

A Weekly Community News Publication

Nine Montrose 'street kids' arrested
in brutal attack on fellow runaway

By SHERI COHEN DARBONNE

Houston Voice Editor

The savage beating and torture of a teenage runaway in an alleged drug-related retaliation case unfolded this week in the grim roundup of at least nine youths—male and female—most of them said to be living, at least part-time, on the streets of Montrose. Several of the suspects, as well as the 17-year-old victim, were clients of the Houston Institute for the Protection of Youth (HIPY), an agency that serves runaways and homeless youth.

On Tuesday, Houston Police Homicide investigators reported that five

people had been arrested and charged with the aggravated kidnapping of Rudy Meinecke, who allegedly was held captive in a closet at a Montrose apartment and tortured continuously for several days.

The police would not discuss the motive for the attack, but other sources said the youths, including the victim, were involved in drugs and prostitution and that Meinecke had crossed the group in some way—according to some reports, by stealing drug money and others, by informing police about the others' activities.

Gallemore said the assailants had planned to make the attack look like a gay-bashing.

The five suspects for whom charges were known at press time were Darrell Daniel (also known as Darold Latrale Alexander), 19; Lisa Mae Badger, 18, of the 200 Block of Rock Haven; Christopher Daniel Taylor, 22, of the 7200 block of South 42nd Street; Timothy Joe Lathrop, 19, of West Unity, Ohio; and Hesper Loriane Castro, 17, who listed the address of HIPY's drop-in center at 600 Westheimer as her home address.

On Wednesday morning, HPD spokesperson Robert Hurst said four more suspects had been arrested. Charges had not been received by the Voice's press deadline.

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Gay candidate among 19
on ballot Jan. 21

By SHERI COHEN DARBONNE

Houston Voice Editor

As expected, openly lesbian civic activist and former Houston Gay and Lesbian Political Caucus president Annise Parker has officially entered the special election to replace Congress Member-elect Sheila Jackson Lee on the Houston City Council.

She has her work cut out for her.

By the deadline Wednesday, Dec. 21, a total of 19 candidates had filed. Among others in the crowded race, Parker faces a former member of the anti-gay Straight Slate, Jim Kennedy, who nearly unseated popular incumbent Council member Eleanor Tinsley two years ago, and at least two other candidates with ties to the conservative right wing. There are two candidates, reported by some analysts as possible front runners, who have power-

ful financial support bases: outgoing state District Judge John Peavy and outgoing District Clerk Kathryn Tyra. (Early on, Tyra had the stated support of Christian conservative groups—at least before Kennedy, who has pulled Radical Right backing in his other efforts, entered the race).

As well, special elections are known for low voter turnout, and this one, scheduled in the shadow of the hectic holiday season, is expected to pull fewer than 100,000 of the city's 770,000 registered voters to the polls. (The low expected turnout, however, might also serve to make the race winnable for those candidates who are able to turn out their own support bases—a quirk that apparently made the contest attractive to a diverse group of hopefuls.)

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Houston Symphony's performance of composer's response to
AIDS kicks off barrier-breaking '95 gay arts calendar

By ANDREW EDMONSON

Houston Voice/Houston

In 1995, the gay and lesbian cultural contribution spills into the mainstream of local performing arts seasons with a more resounding splash than ever before.

The explosion of queer art in Houston begins Jan. 7-9 when the venerable Houston Symphony performs the openly gay composer John Corigliano's Symphony No. 1, a symphonic



Openly gay composer John Corigliano will also speak at a free public forum on Jan. 6 at the Ritz Carlton Hotel

memorial to friends lost to AIDS.

The momentum continues through the month of January when Houston Grand Opera presents the world premiere of the controversial new opera "Harvey Milk," based on the life of the San Francisco gay activist and city official.

In April, "Angels in America," Tony Kushner's two part epic on AIDS and American life in the 1980's, descends on the Alley's Neuhaus Arena Stage for a two month run.

The Houston Symphony appears to have been touched by the activist fervor sweeping the city. "Our world has been deeply affect by AIDS, and we at the Houston Symphony have personally felt the tragedy of AIDS," observed David M. Wax, executive director of the Houston Symphony. "The presentation of John Corigliano's First Symphony is a noteworthy musical event in Houston—first, for the sheer musical import; and second, for the Symphony's concern with the AIDS epidemic."

Houston Symphony is certainly putting its money where its mouth is. In conjunction with this series of performances, the organization is undertaking a special campaign to raise on behalf of AIDS Foundation Houston. For every single ticket of at least \$20 that is sold, the Houston Symphony will contribute \$10 to AIDS Founda-

tion Houston (AFH). In addition, Symphony staffers are collecting non-perishable food and personal hygiene items at each concert. These items will then be donated to AFH's Stone Soup Food Assistance Program.

Corigliano's Symphony No. 1 will be performed with Wagner's "Siegfried Idyll" and Beethoven's Piano Concerto No. 4, featuring noted American pianist Peter Serkin. Houston Symphony Music Director Christoph Eschenbach will conduct the three works. Fresh from its triumphant tour of the Northeast under Eschenbach's celebrated leadership, the orchestra should give memorable interpretations of all three works.

Corigliano has stated that he wishes to reach out past the cloistered concert halls and touch a larger public. "It has been fashionable of late," he noted, "for the artist to be misunderstood. I think it is the job of the composer to reach out to his audience with every means at his disposal...Communication of his most important ideas should be the primary goal.

He certainly seems to be achieving his objectives. The recording of his Symphony No. 1 rose quickly to the top of the Billboard charts, where it remained for an exceptional 69 weeks. Symphony No. 1 received two Grammy

Awards in 1992—for Best Contemporary Classical Composition and Best Orchestral Performance—as well as a Stereo Review Record of the Year Award in 1991.

The Symphony has been more widely performed than any other recent American symphony. Such august institutions as the New York Philharmonic and the San Francisco Symphony have essayed the work. Writing in The New York Times, a classical musical critic John Rockwell observed, "(This concert)...marks the arrival of a major new orchestral score, one that addresses a terrible crisis of our time and also manages to make impressive sense on abstract esthetic terms."

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"TELL 'EM YOU SAW IT IN THE HOUSTON VOICE"

Despite setbacks, 1994 was a productive year for gay and lesbian rights

Guest Commentary

By **TIM McFEELEY**
FOR THE HOUSTON VOICE

(Editor's note: Tim McFeeley is the outgoing executive director of the Human Rights Campaign Fund. He retires from the post, which he has held since 1989, in January).

Considering the progress we've made in the past 12 months, 1994 may go down in history as one of the most productive years since the beginning of the modern movement for lesbian and gay equal rights. Despite some setbacks and disappointments, 1994 produced many more victories than defeats for the lesbian and gay community on the national political scene. Along the way, we have shown ourselves to be more sophisticated and effective in educating the general public about our issues and building support for equal rights.

Victories against our foes: Among the advances we made in 1994 were major wins against our foes. We kept anti-gay initiatives off ballots in eight states, and defeated those that appeared in Idaho and Oregon. We were instrumental in denying Oliver North a seat in the U.S. Senate. In Congress, we beat anti-gay legislation introduced by Senator Jesse Helms (R-N.C.) that targeted gay youth for discrimination in schools and

restricted access to condoms in high school health clinics. We also shot down an attempt by anti-gay extremist Rep. Bob Dornan (R-Calif.) to summarily dismiss HIV-positive service members from the military.

Progress towards equal rights: The Employment Non-Discrimination Act (ENDA), a new federal bill to prohibit anti-gay job discrimination, gathered more co sponsors in four months than the Gay Civil Rights Bill did in the previous 15 years. ENDA put on track the long-term strategy that will bring about equality under federal law. The Senate held its first hearing ever on legislation that would extend any form of civil rights protection to lesbian and gay people.

A place at the table of the civil rights movement: Mrs. Coretta Scott King spoke at the introduction of ENDA, calling the bill a priority for the civil rights movement. The Leadership Conference on Civil Rights, which is the nation's largest and oldest civil rights coalition, invited the Human Rights Campaign Fund (HRCF), the largest national lesbian and gay rights organization, to serve on its executive committee.

Broader support among non-gay Americans: a series of polls on public attitudes showed consistent, bipartisan support for equal rights and against discrimination on the basis of sexual orientation. Majorities

of Republicans, Democrats and Independents polled this year said that no one should be singled out for discrimination, particularly in the work place, merely for being gay, lesbian or bisexual. Retired Sen. Barry Goldwater (R-Ariz.) and Gov. Barbara Roberts (D-Ore.) co-chaired HRCF's Americans Against Discrimination program to defeat anti-gay ballot initiatives.

Achievements from the Executive Branch: President Clinton issued a letter condemning discriminatory statewide ballot measures; signed the Hate Crimes Sentencing Enhancement Act into law, thereby strengthening federal penalties for bias motivated crimes—including gay-bashing; and appointed Deborah Batts as the first openly lesbian or gay federal judge. The Justice Department issued a temporary waiver of the HIV immigration ban for athletes attending the 1994 Gay Games in New York.

Unprecedented visibility and involvement: More than 250 National Coming Out Day events were held in all 50 states, generating an unprecedented level of media coverage. To lobby at the federal level, HRCF enlisted more than 4000 local activists in all 50 states through a new Federal Advocacy Network. A travelling computer generated 60,000 personal letters to congress, and mes-

sages sent by participants in our Speak Out program topped the 1.2 million mark.

Cooperation on a national scale: The five largest gay, lesbian and gay supportive organizations in the country pooled their resources for the first time ever and raised funds nationally to defeat state anti-gay initiatives. A people of color summit held at HRCF brought together more than a dozen groups representing African-Americans, Latinos and Latinas, Asians, Pacific Islanders and Native Americans to discuss strategies for countering the radical right. More than two dozen lesbian health professionals gathered in Washington for the first-ever "Lesbian Health Roundtable," bringing formidable expertise and knowledge to bear on lesbian health issues.

The list goes on: Taking stock of our accomplishments is not about taking credit and feeling good. As we enter a new era of unprecedented challenge, we need to know exactly where we stand. An assessment of 1994 shows that we can face adversity and win, find new allies for our cause, and build the groundwork necessary to advance from a position of strength. As I leave my position as the head of the largest national lesbian and gay equal rights organization, I see a future full of hope and confidence for our movement and our community.



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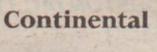
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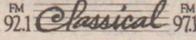
Share a special evening of music and discussion with composer John Corigliano, Maestro Christoph Eschenbach and Conductor-in-Residence Stephen Stein-Friday, January 6, at The Ballroom of The Ritz-Carlton, Houston from 6:30 p.m. to 8:30 p.m.
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'Beach Blanket Babylon' creator has AIDS, but show to continue

SAN FRANCISCO, Friday, Dec. 23 (AP)—"Beach Blanket Babylon," the nation's longest running musical review, will continue its 20-year run even though the show's creator, Steve Silver, has AIDS.

Silver, 50, producer and director of the show, told the cast Wednesday that he has been HIV positive for 13 years and has had full-blown AIDS for five.

"He's sick, but he's definitely working on his show," said his recent bride Jo Schuman. "All he cares about is getting a new show out."

"Beach Blanket Babylon," now at

Club Fugazi in San Francisco, celebrated its 20th anniversary in May with a sold-out gala at the Opera House.

The show began as street theater in North Beach, and was mounted at the Savoy Tivoli on Grant Avenue before moving to its permanent home at Club Fugazi, where 3.2 million people have seen it.

Silver has donated a Beach Blanket Babylon Music Room to the San Francisco Main Library, as well as the fourth-floor gallery and sculpture court at the San Francisco Museum of Modern Art.

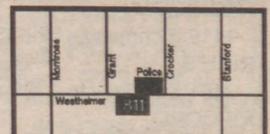
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Ross Doud Eckert, sounder of early warning on AIDS, dead at 53

POMONA, Calif., Friday, Dec. 23 (AP)—Ross Doud Eckert, an educator who sounded one of the earliest alarms about the risks of contracting AIDS through blood transfusions, died Friday of AIDS complications after he was infected by tainted blood. He was 53.

Eckert, a Claremont McKenna College professor, received transfusions his entire life to treat hemophilia, and his interest in the safety of the blood supply began long before he

was found to be HIV positive, said friend and colleague Rodney T. Smith.

"He always had the suspicion (he could contract AIDS)," said Smith, also a Claremont McKenna economics professor. "As he studied the material, as he looked at the facts and the risks, he just got convinced of the inevitability."

In 1984, early in the AIDS crisis, Eckert spoke of those suspicions in an editorial piece in the Los Angeles Times,

leading his piece with this warning: "Evidence is growing that acquired immune deficiency syndrome may pose a serious threat to our blood supply."

He wrote that blood banks were reluctant to subject donor samples to the then-new T-cell test and urged banks "to be more selective in who we let donate blood."

Eckert also wrote of potential dangers in the blood supply in a 1985 book,

as well as several articles, and addressed Congress in 1990 on the threat of hepatitis in the supply.

Eckert earned his undergraduate and graduate degrees in economics from the University of California, Los Angeles, and extensively studied the economics of the law and liability.

He served on the U.S. Food and Drug Administration's Blood Products Advisory Committee from 1987-91.

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Boots Adams/publisher
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Leonard Earl Johnson, Brian Reed,
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David Brady, Leanne Franson,
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Letters to the Editor

Don't Forget Benefit

From LEE A. KLEEMAN

Houston, Texas

The Houston Voice is to be commended for your sponsorship of the above opera, which we all know is a bold and daring step for Houston Grand Opera, The New York Opera and The San Francisco Opera. Since many of us have been around long enough to remember how Andre Previn was fired due to an impropriety when he was the Conductor of The Houston Symphony, it is going to be very interesting to see how the media and the public receive "Harvey Milk." It will probably be received much better in San Francisco and New York than it will be received in Houston.

However, I was very disappointed that in your list of dates for the performance, you omitted the special Preview/Benefit performance on Thursday, Jan. 19, for The Bering Community Service/Names Project, both of which you have long supported. If our community had not started supporting these and other worthy causes when the AIDS crisis first developed, trying to teach safe sex to everyone, and helping each other, it is impossible to estimate how many more people, both homosexual and heterosexual might be dead today.

I sincerely hope that the next edition of Houston Voice will include an article of the benefit performance of "Harvey Milk" on Jan. 19. BCSF needs all the help it can get in order to render the much needed services it is performing.

(Editor's note: the date and other information on the benefit performance were left out inadvertently. They are included in this week's issue).

Message From Candidate

From ANNISE PARKER

Houston, Texas

I'm Annise Parker.

I believe I'm one of the few City Council candidates who has devoted years of personal, unpaid time to solving the

city's most important problems—crime and neighborhoods.

I have more than a decade of experience working with the Houston Police Department to improve police protection and the department's relationship with citizens. I have worked with the Police Department for more than 10 years on the Police Advisory Committee, a coalition of diverse community groups that elected me chair. I have worked to establish a neighborhood storefront police station and helped organize self-protection networks for people in Montrose. I'm also active in my own neighborhood crime patrol. Mayor Lanier appointed me to the HPD Citizen Review Committee.

The city must work with us, not against us. I know how the city's regulations and bureaucrats can hamper private development efforts. From my personal investments in my home, my business, and historic real estate, I have been intimately involved in solving the problems the city bureaucracy creates.

I also have been part of the cooperative effort with the city. As an officer of the Neartown Association and as secretary/treasurer of the Neartown Community Development Corp., I've seen the system work. Public/private partnerships are enabling us to purchase nuisance property for redevelopment and to revitalize neighborhoods.

The Neighborhoods to Standards program was a first step in turning around our inner city. We need to take the next step by focusing public investment and ensuring the city does not stymie private and community-based redevelopment efforts.

Too many City Council candidates in this race represent the same old politics—recycled incumbents with few ideas to tackle the issues facing the city. They have been on the public payroll before and are in this to stay at the till.

The question to candidates should be: What have you done in your neighborhood, your community, and this city to make Houston a better place to live?

Battle brewing in Missouri schools over gay topics

By CONNIE FARROW

FOR THE HOUSTON VOICE

ST. LOUIS, Wednesday, Dec. 21 (AP)—Lesbian and Gay History Month came and went in many classrooms across the nation last fall without mention of the cultural contributions of Walt Whitman, Michelangelo or Virginia Woolf, all homosexuals.

There was no discussion of the hatred targeting one-tenth of the U.S. population. And teachers didn't explain the controversies over homosexuality in politics, religion and education.

But if teachers like Rodney Wilson get their way, next October will be different.

Wilson, a history teacher at Mehlville High School just outside St. Louis, was one of the program's founders.

"I'm not bent on radically changing the curriculum," Wilson said. "What I want is for the history of all people to be included in the curriculum."

As the Gay-Rights Movement gains

momentum, curriculum has become the next battle ground. But even some liberals cringe when it comes to teaching acceptance of homosexuality. A controversial program in New York City led to the ouster of Joseph Fernandez as chancellor of the nation's largest school system last year.

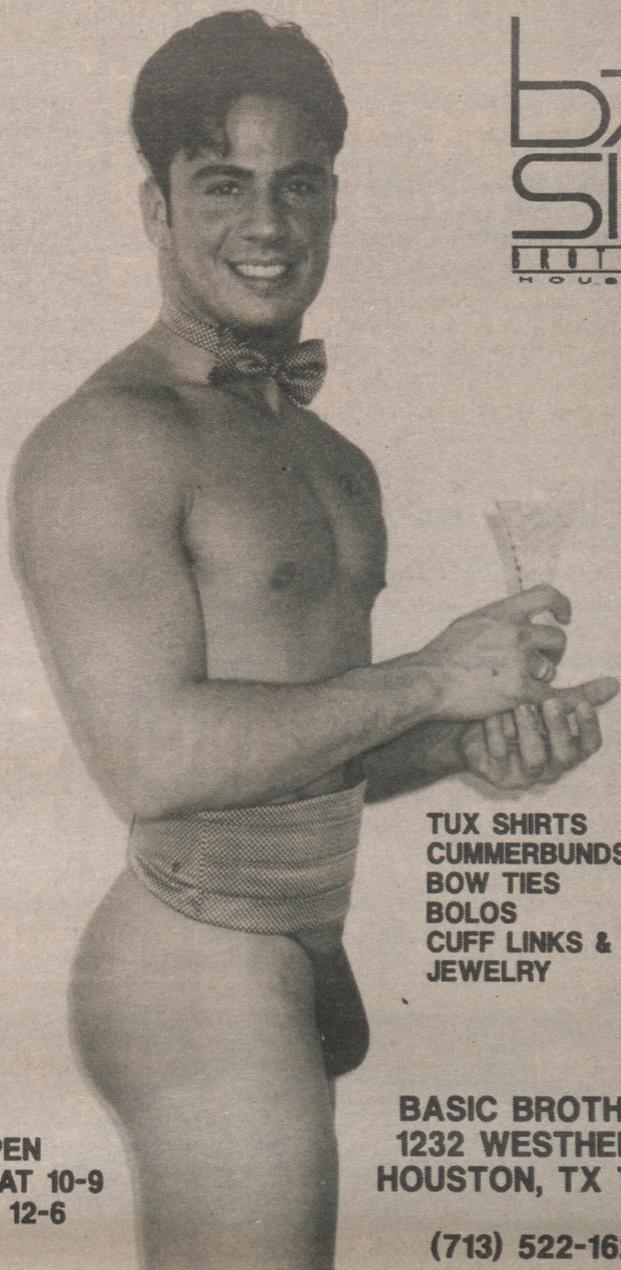
"The school's role is to teach students to think critically and analytically," said Robert Birlle of Kansas City, who's with Project 21, a gay and lesbian civil rights group. "What we want is for students to have fair and accurate information."

Book publisher Holt, Rinehart and Winston refused to market its high school health text book in Texas—one of the largest markets in the country—rather than make changes dealing mainly with sex education ordered by the Texas State Board of Education. Revisions included deleting some explicit illustrations and removing information on abortion procedures. The board also wanted Holt to spell out Texas' sodomy and drinking laws.

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The New Year cometh...the Old Year taketh away

Yours Truly In A Swamp

The dust has settled on 1994, a hard year during which AIDS touched a lot of homes. It was also a year when America's health crisis grew surprisingly imperceptible, though it too touched a lot more homes—every day of 1994, thousands more lost their health insurance.

Last year, two close friends died of AIDS, another committed suicide. I began reading at a federally funded AIDS hospice, and a young friend "came down" from a year long sex binge convinced he had contracted HIV...gratefully, he tested negative.

I'm not too young, but I'm not too old either, and three deaths seem a lot for one year. My mother, nearing eighty, said it has only been recently that she has had three funerals a year.

Before this year, I had certainly not sat out the AIDS crisis. I regularly took the test. I read a lot about it. I even wrote about it. I knew a lot about it. I knew names of the famous fallen in the AIDS wars, and I knew names of friends of friends, and I knew peripheral acquaintances.

But, from the early news-filled years, I tested negative, and I felt safe and comfy and a few steps removed from this

big, scary thing.

Before and since my first terrifying HIV test I have tested negative, though I lustily violated my Catholic upbringing by practicing gay sex, and safe gay sex at that—a foolishly double Catholic no-no!

I am convinced it is precisely because of ignoring my Catholic teachings and accepting the need for sex, and the need for safe sex, that I have continued testing virus-free.

The AIDS story is now well into its second decade. And like so many health professionals predicted, AIDS is steadily stepping closer to a lot of people.

A phone call came early in the year, announcing the death of a close friend in Chicago. L. was a suburban Chicago sports writer with the huge Star newspaper chain. I sat at my desk after hearing the news, remembering nights he and I painted the Windy City.

Once, during a Saint Patrick's Day parade, we tossed a series of orange carnations into the Chicago River. The river had been dyed green for the parade. The flowers lined up to form their own parade, a tiny English Orange flotilla in "The River of Irish Green."

