

S O U T H E R N
VOICE
 TAKING PRIDE IN OUR CULTURE

NOV 17 - NOV 23 / 1994



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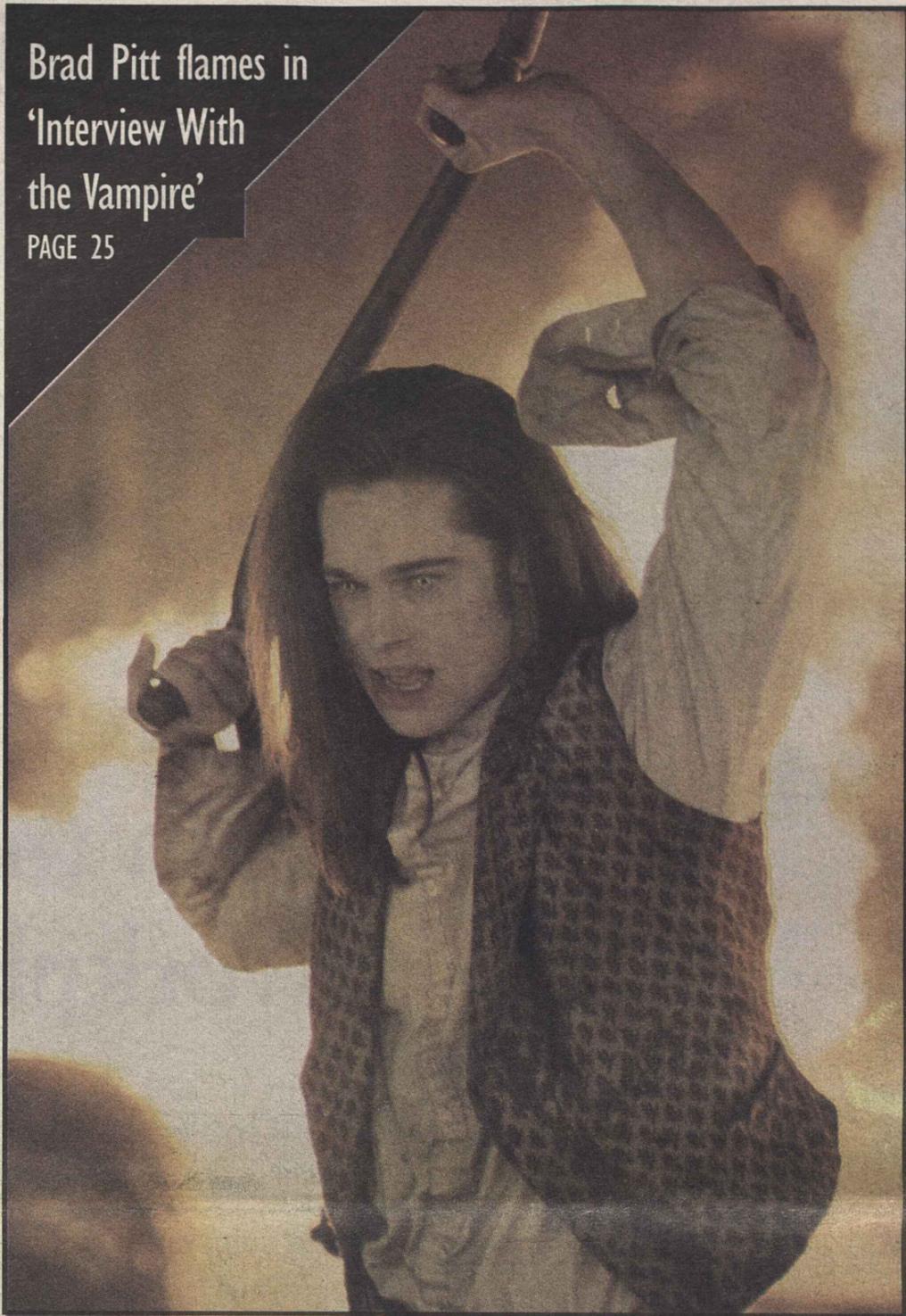
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Elections Issue Wake-Up Call

Despite a Republican sweep, gay candidates fared well and anti-gay initiatives were defeated. What's needed now, observers say, is solid organization.

by KC WILDMOON

Democrats across the country woke up last Wednesday morning with a colossal collective hang-over from Tuesday's election nightmare, as Republicans swept into political office on every level. Conservative, often far right, Republicans now control more of the political agenda in this country than ever before.

But sifting through the rubble of that conservative landslide last week, there are glimmers of hope. Two statewide ballot initiatives aimed at promoting discrimination against gay men and lesbians went down to defeat; gay and lesbian support rallied to prevent convicted felon Oliver North from gaining a U.S. Senate seat in Virginia; more openly gay candidates won elected office than ever before; and no openly gay incumbents lost their re-election bids.

The lesson? There's a tremendous amount of work before us, and where that effort is put out, lesbian and gay issues fare well.

Ballot initiatives

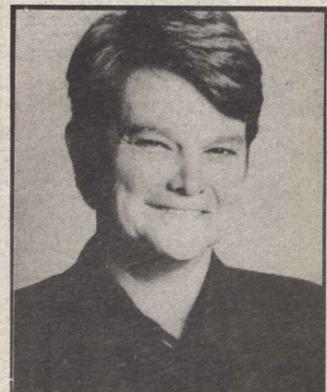
For the second time in two years, Oregon voters rejected the idea of banning civil rights for lesbians and gay men. In 1992, a draconian measure that equated homosexuality with bestiality and necrophilia went down to defeat, but the initiative's sponsor, the

Oregon Citizens Alliance, was not deterred. The group began a campaign of promoting anti-gay measures on the local level, passing 26 such measures in Oregon's cities and counties (two more passed in last Tuesday's election), while preparing a milder version of the 1992 statewide initiative for 1994.

The battle over Measure 13 was no less contentious than 1992's Measure 9, and in the end, the measure lost again—although by a closer margin. Fifty-three percent of Oregon's voters rejected the idea this year, compared with 56% opposed in 1992. OCA pledged to continue its anti-gay drive.

"The OCA is going to continue to bring this issue forward as long as it's an effective organizing tool for them," said Julie Davis, an organizer in the 1992 campaign. "But we're here too. We're not going to go away."

Across the border in Idaho, Republicans swept the races for the legislature and the governor, replacing many spots held by Democrats. But Idaho voters also rejected the anti-gay ballot initiative, by a 51-49 margin. And in Idaho, at least part of the credit belongs to the grassroots organizing efforts of gay men and lesbians in traditionally conservative Northern Idaho.



Sheila Kuehl will be a lesbian voice in the Calif. assembly.

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Mayor's Conference on HIV/AIDS in the Workplace

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Gays, progressives face uphill battle after Ga. elections

Atlanta—While progressive Georgians dodged some bullets, keeping the Christian Coalition-backed Guy Millner out of the governor's mansion and shutting down Lt. Gov. candidate Nancy Schaefer, elsewhere the state was not so lucky.

More conservative Republicans were elected to the General Assembly this year, threatening the shaky balance that existed between moderates and progressives. Michael Bowers was reelected as attorney general, setting him in an ideal position to run for governor in 1998. And a virtual unknown unseated incumbent Werner Rogers as superintendent of schools.

Former school principal Linda Schrenko, from Columbia County near Augusta, topped Rogers by 13,000 votes with heavy backing from radical right forces and little attention elsewhere.

"The Christian Coalition folks were quietly doing their organizing in the churches," said Vicki McLennan, president and lobbyist of the Georgia National Organization for Women. "They just cranked out their network, particularly on the issue of education. That's where they want to place a lot of emphasis in the General Assembly."

With Schrenko, they get a dream come true. She scored a perfect rating on the Christian Coalition voter guide—opposing outcomes-based education, distribution of birth control in schools, and the portrayal of homosexuality as a "normal" lifestyle, while supporting "advising students of the Georgia law which criminalizes sodomy."

"One of the worst things, for a long time to come, is Linda Schrenko," said GAPAC lobbyist Larry Pellegrini. "And what she's going to do isn't going to get a whole lot of notice until the legislature is in session."

An increased number of far right Republicans in the Georgia legislature will mean more legislation aimed at curbing civil liberties, Pellegrini predicted.

"The voters of this state do not know what they did," he said. "They have elected some people who misrepresented themselves during the campaign. People they probably would not go with if they knew their true positions. And we have to wait two years to correct it."

"There'll be some crazy things [in the legislature] and we're not going to get any satisfaction out of saying 'I told you so,'" he

added.

But, Pellegrini noted, "it really appears that most of our friends did well." Among those legislators returning for the next session are Sens. Ron Slotin and Mary Margaret Oliver, and Reps. Jim Martin and Doug Teper.

"Election night was a little like 'hold onto the family jewels,'" he said of the conservative onslaught. "But we're not going to give up. This may be the kick that makes all the progressive groups come together."

Pellegrini criticized the heavy use of the Christian Coalition voter guide, which he said distorted the records of many candidates in favor of those of the far right.

"They ought to be ashamed of themselves for putting the word 'Christian' on these handouts," he said.

Some complaints were lodged with the election commission regarding the voter guides—both for their content and their distribution. Poll watchers found voter guides mixed in with sample ballots at many polling places.

But the ultraconservative vote failed in two races where a right-wing win would have been devastating—governor and lieutenant governor.

"We undoubtedly helped Miller," said Pellegrini, although he added that he had not yet seen precinct-by-precinct returns. "It's important for us to claim something in that race, because it's there."

And probably in the race for lieutenant governor as well, where anti-gay activist Nancy Schaefer, who finished third last year in a run for mayor of Atlanta, did not fare as well as other Republicans in an election dominated by an anti-Democrat trend.

"There was more than a 10 point difference," Pellegrini said. "To have [Republican] Public Service Commissioners win, school superintendent, insurance commission, and not Nancy Schaefer, surely represents some targeted voting in her race. But she'll do something else politically next. Whatever that is, we'll have to beat her again, and put her out of business. She's now got two strikes."

While Schaefer's loss was a cause to rejoice, in Cobb County no victory celebration



GAPAC's Larry Pellegrini took his show on the road for last Tuesday's election.

was had by opponents of Commissioner Gordon Wysong and his anti-gay resolution. Wysong, running for reelection against Bill Secrest in the heavily Republican and very affluent District 3, handily won the race.

"Waking up Wednesday morning, I thought 'there's no way,'" said Noel Lytle, cochair of the Cobb Citizens Coalition. "But putting it in perspective, Wysong is just a minor irritant compared to what happened nationwide."

Lytle said that Wysong's reelection should not be considered a referendum on the resolution that cost Cobb County an Olympic venue. "It was part of a trend," he said. "It just so happens Wysong belongs to the right party."

Noting that Wysong garnered 59% of the vote in a district that is 70% Republican, Lytle said that the resolution apparently cost him some votes.

"He won by less than he should have," he said. "I feel like people were voting against him, and perhaps some who voted for him were uneasy. But we're going to continue to fight the resolution, regardless of the results of this one election."

KC WILDMOON

Olympics Out of Cobb wins award, retires debt

Atlanta—The organization that successfully convinced the Atlanta Committee for the Olympic Games of the folly of a Cobb County Olympic venue was honored last weekend at the National Gay and Lesbian Task Force's Creating Change Conference.

The Olympics Out of Cobb Coalition received the 1994 Creating Change Award at the conference in Dallas on Nov. 13, joining past winners such as the National Latina/o Lesbian/Gay Organization and Digital Queers.

"It's wonderful in that it's coming from our peers," said Jon-Ivan Weaver, cochair of the Coalition with Pat Hussain. "These people saw what we did as important. And it's not just for me and Pat. To me, anyone who did anything received this award."

Weaver, a supporter of Atlanta's bid for the 1996 Olympic Games, was profoundly disheartened last winter when he learned that preliminary volleyball matches were scheduled to be held in Cobb County, where county commissioners had earlier passed a resolution proclaiming that gay men and lesbians did not meet "community standards." He and

a small group of dedicated believers launched a campaign full of letters, protests and meetings with ACOG officials to have the venue pulled.

"Making sure the Cobb County Commissioners didn't get an Olympic event was the main thing in my life during those months," Weaver said. "We were willing to do what we had to do, and it worked."

And the award was not the only good news to come to the Coalition last week—an anonymous donor contributed \$2,600 toward retirement of the debt the group had amassed during the campaign, and the Atlanta Lesbian and Gay Pride Committee kicked in another \$1,000 to close the books.

"The debt is retired," Weaver said. "The community has been very generous."

Coalition members spent over \$5,000 of their own money on flyers, T-shirts, an airplane flying over this summer's Pride celebration and more.

"That doesn't take care of every penny that everybody spent, obviously," Weaver said. "Many individuals gave things on their



Jon-Ivan Weaver said "the community has been very generous" in helping retire the debt.

own because they wanted to help the coalition."

KC WILDMOON

Group battles zoning board over AIDS residence

Atlanta—AIDS Education & Services for Minorities (AESM) is engaged in a battle with its Grant Park neighbors over the proposed expansion of a housing facility for people with AIDS.

The house, located on Boulevard since April, currently houses six men with AIDS/HIV. The organization had applied for a zoning variance to grant a Special Use permit for a Community Service facility, allowing AESM to expand the facility and house up to 14 people. The city's Zoning Review Board voted to reject the proposal at its Nov. 3 meeting after hearing from both opponents and supporters of the facility.

"This is dealing with bad use of a zoning issue. This is a neighborhood," Michael Reeder told the board, adding that 14 people under one roof would have an "adverse affect on what is a single-family neighborhood."

Reeder, secretary of Neighborhood Planning Unit-W, also called the house a "transient home," saying "it comes off as being a flophouse."

The opposition presented 44 petitions opposing the zoning variance, but some neighbors do support the facility's plans. In fact, the Grant Park Neighborhood Association, after hearing no opposition at its Oct. 18 meeting, voted unanimously to support the proposal. The trouble began a week later at the meeting of NPU-W, which voted 8-5 with 3 abstentions to oppose the change.

Following the Zoning Review Board vote, supporters and opponents met with City Councilman Vern McCarty on Nov. 9 to discuss their differences. McCarty said he would make a decision within a few days about his position for the City Council vote on the matter, which is set for the Dec. 5 meeting.

Delores Rollins, coordinator of housing for AESM, said that the process has thus far been an arduous one.

"I feel like I'm in a war zone every time I go to a meeting," she said. "But we want to be good neighbors."

Regardless of the upcoming council vote, AESM may get its wish to increase the house's occupancy—the property is currently zoned to be a duplex. The organization would only have to remodel the house as a duplex and the change would double the home's occupancy to twelve.

"We're going to continue to pursue it, to get the variance to increase our occupancy from six to fourteen," Rollins said. "But if that fails, we're still going to be there. And we're going to have 12 or 14 people regardless."

Robbie Lanigan, president of the Grant Park Neighborhood Association, said he understands many of the immediate neighbors' concerns about the facility.

"The key is use," he said. "We need these types of facilities, no doubt about it. But there are already about five facilities on [Boulevard] now. I'd be happier if they were more spread out."

"It's not a very happy situation," he continued. "There's never going to be a winner in this."

KC WILDMOON

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Adoption ban goes to FL high court

Tallahassee, FL—Gay couples should have the same rights anyone else does to adopt children, attorneys for a Sarasota man told the state Supreme Court.

But state attorneys argued Nov. 4 that lawmakers have the power to bar gay adoptions, and social services authorities are entitled to delve into the sex lives even of heterosexuals planning adoptions.

"There is simply no basis to conclude that homosexuals are in any way less capable than heterosexuals of being good parents," Nina Vinik, an American Civil Liberties Union attorney from Miami, argued on behalf of James W. Cox.

The court is considering an appeal by Cox, who, with his companion, Rodney M. Jackman, also of Sarasota, sought to adopt children with physical, mental or emotional handicaps.

The two, who acknowledged their homosexuality, were told by HRS officials in 1991 that state law prohibited gay men and lesbians from adopting children.

Cox, 32, a professional pianist, and Jackman, 28, a state Department of Revenue

collection specialist, challenged the law in Circuit Court in Sarasota. Circuit Judge Scott Brownell declared it unconstitutional in March 1993.

But Brownell's decision was overturned in December by the 2nd District Court of Appeal in Lakeland.

"In excluding members of a particular class, wouldn't one need to show that all members of the class are unfit to adopt?" Justice Gerald Kogan asked Anthony DeLuccia Jr., attorney for the Department of Health and Rehabilitative Services. "Suppose you said anyone who is black can't adopt, or anyone who is Jewish can't adopt?"

DeLuccia responded that race and religion are constitutionally protected, but "the Supreme Court of the United States has said homosexuality is not one of those fundamental rights that are deeply rooted in the nation's history."

New Hampshire is the only other state with a state law barring adoptions by lesbians and gay men, Vinik said.

BILL BERGSTROM

N.C. restores anonymous HIV testing

Greensboro, NC—North Carolina will continue to perform no-name HIV tests for at least two years, reversing an earlier decision that met strong opposition from activists.

The North Carolina Commission on Health Services said Nov. 4 that it will allow people to undergo anonymous screening to determine if they have HIV. The commission had planned to switch to recording the names of people being tested, promising to keep the information confidential.

State health officials said they planned to stop anonymous tests because they could contact others who may have been infected by a patient who tested positive for the virus.

"As the epidemic has changed in nature, highly effective contact and notification has become more important," said state health director Dr. Ron Levine.

AIDS activists and researchers say that

anonymous testing encourages more people to be tested for HIV. ACT UP/Triangle went to court and forced the commission to stall its planned Sept. 1 switch until it considered further evidence.

That evidence was presented Nov. 4 during hearings at the Koury Convention Center.

Testing information is not as secure as some would expect, said commission member Barbara Huberman, who described what happened after she sought an AIDS test.

"Three weeks ago, I got a call from my insurance company wanting to know what the results were," she said. "I was stunned."

Huberman said her health insurance rates went up even though her test was negative. AIDS activists told the panel Huberman's story shows that anonymous testing provides the highest degree of privacy.

ASSOCIATED PRESS

Va. college wants partner benefits

Fredericksburg, VA—The Mary Washington College faculty has called for the extension of health benefits to the live-in partners of gay and heterosexual employees.

"We expressed our support for the principle and that's all we're able to do," said John Morello, a professor and the faculty-affairs chairman.

Advocates conceded extension of the benefits would require revision of statewide policy. They noted, too, that the anti-sodomy statute and other Virginia laws may be used to block such change.

Professor Donald Rallis, in urging the faculty's passage of the measure, noted the

college's governing board has formally stated the school won't discriminate on the basis of sexual orientation.

"It's a political question at this point," Morello said. "Benefits are a matter of state policy, and Virginia colleges don't have total control over their health plans."

The College of William and Mary's faculty also has urged that employees of public colleges statewide be allowed to share benefits with gay partners. Gov. George Allen has said he would oppose such a move because it would be tantamount to a state sanction of gay and lesbian relationships.

ASSOCIATED PRESS

Three arrested in La. hate-crime probe

New Orleans—Three teenagers were arrested Nov. 4 for allegedly harassing and making threatening telephone calls to students living on campus at the University of New Orleans, police said.

The phone conversations included threats of violence against persons that the callers believed to be gay, Sgt. Barry Fletcher said.

Two juveniles, ages 15 and 16, were booked with making obscene, harassing or threatening telephone calls. Their identities were not released because of their age.

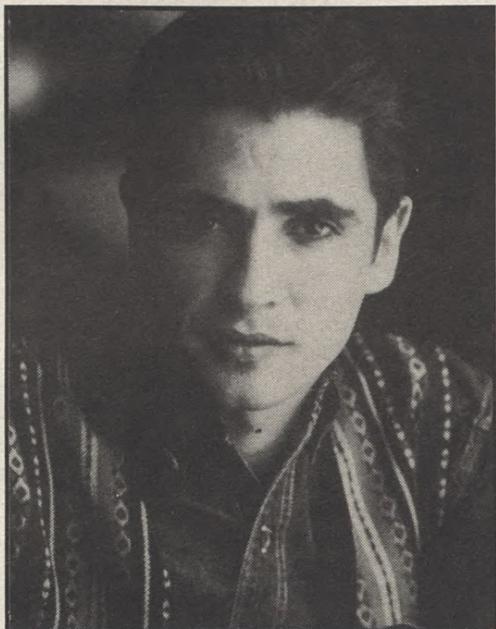
Also arrested was Wayne Haydin, 19, a former UNO student. He was booked with accessory after the fact to the threatening telephone calls. Investigators are seeking a fourth suspect, who is also wanted for making obscene, harassing or threatening telephone calls.

"These types of crimes leave permanent scarring on persons within our community," Police Superintendent Richard Pennington said in a news release. "Even those who are not direct targets suffer from these incidents."

ASSOCIATED PRESS

Pedro Zamora, AIDS Educator, Dies At 22:

Pedro Zamora, known to thousands of teens for his speeches and appearances on MTV's "The Real World," died on Nov. 11. He was 22 years old. Zamora, who fled Cuba at the age of 8 during the Mariel boatlift in 1980, became infected with HIV as a freshman in high school. He began speaking publicly to groups of young people about AIDS soon after learning of his own infection. An advocate of safe-sex education, Zamora in July told members of Congress, "I am frustrated with programs that are more concerned with offending people in the general public than with saving lives." He joined the cast of MTV's "The Real World" in January and his health began to fail in August, after filming was complete. The Zamora family has established the Pedro Zamora Memorial Fund at AIDS Action Foundation. Donations may be made by calling (800) 790-2332 or (202) 986-1300, ext. 29.



Pedro Zamora

'Scott Doe' Settles Case, Reveals Identity:

The HIV-positive lawyer who sued his former employer for discrimination in Philadelphia has settled his suit out of court. Scott Burr, who revealed his true name two days after the settlement was announced (he was "Scott Doe" during the trial), and the law firm of Kohn, Nast & Graf reached the settlement after three weeks of court testimony. Terms of the settlement were not announced, but attorneys observing the case estimated it was at least \$1 million. Burr charged that the firm fired him in March 1993 after his boss learned of his HIV status. Kohn, Nast & Graf, under the confidential terms of the settlement, continue to deny Burr's charges. Burr said that he was revealing his identity as a "final step into the light."

Australia Votes To Override Tasmanian Sodomy Law: The Australian House of Representatives on Oct. 19 passed a bill designed to override a Tasmanian state law banning sex between consenting adult men, the Washington Blade reported. Chris Miles, a Tasmanian social conservative and member of the Australian Liberal Party, resigned from Parliament after abstaining from the vote. The Human Rights (Sexual Conduct) Bill passed by a vote of 114 to 4. Justice Minister Duncan Kerr said he was pleased by the vote because it rejected the efforts of anti-gay organizations in Tasmania and "stood up for the human rights of Tasmanians, the right to privacy."

Tacoma Man Admits To Faking Vandalism: One of three housemates charged with insurance fraud for "vandalizing" their rented house in July has admitted he helped trash the house and then blamed the act on anti-gay bigots. Erick Lee Brovold, 24, pleaded guilty October 31 to first-degree theft related to insurance fraud and malicious mischief for causing extensive damage to the home. Anti-gay graffiti was scrawled on the walls, and police initially thought the vandalism was a hate crime. Brovold is to be sentenced Dec. 7. At press time, his two housemates were awaiting trial but were expected to plead guilty.

Paris Bus Drivers Strike Over Syringe Attack: Striking French bus drivers shut down half their service in the Paris region Nov. 2, demanding more security after attackers stabbed a bus driver with a syringe they said was tainted with HIV. The driver in question was attacked and robbed by three assailants who escaped. The syringe was not found. The attack was the latest in an increasing number of violent attacks on the Paris bus system. The Paris transit authority, RATP, said it would soon add 20 guards to the lines most affected by the violence, and that buses on those lines would be equipped with protected driver stalls next year.

Israel Stunned By PWA's Campaign Of Vengeance: HIV-infected professor Yeshauahu Demner spent the last year of his life advertising for sex, spreading the virus and videotaping the men he slept with, police say. Demner was found murdered two weeks ago; police suspect the engineering professor—described by students as a reserved, kindly man—was bludgeoned to death by a man he infected with HIV. Police sources said Demner offered partners money to forgo use of condoms. "There is no doubt he wanted to extract revenge for getting AIDS, that is made clear in his diaries," said a police detective in Demner's hometown of Haifa. Anula Shamir, spokeswoman for the pro-gay Society For Personal Rights, said the case "has done gays and lesbians here great harm, strengthening a stereotype of the homosexual as dangerous to society, a corruptor of young people."

Store Fired Employee For Being Lesbian, Suit Charges: A former I. Magnin employee accused of stealing said she was fired because she is involved in an interracial lesbian relationship. Sharris Davis, a former cosmetics saleswoman, and her girlfriend, Myra Williams, former head of security at the chain's Oakland store, have filed a \$1 million lawsuit for lost wages and emotional distress. Davis, who is black, claims in her suit that store security searched her Oakland apartment, which she shares with her girlfriend, in November 1993 and then fired her because she is a lesbian. The suit alleges that I. Magnin secretly investigated the women, including installing a secret video camera in Williams' office, when other employees at the store discovered the couple lived together. Spokeswoman Shirley Wilson said the department store had not yet seen the lawsuit and could not comment on it.

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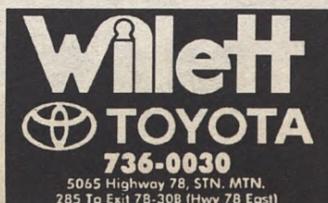
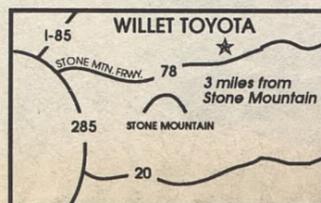
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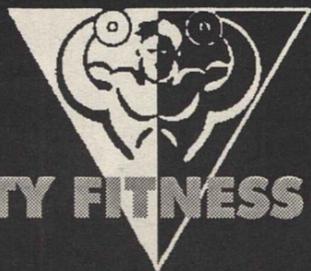
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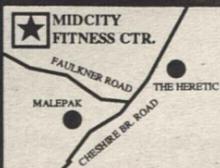
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Elections

Continued from page 1

In Latah County, a rural area centered around Moscow, the Lesbian Avengers Civil Rights Organizing Project spurred a campaign that produced 61% of the votes against the Idaho Citizens Alliance-sponsored Proposition 1. In Lewiston, a logging community in central Idaho, voters were 54% against the measure. Lesbians and gay men in both Moscow and Lewiston celebrated with spontaneous demonstrations, including a 130-foot pink triangle on Lewiston Hill above the town.

The measure went down to defeat by 3,000 votes in both Latah County and the more populous Ada County, ensuring the 4,000 vote defeat of the measure. But the close vote means that the ICA will be back.

But in Florida, lesbians and gay men did not fare so well. Alachua County (Gainesville) voters repealed a county non-discrimination ordinance that included sexual orientation (57%) and banned any future such laws (59%). The defeat was devastating for the county's No on 1 Coalition.

"We did our best to educate people that this was the only protection that we would have based on sexual orientation," said Georg Ketelhohn. "It is a lack of awareness that federal and state laws do not include sexual orientation."

David Caton, who led the campaign to repeal the ordinance, said his organization, the American Family Association of Florida, affiliated with Mississippi anti-gay activist Rev. Donald Wildmon, will now target gay rights laws across the state, with one rather interesting exception.

"Our goal is to repeal every gay rights law in Florida," said Caton, "with the possible exception of Key West."

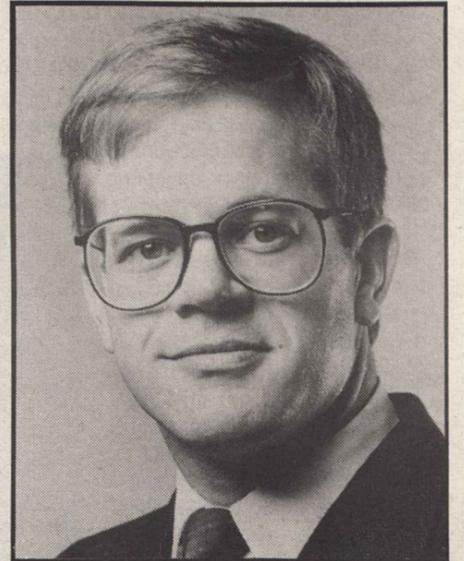
But the battle over Alachua County's anti-gay vote is not over. A legal challenge to the initiative is already under way.

Gay and lesbian candidates

Where they ran across the country, openly gay candidates were largely successful. Even the losers in two high-profile races—Karen Burstein for New York state Attorney General and Tony Miller for California Secretary of State—ran very close to victory, and their losses may be largely attributed to the anti-Democrat sentiment that pervaded the country.

Elsewhere, success was evident. Carole Migden, Susan Leal and Tom Ammiano completed a "lavender sweep" of the San Francisco Board of Supervisors, and two openly gay candidates were elected to the San Francisco Community College Board. California also elected two openly lesbian judges—Bonnie Dumanis to the San Diego City Court and Teri Schwartz to the Los Angeles Superior Court.

And California also gained its first openly



Washington State's Cal Anderson was re-elected.

gay state legislator. Sheila James Kuehl, formerly best known as brainy Zelda on "The Many Loves of Dobie Gillis" from 1959 to 1963, was handily elected to the state assembly.

