

Virginia's high court rules against lesbian mother

By LARRY O'DELL

Associated Press Writer

RICHMOND, Va. (AP)—A lesbian fighting for custody of her 3-year-old son lost a round Friday, April 21, when Virginia's highest court called her an unfit mother whose gay relationship would bring "social condemnation" on her child.

In a 4-3 ruling, the Virginia Supreme Court overturned an appeals court and granted custody of Tyler Doustou to Sharon Bottoms' mother, Kay Bottoms. Tyler had been living with his grandmother while the case was appealed.

"We have previously said that living daily under conditions stemming from active lesbianism practiced in the home may impose a burden upon a child by reason of the 'social condemnation' attached to such an arrangement," Justice A. Christian Compton wrote.

"We do not retreat from that statement; such a result is likely under these facts," he wrote.

The ruling outraged gay rights groups that had watched the case closely.

(Continued on Page 16)

A gay agenda for Texas

'Chipping Away' At Homophobia

By ANDREW EDMONSON

Houston Voice/Houston

(Editor's Note: This is the second article in a two-part series on the Lesbian and Gay Rights Lobby of Texas. Last week's issue focused on LGRL executive director Dianne Hardy-Garcia, the subject of the interview; this week, we examine LGRL's vision and plan of action for the gay and lesbian movement in Texas).

In discussing the future of the movement for gay and lesbian equality in the Lone Star state, Dianne Hardy-Garcia, executive director of the Lesbian/Gay Rights Lobby (LGRL), has several very specific goals.

First, she would like to diversify the movement for gay and lesbian civil rights so that it encompasses not only the urban center—Houston, Dallas, and Austin, but also smaller towns like Amarillo, Tyler, Lubbock, and El Paso.

Secondly, she wants to use the issue of violence against gays as a means of educating heterosexuals about the other types of discrimination that queers in Texas face on a daily basis.

Thirdly, Hardy-Garcia stresses the continued importance of voter education and registration in cities both large and small across the state.

Diversifying The Movement

One of the most successful aspects of the LGRL's recent March on Austin was the significant number of gays and lesbians from small towns and rural areas who descended on the capital to demonstrate and to lobby their legislators.

Hardy-Garcia estimates that of the approximately 120 Texans who participated in the lobbying day on April 3, 50% were from small towns such as Fort Hood, from organizations such as P-Flag-Bryant, Corpus Christi Lesbians and Gays, Amarillo Lesbian and Gay Alliance, and the Valley Voice.

Hardy-Garcia calls these small town residents "the key to us getting our rights," observing that they "made a tremendous impact on the legislators who heard them."

(Continued on Page 3)



Authors Leslie Feinberg and Minnie Bruce Pratt will appear in Houston at events co-sponsored by DiverseWorks and Lesbians in Business as part of the annual "Beyond Desire" gay and lesbian performance series. Story, page 12

Results of Houston lesbian health survey reported

By SHERI COHEN DARBONNE

Houston Voice Editor

(HOUSTON)—Results of a long-awaited professional survey to identify and assess lesbian and bisexual women's health care needs in Houston were reported Monday, April 24 by the Lesbian Health Initiative and the Montrose Counseling Center. The findings suggest, among other things, that lesbians are more likely to drink alcohol but less likely to be heavy drinkers than national averages for all women; that lesbians are disproportionately prone to suffer stress, particularly work-related; and that homophobia, fear of homophobia, and lack of knowledge on the part of health care service providers present significant barriers to service for lesbian Houstonians.

The idea for the survey grew from a series of meetings held by a small group of activists which evolved into the Lesbian Health Initiative, a local non-profit group created to promote health and well-being in the lesbian community. LHI contracted with the Montrose Counseling Center, which conducted the survey over a five month span last year. The project also sought input from faculty and students at the University of Texas-Houston Health Sciences Centers School of Public Health, and over 20 local lesbian and gay organizations and businesses, according to Barbara Becker and Ann Robison of Montrose Counseling Center, who led the press presentation Monday evening at the Montrose Branch Library.

(Continued on Page 5)

Gay, Lesbian and Bisexual Veterans group reorganizing

(HOUSTON)—Gay, Lesbian and Bisexual Veterans of America has announced the reorganization of the group's Houston chapter. The new alliance will go by the same name as the national organization (GLBVA).

The Houston Chapter of the GLBVA is a not-for-profit veterans' service organization, dedicated to support the Constitution of the United States of America and those who seek to serve, are serving or have served in its defense without regard to religion, race, color, national origin, gender or sexual orientation. According to the organization's mission statement, it does not discriminate with regard to age, disability, gender, national origin, race, religion or sexual orientation. GLBVA/H welcomes a diverse membership, and will strive to address the needs and concerns of all its members.

Plans are underway for the organizational meeting of the former Texas Gay Veterans of Houston, which was also a chapter of Gay, Lesbian and Bisexual Veterans of America. For information call: Dave Tripp (713)522-4377; Charles Moody FAX/Phone (713)951-9925.

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Hours: Monday through Friday 9:00 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. Deadline: Monday noon

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

Community Calendar

by Carolyn Larson

HIV+ and Looking?

Houston Clinical Research Network (HCRN) is enrolling HIV+ persons in a study of a potential antiviral called:

Nevirapine

Qualified individuals:

- CD4 count between 200 & 500
- No AIDS defining illness
- If on AZT, tolerated for 3-24 months & limited/no use of ddI or ddC
- or-
- AZT taken 2 months or less and ended 6 months ago. Plus, never taken ddI, ddC, or d4T.

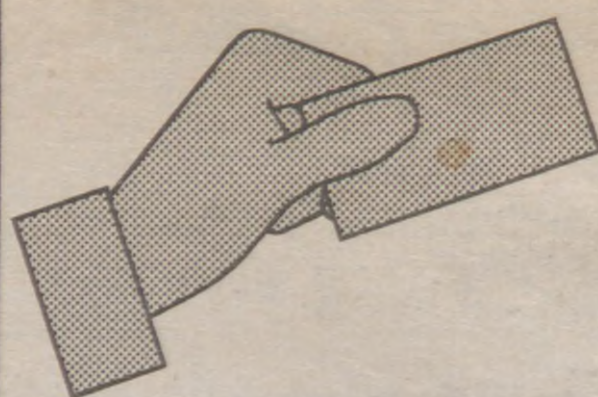
Nevirapine is chemically different from AZT, ddI, ddC or d4T and a possible alternative to these drugs.

Call 520-2000 for more information on this and other trials.

An American Foundation for AIDS Research (AmFAR) site, a division of Montrose Clinic

Montrose Clinic New Hours: Effective May 29

Clinic is now taking appointments; those with appointments will be served first.
 STD Treatment: MWF 11-8 p.m. HIV Screening MWF 5-8 p.m.
 T Th 9-6 p.m. TTh 1-5 p.m.
 CMV Screening: Every Other Wednesday 1-5 p.m.
 Vision Screening: Monday & Thursday 9-5 p.m. (beginning May 15)
 Pharmacy: Monday through Friday 2-6 p.m. ONLY



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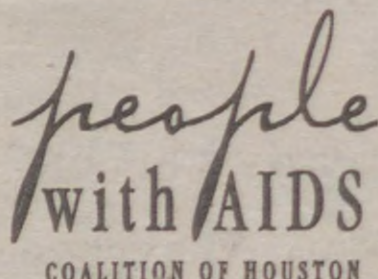


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If you would like an event listed in this section, please feel free to call me at 529-8490 or fax the facts to me at 529-9531.

Friday, April 28

- * Miss Tejano USA Pageant at the MailBox Bar. Call 779-5611.
- * Borders Gay/Lesbian Book Club meets at the Espresso Bar. 9633 Westheimer. Call 782-6066.
- * HATCH (Houston Area Teenagers Coalition of Homosexuals) meet at 7:15 p.m. Call 942-7002.

Saturday, April 29

- * The Court guest bartends at the Brazos River Bottom.
- * Erica's Showcase at the Lazy J.
- * "Bargain Fest 1995" 117 Tuam @ Helena. Benefits the River Oaks Health Alliance TLC House. Call 902-2231.
- * "Rave'n '95"—A benefit for the Drop-In Center in New Orleans. Call Ambiguous Productions at (504) 838-7187.

Sunday, April 30

- * Fourth Annual Benefit Concert in the Villa de Matel Chapel. Benefit for Diocesan Aids Ministry. \$200. 6:00 p.m. Call 524-0182.
- * Dog Dip by the Pet Patrol at the parking lot at Basic Brothers. 10:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.
- * Houston Chain Gang Bicycle Club meets. Call 522-4481.
- * Maranatha Fellowship Metropolitan Church meets at 3131 W. Loop South, Afton Oaks Room. Call 528-6756.
- * Community Gospel Church Worship Service at 11:00 a.m. 501 E. Columbia Call 880-9235.
- * Houston Mission Church Worship Service at 11:00 p.m. 1505 Nevada. Call 529-8225.
- * Montrose Softball League plays. Call 867-3913 for locations.
- * HATCH Meets. Call 942-7002.

Monday, May 1

- * AFH sponsored creative writing class. Taught by Greg Rodriguez. Call 623-6796.
- * Gay Fathers/Fathers First—A support group for fathers and their partners. At Grace Lutheran Church, 2515 Waugh Drive. 8:00 p.m. Call 861-

6161.

- * Free Spirit Party at E/J's

Tuesday, May 2

- * PROTECT—A support group for HIV negative people. At Bering Church 7:00 p.m. Call 520-7870.
- * The HIV Community Caucus meets at 811 Westheimer, Suite 203, 6:30 p.m. Call 529-9355.
- * Helping Cross Dressers Anonymous—A support group meets at 8:00 p.m. at 1509 Fairview. Call 495-8009.

Wednesday, May 3

- * GLOBAL Meets at the U of H 4:00 p.m. University Center. Call 743-7539.
- * Lambda Rollerskate night at 1820 S. Dairy Ashford, 8:00 p.m. to 10:00 p.m. Call 493-5651.
- * Bi-Net of Houston meets at MCCR at 7:00 p.m. Call 861-9149.
- * Houston Pride Band practices. 7:00 p.m. 1307 Yale. Call 524-0128.

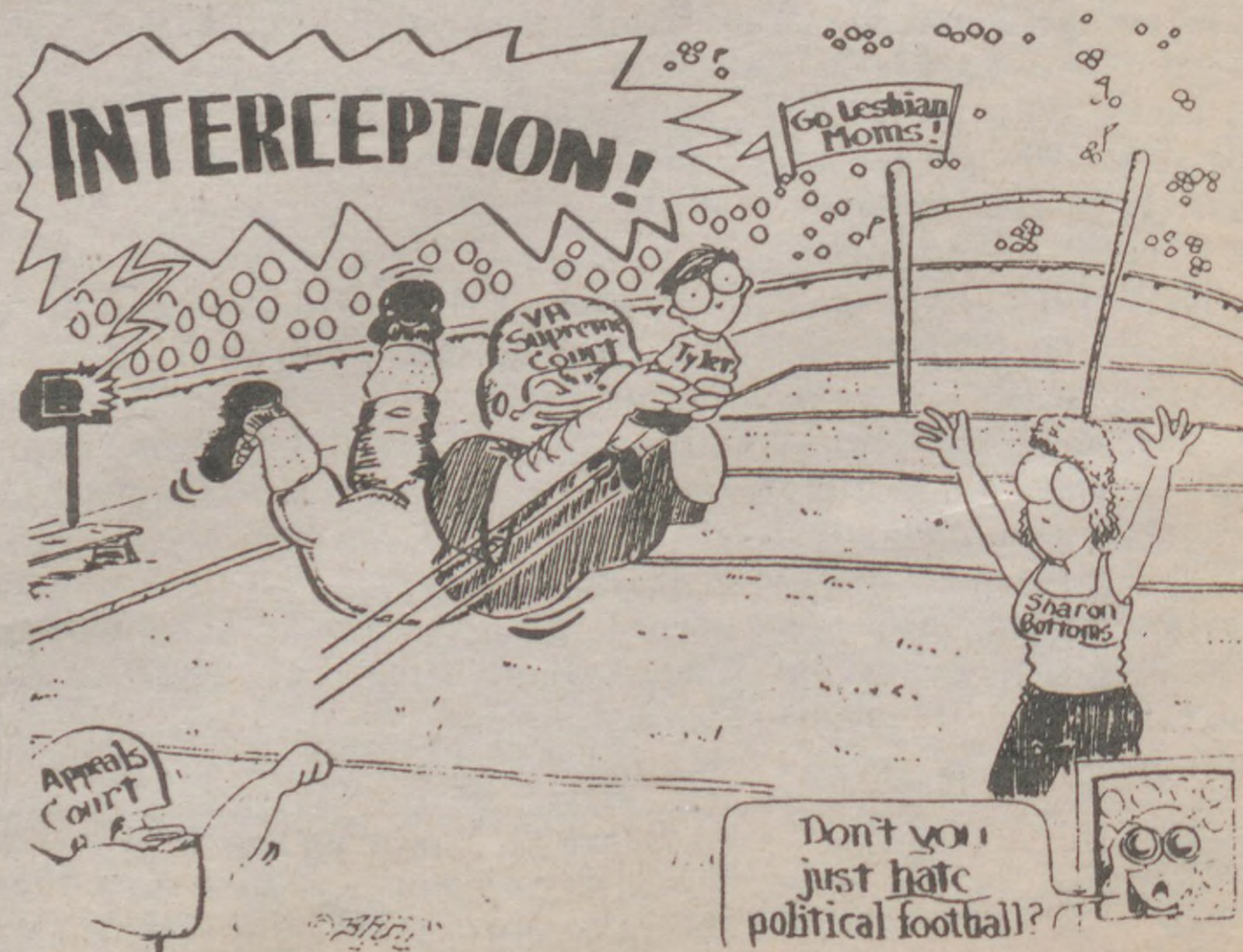
Thursday, May 4

- * Art Classes sponsored by AFH. 1:00 p.m. at the Art League. Call 526-1118.
- * Gay Men's Chorus of Houston practices. Open rehearsals. 7:00 p.m. Grace Lutheran Church. Call 521-7464.
- * Computer Nerd Sessions for the Gay Pride Week Committee. Call 529-123.
- * Twenty Something meets. Call 531-9396.
- * Community Gospel Church Worship Service, 7:30 p.m. 501 East Columbia. Call 880-9235.
- * Houston Thursday Nite Mixer meets at Palace Lanes on Bellaire Blvd. Call 522-9612.
- * PotLuck Pleasure at the Kolbe House. Call 522-8182.

Friday, May 5

- * Borders Gay/Lesbian Book Club meets at the Espresso Bar. 9633 Westheimer. Call 782-6066.
- * HATCH (Houston Area Teenagers Coalition of Homosexuals) Meets at 7:15 p.m. Call 942-7002.
- * Cinco de Mayo party at Pacific Street.
- * Jerry Halliday performs at J.R.'s.
- * NLA:Austin's Leather Pride Week-end. Call 512-370-4713.
- * "First Splash" in Galveston.

Brady's Corner



Legislative action alert

Anti-Gay Violence And HIV Funding

By ANDREW EDMONSON

Houston Voice/Houston

While the Lesbian/Gay Rights Lobby of Texas is currently strategizing for the future of the gay and lesbian movement, they face two more immediate battles in the Texas Legislature: passage of a hate crimes bill that includes "sexual orientation" as a protected status and insuring that enough money is budgeted for adequate HIV education, prevention and care.

Just this past week, the Senate approved a bill that would increase penalties for assaults and various property crimes motivated by hate against homosexuals and other minorities.

Now the battle for hate crimes legislation moves to the Texas House. A good number of state representatives from Houston have not signed on to show their support of this legislation.

Dianne Hardy-Garcia, LGRL executive director, states that it is absolutely vital that Houstonians call and write their representatives in the next week, urging them to support House Bill 365, sponsored by Representative Scott Hochberg. When calling, constituents should make clear that they want the category "sexual orientation" included in the bill as a protected status.

HIV/AIDS Services Funding

The number of AIDS cases in Texas has doubled in the past two years, yet funding has remained flat, according to Hardy-Garcia. AIDS is now the leading cause of death among 25 to 44-year-old Americans.

