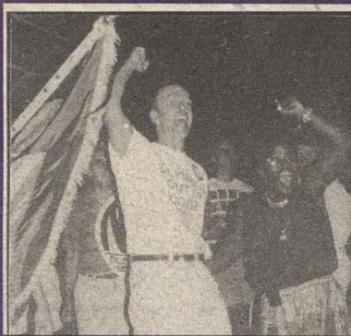


S O U T H E R N

VOICE

TAKING PRIDE IN OUR CULTURE

AUGUST 4 - AUGUST 10 / 1994



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moves
volleyball
out of Cobb**
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Photo by: Scott Kennedy and Kevin Maye bring the Gay Comedy Jam "Freedom Tour" to town

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TBS adds sexual orientation to its equal-employment policy

by KC WILDMOON

Atlanta—The 6,500 worldwide employees of Atlanta-based Turner Broadcasting Systems, Inc. have a new guarantee—that they will be protected from discrimination in the workplace if they happen to be gay.

Ted Turner's entertainment empire—which includes the Atlanta Braves and Hawks, World Championship Wrestling, WTBS, and cable television channels SportsSouth, CNN, TNT, and The Cartoon Network—officially joined over 150 other major American corporations in adding sexual orientation to its Equal Employment Opportunity statement on July 28.

"Turner Broadcasting is firmly committed to promoting diversity in the workplace," said a statement issued by the company. "The Company's policy statement ensures that race, gender, religion, national origin, age, disability status or sexual orientation do not affect employment practices at Turner Broadcasting."

Allan De Niro, president of Turner's Human Relations Department, said changing the EEO statement came out of a nearly two-year process that culminated last fall with a company-wide survey on diversity issues.

"That survey had both quantitative statements...and a question asking how people felt about their jobs," De Niro said. "We got back what everyone who works in the survey field said was an exceedingly big response [just under 50%]. We felt it was a pretty representative sample [of our employees]."

From that survey, Turner compiled a list of 21 action plans—with time lines.

"What perhaps was a little unique [about the plans] is that every one of the 21 was not only specific but time-sensitive," De Niro said.

Along with such steps as building a company-

owned child care center for its employees, adding sexual orientation to the EEO statement was on that list. And its "due date" was July 1994.

Gay Turner employees were not content to let the process play out in its own time, however. What was a first a handful of employees has now grown to two dozen under the name TurnOut—Turner Employees for Lesbian, Gay and Bisexual Concerns.



"To give credit where it's due, the employee group was initiated at last year's gay pride by Robin Kemp (a CNN news writer)," said Gareth Fenley, a Headline News writer and TurnOut spokesperson. "She brought literature from [AT&T's lesbian/gay/bisexual group LEAGUE] to Tom Johnson, the CNN president. He was the first person to say go for it."

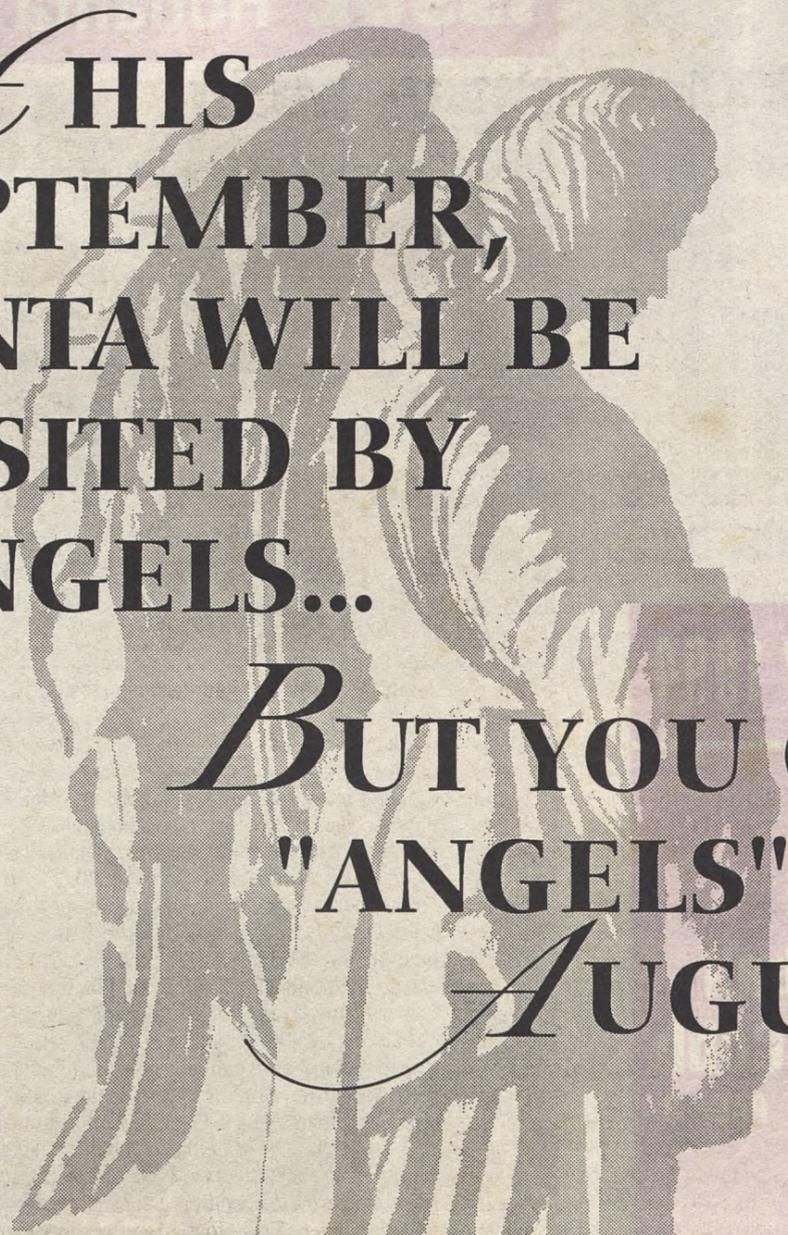
But the group was slow growing and did not pick up steam until late last fall.

"A big hurdle was announcing publicly that we were going to have a meeting," Fenley said. "Everything had been word of mouth before."

But with an official OK from management, TurnOut held an open meeting this spring with diversity trainers from AT&T's LEAGUE. Fenley called the meeting "a breakthrough," and after it, TurnOut was lobbying hard for the EEO policy change.

"People were very willing to sit and talk with us," said David Salyer, a CNN graphic artist and TurnOut spokesperson. "I feel very good about the way we were treated."

CONTINUED ON PAGE 6



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ACOG moves volleyball out of Cobb

Meanwhile, poll of Cobb residents shows 40% support anti-gay resolution.

Atlanta—The Olympic spotlight will not shine on Cobb County in 1996, following an announcement by the Atlanta Committee for the Olympic Games last Friday that it had moved preliminary volleyball matches to the Coliseum on the University of Georgia campus in Athens. ACOG had originally planned to hold those events in the Cobb County-owned Galleria Centre.

The announcement ends the growing national controversy over holding an Olympic event in a county that condemns its gay and lesbian citizens—and, according to the County Commission chairman, also welcomes nazis and skinheads—and points the harsh glare of public scrutiny squarely on the root of the problem in this Atlanta suburb—the anti-gay resolution passed by the Commission last August.

"I'm welcome to the Games," said Olympics Out of Cobb Coalition cochair Jon-Ivan Weaver. "[ACOG president] Billy Payne has upheld the Olympic ideal."

Speculation had been growing in recent weeks that an announcement was forthcoming about the venue move, with most expecting an announcement before the planned August 28 rally in Marietta against the resolution. But Cobb Commission chair Bill Byrne's surprise announcement last week that he would ask the Galleria Centre's governing board to rescind its offer to hold the events may have provided the impetus for last week's announcement.

In the Atlanta Journal-Constitution, Byrne accused ACOG of "using the media to pressure us," and said that the Galleria Centre could "withdraw the proposal and tell ACOG to find another place."

"If ACOG wants it, it's time to put up," Byrne told the Marietta Daily Journal. "If they don't want it, it's time to shut up."

Byrne's statements reportedly angered ACOG officials, who made their own announcement a day after accounts of the chairman's threats appeared in the AJ/C.

"Recent events in Cobb County have made clear that the resolution [of the controversy] we had hoped for will not be forthcoming," said Payne in a written statement. "It is unfortunate that the dialogue we have encouraged over the past several months did not produce positive results."

"It's a victory for the lesbian and gay community," said Don George, state coordinator for the Human Rights Campaign Fund's Federal Action Network. "And Jon-Ivan Weaver deserves most of the credit for his perseverance in not letting his eyes off the prize."

Weaver formed the Olympics Out of Cobb

Coalition early this year when he learned that ACOG planned to hold events in the county's \$43 million Galleria Centre. He and OCCC cochair Pat Hussain met with ACOG officials five times early this spring, hoping to persuade them to move the venue, but called off the meetings when it became apparent that ACOG was waiting for the Cobb Commission to settle the controversy.

But that never happened. Despite pressure from Cobb's business community, including a nondiscrimination resolution passed by the Chamber of Commerce, the Commission refused to budge, although Byrne released a statement in May pledging that the county would not discriminate against anyone during the Games. Byrne's message was muddled, however, when he said at a press conference announcing that proclamation that gay men and lesbians were as welcome in Cobb County as nazis and skinheads.

And last month, the final nail in Cobb County's coffin was struck when the Commission refused to adopt a "compromise" resolution that proclaimed the county's support for human rights for all its citizens, while leaving the original anti-gay resolution on the books.

"It's a shame that the Commission did not work to save the Olympics and to address the underlying cause, which is the anti-gay resolution," said Noel Lytle, cochair of the Cobb Citizens Coalition, which formed last fall after the resolution passed. "I think the Commissioners are a fairly inexperienced bunch of politicians. They have really painted themselves into a corner and don't see a graceful way of exiting. They think leadership is not possible if you admit a mistake. And then you have a person like Gordon Wysong (sponsor of the resolution) who thinks what he's doing is fair and just and reasonable."

The Commissioners have consistently hidden behind the smokescreen of public opinion during the debate over the resolution, claiming that they have the support of Cobb's citizens. But last week, the AJ/C released a poll showing support and opposition to the controversial measure in a dead heat—41% opposing and 40% supporting, with the remaining 19% undecided. And nearly a third of those who consider themselves "born-again Christians"—who constituted half of the respondents to the poll—said they oppose the resolution.

"Clearly there are people who disagree with [Wysong's position], but they don't happen to be on the Commission," said Lytle.

And it would appear that the Commissioners don't care about public opinion, at least now that the results of that poll are out. While Wysong told the paper he doubted the accuracy of the poll, Commissioner Joe L. Thompson said it didn't matter.

"I don't care if 90% are against and 10 for," Thompson said, "the board's through with the issue."

The poll also showed that 55% of Cobb's



Jon-Ivan Weaver and Pat Hussain of the OCCC.

residents will not be bothered by the loss of the Olympics—but the county's business leaders may have a different position, especially now that the Olympics and the heavy publicity that come with the games are gone. The Galleria Centre has now lost nearly \$700,000 in rental fees—although resolution supporters scoff at the loss, saying the Centre will have no trouble re-booking for the time period, it is almost impossible to calculate the loss in marketing ability international television brings.

"For a two-week period, with the television coverage and publicity surrounding it, there would develop an international awareness of the name of the Galleria complex and the center itself," Ted Leithead, a partner with Childress Klein Properties, owner of the Galleria, where the convention center is located, told the Marietta Daily Journal earlier this year. "You couldn't buy that kind of publicity."

"They asked for this venue," said OCCC's Pat Hussain. "After what it takes to get an Olympic venue, we are now looking at the only county in the world that does not want one."

"I think the business community is going to be very, very upset at losing the chance to showcase Cobb and the convention center," said Lytle, "and they have no one to blame but the commissioners."

And that sets up this fall's elections. Two commissioners are running for reelection—Bill Cooper, who was the only commissioner to vote against the resolution, is opposed, and resolution author Wysong is opposed by Bill Seacrist. Seacrist has pledged to work to rescind the resolution, and politicians believe that Wysong's defeat would clearly signal the need to do so to the other commissioners. But Wysong's East Cobb district is heavily Republican, leaving Democrat Seacrist with an uphill battle if he is to win.

And the Olympics are not the only game to pull out of the Galleria Centre—two pet shows have dropped out, including the Atlanta Pet Show, which was scheduled for Sept. 10 and 11. Larry Kaplan of South Florida Pet Show Inc. pulled his event when a major sponsor dropped out, citing the anti-gay resolution—and at this late stage, it is doubtful the Centre will be rebooked. And earlier this year, the Cat Fanciers of America International Cat Show moved to the World Congress Center because its members refused to spend money in Cobb County.

"We are just totally opposed to the stand that the commissioners have taken," said CFA organizer Ande DeGeer. "We couldn't see that CFA could be associated with something like that."

With the battle over the Olympics over, the focus on Cobb County can now return to the root of the controversy.

"The resolution is the next thing," said Jon-Ivan Weaver. "It has to be rescinded."

KC WILDMOON

Lesbian bashed in Buckhead

Woman recounts assault outside convenience store

Atlanta—Gay-bashing is a popular sport in some circles, and an assault in Buckhead in May proves that gay men are not the only targets.

Susan Wade, 40, suffered a severe beating by two young men on the night of May 20, and from the verbal insults the two slung, it was amply clear that she was targeted because she is a lesbian.

Wade and a friend had been at Revolution on Pharr Road until about 1:30 am, when Wade's companion felt ill and the two walked down the street to a convenience store. After buying a soda, Wade said they stopped alongside the building next door, where they were approached by two young men.

"The smaller of the two got in my face and said, 'I gotta take a piss,'" Wade said. When she told him there was a bar nearby, she said, he responded, "No, I'm gonna piss on you, dyke."

The two pushed Wade around, and then turned as though to leave, but not without a parting remark: "If you had a real man you wouldn't be like that, dyke," one of the men told her.

"It was unprovoked. They were sparking for something," Wade said of the ensuing attack. She was beat and kicked in the face, ribs, kidneys, groin, thighs and buttocks, and left with multiple cuts and bruises, including three facial cuts that will leave scars. Wade's friend remained at the scene and was not attacked.

Atlanta Police have labeled the assault a bias crime, and are investigating. But Det. Marchel Walker told Southern Voice that too many gay-bashings are never reported.

"Most won't come in and make a police report," he said. "If we don't have a report, then [as far as the police are concerned], it didn't happen."

"We need to compile something on these folks," Walker continued. "If we don't, it's going to keep happening, and it's going to get worse. We need to stop the crime."

For Wade, it was the second time she had been attacked because of who she is—the first was in 1972 outside a bar on West Peachtree.

"The cops laughed at me then," she said. "It took me almost a year to get over it."

But now, she says, she's "older and wiser."

"It was nerve-racking at first to go out [after the recent assault]," Wade said, adding that she needed time before coming forward with her story. "But now I'm ready. What can they do to me? As long as they don't take my pride, and they can't take that."

Wade said she still has trouble sleeping at night, but that she's not afraid of being an out lesbian. When friends warned her to take off her gay bumper stickers for her Memorial Day weekend trip to Pensacola just after the attack, she bought three more.

"I'm a survivor, not a victim," she said. "What they did to me physically was just that. They can't fuck with my soul."

KC WILDMOON



A victory rally outside Burkhart's Friday night drew approximately 200 celebrants.

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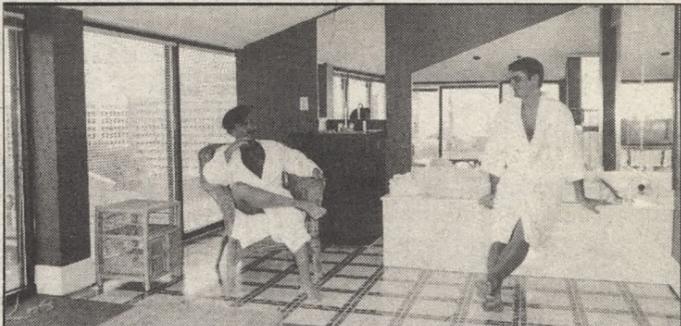
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Home to treat AIDS patients gets protests

Greenville, SC—Residents of the Colonel Elias Earle Historic District don't like their potential new neighbors on Earle Street. For one thing, they will have AIDS. And the street already has homes for the mentally ill and troubled teenagers.

The object of the neighbors' distress is Stephen's House, which could become Greenville's first group home for AIDS patients.

"I'm very concerned with this thing coming in here—there's going to be too many strangers coming in the neighborhood," said Tom Leavitt, who lives near the planned home. Leavitt said he was worried that neighborhood children could get hurt or become ill through contact with infectious waste or needles dropped outside the home.

"We are so depressed with the thought of this thing coming in our area," said Faye Jay, who has lived for 30 years on the street where the home would be placed. "I hope to goodness it's not too late."

Project Care, a nonprofit organization that evolved from the AIDS Care Team at Christ Episcopal Church, plans to house at least six people in the house's four bedrooms and two separate-entrance apartments, said Rev. Bob Long, vice president of Project Care and the priest at Christ

Episcopal.

Stephen's House will offer a place to live for people who are homeless but self-sufficient, Long said. It will not offer medical care.

"Our primary concern is caring for the people," Long said. "We also want to combat ignorance about HIV and gain community support to give more attention to a problem that is growing every day."

Project Care will help residents find jobs and get access to disability benefits and transportation, Long said.

The location was chosen because it is within walking distance of downtown, stores and bus stops and is away from the "drug culture," Long said.

Members of the neighborhood association say they are worried that the home fails to meet city zoning requirements and will substantially increase traffic on the street, according to the association's letter. City attorney Steve Kern said, however, that the home meets zoning laws.

Cindy Luthi, another Earle Street resident, said the real concern was the home's effect on property values. She said the street already had the Gateway House, a home for the mentally ill, and a home for troubled teenagers.

ASSOCIATED PRESS

Huntsville residents outraged over new MCC Church

Huntsville, AL—The pastor of a Metropolitan Community Church here said her congregation doesn't want to make trouble in its new northwest Huntsville neighborhood. The MCC recently built a new \$140,000 worship hall after outgrowing its old quarters.

"We just want to be good neighbors and help out in any way we can," said Rev. Janet Suess-Pierce. "We just want to be accessible to all and inclusive of everyone. We're not for any one group."

But those who live nearby don't see it that way. They say the church is endorsing a lifestyle incompatible with Christianity.

"Almost every book in the Bible will tell you that homosexuality is a sin," said Edith Wharton, who lives across the street. "I've just been beside myself ever since I found out what kind of church they were putting there."

Wharton said she planned to make her feelings known to the parishioners. "I'll be out there in my rocking chair with my sign that says, 'I don't like homosexuals,'" she said. "I will say one thing, they won't have a minute's peace as long as I'm living. That's a promise to God."

The church had planned to hold its first services July 24 in its new building, but had to postpone the dedication until July 30 because a technicality delayed the certificate of occupancy.

Neighbor Carolyn Houk said she was angry because no one from the city informed her about the church.

"Usually, any time something such as the Church of Christ or the library has gone in around here, someone has come around to see if it's OK with all the neighbors," she said. "If they want to be gays and lesbians, that's their rights, but we should have been told about it."

Hulan Smith, division manager of the city inspection department, said the church met all zoning requirements and the city cannot discriminate.

"Churches are only required to give notification to the residents if they need some kind of variance," said City Councilman Jim Putnam. "Notification is just so the residents can make the [city] aware of any potential problems such as drainage, not concerning what people believe."

ASSOCIATED PRESS

Supervisors eliminate library seat over gay paper

Fairfax, VA—The 18-month struggle over distribution of a gay newspaper in Fairfax County libraries took a new twist July 18 when supervisors eliminated the seat of a library board member who fought for the paper.

The vote eliminated the seat of Linda Hunt, whose term had expired, and it means Republicans have a 6-5 edge on the board. The decision could give opponents of the Washington Blade a majority on the board as it continues the debate over whether the paper should be allowed in the county's libraries.

"The conservative right has won a major battle," Library Board Chairman Herbert A. Doyle, Jr. said. "The losers are the citizens of Fairfax County, who I believe are overwhelmingly in favor of an open, free library and opposed to censorship by any group."

Conservatives hailed the vote, saying

it is a major step in their drive to clear out materials they say are intended to recruit children into the "homosexual lifestyle."

"It is a real good thing. Linda was a very strong vote against trusting parents," said Karen Jo Gounaud, a conservative Christian who has pushed the county to ban the Blade.

Democrats blasted Republicans on the Board of Supervisors for taking the vote when two Democratic supervisors were absent.

"It is inappropriate to not have a full board to decide on such an important issue as the makeup of the library board," Democratic Supervisor Gerald W. Hyland said.

Five of the six Republicans voted to reject a request from Democratic Supervisor Katherine K. Hanley to delay the vote until she returned to the country.

ASSOCIATED PRESS

Silly Faggot, Dix are for Chix: Republican Gov. Christie Whitman of New Jersey is calling for merchants along the shore to remove from their stores a T-shirt offensive to gays and lesbians. The shirt, with a cartoon drawing of a rabbit, parodies the Trix cereal jingle by using the slogan "Silly Faggot, Dix are for Chix." "We are proud of what our state has to offer as one of the premiere summer tourism destinations in the region," Whitman said. "The public display and sales of messages of intolerance can only damage our image, offend visitors and undermine all our effort to promote understanding and tolerance." A manufacturer of the decal, Frank Flanagan, president of F&M Expressings Unlimited in Hollywood, FL, said he believes the governor is grandstanding, but agreed last week to discontinue the design. General Mills, maker of Trix cereal, has sent letters to T-shirt makers taking exception to use of their trademark.

Shalala Pans Murphy Brown: Health and Human Services Secretary Donna Shalala weighed in on the Murphy Brown/single mother debate July 14 and, in the process, alienated gays and lesbians who want to be parents. The Washington Blade reported July 22 that at a hearing on welfare reform in the House, Rep. Richard Neal (D-MA) asked Shalala whether she thought Murphy Brown was "right or wrong" to have a child out of wedlock. (That story line in 1992 prompted criticism from then-Vice President Dan Quayle.) Shalala's response was, "I don't think anyone in public life today ought to condone having children born out of wedlock...even if the family is financially able." Liz Hendrickson, executive director of the National Center for Lesbian Rights, commented, "Obviously it has implications for lesbians because, legally speaking, virtually all lesbian mothers are single mothers. For lesbians and gay men who choose to have children, all of our children are 'born out of wedlock.'"



HHS Secretary Donna Shalala

KKK Protests Gay Bar: The Ku Klux Klan held a protest outside a gay bar in Frederick, MD, on June 25 "to save our neighborhood from homosexuals," according to Klan Grand Dragon Roger Kelly. Eleven hooded Klansmen were among the 25 protestors outside of Talons, a newly opened bar. Kelly promised that his group would "keep coming back." "It's appalling to have to endure that kind of bigotry in 1994," said Kip Koontz of the Western Maryland Gay and lesbian Justice Campaign. "It's very sad to see people that are that full of hate."

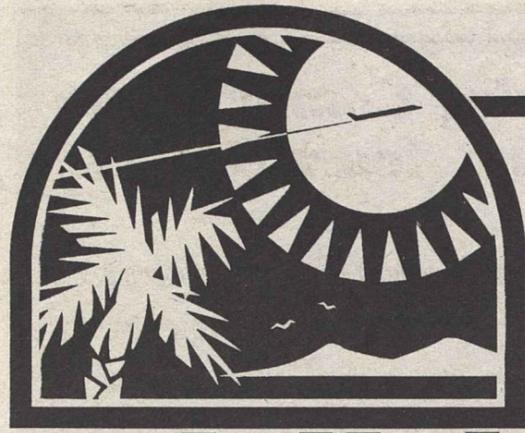
Lesbian Festival Puts Out Unwelcome Mat For Men: The 5-year-old Northampton (Mass.) Lesbian Festival, which was held last week, took in its welcome mat for men. For the first time, the festival barred males, except for festival workers and children younger than 11 years. Organizers said that women needed a place where they can feel completely safe and comfortable once a year. "The men that came [in the past] didn't feel very comfortable, and the women didn't feel very comfortable," said festival producer Aliza Ansell. "It's time for lesbians to really let themselves be who they are in a way they can't in the real world."

Former University Student Convicted Of Raping His Male Roommate: A 22-year-old former University of Alaska student has been convicted of raping his male roommate earlier this year. Timothy Brobst was found guilty last week of two counts of first-degree sexual assault, while the jury found him innocent of two similar counts. Brobsts claimed that the two men agreed to have sex after an evening of drinking beer. Brobst's father defended his son, saying "It was sexual experimentation and they both consented." Brobst's attorney said a decision has not been made about an appeal. He faces a 30 year sentence, to be handed down in December.

Former Drug Czar Promotes Tolerance Of Gays: William Bennett, former U.S. drug czar and education secretary, said that "one should be tolerant and respectful of homosexuals" in his new book, "The Book of Virtues." "But that doesn't mean one has to validate a lifestyle, sexual activity, or a way of coupling." Bennett says he opposes "homosexual adoption," and had a rather unique take on lesbian relationships. "I'm more convinced that lesbian relationships more closely resemble traditional male-female relationships than homosexual relationships," he wrote.

Bank Demands Money Back From PWA: The Adams National Bank in Washington, DC, is demanding that a gay man with AIDS return money he received in settlement of an AIDS discrimination case, claiming he broke a confidentiality clause in the settlement by telling the Washington Blade how much money he received. Attorneys for James Hall, who was hospitalized three weeks ago for an AIDS-related ailment, dispute the charges, saying that the Blade got its information from a court file open to the public. The Blade confirmed that its reporter viewed documents in the public files at DC Superior Court, but has filed a motion to reject a subpoena of reporter Will O'Bryan and his notes, citing a law protecting sources of news reporters.

NBC Wins Lawsuit Over Coverage Of USS Iowa Blast: A federal judge dismissed a \$10 million lawsuit challenging NBC's coverage of the USS Iowa blast that killed 47 sailors in 1989. The lawsuit, filed by the family of Gunner's Mate Clayton Hartwig, claimed that reporter Fred Francis wrongly portrayed Hartwig as a suicidal gay man and that the coverage caused Hartwig's family emotional distress. Hartwig was suspected, then cleared, of causing the explosion that killed him. The Navy investigators on the case initially blamed Hartwig for the blast, then announced they had no proof and apologized to the family. Hartwig's sister has said she would appeal the dismissal.



GAYAWAY

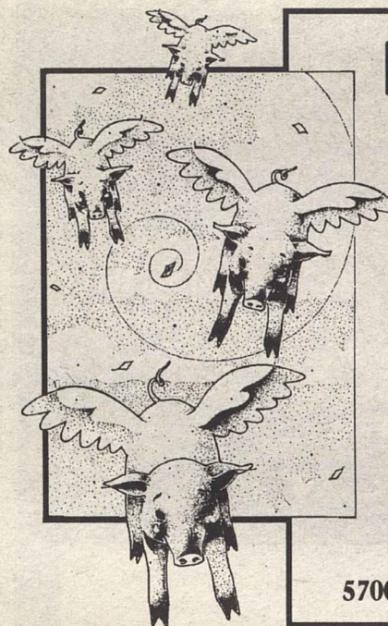
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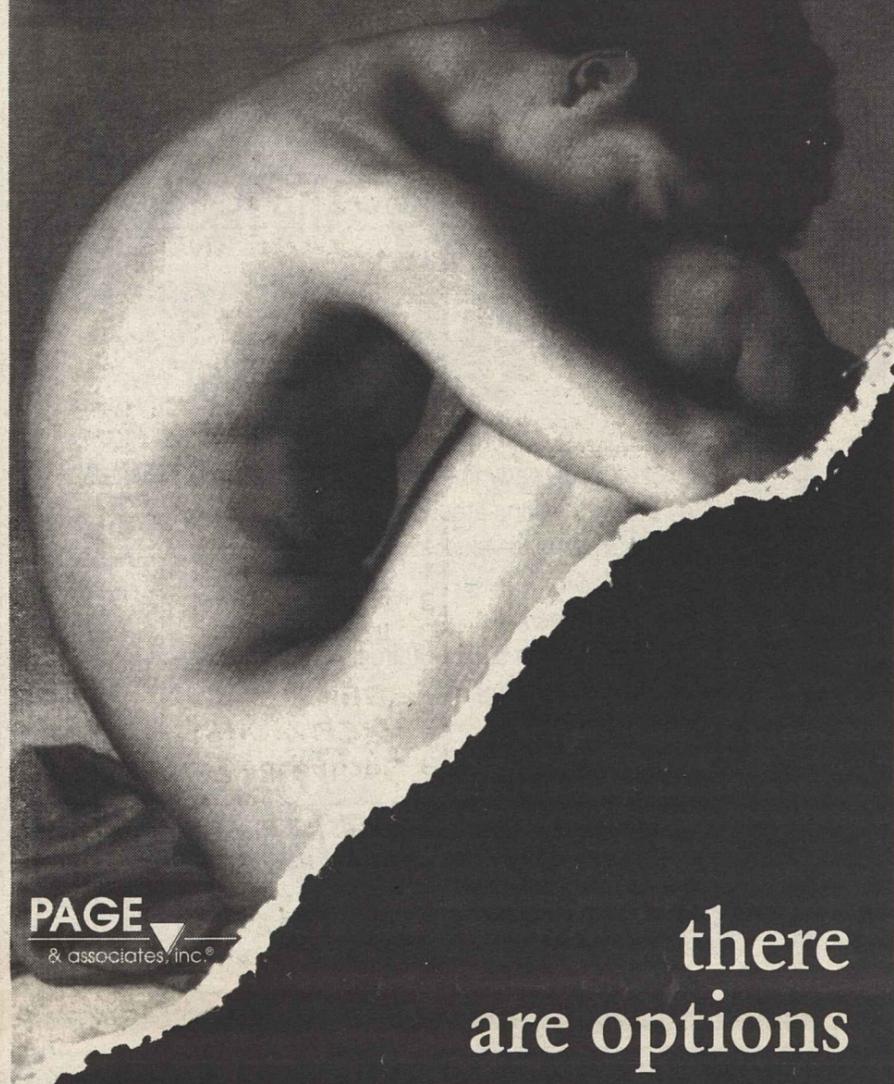
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James Wallace (Jimmy) Magner

Jimmy Magner, 32, died Monday, July 18, 1994 of AIDS complications.

