

One World. One Hope.

By Curt Morrison

December 1 marks the ninth time people from all around the world will observe World AIDS Day, a day that has now become an annual event in most countries. The theme is "One World. One Hope." The concept behind World AIDS Day focuses on raising awareness of HIV and AIDS in the eyes of the general public in the hope that it will correlate into promoting messages of

prevention for our communities and eliminate perpetual denial and discrimination.

This year's theme echoes that of the 11th International conference on AIDS held in Vancouver last July. It reflects the fact that HIV and AIDS are global problems affecting all countries and simultaneously invites the world

(Continued on page 8)

World AIDS Day 1996

Houston Radio Stations Join the Battle against AIDS

See page 27 for story



Dalmatian Fever - See story page 12.

Back to a Future

One Man's AIDS Tale Shows How Quickly Epidemic Has Turned

See Story Page 16



Pride Committee of Houston attends International Conference

See Story Page 14

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Church Calendar of Events

Friday-11/29

* "Your Sacred Self" study group using the best seller by Wayne Dyer. COME learn more about your sacred self, sacred sisters & brothers, & the sacred, loving Creator God who made it so. At Kingdom Community Church 862-7533

* Catholic Mass at 10:00 am. Kolbe Project 522-8182

Saturday-11/30

* Mass at Dignity Houston at 7:30 pm. 880-2872

* Service of Hope and Remembrance at Brentwood Baptist Church at 7:00 pm. Music by the Brentwood Choir. 13033 Landmark. 682-5995.

Sunday-12/01

* Maranatha Fellowship Metropolitan Church Services "A Study in the Gospel of Mark" and "The 'I' Factor," (How to be a positive influence on others as a witness for Christ) at 10:00 am Praise and Worship, Ministry of the Word, Drama and Personal Ministry. 11:00 am at Maranatha Fellowship 528-6756

* MCCR worship services 9:00 am & 11:00 am 861-9149

* Worship Service 11:00 am at Faith and Hope Fellowship 773-4429

* Grace Lutheran Church Sunday school for all ages at 9:30 am Worship Service at 10:30 am 528-3269

* First Unitarian Universalist Church Sunday Services at 9:30 am and 11:30 am 526-5200

* Services at 5:30 pm Dignity Church 880-2872

* Community Gospel worship service at 11:00 am & 7:00 pm. SERVICE IN NEW LOCATION, 4305 LILLIAN 880-9235

* Houston Mission Church worship service at 10:30 am 529-8225

* Kingdom Community Church worship service at 11:00 am Sunday School at 10:00 am 862-7533 "The Celestine Prophecy. An Experiential Guide" at 10:00 am

* Covenant Baptist Church Worship service 1:30 pm and education hour at 3:00 pm 668-8830

* Bering Memorial United Methodist Church Worship service. 10:50 am Seekers class 9:15 am 526-1017

* Church of the XII Apostles worship service at 10:00 am. Chapel of the Santana Funeral home,

5352 Katy Freeway. 665-7903.

* Memorial Mass at St. Dominic Center, Alameda and Holcombe, at noon. 524-0182.

Monday-12/02

* Catholic Mass at 7:30 pm Kolbe Project 522-8182

* MCCR Handbell Choir Rehearsal at 7:00 pm 861-9149

Tuesday-12/03

* MCCR: Empowerment for Living support group & pot luck dinner at 6:00 pm, Gloryland Singers at 8:00 pm, The Gospel Ensemble at 6:00 pm 861-9149

* PROTECT meets at Bering Church. 520-7870.

* HIV Affected group meets at 7:00 pm. Judy or Pam at 880-9235; HIV Infected group meets at 7:00 pm. Catherine or Robert at 880-9235. At Community Gospel.

* Maranatha Fellowship MCC has home groups that meet in each others home for a time of fellowship, sharing God's word, and prayer. Call for the location in your area 528-6756.

* Advent Scripture Study at Kolbe Project. 7:30 pm. 522-8182.

Wednesday 12/04

* MCCR Bible Study 7:30 pm 861-9149

* Worship Service 7:30 pm at Faith and Hope Fellowship 773-4429

* MCCR: Jubilation Mixed Ensemble meets at 6:30 pm Midweek uplift service at 7:00 pm, Bible Study, Lecture Series & Choir Rehearsal 7:30 pm 861-9149

* "A Course in Miracles"—Study Group using the book, published by the Foundation for Inner Peace, which is aimed at removing the blocks to our awareness of one's presence. Kingdom Community Church 7:30 pm 862-7533.

Thursday-12/05

* Bible Study 7:00 pm At Faith And Hope Fellowship 773-4429

* Community Gospel midweek service 7:30 pm 880-9325

* Pot Luck Dinner at Kolbe Project at 7:00 pm. Community Concerns: Being Gay and African-American. 522-8182. *If you want an event listed in this section, please call 529-8490.*

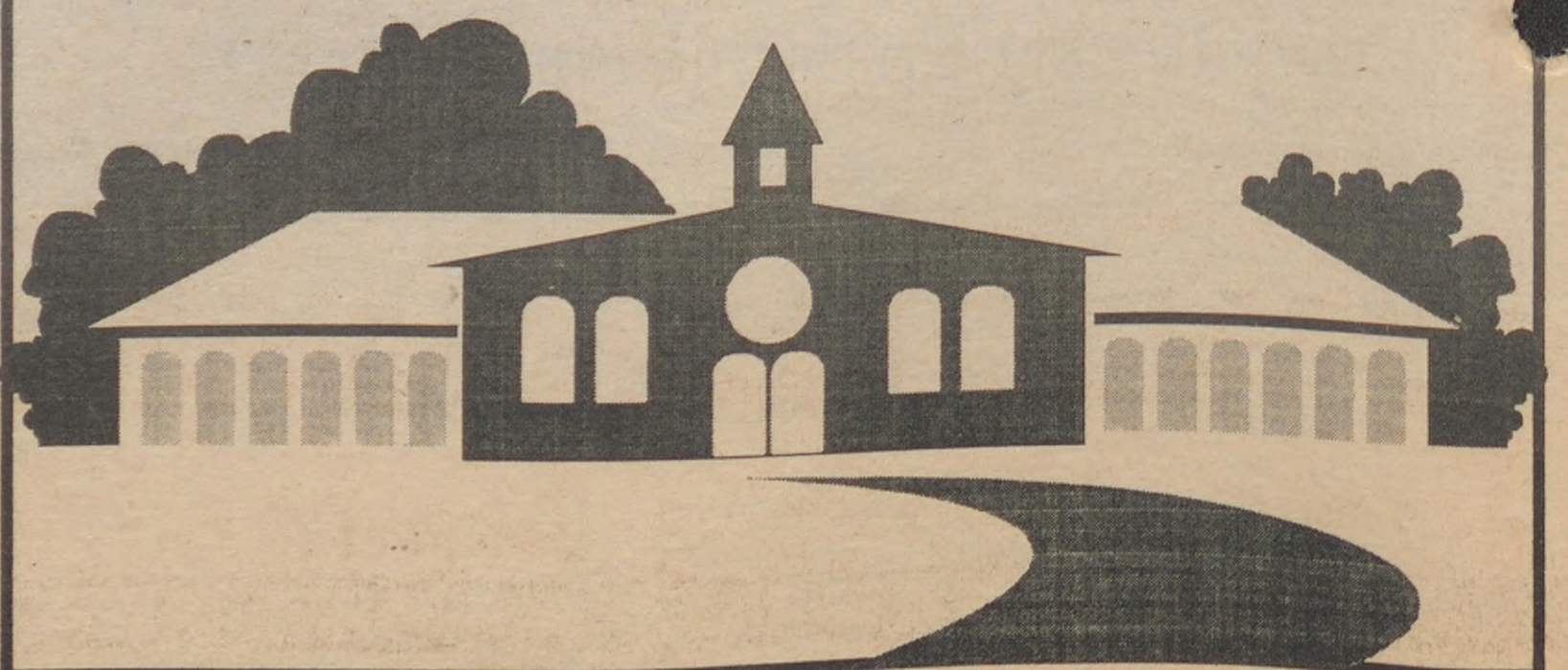
MCCR Offers Complimentary Thanksgiving Dinner

The Metropolitan Community Church of Houston will be providing a complimentary dinner to anyone who wishes to stop by. The dinner buffet will immediately follow the 11 a.m. service on Thanksgiving Day. Attendance is not required to join in the meal service. The organization will

be serving a traditional Holiday feast for those individuals in the community who do not have any plans with family and friends. MCCR is the largest gay and lesbian church in the Houston area and they offer weekly services. For more information, call MCCR at 861-9149.



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KOLBE PROJECT

POT LUCK DINNER
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December 3, 10, 17

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A Christmas Songfest with Jerry Atwood

Perennial Gala Celebrates Song and Spirit

By JON ANTHONY

When entertainer Jerry Atwood held a Christmas party back in 1973, he was not cognizant of the fact that it would catapult into an event that draws nearly 1000 participants annually. Atwood, in an interview with *The Houston Voice*, has been involved with this perennial holiday fundraising charity event since its official inception in 1988. By 1985, Atwood's party's had grown to large. Consequently, he did not host a benefit party the following year, much to the chagrin of the community. Atwood's involvement with the Red Beans & Rice 1987 Christmas fund-raising event for Omega House inspired him to create Songfest.

Atwood, a professional engineer, is an accomplished pianist with several albums to his credit. He began playing the instrument at the age of two, took musical instruction throughout school and has utilized his musical abilities for the betterment of the community thereafter. His professional music partnership with the talented Ricky Comeaux (who has collaborated with Atwood on Songfest from the beginning) resulted in a best selling album titled *Silent Voices*. Recorded in 1993, the album is available at most retail outlets and Don's Record Shop in Bellaire. The musical duo is looking for investors for a follow-up CD and will record it at the right time.

Songfest is a spectacular event that generates proceeds from ticket sales to benefit local AIDS groups. This year's beneficiaries are The Assistance Fund and Omega House. The Assistance Fund pays insurance premiums and medication expenses for Persons Living With AIDS (PWA'S) during their transition from private insurance to Medicare. Omega House is a residential hospice that provides love and caring for AIDS patients, their families, mates and friends during the terminal phase of their illness. A Christmas Songfest is a volunteer organization that has raised over \$215,000 to date.

The spectacular event features entertainment, a silent auction, a sumptuous holiday dinner buffet and an open bar. "People are encouraged to sign up

to sing Christmas songs—whether it be an individual, a group or table organization—impromptu with lyrics and hymn," says Atwood, who provides the accompaniment for the gala.

Professional entertainers will also take the stage performing their favorite renditions of classic Christmas tunes. In addition to Atwood and Comeaux, featured entertainers scheduled to appear include Cindy Harrelson, Sharon Montgomery (Montgomery, Stritch and Plant), Keith Caldwell and Terry Pierce. In the past, other prominent entertainers have shown up and the event is renowned for its fun and spontaneity.

Atwood's propensity to help others who are less fortunate is admirable and he has earned the communities respect as a result. Growing up in a blue collar environment, Atwood wasn't sure he would be able to sustain himself as a struggling musician. "Economics propelled me to be safe and graduate with a degree in engineering," he proclaimed. His hobbies range from Astronomy to Geology and Science and in his early years he savored sci-fi fare until he realized that they were not based on fact. Atwood loves people and his actions demonstrate his commitment to his community. "I'm an ardent animal and human being supporter," he muses. His involvement with Songfest is not a one month out of the year ordeal. It is a work in progress all year and Atwood is heavily involved. "It's like having a second lover," remarked Atwood. "My reward is doing things for people who are less fortunate and lucky than I am."

A Christmas Songfest for 1996 will ring in the holidays at 6 pm on Sunday, Dec. 8, at the Edwin Hornberger Conference Center, located at 2151 W. Holcombe Blvd. This year's Honorary Event Chair is Dr. Paul Gustafson. Hosting the event will be Channel 11 weatherman Dan Meador, channel 51 anchorperson Dayna Steele and KRBE-Radio morning show host Maria Todd. The event is open to the public and good seating is still available. Tickets are \$45.00 at the door for general admission and reserved tables can be purchased in advance. For information on reserving a table, call Ed Inderwish at 713/683-0485.

Phil Donahue to be Honored By GLAAD

The Gay and Lesbian Alliance Against Defamation (GLAAD) will hold a cocktail reception in the nation's capital to honor legendary television personality Phil Donahue for his long-standing commitment to presenting fair and accurate images of the gay and lesbian communities issues to the American public.

"GLAAD is thrilled to honor Phil Donahue, the television talk show pioneer who broke the rules to bring gay issues to America," said William Waybourn, GLAAD's managing director. "An award-winning journalist, Mr. Donahue understands the important role

media plays in educating the public about our lives."

On the air for 29 years, Donahue netted 20 Emmy awards. In 1981, Mr. Donahue received the prestigious George Foster Peabody Award and in 1992, the 25th Anniversary of Donahue, the National Academy of Television Arts and Sciences presented him with a Special Recognition Award for "pioneering the Talk Show" and for his contribution to television journalism.

Tickets to the cocktail reception are \$100 and may be purchased by calling GLAAD's Washington, DC Media Resource Center at (202)884-7346.

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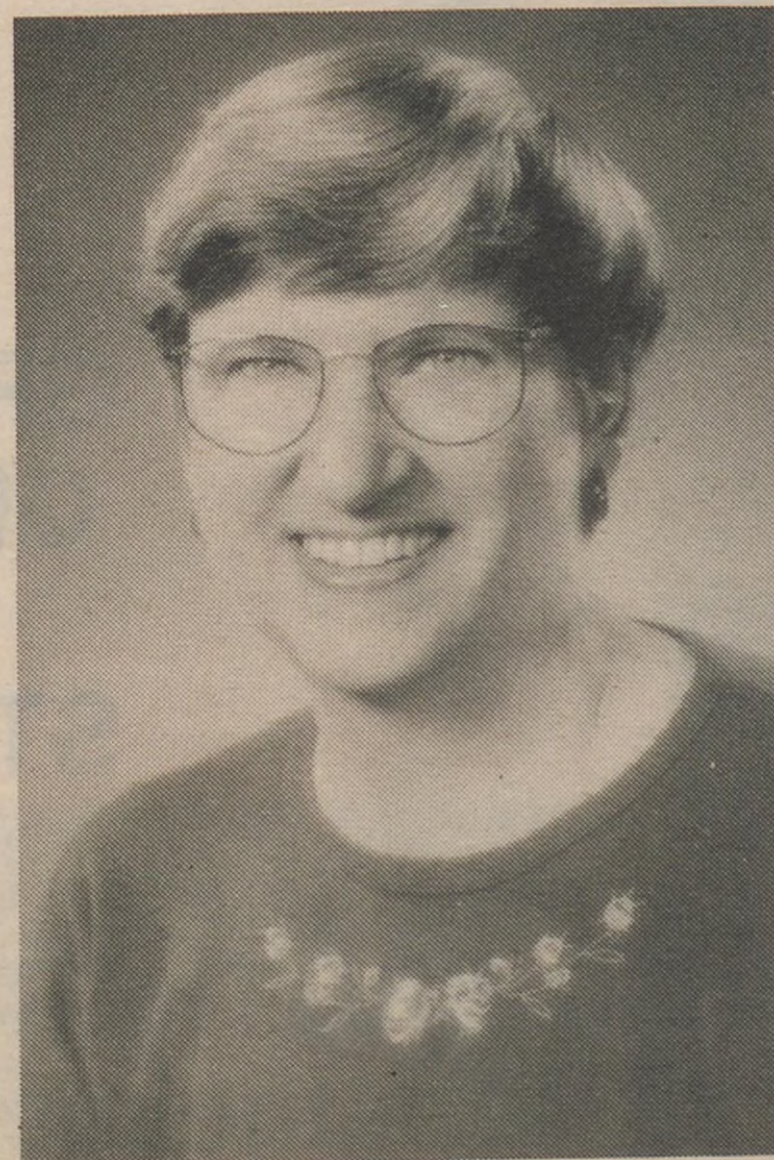


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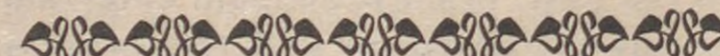
In Loving Memory



ROBERT L. (BOBBY) DURKIN

Born: 10-31-40
Died: 11-10-96

Long-time resident of Houston--died in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania on November 10, 1996. Bobby was employed by Mid Nite Sun, Scotty Hendrich Florist, and QT's Bar. He left many friends in Houston and Philadelphia.



Correction

In our feature story last week concerning the Houston Voice being the proud recipient of the Names Project's prestigious Friends of the Quilt Media Award, we inadvertently made the following statement: "As a result of (Names Project Volunteers) experiences and involvement, these volunteers will now hopefully remain in active with future endeavors with the Names Project." The paragraph should have read: "...the volunteers will now hopefully remain ACTIVE with future..." The Houston Voice extends their support to all community volunteers and regrets any confusion.

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HOUSTON VOICE
The Voice of Houston's Gay, Lesbian, Bisexual & Transgendered Community

ISSUE 840
November 29, 1996

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

811 Westheimer, Suite 105
Houston, Texas 77006
(713) 529-8490
(800) 729-8490
FAX: (713) 529-9531
E-mail: HouVoice@AOL.com
Contents copyright 1996
Office Hours: 9am - 5:30pm weekdays

PUBLISHER
Crad Duren

EDITORIAL DEPARTMENT
Jon Anthony/entertainment editor
Lee Davis/sports editor
Carolyn Roberts/society editor

WRITERS:
Rich Arenschildt, David Bianco, Andrew Edmonson, Nancy Ford, Larry Lingle, Curt Morrison, Jazz Paz, David Richardson, Carolyn Roberts, Patricia Nell Warren, Glen Webber

CARTOONIST:
Earl Storm

PHOTOGRAPHERS:
Steven David, David Goetz

PRODUCTION
Matthew Pennington/manager/art director

ADVERTISING SALES DEPARTMENT
Jon Anthony, Lee Davis, Carolyn Roberts

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Settlement Reverberates Nationwide

Wisconsin Case Seen as Catalyst

By CURT MORRISON

Jamie Nabozny had endured years of physical and verbal harassment throughout his adolescence as a student in the Ashland, Wisconsin school district. During his ordeal, Nabozny believed his complaints were not being addressed by the school administrators. As a result, he decided to seek recourse through legal means. Last week a federal jury found three of the schools administrators liable for failure to protect Nabozny from anti-gay harassment. Despite the fact that the jurors did not find the district guilty of discrimination, the school district agreed to pay Nabozny nearly \$1 million for violating his civil rights one day after the verdict. Ironically, Nabozny had originally sought \$350,000.

The lawsuit alleged that Nabozny had suffered from various forms of abuse. Nabozny claimed that he was subject to name calling, physical harm and being spat on. He also says he was beaten, urinated on and had his head forced into a urinal. The suit states that this activity occurred from 1988 until 1993, when Nabozny dropped out of the districts High School as a junior because he could no longer withstand the abuse.

Nabozny contends that the entire ordeal has been extremely stressful. In spite of such, he also emphasizes that it has simultaneously been cathartic. "No longer am I a victim. I've become an advocate for youth rights," he intones. "It sends a very strong message to administrators in this country that if they do not take appropriate action to protect gay and lesbian youth, they will have to pay. And the price is high," Nabozny, now 21, told reporters.

"This is the first case in the country where school officials were found liable for failing to address anti-gay abuse," said attorney David Buckel of the Lambda Legal Defense and Education Fund (LLDEF). The gay rights organization represented Nabozny. Many legal experts, nationally and locally, predict that the case could motivate school districts nationwide to engage in self introspection and re-examination of their own policies

with regard to protecting students from discrimination.

"This case was based on civil rights," said Dale Carpenter. Carpenter, an attorney in Houston and community representative, said he does not believe the case sets a national precedent. "Even if a decision from the court is not rendered, litigants look at these cases and that may embolden them to file their own," he cautioned. Carpenter says that will cause the schools to reassess their policies, however, he stresses that it will not translate into an immediate end to gay bashing and taunting in Texas' public schools by any stretch of the imagination. "Juries have to decide on guilt and award damages. Wisconsin juries are likely to be more friendly and sympathetic than our Texas juries," opined Carpenter.

Carpenter believes money and budgets will be the motivating factor to school districts nationwide. "School districts, like businesses, pay attention to money. If they are going to lose revenue because kids under their care are being gay bashed, they will do everything they can to stop such incidents," contends Carpenter. From that perspective, he says this case "puts teeth in civil rights laws as they apply to gay and lesbians."

Georgetown University's studied law professor on gay issues, Chai Feldblum, said that the Nabozny case will not set a precedent for larger damage awards. Rather, Feldblum believes, it will assist in extending harassment policies to incorporate gays. "It will set a precedent for school administrators getting serious about the problem," said Feldblum in USA Today.

For his part, Nabozny would like to finish school and see if the atmosphere will change. Diagnosed with post-traumatic stress disorder due to the abuse he endured, Nabozny is taking these steps in stride. Upon completion of his education, he plans to work with gay teens to offer them support and work towards a society that will allow gay students to enjoy their adolescents without fear of reprisal.

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Caucus Hosts Guest Speakers

The Houston Gay and Lesbian Political Caucus (HGLPC) is pleased to announce that it will have two distinguished speakers at its Wednesday, Dec. 4th, 1996 meeting. These speakers are persons of statewide importance in their own fields.

Diane Hardy-Garcia, the Executive Director of the Lesbian Gay Rights Lobby of Texas (LGRL) will talk to the group about the issues which will be on the table during this coming Legislative session in Austin.

Bill White, the Chairperson of the State Democratic Party of Texas will also be a speaker. His subject will include a discussion of the future of the Democratic Party in Texas.

Other business to be discussed will include the report of the committee which is trying to locate new office space for the HGLPC office. We are looking for new office space in an accessible and secure location since we needed to move from our present location. We hope that a decision can be made regarding this matter. In addition, the next meeting will be a first call for officers for 1997.

