

# IMPACT news

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little smaller.  
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why in the  
editorial on  
page 10.



**IMPACT writer  
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Coble reviews  
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By Eves" and  
explores the  
mother of  
all women's  
festivals:  
Michigan.  
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GAY AND LESBIAN NEWS FOR NEW ORLEANS AND THE GULF SOUTH SINCE 1977

JULY 30/1999

## PART 2: THE RACE FOR THE WHITE HOUSE

# GOP offers mixed bag

Three candidates, including the front-runners, send mixed signals. That's where the good news for gays ends.

**EDITOR'S NOTE:** The first presidential primaries may be six months away, but the men and woman seeking the nation's highest office are making their initial impressions on the public. In the last of a two-part series, IMPACT News investigates what is known about the candidates' stands on issues important to gay voters. This issue: the Republicans.

by GIP PLASTER

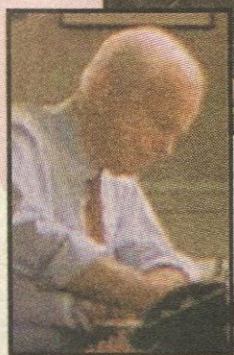
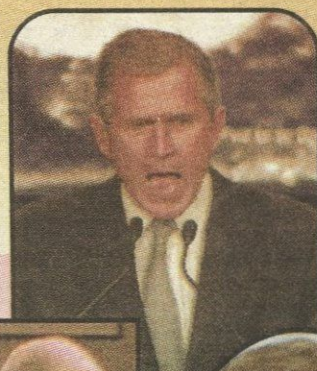
The field of contenders for the Republican presidential nomination may be much larger than that for the Democratic nomination, but the outcome appears just as certain.

Vice President Al Gore, many analysts say, has locked up his party's nomination, and the same is being said of Republican Gov. George W. Bush of Texas.

"The race is over unless Bush not only stumbles but collapses," said political analyst Stuart Rothenberg. "He has such a huge bankroll, he starts out with such terrific poll numbers, he has demonstrated such significant campaign appeal that it's hard to imagine this is a race."

If fund-raising is any indicator, Bush may well have wrapped up the GOP nod. The elder son of former President George Bush has raised more money than the combined take for Gore and the other Democratic candidate, Sen. Bill Bradley (D-NJ). And Bush's record-breaking \$36.2 million to date far exceeds what the GOP challengers have collectively managed to raise.

On issues of specific importance to gay voters, none of the Republican candidates has a record to match the Democrats.



**George W. Bush, Elizabeth Dole and John McCain (clockwise from top) may be more favorably disposed on gay issues than prior Republican candidates for president, but that's not saying much.**

Two GOP candidates have made statements that could be interpreted as supportive of better treatment for gay Americans. Another has publicly supported gay candidates in the past, while simultaneously voting against gay civil rights.

The rest, a very conservative bunch, have little to offer even the most ardent gay Republican.

### Front-runner: George W. Bush

Although he and his father claim Texas as home, George Walker Bush, son of former president George Herbert Walker Bush, was born in New Haven, Conn.

Bush, who just turned 53, received his undergraduate degree from Yale and his MBA from Harvard. Before politics, Bush was an oilman and the owner of the Texas Rangers baseball team from 1989 to 1994.

Texas gays have had a strained relationship with the governor ever since 1995, when he upset the gay-friendly incumbent, Texas Gov. Ann Richards. As recently as May, Gov. Bush declined to use his influence to get comprehensive hate crimes legislation through the Texas Senate, despite pleas from the family of James Byrd, Jr., an African American man dragged to death behind a pick-up truck.

"I wish Gov. Bush would have shown some leadership on this issue," said Texas State Rep. Senfronia Thompson, the Democrat who proposed the House version of the bill. "Senators told us that the governor was using his influence to break the impasse. If that was using his influence, Lord help us if he becomes president."

Texas gay and lesbian leaders say Bush did not intervene because the bill included protection based on sexual orientation. Dianne Hardy-Garcia, the executive director of the Lesbian Gay Rights Lobby of Texas, said after the bill's failure that she doesn't think voters nationally will put up with "garbage" like Bush's inaction on the bill.

"I am utterly and completely saddened that George Bush has shown his true colors on our issues. I had always hoped that deep down he was a good guy," she said in an interview. "Although I'm saddened by it, at least people know what kind of man he is."

At a recent press conference, Bush reaffirmed his opposition to gay marriage and adoption by

> Continued on page 8

## Atlanta man files suit against Orleans Parish Sheriff's Office

by MELINDA SHELTON

An Atlanta man is closer to having his day in court after his attorney filed suit in U.S. Federal Court in New Orleans against the Orleans Parish Criminal Sheriff's Office. Attorney Gregory Nichols filed a civil suit July 22 on behalf of his client, Richard Boggs, alleging violation of Boggs' civil rights, police brutality and discrimination stemming from Boggs' arrest during Mardi Gras.

Boggs was arrested Feb. 15 for allegedly committing simple battery on an undercover police woman. He and his partner, Chris James, returned to New Orleans June 14 for a court hearing, but charges were dropped when the arresting deputy, Cpl. William Devlin, failed to appear. If convicted, Boggs could have faced jail time and/or a fine.

Shortly after his arrest, Boggs filed a series of complaints with federal, state and local law enforcement, civil rights and government agencies alleging police brutality and discrimination based on his sexual orientation. Boggs claims that Devlin physically and verbally abused him during his arrest, and falsely accused him of pinching a woman identified in court documents as Donna Renaudin, whom Devlin claimed was an undercover policewoman.

Boggs claims that he and James were walking arm-in-arm in the French Quarter when they came upon a group of police officers. He said a deputy identified as Devlin stopped the couple and began using racial and sexual orientation epithets against them.

After ordering James to leave, Devlin continued to verbally and physically abuse him, Boggs contends. He was placed in a police cruiser and later taken to Central Lockup, where he was put into a cell with 57 other people. James was able to post bond later the next day, and Boggs was released after more than 16 hours in custody.

Boggs' claims led to an FBI investigation of the Sheriff's Office, and a report was filed in April with the U.S. Department of Justice civil rights division. Further action by the DOJ is pending, said FBI Special Agent Jim Mahoney.

An internal investigation by the Sheriff's Office into Boggs' allegations determined that his claims were unfounded, Sheriff's Office spokeswoman Mary Baldwin Kennedy told IMPACT News in May. Sheriff's Office investigators never interviewed Boggs or his partner, and Kennedy refused further comment on departmental procedures.

The civil suit did not specify a monetary amount for damages. "We want to base the amount on hard numbers, which we don't have yet," attorney Nichols said in an interview with IMPACT News. "Richard is still undergoing therapy for nightmares, stress and other problems stemming from his arrest."

Nichols added that "this is not primarily about money. We're calling the Sheriff's Office down on this type of behavior, which we suspect represents a pattern of abuse and discrimination" based on a person's sexual orientation or perceived orientation.

Nichols said involved parties, including Devlin and Renaudin, are in the process of being served copies of the suit. He next will begin discovery, which includes investigating Devlin's history as a deputy, identifying Renaudin and "whether or not she's really a police officer," and identifying and interviewing all of the officers Boggs and James said were present during the arrest.

He estimated that the case could go to trial in 10 to 12 months. The case was assigned to Judge G. Thomas Porteous Jr.

Calls to the Sheriff's Office regarding the suit were not returned.





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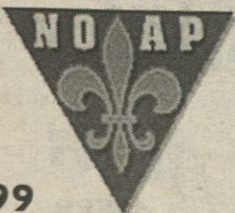
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VOLUME 24  
NUMBER 16

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# Vatican shuts down ministry to gays, chilling efforts to reconcile with church

After a decade-long investigation, the Roman Catholic Church has stopped a priest and nun from ministering to gay Catholics over a technicality: their refusal to teach by the book

by PAIGE PARVIN

In a move that rocked the already shaky relationship between gays and the Catholic church, the Vatican's Congregation for the Doctrine of the Faith ordered a well-known American nun and priest to halt their 25-year ministry to gay and lesbian Catholics.

The Vatican has been investigating Father Robert Nugent and Sister Jeannine Gramick for more than 10 years. What finally put an end to the matter, apparently, was the pair's refusal to teach their Catholic parishioners that homosexuality is "intrinsically evil." Nugent and Gramick are permanently barred from New Ways Ministry, which has been their life's work.

Based in Maryland, the priest and nun founded New Ways, a program that supports reconciliation for gay men and lesbians who belong to the Roman Catholic Church, in 1977. They have also published two books on gays and the church, one of which, "Voices of Hope," is a collection of scripture and church writings on homosexuality.

While the letter of New Ways Ministry teachings may have been within the bounds of Catholic doctrine, the tone of their message has long been under fire. In 1984, the Vatican told Gramick and Nugent that any pastoral work with gays must include "the church's teaching regarding the intrinsic evil of homosexual acts."

Now, more than a decade later, the two have again refused to speak the language dictated by Rome.

Although the decision to terminate their efforts has sparked considerable outcry among gay and lesbian advocates in the church, no one is particularly surprised.

"This was not unexpected," said Mark Jordan, Candler Professor of Religion at Emory University. "The Vatican had been sending pretty clear signals that it would not tolerate any deviation from this language of 'intrinsic evil.' I know Bob Nugent, and I don't think he was surprised."

"Every lesbian and gay Catholic knew what the church's teaching was and found a way to live with that knowledge and still be part of the Catholic community," added Rev. John Adamski, a priest formerly with Atlanta's Catholic Shrine of Immaculate Conception. "[The decision] is not shocking in the sense that nobody ever thought this before, nobody was living under the delusion that this wasn't church teaching."

## Sticks and stones

But if the Vatican's order was more or less expected, it was nonetheless greeted with disappointment and frustration by many lesbian and gay Catholics, particularly since it seemingly came down to little more than a

disagreement over terminology.

Daniel Helminiak, a former priest and the author of "What the Bible Really Says About Homosexuality," called the judgment "unfair and cruel."

"In its procedures, it was frighteningly Inquisition-like," Helminiak said. "The Vatican basically wanted Bob Nugent to say 'uncle,' or in this case, 'intrinsic evil,' to describe homosexual acts with those very words."

"My understanding is, if they had been willing to sign a statement to the effect that they regard homosexuality as 'intrinsically evil,' and to make that a main part of their message, the Vatican would have approved their ministry," agreed Jordan, who recently left Notre Dame University for Emory over Notre Dame's refusal to adopt non-discrimination policies protecting gays. "That's the litmus test, that's the phrase the Vatican has emphasized."

"I am so sad," said Adamski, of the decision. "After 22 years of what I would consider to be very good work, and very important to many people, to have it terminated is very sad."

A national gay Catholic group, not officially recognized by the church, was more direct in a statement issued by organization leaders.

Dignity USA Executive Director Charles Cox said he is "dismayed and angry" at the Vatican's decision, calling it "a chilling reminder of the church's ongoing attempt to marginalize and stigmatize pastoral care for gay men, lesbians, bisexuals and transgendered persons."

"The greater tragedy lies in the future, when young men and women come to understand their sexual orientation, and learn that they are truly strangers in the pews who are asked not to tell who they are or whom they love," added Dignity USA President Robert Mialovich.

## 'Intrinsically evil' or 'objectively immoral'?

The Catholic Church has said in the past that it welcomes gay men and lesbians with "respect, compassion and sensitivity," and does not ask them to leave the church because of their sexual orientation—only never to act on it.

That mixed message was reaffirmed in a letter, "Always Our Children," written last

year by the National Conference of Catholic Bishops and targeted to parents of gay Catholics. The letter opts to call homosexual urges "objectively immoral" rather than "intrinsically evil," phrases that mean the same thing but may be connotatively different for parishioners.

But the message takes the church's stance: love your children, but not their homosexual acts.

Gay sex is "intrinsically evil" because the church's doctrines regarding sex in general provides that any sexual intercourse outside the institution of marriage, homosexual or heterosexual, is a sin when not for the purposes of procreation.

So how do gay Catholics reconcile their spiritual life with their personal life, especially in the face the Vatican's continuing insistence that homosexuality is evil?

Some say reconciliation is impossible. One Internet-based gay rights group,



The Vatican has ordered Sister Jeannine Gramick and Father Robert Nugent to abandon their 25-year ministry to gay Catholics

NationalGayLobby.org, responded to the Vatican's order with a strong statement calling for an "outing of Roman Catholic priests and nuns."

Although not everyone agrees with that ultimatum, the question is a daunting one for many, including Jordan, who said the Vatican's ban on Gramick and Nugent's activities "hit me pretty hard."

"It's a strong message for people who had any hopes that there would be a loosening of teaching on this," Jordan said. "Many members of Dignity are thinking and hoping the Vatican will come around any day now," he continued. "This is a very clear sign that they are not going to give an inch. A lot of people who have been trying to work out a compromise will find there is no middle ground."

Helminiak, a member of Dignity and of a mainstream parish, took a slightly different tack, saying many lesbians and gay men who are Catholic use the church's teaching on conscience to come to terms with the issue.

"The idea is, God won't punish you for something you don't think is wrong," Helminiak said. "So 95 percent of practicing Catholics are also practicing artificial birth control in good faith because they cannot understand and do not believe it's wrong. There's a lot of room for conscience."



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# Around the Nation

## Senate Passes Hate-Crime Bill

WASHINGTON (AP)—President Clinton is calling on the House to mimic the Senate's passage of legislation expanding the government's power to pursue perpetrators of hate crimes.

Without debate or even public mention of what it was doing, the Senate used a voice vote late July 22 to approve legislation adding sexual orientation, gender and disability to the categories of people protected under federal hate-crime law. Currently, the law only covers race, color, religion or national origin.

"I call on the House of Representatives to meet its responsibility in combating violence that is fueled by hate," Clinton said in a written statement. The House may not act on any legislation until the fall.

The measure was sponsored by Sens. Edward Kennedy, D-Mass., Arlen Specter, R-Pa., and about three dozen other Democrats and moderate Republicans.