Burly Chicago cops, each doubtless an Irish cousin of Irish Mayor Richard

Daley, chased us into a jazz club named Jazz at Five. There, Penny, a tender soul, hid us in her manager's office and fed us green beer 'till the blue meanies took off in pursuit of other miscreants.

Another time, L. and I were in New Orleans, where a black hustler told him, "I be trash, just trash." L. was shocked; he had never before seen so clearly such internalized self-hate. He talked about that painful incident often. L. was a racist himself, with that curious but common racist's sexual desire for the object of his disdain. He learned something important that day. That day he learned he shared more with such blacks than a bed. They shared the same self-loathing. In L.'s case, it stemmed from being queer and loving what he thought was bad. L. was queer in both senses of the word.

The other AIDS death was my oldest friend; a friend from boyhood, with whom I shared memories so distant that at times I recall them only as smells. My heart still wears the mourner's black band for this one, and probably always will.

The third, the suicide, may not have been AIDS related. When it happened, no one knew if J. was HIV-positive. He always said he did not want to know. For whatever reason, he walked off a

friend's porch in Gulfport, Mississippi, and returned a corpse. "I'm going to walk along the water's edge," he said. He never turned back. His friend, enfeebled by age and heart, watched him open several pill bottles, turn them up to his mouth and walk out into the Gulf of Mexico. A poetic way to go, I think. I loved and miss him, but appreciate the flare with which he extinguished himself.

Later in the year, I volunteered to spend Monday afternoons reading at the AIDS hospice. For seven months, I read to a new friend, and then I read at his funeral. I continue reading there, to newer friends, and I worry about America's new poverty and newly found conservatism ceasing funding the place. If so, where will the yet newer residents go?

The young friend who tested negative got his results after fretting about it for weeks. He spent much of the morning before his appointment talking to me on the phone. When he hung up, I cried. When I stopped crying, I called him back and told him I loved him, whether or not he had AIDS.

When he called again, it was with good news.

It has been a sad, hard year. Good news is a good way to start the new one.

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Houston Symphony presents Grammy-winning composition created in response to AIDS crisis

(Continued from Page 1)

In the past few years, Corigliano has emerged as a major new voice in American music. In 1991, his first opera, "The Ghost of Versailles," was commissioned by the Metropolitan Opera in honor of its centenary. The first new opera to be presented at the Met in over twenty-five years, "The Ghost of Versailles" was greeted with a rapturous critical response, was broadcast on PBS, and received the International Classical Music Award for Composition of the Year in 1993.

His Symphony No. 1 received its premiere in 1990 by the Chicago Symphony Orchestra, where Corigliano served a three year term as composer-in-residence. The symphony, which was commissioned by the Chicago Symphony Orchestra and Meet-the-Composer, Inc., was developed by Corigliano during a two year period of intensive labor.

Corigliano, who was born in New York in 1938 and still lives there today, has not been the first composer to deal with societal issues. But he is the first to address the AIDS pandemic through symphonic music. He was inspired to create his acclaimed symphony after witnessing a display of the NAMES Project International AIDS Quilt.

"A few years ago, I was extremely moved when I first saw The Quilt, an ambitious interweaving of several thousand panels, each memorializing a person who died of AIDS, and, most importantly, each designed and constructed by his or her loved ones," he observed.

"This made me want to memorialize in music those I have lost, and reflect on those I am losing. I decided to relate the first three movements of the Symphony to three lifelong musician friends. In the third movement, still other friends are recalled in a quilt-like interweaving of motif melodies.

"The first movement (Apologue: Of Rage and Remembrance) is highly charged and alternates between the tension of anger and the bittersweet nostalgia of remembering. It reflects my distress over a concert-pianist friend...

"The second movement (Tantarella) was written in memory of a friend who was an executive in the music industry. He was also an amateur pianist, and in 1970 I wrote a set of dances (Gazebo Dances for piano, four hands) for various friends to play and dedicated the final, tantarella movement to him.

The composer noted that Grove's Dic-

tionary of Music describes the tantarella as an Italian dance "played at continually increasing speed and by means of dancing it, a strange kind of insanity could be cured."

"The association of madness and my piano piece proved both prophetic and bitterly ironic when my friend, whose wit and intelligence were legendary in the music field, became insane as a result of AIDS dementia."

The suffering of his friend influenced the way that Corigliano structured the music. "In writing tantarella movement for this Symphony, I tried to picture some of the schizophrenic and hallucinatory images that would have accompanied that madness, as well as the moments of lucidity.

"The third movement (Chaconne: Guillo's Song) recalls a friendship that dated back to my college days. Guillo was an amateur cellist, full of that enthusiasm for music that amateurs tend to have and professionals try to keep. After he died several years ago, I found a old tape recording of the two of us improvising on cello and piano, as we often did. That tape, dated 1962, provided material for the extended cello solo in this movement."

How has the work been received? "Even people who are not touched by this tragedy have been touched by this piece. They've told me."

For those interested in learning more about the music, there are a number of options. On Friday, Jan. 6 from 6:30 p.m.-8:30 p.m., Corigliano, Music Director Christoph Eschenbach, and Conductor-in-Residence Stephen Stein will participate in an evening of music and discussion in the ballroom of the Ritz Carlton Hotel. The event is chaired by AIDS Foundation Houston volunteer Curtis Wolff, and has been generously underwritten by the Ritz-Carlton.

The Houston Symphony also sponsors ConcertTalks, a series of pre-concert lectures which begin 35 minutes before each of the concerts. They are held on the balcony level of Jones Hall and are open to all ticket holders.

John Corigliano's Symphony No. 1 will be performed by the Houston Symphony Jan. 7 and 9 at 8:00 p.m. and Jan. 8 at 2:30 p.m. in Jones Hall for the Performing Arts, located downtown at 615 Louisiana. Tickets range in price from \$10-\$50 and may be purchased at the Houston Ticket Center, at Ticketmaster, or by calling (713) 227-ARTS. Student tickets are \$5 and available at the Jones Hall ticket window one half hour to each performance.

New Hampshire lesbians battle for custody of 4-year-old girl

By PAUL TOLME

FOR THE HOUSTON VOICE

CONCORD, N.H., Thursday, Dec. 22 (AP)—A woman is suing for partial custody of her lesbian lover's daughter, who was conceived through artificial insemination during the women's seven-year relationship.

Joan Comeau claims that when she broke up with Lucinda Grondin in 1991, the two agreed that Comeau would get to visit the girl, now 4.

But Grondin stopped allowing visits Oct. 19, claiming Comeau was brainwashing the girl by saying she, not Grondin, was the mother.

Comeau's lawyer, Susannah Colt, argued Thursday in Strafford County Superior Court that Comeau shared ideas about the pregnancy, partici-

pated in the delivery and offered financial support after the child was born.

"She's not asking for primary physical custody," Colt said. "She's asking for the right to have time with this child and a right to have a say in her well-being."

Grondin's lawyer, Mark Hanlon, argued the case should be dismissed because the state has no laws establishing the rights of non-biological parents.

"Along with advances in technology come legal and moral questions that have to be addressed by the Legislatures ... of this country," he said.

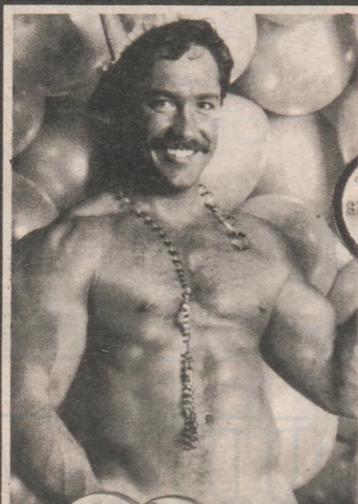
Colt said she is testing the waters for the legal rights of non-biological parents. The state Supreme Court has

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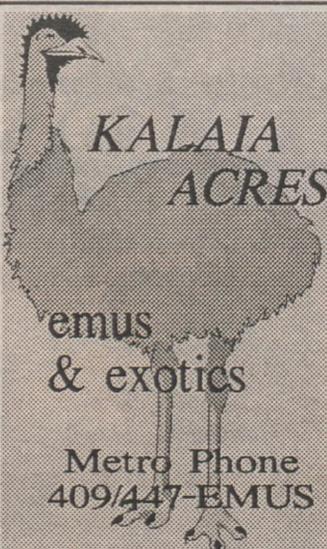
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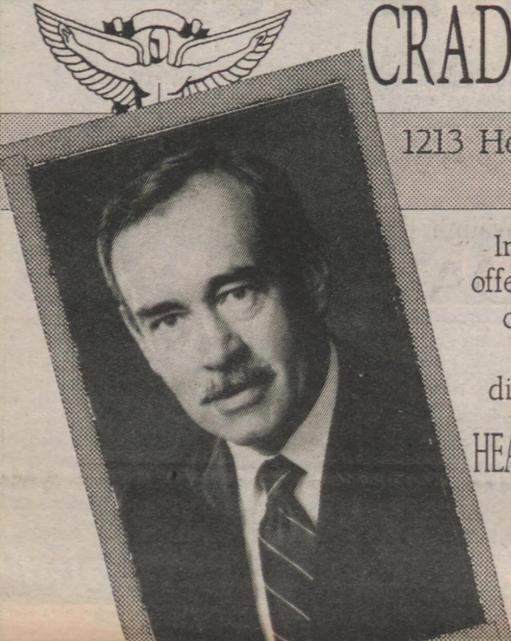
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Gay Men's Chorus of Houston raises funds for Montrose Clinic

Quick Notes

Dec. 21, 1994, Houston, Tx...Gay Men's Chorus of Houston has raised approximately \$15,800 from its Christmas concert Saturday, Dec. 6 at Cullen Theater of which a portion of the profits will benefit the Montrose Clinic and its Houston Clinical Research Network (HCRN) division.

"We are proud to have worked with and benefited from this year's Christmas concert and guest choirs delivered a wonderful show," said Eileen Hegar, President of the Montrose Clinic. Highlights of the evening included a brave departure from tradition with the Chorus' performances of Mozart's Toys symphony. The concert attracted 750 people and while not all the totals are in an estimated \$5000 will be raised for the Clinic.

Money raised from the concert go toward several ongoing Clinic matching funds campaigns. The Clinic, along with the Swalm Foundation, have a \$300,000 building matching fund goal for the new year to completely pay off building expenses at the new 215 Westheimer location, while HCRN has a \$75,000 AmFaR match for the next three years which raises funds for patient enrollment in AmFaR sponsored clinical trials.

Montrose Clinic develops research, prevention, treatment, and service programs concerned with sexually transmitted diseases. The Clinic provides a full range of services including screening and treatment of STDs, anonymous or confidential HIV testing, HIV case management, education and hearing impaired community outreach.

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The AIDS treatment maze: drugs and decisions

AIDS Treatment News

By PAUL M. CASILLAS

A Personal Journey

When my friend Don Dowden asked me if I would be interested in writing a column for the Houston Voice about AIDS treatment issues, I of course said yes. I then called my friend, softball player, Body Positive ongoing support group member and neurologist, Dr. Bill Pasteur and begged him for help. You see, I know a lot about HIV disease but I'm not a Doc. He agreed and now we co-write this column. Bill is on vacation this week so I get to talk about me.

The past two columns have centered around a drug (AZT) that has been vilified and glorified, sometimes in the same breath. When it comes to taking drugs, I'm usually the first one in line. Back in the summer of 1987, I was helping friends desensitize another friend's apartment. He had taken his life, I suspect, after finding out he had AIDS. While performing this ritual, I was flipping through the pages of that other local publication and found a notice about a drug that the Veterans Administration was beginning to test. It required that you take the test to determine if you carried the HIV virus and your T-cells had to be below 200.

I had a good job working down in the basement of City Hall at the time and several friends told me I was crazy to even consider taking "THE TEST." I listened to their advice and promptly drove over to the V.A. Hospital. I didn't immediately drive up to the front door. If you had the opportunity to visit that place, before it was bulldozed, it was a most depressing dungeon of horrors. Don't get me wrong, I received some of the best care of any I've received in the private or public sector of our health care system. In fact, there is a doctor over there, Chris Lahart, who not only is gorgeous to look at, but has a heart of gold and when I'm in trouble and the other docs have a problem figuring out what's wrong with me, I ask them to call Dr. Lahart. (Lest you get the wrong impression, Dr. Lahart is happily married and at last count had several beautiful children).

I entered the study in July, 1987, began taking the new drug in October and was on it for three years. The drug, as you probably guessed was AZT. The protocol for taking this drug was around the clock, every four hours. When they broke the seal on the study data in 1990/91 (we were randomized to either placebo or drug) it was confirmed that I had

been taking 250 mg of AZT every four hours from the beginning. My t-cells went up past 600 and over the next several years began slowly dropping. I then went on ddC, ddI, d4T, and have now returned to AZT. I plan to add 3TC as soon as I can be approved.

I also lucked out when I applied for the study involving a new drug called oral ganciclovir (Cytovene). Instead of placebo, I was randomized to the actual drug. This drug has shown promise in preventing CMV (cytomegalovirus, some of us know it as "mono") which can cause blindness. All together I take fourteen drugs on a daily basis. Each drug was added as my T-cell counts dropped and different opportunistic infections became a possibility. I know what each drug does for my system and amaze my non-AIDS friends by naming each drug, its strength, how often I take it and what it is for. So far, except for a three day stint at St. Lukes for tests, and a couple of blood transfusions, I have avoided hospitalization.

This information didn't just fall in my lap one day. I have played or tried to play a proactive role in dealing with this disease from the first day I tested positive. I have chosen physicians who can and will talk to me honestly about what to expect, what to look for and how to cope with each new loss of independence. AND, they listen to me. Each drug was added one at a time as my t-cells continue to drop. I also see a therapist each week and have surrounded myself with friends, not acquaintances.

My family, for the most part has been understanding. I say understanding but certainly nothing like the family of the character Tom Hanks played in that AIDS movie. Some family members will not visit my parents home in Tulsa when I spend time there. But, that's okay. They deal with that issue, not me.

The organization I do my volunteer work for is Body Positive/Houston. Here I learned (some would say still learning) not to tell someone what they SHOULD do, rather share with others and listen to other's, share their journeys and make my own choices. I have learned that there is no right or wrong way, simply, your way. Many opportunities exist for you to educate yourself if you test positive. Take advantage of as much as you can as soon as you can.

Living with HIV/AIDS is a personal journey; choices made are your choices.

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Runaway tortured by peers at Montrose apartment

(Continued from page 1)

Daniel was also charged with sexually assaulting a teenage girl, who allegedly witnessed the attack on Meinecke and was also held captive.

Assistant Police Chief John Gallemore said three of the suspects abducted Meinecke on Dec. 18 as he left Ben Taub Hospital, after reportedly being treated there for injuries received in an earlier attack. He was taken to Daniel's apartment at 4100 Loretto, where he was beaten with a metal bar, then placed in a closet. Over the next several days, Meinecke's captors took turns beating and torturing him. At one point, lighter fluid and alcohol were poured on his head and genitals and ignited, according to police. The female victim said Meinecke was also sodomized with a hot curling iron, and that bleach and nail polish remover were poured on his wounds. He was also electrically shocked, and his tongue partially cut.

The gang allegedly had planned to kill Meinecke on Dec. 21, but were foiled when a deputy constable noticed the group in the 4500 block of Dunlavy. The suspects hid Meinecke in the hedges near the road and told the officer, Precinct 1 Constable Deputy John Karrer, that they were walking a drunk friend home. Karrer, however, found the badly injured teen and called for police backup and an ambulance.

Meinecke was reported in critical condition at an area hospital late Tuesday. Officials asked the media not to disclose his location.

According to Hurst, there may be other suspects; however, he declined to specify how many suspects police believe may have been involved.

Tracy Brown, HIPY's executive

director, said that while details of the events in this case may be horrifying, they were not atypical of life on the streets. "This kind of stuff happens all the time," said Brown, "This is the world these kids live in."

"It's a crazy life. That's what I keep trying to tell people, to tell parents, if you throw your kid out in the streets, this is how he'll wind up."

Brown said many of the teens and young adults who frequent the drop-in center on Westheimer are heavily involved in that life—the street world of drugs, prostitution and brutality. The building, he said, is not a shelter, though homeless youths frequently give the address to police.

HIPY does maintain a separate shelter, the location of which the agency does not disclose, said Brown. That facility is specifically for those who decide to leave the street life behind.

The Westheimer center, however, serves as an "access point" for youth who have not yet made that decision.

Brown said two other HIPY clients had been shot in recent weeks. One of them, who sold drugs, was killed, he said. "It happens a lot. This case has brought (the media) out, I guess because of the horrific nature of what happened...but it happens all the time."

Brown said he believed that the youths who attacked Meinecke were seeking revenge on a drug-related matter.

Gay activist Ray Hill, an ex-convict and prison rights advocate, said Meinecke's cut tongue was a significant symbol in the criminal underworld. "As an ex-con, I know that when someone has their tongue cut, it means that tongue has been wagging," said Hill, giving weight to reports that the victim had informed on drug dealers.

Maine panel calls for more spending to investigate, prosecute hate crimes

AUGUSTA, Maine, Thursday, Dec. 22 (AP)—Bias crime in Maine is so serious that the state should allocate another \$440,000 to prosecute violators and protect victims, a panel studying diversity in the state has recommended.

In its final report, the Commission to Promote the Understanding of Diversity in Maine said that the state is a far more hateful place than most of its citizens know or want it to be.

The commission made 21 recommendations for quelling discrimination and fostering understanding, but it called three a top priority:—Amend Maine's Human Rights Act to include sexual orientation as a class legally protected from discrimination.—Appropriate an additional \$300,000 annually for the Maine Human Rights Commission, which has seen budget cuts even though its caseload is increasing annually.—Fund the attorney general's Civil Rights Unit for the first time. The unit has prosecuted bias crimes by "borrowing" staff assigned to other areas. The cost would be \$140,000 for two attorney positions.

Commission member Lois Galgay Reckitt said the three initiatives are

essential because each would have a direct impact on people's lives.

"In terms of the AG's office looking at hate crimes, we're talking literally about people's lives and safety," she said.

Reckitt and commission colleague Emory C. Dodge both said their commissions top recommendations were important enough to justify funding by the incoming legislature and governor despite state government's acute budget problems.

The commission's findings already have drawn at least one critic, Michael S. Heath, executive director of the Christian Civic League, a political action committee.

"I found the central finding to be an over-reach, overly negative," Heath said. "If this is true, we should change the highway sign at Kittery to say, 'Maine, a more hateful place than you think.'"

Heath also said there is no need to give gays statutory protection. Such a proposal, he said, reflects a philosophy of using "the coercive power of government on the side of an ever-increasing list of outspoken, well-organized minority groups" to deal with hate and tolerance.

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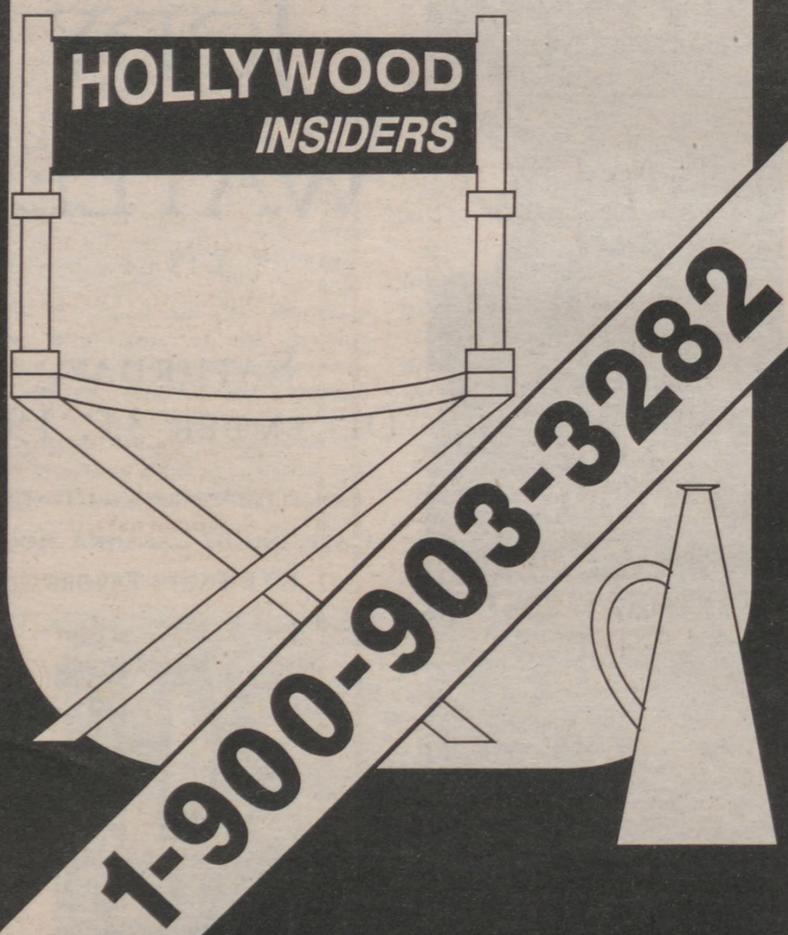
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Little Women

COLUMBIA PICTURES

Do you care for sentiment in your films? If not, stop reading this now. If it's okay then you'll love "Little Women"—the film version of the classic story from the novel by Louisa May Alcott. "Little Women" is one of those books that little girls the world over have read and cried over.

In the classic 1868 tale about love, family and becoming a

woman, Louisa May Alcott opened the door of the Orchard House for many generations of readers and evoked a universal vision of Home. The film like the book, relates the dramas and adventures of Mrs. March's four "little women"—spirited Jo, beautiful Meg, fragile Beth and romantic Amy. The story serves as a glowing depiction of 19th century family life and a tribute to family strength and feminine independence.