"We hope that all members and all those interested in hearing these very important guests will come to the meeting and join us in welcoming them. LGRL is important to our lobby efforts in the Texas Legislature and it is imperative that we work with them in what ever they do, because they are working for us," said Pat Gandy, President of HGLPC. "Bill White is head of the Democratic Party in Texas. He is a friend and fellow worker in the political vineyards. It is important we welcome him as he is committed to the continued inclusion of gay men and lesbians in the Democratic Party and prior to taking this office, served in the administration of substantial influence on both a state and national level and we are honored to have him as our guest," added Gandy.

The meeting will convene at 7:30 pm at the Holiday Inn Select, 2712 Southwest Freeway (near Greenway Plaza, just west of the Kirby entrance between Kirby and Buffalo Speedway.) Parking will be available in the Hotel garage. For more information, call 521-1000 or 869-6350.

Community Organizations Bulletin Board



Houston's own Holliday!

Spend Your Holliday With Jennifer

Tony Award-winning singer & native Houstonian Jennifer Holliday will ring in 1997 with a special New Year's Eve concert on Tuesday, Dec. 31 at the **Alley Theatre**, 615 Texas Ave. "New Year's Eve with Jennifer Holliday" will be followed by a post-concert party with a continental buffet & dancing to live music.

Jennifer was discovered at 17 by a member of a touring production of "A Chorus Line," who spotted her in a Houston play & insisted that she travel to New York to audition for the Broadway revival of the Gospel musical "Your Arms' Too Short to Box with God." Holliday auditioned & earned the lead immediately. For ticket info call 228-9341.

Switchboard Volunteers

The Gay & Lesbian Switchboard (GLSH) is conducting training for new phone staff volunteers Dec. 6-8. GLSH is staffed entirely by volunteers and is upon their 15th year of serving the community. They provide information and referral service on organizations, services, events & matters of interest to & about the Gay & Lesbian community in the Houston area. GLSH also provides info on aids, peer/active listening & when necessary crisis intervention. The hate crimes/hate incidents hotline is also maintained & operated by volunteers. For more info call 713-529-3211 or leave a message at 713-529-9615.

Food Drive

The Houston Police Department, Fiesta Mart, Inc. and Pepsi Cola are sponsoring the 11th Annual **Comida Christmas Food Drive**. You are invited to attend the "Comida" News Conference to be held on Monday, Dec. 2 at 10am at the Fiesta Mart located at 4711 Airline Drive. The food drive will be held at ten Houston area Fiesta stores on Dec. 7-8, and 14-15, 1996. The hours will be from 9am to 5pm.

AIDS Healing Service

AIDS Healing Service & Eucharist will be held on Fri. Dec 6 at Christ Church, 1117 Texas at 7pm. Sponsored by the Houston Chapter of Integrity, Inc., the Reverend Christopher C. Prince will be the celebrant. The Reverend Ron Pogue will be the homilist. Integrity is an organization of Gay and Lesbian Episcopalians and their friends.

Date Change For AHA

The American Heart Association's **Guild of Houston** announces a change in the date for their fundraiser at La Strada, 5161 Sage. The new date for this extravaganza is Dec. 11 at 7:30pm. Party-goers will automatically be entered in a drawing for weekend rentals of a Jaguar & a Volvo. Tickets are \$75 in advance & \$90 at the door. For info call 713-610-5000.

Teddy Bear Crusaders

The **Teddy Bear Crusaders** announce their 4th annual Crusade to benefit the Texas Children's Hospital. Hundreds of teddy bears will be collected at Fiamma Bar & Grill & distributed to children during the holidays. Entertainment includes Sammie Relford & The Friends Band. Happening on Wednesday, Dec. 4 from 6pm to 11pm. Fiamma is at 8503 Westheimer between Fondren & Hillcroft. Admission is one teddy bear per person with free food & a cash bar available. For info call 785-7482.

Tall Gay Men Alert

The **Tall Men Network (TMN)** is the only organization in the U.S. for gay tall men (6'2"+) and their admirers. They recently inducted their 100th member. According to TMN Founder, Don Scott, their membership includes members in 29 states & the District of Columbia. Tall members range from 6'2" to 7'2" and include every height in-between. For info, send an e-mail message to ddinsner@ix.netcom.com or mail a self-addressed stamped envelope to 1010 University Avenue #338, San Diego, California, 92103.

Soiree Successes

Soiree Aubergine celebrated a week of successful fundraisers last week and wishes to thank all involved. After a donation of two sets of Melissa Etheridge tickets, Soiree gave two to Chances and two to The Ranch. Marleen at Chances held a raffle for the tickets and raised over \$50. Nancy Ford at The Ranch held an auction for her two tickets and raised \$125. On Saturday, Steve Kelso was at LOBO signing his new calendar. Albee & Larry were kind enough to allow Soiree to take pictures of Steve with those in attendance and raised \$250. Again, thanks to all involved.

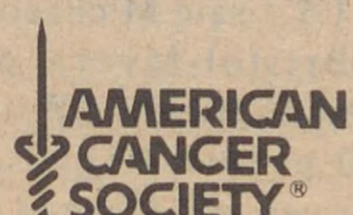
Corporate Mixer

There is a **Corporate Network Group (CNG)** Meeting on Sunday, December 8 at 3pm. Call (281) 366-5030 for address and information.



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Basket & Buns Contest at 10pm
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- Tuesday:** \$1.75 Wells & \$1.50 Domestic Beer
- Wednesdays:** \$1.50 Domestic Beer
Li'l Rascals Strip Contest at 11pm
- Thursdays:** \$1.50 Vodka Wells
- Fridays:** \$1.00 Schnapps Shots
- Everyday:** \$1.50 Domestic Beer & \$1.75 Wells 4-8pm
- Mon-Fri:** Free Happy Hour Buffet 6-8pm

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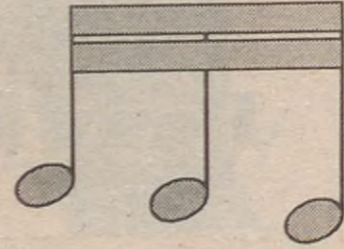
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BUFFET SERVED FROM 2-5pm.

SAT., NOV. 30, 8pm



"Faces Band"

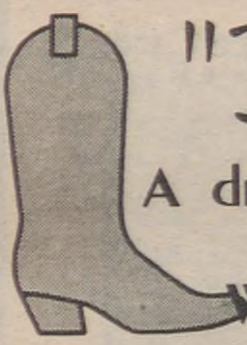
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SUN., DEC. 1, 9pm

RSICSS PRESENTS



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WED., DEC. 4, 9pm

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World AIDS continued...

(Continued from front page)

populace to be optimistic and build on some of the more hopeful trends now emerging on the medical front. For the first time since the epidemic began around 15 years ago, there are cautious grounds for optimism. The prospect of a world in which the spread of HIV and AIDS can be slowed, and the suffering they cause alleviated, is finally dawning.

AIDS has been a pandemic that has spewed its venom on society for nearly 15 years. Many in the gay and lesbian community have lost friends and loved ones. World AIDS Day honors those who have lost their lives to this horrific virus and allows their families to have a day of commemoration. But now there is hope. HIV infected individuals are living longer, healthier and more productive lives. This can partly be attributed to new medical treatments. Making use of protease inhibitors with combination drug therapies, some patients have seen dramatic improvements healthwise.

"The object is to raise consciousness," said actress Sharon Stone. Stone heads a fundraising drive for the American Foundation for AIDS Research (AmFar). "Until our fears are replaced with compassion, it will never end. I hope that this will inspire people to push on until we find both a cure and a vaccine," Stone told Entertainment Weekly.

All around the world there will be many kinds of activities that have been traditionally organized on World AIDS

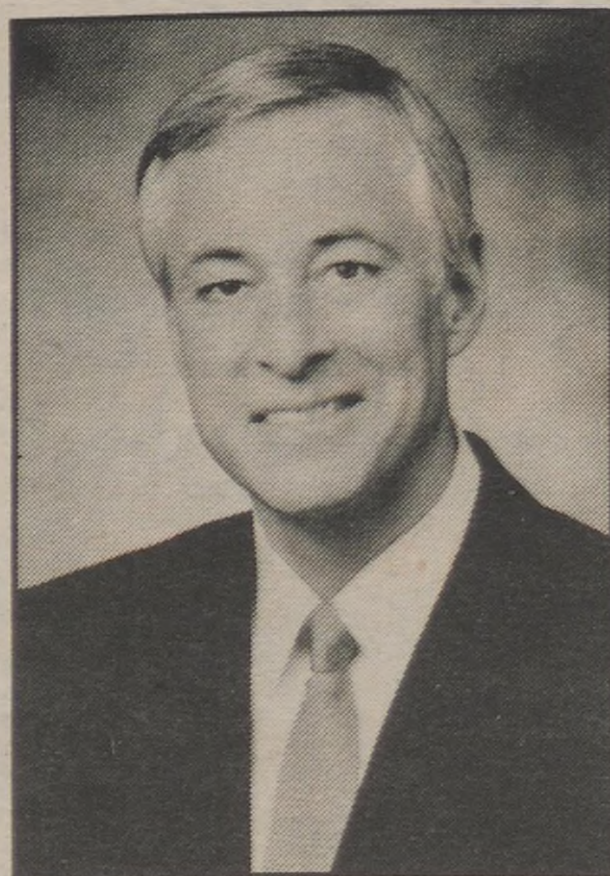
Day. Candlelight vigils and marches. Poetry Recitals. Public Debates. Art Exhibits. Marathons. Prevention Campaigns. Seminars. Celebrity sporting events and concerts. In Houston, there will be nearly a dozen activities surrounding World AIDS Day. (See accompanying World AIDS Day roster or call your favorite AIDS service organization for other activities.)

AIDS is an appalling and continuing tragedy to many. In some countries, the epidemic is just emerging. In others, it is out of control. In spite of the negative, there is some good news. Within some geographical places of the human body and that of the world, the virus has been put on the defensive. While they are few and far between, the research suggests that there is a good possibility of a breakthrough down the road. Studies have shown that the monies spent on medical research and prevention efforts are starting to heed results and pay dividends.

Unfortunately, many people who suffer from this disease still confront rejection and suffer stigma on a daily basis. Organizers hope that World AIDS Day can eventually eradicate these types of prejudices and discriminatory practices. Despite all of the wrath that HIV/AIDS has imposed on many, there is no denying that for the first time in 15 years there is a new optimism and a renewed sense of self worth. That is the message this year's World AIDS Day hopes to convey.

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Fungizone Now on Market

Bristol-Myers Squibb Company announced that its antifungal agent Fungizone (amphotericin B) Oral Suspension, a treatment for candidiasis, or thrush, of the mouth is now available in the United States. Fungizone is the first oral amphotericin B available in the U.S. for the topical treatment of oral candidiasis.

"Fungizone Oral Suspension offers a low incidence of side effects, low potential for drug resistance and no systemic toxicity," said David A. Stevens, MD, Professor, Division of Infectious Diseases, Stanford University, California. "This product provides high-risk patient populations with a safe and effective alternative for the treatment of oral thrush."

Oral candidiasis, a fungal infection marked by white patches in the oral cavity, afflicts all age groups, particularly HIV patients and cancer patients, especially those undergoing bone marrow treatment or high-dose chemotherapy. Other high-risk groups include those receiving broad-spectrum antibiotics, and children ages 0 to 2 years.

Clinical studies indicate that Fungizone Oral Suspension is an effective and safe treatment for both pediatric and adult oral candidiasis. The recommended treatment is 1 ml (100 mg) four-times-per-day between meals for a period of two weeks, depending on clinical results.

"We are pleased to bring this product to market in the US," said Michael Loberg, President, Bristol-Myers Squibb-Oncology/Immunology. "With more than 200,000 people diagnosed with AIDS and between 600,000 and 900,000 infected with HIV in the US. Fungizone

Oral Suspension enters the fight against AIDS at a crucial time."

Because many drugs are excreted in human milk and because of the potential risk to an unborn fetus, Fungizone Oral Suspension is not recommended for pregnant women or nursing mothers. Systemic absorption is minimal and less than 2% of the patients studied in clinical trials reported the following side effects: rash, gastrointestinal symptoms, including nausea, vomiting, steatorrhea, and diarrhea.

Studies are currently underway to study the effectiveness of Fungizone Oral Suspension in treating AIDS patients with oral candidiasis who have developed drug resistance to azole therapies. Resistance to azoles is increasing in all parts of the world, according to studies published in the medical literature. Early reports from the Fungizone Oral Suspension studies suggest that the product will be effective in treating immune suppressed patients.

Fungizone Oral Suspension is a mild-flavored liquid administered as a swish-and-swallow therapy. Available in 24 ml bottles containing 100 mg of amphotericin B per ml, Fungizone Oral Suspension is proven more effective than standard antifungal antibiotics, such as nystatin.

Bristol-Myers Squibb is a diversified, research-based health and personal care company whose principal businesses are pharmaceuticals, consumer products, nutritionals and medical devices. The Company is among the world's leading makers of cardiovascular, anti-cancer, anti-infective, central nervous system and dermatological therapies and non-prescription medicines.

Gay Today

by Glen Webber



Several months ago the phone rang. The person on the line identified himself as an employee of a bonding company. He said I had two non-arrest warrants in my name. The warrants charged me with unauthorized use of a vehicle and evading detention (arrest).

Of course, I was shocked. But I went down and paid the \$250 (per bond) fee so I would not be arrested. Soon the story became clear. My stolen wallet was found at the crime scene, so the officer chasing the stolen car found my drivers license and assumed it was me who stole the truck and then ran from the officer.

I know who the criminal was. I also knew he ran because he had two outstanding warrants. He jumped a fence and ran. The officer decided not to chase this man. He also did not take fingerprints inside the truck. He was the most incompetent officer I have ever encountered. So he charged me with those two crimes.

I secured a sharp attorney named Mark McIntire. His knowledge of law and legal issues was outstanding. He believed I was innocent and set out to prove it. How to prove it was the hard part. But, I did have an alibi, and that person was willing to testify at my trial.

We also used my full blown AIDS condition as evidence. Not only can I not drive at night, but I also can't run. I took my cane with me to court to show I was dependent on it to assist my walking. It had great visual effect.

It was finally trial time. The prosecutor, a woman, was hell bent on finding me guilty. In the prosecutors office, finding people guilty is almost a requirement, not minding that the person might be innocent. Before the trial started, they offered me a plea bargain. Since I was not guilty, accepting would be considered a guilty plea.

The officer was the first witness. He swore it was me jumping out of the truck and running. He said he saw my face in his bright light. But under cross examination, he could not identify anything else. He said the man he saw had a smooth chest, but anyone who knows me knows I have thick black chest hair. Later in the trial, Mark asked the judge if I could show my

chest hair to the jurors. That was a wonderful invitation. The female jurors giggled. When I asked the female judge if she wanted to see it, she said no, and started laughing.

After a long day of testimony, I was exhausted. The next day would be closing arguments and then the jury would be given the task of finding me guilty or not guilty. The sharp tongued acrid prosecutor gave it her all during closing argument. She pointed her finger at me and said *There is James P.* James Parker is the name of the person who stole the truck and ran from the cop. The truck was stolen out of Mississippi by James Parker. Anyone who thinks I would go to that state and steal a 5-speed pickup 13 years old is crazy. I believe James is in jail in Gulfport where he stole the truck from. I believe he tried to use my canceled Visa Card and was arrested. But the Gulfport police would not cooperate with us.

Mark tore the cops testimony apart. He also told the jury that my full blown AIDS condition would prohibit me from driving at night and from running from the police. He also said that the description of James, who is about 6'1 foot and 185 pounds and has curly blond hair and mustache, did not match my 5'9 and 160 pounds.

The jury deliberated quite a while before giving the verdict, NOT GUILTY. Both Mark and I were elated. The prosecutor left the court room with an obvious irritability. I know when the cop hears the verdict, he will realize that he made an error in judgment. To accuse someone of two crimes with no evidence is not responsible. One of the jurors told me the reason I was found not guilty is because the police had no evidence that I committed the crime.

The stress of this has me worn out. I believe the justice system does not serve people well. This should have never gone to trial. I still have to face trial for the stolen truck charge. But the not guilty verdict here will help find me not guilty in the next trial. If you are innocent, stand your ground. With a good attorney and the truth behind you, you should come out fine. The fact that I had to use AIDS as a defense is some what ironic. It is the first time that having AIDS has done me good.

Rainbow Reader

By Jone Devlin

Hector has just been told by his doctor that his T-cell count is way down, and that he has less than two years to live. So what does he do? Starts focusing on saving his straight best friend's marriage of course!

In *Diary of a Lost Boy*, the late Harry Kondoleon (author of *Zero Positive*) introduces us to Hector, a gay man with AIDS who's spending the last part of his life with Susan (his best friend) and her husband Bill (a straight man who has a promiscuity problem). Through Hector's eyes we see Susan and Bill, their friends, their lives and their problems. We also learn from Hector what it's like to be dying and have everyone know it, including yourself.

At first Hector is merely cynical. He idly discusses the "alphabet soup" of drugs he's having to take (none of which work), the friends who mysteriously have disappeared out of his life, and even worse, the ones who have remained. He also takes us through "Zombie Dinner Parties" where his blind date, a gorgeous gay man, turns out to be bisexual and engaged to be married, and his odd, almost religious experience of detachment as the end draws closer and closer. But as he becomes more and more ill, Hec-

tor's view of his experience with AIDS gets to be brutally unflinching. He does not lie to us or himself, which can make the book very difficult to read at times. His focus on Bill and Susan's marriage continues, but it is merely a paradox. Saving them is supposed to take his mind off of himself and his illness, yet, their situation (in spite of his best efforts) eventually becomes so utterly hopeless that it ends up serving only as a reminder to Hector of his own frail mortality.

By the end of the novel, Hector is weaving in and out of consciousness, hallucinating badly and determined not to die in the hospital. By then he is unable to eat, has lost most of his hearing and eyesight and cannot remember even the simplest things, like who and where he is. Yet still in his more lucid moments he talks of writing a book, of the stupid things people say to you when you're in the hospital and not likely to get out, of how he will be remembered to Bill and Susan's children, and even of getting well, still, somehow. *Diary of a Lost Boy* is often sad, sometimes funny, and always genuine. Hector will make you laugh, he'll make you cry, but most importantly, he'll make you appreciate life in all it's sublime ridiculousness.

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Thanksgiving Buffet & Show for PWAs

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Hosted by Anita Mann,

Candidate for RSICSS Empress XIII

FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 29, 9pm till ??

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Bob Bouton & Don Gill for H.C.C.

FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 29

9pm to Midnight

Registration for Texas Rider's Fall Round-Up

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 30

8pm Fall Round-Up Dinner

10pm Mr. & Ms. Fall Round-Up Contest

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 1, 5pm till ??

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Alan Waggoner, Mr. Venture-N '96

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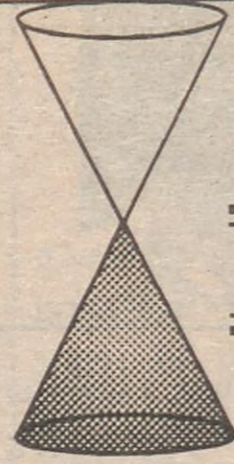
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PLAIN SPEAKING

by Larry Lingle

Analogy of a Loser

Never a fan of Richard Milhous Nixon, I will concede that he definitely made his mark on American history as the first President to resign from office. While Nixon was a gutter fighter in the world of politics, not noted for the high road, he made one decision which will always stand out as an act of courage. When he lost the 1960 race to John F. Kennedy, knowing that the election was decided by likely voter fraud in Chicago, he nevertheless refused to challenge the outcome. Nixon knew such a challenge at that time could create both a constitutional crisis and a Cold War opportunity. Such political heroism, however, never enters the mind of California's combative Robert K. Dornan. Better known as "B-1 Bob," both for supporting funds for that bomber and his propensity for throwing verbal bombs on the floor of the House, Dornan apparently has lost his cherished seat from Orange County to Loretta Sanchez.

Dornan's list of achievements begin with offering himself as a replacement hostage when a group of Hanafi Muslims seized a federal building in the 1970s, accused President Clinton of giving aid and comfort to the enemy during the Vietnam conflict, grabbed another congressman and called him a draft dodger, repeatedly attacked Barney Frank because the latter is homosexual, and even outed a fellow Republican.

And typical of one full of bombast, Dornan is blaming everyone but himself for losing to a Hispanic in a formerly Republican district that is now fifty percent Hispanic. In an age where campaign financing comes from many sources, Dornan singled out gay money for his defeat citing particularly a group he calls "Lesbians for Motherhood," certainly a subversive sounding cartel.

In a meeting of the Orange County Republican Central Committee—sounds like a former offshoot of a Kremlin cabal—Dornan confronted one member, William Dougherty, who apparently had given support to Dornan's opponent—ABC's Nightline filmed the encounter—and jabbing his finger shouted at Dougherty: "You are a poor excuse for a Marine (retired). You are a pathetic, old senile man. You are a slimy coward." No wonder Dornan is a stand-in for Rush Limbaugh.

And Dornan vowed to start immediately on defeating Sanchez in 1998. Dornan's parting shot, as reported by the Wall Street Journal, was that "no one is ever irreplaceable. When William Wallace (Mel Gibson's Braveheart) was gutted, Robert the Bruce stepped forward." Perhaps Dornan would have hedged comparing himself to Braveheart had he read a recent news account that a Canadian historian believes he had found evidence that the Scottish hero was homosexual. To say nothing as to the effect of Gibson.

Analogy of a Winner

Enough of Dornan—even if it is wishful thinking to believe we have heard the last of this little man. On an entirely different

subject, if you missed the opening episode of Garry Shandling's "The Larry Sanders Show" on HBO you are missing cutting edge comedy of the first order. Watching "Sanders" requires the attention to detail, once the providence of Monty Python followers.

The first show, as is typical, carried several running plots, not the least of which was Sanders' impression that guest David Duchovny was sexually interested in him. Duchovny, to his credit, showed a natural flair for comedy. Sanders appeals to the show's resident homosexual character, portrayed by openly gay actor Scott Thompson who plays Brian, aide to the show's Ed McMahon look alike. "Do I seem gay to you?" he queried, to which Brian responded, "I don't think my gay friends think of sex when they watch you."