(Continued on Page 5)

The march to equality in Texas: the importance of education

(Continued from Page 1)

According to Hardy-Garcia, the Texas legislature is dominated by representatives from small towns and rural communities. Many of these legislators have few political opponents, winning elections with ease and returning to Austin year after year. As time passes, they gain seniority and win key positions on legislative committees: the chairpersonships that can determine whether a piece of legislation, such as the current hate crimes bill, passes or is killed.

In conversations with legislators from small towns, Hardy-Garcia is frequently told "I don't have any gay constituents, so why should I care about this legislation?" The March on Austin, with its strong turnout from rural gays and lesbians, was a decisive step towards challenging that misconception.

For the past year and a half, the LGRL has had in place an outreach program targeting rural lesbians and gays. LGRL representatives travel to East and West Texas and the valley, meet with gays and lesbians in the area, talk to them about establishing gay alliances and political organizations, and put them in touch with activists and organizations in larger cities. Hardy-Garcia calls this process "planting the seeds" for a statewide gay and lesbian liberation movement.

Educating Non-Gays

In her travels across the state during the past year and a half, Hardy-Garcia says she encountered many heterosexuals who had no idea of the sustained level of violence that gays and lesbians encounter, that many homosexuals have come to accept as a part of being gay.

"We need to take a look at the violence (against gays and lesbians), and use that to educate people," Hardy-Garcia asserts. "Many people don't want to look at how violent discrimination is. And discrimination is always violent..."

"This (the eight anti-gay murders in Texas in 1994) is something that straight people can understand: violence against lesbians and gays is wrong."

According to Hardy-Garcia, anti-gay violence is a key issue for both educating heterosexuals about other types of discrimination that queers face and for building consensus for legislation that protects the rights of gays. If Texans can accept that gays and lesbians shouldn't be bashed and murdered with impunity, they may also come to believe that homosexuals should not be discriminated against in the workplace.

"Violence and employment discrimination are our most effective issues to work on," she observes matter of factly. "The toughest issues for us to address are youth issues. In the public mind if you connect 'youth' and 'gay,' you get pedophilia."

The accuracy of Hardy-Garcia's theory may be tested in an upcoming debate over House Bill 999. State representative Debra Danburg, Democrat of Houston, submitted a piece of legislation that would prohibit discrimination against students in public schools on the basis of "sexual orientation, race, color, sex, religion, and national origin."

This legislation was of particular importance to queer youth because many of them face unendurable discrimination, hatred, and violence from both peers and teachers on a daily basis. One third of all teen suicides are committed by gays and lesbians, according to a recent Health and Human Services study.

The legislation is pending before the House Education Committee. Capital insiders predict that committee members will keep the provisions in Danburg's bill that they approve of (i.e. race, color, sex, religion, and national orientation), but will most likely jettison the category "sexual orientation."

(Continued on Page 9)

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DAVID JUNKIN

Born: December 16, 1953
Died: April 19, 1995

David Junkin went to rest in the arms of his much beloved father, George. He was 41 years of age. David had been a long term survivor of lymphoma. Born in Atlanta, Georgia, David moved to Houston at an early age and graduated from Westbury H.S. in 1972. He also studied in Paris, France, where he became proficient in French. David's appreciation for art and beauty was part of what made David, David.

Although David was an individualist, he was loved by family and many friends. David's physical beauty was a reflection of his inner beauty. He was known for his honesty, integrity, creativeness, humor and kindness. David was also a host for the Bunnies on the Bayou Easter Party, and a member of a group of local friends who went skiing every year in Colorado. These

groups were enriched by his presence. David was a great hairstylist, known for his precision cuts and beautiful highlights. He was truly a professional. David worked in many prestigious salons, but was never aloof. David's clients quickly became his friends.

David is survived by his mother, Sue; his brother, Glen, and sister-in-law, Debbie; sister, Missey Horton, and brother-in-law, Kenny Horton; nephews, Jason and Travis; and niece, Sara. Contributions may be made in name of David Junkin to the Ronald McDonald House, 1515 La Concha Ln., Houston, TX 77054.

ROBERT HARDY ACREY, JR.

Born: November 13, 1960
Died: April 19, 1995

Robert Hardy Acrey, Jr., age 34, of Houston, and formerly of Conroe, Texas passed away at 10:10 a.m., Wednesday, April 19th in Houston with his family and special friend at his side. Funeral services for Robert were held Saturday, April 22 at the Cashner Colonial Chapel with Dr. Cliff Herrington officiating and Rick Ivy reading the obituary. Interment followed in Garden Park Cemetery.

Robert was born in Conroe where he grew up and graduated from Conroe High School in 1979. After high school Robert attended the University of Houston and spent his adult life interested in art, the theater, and retail. Robert will be sadly missed. He is survived by his friend, Forrest Harvin; mother and father, Vera and Robert H. Acrey, Sr. of Conroe, Texas; sister

and brother-in law, Regina Lynn and Jason Pressler of Conroe, Texas; niece, Kameron Armstrong; as well as many aunts, uncles, relatives and friends. Roberts family has requested that in lieu of flowers or plants, donations be made in Robert's memory to The Omega House, 602 Branard, Houston, TX 77006.



JEFFREY ALAN BUNNELL

Jeffrey Alan Bunnell, 37, of Houston, died peacefully at 12 Oaks Hospital on April 13, 1995. He was a long time employee of the River Cafe and had his own party planning business, Partylines. He is survived by his lover of 8 years, Andrew Thompson; mother, Phyllis; sisters, Cindy, Cathy, and Carol, all of Louisville, Kentucky; and, one brother, Mike of Corydon, Indiana. A celebration of Jeffrey's life will be Saturday, April 29, 1995, in the Chinese Pavilion, east rose garden, at the Houston Garden Center in Hermann Park. Gathering of friends will be from 10:00 a.m. - 1:30 p.m. although the actual service will be at 11:00 a.m.

IN MEMORY OF



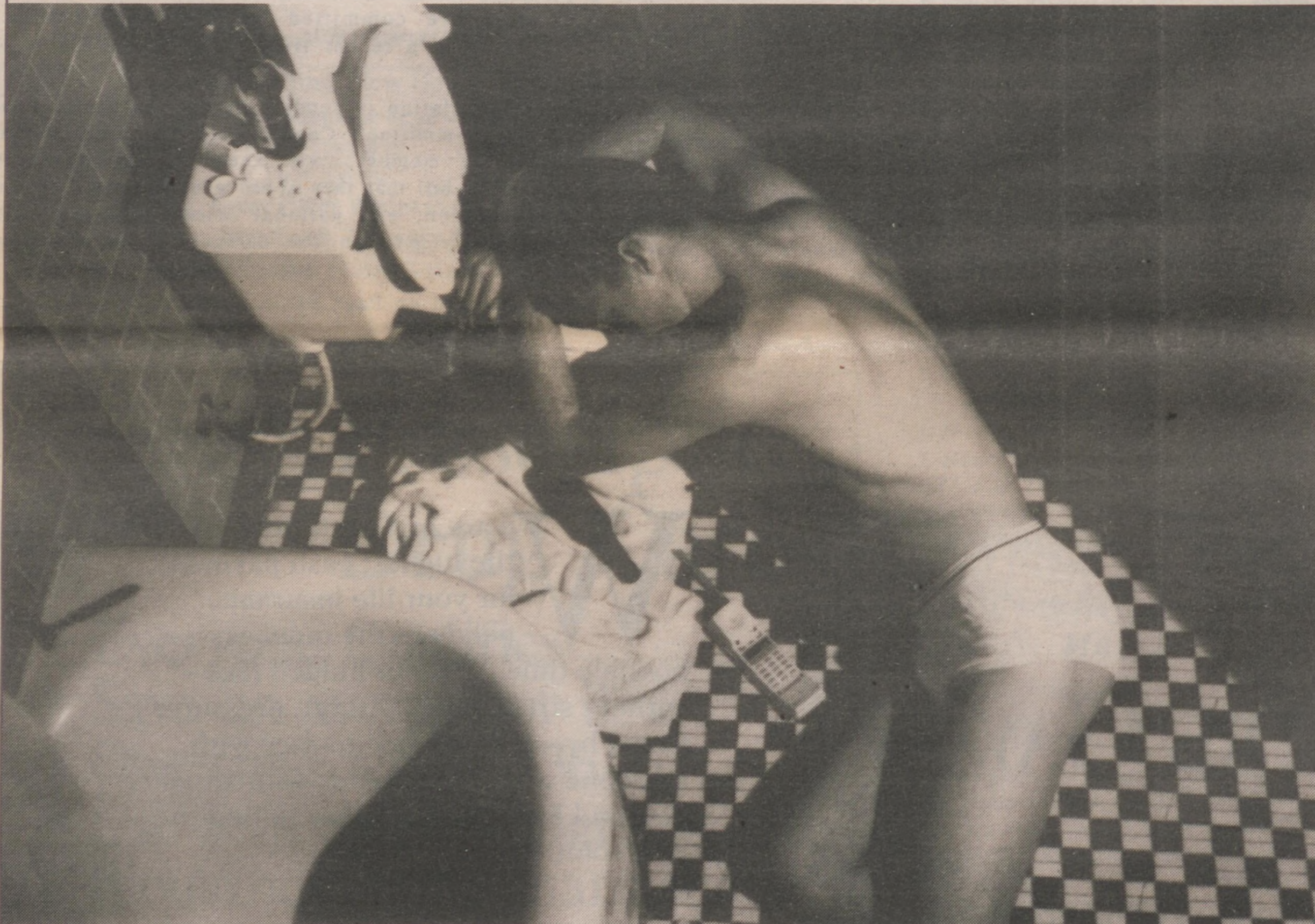
In Loving Memory of
CRAIG A. COLEMAN

a.k.a. Crayola Magenta Crayon

At age 36 Craig left this world on April 18, 1995. Originally from Alabama, Craig spent the last several years in Houston brightening our lives. Recently Craig was employed by Toy Box. One of Craig's many accomplishments was co-founding the Sambvca Sisters, a group of like-minded friends united together sharing a common goal, to benefit our community. He was truly a driving force with a spirit that is greatly missed.

Crayola...God Bless and Keep You.
Cheers!
Love and God Speed, Your Sisters and Many Friends

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HOUSTON VOICE
A Weekly Community News Publication

ISSUE 757
April 28, 1995

Published Fridays

Established 1974 as the Houston Montrose Star, re-established 1980 as the Houston Montrose Voice, changed name to The New Voice in 1991 incorporating the New Orleans Crescent City Star, re-established December 1, 1993 as the Houston Voice

811 Westheimer, Suite 105
Houston, Texas 77006
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Contents copyright 1995
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weekdays

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Legislative action alert

(Continued from Page 3)

The LGRL is urging that \$17.1 million in increased funding be budgeted for HIV prevention, surveillance and care in Texas.

How To Get In Touch With Your Legislators:

If you don't know who your legislators are or if you need their phone numbers, you can contact two organizations: Houston's League of Women Voters at 784-2923; or LGRL in Austin at (512) 474-5475.

You should be prepared to give them your street address and zip code so that they can identify your legislators and tell you who they are.

All Texas state representatives can be written at following address: P.O. Box 2910/Austin, TX. 78768. State senators receive correspondence at the following address: P.O. Box 12068/Austin, TX 78711.

Houston area representatives in the Texas House: Peggy Hamric (R-126) (512)463-0496; Fred Bosse (D-128) (512)463-0660; John Culberson (R-130) (512)463-0528; Ron Wilson (D-131) (512)463-0744; Scott Hochberg (D-132) (512)463-0492; Joe Nixon (R-133) (512)463-0514; Kyle Janek (R-134) (512)463-0748; Gary Elkins (R-135) (512)463-0722; Beverly Wooley (R-136) (512)463-0696; Debra Danburg (D-137) (512)463-0504; Ken Yar-

brough (D-138) (512)463-0648; Sylvester Turner (D-139) (512)463-0554; Kevin Bailey (D-140) (512)463-0924; Senfronia Thompson (D-141) (512)463-0720; Harold Dutton (D-142) (512)463-0510; Gerald Torres (D-143) (512)463-0614; Diana Davila (D-145) (512)463-0732; Al Edwards (D-146) (512)463-0518; Garnet Coleman (D-147) (512)463-0524; Jessica Farrar (D-148) (512)463-0620.

Representatives from surrounding areas near Houston: Kevin Brady (R-The Woodlands) (512)463-0550; Zeb Zbranek (D-Winnie) (512)463-0488; Patricia Gray (D-Galveston) (512)463-0588; Joe Crabb (R-Humble) (512)463-0520; Mike Jackson (R-LaPorte) (512)463-0734.

Members of the Conference Committee on State Finance (contact each of these legislators and urge them to add \$17.1 million to the Appropriations Bill for HIV/AIDS services): Senator Carlos Truan (512)463-0120; Senator John Montford (512)463-0128; Senator Judith Zafirini (512)463-0121; Senator Teel Bivins (512)463-0131; Senator Buster Brown (512)463-0117; State Representative Steve Ogden (512)463-0698; State Representative Garnet Coleman (512)463-0524; State Representative Dianne Delisi (512)463-0630; State Representative Pete Gallego (512)463-0566; State Representative Rob Junell (512)463-0472.

Houston lesbian health survey completed

(Continued from page 1)

Of 1500 surveys printed, completed surveys were received from 614 Houston area women from June to October, 1994, Becker reported—a higher-than average response rate that is especially significant considering the length—94 pages—and estimated 45-minute completion time. Most of those who responded answered the questions in detail, Becker added.

From June to October, 1994, the survey was distributed to lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgendered women in the Houston area. The survey was designed to yield results which could be compared to similar studies which have been conducted throughout the United States, and which could provide information concerning issues such as identity and behaviors; history of sexual assault and domestic violence; access to, barriers to and gaps in, and utilization of health services; health history and status; levels of promotion awareness, and sources of information and referral.

Results of the Houston study came close to those of surveys conducted in other parts of the country; and were also similar to those received in previous national studies.

The surveys were distributed at various gay and lesbian community events, including 1994 Pride Week events and at area bars and clubs as well as through service providers, community organizations and businesses, the local lesbian/feminist book store Inklings and other locations popular with the lesbian community.

Despite careful planning and hundreds of hours of volunteer and staff time put into developing and distributing the survey, representatives noted that the pool of respondents did not reflect the diverse sampling of Houston's lesbian population they had hoped for. Those responding were primarily white, middle class, educated and insured. Ironically, the representatives noted, the profile is fairly typical of persons who respond to such surveys—regardless of regional variances and inclusive planning efforts.

"The best case scenario (for such a sur-

vey) is what we've done, and what we got was awful," commented Laura McKieran, LHI vice president, lamenting the apparent lack of response from minorities, the economically disadvantaged and other subgroups.

Of the women who responded to the LHI survey, over 81 percent were white. Six percent identified as Black/African American; less than 8 percent as Hispanic/Latina and less than 1 percent Asian/Pacific Islander. Almost half of the respondents had annual incomes in the \$20,000-40,000 range, with the remaining half divided between those with incomes less than \$20,000 and over \$40,000. Over 87 percent were college educated, with almost one third having master's or doctoral degrees.

As well, over 80 percent of those who responded to the survey indicated that they have private health insurance, with most receiving coverage through their employment. Over half the respondents indicated they were not completely "out of the closet."

Among noteworthy findings in the study:

—Almost 80 percent of those surveyed indicated they prefer a female health care provider, with almost 60 percent specifying they would prefer a lesbian provider.

—Less than one percent of the respondents reported they had been the gay-bashing victims, but a 42 percent reported experiences of sexual assault at some time in their lives. (The variance led Becker to speculate that studies may be needed to determine whether or how commonly gay-bashing attacks against women take the form of sexual aggression or assault).

—Twenty-three percent of the respondents perceived the places in which they work or live to be hostile to lesbians; 10 percent reported these environments were hostile to women.

—Over one third of the respondents reported they had more than an average amount of stress in their life.

—Twenty-five percent reported incidence of cancer in the preceding 12 months. Half of the reported cases were skin cancers and about 20 percent were breast cancer.

