

S O U T H E R N

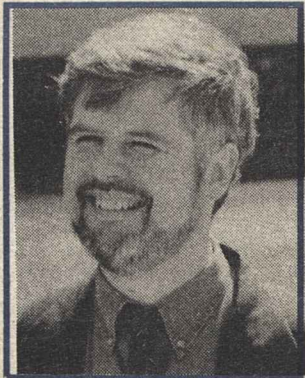
# VOICE

TAKING PRIDE IN OUR CULTURE

MAR 31 - APR 6 / 1994

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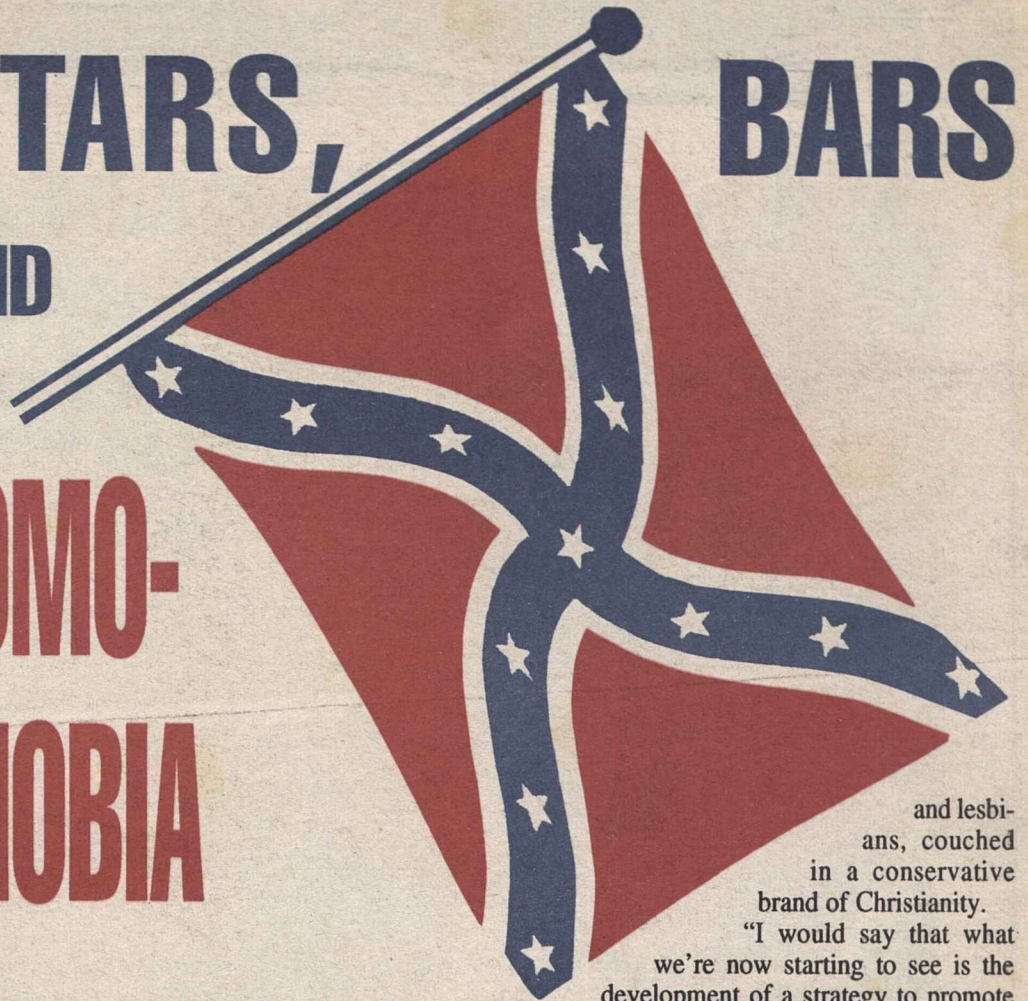
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# STARS, BARS

AND

# HOMO-PHOBIA



*How the battle to preserve Confederate heritage is fueling a political movement that takes aim at gays and lesbians*

by RICHARD SHUMATE

Throughout the South, the battle lines have been drawn again. But this time, the fight is not over land nor state's rights nor political hegemony. It is instead over songs and flags and symbols.

Many native white Southerners—gays and lesbians among them—believe these Confederate symbols represent a noble chapter of valor and sacrifice that ought to be cherished and remembered. They bristle against the forces of political correctness that, as they see it, are trying to eradicate Southern heritage and the region's particular identity. They reject the idea that the Confederate battle flag and "Dixie" are racist statements. They no doubt cheer the efforts of groups fighting to preserve the Georgia state flag and the Virginia state song.

But what they may not realize is that some of the people who are leading the charge to preserve Confederate heritage, known collectively as the neo-Confederate movement, are often openly, and passionately, homophobic.

The movement, a coalition which includes such innocuous-sounding groups as the Sons of Confederate Veterans, the Heritage Preservation Association and the Confederate Society of America, has ties to a number of strongly anti-gay and Christian supremacist political leaders, including Pat Buchanan, Jesse Helms and Pat Robertson. And the political clout the movement has gained from the controversy over the public use of Confederate symbols—in Georgia in particular—is being used to rally support for political candidates strongly opposed to lesbian and gay rights.

Last year, two Republican state senators elected in special elections with neo-Confederate backing became part of a fundamentalist clique in the Georgia Senate that has pushed that body sharply to the right. This year, the neo-Confederates plan to go after their public enemy number one—Gov. Zell Miller, who drew their ire when he pushed, unsuccessfully, for the elimination of the Confederate battle ensign from the state flag.

In essence, what is being billed as an effort to preserve heritage, for which there is a great deal of sentiment in the South, is instead turning into a political movement that is very unfriendly to gays

and lesbians, couched in a conservative brand of Christianity.

"I would say that what we're now starting to see is the development of a strategy to promote key parts of an ideology," says Walter Reeves of the Neighbors Network, an Atlanta-based human rights group that monitors neo-Confederate activity. "I think they find this is an excellent way to mobilize a segment of white Southerners."

In the context used here, the term "neo-Confederate" is not meant to refer to white supremacist groups, such as the Ku Klux Klan or the Southern White Knights or the Nazi Party. In fact, the leaders of the Sons of Confederate Veterans and similar groups go out of their way to distance themselves from overt racism and hardline racists, dismissing Klansmen and their ilk as Southern white trash.

Instead, these are the gentlemen and ladies, reared on reverence for Southern heritage, fighting to keep alive the beliefs and traditions of centuries past. They insist that they abhor the misuse of the Confederate flag by white supremacists and argue that just because these symbols have been misappropriated doesn't mean they should be discarded.

But while neo-Confederates leaders labor long and hard to veil any racist sentiments among their members (though in many cases, the veil wears pretty thin), disdain for gays and lesbians is, in contrast, often expressed openly and boldly. For proof of that, one need look no further than neo-Confederate literature.

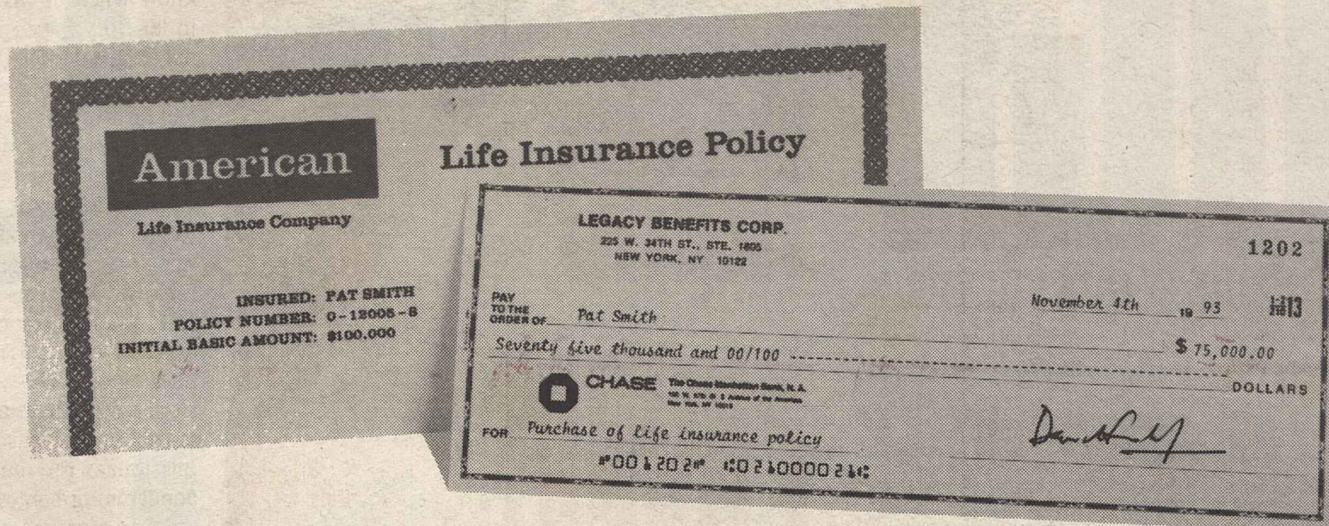
Take, for example, Southern Partisan, a magazine based in Columbia, S.C. that is one of the largest and most important organs of the neo-Confederate movement. On the masthead, as a "senior advisor," is Buchanan, the TV commentator and unsuccessful candidate for the Republican presidential nomination in 1992 who excoriated gays from the stage of the GOP convention. Buchanan is a member of the Sons of Confederate Veterans, one of the oldest and largest of the neo-Confederate groups. Though Southern Partisan is not an official publication of the Sons, the group is frequently mentioned in its pages.

In one of Southern Partisan's 1993 issues, Buchanan provided a column slamming Bill Clinton, accusing him of supporting gay rights. His comments were mild compared with another writer named P.J. Brynes who provided a review of the March on Washington entitled "Armageddon—An Update." Brynes, saying the news media sugar-coated its coverage of the largest human rights march in history, characterized the event instead as "the most obscene desecration of public property in the history of the nation."

He decried topless lesbians, intimated that female marchers expressed an interest in molesting Chelsea Clinton and said that on the Mall, "genitalia were almost as prominently displayed as mid-ribs." The March on Washington was, according to Brynes, "the deliberate, in-the-face posturing of an obsessed mob, sick with confused lust, deter-

CONTINUES ON PAGE 15

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- No use of other antiretrovirals

### TRIAL #2: Proteinase Inhibitor Ro 31-8959

Manufactured by Hoffman-LaRoche, Inc., this drug may inhibit the ability of the HIV virus to infect cells. Participants in this trial will be divided into four groups: Group 1 will receive only Ro 31-8959; Group 2 will receive only ddC; Group 3 will receive ddC and a high dose of Ro 31-8959; Group 4 will receive ddC and a low dose of Ro 31-8959. Entry Criteria include:

- T-cell level between 50 and 300
- No active opportunistic infections
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- No previous use of other antiretrovirals (e.g. ddI, ddC or d4T)



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Your support keeps us working together for a cure.

## Olympics Out of Cobb protestors zap unveiling of Olympic cauldron

*Banner is unfurled before Billy Payne and the assembled media*

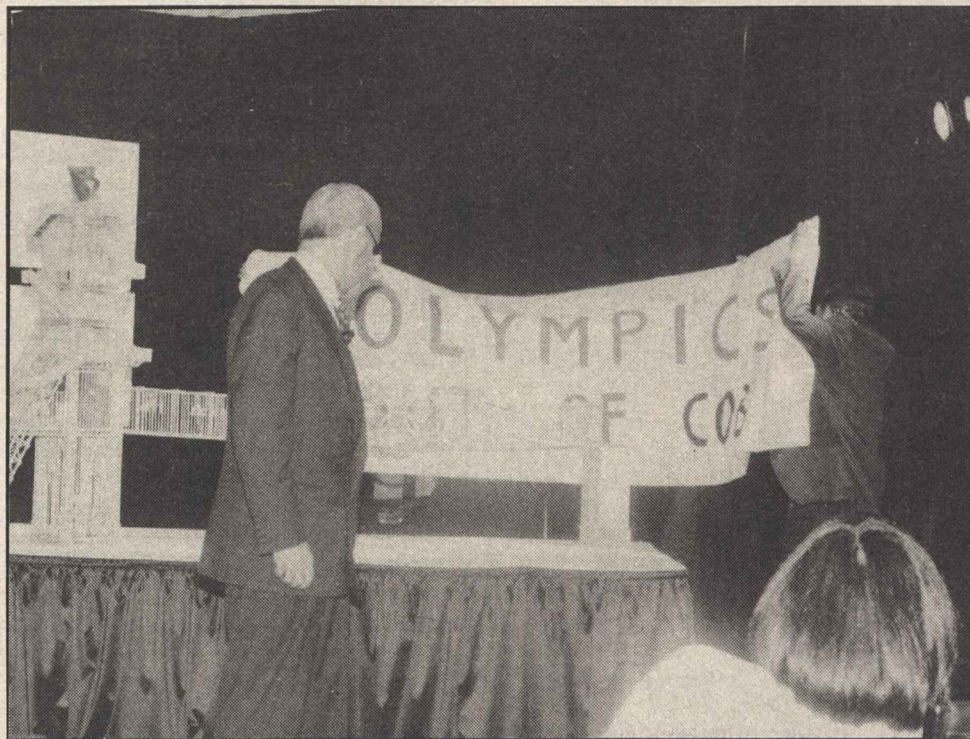
Atlanta—A press conference called last week to announce the design for the Olympic cauldron was politely disrupted by two protestors from the Olympics Out of Cobb Coalition.

As 15 demonstrators picketed on the street outside of the offices of the Atlanta Committee for the Olympic Games at the Inforum downtown, Don George and Ed Scruggs, who had made their way into the press conference, unfurled a banner reading "Olympics Out Of Cobb" behind the display of the cauldron.

George and Scruggs waited until the presentation of sculptor Siah Armajani was over, and the artist had called for questions, before marching behind the model and unfurling the banner. An audible groan was heard from some members of the audience, which included ACOG president Billy Payne, several representatives from Atlanta's arts community, as well as other ACOG officials and media representatives.

Dick Yarbrough, ACOG's senior communications officer, took the banner from the protestors hands and escorted the two from the room. The press conference proceeded immediately, but George said the silent action was a success.

"It will expand the issue so there can be education," he said. "There was a little bit of



As the protest banner is unfurled at last week's press conference, the designer of the cauldron, Siah Armajani, turns to look.

embarrassment, and it's a preview of what could happen in '96 in view of the whole world."

After being escorted out of the building by ACOG security, George and Scruggs joined the protest on the street outside.

ACOG officials had no comment on the press conference disruption.

Protestors last week were angry with com-

ments by ACOG president Billy Payne in last weekend's Atlanta Journal-Constitution, where he said in a "Q&A on the News" segment that there was no analogy between African-American civil rights and the gay and lesbian rights because "gays and lesbians...have not as yet attained that legal status."

"We're in a city that is on record including

all citizens," said Olympics Out of Cobb Coalition member Pat Hussain. "And [Payne] has put a venue in the only one of 159 counties that excludes gays and lesbians. We need to know where is his moral character. We need to let Billy Payne know that we want to hear his stance on civil rights. Are you only going to protect people the courts have said to protect or do you genuinely care about people?"

Support for the coalition has been increasing, with letters from Georgia U.S. Rep. Cynthia McKinney and Massachusetts' U.S. Reps. Gerry Studds and Barney Frank. Additionally, the Georgia Association of Physicians for Human Rights, the American Association of Physicians for Human Rights, the International Gay and Lesbian Association and the International Gay and Lesbian Human Rights Commission have all joined in the call to move the volleyball venue unless Cobb County Commissioners rescind last summer's resolution condemning homosexuality.

And a group called the Tahanga Research Association in La Jolla, California warned ACOG that it would be "morally responsible for all protests, counter-protests, sabotage, ball-ins (spectators introducing extra balls into a game), or other disruptions which may take place."

Coalition members Hussain and Jon-Ivan Weaver are continuing almost weekly meetings with ACOG senior policy advisor Shirley Franklin, and they characterize those meetings as productive.

KC WILDMOON

## Cobb Coalition receives national recognition of its fight against hate

*Meanwhile, Gordon Wysong denounces gays in a speech to a fringe Christian group*

Marietta—There was good news and bad news last week for those fighting for gay and lesbian equality in Cobb County.

The good news was that the Cobb Citizens Coalition was named as a co-winner of major national award. The 1994 PEN/Newman's Own First Amendment Award, including a \$25,000 prize, will be shared by the coalition and a high school teacher in Arizona who fought to allow her students to perform a play with gay themes.

The award is presented every year to an individual or organization who has fought "courageously, against adversity" for First

Amendment rights, and is sponsored by PEN, a writers' group, and Newman's Own, the food company owned by actor Paul Newman.

"I'm real excited about it," said coalition co-chair Noel Lytle. "There are so many different ways to go with it. We've had a lot of worthwhile projects on hold because we couldn't afford to do them."

The bad news last week was that Cobb County Commissioner Gordon Wysong continued his anti-gay activities, reportedly telling a recent gathering in Marietta that gays and lesbians should be blamed for what's wrong with America so that they would have to "defend themselves."

The man who inadvertently started the coalition by authoring last summer's resolution condemning homosexuality in Cobb County was a featured speaker last week at a banquet of a Marietta publishing house that has ties to

Christian Reconstructionism, a movement that advocates biblical punishment for crimes, including the death penalty for homosexuality.

The Neighbor's Network, which was monitoring the American Vision banquet on March 19, reported that Wysong told the 140 guests to "blame [gay men and lesbians] for every social ill America has, so that they constantly have to defend themselves."

Wysong also charged that "gay rights activists cannot bring themselves to condemn child molestation" and attacked Planned Parenthood for advocating "sexual and reproductive information services for all ages."

American Vision is run by Marietta Gary DeMar, who was an active proponent of Wysong's resolution during public hearings last August in Cobb County.

"DeMar brought his supporters to the hearings," said Lytle. "His remarks were so ex-

treme that he ended up in one of our videos."

Lytle said that DeMar's comments had to be edited severely, however, because of his graphic presentations about "what gay sex is."

"None of these people are nice people," Lytle said. "Gary DeMar is in one of these extremist groups, but he is not alone."

Another speaker at the banquet—Ralph Barker, editor of American Vision's AV Report—quoted Adolf Hitler's comments on the importance of winning over young people, and promoted textbooks for public schools that reflect Christian Reconstructionist dogma.

"Commissioner Wysong's presence at this gathering demonstrates what many had already suspected," said Walter Reeves, co-chair of Neighbors Network's education and outreach committee. "Rather than concerning himself with the best interests of Cobb County's citizens,"

CONTINUES ON PAGE 14

## Jerusalem House set to open at a second Druid Hills site

Atlanta—Jerusalem House has announced plans to open a housing facility for women with AIDS and their children on a 2.35 acre site currently occupied by the Davison School on North Decatur Road.

The 5-year-old housing provider for people living with HIV is expecting final approval from DeKalb County authorities this week, and the contract between Jerusalem House and the school for children who are slow learners or language-disordered calls for the property transfer to be complete by the summer of 1995.

"We're very excited about the opportunity to provide our city's first permanent home for women with AIDS and their children," said Evelyn Ullman, founding president of Jerusalem House. "The need is so great."

In 1989, the opening of the first Jerusalem House spurred a firestorm of protest from civic leaders and neighbors of its Druid Hills location, who fought unsuccessfully to prevent the

facility from opening. But development director Louisa Basarrate said that an open-communication policy has prevented a repeat of that often bitter dispute.

"That was six years ago," Basarrate said. "Now we're getting a much more mixed response. They're concerned about property values, and they would like more information about the program. Although we still don't have the details of the program worked out, we are providing them with the information we do have, and are getting their feedback."

"We want to be good neighbors," she continued. "I think having a track record of blending into the neighborhood [at the original Jerusalem House] has helped. We are continuing open communication with the neighbors and the Druid Hills Civic Association."

Southern Voice was unable to contact the Druid Hills Civic Association for a comment in time for this issue, but a spokesperson for

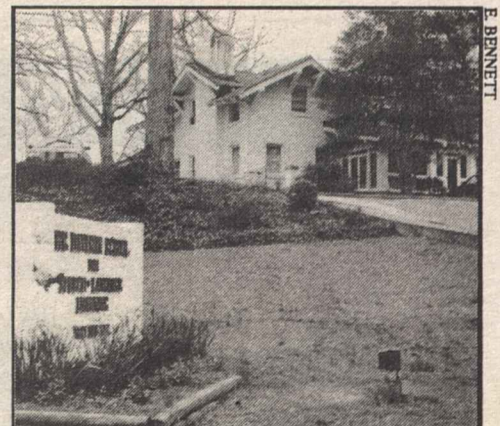
City Councilmember Mary Davis, whose office took a beating during the 1989 battle, said that no protest calls have come in.

Basarrate said that the Davison School is an ideal location for the women and children program since it has three buildings, including dormitory space, a commercial kitchen and a playground.

"Our mission is to provide housing and supportive services," she said. "But we also have buddies, housing assistants and special activities planners. And we're working in collaboration with all of the other AIDS service providers to make sure the residents know what's available."

Ullman noted that women are being infected with HIV almost four times faster than men, and that many are homeless and have children.

"We know the planning and fundraising will be a huge task, but the community has



The new facility will be located in what is now the Davison School on North Decatur Road.

embraced our first Jerusalem House so enthusiastically," she said. "We're confident Atlantans will support this new program as well."

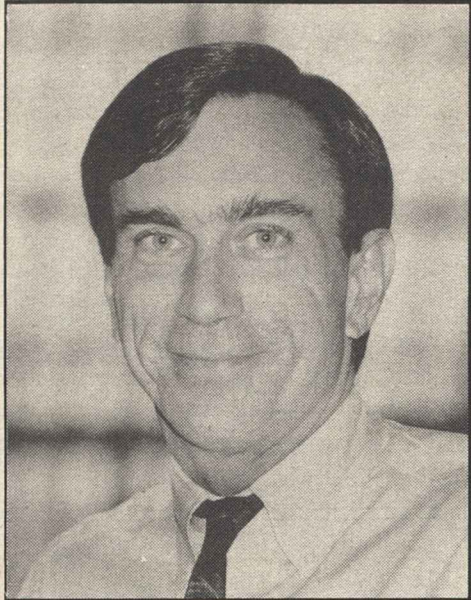
KC WILDMOON



### Clergy Group Voices Support For Gay Rights Bill:

Saying support for gay rights is consistent with their religious teachings, 14 ministers from across Rhode Island gathered at the Statehouse on Mar. 16 to voice their support for a gay rights bill, making its 10th appearance in the state's legislature. "The time is overdue," said the Rev. H. Daehler Hayes, a minister with the Rhode Island Conference of the United Church of Christ. "The time is now for passage of this legislation guaranteeing basic civil rights." Last year, the gay rights bill passed the Senate before being voted down in the House Judiciary Committee.

**Openly Gay Candidate Wins In Chicago Primary:** Openly gay Circuit Court candidate Tom Chiola won the Democratic Primary in Cook County (Chicago) in elections on Mar. 15. Chiola garnered 35% of the vote, winning handily over four opponents, two of whom were sitting judges. Chiola serves as General Counsel for the Illinois Department of Professional Regulation, and is poised to become Illinois' second openly gay elected official if he wins in November, joining Pulaski School Board member Mark Loveless.



Chicago's Tom Chiola topped four candidates to win the Democratic primary for Circuit Court Judge.

of the mandated revisions are in opposition to the fundamental philosophy of our program and are potentially injurious to the students of Texas," Willia A. Talkington, Holt's president, wrote to Education Commissioner Lionel Meno.

**Representative Tells HRCF To Be More Tolerant:** Rep. Steve Gunderson (R-Wisconsin), long rumored to be gay himself, told the audience at Maryland's annual Human Rights Campaign Fund dinner that it should be more tolerant and reach out to middle America if it wants more political support. "Today, there is little effort by you to reach this most important of all groups," Gunderson said. "Those who advocate tolerance and respect for diversity must first be willing to practice it themselves."

**Goldwater Grandson Poses Nude For POZ:** Ty Ross, grandson of 1964 Republican presidential candidate Barry Goldwater, is featured in the premier issue of POZ, a new magazine for people with HIV and AIDS. The article includes a much ballyhooed (non-frontal) nude photo of the 31-year-old interior designer who talked openly in the magazine about his HIV status and his famous conservative grandfather. "He and I never talked about it," Ross said. "I can tell by the way he looks at me though, that he knows that I could be gone tomorrow." Goldwater, who was known throughout the 1960s and 1970s for his conservative stances, came out strongly against the military ban on lesbians and gay men last year.

**Three Catholic Clergy Back Gay Anti-Discrimination Bill:** The pastor of one of Washington state's largest parishes and two Seattle nuns have bucked the state's Roman Catholic leadership and urged that the legislature pass a gay anti-discrimination bill. At a March 13 rally at St. James Cathedral, the Rev. Michael Ryan, pastor of the cathedral parish, and Sisters Eileen DeLong and Andrea Nenzel pledged to support the HB 1443 next year. The bill died in the state Senate earlier this month after passing the House.

**Gay And Green:** Chanting "We're Irish. We're Queer. We'll be here every year," 102 activists protested their exclusion from New York's St. Patrick's Day parade and were arrested for disorderly conduct. Among those arrested was openly gay City Councilman Tom Duane. In Boston, parade organizers cancelled their scheduled parade after Supreme Court Justice David Souter refused to allow them to ban a gay group from marching, but in San Francisco, 30 gay men and lesbians joined the annual parade with no opposition.

**And...Exxon Company, USA,** donated \$25,000 to the Capital Campaign of Montrose Clinic, the second donation of that amount made by the oil giant to Houston's AIDS clinic... **Serial killer Larry Eyler** died March 6 on death row from complications of AIDS...Playwright and novelist **Harry Kondoleon**, also died of AIDS, on March 17...Surgeon General **Joycelyn Elders** says in this month's issue of The Advocate that an irrational fear of sexuality is behind anti-gay behavior in this country...and the Navy has agreed not to discharge **openly gay Lt. J.g. Dirk Selland** in return for Selland's dropping of a lawsuit against the Clinton administration's policy on gay service members, although the Navy could file new charges at a later date.

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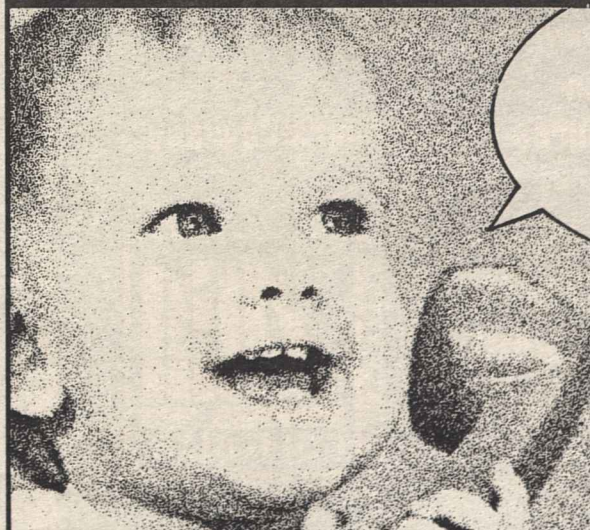
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## Man whose blood was seized for HIV test sues officials

*He found out he was HIV-positive after being arrested by deputies and told he had to give a blood sample*

by BOB ROEHR

Frederick, MD—"John Doe" saw the flashing red lights of the police cruiser and pulled his own car off to the side of the road. He was yanked from the seat, thrown spread eagle against the rear of the car, arrested, handcuffed and taken to jail.