When Sanders appeals to his producer/aide de camp, Artie—always beautifully played by Rip Torn, his offhand response is: "I've lost contact with that world since the death of Randolph Scott." Now there's an insider crack even most gays would miss.

In the second episode, Hank the announcer, played by Jeffery Tambor, decides to get in touch with his Jewish roots and changes his last name from Kingsley to Lipstein and welcomes his favorite religious holidays, Yom Kippur and the Fourth of July. When Hank insists on wearing a yarmulke on the show, Artie responds: "This is television. Morality is just going to get in the way."

For followers of Jay Leno and David Letterman, "Sanders" could be a crucial antidote, and it's certainly more rewarding than watching another rerun of that godawful made-for-TV movie about the Leno-Letterman wars.

The two "Ls" never seem comfortable when, on the rare occasion, a gay topic arises, while "Sanders" affords it the recognition as just another topic subject to its irreverent humor. We have arrived, at least on HBO.

I am not a follower of "Melrose Place," if for no other reason than Aaron Spelling. But a blurb recently had me tuned in while going through my mail one evening. The TV Guide listed that the resident homosexual, Matt, was going out on a first date. The first thing that struck me about "Melrose Place" is that apparently Spelling has hired every handsome hunk for continuing rolls. I saw familiar faces from "Baywatch" and "Silk Stalkings," two shows I have seen on occasion—solely for their hunk quotient.

On a show which seems to literally bristle with sexual content and where everyone is sleeping around, the brief scene between Matt and his date came across as stilted and unreal. They stood a safe couple of feet apart and stared longingly into each other's eyes—even if Matt's glazed look was more puppy like. After the date remarked that he was not into casual affairs, they parted with a comradeship clasp. I obviously cannot speak for the heterosexual viewers out there but I felt like screaming "Kiss him, you fool!" Now if this had happened on "Sanders," there probably would have been some tongue. Viva Sanders.

A Night of Music Celebrating Life

Body Positive, The Garden Party and The Houston Names Project invite you to "A Night of Music Celebrating Life," the annual Tree of Remembrance program at the Metropolitan Multi-service Center.

This year the event is also World AIDS Day, and the NAMES Project Foundation observes the AIDS Memorial Quilt twice, in Washington, DC and again on Dec. 1st. The lighting and decorating of the trees have become a yearly event and a source of comfort, healing and closure for many.

Seasonal music will be provided by Billye Graham Bowman, Clayton Howell, The MCCR Sanctuary Chorus, The Gospel Ensemble and other musical groups.

The Multi-Service Center is located on West Gray. The program will commence at 6:30 pm in the gymnasium and the Garden Party will again be serving refreshments. Bring your ornament and hang it on this year's tree, Names will be read by Houston AIDS related organizations. Come join us for "A Night of Music Celebrating Life," in celebration of those we love.

Community Calendar by Carolyn Roberts

Community Calendar

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

Friday, Nov. 29

- * Borders Book Store Gay/Lesbian Book Club meets at the Espresso Bar at 9634 Westheimer. 782-6066.
- * HIV+ Art classes at the Art League. 523-8817
- * HATCH meets. 942-7002.
- * 12-step program at Montrose Counseling Center. 6:00 pm. 529-0037.
- * Aftercare Group Treatment at Montrose Counseling Center. 6:00 pm. 529-0037.
- * Houston Tennis Club meets at 7:15 pm. 537-1348.
- * Q-Patrol meets to walk the streets at 10:30 pm. 528-SAFE.
- * AIDS Mastery workshop starts. 861-6453.
- * Free Spaying and Neutering Program. 522-2337.

Saturday, Nov. 30

- * Houston Chain Gang Bicycle Club rides. 863-1860.
- * After Hours on KPFT 12:00 am to 3:00 am. 90.1 FM. 526-5738.
- * Gulf Coast Transgender support group meets. 780-4282.
- * Q-Patrol meets to walk the streets at 10:30 pm. 528-SAFE.
- * Visual Art Alliance meets at 10:00 am. 583-8408.
- * Autumn's Seasons Bondage Club discussion group meets at 10:30 am. 788-5593.

Sunday, Dec. 1

- * Houston Chain Gang Bicycle Club meets. 863-1860.
- * The Women's Group meets at 10:45 am. 529-8571.
- * FrontRunners meet at 9:00 am at the Tennis center in Memorial Park. 522-8021.
- * HATCH meets. 942-7002.
- * Inner Loop Sunday Bowling League. 522-9612.
- * Tree of Remembrance ceremony at 1475 W. Gray at 6:30 pm. Call 52-NAMES for more info.
- * Quilt showings at the HISD Main Building and special programs. Call 892-6165 for more info.
- * The Menil Gallery will remove artwork and display the quilt.
- * "You've Touch My Heart" at 4:00 pm at Park Plaza Hospital. Call 285-1290 for

more info.

- * Theater LaB and Bunnies on the Bayou present "New Visions/New Works" at 8:00 pm. Call 868-7516.
- * "The Age of Discrimination" presented by The High School for the Performing and Visual Arts and the Museum of Fine Arts, Houston. at 2:00 pm.
- * Memorial Mass conducted at noon. St. Dominic Center. Call 524-0182 for more info.

Monday, Dec. 2

- * Free HIV Testing and counseling by the Montrose Clinic at the Brazos River Bottom. 4:00 pm to 8:00 pm.
- * Gay Fathers/Fathers First support group. 8:00 pm. 861-6181.
- * Calendar/Computer workshop for Pride Week. 7:00 pm. 529-1223.
- * Positive Living Group at Montrose Counseling Center. 2:15 pm. 539-0037.
- * Outpatient Group Treatment at Montrose Counseling Center. 6:00 pm. 529-0037.

- * Women and HIV/AIDS Group at Montrose Counseling Center. 6:15 pm. 529-0037.

- * Men Survivors of Sexual Abuse Group at Montrose Counseling Center. 6:15 pm. 529-0037.

- * Lesbian Survivors of Cancer and their care givers at Montrose Counseling Center. 6:30 pm. 529-0037.

- * Men's HIV Group at Montrose Counseling Center. 7:00 pm. 529-0037.

- * AVES sponsored free HIV testing from 10:00 am to 5:00 pm at 4125 SW Freeway, Suite 1717.

- * The Spay/Neuter Assistance Program offers low cost services. 522-2337.

- * HeartSong meets. 541-3495.

- * Theater LaB and Bunnies on the Bayou present "New Visions/New Works" at 8:00 pm. Call 868-7516.

- * "In Your Ear and Off the Wall" and dedication of the "Living Wall" at the Four Seasons Hotel at 7:00 pm. Call 623-5796 for more info.

- * Eleanor Ruth Wagner signs her book at Lobo at 7:00 pm. 522-5156.

Tuesday, Dec. 3

- * Helping Cross Dressers Anonymous meets at 239 Westheimer. 8:00 pm. 495-8009.

- * Basic Computer Skills Class at the Kolbe Project. 522-8182.

- * Gay Men HIV+ Psychotherapy at Montrose Counseling Center. 4:30 pm. 529-0037.

- * Outpatient Group Treatment at Montrose Counseling Center. 6:00 pm. 529-0037.

- * Aftercare Group Treatment at Montrose Counseling Center. 6:00 pm. 529-0037.

- * AIDS Alliance of the Bay Area meets at 7:00 pm. 488-4492.

- * Empowerment for Living meets for pot luck. 861-9149.

- * PROTECT: an HIV negative support group meets at 7:00 pm. 520-7870.

- * Free HIV testing by the Montrose Clinic at Club Body Houston. 8:00 pm. 520-2083.

- * Women Survivors of Childhood Abuse at Montrose Counseling Center. 6:30 pm. 529-0037.

- * Survivors of Loss support group meets at 8:30 pm. 778-2677.

- * FrontRunners meet at 6:30 pm. 522-8021.

- * Live Jazz at Borders Book Shop. 782-6066.

Wednesday, Dec. 4

- * Free HIV testing and counseling by the Montrose Clinic at Mary's. 4:00 pm to 8:00 pm.

- * Houston Tennis Club meets at 10:30 pm. 537-1348.

- * Houston Pride Band practices at Dignity Houston. 524-0218.

- * GLOBAL meets at 4:00 pm. 743-7539.

- * Women's Action Coalition meets at Toopees at 7:00 pm. 867-9581.

- * Men's Network at Montrose Counseling Center. 7:00 pm. 529-0037.

- * Houston Tennis Club meets at 7:15 pm. 537-1348.

- * Lambda Rollerskating Club skate at 8:00 pm. 933-5818.

- * Women's Network at Montrose Counseling Center. 7:00 pm. 529-0037.

- * Ongoing Mixed Living in Process Group for men and women. 622-7250 for more info.

- * Living with Chronic Pain at Montrose Counseling Center. 9:30 pm. 529-0037.

- * Aftercare Group Treatment at Montrose Counseling Center. 6:00 pm. 529-0037.

- * Women's Issues Process Group at Montrose Counseling Center. 6:30 pm. 529-0037.

- * HIV Survivor Support Group meets at 7:00 pm. 782-4050.

- * Women's Clinic at the Montrose Clinic. 5:00 pm to 8:00 pm. Call 520-2000.

- * AVES offers free HIV testing from

10:00 am to 5:00 pm. at 4125 SW Freeway, Suite 1717.

- * Lesbian/Bisexual Survivors at Montrose Counseling Center. 6:30 pm. 529-0037.

- * The Spay/Neuter Assistance Program offers low cost services. 522-2337.

- * Houston Gay and Lesbian Political Caucus meets. 521-1000.

Thursday, Dec. 5

- * Free HIV testing and counseling by the Montrose Clinic at the Venture-N from 4:00 pm to 8:00 pm.

- * Art Labs at The Art League at 1:00 pm. 225-9411

- * Front Runners meet at Memorial Park at 6:30 pm. 522-8021.

- * Gay Men's Chorus of Houston open rehearsal at 7:00 pm. 521-7464.

- * Twentysomething meets at 7:30 pm. 315-6786.

- * KPFT Lesbian and Gay Voices airs from 8:00 pm. to 10:00 pm. 866-6505.

- * Ongoing gay men's Living in Process Group. 622-7250.

- * Open Mike Night at Cafe Artiste. 1601 W. Main. 8:00 pm. 528-3704.

- * HIV+ Men Psychotherapy at Montrose Counseling Center. 1:15 pm. 529-0037.

- * Relapse Prevention at Montrose Counseling Center. 2:00 pm. 529-0037.

- * Outpatient Group Treatment at Montrose Counseling Center. 6:00 pm. 529-0037.

- * Aftercare Group Treatment at Montrose Counseling Center. 6:00 pm. 529-0037.

- * Meditation and Chanting Group meets at 7:00 pm. 942-0923.

- * HIV Affected at CASA. 7:00 pm. 796-2272.

- * Men's Therapy Group at Montrose Counseling Center. 7:00 pm. 529-0037.

- * HIV Survivor Support Group meets at 2929 Unity Drive. 7:00 pm. 782-4050

- * Center for the Healing of Racism. 7:30 pm. 738-RACE.

- * Gay Men's Chorus of Houston meets at 7:00 pm. 521-SING.

- * The Center for AIDS forum meets. 527-8219.

- * The Spay/Neuter Assistance Program offers low cost services. 522-2337. * Center for Students with Disabilities HIV+ Support group meets. 743-5400.

97 Grant Deadline Approaches

Miss Camp America Foundation, Inc. is beginning its fundraising campaign for 1997 to benefit local charitable organizations that provide services to persons in the greater Houston metropolitan area affected by HIV/AIDS. It is the tradition of Miss Camp America Foundation, Inc. to provide financial assistance to non-profit 501 (c) (3) organizations whose programs, philosophies, and ideas reflect a unique or innovative approach to the HIV/AIDS problem. Charitable organizations that provide HIV/AIDS-related programs of direct care, clinical, social and mental health services, are eligible. Funds granted by Miss Camp America Foundation, Inc. must be used to support all costs associated with projects and programs as described in the

organization's grant application.

Grant applications for the 1997 fundraising campaign are now being accepted. Jan. 1, 1997 is the deadline for submitting. Applications received after the deadline (postmarked after midnight Jan. 2, 1997) will not be considered. Applications should be submitted in the form of a packet containing the organization's letter of intent, information that describes the organization and its mission, financial statement and operating budget, and evidence of the organization's 501(c)(3) tax exempt status. Applications should be mailed to the following address: Miss Camp America Foundation, Inc. Attn: Vice President, Community Affairs Post Office Box 742 Bellaire, TX 77042.

Thomas Street Council Elected

The Houston Community held open elections for the new Thomas Street Health Center Council in October. Eight consumer and seven non-consumer seats were open for two year terms thru 1998.

The council meets the second Wednesday of each month at 2pm in the third floor conference room at the Thomas Street Clinic, the public is invited to attend. Every attempt is made to hear from consumers, staff and interested parties regarding the issues of the clinic.

The following Harris County resi-

dents were elected to new two year terms: Isaac Branford, Perrie Dolph, Joseph Duve, Steven Heathcock, Dave Hughes, Veronica F. Jacobs, Barbara Joseph, Clair Koepsel, John Laehy, Matt Locklin, Lori Milam, Rodney Mills, Mark Reinhardt, Don Spence and Sharon Wagner.

Officers of the council are: Chairperson, Steven Heathcock, Vice-Chairperson, Perrie Dolph, Secretary, Veronica F. Jacobs, Assistant Secretary, Mark Reinhardt, Treasurer, Lori Milam and Parliamentarian, Don Spence.

Welcome New Advertisers!

By CAROLYN ROBERTS

Please check out our NEW service directory on pages 22 and 23! If you would like to have your business card in the directory, please call our office at 529-8480. We are offering a really good deal!

Welcome to Carriage Car Care, the Foreign Car Connection, the Montrose Motor Company, Tower Cleaners, the Hyde Park Gallery, Tangles Hair Salon, Jaguar Couriers, LaStrada, Dan DiDonato of Preferred Graphics, Crossroads

Market, Claire Brothers Funeral Home, Scott D. Garrison with Merrill Lynch, Justin Talbit Realtor, Java Java Cafe, Heights Above Florist, Psychic Predictions by Dora, Espresso Bar, Taft Street Auto, Jeffrey Cole at Ace Travel, Jean-Louis Armand and Karena Valkyrie-Counseling & Psychotherapy, Registered Massage Therapist Paul Rutledge, The Travel Partnership, Jeff Fisher-Architecture, Elegant Events by Estevan, and Box Boy Moving!

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Dalmatian Fever

By JON ANTHONY

This week's release of the live action remake of the animated Disney classic 101 Dalmatians has created a phenomenon called Dalmatian Fever. Pet shops nationwide have sold out of the spotted pups and there appears to be no end in sight. The hyperbole surrounding the release of what many expect to be the biggest box office hit of the year can be directly attributed to the brilliance of the Disney marketing machine. Unless you've been living under a rock, it is impossible not to have heard about this film and it's pending release. The folks at Disney are banking that 101 Dalmatians will revive it's status in the live action film genre to the degree that The Little Mermaid revived its animation division. And they are spending \$50 million on promotions to ensure the strategy is successful. Future endeavors, similar in concept, include a remake of Absent Minded Professor with Robin Williams and updated versions of George of the Jungle and Mighty Joe Young.

The studio decided to leave nothing to chance and summoned some of Hollywood's most respected talents such as Glenn Close and Joan Plowright. Close had to be wooed according to Disney executives. Initially reluctant to portray such a grandiose villain, Close finally relented. Directed by John Hughes (Home Alone), the film was updated for the 90's. Shot on location in England with a menagerie of 400, the film recounts the tale of the Dalmatians abduction by the menacing Cruella DeVil and their subsequent rescue. The animated version was released in 1961 and has grossed nearly \$100 million. The 1991 adaptation is expected to exceed, if not double, that amount with ease. Considering the merchandise tie-ins and future video sales, that would not be an insurmountable task.

For her part, Close revels in her por-

trayal as she spouts "I love the smell of near-extinction." If ever there was an actress taylor made for this part, it would be Close. "Disney was a huge part of my imagination as a kid," said Close in an interview with USA Today. "I always wanted to be in Disney movies when I was little. It's lovely to finally be in one."

To eradicate any misconceptions as to how humane the puppies were treated, Disney spared no expense. The puppies had their own condo on-site that was equipped with heated pens, play areas and around the clock vet care at a cost of \$100,000. A maid was hired to clean up messes as they occurred for hygiene reasons and all persons entering the puppy condo had to step in a footbath disinfectant prior to entry. In addition, the studio ensure that each puppy had a new owner and home when filming was finished.

Televisions Network ABC (now owned by Disney) will air 101 Dalmatians... A Canine's Tale Thursday Nov. 28 at 8 p.m. to coincide with the films release. The special takes you behind the scenes during production of the film and features highlights from the Radio City Music Hall premier held earlier this month. To promote the film locally, Disney held a audition for Dalmatians for the annual Bank United Thanksgiving Day Parade. Inundated with too many entries, it was decided that the parade would be Texas' size and incorporate 303 Dalmatians into the line-up. All the puppies will be sporting red sweaters and the owners will be wearing spotted white sweat shirts. A VID (Very Important Dog) party will be held at the George R. Brown convention center for the parade entrants on Tuesday Nov. 26. If live-action remakes are not your forte, then perhaps now would be a good time to invest in Disney stock. If predictions are accurate, it should soar. 101 Dalmatians opens at area theatres, including the Cineplex Odeon at River Oaks Plaza, this Wednesday Nov. 27.

 <p>Dr. Paul R. Gustafson - Honorary Event Chair</p> <h1>A Christmas Songfest*</h1> <p>Presents</p> <h2>Winter Reveries</h2> <p>An evening of caroling and festivities benefiting The Assistance Fund and Omega House Sunday, December 8, 1996 6:30 pm</p> <p><i>Masters of Ceremonies</i> Mr. Dan Meador of KHOU-TV CH 11 Ms. Dayna Steele of KNWS-TV CH 51 Ms. Maria Todd of KRBE-RADIO 104 FM</p> <p><i>Music by</i> Jerry Atwood Keith Caldwell Ricky Comeaux Cindy Harrelson Sharon Montgomery Terry Pierce ... and You!</p> <p>Featuring Open Bar, Dinner Buffet, Silent Auction</p> <p>Edwin Hornberger Conference Center 2151 W Holcombe Blvd Holiday Attire, Black Tie Optional MC/VISA accepted for ticket purchases and Silent Auction Table Reservations: Ed Inderwish 713/683-0485</p>		<p>The Assistance Fund provides financial assistance for payment of insurance premiums enabling Persons Living with AIDS to maintain continuity of their medical or dental insurance until they qualify for Medicare. Also provided is an emergency medication assistance program for those clients in transition from private insurance to Medicare.</p> <p>Omega House is a residential care facility that provides hospice care to AIDS patients in the terminal phase of their illness. We provide housing as well as spiritual, psychological and palliative medical care for residents and their families, mates, and friends. Residents are generally admitted without regard for their ability pay.</p> <p>*An all Volunteer Texas Non-Profit Corporation Exempt Under IRC-501(c)(3) Mail preparation by Momentum Industries, a division of Center for the Retarded, Inc.</p>
	<p>\$45.00 per Person at the door</p> <p>Saints' Tables for Eight - \$400.00</p> <p>Saints' Tables for Ten - \$500.00</p> <p>Angels' Tables for Ten - \$650.00</p> <p>ArchAngels' Tables for Ten - \$800.00</p> <p>Table Reservations: Ed Inderwish 713/683-0485</p>	

The Blood at Calvary or the Kool-Aid of Homoprejudice

By LuJack Tyler

Former Black Panther revolutionary Anggela Davis once said, "Nothing in the world makes me angrier than inaction and silence." On Saturday, Nov. 16, 1996 the Houston African American Lesbian and Gay Alliance and the National Black Lesbian and Gay Leadership Forum demonstrated action and silence broken.

The annual UJIMA conference empowerment and pride summit forum was an inspiring tool designed to began making the black church a home for "all God's children." The three day conference was attended by 150 individuals hailing from across the United States including Washington, DC, Chicago, Dallas and Austin. The keynote attraction was the blessed, emotional, honest and powerful documentary, "ALL GOD'S CHILDREN." The film's co-director Sylvia Rhue addressed the attendees at this historic event.

"ALL GOD'S CHILDREN is the first time in history," Rhue stated "that prominent African American leaders have said that homosexuality is okay. And spread the word about the good news."

"ALL GOD'S CHILDREN" is a documentary which was produced by Sylvia Rhue and Dr. Dee Mosbacher as a response to the homoprejudice 9 minute video, "Gay Rights/Special Rights." A video which has been viewed by African American congregations all over the country.

"ALL GOD'S CHILDREN" presents

the African American church's embracement of African American Gay and Lesbian individuals. U.S. Representatives Maxine Waters (D.—Calif.), Carol Moseley-Braun(D.—Ill.) and Rev. Jesse Jackson all reiterated their views on people having the right to live their own lives without harassment.

For many years the Lesbian and Gay Human Rights movement has been fought feverously by many great and honored non-persons of color. Because of the closet in part created by the African American church many Afro Americans have stayed in the closet and even more have stayed away from lesbian and gay human rights activism. The UJIMA conference was a signal to the world that the days of "we hope to overcome" are over. And it's morning for all in lesbian and gay activist.

"The closet is the most dangerous thing to gay and lesbian people" Co-Director Steve Walker said during the event. "Supreme Court Justice Clarence Thomas is in denial about his African American heritage. And J. Edgar Hoover was in denial about his homosexuality. Thus, that may have contributed to his hatred for mankind."

Revolution is like a forest fire. It burns everything in its path. Lesbian and gay Afro American activist have burned down the closet shelf designed by the African American church to hide the things about ourself and we are free at last, free at last. Thank God almighty we are free at last, for all God's children. Let freedom ring!