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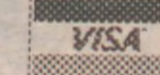
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Gay Today

by Glen Webber



Making The Community Work For You

Since starting this weekly column, I have had the pleasure of talking with many of you about your views on Houston's gay community. Thank you for sharing your thoughts with me. I've always believed the peaceful exchange of ideas helps form more rounded views of the world around us. The gay community is part of that world, and whether you admit it to yourself or deny it to yourself...by virtue of being gay you are part of this community.

And yet, many of you I've talked to feel you are apart from it. You feel your needs are not being met. Some of you feel that because you don't live in Montrose you are not part of the community. Several of you have told me you wish that you weren't gay; your family can't accept it and neither can you. Many of you are embarrassed because those acknowledged gay leaders promote ideas and beliefs they claim represent all of our views...which they don't, of course. Many of you only spend time in the gay community partying, and come away disappointed because the people you meet in the clubs are not the people you would want as friends or lovers.

Many of you are tired of the safe sex message and tired of your friends and lovers dying. You now want friends who are negative in order to make your life easier. Finally, many of you feel like your own involvement won't change anything. So, you retreat to your own little world feeling lonely and left out...and curse the community for it.

I have never lived in Montrose in the 14 years I've lived in Houston, but I am a part of the community. While I concern myself with the everyday issues that affect my job and home...my real world is you. What affects me affects you and what affects you affects me. The best way I can suggest for you to become a happy and proud member of the gay community is to first acknowledge that you are gay and proud. Maybe not for all the world to hear. But inside, to yourself. Find one group or club to become involved with. It doesn't have to be AIDS related at all. Find something you like to do.

For instance, there are a great many

sports teams looking for both players and coaches. Bowling, tennis, baseball, and volleyball are a few of the group sports with organized leagues in our community. Biking, camping and hiking clubs are active for those outdoor lovers.

If you like singing or playing instruments, the Gay Men's Chorus of Houston is a great outlet; and there are many gay community churches that have choirs for those more spiritual men and women. For those who feel a need to help, the Gay and Lesbian Switchboard is a valuable tool to help those with questions about the community. There also support groups and volunteer opportunities with the many AIDS/HIV service providers in the area, such as AIDS Foundation, Bering, and the various hospices which provide a loving environment for those too ill to go home. Who knows, maybe your caring attitude may save the life of a lonely AIDS patient. The difference you can make might be a legacy to be honored and looked back on by future generations.

Remember Mike Macadory, known in the leather community as Lord Mac, a powerful man whose hard work and non-stop efforts brought the first AIDS hospice, MACADORY HOUSE to reality. Remember Danny Villa, a handsome, energetic, talented man whose extravagant and showy fundraisers set a precedent in our community for raising both money and our consciousness about AIDS. Remember John Bushlen, the TNT t-shirt founder whose "LOUIE, DON'T SHOOT" t-shirts helped bring the community together to defeat the homophobic "Straight Slate" of candidates in the 1985 city elections. And Norman Guttman, who took the Gay Political Caucus and helped make it a major force to be dealt with in Houston political circles.

There are countless more brave men and women, who forged a path for us all to follow. One day perhaps I can write about more of our heroes. The men mentioned above—all of them my friends, all of them gone now, but all of them will be remembered for their legacy to you and I. Now it is your turn, your time, and your place in the community to carry on the legacy by making difference in your community.



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GLAAD MEDIA WATCH

by Al Kielwasser

The Buns Of A Bigot?

Dave Thomas, founder of the Wendy's hamburger chain, has written a new book entitled "Well Done." In his book, Thomas lavishes praise upon heterosexual supremacist (and media mogul) Pat Robertson. Specifically, Thomas commends Robertson—an arch-homophobe—for "doing things right" and promoting "wholesomeness and family values."

Not surprisingly, Wendy's advertising dollars have provided further support for Pat Robertson's media interests. Thomas himself has been a guest on Robertson's daily TV show, "The 700 Club."

Wendy's restaurants should know that homophobia is always in bad taste! Contact Dave Thomas, Wendy's Corporate Headquarters, 4288 West-Dublin-Granville Road, Dublin, OH 43017, tel. 614-764-6800, fax 614-764-6894.

'Fair' Coverage, Again

The May '95 issue of "Vanity Fair" magazine features lesbian supermodel Rachel Williams, shown in a two-page lay-out with her girlfriend (and musician) Alice Temple. The happy couple are seen lounging together—as supermodels will—while the accompanying text quotes both women about their new-found relationship.

The "Vanity Fair" spread offers a matter-of-fact picture of lesbian love, in an industry routinely dedicated to matters of fantasy. Hopefully, the visibility of these lesbians will encourage others to come out in the modeling, fashion and entertainment fields.

Send encouraging feedback to Graydon Carter, Editor-in-Chief, "Vanity Fair," 350 Madison Ave., New York, NY, tel. 212-880-8800, e-mail vfair@aol.com.

Weak Apology

On March 2nd, The Sports Authority company placed a quarter-page advertisement in "The Charlotte Observer." The ad depicted various sale items in an "end of season ski clearance," and the caption under one pair of boots read: "You'll ski like a faggot with these!"

On March 3rd, the company placed another ad, which announced: "WE APOLOGIZE." This ad, in the form of a letter from company Vice President Richard Lynch, went on to say that the previous advertisement "included language that was inappropriate and offensive to our loyal customers and the residents of Charlotte. The use of this language was obviously in error. The individual responsible was terminated immediately and safeguards have been put in place to ensure this does not occur again."

That apology failed to satisfy some local activists, however, who have noted that The Sports Authority's letter never mentioned lesbians or gays. David Stout, the editor of "Q Notes," a North Carolina lesbian/gay newspaper, called the apology "regrettable." According to Stout, the company "directed their apology towards 'loyal customers and the residents of Charlotte' rather than those who were truly demeaned. Doesn't The Sports Authority believe that gays and lesbians deserve a direct apology for the needless emotional pain that was caused by the advertisement?"

In a March 24th letter to Stout, Rich-

ard Lynch attempted to defend his apology. Lynch wrote: "In crafting The Sports Authority's apology, all groups that might have been offended were considered. The conclusion reached was that potentially many groups were offended, including groups who do not necessarily support the gay and lesbian lifestyle."

Say what? Does Lynch mean to suggest that his apology was intended for homophobes, who might have been offended by the inclusion of "faggots" in any roster of skilled athletes?

This and other questions should be posed to Richard J. Lynch, Senior Vice President, The Sports Authority, 3383 North State Road 7, Fort Lauderdale, FL 33319, tel. 305-735-1701 or 800-765-8721 (ext. 6070 or 6071), fax 305-677-6028.

Media Briefs

Zine Scene... "Square Pegs" is a new, free zine for queer youth. "Since we are cool enough to make this zine free, please be cool enough to write us," say the editors. Contact "Square Pegs," c/o Equinox, 903 Pacific Ave., Suite 207A, Santa Cruz, CA, tel. 408-457-1441, e-mail seapb@cats.ucsc.edu.

—Media Resources for Media Watchers... EXTRA!, the bimonthly magazine published by FAIR (Fairness & Accuracy In Reporting), devotes a special March/April '95 edition to "The Right-Wing Media Machine (EXTRA!, 30 West 25th St., New York, NY 10001, tel. 212-633-6700, fax 212-727-7688); A recent issue (vol. 20, no. 3) of the journal "Critical Sociology" is dedicated to queer issues, and includes several pop culture/media-related articles ("Critical Sociology," Dept. of Sociology, University of Oregon, Eugene, OR 97403, tel. 503-346-5039); The April '95 issue of "Z Magazine" includes David Barsamian's article on the "Right-Wing Take-Over of Public Broadcasting" ("Z Magazine," 18 Millfield St., Woods Hole, MA 02543, tel. 508-548-9063, fax 508-457-0626).

—Changing Times... As of April 14th, the "Chicago Sun-Times" has dropped lesbian journalist Deb Price from its roster of local and nationally-syndicated columnists (in 1992, Price began her weekly reports on lesbian and gay issues, the first such syndicated columns in the United States). Complaints go to Dennis A. Britton, Editor & Executive Vice President, "Chicago Sun-Times," 401 N. Wabash Ave., Chicago, IL 60611, tel. 312-321-3000, fax 312-321-3084.

—Good American... The April '95 issue of the well-established "Scientific American" magazine includes a news brief on "Coming Out in the Sciences." The item highlights the status of the scientific closet, and takes note of the 800-member National Organization of Gay and Lesbian Scientists and Technical Professionals (NOGLSTP). Send encouraging e-mail to "Scientific American," letters@sciam.com.

We must confront the media's homophobia in order to cure it! To notify GLAAD-SFBA of any defamatory or affirmative media coverage, call our 24-hour Media Watch Hot Line at 415-861-4588 or write to "Media Watch," Gay & Lesbian Alliance Against Defamation-San Francisco Bay Area, 1360 Mission St., Suite 200, San Francisco, CA 94103, tel. 415-861-2244, fax 415-861-4893, e-mail glaad_sfba@aol.com.

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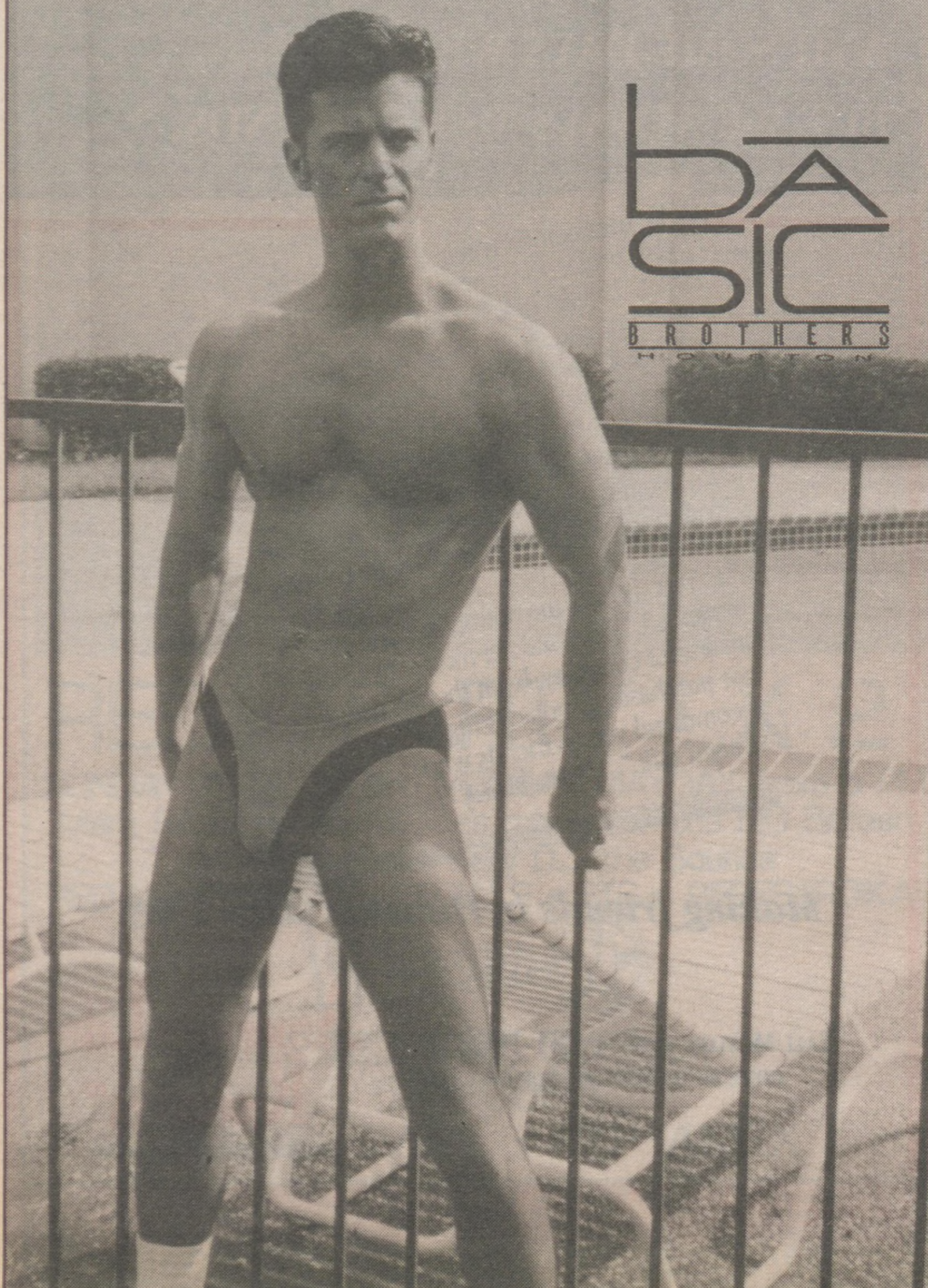
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HOUSTON VOICE MAIL

Letters to the Editor

Reader Disputes Prison Commentary

From (NAME WITHHELD BY REQUEST)

Huntsville, Texas

(Editor's note: The following letter was received in response to a recent guest commentary written by Ray Hill. The letter writer is an TDCJ employee who disputes some of Hill's statements. The Houston Voice does not publish letters received anonymously; however, we will honor a letter writer's request to withhold his/her name when identification is provided to us for contact or verification purposes).

This is being written in response to an article appearing in issue #755 which was written by Ray Hill and concerned treatment received by gay and lesbian offenders while incarcerated in the Texas Department of Criminal Justice—Institutional Division.

His account of the manner with which the incident was handled prompted me to look at (inmate Petra Paz's) file on the computer when I went to work this morning. Working in one of the five regional offices, virtually all of an inmate's files are available for review as needed.

Prior to the incident cited on 2 April 1995 by Officer M. Moritz and processed as Major Disciplinary Report #950186805, Ms. Paz had received six prior offense reports, four of them since the beginning of February. When a disciplinary report is being reviewed for processing, one of the factors to be considered is the recent history, which is considered to be the past 90 days. On most units within the agency, four minor cases would prompt the next report to be graded as a major offense.

At the hearing held on 7 April 1995, Ms. Paz was reduced in time-earning status from State Approved Trusty II to State Approved Trusty IV and assessed a restriction on Contact Visitation. There was no loss of good-conduct time as implied by Mr. Hill. The net effect of the sanction is a loss in the amount of good-conduct time which may be accrued per month. An SAT IV accrues 25 days per

month, plus another 15 days for diligent participation. Diligent Participation basically means an inmate went to work or school as scheduled. At the SAT II level, the accrual rate is 30 days per month, plus the 15 days for diligent participation. The disciplinary hearing resulted in a sanction only for the charge of Sexual Misconduct. The charge of Refusing/Failing to Obey an Order was dismissed by the hearing officer.

Since the date of that incident, Ms. Paz has received two other cases which were graded Minor, and no other cases were pending as of this morning. Her job assignment was unaffected, and her housing status was not changed.

Prior to this incident, the Board of Pardons and Paroles had already given Ms. Paz a "serve-all," which simply meant that she would have to accrue total time credits in an amount equal to her four-year sentence of record. At the old accrual rate, she would have been released on 3-9-96. The disciplinary sanction will likely cause that date to change to early May of 1996. This is hardly the extra year that Mr. Hill claims Ms. Paz would have to serve as an unwritten sanction for being a lesbian.

I am not attempting to insinuate that life in the penitentiary is not difficult for those who may be gay or lesbian. After all, many are dealing with the stereotypical East Texas "redneck" mentality. However, my experience of having worked on nine different units (including those with large "safekeeping" populations) has been that the degree of harassment does not vary significantly from that which affects other minorities. However, Mr. Hill has made the problem seem much more severe than it is.

The penitentiary lifestyle can be difficult for someone to comprehend that has never had to be around it, either as an employee or an inmate. It is my understanding that Mr. Hill served time in an earlier time, and admittedly life would have been more harsh during that time. However, various court orders that the agency operates under, or by, have made it easier to document and sanction confirmed acts of misconduct by staff.

