

**Have a Safe, P.C. Holiday**

While most people buy Christmas trees and wrap countless presents, some Atlantans dedicate themselves to reducing waste and consumption this season. Page 17



# southern VOICE



**Still a 'Front Runner'**

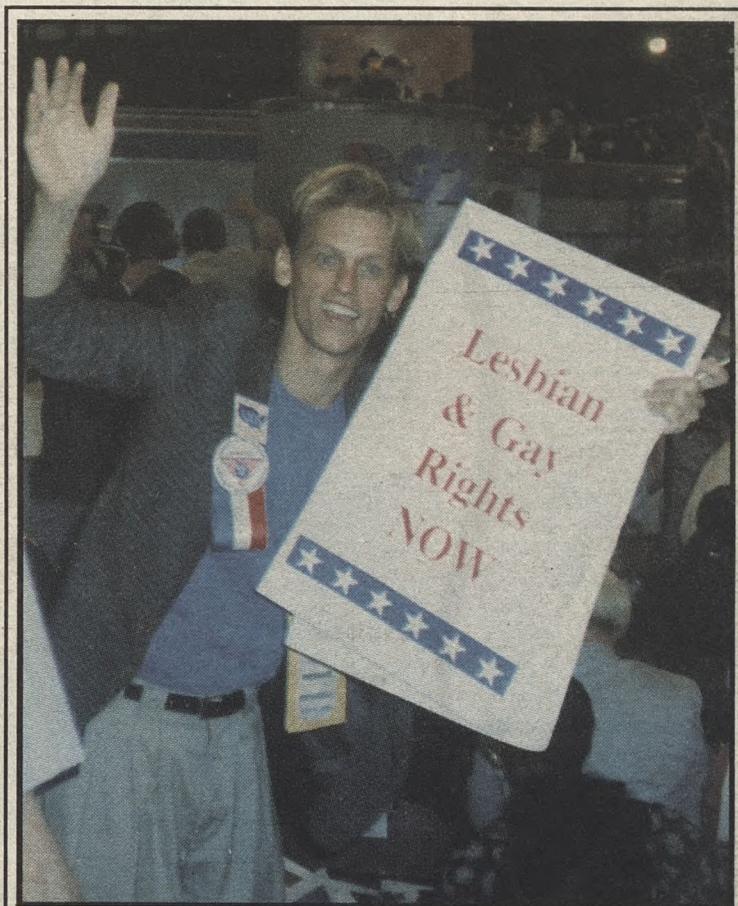
It's been 20 years since Patricia Nell Warren wrote the 'The Front Runner.' Here, Warren discusses literature, gay youth and her new book, 'Harlan's Race.' Page 29

PLEASE RECYCLE

TAKING PRIDE IN OUR CULTURE

DECEMBER 22/1994

## Home for the Holidays



### So long, Eric

Eric Spivey, pictured here as an openly gay candidate at the 1992 Democratic National Convention, died on December 13. Spivey, 35, died of complications from AIDS. Read about his life and contributions to Atlanta's lesbian, gay and AIDS communities on pages 4 and 10.

### A near-tragedy in the Fitzgerald family reunited an estranged gay son with his father just in time for the holiday season

by ADAM J. SANK

Atlanta—When he was a teenager in his hometown of York, Pa., Sean Fitzgerald used to watch the Showtime series "Brothers" on his family's televi-

sion. On that program, several gay male characters were regularly featured and, as it did for many other boys of his generation, Sean found that watching Brothers contributed significantly to his acceptance of his own developing gay identity. Then, one day, Sean's father watched the show with his son.

The elder Fitzgerald canceled their subscription to Showtime the next day.

Fast forward more than a decade to June 12, 1994. Atlanta businessman Sean Fitzgerald, 30, was looking forward to competing in the triathlon at New York City's Gay Games. Though he had come out to his sister three

years earlier and was living an openly gay life in Atlanta, Sean had yet to tell his parents of his sexual orientation because he feared they would react negatively.

"Growing up," he recalls, "my dad would be vocally homophobic and [my mother] would just sit there and not say anything." Yet his participation in the Gay Games, in which he placed fifth for his age group and 15th overall, proved to be a turning point for Sean and his parents.

"My father's a CNN junkie," he explains, "and so he knew what was going on in New York that week... My sister was going

to come up and watch me compete. Before she came up I told her, 'Give a call so I can tell you where to go, what to do there...' She happened to call from my parents' house. After we were through talking, she said, 'Wish Dad a happy father's day,' and he got on the phone and started asking questions... Over the course of the conversation he realized the reason I was in New York. As soon as he figured it out...he dropped the phone."

Nor did the senior Fitzgerald come around after the initial shock wore off. Months later, Sean says, his father "went through the house and took down all the pictures of me from

the walls."

Meanwhile, while his father and he ceased communication altogether, Fitzgerald worked on repairing relations with his mother. "My father was away one night, and I got a call from my sister telling me to call my mom... We talked for about a half hour, and I found out the reason she had been so short on the phone [in recent weeks] was that my father was standing next to her telling her to hang up."

Mrs. Fitzgerald told her son she couldn't understand why his father had such a problem with gay people. "She was actually going through our family history

> Continued on Page 15

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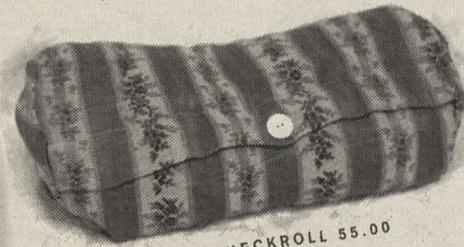
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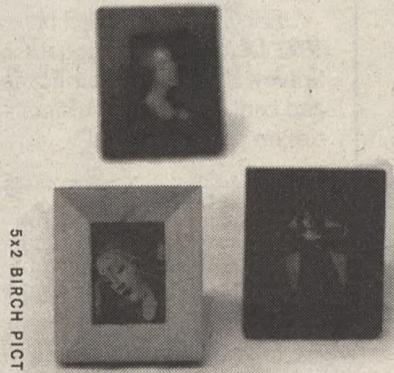
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## Right-wingers named to school chief's transition team

### Progressives wary of extremist influence on Georgia schools

by KC WILDMOON

Atlanta—Progressive politicians will be keeping a sharp eye on the actions of newly elected school superintendent Linda Schrenko in the coming months as she begins her four-year term as head of Georgia's public schools.

Schrenko, virtually unknown before she narrowly defeated incumbent Democrat Werner Rogers last month, has assembled a 29-member transition team to assist in the changing of the guard, and some members of that team are raising eyebrows.

"With the exception of one or two people I don't know, she has certainly managed to assemble a team that threatens good education in Georgia," said GAPAC lobbyist Larry Pellegrini.

The list includes former Republican gubernatorial candidate Guy Millner and his campaign manager, David Schafer; U.S. Sen. Paul Coverdell; former state Republican party director Don Bolia; state Sen. Sallie Newbill; and state Rep. Sharon Trense, along with sex education activists Susan Cable and Linda Hamrick.

During a sex education review in 1992, Hamrick and Cable were

very vocal in their opposition to AIDS education beginning with grade 4 and to including a neutral discussion of homosexuality in the state's curricula. And Trense was the author of a bill during last year's legislative session that would have made it much easier for parents to have books removed from school libraries. The original version of Trense's bill, which did not pass the General Assembly, would have jailed librarians for not complying with its restrictions.

Schrenko, who received a 100% rating from the Christian Coalition prior to November's election, is already on record as agreeing with Hamrick and Cable regarding homosexuality, but in recent meetings with her new constituents, she has toned down some of her more right-wing campaign rhetoric.

Noel Lytle, co-chair of the Cobb Citizens Coalition, attended one of those meetings in Marietta earlier this month. He said, "Regarding sex education, she sounded like she wasn't pleased with it, but she said she may leave it at the discretion of local school districts." According to Lytle, Schrenko also said she wanted to abolish the list of approved textbooks that the state provides to local school districts.

On the surface, Lytle said, that may not sound frightening, but he cautioned that some texts—like those provided by the Christian Reconstructionist textbook maker American Vision—"are just plain

## Top spot filled at Project Open Hand

Atlanta—Project Open Hand has named Loretta Redd, a psychologist, to head the organization.

"It was a unanimous decision by the board," said POH president Richard Daily. "We received over 150 resumes from across the nation, but we were particularly impressed by the energy and talents Loretta will bring to this position."

"This is truly a culmination of my life's training," Redd said. "We have such a challenging year ahead of us, and part of our goal is to stir emotions to invoke community support for our mission."

Redd, who will be leaving her current position with United Behavioral Systems to take the helm of POH on Jan. 9, will oversee the agency's move to City Hall East and the capital campaign to raise funds for con-



Loretta Redd will take the helm of Project Open Hand Jan. 9.

struction on the new facilities.

The native Atlantan received her Ph.D. from Georgia State University and has served on the board of directors for both the AIDS Research Consortium of Atlanta and AID Atlanta.

propaganda."

Lytle also said he was concerned with statements Schrenko made regarding the federal and state Departments of Education. Answering a question from the audience regarding what she would do if she had absolute power to do anything she wanted, Schrenko announced she would "abolish the federal Department of Education, abolish the state Department of Education," Lytle said.

"She said she had talked to Sen. Phil Gramm and Sen. Paul

Coverdell and they had agreed to try to abolish the Department of Education at the federal level."

"They want to dismantle the public school system," said Vicki McLennan, lobbyist for the Georgia chapter of the National Organization for Women. "And if they can't do that, they'll try to push their backward values onto it."

Pellegrini said he expects a "battle royal" between Schrenko, the state school board (made up of Zell Miller appointees) and educators, "and the legislature will surely be drawn into it."

## Atlanta lesbian, gay youth to benefit from new grant program

by KC WILDMOON

Atlanta—The Metropolitan Atlanta Community Foundation has been awarded a grant from the National Lesbian and Gay Community Funding Partnership. The funds will be regranted to organizations serving lesbian and gay youth.

The \$43,500 grant, to be matched by corporate and community donors, is part of the first round of grants given to community foundations across the country by the Partnership, modeled after the National Community AIDS Partnership and founded to help put lesbian and gay issues before major funders nationwide. MACF is one of 11 foundations to receive a total of \$505,000 from the Partnership this year.

Philip Rush, MACF's program officer, said that the new program



Philip Rush of the Metropolitan Atlanta Community Foundation.

will help boost services in a much-needed area.

Noting that Atlanta has very few services for lesbian and gay youth, both Rush and MACF di-

rector Alicia Philipps said that having a new funding source available will be beneficial for both the lesbian/gay community and the community at large.

"The dearth of services represents part of what the issue is," said Philipps. "Our whole purpose in doing this is to play off the expertise of the Foundation. I see it as another piece in the whole that will benefit the gay and lesbian community."

Philipps said that the Foundation conducted a series of interviews with lesbians, gay men and service providers before submitting the grant proposal to the Partnership, and added that that process is ongoing as the Foundation prepares to accept proposals from Atlanta organizations.

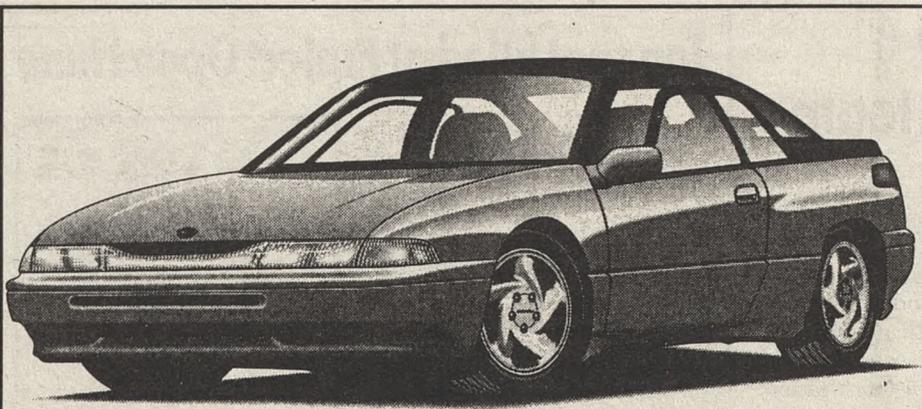
"We're going to put together a strong advisory committee," she said, "and that should be an-

nounced by February 15."

The advisory committee will participate in focus groups with gay and lesbian youth to assess needs and work with the Foundation's grant management committee on the granting process.

Rush said he anticipates grants going to organizations that either already are or could be providing services to lesbian and gay youth, to mainstream providers who may need assistance in handling sexual orientation issues, or to projects that "buddy up" lesbian/gay and mainstream organizations.

"My sense is that the community is really interested," he said. "I see this not as a torch that will pull the lesbian/gay community together, but as an opportunity for people who are different to see something in common with each other."



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## Leif Eric Spivey, Atlanta activist and TV host, dies at 35

by KC WILDMOON

Atlanta has lost another prominent figure to AIDS. Leif Eric Spivey, host and producer of "Out in Atlanta" and "Positive Living," onetime City Council candidate and former Democratic National Convention delegate, died at his home Dec. 13, a week shy of his 36th birthday.

The New Orleans native, who came to Atlanta with partner John Ishmael four years ago, had made a mark on his adopted city that few will forget.

"I really liked Eric," said City Council member Mary Davis. "He really provided needed services in this community—it was quality work. And I will miss him."

Spivey and Ishmael, who had been together for nine years at the time of Spivey's death, worked tirelessly in the New Orleans gay community before relocating to Atlanta. In the late '80s, the pair owned Club NONO, a gay nightclub, and The Dinner Table, a restaurant. Spivey served on the New Orleans mayor's Advisory Committee for Lesbian and Gay Issues beginning in 1988, resigning from that position in 1990 when he moved to Georgia and took a job at Gallus restaurant in midtown.

Spivey and Ishmael debuted "Out in Atlanta" on People TV in August 1991, putting a regular forum for news and entertainment from a gay perspective on Atlanta's airwaves. Spivey also hosted the annual taping of the Lesbian/Gay Pride Parade, conducting on-the-spot interviews from a television set-up on 10th Street and providing Atlantans with a complete view of the annual event on cable television.

A year after the debut of "Out in Atlanta," Spivey was elected a delegate to the Democratic National Convention in New York City. He was the first openly HIV-positive delegate ever sent to a national political convention. Regularly interviewed on national television, Spivey gave a face to gays and people with AIDS to the nation.

"This is a real loss," said Jon Greaves, also a delegate to the convention. "CNN followed him around everywhere [at the convention], and he worked hard with not a bit of ego. It was because he cared about the community and the cause."

"He has never stopped," he added. "He's as fine a person as anybody I've ever known. Hopefully there are other people to stand up. Maybe we can find a

half dozen people to fill his shoes."

Motivated by the convention experience, Spivey launched a second cable television show on his return from New York. "Positive Living," a show dedicated to HIV/AIDS issues, debuted on People TV in September 1992.

Ishmael, who serves as director of the two shows, said the staff of the programs would do "everything we can" to keep Spivey's legacy going.



Leif Eric Spivey (right), with partner John Ishmael.

"It's going to take some time, but I don't intend to let it fall away," he said.

With the television shows already a success, Spivey turned his attention to politics and launched a campaign for a City Council post in 1993. Spivey finished third in a five-candidate race, and built bridges between the lesbian/gay community and other communities in the district he and Ishmael called home. Offered a position on the staff of Debi Starnes, winner in the race, Spivey refused so that he could remain connected to the gay community.

"He was in his element here," Ishmael said. "And the funniest thing about him was that he was the hardest person to get to leave Louisiana. Our friends said I had to drag him out kicking and screaming. But he has really shone here."

In addition to Ishmael, Spivey is survived by five siblings—Anne Marie Spivey, Chantelle Martin, and Joseph, George and Blue Spivey—in addition to numerous nieces and nephews. In lieu of flowers, Ishmael asked that donations be sent to the AIDS Survival Project in Spivey's name.

In true New Orleans fashion, friends gathered at his home to celebrate his life on Dec. 17.

"If we could all go out with as many people as loved him, we would all be better people," said Ishmael.

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the winter blues away.**



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## NATIONAL NEWS

## Elders has no regrets, but AIDS groups do

Washington, DC—AIDS organizations and gay rights groups have been quick to criticize President Clinton's dismissal of Surgeon General Joycelyn Elders.

"Joycelyn Elders was a voice for millions of people who had no one else to speak for them," said Tim McFeeley, executive director of Human Rights Campaign Fund. "She focused the nation's attention on the public health problems faced by women, the poor, people of color and people with HIV and AIDS. Her strength was that she didn't judge or preach to people, but rather showed them that someone cared. She put public health above politics."

Clinton demanded Elders' resignation Dec. 9 after learning that she had told reporters at an AIDS conference that masturbation should be discussed in schools as part of human sexuality.

Advocates for gays and people with AIDS have expressed dismay at the loss of Elders, whose blunt, common-sense statements often reflected the groups' own positions.

"This represents a setback in our efforts for an open and honest dialog about the AIDS epidemic and education to our young people on their sexual health issues," said Cornelius Baker, director of public policy with the National Association of People With AIDS (NAPWA). "It also represents that the President is not willing to defend a progressive agenda on AIDS issues."

"It appears that Dr. Elders is in effect being punished for exploring and promoting sound public health policy,"—Miguelina Maldonado, director of gov't relations and policy for the Nat'l Minority AIDS Council.

"It appears that Dr. Elders is in effect being punished for exploring and promoting sound public health policy," added Miguelina Maldonado, director of government relations and policy for the National Minority AIDS Council. "I am astounded by the controversy surrounding her comments about masturbation—a completely normal, healthy sexual activity and one that is totally risk-free in terms of HIV and STD transmission. While her comments might have been worded more carefully, the administration's abrupt response makes one wonder what the goals of the Public Health Service really are."

Mario Cooper, president of the AIDS Action Council and a political insider who managed the 1992 Democratic National Convention, characterized Elders' dismissal as "a loss to anyone concerned about rational public health policy," and expressed con-



Surgeon General Joycelyn Elders: too blunt for Washington?

WILFREDO LEE

cerns about a chilling effect in the administration.

"If I were people like [Health and Human Services Secretary] Donna Shalala and [new AIDS czar] Patsy Fleming, I think I would feel a little colder," Cooper said.

"She was the only person in the administration that wasn't afraid to talk about sex and to talk about AIDS issues," said Steve Michael with ACT UP Washington.

During her two years as surgeon general, Elders was credited with raising awareness by speaking honestly on issues such as teen pregnancies, AIDS, violence and poverty.

Clinton supported Elders when her previous comments on drugs, abortion and Medicaid drew criticism from conservatives. At a news conference Dec. 11 at the Summit of the Americas in Miami, Clinton said Elders' firing had nothing to do with politics.

Elders said that although she did not know all the factors that went into Clinton's decision, she remains friends with Clinton and supports him for re-election.

"I feel the President did what he felt he needed to do at this time," Elders said. "I'm very pleased that the President gave me the honor of being the surgeon general."

"I don't really have any regrets," Elders said in a taped interview broadcast Dec. 11 on NBC's "Meet the Press." "I've tried to always speak what I knew to be a truth. Truth as I see it and truth as you see it may be two different things, but certainly dealing with many of our poorer communities, I know that their outlook on life is very different from someone who plans a trip to Europe every summer," said Elders, whose resignation takes effect Dec. 31.

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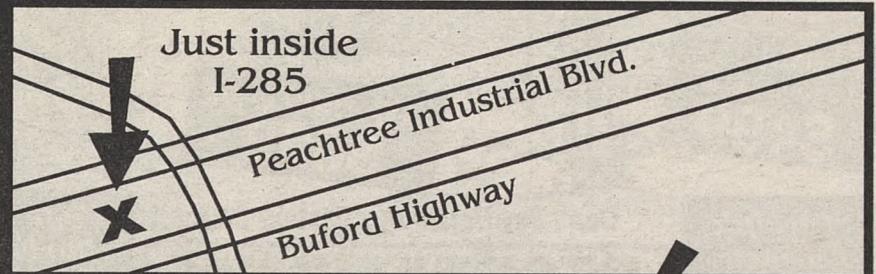
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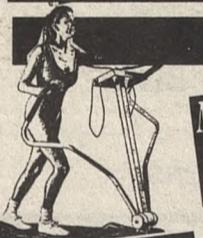


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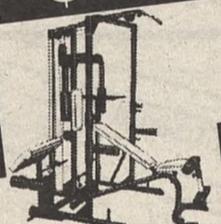
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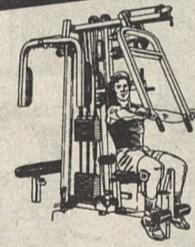
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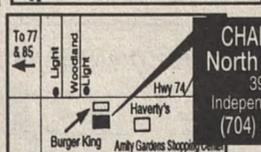
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## SOUTHEAST NEWS

### Gays find a welcome in some S.C. churches

Columbia, SC—Steve Waites used to be active in a Presbyterian church, even serving as Sunday school superintendent. But when the congregation found out he was gay, he and his partner of 14 years were told they could no longer participate in the services.

"It's amazing that gay people bother with religion at all, considering the condemnation they receive," said Waites, 45.

He now attends New Hope Christian Church, one of four Columbia congregations with primary outreach to gay men and lesbians.

He and his partner are part of a growing number of lesbians and gay men who are finding a place of their own to worship.

"People who come here have been told by other churches they're a perversion and have to be changed before God will accept them," said Rev. Patricia Voelker, the lesbian pastor of Community Fellowship, which meets off North Main Street. "I tell them the opposite. I affirm them as gay and lesbian people and assure them they are exactly who God created them to be."

Community Fellowship is affiliated with Metropolitan Community Fellowship. The South is the 32,000-member denomination's strongest foothold, despite being in the Bible Belt, where opposition to homosexuality is often most vocal.

Many churches that don't accept gay men and lesbians say that God calls them to help gays "overcome" their sexuality.

First Presbyterian Church, a 2,200-member congregation, recently sponsored a workshop to teach members "how to deliver

gays and lesbians from their sexuality." About 80 people attended.

"We can't condone what God sent his Son to redeem," said Rev. Glen Knecht, pastor of First Presbyterian, an Associate Reformed Presbyterian (ARP) church. "We believe it's a sin. We're not gay bashers. Our goal is to help them live a normal life."

Still other churches are more accepting. At the Ebenezer Lutheran Church in downtown Columbia, a predominantly straight congregation welcomes gay men and lesbians.

Ron Dinkins, 33, turned to Ebenezer after the pastor at his old Baptist church repeatedly "condemned homosexuals to hell."

He is also active in Lutherans Concerned, an independent organization that meets monthly for worship.

Lutherans Concerned is part of a new wave of affirming outreach ministries that some denominations provide for their gay and lesbian members. Participants are given support and, when possible, integrated into welcoming churches.

"It's a safe place where gay and lesbian Christians can be themselves and not fear rejection or condemnation," said the Rev. Jay Hilbinger, a volunteer chaplain for the Columbia group. Hilbinger, who is not gay, is associate pastor of Ebenezer Lutheran.

The Unitarian Universalist Fellowship also offers a monthly support group for gay men and lesbians. The group, which attracts some straight people, was begun to foster greater acceptance within the congregation.

ASSOCIATED PRESS

### Stabbing case delayed by deals

New Orleans—Prosecutors hoping to persuade two murder suspects to testify against a third have delayed the trial of three men accused of killing a man they believed to be gay in New Orleans' French Quarter.

The three suspects, identified as Mingo Graham, 23, Ronald D. Graves, 24, and Grant Wayne Gunderson, 24, all of Metairie, were booked with first-degree murder in the death of Joe Balog, 23.