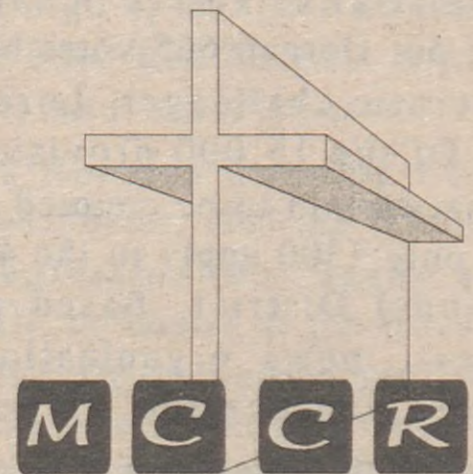
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School Pulls Plug on Ryan White Autobiography

FROM ASSOCIATED PRESS

(AP) The autobiography of teen-age AIDS advocate Ryan White is back on library shelves at a Pennsylvania school despite references to sodomy, condom usage and smoking that had previously gotten it banned. "Ryan White: My Own Story," details the hemophiliac's battle with AIDS. White died six years ago at 18 after he was infected with AIDS during a blood transfusion years earlier. A federal program that subsidizes AIDS-related treatment programs bears his name. Officials at Stroudsburg Middle School pulled the book from the curriculum and library on Nov. 5, after parents and administrators found it inappropriate. On Thursday the school principal decided to put the book back in the library but said students must first get their parents' permission before checking it out. "The book is a good book, but it's not age-appropriate," said William Stoudt, the school's principal.

School administrators reviewed the book and decided parts were a little too risqué for 11- and 12-year olds. Most of the book deals with White's fight with AIDS. However, one section uses a gutter term for sodomy and another approves of teen smoking. A third section, which wasn't penned by White, describes how to put a condom on a banana, Stoudtsaid. "When Ryan originally wrote it, it was

intended for kids," said Michael Morrison, a spokesperson for the Ryan White Foundation. "But it's up to the school districts to deem it appropriate." The book was published in 1991, a year after White's death, but the foundation hasn't received any complaints about the book, Morrison said.

Last year, the book was in the school curriculum as part of a reading list. This year, teachers had a choice between assigning it as required reading during a biography lesson. Several years ago, some eighth-graders checked the book out and started using the slang term for sodomy, Stoudt said. Parents approached Stoudt earlier this year with objections to the book. "We're not naive enough to say that some kids (in eighth-grade) aren't sexually active," Stoudt said, but the book doesn't fit into the school's sex education courses. Seeing the effects the virus has on someone their own age, who contracted the virus through no fault of his own, could only help, said one AIDS-education advocate. "Kids are at the greatest risk," said Jeff Rosen, executive director of Neighbors of Monroe County. Rosen hadn't read the book but said it could help counter the negative impressions children see on TV. People need as much information about AIDS as possible since it is almost 100 percent preventable, he said.

Dornan Loss Official

Human Rights Campaign

WASHINGTON—Bob Dornan, R-Calif., the most anti-gay member of the House of Representatives, has lost his seat in Congress.

After counting all absentee ballots, the registrar of voters in Santa Ana, Calif., put Dornan 665 votes behind his Democratic challenger, Loretta Sanchez. Of the 15,000 provisional ballots that remain to be counted county-wide, only 1300 apply to the 46th Congressional District. Based on these numbers, news organizations have declared Sanchez the winner.

"The 105th Congress will be a Dornan-free zone, and fair-minded Americans are jubilant across the land," said David M. Smith, Human Rights Campaign (HRC) communications director. "We have had to devote enormous time and resources to fight against Dornan's mean-spirited, vindictive, and oftentimes obsessive attacks against gay people and people affected by HIV/AIDS. The absence of Robert K. Dornan is a monumental relief."

During his 1992 re-election campaign, Dornan made headlines by asserting during an interview that "Every lesbian spear-chucker in this country is hoping I get defeated."

Even in this most recent race, Dornan attacked Sanchez as "another Catholic for abortion and sodomy rights."

"I'm being fed a dream candidate," he said.

"As it turned out, she was his worst nightmare," Daniel Zingale, HRC's political director said at a news conference last week, holding a symbolic spear. "And today, gay people across this nation are heaving a collective

sigh of relief, knowing that they will no longer be subject to Dornan's capricious, sinister attacks."

Sanchez traveled to Capitol Hill this week to take part in freshman orientation for new House members. On Monday, House staff members decided to move her into Dornan's coveted office space.

Dornan, whose temper is notorious, has alleged voter fraud, although he has produced no evidence. He said he plans to meet with the Orange County district attorney to discuss his accusations and asked for an investigation by the House Oversight Committee.

"Dornan has lost with the same grace and rancor that marked his 18 years in Congress," said Smith.

Throughout his political career, Dornan obsessively launched attacks on lesbian and gay Americans, as well as people with HIV and AIDS. In the last session of Congress, HRC worked with AIDS and veterans groups to repeal a Dornan measure that would have forced the military to discharge service members with HIV and cut off basic benefits to their families.

Dornan also provoked the ire of his House colleagues when he launched a vendetta against fellow Republican Rep. Steve Gunderson of Wisconsin, accusing him from the floor of the House of having "a revolving door on his closet. He's in, he's out, he's in, he's out."

At the time, Gunderson had not publicly revealed that he is gay.

HRC's political action committee contributed \$5,000 to Sanchez's general election campaign, the maximum allowed by law.

Pride Committee of Houston attends International Conference

By JAMES RODRIGUEZ

HOUSTON, TEXAS... Representatives from Pride Committee of Houston (PCOH) attended The International Association of Lesbian/Gay Pride Coordinators, Inc.'s (IAL/GPC) annual international conference Oct. 31 through Nov. 3, 1996. Held in Kansas City, MO., the conference attracted representatives from over 45 Pride Committees including North America and Europe with over 175 delegates in attendance.

Delegates representing PCOH included this year's Pride Committee Co-chairs Darren Armstrong and Susan Guerrero; Jack Valinski, PCOH Board Member; Julie Siska, PCOH Executive Director; Robin Duncan, Parade Coordinator; Gina Richardson, Volunteer Coordinator; and Guy Burns, Pride Guide Coordinator. Entering his second year on the Board of Directors for PCOH and representing Region 3 of the IAL/GPC, Darren Armstrong states "One of our many goals in Region 3 is to locate other Pride organizations within our region and possibly organize a mini-conference in Houston." Region 3 encompasses the states of Texas, New Mexico, Oklahoma, Kansas, Colorado,

Wyoming, and Montana.

Delegates selected officers for the year. Pride Committee of Houston's Executive Director, Julie Siska was reelected as International Treasurer. Mark Canterbury (Pride South Florida) was elected International President along with Glen Paul Freedman (Atlanta Pride Committee) and Teddy Witherington (the London Pride Trust) as Vice Presidents. DavaceChin was elected International Secretary along with Deborah Oakley-Melvin as Executive Administrator. Both Chin and Oakley-Melvin are from the San Francisco L/G/B/T Pride Committee.

Among the many resolutions and by-law changes, the IAL/GPC selected the 1997 International Pride theme: "EQUALITY THROUGH VISIBILITY." Delegates awarded the 1997 and 1998 conferences to the host cities of New York City, NY. and West Hollywood, CA. London, England is a possible site for the 1999 conference. Delegates attended seminars throughout the three day conference on topics such as Entertainment and Procurement, Pride Festival Insurance, Parade Logistics, Festival Production, and Merchandising.

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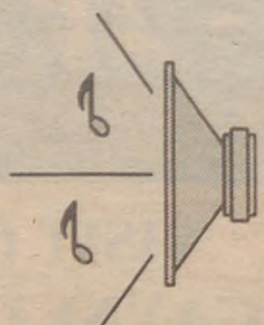
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JANEE JOHNSON



FRANKIE LANE

BIRTHDAY GIRLS:
MISS PEACHES
JANEE JOHNSON
FRANKIE LANE
GUESTS:
MONIQUE MARCEL
JERISSA
NIKKI STERLING
BUFFET 6PM

SPORTS NOTES

By LEE DAVIS

MSL Needs You!!

On March 28-30, 1997, the **Montrose Softball League (MSL)** is reviving the Lone Star Classic Softball Tournament and needs all of the volunteer help possible. You do not need any softball experience, just a helping hand and a roving eye as hundreds of people will be in Houston from all over North America. They need assistance with publicity, security, field maintenance, score keeping, hospitality and many other areas too numerous to mention.

The Tournament Director for the Classic is Marvin Peterman. He and several committees have already begun preparations for this exciting tournament. MSL is a member of NAGAAA (North American Gay Amateur Athletics Association) that boasts teams from California, Oregon, Washington, Arizona, Colorado, Wisconsin, Minnesota, Tennessee, New York, Washington DC, Georgia, Alabama, Texas, Florida, Massachusetts, Connecticut, Pennsylvania, Virginia and Toronto, Canada. Teams from all of these states are being invited to Houston to join in the fun.

Founded in 1980 as the Montrose Softball Association, MSL is set to begin their 17th consecutive season in 1997. They have a Fall & Spring season involving men and women from the greater Hous-

ton area. In the Fall, teams are chosen by a lottery drawing and is greatly used as a training tool for those not experienced in competitive softball. In the Spring, teams are selected by various coaches in three different categories. In the "A" Division, players are encouraged to have a great amount of softball experience at the competitive level. In the "B" Division, players are not as experienced as the "A" level, but show the desire to learn and enhance their playing skills. Finally, in the "C" Division, players are not required to have any softball experience. The best way to learn is to "get your feet wet."

Through various and sundry fundraisers, MSL has donated monies to worthy charities throughout their years of existence. Last year, a total of \$4500 was donated to four charities: Soiree Aubergine, The Assistance Fund, Pet Patrol and Body Positive. An annual Casino Night, Jocks in Dresses, Concessions and many other activities help raise the much needed funds. There were fourteen teams last year and plans for a greater number are expected for this year.

If you would like to meet a lot of new faces and hopefully lasting relationships, please volunteer for the Lone Star Classic. Call 867-3913, leave a message, and trust me—they will get back with you real soon. Here's hoping the 1997 Lone Star Classic is the biggest and best yet!!

Elizabeth Birch Comes to Houston

Human Rights Campaign Executive Director Elizabeth Birch will participate in a Town Hall Meeting here next Monday evening. The panel discussion will address national and local political victories and challenges for the gay community and will be moderated by longtime gay activist Annise Parker, according to Clarence Bagby, an HRC Houston Steering Committee member.

"The panelists will give a report on the state of gay politics in America as well as here in our local community and answer questions from the audience," Bagby said. "The panel will include, Elizabeth Birch, former Houston Gay and Lesbian Political Caucus President Annise Parker, HGLPC Board Chair Matthew Huston and Tom Combs, an openly gay aide to U.S. Representative Sheila Jackson Lee. Our seven Houston Steering Committee members will also participate."

The Town Hall Meeting will begin at 5:30 p.m., Monday, Dec. 2 at the West End Multi-Service Center at 170 Heights Boulevard between I-10 and Washington Avenue.

"Elizabeth wanted to come to Houston to hear first hand from the community about our priorities and goals as a community," said Shelley Porter, a Houston member of the HRC Board of Governors. Birch will be meeting individually with community leaders and activists during her visit next Monday and Tuesday, according to Porter.

"HRC is committed to being a grassroots organization and an essential element of that commitment is listening to what local leaders and activists

believe is important to the gay community," said Bagby.

"Our Chastity Bono membership event at Rascals was a fantastic success," said Porter. "We had dozens of people sign up to serve on committees for our HRC Red Tie Ball, bowling tournament and other events."

HRC's Houston Steering Committee includes Porter, also the HRC Houston city representative; Bagby and Sandra Hall, co-chairs of the Houston Federal Club; Denay Hudson and Trey Yates, members of the Board of Governors and co-chairs of the May, 1997 Alley Theater Event; Deborah Seitzer, co-chair of the 1997 Valentine's Day HRC Red Tie Ball; and Ron Grose, co-chair of the Spring 1997 Bowl Over Bigots bowling tournament.

"We are always seeking more local involvement with HRC and right now we're looking for co-chairs of some of our local events," Bagby said. For information about how to get involved locally with HRC, contact Clarence Bagby at 861-8238 or Shelley Porter at 861-6175.

The Human Rights Campaign is the largest national lesbian and gay political organization, with members throughout the country. It effectively lobbies Congress, provides campaign support and educates the public to ensure that lesbian and gay Americans can be open, honest and safe at home, at work and in the community.

For the more information about HRC and to sent an instant e-mail to your member of Congress check out HRC's Online Action Center on the World Wide Web at <http://www.hrcusa.org>.

PLAY SAFE

TGRA on the Patio Fri 29
 COMMERCIAL MEMBER TGRA 9:30 pm TGRA COMMERCIAL MEMBER

RSICSS on the Patio Sat 30
 9:30 pm

Don't Forget our Daily Specials

Mon	All Day All Night
Tues	\$1.00 Well 7am-11pm \$1.00 Domestic Longnecks
Weds	All Day All Night \$1.75 Domestic Longnecks
Thurs	All Day All Night 7am till 11pm Hamburgers 6-9pm Dance Lessons 9pm
Fri-Sat	7am till 9pm Then dance your Boots off
Sun	12 till 5pm Steak Night 5-9pm

BRB

2400 Brazos • Houston
 (713) 528-9192

Sunday, December 1
 7:30 pm
 Colt 45's present
Rednecks with Blue Balls

A Down Home Country Christmas Benefiting Colt 45s Charities also
 The Colts will award their Annual Community Awards

Come on Down & find your favorite Cowboy at the BRB!

Sunday, December 8th
 6:30
 10th Annual LVL Christmas Show




Back to a Future

One Man's AIDS Tale Shows How Quickly Epidemic Has Turned

Last Year This Editor Wrote His Own Obituary; Now, He Writes of Surviving

By David Sanford, Staff Reporter of The Wall Street Journal

The following article appeared in **The Wall Street Journal**, issue November 8, 1996. **The Houston Voice** obtained permission to reprint it for our readers.

One year ago today, I told my colleagues that I was dying of AIDS. I had been fighting it for years -- the illness and the telling.

I had been taking AZT, and briefly even a drug given to lepers. But now I was gaunt, tired and rather sure I was losing the battle. I gave my boss an obituary I had written -- I'm a features editor on Page One of **The Wall Street Journal**, so I certainly didn't want anybody else writing it -- sent a note to my boss's boss and started saying my goodbyes.

Last week, my doctor, Jerome E. Groopman, noticed that I am getting fat and said it wouldn't be a bad idea if I went on a modest diet. At age 53, I am going to the gym again. I need to buy some new clothes. I am planning to one day retire with my partner of 28 years, who is HIV-negative.

What has happened in the past year, at least for me, is a miracle that couldn't have taken place at any other moment. The year 1996 is when everything changed, and very quickly, for people with AIDS. I have been grappling with this disease for nearly a decade and a half, almost since the beginning, when it was called Gay Related Immune Deficiency, or GRID. I've outlived friends and peers, and now I find

myself in the unusual position of telling people how I've survived this scourge, something I never thought would happen. My condition could change for the worse tomorrow. But today I feel well again.

Thanks to the arrival of the new drugs called protease inhibitors, I am probably more likely to be hit by a truck than to die of AIDS. In coming alive again, I've learned the value of a good doctor and good friends -- and the importance of being honest with yourself, your co-workers and the people you love.

My battle with AIDS, I'm certain, began in December 1982, at a bathhouse in Manhattan's East Village during a sexual encounter with a man whose name I didn't catch. Like other gay men, I had kept up with newspaper reports, beginning with a July 3, 1981, New York Times story with the fateful headline: "Rare Cancer Seen in 41 Homosexuals." Nevertheless, going to the baths was a big part of gay culture back then, and here I was. Old habits die hard.

At the time, the federal Centers for Disease Control and medical authorities were saying little about this being an infectious disease. Indeed, they at first thought it probably wasn't. But it was pretty clear that GRID was caused either by the cumulative effects of too much sex (so many men, so many germs) or too much butyl nitrite (poppers), a sexual stimulant sniffed from little vials available for \$5 at newsstands. The third possibility was that it was a sex-borne plague.

A week or two after that encounter, I came down with the strangest flu. It had the usual aches and respiratory symptoms, but also a high fever and a rash. It lasted for a couple of weeks at Christmas when my partner, Lewis, and I

were in Denver visiting my mother, just two weeks before she died. I have since learned that when people become infected with the human immunodeficiency virus, they often have such an illness.

It was on this visit that my mother asked us over dinner one night whether we had seen a TV documentary about "the disease a lot of people in New York are getting." "Homosexual" was a word I never heard from my mother, and I didn't utter it around her. Sex wasn't anything we talked about. I had been living with the same man for more than 14 years, and my mother, who was perfectly accepting of our relationship -- a marriage in every sense but the legal one -- was still hoping for grandchildren from her only child.

Yes, we told her, we had seen the program. End of discussion. I didn't volunteer that I thought I myself might have recently been infected. My New Year's resolution was to become as chaste as a priest is supposed to be, and I did. I was determined not to get infected if I wasn't already, and I didn't want to infect anybody else.

But the signs were there. I tired easily. On a trip to Japan in 1984, I had the first of recurring night sweats, which can be a sign of infection. When I dieted, I would drop weight quickly -- 48 pounds in one four-month period.

When the HIV blood test finally became available in 1985, I wasn't interested in opening Pandora's Box. There wasn't anything you could do for HIV then anyway.

It wasn't until 1989 that researchers reported that HIV-positive people -- and not just patients with full-blown AIDS -- might benefit from the drug AZT. Now there was a good reason to be tested.

I got the news on Sept. 22, 1989, when a

woman named Bea at the New York City public-health clinic on Ninth Avenue told me I was HIV-positive. I have always been health-conscious. (Lewis said to me recently: "You are the answer to the question 'Can you have AIDS and be a hypochondriac?'"") But at that moment I suddenly stopped worrying about twinges, radon and asbestosis and focused squarely on dying of AIDS. Bea, who knew me as a code number, said to comfort me: "If I considered this a death sentence, I couldn't do this work." She told me to go to my doctor and get on AZT.

I wasn't surprised by the test result, but I was upset. I'm not a crier, but I cried. I took a taxi from the clinic to the Journal and proceeded to sleepwalk through the day. That morning, I attended a meeting to talk about a series of articles on public schools. My only thought as I sat silently through the discussion was, "What do I care? I'm dying." I didn't know whether I would ever care about anything again, except that I was worried about Lewis, and I felt strongly that I didn't want to endure some long, terrible final illness.


Because my helper T-cell count (T4 lymphocytes) was 457, well above 200, which represents clinical AIDS, my doctor didn't recommend that I do anything but monitor the situation with blood tests every three months.

The first year that I knew myself to be HIV-positive was the last year of my friend David Coon's life. He had been the back-of-the-house manager at the Odeon, a restaurant I liked in lower Manhattan. He gave me good tables. I bought him a subscription to **The Wall Street Journal**.

(Continued on page 18)

11/30 **Star Studded Saturday Show** 11:00pm

Hostess



Roxanne Lee Love

Special Guest
and Talent Night Winner

Sivi Ross
Victoria Nicole



Boy! Am I stuffed!

You will never fit in your tutu again!

I'll go on a diet next year!

NOT!!

FRI	11/29	MALE STRIP CONTEST at 11:00pm with Paivi
SAT	11/30	SATURDAY SHOW at 11:00pm with Roxanne
SUN	12/1	\$1 Budweiser & Bud Light All Day All Night
MON	12/2	MALE STRIP CONTEST at 11:00pm with Paivi
TUE	12/3	Amateur/Talent Night at 11:00pm with Dyan Michaels
WED	12/4	Granny's Burgers



2517 Ralph Street at Westheimer
(713) 527-9071

- Happy Hour 7am-9pm weekdays
- \$1.50 Well 4-7 Saturday
- \$1.50 Vodka 7am-6pm
- Mug Club 7am-10pm
- \$3.75 Pitchers & \$1.75 Mugs

Thursday, December 5, 11pm

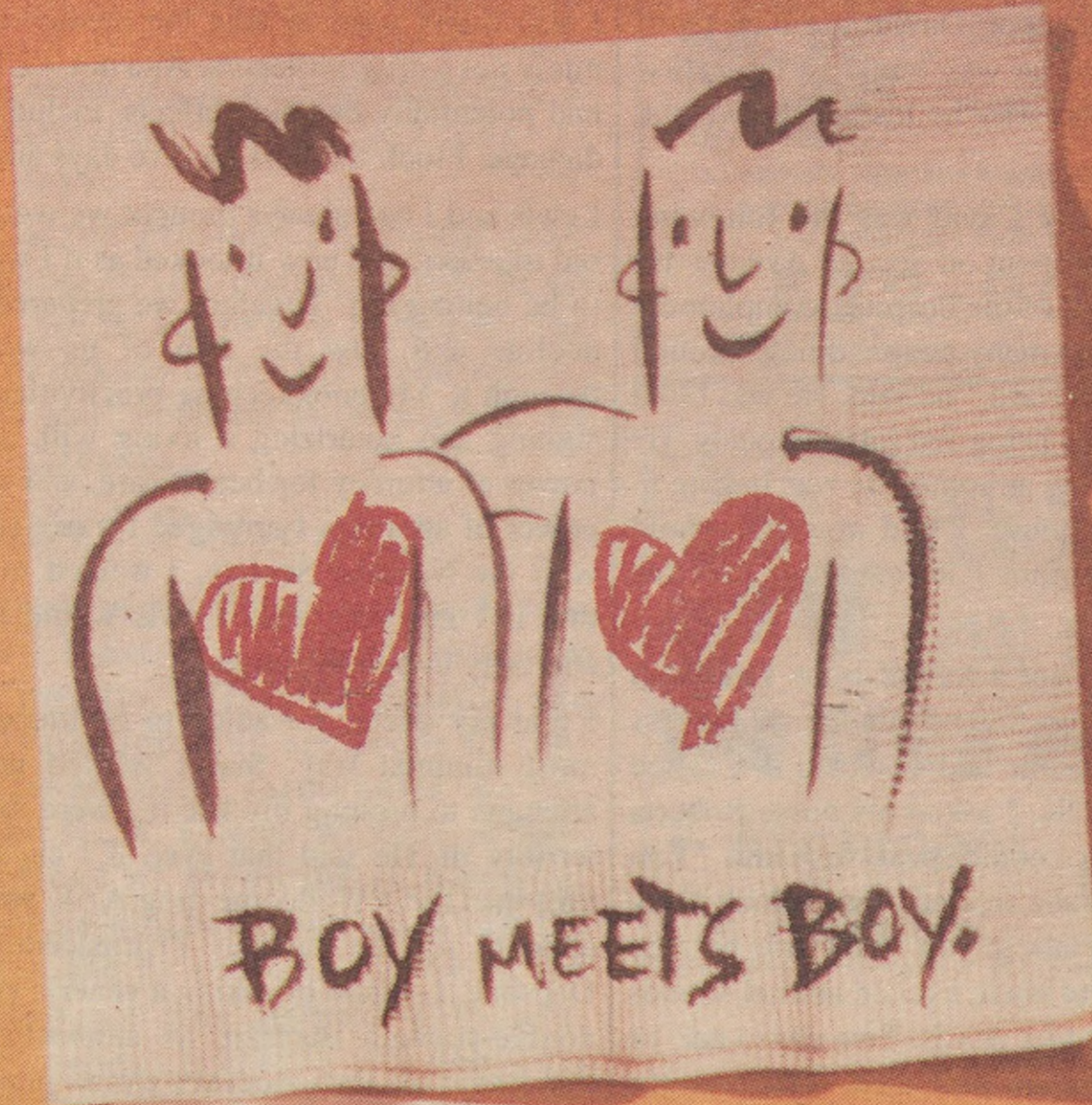
Dyan Michaels

ONE MAN SHOW



MC: PAIVI LEE LOVE

IT'S A STORY WE'VE HEARD
 MANY TIMES BEFORE. GAY MEN
 ENGAGING IN WHAT THEY
 THOUGHT WAS SAFE SEX,
 ONLY TO CATCH HEPATITIS A
 THROUGH ORAL/ANAL
 CONTACT OR HANDLING
 A CONDOM. THE VIRUS
 RARELY KILLS, BUT IF YOU
 GET HEPATITIS A, VOMITING,
 ABDOMINAL PAIN, JAUNDICE
 AND DIARRHEA CAN
 DEBILITATE YOU FOR WEEKS.
 FORTUNATELY, THERE'S HAVRIX,
 THE WORLD'S FIRST VACCINE
 AGAINST HEPATITIS A.
 A SINGLE DOSE WILL PROTECT



YOU FOR UP TO ONE YEAR,
 AND A BOOSTER DOSE SIX TO
 12 MONTHS LATER WILL
 PROLONG PROTECTION.
 THE MOST COMMON SIDE
 EFFECTS AFTER RECEIVING
 HAVRIX ARE HEADACHE OR A
 LITTLE SORENESS IN YOUR ARM*
 ASK YOUR DOCTOR OR
 CALL 1.800.200.HEPA
 FOR MORE INFORMATION.
 AND MAKE SURE YOUR STORY
 HAS A HAPPY ENDING.

