you, I like boys, too," he confides. "I know," she says. "I guessed."

"But you don't care?"

"I care."

What he doesn't tell her is about his HIV

status—and he doesn't use a condom when they finally do it.

Samy and Jean pick up a woman for a three-way, but she balks when the men kiss and won't let Samy screw her, even after Jean bows out. "I don't blame her," Jean says.

Jean tells Samy about his past: "I never could choose." The younger man suggests, "Say no to what you like the least." "I never could say no," Jean says.

The next time Jean has sex with Laura, he surprises her by not coming. She says she "thought guys only cared about their own pleasure, especially gay guys." When he finally explains, she has the good sense to be angry: "It's outrageous. You're a monster." But when they make love again, Jean pulls out the condoms and Laura throws them away—a stupid choice, but at least an informed one. She says she doesn't want to live without him, as if risking AIDS were a kind of suicide pact.

Samy and Laura fight over Jean, with Laura getting ballistically jealous and desperate. After one of her rages, Jean says, "I should have stayed gay."

Laura's mother advises her to get over Jean—"Go out with normal boys instead of queers who go around getting buggered by little punks." Collard strains so hard for Laura's romantic point of view that the story turns from hard-edged drama to soapy mush, but it's still more daring than "Philadelphia," with its clear-cut heroes and villains.

Besides "Savage Nights," Collard's legacy includes the careers of his young co-stars. Bohringer has already made "The Accompanist" and is working steadily, and Lopez, a gang member Collard discovered for a TV show, steals their scenes in "Savage Nights" from the filmmaker/star.



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# More than just your Aunt Edna's crocheted tea cozy

*ACC Craft Fair features functional, artistic works by W. Chester Old and other artisans*

If, when you think of the word "crafts," you summon up images of the crocheted toilet paper covers your aunt made for Christmas last year, you probably haven't seen the crafts created by gay artist W. Chester Old.

Those designs, along with those of countless other craft artists, will be on display this weekend at the ACC Craft Fair

**ACC Craft Fair Atlanta** will be held Saturday and Sunday, March 26 and 27, at the Georgia Dome. Hours for the show are 10 a.m. until 6 p.m. Opening night benefit is Friday, March 25 from 6:30 p.m. until 10:30 p.m.

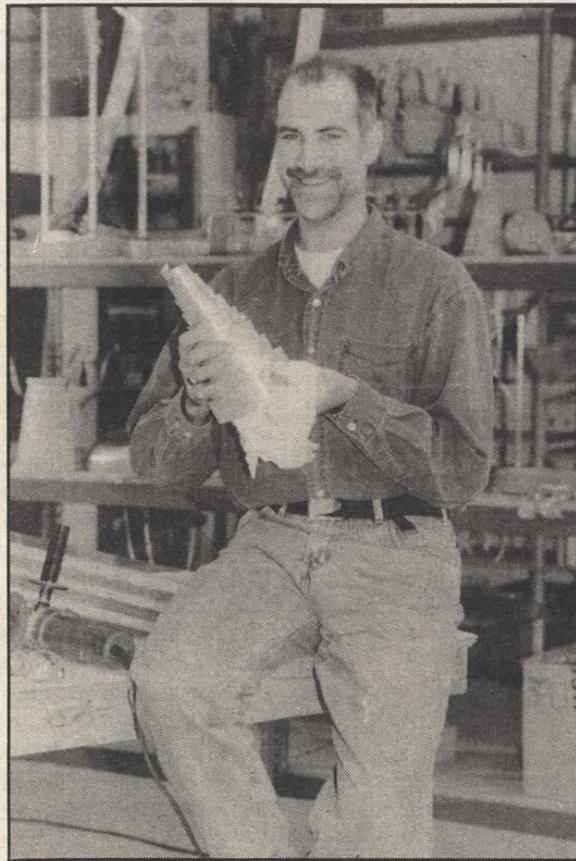
more than an artists' work space. Old's designs, which make use of such disparate sounding materials as test tubes, rubber and aluminum mesh to create spice racks, mirrors, lamps and candle holders (to name but a few) are beautiful, functional and definitely not what you see at most craft displays.

Old's first love was pottery, which he studied at the Penland School of Crafts in North Carolina. He earned his B.F.A. at the Atlanta College of Art, and after a stint at a "real job where I had to wear a suit and tie," as he puts it, "I started my own business, threw those clothes away and bought a lot of jeans."

First experimenting with light, by creating sculptural lamps, Old eventually moved into other home accessories that are all

in Atlanta. This year, Old returns with his unique brand of furniture and home accessories designs.

They are created at his headquarters in Beacon Hill Studios in Decatur, which resembles a hardware store



W. Chester Old in his Decatur studio

experiments with juxtaposition of materials. Concrete and glass, aluminum and rubber, marble and copper are used in every seemingly possible combination to create his wares. His crafts look a bit like a "real materials" game of rock/scissors/paper.

Over the years, Old has softened his designs a bit, from the

industrial deco look that dominated his early pieces to the more free flowing, looser look he now favors. Though the materials may sound hard edged, the line his crafts take is soft and elegant.

"There's a lot more playfulness about them," says Old, "a lot of tongue-in-cheek involved in my work." As a gay artist, Old finds that the gay customer is more likely to appreciate whimsy in design. "They're more willing to try something different," he adds.

Old's playfulness earned him an American Crafts Award in 1991 for a hand mirror he designed that looks as if it came from some futuristic version of "Sleeping Beauty." Sleek, spare and dangerous-looking, it belongs in the bathroom of every Evil Queen.

Though he does have a line of pieces that are similarly themed, which include vases and candle holders, all of the designs have variations that make them one-of-a-kind. Through a twist of a wire, a different break in the stone base or moving legs around, Old's creations all have their own personalities. "All of the pieces are very individual even though I may make several of them," he explains.

Since his business is about 50 percent retail and 50 percent commissions, Old notes wryly that Beacon Hill Studios is often referred to as "one of the best kept secrets in Atlanta." But, he adds, "We don't want to be a secret."

In addition to sampling Old's designs, the ACC Craft Fair Atlanta is a great way to sample other local artists' crafts.

"Craft art mirrors the creative spirit of our country and is deeply rooted in our culture. The fair is a celebration of craft's rich history and its contemporary role," says JoAnn Brown, executive director of American Craft Enterprises, which is producing the show.

Crafts will be on display in a wide range of forms—jewelry, ceramics, glass sculpture, furniture and wearable art. The opening night of the fair is a benefit for the Georgia Trust for Historic Preservation and will include a silent auction featuring miniature houses created from different mediums.

BRIAN COCHRAN

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# Using musical imagination to heal the impossible

*Susan Ottzen's new composition addresses the emptiness caused by child abuse and the questions it leaves unanswered*

Music can be a vehicle for emotion—any emotion—from the angst of grunge to the sublime effects of jazz. For some, music *is* emotion, or at the very least the direct expression of it.

All music has the potential to tell a story—with or without words—and as a result, can have a myriad of effects on both listener and composer. For Susan Ottzen, music has been the catalyst of healing the pain brought on by memories of childhood incest.

Her latest composition, "Voidecho," will be performed as Ottzen's second benefit for the Georgia Council on Child Abuse. The first, "Spin the Spiral: Healing Incest," was written in collaboration with former Atlanta drummer Phyllis Free, who now lives in Louisville, Kentucky.

**Voidecho**, a benefit for the Georgia Council on Child Abuse, will be performed March 26 at 8 p.m. at the Georgia State University Recital Hall. For information, call 870-6553.

says Ottzen, a classically trained harpist... "Then, the music helped me to describe, express and contain my pain and anger. I now know the power of the imagination to heal the impossible."

"Voidecho" picks up where that first piece left off—the emptiness caused by memories of abuse, and the questions left unanswered.



MARK TEAGUE

With "Voidecho," Susan Ottzen says she is continuing the healing process.

"It's connected to the Buddhist idea of the void," Ottzen explains. "A void is not supposed to have anything in it, but that something comes out of nothing. It's like a paradox. In Buddhism, the void is the place where the birth of all things is."

And it's the place for the beginning of healing. "I do believe that living with the emptiness instead of avoiding it transforms that void into a window to the soul, as described in 'In Care of the Soul' by Thomas Moore," Ottzen said. "I started with trying to feel where the emptiness is in my own life as a survivor. I would come up with a musical idea

out of that and see how it resonated physically with me and then build on that."

"Actually completing the piece and having it finished means its going to end," she said. "The actual abuse never ended. It was so constant I believed it would go on forever."

The result of Ottzen's "sitting with the emptiness" is a 20-minute piece for eight instruments and electronics, with music that is at times warm and tender, and at times shocking.

"I've always enjoyed playing the harp with what's called a xylophone tube," she says. "I hit the strings with the tube—it shocks people because they can't imagine a harp being hit with a tube. And then I drop the tube on the ground very madly...it's so out of context for the instrument, it visually shakes people up. It shakes me up too."

"But a lot [of 'Voidecho'] is very tender, pretty, expansive," she continues. "It tends to open me up so when the suggestion of violence happens I'm more open to it."

Joining Ottzen during the performance will be Dick Robinson, formerly with the Atlanta Symphony Orchestra, who created the electronic portions of the piece; Carol Lynn Butcher, flute; Robin Ulman, clarinet; Robb Smith, trombone; Peggy Benkeser, co-director of Thamyris, percussion; Lisa Angert, percussion; Karren Berz, violin; Barbara Roberts, bass; and Fyodor Cherniavsky, conductor.

Working with this many instruments posed a challenge for Ottzen as composer.

"Part of what's real important as a composer is creating transitions and bridges from one section to another," she explained, "making things fit together, having a foreground, midground and background that work. How does the texture work? I had to be really clear about what my ideas were, where they were, and what instruments."

"Trying to be a serious classical composer is almost an impossible thing to do right now," Ottzen said. "And as a woman composer it's doubly impossible. It's so incredibly competitive, and there is so little money available. People are going to program men before they program women's work. That's just the way it is."

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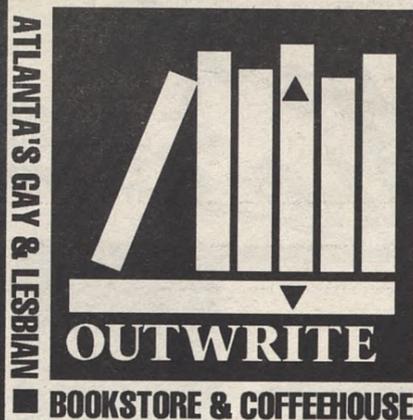
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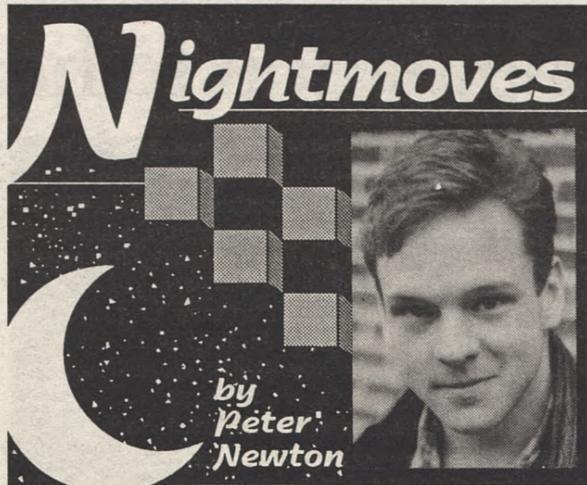
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**Jerry Garcia** is coming to town. Better known as Jerry to his faithful followers. On the grocery list of life, one thing must be penciled in—go see **Grateful Dead**. Where else can you saunter through Dead Town, buy a Beck's Dark from a guy who's got a case chilling in the back of his VW van and take in a wholly American subculture. You don't have to quit your job, drop acid and tie-dye all your T-shirts to enjoy the Dead. They're at the Omni March 30, 31 and April 1. I suppose it's no accident, then, that the fifth annual **Pot Festival** will light up on Saturday, April 2 in Piedmont Park.