Balog was attacked Nov. 11, 1993, as he and his friend, Charlie Burks, walked to their car parked in the French Quarter, police said. Burks also was stabbed, but he survived, Orleans Parish Assistant District

Attorney Robert Hildum said. Authorities said the men referred to Balog and his friend as "gay" and "faggot" during the assault.

Police said Balog and his friend were not gay.

Hildum said he's negotiating with Graham and Gunderson to see if they will testify for the prosecution against Graves, who is believed to be the person who actually stabbed Balog and Burks.

A trial was to have begun Nov. 28 but was delayed because of the negotiations. A trial date for Graves has been set for Jan. 23.

ASSOCIATED PRESS

### Florida firm launches gay TV show

Deerfield Beach, Fla.—A Florida production company announced Dec. 2 the launching of a new gay and lesbian magazine-format television series, "Freestyles." According to producer Dan Dailey, the series will be made available to major cable affiliates across the nation.

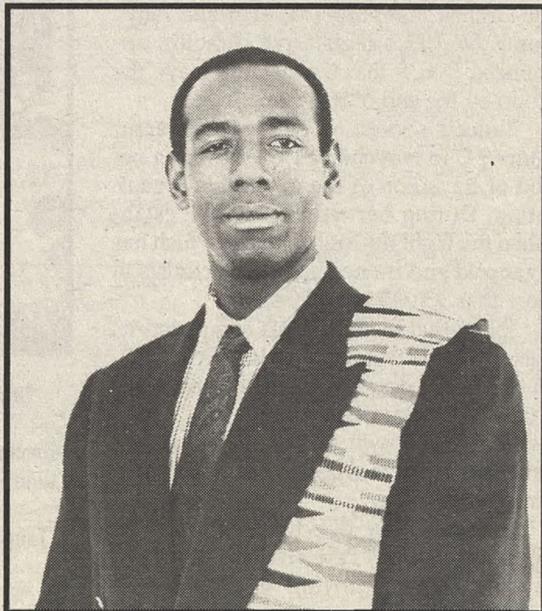
"The series was designed with the in-

tention of filling the need for entertaining and educational programming for this long-ignored market of consumers," said Dailey. "Freestyles" promises to deliver the very best in entertainment, travel, fine cuisine, special events and more."

The 13-part series will be available in April 1995, Dailey said.

## AROUND THE SOUTHEAST

**Anti-Gay Legislation Expected In North Carolina:** Lesbians and gay men in the Tarheel State can expect an avalanche of anti-gay legislation in the 1995 session, thanks to a sharp swing to the right in November's midterm elections. "People who hate us will hate with more license," Derek Livingston, outgoing director of NC Pride PAC, told Q-Notes, "and our friends are not as secure." Expected legislation includes a measure that would allow landlords to discriminate against potential tenants they believe may have committed a felony, including North Carolina's sodomy law; a bill that would prohibit state-funded facilities from being used by lesbian and gay groups; and anti-gay sex education bills. Such measures have been previously introduced by right-wing elements of the North Carolina legislature.



Derek Livingston of NC Pride PAC sees rough times ahead in the North Carolina legislature.

### Tennessee Sodomy Law Is Dealt A Blow:

A county judge in Tennessee has declared that the state's law prohibiting consensual sodomy violates a state constitutional guarantee of right to privacy, according to the Washington Blade. The Dec. 7 ruling came in a preliminary hearing in which the judge refused to dismiss a lawsuit challenging the sodomy law. Instead, Judge Walter Kurtz of the Davidson County Circuit, which includes Nashville, issued a 20-page memorandum saying the state could not prohibit same-sex acts simply because a majority thinks them immoral. Attorney Abby Rubinfeld, who organized the challenge, said she is "cautiously optimistic" that Kurtz's ruling might lead the state supreme court to strike the law.

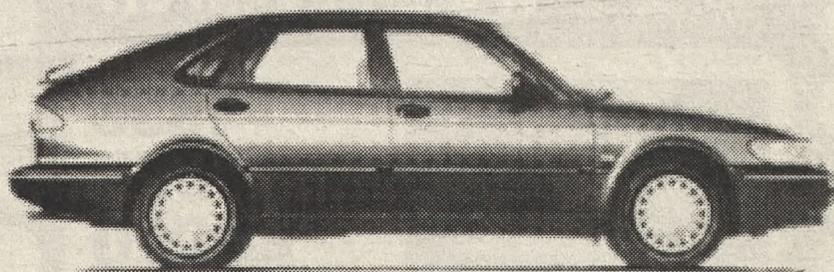
**West Alabama AIDS Outreach Has New Digs:** West Alabama AIDS Outreach in Tuscaloosa moved into a new facility in October, giving the organization a much-needed expansion. The organization is now located at 2115 University Blvd. in downtown Tuscaloosa. The new offices make room for the agency's third employee—a case manager joined an education coordinator and secretary—and a small conference room. The phone number (758-AIDS locally and 1-800-722-AIDS statewide) and mailing address (WAAO, P.O. Box 2947, Tuscaloosa, AL 35403) remain unchanged.

**Gay And Lesbian Students Groups In Central Florida:** All three major colleges in Central Florida have a functioning lesbian and gay student group, reports Watermark, Orlando's lesbian and gay newspaper. Students Transcending Homophobia has 53 members at Stetson College, while Rollins Friends of Lesbians and Gays at Rollins College boasts 52, mostly heterosexual members. The Gay, Lesbian and Bisexual Student Union at the University of Central Florida would not reveal how many members it had, but the group is active, particularly around Gay Pride and AIDS issues.

**Mental Health Professionals Meet On Lesbian/Gay Issues:** Over 100 mental health professionals convened in Charlotte, N.C., on Nov. 4 for the fourth annual Charlotte-Mecklenburg Conference on Gay and Lesbian Mental Health. Sessions for the day-long conference included an introductory track for those unfamiliar with sexual orientation issues, a session on advanced psychotherapy issues, HIV/AIDS, spiritual needs and youth issues. The conference was organized by Time Out Youth, Charlotte's youth advocacy and support group.

**Town Meetings Identify Key Issues:** A series of town meetings in Charlotte has identified three key issues for the city's lesbian and gay community. Task forces to look into communications, a local political group, and a community center have been formed, and another town meeting will be held in late winter to report on progress. "By inviting the community to an open dialogue, we hope people will feel they are included in deciding what is important for the future of the gay, lesbian, bisexual and transgendered community here in Charlotte," said Dan Kirsch, co-chair of NC Pride 1994, who facilitated the meetings with co-chair Sue Henry.

**Plans Underway For Mobile Pride '95:** The Mobile (Ala.) PRIDE Committee is hard at work on the 1995 celebration. The committee has put out a call for volunteers for coordinating and planning. Call (205) 476-4621 for more information about how to be part of Pride '95.



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## NATIONAL NEWS

# NGLTF loses two key players

Washington, DC—Peri Jude Radecic, director of public policy for the National Gay and Lesbian Task Force (NGLTF), and Tanya Domi, NGLTF's legislative director, announced Dec. 9 that they would leave the group by the end of the year.

Radecic served as executive director from 1993 to November 1994, during a period of transition at the gay rights organization. During her tenure, NGLTF established the Fight the Right Project, which has organized and trained scores of activists in more than 25 cities and 20 states.

"Now that the board has completed its executive director search process, I can complete my own personal transition and move on," Radecic said in a statement. "I have loved my time with this organization and have grown tremendously here, but it is time for me to go."

New executive director Melinda Paras commented that "Peri virtually invented gay and lesbian lobbying on Capitol Hill, and the policy department has matured under her direction. Peri is well loved throughout the community, and she will, no doubt, continue to make significant contributions to the lesbian and gay rights movement."

Tanya Domi joined the Task Force in 1992 as the director of the Military Freedom Project and spearheaded NGLTF's efforts to repeal the military ban. This fall, she took a sabbatical to accept a consulting assignment with the National Democratic Institute as an observer of the democratic elections in



Departing  
NGLTF  
directors Peri  
Jude Radecic  
(above)  
Tanya Domi  
(right)



Nepal. She has accepted a full-time position with NDI and will be on assignment in Haiti this winter.

Paras said the vacancies created by Radecic's and Domi's departures will be filled as part of an overall re-engineering of the Task Force and its staff. She said she expects to announce significant hires by mid-January.

## Judge nixes lesbian adoption bid

Chicago—Attorneys for two lesbian couples who lost a bid to formally adopt children they have been raising said on Nov. 28 that they will likely appeal.

"I think the judge is clearly wrong," attorney Patricia Logue said a day after Associate Circuit Judge Marjan Staniec said state law does not give unmarried couples the right to jointly adopt children.

Staniec's ruling does not remove the children involved from their mothers' care, it simply bars the women's female partners from the rights associated with legal adoption.

The Cook County cases Staniec ruled on involve two women's efforts to jointly adopt a 3-year-old girl born to one of them through artificial insemination; and a second couple's similar effort to adopt two boys. One, age 2, was born to one of the women through artificial insemination; the other is a 3-year-old nephew she adopted previously at her brother's request.

Joseph Monahan, an attorney for the women in the second case, said the woman had adopted the nephew as a single person, which state law allows. What Staniec rejected was her attempt to be recognized as a family unit with her partner and jointly adopt both children, Monahan said.

The women were married in a church

service, but state law does not recognize same-sex marriages, Monahan said.

Staniec's ruling means that "if the birth mom were to die, the other partner could lose custody to a legal stranger because she has no legal rights" to the child, Monahan said.

Logue said both cases can be equated with "step-parent" adoptions, in which the partner of a biological parent seeks joint custody of the child. In such cases state law requires the "adoption" to be done jointly by both partners.

But under Staniec's reading of the law, since the women in Monday's cases are not legally married, their adoption bids must be rejected.

"Sometimes judges must make a ruling they don't necessarily agree with. But they must follow the law as they see it," Staniec said.

Another circuit judge faced with a similar case earlier this year approved a same-sex adoption, and Monahan said he believes state law allows such adoptions by unmarried couples if one partner is a blood-relative of the child.

The four women involved chose to remain anonymous to spare their children any harassment, Logue said.

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## AROUND THE NATION

**'Gay City' Celebrates 10 Years:** Tiny West Hollywood, Calif., founded on the tenets of gay rights and rent control, celebrated its 10th anniversary with a celebration Nov. 29. The 1.9-square-mile enclave has a healthy budget, lower crime and better services



City Manager Paul Brotzman accepts a personalized street sign from West Hollywood Mayor Abbe Land.

than before its incorporation. "This is a very agreeable city, yes. But I also think that you, in part, create your own luck," said Paul Brotzman, who has been city manager for 9 1/2 years. The city was incorporated Nov. 6, 1984, and started off with an openly lesbian mayor and the first city council in the nation with a gay majority. There currently are only two gay council members, although lesbians and gay men continue to wield political clout and hold many civic posts, Brotzman said.

**Lesbian Mother May Keep Children:** Setting aside personal opinions about morality, the South Dakota Supreme Court has ruled unanimously that a divorced lesbian

mother may keep her children. The justices said Lori Ann Van Driel may have custody of a son and a daughter even though she is a lesbian who lives with her partner. "Personal conceptions of morality held by members of this court have no place in resolution of this controversy," wrote Chief Justice Robert A. Miller in the decision. Miller said that the court must be guided by principles of law, and that Van Driel's living situation showed no harmful effect on the children.

**Arizona Court Says It's OK To Fire Gays:** The Arizona Supreme Court has refused to hear an appeal of a lower court ruling that allows employers to fire gay men and lesbians solely because of their sexual orientation. The high court refused without comment to review a May 5 decision by the state Court of Appeals that said state law does not prohibit such discrimination. The case involved Jeffrey L. Blain, who worked for Golden State Container in Phoenix. Blain sued the company after he was fired, claiming he was dismissed because he is gay and has AIDS. The appellate judges said they recognized that "sexual preference has nothing to do with job performance," but said it was up to the Legislature, not the courts, to define what is a protected right. The Supreme Court's refusal to review the case does not set a legal precedent, however, because it was not accompanied by a written opinion.

**Firefighter Convicted Of Intimidating Lesbians:** A veteran firefighter in Portland, Ore., has been convicted of a bias crime for yelling at two women during a traffic incident because he thought they were lesbians. James Patrick Harder pleaded no contest to second degree intimidation in the case. One of the two women, Hedy Rijken, is a state legislator. Harder tailgated Rijken and the driver of the car, Danetta Wilke, on a state highway last September, and twice shouted obscenities about their sexual orientation when the cars were stopped. Harder was sentenced to two years probation, 10 days in jail, 100 hours of community service, and anger management therapy.

**Gay Journalists Pull Convention From California:** The National Lesbian and Gay Journalists Association has followed the lead of the National Association of Hispanic Journalists, pulling its 1995 convention out of Los Angeles because of Proposition 187, the anti-immigrant voter initiative passed in California last month. NAHJ board members voted to keep its convention out of California until Proposition 187 is repealed, and NLGJA president Leroy Aarons said, "It is appropriate for us to act in solidarity with NAHJ by moving our own convention." NAHJ moved its 1993 convention out of Colorado when that state approved the anti-gay Amendment 2 in 1992.

**News Updates:** George F. Cobo, the man who used the "battered spouse" defense against charges of murder in New York City, was convicted despite his arguments that his gay lover, Tony Simpson of Cedartown, Ga., made him do it. Cobo, of Miami, faces up to life in prison when he is sentenced Jan. 23... Andrew Hoffman and Jon Stuen-Parker, two Boston AIDS activists, have been acquitted of charges of illegal possession of hypodermic needles in Chicago. The charges stemmed from a needle-exchange program in August 1992; Cook County Circuit Judge William O'Malley ordered the acquittals after the defendants waived a jury trial... And Oregon anti-gay activist Lon Mabon, founder of the Oregon Citizens Alliance, has dropped his attempt to gain appointment to an Oregon state Senate seat vacated by Jim Bunn, who was elected to Congress last month.

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## EDITORIAL

## Counting my losses

BY CHRIS CASH

Eric Spivey died on Dec. 13. You can read all about him on page 4 of this issue. John Kappers died a few months before that. I'm assuming, unless you're a new reader of SoVo, that you know who John was. Both men were friends of mine.

Eric and John died of complications from AIDS. Both were activists for gay and AIDS issues in this city and wherever they lived. Eric in New Orleans, John in New York City. They knew each other. They weren't close friends, didn't run in all the same circles, but they respected each other and supported the other in whatever he was trying to accomplish.

Last month, somehow, Eric managed to come to the Atlanta Lesbian and Gay Film Festival to see a documentary Rebecca Ranson had made on John's life. Eric told me he just couldn't miss it. He was one of 40 or so people there, which really pissed him off. He thought more people should have come. He thought that about all community events. The last time I saw him, four days before he died, he was complaining about it. "People just don't show up, they just don't seem to care," he said. Then he turned to me, and his face softened. "But you know," he whispered, "it always comes together anyway, somehow it all comes together."

When Eric campaigned for a seat on the Atlanta City Council last year, John handed out fliers for him. John was sick at the time, very sick, but he said he just had to do it, had to do it for Eric, had to do it for the community. It was cold that day and there weren't many volunteers. John couldn't understand why more people didn't show up to help. And he didn't understand what had happened to groups like Queer Nation and ACT UP. Where had they gone? He didn't understand but he never stopped showing up. Neither did Eric. Both of these men just had to do something, and they always did.

It's easy for me to talk about them because I loved them both. I could fill up this page and seven more with words of praise, with words of grief over losing them. What you may not know is you too have sustained a great loss, even if you didn't know John or Eric. You lost because these days activists like John and Eric are fading as fast as Clinton/Gore bumper stickers. AIDS is one reason, of course, but that's just part

of the story.

"Activist" has become as dirty a word in our community as "feminist" or "Democrat" has become among right-wingers. Activism, a term coined early in this century and truly born in the '60s, is now passe. Actually it's beyond passe, it's dead. It's just not cool to be "grass roots" anymore. The only grass roots movement making headway these days is of the Christian variety.

Truth is, most of the people who carried the torch of activism in this city are dead or dead tired. Many of the gay and lesbian organizations in this city are in trouble. They suffer from a lack of volunteers, a lack of money, a lack of direction and a lack of continuity. We are forever reinventing the wheel instead of perfecting it. And it doesn't take too long to grow weary from trying to keep your wheels out of all the potholes.

John and Eric were exceptions. They didn't seem to tire, to grow weary. They became frustrated and wailed, but they didn't give up. And, most important, they weren't driven by their egos. They didn't do things to get in the paper or get on an influential city committee or to have their faces and names recognized at the big weekend party. They were active and effective because they were bright and caring men. They acted and spoke from their hearts.

I miss them. It will take 12 people to replace those two in our community. And nobody and nothing can replace them in my heart.

## CARBON COPIES

Dear Gerry:

Thank you for writing to me regarding the AIDS crisis. I greatly value your suggestions and concerns.

The extent of the AIDS epidemic is overwhelming, but we must not allow ourselves to despair in the face of daunting statistics. Instead, we must accelerate our efforts to find effective treatments for those infected and provide education to all Americans.

In dealing with AIDS, my Administration has undertaken a new commitment to research and prevention and to the development of improved care and treatment for those with HIV. The Office of National AIDS Policy is coordinating the federal response to this epidemic, and I am confident that with the strengthened Office of AIDS Research, we will increase our efforts to improve treatments and work more effectively to find a cure for AIDS. In addition, we have increased AIDS research funding by over 20 percent and funding for the Ryan White Act by 66 percent.

I want to ensure that all people, including those with HIV, will have health coverage that can never be taken away. By reforming our nation's health care system, we can enable more people with HIV to continue working and contributing to society without worrying about losing their jobs or benefits.

I stand with you in the fight to protect those with HIV from discrimination and to reduce the spread of this disease through education and prevention. We won't quit until we stop AIDS.

Sincerely,  
Bill Clinton

The Honorable Bill Campbell  
 Mayor  
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Dear Sir:

I am writing to you to express my extreme concern over a rash of hate crimes in my neighborhood directed at me and other gay and lesbian residents flying rainbow flags or displaying them on their cars in Brownwood Park.

Last month, my house and several others on Brownwood Avenue flying rainbow flags were defaced by eggs thrown at windows; two of the tires on my Jeep parked on the street were slashed with what appeared to be a rather large knife; the tire of the car of a friend staying at my house was deflated; and most recently, the very flag flying from my house was stolen, ripped with such force that the flagpole holder made of steel was broken.

In addition, outdoor closets of my house have been burglarized recently, resulting in a loss of property of over \$100.00. Police reports and follow-up phone calls to zone officers were made in every instance; very often, these reports were taken only after several calls, extending even into the next day before a response was received.

I moved into East Atlanta excited about the possibilities of renovating a house and living comfortably and quietly. This life has been violently disturbed by these recent attacks which have us all very concerned for our safety.

I am extremely unnerved over these recent threats to the gay and lesbian citizens of Brownwood Park and wish to urge you as strongly as possible to compel those responsible to take whatever measures are necessary to restore the sense of security we once knew.

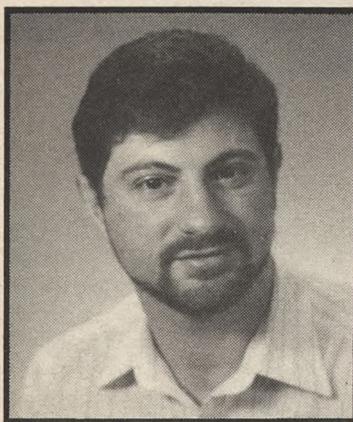
Thank you for your time and attention.

Sincerely,  
Kieran Jendro

cc: Beverly Harvard,  
 Atlanta Police Department  
 Davetta Johnson-Mitchell,  
 Atlanta City Council  
 Carolyn White,  
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 The Atlanta Journal  
 & Constitution  
 Southern Voice

*Editor's note: In our January 12 issue we will take a close look at "rainbow flag harassment" in the Atlanta metro area.*





## AS I SEE IT

by MUBARAK DAHIR

# Merry Christmas, Alex

As I See It features gay and lesbian writers from across the USA

Even though I'm not a Christian, this has always been one of my favorite times of the year. Maybe it's too much egg-nog, but a lot of people really do seem to be of better cheer in December, and a little kinder to their fellow beings than they normally allow.

I even like the tacky parts of Christmas, like driving around looking at other people's Christmas lights. My next door neighbor has a team of reindeer mounted on his roof and an electrified plastic snowman on his porch. Every evening at about 5:30, an automatic timer turns on Frosty, and I can look out my window and see a red nose blinking on and off against a roof outlined in twinkle lights. It's kind of funny, because the reindeer aren't illuminated and all you can see is this little red flash going on and off in mid-air.

More than anything, though, Christmas has always meant family time to me. It's one of the few periods during the year that I make sure to reserve time to spend at home: decorating the tree with Mom, going shopping for presents with my sister, and wrapping boxes in Santa paper with big red bows and those awful little name tags that never seem to stick.

One of the best feelings for me is knowing that I can share the time with my whole family—biological and chosen. I always know that if I have a boyfriend, the package with his name on it (or his name tag falling off it!) goes right under the tree with everyone else's.

But even while I'm savoring my own holiday season, I always feel a little sadness knowing that I am the exception rather than the rule when it comes to celebrating the holidays with everyone I call family.

I know my friend Alex is, unfortunately, a more typical example. Alex is 33 and has lived with his lover, Chris, for nearly two years. Alex is very torn about Christmas.

He goes home to Maine at Christmas, to a family that is very devout and believes itself to be very Christian. Though Alex does not share their brand of faith, he loves his parents and sibling very much.

The gang in Maine knows Alex is gay, but it's just not something they talk about. To them, Chris is the euphemistic "roommate." The Christmas card they send each year is like those frustrating name

tags: Chris' name never seems to stick to it.

So when Alex packs to go home for Christmas, he has to wrap up his feelings about the person he shares most of his life with, and shelve it for the holidays. There's no room at the inn for gay and lesbian love.

Alex and Chris will spend this Christmas, like the past two, apart. Alex will go home to Maine, Chris will go to his brother's in New Jersey. Chris won't even be allowed to call and say Merry Christmas. It would be awkward with the folks up in Maine.

Don't think the whole situation hasn't made Chris a little bit of a Scrooge. Sometimes he wants to demand that Alex put his foot down and not go to Maine unless he's invited, too. But he doesn't want to be the Grinch who steals Alex's Christmas.

It's easy to criticize Alex in the abstract, to say he's got to stand up for himself and Chris, that he's letting his family run over him and oppress him. It's the politically correct gay rights line, and I'm as guilty of toeing it as anyone else. Intellectually and theoretically, it also happens to be true. But we all know that dealing with families is

not intellectual. It's emotional.

Alex feels he's taken the initiative by telling his family he's gay. He hopes, perhaps naively, that as time goes on, things will get better.

Despite the differences Alex may have with his family, they are important to him. It's too much to ask him to choose between them and Chris. So he does what he can to keep them both.

Some nights when I look out my window and see that blinking nose on my neighbor's roof, it astounds me how this favorite Christmas tale about accepting others who are different can be lost on so many families of gay men and lesbians.

I think about Alex, and the legions of gay men and lesbians who share his predicament, and the blinking red light turns into a siren screaming silently against the shroud of darkness.

Merry Christmas Alex.

Mubarak Dahir is a columnist for the Philadelphia Daily News and the Philadelphia reporter for Time magazine.

## OPINION

# Looking for leeches in AIDS research

by TIMOTHY HAND, Ph.D.