"You're not leaving until you give up your blood," the sheriff's deputy is alleged to have said. Doe cooperated, believing he had no choice. That forced blood test is how he learned he was HIV-positive.

The story began in June 1992 when Doe's partner of two years, "Thomas Smith," got back his HIV test results from the Frederick County (Md.) Health Department. He tested positive. Health department officials insisted that Smith tell Doe of his status and encourage Doe to come in for his own test. They said they would talk with Doe if Smith could not.

One official then began a series of harassing and accusatory phone calls to Doe, demanding that he appear for testing for some unspecified health problem. Doe says he refused because he was already under treatment for a severe, painful sinus problem. He was under no legal obligation to appear for testing.

The health department then went to the county sheriff and together they went to court to obtain a search and seizure warrant "basically seizing his blood," says Sheriff Carl Harbaugh. "It's kind of innovative. It's the first time we've ever done something like that."

Harbaugh based his argument on a 1989 Maryland law forbidding the "knowing transfer or attempt to transfer (HIV) to another individual."

There were two problems with Harbaugh's argument. Neither Doe nor anybody else "knew" what his HIV status was, as he had not yet been tested. Second, there were no first hand reports of sex, let alone unsafe sex, that could result in the charge being made.

But the warrant was issued on July 31 and carried out on August 3.

There was no informed consent before Doe's blood was drawn and no pre- or post-test counseling. All are required under Maryland law.

"We talked to the state and we filed various notices about the case, fully expecting them to say this is a horrible mistake and we are sorry," said attorney Deborah Weimer, who runs the AIDS Legal Services Clinic at the University of Maryland Law School. "But that didn't happen."

Doe filed suit on March 11, backed up by Weimer as well as the Public Justice Center, a state advocacy group for equal justice, and the American Civil Liberties Union.

In five separate charges it argues that the actions were an illegal violation of Doe's right to liberty, reckless and malicious in their implementation and a violation of his privacy. That is part of the reason why the case was filed under pseudonym.

Doe's suit alleges that what these government agencies did caused severe anxiety and depression. He is seeking \$2 million in compensatory damages and \$4 million in punitive damages.

Weimer said they are moving to discover "but are still hopeful that there will be some resolution of the case that will change the policy and provide compensation for our client."

"It is outrageous to arrest people simply because they are suspected of carrying HIV," said Nancy Paige, Doe's lead attorney. "By litigating this action, we hope to educate Frederick officials, and officials statewide, that people who have been exposed to HIV are still protected by the laws of Maryland and the United States Constitution."

"The notion that, in America, someone could be forced to take a medical test at the hands of the police is just outrageous," said Evan Wolfson, staff attorney with the Lambda Legal Defense and Education Fund.

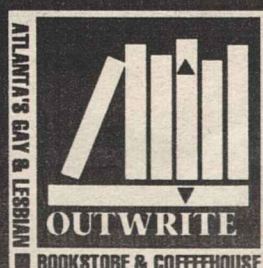
He called the arrest merely "diverting attention," one of many "fake, get tough measures [by government] on AIDS which do nothing meaningful to stop the spread of HIV."

# APRIL AT OUTWRITE

- **WEDNESDAY, APRIL 6 7:30-8:30PM**  
Michael Clark Reading "Beyond Our Ghettos- Gay Theology in Ecological Perspective"
- **SUNDAY, APRIL 10 3:00-5:00PM**  
E. Lynn Harris Signs "Invisible Life" & "Just As I Am"
- **FRIDAY, APRIL 15 5:30-6:30PM**  
Dorothy Allison, "Bastard Out of Carolina"
- **SATURDAY, APRIL 16 4:00-5:00PM**  
Martin Duberman "Stonewall" & "Cures - A Gay Man's Odyssey"

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## America's top gay officeholder battles to keep his position

*Tony Miller, who was appointed as California's Secretary of State in February, faces a tough fight to be elected in his own right*

by DELL RICHARDS

Sacramento, CA—With little fanfare this past February, Tony Miller, a bureaucrat with the California Secretary of State's office for nearly 20 years, became the highest ranking openly gay state official in the nation.

Miller, 45, stepped into position of acting secretary of state when his mentor, March Fong Eu, was nominated ambassador to Micronesia. He faces a tough primary in June and an even tougher election in November. But he thinks his sexual orientation, which he has always openly disclosed, won't become an issue.

"The only reaction I've received has been positive," said Miller. "The only utterances from the religious right have been muted."

"Maybe I'm optimistic but people are going to have to challenge me on the record. I'm qualified to do this job, and I've been doing it a long time."

Miller wants to keep the campaign as close to job-related issues as possible. Nonetheless, Miller's already made a difference to gays and lesbians during his 17 years as Chief Deputy and Chief Legal Counsel:

- In 1986, Miller blocked right-wing extremist Lyndon La Rouché from saying that mosquitoes spread HIV in literature for a ballot initiative.

- In 1990, Miller reinterpreted the laws for the formation of nonprofit groups to include couples as partnerships. This little-known law is one of the only in the nation that allows couples (and other groups) to register as a family. To date, several hundred couples have used it to gain legal recognition of their status.

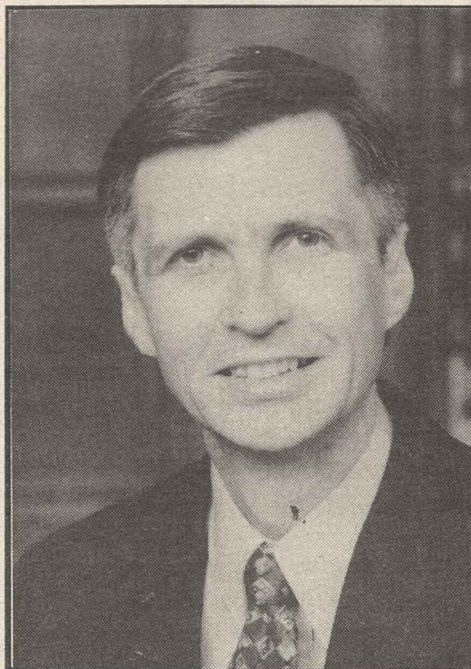
"In 1990, we were able to provide some recognition for some families that weren't given recognition before," said Miller. "It is probably the first legal recognition of any kind in any state. It allows not just same-sex but various other relationships that people want recognized to be recognized."

With same-sex marriage challenges in Washington, D.C., Hawaii and Arizona, marriage and partnership laws could become a hot issue in the upcoming campaign.

But for Miller, the gay community is only one of many constituents whose rights he must protect. The office is responsible for making it as easy as possible for all people to participate in government.

"I want to connect people to government through the ballot box," said Miller. "That is part of my job."

Nonetheless, Miller isn't a shoo-in. Already two well-known—and gay sympathetic—Democrats are running in the pri-



Tony Miller says his opponents "are going to have to challenge me on [my] record," not on his sexual orientation.

mary. Former mayoral candidate and Los Angeles City Council member Michael Woo threw in his hat early on. Recently, Los Angeles-based African-American Assemblywoman Gwen Moore added hers.

Political analyst Sherry Bebitch-Jeffé thinks Miller has a shot at the gold ring. She says that the office doesn't deal with lifestyle or gender issues very much, which should help.

"This kind of position is more ministerial," said Jeffé. "His being gay should not be as much of a lightning-rod issue as it might be for other offices."

Jeffé also says that the gay community is known to be politically active, especially at fundraising.

Which is one reason why Washington, D.C.-based Victory Fund is excited about Miller. But William Weybourn, executive director, still thinks Miller has a tough battle on his hands.

"Gays everywhere want to make sure that California keeps a gay elected official. But the right-wing is going to go after him," said Weybourn. "They've done it before and they will do it again in this race. His qualifications won't matter to them unless he loses. Then they'll blame it on the fact that he's gay."

Miller hopes Californians have progressed beyond that kind of thinking.

"Quite honestly, I think it's going to be difficult for people who don't like my sexual orientation to challenge me on anything other than bigotry. I think the fact that most people don't want to admit they're bigots is going to help me."

No matter what in November, Miller, who with his partner of more than 20 years owns a "small farm" complete with a "barnyard collection of animals" on 15 acres in the Northern California countryside, plans to fight to keep the position he's quietly worked so many years to attain.

"My primary responsibility is to do a good job," said Miller. "I welcome the chance to debate because I'm able to get the job done."

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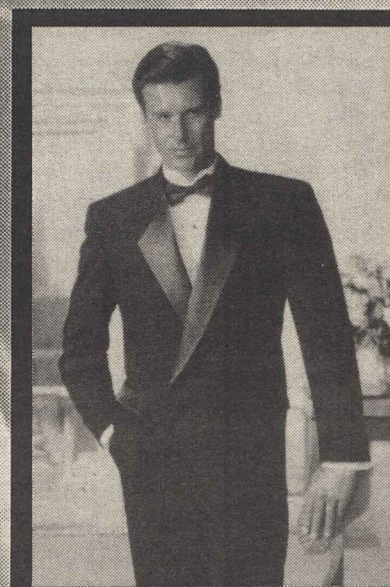
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## NEXT WEEK

## Red-Tape Odyssey

One man's harrowing story of what happened when government bureaucracy triumphed over common sense and compassion. In the next Southern Voice.

# SOUTHERN VOICE

TAKING PRIDE IN OUR CULTURE

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## What women want is, in a word, everything

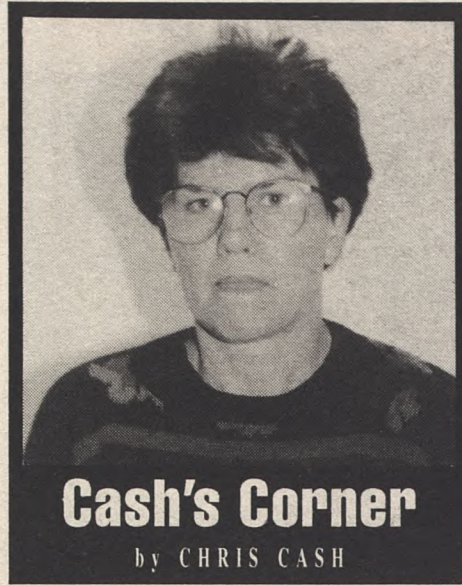
March is Women's History Month. Did you know? It's kind of a national Hallmark moment, 31 days out of the year in which we are reminded that women have contributed something to civilization through the millennia.

We've only had this month since 1987. It's a Congressional resolution that must be passed every year to insure that women are recognized. If someone forgets to rubber stamp it one year, I guess all this festivity will come to a screeching halt. Or if Rush Limbaugh looks into it, we can expect to have a White Men's History month soon.

Black Americans get their month too—they get February, the shortest month of the year. I'm sure they are just as grateful as I am to be given a whole month in which it is OK to remember and celebrate ourselves without being accused of trying to obliterate all that fine history created by white men. If I sound a bit bitter, forgive me, but I'm selfish and like a lot of women I'm a little touchy about only being given one month.

Before you start thinking I'm some kind of "radical feminist," a perfectly good label until Mr. Limbaugh and his ilk got their beefy hands on it, let me put your mind at ease. I do not believe that all men are evil or want them shipped out of the country. I do not believe all men intentionally go through life trying to their best to be condescending to women and then defensive when they are called on it. And I certainly don't think all men are slaves to sex and power. What I do believe, and what I have experienced, is that women continue to get the short end of the stick.

I know men are tired of hearing it but so are we, so here goes. Our hourly wage is about



### Cash's Corner

by CHRIS CASH

60 percent less; we are expected to work and clean house and nurture the kids and do it all with a smile; we are raped, abused, stalked and killed by ex-husbands and lovers; and we are told that we whine and that we want too much. What we get to make up for all this is the month of March.

So where's the party? The parade?

There probably were events scheduled throughout the month. I just didn't hear about them. Marketing Women's History Month is not high on anyone's list I guess—no commercials or billboards or blimps flying over the Feminist Women's Health Center. Or maybe my invitation got lost in the mail.

Fortunately, Georgia Public Television, that bastion of good taste and sense, managed to salvage Women's History Month for me. Last

week they presented "Women of Country," a two-hour history of women in country music. I found it more than a bit ironic that the strongest and most conscious women in music today are those we think of as the most victimized. Too many songs about hard drinking husbands, divorce and tough living have made us think of these women as air-headed, big-haired and weak-willed. Not so. Even Tammy Wynette ("Stand By Your Man") made me cry like a baby when she recounted the struggle of making a place for herself in a very macho business. And she did it with no whining and a whole bunch of dignity.

The young women of country music—Kathy Mattea, Mary Chapin-Carpenter, Suzy Bogguss, Trisha Yearwood—don't tell you to stand by your man. And although they credit and respect the women who paved the way, they have moved past them, singing more about what women want and need than lamenting what they have lost.

It's really pretty simple what women want, whether they're lesbian or straight, black or white, old or young—we want everything. We are usually too afraid to say that. When you've been taught to always put the needs of others before your own, and to never hurt anyone's feelings, it's very scary to say what you want. But we do want it all—love, respect, trust, power, and the easiness of being in the world that comes from knowing who you are and knowing that who you are is OK.

If you know Joni Mitchell, then you know she said it best in the final line of "Shades of Scarlett Conquering"—*A woman must have everything.*

And the month of March just ain't enough.

## LETTERS

### Origins of "Dixie" shouldn't be viewed as racist

I am writing in response to the controversy and apparent misunderstanding surrounding the use of the name "Dixie" by some members of the gay Pride board of directors.

I think it would benefit all who are interested to first have a quick history of one of its most accepted versions. In the early 1800's, French was still a commonly spoken language in Louisiana and required by law to be written along with English on official documents. The Citizens Bank of New Orleans issued a \$10 bank note with word "Dix" on one side (which is 10 in French). This currency-became very popular and the region became known as the "Land of Dixie." Later in 1850, Dan Emmett of Ohio wrote the melody "I wish I were in Dixieland." It was first performed in 1859 in New York City as a "walk around" melody for the Bryant minstrels.

Abraham Lincoln heard it in 1860 and loved it. It wasn't until 1861 at the outbreak of the War Between the States that for the first time several different versions of lyrics were added by both North and South. One such version, written by Confederate general Albert Pike of Arkansas, was sung by troops under his command and its popularity spread throughout the South.

Today the name "Dixie" is incorporated in the namesake of hundreds of business and social organizations throughout the South. "Dixie" beer, a local brew in New Orleans, is enjoyed by both black and white citizens. In addition there is a celebrated form of jazz music known as "Dixieland jazz" with a predominately African American band by the same name.

For most modern Southerners, "Dixie" is merely a sentimental and affectionate term of endearment for the land and its agricultural and cultural history. For many others it is simply a geographical designation for the southern states. Any contemporary interpretation of

it as a racist term is unfounded.

That some people in the past may have usurped or manipulated the use of the name is not without merit (i.e. the segregationist arm of the Democratic Party of 1947 known as "Dixiecrats"). Because the name was coined in the pre-war South does not in itself make it a racist term. Could it be that some of the board of directors are not from the South origi-

nally and are unaware of this part of the region's history?

In most literary sources I have incurred, the term "Dixie" and the song "I wish I were in Dixieland" are referred to as part of our national heritage.

Leif Eric Spivey  
Atlanta





## Why we can never hear the coming out message too much

"Get over yourself, Roberts. We're all out already." It was a kind of good natured bray coming at me during an early spring party on South Miami Beach just after Miami's International AIDS Walk. A couple of dozen of us were enjoying the ocean view from a deliciously deco apartment in a neighborhood that would shortly become massively unaffordable. The owners had made a really questionable purchase eight or 10 years ago in an area where the hardware store's best-seller was iron window bars. They had placed their bet in cash, got a great price, locked up tight whenever they left the room. And waited for recovery.

Finally, recently, their friends had stopped scoffing. The bars came down. Fresh stucco in key lime colors won out over dingy. And the city moved to enhance the seaside walkway by widening the beach park across their street, protecting their property value, and their view, from marauding high-rises.

I only mention it all to give you an idea of the kind of savvy company we are in here. It was true of the whole room. Most were part-timers, dividing their years into South Florida winters and Long Island summers, shifting gay bases before the weather ever caught up to them.

It's a great life for anyone who can get away with it. And these ladies had been getting away for years.

Someone had asked me a simple scheduling question about a new, yearly phenomenon called "Decobreak," sponsored by one of the local magazines I'm in. Decobreak is designed to replace rowdy college spring break money with gay sensibilities. Lots of public parties, readings, concerts, the AIDS walk, something for everyone if everyone happened to need



### Cleaning Out My Closet

by SHELLY ROBERTS

thawing, know a triangle bumper sticker from a university parking permit and have ready credit cards. Those of us who already live or winter here love it, because it saves on airfare and doesn't involve staying in Motel 6's.

As Jane flipped me the magazine, it landed open at one of my "Come Out! Come Out! Where ever you are!" columns, and the rest of the room joined in.

"Give it a rest." Someone chided. "We've all done that already, Girl. Donechew just know it!" I was assailed, but it wasn't a serious attack, so I slid the conversation into a loose discussion of catering and the party moved on.

Still, the thought has been nagging. And you know me. I'm hardly one to keep niggling little queries to myself, so, in true lesbian tradition, I thought I'd share.

Because, to these ladies, every time I say publicly, "Come out. It's good for you. It's good for us." They think we're done. They really don't think there's anyone left to talk to. Maybe you do too.

Well, let me tell you.

About Adrianna.

You probably know her. Or her twin sister. Or her best friend. Or her clone. Maybe you know her from your mirror, and you should be answering my South Beach ladies if you could only find the words.

Adrianna is a woman whom I know only by voice because she calls me for help. The details of Adrianna aren't exactly accurate as I share them, because—and here's the point of course—it's dangerous. If the wrong people figure out that she's in one of my columns, it could get her dead.

High drama? No. High caliber weapons owned by a husband who still believes in property rights to his woman and kids. Killed. In this day and age. Imagine. Or should I say, remember?

Adrianna never meant to fall in love with a woman. She never meant to betray the god they gave her. The one who gave her rigid right from wrong. Only she did. Fall in love with a woman. And now they meet when she can pretend she's working late at the office. Or when he is. Carefully. And he, good-natured/Catholic/Methodist/Evangelical/Baptist/Capital H husband that he is, believes her when she says "best friend." He rolls his eyes and sneers, "Women." She can't stand much anymore to let him touch her. But she has to. And she giggles when he tells dyke or fag jokes he thinks are hysterical, and she's hysterical he'll find out.

"He hunts." She said "Kills things. Me too. He would." The low, steady quality to her voice testifies her truth. "And my mother? If I left him, she'd make him take my kids. What do I do?" And I can't say. What would you say? Leave him? Take the kids? Can you promise the lovers won't end up as ballast? I can't.

But I can say to the South Beach ladies, and the ones who have already worked things out a little better for themselves, and to those who don't have high caliber husbands with hanging writs of habeas corpus, and to you, again, here, publicly, out loud "Come out! Come out! Whenever you can!"

So that Adrianna's mother can read about who we really are in The Ladies Home Journal and The Readers Digest. And maybe let Adrianna get away without murder. And maybe Adrianna won't feel quite so bad about herself. Or so alone.

I'm sorry. I know you've heard this lecture before. Not just from me. And I know you know. But the South Beach Ladies reminded me of just how easy it is, when it finally gets easier for each of us, to forget about all of us. To have our happy lives, content not to make any difference while we're busy not making any waves. To think that we're done.

I wanted to introduce you to Adrianna. Who looks a lot like you used to. Once. One of dozens I know personally. And I wanted to remind you, just in case it had slipped to the bottom of your list, that when you ask what difference coming out makes, it makes a difference.

Lives still do hang in the balance.

And when they don't anymore, I promise, we're done.

## L E T T E R S

### Claim that rural gay Southern life is blissful is just ludicrous

In response to a letter written by reader Michael Phillips [SoVo, March 3], in which he tries to disguise his innate racism by using African-American homophobia as an excuse: His viciousness coupled with his divisiveness were thoroughly shocking, and one can only hope that in this day and age, his views represent a very small percentage of the gay white community and not the majority he claims.

Phillips' notion that gay life in the rural South is frighteningly blissful is somewhat ludicrous. Maybe [it is true] in the small town where everyone has come to know him since he was a small child, but I doubt strongly that overall acceptance is the case in a small town where the locals had no prior knowledge of

him. Has Phillips not heard or read about the lesbian feminist retreat in Overt, Miss. which local residents are trying to run out of town, or the gay couple in rural Georgia whose home was burned down or finally the gay mayor in Melbourne, Iowa whose house was coated with anti-gay slurs? All three cases represent experiences of gay newcomers in Smalltown, America in which they were obviously not welcome.

Unfortunately, homophobia is everywhere, and it has not dissipated as quickly within groups that are traditionally out of the mainstream, such as African Americans and rural Southerners, as it has among upscale city dwellers. But time has shown that the battle to di-

minish racism and homophobia is a slow process of changing attitudes and perspectives. It is inaccurate, lazy and simply ignorant to accept the position that all African Americans are homophobic and that rural Southerners are gay-friendly.

Additionally, in response to Phillips' statement that interracial couples are offensive to white Southerners: His own ancestors were responsible for starting the practice of interracial unions in this country. It is a fact that mainly as a result of non-consensual interracial sex between his ancestors who fought for the "Cause" of the Confederacy and his enslaved ancestors, three out of four African Americans has a white ancestor somewhere.

So just get over it. And yes, Mr. Phillips, you and I (an African American) might even be distant relatives.

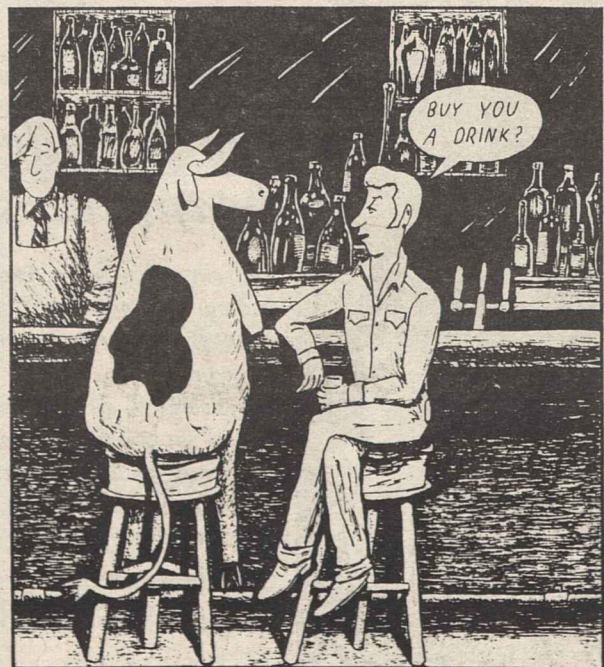
A gay white person should always support the efforts of the NAACP and similarly any ERA organization. These groups, along with the gay rights movement, share a universal goal of ensuring that no individual be denied the basic rights and privileges that our constitution guarantees. The failure of any group to recognize this common purpose can lead to the downfall of the true cause of this country.

Ed Burton

Atlanta

### STONEWALL RIOTS

BY ANDREA NATALIE



Dairy queen

### Hitler '36 resembles Cobb '96

Adolph Hitler did it. He and his Berlin Committee for the Olympic Games—swastika flags flying high—succeeded in fooling the entire world in 1936. His Nazi henchmen removed the Juden Unerwünscht (Jews Not Wanted) signs, and Berlin furnished excellent facilities for the athletes which were unprecedented in Olympic history. He declared, despite his existing, bigoted resolutions and his attack on the freedom of expression in the arts, that all was well in Berlin. The false atmosphere that he created was naively accepted by many citizens or tolerated with startling passivity by those who recognized his insidious plans.

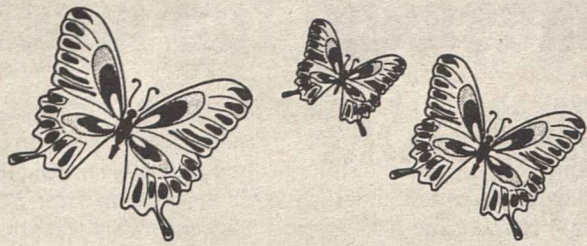
He is no longer here, but his ugly spirit has reared its head many times on the Marietta Square and throughout Cobb County, Georgia. Even now, hate-descendants, with placards that read "Out of the Closet—Into the Grave," "Thank God for AIDS," held by KKK

members swirling their beloved Confederate and "Georgia-Confederate" flags, alongside their neo-Nazi comrades, dressed in swastika emblems of hate, and spurred by a Georgia Legislature with a majority of xenophobic-minded legislators (some noble, brave exceptions do exist), treacherously invade the otherwise jubilant spirit anticipating the Olympic Games in Atlanta.

You cannot, Atlanta Committee for the Olympic Games, you absolutely cannot, International Olympic Committee, play a volleyball game of duplicity and, at the same time, carry the Olympic torch into a county that seeks to smother its flame.

Ed Scruggs

Atlanta



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## Study casts more doubts on AZT

People may get so sick from the side effects of AZT, the most commonly prescribed antiretroviral, that the health advantage of postponing full-blown AIDS is offset, a study has concluded.

The report, published in the Mar. 17 issue of the New England Journal of Medicine, casts further doubt on routine use of the medicine often given to people infected with HIV, but not yet sick. Studies last year showed that, contrary to widespread belief, this use of AZT does not help people live longer, even though it modestly delays the onset of AIDS symptoms.

"There is a trade-off between the benefit of a prolonged disease-free state and the quality of life decrement caused by side effects related to treatment," says Dr. William R. Lenderking, a psychologist at Harvard School of Public Health.

Severe symptoms of AZT treatment included prolonged nausea, vomiting and fatigue.

At Burroughs Wellcome, which makes AZT, Dr. James Rooney says the study doesn't mean physicians should abandon early treatment with the drug.

"It comes down to patient choice whether they prefer to have toxicity or disease progression first," he said. "If you ask patients, almost uniformly they say they would rather have a toxicity event than to have an opportunistic infection or cancer that is associated with HIV progression."

A press release from Burroughs Wellcome also notes that in "ACTG Study 019, upon which this analysis was based, it was shown that adverse events in association with treatment with Retrovir tended to occur early in the course of therapy or not at all. Furthermore, these adverse events often resolved in

a short period of time."

Lenderking's study is based on 1,338 HIV infected people. The patients had low CD4 levels, but they were outwardly well. They were randomly assigned to take AZT or placebos and watched for 18 months.

The AZT patients survived an average of 15.6 months without severe side effects or AIDS symptoms, compared with 15.7 months in the untreated comparison group.

Whether or not to use AZT comes down to your faith in the fact that better drugs are on the way according to an editorial in the March 10 issue of the NEJM written by Dr. Michael Saag of the ACTG at the University of Alabama Birmingham. Saag said that the possibility of slowing disease progression with the currently available antiretrovirals "makes good sense."

A separate report in the journal suggests that blacks are less likely than whites to receive AZT before AIDS symptoms occur.

Dr. Richard D. Moore and others reviewed the treatment of 838 AIDS-infected patients at Johns Hopkins University's HIV clinic. They found that two-thirds of whites and half of blacks were getting AZT.