Jimmy was the founder of "P.W.A Rag" (Prisoners With AIDS Rights Advocacy Group) newsletter and AIDS advocacy organization. P.W.A. Rag is an education and advocacy newsletter published quarterly and is directed to prisoners in federal, state and local prisons who are HIV+, or who have AIDS. It reaches the majority of U.S. prisoners with HIV/AIDS, and reaches prisoners in Canada, Europe, and Africa. It is printed in English, French and Spanish. Jimmy started P.W.A. Rag in 1988.

Jimmy was a tireless advocate for prisoners with AIDS, becoming a registered lobbyist, a member of the Correctional HIV Consortium, the HIVLA of Los Angeles, SIDA Los Angeles, and AIDS Project/Los Angeles; and serving as co-chairperson of the southeast portion of the AIDS in Prisons Project of the Correctional Association of New York. He was also a member of the AIDS Survival Project, AID Atlanta, and ACT UP/Atlanta.

Jimmy was born February 12, 1962 in Oxnard, CA. and is survived by his parents, Bob and Sheila Magner of Jonesboro, GA; his siblings, Robert G. Magner, Jr., Debbie Markesino, and Linda; and a host of friends, including Judy Greenspan of ACT UP/San Francisco, and Jackie Walker, of the National Prison Project.

Memorial services were held Thursday, July 21, at Turner Funeral Home in Decatur. The Magner family extends its gratitude to the staff and volunteers of Jerusalem House for their care of Jimmy. He regarded it as his safe haven.

A special thank you goes to Bill Kemble for his tireless devotion, and to Keira Byrd and to Melanie Levine of Hard Rock Cafe.

In lieu of flowers, contributions may be made to P.W.A. Rag, Inc., PO Box 2161, Jonesboro, GA 30237. Inquiries may be made by phone at 404-946-9346. Your money, in-kind donations, and time can help to keep P.W.A. Rag alive and Jimmy's legacy going.

TBS Policy

Continued from page 1

Salyer said many of the meetings they held with management were educational in content.

"People didn't realize that having a policy like this could make a difference," he said. "I think we opened a lot of eyes. When you can give personal experience, and give stories from your own workplace, it makes a difference."

De Niro agreed. "It's a process where we've learned as we went along," he said. "We are still learning."

With nationwide polls showing that a majority of Americans believe lesbians and gay men should not face discrimination in the workplace, and a bill already introduced in Congress banning discrimination based on sexual orientation in employment practices, Turner's decision puts the company at the crest of the wave. A 1993 survey conducted by the Wall Street Project showed that 134 Fortune 500 corporations ban discrimination based on sexual orientation, but only 5% of those are in the South.

"Change may be coming slower in the South," said Nick Curto, co-chair of the Project, "but with Southern companies such as Knight-Ridder, Tandy, and Intergraph having policies in place, we feel it won't be long before other companies in the South will grant gays and lesbians protection from discrimination."

Add Turner to that list. Nationwide, the number of companies with these non-discrimination policies has tripled since 1990, and that is due in no small part to the increase in lesbian/gay employee groups. TurnOut joins over



David Salyer



Gareth Fenley

30 other such groups across the country, and it looks to expand over all of Turner's holdings.

"Even though this policy covers all those other divisions, our group is really just based at CNN," said Fenley. "We'd like to grow, obviously."

"We get electronic mail from people saying 'I'd love to be a part but I'm afraid,'" Salyer added.

With the new policy, that may change. And TurnOut can look to other issues.

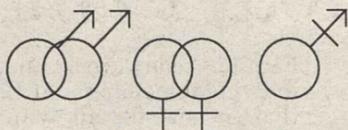
"We've had requests about domestic partnership," said Salyer, "and also questions like when Turner opens the day care center for employees next year, will lesbian moms be able to get their children in. That's something we want to make sure of."

Management will be listening. While De Niro said the company has no plans to add domestic partnership benefits in the near future, he did say that one of the key things managers have learned throughout the process is that diversity is an ongoing concern.

"In no way, shape or form are we finished," he said. "In the area of human relations, there is no such thing as finished."

JOHN C. GUSTIN, M.D.

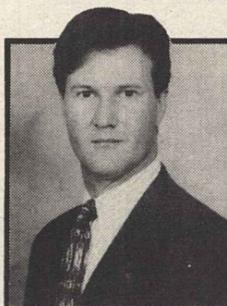
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Helms takes anger out on Agriculture Department and gays

Washington, DC—Angered that a U.S. Department of Agriculture employee was transferred after speaking out against homosexuality, Sen. Jesse Helms (R-NC), has successfully put forth two amendments attacking the USDA's supportive policy on gays.

Helms has taken up the cause of Karl C. Mertz, who was reassigned in March after telling a television reporter: "We need to be moving toward Camelot, not Sodom and Gomorrah, and I'm afraid that's where our leadership is taking us."

Mertz, 49, was a senior manager in a 10-state regional office in charge of equal employment opportunity, the office that protects workers against discrimination.

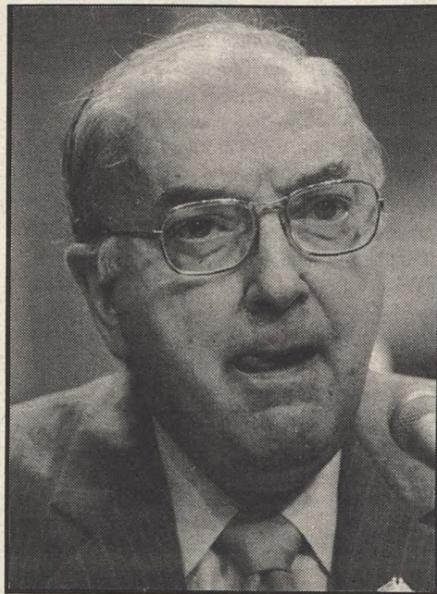
The department said Mertz's statement proved that he could no longer carry out the department's civil rights policy. It gave him an unrelated job, took away several perks, but preserved his salary.

Soon after taking office last year, Agriculture Secretary Mike Espy issued a new Civil Rights Policy Statement saying the department would "reach out" to groups that previously had been discriminated against. The department would "create a work environment free of discrimination and harassment based on gender or sexual orientation."

One of the Helms amendments, which passed 92-8 on July 19, would prohibit the USDA from using funding on seminars, programs or a staff position intended to present homosexuality in a positive or neutral light or recruit gay employees. Helms referred continually to the USDA Gay, Lesbian and Bisexual Employees organization (GLOBE) during the debate.

A second amendment, introduced the following day, was softened by a subsequent one from Sen. Dale Bumpers (D-AR). It would have called for hearings for employees who expressed personal opinions that conflict with the USDA's policies on homosexuality. The Bumpers amendment carried almost the identical wording but removed references to homosexuality.

"I am troubled that someone is transferred or demoted because he expressed an opinion," said Bumpers, head of the appropriations subcommittee that controls the department's budget.



JIM MARKS

Sen. Jesse Helms of N. Carolina proposed two amendments recently attacking gay supportive policies of the USDA.

The free speech amendment, Bumpers said, would also protect people who privately criticized policies on women and minorities as well. The amendment passed 100-0.

Daniel Zingale, director of Public Policy for the Human Rights Campaign Fund told the Washington Blade that the first amendment, was a loss for the gay community. "The reason that vote was so lopsided was that Helms used language about taxpayers' funds being used to recruit people on the basis of sexual orientation and to promote homosexuality," Zingale said. "Well, of course, the USDA doesn't do that, so a number of senators thought that it was harmless to vote for that kind of language."

Although insiders expect both amendments to be stricken down during conference, Zingale said such measures should not be allowed to just slide.

"I think his strategy is just to keep us on the defensive," Zingale said, "to try to derail our job discrimination message which is clearly working in Congress, and to occupy us and our allies in the Congress."

ROBERT GREENE

Gay man victim of hit and run bashing in L.A.

Los Angeles—Jim Atlas Hill said he didn't pay much attention when some punks cursed him from a passing car in West Hollywood. When they threatened to kill him, though, he took it seriously.

By that time, the 22-year-old Hill had been beaten bloody and hit by the car in what one expert called a textbook example of gay-bashing, which has supplanted attacks on blacks as the No. 1 hate crime in Los Angeles County.

Four men were arrested while driving in the area of the attack early July 24 after a witness pointed them out to sheriff's deputies.

Hill said the four chased and beat him as he walked to a night spot early Sunday. When he tried to run, the driver sped toward him and knocked him onto the hood. When the driver stopped abruptly, Hill fell to the ground and the driver struck him again.

"The whole time, they were telling me these exact words: 'We're going to kill you, faggot,'" Hill said. "I kinda felt that was what they planned to do."

The Lancaster resident was released after treatment at Cedars-Sinai Medical Center for bruises, cuts and a swollen foot run over by his attackers' car.

Booked for investigation of assault with a deadly weapon and civil rights violations were

Jerry Chappa and Jesus Betancourt, both of Montebello, and Hector Camacho of Los Angeles, all 19. A fourth suspect, a 15-year-old from East Los Angeles, was booked into Sylmar Juvenile Hall.

Last year in Los Angeles County, gay men became the primary target of hate crimes for the first time since 1980, when the county began tracking such incidents. Of the 783 hate crimes reported to the county Human Relations Commission last year, gay men were the victims 27 percent of the time.

Brian Levin, a visiting scholar at Stanford Law School who studies bias-linked violence, described the attack on Hill as "a textbook case in gay-bashing."

Typically, Levin observed, young men from suburban areas will drive into urban, gay neighborhoods looking for a target.

"For people who are stressed, frustrated, out for a thrill and peer validation, gay people are perceived as a very good target to act out that aggression."

Hill said he was relieved at the arrests and willing to testify.

"If it's not me, it's going to be someone else," he said. "I just want them to know that they hurt an innocent person."



CANDIDATE RATINGS TAKE THIS TO THE POLLS AUGUST 9TH

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John Knox U
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*Both candidates have unacceptable positions. However, Knox has positioned himself so far to the radical right, Milner is preferred.

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plus

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GUEST EDITORIAL

Examining the gay self

by PAUL VARNELL

Now that the Stonewall 25 extravaganza is over and the heat of the summer is upon us, maybe we can pull back from gay politics and culture to take the opportunity to look thoughtfully at our lives.

None of us wants to conduct his life as a crusade, even for a good cause. That smacks a little too much of arrogance, as if one had so much to teach and little to learn. And none of us wants to be only part of the gay community, for there are other communities, including the world.

Truth to tell, many of us want to spend more time sitting under a bo tree, reading the Platonic dialogues and listening to Nielsen symphonies or Shostakovich quartets on the portable CD player.

So that is how I happened to be wondering recently about my self, the self that I am or that I have or that has me. What is the self? Should I care? What difference does it make?

I was wondering this because I read in The New York Times about a consumer/opinion survey by Yankelovich Partners, Inc. that found, among other things, that gays and lesbians are more concerned than heterosexuals with their well-being and "self-enhancement." I found this gratifying but puzzling news. Even as I continued reading, half my mind wandered off into speculation on how the self could be enhanced. More knowledge? More virtue? More wisdom? but then I suddenly realized I was already reading the answer.

The self-enhancement, reported the Times with a straight face, "manifests itself in everything from [seeking] new shopping outlets to a greater use of cosmetics and fragrances."

Oh.

Then I read that bodybuilder Bob Jackson-Paris and his spouse Rod have done a video called "Be True to Yourself" which tries to assure young gays and lesbians that their sexual orientation is an all right way to be and that they should feel good about themselves.

Which is fine so far as sexual orientation goes, but may be doubtful advice if generalized to many other less immutable characteristics. Being "true" to your "self" implies that the self is a thing which already has its own nature or qualities, and that a person's job is simply to accede to the self, to allow the self to

unfold without hindrance like the petals of a flower. Or to unpack the self like a box into which a determinate number and type of things have somehow already been stuffed. But is that true?

And what if one's self is gravely defective or radically deficient? Is that a self it is wise to be true to? Is that a self to be satisfied with?

Maybe this difficulty emerges more clearly with the T-shirt popular in our community that says "Just Be You." But what if "you" are a jerk? What if "you" are obtuse, or foolish, or narrow, or doltish? Is that a "you" you should "just be"? No doubt you personally are none of these things, but the chances are that you know people who are.

So, we ask again, what is the self? Clearly it is not the personality. The self is somehow prior to or greater than the personality. The personality is simply a personal adaptive mechanism one creates in response to social circumstances, one possible projection or emanation of the self.

On the other hand, in one of his most intriguing gnomic expressions, philosopher Leo Strauss observed that the self is a descendant of the soul, therefore the self is not the soul.

Whatever Strauss' full meaning may be, it is true that the classical notion of the soul was simply the cause or source of a living body which has the capacity for movement and thinking, perceiving and discriminating.

The inventors of Christianity appropriated the word for something they imagined was a separate entity within human beings, that could be influenced by one's behavior, and that somehow would continue existing after death.

It was in reaction against this strange doctrine that more recent philosophers invented the concept of the "self" to serve some of the functions of the soul without some of its debilities. And we moderns have vigorously embraced the doctrine of the self. Just as Puritan divines pleaded with their congregations to care for their souls because they were creating the nature of their own immortality, so we moderns assiduously care for the self—to stave off mortality, and to enhance this life itself.

Not only do we patronize "new shopping outlets" for what are called "self-care" products (shampoos, mouthwashes, body oils), we

read "self-help" books about how to be more, be better at, project a more, and develop our. We attend "self-help" groups to overcome problems and emotional infirmities. And we go to "self-esteem" workshops in order to convince ourselves how wonderful we already are, before, after, or instead of any of those other things. There is even a "self-psychology" you can try—as if nowadays there were any other kind.

If Edmund White is right in his speculation that gay life is more "existential" than heterosexual life, all of this applies especially to us as gays and lesbians—as people for whom less of the world is culturally or socially structured and our place in it less determinate.

But if we reject all these, or put them in a properly diminished place, what then are we to say about the self?

Maybe it is most useful to suggest that the self is not so much a real entity to be discovered or examined, but rather a sort of openness, an unstructured set of capacities, or potentialities. In that light, one's self is a person's own creation resulting from the information he/she takes in, how we structure it and what we do with it. In a sense, then, the self is (or is the result of) the explanatory theories (including the various divergent theories) we have about the world, the understanding we have available about things, including the things we call people. When John Keats wrote to a friend that this world was a "vale of soul-making," he was referring to something very much like the modern sense of self.

And since there is, in fact, a real world out there, clearly there can be better or worse explanations, comprehensions or understandings of it. Most of us understand this intuitively when we realize we have changed our mind about something, or have adopted a different way of being or behaving. Hence the value to the self of what used to be called a liberal education—a kind of exposure to new ideas and an incentive to rethink our ideas in light of what the most intelligent and most thoughtful people have written.

And that puts us within hailing distance of Socrates' paradox that knowledge is virtue, and underlines the distance that remains.

Write your
representatives
and urge sponsorship
of job bill

Gay/lesbian rights groups are calling for a massive campaign to increase support for the recently introduced Employment Non-Discrimination Act of 1994 (ENDA), which would prohibit employment discrimination based on sexual orientation.

The bill (S2238/HR4636) currently has 124 House and 30 Senate co-sponsors, making it the most popular gay/lesbian civil rights bill in congressional history, and the Human Rights Campaign Fund and the National Gay and Lesbian Task Force are urging everyone concerned to write their senators and representatives now and ask them to join on as a co-sponsor of ENDA.

To ease the process of writing to Congress, they have drafted this form letter:

Send letters to U.S. House of Representatives, Washington, DC 20515 or U.S. Senate, Washington, DC 20510. Contact the Capitol Switchboard at (202) 224-3121 for the phone numbers of your senator and representative.

Dear Senator/Representative _____:

As a supporter of equal rights for all citizens, I want to put a stop to the workplace discrimination experienced by too many gay, lesbian, and bisexual people. I urge you to support S2238/HR4636, the Employment Non-Discrimination Act (ENDA). Please say no to job discrimination on the basis of sexual orientation by pledging your early support and co-sponsorship of ENDA. Federal law currently protects employees from discrimination on the basis of race, religion, gender, national origin, age, and disability. ENDA would extend fair employment practices—not special rights—to lesbians, gay men, bisexuals, and heterosexuals. The right to work is the cornerstone of the American dream, yet far too many hard-working people are refused work, fired, or harassed because of their perceived sexual orientation. A recent Newsweek poll found that 74 percent of all Americans agree that gay men and lesbians should be protected from job discrimination.

A job should not be taken away because of fear or ignorance. Please stand up to hatred in this country and help put an end to employment discrimination on the basis of sexual orientation. Please co-sponsor the Employment Non-Discrimination Act. I would appreciate your thoughts on this matter. Thank you.

Dyke detector comes up empty in Japan

I never met a Japanese lesbian I didn't like. In fact, I never met a Japanese lesbian. Not for lack of trying, of course.

Now it should come as no surprise that I am President and Chief Operating Officer of Lesbian Uncovery Service. It's just one of those small but critical responsibilities I feel obligated to take up on your behalf. No, no, don't feel required to share this treasured G2 INFO with anybody I might happen to be married to at this time. She knows. Trust me. She has already accepted the fact that I am an unregenerate Lesbian quester. But, like the proverbial Great Dane chasing sports cars, it's okay, as long as I don't catch one.

I know that we are everywhere. And I also know that, even now, I am continuously surprised, impressed and astounded really, at who we often turn out to be, what we actually look like, and what extraordinary things we've accomplished in our masks and disguises.

So when I get a chance, I seek us out. Besides, I get some extraordinary opportunities.

I should have started this column by telling you that I went out looking for resbians. But, of course, a) the editor, assuming typos, would correct my spelling, and b) you'd think I was violating Roberts' Rules of the Politically Correct. Before you get your socks in a snarl, I come by the term legit. I saw it at Stonewall. It was the very best sign in the whole procedure. Carried by a Japanese woman, it read "Resbian Lights!" I rest my case.

I wouldn't have brought this up, but I am writing to you from...ahem...(I just love get-



Cleaning Out My Closet

by SHELLY ROBERTS

ting to say this:)...Tokyo. Right. That Tokyo. The one in Japan.

Don't start throwing bread rolls and hissing. I am not making this up just to impress you. Since you can't see where I'm typing from I could just say it and how would you ever know? Besides, it's not as though I were writing to you next week, figuring out how to work, "Last week when I was in Tokyo..." into a sentence. (Not that I won't, of course, next week. But by then I will have earned missiles and catcalls.) For now, arrigato goziamas.

I'm here on somebody else's business, natch, being way too cheap...you try living on what gay and lesbian papers can pay...to buy

a business class ticket for myself, or twist myself into a pretzel for a twelve hour lark in Cattle Car Class. Who I'm here for isn't all that important. That I expand our leconignion (sic(k) code by whole continents is.

Let me tell you, any Caucasian who ever said all Orientals look alike never spent one day outnumbered in a Pacific Rim country. I have seen a Japanese counterpart for every type I ever went to high school with, or saw when I was last in Akron, Ohio. Fat ones. Skinny ones. Ones who climb on rocks. Short ones. Tall ones. Even ones with chicken pox. (Well, okay, not that one. You can only carry an Oscar Meyer analogy so far.)

In four days here, I've seen Japanese who remind me of every aunt I ever owned, that neurotic Jewish kid we all chose last on the baseball team, dozens of your favorite fashion models, Generation X-hibitionists in black with crayon-red wigs. I've seen ladies in kimonos whose faces, except for the eyes, looked just like my grade school teachers. I've had taxi drivers who could have been my dad's brother if his father had been a bit more Asian influenced. In fact, I've seen every kind of identifiable type. Except, of course, us.

I couldn't just shake hands with strangers here. And the Japanese never make eye-contact in public, a gross violation of private space in a very crowded country. Voila! Invisibility. Maybe there aren't any Lesbians in Japan. Maybe they both marched at Stonewall and haven't come home yet.

I tried a club. It was closed. I walked at night to a safe section of Tokyo I wouldn't risk if it were in New York. Or for that matter

Cleveland. It was in the midst of Tokyo's gay section with glass fronted sex shops, and open men's clubs. Beautiful young men paced most street corners late for appointments judging from how anxiously they glanced at their watches, waiting no doubt, for Mom to buzz by in the Honda to pick them up after practice. (Wanna buy a bridge?)

I asked a clerk in a gay sex shop for "Club Madonna?????" He was appalled when I walked in. You could tell how much by how he geisha'd a giggle while shaking negatives with his head. If he didn't know where the lesbians were, how was I going to find them in a city where the cab drivers expect you to give them a map, and addresses are in a language foreign even to the natives.

That night, I did meet an equally bewildered young man from Hong Kong who timidly asked if I was a "lrlresbian?" in that special Asian middle sound that has no English consonant. Thinking I'd spotted a Mazda Mafia bouncer who could direct me to ahsos deska dyke den, I nodded enthusiastically, only to discover that he, too, was a tourist, hoping to find a club for female Hong Kongese friends.

I found Club Madonna, but it never opened. So I never met a Japanese lesbian. Even one I didn't like. It was disappointing, I know they're here. But I have to leave. I'll keep a world eye out for you though. And I'll let you know how I do.

Next week when I'm in London and Frankfurt.

Sayonara.

LETTERS

Don't Cotton to his story

I was reading Southern Voice for the first time the other day when I came upon Al Cotton's column detailing his involvement in an abusive relationship. He compared his experience to that of Nicole Brown Simpson. To make a long story short, I cannot determine whether his intentions were to raise consciousness on spousal abuse or to warn people about the dangers of dealing with a black man.

I would like to ask Mr. Cotton what kind of person moves someone to a new city knowing that individual—a black man in this case—does not have a good job, significant parental resources or a support network of longtime friends. What kind of self-esteem issues were you dealing with? Were you hoping to display some sort of white male dominance over this poor black soul you saved with your adequate employment and your ability to get money from your parents?

I wonder how you would have described your partner had he been of the same race. Of course, he would have had a good job and significant parental support, all WHITE MALES do, right. So, what exactly did you want from this individual? A plantation experience in the bedroom—some sick role play? How could a WHITE MALE so well employed and well trained in power allow this to happen? Whatever your reasons are is irrelevant. What's relevant is how you are painting black men as a result of your bad experience.

I have several white male friends who've experienced spousal abuse and guess what? Their spouses were white males. And there are black males out there who have good jobs, significant parental resources and a support network of longtime friends.

Spousal abuse should not be tolerated under any circumstances and if O.J. Simpson is

guilty he should pay. However, if you are trying to wake people up to the issue of spousal abuse, you should find a more effective way to do so because some of us feel that your survivor's guilt is nothing more than bad theater.

S.L.
Athens, Ga.

Cotton brought up important subject

Thanks so much for Al Cotton's recent column in the July 14th edition of SoVo on battering. I too have been triggered by Nicole Simpson's story—reliving nightmares of repressed memories from a lesbian battering relationship that I left four years ago.

Mr. Cotton's column was especially helpful since the reality of lesbian and gay male battering is not a subject that our community deals with readily. Too often, we deny or minimize the violence. Nicole Simpson's murder brings home to anyone who has survived an abusive relationship that "it could have been me."

Battering is about power and control. Simply put, in a battering relationship one person has it and the other one does not. Battering occurs when one person uses violence, the threat of violence, or other coercive behavior to control her/his partner's thoughts, beliefs, or actions. If you consistently change your behavior out of fear of your partner, you may very likely be battered.

Our city does have a few resources for battered lesbians. Unfortunately, for battered gay men, the resources in Atlanta are much more sparse. Maybe other readers know of

safe spaces for battered gay men; I unfortunately have not heard of any. (Sadly, the Council on Battered Women that was once so helpful to Mr. Cotton now refuses to accept lesbians in their shelter. Their support of battered gay men may have also changed.) Although there are no shelters for battered men, lesbians are welcome in the shelter at the DeKalb Women's Resource Center. DeKalb also offers a support group for battered lesbians, but they don't screen callers who inquire about the group. Thus, any woman—including lesbian batterers—are welcome and very likely to attend the group.

There are only a few safe options I know

of for a battered lesbian who is seeking help in Atlanta. A therapy group is currently being offered by two therapists who are formerly battered lesbians. For information on that group, call Carrie Jaffe, M.A. at 953-6401.

Another option is to call the Lesbian Task Force of the Georgia Advocates for Battered Women and Children. They provide informational resources as well as a crisis line; call them at 524-3847.

Thanks to Al Cotton and SoVo for taking on this topic, getting the word out, and breaking the silence.

Sincerely,
Jill Marsh

STONEWALL RIOTS

BY ANDREA NATALIE



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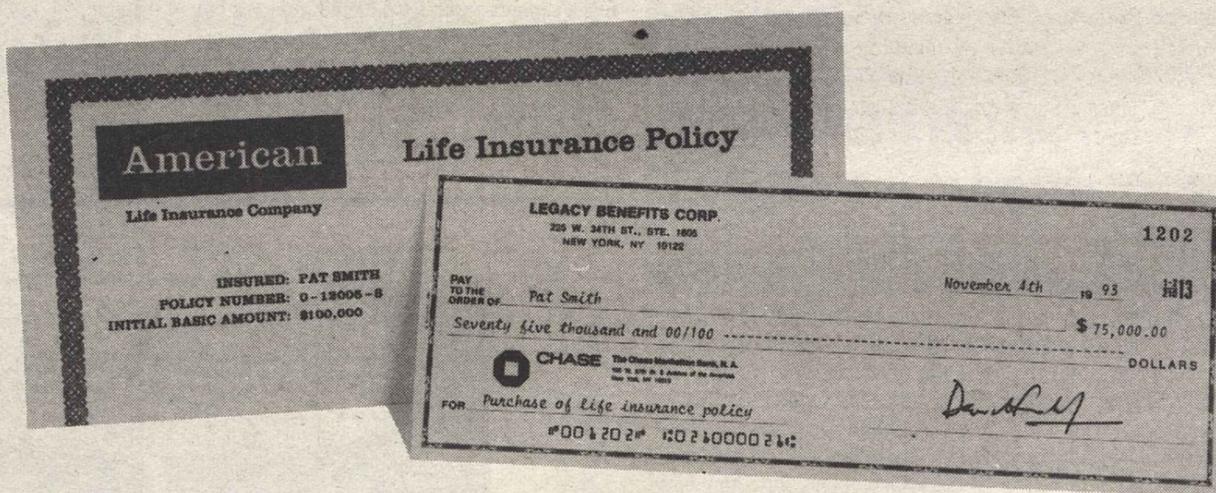
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Researchers discuss new tests for determining HIV level

New York—AIDS clinicians and researchers met in New York on July 12 for a roundtable, "Future Directions in HIV Care—Individualized Patient Therapy," to discuss treatment strategies for people living with HIV/AIDS.

The roundtable was co-sponsored by the American Foundation for AIDS Research (AmFAR) and Hoffmann-LaRoche Inc., a research-based health care company. Five panelists led discussion about new innovations in tracking the progression of HIV disease and methods for prolonging the benefits of antiretroviral therapy.

"We know from experience that HIV disease manifests itself differently in each person," said Ellen Cooper, MD, director of clinical research and information, AmFAR, "so it logically follows that treatment plans should be highly individualized."

Physicians currently treating HIV/AIDS patients often base therapy decisions on changes in the patient's CD4 (T-cell) counts and outward symptoms. Although some PWAs with very low CD4 counts remain healthy while others with higher counts deteriorate rapidly, many physicians still use CD4 levels as universal guideposts.

"The CD4 count has several limitations," said Melanie Thompson, MD, principal investigator at the AIDS Research Consortium of Atlanta. "It really is an incomplete marker."