"I don't believe it," Kuehl said. "There was an awful lot of anti-Clinton voting, which is very difficult to understand because that's where I've made my stand. I think I've got my work cut out for me."

Other lesbians and gay election victors have their work cut out for them as well. Washington State Senator Cal Anderson, perennial sponsor of that state's gay rights law, was re-elected. Ken Chevront won election to the Arizona House of Representatives, Tim Van Zandt will be his counterpart in Missouri, and Will Fitzpatrick will serve in the Rhode Island State Senate. Oregon will have three openly gay state representatives: George Eighmey, Cynthia Wooten, and Gail Shibley. Wisconsin state Assemblymember Tammy Baldwin was re-elected, as was state Rep. Glen Maxey in Texas, state Sen. Dale McCormick in Maine, and state Rep. Karen Clark in Minnesota.

On the U.S. Congressional level, Massachusetts Reps. Barney Frank and Gerry Studds were both re-elected.

"Each of our candidates won two races [Tuesday] night," said Kathleen DeBold, deputy director of the Gay and Lesbian Victory Fund, an organization that provides financial support for openly gay candidates. "One against their opponents, the other against the Radical Right's distorted image of gay men and lesbians."

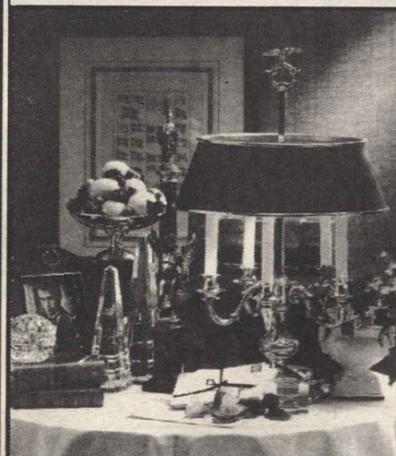
Now what?

Despite all those victories, gay men and lesbians are faced with the most conservative government they've seen since the emergence of the gay movement. On the national level, the forces arrayed against gay-positive legis-

CONTINUED ON PAGE 22

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Atlanta Feminist Women's Chorus hires male director

Choice raises some eyebrows, but the show must go on

by ADAM J. SANK

"There's some really nice singing going on here, very nice," says the director, hands waving emphatically across the chorus's 50-plus members, "but can you work toward a more open sound on the word 'fire?' Let's try it again, please." The members commence "Fire, Fire," a madrigal piece they are rehearsing for their December concert, and this time one can truly hear a clearer, more open "fire."

To the observer, nothing seems unusual about this Sunday evening rehearsal—expect that this is the Atlanta Feminist Women's Chorus (AFWC), and the director, Robert Glor, is a man.

Fire, fire, indeed.

Since April, the 12-year-old, mostly lesbian AFWC had been searching for a person to direct the chorus, following the departure of Glenna Shepherd, who had served as director for the 1993-94 season. The chorus's board of directors sought a person, presumably a lesbian, with sufficient experience conducting choral music who could commit to the position. That task turned out to be more difficult than they had anticipated.

"One would think that there are hundreds of appropriately trained, 'out' lesbian feminists just waiting for this opportunity," says Eileen Stone, chair of the AFWC Concert Committee, in an open letter to the lesbian community, "but one would be terribly wrong." In fact, the board found few candidates that were both qualified and committed to directing the chorus. One woman was hired in the spring, but she resigned shortly afterward. As the fall rehearsal season drew closer, chorus members worried that a suitable person would not be found in time to prepare for the December concert.

A general business meeting of the full chorus was held in August, at which chorus president Teri Atkins first suggested to the members the possibility of hiring a director without regard to her or his gender or sexual orientation. Members of the full chorus were at first reluctant to consider even the possibility of a male director, says Atkins, but a lengthy dialogue brought out a wide spectrum of opinions on the issue.

"What I think was so fabulous," says Atkins, "was that a number of women started from a place of 'I have a real problem with this and I don't know if I can sing [with a male director], and through discussion we were able to get to a place of 'OK, I'm willing to see how it feels.'"

As strongly opposed as some women were to the idea of a male director, the notion of canceling the season altogether was far more unpleasant. "The prevailing theme was that



Interim director Robert Glor has won over skeptical chorus members with his sensitivity and skill.

the chorus must continue," notes Stone.

After deciding to broaden their search to include candidates of both genders, the AFWC board selected two men and one woman to audition in front of the full chorus on September 11. All three potential directors conducted a vocal warm-up and then ran through a portion of a new piece of music. Each had his or her own personal style, according to Stone, and the goal was to determine which had the best rapport with the chorus, aside from being qualified. Following the audition, members voted for the candidate they wanted most as their director—and again on whether they wanted to simply cancel the December concert.

In the end, the majority felt that the show must go on, and that gay male Robert Glor

made them want to sing the most. Glor, the MCC Christ Covenant choral director, was offered the position of interim director and has been working with the chorus every Sunday since.

"I spent a lot of time that weekend thinking about what I was going to say," Glor recalls of his audition, "so I talked to them about my fears and my excitement in doing it."

Though he was thrilled to be chosen, Glor is careful to emphasize that a female director would better lead the AFWC in the long term. "I'm the interim director," he states. "I think that's a real important word in there. I would hope that the...lesbian community would understand that this is a bridge-type thing. It's

CONTINUED ON PAGE 18

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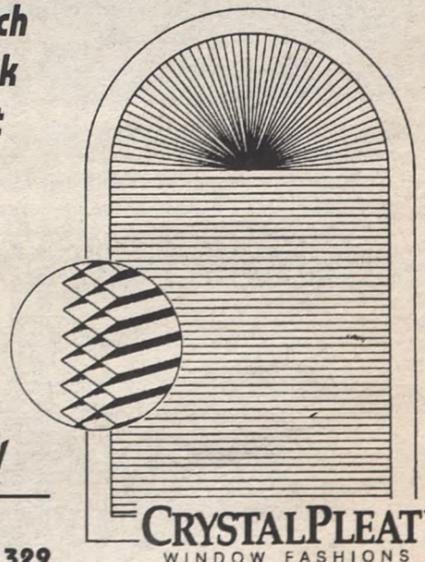
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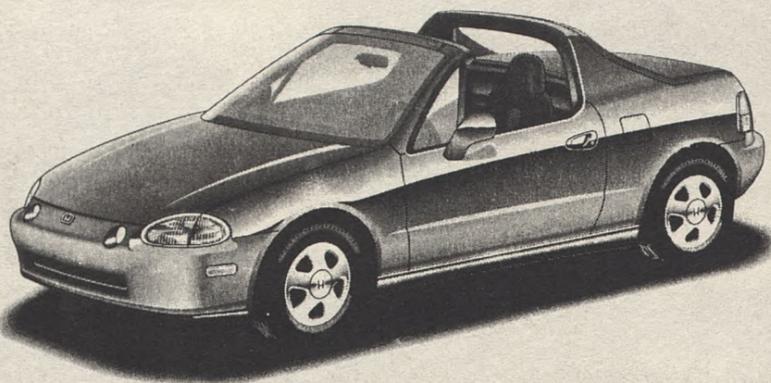


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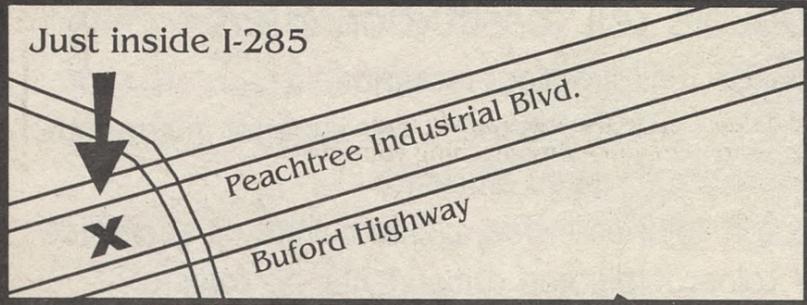
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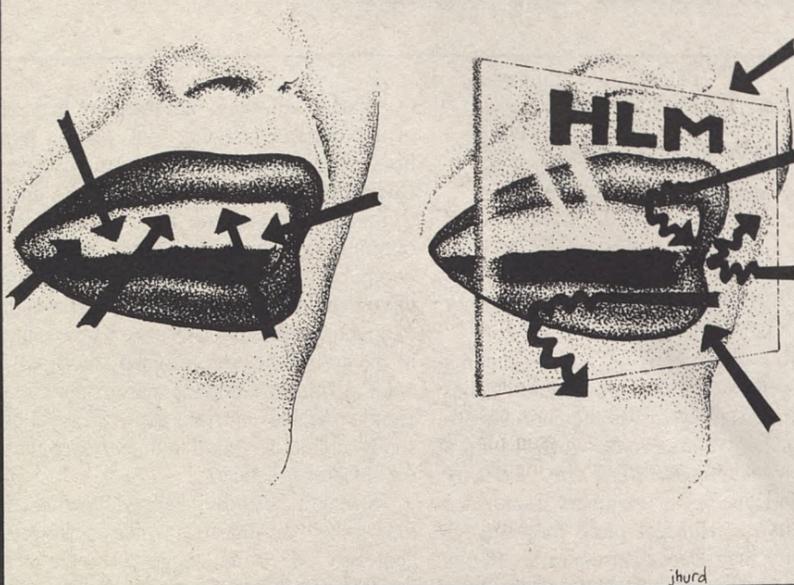
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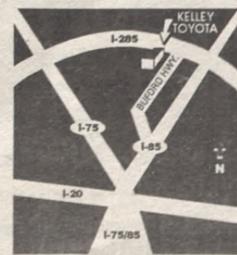
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Patricia Fleming to continue serving as AIDS czar

Washington, DC—Patricia S. Fleming was named National AIDS Policy Coordinator on November 10 in a ceremony in the West Wing of the White House.

Fleming has served in that position on an interim basis since August 2, when Kristine Gebbie stepped down as AIDS czar. Fleming initially said she intended to stay only a few months before returning to her job as assistant to Donna Shalala, Secretary of Health and Human Services (HHS).

"In her short tenure as interim AIDS Policy Coordinator, her tremendous performance has convinced me that she is the best person for the job," said President Clinton in making the announcement.

Clinton stressed that Fleming "will have direct access to me and to members of the Cabinet. She will play an important role in developing our budget and our policy proposals."

AIDS activists largely praised Fleming for her technical knowledge of the subject area and of Washington politics. But they were divided on whether she was the right person and whether the office had been sufficiently restructured to fulfill the President's campaign promise to create a true AIDS czar.

"We are delighted," said Jeff Richardson, executive director of Gay Men's Health Crisis in New York.

"This is one very highly connected person," added Jim Graham, executive director of the Whitman-Walker Clinic in Washington, D.C. "Shalala and her are like this," he said,

crossing his fingers. Then he spread his arms wide apart, saying, "Gebbie and Shalala were like this."

Dan Bross, departing executive director of the national umbrella group AIDS Action Council, said that Fleming had clarified the structural issues during her interim tenure in the office. He believes she agreed to remain in the job only after those issues were resolved.

Alexander Robinson, lobbyist on gay and AIDS issues for the American Civil Liberties Union, was less sanguine. "I'm trying to put on a happy face," Robinson said, adding that he admires Fleming but believes her appointment signifies a less than top priority commitment to AIDS by the Clinton administration.

"Symbols and ceremonies like today, without meaningful resources, are meaningless gestures," said Bill Freeman, executive director of the National Association of People With AIDS. Last spring, the group pushed for Gebbie's resignation and a restructuring of the office.

As for getting funding for AIDS from a Republican-controlled Congress, Fleming said she didn't foresee problems. "I really believe that AIDS is not a partisan issue whatsoever," she stated. "It is not politics, it's people."

Fleming noted that likely Senate Appropriations Committee chair Mark Hatfield (R-OR) "pushed through very large increases in AIDS funding" when he led that committee in the early and mid-1980s.

BOB ROEHR

Murders have Texas gays on edge

Odessa, TX—A string of grisly murders of gay men has the Texas gay community on edge. And some say the state's mentality of machismo and a burgeoning religious movement fosters hostility toward gay men and lesbians.

"There's a steady drumbeat out there that it's all right to hate, that it's socially acceptable to hate gays and lesbians," said openly gay state Rep. Glen Maxey.

"You do that long enough," he said, "and you give permission for somebody to beat somebody up or give somebody permission to kill."

Among the recent killings:

- Paul Quintanilla's hands were bound behind his back when he was stabbed more than a dozen times, his throat and genitals cut.

- Michael J. Burzinski was beaten, robbed and shot to death execution-style after being abducted by a group of teenagers looking for gays they considered easy marks.

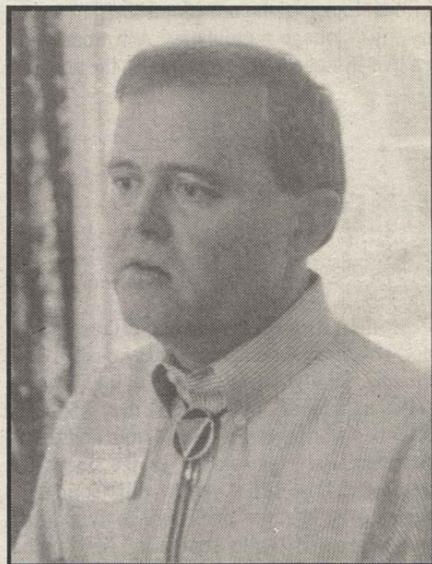
- Tommy Musick was shot four times in the back of the head by a man who claimed he panicked after Musick made an advance.

Another man was left for dead after being impaled with a tree branch outside a gay bar.

Dick Weinhold, chairman of the Texas Christian Coalition, which considers homosexuality immoral, says opponents of anti-discrimination laws are not to blame for the violence.

"I just reject flat out any kind of notion that holding a position opposing special rights for homosexuals would somehow suggest that people can become vigilantes and have a lynching," he said. "That's ridiculous."

Gay and lesbian activists say a Dallas judge's comment in 1988 reinforced hostility and encouraged lenient treatment to those who victimize gay people. Instead of life in prison, Judge Jack Hampton gave a 30-year sentence to an 18-year-old who had gone to a gay neigh-



State rep. Glen Maxey said anti-gay violence is "socially acceptable" in Texas.

borhood and shot to death two gay men.

"I put prostitutes and gays at about the same level," Hampton said. "And I'd be hard put to give somebody life for killing a prostitute."

In 1993, the teenager who killed Musick, a hairdresser, was sentenced by a jury to 12 years in jail. The assailant who speared the Midland man with a stick received probation.

In August, a high school student and four former football teammates were charged with murder in Burzinski's death.

In addition to Quintanilla, two other gay men have been found dead with multiple stab wounds in the Dallas suburb of Irving. Police have arrested a suspect in one killing but say leads have been exhausted in the other two.

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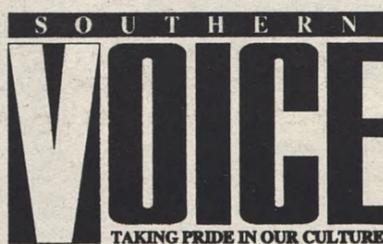


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NEXT WEEK

Harvey Milk

In 1977, Harvey Milk became the first openly gay elected official in U.S. history. In 1978, he was assassinated. A look at the legacy of the hippie photographer who changed the face of American politics.



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Southern Voice is published by Ryan Publications
Inc. with offices at 1189 Virginia Ave. NE, Atlanta
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mailing address, which is P.O. Box 18215, Atlanta
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GUEST EDITORIAL

Domestic partnership is separate and unequal

by BRENT HARTINGER

Almost everyone has had the experience of having a friend who is wildly excited about something—whether it be a new boyfriend, an investment idea, or whatever—while you have a sinking feeling about the whole thing. Bad karma.

Lately, I've been feeling a lot of bad karma about our community's fascination with the phenomenon of "domestic partnership." At least as enacted by most governments, domestic partnership is a terrible idea.

Invariably, domestic partnership-minded politicians spout rhetoric about fairness and discrimination against unmarried couples, both homosexual and heterosexual. But how is it, I always wonder, that unmarried heterosexual couples are "discriminated" against? They already have the option to get married and get all its benefits and protections. Only lesbians and gays don't.

But not all unmarried heterosexual couples want to get married, these politicians say. Well, I may not want to take a job that's been offered to me, but that doesn't mean I'm being "discriminated" against when I learn they've decided not to pay me the monthly salary.

The institution of marriage exists for a reason—and it's a pretty damn good one. Couples who make the long-term commitment called marriage are given certain financial and legal benefits. This encourages couples to make that long-term commitment, and also compels them to certain legal and financial obligations should they decide to break up. All this makes for a more stable, better functioning society.

With domestic partnership, on the other hand, financial benefits are doled out without any of the corresponding responsibilities. As a result, relationships—and all of society—will grow even less stable. Domestic partnership is one of those ideas—like denying welfare payments to single mothers who get mar-

ried, or granting government subsidies for the careless clear-cutting of old-growth forests—that will leave future generations scratching their heads and wondering: who the hell had that brilliant idea?

Straight people need domestic partnership like Roseanne needs another twenty-two personalities. But heterosexuals are always included in the laws anyway, mostly so that politicians don't alienate the large, heterosexual electorate. The inclusion of heterosexuals also obscures the real nature of this legislation: that it is another depressing example of the bigoted notion of "separate, but equal." For straights, domestic partnership is usually a transition point on the way to marriage, but for gays it is the only possible end. The result? Domestic partnership for gays, marriage for everyone else.

Thanks, but no thanks. Gays desperately need the full legal and economic recognition of marriage—especially in an era of AIDS. But once again, government is ignoring the real, pressing problem—blatant discrimination against lesbian and gay couples—while simultaneously trying to solve an imaginary, but politically expedient one—"discrimination" against unmarried heterosexuals. By contrast, when private corporations like Disney and Microsoft have bravely enacted their own forms of domestic partnership, it has applied only to lesbian and gay couples, who don't have the option to marry.

Domestic partnership activists usually make the point that the American public is not ready to accept the legalization of gay marriage. This may be true, but I say we fight the good fight anyway. Why? Not only because dignity demands it, but also because domestic partnership is simply bad law. In addition to destabilizing society, it is vaguely defined. Exactly who are "domestic partners" anyway? College roommates? A woman and her live-in maid? Are these really the sort of

relationships to whom we as a society want to be granting (and paying) financial benefits? And do we really want to pay for all the inevitable lawsuits charging more "discrimination"?

Society already has a measure of committed partnerships; it's called marriage. Why in the world should we go about creating a whole new social institution (and corresponding bureaucracy) just to appease the bigotry of those who think gays are "unfit" for the existing one? The reluctance of many lesbians and gays to even broach the subject of gay marriage makes me wonder about our collective self-esteem—and perhaps sheds some interesting light on our community's discomfort with committed relationships.

To be fair, many lesbians and gays also oppose gay marriage for a moral reason. The institution of marriage, they say, is innately sexist and oppressive. But if the institution of marriage is sexist, I say let's change it. And if most existing marriages are sexist or oppressing, why not simply define and arrange our partnerships in better, more egalitarian ways?

Thirty years ago, marriage was an innately racist institution; in many states, interracial couples could not marry. Fortunately, no one suggested creating a separate institution—"mixed race partnerships"—for members of different races. Instead, interracial couples demanded that society's definition of marriage be expanded to include them, and in 1967, the Supreme Court agreed with them, striking down all existing laws banning miscegenation.

The lesbian and gay community should forget the chimera of domestic partnership. It will upset a lot of heterosexuals, and even a few lesbians and gays, but gay marriage is the answer to our quandary.

Brent Hartinger is a free lance writer for a number of gay and lesbian publications.

COMMENTARY

Blame it on the Stones

by KEITH RANCOURT

I became a dedicated rock and roll fan at the tender age of ten when my maternal grandparents bought me my very first stereo for Christmas. It was a primitive, sturdy model with detachable speakers.

My grandparents did not know enough about popular music to realize that the Beatles were then enjoying phenomenal success. They wandered blindly through the record department at their neighborhood Woolworths and triumphantly emerged with three albums. One was by the Monkees, another by the Cowsills and a third by the Rolling Stones. I quickly outgrew the Monkees and was already too cynical to appreciate the wholesome family values suggested by the Cowsills, but never lost my initial enthusiasm for the dark appeal of those British Bad Boys, the Rolling Stones. I literally wore the record out.

My mother was horrified. To this day she still blames my grandparents and that record for my steady descent into moral decline and sexual perversion. Mother was appalled when her pre-pubescent first born baby boy left for Catholic School each morning lustfully singing "Let's Spend The Night Together." Nor did she appreciate my Mick Jagger imitation, holding the souvenir candle from my first holy communion as a fake microphone while angrily insisting, "I was raised by a toothless, bearded hag! I was schooled with a strap right across my back!"

Mother seemed personally offended by another Stones tune about bored housewives who get through their "busy, dying days," with the help of tranquilizers they shamelessly beg from sympathetic doctors and then often carelessly take nearly to the point of overdose. Those little, yellow pills sounded suspiciously like the ones I once found in mother's purse while searching for lunch money on a morning when she just couldn't wake up to see me off to school.

After barely becoming a teenager, I brought home the new "Sticky Fingers" album cleverly packaged in a cardboard photograph of Mick Jagger in blue jeans, complete with a working zipper revealing the bulging briefs beneath his tight trousers. The Rolling Stones had unknowingly crossed a line. My outraged mother tossed Sticky Fingers into the trash can and forbade me to ever bring any more evil Rolling Stones records into her house. I vowed revenge. Even today I take devilish delight in listening to that old recording on the newest format compact disc, although I must admit to feeling somewhat cheated by the absence of the working zipper available only on the original album.

Had my outraged mother been inclined to organize her angry protest against rock music Tipper Gore would be known today as a mere recruit in mother's early censorship army and not the moral pioneer she is sometimes cred-

ited with being for forcing record companies to put warning stickers on albums with suggestive lyrics.

Twenty years later, overwhelming personal problems combined with moral and financial bankruptcy, forced me to finally admit to a long ignored but fiercely simmering alcohol and drug habit. I then conveniently tried to blame it on the band. The Rolling Stones, however, were not really responsible for my shocking misbehavior and I eventually admitted that.

Although I still listen to Rolling Stones records regularly and see them several times on each tour, lately I've developed a passionate appreciation for country music. Those twangy, tragic tunes about endless hours of loneliness, forever lost love and the agonizing heartbreak of betrayal now seem directed at me in the same strangely intimate way my first Rolling Stones record once did. Almost daily I listen to these sad songs with innocent ease.

I can't imagine what new problems country music might bring into my already troubled life, now or in the future. I've already suffered through more shattered romances than Nashville's own heroine of heartbreak, Tammy Wynette. If Tammy can survive all that disappointment and live to love again, so can I.

We didn't lose everything on November 8

Sometimes, your instincts help you out, and sometimes they're at war inside you. For example, I am a Taurus, which means I am by nature instinctively conservative, cautious about change. I did not vote for Jimmy Carter either time. And yes, I admit it—I was even a Young Republican in college.

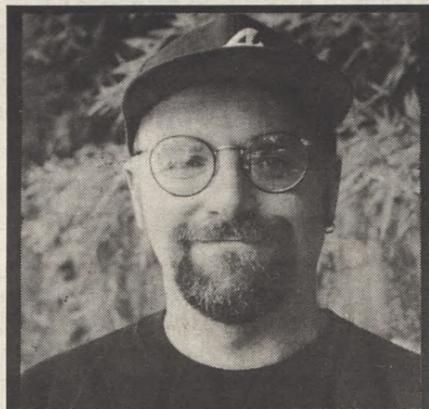
Yet, after becoming an openly gay man, I became reflexively liberal. I now know that I will not achieve in my life what I should if our society doesn't change and grow, and expand and figure out how to be more progressive and tolerant of all kinds of differences, mine included. I remember coming out within a week of Geraldine Ferraro's nomination as vice-president, and I've voted Democrat ever since.

So what to make of this tidal wave of political frustration that crested on top of my party on November 8th? I found it extremely painful, almost heart-wrenching, to see such a disaster befall the only institution of power that has ever, even slightly, expressed support for me as a gay man. As an individual, I now feel significantly less safe in this society.

And yet the conservative in me can see clearly why it happened. Democrats on the national level had long ago ceased being a political party, instead evolving into an assembly of special interests, one of which was me, that Democrats manipulated to keep themselves in control of government. We got Clinton as president in the first place because no other Democrat thought they'd win a nationwide election, and wouldn't give up their seat in Congress or their governor's chair to find out.

This nasty, vicious, dismally disheartening campaign that we just came out of is clear evidence that something is not working. Democratic leaders like Tom Foley, Dan Rostenkowski and Jim Sasser could give their constituents no better reason to vote them than, "We're powerful enough to keep bringing home the pork, making you rich at the expense of others' taxes." Now, with the disappearance of that cushion of votes provided by racist Southern Congressmen who don't believe what the national party stands for, the Democrats find their 40 years of uninterrupted Congressional control threatened. Maybe the opportunity for this tired group of politicians to revitalize themselves is just what the doctor ordered.

I wish there were sufficient Republican support for civil rights generally, and gay rights specifically, for me to consider them a



Southern Queer-ies

by AL COTTON

serious alternative. There used to be a Libertarian quality of tolerance in Republican circles. Newt Gingrich himself once claimed to believe that government should keep out of people's bedrooms, ours included. But that was long before the Republican feeding frenzy for Right Wing votes kicked in.

I think I'm ready for a liberal third party, staffed with a few fearless politicians who could actually stand for something unpopularity liberal, like gays in the military, or single payer health insurance. If we're there on the left, and Perot's group forms on the right, we might actually put some integrity back into our political system.

Amazingly, on gay issues, this was not a horrible election. In only one, limited sense were we even a part of this race—the gays in the military fiasco that diminished Bill Clinton's popularity in the South and Rocky Mountain West.

In almost every race where we had a personal stake, we did OK. A gay man in California and a lesbian in New York both lost creditable statewide races; all three openly gay Congressmen, including Republican Steve Gunderson, won reelection. The two anti-gay referenda, in Oregon and Idaho, were defeated, in spite of the tidal wave of Republican and Christian Right voters who were drawn to the polls for this election. Diane Feinstein prevailed, while Oliver North succumbed. These are not results to be slighted.

Some scattered specific observations:

1. It may be years before we know the full extent of the disaster represented by our gays

in the military debacle. It wasn't even our top issue in 1992. Far more of us would have fought harder if we'd been working on issues closer to home, like job discrimination. We managed to ferociously alienate conservatives, spending enormous amounts of political capital, and ended up humiliating our movement and costing our centrist president an enormous amount of goodwill, that showed itself in house races all across the South—the political equivalent of a triple play for the forces of evil.

2. Zell Miller, who may be Georgia's last governor for a generation with any hint of progressive leanings, won. And that may give us the last chance to take on Georgia's sodomy law. If repeal is to happen, it will come in the next two years, since Olympic pressure represents the only stick available to sway our rural legislators. It didn't work with the state flag, but with Michael Bowers as our first Republican governor just around the corner, we might as well try.

3. Wasn't it fascinating to watch Nancy Schaefer run, even slightly, away from an anti-gay past? A quote in the local paper on the Saturday before the election had Schaefer saying that "gays deserve every right I have." Yeah, right. Can't we swap her for Ann Richards?

4. The close victories in Oregon and Idaho, where statewide anti-gay referenda were on the ballot was simultaneously heartening and frustrating. To win in an environment where Republicans were rolling to victory everywhere was a remarkable achievement. But it's deeply frustrating to have to continually spend time and money stamping out bad things, and not have the time to work to cause good things to come to pass.

Which leads to the \$64,000 Question: Does Gingrich have any interest in moderating his party's social agenda? If he does, he could turn Republicans into a majority party within the decade. But our successes in Oregon and Idaho show that a social revolution is not what this country voted for. If they think they won a mandate to implement a conservative social agenda, they will be shown the door in two years, just the way the Democrats got introduced to it this year. Major gay bashing and an abortion rights rollback will backfire just as quickly as it did at the 1992 Republican convention in Houston, and Newt will be sharing a room with Tom Foley at the Ex-Speaker of the House Retirement Home.

CARBON COPY

Marc Morgan
WSB Radio
1601 West Peachtree St., NE
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Dear Mr. Morgan,

Recently I wrote to you to express my disappointment over WSB's sponsorship of a home show in Cobb County's Galleria Center. As I informed you at that time, Cobb's county-run facilities, including the Galleria, are the target of a nationwide boycott stemming from anti-gay resolutions passed by Cobb's County Commission.

My disappointment has turned to outrage upon learning that your companion station, B98.5 FM, is currently sponsoring the Atlanta Christmas Show, another event scheduled for Cobb's Galleria Center. Based on your actions, it is clear that you do not value your gay and lesbian listeners.

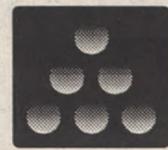
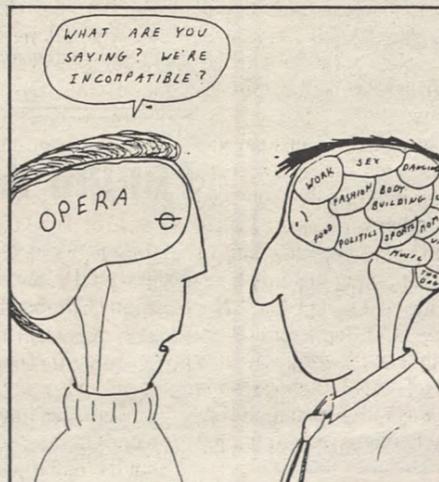
As a result, I will no longer listen to either of your stations until you find less controversial venues for your sponsored events. I have already removed WSB Radio AM-750 and B98.5 FM from my car's radio preset selec-

tions and am encouraging all my friends and associates to do likewise.