A similar bill died in Congress last year, but momentum has grown after a spate of incidents. These include the dragging death of a black man in Texas, the fatal beating of a gay college student in Wyoming, the June murder of two gay men in California, and the early July shooting spree in Illinois and Indiana by a man police said was a member of a white supremacist group.

Critics—largely conservatives—have said hate-crimes legislation creates special classes of citizens who are already protected by state laws against violence.

Also approved was a second, narrower bill by Sen. Orrin Hatch, R-Utah, that would expand federal jurisdiction to hate crimes committed after the crossing of state lines. It would also allow federal aid to state and local law enforcement officials prosecuting hate crimes.

It would not expand coverage beyond crimes based on race, color, religion or national origin, which are already covered by federal hate crime law, and does not include sexual orientation.

Under current law, the federal government can prosecute hate-motivated violence if the victim was on federal property or engaged in a federally protected activity such as going to school.

## Gore takes \$150,000 in first D.C. fund-raiser aimed at gays

WASHINGTON (AP)—In what was billed as the capital's first presidential fund-raiser aimed at gays and lesbians, Tipper Gore scooped up more than \$150,000 for her husband's campaign July 15. "All people, regardless of sexual orientation, should be able to be a part of a loving relationship in a family without fear of recrimination or discrimination," Gore said. A Gore administration, she pledged, would "stand against forces of hatred."

Her husband, Vice President Al Gore, "will fight for your dreams. He will fight for our dreams," she added. Mrs. Gore did not get into specifics of her husband's positions on gay issues.

Elizabeth Birch, executive director of the Human Rights Campaign, the nation's largest gay and lesbian political group, attended the reception as a "gold level" contributor to "Gays and Lesbians for Gore." But she said the group's presidential endorsements were still a long way off.

"Solid and deep" is how Birch described the vice president's record on matters important to the gay community. Former New Jersey Sen. Bill Bradley, Gore's only rival for the Democratic nomination, has voted the right way on gay issues but "is not a stand-out," Birch said.



**At a fund-raiser organized by Washington, D.C. gays, Tipper Gore said her husband "will fight for your dreams. He will fight for our dreams."**

## Calif. court okays \$1.5 mil. verdict to gay CHP officer

SAN FRANCISCO—A gay California Highway Patrol officer who said he was viciously harassed by coworkers for years has won final state court approval of \$1.5 million in damages and legal fees. The state Supreme Court unanimously denied review July 14 of appeals by the CHP and two officers sued by Thomas Figenshu.

An officer from 1983 to 1993, Figenshu sued the officers for taking part in the harassment and the CHP for failing to do anything about it. Anti-gay or pornographic cartoons were taped to his locker or his mailbox, officers referred to him with slurs, and a ticket was left on his windshield for "sex with dead animals," he said. He found urine in a candy jar on his desk a month later, and someone urinated on the clothes in his locker, he said.

A Los Angeles jury rejected Figenshu's claim that he was forced to resign by intolerable conditions but agreed he had been harassed because of sexual orientation.

—from staff and wire reports



# Around the South

## Defense lawyer confirms gay advance as motive in slaying

BIRMINGHAM, Ala. (AP)—A defense lawyer confirmed police allegations that his client, who pleaded guilty to murdering a Sylacauga man, killed over an alleged homosexual advance.

Lawyer Rod Giddens said there was no evidence indicating any other motive in the slaying of Billy Jack Gaither, described by friends and some relatives as gay.

Steven Eric Mullins, represented by Giddens, admitted last month in Coosa County Circuit Court to killing Gaither, 39. He did not, however, state in court why the man was slain. Giddens confirmed police claims that both Mullins and codefendant Charles M. Butler Jr. gave police statements linking the murder to an alleged homosexual advance by Gaither.

"There have been allegations of a 'pass,' and I think that's what the evidence will show," said Giddens.

Unlike the killing of a gay college student in Wyoming or the dragging death of a black man in Texas, the suspects in Gaither's slaying "weren't going out looking for a target or a gay person," Giddens said. "This was not random or selected. There was a triggering mechanism that started it."

Mullins, 25, of Sylacauga, pleaded guilty to capital murder in the Feb. 19 death of Gaither, who was beaten to death with an ax handle. His charred body was found atop old tires, where it had been burned. In exchange for Mullins' plea, prosecutors agreed to recommend a sentence of life without parole instead of pursuing the death penalty. Despite the plea, prosecutors still must present evidence against Mullins to jurors during a trial.

Butler, 21, has pleaded innocent to capital murder. He could receive the death penalty if convicted. His lawyer, Billy Hill, did not immediately return telephone calls seeking comment. Judge John Rochester has set an Aug. 2 trial date in Rockford for both men. Authorities have yet to say whether Mullins or Butler will go to court first.

## Gay softball league under fire for excluding straights

DALLAS—The North American Gay Amateur Athletic Alliance is under fire for a policy that bars non-gay players from championship competition until their second year on a squad, the *Dallas Morning News* reported.

At the center of the controversy is Kenneth "Skeeter" Fowler, a power-hitting shortstop. Over the past season, Fowler, who is heterosexual, has become the star of the Dallas Cats, who are vying for the right to represent their league in the Gay Softball World Series.

"Used to be I'd see 'em on TV and flip 'em off and call 'em fags," said Fowler, a married father of three who's trying to make a living in fishing tournaments. "Now some of my very best friends are gay."

Also at issue is a rule that allows a maximum of two non-gay men on a team. Both policies have been discussed behind the scenes for years in the insular realm of gay softball leagues. Officials of the gay athletic alliance defend the rules as designed to ensure a level playing field to make sure teams don't recruit short-time heterosexual "ringers" who care about nothing except winning. For his part, Fowler, the Dallas shortstop, told the *Morning News* he's frustrated. "I worked my butt off all year to go to the World Series, and I can't go because I'm straight?" he asks. "How fair is that?"

## FBI names new head to hunt for accused bomber

WASHINGTON (AP)—The FBI named a 16-year veteran investigator July 15 to take over its frustrating search for Eric Rudolph, the 32-year-old loner charged with bombing the Atlanta Olympics, two abortion clinics and a gay nightclub. Steven C. McCraw, 45, who has been an inspector at FBI headquarters here since May 1998, was selected to take charge of the Southeast Bomb Task Force on Aug. 1, FBI Director Louis J. Freeh announced.

Woody Enderson, who has headed the task force since its inception in March 1998 and its predecessor the Atlanta Bomb Task Force since 1997, has announced his retirement after a 28-year career in the FBI.

Using up to 200 federal, state and local agents, the task force has concentrated its search on the mountainous 530,000-acre Nantahala National Forest at North Carolina's western tip near Andrews, where the sometime carpenter and experienced woodsman grew up. The search force at the Andrews command post has dwindled to a dozen lately but will stay until there is proof Rudolph has left the area.

## Whistle-blower settles suit against gay S.C. prosecutor

CHARLESTON, S.C. (AP)—The secretary whose accusations led to an investigation into whether openly gay Republican prosecutor David Schwacke used his office computer for sexual contacts has settled her lawsuit against him. The terms were not disclosed but the amount will be revealed after the case officially is closed, said Vance J. Bettis, one of the lawyers hired by the state's Insurance Reserve Fund to defend the lawsuit.

Patricia T. Brown had sued under the state's whistle-blower law and several other grounds. Brown claimed she was illegally fired for reporting the possibility Schwacke had used his office computer for sexually-oriented contacts on the Internet. All but one of her allegations were thrown out by a judge, the *Charleston Post and Courier* reported July 18. Circuit Judge James C. Williams Jr. said Brown was fired because she did not come to work after Schwacke reassigned her with no reduction in pay.

—from staff and wire reports

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# GOP offers mixed bag

> Continued from page 1

gays. In an April profile in the New York Times, when asked about the appointment of James Hormel as the openly gay ambassador to Luxembourg, Bush said appointments should be based on qualifications, not sexual orientation.

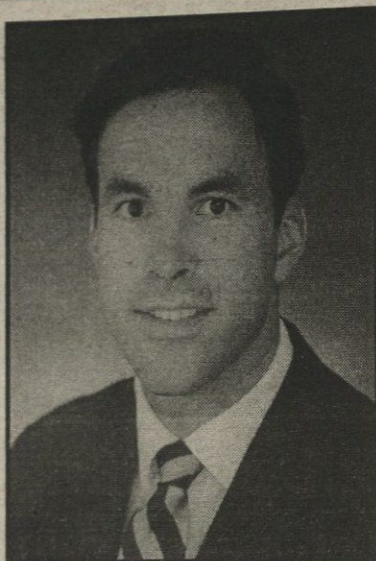
"As a general statement, if someone can do a job, and a job that he's qualified for, that person, that person ought to be allowed to do his job," Bush told the Times. "I think it's much different than gay adoption."

I strongly believe that what's best for children is a married man or a married woman as their parents. That has nothing to do with whether or not I don't respect somebody."

Bush said he would not exclude gays from posts "as long as they can do a good job, as long as their political agenda was the same as mine."

Rich Tafel, national executive director of Log Cabin Republicans, a gay group working for inclusion in the Republican party, said after the Times interview that Bush was taking a "Clintonesque" stance by trying to please all sides.

"Many gay people will be very glad to hear his views on employment rights and gay appointments, but there is still a core inconsistency that says gays should have employment rights but can't be parents in



Richard Tafel of the Log Cabin Republicans

any circumstances," he said.

Tafel said Bush has already met with televangelist Pat Robertson, founder of the Christian Coalition, but the governor has thus far rebuffed Tafel's request for a meeting with LCR representatives.

A Bush spokesman said the governor is also opposed to the Employment Non-Discrimination Act, a bill recently reintroduced in Congress that would protect gays

from job discrimination.

The spokesman, who asked not to be named, said he was not qualified to offer Bush's position on other gay rights issues. Though he agreed to find someone to answer the questions, a return call never came.

## Not-So-Newcomer: Elizabeth Dole

Elizabeth Dole, wife of former U.S. Sen. Bob Dole (R-Kan.), has no firm record on gay issues because she hasn't held elective office.

She served from 1991 to 1999 as president of the American Red Cross. Before that, she was secretary of labor under President Bush, secretary of transportation under President Reagan, and a deputy assistant to President Nixon.

Born in 1936, she was in the first class of women to receive a law degree from Harvard, in 1965.

Dole campaign officials did not return repeated phone calls seeking her position on gay rights issues, but a June 30 broadcast interview offers some clues.

In the interview, by NBC's Lisa Myers, Dole said she would not turn away a campaign contribution from LCR, something her husband did in his unsuccessful campaign for the presidency, and later said he regretted.

"If they sent a check to my campaign, I would not turn it away. Because what that says to me is they're accepting my agenda," Dole said. "I think that you know, all people are welcome [in the Republican party]. In other words, I'm inclusive. I'm not a person who is divisive. I want to bring people together. I want to see healing in this country, in terms of being able to work together, toward good things for America."

She said that she, too, would not discriminate in her own appointments but would appoint "qualified conservatives." She said, "And that applies up and down the line."

That interview was Dole's first comment on gays during her campaign, which became official earlier this month. But Tafel of LCR offered additional insights on Dole in a recent letter to LCR members outlining what he knows about each of the Republican candidates.

"It is widely known in Washington that Dole has always had openly gay staffers in key positions through her years in government and the American Red Cross," Tafel wrote. "One Washingtonian pointed out to me that she gave a wonderful eulogy for a key staffer who died of AIDS. Indeed, we will only know what kind of president she could be when she takes clear public posi-

> Continued on page 9

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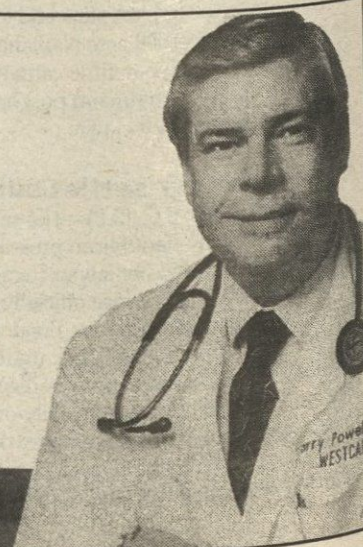
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# GOP offers mixed bag

> Continued from page 8

tions on our issues, something we are urging her to do soon."

## Study in inconsistency: John McCain

Although Bush and Dole have made some positive statements about better treatment for gays, U.S. Sen. John McCain (R-Ariz.) has a history of offering his support to three openly gay Republican candidates in Arizona—while simultaneously voting against gay rights issues that have come before him as a senator.

McCain is the same age as Dole but comes from a much different background.

He was educated at the U.S. Naval Academy and was a naval officer from 1958 to 1981. During Vietnam, he was taken prisoner for a period of five years.

McCain went on to serve in the U.S. House of Representatives from 1983 to 1987 and in the Senate since 1987.

McCain has frequently opposed gay rights issues that have come before him. The Human Rights Campaign gives him a lifetime rating of 33 percent on gay and AIDS issues.

He voted against ENDA when it fell one vote short of passing the Senate in 1996 and opposed lifting the ban on gays in the military.

His own congressional office, however, has a written policy of nondiscrimination that includes sexual orientation. McCain opposes hate crime legislation.

"Crime is crime no matter who it is perpetrated for or against," said McCain's press secretary, Howard Opinsky.

While McCain's record shows he supports funding for AIDS research, he opposes gay marriages and adoptions by gays, Opinsky said. McCain himself has an adopted daughter.

McCain believes it is a president's prerogative to appoint whomever he wants, so he does not criticize the Hormel nomination, Opinsky said.

All of McCain's positions, however, are based on his record and not on anything he has said during the campaign.

"We haven't spent a great deal of time talking about specific issues that might impact the gay community," Opinsky allowed.

McCain has written letters of support to three openly gay politicians in Arizona. He publicly supported Congressman Jim Kolbe (R-Ariz.) when he came out, and he supported Steve May, an openly gay candidate for state senator who won on his second try in 1998.

McCain also supported Neil Giuliano, the openly gay mayor of Tempe, Ariz. Giuliano said McCain's support was crucial to his victory in the election.

