

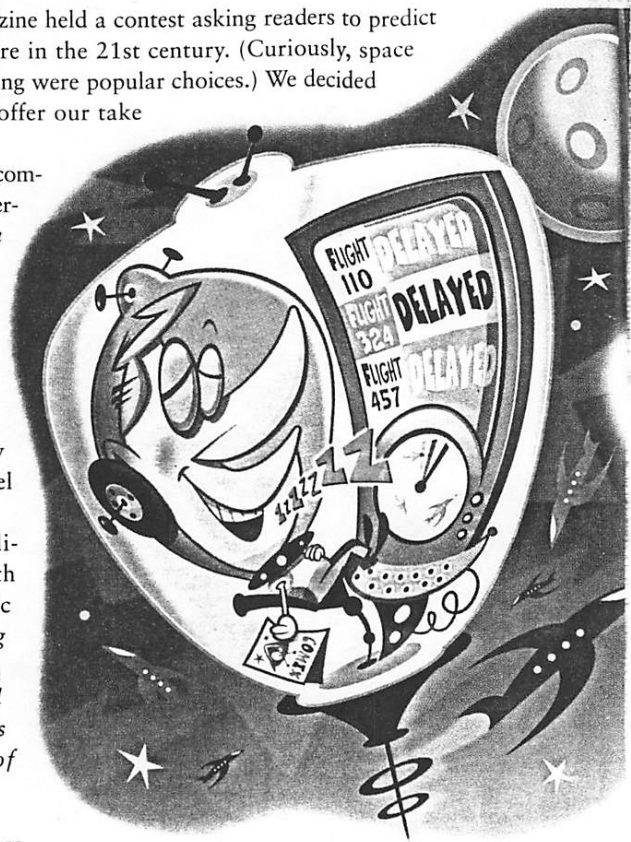
# Okay, Where's My Hovercar?!

**B**ack in 1973, *Atlanta Magazine* held a contest asking readers to predict what life would be like here in the 21st century. (Curiously, space travel and underground living were popular choices.) We decided to revisit those predictions and offer our take on how far we've really come.

- Atlanta will be "operated by a computer . . . located in what is Underground Atlanta." Or . . . by an idiot located in City Hall.
- There will be "flights to the moon from Hartsfield International Airport." Or . . . flight delays that just feel like they're measured in light years.
- Atlanta will be "the largest city in the world." Or . . . just feel like it during rush hour.
- Atlanta will be "an air-conditioned, domed inner city with pedestrian malls and electric vehicles." Or . . . a sprawling labyrinth of mega-malls, Shrinky Dinks suburbs, and congestion-choked highways ceilinged by a thick haze of pollution.

So much for prognostication.

— J.V.



## Star Struck by Todd Murphy

What do Sting, Michael Stipe, Halle Berry, Elton John and Antonio "L.A." Reid all have in common — besides being big stars?

They all own art by longtime Atlantan Todd Murphy.

"Right now I have two of his paintings in my home in Atlanta," says Reid, who became president of Arista Records in New York last year after building LaFace Records in Atlanta into a major label.

"As Todd grows as an artist, I want my collection of his paintings to grow as well."

Murphy, 38, who grew up in Atlanta and lives in Staunton, Va.,



Murphy, inset, and one of his paintings, *King of Birds*.

downplays celebrities' fascination with his work. "It's great, but I think it's great when ordinary people buy it, too," he says, declining to speculate on what attracts such A-listers.

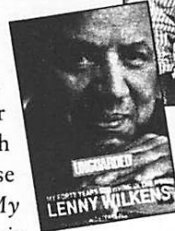
Not so his Atlanta art dealer, Bill Lowe, of The Lowe Gallery. "Todd's work has captured the imagination of the new Titans of our culture. . . . If you have made it big, and you did it on your own terms, and you like art, then you probably own a Todd Murphy. . . . His work is extremely heroic. There is also a hugely romantic and theatrical quality to it." Murphy aficionados, says Lowe, are "a new cross-section of the ultra-rich. Todd's their darling."

— LINDA SHERBERT

## Hitting the Streets

**B**eloved native son Jimmy Carter has a new memoir out this month. In *An Hour Before Daylight: Memories of a Rural Boyhood* (Simon & Schuster), Carter writes about the relationships that shaped his early life, including those with his father and mother, and the boyhood friends who played with him but could not attend his white school. . . . Also sharing tales in January is former Atlanta Hawks coach Lenny Wilkens, whose book *Unguarded: My Forty Years Surviving in the NBA* (Simon & Schuster) details his life as both a Basketball Hall of Fame player and coach, and offers behind-the-scenes insight into the NBA. . . .

Atlanta-based TNT ramps up its slate of original program-



Left, *Unguarded* by Lenny Wilkens. Top, Tom Selleck and Virginia Madsen in TNT's *Crossfire Trail*. Top right, Jeff Foxworthy's 2001 calendar.

ming in 2001, with new episodes of its first original series, *Bull*, as well as premieres of original movies *The*



Warden Januar 15 and Loui L'Amour's *Crossfire Trail*, the film adaptation of L'Amour's classi

Western novel, January 21 *The Warden* stars Ally Sheed as the first female warden in an all-male maximum security prison. *Crossfire Trail*, about a nomadic cowboy who promises to look after the wife of his dead friend, features Tom Selleck, Mark Harmon, Virginia Madsen and Wilford Brimley. . . . Lighter rural fare comes from Longstreet Premier in the form of perennial redneck and Atlanta resident Jeff Foxworthy, whose 2001 calendar offers 365 days worth of his "You Might Be Redneck If . . ." schtick. — J.