*PLEASE SEE
 IMPORTANT

Havrix
 Hepatitis A Vaccine,
 Inactivated

PATIENT INFORMATION
 ADJACENT TO THIS AD.

Manufactured by
SmithKline Beecham Biologicals
 Rixensart, Belgium

Distributed by
SmithKline Beecham Pharmaceuticals
 Philadelphia, PA 19101

Havrix is a registered trademark
 of SmithKline Beecham.

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HA8153

Wall Street continued...

(Continued from page 16)

Hepatitis A Vaccine, Inactivated Havrix®

See complete prescribing information in SmithKline Beecham Pharmaceuticals literature. The following is a brief summary.

INDICATIONS AND USAGE: Havrix is indicated for active immunization of persons ≥ 2 years of age against disease caused by hepatitis A virus (HAV).

CONTRAINDICATIONS: Havrix is contraindicated in people with known hypersensitivity to any component of the vaccine.

WARNINGS: Do not give additional injections to patients experiencing hypersensitivity reactions after a Havrix injection. (See CONTRAINDICATIONS.)

Hepatitis A has a relatively long incubation period. Hepatitis A vaccine may not prevent hepatitis A infection in those who have an unrecognized hepatitis A infection at the time of vaccination. Additionally, it may not prevent infection in those who do not achieve protective antibody titers (although the lowest titer needed to confer protection has not been determined).

PRECAUTIONS: As with any parenteral vaccine (1) keep epinephrine available for use in case of anaphylaxis or anaphylactoid reaction; (2) delay administration, if possible, in people with any febrile illness or active infection, except when the physician believes withholding vaccine entails the greater risk; (3) take all known precautions to prevent adverse reactions, including reviewing patients' history for hypersensitivity to this or similar vaccines.

Administer with caution to people with thrombocytopenia or a bleeding disorder, or people taking anticoagulants. Do not inject into a blood vessel. Use a separate, sterile needle or prefilled syringe for every patient. When giving concomitantly with other vaccines or IG, use separate needles and different injection sites.

As with any vaccine, if administered to immunosuppressed persons or persons receiving immunosuppressive therapy, the expected immune response may not be obtained.

Carcinogenesis, Mutagenesis, Impairment of Fertility: Havrix has not been evaluated for its carcinogenic potential, mutagenic potential or potential for impairment of fertility.

Pregnancy Category C: Animal reproduction studies have not been conducted with Havrix. It is also not known whether Havrix can cause fetal harm when administered to a pregnant woman or can affect reproduction capacity. Give Havrix to a pregnant woman only if clearly needed. It is not known whether Havrix is excreted in human milk. Because many drugs are excreted in human milk, use caution when administering Havrix to a nursing woman.

Havrix is well tolerated and highly immunogenic and effective in children.

Fully inform patients, parents or guardians of the benefits and risks of immunization with Havrix. For persons, traveling to endemic or epidemic areas, consult current CDC advisories regarding specific locales. Travelers should take all necessary precautions to avoid contact with, or ingestion of, contaminated food or water. Duration of immunity following a complete vaccination schedule has not been established.

ADVERSE REACTIONS: Havrix has been generally well tolerated. As with all pharmaceuticals, however, it is possible that expanded commercial use of the vaccine could reveal rare adverse events.

The most frequently reported by volunteers in clinical trials was injection-site soreness (56% of adults; 21% of children); headache (14% of adults; less than 9% of children). Other solicited and unsolicited events are listed below:

Incidence 1% to 10% of injections: Induration, redness, swelling, fatigue, fever (>37.5°C), malaise, anorexia, nausea.

Incidence <1% of injections: Hematoma, pruritus, rash, urticaria; pharyngitis, other upper respiratory tract infections; abdominal pain, diarrhea, dysgeusia, vomiting, arthralgia, elevation of creatine phosphokinase, myalgia; lymphadenopathy, hypertonic episode, insomnia, photophobia, vertigo.

Additional safety data
Safety data were obtained from two additional sources in which large populations were vaccinated. In an outbreak setting in which 4,930 individuals were immunized with a single dose of either 720 EL.U. or 1440 EL.U. of Havrix, the vaccine was well-tolerated and no serious adverse events due to vaccination were reported. Overall, less than 10% of vaccinees reported solicited general adverse events following the vaccine. The most common solicited local adverse event was pain at the injection site, reported in 22.3% of subjects at 24 hours and decreasing to 2.4% by 72 hours.

In a field efficacy trial, 19,037 children received the 360 EL.U. dose of Havrix. The most commonly reported adverse events were injection-site pain (9.5%) and tenderness (8.1%), reported following first doses of Havrix. Other adverse events were infrequent and comparable to the control vaccine Engerix-B® (Hepatitis B Vaccine, Recombinant).

Postmarketing Reports: Rare voluntary reports of adverse events in people receiving Havrix since market introduction include the following: localized edema; anaphylaxis/anaphylactoid reactions, somnolence; syncope; jaundice, hepatitis; erythema multiforme, hyperhidrosis, angioedema; dyspnea; lymphadenopathy; convulsions, encephalopathy, dizziness, neuropathy, myelitis, paresis, Guillain-Barré syndrome, multiple sclerosis, congenital abnormality.

The U.S. Department of Health and Human Services has established the Vaccine Adverse Events Reporting System (VAERS) to accept reports of suspected adverse events after the administration of any vaccine, including, but not limited to, the reporting of events required by the National Childhood Vaccine Injury Act of 1986. The toll-free number for VAERS forms and information is 1-800-822-7967.

HOW SUPPLIED: 360 EL.U./0.5 mL NDC 58160-836-01 Package of 1 single-dose vial.
720 EL.U./0.5 mL NDC 58160-837-01 Package of 1 single-dose vial; NDC 58160-837-02 Package of 1 prefilled syringe.
1440 EL.U./mL NDC 58160-835-01 Package of 1 single-dose vial; NDC 58160-835-02 Package of 1 prefilled syringe.

Manufactured by **SmithKline Beecham Biologicals**, Rixensart, Belgium.
Distributed by **SmithKline Beecham Pharmaceuticals**, Philadelphia, PA 19101.
BRS-HA.L5A

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Havrix is a registered trademark of SmithKline Beecham.

Lewis and I had more than one Thanksgiving dinner at the Odeon, with David working, and we became friends. Late in 1989, he lost 35 pounds and was hospitalized with what Keith Younger, a gay waiter who worked with him, told us was "a bad case of toxo" -- toxoplasmosis, a parasitic infection contracted from cat litter that can cause encephalitis.

Once out of the hospital, David said nothing of AIDS, but claimed he was found to be lactose intolerant. That was why he lost all the weight, he said.

The last time I saw David was the following summer at his apartment on Second Avenue. He had been in and out of the hospital, complaining that "there were too many people dying" around him. "It's an AIDS ward," he said. He was blind in one eye. He was being fed intravenously. He had 24-hour nursing at home. He was having to sell his weekend house. I told myself I would commit suicide before I let anything like this happen to me.

That December, I got a refund from **The Wall Street Journal** for the remainder of David's subscription. Someone had canceled it. I called to see if he was OK. I asked his nurse Roberta Montuori whether I could speak with him. "You can talk to him," she replied, "but I don't think he will be able to talk to you." She gave him the phone. I spoke. He made excited animal sounds that were nothing like words. Two days later, he spit out his medicine and died. Two months later, Keith was dead, too.

I wasn't even going to think of dying in such misery. I retreated into bookkeeping. According to the Kuder Preference Record, an aptitude test I took in school, my interests pointed toward a career as a certified public accountant. Fortunately I became a reporter instead, a writer and managing editor of the New Republic for 11 years in the '60s and '70s, then managing editor of Harper's magazine in 1979 and 1980.

But with my bent for accounting, and a Swedish fatalism I picked up from my mother and immigrant grandparents, I started getting my affairs in order -- revising my will, withdrawing the voluntary contributions I had made to the profit-sharing retirement plan of Dow Jones & Co., which owns **The Wall Street Journal** (so I could spend the money), and making lists of insurance policies.

The other thing I did was to embark on a campaign of deception.

My doctor suggested I not file for insurance reimbursement for my regular T-cell tests, which I had every three months and which were costing about \$150. "You can afford it," he said, knowing nothing about my financial health. The lab test was a tip-off, he said: "Even though these things are supposed to be confidential, employers have a way of finding out."

I wasn't afraid that **The Wall Street Journal** would fire me for being HIV positive. The company had been good to employees with serious medical conditions, including the two people I knew of who had died of AIDS.

But 1989 was a world away from 1996 in the way Americans felt about AIDS and, particularly, about the routes of contagion. I didn't want to tell anyone I was infected and thereby change forever the quality of my relationships.

Lewis and I didn't have a gay social set. Most of our friends are married couples with children. And though I was discreet about my homosexuality, Lewis and I are a couple, and I figured people knew I was gay, if only because I had written an op-ed piece for the Journal Aug. 29, 1985, titled "Need We Guess Why Young Men Are Dying?" In it, I questioned why in a year of reading obituaries and classified death-notices in the New York Times, I could find only four listing AIDS as the cause of death. Back then, young unmarried men in the obituaries died of pneumonia, leukemia, meningitis and lymphoma, or "after a long illness," but rarely of AIDS.

I crossed the threshold into AIDS itself on Oct. 15, 1991, when my T cells fell to 198. At that point, my doctor recommended I start taking AZT, 100 milligrams, five times a day. He also prescribed a drug I had never heard of called Dapsone. I went home, looked it up in my Physicians' Desk Reference and learned that its

primary use was in the treatment of leprosy.

Just filling the prescriptions took guts I nearly couldn't muster. I was as embarrassed as a teenager buying condoms. I watched the pharmacy clerk read the prescription, then glance up at me. That was an intimacy I didn't want. "Would you like counseling from the pharmacist?" he asked. I did not; I wanted to get out of there.

I also didn't want to take the medicines. Definitely not a drug for lepers. And not AZT, which had potentially bad side effects, including liver damage. I took the pills for five days and quit.

Lewis and I had always thought we would grow old together, and now it looked as if I was going to be bailing out. Together we prepared for my decline and how the two of us would get through it. My bookkeeping proclivities had me signing and notarizing a living will, a limited power of attorney for health care, and a general power of attorney. I arranged for my cremation with the Neptune Society. I wanted to be sure that if I got very sick, Lewis would have the authority to pull the plug.

I told my doctor I wanted to be treated in the most minimal way, that I wanted no heroic attempts to prolong my life if I were to become terribly ill. He said that even if I chose not to take the Glaxo Wellcome drug AZT, and had no appetite for the Jacobus Pharmaceutical drug Dapsone, I should be taking a generic version of double-strength Bactrim, an antibacterial drug that staves off *Pneumocystis carinii* pneumonia.

I wasn't accustomed to ignoring the advice of doctors, and I decided to be a good boy and take my medicine, joylessly. I started with a daily dose of Bactrim on Feb. 22, 1992. I went back to AZT on May 22. At first, I thought AZT ruined the taste of food, but I have never missed a dose. I would have been more enthusiastic had the doctor really believed in it. Does it do any good? I asked. "Maybe some, probably not a lot. Nothing does much good," he said.

I thus began a long slow slide in immune function, measuring out my life in 12-week increments between blood tests. My T-cell results trended down, culminating in a count of 138 on Sept. 27 last year. We tried adding to the mix the antiretroviral drug Videx (DDI), made by Bristol-Myers Squibb. Taking it made a drink of alcohol feel like a kick in the stomach. I went on the wagon and wondered what vices I had left to give up.

By November, I was sad and defeated. I weighed 161 pounds. I am 6-feet-2-inches tall, and, naked in a mirror, I could see how emaciated I was. I was exhausted at the end of the day, and I was feeling that life consisted of taking pills, going to work, sleeping very long hours and going to work again. The routines of daily living had become a burden.

Over the years, I had observed in my doctor's office and on Christopher Street -- the center of a largely gay neighborhood in Manhattan -- men walking with canes, men with sunken temples, wispy hair and sadness in their eyes. I would often encounter one of these sad men and exchange knowing looks. I knew they had AIDS and I believed they could tell I did, too. Nothing needed to be said.

My friends, it turns out, swear they couldn't see it and didn't know I was sick, though people were saying "How are you?" in a particularly earnest, heartfelt way.

It seemed that all that remained was to wait for some opportunistic horror to kill me, and I thought it would happen in 1996. I had had my first AIDS-related infection, thrush, a kind of athlete's foot of the mouth that is readily cured by a costly Pfizer drug called Diflucan.

I asked my doctor's partner, who diagnosed the thrush, whether it meant my immune system had gone over a cliff. He said no, it didn't. But I felt that how was the time to do something.

The something I decided to do was to tell my boss, John Brecher, the Page One editor, and Paul Steiger, the managing editor of the Journal, that I had AIDS. I could see the slide I was on, and I didn't want to have to lie about workdays missed and possible hospitalizations. Besides, I assumed that because I was so haggard they must already know.

Remembering what my doctor had said, I was also sure that they had heard all about it from our group insurer. For a while I did pay for my T-lymphocyte subset tests myself. But when I began taking AZT, I started to file for everything, and last November I told my doctor to begin writing AIDS -- not "viral infection" -- as the diagnosis on insurance forms. Call it another step in my coming-out process.

I wrote a difficult letter to John and to Paul. "I need to tell you this directly. I have AIDS," I wrote. "I do not know how long I have to live, and I am ripe for AIDS-related diseases. But I would like to continue working on Page One as long as I am making a contribution and am trusted to do good work." I concluded it: "This is a bummer, I realize, and I am sorry to add it to your burdens."

No, it turned out, they hadn't suspected I had AIDS. Yes, I could go on working. Both men offered carte blanche assistance: "If you need anything at all, let us know." They used about the same words.

I asked Paul if he thought it would be a good idea to send out an "all-cities" memo to the newspapers bureaus that I had drafted for his signature. Paul didn't merely edit and sign my draft, he attributed it to me and added this in his own words: "I know you will join me in sending David our deep love and high respect, in affirming his enormous contributions and continuing value to this newspaper -- and in wishing him many more happy years here." The memo went out Nov. 8. I thought of it as a death notice, but it turns out to have been more of a rebirth announcement.

For the next month, I was utterly unable to do my job because I spent the days talking to callers and speaking to friends at work. The cards and letters poured forth. The experience was a lot like attending my own memorial service, something I have always wished I could do. I hadn't truly expected the hugs and the tears and the rest -- even the laughs. I was consoling people who were trying to console me. I had already gone through all the stages of mourning for myself.

I also sent out my first-ever personalized Christmas letter to tell friends and relatives, some of whom I hadn't seen for 20 years. Lewis, who sees clearly, warned me not to become a poster boy for AIDS, and I knew that sending health bulletins far and wide was to invite every conceivable reaction. I did expect to see some sign of disapproval, but there really wasn't any, certainly no outright hostility. A cousin in Denver did start sending me religious tracts -- and a Billy Graham tape.

One of my holiday letters went to Martin Peretz, editor in chief of the New Republic. I hadn't seen him in the 19 years since I left the magazine, but time hadn't diminished our friendship, and I wanted him to know what I was telling everybody but the deli man on the corner. The letter to him changed my life. Marty called me immediately. He said his friend Jerry Groopman, who practices medicine in Boston, "treats AIDS very aggressively." I really ought to see him.

Marty said he would be glad to make the introductions. He called me again to say that Jerry could see me in three days.

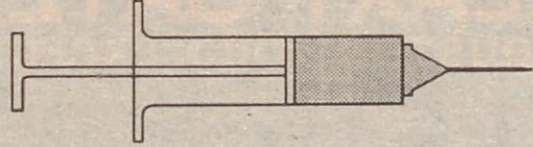
It was too soon for me. I was happily dying -- and about to go on a Mexican vacation. I felt I had made my peace with death and, in a way, was looking forward to it. I had blown my mother's estate, about \$180,000, on living for the moment, eating in the best restaurants and taking three or four foreign vacations a year. There was no time to lose, and I was determined to go out in style.

Did I now want my AIDS to be approached aggressively? I wasn't sure. But I decided to make an appointment, and on Jan. 23, I flew to Boston.

Marty had told me a story about Dr. Groopman. They were at temple, and during the misha berach, the prayer for the sick, Jerry was reading off a list of his patients. When everybody else had finished praying, Jerry was still reciting his list. Marty later asked him about it: "Jerry, but you are a man of science." The doctor replied, "Yes, but I am also a Jew."

(Continued on page 21)

Health Notes



IL-2 Therapy

In a one-year study of HIV-infected people, infusions of the immune system protein interleukin-2 (IL-2) have resulted in dramatic and sustained increases in the primary immune system cells depleted during HIV infection, according to investigators at the National Institutes of Health (NIH).

In the study, patients randomly assigned to receive IL-2 plus standard antiretroviral therapy had mean CD4+ T cell counts that increased from 428 cells per cubic millimeter of blood (mm³) at baseline to 916 cells/mm³ at month 12. Among patients randomly assigned to receive standard antiretroviral therapy alone, mean CD4+ T cell counts decreased from 406 cells/mm³ to 349 cells/mm³. CD4+ T cells are the main targets of HIV; the progressive loss of these cells leads to the symptoms of the acquired immunodeficiency syndrome (AIDS).

The amount of HIV in the blood of study patients receiving IL-2 therapy remained stable over time. Previous studies had shown that IL-2 treatment can result in transient bursts of virus production in some patients, but the current data clearly indicate that these bursts do not lead to sustained increases in viral load. In addition, the side effects of IL-2 infusions in the current study were much less severe than those seen in previous studies using higher doses of intravenous IL-2.

IL-2, originally called T cell-growth factor, is produced in the body by T cells and has potent effects on the maturation and proliferation of a number of cell types, including T cells, B cells and natural killer cells. Commercially, IL-2 is produced by recombinant DNA technology and is licensed in the United States for the treatment of patients with metastatic renal cell cancer.

The most common side effects during IL-2 administration were fatigue or malaise, reported by patients during 44% of the five-day treatment cycles, and headache, reported during 7% of treatment cycles. The most common laboratory abnormality, seen during 8% of the treatment cycles, was an elevation in bilirubin levels, indicating an effect on the liver. The elevations were not accompanied by clinical symptoms, and levels returned to normal after the treatment period. The investigators note that toxicities decreased in frequency during later rounds of treatment as IL-2 dosages were reduced.

TUNA

A less invasive surgical procedure may be the right prescription for men with enlarged prostates. With transurethral needle ablation, or TUNA, a surgeon treats an enlarged prostate by using low-frequency radio waves to heat and coagulate multiple targeted sections of the gland.

"With TUNA, we can target specific regions of the prostate for treatment," said Dr. Kevin M. Slawin, a urologist at Baylor College of Medicine in Houston. "This control gives us the ability to avoid heating the urethra and to spare the bladder & the rectum. By avoiding these

areas, TUNA maintains its effectiveness while decreasing the pain of the procedure as well as complications experienced down the road."

TUNA takes only about a half-hour and can be done in most patients under local anesthetic. Conventional surgery for reduction of an enlarged prostate, Slawin said, is more complicated and more costly, requiring a general anesthetic & hospitalization lasting as long as three days.