In an interview with *Southern Voice*, Giuliano called McCain "a man of integrity" and said that he thinks McCain would make a good president.

"I would be anxious for the senator to have an opportunity to learn more and comment today," Giuliano said of his record on gay issues. "The senator and his wife and family have been very supportive of me on a personal and political basis."

He said McCain's support shows he is not a typical Republican.

"I think most Republicans would even run away from having personal and political contact with an openly gay candidate," he said. "I think McCain believes in the worth of every individual, and he clearly does not run away from gay people. He has supported three gay candidates and he has done so in a state where it would have been more politically popular not to do so or to go the other way."

## And the Rest

Other candidates, according to most analysts, do not have a chance at the nomination.

It is still not known exactly what role billionaire Steve Forbes will play in the campaign. He does not need to raise any money to finance a campaign, although he's trying anyway. Since his failed 1996 bid, Forbes has been reaching out with some success to social conservatives.

Forbes inherited his wealth from his father, Malcolm Forbes, the flamboyant magazine publisher who was widely known to be bisexual.

Former Tennessee Gov. Lamar Alexander, a GOP moderate, has "tenaciously avoided comment throughout his career" on gay issues, said Tafel.

Those remaining have been categorized as "far right candidates" by LCR, who have generally taken strong stands opposed to gay civil rights.

Candidates in this category who have officially announced their run for the nomination are Family Research Council president Gary Bauer, political commentator Pat Buchanan, former UN ambassador Alan Keyes, former Vice President Dan Quayle, and New Hampshire U.S. Sen. Bob Smith, who recently left the Republican party to become an independent.

With so many candidates and so little good news on gay issues, many wonder whom the LCR will endorse for the party's nomination. LCR spokesperson Kevin Ivers said that debate is beside the point, at least at this stage.

"Endorsements come at the end of the process, not the beginning," he said. "Our role is to educate the candidates."

## INFO

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P.O. Box 1902, Austin, Texas 78767-1902  
call: 512-637-2000 • fax: 512-637-8800  
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### Elizabeth Dole

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### John McCain

735 N. St. Asaph Street  
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**IMPACT News**  
2118 Burgundy Street  
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Phone: 504-94-impact  
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## EDITORIAL

# The doctor is out

by MELINDA  
SHELTON

This Sunday, rush to the curb or the nearest newsbox and pick up the *Times-Picayune*. Flip it open to the Living section. Scan the pages.

It should be true. "Dr. Laura" Schlessinger is no more. Gone. Banished from the *Times-Picayune*.

Don't look for an obituary. And don't expect an official explanation. Living editor Bettye Anding told *IMPACT News* on Tuesday, when the decision was made, that it constantly adds and deletes material based on readers' interest.

Readers' interest means criticism from LGBT readers — and internally — about Schlessinger's column.

Nevermind the questionable newsworthiness, accuracy and fairness—journalism's most valued tenets—of "Dr. Laura's" columns. And nevermind the fact this woman has a Ph.D. in physiology, not psychology, and lists on her resumé "actress," at which she undoubtedly is talented.

Just as Rush Limbaugh became yesterday's news, so has Laura Schlessinger. At least in the *Times-Picayune*.

### No rush to judgment

For more than two years, *Times-Picayune* readers were subjected to Schlessinger's unrelenting diatribe against gays, feminists, liberals—virtually anyone who doesn't subscribe to her narrow, bigoted thinking. Backed by legions of ultra-conservative organizations, such as the Family Research Council and the Christian Coalition, Schlessinger has become the mouthpiece of the increasingly violent anti-gay movement.

Her broad smile, gold-tinted locks, and energetic presentation—aka acting—have catapulted her to celebrity status on the printed page and on airwaves nationwide.

This "actress" is paving her way to fame and fortune by preying on the fear and ignorance of her readers and listeners. To her, nothing is sacred, except perhaps the proliferation of hatred and discrimination.

For example, two recent columns reflected first her homophobia, and then her careless disregard for fact-based writing.

The headline on her July 18 column read: "Why celebrate homosexuality?" As is her practice, Schlessinger proceeded to exorcise anything gay. Gay Pride month. Gay adoption. Gays supporting abortion rights. Gay activism.

Schlessinger even attacked Human Rights Campaign Executive Director Elizabeth Birch and partner Hilary Rosen's adoption of twins and announcement that they, like many well-to-do, working couples, would use nannies to assist with child care.

"Dr. Laura's" un-reasoning vacillated wildly: reference to unspecified "empirical evidence" that fatherless homes are undesirable, even damaging to children; criticism of the adoption agency that gave two lesbians the babies instead of "heterosexual, committed couples"; and, of course, mention of what

Elizabeth and Hilary simply must do in their bedroom.

"... Since when do people have a 'right' to practice deviant sexual behavior and bring innocent children into their homes? ..." she bemoaned.

Like most homophobes, Schlessinger attempts to diminish LGBTs as people. Focus always is on sex, sex acts, sex between same-sex couples, particularly men. They deliberately use adjectives such as "deviant" to inflame their readers and listeners.

They cannot allow their audience to recognize us as the doctors, lawyers, teachers, counselors, business owners, community volunteers, daughters, sons, sisters, brothers, aunts, uncles, mothers, fathers and friends we are. Nor can we be recognized as tax-paying contributors in a society that denies us equal rights. Their credo: keep the message simple.

Schlessinger stayed on mixed message in her July 25 column, "Politics is taking over the psychological fields."

Because Schlessinger practices "scatter-gun" writing—no focus, no thesis—it's impossible to deconstruct the column here in its entirety.

Suffice it to say she took out of context an article published by the American Psychological Association, and reduced it to a biased assessment that the association believes "sexual relationships between adults and willing children might be positive to children. (Yeah, I know you can't believe it.) ... " Yeah, "Dr. Laura" believes this organization of leading psychologists endorses pedophilia.

She next manipulated research on fatherhood printed in the organization's journal.

The authors' summary: "... children need a positive emotional connection and a consistent relationship with at least one responsible, caring adult. ... "

Schlessinger's interpretation: "... fathers in two-parent heterosexual families are not necessary to the psychological health of the children ... "

But it was her reference to a so-called letter from a retired professor that pushed New

Orleans attorney John Rawls' buttons. The letter conveniently reinforced Schlessinger's conspiracy theory between the American Psychological Association and the American Psychiatric Association.

To summarize the letter: The professor, "sometime in the early '70s" was at the University of California [somewhere] faculty club when a friend named Sam caught his attention. An agitated Sam said he had just left a meeting of the American Psychological Association board. The seven-member board, "four of whom were gay, voted 4-3 to eliminate homosexuality from the category of diseases ..." and homosexuals have "become a protected minority."

Fact: On Dec. 15, 1973, the American Psychiatric Association board of trustees announced the removal of homosexuality as a mental disorder. The board, numbering more than seven, voted unanimously. The nomenclature change was approved by ballot, distributed to almost 10,000 APA members, by a margin of 58-37 percent, with a five percent nonresponse.

Rawls said he believes the meeting did not take place at a California university, that "in those dark ages there wouldn't have been four openly gay board members," and it clearly was the American Psychiatric Association—not American Psychological Association—that made the historic announcement.

"The vote came after 18 months of open debate, not on a whim," Rawls said. "And gays certainly have not become in any way a protected minority."

"Either Schlessinger knew the letter's a hoax and didn't care, or she didn't do the basic fact-checking a summer intern would do at a rural, community newspaper," Rawls said. "It's irresponsible."

Apparently editors at the *Times-Picayune* reached the same conclusion about "Dr. Laura" Schlessinger. After two long years, the queen of misinformation has been dethroned.

If the *Times-Picayune* remains steadfast in its decision, the paper should receive another Pulitzer for community service.

While we're waiting on the Pulitzer committee, give Bettye Anding a call at (504) 826-3442 and tell her thanks for doing the right thing.







## ROBERTS' RULES

# Parting is such sweet sorrow — and pain

by  
SHELLY  
ROBERTS

Here's how hard it is to get a gay divorce in Broward County, Fla:

I swear or affirm under penalty of perjury that:

1. The Domestic Partnership between (write in Former Domestic Partner), (write in previous D.P. Certificate Number), and the undersigned is hereby terminated, and

2. On (write in date), I mailed my former partner a copy at his/her (or both in the case of pre-op TGs?) last known address, which is (write in address to which copy was mailed).

I swear and affirm under penalty of perjury under the laws of the State of Florida that the above statements are true and correct.

Executed on: (I think you write in the date you filed the original D.P. form, not when you shot your so-and-so ex-honey to finally get the whole damn dead thing over with and again take charge of the

remote control and your life without asking anyone else's permission.)

Then at the bottom, in relatively small letters, the final document declaration and decree:

Termination of Declaration of Domestic Partnership.

Now, I don't want to pick nits here. Well, yes, actually I do, I just want to seem funnier than most naggers and whiners when I do it, but when you get a decree of divorce from the great State of Anywhere, does it say "Termination of DECLARATION of marriage"? Or do you just divide up the kids, the CDs, and get a divorce decree? Well, maybe that's for later. I haven't gotten you partnered yet. Just terminated.

Oh, yeah, it's form number 404-62 for the domestically disinclined.

Actually, that's how hard it now is to declare your gay independence in Broward County. As of July 12, it's also legal to declare, for the purposes of insurance companies, and, well, maybe one of your mothers, that you have each been domesticated.

Sanctioned, if not sanctified.

Are we happy for the Browardians?

Well, having been one for nearly a decade before I disembarked both the county and the couple for the greener pastures of Atlanta, and having been without benefit of liturgy, the whole thing leaves me extremelywhelmed.

Not that I don't applaud the good folks who caused it. Not that I couldn't name them by names, and tell you what kind of wallpaper is in their guest bathrooms. It was a great long fight, and it's always nice to find friends emerging victorious.

But for 20 bucks now in Broward County, Fla., you can declare your undying, what? Domesticity?

I never found more than half of any given couple (and, of course, our lawyers) who cared much. I'm not going to repeat all the silly sermons the straights sang during the fight for the Defense of Marriage Act. There was, as far as I'm concerned, no defense of marriage in the first place.

When your lose-win average is six out of 10, you can't claim much

bragging right.

Oh, sure, domestic partnership declarations are a good way to keep the premiums, um, uh, well, straight on the BMW and Grand Cherokee, at least for the insurers. But I'm still having trouble understanding why we picked up this particular fight in the first place. I say picked up rather than picked because it was never ours. We were hoping for protection from getting tied to a fence rail and left out in blizzards. We wanted the universe changed enough so that dyke was a compliment.

I'd hoped we'd wait until they got that part fixed. Guess not.

Not that I'm against pairing. I have committed it, multiply. And on both sides of the wire. All I can tell you is that the split from Whats-his-name cost me 600 bucks for the lawyers in 1969.

And the split in Broward County from Whats-her-name, without benefit of anything writ, cost me several thousand for the lawyers, not to mention losing the couch, the dog, and the coffee grinder.

Don't misunderstand me, I personally want to thank every

single gay attorney who has ever stood in our defense, and won. Winning is good. And feels great. We've always needed victories. Even on the silly ones I disagree with, even though the battle was a monumental uphill climb.

Politics and law are our last bastion, the final holdout, the ultimate, encoded reflection of what we've managed to change in the real world.

It's just that my Visa bill still reflects the domestic redistribution of wealth in Broward County, Fla., and I doubt that any official grudging declaration would have changed that. Probably just made it worse.

Oh, now I get it. Now that it's a county-wide custom, I bet the attorney fees for the gay-breaks will go up to equal everyone else's.

Is that a conflict of interest? Or, like the accounting in my check-book, just irreconcilable differences?

Shelly Roberts is an Atlanta-based syndicated columnist and author of the 1999 Roberts' Rules of Lesbian Living Daily Calendar (Spinsters Ink).

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## LESBIAN VOICES

# Goodbye to Cheryl Weill

by MARILYN  
McCONNELL

Cheryl Weill came 20 years ago to LSU Medical School from her post-doctoral studies on nerve and muscle interactions at Columbia Medical School in New York and Harvard Medical School in Boston. In 1993, she was asked by Dr. Norma Kearby to lecture at the National PFLAG convention in New Orleans. Her topic would be the then-new findings on the brain and sexual orientation and genes and sexual orientation. Since that time, Dr. Weill has presented the updated lecture to PFLAG audiences around the country, as well as Tulane Medical and Social Work Schools, LSU Medical School, and the Department of Psychiatry at the University of Arkansas Medical School.

Weill, originally from San Jose, where she received her undergraduate degree, moved to Santa Barbara for her doctoral training. She currently is Associate Professor of Neurology and Anatomy at LSU Medical Center involved in both research and teaching.

Dr. Weill testified as an expert witness in the recent trial that resulted in the repeal of the Louisiana sodomy law.

After 20 years of research and teaching in the basic sciences, she has decided on a career change. Based on her recovery process from memories of childhood abuse, she would like a more directly people-oriented profession centered on helping others. She has



Dr. Cheryl Weill of "Wimbledon Whites" BWTC Fundraiser

applied to the University of Denver School of Social Work Master's Program. No stranger to Denver, she spent almost two years on sabbatical there 10 years ago.

An avid runner and tennis player, Weill is a member of the Bayou Women's Tennis Club and competed in both running and tennis with Team New Orleans at the 1998 Gay Games in Amsterdam.

Her lecture presentations evolved into book form, "Biological Origins of Human Sexuality: A Primer," that is being reviewed for publication by Columbia University Press. While Cheryl will be missed, she will be pursuing a new and exciting goal in her life. We wish her well.