Citing these limitations, panelists discussed new experimental tests that determine how much virus is present in the blood. The two types of tests, currently available for research purposes only, are the Branched DNA assay and the PCR assay. In the branched DNA assay, a chemical reaction tags the viral DNA or RNA and produces visible light; the intensity of this light indicates the viral load. For the PCR (polymerase chain reaction) assay, the amount of targeted viral DNA or RNA is compared with the amount resulting after amplification.

Panelists emphasized that such assays may have early-stage predictive use, since increases in viral load may precede T-cell

destruction and decline in CD4 counts. In addition, the assays could be used to measure viral activity.

Early studies have shown these assays to be highly accurate in reflecting viral levels in persons with various CD4 counts. However, panelists cautioned against premature enthusiasm, saying that even if the tests are reliable it is not clearly known how such information can be used in deciding upon treatment options. The relationship between viral load, viral resistance to drugs, and CD4 counts is not completely understood.

"These markers haven't been studied to determine whether they will help improve clinical outcome," said Dr. Thompson. "It is not clear whether state-of-the-art testing means state-of-the-art medicine."

The panel predicted that the Food and Drug Administration (FDA) will quickly approve the assays as long as their accuracy can be verified. The FDA does not require the assays to be of clinical benefit in order to be approved. Many leading clinicians and researchers have expressed interest in designing trials to determine applicable value.

Panelists agreed the assays will probably be very expensive. If so, there will be a large discrepancy in terms of who will have access to this testing. Dr. Thompson noted that Medicare most likely would not reimburse labs for tests considered "experimental," so the new assays would not be initially available for many poor and working-class people. Several participants expressed concern about spending finite research funds on testing whose "real-life" value is questionable.

While panelists acknowledge the importance of increased research into immunomodulators (drugs that enhance the immune system instead of attacking the virus), very little attention was devoted to these and other therapies outside the antiviral area. "We really need to be looking at immune system regeneration more," said David Gildea of the Gay Men's Health Crisis (GMHC) in New York. "We may be missing the \$64,000 question."

CRAIG WASHINGTON

Cuban *frikis* inject themselves with HIV+ blood

A dozen or so heavy metal fans—known as *frikis* (freaks)—claim they have injected themselves voluntarily with HIV positive blood, according to an article in the latest issue of "POZ" magazine.

"We gave ourselves AIDS to liberate ourselves from society and those laws about obligatory work and live in our own world," says Luis Enrique Delgado, 20, who injected himself in 1990 with the diseased blood of a friend.

Delgado and six other patients at a sanitarium in Pinar del Río, 125 miles west of Havana, appeared recently on a video smuggled out of Cuba, saying that they, too, voluntarily received the AIDS virus. One of the video makers, Vladimir Ceballos, says he has the names of 25 young people from Pinar del Río who injected HIV and knows of some 55 more from there that have died.

It is widely known in Havana that the defiant self-infecting took place in 1989-1991. While some of the *frikis* could have contracted AIDS from drug injections, a former Cuban AIDS health worker points to the rapid onset of full-blown AIDS among many of them as evidence that they're telling the truth. "There is no other explanation for someone dying in two years but a direct blood-to-blood injection."

The Cuban government has not denied the accounts, explaining, in the words of one government official, that "there was anguish and desperation throughout the society in 1989-1990: suicides, divorces." Sanitarium life offers the *frikis* far more comforts than most Cubans ever see: three full meals a day, air conditioning, no power outages. The *frikis* also apparently appreciate the absence of police.

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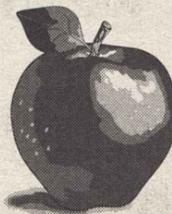
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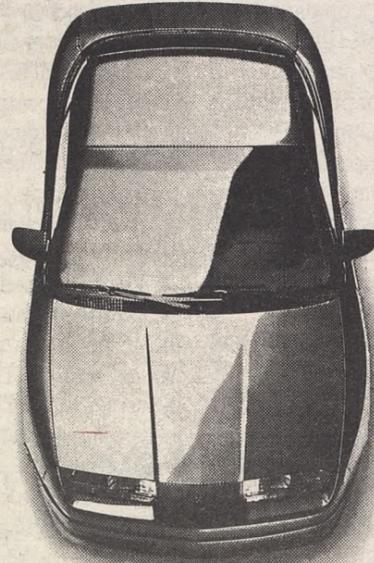
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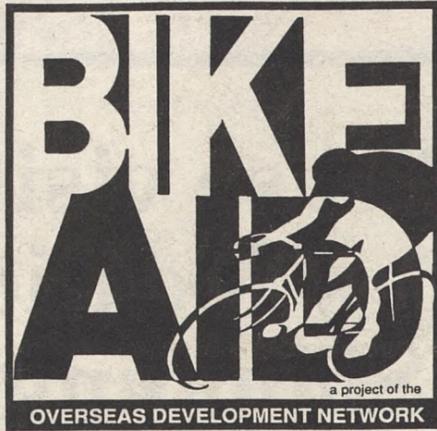
Bike-Aid rolls into the South

Bike-Aid '94, the ninth annual transcontinental cycling odyssey designed to promote education of global development issues, will roll through the South this month with the theme "HIV/AIDS: A Global Challenge." Riders will be meeting with local community groups and AIDS organizers to exchange knowledge and experiences about HIV and AIDS.

Six riders who departed from Brownsville, Tex., on July 11 will be in Atlanta from August 4 to August 7 and will then proceed through South Carolina, North Carolina, and Virginia. In Atlanta the riders will participate in a service project August 5 with either AID Atlanta or AIDS Survival Project.

"One of the great things about Bike-Aid is how visible we are in the communities we ride through," says Johnny Symons, a San Francisco resident who rode in last year's Bike-Aid. "People are always asking us where we're going and why. It's a great opportunity to bring up HIV and AIDS and give people a chance to talk about what can otherwise be a difficult subject."

Riders on five routes are simultaneously traversing the country toward Washington, D.C., where the event will conclude August



19 with a finale including the cyclists, community leaders, AIDS educators, and White House staff.

Bike-Aid is a project of the Overseas Development Network, a national student organization that involves people in local and global issues through education, first-hand learning experiences, and community action. Since 1986, more than 650 cyclists have raised over \$900,000 through Bike-Aid to support its development and education programs.

Chinese medicine practitioners report some success against AIDS conditions

San Francisco—Some 200 practitioners of traditional Chinese medicine gathered in San Francisco recently to discuss the use of traditional Chinese techniques—including acupuncture and herbal therapies against HIV infection, AIDS and associated conditions. Although no dramatic breakthroughs were reported during the two-day conference July 22-24—many practitioners described successes in treating particular symptoms associated with HIV.

One afternoon was devoted to a series of sessions designed to educate the lay public about Chinese medicine and the ancient concepts underlying it, concepts very different than those of conventional western medicine. Where western medicine tends to break things down into the smallest possible pieces—cells, viruses, even molecules—and look at them separately, traditional Chinese medicine (TCM) concentrates on what noted San Francisco TCM practitioner Misha Cohen called "the creation of wholeness and the creation of wellness" by looking at the body as a whole and bringing the various forces within it into harmony.

Another session was devoted to issues connected with research into TCM methods. Although the Chinese have compiled extensive reports based on long-term observation of patients, relatively few western-style clinical studies have been done of Chinese treatments. Slowly, that is beginning to change.

Several studies looking at, among other things, acupuncture treatment for neuropathy (a painful nerve condition common in AIDS and sometimes caused by anti-HIV drugs)—have recently been approved by the National Institutes of Health's Office of Alternative Medicine and should be up and running before the end of this year.

Several practitioners told of success in treating specific AIDS-related conditions. Bob Flaws, a Boulder, Colorado TCM practitioner and author of several books on the subject, described a variety of herbal treatments for oral thrush, a fungal infection, and claimed a seventy-five to eighty percent rate of cure or "major improvement."

Others described some success at treating diarrhea, intestinal parasites and loss of appetite with various combinations of acupuncture, herbs and dietary therapies.

Still, TCM experts repeatedly made it clear that, despite their very different approach, they do share one thing in common with western medicine: A lack of definitive solutions to the riddle of AIDS.

"None of us have the answer," commented Mary Kay Ryan, co-author of "Treating AIDS With Chinese Medicine." "If I don't believe there's one western medicine to treat HIV, how can I believe there's one herbal formula?"

BRUCE MIRKEN

France announces program to curtail AIDS in drug addicts

Paris—In a radical shift of AIDS-prevention policy, the conservative government plans to make clean syringes widely available to drug addicts and triple the number of methadone clinics in France.

France has more AIDS cases than any Western European nation, and its drug addicts are among the worst-hit group. More than 200,000 French have HIV, and the number of intravenous drug addicts is estimated at 150,000.

Health Minister Simone Veil, who announced the \$13 million package on July 21, said 25 percent to 30 percent of France's heroin addicts had been infected with HIV by using unclean needles.

State-subsidized prevention kits containing clean syringes, disinfectant pads, sterile

water and a condom will be sold starting Sept. 15 at pharmacies across France for 5 francs, less than a dollar.

France has lagged far behind its neighbors in establishing methadone clinics to treat heroine addicts, with only 53 existing throughout France when the conservatives took power in April 1993.

Veil said there are now nearly 500 clinics, and she announced that more than \$5 million would be allocated to operate a total of 1,645 clinics by the end of this year.

"The best AIDS prevention for a drug addict is to stop using drugs," Veil said. "But we must take measures for those who aren't yet ready to stop."

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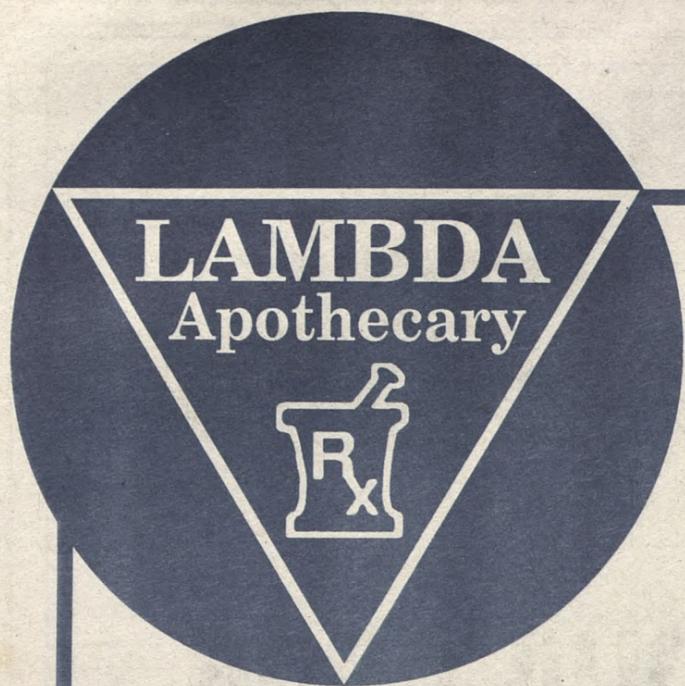


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Tony Award-winning actor Stephen Spinella of "Angels in America" (far left) with GLAAD officials Donald Suggs, Lee Werbel, Peggy Brady, Ellen Carton, and Donna Red Wing.

GLAAD merges NY, LA chapters

Anti-defamation group to launch aggressive chapter expansion

Moving to address what it calls "new challenges in the post-post-Stonewall era," the Gay and Lesbian Alliance Against Defamation (GLAAD) is establishing a new national organization that encompasses all of its local chapters and includes a formal merger of its two largest chapters, Los Angeles and New York. Founded in 1985, GLAAD fights for fair, accurate, and inclusive representation of gay and lesbian lives in the media and entertainment industries.

"We're in a time of incredible change for gay men and lesbians," said Lee Werbel, executive director of the former GLAAD/LA, "and that warrants a strong, unified voice to address new goals and new challenges. Until now, GLAAD has been a loose confederation of local chapters.

The new group will launch an aggressive national chapter expansion, said Ellen Carton, executive director of the former GLAAD/NY. Its first field office for organizing new local chapters will be headquartered in Portland, OR, headed by activist Donna Red Wing. The group expects to form 18 to 24 additional local chapters within the next year. GLAAD is the first national grassroots gay and lesbian organization with local chapters across the country.

GLAAD will maintain headquarters in both

Los Angeles and New York, explained Carton. "A presence is essential in New York, the nation's media capital, and Los Angeles, the entertainment capital," said Carton. Before the merger, both chapters had operated as individual entities.

In addition to New York and Los Angeles, GLAAD currently has chapters in eight major cities: Atlanta, Chicago, Dallas, Denver, Kansas City, the D.C. area, San Diego, and the San Francisco Bay area. Each chapter will have at least one seat on the national board.

"This change will affect the local chapter significantly," said Carl Lange of GLAAD Atlanta. "It will give us increased support financially, technically, and in many other ways from a national entity. It will augment our ability to speak out with a national voice on things that are occurring locally, such as the situation in Cobb County."

Moreover, Lange said, the new national group will enable GLAAD Atlanta to lend its resources to outpost programs. "The outpost programs are in areas that do not have their own chapter," Lange explained. "For example, Macon, GA, will now have an outpost that will work with Atlanta, and the national organization will be able to provide the resources to help make this happen."

The first national GLAAD board of directors will meet in September 1994 in Dallas. It will begin the process of selecting a new national executive director, adopting a national budget, setting national priorities and projects, continuing strategic planning, and addressing fundraising for an estimated annual budget of \$1.5 million.

Episcopal sexuality statement finds God in gay relationships

New York—The nation's Episcopal bishops are discouraging the ordination of homosexuals even as they declare that God is present in same-sex relationships. In the final draft of a pastoral letter obtained July 26 by the Associated Press, spiritual leaders of the 2.5 million-member denomination recommended that ordinations follow church teachings, suggesting a moratorium on the ordination of gays.

The church has said it is not appropriate to ordain practicing homosexuals. But in recent years several bishops have ordained homosexuals anyway, either publicly or quietly.

At the same time that it bars ordaining homosexuals, the proposed statement urges church members to welcome homosexuals. It declares that the love, caring, commitment and spirituality found in heterosexual relationships can be found in gay relationships as well.

"As it can be for heterosexual persons, the experience of steadfast love can be for homosexual persons an experience of God," says the bishops' statement.

The Episcopal Church's legislative body has declared that homosexuals are children of God with full and equal claims upon the church, and that physical sexual expression is appropriate only within the lifelong, monogamous union of husband and wife.

While the draft document does not go as far as the church's gay-rights advocates would like, it may broaden the perspective of many church members, said Bishop Frederick Borsch of Los Angeles.

"For some people on the conservative side, it is going to open up some doors and possibilities that they don't want opened," he said.

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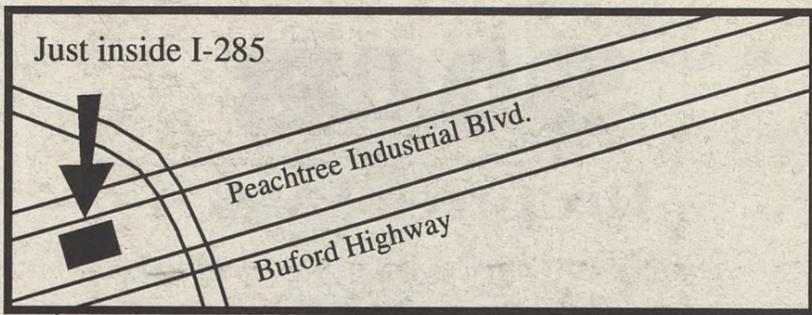
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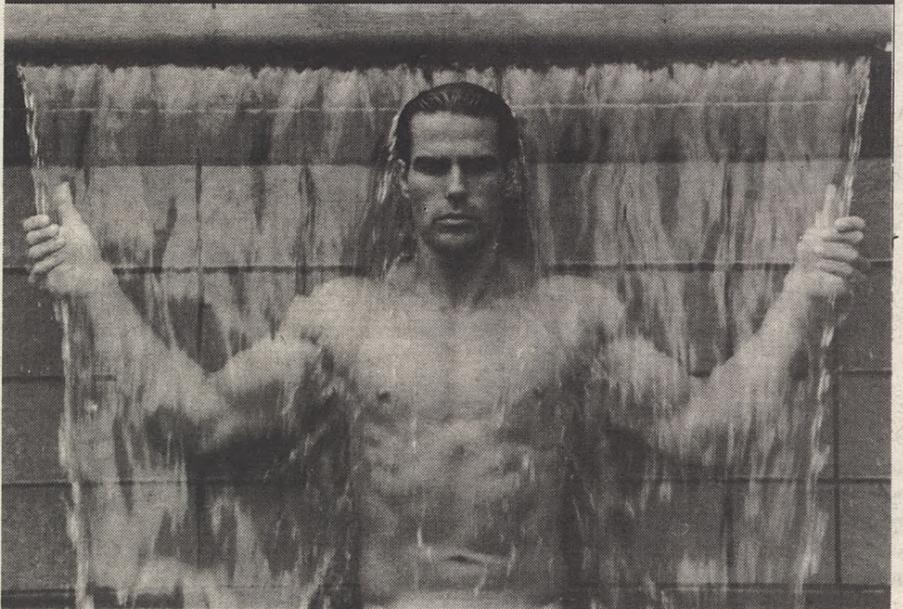
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Tyranny and technology

The radical right operates a slick, well-funded information machine, and gay rights groups are scrambling to catch up

by PHILIP K. CAMPBELL

In the Information Age, there is a new formula governing the public-policy debate: Information plus technology equals power.

"There is no more 'silent majority' in American politics," says Brendan Daily, press secretary for Rep. Gerry Studds (D-Mass.). "If you want your voice heard, you have to shout."

The radical right has been doing a lot of shouting in the last few years. Melding information technology with a growing media empire is a key component in the right-wing jihad against gay men and lesbians in the United States.

Working with a potent mix of talk radio, narrow-cast cable broadcast, research institutes, newsletters and new information technologies, the radical right is creating an information juggernaut that gives proof to the old axiom "perception is reality." If they are successful in framing and directing the public policy debate on gay rights, then they are one significant step closer to their political goal: the elimination of the cultural, political and social existence of gays and lesbians.

"There is a powerful communications and political empire dedicated to our elimination," says Sue Hyde, director of Fight the Right, a project of the National Gay and Lesbian Task Force (NGLTF). Hyde, a self-confessed technophobe, admits her technological expertise is limited, as are her resources. She says the fact that the radical right is able to outspend gay rights groups by tremendous ratios is discouraging. "It's very much a David-versus-Goliath scenario here," she says. "I guess the only consolation is that David won."

Hyde's organization, NGLTF, is the first gay and lesbian organization to host a section in the Gay and Lesbian Community Forum of America Online, one of the three major U.S. consumer online services. That forum, which permits political as well as personal postings, has been in operation since 1991, and NGLTF's section was added in 1993. Included in the forum are lists of AIDS services and information, directories of regional gay-support agencies and political associations. Reading through the postings offers a telling glimpse into the breadth and depth of America's gay community. You can read everything from ardent, thoughtful coming-out letters to urgent calls for assistance from states where anti-gay hate initiatives are scheduled. That type of unmediated communication is what makes electronic mail and other communication technologies so attractive to activists of all stripes.

Kay Wickre, a founder and co-chair of Digital Queers, explains, "The strength of electronic communications is that it allows one-to-one, one-to-many, and many-to-many conversations." Hence it is ideal for grassroots organizing, a strength not lost on the religious right.

In fact, Boardwatch magazine recently released figures showing that the two fastest-growing sectors in the bulletin-board (BBS) industry are adult boards and Christian lifestyle boards. Boardwatch estimates that there are between 50,000 and 60,000 BBSs currently in operation, and the Atlanta metropolitan area is a major growth area for bulletin boards because of its vast toll-free dialing area.

Knowing Your Enemy

Frank York and Phil Butler, both with Focus on the Family (FOF)—the best-funded of all the religious right groups—conducted workshops on the use of information and the deployment of information technology at the group's recent hush-hush gathering in Colorado Springs. Both York and Butler stressed the importance of "knowing your enemy" and of monitoring the growing number of gay-positive bulletin boards and news groups accessible through the Internet.

Focus on the Family itself runs five multi-address fax machines, according to Skipp Porteus at the Institute for First Amendment Studies. Porteus' group obtained tapes of the FOF forum as well as the documentation for several of the sessions and the list of attendees. These machines, combined with easily

available telecommunications software from MCI Communications or Sprint, allow groups like FOF to generate fax trees and broadcast faxes that can reach thousands of people at the touch of a button. The creation of fax trees to distribute the radical right's views to media outlets was only one of 33 ideas outlined at the conference. Interestingly, the group wanted to establish conferences, either annual or biannual, that would not permit press coverage.

Prohibiting outside mediation, either by impartial moderators or journalists, is a tendency the ultraconservatives share with more traditional hate groups as defined by Klanwatch.

The radical right's ability to effect instant communication was clearly demonstrated last year during the debacle over the lifting of the military ban on gays and, more recently, during debate of the Education 2000 bill. Combined with sophisticated phone-switching software that allowed telemarketers to call people and then connect that call to a third party, usually an elected official, the radical right was able to inundate Congress with phone calls and faxes on a scale and response that stunned many Capitol Hill veterans, according to Phil Attey, a communications technology specialist with the Human Rights Campaign Fund (HRCF).

"Not even the traditional grassroots lobbies like the National Rifle Association or American Association of Retired Persons ever produced a response like that," admits Attey, who says it left a lot of people stunned.

Gay Groups Catching Up

Both the HRCF and the NGLTF are employing new information technology as quickly

as funds allow. The combined budget for both organizations is close to \$10 million, according to NGLTF spokesperson David Smith. FOF, in comparison, employs an estimated 1,200 people, with annual operating budget of \$150 million, according to information compiled by the Institute for First Amendment Studies. "Those are significant ratios," concedes Attey.

One of the more effective programs, says HRCF spokesperson Douglas Hattaway, is Speak Out America. That program allows a contributor to pay for a select number of messages to elected officials that can be stored and later electronically generated as letters with the contributor's name and address.

"During recent debate over language on sexual orientation in health care reform legislation, we were able to generate over 1,300 pieces of mail in a matter of hours during the actual committee debate," says Hattaway. At issue was an amendment introduced by Sen. Nancy Kassebaum (R-Kan.) that would have deleted the provision. Hattaway said he believes the Speak Out-generated letters helped sway committee members to defeat that particular amendment.

But even with the growing sophistication of homophile groups and the proliferation of gay-positive bulletin board systems (many of which Attey says are "little more than rest stops on the information superhighway"), many activists can't help but feel overwhelmed.

"There is definitely a technology war taking place, and the Left is losing," says Dana Blankenhorn, a veteran online jockey. Blankenhorn, who writes on telecommunications and information technology, says parties

CONTINUED ON PAGE 18

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Tyranny and technology

Continued from page 17

out of power have traditionally invested large sums of money in new technologies to try and facilitate their return to power.

The Rise of the Right

After losses in 1964 and 1976, GOP officials and supporters regrouped to devise strategies for getting their message across. Conservative activists set about creating think tanks and public policy institutes that would develop studies to buttress their free-market ideology. That information infrastructure, in turn, permitted conservatives to shift their focus from economic issues to social issues during the

late 1970s.

For more than a decade following Barry Goldwater's failed bid for the presidency in 1964, the think tanks proved a fertile breeding ground for the neocon philosophies that helped elect Ronald Reagan in 1980. Reagan's 1980 campaign was supported by both country-club Republicans and fundamentalists energized by televangelists and direct-mail gurus.

One of the leading figures in the Reagan campaign was direct-mail maven Richard Vigurie. His use of database filters to create effective, highly targeted political mailings—the same tactics used by consumer product companies to launch new and improved detergents, soaps and cereals—eventually made its way to televangelists as a successful tool to help fuel their legendary desire for cash donations. Vigurie and Jerry Falwell have a long-standing relationship. With the advent of the personal computer revolution, circa 1981, the technology for assembling, managing and manipulating reams and reams of data on voters became even more affordable.

The 1988 campaign set the stage for the third wave, which became clear after the election of Bill Clinton in November of 1992. The religious ideologues rallied by Pat Robertson's abortive run for the Republican nomination coalesced into the Christian Coalition, which now has a reported membership of almost 2 million.

Hate Hits the Airwaves

In addition to the growing proliferation of radical right BBSS, the evangelical crowd enjoys an unheard of access to the nation's airwaves. And even with the proliferation of "God TV" on cable systems nationwide, ultra-conservatives are planning the expansion of another cable channel, National Empowerment Television (NET).

National Empowerment Television, dubbed the crypto-facit network by one angry cable industry executive, is an additional worry, Attey says. Organized by Paul Weyrich, one of the original neocon voices in the Reagan Administration, NET is positioned as a cable

channel for Rush Limbaugh fans. Attey worries that the radical right's ability to rapidly disseminate information to relatively vast cable audiences will go unanswered by equal rights advocates.

The potential influence of NET on the public policy debate can be extrapolated from the current impact of conservative talk radio. Between 70 and 80 percent of the some 3,000 plus radio talks shows can be considered conservative, according to a recent article in *The Village Voice*.

Hyde says that when the public is presented with the truth about gay and lesbian lives, the debate on equal right shifts in favor of gay people. She notes that the groups opposing Washington State's anti-gay initiatives (I-608 and I-610), used squads of truth-busters to combat petition organizers.

"People would show up wherever they were gathering signatures and tell them: 'I'm a lesbian and I can be fired,'" Hyde says. "This was evidently very effective, since the Washington group is now suing for harassment."

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Naval officer discharged for admitting he is gay

Norfolk, VA—It came as a relief to a Navy squadron commander when the skipper of the attack submarine USS Hammerhead told him the night of Jan. 21, 1993, that one of the sub's officers had admitted being gay.

"He said he was glad it was finally out in the open, that we knew who it was," said Cmdr. Karl Hasslinger, captain of the USS Hammerhead.

Hasslinger listened as Lt. j.g. Dirk Selland, from Salisbury, Md., disclosed he was gay the night after President Clinton took office pledging to lift the military's ban on gay men and lesbians.

Hasslinger recalled the incident before a Navy panel that recommended July 13 that Selland be discharged for homosexual conduct.

During a recess in Selland's case, a crewman from another submarine came past the building where the hearing was held and began talking to reporters.

The sailor, whose name and boat won't be revealed, said he was not troubled about sharing the cramped quarters of a sub with gays, a common circumstance.

"Everybody knows who they are, and it doesn't bother most of us," he said. "But I know it bothers some people."

As he spoke, a Navy public affairs officer walked over. "Let me give you some advice," Beth Baker, a Norfolk Naval Base spokeswoman, told the sailor. "If you want to talk to the press, go through your chain of command."

"Yes ma'am," he said.

At the hearing, Hasslinger sounded as if he hadn't expected the "commodore"—the title carried by submarine squadron commanders—to know before his call that there was a gay man in the squadron.

But the squadron commander had learned of the situation earlier from a chaplain without being told the sailor's identity, the skipper said.

Selland said he had confided in a chaplain for several months about growing worries over his sexuality and his concern about an anti-gay atmosphere aboard the sub.

Selland, the 123-man Hammerhead's supply officer, said he often was the target of teasing by other crewmen who suspected he is gay. He finally requested a private meeting with Hasslinger, which the chaplain also attended.

It was the chaplain who suggested that the Jan. 20, 1993, inauguration of President Clinton with his pledge to accept gays in the armed forces might be the time for him to talk to the skipper, Selland said.

But it was not clear at the hearing whether the chaplain, whose name was never mentioned, intended for Selland to fully disclose his sexuality or merely ask the skipper to halt the teasing.

Hasslinger said the meeting lasted at least an hour. He said he didn't understand at first that Selland was trying to tell him he was gay, so the chaplain did it for him.

On July 13, a three-member board of inquiry said Selland should receive an honorable discharge. The unanimous panel said Selland's admission and a remark that he was in a "monogamous relationship" amounted to homosexual conduct.

Afterwards, Selland said he found it interesting that his squadron commander knew well before his disclosure that something was up. He also said he wouldn't have admitted his sexual orientation to Hasslinger if he hadn't believed that Clinton's promise would be

implemented.

Since his disclosure, Selland has been moved from submarine duty to a desk job at the Atlantic Fleet supply center.

Lt. J.D. Secor, the government attorney at Selland's hearing, said Selland took a risk he didn't have to take by coming out and that his desire for Hasslinger to keep his secret was naive. A Navy commander can't keep a violation of policy under his hat, Secor said.

Toni Iannielli, one of Selland's attorneys, said her client's case will eventually wind up in federal court after several military reviews end with a determination by Navy Secretary John Dalton.

She said the Pentagon's new "don't ask, don't tell" policy on lesbians and gay men is unconstitutional. Commanders may not ask if someone is gay, but volunteering the information can result in dismissal.

The board of three Navy captains that heard Selland's case was biased, she claimed, because one of its members, Capt. Dale J. Feltes, admitted prior to the proceeding that he would have trouble serving with a gay officer.

Feltes said he believes homosexuality is a



Lt. Dirk Selland told his superior officer he is gay the day after President Clinton took office, believing Clinton's vow to end the ban on gays in the military.

handicap to effective leadership. "I'd have difficulty serving with someone who, for whatever reason, is not an effective naval officer," he said.