All the attention the movie "Philadelphia" has earned will bring another gay-themed film to theaters this month from the same studio. Tri-Star Pictures will release "**Three-some**," starring Lara Flynn Boyle, Stephen Baldwin and Josh Charles. It's being billed as a "store of sexual and emotional exploration among America's twentysomethings." This is cause for celebration.

Spoke with local singer-songwriter **Natalie Farr**



recently about her just released CD, "In Your Sleep" on the independent Blumchen Music label. Farr is booked out of town to promote her new music but says she'll be back in Atlanta playing around a lot more in April. Look for her April 12 at Oxford Books and April 15 at Homage in Little Five.

There are now at least three—count 'em—three weekly "star search" showcases in Atlanta for those of you who want to try getting up on stage to sing, juggle, dance in heels or otherwise entertain. At Backstreet on Wednesday nights, **Ramona Dugger** is the host, while on Tuesdays, **Leah Stetson** does the honors at the Armory. And those patriarchs (or is that matriarchs) of local drag, **Charlie Brown** and **Lily White**, host a drag talent search on Thursdays at Backstreet. All three contests have a \$50 first prize.

"**Drastic Cuts**" is the name of a dance performance at Georgia Tech's Theatre for the Arts. Hailing from New York City, choreographer **Donald Byrd** brings his dance company, Donald Byrd/The Group to Atlanta for two nights only. I haven't yet seen them perform so excuse me while I

paraphrase from their lengthy press release. You can expect, "a suite of abstract dances set to an industrial sounding percussion score choreographed to find powerful nuances that suggest intense intimacy, dependence urgency and a struggle to be free." All that in one evening. How can you go wrong? Friday and Saturday, March 25 and 26. (404) 894-9600.

If intimacy, dependence and the struggle to be free are getting you down, why not let someone else worry about these things for a while? It's a temporary solution, I'll admit, but it works. Recently, I went to see the newest Alliance Theatre production in The Studio which is the smaller 200-seat play space just below the main stage. **Christopher Durang's** comedy, "**Laughing Wild**" is true to its title. The two person play is strangely cathartic. It's a cross between Monty Python and Saturday Night Live. And one of the better Saturday Night Lives, too, not the one where Nancy Kerrigan hosted a few weeks back in a very lame fashion. But that's off the point. Laughing wild, it's what you do when all else fails. When the world is too much. When nothing really makes much sense anymore but what are the options?

Durang is a brilliant writer. He makes you laugh and then wonder: "Why am I laughing?" I guess that's what you call a dark comedy. "Laughing Wild" is for the cynical and the silly. But it's a serious play that addresses serious issues. And besides, it all but slams the religious right. Guaranteed to take the edge off any day. Playing through May 1. Call (404) 892-2414 to reserve tickets.

In the mailbag last week, I received some religious tracts from a group concerned about the condition of my soul. How nice, I thought. These people recognize my fight for truth and justice. They agree with the belief that love is better than hate and want to reward my efforts for trying to make this a better world in which to live. A gift from Cobb County. They shouldn't have.



CATHY CARMICHAEL

Natalie Farr coming back in April

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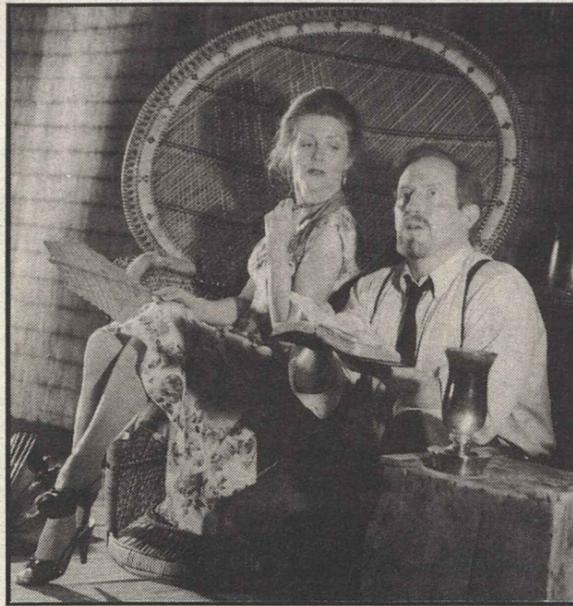
## RAIN

It's far too easy to resort to puns when reviewing a play such as "Rain," the current offering at Theatre in the Square in Marietta. You can say things like, "It's soggy," or "It's all wet" and think you're being funny. But you're not.

The problem is that "Rain" simply lacks the torrid impact it once had. Then again, look at the movies with Joan Crawford, Rita Hayworth or Gloria Swanson. By today's standards, "Rain" is less about steamy, forbidden love on a storm-drenched South Sea Island than it is about religious hypocrisy and fundamentalist preachers who use the Bible as a weapon. Seen in that light, "Rain" has relevance today, especially to the situation in Cobb County (Ironically, the theater chose "Rain" for its season long before the controversy broke last summer, and nobody noticed that Somerset Maugham, whose short story "Miss Sadie Thompson" is the basis for "Rain," was one of the most famous, openly gay writers of the 20th Century).

"Rain" is the story of a group of travelers in the South Seas who find themselves stuck on a small island in the middle of monsoon season. Forced to camp out in the lodgings of Joe Horn (John Purcell), a crusty old drunken general store proprietor, the group almost immediately turns its attentions to the wild ways of one of its fellow travelers, Miss Sadie Thompson (Ruth Reid). Sadie is a woman with a past, and Rev. Alfred Davidson (Bruce Evers) is hell-bent to do his damndest to see she comes clean and finds religion.

But Davidson is a hypocrite. He's condemned himself and his wife Hester into a loveless, chaste marriage (they've never had sex, we learn). And just at the moment when he



KATHRYN KOLB

"Rain," the newest offering from Theatre in the Square, takes aim at religious hypocrisy.

thinks he has saved Sadie's soul, he gives in to his own desires with her.

In its day (it opened on Broadway in 1922, adapted by John Colton and Clemence Randolph), "Rain" was considered racy theater—the sort of play that would be banned in Boston (its London opening was heavily censored). Today, we scratch our heads and wonder why. Because Davidson slept with Sadie? Because Sadie was a prostitute? Because Maugham used his story to denounce religious hypocrisy and those who promulgate it? It's hard to judge.

Upon seeing the Theatre in the Square production, my initial impulse was to dismiss the piece as being far too dated to be enjoyable. But "Rain" kept gnawing at me, forcing me to look back at it and reexamine what Maugham was trying to say. Yes, it's a dated piece, too out of historical context to be believed. But like Moliere's "Tartuffe," there's a far stron-

ger message here. Those people who use religion as a weapon—like Davidson, like the Cobb County Commission, like those pastors who use their positions in a church to seduce vulnerable parishioners—will ultimately get their just desserts. Even Davidson, the self-righteous prig that he is, gets what he deserves (though it seems a little heavy-handed to a contemporary audience).

John R. Briggs' staging of "Rain" is problematic. He has directed the play with a heavy hand, underlining all those spots in the script where we're supposed to see how loathsome and vile a creature Davidson really is. Conversely, he's lightened up the character of Sadie so much, as played by Reid, that she seems more flapper than floozy, less of a threat to Davidson's need to dominate than a minor irritant to his vision of the world. Furthermore, Briggs has mistakenly substituted slow pacing for the lethargic atmosphere called for in the script. Often the production sags when it should be brisk and tight. It lopes to its hellfire denouncement instead of galloping.

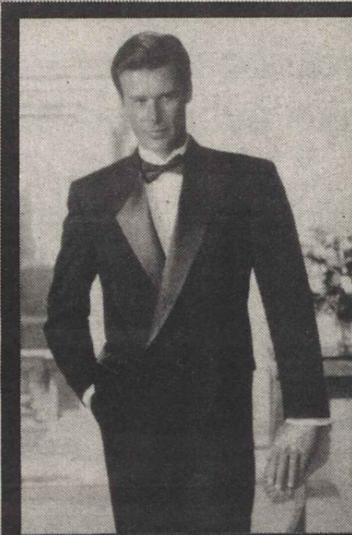
Bruce Evers does indeed bring a great deal of fire and brimstone to the character of Davidson, making him so easy to loathe. He is the personification of a priggish pastor, and his portrayal is strong. Jessica Phelps is startling as Mrs. Davidson, a woman who turns "long-suffering" into an art form. Purposely underplaying the role, Phelps delivers the most powerful punch of the production in many ways.

One supporting character, Dr. MacPhail, as played by Jack Mason, is the voice of reason in the stormy center of the play. Mason is large and loud and gruff, but he brings the most insight to his role, and he's a commanding presence whenever he's on stage. He, more than anyone else in the cast, understands the pacing the piece requires, and he alone gets the humor written into the piece.

It might be easy to dismiss "Rain" as dated material, but would be inappropriate to do so. Religious hypocrisy as the basis of theater has been with us for centuries (the aforementioned "Tartuffe"). True, "Rain" is very much rooted in a 1920 sensibility, but its message—and the venue in which it is delivered—impacts us even now.

MICHAEL KAPE

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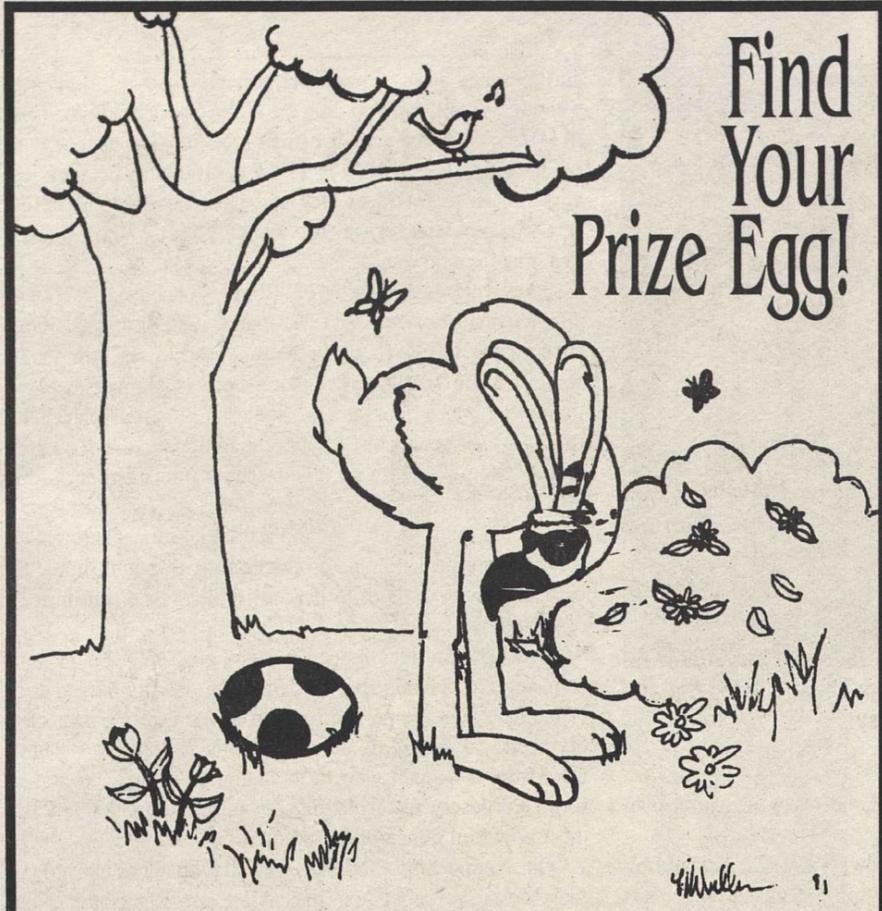
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## Making death a part of life

*"Starting Monday," the new production at Onstage Atlanta, looks at the relationship between two women faced with the ultimate test*

by MICHAEL KAPE

"The truth be told, I have sex with men. No love. I have love with women. No sex. I don't think there's a name for me yet," says the leading character of Lynne in the play "Starting Monday," which opens this week at Onstage Atlanta.