## DANCING

Friday, July 30: Presley's Happy Birthday Alice Brady and Susan Landrum. Music by Candy at 7:30 p.m. and Becky Eymard



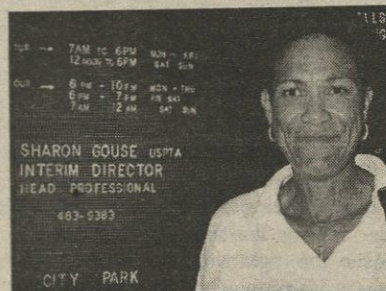
"Wimbledon White" winners Dee Jacobson (left) and Cathy Marshall



Erica Knott, "Wimbledon" Quiz Winner



Daphne Lasage, head "Wimbledon" cheerleader



Congratulations to Bayou Women's Tennis Club Co-chair Sharon Gouse, Interim Director Head Professional at City Park



Kathryn Harmon at LGCC IV Safari fundraiser which netted about \$2,000



Dr. Dan Hayes and David Schwarz in Summer Safari attire at LGCC fundraiser

and the Band at 9:30. Presley's is behind Zuppardo's Economical Supermarket at Transcontinental and Vets. Exit Clearview from I-10 west, left to next light.

Saturday, July 31: Candy Riedl, keyboard/ vocalist, at 7 p.m. at "On the Coast with Charlene and Linda" in Bay St Louis.

Saturday, Aug. 14: Charlene's Leo Birthday Party Weekend at "On the Coast," with guest DJ. All Leos and friends are invited. How

scary is that? A whole party of uppity lesbian Leos! Cake-cutting at 7 p.m. The party continues at 2 p.m. Sunday with food, volleyball and entertainment.

"On the Coast" is at 1205 Blue Meadow Road in Bay St. Louis. Call 288-467-7298 or e-mail at charleneno@aol.com.

## WOMEN'S SPORTS

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Friday, July 30: Utah at

Los Angeles, 8 p.m., Lifetime.

Saturday July 31: Phoenix at Houston, 3 p.m., NBC.

Monday, Aug. 2: Phoenix at Minnesota, 7 p.m., ESPN.

Friday, Aug. 6: New York at Phoenix, 8 p.m., Lifetime.

Saturday, Aug. 7: Washington at Cleveland, 3 p.m., NBC.

Sunday, Aug. 8: Houston at New York, 3 p.m., NBC.

Monday, Aug. 9: New York at Orlando, 7 p.m., ESPN.

## Dykes To Watch Out For by Alison Bechdel







# CLAIMING OUR PAST

# Circa 1969: The future unfurls

by  
ROBERTS  
BATSON

Long before 1969 actually arrived, many gay men and women eagerly awaited this specially-numbered year. Most of this anticipation was expressed with considerable good humor: "I can hardly wait until next year," someone would say with a grin and a wink. "Sixty-nine!" Listeners would join in the fun and laugh.

The reference was to the slang expression describing a particular interpersonal anatomical positioning. The term, however, had a wider meaning. To many, gay and non-gay alike, it was a general catch-all idiom meaning homosexual. So '69 was expected to be a special year for gay people. But no one could know what milestones would soon transpire.

The year did not begin auspiciously. In January, Richard Nixon was inaugurated 37th President of the United States and the nasty little war in Viet Nam persisted. The unbridled patriotism of the mid-60s was now giving way to disillusionment and anger as town after town saw its best and brightest young men come home in flag-covered coffins.

And 1969 was the climax of a

turbulent decade. In politics, the black civil rights movement and the women's liberation movement had already challenged the existing conditions of culture as well as politics: clothing became flamboyant, rock and roll became rock, and a sexual revolution—energized by the birth control pill—proclaimed that love was free. "The times, they are a-changing," sang the gravelly-voiced poet of this new generation. Everything was possible.

Before the summer of 1969 was over, three seminal events would come to pass, and America would never be the same.

In July, the Apollo astronauts walked upon the face of the moon, as earthbound mortals witnessed this awesome phenomenon unfold on their television screens. Human beings were actually up there, literally out of this world! The moon was now a technological achievement, no longer the unattainable romantic and mystical symbol it had always been. The possibilities of human accomplishment were, as Neil Armstrong broadcast back to a breathless world, taking a giant step forward. Spirits everywhere soared. Imagination had to re-imagine itself as limitless.

Then, in August, in the pleasant countryside near the village

of Woodstock, New York, the hippie lifestyle of make-love-not-war exploded into a fully-dimensioned counterculture: music, nature, politics, drugs—all comingling into an unprecedented synergy. An alternative new

emerging, not just political organizing, but a culture as well that proclaimed itself to a wider world.

John Rechy's book, "City of Night," had been published, followed by Gore Vidal's "The City

But before the astronauts or the love children had riveted the world's attention, a small event had occurred in New York's Greenwich Village. One night, at a gay bar called the Stonewall Inn, gay people didn't go quietly when the police came to raid the bar and haul them out.

world was born. It was the dawning of the Age of Aquarius.

But before either the astronauts or the love children had riveted the world's attention, a small event had occurred in New York's Greenwich Village. One night, at the end of June, at a gay bar called the Stonewall Inn, gay people didn't go quietly when the police came to raid the bar and haul them out. It was the day of Judy Garland's funeral.

The Stonewall riots, which continued afterwards for several nights, galvanized the incipient gay liberation movement that had been slowly emerging in cities around the country. But a gay presence had already been

and the Pillar." The theatre had seen "The Killing of Sister George" and "The Boys in the Band." While all these works today seem filled with self-loathing, they at least gave gay men and lesbians a public recognition.

A political agenda had just been set at the North American Conference of Homophile Organizations. Called the "Homosexual Bill of Rights," the manifesto began with five "Basic Rights."

1. Private consensual sex acts between persons over the age of consent shall not be an offense.

2. Solicitation for any sexual act shall not be an offense except

upon the filing of a complaint by the aggrieved party, not a police officer or agent.

3. A person's sexual orientation or practice shall not be a factor in the granting or renewing of federal security clearances or visas, or in the granting of citizenship.

4. Service in and discharge from the Armed Forces and eligibility for veteran's benefits shall be without reference to homosexuality.

5. A person's sexual orientation or practice shall not affect his eligibility for employment with federal, state, or local governments, or private employers."

A gay Declaration of Independence had been writ. Now, that summer, the movement had its Boston Tea Party. Thirty years ago, in 1969, gay people saw a new world unfurl before them. They saw their future.

Roberts Batson is the author of more than 150 published articles on GLBT history and contemporary culture. His research forms the basis for his Gay Heritage Tour, which currently commemorates the 30th anniversary of Stonewall. He welcomes comments and suggestions and can be reached at The Bienville Foundation (504)945-6789.

## The Mostly Unfabulous Social Life of Ethan Green..

..By Eric Orner

### ZONE DIETS

with your guest dietician,



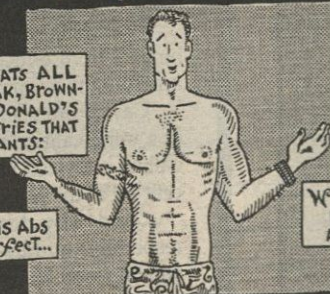
NO, YOU CERTAINLY DO NOT NEED SUGAR SPRINKLED ON THIS DELICIOUS GRAPEFRUIT! NOW OPEN WIDE...

NURSE ETHAN GREEN

### The "Speedy Metabolism" Zone:

BUCKY EATS ALL THE STEAK, BROWNIES & McDONALD'S FRENCH FRIES THAT HE WANTS:

STILL, HIS ABS ARE PERFECT...



WHICH IS WHY WE HATE BUCKY A GREAT DEAL:

### The "Not-So-Speedy-Metabolism" Zone:

GAINS 5LBS JUST LOOKING AT THE "CHUNKY MONKEY" THROUGH HIS GROCER'S FREEZER.



### The "Butts n' Tina Zone":

BASIC FOOD GROUPS FOR THIS ZONE



SUPPLEMENTARY FOOD GROUPS FOR THIS ZONE



CLUB AIR



### The "Carbohydrates Verbotten" Zone:

NO PASTA AFTER 3PM. WAIT A MINUTE, MAKE THAT NO PASTA AFTER NOON... OK, IF YOU WANT PASTA YOU GOTTA HAVE IT FOR BREAKFAST. HEY, FORGET THE FRIGGIN' PASTA...



JUST EAT THAT OLIVE...

### The "Has-a-new-boyfriend-so-he's-stopped-going-to-the-gym" Zone:







## Christopher Radko CUBBY'S RAINBOW!



In a snugly sweater with all the colors of the rainbow, as well as a cap bearing the red ribbon of AIDS awareness, an endearing little cub offers warmth and encouragement. "Cubby's Rainbow" is Christopher Radko's seventh annual ornament whose profits will be donated to organizations that provide AIDS education, research and care.

Come see "Cubby's Rainbow" and our entire assortment of ornaments from Christopher Radko's amazing 1999 collection. Radiant with color and aglow from within, these ornaments are more than holiday decorations. They are works of heart!

Christopher's on the Web!  
[www.christopherradko.com](http://www.christopherradko.com)



"Cubby's Rainbow"  
Profits from this ornament go towards  
AIDS research.

Lindz's hosts  
**RADKO**  
**FALL EVENT**  
**August 6, 1999**

**Lindz's**  
A place of  
Christmas

New Orleans Centre  
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# Around the World

## Gore seeks \$100 million more to stop spread of AIDS in Africa

WASHINGTON (AP)—Asserting the United States has a "moral duty" to do more to fight AIDS, Vice President Al Gore announced a new \$100 million proposal to help Africa stop the spread of the disease. Gore, whose presidential campaign has been dogged by AIDS activists, also released a new study on the scope and the toll of the HIV virus in Africa.

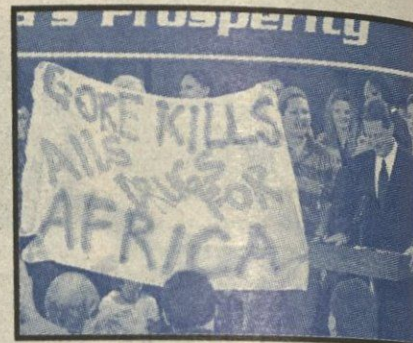
"The crisis is growing, and so must our commitment," he said.

Activists from ACT-UP have pursued Gore along the campaign trail to protest administration policies that they say make it difficult to get affordable AIDS drugs to people who need them in South Africa.

The vice president, joined by Archbishop Desmond Tutu, the Nobel Prize winner from South Africa, announced new proposals not included in the Clinton administration's fiscal 2000 budget to fight AIDS in Africa.

The spending proposals announced by Gore included \$48 million for AIDS education, counseling and testing, including a Defense Department program to train African militaries how to provide AIDS prevention training. The remaining funds would be targeted at home- and community-based care, caring for children orphaned by AIDS and helping other countries build infrastructure to confront the spread of AIDS.

Gore also released a report from the Office of National AIDS policy that found 12 million people in sub-Saharan Africa have died of AIDS in the past decade. By 2005, the death toll could reach 13,000 people per day.



Gore appeases protestors by announcing that the Clinton administration will seek the largest-ever United States budget increase in the global battle against AIDS.

## Chinese student group openly seeks new members at fair

HONG KONG—A gay group aims to set up stalls at fairs for university freshmen to gain support from new students, the South China Morning Post reported. The Chinese University's Tongzhi Culture Society is planning to set up counters at five other universities to display and sell books on homosexuality during registration and orientation events next month.

Spokeswoman Franco Lai Yuen-ki said she had contacted students' unions at the other campuses, but so far none had promised to help and no dates or venues had been fixed, she said. The group was launched this year and is the first gay students' group to be registered at a local higher education institute. Tongzhi means homosexual in Cantonese and members hope to promote homosexual issues on campus. The group has been targeted by students, who have denounced it in posters and dumped its literature in rubbish bins, the newspaper reported.

## Gay council member slammed for public sex stance

TORONTO—Toronto City Council member Kyle Rae, who is openly gay, is defending himself from criticism that he's turned his back on constituents arrested for public sex, according to a report in the Toronto Sun.

Gay columnist Sky Gilbert, who writes for Eye magazine, wrote that Rae is an example of a trend called "Homosexuals Turn Against Their Own in the Name of Respectability." Gilbert criticized Rae for his lack of support for 12 men charged with committing an indecent act at the gay Bijou Theatre last month.

"And why doesn't Rae care?" Gilbert wrote. "Because these days, looking like a respectable middle-class guy means more to him than defending the community that elected and stood by him all these years."

Rae shot back at Gilbert for not calling for his side of the story. The council member also said there were actually 19 men charged and that he has been working on both of their behalf, and on behalf of the Bijou owner, with the police. Rae said he has been the focal point for gay issues for eight years, but said he represents all his constituents, even if that means recently closing down an illegal gay bar.

## Aussies look to add gays to property, domestic violence laws

BRISBANE, Australia—Gay relationships will be recognized in property law and domestic violence legislation being prepared by the state government, the Brisbane Courier Mail reported. Premier Peter Beattie conceded in an interview with the paper that Queensland's record on homosexual rights was "somewhat patchy."

"De factos of any kind—it doesn't matter if they are same-sex couples or whether they are heterosexual couples—if they are in a de facto relationship there should be some protection for property," Beattie said.

A spokesman for opposition leader Rob Borbidge said the government should be concentrating on more pressing matters than gay law reforms.