Rice Gay and Lesbian Alumni Association awards scholarships

Quick Notes

Timothy W. Glover and Glenn M. Levy are the recipients of Rice Gay and Lesbian Alumni Association (RGLAA) scholarships for the 1995-96 academic year. Glover is a first-year graduate student in the Space Physics and Astronomy Department. Levy is a junior majoring in English. Each will receive \$500 to apply against tuition and fees for the upcoming instructional year.

The RGLAA scholarship is designed to recognize and reward leadership and service to the gay and lesbian community, both at Rice University and in the community at large. Glover was active in gay and lesbian student groups at New Mexico State University, where he was an undergraduate, and at the University of Texas, where he was a graduate student. His most noteworthy efforts to advance the cause of gay and lesbian rights came in the early 1990's when he was a physics teacher at Fieldston School in Riverdale, New York. Glover worked with gay and lesbian students to found the Fieldston Gay/Straight

Alliance. He and another teacher won a grant from the school to purchase curriculum and library materials dealing with issues of sexual orientation. They also sponsored a school production of the play "Bent."

Levy is a student teacher at Rice University. As an openly gay man, he has used his position as a peer counselor in the College Assistance Peer Program and coordinator of the New Student Orientation Week at Hanszen College to create an environment on campus that accepts students of all backgrounds and sexual orientations. Levy wrote an article for this year's Orientation Handbook that made it clear that new students coming to Rice would be exposed to people who are gay and lesbian. He has also worked through Pride, the student organization of gay, lesbian and bisexual students, to organize and facilitate a weekly peer support group for people who are gay, lesbian, and bisexual. Finally, as the newly elected president of Hanszen College.

Levy serves as a positive role model for all students at the university.

HOUSTON

VOICE MAIL

Letters to the Editor

HIV Caucus Needs Members

From WALLY BLOOD

Houston, Texas

Over the years that I've been part of the PLWA/HIV community in Houston I've heard a lot of my friends and neighbors say a lot of things. I've heard constructive ideas. I've heard legitimate complaints. I've heard griping and sniping from all quarters. I've been guilty of this myself. It took me a long time to realize that this abundance of mental energy is actually an important part of living. Lately I've discovered that there are a lot of places to put this energy to good use and I'm going to tell you about one of them.

The HIV Community Caucus is an ideal forum for members of the HIV infected and affected community to express our needs and concerns. It is an especially good place to voice our concerns regarding Ryan White Title I funding issues because the monthly report of the caucus is a regular item on the agenda of the Ryan White Planning Council meetings.

The caucus has a problem right now though. Our membership is down. Some of our best and brightest voices have been forever silenced in recent months. Also, I don't think that enough people, especially PLWAs, are aware that this forum exists. Not only do we need new voices—we need MORE voices. If we are to appropriately represent the HIV community we need as much input as we can get.

Therefore, I am encouraging all HIV infected and affected individuals to attend the next meeting of the HIV Community Caucus on Tuesday, May 2nd. The meeting will be from 6:30 p.m. to 7:30 p.m. at 811 Westheimer in Suite 203. Our special agenda at this meeting includes the election of a new chairperson.

I also encourage all interested individuals to continue to attend our regular meetings on the first Tuesday of each month, same time, same place. It is, after all, only one hour out of the month, and the more we speak our minds and hearts the greater the chance that we'll be heard.

Using The Media For Education

From MATT LOCKLIN

Houston, Texas

How would you like to get your message to educate potentially 1/2 million households in the Houston area.

You'd love it, and that's exactly the way I feel about my mission as an HIV/AIDS educator on the Public Access Channel. As an AIDS patient, advocate and long time activist, I cannot express the deep feeling of satisfaction that comes from being able to inform and educate so many people from all walks of life at once.

The newest program to join the Access line-up, and the reason for this article, is the premiere of "HIV+ POSITIVE! TV," produced by Ken Malone and myself. It aims to educate the community about AIDS fundraisers and other highlights of positive action on going in the HIV community around Houston. Featuring interviews and information surrounding the AIDS pandemic. This is one of many programs I have volunteered to co-produce and/or host. Sponsored through the Assistance Fund, the "HIV+ POSITIVE! TV" program has information from Executive Directors from the Assistance Fund, AVES and AFH AIDS organizations. Three groups working together in unity on the upcoming Salsa de Mayo '95 event, to be held May 5th, 1995, at 8:00 p.m. at the Crystal Nightclub, 6680 Southwest Fwy (exit Hillcroft). A unified AIDS community organizational fundraising event. Salsa de Mayo '95 is expected to help cover recent cuts in funding sources. Also, on the premiere program we meet President-Elect John Melton, with the Assistance Fund.

I am still producing and hosting my anchor program "AIDS Talk Houston TV," that features interviews with the movers and shakers from the AIDS community. Also, we provide a free information and referral line (902-2231). Both programs are geared towards persons with HIV infection obtaining social, medical and political action services and information.

With more than 325 hours and counting of AIDS education on the air, much progress has been made. The Thomas Street Health Center Volunteer program and the TLC House transitional living center developed from "AIDS Talk Houston" programs. Many important alliances have been forged in the studios of Public Access. Let's make good use of low cost ways to educate and inform the citizens of Houston. Call me for free help or advice on getting community oriented programming started!

Matt Locklin
713/902-2231

The importance of registering gay voters

(Texas gay agenda, continued from page 3)

Also crucial is the registration and education of gay voters, said Hardy-Garcia. She lauds "OutVote," the recent campaign launched by the Houston Gay and Lesbian Political Caucus to register 10,000 voters in the Houston area. She also praises a recent voter-registration effort in Odessa by a nascent gay political action group that put 25 additional voters on the rolls.

"It (the struggle for gay and lesbian equality in Texas) is not a linear kind of thing. It's all of us doing little things. It's guerrilla warfare, with everyone chipping away at homophobia bit by bit."

Hardy-Garcia readily acknowledges that many of the bills that LGRL is promoting will initially fail. She cites the example of state represent-

ative Senfronia Thompson of Houston to underscore the importance of tenacity in achieving legislative goals. Until this year, Texas was the only state in America that did not have legislation on the books that allowed for alimony judgments to be made. Representative Thompson had repeatedly introduced legislation stating that in divorce cases judges could award alimony over the past decade. Only in 1995 was the bill passed.

"We have to file these bills several times," Hardy-Garcia emphasized. "We have to gather our signatures, gather our supporters and do education of the legislators." She believes that committee hearings and large scale public demonstrations such as the March on Austin are a prime opportunity to educate both politicians and the general public on issues impacting the gay community.



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MCCR marks anniversary with special events

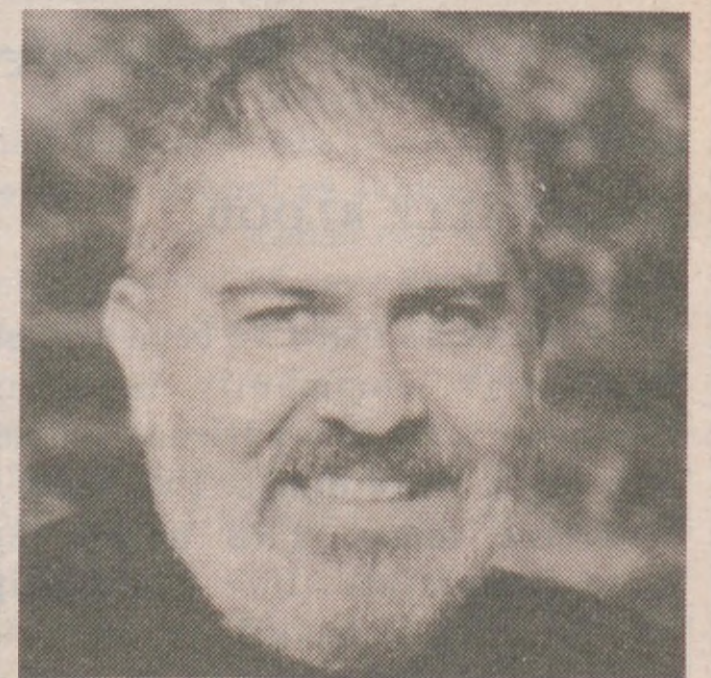
Quick Notes

Metropolitan Community Church of the Resurrection (MCCR) completed its 20th anniversary celebration last Sunday night with Rev. Elder Jeri Ann Harvey and a spirit-filled healing service, members reported this week. All three special services with Rev. Harvey, Rev. Chuck Larsen and Rev. Troy Perry were well attended.

The highlight of the Sunday evening service was the burning of the mortgage. MCCR is debt-free, nine years ahead of schedule, jubilant members announced.

During his visit, Rev. Perry announced that the Universal Fellowship of Metropolitan Community Churches would be purchasing a five-story office building and a new Mother Church in West Hollywood California. UFMCC has been renting office space for the last 27 years and the Mother Church, located in Los Angeles, was destroyed by the 1994 earthquake.

Perry indicated that he plans to return to Houston when MCCR dedicates its new church and facilities.



Rev. Troy Perry helped Houston's MCCR celebrate its 20th anniversary last weekend

Rev. Elder John Gill will be leaving to take over the King of Peace MCC in St. Petersburg, Fla. on May 1. His last sermon at MCCR will be the 8:30 a.m. and 10:45 a.m. services this Sunday.

For more information about MCCR, its programs, Vision 2000+ or for directions, call the Church Office at 861-9149. The church extends an open invitation to "Experience God's Unconditional Love by attending MCCR—celebrating 20 years of service to the community."

Crossroads group to discuss internalized homophobia

Quick Notes

"Healing from Internalized Homophobia" will be the subject at the next Crossroads brunch meeting to be held on Saturday, May 20 at 11:00 a.m. According to the founder of Crossroads, Rev. Johnny Peden, "this will be a continuation of last month's meeting because internalized homophobia is a complex subject with many aspects. We will be touching on such issues as forgiving ourselves and others, core values, meditation, and affirmation."

The purpose of the group is to serve as a spiritual and social support group for gays and lesbians currently serving on a church staff in any capacity or who have been on a church staff in the past. This includes not only pastors, but musicians, chaplains, missionaries, music, youth and education directors, administrators, etc., from all denominational and

faith backgrounds.

For the sake of the confidentiality of those attending, the meeting place is undisclosed. According to Rev. Peden, a former Southern Baptist minister, "Some of the people in the group are still on the staffs of mainstream churches, others are still married, and some others are just now coming to terms with their sexual orientation. For those very personal reasons, we want to offer people a safe place to meet for support. We are not in the business of outing anyone."

Leading the group discussion on "Healing from Internalized Homophobia" will be Bro. David Crank. He is a member of the Franciscan Brotherhood of the Roman Catholic Church and serves on a local pastoral care team. For more information about Crossroads, call 802-1056. Friends, family members, and spouses are also always welcome to attend.

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Sat, Apr 29
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COMMUNITY

Trio of AIDS organizations to host 'Salsa de Mayo on Cinco de Mayo'

AIDS Foundation Houston, AVES (Amigos Volunteers in Education and Services), and The Assistance Fund, in conjunction with Page Parkes Model Camp, are sponsoring a new event in celebration of Cinco de Mayo. Salsa de Mayo will be held May 5 at 8:00 pm at the newly expanded Crystal Nightclub, 6680 Southwest Freeway.

The evening event will include the finals to a model search being conducted by Page Parkes. Following the finals, the crowd will be entertained by Houston's own Norma Zenteno

Band, a Salsa dancer's favorite. Radio station KLOL's Dayna Steele is scheduled to emcee the event.

A raffle will be held with the grand prize of two round trip tickets to Veracruz, Mexico,

compliments of Continental Airlines, going to one lucky individual, organizers said.

Proceeds from the event will benefit the programs and services of AFH, AVES, and The Assistance Fund.

Tickets are on sale now for \$15 for floor seating, and \$12 for standing. For

ticket information, please call the AFH Event Line at 629-9255.



Voice Wins 2 In MSL Action Sunday

Action continued for the Montrose Softball League (MSL) on Sunday, April 23, after taking a week off for the Easter holiday! The wind was in favor of those capable as a record number of softballs were knocked over the fences at Tim Hearn Field.

In the Competitive Division, the Houston Voice defeated the Montrose Mining Company Texans 10-3. In the second game, the Mining Company came back to beat Briar Patch 11-6. The Montrose Inn suffered two losses, one to the Voice, 7-2 and to Briar Patch 16-3.

Recreational Division I began with Pacific Street Barbies defeating The Travelers 11-3, and in the finale, J.R.'s Fighting Flamingos beat Rich's Prime 10-3.

As mentioned before, a record number of balls were hit over the fences on Sunday. Richard M., Russel G., and Dave W. all hit two over. Michael V., Brad M., Mario M., Mark H., Joe D., and Charlie G. all hit one ball over the fence. Way to go, men!!!

The team standings are as follows: Competitive—Montrose Mining Company Texas 4-1; Houston Voice 4-1; Briar Patch 2-3; Montrose Inn 0-5. Recreational I—J.R.'s Fighting Flamingos 4-0; Pacific Street Barbies 3-1; Rich's Prime 1-3; The Traveler's 0-4. Recreational II—Gentry's GAPS 2-0; MCC Auntie Depressants 1-1; Positively BRB 1-1; Chez E.J.'s 0-2.

The next week of play is scheduled for Sunday, April 30, at Tim Hearn Field (corner of Memorial & Jackson Hill) with the following schedule: 11:00 Montrose Inn vs Mining Company Texans; 12:00 Briar Patch vs Houston Voice; 1:00 E.J.'s vs Gentry GAPS; 2:00 Montrose Counseling Center vs Positively BRB; 3:00 Pacific Street Barbies vs J.R.'s Fighting Flamingos; 4:00 Travelers vs Rich's Prime.

MSL hosts its annual fundraiser "Casino Nite" on Friday, May 5, at Kim Son Restaurant. Las Vegas style gam-

bling (roulette, poker, blackjack, etc) will all be available for your pleasure from 8:00 p.m. until 12:30 a.m. at \$10 per person. Your \$10 ticket buys you \$2,000 in play chips. If you would like to purchase a ticket, please call our voice mail.

If you desire more information concerning MSL, please call our voice mail at 867-3913.

Skate Night

Lambda Rollerskating Club will hold its next Gay/Lesbian Skate Night on Wednesday, May 3 at Dairy Ashford Skating Rink, located at 1820 Dairy Ashford. Skate time is 8:00-10:00 p.m.; Admission is \$5. Everyone of all ages is welcome. For more information, call 933-5818.

Bowling Leagues

It's not too late to join a summer league—individuals and teams are still welcome! Select a time and come on out.

The Inner Loop Sunday League bowls at Palace Lanes on Sundays at 7:00 p.m. and is open to male and female bowlers. Call Tom at 522-9512 for more information.

The Montrose Monday Nite Men's League bowls at Palace Lanes on Mondays at 9:00 p.m. For more info, call Gardy at 641-5424.

The Monday Nite Women's League, after their first week of bowling, reports that 3 Rights and a Wrong is in first place; Maybe, Maybe Not is second, Balls R Out is third and The Walking Wounded is fourth. Bowling is at 6:15 p.m. at Fairlanes Southway. For more information, call Marla at 862-3630 or Pat at 437-6218.

A new mixed league is forming for early bowling on Wednesdays at 6:30 p.m. at Palace Lanes. First night will be May 17 at 6:00 p.m. For more info, call Tom at 522-9612.

The Texas Invitational Tournament is holding a car wash this Saturday at Gentry from 10:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. Bring your vehicle and help raise money for the 10th annual tournament, to be held over the July 4th holiday.

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ASK THE PASTOR

Q: "What does the Bible give to Christians in regard to guidelines for dating?"



Rev. Janet Parker

A: Last week I spoke about God's law of love in regard to dating and loving people. This week I would like to address specific situations in regard to what this "love chapter" asks of us. Let me take I Corinthians 13:4-8 verse by verse and create a scenario for you to think about.

"Love is patient and kind." (Love doesn't rush another into a relationship because you are ready. The other person is just coming out of a previous relationship and needs more time. Love gives them time to recover and deal with the issues of their breakup. Love doesn't hurry into a passionate relationship.)

In giving your heart away, you lose your objectivity about what is best for both of you. Hormones tend to do that to us. They are never patient, and many times are never kind! Love waits for the right moment, knowing that it is love and not just a hormonal urge.)