An enlarged prostate, or benign prostatic hyperplasia, occurs in half of all men by age 60 and in 80% by age 80. The cause is unknown, but the condition has become more common as the average life span increases.

Holiday Poisoning

An ingredient you do not want with your holiday feast: bacteria. "Turkey & other poultry defrosted outside the refrigerator too long are prone to contamination with salmonella bacteria," said Dr. A. Clinton White Jr. of Baylor College of Medicine in Houston. Salmonella poisoning occurs when the bacteria are eaten. They grow in the intestines, causing stomach pain, nausea, vomiting, diarrhea and dehydration. These cooking tips can help avoid holiday food poisoning: a) always wash your hands before preparing foods, b) check your turkey's temperature with a cooking thermometer to determine if the meat has been cooked thoroughly, c) wash countertops, cutting boards & utensils in hot, soapy water, and d) refrigerate leftovers immediately.

Oyster Alert

People with chronic illnesses who eat raw oysters are playing Russian roulette. Oysters become "bags of germs" as they filter viruses and bacteria from sea water, said Dr. Herbert DuPont, Vice Chairperson of Medicine at Baylor College of Medicine in Houston. Oysters also can be contaminated after harvesting.

"When you eat an uncooked oyster, you run the risk of exposure to organisms that could be fatal, especially if you have diabetes, liver disease, cancer, AIDS or other severe chronic illnesses," DuPont said. Since 1990, at least nine deaths in Texas have been linked to eating raw oysters.

You can't tell by appearance, smell or taste whether an oyster contains harmful bacteria or viruses. And just washing the surface won't rid the oysters of the potentially dangerous organisms. "The only guaranteed safe way to eat oysters is to cook them," DuPont said.

Better Health

Join CBS New Chief Medical Correspondent Bob Arnot in his final Better Health & Medical Network conference on World AIDS Day, Dec. 1st at 8pm CST in AOL Live (Keyword: Better Health). Get the latest news on treatments for AIDS and the latest research on AIDS prevention as Bob Arnot answers your questions and shares his knowledge on a health topic of concern to all of us. Bring your questions for Bob Arnot to the AOL Live auditorium on Dec. 1.

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Wall Street continued...

(Continued from page 18)

Jerry confirms that the conversation took place. He is a wonderful mixture of scientific expertise and religious faith. He has been treating AIDS patients since 1980, before anyone even knew the meaning of the pneumonia and Kaposi's sarcoma he was encountering as a 28-year-old doctor at the University of California at Los Angeles. The 6-foot-6-inch gray-bearded Harvard professor also juggles his time among his wife, Pam, and three children; a book he is writing; and the patients he sees as chief of experimental medicine at Beth Israel Deaconess Medical Center.

The day I met him was one of the most important days of my life. His secretary, Youngsun Jung, had asked me to scavenge what medical records I could and bring them with me. I had graphed all my T4 numbers, the results of 19 blood tests between Sept. 11, 1989, and Jan. 3, 1996. The high was 580 on April 19, 1990. The low, on Sept. 27, 1995, was 138. The numbers bumped around, but after January 1991 the trend was gently downward.

Jerry ("Only my mother calls me Dr.") Groopman, 44, took my medical history and said it appeared I had a very weak strain of the AIDS virus. I wasn't in as bad shape as I thought. He was very optimistic that my life could be prolonged by the Roche drug Invirase, a protease inhibitor that had been approved by the Food and Drug Administration just the month before. He said I should take it in combination with AZT and the Glaxo Wellcome drug Efavir (3TC), a "nucleoside" in the same class as AZT.

He was equally reassuring when he moved on to the physical examination. I was skinny, but I wasn't wasting. My muscle tone was fine. Looking at my tongue, he said, "You've got thrush again." I should be taking 100 mg of Diflucan prophylactically every day, he said.

I filled the prescriptions in Boston and popped my first pills on the Delta shuttle back home. There were so many pills. Generic Bactrim (SMX-TMP) and Diflucan every morning. Three capsules of Invirase three times a day, AZT five times a day, Efavir twice a day.

It would be some kind of yuppie whine to complain about how burdensome it is to swallow a lot of pills on a complicated schedule, particularly if they keep you healthy. It isn't all that difficult. But you can plan a slow day entirely around taking medicine. Each of the drugs comes with a long list of possible nasty side effects, ranging from liver and kidney damage to pancreatitis and neuropathy in the limbs. So far, I have experienced none of that.

My next big problem was what to do about my doctor in New York. On Feb. 7, I told him I had been given a chance to see Jerome Groopman at Harvard. "Do it," he said, recognizing the name. "I've already done it," I replied. "Good. What did he say?" The doctor agreed to follow Jerry's regimen, but warned: "Nobody knows what harm these drugs are going to do to your body or how long they will keep you alive."

Invirase was put on the market in December after 26 weeks of clinical trials that had such heartening results it got the quickest FDA approval of any new medication in history. (The record was broken in March by the other two protease inhibitors currently on the market, the Abbott drug Norvir and Merck's Crixivan). Who knew what would happen to patients after a year or two?

Dr. Groopman, who agreed to become my "primary-care provider," uses his own sophisticated "viral-load" test that counts viral RNA in a milliliter of blood down to 100 viral units. Below that is considered undetectable. The more AIDS virus one has coursing through his or her veins, the greater the likelihood of AIDS-related disease.

My very first viral-load test, taken before I went on Invirase, was only 5,795, which is very low, even with treatment. A viral load of 5,000 is correlated with a 100% chance of surviving five years; at 100,000, you are in bad shape.

I stopped the presses on my obituary. After several weeks on the new therapy, I also started feeling well, better than I had in 10 years. I started gaining weight, 25 pounds to date. I no longer was fading.

Oddly enough, the return from my near-death

experience was at first very annoying. I had a few adjustments to make. I had to start thinking again about my bills. Lewis and I had salted all the money we could into a co-op apartment and untouchable retirement accounts, and with my mother's money running out, we now had to start living within our means. My life-insurance benefits weren't heading his way as soon as I had reckoned. Enough money was coming in from our respective jobs to pay bills, but there was no discretionary income to speak of.

Fortunately, my work is fulfilling, so I didn't need to reconsider my ambitions. But I have had to re-energize myself for the daily grind. I'm even thinking about cleaning the basement.

But I'm not out of the woods. This treatment needs monitoring. My second viral-load test, after a month on Invirase and the other drugs, was 470, a spectacular decrease. But my third and fourth tests taken 10 weeks apart showed increases in viral load, to 1,000, then to 2,000. The number was still low but headed in the wrong direction.

On June 26, Jerry doubled the Invirase to 3,600 mg a day (18 big yellow and green capsules). In August, he added the just-approved Roxane Laboratories drug Virmune, which is like AZT and 3TC but different; it is a "nucleoside." In September, Jerry took me off AZT, which may have played itself out after four years, and substituted the Bristol-Myers Squibb drug Zerit (D4T), another drug in the same class. The viral load on Sept. 3 had come down to 600. "An A+," Jerry said.

The battle plan has been to move to Norvir or Crixivan if the AIDS virus is still detectable. I won't get my Oct. 29 results until next week. The goal is to get the viral load down to a level that can't be measured, so as to reduce the likelihood that the virus will mutate into a drug-resistant form.

Perhaps the best news I've had is that my T4 cells rose over six tests from 157 to 292. The new drug "cocktails" haven't been resoundingly successful in raising the T4 counts of patients with truly devastated immune systems, even when viral loads decrease. But 292 is a level that can probably sustain me.

Some HIV-negative men are guilt-ridden that they aren't infected when they see so many of their friends dying. I feel guilty that I am getting the best possible medical care, because it is unavailable to most of the world's AIDS sufferers, and to the poor and uninsured in this country. According to the CDC, as of June 30, 343,000 people in the U.S. have died of AIDS. The agency

estimates that as many as 900,000 are infected. About 100,000 are taking protease inhibitors.

My prescriptions for the year ended May 31, 1996, cost Dow Jones \$7,634.06. Next year the bill will be higher.

Last week, on my sixth visit to Dr. Groopman's office in Boston, I had an hour to kill in his waiting room to read an issue of *Poz* -- a magazine for the HIV-positive -- and to watch eight or 10 other AIDS patients coming and going. The extraordinary thing about the scene was that everyone was smiling, almost constantly.

People in doctors' offices had always struck me as bored or frightened. These men bantered with Nancy Leary, the secretary, smiling all the while. The fellow sitting nearest me stepped to the desk to speak animatedly on the phone about his Crixivan prescription.

Ten months ago, he was skeletal. He had an infection and his doctor believed he had weeks to live. Now, thanks to Crixivan, his viral load is too low to count, and he looks like the professional model he once was, handsome and healthy. To see him, you would have no idea he has AIDS or, as he said, that "this has been going on for about 10 years." I told him that I believe I was infected in 1982. "You're lucky," he said. Most people infected that long ago are dead.

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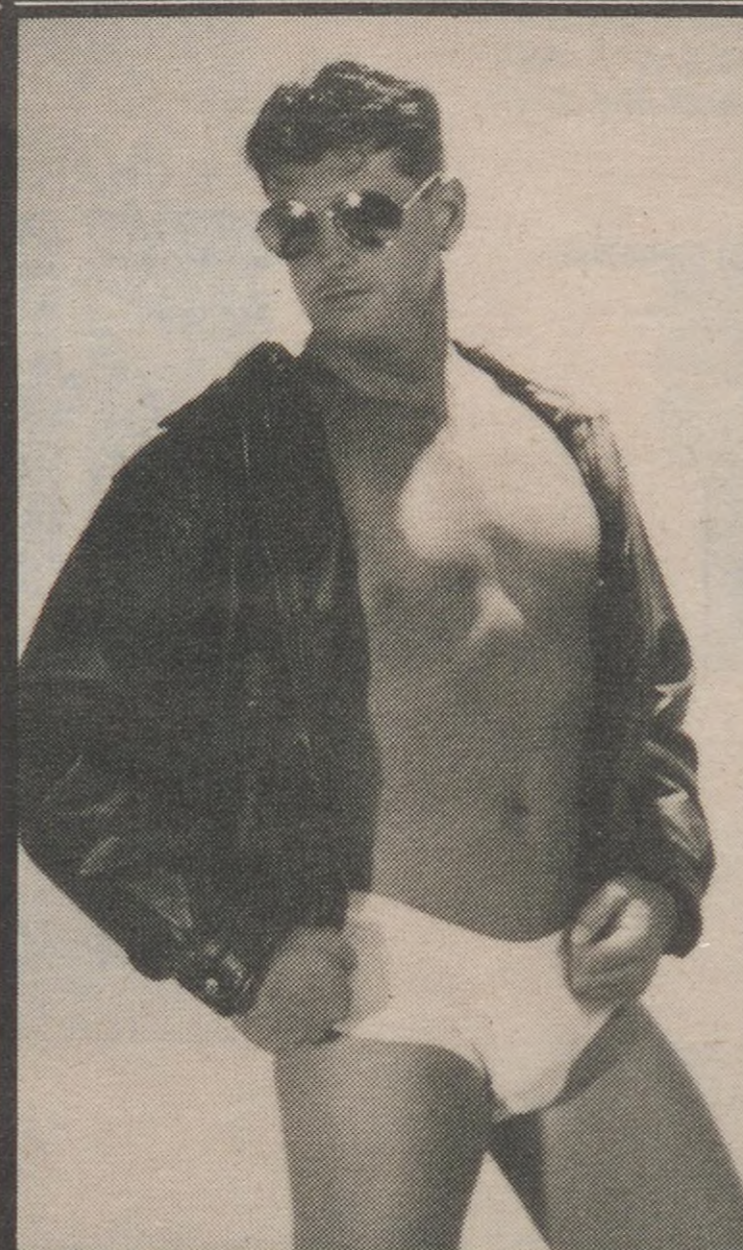


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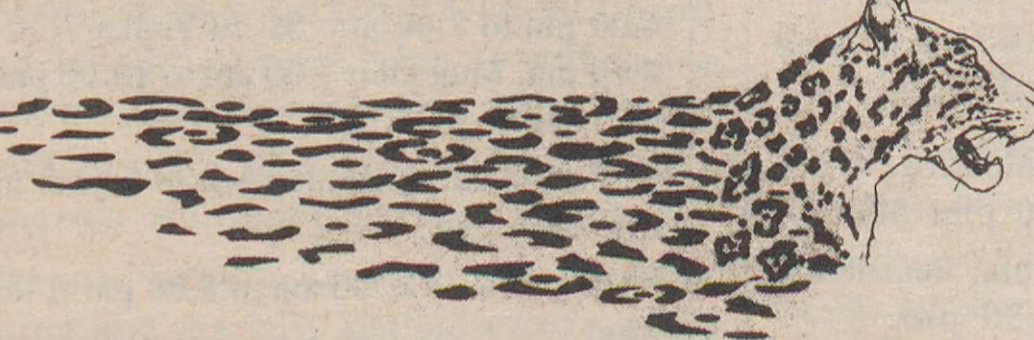
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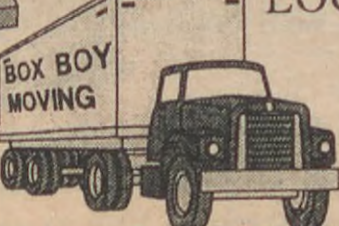
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Friday, Nov. 29

- * \$1 well and \$1.75 Miller. Doors open at 9:00 pm at Heaven.
 - * Texas Gay Rodeo Association guest bartends on the patio at 9:30 pm; Drink specials until 9:00 pm; Buffet at 5:00 pm at Brazos River Bottom.
 - * Drag show at Cousin's at 11:00 pm.
 - * Shower dancers at Midtowne Spa.
 - * Steve plays for Happy Hour: Wayne Gray tickles the rest of the night! Blackjack tables open at 9:30 pm at the BriarPatch!
 - * Free hors d'oeuvres from 6:30 pm to 8:00 pm; \$1 Schnapps at Rascals.
 - * Bad Boys dance at 6:00 pm: \$2 Kamikazes at Gentry.
 - * Power Hours with \$1.75 domestic beer and well from 10:00 am to 3:00 pm; Happy Hour 3:00 pm to 8:00 pm with \$2.25 domestic beer and \$2.75 well cocktails; \$2 Jose Cuervo at Chances.
 - * \$1.75 well drinks and longnecks from 7:00 am to 9:00 pm; \$1.50 Vodka drinks from 7:00 am to 2:00 pm at Mary's.
 - * \$3.75 premium vodkas; Happy hour until 10:00 pm; male dancers 8:00 pm to 2:30 am; After hours until 4:00 am at the Montrose Mining Company.
 - * Texas Pride Happy Hour 4:00 pm to 7:00 pm \$2.25 well, \$1.75 domestic longnecks, \$3.50 Absolut Martinis and \$4.50 doubles. \$3.75 Skyy & Stoli: hard body male dancers at J.R.'s Video Bar.
 - * Boyz night out and flashlight party at Club Incognito.
 - * \$1.75 well, beer, and wine at the Venture-N from noon until 9:00 pm. The Houston Council of Clubs guest bartends starting at 9:00 pm. Texas Riders Fall Round-up registration starts at 9:00 pm.
 - * Happy Hour until 10:00 pm at Berry Hill II.
 - * Happy Hours 7:00 am to 9:00 pm; \$1.50 Well 4:00 pm to 7:00 pm; \$1.50 vodka 7:00 am to 6:00 pm; Mug Club 7:00 am to 10:00 pm; Male Strip Contest at 11:00 pm at E/J's.
 - * Friday Foreplay at Pacific Street. \$1.25 well; \$1.75 beer; \$3 call; \$3.50 premium; \$1.25 schnapps; Doors open at 7:00 pm. No cover until 9:00 pm.
 - * Pizza Buffet at 5:30 pm; dancers at 9:00 pm at the 611 Hyde Park Pub.
 - * Happy Hour 1:00 pm to 8:00 pm; After Hours until 4:00 am at the Ripcord.
 - * Happy Hour 11:00 am to 8:00 pm at the Outpost.
 - * 8-ball tournament at the Lazy J.
 - * Fizz Fridays! 18+ welcome; \$1 well, \$2 beer, \$3 call; Doors open at 9:00 pm at Rich's.
- ## Saturday, Nov. 30
- * Leather and Flesh night at Pacific Street; Doors open at 9:00 pm.
 - * Happy Hour 11:00 am to 8:00 pm at the Outpost.
 - * The Court guest bartends on the patio at 9:30 pm; Drink specials until 9:00 pm at the Brazos River Bottom.
 - * Drag show at Cousin's at 11:00 pm.
 - * \$1 well 9:00 pm to 11:00 pm; \$1.50 domestic longnecks 10:30 pm to 11:00 pm; \$1.25 schnapps; Doors open at 9:00 pm at Heaven.
 - * Wayne Gray tickles the ivories tonight at the BriarPatch.
 - * Bad Boys dance at 9:00 pm; \$3.50 Absolut anything at Gentry.
 - * Drag show at the Lazy J at 10:30 p.m.
 - * 800 Pacific block party: \$1 well and \$1.75 domestic longnecks! 9:00 to 9:30 pm at Santa Fe Bar and Patio, 9:30 to 10:00 pm at the Montrose Mining Company, 10:00 to 10:30 pm at J.R.'s Bar and Grill, and 11:00 pm to 11:30 pm at Heaven.
 - * Fall Round-Up continues. The Mr. and Ms. Fall Round-Up contest at 10:00 pm. \$1.75 well, beer, and wine at the Venture-N from noon until 9:00 pm.
 - * \$1.75 well drinks and longnecks at Mary's from 7:00 am to 7:00 pm. After Hours until 4:00 am.
 - * Texas Pride Happy Hour 4:00 pm to 7:00 pm \$2.25 well, \$1.75 domestic longnecks, \$3.50 Absolut Martinis and \$4.50 doubles; \$2.75 premium frozen drinks and premium draft beer, \$3.25 super premium draft beer at J.R.'s Video Bar.
 - * After hours at the Ripcord until 4:00 am.

- * \$3.75 Bacardi Limonade; male dancers 9:00 pm to 2:30 am; happy hour until 10:00 pm; After hours until 4:00 am at the Montrose Mining Company.
- * 21 and up tonight! No cover before 10:00 pm; \$1 well drinks 9:00 pm to 11:00 pm; Doors open at 9:00 pm at Rich's.
- * Ladies' Night at Club Incognito.
- * Happy Hour until 10:00 pm at Berry Hill II.
- * Power Hours with \$1.75 domestic beer and well from 10:00 am to 3:00 pm; Happy Hour 3:00 pm to 8:00 pm with \$2.25 domestic beer and \$2.75 well cocktails; \$2 Jose Cuervo at Chances.
- * Wayne Gray and others play live at the BriarPatch!
- * \$1.50 well 4:00 pm to 7:00 pm; Mug Club 7:00 am to 10:00 pm; \$1.50 vodka 7:00 am to 6:00 pm at E/J's.
- * Free and confidential HIV testing and Counseling by the Montrose Clinic at Rich's, 10:00 pm to 2:00 am.
- * \$1.25 Vodka eye-Openers 7:00 am to 11:00 am at PastTime.

Sunday, Dec. 1

- * \$1.75 well, beer, and wine at the Venture-N from noon until 9:00 pm.
 - * 99¢ well vodka juice drinks noon until 11:00 pm, \$2.75 Shiner Bock; SRO Karaoke at 6:00 pm; Male Swim wear strip contest at 11:00 pm at J.R.'s Video Bar.
 - * Drawing for Dollars at Happy Hour; Open pool tables at the BriarPatch.
 - * Super Sunday Show at Club Incognito at 11:00 pm. No cover before 10:00 pm.
 - * Drink specials until 5:00 pm; Steak night from 5:00 pm to 9:00 pm; The Colt 45s present "Rednecks with Blue Balls," benefit the Colt 45s charities and Awards night at Brazos River Bottom.
 - * 50¢ draft beer; \$1.75 Well drinks and longnecks from 10:00 am to 2:00 pm at Mary's.
 - * Pool tournament, Bad Boys dance at 5:00 pm; Soiree Aubergine Host meeting at 2:00 pm; Gentry Staff Turn About Hysterics Show at 9:00 pm; Male Strip at 11:00 pm; \$2 Kool-Aids at Gentry.
 - * Happy Hour until 10:00 pm at Berry Hill II.
 - * Happy Hour Noon to 8:00 pm at the Outpost.
 - * Male Overload at Pacific Street. Doors open at 7:00 pm; No shirt, no cover! \$1.25 well, \$1.75 beer. \$3 call, \$3.50 premium, \$1.25 schnapps.
 - * Power Hours with \$1.75 domestic beer and well from noon to 3:00 pm; Happy Hour 3:00 pm to 8:00 pm with \$2.25 domestic beer and \$2.75 well cocktails; \$2 Jose Cuervo at Chances.
 - * \$2 Mimosas and \$1.75 well drinks; Tea Dance; Best Basket and Buns Contest 10:00 pm at Rascals.
 - * 18 and up welcome; \$1 well, \$2 beer, \$3 call, Klub Kamp with Simply Divine and Lana Blake at 10:30 pm; Doors open at 8:00 pm at Rich's.
 - * Brunch at noon; Rainbow Fishing Club "Fish Fry" at 2:00 pm at the 611 Hyde Park Pub.
 - * \$1.50 well and domestic beer all day/all night at the Ripcord.
- ## Monday, Dec. 2
- * Free HIV Testing and counseling by the Montrose Clinic at the Brazos River Bottom. 4:00 pm to 8:00 pm.
 - * Happy Hour 11:00 am to 8:00 pm at the Outpost.
 - * Happy Hour 7:00 am to 9:00 pm; \$1.50 Well 4:00 pm to 7:00 pm; \$1.50 vodka 7:00 am to 6:00 pm; Mug Club 7:00 am to 10:00 pm; Male Strip contest at E/J's. 11:00 pm.
 - * Power Hours with \$1.75 domestic beer and well from 10:00 am to 3:00 pm; Happy Hour 3:00 pm to 8:00 pm with \$2.25 domestic beer and \$2.75 well cocktails; \$2 Jose Cuervo at Chances.
 - * Texas Pride Happy Hour 4:00 pm to 7:00 pm \$2.25 well, \$1.75 domestic longnecks, \$3.50 Absolut Martinis and \$4.50 doubles; Martinis and Muscles! \$3.75 top shelf Martinis, \$2.25 domestic longnecks, frozen Margaritas \$1.75; "Pump" male dance contest at 11:00 pm at J.R.'s Video Bar.
 - * Escape at Pacific Street! \$1.25 well, \$1.75 beer, \$3 call, \$3.50 premium, \$1.25 schnapps; No cover until 11:00 pm.