—from staff and wire reports



# SEROSTIM™

*Because there is no time to waste.*

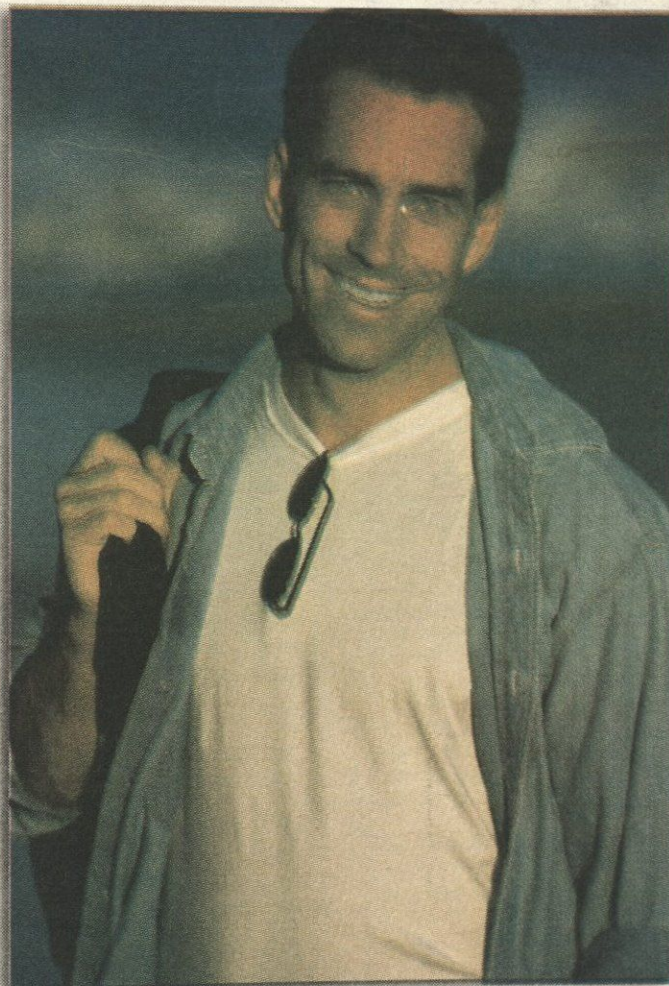
## Human Growth Hormone combats the loss of lean body mass in ways other treatments don't.\*

SEROSTIM is indicated for the treatment of AIDS wasting or cachexia, in combination with antiviral therapy, based on analysis of intermediate effects in studies up to 12 weeks duration.

You may know that wasting robs a person of lean muscle and organ mass, and physical performance. But did you know that it can strike anyone with HIV? At any time? Even while your weight remains constant? That's because you could be adding fat to your body while still losing lean body mass (LBM).

If you are experiencing wasting, discuss with your doctor whether SEROSTIM—human growth hormone—might be right for you.

SEROSTIM rebuilds LBM and improves physical performance while reducing body fat. Studies show that without the LBM you need, you could become weaker, get sick more often and may not live as long as people who are not losing lean body mass; although the clinical significance of treatment-induced weight gain and increasing LBM have not been established. Physical performance was assessed by treadmill exercise testing. Grip strength, another measure of muscle performance may decline, probably due to increased tissue fullness, which sometimes occurs with growth hormone. Subjective assessment of performance was measured in a nine-point questionnaire. SEROSTIM showed significant improvements on two points—change in appearance and overall benefit of therapy—while results of the other measures were inconclusive. Patients who continue to lose weight in their first two weeks of therapy should be reevaluated.



SEROSTIM isn't a steroid, an appetite stimulant or nutritional supplement. It's a completely new anabolic (LBM building) and anticatabolic (inhibits LBM breakdown) treatment that increases LBM and improves physical performance by interacting with a variety of cell types.

One way to know for sure if your treatment has restored LBM is to ask your doctor about BIA or Bioelectrical Impedance Analysis. BIA measures body composition so changes in LBM can be monitored. It takes just 5 minutes and is completely painless. If your physician cannot provide BIA testing, ask him/her to call Serono at 800-714-2437 and a representative will help your physician gain access to a BIA system on your behalf.

People on SEROSTIM may observe side effects. In clinical trials, patients treated with SEROSTIM noticed muscle and joint soreness (53.7% vs. 33.3% for placebo) and swelling in the hands and feet (27.3% vs. 2.7% for placebo).

Physicians rated these symptoms as mild-

to-moderate, and in most cases they will subside with continued treatment. Hyperglycemia may occur in HIV-infected individuals due to a variety of reasons. SEROSTIM use was associated with a minimal increase of mean blood glucose concentration. Also, SEROSTIM must be used along with anti-HIV drug therapy. Data related to interactions between SEROSTIM and anti-HIV treatments are not yet available.

Wasting is treatable. See your doctor or call the SEROSTIM Access Line at 800-714-2437 to find out about SEROSTIM's solution.

*The power of nature is the science of Serostim.*



\*Serostim is an anabolic and anticatabolic agent that works by interacting with specific receptors on a variety of cell types. For additional information about Serostim, please refer to the brief summary on the next page.



**Serostim®**  
[somatropin (rDNA origin) for injection]

SLI 98-6130



# Serostim<sup>®</sup>

[somatropin (rDNA origin) for injection]

## BRIEF SUMMARY. SEE FULL PRESCRIBING INFORMATION BEFORE PRESCRIBING.

**INDICATIONS AND USAGE:** Serostim<sup>®</sup> [somatropin (rDNA origin) for injection] is indicated for the treatment of AIDS wasting or cachexia. This indication is based on analyses of surrogate endpoints in studies of up to 12 weeks in duration. Concomitant anti-viral therapy is necessary (see PRECAUTIONS: General). The continued use of Serostim treatment should be reevaluated in patients who continue to lose weight in the first two weeks of treatment.

**CONTRAINDICATIONS:** Serostim is contraindicated in patients with a known hypersensitivity to growth hormone.

**PRECAUTIONS:** General: Serostim therapy should be carried out under the regular guidance of a physician who is experienced in the diagnosis and management of AIDS. Inadequate nutritional intake, malabsorption and hypogonadism, which are common in individuals with AIDS and which may contribute to catabolism and weight loss, should also be monitored and treated.

**HIV and Growth Hormone Considerations:** In some experimental systems, recombinant human Growth Hormone (r-hGH) has been shown to potentiate HIV replication in vitro at concentrations ranging from 50-250 ng/mL. There was no increase in virus production when the antiretroviral agents, zidovudine, didanosine or lamivudine were added to the culture medium. Additional in vitro studies have shown that r-hGH does not interfere with the antiviral activity of zalcitabine or stavudine. In the controlled clinical trials, no significant growth hormone-associated increase in viral burden was observed. However, the protocol required all participants to be on concomitant nucleoside analogue therapy for the duration of the study. In view of the potential for acceleration of virus replication, it is recommended that HIV+ patients be maintained on nucleoside analogue therapy for the duration of Serostim treatment.

Increased tissue turgor (swelling, particularly in the hands and feet) and musculoskeletal discomfort (pain, swelling and/or stiffness) may occur during treatment with Serostim, but may resolve spontaneously, with analgesic therapy, or after reducing the frequency of dosing (see DOSAGE AND ADMINISTRATION).

Carpal tunnel syndrome may occur during treatment with Serostim. If the symptoms of carpal tunnel syndrome do not resolve by decreasing the weekly number of doses of Serostim, it is recommended that treatment be discontinued.

Patients should be informed that allergic reactions are possible and that prompt medical attention should be sought if an allergic reaction occurs. None of the 188 study participants with AIDS wasting who were evaluable for antibody assessments and who were treated with Serostim for the first time developed detectable antibodies to growth hormone (> 4 µg binding). Patients were not rechallenged.

Recombinant Human Growth Hormone (r-hGH) has been associated with acute pancreatitis.

Hyperglycemia may occur in HIV-infected individuals due to a variety of reasons. Serostim use was associated with a minimal increase of mean blood glucose concentration. Patients with other risk factors for glucose intolerance should be monitored closely during Serostim therapy.

No cases of intracranial hypertension (IH) have been observed among patients with AIDS wasting treated with Serostim. The syndrome of IH, with papilledema, visual changes, headache, and nausea and/or vomiting has been reported in a small number of children with growth failure treated with growth hormone products. Nevertheless, funduscopic evaluation of patients is recommended at the initiation and periodically during the course of Serostim therapy.

Kaposi's sarcoma, lymphoma, and other malignancies are common in HIV+ individuals. There was no increase in the incidence of Kaposi's sarcoma, lymphoma, or in the progression of cutaneous Kaposi's sarcoma in clinical studies of Serostim. Patients with internal KS lesions were excluded from the studies. Potential effects on other malignancies are unknown.

**Information For Patients:** Patients being treated with Serostim should be informed of the potential benefits and risks associated with treatment. Patients should be instructed to contact their physician should they experience any side effects or discomfort during treatment with Serostim. It is recommended that Serostim be administered using sterile, disposable syringes and needles. Patients should be thoroughly instructed in the importance of proper disposal and cautioned against any reuse of needles and syringes. An appropriate container for the disposal of used syringes and needles should be employed. Patients should be instructed to rotate injection sites to avoid lipodystrophy.

**Drug Interactions:** Formal in vitro drug interaction studies have not been conducted. No data are available on drug interactions between Serostim and HIV protease inhibitors or the non-nucleoside reverse transcriptase inhibitors.

**Carcinogenesis, Mutagenesis, Impairment of Fertility:** Long-term animal studies for carcinogenicity have not been performed with Serostim. There is no evidence from animal studies to date of Serostim-induced mutagenicity or impairment of fertility.

**Pregnancy:** Pregnancy Category B. Reproduction studies have been performed in rats and rabbits. Doses up to 5 to 10 times the human dose, based on body surface area, have revealed no evidence of impaired fertility or harm to the fetus due to Serostim. There are, however, no adequate and well controlled studies in pregnant women. Because animal reproduction studies are not always predictive of human response, this drug should be used during pregnancy only if clearly needed.

**Nursing Women:** It is not known whether Serostim is excreted in human milk. Because many drugs are excreted in human milk, caution should be exercised when Serostim is administered to a nursing woman.

**Pediatric Use:** In two small studies, 11 children with HIV associated failure to thrive were treated subcutaneously with human growth hormone. In one study, five children (age range, 6 to 17 years) were treated with 0.04 mg/kg/day for 26 weeks. In a second study, six children (age range, 8 to 14 years) were treated with 0.07 mg/kg/day for 4 weeks. Treatment appeared to be well tolerated in both studies. These preliminary data collected in a limited number of patients with HIV associated failure to thrive appear to be consistent with safety observations in growth hormone treated adults with AIDS wasting.

**ADVERSE REACTIONS:** In two placebo-controlled clinical trials in which 205 patients were treated with Serostim the most common adverse reactions judged to be associated with Serostim were musculoskeletal discomfort and increased tissue turgor (swelling, particularly of the hands and feet) (see PRECAUTIONS: General). These symptoms were generally rated by investigators as mild to moderate in severity and usually subsided with continued treatment. Discontinuations as a result of these events were rare.

Because of the diverse clinical manifestations of AIDS, and the frequent occurrence of adverse events associated with underlying disease process, it was often difficult to distinguish adverse events possibly associated with the administration of Serostim from underlying signs or symptoms of AIDS or associated intercurrent illnesses.

Clinical adverse events which occurred during the first 12 weeks of study in at least 10% of those who received Serostim during the two placebo-controlled trials are listed below by treatment group, without regard to causality assessment.

Table 2: Controlled Trials Adverse Events

Adverse Event	Serostim (n=205)	Placebo (n=150)
	%	%
Musculoskeletal discomfort	53.7	33.3
Fever	31.2	29.3
Increased tissue turgor	27.3	2.7
Diarrhea	25.9	20.0
Neuropathy	25.9	17.3
Nausea	25.9	16.0
Headache	19.0	20.7
Abdominal pain	17.1	18.7
Fatigue	17.1	16.0
Leukopenia	15.1	24.7
Albuminuria	15.1	9.3
Granulocytopenia	14.1	21.3
Lymphadenopathy	14.1	16.0
Increased sweating	14.1	8.7
Anorexia	12.2	9.3
Anemia	12.2	8.7
Vomiting	11.7	12.0
SGOT increased	11.7	6.0
Insomnia	11.2	9.3
Tachycardia	11.2	6.0
Hyperglycemia	10.2	6.0
SGPT increased	10.2	5.3

Adverse events that occurred in 1% to less than 10% of study participants receiving Serostim in the two placebo-controlled clinical efficacy studies are listed below by body system. The list of adverse events has been compiled regardless of causal relationship to Serostim.

**Body as a Whole:** rigors, flu-like symptoms, back pain, malaise, asthenia, carpal tunnel syndrome (see PRECAUTIONS: General), chest pain, hot flashes, allergic reaction. **Gastrointestinal System:** oral leukoplakia, flatulence, dyspepsia, dry mouth, constipation, ulcerative stomatitis, increased amylase, dysphagia, esophagitis, colitis, pancreatitis, rectal disorder, gastritis, tongue ulceration, gingivitis. **Musculoskeletal System:** muscle weakness. **Central and Peripheral Nervous System:** dizziness, convulsions, hypertonia, neuralgia, tremor, encephalopathy, nystagmus, meningism. **Respiratory System:** dyspnea, coughing, sinusitis, upper respiratory tract infection, pharyngitis, rhinitis, pneumonia, bronchitis, increased sputum, respiratory disorder, bronchospasm, pneumonitis, pleurisy. **White Blood Cell and Reticuloendothelial System Disorders:** cervical lymphadenopathy, eosinophilia. **Skin and Appendages:** skin disorder, folliculitis, rash, alopecia, photosensitivity reaction, erythematous rash, pruritus, abnormal pigmentation, seborrhea, dermatitis, skin ulceration, acne, skin discoloration, verruca. **Psychiatric:** depression, anxiety, somnolence, nervousness, appetite increased, amnesia, abnormal thinking. **Metabolic and Nutritional:** hypertriglyceridemia, increased alkaline phosphatase, dehydration, increased creatine phosphokinase, increased LDH, glycosuria, hypokalemia, cachexia, thirst, acidosis. **Immune System Dysfunction:** moniliasis, bacterial infection, Pneumocystis carinii infection, viral infection, infection, Herpes simplex, sepsis, abscess, fungal infection, Herpes zoster. **Urinary System:** hematuria, urinary tract infection, nocturia. **Liver and Biliary System:** abnormal hepatic function, hepatomegaly, hepatitis. **Vision:** retinitis, abnormal vision, photophobia. **Platelet, Bleeding and Clotting:** thrombocytopenia, purpura. **Cardiovascular, General:** abnormal ECG, heart murmur, hypertension, hypotension. **Application Site:** injection site pain, injection site reaction. **Neoplasms:** Kaposi's sarcoma. **Male Reproductive:** epididymitis, penis disorder, inguinal hernia. **Hearing and Vestibular:** earache, ear disorder, decreasing hearing. **Endocrine:** gynecomastia, male breast pain.