"Little Women" was brought to the screen by a group of women filmmakers including Australian director Gilliam Armstrong (Mrs. Soffel) and produced by Denise DiNovi (Heathers). The cast is quite impressive, headed by Winona Ryder as Jo, Trini Alvarado as Meg, Samantha Mathis as Amy at 16, Kirsten Dunst as May at 12, Claire Danes as Beth, Mary Wickes as Aunt March and Susan Sarandon as Marmee. Rounding out the cast are Gabriel Byrne as Professor Bhaer, Christian Bale as Laurie and Eric Stoltz as John Brooke.

This is one of those films that cinematically always looks as if you are viewing an oil painting. The colors are extremely vivid; the sets and scenery are perfect. To recreate the world of Concord, Massachusetts, the designers built Orchard House and the Laurence house. And although it is difficult in modern times to create a whole world in the 1860's that is seamless, several locations on Vancouver Island were used that offered their own sense of history. The streets of modern day Victoria were transformed into the Greenwich Village of the 1860's with the application of tons of dirt to camouflage the tarred and cemented roadways and sidewalks; the removal of electric street lights and signage; and the employment of horse-drawn carriages and over one hundred and fifty period-costumed extras. Little Women was a big movie in scope and execution.



(Clockwise) Trini Alvarado, Susan Sarandon, Claire Danes, Kirsten Dunst and Winona Ryder star in the Louisa May Alcott classic, "Little Women," a Columbia Pictures Release. (Photo: Joseph Lederer)

The actors and actresses were all superb in their performances although this reviewer always has a little difficulty adjusting to characters played by Winona Ryder, I gradually accepted her performance as Jo and not Winona Ryder playing Jo. Another interesting transformation is that of Kirsten Dunst from the petite vampire Claudia in "Interview with a Vampire" to 12-year-old Amy in "Little Women." At times her look was identical but her personality was a total 180 degrees. Miss Sarandon did an excellent turn as Marmee and Christian Bale as Laurie was ideal; can this really be the young boy from "Empire of the Sun?"

As far as period movies go, this one was right on target. It was a most enjoyable trip to the theater as long as you weren't expecting a comedy or an action/adventure film. This is definitely high drama with messages; the same messages Marmee tried to convey to each of her daughters—be yourself, be all that you can be, don't be afraid to take chances, don't let the world judge you too much, find your niche and live your life to the fullest extent possible, and just because you are a woman doesn't mean you can accomplish whatever you set out to be in life. Know yourself, love yourself, family is important and not to be forsaken or forgotten. The transcendental philosophy of the March family stressed the unity of nature and humanity.

I recommend this movie to everyone who appreciates cinematic perfection and although that is a tough reputation to live up to, I don't believe that this movie is Oscar material. As individuals the actresses would rate 6's or 7's but as an ensemble they pull off a big 10 for the 1994 holiday season. Catch it on the big screen before they force this grand classic into one of those little plastic cases forever.

AIDS UPDATE

Selenium Loss May Be Key To AIDS

Low levels of selenium, an essential nutrient available in foods (meat, fish, whole grains, dairy products), could be a key to AIDS progression. University of Georgia researchers believe HIV needs selenium, a mineral that helps maintain the vitality of body tissue, in order to survive. After consuming the selenium in one cell, the hypothesis goes, HIV breaks out and invades other cells.

It has been known for a while that AIDS patients have low selenium levels, but that was thought to result from poor nutrient absorption. Now scientists believe that HIV directly causes the depletion and suspect that long-term HIV survivors may have maintained high selenium levels.

MCCR celebrates 20 years of history in 1995

Religion/Spirituality

As it rings in the New Year, Houston's Metropolitan Community Church of the Resurrection is also celebrating 20 years of history. Officials of the church hope to make this important anniversary a turning point as well: in 1995, MCCR will also launch its ambitious new 10-year plan, "Vision 2000+."

MCCR currently has over 410 members in good standing and is still growing. "Friends" who attend regularly number well over 100, officials said. The church is tentatively planning a gala 20th anniversary celebration in April, near the Easter holiday. Past and present MCCR pastors and staff will participate in the event, said publicity coordinator Ron Sparks.

In its two decades of activity here, MCCR has established strong ties in Houston. In recent years, it has become very active in the Old Sixth Ward neighborhood where the church building is located, and in the Houston community in general.

Metropolitan Community Churches are Christian Churches with an outreach into the gay and lesbian communities.

MCCR's history actually dates back farther than 20 years, according to members. The first seed was planted to provide an MCC outreach in Houston in the winter of 1971-72. There were several efforts to form a study group, but they were unsuccessful until December, 1972, when meetings began on a regular basis in the home of Robert Lawson.

With the help of Exhorter Robert Miller of MCC Dallas, Bill Baer and Floyd Brummitt, the small group began to grow too large for the apartment in which the group was meeting. A run-down storefront on Waugh Drive was converted into a house of worship, and on the second Sunday in February, 1974, the church was dedicated to the Lord.

In June, 1974, the study group submitted 25 signatures to the Universal Fellowship of Metropolitan Community Churches and was granted status as a mission. Bill Baer served as worship coordinator. As

attendance grew, the group began to think about chartering as a church. Metropolitan Community Church of the Resurrection was chosen as the permanent name of the church, and various committees began to work toward the goal of chartering.

In February, 1975, 43 people petitioned the Fellowship for chartering as a church. In late March, UFMCC's Board of Elders, granted the charter. Charter Sunday was set for April 20.

The church's first pastor, Rev. Robert Falls, served from June 15, 1975 to July 1, 1976. The church has since had three other pastors: Rev. Jeri Ann Harvey (1977-78); Rev. Charles Larsen (1979-1985) and current Rev. John Gill (1985-present).

The church outgrew the building on Waugh within a year after chartering, and moved to larger facility at 1214 Joe Annie Street in November, 1975. On Easter, 1979, the church and congregation moved to MCCR's current site at 1919 Decatur Street in the Heights area.

Today's MCCR has over 30 active ministries, including a Youth Education Ministry and a strong Music Department with five groups. The church also is home of the largest religious library in the UFMCC, which also houses the Gay/Lesbian Archives of Houston and Southeast Texas. Sunday services are at 8:30 a.m. (Holy Eucharist) and 10:45 a.m. (Traditional); "Abundant Life" Bible Study is offered Wednesday nights at 7:00 p.m. The church also offers several support groups which meet weekly.

MCCR's Vision 2000+ plan, which begins in 1995, includes a new parent church in the area which will seat 1000 persons; a state of the art, audio/visual multi-lingual media program and many other services for the community. The current facility will be upgraded to the most current codes and will be used as a community center with the capability for productions and concerts. Within the ten year period, the goal will be to have over 1500 attending weekly services, said church officials.

(For more information about MCCR, its ministries and services or to get directions to the church, call 861-9149).

HOUSTON

VOICE MAIL

Letters to the Editor

Charity Fund Explained

FROM JACKIE AGUILERA

Vice President, Public Service, Colt 45's Inc.

Recently, there have been many fundraisers held for the Colt 45's Till Thacker III General Charities fund (aka: General Charities). This fund has been a mystery to some and a misconception to others. The General Charities Fund was to raise funds to support "the general charities undertaken by the Club and which are not specifically delegated to another committee." In other words, No, this fund is not a savings and loan for Stone Soup or the AIDS Trouble Fund, nor is any of this money used to buy office supplies for the operation of the Club. The Working Account is set up to help the Colts with daily operations costs.

What General Charities does allow the Colts to do is to assist those who are

in need and cannot be helped by either the Stone Soup Fund or the AIDS Trouble Fund. In the past, we have given assistance from this fund to Houston Clinical Research and to a woman who, after seeking other assistance, applied to ATF as a last resort but could not be helped because she suffered from a terminal illness other than AIDS.

Overall, the General Charities account is a welcomed addition to the assistance Colts can give the community. The money raised for other in our community who cannot be helped by already existing Colt 45's assistance funds. The Colt 45's have always been proud of their "a dollar in, a dollar out" way of handling the precious gifts the community entrusts us to pass to those in need. And with this clarification, perhaps the community will see that our hand up stretches even beyond those they already knew we serve.

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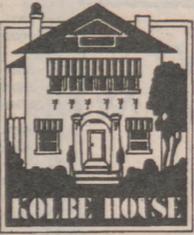
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New Year's Eve Bowling

Sports Notes

The Houston bowling leagues are on vacation this week. However, a special 69 Mystery Doubles Tournament will be held on New Year's Eve as a benefit for the Texas Invitational Tournament and Jim Bucks designated charities, Northern Lights Alternatives and Project Inform.

The 69 Mystery Doubles presents a new twist to the candlelight no tap tournament. Strikes are automatic in the 6th and 9th frames. Individuals sign up and draw for a lane assignment. Whoever draws the opposite lane becomes their partner; however, they may buy the partner of their choice for \$5 (which goes directly into the charity fund).

Entry fee is \$11, of which \$2 goes into the charity fund. After lineage is paid, the rest will be paid as prize money.

Bowling starts at 7:00 p.m. Sunday, Jan. 1 at Palace Lanes. Registration begins at 6:00 p.m. Start the new year with friends, fun and fellowship; call Tom at 522-9612 for more details.

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tunes by tad

Two new disks that fall into the New Age category for your listening pleasure are Suzanne Ciani's "Dream Suite" on her new Seventh Wave label and Windham Hill Records' "In Search of Angels" on the Windham Hill/BMG Records label. Both are excellent.



"Dream Suite"

SUZANNE CIANI
Seventh Wave

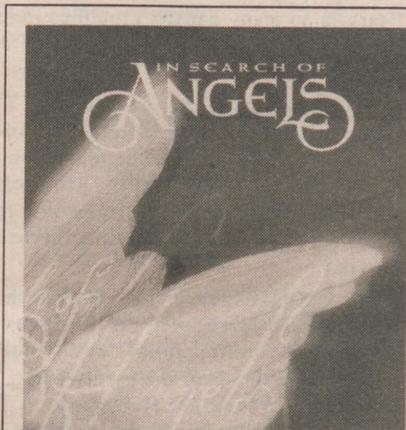
Suzanne Ciani is an artist who has been making beautiful music for many years on the Private Music label. Artists on these sampler CDs are usually of a high caliber and Miss Ciani is certainly that. Her music has a far away quality with ethereal melodies emphasized by synth keyboards and midi orchestration. Her music ranges from simple to complex, and to date, her best release has been her "unplugged" collection known as "Pianissimo." Of all her previous work, her most famous and recognizable tune is probably "Anthem." No finer piece of music has been produced by any new age musician. Until now.

With the release of her long awaited new CD "Dream Suite" Miss Ciani has pulled out all the stops to produce a magnificent new collection of memorable melodies. To Ciani, the CD is about transitions. During the time in which the album was composed and produced Ciani said, "I witnessed many changes in my life. After nineteen years in New York City, I moved to an ocean-side cabin in Northern California. I learned to surf, rode horseback on the beach, and took long walks in the redwoods." This probably accounts for the introspective feeling of her music on tunes such as "Meeting Mozart"—as fine a piece of music in the classical sense as any I've ever heard.

Her elegant piano compositions are filled out nicely by the Young Russian Orchestra, which adds great depth and repose to her pieces. "Andalusian Dream" is another piece rich in texture and warm with sentiment. Ciani calls it a Spanish love story told by a winter's fire. A personal favorite is "Lime Marmalade Reverie" a very up "traveling" (for reference I consider music by Dave Grusin "traveling" music too) tune that brings to view bicycles touring through the New England countryside on a golden Autumn afternoon. Ciani's music is often brings visual stimuli to the imagination of the listener. Another fine "up" tune off the CD is "Dream of the Pink Zebra" while two of her quieter thoughtful pieces are "Time Stops for Joe" and "Megan's Dream" described by Ciani as the time between life and afterlife.

Highly recommended as good listening or background music, this CD

would do equally well as after dinner music or put it on for that romantic interlude on a cold winter afternoon in front of the fire. Even a first time listener can come to appreciate the simple complexity of spirit and melody that are Suzanne Ciani. For the fan who wants to know...Ciani has now recovered from a battle with breast cancer; fell in love and married in Italy; lost her dear mother but become much closer to her family; ended her tenure with Private Music and formed her own label known as Seventh Wave Music. Her new found happiness is expressed in her work on this wonderful CD.



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The ancients believed these "ethereal minstrels" performed a music that set in motion all the activity of the cosmos. Like a subtle wave rippling across the still surface of a pond, the primordial "music of the spheres" resounded at the most sublime level of creation. And everywhere in the physical universe, angels were thought to preside over the forces of nature and to guide all of natural life.

Not a bad cut on this CD which is also highly recommended and good for all types of activity including romance or meditation. Don't miss the cut called "Star in the East" by The St. Olaf Choir. Beautiful and heavenly are the best descriptions one could offer. This disc includes a lot of stringed instrument pieces with fine guitar, harp and cello work by the various artists. Patty Larkin's "Good Thing (Angels Running)" is good enough to be an acceptable piece for mainstream radio. Get this CD and enjoy more quality music from Windham Hill. You can hardly go wrong with anything on this label.

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Tacoma man convicted of anti-gay hoax sentenced to six months

TACOMA, Thursday, Dec. 22 (AP)—A Tacoma man who participated in an elaborate hate-crime hoax has been sentenced to six months in jail.

Eric Sturgis, 27, was convicted earlier of first-degree malicious mischief and theft after the July incident at the Tacoma home he rented with two others.

The trio was accused by prosecutors of trying to bilk insurers by trashing the house then making it look like an anti-gay attack.

Sturgis, Lee Brovold and Michelle Murray told police they returned July 31 from a gay-pride festival in Van-

couver, British Columbia, to find much of their home had been burglarized and severely vandalized, including anti-gay slogans spray painted on walls.

Police eventually found the items they reported stolen in storage lockers.

Sturgis, sentenced Wednesday in Pierce County Superior Court, the crime had cost him most of his friends.

"This whole thing has been a nightmare," he said. "It's been a stupid thing on my part. I'd like to make amends as best as I can and just move on. This is just a totally humiliating and embarrassing thing."

Houston theater: ten best plays of 1994

Entertainment Feature

By JAVIER TAMEZ

Houston Voice/Houston

1994 was as vibrant a year in Houston theater as any in recent memory. The demise of the West-Mon Repertory Theater and its short-lived successor, the Westheimer Art Bar & Theater, provided further evidence that the community is unwilling, or unable, to sustain a permanent theater company in the area. This contrasted sharply with the continued perseverance and mild success had by Goat Song, The Group and The Company We Keep, which were all formed with the idea of bringing to the local stage plays by, for and about our community.

1994 was also a year in which Theater LaB Houston demonstrated repeatedly that small theaters with propor-

tionate budgets could create far better productions than large, more established and wealthier counterparts.

1994 had some thrilling performances. I will never forget James Black dragging his knuckles across the floor, shifting his weight from one foot to the other as he walked, in his role as an ape in one of the vignettes that comprised "All in the Timing" at the Alley. Nor will I soon forget Rebecca Greene Udden's near-perfect performance as a writer in perpetual analysis of the events around her in "Joined at the Head."

As is always the case, some shows left a larger impact than others, so here then are the ten best shows from Houston theater for 1994:

1) "My Children! My Africa!" (Theater LaB)—Athol Fugard's giant drama that brilliantly examined the conflict between compromise and confrontation and the struggle for loyalty between academics and politics, played out in a classroom arena in apartheid South Africa. A stirring piece in every facet, Theater LaB's production relayed the overpowering socio-political questions without diminishing the personal conflict which reflects the larger issues.

2) "Keely & Du" (Alley Theatre)—Pseudonymous play-

wright Jane Martin penned this enthralling and deeply disturbing account of the extreme passions roused by the pro-choice/pro-life debate. The insidious tactics of radical pro-lifers are drawn here in a manner that though actually paling compared to today's headlines, nonetheless provides a chilling example the wrongful righteousness of these dogmatic moralists.

3) "Triumph of the Spider Monkey" (Curtains Theater)—Joyce Carol Oates' masterful and macabre search for the traumatizing events that shape the destiny of a serial killer in a sharp, thought-provoking production.

4) "Conduct of Life" (Theater LaB)—Maria Irene Fornes' tremendously powerful drama that indicts the Latin American bourgeoisie for complicity in the efforts of the military in so many banana republics to suppress any sign of insurrection or discontent.

5) "Comedy of Errors" (Gypsy Theatre Company)—A delightful adaptation of one of Shakespeare's most pun-packed plays, this production utilized multi-media to stage the various scenes involving the identical twins.

6) "Shakespeare for My Father" (Alley Theatre)—Lynn Redgrave's touching confessional and endearing tribute to a man she hardly knew: her father, Sir Michael Redgrave. A lovingly told narrative that puts Redgrave closer to the level of her father and more famous sibling.

7) "Joined at the Head" (Main Street Theater)—Catherine Butterfield's sublime but emotionally



Brian Hill and David Rankin in Curtains Theater's "Triumph of the Spider Monkey" (#3)

strong piece that searches the writer's psyche for the artist's inspiration, and in the process, demonstrates, without histrionics, how writers draw on everything around them.

8) "Jeffrey" (Stages Repertory Theater)—Paul Rudnick's well-timed search for love in the age of AIDS as told through the eyes of an uninfected and lonely gay man who must overcome his HIV anxiety.

9) "Ma Rainey's Black Bottom" (Alley Theatre)—August Wilson's turbulent tribute to Ma Rainey and the blues and the empowerment she derived from her success as a blues artist.

10) "A Soldier's Play" (The Ensemble Theater)—Charles Fuller's familiar play seeks to identify the various meaning of being black in a white male dominated world, made the more extreme because the work is set in a World War II all-black regiment. A searing production that reinvigorates a classic.



Kimberly King and Bettye Fitzpatrick in "Keely and Du" at the Alley Theatre (#2)

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Bering Foundation executive director leaving to head agency in New Mexico

Community News

The Bering Community Foundation this week regretfully announced the departure of Jody Huckaby, long time executive director of the foundation. Huckaby has accepted the position of executive director of New Mexico AIDS Services, Inc., an agency providing comprehensive AIDS services in Albuquerque, Santa Fe, Taos and throughout the state. After almost five years of service, it is with regret that Bering's board of directors accepted his resignation. Huckaby has been an excellent leader and administrator, and has handled the business of the foundation smoothly and effectively.

Huckaby began with the Bering Foundation as the director of the Bering Care Center in 1990. He served as program administrator from 1991 to 1992, at which time he was appointed executive director. "My time has been tremendously rewarding because I have had the privilege of working with so many wonderful people, from the clients that we have served to the incredible volunteers," staff, and board members who work so hard to allow the Bering Foundation to continue doing good work," Huckaby said. "The Bering Foundation has been successful because of the wonderful supporters throughout the community which have rallied over the years to assist us in providing services. I appreciate the efforts of the many people who have given their time, energy, and resources to assist the Bering Foundation in serving its many clients. You have all made my job

easier because of your unwavering support and your commitment to our mission of improving the quality of life for the people we serve."

The foundation Board of Directors is conducting a national search for a new executive director. Through the transition, the Board and staff will work together to ensure that client services are not interrupted. The Bering Community Service Foundation remains committed to providing quality, cost-effective services to people living with HIV.

"Harvey Milk" Benefit

In other news from the Bering Foundation, a special preview performance of "Harvey Milk," the new opera making its international debut in Houston in January, has been scheduled for Thursday, Jan. 19 to benefit two Houston HIV/AIDS agencies, BCSF and the Names Project. The event will honor Houstonian Jackson Hicks for his significant contributions to these organizations and to the Houston Grand Opera.

Hicks, a member of HGO's executive committee and its major donor group, The Platinum Circle, is also a frequent contributor to both the Bering Community Service Foundation and the Houston Names Project. He has served on the BCSF board of directors, and is a member of the Names Project National Advisory Board and chair of the board of Names Project Houston.

For ticket and group rate information for the benefit preview performance, call 529-6071.

Clinton draws fire for denying San Francisco gay man ambassadorship

By RICHARD COLE
FOR THE HOUSTON VOICE
SAN FRANCISCO, Friday, Dec. 23 (AP)—President Clinton is being accused by fellow Democrats of denying an ambassadorship to an openly gay San Francisco philanthropist in deference to the new power of conservatives in Congress.

"It's an outrage. It's a victory for bigotry," Matthew Rothschild, chairperson of the Democratic Party in San Francisco, said Thursday. "Bill Clinton doesn't have a backbone—is he against bigotry or not?"

Rothschild was responding to a report in The Washington Post that Clinton had decided not to nominate James C. Hormel, an heir to the Austin, Minn.-based Hormel meats fortune, as ambassador to Fiji. The nomination would require confirmation from the Senate Foreign Relations Committee, whose incoming chairperson is Jesse Helms, R-N.C.

Hormel operates a firm that invests his family's meat industry fortune, and works on charitable and civic activities including AIDS services and public television. He was expected to become the first openly gay U.S. ambassador.



Democratic National Committee member Carole Migden, a San Francisco supervisor and Rothschild's predecessor as party chairperson, also condemned the decision to drop Hormel's nomination.

"His rejection once again underscores the spineless approach of the Clinton administration to the gay and lesbian community," she said. "Jim Hormel served the Democratic Party loyally for decades, and he's very deserving of the post."



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Candidates for council include lesbian, former Straight Slater, 17 more

(Continued from page 1)

In this election, Parker has an advantage she missed in her last bid for City Council, against incumbent Vince Ryan in District C in 1991. This time, she is being counted by the mainstream media among those considered "experienced" candidates. Parker has run for office before; several of those on the ballot have not. Also, as the current president of a large Montrose civic group, the Near-town Association, and a member of the Houston Police Advisory Committee, Parker can tout a personal record of involvement in some key city concerns: neighborhood issues and crime. She also has an extensive record of involvement with social service organizations, including United Way of Houston, and an

unassailable educational and employment history. An engineering technician with Mosbacher Energy Company, Parker is a graduate of Rice University, with B.A. degrees in Anthropology, Psychology and Sociology.