Sincerely,
Ken Leggio
Global Marketing, Limited

STONEWALL RIOTS

BY ANDREA NATALIE



GLAAD
News

by CARL LANGE

Postcards from the edge

That singularly-homophobic media watchdog group—the American Family Association (AFA) is at it again. The organization's Nov. '94 "Action! Page" calls upon AFA sympathizers to "Stop Network TV's Promotion of Homosexuality!"

"This fall network TV executives will continue to try to promote homosexuality as a normal and acceptable lifestyle" the AFA alert warns, "Because homosexuals cannot 'reproduce' themselves, they are forced to recruit new members. And the target of their recruitment drives are OUR CHILDREN."

The AFA alert also claims that "a major weapon in all these recruitment efforts is the distortion of truth." The alert explains: "This distortion states that homosexuals are healthy (why then their fear of AIDS?), happy (why then are they so bitter and angry?), normal (why then can't they reproduce like every other species on earth?), and everywhere (that 10% of all Americans are 'gay')!"

The AFA has effectively scared off sponsors of television programs that include any reference to gays and lesbians. With this latest "action page," the AFA has provided members with three postcards targeting Philip Morris Companies, Inc., McDonald's Corporation, and the Ford Motor Company. The cards call upon the companies to "stop your financial support of those programs promoting the homosexual lifestyle." "Considering the overwhelming rejection of the homosexual agenda by the public," the cards warn, "I don't think that a boycott of (your company) because you push homosexuality would be difficult to promote."

These companies must be encouraged to reject the latest AFA postcard campaign.

Contact Chrm. Michael A. Miles, Philip Morris Companies, Inc., 120 Park Ave., New York, NY 10017, tel. 800-343-0975, FAX 212-878-2167; Chrm. Michael R. Quinlan, McDonald's Corporation, 1 Kroc Dr., Oak Brook, IL 6052, tel. 708-575-3000, fax 708-575-5512; Chrm. Alexander J. Trotman, Ford Motor Company, P.O. Box 1899, Dearborn, MI 48121, tel. 800-392-3673. Should you have any desire to contact the AFA, they're based at P.O. Drawer 2440, Tupelo MS 38803, tel. 601-844-5036.

'Ballot Measure 9' and Donna RedWing

Join us in welcoming Donna Red Wing, GLAAD's National Field Coordinator, on Friday Nov. 18, at 6:30 p.m. at the new GLAAD/Atlanta office. In addition to meeting Donna there will be a viewing of "Ballot Measure 9" the new and highly acclaimed documentary.

Al Kielwasser, of GLAAD/SFBA contributed to this column. For more information about GLAAD/Atlanta write PO Box 55111, Atlanta, GA 30308; 404-876-1398; fax 404-876-4051; internet: glaadat@aol.com.

This column is a product of the Gay & Lesbian Alliance Against Defamation/Atlanta, Incorporated.

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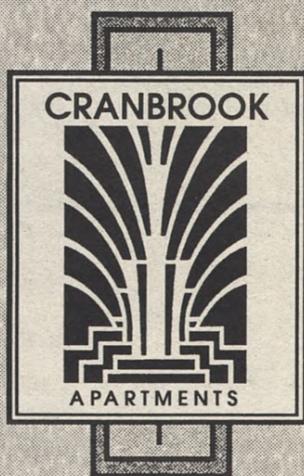
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AIDS experts want CDC to be restructured

Atlanta—As the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention grapples with how to fight the spread of AIDS, critics say the agency's approach thwarts the efforts of its own scientists.

A panel of public-health experts recently took the most extensive look at the CDC's AIDS activities since 1986. They said that the current system may be "dysfunctional," forcing researchers to compete against each other for money and obscuring the chain of command.

"Restructuring is long overdue," said Thomas Coates, director of the Center for AIDS Prevention Studies at the University of California, San Francisco.

The CDC's AIDS efforts are spread among 10 offices, concentrating on who's infected and where the virus is spreading, and on prevention and public education.

Coates and numerous other AIDS researchers complained that the arrangement not only leaves them confused, but holds up prevention efforts when responsibilities weren't clear.

While the panel called for change, others said the CDC must protect the creative collaborations that can arise from sprinkling AIDS researchers throughout its centers.

The outside reviewers, drawn from public health experts around the country and from the CDC's AIDS advisory committee, examined aspects of the agency's efforts to slow the spread of HIV, the AIDS virus.

"It was hard to know who was doing what," said Dr. Don Des Jarlais of New York's Beth Israel Medical Center, recalling his attempts to find who to work with at the CDC on studies of intravenous drug use and AIDS.

Those aren't the only problems, critics said. Coates said the CDC often is slow on following through. After learning that young gay men were taking sexual risks, it took the CDC a couple of years to try to examine why.

"All of this should happen more quickly and more seamlessly," he said.

The CDC's current system "has helped educate the CDC about AIDS, but hasn't helped educate the United States public about AIDS,"

charged Dr. Richard Marlink, executive director of the Harvard AIDS Institute. "It's not treated as a war, with a chain of command...they've watched it grow. They've learned a lot about it, but they haven't turned the tide."

That AIDS is a sexually transmitted disease creates its own bureaucratic problems.

The CDC, which lumps much of its AIDS efforts with sexually transmitted diseases, could move AIDS to its own department, or put it with other infectious diseases. That would recognize AIDS' link with factors such as intravenous drug use or tuberculosis, and would strengthen the spotlight on AIDS, Marlink and others say.

"The CDC has lacked clarity of mission," said Cornelius Baker of the National Association of Persons with AIDS, who contributed to the review of the CDC. Without a clearly defined plan, the CDC's message on AIDS—how to prevent infection—gets lost to the public, he said.

The CDC's director, Dr. David Satcher, said he will act soon on the panel's suggestion.

One AIDS researcher, epidemiologist Dr. Alfred Saah of Johns Hopkins' School of Public Health, said he feared that changing the agency's structure would damage the collaboration that arises when specialists from different fields work together to create scientific breakthroughs.

"Part of its strength is that fluidity," he said. "The real goal here is to help the CDC perform its mission effectively."

Reorganizing the CDC's AIDS efforts would be a huge undertaking, reshuffling both people and money. AIDS accounts for 23 percent of the CDC's \$2 billion budget, and some offices could be decimated if they lose their AIDS resources, said Dr. James Curran, the CDC's associate director for HIV/AIDS.

Curran, who has not said what action he favors, would be among the first affected by a reorganization.

A. J. HOSTETLER

Cancer drug may work against HIV

Washington, DC—Test tube experiments at a National Institutes of Health laboratory show evidence that a drug called hydroxyurea may block or slow the replication of HIV, researchers report.

In a study published Nov. 4 in the journal Science, researchers at the tumor cell biology laboratory at the National Cancer Institute report that the human immunodeficiency virus is unable to reproduce in cells exposed to hydroxyurea, a cancer drug that has been used for about 30 years.

Dr. Robert Gallo, senior researcher in the study, said in a statement that hydroxyurea could be given in tablet form and would be much less expensive than other drugs now

used for AIDS therapy.

The study said the anti-HIV effect was achieved with nontoxic doses of hydroxyurea. The drug can cause anemia and vomiting in some patients at dose levels used in cancer treatment.

NIH researchers also found that cells became even more resistant to HIV replication when they were exposed in the test tube to both hydroxyurea and to didanosine, or ddI, a drug now used to treat HIV infection.

All of the studies reported in the Science report were conducted in laboratory cell cultures. The paper reports no HIV clinical tests of hydroxyurea.

ASSOCIATED PRESS

Forum will look at AIDS fraud

Atlanta—The last in the AIDS Survival Project's HIV Survival Series this year will focus on "Combating AIDS Fraud." Dr. John Renner, president of the Consumer Health Information Research Institute, will be the speaker.

Renner will offer tools to decipher the massive information about AIDS and AIDS

therapies to help determine which offer real hope and which are nothing more than quackery.

The forum will be held Sunday, Nov. 20 from 2-4pm at the Sheraton Colony Square Hotel, and will be cosponsored by Georgia AIDS Therapies Information Network.

AIDS

AT THE CROSSROADS

by Bruce Mirken



AIDS cults: believer beware

The deaths of Swiss cult members last month has created another wave of media interest in cults. The attention has been on fringe religious groups, but cults can take many forms. If one defines a cult as a group whose members cling to unproven or patently false beliefs despite all evidence and logic, often under the sway of a charismatic leader, then the AIDS affected community has plenty of them.

Sometimes AIDS cults arise around a particular "alternative" treatment. In southern California, for example, an almost worshipful following has championed something called the Kombucha Tea Mushroom—not a mushroom at all, but a type of yeast culture that is placed in a container with water, sugar and black tea to ferment into a beverage that one drinks. This fad has happened despite the fact that there's no reliable evidence that the stuff works and good reason to think it may actually be dangerous, since the brew can easily be contaminated by harmful microorganisms.

But at least the folks pushing Kombucha are relatively pleasant, which is more than can be said for the San Francisco-based advocates of dinitrochlorobenzene (DNCB). A chemical that is applied to small patches of skin, DNCB supposedly stimulates the cellular component of the immune system. DNCB advocates point to positive results reported in a study authored by Dr. Raphael Stricker, but knowledgeable observers have questioned both Stricker's methodology and the validity of his data. Most informed and impartial observers I've spoken to rate DNCB as intriguing but not proven.

Unfortunately, a handful of activists, operating either as DNCB Now! or as the ACT UP/San Francisco Alternative Treatments Committee, have taken to heaping abuse on anyone who dares to express doubt about the stuff. At a conference last summer on traditional Chinese medicine and AIDS, the DNCB Now! people screamed, "We're gonna come back here next year and shut you down!" apparently because the Chinese medical practitioners wouldn't immediately throw aside their herbal formulas in favor of DNCB.

But a reasonable case can be made in favor of DNCB—at least in favor of more definitive studies of a treatment that has been used for years but arguably has not had its day in court,

research-wise. The same cannot be said for Dr. Peter Duesberg, apostle of the HIV isn't-the-cause crowd. No matter how much new data comes along that blasts his theories to smithereens, Duesberg's fans plunge ahead, seemingly on blind faith alone.

These people are simply impervious to data, including numerous studies presented at the 10th International Conference on AIDS in Yokohama. Dr. Ashley Haase, for example, annihilated one of Duesberg's key tenets: that HIV doesn't infect enough cells to cause disease. Other studies showed that HIV-positive people who stay healthy for many years have immune systems that more effectively combat the virus than those who get sick quickly, and that the people in whom anti-HIV drugs greatly reduce the amount of virus do better than those whose viral levels remain high.

All of this is pretty hard to explain if HIV has nothing to do with AIDS. Dr. Michael Saag summed it up this way: "It's the virus, stupid." Yet diehard Duesbergites continue to write letters-to-the-editor repeating, mantra-like, their claim that no study has shown that HIV causes AIDS. If you believe that, I know some "scientific creationists" who'd love to explain to you why evolution is "just a theory."

I got a taste of the Duesbergites' righteous wrath last year, when I wrote a column documenting some of the more blatant falsehoods the good doctor told in an interview with Spin. The Duesberg column prompted the only true hate mail I've ever received. One letter writer called me a "filthy abomination."

Back then I was surprised that a member of my own community would use language one might expect to hear from Pat Robertson or the mullahs of Iran. But such phrases make perfect sense coming from a cult member—and Duesbergism, which tells people not to worry about safe sex because HIV is harmless, is a cult every bit as lethal and irrational as the Branch Davidians or Jim Jones' People's Temple.

People have a right to their beliefs, no matter how foolish, but some who believe this stuff are going to die because of it.

Beware of people who claim to have The Answer. And if they offer you a glass of Kool-Aid, run like hell.

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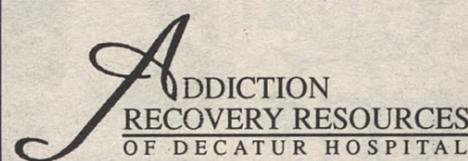
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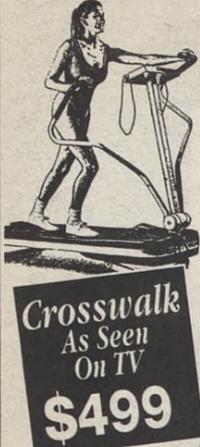
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Surviving the nightmare before Christmas

Therapists offer tips on avoiding the holiday blues

by JAMES FITCH

The holidays are upon us—times of peace, joy, goodwill, and happy families caught up in the magic of Christmas. For many, however, such media-blasted visions of sugarplums and glazed hams can seem more like haunting delusions.

"Family relationships aren't typically the way that they're portrayed in the media, so everyone winds up thinking, 'What's wrong with me? I don't have this warm holiday feeling,'" says licensed psychologist Brenda Hawkins.

"Crass commercialism—the move toward conspicuous consumerism—puts a lot of expectations on connection, relationships, family, and an emphasis on inappropriate giving of things," adds psychotherapist and addiction counselor Dave MacDonald. "There's a lot of pressure on people around the holidays to perform, look pretty, and dress right."

The layers of factors that can compound to make the holiday season a particularly bleak one are different for everyone. For gay and lesbian people, however, several factors often linger to make things a little worse: covering up the perpetual "roommate," abandoning family of choice for family of origin, dealing with a recent breakup, and so on. Not to mention the nagging question, "Why aren't you married yet?"

While it's up to each individual to find ways to cope and survive, there are some sound and commonly recommended practices to keep in mind for emotional health throughout the holiday season.

"Some of [the depression around holidays] is probably biological rather than simply social," says clinical psychologist Gus Kaufman Jr. "All of us are affected by the cold weather and the shorter daylight, as human beings have been ever since the beginning."

In recent years, behavioral scientists have identified a condition called Seasonal Affective Disorder, a kind of depression produced by lack of exposure to daylight, which also goes by the apropos acronym SAD.

"For some people, if they find themselves getting depressed, it may be worth trying to get more exposure to daylight or to daylight-simulating lighting," Kaufman says. "There are special light bulbs that have all the light frequencies of daylight. These can significantly lift depression for some people."

On the other hand, various pressures exist for gay/lesbian people on the sociocultural level. Situations that people can avoid the rest of the year—such as awkward encounters between family members and significant others—are suddenly in their faces for Thanksgiving, Christmas and Hanukkah. And with much of the community fragmented during these holidays, support systems can be weak.

"The pain of the external and internal homophobia is very stressful," Kaufman says. "It's a time when many people start

saying 'This year I've got to come out to my family.' Just considering that and playing out those scenarios is very anxiety-producing."

The holidays may also bring on depression through bad memories or traumatic flashbacks, Hawkins says. "Suppose you lost someone—a death, or maybe a lover leaves you—and here's all of this information about how everyone's together and happy, and you're alone and you're missing this person."

The trappings of Christmas are often responsible for triggering such flashbacks. The smells of baked goods or pine trees, or the sight of decorations can take a person back to a traumatic experience or memory stored in the subconscious.

"At times in that kind of a situation, you're having a flashback in public, right inside a store," Hawkins says. "That can be very difficult to deal with. I've talked to

people who have had a loss and they've just kind of tucked it away back in their minds. Suddenly they'll see something around the holiday, like in a grocery store, that will bring all of this up and they'll start to cry right there."

Gays and lesbians also often find themselves haunted by a case of what Hawkins calls "the shoulds." This occurs when people spend the holidays with family because they think they should, not because they want to. According to Hawkins, you shouldn't.

"You don't want to buy into that," she says. "Life is too short. Ultimately, you're the one who's living your life, so you need to make the holidays meaningful for you, not for somebody else. You don't have to go home to your family of origin."

Being gay often causes a separation from typical family traditions. Those who are in the closet, for example, most likely find it

CONTINUES ON PAGE 16



Dr. Gus Kaufman (standing, with partner Thaddeus Bible) says the holidays should be spent "with your family of choice, your friends."

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Holiday blues

Continued from page 15

impossible to share the fullness of their lives with those who don't know the whole story. Therefore, separation from family traditions is likely to occur.

"I encourage people to start their own holiday traditions," MacDonald says. "Escape into the woods; take a long walk on Christmas Eve; hang out with people that you consider supportive family—and it may be the broad definition of family—those that make you feel good about yourself."

"We have our families we're born into, and then we have our families of choice," Kaufman says. "[The holidays are] a good time to be with your family of choice, your friends. Also think about your friends who don't have supportive families and what you can do to support them."

"The term I use with my clients is 'getting your dance-card filled,'" Hawkins says. "Make plans in advance about what you're going to do for Thanksgiving, for Christmas or Hanukkah. Don't isolate. Be around other people. They don't have to be your bosom buddies or anything. It doesn't matter how close you are. Just find some people to hang out with. It's healthier not to be alone, whether you're traditionally religious or not."

All sources agree that one of the most fulfilling and uplifting activities in which a person can engage during the holidays is volunteer work. This could range from taking care of animals at the Humane Society to working at a homeless shelter or nursing home.

"It's an old formula that can be found in Dear Abby, yet nevertheless is true," Kaufman says. "If you can do something to help other people, you're probably going to feel better."

Also important, experts say, is to maintain healthy habits throughout the typically decadent season. Remember that such things as sugar and alcohol take their toll on the central nervous system. Sugar may pick you up momentarily, only to drop you back down—hence, serious mood swings. Alcohol is a central nervous system depressant, so if you're stuck with the holiday blues to begin with, drinking is likely to intensify those feelings.

"People eat compulsively, have sex compulsively, work compulsively to get through

the holidays as opposed to feeling their feelings about it," MacDonald says. "I encourage people to moderate their use of mood-altering substances and behaviors."

MacDonald also stresses the importance of not pretending the holidays aren't a big deal. "They are a big deal," he says. "Our culture gears us toward that, and you can't really escape the impact of what's going on around you."

What you can do in the midst of the madness is to develop something that is meaningful to you as an individual; something you can do with whomever you choose. The societal mold may exist, but that doesn't mean you have to force yourself to fit in. Just be you, and have a merry Winter Solstice. Or whatever.

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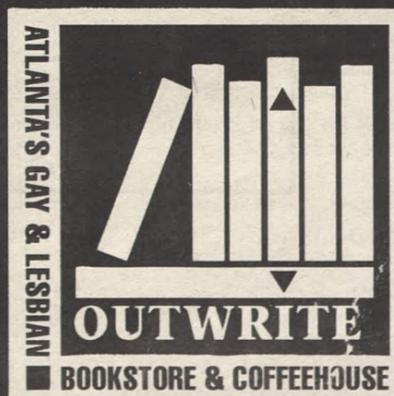
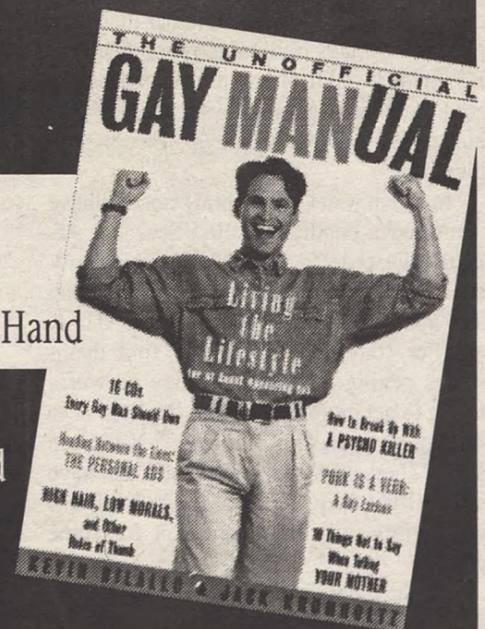
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How gay are you?

California psychiatrist Fritz Klein weighs in with 'The Bisexual Option'

Just how gay are you? Even if you are sexually attracted to your own gender, do you ever fantasize about the opposite sex? Do you develop emotional attachments with the opposite sex? Do you prefer socializing with the opposite sex?

San Diego psychiatrist Fritz Klein has had innumerable gay and lesbian patients who were comfortable in an out-of-the-closet lifestyle but had questions about nebulous interests in the opposite sex. They wondered about more than just physical acts and occasional fantasies.

"Some people prefer to have sex with one gender but are emotionally involved with the other," Klein notes. "Physical attraction is only one variable out of many. A gay man may prefer a straight woman as a housemate to living in an all-gay situation. He may prefer socializing with heterosexuals to gay bars. And he may not think of himself as predominantly gay."

So Klein developed the Klein Sexual Orientation Grid to reflect a person's overall being, not just physical acts or sexual attraction. He included the grid in the recent update of his book, "The Bisexual Option" (Harrington Park Press/Haworth).

At first, Klein relied on Alfred Kinsey's Homosexual/Heterosexual Rating Scale, which recognized sexual orientation as a continuum instead of an either/or determination. The seven-point scale ranges from a 0 as exclusively heterosexual to 6 being exclusively homosexual. A person rating five is predominantly homosexual, but more than incidentally heterosexual.

As much of an improvement as Kinsey's scale was over labeling a person either homosexual or heterosexual, Klein takes it further. His sexual orientation grid includes sexual attraction, sexual behavior, sexual fantasies, emotional preference, social preference, homosexual/heterosexual lifestyle and self-identification. Each category is divided into past, present and ideal.

"Sexual attraction is not synonymous with sexual behavior," Klein says. He cites a 34-year-old mother of two children as an example. "She was monogamous with her husband, but she admitted she has been attracted to women since her childhood," he notes.

In recent decades, stars such as Elton John and Boy George have identified themselves as bisexual (and later amended it by saying

they were gay). But Klein believes some celebrities of the past who were labeled homosexual were more likely bisexual. And many gays may have more interests in the opposite gender than they have realized.

"Oscar Wilde was not a homosexual," Klein declares. Though Wilde was tried and convicted in the 1890s in England for homosexuality, Klein believes the writer and wit was bisexual.

"He was in love with his wife and they had two sons. He wrote beautiful love letters to her," Klein states. Prior to his marriage, he had emotional and sexual love affairs with women which would have qualified him as a womanizer in today's terms.

But Wilde's early poems exhibited an interest in male physical beauty. During his last 14 years, he was equally enthusiastic about men, Klein noted.

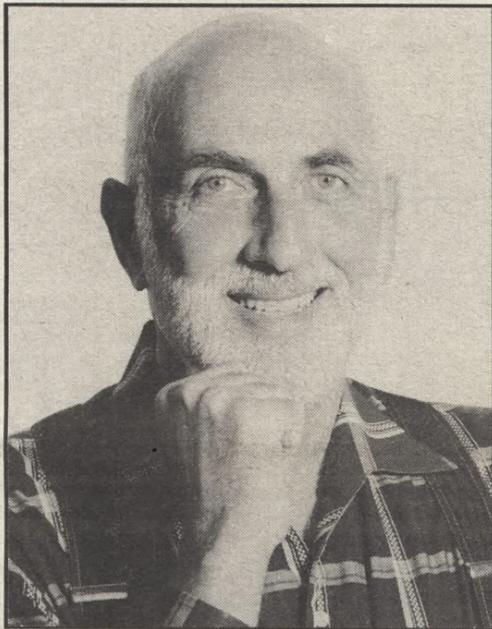
While a gay man may rate himself a 6 on the Kinsey scale, the Klein grid gives a broader picture. The same gay man places himself in a 6 in attraction and behavior but may have a slightly higher level of fantasies for women (5). Emotionally and socially, he is equally involved with men and women, and his lifestyle is evenly mixed between straight and gay—giving him a 4 rating in those categories. He identifies himself as mostly gay for a 6. With his totals running 6-6-5-4-4-4-6 shows a more diverse sexual orientation than Kinsey.

The results may help people reach their full potential, Klein believes. For example, self identification as just gay or straight can be "a painful self-limitation. A bisexual who views him or herself as a homosexual suffers not only because of the label. He or she may find nothing negative in being 'gay.' But one part of that person knows that the label is a lie."

If the grid shows they are not as exclusively homosexual or heterosexual as they had thought, it may encourage them to be who they really are, Klein says. Because the gay community frequently has rejected bisexuals as homosexuals living in denial, some gay men and lesbians may have repressed even the slightest interest in the opposite sex.

"People differ infinitely in height, intelligence, excitability, perseverance, color, age, point of view, nationality, religion, weight, sex ability, and on and on. In every external and internal way, they differ. There is no bisexual person who necessarily reflects a 50/50 ratio between his male and female preference."

Klein has also found people change over their lives. "I have seen gays gravitate to heterosexual or bisexual, but I have to emphasize that this is limited to only some people. It is more likely for bi's to change than gays."



Dr. Fritz Klein says his scale is an improvement on Kinsey's.

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Chorus

Continued from page 7

just to get them from this to whenever they get their next lesbian conductor."

In the meantime, AFWC members seem more than satisfied with their selection. "Robert has not only fulfilled our expectations as a director but has somehow found a place in the hearts of each and every member of the chorus," reports Stone.

Member Lenny Lasater concurs: "I'm absolutely pleased with Robert. If he was a woman, I'd be in love with him. In fact, we all would."

Many attribute Glor's successful leadership to what is described as a profound sensitivity on his part with regard to women's issues. "He's taken the time to ask questions," explains Atkins, "We had one rehearsal where it was extremely hot ...[Glor] had on a shirt and a T-shirt underneath it, and he started to

take his shirt off. He stopped and asked if there would be any women who would have a problem with him taking it off. It was just that he took the time to ask the question."

"Robert's audition really re-energized a lot of us," adds Lasater, "to where we said, 'Hey, wait a minute! We're here because we love to sing. This person wants to lead it, so let's do it.'"

Doubtless, not all are as pleased with the concept of a male director for the AFWC. According to Atkins, there have been rumors circulating among the lesbian community of a boycott of the December concert. Though no public statements in opposition to the concert have been made, chorus members seem very concerned with the prospect of losing any audience members.

"It's very easy to assume that 'feminist' equates 'female,'" concedes Atkins, "and I know there are individual women who have spoken to others and in conversation said,

'Oh, I'm not planning on going to the concert—did you know that they hired a male director?' But Robert truly is a feminist, and I hope everyone would respect the choices the chorus has made."

To be sure, the roster of songs for the AFWC's December concert continues the group's eclectic, feminist tradition. The theme is "Bridges," and in addition to "Something About the Women," by songwriter Holly Near, Canadian singer Lucie Blue Tremblay will lead the chorus in what she calls her "coming out song." Also scheduled are a '60s pop medley (with suitably revised lyrics) and a few eyebrow-raising surprises.

For now, the issue facing the AFWC is not so much one of gender as preparation: the late hiring of a director pushed their schedule back weeks, and much work has yet to be done. But watching Glor sing and laugh along with the women, one gets the sense that the work, like the act of singing, is a pleasure for everyone

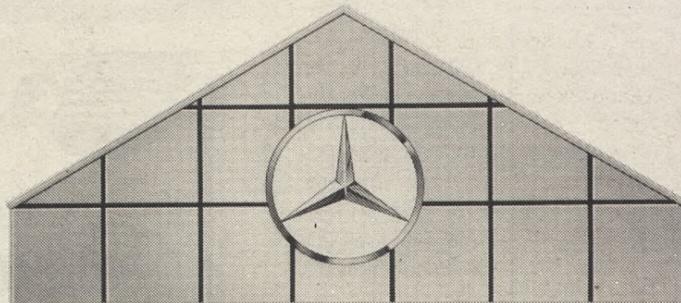
involved.

"These women are wonderful human beings," Glor confides during a quick break, "and I treasure this opportunity." Facing the women once again, he runs them through a difficult piece. "Wow!" he concludes, "That has really come a long way!"

And with its selection of Robert Glor as interim director, the AFWC has clearly built bridges strong enough to cross any fires that may lie ahead.

The Atlanta Feminist Women's Chorus will perform on December 3 at 8 p.m. at the Robert Ferst Theatre, Georgia Tech Center for the Arts. Tickets (\$15 in advance, \$16 at the door, \$12 for students) are available at Brushstrokes, Charis Books, Outwrite, Atlantis Connection, and the GA Tech Theatre Box Office. For more information call 438-5823.