The types and incidences of adverse events reported in an open-label, extension trial and in a single, foreign trial, for up to one year, were not different from, or greater in frequency, than those observed in the primary, placebo-controlled, clinical trials.

## OVERDOSAGE

Glucose intolerance can occur with overdosage. Long-term overdosage with growth hormone could result in signs and symptoms of acromegaly.

## DOSAGE AND ADMINISTRATION

Serostim<sup>®</sup> [somatropin (rDNA origin) for injection] should be administered subcutaneously daily at bedtime according to the following dosage recommendations:

Weight Range	Dose*
>55 kg	6 mg SC daily
45-55 kg	5 mg SC daily
35-45 kg	4 mg SC daily

\*Based on an approximate daily dosage of 0.1 mg/kg.

In patients who weigh less than 35 kg, Serostim should be administered at a dose of 0.1 mg/kg subcutaneously daily at bedtime.

Dose reductions for side effects felt to be related to treatment with Serostim, which are unresponsive to symptomatic treatment, may be effected by reducing the total daily dose or the number of doses given per week.

In patients who continue to lose weight at week 2, reevaluate for concurrent opportunistic infections or other clinical events. Injection sites should be rotated.

Safety and effectiveness in pediatric patients with AIDS have not been established.

Each vial of Serostim 4 mg, 5 mg or 6 mg is reconstituted with 1 mL sterile water for injection. To reconstitute Serostim, inject the diluent into the vial of Serostim aiming the liquid against the glass vial wall. Swirl the vial with a gentle rotary motion until contents are dissolved completely. The Serostim solution should be clear immediately after reconstitution. **DO NOT INJECT** Serostim if the reconstituted product is cloudy immediately after reconstitution or refrigeration. Occasionally, after refrigeration, small colorless particles may be present in the Serostim solution. This is not unusual for proteins like Serostim.

## STABILITY AND STORAGE

**Before reconstitution:** Serostim should be stored at room temperature, 59° - 86°F (15° - 30°C). Expiration dates are stated on product labels.

**After reconstitution:** Use within 24 hours after reconstitution with diluent. The reconstituted solution should be stored under refrigerated conditions (36° - 46°F/2° - 8°C).

Sterile Diluent, 1 mL (Sterile Water for Injection, USP) should be stored at room temperature, 59° - 86°F (15° - 30°C). Avoid freezing vials of Serostim and Sterile Diluent.

## HOW SUPPLIED

Serostim is available in the following forms:

Serostim vials containing 4 mg (approximately 12 IU) somatropin (mammalian-cell) with Sterile Water for Injection, USP.

Package of 7 vials. NDC 44087-0004-7

Serostim vials containing 5 mg (approximately 15 IU) somatropin (mammalian-cell) with Sterile Water for Injection, USP.

Package of 7 vials. NDC 44087-0005-7

Serostim vials containing 6 mg (approximately 18 IU) somatropin (mammalian-cell) with Sterile Water for Injection, USP.

Package of 7 vials. NDC 44087-0006-7

Manufactured for: Serono Laboratories, Inc., Randolph, MA 02368

Caution: Federal law prohibits dispensing without prescription.

February 1998



**Serostim<sup>®</sup>**  
[somatropin (rDNA origin) for injection]  
Helps Make It Possible



PART OF THE ARES-SERONO GROUP

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SLI 98-8113



# time out

A Complete  
Guide to Your  
Leisure Time

IMPACT NEWS • JULY 30, 1999

## Michigan is a festival by, for and about womyn

by MARGARET COBLE

"Imagine a city where women rule. Where all the roads, all the buildings, the plumbing, the hospitals, the restaurants, the stores, are run by women.

"Imagine a city where all the arts, and all the crafts, the dance, the movies, the theatre, the poetry, are created by women. Imagine a city where women and children feel free to walk anywhere, day or night, in total safety.

"Imagine a city where it doesn't matter what we wear, where we're not judged by our clothes, where clothing is optional, and our bodies are sacred.

"Imagine a city of thousands of women, where there's no violence, and no weapons; no criminals, and no jails; no oppression, and no fear.

"This city has existed in only one place in the history of the earth. We are in that city now. Welcome to Michigan!"—Musician Jean Fineberg, in "Eden Built By Eves" (see review at right).

"Every August since 1976, thousands of women from around the world have come together in the woods of northern Michigan to build the city described above—a lesbian/feminist utopian village that operates under the auspices of a week-long music festival known as the Michigan Womyn's

Music Festival (MWMF).

Decades before Sarah McLachlan's Lilith Fair, MWMF brought women together to enjoy the best of women's music, culture, and politics—and it still does.

Though technically not the first women-only cultural gathering of its kind, MWMF has enjoyed one of the longest continuous runs of any such event—24 years and counting—and has grown to be the biggest, regularly drawing crowds of 5,000-9,000. For this and many other reasons, it is widely considered the standard to which all other women's music festivals are compared.

This year's Michigan Womyn's Music Festival will take place Aug. 10-15, with music, theatre, dance, comedy, and spoken word/poetry performances rotating between three stages, day and night. Musical headliners include such popular mainstream rock and folk artists as The Murmurs, Dar Williams, Michelle Malone, and Jill Sobule, controversial punk darlings Tribe 8, and such widely varying women's circuit mainstays as Cris Williamson, Tret Fure, Nedra Johnson and BETTY. Stand-up comics Marga Gomez and Suzanne Westenhoefer will make rare Night Stage appearances, and dance ensemble Urban Bush Women and percussionists Edwina Lee Tyler and Ubaka Hill will perform at the Acoustic Stage.

Spoken-word performance collective Sister Spit from San Francisco (who just two weeks ago performed to an enthusiastic New Orleans' crowd above Lucky Cheng's) will make their festival debut this year, as will indie rock bands The Butchies and Lord Douglas Phillips,

➤ Continued  
on page 26



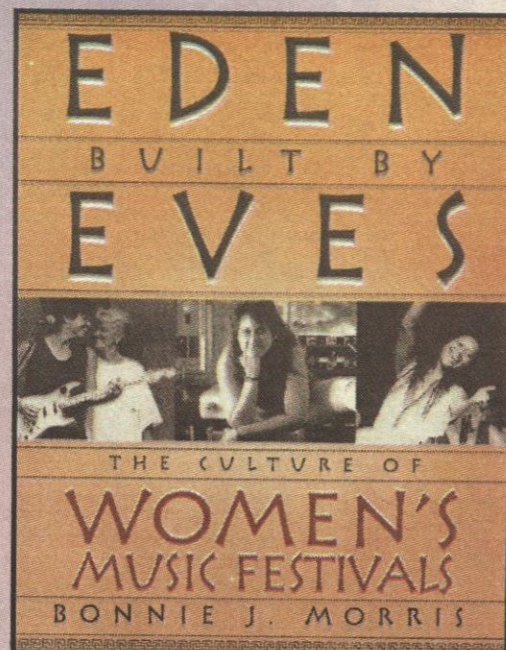
MELINDA SHELTON

Women flock to  
Michigan to  
commune with  
nature—and  
each other.



MELINDA SHELTON

OUT IN PRINT



by MARGARET COBLE

EDEN BUILT BY EVES is less an anthropological study of the culture specific to women's music festivals, as purported by its title, than a 370-page journal entry by enthusiastic women's history professor and frequent festie-goer Bonnie Morris.

More herstorical documentary than scholarly thesis, it is, nonetheless, an important and compelling behind-the-scenes look at the very unique family of women who have built, attended and performed at these temporary but recurring women-only cultural institutions over the past three decades.

Touted as the first book to deal with this substantial, yet long-overlooked topic, it is for that reason alone worth picking up. In a rather conversational, journalistic tone, Morris recounts numerous anecdotes and quotes liberally from interviews with various festival producers, technical staff, workers, attendees, and veteran performers about their experiences at nearly every major women's music festival that has existed since the 1970s.

Of special interest to Southern readers are her tales of such regional gatherings as Gulf Coast Womyn's Festival/Spiritfest in Mississippi, Lone Star Women's Festival in Texas, Rhythmfest in Georgia and the Carolinas, and Southern Women's Music Festival in Georgia, among others.

The book deals most often, however, with the biggest and best known of all women's music festivals, the 24-year old Michigan Womyn's Music Festival.

Some of the most fascinating passages of the entire book are Morris' interviews with original MWMF co-producer Boo Price and longtime sound technician Boden Sandstrom on the origins of festival culture. Her lengthy discussion of punk band Tribe 8's controversial Michigan debut in 1994, including a complete transcript of the community-wide processing workshop necessary after their performance, also makes for quite entertaining reading.

Other highlights include an appendix of more than 300 heart-warming survey responses by festival attendees, conducted over a 10-year period at a wide variety of festivals, as well as a chapter devoted to festival comedy, including excerpts from Kate Clinton, Suzanne Westenhoefer, Marga Gomez and Lea DeLaria.

For those who've never attended a festival before, "Eden" attempts to explain it all: the political/cultural climate and feminist utopian vision that created the early festivals; the organization and matriarchal structure; ceremonies and passages that take place on "the land"; controversies and generational shifts; even the vernacular unique to festival culture, dubbed "festivalese."

Unfortunately, the task Morris takes on is bigger than any one book could possibly cover. Being the first does not always equal being the best, and this effort that attempts to be the definitive text on festival culture has really just nipped the tip of the iceberg. Hopefully it will inspire others to delve deeper.

INFO

**Eden Built By Eves: The Culture of Women's Music Festivals**

Bonnie J. Morris

Alyson Publications, \$15.95





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# Muncheon

RESTAURANT REVIEWS

by LOOSEY & ETHYL

## Life's a buffet, so why are we starving to death?

Mame was right. Life is a buffet. There are so many choices to make and flavors to sample, that if you don't do it just right, you're gonna starve!

So today, dearies, we're gonna give you the final authority on how to buffet. First, you have to decide what you're in the mood to eat, 'cause they got buffets for just about anything your little heart might desire. You can find pizza (Pizza Hut, CiCi's) buffets, Chinese (Mandarin House, Cheung's Garden) buffets, Sushi/Japanese (Little Tokyo II, Kanpai) buffets, Mexican (Panchos) buffets, seafood (Seafood World) buffets, even soup and salad (Shoney's) buffets. And if you can't really decide what you want, if you know where to go, you can find buffets that have a little (or a lot) of everything (such as Ryan's Steak house or The Golden Corral Steak house, or one of the casino buffets).

After you've decided what kind of food you're in the mood for, then you pick the place. Do you want to drive far? Do you mind going to Metry or the West Bank? What about Chalmette? Are you going alone, or do you want to bring a group of co-eaters with you? Remember, they're going to say something about that egg roll you put in your pocket for later.

Okay, you're there. You're hungry. Let's eat. Not so fast, Mary. It's important to remember to save room for dessert. Or just eat dessert first. Loosey prefers lime Jello, whereas Aunt Loretta (sans teeth) just drools when she has tapioca in her mouth. Me, I go for the carrot cake (fiber, you know). Sometimes you don't have much choice for dessert, so you might have to grab a slice of a dessert pizza or be satisfied with sopapillas (you know, those Mexican beignets with honey instead of powdered sugar).

Then it's time to think beverage. Are refills included? Do you have to get them yourself? Do you want to pay a whole lot of cash for a glass of tea or cola? Will you be satisfied and satiated with water? Unless it's a breakfast buffet, we would rule out even considering coffee or hot tea. Also, FYI, the sake at the sushi buffet is not on the buffet; you pay for every little, bitty bottle.

We usually plan for at least two rounds of buffeting whenever we go. Three, if you include salads and other greens. Soups are generally a side item with trip number one. We've discovered that the best approach is to walk around and check out all the items on the buffet, see what catches your eye. You know that we eat with our brains as much as our mouths (well, actually, our mouths eat much more, especially Aunt Loretta's). Plop a sampling of between six and eight items on your plate (no more,

that's why you can go back) on each trip—oh, and gravy doesn't count as an item, and red beans and rice is also one item.

Don't forget your greens. Any buffet worth its salt will have green beans. Corn is also pretty popular, as well as carrots. We consider any cooked vegetable to be a "green." And so should you. Except mashed potatoes, and they're not really a green, although a baked potato can fall into that category if you sprinkle chives on top.

Are you going alone, or do you want to bring a group of co-eaters with you? Remember, they're going to say something about that egg roll you put in your pocket for later.

Entrées? Take your pick. Chicken in some form is guaranteed. And don't worry, Miss Manners says it's okay to eat chicken with your fingers. Don't rule out the beef choice, especially if it comes from a carving station. Shop around, 'cause you don't have to settle for the Steamship Roast Beef and can go for the prime rib. Ham and turkey are also quite popular at the carving stations. Remember, a little of everything and you'll be totally happy.

We've covered most of the victuals, but there are a few other fine points to consider. Timing. When do you go? We suggest you arrive either 10 minutes before the expected lunch (or dinner) rush or just before the lunch rush is expected to end (i.e. 12:45 or so). That way, you know the food is still fresh, and the crowd starts to thin out a bit. Try to avoid going within 30 minutes of the "closing" time, because that may mean the goodies that are left are the ones that are left and no fresh stuff is being placed on the steam tables.

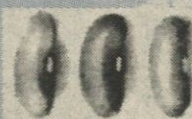
What about tipping? It's not a city in China, you know. Someone is taking your used plates away and topping off your beverages, and that someone deserves some largesse. Of course, you've been doing all the heavy lifting, but a couple of bucks per person is more than reasonable.

Oh, and one last bit of advice that works at any restaurant, as well as a buffet. If you're not totally satisfied, when the waiter, tea-filler or whomever comes by and asks if everything is all right, you simply say: "Can I get one of those little comment cards, please." We assure you, the level of service you receive will increase 10-fold. It works every time, trust!

Loosey & Ethyl are always on the lookout for meals and deals. If you would like us to dish you, let us know at [muncheon@hotmail.com](mailto:muncheon@hotmail.com).