In the 1790s, an epidemic of yellow fever hit Philadelphia. At the time, medical convention dictated that illnesses accompanied by fever should be treated by bleeding. Accordingly, many doctors applied leeches to their patients. If the patients died anyway, doctors concluded that the illness was too far advanced for anything to work. If the patients got better after being bled, the improvement was credited to the leeches.

Notice that no matter what the outcome was, no one could ever dispute the efficacy of the leeches. Not even the death of the patient gave people second thoughts about this practice. Ideas set up like this, ideas that no observation can possibly refute, are the bedrock of pseudoscience and cultism. Scientists call them unfalsifiable ideas, and cannot work with them because they cannot be tested. Yet they are prevalent in some areas of science, particularly areas where there is chronic lack of progress. AIDS research is the most obvious example. The

fields of alcoholism and drug addiction are others.

The hypothesis that HIV causes AIDS is stated in an unfalsifiable form. No observation is taken to discredit it, no matter how forceful it might be. For example, when patients with no HIV develop AIDS (a problem for the HIV hypothesis if there ever was one!), doctors simply refuse to call it AIDS; they invent a new name for this condition. Then there are the people who are healthy after ten years of HIV infection. They aren't taken as disconfirmations of the HIV hypothesis either. Why not? Because the orthodoxy claims that HIV will still get you eventually. A strange claim, since no other microbe waits years after infection to cause symptoms.

The hypothesis that AIDS should be fought with antiviral drugs also is stated in an unfalsifiable form. When patients on AZT get better (a rare event), AZT gets the credit. When patients deteriorate (far more common), one says "well, AIDS is a fatal illness after all." Colonial Philadelphia redux! Again, no observation, not even the wide-

spread death of AZT victims, is taken to discredit AZT.

Aside from a prevalence of unfalsifiable ideas, medial pseudoscience has other clear warning signs that gay people in particular should be wary of:

1) **Watch for large numbers of "paraprofessionals" running the show.** Well-intentioned but scientifically unschooled AIDS patients, "HIV counselors", and other people untainted by relevant university coursework make up the overwhelming majority of AIDS advocacy organizations. Non-scientists are in no position to evaluate scientific data. For example Bruce Mirken (a columnist in SoVo) is a brave and admirable AIDS survivor, but he is not a scientist. Yet he has attacked Peter Duesberg, who was mapping the genetic structure of retroviruses when most of today's paraprofessional "AIDS activists" were still wearing diapers. Like most paraprofessionals, Mirken doesn't realize that in scientific disputes, the burden of proof is on the people who propose a hypothesis, not the "Duesbergites" who criticize it.

2) **Watch for a misunderstanding of "scientific consensus."** HIV adherents claim that there is a consensus that HIV is the cause of AIDS. But there is no consensus in AIDS research. Hundreds of scientists have rejected the HIV hypothesis, and some have formed the "Group for the Scientific Reappraisal of the HIV Hypothesis." Kary Mullis, who won last year's Nobel Prize in Chemistry, is part of the group.

3) **Watch for a combination of much money and little progress.** After 14 years and an unprecedented allocation of funds, about \$22 billion from public and private sources to date, the main take-home message of this year's AIDS conference was that research strategies have so far proven fruitless and are in need of change. Why don't things change? Is it because financial and career investments in the status quo are so heavy that they override concern about public health?

4) **Watch for predictions that don't come true.** Good scientific theories generate specific, accurate predictions. The HIV hypo-

thesis generated only fantasies: "AIDS will spread out of risk groups." "AIDS will equilibrate between the sexes, and become rampant among teens and prostitutes." "Most HIV-infected persons eventually die." "HIV kills T-cells." "AZT increases the quality and length of life." "We will have a vaccine in two years."

Embarrassed by this, the orthodoxy has replaced these specific, testable predictions with wildly nonspecific, anything goes (unfalsifiable) predictions. Duesberg sums it up best: "HIV causes diarrhea or dementia or Kaposi's sarcoma or no disease, 1, 5, 10 or 20 years after 1 or 2,000 sexual contacts with an antibody-positive person with or without an AIDS disease." (from Duesberg, in *Pharmac. There* 55, p 257).

Like astrology, the HIV hypothesis now predicts anything you want it to—all the while predicting nothing specific at all.

Dr. Hand is a professor at Oglethorpe University in Atlanta.

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## HEALTH

### Body & Soul

Your Emotional Health

by NICHOLETTE SCOFIELD, M.A.  
& VIRGINIA ERHARDT, Ph.D.



## Surviving holiday fallout

Do you anticipate holiday periods with hope, only to be let down? Have you felt confused by the way your maturity and autonomy are blown to bits when you are with your family? Are you more aware during the holidays of being alone or missing someone important?

At this time of year we are bombarded with mass-media views of happy extended families sharing loving holiday get-togethers. In reality, holiday periods have different meanings for each of us. For some, they mean hope for family connections. For people who do not have a family or significant others, holidays may provoke fears of being alone forever. Holidays may intensify

these expectations are turned on. When we have contact with our families, our internal tapes are reinforced, and when "our buttons are pushed," we may react automatically, in ways we regret but feel powerless to change. These habitual response patterns can demolish our sense of identity, freedom, power and self-esteem. They can leave us feeling insecure, frustrated and trapped.

Similar issues may exist in our current relationships. Since adults tend to develop relationships that echo those with which we grew up, we commonly find ourselves struggling with relationship patterns in which our "tapes" are reactivated. This may be true especially at times of stress, such as holidays and vacations.

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Being alone during holiday periods is also in sharp contrast with the media ideal. We may be estranged from parents and loved ones. We may not be with an "intimate other." We may have lost or be anticipating the loss of someone to illness. This may stir up a confusing mix of sadness, fear and/or anger. Media visions of togetherness may serve to intensify the contrast with our own experience.

If you are experiencing holiday fallout, there are things you can do to help yourself cope. You can develop more awareness of relationship patterns and the "tapes" they activate. Experiment with "playing anthropologist" by stepping back and observing relationship patterns. Remember, these patterns did not develop—nor will they dissolve—overnight. The more awareness of your patterns and tapes you develop, the more power you have to change them.

If you do not have a "good enough" family of origin available, or if you are grieving a loss, consider developing new rituals and traditions with "chosen families." Increase your attendance if you are in a 12-step program. Being with people who love and accept you for who you are helps during holiday periods and supports you throughout the year.

Develop a "survival kit" composed of a list of ways to soothe yourself when you feel down. Examples include calling someone who cares about you; soaking in a warm bath; reading a good book; writing a letter to someone you miss and including her/his responses as you write; and engaging yourself in an activity that is good for you and that you enjoy. Above all, be patient and gentle with yourself.

the pain of grief, unfulfilled dreams, and recovery from addiction.

Disparity between the wished-for ideal family and actual experience may create the need to cope with emotional fallout. Time spent with our family of origin may not yield the desired love and acceptance. Often family get-togethers serve to uncover or intensify unresolved family conflict. For lesbians and gay men, these visits may mean keeping secrets about important parts of identity and daily experience. Those who are out to their families may still have to deal with being accepted and valued less fully than they would be were they heterosexual.

Why do we fall back on old patterns of relating when we are with our families? It is important to remember that we learned who we are and how to relate to others as we were growing up. We carry around within us imprints of our parental figures' requirements for love and approval. At times, it is almost as if tape recordings of

## HEALTH NEWS

**San Francisco Program Targets Youth With HIV:** Bay Area Young Positives, a peer-support group for HIV-positive youth, kicked off a new poster campaign on World AIDS Day, Dec. 1. The campaign includes billboards, posters, and interior bus panels featuring HIV-positive young men and women of all colors.

"With this new poster campaign, we hope to reach our peers who may feel isolated and alone because they're HIV-positive," said Antigone Hodgins, 26, executive director of BAY Positives. "No HIV-infected youth is an island, although it can feel that way at times."

In San Francisco, where many people rely on public transit, BAY Positives estimates that the campaign will be seen by a potential 706,722 people daily.

**AMA Makes "Landmark Policy Change" On Gay Health:** The American Medical Association on Dec. 6 adopted a major policy paper on gay health, which was applauded by the Gay and Lesbian Medical Association as a "landmark policy change." The 20-page report, "Health Care Needs of Gay Men and Lesbians in the U.S.," calls for the "non-judgmental recognition of sexual orientation" by physicians and pledges that the AMA will "work with the gay and lesbian community."

The report covers a broad range of issues, including cancer, HIV, substance abuse, access to health care, sexually transmitted disease, adolescent issues, negative attitudes among health care providers, the impact of anti-gay bias on mental health, and the need for physicians to take an adequate, non-judgmental sexual history of their patients. It replaces a 1981 AMA paper on "the health needs of the homosexual population" that focused on sexually transmitted diseases and the possibility of changing a patient's sexual orientation.

**Surgeon Cleared Of Misconduct Charges:** A medical tribunal in Sydney, Australia, said Dec. 2 it has censured a skin surgeon whose sloppy techniques led to four women acquiring AIDS. The New South Wales Medical Tribunal found Dr. T.P. Davis guilty of unsatisfactory professional behavior but dismissed a charge of professional misconduct.

On Nov. 13, 1989, Davis performed minor surgery on a 61-year-old man who was HIV-positive. Davis apparently didn't know the man, who died in 1992, had AIDS. Davis then treated four women—then aged 18, 31, 75 and 81—who were diagnosed as HIV-positive after he performed minor surgery to remove moles, legions or warts. The 75-year-old woman died in January this year.

Although the exact means of transmission has not been determined, it is presumed that a scalpel or an anesthetic bottle was contaminated. Regardless of how it happened, the tribunal said the women would not have been infected if proper infection control procedures were followed at Davis' private clinic. Davis says he followed proper procedures.

**Nasal Vaccine Suggests Strategy For Humans:** A drop of vaccine in the nose made mice build an extra line of defense against germs, suggesting that nasal vaccines may someday protect people against a host of diseases. The possibilities include bacterial pneumonia, food poisoning, urinary tract infections and sexually transmitted diseases including AIDS, said researcher Solomon Langermann.

In his study, mice got a single drop of an experimental Lyme disease vaccine inside the nose, and for the past year and a half, have been protected against that disease. The nasal vaccine was designed to alert anti-disease defenses in the lining of the nose, in what amounts to an extra layer of protection compared to an injected vaccine.

The mice developed defenses not only in the bloodstream, but also in the cells that line the mouth, nose, gut and other body passageways. In people, this extra defense might wipe out germs before they can penetrate into the body's tissues, Langermann said.

**Lesbian Breast Cancer Risk Not Confirmed:** The largest lesbian health and sexuality survey conducted thus far found that lesbians did not have an elevated risk for breast cancer, reported Windy City Times. The finding is at odds with earlier studies. The survey included results from 6,146 questionnaires returned to the Lesbian Health Clinic in Los Angeles, according to the magazine Dykespeak.

Survey results showed that only 4 percent of the women had ever had cancer, and only 1 percent had had breast cancer. Child bearing did not appear to be a factor: 51 percent had borne children and 49 percent had not.

Suzanne Gage, a registered nurse who presented the findings at the American Public Health Conference in November, said, "The preliminary results of the survey go a long way toward dispelling some of the myths about lesbians, their health and sexual practices."



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## HEALTH

### Puerto Rican health official weighs in on teaching about masturbation

*San Juan, Puerto Rico*—The top public health official of this U.S. commonwealth on Dec. 14 advocated teaching youths about masturbation as one way of preventing AIDS. The comments by Health Secretary Carmen Feliciano de Melecio came five days after President Clinton fired Surgeon General Joycelyn Elders for saying that masturbation was a part of human sexuality and school children should be taught about it.

White House chief of staff Leon Panetta said about Elders' remarks, "The President feels that's wrong. That's not what schools are for and it's not what the surgeon general should say."

Feliciano de Melecio was asked by a reporter at the government headquarters if she favored education about masturbation as a means of preventing AIDS.

The official responded that her department advocated a three-pronged approach to fighting the deadly disease: abstention from sex, monogamy and prevention by the use of condoms.

"We have gone to the schools and we have talked about sexual impulses, we have talked about masturbation, the use of condoms and abstinence," Feliciano de Melecio

responded.

The Puerto Rican health department launched a series of workshops about AIDS prevention in high schools last year.

Feliciano de Melecio said her department is scheduled to expand the workshops next week to the universities and to youths of 10 to 21 in the communities. The department also plans to teach the public through radio spots and posters.

When a reporter asked the secretary if she feared being fired like Elders, she responded, "This could be an act of daring or courage on my part, but it is necessary to talk about facts."

Forty-five percent of 14-year-olds in Puerto Rico are sexually active, Feliciano de Melecio said.

"The sexual impulse of youths is there and it's necessary to orient them," she said.

Her comments came after a meeting with Gov. Pedro Rossello and other commonwealth officials about social programs.

Rossello was in meetings all day and didn't talk with reporters. An attempt to reach his spokesman that evening was unsuccessful.

NELSON DEL CASTILLO

### Treatment helps prevent CMV blindness

*Washington, DC*—A viral infection that causes blindness in thousands of AIDS patients can be controlled successfully by surgically implanting a plastic membrane that slowly releases a powerful drug inside the eyeball, two researchers have reported.

In a study published Dec. 14 in the Archives of Ophthalmology, researchers said that a double-layered plastic membrane, just four millimeters in diameter, can deliver an antiviral drug inside the eyeball for up to eight months and suppress a sight-robbing infection called cytomegalovirus, or CMV.

CMV is a common virus that is benign in healthy people but poses a serious threat to patients whose immune system is weak, such as those with AIDS.

Dr. Carl Kupfer, director of the National Eye Institute, said about 25 percent of all AIDS patients develop CMV infection in the eye. Unchecked, the virus can inflame the retina and eventually cause blindness.

CMV infection currently is treated with daily intravenous doses of ganciclovir or foscarnet, a routine that

may continue for a lifetime for AIDS patients. But even this therapy is only partially successful, said Kupfer.

"Some drug penetrates from the bloodstream into the eye, but not in high enough concentrations to control the disease progression as well as the drug introduced directly into the eye," said Kupfer.

To constantly bathe the inner eye with the drug, researchers developed a plastic film that can be saturated with ganciclovir. Once implanted in the eye, the drug is slowly released.

In the clinical research, a total of 39 eyes infected with CMV were treated with the implant. Kupfer said that at the end of eight months, the CMV infection had not progressed. In effect, the virus was held in check.

Martin reported that of 39 eyes treated, 34 retained nearly perfect vision.

The implant is experimental and has not yet been approved for general use by the Food and Drug Administration. Two additional clinical trials are under way.

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## Home for the Holidays

➤ Continued from Page 1

[pointing out] cousins and other people he's known that have been gay," Sean says. "It just doesn't make sense."

Just as Sean began to accept that his relationship with his father was irreparable, he received the shocking news in late October that his father had been diagnosed with colon cancer. "The doctor said [the cancer] had spread and that the prognosis was very bad, and to prepare for the worst," recalls Sean. "My father wasn't really expecting to live through 1994."

Incredibly, the elder Fitzgerald was still unable to break the silence with his son.

"I called home, my father answered the phone, I said, 'It's me,' and my father dropped the phone," Sean says. That night, Sean's sister and brother went to their parents' home and berated their father for his continued mistreatment of his gay son.

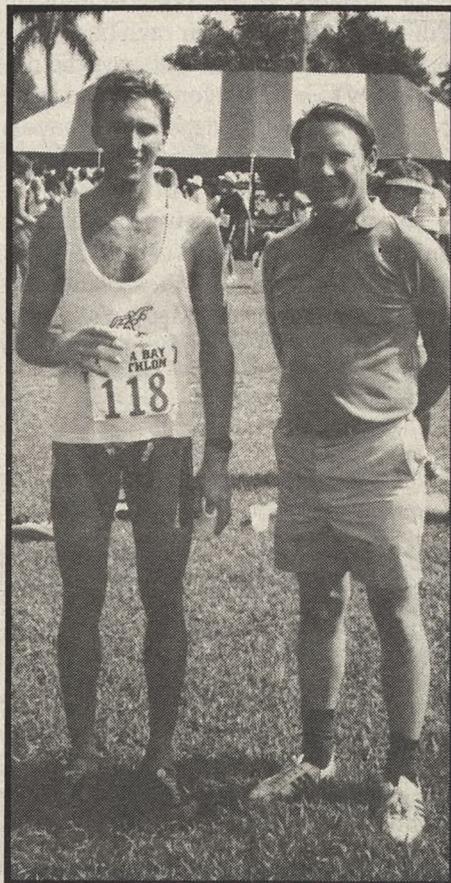
"They kind of put a reality check into my dad," Sean explains, "just laying into [him] saying, 'What are you doing? This could be it, and you're still not talking to Sean.'"

Apparently, Sean's siblings were effective. "I called back the next day...and while I was speaking to my mom, [my father] actually asked for the phone," says Sean. "It wasn't much, but it was the first time since June that we had spoken."

Sean's father checked into the hospital in early November for surgery, and as the family prepared for the worst—that the doctor would tell them the cancer was inoperable—father and son re-connected on an emotional level. Sean recalls, "He said, 'I want you to know I'm very angry with you but I still love you.' I said, 'I love you, too,' and we hugged."

Following the surgery, the Fitzgeralds were surprised with good news from the doctor: "They did the surgery and only found one cancerous tumor, removed it, took biopsies of everything else, and they all came back negative," Sean says happily. "As of last week, he's been given pretty much a clean bill of health."

As 1994 draws to a close, Sean looks

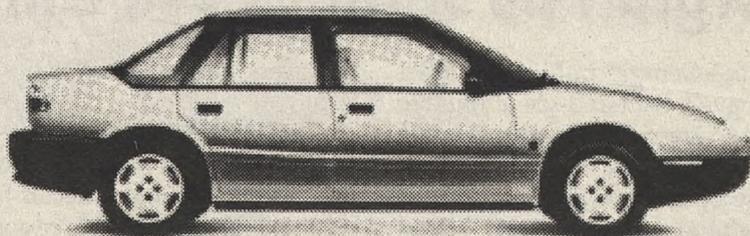


Sean Fitzgerald and his father

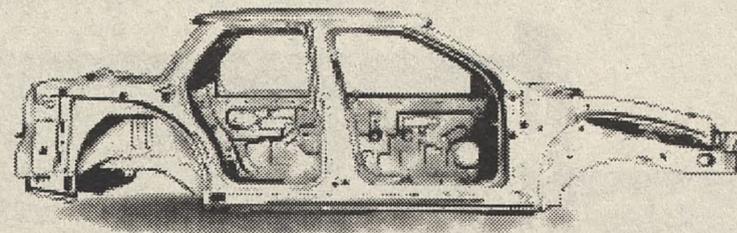
forward to the first full year of his being out to his parents. He plans to spend Christmas in Atlanta with friends, but will be joining his family in Pennsylvania to celebrate the New Year. "My father wants to forget that 1994 happened, so we're planning a big New Year's party where we can all start anew."

Sean sees the impending New Year's celebration as an opportunity for his father and him to work further on their relationship.

"It's going to be interesting...just to see how much of a wake-up call he was given," he says, "I'm hoping he realizes how small [my being gay] is in comparison [to the cancer]...we are going to sit down and talk about it and try to get through everything."



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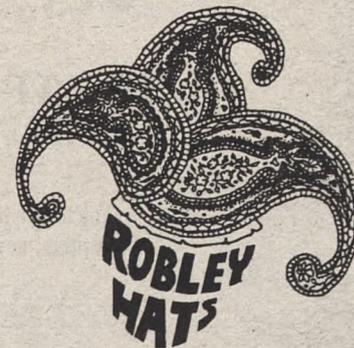
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## Georgia PBS stations eye Gingrich's threats

Atlanta—Georgia public broadcast stations have a wait-and-see attitude to Rep. Newt Gingrich's threat to unplug them.

House Speaker-to-be Gingrich (R-Ga.) said he wants to eliminate federal funding for the Corporation for Public Broadcasting. CPB's \$275 million annual budget helps fund programming for non-commercial public stations such as those operated by Georgia Public Television and such as Atlanta's WPBA.

Gingrich said the funding is "eating

taxpayers' money" and PBS has a liberal slant.

"He has the podium and everybody is going to let him make his points," said Kent Steele, program director for Georgia Public Television. "We're going to be patient and see how our members and viewers respond. In the past, they have responded with support and have rallied around the flag."

"I'm not surprised, but I hear a statement like that and it's going to unnerve you," WPBA spokesman Eric Weston

said Wednesday of Gingrich's Tuesday night remarks. "It just puts the onus on PBS stations to toot their own horns and prove their worth. We welcome the opportunity to be in the forefront and have people debate our existence. We have a track record and a lot to be proud of, and I think common sense will prevail."

Georgia PBS stations were targeted by angry Georgia legislators earlier this year after the airing of the acclaimed miniseries, "Armistead Maupin's Tales of the City." The Legislature threatened to

pull funding for Georgia Public Television and Lt. Gov. Pierre Howard wrote a letter to the then-director of GPTV, Richard Ottinger, saying that running the show was a mistake.

Steele said it is more unsettling for Gingrich's comments to come at a time when the Republicans, many of whom have spoken against CPB funding in the past, are now in power.

"But the times are unsettling for a lot of people at this point," he said.

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# Have a safe, P.C. holiday

by ADAM J. SANK

Everyone complains about the commercialization of Christmas, but no one does anything about it. However, some gay people in Atlanta, concerned with ecology as well as with Madison Avenue's selling of Christmas, have come up with some alternative ideas about decorating, gift-giving, and the spreading of good cheer that would send any advertising executive running for cover.

"To me, being Green means aligning my actions with my political commitment," says Hugh Esco, a member of the Lesbian-Gay-Bi-Queer Caucus of the Atlanta Greens, an environmental action group. "I can't honestly live in my commitment to peace, justice, democracy and ecology and go out and buy my nephew a war toy. I can't participate in a consumerist culture that gives people things they don't need, that they probably didn't want, and that are destroying the planet."

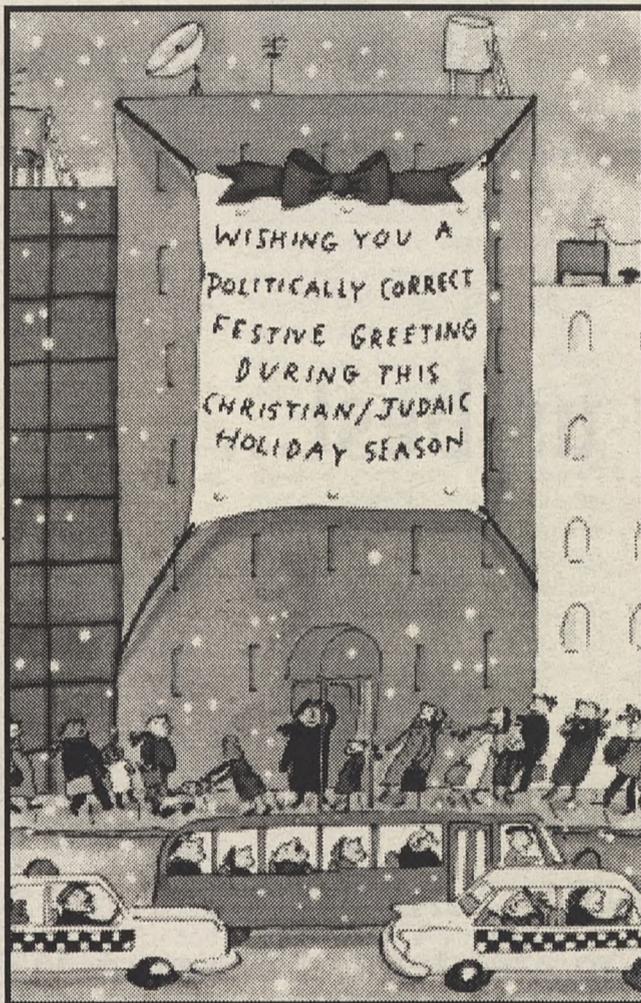
Rather than turning to Macy's for inspiration at the holidays, Esco looks inward. "The most valuable gift that we can give to young folks is our time and our energy, and it's got nothing to do with some piece of plastic that's going to clutter the toy closet," he says. So Esco cooks meals, does good deeds, and spends quality time with his friends and loved ones during the holiday season in lieu of gifts.