The reasons for the difference were unclear, but the researcher concluded that "culturally appropriate efforts" to encourage blacks to get treatment may be needed.

Another analysis in the journal concludes that Americans are getting infected with HIV at ever younger ages. Dr. Philip S. Rosenberg and others from the National Cancer Institute calculated that the average age of infection was 30 in the early 1980s. But this dropped to 25 during the period from 1987 to 1991.

They also estimated that 50,000 to 61,000 new HIV infections are occurring annually.

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## Study proves cranberry juice helps bladder infections

Chicago—A scientific study has proven what many women and some men have long suspected: cranberry juice does help protect against bladder infections.

Researchers found that elderly women who drank 10 ounces of a drink containing at least 27 percent cranberry juice each day had less than half as many urinary tract infections as those who consumed a look-alike drink without cranberry juice.

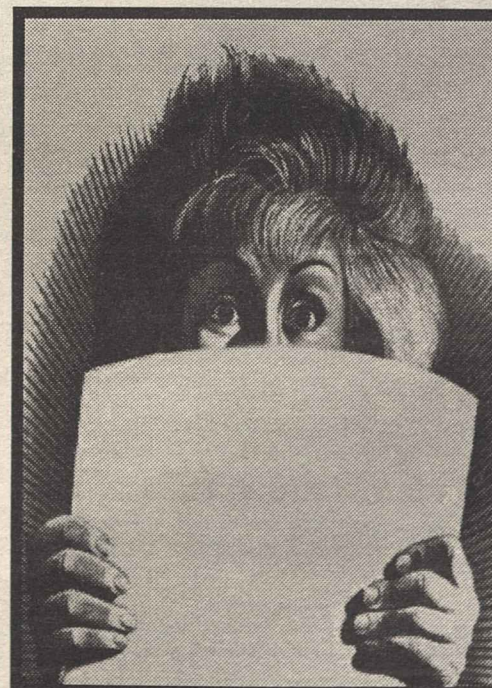
The study, which appeared Mar. 9 in the Journal of The American Medical Association, was funded by Ocean Spray Cranberries Inc., but the company had no role in the

study's design, analysis or interpretation, JAMA said.

"This is the first demonstration that cranberry juice can reduce the presence of bacteria in the urine in humans," said lead researcher Dr. Jerry Avorn, a specialist in medication for the elderly at Harvard Medical School.

It's unclear how cranberry juice protects against the infections, but Avorn said a chemical in cranberries—also found in blueberries—may inhibit bacteria from attaching to the bladder wall, a finding of previous studies.

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## New research shows mixed results for cancer drug tamoxifen

Washington, DC—The experimental drug tamoxifen lowers the risk of relapse among breast cancer patients, but increases the risk of women developing endometrial cancer, a rarer form of cancer, new research shows.

In data compiled by the University of Pittsburgh and released Mar. 17 by the Journal of the National Cancer Institute, tamoxifen appears to give women who have had breast cancer surgery a 38 percent better chance of living disease-free for five years when compared with breast cancer patients who did not take the drug.

Despite the endometrial cancer, a relatively rare disease of the reproductive tract, researchers found that breast cancer patients taking tamoxifen were better off, based on the "hazard rate," a value that compares the rate of disease and death between two groups.

Researchers said there was a 38 percent reduction in hazard rate for the tamoxifen group.

"The benefit from tamoxifen is substantially greater than the incidence of endometrial cancer currently being reported," said the study. "Consequently, tamoxifen should continue to be used in the treatment of breast cancer."

The study is based on a group of 4,063 patients who had surgery for breast cancer. Some received tamoxifen for five years, others for 10 years, and others got only a placebo.

Those on tamoxifen had a breast cancer relapse rate of 123.5 per 1,000 over five years. A parallel group also on the drug, but starting it later, had a relapse rate of 114.5 per thousand.

Women taking a placebo, however, relapsed with breast cancer at the rate of 227.8 per thousand. Those taking a placebo also had a greater risk of developing cancer in the other breast.

Patients on tamoxifen, however, developed endometrial cancer at a rate of 6.2 to 6.3 per thousand over a five-year period. Patients on

the placebo had a zero rate of endometrial cancer.

The research raised questions about a National Cancer Institute plan to study tamoxifen as a breast cancer preventative among women considered to be at high risk. But Dr. Leslie Ford, a director of the preventative study, said the new research will have no effect on the preventative trial.

She said a statistical analysis continues to support the theory that some women are at a greater risk of dying of breast cancer by not taking tamoxifen than they are of dying of endometrial cancer if they do take the drug.

Ford said that the rate of endometrial cancer found in the placebo group in the University of Pittsburgh study is "unusually low" when compared to the national rate of about 2.2 per thousand.

When applying the national rate to the reduction in breast cancer suggested for women at high risk for the disease, the risk-benefit ratio seems to favor tamoxifen, she said.

A final answer to that question, however, must come from the preventative trial, in which 16,000 women at high risk of breast cancer, but otherwise healthy, will take tamoxifen for five years. The women have breast cancer risks such as having a close relative with the disease or a history of treatment for benign breast lumps.

"A 40-year-old woman in this category has a 35 percent chance of having breast cancer within her lifetime," said Ford.

About 11,000 women already are enrolled in the study.

Ford emphasized that tamoxifen should not be prescribed as a breast cancer preventative for patients who are not in the study.

ASSOCIATED PRESS

## Women underestimate risk of heart disease

Atlanta—Many older women vastly underestimate their risk of heart disease, erroneously ranking it far behind breast cancer, a survey found.

The survey of Stanford University graduates found that three-quarters of these well-educated women believe their chance of getting heart disease is less than 1 percent. Actually, it kills more than 40 percent.

In fact, heart disease is by far the biggest killer of American women as well as men. It kills 478,000 women annually, 11 times as many as breast cancer, which takes 43,000 lives.

Dr. Louise Pilote of Stanford, who conducted the study, said the women had an accurate idea of their risk of breast cancer. Her findings were based on a survey of 550 women ages 48 to 52. She presented the results Mar. 14 at a conference of the American College of Cardiology.

Two-thirds of the women listed breast cancer as their leading health concern, compared with one-third who mentioned heart disease.

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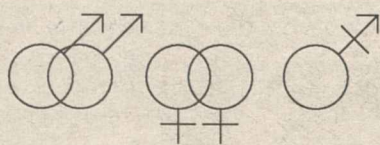
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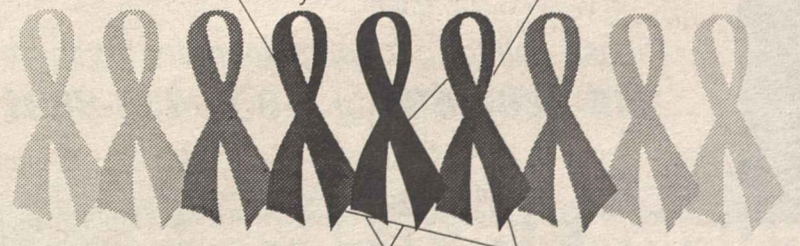
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## Falsified breast cancer data doesn't rattle leading feminists

*New York City*—Some high-profile breast cancer survivors who attended a luncheon celebrating their good health said they were not disturbed by last week's disclosure that data in a major breast cancer study had been falsified.

The National Alliance of Breast Cancer Organizations sponsored a Celebrate Life luncheon at the Plaza Hotel on Mar. 15, drawing breast cancer survivors Bella Abzug, Gloria Steinem, Linda Ellerbee, Betty Rollin and 300 others.

Rollin had two mastectomies before the now-controversial study was published. Had she been able to choose her treatment today, she suggested that the bad data wouldn't have been a significant factor in her decision.

"I tend to be extremely conservative. I'd never even consider a lumpectomy," she said.

The study under fire found that a lumpectomy followed by radiation was just as effective in treating early-stage breast cancer as removing the entire breast.

Prior to the study, breast removal was the standard option in the United States. On Mar. 14, the National Cancer Institute deemed the conclusions still valid despite the flawed research, which was made public last week.

About the false data, Steinem said, "It's so minor compared to the real problem: cancer prevention."

Abzug, a former congresswoman, concurred. "Two-breasted, one-breasted, or no-breasted, we're going to have to be aware of preventive measures so we don't need to suffer from this." Abzug had a mastectomy last June.

Steinem, a founder of Ms. magazine, had her lumpectomy and radiation a year after the study was published, in 1985. But she said that the findings barely influenced her decision.

"I already knew better because we were crusading against radical mastectomies in our first issues at 'Ms.' We knew then that there were 400 percent more mastectomies being done in the U.S. than in England, and the survival rate was the same."

Ruth Spear, co-founder of the alliance, said, "I know anecdotes don't make science, but frankly, I think there are enough of us still around with lumpectomies" to validate the European studies as well as the controversial American one.

ASSOCIATED PRESS

## Breast cancer gene linked to colon and prostate cancer, study says

*London*—The genetic mutation that increases the risk of breast and ovarian cancer also raises the chances of getting prostate and colon cancer, according to a new study.

The findings, published in the Mar. 19 issue of The Lancet, a medical journal, suggest in families with high rates of breast cancer that men may be at risk for the other cancers.

"One important possible implication of these results is that it means male carriers of the gene are at some cancer risk. The breast and ovarian cancer risk obviously applies to women, the colon cancer risk to both men and women, and the prostate cancer risk to men," said Dr. Douglas Easton, one of the investigators and a scientist at the Institute of Cancer Research in London.

The findings are the latest in the worldwide race to isolate the gene responsible for inherited breast cancer, called BRCA1. Scientists have been zeroing in on a particular region of the 17th chromosome but have not yet cloned the gene.

Dr. Curtis Mettlin, chief of epidemiologic research at Roswell Park Cancer Institute in

Buffalo, N.Y., said: "I'm convinced they've found these carriers have a greater risk of colon and prostate cancer. But it may be an interaction with the genes and the environmental exposures," such as a high fat diet.

In the new study, scientists from Britain, Canada and the United States studied 33 families who had abnormally high rates of breast and ovarian cancer and also carried the BRCA1 gene. Then they searched for other types of cancers that may run in these families.

Carriers of the gene were four times more likely to get colon cancer and three times more likely to get prostate cancer compared to the general population, said Easton.

The hypothesis is "terribly important, but there is just not conclusive genetic evidence one way or the other yet," said Dr. Mary-Claire King, professor of genetics and epidemiology at the University of California, Berkeley. She said large trials examining a wide range of families, not just those with very high rates of breast cancer, are needed.

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# RUNNING ON



by DOUG

You don't have to run to get some of the benefits of running. Getting up and walking also is a relaxing and beneficial way of exercising.

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Walking reduces stress by giving you some thinking time, and it helps the body downshift from a busy day. Exercising improves self-esteem, and that helps decrease depression, anxiety and stress. And some creative people believe that walking helps them think more clearly and creatively.

A study of 50- to 70-year-olds found that hour-long walks three times a week improve reaction time, visual organization and memory. And there are indications that regular amounts of moderate exercise can stimulate the immune system. Walking also can help keep cholesterol in check. And walking with a group can be socially beneficial.

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After age 25, your body burns calories more slowly, and fat can become harder to shed. Walking can jump start slow metabolism and help burn unneeded fat.

Walking also is a less injury-prone sport. High-impact exercises such as aerobics and running make you hit the ground with a force of two to four times your body weight, while walking only exerts a force of one and a half times your body weight.

When should you walk? Any time that you can, but you should do it regularly. Whether you walk with an organized group, or in the numerous races or fun runs held in the area, or in your neighborhood or a nearby park, you will benefit from fitness and enjoyment by exercising on a regular basis.

*This is part of series of columns written by members of Front Runners Atlanta. The group meets for runs and walks on Wednesdays at 6:30 p.m. and 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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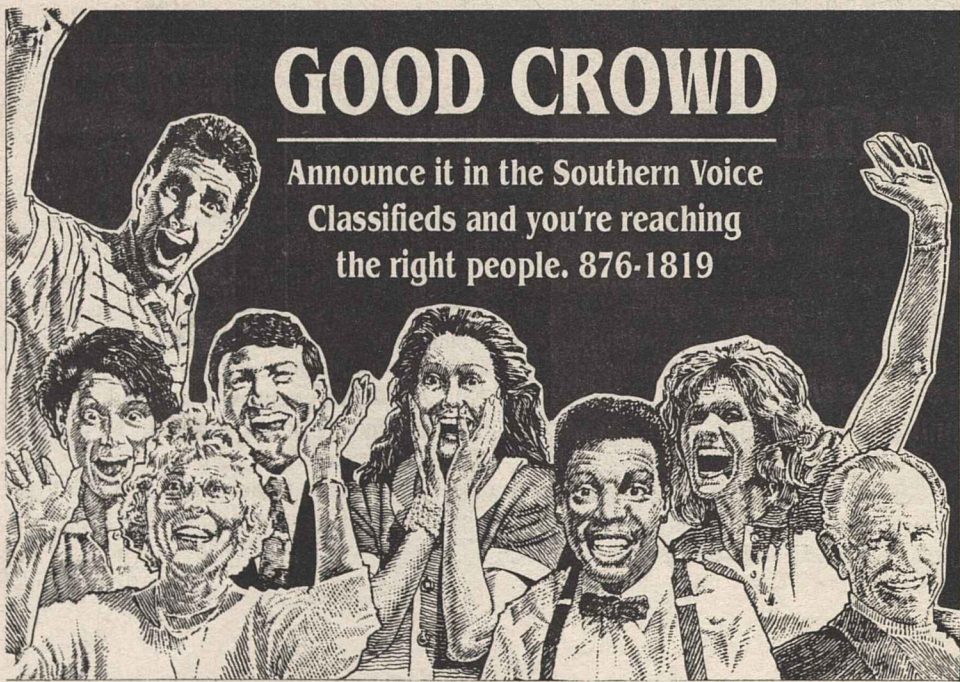
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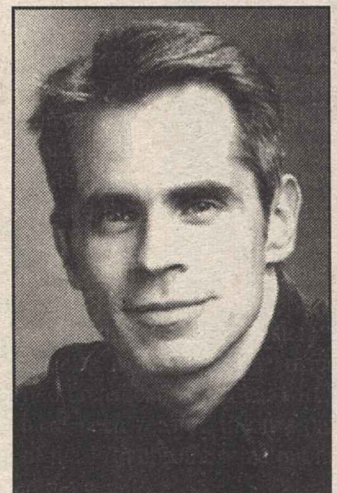
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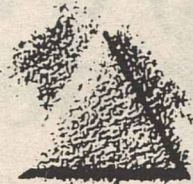
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## Women's soccer team heading to New York in Gay Games first

Team Atlanta's first ever women's entry into team Gay Games competition will be Atlanta Women's Soccer.

During the 1990 Gay Games in Vancouver, Team Atlanta fielded 137 participants, but only two female athletes made the trip. This year's soccer team will take up to 10 times that number of women to Unity '94: Gay Games IV and Cultural Festival, held in New York during the Stonewall 25 anniversary.

Women's volleyball and basketball may also still get together enough players to register by that date. Athletes interested in those sports can call Team Atlanta at 875-0700 or Haven Hawley at 972-1792 to be put in contact with team coordinators.

Atlanta Women's Soccer draws players mostly from the metro area, but the team also includes two women from Florida and a former Atlantan now living in New York.

AWS registered in Division 1 of the Greater Atlanta Women's Soccer Association for spring games and will play 10 times this season. Although the team practices regularly, team organizers considered spring registration in the league crucial in preparing AWS for Games competition, because many of the women have never played together on the same team.

Thirty women's soccer teams have registered so far to play in New York, with the majority requesting recreational division

games. AWS will play in the recreational division.

Open division games will also be offered, and a round-robin format is fairly definite, according to John Natale, a soccer coordinator for the Gay Games. Teams will play at least four games, he said.

The AWS team has begun a fundraising program to help members pay for the trip next June. Even with the cheapest travel and housing accommodations available, each player needs about \$500 to pay for the majority of her trip. Backstreet has signed on as a major sponsor, paying for the uniforms in time to start the spring league play in mid-March.

AWS organizers hope to find two more major sponsors and 100 sponsors of \$5 to \$500 to defray travel, housing, registration and food costs, said Haven Hawley, a soccer player.

Donors of \$500 or more will receive Gold Sponsor recognitions; \$100-\$499 Silver Sponsor recognition; and up to \$100 Bronze Sponsor recognition. Sponsors will be listed in donated advertisements in local newspapers.

Southern Voice, a Silver Sponsor, will provide an ad to run after the Games have concluded. Major sponsors will be listed on team flyers and publications.

For more information about team games or sponsorship, call Haven Hawley at 872-1792.

## Cobb Coalition

Continued from page 3

zens, he is lending his prestige as an elected official to the agenda of a bigoted, anti-constitutional outfit. Wysong's scheme to scapegoat lesbians and gays is the worst sort of political cynicism. Someone should tell him this is 1994 not 1934."

But Gordon Wysong was not the only politician in attendance at the banquet—gubernatorial candidates John Knox and Mac MacNair and 7th District Congressional candidate Bob Barr took in the speeches as well.

While Wysong was preparing to speak to the Christian Reconstructionists, the Cobb Citizens Coalition was dealing with a more immediate threat. According to Lytle, a Saturday afternoon caller to the group's voice mail line had left a message warning that "members of the Dan White Fund are going to pay the Cobb Citizens Coalition a visit."

Dan White was the San Francisco city supervisor who murdered openly gay Supervisor Harvey Milk and Mayor George Moscone in 1978.

"We interpreted that as a threat," Lytle said.

As with all threats, Lytle said the group reported the call to Cobb County police, and also to Marietta police because the group's March 21 meeting time and place in the city were on the outgoing message. Marietta police met with coalition members 45 minutes before their meeting time at the St. James Episcopal Church and checked the building inside and out before the meeting began, finding nothing. But police stayed for the duration of the meeting.

"The guy who left the message was most likely a kook who wouldn't confront anybody," Lytle said. "It's been my experience that the people who leave those messages lack the courage to do that. But we didn't want to take any chances. We wanted to safeguard our people coming to the membership meeting."

Lytle said coalition would not announce future meeting places and times on the voice mail message.

"And that's a real shame," he said. "These people want to intimidate us. But we have to safeguard our membership."

KC WILDMOON

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# Neo-Confederates

Continued from page 1

mined to infect the rest of the nation."

In this same issue, on the very next page, President Clinton was taken to task for his "don't ask, don't tell" compromise on the military ban. Though Clinton's proposal offered little difference from the ban already in place, SP's editors decried it as a radical departure that would allow people in the military who are "perverse and unnatural."

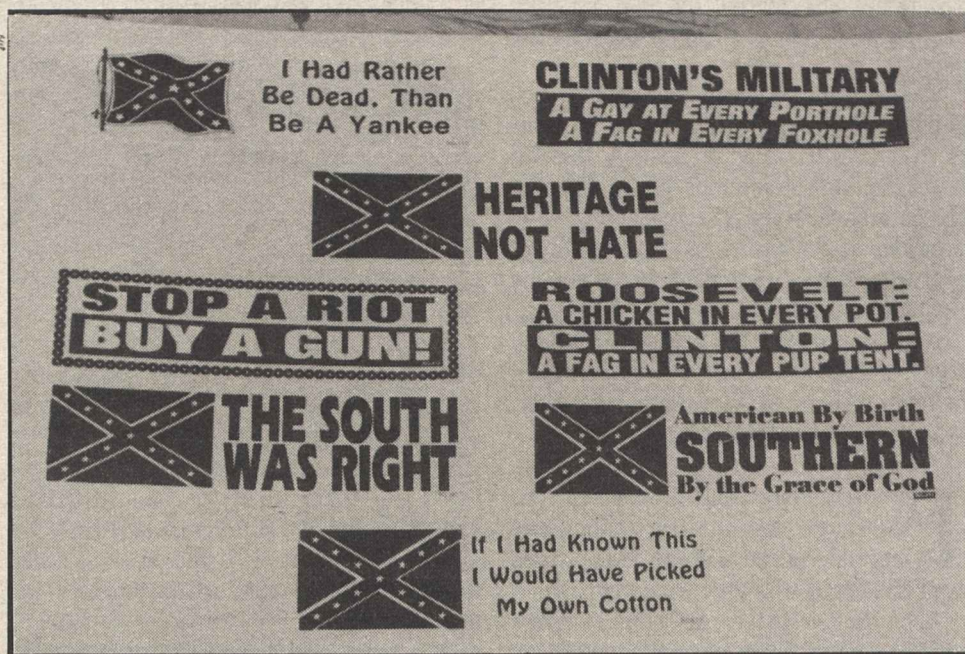
"Of course, this is not to say that Americans are predisposed to persecute homosexuals," the editors went on to say. "The threshold to this problem is the door to what once was metaphorically called 'the closet.' In a world where moral standards are publicly upheld, the closet is a useful place indeed. Many sins reside there in peace, for no one is without fault. But today's militant homosexuals are no longer restrained by the unspoken rules of civility."

Also in this same issue was an article praising U.S. Sen. Jesse Helms of North Carolina for his characterization of Roberta Achtenberg as a "damn lesbian" during hearings to confirm her as assistant secretary of the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development, and a piece taking the University of South Carolina to task for offering a course last summer by a gay professor on the challenge to public education posed by the fundamentalist agenda.

The magazine also published an attack on hate crimes laws in general and a U.S. Supreme Court decision upholding them in particular, and it reprinted part of Virginia's 18th Century criminal code that outlined the punishment for sodomy as castration for a man and, for a woman, having a half-inch hole bored through her nose.

All in all, in that one issue of Southern Partisan, there were nine articles that were primarily anti-gay/lesbian in nature. Gays took more hits in that issue than did Abraham Lincoln.

Another neo-Confederate publication, called Southern Heritage, is equally hostile to gays and lesbians. Though it is independent and not officially affiliated with any group, almost 60 percent of its readers are members of either the Sons of Confederate



A sampling of the bumperstickers available through neo-Confederate magazines

Veterans or the United Daughters of the Confederacy, according to a survey of its readers published in one of its issues.

Based in Merrifield, Va., the publication lists on its masthead as a contributor Charles Lunsford, an Inman Park resident who is the spokesman for the Sons of Confederate Veterans' Georgia branch. Lunsford has been at the forefront of the fight to preserve the Confederate emblem on the state flag.

In one issue of Southern Heritage, a writer named Kay Moxley Black wrote an entire column decrying the use of the term "gay" to mean homosexual, asking rhetorically how "did a beautiful word like 'gay' become so debauched?"

"Look how many of those words were good, pure, beautiful words before 'they' decided to change our culture," Moxley said.

John F. Cummings III, the editor-in-chief of Southern Heritage, writes a column in each issue that he routinely uses to blast gays and lesbians, referring to the United States as the "land of Rodham and Gomorrah" and decrying the fact that "flagrant homosexual expression is heralded as acceptable."

Then there are the letters to the editor—expressions of the sentiments of the readers of these magazines that are often stridently anti-gay. One letter writer even advocated

that Atlanta be burned a second time because "elements alien to the traditional values of the South (i.e. feminists, homosexuals, northern liberals) have descended on the city in force."

Advertisers in these publications include a number of mail-order merchandise firms that peddle anti-gay T-shirts and bumperstickers. One such sticker reads, "Roosevelt: A Chicken In Every Pot. Clinton: A Fag in Every Pup Tent." (Their history is a bit faulty here—it was Herbert Hoover, not FDR, who promised a chicken in every pot).

Of course, many people who feel a reverence for Confederate symbols are not members of these groups and do not subscribe to their narrow ideology. And not all of the people who belong to these groups necessarily share these anti-gay/lesbian viewpoints.

So these homophobic ramblings might just be dismissed as the expected rhetoric of a fringe group, except for two things. First, homophobia seems to be a strong, consistent central theme, not an isolated occurrence. And second, these groups have been able to tap into public sentiment in favor of retaining Confederate symbols to bolster their political power.

After Gov. Miller proposed dropping the Confederate battle ensign from the state flag, polls showed that a majority of Georgians opposed the idea. Amidst the controversy, the Georgia division of Sons of Confederate Veterans—whose Atlanta branch, ironically, holds its meetings in Midtown at the Mason's hall on Ponce de Leon Avenue—began receiving applications from as many as 500 new members a month, according to a recent investigation into Confederate preservation groups by Atlanta Magazine writer R. Robin McDonald.

The Georgia Sons have more than 20,000 members, including a number of prominent political leaders. While many of those people do not publicly disclose their affiliation, Atlanta Magazine identified among their number Georgia state representatives J. Max Davis of Dunwoody and Keith Breedlove of Buford; former Waycross mayor John Knox, who is running against Miller for governor, and U.S. Rep. John Linder, a Republican who represents DeKalb and Gwinnett counties in Congress.

During the recent legislative session, Davis was one of the cosponsors of a bill that would have repealed two Atlanta city ordinances setting up a domestic partnership registry and providing benefits to the partners of city employees. "He has been a longtime opponent of progressive legislation," said Larry Pellegrini, the Capitol lobbyist for GAPAC, Georgia's gay/lesbian political action committee.

Knox, who is anti-choice on the issue of abortion, made headlines in January when he called a press conference at the Capitol to ask Miller for force Georgia Public Television to pull Armistead Maupin's "Tales of the City" from the airwaves. Though he hadn't seen the program, which chronicled life in 1970s San Francisco, Knox termed it "X-rated" television.

Last year, Perry McGuire and Bob Guhl, both Republicans, were elected to the Georgia Senate from suburban Atlanta districts, replacing moderate Democrats. Neo-Confederate groups were involved in those campaigns, according to Atlanta Magazine's report. While there is no way to tell what difference that support made in the election's outcome, both were hotly contested elections where the neo-Confederates may have

CONTINUES ON PAGE 16

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## Neo-Confederates

Continued from page 15

made a difference.

"Both [McGuire and Guhl] allied themselves with the right wing," said Pellegrini. "Both of them were beholden to the right wing in the election, and they acted like that once they got down [to the Capitol]."

The Senate had been closely divided among moderates and conservatives. This past session, right-wing Republican conservatives were able to bring along enough conservative Democrats to swing the Senate to the right on abortion funding and some other issues.

Perhaps the most curious thing about the political involvement of the neo-Confederates—and evidence that they may be promoting ideology instead of preserving history—is their consistent support for Repub-

lican politicians. During the War Between The States, of course, Republicans were the enemy.

The big test of the power of the neo-Confederate groups will come in November, when Miller faces re-election. Were it not for the flag contretemps, he would probably be a shoo-in for a second term. Now, according to Pellegrini and other political observers, "that's one flank on which he might be vulnerable."

And while Miller has been no champion of gay and lesbian issues, he has not been hostile to them in the way other candidates, particularly Knox, have been.

The Neighbors Network has sent observers to "save-the-flag" rallies, and they have talked to people in the crowd to get an idea of why they were there.

According to Reeves, most don't express racist or homophobic sentiments. Many say they are Civil War reenactors, people who,

as a hobby, put on costumes and participate in authentic reenactments of famous battles.

But these people have been drawn into the flag fight because they have bought into a post-Reconstruction view of the Confederacy as some romantic "Gone With The Wind" fantasy and can't understand why Confederate symbols need to be removed, according to Reeves. He says he has come across well-educated, thoughtful people who have told him that they believe the Ku Klux Klan was formed to protect Southern rights during Reconstruction and only later became a terrorist group, when in fact evidence is overwhelming that the Klan was a terrorist group from its very inception.