Parker served as president of HGLPC from 1986-1988, and has chaired that organization's police committee since 1992.

In addition to Parker, Tyra, Peavy and Kennedy, candidates for the council seat include: Alma Allen, a Houston school administrator who serves on the state board of education; John Buchanan, a retired engineer elected in November to the Harris County Department of Education board; Albert E. Coleman, a police officer and North Forest school

board member; Sam "Texas" Fayad, a conservative political activist; Cleo Glenn Johnson, president of the Black United Front of Texas; Herbert Jameson, a Metro bus driver; Taggart Mills, a salesman; Rev. Gene Moore, member of the Houston Community College board; Ogden "O.R." Pemberton, an attorney; Marilu Rumfalo, an investment banker; Alfredo Santos, a newspaper publisher; Robert Silvers, developer; Robert "Randy" Sims Jr., accountant; Elizabeth Spates, Houston school trustee; and Rev. Harold Wilcox, who has run for state representative. Several of the candidates have run for city council before.

The at-large council position is being vacated by Lee, who was elected to U.S. Congress in the 18th District.

HGLPC, at its December meeting, voted against a proposal to forego its traditional candidate screening process due to time limits and endorse Parker by acclamation, after several members—including Parker herself—urged the organization to conduct screening as usual. Candidate screening was scheduled to take place this week.

Early Voting Starts Tuesday

Early voting for the Jan. 21 special election to fill the Position 4 at-large Houston City Council seat has been scheduled for Jan. 3-17, *10:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. in the basement of Houston City Hall. All registered voters are eligible to cast ballots in this election.

Off Broadway's play: 'Love! Valour! Compassion!' is unique

By MICHAEL KUCHWARA

NEW YORK, Monday, Dec. 12 (AP)—On stage are twin brothers—one gentle, kindhearted and dying of AIDS. The other is cold, calculating and almost sadistic in his ill-temper. It's good and evil in a moment of recognition and reconciliation.

What makes the scene so amazing is that the two strikingly different men are played by the same actor, John Glover, who changes characters merely by sitting in a chair or standing up.

Glover's vivid demonstration of the art of acting—it ranks among the very best this season and occurs in Terrence McNally's hit play, "Love! Valour! Compassion!" In a New York theater scene bereft of new dramas, McNally has created a sensation with his latest work which opened in November at off-Broadway's Manhattan Theater Club.

The play, the story of eight gay men who meet at a country house over one summer, has sold out its run at MTC and will transfer to Broadway's Walter Kerr Theater. Performances

begin there Jan. 20. Glover will go with the show to Broadway in the company of other theater veterans such as Nathan Lane, Stephen Bogardus and Anthony Heald.

New York theater buffs with long memories might remember Glover as a staple on the local stage before he moved permanently to California more than 15 years ago. Others will recall his parade of big and small-screen villains, most memorably perhaps in "52 Pick-Up," adapted from an Elmore Leonard novel.

The actor has built a career out of playing those villains. Now for a slight change of pace, he gets to play both the bad guy, John, and the good guy, James, in "Love! Valour! Compassion!" It's not the first McNally play the actor has done.

After seeing the Manhattan Theater Club production of McNally's "Lips Together, Teeth Apart" several years ago, Glover telephoned the playwright to say how much he enjoyed it. He ended up in the drama's Los Angeles production and with a promise from

McNally that he was writing a role for him in his new play.

"It was incredibly flattering," recalls Glover, a quiet, soft-spoken man whose polite demeanor is certainly at odds with his more sinister movie appearances. "And then last Christmas, a huge script arrived."

It was a first draft of "Love! Valour! Compassion!" with the plum dual roles for Glover. It was a double challenge to keep from getting confused about the characters—to sort them out in his head and on stage.

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Body Positive announces 1995 support groups

Quick Notes

Body Positive/Houston is starting a new cycle of Peer Counseling Support Groups for HIV positive individuals. This service is free of charge. All interested individuals are invited to attend an informational meeting to be held at the Multi Service Center on Wednesday, Jan. 4, 1995 at 7:00 p.m.

New for 1995 is a daytime group to be established to meet the changing needs of our community.

Body Positive has successfully operated a Peer Counseling program for HIV/AIDS clients since 1988. Each group lasts 8 weeks. Weekly meetings are facilitated by trained leaders, who are HIV positive, under the supervision of a licensed psychotherapist. There are ten to twelve clients in each group. Based on a training manual developed at Body Positive/Houston, some of the topics regularly covered include: Working with your Doctor, Healing, Alternatives, Relationships, Lifestyle Issues, Stress Reduction, and Relax-

ation. However, the group ultimately decides democratically the contents of each 1-1/2 hour session. The group sessions are closed and confidential, therefore no new members are added after a group has started. The meetings are casual and all materials necessary will be provided.

The basic objective is for clients to share information and feelings with other clients that have similar life issues. Studies have shown a greater degree of client participation and satisfaction in counseling when clients can more easily relate or bond with the other participants rather than be "lectured" or "quizzed" by a therapist. The facilitator serves only to keep the group on-track, adhere to certain courtesies, and acts as a referral source for further information.

The Multi-Service Center is located at 1475 West Gray, between Waugh Drive and Dunlavy. If interested in participating or you need further information about Peer Counseling contact the Body Positive/Houston office at (713) 524-2374.

Seattle couple wins right to adopt boy after long custody battle

SEATTLE, Monday, Dec. 26 (AP)—A gay couple has been allowed to adopt a 4-year-old boy, ending a custody struggle with the boy's mother, who gave him away and then tried to get him back.

Ross and Luis Lopton, who had been the boy's foster parents, and a King County Superior Court commissioner signed the adoption papers Friday.

"I'm living here forever," the boy, Gailen, told the Seattle Post-Intelligencer. He calls Ross "Daddy" and Luis "Papa."

Gailen was placed with the Loptons in Sept. 1993, a year after his mother, Megan Lucas, surrendered her parental rights.

When she learned that Gailen had been placed with a gay couple, Lucas tried to rescind her decision and retain her parental rights. But a Superior Court judge rejected the request because it was filed a day too late under state law.

Lucas, who bore Gailen as an unwed teen-ager, then tried to adopt him, but

the courts rejected that attempt, too. State officials also opposed the effort, citing her history of drug and alcohol abuse and a criminal record dating from age 11.

In September, a five-judge panel of the state Supreme Court refused to hear her appeal.

Washington is one of six states that permits adoptions by gay couples. Six states have outlawed adoptions by same-sex couples.

The Loptons, who are bankers, spent four years in training and counseling to become foster and then adoptive parents.

They have had to help Gailen cope with attention deficit disorder, a common behavior problem among foster children, who often become unfocused and disruptive.

"The first thing they told us in our support group was, 'Don't touch him with a 10-foot pole. He's got too many problems,'" Ross Lopton said.

Now, Luis Lopton said, "his frustration level is less, he's better able to communicate."

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Q: "How does one pray?"



Rev. Janet Parker

A: Prayer is communication with God. It is our way of interacting with God. Our best example of prayer is given by Jesus, Himself. While on earth Jesus showed us how critical it is to pray everyday in order to know God's will and God's way for our lives. Jesus told us that He didn't do anything except what God asked Him to do. He was only able to know God's will through prayer. Jesus was known to pray daily as well as several times daily. It was not a ritual with Jesus. His communication with God was based on the relationship that He had with God. Even though Jesus was God in the flesh, there was that relationship as that of a parent/child that existed between them. Jesus came to show us so much about God through His own relationship with God.

If we look at the Gospel of Matthew, 6:5-14, we learn a lot about prayer from Jesus' life. First of all, Jesus tells us not to be hypocritical about our prayers. Don't do it to try and show others how religious you are. God doesn't to "showy" prayers that are not heart sent. Second of all, Jesus tells us to keep it personal—between me and God. This is especially important if pride is a struggle for you. This keeps us from using prayer to gain favor with others in their opinions of us. Thirdly, Jesus tells us that it is not the eloquence of our words that makes our prayers heard, nor is it the many words we pray. A prayer can simply be uttering the name, "Jesus."

Jesus goes on to give us a model prayer. It does not mean that this is the only way to pray. It is simply a guideline for us to follow. Let's look at the components of the Lord's Prayer. Jesus encourages us to acknowledge God as the Creator of all the Universe, worthy of our praise and adoration. God is to be lifted up to the highest place. There is none other on earth worthy of such glory and honor. We begin our prayers by telling God how we see God. By acknowledging God as Supreme, we then go on to say to God, "I desire that Your plans and purposes for me on this earth be fulfilled. I want Your will to be done on this earth. I know that You are my provider for everything that I have. I only need to call on You, and to ask You for whatever I need. You will hear me and respond to me with what is best for me."

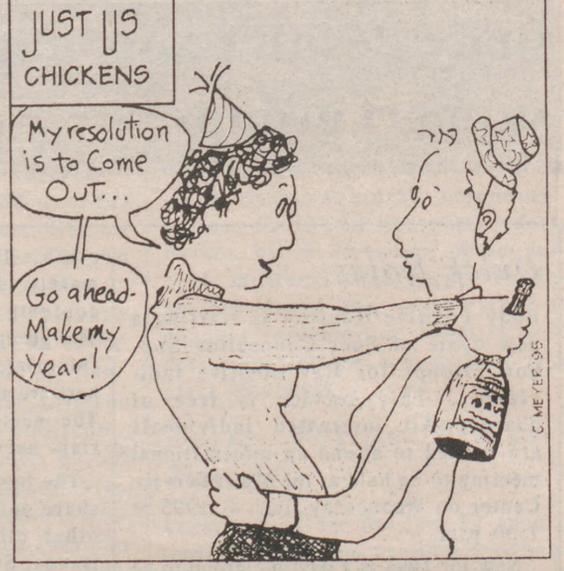
Confession is what keeps our heart and attitude right before God. If we continually let God's flashlight shine in our hearts and lives, we will see those things that separate us from God and our relationships with humankind. Sin blocks God's blessings and God's ability to work in our behalf. Confession and Forgiveness open the doorway for God to move in our lives. We not only ask for forgiveness for ourselves, but it is given to us in direct proportion to our ability to forgive others who have wronged us.

We then ask God to help us with temptations in our lives. We know that it is very difficult to live fully in God's peace, joy and love. Our human nature gets in the way and pulls us toward the world. Recognizing that helps us to see reality. No human being is ever outside the realm of being tempted and falling away from God's grace. The Word of God tells us that the person who thinks they can stand and never fall is the one who is about to take a tumble. Pride will always knock us down. It's just a matter of time.

We ask to be delivered from Satan's snare. Jesus has already defeated the enemy for us. We only need to call upon the One who has dealt the final blow.

Let me encourage you to begin talking to God in your own comfortable vernacular. Speak to God sincerely from your heart. Speak to God frequently as you would to a friend. Try the suggestions I've given today. Wait and learn to listen for God's voice. God will speak to you in many different ways in return. You will know God's voice in time and with consistency. Jesus told us that God's sheep hear God's voice.

IF YOU WOULD LIKE TO ASK THE PASTOR A QUESTION, WRITE: REV. JANET PARKER, MARANATHA FELLOWSHIP MCC, P.O. BOX 667032, HOUSTON, TX. 77266-7932.



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Kolbe House plans potluck, healing service in January

Quick Notes
 As the giving season gives way to the paying season, Kolbe House will offer an appropriate topic at its New Year potluck on Thursday, Jan. 5 at 7:00 p.m. A representative of the Consumer Credit Counseling Service (CCCS) will lead the presentation, "How to Get Out and Stay Out of Debt."
 Kolbe House is also sponsoring a Service of Healing on Thursday, Jan. 12 at 7:00 p.m., including prayer, anointing and laying on of hands.
 Kolbe House is located at 1509 Fairview (park on the Hyde Park cul de sac). For more information on Kolbe House or any of its events, call 522-8182.

Life-saving TV for gay and lesbian teens

GLAAD Media Watch

By AL KIELWASSER

Gay and Lesbian Alliance Against Defamation

The Dec. 22 episode of "My So-Called Life" (ABC) included a storyline in which teenager Rickie Vasquez is forced from his own home because of his sexual orientation. Wilson Cruz, the 20-year-old actor who plays Rickie, says that the storyline is based on his real life experiences; his father asked him to leave home just before Christmas last year.

Cruz—who is gay—recently told a TV Guide interviewer why he decided to come out. "In order for my character to have any effect on people, I can't live a hypocritical life," he said. Further asked if thought his character would find romance on "My So-Called Life," Cruz replied: "When he's ready."

Currently, "My So-Called Life" is the only network television program that features a recurring (and potentially life-saving) role model for lesbian/gay/bisexual teens. Unfortunately, as one critic put it, the program is "ratings starved." ABC has announced that, as of Jan. 26, the series will be placed on hiatus and might not be renewed next Fall. Grassroots efforts to save My So-Called Life have sprung up around the country, and supportive letters could make all the difference.

Write to Randi Cohen, ABC Production, 2020 Avenue of the Stars, 5th Floor, Century City, CA 90067, tel. (310) 557-6147; Marshall Herskovitz 7 Ed Zwick, Executive Producers, My So-Called Life, Bedford Fall Company, 409 Santa Monica Blvd., Santa Monica, CA 90401.

No Apologies Necessary

The ultra-right wing and ultra-homophobic "Concerned Women of America" (which bills itself as the nation's largest women's organization) has begun a phone zap of Macy's department stores for advertising in The Advocate. According to the Concerned Women of America (CWA), Macy's representatives have been apologizing to angry CWA callers for advertising in the lesbian/gay news magazine.

Let Macy's know that no apologies are necessary; ask the company to reject CWA's hate campaign and to continue Macy's support of lesbian, gay and bisexual publications. Call (212) 695-4400 (and press "1," then "0") or write to Macy's 151 West 34th Street, New York, NY 10001, Attn: Executive Offices. Copy your correspondence to The Advocate, 6922 Hollywood Blvd., Los Angeles, CA 90028, Attn: Editorial.

Wild Man at it Again

The National Coalition Against Censorship (NCAC) is being attacked by

arch-homophobe Donald Wildmon of the American Family Association (AFA). The AFA is attacking NCAC for having defended the Pink Pyramid, a lesbian/gay bookstore in Cincinnati (the bookstore and its employees and co-owner were unsuccessfully charged with obscenity pandering for having rented a video copy of Pier Paolo Pasolini's film Salo). Wildmon and the AFA are putting pressure on the church groups that participate in NCAC to drop their affiliation with the anti-censorship organization. Among those joining with NCAC in defense of Pink Pyramid (and the First Amendment) were United Methodist Church, National Council of the Churches of Christ, Union of American Hebrew Congregations, and the Unitarian Universalist Association.

Letters of support for the stand taken by these organizations can be sent in care of Dalia Kandiyoti, Media Coordinator, NCAC, 275 7th Avenue, New York, NY 10001, tel. (212) 807-NCAC, fax (212) 807-6245; the censorious and bigoted Donald Wildmon can be contacted at the AFA, P.O. Drawer 2440, Tupelo, MS 38803, e-mail AmFamily1@aol.com.

Media Briefs

Unsound bite: Complaining about the apparently increasing number of lesbian/gay/bisexual roles on television, Lou Sheldon—leader of the Traditional Values Coalition—told the Los Angeles Times (11/3/94) "Homosexuals should not be portrayed at all on TV. If young males need to identify with someone, they should identify with Clint Eastwood."

Signs of the Times:

—The Dec. 5 issue of the Los Angeles Times includes Howard Rosenberg's short feature on "Revealing Gayness on TV Terms" (a wry commentary on gayness and ratings).

—Time magazine's "roster of America's most promising leaders age 40 and under" (Dec. 5) includes lesbian activist Urvashi Vaid.

—The New York Times has finally filled a void in lesbian and gay coverage by appointing openly-gay writer David Dunlap to cover the lesbian/gay beat.

We must confront the media's homophobia in order to cure it! To notify the Gay & Lesbian Alliance Against Defamation of any defamatory or affirmative media coverage call our 24-hour Media Watch Hotline at (415) 861-4588, or write to GLAAD/SFBA, 1360 Mission Street, Suite 200, San Francisco, CA 94103; fax, (415) 861-4893; e-mail glaad.sfba@aol.com.

GLAAD/SFBA is a membership-based community organization dedicated to cultural advocacy and media activism, which promotes the fair, accurate and diverse representation of lesbian, gay and bisexual lives in the mass media.



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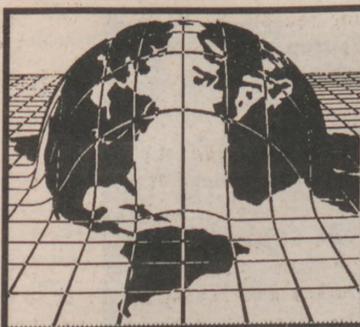
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HOUSTON VOICE

FDA approves AIDS test using saliva instead of blood

By PAUL RECER
FOR THE HOUSTON VOICE

WASHINGTON, Saturday, Dec. 24 (AP)—The first AIDS virus test that uses saliva instead of blood has been approved by the Food and Drug Administration.

The test, called OraSure, is made by the biotechnology company Epitepe Inc., in Beaverton, Ore., and will cost about \$2 to \$4, a fraction of the price of blood tests.

Although the test isn't as accurate as blood tests, Epitepe expressed the hope following Friday's FDA approval that the test will help more people learn whether they have HIV, the virus that causes AIDS.

"Whether they test positive or negative, they can take appropriate steps to protect themselves and others and, if they test positive, obtain early treatment for the disease," said Adolph Ferro, Epitepe president and chief executive officer.

The FDA said the new test will be available only from physicians and will be administered only by people trained in its use. Epitepe eventually hopes to offer it for sale directly to consumers.

Epitepe has been seeking FDA approval of its saliva test for 3 1/2 long and lean years. The firm's profits took a beating as it awaited the federal action. In 1993, Epitepe had an annual loss of \$14.7 million, and earlier this month it announced a fiscal 1994 loss of \$15.6 million.

After the FDA announcement, Epitepe stock climbed \$3.50 to \$24.50 at mid afternoon on the American Stock Exchange.

Dr. Jeff Lawrence, a consultant to the American Foundation for AIDS Research, said the test could encourage people who would avoid blood tests to be tested.

"As long as a positive test is followed up with a blood test and as long as there is appropriate counseling available, it is a reasonable thing to do," said Lawrence.

The FDA approval actually involves two systems: a way to collect and preserve the oral fluid, and a way to test the specimen in a laboratory for the HIV virus.

The kit used to test the specimen in the laboratory is made by Organon Teknika Corp. of Durham, N.C., and is sold under the brand name "Oral Fluid Vironostika HIV-1 Microelisa System."

The test measures the presence in the saliva of the antibodies to the HIV virus. The virus itself has not been found in saliva.

To collect fluid for a test, a specially-treated cotton pad on a stick is placed between the lower gum and the cheek and allowed to absorb fluid. The stick then is placed into a plastic container with a preservative solution.

Positive tests are confirmed with a blood test called the Western Blot, which is more sensitive than the ELISA.

The FDA said the test has a 2 percent error rate. For instance, for every 100 people infected with HIV, the saliva test will miss one or two. For every 100 people who are not infected, test results will be incorrectly positive for approximately two people, the agency said.

"That is much, much poorer than with a standard blood test," Lawrence said.

Under the guidelines for approval, the saliva test is strictly forbidden for home use and cannot be used to screen blood donors.

Epitepe said an estimated 60 million HIV screening tests are administered in the United States each year, about half at blood banks.

Mississippi judge delays ruling on HIV test results

LAUREL, Miss., Thursday, Dec. 22 (AP)—A judge Thursday formally refused to stop attorneys representing a teen-ager accused of murdering two gay men from making references to the men's sexual preference at trial.

Circuit Judge Billy J. Landrum also delayed a ruling on whether to allow HIV test results from the murder victims to be admitted as evidence.

Landrum said he might rule on the defense's motion if testimony in the trial and facts in the case show the test results to be relevant.

Marvin McClendon, 17, is charged with two counts of murder in the Oct. 7 shooting deaths of the two gay men, Joseph Shoemaker and Robert Walters.

McClendon's attorneys argued that the teen-ager was defending himself from a violent attack and the two men's HIV status was a condition that worsened the situation.

The test results were opened Tuesday in Landrum's chambers before prosecutors and defense attorneys. Attorneys, however, have been instructed not to discuss the results.

Landrum said he would restrict McClendon's right to "present a viable defense" to the murder counts by suppressing "testimony favorable to defendant" after what happened.

Gay rights groups have expressed outrage that the victims' HIV status was playing a role in the case. They've urged the U.S. Justice Department to intervene.

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TALENT NIGHT
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Administration to seek boost in funding for AIDS programs

By CHRISTOPHER CONNELL
FOR THE HOUSTON VOICE

WASHINGTON, Tuesday, Dec. 20 (AP)—The Clinton administration, despite tight budget constraints, will seek \$91 million more next year to care for people with AIDS, officials said Tuesday.

President Clinton, who has already boosted spending on AIDS programs by 82 percent, will seek an increase to \$724 million for fiscal 1996, administration officials said. That is \$51 million more than his health department requested.

The administration also has decided not to cut a special housing program for those suffering with the disease from its fiscal 1996 budget.

Clinton promised during his 1992 campaign to fully fund the Ryan White Act, which provides direct medical and social services to people living with the HIV virus or full-blown AIDS. It is named for a hemophilic Indiana

teen-ager who battled discrimination at school and died of AIDS in 1990.

Sources who asked not to be identified said the \$185 million housing program had been pulled off the chopping block. It will still have to fight for survival in the Republican-controlled Congress, to which the budget will be submitted in February.

Congress enacted the special housing program in 1990 out of concern that victims of AIDS were being shut out of other housing programs for the disabled.

The AIDS Action Council says that one-third to one-half of all people with AIDS "are either homeless or in imminent danger of losing their homes," and the National Commission on AIDS once estimated that 15 percent of homeless people were HIV positive.