Esco does little in the way of decorating his home for the holidays, and certainly a Christmas tree is out of the question. "Trees are something that we plant and nurture and watch grow older. It seems to me criminal to be destroying trees on a planet where the climate is warm. [But] I have a friend who last year gave me one of these paper stars. I was thinking of hanging it up this year as a way of remembering her."

Designer Bruce Griffith likes to celebrate the holidays in some unique ways as well. "Last year, what I did with several people was to give them things I already had. Most of us have more stuff than we possibly can use. I gave people things that were meaningful to me that I wanted to pass on. Our society is so fixated on consuming that we're damaging

our environment by having things that we don't really need, and we start throwing away a lot of this stuff... Last Christmas I gave a friend of mine a watch that I had been enjoying for a while that he had admired."

In terms of the usual trappings of the holidays—paper, tinsel and ribbon—



HARTLAND CARDS

Bruce has come up with non-wasteful methods to brighten the season. "I'm still using wrapping paper that my mother had, and my mother died four years ago," he says. "I re-use stuff like that, but you can also use paper bags, newspapers and other things people usually throw away." Griffith suggests the use of natural paints, flowers, berries and pine cones to decorate a wrapped item. "I've saved Christmas cards from the year before and then cut part of it off and then used the front part of the card on the gift, so that it becomes decoration."

Unlike Esco, Griffith does admit to buying a Christmas tree for the past three years. "But," he points out, "I still have my Christmas tree from two years ago. It's on the compost pile in the back yard." Griffith stresses that such practices as composting and recycling trees are essential in limiting waste each year. "The city offers various locations where you can take your tree and they'll actually grind it up into mulch and use it in city parks around town. People should check their local papers for these locations."

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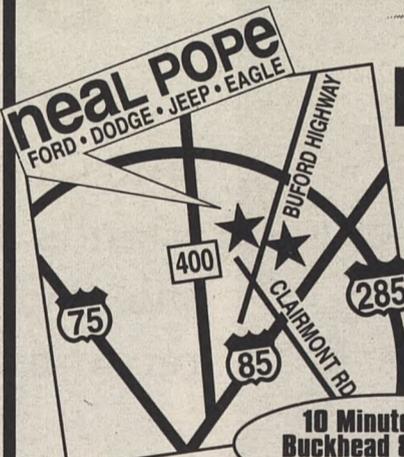
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## Calendar raises funds for AIDS

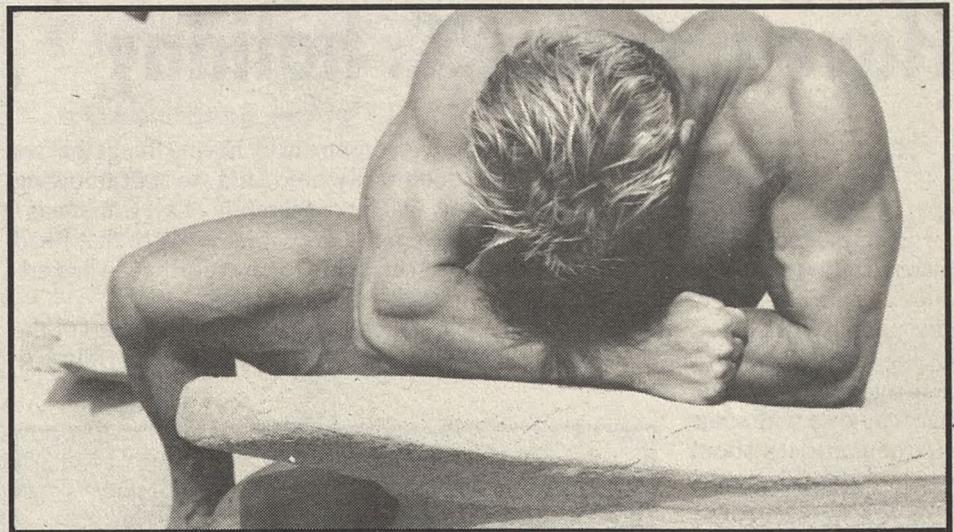
For the fifth year in a row, photographer Jeff Palmer has assembled some of California's most beautiful men for the annual AIDS Benefit Calendar. Since 1990, the calendar has raised more than \$215,000 for agencies across the country that provide direct services to people living with AIDS/HIV.

"It makes us so happy to be able to support organizations at the holidays, so that they might make their clients' holidays a bit brighter," says Palmer. Sales of the 1995 calendar have already raised

\$10,000.

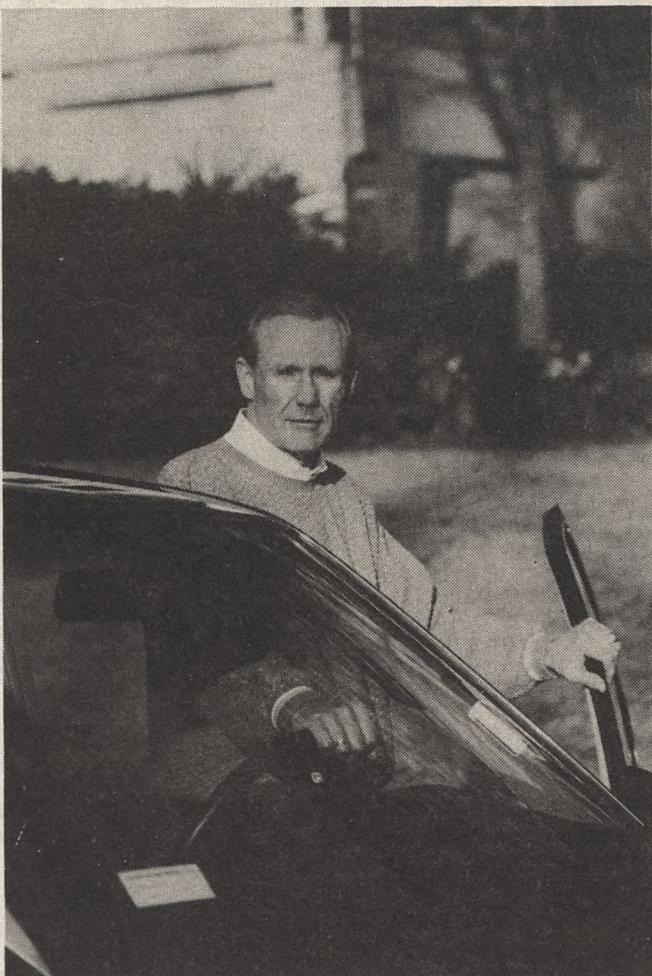
Organizations that have received donations include Aid for AIDS in Los Angeles, Project Open Hand in San Francisco, Adopt-a-Friend in Tampa, the AIDS Action Committee in Boston, Mama's Kitchen in San Diego, and the Life Foundation in Honolulu.

To order, send \$12 plus \$2.25 shipping/handling to AIDS Benefit Calendar, Dept. SV, P.O. Box 34012, San Diego, CA 92163. For more information, call (619) 696-6908.



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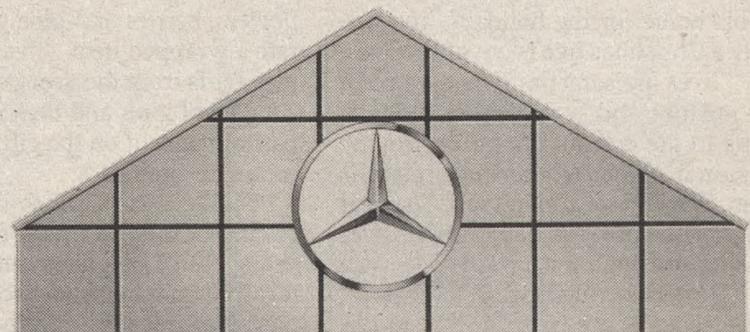
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Inside  
This Section

COMMUNITY  
CALENDAR

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OCCASIONS

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## Pride Committee seeks input for '95 festivities

by DEVON CLAYTON

Atlanta's Lesbian and Gay Pride Committee is gearing up for Pride '95, the city's 25th anniversary Pride celebration, and is looking for a few good men and women to help bring next summer's event together.

"We've talked about next year's plans at the board level, but now it's time to hear from the community," says Donna Narducci, committee co-chair. "We welcome ideas and participation, and all the positions on the operating committee are open. We really want this year to be special, so we need people to give us their input."

Narducci points out that ALGPC meetings—held on the third Thursday of every month—are open to the public, and anyone interested in getting involved is encouraged to attend. The next scheduled meeting is Jan. 19.

Additionally, ALGPC is calling for artists to submit proposed logos for Atlanta Pride '95, which

has adopted the national slogan "From Silence to Celebration." The main guidelines, Narducci explains, are the slogan and the fact that this is Atlanta's 25th gay and lesbian pride celebration. "What we'd like is for the logo to incorporate those elements," she says. Proposals are due at the Jan. 19 meeting.

Pride '95, slated for June 24-25, is starting in good shape, with a surplus of approximately \$25,000 from last year—in contrast to past years, which have left a deficit. Funding, as always, is crucial, and this year ALGPC is seeking corporate sponsors and has applied for a grant from the Fulton County Arts Council.

Additional fundraising events will include the annual art auction in March and a reception for honorary chair Phill Wilson. The reception will be held Jan. 15, at a place yet to be announced. "It will be a fundraiser, but we're looking at probably not charging admission," Narducci says. "We will be



Organizers hope to build on the success of Pride '94 next June.

asking for donations, though."

Wilson, founder of the Black Gay and Lesbian Leadership Forum and currently public policy director of AIDS Project Los Angeles, will be in Atlanta twice in the months to come: first as grand marshal of next month's Martin Luther King Jr. Day festivities, and in June for Pride.

"We're really happy to have Phill Wilson as honorary chair this year," Narducci says. "I think it

shows on our part our commitment to honoring diversity in this community."

The next meeting of ALGPC will be held Jan. 19 at 7 p.m. at Sheraton Colony Square. Individuals wishing to serve on the board of ALGPC may send a resume to Nominating Committee, P.O. Box 54024, Atlanta, GA 30308-0024. For information call 662-4533.



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art pride 

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for 1995 logo

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please bring to january 19 meeting  
7pm  
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## Local athletes move up

by RICHY HOWARD

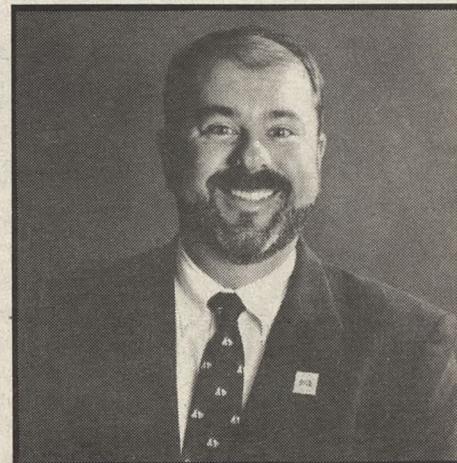
Keith Hart of Hotlanta Soccer has been named president of the International Gay and Lesbian Football Association (a.k.a. soccer). Hart was elected to the position in June and has now begun his term of two years. One of Hart's first tasks in his new office was to represent the association, which includes 51 teams from around the world, as they applied for membership into the Federation of Gay Games.

Hart had been a member of Hotlanta Soccer since 1990 and served as its president during the 1991-92 season. He was part of the team's contingent to Gay Games IV in New York. Both the men's and women's soccer teams in Atlanta are hoping to attend the international tournament in Berlin next July.

The main responsibilities for Hart will include membership expansion, particularly internationally, and overseeing the annual tournament held this year in Berlin July 3-7.

"We just finished a workshop where we identified our goals through the year 2000," says Hart. "I'm responsible for implementing and carrying out those goals."

Also effective November 1, Mark Mays of the Atlanta Team Tennis Association began his second term as commissioner of the Gay & Lesbian Tennis Alliance. Mays will once again serve a one-year term as both



Hotlanta Soccer's Keith Hart

commissioner and secretary for the Tennis Alliance that is comprised of 26 organized clubs, 26 other affiliations, and many individual members.

Mays coordinates the efforts of GLTA officers and works toward promoting GLTA across the country. "We're currently working to automate everything such as draws for our tournaments," Mays says. "It's a huge task to accomplish."

Mays also publishes the GLTA newsletter and will be returning this year as tournament coordinator for The Peach, Atlanta's annual Labor Day tennis tournament, which is now the second-largest tournament in the country.

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# OUTLINES

COMMUNITY PROFILES



## THADDEUS BIBLE

**Age:** 30

**Hometown:** Morristown, Tennessee

**Occupation:** Student/househusband

**Relationship Status:** The best 5 years I've had

**Last Book Read** "Confessions of a Jewish Wagnerite" by Lawrence Mass

Thaddeus Bible wants to be a teacher—but he means more than just standing in front of a classroom.

"When I say education, I mean being who I am," he says, "doing what I do best."

He's got a head start on that, attending school at DeKalb College's north campus in Dunwoody, where, he says, life is "a challenge."

"I leave my house, tucked away in midtown, in the morning," he says. "I drive 20 miles and it's a whole different world."

Bible has been pushed around in the classroom halls, called names, and found bottles carefully placed under the tires of his rainbow flag-adorned car. But he struggles to keep the anti-gay harassment in perspective.

"It's a small price to pay," he explains. "When I see what people before have done to make it easier for me, I'm not going to complain."

Being out isn't a question for Bible. It is

a statement of his strong desire to be himself no matter what. It's part of what sent him traveling around the country—to Albuquerque, Massachusetts, Houston and finally Atlanta—after one quarter in a community college in his small east Tennessee hometown.

"I realized I needed to live," he says. "And that's when I started moving. I had to live before I could appreciate school."

He's looking forward to finishing up at DeKalb and moving on to Georgia State, and says he's very happy with 1994.

"It's been a really cool year," he says. "I'm so grateful and thrilled that I've been allowed by the goddess to have this fantastic year. We just moved into a new house—and it's *our* house. And my dad, he was a hard nut to crack, but he's come around this year and asked us to visit him."

From Tennessee to Dunwoody, Thaddeus Bible's brand of education by example works.

# OCCASIONS

COMMUNITY CELEBRATIONS



Joe DeRose left 30 behind him on Dec. 11.

## BIRTHDAYS

A very special birthday wish to Todd Nuhfer on Dec. 20 from your loving boyfriend.

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

Happy birthday to Michael Barber, who turned 33 on Dec. 16. Best birthday wishes from his friends Karl, Rick and Scott.

Dec. 11 was "just another day" for Joe DeRose. The landlord of the Moral High Ground turned 31.

Happy birthday to Mark King. He turns 34 on Dec. 22.

Digging Dyke of Decatur and theatre maven Lisa Mount has her 31st birthday Dec. 27.

Merri Spohn celebrates her 39th birthday on Dec. 23.

## ANNIVERSARIES

Doug Caulkins and Mikel Wilson are celebrating six wonderfully weird years together on the winter solstice, Dec. 21.

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# ORGANIZATIONS

## AIDS ORGANIZATIONS

- AID Atlanta—872-0600  
AIDS Athens—706-542-2437—provides support services to PWAs, their families and friends, and community education and awareness.  
AIDS Education/Svcs for Minorities—POB 87277, Atl, 30337, 753-2900, 753-4300—a certified non-profit, community-based service organization which provides transitional housing, education outreach and case management to gay African-American men living with HIV/AIDS.  
AID Gwinnett—POB 884 Lawrenceville, GA 30246, (404) 962-8396—respond to the HIV/AIDS epidemic through advocacy, education, and collaboration with other agencies.  
AIDS Hotline for Women—888-9991  
AIDS Info Line—876-9944 (Atlanta); 1-800-551-2728  
AIDS Legal Project—614-3969—provides free legal services in civil matters to low income persons living with HIV/AIDS.  
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 (voice); 872-1192 (fax)—diverse people living with HIV united to promote the education and self-empowerment of HIV-affected individuals.  
Atlanta Buyers Club—874-4845, or POB 77003, Atl, 30357, or fax 874-9320—provides access to experimental, alternative and complimentary medical treatments for people living with HIV.  
Atlanta Interfaith AIDS Network—874-8686  
Atlanta Lesbian AIDS Project—POB 5409, Atl, 30307  
Childkind—936-9655  
Common Ground—874-6425—new ways of finding safe places for people infected with and affected by HIV/AIDS.  
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.—3030 Campbellton Rd. Atlanta 30311 346-3922 or 1-800-441-2437—the first African American HIV/AIDS and substance abuse service agency in GA and the oldest in the South.  
Pets Are Loving Support (P.A.L.S.)—876-PALS  
Positive Impact—885-9040—no-cost counseling for people affected by HIV with low incomes. Call to receive services or to volunteer.  
Positive Outlook On Health—872-9954  
Project Open Hand Atlanta—525-4620—home delivered meals for people with AIDS-related illnesses.  
Sisterlove, Inc.—753-7733 (voice); or 753-1500 (fax)—non-profit organization that provides support services to HIV+ women and HIV/safer sex education to the community.

## ARTS/ENTERTAINMENT/CULTURE

- Atlanta Diversity Chorale—739-5607  
Atlanta Feminist Women's Chorus—438-5823—a non-auditioned chorus celebrating strength and diversity in women through music.  
Atlanta Freedom Marching Band—872-9763—gay and lesbian marching band organized to provide a musical outlet for our community.  
Atlanta Gay and Lesbian Arts Festival—874-8710, POB 55475 Atlanta GA 30308—annual festival in support of our community in performance, visual, market and literature.  
Atlanta Gay Men's Chorus—POB 77114, Atlanta 30357, 977-6310  
Atlanta Lesbian and Gay History Thing—POB 7032, Atl 30357, 876-1060—preserves, promotes, and protects lesbian and gay history and culture.  
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

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Buddies Midtown—239 Ponce de Leon. 872-2655  
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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  
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## DIRECT ACTION/POLITICAL

- ACLU of Georgia—142 Mitchell St., Suite 301, Atlanta 30303 523-5398 — legal assistance or referral in cases where the denial of rights is due to the victim's sexual orientation.  
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  
Gay/Lesbian Alliance Against Defamation—876-1398  
Georgia Advocates for Battered Women & Children/Lesbian Task Force—524-3847, or toll-free (800) 643-1212; 250 Georgia Ave. SE, Rm. 365, Atl. 30312—a statewide coalition working to end the violence against women and children.  
Georgia Equality Project—POB 78351, Atl. GA 30357—662-4030 vm  
GAPAC—Georgia Political Action Committee—872-8095, FAX 874-8628  
Human Rights Campaign Fund—Federal Advocacy Network, 231-5751  
HRCF Event Hotline—POB 78401, Atl. GA 30357—840-6969 vm  
HRCF National Office—1101 14th St. NW, Ste. 200, Washington DC 20005—(202) 628-4160  
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—315-0084—Grassroots politics and coalition building. Works within NOW to ensure rights for lesbians/gay men.  
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—gay republicans fighting "homophobia" in Republican party and fighting "Republiphobia" in the gay community.  
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 (G/L PEN)—POB 580397, Minneapolis, MN 55458-0397  
GA Assoc. of Physicians for Human Rights (GAPHR)—231-2251  
GLOBES—POB 7864, Athens, GA 30604—gay, lesbian, or bisexual employees and supporters at UGA for faculty, staff and graduate students.  
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 or 607-8931—NLGJA is 1,000 print and broadcast journalists ensuring equitable treatment of gay journalists and accurate coverage of gay issues.  
Nat'l Federation of Career Women—(404) 659-0315  
OUTstaff (Emory)—727-2787 (Donna)  
Turner Broadcasting Employees for Lesbian, Gay and Bisexual Concerns—223-5226 or 872-9678

➤ Continued on page 24

## OUR STORIES

### Fleshing the Bones of Lesbian/Gay History

by MARIA HELENA DOLAN



## Subversive acts

This column essentially concerns itself with subversion, great and small. Not just the historic junctures which cannot be denied, but particularly the little daily rebellions we participate in when we fail to subscribe to the dominant cultural mode (in this case, the heterotyranny).

One important aspect of acting subversively, in the context of an oppressed group, involves the use of visual cues. (Sociologists have documented repeatedly an emphasis on "looking behavior," the paying of close attention to nonverbal communications, as a necessary survival skill practiced by nondominant groups. This certainly applies to us.)

...butches adorned the pinky finger with flashy gold circlets, sometimes with precious stones. This was a clear declaration of their status and, if given by their femme, ...love.

It stands to reason that, if it can be dangerous to reveal who/what you are—a distinct possibility in places where hate crimes are not treated seriously, indeed are socially applauded—then there must be ways for us to a) recognize each other and b) declare our status.

I want to discuss one such facet of queer semiotics here. Many moons ago, I portrayed an old-style butch called Blue Donna in the Seven Stages production of Jim Grimsley's play "Math and Aftermath." Despite the risibly minuscule budget, I insisted that Blue Donna must sport a pinky ring.

Why? Because that tiny circlet taps into an important aspect of lesbian/queer lore.

At my first visit to a queer bar in 1973, I noticed that all the butches adorned the pinky finger with flashy gold circlets, sometimes with precious stones. This was a clear declaration of their status and, if given by their femme, a clear declaration of love. (These were the days before commitment ceremonies and wedding rings, folks.)

I remember the frisson of recognition that traveled across my thrilled back upon discovering a photo of Marlene Dietrich's butch '50s millionairess flame, Jo Carstairs. Not only did this babe sport a "mannishly short" haircut, but there, on her left hand,

was a telltale large gold pinky ring!

Where might these bits of oral legacy/visual indicators be described in a more coherent, codified fashion? I turn to Judy Grahn's excellent "Another Mother Tongue—Gay Words, Gay Worlds." Among a hoard of other treasures, Grahn expounds about the pinky ring.

As a baby dyke in 1959, her lover gives her such a ring—as a declaration of not only her feelings but of Judy's new status as "lesbian."

But where did this custom originate? As is the case when your traditions are suppressed and information is handed down in diluted form, her lover did not know. But in fact, the association of a ring on that finger and queerness is longstanding and culturally widespread.

Grahn, for instance, cites a story from the Caddo tribe, who live in what is now Texas. One of their traditions concerns a man of great power who always went about dressed as a Woman. Upon his death, he bore a shamanic purple spot on his pinky finger.

Additionally, she refers to male prisoners, who even today exchange rings (made from purloined spoons). This token of love decorates the pinky finger.

Interestingly enough, the traditional "occult arts" association with this ring also has resonance.

Palmists traditionally associate a planet, and the stories and attributes associated with the deity embodying that planet, to each finger. Supposedly, when one chooses to adorn a particular finger, the energies therein are enhanced and emphasized.

The pinky finger relates to Mercury/Hermes. According to occult thought, this finger connects to commerce, communications, travel, messages, eloquence, etc. We could do worse than to emulate mercurial cunning, heraldic eloquence, success in commerce, and spiritual power. Not to mention the courage of those pre-Stonewall dykes who wanted to make sure that their symbols were out there, despite the consequences.