- * Half price lockers from noon to midnight at Club Houston.
- * \$1.75 well, beer, and wine at the Venture-N from noon until 9:00 pm.
- * Bad Boys dance at 9:00 pm; \$3.50 Crown Royal at Gentry.
- * Wheel of Fortune and Drawing for Dollars at Happy Hour; Clint plays topless; Open pool tables at the BriarPatch.
- * Monday night football on the big screen; free pizza; Miller Lite products for \$1.50; Cuervo shots \$2. Rascal's.
- * \$1.75 well drinks and longnecks from 7:00 am to 9:00 pm; \$1.50 Well vodka drinks from 7:00 am to 2:00 pm; \$1 longnecks at 8:00 pm to 11:00 pm at Mary's.
- * \$1.75 well and domestic beer at the Brazos River Bottom.
- * Half-Price night at Midtowne Spa.
- * Open pool tables at the 611 Hyde Park Pub.
- * Happy Hour 1:00 pm to 8:00 pm; \$2 domestic beer all night; free pizza at the Ripcord.
- * \$3.50 double well drinks, \$1.75 well, \$2 domestic longnecks; Pool tournament at 8:30 pm; male dancers 9:00 pm; Happy hour until 10:00 pm at the Montrose Mining Company.

Tuesday, Dec. 3

- * Free HIV testing by the Montrose Clinic at Club Body Houston. 8:00 pm. 520-2083.
 - * Happy Hour until 10:00 pm; Female Dancers at Berry Hill II. 10:30 pm.
 - * Texas Pride Happy Hour 4:00 pm to 7:00 pm \$2.25 well, \$1.75 domestic longnecks, \$3.50 Absolut Martinis and \$4.50 doubles; \$2 well, wine, domestic longnecks and frozen Margaritas; Jockey short contest at 11:00 pm; Grab for Cash at midnight at J.R.'s Video Bar.
 - * Happy Hour 11:00 am to 8:00 pm at the Outpost.
 - * Executive Night at Pacific Street. No cover with your personal business card. \$1.25 well, \$1.75 beer, \$3 call, \$3.50 premium, \$1.25 schnapps. Doors open at 9:00 pm.
 - * Power Hours with \$1.75 domestic beer and well from 10:00 am to 3:00 pm; Happy Hour 3:00 pm to 8:00 pm with \$2.25 domestic beer and \$2.75 well cocktails; \$2 Jose Cuervo at Chances.
 - * Bad Boys dance at Gentry at 9:00 pm; \$2 Windex shots at Gentry.
 - * Happy Hour all day and all night at Rascal's.
 - * \$1.75 well drinks and longnecks from 7:00 am to 9:00 pm; \$1.50 Well vodka drinks from 7:00 am to 2:00 pm; \$2 Cuervo at Mary's.
 - * Happy Hour 7:00 am to 9:00 pm; \$1.50 well 4:00 pm to 7:00 pm; \$1.50 Vodka 7:00 am to 10:00 pm; Mug Club 7:00 am to 10:00 pm; Amateur talent contest at 11:00 pm at E/J's.
 - * \$1 well 7:00 am to 11:00 pm; \$1 domestic longnecks at the Brazos River Bottom.
 - * \$1.75 longnecks, \$2.50 well, \$3 any drink in the house; male dancers at 9:00 pm; Happy hour until 10:00 pm at the Montrose Mining Company.
 - * \$1.75 well drinks and \$1.50 domestic longnecks at Rascals.
 - * Half price lockers, rooms and video rooms from noon to midnight at Club Houston.
 - * Happy Hour 1:00 pm to 8:00 pm at the Ripcord.
 - * Drawing for Dollars at Happy Hour; Marci holds court at the keyboard at the BriarPatch.
- ## Wednesday, Dec. 4
- * Free HIV testing and counseling by the Montrose Clinic at Mary's. 4:00 pm to 8:00 pm.
 - * Drawing for Dollars at Happy Hour; Saloon singer Beverly Sisco tickles the ivories at the BriarPatch.
 - * Mr. and Ms. Black Gay Houston contest at Incognito. Call 237-9431 for details.
 - * Bad Boys dance at 7:00 pm; Male Strip Contest with Dyan Michaels at 11:00 pm; \$1.25 Schnapps at Gentry.
 - * Texas Pride Happy Hour 4:00 pm to 7:00 pm \$2.25 well, \$1.75 domestic longnecks, \$3.50 Absolut Martinis and \$4.50 doubles; \$2 domestic longnecks, \$2.75 Bacardi Limonade, \$2.75 Desert Long Island Tea; Joe Boxer dance contest at 11:00 pm at J.R.'s Video Bar.

- * \$2 domestic longnecks & well drinks, \$4 doubles; Male dancers at 9:00 pm; Happy hour until 10:00 pm at the Montrose Mining Company.
 - * \$1.50 domestic longnecks; Lil' Rascals strip contest at 10:00 pm; Free happy hour buffet at Rascals.
 - * Power Hours with \$1.75 domestic beer and well from 10:00 am to 3:00 pm; Happy Hour 3:00 pm to 8:00 pm with \$2.25 domestic beer and \$2.75 well cocktails; \$2 Jose Cuervo at Chances.
 - * \$1.75 well, beer, and wine at the Venture-N from noon until 9:00 pm.
 - * Prime Meet at Pacific Street. No cover with a "Be My Guest" pass. Doors open at 9:00 pm.
 - * \$1.75 well drinks and longnecks; \$1.50 Well vodka drinks from 7:00 am to 2:00 pm; Drink specials all day and all night at Mary's.
 - * Drink specials until 9:00 pm; \$1.75 domestic longnecks at the Brazos River Bottom.
 - * Half-Price night and shower dancers at Midtowne Spa.
 - * Happy Hour until 10:00 pm at Berry Hill II. Free Pool Tables.
 - * Happy Hour 7:00 am to 9:00 pm; \$1.40 well 4:00 pm to 7:00 pm; \$1.50 Vodka 7:00 am to 6:00 pm. Mug club 7:00 am to 10:00 pm; Burger night at E/J's.
 - * \$2 well and domestic beer all day/all night at the Ripcord.
 - * Happy Hour 11:00 am to 8:00 pm at the Outpost.
 - * \$3 Pitchers, \$1.75 well drinks at XTC.
 - * \$1 well, \$1.75 Budweiser and 75¢ Miller on tap; CD drawing; DJ Michael DeGrace takes you to the Edge; Doors open at 9:00 pm at Heaven.
- ## Thursday, Dec. 5
- * Free HIV testing and counseling by the Montrose Clinic at the Venture-N from 4:00pm to 8:00 pm.
 - * Burger Night at the 611 Hyde Park Pub.
 - * Happy Hour until 10:00 pm; Male Dancers at Berry Hill II at 10:30 pm.
 - * Happy Hour 7:00 am to 9:00 pm; \$1.50 well 4:00 pm to 7:00 pm; \$1.50 vodka 7:00 am to 6:00 pm. Mug club 7:00 am to 10:00 pm; Tacos on the patio; Dyan Michaels one man show at E/J's at 11:00 pm.
 - * Sexx Thursdays at Pacific Street. \$1.25 well, \$1.75 beer, \$3 call, \$3.50 premium, \$1.25 schnapps. No cover with current gym card.
 - * Half-price lockers, rooms, and video rooms from noon to midnight at Club Houston.
 - * Bad Boys dance at 9:00 pm; \$3 Skyy vodka at Gentry.
 - * Retro Rewind; \$1.50 vodka drinks at Rascal's.
 - * \$1.75 well drinks and longnecks from 7:00 am to 9:00 pm; \$1.50 well vodka drinks from 7:00 am to 2:00 pm; 75¢ Schnapps at Mary's.
 - * \$2.25 domestic longnecks, well, and wine; Male dancers at 9:00 pm; Happy hour until 10:00 pm at the Montrose Mining Company.
 - * \$1.75 well, beer, and wine at the Venture-N from noon until 9:00 pm.
 - * Drink specials until 11:00 pm; Burgers on the patio from 6:00 pm to 9:00 pm; dance lessons at 9:00 pm at the Brazos River Bottom.
 - * Happy Hour 1:00 pm to 8:00 pm; Classic Rock night at the Ripcord.
 - * Happy Hour 11:00 am to 8:00 pm at the Outpost.
 - * Texas Pride Happy Hour 4:00 pm to 7:00 pm \$2.25 well, \$1.75 domestic longnecks, \$3.50 Absolut Martinis and \$4.50 doubles; \$3.75 top shelf liquor, \$2.25 Imported, Saint Arnold and Micro brewed beer; Star Search Gold Karaoke at 9:00 pm. Thanksgiving Buffet at 1:30 pm to 4:30 pm at J.R.'s Video Bar.
 - * Nancy Ford at Ms. B's at 8:30 pm to 10:00 pm, open mike and karaoke 10:30 pm to 1:00 am.
 - * Power Hours with \$1.75 domestic beer and well from 10:00 am to 3:00 pm; Happy Hour 3:00 pm to 8:00 pm with \$2.25 domestic beer and \$2.75 well cocktails; \$2 Jose Cuervo at Chances.
 - * Drawing for Dollars at Happy Hour: Wayne Gray, Laurie Gage and new to the BriarPatch Edith Head perform live at the BriarPatch.

Corporation Network Group Helps Fight Discrimination

"The Corporation Network Group was formed by a combined effort of Employee Groups and Individual Employees of Amoco, Exxon, Shell and Texas Commerce Bank to promote equality in Corporate and Business America regardless of sexual orientation, gender identification, race or religion. We will be a resource to help raise awareness through education to provide a diverse and open work environment," said Kerry Gosler, Chair of the Corporation Network Group. Kerry, a Geoscience Technical Specialist, is openly gay at work and leads a non-discrimination group at Amoco Production in Houston.

"We are looking into establishing ourselves as a 501 (c) 3 corporation and in addition we plan to publish a newsletter to our members with Benchmark studies of Corporations across America who have partner benefits."

"People cannot change without education and the best method of education is awareness. Of course we never advocate an 'In your face' type of policy, but instead we offer you a more professional and more accepted way of promoting your members to enhance your employer," said Gosler.

"We do encourage 'out activities' such as photos on your desk, partner inclusion and employee network activities, as opposed to 'Silencing Activities' which include unchallenged assumptions, discomfort through avoidance of activities and partici-

pating in private conversations dealing with religious and value teachings."

"Visibility leads to acceptance. The more people can see that we are productive corporate individuals instead of the stereotypical non-professional image that America has, the better chance for us to all gain acceptance."

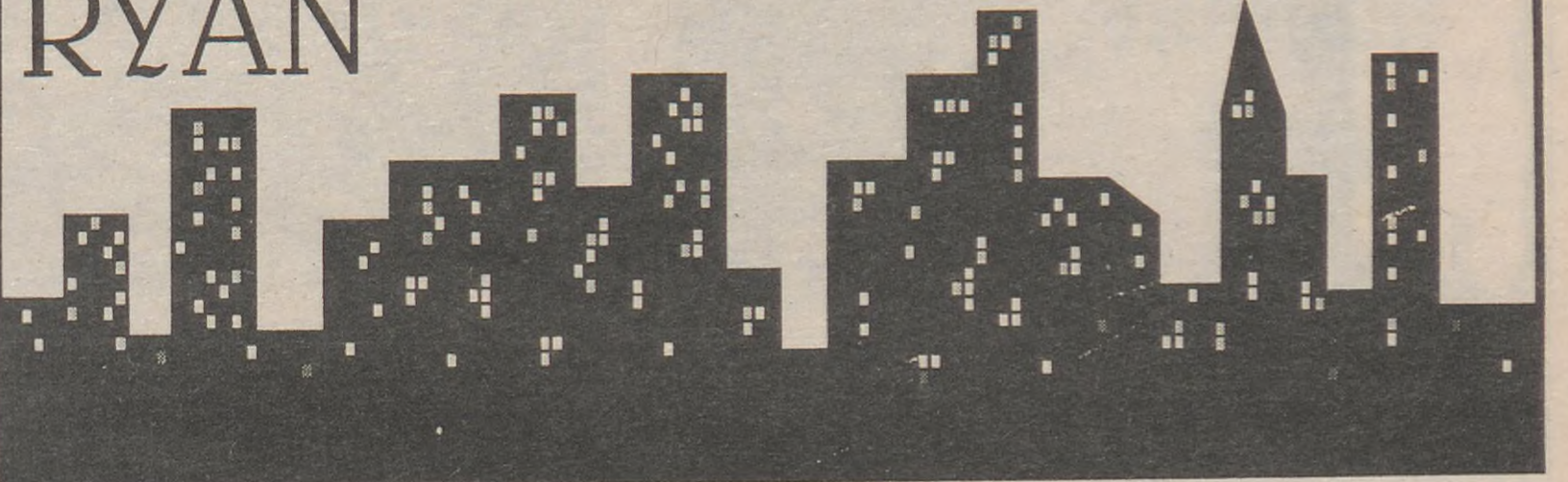
"We plan to establish a Web Page as well as maintain a database with pertinent information pertaining to local companies," said Gosler.

"We are here for you and I strongly encourage you to contact us for assistance in gaining acceptance in your work place. We will be happy to supply you with speakers as well as individuals to help you address specific issues in the workplace dealing with discrimination of any kind. You can contact the Corporation Network by calling my office number, 281-366-5030, leave your name, number, the best time to reach you and I, or someone will return your call as soon as possible. I encourage you to contact this number for the date, time and address of the next CNG meeting, everyone is welcome. Let us help you by showing you our established process to form your employee group and address discrimination in your workplace."

The Corporation Network Group (CNG) will hold their next meeting Sunday, Dec. 8 at 3 p.m. For address or further information, please call 281-366-5030.

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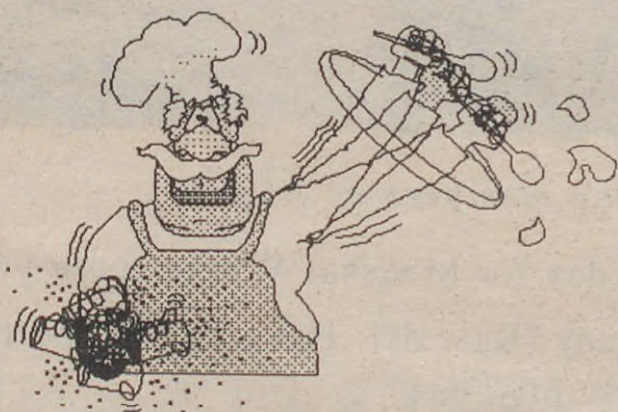
812 Westheimer (near Montrose Boulevard)
(713) 529-6050

RECIPES BY KUNTRY KID

Cranberry Relish

Ingredients:

1 12oz bag cranberries
1 cup sugar
1 cup toasted english walnuts
1 12 oz jar orange marmalade
juice of one lemon



Method:

preheat oven to 350 degrees F. Pour sugar over cranberries in 9 x 13 pan. Cover tightly with foil. Bake 350 degrees for 1 hour.

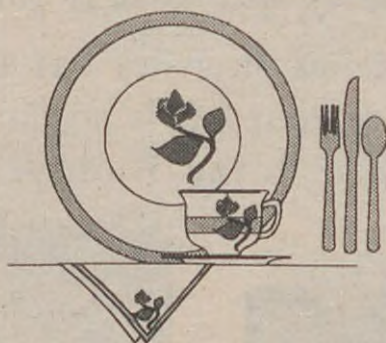
Mix toasted nuts into berries. Stir in orange marmalade and lemon juice. Place in refrigerator to cool.

Spread the walnuts on top of the foil covering the cranberries during the last 15-20 minutes of cooking time.

Yield: approximately 3 cups

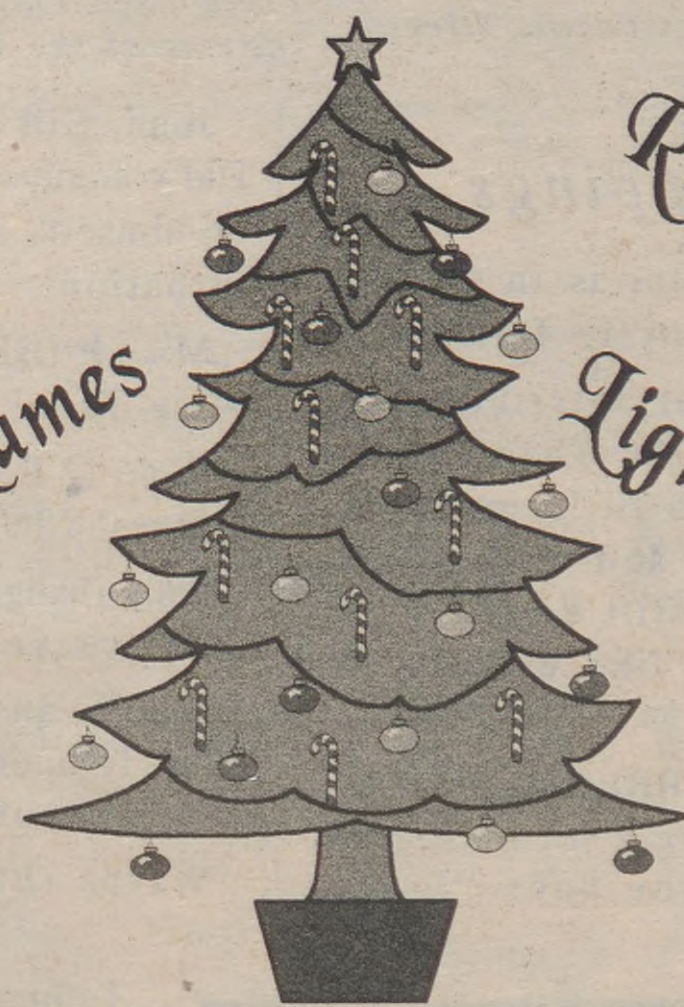
UNTIL NEXT WE EAT!

KUNTRY KIDD



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Music Refreshments
Reading of Names Lighting of Tree



Tree of Remembrance

Sunday, December 1, 1996, 6:30 PM

City of Houston, Metropolitan Multi-Service Center
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Sponsored by:

Metropolitan Multi-Service Center
Body Positive
Garden Party
Houston Names Project



Advertise your
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Call for details
(713) 529-8490

Stuffed Rodents with dressing and gravy!



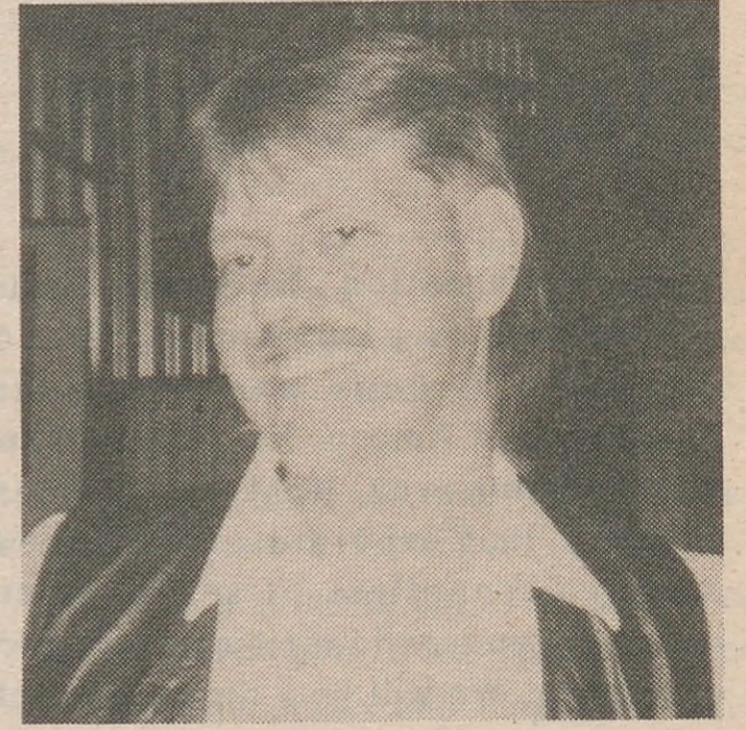
Oh, Melvin!



Congrats to the Happy Couple!



Hillary, Lazer Wizard, and Shadow



Rory serves a mean one at Mary's.

By CUERVOLYN

Important Stuff

This column is short this week! Holidays really muck-up our production schedule here at the Houston Voice office!

Have you been to Jewel's yet? Well she has a ton of new inventory! The holidays are approaching. Drop in Jewel's to find that perfect holiday outfit! She has shoes, (up to size 14) too! Jewel's is located at 2404 Taft.

Just a friendly reminder! When was the last time you had an HIV or TB test?

Milestones

Special get well soon thoughts to Dot Thompson of the Court!

Happy birthdays to Adrian (PS) and

Al (Mr. Texas Leather Pride): And I quote: "A good bottom makes his own lube!"

Eddie (Pacific Street): Is it true Jayne Mansfield is your real mother?

Jeff (Pacific Street): Is Liz Taylor your real mother?

Lane (Pacific Street): Is Prince your real mother?

Matt (Pacific Street): Are Sid and Marty Croft your real mother?

Randy (Pacific Street): Is it true you conceived yourself?

Woody and Oscar (BRB): Are tricks really that bad that you two have to sit together?

Beverly Sisco (BriarPatch): I understand that you "have 'em rocking" on Wednesday nights!

funny after your shift?

CW (E/J's): Bite marks don't just appear in your lower extremities! I want the truth, girl!

Curtis (Garden Party): Did you get a new hose or a new nose?

Byron (BRB): I heard your transmission went out and you couldn't get your butt in gear Monday morning!