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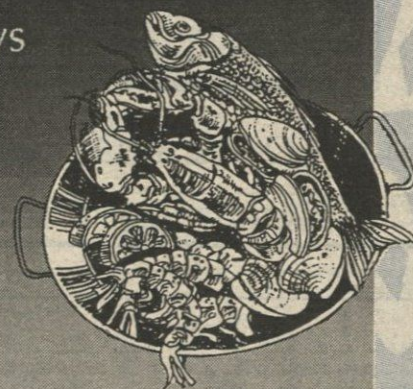


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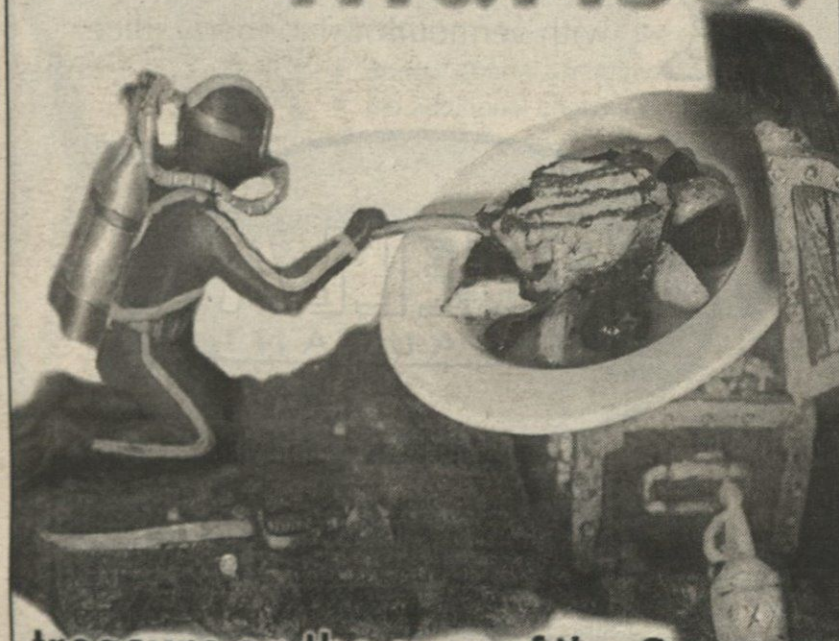
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# On Stage

THEATER REVIEW

by ROBERTS BATSON

## Shirl's back and Janet's got her

Okay, okay, enough already with the sensational headlines. Here's the story: Shirl Ciutat, a highly-beloved local actress (as well as French Quarter activist—her spirited leading of the Christmas caroling in Jackson Square is one of her many civic endeavors) had not acted for six years, following the illness and death of her husband Eldred, himself an outstandingly talented designer.

Another popular actor, Roy Dumont, had also been absent from local stages for an equally lengthy period. He and Ciutat are a familiar on-stage couple, appearing together in a number of plays; as a matter of fact, the last stage appearance for both had been in "Hello, Dolly!"

Janet Shea became interested in finding a vehicle she could direct that would entice Ciutat and Dumont back to acting together, and—to make a long story a little less long—a play named **SQUABBLES** was located and these two delightful pros are back on the boards at Carlone's Dinner Theatre.

"Squabbles" is a comedy about a crusty, retired New York City taxi driver named Abe Dreyfus. Newly widowed, he has moved into the Connecticut cottage of his daughter and son-in-law. They are named Alice and Jerry, a joke only the pre-Dick and Jane set will get. The kids are an attractive yuppie couple, she an attorney, he a writer of advertising jingles.

The comedy, such as it is, derives from the character of Abe, who has, throughout a lifetime of some seven-plus decades, made a point of arguing about everything with everyone. For him, squabbling is a lifestyle.

The plot twists when, suddenly, Alice finds she is pregnant and Jerry's mother, Mildred Sloan, calls to announce that her house in Rochester has burned to the ground. Naturally, she also moves in with the kids.

Now, what you need to know—if you haven't already guessed it—is that Alice's father and Jerry's mother HATE each other. The script, by Marshall Karp, is as formulaic as any run-of-the-mill television sitcom, and just as predictable. Guess what Abe and Mildred do when they're thrust under the same roof? Yes, indeed, **THEY SQUABBLE!!!**

Karp is unable to wring any amount of originality from this very unpromising premise. He rounds out the cast with a stereotypical Latino yard man (Hector Lopez), and a Yiddishuh retiree/sidekick for Abe named Sol Wasserman. (I swear, I'm not inventing any of this, but, then, neither did the playwright.)

Beyond banality, the second challenge in mounting a production of this potboiler is the struggle to make quarreling an enjoyable spectacle to observe. Unlike a Bernard Shaw or a Tom Stoppard, Karp goes for the low road in the art of the polemic.

So, how can Abe disagree without



Shirl Ciutat and Roy Dumont show how it's done.

becoming impossibly disagreeable? Director Shea has the answer: cast a very likable actor in the role, and hope his innate charm will somehow keep the character from turning the audience's recently-consumed buffet into after-dinner dyspepsia. Shea, and the audiences, are blessed to have Roy Dumont in this role. He not only creates a very credible New York Jewish accent, but he makes Abe a bearable curmudgeon.

Shirl Ciutat, as Jerry's mother, is easily his match. Like many great comics, she has an elastic face that she employs with consummate skill. When the tedium of the script becomes almost unbearable, a quick glance at Ciutat makes the whole evening worthwhile.

They are well supported by Rebecca Lovett and Michael Cahill as the young couple, both believable and pleasant. Peter Gabb makes the most of his bit as the side-kick Wasserman, and Miguel Malespin rips through the cardboard figure of Hector.

Director Shea keeps the action moving and the script as digestible as possible. Sean Stewart's set is attractive and functional, but Nykol's lighting is not. This is due to the theatre having in evidence only about half the lighting instruments necessary to illuminate this small stage. According to the amateurish program—confusingly filled with about a million errors, omissions, mistakes, and typos—costume design was "By the cast." Enough said.

The buffet is hearty and is enjoyed with a pre-show piano concert, which, all-in-all, make a visit to Carlone's a pleasant environment in which an audience can watch two veteran actors show the youngsters how to make lemonade out of a lemon of a script.

**INFO**

### "Squabbles"

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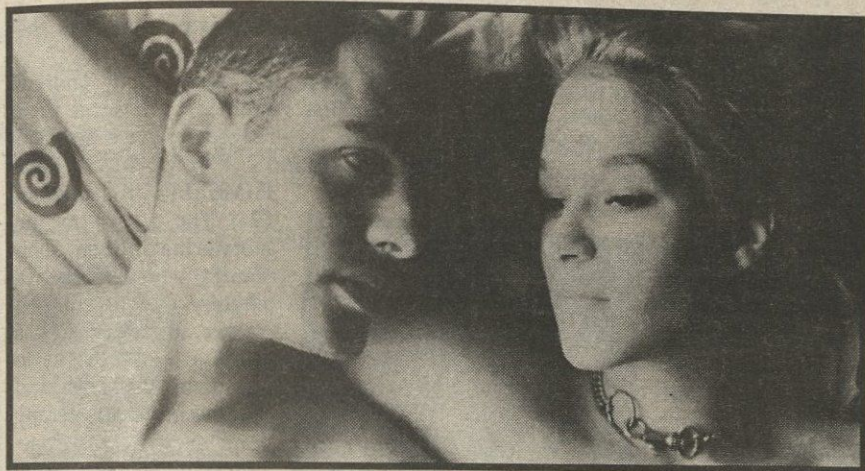


# On Screen

FILM, VIDEO  
& TELEVISION

by LUCAS J. MIRE

## Run to see "Witch" & "Lola"



Moritz Bleibtreu (Manni) and Franka Potente (Lola) share a rare moment of down time.

The war is raging! "Eyes Wide Shut" and THE BLAIR WITCH PROJECT are battling it out for the year's most-hyped feature film. But is this a war any film really wins?

Like "Eyes Wide Shut"—which I thoroughly enjoyed—the buzz around "The Blair Witch Project" walks that razor-sharp line of over-exposure. Sure, regardless of quality, both films will enjoy healthy box office tallies. But will moviegoers be as thrilled when they exit the theater as they were when they entered? Will there be repeat business? Probably not on both counts. But the films are worth a look.

In case you've been living under a pile of rocks, "Blair Witch" puts a faux-documentary spin on the horror genre. Made on a shoe-string budget, minus gore or special effects, the film tracks three filmmakers as they investigate the myth of the Blair Witch, an entity to which numerous deaths in the area are attributed. I won't write anymore to save the suspense, but rest assured that seeing "Blair Witch" is a sure-fire way to get the heebie-jeebies. It's spooky. It's creepy. And the performances are perfect, making what happens when the filmmakers get lost in the woods easy to swallow. Even the dead-end corner that the premise forces the film's final scene into doesn't take away from "Blair Witch's" spellbinding power. The audience didn't budge even after the final credits rolled.

For a film that packs more whollop than any in recent memory, check out the German import RUN LOLA RUN. When it comes to visual punch, I challenge anyone to find a more viscerally entertaining experience. "Lola" is part animation, part music video, part action film, part romance, fused with 100 percent passion and creativity.

### "Run Lola Run"

Starts Aug. 6, Canal Place Theater  
Directed by Tom Tykwer. Rated R  
Starring Franka Potente  
Call 581-5400 for showtimes

Director Tom Tykwer, who also composed the bulk of the film's excellent electronica-laden soundtrack, has a brilliant vision and it's realized to-the-max, up-sized and taken to the third power in "Run Lola Run."

The film's premise is simple: Lola has to find 100,000 marks in 20 minutes to save the life of her boyfriend, Manni, a courier for the mob. Fire-haired and fiery, Lola (Franka Potente) takes different approaches to getting the money, and along the way, Tykwer takes us on amazing five-second tangents about the people Lola "runs" into. Borrowing—and expanding on—the structure of "Sliding Doors," "Run Lola Run" is energizing and thought-provoking, arresting your attention from the first frames of the amazing opening sequence. Do not miss this film!

One hundred-eighty degrees from "Run Lola Run" is a decidedly non-star turn from gay icon Debrah Harry (Blondie) in SIX WAYS TO SUNDAY. A mob film mostly about a boy and his mom's twisted relationship, we've seen this psychosis done before—and much better. A friend who also saw the film found it entertaining and droll, especially R&B crooner Isaak Hayes in a supporting role. Die-hard Harry fans will want to check out her way offbeat performance. Otherwise, steer clear of "Sunday" and check out any other film from Movie Pitchers' usually fine line-up.

### "Six Ways to Sunday"

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### "The Blair Witch Project"

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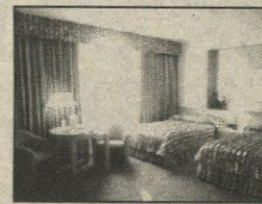
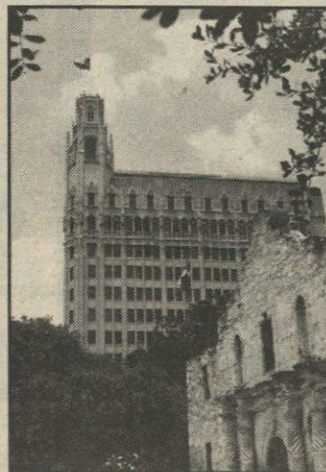
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## Out in Print

BOOK REVIEWS

by GREG HERREN

## Holleran remains genre leader

The publication of "Dancer from the Dance" firmly established Andrew Holleran as one of the top gay writers of the 20th Century. Many gay writers list the novel as one of the primary influences on their own work. The book has remained in print since its initial publication and remains as a landmark work, not just for its high literary quality, but as one of the first gay-themed novels to have a crossover success into the mainstream.

Holleran has only published two other novels since this work, as well as a collection of essays. Now, Hyperion has brought out a collection of short stories — **IN SEPTEMBER, THE LIGHT CHANGES** — that will certainly please his legion of fans.

Holleran's style remains as fresh as ever, and the deep senses of melancholy and loneliness that pervades his previous works are not absent here. Holleran also uses his traditional style of "narrator as observer" in telling many of the stories. Oddly enough, the most effecting of the stories are the ones where Holleran departs from his traditional manner.

"Petunias" is one of the most brilliant stories I have ever read and shows Holleran at his story-telling finest. This story chronicles the return to Fire Island of a recovering alcoholic escaping from a disastrous life in New Orleans. He gets a job managing a restaurant; and slowly begins to develop a relationship with one of the young waiters, a relationship that is emotionally and intellectually fulfilling and helps him come to an understanding that his life is not over.

Two other stories, "Blorts" and "Joshua and Clark," examine the tentative friendships that gay men can develop, relationships that can satisfy the need for companionship without sex, and how uneasy those relationships can be. "Innocence and Longing" examines the old adage of "be careful what you wish for" and how fantasies can be eminently more fulfilling than reality. Other topics he tackles are aging, loneliness, and the dissolution of an old

friendship ("Amsterdam," perhaps the most melancholy of all the tales).

The party boy scene that Andrew Holleran first examined in "Dancer from the Dance" is dredged up once again in Orland Outland's **EVERY MAN FOR**

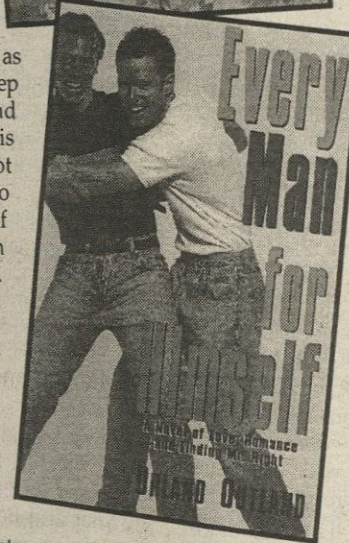
**HIMSELF** (Kensington, \$23). The premise of the story is that the hero, John Eames, who was always slightly overweight and rather unattractive, has survived HIV thanks to the drug cocktails, and thanks to steroid therapy and exercise, has transformed himself from ugly duckling to swan. Now, beautiful men are hitting on him, and his own relationship has gone stale. John decides that he wants to experience the youth he was denied by being unattractive, and before long is swept along into the lurid world of boy bars, drugs, and dancing.