But Feltes also said he wouldn't let his personal views interfere with applying Navy policy, and the board's legal adviser, Lt. Cmdr. B.J. Bill, denied a request by Selland's lawyer to remove Feltes from the board.

"I'm a naval officer," Feltes said. "I'm used to putting my personal opinions aside."

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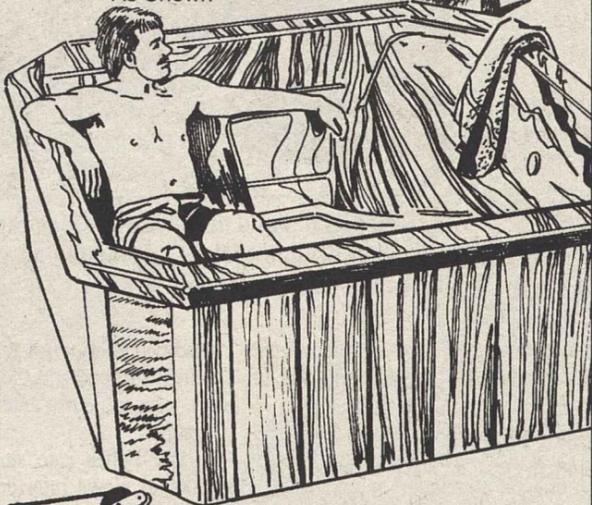
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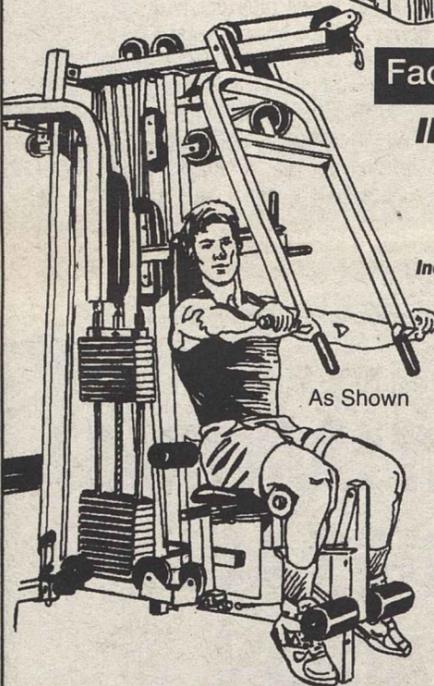
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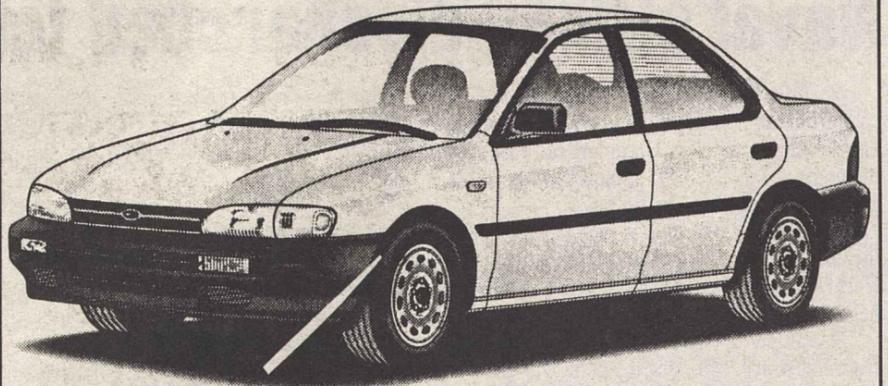


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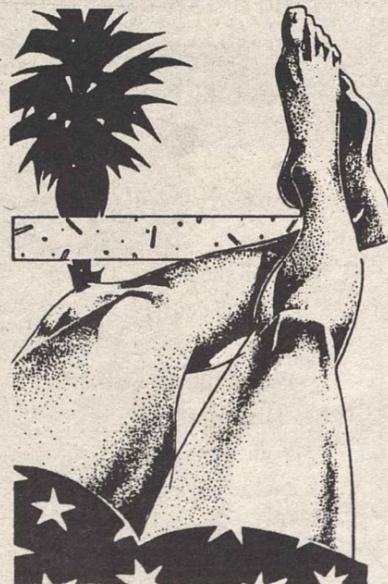
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Local writer gets "The Word" out

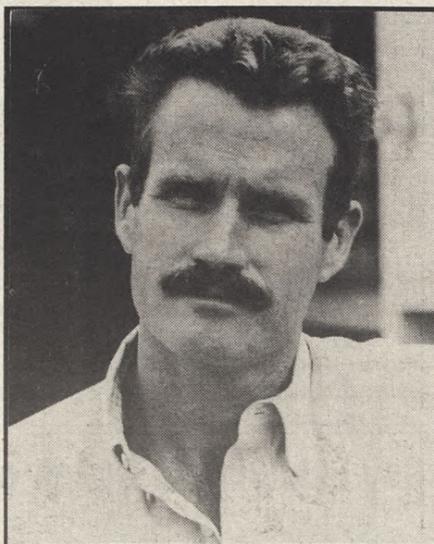
Years ago, Chris Glaser was "called" to be a minister. Even as a teenager, Glaser felt that he was being summoned to that work, and he faithfully accepted where he was being led. What was not clear to him at the time, though, was that Glaser's calling would lead him to minister to the gay and lesbian community.

Today, Atlanta resident Glaser is about to publish his fourth book, "The Word Is Out: The Bible Reclaimed for Lesbians and Gay Men," and he is doing what he has been doing since he accepted his own homosexuality: encouraging the gay and lesbian community to explore their spiritual selves no matter how they go about doing it.

"Some of us believed when young that if we said the right words in prayer, God would change us, make us like everyone else," writes Glaser in his new book. "It didn't happen, and some of us lost faith in God, angry that God would create us and allow us to be outcast. Others of us changed the tune of our prayer, and prayed to integrate our faith and sexuality."

As the title of his book reflects, Glaser believes he must get "the word" out to the many gay and lesbians who may wish to rekindle the faith they were raised on but who, like himself, may be uncomfortable with the religion of their families.

Glaser feels he was fortunate to have realized his incompatibility with the Baptist faith early on, although telling his parents he had joined the Presbyterian church was almost as traumatic as when he told them he



Author Chris Glaser

was gay.

"They saw it as some sort of rejection of their own values," he recalls.

Glaser attended the Yale Divinity School, where he started a gay and lesbian Christian support group and was the first gay activist on campus. Since that time, he has spent 20 years helping people have dialogue about sexuality and spirituality.

A book of meditations, "The Word Is Out" allows readers to experience spirituality and the Bible in small doses on a daily basis. By combining the Christian calendar (for example, Advent/December) with the gay and lesbian calendar (Pride/June), Glaser manages to blend the traditions of religion

with the traditions of who we are in today's world.

Glaser believes people who are exposed to the Bible can begin to see past the interpretations of the radical right. "We are trying to reach the majority," Glaser says. "Every time we read the Bible we are interpreting the scriptures. Interpretations need to be checked out by our community. We need to ask the religious community to change their interpretations."

Chris Glaser will be at Outwrite Books August 7 at 7:30 p.m. to read and sign "The Word Is Out."

Armory Falcons Win Georgia Games

Atlanta, GA—The Armory Falcons, Atlanta Softball League's A Division (competitive) champions, won the one-day double elimination tournament of the Georgia Games V, a statewide amateur athletic competition held July 22-25. The Games, hosted by the Georgia State Games Commission, includes 32 sporting events as well as an opening ceremony, a "World of Sports" expo, a Sport Art exhibition, health fairs, and several other events. Men's softball hosted 14 teams from around the state, 13 of which were straight and one which was proudly gay.

Billy Looper, who encouraged the team to join the tournament, said, "We joined the tournament just to get some practice for Nash-

ville [for the NAGAAA World Series]. It felt really good to win the whole thing."

The Falcons lost their third game to the Stallions (Conyers), which put them in the loser's bracket, but when they won in that bracket they qualified for a two-game rematch against the Stallions. The Falcons defeated the Stallions in back-to-back games and won the gold medal. The Pikes (Rome) took the bronze.

Winning the Georgia Games qualifies the Falcons to compete in the National ASA (Amateur Softball Association) tournament to be held in Mobile, AL, over Labor Day weekend. "We will just be getting back from the World Series, and there is a gay tournament in Cincinnati, so I don't know if we will have enough guys to compete in Mobile," says Looper. "I would love to go if we can."

As Atlanta Softball League champions, the Falcons will be competing in the NAGAAA (North American Gay Amateur Athletic Alliance) World Series, which is being hosted by the Music City Softball Association in Nashville on August 16-20, 1994. Along with being HSL champs, the Falcons were the bronze medal winners at Gay Games IV in New York, came in second at the Birmingham Easter Tournament and second at the Armory Classic over Fourth of July weekend. The Falcons will be joined by two other Armory teams at the World Series, the Angels (B Division Champs) and the Armorettes (C Division Champs).

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ON PAGE 22

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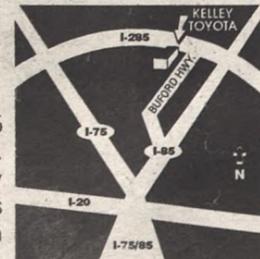
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Volunteers Sought for Research Studies

A University of Florida researcher is seeking volunteers to assist with two studies. Dr. Stuart E. Schwartz, professor of special education, needs special education teachers and people with disabilities who are gay, lesbian, or bisexual. Volunteers will complete a questionnaire regarding their educational experiences. Dr. Schwartz expects that the informa-

tion obtained through these studies will be valuable for special educational professionals by providing them with information about the needs of gay, lesbian, and bisexual disabled people. Those wishing to participate should write to Dr. Stuart Schwartz, Department of Special Education, G 315 Norman Hall, University of Florida, Gainesville, FL 32611.

ACT UP Anniversary Party/PWArty Time

AIDS Survival Project is celebrating ACT UP's sixth anniversary and Mona Love's 30th birthday with a wig-optional PWArty to be held Saturday, August 6, at the AIDS Survival Project offices, 44 12th Street, at 8:00 pm. In lieu of gifts for Mona, anyone wishing to bring

a gift may bring one for ACT UP, AIDS Survival Project, or the Atlanta Buyers Club; for wish list information call ACT UP at 874-6782, AIDS Survival Project at 874-7926, or Atlanta Buyers Club at 874-4845.

Gay Lobbyist to Speak at Bet Haverim

Congregation Bet Haverim will host gay lobbyist Larry Pellegrini at its veggie-dairy potluck Friday, August 12, at 7:30 pm. Pellegrini will speak in an after-dinner program, giving an update on the status of gay/

lesbian rights in Georgia and answer questions about local opportunities for activism. For more information on the event call Bet Haverim's information line at 642-3467

BWMT Hosts Pool Party and Potluck

The Atlanta chapter of Black and White Men Together invites BWMT members and friends to the group's annual August pool party and potluck Saturday, August 6, at 4:00 pm.

Admission is \$3 for members and \$5 for non-members. Everyone is asked to bring an entree or dessert item for the poolside meal. Call 892-BWMT for location and further details.

Open House at AID Atlanta

AID Atlanta will hold its next Open House Thursday, August 18, at AID Atlanta's offices, 1438 W. Peachtree St., Suite 100. Beginning at 5:30 pm, volunteers and staff from the agency's various programs will be on hand

to answer questions and to discuss volunteer opportunities with the agency. The Open House will include a tour of the offices and an introduction to program representatives. For more information call 872-0600.

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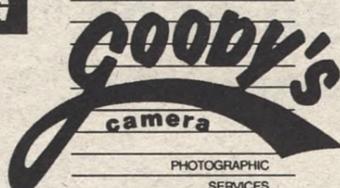


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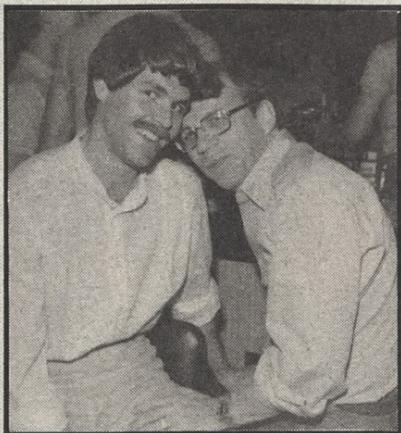
ANNIVERSARIES

A warm congrats to Frank Scheuren and Ken Bond, owners of Milano Pizza and Subs, who are celebrating their 15th anniversary on Aug. 4.

Philip Thomas and John Gandy announce their one year anniversary—a full and wonderful relationship together—on Aug. 6.

Sandy and Donna celebrate their 1st anniversary, also on Aug. 4.

Mona Love turns 30 on National Mustard Day, Aug. 5. Come to her Birthday Party/ACT UP Atlanta Anniversary PWarty on Sat., Aug. 6 at the AIDS Survival Project.



Ken Bond and Frank Scheuren, shown here in the early years of the relationship, celebrate 15 years on Aug. 4.

BIRTHDAYS

Atlanta artist Michael Venezia celebrated his 40th birthday on July 27. Best wishes to Michael from Fred Hughes and all his Atlanta friends.

Happy birthday to Jeff Meeks, who turns 25 on Aug. 8.

Happy birthday to my favorite sister (real sister, that is), Shirley du Pont on Aug 10, from "your little brother."

Happy 36th birthday to Stan Neal on Aug. 10.

A very happy 40th birthday to Cathy Case on Aug. 5.

SoVo Editor Chris Cash hits (slams into, she says) 44 on August 10. To soften the blow she's spending a few weeks at the beach with partner Leigh VanderEls, son Chase, and good friend John Kappers.

EMPLOYMENT

Bob McNeir celebrates 8 years with the Atlanta Journal-Constitution payroll department. He has been openly gay on the job for the whole 8 years, and is proud of that fact—and that this is the longest time he's had on one job.

SCHOOLING

Congratulations to Jamie Davis on his recent acceptance to the doctoral program in Romance Languages at the University of Georgia.

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OUT & ABOUT

THE ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT GUIDE OF SOUTHERN VOICE

Comic Relief

by ADAM J. SANK

Scott Kennedy is talking about the New Mexico Military Institute, where he was enrolled—and from which he was expelled—as a teen. “It was definitely the best sex I ever had,” he deadpans. “Looking back on it now, there were probably only one or two other guys who were gay. The rest were just experimenting or whatever. The thing is, I remember there was this one kid everyone picked on—I guess he was kind of effeminate. And I remember me and the other cool guys would be messing around in a room blowing each other and then walk out and they’d call this guy a fag. I’d be like ‘What?! What did we just do?’”

Now 29 and definitely out, Kennedy and his lover, Kevin Maye, make up the Gay Comedy Freedom Jam Tour, which comes to Atlanta for one night only, August 8. Joining them for the Atlanta engagement is local lesbian comic Suzanne Abbott.

Kennedy has a deep appreciation for the ironies of his youth. Born in Albuquerque, NM, and raised in Lubbock, TX, Kennedy now resides in Houston near, but not in the same home as, Maye (“In straight terms, we’re engaged,” he quips.) Growing up, Kennedy recalls, he was a popular kid who hid his difference from his peers by keeping them constantly entertained, telling jokes and repeating segments from the previous night’s “Saturday Night Live” verbatim.

Adolescent ironies aside, however, the adult Kennedy and Maye make something of an odd couple. Kennedy is physically large, easy-going, and extremely earnest. Maye, 30, is slight, more reserved, and chooses his words carefully. “I knew as a child that I wanted to be some kind of entertainer,” says Maye, born in Kansas City, Mo., the youngest of seven children and the only boy. “But what drew me away from it was the instability. Being a comedian is not a legitimate profession in the eyes of most people. And that was sort of pounded in my head from the way I was raised.”

That pounding took place in perhaps the most repressive of all institutions, Catholic school, which Maye attended for most of his secondary education. “Humor is not encouraged in that environment,” he says, “and I knew I had to express myself in more flamboyant ways than the other kids, because I felt different. So I would say things that would make the other kids say, ‘I can’t believe he just said that.’”

After coming out at 17, Maye graduated from high school and got a job with a major oil and gas company, which eventually paid for his education at the University of Houston. “I spent 12 years in corporate America before realizing that this was not what I wanted to do for the next thirty years,” he says. So he started appearing at amateur nights at local Houston comedy clubs, which eventually brought him bookings, financial stability, and a new career. And then, in 1992, he met Kennedy—who himself had recently quit his job selling Porsches for his father’s dealership to pursue comedy.

A tentative courtship followed, after which the two became lovers. In mid-1993 the men began discussing the idea of collaborating professionally as well, and in February of ’94 the Gay Comedy Jam Freedom Tour was born. Since then

Scott Kennedy and Kevin Maye, Partners Onstage and Off, Bring the Gay Comedy Freedom Jam Tour to Atlanta

they have performed at comedy clubs worldwide as well as in Las Vegas showrooms alongside such stars as Garth Brooks, the Temptations, and Judy Tenuta.

Kennedy’s and Maye’s thoughts on touring together illustrate the two comedians’ different personalities. “It’s wonderful,” says Kennedy, “I get to see him all the time.” Maye says, “It’s difficult at times because I need a lot of time by myself, and Scott is a real people person. He needs to be around people all the time. So sometimes it gets to be too much togetherness. But all in all, it’s fine.”

Their styles of humor, they maintain, are different as well, and this is reflected in their acts. “I ad-lib a lot more with the audience,” says Kennedy, “like I’ll go up to the best-looking guy in the audience and ask him if he’s ever had sex with another man. When he insists he hasn’t, I’ll be like, ‘Really? Guess you’re not comfortable with something that happened in junior high, huh?’”

Maye, on the other hand, tells more jokes. “We call my mother Archie Bunker because she’s always getting words wrong,” one joke goes, “so she calls me up the other day and tells me two woman moved in across the street. They both have short hair, they both spend a lot of time doing yard work, and she never sees any men going in and out of their house. I say, ‘Mom, what’s the point?’ and she says, ‘Do you think they’re Lebanese?’”

It seems both men are comfortable with a mainstream “gays and lesbians are just like everyone else” approach to comedy. Maye claims to wax political in his act, yet when asked for an example, the joke he tells is, “Why would gays want to be in the military anyway? They only give you one



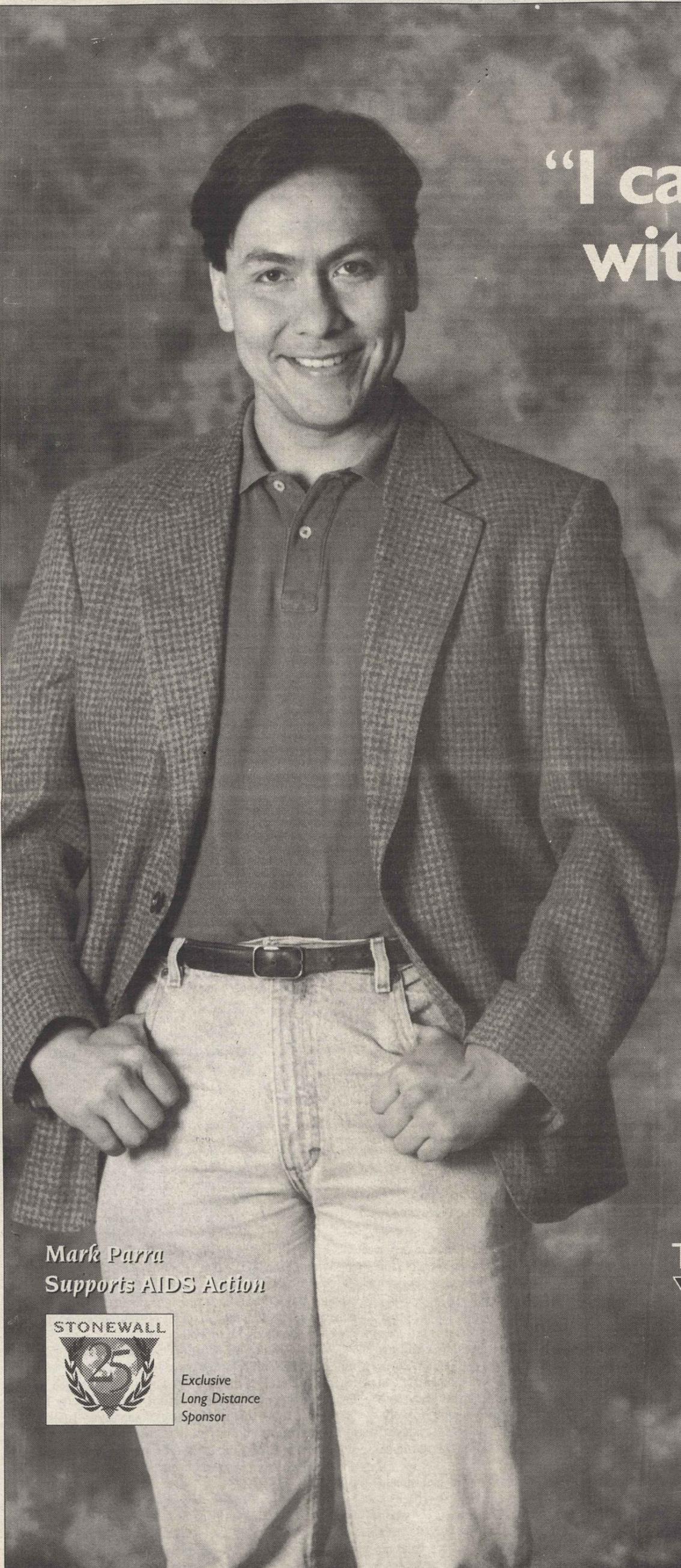
outfit!” Funny, but hardly biting political satire. Maye also says he and Kennedy dislike it when lesbian and gay comics exploit and exaggerate their sexual orientation to the point that they perpetuate stereotypes. “[Comic] Lea Delaria, for instance,” says Maye, “is so butch and coarse I think she turns most straight people off.”

In touring the country for their show, the two appear at comedy clubs, assisted by a different local lesbian comedian at each venue. “We like to have a lesbian M.C. and opener for our acts. It creates a more balanced show and gives it a wider appeal,” says Kennedy. The token lesbian, as it were, for the Atlanta show is Suzanne Abbott. Born

in Myrtle Beach, SC, and raised at Air Force bases throughout the country, the 29-year-old Abbott is excited about appearing with the Gay Comedy Jam. Brushing off suggestions of tokenism, she quips, “Having thousands of adoring fans hanging on my every word will make it all worth it.”

While working for a paramedical company, Abbott enrolled in “The Jeff Justice Comedy Workshop,” a course that teaches stand-up comedy. She has since appeared at the Punchline and as an opening act for comedian Jerry Farber. “My act is a big mixture of things,” she says. “I talk about topics ranging from my family to those wonderful commissioners out in Cobb County. But it’s important to me that I am perceived as a comedian who’s gay, not as a gay comedian.”

The Gay Comedy Jam Freedom Tour will appear in Atlanta one night only, August 8, at 8:00pm at the Punchline, 280 Hilderbrand Dr. Ticket price is \$10.00 for general admission. For advance ticket and show information, call 252-5233.



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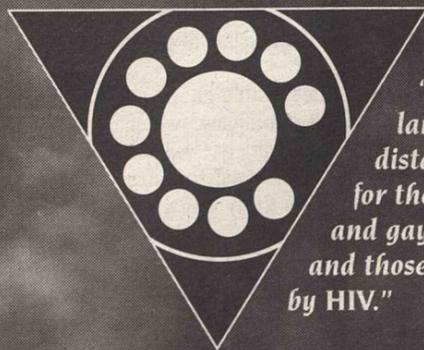
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OUT & ABOUT

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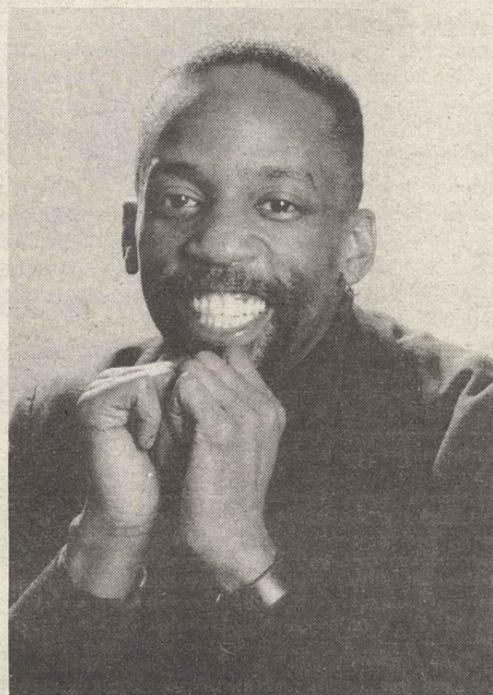
4 THURSDAY

POMO AFRO HOMOS. 8:30 & 10:30pm. African American and gay, this performance ensemble hits the Variety Playhouse as part of

NBAF. 1099 Euclid. \$12. 524-7354.

ESSEX HEMPHILL. 7:30pm. African American writer, poet and cultural activist at Outwrite. 931 Monroe. 607-0082.

GENDER AND DIFFERENCE: THE IMPACT OF



AUDRE LORDE. 9-noon. A panel discussion on Lorde's role-defining works on black lesbians, followed by "Healing and Spirituality: the Impact of Audre Lorde" from 1:30-4:30pm. Chastain Room, Renaissance Hotel. 730-7315.

DIVERGENT ILLUSIONS. Thru Sun. 8pm. A showcase production of a new play by David Davis, presented by Koalaty at OutProud Theatre. \$6.

SAPPHIRE AND HATTIE GOSSETT. 7:30pm. Sapphire, author of "American Dreams," and Harlem jazz poetry diva Hattie Gossett appear at Charis Books, courtesy of NBAF. 1189 Euclid. 524-0304.

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.

in Decatur hosts two acoustic acts in separate shows. \$3.

NBAF POETRY READING. 6-8pm. Amiri Baraka, Sonia Sanchez, Sapphire, Essex Hemphill, Kevin Powell and Haki Madhubuti read from their works at the Georgia Ballroom, Atlanta Renaissance Hotel. Free.

TORI AMOS. 8pm. The Under the Pink Tour hits Symphony Hall with guest Bill Miller. 249-6400.

DOUGLAS SIMONSON. 7:30-8:30pm. Hawaii-based artist known for his male nudes signs copies of his books at Outwrite. Tomorrow, Simonson presents a showing of recent works at Better Bodies from 6-9pm. 892-2288.

GO FISH. Thru Aug. 11. The hit and hip lesbian film shows at the Capri Theatre in Montgomery, Alabama. (205) 262-4858.

RICKY VAN SHELTON. 8:30pm. Country Chastain on a hot August night. \$16-\$38. 892-2414.

ALLAN GURGANUS. 8:15pm. Openly gay writer, author of "Oldest Living Confederate Widow Tells All," reads from his work at Kennesaw State College, Rm 102 of the Humanities Bldg. Free. 423-6297.

5 FRIDAY

LINDA & LISA AND RACHE ALPERT. 9 & 10:30pm. The Freight Room

Michael C. Carlos Museum at Emory. 727-4282.

ART IN MOTION. Thru Aug 25. An exhibit honoring athletic excellence at the Richards & Westbrook Gallery in the GA Tech Theatre for the Arts.

PICNIC. Thru Aug 28. Actors Express presents William Inge's tale of the sexual awakening of a 17-year-old girl trapped in the stifling social world of a tiny Kansas town. 887 W. Marietta St. Thru-Sat 8pm, Sun 7pm. \$12-15. 221-0831.

EQUAL RIGHTS AND JUSTICE. Thru Aug. 28. The High Museum marks the 30th anniversary of the Civil Rights Act with this tribute to Atlanta's role in the 60s struggle. Multiple artists, multiple arts. 892-HIGH.

AFRICAN AMERICAN WORKS ON PAPER. Thru Aug 31. 68 African American artists are on exhibit at the Marietta/Cobb Museum of Art. 424-8142.

INTERNATIONAL SUMMER PUPPETRY FESTIVAL. Thru Sept. 3. The Center for Puppetry Arts hosts the summer long festival with performances for adults and children. Aug 1-6, "The Frog Prince & Other Tales" for children (11am & 1pm Mon-Sat, 3pm Wed). 1404 Spring St. 873-3391.

PSYCHOLOGY. Thru Sept. 6. Fernbank Museum of Natural History's exhibit about who we are, what we think and why. 767 Clifton. 370-0960.

MY POINT OF VIEW. Thru Oct. 1. Photographs by African American photojournalist Moneta Sleet, Jr. at the High Museum of Art, Folk Art and Photography in the GA Pacific Center. 898-9286.

AFFAIR TO DISMEMBER.

Thru Nov. 2. Agatha's A Taste of Mystery dinner theatre sets sail on the Love Boat gone mad. \$33-\$38, includes dinner. Tues-Sat 7:30, Sun 7pm. 693 Peachtree. 875-1610.

PUPPETRY OF AFRICAN DESCENT. Thru Dec 17. A special exhibit showcasing the works of African-American puppeteers. Center for Puppetry Arts, 1404 Spring. 873-3089.