"I find this prostitution of our history to serve this revisionist political agenda to be thoroughly disgusting," said Reeves, a native Georgian whose ancestors fought for the Confederacy.

Gay and lesbian groups have been involved in the effort to change the state flag—

most recently during a demonstration at the Georgia Dome during the Super Bowl—but those who have been doing so have, in large part, been motivated by their dislike of racist baggage attached to Confederate symbols.

There are other gays and lesbians, however, who don't share that same dislike. One can occasionally see patrons in gay bars festooned in Confederate attire or a vehicle with a Stars and Bars sticker juxtaposed with a Rainbow Flag.

However, those lesbian and gay people who revere and display Confederate symbols face a different paradox, and they may not even be aware of it.

Though their motivation may be Southern pride, they are casting their lot with the neo-Confederate movement. And the vocal activists in that movement, if they had their druthers, would render *all* gays and lesbians second-class citizens—whether or not they revere the Cause.

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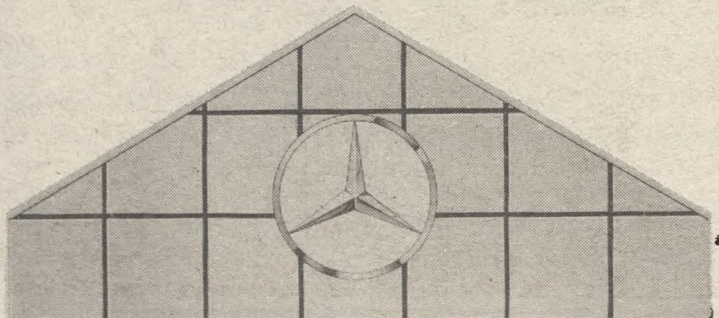
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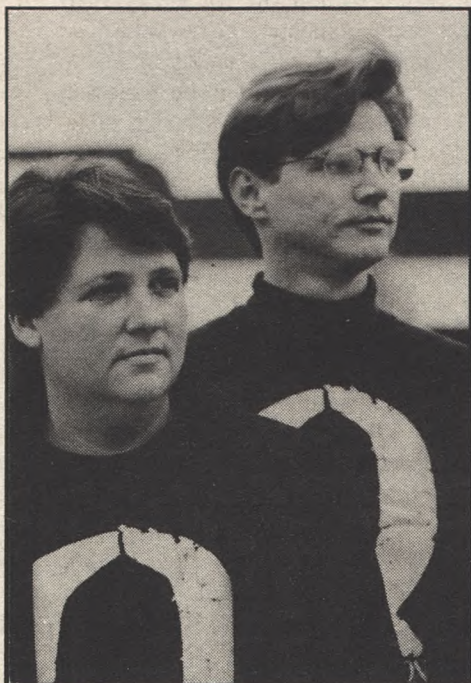




# Not an end, but closure

*As Queer Nation/Atlanta disbands, its former co-chair reflects on the group's legacy and history of change*

by LYNN COTHREN



**Cothren at a Queer Nation Cracker Barrel demonstration with Cheryl Summerville, whose firing ignited the controversy**

At 6:50 p.m., sitting in a room of the Peachtree Library, my mind goes back to the other meetings I had attended in this place and to all of the people I had worked with over the past four years.

But it was not a time for reminiscing, for I had been called to attend this meeting to discuss the future of Queer Nation/Atlanta. Although I had not been to a QN/Atlanta meeting in more than six months, I knew the membership and the energy of the organization had fallen off.

As the group gathered one by one, people who had not seen each other for many months greeted each other warmly. Someone even said it looked like a reunion. I was happy to see many of the faces I had not seen in many months, but I was unsettled by what I knew we were gathered to do.

The meeting came to order, beginning what would prove to be one of the only consensus votes in QN/Atlanta's history—a vote to dissolve the organization.

As each member spoke, they referred to this meeting as the death of QN/Atlanta. However, when it was time for me to speak, I could not shape my lips to speak those words. I referred to it as the closure of QN/Atlanta and began to share some of the fond thoughts I had been having early that evening.

Queer Nation/Atlanta stumbled onto the scene in late October 1990. At the first meeting of which I was one of the 35 people in attendance, a man from New York spoke about how to start a Queer Nation chapter in Atlanta. I remember meeting Gary Kaupman, a longtime community activist, for the first time at that meeting when we shaped the direction of this young, new organization. This would not, however, be the last time Gary would help to shape the direction of QN/Atlanta.

By the second meeting, it was decided with much discussion that the first action would be at Jocks and Jills for what was called a "queer night out." We were in Jocks and Jills expressing our affection for each other with little reaction from the crowd until a bartender requested that the group vacate the premises. This reaction affirmed that homophobia was alive in Atlanta. Other early outings included: 70 individuals going to Underground Atlanta, Lenox Mall and Hartsfield International Airport.

At a time when holding elected officials to their campaign promises was not the ticket, QN/Atlanta issued a report card on then-Mayor Maynard Jackson. However, prior to issuing the report card, QN/Atlanta thoroughly researched the activities of the mayor to evaluate his performance versus his campaign promises to the lesbian and gay community. When the report was issued, the mayor received an "F" for his follow-through to the community, and QN/Atlanta was noted in the Atlanta Journal-Constitution's "Peach Buzz" at a time when lesbian and gay organizations were not receiving recognition from

the mainstream press. As a result, the community obtained its first open lesbian liaison to city hall.

In February 1990, Cracker Barrel Old Country Stores, Inc. issued an employment policy which allowed persons to be fired due to their sexual orientation. Southern Voice immediately broke the story and as a result encouraged the mainstream press to cover this human rights issue. Gary Kaupman again played a pivotal role in QN/Atlanta's history by providing the necessary guidance and information on the restaurant chain's actions. In addition, Gary encouraged Cheryl Summerville, a fired employee and eventually the co-chair of the organization, to attend a meeting to explain her situation.

Although there is not space in this or any publication to fully explain every detail of this historical campaign, I would like to touch on just a few exciting points.

Over a period of three years, numerous direct actions and sit-ins against Cracker Barrel, more than 30 activists were arrested for standing up for their beliefs.

Even though there were set backs through the campaign, the scales of justice always weighed in favor of QN/Atlanta and what is morally correct. Following each court appearance, members of the coalition walked away with acquittals and a multi-million dollar corporation walked away with yet another defeat.

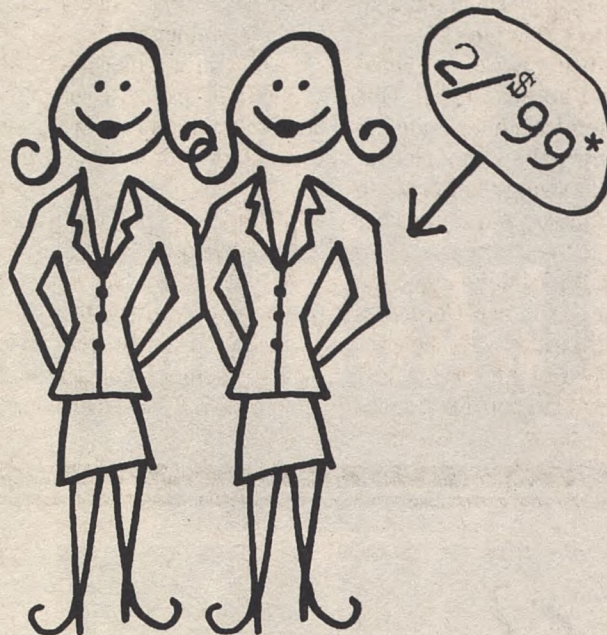
Whether this defeat came as a result of an arrest or the corporation's interpretation of federal securities laws, QN/Atlanta always prevailed. This struggle is, however, not over. The work continues through the Boycott Cracker Barrel Coalition.

A coalition derived from years of hard work to bring together a group of diverse people under the umbrella of one cause. Early in the struggle, Ivy Young of the National Gay and Lesbian Task Force helped QN/Atlanta organize what would be the largest coalition of over 120 organizations and national figures centered around a gay or lesbian issue. Although the Task Force is not the only national organization involved in the campaign (the National Organization for Women was the first to come on board), it was responsible for bringing the following to the

CONTINUED ON PAGE 20

## FAMOUS GARMENT

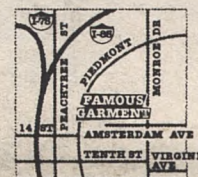
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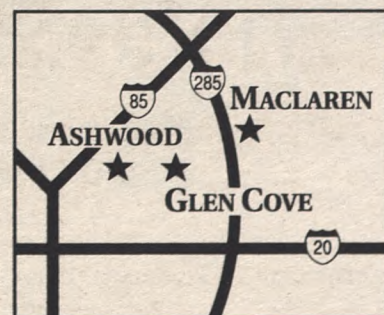
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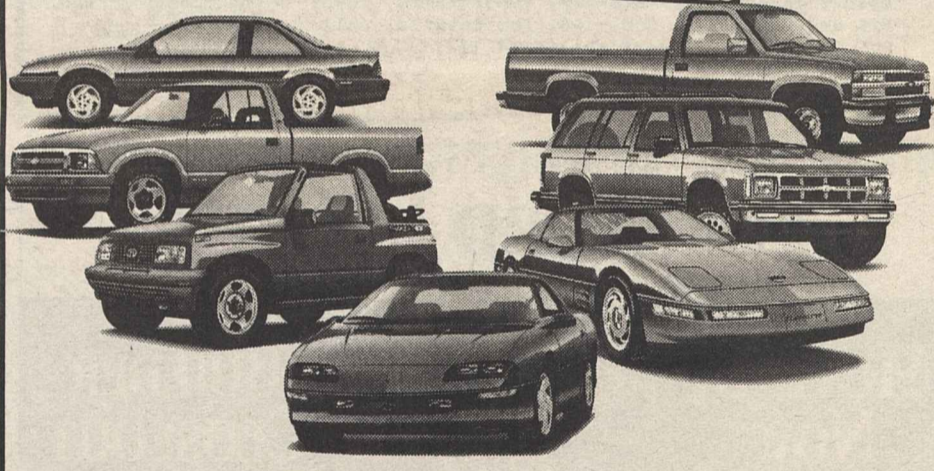
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## Time to say *dayeinu*—enough

*For this week of Passover, a reflection on the dimensions of coming out into freedom*

by JACK SCHIFFMAN

It is the spring of 1972 and the first night of Passover and the last time I am ever quiet about anything.

I am sitting in the teachers lounge that March afternoon when our music teacher, Mr. Dalton, a married yet closeted little small town Southern fag bloated with self-hatred, bops through the door singing the Mi Kamohah, the song which celebrates our arrival at the sea, the beginning of our hope, our freedom, our "coming out" of slavery. I am reading the newspaper when a lovely black teacher asked Mr. Dalton what he was singing. "I don't know, just some Jew music they pay me to sing," he chirped, and, without noticing me, he waltzed out of the now totally silent lounge.

It is the first time in my life I am too angry, too enraged to speak and too floored to get up out of the chair. It is the last time I ever appear inconspicuous—he doesn't ever notice me, that I know for sure. I can't believe I have listened to the sacred words of my people being mocked by another teacher who also is the director of the Temple Choir in our small congregation.

I know that I must confront him, that I

can't just consider the source. I am too angry and not just at him. How could I sit silently and allow that kind of behavior to take place? I had once before heard him make a queer joke in the lounge and said nothing—but everyone else all cackled when he left and said "Who does he think he's fooling?" But Mr. Dalton, though he is queer, is not a Jew, and his venomous remark slipped too easily out of his oily mouth, like phobic remarks have a tendency to do.

I leave school as soon as the bell rings, drive 60 miles an hour over to Rabbi Goodman's study and tell him the horror story, tell him that I'll never set foot in that Temple again if that asshole ever sings or directs our choir again. "Why didn't you say something?" he asks, looking at me as sympathetically as he did the day I came out to him.

In Judaism, a person has a right to face his accuser, and, with that, he picks up the phone, calls the school, summons Mr. Dalton to come immediately to the Temple—and Mr. Dalton, small town nobody, mediocre teacher, closet case and hetero impostor arrives 12 minutes later.

"Repeat what Mr. Dalton said in the lounge today, Jack," the rabbi states judiciously. And I do. The choir monster's face reddens as I not only repeat his words but also mimic his affective body language. He denies ever saying those "horrible" things, and he says he hadn't seen me all day long. More angry at myself for remaining invisible than I was at him, I leap from my chair and our eyeballs practically touch. I call him

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a fucking Jew hating, self-hating faggot. So shocked was he by my language in front of "a preacher" that he breaks down in a convulsion of sobs—apologizes and admits what he had said—mumbling something about his background and family.

Rabbi Goodman forces me to accept an apology, and I am sent away so he and Mr. Dalton can speak privately. I never knew what was said—it was none of my business, I suppose. But I do know that Mr. Dalton never returned as director of the Temple Choir and he took a two-week leave of absence from school.

And when he returned, he was a different man. He was no longer catty, self-absorbed or cruel. As much as I hate to admit it, both his absence and his presence was a painful reminder to me that I must always stand up for myself and my people.

In September, Mr. Dalton is gone. Someone said he'd moved to California, another said Mexico City.

It is now March of 1994 and I have to leave my office and pace the narrow halls of AID Atlanta, where I'm the pediatric and adolescent coordinator. Too many sick mothers and children, not to mention adults. I turn the corner, and, for the first time in more than 20 years, I am eyeball to eyeball again with my old colleague, Mr. Dalton, gaunt and listless, who is here for a client intake.

He doesn't want anyone to know him here, he pleads, and I promise that I don't know him, that no one in the building will ever know about our past—and they won't. We go outside at his insistence, and he says, "Do you remember when you got so mad at me that you said fuck in front of your preacher?" "A rabbi," I gently and quietly corrected him. Yes, how could I *not* remember, I silently lamented. Of all the words in our liturgy, especially on this night, surely the word remember is what we are called on to do.

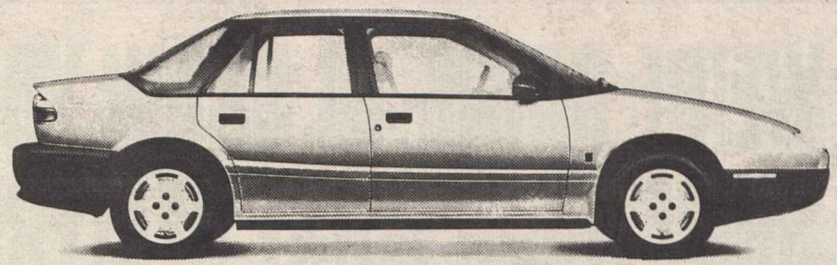
And tonight I will remember that incident and try to focus on why each of us must kick down every closet we've ever tried to hide in so we can finally begin to do honor to our ancestors who stood at the sea and sang the Mi Kamohah.

The time has come to remember

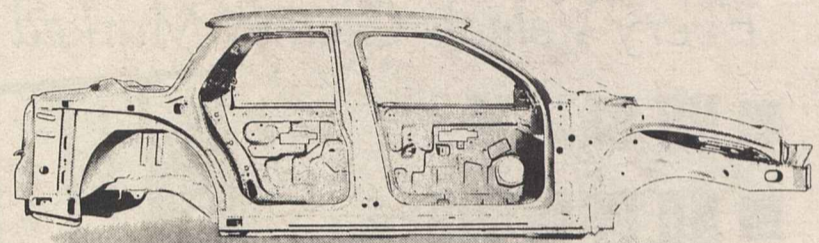
that our silence does equal death. The time has come for us to quit denying who we are. The time for the conspiracy of silence is over. The time has come for us who are gay, lesbian, bisexual and gay friendly to clearly mark our doorposts and open our gates and sing out loudly, proudly and clearly who we really are as we begin our individual and collective exodus away from the slavery of the closet.

Together we say *dayeinu*. Enough.

*It is now March of 1994 and I have to leave my office and pace the narrow halls of AID Atlanta...I turn the corner, and, for the first time in more than 20 years, I am eyeball to eyeball again with my old colleague, Mr. Dalton.*



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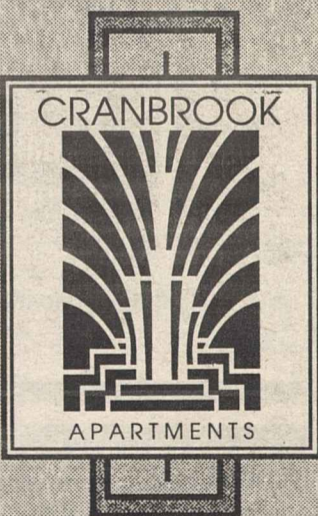
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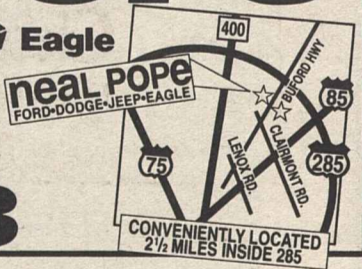
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**QN/Atlanta**

Continued from page 17

fold: three Congressmen, Gerry Studds, Barney Frank and Ted Weiss; Rev. Jesse Jackson and the Rainbow Coalition; and local and national union representatives.

In addition, the Task Force provided numerous invaluable gratis conference calls between coalition organizers throughout the United States, as well as coordinating a Western Union telegram campaign to register the protests of the lesbian and gay community with Cracker Barrel. Without their unending grassroots assistance, this campaign, as well as others throughout the United States and abroad, might never have come to fruition.

However, I would be remiss if I forget to mention the unsung heroes within our community who offered, without question, their assistance and financing when asked. Whether the monies went to bail activists out of jail or to rent a bus to transport the masses to Cracker Barrels throughout the South, these individuals opened their hearts and wallets, asking for nothing in return.

Taking the lead from the National Organization for Women, QN/Atlanta hit the streets to raise money and deliver a message through car-tagging. It provided great visibility for the community while raising the necessary revenues for QN/Atlanta to do its work. It was at one of these car-taggings that seven members of QN/Atlanta and a member of NOW were arrested for "jaywalking." Again the scales of justice tipped in favor of QN/Atlanta when their charges were dismissed.

As a direct result of this blatant harassment by the Atlanta Police Department (which

was not new), the Atlanta City Council formed the Lesbian and Gay Public Safety Task Force to hear and evaluate the concerns of lesbians and gay men regarding their safety.

Looking back on the past four years in Queer Nation/Atlanta with its pros and cons, I cannot see this as the death of this organization, rather it is the closure. For when I see former members such as Larry Pellegrini, who had only recently come out when he joined QN/Atlanta and now serves as the first paid gay lobbyist at the State Capitol, or Jeff Cheek, who prior to his joining QN/Atlanta had not been involved in the movement and is now responsible for administering the Ryan White Care Act funds for Fulton County, I continue to see the philosophies and teachings of QN/Atlanta live. Or when I see Cheryl Summerville and her partner, Sandra, as they look into the eyes of their daughter, Devin Lynn, I can not help but feel that QN/Atlanta's philosophies and teachings are not dead, but rather will continue to thrive in the hearts of all those whose lives it touched.

A deceased former member of QN/Atlanta, Andrew Bowers-Bostic, may have best stated what QN/Atlanta was about when he addressed a group of union workers after they made it very clear they would not march behind a bunch of queers at a health care march. "We didn't come here to march in front of you or behind you, We came here to march with you," he said.

This does not, however, apply to just the straight community. It also applies to those within our own community who have continually attacked those who are attempting to create change. We must be united. It is not about egos or personal agendas—it is about the common good and the achievement of a beloved community for which we strive.

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## Public doesn't approve of gays but likes discrimination even less

*NGLTF study of American opinion shows need to cast the debate over lesbian/gay rights in terms of discrimination, not approval*

Washington, D.C.—While a majority of the American public finds gays and lesbians unacceptable or immoral, the public is also strongly opposed to discrimination and is confused about the kinds of discrimination gays and lesbian face.

That's according to a comprehensive study of local and national polling and focus group data measuring voters' opinions about gay/lesbian-related issues, released this month by the National Gay and Lesbian Task Force.

The report concluded that lesbian and gay rights organizers need to cast the debate in terms of "discrimination" and "equal rights." Overwhelmingly, opposition by voters to anti-gay/lesbian ballot initiatives was because of their opposition to discrimination, and three-quarters of the U.S. public supports equal rights in employment for gays and lesbians.

Information was gathered from dozens of polling organizations including CBS News, NBC, the Gallup Organization, Princeton Survey Research Associates, EDK Associates, Mason-Dixon Political/Media Research, Inc., and the Roper Center for Public Opinion Research, as well as numerous articles from both national and local newspapers that covered public opinion studies and/or initiative and referenda campaigns.

In assessing the relationship between public attitudes towards lesbians, gay men and bisexuals and the community's political strategies, the survey's author, Susan Hibbard, NGLTF Campaign Specialist with the Fight the Right Project, offered the following additional recommendations to organizers battling anti-gay measures:

- Organizers must clarify and quantify the real nature and extent of discrimination against gay people—only then can voters understand the need for legal remedy. People abhor discrimination, but it appears that the public, at least when relating to groups about whom they hold negative opinions, constructs a narrow definition of discrimination that warrants remedy.

Discrimination is redefined only as unequal treatment in housing and employment.

Although many people believe gay people are discriminated against in *some way*, they do not feel that gay people face discrimination of a kind that needs remedy. A New York state focus group leader read participants three newspaper stories about job and housing discrimination. Participants were surprised that such overt discrimination exists and that, absent protective legislation, it is legal.

- Short-term victories will more likely result from reinforcing the public's opposition to discrimination than from trying to change the majority's lack of acceptance. Conversely, long-term victories will not be won without increasing public acceptance. Anti-gay violence, either physical or emotional, will not be eradicated successfully unless the widespread negative judgments are reversed.

- Polling data identifies the power of the lesbian/gay community's ongoing encouragement and organizing of individuals to come out. Coming out lets more of the public know that they are acquainted with a lesbian, gay or bisexual person, and polling shows that this personal knowledge makes people feel more positively toward gay people.

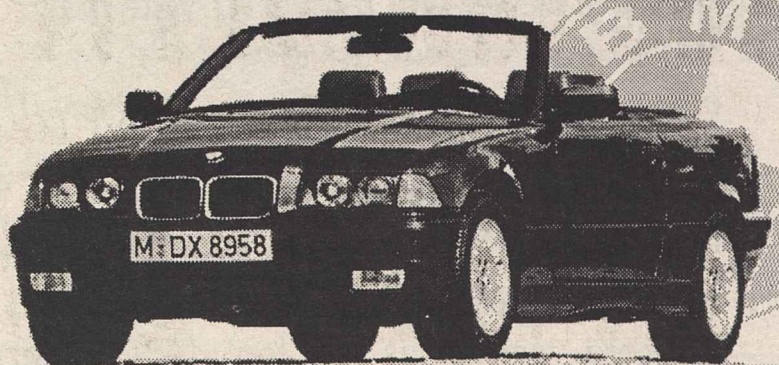
- In both the short and the long term, organizers must educate about equal rights and civil rights. The concept of "special rights" is the strongest weapon of opponents of equal rights. The discussion of equality and rights takes place in the language of scarcity, in which assistance to one group means diminished opportunities for another. The public objects to discrimination but also rejects granting preference to others.

- In the short run, organizers must clarify that protection against discrimination is not a "special right." In the long run, larger questions must be addressed, such as why so many people confuse the concepts of protection against discrimination, affirmative action, quotas, preferential treatment, special rights, and minority status.

The survey also found that much of the public holds conflicting beliefs about gay people in terms of legality and morality (i.e.: "Homosexuality is wrong, but it should be legal"). Gender, age, education level and acquaintance with gays and lesbians are all linked to attitudes about discrimination and protective legislation. Women, younger adults, people with higher levels of education and those who know they have gay friends or family members all tend to oppose discrimination more strongly and to be more likely to support protective legislation.

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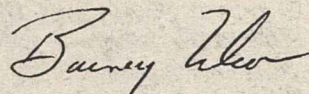
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*An Open Letter To  
The Gay & Lesbian Community*

1993 was a record for Curry Honda. We were able to serve over 20,000 customers last year through new and used car sales, service, parts and body shop. We truly appreciate the patronage and trust you have shown in us. We will forever strive to make 100% of our customers satisfied with owning and maintaining their car. For almost the past three years, Curry Honda has let it be known the gay and lesbian community is welcome at Curry Honda. You have responded and you are a major reason '93 was a record year for us. We look forward to making '94 an even better year and your patronage will play a major part in our success. To those of you who have done business with us—Thanks! For those of you looking for a dealer to do business with, give us a try—I think you'll find Curry Honda a nice place to do business with. If I can be of any assistance, please do not hesitate to call.

Thank You In Advance,



Barney Nelson  
General Manager

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*From a letter to Curry Honda...*

My salesperson, Julie Ellis, was highly recommended to me by a friend who also enjoyed her dealings with Ms. Ellis. Julie Ellis was professional, courteous, and very respectful of the presence of my female life partner during the sale. Ms. Ellis could relate to me more comfortably than any other car salesperson ever has. I appreciated her availability at Curry Honda.

During my two days of business at your dealership, I was aware of two other same-sex couples making purchases. Thank you once again for your dealership's stance to be gay/lesbian sensitive and for providing quality gay personnel such as Julie Ellis.

Sincerely,  
Laine Peek

*Professional service for your automotive needs.*

**J U L I E E L L I S**  
4 5 1 - 2 7 0 0

OCCASIONS

ANNIVERSARIES

Susie and Laurie Kezh celebrate 11 years together on Easter Sunday, April 3.

Rickey Jerome Berry and Kelvin Allen Harris celebrate their third anniversary on March 31.

Debbie Fraker and Joan Sherwood celebrate their third anniversary April 5. The happy couple will spend a weekend at The Mountain for a much deserved break from hectic city life and their compulsion to work all of the time.

BIRTHDAYS

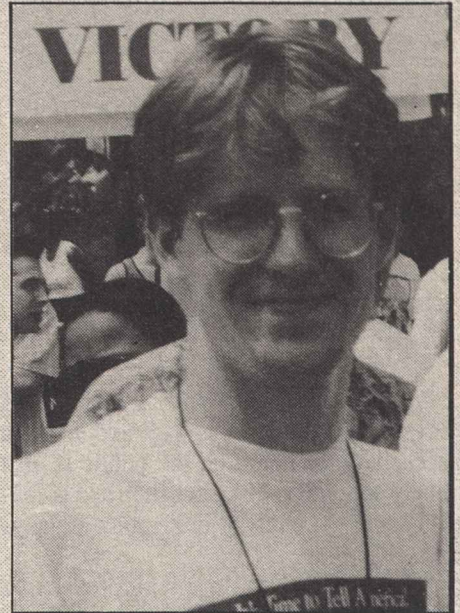
KaRan Mason, away somewhere at nursing school, turns 30 on April 3.

Holli Height will be thirtysomething on April 1.

Happy birthday to Greg Clough on March 30. He'll be 39, and still a babe.

Happy birthday to Paul "Viv" Martin on March 28 from his sister Crystal Allen.

A very happy birthday goes out to long-time Cincinnati SoVo subscriber Elizabeth Sherwood from her little sister Joan. She says your present is in the mail.