The government spends almost \$3 billion a year on AIDS research, prevention and treatment programs.

ARE YOU AN UNDISCOVERED MODEL?

The Houston Voice is seeking photogenic, uninhibited models to feature on the cover of our Blue Pages section. If you enjoy being admired, call the Houston Voice at (713) 529-8490 and leave a message for our staff photographer Steven David. ... Come on...do it!

Yale historian of medieval homosexual culture dies at 47

NEW HAVEN, Conn., Monday, Dec. 26 (AP)—John E. Boswell, the Yale historian who found evidence that priests in the Middle Ages united same-sex couples in ceremonies much like weddings, has died at age 47 of complications from AIDS.

"I regard him as one of the major innovative figures in gay and lesbian scholarship," said Martin Duberman, founder and executive director of the Center for Lesbian and Gay Studies at the City University of New York.

Boswell died Friday at the Yale infirmary, said his friend Jerry Hart.

In June, Boswell provoked debate with his book "Same-Sex Unions in Premodern Europe," based on the study of more than 60 manuscripts from the eighth to the 16th century.

Boswell wrote that the ceremony of same-sex union was by the 12th century "unmistakably a voluntary, emotional union of two persons." The ceremony was "closely related" to heterosexual marriage, he said, "no matter how much some readers may be discomforted by this."

Some scholars and theologians have disputed Boswell's findings.

James Brundage, a professor of history and law at the University of Kansas, said last summer that "the mainstream reaction was that he raised some interesting questions, but hadn't proved his case."

Boswell gained wide notice in 1980 with the publication of "Christianity, Social Tolerance and Homosexuality: Gay People in Western Europe From the Beginning of the Christian Era to the Fourteenth Century."

The book won the American Book Award for history in 1981.

One major aim, Boswell wrote, was "to rebut the common idea that religious belief—Christian or other—has been the cause of intolerance in regard to gay people."

Colleagues said Boswell was influential and a role model without being an activist.

The Rev. Anita Bradshaw, director of supervised ministry for Yale Divinity School, said he gave the gay and lesbian community a chance to rediscover its own history.

"He was a spokesperson and original thinker," said Gaddis Smith, a fellow history professor. "He was much more influenced by his writing than by any call to activism."

Boswell joined the Yale faculty in 1975 as an assistant professor and was appointed a full professor in 1982. He was named the A. Whitney Griswold Professor of History in 1990, when he began a two-year term as department chairperson.

In 1987, Boswell helped organize the Lesbian and Gay Studies Center at Yale.

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Survey on gay killings included Nebraska transsexual case

OMAHA, Neb., Tuesday, Dec. 20 (AP)—A national survey of homosexual murders in 29 states included a Nebraska killing involving a woman who had posed as a man in southeast Nebraska.

The New York City Gay and Lesbian Anti-Violence Project said it included the murder of Teena Brandon in its study because the victim's sexual orientation appeared to play a role in the case.

"It's clearly a murder related to homophobia," said Terry Maroney, a spokesperson for the project.

Brandon's murder was one of a dozen cases involving transvestites or transsexuals that was included in the study of 151 killings from 1992-94 that the project considered anti-gay killings.

A transvestite is a person who dresses as a member of the opposite sex. A transsexual identifies with the other sex, sometimes so strongly that he or she undergoes a sex-change operation.

Brandon was one of three people shot to death Dec. 31, 1993, at a rented farmhouse in rural Humboldt, a southeast Nebraska community of 1000 about 60 miles southeast of Lincoln.

John Lotter and Marvin Nissen, who also is known as Thomas Nissen, both of Falls City, each have been charged with three

counts of murder; they also are charged with kidnapping and raping Brandon one week before the killings.

After the murder, friends said Brandon had told them she was a hermaphrodite, a person with both male and female sexual organs, and that she felt like a man. Brandon dressed as a man and used the name "Brandon Teena."

Maroney referred to Brandon as "he" because she thought it would be disrespectful to refer to Brandon as a woman since Brandon identified herself as a man.

"I don't believe Brandon identified as a lesbian. I believe he identified as a transsexual person but he was murdered because he was a biological female who was passing as a male," Maroney said in explaining why the project included the case.

"To us and to me, the point is not would Brandon Teena have said, 'Am I a lesbian?'" she said. "The point is that the people ... are not thinking in these highly specialized terms ... All they know is here's a queer."

Maroney said other cases in the study involving transsexuals or transvestites were in Atlanta, Chicago, Indianapolis, Paterson, N.J., Baltimore, Kansas City, Mo., Columbus, Ohio, and four in New York.

N.Y. survey: killers of gay victims more brutal, police less effective

By LARRY NEUMEISTER FOR THE HOUSTON VOICE

NEW YORK, Wednesday, Dec. 21 (AP)—When Roy Secord came home last year and found that his companion had been stabbed more than 20 times and battered with a pot and an iron, he saw firsthand the brutality a new study says is common in gay murders.

A study by the New York City Gay and Lesbian Anti-Violence Project found that nearly 60 percent of 151 anti-gay slayings reported in 29 states, including New Jersey, involved "extraordinary and horrific violence" of a sort "fueled by rage and hate."

While guns are used in 68 percent of all murders in the country, only 26 percent of anti-homosexual murderers shot their victims. Knives, baseball bats, clubs and hammers were the weapons of choice, said the study, issued on Tuesday.

"The level of violence in these homicides is really gruesome," said Bea Hanson, a spokesperson for the anti-violence project.

"There's no reason why somebody needs to stab somebody more than 100 times."

Secord, 36, of New York City said at a news conference held by the gay rights group that he came home one day last year to find that his companion had been stabbed 20 to 30 times by a man they had hired to do some painting.

"He did not go down with stab wounds alone," Secord said. "He was beaten with a pot and an iron."

Secord said that over his objections, prosecutors let the killer plead guilty to manslaughter rather than face trial for murder.

"I don't feel I was given equal time as a spouse would be given," he said.

The study defined a killing as gay—or lesbian-related "if the victim's sexual orientation appeared to have played a role."

Fifty-one percent of such killings are solved, compared with 65 percent for all homicides, the study said.

The study also said police were "indifferent to gay-lesbian-related homicides" and operated from "a blame-the-victim perspective."

Police disagreed. "There's a tremendous amount of work that goes into these cases," said Armond

Pelissetti, a homicide inspector for the San Francisco police. "The gay ones don't get any less, I guarantee you. But I don't know if that's the case elsewhere. I'm sure there are places elsewhere that are homophobic."

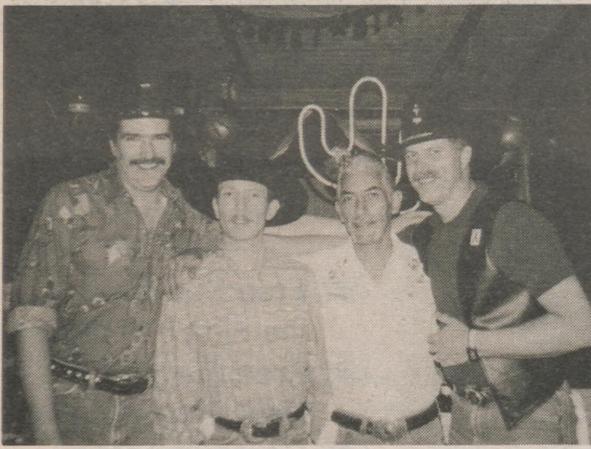
Sgt. John Clifford, a New York City police spokesperson, said the department "views homicides of all persons very seriously with a special sensitivity toward homicides committed against gays or lesbians."

The study was based on three years of murder records, beginning in 1992. But the anti-violence group said the figures represent only a small percentage of hate murders of homosexuals because information was provided by volunteer organizations covering only 29 states and the District of Columbia.

Also, anti-homosexual violence is underreported because families of some victims try to keep it quiet and police frequently refuse to give details, the study said.

The study said it found at least eight serial murderers preyed on homosexuals in the United States, and six are still at large.

Happy New Year! Where to go to ring out the old and ring in the new



Some of BRB's finest!

Houston Soap, Part 1

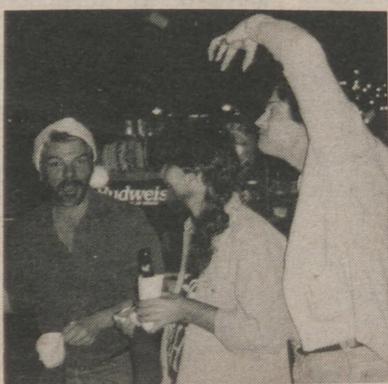
By CAROLYN LARSON
Houston Voice/Houston

Hollidaze, Hi!, Ho Ho Ho, and then some...

Past Events

Members of the National Leather Association: Houston (NLA:H) picked up toys and money collected from Montrose area businesses and bars, including Ragoo's Tattoos and Cycles (located in far west Houston). On Dec. 22, 18+ large (and I mean LARGE) plastic bags were taken to Casa de Esperanza (a center for children in crisis, whether it be HIV/AIDS, abuse or other life crisis situations.) The toys...tons of beautiful stuffed animals and toys were distributed by the Casa employees and volunteers to more than 40 in-house children and the many children under the Casa's care that are in foster homes. The money collected from the many "care jars" that were placed in retail outlets/bar/restaurants are being earmarked to purchase diapers for the Casa de Esperanza. Casa is also a beneficiary of the Firedancers-Houston Tribe's 1st Annual Barn Party. These additional funds will be presented to Casa at the "Valentine's Dinner" at the Venture-N in February. NLA:H has asked me to send a special thanks to: Basic Brothers, Venture-N, Pacific Street, 611-Hyde Park Pub, Steve @ Leather Forever, the gang at the Brazos River Bottom, Del and the staff of Gentry, Mary's...naturally, Joel of the Gardens, and Ragoo of Ragoo's' Tattoos and Cycles! A job well done by all!

On Dec. 6, the Gay Men's Chorus of Houston raised approximately \$15,800 from their Christmas concert held at the Cullen Theater. A portion of the profits will benefit the Montrose Clinic and its Houston Clinical Research Network. Money raised from the concert will go towards several ongoing Clinic matching funds campaigns. The clinic, along with the Swalm Foundation, have a \$300,000 building matching fund goal for the new year to completely pay off building expenses at the new 215 Westheimer location, while HCRN has a



Paul, are you going to attach Norman & Sissy?

\$75,000 AmFar match for the next three years which raises funds for patient enrollment in AmFar sponsored clinical trials.

Friday, 12/30

The Gay 90s cable TV show airs this morning at 7:30 a.m. You can view this on Warner Cable 17, TCI Cable 41, and Phonoscope Cable 11.

There is no cover at Pacific Street tonight from 7:00 p.m. until 9:00 p.m. This is a great

place to start your weekend party!

Saturday, 12/31/New Year's Eve

There are so many parties happening today and tonight! I'll try to give you the scoop on most of them!

Black leather. Chaps. Riding crops. Dark corners. Ripcord. 715 Fairview. Like you did not know. The Ripcord is having a cash balloon drop at midnight tonight. Free (oops, complimentary) champagne and party favors at midnight!

Are you a New Year's Eve Baby? Well, go to Mary's...naturally, for this ever so annual contest. Cash prizes for the "Best Baby New Year" costume. The



I prayed for our virginity to be restored...but my prayers are still unanswered

judging starts at 1:00 a.m. Even if you don't win, you can party at Mary's, naturally, till 4:00 a.m.

The Venture-N is having their traditional New Year's Blowout! Free (oops, complimentary) champagne and balloon drop at midnight! You can always count on the Venture-N to do things in the traditional way! (Love ya Piggy!)

Pacific Street wants you to start the new year with a bang! They are having their traditional New Year's Eve party with free souvenirs, party hats, horns, lays, champagne at midnight, top 10 video countdown, balloon drop, free buffet at 12:30 p.m. and tons of surprises! Leave it to the men of Pacific Street to do a bang up job!

A "Gigantic" New Year's Eve party is happening tonight at the 611 Hyde Park Pub! In honor of this most auspicious occasion, Dennis and the staff of the 611 are offering 95¢ well drinks to ring in '95. There will also be free (oops, complimentary) champagne at midnight as well as party favors and a buffet. I'd tell you the address of the 611 Hyde Park Pub, but the name of the place gives it all away! (so do some of the bartenders, especially Ralph!)

The Penthouse is having the delightful sounds of Mark Payne on stage tonight. He is just back from Australia. Mark will also have copies of his latest CD for sale. If you don't already have your dinner reservations in, you'd better call asap!

Rich's is planning one of the biggest

blowouts of the year tonight. Besides some of the best music in Houston spun by J.D. Arnold and Jon Mott, a cash balloon drop, tons of party favors and a delicious buffet catered by "Lasagna House," there will be an extra special guest... the one, and only...Jody Whatley. What else can I say? For more info on the night's events, call the Rich's info line at 759-9606.

Midtowne Spa is hosting "The Definitive Party" tonight. Reservations are highly suggested for this party. The evening's talents are: Bubba McNeely, Black Velvet and DPIC recording artist Tranae Chardon. Midtowne Spa is located at 3100 Fannin. For reservations, call 522-2379.

The Gay 90s TV show airs this afternoon at 3:00 p.m.

The Montrose Mining Company will celebrate New Year's Eve as only the Mine can! There will be no cover and gorgeous men well into the night.

Heaven celebrates New Year's South Beach style. The men of South Beach return, plus the top ten video countdown of 1994 begins at 11:00 p.m. Everyone receives a split of champagne at midnight!

J.R.'s Bar and Grill will ring in the new year in classic style as only J.R.'s can. There will be tons of party favors and a lot of Houston's most beautiful peo-



I found this hunky cowboy at the BRB

ple will be there!

Ring in the new year at the Brazos River Bottom's New Year's Eve party. There will be party favors, hot men, champagne, and good country music. There is an \$8 cover for singles and \$10 per couple. This includes a breakfast buffet at 2:00 a.m.

The gang at the Briar Patch promises to have the best looking bar in Houston for you to spend New Year's Eve. On the top of that, the live entertainment that never stops is sure to keep you jumping. Go and see for yourself what a good time you can have in a bar... The Briar Patch is not "just another club!" It is different!

El Buzon is having a Latin Lovers New Year's Eve party! Jorge and Manuel invite you to join them for their traditional party! There will be party favors, wine coolers, champagne, and a Tex-Mex—Southern style buffet starting at 12:30 a.m. The El Buzon (Mailbox Bar) is located at 4215 Washington. Call 864-2977 for reservations and directions!

Sunday, Jan. 1, 1995

OK! Everyone! Have you been practicing your "95's?"

Mary's, naturally opens at 10:00 a.m. today! There is a New Year's buffet that starts at noon, featuring black-eyed peas, cabbage and corn bread!

The Venture-N is continuing their



What have you got against Schnauzer

tradition today with black-eyed peas, corn bread and Hal and Jim's Yea! Buffet today.

The 3rd annual Texas Renegades "Mystery Tour" starts at the Brazos River Bottom today at noon today. The bus departs (after Mimosas and Danish from the Brazos River Bottom) at 1:00 p.m. Your cost is \$30. This includes drinks, food and transportation to all stops. All stops are "clothing optional!" For further information, contact any Texas Renegade member, or call me at the office. I will give you the phone number to reserve a "spot!"

The Montrose Mining Company celebrates the New Year with 95¢ well Vodka juice drinks from 1:00 p.m. until 6:00 p.m., plus the new and improved beer bust. No buy-in and 50¢ Miller Lite draft beer...all night long!

Heaven presents: "Left Over and Broke," a party for all of those who were out all night on New Year's Eve. There is reduced cover with an invitation from your favorite bartender. Don't sit at home nursing that hangover, grab an invitation and welcome in 1995 will all your friends at 800 Pacific.

The Brazos River Bottom is having their traditional New Year's Day buffet. This spread is from 3:00 p.m. until 7:00 p.m.

Gentry opens at noon today with \$1.50 well drinks and domestic longnecks until 5:00 p.m. followed by the sexy Boy Toy dancers until 2:00 a.m.

The doors of Pacific Street open tonight at 7:00 p.m. There is no cover until 9:00 p.m.

Monday, 1/2/95

There is a male strip contest at E/J's tonight at 11:00 p.m. Catia and Paivi take the stage and make those innocent young men bare it all!

Tuesday, 1/3/95

Week # 8! The finals are next week! I am of course typing about the diligent search Brittany Paige does each week at E/J's for "amateur talent?!" If you are inclined to enter, be there before 10:30 p.m.

The Toy Box bar (formerly the Red Room) is having a "Strip Night" tonight. The lovely Paivi Lee Love is the hostess. The show starts at 8:00 p.m.



Bringing in the new year a little early...

Carolyn's calendar returns to the Soap pages; dirt continues next year



Smile, you're on Carolyn's camera

Houston Soap, Part 2 Wednesday, 1/4

Lucy is still doin' it! She is still grilling up hot-off-the-grill hunks of beef to your requirements. Go fig! The grill is lit at 6:00 p.m., and so is Lucy! The doors of E/J's open at 7:00 a.m. E/J's is one of those "get there early and stay all day & night" places!

Dyan is doing it too! But she has a different kind of beefcake! The weekly wienie waiver contest starts at Gentry at 10:30 p.m.

Brittany Paige takes the stage tonight at the Toy Box bar. She will be hosting "Talent Night." The fresh faces start trying out their new acts starting at 8:00 p.m.

It is Ladies' night at the Penthouse. Grab your lover or a girlfriend or your future wife and head "up the ladder to the roof, where you can see heaven much better!" The sunsets are fantastic to watch. The Penthouse is located hi-atop 3400 Montrose.

Thursday, 1/5

It is "Boys' Night Out" tonight at the Penthouse. There is a complimentary munchies buffet that starts at 5:30 p.m. and goes until 8:00 p.m. Mysti Day is on stage starting at 8:30 p.m.

Other Important Stuff

Check out the Basic Brothers' advertisement on page 5!

Did you know that E/J's opens every day (except Sunday) at 7:00 a.m.? If you need an eye-opener, this is one of the best places to go!

The Mary's weekend beer bust has had a few changes. On Saturdays it is from 4:00 p.m. until 10:00 p.m., and on Sunday's from noon till 6:00 p.m. Thanks to TABC (Texas Alcohol Beverage Commission) there is no longer a buy-in. Each cold, frosty cup of beer is only 50 ¢.

This is a new idea for Houston singles. Alternative Visions is hosting at "Singles Party" on Jan. 18 and 19. This is a great opportunity to meet other singles that are "looking for love." Mark your calendars! If you would like more info, call Wendi, Trudi or Tom at 526-8223.

I have a special message from the guys at Heights' Tanning Center: "As the new year approaches, we would like to thank the people that have helped us become successful!" If you would like to give up your winter "ghost," call Heights Tanning at 802-9373.



The 2 newest faces at the Penthouse

Did you know that the 611 Hyde Park Pub has a free (oops, complimentary) brunch that starts at 12:30 p.m. every Sunday?

If you are looking for Latino men.. head to El Buzon... aka the Mailbox Bar. This bar where Latin lovers are found is located at 4215 Washington.

Have you heard about the new Sherwin Williams paint color? It is called "Blonde." It is not real bright, but spreads easily!

The Toy Box Bar (formerly the Red Room) is located at 1419 Richmond. They are under new ownership and management!

The Penthouse has a special for Cuervolyn fans. They have a free (oops, complimentary) bottle of champagne for the first 24 dinner parties that request it! Just tell them that Cuervolyn sent you!

Cuervolyn's Calendar

My calendar has moved... back into this space! I only expanded it because there were so many events going on that if I did not remove it from the "Soap" part of the Houston Voice, I would have had to eliminate some of the fund raising/charity/events/holiday events that were happening during that time. I hope you find "Cuervolyn's Calendar" most helpful and will continue to check it for your social and fund raising calendar!

If you would like an event listed in this section, please feel free to call me at 529-8490 or fax the facts to me at 529-9531.

12/31 * Traditional New Year's Eve Blow-out at Pacific Street

12/31 * New Years Eve Party South Beach Style at Heaven.

12/31 * Classic New Year's Eve Party at J.R.'s.

12/31 * Miss Cousins Contest.

12/31 * L.i.B.'s New Year's Eve Party at the Double Tree. Call 759-0202 to get your reservation in early!

12/31 * Bayou City Boy's Club Party at the Wyndham Warwick. Call Stacie at 529-6071 or Brad at 529-9712 for info and reservations.

12/31 * "No Booze Blues" New Year's Eve Blow-out party at Cappuccino Plus. Call 526-6933 for info.

12/31 * Jodi Watley performs at Rich's.

12/31 * Giant New Year's Eve Party at the 611 Hyde Park Pub.

01/05 * New Year's Pot Luck at the Kolbe House. 1508 Fairview. Dinner and presentation by Consumer Credit Counseling Service. Call 522-8182 for more info.

01/07 * "Hot Buns" contest/auction at Gentry.

01/07 * Houston Wrestling Club meets at the Metropolitan Multi-Service Center at 1:00 p.m. for instruction, practice, and an opportunity for unstructured free style wrestling. Newcomers and beginners welcome. Call Larry at 453-7406 for more info.

01/08 * 5th Annual Gumbo Cookoff by the Texas Renegades and RSICSS at the Brazos River Bottom. A benefit for Q-Patrol. Call 528-9192 for more info.

01/08 * Dinner with Mr. Texas Drummer at the Venture-N. A fundraiser for The Assistance Fund.

01/09 * Fundraiser for Annise Parker at 2015 Main. Call Patrick at 869-0982 for more info.

01/12 * National Leather Association: Houston's "Social Nite Out" Meet at Luby's (Buffalo Spdwy) at 8:00 p.m., then bowling at Palace Bowling (4191 Bellaire).

01/12 * "A Service of Healing" at Kolbe House. 1509 Fairview. 7:00 p.m. Call 522-8182 for more info.

