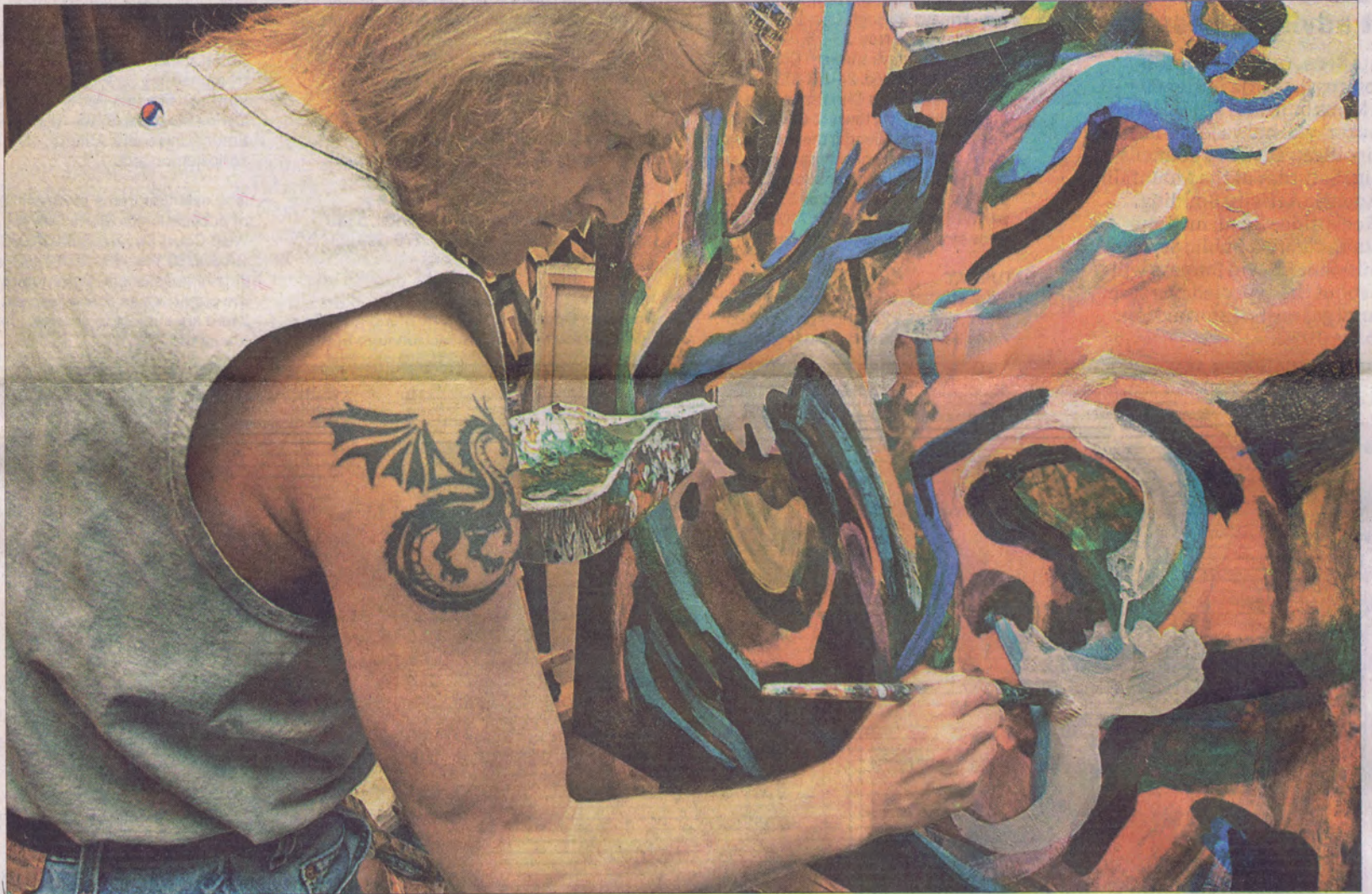


After his sight was stolen by meningitis, a longtime artist had to find new ways to express his talents

# Following his instincts



Photos by RENÉE HANNANS HENRY/Staff

Allan Eddy works on a piece that combines paint and sculptural elements. He has extremely limited sight since illness struck in 2000.

By BILL BANKS / For the Journal-Constitution

Artist Allan Eddy debuts his recent work on Friday at Atlanta's Mason Murer Gallery.

Probably the most ambitious piece, called "Proof of Dragons," blends intricate paper sculpture with the swirling turbulence of abstract expressionist painting.

In every facet, it's an astonishing work — even if one doesn't know that Eddy's been legally blind for the past five years.

Eddy, 43, grew up mostly in Forest Park and Jonesboro but has lived for the past 10 years near Emory Univer-



sity, sharing a home with Marc Sherman, his partner of 24 years.

He has drawn for as long as he can remember: in school textbooks, in his

mother's scrapbooks, and just about every other blank space in between. During his late teenage years, he briefly considered a law degree — "I do like to argue," Eddy said — but his enduring distaste for school shelved those plans.

He graduated from the Atlanta College of Art in 1987 and had his first art show one day later. For years, he's had a loyal core of admirers, including Elton John, who bought one of his paintings

in the mid-1990s.

► Please see **ARTIST, J4**

## NEW WORKS FROM ALLAN EDDY

- **Where:** Mason Murer Fine Arts, 199 Armour Drive, Atlanta 30324.
- **When:** Friday to Dec. 31. Opening reception 7-10 p.m. Friday.
- **Contact info:** 404-879-1500.
- **On the Web:** [www.allaneddy.com](http://www.allaneddy.com)

## BEST BET

### Come celebrate Christmas

The Christmas season is already in full swing at Stone Mountain Park, with Santa Claus just one highlight of the offerings. Each activity-packed evening includes snow made by the Snow Angel, live entertainment, a marshmallow and hot dog roast over a bonfire, a Christmas 4-D movie, a holiday laser show and train ride, fireworks and a kids' land complete with "Caroloke." For the schedule and other information, call 770-498-5690 or visit [www.stonemountainpark.com](http://www.stonemountainpark.com).



Stone Mountain Park

## HIGH SCHOOL FOOTBALL

### 3 head to qu

By MICHAEL CARVELL  
[mcarvell@ajc.com](mailto:mcarvell@ajc.com)

Southwest DeKalb, Marist and Stephenson are the only area high school football teams to reach the quarterfinals of the state playoffs.

Teams that win this week will advance to play in the Georgia Dome, site of the semifinal games for all five classifications.

Southwest DeKalb (8-4) will go on the road for the third straight week, playing at No. 2-ranked Statesboro (12-0). No. 10 Marist (11-1) will square off against Baldwin (9-3) in Macon,