"Love is not jealous, it does not brag, and it is not proud." (Love doesn't try to steal away another person's partner. Love doesn't brag about who you managed to sleep with early on in the dating period. Love is not proud of using others for one's own pleasure. Love doesn't keep notches on a belt for the conquests of the evening.)

"Love is not rude, is not selfish, and does not get upset with others." (Love doesn't say, "I was honest with you from the start. You knew that I wasn't able to make a commitment to you right now. We both agreed to have this 'temporary' fling until I could make up my mind. Now I know this won't work." Love doesn't go for what it can get until something better comes along.)

"Love does not count up wrongs that have been done." (Love doesn't carry around a note pad making red glaring marks against people who offend me. Love doesn't carry around a bag of all the injustices that have been committed against me, waiting to use them against the next person who loves and leaves me. Love doesn't wait around, expecting to be offended and used. Love doesn't live in a state of bitterness and resentment.)

"Love is not happy with evil but is happy with the truth." (Love delights in what is fair, and right and good for all concerned. Love is not glad to get revenge. Love does not vindicate itself. Love does not wait to return evil for evil.)

"Love patiently accepts all things. It always trusts, always hopes, and always remains strong." (Love believes first before it doubts. Love decides to trust first before it distrusts. Love hopes for the best and stands strong through the storm because it sees a rainbow through the clouds. Love never gives up. Love trusts the One who can make all things work together for the good of those who love God and are called according to God's purposes.)

"Love never ends." (Love will never die. If we wait patiently, and trust and believe in the best—love will never disappoint us. God will never leave us alone. We may part physically from this earth, but in our hearts, true love lives forever! Isn't this what you really want? It is found in God who first loved us!)

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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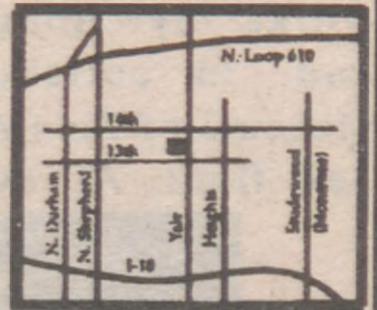
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"A Church Built On Love"

Schedule announced for gay and lesbian performance series at DiverseWorks

DiverseWorks has announced its third annual Beyond Desire: New Gay and Lesbian Performance Series, to take place in May and June. This year's offerings include a reading, a new play from Austin, a dance collaboration and two original works by Houston playwrights, and, in collaboration with the Museum of Fine Arts, Houston, two new films. All events take place at

DiverseWorks, 1117 E. Freeway, unless otherwise noted. Tickets may be reserved by calling 228-0914.

Minnie Bruce Pratt And Leslie Feinberg

An event on the schedule that is something of a departure from the usual, art-focused mix will be co-sponsored by Lesbians in Business on

Friday, June 16, at 7:30 p.m. at Innova, 20 Greenway Plaza. Described as an "intimate, intense and sexy conversation about lesbian life and gender crossing" by two experts, the event features speakers Leslie Feinberg, author of "Stone Butch Blues" and Minnie Bruce Pratt, author of "Crime Against Nature" and a new book, "S/he."

The appearance was originally scheduled for the upcoming LIB meeting on May 12, but had to be rescheduled when a Massachusetts college reversed an earlier decision to reject Feinberg as a commencement speaker and re-invited her to the commencement ceremonies, also on May 12. Feinberg, who identifies as both lesbian and transgendered, was the choice of the student body at Bradford College in Bradford, Mass. The school's president, Joseph Short, at first vetoed the choice; however, after a sit-in demonstration by students at the small college of 466 undergraduates and an onslaught what he called "sad and intolerant" editorials in the local media, Short decided to let Feinberg speak.

Activist Feinberg became a heroine for transgendered women with the publication in 1993 of "Stone Butch Blues," he account of "passing" as a man.

A poet, essayist and political activist from Selma, Alabama, Minnie Bruce Pratt won the 1989 Lamont Poetry Prize for "Crime Against Nature." (\$12 general/\$10 DiverseWorks and LIB members/\$7 students).

A Workshop with Pratt & Feinberg titled "Talking Gender" will take place Saturday, June 17 at DiverseWorks (\$10/\$8 DiverseWorks and LIB members).

Feinberg and Pratt will offer a primer of the exciting new sex and gender theory emerging from the intersection of feminism, the lesbian/gay/bisexual movements and transgender liberation. They will discuss Feinberg's upcoming book, "Transgender Warriors: A History of Resistance," and Pratt's new book "S/he." Followed by a facilitated discussion and questions.

(Continued on following page)

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ARTS/ENTERTAINMENT

'Beyond Desire': gay-lesbian drama, dance, film and beyond



A unique dance collaboration is among the offerings in this year's series (photo by Savage Photography, San Francisco)

Root Wy'mn Theater Co. In 'No Mo Blues'

Fri.—Sat., May 19—20, 8:00 p.m.
(\$12/\$10 DiverseWorks mem-
bers/\$7 students)

Austin's freshest theater group is back with a one-woman show featuring bull-dog-jean, the woman-love-woman from their debut work by Sharon Bridgforth, love/rituals & rage. This feisty backwoods herstorian struggles to "ungrip she Soul from misery" in a tale fueled by the power of the blues.

Patrick Scully, Keith Hennessy And Ishmael Houston-Jones In 'Unsafe, Unsuided'

Fri.—Sat., May 26—27, 8:00 p.m.
(\$12/\$10 DiverseWorks members/
\$7 students)

Longevity makes them citizens! The state makes them outlaws! Desire keeps them alive! A trio of gay men at midlife—Keith Hennessy, formerly of San Francisco's CONTRABAND, Ishmael Houston-Jones of New York and Patrick Scully of Patrick's Cabaret in Minneapolis—meet in an intimate "queer zone" of text performance art and contact improvisation.

Workshop

Tuesday, May 23, 7—10 p.m.

(\$5/\$3 DiverseWorks members)

Hennessy, Houston-Jones and Scully will teach a three hour workshop focusing on improv and performance. Be prepared to sing, write, move, and play. Open to artists/performers/people interested in being and creating in the moment. Limit 20. Call 223-8346 to reserve a space.

'Unconscious Stud- ies' By Travis Mader And 'This Weekend' By Gerald Labita

Fri.—Sat., June 23—24, 8:00 p.m.
(\$12/\$10 DiverseWorks members/
\$7 students)

From sex to the Internet, Dennis Cooper to Drixoral, and self-bifurcation to shamanism, graduate of the 1994 Albee Workshop Travis Mader and sound designer Ray Ogar

trace the relationship between Pneuman and the much younger Tony in unconscious studies: footage from a work-in-progress, a collage of performance, sound and video.

Nobody ever said the search for Mr. Right would be easy (or successful!) Theater LaB impresario Gerald LaBita teams up with composer Jav Ferranti for a musical that takes us on that familiar trajectory from Friday night to Sunday morning. THE WEEKEND, When Ron Met Perry, keeps us guessing—will the real Prince Charles—please stand up?

Films To Be Screened At MFAH

'Zero Patience' presented by DiverseWorks and The Museum of Fine Arts, Houston; Sundays, May 7, 14, and 21, 7:00 p.m. MFAH, 1001 Bissonnet, 639-7515 (\$5/\$4 DiverseWorks and MFAH mem-
bers).

Billed as "the first AIDS musical, Zero Patience depicts an imaginary love story between 19th century writer Sir Richard Francis Burton and "Patient Zero," the Canadian flight attendant accused by the media of bringing the HIV virus to North America. Directed by John Greyson (1993, 100 min.).

"The Incredibly True Adventures of Two Girls in Love," presented by DiverseWorks and the Museum of Fine Arts, Houston; Wed., June 14, 7:30 p.m. MFAH, 1001 Bissonnet 639-7515; Free. Sneak preview of a romantic comedy that recounts the story of a tomboy from the wrong side of the tracks who gets involved with a pretty and popular female classmate. Courtesy of Fine Line Features.



Sharon Bridgforth of root wy'mn
(Photo by Rita DeBellis)

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Congrats to Miss Montrose '95, Ree Psyche of BRB; Talent winners at Club 403



Ree Psyche of the BRB is the new Miss Montrose

Houston Soap, Part 1

By CAROLYN (SOON TO BE ROBERTS) LARSON

Past Events

On April 20, Club 403 had the "finals" in their weekly talent search. The winner was Tara Dion, 2nd place went to Debbie Delicious, and 3rd place was awarded to Cameron! Congrats to all!

Last Sunday at the Brazos River Bottom, Shelby St. John and Eddie Taylor raised just over \$600 for the Bering Care Center! Keep up the good work!

The Lady Victoria Lust PWA Holiday fund graciously gave away 272 hams to Stone Soup clients just before the Easter holidays! Keep up the good work!

Congrats to the new Miss Montrose 1995 Ree Psyche of the Brazos River Bottom, the honorary Miss Montrose 1995 Lee Chardon, and 1st runner up Thumper of the Toy Box! This was quite an afternoon of entertainment! You Go Girl! Special thanks to Lady Victoria Lust and Joe (mr. Prime Choice) De Rosa for herding these "girls" around!

Friday, April 28

Carlo Cansella and his army of electronics take the stage at the Toy Box tonight. If you have not had the chance to visit the Toy Box yet, this is a most opportune time! They are located at 1419 Richmond. This and every Friday, the Toy Box has a country cookin' mini-buffet that will make you feel like you are eating your mama's cooking! Go early and go hungry!

The Sin-sational Boy Toys strut their stuff on the boxes at Gentry every Friday starting at 6:00 p.m. Stop in for a cold one and watch them warm you up! Also, today is Vanna's (Barry Larson) last day at Gentry. He will be going to work, get this, at Leather By Boots! Stop in and give her a "farewell behind the bar but still in the community hug!"

News flash! FEM 2 FEM are about to release a new video for their new song



Shelby St. John, raising money at Gentry

"Where did Love Go." FEM 2 FEM have sneaked a copy to Scott Lewis at Heaven and are doing their world premier of this new hot video tonight at J.R.'s at 10:00 p.m. and then again at Heaven at midnight along with lots and lots of FEM 2 FEM give aways!

Wayne Gray tickles the ivories tonight and every Friday night at the BriarPatch! Stop in and relax with his magical fingers!

Power Hours at Chances 10:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.

Saturday, April 29

Misty Valdez, the Island Diva, comes to the stage of E/J's tonight. This week's guest host is Black Velvet—Miss Houston USA '95. Other guests are Lana Blake—Miss E/J's '95 and Miss T.T. Don't miss this show at E/J's tonight. It starts at 11:00 p.m.

After your Saturday afternoon errands, stop in at Gentry and take advantage of their super power hour prices. For only \$1.50, you can sip a cool, refreshing well beverage or a long, cold domestic longneck!

Tonight at the Lazy J, "Erica's Showcase" features the talents of Miss Tracy, Frankie Lane and one super special secret guest! Be at the Lazy J before the 11:00 p.m. show time, 'cuz the place fills up in a hurry!

Tonight, Ambiguous Productions, LLC. will be producing a one night, all-night rave-oriented gathering, of which a significant portion of the proceeds will be donated to The Drop-In Center, a pilot program in New Orleans devoted to providing critical assistance to adolescent runaways (including medical treatment for those who are HIV positive) which recently had its federal funding significantly reduced. This all-night party is in New Orleans is having next generation music, interactive and performance artists, which will include dancers, actors, and body process artists, etc. If you would like further info, call (504) 838-7187.

The Saturday Super Show at Club 403 is hosted each week by Miss Bacchus II, Roxanne Lee Love. The show starts at 10:30.

The guys and girls of the Royal, Sovereign and Imperial Court of the Single Star are guest bartending on the patio of the Brazos River Bottom tonight!

Mary's has steaks on the patio this afternoon! Scotty will serve 'em up right, just like you want 'em! You can wash 'em down with \$1 canned beer!

Come join the fun and bring your tax deductible donations to the "Bargain Fest '95." This is a rummage sale for the River Oaks Health Alliance's TLC House. The sale is today 117 Tuam from 8:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. If you would like more info, call Matt Locklin at 902-2231.

The Club Houston is having a pool party this afternoon from 1:00 p.m. to 3:00 p.m. with fun and sun, so come!

The Michael Smother Show is at the Toy Box tonight. He takes the stage at 10:00 p.m. and then again at midnight! (If you are interested in performing in his show, you need to do impersonations. Call the Toy Box if you are interested.)

Power Hours at Chances are 10:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.

Sunday, April 30

Temple is your new house of worship on Sundays. Michael De Grace will be spinning for your pleasure each Sunday. This Sunday, Temple presents the White Party. This will be the first in a line of a series of hot, sensual, erotic parties, all for your pleasure. Special guest Kristine W. will be jetting in for a guest appearance to sing "Feel What You Want" and premier her new single. It should prove to be one religious experience judging from the posters. If you did not get one in the mail, grab one at the front door of the club. It will make you white hot! White attire is encouraged and very little attire is welcome! Rome no more!

MARY'S HAS CRABS!!!! Oh, well I got your attention. Actually, they have crawfish! This afternoon, the Wolf Pack (AAAAAAH!) is sponsoring a crawfish boil in the out-back starting at 4:00 p.m. There is also a can beer \$1 special all day and all night!

The Sunday OVERLOAD parties at Pacific Street are on maximum overdrive! No shirt, no cover, no kidding! The doors open at 7:00 p.m. Pacific Street has the lowest regular drink prices in town. \$1 well drinks, every night, all night!

Bare your buns at the Club Houston's Sunday afternoon pool party. The festivities are from 1:00 p.m. to 3:00 p.m. This is the best place to show off your tan lines, or work on not getting any at all!

Tonight and tomorrow night at the Venture-N, David and the staff are hosting the "Red Star X2 Party!" They will be showing old "Beatles" and "Marx Brothers" movies on the big screen starting at 5:00 p.m. There will also be "red light" specials, music by Mike Scott and DJ Kelly, and of course, Hal and Jim's Burgs-N-Dawgs buffet (Sunday only) at 3:00 p.m. Don't miss it! Perestroika!

Men are at the Mine on Sundays for the ever-so-popular beer bust. You have 2 options: \$1 domestic longnecks or \$2 buy-in and 25¢ refills of cold Miller Lite Draft! Decisions, decisions! The Montrose Mining Company's patio will be full of men on Sunday!

Chef Paul teases your taste buds every Sunday at Club 403. He gets the munchies ready around 3:30 p.m.

Something NEW at Gentry! Sunday night strip contest starting at 10:00 p.m. sharp! Check it out! This should draw some new talent!

Tonight at the Brazos River Bottom, Shelby St. John, Candidate for Miss TGRA presents "Houston City Limits and Friends." This is a fund raiser for the Loving Arms Foundation! Scoot on down and show your community support! The show starts at 7:30 p.m. If you are



Bald beauties Kelly (VN); Alan (VN) and David (Ripcord)

hungry, go early and enjoy steak night on the patio!

The Mail Box (El Buzon) bar has free snacks and beer specials all day and all night tonight! The Mail Box is located at 4215 Washington.

Power Hours at Chances are 10:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.

Monday, May 1

"Red Star X2" party continues at the Venture-N. They also have open pool tables all night long!

There is a dart tournament tonight at Club 403. The entry fee is only \$4, and the bar matches the pot! The darts start to fly at 8:00 p.m.

This and every Monday, Mary's has domestic longnecks from 8:00 p.m. until 11:00 p.m.! Such a deal!

Clint will play all your favorites tonight at the BriarPatch. And, if you ask him, he will play topless, or maybe even bottomless!

E/J's is having a party tonight! First, from 8:00 p.m. until 10:00 p.m., "Free Spirit" is hosting the party. "Free Spirit" is a new shot drink, and from what I hear, quite tasty! Then at 11:00 p.m., the finals for the male strip contest start! Talk about waving wienies!

It is Clubber's night at Pacific Street. There is no cover for local bar/restaurant employees or Club members in colors! The doors open at 9:00 p.m. This is a great way to party with your favorite bartender or wait staffer!