01/12 * Flashlight/Pajama Party at E/J's

01/13 to 15 * Ms. Gulf Coast Leather 1995 weekend. Sponsored by FIST (Females in Search of Trouble) Call 522-4533 for

more info.

01/14 * Dallas MC's 21st Anniversary.

01/14 * Leather Knights 2nd Anniversary.

01/14 to 21 * Winterfest '95 in Park City Utah. Gay Ski Trip sponsored by Travel Heights (861-0378) and Travel in Pride (621-0247.)

01/18 & 19 * 2-Day Singles Party sponsored by Alternative Visions. Call 526-8223 for more info.

01/19 * Houston Gay and Lesbian Parents (HGLP) General Meeting at the Montrose Library. 7:00 p.m. Call 980-7995 for info.

01/19 * "Harvey Milk," a benefit performance of a world premiere opera at the Wortham Theater, 7:30 p.m. Benefiting Bering Community Service and the Names Project. Call 529-6071 for info.

01/19 * "Proof of Love" kick-off. A benefit for DIFFA/Houston. Call Tori Williams at 552-9445 for more info.

01/21 * "Night in Black Leather"—a benefit for the Bering Care Center hosted by Don Gill and Soiree Aubergine at the Venture-N, 9:00 p.m.

01/21 * Voting for Emperor and Empress XI for the Royal, Sovereign and Imperial Court of the Single Star at the Houston Voice office, 811 Westheimer, Suite 105. 10:00 a.m. until 6:00 p.m.

01/21 * "The Assistance Fund Presents Jekyll & Hyde." a benefit for the Assistance Fund at the Music Hall. Call 529-4788 for more info.

01/21 * Houston Wrestling Club meets at 1:00 p.m. at the Metropolitan Multi-Service Center for instruction, practice, and an opportunity for unstructured free style wrestling. Newcomers and beginners welcome. Call Larry at 453-7406 for more info.

01/22 * 3rd Annual Winter Carnival at the Venture-N. Starts at 1:00 p.m. Benefit for the Colt 45's Troublefund and Bering Community Services Foundation. Call Chris at 526-4392 for more info.

01/28 * Coronation XI—The Royal, Sovereign and Imperial Court of the Single Star at the Holiday Inn Medical Center. 7:00 p.m. until 1:00 a.m. Cost \$20.

01/28 * "Living Proof" photography exhibit opens. A benefit for DIFFA/Houston. Location TBA. Call Tori Williams at 552-9445 for more info.

01/28 * TCC's Annual Meeting at 1:00 p.m. Bamboleo's, 1812 N. Main, San Antonio.

01/28 * Chain of Command's "Military Maneuvers"

01/29 * Rainbow Ranglers' Rangler Round-up Dance and Variety Show. A benefit for the Colt 45's Troublefund. 7:00 p.m. at the Brazos River Bottom. Call 880-0670 for more info.

02/04 * Montrose Clinic's 2nd annual Bowl-a-thon. A fundraiser for the Clinic's Deaf and Hard of Hearing programs. Call Steve Nettles at 520-2015 for more info.

Birthday Corner

Happy Birthday to Mark of the Colt 45's! Another Happy Happy to Randall of Pacific Street!

Insignificant Gossip!

Normally I have a slew of nasty thing to say about numerous individuals that work/live/party/survive in the Montrose. This week I don't have much to "report!" I spent the "Christmas Holidays" in Albuquerque, New Mexico, that is, visiting the Lazer Wizard's family. Talk about being outside of the



I found these pretty faces at The Ranch

loop! Therefore I have not overheard much, but I do have a few tidbits to share!

The most spectacular site I have ever seen (outside Montrose) happened Christmas Eve. We (LW, his mother Sha, and I) were fiercely playing "Hearts" when the phone rang. A friend called to tell us that there was a "Balloon Glow" happening on the golf course. Being a non-native of New Mexico, I was unfamiliar to the term. Well, we searched this sight out. I found myself (after a freezing trek) in the middle of the driving range of the local golf course. This placement was not unusual for the "Inwood Forest Golf Club" brat that I am. As a teenager/young adult I spent many hours on the golf course, it was the only place I could go to smoke cigarettes and get other things, besides hickies, at the same time. This trek to the golf course was different. I found myself surrounded by about 20 hot air balloons. In concert, the balloon operators would illuminate the propane gas that kept the hot air balloons alive. I could feel the heat from the flames and see the stupendous effects all at the same time. This procedure made the hot air balloons glow. It could be seen for miles. As I was hiking back to the car, one of my thoughts was: "Well, I thought most of the queens in Montrose were full of hot air, I have finally witnessed bigger bags of hot air!"

I have had the pleasure of visiting many places around our glorious country, but, I am, like Dorothy... there is no place like home!

Ok, on with what little gossip I have! The usual disclaimer is in force! If you are not familiar with the guidelines, read any previous issue of the Houston Voice, page 23!

Vanna (Gentry): Did you ever stop to think how far back in your family inbreeding began?

Rainbow (Gentry): "I'm sorry...but it's not our policy to allow the stroking of perverts while in drag... or at least if you're going to... have the decency to wear opera length glove..." I found this message scribbled on a bar napkin in my in-basket! Go Fig!

Rainbo d Klown: I so happy you are no longer the Susan Lucci of Montrose. You finally won a title!

The rest of the juicy stuff I have to share will have to wait until the next issue!

Have a great New Year! Cuervolyn



The 611 daily birthday drawing pays off again!

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Gay sailor gets temporary halt to stop Navy from discharging him

SEATTLE, Saturday, Dec. 24 (AP)—A sailor got a preliminary injunction from a federal judge on Friday to keep the Navy from discharging him because he's gay.

U.S. District Judge William Dwyer scheduled a hearing on the Mark Philips case on Feb. 22.

Lawyers for Philips, a machinist's mate on nuclear submarines at the Trident base at Bangor on Hood Canal, asked for the temporary restraining order to halt Philips' discharge.

"It would be impossible to restore him to his current state. A lot had to do with his special training as a nuclear submarine machinist," said attorney Jett Whitmer of Everett.

The lawyer says the case should help decide whether the Navy can discharge gays for homosexual conduct without proving a relationship to their military duties.

"I think the case is going to be a precedent-setter," he said.

The Navy public affairs office at Bangor referred

calls asking for comment to Naval Base Seattle. Spokesmen had gone home for the holiday and did not return calls left with a duty officer.

Philips was told by the Navy to expect his discharge by next Friday.

Philips said the Navy had \$100,000 invested in his training as a nuclear machinist.

His problems with the Navy began two years ago, after the election of President Clinton, when he said he was gay. Philips said he wanted to force the issue after the president said he would end the policy of banning gays in the military.

Under President Clinton, the national policy has changed from not allowing gays in the military to the compromise "Don't ask, don't tell" policy.

Philips' lawyers said in a lawsuit filed Thursday that the "Don't ask, don't tell" rule violates First Amendment guarantees of free speech, Fifth Amendment guarantees of equal protection and Philips' right to privacy.

Study finds link between fingerprints and male homosexuality

By KIM I. MILLS

FOR THE HOUSTON VOICE

WASHINGTON, Sunday, Dec. 25 (AP)—Two Canadian researchers have found a link between the number of ridges in fingerprints and male homosexuality, adding to the theory that sexual orientation is determined before birth.

The researchers, working at the University of Western Ontario, compared the number of tiny ridges on the fingertips of 66 homosexual men with the fingerprint patterns of 182 heterosexual men.

Thirty percent of the homosexual men showed more ridges on their left hands than their right, while only 14 per cent of the heterosexual men showed the same pattern.

Most men and women have more ridges in the fingerprints of their right hands. Fingerprints are completely developed in human fetuses by about the 16th week after conception, and are largely genetically determined.

"This certainly suggests sexual orientation is somehow determined by prenatal events," said researcher Doreen Kimura.

The study appears in the December issue of Behavioral Neuroscience.

Kimura and the study's lead

author, graduate student Jeffrey Hall, said the fingerprint patterns are not distinctive to gay men or a marker for homosexuality. Most homosexual men show the more typical pattern of more ridges on the right hand, they noted.

"What we found is a statistically significant difference between groups of heterosexual and homosexual men," Kimura said.

Roger Gorski, a UCLA neurobiologist who has done extensive research on sexual differentiation, called the study "another suggestion that there's a biological component to sexuality." But he said he had some trouble with making the connection between ridges on fingers and sexual orientation.

"The way I like to summarize it is sexual orientation is a multifaceted behavior and it's unlikely that one gene, that one hormone, that one environmental experience—or that one fingerprint—is going to be the explanation for everything," he said.

Kimura is also known for her work on differences between men and women, ranging from problem-solving ability to brain hemisphere differences.

She speculates that there is a link between finger ridge pat-

terns and the development of the nervous system. Many of the gay men with more ridges on their left hands were also left-handed. Research has established that there is a higher incidence of left-handedness among gay men and lesbians than in the general population.

The team also found a difference in hearing. Most people report words spoken to the right ear more accurately than words to the left ear. The right ear is directly linked to the brain's left hemisphere, which controls speech.

However, Kimura and Hall found some gay men could hear equally well out of both ears. This might be due to better transmission of information between the brain's hemispheres, Kimura said.

Other researchers have found that homosexual men tend to have a larger midsection in a brain structure called the anterior commissure, which connects and relays information between the hemispheres. The larger anterior commissure might account for better left ear accuracy in gay men, Kimura said.

The anterior commissure begins to develop around the seventh week of fetal life, which is also when fingerprint ridges are differentiating, the researchers noted.

HOUSTON

VOICE

BLUE PAGES

DEC. 30, 1994
ISSUE 740

This center pull-out section of
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HOUSTON PERSONALS

BY MANFINDER

Houston **MASCULINE BM** 6' musc, very masc, pretty vers int give me a call- ☎13373

Houston **QUIET EROTIC EVENINGS:** GWM iso GB or minority male 6' brn/blu gt shape u/B 18-35 slim to musc smooth and into good safe fun, quiet erotic eyes, give me a call like to talk to you - bye! ☎14570

Houston **BIKING COWBOY:** Todd I'm a cowboy into hats, lther boots, big belt buckles if u know what I mean, like to ride & if u like to ride let me know, into lther, if ur int motorcycles, like to ride fast & hard, if u like the same, let me know- ☎17892

Houston **LOOKING FOR A FRIEND:** David, 36, Like to meet 18-30 white male asian male or hisp male iso a friend, looking for friends 5'10 blnd/blu, hope youre gdllg too -lets see what happens ☎17925

Houston **18 YR OLD:** Billy, and I'm 18, go to school, just looking for some guys to meet like goodlooking ones with big sexy bodies, dk brn hair and a face to die for- ☎18239

Houston **JUST MOVED HERE:** Austin, 22, brn/hzl, 6', 165, dk cxion, lkg for someone to meet just moved here and like to hook up with some people give me a call- ☎18240

Houston **INTO B/D:** Frank, 31, brn/brn in shape gdllg slve, bd, int in contacting me- pls call- ☎18283

Houston **JOHN 22,** brn/brn great shape, looking to meet guys in the area, give me a call- , looking forward to meeting you- ☎16793

Houston **ROCK AND ROLL!** Dave, 30s, like to meet 18-30 White, Hisp, or Asian into rock and roll and good times- ☎17925

Houston **TWENTY AND TAN:** Austin 6', 165, dk brn/hzl, tanned, good body, like to hear from some guys, 20 yrs old like to get with some cute guys ☎18240

Houston **CHRIS AND BRIAN,** 19 looking for someone to join us, looking for a vry hot guy, 19 dk brn lu 6'3 190 hot- blnd/brn dk body huge pecs- like for someone to join us asap- ☎18543

Houston **OPERA FAN:** 52, prof'l guy, looking for a rel, tp guy, int are theatre, opera and going out to restaurants, having fun, interesting guy seeking same- ☎2922

Houston **ANYTHING GOES:** GWM iso GBM, GHM or GAM 6' brn/blu, 170, good shape u should be slim, smooth or musc build, into good safe fun, anything goes type of person, give me a call- ☎14570

Houston **TALL AND FURRY:** Mark, looking for GWM or GHM into well end'd men, GWM, well end'd, 6'7, blk/blk, must ,hairy, 32, athletic, outdoors act, iso someone to get together with- ☎18943

Houston **TWO STEPPIN'** Eric 5'9 180

well built, work out every day looking for someone that wants to have a great time country dancing, movies, just cuddling up together- ☎18968

Houston **WHATEVER COMES UP:** Dave 29 goodlooking WM, brn/grn, 135 very end'd, iso people for friendship fun and whatever else may pop up-Greenway Plaza area ☎19025

Houston **POWERLIFTERS:** Ray, 41 BM iso serious bonding and friendship with males with a musc build 18-35, super musc- cle bound power lifters, 200-300 partial to bi racial men, give me a call- ☎19105

Houston **MEXICAN/ITALIAN:** 30 y/o Mexican/Italian, 5'3, blk/hzl, non drinker, like to go out, dancing, quiet eves with that special someone int in BM 25-35 want to date, give me a call- ☎19223

Houston **LINGERIE AND SPANKING:** 5'7, 165, well built, dk tan, enjoy outdoors, like lingerie, spanking and group fun- enjoy it all give me a call ☎32000

Houston **OLD MOVIES:** Jerome, 6'1, 190, brn/brn, like music, old movies, cooking, animals, smoker 26, int in meeting people the same age or older same ht or taller, looking for a poss long term monog rel- ☎18561

Houston **HOLIDAY PAL:** GAM student, looking for someone to hang out with in Houston during the holidays- ☎19004

Houston **LAMAR UNIV FRAT BOY:** Alex, Lamar Univ, frat boy iso someone to be friends with, poss rel, like outdoors, like to go to clubs, like a nice personality, likes nature hope to hear from you- ☎19183

Houston **JOHN 20 Y/O,** 5'7, blnd/blu, iso meet very goodlooking under 30, ☎19131

Houston **HISPANIC BODYBUILDER** 28, white hisp bodybuilder, excellent physique, ub under 32 lean and musc fit for competition, excellent physique, ☎19343

Houston **DORR,** int in meeting BM for friendship poss rel, give me a call- ☎15550

Houston **FRIEND OR LOVER:** Darrell, 28 BM int in looking for rel or friendship, 6'1 230 like dining, clubs movies, real good time, like to meet new people, like to meet in the area give me a call- ☎15650

Houston **HAIRY BEAR:** WM 31, 200, 5'11 brn/blu, stocky, hairy- iso friends age, race, wt, not impt- ☎15631

Houston **GBM 20,** looking to hook up with 18-35 give me a call- ☎15864

Houston **ONE ON ONE:** David, GBM 6' 180 shrt dk hair/brn eyes must iso someone for a one on one rel movies, reading, cooking, eating out, good conversation, give me a call ☎15872

Houston **DARRELL, 27** looking for a rel, like to go out and have a good time 6'1 220, BM interested in meeting- ☎15984

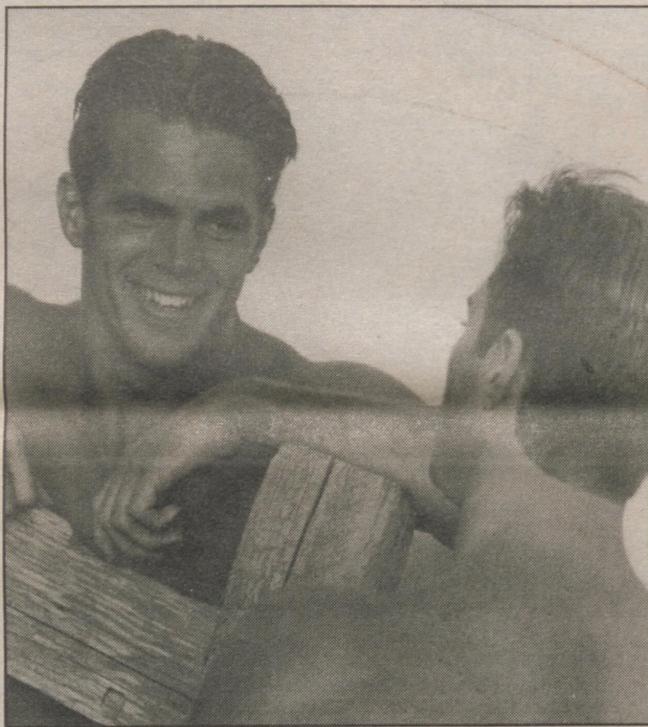
Houston **BLUE EYED EXEC:** Glenn 37 WM prof'l 5'9 165, gdllg, blu eyes, iso a

man of any race who is sensitive affec, mass for friendship poss rel if that sounds good, call! ☎16051

Houston **UNIV OF HOUSTON:** 22, 145, dkhair/brn hisp attr student int are; like music, country, Depeche Mode, like dance & club music, like to travel- iso someone my age 18-25, race not impt looking iso someone to hang out w/. maybe more- ☎10323

Houston **BLONDE ROCKER:** David, 5'11, 170, blnd/blu long blnd, looking for someone that would like to be a friend- talk on the phone, lets be friends first iso guys in their 20s who like to rock and roll- ☎16601

Houston **HOUSTON AREA:** Darrell 27 BM 6'1, 220, int in meeting guys from the Houston area, like to meet for poss relationship, like to dine, movies, club scene, int give me a call- ☎16935



Houston **LKG FOR SUPERMUSCLE:** Ray, 41, BM iso some strong bonding and friendship with the build of a supermuscular football player, if ur 200 -300 super hard muscle 18-35, like to hear from you- ☎14068

Houston **GOOD EROTIC FUN:** Mike GWM iso GHM or minority guy 38 brn/blu, 6' work out in good shape, u shold be 18-35 slim, smooth or musc build, into good safe fun, good erotic fun, give me a call like to talk to you- ☎16964

Houston **LKG FOR AN OFFICER:** Ray 41 BM like to hear from all military personnel, law enforcement 18-35 if u have that big broad brawny brutish build, 200 -300 lbs of solid muscle, if ur weightlifting or powerlifting, give me a call- ☎17302

Houston **HUSBAND MATERIAL ONLY:** Scott - 24 latin male 165 5'10 med skin short black hair, must seeking monog rel, older than me- intimate, fun, sensual and understanding- ☎7136

Houston **PREPPIE PUPPY,** 5'10, 145, med bld, dk/brn attr hisp 22 int U of H, int in 18-24 preppie, looking for the same but not necess, movies dining out, clubbing, var of int- ☎10323

Houston **CRUISE DIRECTOR,** new to area, 25, 6' 200, lkg for someone to be friends, poss rel, like to get out and see Houston life- ☎12731

Houston **BLONDES HAVE MORE FUN,** Kevin 5'9, 126, blu, short blnd hair, smooth, feminine ☎12762

Houston **LOOKING FOR FUN,** Austin, 22, 5'10 150 brn/hzl, looking for guys 18-28 for fun friendship or whatever- ☎13054

Houston **NEW FRIENDS,** Robert attr Hisp 24, new in town, looking for new friends, poss Mr. Right, I'm 5'7, 155, blk/blk, like to meet mature GWM or GHM for movies, long walks, all around togetherness- ☎13068

Houston **NO STRINGS FUN!!**, Are you tired of ads that scream honesty in relationship?: good safe fun! w/o strings, friend dating-what a concept! 39 GWM 5'10 180, dk/brn beard, med build, hairy body , ub 25-35, pref a GWM dk hair/lit eyes, hairy a + ☎13083

Houston **GREENWAY PLAZA AREA:** Dave, 29 WM 5'7 135 brn/grn, lkg to get together fo fun or other activities, hope to hear from you soon- ☎13113

Houston **MASCULINE MUSCULAR,** Mike, 6' brn/blu, 170, GWM looking for a GHM, 18-35 smooth slim musc masc into some good safe fun- like to hear from give me a call- ☎13172

Houston **LOCAL GUYS ONLY,** GHM 23, 5'9, 175 looking to meet someone in the area- ☎13362

Houston **WEST CHASE AREA,** BM 6', 200, like to go to gym work out, dk cxion, int give me a call- ☎13373

Houston **CHEEKS AND CHAPS,** Dallen, 36 grad student UH, 6'4, 195, brn/brn leather into leather bars, like to meet guys who like to have fun, play around, all that good stuff give me a call if UR interested, ☎13400

Houston **FREDERICK,** 26 BM: looking for masc men of any race, like to have fun eat out, movies and some sports- ☎13504

Houston **CARAMEL LOVER,** Chocolate's too rich, vanilla's too plain, but caramel drives me mad! David 34 5'10, 185 attr intell like to have a good time brn/brn lkg for attr intell GHM tall beefy guys, romant aggr tops, in the area best- ☎13486

Houston **LOOKING FOR DOMINANT,** Mike looking for some guys to have fun maybe date, 31, 5'10, brn/hzl, and I'm also passive, int in GWM same age or younger, int in meeting, give a call for more info- ☎13639

Houston **THREE OR MORE,** GWC 34 & 32: 6' 170 blk/green, hairy, 5'9, 165, swimmers build, brn/brn looking for other gay couples or males for fun- ☎13704

Houston **HOBBY AIRPORT AREA,** Ricky, 5'10, 150, med bld, dk hair/brn hisp 22 student, , JR's type, preppy, don't like to go out much, ISO same, not ser rel, 18-24 ht/wt prop who likes going out once in a while things besides clubs- ☎10323

Houston **JEFF,** gdllg wm looking for someone to get together with ,young, give me a call- ☎13747

Houston **BEAR MAN,** GM 31, 5'11 200 brn/blu hairy looking for bi or gay male - age/race not impt- ☎13881

Houston **ROOM SERVICE,** Hunter, UH student, in hotel mgmt, like movies, theatre, dance, like musci, inti in good personality, like to hear from you- ☎14057

Houston **MALE BONDING,** Ray, 41 BM iso a strong bonding & close friendships with males 18-30 w/ musc build, if ur 200-300 lbs of rock hard muscle, powerlifter w/a football players bld, gve me a call-any race, or size- ☎14068

Houston **THE BEST WOMAN,** Sean 32, str wm 5'10 140, strb blnd green lkg for 18-35 TV or TS to help me be the best woman for company and pleasure- ☎14223

Houston **STUDENT SEEKING SAME,** 22, 5'10, 145, med bld, hisp, dk/brn, attr, student, iso my age 18-22 var int, like to go dancing, not really into clubs- ☎10323

Houston **HISPANICS ONLY-**, Kurt 35 5'7 150 blnd/blu beard int in hisp guys only-give me a call- ☎14545

Houston **EROTIC EVENINGS,** GWM looking for GBM u should be musc to slim, smooth, into alot of good safe fun, erotic fun filled eyes @ home 6' brn/blu 170, gdllg, give me a call- ☎14570

Houston **MANLY BOTTOM,** Eric 22, top BM iso a nice manly btm, if ur interested, lv your name and number race not impt- ☎14850

Houston **ATTN: BODYBUILDERS,** Mark 5'7 165 musc masc BM iso same, Body builders's esp, for friendship poss rel if ur attr lv a message- ☎14794

Houston **IDEAL GUY FOR ME,** iso masc dark top safe person, liek coffeehouses books, age race ht, not impt - honestly describe yourself ☎15114

Houston **A GOOD START,** Jason, 22, 6'3, 190, energeti outgoing, good sense of humor, looking for 18-25 someone to start as friends, poss rel- ☎15210

Lesbian Personals

FEMALE ONLY PERSONALS

Houston **SIMONE** 20 BF looking for other black single prf'l women ☎5750

Houston **TWO FOR FUN:** 22 blnd/blu like to go out and have fun looking for a woman who likes to have fun too. ☎6159

Houston **MONTROSE AREA:** Linda looking for a life mate quiet times at home good times out bars are just ok, looking for someone to give me what I need I have alot to give too ☎5761

Houston **SHELLEY** 31 I'm new to this- voluptuous soft lips looking for other women who like to play-no strings attached. ☎1605

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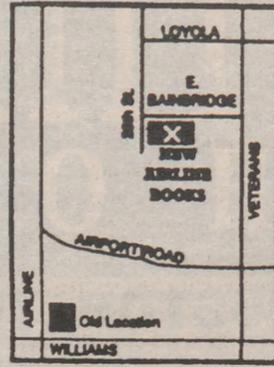
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British medical journal backs Elders on teaching masturbation

By **RANDI HUTTER EPSTEIN**
FOR THE HOUSTON VOICE

LONDON, Thursday, Dec. 22 (AP)—
In an editorial supportive of former
U.S. Surgeon General Jocelyn Elders,
a leading British medical journal
says it is "high time" that mastur-
bation be discussed openly in sex edu-
cation classes.