HOTLANTA RIVER EXPO '94. Aug. 11-14. This year's theme is "Watercolours" and the race down the river is on Saturday instead of Sunday. Watch SoVo each week for more details

HELLO, DOLLY! Aug 16-21. Carol Channing is back where she belongs as matchmaker extraordinaire Dolly Levi. The Atlanta Broadway Series brings the show to the Fox. Tues-Sat 8pm, Sat 2pm; Sun 2pm & 7:30pm. \$10-\$37.50. 817-8700.

ANGELS IN AMERICA—MILLENNIUM APPROACHES. Aug 28. A benefit performance for AIDS Survival Project, Jerusalem House and Project Open Hand, sponsored by Southern Voice. The Pulitzer Prize winning play opens at the Alliance Aug 31. \$25-\$100. 892-1414.

RHYTHMFEST. Sept 1-5. The fifth annual fest hits the Blue Ridge Mountains Labor Day weekend. Write 957 N. Highland Ave. NE, Atlanta, GA 30306 or call 404 873-1551.

HARRY CONNICK, JR. Sept. 10, 8pm. The crooner himself at Lakewood. 249-6400.

BONNIE RAITT. Oct. 22, 8pm. Bruce Hornsby opens for the R&B great at Lakewood. \$17 & \$26. 249-6400.

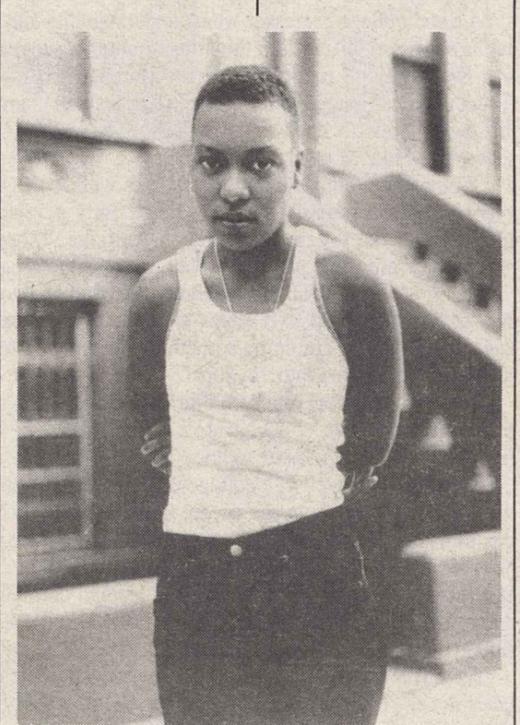
BABY WITH THE BATHWATER. Thru Aug 20. DramaTech presents Christopher Durang's disturbingly funny look at parenting, sex and neuroses. Thru-Sat at the Theatre for the Arts Complex. 894-2745.

6 SATURDAY

ME'SHELL NDEGECELLO. 8pm. Lesbian hip hop performer opens for former Sting percussionist Vinx at the Roxy in Buckhead. \$18.

NANCY WILSON. 8:30pm. NBAF presents the jazzy diva in concert with the Atlanta Symphony at Chastain Park. \$16-38. 892-2414.

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



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.

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.

7 SUNDAY

CHRIS GLASER. 7:30pm. Atlanta resident and author of "Uncommon Calling" and "Coming Out to God" reads and signs his works at Outwrite Books. 607-0082.

NBAF CLOSING CEREMONIES. 6pm. A final afternoon of music and fellowship at Piedmont Park. Free. 730-7315.

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.

8 MONDAY

GAY COMEDY FREEDOM JAM TOUR. 8pm. LoneStar Entertainment and The Punchline present Scott Kennedy and Kevin Maye in a two man stand up tour that is very very gay. \$10. 280 Hildebrand Dr. 252-5233.

OUT IN ATLANTA. Atlanta's local lesbian and gay cable program featuring

9 TUESDAY

GABRIEL QUARTET. 8pm. The final Helping Hands concert benefits the AIDS Survival Project. Unitarian Universalist Church, 1911 Cliff Valley Way. 634-5134.

MICHIGAN WOMEN'S MUSIC FESTIVAL. Thru Aug 14. Maybe there are tickets still available for the oldest and largest women's fest. 616-757-4766.

MAME. Thru Aug 14. Nancy Dussault stars in the title role. Fox Theatre. Tues-Sun 8pm, Sat & Sun 2pm. \$11.50-35.50. 249-6400.

10 WEDNESDAY

HARRIET LEIBOWITZ. A reception for the Atlanta based photographer and special showing of her male nudes at Outwrite. Proceeds from sales go to Olympics Out Of Cobb Coalition. 7:30 pm, 607-0082.

TONY BENNETT. 8:30pm. Seems everybody left their hearts in San Francisco. Tony tells why at Chastain, with the Atlanta Symphony. \$16-38. 892-2414.

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

PICTURED:

ABOVE: Me'Shell NdegeOcello performs at the Roxy on Aug 6. Photo by Melodie McDaniel

LEFT: Poet Essex Hemphill appears at Outwrite on Aug 4, and reads from his works at the NBAF poetry reading on Aug 5 at the Atlanta Renaissance Hotel. Photo by Patented Photos

BELOW: Akhbar Imhotep's "Jazzmen Meet the Rappers" plays at the Center for Puppetry Arts thru Sat. Photo by David Zeiber



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BESSIE'S BLUES. Thru Sat. Bernardine Mitchell returns as Bessie Smith in this reprise of Jomandi's 1993 hit, in conjunction with NBAF. Nightly at 8pm, plus Sat 3pm matinee. Alliance Mainstage. 249-6400.

JAZZMEN MEET THE RAPPERS. Thru Sat. Akbar Imhotep presents a musical tale of the beginnings of music, to New Orleans and the birth of jazz and on from there. The Center for Puppetry Arts. 8pm. \$7. 873-3391.

TIME IN A BATTLE. Thru Sat. The Shakespeare Tavern continues its run of the search for the Cosmic Cube. Fri & Sat 8pm, Sun 6pm. \$10. Food & beverage available 45 min before curtain. 499 Peachtree. 874-5299.

WHAT USE ARE FLOWERS? Thru Sat. The world premiere of Lorraine Hansberry's final play, part of NBAF. 14th St. Playhouse, 8pm. \$15.

WARAMBA. Thru Sat. An African performance piece by Ensemble Koteba D'Abidjan marks the opening night of Celebrate Africa!, the Cultural Olympiad's collaboration with the National Black Arts Festival. Alliance Theatre. 8pm. \$15. 249-6400.

NATIONAL BLACK ARTS FESTIVAL. Thru Sun. The biennial festival spreads performance and art across the city. For more NBAF info, call 730-7304.

DREAMGIRLS. Thru Sun. Jennifer Holliday reprises the role that made her a star in this Theater of the Stars production at the Fox. Tues-Sun 8pm; Sat & Sun 2pm. \$11.50-\$35.50. 881-2100.

MALCOLM X: MAN IDEAL ICON. Thru Sun. An exhibit detailing the life of the charismatic leader. Nexus Contemporary Art Center. 688-1970.

HAITIAN ART: A CELEBRATION OF ITS DIVERSITY. Thru Mon. The Haitian Art Foundation presents a timely exhibition at TULA, 75 Bennett St. 351-3551.

IMAGES IN SPORT. Thru Aug. 11. Photographs and sculpture capturing the excitement of amateur athletic competition on view at the Spruill Center Gallery and History Home, 5339 Chamblee Dunwoody Rd. 394-3447.

PRIMAL IMAGES/ UNIVERSAL REALITIES. Thru Aug 12. The works of five contemporary women artists are on display at Kennesaw State College in the Fine Arts Gallery. 499-3223.

TOOLS OF THE HUMAN FORM. Thru Aug 13. Sculptures and paintings by Atlanta artist Mark Allen Henderson at TULA. 352-5753.

CITY OF ANGELS. Thru Aug. 14. Hollywood vs. the Real World, entwined with a fictional detective story, in this musical by Larry Gelbart at Neighborhood Playhouse. \$10-\$16. Thur-Sat 8pm; Sun 2pm. 373-5311.

ONLY KIDDING. Thru Aug 21. Neighborhood Playhouse's Discovery Arena takes on a cabaret look for Jim Geoghan's wildly funny play five stand-up comedians aspiring to make it to the top. Thurs-Sat 8pm, Sun 7pm. 373-5311.

19TH AND 20TH CENTURY AFRICAN AMERICAN ART. Thru Aug 21. The Harmon and Harriet Kelley Collection opens at the

Novelist Anyda Marchant bridges the generations of lesbian life

A timid college professor wants understanding and love—and is surprised to find it in the arms of another woman. That was the terrifying reality in Anyda Marchant's first novel. (Pronounce her name Anita, please.) Her lesbian character in that book tends to keep parts of herself in reserve. In that sense, she's like Marchant herself.

"Some people don't know themselves well," says the 83-year-old lesbian romance writer, who recently published her 11th novel under the pen name Sarah Aldridge. "They don't realize there are some parts so private we must hold back.

"I don't agree with all this revelation you find on 'Donahue' and 'Oprah,'" she adds. "It seems to me that people exposing their private selves are doing something detrimental to themselves and turning us into voyeurs."

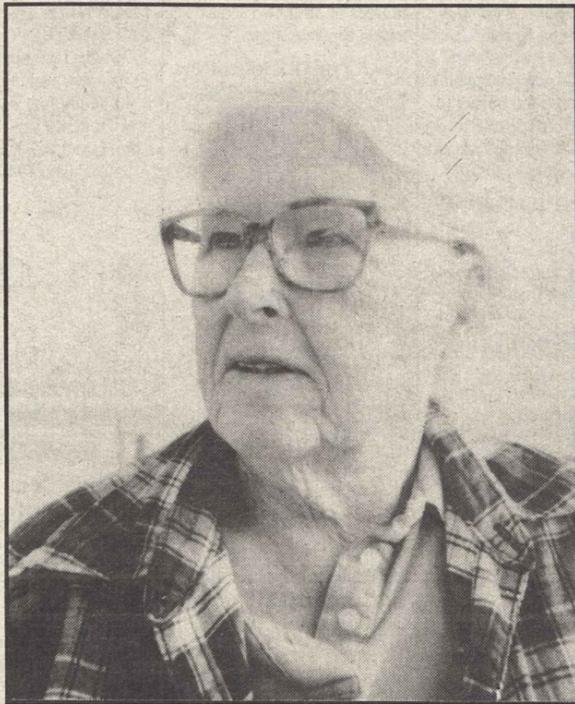
The gap between one's public and private selves is a theme in the novels of Delaware's grande dame of lesbian fiction. It's a theme in her life, too.

Marchant has lived in a cottage in Rehoboth Beach, Delaware, a few blocks from the ocean, for 29 years. For most of this time, her life with her partner, Muriel Crawford, has been private. But in the past few years that's begun to change. She's been celebrated by the gay and lesbian community in the resort town. Three years ago she was asked to cut the ribbon on the new Lambda Rising bookstore.

This May at the bookstore she autographed copies of her latest novel, "Michaela." Describing the event in the biweekly "Letters From Camp Rehoboth," editor Steve Elkins praised her as "a pioneer" in the writing and publishing of lesbian fiction. Journalist Andrea Peterson has called her books "perhaps the most substantive and enjoyable lesbian novels ever written."

"I'm very pleased with the response to my fiction," says Marchant, who compares her style with that of popular English author Barbara Pym. "One woman wrote from Australia to say that hearing my first novel read aloud was what gave her the motivation for learning to read."

Marchant took up writing novels in the early 1970s. Before that she had been a lawyer with the Law Library of Congress and the World Bank. She and Crawford moved to their summer house in Rehoboth full time when Marchant was diagnosed with a heart condition. The forced retirement turned



Novelist Anyda Marchant

out to be a boon. For years Marchant had written novels and thrown them away.

"I couldn't express my feelings adequately about love," she says. "I'd finish a novel and think this isn't what I wanted to say."

That changed in 1972. No longer inhibited and with the time to write, she found her voice.

So Marchant and Crawford—they've been together 45 years—founded Naiad Press, now based in Tallahassee, Fla., with Barbara Grier and Donna J. McBride. Marchant and Crawford have since left their involvement in Naiad operations, but the company (under Grier and McBride) continues to publish her books.

In 1972, there were very few presses solely devoted to lesbian writing. Naiad, the name for the Greek nymph of fountains, still publishes two books a month.

Naiad's first book was Marchant's "The Latecomers," so named because "the heroine comes late to a realization of who and what she is." Ironically, the word lesbian does not appear in the novel, though it does in her books today.

"For women from my generation, thinking about your sexual identity was like picking up a stone and seeing what was underneath," Marchant says. "It was scary. But we didn't talk that openly about it."

In her first novel, Marchant wanted to describe a woman's sexual and emotional awakening. She also wanted to contradict early lesbian fiction, like "The Well of Loneliness," published in 1928. That book ended tragically and painted lesbian feelings as unnatural.

"That's not my reality," Marchant says. "As a teen it dawned on me I would not fit into the pattern of women who married. And I was fortunate my parents never pressured me.

"They were very loving and I've never been uncomfortable with myself. What I've been uncomfortable with is being in a society where I don't quite seem to fit."

Other social issues are important in her writing, too. "A Flight of Angels" is set in Washington against the backdrop of the McCarthy witch hunt for communists. And in her latest novel, two middle-aged lesbians deal with the legacy of a philandering husband who dies of AIDS.

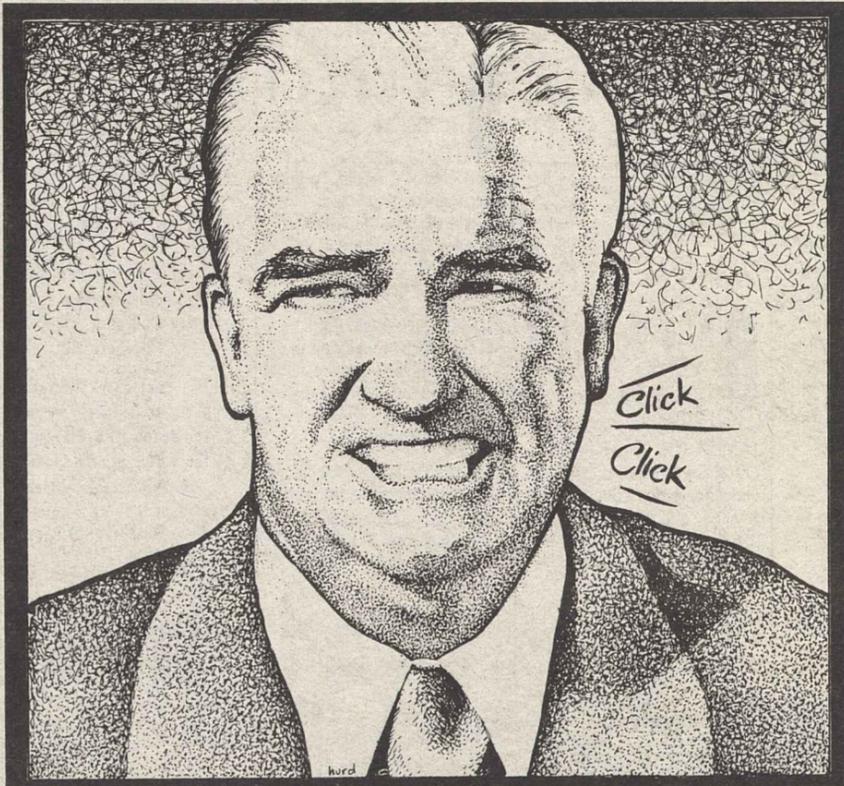
But the inner texture of feelings is her specialty. "I don't like clinical descriptions of sex," Marchant says. "The most erotic writing heightens sensation through implication rather than detail."

Marchant also writes about invisible women in conflict over how visible they want to be.

"All through my working life I had to be discreet," she says. "It was a question of responsibility to my profession and my employer." At first she applied that same discretion to her writing, taking a pen name that was a patchwork of family names.

Today, Marchant says, she is "not so concerned with what others think."

GARY SOULSMAN



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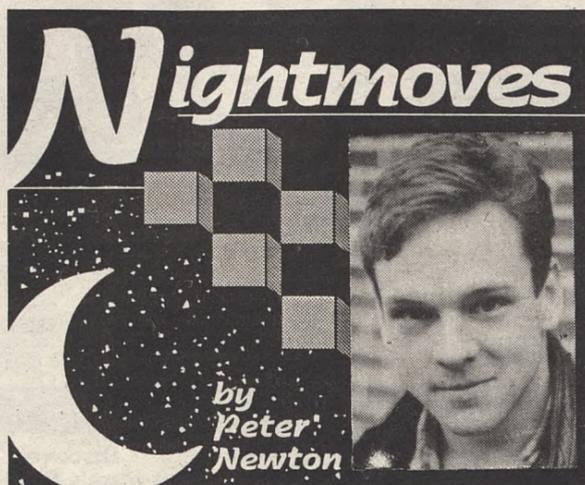
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According to the Harper's Index of Harper's Magazine the number of phrases spoken by Mattel's new Super Talk Barbie is 100,000. Since I read this pop-cultural tidbit I've been in awe of the power of computers, the human psyche and yes, the power of Barbie. I'm not sure I know 100,000 phrases. Now I won't be able to forget this Barbie fact, which appeared along with some 40 other factoids in the August issue of Harper's. The glorified version of Top Ten is for Intellectual Pop Trivia Nuts who keep an eye out for interesting but useless snippets to toss around at cocktail parties. Of course, I was killing time at an airport. I pass this information on as a public service announcement in the event that you find yourself at a cocktail party and the new Mattel Super Talk Barbie happens to appear.

But enough about her... Better than Barbie is the singer-songwriter **Tori Amos**, who is playing Symphony Hall this weekend as part of her "Under the Pink" tour. (Under the pink what?) She sounds a lot like Kate Bush, but better. How embarrassing that must be to have someone come along, imitate your style of singing (if only by coincidence) and then do it better than you. That's okay because Kate Bush hates to fly and doesn't get over to this side of the Atlantic much. There's plenty of room here for Tori Amos. Her voice is powerful but she's best with a backup. Friday and Saturday, August 5 and 6. 8 pm. Bill Miller opens.

Koolhiptunkystuff, Atlanta's premiere seriously casual art gallery, is having a sale. The summer heat slows everyone down—including art buyers—so the Good Samaritan Project is sponsoring Starving Artists' Exhibit and Sale, and it ends Sunday, August 7. There's plenty of nontraditional paintings, photography, ceramics, sculpture, jewelry and more to go around. Because I have struggled to this esteemed position as weekly columnist, Chris Parsons, the executive director of GSP, has agreed to delude me in my grandeur. Mention my name and they'll knock an additional 10% off the price of any item you choose. Now, that's clout.



As part of the National Black Arts Festival, noted author and cultural activist **Essex Hemphill** will be in Atlanta this week. In his most recent title, "Ceremonies," a collection of prose and poetry, Hemphill writes with force for his beliefs. Through the power of words he conveys his struggle to forge an identity, "My dreamscape is littered with effigies of my heroes" he writes in the long poem "Heavy Breathing." In the title story, "Ceremonies," Hemphill tells of being young, "ripe with curiosity and desire." The story is a testimony of survival, and though I am neither black nor was I raised in a ghetto, I know hope for humanity when I see it. Greet Mr. Hemphill at Outwrite Books Thursday, August 4. 7:30 pm.

Audre Lorde, the late African-American lesbian writer, is the focus of a panel discussion on black women. **Gender and Difference: The Impact of Audre Lorde**. Lorde, who died last year, is known as both a poet and novelist. 9:00 am in the Chastain Room of the Renaissance Hotel at 590 W. Peachtree St.

Dreamgirls is finishing up at the Fox Theatre this

week. Last day is August 7. "Mame" will be in town August 9-14. If you've seen both of these, head over to Urban Nirvana for the last week of its Utopia Exhibit, featuring the oil works of Mexican painter Esteban Silva. Silva is currently working on a massive mural for the Arts Exchange Building off Boulevard. The exhibit runs through Sunday, August 7. And in the words of the great Mexican poet Arturo Cordoba Just, "El artista es un fabricante de sus propias alas." Or "The artist creates his own wings." Good advice for the rest of us.

The multiculturally cool Atlanta band **Minority Rules** will be playing at The Point Tuesday, August 9 at 10:30 pm. The four-piece rock band—Blue, Brendan Davis, Tammy Hurt and Rich Burns—make pulsing, atmospheric sounds to rock any house.

A reception at Outwrite Bookstore & Coffeehouse will honor photographer **Harriet Leibowitz** Wednesday, August 10, at 7:30 pm. Leibowitz's photos of male nudes will be on display at Outwrite through the month of August; sales of them will benefit Olympics Out of Cobb Committee. What better reason do you need to hang a hunk on your wall?



Jennifer Holliday stars in Dreamgirls at the Fox Theatre through August 7.

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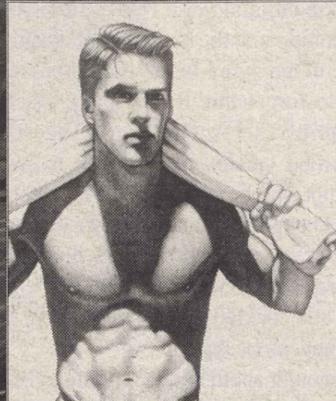
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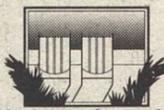
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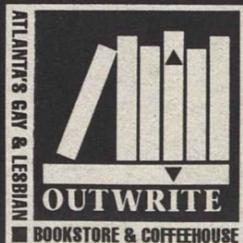
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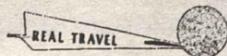
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"Picnic" is a mixed bag at Actor's Express

by MICHAEL KAPE

There is one brief moment when the sexual tension in the new Actor's Express production of "Picnic" gets turned up so high, the audience feels like voyeurs at a private seduction. The two young leads generate more heat at that moment than they do at any other time in the play. Unfortunately, it's too little and too late—another couple, a middle-aged pair, has already captured our attention and interest, so we don't really care that much about the younger one.

In its day, 1953, William Inge's "Picnic" was considered steamy stuff. Even the William Holden movie version was thought to be racy for its time. For us in 1994, though, this is tame. And "Picnic" is certainly an odd choice for Actor's Express to make as the debut production in its new facility at the King Plow Arts Center.

Director Chris Coleman has attempted to liven the play up by throwing in a bit of unusual casting. In the central role of Hal, the drifter who comes to a small Kansas town and disrupts everyone's lives, he has cast Cedric Pendleton, an African-American actor. Is the director trying to make a statement here about racism in 1950s rural America? Is he purposely employing color-blind casting (fairly common in Atlanta these days)? Unfortunately, we're never sure what Mr. Coleman's motives are.

If Coleman had hung his concept on a textual clue, it would be easier for us to accept. But the script fights Coleman every step of the way. In the script, we're told that Hal, a college football player, was roommate and fraternity brother to Alan (Hamilton Ray), the epitome of Kansas WASP mentality. Here is where the problems arise. Coleman has set this production in 1953, and all the visual clues—clothing, hairstyles, props—clearly indicate as much. Yet a year before *Brown v. Board of Education*, the idea that a college fraternity would admit (let alone welcome) a black member seems anachronistic at best. It's wishful thinking—revisionist history if

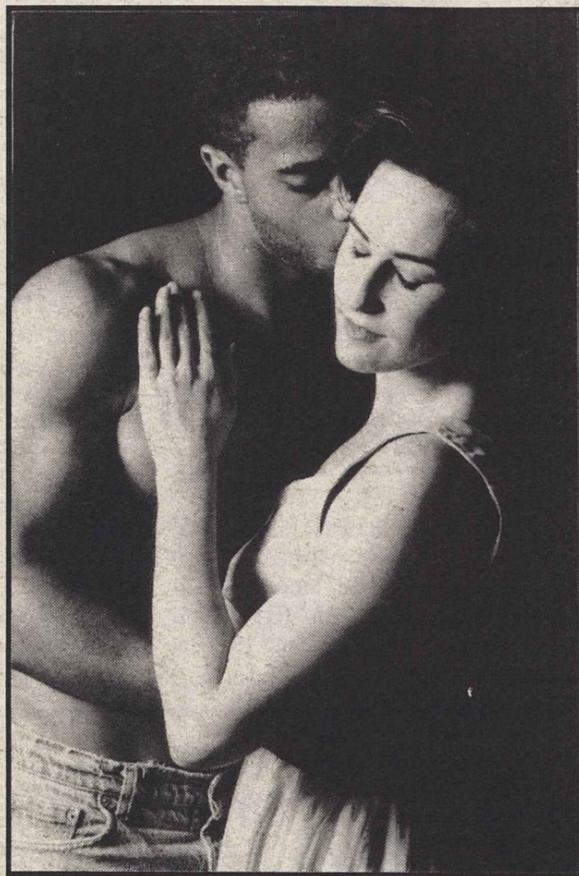
you will—on the part of the director to have us believe that Hal could swing into this small Kansas town and not be the object of racial discrimination. In Inge's script Hal is just a bit of a ruffian, a drifter, a hot man who likes to strut around with his shirt off. The question of race does not enter the equation.

As a result, Coleman keeps us guessing. Is Madge (Janine Cogelia) attracted to Hal because he's earthy and sensuous or because she's never seen a black man before? Is Millie (Aimee Shea), Madge's younger sister, enthralled by Hal's wit or enthused at the opportunity to be with someone different? Does Flo (Graciela Marin) instantly dislike Hal because he reminds her of her own wastrel husband (which is what Inge intended), or is she just a latent racist who hates Hal because he's black?

At no point does Coleman attempt to address the dilemma he's placed before the audience, relying instead on Inge to pull him through. The problem is that Inge gives him nothing to work with, and the results leave us confused.

"Picnic" is a play with several inherent traps, and Mr. Coleman has fallen into some of the biggest ones. The most dramatic scenes in the script do not go to young lovers Madge and Hal but to self-described "old maid schoolteacher" Rosemary (Kathi Welch) and shopkeeper Howard (Theo Harness), the middle-aged couple whose affair touches our hearts. Because Welch and Harness are so good, they take the focus of the play away from the young lovers. The other pitfall centers on the peripheral character of Millie, who is the playwright's voice (Inge was writing obliquely about his family) and has the best lines. As a result, the character dominates more than she should. This production's Millie is enjoyable, funny, and does her role well, but she throws the show off balance.

Indeed, the whole show seems a bit out of whack. At times it is inappropriately funny (a character makes a dramatic revelation, and the audience laughs); at other times, it moves at a



Cedric Pendleton and Janine Cogelia generate heat in William Inge's "Picnic"—but is it the kind the playwright intended?

snail's pace (especially during what should be the lushly romantic dance scene in Act 2). The scenery, lighting, costumes and hair styling are all first rate, and the show makes good use of the excellent new facility. It would have been terrific if Actor's Express had debuted the new theatre with a more sure-footed production, or perhaps a more appropriate play.

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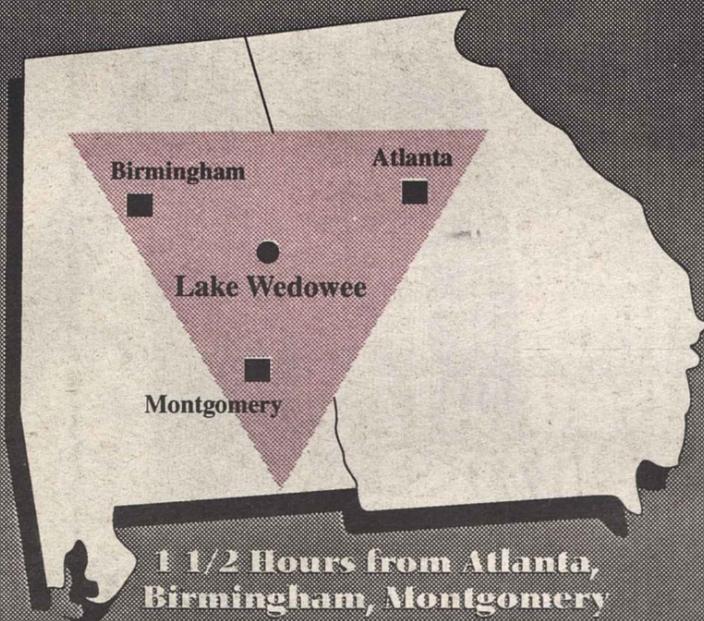
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Enough is never enough

k.d. lang shines with Andy Bell on new maxi-single

It would take a lot of balls to try and cover the 1979 Barbra Streisand-Donna Summer disco smash "No More Tears (Enough Is Enough)," so it is perfect that k.d. lang and Erasure's Andy Bell have stepped up to the challenge. lang and Bell sound positively ebullient on lang's new maxi-single "Lifted by Love" (Sire) as they belt out the campy lyrics with enough gusto to give the supreme divas themselves—dare one say it?—a run for their money. Techno sound effects and a club beat guarantee "No More Tears" a meteoric success.