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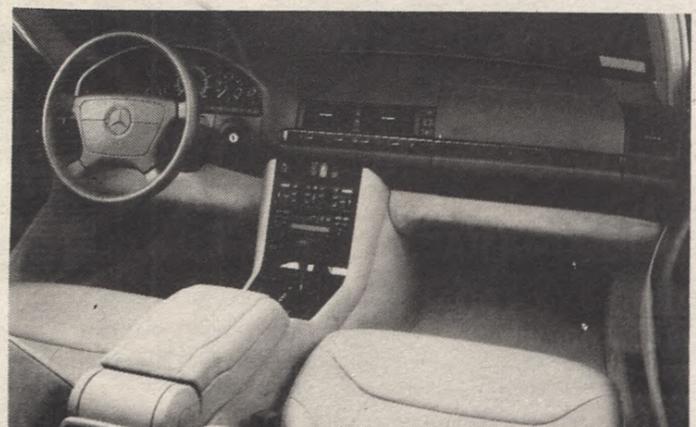
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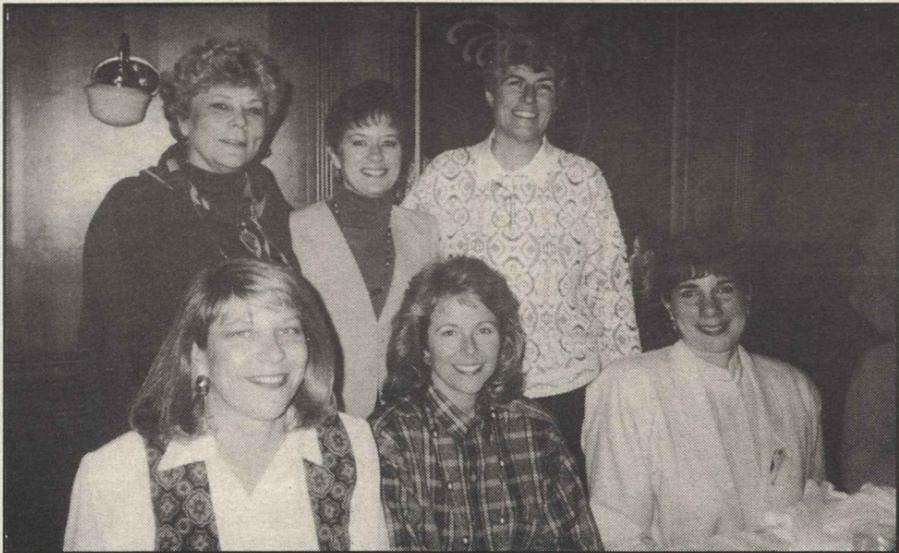
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Women's ball expects big crowd



The women behind the ball are (top to bottom, left to right): Sherry Adams, Hazel Edlinger, Dixon Taylor, Maureen Lok, Edie Cofrin and Stephanie Davis.

Organizers of the Good Friends For Good Causes (GFFGC) Women's Christmas Ball expect their largest turnout ever when the annual event takes place December 2 at the Georgian Terrace Ballroom.

"We've already sold close to 450 tickets," says Hazel Edlinger, a co-chair who has helped put on the dance since 1992. "Capacity is 600, and we really expect to sell out."

A capacity crowd is important to the dozen or so volunteers of GFFGC. The money raised from ticket sales will again benefit the Atlanta Women's Fund, a branch of the Metropolitan Community Fund, and the Susan G. Komen Foundation, a national organization that promotes breast cancer research. The groups were awarded \$4,000 each in 1993, and Edlinger says GFFGC hopes to split \$13,000 between the two groups as a result of this year's event.

According to Edlinger, benefit organizations are voted on by GFFGC volunteers. Groups like the Atlanta Women's Fund are preferred because the organization acts as a funding pool, selecting various projects that are set up to assist girls and women.

"That way, we are certain our money goes to good causes," she says, "and we get good feedback."

GFFGC began three years ago when two friends, Dixon Taylor and Sherry Adams, discussed the idea of putting on a dance for women. Someone threw out the idea of making the event a fundraiser strictly to benefit women's causes—and the Women's Christmas Ball was born.

Even in the first year, recalls Edlinger, women came out in support of the organization's efforts to benefit women's causes. Three hundred attended the dance in

1992, when it was held at the Trolley Barn in Inman Park. That year's event raised \$3,200 for the Feminist Women's Health Clinic and a women's shelter in Decatur.

A change of venue to the Georgian Terrace helped increase attendance to 520 in the event's second year. "The space is just so beautiful," says Edlinger, explaining why the event will be held this year at the same location.

Organizers considered moving the event to New Year's Eve or Valentine's Day, but decided against the change because the Christmastime dance is quickly becoming an event women look forward to attending.

When asked what women can expect at the dance this year, Edlinger responds, "I tell people it's 600 beautiful women all having a wonderful time."

The "wonderful time" this year will in part result from the music of the Liz Hendley Band. Edlinger says, "We try to find a woman-led band that can play a lot of different kinds of music."

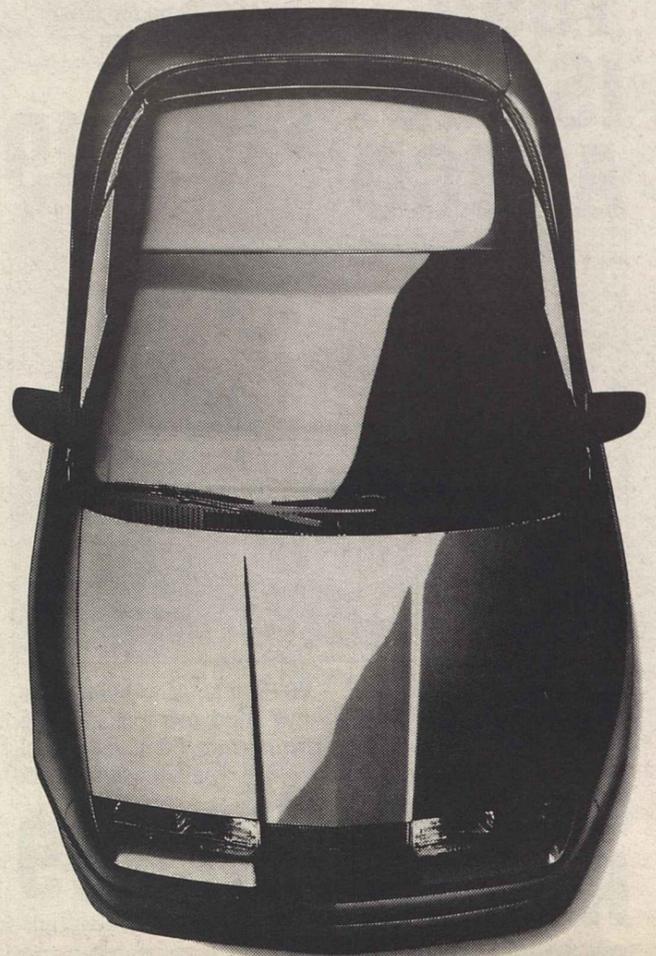
A cash bar will be available, as well as refreshments provided by a list of sponsors, including Mary Kritz Edible Art, Publix, Disco Kroger, Galletto Espresso, Dusty's, Caramba Cafe, and Mary Mac's. Also contributing to the event are Ocean Club, Mambo's Hovan Gourmet, The Peasant, and the Gourmet Grill.

A dinner will be held in January of the following year as a celebration for the volunteers and to award funds to group recipients.

PAMELA EVANS

The Women's Christmas Ball will be held Dec. 2, 8 p.m.—midnight, at the Georgian Terrace. Tickets are \$40 and may be purchased by calling 634-2301.

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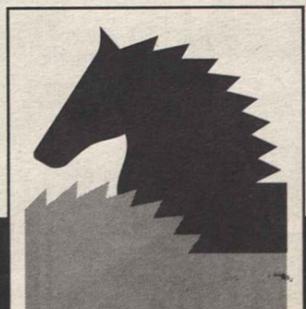
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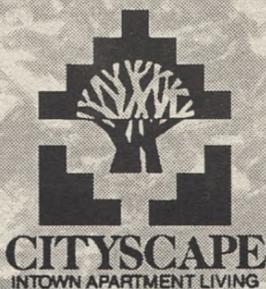
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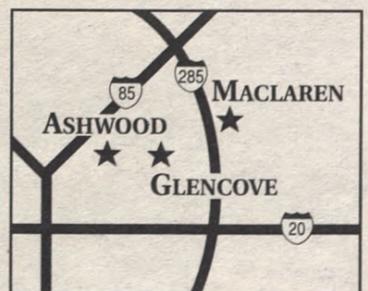


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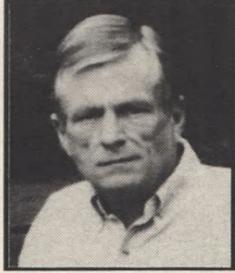
Winston H. Morriss

Winston H. Morriss, an Atlanta attorney, died early in the morning on Saturday, October 22. He was 48.

Winston, an AIDS survivor for seven years, succumbed to a rare opportunistic infection.

Graveside services were in his hometown of Birmingham, Ala. A dinner/celebration of his life was held at his home in Atlanta. Surviving are his partner, Patrick Carlson; his sister Rochelle; brother Frank; three nephews; one niece, numerous relatives; and many, many friends.

In addition to his successful law practice,



Winston was a very active member and leader in both Atlanta Venture Sports and GANG. He also was a loyal Braves fan, an avid bridge player and a connoisseur of fine, exotic foods. He

had an overall lust for living.

His friends were extremely important to him, and his ability to bring people together was a rare gift.

He will be greatly missed!



William Troy Page, Jr.

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A special friend to many, you gave so much happiness and love to all who crossed your path. You will be greatly missed but you will live in our hearts forever.

With great sympathy to his family in Pleasant Grove, Ala., and to all his friends everywhere.

We love you.

Deaths Elsewhere

David B. Feinberg, writer and AIDS activist

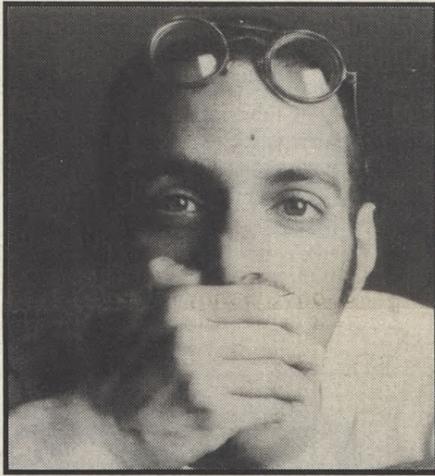
New York, NY—David Feinberg, a writer and AIDS activist, died on Nov. 2 at his home in Manhattan. He was 37. The cause of death was AIDS, said Wayne Kawadler, a friend.

His two fictional works, "Eighty-Sixed" and "Spontaneous Combustion," documented the devastation of gay life in New York by the AIDS epidemic. A collection of essays, "Queer and Loathing: Rants and Raves of a Raging AIDS Clone," will be published by Viking on November 22.

Feinberg joined the AIDS Coalition to Unleash Power in 1987 and was arrested half a dozen times at demonstrations sponsored by the group, including the disruption of Mass at St. Patrick's Cathedral in 1989.

But in a speech delivered last month, he complained that ACT UP "wastes precious time bickering" and "indulges its obsession with the Catholic Church" at a time when he wanted "every argument and action to help save my life."

Feinberg was born in Lynn, Mass. He



graduated from the Massachusetts Institute of Technology in 1978 and received a master's degree in linguistics from New York University in 1981. That year, he began working for the Modern Language Association in New York.

He is survived by his mother, Betty, and sister, Lynn Harris, both of Syracuse.

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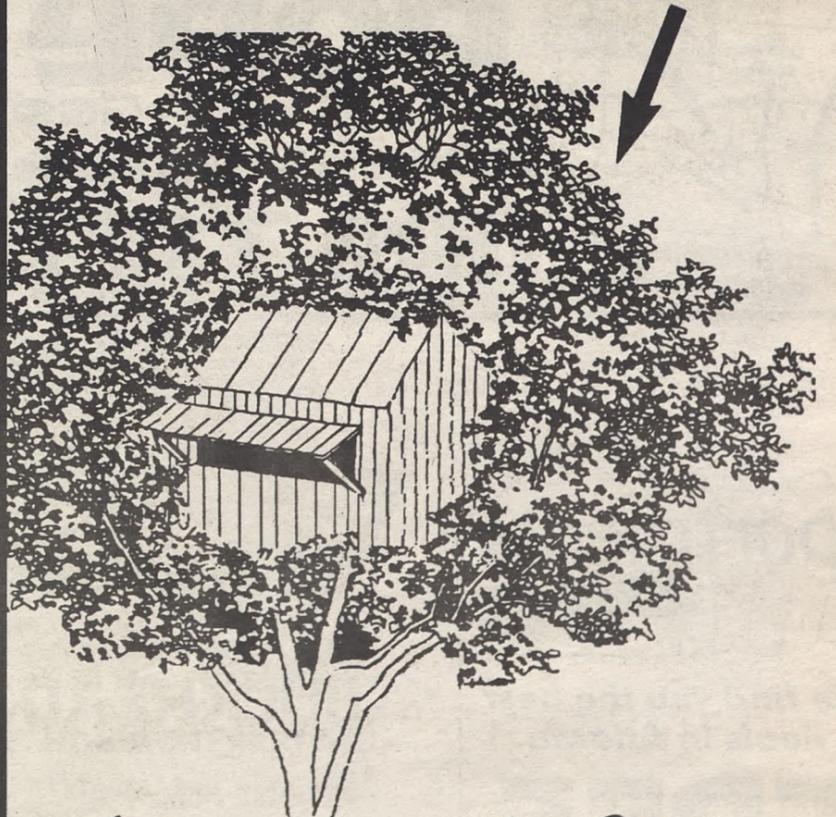
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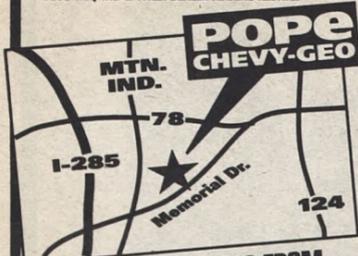
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Elections

Continued from page 6

lation seem insurmountable.

A quick glance at the new Republican heads of committees gives a clue. Self-avowed anti-gay bigot Jesse Helms, who never tires of attaching anti-gay amendments to bills in the Senate, is in line to head the Senate Foreign Relations Committee. Strom Thurmond, the 92-year-old senator from South Carolina, will take chairmanship of the Senate Armed Services Committee from Georgia's Sam Nunn. Utah's Orrin Hatch will head the Senate judiciary Committee, which scrutinizes nominations to the federal bench and the Supreme Court. And Nancy Kassebaum, perhaps the only true moderate in the bunch, will head the Senate's Labor and Human Relations Committee, where Sen. Ted Kennedy originally introduced the Employment Non-Discrimination Act (ENDA) aimed at ending discrimination against lesbians and gay men in the workplace.

"Congress is going to be tough," said the Human Rights Campaign Fund's Doug Hattaway. "As far as ENDA is concerned, it's going to be hard to tell. But we haven't lost our base."

In fact, Hattaway said, all of the Senate sponsors of the measure up for re-election won, and 110 out of 120 House sponsors will return.

"Additionally, we have 11 new people pledged to co-sponsor," he said. "We do have some making up to do among legislators who retired, but our base in Congress has not eroded. It's a tough environment. We have to work out our strategy, figure out how to deal with the new leadership."

Some clues to that strategy come from the unlikelyst of places—the Christian Coalition. Christian Coalition voter guides were rampant in many parts of the country, and the organiza-

tion of the conservative group's voter drive can be a lesson for the progressive community.

"The Christian Coalition has been organizing for 8 or 10 years," said Don George, Georgia coordinator for HRCF's Federal Action Network. "We have a structure in FAN, we're going to get one in the Georgia Equality Project. We need to have a structure in place to get voters out."

"The victories of the far right are the product of years of practice," said Peri Jude Radevic, director of the National Gay and Lesbian Task Force. "It is time for us to get back to the basics. We are moving from a strategy of promoting our visibility to one of building organization. We will build local organizations that will expand our base beyond the urban gay meccas."

Clearly an energized community works. The elections of so many openly gay candidates—12 out of 17 Victory Fund candidates won, a 75% rate—and the defeat of Oliver North in Virginia sends a strong message that an engaged electorate can win.

"We are getting a lot of credit for beating Oliver North," said Hattaway. "The winner [incumbent Sen. Chuck Robb] said so from the podium. When they start the year threatening initiatives in 10 states and only win one county and two cities, we win. We're supposed to be sitting around whining because we won our initiatives and beat Ollie North? No, thank you. We showed muscle where our issues were at stake."

The Victory Fund's DeBold agrees. "The extremist viewpoints that lead to hate campaigns and gay-baiting are out of step with mainstream America," she said. "Our openly gay candidates won because their personal and community values are consistent with those of the average American family—values like hard work, responsibility, and respect for others."

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OCCASIONS

ANNIVERSARY

Jay Reimers and Todd Garrison celebrated their 1st anniversary on Nov. 5 with a quiet romantic dinner.

Cathleen O'Connor and Erin Musselwhite celebrate the second year of love on Nov. 17.

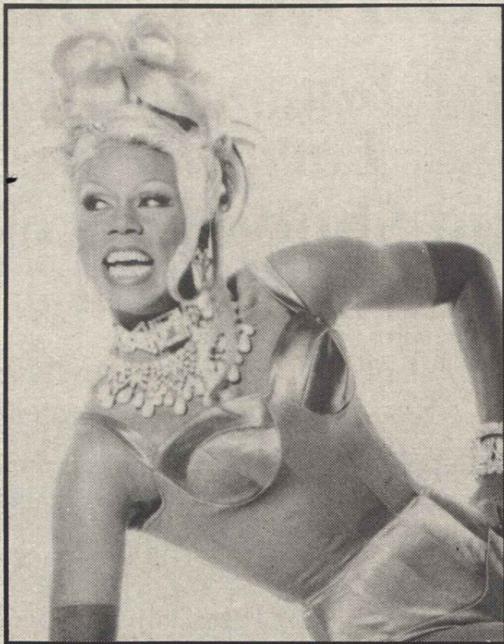
BIRTHDAYS

RuPaul Charles, former Georgian and now supermodel of the world, celebrates a birthday—we won't ask which one—on Nov. 17.

Happy birthday to Dennis Nance, who celebrated on Nov. 16.

COMMUNITY

Michael Barber and Carl Lipinski of Pride Plumbing took off for Ovett, Miss., on Nov. 14. The two spent a couple of days helping Camp Sister Spirit get Brenda and Wanda Henson's house ready for winter, complete with plumbing. "It's a sense of community," Michael said regarding their plans to trek across the Southeast. "They've had such a hard time, and I feel like they need a break."



Georgia export RuPaul celebrates a birthday November 17.

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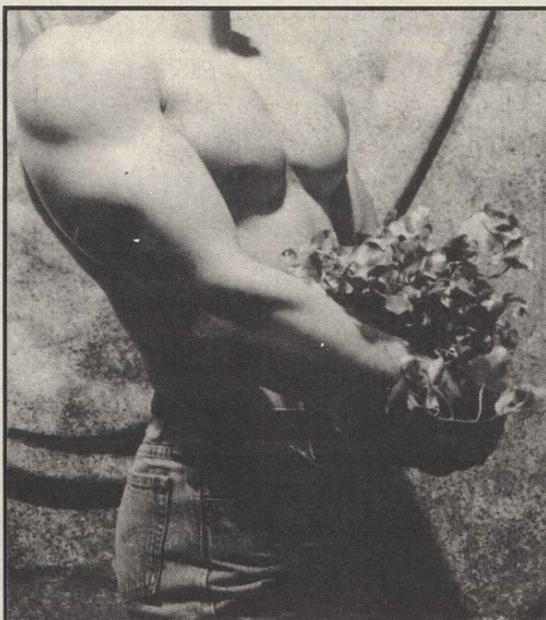
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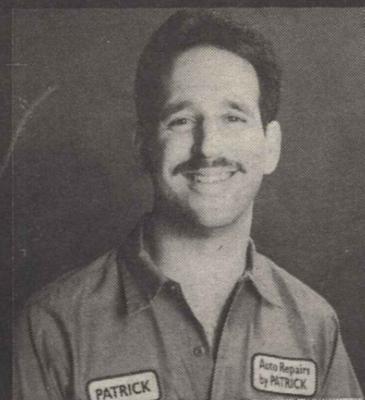
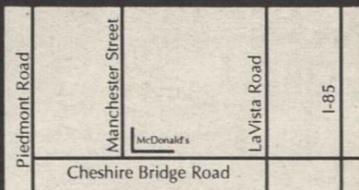
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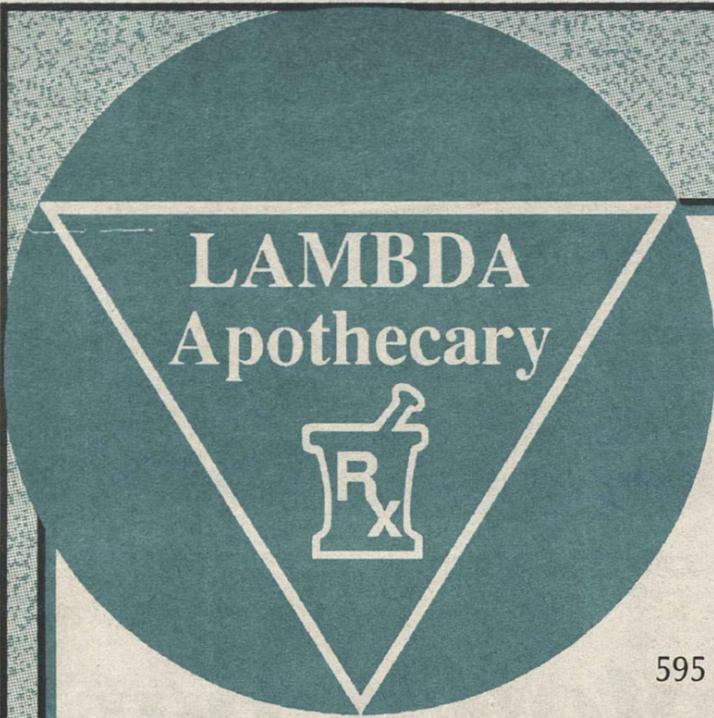
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OUT & ABOUT

THE ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT GUIDE OF SOUTHERN VOICE

Sons

and mothers

Author Robb Forman Dew shares her son's coming out—and herself—in 'The Family Heart'



Robb Forman Dew wrote "The Family Heart" to make amends for "incorporated homophobia I didn't even know I had."

by ADAM J. SANK

Remember in high school there was always one friend whose house you loved going to? Perhaps he or she had the wide-screen television. Or the older sister who could buy you beer. Or the older brother you drooled over. But more than anything else, it was your friend's parents that made their home such a special place. These were the "cool" parents you wished could be yours, the ones who honestly seemed to treasure spending time with their own children and their children's friends.

Robb Forman Dew is one such parent.

Speaking in a warm, almost musical voice that still contains traces of her Baton Rouge upbringing, Dew describes the process of writing "The Family Heart: A Memoir of When Our Son Came Out" (Addison-Wesley).

"It was an awful book to write," she recalls, "[but] I felt I needed to write it as an apology to my kids, and to a lot of people...because I had incorporated homophobia I didn't even know I had."

Dew—the author of such novels as "Dale Loves Sophie to Death" and "Fortunate Lives"—found herself involved in a drama far more gripping than fiction when her older son, Stephen, came out as a gay man during his sophomore year at Yale University.

Set in the small Massachusetts community of Williamstown, where her husband, Charles, is a professor at Williams College, "The Family Heart" draws readers into the Dew home, where loving and devoted parents struggle to come to terms with the new truth about their son's sexuality. Initially reacting to the news the way many parents do—she compares Stephen's being gay with being an ax murderer—Dew and her husband through the course of the book begin to examine their own feelings about sexuality and homophobia.

"After Stephen came out, Charles and I could not tolerate living in a community in which suddenly we were in the closet," Dew explains. "For instance, go-

CONTINUED ON PAGE 32

'Vampire'



makes the blood run cold

The long-awaited 'Interview With the Vampire' is stylish but dreary, packing little erotic punch

by STEVE WARREN

As film adaptations of Anne Rice novels go, "Interview With the Vampire" is way better than "Exit to Eden."

That's the only point on which you will get unanimous agreement. I can't even agree with myself about the movie, which left me with a headache and a mild depression. I didn't enjoy it, but I admired the skill with which it was made.

Or how's this for a recommendation: You'll love "Interview With the Vampire" if you haven't read the book but would only like it if you have. Early reactions among those who read the novel—I'm not among them—are divided, but it's rare for a literary adaptation to live up to the expectations of readers.

This could signal the start of a new wave of horror films. The cheap slasher movies of the early '80s gave way to the " yuppie nightmares" in which a person in a position of trust threatened the hero's family and/or career. While there have always been vampire films along the way—from comedies ("Love At First Bite") to contemporary dramas ("The Lost Boys," "Innocent Blood")—seldom has the life of a vampire (or any other screen monster) looked so totally joyless.

The book's much-discussed homoeroticism is almost nowhere in evidence, but it's easy to draw parallels with gay life before Stonewall and before AIDS.

The vampires are mostly men whose aging process was arrested in their prime. They are creatures of the night who have to hide their identities and love to suck bodily fluids from other people. Lacking community, they feel alone and forever search for others of their kind, occasionally converting someone to their lifestyle. They form relationships, but that doesn't keep them from hunting.

Despite Tom Cruise's top billing and all the controversy about him playing the vampire Lestat, he has only half as much screen as Brad Pitt, at one point disappearing altogether for about 45 minutes.

Pitt plays Louis, a Creole plantation owner who encounters Lestat in Louisiana in 1791. With no foreplay, Lestat goes for his neck. It's not romantic but leaves one hell of a hickey. Then Lestat gives Louis a choice between dying or living forever as a vampire. Louis makes his choice, but never gets into vampirism to the extent that Lestat does. Preferring to dine on the blood of rats and chickens rather than humans, he's practically the vampire equivalent of a vegetarian. It's a classic case of planning to change your mate after marriage and finding he or she doesn't meet your specifications.

Their household expands when Louis brings home young, plague-orphaned Claudia (Kirsten Dunst, who gives the film's best performance) and Lestat turns her, too, into a vampire. Their homonuclear family is happy for a time. Claudia displays a blood lust to equal Lestat's, while bonding with Louis as if he were her mother.

After a few decades, Claudia becomes dissatisfied with the fact that she'll never grow beyond childhood and holds it against Lestat. With a little help from Louis she kills Lestat—twice, it doesn't take the first time—and she and Louis run off to see the world. Claudia is "obsessed with the search for what she called 'our kind,'" and they finally find some in Paris at the Theatre des Vampires, the undead equivalent of a drag show put on for straight tourists.



Tom Cruise portrays Lestat in "Interview With the Vampire"

The head of the troupe, Armand (Antonio Banderas) is looking for a "companion," as Lestat was, but Louis has learned his lesson and become commitment-shy. The courtship takes a deadly turn, and Louis's revenge creates the film's most spectacular scene. Vampires, it seems, can't leave a place without burning it down.

The ending, I'm told, departs from the book, so I won't give anything away.

The film's brushes with homoeroticism are totally insignificant and nearly subliminal. Lestat strokes the face of a young fop before murdering him; Louis holds Armand's face as though to kiss him, but never does. In Louis and Lestat's first encounter, mutual wrist sucking leads to some sort of

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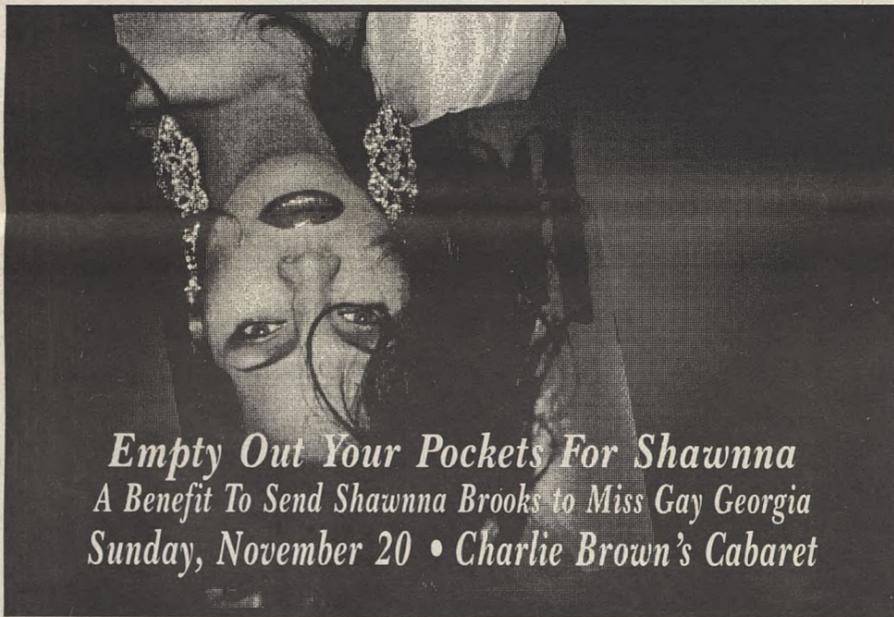


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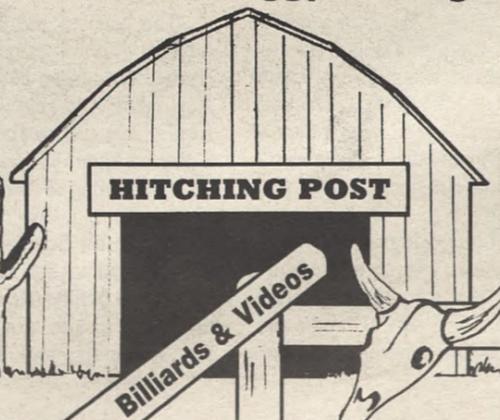


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C A L E N D A R

17 THURSDAY

HONORING AUDRE LORDE. A special night at the Existentialist Congregation (470 Candler Park Dr.) sponsored by Zami, Charis, the E-Cong, and Spelman's Lesbian/Bisexual Alliance. 7:30pm 524-0304.

THE NIGHT LARRY KRAMER KISSED ME. Thru Dec 11. SAME: OutProud Theater presents the David Drake play in the TULA Arts Complex, 75 Bennett St. Thur-Sun, 8pm, \$10 adv/\$12 door. 609-9590.