President Clinton dismissed Elders
after she made comments support-
ing the discussion of masturbation
during an AIDS meeting at the United
Nations on Dec. 1.

The Lancet, in an editorial to be pub-
lished Saturday, says Elders' dis-
missal is "a bizarre example of the tri-
umph of politics and prejudice over

common sense."

The journal refers to a 1988 sex sur-
vey that revealed 82 percent of British
men and 75 percent of British women
have masturbated at some time.

"Since most people start to mastur-
bate during adolescence, sex edu-
cation lessons in school present an
appropriate opportunity to raise

the subject," The Lancet said.

A recent survey of more than 3000
Americans found that 60 percent of
men and 40 percent of women, between
the ages of 18 and 59, masturbated in
the past year. The results were released
in October by researchers at the Uni-
versity of Chicago and the State Uni-
versity of New York at Stony Brook.

**Hawaii district
judge expected
to rule on
same-sex
marriages**

HONOLULU, Friday, Dec. 23 (AP)—
U.S. District Judge Harold Fong was
expected to rule Friday on a request to
disband a state commission charged
with studying the controversial
issue of same-sex marriages.

The law creating the commission is
unconstitutional because it dis-
criminates against certain relig-
ious groups, plaintiffs Daniel McGi-
vern and the Rev. Harold Headrick
said Thursday.

The law mandates that six commis-
sion members must be drawn from the
Catholic Church, the Mormon
Church and the Quaker-affiliated
American Friends Service Commit-
tee.

Headrick, pastor of the Protestant
Honolulu Assembly of God, said the
law discriminated against his faith.

If Fong decides to allow the commis-
sion to continue, he should at least
remove the six members with relig-
ious ties, said plaintiffs' attorney
Robert Matsumoto.

First Deputy State Attorney Gen-
eral Steve Michaels said Fong could
strike down that portion of the law that
details which organizations com-
mission appointees should be drawn
from.

Michaels said the governor could
then replace those commissioners
with new appointees, and the com-
mission could continue its work.

The commission was created to
advise the Legislature on whether
couples who cannot legally marry
should be extended benefits enjoyed
by married couples.

HOUSTON VOICE CONNECT LINE HOT PERSONALS

MAVERICK, 24 yrs. old. Wants to meet GM between 20-30
years old. Into clubbing, partying and sex. You will not be
disappointed. Mail Box 1198

MICHAEL, 23 year old slender blond hair, brown eyes.
Recent U of H grad, classical musician who likes reading,
music, clubbing, staying at home. Looking for friendship
and possibly more. Mail Box 1199

CHRIS, 5'11" 150 lbs. brown hair/eyes. Looking for older
brother type between ages of 37 - 45 to give me the
discipline I need. I want to get spanked, paddled and
humiliated. Mail Box 1223

DOUG, goodlooking GWM, 5'8", 153 lbs, excellent shape,
athletic build, smooth body. Looking for masculine, well
endowed man under 35. Mail Box 1284

LEE. 30 years old straight acting/looking; I look 25 years
old. Live in Galveston area. I have dark hair/eyes, and like
working out lifting weights and biking. Looking to meet
22-30 yr old W/HISP G/BI M who is sincere, and honest for
friendship leading to relationship. Mail Box 1296

DOUG, lives in Houston area. 5'11", 175 lbs, 29" waist, 17"
arms, very muscular. I work out a lot! You must also.
Looking for muscular guys for a good time. I like to
wrestle! Mail Box 1291

MICHAEL, 6', 180 lbs, brown hair, hazel eyes, tan. Looking
to meet people all over the country. I live in Texas. Want
friendship plus more. Mail Box 1303

Let me rub your feet! **RAY**, 6'1 1/2", live in Houston, 195
lbs, good shape, clean shaven, hairy chest. I love feet!
Total discretion, no reciprocation required. Mail Box 1313

BRIAN, 30 years old, live in Houston. 5'10", short dark
blond hair, 165 lbs, blue eyes, moderately hairy, 33" waist.
Looking to meet friendly guys for discreet fun and
friendship. Mail Box 1351

RICHARD, older guy looking to meet younger men for
discreet, safe fun. You must be young, slim and smooth.
Mail Box 1377

PAUL, successful businessman looking for right guy for
worldwide travel. You must be 18-24, attractive, versatile. I
am a wild, older guy (39) and will compensate you
accordingly. Mail Box 1378/1387

MATTHEW, 5'10", 155 lbs, brown hair, green eyes. I like
movies, clubbing and working out. Mail Box 1389

CHARLES, lives in Houston. 45 years old, good shape,
5'10", 160 lbs, brown hair and eyes. I am bottom who likes
to experiment. Mail Box 1504

JOSE, 5'7", brown eyes, black hair. Looking to meet white
guys. I like to cuddle. Mail Box 1523

GM, black hair, black eyes, looking to meet new friends.
Mail Box 1639

JOHN, new to Houston, 5'11", brown hair, blue eyes,
looking for real men. I am a former college football player.
Mail Box 1678

JIM, 45 years old, looking for younger friends for
companionship. Mail Box 1719

GENE, GBM, 6'2", 225 pounds, in good shape with hairy
balls and dick. Looking for someone under 35 for good
times. Mail Box 1746

LITTLE SAM, 5'10", 145 lbs, short blond hair, moustach,
hairy, 7" uncut dick. I'm into hot sex and leather.
Mail Box 1787

ANDY, New to Houston. 25 year old highly educated Asian.
New to scene, looking for a teacher. Mail Box 1819

FRANK, 26 years old, new to Houston. 6'3", 185 lbs, blond
hair, blue eyes, hairy chest and legs. Mail Box 1829

MARK, 23 years old, 6', 185 lbs, muscular, brown hair and
eyes. Into safe hot sex. Mail Box 1864

RICK, 5'10", brown hair, green eyes, 185 lbs, stocky and
cute. Looking for big, rugged guys. Mail Box 1922

CHUCK, 40 y.o., muscular top, well hung. Looking for
bottom who is tight. Mail Box 1936

To respond to a Houston Voice Hot Personal,
you must join the Houston Voice Connect Line.
To get in touch with any of the members above,
enter the talking personals menu and follow the
directions. If the personal is not on the system,
you may still respond by going into option 7
from the system services menu (leave a
message for a member). It is only 10¢ per
minute (plus any normal toll) and your first 30
minutes are free! To join see our Connect Line
ad on page 16.

American Medical Association calls on physicians to respect gay patients

By KIM I. MILLS
FOR THE HOUSTON VOICE

WASHINGTON, Wednesday, Dec. 21 (AP)—The American Medical Association is reaching out to the gay and lesbian community in a policy paper calling for a "non-judgmental recognition of sexual orientation by physicians."

"All patients, regardless of their sexual orientation, have a right to respect and concern for their lives and values," says an AMA paper entitled, "Health Care Needs of Gay Men and Lesbians in the U.S." "However, gay men and lesbians face ostracism and discrimination from some health professionals."

In adopting the report at a meeting Dec. 6, the AMA's governing House of Delegates also reversed early policy that recommended efforts to turn unhappy gay men and lesbians into heterosexuals.

A 1981 AMA policy paper entitled, "Health Care Needs of the Homosexual Population," supported treatments aimed at changing the sexual orientation of homosexuals. The notion that gays could not be turned into heterosexuals, it said, was a myth.

"There are some homosexuals who would like to and probably could change their sexual orientation," the old policy read. "Because some homosexual groups maintain, contrary to the bulk of scientific evidence, that preferential or exclusive homosexuality can never be changed, these people may be discouraged from seeking adequate psychiatric consultation. What is more important is that this myth may also be accepted by homosexuals."

In its new policy paper, the AMA notes that homosexuals may have "some unique mental health concerns" related to negative social attitudes regarding homosexuality. However, it says, most of the distress that homosexuals may feel about their orientation "is due more to a sense of alienation in an unaccepting environment."

For this reason, it says, "aversion therapy"—such as showing a gay man nude pictures of men and then administering electric shocks or a substance to induce vomiting—"is no longer recommended for gay men and lesbians."

"Through psychotherapy, gay

men and lesbians can become comfortable with their sexual orientation and understand the social responses to it," the new policy says.

Dr. M. Roy Schwarz, AMA's group vice president, said Wednesday that the policy paper is an attempt to educate physicians about the unique health care needs of homosexuals.

"Our thrust here was what kind of diseases do these people with these lifestyles get, not do you have the right lifestyle and do you try to change it if you don't," he said.

Asked whether adopting this policy means the AMA believes homosexuals cannot be changed, Schwarz said he didn't know.

"I know that there's an increasing awareness of the research that suggests that at least in some cases, there may be a genetic predetermination of this preference," he said.

Schwarz also said he was surprised the policy paper was adopted without dissent.

"There were physicians who announced from the floor (of the meeting) that they were gay," he said. "That wouldn't have happened five years ago."

The new policy paper was drafted after a meeting last year between AMA leaders and officials from the Gay and Lesbian Medical Association, a group that has pressed the AMA for years to change its policies toward both gay physicians and patients.

"I really believe that the truth won out more than politics," said Benjamin Schatz, GLMA executive director. "But I don't think we would have made the progress that we made if we hadn't been progressively promoting our perspective."

Schatz called the new policy paper "a very powerful document to get health departments and government agencies to pay adequate attention and resources to gay and lesbian health concerns."

The paper also acknowledges the discomfort some doctors feel around homosexuals. It cites a 1989 survey of general practitioners that found only one-third felt comfortable with gay men and 11 percent felt homosexuality was an illness.

The American Psychiatric Association removed homosexuality from its list of mental illnesses in 1973.

NEW YEAR'S EVE EXTRAVAGANZA

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 31, 1994
9:00 P.M. to ???

Featuring

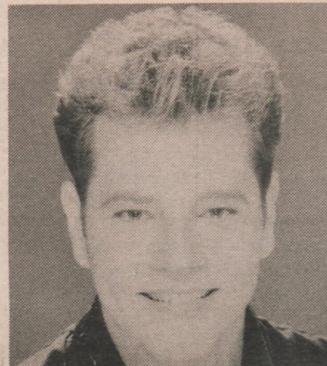


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by Scotty T.

the **SALTY SPOT**

Sid, messy from too much Corona,
Could but bid, "Wanna feel my bonna?"
Sighed the Mary, "Oh, please—
Like I need one of these,"
Leaving poor Sid to toy all onna.

©1994 ST INC

Houston Gay Personals

To advertise call Houston local number (713) 529-8490 Mon.-Fri. 9-5. To respond to an advertiser and to hear his actual voice describing himself and the people he would like to meet, call 24 hours 1-900-454-3576. (\$1.49/min. on your phone bill. You must be 18+.) OR you can call (713) 529-8490 Mon.-Fri. 9-5 for more information or to establish a pre-paid toll-free answering account.

GALVESTON: LOOKING FOR SEXUAL BUD-DIES

I'm 43, married, 5'10, 160lbs., average looks, DDF, clean, no drugs, married-top-cut-discreet. Ad 25598

LOOKING FOR LIKE/PROF. FOR LONG-TERM RELATIONSHIP

Looking for a fellow professional with a strong work ethic. Interested in a long term relationship with someone who enjoys nice quiet week-day nights, followed by busy weekends. I'm 36, 6'1" and 175lbs., DDF. You should be between 28 and 38, established in your career, DDF and proportionately built. Life is good and I would like it to get better with the right man. Ad 25656

ROMANTIC

Professional, adventurous, very attractive, fun, very masculine, in very good shape, 5'10", young 39, 180#, very dark hair and blue eyes, interested in a relationship with another man of quality and serious about a relationship. Stable and secure, monogamous, with a good direction in life and appreciation for all it has to offer including love that endures. Ad 25670

WANTED:

part-time houseboy/servant who knows how to be of service. Master is 44, 5'9", 180lbs, demanding, lives in Montrose. Ad 25134

I'M LOOKING FOR BOTTOMS, ALL KINDS

Like to submit, be passive? Like to service? Like following instructions? Like B & D? Naughty boy lately? Just want fun times with an aggressive hot top? Your choice? If GM, 25-45, fit, clean, healthy, easy going, bright, nice guy, then I am waiting for your call. Ad 25653

ATTENTION - NUDIST

GWM, 45, 5'6", 142#, br/hazel with salt and pepper beard, DDF, smoker and a nudist. This nudist would like to get together for social non-sexual encounters. Just the enjoyment of viewing each other's bodies. Ad 25772

QUEER WHITE BOY

GWM, 39, 5'11", 160lbs., wants to meet straight acting GW/HM liberal Democrat for companionship and maybe more. I'm blue collar, very straight acting, laid back, lean, muscular, fearless. I enjoy the outdoors, animals, drinking beer, rock and roll, quality smokes, partying with friends, occasional bar hopping and quiet evenings at home. Ad 25651

FOR \$24.95 PER YEAR YOU CAN HAVE AN AD IN THIS SECTION

To establish your own advertisement in the Houston Gay Personals call (713) 529-8490 (or if outside Houston (800) 729-8490) or come by our offices at 811 Westheimer, Suite 105. Please have your ad written out. You will be given a box number as soon as we receive payment along with all instructions. Happy love making!

HIV+ HISPANIC MALE

Mid 30's, professional, healthy, sincere, good sense of humor. Seeking other HIV+ men for friendship but I'm primarily interested in entering a serious relationship with an honest, caring and loving man. Ad 25632

WINTER IS COM-ING

GWM, 27, 5'5", 140lbs, blond hair. Enjoy working out, bike riding, movies, cooking and cuddling. Looking for someone with a good sense of humor and a funny personality. If your looking for someone to cuddle for the winter I'm the one. If your between the ages of 29-40 please respond. Ad 25666

READY, WILLING & ABLE

GWM, 37, 175, brown/blue, healthy, happy, professionally employed, stable and fun. I enjoy nautilus, travel, snow skiing and more. I'm comfortable to be around and relationship oriented. Am looking for a GWM who is 30s to 40s, professionally employed, in good shape, smart, funny, charming, single and relationship oriented. If that's you, why not get in touch with me today. You may make a new friend, maybe a lot more! Ad 25680

MARRIED MEN

Spend quality time day or night w/semi-retired GWM in Houston. Ad 25328

WARN HEARTED, CONSERVATIVE, DDF/NS GWM

BR/br, slim, smooth, articulate, thoughtful, professional. Enjoy jazz, classical, techno, the outdoors, honest conversation and intimate evenings snuggling between the sheets. Interested in warm and caring, GM, DDF/NS, W/PH, 30's to 40's, ready to begin anew. Please respond to Ad 25745.

SEEKING A QUALITY SINCERE SPECIAL PERSON

GWM, 39, attractive, DDF, NS, br/hazel, masculine bottom seeks attractive, DDF, endowed aggressive top for dating and/or possible relationship. Prefer a relationship oriented person. Weight prop. not as important as personality (prefer age 35-50) beard or moustache desired but not mandatory. Call John between 6:00 p.m. -10:00 p.m. weekdays, 10:00 a.m. till??? weekends or leave message with phone number to call you back. (713) 868-1932.) Please! No games, no bullsh.. or otherwise just your sincere interest.

WHITE MALE, DDF, 24, 5'9", 270LBS

I have a desire to have a safe experience being with another man for the first time with a straight acting male, DDF, (21-35) for my first experience. You must be a nice clean-cut person with a good heart. Will answer all! Hope to hear from you. Ad 25677

HAIRY DADDY SEEKS BOY

Boy should be 21-40, weight proportionate to height, open-minded. Daddy is 49, 5'9", 180, bearded. Let's discuss possibilities. Photo exchange will be required eventually. Ad 25673

BIWM, LONELY IN GALVESTON COUNTY

You: HWP, no beer bellies/overweight, NS, DDF, LD, 30-55, like videos, live in Galveston County, Clearlake, Alvin, Kemah area. Me: HWP, DDF, NS, LD, 46, moustache, gray/green wants hot, safe fun times. No strinas/friends possible. Interested leave message and if out of town leave message. Ad 25682

THE COW-BOY WAY

WM, 28, passive, adventurous, boy/slave looking for a masculine cowboy Daddy who competes in rodeos. Looking for bull riders, steer wrestlers, bare back bronc riders, calf and steer ropers. Ad 25668

Bi-senior, close to 70. Still capable and active, would like to meet other old guys. Any description, for fun. Not looking for any special relationship. No objection to younger men who have no objection to older men. Ad 25667

SHORT-TERM COMPANION NEEDED

Wealthy, basically happy, DDF, masculine, chubby, GW nice guy. Alone after 11 years and needs help to get into shape and restart my life. Seeks 25-40, attractive, GW GH, slim to muscular, DDF with easy going, positive attitude, bottom. In return for your help and companionship, I'll offer the opportunity of months of bill free living in a luxury environment in Montrose. Lots of benefits for the right person. Call: Ad 25684

LESBIAN GWF COUPLE, MID 30'S

Looking for a single person or couple for friendship, no sex, going to movies and evenings on the town. Ad 25641

All ads in this category should be strictly individual to individual. No commercial offerings. Nothing for sale. No promotions.

HELIUM HEELS???

If you are a bottom who enjoys his "legs in the air", contact this 38 year old, blue-eyed, clean cut, endowed safe top who visits Texas from Atlanta. Ad 25676

SEEKING YOUNG MAN

If you are an affectionate young GAM, GWM or GHM, boyish looking, slender and smooth this appreciative older GWM business executive wants to meet you - object safe and discreet play. I want to please you. Ad 25635.

SETTLED PROFESSIONAL, 52 Y.O.

GWM, 6', moustache, Blond/Gray, Green, 175lbs, HIV-, caring, shy but good listener. Far N.W. Houston. Interested in meeting settled, healthy men over 30. Prefer NS, no drugs. Personality more important than looks. Enjoy all music, dancing, old movies, staying fit, travel and quiet evenings at home with you. Ad 25678

MR. RIGHT?

I am looking for you. Do you like hiking and camping in national parks? Do you like College/Pro sports? Bicycling, tennis, movies, shorts, t-shirts, C & W music, and quiet evenings at home? I am a healthy GWM Democrat, 39 yrs., 6' and 170lbs. I am looking for an honest, monogamous relationship. Are you? Ad 25636

WELL DEVELOPED BODY/MIND PETITE FEMME

GWF, early 20's, 5'1", 108lbs, long brown hair, athletic but fluffy, intelligent, beautiful, sensitive, warm and romantic. Seeking only those butch women who are intelligent, charming, humorous, protective and emotionally expressive and open. I love to share but you have to be special. Safe tool Gallant, charming dykes preferred. Ad 25675

POWER OF LOVE

GWM, 30, 5'9", 160lbs, above average looks, masculine, looking for unconditional love. One small thing - HIV+ for seven years and asymptomatic w/800 T-cells. You must be 20's to 40's GW or GH, adventurous, happy, employed and have time for someone in you life. Please respond to Ad 25640.

LOOKING FOR MEN OF COLOR

Great-looking, muscular, sexy GWM, 30, 6 ft. tall, 185lbs., smooth body seeking hot, safe fun with Black, Hispanic or Asian men (21-40). No relationships wanted. Action and pleasure expected. You won't be disappointed! Ad 25531.