As for the other four tracks, all of which are re-mixes of previously released lang material, the results are mixed. Most notable is "Miss Chatelaine (St. Tropez Mix)" In this minimalist, calypso version of the 1992 hit

from "Ingénue," the spotlight shines on lang's silky voice, which glides above the mambo beat like a sighing breeze over blue water. There is no doubt, however, that the two new versions of "Lifted By Love" and the new "Just Keep Me Moving (Movin' Mix)" sound better in their original form on lang's 1993 "Even Cowgirls Get The Blues" soundtrack. One will particularly miss Dean Parks' wah-wah guitar on "Just Keep Me Moving" and more melodic harmonies on both tracks.

Although it seems that the four re-mixes are more commercially than artistically inspired, "Lifted" is worth owning, if only so that one may bask in the '70s nostalgia of "No More Tears" updated with a queer '90s sensibility. Expect to hear it a lot.

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A FOOD COLUMN BY GARY KAUPMAN

Gary Kaupman was on vacation last week, testing his palate with exotic cuisines found in the Pacific Northwest, so this week we are presenting here a few tasty tidbits from the Associated Press food news file.

Lobster Liberation

Police aren't sure whether the Crustacean Liberation Front really exists. But restaurateur Ross Warren says the proof is on his front windows.

Warren arrived at his Pacific Cafe in San Francisco's outer Richmond District July 22 to find graffiti reading "Lobster Liberation" etched into the glass with white paint. Later that day, an anonymous caller claimed responsibility.

"We hit your place last night," the caller told Warren's partner, Jim Thomson. "We are the Crustacean Liberation Front. We're protesting your sale of live lobsters. Stop serving live lobsters."

Problem is, the Pacific Cafe sells only fresh frozen. Warren says he sold live lobsters briefly four months ago as an experiment, but stopped.

"I have not heard of the Crustacean Liberation Front, but it would not surprise me," says Sgt. Bob Hulsey of the San Francisco Police Department's special investigation unit. "Every cause in the world is championed in San Francisco. If there is something out there that someone wants to protect or protest, San Francisco is definitely the place to be." His department is investigating.

Cookie Correctness

Mexican food? Popcorn? The real danger to Americans is not in prepared foods but in what people whip up themselves, according to a survey by the folks who make Oreo cookies.

How about two Oreos held together by a dollop of peanut butter and dunked in milk for 15 seconds? Or maybe an Oreo with whipped cream, washed down with a cold beer? Or Oreos hand-smashed and sprinkled over a heaping bowl of ice cream? Those were just some of the suggestions offered by the 174,000 people who called in to express their feelings about the proper way to eat an Oreo.

Good eating. Bad cholesterol.

Americans prefer dunking to twisting the tops off their Oreos; 35 percent are dunkers, 30 percent are twisters. Women would rather twist; men would rather dunk. Dunking cities are Indianapolis, Pittsburgh, Cincinnati, Philadelphia and Chicago; twisting cities are Detroit, Baltimore, Boston, Miami, Los Angeles, San Francisco and New York.

About 19 percent had their own techniques for Oreo eating, and they ran the gastronomic gamut from adding A-1 steak sauce to smothering the cookie with mustard, lettuce, ketchup and sauerkraut.

Bon appetit.

FDA Suggests Six-month Ban on Raw Oysters

Raw, unshucked oysters like the kind at seafood bars may become harder to find from April through October because of health concerns. The Food and Drug Administration says it may urge Florida, Louisiana and Texas to impose an annual six-month ban on raw, unshucked oysters harvested off their coasts and require warning labels for the shucked ones.

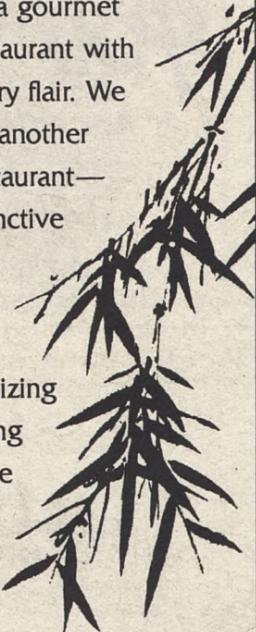
In a letter last week to the Interstate Shellfish Sanitation Conference, a group of state regulators and industry representatives, the FDA suggested the ban as a way to guard against a form of bacteria that can be deadly to

CONTINUES ON PAGE 36



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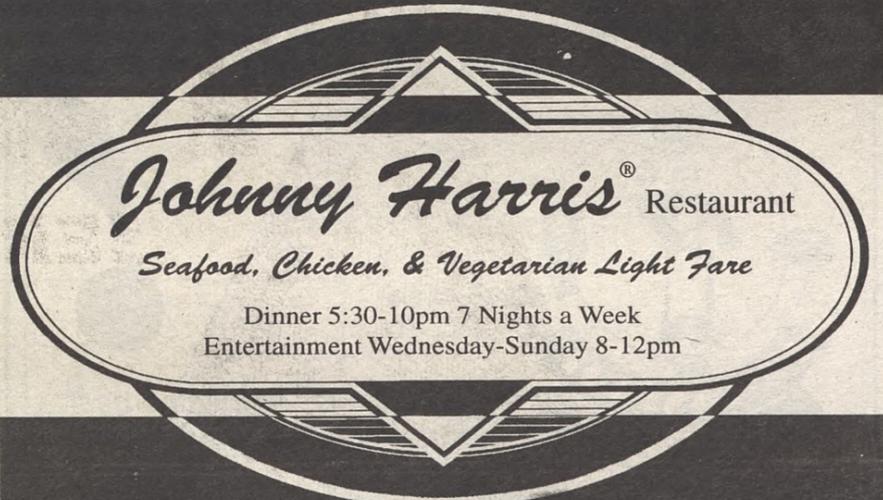
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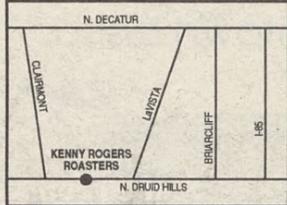
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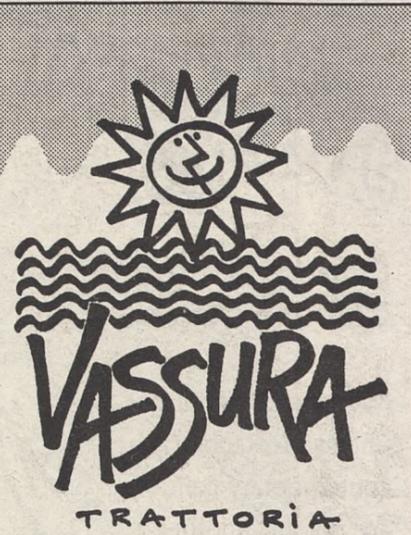
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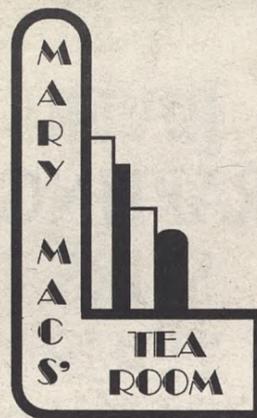
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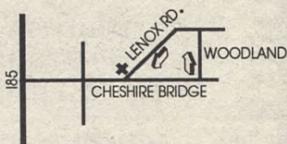
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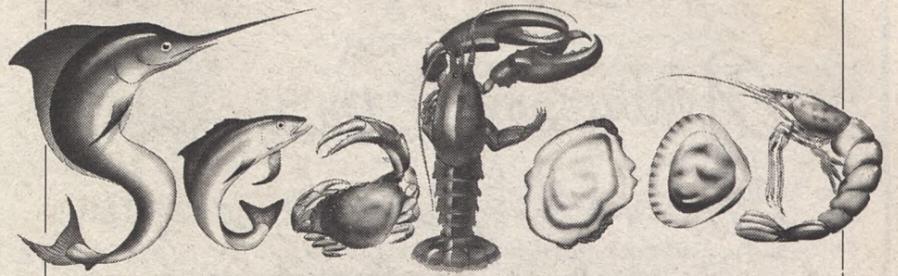
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EAT

A FOOD COLUMN BY GARY KAUPMAN

Continued from page 33

people with liver disease or weakened immune systems.

Oysters from the three Gulf Coast states are marketed throughout the country. Those harvested from April through October, however, may contain vibrio vulnificus bacteria that the government estimates claim 15 lives a year.

Alcoholics with damaged livers are vulnerable. So are people on chemotherapy, as well as those with AIDS, diabetes, liver disease, certain blood disorders or low stomach acid.

If adopted by the conference at its annual meeting next month in Tacoma, Wash., the ban would allow for the sale of only shucked oysters from Gulf Coast waters during the warm months. And the containers would have to be labeled warning that the oysters should be eaten fully cooked.

For the ban to be approved, it would have to be formally proposed at the conference with FDA backing, and that hasn't occurred yet.

"We hope that this year's conference will consider our recommendation and adopt effective controls," Thomas J. Billy, director of the FDA's Office of Seafood, said in the letter. "The actions of the conference will determine what additional steps FDA may consider in our mutual goal of shellfish safety."

Early indications are that the industry will fight the restrictions. The proposal seems "rather far-reaching in terms of restricting the use of a product by people for which it has no particular risk," said Lee J. Weddig, an executive of the National Fisheries Institute.

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HOTLANTA RIVER EXPO '94

INTOWNER'S GUIDE

Where to go and what to do during Atlanta's annual splashfest

by JAMES FITCH

In its 16th year, Hotlanta River Expo is the oldest ongoing party in a "gay party circuit" that spans the U.S. and parts of Canada. The circuit includes annual parties in New York City, Miami, Palm Springs and Montreal, but Atlanta's is generally regarded as the biggest and the baddest of them all. Whereas in years past, the event has become famous for drawing visitors from out of town, organizers hope to restore local interest this year and rally Atlantans to participate. Therefore we present an in-towners guide to what has been called "Atlanta's best-kept secret."

This year, the Expo has been retooled with a new board of directors, a new schedule of events (see page 38), a new attitude, and an impending nonprofit status.

Besides the fact that the raft race has been moved from Sunday morning to Saturday morning, another major change from years past is that you don't have to buy the entire package (\$175) in order to be a part of River Expo. For the first time, the committee has made it possible to pick and choose Expo-related events as you like.

The package, or "HRE Passport," gets you into all the River Expo-sponsored events (Miss Hotlanta, Mr. Hotlanta, Raft Race, the Saturday night party, Sunday brunch, a Tea Dance

at AXYS, and free admission to sponsor bars, including The Armory, Backstreet, Blake's, Bulldogs, and The Core).

With so many exciting changes, and with much of the proceeds from these events going to benefit local AIDS charities, Hotlanta River Expo seems well set for smooth sailing—and ready to offer a great weekend to anyone who wants to be a part of it.

Everyone's invited

Whether intentional or not, River Expo has a reputation of being a "white boy's party." Although there have reportedly been female participants in the past, you'd be hard-pressed to actually find a woman who has participated.

"In the past we have tried to get women involved," says spokesman Stan Neal. "[But] it is perceived as largely a gay man's event, and it probably will remain that way...Men of color are definitely encouraged to attend."

"It's obviously not an event for someone who's really poor, or who doesn't feel comfortable being around a lot of white people," says Duncan Teague, a black gay activist. "But I have known African-American people who have participated and really enjoyed it. I have enjoyed some of the boy parties in the past. I would personally enjoy the bodies at Mr. Hotlanta—and the entertainment. I like Steve Berman parties. I've never seen the river packed with half-naked men, and that's something I would enjoy. The sight of it must be really wonderful."

With this year's policy allowing people to pay admission for individual River Expo events, even those short of cash should be able to locate a party or two in which to participate. Just keep in mind that everyone is encouraged to participate and make River Expo a solid, expanding and all-inclusive event.

Have fun, be safe

The main idea behind River Expo is to have fun. But while you're floating down the river, don't throw caution to the wind. In other words, don't overlook the fact that the Chattahoochee is not exactly the most pristine body

of water. And with all the rain we've had recently, there is an added amount of bacteria and parasites in the water. This becomes a problem particularly for people who are HIV-positive.

"There are a lot of concerns," says Dawn Averitt-Doherty of the AIDS Survival Project. "If you are swimming in the water and you have a compromised immune system, you could end up with some nasty diarrhea...There must have been half a dozen guys come in last year [after River Expo], saying they had bad cases of diarrhea."

According to Averitt-Doherty, there is no standard protocol regarding this issue, but for the most part, being on the water is okay. Just don't get in it. And people who are significantly immunocompromised need to steer clear completely.

Some in-the-water safety guidelines for everyone:

- Don't drink the water.
- Don't use the water to rinse off (or to wash eating/drinking utensils).
- In general, try to have as little contact with the water as possible.
- When the raft race is over, go home and take a really good shower.

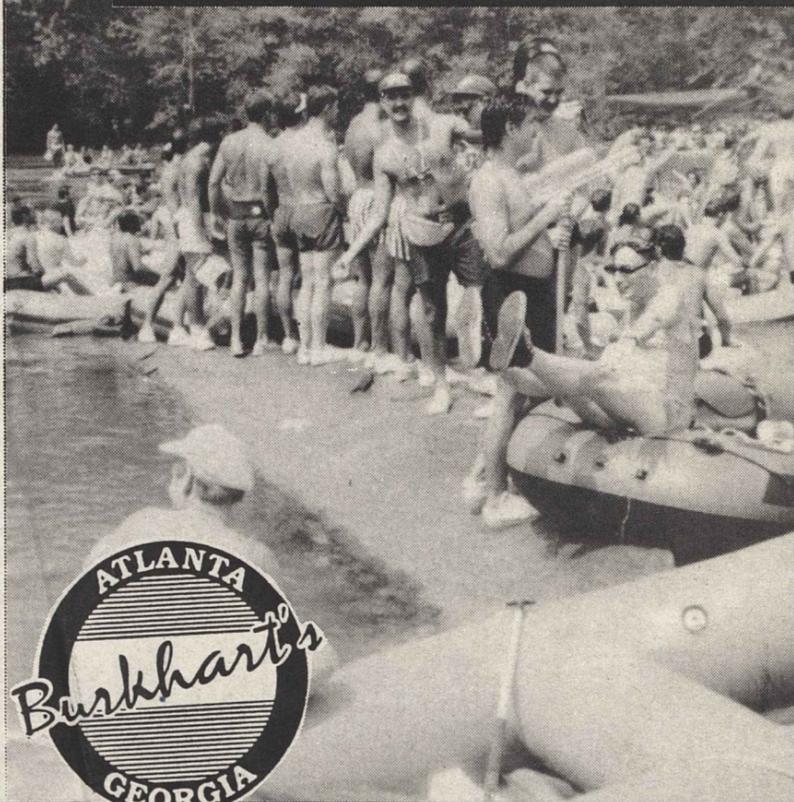
While on the subject of safety, let us not forget safe sex. As many times as you hear it, it's never enough. According to Averitt-Doherty, ignorance is still a big problem, "especially with the younger guys who are just coming out and who think that if they're just hanging around with people their own age, they're safe."

Everyone needs to take universal precautions. This doesn't mean asking a man if he's negative or positive. As Averitt-Doherty says, "there's a whole group of people walking around saying they're negative, and the last time they were tested was 1988."

Some safe-sex guidelines, provided by the AIDS Survival Project:

CONTINUES ON PAGE 39

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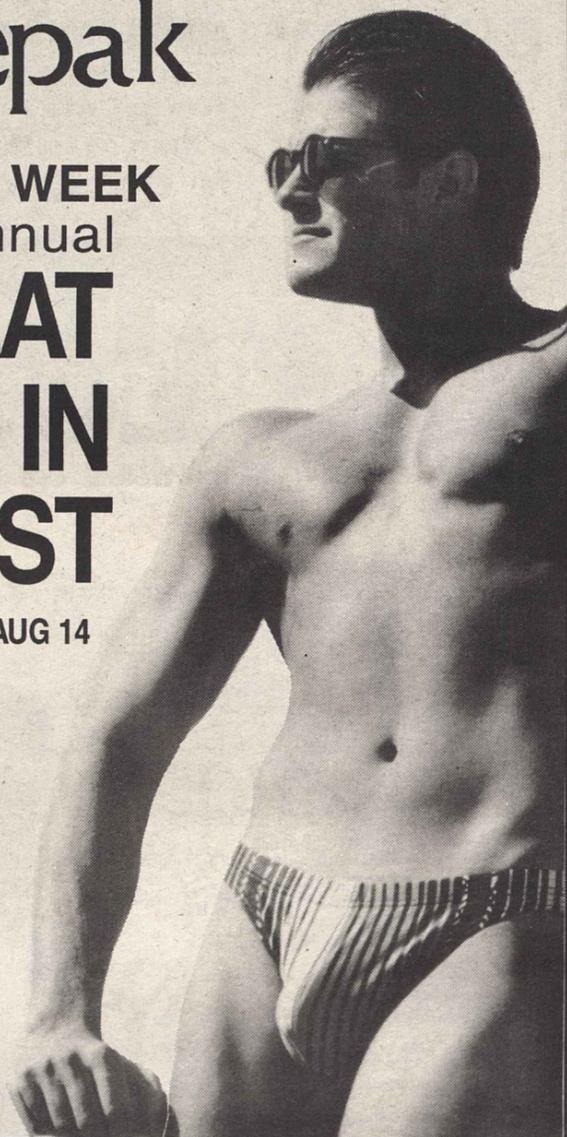
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HOTLANTA RIVER EXPO '94

INTOWNER'S GUIDE

Hotlanta River Expo '94
Schedule of Events:

Thursday, August 11

• Miss Hotlanta Pageant kicks things off at the Sheraton Colony Square Ballroom. The theme is "Colour Me Beautiful," and, with some extensively reworked prize packages, expect a new level of entertainment from this year's contestants. "It's been camp in the past," says River Expo spokesman Stan Neal. This year expect "seriously funny and seriously campy" performances. So, does that mean someone who can do Barbara Streisand and cry? "No, no, no!" Neal says. "It means, someone who's spent a lot of time on their act." In other words, expect some serious entertainment. Doors open at 7 p.m.; showtime is at 8 p.m. Admission is \$10.

Friday, August 12

• Mr. Hotlanta International Finals will be held at the Atlanta Civic Center. Preliminaries for this contest were held in various cities around the world. International contestants included this year come from Canada and Australia. And for those of you who attended last year's pageant, never fear: there will be no magicians cracking jokes tailored for a straight audience, as was the case last year. Instead, you'll experience two and a half hours of nonstop gay-oriented entertainment, from the dance-pop sounds of CeCe Penniston to 16 beautiful bods modeling swimwear, formalwear, fantasy wear and—new this year—bar wear. National comic talents Danny Williams and ANT will emcee. Doors open at 6 p.m. for cocktails; showtime is 8 p.m. \$35 at the door.

Saturday, August 13

• Raft Race. Well, that may be kind of a misnomer for this event. It's not actually that competitive. A new feature this year adds a hint of competition, however. Participants are encouraged to play up themes for the first annual "Theme Raft" contest. A River Expo panel will judge, and local celebrities will provide commentary via PA

systems from the river bank. Winners will be announced at a Sunday Brunch/Awards Ceremony. Theme Raft winners (all six members, as long as they are registered participants) will get a 1995 package for River Expo. The fun begins around 10 a.m., or whenever the buses drop off the first participants at the Powers Ferry Chattahoochee Outdoor Center (COC). The river route ends at the COC off of 41, just south of the Cumberland Mall. An interesting note: Hotlanta River Expo is the only group that the COC recognizes and organizes on the river. "They say other groups are too reckless," Neal says. "Although we're reckless, we don't endanger anyone." Registered participation in the raft race, which includes a raft for six and transportation to and from the Colony Square Hotel, costs \$60. Don't forget your bomb-bucket!

• Graffiti, the cornerstone party by Steve Berman Productions, will be held in the atrium of the Atlanta Apparel Mart. Berman is guarded when it comes to details, but he has earned a reputation across the country for his high-concept excellence, so expect nothing less from "Graffiti." Advance tickets cost \$30. Admission at the door will be \$40.

Sunday, August 14

• Sunday Brunch/Awards Ceremony, a new addition this year, will begin at 11 a.m. at the Sheraton Colony Square. Buffet-style brunch with open bar costs \$20. "Theme Raft" Contest winners will be announced.

• Tea-Dance at AXYS, beginning at 3:30 p.m., will be the final major event of Hotlanta River Expo. Advance tickets cost \$10; Admission is \$15 at the door. This is not a charity event. AXYS is located at 1150 Peachtree St. Call 607-0922 for more information.

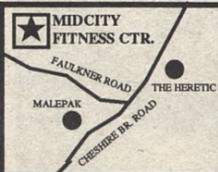
More parties

In addition to the official River Expo events, there will be several late-breaking parties put on by the sponsor bars.

We're having a circuit party within a circuit party," says River Expo board member Ray King. "After the [River Expo] events, there will be other parties to go to. We just point you in the right direction."

While many of those parties were already scheduled at press time, look for more to pop up over the weekend. The HRE Passport, of course, gains you admission to any of these events. If you don't have one, admission will range from \$5 to \$10. In many cases, 100 percent of the money collected at the door will go to AIDS charities.

CONTINUES ON PAGE 40



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HOTLANTA RIVER EXPO '94

INTOWNER'S GUIDE

Continued from page 37

- Engage in sexual activities that do not involve vaginal, anal, or oral intercourse. Some sexual practices that present no risk of HIV transmission include: hugging, massaging, masturbating with intact skin, body-to-body rubbing, fantasizing, and cuddling.

- Discuss safe sex with your partner before you begin to have it.

- Use condoms correctly from start to finish with each act of intercourse. Some experts recommend that people engaging in anal sex use extra strong condoms, or even two. (When purchasing condoms, read the label and make sure that they are latex. Natural-skin condoms, such as lambskin, do not provide as much protection. The package should also say that the condoms are designed to prevent disease.)

- As an added precaution, use a spermicide along with a latex condom. Some experts say that the spermicide nonoxynol-9 may kill HIV during intercourse.

- For lubrication, use a water-based lubricant like K-Y Jelly or diaphragm jelly with nonoxynol-9. (Read the label closely—product names can be misleading.) Don't use oil-based lubricants like butter, Crisco, or Vaseline, because the oil can weaken condoms and cause them to break.

- If you have oral sex, use a condom without spermicide.

- Always beware of drugs and alcohol. They can affect your judgment, so you may forget to use a condom. They also may affect your ability to use a condom properly.

Where the Boys Are...

As usual, the Sheraton Colony Square Hotel—all 450 or so rooms—will be occupied by River Expo participants from across the country and around the world, making it the 24-hour gay party central. But several other surrounding Hotels will also be densely populated with participants: The Wyndham Hotel, Marriott Suites, Grenada Suites, Regency Suites, Occidental Grand, and the Courtyard Marriott.

Transportation

Take cabs or walk to bars. For the raft race on Saturday, buses will leave the Colony Square Sheraton at 9 a.m. Your HRE Passport, or the individual \$60 charge for a raft, includes round-trip transportation.

Get your tickets

Advance tickets for River Expo (individual events or the package deal) are available by telephone at 874-EXPO. Visa, MasterCard and American Express are accepted. Cash tickets are available at ED's Gourmet Records in Ansley Square, MalePak Sportswear (2000 Cheshire Bridge Rd.), and The Boy Next Door (1449 Piedmont Ave. NE).

What if it rains?

Although the River Expo folks say the



HARLETT LEIBOWITZ

show will go on even if there is a little rain, severe weather (a lightning storm, for example) is always a possibility. If that's the case, watch for a rash of impromptu wet-wear parties. Not necessarily a bad alternative.

According to spokesman Stan Neal, it's simply not going to rain. Should it rain, however, "Colony Square Hotel will be one happenin' place," he says. "There will be parties on every floor, in every room. The Colony Square management shouldn't fret too much over this prospect, however. As Neal says, "The guys do like to have fun, but they don't create problems."

A note of optimism: Remember that last year brought similar weather conditions (albeit a lot less intense) in the weeks leading up to the event. Last year's concern was that the water level would be too high—and that turned out to be a waste of worry. This year, just think of the high water level as a natural wonder that will lift the raft race to white-water status and epic proportions.

Watch for the Out-of-Towner's Guide to River Expo in next week's issue.



HARLETT LEIBOWITZ

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Friday, August 12

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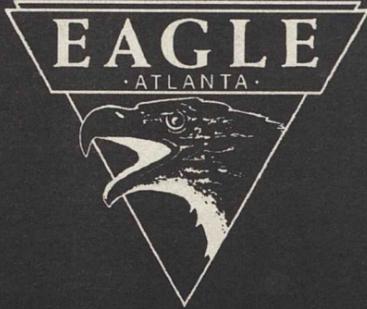
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**HOTLANTA
RIVER
EXPO '94**

INTOWNER'S GUIDE

Continued from page 38

Thursday, August 11

• Blake's will throw a Welcoming Party at 10:30 p.m., directly following the Miss Hotlanta pageant. The back parking lot will be blocked off to accommodate the masses. Cover charge will be \$10, and will benefit Project Open Hand. Blake's is located at 227 10th Street. 892-5786 for more info.

Friday, August 12

• Backstreet will host a party directly

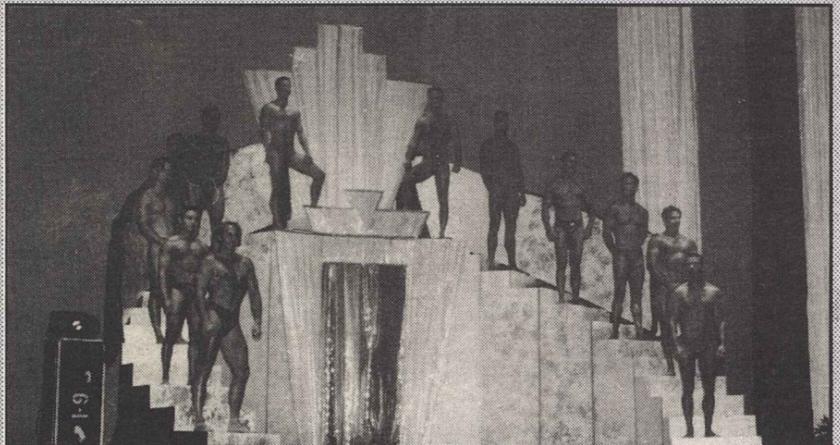
following the Mr. Hotlanta pageant. Backstreet is located at 845 Peachtree St. 873-1986 for more info.

Saturday, August 13

• For those who still have dancing feet after "Graffiti," go to the after-hours party at The Core. The party will go from 1 a.m. to 8 a.m. Admission is \$10 at the door, and it will go to an AIDS charity. The Core is located at 917 Peachtree St. Call 724-9144 for more info.

Sunday, August 14

• The Armory's "A World of Colour"-themed Farewell Party will kick off at 9 p.m. with a farewell performance by the Armorettes. Otherwise, look for the Armory's usual offerings of country & western, disco and drink—and lots of colorful decorations throughout. The Armory is located at 836 Juniper. Call 881-9280 for more info.



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THIS ONE HOE

EARTHSHAKIN' OBSERVATIONS

Perhaps you might label it "gardening consciousness." I watch CNN bleat earnestly over highly disturbing visuals of Rwandans suffering and dying in Zaire. With ghosts of Nigerian Ibos dancing in my head, I catalog bodies piling up, and suspect they may be the lucky ones.

After all, cholera is a painfully grotesque way to die. But then, being hacked to death by your neighbors is pretty grotesque, too. The unfolding human horror stuns me.

The land's horror works on me, too. The soil is thoroughly trampled beneath those two million feet, every inch becoming an impenetrable desert. All trees within human reach are being cut down for fuel. Consider also a million colons being emptied, and no place for the excrement to go. (As happens so often in our species' unfortunate history, ecocide and genocide roam hand in hand...)

Virtually every one of these terrorized people are farmers. Farmers who fled their fields right before a bumper crop of their staple, sorghum, was to be harvested.

So not only will the food now rot in the fields unless the harvesters miraculously return in good physical and psychological health—but no crops will be planted for the next season, either. Famine...

Here, I have beans, cukes, greens, tomatoes, corn, peppers, melons, herbs. But there is no viable way to convey these to Africa. Instead, I call UNICEF with a modest pledge (the 24 hr toll-free number is 1-800-FOR-KIDS), hoping this will translate into real assistance. It doesn't seem like much in the face of such massive suffering.

And then, in therapeutic self-defense, I pull weeds. The weed explosion has overtaken everything, fueled by the unimaginable 10 inches of rain we've suffered through this month—a fifth of our average annual rainfall.

I pull and pull, and chop and chop, and hoe and hoe,

until my arms, then my back, and finally, my spirit, give out. But these exertions serve a great purpose. Not only do they render the garden a bit more viable, but for this moment, I do not see prostrate bodies and denuded landscapes.

Instead, I occupy my thoughts with the conditions of my various plots, and what needs doing within them, as I toss the plucked green beings into piles. I wonder how anyone is cruel enough to stomp down the hollyhocks, and tear into the elephant ears. But I know that's just a manifestation of patriarchal sickness, the general disrespect for life which paves the way for further acted-out nightmares.