Honoring all of that, I have a ring of hematite, which absorbs and transforms negative energies and provides healing, and it frequently adorns my pinky.

At this season of giving, if you're not ready to produce a ring to be worn on the finger of Venus (wedding ring finger), perhaps a mercurial token of affection would be in order.

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Group Leaders:  
R. Michael Prudent, M.D.  
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# ORGANIZATIONS

➤ Continued from page 22

Voices Out Front (Media Networking Assoc)—2103 N. Decatur Rd. Ste. 185, Decatur 30033

## SPIRITUAL

All Saints Metropolitan Community Church—622-1154—an inclusive, friendly, spirit-filled church located in Atlanta.  
Atlanta Church of Religious Science—52 Executive Park South, Atlanta, 30324—636-4567—We see and use the thread of truth that runs through all great religious teachings.

Christ Covenant MCC, Stone Mountain—297-0350—Christian community accepting and celebrating spiritual and cultural diversity in human experience, reason and art.

Circle of Grace Community Church—(404) 624-9570

Clifton Presbyterian Church—(404) 373-3253

Congregation Bet Haverim (Jewish)—872-1792—a reconstructionist Synagogue serving the lesbian and gay community.

Emergence/Atlanta (Christian Scientists)—565-2126

Fellowship of Love Christian Church—(706)660-0101

First Existentialist Congregation of Atlanta—378-5570—celebrating human liberation and diversity for 18 years with respect for individual beliefs.

First Metropolitan Community Church of Atl—325-4143—a Christian church serving the gay and lesbian community, their families, and friends since 1972.

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—818-2033—a place for spiritual unfolding and enlightenment.

Integrity (Episcopal)—642-3183

Interweave/Unitarian Universalist Congregation—634-5134,

George at 688-2242—gay, lesbian, and bisexual Unitarian Universalists and others interested in spiritual development within a liberal, non-credal atmosphere.

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

## SPORTS/OUTDOOR/HOBBIES

Atlanta Team Tennis Assn—621-2699

Atlanta Venture Sports—242-4899—social/recreational organization open to men and women. Wide variety of indoor and outdoor activities.

Atlanta Women's Lacrosse Club—303-1160, 888-6738

Atlanta Women's Soccer Club—872-1792—teams play at different levels of the local women's soccer league and participate in tournaments. Practice at 9am on Saturdays, Ebster Field, Decatur, GA. Games on Sundays.

Front Runners/Atlanta—621-5007

Greater Atlanta Naturist Group—851-2882 (voice mail)

Hotlanta Basketball—525-1544—no leagues, no teams; just pick-up basketball with guys and gals every Tuesday, 8:30 to 10:30. No minimum talent level.

Hotlanta Softball League—POB 14582, Atl. 30324, 875-1991—recreational and competitive softball for gays and lesbians - Sundays from February to November.

Hotlanta Volleyball—621-5062

Lambda Car Club—POB 11705, Atlanta 30355—enjoyment of collectible and special interest vehicles. Monthly meetings include shows, tours, parties and more.

Mountain Catalyst—POB 199, Demorest, GA 30535

OUT in Nature—619-9185

S.E. Gay Rodeo Assn—POB 7881, Atl., 30357. 760-8126—amateur rodeo organization which hosts a gay rodeo each April here in Atlanta.

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)—non-profit organization providing support for transgendered persons (transsexuals, crossdressers) referrals, information, support group. Confidential.

Asians & Friends-Atlanta—876-0090 (fax)

Athens Lesbian Information—LSG, POB 7864, Athens,

30604—monthly potluck; weekly drop in, local restaurant; biking, hiking, camping; monthly newsletter with details.

Atlanta Corporal Punishment Club—Box 11863, Atlanta 30355

Atlanta Couples Together—POB 54311, Atlanta, 30308-

0311. 365-2455

Atlanta Gay Center—876-5372—Social and support group for monogamous gay and lesbian couples.

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—PO Box 29487, Atlanta, 30359 .734-

2490. A social club for mature gay men

Atlanta Pro-Choice Action Committee—239-8016

Atlanta Rider Group (Motorcycle)—938-8494

Biwomen's Shared Living Resource Center (Florida)—1-800-

538-3864

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

Emergence International—876-3997

Emotions Anonymous—925-4825

Friday Night Support Group—627-7387—open to all

lesbians are a friendly discussion group.

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, Birming-

ham, 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

Leathermen Atlanta—484-0018

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, 521-

1817—social and service club for gay men residing in the

greater Little Five Points area.

Name the Violence Support Group for Battered Lesbians

—822-9570; Crisis Hotline—688-9436

National Gay & Lesbian Journalist Association—POB 8796

Overeaters Anonymous (gay/lesbian group)—892-5868

Parents, Families and Friends of Lesbians and Gays—875-

9440, POB 8482, Atl. 30306-8482

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)— PO Box 655,

Avondale Estates, GA 30002. 250-7950 — positive

lesbians of color exchanging powerful, productive and

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Sexual Compulsives Anonymous—239-8048

Southern Bears, Inc.—PO Box 13964, Atlanta, GA 30324

(404) 908-3381

Support Group for Battered Gay Partners—(404) 350-0456

Survivors of Incest Anonymous—POB 2502, Decatur, GA

30031; 239-8018

Trikone—South Asian Gay and Lesbian Org.—607-1766

Uniformed Svcs Activity—Box 6057, Arlington, VA 22206

Women's Resource Center—377-3040 (lesbian line); 688-

9436 (WRC)—free, confidential supportive services for

battered lesbians. 24-hour crisis line, support group, legal

advocacy, shelter.

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

Spelman College Lesbian/Bisexual Alliance—681-2161

Univ. of Ala. Lesbian/Gay Alumni Assoc.—284-3479 —social

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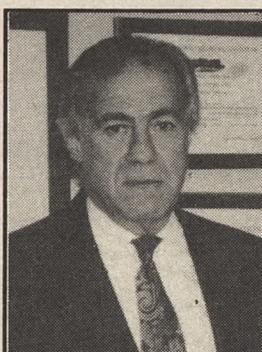
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**COMMUNITY CALENDAR**

**22nd—thursday**

AIDS Survival Project. Growing Healthier Support Group.  
 7:30 pm. 44 12th St. 874-7926.

**23rd—friday**

Congregation Bet Haverim. Worship service. 8 pm. Atlanta  
 Friends Meeting House. 701 W. Howard Ave., Decatur. 642-3467.

**24th—saturday**

First MCC of Atlanta. Candlelight Service.  
 11 pm. 1379 Tullie Rd. 325-4143.  
 Atlanta Women's Soccer Club. Practice 9 am, Ebster Field.

Decatur. Games on Sundays. 872-1792.  
 Front Runners run at 8 am. Meet at parking lot behind Piedmont  
 Park tennis courts. 621-5007.

**25th—sunday**

All Saints MCC. Worship service, 7 pm. 575 Boulevard. 622-1154.  
 Christ Covenant MCC. Adult & children's Christian education, 9:30  
 am; Celebration of Word & Sacrament, 11 am & 7:30 pm. 778 Rays  
 Rd., Stone Mountain. 297-0350.  
 First Existentialist Congregation. Worship service, 11 am.  
 470 Candler Park Dr. 378-5570.  
 First MCC of Atlanta. Worship service, 9 & 11 am and 7:30 pm.  
 1379 Tullie Rd. 325-4143.  
 Interweave/Unitarian Universalists. Worship service, 9:30 & 11:15  
 am. 634-5134.

**26th—monday**

AIDS Survival Project. Positively Living Support Group.  
 7:30 pm. 44 12th St. 874-7926.

**27th—tuesday**

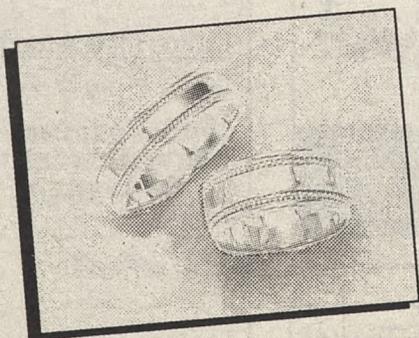
AIDS Survival Project. Women's Support Group. 5:15 pm.  
 44 12th St. 874-7926. Closed group, please call for admittance.  
 ACT UP. 7:30 pm. 44 12th St. 874-6782.  
 Hotlanta Basketball. Pick up games at 8:30 pm. Call for location.  
 525-1544.

**28th—wednesday**

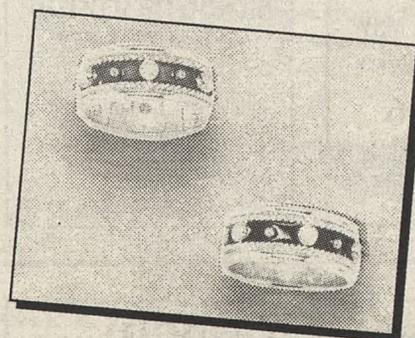
Front Runners run at 6:30 pm. Meet at parking lot behind  
 Piedmont Park tennis courts. 621-5007.

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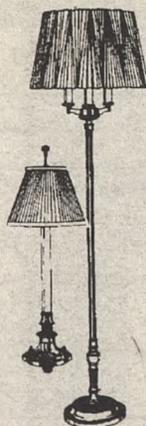
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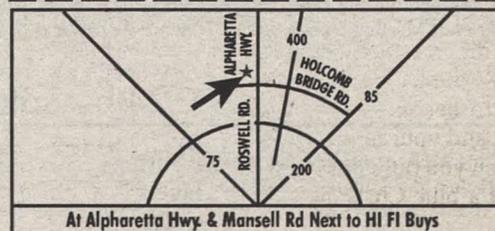
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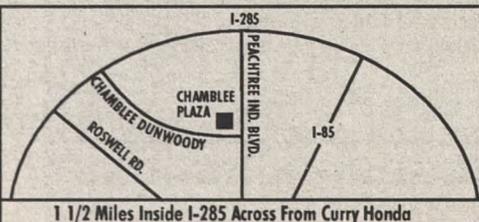
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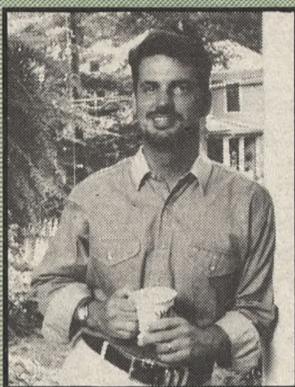
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## AT HOME

DESIGN IDEAS FOR THE HOME AND GARDEN



with SHANE MEDER

## Deck the halls, and more

With Christmas only a few days away, we turn to our homes to make this holiday worth remembering. Realizing that in our community the mother, father, two children and an Irish setter named Scooter are just a little beyond reality, we must focus on what surrounds us and makes the holiday joyful.

I can only write of my own experiences, and proudly must say my front door has always worn a wreath this time of year, the tree reaches toward the ceiling like a child stretching from a long winter's nap, and friends new and old have come to rely on these traditions apart from what we as friends give to each other. One friend said recently, "Why buy a tree? Shane's is big enough for us all. Going to his house is



A wreath for the door is part of my yearly Christmas decorating.

like going home." Well, if that is true, then I've done my part in what friendship is about—I've created a place for me to call home and one that my friends truly embrace as well.

Traditions among friends don't come just once a year. We find we experience many occasions, not by being alone but by being together, such as birthdays or parties with good food. Fresh flowers and a band to boot make such occasions worth remembering. But details in these affairs are most important, and if followed through, it becomes not just the birthday boy who remembers, but all who attended.

As the year unfolds, I will share with you insight on some of my most successful parties—what made them a hit and what made others just so-so. But for now, let's think of ways Christmas can be brought together to become a joyful memory for you, your friends, and your family.

When you put your tree up, don't be alone—early signs of a blue Christmas. Have fun, make a pot of

➤ Continued on page 42

## Catching up with a 'Front Runner'

by PETER NEWTON

### Author Patricia Nell Warren brings her classic gay novel up to date with the sequel 'Harlan's Race'

It's been 20 years since Patricia Nell Warren barged into the literary locker room with her best-selling novel "The Front Runner." Her message of individual freedom challenged the conventions of the straight American he-man with its passionate story about an ex-Marine track coach in love with his Olympic-bound star athlete. With sales in excess of 10 million copies and translations in seven languages Warren's tale of two men placed her on the fast track for international success.

Warren continues her gay saga with the long-awaited sequel titled "Harlan's Race" (Wildcat Press, 1994). Harlan Brown's voice is adopted by Warren once again as he tells of the pain he endures after losing his lover Billy to an assassin's bullet. Woven into the retired coach's reminiscences is a mysterious plot of a second assassin. Despite the impending doom that overshadows the action of "Harlan's Race," the novel is more about survival than anything else.

While "The Front Runner" is her best known work, it is just one of the many projects Warren has completed over the years. "I've kept pretty busy," says Warren, speaking from her home in the canyon country outside Los Angeles. In the past year alone she started her own publishing company, Wildcat Press, released "Harlan's Race," and continued her work as a mentor for gay and lesbian teenagers.

"The kids are important," says Warren, who works with runaway teens enrolled in an experimental L.A. high school program. "They're coming out at a much younger age than they did 20 years ago. And these days there's the whole issue of survival. They need to know there's a support system there for them."

Warren came out herself in 1973, just one year before her groundbreaking novel hit bookstores. "I was married for 13 years," she says. "Toward the end it became an abusive relationship where I had to fight back physically. It actually got to the point where I said to myself

that if I was going to die I'd rather do it fighting for my life than cowering in a corner."

Growing up on a Montana cattle ranch with caring brothers provided a more positive background for her novels of male emotion. A woman writing about male relationships fosters a better understanding of male sensuality, says Warren. "There's certainly a public interest in the topic," she says citing the popularity of Anne Rice's work as another example.

Warren is a feisty woman who says what's on her mind. When it comes to discussing the rise of gay literature, she says there has always been gay literature. "In school, when we were reading some of the greats, it didn't take a rocket scientist to figure out Walt Whitman loved men. What dumbfounded me was that there it was right there on the page and the teachers just glossed right over that fact."

There's no glossing over the fact that her central characters love men with sincerity and passion. It is exactly these two qualities that drive Warren's narratives and life.

Aside from dating "several wonderful women," Warren says her true love is her art. "I don't think anyone could put up with my crazies when I'm in the middle of

➤ Continued on page 40



"The kids are important, they're coming out at a much younger age than they did 20 years ago. And these days there's the whole issue of survival. They need to know there's a support system there for them."

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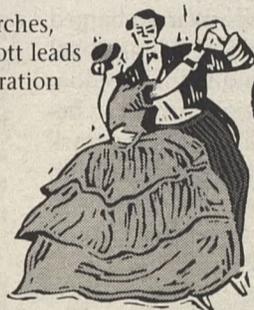
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# EVENTS CALENDAR

## ART/EXHIBITS

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

**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.

**OLYMPIC DREAMS: LARRY LEE.** Thru Dec 31. Spruill Center's Library Gallery hosts Atlanta sculptor's works in clay. 394-3447.

**STAN SHARSHAL.** Thru Dec 31. A retrospective look at the Atlanta artist who died at age 42. TULA Foundation, 75 Bennett St. 351-3551.

**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.

**SYMBOLIC HEAT.** Thru Jan 10. Subtitled "Gender, Health and Worship among the Tamils of South India and Sri Lanka." Schatten Gallery, Emory University. Free. 727-6861.

**SEBASTIAO SALGADO.** Thru Jan 14. "Workers: An Archaeology of the Industrial Age" on display at the High Museum.

**NERVOUS WOMEN ON THE VERGE OF A COFFEE BREAK(DOWN).** Thru Jan 16. Mocha coffeehouse presents the works of Gretchen Mallory, Charlie Read and Jake Rothschild. 1424 N. Highland Ave.

**ROBERT McCURDY-DON PORCARO.** Thru Jan. Painting and sculpture. 6-9 pm. Nancy Solomon Gallery, 1037 Monroe Dr. 875-7100.

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

**HERTER BROTHERS: FURNITURE AND INTERIORS FOR A GILDED AGE.** Thru Feb 12. High Museum,

1280 Peachtree St. Opens Tues.

## CONFERENCES/SEMINARS

**NEW YEAR—NEW VISION.** Dec 27. A free two-hour preview of the gay men's workshop upcoming Jan 20-22. Come learn about a new way to make empowering life changes. At the Atlanta Gay Center, 63 12th St., 7:30 pm.



'Cats,' Andrew Lloyd Webber's musical tribute to our feline friends, returns to the Fox on Jan 10.

## FILM

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

## HOLIDAY EVENTS

**A CHRISTMAS CAROL.** Thru Dec 23. The Alliance Theatre's annual holiday offering stars Tom Key making his final appearance as Scrooge. Tues-Sat 8 pm, Sun 2:30 & 7:30 pm. \$18-\$34.75. 733-5000.

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

**A ROYAL HOLIDAY.** Thru Dec 23. Three-course meal with madrigals, juggling and music. The Shakespeare Tavern, 499 Peachtree St. 874-5299.

**E/R CHRISTMAS: NOEL, NOEL, OH HELL.** Thru Dec 30. Onstage Atlanta presents more emergency room antics in the holiday spirit. Thur-Sat 8 pm (Tues-Sat from Dec

➤ Continued on page 32

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# NIGHTMOVES

SCENES FROM ATLANTA NIGHTLIFE



by PETER NEWTON

## Aiken returns to the Attic

One year after her live recording at Eddie's Attic, **CAROLINE AIKEN** packed the house again with an encore performance and another CD "Live At the Attic, Too." In the midst of a rigorous week of radio and television interviews and performances, Aiken showed no signs of fatigue as she delivered a high-energy and unforgettable show. Her 8-year-old daughter, Sarah

Page Dukes, gave a spirited rendition of Michelle Malone's "The Greatest Show on Earth" that brought the house down. Guest musicians included Gary "Mo" Moore, Jack Williams, Angi Aparo, Cass Kennedy, Jerry Peek, Rise Payne and Rob Sumowski, who added their expertise to 14 songs. As is the case with live CD recordings, the audience is treated to double takes and an occasional triple take of their favorite songs. And for me that's just about everything Caroline sings. Look for the finished product early next year.

In my never-ending attempt to harness the Christmas spirit, I attended Tom Key's reading of Truman Capote's **A CHRISTMAS MEMORY** at the 14th Street Playhouse. The annual sell-out may be one of the best kept secrets of the holiday season. Published in 1955, "A Christmas Memory" tells the autobiographical story of Capote's Alabama upbringing and the time he spent with a child-like elderly cousin, Miss Sook Faulk. Key's many voices transported the 400 audience members to a crisp No-

vember morning when Miss Sook looks out the window and exclaims to 7-year-old Buddy, "Oh, it's fruitcake weather!" The adventures that follow combine some of Capote's best writing on friendship, love and loyalty with a kind of Calvin & Hobbes sense of humor. I never considered Truman Capote to be a Southern writer, but he writes of Alabama in such a keen-eyed way that you almost want to go there. And Tom Key reads in a way that makes you want to listen. It's the kid in us that loves to be read to aloud. Following the reading there was plenty of hot cider and, of course, fruitcake for all.

Dashing through no snow to the Otherside that same evening, I was able to catch a few hours of the **1994 MR. AND MISS GAY BLACK USA PAGEANT**. Over a dozen contestants competed for the coveted titles. The sheer volume of costumes, entertainment and attitude—the three key ingredients in any pageant—could barely fit in the standing-room-only space. Emceed by Mr. and Miss Black World 1994, Joe Jackson and Niesha Dupree, the event featured men in Armani suits, women in mosaic mirrored gowns and both in g-strings on occasion. The crowd had their favorites, but it was the panel of distinguished judges that had the final say—which didn't come until the wee hours of the morning, long past this reporter's Monday night curfew. Amber Richards was the consummate hostess. Thanks.

A **BARBIE DOLL PAGEANT** at Blake's that didn't materialize. The third annual event never happened, due to what I can only assume were Barbie no-shows. Maybe next year.

Players Good Time Emporium in Cobb County announced plans to host the **FIRST ANNUAL MR. COBB CONTEST**. Neighborhood folks may not like it, but it just goes to show you, a little diversity never hurt anyone.



Have skirt, will work it: One of the visions at the Miss Black USA pageant.

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## EVENTS CALENDAR

➤ Continued from page 30

20); Sun 5 pm. \$14-\$18. 897-1802.

**THE NUTCRACKER.** Thru Dec 24. The Atlanta Ballet performs the holiday classic at the Fox. 817-8700. Also doing "The Nutcracker" this year is the Georgia Ballet in Marietta. Dec 9-11. 425-0258.

### MUSIC

**PIERCE PETTIS.** Dec 22. Windham Hill/High Street recording artist sings of social issues with an edgy blend of acoustic folk and rock 'n' roll. At Eddie's Attic, 515 McDonough St. in Decatur. 377-4976.

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

### RADIO

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

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

**LES CHANTEUSES AFRICAINES.** Every Sun 1-4 a.m. The musical and literary voices of African women, with host Alicia Banks, who offers a unique perspective that includes the lesbian point of view. WRFG, 89.3 FM.

**STILL AIN'T SATISFIED.** Every Mon 7-9 pm. Music and interviews from a lesbian perspective. Cool music for any queer or interested other. WRFG, 89.3 FM.



The cast of 'Appalachian Christmas' will bring the mountains to Atlanta thru Dec 23.

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

### TELEVISION

**ATLANTA SYMPHONY AND POINTER SISTERS.** Dec 24, 25. Gospel Christmas concert produced by Georgia Public Television for national broadcast. Check listings for times.

**ABSOLUTELY FABULOUS.** Sundays on Comedy Central. The cult sensation from England inspires homos stateside every week.

➤ Continued on page 34

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# ON SCREEN

FILM, VIDEO & TV REVIEWS



by ALAN FRUTKIN

## Video stocking stuffers

Looking for that last minute stocking stuffer? Home videos make great gifts, and these days there are lots of gay-related films on tape.

Director Percy Adlon's lesbian hit **SALMONBERRIES** is out on video, and stars k. d. lang (in her feature film debut) as a 20-year-old founding, searching for her parents. Along the way, lang falls in love with a librarian from East Berlin in the wilds of Northwest Alaska.



Olympia Dukakis ruled the roost as Mrs. Madrigal in 'Armistead Maupin's Tales of the City.'

Robert Towne's 1982 film **PERSONAL BEST** is also available on video, starring Mariel Hemingway as a promising athlete whose relationship with her mentor/lover (Patrice Donnelly) is threatened when both vie for a spot on the U.S. Olympic team.

Highly recommended: **ARMISTEAD MAUPIN'S TALES OF THE CITY**, the groundbreaking miniseries (six hours on three tapes), which chronicles the lives of a group of single people—straight and gay—who share an apartment house in 1970s San Francisco.

MGM/UA has packaged the

following compilations: Judy Garland: **MEET ME IN ST. LOUIS**, **EASTER PARADE** and **THE HARVEY GIRLS**; Joan Crawford: **MILDRED PIERCE**, **HUMORESQUE** and **POSSESSED**; Elizabeth Taylor: **NATIONAL VELVET**, **BUTTERFIELD 8** and **CAT ON A HOT TIN ROOF**.

There's also Warner Brothers' "Barbra Streisand Collection," which includes **THE MAIN EVENT**, **A STAR IS BORN** and **WHAT'S UP DOC?** (Not to mention HBO's 1994 tour gem, **BARBRA: THE CONCERT**)

Last but not least is Touchstone's Bette Midler set. Entitled "Bette's Best" this collection contains **BEACHES**, **RUTHLESS PEOPLE** and **DOWN AND OUT IN BEVERLY HILLS**.