SOUTHERN REGIONAL COUNCIL. Thru Sat. The council's 75th anniversary conference features Julian Bond, Coretta Scott King, George King and more. 522-8764.

MINORITY RULES. The local band plays tonight at Darkhorse Tavern, 816 N. Highland, and Saturday at The Cotton Club, 1655 Peachtree. 370-1163

ATLANTA SYMPHONY. Tonight, Fri and Sun. Yoel Levi conducts and André Watts is at the piano for the evening. 8pm, sneak preview rehearsal today 11am-12:30pm. \$8.50 for rehearsal; concert \$19.50-\$47. 733-5000.

BEL CANTO SOCIETY. The young professional support group for the Atlanta Opera holds an informal gathering with Opera artistic director William Fred Scott at Chassie Post Gallery, 804 N. Highland, 7-9pm. 355-3311.

WELCOME, MR. MARSHALL. Spanish director Luis Garcia Berlanga directed this film, set in a Castilian village, which takes a satirical look at American attitudes toward Europe under the postwar Marshall Plan. High Museum, 8pm. 733-4438.

BETTY FRIEDAN. Famed feminist speaks at the Georgia State Urban Life Auditorium at 6pm.

UPTOWN STRING QUARTET. Four women devoted to all music of the African American cultural heritage at Clayton State's Spivey Hall, 8:15pm. \$7.50-\$15. 961-3683.

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.

INTERNATIONAL CAT SHOW. Thru Sun. Meow at the World Congress Center. 321-3786.

BILL OF RIGHTS DINNER. The ACLU's annual affair with keynote speaker Sister Helen Prejean. Georgia Civil Liberties Award Recipients this year are Cynthia McKinney and Theatre in the Square. Cocktails at 6:30pm, dinner 7:30pm. World Congress Center.

JOSEPH AND THE AMAZING TECHNICOLOR DREAMCOAT. Thru Dec 18. Stage Door Players present the Webber/Rice musical. 5339 Chamblee Dunwoody Rd. 396-1826.

SHORT PLAYS. Tonight and tomorrow. 800 East presents works by local playwrights Jane Catoe, Walter Duensing, Charles Smith and R. Walter Riley. 8pm. 522-8265.

ANGELS: MYTH MIRTH AND MAJESTY. Thru Dec 16. 30 artists at Trinity Arts Group, 315 E. Paces Ferry Rd. Reception 6-9pm tonight. 237-0370.

ARTFUL FRIDAY EVENING. Celtic music, Willem de Kooning's work, and screening of the Peruvian film "You Only Live Once" highlight this monthly affair at the High Museum. \$6 for nonmembers. 733-4575.

THE PRINT. Thru Dec 23. Printmakers are highlighted at the Marcia Wood Gallery, 1198 N. Highland. Reception 7-10pm. 885-1808.

CONTRALABIAS. Thru Sun. Normando Ismay's story traces the life of one of the first North American merchants to expand into South America. 8pm. \$6-\$8. 523-7647.

ATLANTA SYMPHONY YOUTH ORCHESTRA. 3pm at Symphony Hall. \$5. 733-5000.

EXPERIMENTAL DANCE AND SELF-DISCOVERY. Four choreographers and dancers appear at 7 Stages. 8:30pm. \$8.

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. 1-4 am. WRFG, 89.3 FM.

BURIED IN LIGHT. Thru Jan 15. A video installation by artist Jem Cohen at the High Museum. 733-4444.

FROSTY THE DEAD MAN. Thru Jan 25. Murder at an office holiday party is the fare for Agatha's—A Taste of Mystery dinner theater. Mon-Sat 7:30pm, Sun 7pm. Price of \$33-\$40 includes five course dinner. Peachtree & Third. 875-1610.

YELLOWSTONE. Thru May 30. Fernbank's IMAX tours the park. 370-0960.

LYLE LOVETT. Nov. 25. No Julia Roberts, but the Large Band backs the strangely coiffed one at the Fox. 8pm. 249-6400.

ELECTRIC BLANKET. Dec. 1. A gigantic presentation at the High Museum for World AIDS Day. Parts of Peachtree St. will be closed for the showing of this slide presentation on a wall of the High Museum. 7pm. 733-4444.

ATLANTA FEMINIST WOMEN'S CHORUS WITH LUCIE BLUE TREMBLAY. Dec. 3. Georgia Tech Theatre for the Arts, 8pm. \$15 advance, \$16 door. 438-5823.

EMBRACING OUR LESBIAN IDENTITY. Dec 8-11. The Mountain, Highlands Camp & Conference Center sponsors the second annual adults-only weekend for lesbians. 704-526-4838.

THE SISTERS ROSENWEIG. Dec 16-18. Theater of the Stars presents Wendy Wasserstein's uproarious comedy at the Fox with Nancy Dussault, Greg Mullavey and Linda Thorson. Fri-Sun 8pm, Sat & Sun 2p.m.. \$15.50-\$32.50. 881-2100.

19 SATURDAY

AIDS BENEFIT AUCTION. Artwork sold benefits the AIDS housing facility of AIDS Education/Services for Minorities. 6-10pm, Colony Square. 753-2900.

LINDA VILLAROSA. Essence editor brings her new book, "Body and Soul: The Black Women's Guide to Physical Health and Emotional Well-Being" to Charis, 1189 Euclid. 7:30pm Free. 524-0304.

DEKALB CHORAL GUILD. Epiphany Episcopal Church, 2089 E. Ponce. 8pm tonight, 3pm tomorrow. \$5. 264-6101.

KOKOPELLI CONSORT. Chamber music at the Fine Arts Center of Pace Academy. \$10. 916-9320.

ATLANTA SYMPHONY. The Golden Jubilee Ball is a celebration of the Symphony's 50 years in Atlanta. Tonight, Yoel Levi leads the symphony in selections performed in 1945, followed by dinner and dancing. 8pm. 733-4865.

20 SUNDAY

KITCHEN TABLE WOMEN OF COLOR PRESS. Silver Fingers productions holds a fundraiser for the press at Charis. 7:30pm.

PHILIP SHERMAN. Author signs copies of "Uncommon Heroes: A Celebration of Heroes and Role Models for Lesbian and Gay Americans" at Outwrite, 931 Monroe. 7:30pm. 607-0082.

ATLANTA SYMPHONY YOUTH ORCHESTRA. 3pm at Symphony Hall. \$5. 733-5000.

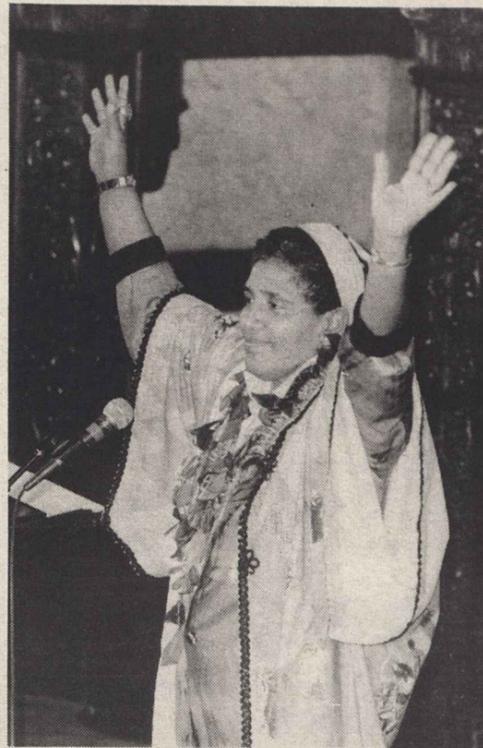
EXPERIMENTAL DANCE AND SELF-DISCOVERY. Four choreographers and dancers appear at 7 Stages. 8:30pm. \$8.

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. 1-4 am. WRFG, 89.3 FM.

21 MONDAY

MARY CHAPIN CARPENTER. Country chanteuse comes to the Fox, courtesy of Windstorm Productions. 8pm. \$27.50 & \$22.50. 249-6400.

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



MOTHER THERESA'S HUNK AUCTION. At Guys & Dolls, 2788 E. Ponce de Leon Avenue in Decatur. Men go to the highest bidder, and proceeds benefit the Grady Infectious Disease Program. 7-9pm Cover \$5. 377-2956.

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.

22 TUESDAY

APPALACHIAN CHRISTMAS HOMECOMING. Thru Dec 23. Theatrical Outfit presents the holiday tradition. Tues-Sat 8pm, Sun 3pm. \$15-\$20. 872-0665.

NOMADS OF THE WIND. The story of the HMS Bounty mutineers who marooned themselves on Pitcairn Island; an exploration of Easter Island. WPBA Ch 30, 8pm.

23 WEDNESDAY

A CHRISTMAS CAROL. Thru Dec 23. The Alliance Theatre's annual holiday offering stars Tom Key making his final appearance as

Scrooge. Tues-Sat 8pm, Sun 2:30 & 7:30pm. \$18-\$34.75. 733-5000.

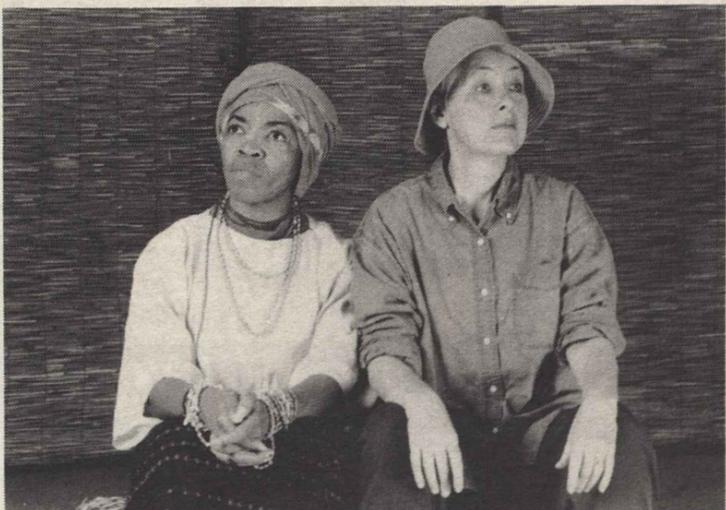
POSITIVE LIVING. This locally produced show about people living with AIDS airs twice every week on People TV Ch. 12, 2:30pm and again on Sat, 10pm. Also airs on City Ch. 6, Thur 5pm.

PICTURED:

ABOVE: The late writer Audre Lorde will be honored by Zami, Charis, and the Spelman Lesbian/Bisexual Alliance at the E Congregation Nov. 17 at 7:30pm. Photo by Leigh H. Mosley

LEFT: Works by German artist Joseph Beuys are on display at the High Museum thru Dec 30.

BELOW: Carol Mitchell-Leon and Brenda Bynum appear in Theater Emory's "My Heart Is Still Shaking" thru Sun at the Mary Gray Munroe Theater on the Emory campus. Photo by Ann Borden



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

OUTLOOK. M-F, 1-3pm. Radical talk for revolutionary intellectuals—feminist, Afro-centered and pro-gay radio on AM, with Alicia Banks. WIGO, 1340 AM.

PENELOPE WILLIAMS TRIO. Performing every Fri & Sat 9pm-1 am at the Hotel Nikko. 687-8866.

SOAP. Comedy Central has the controversial '70s TV series. 7, 7:30 & 11pm, Mon-Fri.

EULA MAE'S BEAUTY BAIT & TACKLE. Thru Sat. The Neighborhood Playhouse reprises the popular comedy in the Discovery Arena. 430 W. Trinity in downtown Decatur. \$9-\$12. Thur-Sat 8pm. 373-5311.

MY HEART IS STILL SHAKING. Thru Sun. Brenda Bynum's adaptation of the writings of Emory professor Majorie Shostak plays at the Mary Gray Munroe Theater on the Emory campus. Bynum and Carol Mitchell-Leon star in the story of Shostak's friendship with Nisa, a Kung woman from Botswana. 8pm Thurs, Fri & Sat, 3pm Sun. \$4.50-\$10.50. 727-6187.

UP ON THE ROOF. Thru Sun. The intermittently intertwined lives of five members of a harmony pop group at the Alliance Studio Theatre has been extended for an extra week. \$20 & \$26. Tues-Sat 8pm, Sun 2:30 & 7:30pm. 733-5000.

THE SOUND OF MUSIC. Thru Sun. Marie Osmond stars as Fraulein Maria at the Fox. Call 873-4300 for tickets.

LITTLE MURDERS. Thru Sun. Tri-Cities Theatre opens the season at the Arts Exchange in Grant Park benefiting Victory Over Violence. Thurs-Sat 8pm, Sun 3pm. \$8 & \$10. 681-6091.

THREE MONTHS LEFT. Thru Sun. Clyde Annandale Productions presents the spiritual journey of a man who faces death, at Marietta's Trackside Grille. 8pm, \$10. 514-0004.

ANTIGONE IN NEW YORK. Thru Sun. 7 Stages presents the award winning satire about life on the streets. Wed & Thurs 7:30pm; Fri & Sat 8pm; Sun 5pm. \$8-\$14. 523-7647.

ALEX HENDERSON: RECENT SCULPTURE. Thru Nov 25. Atlanta native exhibits in the Francis Shaw Gallery at King Plow Arts Center.

DAVID CASSLER: THE MARRIAGE OF MYTH AND PARADIGM. Thru Nov 26. Utah artist presents explorations of the afterlife and the continuing search for spiritual fulfillment at the Human Arts Gallery at King Plow Arts Center, 887 W. Marietta, Studio J-103. 724-9141.

WOODROW MANKIN. Thru Nov 27. Photography at Gallery V, 237 Peters St SW. 577-5578.

THE WILD GUYS. Thru Nov 27. Horizon presents a group of guys who take off on a sensitivity weekend where everything goes wrong. Thurs & Fri 8pm, Sat 8:30pm, Sun 5pm. \$12-\$16. 584-7450.

WILLEM DE KOONING. Thru Nov 27. A collection of works by the Dutch born American artist, in celebration of his 90th birthday, at the High Museum. 733-4444.

TITUS ANDRONICUS. Thru Dec 4. The Atlanta Shakespeare Company presents the Bard's most violent and horrifying work—and historically one of the most popular. The Shakespeare Tavern, 499 Peachtree. \$10 & \$15, Thurs-Sat 7:30pm, Sun 6:30pm. Tavern opens 45 min. early for dining. 874-5299.

SUBJECT: MALE VIOLENCE. Thru Dec 4. Richard Bolton's mixed media, interactive exhibit at the Atlanta College of Art Gallery. 733-5050.

CROSSING DELANCEY. Thru Dec 11. Decatur's Neighborhood Playhouse presents Susan Sandler's

feel-good romantic comedy. Thur-Sat 8pm, Sun 2pm. \$7-\$12. 373-5311.

ANDY WARHOL. Thru Dec 17. Works by the late artist from the Wes Cochran collection on display at the Marietta/Cobb Museum of Art. \$2. 424-8142.

DINOSAURS. Thru Dec 17. Back by popular demand at the Center for Puppetry Arts. Mon-Fri 10 & 11:30 am, Wed 1pm, Sat 11 am & 1pm. 873-3391.

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.

THE PHILADELPHIA STORY. Thru Dec 18. Actor's Express presents one of the most treasured romantic comedies of the American theater. King Plow Arts Center, 887 W. Marietta. Thur-Sat 8pm, Sun 7p.m.. \$12-\$16. 607-7469.

RIVERS OF GOLD. Thru Dec 18. Pre-Columbian treasures from Sitio Conte on display at the Michael C. Carlos Museum at Emory. 727-4282.

5 WOMEN. Thru Dec. 30. Works by Ann Fessler, Margo Machida, Ce Scott, Joan N. Silver and Kathy Yancey at Nexus, 535 Means. 688-1970.

JOSEPH BEUYS. Thru Dec 30. Drawings, objects and prints by the German artist at the High Museum. 733-4461.

MINNIE EVANS: ARTIST. Thru Dec 31. Works by the self-taught African-American artist on display at the High Museum's Folk Art and Photography Galleries, Georgia Pacific Center downtown. 577-6940.

WHALES. Thru Jan 8. Traveling exhibition about the giants of the deep with five life-sized robotic whales is on display at Fernbank Museum of Natural History. 370-0960.

'Erotique' showcases short films by women

It's still relatively rare for women to get the opportunity to direct films, so it's not surprising that the three women whose short works comprise "Erotique" should be concerned with the power of women.

The first and best of the three, Lizzie Borden's "Let's Talk About Sex," co-written by Susie Bright, is about sexual power dynamics. Rosie Velez (Kamala Lopez-Dawson) is an aspiring actress who works for a phone-sex fantasy line. Her possibly gay boss (Ron Orbach), who doubles as a woman's voice when business is good, is always threatening to fire her because she loses callers by talking about her fantasies instead of theirs. "Are you having a bad pussy hair day or what?" he asks at one point.

Rosie finally gets a "regular" (Bryan Cranston) who wants to know what she thinks

(surprise—he's writing a book!), and she describes a fantasy where she's a queen on an island with hunky, submissive male subjects lining up to try to satisfy her. He comes in as a slave and she teases him by making him watch women make love to her. When she sends a man in to warm him up ("It excites me to see you touched by a man"), he balks. He'll let her fuck him with a strap-on but says, "Get that other guy out of there."

When her frankness becomes too threatening, he hangs up and doesn't call back, but by now Rosie is the one who's hooked. She goes to great lengths to meet him and satisfy her...curiosity. Even for soft porn the climax is anticlimactic, but it leads to a pleasingly feminist finale.

Monika Treut's "Taboo Parlor" opens on two women in bed. Claire (Priscilla Barnes)

is a middle-aged, high-powered business-woman, Julia (Camilla Soeberg) a young bisexual she's trying to hold on to. That means giving in to whims, as when Julia gets in the mood for a man.

Claire takes her to the Taboo Parlor, a shipboard club where nothing is taboo and Marianne Sagebrecht ("Bagdad Cafe") cameo as the dance mistress. They pick up Victor (Michael Carr) and make him ride home with them on a bus, where they start a minor orgy enroute. When Victor turns out to have kinky plans of his own for the "second act," Claire straps on the old dildo and gives him a surprise; then she has an even more surprising third act in mind.

The final episode, Clara Law's "Wonton Soup," is strictly heterosexual and, perhaps coincidentally, the least interesting of the

three—although visually it's the most striking. It concerns Ann (Hayley Man), a Chinese woman in Hong Kong, whose only power is the power to end a relationship; but that's enough to drive Adrian (Tim Lounibos) half-crazy.

"Erotique" is mildly disappointing in terms of what the directors have been able to do, but it offers lesbian content that's not strictly for the arousal of straight men, in a mainstream context. For that reason alone, it's recommended for your next "Saturday Night at the Hornies."

STEVE WARREN

"Erotique" opens in January at Lefont's Screening Room, 2581 Piedmont Rd. in Lindbergh Plaza.

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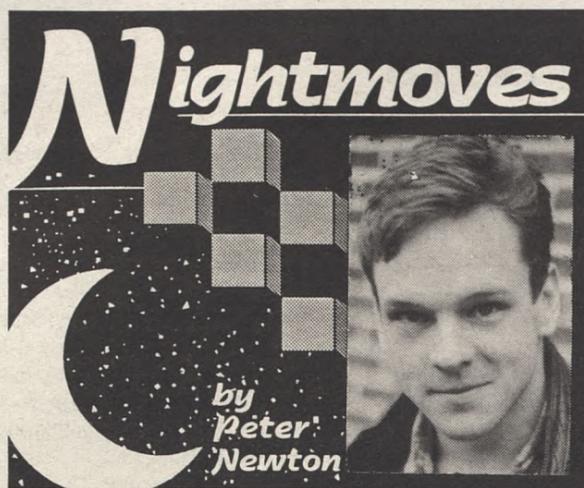
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Generally, I only vote in the general elections every four years. But with the Republicans breathing hard on our Democratic heels, I stood in line on November 8 to cast my two cents. **Rep. John Lewis**, a Democrat incumbent here in Atlanta's Fifth District, is the person who pushed my Catholic guilt button. I was in Backstreet shooting pool last Saturday night when I noticed a man making his way around the room like a politician—shaking hands, introducing himself and moving on. I figured any candidate who was going to spend his Saturday night shaking bar patrons' hands was certainly worth a closer look. I discovered Lewis to be an important representative for civil rights, voted for him and can now sleep at night.

As for the pool playing facilities at Backstreet, they're awful. How can anyone be expected to make fancy trick shots in those cramped quarters? It's nearly as bad as the pool table room at the Metro, which as I recall had a hole in the drywall to allow for a backstroke on the break. The place to shoot pool is **Buddies** in Midtown. Lots of space, decent tables and a jukebox to crank your favorite tunes. A few friends, a roll of quarters and you're ready to call it a night out. Pool tournaments are on Sunday afternoons at 3 p.m. with a free buffet and Monday nights at 9 p.m.

My mother always taught me to talk to strangers. Now I know why—you never know who you might meet. Standing in line to buy tickets for Gospel Christmas at Symphony Hall, starring The Pointer Sisters (December 1-3), I struck up a conversation with Emory anthropologist Marjorie Shostak. She wrote a book about her friendship with an African woman she first met in 1969, "Nisa: The Life and Words of a !Kung Woman." Veteran actor Brenda Bynum has adapted Shostak's writings into a two-woman play presented this week at Theatre Emory called "**My Heart Is Still Shaking.**" Bynum plays the anthropologist, and Carol Mitchell-Leon portrays Nisa. "I think the central question of the play is, what does it-mean to be a woman?" says Shostak. "Nisa and I could not have been from more different worlds, yet we have shared a friendship for 25



years now." The combination of compelling subject, forceful writing and two incredible actors ought to make "My Heart Is Still Shaking" one production Atlanta is sure to want more of. I wouldn't be surprised if Nisa's story ends up being a major motion picture. November 16-20 at Mary Gray Munroe Theatre, in Emory's Dobbs University Center. 695 Asbury Circle. 727-6187.

Join the folks at **Koolhipfunkystuff** as they celebrate their one-year anniversary of raising funds to support people with AIDS as well as serving the creative needs of the whole Atlanta community. The Thanksgiving spirit will abound at the gallery on Friday, November 18, from 7 to 10 p.m., with plenty of art items to whet the holiday shopping appetite. The evening of food and entertainment will also double as a fundraiser for the AIDS Legal Project and is dedicated to the memory of gallery founding director Dalton Padgett. Congratulations on the anniversary, KHFS.

Another way to start the weekend is at the High Museum of Art's **Artful Friday Evening**. Saxophonist Onyx Ashanti will jazz it up in the Atrium while visitors familiarize themselves with everything the museum has to offer. Sip a glass of wine and amble through the galleries

discussing depth and perspective. What else do you do at these kinds of things? Friday, November 18, 5-9 p.m.

The Rolling Stones came and went. If you couldn't bring yourself to spend the \$55 for a good seat to one of their packed Georgia Dome shows, there's still a chance to see the next best thing. The IMAX version of The Rolling Stones is playing now through the end of December at Fernbank Museum (370-3060). The high-tech theatre experience places you in front of a 72-foot-wide screen that's six stories high. Mick really is larger than life. As long as you're not prone to motion sickness, the IMAX 90-minute Steel Wheels Tour concert is a trip you'll enjoy. It may not be the real thing, but in the age of virtual reality, Mick's words still ring true: "You can't always get what you want..."



Saxophonist Onyx Ashanti serenades art patrons on Friday, Nov. 18 at the High Museum.

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As the closet turns

'Glamourpuss' author Christian McLaughlin dishes Hollywood dirt

Christian McLaughlin was still in college when he landed his first job in Hollywood—working as a summer intern on the set of the popular soap opera "The Young and the Restless." What he saw over the course of that summer opened his eyes about the closely guarded closets of gay Hollywood.

"I saw every extreme," McLaughlin says. "Daytime stars that are anything-for-a-thrill boulevard tramps, and the ones who have the total fake marriage, the whole publicity thing happening."

McLaughlin would eventually go on to become a television writer—he's currently working on a still-untitled family sitcom for Robert Townsend that will debut in January on the new Warner Brothers network. But his experience in soap operas stayed with him, and is now the subject of his new satirical novel, "Glamourpuss." The book concerns the love life of closeted gay soap opera actor Alex Young and the complications that ensue when a tabloid prints a photo of him kissing another man.

"It's hard for closeted gay actors," says the 27-year-old McLaughlin. "Nobody's going to gossip about a gay writer unless they're incredibly famous, but with an actor, there are image concerns—will he appeal to this or that segment of teenage girls?" As a result, McLaughlin says, many closeted gay actors marry closeted lesbian actors, sometimes going so far as to make a point to kiss in public or adopt babies together.

"It happens all the time," McLaughlin says. "The bigger the star, the more they're into Scientology or the more heavily managed they are, the more likely."

Like Alex Young, his literary alter ego in "Glamourpuss," McLaughlin had always dreamed of working in Hollywood. Desperate to break into the glamorous world of soap operas or, even better, sitcoms, McLaughlin and his writing partner left for Hollywood "mere minutes" after graduating from the

University of Texas in Austin. But he was far from an overnight success.

After two years of odd jobs, a couple of sitcom producers gave McLaughlin his break, but in the meantime he had written "Glamourpuss." "Getting the book published was ridiculously easy," he says. A fan of "Fag Hag" author Robert Rodi, McLaughlin called Rodi's book editor and agent, then sent a copy of the book their way. The following week, they were discussing publishing contracts. Rodi himself turned out to be a fan of the book; he calls "Glamourpuss" a book "with everything: lots of unrequited love, even more required lust, and a truckload of dirt on daytime TV demigods."

In addition to shedding light on gay skeletons in Tinseltown closets, McLaughlin shows us bitter Hollywood rivalries, a touching gay love story, and more than a few crazed soap opera fans.

"Soap actors aren't noticed that much in L.A.," he says. "But if they go outside of Los Angeles—into middle America—they're more famous than Clint Eastwood or Tom Cruise in a supermarket. They are totally mobbed and adored, and for the most part, people don't even know their names."

In fact, McLaughlin says, it is the cluelessness of American audiences that makes it so easy for gay actors to stay in the closet. "The fact is," he says, "you'd have to have an explicit, full-color videotape of a gay actor doing it to another guy to convince somebody in Ohio that this is really happening, and they would even think that was fake, because they don't want to believe it."

McLaughlin finds a certain irony in the fact that so many of the adored Hollywood elite, whether gay or straight, were outcasts as children and young adults. "Most writers, especially, were dorks when they were teenagers," he says. "There's a kinship [among us], a kind of an outcast sensibility." But now, he says, these former outcasts are setting trends and writing mainstream television shows designed to appeal to the greatest possible audience.

Some writers report being stifled by the restrictive, lowest-common-denominator element of mainstream television, but not McLaughlin. "I don't find it hard at all to work on a



IAN BROOKS

Author Christian McLaughlin worked in television to learn the inside secrets he spills in "Glamourpuss."

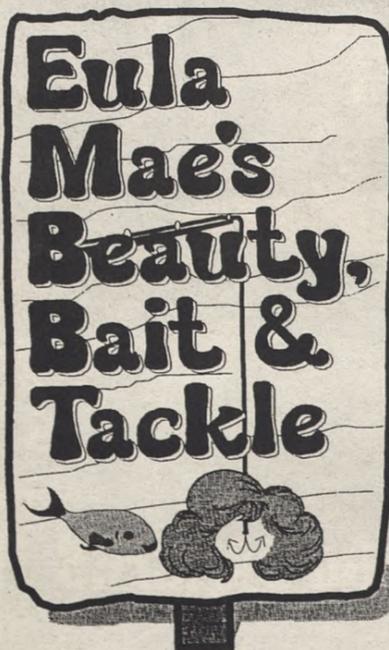
'family' show, because it's not a conservative atmosphere," he says. His coworkers, like most of Hollywood's movers and shakers, are pretty pro-gay. "It's just that what you end up with is something that will appeal to the widest possible audience."

In fact, McLaughlin says, working in television "keeps me in touch with mainstream America, which I can use to sharpen my satiric edge. This is a great job. It's the most wonderful job in the world." As for overtly gay or more risqué themes, he can always tackle them in publishing projects like "Glamourpuss."

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'Larry Kramer' play unites gay couple as actor, director

Some would say the odds are against a couple who work together, especially when they're still in the early stages of their relationship. But Jeroy Hannah and Bob Putnam are daring to defy the odds. They are toiling together in the most intimate of relationships—that of director and actor—while still exploring the boundaries of their own personal alliance.

Their joint efforts will bear fruit starting November 17, when Hannah appears in the SAME/OutProud production of "The Night Larry Kramer Kissed Me," a solo performance piece that Putnam is directing.

The two have been dating only since Memorial Day (when they spent 12 hours driving around the North Georgia mountains), but both have separately known about this play for a while.

"I first heard about it from friends of mine in New York," says Putnam, who is by day the manager of the 14th Street Playhouse and associate artistic director of Southeastern Arts Media and Education Project (SAME). "I picked up the script last March when I was up there to say goodbye to one of my best friends of 17 years. I read the script on the way back, and it absolutely knocked me out. I thought it was one of the most powerful pieces of contemporary theatre I had read. Of course, there was the double impact of having to say goodbye to my friend. But I read it over and over. It became very special to me. From that point on, it became one of those plays I had to do."