Instead of dwelling on the eventrations, I ponder what constitutes right living, about what being in harmony can really mean. And these aren't bullshit mental masturbatory exercises; these are attempts to get to the root of the matter. Happily, others are thinking along these lines, too. Accustomed as I am to being considered "different" by many, it's sometimes refreshing to rediscover shared concerns. I find this comfort as I finish the small but delectably satisfying green book, "Garden Variety Dykes: Lesbian Traditions in Gardening."

Resting my beleaguered back, I immerse myself in Lesbian Lore. The selections circle the globe's circumference, as well as ringing along the spectrum from frankly erotic to rather comical to eminently practical to deeply metaphysical, and back again.

What happens, for instance, when a totally citified Dyke moves to the country, and attempts to learn gardening from books?

"(The peas) were my pride and joy. i could help make

something grow that you could eat, a miracle.

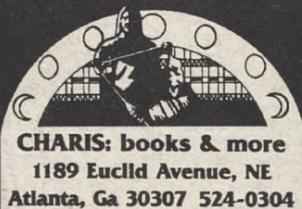
"then one day i noticed the peas seemed not be doing as well; the leaves were getting yellowish-brown and brittle. i gave them more water. i read about nutrients peas needed and i fed them. i talked to them more. nothing i did helped and they got worse and worse. finally, even i could tell they were dying and i couldn't stand it. i didn't have a vehicle or phone so i frantically walked a few miles to where two dykes i had become friends with were living. i knew one of them would be home and she was a master gardener who grew up on a farm. by the time i got there i was in tears going on about how i had killed the peas and how terrible it was. i was a murderer. i told her everything that happened; i thought i did everything right. but the fact remained: i killed the peas. i was devastated. ruth decided she'd take a look for herself. we got in her car and drove back to my home. she looked at the peas and looked at me and i could tell she was trying hard not to laugh, as i was so obviously upset at my homicide. she sat me down and told me, kindly, that peas, like all other vegetables, have a life cycle and they were just dying back for the season. it was nothing i did.

"This garden became my primary relationship. It was packed with vegetables, flowers and herbs. I would sit on a tree stump in the midst of all this growth and listen to the deva spirits singing me their pleasure."

"...when i plant it is an act of faith in a world that has tried and continues to try to take my faith away, minute by minute. to believe that a small seed can become nourishment and beauty is a supreme act of hope. to see and accept life and death and all its cycles in a culture that is so death denying on one hand, and on the other hand does its damndest to try revolution."

And so it is. And so it is. Withstanding political and natural calamities, gardeners see the life-giving potential hidden within the seed.

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- AIDS Education/Svcs for Minorities—POB 87277, Atl, 30337, 753-2900
- AID Gwinnett—POB 884 Lawrenceville, GA 30246, (404) 962-8396
- 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—325-4143
- 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
- Jerusalem House—527-7627
- The Living AIDS Memorial Park Project—876-0105
- The Names Project/Atlanta—605-7386
- Outreach, Inc.—(404) 346-3922
- 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—739-5607
- Atlanta Feminist Women's Chorus—438-5823
- Atlanta Freedom Marching Band—872-9763
- 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 Musician's Meeting Post—SASE to GMMP, PO Box 250336, Atl 30318
- Pen-draggin' Poets—523-3639
- Silver Fingers Productions—388-4624
- Southeastern Arts, Media & Education Project, Inc—609-9590
- Southern Country Atlanta—908-7480
- Young Lesbian Art & Craft Exchange—Decatur, GA; 378-3367

Bars

- The Armory—836 Juniper, 881-9280
- Axys—(Sundays) 1150 Peachtree St. NE 607-0922
- 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
- Burkhart's—Ansley Square. 872-4403
- Club Fetish—(Weds.) 695 North Ave. -577-8178
- The Core—917 Peachtree St.
- Crazy Ray'z—1492 Piedmont. 873-4655
- The Eagle—308 Ponce De Leon. 87EAGLE
- The Heretic—2069 Cheshire Bridge. 325-3061
- Loretta's—708 Spring St. 874-8125
- The Metro—48 6th Street. 874-9869
- Model T—699 Ponce de Leon. 872-2209
- Moreland Tavern—1196 Moreland Ave. S.E. 622-4650
- New Order—1544 Piedmont. 874-8247
- Opus—1086 Alco St. 634-6478
- The Otherside—1924 Piedmont Rd. 875-5238
- Phoenix—567 Ponce De Leon. 892-7871
- Revolution—293 Pharr Rd. 816-5455
- Scandals—Ansley Square. 875-5957
- Velvet-89 Park Pl., NE 681-9936
- Waterworks—107 Luckie St. 577-7059

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—876-1398
- Georgia Advocates for Battered Women & Children/Lesbian Task Force—524-3847; 250 Georgia Ave. SE, Rm. 365, Atl. 30312
- GAPAC—Georgia Political Action Committee—872-8095, FAX 874-8628
- Human Rights Campaign Fund—Federal Advocacy Network, 231-5751
- HRCF Event Hotline—840-6969
- LEGAL—605-7476
- Lesbian Avengers—798-7742
- National Association of People with AIDS Hotline—874-7926
- National Organization for Women—875-0176
- National Org. for Women, Gay & Lesbian Rights Task Force—636-7435
- Neighbors Network—816-8348
- Olympics Out of Cobb Coalition—POB 77341 Atlanta, GA 30357-1341—798-7822
- Out Front—PO Box 12369, Atlanta 30355
- 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
- Community Network for Counseling Psychology and Social Work—315-8945
- Fourth Tuesday—662-4353
- Gay/Lesbian Postal Employees Network (G/L PEN)—POB 580397, Minneapolis, MN 55458-0397
- GA Assoc. of Physicians for Human Rights (GAPHR)—231-2251
- LEAGUE ATLANTA, Inc. (Employees of AT&T)—404/351-8322
- Nat'l Gay Pilots Assoc.—PO Box 27542, Washington, D.C. 20038-7542, (703) 660-3852
- Nat'l Lesbian and Gay Journalists Assoc.—634-7429
- Nat'l Federation of Career Women—(404) 659-0315
- OUTstaff (Emory)—727-2787 (Donna)
- Voices Out Front (Media Networking Assoc)—2103 N. Decatur Rd. Ste. 185, Decatur 30033

Spiritual

- All Saints Metropolitan Community Church—622-1154
- Atlanta Church of Religious Science—636-4567
- Catholic Gay and Lesbian Outreach—310-1529
- The Catholic Group—POB 243, Austell, GA 30001, 310-1529
- Christ Covenant MCC, Stone Mountain—297-0350
- Clifton Presbyterian Church—(404) 373-3253
- Congregation Bet Haverim (Jewish)—642-3467
- Emergence/Atlanta (Christian Scientists)—565-2126
- Fellowship of Love Christian Church—(706)660-0101
- 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
- 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
- Redefined Faith Worship Center—388-4624
- 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
- Front Runners/Atlanta—621-5007
- Greater Atlanta Naturalist Group—851-2882 (voice mail)
- Hotlanta Softball League—POB 14582, Atl. 30324, 873-4061
- Hotlanta Volleyball—621-5062
- Lambda Car Club—POB 11705, Atlanta 30355
- Mountain Catalyst—POB 199, Demorest, GA 30535
- OUT in Nature—619-9185
- S.E. Gay Rodeo Assn—POB 7881, Atl., 30357, 760-8126
- Wilderness Network of GA—SASE, POB 55156, Atlanta 30308
- Women's Outdoor Network—624-3418
- Women's Rugby—237-2752
- TRICKS/Bridge Club—1202 Summit North Atlanta, GA 30324

Service/Support/Social

- Adoption Options-Rainbow Kids—(404) 633-6021
- African American Lesbian/Gay Alliance—239-8184 (voice mail)
- Amazon Salon Young Feminist Network—321-5678
- American Educational Gender Info Service—POB 33724, Decatur 30033, (404) 939-0244 (eve)
- ANGLE (BellSouth Gay/Lesbian Employee Group)—(404) 723-6540
- Asians & Friends-Atlanta—876-0090(fax)
- 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—435-4203
- Atlanta Lambda Community Ctr—POB 15180, Atl 30333, 662-9010
- Atlanta Lesbian and Gay Pride Comm—662-4533
- Atlanta Lesbian Singles Organization (ALSO)—294-4558
- Atlanta Prime Timers—For Information Call 734-2490
- Atlanta Pro-Choice Action Committee—239-8016
- BiAtlanta—256-8992
- Bisexuals of Atlanta Resource Network—908-3413
- Black and White Men Together—892-BWMT
- Black Lesbians with Children 498-3815
- Caregivers to PWAs Support Group—874-1109 or 875-6109
- Codependents Anonymous—239-1657
- Consciousness Raising and Support Group for Women in Politics and Grassroots Organizing—636-7435
- Delphi—POB 14591, Atlanta, G 30324
- Emergence International—876-3997
- Emotions Anonymous—925-4825
- GAPHR's Support Group for HIV+ Dentists-Physicians—634-0672
- Gainesville, 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 & AI-Anon—881-9188
- Gay/Lesbian/Bi Teen Group—378-5570
- Gay/Lesbian/Bi Vets of America—627-6981 lv. msg.
- 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
- Hospitality Atlanta—627-1630, 708-6866
- Interact of Atlanta—633-9466
- 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—641-0870
- 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
- Overaters 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
- Parents, Families and Friends of Lesbians and Gays/Southside—(691) 4729 or 981-5310
- Positive Black Lesbians United (PBLU)—(404) 250-7950
- Sexual Compulsives Anonymous—239-8048
- Southern Bears, Inc.—PO Box 13964, Atlanta, GA 30324 (404) 908-3381
- 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 Kahoos—(WINK) 438-1421
- 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
- Spelman College Lesbian/Bisexual Alliance—681-2161
- Univ. of Ala. Lesbian/Gay Alumni Assoc.—284-3479

OUTLINES

LINDA HARRISON

AGE: 44 years

How long in Georgia: In Athens since 1988

Last Book Read: "Lesbians, Gay Men and the Law" by William Rubenstein

Pet peeve: Ignorance and intolerance



"It was from the womb," says Linda Harrison, laughing as she talks about how long she's known she is a lesbian. "I never fretted about it. I've had girlfriends since I was younger than my six-year-old. And I never thought there was anything wrong with it."

How refreshing. Once a dyke, always a dyke.

Harrison tells a story about when she was five years old, a dyke tyke in Atlantic City, New Jersey. Students came up from Pennsylvania to work in the resorts for the summer, and Harrison's family was always there to welcome the students, offering meals and friendly local faces.

"I remember this one woman," she says. "It was her last day in town, and she promised to take me to the Boardwalk. I had maybe a buck and a half with me. We went into a cheap souvenir shop and I bought her a ring."

That woman probably never knew the significance of that ring, but Harrison did. Even at five, and certainly later on.

"I was saved by a couple of things," she says. "Number one, I read everything I could get my hands on. It opened my eyes up to the fact that people can be all kinds of different ways. And the other thing was that my oldest brother was somebody I could talk to. He left home when I was 10, but by that time I had figured out I was this way."

With never a thought that she could be any other way, Harrison lived her life in her own style. And although she never experienced any difficulty accepting herself, she's acutely aware of how troubling it can be for those who come out later in life.

"If someone told me, 'Linda, you really are a white person,' it would take me a while to accept," she says. "That's what happens for some people. It changes their whole concept of themselves."

Harrison moved to New York City from New Jersey for a while, then moved to Jacksonville to go to the University of North Florida. But deciding what she wanted to be when she "grew up" took a little longer. She made that decision when she decided to become a lawyer and enrolled at American Uni-

versity in Washington, DC.

"I love being a lawyer," Harrison says. "What I like about it is it teaches you to think in a very different way than most people. And I like that you can talk to another lawyer in a way you don't talk to anybody else. There are things you don't have to say. It's talking to someone from your own culture."

Although Harrison teaches at the law school at Georgia State, she prefers to live in Athens. She likes being in a smaller town, and says it's a good location to raise children. She has three girls—an adopted six-year-old and two teenagers from her partner's previous marriage.

"I'm very attached to all my kids," she says. "I guess if you ask what my favorite thing to do is, it would be to be with my kids. Kids have a way of looking at life that is so refreshing. And the other thing is that it teaches you how limited you are in influencing them."

Parenting is as much a learning process for Harrison as a teaching process, and she has found it's not always easy.

"One thing you learn very quickly is that you are not always right," she says. "You may think you are, but if you listen, you may find that they have a better idea. You can make it easy or more difficult, depending on how much trust and honesty you have with your kids."

And sometimes, a parent can draw on his or her own experience. "When I think of some of the things I did, I'm amazed that I lived through it but I did," she says, "and they will live through their experiences—although that's becoming less certain these days. But for the most part, you will live through it."

And what about that long commute from Athens to Atlanta?

"When you've lived in New York and done that Long Island-to-Manhattan commute, it's not a problem."

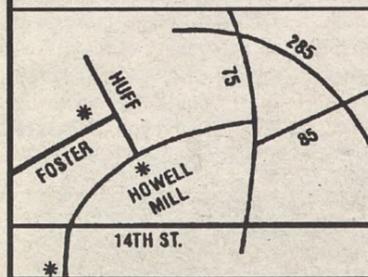
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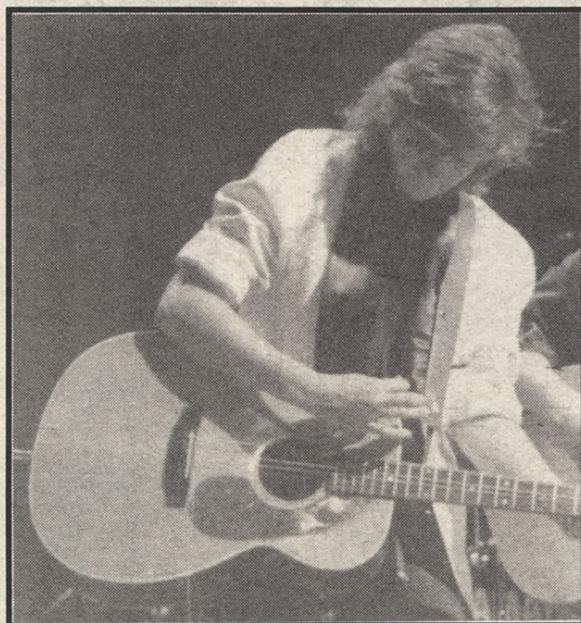
Image work: Dish's head has just been swimming with ideas ever since we received a solicitation for new "official" logo designs for Cobb County. It seem the current liberty bell within a square is on its way out (liberty doesn't seem to fit, does it?) and the commissioner's office is asking all Cobb County employees for new logo design suggestions. We've come up with a few choice ones ourselves: How about a pink triangle with a line through it, signifying "No Queers Allowed" or a tasteful line drawing of a Klan hood? Dish would like to encourage our readers to submit their own suggestions to the commissioner's office by drawing them on a plain white sheet of paper and sending them to: Elva Dornbusch, Customer Service Council, c/o Commissioner's Office, 100 Cherokee St., Suite 130, Marietta, GA 30090; or fax them to (404) 528-2490. Dish is sure that Cobb County will give every entry equal consideration.

Changing Her Tune: We're stunned, we're disheartened, we're not happy—and it's all because Amy Ray, one half of the Indigo Girls, just came out in the latest issue of Ten Percent. Dish usually applauds any celebrity's coming out, since we think it's the right and honorable thing to do. But surely Ray knows she has friends right here in Atlanta and Decatur—and at SoVo—who would have been thrilled to hear her story. Although she told us in no uncertain terms two years ago that she did not like to be labeled, it appears Ray is now ready to join the ranks of her out sisters—k.d., Melissa and musical partner Emily Saliers. It makes us wonder if celebrity peer pressure—now that she's "going Hollywood" in the upcoming lesbian-themed movie "Boys on the Side"—finally forced the reluctant Ray out of the closet. Tsk, tsk.

We've Been Called Worse Things Ourselves: In one of the most serious cases of sour grapes Dish has heard of in a very long time, Republican state senator Brenda Elias of New Hampshire is suing the Boston Globe for referring to her as a "strong supporter" of a gay rights bill in

Dish

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



Indigo Girl Amy Ray is finally out.

her home state. Ms. Elias used the old "I believe in equal rights but not preferential treatment" line to explain what she really, really meant to say in the Globe interview, which reported that she wrote a nice note voicing her support to the

New Hampshire Coalition to End Discrimination. Dish hears that Ms. Elias's own support was lagging anyway, though she claims that the article "hurt her reputation and her campaign." The Globe stands by its original report and says "There was nothing in the story that we deemed needed correction or retraction." Looks to Dish like Ms. Elias just learned you can't make everyone happy all the time.

Honesty Is Not Necessarily The Best Policy: In the new issue of Esquire, Queen of Shock Madonna appears on the cover replete with nose ring and pierced navel, but the real stunner is inside in her interview with Norman Mailer. It seems that all her posturing and grandstanding about AIDS prevention and safer sex has been just that. In the lengthy interview, Madonna says, "I'm not going to sit here and say that from the time I found out about AIDS I've always had intercourse with a man with a condom on. That would be a lie. And I do think that you get to a point with a person that you say, 'I love this person or care for them enough that I don't give a shit what happens to me, I'm willing to take the chance.'" Dish doesn't just think this is a screwed-up attitude, it's a mighty dangerous one. And with all the Madonna-ites out there listening, it's also thoughtless, even if it is honest.

You Can Shut Up Now: He's not queer, she's not queer, who cares anymore? The latest from the Cindy Crawford/Richard Gere publicity machine states that the ad the couple took out in The Times of London last May, declaring their unashamed heterosexuality and monogamy to all the world, was Gere's idea, not Crawford's. "I think the main thing that Richard was really upset about was saying we were lying about it, that we aren't honest people," Crawford said recently. She only went along with the ad because Gere had "different things at stake" than she did. Would someone please tell Dish when honesty became so important in either the modeling or acting profession?

AUGUST 4-AUGUST 10, 1994

If you are feeling that your internal and/or external life has been shaken or even turned upside down, then you are very perceptive. All of us have been stretching and growing, especially on the Inner planes, to keep up with the influx of life-giving, high frequency energy surging through the Solar System as a result of the comet fragments colliding with Jupiter. Also watch for Venus near the baby new moon on the evening of the 10th.

ARIES, you can learn a lot about your internal and subconscious life by paying attention to the general themes and moods being played out through your dreams. Not necessary to take it too seriously, some material is just clean-out stuff. **TAURUS**, Venus is in your 5th house of creativity for just a few more days, encouraging your natural inventive talent. Look for new and different ways of doing things and really get creative if you run headlong into obstacles or roadblocks. **GEMINI**, well, summer will be over sooner than you think. Have you made time to travel, have fun with friends, go to the beach or whatever? If not, then start making plans right away. You know how grumpy you get when you just work, work, work.

CANCER, with the Sun and Mercury in your 2nd house of

STARSIGNS

financial resources, you could inventory your talents. If you are in a job that only uses a few of your abilities, you won't find much satisfaction. Look for greater opportunities. Happy birthday, **LEO!** Are you having a wonderful month, finding ways to celebrate life every day? If you aren't, then haul yourself off the couch and get with the program. You want to be having fun, spreading joy and getting the most out of life. **VIRGO**, with serious Saturn moving steadily through your 7th house, you could find yourself working a little too hard on relationships or taking too much personal responsibility for difficulties. Remember to ask close friends for their help. **LIBRA**, Venus makes a grand entrance into your 1st house of personality and self-awareness on the seventh. Let this radiant effervescent energy permeate your entire body and spirit. You'll feel more like yourself and others will love being around you. **SCORPIO**, well, has this been a time of transformation or what? With Pluto in your 1st house for

years and now the great Jupiter comet collision as well, you are probably the local expert on dealing with internal growth. Congratulations! **SAGITTARIUS**, if you feel you have been turned inside out in the last few weeks, you are right. The Jupiter comet collision has provided an amazing opportunity for spiritual growth on the planet. Your struggle for truth and good will paid off.

CAPRICORN, how is life in the Big City? Too hot, too wet, too crowded, too busy? Sounds like it's time for a long weekend, at the least, or a fun vacation. If you feel you just can't get away right now, start making plans for early fall, for sure. **AQUARIUS**, with the Sun and Mercury both cruising through your 7th house of close personal relationships, you have a wonderful opportunity to strengthen and nurture the friendships that are special to you. Spend time with folks you love. **PISCES**, well, you should feel just like Noah after the flood! We made it through a strenuous growth period with tremendous help from our Angels, Teachers and other Great Beings, including all caring and sensitive humans. Thank You!

Mary Bailey Rule is a professional astrologer who specializes in personal and relationship chart interpretation as well as crisis management. She can be reached in Santa Fe at (505) 473-0095 to order charts or arrange a chart interpretation.

Dykes To Watch Out For

Au Courant
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HEY, COOL BOOTS, LOIS.

YEAH, I GOT 'EM FROM AN AUSTRALIAN SHOT-PUTTER AT THE GAMES.

I SWAPPED HER MY DOC MARTENS. I WAS GLAD TO GET RIPOF 'EM NOW THAT EVERY SUBURBAN MALL CRAWLER HAS A PAIR.

OH, JEEZ. HERE'S A SUBMISSION FOR "MADWIMMIN READ" FROM SOMEONE NAMED JILIAN WHO IDENTIFIES AS A TRANSEXUAL LESBIAN.

COOL.

THE COVER LETTER SAYS "I HOPE YOU'LL CONSIDER CHANGING THE NAME OF YOUR READING SERIES FOR LOCAL LESBIAN WRITERS TO BE INCLUSIVE OF TRANSEXUAL AND BISEXUAL WOMEN WRITERS TOO." OH, MAN!

GUESS IT'S TIME TO GET WITH THE PROGRAM, HUH?

WHAT AM I SUPPOSED TO DO? HAVE BI WOMEN AND DRAG QUEENS COME IN HERE AND READ ABOUT SCHUPPING THEIR BOYFRIENDS?

WHY NOT? I'M SURE THEY'D ADJUST TO LESBIANS USING DILDOS! WHAT AM I SUPPOSED TO MAKE OF A MAN WHO BECAME A WOMAN WHO'S ATTRACTED TO WOMEN?

LOIS, I'M STILL TRYING TO LOVE IS A MANY-GENDERED THING, PAL. GET USED TO IT.

WELL FINE. LET PEOPLE DO WHAT THEY WANT. BUT I'M NOT GONNA ADD THIS UNWELDY "BISEXUAL AND TRANSEXUAL" BUSINESS TO THE NAME OF MY READING SERIES. I DON'T EVEN KNOW WHAT TRANSEXUAL MEANS!

IT'S SORT OF AN EVOLVING CONCEPT. I MEAN, WE HAVEN'T HAD ANY LANGUAGE FOR PEOPLE YOU CAN'T NEATLY PEG AS EITHER BOY OR GIRL.

LIKE CROSS-DRESSERS, TRANSEXUALS, PEOPLE WHO LIVE AS THE OPPOSITE SEX BUT DON'T HAVE SURGERY, DRAG QUEENS AND KINGS, AND ALL KINDS OF OTHER TRANSGRESSIVE FOLKS. "TRANSEXUAL" IS A WAY TO UNITE EVERYONE INTO A GROUP, EVEN THOUGH ALL THESE PEOPLE MIGHT NOT SELF-IDENTIFY AS TRANSEXUAL.

IN FACT, THE POINT IS THAT WE'RE ALL JUST OURSELVES, AND NOT CATEGORIES. INSTEAD OF TWO RIGID GENDERS, THERE'S AN INFINITE SEXUAL CONTINUUM! COOL, HUH?

HOW DO YOU KNOW ALL THIS STUFF?

FROM HANGING OUT WITH JILIAN AT LESBIAN AVENGERS MEETINGS. SHE TOLD ME SHE WAS GONNA SEND THIS TO YOU.

YOU LOVE TO WATCH ME SQUIRM, DON'T YOU?

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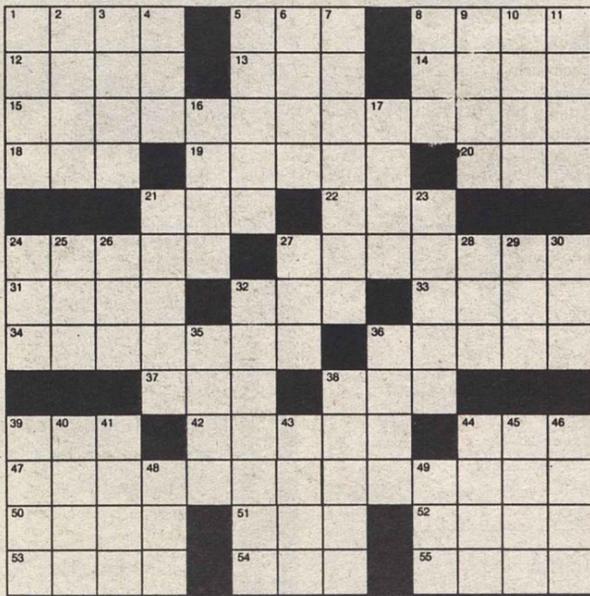
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DOWN

1. Heavy sleepers?
2. Gay fencer's tool
3. Popular houseplant
4. Hot sticks
5. Ryder author Barnes
6. Large antelope
7. Liza Minnelli movie, *The Cuckoo*
8. Vampire, at times
9. On the safe side
10. Carpenter's necessity
11. Vanilla sex alternative
16. Monthly payments
17. Bristle
21. Plan again
23. Villain's expression
24. Sylvia Plath's *The Bell*
25. *Much About Nothing*
26. Viet
27. Shame!
28. *Delta of Venus* author, Anais
29. Wind direction
30. Female ruff
32. Night or day
35. Type type, for short
36. Costa
38. Diet necessity
39. Small bills
40. *A New Spelling of My Name*
41. Shock
43. Rip
44. Cris Williamson album, *Angel*
45. Hades
46. Piñero play, *Short*
48. Request
49. Big recording co.

ACROSS

1. Shari Benstock's *Women of the* (with 8 across)
5. Decks (abbr)
8. See 1 across
12. Type of marriage or season
13. Protrude
14. Jai
15. The Mama of Dada
18. Part of a yen
19. Make used to
20. Men's club member
21. Cell component
22. "a girl!"
24. *The New Yorker* correspondent, Gènet (with 27 across)
27. See 24 across
31. T.V. cop show, *-12*

ACROSS (Cont'd)

32. Oy! in Paris
33. "One" to Conrad Veidt
34. Lesbian painter Brooks
36. "The Muse of the Violets," Vivien
37. Proprietary (abbr)
38. Evergreen
39. lb parts
42. Closet alternative
44. That lesbian
47. The Amazon of Letters
50. Flightless birds
51. Actress West
52. Composer Porter
53. Swim alternative
54. Make a mistake
55. Tools

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Resume to Box 261, 5920 Roswell Road,
Suite B-107, Atlanta 30328. No tele-
phone inquiries please. (7.25)

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ROOM SERVICE

1	G	O	A	L	5	B	L	U	E	9	A	P	T		
12	O	R	B	S	13	R	I	L	E	14	T	R	A		
15	B	E	A	U	16	T	I	F	U	17	R	O	O	M	
18	S	S	R	19	D	E	E	20	A	M	M	O			
25	A	L	O	T	27	A	U	R	A	29	D	I	P		
32	G	I	O	V	33	A	N	N	I	34	S	R	O	O	M
35	A	I	M	36	S	N	O	B	37	U	R	N	S		
40	F	I	L	L	43	R	E	C	45	R	A	T			
48	R	O	O	M	49	O	F	O	N	51	S	O	W	N	
55	A	T	A	56	D	E	A	D	57	T	O	R	T		
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AIDS HOTLINE FOR WOMEN—888-
9991—a project of the Feminist Women's
Health Ctr. 5:30-9:30pm Mon-Fri,
10:30am-2pm Saturdays. Caller anony-
mity assured.

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

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

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

Announcements

Attention BellSouth employees. Did
you know there is now an organized
group of your gay/lesbian/bisexual co-
workers? Associates Networking for Gay
& Lesbian Equality (ANGLE) meets
monthly and is open to all active and
retired employees of BellSouth Corpora-
tion, its subsidiaries and affiliates. For
more information, call the ANGLE
Hotline at (404) 723-6540. We have or
will start chapters throughout the
BellSouth region. (7.28)

"Gay and Lesbian Philanthropy: Giving
for Social Change", Saturday, Septem-
ber 10, 1994, 10-4. \$35.00. To register
call Fund for Southern Communities
(404) 577-3178. (7.29)

HOLLYWOOD HOTS. Volunteer
Orientation Party is planned for Thurs-
day, August 4 from 7pm-8pm at
Backstreet. Call (404) 876-0954 for in-
formation.

Armed Presence gun training/safety and
target practice for the lesbian/gay/bi
community. (404) 734-2584 or PO Box
78781, Atlanta, GA 30357. (7.28)

ATLANTA ALTERNATIVE
AQUATIX: Are you interested in com-
petitive swimming? AAA is in the orga-
nizational stages looking for swimmers
of all ages to express interest in forming
a gay ad lesbian swim team. For more

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ditions for its 1994/95 season. Please
call Robert at (404) 609-9590 for an
appointment. Auditionees need to bring
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minutes. The season has seven shows
with many roles. All types are needed.
Bring resume and headshot to auditions
at TULA, Suite N-1, 75 Bennett Street,
N.W., Atlanta, GA 30309.