SEARCHING FOR A YOUNGER SELF

Good looking, handsome, GWM, 6', 185, professional, br/br, healthy, happy, enjoying a rich full life, theater, ballet, opera, classical music, art, antiques, old movies, and candle light dinners. Lacking only a special discreet someone in their 30's to early 40's, intelligent, romantic, clean cut, good looking, handsome, fun loving, and drug free, sincerely looking for a long term monogamous relationship. Ad 25699

WELL ENDOWED, HEALTHY, MASCULINE CUTE GWM

outgoing, DDF/NS wants to meet other(s) the same for friendship and safe fun. If you are well-endowed, masculine, attractive, under 45 years of age, weight in proportion height, outgoing, not into S & M, DDF/NS, and want to meet the same respond to Ad 25749.

TO: WADE - FROM: RALPH

Wade, I have been trying to reach you the best way I know how. I lost your number during my move to Allen House Apts. from my mothers in the first week of August 1994. If you would like to call me please do so at (713) 522-5561. I'm 6'1", black male, 150 lbs. I was at your Christmas party in 1992 before I moved to Austin. Ad 25681

LOOKING FOR DADDY

GWM bottom, son, 28, 5'10", 165lbs., bl/grn, clean shaven, smooth, looking for dominate men or a group of men who are over 40 for fun only. Hairy and burly are a plus. I am into B/D, leather, verbal abuse and more. Ad 25683

SEEKING A SINCERE HONEST PERSON

Looking for friendship/companionship and possibly more. I am a WM, 51, DDF, non-smoker, professionally employed. Average looking, tall and slim, recently divorced. I am an honest, sincere, quiet, and conservative individual. I am interested in making new friends. I like quiet evenings, enjoy cooking, gardening, the beach and the outdoors. If interested respond to Ad 25674.

NEED DADDY YOU NEVER REALLY HAD?

Mature, professional, very hairy body/hairy chest, Edwardian beard, (sign of Cancer) You, mentally mature, non-smoker, into safe fun. Please respond to Ad 25916.

TRUST THIS BOTTOM

Me-late 30's, good body, masculine, hairy, bearded, seeks men for fun times & friendship. You-30's to 50's-top. Facial hair &/or large tool a plus. Also like movies, music, working out, travel, good food & good conversation. A great time will be had by all! Ad 4070

Jose, 5'8", hazel eyes, black hair, looking to meet a Hispanic or WM for possible relationship and having a good time. Ad 25679

WANTED! HOT TOP!

Who is healthy, vers., hairy, well endowed, over 30 for safe fun; tit action & blindfold. I'm a WM, 5'10", 180#, 41, Galleria Area. New to Houston. 3 somes A+. Ad 25797

LOOKING FOR FRIEND IN WEST HOUSTON

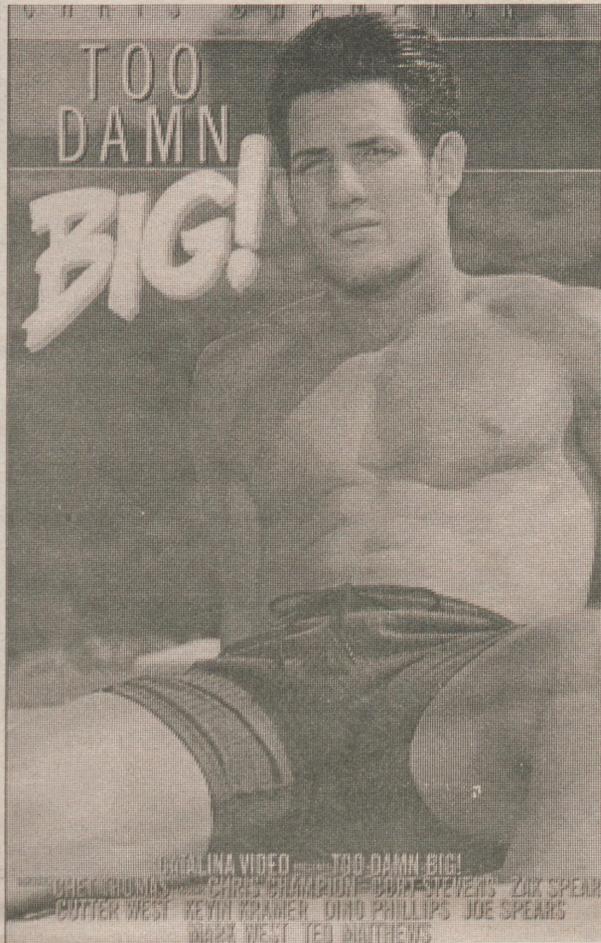
GWM, 44, 5'5", 175lbs, DDF, looking for friends in West Houston/Bear Creek area. Professional, stable guy looking for other professionals. 30's to 40's, also DDF for friendship, fun, possible relationship. I like animals, cooking, movies and quiet evenings at home. Smoker, light drinker not into heavy bar scene. If interested in a short hairy guy please respond to Ad 25671.

MIDNIGHT MATINEE SPECIAL
 Sunday thru Thursday
 Midnight til Closing
 Admission \$4
 with membership

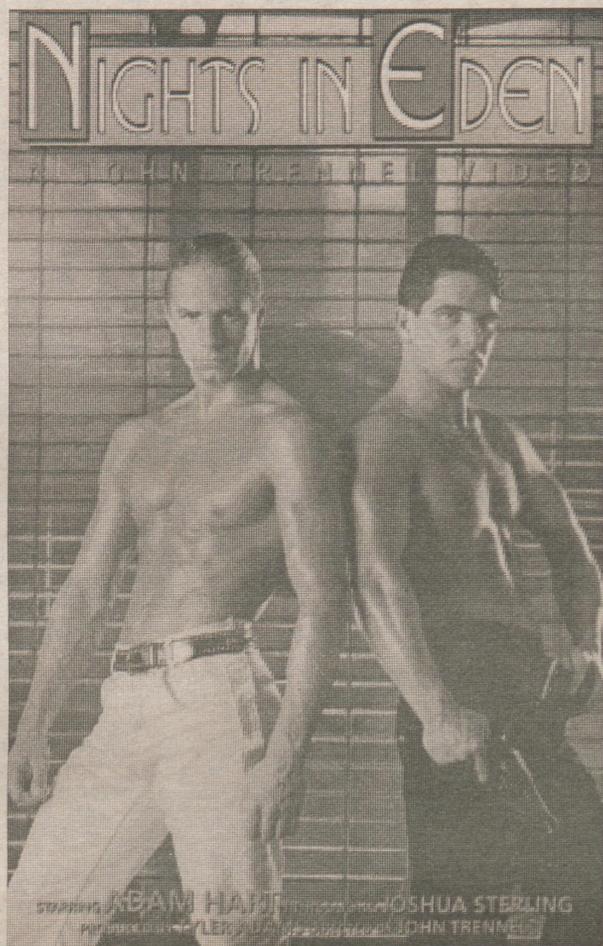
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 (713) 527-0782 3201 LOUISIANA HOUSTON

THURSDAY Matinee
 \$4 All Day
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All Male Cinema
 presents



TOO DAMN BIG
 and
NIGHTS IN EDEN



Friday & Saturday
 11am - 3am
 Monday-Thursday
 11am - 1am
 Sunday
 1pm - 1 am

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Our very own! All are REAL! All are CURRENT! All are from readers of the HOUSTON VOICE!



• **To PLACE a Personal Ad by Phone:**

First, before you call, write out your ad. Use up to six (6) words in a bold headline and up to fifty (50) words in regular type. Call us at Houston (713) 529-8490 or Nationwide (800) 729-8490. After you've read your ad to us, and we prepare it to go to print, we will give you an 800 toll-free telephone number, your personal 5-digit ad number and your secret 4-digit personal identification number (PIN). Call the 800 number using a touch-tone phone and follow the verbal instructions to record, in your actual voice, your ad. (Somewhere in the verbal ad, say what city you live in.) Cost is \$24.95 for up to a year. We will mail you a bill. You can change your ad as often as desired during the year, but you must call us every four weeks to keep your ad running.

• **To PLACE a Personal Ad by Mail:**

Write out your ad using up to six (6) words in a bold headline and up to fifty (50) words in regular type. Then mail it with your check for \$24.95 to the Houston Voice, 811 Westheimer, Suite 105, Houston, TX 77006. Please enclose your name, mailing address and telephone number where you can be reached during the daytime. We will mail back to you an 800 toll-free number, your personal 5-digit ad number and your secret 4-digit personal identification number (PIN). Call the 800 number and follow the verbal instructions to record, in your actual voice, your ad. You can change both your voice and written ad as often as desired but you must phone or write us every four (4) weeks to keep your ads running.

• **To RESPOND to a Personal Ad by Phone:**

Call 1-900-454-3576. Listen to the verbal instructions. A charge of \$1.49 per minute will appear on your telephone bill. You can respond verbally, leaving your name and phone number, to as many personal advertisers as you wish. You can browse through all the personal advertisers until you hear someone that interests you. As the individual advertisers periodically check their incoming verbal mailboxes, they will retrieve your response. Call (713) 529-8490 (Houston) or (800) 729-8490 (Nationwide) for more information about this service or to obtain information about a pre-paid toll-free answering account. You must be 18+ to use this service.

• **To RESPOND to a Personal Ad by Mail:**

Place your written response inside a blank sealed envelope and write the 5-digit ad number on the envelope. Place this envelope along with \$2.00 inside another envelope and mail to the Houston Voice Personals, 811 Westheimer, Suite 105, Houston, TX 77006. Your response will be forwarded to the advertiser the same day received by first class mail. You may mail multiple responses in the same envelope, but enclose \$2.00 for each response mailed. Responses received without fees will not be forwarded nor returned. Call (713) 529-8490 in Houston or (800) 729-8490 Nationwide for information about this service or to obtain information about a toll-free answering account. You must be 18+ to use this service.

• **To RECEIVE Responses to Your Personal Ad:**

We will forward to you daily, unopened, at no charge, all responses received by mail. To see if you have any verbal messages waiting, call the 800 toll-free number we gave you when you placed your ad. If the recording says you have verbal responses waiting, have your 5-digit code and secret 4-digit PIN handy and call 1-900-454-3576 to retrieve your verbal messages. A charge of \$1.49 a minute will appear on your phone bill. Call (713) 529-8490 in Houston or (800) 729-8490 Nationwide for information about this service or to obtain information about a toll-free answering account. You must be 18+ to use this service.

• **ADDITIONAL REQUIREMENTS:**

To take advantage of this \$24.95-per-year offer, you are required to participate in the "live voice" aspect of our Personal Ads by calling the special 800 toll-free number you will receive when you place your ad. You must record, in your own voice, your personal ad. If you do not participate in this "live voice aspect" your ad may be discontinued after the first week without reimbursement. If you do not desire to participate, you may instead purchase a personal ad at the rate of 55¢ per word weekly. Additionally all ads, both in print and voice should not contain references to sexual acts or organs. All ads should be "positive", that is describing only those people or traits desired. People or traits not desired should not be listed.



GALAXY GAYZER

A HOUSTON VOICE EXCLUSIVE

HOROSCOPE FOR THE WEEK OF DEC. 30, 1994 - JAN. 6, 1995



HOUSTON VOICE readers born this week were born in the same week as Joe Orton, born in Leicester, England, in 1933. One of Britain's great comic playwrights who unfortunately was in the height of his career when he was murdered by his lover.

CAPRICORN (December 22 - Jan 20) Completing this '94 year, you are already making plans for '95. Be sure to personally thank the key people that allowed or made many of the good things for you happen in the past twelve months. Your life does not operate in a vacuum but requires the input of many talented people about you. You tend to be a bit more self centered than others of us, and need to take special attention to the many kind folks around us. 1995 looks very favorable for all of the Capricorns.

AQUARIUS (Jan 21 - Feb 19) Use this week to organize your home and office and clear some of the clutter than has been allowed to pile up through the past year. This will give a welcomed sense of order and discipline that you yearn for. In '95, look at the worth whiteness of the groups that you belong to, and sort out the ones that actually meet your needs. Watch for the tendency to join groups solely on their social status.

PISCES (Feb 20 - Mar 20) Spend a good portion of the week, writing or telephoning friends who kindly mailed you a Holiday card, and for one reason or another, you neglected to send them a card. If you have some recent photographs, be sure to enclose a picture or two with your note. If you have been feeling under the weather recently, '95 will be much improved from a health standpoint.

ARIES (Mar 21 - Apr 20) After the 30th of this week, your financial picture will be to look up, with perhaps a raise and/or a second job. Watch your spending habits for the first next six months of '95, if you would keep a complete list of spending from now until July of '95, you will be surprised at the amount of money spent on impulse shopping. The New Year will find you to be better off financially.

TAURUS (Apr 21 - May 21) Improving job security and accomplishments are the center points of this week. After considerable turmoil, the '94 year is closing out on an upbeat note. This weekend will be a wonderful time of social activities, including the fine New Year's Eve party at the Wyndham Warwick. You always do look good in your formal wear. Try to be extra sensitive in dealing with friends to meet their needs as you are able. '95 will be a great year, filled with many fine memories.

GEMINI (May 22 - June 21) Though not all of your business dealings are complete by year's end, have confidence that they will be settled in your favor. Know that the '95 year will be much less stressful and that the extra attention to detail at work will be dividends many fold. Stress cooperation rather than independent behavior in the New Year. You are making progress in enjoying day as it comes along.

CANCER (June 22 - July 23) Your whirlwind series of social events continues into this New Year's weekend. There maybe someone extra special in the groups of friends for these parties that will mean something for the future, as a possible new lover. The person will be quite unlike your other lovers, and therefore will not be noticed initially. Your smile, honest body language and hard working attitudes are the key points of your attraction.

LEO (July 24 - Aug 22) You continue to let happenings occur and other people make decisions without your direct input. You may wish to make as a New Year's resolution of being more selective than ever before. If you are looking for a new job, consider one that has some flexibility of hours. Clean out the refrigerator of older food items, that will help your food preparations at home. Treat your self to an ice cream cone at Marble Slab if you have been virtuous this month. If not, then plan to earn a cone in six months.

VIRGO (Aug 23 - Sept 23) Your love life begins to improve shortly, both as to performance confidence in yourself, as well as meeting the needs to your partners. Watch the use of mind altering substances over this weekend particularly, as they will serve as a downer, and sap all important exercise tolerances. Look around and notice the people on the side lines watching you. One of the people watching you maybe a close friend in the future.

LIBRA (Sept 24 - Oct 23) The winter season is a perfect time for you to make some small or medium distant trips. If interested in going skiing, telephone Tad at the Voice. You will welcome that opportunity to get away from your job, if it is only for a weekend to Galveston. Try not to cross your bridges of '94, at least over and over again. The past is to learn from, and not to make you feel uncomfortable.

SCORPIO (Oct 24 - Nov 22) Begin your year end's financial records to see how well you did this year. This will be become important as you make plans for the future in '95. There maybe some large ticket items that you will become interested in the future. This Holiday weekend offers to you the chance to be out and about, being seen by many people and perhaps by someone special. Wear a smile and dress with a bit of color to make you even more attractive.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov 23 - Dec 21) Enjoy this Holiday weekend, in being socially active and meeting new friends. Limit any potential mind altering substances and be very careful if you bring home a stranger as to theft of your property. '95 looks great for you, with a probable job advancement and a new relationship. Saw your Christmas tree this year and it looked wonderful. Happiness is your goal this year.

THE TEXAS PUZZLE

Includes Clues About Texas, Current Events & Standard Crossword Clues

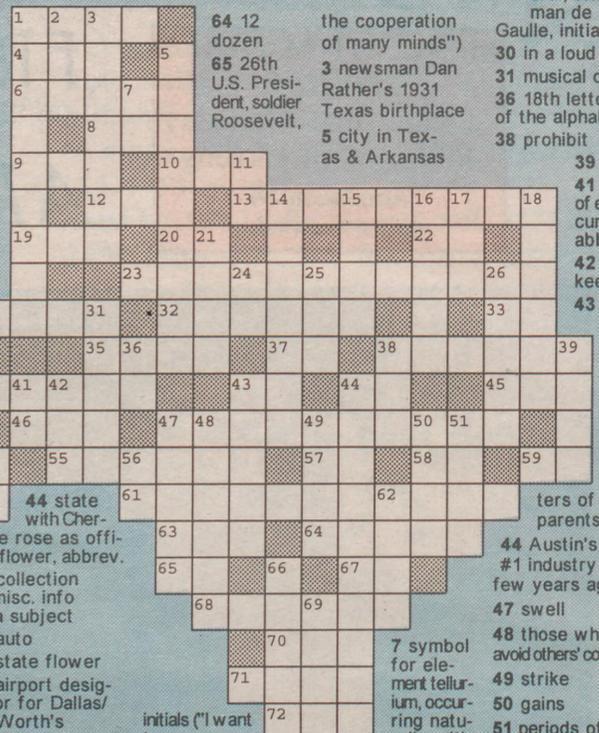
By Henry McClurg

ACROSS

- 1 stare stupidly
- 4 exclamation of disgust
- 6 decrease or lessen
- 8 Latin for king; English actor Harrison
- 9 perform
- 10 part of a circle

DOWN

- 12 row
- 13 Austin's #1 industry today (employing 55,000 people)
- 19 large coffee pot
- 20 in boxing, a knock-down but not a knock-out, abbrev.
- 22 Spanish for 'the'
- 23 type of road in Texas that is 41,000 miles, 3 words
- 27 Burt Lancaster's 1982 movie filmed partly in Houston, 2 words
- 32 extreme disgust
- 33 Constitution State, abbrev.
- 34 Roman numeral for 450
- 35 what the British call a perambulator (baby carriage)
- 37 I am, contraction
- 38 Southwest Conference turned Big 12 university at Waco
- 40 where Sam Houston traveled to take command of the ragtag Texan army that later defeated Santa Anna
- 43 commercial in this newspaper



64 12 dozen
65 26th U.S. President, soldier Roosevelt,
the cooperation of many minds")
3 newsman Dan Rather's 1931 Texas birthplace
5 city in Texas & Arkansas
39 rush
41 type of electric current, abbrev.
42 fail to keep up
43 sis-

44 state with Cherokee rose as official flower, abbrev.
45 collection of misc. info on a subject
46 auto
47 state flower
52 airport designator for Dallas/Ft. Worth's largest airport
55 4 liquid quarts
57 audio-visual, abbrev.
58 adjective & adverb suffix for comparing 2 items
59 symbol for chemical element iron
60 official abbrev. for Canada's northwestern territory, capital Whitehorse
61 Houston-based airline with new Lite flights
63 Stevenson, Demo candidate against Eisenhower, initials ("Paternity is a career imposed on you without any inquiry into your fitness.")

initials ("I want to see you shoot the way you shout.")
67 13th letter of Greek alphabet
68 sudden involuntary muscle contractions
70 rest
71 state with mountain laurel as official flower, abbrev.
72 establish

7 symbol for element tellurium, occurring naturally with gold, used in refining copper
11 Roman numeral for 200
14 exterior
15 cougar
16 lunar highland area
17 large deer
18 Texas county with Sonora as seat
21 small amount
24 micron
25 original equipment manufacturer, abbrev.
26 celebrity, fame
28 17th century English military, political & religious leader Cromwell, initials ("Put your trust in God, but keep your

29 20th century French general, statesman de Gaulle, initials
30 in a loud tone
31 musical drama
36 18th letters of the alphabet
38 prohibit

41 type of electric current, abbrev.
42 fail to keep up
43 sis-

44 Austin's #1 industry a few years ago
47 swell
48 those who avoid others' company
49 strike
50 gains
51 periods of time

53 in accounting, abbrev. for fiscal year
54 weight, abbrev.
56 author "Carroll" of Alice in Wonderland fame, initials
62 in philosophy, the principle of divine reason
66 in 1961 Texas enacted its first ????? tax
69 in a right triangle, function of acute angle that is the ratio of the opposite side to the hypotenuse
Solution elsewhere this issue
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RECIPES BY THE KUNTRY KIDD



Hey ya'll! I hope Santa was good to all of your. He certainly was to me. I had no idea I was such a "good little boy" this year. He must have gone back to the North Pole just to load his sleigh with my gifts. I really did make out!! I even got a Kitchenaid center! Just what every "Kuntry Kidd" should have. I even got a new watch with a compass on it so I can find my way home from the grocer. With the New Year just around the corner, I suppose there will be a little drink in ya'll plans. Here is a recipe for a great Bloody Mary. I got the recipe from Don Walley, who is no longer with us.

BLOODY MARY MIX (1 GALLON)

- 2 - 46 ounces cans tomato juice (I use V-8)
- 1 can beef bouillon
- 1 - 5 ounces bottle A-1 sauce (1/2 bottle)
- 1 - 5 ounces bottle Worcestershire sauce (1/2 bottle)
- 1/2 small bottle ketchup
- 2 tablespoons salt
- 1 tablespoon pepper

Isn't that easy? For those of you that think you are real "butch" and that the ingredients won't have much kick, try it before adding anything. You wouldn't want to burn your tender lips for better things to cum.

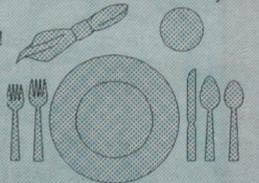
Make the mix a couple days prior to consuming if possible. If you want it the same day, mix ingredients, bring to a boil, and then let cool.

If some of you don't use alcohol, now's the time to be a "virgin." I'm sure there are many of us that can't remember that far back.

Ya'll have a great New Years, and be careful and play safe!!!!

UNTIL NEXT WE EAT!

KUNTRY KIDD



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Intitiled names: Alexander Graham Bell, Oliver Cromwell, Charles De Gaulle, Lewis Carroll, Adlai E. Stevenson, Theodore Roosevelt.
The Texas Puzzle solution
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