Some friends are harder to please than others. So if you're looking for a gift that's a bit risqué—perhaps even slightly controversial—try these on for size:

**CRUISING:** William Friedkin's oft-debated look at the S&M world stars Al Pacino as a cop who infiltrates the leather scene of New York's West Village to catch a killer. The gay community boycotted this film when it first hit movie theaters in 1980.

**POISON:** Winner of the grand prize at the 1991 Sundance Film Festival. Director Todd Haynes interweaves several disturbing stories, including a 7-year-old's murder of his own father, a scientist who isolates the human sex drive in liquid form, and the sexually obsessive relationship between two male prison inmates.

**SWOON:** Tom Kalin's 1993 artsy re-telling of the Loeb and Leopold case, in which two brilliant young men are convicted of killing a 13-year-old boy.

Of course, some shoppers have finished buying presents and are ready to curl up in front of the tube themselves. For those bored with the standard fare, may I suggest **DIE HARD** and **HOME ALONE**? Both films take place during the holidays. So just call it Christmas with a twist.

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## The cost of Christmas

Ever wonder how much it would cost to really buy all those items in "The 12 Days of Christmas"? The PNC Bank Corp. has figured out what it would cost in 1994 dollars. The second column indicates cost of all items after song is done, including repeats:

| Item                     | Item Cost   | Cumulative  |
|--------------------------|-------------|-------------|
| A Partridge in Pear Tree | \$34.99     | \$419.88    |
| Two Turtle Doves         | \$50.00     | \$550.00    |
| Three French Hens        | \$15.00     | \$150.00    |
| Four Calling Birds       | \$280.00    | \$2,520.00  |
| Five Gold Rings          | \$450.00    | \$3,600.00  |
| Six Geese-a-Laying       | \$150.00    | \$1,050.00  |
| Seven Swans-a-Swimming   | \$7,000.00  | \$42,000.00 |
| Eight Maids-a-Milking    | \$34.00     | \$170.00    |
| Nine Ladies Dancing      | \$2,606.83  | \$10,427.32 |
| Ten Lords-a-Leaping      | \$3,012.63  | \$9,038.49  |
| Eleven Pipers Piping     | \$1,109.16  | \$2,218.32  |
| Twelve Drummers Drumming | \$1,201.59  | \$1,201.59  |
| Totals                   | \$15,944.20 | \$73,345.60 |

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Maybe I should have served Björk.

I wanted Smashing Pumpkins

Where are The Cranberries?

I thought we were having Meatloaf.

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## EVENTS CALENDAR

➤ Continued from page 32

**KIDS IN THE HALL.** Every Mon-Fri. The Kids—including openly gay Scott Thompson—do their thing at 9:30 pm on Comedy Central.

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

**GAY USA.** Every Mon 11 pm. Cable queerness on display on cable Channel 12.

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

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

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

### THEATER

**THE PHILADELPHIA STORY.** Extended thru Dec 23. Actor's Express presents one of the most treasured romantic comedies of the American theater. King Plow Arts Center, 887 W Marietta. Thur-Sat 8 pm, Sun 7 pm. \$12-\$16. 607-7469.

**1940's RADIO HOUR.** Thru Dec 31. Perennial favorite set in Dec 1942. Tues-Fri 8 pm, Sat 7 and 9 pm, Sun 2:30 and 7 pm. At Marietta's Theatre in the Square. 422-8369, ext. 10.

**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 7:30 pm, Sun 7 pm. Price of \$33-\$40 includes five course dinner. Peachtree & Third. 875-1610.

### UPCOMING

**A NIGHT IN OLD VIENNA.** Dec 29-31. William Fred Scott conducts Strauss waltzes, marches, polkas and other delights in three "champagne/coffee" concerts. Symphony Hall. \$17.50-\$45. 733-5000.

**THE NUTCRACKER ON ICE.** Dec 29. The fabulous Fox theatre becomes an ice rink for this special production. Starring Olympic medalists Oksana Baiul, Viktor Petrenko and Brian Boitano. 881-2000.

**NEW YEAR'S ROCKIN' EVE.** Dec 31. Dick Clark hosts his 23rd New Year's Eve special on ABC-TV with guests including Melissa Etheridge, Salt-N-Pepa and Margaret Cho. Channel 2.

**VARIETY PLAYHOUSE NEW YEAR'S EVE BLOWOUT.** Dec 31. Features Tinsley Ellis, Col Bruce Hampton and the Fiji Mariners, and Kenny Neal. 1099 Euclid Ave., 8:30 pm. \$17.50 adv, \$25 day of show. 524-7354.

**'TIS THE SEASON OF KWANZAA.** Dec 31. Storyteller Akbar Imhotep will explore the

➤ Continued on page 36

# SOUND ADVICE

MUSIC NOTES & REVIEWS



by LEE HUGHEY

## Tower in a gay groove

OK, I admit it. There have been times when I thought about just forwarding my entire paycheck to a few local music stores all at once, rather than giving it to them \$13 or so at a time. Now, **TOWER RECORDS** has given me one more reason to give up on ever reaching financial solvency.

The music mega-store, located in the Around Lenox shopping center next to Lenox Square, now has a section devoted entirely to gay and lesbian artists. You can't

too," he explained.

There are over 125 titles on the shelves. I spotted everyone from Lynn Lavner, Ferron, and the Flirtations to Pussy Tourette ("That one sells so fast I can't keep enough in stock," says Jeff), Pansy Division, and Atlanta's own Fabulous Pop Tarts, whose trashy music is a guilty pleasure of mine. When I commented on how many different musical styles were represented, Jeff explained how he chooses which artists to include in the department. "They have to be out, definitely, and most of them are artists who somehow speak to the gay and lesbian community. There are also gay-related soundtracks in there, like 'Philadelphia,' plus AIDS benefits, some dance collections, and a few that have a lot of camp value."

He showed me an excellent example of the last category: a collection of songs from the 1920s and '30s, sung by male artists (I spotted Bing Crosby on the list), all of which were love songs to other men! It was an infringement of copyright law in those days to change the pronouns in a song, so men would sing songs about men and, I assume, women would sing about women.

The shelves also feature what Jeff calls "crossover artists," like the Pet Shop Boys and k.d. lang. Jeff credits these high-profile performers with drawing more attention to gay and lesbian artists in general.

Also check out Tower's gay/lesbian areas in the video and book sections. If you're looking for seasonal music, try the new Christmas album by the Seattle Men's Chorus, which is selling like crazy right now. (After all, who can resist the image of being caroled by a choir of Northwestern lumberjacks?)

Until next time, stay cool!

*Lee Hughey is a former DJ, and will be spending the holidays listening to his battered copy of the Carpenters' Christmas CD.*



Jeff Boggs keeps Tower Records stocked with gay music.

miss it—there's a big rainbow flag sign hanging from the ceiling above it. I recently had the chance to talk to Jeff Boggs, the buyer for this area and an employee in Tower's classical music department.

As far as Jeff knows, this Tower is the only mainstream music store in Atlanta with a specific area devoted to gay and lesbian artists. He had the idea during the rearranging of the store last spring, and the management was immediately receptive to it, putting Jeff in charge of keeping the department stocked. "Tower, the chain, is very interested in tailoring each store to its surrounding area, so they thought it was a good idea,

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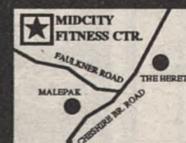
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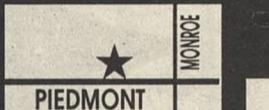
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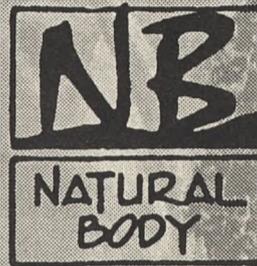
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**EVENTS CALENDAR**

➤ Continued from page 34

meanings of the African harvest festival and Kuumba, the day of creativity. 11 am. At SciTrek, 395 Piedmont Ave. 525-6906.

**NEW YEAR'S EVE AT THE OPERA.** Dec 31. Capitol City Opera Company presents favorites from "Die Fledermaus," "The Merry Widow" and other light operas. 8 pm, followed by three-course dinner. \$100 per person. 633-2848.

**A NEW BEGINNING.** Jan 1. Partymeister Steve Berman takes over Axys for a gay/lesbian tea dance starting at 6:06 pm. Steve promises "new management, new bartenders, new attitude." At Axys, 1150 Peachtree St. 634-3346.

**WALTER WANGER: HOLLYWOOD INDEPENDENT.** Jan 6, 14, 21. Three rarely shown films by Wanger—"Gabriel Over the White House," "The Moon's Our Home," and "The Reckless Moment" screen at the High Museum. 892-3600.



One of the 'Nervous Women on the Verge of a Coffee Break(own)' on display at MOCHA coffeehouse.

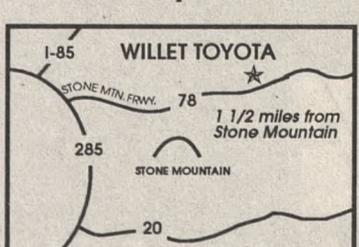
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**DREAM TIME: FEAR AND FANTASY ON SCREEN.** Jan 7-March 25. The second part of the High Museum's "100 Years of World Cinema" begins Jan 7 with "Apocalypse Now." 892-3600.

**TOTALLY F\*\*\*ED UP.** Jan 6-12. The latest from gay nihilist filmmaker Gregg Araki ("The Living End") plays at GA State's Cinefest for one week only. 651-3565.

**CATS.** Jan 10-15. The Andrew Lloyd Webber musical lives up to its slogan, "Now and Forever" as it returns to the Fox.

**RED SCARE ON SUNSET.** Jan 18-Feb 26. Charles Busch's gender-bent spoof of B movies comes to Marietta's Theatre in the Square. 422-8369.

**SOMEONE WHO'LL WATCH OVER ME.** Feb 1-March 5. The London and New York hit play about three hostages in a prison cell—called "brilliantly disturbing... well-crafted and funny" by the Irish Times—comes to 7 Stages. 523-7647.

## Lesbian mystery, coming out soon to a theater near you

Lesbian novelist  
Katherine V. Forrest  
goes Hollywood

by VICTORIA A.  
BROWNORTH

Katherine V. Forrest may be one of the gay and lesbian community's most understated heroes. Working quietly and modestly for over a decade, writing tales of lesbian love and mystery for a largely closeted audi-



Katherine V. Forrest, long a best-selling author for Naiad, will reach wider audiences via the movie screen.

ence, Forrest has influenced the large number of lesbians and gay men who are her most ardent fans.

A spry and serious 50-something in the midst of Generation X queers, Forrest has refused to abandon what she calls "the majority" of gay Americans—the ones who have yet to come out. Her books are best-sellers in the United States, Great Britain and Australia and have begun to achieve that most coveted accolade: the crossover audience. Forrest has become so popular that her prize-winning novel,

"Murder in the Nightwood Bar," is currently being made into a film in Hollywood by a straight male director.

Katherine Forrest has arrived. But that hasn't detoured her from her own political agenda, an agenda reflected in her writing and in what she has to say about her work. Forrest, whose books are published in more countries and in more languages than those of any other lesbian writer, wants to make the world safe for the common garden-variety lesbian and gay man, and she thinks other writers should have that same goal.

"The single most important thing that every gay and lesbian writer needs to be writing about in the '90s is coming out—it is the great unfinished business that we have to do to survive." Forrest's quiet vehemence explains the plot of her dynamic new political thriller, "Flashpoint," published in June by Naiad Press, the world's largest lesbian publisher.

Forrest has made coming out the theme of "Flashpoint." It is also a central theme in "Nightwood Bar," and Forrest has consulted closely on the adaptation of the book for film to maintain the integrity of the book's highly political plot. "Nightwood Bar" has just begun production in Hollywood and is being directed by award-winning filmmaker Tim Hunter, who directed "River's Edge." The film stars perennial dyke wannabe Mary Louise Parker as detective Kate Delafield and Tom Arnold as Delafield's homophobic partner, Ed Taylor. The lesbian love interest, Andrea, is being kept under wraps.

It is the Delafield series that has brought Forrest fame beyond her already devoted dyke fans, garnering attention worldwide from straight mystery aficionados who have found the straightforward but seductive Detective Delafield as compelling as Sue Grafton's Kinsey Milhone or Sara Paretsky's V.I. Warshawski. And now, like those heroines, Delafield is about to be immortalized on film. Her creator couldn't be happier.

"I am just thrilled," enthuses Forrest. "The casting is excellent,"

> Continued on page 38

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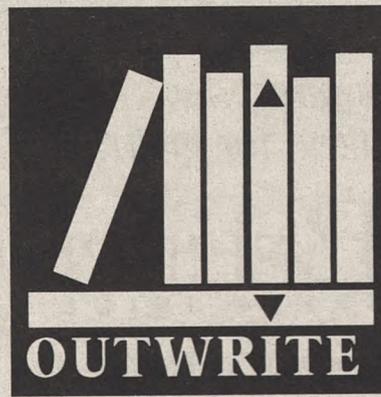
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## Forrest

➤ Continued from page 37

the director, though not gay himself, has gone to all the lesbian and gay film festivals to get a feel for what lesbian and gay audiences like. And the changes that have been made from the book, like punching up the mystery and the main female roles, are all changes I approve of."

Acknowledging that she has less control over the film than the books, Forrest adds, "No writer has control over material that gets made into a film. Not even a screenwriter. It's no longer just your vision." But Forrest thinks, "That's OK, here, because there is respect for the character, respect for the work and respect for the audience—the gay audience. So I'm quite pleased."

Forrest herself points to the lack of screen images of lesbians. "The lesbian film industry is today where the lesbian book industry was 20 years ago—a handful of titles. And as lesbians, we are desperate and hungry for those few films with lesbian characters."

Forrest should know. She was editor of the book version of the wildly successful film "Claire of the Moon," which was funded in part by Naiad publisher Barbara Grier, who also acts as a distributor for the film. Grier and Naiad were also instrumental in the sale of "Nightwood Bar."

Universally panned by the critics, "Claire" still drew lesbians by the busload. Forrest hopes "Nightwood Bar" will be equally popular, and with a broader audience. And it will have one important feature that "Claire of the Moon" did not: hot sex.

Renowned for the steamy encounters between her women characters, Forrest has a reputation for highly sensual storylines. The sex scenes in her first novel, "Curious Wine," are so intense that the book has remained a best-seller at Naiad for over a decade.

It is important to Forrest that "Nightwood Bar" not suffer the lesbian

de-sexing that Alice Walker's "The Color Purple" did in the hands of Steven Spielberg.

Some directors, like Spielberg, look for a "crossover" audience, but Forrest doesn't believe in this approach. "That is why directors tend to change the material—to try and gain that cross-over audience," Forrest says. "But Tim [Hunter] has not taken the sex out. If anything, there is more sex in there. This is a very lesbian film. No one is going to mistake the characters for 'friends,' like in "Fried Green Tomatoes."

"I am thrilled that lesbians are finally coming into their own sexually," proclaims Forrest. "We are, in some ways, going through what gay men went through in the '70s. We're acknowledging our sexuality and exploring it. The success of lesbian erotica is a reflection of that, I think."

The object of Forrest's desire these days is her lover of several years, an Australian expatriate 15 years her junior. The two women live near the Castro district of San Francisco, and the writer says her proximity to a totally queer world has only served to intensify her political agenda. "It would be impossible to live here and *not* be political," she says.

Furthermore, the closeness to gay men has influenced Forrest's writing. "Flashpoint" has several gay male characters and a gay male storyline that is central to the plot. (Gay readers take note: Forrest writes gay male sex with the same sensual signature that has made her so popular with the ladies.)

"I had a conversation with Paul Monette a while back," says Forrest, "and I said if we belong in each other's lives, we belong in each other's books."

It is part of Forrest's global vision of gay and lesbian culture. "We are the only subculture that incorporates both genders, all races, all colors and all creeds," she says emphatically. "It is our strength and our beauty."

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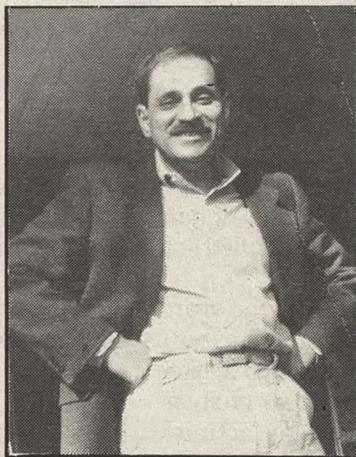


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# ON STAGE

THEATRE, DANCE & ART REVIEWS



by MICHAEL KAPE

## Gay theatre's banner year

It's the end of the year, time for "close of 1994" stories. This year, I'm spreading mine across two weeks. First, we'll look at the strong year gay theatre had in Atlanta. Next week we'll look at the entire theatre scene in town.

The major event of the year for gay theatre has been the decidedly mainstream production of Tony Kushner's **ANGELS IN AMERICA: MILLENNIUM APPROACHES** at the Alliance. For many gays and lesbians, this will be the only gay-related theatre seen this year (but we're not doing the self-loathing column now).



Jeroy Hannah in 'The Night Larry Kramer Kissed Me'

"Angels" was a sterling production (even Kushner had high praise for it), but I question the wisdom of waiting a full year for the second half, **PERESTROIKA**. At least this gives us something major to anticipate. Also, a tip of the hat to Alliance artistic director Kenny

Leon for recognizing the cultural diversity of Atlanta. (Under the previous regime, the only gay-related play done was "The Normal Heart" eight years ago.)

Dear old, dead gay playwrights Noel Coward and W. Somerset Maugham both received handsome new productions in town this year. Maugham's **RAIN** made quite an impact at Theatre in the Square, and Coward's **PRESENT LAUGHTER** was very well-mounted by Neighborhood Playhouse, and it featured an incredible performance by Edwin Ashurst (too bad we haven't seen him since—he's a major talent). On the other hand, Coward's **PRIVATE LIVES** was dealt a deadly blow by Art Attack late in the year. 'Nuff said.

Three performances this year were stunning to behold and must

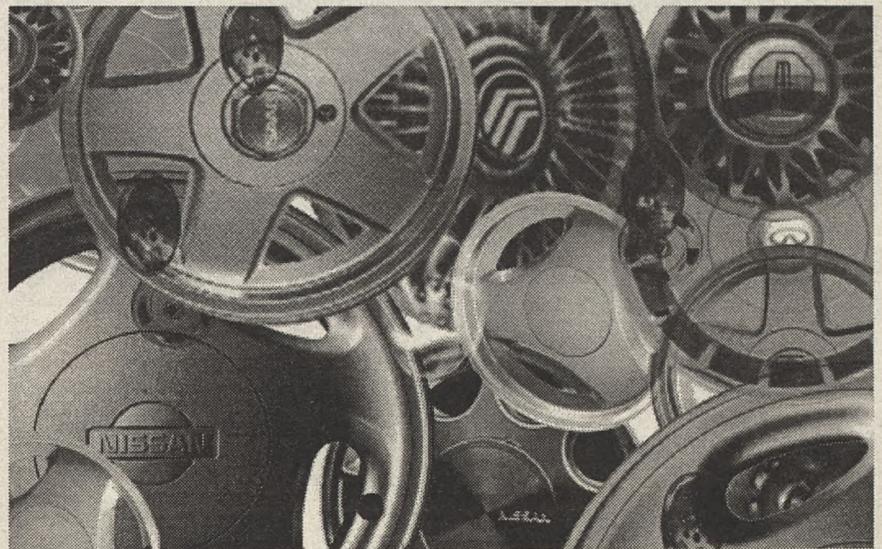
be noted. Sally J. Robertson in **IMMEDIATE FAMILY**, produced by the Factory Theatre, was glorifying and heartbreaking in the role of a woman deciding to "pull the plug" on her comatose lover. I wish she'd work more. Larry Davis is a young actor who distinguished himself twice in mundane shows at SAME. First, he was the best performer in the dated, lackluster **FAGGOTS OF THE CORONADO**; then he was outstanding in the title role of the otherwise poor revival of **WARREN**. The most outstanding performance in any play was given by Jeroy Hannah in SAME's **THE NIGHT LARRY KRAMER KISSED ME**. It was thoroughly realized, brilliant, engrossing and stunning.

Other especially good gay-related shows this year included **THE TIME AT THE END OF THIS TIME** (SAME), the touching and moving story of a young man with AIDS who goes home to die; the well produced and directed Australian play **THE SUM OF US** (SAME); the crazy Christopher Durang piece **LAUGHING WILD** (Alliance); the weird, strange, odd but engrossing **HOUSE OF BALLS** (7 Stages); the unusual but also engrossing **UNIDENTIFIED HUMAN REMAINS AND THE TRUE NATURE OF LOVE** (Actor's Express); the wonderfully staged and acted production of Caryl Churchill's **CLOUD NINE** (Actors Express); and the painfully wrought brotherly tribute **MARKINGS OF THE SOUL** (independent).

Discovery Arena's **EULA MAE'S BEAUTY BAIT & TACKLE** was a personal favorite of many people (featuring two brilliant comic drag/nondrag performances by Frank Blocker and Chuck Richards). Scott F. Rousseau's production of **WHOO-DEE-DOO!** at Onstage Atlanta was a musical laugh riot with a strong, funny, talented cast.

All told, that is a lot of good gay theatre for one year.

*Michael Kape is managing editor of Soap Opera NOW! and theatre critic for WABE-FM.*



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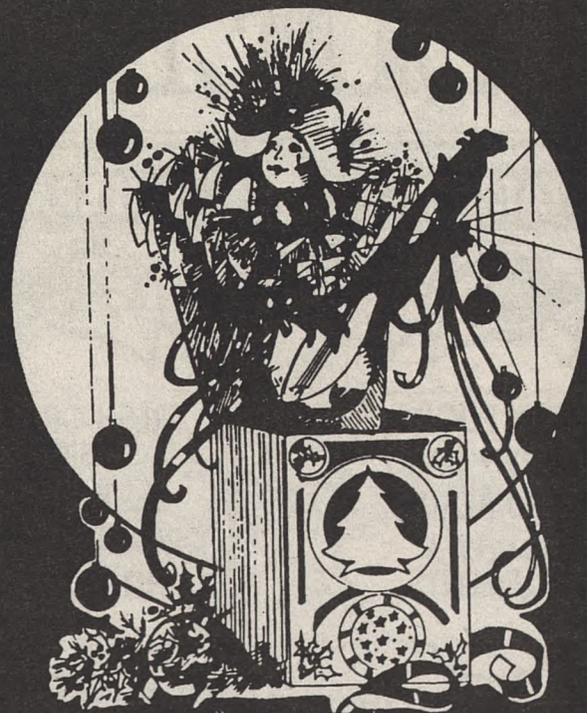
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## Front Runner

➤ Continued from page 29

writing a book. But I do have about a million and a half hummingbirds I feed and three red-tailed hawks that keep me company."

Over the years, Warren has both written and spoken the words of an ardent gay activist. "Thirty-three percent of all teen suicides are related to homosexuality," she says. "You can tell someone that and they might say, 'Oh really, I didn't know that' and then they go about their lives. The only way I know of how to change people is by breaking their hearts. Show them a face." In her novels she has given the gay male an identity for mainstream America. By creating positive images of gay men, Warren has successfully debunked the common myth that homosexual love is less credible than heterosexual love and opened the closet doors for countless others.