**Starting Monday** opens Friday, March 25 at Onstage Atlanta, 420 Courtland St. Downtown. For more information, call 897-1802.

What she does have is a very good friend in Ellis. Unfortunately, Ellis is dying of cancer.

"Starting Monday" by Anne Commire, is a play about the friendship between these two women, which follows what happens to them from the time they meet on a cruise until after Ellis dies. Told in flashback, the piece uses both humor and pathos to give us insight into a painful subject.

the process of death, if they have not already been through it with someone," says Marc Gowan, Onstage's artistic director, who is directing this production. "The play is entertaining. It's an emotional roller coaster. You laugh. You cry. You go woaaa."

Gowan is very clear about the true nature of the friendship between Lynne and Ellis. "The two women meet," he says, "and they become friends. Deep friends. Very close friends. But it's not a sexual relationship. The one thing some of the reviews—especially the Village Voice review—of the original New York production said was that Commire was sanitizing the play for mass appeal, that there really was more to this relationship than we see in this relationship than we see in the play. I talked to the playwright, and she said, 'That's bullshit. People can be friends without having a sexual relationship.'"

The two women certainly do have a lot in common. As Lynne tells the audience, "We used to wake up with a hangover, a man over, and early morning regrets." It is when they realize just how much they do have in common (men trouble, obsession

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poses was to tell people we have to make death a part of life, which is something a lot of people avoid," Gowan says. "In various philosophies, they talk about being able to make death a part of life. By not fearing death you can live fuller, which I think is a major portion of this show. She told me, 'When I wrote the play, I had a prayer it would affect.' Maybe that's one reason this play has been bouncing around with me for a while. I like shows that affect an audience; that either moves them emotionally to tears or to laughter or anger or whatever."

The play is dramatic and certainly deals with a painful subject, but Gowan insists it won't hit audiences over the head. "It's very moving, and it's subtle. It doesn't say, 'This is what happens when you have cancer—your hair falls out.' It's entertaining and often funny."

Sally Robertson (left) and Taffee Patterson star in "Starting Monday."

with food, etc.) that they become such good friends. And when Ellis is diagnosed with cancer, Lynne puts her life on hold in order to take care of her friend until she dies, seeing her through painful treatments, the loss of her hair and, finally, the last act of her life.

"Starting Monday" is starring Sally Robertson as Lynne and Taffee Patterson as Ellis. Robertson is the artistic director of Different Voices, an alternative theatrical producing troupe in town. Patterson has appeared in various plays for Onstage Atlanta.

"The playwright told me one of her pur-

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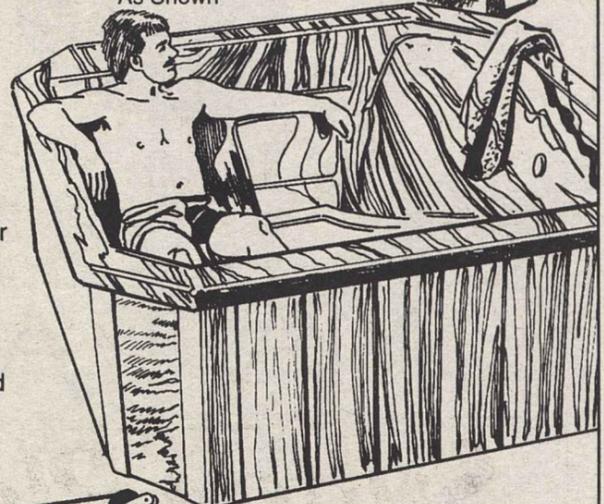
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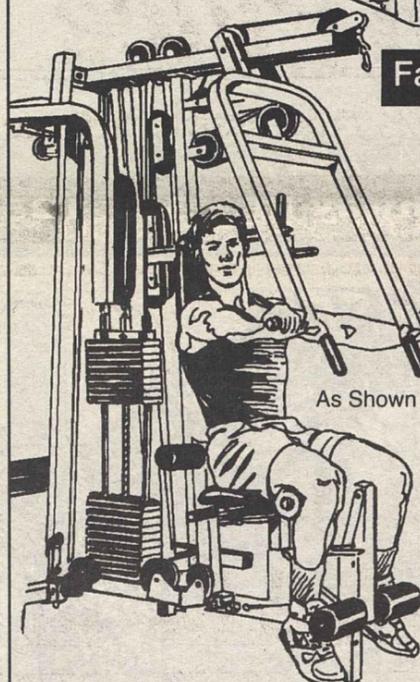
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## Gay Men's Chorus to sing silly and sublime show tunes

The next stop for the Atlanta Gay Men's Chorus is Midtown, and what better place to hold a concert that consists mainly of show tunes. Yes, gay men singing show tunes in Midtown. What could be more *apropos*?

The concert, titled "An Evening with Lenny, George, Steve and Fats," will feature the works of four of the most popular and prolific composers of the 20th Century (Bernstein, Gershwin, Sondheim and Waller, respectively). Stylistically, the music chosen ranges from sublime to silly. More importantly, as chorus master Jeff McIntyre puts it, "We chose four

composers whose music we liked. We had seen other choruses perform some of these pieces in Denver (at a national gathering of choruses) and decided to produce some of our own arrangements of them."

Having chorus members do the musical arrangements adds a personal touch to the concert and makes McIntyre's job a bit easier. This way, he doesn't have to go through the laborious process of finding the music he wants before beginning the laborious process of rehearsals. He credits singers Ron Day, Ben Lewis and John Young for their good work in arranging standout pieces like "Sunday" from *Sunday in the Park with George* (Sondheim) and "Our Love is Here to Stay" (Gershwin) for male chorus performance.

Not to be outdone, McIntyre's own entry in the arranging derby is his version of Gershwin standard "I Got Rhythm." He translated it from a version Gershwin wrote for piano. "It was amazingly easy," insists McIntyre. "The music was just right for a choral arrangement."

Though the chorus has chosen to perform a mostly popular music concert at this outing, they have chosen music that is

not often performed. For example, with the treasure trove of Sondheim music for the stage, the chorus could have easily done a Sondheim only concert, filled with recognizable classics. Instead, they have selected gems like "I'm Not Getting Married Today" from *Company*, which Madeline Kahn performed so hilariously at last year's Sondheim tribute at Carnegie Hall.

According to McIntyre, these choices were not easy because there are a lot of Sondheim fans in the chorus. "We had so much to choose from that we had a hard time deciding which pieces to do. A lot of our members were very passionate about which ones they were interested in performing."

In addition to "I Got Rhythm," the Gershwin selections include the self-parodying "By Strauss," in which the composer answers some of his critics. The Bernstein pieces come from *Mass* and *West Side Story*. Finally, the Fats Waller section combines two of the composer's great tunes, "Ain't Misbehavin'" and "Find Out What They Like and How They Like It (And Give It To 'em Just That Way)".

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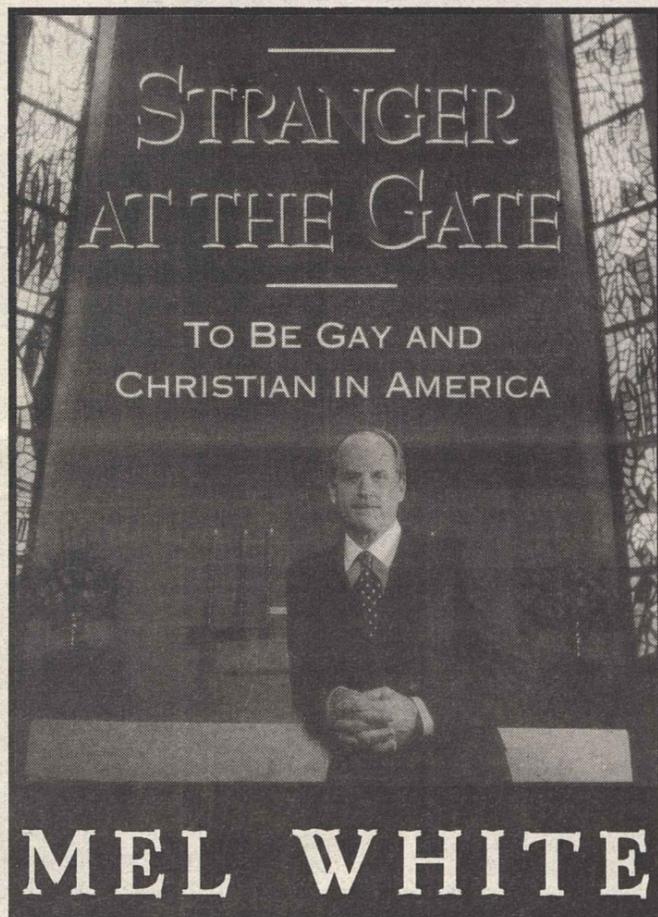
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OUTLINES

**AIDA RENTAS**

**Age:** 56  
**How long in Atlanta:** 2 years  
**Relationship Status:** Dating  
**Last Book Read:** "Just as I am"  
 by E. Lynn Harris  
**Pet Peeve:** People who say they're bored



Pardon the cliché, but Aida Rentas has seen it all and loved every minute of it.

She came out four decades ago as a teenager in New York City, where she lived until moving to Atlanta two years ago.

"I feel privileged to have witnessed all the changes over the last 40 years of the lesbian dream," she says.

The history she has lived comes pouring out in her Poncey-Highland home, not far from Little Five Points.

"I was a hippie in the 60s, and when the community started coming out, I was there," she says. "When Stonewall happened, we were looking at it as just another run-in with the cops, but this time we stood up. Who knew? I'm so glad to have been able to see it—the super highs and the super lows. It's been an incredible trip, and I wouldn't change it for the world."

Rentas describes lesbian life in those early days as something less than liberating.

"Now we go around with stickers on our cars announcing we're gay," she says. "That was the last thing you did in the 50s."

And it was a difficult time, as well. "We knew when we came out of the bar we were going into a paddywagon," she explains. "Unless the cops were paid off."

And what about that butch-femme stuff? Rentas said that she was "kiki"—"that makes me want a little bit of everything"—but she explains at least some of the stereotypical lesbian roles as a "safety measure."

"[Lesbian] drag came out of trying to look like a man so you wouldn't get beat up," she says. "If you were walking down the street with a young woman, you were going to get beat up. It was a disguise. And when it became OK to be gay, most of the women came out of the drag."