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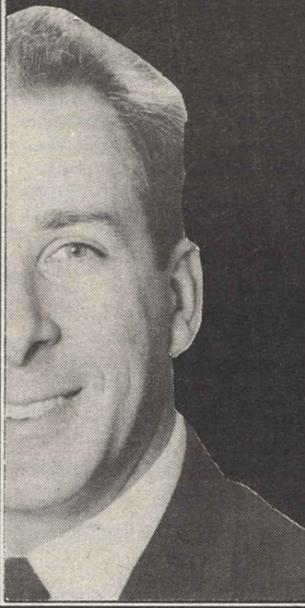
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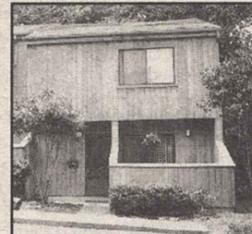
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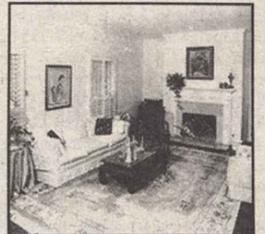


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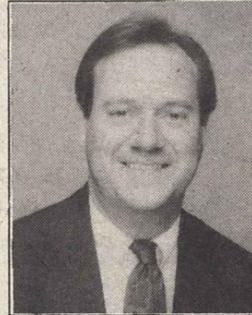


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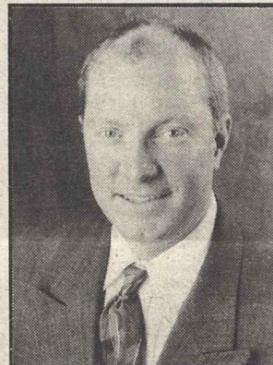
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Hilton Head. Beautiful ocean-front 1.5 bed condo. Great beach. 2 pools, lighted tennis courts, cable, VCR, \$500/wk. Call (404) 304-9339 (in Newnan, GA). (7.24)

THE OLD MILL - Bat Cave, NC. B&B on banks of rushing mountain stream near Asheville. Call (704) 625-4256. (7.40)

Stillwell House B&B, Hendersonville, NC. (704) 693-6475. Queen size bed. Private baths, mixed, European style home architecturally, built 1920. MC & Visa welcomed. (7.34)

GULF VIEW! Studio, sleeps 5, pool side. Near Seagrove, 20 min. from Panama City. Clean, peaceful, secluded. \$65 daily & weekly specials. (404) 923-6442. (7.25)

Volunteers
HOLLYWOOD HOTS volunteer orientation party is planned for Thursday, August 4th from 7-8pm at Backstreet. Please call (404) 876-0954 for information. (7.24)

AIDS Walk Atlanta needs volunteers to help produce the annual event that benefits AID Atlanta, Project Open Hand, and other AIDS Service and Education providers. Volunteers needed NOW through November, day and evening. Join the fight against AIDS. Please call Jamie at (404) 876-9255. (7.28)

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED to participate in GSU Psychology Research on childhood experiences of gay and bisexual men. Involves completing questionnaire by mail. All responses kept strictly confidential. Study results available to participants. (404) 288-6821 for information or to participate.

Volunteers needed for sponsor sign-up on 5K Walk and Run against domestic violence. Help get your friends in gear.

Call now at Crisis Resource Center (404) 221-0252.

WE NEED YOU! Good Samaritan Project provides support & community for persons with AIDS. 873-4589. This includes all Disability Divas. (7.40)

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.

HOLLYWOOD HOTS!
Volunteers are needed NOW through September for this year's event. Earn free tickets to the show. Please call (404) 876-0954

Voice Connection
WOMEN

SoVo Pick of the Week
WF wants serious relationship with tall, slim, feminine woman. Prefer long hair. Must love animals, and fun. Outgoing, trustworthy and honest a must. No butches or Bi's. Age 23-35. ☎ 1619

GWF, 25, attractive professional. Love golf, all sports, quiet evenings. ISO feminine women age 30-38 w/similar interest for dating. ☎ 1620

GWF, 37, tall, attractive, blonde/blue, fit, feminine, professional. Appreciate: humor, honesty, spirituality. Interest: music, sports, movies. ISO similar traits, appreciation/interests. Age 32-42, for friendship/dating. No smoking/drugs. ☎ 1621

38 y/o GWF in committed relationship seeking Butch Buddy for friendship/pal. I'm honest, hardworking, nature lover, in recovery. Alcohol/drug-free. ☎ 1622

Lesbian artist, 31, attractive, professional, ISO woman with similar interests between 29 and 35 for friendship possibly more. No smokers. ☎ 1614

WM 48 slightly submissive oral devoted and enthusiast ISO G/Bi/S female attractive requiring daytime stress relief, reciprocation not required. ☎ 1615

GF Any Age. All fun! No games. Happy Shiny People seek same. LET'S DO LUNCH. ☎ 1616

One of a kind. Quality lady. Attractive GWF 28, passionate, sensitive, non-smoker, fit likes wine, art, laughter, outdoors, quiet nights and candlelights. Seeks 26-34. No butches, bis or game

players. ☎ 1617

GWF 35, fit, fun loving, affectionate and self-supporting. Enjoys camping, hiking, fishing, country music/dancing, seeks mature GWF. ☎ 1618

N/E Coast GWF-28 intelligent, very good looking, great sense of humor, well-travelled, studying law. ISO similar friends, but would enjoy dating if mutual attraction. Tell me about yourself. ☎ 1497

GWF, attractive, blue-eyed, long-maned guitar goddess looking for GWF, hippy-type, 26+ for friendship, possible relationship. No drugs. No smokers. Call now... ☎ 1498

NE Ga. GWF 35, wks nights/weekends, smoker seeks sincere, monogamous relationship-oriented GWF. No drugs, bar scenes, games, butches. I am seeking soulmate. P.O.Box 1115, Flowery Branch, GA 30542

GWF seeks "Better-Half", petite, femme, GWF 35-45. Be center of my amorous attention/sexual energy. Let's talk. No drugs/bisexuals/alcoholics. ☎ 1500

GWF-fem/attractive/35 educated/physically fit/new age/non-drinker seeks similar GW-Fem for companionship. No alkie/druggies. ☎ 1501

Curious gdlg 5'5", 114#, bl/br, 36, feminine seeks same for friendship. D/D-free. New to lifestyle. No butches. ☎ 1502

Attractive GBF educated, career oriented, feminine. Enjoys jazz, dining out, weekend rendezvous, and more. Seeks GBF for friendship/more. ☎ 1503

Sensitive Heart, Gentle Soul—GBF, Feminine, full-figure, attractive, likes music, movies, dancing. Seeks GBF 30+ for friendship/outings/conversation. ☎ 1480

Help!?! GWF, 26, intelligent, witty, professional, loves dancing at the smokey bars, but looking for a mature, honest, passionate relationship?!? Also loves travel and the arts. No wall-flowers, please. SoVo Box 1592 or Voice Connection ☎ 1592

Bi/WF, 27, 5'4", 119#, married, seeks single, attractive BiF's 18-35. Live-in lover relationship possible. No Men/Couples. ☎ 1593

fortysomething GWF, thoughtful, bright, witty & unpretentious would really like to meet new women who are adventurous, spontaneous & mentally stable. Enjoy travel, cats, sports, stimulating conversation and more. Prefer non-political fellow smokers. No drugs, plus sizes, Bi's, butches or Virgos please. Make my move to Atlanta special. ☎ 1596

GWF Professional, ISO mature; financially secure 35ish, blonde hair, very feminine, friendly professional (degreed) - No butch, smokers, drugs or bis. ☎ 1579

Angela Lansbury lookalike seeks Linda Evans lookalike 40-50 something. I: cat lover, smoker, buxom, blonde/blue. U: similar. ☎ 1549

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.

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DIRECTIONS

Lesbians who like to hike or camp, call me. ☎ 1542

GBF, 36, attractive, professional, searching GF (35-40) sensitive, good conversation, adventurous, love good food, jazz. Over ex. ☎ 1567

GBF interested in meeting a slim, attractive, professional to share a committed relationship with. NO GAMES PLEASE. ☎ 1552

Kayaker, trained beginner, seeks older lesbian kayakers for platonic paddling down Hooch, etc. Humor more important than roll. ☎ 1553

GWF, Buckhead-looking—not politically correct—desire attractive, intelligent, travelled, spiritual, communicative, affectionate GWF, 28+. No Yankee-haters, butches, smokers, drugs. ☎ 1554

GWF, attractive, sane. Seeking same into romance, fine arts, sensitivity. No Games. Late 20's early 30's. ☎ 1532

GWF, 35, attractive, professional, intelligent, witty, seeks same. Likes theater, arts, movies, music, dancing. Honesty, sensitivity, humor required. Express yourself! ☎ 1539

Attractive GWF enjoys romance, outdoors, pool, music, scuba. Seeking friend, possible relationship with attractive, physically fit, emotionally sound GWF, late 20's early 30's. ☎ 1533

GWF, 27, Attractive, fit, non-smoker, funny, honest, affectionate, caring, independent. Loves music, animals, sports, outdoors. Seeks similar for mature relationship. ☎ 1477

GWF, 30, kid at heart, semi-butch, dreaming about a romantic playmate to keep me on my toes. I'm in a rut—come ruin my life! ☎ 1468

27-yr-old, attractive, sensitive, sincere GWF who is peeking out the closet door ISO supportive, understanding women for friendship, possibly more. ☎ 1458

GWF, 33, professional, good sense of humor, enjoys travel, good friends and spiritual growth. Prefer non-smoker seeking loving, intimate relationship. ☎ 1448

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

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

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

MEN

SoVo Pick of the Week
Any hot-looking Queer Nation left-overs out there wanna have some fun??? Kick ass/move society and laugh. ☎ 1702

Cute, BM, athlete, 22, 5'8", smooth body, great personality. Seeks interesting WM 25-35 for fun Friendship/Relationship. ☎ 1624

GWM, 47, responsible, attractive, masculine, professional, no smoke/drugs/drink seeks GWM son, under 30, for long-lasting monogamous relationship. ☎ 1700

Hairy? Horny? 34 year old cub seeks

aggressive nonsmoking sexy kinky Dad (30-45) for intense relationship. ☎ 1701

Hot GWM wants hot OUT friend. No cowards. Sex maybe. Fun. Adventure. Any race. Change world. No fats/fems. ☎ 1703

Hunting for bear! Attractive, hairy, athletic, GWM, 31 looking for a beefy, stable WM into sports, movies and travel. ☎ 1704

Two attractive, HIV-, discreet, GWM, versatile tops, 37-40 seeking mutually satisfying ongoing explorations. Anything SAFE/kinky. Bottoms preferred, versatile okay. ☎ 1705

GWM 30, 5'8", brn/hzl, 170lbs. Bottom. Enjoys books movies and adventurous sex. Seeks top for good times possible relationship. ☎ 1706

WM, 23, 5'7", 138, seeks W/B/Muscular males 18-30 for honest friendship and adventures. Endowed and tanned are plus! ☎ 1707

GBM, 34, 5'7", 135 healthy, interesting. Seeks tall, heavyset, country type Dominant Top 40-50, 200-300 lbs. ☎ 1708

YOU: Hip-hop, MARKY-MARKish, "regular Joe." Gorgeous BM (20s) HIV-seeks young, Christian WM. Prefer Columbia, SC resident, all considered. Box 1891, Columbia, SC 29202.

Attractive, masculine, caramel Southern Virginian male, 36, healthy, screenwriter desires goodlooking, muscular, blonde beau, hairy, creative professional into romance. ☎ 1710

GWM seeks GBM professional, mature and sincere wanting to improve the Quality of his Life with massage. Erotic and Safe. ☎ 1711

GBM 38, professional. Dislike club scene. Very masculine seeking same. Financially independent. Would like to enjoy life. HIV+. ☎ 1600

Want to work up a sweat? GWM, 34, seeks muscular, tanned GWM 20-40 for

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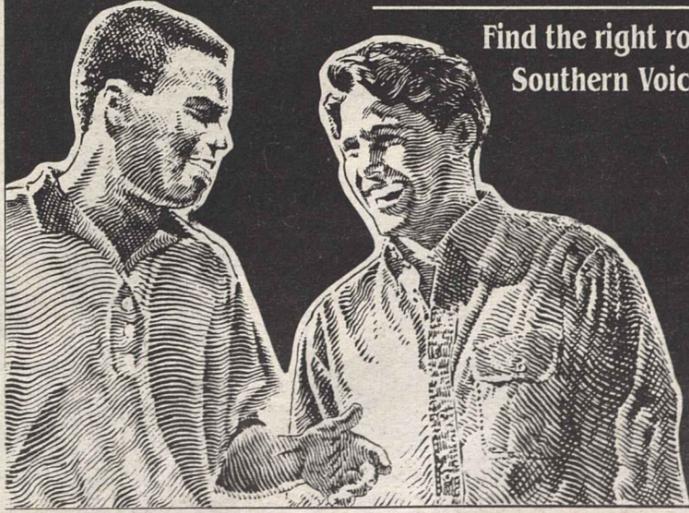
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PERSONALS

51

hot workout. Let's get together. ☎ 1519

EX SOLDIER BOY

Attractive, hot, clean shaven BM 24 y/o, 5'10", 155, seeks versatile, attractive GWM 18-30. ☎ 1602

Classical musician, GWM 24, 6', 150, br/br, educated, attractive, romantic non-smoker seeks similar WM 22-32 to "make our garden grow". ☎ 1603

GWM *thirtysomething* from Northwest S.C. Honest, drug-free. ISO similar 28-38 possible relationship. ☎ 1604

BM, attractive, sexy, seek dominant BM top who's into FF. Remember the song "I'm looking for a two-fisted love". ☎ 1605

Dig this. Landscaper, 36, 5'10", 155 all muscle, 30" waist. Handsome, overeducated corporate drop out. Similar? Call for stress reduction. ☎ 1606

WNC Teddy Bear looking for another teddy bear to get into some mischief in the afternoon or early evening. ☎ 1607

Healthy Wealthy Wise MBiWM 45, burly, hairy, ISO young smooth, endowed submissive GBiWM available daytime for it mentoring loving. ☎ 1608

Genuine, masculine, GBM, 24 seeks sincere romantic, masculine, open-minded GMs of any race for exploring stimulating new friendship/relationship. ☎ 1609

GWM, early 30s, 180, 5'11", brown hair seeks daytime fun. Box D-498, 2221 Peachtree Road, Atlanta, GA 30309

Buff jock 18-35? WM football player 6'1", 230, muscular goodlooking 40 gives rubdown and service after workout. ☎ 1610

Landscaper, 30s, 5'10", 155, 30" waist, masculine, muscular, hot, handsome. Similar in Smyrna, Vinings, Austell? Discreet! Regular buddy for shower days. ☎ 1611

Goodlooking maculine WM seeks ONLY very masculine BM for safe, discreet encounters. No fats/fems. Discretion assured. ☎ 1612

Muscular GWM, 40, 6ft, 180lbs, HIV+, vgdllg, in relationship, needs more. Seeking submissive boy, 25-30, for role playing, B/D. Discreet. ☎ 1504

GWM, 36, 6'3", 195, blue collar professional, OK bod; avg looks, hard working, stable, w/varied interests. Would like to meet similar guy 28-38, establish friendship. Goal: monogamous. Write Box 6501, 1189 Virginia Ave., Atlanta, GA 30306

GWPM, 44, new in Atlanta, seeks GWM 18-30 for friendship, fun. Prefer slim swimmer's build, active top, endowed, clean-shaven, non-smoker w/discretion assured. No fats, fems, bears, barflies please! ☎ 1506

GWM young 48, 5'11", 158, I want it all! Passion, romance, sex—all is possible in a committed relationship. I am a sales executive with an outgoing personality, in shape, healthy, non-smoker/drinker. Looking for fun, adventure, and

quiet times. ☎ 1507

Attractive BM sought by tall, slim WM. Safe, discreet, good times only. No strings. ☎ 1508

BUTCH BOTTOM

6'2", 180, blk/blu, moustache. Smooth, hairless build. Visit Atlanta often. Seek similar tops. Singles/couples/groups. Butch only, no wannabes. ☎ 1509

GWM 33, 6'1", 152, blue eyes, dark brown hair, moustache. Seeks romantic GWM 30-40s with moustache, into lots of cuddling, kissing, dating, quiet times, maybe more. No fats or fems. Box 77, 1544 Piedmont Ave, Atlanta, GA 30324

CUTE 28 GWM

HIV- br/haz 160. Not N-2 bars. ISO GWM 25-35 N-2 gym, movies. No drugs/alcohol/fems. Buckhead Roswell area. ☎ 1511

Romantic North Georgia bottom, chubby, seeks average top with above average endowment. Like movies, music, sci-fi, ethnic men. Ready for Mr. Right. Hi-tops/workboots A+. Box 1512, 1189 Virginia Ave, Atlanta, GA 30306. ☎ 1512

Oriental male fit/safe cleancut seeks quality full body massage once a week. Please non-smoker. ☎ 1513

GWM, approaching 40, OK looks, HIV neg, seeks similar for movies, walks, home life, some going out. ☎ 1514

Needy In Alabama. GWM Professional 30ish, 170, blond hair. Got small town blues because I'm not with you...an intelligent, in shape, stable GWM 30/40ish. Relationship minded. Save me! ☎ 1515

GWM, 34, gentle, kind professional seeks same. Handsome, articulate, creative. Likes classic films, theatre, dining and soft music. HIV+. ☎ 1516

BM, 30, sexy, attractive, 5'8", bottom seeks a hung masculine, aggressive, BM top for fun sessions. Any age okay. ☎ 1517

ISO Peter Brady. GWM seeking average GWM. Prefer stable Plymouth-Rock-type person (not financially but Spiritually) for breezy relationship. ☎ 1518

Writer seeks correspondence with male prison inmates, gay or non-gay, reference gay sponsors, pen-pals. Gaddis, P.O.Box 40, Marblehill, GA 30148

Some day we'll be together...German, blond, tall, slim, 43, HIV- wishes correspondence with GBM, attractive, 20-35, no fats/fems/HIV. Come here for vacation, I can come in fall. Send explicit letter/photo: Dietmar, postlagernd 50823, Cologne 30, Germany

WM with 300+ videos, looking for others wanting to trade; possibly more with right person. Midtown area. ☎ 1488

GWM, 24, 5'10", 165, bl/bl, likes hiking, camping, mountain biking, movies. Sincere, honest, ISO same. No fat/fems. ☎ 1482

GWM, 37, 5'11", 150, MASCULINE,

dominate, aggressive, Romantic, HIV-, into light S/M, B/D. Seeking younger counterpart, long term. ☎ 1483

Hairy Italian extremely goodlooking, ex-model, 29, 6'3", 188, sexy, dark skin, masculine, seeks Black or Latin masculine top in great shape w/9" or more. ☎ 1443

Are you HIV+, horny and in need of sexual fun? Me 20's slim submissive bottom. Large endowments get an A+. No one over 35 or out of shape. ☎ 1484

GWM, above average looks, trim, hung, seeks similar for safe oral encounters. ☎ 1485

Elder GWM Mystic (60's) in Western NC seeks younger man (30's) with psychic awareness to explore live-together relationship. ☎ 1486

WM Masculine 6'4", 150, looking for masculine Black male top. Discretion assured. Can handle business. ☎ 1487

Race unimportant. Early 40s, nice looking, 5'10", solid 180, dedicated, professional, HIV+, GBM, seeks sincere GM for dating/relationship. ☎ 1489

GM couple, 27 and 33, down to earth, masculine, likes outdoors, seeks similar GM couple for fun and friendship. ☎ 1490

Sexy, passionate, Italian, GWM, 32, swimmer's build, 6'0", 160, seeking hot, gym-boy couples for mutual satisfaction. ☎ 1491

BOTTOM WANTED by attractive playful safe top, late 30's, Australian heritage for safe discreet fun-day/night. ☎ 1492

Homosexual Algebra 1+1=the R word. GWM 30's athletic, tall, smooth seeks heavy pec'd masc. GWM 28-40 who can equate! ☎ 1493

GWM, 32, 155, 5'7", seeks intelligent GM, any race. I'm into running, weightlifting, wrestling, outdoors, dining out or ??? ☎ 1494

SPREAD & SMILE!

Love your butt played with? 39, hairy HIV-top, 5'10", 170, seeks healthy bottoms, 20-45 for rear action. NO MARRIEDS! ☎ 1495

Childlike GWM 30, seeks gay Asian or Latino "playmate". Looking for a happy ending. ☎ 1496

GWM, 31, HIV+, very healthy and fit. I'm nice looking and interested in meeting another sane guy. ☎ 1590

ROMAN CATHOLIC GWM, 5'10, 168, 39, Hairy, degreed, sane, sensitive, non-preentious, HIV-, stable, sincere seeks guys 20-45 for friendship. ☎ 1565

GWM, 40, 6', 210, br/blu, into 99X, sports, travel, poetry, seeks GWM 35-45 for dating and possible relationship. ☎ 1578

GWM, 5'7", 165, br/br, mod. hairy, seeks GWMs under 5'6" w/equipment over 8.5. Uncut a plus. Also into body worship for bodybuilders under 5'6" w/same equipment requirements. Let's play! ☎ 1580

GWM, 48, 6'6", medium build, blue/sandy, above average looks, wishes to meet Gay Black or Asian male for relationship. ☎ 1538

Dominant Daddy/Coach, 37, 6'3", average build, thick equipment, seeks submissive, trim, muscular son/player for discreet, no strings daytime sessions at your place. PO Box 80366, Atlanta, GA 30366 ☎ 1475

GWM COUPLE, 27 & 38, attractive, seeking other couples, singles, 18-40, for hot, safe j/o sessions. No strings. PO Box 610292, Birmingham, AL 35261

Wall Street Shark, 42, 6', 190#, Masculine. Into vanilla, business, politics, single malts, VSOP, and the humanities. All in moderation. ☎ 1479

Hot masculine leather bottom, 40's, muscular, HIV-, 165, 5'7", seeks hot masculine top, HIV-, preferably into leather. All calls answered. ☎ 1467

Headstrong Ivy kid, 25, political, social, outdoorsy, low brow tastes, involved, sex-positive, moving to Atlanta, seeks friends all types, ages. ☎ 1471

DGWM, Masculine, Handsome, Versatile, PHD, 40's, HIV-POS, 6'1", 180, Brn/Gm, Mustache, Eclectic taste Bach to Merchant. Seeks same 25-50. ☎ 1451

HOMEBOYS ONLY-BM, 27, tall, baldhead, stocky, masculine, will be in Atlanta in July, seeks homeboys to show me around. ☎ 1445

Eclectic 26yo looking for friends/lover. Likes: roller coasters, sports, Broadway musicals, movies, music, books, theater, dancing, romance, computers, etc. ☎ 1453

GWM, Attractive professional, Educated, kind & fun. 6ft 170 Blond hair, Blue eyes, YOung 40's. ISO Educated GAM (Student ok) for physical and spiritual exploration. ☎ 1454

26yo, 5'3", 130#, brown hair, blue eyes. Big surprises come in small packages! Unwrap your special gift today! ☎ 1455

Hot Horney Men 25-40 wanted by 34, Blonde-Green. Into movies, toys, W/S, couples welcome. Hairy A plus. ☎ 1456

GWM 40's, Husky, Hairy, HIV+, 5'6", Brn/Haz, mustache, goatee, down to earth nice guy. Sexually versatile and open minded within safe limits, non-smoker, occasional drink, likes movies, reading (sci-fi, advent., horror), fleamarkets, dogs, plants, picnics, quiet home life, occasional night out. Seeks GWM or GLM, 30-45, masculine, down to earth, with similar interests, prefer HIV+, slim to med. build, some chest hair, sexually versatile, for friendship and possible life time relationship. Lives too short to go it alone, take a chance. ☎ 1457

GWM seeks GBM-GWM, prof., 36, BI/BI, 5'11", 170, would like to meet gdlkg, masculine, professional GBM, 26-40. ☎ 1464

GM, 35, 6'2", 175, attractive, fit, educated, endowed. Seeking GM 25-40 who's 5'10" plus, non-smoker, HIV-,

versatile, romantic. ☎ 1440

BM, 5'9", 160lbs, trim, masculine, hung, versatile seeks similar brother for no strings sessions. ☎ 1444

GWM, 30, 6'6", 190, br/blue. Hits: Intelligence, masculinity, respect, fur/beard. Recceding? Misses: Ignorance, attitudes, bitches! Under 45/200lbs. ☎ 1449

Hard body, GWM, goodlooking, 5/6, 135, br/br, tanned. Working out, roller blade, beach trips. Looking for someone HIV+ to share life with. A pretty face and charming personality gets my vote. ☎ 1450

GWM, 33, 6'3", laid back professional with eclectic interests; animation, L5P, movies, 99x, Braves...You, 25-40ish, sense of humor. ☎ 1416

Carolina Daddy Bear seeking Warm Cub. GWM, 6'3", 250, sincere, intelligent, travelling, professional. ISO smooth, lithe guy (21+). Quality. ☎ 1430

GWM seeks hot GBM 18-30 for discreet encounters. Must be safe & attractive. Let's get together. ☎ 1431

WM, 24, very cute, good body, submissive, wants to service endowed, in-shape, masculine, healthy man. Leave message. ☎ 1433

Wanted: Abv avg WM, 30's, needing reg daytime oral satisfaction by WM, 33, 6', 180#. You provide place, I provide relief. I-75/285 area, no strings. ☎ 1407

If you're a GWM, HIV+, better looking than average, healthy, fit, clean cut, 35-45 and boyfriend-minded, we should talk. ☎ 1403

GWM, 33, 5'9", 180, masculine, attractive seeks GWM 21-39 for giving and receiving massages and/or playing tennis. 1357

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

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

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

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", 160lbs. Top who knows how to take control. Call, let's connect.

☎ 1262

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

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

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

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

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

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

TV/TS

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BISEXUAL

BiBM, 6'2", Carl Weathers look alike seeks young men for no strings attached fun. ☎ 1613

GBiSWF sought by fun safe gdlk w/S WM for marriage of convenience w/o strings. 1544 Piedmont Ave, Ste 37, Atlanta, Ga 30324

BM, 42, 5'8", 175#, seeks feminine BiM for ongoing relationship. ☎ 1630

BiWF, 20, 5'5", br/gr, feminine, sexy, intelligent, seeks taller feminine woman for exciting companionship. Long hair preferred. No butches. ☎ 1631

I'm a fun guy, 30, into sci-fi, classical rock and roll, seeking male or bi female, 20-40, any race. ☎ 1577

BiWM, 25, student, hot looks, body, endowment, seeks man for discreet, no-strings visits. All answered. ☎ 1551

GWM submissive seeks leather Master or dominant, 25-45, for daytime discipline and service. ☎ 1470

CURIOUS VIRGIN-VGDLKING, shy, quiet, kind, smooth, diseaseless 32 6' 175, WM, ISO younger smooth patient understanding tender top for discreet sensual pleasurable explorations. ☎ 1452

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

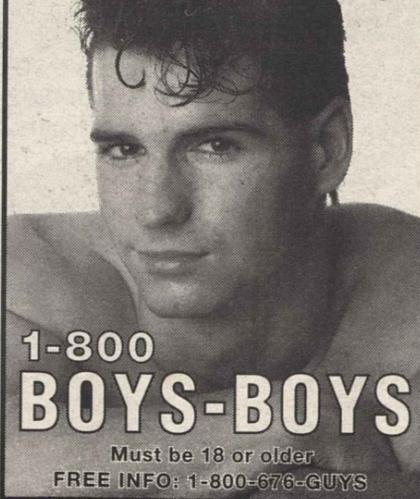
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thursday

Start the wild weekend with camp and glitter at the **MISS HOTLANTA PAGEANT** then dance the night away at the big **LOT PARTY**, to welcome the rafters, in the parking lot at **BLAKE'S**

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Atlanta has never been hotter, as dozens of the **HOTTEST** men in America strip down and strut their stuff for the title of **MR. HOTLANTA INTERNATIONAL 1994**.

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saturday

This year the **RIVER ADVENTURE** starts on Saturday, August 13th. Thousands of bikini clad studs start a day of parties on the river "Shootin' the Hooch!" Then that evening the Clan of the Hand Wavers and Steve Berman Productions brings you our big party, **GRAFFITI**, for you and several thousand of your soon to be close friends. For hardcore partyers, the **CORE** offers an afterhours party for late-nite revelers.

(GRAFFITI PARTY Atlanta Apparel Mart Atrium. Doors open at 9:00 pm. \$30 in advance • \$35 at door.)

sunday

Eat, Drink and be "Mary" at **HRE'S MAIDEN BRUNCH VOYAGE**. Then sashay over to **AXYS** for the ultimate Tea Dance, with a closing party at the **ARMORY**.

(Brunch starts at 11:00/\$20. Tea Dance at 4:00/\$10 in advance • \$15 at door)

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