Certainly, the inspiration to succeed began early in Warren's career as a young star herself, not in the athletic world but the literary world. At the age of 16 she published her first short story in Atlantic Monthly, winning the College Fiction Prize in 1954 and a scholarship to the acclaimed Bread Loaf Writer's Conference. Later, a career as a book editor for Reader's Digest spanned 20 years and prepared her for life as a best-selling author. "I was very well acquainted with the power of the written word by the time I wrote my first novel," she says. "I knew the incredible force of the medium."

Despite her victories, Warren shows no signs of letting up on her pace. "There's

more to tell," says Warren of the "Front Runner" series. "I've just about finished the third book, called "Billy's Boy," but there's also going to be a fourth one told



from the perspective of a lesbian woman. Four is a better number than three."

The series will complete the story of Billy Sive, but Warren says she has plans to publish several other novels, including a 20th anniversary collector's edition of "The Front Runner," several lesbian novels and a rewritten version of her very first novel, titled "The Wild Man."

"The Wild Man" is set in Spain and tells the story of two siblings, both of whom are gay," Warren explains. "The brother is a matador and the sister is a journalist from a strict Catholic background..." In the course of the book, her characters grow stronger through confrontations with an authoritarian culture and oppressive religion. As Warren describes the plot, the storyteller in her comes out and continues to add detail, depth and passion.

The urgency in her voice is what has made, and continues to make, Patricia Nell Warren a front runner in the literary race for human rights.

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# OUT IN PRINT

A GAY & LESBIAN READER

by GENE GABRIEL MOORE

## Short stories hit, miss

Short stories have a great history. Cave dwellers made up tales to help them figure out the mysteries of quakes, wind and fire; closer to us, Gutenberg's movable type opened storytelling in a big way to somnolent Europe, and Marlowe and Shakespeare weren't far behind.

Fast forward several hundred years, and we find two new anthologies, **TWO FRIENDS** (Meridian/Dutton, 288 pages, \$10.95) and **WAVES** (Vintage, 249 pages, \$12). Each in their different ways casts light on aspects of gay and lesbian experience both historical and modern.

With the increasing appeal of writing by women about women, more care is being used to study the cores of lesbian literature. Lesbian and gay stories have a sizable audience; and if they are really good, they do

more than merely enrich paper mill barons in Canada. Such stories printed since the '69 Stonewall mutiny have divined the unmapped terrain ahead and challenged man's machismo day dreams, among other things.

"Two Friends" shows that American women were writing a lot about loving other women way back in the 19th century. "Waves," writer-editor Ethan Mordden's batch of fresh stories, bears out what's going on among 14 writers in our separate worlds—gay and straight.

Unfortunately, one thing that's going on is Mordden's distaste. He casts aspersions on several gay writers in New York who thrived during the big party before what a slothful press called the "gay plague"—Andrew Holleran, Edmund White, Felice Picano, et al. His "introduction" doubles as a poison-pen letter.

Mordden offers a new wave, a second wave, of gay male fiction to counter the pseudo-academic and New York-ish way with

words favored by Holleran and company. Early Edmund White, Holleran and Felice Picano make a tough act to follow, however. While John Edward Harris, Brad Gooch and the redoubtable Michael Cunningham are worth the price of admission, the imaginations of the other 11, as put to their toil here, are just not adequately '90s—or even bizarre enough—to be much worth bothering with. Sorry.

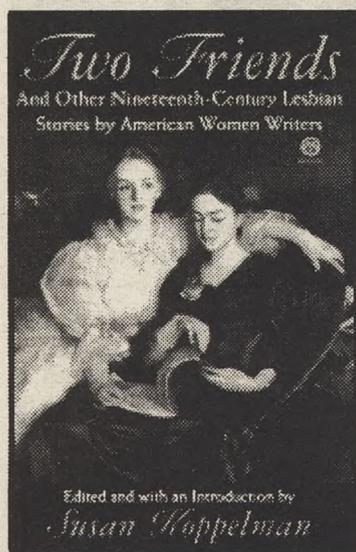
The 19th century women writers assembled by editor Susan Koppelman in "Two Friends" were all possessors of readable styles, wit and animation—including Constance Fenimore Woolson (1840-1894), whose first of two tales here, "Felipa," is apt to annoy those who want the literature of another age to parallel our own ethnic sensitivities.

Not one of Koppelman's 10 writers was from culturally destitute Dixie, and most were out of New England. None would have thought of herself as a "lesbian"—the word didn't appear until later—but woman/woman love relationships were not uncommon then in Boston and London and in emancipated Paris.

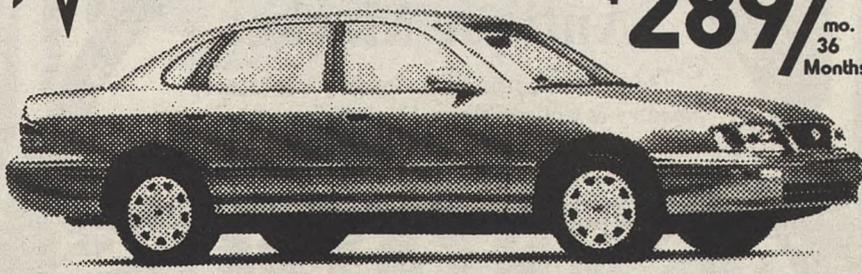
In Koppelman's elegant preface to each story, the editor looks into the private life and work of the authors. And her introduction is an outstanding review of the provenances of women's rights and lesbian narrative prose in North America. It alone is something of a wonder for readers of whatever sexual orientation who feed on useful literary histories.

But the stories are the thing; they amount to a feast that mostly cheers and persuades. Composing in a broad scope, with a single theme, these women adapted English-language literature to their own tastes and introduced to a large audience (the readers of Atlantic Monthly, for one) an unmissable and lush sexuality.

"Two Friends" includes the spectacular title story, by Mary Eleanor Wilkins (1852-1930), and the absolute gem "Martha's Lady" by Sarah Orne Jewett (1849-1878). These and the other pieces were recognized as meaningful when they first appeared, in a day of considerable British fiction by both males and females.



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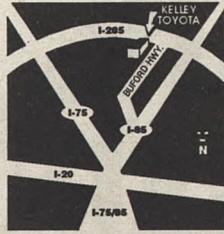
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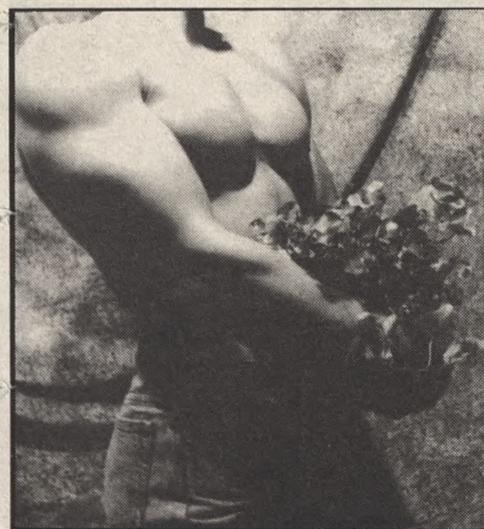
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## AT HOME

➤ Continued from page 29

coffee, have a friend bring dessert! Bring your tree to life with a party and invite friends you know who don't, for whatever reason, put up a tree. And this in a small way becomes their tree and the friendship grows a tad closer, and a tradition begins.

If you have lost a friend or friends in passing years, find an ornament that reminds you of them. I lost a friend who collected Gorham silver; my tree now wears a silver bell with his name on it. Even though Christmas comes but once a year, it doesn't allow the heart to forget!

A lot of us, because of city life, travel home for the big day. If you and your friends exchange gifts or draw numbers, try to open the presents at one person's house. When this happens, you will find with the group opening gifts all at the same time, it's very much like going home—but with your family here, your brothers and sisters.

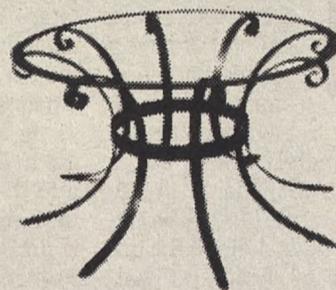
If you're low on cash but have the desire to give, write a letter to that special friend or family member. It's important to let them know how you feel about them. And enclose a photo of the two of you sharing a fun time.

Date and sign it, and this gift will be forever dear—something that no mall has, which only you can give.



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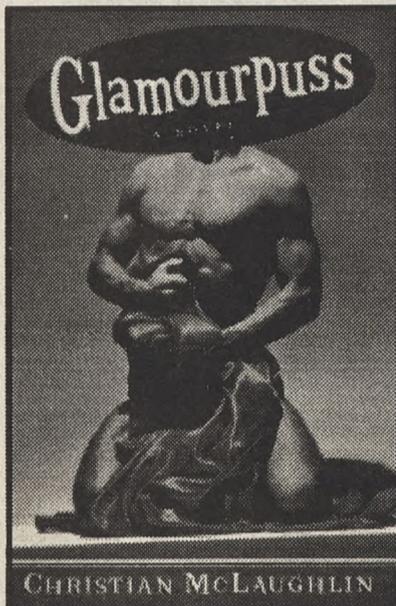
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# DISH

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

## Nights in red satin

Dish hopes that we are someday lucky enough to meet Christian McLaughlin, author of the book "Glamourpuss."



Anyone who says one of his key formative experiences was sneaking up to the attic at the age of 8 to read a ratty old copy of "Valley of the Dolls" is totally cool to Dish. And when McLaughlin heard that the cover boy for his book wasn't exactly pleased that his body was being used to decorate a gay novel, the author had this to say: "I mean, here he is, naked, shaved, oiled, holding a red satin sheet over his penis...did he think he was posing for a Bed, Bath & Beyond ad?"

**BITING SATIRE:** A college newspaper editor at Northeastern State University ventured into Jesse Helms' territory with a hateful anti-gay editorial. Denzil Hamilton wrote in his piece entitled "NSU Should Send Clear Message to Gays," that "obviously NSU doesn't have a homosexual population. If our school did, we might have to kill them, this is if we couldn't force them to leave." Following several outraged responses, including one in which the president of the Tulsa Oklahomans for Human Rights called the editorial "horribly irresponsible," the paper quickly labeled the piece

"satire." A spokesperson at NSU said that the article was "not intended to incite violence against homosexuals." Right. And Newt Gingrich has the best interests of orphans at heart.

**CYB-FAB?:** Gay-friendly actress Cybill Shepherd has a new television series in the works, cleverly titled "Cybill," scheduled for premiere in early January. The plot centers around Cybill's life as a neurotic actress with a "stop-start" career, her extremely conservative daughter, two ex-husbands and a best friend in the fashion business who just happens to be a big slut. Hmm, to Dish this sounds a lot like a recent hit British comedy import. Can you say "Ab-Fab?"

**DOIN' WHAT COMES NATURALLY:** Dish waves a fond, one-handed farewell to ousted Surgeon General Jocelyn Elders, a woman we thought had some really good ideas and who always spoke her mind, regardless of the political consequences. We guess she went one too far for all the right-wingers with her statements about teaching masturbation to 5-year olds. Funny, most people Dish remembers didn't have to be taught—maybe they were child prodigies.

**THE NAME GAME:** For everyone who thought "Pret-a-Porter" was a euphemism for an outdoor toilet, director Robert Altman's latest film about the fashion business has been re-titled (read: translated from the French) "Ready to Wear." In typical Altman style, the film has a multitude of Hollywood luminaries in the cast, including Sophia Loren and Georgians Julia Roberts and Kim Basinger. Call Dish pretentious, but we think the film loses a bit of its charm with the new title—it's kind of like ordering "broiled cream" for dessert—just doesn't sound as appetizing as crème brûlée.

**SILVER SCREEN SAPPHOS:** Muckraker-of-the-stars Boze Hadleigh has done it again. The author, who publishes his alleged interviews with gay movie stars only after their deaths, has a new volume on the shelves, "Hollywood Lesbians." The book doesn't offer any big surprises, just the usual suspects, like Barbara Stanwyck (remember how she used to crack that horse whip on "The Big Valley"?) and Nancy Kulp, the very butch Miss Hathaway from "The Beverly Hillbillies." One subject that did hold Dish's interest was Dame Judith Anderson, the actress who made a career out of playing evil bitches (not to mention one turn as Hamlet) on stage and screen. Dropping her guard in a really big way, Anderson says that when she was in "Cat On a Hot Tin Roof," Tennessee Williams told her "all of his gentleman friends were convinced that it was a stretch for me to play a heterosexual."

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BJ's Coffee House—Enjoy a variety of coffees, cappuccinos and espresso with salads, sandwiches and desserts. 250 W. Ponce, Decatur - 373-3423

Babette's—Country European informal fine dining. Cassoulet to Coqauvin. Entrees \$8-16. 471 North Highland Ave • 523-9121

Bacchanalia—Country European cuisine served in the casually elegant atmosphere of an old house. Menu changes weekly. 3125 Piedmont Rd • 365-0410

Bertolini's—Offering authentic Italian cuisine at affordable prices. Fresh pasta, gourmet pizzas and fabulous desserts. 3500 Peachtree Rd. (Phipps Plaza) • 233-2333

Bistango—Chef Tom Coohill and his staff serve creative Mediterranean cuisine in a cozy, fun decor. Peachtree Street • 724-0901

Bridgetown Grill—Creative cuisine from hot and spicy climates. Mon-Thur: 11:30-10:30, Weekends: 11:30-Mid. 1156 Euclid Avenue • 653-0110

Cafe Beausoleil—Midtown Bistro that serves up great salads and sandwiches. 1365 Peachtree Street • 876-4570

Café Diem—Local international coffee house serving lunch, dinner, Sunday brunch and a wide variety of desserts, espressos, and cappuccinos. 640 N. Highland • 607-7008

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The Flying Biscuit Cafe—Eclectic, healthy, hearty cuisine. From virtuous

➤ Continued on page 46

# EATING OUT

by GARY KAUPMAN

"Why," demands a frustrated Taste Sheriff, "do people think that everything wonderful comes from California?"

The object of his regional wrath this particular evening is the brand new **TIBURON GRILLE** (1190-B North Highland Ave., behind the post office, 892-2393), where we have just had a thoroughly enjoyable meal with no small amount of distinctly Southern style.

Tiburon—the place, not the restaurant—is a small and stylish burg located just north of San Francisco, smack in the middle of California's wine country. And from whence, according to the host at Atlanta's T. Grille, the inspiration for this venture comes. The Sheriff has been to Tiburon the town and thinks the place is fine, but he wants an Atlanta restaurant to have an Atlanta name. Unfortunately, somebody has already used the Kudzu thing and references to GWTW are not exactly recherché.

The interior of Atlanta's Tiburon is a way cool mix of faux fresco walls, rough wood flooring, a friendly fireplace, and an open kitchen. There's one big painting of a white horse, most of the waiters are decked out in black turtlenecks, and music varies between mercifully mild and totally absent. Chairs are those big heavy wood library seats that manage a near perfect cross between utility and comfort. And there's a bricked-in patio that will open when its plastic weather flaps arrive.

Consistent with court restaurants, appetizers are eclectic and not inexpensive. When they work—a quesadilla filled with mildly smoked shredded duck and a bit of fontina cheese—the price (\$5.50) seems altogether reasonable. When they don't—a salad of field greens scattered with apple slices, hazelnuts, cubes of smoked cheddar and anointed with a raspberry walnut vinaigrette—the tab (\$4.50) as well as the end product are cause for complaint. Truth is, when you manage to get two pieces of lettuce, one piece of apple, one cube of cheese and a hazelnut on your fork at the same time, the effect is pretty posh. But when the plate contains about zillion lettuce leaves and fewer than a half-dozen slices of apple or cubes of cheese this sort of synergy ain't always easy.

Other appetizers show promise: a slab of very pretty veggie terrine, a spring roll packed with lobster and veggies and a Caesar salad topped with fried oysters all sound like fun. On the other hand, pear slices layered with stilton, walnuts and port in a puff pastry seems like a dessert.

Entrees (one pork, one beef, three fish and a veggie stir fry atop whole wheat pasta) are similarly eclectic and '90s.

The pork chop (stuffed with a coarse mixture of smoked eggplant and andouille sausage) is tender and moist and packed with flavor—the sort of food that makes it hard to refrain from eating meat. Add a side of slightly undercooked collards and a bowl of grits laced with a hint of stilton and

➤ Continued on page 47



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a classic caesar salad topped with crispy fried oysters and shaved romano cheese.

### APPLE HAZELNUT SALAD.....\$4.50

apples, hazelnuts and smoked cheddar atop mixed greens, tossed in a raspberry walnut vinaigrette.

### PEAR NAPOLEAN.....\$6.50

bosc pears layered with stilton, walnuts and port in a delicate puff pastry.

### SMOKED DUCK QUESIDILLA.....\$5.50

hickory smoked duck and fontina cheese in a flour tortilla, served with guacamole, fresh salsa and creme fraiche.

### SOUP OF THE DAY.....\$3.95

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### STUFFED PORK.....\$14.95

loin chop grilled over hickory and stuffed with smoked eggplant and andouille sausage, served with collard greens and bleu cheese grits.

### WASABI SALMON.....\$13.95

mesquite grilled atlantic salmon, topped with wasabi, mustard and champagne, accompanied by grilled red onion, cucumber and bok choy.

### NEW YORK STRIP.....\$15.95

a 14 oz. bone in strip marinated and hickory grilled, served with roasted potatoes and onions, grilled mushrooms and spinach.

### SEA BASS.....\$14.95

a soy lime marinated sea bass fillet, grilled over mesquite, served with a citrus beurre blanc and lime currant rice.

### SCALLOP PASTA.....\$14.95

nantucket scallops, oyster and shitake mushrooms and sun-dried tomatoes in a white wine and garlic-basil cream sauce.

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## RESTAURANT LIST

➤ Continued from page 44

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Milano's Pizza & Subs—Complete menu, salads to desserts. Common Market Place. 736 Ponce de Leon • 874 CALL (2255); 2146 Johnson Ferry Rd. • 451-3200; Hariston/Redan, St. Mtn. • 297-9007

Moscow Restaurant—Authentic Russian cuisine. Mon-Thurs: 11-10, Fri/Sat: 11-11, Sun 12-9. Lindbergh Plaza 2581 Piedmont Rd. • 237-2417

Partners—The intimate bistro with Mediterranean and cross-cultural fare. 1399 N. Highland Ave. • 876-8104

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Zac's—Ormewood Park's wonderment. Offering Pastas to pot pies. Brunch and Lunch. We also cater. 820 Woodland Ave., SE • 627-9266

# EATING OUT

➤ Continued from page 45

you've got a way fine platter of neo-Southern vittles. I'd like some pepper sauce for the greens and a corn muffin (rather than the otherwise tasty basil bread that's offered), but I'd order the chop and sides again in a heartbeat.

Equally yummy, and obviously not from the marshes of Glynn, was a big salmon fillet, grilled over mesquite, and slathered with a mixture of wasabi and champagne mustard. Mixing the incendiary green Asian horseradish with champagne mustard (already a dubious combination itself) smacks of culinary cuteness and could be a disaster. But the mild-hot-tart combo is an altogether excellent foil to the rich and smoky pink fish flesh. A side of cooling cucumber/onion salsa/slaw offers another counterpoint. Yum and double yum. Sautéed leaves of baby bok choy make the plate picture pretty, but offer zip in the flavor department. I'd vote for spinach with just a hint of garlic or sesame...or both.

Like the wasabi/mustard combo, adding chunks of white chocolate to a mini wedge of sweet potato cake (which sure looked like pie to me) sounds risky, but it works. And split two ways, it makes a perfect (if pricy, \$4.95) finish to a meal.

The wine list is reasonably priced (mostly under \$30) and offers an eclectic selection, not all of them from California; and the host can talk intelligently about which vintage tastes like what. Service is friendly and efficient, especially for a small restaurant open only a few days.

Barring catastrophe or significantly higher prices (entrees are \$12-\$16), Tiburon (the restaurant) is going to do really well. Go now before the folks from the 'burbs discover it. The clientele—90-year-old grannies, lipstick lesbians, working-class couples, queer boys on dates, and a substantial smattering of middle class heteros—is a joy to behold.

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Would it be better if it were sweeter? Then add some brown sugar. Want more zing? Add orange juice and/or zest. Or some red wine vinegar. Deeper flavor? Try balsamic vinegar. More complex? Savory spices like cinnamon, nutmeg, cloves and mace will do the trick. Want more texture? Add walnuts or almonds or chestnuts (toasted first). Find the color boring? Add some cooked (or canned) apple and pear pieces.

Or add them all. Just keep stirring and tasting as you go to make sure the balance is correct.

I've never made it the same way twice, and I've never made a batch that people didn't rave about.

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North Carolina Lesbian and Gay Health Project seeking Executive Dir. Responsibilities: administering programs, implementing Board policy, dev. funding ops, supervising staff, meeting legal and fin. reporting req. Master's degree, exp. in non-profit admin., strong computer skills, commitment to social change, and a comprehensive understanding of lesbian and gay health issues. Women and people of color are encouraged to apply. Send a cover letter, resume, a writing sample, three references and salary requirements to LGHP's Executive Director Search Committee, PO Box 3203, Durham, NC 27715.