Power Hours at Chances are 10:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.

Tuesday, May 2

It is week #8 in the 8-week-long search for talent at E/J's. Next Tuesday is the finals! The talent search starts at 11:00 p.m., but get there early to get a primo spot!



Linda and Jim surround the newlyweds, Keith and Daniel

Important coming events, Birthday Corner and 'dropping' names...



The Gentry Gaps hawking refreshments at the MSL field

Houston Soap, Part 2

The Brazos River Bottom offers free "advanced" C&W dance lesson tonight at 10:00 p.m. They are free! So learn how to boot scoot, and boogie with some of the best!

Did you catch my omission last week? I did not mention that gold colored tequila stuff! I think it is called Jose Cuervo! Well, just in case you missed it, Mary's STILL has my favorite liquor on sale for only \$2 a shot!

This and every Tuesday, Kofi takes the stage at J.R.'s for the weekly Jockey Short Contest! Stop in and watch Kofi work these boys up into a sweat!

Power Hours at Chances are 10:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.

Wednesday, May 3

Steak night has returned at E/J's! For a mere \$5.50, you get a huge hunk-o-beef, baker all-the-way, a tossed salad, and other yummy goodies! You can grill your steak just the way you like it! The grill is lit from 6:00 p.m. until 10:00 p.m.

Well, I can't say Dyan is doing it! She isn't! Starting this week, the Wednesday night strip contest at Gentry is hosted by the vivacious Catia Lee Love! The action starts at 11:00 p.m. sharp... sharp... sharp..!

It is Bear's night out at the Montrose Mining Company. Every Wednesday the bears crawl out of their dens and lumber to the Mine for free pizza on the patio at midnight and \$1 domestic longnecks!

Power Hours at Chances are 10:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.

Thursday, May 4

"Men and Muscles" is the theme at Pacific Street tonight! There is no cover with your valid gym card! The doors open at 9:00 p.m.

Happy Hour at the Venture-N is from noon to 7:00 p.m. today and every day! What a great way to wind down after a long day at work!

The Brazos River Bottom offers "beginner" C&W dance lessons tonight at 8:30 p.m. There is no charge! If you always wanted to learn how to C&W dance, this is the place to be! Or if you would rather eat, the Brazos River Bottom has cheap burgers and hot, hot, hot chili on the patio starting at 6:00 p.m.

The weekly talent search, hosted by Roxanne Lee Love, at Club 403 starts at 10:30 tonight. If you would like to be a contestant, be there by 10:00 p.m. There are cash prizes!

This is the last week to bring your boner (oops) bones to the Ripcord for the Pet Patrol's donation barrel! It will be moving to the Toy Box for the month of May!

Tonight is open mike night at the Toy Box. If you have an act, song, dance, joke, poem, or just whatever, stop in



Shirley's birthday bash!!

and get over your stage fright. The mike is open starting at 8:00 p.m.

The MailBox (El Buzon) has a male strip contest tonight at 11:30 p.m. Check it out and watch the guys strip down to almost nothing!

Power Hours at Chances are 10:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.

Other Important Stuff

Mark your calendar! "Splash Day" weekend is next weekend in Galveston! There will be tons of fun in the sun!

Keep your calendar out! Rainbow Day at Astroworld is May 24th. Tickets are at Basic Brothers or by calling 609-0122. This event is sponsored by Bering United Methodist Men!

Happy Hours at the Outpost are Monday to Saturday—11:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m. and on Sunday, from noon until 8:00 p.m. Stop in and tell Darlene HI!

This week's movies at the French Quarter are "Catch the Big One," (I bet it is NOT about the fish that got away) and "Hung Improvement" (not starring Tim Allen.)

Next time you are in Club 403, ask the bartender about the Birthday Party Club!

Sissy, (whose real name is Dennis Martin) has started working at Chances, Monday thru Friday, from 10:00 a.m. until 2:00 p.m. Stop in and see this old, old, tired, old, Montrose face behind the bar!

The People with AIDS Coalition has a great discount prescription drug card. Everyone qualifies and it will save you a bundle! Check out the ad on page 2 to get all the info. Also, they have a program called "New Beginnings," which is the most utilized service of the PWA Coalition. Clients of the Coalition are provided items necessary for establishing or maintaining residence so that independence and dignity are achieved. Eligible clients of the Coalition can access this service.

Donations of furniture, especially lamps, fans, tables, chairs and dressers are always welcome and needed. If you would like to donate, please call 522-5428.

The Bering Care Center has been going thru renovations! Look for more info as I get a chance to get

over there and snap some photos of their new facility.

There is a tea party brewing. Wash your white gloves and polish your pumps!

If you are headed down to the Island, remember that Evolutions has happy hour 7 days a week from 4:00 p.m. until 8:00 p.m. Or you can head over to Kon Tiki and enjoy the Muscles in Action dancers as you sip on a cold one! Galveston is only 45 minutes from downtown and well worth the drive!

J.R.'s Bar and Grill offers a bus trip to Louisiana for gambling and fun. Call J.R.'s to get all the scoop!

Birthday Corner

A "Ride 'em Cowboy" birthday to Dennis at the Brazos River Bottom!

Belated Happy Birthdays to NY Dave (Evolutions) and Bill (Kon Tiki)!

Rodent Droppings

I wonder how many ferrets it would take to make a coat? I am reminded that they are cute, little, helpless... strike that... no ferret is helpless... and should not be made into wearing apparel. I keep this in my head every night when Ratrat bites my ankles, toes, legs, ears, and other body parts. I really should put him in his cage at night. Harvey... well there is no choice. He is dangerous if let out of his cage for more than 30 minutes!

My usual disclaimer is in force!

Miss Mess (611): How big was that rip in your pants Friday morning and what hung out how far?

David (VN): I understand you are having wild morning fantasy about a certain HPD officer! Do you want him to "read you your rights" or "search and seize you?"

Lang (611): Locker 109... come where? And where were you during the excitement?

Susan Masar (Chances): SO, you have been a good girl lately! Do Ya wanna...?

John Mata (Anita Mann): Either you have a twin sister with the same name, or you have been holding out on me! I have been told that in the credits for "The Great Muppet Caper" movie, Anita Mann is given credit for the choreography! If you are their dance teacher, I understand now why they moved like lethargic drag queens instead of muppets!

Jessica (E/J's): What's this I hear about a wild night with a Scarlett Donkey, a 6—pack of Corona and being found butt up in the air on the bathroom floor? Won't Matt be jealous?

Bill (Basic Brothers): So, did you have fun counting more than 2000 swimsuits during the last inventory at Basic Brothers? Too bad for you they are all new, or you could have sniffed your way in to a frenzy!

Regina Dane (Ms. BRB, etc): I know that you are sometimes full of hot air, but your dates are too! I heard that the last one was so full of hot air you popped him. But really girl, couldn't you have waited until he was off the toilet?

David Roberts: How much is it worth to you to keep that "nickname" out of print? You do know I can be bribed!

Miss Montrose '95 Ree Psyche (Chris of the BRB): What is this about Annabelle driving you around? How did you two fit in a car with all those tiaras?

NY Dave (Evolutions): Heard you had a "dancin'" good time on your birthday!

Ed (E/J's): So you have been stroking your new pussy a lot lately!

Charlie (Mine): Next time, use 2 coins in the slots! Double your money! P.S. Can I borrow \$4,000?

Sha Boom (E/J's): Is your hard ball going soft?

Rita Charles (Chances): Great improv! Leave it to you to know every drag queen song they played!

Lady Victoria Lust: And I quote "Yes, I am OLD... and Tired!!"

Byron (BRB): You have a husband, but still buy vibrators?

Robert (Just moved here from San Diego): Welcome to Houston! You sure made the "most talked about list" at Mary's last Sunday afternoon!

Damion (The Club Houston): Welcome home! Don't you just love coming back to work after a nice vacation!

LaMarr (Kroger): I heard you put on a dress for the first time this weekend, and then you wouldn't take it off! What's next, on stage with a tiara?

Have a great week kids, and put May 13, 10:00 p.m. at PS on your calendar!

Huggs,
Cuervolyn



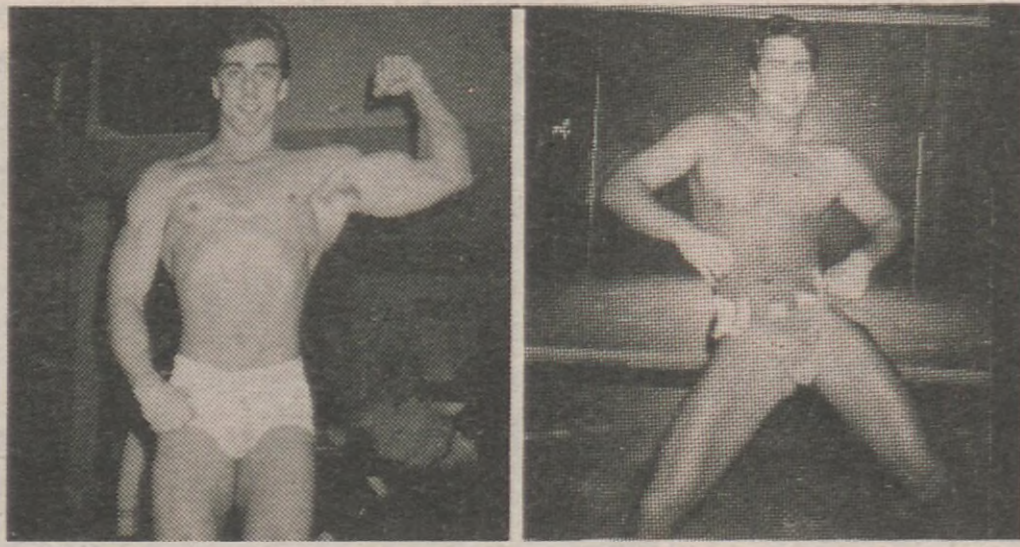
I feel pretty...oh so pretty...



"Who's driving" perform at the ToyBdx

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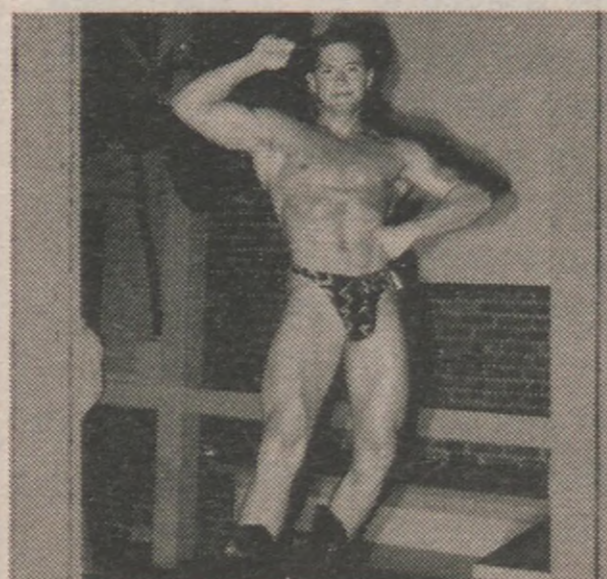
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and
The Kon Tiki Mermaids

Gay rights groups decry
Virginia Supreme Court
decision in Bottoms case

(Continued from Page 1)

Marc E. Elovitz, an attorney for the American Civil Liberties Union's national Lesbian and Gay Rights Project, called the decision "a stunning disgrace."

He said the court "relied on unsubstantiated allegations by the grandmother to shore up its position that Sharon was an unfit parent" and ignored a psychologist's testimony that she was a loving mother.

Elliot Mineberg, executive vice president of People for the American Way, said the court "gave in to rank anti-gay prejudice."

The court cited other reasons the 25-year-old Bottoms was an unfit mother: She had a history of moving from place to place, relying on others for support, and she had "difficulty controlling her temper."

The justices reversed a state appeals court ruling that said a parent's private sexual conduct—even if illegal—isn't grounds for losing custody.

Tyler has been living with his grandmother ever since she won custody two years ago at the circuit court level. Judge Buford Parsons granted Bottoms visitation rights one night a week, but at some other home than the one she shares with her partner, April Wade. In addition, the judge said the boy couldn't see Wade.

Bottoms didn't return telephone calls. Wade said Bottoms' attorneys advised them not to comment for a couple of days.

"There's a lot of anger, and we don't want to say anything that could be taken wrong," she said.

The elder Bottoms said her daughter was a bad mother for reasons other than her homosexuality.

"She neglected this baby a lot," Kay Bottoms told radio station WFLS in Fredericksburg, near where she lives. "I didn't fight her just because she turned lesbian."

Bottoms' lawyer, Donald K. Butler, disagreed, saying homosexuality was the only reason behind the ruling.

The other factors cited by the court "are not the things that would make a parent unfit." He plans to ask the court to reconsider its decision.

In a dissenting opinion, Justice Barbara M. Keenan said the appeals court properly ruled that "adverse effects of a parent's homosexuality on a child cannot be assumed without specific proof."

Kate Kendall, legal director of the National Center for Lesbian Rights in San Francisco, said Virginia is one of a half-dozen states where supreme courts appear to have taken the position that homosexuality alone makes a parent unfit. The others, she said, are Mississippi, Missouri, North Dakota, South Dakota and Oklahoma.

Bottoms and the child's father were divorced before she met Wade. The father, who has not been involved in Tyler's upbringing, has said the boy should live with Bottoms.

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*Alley production of 'Perestroika'
keeps up 'Angels' momentum*



Joseph Pitt (David Whelan) and Louis Ironson (Joseph Haj) pursue an uneasy affair in "Perestroika"

consolate state and Joe's blossoming homosexuality.

The lives of the characters are further intertwined. Looking for possible explanations for the visits by the Angel, Prior goes to a Mormon center where he meets Harper again (their first meeting was in a hallucination), and there he also meets Hannah, who becomes enmeshed in Prior's life when he suffers a collapse in her presence, compelling her to assist him to the hospital. Roy, admitted to the hospital in the middle of the night, finds himself being cared for by Belize, who successfully meets the ethical challenge of provid-

By JAVIER TAMEZ
Houston Voice/Houston

The longest three weeks in Houston theatrical history finally came to an end when "Perestroika," part two of Tony Kushner's "Angels in America," opened on the Alley Theatre's Neuhaus Arena Stage, Wednesday, April 20. And the second half of this monumental masterpiece has all the moving power and shows all the literary genius of the first. And even more so than in "Millennium" (though one would hardly think that possible), Kushner displays a stunningly effective utilization of allusion and allegory.

The title, "Perestroika," or restructuring, is clearly indicative of the changes Kushner feels are inevitable, and he underscores this at the onset. The play opens with "the world's oldest living Bolshevik," Alexi Antediluvianovich Prelapsarianov, addressing a Soviet assembly in the Kremlin. He poses rhetorical questions all of which he refers to as "the great question before us:" "Are we doomed?...Will the past release us?...Can we change in time?" And he ends his invective with "We must not move ahead!" The character's intransigence is emblematic of a static society, a society which Kushner derides through the source words for the character's name—antediluvian (before the flood) and prelapsarian (before the fall of man); with the character's identity—a frail relic from a defunct and discredited political system; and through the appearance of the Angel, as in the end of part one, proclaiming "...the Great Work begins."

Thus does Kushner return to the seven characters whose lives collectively reflect the nation's coping with AIDS. Joe (Dave Whelan) and Louis (Joseph Haj) uncertainly, nervously begin a relationship, each combating feelings of guilt for deserting his previous partner. Prior (John Felch) continues his daily struggle with AIDS, while trying to comprehend the Angel (Shelley Williams), who has identified him as a prophet. Belize (Michael McElroy) provides Prior the invaluable support of a friend. Roy Cohn (James Black) is admitted to his death bed in a hospital AIDS ward. Harper (Annalee Jefferies) moves in and out of reality, finding solace in the illusory world she creates. Hannah (Bettye Fitzpatrick) brings her stoic resolve to bear on Harper's dis-

ing medical comfort to someone he detests. Louis confronts the dilemma of a relationship with Dave, since Dave propounds, in the form of court briefs, reprehensibly conservative dogma.