While it was never easy being a lesbian during those difficult times, Rentas had other battles to fight. She was born in Puerto Rico, came to New York with her family at age 2.

"I think I was born an activist," she explains. "My father is white, my mother is black. I learned early in life about being interracial—but I'm not. Both of my parents are Puerto Rican. When you're a minority, there's always something you're defending."

"When I came to this country, I spoke English before my father did," she continues.

"And my mother took years to learn. I would be speaking it for her and taking her places. Of course, I used it to my advantage in school—'A' is awful and 'D' is delightful."

So just how did a nice Puerto Rican girl end up being a long time lesbian?

"My mother didn't know what to do with me," Rentas laughs. "So she sent me to a correctional institute at nine—a Catholic home for wayward children. I went in boy crazy and came out a lesbian. The nuns were dykes."

At 15, Rentas moved out of her home.

"I had to move to start afresh," she explains. "So I left home and moved to a gay black community in Harlem. They adopted me and taught me how to be a lesbian."

At 18, she fell in love with a woman who would be her partner for the next 20 years, through the 1960s and 1970s—when Rentas was a member of the Salsa Soul Sisters, an organization of African- and Latin-American women—and then into the 1980s—and the beginning of the onslaught of AIDS.

"Our friends were dying and we didn't know what for," she says, "Then all of a sudden it had a name."

And now, in the 1990s, Rentas has moved south.

"I came for a visit, was here three days and fell in love with the city," she says. "I went home and packed. The gardens, flowers everywhere. Friendly people. I like it here. I'm staying."

She's certainly made a mark here—a founder of Latinos en Acción (she's the president of the organization), board member of the Lambda Center, member of Fourth Tuesday and Lesbians Over 50. And she's delighted with all that she's seen and done.

"We have gone through so much in each 10 year period," she says. "Of course, there are still a lot of battles to win, but we've been successful because people have come out of the closet."

"I feel younger now than I did at 18 because I don't have all those complexes that you have when you're younger," she continues. "I have an ability to accept who I am, be who I am. I've stopped looking for people to validate who I am."

"It takes a long time to do that," she adds with a laugh, "so now I'm enjoying."

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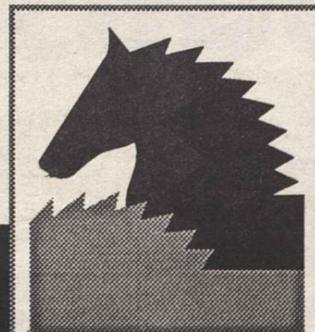
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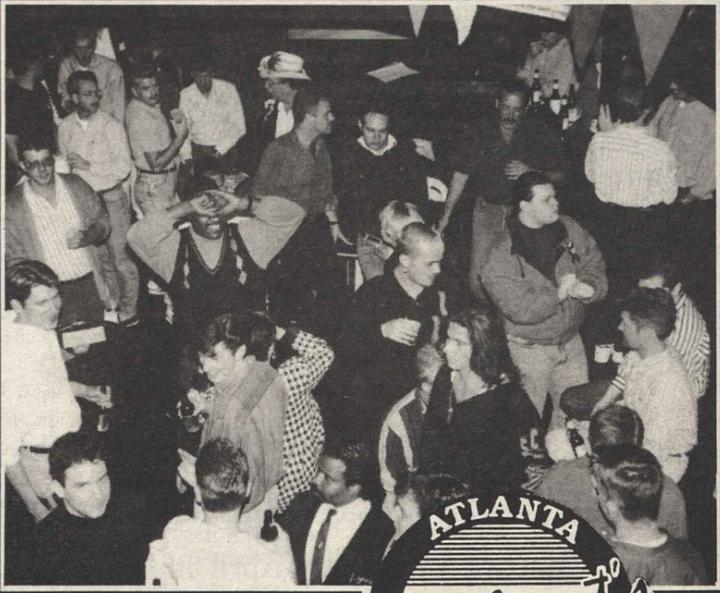
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### AIDS Organizations

- AID Atlanta—872-0600
- AIDS Education/Svcs for Minorities—POB 87277, Atl, 30337, 762-6002
- AIDS Hotline for Women—888-9991
- AIDS Info Line—876-9944 (Atlanta); 1-800-551-2728
- AIDS Legal Project—688-5433
- AIDS Outreach Sewing Guild—872-2246
- AIDS Research Consortium of Atlanta (ARCA)—876-2317
- AIDS and Substance Abuse Speakers Network—977-7797
- AIDS SUPPORT—Jewish Family Services—888-6400, #76
- AIDS Survival Project (formerly Atlanta NAPWA)—874-7926
- Atlanta Buyers Club—874-4845, or POB 77003, Atl, 30357
- Atlanta Interfaith AIDS Network—874-8686
- Atlanta Lesbian AIDS Project—250-8177
- Childkind—936-9655
- Common Ground—874-6425
- First MCC AIDS Ministry—325-4143
- Georgia AIDS Therapy Information Network—1-800-551-2728
- Good Samaritan Project—873-4589
- Grady Mem. Hospital Infectious Disease Program—341 Ponce de Leon Ave., Atl, 30308, (404) 616-2440
- Homefront Housing—872-6584
- Jerusalem House—527-7627
- The Living AIDS Memorial Park Project—876-0105
- The Names Project/Atlanta—605-7386
- Outreach, Inc.—(404) 346-3922
- People's United Pet Support—370-0178
- Pets Are Loving Support (P.A.L.S.)—876-PALS
- Positive Impact—885-9040
- Positive Outlook on Health—872-9954
- Project Open Hand Atlanta—525-4620
- Sister Love—753-7733

### Arts/Entertainment/Culture

- Atlanta Diversity Chorale—607-1146
- Atlanta Feminist Women's Chorus—438-5823
- Atlanta Gay Men's Chorus—POB 771144, Atlanta 30357
- Atlanta Lesbian and Gay History Thing—POB 7032, Atl 30357, 876-1060
- Atlanta Rainbow Ensemble—872-3135
- "Funny... That Way"—875-2275
- Gay & Lesbian Marching Band—872-9763
- Gay Musician's Meeting Post—SASE to GMMP, PO Box 250336, Atl 30318
- Pen-draggin' Poets—523-3639
- Southeastern Arts, Media & Education Project, Inc.—609-9590
- Southern Country Atlanta—938-0609

### Bars

- The Armory—836 Juniper, 881-9280
- Babylon—Piedmont Grove, 10th & Monroe.
- Backstreet—845 Peachtree St. 873-1986
- Bellissima—688 Spring Street.
- Blake's—227 10th St. 892-5786
- Buddies Cheshire Square—2345 Cheshire Br. Rd. 634-5895
- Buddies Midtown—239 Ponce de Leon. 872-2655
- Bulldog & Co—893 Peachtree. 872-3025
- Burkhardt's—Ansley Square. 872-4403
- Club Fetish—(Weds.) 695 North Ave.—577-8178
- The Cove—586 Worcester. 875-2477
- Crazy Ray z—1492 Piedmont. 873-4655
- Crown Club—2050 Cheshire Br. 636-5470
- The Eagle—308 Ponce De Leon. 87EAGLE
- 551 Downstairs—551 Ponce De Leon. 873-4052
- Gallus Bar & Restaurant—49 6th St. 892-8983
- Goodies—64 Third St. 873-3355
- The Heretic—2069 Cheshire Bridge. 325-3061
- Loretta's—708 Spring St. 874-8125
- The Metro—48 6th Street. 874-9869
- New Order—1544 Piedmont. 874-8247
- Opus—1086 Alco St. 634-6478
- The Otherside—1924 Piedmont Rd. 875-5238
- The Pear Garden—11 Luckie St. 659-4055
- Phoenix—567 Ponce De Leon. 892-7871
- Revolution—293 Pharr Rd. 816-5455
- Scandals—Ansley Square. 875-5957
- Visions—2043 Cheshire Bridge. 248-9712

### Direct Action/Political

- ACLU of Georgia—523-5398
- ACLU/Lesbian & Gay Chapter—523-6201
- ACT UP—44 12th St. NE, Atlanta 30309-3979, 874-6782 (O)
- Atlanta Greens, Green Party USA, Lesbian-Gay-Bi-Queer Caucus—368-7137
- Catalyst—(404) 776-1478
- Cobb Citizens Coalition—POB 965336, Marietta 30066, 256-8690
- Dykes & Faggots Bash Back—POB 14531, Atl 30324, voice mail 908-5369
- Gay/Lesbian Alliance Against Defamation—605-7477
- Georgia Advocates for Battered Women & Children/Lesbian Task Force—524-3847; 250 Georgia Ave. SE, Rm. 365, Atl. 30312
- Georgia Committee for the 1993 March on Washington—(404) 662-4199 or POB 5282, Atlanta 30307
- GAPAC—Georgia Political Action Committee—872-8095, FAX 874-8628
- Human Rights Campaign Fund—Field Committee, 231-5751
- LEGAL—605-7476
- National Association of People with AIDS Hotline—874-7926
- National Org. for Women, Gay & Lesbian Rights Task Force—636-7435
- Neighbors Network—257-5550
- Olympics Out of Cobb Coalition—POB 77341 Atlanta, GA 30357-1341—798-7822
- Out Front—PO Box 12369, Atlanta 30355
- Queer Nation—605-7396
- Republicans for Individual Freedoms—PO 13162, Atl, GA 30324, 239-1679
- Straight But Not Narrow—242-2256 (voice mail)
- STOP Bias Crimes Hot Line—605-STOP

### National

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

### Professional

- Atlanta Entrepreneurs' Club—Dr. Bravy 457-6347
- Bar Owner's Assn—POB 15114, Atlanta 30333-0114
- Fourth Tuesday—662-4353
- Gay/Lesbian Postal Employees Network (G/L PEN)—POB 580397, Minneapolis, MN 55458-0397
- GA Assoc. of Physicians for Human Rights (GAPHR)—231-2251
- LEAGUE ATLANTA, Inc. (Employees of AT&T)—404/351-8322
- Nat'l Gay Pilots Assoc.—PO Box 27542, Washington, D.C. 20038-7542, (703) 660-3852
- Nat'l Lesbian and Gay Journalists Assoc.—634-7429
- Nat'l Federation of Career Women—(404) 659-0315
- OUTstaff (Emory)—727-2787 (Donna)
- Voices Out Front—2103 N. Decatur Rd. Ste. 185, Decatur 30033
- Young Women's Brunch Network—Carolyn, 294-4233.