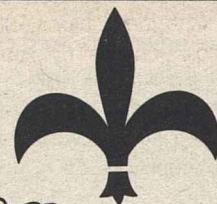


Brian Rountree heads for San Diego

GOODBYE

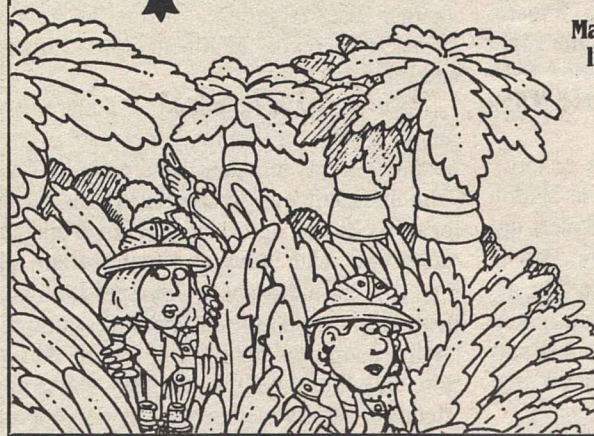
Activist-at-large Brian Rountree is making a career and location change. He's heading to San Diego to go back to school and start a career in politics, Southern California style. He'll miss all us folks here in the Big Peach, but he promises to return every so often.

*When you've got a special occasion, send it to Southern Voice/Occasions, PO Box 18215, Atlanta, GA 30316, call (404) 876-0789, or fax to (404) 876-2709. Please include a phone number for verification.*



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## Organizational meeting planned for international exchange group

Globus International, the Atlanta-based group that is developing an international exchange program for gays and lesbians, will hold another organizing meeting next week.

Anyone interested in helping with the organization of Atlanta's Globus chapter, as well as anyone interested in hosting travelers coming from Germany this summer or in going to Germany and Austria in the fall should attend the meeting, according to Jurgen Ahlers, the founder of the group.

The meeting will be Wednesday, April 6 at 7 p.m. at the Sheraton Colony Square in Midtown.

Globus is designed along the same lines as the Friendship Force. Groups from one country will travel to another and will stay in homes of people in the host country. Ahlers says the

idea is to develop personal ties between gays and lesbians from different parts of the world.

"This will strengthen our community in ways we haven't even perceived," he says.

In June, about 40 people from Globus' Munich chapter will be in Atlanta for a week and then travel to New York during the second week to attend Stonewall 25 and the Gay Games. Then in late September, about 40 Atlantans will spend a week in Munich, staying in homes of Globus hosts, and then have a week of either independent travel in Europe or a group trip to Austria.

Globus hopes to add to American chapters and two international chapters each year to expand the exchanges.

For more information, call (404) 662-4141.

## Stonewall plans buses to New York

Stonewall 25-Georgia is planning to arrange bus transportation from Atlanta to New York City for the International March on the United Nations to Affirm the Human Rights of Lesbian and Gay People.

Tentative plans call for the bus (or buses) to leave Atlanta on Friday, June 24, and to leave New York for the return trip on Monday, June 27. One bus will be reserved prima-

rily for the transgendered community. Additional passengers may be picked up in Greenville, S.C. and Charlotte, N.C. if enough people in those cities express interest.

Round-trip prices are still to be determined. Anyone interested in possibly taking part in this bus trip should contact the Stonewall 25-Georgia committee at (404) 662-6753.

## Survival Project seeks peer counselors

The AIDS Survival Project, formerly the Atlanta chapter of the National Association of People with AIDS, is in urgent need of HIV-positive volunteers to be trained as peer counselors.

Because AIDS Survival Project peer counselors serve as role models, it is important that they have a positive approach to their health

care and lives. For information, call 874-7926.

AIDS Survival Project is a coalition of people affected by HIV with more than 3,500 members providing free peer counseling, support groups, education, social opportunities, a treatment resource library, treatment activism and advocacy for more than 6,000 people annually.

## New York gallery excursion planned

The Atlanta College of Art Community Education Program is offering an intensive, three-day weekend excursion to New York's galleries and museums.

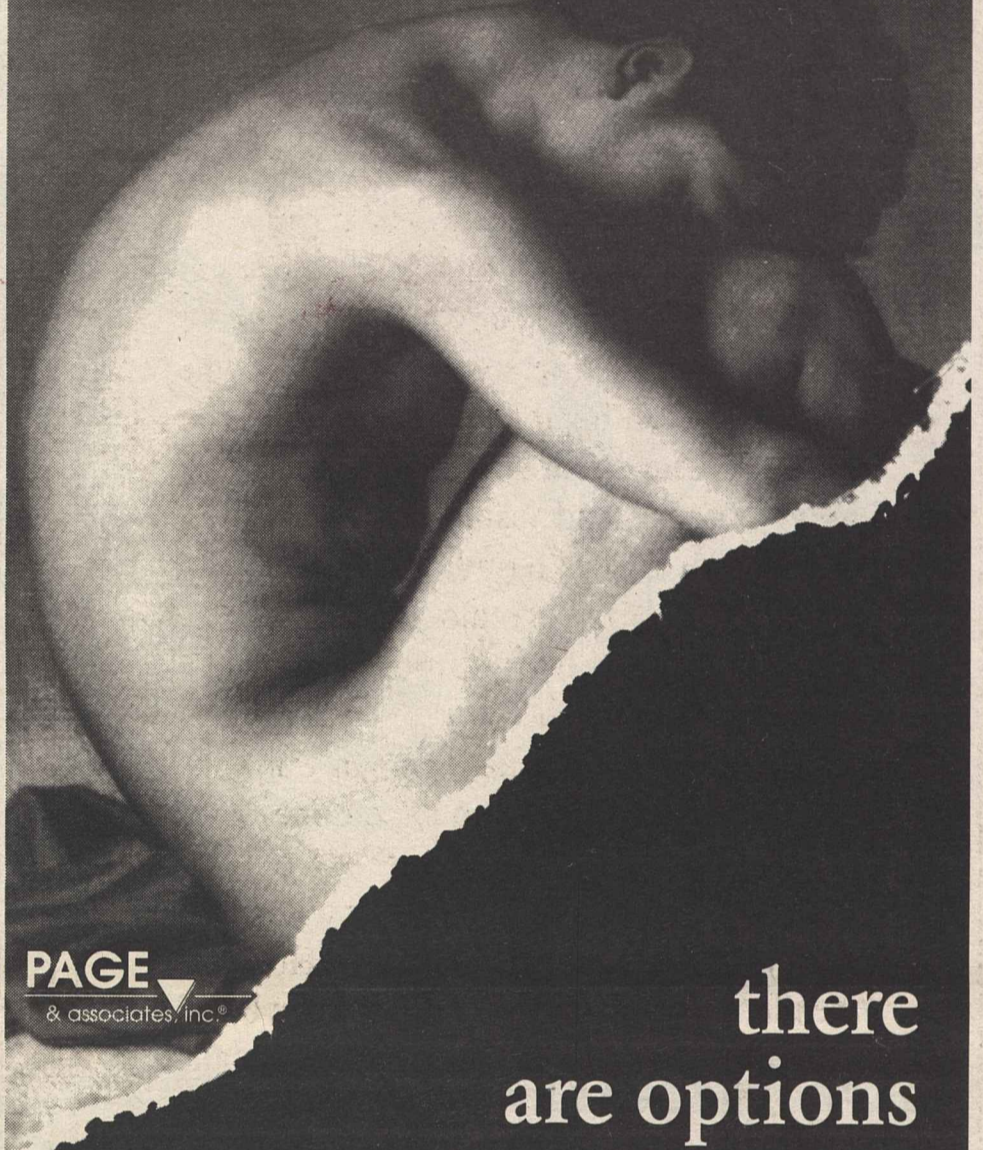
Katharine T. Carter, a nationally recognized lecturer and artist's advisor, will conduct the April 15-17 field trip. As many as 30 commercial galleries in SoHo will be visited as well as four major museums—the Guggenheim Downtown Branch and the newly-renovated Guggenheim Uptown, the Whitney Museum of American Art, and the

Metropolitan Museum of Art.

Class members will participate in discussions with William Zimmer of the New York Times, renowned curatorial team/critics Robert Mahoney and Kathleen Cullen, and leading Latin American art critic Berta Sichel; public relations and marketing strategist, Shannon Wilkinson and Financial planner Sally Livingston.

Class size is limited. Registration must be made by March 31. For more information, call (404) 898-1169.

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# OUT & ABOUT

THE ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT GUIDE OF SOUTHERN VOICE

## Christopher Durang

*One of America's funniest playwrights waxes philosophical about relationships, therapy and the wrath of God*

by MICHAEL KAPE

Christopher Durang is arguably the funniest person writing for the American theater today.

His plays, such as "Beyond Therapy," "Sister Mary Ignatius Explains It All For You," "The Marriage of Bette and Boo" and "Laughing Wild," currently running in the Alliance Theatre Company's Studio, are wickedly manic, funny, odd, dysfunctional laugh riots tapping into areas like guilt (real or imagined), urban living—and somehow having a relationship with other people.

Durang is also among that group of playwrights who is also known for his comic performances. He's been in movies such as "Housesitter" and the upcoming "The Cowboy Way" with Keifer Sutherland. Last year, he made his Broadway acting debut with Julie Andrews in Stephen Sondheim's "Putting It Together." His first appearance on stage in New York was in 1980 with his close friend and fellow Yale Drama School classmate Sigourney Weaver ("Alien," "Working Girl") in a wild satiric send-up of Bertolt Brecht called "Das Luisitania Songspiel," a show which has become legendary in some circles.

It was because of a spoofing reference in "Das Luisitania" that for years people mistakenly thought Durang and Weaver were a couple. Their biography in the program read, "Mr. Durang and Ms. Weaver are secretly married and living in a house in Connecticut with their three daughters, Regan, Goneril and Cordelia," an arcane theatrical reference to "King Lear." But there are a lot of "in" theater jokes permeating Durang's work.

"In 'Laughing Wild,' the woman has a line about [Norwegian playwright] Henrik Ibsen," Durang said recently in an interview while in Atlanta to promote the Alliance's production. "When I heard it the other night, it got a laugh, but the laugh covered a line about August Strindberg. And I suddenly thought, 'Oh, gee, you have to know that Strindberg wrote a lot about the hatred between men and women in order to get *that* laugh.' But when I'm writing, I find it often feels natural to me to make reference to things I know. I wonder if that limits how much my plays are done around the country. What I try to do sometimes is explain the context.

"In 'Laughing Wild' I refer to the 'harmonic convergence,' something that was not well-known to begin with. But even at a time when it was current, I had the man in the play explain it to the audience because I don't think too many people would have known it. So I may try to cover my bases by explaining it more. But you couldn't do the Strindberg joke, because you can't explain it and still get the joke."

"Laughing Wild" is one of Durang's more manic plays (if such a thing is possible), a story of a woman who bops a man over the head with a can of tuna fish—many times. She also shoots Sally Jesse Raphael and takes over her show, interviews an obscure religious icon (the Infant of Prague), and finally connects with another human being. Atlanta's lead comic actress, Shelly McCook, has the role and is extravagantly funny in it.

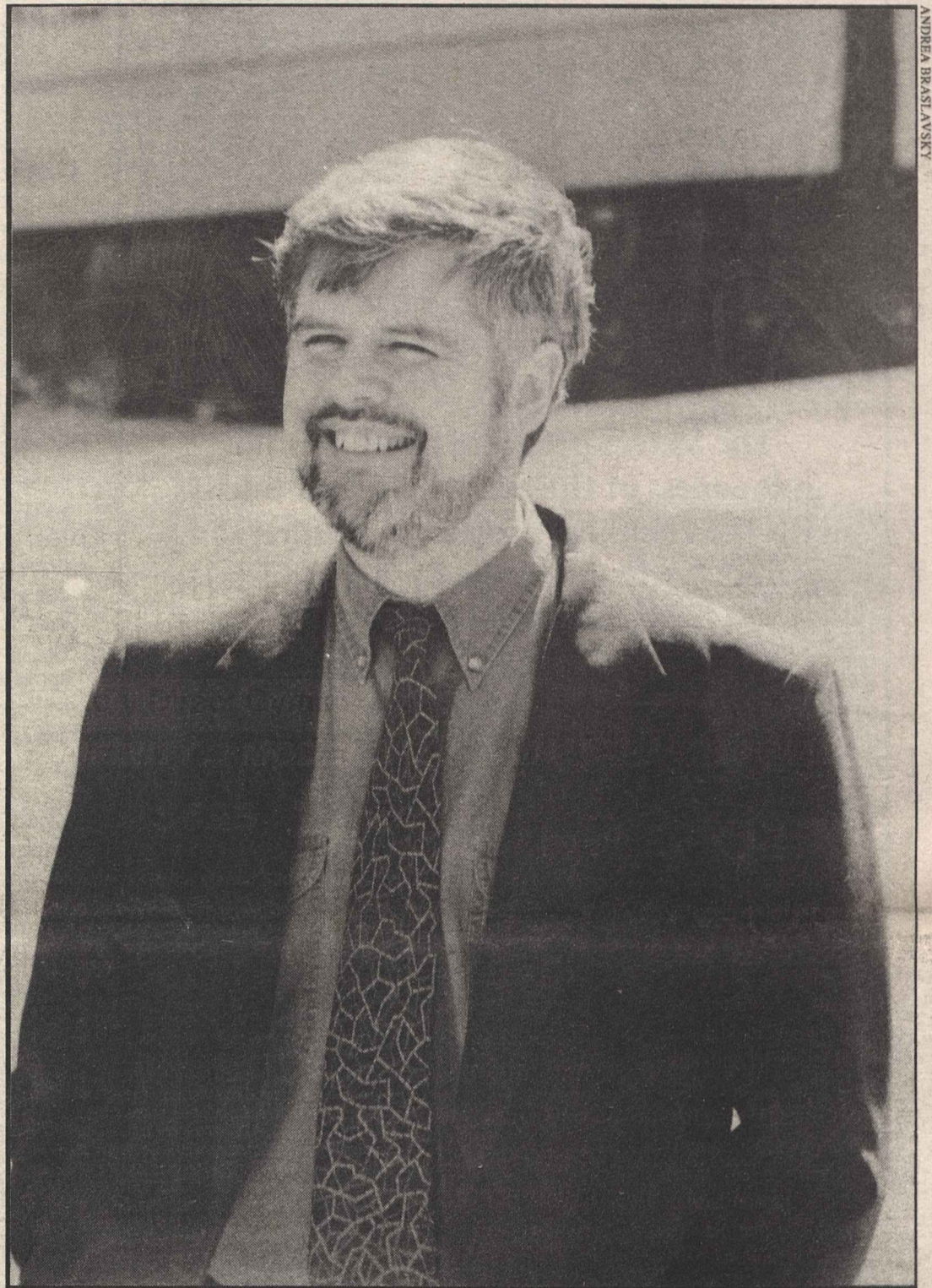
There is, however, a deeply disturbing, darkly humorous passage in "Laughing Wild" in which Durang approaches the subject of AIDS and fundamentalists. The man in the piece (played by David DeVries) launches into an imagined conversation between God and Gabriel in which God explains how he's going to invent AIDS as a punishment for homosexuals. Its purpose is to skewer says Durang, a self-

described lapsed Catholic.

"The play was written in 1987, but actually, that speech was written separately for Esquire magazine. It had asked different authors to write about the seven deadly sins, one sin per author. I was asked to write about Wrath. The article was about how I felt the wrathful God was a projection of certain people's own anger to God. Since my mother died of cancer, I had to go through, 'Do people suffer because God is punishing them?' Most religions don't teach that any more. But even now, when something goes wrong in my life, I feel I must have done something wrong.

"But I think that's not how suffering works. A wrathful God is a projection of mankind's own anger. I wrote the piece in 1985. Rock Hudson hadn't died yet. Though none of the mainstream religions seemed to be talking about it, there were some fundamentalist ones who said AIDS was God's punishment to homosexuals. They still do. Plus, there's a certain unspoken assumption. We saw it again with the Kimberly Bergalis thing—she was the "innocent victim," and everyone else who had sex or did drugs was somehow the guilty victim. Many people have thought that. I was so angered by the illogic of saying AIDS could be a punish-

CONTINUED ON PAGE 26



Durang's "Laughing Wild" is currently on stage at the Alliance Theatre's Studio.

International Arts Association  
presents...

## Sisters of the South

A Southern musical roots tour  
presenting the folk  
music of the Appalachians,  
the Carolina Piedmont,  
and the Cumberland Plateau.



Etta Baker

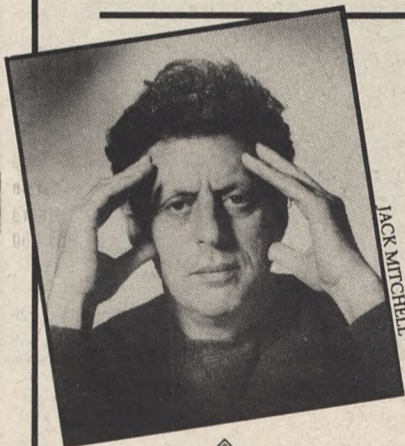
**The Sisters program combines the  
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Etta Baker - Piedmont blues guitar  
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Sheila Kay Adams - musical stories of the Appalachian Mountains  
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**April 5, 1994 8 p.m.**

**Georgia Tech Theater for the Arts  
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*Sisters of the South tour is a project of SOUTHERN ARTS FEDERATION, and is made possible by support from the National Endowment for the Arts Folk Arts Program and the Fund for Folk Culture.*



JACK MITCHELL

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Original Music by  
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## Durang

Continued from page 25

ment by God because when you think, 'Is God so sloppy he just throws in hemophiliacs and Haitians?' As anyone who's ever lost someone to cancer knows, you have to quickly give up the idea that suffering is a punishment.

"Before I wrote [the play], I did an acting workshop where you had to work on a monologue. So I chose to bring the God-Gabriel thing in, and I was happy with how it went. Strangely, there was an offshoot of this actor's workshop for people with AIDS, or recently diagnosed, or just who had lost someone to AIDS. The people running it asked me to come in and perform the monologue. It went fine, but I can sympathize with someone finding it painful to watch in 'Laughing Wild'."

One of the hallmarks of Durang's plays is the inability of his characters to maintain stable relationships. He volunteers that "The Marriage of Bette and Boo" is the painful yet funny true story of his own parents (his father was an untreated alcoholic; his mother had three stillborn babies). Yet despite the dysfunctional relationship he saw growing up, as well as the many twisted couplings he's portrayed in his writings, Durang's own domestic life is blissful and stable by comparison.

"I live with an actor," he said, "I have for about five years. I think it's a pretty good relationship, though I think relationships can be intimidating and confusing, too. I think the family I grew up in got really locked into extremely negative relationships where the people were really mad at one another but felt it was useless to talk about it. I think mostly I've done well not getting into the kind of blatant miserable relationships I've seen some of my family get into. So that's good."

"Like I say in 'Laughing Wild,' there's that initial period when you're just so excited by the other person. Usually that's a year or two years—if you're lucky. Then that kind of calms down into more of a day-to-day easy thing. That's nice. Then—and I almost sound like a talk show host here—you get into your fears of intimacy. This may sound like gobbledy-gook, but I think I have a certain place where I shut down. It's hard to be around me. I find I have some depressions. I find that the early part of a relationship, which has such intensity to it, distracts me from feeling the depressions. Then later on they surface again. Sometimes I think this is from how I grew up. Sometimes I think it's just the human condition and this is how we all are—it doesn't matter what your parents did to you."

The playwright freely admits he's been in and out of therapy for years, yet one of the charges leveled against him is that his plays are often hostile to therapists, especially "Beyond Therapy" and "Laughing Wild." In "Beyond Therapy," the male therapist seduces his female patients, and the female therapist, Mrs. Wallace, wants to over nurture her patients. In "Laughing Wild," the man simply comes right out and says, "My therapist is an idiot. I'm going to leave him."

Durang says he's anything but hostile toward therapy. "The male therapist in 'Beyond Therapy' I clearly portrayed as a negative influence—because he sleeps with his patients—and he's manipulative and macho.

My motivation in creating him was to find humor in this situation of a woman who has problems asserting herself. I actually would have left that therapist early on. My friend on whom I partially based it on didn't leave, though she didn't get seduced by her therapist either...I think I do intuitively value the 'go with your feelings' kind of therapy Mrs. Wallace represented, though she does go way too far. I do remember that during rehearsals of the first production of 'Beyond Therapy,' my friend Wendy Wasserstein [her play, 'The Sisters Rosensweig,' is currently on Broadway] was hanging around a lot. One night after a run through, Wendy and I discovered that we actually thought Mrs. Wallace was kind of a good therapist.

"When I wrote that section in 'Laughing Wild,' I was with a psychiatrist a friend had recommended to me. And while he was not a horrible therapist, I basically started to think he wasn't very good. When I said I wanted to discontinue our sessions, he did one of those things where he said, 'Well, I think we should talk about this.' So he bullied me into 12 more sessions. I was hostile at the moment I wrote that section of 'Laughing Wild.'"

Durang received very good notices for his appearance last year in Sondheim's "Putting It Together," though most of the attention was focused on Julie Andrews making her return to Broadway. Was he intimidated by playing opposite the legendary star and singing Sondheim's songs? "No, I was deeply excited working with Julie, thrilled out of my mind" he says. "I was more intimidated working with Sondheim. He's an extremely smart person who I think you can tell makes very strong judgments. He was very nice. I do find his persona a bit intimidating. Everyone said Julie Andrews was really nice. On the first day, she was very friendly, though maybe slightly aloof in that kind of British way. But by the second day, she was very warm and supportive and friendly. So truthfully, it was a wonderful thrill, and I don't have a single quirky detail to give. She's just incredibly nice."

It isn't well-known, but "Putting It Together" was not the first time Durang had been in a Sondheim show. The most obscure play the composer ever did was "The Frogs," which was performed in the Yale swimming pool. Durang was part of a huge chorus of Yale students. Also in that chorus were Sigourney Weaver and Meryl Streep.

Now that his acting career is on hold, he's returned to writing. Since "Putting It Together" closed, he's been steadily at work on a new play called "Sex and Longing" which is about two-thirds complete. He's also writing another new piece, still untitled, which he claims is, "very manic—it feels like one of my earlier plays." Since he hasn't presented anything new in New York since 1987, he's anxious to have two new shows go up at once. And then there's the question he's asked by anyone who ever saw it—will he ever get together with Sigourney Weaver and revive "Das Luisitania Songspiel"?

"I don't have a definitive answer," he demurs. "Sigourney and I have talked about it many times. And we've said if we did it again, wouldn't it be nice if we could get a cable company to tape it. Right now, it's her movie schedule that has not worked out for us. We'd have to update it a lot. A lot of people have told us how much they'd like to see it again, which is funny, when you consider we only ran for a few months, three nights a week, at 11 o'clock at night."

C A L E N D A R

31 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.

**LIFENOTES: PERSONAL**

**WRITINGS BY CONTEMPORARY BLACK WOMEN.** Editor Patricia Bell-Scott, cofounder of SAGE journal, talks about the book that contains an extraordinary mix of African American women writers. 7:30pm, Charis, 1189 Euclid Ave. 524-0304.

**MARILYN HACKER.** Emory's Lesbian/Gay Studies Lecture series presents the 1987 Lambda

Literary Award winning poet at 7pm in Rm 207 of White Hall, with a reception following the reading. An afternoon Colloquium on gay/lesbian publishing will be held from 3-5pm in Rm 363 of the Dobbs Univ Ctr.

**DR. NEIL SHULMAN.** The author of "Doc Hollywood" signs his new book, "The Backyard Tribe," at Borders, 3655 Roswell Rd, at 7pm. 237-0707.

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

**INTERIORS TODAY.** Tonight: "The Expression of Southern Style." GPTV Ch 8. 8:30 pm. Also Sun 4pm.

2 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.

**A GLIMPSE OF GAY SPIRIT VISIONS.** A preview of the men's gathering on the Mountain—for those who've been before and those interested in learning more. 10am-6pm at the Friends Meeting House, 701 W. Howard in Decatur. \$25. 292-8567.

**JOHN GEORGE BROWN.** Thru July 31. Five paintings of the elderly are the focus of "John George Brown: The Dignity of Years," at the High Museum. 892-HIGH.

musical, "God So Loved the World," by the church choir. 7pm, 575 Boulevard. 622-1154.

**GREG BROWN.** Folk music from the brilliant Iowa singer-songwriter. Variety Playhouse. 8pm, \$10 adv/\$12 door. 524-7354.

4 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.

**KSC INTERNATIONAL WEEK.** Kennesaw State College begins its international week with "African Night," sponsored by the African Faculty Resource Group in conjunction with the International Student Association. 8pm on campus. 423-6443.

**OPENING DAY ON GPTV.** Beginning with "Southern Bases," a look at the minor league Southern Association at 9pm, and "Safe at Home Plate," examining black baseball in the era of segregation at 10pm. Channel 8 hits a home run with the bases loaded.

5 TUESDAY

**SISTERS OF THE SOUTH.** The Southern Arts Federation presents a southern musical roots extravaganza, featuring bluegrass by the New Coon

3 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.

**EASTER CELEBRATION.** Join All Saints Metropolitan Community Church for an Easter celebration, featuring the Atlanta premiere of Camp Kirkland's Easter

1 FRIDAY

**FUNNY... THAT WAY.** Thru Apr 16. Those gay thespians are back with "Homo on the Range," a very queer little western musical written and directed by FTW founder Deb Calabria. 8pm Fri & Sat. 350-6720.

**DREAMGIRLS.** Thru May 1. Jomandi brings the Tony Award winning hit to the 14th St. Playhouse. \$9-25. 876-6346.



Creek Girls, mountain ballads by Sheila Kay Adams, the country harmonies of Sophie Tipton and Louise Tomberlain, stories and songs from Cherokee singer Edna Chekelelee, and Piedmont blues guitarist Etta Baker. This is a don't miss show. GA Tech Theatre for the Arts, 8pm. \$13 & \$16. 894-9600.

**HOLOCAUST REMEMBRANCE WEEK.** GPTV presents "Primo Levi: The Memory of the Offense," the story of the Italian writer imprisoned at Auschwitz for a year at 10pm. Ch. 8.

the Rodgers and Hart musical based on Shakespeare's "Comedy of Errors." \$13-34. 892-2414.

**HOLOCAUST REMEMBRANCE WEEK.** GPTV Ch 8 presents "America and the Holocaust: Deceit and Indifference" at 9pm and "For the Living" at 10:30pm.

PICTURED:

ABOVE: Bobby Box and Greg Carraway appear in ACME Theater's "Southern Gothic" thru Apr 9 at 800 East. Photo by David Powell.

LEFT: "Blessed Art Thou Among Women" is among the photographs by Gertrude Kasebier on display at the High Museum thru June 11.

BELOW: Cherokee singer Edna Chekelelee is just one of the "Sisters of the South" at the GA Tech Theatre for the Arts on Apr 5. Photo by Barbara Lau.



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

**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.

**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.

**SOUTHERN GOTHIC.** Thru Apr 9. Come grab a cider at Eeb's Fruit and Stand and Drag Bar (fruit stand by day, drag bar by night) and see what's going on with the Ravel family in ACME Theater's unique performance and visual installation "walkabout" at 800 East. Fri & Sat at 8:30 pm. \$5. 522-8265 or 622-5149.

**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.

**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.

**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.

**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.

**FAMILY PICNIC.** Apr 10. Lesbian, gay and bisexual Savannahians come together in Daffin Park from 2-6. Look for the rainbow flag.