## SEEKING

## Finance

## Health

Kombucha Mushrooms available. For more information, call Jessi at (404) 523-5309. (7.44)

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## Real Estate

## FINANCING

## SEEKING TO RENT

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McGill Park - 2 BR, 1 BA, top floor, fireplace, security, pool, fitness room and large deck. Dodié Gillespie Realty (404) 872-8322. \$850/mo. (7.44)

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## FOR SALE

426 Burlington Road \$269,900 Fabulous renovation in the Emory area. Must see to believe this 2 BR, 2 BA dream! Designer touches throughout. Call today for a private showing. Lanny Linn, Northside Realty (404) 233-9800, 847-6923. (7.45)

125 E. West Wesley Road Unique Garden Hills hideaway. Weeping mortar exterior with eclectic open interior. 5 BR, 3 BA entertainers dream with "to die for" grounds. Call today for your private showing. Lanny Linn, Northside Realty (404) 233-9800, 847-6923. (7.45)

1114 Janes Lane A terrific lot makes this close in 3 BR home perfect for the 1st time home buyer. A real find for the price. House is in great shape. Spend the spring playing in the yard. Call today for your private showing. Lanny Linn, Northside Realty (404) 233-9800, 847-6923. (7.45)

466 Wimbledon Fantastic master bedroom suite makes this Midtown home a great find. A large kitchen, sunroom, screened porch and fireplace make this the perfect home for those with an active lifestyle. Call today for your private showing. Lanny Linn, Northside Realty (404) 233-9800, 847-6923. (7.45)

378 Ninth Street This quadruplex is a real money maker! Owners unit is great to overlook your investment. Become a Midtown landlord with a positive cash flow. Lanny Linn, Northside Realty (404) 233-9800, 847-6923. (7.45)

945 Piedmont Road Keep this a duplex and let it help pay for itself or convert it back to its original charm as a great single family home. However you cut it - this is a great house. Call today for your private showing. Lanny Linn, Northside Realty (404) 233-9800, 847-6923. (7.45)

Garden Hills. Updated brick ranch loaded with extras. Huge master suite w/bath. Guest bedroom. Hall bath. Fenced yard. Hardwood floors. \$157,900. Lease option possible. 266-0458. (7.48)

Lover's Retreat - Spacious soft contemporary in close in Emory/Northlake area. 4 BR, 2 BA, finished basement. \$248,500. Glenda Alexander, Re/Max Executives, Inc. (404) 325-5900. (7.44)

1 Acre nestled in the woods - 13 year old contemporary. 3 level custom design with 4 BR, 3.5 BA. Northlake area. \$181,500. Glenda Alexander, Re/Max Executives, Inc. (404) 325-5900. (7.44)

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McGill Park - Fantastic Buy! 1 BR, 1 BA, fireplace, security, pool, fitness room. Nice view from large deck. Dodié Gillespie Realty (404) 872-8322. \$65,000. (7.44)

## Roommates

GF roommate wanted. Decatur AC, washer & dryer, private phone. No pets. Semi-furnished room. Neat and responsible only. \$385.00 includes utilities. Deposit. 373-3619. (7.45)

Snellville/Lithonia Area, ROOMMATE ONLY. GWF Professional, non-smoking seeks same to share home, \$300/mo, including utilities. (404) 979-9426. (7.45)

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)

Decatur, GWM seeks M/F to share 3 BR, 1.5 BA house. CHA, W/D, nicely furnished, non-smoker. \$400 includes utilities. (404) 315-8749. (7.47)

## SNELLVILLE/78 AREA

Female seeks non-smoker female to share new 4 BR house. Private room and entrance. \$375 includes all utilities. (404) 985-0937. (7.45)

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ALPHARETTA - Convenient to Northpointe Mall. GWM to share 3/2 home must like animals. \$325/mo includes utilities. References/Deposit. (404) 667-9708. (7.46)

Decatur/S. Candler - GF seeks F to share house; fenced, abv-grnd pool, dogs okay, no cats; \$150/dep. \$350/mo + 1/2 utilities; (404) 378-1431. (7.46)

**COUNTRY LIVING**

Covington/Conyers. GWM seeks housemate to share 3 BR, semi private lake, fireplace, wooded lot. Convenient to I-20. (404) 784-5098. (7.46)

GWF seeks same to share 2 BR, 2 BA condo near Lenox. Fireplace, W/D, clean, responsible, drug free. \$330 + 1/2 utilities. Must see! (404) 320-3188. (7.47)

Roommate wanted. GWM to share furn. apt. Gay complex. \$337.50 a month + 1/2 utilities. Non smoker, no pets. Call John at (404) 321-5791. (7.45)

GWM couple seeks responsible roommate, quiet neighborhood, Tucker area, bedroom w/ private bath, \$400/mo, includes utilities. (404) 496-0815. (7.47)

Roommate wanted for private furnished bedroom in apt., private bath. Good location at

Sidney Marcus and Piedmont (Lindbergh MARTA Station/Buckhead Crossing), full privileges, apartment well furnished, \$450/mo including utilities. Possibly can pay weekly. Responsible persons only. Phone (404) 233-2390 - Doug. (7.44)

GWF needs same to share basement apartment in Marietta. Non smoker. No pets. \$225/mo includes utilities. Call Susan Stokes (404) 425-5499 or (404) 818-9226. (7.45)

Lindbergh-Cheshire Bridge: GWM seeks same to share 2 BR, 2 BA home. Non-smoker. \$400/mo includes utilities. Serious inquiries only. (404) 266-1807. (7.50)

GWF seeks GWF/M to share 3 BR, 2 BA fenced garage parking house. Pet considered. \$300/mo (404) 942-8488. (7.45)

Kennesaw: Seeking professional GWF to share large house in suburbs! Basement apt. Private entrance. Non-smoker. Reasonable rates. (404) 427-2454. (7.44)

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**Volunteers**

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

AIDS Survival Project is a volunteer-driven agency for people living with HIV/AIDS, and we need YOU as a driver. Office/clerical, special events, peer counselors are special needs. No experience needed - just come ready to make a difference! Find out how to offer your time and talents by calling 874-7926.



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**HOTLOOK&ANGRY**

FREE?use it: seduce, laugh, DARE breeder/queer/self expectation: U trying too? HotLook&AngryPast R a + #2499

**EXPLORE TOGETHER**

Jewish GWM, 31: Professional, warm, humorous, affectionate, community-minded and family oriented homeowner seeks handsome best friend really ready to settle down. Let's explore our hopes, fears, dreams and desires together. #2483

**CUTE SLIM ASIAN**

Wanted by blonde, blue, GWM, 34, 5'11". Prefer sincere honest non-smoker. Enjoy movies, travel, boating. #2485

**NO STRINGS**

WM, 26, 6'0", 175, br/bl looking for nice looks and personality for fun times and maybe more but no strings. #2486

**COMMITTED SERVICE**

Leatherman Daddy seeks slim Third Musketeer for committed service, mentoring, long term. Right mustard handkerchief for right gray. Obedience required. #2469

**DADDYISH TOP**

Professional, GWM, 38, muscular like a football player, daddyish, short hair, 210, attractive, top, seeks endowed, muscular or well-defined GBM, dark or light, bottom for wild hard rides plus. Describe yourself and interests. #2470

**INTO PUMPING UP**

Adventurous, athletic, attractive WM, thirty-something, 5'10"/155, dark hair/eyes; intelligent, with good self-esteem and a joie de vivre. Negative sero-status. ISO a boyfriend, not a "lover"; someone to hangout with, not set up house with, who's financially stable, not a sponge; into pumping up, not getting f—ked up. #2473

**WILL SERVE**

34, 5'8", 145, gdlkg GWM wants sexual attraction w/from gdlkg masculine top. Possible relationship. Open to fantasies. Will serve. #2474

**SMOOTH BEEFY BODY**

GWM, 28, 5'9", 210, blond, green, smooth beefy body, seeks nonsmoker up to age 40 for friendship, possible relationship. #2475

**NON-SMOKERS ONLY**

28 y.o. GWM seeks Mike Landess look-alike for friendship, possible relationship non-smokers only need apply. #2476

**LAGRANGE AREA**

GWM, 30ish, interested in meeting others. Are You Out There? Give me a call! #2477

**DISCREET GOOD TIMES**

Grey-eyed, clean-cut, 25, cute bottom seeks top for hot discreet good times. #2478

**FUN TIMES**

WM, 5'7", 130, slim, mid-30s seeks well-endowed males for occasional fun times. Race unimportant. Box 190593, Atlanta, GA 31119-0593. #2479

**SISSY NEEDS A DADDY**

GWM, 50, 6'1", 190, ISO smooth bodied slim 20-35 GWM, sissy who needs a daddy type to serve. #2481

**ENRICH MY LIFE**

Attractive GBM, 24, 5'11" seeks masculine, romantic men of any race to enrich my life during the holidays and beyond. #2482

**LOOKING FOR FRIENDSHIP**

I am 29, 5'9", 120, I am HIV positive. I enjoy going to the movies, bingo. I like spending just time together. I enjoy watching SPORTS ON TV. I am a smoker. I am a GWM. Really just looking for friendship or possibly MORE. Write SoVo Box 1801, 1189 Virginia Ave., N.E., Atlanta, GA 30306.

**MONOGAMOUS RELATIONSHIP**

NICE GUY bottom/versatile seeks masculine top. GDLKG, 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

**DOMINANT TOP**

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

**SAFE FUN/FRIENDSHIP.**

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

**CUDDLY, AND FUNNY**

A Michigan yankee in Queen Scarlett's Court. Forty-two year old GM seeking to expand social network and perhaps even find a beau. Interests include liberal/progressive politics, NPR, gay/disability rights activism, books, music, theatre, travel, nature walks, and, of course, brunch. I'm fun-loving, youthful spirit, cuddly, and funny—with enough love for several new people in my life. Write SoVo Box 8100, 1189 Virginia Ave., N.E., Atlanta, GA 30306.

**MARIETTA/SMYRNA AREA**

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

**LIVE THE MAGICK**

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

**BJ BUDDY**

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

**VALUES HONESTY**

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

**GWINNETT/WALTON**

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

**RELATIONSHIP-ORIENTED**

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

**HANDSOME AND DOMINANT**

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

**AFTERNOON DELIGHT**

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

**ATTRACTIVE AND TALENTED**

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

**MASCULINE COMPANION**

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

**SAFE FUN**

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

**ADVENTUROUS ENCOUNTERS**

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.

**PROFESSIONAL & ATHLETIC**

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

**LONG LUNCH ?**

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

**INTO TENNIS & FEET**

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

**NO ATTITUDE**

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

**HIRSUTE SEEKS HAIRY**

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

**SEEKS SAFE PLAY**

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

**STRONG PERSONALITIES**

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

**SLIM SEEKS SAME**

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

**MASCULINE A MUST**

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

**ENJOY LIFE**

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

**BOTTOM WANTS TOP**

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 show. Sugar at Roxy Nov. 21. Me: tall, trim, regular guy. You: young or not, good shape, in need of a band. Let's talk soon. #2427

**CUTE STUDENT**

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

**LIFETIME RELATIONSHIP**

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

**ATTRC WEIGHTLIFTER**

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

**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

**CHINESE GUY**

In shape Chinese guy 29, 5'10", 140 attractive, nice seeks Mr. Handsome 25-40 clean cut nonsmoker, 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

**SHARE MY LIFE**

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

**SEXUAL FUN**

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

**PERSONABLE & UNIQUE**

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

**SERIOUS RELATIONSHIP**

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

**NUTURING MONOGAMY**

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

**MORE ON PAGE 54**

**Dykes To Watch Out For**



**TEDDY SEEKS BEAR**

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

**SEEKS MENTOR**

Nonstereotypical GWM, v-gdkg 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

**CUB SEEKS BEAR**

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

**QUIET & CONSERVATIVE**

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

**IVY-EDUCATED**

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

**HEALTHY HIV**

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

**BIG HEART**

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

**LIKES LSP AND STAR TREK**

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/1sts/barflies. #2216

**WANTS TWO TOPS**

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

**SEC AND ACC FANS**

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

**SERIOUS DATING**

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

**MOVING TO ATLANTA**

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

**FREE SPIRIT**

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

**VERSATILE**

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

**POSSIBLE THREESOME**

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

**NORTH FULTON?**

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

**COUPLE SEEKS COUPLE**

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

**SEEKS GAY CHRISTIAN**

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

**SANE GUY**

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

**GOTTA HAVE IT**

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

**HARDBODY**

Nice guy, GWM, 30, 5'9", 155, masculine goodlooking, toned hardbody. Seeks similar cleancut inshape guy for lasting goodtimes. Do It! #2153

**ROMANTIC ENCOUNTERS**

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

**SECURE RELATIONSHIP**

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

**STARVING STUDENT**

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

**BOATING BUDDIES**

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

**NEW IN TOWN**

GWM, 32, 5'7", 148, blk/br, attractive, work out regularly, New to Atlanta. Would like to meet other attractive GWM, 30-36 for friendship or dating. Prefer non-smokers and non or light drinkers. #2138

**BLACK COBRA**

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

**WANTS COUNTRY BOY**

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

**UNINHIBITED ENCOUNTERS**

Tall, incredibly handsome, muscular, biracial GM, 22, seeking masculine, fit, attractive GM top 30+ for wild, uninhibited encounters. Hairy +. #2132

**LUNCH FUN**

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

**J/O BUDDIES**

GWM, 36, 185 (workout), goodlooking, man's man. Looking for j/o partner(s), single, group? Large? Yes. You? Let's Talk! #2106 (7.40)

**WANTS CUDDLY GWM**

GWM-35 masculine, sincere, attr. seeks heavyset mature cuddly GWM for sharing life's pleasures, enjoy seasons & outdoors. #2107 (7.40)

**HOMEBOY**

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

**FRIENDS & COMPANIONS**

Young 35 yearold GWM seeking 35 or older GWM for friendship and companionship. Lilburn area. #2141

**HOTTOP**

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

**SPREAD & SMILE**

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

**TV/TS****BOOT LOVER**

Professional 30 yr old BM, handsome, ISO TV/TS and females w/leather boots. Be sexy. I travel Atlanta, Charlotte, Columbia, Washington DC. #2434

**IN NEED.**

Black male top mid 40s, HIV- seeks feminine, pleasant HIV- TV/TS bottom for fulfilling relationship. In urgent need. #2431

**A FEMININE MALE**

Or TV/TS sought by BM 43 for first experience. #2156

**VERY PASSABLE**

TV/TS 028, 5'7", very passable, white, 200+ lbs., seeks BM for friendship/relationship. #2195

**LONELY ONE**

BM-Top: mid 40s, HIV-, seeking feminine, pleasant, HIV-, TV/TS bottom for fulfilling relationship. It has been a very long time. Please respond. #2011

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**WOMEN****DYNAMITE**

GWF, 45. Small package. Lots of dynamite. Cultivate a relationship with honesty, loyalty & compassion. 37-50. #2511

**CUTE & SHORT?**

GWF, intelligent, attractive, long hair, sense of humor, seeks cute, short companion. #2563

**LEATHERDYKES**

Safe, sane, consensual. Looking for a sensitive, dominant leatherwoman? Don your leather and call. Let's negotiate. #2564

**ADVENTUROUS**

GWF, 36, 5'4", 140, non-smoker. Likes: hiking, music, movies, reading, arts, humor, fine wine, animals, friends, dating. Seeks: similar GWF. #2548

**LIKE TO TRAVEL?**

Fun loving, youthful spirit, happy, GWF, 5'7", black/blue. Interests include fishing, swimming, walking, nature, theatre, concerts, weekend getaways, ISO that special female 38+, caring, loyal, with gentle touch and tender heart. Write to SoVo Box 901, 1189 Virginia Avenue, N.E., Atlanta, GA 30308.

**SHY FEMME**

GWF, Femme, shy, likes antique shops, flea markets, music, quiet dinners, fireplaces, quiet conversations. Into Native American/Mexican culture, angels, teddy bears, ISO GWF assertive, non-smoker with like interests for friendship. #2533

**DOWN TO EARTH**

Attractive GWF, 24, 5'7", br/bl, feminine affectionate, playful, social, down to earth, cuddler and grad student. ISO similar GWF (22-28) for friendship and more. Let's enjoy going out/staying in, Many Versatile Interests! No Bi's/Butches/Smokers. #2514

**TEDDY BEAR**

GWF, 33, 6', br/gr, butch, sexy, passionate, romantic teddy bear. ISO feminine GWF for exciting companionship. Don't delay! Call today! #2517

**FREE SPIRIT**

GBF, 33, 5'10". Writer, free-spirited child of the universe. Looking for tall GBF, 28-40 already on a spiritual quest for stimulating conversation, occasional nights out, quality friendship. #2521

**CUTE BUTCH**

GWF early 40s, intelligent, romantic, sensual artistic, athletic, adventurer iso femme between 38-48 with similar qualities. #2524

**LIKES NATURE**

"Once (s)he drew with one long kiss my soul through my lips." GWF likes nature, darkerover, music, conversation, ISO similar. #2523

**DARE TO BE DIFFERENT**

Attractive Professional GWF desires maximum seduction. ISO GWF 37-42 with aggressive nature, discretion and open mind. #2510

**SEEKS MATURE BUTCH**

GWF, 27, tall attractive, ISO older/mature butch to share life/friendship/love for honest fun. Let's play heterosexes. #2519

**ROBIN**

You answered my ad, but your voice mail number is out of service. How do I reach you? Hopeless romantic! P.O. Box 2443, Acworth, GA 30102.

**HELP!**

Feminine, funny, professional, upbeat, GWF, 32, in search of quality people to communicate with. Rescue me from this nightmare! Write SoVo Box 8600, 1189 Virginia Ave., N.E., Atlanta, GA 30306

**SENSITIVE SEEKS BUTCH**

GWF, 31, feminine, sensitive and has sense of humor seeks butch GF for fun and friendship. Let's get together. #2500

**ROMANTIC DEVIL**

GWF, 39, butch, funloving, romantic devil, seeks one whom enjoys happiness. Dancing, movies, fishing, diving. Listening to the wind. #2501

**PIERCED BEAUTY**

Tall, dark, pierced beauty, 27, emotionally stable and vivacious; ISO GWF 25-35 outgoing and attractive who's interested in cultivating a friendship. #2480

**WANTS A REAL DYKE**

GWF, 28, 140 br/gr, wants a real dyke. Seeks beautifully butch women. #2472

**FORTUNATE & WHIMSICAL,**

Taurus/Gemini, easy going, missing another intense woman in my arms, want to dine or dance, have coffee? 2484

**AFRO PASSION**

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

**VISA INFO**

Need to contact anyone who has helped a non-US National with work and/or visa. All information appreciated. July/Colette (404) 938-6389. #2458

**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

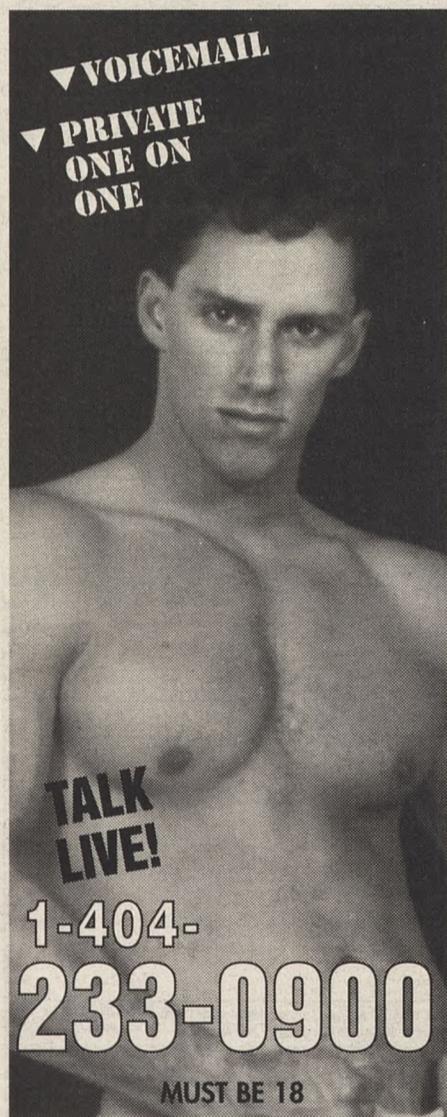
**SEND ME AN ANGEL**

Myserious, pretty, gorgeous femme fatale—GWF, 32 who is passionate, romantic; sensual, and creative, seeks similar sincere woman for friendship/romance/relationship. #2210

**QUIET EVENINGS**

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

▼ VOICEMAIL  
▼ PRIVATE ONE ON ONE



TALK LIVE!

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MUST BE 18

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**SPIRITUAL**

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

**FEMININE AND SHY**

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

**PETITE & PRETTY**

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

**WACKY SENSE OF HUMOR**

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

**TRAVEL, MOVIES & MORE**

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

**SEMI-FEMME**

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

**NO ROLES**

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

**LIKES ANNE RICE**

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

**DANCING BUDDY**

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

**SHARE MY HEART**

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

**LOVE LETTERS**

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

**NO HEAD GAMES**

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

**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

**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

**INTELLIGENT, INEXPERIENCED**

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

**FRIDAY NIGHT BUTCH**

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

**LIPSTICK LESBIAN**

28, petite, brown/blond seeks attractive, literate, fit, soft butch, 11/ft 5'5" or over. #2390

**OLD FASHIONED ROMANCE**

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

**RUBENESQUE**

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

**FEMMES ONLY**

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

**OUTGOING & INTELLIGENT**

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

**QUASI-CONSERVATIVE**

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

**SHY AND FUNNY**

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

**COFFEE AND CONVERSATION**

GWF, 22, Rubenesque, attractive, adventurous, new to area. ISO GWF under 30 for coffee, conversation, friendship and more. #2354

**GOODLOOKING AND FIT**

GWF with light hair & eyes. ISO attractive GWF 35-43. Must be outgoing, humorous & love adventure. #2229

**INTELLIGENT CONVERSATION**

GWF, 24, seeking intelligent conversation and laughter. I enjoy Asian history, classic films, meditation, gardening, Trivial Pursuit and baking bread. #2228

**UNPRETENTIOUS WOMAN**

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

**UNDERCOVER NERD**

GWF, 28 attractive, undercover nerd. Chess, movies, theatre and music. Seeks same 28-35. Cobb metro area. #2211

**TOUCH MY SOUL**

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

**RED HAIR, BLUE EYES**

GWF, 28, red hair, blue eyed loves dancing, music, etc. Seeks GWF 24-30 for friendship, possible relationship. #2191

**FAILED DEBUTANTE**

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

**LOVE ANIMALS**

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

**ADVENTUROUS HEART**

GWF, 42, professional, adventurous heart, searching soul, personal/spiritual growth is priority. ISO committed relationship with like-minded mature women. #2155

**FUN AND FROLIC**

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

# MY STARS

**CHARLENE LICHTENSTEIN****DEC 22-DEC 28, 1994**

**INTELLECTUAL MERCURY CHANGES** signs, moving from good-time Sagittarius to a more pragmatic Capricorn. Read ahead to see how Mercury in Capricorn helps us frame our opinions and sound almost intelligent and insightful.



**ARIES (MARCH 21-APRIL 20)** Trade in your T-shirt for a shark fin. Mercury now galvanizes your corporate strategy and enables you to plan your professional course of action. Shall we take it to the limit? Enlist support from those in authority without hitting them over the head Aries-style.



**TAURUS (APRIL 21-MAY 21)** The Bull wants to hoof it to places far afield. Travel for business or to gain greater insight into a particular personal project. It is an excellent time to make plans and to talk to exotic (erotic?), international type folk who give you a greater global perspective.



**GEMINI (MAY 22-JUNE 21)** Thoughts focus on hot, hot sex. Who can blame you with Mercury poised so expectantly in Capricorn? You may be expecting more than a cheap, cheesy thrill for your efforts. At least get greater insight into what makes you tick or some intelligent conversation.



**CANCER (JUNE 22-JULY 23)** Partnerships take on a greater importance. You may pair up with someone much older or more seasoned, or your approach to relationships becomes more mature. Mercury puts thoughts into focus so you can see what you will and will not accept in a partner.



**LEO (JULY 24-AUGUST 23)** The planets point you in the direction of work and the job at hand. Tasks can be easily categorized and prioritized. You will buzz through even the dreariest of projects and will never be more effective. Work now, rest later.



**VIRGO (AUG. 24-SEPT. 23)** Even dour old Mercury in Capricorn cannot squelch your desire to tap the creative rainbow. Any type of artistic outlet will benefit you in more ways than just pure enjoyment, this particular planetary placement is a boom for planning future endeavors.



**LIBRA (SEPT. 24-OCT. 23)** Mercury makes you much more appreciative of your home surroundings and things that give a sense of security and presence. The planets offer you the opportunity to patch up and clean up familial disputes. Why not?—it's the holiday season, after all.



**SCORPIO (OCT. 24-NOV. 22)** There may be an

unfounded fear of not knowing your stuff, but I assure you, you know from whence you speak. The jitters come from Mercury in Capricorn, which can play a few mind games on you if you don't muster the confidence to beat the monster back.



**SAGITTARIUS (NOV. 23-DEC. 22)** Put all your intellectual focus on money and finances. Mercury in practical Capricorn gives you the careful perspective to invest wisely. This planetary hard edge makes it difficult for any huckster to take advantage of your generous and trusting nature.



**CAPRICORN (DEC. 23-JAN. 20)** Mercury in your own sign makes you relatively adept at ascertaining people's needs and motivations. Life is one big chess game; become a good master as you survey the playing field. You may lack a little self-confidence, but it is all in your head.



**AQUARIUS (JAN. 21-FEB. 19)** I doubt whether you will feel truly at ease until you find time to volunteer at a hospice or hospital. Spread the cheer around to those in need. Aquarians are humanitarians and need to feel at one with the universe by making the universe a better place.



**PISCES (FEB. 20-MARCH 20)** Our community needs your warm, practical perspective now that Mercury has entered Capricorn. Join an organization that can further our cause—your input will now fuel the effort like a rocket booster. What a gift for the season.

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