### Spiritual

- All Saints Metropolitan Community Church—622-1154
- Atlanta Church of Religious Science—636-4567
- Catholic Gay and Lesbian Outreach—876-0631
- Christ Covenant MCC, Stone Mountain—297-0350
- Congregation Bet Haverim (Jewish)—642-3467
- Emergence/Atlanta (Christian Scientists)—565-2126
- First Existentialist Congregation of Atlanta—378-5570
- First Metropolitan Community Church of Atl—325-4143
- Friends for Lesbian & Gay Concerns (Quakers)—370-1340
- Gay & Lesbian Mormons—570-2561 (dig. page)
- Gay Spirit Visions—292-8567
- Grant Park Aldersgate United Methodist Church—627-6221; 575 Boulevard SE
- Hosanna African Unity Life Center—872-9055
- Integrity (Episcopal)—642-3183
- Lutherans Concerned/Atlanta—636-7109
- New Age Gays—434-7338
- Oakhurst Presbyterian Church—378-6284
- Presbyterians for Lesbian and Gay Concerns—373-5830
- Unitarian Universalists—634-5134, George at 688-2242

### Sports/Outdoor/Hobbies

- Atlanta Team Tennis Assn—621-2699
- Atlanta Venture Sports—242-4899
- Atlanta Women's Lacrosse Club—303-1160, 888-6738
- Atlanta Women's Social Tennis—662-GAME
- Front Runners/Atlanta—621-5007
- Greater Atlanta Naturist Group—851-2882 (voice mail)
- Hotlanta Soccer—876-7372
- Hotlanta Softball League—POB 14582, Atl. 30324, 873-4061
- Hotlanta Volleyball—621-5062
- Lambda Car Club—POB 11705, Atlanta 30355
- Luring Lesbians (fishing club)—932-5236
- Mountain Catalyst—POB 199, Demorest, GA 30535
- OUT in Nature—619-9185
- S.E. Gay Rodeo Assn—POB 7881, Atl., 30357, 760-8126
- Wilderness Network of GA—SASE, POB 55156, Atlanta 30308
- Women's Outdoor Network—624-3418
- Women's Rugby—659-6916 or 761-8939
- TRICKS Bridge Club—2980 Cobb Pkwy, Suite 192-172, Atlanta 30339
- Underwater Escapes—289-0696

### Service/Support/Social

- About Crossdressing—Janet, 624-3770
- African American Lesbian/Gay Alliance—239-8184 (voice mail)
- Amazon Salon Young Feminist Network—223-3718
- American Educational Gender Info Service—POB 33724, Decatur 30033, (404) 939-0244 (eve)
- Asians & Friends—Atlanta—876-0090
- Athens Lesbian Information—LSG, POB 7864, Athens, 30604
- Atlanta Corporal Punishment Club—Box 11863, Atlanta 30355
- Atlanta Couples Together—365-2455
- Atlanta Gay Center—876-5372
- Atlanta Gender Exploration—875-9846
- Atlanta Lambda Community Ctr—POB 15180, Atl 30333, 662-9010
- Atlanta Lesbian and Gay Pride Comm—662-4533
- Atlanta Lesbian Feminist Alliance—POB 5502, Atl 30307, 378-9769
- Atlanta Lesbian Singles Organization (ALSO)—294-4558
- Atlanta Prime Timers—APT, POB 29487, Atlanta 30359
- Atlanta Pro-Choice Action Committee—239-8016
- BiAtlanta—256-8992
- Bisexuals of Atlanta Resource Network—908-3413
- Black and White Men Together—892-BWMT
- Caregivers to PWAs Support Group—874-1109 or 875-6109
- Codependents Anonymous—239-1657
- Consciousness Raising and Support Group for Women in Politics and Grassroots Organizing—636-7435
- Delphi—POB 14591, Atlanta, G 30324
- Emergence International—876-3997
- Emotions Anonymous—925-4825
- First Women—G.G. Richardson, POB 724711, Atl. 30339, 612-9473.
- Friends Atlanta—662-4501
- Gainsville/NE Georgia Gay Men's Support Grp—Gary 404-535-5445
- Gay Fathers of Atlanta—342-6451
- Gay Help Line—6pm-11pm 892-0661
- Gay/Lesbian AA & Al-Anon—881-9188
- Gay/Lesbian/Bi Teen Group—378-5570
- Gay, Lesbian and Bisexual Veterans of America—623-4099
- Gay/Lesbian Task Force to the Public Safety Comm. of City Council—330-6504
- Georgia Girth & Mirth—POB 9678, Atl. 30319, (404) 621-5710
- Georgia Lesbian Ecofeminists—525-9085
- Gwinnett Lambda—POB 464848, L.wnc'ville 30246, 871-GAYS
- Hospitality Atlanta—627-1630, 708-6866
- Interact of Atlanta—984-9875
- John Howell Park Project—876-0105
- Lambda Group/Narcotics Anonymous—237-6262
- Latinos En Accion—621-5743
- Lesbian Alcoholics Anonymous—378-6935
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- Lesbian Support Group—627-7387
- Lesbians Considering Parenthood—767-6173
- Lesbians Over 50—908-6119
- Lesbians With Children—740-1729
- Men of Little 5 Points—POB 5425, Atlanta 31107, 523-5804
- Name the Violence Support Group for Battered Lesbians—822-9570; Crisis Hotline—688-9436
- Overeaters Anonymous (gay/lesbian group)—892-5868
- Parents, Families and Friends of Lesbians and Gays—296-0830 or 875-9440
- Parents, Families and Friends of Lesbians and Gays/Chattanooga—(615) 875-5750, (615) 622-3813
- Positive Black Lesbians United (PBLU)—298-9614
- Prime Timers—633-3955
- Queer Youth—P.O. Box 54032, Atlanta 30308; 605-7396
- Real Gay World BBS—404-266-0856
- Sexual Compulsives Anonymous—239-8048
- Support Group for Battered Gay Partners—(404) 350-0456
- Survivors of Incest Anonymous—POB 2502, Decatur, GA 30031; 239-8018
- Tyikone, Atlanta—607-1766
- Uniformed Svcs Activity—Box 6057, Arlington, VA 22206
- Women In Kahoots—(WINK) 438-1421
- Women of Wisdom—289-8819
- Wordsmith Society—Chris at 498-0137
- Young Adult Support Group—876-5372
- Zami—370-1392

### Students/Alumni

- Agnes Scott Lesbian & Bisexual Alliance—Box 501, Decatur 30030; 373-1632
- Alliance of Lesbian, Gay and Bisexual Students of GA State—605-7681
- Bi, Lesbian & Gay Student Union of West Ga. College—706-834-3569
- Delta Lambda Phi—All Campuses, 365-5357
- Emory Lesbian & Gay Organization—727-6692
- Gays & Lesbians United for Equality—Kennesaw Comm. College 423-6246
- Georgia Tech Gay Alumni Group—POB 50291, GA Tech Sta., Atl 30332
- Georgia Tech Gay & Lesbian Alliance—497-0684
- Lesbian/Gay/Bisexual Student Union of the Univ. of Ga.—404/549-9368
- S.E. Alternative Lifestyles Association—248-9307
- Univ. of Ala. Lesbian/Gay Alumni Assoc.—284-3479

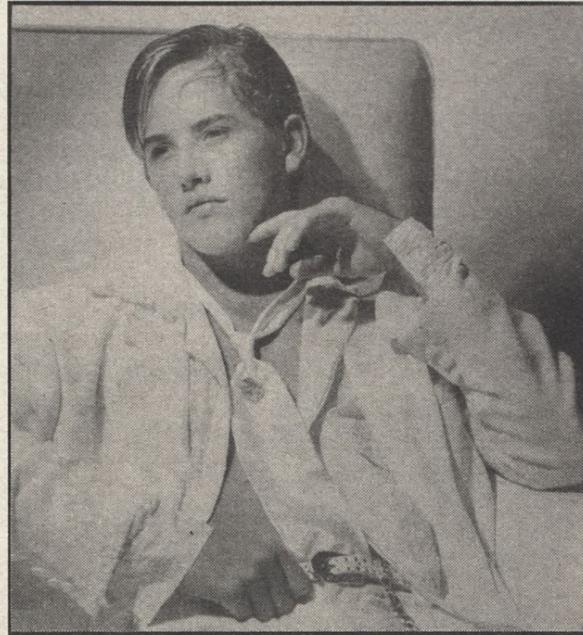
**On the Street Where They Live:** All 22 residents of Gay Avenue in Blooming Grove, Wisconsin want the city fathers to change the name of their street because their kids are getting harassed in school about the name of the street where they live. Said one of the fathers in question, "Now the children on the street won't have to grow up being oppressed by that." Wait a minute. What the folks in Blooming Grove don't seem to get is that by changing the name of their street, they're giving into the oppression instead of standing up to it. We might have expected this kind of foolishness in Alabama, but not in Wisconsin, one of the eight states in this country that has enacted laws to protect its lesbian and gay citizens from discrimination.

**Turn Your Radio (and TV) Off:** Some pervert sent Dish a catalog from Global Evangelism Television, Inc., primarily, we suspect, because it contains an article entitled "Ruth: The Romance of Redemption," which is part of a series of such pieces called Great Women of the Bible. All that, we think, is cool. What bugs us is that all these articles are written by men. And this one uses a particularly nasty, sexist and anti-Semitic set of adjectives to describe Naomi—"a bankrupt, bitter, barren, overweight Jewish mother-in-law." Jesus, we suspect, would not have been amused.

**Marketing Miasma:** Dish is confused. The April issue of "Out" magazine (which sports a 12 page feature on "gender-bent" fashion) also has a very genderless (but pretty) ad for Versace's "Home Signature" bedding line. Cool enough, until you check the back cover of the March issue of Esquire which features an incredibly androgynous image of what we assume is a man (but could be a woman—you decide) in a

# Dish

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



Dish wonders what she (or he?) is doing in Esquire.

Versace Couture ad. Are we confused, or is it Versace's ad agency?

**Sunday in the Park With Pecs:** When the sun came out and the temperature went up a couple of weeks ago, Dish headed to Piedmont Park to enjoy the weather and look at the men. We were struck by two things. Mirrored sunglasses seem to have almost disappeared from the scene, for which we give great thanks. And it appears that far too many guys are spending all their time at the gym working almost exclusively on their pecs. That may look OK when you've got a shirt on, guys. But it's mighty silly to see the torso, arms and legs of a 97-pound weakling walking around topped by what look like silicone implants.

**Family Ties:** Winton Blount III is running for governor of Alabama as a Republican. If you live in Alabama, the name Blount is familiar because Winton's daddy, Winton "Red" Blount, is a major mover and shaker in that state's construction and manufacturing scene. Then again, if you live in Atlanta, the name may ring bells because because Joe Blount is a prominent gay political activist here and his brother Tom devotes endless hours to AIDS activism. Tom says that both he and Joe support their brother's political aspirations. But before Tom would agree to that support, he insisted that Winton III meet with Dr. Mike Saag, who runs the AIDS Clinical Trial Group at the University of Alabama, to get the facts on AIDS. Says Tom, "Winton's a good person. He'd make a good governor." If Dish lived in Alabama, we'd have to consider casting a vote for a Republican. Which sure goes to show the power of being out of the closet with your family.