At about the same time, Atlanta-based actor Jeroy Hannah also came into contact with the play. "I picked up the script at Ansley Mall in late winter," he says, "and I thought, 'My gosh, how do you do this?'"

"The Night Larry Kramer Kissed Me" was originally performed by its author, New York actor David Drake. The one-person play is a series of vignettes about growing up gay, getting into relationships, getting out of relationships, and personal fears about AIDS. It is a tough, loving, funny, touching, moving piece which has strong resonance for gays and lesbians. And though five producing groups in Atlanta wanted to do it, Putnam campaigned intensively for the rights and won them for SAME.

The rehearsal process for any play is difficult enough

under normal circumstances, but for Hannah and Putnam, it is doubly so, since they have to leave their personal relationship behind while trying to perfect the theatre piece. Jeroy competed on equal footing against 24 other actors for the role. "I didn't spend any time with Jeroy at all in the preparations for this audition," Bob notes. "That was his to do."

"And I very much wanted to be cast because of my ability," Jeroy strongly indicates. "I trusted Bob professionally that he was going to make his decision based on that and not on anything else."

So far, the couple has gotten to the point where they easily lapse into friendly banter:

"I've been through this once before," Putnam says. "I had an eight-year relationship in New York, and he happened to be a stage manager. We had to keep it clean. In my personal time, I'm Bob. When I'm directing a project, it's not the same thing."

"Yes, and it's kind of weird for me, because I don't switch back and forth like that," Hannah says. "I'm having to make more of an effort to do that."

"But he does make me laugh—"

"And he doesn't make me cry—all the time!"

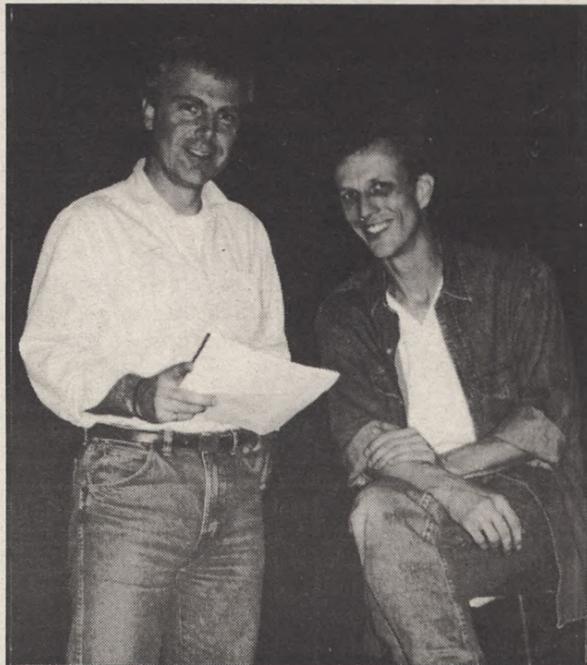
"I will soon!"

The couple tries very hard to keep work out of their personal relationship, though the areas of their lives do tend to overlap.

"Very little have we taken the rehearsal process home," says Bob, "but it has helped us face other things in our relationship. Yeah, this is stalling us from getting to know each other personally because we are professionally busy right now."

"I guess that's just the reality of it all," adds Jeroy. "I love this person, so there it is. Now just is not the time to necessarily address our relationship though."

Still, Putnam and Hannah have found a good, solid working relationship to help them get through the difficult piece. "What I'm trying to do is help Jeroy find that while it's David Drake's story of lost loves, coming out, and fear, he has enough in his own personal life to present realistically all those emotional, intellectual and physical situations Drake



Bob Putnam (left) directs Jeroy Hannah in "The Night Larry Kramer Kissed Me."

describes. It has become Jeroy's own performance, not a replication of David Drake's."

"I'm fairly intelligent, and I have ideas," adds Hannah. "That's my job as an actor. I'm not dicking around with this. I take this very seriously. It is professionally and personally very important to me."

MICHAEL KAPE

"The Night Larry Kramer Kissed Me" plays Nov. 17-Dec. 11 at SAME/OutProud Theatre in the TULA arts complex, 75 Bennett St., NW, Suite N-1. For reservations and information call 609-9590.

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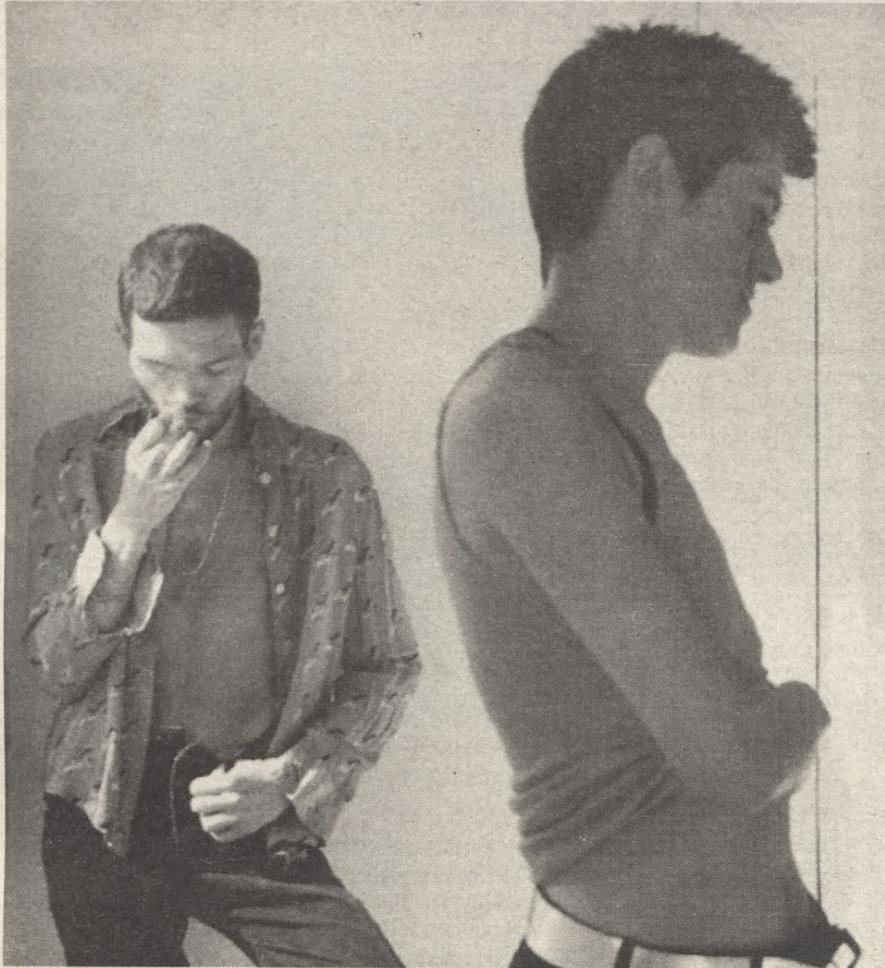
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Vampire

Continued from page 25

orgasm, but both men get more physical with whores and other women before they kill them.

There's some fuzziness about how Louis first connected with the interviewer (Christian Slater) in a San Francisco alley. Apparently they cruised each other, Louis with thoughts of blood sucking and the interviewer because he found Louis "interesting." What I found interesting was that Slater left an open convertible parked at Sixth and Market for several hours at night and no one even stole his tape deck. That qualifies "Interview With the Vampire" as a fantasy.

Cruise plays one scene at a time, never getting an overall fix on his limited role. With all the jumping about in time, he has several

different looks and never quite settles on a voice: English, cultured American, maybe a trace of Irish. Pitt also has vocal problems, mixing a highbrow sound with method mumbling and a few dropped consonants, but his look is more consistent and his constant unhappiness sets the downbeat tone for the film.

All the visual aspects—sets, costumes, makeup and effects—are impressive. Neil Jordan's direction makes it the most kinetic vampire movie yet, as well as the most depressing.

Rice gets final screenplay credit—she shared it with Jordan during production—which could have something to do with her widely publicized change of heart.

"We must be powerful, beautiful and without regret," Armand teaches Louis, while lamenting "how few vampires have the stamina for immortality."

I wonder how many moviegoers will have the stamina for "Interview With the Vampire."

Sons

Continued from page 25

ing somewhere and people saying, 'Steve must be breaking a lot of hearts'—their assumption being that it was female hearts—it was unbearable, and we started becoming very reclusive."

Rather than retreating into silence, however, the Dews took action—volunteering as regional contacts for Parents and Friends of Lesbians and Gays (P-FLAG), becoming advocates for gay rights in their home town and beyond, and, in Robb Forman Dew's case, putting her experience as the mother of a gay son down on paper.

"I'm in a debate with my publisher," Dew says, "regarding release of the paperback. They want to put the book out under 'gay studies,' and that's wrong; it's really about being a parent. I think this country has too narrowly defined families, and certainly our society has too narrowly defined sexuality....I can't tell you how different it seems to me now."

Since her son's coming out, Dew has thought a lot about the nature of homophobia in the United States and how it has affected her personally. "I've come to think that homophobia...is an odd form of misogyny," she submits, "and it really is about keeping a patriarchal system very strong."

Dew goes on to say that shifting demographics and changes in societal values threaten those traditionally have been in power, which in turn causes backlash. "[Straight] white men really are going to lose their position of privilege... I didn't understand exactly what that meant until suddenly by virtue of loving my son who...was a member of a minority, I realized how desperate I felt and how angry and defensive I was—on his behalf and mine, too."

Ironically, Dew is adamant about protecting the privacy of the family whose struggles she has so eloquently chronicled. "[My publisher] wanted Stephen and me to be the cover of Parade magazine. I said, 'I don't care what it means. There's no way I'm going to put Stephen on the cover.' They met Stephen, and he's really very attractive, so they said, 'Can we hire someone to pose with you, a sort of Rob Lowe person?' Can you imagine?"

All she will say is that Stephen is happily working toward a graduate degree and that her family is pleased with the way the book has been received. "You find allies where you never thought you would," she says, also conceding that some friends and relatives have cut ties with the Dews as a result of secrets revealed in the book. "But that's O.K.," assures Dew, "because we grow and change as life goes on, and sometimes that means leaving people."

Meanwhile, Dew and her husband continue working to create a safer place in society for gays and lesbians, speaking at their local high school on the subject and responding to calls and letters from gay teens and their parents.

"I've gotten some incredibly sad letters," says Dew, "and with some I've gotten in touch with the people by phone because I knew they were contemplating suicide. It just made me realize that people have got to get really involved with kids, especially kids in high school." She also continues to enjoy spending time with her own gay son, Stephen, and with her younger son, Jack.

"I look at little kids now and I think who knows, and who cares?" Dew says. "If your child can find somebody to love who loves him or her back, it's just such a remarkable thing that now it seems so irrelevant to me what sex the person is."

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On the outside, looking in

Cuban American author Achy Obejas explores relationships and isolation in new book

When Achy Obejas migrated with her Cuban family to the United States at the age of six, she didn't speak a word of English. The little English that she did pick up, she spoke poorly and with a heavy accent. And that's when it became clear to Obejas that she wanted to be a writer: "What I realized is when you wrote it down, you didn't have an accent," she explains.

Now 38, and with only a hint of a Spanish accent remaining, Obejas has completed her first book, "We Came All the Way From Cuba So You Could Dress Like This?" Published last month by Cleis Press, "Cuba" is a collection of stories about uprooted people. Some, like the author, are Latina immigrants and lesbians. Others are men, both gay and straight, activists, addicts, and people with AIDS. Her stories are compelling, imaginative and sensual, which of course comes as no surprise since Obejas is a widely published author with an impressive collection of writing.

In 1986 she received an NEA fellowship in poetry; her work has been published in Conditions, Revista Chicano-Reguena, and Beloit Poetry Journal, among others. Her short stories have been published in magazines such as Antioch Review, Phoebe and Third Woman, as well as many anthologies. Obejas also writes a weekly column for the Chicago Tribune and is a regular contributor to High Performance, The Chicago Reader and Windy City Times, the gay and lesbian newspaper based in Chicago, where Obejas now lives.

Obejas vividly describes the night in 1963 when she, her parents and her younger brother left Cuba in the middle of the night on a small, 28-foot wooden boat crowded with 44 people. Halfway to the United States their boat was picked

up by an American oil tanker.

"This thing was so big we couldn't even see the sides of it," says Obejas. "It was so emblematic of Third World meets Second World. We were lifted up on rope ladders by furry, golden-skinned Cuban men and picked up by huge, hairless, pink-skinned American men with blond eyebrows. It was like leaving one world and going into another." And this new world allowed them freedom to be and do what they wanted.

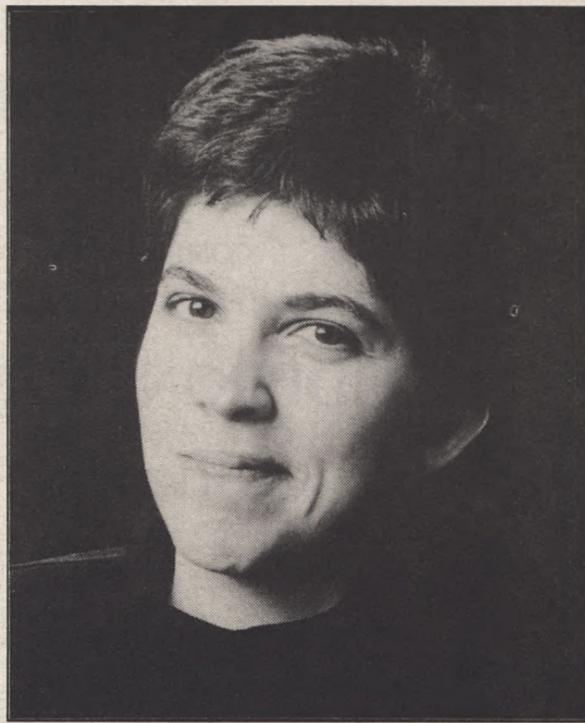
Yet, admits Obejas, there are tensions within her family about her life choices. "I'm doing exactly what my father would have wanted me to do, yet he doesn't like anything that I'm doing."

The title story of Obejas' book, exemplifies the exasperation of her father. Obejas writes: "We came all the way from Cuba so you could dress like this? my father will ask over my mother's shoulder... And for the first and only time in my life, I'll say, Look, you didn't come for me, you came for you; you came because all your rich clients were leaving, and you were going to wind up a cashier in your father's hardware store if you didn't leave, okay?"

Obejas' family moved to Michigan City, Ind., after spending their first year and a half in the United States in Miami, which, says Obejas, is compulsory for any Cuban. "You're not really Cuban unless you've spent at least a year in Miami," she says with a laugh.

In Michigan City they were one of two Cuban families. "Here's the great irony," Obejas says. "It turned out that the father of this other family had at one time been a supporter of Fidel Castro and was very, very anti-Batista. And my father, of course, was very anti-Fidel Castro, and at one time was a supporter of Batista. So we were really not allowed to interact with them. Better to be lonely than to interact with these traitors. It was insane."

Obejas' book has already received praise from colleagues. Julia Alvarez, author of "How the Garcia Girls Lost Their Accents," says of "Cuba": "A fine collection, crafted without fussiness and rich in the knowledge of the confused allegiances of the heart." Obejas' writing is insightful, and the



Lesbian author Achy Obejas writes of "the confused allegiances of the heart."

images she creates pull you in. She writes candidly about sex, relationships and breaking up.

Relationships are a recurrent theme in "Cuba," with Obejas describing many different love affairs with a realism that speaks of her own relationships. When asked what makes her a good lover, Obejas reacts with surprise. "What a question," she remarks. "I didn't prep for this one." But after giving it some thought she concedes, "When I'm with somebody I am so with that person and so much on their side—and I listen so well." And it is probably that sensitivity that makes her such a passionate and skilled writer.

SURINA A. KHAN

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CONTINUED ON PAGE 36

BJ's Coffee House
of Decatur

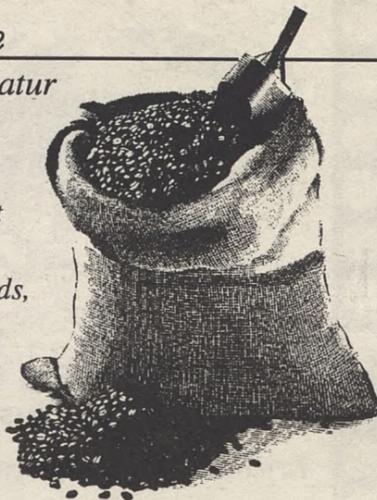
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EAT

A FOOD COLUMN BY GARY KAUPMAN

Turning 50 can do some strange things to a guy. Like making me manic about buying a new car before the day itself (not even one minute after would do). Thus it was that the Taste Sheriff and I found ourselves in the far reaches of Gwinnett County, mano a mano with an altogether cute, pleasant and only slightly pushy car salesman one recent Friday night. After two hours of test driving and haggling (not to mention several fits of near hysteria on my part about making car payments, something I haven't done for more than a decade), the T.S. and I found ourselves experiencing a major blood sugar crisis.

After the car trip, we'd planned to check out the **Yin Yang Cafe**, an altogether funky and interesting new place that the T.S. discovered after a late-night visit to Loretta's.

But we both would have been in a coma by the time we got back to Midtown, so we marched upon Gwinnett Place Mall and into **Mozzarella's Cafe** (numerous locations are open in the old Silver Spoon buildings, including 2040 Peachtree and soon at Phipps and the Galleria).

Experience suggests that one should be wary of eateries named for cheeses (such disasters as Chuck E Cheese and Cracker Barrel come immediately to mind), and a quick glance at the menu here (it includes such anti-Italian treasures as teriyaki chicken, Southwestern chicken, seasoned French fries, spicy pecan rice and a quiche) should have sent us scurrying to McDonald's. But I needed a glass of wine and the Sheriff was clucking kindly about the interior.

The ceiling is green pressed tin; the walls are faux finished fresco or covered with big bold French poster art; there's wood wainscoting galore; and the center of the restaurant is illuminated with bare light bulbs—a la used car lot or Federico Fellini depending on your frame of reference. Add beaucoup bottles of oils, strands of pasta and clusters of herbs and you've got a pretty decent looking space. Red and white checked plastic tablecloths are the only major aesthetic error and a forgivable one, considering that Morrison's owns the joint.

But the experience hits the skids once you're seated and the food starts arriving.

Fresh baked bread has all the substance of air, the spread that accompanies it is overwhelmed with metallic tasting garlic. The Caesar salad passes muster, but just barely. The garden greenhouse version is covered up with so much cheese (and slivered almonds!) that its purpose as a pre-pasta tongue sharpener is completely lost. Angel hair pasta is barely warm, woefully overcooked and tastes like it might have been soaking in dishwater. The collection of stuff that comes on top of it (overcooked squash, decent tomatoes, dried Italian herbs, black olives and almost over-the-hill shrimp) is better but not by much. Gutless pesto over penne is marginally better, but the little cubes of arid chicken breast that accompany it taste like naught but a dirty charcoal grill. Apple crisp is anything but.

To add insult to injury, all this plus two glasses of wine and two cups of very decent decaf cost \$40.

As an expensive alternative to diabetic

coma, Mozzarella's earns a rating of (just barely) acceptable. As a restaurant it's something you can live quite well without.

The **Yin Yang Cafe** (64 Third St., 607-0682), where we had dinner two nights later, proved a more than adequate antidote to the corporate pablum dished out by Mozzarella's. Located in an old brick warehouse (recently home to the bar Goodies, where Third Street dies into I-75/85), Yin Yang is the kind of progressive urban hip hangout that's as rare in Atlanta as a compassionate Republican.

The near cavernous interior is done up in a cacophony of styles and faux finishes that would befit Met Home were it a living space. The floor of the stage (and a very funky light fixture near the door) bear yin-yang symbols. Elsewhere there are various takes on suns, moons and diamonds. Viewed from more than 10 feet, the concrete block wall next to the pool table looks like a huge sheet of oxidized copper. The rest rooms alone are worth a visit, and the Paul Klee-modeled lounge area behind the pool table is just short of inspired.

A word which (especially given the prices) might describe much of the very simple fare served here.

Tuna (the pristine white albacore variety) slathered with a lemon caper dressing, served on a bed of trendy greens and garnished with grilled shallots, snap beans and red peppers is as good as any in the city. Ditto a roasted veggie sandwich comprising portobello mushrooms, eggplant, red peppers, onions, and feta cheese slathered with a balsamic vinaigrette.

A special Tortilla Español turns out to a wedge of crustless potato, spinach and feta pie held together by a little egg. If you like spanikopita, this will set you swooning.

In addition to the soups, salads and sandwiches, there's a nightly pasta special (alfredo with portobello mushrooms the night we visited) and an array of side dishes and salads that are referred to here as tapas. Some (like a very good garbanzo bean salad and a dismal batch of marinated mushrooms) might qualify in the conventional sense of the word. But others (a yummy amalgam of sweet and new potatoes mashed together with garlic) don't exactly comply with Robert's Rules.

Fancy desserts (obviously made elsewhere with a great deal of attention to detail) look a little out of place amidst all the expression of individuality. And the elegant apple tart is better than good, but a gorgeous Napoleon gives new meaning to the old saw "pretty is as pretty does."

Yin Yang is home to live jazz several nights a week. When the music isn't live, its an eclectic mix of progressive styles that actually had me enjoying rap.

The clientele and staff are mostly young and an equally eclectic mix of black and white, gay and straight and those who don't seem to know...or care.

Service is smart (at least when there is not a crowd) and appropriate, and the prices are as easy to swallow as the food.

The problem with ventures like Yin Yang is that they tend to die ignominious deaths before they develop a supportive clientele. Or they become wildly popular and abandon their sense of edgy appeal in pursuit of the consumer dollar. The very name of this venture suggests that the owners are looking for some sort of balance between those two extremes. Check it out, they deserve to succeed.

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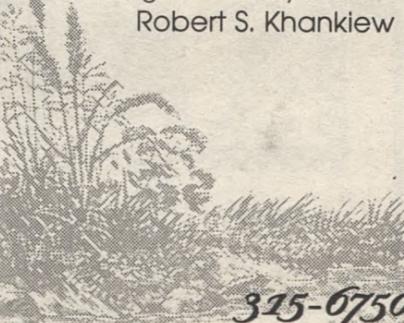
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Continued from page 34

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 1077 Juniper St • 876-7925

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 985 Monroe Dr. at 10th St. • 724-0204

Gourmet Grill - Original wood-fired grilled pizza, steaks, seafood, vegetarian entrees, pasta soups and salads. Gourmet dining in a casual atmosphere.
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 790 Ponce de Leon Ave. • 876-6161

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 1529-B Piedmont Avenue • 873-0009

Kenny Rodgers Roasters - Woodfire roasted chicken. Voted "Best New Restaurant" 1994 Taste of Atlanta.
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 2140 Peachtree Road • 352-8339

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

Marra's Seafood Grill - Serving Atlanta's finest seafood for 14 years. This "Best of Atlanta" restaurant offers only the freshest fish and shellfish—grilled to perfection or prepared with eclectic creativity. Lunch M-F 11:30-2:00, Dinner 7 days a wk. Lunch \$3-10, Dinner \$8-14
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Mary Mac's - Featuring traditional southern cooking. Atlanta's best fried chicken and fresh vegetables. Don't miss the GA peach cobbler or the Carter custard. Mon-Fri 11-3, 5-10, Sat 5-9, Sun 11-3.
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Milano's Pizza & Subs - Complete menu, salads to desserts. Common Market Place.
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Gay artist says 'yes to the body'

"I try to communicate the beauty of the body," says artist Peter Flinsch. "I say yes to the body—I don't deny it. I never have."

The gay Canadian artist recently was honored with a 40-year retrospective of his work at the Leslie-Lohman Gay Art Foundation (LLGAF) in New York City's SoHo district. Titled "Montreal's Peter Flinsch: Paintings and Drawings, 1954 - 1994," the show amply demonstrated Flinsch's passion for the body in oil portraits, exquisite drawings of male nudes, and even lushly colored landscapes.

"One of my favorite artists is the English Romantic William Blake," Flinsch explains, "who said that in every landscape he found a part of the human being. I subscribe to that view exactly."

Flinsch's work also demonstrates his love of movement: His subjects walk, swim, dance, flex their muscles, crouch, make love. "I've worked a lot with athletes and dancers," he says. "I've sat in gyms, watched boxing matches, watched ballet and dance rehearsals, trying to capture the movement and the mood."

A good deal of the power in his work comes from his mastery of the line. Comments LLGAF cofounder Charles Leslie: "Peter has an amazing, almost miraculous ability to lay down a line in wet ink and have it perfect the first time—no question of erasures or changes. It's a skill that transcends technique; it's pure, raw talent, and helps make his work surpassingly impressive."

At age 74, Flinsch has spent a great number of days drawing lines. And to meet him in person is to encounter a physical presence that remains commanding: "larger than life," in the words of Charles Leslie, his great size accompanied by an expressive voice and gestures.

It is also a voice still tinged with a German accent. Although Flinsch is now a Canadian citizen, he was born in 1920 into an upper-bourgeois family whose home was Leipzig, Germany. Educated at liberal, private boarding schools, he served during World War II in the German air force. It was not a happy experience. In 1942 he was accused of homosexual

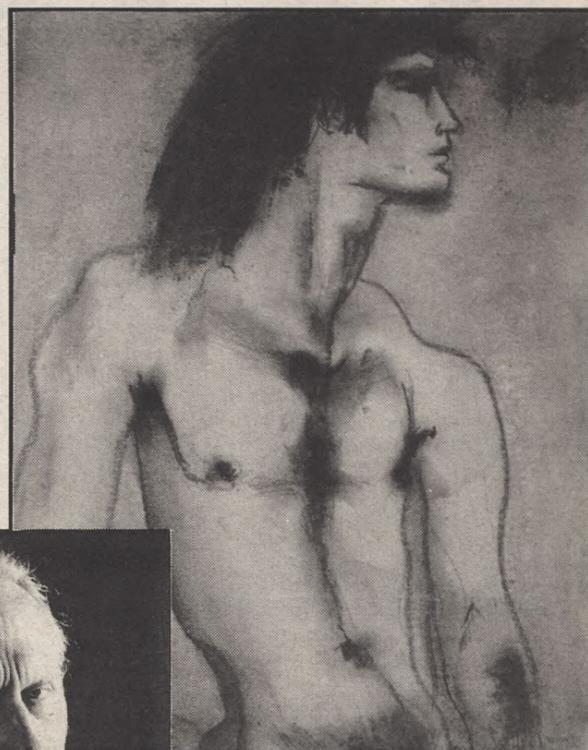
behavior by a sergeant who disliked him. "I hadn't done what I was accused of," Flinsch says, "but I knew I was gay and admitted I had gay feelings during my court-martial. It was quite enough for the military court to find me guilty."

Flinsch was not placed in a concentration camp, as were many German gays, but instead assigned to a military punishment unit that carried out duties such as mine sweeping. The work was dangerous, the odds of survival not good. "What saved me," he notes ironically, "was malaria. I got it in North Africa, maybe Italy, the kind that doesn't necessarily kill you right off but comes back regularly, every three months." It kept him off the battlefield for weeks at a time.

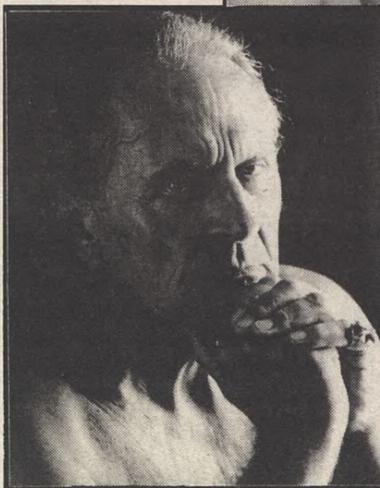
After the war he worked as a scene painter and carpenter in Leipzig's civic theater, which reopened soon after Germany's surrender to serve as a means of cultural reeducation for the German people after 12 years of Nazi rule.

"I got a good technical art education," Flinsch explains, but Leipzig was in the Russian zone of occupation and he soon decided "people's art" was not for him. He moved to the Western sector of Berlin, and from there to Paris. In 1953 he moved to Vancouver, where he had German-Jewish friends who had already immigrated. Liking Canada, he became a citizen and moved to Montreal in 1955. Until his retirement in 1985, he served as an art director for the television services section of the Canadian Broadcasting Corporation (CBC).

Flinsch says his job at the CBC not only gave him great professional satisfaction but economic security, allowing him the freedom to develop his own art as he wished: "I never had to ask if I dared expose my art or if it would sell. I could experiment and do anything I liked—which of course is beneficial for any artist." Flinsch is now represented in public and private collections



Artist Peter Flinsch (left) draws inspiration from the male form, as in this untitled work.



CARLOS QUIROZ

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"If you ask me about my experiences being gay, I'm a very great optimist," Flinsch concludes. "If anyone had told me in 1943, when I was down and out, that 50 years later I would see what I see today, and be able to talk about it like I'm talking to you, I never would have believed it. Even with the antigay backlash that happens sometimes now, I'm an optimist—very positive."