**EARTH DAY.** Apr 30. AT&T and Planet Green Foundation present an environmental day at Stone Mountain Park, with Mary Chapin Carpenter, Nanci Griffith, Kristen Hall, Indigo Girls and Cynthia McKinney. \$17.50 at TicketMaster locations. Park gates open at 10am.

**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.

**ART AND SOUL.** May 21. Pearl Productions and Creative Ventures launch an art show at East Lake Park in Birmingham, featuring and highlighting women artists from around the region. Deadline for entering is May 14. (205) 940-7481.

28 OUT & ABOUT

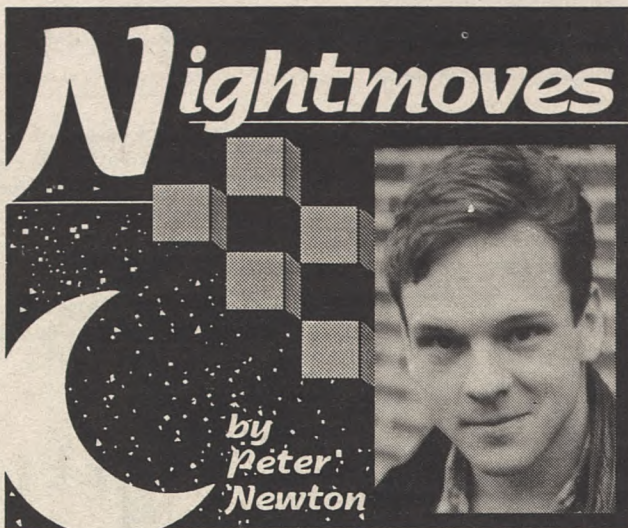
was in **Blake's** the other night and a friend urged me to buy one of those clear beers. What do you call them? Zima. Sprite that's gone flat and someone came along and spilled a screwdriver in it. This is what is making someone a million dollars. It's a weird drink for weird people. I loved it. Next it'll be clear cigarettes or Zima-flavored clear condoms.

A lot of weird things go on in this city. Take the poetry slam, for example. **HOWL** is one of the longest running poetry slams in town. Taken from the Allen Ginsburg poem of the same name, **HOWL** is a literary gong show found only at **The Star Community Bar**. Organizers urge participating poets to sign up at 8:30 p.m. for the 9 o'clock slam. If you are not the rhyming type, that's OK too. Half the people who show up go to drink and/or heckle. That's April 3 at The Star Bar in Little Five.

There are spin-offs of **HOWL** at several area coffee-houses. One of the more popular, if only slightly more cultured, can be discovered at **Cafe Diem** the first Tuesday of each month. That would make the next one April 5 at 9 p.m.

One never knows who might show up at a poetry slam. **Maya Angelou** is in town this week. Wouldn't that be something? Angelou will speak at the Georgia Dome with the largest back-up group in history. 17,000 voices will join in for the World Choir performance on Saturday, April 2.

When's the last time you saw an Aboriginal rock band? I mean a good one. I wasn't aware that rock-n-roll had infiltrated into the deepest interiors of New Guinea. **Yothu Yindi** are actually from Australia and are the rage among the aborigines. Their blend of rock, gospel and reggae with indigenous music makes for a unique and primitive sound. Brought to us by the folks at Georgia Tech's Theatre for the Arts, Yothu Yindi promises to be a multi-sensory experience. Witness them Friday, April 8. If it seems like I am pushing Georgia Tech, it's because I am. The PR guys at the Theatre for the Arts have always been more than PC with their genuine expressions of interest in welcoming the gay community.

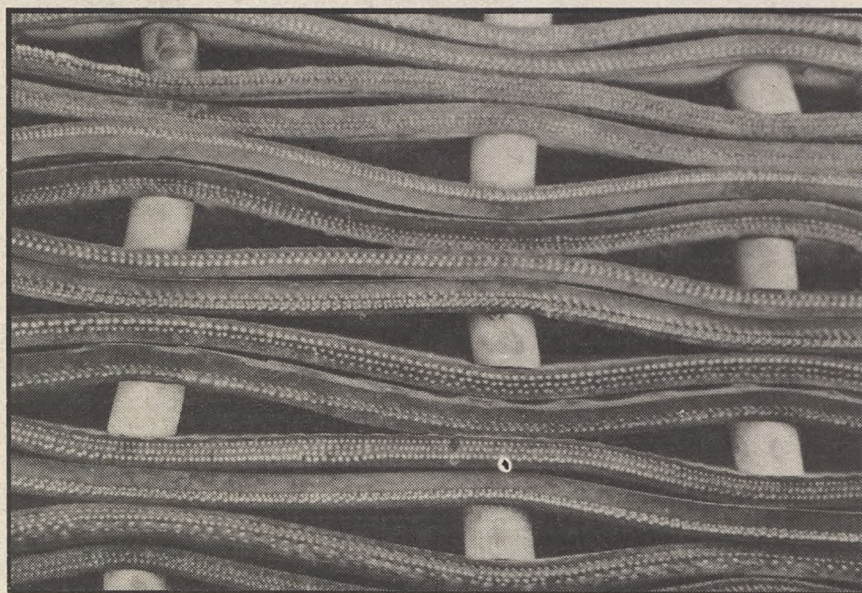


I had a Latin teacher in high school who informed the class one day that all people were bisexual at heart. We were reading some bawdy stuff by Ovid and the subject came up. The newest sensation in adult entertainment to hit Atlanta tends to support the claim. **Guys & Dolls** is a strip club. Not the normal female objectifying watering hole; there are guys there too. The general manager, **Terry Stephenson**, says the concept is going over big. "We can do a lot of things here. Men and women together or apart," he says. "We want to attract everyone we can with this new flexible format."

A photo exhibit coming up this week features the work of two local artists. **Cathy Carmichael** and **Gabriella Brum** will host an opening reception at **Homage on Euclid Avenue** Thursday, April 7, 6-9 pm. Carmichael's collection of photographs,

called "Simple Black and White" takes the ordinary and mundane and transforms them into images worth more than just a quick glance. Her "Making Lasagna" is one of the pieces on display through April 17. Brum has just recently moved to Atlanta. Her exhibit is entitled, "Situations: in oil, watercolor and pencil."

The fifth annual **Great Atlanta Pot Festival** commences all day Saturday, April 2 in Piedmont Park. I mention this not because I am in favor of legalizing marijuana but because I'm a sucker for an outdoor party with live music. Over half a dozen bands will descend on the park to entertain an estimated audience in the thousands. **Mojo Nixon & The Toadliquors, The Grapes, Follow For Now** and **Michelle Malone** are among the line-up. It's a chance for people to watch and catch Malone one more time before the dynamic local rocker leaves to take up residence in L.A. Sure, there'll be plenty of people doing that funny wavy thing with their bodies thinking that they're still in The Omni. It's a day to let your hair down.



Photos in "Simple Black and White"

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# Three women and their struggle for a musical dream

*Jomandi's production of "Dreamgirls" will bring a fresh spin to the Broadway classic*

by MICHAEL KAPE

At first glance, one might think "Dreamgirls," the Michael Bennett hit musical about Motown, would be more than a company like Jomandi Productions could handle.

After all, the original production (as well as the ones which toured the country) was a technological, choreographic wonder, seemingly too large and too complex for the confines of the 14th Street Playhouse, which Jomandi calls home. Michael Bennett's seamless choreography, on what was to ultimately be his last big show before succumbing to AIDS, was award-winning, eye-popping, energetic and totally unique.

Yet, when it opens on April 1, Jomandi's production of "Dreamgirls" will create its own kind of energy, have its own style, and it will have some unique choreography of its own.

**Dreamgirls** runs from April 1 to May 1 at the 14th Street Playhouse in Midtown

"We have a lot of good things for people to come and see," says Barré Bruce, who is choreographing "Dreamgirls" for Jomandi. "Hopefully, people will come and be entertained, but they shouldn't expect to compare ours to the original production of 'Dreamgirls' they may have seen in New York or on tour. The wonderful thing about theater is you can be entertained by the same script done many different ways. That's part of the magic."

Barré Bruce knows of what he speaks. He's directed and/or choreographed "Dreamgirls" three times before in regional



Dionne Dupoint, Marsha Jackson and J. Karen Thomas star in "Dreamgirls."

theaters around the country. And he danced in the original production on Broadway in 1983. "The company called me 'Little Barry' then. I was the youngest member of the cast."

"Dreamgirls" tells the story of a struggling Motown girl group from the early 1960s and how it clawed and climbed its way to the top, with the help of some rather misguided and somewhat evil men. By the end of the play, the Dreams are a huge success, but they are empty human beings. The score, by Tom Eyer and Henry Krieger, is through-composed; that is, almost the entire show is sung with very little dialogue employed. The most well-known song from the show is "And I'm Telling You, I'm Not Going," which was a huge hit in the early 1980s.

At the time it opened, it was believed "Dreamgirls" was a thinly disguised version of the life story of The Supremes. But the producers and playwright Tom Eyer demurred on that point, saying it was really a story about corruption in the music business and the devastating effects it can have on the

innocent young kids who get caught up in it.

That may be true, but, according to Bruce, "Diana Ross won't let her kids see it."

Jomandi co-artistic director Tom Jones, who is also directing "Dreamgirls," likes the corruption angle and is approaching it accordingly. "That's why we chose to do 'Dreamgirls,'" he says. "Not only does the play have wonderful music, but [it has] a very strong and powerful storyline as well. In light of Atlanta's recent emergence on the music scene, we thought it an appropriate and still timely story to tell. And really only 'Dreamgirls' could capture the spirit of the exceptional talent we have to showcase."

That talent includes Atlanta gospel singer Sheila Stroud, who stars as Effie, the role which made a star out of Jennifer Holiday. "She has a striking resemblance to Jennifer when she was larger," Bruce says. "I don't like to compare the two, but there are similarities."

Also starring in the show is Marsha A. Jackson, Jomandi's other co-artistic director. She has the role of Deena Dream. She's been seen in several Jomandi productions, but she's also worked in New York with luminaries such as Denzel Washington, Ruby Dee and Ossie Davis (they all did the play "Checkmates" together a few years ago).

In the last Jomandi production, "Julius Caesar," the critics all agreed (a rare thing) that J. Karen Thomas stole the show in her groundbreaking portrayal of Cassius (it was a breathtaking achievement). She's back for "Dreamgirls" as Lorell. Dionne Dupoint, who's new to Atlanta, rounds out the principles as the Dreamgirl who replaces Effie.

For those who love the "Dancing" towers which were the hallmark of the original production of "Dreamgirls," there's good news—they're a part of this production as well, though for Jomandi they're on rollers and not being pushed around through hydraulics as they were in the original. Barré is choreographing them, too. But he is not simply re-creating Michael Bennett and Michael Peters' original work.

"What I've done is use a montage of different things," he says. "My own stuff is mixed in with what we danced on Broadway."

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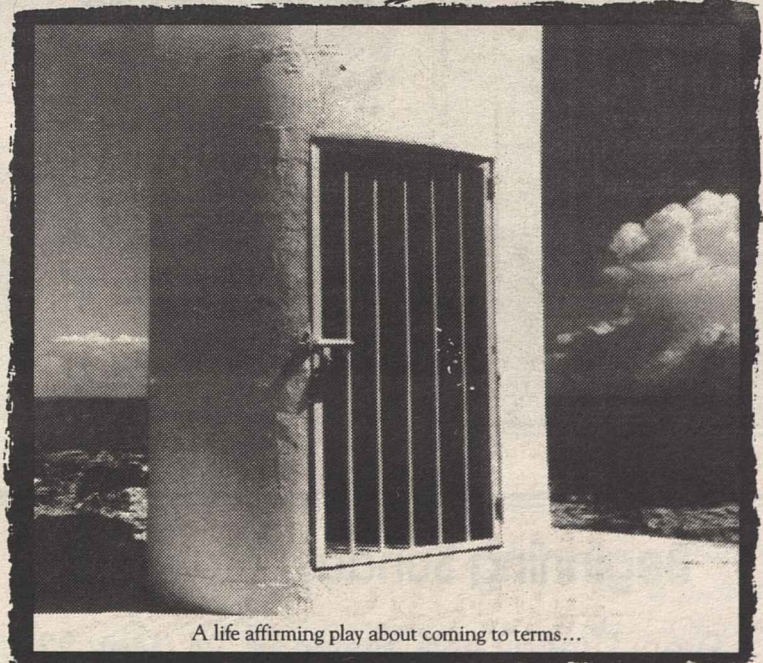
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**T H E A T E R**

**A LITTLE NIGHT MUSIC**

This is the story of a melange of quirky individuals bouncing against each other at a weekend in the country in Sweden around 1910 or so—long dresses, motor cars, linen dusters, croquet, champagne on the lawn and a summer sun that never sets. The unnatural, night-long twilight is both the setting and the symbol for the unnatural light that enables the characters to see what they cannot see by natural day.

The characters are middle-aged lawyer Fredrik; his still virginal new wife Anne; actress Desiree, Fredrik's former mistress; Desiree's current lover, macho Carl Magnus; Carl Magnus' wife Charlotte, who lives a life of quiet desperation; Fredrik's earnest ministerial student son Henrik, secretly in love with Anne; Petra, Anne's lusty serving maid; Madame Armfeldt, Desiree's elderly mother, full of wisdom

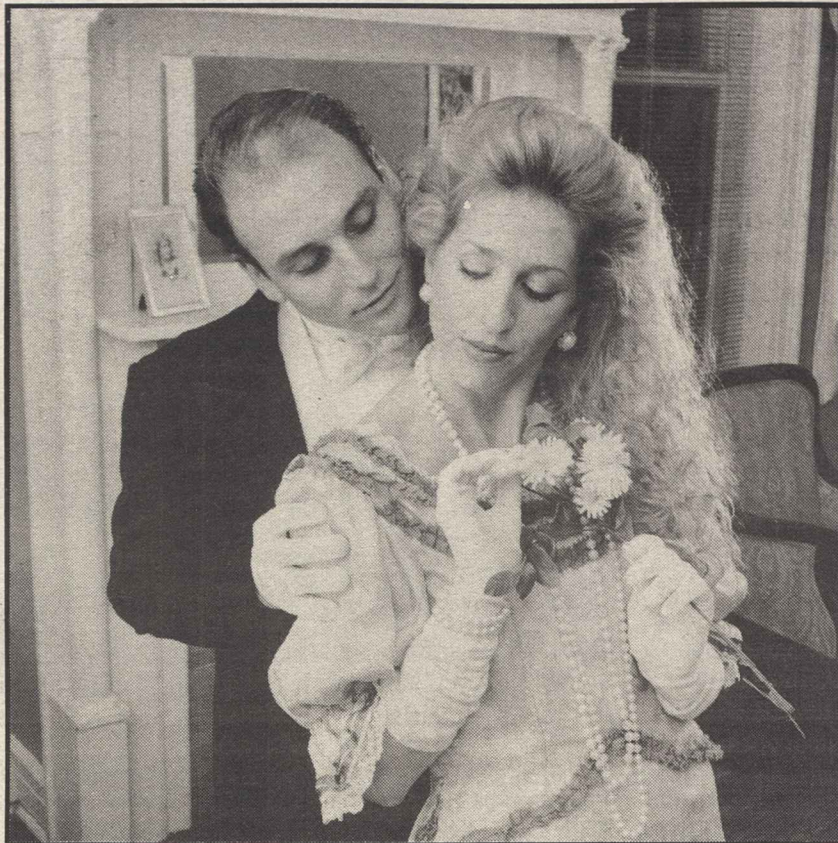
**A Little Night Music,** runs through April 24 at the Neighborhood Playhouse in Decatur

and tart observation; and Fredrika, Desiree's wise-child daughter.

Stephen

the Ingmar Berman Film "Smiles of a Summer Night." The show's weakness may be that there is just too much to enjoy. Its strengths are Sondheim's subtle music and lyrics, the production's vitality and energy and the strong, quirky characterizations.

Steve Huffines is well cast as Fredrik. He and Karen Whitaker (Desiree) have a sensitive rapport in their scenes together. Whitaker is not a strong singer but does a creditable



The Stephen Sondheim classic, set in 1910 Sweden, sets six characters with intertwined histories together on a long country weekend.

job with the show's most famous song, "Send In The Clowns." Vocally outstanding is Kristen Paige Manley (Petra) in her number "Miller's Son." If only all the voices had the quality of hers. Adelia Huffines gives a strong performance as the bitter, mistreated Charlotte. She has some of the best lines and does them justice. Rosemary Dixon as Madame Armfeldt provides a quiet, steady background against which the other voices clamor in counterpoint. Like an aged courtesan in a story by Colette, Madame Armfeldt casts a cynical eye upon the desperate passions of those younger than she. Twelve-year-old Brooke Cenicola makes a perfect Fredrika, the little

girl who knows more than her years, tolerating the chaos of her mother's vagabond life with unchildlike wisdom and forbearance.

The caveats: in music theater, we expect precisely rendered illusion. Illusion here, alas, is not precisely rendered enough. Most obvious is the singing. Attacks and cut-offs in ensemble numbers can be mastered by small voices as well as large; here they are not. Loudness, moreover, does not substitute for tone. Small things: Whitaker, as Desiree in dishabille, looks entirely too contemporary when she sits and walks in her kimono. A woman of that era might sit with knees uncovered, but every line of her body would be graceful and seductive (pantyhose hadn't yet been invented). And Tracy Gott as Anne looks more like a Valley Girl than a naive virgin.

Sondheim's musicals, like those of Andrew Lloyd Weber after him, fall between opera and musical comedy with their musical and acting demands and their subtle, overripe, post-modern sensibilities. In this musical, echoes of Mozart, R. Strauss, and Chekov hover ghostlike in the air, only to crash against the conventions of popular musical comedy.

The subtlety of the lyrics and some of the music leads us to expect more than we get; a fresh, honest look at human relationships, perhaps.

But musical comedy—all comedy, actually—requires that chaos be resolved by coupling. So most comedies end in weddings, betrothals, or other types of coupling—sometimes ludicrous mismatches. In our culture, we assume that the couple is an appropriate symbol for reconciliation and right order. What would a comedy be like if it made other assumptions?

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# Guilt days are over for gay religious right ghostwriter

*Mel White's new book chronicles his struggle as a "Stranger at the Gate"*

by KC WILDMOON

Nobody knows the religious right quite like Mel White. After all, he's penned speeches and ghostwritten autobiographies for the likes of Pat Robertson, Jerry Falwell and Billy Graham. He has counted Oliver North and D. James Kennedy as friends.

And he is gay.

Robertson, Falwell and company didn't know that in the mid-80s when White was in their employ. But he did. For 25 years, White struggled against the pervasive knowledge that he was attracted to men in the face of a conservative

Christian upbringing and a long career as a Christian writer and filmmaker. He married and raised two children, one adopted.

He underwent hours of Christian therapy, "reparation" therapy, electroshock

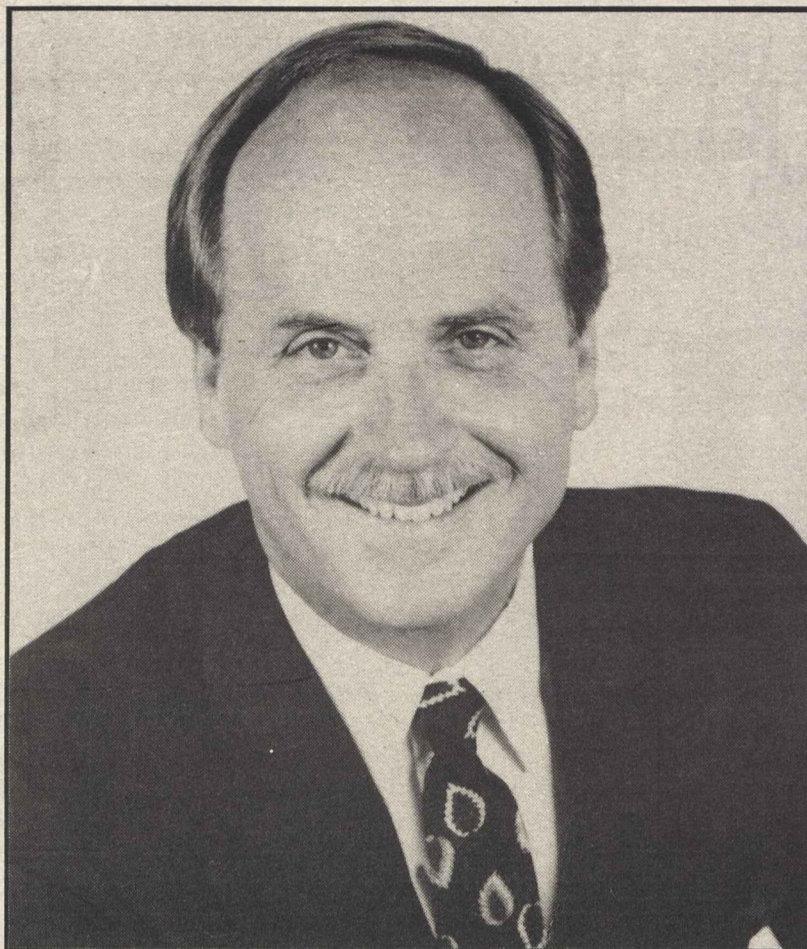
## Mel White

will sign copies of "Stranger at the Gate" at Chapter 11 in Ansley Mall on Thursday, March 31 from 7-8p.m.

therapy, all to rid him of his homosexual inclinations, and all to no avail. Mel White is gay—always was, always will be—and proud of it.

"I love being gay," he said by phone from his Texas home. "I love my partner Gary. I love my gay and lesbian friends."

But it wasn't always that way. In his new book, "Stranger at the Gate: To Be Gay and Christian in America," White



THE DARK ROOM

White says he really does "want to apologize to the gay community for being so long a part of the enemy."

details the sometimes terrifying, often guilt-ridden trail he took from a young boy who believed his gay leanings were evil to dean of the largest Metropolitan Community Church in the world—Dallas' Cathedral of Hope.

his wife—they remain close friends—and was involved in a long term relationship with another man. Still, he continued his work with the leaders of the religious right.

"The conscious guilt days are over," White said. "I've come to this place in my life where I realize God loves me as I am."

"There are individuals who made a difference [during those years]," he said. "My wife and family. And I have to tell you that the whole spiritual side was important. Even though the church was causing this grief, God's spirit was constantly there... We have been so hurt by the church that we tend to forget the spiritual side and shrivel up. But the whole time this same church was feeding me, giving me all the stuff I needed to survive their bigotry."

"We forget we were shamans and berdaches and priests and ministers for centuries," he continued. "Without being sectarian, we need to rediscover our spiritual side... For me, it's Jesus, but it's different for others. Just find the road to the journey and don't ever give up on it."

"Stranger at the Gate" tells the stories of White's journey—a week one summer spent with Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., teenage crushes on other boys, a first kiss under redwood trees—and always, that ever-present guilt and self-loathing.

"I really believed I was evil," he said. "And I never felt it would end this way. Even in the 80s, I thought maybe this [homosexuality] would end."

But by that time, White had divorced

CONTINUED ON PAGE 34

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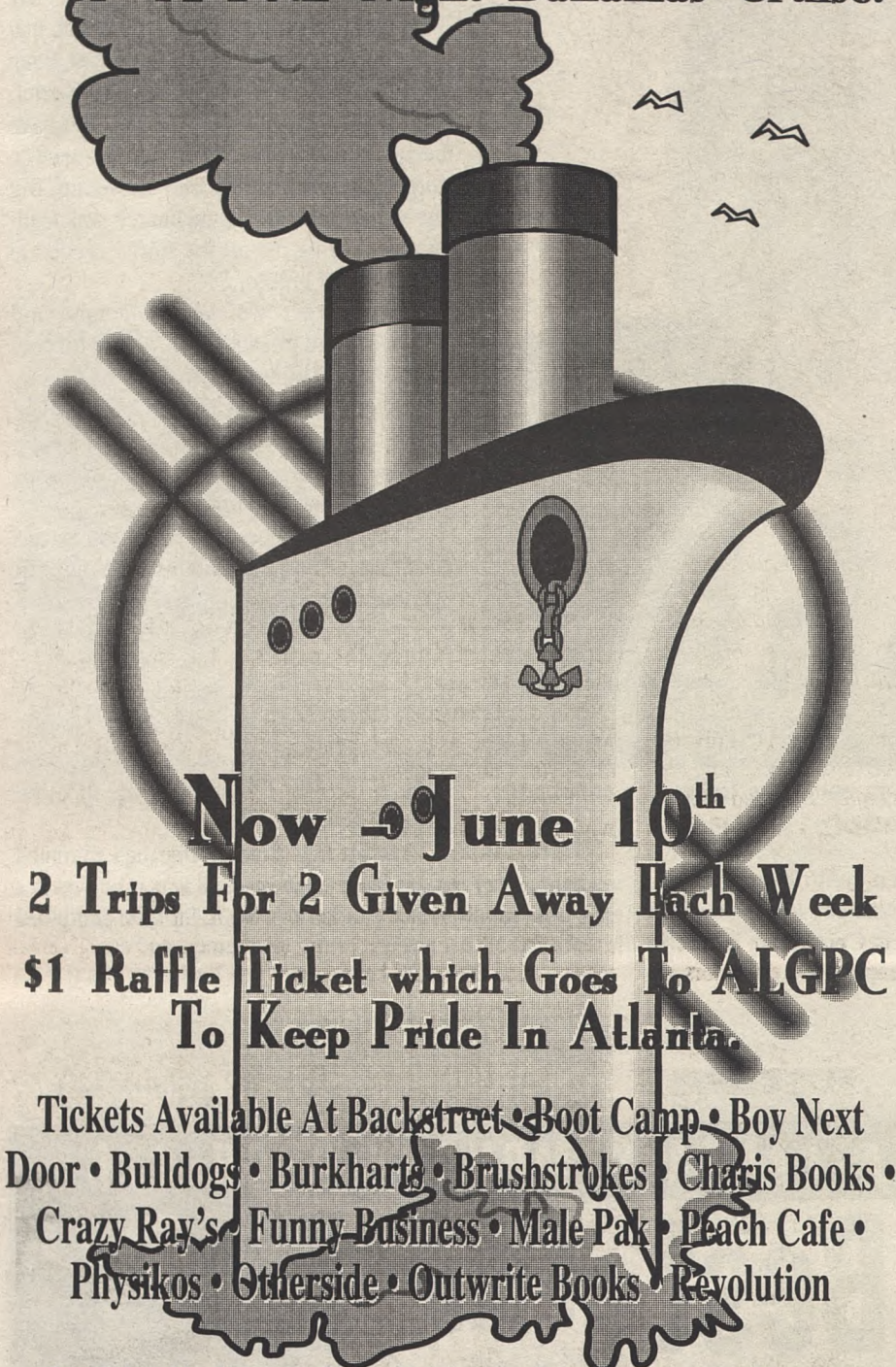
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## And the nominees are...

*Finalists for Southern Voice Community Awards announced*

The ballots are in, the nominees have been selected and our private accounting firm (well, actually just a couple of folks here at SoVo) will keep the final results a closely guarded secret until April 23, when Southern Voice's second annual Community Awards celebration takes up residence with the rest of the wildlife at Zoo Atlanta.

A warm and hearty thank you to all who stuffed those ballot boxes with your votes for 14 categories from Glamour Goddess of Drag to Business/Professional Person of the Year to the dreaded Public Enemy #1. The nominees were plentiful—hundreds dutifully filled out the ballot form, giving a wide, diverse range of nominees in each category.