MARCH 24-MARCH 30, 1994

Spring is here, so take every opportunity to enjoy the wonderful creative energy that flows through all the world at this time of the year. It is renewing and life giving, making this a sacred time of the year with Passover and Palm Sunday occurring on Sunday, March 27, along with the full moon. Happy birthday, **ARIES**. This is your month to celebrate your life and birth, all the joys and sorrows that you have experienced and all the adventures you have to share. For your own fulfillment, take time to be with friends and those you love. **TAURUS**, your 12th house of dreams, visions and the collective unconscious is activated by the sun and Venus, so your dream time may be a little more intense and possibly filled with unusual images. **GEMINI**, if the weather is favorable, you would really benefit from daily exercise outdoors, even if it's just a walk in the park. If you have been thinking about living with a pet friend, then look over your schedule for really quality time. **CANCER**, are you ready for a few more changes in your life? If people or situations are doing the unexpected right now, then it is to be expected. Stay relaxed and aware—no need to

## ★ ★ ★ ★ ★

### STAR SIGNS

make quick decisions. Also be clear about your own needs and wants. **LEO**, this is an excellent time for a little adventure, especially the planned variety, rather than the accidental kind. Any class, workshop or experience that will broaden your horizons or give you a new perspective would be very enjoyable for you. **VIRGO**, investigating the unknown is definitely up, so you may find long, forgotten people or experiences (good, yucky or just plain boring) popping into your awareness. Excellent energy available for releasing, cleansing and creating a better future. **LIBRA**, love, romance and social excitement are definitely in the air for you this week, especially with the full moon in your sign. Plan to spend quality time with friends you love and care about, and take time for relaxation and personal reflection. **SCORPIO**, the full moon is activating your 12th

house of dreams, visions and great eternal wisdom. If possible, keep a dream log and pay attention to your really excellent intuition. **SAGITTARIUS**, if anyone knows the value of tried and true friendships, you certainly do. Get in touch with distant friends, plan play time with those you haven't seen lately and definitely pay close attention to your own inner wisdom. **CAPRICORN**, you may need to spend quality time at home—cleaning up, fixing up, clearing out closets and generally putting more life and energy into your living space. Your partner, roommate or best friend would appreciate attention. **AQUARIUS**, Mars and Saturn are stirring things up in your second house of material resources and financial possibilities, so you may need to develop a more creative approach to income and outflow. **PISCES**, now that your birthday month is over and you are into your solar year, keep up the spirit of celebration you felt. If you are hampered at all by shyness, then commit to finding ways over, around or through it. *Mary Bailey Rule is a professional astrologer who specializes in personal and relationship chart interpretation as well as crisis management. She can be reached in Santa Fe at (505) 982-3104 to order charts or arrange a chart interpretation.*

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WELL SHERRIEAYNNE, IT'S AWFULY NICE OF YOU TO PHONE, BUT AS A GAY MAN, I HAVE NO SPOUSE. AT LEAST NOT IN THE SENSE IN WHICH YOU USE THAT TERM. NOW, I MIGHT BE INTERESTED IF YOU'D CONSIDER EXTENDING THESE BENEFITS TO DOMESTIC PARTNERS... OR BETTER YET, IF YOU'D COMMIT SOME OF THE RESOURCES OF YOUR ENORMOUS EMPLOYER TO AN EFFORT CHALLENGING LAWS BARRING SAME-SEX MARRIAGES...

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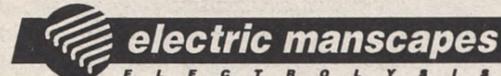
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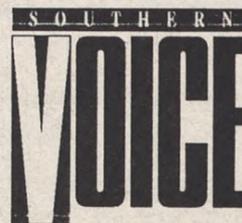
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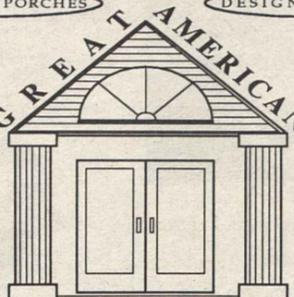
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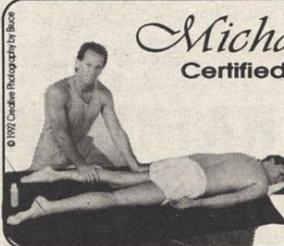
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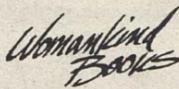
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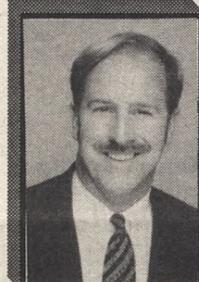
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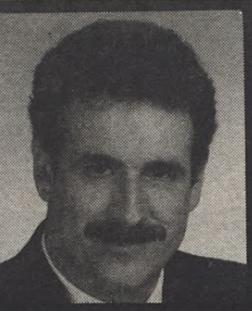
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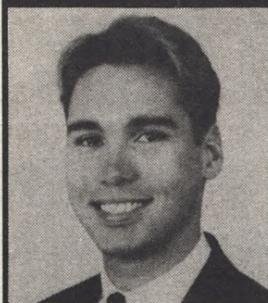
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AIDS Survival Project offers free services for people living with HIV, by people living with HIV. Peer counseling (by HIV+ volunteers), advocacy, HIV education, the best HIV treatment library in the South. Mon-Fri, 874-7926. For 24hr. recorded info 874-0384.

GAPHR - Support group for physicians and dentists. Contact Dr. Nix 634-0672.

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

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

AIDS HOTLINE FOR WOMEN-888-9991

- a project of the Feminist Women's Health Ctr. 5:30-9:30pm Mon-Fri, 10:30am-2pm Saturdays. Caller anonymity assured.

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

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

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

Atlanta Gay Center-Plus groups for HIV-affected people. Fridays, 8:00pm and Sundays, 6:00pm. 63 12th Street. Call 876-5372 for more info. Helpline, 892-0661, for info, counseling and referral.

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Musicians with Vaudeville/Circus skills wanted for developmental workshops for The Deluxe Vaudeville Orchestra. Contact Rodger French at 325-5734. (7.5)

ANAL SEX TOYS

National club forming. SASE to NDC, 1331-A Pennsylvania Ave. NW #262, Washington, DC 20004. (7.5)

Fiction Writer's Group Forming: seek serious novelist and short fiction writers to meet regularly at my Ansley Park home to

share constructive editorial and marketplace evaluations of each other's work. Call Terry at 873-9999. (7.6)

PRIME TIMERS - Monthly meetings held at the Public Library, 980 Ponce de Leon Ave., 2 p.m. APRIL 2 - speaker Steve Jackson of SEGRA (Southeast Gay Rodeo Assoc.) will talk about Gay Rodeo activities, including plans for rodeo in Atlanta this summer. (7.7)

PRIME TIMERS - Monthly meetings held at the Public Library, 980 Ponce de Leon Ave., 2 p.m. MAY 7 - speaker Tony Leonard of "Stonewall 25" on the history of NYC Stonewall and plans for this year's 25 year memorial celebration in NYC in June. (7.12)

Auto for Sale

Employment

PART TIME

DELIVERY/DRIVER

Flexible Hours, creative pay. Must have reliable transportation. Please call Tim at Maddix Deluxe, 892-9337, for appointment. Maddix Deluxe, 1034 N. Highland Ave. (7.8)

FULL OR PART TIME SALES

Company growing toward national distribution looking for several creative, energetic and experienced sales persons for membership sales. Liberal commission with growth potential. Great opportunity to design your future! Call 215-9811 (7.5)

Cleaning Service has part time work available 15-25 hrs a week daytime. \$5.25/hr. Must have a clean-cut appearance. Call 351-3931 between 4pm-7pm. (7.12)

FULL TIME

Gay owned maid service seeking honest, respectable, hard working folks with own transportation to join our force. Great pay & training. Full and part time. 873-6144. (7.8)

Commercial Cleaning Downtown - PT &

FT weekends 10 till 2 or weekdays 10 till 1. Must be dependable, honest, hard working. Transportation needed. Serving the gay community. Starting \$5.00/hr. Call 333-7529 or 250-4453. (7.5)

MARKET RESEARCH: Survey client base of three prestige properties in Atlanta metro to determine future growth. Easy, fun work. On Marta. Call Chuck Davenport at 939-3104. (7.8)

Prep / Cook / Dishwashers & Servers. Good pay. Pleasant surroundings. Non-smokers. Call Scott at 688-0836, 3-5 only. (7.5)

TAXI DRIVERS

For new gay owned taxi service. Clean driving record, be honest, hard working, honest and dependable. 636-7884, 11am to 3pm, Rick. (7.7)

SEEKING

Experienced DJ (10 years) seeking employment in local club. House techno, hi-energy. Call Rich at 297-8408. (7.7)

Finance

Health

FITNESS

TRANSFORM YOUR

BODY. Natural body lift without surgery. Serving people since 1975. 841-9817. (7.8)

MASSAGE

Quality Massage Therapy, therapeutic massage you can count on. Why prolong pain & stress when you can call today, at 514-1683. (7.6)

\$30 full-body massage by (male) CMT. Student/Senior discount pager. 905-1190. (7.5)

PERSONAL GROWTH

SERVING PROFESSIONALLY 27 YEARS - Natural Psychic, Certified Medium, Humanistic Parapsychologist. Psychic Readings, Past Life Regressions, Reiki, Ro-Hun Therapy. Jack Bernard Moon, 404-333-0166. (7.8)

Instruction

Insurance

Legal

Merchandise

WYOMING BOOT COMPANY. Used boots, shoes, sneakers, gear, services. Catalog \$1.00. WYO BOOT Co., Box 815 Laramie, WY 82070. (7.5)

Pets

Adorable 3 mo. old male kitten free. Black & white. Plays heartily, good jumper, not shy-big time love muffin. Abandoned by previous owner. 294-7546 (eve).

There aren't enough homes for them all...PREVENT A LITTER. SPAY OR NEUTER YOUR PET. The Humane Society of the United States, Washington, DC 20037.

Publications

MEN INTO UNDERWEAR. Magazine full of stories, pictures, personal ads. Six issues \$24.00. MIU, Box 1367, Granby CO 80446-1367. (7.5)

ON OUR BACKS. The most intelligent sex magazine just happens to be lesbian. Offers you bimonthly award-winning fiction, sexy pictorials, sassy columns, humorous reviews, and thought provoking features. \$34.95/yr. (6 issues). SASE Catalog. On Our Backs, 526 Castro Street, Suite SV, San Francisco, CA 94114. Send ck, MO, or V/MC. 1-800-845-4617. (7.45)

National Gay Pilot's Assoc., Newsletter, chapters' events, P.O. Box 27542, Washington, D.C. 20038. (703) 660-3852. Totally Discreet. (7.19)

Real Estate

FINANCING

FOR RENT

Cartersville area, daylight basement for rent, lots of space, no smoking, drugs, or pets. Call 974-8585. (7.6)

Grant Park Duplex, 2 BR, 1 BA, breakfast nook, ample closets, stove & refrigerator, washer/dryer hook-up, AC, no pets. \$530. Call 876-8714. (7.6)

Furnished or not furnished adorable 2 BR, 1 BA brick house inside 1-285, garage, fenced. New paint, floors, kitchen. Sherry, 333-4303, 936-0066. (7.6)

Avondale 3 BR, 2 BA townhouse, W/D, swim/tennis. No pets/smokers. \$775 + dep. Ref. reqd. 633-1083. (7.6)

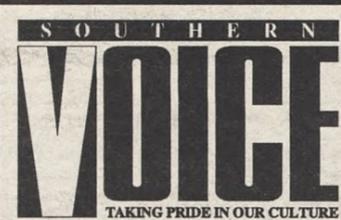
IDEAL SABBATICAL RETREAT

New (1993) cottage on nine acres of wooded land in Highlands, NC. Large paneled living room with stone fireplace and chimney. Complete kitchen with dishwasher, disposal, self-cleaning oven, cat-in area. One bedroom, large bath. Screened porch and open deck. All rooms completely furnished including washing machine and dryer. Reasonable pets welcomed. Maid service once a week included. Available mid-May to October. \$2500 a month. One month minimum. References necessary. Call (404) 237-4489 after 5:30. (7.5)

SEEKING TO RENT

GWM, 24 y/o, seeks apartment near midtown and MARTA. Have 2 Dachshunds, lots of electronics, travel extensively. Moving from VA. Call Brian McConnell at (703) 951-0376. (7.7)

MORE ON PAGE 42



CLASSIFIED ORDER FORM

(404) 876-1819

TO PLACE AN AD:

In PERSON: Bring completed order form with payment to Southern Voice offices (M-F, 9-5pm) 1189 Virginia Ave., NE, Atlanta.