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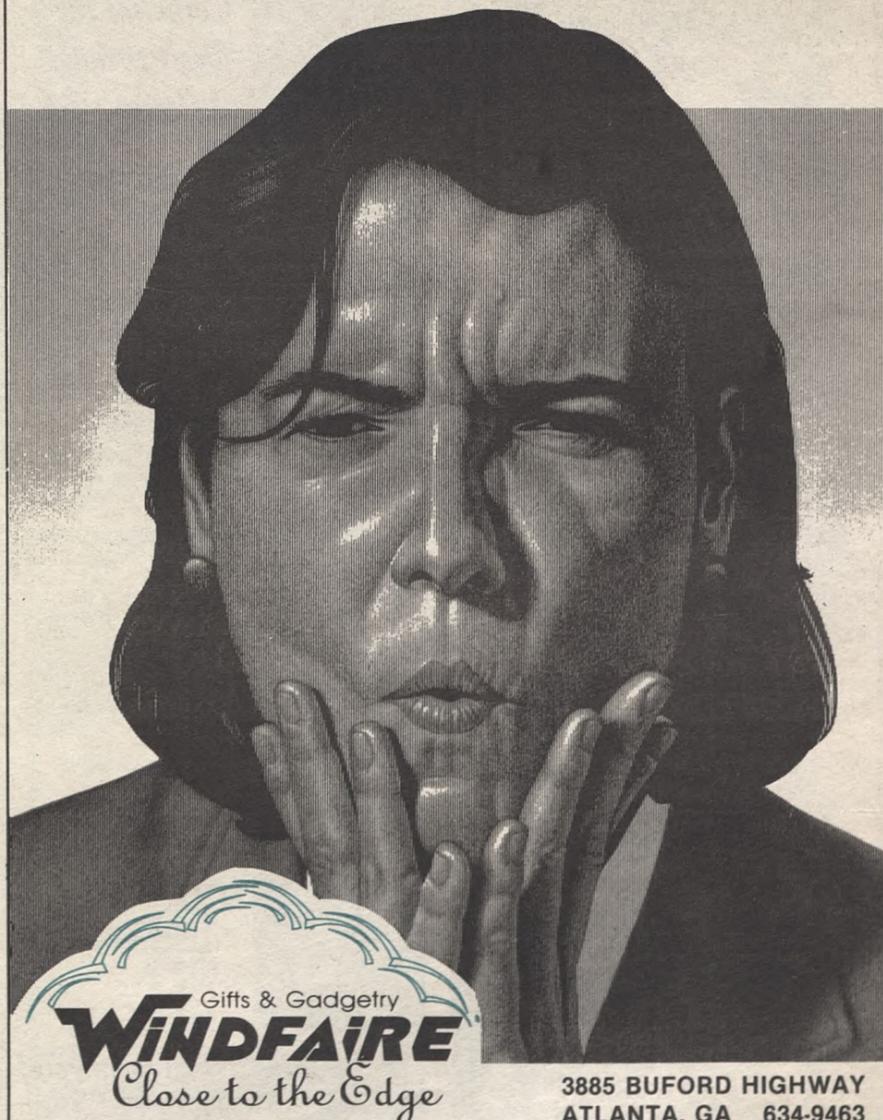
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ORGANIZATIONS

AIDS Organizations

AID Atlanta—872-0600
AIDS Athens—706-542-2437
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 and Lesbian Arts Festival—874-8710,
POB 55475 Atlanta GA 30308
Atlanta Gay Men's Chorus—POB 77114, Atlanta 30357, 977-6310
Atlanta Lesbian and Gay History Thing—POB 7032, Atl 30357, 876-1060
Atlanta Rainbow Ensemble—633-9419
"Funny... That Way"—875-2275
Dichotome—2300 Bankhead Hwy. #86 Austell—819-1096
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
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's—893 Peachtree. 872-3025
Burkhart's—Ansley Square. 872-4403
The Chamber—2115 Faulkner Rd. 248-1612
Club Fetish—(Weds.) 695 North Ave.—577-8178
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
Odella's—1231 W. Peachtree 897-5777
Opus 1—1086 Alko St. 634-6478
The Otherside—1924 Piedmont Rd. 875-5238
Pearl Garden—107 Luckie St. 577-7059
Phoenix—567 Ponce De Leon. 892-7871
Players—800 Sandtown Rd, Marietta 429-9115
Revolution—293 Pharr Rd. 816-5455
Scandals—Ansley Square. 875-5957
Shahan's Saloon—735 Ralph McGill 523-1535
Spectrum—Ansley Square 875-8980
Velvet—89 Park Pl., NE 681-9936

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
HRCP 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
Out Front—PO Box 12369, Atlanta 30355
Queer Planet—875-7711
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

Professional

ANGLE (BellSouth Gay/Lesbian Employee Group) — (404) 723-6540
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 (GL 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)
Turner Broadcasting Employers for Lesbian, Gay and Bisexual Concerns—
223-5226 or 872-9678
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
Circle of Grace Community Church—(404) 624-9570
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
Home Free Ministry—POB 668 Atlanta, GA 30301, 758-4034
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

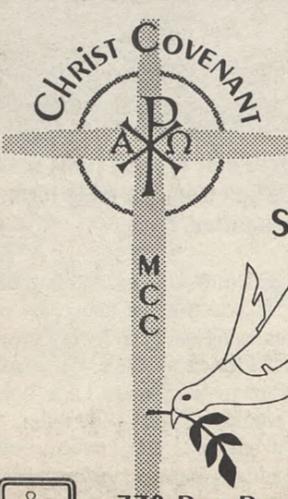
Atlanta Team Tennis Assn—621-2699
Atlanta Venture Sports—242-4899
Atlanta Women's Lacrosse Club—303-1160, 888-6738
Front Runners/Atlanta—621-5007
Greater Atlanta Naturist Group—851-2882 (voice mail)
Hotlanta Softball League—POB 14582, Atl. 30324, 873-4061
Hotlanta Volleyball—621-5062
Lambda Car Club—POB 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)
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 Prime Timers—For Information Call 734-2490
Atlanta Pro-Choice Action Committee—239-8016
Atlanta Rider Group (Motorcycle)—938-8494
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
Carrollton Gay Community Newsletter—POB 2416, Carrollton, GA 30117
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—(404)535-5445
Gay Fathers of Atlanta—342-6451
Gay Help Line—6pm-11pm 892-0661
Gay/Lesbian AA & Al-Anon—881-9188
Gay/Lesbian Alliance of Alabama—POB 36784, Birmingham, AL 35236-
6784, (205) 424-1005
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—897-5606
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
Overeaters Anonymous (Gay/Lesbian group)—892-5868
Parents, Families and Friends of Lesbians and Gays—296-0830 or 875-
9440
Parents, Families and Friends of Lesbians and Gays/Chattanooga—
(615) 875-5750, (615) 622-3813
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
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
Lambda Society of Clemson University—POB 5795 Clemson, SC 29632—
1-803-882-1374
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



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OUTLINES

KECIA CUNNINGHAM

Age: 28

How long in Atlanta: 9 years

Relationship Status: Happily married and mad in love

Last Book Read: "The Watchers" by Dean Koontz

Pet peeve: Traffic



Right out of college, Kecia Cunningham went to work for one of Atlanta's major banking institutions, and she was quickly on the fast track as a management associate. She was in the bank's branch system, working her way up through the various levels of bank management. But something was not quite right.

"I lived two separate lives, my bank life and my home life," Cunningham says. "I was working in Gwinnett County. Going to work I was putting on the Kecia bank face, and coming home I was becoming Kecia-whole-person."

But that all changed last year. She still works for the bank—but she's now in the training department.

"It's been wonderful," she says. "On my floor, five of the 12 people are gay. I'm very out, very open. Being in training, it's like I don't really work for the bank anymore. We get to wear casual clothes."

Cunningham was born in New York City, but her family, following a military dad, moved around a lot, finally settling in Summerville, S.C.

"It's a small town outside Charleston," she says. "Very old-boyish. I didn't quite fit in."

She left Summerville right out of high school, heading to Massachusetts and Wellesley College.

"I was accepted at Wellesley, Stanford, and Agnes Scott," she says. "Stanford was too far away, and my mom said no. So I went to Wellesley."

But only for two years, when tuition went up, and Cunningham transferred to Agnes Scott. "I think my mother wonders if she should have let me stay at Wellesley, where I would have married a Harvard doctor," she says. "Instead I went to Agnes Scott and became a dyke."

And "a real person," she says. "I wasn't happy at Wellesley. I didn't like who I was becoming."

But at Agnes Scott, that changed. "I was a lot more comfortable with myself, had wonderful friends. It felt good being down here."

She came out between her junior and se-

nior years at Agnes Scott, and says it was "very natural." "That summer was a lot of awakenings," she says.

At school that last year, she says, "there was a group of about eight of us. We called ourselves the Enlightened Coalition. We just lived our lives and didn't pay much attention to what anybody thought or said."

And after graduation came the bank—and the Atlanta Feminist Women's Chorus. She's been singing with the group since 1988, and says it's a "wonderful environment for me."

"I get to plug into what dykes are doing," she says. "And it's also been a very fertile ground for girlfriends. Especially when I was in the [bank] branches, the chorus was my lifeline."

Cunningham says she has a hard time having fun, but don't completely believe it.

"I'm a big sports fan," she admits, especially football. But the Falcons?

"I know," she says. "But it's the only game in town. I like the whole group-crowd thing."

Just a few weeks ago, Cunningham and her partner hit a Saints game in New Orleans at the Superdome. "That was a completely different experience," she says. "Loud and rowdy."

The Falcons and their fair-weather fans notwithstanding, until this year Cunningham has bought season tickets to the city's pro football team. But this year was different. "We bought a house," she says. "In Dyke Acres—Decatur. It's a big step on many levels. On the 'I'm-an-adult-now' level, and it marks a step in our relationship. But we also have a contract so if anything ever happens, we can go back to that."

"But we don't plan on anything happening," she adds with a laugh. "We're doing just fine, house and all."

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Big McMess: Hot on the heels—or should we say lap—of the verdict in which a woman was awarded millions of dollars for being scalded by McDonald's coffee, the fast-food emporium is now being accused of causing AIDS. A man in California is suing Mickey D's for selling him a bad McRib sandwich (is there any other kind, Dish would like to know) which he claims was tainted with shigella, leaving him hospitalized with stomach cramps and diarrhea. The man, who was allegedly HIV-positive but asymptomatic before the sandwich, contends that the infection has left him devastated and unable to work. McDonald's is trying to prove that the man is fraudulently trying to win benefits, and their lawyer has publicly stated the man "can't prove the sandwich made him sick and he can't prove he has AIDS." Can't prove he has AIDS? Where does McDonald's find these lawyers, anyway?

An Oasis In The Hate County: Although we stayed out way past our bedtime, Dish had a ball at the grand opening of Players Good Time Emporium, the newest answer to Gordon Wysong's little resolution out in Marietta. We could not believe our eyes, however when SoVo's KC Wildmoon arrived on the arm of Etc's Peg (talk about your odd couple!), but as Ms. Wildmoon's real-life cohort in crime was also on the scene, we suppose everything was above board. Anyway, the place was packed with Cobbites, Atlantans, and folks from nearby Cherokee and Paulding Counties, as well as some well-travelled souls from Tennessee. We were especially tickled by the rainbow flag cake, not to mention the house shooter—called "The Commissioner's Daughter." The CD herself, Shannon Byrne, says the drink is "fruity and strong." Dish wishes owners Brenda and Wayne and manager Randy much success—and urges all our friends to support this little friendly space in an often unfriendly county.

Dish

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



Jaye Davidson in "Stargate"

Those Madcap Swiss: The latest Stop AIDS campaign in Switzerland has spawned a stamp with a vibrantly colored, condom-clad penis on its front. Niki de Saint Phalle, the suggestively named artist who created the drawing for the stamp, has set off a bit of a controversy with older conserva-

tives in the landlocked country, despite the fact that the happy little fella continues to be the top seller at most counters. The stamp is for second-class postage, not first-class, but Dish supposes you've got to start somewhere. As for potential controversy, a Swiss postal service spokesperson was blasé: "It's a way of getting a message across like any other."

Close Your Eyes And Do It For England: Across the sea in Great Britain, the World Health Organization has discovered that over one third of the penises in that country exceed 2 inches in girth, which is wider than the government-approved width for condoms—now Dish knows why they call it Great Britain. Those who conducted the survey assure us that there is a highly scientific reason for this research: condom tightness is an important factor in their effectiveness and the willingness of men to wear them. The British Medical Journal, as a result, is calling for condoms to be produced in a "wider" (ahem) range of sizes to account for the difference in men's endowments. Now where did Dish put those British Airways brochures?

Guess Togas Were Out, Too: "Crying Game" star Jaye Davidson, who fooled many viewers with his costumes in that film, evidently had some costuming trouble in his new sci-fi flick, "Stargate." The film's designer originally planned to dress the actor in an Egyptian mantle, leaving his upper chest exposed, but there was one problem—Davidson had just pierced his nipples with heavy silver rings. The costume designer asked Davidson to remove the rings, but the actor declined, saying, "I just had them pierced and you have to leave them in for at least two months before you take them out." Happily, Dish can report that a compromise was reached; the designer opted for an ancient Greek design instead, which just managed to cover Davidson's newly tender accessories.

November 17 - November 23, 1994

It is another exciting week, beginning with a lunar eclipse (full moon) on Thursday in the fixed earth sign of Taurus. This may mean deep emotional release of opportunities for developing much more practical ways of living on this planet. As the Sun moves into the mutable fire sign of Sagittarius on the 22nd, we begin a season of gratitude and thanksgiving. **ARIES**, take time to confirm appointments, especially with people you don't know too well. Let others know you appreciate their efforts and abilities, especially those who are close to your heart. Everything is changing, nothing is permanent. **TAURUS**, the Heavens are dropping an important message right into your lap with this lunar eclipse in your Sun sign. Are you feeling open minded or just a little bit resistant to change? Relax, you are much more than you may have thought. **GEMINI**, "faster than a speeding bullet, able to leap tall buildings..." well, almost. We all know you do your best to keep up with our own marvelous and sometimes totally unrealistic expectations of yourself and then wonder why you feel deflated. **CANCER**, with the holidays just around the corner, you may need to take a day off right now so you will feel more organized and ready to really enjoy this time of celebration. If

STARS SIGNS

you're doing a party, a small intimate gathering will be the best. **LEO**, lots of playful expressive energy coming your way as the Sun moves into your 5th house of creative and passionate energy. Let your creative side out of the closet. You may be delighted with the abilities you discover hidden deep within. **VIRGO**, there may be a few unexpected delays in finishing projects, so be vary patient with yourself and with others. This is not a cosmic plot to drive you up a tree. Some ways and means do not work as well as they used to, so create new methods. **LIBRA**, be very aware of how you are using your financial and material resources for the next month. Be especially careful about making any kind of investment right now. Ask for expert advice and guidance concerning your financial stability. Happy Birthday, **SCORPIO!** This lunar eclipse may bring to light interesting and possibly helpful information, especially in your close personal relationships. You may be

surprised or simply have your intuition confirmed. Compassion is the key. Happy Birthday, **SAGITTARIUS!** Are you ready to celebrate, sharing your wonderful optimism and expansive nature with all your wonderful friends and loved ones? However, it may not be a really great idea to invite all your ex-lovers to the party! **CAPRICORN**, are you feeling a little burn-out in your current career? Maybe even some unexpected restlessness? It could be time to move on to the next part of your dream. If you have misplaced your dreams, open the closet and dust them off. **AQUARIUS**, are you letting yourself soar and float in the heavens, or do you feel earth-bound these days? You can fly, if you are willing to trust your instincts and the air currents. There is a part of you that needs to be a little wild and free. **PISCES**, great amounts of wisdom and creative intelligence are flowing into everyone. You may be more aware of these gifts than others, so you'll be able to help find the instructions and get things organized. Trust your instincts and your intuition!

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.

Adam & Steve by Eric Orner ...

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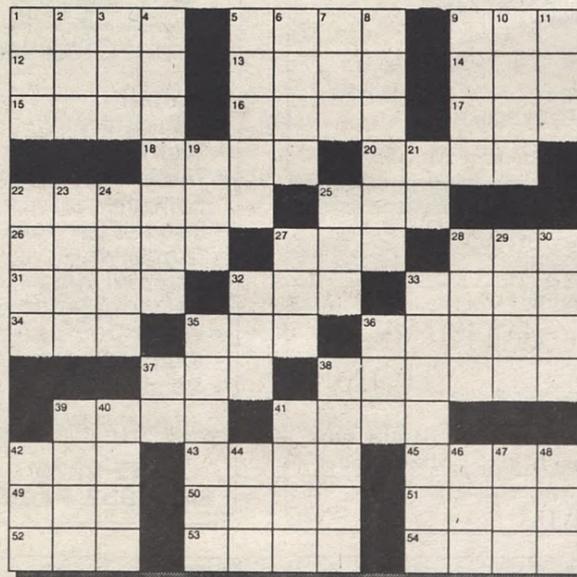
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WORD GAYME # 67: ARS LONGA



DOWN

- Sam Steward's *Boys and Tough Tattoos*
- Inventor Whitney
- Devoured
- Lesbian artist Brooks
- Argot
- Sheltered bay
- Blackbird
- Mexican muralist Diego

- Redact
- A-flat
- Genetic stuff
- Wind direction
- Do ___ mi
- Rabbit's relative
- On
- Lesbian artist Bonheur
- Frida Kahlo's field
- Prohibit
- Microbe
- Opera song
- Busy bugs
- UPS truck, for one
- Western artist O'Keeffe
- Pop artist Andy _____
- Exclamation of discovery
- Blues singer Rainey
- On this date
- Car
- Billie ___ King
- Winter transport
- "___ Clear Day"
- Onassis
- Homerootic artist ___ of Finland
- Editor's dashes

ACROSS

- Big, hairy guy
- Cicatrix
- E. M. Forster novel, *Howard's* _____
- Singing voice
- Burt's wife
- Artist Bachardy
- Carpe* _____
- Tel _____
- "Call ___ day."
- Poet Sexton
- Deco artist
- Pop artist Keith _____
- Exist
- Make up (for)
- Undergarment
- Chat
- Nijinsky's "Spectre of the ___"
- Big container

ACROSS (Cont'd)

- Final Analysis* star
- Pesticide regulating grp
- Armed conflict
- Eagle's nest
- Modernist photographer _____ Ray
- Supreme Court justice Clarence _____
- Partly open
- Fly
- Owed
- Clutch
- After *water or heaven's*
- Train station abbreviation
- ___-Day (vitamins)
- Common metal
- Gained
- Tramp's "girlfriend"
- Points a gun

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Answers to last week's puzzle on next page

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AIDS Survival Project will be holding their winter new volunteer orientation on Nov. 15, at 6 pm. Anyone wanting to help people with HIV/AIDS, please call Liz England at (404) 874-7926.

Kombucha Mushrooms available. For more information, call Jessi at (404) 523-5309.

Affordable Housing for people with HIV. Call "Home But Not Alone" at (404) 875-7881 ext. 27 or 54. Monday-Friday 9-5. (7.50)

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Good Samaritan Project offers support for persons with HIV/AIDS. Buddy prog., support group,

food/clothing, practical support. 873-4589. (7.40)

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AID Atlanta—Services incl. education, case mgmt, transportation, housing, buddy prog., practical support, homeless services, pediatric services, support groups, AIDS Info Line. 872-0600.

AIDS HOTLINE FOR WOMEN—888-9991 — a project of the Feminist Women's Health Ctr. 5:30-9:30pm Mon-Fri, 10:30am-2pm Saturdays. Caller anonymity assured.

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

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

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

AIDS Information Line / GA Toll-Free AIDS Hotline Free, anonymous information and referral services. In Atlanta: 876-9944; Toll-free: 1-800-551-2728 (voice/TTY)

Announcements

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Need to contact anyone who has helped a non-US National with work and/or visa. All information appreciated. July/Colette (404) 938-6389. (7.40)

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information. (7.40)

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MORE ON PAGE 44

ANSWERS TO LAST WEEK'S CROSSWORD: WRITER'S BLOCK

1	B	O	S	S			B	A	D		A	L	L				
11	O	B	O	E		12	S	O	L	O		13	L	E	E		
14	B	E	S	T		15	T	O	O	L		16	S	A	D		
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					20	P	A	R	A	D	E						
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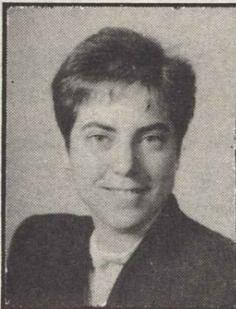


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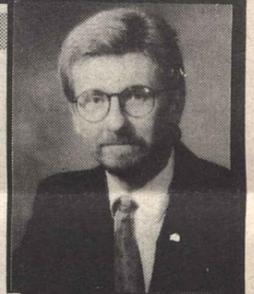
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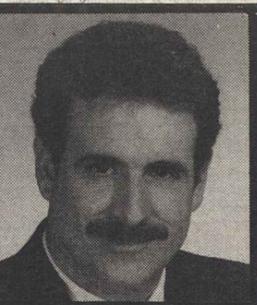
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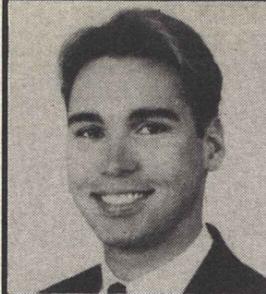


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Sarcastic, career bitch (GWM 29). Interviewing men with lives. Wimps, mama's boys, and those living with ex's need not apply. 931 Monroe Drive, #102-234, Atlanta, GA 30308.

NICE GUY bottom/versatile seeks masculine top. GD/LKG, 39, 5'11", 170, athletic, HIV-, hairy, receding hair, mustache, HONEST GWM wants to meet physically fit, HIV-, GWM, similar in age and height, who wants a monogamous relationship. No smoking, no drugs. 2448

BIG BROTHER seeks little brother; 39 yr old, brown hair/blue eyes, mustache seeks cute submissive guy for safe fun/friendship. 2449

PUMP YOUR RUMP. Dominant top, 30s, 5'11", 165, likes to safely bounce off a hot set of buns. 2450

Masculine GWM, 21-35 Marietta/Smyma area, masculine. Is being sought by GBM masculine. Tall, slim. 2451

Skinny, pretty, Capricorn boy seeks strong, beautiful Pagan man for spiritual stimulation and rites of Brotherhood. Let's live the Magick. 2455

Handsome WM, 5'8", 150, lives in mountains (Blairsville), HIV-, great guy, many interests, enjoys life, seeks similar very goodlooking oral/BJ buddy. 2456

Christ-centered GWM, 31, ISO romance and passion with GWM, 28-40, who hopes to be a parent, values honesty and fidelity, and enjoys sports, travel and socializing. 2457

WM, 33, 6'2" discreet, Christian, likes music, movies seeks WM (23-38) in Gwinnett/Walton county area. 2459

Monogamous, attractive, honest, relationship-oriented, stable, single GWM. If these traits describe you and interest you, please call! 2460

GBM, 33, HIV-, handsome, dominant, goal oriented seeks GWM 25-35, avg. plus looks, humorous for LTR. No fats, barflies or ad regulars. 2462

Sugar daddy, senior, married. Seeks to service healthy top 30-40 any weekday between 11AM and 4PM. 2463

Seeking WMs, 30ish, attractive, masculine and discreet to orally service. Me: 33, prof, masc, attrac (really) & talented. Roswell Rd/285 area, your place, no strings. 2447

Frustrated, hairy chested, masculine teddy bear divorced "late but finally out". Searching for masculine similar companion, sports enthusiast. 2443

GWM 35, 5'9", 175, beard, balding, goodlooking, well-equipped, versatile, seeks older GWM, GBM into toys safe discreet fun. 2433

Prof, 27, 5'11", 160, bn/gn seeks goodlooking boyish, prof for fun, adventurous, encounters. 2430

WANTED-ATLANTA
Bodybuilder bottom, WM 25-35, 5'10" max, must be into and/or learning SM, BD, CBT, TT. Must like leather, outdoors and quiet times. Master/Dad 46 HIV- who works hard and plays hard. Send photo and letter and I will answer. Send to ETF, P.O. Box 7427, Atlanta, GA 30357-0427.

GWM, Irish, 43, 5'11", 160 professional athletic enjoys running, roller blading, movies, dining, seeks same. 2435

Downtown Lunch Buddy. Professional GWM 32, 5'9", 170, b/bl seeks Midtown/Downtown "long lunches" with similar, discreet GWM, 18-45 at your place. Write P.O. Box 347144, Atlanta, GA 30334

GWM, 34, 5'9", 180, attractive, masculine, sincere into tennis, outdoors, massage, feet seeks similar GWM 21-39. 2440

Xmas Wish List! GWM 34, att, dk blonde, green eyes, romantic, sincere, loving, seeks same 28-40. No attitude. 2441

Hairy GWM sought by hirsute GWM fit, educated, professional. Prefer quiet, conservative, discreet, honest, healthy man. 2442

Versatile leather man 41, 5'7", 140, into being serviced and submissive, cock and butt play of all kinds. Safe action seeking same. 2445

Are there any sane people out there? Unique, eclectic GWM, 30, good looking; seeking other spiritual and strong personalities to walk with me along the Path of Life. Only serious need respond. 2444

GBM, 34, 5'9", slim, br/bl, fairly hairy w/stache seeking similar WM. Too many interests to list here. Intrigued? 2421

GBM, 42, HIV+, 5'10", 175, fair looks. Seeks man 36-44 for fun maybe more. Race unimportant. Masculine is a must. 2422

GWM 36, HIV+, very healthy top. Very good looking, Italian. Enjoys traveling, outdoors, quiet dinners. Looking for sincere honest GWM with a positive outlook on life, also enjoys the same. No bars. No drugs. Just enjoy life! 2424

GWM, 33, 5'8", 160, HIV-, br/gr, bottom seeks attractive masculine top GWM 28-35 for possible relationship. Serious calls only. 2425

NEED SOME SUGAR?
Loud rock is fountain of youth. Young 40-something GWM needs date for killer sugar. Sugar at Roky Nov. 21. Me: tall, trim, regular guy. You: young or not, good shape, in need of a band. Let's talk soon. 2427

BODYBUILDER, 6', 220#, 48c, 19a, 33w, handsome, mid 30s seeking similar men, 30-40 for hot, safe fun. 2381

ATTR WEIGHTLIFTER
BM, 40s, HIV+ seeks similar black, Latino, or GWM into healthy living, occasional dimnit out and cozy evenings. Must be masculine, versatile. No drugs. No smokers. 35+. 2410

Cute, 21, GBM, student seeks a healthy, in shape, GWM between 21-36 for fun, friendship, or maybe relationship. 2411

Elderly, sharing, financially secure WM sought for lifetime relationship. 2412

SPANKING

GWM, 40, 5'10", 140, seeks slender young men in need of bare bottom over the knee discipline. Robert, P.O. Box 56024, Atlanta, GA 30343, or call 2394

Columbus area GWM, 29, attractive, blonde/blue, lonely, caring, sincere, ISO true friend, possibly more. Please call!!! 2375

In shape Chinese guy 29, 5'10", 140 attractive, nice seeks Mr. Handsome 25-40 clean-cut non-smoker, honesty for LTR any race. 2389

Three's Company: 2 attractive GWMs 48 and 22, seek new friend 18-24, WM slender, clean-cut. Fun, possible travel. 2386

GBM 38, attractive, out, political ISO GBM/GBM 28-41 to share my life with. Enjoy movies, intimate dinners, good times. 2399

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. 2400

GWM, stocky bear, W. GA area, br/hazel, sincere, non-smoking, creative, witty, personable, unique. You??? 2392

GWM, 36, drug & disease free, Libra, submissive bottom, seeks drug free dominating white male under 55 for serious relationship. 2401.

GWM, 41, Let's do country! Work downtown, will commute within 1 hour. Healthy, masculine, non-smoker seeking nurturing monogamy. All answered. 2388

WNC Teddy looking for other teddy bears to smuggle with this fall. Early 40s, dk hair and moustache. 2385

Nonstereotypical GWM, vgd/kg professional with excellent body, 39, 5'11", 165; seeking mature GWM, 45+ for mentor/relationship; individual must be physically and spiritually fit and financially independent. Not seeking a "sugar daddy" but will contribute in all areas in order to enjoy the finer things. 2407

Hairy GWM? Cub early 40s seeking bear any size who is educated, not athletic, healthy, stable, discreet, and fairly trim. 2384

BLACK MALE

5'11", 30, educated professional, athletic and not your homeboy type. ISO WM, 27-34, intelligent, interesting, professional, liberal Democrat who enjoys camping in the mountains as much as at the Armory. If you need a life, forget it! If you have a great sense of humor, enjoy late night dinners, red wine & conversation, call. 2379

Fulfill my fantasy! GWM, 6', 172, very muscular, 30s, desires 1st experience with safe S/M, B/D, enema, sling, toys, etc. You be: 20s to 30s, masculine, dominant, very muscular, dark haired, hung, trustworthy. I'm ready 4 you. Please be disease-free. Photo with note gets response. Write SoVo Box 6550, 1189 Virginia Ave., N.E., Atlanta, GA 30306.