The book, though highly predictable, is a fun read if you're looking for something light. It does have a habit of lapsing into lecture, like when John chastises his much younger friends for adulating President Reagan, or when he explains to them what ACT UP rallies were like. It also has some unrealistic moments, like the assumption that everyone

in the bars are in their early 20s, making John always the oldest guy there.

Yet there are some gems in this book. Outland's depiction of what it is like to be dancing in a gay bar is probably the most on target I've ever come across, right down to the sirens going off during the music, everyone removing their shirts and waving their hands in the air. He also writes quite knowledgeably about how to pick someone up on the dance floor, from the first tentative touch to the grinding.

John is a quite likable character, and one most gay men will be able to relate to. You can't help but root for him on his voyage of discovery. The only flaw is the predictability of the book. Still, the journey was fun, thanks to Outland's talent. It will be interesting to see how his career progresses.





# "Quote unquote"

compiled by REX WOCKNER & STAFF

"We are tied to the ocean. When we go back to the sea, whether it is to sail or to watch it, we are going back from whence we came."  
Pres. John F. Kennedy at a 1962 dinner. His son, JFK Jr., who died in a plane crash July 16, was buried at sea July 22 with his wife, Carolyn, and sister-in-law, Lauren Bessette.

"[The Republican Party] has become an angry, narrow-minded, intolerant and uncaring majority, incapable of governing at all, much less from the center, and tone-deaf to the concerns of a vast majority of Americans."

Long Island Congressman Michael Forbes, who switched affiliation from the GOP to the Democrats, the first member of Congress to do so in a quarter century.



"We were both in suits and he sat across from me and we had a conversation for a while that was clearly about nothing to do with what was on our minds. And finally he said, 'Well, I should be over there or you should be over here,' which I thought was about the sexiest thing I had ever heard anybody say. I don't remember which one of us budged, but we did. And we had a sort of making-out session. We were finally rolling around on the floor when he said, 'Hang on,' and he produced a little black leather case that had R H embossed on

it in gold. And he unzipped it and pulled out his poppers. He had a personalized Rock Hudson popper case! And I completely lost my hard-on. I was so overwhelmed at the notion that I was about to go to bed with Rock Hudson. Not to mention the fact that I'd just seen the baby's arm hanging between his legs. And we sat on the couch together and he put his arm around me and said, 'You know I'm just another guy, like any other guy. You know that, don't you?' And all I could say to that was, 'No. You're not. And I'm Doris Day.'"

"Tales of the City" author Armistead Maupin on the first of his several sexual encounters with Rock Hudson, in the new biography "Armistead Maupin" by Patrick Gale.



"One of the earliest and most trenchant intimations I had of my own homosexuality came while watching Tom Cruise in the 1983 comedy 'Risky Business.' I say this with a certain amount of embarrassment because who, after all, wants to admit to being aroused, as a 10-year-old boy, at the sight of a barely-post-pubescent-himself movie star dancing in his snug white cotton underwear?"

Christopher Kelly, writing in *Salon* magazine.



"I have this huge family that's been decimated by alcoholism and drugs and violence and I'm their role model. Because I live in California and have a mortgage. Because I've been on television and I kissed Angelica Huston. It's about as much as any of them can imagine being a triumph."

Author Dorothy Allison, left, to Boston's *Bay Windows*.

"If they sent a check to my campaign, I would not turn it away. Because what that says to me is, they're accepting my agenda."

Presidential candidate Elizabeth Dole when asked on NBC's "Today" show: "Do you want the support of the Log Cabin Republicans? They're a group of gay Republicans."

"I never imagined living past 30. You always set yourself dates when you are a kid. [I set it] when I saw my first James Dean film. When I was a kid, as opposed to now, I kind of looked up at the tragic rather than looking down on it. Everyone wanted to suffer, wanted to live like Montgomery Clift or Patti Smith."

Gay actor Rupert Everett to *Newsweek*.

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# Mental Check

ADVICE

by MINDY MILAM, BCSW

## The road to coming out, pt. II

Picking up where my last column on coming out left off, I'd like review some of the reasons people are not out and how they are affected.

Some lesbians and gay men have not come out because they are afraid of other people's reactions to them. They know that some people look down on or actually condemn homosexuality, and they do not want to experience this. The approval of other people is important to them, and they do not want to lose that.

Some lesbians and gay men are afraid that others will treat them differently or change their opinion about them if they know about their homosexuality. And some people are afraid that in work situations, they could be fired because they are gay. They don't want to risk this, even if their bosses or supervisors appear to be accepting.

There is some risk when you let people know the real you. Whenever you allow the real you to be known, whether through coming out or taking a stance on something or letting people know your opinions, you risk their criticism or rejection. There will always be people who disagree with or disapprove of you as a result of your opinions or beliefs.

I believe that each one of us must prioritize how we want to live our lives. Some questions to ask ourselves are: *How congruent do I want to be in my work and personal life? Do I want to lead a dual life? What are the costs of doing so? What are the benefits? How does the way I live affect how I feel about myself? Am I trading quality of life for acceptance? Does that acceptance have value when I am not letting people know the real me, and therefore they are not accepting the real me?*

Some people are not out to their families or friends because they are afraid of rejection. Others do not want to disappoint family members. Some people have a tendency to avoid conflict, so prefer to not disclose much about themselves. Others believe they have to protect family members from the truth because they think the family member(s) cannot handle it.

Often people feel certain about what the outcome would be if they came out, so they are reluctant to change the ways they relate to their families by coming out.

It can be helpful to determine what type of relationship you want to have with your family and friends. You can ask yourself how important is it to have an "authentic" relationship with these people.

Characteristics of an authentic relationship include honesty, trust, humor, being real and not pretending.

Is it possible to have an authentic relationship and not be out to someone? If we love someone, what does it do to the quality of the relationship to not be out to them? Are we depriving them of an opportunity to know the real us, and perhaps to learn and grow as a result?

Certainly family members must go through their own process of acceptance when we come out to them, just as we have to go through our process of self-acceptance. Friends and family members have an opportunity to expand their world view when we come out to them.

Some people are not out because they feel shame about being lesbian or gay. They have internalized the negative messages in society about being gay/lesbian and believe that they are flawed, or dirty, or unworthy because they are homosexual. They view being gay as bad, even though most feel they were born this way. They are in conflict about living a gay life, and may not believe that they deserve to be happy, or to enjoy the same rights or benefits as others.

One way to combat shame about being gay or lesbian is to expose ourselves to people and events that are lesbian/gay positive. This may be by joining an organization with lesbians and gays we admire, or joining a lesbian/gay friendly church, or reading lesbian/gay positive books. We are bombarded with anti-gay messages in our culture—from Jerry Falwell and Dr. Laura, for example—and need to seek out positive experiences that will balance the negative viewpoints.

Some people who are not out do not struggle with that decision. They have decided that is the best way for them to structure their life, and are satisfied with their decision. They may resent others telling them "out is better" and feel they lead a satisfying life without others having to know about their homosexuality.

Other people struggle a lot with some of the consequences of not coming out. They do not like leading a split life or having to keep parts of their lives secret. They do not like having to be distant from people because if people get too close to them they may figure it out. And they don't like pretending to be someone they are not.

These people also don't like acting like their lover is "just a friend" because it can diminish the importance of the relationship and hurt the other's feelings. They don't like having to attend family functions without their partners or to tolerate questions from family members about whom they are dating.

Some people experience anxiety about how to explain their living arrangements with someone to family, friends or co-workers. As a result, they may end their relationship to avoid having to deal with these issues.

There is not one "right way" to handle coming out. We all must figure out for ourselves how we want to handle these questions and situations. Look for more on this next month, and send your comments and questions to me at IMPACT News.

Mindy Milam is a licensed therapist who works on a variety of issues with adults. She can be reached via e-mail at [editor@impactnews.com](mailto:editor@impactnews.com).



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# Michigan is a festival by, for and about womyn

➤ continued from page 17

who will stand off in a Battle of the Bands the final day of the festival.

The music and other cultural performances, however, are not the only reason women flock to this northern rural mecca every summer. In a patriarchal society that typically undervalues women and their myriad cultural contributions, the act of women gathering together to celebrate each other and their abilities is still revolutionary.

Many women who attend MWMF cite the spiritual and emotional benefits of being part of such a large women-only gathering as the main draw, affording them the opportunity to learn new skills for self-growth and community building.

To facilitate this, a rigorous lineup of workshops covering topics as diverse as tarot card reading and self-defense, to lesbian polyamory and salsa dancing, give women plenty of ways to network with and to learn from each other.

Cerebral subject matter like "The Feminist Apocalypse," "Beyond The Beauty Myth," and "Strategies For Self-Sufficient Living" will stretch your mind in day-long intensive workshops. And if you want to learn to drum, stilt-walk, Israeli folk dance, or play flamenco guitar, you

can also do that at Michigan this year.

Whether attending for political, personal, or purely vacation purposes, MWMF offers a good bang for your buck. A sliding scale of \$290-340 for the full six-day pass (less for shorter stays) covers three vegetarian meals a day, around the clock entertainment, workshops, films and videos, plus a host of other activities too numerous to name.

If you've been before, you probably already have your ticket and are just itching to get to "the land." If not, it's not too late to call in sick to work, book a last-minute flight or pack the car for a roadtrip.

And if you just can't make it this year, start making your plans now for next year's Millennial MWMF—and its 25th anniversary. It's bound to be even bigger and better than usual.

For more information about MWMF, point your web browser to [www.michfest.com](http://www.michfest.com).

INFO

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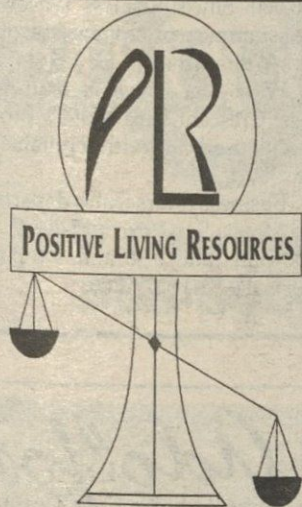
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# Out in the community

## LGCCNO

The Lesbian and Gay Community Center of New Orleans (LGCCNO) will hold its annual membership party to celebrate the dedication of their members, supporters and volunteers during the past year. Volunteers and others who have gone the "extra mile" will be honored. All members and those who'd like to become members are invited. The party will be held at 2114 Decatur St. from 7-10 p.m. on Aug. 14. Food and refreshments will be provided.

## THEATER



Babes up in arms (l to r) Jason George and Jessica Marasco are two of the more than 50 youngsters in NORD Theatre's Summer Youth Workshop production of Rodgers & Hart's "Babes in Arms," opening Aug. 5. Call 565-7860 for reservations.

NORD Theatre director Ty Tracy is proud to announce the 1999 Summer Youth Workshop production of the Rodgers and Hart musical, **BABES IN ARMS**, opening Aug. 5, at NORD's Gallier Hall, 705 Lafayette St. A talented cast of more than 50 youngsters star in the "let's put on a show" classic. Performances are at 8 p.m. on Aug. 5-7; 13-14; 20-21, and at 4 p.m. for Sunday matinees on August 8, 15 & 22. Tickets are \$10. For reservations or additional information, call (504) 565-7860.

...AND THE BALL AND ALL has been held over through Sunday, Aug. 15. Performances are Friday and Saturday at 8 p.m. and Sunday at 2 p.m. at Southern Rep Theatre, Canal Place. For more information, call (504) 897-0657 or 523-0945.

## ART

The Arts Council of New Orleans Entergy Arts Business Center will present the Performing Artist Entrepreneur Workshop on Friday, Aug. 13, from 9 a.m.-4 p.m. This all-day event is designed to help actors and performing artists develop business skills to market themselves and their work more effectively. The event features a series of five panel sessions. The cost is \$30 for Entergy Arts Business Center members and \$40 for non-members. To register, call (504) 523-1465. Deadline for registration is Aug. 10.

## PRESTIGIOUS AWARD

Deveney Communications was recently named the sixth Jake Wittmer Award recipient at an international conference held in Washington, D.C. The award was for the firm's work on the NO/AIDS Task Force Handbook. The Jake Wittmer is the highest honor given worldwide in the communication profession, and recognizes outstanding research, implementation and results. Deveney Communications is a public relations firm that specializes in media relations, Internet marketing, community relations and crisis management.

## 1999 ACCLAIM AWARDS

The Forum for Equality will present its 1999 ACCLAIM AWARDS on Sept. 25 at the Red Room on St. Charles Avenue. Nominations will be accepted in the following categories: political activism; HIV/AIDS activism; political figure; media figure; chairman's award (all around gay & lesbian community leader).

To nominate someone, fill out the following information and mail it to the nomination committee, c/o Forum for Equality, 333 St. Charles Ave., New Orleans, LA 70130, before Aug. 15. Information: category; nominee's name, address, telephone number; reason why the individual should be honored.

## SPOTLIGHT

# Get in the driver's seat

by MARTHA PITTS

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Crescent City Motors specializes in European and imported cars. Prices vary, ranging from \$3,995 to \$50,000. Since business is slower in the summer, prices are negotiable, says Williamson.

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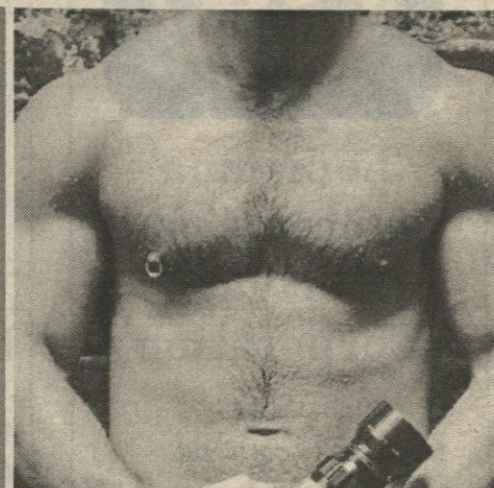
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