With each of the plot lines moving to resolution, Kushner adds brilliant literary reference. Nowhere is this more evident than in the Angel. Kushner suggests nothing less than the disappearance of God. In the Angel's revelation to Prior, she states that April 18, 1906, the day of the great San Francisco earthquake, "He left." Prior learns from the Angel that God's greatest gift to humanity, the ability to shape its own destiny, has caused violent upheaval in heaven, compelling God to leave, which in turn resulted in tumult and disorganization, giving rise to the multiple disasters which have plagued this century.

Moreover, the Angel is a hugely contradictory character. She refers to herself as "Lumen, Phosphor, Fluor, Candle." All words indicating the reflection or emission of light. And she refers to Prior as the "eye that pierces dark" and a "heart all hot for truth." This would seemingly imply a welcome departure from falsehoods and closed-mindedness—a release from puritanical values that stifle her abundant sexuality. But even as she engages Prior in orgasmic ecstasy, she rails at him for the damage humanity has caused—"in you the virus of time began"—eventually screeching "You have driven him away! You must stop moving!"

For the Angel, humankind's boundless imagination and vision have run roughshod over the world. "You cannot understand; you only destroy. You do not advance; you only trample." She goes from beseeching to bellowing, unsure whether she wants or needs Prior dead or alive.

In the Angel, Kushner provides much more than a religious symbol, epitomized through Mormon and Jewish values and traditions here but equally representative of all faiths. The Angel is a manifestation of social stasis, even inertia. Her imploring commands to Prior to "Forsake the open road" and "Let deep roots grow" clearly indicate settling or pacification. And she decries this "age of anomie" in which we live, asserting that it requires "a new law." A law she envisions will slow, if not altogether halt, forward progress.

(Continued on following page)

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'Perestroika' cast members give powerful performances

(Continued from preceding page)

Similar and varied metaphors are ubiquitous in the play. At times though, the references are too esoteric. For instance, Belize asks Joe to perform the Jewish prayer for the dead—the Kaddish—over Roy's corpse. Louis is initially appalled but at Belize's insistence begins to recite the Kiddush—the prayer said over bread and wine. Jews, or those familiar with Jewish religious



Shelley Williams as the Angel in the Alley Theatre's production of "Angels in America"

rites, would undoubtedly find that funny, but for the vast majority in a general audience, the joke is meaningless.

Still other references employed by Kushner are wide open to interpretation. The title of the third act is "Borborngmi," which means (thanks God for Webster's unabridged!) "a rumbling sound made by the movement of gas in the intestine." The same act is subtitled "The Squirming Facts Exceed the Squamous Mind," which defined literally means something akin to the writhing truth cannot be contained by a scaly mentality or, more poetically phrased, the truth will emerge despite efforts to suppress it. Still, equating this with the sound of gurgling gas in the gut seems a bit stretched.

As with "Millennium" the best scenes in "Perestroika" are the dream/hallucination sequences. Kushner freely combines hallucination and reality without readily identifying which is which. Besides Prior's encounters with the Angel and Harper's continuing delusions featuring Mr. Lies (McElroy), the oboe-playing travel agent, there is Harper's appearance before Joe after his first sexual experience with Louis; Joe and Louis appear in the middle of a diorama at the Mormons' visitors' center with Prior and Harper the only ones in the audience; Ethel Rosenberg (Fitzpatrick) returns to haunt Roy in the hospital; and after he dies Roy appears to Joe.

By combining reality and hallucination for his characters, Kushner effectively blurs the line between the ethereal and the corporeal. Prior and Harper share hallucinations as they share abandonment, simultaneously witnessing the courtship dance performed by their respective ex-lovers. Only Roy sees Ethel Rosenberg, but it is she who guides Louis through a Torahic requiem. Only Harper sees Mr. Lies, but he sets limits, reality checks, on the viability of Harper's delusions: "There are no forests in Antarctica." While the reality of the Angel remains in doubt until Hannah sees it too.

Surprisingly enough Kushner's denouement is strongly religious. The great healing will occur when the Bethesda fountain flows again, when the millennium arrives. Not the year 2000, but rather as Prior says, "the capital M Millennium." Taken from Revelations, this Millennium is the thousand-year rule of Christ on Earth. The return of God.

All the cast members deliver unequivocally superlative performances. Shelley Williams is glorious and glistening as the Angel. Williams is radiantly lovely, and she performs with a rapturous demeanor. Her voice has a mellifluous ring, befitting a

seraph, and the stage becomes veritably awash with her regal bearing. Williams is outstanding.

John Feltch gives another unparalleled performance as Prior. He exudes frantic fear, steady determination and resolute optimism in the best performance I've seen this season. Dave Whelan as Joe matches Feltch's superior turn. He brings an unmistakably nervous alarm, an unbelieving shock, a relentless anger and a pathetic desolation to his characterization. Whelan is excellent.

Joseph Haj maintains an overly intellectual composure as Louis, and James Black perfectly personifies Roy Cohn's unquenchable arrogance. Annalee Jefferies is sad and lost as the innocently wronged Harper. Bettye Fitzpatrick has a sternly reassuring essence as Hannah, and Michael McElroy demonstrates an unfettered confidence in cause as the flowery, but well-grounded, Belize.

Michael Wilson again shows his amazing ability to evoke strong, stirring performances from the very souls of his cast. He demonstrates a marvelous grasp of the common foibles and nuances that mark all personalities.

Unfortunately even Wilson's undeniable skills fail to completely overcome the shortcomings involved with presenting this production in the round. The grandiosity and glory of the Angel are somewhat diminished as presented here. On a proscenium stage, the Angel would be suspended from above, thereby accentuating her celestial majesty. Wilson, however, had no fly space with which to work, so to keep the Angel's movement fluid and capture the effect of floating, the character stands on a wheeled pedestal which is rolled around on the stage by one of the Fantasia Ushers, while two others glide around the stage on roller blades, shining flashlight beams on her. Though this is probably the best solution to the difficulty encountered with the Angel in this type of staging, it really doesn't work well. That, however, hardly detracts from the production as a whole.

"Perestroika" is a smashingly funny, grandly hopeful and stridently cautionary work. Together with "Millennium Approaches," it is far and away the most significant work of our time.

"Angels in America" is (and I'm going to use every critical cliché that comes immediately to mind here) a must see. Four stars! If you see only one play this year, make it this one. It's a triumph! It's a masterpiece. It's the best play of the year! Tell all your friends!

It's all that and more. "Angels in America" is a play that everyone should experience.

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Community Organizations Bulletin Board

GLOBAL Forum On Bisexuality

GLOBAL, the Gay, Lesbian and Bisexual Alliance at the University of Houston, will be sponsoring a forum on bisexuality on the UH campus on May 2.

Billed as "Everything you ever wanted to know about bisexuality but were afraid (or never had the opportunity) to ask," the event aims to answer many questions that people have on the subject.

Bisexuality is regarded by many people in both gay and mainstream communities as a "fad" or "an easy way out." Many bisexual people face discrimination from both "straight" and gay people, and invariably they are bombarded with questions about their sexuality.

The panel of bisexual UH students intends to dispel some of the myths, said Ruben Cantu of GLOBAL.

"We always do things to educate on gay and lesbian issues, but rarely do we touch the bisexual aspect of it all. We are the Gay, Lesbian and Bisexual Alliance, and its time we did some education on that," Cantu explained. "I've never seen this done before and I hope to see a lot of people there to learn and share a little."

The forum will take place at 8:00 p.m. Tuesday, May 2 in the Embassy Room, University Center, 4800 Calhoun Blvd. (Entrance 1 on the University of Houston Campus). For more information, contact Ruben Cantu, 743-7539.

Thomas Street Council

Meeting

The Thomas Street Health Center Council will be appointing consumer and non-consumer members to its 1995-96 roster at its next general meeting in May. The THSCC provides a voice for people with HIV/AIDS within the Harris County Hospital District. Persons from all walks of life are needed to support one of the most outspoken elected patients' groups in the nation, said Chair Matt Locklin. Extensive experience is not needed; rather, a genuine interest and time commitment is needed. Self-nominations are accepted.

Special council appointments to fill vacancies will also be made at the meeting on May 10. Meetings are held at 2:00 p.m. on the second Wednesday of each month at 2015 Thomas Street (off North Main), in the fourth floor conference room. For more information, call Locklin at 902-2231.

Movie Club Update

The Movie Club, a gay and lesbian social group for those who enjoy going to the movies, has decided to meet weekly at the Cineplex Odeon Spectrum Theater. The site was picked because it is centrally located near the Galleria, and members felt it would be convenient for people wanting to join the group from all over the city.

The Movie Club meets each Friday at a Houston area restaurant for dinner before going to the movies. To find out what movie is scheduled for the current week, and the restaurant where the group will be meeting beforehand, call the group's information line at 867-9454.

THE TEXAS PUZZLE

Includes Clues About Texas, Current Events & Standard Crossword Clues

By Henry McClurg
ACROSS

- 1 story of brave doings
- 4 Cotton State, abbrev.
- 6 rest
- 8 trouble
- 9 previously
- 10 mineral with valuable constituent

- 28
- 29
- 30
- 31
- 32
- 33

- 38

- 45

- 50

- 56

- 61

- 12 Casa-

- 13 comput-

- 20 cereal grass

- 22 beer-like beverage

- 24 sudden overthrow of government

- 25 state with Providence as capital, abbrev.

- 26 rare gas used in TV tubes

- 27 U.S. Navy station near Corpus Christi

- 28 musical instrument with bellows & reeds

- 34 cable TV mogul Turner

- 35 Spanish for 'the'

- 36 an affirmative vote, one spelling version

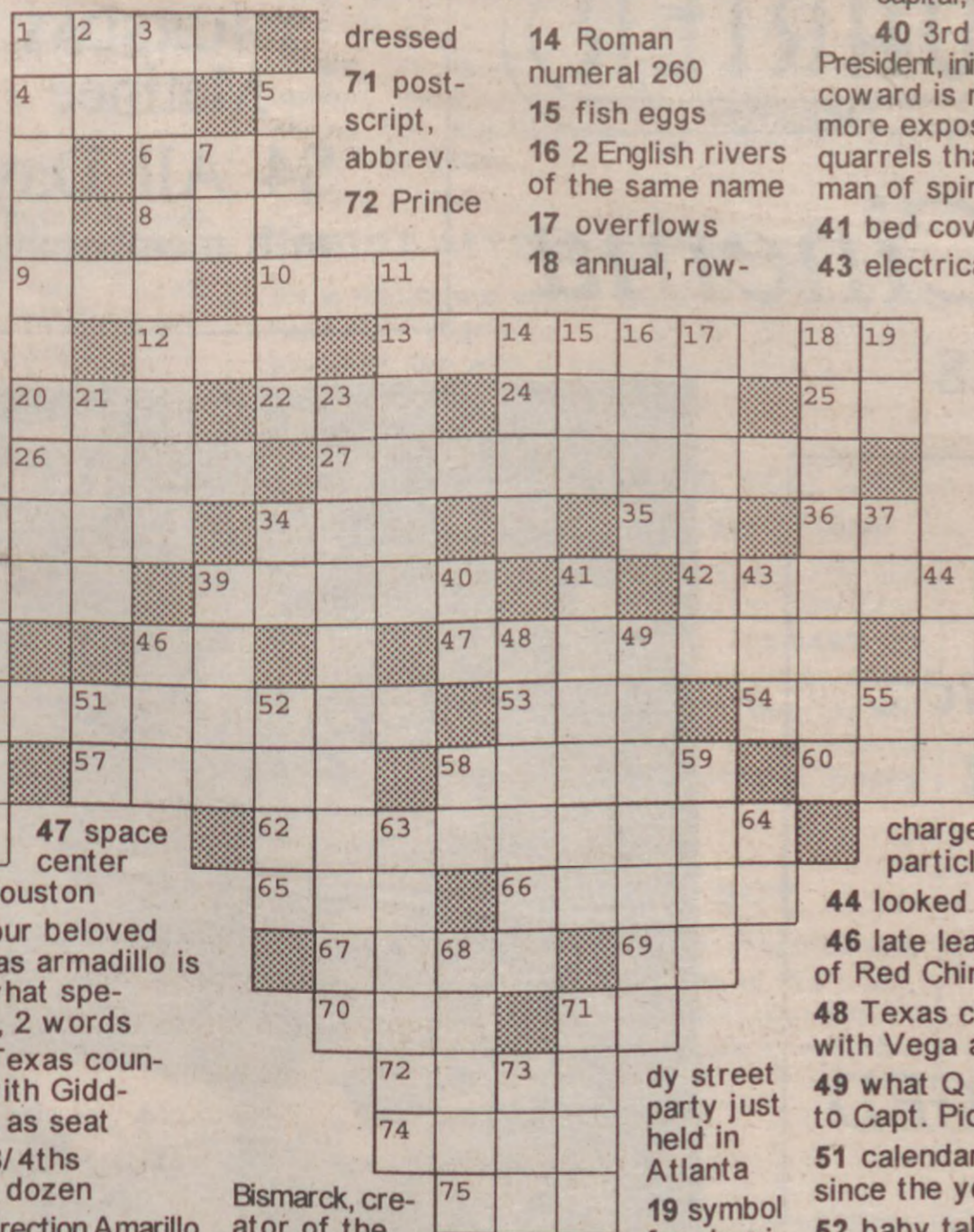
- 38 Milam County seat

- 39 assured hope

- 42 enjoys

- 45 informal note

- 46 state with pine cone & tassel as official flower, abbrev.



- dressed
- 71 post-script, abbrev.
- 72 Prince

- 14 Roman numeral 260
- 15 fish eggs
- 16 2 English rivers of the same name
- 17 overflows
- 18 annual, row-

- 37 you
- 39 state with Nashville as capital, abbrev.
- 40 3rd U.S. President, initials ("A coward is much more exposed to quarrels than a man of spirit.")
- 41 bed coverings
- 43 electrically

- 47 space center at Houston
- 50 our beloved Texas armadillo is of what species, 2 words
- 53 Texas county with Giddings as seat
- 54 3/4ths of a dozen
- 56 direction Amarillo to Harlingen, abbrev.
- 57 the Barbarian, comic & movie character
- 58 dropsy
- 60 state with Topeka as capital, abbrev.
- 61 state with Pierre as capital, abbrev.
- 62 they're "of the Republic of Texas," group that over-sees the Alamo
- 65 newspaper advice columnist Landers
- 66 in music, very
- 67 jam, stuff
- 69 abbrev. for Latin ibidem, meaning 'in the same place'
- 70 person ad-

- Bismarck, creator of the German Empire, 1871; or Premier, Austrian-born American producer
- 74 implement
- 75 the sun

DOWN

- 1 Roosevelt organized the famous Rough Riders here, 2 words
- 2 state with Montgomery as capital, abbrev.
- 3 probable site of the shipwreck suffered by Cabeza de Vaca
- 5 lake on the Texas/Okla. border
- 7 Latin for 'that is,' abbrev.
- 11 corrects

- 19 symbol for chemical element titanium
- 21 indefinitely long time
- 23 office of a lieutenant
- 29 Roman numeral for 200
- 30 video ???-corder
- 31 warnings for the future
- 32 negligent in performance
- 33 making a dull, monotonous sound
- 34 26th U.S. President, soldier Roosevelt, initials ("The first requisite of a good citizen in this republic of ours is that he should be able and willing to pull his weight.")

- 44 looked
- 46 late leader of Red China
- 48 Texas county with Vega as seat
- 49 what Q is to Capt. Picard
- 51 calendar dates since the year 1
- 52 baby talk for daddy
- 55 symbol for chemical element sodium
- 58 if Elizabeth Taylor had married James Garner, her initials
- 59 people originally from the Arabian peninsula
- 63 to uproot
- 64 Spanish for 'yes'
- 68 cars
- 71 in 1966 this Texas tax was abolished
- 73 additionally Solution elsewhere this issue



GALAXY GAYZER

A HOUSTON VOICE EXCLUSIVE



HOUSTON VOICE HOROSCOPE FOR THE WEEK OF APRIL 28 - MAY 4, 1995



HOUSTON VOICE readers born this week enjoy life as did John Paul Hudson, a pioneer of the gay press. He contributed to a half dozen of the early gay periodicals, including *The Advocate*, *David*, *Gaysweek*, *NewsWest*, *Flash* and *Vector*. However, today, incidentally, is not his birthday. (March 21st actually) But it is the anniversary of his awakening as a born-again radical (1970), and thus commemorated here.

