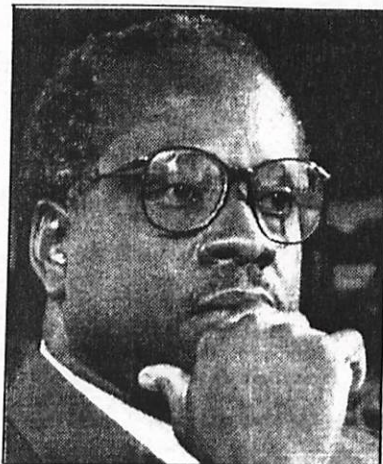


INSIDE THE BELTWAY

John McCaslin



Justice Thomas had more success with the Senate Judiciary Committee than he did on the basketball court.

first time the law clerks had persuaded the 44-year-old justice to play basketball with them.

Telling it straight

Just as homosexuals prepare to march on Washington, the Washington Blade, a leading newspaper for homosexuals, has published an unprecedented article calling on AIDS activists to shut up and admit, once and for all, that AIDS is "a gay disease."

"I have had it up to the top of my well-above-ground-level ears with the leaders in the AIDS community who insist that the only way to get the attention of the power establishment is to convince them that this disease is going to infect those in power or people just like them," writes James Gilden, a homosexual

free-lance writer and playwright from Santa Paula, Calif. "The possibility of it ever infecting the heterosexual community in this country to the degree it has decimated the gay community is nil, and it is clear that the political powers that be feel the same.

"Even after 10 years of efforts to convince the Reagans and Bushes and now Clintons . . . that this disease is gonna get 'em if they don't watch out, nobody buys it. I don't buy it, the majority of heterosexuals I speak with don't buy it, and you can be damn sure the straight white male power brokers don't buy it," he writes.

One reason "it is not ever going to infect the heterosexuals as it has us is because gay men have a great deal more opportunity for multiple sex partners than heterosexuals do with their rigid, archaic rules and codes regarding sex," says Mr. Gilden.

"Most hetero men I speak to envy gay men. . . . A gay man can step off a plane in any strange city in this country and find a place for casual sex in less than an hour. Straights must play the game, so naturally have less opportunity, even if equal desire."

Clinton's gigabytes

This newspaper reported on its front page a few weeks ago that Clinton presidential aides boxed up and sent to storage thousands of unprocessed resumes. A few days later, this column told how Bush aides did the exact same thing with