While it's a difficult task to narrow down the literally hundreds of people and businesses who deserve honors, your votes have done it. For the awards ceremony, the top four or five vote-getters in each category are announced now, with the winner—the one (or in some cases two) who received the most votes—to be announced at the zoo on April 23.

Enough already. Want to know who you picked as the nominees? Here they are (and yes, it's alphabetical order. You can't tell who won from the listing):

**Business/Professional Person of the Year:**

Brushstrokes, Charis Books and More, Maddix de Luxe, Burkhart's owner Mary Marsh, Outwrite Bookstore.

**Community Volunteer Extraordinaire:**

Mona Bennett, Deana Collins, Joe deRose, Don George, Margie Hewig

**Glamour Goddess of Drag:**

Terri Corazon, Lauren LaMasters, DeAundra Peek, Peg, Raven

**Excellence in Activism:**

ACT UP, Cobb Citizens Coalition, Pat Hussain, Jerry Mickler, Larry Pellegrini

**Excellence in AIDS Activism:**

ACT UP, AIDS Survival Project, Chip Carson, Margie Hewig, Project Open Hand

**Hippiest Heterosexual:**

Judy Colbs, Alicia Culver, Mary Davis,

Beverly Madding, Ursula Quilfo

**Most Active Social Organization:**

Black and White Men Together, Fourth Tuesday, Hospitality Atlanta, Hotlanta Softball, Interact

**Most Bodacious Bar:**

Armory, Backstreet, Burkhart's, Heretic, Metro

**Most Community-Minded**

**Arts Organization:**

Atlanta Feminist Women's Chorus, Atlanta Gay Men's Chorus, Koolhipfunkystuff, SAME

**Most Community-Minded Entertainer:**

Tina Devore, Ramona Dugger, Angela Motter, DeAundra Peek, Peg

**Most Welcoming Religious Organization:**

All Saints MCC, Congregation Bet Haverim, Christ Covenant MCC, First Existentialist Congregation, First MCC

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Cobb County Commission, Jesse Helms, Billy McKinney, Sam Nunn, Nancy Schaefer

That's it. Congratulations to those nominated—you're the tip of the iceberg of the countless hours of time and infinite units of energy that have gone into our community in the past year. It's certainly been a wild one on all fronts, from domestic partnership, Cobb County and the March On Washington to Pride, the Hotlanta River Expo and Wigwood.

Join us in a salute to this fine community and those who make it tick at Zoo Atlanta on April 23. The gates open at 6:30 p.m. for time to commune with the wildlife, and the show gets started at 8 p.m., with hosts Cathy Woolard of the Human Rights Campaign Fund and SoVo editor Richard Shumate.

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# Foundation celebrates, preserves gay and lesbian erotica

*This summer, during Stonewall 25 and the Gay Games, New York's Leslie-Lohman Foundation will host three exhibits*

by LESTER STRONG

127 Prince Street. The heart of New York City's Soho district, with its trendy eateries, shops, and art galleries. At street level is a window whose sign reads Phat Farm, for one of the area's hippest clothing emporiums. And 15 steps below that window, at basement level, is a smaller sign on metal doors marking the entrance to the Leslie-Lohman Gay Art Foundation.

These underground quarters house an art foundation specializing in what is even now a fairly underground type of work—gay female and male erotica. The irony is not lost on Charles Leslie or Fritz Lohman, lovers who started the foundation in 1990, or on the staff. All of them laughingly acknowledge the appropriateness of the location even as they describe their hopes for eventual expansion into an entire building all the foundation's own.

"We're open to a variety of styles in what we exhibit," says Leslie. "But we accept only figurative art. I can be abstractly figurative, but we want pieces that gay people can easily identify as being gay. The bottom line is that there must be a recognizable gay voice in the work, or it must be work that gay people respond to."

"It's our feeling that gay art is an emblem of gay liberation," says Leslie. "We regard our work as part of the gay rights movement."

The foundation's emphasis on "a recognizable gay voice" in the art it promotes has distinctly political overtones. "How



"Dog Tag," a photo work by David Jarrett, is part of the Leslie-Lohman's collection of gay and lesbian erotica.

endangered this kind of work is," says Leslie. "How hard it is to locate, how hard to find good examples of it. And when you spot good examples, you become aware how vulnerable it is."

"Let's face it—art is politics, very often inescapably so. Especially gay art, which is another part of gay life constantly victimized by church, state and straight."

The foundation's past shows involved subjects as diverse as recent gay-oriented photography, AIDS caregivers and lesbian erotica. Last year, artists on display included Robert Mapplethorpe, Delmas Howe, Keith Haring, Tom of Finland and Jean Cocteau.

But the foundation's mission is not just displaying this art but also preserving it.

"One of the big problems with gay erotic art is that it regularly gets destroyed after the death of the collectors or

artists by families and executors who are either embarrassed by it or simply don't understand it and don't know what to do with it," says Leslie. "And...really crazy arch-conservative religious groups...have decided to make war not only on gay people but on gay imagery. That's a big step toward destroying the people in some sense—if not physically, then psychologically, spiritually. So our primary concern is to protect gay-oriented art."

The efforts of Leslie and Lohman to provide a safe haven for gay art go back further than the beginning of the foundation.

"I trace its roots to the beginning of Fritz's and my life together 32 years ago," says Leslie. "One of the things that brings people together is shared interest, and Fritz and I were both passionately inter-

ested in homoerotic. It gave us great pleasure. We wanted to own that kind of art ourselves."

But turning their hobby into a non-profit foundation was no easy process. It took three years and a dogged pursuit by their lawyers as they answered question after homophobic question challenging the organization's proposed facilities, intentions and programs. Finally, in 1990, the Leslie-Lohman Gay Art Foundation became a reality.

This summer, coinciding with the Gay Games and Stonewall 25 events in New York City, the foundation will be sponsoring three simultaneous exhibitions. They will include jewelry and photographs from the drag queens of Stonewall; a salute in paintings and photos to gay Olympians; and photographs from Joshua celebrating the partners and caregivers of those lost to the AIDS holocaust.

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DREAMGIRLS



## Mel White

Continued from page 31

"I really do want to apologize to the gay community for being so long a part of the enemy," he said. "But I wasn't ready."

"They were making asides at first, but not bashing," he recalled. "The change in them was huge. When communism fell, they began to bash us in earnest."

That bashing—on television and in fund-raising mailings—finally took its toll on White's strained psyche. He took the big step—coming out openly and publicly, faxing and writing letters to his former employers, asking to speak with them privately about homosexuality. To date, not one has responded.

"They're not really interested in growth," he said. "They're only interested in keeping the caricature [of gay and lesbian people]

alive. They're risking their souls. If they really cared, they would talk with us."

A part of White's coming out process was his noting of similarities between the rhetoric of America's right and that of the early Nazi Germany. "Stranger at the Gate" points out these harrowing similarities—including Hitler's use of a law against sodomy to begin raiding homosexual organizations and arresting suspected homosexuals.

"Why didn't I notice sooner?" he said. "When it goes from name calling to organizing against us, that I think was the straw that broke my back. That

boom came jumping out at me. I went to the Holocaust Museum—if you substitute 'gay' for 'Jew' it's frightening. And I'm not an hysteric. I'm an old man."

*"We ought to look at Martin Luther King," White continued. "When they marched, they marched with dignity and solemnity. They faced the country looking intelligent and thoughtful and loving."*

White is now devoting his considerable energies to battling the religious extremists, monitoring their television and radio programs, and reading their mailings. And he offers a word of advice for lesbians and gay men.

"I'm going to get in trouble for this, I know," he said. "We

don't want to be censored, but we need to think through acting out in public. I'm only talking strategy here, but if we don't care

about strategy, we're not taking it seriously."

"We ought to look at Martin Luther King," he continued. "When they marched, they marched with dignity and solemnity. They faced the country looking intelligent and thoughtful and loving."

White, who attended both marches on Washington and has been a member of ACT UP for three years, knows well that these ideas will be anathema to many in the lesbian/gay community, but he believes strongly such issues need to be discussed—and acted on to avoid giving the men he knows so well any more ammunition against us.

"We need an open dialogue," he said. "If I'm wrong, I'll retract it. I'll be the first to acknowledge my error. But right now we've got trouble and it's serious trouble."



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## FILM

## FOUR WEDDINGS AND A FUNERAL

Mike Newell combined entertainment and art brilliantly in "Enchanted April." He does nearly as well in "Four Weddings and a Funeral," a special event that made me laugh and cry—mostly laugh—more than any film in recent memory.

An equally difficult hat trick is walking the fine line between inclusivity and political correctness, and Richard Curtis' script manages that too, incorporating a gay couple into a heterosexual love story organically and in an overwhelmingly positive way without smacking of tokenism.

The two gay men and one deaf man are integrated into the story—and society—as well as the screen has ever shown. A casual chat about lesbianism indicates it's no big deal either. Though at first the gay couple seems incidental, their relationship

is eventually celebrated and affirmed big time, with Charles, the straight central character, suggesting he and another bachelor might just forget about marriage: "If we can't be like Gareth and Matthew, maybe some of us should give it up."

### Four Weddings and a Funeral is now playing at Phipps Plaza

Charles is played by Hugh Grant (Maurice), who, given a chance to be witty and romantic, sparkles like a young Cary Grant or an English Tom Hanks. At the first of the film's four weddings, he meets Carrie (Andie MacDowell), a bold, beautiful American, and falls in love with her even before they sleep together.

At the second wedding—"the wedding from hell"—we learn of Charles' history as a "serial monogamist" when he's seated at the reception with several exes. He sees Carrie again there, but it's too late—or is it? She's engaged.

Twists follow, some of them more surprising than others, but when it gets to the point where the outcome is inevitable



Guests at one of the "Four Weddings" include characters played by, from left, Simon Callow, James Fleet, John Hannah and Hugh Grant.

(as if it wasn't the instant Charles and Carrie met), you've still got a while to wait for things to work themselves out.

The weddings and funeral all take place within Charlie's circle of acquaintances, including his punkish flatmate Scarlett (Charlotte Coleman), his hearing-impaired brother David (David Bower), faithful friend Fiona (Kirstin Scott Thomas) and her eligible but undesirable brother Tom (James Fleet). And, of course, the reserved Matthew (John Hannah) and his flamboyant lover Gareth (Simon Callow), who provides campy comic relief, as when a woman asks if he actually knows Oscar Wilde and he says, "Not personally, but I do know someone who could get his fax number for you."

Grant jokes that a prerequisite for his films is the presence of Callow, who is openly gay. "I don't think I've ever made a film Simon hasn't been in," he exaggerates. "He's everywhere. He's at every party you go to. I'm sure he's in this room right now, somewhere."

"I know Simon accepted the role largely because [the character was gay]," says Grant. "He was thrilled to be able to play such a positive gay character." Hannah is not gay, Grant reveals—"But the producer, Duncan Kenworthy is gay."

This year, however, it is Grant who seems to be everywhere. Three of his pictures are opening simultaneously—"Four Weddings," "Sirens" and "Bitter Moon."

Some marriages begin, some end and, obviously, one life ends. In the process we come to care for all these people, as they sometimes care for each other. Non-gay viewers can hardly care less for Gareth and Matthew than we do for Charles and Carrie.

"Four Weddings and a Funeral" sounds like a heavy social schedule, but it's really wonderful light entertainment, the kind Hollywood ground out routinely two generations ago but seems to have lost the knack of making.

STEVE WARREN



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We were headed to Pasta Vino at Peachtree Battle. But on the way up Peachtree what should rear its stylish stucco and tile facade but the freshly opened **Sfuzzi** (2200 Peachtree Rd. 351-8222). On the assumption that large, new and pretty equal better, we caused a minor traffic jam turning across traffic and joined the yuppie throng descending on the city's newest vendor of Italian edibles.

Sfuzzi is a chain based in Dallas with stores around the country.

Atlanta's version is a brand-new building that bears a strong resemblance to the equally new (and lamentable) Cheesecake Factory just up the street. But where the Factory's visual theme is neo-Egyptian ruins, Sfuzzi goes at its fantasy more directly. The barn-like space is tastefully done up in brick and aging frescoes with a fabulous carved stone mantelpiece surrounding the gas fireplace at the far end of the room.

The menu is predictable neo-Italian sprinkled with the like of wild mushrooms, balsamic vinegar and Asiago cheese. Not a meatball in sight. Think of it as a middle ground between Romano's Macaroni Grill and Pricci. But when the waitstaff starts pushing frozen Sfuzzi's (say "Peach Schnapps" and I'm out the door) the place feels a little like Fat Tuesday's.

Cream of asparagus soup and a arugula, radicchio and grilled tomato salad are good examples of concept triumphing over execution. The pleasantly creamy soup is long on eye appeal and way short on flavor.

The salad's advertised arugula is in short supply, replaced mostly by frisse. Its grilled tomato is packed with flavor, but served icy cold when room temperature would be way more fun. But the balsamic vinaigrette is elegant and balanced and makes the whole thing enjoyable.

Happily, there's no disappointment at all to be found in the pizza topped with bits of portobello mushrooms, smoked mozzarella, red onions and marinated tomatoes. The flavor of each ingredient is discreet, but they blend into a mouth-pleasing whole as you chew. The light but chewy crust is a marvel. It's as good as any pie in the city.

On the other hand, half a grilled free range chicken stuffed with goat cheese doesn't quite live up to its glorious sounding description. (Or, given that it's served skin-on, the menu's promise that it is low in saturated fat.) Despite being almost completely boned, beautifully browned and served with primo roasted potatoes and al dente green and yellow beans, the plate as a whole falls a little flat. Not awful, but half a dozen restaurants in town do half a bird better and for \$2-\$8 less.

Desert brings up the concept/execution glitch again. Decent creme brulee ensconced in a tasty orange rind-ridden crust on a bed of strong raspberry puree is a prime example of too much flavor fun. The crust is tasty and would be great filled with pasty cream and some blood oranges, but as a vessel for naught but the mild custard, it's a no-go.

Service was just this side of obsessive on the second night of the restaurant's operation. Surely this will calm down or the entire staff will have to have their adrenal glands replaced.

The wine list is decent, though not cheap and short on offerings by the glass. Prices are high-moderate—\$25 a head for 2 1/2 courses with a glass of wine.

The cynic in me fears that Sfuzzi is nothing more than an Italianate Houston's. I was hoping for something with more soul, like Romanesque Brasserie Le Coze. Too bad.

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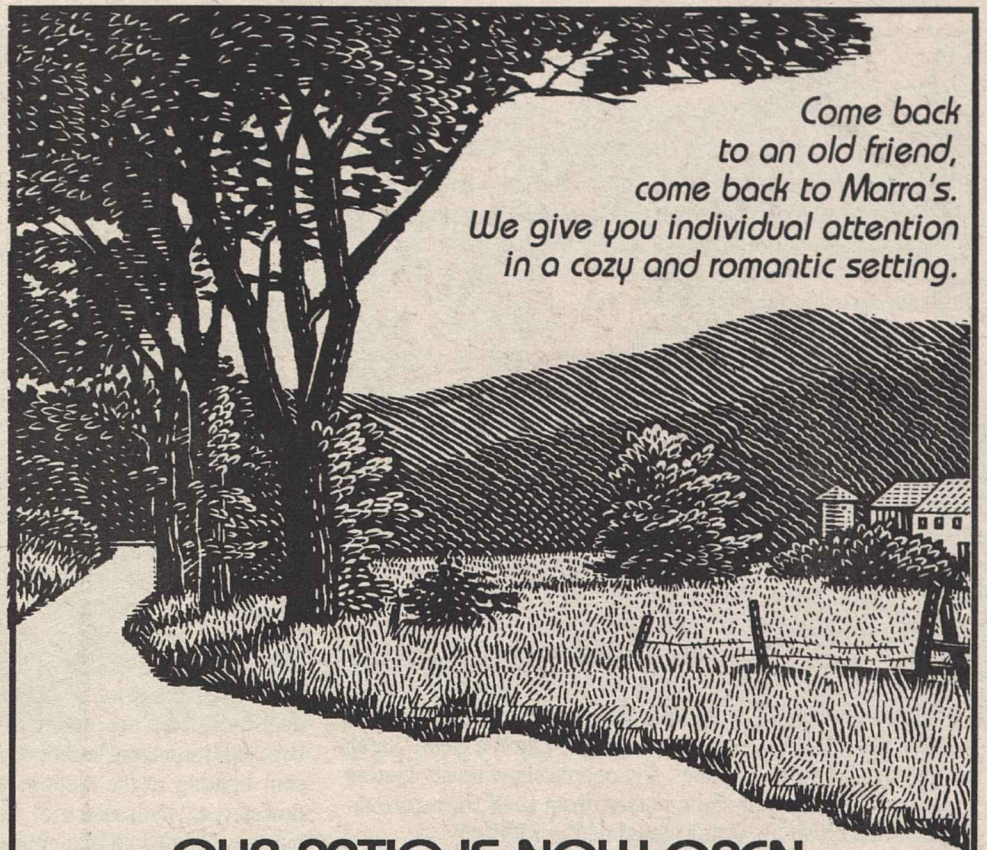
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MARIA HELENA DOLAN

THIS OLD HOE  
EARTHSHAKIN' OBSERVATIONS

**D**uring my recent trip to Costa Rica, I had the good fortune to meet two transplanted gringos who have adopted not only a homeland but the crusade to preserve it. They are Sarah and Barry Beisanz, gardener and woodworker respectively.

Reading in the local paper about an ecologically-minded woodworker, I assumed my intrepid garden reporter guise and telephoned to investigate their handiwork. They graciously invited me to their home in Escazu, nestled in that steeply vertiginous hillside suburb of San Jose.

Sarah and I immediately bonded as she provided the 'scratch and sniff' tour of the heavily terraced garden (complete with five resident dogs and one cat). She arrived in Costa Rica in 1985 from Washington, D.C. and promptly tore the return half of her ticket up. She learned Spanish while working with a development organization which uses fruit trees to integrate economic development of campesinos (rural peasants) with ecological preservation.

Sarah has maintained a tropical, endangered hardwoods nursery out of their house since 1989. Once a year, Sarah places an ad in the local paper, and people show up at planting time for free trees that she's nursed from seed for reforestation. Now she can go around town and gratifyingly see some of her efforts in place.

Fruit and wood queens will die when they see some of her specimens. Recall that they receive two meters of rain annually and are situated 10 degrees off the equator. I nearly swooned as I marveled at the very healthy specimen of Maria Luisa (called Mexican Salvia here). Not to mention Bay Run. Nutmeg. Cinnamon. Lime. Roses. Coco Bolo, an important decorative and fast-growing wood. *Albergia Retusa*.

There's lots of lemon grass, which works for erosion control. Paradise tree, arbol dama. Barbados cherry. Pomegranate. Neem tree (used for pest control). Pentanga. San Juanillo, which sports little fruits with ribs. How about these exotic fruit trees: mangos, durcan, beedeepba (bright yellow fruit), a dozen different kinds of bananas.

Jackfruit, the world's largest fruit. Water apples (mansana de aqua), whose fruit appears directly out of the trunk. Sangre

de Toro. Star fruit. Ylang-ylang (*Cananga odorata*), whose flowers are used in perfumes.

Of course, the passion flower. And multitudes of butterflies, including some species I'd never seen, even at Calloway.

Balimbe, the cucumber tree, releases a mist of its own moisture on a sunny day. People use its flesh to scour pots. *Lignum vitae*, which is the hardest and heaviest wood in the world. Quacium officianalis, prized by the Spaniards for its medicinal value, believed to be good for syphilis. Amaranth tree, with its luscious purple wood.

I must say, some of the thrill of returning to now-open hyacinths simply drained away in the face of all this. Talk about tropical longings...

Barry, charming and thoughtful and in residence since 1971, took me on a tour of his nearby factory. As he explains, "you can have a lot of effects in business. We skew all our decisions, from processing to buying, etc. to have more positive environmental effects." This includes installing florescent lighting in the factory. They weren't able to have river power (i.e., hydroelectric) because of the river's boundary, but they located so that employees could easily access it, and thus avoid petroleum consumption in getting to work.

"We use a natural, organic, nontoxic finish and solvent. The shellac is done with alcohol." And they use lac, instead of polyurethane. "The lac comes from India and Asia, from Flame of the Forest trees infested with the lac beetle. The tree produces sap to encrust the bug, people harvest it, boil it, and dry it in sheets.

"The design process has environmental effects, too. It's best to vertically integrate." Barry maintains that "When you can inspire others to compete with you, you can have a multiplier effect. I started this about 18 years ago. Then, Ticos couldn't believe that you could get high prices for high quality. They thought, the more finish, the better. We've increased the quality level now...these boxes are made to piss off other woodworkers. The panes are mortised into the sides. We have smooth, rounded edges. The back is inset." And they are truly

amazing creations. I bought three boxes and a bowl.

"We use Ivorywood, the Australian Silky Oak (Lacewood), *Gravillia Robusta*. The splines are walnut-like. We are 'self-certified' in terms of sustainable harvesting. Use non-native, but not imported wood.

"The Rain Forest Alliance came to certify us for smart wood. But we couldn't document all the way back; some of our wood is charred or untraceable. (For example) we have satinwood from illiterate campesinos, or stuff we picked up on the road to the beach, which was just lying there. It had been down a long time, but it's illegal to bring it in. We couldn't certify it, because we were 'scavenging.' But the scavenger niche has a long biological tradition. There should be some room for it.

"So, you say you're 'under evaluation,' 'en trameto' (in process), instead. A farmer gets three times what they would ordinarily for the wood. They square it up in the country. You have to pay higher prices for the pre-cut versus logs, but we want to encourage the farmers. And it's the only way to get a lot of different species. We're also making birdhouses, because when the logs are burnt, it destroys habitat."

There is no waste. "The little boxes represent an efficient use of wood, instead of just discarding it. The shavings in piles outside are used for chicken bedding and organic herb farm mulch. We also give away firewood scraps."

As part of his vision, he accepts apprentices. "RISDI, the Rhode Island School of Design, was just here. We're going to have internships in the summer.

"We have the apprentices do the roughing out and the finishing. The next three who want to come here are Latinas; in fact, three out of the four interested are women."

The works come in a wide variety of sizes, shapes, and prices. Who buys them? Visitors, tourists, conservationists at conferences, locals. Interestingly, "Carter, Bush, and Reagan all have our bowls. Bush sent a thank you note for his, which included spelling mistakes. Carter is the best woodworker we've ever had in the white house. We sent some of our stuff to commemorate the Caribbean Basin initiative."

Why do this, as opposed to something else which might be ecologically minded? "We feel that the modern craft movement is in a sense a precursor to the environmental movement. Both seek a more balanced, sane way of life, with natural values predominating."

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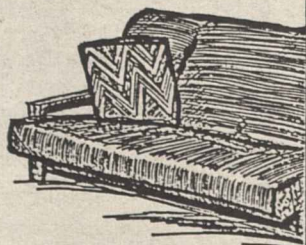
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OUTLINES

**GLORIA BURKETT  
SHELLY IMMELL**

**Age:** 36 and 37

**Hometowns:** Columbus, Ga. and Kingston, Ohio

**How Long in Atlanta:** 13 years and 30 years

**Occupations:** Secretary, Emory University Hospital Radiology

**Pet Peeve:** People who are irresponsible in their jobs

**Relationship:** Together 11 years

**Last Book Read:** "Pigs From Heaven" by Barbara Kingsolver and "Tales of the City" by Armistead Maupin



serious moment. "We talk a lot about everything, and everything we go through makes us stronger. Shelly helped me so much when I went through the death of my father last year. She's always there for me and willing to deal with all the things I bring into this relationship."

Shelly comes from a close-knit family which lives just south of Atlanta. The couple spends lots of Sundays and birthdays with Shelly's parents. "They treat me like I'm one of their own," Gloria said. "Anything they would do for Shelly they would do for me."

But as in most families "it" is not discussed openly. "Sometimes I'd like to be more open, to talk about what's going on with us more," Gloria said. "And sometimes Shelly will slip up and call me 'honey.' She'll cringe, but I love it when that happens. Because if you slip up often enough and do that sort of thing, then they know what the picture is. If they don't want to see it or discuss it, then they have to deal with that. But we don't pressure them."

The hot topic of conversation for the two these days is whether or not to buy a gun. A rash of burglaries in their neighborhood has them both scared, but they do not see eye-to-eye on how to deal with it. Shelly's solution is to arm the household. Gloria says she would never have a gun in her home.

"It's an issue right now," Shelly admitted. "I do not ever want to use a gun, but I also want to be able to protect myself and the house. So we're talking about it. I need to talk about it. And we always agree to disagree. It's what this relationship is based on."

"We're considering moving, too," Gloria added. "We'll talk that to death too before we make a decision."

Although the two may disagree on some things, and describe themselves as "very different" as well as very boring, it's the easiness, warmth and humor between the couple that defines them.

"We both have recliners," Shelly offered when asked about the newest thing in their lives. "Dueling recliners; we call them Big Momma's and Momma's."

So who's Big Momma and who's Momma?

"Shelly is Big Momma," Gloria explained. "You have to have a big chair when you're 6'2". Well, a long one anyway. Mine is the wide one."

Gloria and Shelly. Together more than 11 years, they're one of those couples whose names blend into one. And like the stereotypical idea about lesbian relationships, they got hitched soon after their first date.

"We had one date and we've been a couple ever since," said Shelly, a soft-spoken 6'2" redhead. "We had arranged to move in together on a Saturday. I had to work in the morning, and by the time I got home at noon, this woman had all my furniture on the truck, ready to go and was cleaning the house. I've never seen her do that much work since."

Gloria readily admits she was anxious for Shelly to move in. "I was ready for her to start cooking for me," Gloria laughed. "She makes great mashed potatoes. I have done nothing but gain weight for the last 11 years."

The couple describe themselves as "very boring people." They live in Decatur and spend most of their time tending to their vegetable and flower gardens, keeping up with six cats and three dogs and cataloging their huge collection of baseball cards. Both have been in their jobs for many years.

"But we're happy with the life we have," Gloria explained. "We went through all the years of going out to bars and partying. Now it's nice to be at home."

The two met through mutual friends at the Harvest Moon Saloon. Both had been following DeDe Vogt in her various bands—Pretty Good For Girls, Scallion Sisters and Paper Dolls—for years. "We would go out to see her just like half of all the lesbians in Atlanta," Gloria laughed.

Both women are quick to laugh at themselves and at each other. Shelly jumps to answer when asked the secret of their long-term relationship.

"Actually, we haven't had 11 years together," Shelly said. "I look at it like we've only had about six years—six good years, anyway. We've lost two weeks every month to PMS."