TAURUS (Apr 21 - May 21) Excitement is yours, especially for Taureans whose birthday falls this week, with a fabulous vacation holiday about to unfold. After weeks of questioning, you are seeing the wonderful future open up ahead for yourself. For those Taurus readers without travel tickets in their hands, this is a perfect month to make travel plans for the near future. Consider one of the RSVP cruises; contact Tad at The Voice for some ideas. Bon voyage. **GEMINI** (May 22 - June 21) This week is an excellent time to finish up old correspondence and letter writing, as dull as it sounds. The literary side to your personality is at a high level. The Sun is in your twelfth solar house until May 21st. This gives to the Gemini reader the chance to complete the obligations that are often placed on the side lines and drain energies as you think of ways to avoid completing projects.

CANCER (June 22 - July 23) The next two weeks will see an increase in your social activities and calendar. Watch your personal appearance as Ms./Mr. Wonderful may be one of the many people that you will be meeting in the next 14 days. Let the eye contact and the direct and firm handshake make the initial contact for you. The person will be physically attractive, and a romantic interest will be felt from the beginning contact.

LEO (July 24 - Aug 22) Avoid large purchases, e.g. over \$100, this month unless you are able to pay for the item in full by check or in cash. You need to stop over-extending yourself financially. This is especially true if you are bailing out other people with money. We have a very high number of women and men in our community who make a living getting unsecured loans from others.

VIRGO (Aug 23 - Sept 23) If you are seriously dating at this time, be careful about disclosing too much about your past and present self, which does not have a direct interest on your close friend. This current relationship may not last and you run the risk of having this information used against you. The spiritual aspect of your personality will be getting into high gear before summer begins. You will have an opportunity to benefit others.

LIBRA (Sept 24 - Oct 23) Keeping your solar seventh house with Venus as your ruler allows your romantic life to get into high gear with the good prospects of a June, 1995, wedding. Watch being your usual possessive self as this abnormal formed of behavior may cause your lover to finally toss into towel. Since you are overly attracted to handsome people as lovers, it is only natural that friends will also find her/him attractive and want to know what the person is like in bed.

SCORPIO (Oct 24 - Nov 22) This is the month to stress a high degree of cooperation at the office, and be a 'team' player. Look for projects at work to do, so that your boss could not even think of running the business without you. This will help to guarantee your position, and also to make you first in line for a promotion. Iron your shirts if you do not have them done commercially. This will give to you a quality look, regardless of how casual your job assignment is.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov 23 - Dec 21) This month is perfect to evaluate your health status. This means not only a check up with your dentist and medical doctor, but also to look at the other things that you are doing that may have an impact on your health. Consider giving up on a permanent basis the use of tobacco and/or alcohol. You may still go socializing at the Houston area clubs and bars, but drink plain fruit juices, and soft drinks.

CAPRICORN (Dec 22 - Jan 20) Continue sorting through your old papers and records, as you will be surprised at the amount of new space you have to place back into circulation. You may find some old telephone numbers and addresses of dates from the past. Cut out the Kuntry Kidd's recipe in the VOICE this week, as it is an excellent meal and of an opportunity to add to your eating pleasure.

AQUARIUS (Jan 21 - Feb 19) If you are tempted this week to let someone know exactly what you think of them, count to twelve several times, and then back down and save the criticism for a later time when Uranus is no longer the ruler of your solar first house. Some of you will be seeing a nice dividend from having set monies aside in a past time. You will be getting the benefits of being fiscally responsible in the past. A good lesson for all of us.

PISCES (Feb 20 - Mar 20) Watch your dollars being spent during the next three weeks, as Saturn is in your first solar house during this time. Sort through your closets, dresser drawers, and the kitchen and make an inventory of what clothing and food items are at hand to minimize your stopping during this time. The recipe of the Kuntry Kidd is a great recipe to prepare for your lover or on a sudden date for your new friend.

ARIES (Mar 21 - Apr 20) Watch out for a full moon series of arguments on or about May 14th. You are basically a nice person, and need to have others understand that your gentle personality is not a sign of weakness. Happiness will be yours, if you are able to get past the mid portion of May without a new source of conflict. If you have a discussion about a special problem in your life try to look at the problem area from as many sources as possible.

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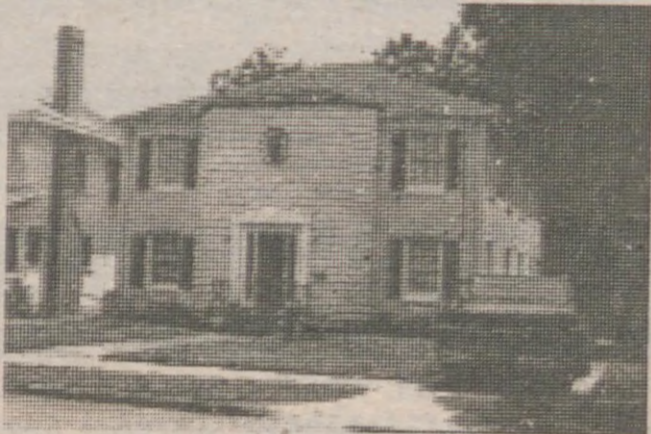
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I'm Available:
Anything's easier with help. Call me and make your chores easier -- two hours to full time - it's your life make it easier. Reasonable and References, too. Ray - VoiceMail, 603-7586

FOR SALE

She helped me find a husband, and I don't need her anymore! 1986 Pontiac Sunbird convertible, black over red, 86K, new paint, runs GREAT! \$4000 cash. Rob 449-2886 days.

JACK OF ALL TRADES!

Mowing, cleaning flower beds, raking leaves, painting and a little carpentry. Charles (713) 528 - 1752

HOMES FOR SALE

LOTS OF SUNSHINE

Hardwoods, fans. 3-11/2-1. \$54,950. 6721 Rowan (Sharptown). Ask for Betty Townes at Re/Max Southwest (713) 491-1776

Montrose Area High-Rise ... 2/2, 11th floor, great view! Marble floors, wet bar. Reduced. \$97,500. Agent (713) 520-8888

SERVICES

PENIS-NIPPLE ENLARGEMENT - GAIN 1" - 3" Professional vacuum pumps, instruction, permanent, safe. Enhance erection, ejaculation. Free brochures call: Dr. Joel Kaplan (312) 274-2191. Latest enlargement information 1-900-976-PUMP (\$2.95/min)

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Are you working in a dead end environment? Come work with winners. We are expanding and looking for you, if you have a positive personality, have worked with food, and can take the fast paced, customer oriented deli in the Historic Heights. We provide excellent hours and working atmosphere. Call Doug at 864-3354 for an appointment. CARTER & COOLEY COMPANY.

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HRCF hires Candace Gingrich for National Coming Out Project

Speaking Tour Includes Houston

(WASHINGTON)—Candace Gingrich, sister of House Speaker Newt Gingrich, has joined the staff of the Human Rights Campaign Fund (HRCF), the nation's largest lesbian and gay political organization. Gingrich will participate in a 35-city tour over the next six months as a spokesperson for HRCF's National Coming Out Project, promoting the values of honesty and openness about being lesbian or gay, and urging people to get involved in the effort to educate Congress about the problem of discrimination and lack of equal rights for gay and lesbian Americans.

The National Coming Out Project is the Human Rights Campaign Fund's ongoing campaign to encourage and empower every gay and lesbian person to make a difference in educating America by letting others know who they are. National Coming Out Day, observed every Oct. 11, serves as a day to commemorate the importance of this individual act of cour-

age.

"Many Members of Congress remain out of touch with the rest of the country on the issue of gay and lesbian equality," said Elizabeth Birch, HRCF executive director. "Candace will deliver this message to voters in Congressional Districts across the country, while urging gay people to be open about their sexual orientation, educate others about their lives, and get involved with the effort to secure equal rights at the national level."

HRCF will conduct town hall meetings in 35 cities over the next six months featuring Ms. Gingrich and members of HRCF's public policy staff, who will speak about efforts currently underway to protect AIDS funding in Congress, end discrimination against gay people in the workplace, and stop anti-gay hate legislation in the 104th Congress. The first town hall meeting is scheduled for April 25 in Seattle, Washington.

"When my brother became Speaker of the House, I recognized that I had an opportunity and obligation to get involved in the movement for gay and lesbian equality in a meaningful

way," Gingrich said. "Working with the Human Rights Campaign Fund, I will be asking more and more people to join this effort and help meet the challenges presented by a more conservative political landscape. When people realize that they have gay friends, families and coworkers, they are more likely to understand the problem of discrimination and support equal rights."

Gingrich, who is also scheduled to be one of four grand marshals in San Francisco's Lesbian-Gay Freedom Day Parade in June, has said that her brother is "misinformed about homosexuality" rather than anti-gay.

In early March, Gingrich joined more than 100 members of HRCF from 30 states in lobbying Members of Congress to protect AIDS funding and support efforts to end job discrimination. She met with her own Representative, George Gekas (R-Pa.), Sen. Arlen Specter (R-Pa.) and a staff member for Sen. Rick Santorum (R-Pa.).

Gingrich, 28, has been open about her sexual orientation to family, friends and co-workers for many years, but it wasn't until her brother

became Speaker of the U.S. House of Representatives that she garnered national interest. She will be moving to Washington, D.C., next month from Harrisburg, Pa. She earned a bachelors degree in sociology with a concentration in women's studies from the Indiana University of Pennsylvania. In addition to her duties with the National Coming Out Project, she will intern with HRCF's Public Policy Department. In her free time, Gingrich is an avid rugby player, and plans to join a team in the Washington area.

Gingrich's tour will include appearances in the following cities: Albany, Austin, Buffalo, Burlington, Cincinnati, Columbus, Dallas, Des Moines, Greenville, Helena, Houston, Kansas City, Las Vegas, Little Rock, Madison, Manchester, Memphis, Milwaukee, Minneapolis/St. Paul, Nashville, New Orleans, Omaha, Orange County, Orlando, Philadelphia, Phoenix, Providence, Raleigh/Durham, Sacramento, Saint Louis, Salt Lake City, San Antonio, Santa Fe, San Diego, and Seattle.

Houston VOICE Personals

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 weekday 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

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

GO FOR IT!

GWM seeks man of color to make my dreams come true. Looking for love. Tired of games and one night stands. You can't lose what you don't have. Ad 25692

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.

TO PLACE a Houston Voice Personal Ad --

Come to our offices at 811 Westheimer, Suite 105.

It's a good idea to write out (up to fifty words) what you want to say. The annual cost is only \$29.95 -- less than one dollar per week. (You must restate [by phone] your desire for the ad to keep running every four weeks.) At the office you will be given the functioning details. Ads can also be placed by mail, with payment enclosed, phone 713-529-8490, for details.

TO RECEIVE RESPONSES TO YOUR AD: A toll-free 800 number will let you know if you have recorded telephone responses. You can then listen to these responses on a 900 number using your personal code and pin (personal identification number). Responses can also be received by mail, see below.

TO ANSWER AN AD BY PHONE - Call 1-900-454-3576. Listen to the instructions. You will then actually be listening to the advertisers recorded message and can leave a voice message with your name and number. You can respond to more than one personal during the phone call. As individuals check their messages, they can respond to yours. OR you can pre-pay a special 800 account, listen and respond without the cost appearing on your phone bill. Call 529-8490 for more information.

TO ANSWER AN AD BY MAIL: Each ad has a five digit code. Write your response and seal it in a stamped envelope with the five digit code in the address place.

SERIOUS DISCIPLINARIAN NEEDED

Out of control mid 30's, white male seeks serious minded older male to administer must needed discipline. Ad 25793

BROWN BOYS BEWARE!

Attractive GWM is AFTER you! Me: 5'8", 150#, professional, work out regularly -28"w, 14"a, 36"c. You: GHM with fiery Latin libido; ISO honest, educated men, weight prop/height, no drugs/addictions, to share life, leather, possibly love. Photos a plus. Let's share hot passionate Latin nights! Hoy, Chico! Ad 25694

FLIGHT ATTENDANTS???

Fly to Atlanta and enjoy some safe, hot fun with a romantic, charming, handsome 39-year old endowed top with a mustache and baby blue eyes. Ad 25676

FOR \$29.95 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!

HAIRY DADDY SEEKS BOY

Boy should be 21-40, weight proportionate to height, open-minded. Daddy is 50, 5'9", 180, bearded. Let's discuss possibilities. Photo exchange will be required eventually. Ad 25673

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

SEEKING TO MAKE NEW FRIENDS

New to the gay scene. Recently divorced. Looking to make new friends/acquaintances. I am a WM early 50's but people say I look 40, DDF, non-smoker, permanently employed. I am average looking, tall and slim, hazel eyes, blond hair. I like quiet evenings, enjoy cooking, gardening, country and western music, the beach, and the outdoors. If interested, respond to Ad 25674.

PLAYS WITH TOYS

Slim trim toy expert seeks experienced partners. Respond by letter only. Ad 25689

FREE TO LOVE

GWM, handsome, sexy, charming, br/bl, 5'10", 175#, 40, athletic, mature, real, in touch with life and down to earth, and interested in passionate true love with another masculine handsome man who is also in touch with his feelings, knows what he wants and how to get it. Ad 25690

LOOKING FOR VARIOUS SERIOUS BOTTOMS

Like to submit, be passive? Like to service? Like following instructions? Like B & D? Naughty boy lately? Do you know your place with an aggressive hot top? Your choice. If GM, 25-40, fit, clean, healthy, easy going, bright, nice guy, then I am expecting your call. Ad 25653

GALVESTON: LOOKING FOR SEXUAL BUDDIES

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

FRIENDLY YOUNG MAN WANTED

Affectionate older GWM seeks a young man for discreet and safe fun. I like to please young men, especially if they are slender, boyish and smooth. DDF please. Ad 25693

GWM SEEKS HOT GAY FUN-NO STRINGS!

Cuddly bear, 46, HWP, DDF, LDNS looking for hot safe fun times...No strings attached. Ad 25682

PASADENA: 3 CAN BE GOOD COMPANY

And lot's of fun! GWC, barely 30's, one's versatile, one's top only. Both well endowed, HWP, DDF, tired of bars. You: GWM, 18-30, HWP, DDF, versatile or bottom. For: Safe 3-Way Fun, Friendship and Companionship. Ad 25695

GWF COUPLE LOOKING FOR NEW FRIENDS

Lesbian couple in our mid-30's looking for a single person, or couple, for a non-sexual friendship. We enjoy movies, music, the Rockets, Reba and Melissa. Ad 25641

WANTED:

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

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

REWARD IF FOUND

GW or HM, masculine, HWP, goodlooking, spontaneous, fun-loving, adventurous, wild at heart not actions. If found call this GWM, 31, HIV+ 8 yrs asymptomatic, above average looks, HWP, likes nature, movies, exercise, animals, fun excursions. Ad 25640.

Place your sealed response and \$2.00 in an envelope and mail it to us, we will affix a mailing label and the intended person will receive your response. This service costs \$2.00 plus postage per numbered envelope, and is available only with the Houston Voice Personals.

ADDITIONAL REQUIREMENTS: To take advantage of the \$29.95 per year offer, you are required to participate in the "live voice" aspect of our Personals by calling the special 800 toll-free number. You must record, in your voice, your Ad. If you do not participate in the voice aspect, your ad may be discontinued without reimbursement. The voice message can be as simple as "You read the ad, leave a message" to complex and informative. The ads, both print and voice, can not contain references to sexual acts or organs (FCC et al. regulations). If you are having difficulty recording your message, phone 1-800-780-4947, for assistance. Ads should be positive, describe what you want, undesirable qualities/characteristics need not be listed.

G - Gay
M - male; F - female;
W - white; B - black; H - hispanic
HWP - height, weight, proportionate
DDF - disease, drug free
LD/LS - light drinker, light smoker