By MAIL: Mail completed order form with payment to Southern Voice Classifieds, P.O. Box 18215, Atlanta, GA 30316.

By PHONE: Call in with completed order form to (404) 876-1819.

By FAX: Fax completed order form and credit card information to Classifieds (404) 876-2709.

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

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

ADS MUST BE SUBMITTED by Tuesday, 5pm to appear in the following week's issue.

1 PICK YOUR CATEGORY

INDIVIDUAL

- AIDS Services
Announcements
Employment-Seeking
Pets-Free or Lost & Found
Roommates
Volunteers

BUSINESS

- Autos
Employment-Part Time
Employment-Full Time
Finance
Health-Fitness
Health-Massage
Health-Personal Growth
Insurance
Legal
Merchandise
Pets (For Sale/Training)
Publications
Real Estate-Financing
Real Estate-For Rent
Real Estate-For Sale
Services
Travel

VOICE CONNECTION

- VOICEbox
Written Response

2 WRITE YOUR AD

Category # of Issues

Giant Headline (optional)-not to exceed 14 characters/spaces

Grid for headline characters

Text

Text area for ad content

Name

Address

City/State Zip

Phone

3 TOTAL YOUR COST



INDIVIDUAL RATES

Up to 20 words for \$3.00 per week. Additional words at 50¢ each per week.

Table with columns for word count, rate, and subtotal

BUSINESS RATES

Up to 20 words for \$12.00 per week. Additional words at \$1.00 each per week.

Table with columns for word count, rate, and subtotal

VOICE CONNECTION

Up to 20 words & VOICEbox FREE

Table with columns for word count, rate, and subtotal

CHECK ENCLOSED CHARGE MY MC/VISA # exp.

## FOR SALE

## GRANT PARK

Total '85 renovation. 7 rooms, 2 BR, 2 full BA, new kitchen, CH/A, alarms, etc. \$105,000. Bob Hatcher, 876-5928. Berry Realty 634-7351. (7.5)

Lake Burton 3.64 acres - Total Privacy. Beautiful Lake Overlook. Possible owner financing. \$64,500. Call Shea Embry/Owner-Agent 378-9069. (ongoing)

Victorian replica homes with charm of older homes. Diverse lifestyle community, just outside 285, NE DeKalb. Intown atmosphere with lower taxes. From low \$100s. Call for details. Ben Garrett, 294-5851. (7.5)

DECATUR - 3 BR, 3.5 BA, full daylight bsmt. Fireplace, hardwood floors, deck, wooded backyard. \$144,900. Donna Godsey 284-4090, 840-9933 Res. Mar. Rlty. (7.5)

SHEA EMBRY, RE/MAX METRO ATL. representing our community will donate 10% of her commission from each closing, when this ad is mentioned, to a charitable organization for AIDS research or support. Call today 321-3123.

## Roommates

3rd Roommate Wanted - GWM to share furnished apt. Non smoker, no pets, \$275/mo. + 1/3 utils. Gay complex. John 321-5791. (7.6)

Male couple seeks roommate only to share 3 BR home in Marietta. \$350/mo. total. Deposit. Call 429-9057. (7.6)

Seeking professional, mature, responsible M or F to share fully-furnished 2 BR, 2 BA Decatur home. \$450 includes utilities. 371-8823. (7.5)

Gay female wanted to share home in Decatur area. \$375 a month. Includes utilities. No smoking, no drugs. Call 292-2791. (7.8)

Male/Female to share new large 3 BR, 2 1/2 BA house w/male. Easy access to 85. \$350 per month. 513-4923. (7.5)

GWM seeks same to share 2 BR, 1 BA apt. in Lenox area. W/D, pool, non-smoker. \$375 incl. all. 325-8276. (7.6)

GWF seeks same to share 2 BR, 2 BA, mobile home. Austell area near I-20. \$290 incl. util. 941-1698. (7.5)

GWF roommate needed for 3 BR house located in Powder Springs. \$300/month includes utilities. Non-smoker. 439-8578. (7.5)

## BUNK BUDDIES

Thanks, Atlanta for making Bunk Buddies your #1 call when finding that perfect roommate. 636-0069.

## Travel

Romance is waiting at the Culpepper House. 150-year old Victorian with four-poster beds, fireplaces, privacy, gourmet breakfast, biking through historic town, rocking chairs... 30 minutes from Atlanta. (404) 599-8182. (7.7)

JOLUVA GUESTHOUSE. Location: San Jose, COSTA RICA. Private baths, breakfast, cable TV. Rates: \$30 single, \$40 double occupancy. Call 1-800-298-2418. (7.5)

THE OLD MILL - Bat Cave, NC. B&B on banks of rushing mountain stream near Asheville. \$45 thru March. Call (704) 625-4256. (7.5)

## Volunteers

Homefront provides housing services for HIV+ people in the Atlanta area. Volunteers are needed for all phases of our housing program. Painters, gardeners, lawyers, accountants, case workers, buddies, shoppers, electricians, everyone can do something they like and help someone in need. Homefront is a registered Ga. non-profit. Helping others who help themselves. 872-6584. (7.8)

The AIDS Legal Project needs reliable, steady volunteers to assist with clerical work, proofreading, legal research, filing and word processing on a regular weekly basis. Self-motivated, self-disciplined persons should contact Ms. Marion Franklin at 614-3969 to discuss volunteer opportunities. (7.6)

AIDS Survival Project is a volunteer-driven agency for people living with HIV/AIDS, and we need YOU as a driver. Office/clerical,

special events, peer counselors are special needs. No experience needed - just come ready to make a difference! Find out how to offer your time and talents by calling 874-7926.

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

## Voice Connection

## WOMEN

## SoVo Pick of the Week

GWF, 23, 5'1", cute, seeks attractive GWF, 20's. Enjoys laughing, good conversation, romantic evenings and much more. Let's meet! ☎ 1301

GWF 30's, attractive professional, 5'4" blondish, blue-eyed, feminine Scorpio. Works out, participates in sports. Loves humor, music, travel, spontaneity & living life to its fullest! No bi's or smokers, instead feminine, active, mature & sexy professional. ☎ 1635

Single Black Female seeks fem Single Black Female for conversation, friendship. ☎ 1300

GWF, 42, trim, feminine, enjoys skating, walking my dogs, cultural activities, etc. Seeks mature, introspective, self-aware GWF. Prefer butch. ☎ 1282

GWF, 39, 5'7", 140 pounds, feminine, attractive, professional, interested in same. No smokers. ☎ 1283

GWF, 27, seeks an alternative to smoky bars in the form of lesbian(s) yearning for fun and frolic while seeking to avoid the usual games. Unafraid to be yourself? Call me! ☎ 1285

Lesbian, no experience, seeking mentor - high quality minded, sensitive personality for partnership. ☎ 1297

GWF, 45, professional, intelligent, accomplished, attractive, athletic, adventuresome, idealistic, passionate, assertive, affectionate, tender, horse-lover/owner, scuba diver, outdoorsy, cultural and humbly spiritual, seeking non-smoking, non-drinking Renaissance adventurer, with abundant humor and kindness, to share the dream. ☎ 1272

GBF, mother of 2, in committed relationship, is seeking other gay mothers for outing with children. Interested? Please call ☎ 1267

GWF, 24, seeking 30-up, very attractive, petite, classy, romantic GF, any race, for lasting relationship, no games, bi's, butches. ☎ 1264

GWF, 25, looking for friends and a lover who are honest, loving, passionate, adventurous and funny. Likes: movies, laughter, music, the arts, conversation, candlelight. No smokers, no drugs. ☎ 1263

BiWF, 25, feminine, college student, cute, seeks feminine G/BiF, 21-30, into dancing, movies, conversation, for friendship, maybe more. Please no smokers, drugs, heavy drinkers. ☎ 1250

Attractive White lesbian, 40's. Seeking school teacher who is honest, sincere. Do you like camping, fishing? Nature lover? No drugs. ☎ 1644

GWF, 36, wants to meet others to go 2-stepping. Enthusiasm more important than experience. ☎ 1646

Marriage Minded? Handsome French GWM, 38, seeks GF for non-sexual marriage. You get French Citizenship, he gets the right to live here. Some fluency in French desirable. ☎ 1632

GWF, 30, 5'10", 130 lbs, fit & healthy. I'm looking for a playmate, best friend and partner. I enjoy life, the outdoors, traveling, sports, animals, movies, dining out, reading and people with a positive attitude. Call me, it'll be fun! ☎ 1591

GWF, very attractive, fun, seeks F 18-30, preferably petite, for friendship, fun, and more. ☎ 1598

Spring on the beach? GWF, seeking attractive fun-loving female, 40-55, for quality

friendship. Active, intelligent, stable, adventurous, gentle please. ☎ 1602

Depth, integrity, intelligence, compassion, independence, sensitivity, humor, humor and more humor! GWF, 38, seeks same. Dog lovers encouraged to respond. ☎ 1604

GBF, 29, feminine, attractive, reliable, hard-working - theatre, walking, travel and housebroken seeks GBF feminine 30-35 for friendship and possible relationship. ☎ 1223

Women are wonderful and friendship of any kind is hard to find. Would like to meet kind, smart, gentle women for lunch. ☎ 1219

GWF Professional seeks feminine companion, 35-45 who loves the arts, outdoors; honest, non-smoker; no butch; no bis. ☎ 1198

GWF, 37, int. opera, dining, animal lover, hugger, emotionally and financially stable are just a few of my features. If you have same features, I would like to talk to you. ☎ 1211

GWF, 31, cute, athletic, non-smoker, professional desires fun-loving relationship. Loves tennis, movies, the beach, cats, and sports. ☎ 1207

GBF, mid 30's. Attractive, professional, established, seeks same for dining, music, the arts, good laughter, outdoor fun, indoor fun. Friends, maybe more! No Bi's/Butch. ☎ 1195

GWF, 37, feminine, attractive, fun-loving, professional. Seeks same. Enjoys conversation, outdoors, tennis, beach, cuddling, adventure, fun, romance and more. No dykes, bi's drugs. 33+. ☎ 1192

NO EUPHEMISMS! Fat, 30-something writer nerd, half baby, half intellect wants to meet like-minded women. Political incorrectness will be encouraged! ☎ 1180

BiWF, 21, 5'7" writer, singer, creative spirit, individual - cigarettes, coffee, ka-spel, Biafra, music, poetry. Sing While You May! ☎ 1182

GWF, young 40s, New Age attitude, enjoys intimate rainy days, movies, hiking, community involvement, laughing with friends and dancing, seeks GWF for fun, friendship & romance. ☎ 1175

Attractive GWF, 30, with a big heart and warm embrace, is ready to leap into your heart. Forever yours, E. ☎ 1157

Sexually dominant Aquarian lesbian seeks sexually submissive Pisces lesbian for possible commitment or special friendship. No alcohol abuse, drugs, bisexuals. ☎ 1162

GB fem seeks an educated, professional, aggressive GB female for friendship, possibly more. No bisexuals or fems. ☎ 1088

Attractive, feminine GWF, 26 - interested in sharing friendship, dining, dancing, and simple pleasures. Attractive, affectionate, active, and 24-30?? Let's talk! No drugs. ☎ 1045

## MEN

## SoVo Pick of the Week

Into wrestling, body building, physical contact, jazz music, working out, touching and feeling. This is me, if it's you too, call. I'm GWM 5'8", 165, br/br. ☎ 1307

Seeking lunchtime encounter. I'll bring sandwiches and drinks to your place. ☎ 1308

HORNY TOP, clean-cut, boyish, 38, brown hair, blue eyes, attractive, discreet, safe. Seeks hot bottom for exciting fun! ☎ 1306

BM, 32, nice physique, gdlkg, bottom, seeks sexy BM top with nice assets. No strings, just fun. Darker men preferred. ☎ 1305

GWM, 39, attractive, muscular, masculine, trim, hairy, healthy, bottom, long "married". Needs regular attention lunchtimes, occasional evenings. No strings. ☎ 1302

Goodlooking BM, student, 21, 5'8", with smooth body and great personality. Seeks WM, 21-35 for friendship/relationship. ☎ 1303

33, GWM bottom wanting to meet fun lov-

## VOICE CONNECTION

## TO PLACE FREE AD

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

## TO RESPOND

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

## CALL NOW

1-900-370-4099

\$1.50 per minute. Must be 18 or over. Touch tone phones only.