Black male, seeks masculine, assertive, uninhibited black male for an adventurous relationship. 2380

Hi, this is Lee, you finally called. I hoped you called because you're interested in meeting a good person and hope you are HIV+. 2351

GWM, 36, br/br, seeks bottom GWM to 50 for monogamous relationship. Quiet, conservative. No barflies/drugs. 2356

GWM, 59 ivy-educated, interested in the arts, psychology, history and traveling, seeks similar for friendship, possibly more. 2355

GWM, 31, 6'3", 155, country boy looking for nice and down to earth guy. For friendship possibly more. Call me. 2353

GWM, 40, 6', 155, b/bl, sensitive, good conversation, professional, relationship-oriented. ISO younger, easy going, slim guy who's not into games. 2230

Horny, hunky, hairy, versatile bottom seeks same qualities in versatile top. Let's play! Non-smoking, intelligent, affectionate, healthy HIV. 2339

BIG HEART

GWM 22, 5'11", 165, medium build, b/bl, ISO GWM 22-32 open-minded, down to earth guy with a big heart. No head games. 2340

GWM, 33, 6'3", 225, into music: from 99x to Grateful Dead, movies, pop culture, conversation, AbFab... You: stable, but fun. 2222

Attractive, masculine couple, 34, 6', 155# and 40, 5'9", 160# seeking same for safe fun. 2220

Very curious would like to receive myself. GWM 20s, bottom. ISO GWM Top into F.F. and safe encounters. 2224

WGM, 23 yrs, HIV-, bottom, looking for two tops between 35-49 for a hot threesome. 2226

TRIM GWM desires GWM hirsute interested in cuddling and more, with single buddy middle age. 2227

Bodybuilder, WM, 6'0", 125#, muscular, goodlooking, mid-thirties looking for similar bodybuilders for hot fun. 2326

College football buddy sought by GWM to watch go to games. You 21-30, SEC or ACC fans a plus. 2215

ME: Middle GA GWM 20/130/5'10"/br-bl/HIV-/student. YOU: GWM 20-30/smooth/HIV-/heavy (180-250) versatile. US: LSP, Trek, Stone Mtn, fun, relationship? No fems/1st/barflies. 2216

BM seeks masculine, Ruffneck BM for good times. 2217

Passionate romantic GWM 39, 6'3", 210, uncut smooth seeks athletic GWM 30-40 for loving relationship. Hairy chest major plus. 2095

Right pink hankie, GWM, masculine, HIV neg., smooth, nice looking, leather bottom seeks masculine, HIV neg. left pink hankie for safe fun. P.O. Box 208, Atlanta, GA 30079.

Catholic, black, HIV+, hard-body Romantic seeks GM (any race) with good body/mind into clean living and serious dating. 2204

GWM, 39, masculine, healthy HIV+, nonsmoker/drinker. Seeking monogamous relationship with room to grow. Friends first and foremost. All answered. 2208

Decatur GWM, 36, seeks bottom GWM under 45 for friendship/monogamous relationship. Weekend travel, movies. No barflies/smokers/drugs. 2206

GWM, 5'8", 165 bottom seeks Top 35-50 for daytime action. 2205

Christian GWM, 35, tall, dark, athletic and handsome. Looking for the same, for life. Living in Philly, moving to Atlanta. Write SoVo Box 6526, 1189 Virginia Ave., N.E., Atlanta, GA 30306

TRIPLE PLAY: single GWM seeks 2 guys or couple for bedroom acrobatics. Me: 39, safe top, boy-next-door looks, brown hair, blue eyes. Call! 2189

27 year old GWM (bearish) ISO young (22-31) free-spirited, long haired, Bohemian, hunkish, imaginative, intelligent, interesting, exotic, caring, relationship oriented individual. 2190

BEAR HUNT! GWM 40s, looks 30s, ISO hairy GWM versatile Fr/Gr, smart, fit, workaholic who enjoys hibernation. 2192

Versatile GWM 30, 5'11", 225 seeks GWM or Hispanic for friendship or possible relationship. Sincere replies only. 2193

GWM, 42, 5'8", 160 ISO GWMs 35+, 5'10" and under for friendship. Possible relationship. Prefer North Fulton area. 2198

Mystic experiences. WM, 54. Will consider live-in. Can relocate. Bearded. Smoker. 2199

Goodlooking, athletic, GWM, 25, bottom-versatile, seeks nonsmoker, handsome, athletic-muscular, GWM, top-versatile for fun, friendship. HIV neg. Threesome possible. 2200

GM couple, 34 and 27, masculine, attractive, sincere enjoys outdoors, exercise, beach seeks similar GM couple for fun friendship. 2203

Cherokee/Irish GWM, 35, gdlkg, muscular, 5'9", Baptist. Seeks 30-40, GAY Christian to make home with. 2147

GWM, 31, HIV+, very healthy and fit. I'm nice looking and interested in meeting another sane guy. 2154

AAA Hottest Ass. HIV-, FTI, 145, br/br. Can't find Well Hung stallion. Want it, love it, gotta have it. 2137

Three's Company. GWM professional, masculine, 40s. No drugs, safe, amateur photographer. ISO slender/athletic young guys. Fun. Possible travel. Note/photo(s). P. O. Box 5416, Atlanta, GA 30307.

Nice guy, GWM, 30, 5'9", 155, masculine goodlooking, toned hardbody. Seeks similar clean-cut inshape guy for lasting goodtimes. Do it! 2153

Attractive GBM, 24 seeks open-minded intelligent masculine men of any race for unique romantic encounters. 2136

GWM attractive, early 60s, ISO HIV- slender, intelligent guy less than 38 for possible secure relationship. No hustlers. 2157

GWM 26, 5'11", 155, brown hair, hazel eyes. Starving student, seeks professional man 35-55 for discreet, mutually beneficial liaison. Athens, GA. 2150

COLOR OF NIGHT

Ambitious, attractive, healthy, masculine, sexy, articulate, caramel coated male, 36, UCLA, budding screenwriter seeks a genuine, masculine, greying, healthy, Southern beau, Scott Bakula type, muscular, hairy top, great legs, thirtysomething into writing, film and romance. Photo. Michael. 2145 or write SoVo Box 7100, 1189 Virginia Ave., N.E., Atlanta, GA 30306

SGWM, 27, 6'2". Seeking SGWM, 30ish, successful mentor, attractive, relationship oriented. Show me successful career, exploring life long monogamous relationship. 2144

BEER BELLY?

Goodlooking, stocky GWM, 26, seeks proud owner of rotund, over-the-belt, expanding pot-belly. Masculine, humorous, under 35 preferred. 2143

Lake Lanier professional GM couple, both 35 seeks single/couples for boating, cookouts fun and friendship. No fats, fems, drugs. 2142

Young 35 year old GWM seeking 35 or older GWM for friendship and companionship. Lilburn area. 2141

FATHERSONUNCLE

GWM 35, hot BB, wants to hear from those guys who have had real experiences with their Dads, Sons or Uncles. 3-way possible. Write A.P., P.O. Box 531033, Miami, FL 33153 or 2140

BIGGER'S BETTER

Bottom GWM 29 slim, smooth. ISO GWM TOP Endowed only. Up to 35, in shape, smooth chest. Safe only. 2139

GWM, 32, 5'7", 148, blk/br, attractive, work out

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DIRECTIONS

regularly. New to Atlanta. Would like to meet other attractive GWM, 30-36 for friendship or dating. Prefer nonsmokers and non or light drinkers. 2138

Though the early bird may catch the worm, the shaved, wise, white owl will definitely catch the young black cobra. 2127

GWM, 45, 160, 5'9", moustache into music, sports, outdoors, dogs, seeks masculine romantic country boy 35-45, uncut a+ for lifetime. 2128

GWM successful professional 40s, masculine. Non-smoking/drugs. ISO slender/athletic WM college boy. Fun, travel, mutually beneficial discrete relationship. 2129

Successful GWM wishes to establish fun experimenting involving two intelligent, attractive, imaginative college WMs. Discrete & safe. No drugs. Interested? 2130

DOMINANT DAD

GWM 40, 6', 175, HIV-, seeking masculine GWM bottom into B/D, TT, CBT leather. Inexperienced OK. HIV-. Relationship possible. 2131

Tall, incredibly handsome, muscular, bi-racial GM, 22, seeking masculine, fit, attractive GWM top 30+ for wild, uninhibited encounters. Hairy +. 2132

GWM, 32, 170, 5'11", vgd/kg, HIV-, seeks attractive WM who enjoys lunchtime oral service. No relationship desired. 2133

Shiny Vinyl. Black leather fashion GWM, 36 slim masculine. ISO wannabe. 27-29 waist. No smoke. Southsider. Box 90357, Atlanta, GA 30364-0357.

Hairy GWM sought by 40s hirsute GWM medium, trim build. Prefer warm bear of professional nature. 2104

CRUISE BUDDIES

Anyone going on RSVP Mardi Gras Cruise February '95? Going alone? Meet/talk before? Why not? 2105

GWM, 36, 185 (workout), goodlooking, man's man. Looking for j/o partner(s), single, group? Large? Yes. You? Let's Talk! 2106

GWM-35 masculine, sincere, attr, seeks heavyset mature cuddly GWM for sharing life's pleasures, enjoy seasons & outdoors. 2107

GWM, 26, skinny, tall, boyish, clean-cut, funny, somewhat quiet and homebodyish, HIV-, seeks similar for possible relationship. 2135

MUSCULAR bodybuilder or jock sought by GWM 24, 6', 185 br/gn student, for appreciation. Will service. Call for fun! NO strings! 2108

Horny in Huntsville. GWM Professional, 30ish, 107, blond. Needs a Huntsville sweetheart. Where are you hiding? You: intelligent, in shape, fun loving, stable GWM 30/40, relationship minded. 1515

Tall Dark Handsome GWM 28, 6'4", 195, artistic, romantic, healthy, happy but still searching for that special man. 2010

Think family planning/future kids? GWM, 28, thinking similar <35 commits "joint daddies". Enjoys sharing memories, travel, rising our future generations. Write Box 6511, 1189 Virginia Ave., N.E., Atlanta, GA 30306

WM, 36, 5'11", 165, seeks dominant, well-equipped, older BM for oral and FF action. 2012

Masculine GWM 27, 5'10", 155, hairy, with B/D interests seeks dominant daddy/coach (30-40) to show me the ropes. 2014

Good looking, muscular, HIV-, 34 yr old. ISO same between 30 and 40. Must enjoy life, affection, and quiet time. I'm looking for magic. Write Box 6512, 1189 Virginia Ave., N.E., Atlanta, GA 30306

Sincere GWM, HIV+, bid/blue, 5'11", 140, 30, endowed and versatile. Seeks WM, teens thru twenties for fun, friendship, possibly more. 2015

GWM couple 38, 40, good looking, masculine professionals, in shape. Seek similar for no strings weekend sex. 2016

HOTTOP seeks hot bottom. Me: 30s, 5'11", 165, moustache, HIV-, dominant. You: submissive, attractive, safe, 20s-30s. Afternoons or evenings. 2002

Sharp GWM 56 into writing music, movies, psychology, gardening, self growth, slight kinks seeks partner any age. 1387

GWM 30, 5'8", brn/bl, 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

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

GWM, 34, preppy, professional, curious, always up, ready for adventure. Seeks discreet GWM, 20-40 Adonis for stimulating sensual seduction. 1519

EX SOLDIER BOY

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

Classical musician, GWM 24, 6', 150, br/br, educated, art, 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 twofisted 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 avail. daytime for ltr mentoring loving. 1608

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

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 Smyma, Vinings, Austell? Discreet! Regular buddy for shower days. 1611

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

PERSONALS

SoVo Pick of the Week

things afrocentric are my passion, along with sistahs, short tall, dark light dark, conscious, self-aware, caring cool hot, reaching for language - intellect ☎ 2446

Sex-starved, tall, blond, green eyed fem wild Ban-shee ISO; soft Butch in Gladiator shape, ready for a challenge. Let the games begin! ☎ 2461

GWF, 44, sensitive, loving, humorous, intelligent, spiritual (Unity Church), ISO similar, sincere, GWF, 35-50, NS, Alcohol/Drug free. Write SoVo Box 6530, 1189 Virginia Ave., N.E., Atlanta, GA 30306, or call 2454

GBF in search of GF for friendship. Enjoys movies, music, dining out and quiet evenings at home. Relationship may be. ☎ 2402

GF 46 - energetic usually feminine shy fun loving life loving. ISO romantic real life long friend companion possible lover. Photo unimportant. Write to SoVo Box 8000, 1189 Virginia Ave., N.E., Atlanta, GA 30306.

GWF, 40, feminine, petite, pretty, spiritual, funny, honest, professional, passionate, seeks similar GWF for theatre, walking, hiking, dinners, romance, loving. ☎ 2436

GWF ISO GWF with wacky sense of humor and gentle spirit! I'm sort of butch, 5'7", blond/blue animal lover. ☎ 2197

Cute '62 model, low mileage, two previous owners, rarely used. Seldom abused. Clean interior/exterior, sporty. Seeking luxury sports coupe. ☎ 2428

Confident, artsy WF, early 30s, curious, ISO creative, sexy, semi-butch WF mentor to help me reach my true potential! Me: arts professional, Asia traveler, liberal, attractive, sophisticated, financially secure, intowner. ☎ 2419

25 year old GWF, attractive, employed, professional. I enjoy outdoors, travel, movies, music and more. ISO GWF 21-35 for friendship/more. ☎ 2408

GWF, 24, 5'4", slim, attractive, semi-feminine, educated. Enjoy dancing, fun and romance. ISO compatible Fem for friendship and more. ☎ 2413

Closeted, 20, BF, non-role playing, Scorpio, eccentric, student, natural, vagabond, somewhat reclusive, life is music and books. Desire to share and listen. ☎ 2414

GWF, 27, full-figured seeks other GFs for friendship and fun. More comes in time. Into Anne Rice, M.E., more. ☎ 2415

ISO fortyish dinner/maybe dancing buddy, intelligent conversation, some laughs, good stories, loving kindness, easy going friend, maybe massage partner. ☎ 2417

MARRIAGE

Entrepreneurial GWM, 30, seeks marriage of convenience. Write P.O. Box 77152, Atlanta, GA 30357

GWF seeking affectionate, playful GWF to hold, walk with, talk to and love. Come share my heart and life. ☎ 2418

Tall, creative, adventurous, romantic, energetic, GWF, 33, professional educator, who likes to "Run With the Wolves." Into outdoor activities, music, spirituality and personal growth. ISO feminine soulmate who still believes in writing love letters. ☎ 2420 or write SoVo Box 7101, 1189 Virginia Ave., N.E., Atlanta, GA 30306

WANTED: GF 28-35, feminine, professional, confident, sincere, compassionate, mentally/physically fit, spiritual, strong character, animal lover, drug/alcohol/ex-girlfriend free. Interested in dating and friendship. REWARD: GWF, 32, with same qualities. ☎ 2429

GWF, 33, attractive professional, very caring, loving, slightly funky/new age. Enjoy outdoor camping, art, gourmet cooking, music and entertaining friends at home. ISO womyn with a heart to share interests and long term goals. No smoking/drugs. ☎ 2396

Attractive, lipstick lesbian, 21. ISO GWF 25-32. Must love music and great sex with no fear and no head games! ☎ 2423

Sincere, sagacious, GWF seeks synergistic connection. GWF 38-45, 5'6"+, clear, kind, centered, ambitious, articulate, savoir-faire. You believe in true love that lasts, sets your mind, heart on fire, keeps you held warmly when you need to come in from the cold. You are openly expressive of receptive to honesty, affection. Walk beside a sojourner whose heart has become impatient to fill the space that has always belonged to you. No smokers, drugs, ex's, smugs, country-westernites. Interested working towards long term, monogamous, relationship with gentle, positive woman of character. Write SoVo Box 6551, 1189 Virginia Ave., N.E., Atlanta, GA 30306, or call 2373

WF, 23, sexy, cat-green eyes, long hair, intelligent and inexperienced. Have always been wildly attracted to sensuous, intelligent women, but just starting to explore my more feminine side. Seeking feminine stable WF, 22-26, who loves to laugh for friend and lover. ☎ 2395

European GWF, forties, 5'7", sensual, honest caring, seeks sporty GWF with qualities, tastes, for relationship and active healthy lifestyle. ☎ 2393

GWF seeks attractive, educated fem or butch 35-45 for Friday-nite outings. (No alcohol or drugs) ☎ 2391

Lipstick lesbian 28, petite, brown/blond seeks attractive, literate, fit, soft butch, 5'5" or over. ☎ 2390

Attractive, feminine, friendly, idealistic, gentle, funny, professional (out of town weekdays) GWF, 33, seeks platonic friendship or old-fashioned romance. ☎ 2387

Hey Baby, where are you? Attractive GWF, 36, ISO gentle, down-to-earth GWF 26-42 for friendship and more. Blonde a plus, but not necessary. Call me! Write SoVo Box 6554, 1189 Virginia Ave., N.E., Atlanta, GA 30306, or call 2409

Passionate, humorous, sensual, devilish sweet, Rubenesque, Caucasian lesbian, 39. Seeking independent, funny, spiritual lesbian. ☎ 2378

Cute GWF, 37, ISO GWF who wants it ALL. Friendship, romance, fun, and love. Fem only/no druggies. ☎ 2377

GWF 30, attractive/professional. Outgoing and intelligent seeks to meet same for friendship. 28-35, no butches. ☎ 2376

Just Arrived! GF couple from Virginia anxious to meet new friends. No games just evenings in/out. Leave message. ☎ 2374

GWF 28 of Latin descent, attractive, petite, quasi-conservative, spiritual, sensitive, freedom-loving. ISO classic feminine for music, outdoors and honesty. Friendship first. ☎ 2372

GWF, 28, 5'2", 116 attractive, shy funny, responsible. Enjoys life and good company. Looking for compatible fem. Friendship, possibly more. ☎ 2352

GWF, 22, Rubenesque, attractive, adventurous, new to area. ISO GWF under 30 for coffee, conversation, friendship and more. ☎ 2354

GWF, gdlkg, athletic, fem, eclectic, enjoys metaphysics and all outdoor activities. ISO GWF spiritually aware, 30s-40s for golfing, hiking, camping, scuba, travel, etc. Where are you? There are mountains to climb, oceans to swim and dreams to be had. No butches or bi's please. ☎ 2221

GWF-41, seeking 40-50 y/o companion. Interested in Baby-Boomer-Butch who takes care of herself. ☎ 2223

Goodlooking and fit GWF with light hair & eyes. ISO attractive GWF 35-43. Must be outgoing, humorous & love adventure. ☎ 2229

GWF, 24, seeking intelligent conversation and laughter. I enjoy Asian history, classic films, meditation, gardening, Trivial Pursuit and baking bread. ☎ 2228

GBF, NYC, political, spiritual, caring, seeks mature, non-role playing, sincere, unpretentious woman of color for conversation, romance and more. ☎ 2213

Intelligent, attractive Levi's semi-femme GWF 23, into Girls, Melissa, k.d., Rain, movies, books; raising 2 mini-feminists seeks GFs for friends, lover. All answered. ☎ 2214

GWF, 23, cute, feminine, psychology major. Loves animals, music, tennis. ISO SANE, feminine, GWF, 21-33 for friendship and dating. ☎ 2209

SEND ME AN ANGEL, mysterious, pretty, gorgeous femme fatale - GWF, 32 who is passionate, romantic, sensual, and creative, seeks similar sincere woman for friendship/romance/relationship. ☎ 2210

GWF, 28 attractive, undercover nerd. Chess, movies, theatre and music. Seeks same 28-35. Cobb metro area. ☎ 2211

Semi-closeted GWF 28 of Latin descent, attractive, petite, quasi-conservative, spiritual, sensitive, freedom-loving ISO classic feminine for music, outdoors and honesty. Friendship first. ☎ 2212

Wanted. Attractive GWF, 35-43 for attractive professional. Stressed out. Qualifications include humor, stress management, sensuality & great lips. ☎ 2188

GWF, 28, red hair, blue eyed loves dancing, music, etc. Seeks GWF 24-30 for friendship, possible relationship. ☎ 2191

GWF, 29: attractive, androgenous, fun-loving and professional. Dare to reach in and touch my soul, it's thoughtful of life, honest and open. Seek same for friendship/more. ☎ 2194

GWF, 25, too shy to speak to you! Natural, professional, together. Seeking down to earth, confident, fem. ☎ 2207

GWF submissive wannabe seeks fit, 5'7" or taller dominant GWF late 20s-30s for "training" some SM. ☎ 2202

Reply if not frightened to GWF: 27, Psy. Graduate student, blonde, eyes: 1 green, 1 brown, 5'4", wanting friends. Tame looking-surprise wild child. Fin. secure, cat-person, garlic lover, eclectic music, cappuccino addict, lives to blow bubbles in the woods under moon, warms toe rings by fireplace, reads lots, no white drugs, smokes only on WEAK days, plays with beads & drinks fine wine. Travelled, spiritually creative, Rush hater, failed debutante. ☎ 2152

GWF, 30, petite, br/blue, professional. I smoke & drink! (Just thought I'd warn you.) Seek fun loving woman for friendship, maybe more. Enjoy dining out, reading, movies, walks, and love animals. I'm new to area & would love to meet woman with similar interests. ☎ 2151

An Honest Ad. I love romance, but my passion is for good sex, intelligent conversation and laughter. Is anything else important? ☎ 2149

GWF professional. ISO feminine 30s who advocates mental and physical health-who wants to live life to its fullest. Nonsmoker. ☎ 2146

GWF, 42, professional, adventurous heart, searching soul, personal/spiritual growth is priority. ISO committed relationship with like-minded mature women. ☎ 2155

Intelligent, feminine, cultured woman, 35, desires fun and frolic with affectionate, witty, feminine, stable professional GWF 30+, into motorcycles, travel, the arts. Smokers welcome, drinkers not. ☎ 2125

GWF, 29, looking for GWF 26-35 (feminine) for companionship and more if opportunity presents itself. I work in the sports field and love sports. Very family/goal oriented looking for same. Professionalism, stability, and honesty a must. No smokers or drugs please. Live in Cobb Co. Write & tell me about yourself. Picture optional. Box 421, 4983 Austell Road, Austell, GA 30001. ☎ 2126

ISO GWF. Highly manipulative, addictive personality to be the next woman in my life, matching all the others. I'll understand if you can't respond. ☎ 2101 or write to SoVo Box 6521, 1189 Virginia Ave., N.E., Atlanta, GA 30306

GWF, 38, feminine, attractive, fun-loving professional seeks same. Enjoys conversation, golf, tennis, beach, adventure, cuddling, romance and more. No dykes, bis, druggies. 35+. ☎ 2103

GWF, 40, hopeless romantic. ISO GWF 35-50 with intelligence, humor and romantic nature. Looks are immaterial. Personality is the key. Smokers okay. Write Box 6513, 1189 Virginia Ave., N.E., Atlanta, GA 30306

GWF, 34, 5'4", 130, br/br, attractive, feminine, professional. Enjoys watersports, walking, reading, good times, with friends. ISO feminine GWF 28-40. ☎ 2018

GWF, 25, short brown hair, blue eyes, seeks GBF 24-30 for dinners, movies and long talks, etc... No drugs/smoking. ☎ 2019

GWF, 28, professional 5'3", 110, blonde/blue, feminine, attractive, nonsmoker, spiritual, affectionate, passionate. Loves animals, music, quiet romantic evenings. ISO feminine woman 25-35 for friendship, hopefully more. ☎ 2021

Sincere, caring, GBF 28 seeking GBF for good times friendship or relationship. Must be drug free over EX. No Bi's. ☎ 2022

GWF-very goodlooking, alternative, petite, professional, fun and physically fit. Seeks: same or a gorgeous hippie-chick. ☎ 1993

Gorgeous and outrageously daring GWF ISO androgenous and sensual GWF 35-45 in relationship but seeking quality time with discreet partner. ☎ 1994

Our life is dull! GBF (couple) seeks other couples to befriend. Nothing sexual. Just lunch - movies or 2 hang-out with. Give us a call - Let's do lunch! ☎ 1980

Stable, professional, GWF, 37, who enjoys movies, reading, walks in the mountains and along the beach, eating out, travel and romance. Seeking somewhat feminine, non-smoke with similar interests. 35-45 yrs. ☎ 1981

GWF, 43, feminine, educated, professional, passionate, affectionate, honest and adventurous. Seeks warm heart, intelligent mind, playful spirit for quality relationship. ☎ 1982

GWF, 29, attractive, fit, non-smoker, settled, honest, caring, affectionate. Seeking spiritual growth. Loves music, sports, animals. Desires mature relationship. ☎ 1983

Attractive, feminine, GBF artisan, 30's (laid-back, nature-loving, spiritually-expressive) seeks GF for conversation, friendship & intimacy. ☎ 1984

GWF, 40's, trim, petite, shy, mature, stable, just coming out. Seeking serious relationship with butch woman. ☎ 1985

KEY TO MY HEART

Cute GWF, 29, semi-butch, open minded, br/gm, fin. secure, loves to laugh, dance & romance. ISO: similar semi-fem, 26 and up GWF, "over Ex." Come try your key! ☎ 1986

Relationship oriented, professional GBF seeks same. Must be emotionally stable, disease free, and over your X lover. ☎ 1712

GWF, 25, blonde, blue-eyed, slim, addicted to coffee and music, enjoys traveling, writing, movies, psychology, seeks attractive, intelligent, creative woman. Let's talk. ☎ 1713

Quiet GWF, 42 seeking warm, healthy, stable GWF over 35 who likes sports. I like sunbathing in summer and fireside talks in winter. No smokers/druggies. ☎ 1714

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 woman. 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

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

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

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 alkies/druggies. ☎ 1501

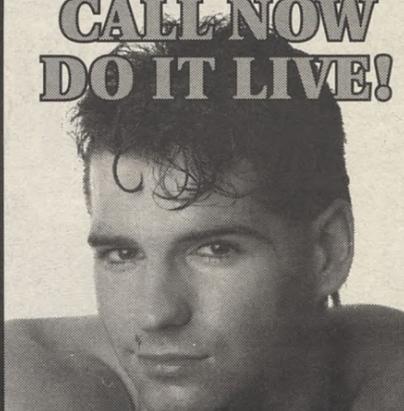
Curious gdlkg 5'5", 114#, bl/br, 36, feminine seeks same for friendship. D/D-free. New to lifestyle. No butches. ☎ 1502

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

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

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

CALL NOW DO IT LIVE!

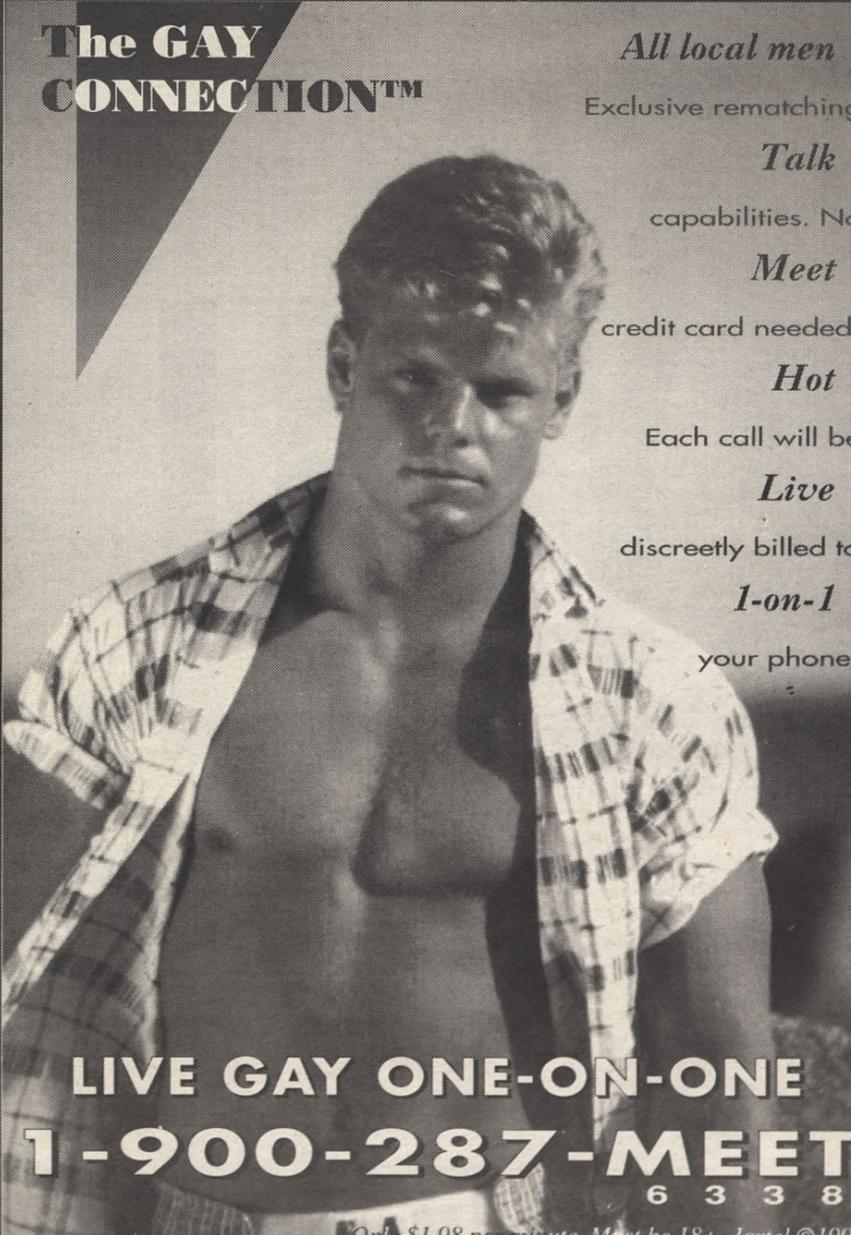


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