"It's a daily thing," Gloria explained in a

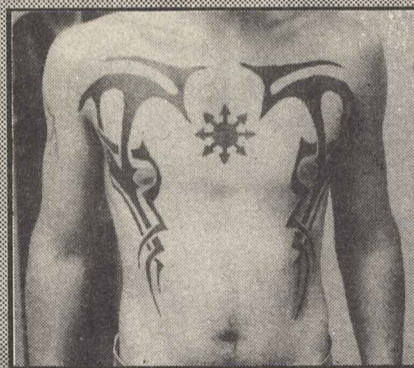
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# ORGANIZATIONS

### 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 GMMF, 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
- Backstreet—845 Peachtree St. 873-1986
- 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
- Crazy Rayz—1492 Piedmont, 873-4655
- The Eagle—308 Ponce De Leon, 87EAGLE
- 551 Downstairs—551 Ponce De Leon, 873-4052
- 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 (GLPEN)—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 (Media Networking Assoc.)—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 Catalyt—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 Cr—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 Times—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
- Codpendents 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, Lwnc'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
- Lesbian Narcotics Anonymous—703-3897
- 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 Times—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
- Trikone—South Asian Gay and Lesbian Org.—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

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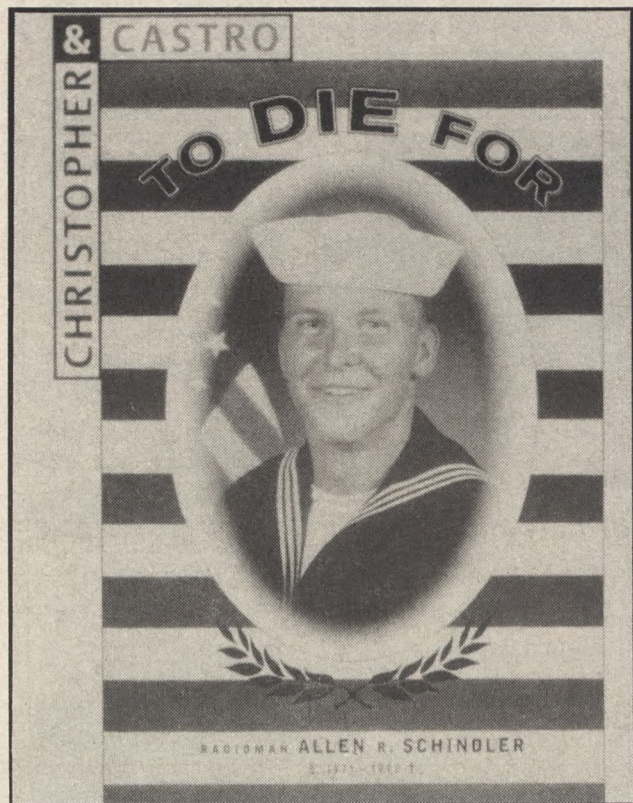
**Priorities, Please:** Featured on the cover of the March 11 issue of the CDC's Morbidity and Mortality Weekly Report (which discusses major health issues in the United States) is a story entitled "Injuries Associated with Soccer Goalposts—United States, 1979-1993." On page three of the same issue there's a major article about the relentless increase in "heterosexually acquired AIDS," which made the front page of most major daily papers and was all over the TV news. During the 14 years covered by the soccer survey, 18 people died as a result of colliding with goal posts. During the same period, 204,390 people have died of AIDS in the United States. We appreciate the fact each person who dies leaves a void, but may we suggest that the priorities presented by the folks who write the MMWR are just a bit skewed?

**Rush Take Note:** People magazine's much touted 20th anniversary issue contained the predictable smattering queer positive profiles and notes. There's a full page color pic of Marc Christian sitting at the wheel of an XJS convertible and looking might happy with himself, a slap at Martina and Judy and a kiss for k.d. But what made Dish stand up and take notice was a two page image of Anita Bryant—decked out in acres of gold spangles and make-up a foot deep—saying "It's nice to be vindicated." That's a pretty strange comment from a woman whose hatred and pettiness has caused her to lose job after job—including one on Atlanta TV back in '85 or '86—and who recently had to close down her theater in Eureka Springs, Ark. because nobody came to hear her sing her version of the "truth." What's that old saying about pride goeth before a fall? Surely Anita's familiar with its source.

**Wretched Excess:** Speaking of the rich and famous, an article in the latest issue of Cosmo details how some celebrities and stars act out when they travel. Liz Taylor once took 40 pieces of luggage when she jetted to Paris, Candace Bergen's dog drinks bottled water, and Sly Stallone hauled his golf pro

# Dish

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



Dish finds this gay consumer offering is in extremely questionable taste.

with him on a trip to Cancun (where he stayed in a \$1,250-a-night room) for the opening of a Planet Hollywood restaurant. Mel Gibson reserves the whole first-class cabin of a Qantas jet when he flies between the United States and Australia. All of which excess sure makes us like Cindy Crawford and Richard Gere who, in addition to standing up for queers, people with AIDS and all sorts of other causes, travel in ordinary, even grungy clothes, sometimes carrying no more than a knapsack...albeit in first class.

**Wretched Idea:** A number of years ago Armistead Maupin published a short article entitled "Seven Steps to a Stronger Body Politic." One of his suggestions was to "not sell your soul to the gay consumer culture." Now Dish thinks that the quality of queer-related merchandise has taken a definite turn upward since the mid '80s when Maupin issued his warning. T-shirts that say "I'm not a lesbian, but my girlfriend is" are way cooler than the old "My face seats five." But we think that we may have found a new all time low in the latest mailing from Community CardPack: a pair of posters bearing the images of Navy Radioman Allen Schindler and the man who murdered him, Terry Helvey. If that isn't enough to set your stomach churning, then ponder the fact that the image of Schindler is emblazoned with the words "To Die For." Never have we seen a better example of the sentiment, "there's a fine line between telling the truth and talking trash." And this, however well meaning it may be, is trash.

**Kiss & (Don't) Tell:** Speaking of Armistead Maupin, Dish has it on good authority that one of the characters in the "Tales" books is based on an individual that Maupin knew in school. And that said individual now lives in Atlanta and is a major mover and shaker. Said individual, needless to say, does not present her/himself publicly the way Maupin's character (who bears the same name) does. Set your snoopy self to thinking about it, and we'll bet you can figure it out.

MARCH 31-APRIL 6, 1994

April Fool's Day is on Friday, giving everyone permission to be at least a little bit frivolous and foolish, so take advantage of the opportunity and have fun with friends and co-workers. April 1 is also Good Friday, followed by Easter Sunday. Remember to set clocks ahead one hour Saturday night.

Happy birthday, ARIES. Are you having a great time celebrating with friends and family? Are you doing the things that bring joy and fulfillment into your life? If you are, that's great, keep it up. Use this spring energy well. TAURUS, Venus moves into your birth sign on April 1, bringing wonderful, sensual awareness and a greater enjoyment of beauty. Get yourself outside and enjoy the wonder of spring. Allow it to soak into every cell of your body and mind. GEMINI, it is getting to be your time of the year with all the balmy spring air. Are you getting enough exercise? How does your body feel? Keep your spirits up and your mind clear with fresh air, nutritious food and the company of good friends.

**CANCER**, do your best to remember that your time belongs to you, not to everyone that is having difficulties at the moment. If you haven't mastered the fine art of saying "no," then learn how quickly and you'll find life much more fun for you. **LEO**,

## STARSIGNS

you may have things come up unexpectedly at home or with parents/close family that demand immediate attention. Your best move would be to take care of the situation as soon as it appears without putting it off. See what you can learn. **VIRGO**, with Mars and Saturn still cruising through your seventh house of close personal relationships and partnerships, you can count on things changing, sometimes unexpectedly or suddenly. Don't freak out, stay calm and cool to make good decisions. **LIBRA**, have you been thinking about moving to a different house or apartment or are you considering buying your own place? This could be a good month to move and a good month to buy, if you are very sure. Wait, if you have any serious doubts at all. **SCORPIO**, personal well-being and physical health are the theme for this week. How long has it been since you had a check-up? Are you eating well and getting plenty of exercise to reduce stress and tension? Take care of yourself.

You'll be glad you did. **SAGITTARIUS**, this can be a powerful week for you, if you focus your attention and sometimes scattered energies. Be sure you are finding ways to bring more play and creativity into your life, even in the small things you do. Have fun with friends.

**CAPRICORN**, spring is here, and this is a great time to start exercising and playing regularly. You'll feel better and think more clearly. If you are planning to move, try to get it done before the end of the month, if at all possible. **AQUARIUS**, are you happy with your job or does it feel like a burden? If you aren't able to use some of your wonderful talents and abilities where you work, then you won't find satisfaction. Search your heart and find your own true path. **PISCES**, get started on turning at least one of your favorite dreams into a material reality. Organize your thoughts and ideas, on paper, and set up priorities. You can make things happen when you focus your mind along with your heart energy.

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

### Dykes To Watch Out For



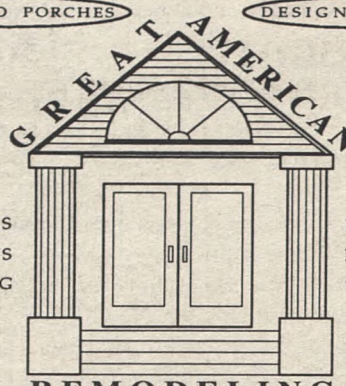
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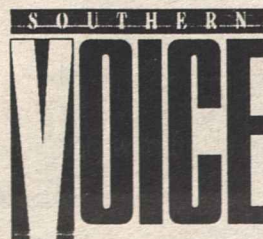
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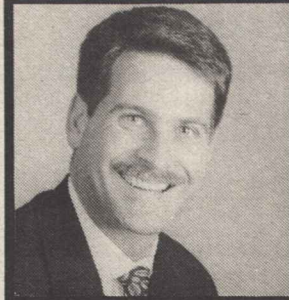
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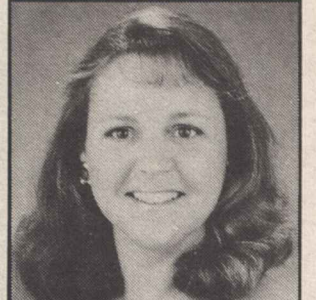
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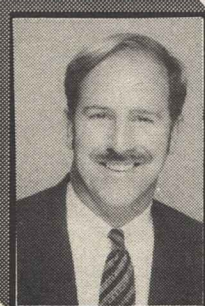
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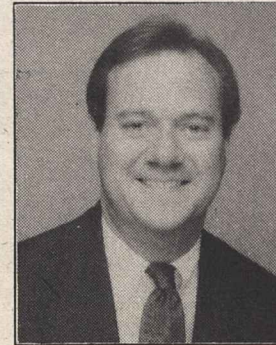
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For new gay owned taxi service. Clean driving record, be honest, hard working, honest and dependable.

SEEKING

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

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

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Michael's Professional Massage for all individuals - couples also welcome. 7 days - Gift Certificates Available. Call 875-1280.

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ON OUR BACKS. The most intelligent sex magazine just happens to be lesbian. Offers you bimonthly award-winning fiction...

National Gay Pilot's Assoc. Newsletter, chapters' events, P.O. Box 27542, Washington, D.C. 20038.

Real Estate

FINANCING

FOR RENT

Lrg. 2 BR. 1 BA apt. w/D, DW, LR, DR, sunroom, deck, ceiling fans, track lighting...

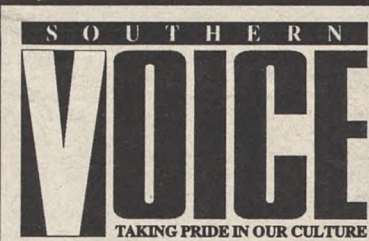
CARTER CENTER: 3 BR, 3 BA, excellent for entertaining. Master BR/BA w/jacuzzi upstairs, fireplace, walk-in closet.

Cartersville area, daylight basement for rent, lots of space, no smoking, drugs, or pets.

Grant Park Duplex, 2 BR, 1 BA, breakfast nook, ample closets, stove & refrigerator, washer/dryer hook-up.

FURNITURE RENTED

MORE ON PAGE 46



CLASSIFIED ORDER FORM

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.

AD POLICY: Southern Voice reserves the right to edit, reclassify or reject ads not meeting Ryan Publications' standards.

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
Text \_\_\_\_\_
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. Up to 20 words \$3.00, additional words x 50¢, Giant headline @ \$3.00/wk. BUSINESS RATES: Up to 20 words for \$12.00 per week. Additional words at \$1.00 each per week. Up to 20 words \$12.00, additional words x \$1.00, Giant headline @ \$3.00/wk. VOICE CONNECTION: Up to 20 words & VOICEbox FREE, additional words x 50¢, Giant headline @ \$3.00/wk, SV forwarding box \$10.00/wk, Other P.O. Box \$5.00/wk. CHECK ENCLOSED / CHARGE MY MC/VISA # exp.

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)

**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)

**FOR SALE**

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

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**

GWM to share spacious condo w/pool. Responsible, mature. Near Morningside-Lenox. \$375 + 1/2 utilities, 325-3459. (7.8)

**NEED BY MAY '94**

2 Bedroom and bath \$260 plus 1/2 utilities. Looking for GM in twenties or early thirties. Leave message 634-3256. (7.8)

N.E. Brookhaven - GWM, masculine, sane, responsible, fun, interesting, intelligent, non-smoker iso similar to share condo. 2 BR, 2 BA roommate floor plan, CH/A, \$325 + 1/2 util. May 1st. 633-5954. (7.7)

**EMORY-HIGHLAND**

GWM seeks GWM. Furnished 1 bedroom, bath in lg. home. Maid, AC, gardens, non-smoker, no drugs or pets. \$350 + 1/3 utilities. 377-6914, beeper 604-1203. (7.6)

GWM with dog seeks GWM to share 2 BR house Lindberg/Cheshire Bridge area. Non-smoker. \$400/mo. includes utilities. 266-1807. (7.7)

**SAVANNAH**

Looking for a place to call home? Looking to turn that spare room into spare cash? The answer is only a phone call away. Call the relocation experts of Bunk Buddies, at (912) 236-8444.

MIDTOWN Penthouse. Ideal for an upwardly mobile twenty-something. GWM only! Magical skyline view! Pool. Gym. MARTA station. \$425. 874-5500. (7.6)

M/F needed to share large 2 BR, 2 BA condo in Buckhead with female. Great location, pool, non-smoker. \$450/mo. 621-5776. Available April 1. (7.7)

3rd Roommate Wanted - GWM to share furnished apt. Non smoker, no pets, \$275/mo. + 1/3 utls. 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)

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

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)

**BUNK BUDDIES**

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

**Services**

**Travel**

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

**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, proof-reading, 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 dark, piercing eyes, mysterious, sensual. I'm sweet and gentle, or rough and cruel. Will make you come back for more... ☎ 1321

GWF, 27, a kid at heart, passionate, adventurous seeks same for friendship and love. Can you come out and play? ☎ 1313

GWF, 32, heavy semi-butck seeks feminine to semi-butck woman, fun loving, adventurous for friendship, more. Non-smoker, no drugs. ☎ 1314

GWF, 40, eclectic approach to life. Passionate about mountains, music and fiction. Seeking energetic womyn with centered psyche and adventurous spirit. ☎ 1310

GWF, 44, professional, well educated, feminine, no drugs/smoking, little drinking, iso similar lady, financially stable, kindly, humorous, reflective. Within 1/2 hour of me. Sarah, POB 14163, Augusta, GA 30919.

I watched you in your tragic beauty walk beneath my window eyes aimed high, but unfocused...you never noticed me. ☎ 1317

BPF Artist moving to Atlanta in August seeks lover, friends, and Gal Friday. Lover must be able to deal with artistic life style & temperament. I know no one in Atlanta so let's be pen pals until I get there. All replies answered. Box 1402, 1189 Virginia Ave. NE, Atlanta, GA 30306. (7.9)

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 butck. ☎ 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, funloving, 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-spl, 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

**MEN**

**SoVo Pick of the Week**

Daddy/Husband requested (WM under 50) by an intelligent, extremely curious, inexperienced BM, 24, for life-long love, support, and enlightenment. I can be shaped and molded. Serious only please. ☎ 1316

Romantic Hardworking, relationship oriented GWM 28, red/bl looking for similar GBM or GLM 21-35. ☎ 1312

Frat Boy, 20, closeted WM, nice slender body, extremely attractive, seeks closeted, muscular dude. Must be goodlooking and discreet. No fems or diseases. Box 37894, Atlanta 30332. (7.7)

**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**

THREE WAY ACTION - single top seeks couple for hot, safe, discreet, fun. I'm attractive, cleancut, 30's, mustache, HIV neg. Call ☎ 1323

GWM, 30, handsome, bl/bl, beard, dark body hair, versatile, sensual, lean. ☎ 1322

GWM, successful professional, 40s, great mentor, seeks slim, wholesome, ambitious, quality WM college student. Personal assistant/companion. Excellent future. Box 1401, 1189 Virginia Ave. NE, Atlanta, GA 30306. (7.11)

GWM, amateur photographer. Seeks very attractive GWM/GAM under 24 for fun. ☎ 1320

GWM 31, moustache, non-smoker, healthy HIV+, romantic, enjoying life, seeking GWM to share life and enjoy it to the fullest. ☎ 1319

**OVERLY ATTRACTIVE**

Br/Br, 5'6", 135 lbs., 30, muscular. Seeking attractive partner for friendship or other. Workout, outdoors, rollerblade. Series Reply. HIV. ☎ 1318

Hairy, attractive, GWM, very athletic, 31, looking for a masc, beefy, stable WM for friendship, fun or ?? ☎ 1315

GWM, 41, 6 ft., 175 lbs., fit, masculine, HIV negative, good looking, seeks friendship leading to monogamous relationship. ☎ 1311

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

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

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, cleancut, 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 loving 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 BU/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).

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, funloving, 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 masculine, 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

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-bartfly, 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, 6L/185, good looking, professional, muscular, quality, closeted, conservative lifestyle. 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, Heiniken. 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-

PERSONALS

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

HIV+ ONLY- Handsome GWM seeks same for dating and possible relationship. I am a healthy 40, 6ft., HIV+, 178 lbs., blonde, blue, many interests, Financially Secure. Take a chance and call. No games please. ☎ 1109

GWM, 40 plus - professional artists. Into Victorian houses, antiques, and old world charm. Looking for mature GBM with same interests for long term one on one. ☎ 1221

Do you want to sweat? How about a workout? Wanna wrestle? GWM, 33, seeks hot body for discreet fun. ☎ 1224

GWM 38, 5'10, 160#, HIV+, into swimming, philosophy, nature, politics. Seek similar 25-40 yo. Se habla Español. No fumar. ☎ 1623

I need it bad. Desperately seeking sex with muscular WM stud under 35 who isn't too picky. ☎ 1601

Watersports enthusiast seeking other GWM into sessions of giving and receiving golden showers. Let's get wet together! ☎ 1222

True country fag seeks other urbanized males.

Come play in the dirt again. ☎ 1597

Horny, attractive, GWM, 35, 5'11", 175, br/br, moustache, seeks other masculine, versatile men or couples for fun, frolic, hot times, kissing and cuddling. ☎ 1596

GWM, 32, 5'8", 145, goodlooking, muscular, safe, wants to be manhandled by hunky man. Make me serve. Leave message ☎ 1594

Like me you're 30+, tall, fit, handsome, bright, passionate and versatile. You enjoy travel, stimulation and companionship. We deserve bliss. ☎ 1592

VGL, GWM 5'11", 170, sincere seeks same 25-40, prefer slender, smooth, clean shaven college type for friendship, safe/hot fun. ☎ 1590

GWM Professional would like to meet a gorgeous young (20's) gentleman to share "honeymoon" in Hawaii. ☎ 1630

Mature business owner seeks attractive, sincere, mature GWM early to mid-20's to spoil, possible relationship, no drugs, non-smoker. ☎ 1631

GWM Leather Daddy seeks leather boy. Attractive young man to share life & the leather experience. No drugs, non-smoker. ☎ 1629

Models, GWM, 18 to 25 y.o., nude to formal wear. I'll help develop your portfolio. Expense paid travel, no experience necessary. ☎ 1627

Master seeks attractive young GWM slave boy for light S&M, piercing?, B&D, personal services, must be a serious bottom. ☎ 1626

GWM mature professional seeks goodlooking young man for dining out, travel, shopping, relationship. Not into drugs/smoking. ☎ 1625

Amateur photographer, WM, seeks built, exhibitionist BM for fun nude/semi-nude photo sessions. Discretion assured. No strings. ☎ 1204

GBM, 5'9", 148, educated, 34, handsome, healthy, humorous, non-smoker, seeking similar partner to share life's pleasures and pains. ☎ 1203

GWM, 30, 6'2", 180, blonde/blue, HIV+, attractive, Episcopalian, native Atlantan seeks quality GWM 25-35 for romantic relationship. ☎ 1202

Tired of being alone. Handsome, romantic, well-groomed BGM 30ish, 5'10" seeks BM 30-40 with varied interests to share quality time. ☎ 1201

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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GWM, 6'3", 190 lbs, 40's, a romantic who likes to receive and give affection to that special person who is 28-45, physically & mentally fit and loves life. ☎ 1194

Gay Asian man, 5'10", 145, sincere, clean-cut, hot, seeks WM/AM up to 30. Top, non-smk, trim, safe for relationship. ☎ 1193

Third Musketeer wanted. You're sincere, submissive, leather trainable with TLC and ready to make 100% permanent commitment. No fats/fems. ☎ 1097

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

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

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

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

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

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

Enemas/Water Play turn me on. 35yo attractive white male seeking hot others into same. ☎ 1183

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

Italian/Greek/Latin 29-40 sought by A#1 handsome Southern GWM 35, 5'10", 170 - into weights, movies, romance! ☎ 1177

WM, 36, blond/blue, moustache, HIV-, 6'4", 230. Attractive professional seeks Mr. Right. Is it you? Will answer all. Call today! ☎ 1176

Kuddly Koala Bear, moustached, hairy chested. 40 something hoping to find 30 something companion and playmate. Discreet preferred. ☎ 1174

GWM, 32, 5'9", 170, Bl/Bl, looking for serious relationship. 5'9"+, 30+. Varied interest. Masc. & serious only pls. ☎ 1172

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

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

GWM 40 PLUS - into old houses and old world charm seeks GBM 40 plus - a man for all seasons - to share quiet times. ☎ 1160

BGM, 5'8", 160, 30 muscular trim professional seeks discreet BM 27-35, 5'8"-5'11", whard body for dating. Blue collar types preferred. ☎ 1166

Tall, medium dark BM 29, slim, seeking to meet a dark skinned Bi or GM topman who know what he wants. ☎ 1168

Are there any other young, slim, attractive, professional, athletic, masculine, mature, healthy HIV+ men in Atlanta besides me? ☎ 1167

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

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

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

Recently seperated WM, 40, attractive, new in Conyers area, seeks GWM, French active, Greek passive, for evening fun and friendship. ☎ 1158

TV/TS

Pretty TV, 41, single, size 11, 36A, seeks permanent position as maid or houseservant to dominant female. ☎ 1212

BM, Top, discreet seeks TV/TS/G bottom for special friendship, discretion assured. Race unimportant. Hurry - Hungry ☎ 1164

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WM, 46, very attractive, inexperienced, enjoys frank correspondence, possible light contact with younger Bi/male couple. Box 7704, Marietta, GA 30065 (7.8)

BM, married, 55, in great shape. Seeks mature Bi female for safe discreet encounters. ☎ 1304

Attractive, trim, white, professional couple seeking BiWF for safe, creative encounter of fun and fantasy. ☎ 1593

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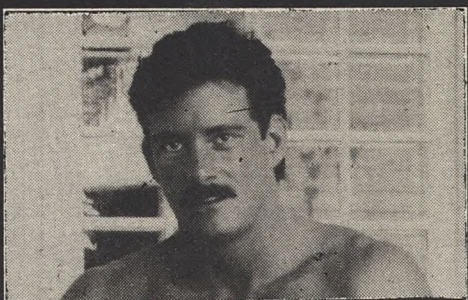
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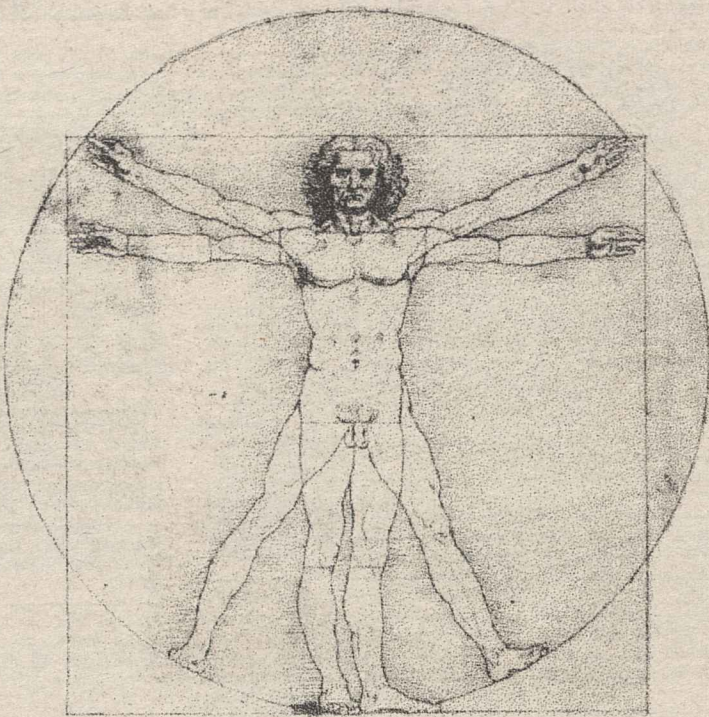
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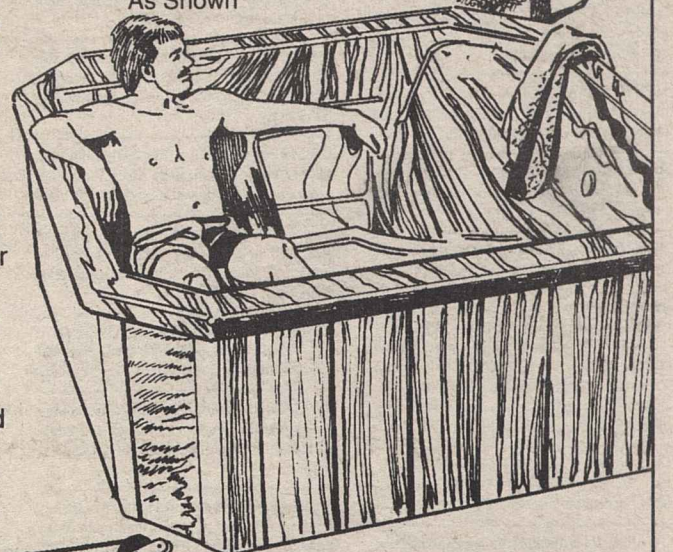


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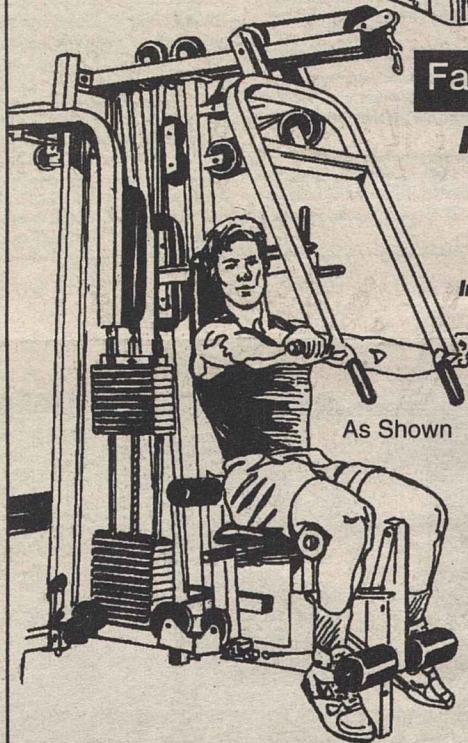
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