Southern Voice, PO Box 18215, Atlanta, GA 30316

## DIRECTIONS

ing 30-45 GM tops for fun/friendship/possible relationship, hairy+. ☎ 1309

Brushstrokes Magazine Rack Wed. 3/1. Laughed at Playgirl. Both bought Feb. 94 Freshmen. You Br/Bi nice smile. Me Bi/Bi smiled back. ☎ 1280

GWM, single, soon-to-be dad, 52, 5'9", 180, caring, affectionate, genuine, healthy, kind, (Jewish), seeks similarly unattached warm, lovely Southern home-oriented GWM (to 45) with deep nurturing instincts and lifetime mate possibilities with no substance addictions. You're deeply desirous of sharing in parenting, yearn for family and stability and truly want an older fellow. Write POB 194, NY, NY 10272-0194. (I'm also open to eventually relocating). (7.11)

GWM COUPLE; 31, 5'9", 155 and 40, 5'10", 190 seek other couples, singles for fun, safe, no strings sex. ☎ 1281

WM, 5'10", 185, masc, vers, horny; sks BM, musc, masc, vers, for hot sessions. Mil, jox, face sitters, big feet, A+. ☎ 1299

I want you to hurt me. WM, 20s, good looking, needs bare butt spankings from same. ☎ 1284

GWM, 29, brn/blu, 155 lbs, attractive, seek similar 28-35 yo WM. 513 Bankhead Ave., Suite 119, Carrollton, GA 30117 (7.8)

GWM Couple looking for 3rd guy for hot fun and games. Us: 40 and 33, both 5'9", 185, brown/green, blue/blonde. Contact Stephen ☎ 1293

Huggable Hairy Chested Short Stocky Teddy Bear, professional, 40 something, "oral friendly," seeking 30 something weekend masculine companion, playmate. ☎ 1294

WM senior seeks a healthy attractive daytime friend 25-40 to pamper. ☎ 1295

Attractive GWM, 30, blk/bl, 5'10", 155#, healthy HIV+, seeks friendship (not relationship) for hiking, scuba diving, motocycling, movies, etc. ☎ 1296

\*DSS-N (\*Desperately Seeking Susan—NOT!) Me: GWM, 34, attractive, 6', br/br, 135#, HIV-, educated, fun-loving, caring, Midtown, Mozart to John Waters. You: same. ☎ 1298

Attractive GBM, 27, 6', 177, mustache. Enjoys music, sports, seeks romantic white/Latin male with similar interests for relationship. Box 15284, Atlanta 30333. (7.6)

ISO Muscular build, non-clockable, masculine, attractive, witty, honest, altruistic, GAY MAN. Me: Tall, slim, GBM. Workouts in Romance and Gym. ☎ 1270

Avg. WM - HIV+ seeking horny top men 30+ for monthly date - me 47, 150 lbs, Bln/Blu, mustache, uncomplicated. ☎ 1271

Sexy, handsome, 24, nice body, endowment, and butt, HIV negative, seeks real massage therapy with complete oral service. Leave message. ☎ 1279

Attention Wrestlers! Very handsome, lean, muscular, masculine GWM, 32, seeks similar guys for wrestling action. Photo a must! Safe, discreet. Box 1301, 1189 Virginia Ave., NE, Atlanta, GA 30306. (7.6)

Handsome, intelligent professional, young 40. Blond, 6', 165. Seeks lean, masculine, outgoing man, 32-46, with sharp mind and warm heart. ☎ 1278

GWM, 46, romantic, warm, loving nature. Not into bar scene or casual sex seeks mas-

culine, sincere versatile GBM for companionship, possible relationship. ☎ 1277

Handsome, caring, professional GWM, HIV-, seeking Asian-American friend, 25-35. Enjoy the arts, theatre, music, tennis, rollerblading and making friends. ☎ 1276

## HIV+ SEEKS GBM

GWM, 34, 5'7", 155, very healthy seeks GBM, masculine, top for friendship, sensual experience and possibly more. I'm an honest, sincere person, reasonably good-looking seeking similar. Please respond. ☎ 1275

Cautiously ISO GM who enjoys travel, music, exercise, cozy evenings and more! Dating possibly more with attractive healthy HIV+ GBM. ☎ 1274

Tall, slim WM, 37 spiritual, laid-back, seeks handsome, tall, slim, intelligent, educated BM, 30-38 into jeans and alternative music. ☎ 1269

Goodlooking 29, 6, 175 BM, athletic build, searching for my healthy, masculine, sexy WM companion 25 to 40. No fats/fems. ☎ 1268

Bald & Beautiful GWM 40+, 5'10", 175. Tennis nut. Enjoys exercise and outdoors. Likes to cuddle. Seeking monogamous relationship. ☎ 1266

Model, 22, blonde, 6', new to East Tennessee. Looking to meet friends, possibly Mr. Right. Interested? ☎ 1265

GWM, 30, 5'8", 160 lbs. Top who knows how to take control. Call, let's connect. ☎ 1262

GWM, 6'2", 180 lbs, bl/br, extremely handsome. A sweetheart outside the bedroom. Demands 18-25 yo blond muscular slave. I'll make you love it. Leave message. ☎ 1261

WM, 33, 180#, above avg., seeks daytime playmates, 24-39, Cumberland area. Must be abv. avg., masc., + need reg. attn. PO Box 723192, Atlanta 31139. (7.5)

Attractive, outgoing, heavysct WM, 35, 260, loving, romantic, & healthy seeks serious relationship with stable, masculine, healthy, down to earth BM. PO Box 5227, Atlanta 30307. (7.5)

GBM, 42 - Professional, varied interests, versatile, healthy HIV+, seeks stable masculine GM over 35, race unimportant. I enjoy a sense of humor, sincerity and versatility. ☎ 1259

Attractive, healthy, horny WM, football physique, 30s, 6'1", 190. Seeks a hot, regular sexual relationship, no strings. Just fun. ☎ 1258

WM, 39, seeks WM 35+. Let's have dinner, see a movie, ride through the mountains. ☎ 1257

2 many H's - Handsome, Hung, Horny, HIV-, Hardbody. GWM, 32, ready to settle down with same. RU? Military A+. ☎ 1256

Horny Midtown Professional involved GWM, 42, 5'10", 160, HIV- with place seeks discreet, adventurous, creative safe fun after 5pm. ☎ 1255

GWM, 43, 5'10", 155, attractive, midtown professional, HIV-, smoker, seeks relationship oriented, non-barfly, HIV- GWM for movies, dining in/out, more. ☎ 1254

GWM, 38, 6'2", 165#, smooth. Professional, non-smoker, avoids bars, seeks hairy professional 30-45 to enjoy movies, theater, dining out, travel, each other. ☎ 1253

WM, 44, 6'/185, good looking, professional, muscular, quality, closeted, conservative life-style. Seeks quality (non drugs/bar) WM/AM bottom, (18-28), small frame/smooth. ☎ 1252

PAGAN w/m, 35, 5'8", 150, blond moustache, average looks, shy wants to meet other PAGAN good-folk. ☎ 1251

GWM, good looking, intelligent, HIV-, well-travelled ISO same 30-42, in-shape, who've lived with lover and understand compromise. Object: relationship. ☎ 1249

Northern Alabama GWM, 24, attractive, honest, sincere, relationship oriented ISO similar GWM 24-30 to explore life with. Let's talk. ☎ 1247

GWM seeks masculine companion 30-45 for companionship with romantic possibilities. Interests should include movies, dining, 104.1, cuddling and passion. ☎ 1246

VGL GWM 35, 6'1", 190, br/br, smooth, masculine, work-out, swim/gym body, prof. romantic, healthy, non-smoke, seeks same for dating/relationship. ☎ 1260

GWM, 26, br/br, 170 lbs, handsome swimmer's build type. Seeking discreet encounters with someone who needs their back scratched... If you'll scratch mine! ☎ 1650

Blake's Gospel Hour 2/6. You: tall, blond, Savannah, New England, water. Me: blond, seated, California, Heiken. Let's talk some more. ☎ 1638

Hot NY Latino GM, 31, seeks GBM 25-40 for friendship plus. Non drinker preferred. ☎ 1641

GBM, HIV+, seeks totally masculine GBM male 25-40. Versatility a plus. Must be ready for whatever happens. No fats or fems. ☎ 1642

Surprise!!! Didn't expect me here. GWM, tall, dark, handsome, muscular, 32 yr. old Italian professional seeks healthy professional all-American jock. ☎ 1633

Asheville Teddy, 5'7 1/2", 137 lbs, dk hair, moustache looking for hibernation or spring-time playmates. Hairy & cuddly. ☎ 1660

Wanted: muscular All-American type who is very oral & submissive for good-looking muscular, healthy safe & sane GWM. ☎ 1634

GWM, 25, 6'1", 180 lbs. bottom seeks sexy top GWM for hot oral service - no age requirement - all answered. ☎ 1647

GWM couple, hot, handsome, muscular, endowed 5'10", 155, 6'2", 185 seek same in bad boy(s) for fun, safe, no-strings sex-capades. ☎ 1648

GWM, 24, 6 ft. 180 lbs needs GBM, 25-40, for hot french service. Me: bottom, You: hot top man. ☎ 1649

Is there a GWM in this city, 25-40, hairy, good body seeking love? I'm 39, 6'2", 200, smooth, UC. ☎ 1637

LATINOS WANTED: Me: WM, 35, blond, moustache, 150, 5'8". You: moustache, not fat, masculine. For friendship, fun. ☎ 1643

Attention!!! Real Men 30-45, Tops seeking a fun loving Bottom 33 for a hot fun time. Fuzzy+. ☎ 1645



*Lions*

*and tigers*

*and bears...*

*Oh, my!*

The 2nd Annual  
Southern Voice  
COMMUNITY AWARDS  
CELEBRATION

Saturday, April 23rd  
Explore Zoo Atlanta 6:30  
Award Ceremony 8:00

Fabulous Entertainment  
Hors d'oeuvres  
Cash Bar

Tickets are \$20 per person  
and are available at Brushstrokes,  
Charis Books, Maddix Deluxe,  
Outwrite, Poster Hut,  
Southern Voice and The Waterworks