Devin (formerly of Mary's): Have you been filling out applications at bars that run help wanted ads in the Houston Voice?

Stan (Dale Englefields office): Just where is the spider bite?

Mary Ellen (hangs on any bar stool): Yes, I love "Tiger Bites," too!

Carl (Outpost): Binky did Absolut

Ms. Pruitt (hangs any place that will serve her): I hear you finally married a bigger tramp than you!

Rodent Rooter: Sorry, hon, you can't take over my column! And as usual, thanks for your contributions!

Rochelle Stevens (E/J's): What is this about you and Wal Mart? First they give you a wig. Then they give you a sequined dress that doesn't fit! The nerve! (Though the dress is the same size as the beaded gown Stacy Grummer bought at K-Mart!) And who was giving out Cher-iff citations for bad drag?

Siren St. John (Oh, Byron Norton): Good show!

Jayde Mykels (E/J's and Cousins): How many pounds per inch do those shoes support?

Miss Zack (Cousins): It is true, you stayed sober this past Thursday?

Randall Jobe (J.R.'s) Who was the prettiest Cher? I hear it was really a contest between you and Reno (J.R.'s)!

Steven Baker: Isn't rent due!

Jessica Van Shelton: I thought the LaCage you were shipped to closed. Where have you been?

Bunny O'Hare (BriarPatch): Where are the Butterscotch krimpets?

Clint (BriarPatch): I heard someone fell head over heels for you and dislocated their shoulder! Masher! Or was that mashette?

Vanessa Raye: I guess Thursday is NRG night? Huh?

Kofi (Heaven): Why were you the only one in the Sunday Show without breasts? Or did Popeyes already fry you?

Kelly Lauren: What, no curlers on Sunday?

Have a great week!

Cuervolyn



Stop in and meet me at Pacific Street.

David Montgomery!

Rodent Droppings

The usual disclaimer is in force! Trash, lies, and gossip follows!

Harvey and Ratrat entertained the entire family over the Thanksgiving holiday! They did a little modeling, gave lots of kisses and were simply charming! Ratrat still does not, I repeat, does NOT like wearing his biker jacket!

Jan (hangs at the BRB): I hear the reason you are wearing a lot of scarves lately is because you have "Parker Markers!"



I need a wife, I need a life! Meet me behind the bar at the Ranch!

John, Bill & Mark (Venture-N): Did you guys really make Bill (VN) pee on himself? Is that water sports masturbation?

Mike P. (BRB): It's all about blowing Miss Tuna!

Reno (J.R.'s): News flash! Stop the presses! I hear you were drunk, again!

Sally (hangs at E/J's): Why are you a quiet sucker?

John Evans (BRB): I have a message from Tommie Sue Ellen: "I'm thrilled you got your scepter!"

Wayne (BriarPatch): You are fabulous!

Tommie Sue Ellen (BRB): Why does the Galliano bottle smell



Some of the members of NLA:H

ALL day for Melissa! Where were you?

Kenny (Rascals): Have you found that metro bus yet?

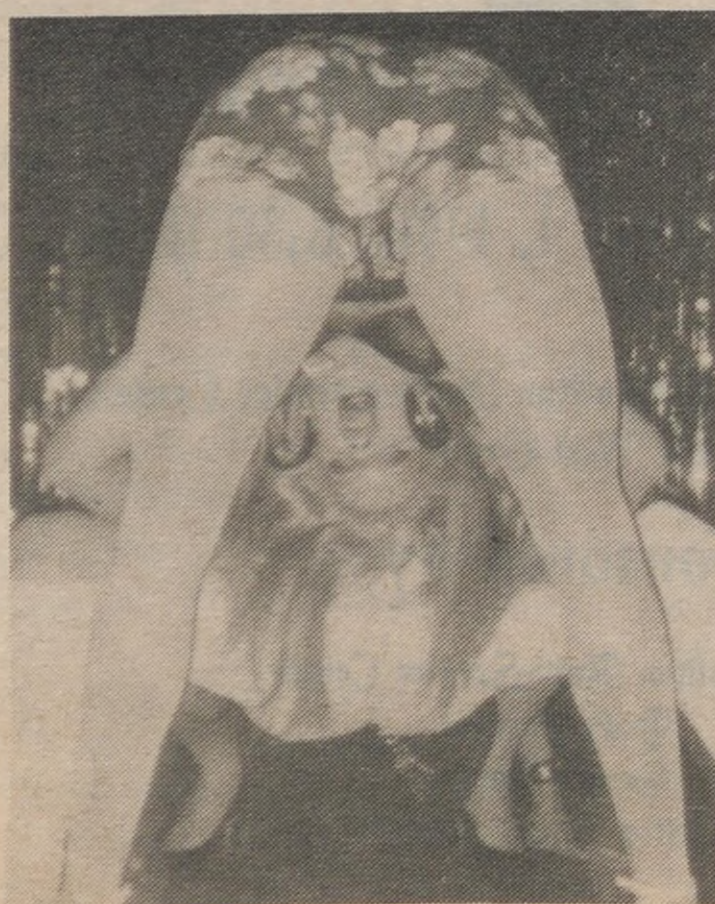
Lucy (E/J's): Don't sleep in the parking lot sweetie, call a cab!

Aaron (Rascals): Just what were you doing in the Bubba's barn?

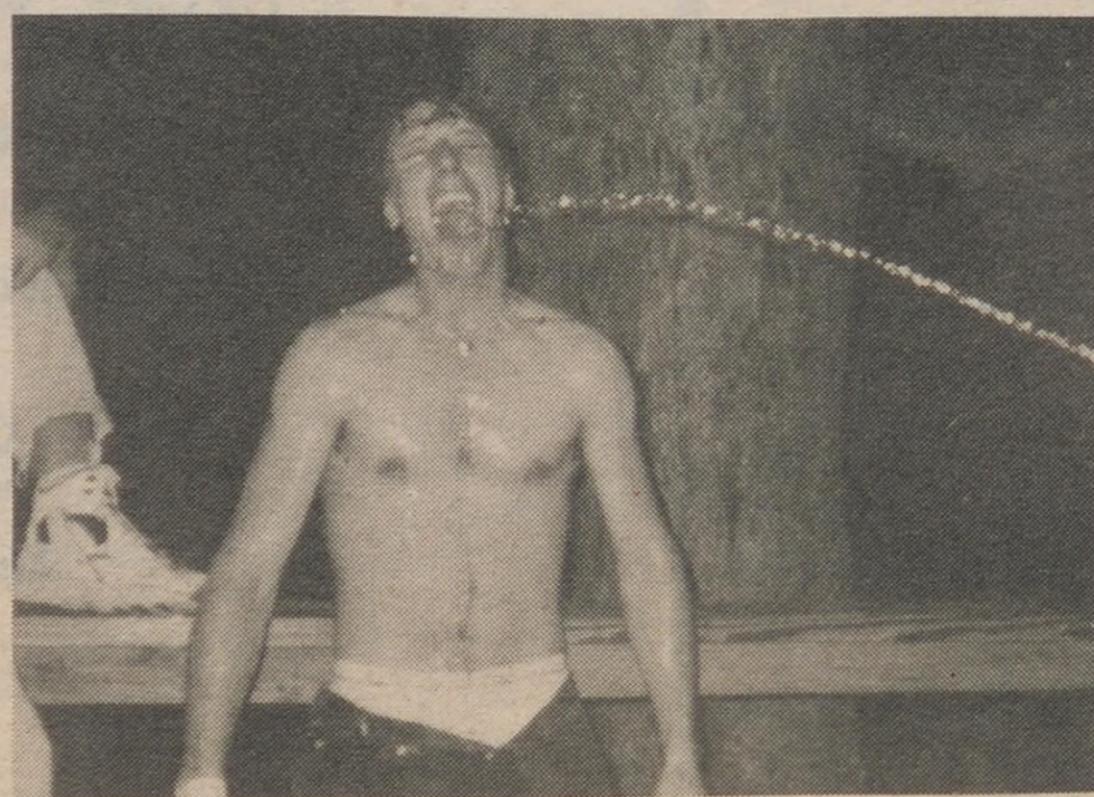
Don Gill (Mr. Wonderful): What has been hung up in your throat lately?

Mark (Colt 45s): Now that you passed your real estate exam, does this mean you will finally get a real job?

Lady Lee (hangs on every bar stool in town): Why are your hands so dark now days? Are you doing Buddy's hair again?



Renee Monroe displays her assets.



Boy am I thirsty!



These fine folks raised over \$400 for the LVL PWA Holiday fund at the Venture-N.

Houston Radio Stations Join the Battle against AIDS

KKRW-FM 93.7. KMJQ 102.1 FM and KJOJ 103.3 AM

By JENNIFER MEYER

Nov. 14, 1996—In conjunction with World AIDS Day, several Houston stations will be broadcasting a radio special entitled, AIDS & African Americans: Reasons For Hope on Sunday, Dec. 1. KKRW-FM 93.7 will be broadcasting the special from 7 to 8am and KMJQ 102.1 FM and KJOJ 103.3 AM will air the program at 8am and 5pm, respectively. The program is designed to increase awareness of HIV/AIDS prevention and treatment among the African American community, which accounts for approximately 40 percent of AIDS cases in America.

The special will provide information on HIV testing and treatment as well as tips on how to access health care resources specific to African Americans. The program will feature interviews with leading AIDS physicians and messages from recording artist Patti Austin and World Champion Chicago Bulls guard Randy Brown encouraging HIV testing and treatment.

AWARE, a weekly, syndicated radio show that deals with issues relating to HIV/AIDS, produced the radio special in conjunction with the National Association of People with AIDS (NAPWA), an organization dedicated to improving the lives of people with HIV disease. "Since AIDS disproportionately affects the African American community, it is increasingly important that we come together to fight this devastating disease," said NAPWA Director of Health and Treatment Ernest Hopkins. By broadcasting AIDS & African Americans: Reasons For Hope, KKRW-FM 93.7, KMJQ 102.1 FM and KJOJ 103.3 AM are helping to save lives in Houston."

According to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, HIV/AIDS is now the leading cause of death among African Americans 25-44 years old. In fact, while African Americans repre-

sent approximately 12 percent of the general population, they account for almost 40 percent of AIDS cases in America.

African American journalist Hope Daniels hosts the program along with Chris DeChant, who has been living with HIV for seven years. "This program is important to anyone infected with or affected by HIV, including family and friends. Our goal is to help individuals by providing them with important information on HIV testing, treatment and services," Daniels said.

AIDS & African Americans: Reasons For Hope has been underwritten by an educational grant provided by Glaxo Wellcome Inc.

This broadcast is supported by AIDS Foundation of Houston, an organization based in Houston that helps people living with HIV/AIDS. For more information on AIDS Foundation of Houston, call 713/623-6796.

AWARE Talk Radio is the nation's only weekly, syndicated radio program providing the public with the latest information on sexual health, HIV/AIDS and personal well-being. AWARE reaches 300,000 listeners each week via 15 broadcasts nationwide and is produced by the non-profit HIV Talk Radio Project in Chicago, Illinois. For more information on AWARE's programming and distribution call 312/541-8255.

The National Association of People with AIDS is dedicated to improving the lives of people with HIV disease at home, in the workplace, and in the community. Since 1983 NAPWA has served as the "voice" for the needs and concerns of all people infected and affected by HIV/AIDS in the United States.

Glaxo Wellcome is a world leader in developing new treatments for HIV disease and AIDS. Glaxo Wellcome discovered, developed and markets several products for the treatment of HIV disease.



Our Country's Good at HSPVA

By BOB SINGLETON

Our Country's Good, Timberlake Wertenbaker's dramatization of the genesis of the Australian convict colonies, will be presented at the High School for the Performing and Visual Arts on Dec. 5-7, 12-14 at 7:30pm. and Dec. 14 at 3:30pm. Tickets are \$7 and can be purchased at the door. The school is located two blocks east of Montrose Blvd. between Richmond Ave. and West Alabama. For information call 942-1966.

In eighteenth-century England, petty criminals faced death or deportation. Most who made the eight-month journey to Australia exchanged their last sight of their homes for brutality, neglect, and starvation, all for the good of their country. The story, first presented in novel form by the author of Schindler's List, is true. Our Country's Good is a celebration of the civilizing effect of the prison-



Second Lieutenant Ralph Clark (Davis Alvarez) romances convict Mary Brennan (Monica Eads) in HSPVA's production of Timberlake Wertenbaker's "Our God's Country"

ers' first amateur theatre production, love, dreams, and the resilience of human spirit under oppression.

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CLASSIFIEDS

To advertise in the Houston Voice Classifieds call (713) 529-8490 or (800) 729-8490 if not in Houston. Office hours are 9:00 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. Monday through Friday

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15 rooms and suites with AC/ceiling fans, TV/VCR, telephone, pool, giant jacuzzi, two bars, restaurant, clothing optional, huge terraces, two minutes to gay bars and beach. Call Bob or Dave for color brochure, dial direct 011-52-74-87-08-43 or FAX 011-52-74-87-12-82.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

HOMELESS?
Lesbians & Gays
Shelter & Work
Call 942-0355

BROKE? HUNGRY?
Tired of the Streets?
Call 942-0355.

ART SHOW SALE
Art show and sale. Friday December 6.
Bering United Methodist Church.
1400 Harold, Fellowship Hall.

MODELS REQUIRED
You think you got what it takes? Photo and contact No. to: 1731 Commonwealth, Houston TX, 77006. Attn:S.S.

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Westbury Gardens. 1/1 Downstairs Condo.
800 sq.ft. Fresh paint, new carpet, w/d. 425
+dep. call Don 721-0763.

GAY MONTROSE - Large, upscale 2/2 with
new high efficiency appliances, central a/c,
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parking. Immediate move-in. \$850 per
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RIVER OAKS/MONTROSE - Spacious 2
br. Updated new kitchen and appliances
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521-3624

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FITNESS EXCHANGE
Managers for new Montrose Fitness
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and sales experience. Salary +
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Copier or typewriter technician needed
ASAP, experienced preferred, but
trainees are accepted. For more information
call Denise Harris at (713)227-4919.

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Bartenders, waitstaff needed for evening
events. Call Estevan at 802-0439 and
leave a message.

Christmas help needed for Montrose area
Floral Company. Immediate opening. Ask
for Shirley. 524-2715.

Accepting applications for experienced
bartenders. Apply Tuesday through
Thursday 9am-3pm. Please bring photo.
Mary's Lounge. 1022 Westheimer.

**HOUSTON'S #1 LEVI-LEATHER CRUISE
BAR - THE MONTROSE MINING
COMPANY**- is accepting applications for
honest, hardworking team players to work
as bartenders, barbacks and doorstaff.
Apply Mondays 12-2 p.m. with a recent
photo. No phone calls. **MONTROSE
MINING COMPANY, 805 Pacific, Houston**

If you have never worked in a bar and can
learn to do everything from mop floors to
sling a singapore sling, **CHANCES** might
take a chance on you. Drop off an
application with a photo to Chances, 1100
Westheimer. No phone calls please.

**The CLUB HOUSTON now accepting
applications for all positions. Apply in
person. Mon. - Thurs., 10 a.m. - 2 p.m.
2205 Fannin**

GENTRY is accepting applications for *door,
barbacks and bartenders*. Please apply in
person at 2303 Richmond Ave. from 2 pm
to 6 pm. A recent photo is required. No
telephone calls please.

Seeking energetic, honest, dependable,
and hard working individuals who want the
opportunity to grow with a service oriented
company. Positions available include floor/
desk staff and male dancers. Apply in
person only. No phone calls. **MIDTOWNE
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The **BRB** is accepting applications for all
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2400 Brazos. Photo required. No phone
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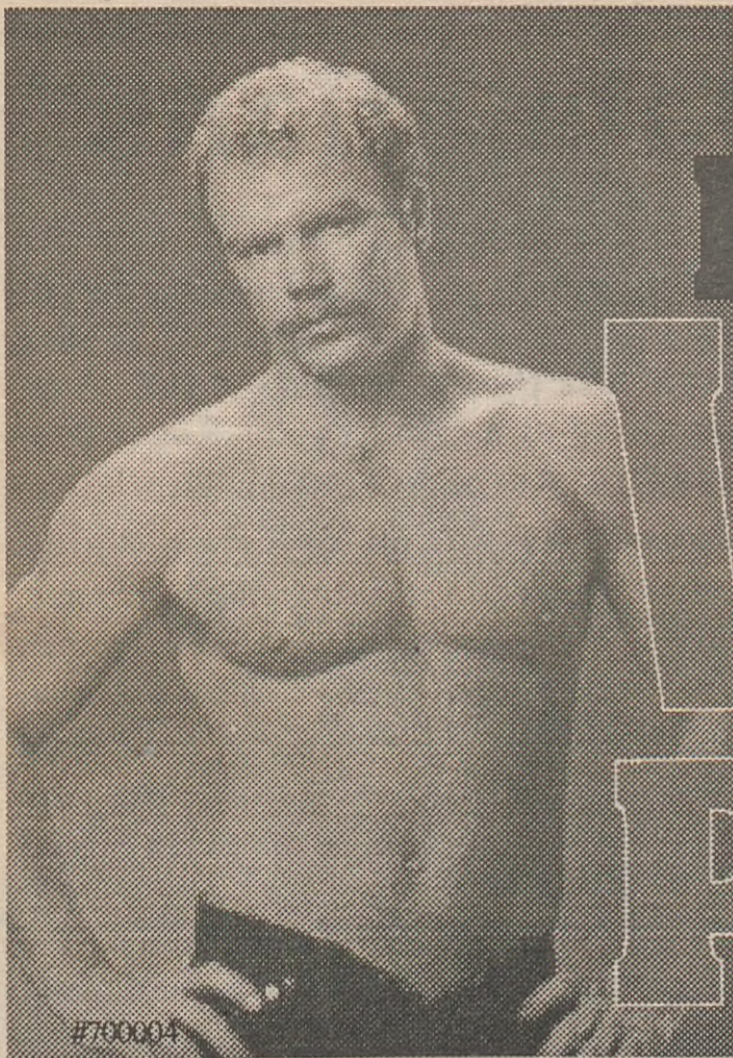
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Women SEEKING Women

SFW 5'7", 130 lbs., blonde hair, blue eyes, 20. Looking for a beautiful, feminine woman who is preferably the same as me. Wanting to share life, should like going to the beach, the movies & anywhere our hearts desire. I'm very attractive, so you must be also. No jokes or running around. Call Ext. 5207

SFW Late 40's. Looking for a White female to help me come out. I like fishing, hunting, dancing & boating. Give me a call. Call Ext. 5237

SF 37, butch. I have a soft, romantic streak on the inside. I'm honest, intelligent, sincere & passionate about life. Looking for a butch top who is honest, upfront & trustworthy for fun & friendship. Maybe we can get together. Call Ext. 5251

SF 44, 5'11", 120 lbs. I love animals, gardening, reading & trying new things. I'd like to meet some women, 30-45, in the Houston area, for friendship, hanging out & a possible long-term relationship. No smokers, drugs or heavy drinkers. Call Ext. 5138

DF Bisexual. I need a woman. When I was married, I had a great relationship with my husband & our girlfriend. She got into drugs, so I had to let her go. I need a woman & I know how to treat one. Blonde hair, blue eyes, 5'4", 130 lbs., large breasts. I'm so sensual. I'm a stand-up comic & a poet. I want to get to know you. Call Ext. 5245

SFW My hobbies are playing pool, shooting darts, dancing & clubbing. Looking for a female in the age group of 25-40. I'm 190 lbs., 5'11" & a security guard. Call Ext. 5173

SF If you like to be wined & dined, I'm the one. I'm cute, with a wonderful personality. Check me out. Desiring a sincere, honest & intelligent female. Call Ext. 5161

SBF 45, 6'. Looking for companionship & romance. I like sex. I'd like to meet some interesting people. I like music & I live on the west side of town. Looking for a woman, no butch. Call Ext. 5194

SFW Late 40's, 160 lbs., 5'8", green eyes, gray & brown hair. Seeking a relationship with a single gay female who is height/weight proportionate. Race is not important for companionship, friendship & possible romance. I'd like to meet a non-smoker. I'm considered soft butch. I'd like to meet a very feminine female. Call Ext. 5162

SFW 33, 5'3", 135 lbs. Looking for a single White female, soft butch or fem to hang out with or date. I like to dancing, theaters & going to antique stores. Call Ext. 5169

SFW 30, 5'3", blonde hair, blue eyes. Looking for a female, 28-40, who is a soft butch. Wanting to date or hang-out. Like going to movies, boating, fishing, etc. I'm drug-free, alcohol-free & a non-smoker. Call Ext. 5215

SBF I'm a 21-year-old, horny, Black female. If you want to know more, call & leave me a message. Call Ext. 5164

SF College student, mature. Looking for a professional, mature woman who knows what she wants & is not afraid to go after it. Call Ext. 5262

SFW 35. In search of a single White female, 30-45, for companionship & possibly more. Call Ext. 5248

SF Looking for a feminine Black female to have a relationship with. I would like her to be gay, height/weight proportionate & in her mid-40's. I'm available for a long-term relationship & friendship. Please call. Call Ext. 5197

SFW 43, non-smoker. Enjoy cooking, the mall & parks. Looking for love. Should be interesting & White or biracial. Call Ext. 5208

SFW 45, 160 lbs., 5'5", professional. Seeking companionship & friendship, possibly more. I'd like to meet a non-smoker. Seeking a Hispanic or White female. I enjoy the beach, going out, traveling & dancing. I'm a non-drinker. Call Ext. 5256

Men SEEKING Men

SM 20, 6'1", 200 lbs., brown hair, blue eyes. Like to sing, dance, go out & have quiet times at home. Looking for a relationship. Give me a call. Call Ext. 5272

SM Muscular, handsome, sexy man, HIV+, late 30's. Would like to meet a man in his late 30's or 40's. Should be attractive, masculine & enjoy being a top. I enjoy being a bottom. Call Ext. 5271

SHM 42, HIV+, healthy. Enjoy life & quiet evenings. Looking for friendship, possibly more. Call Ext. 5273

SWM 36, HIV+, 6'2", 160 lbs. Looking for love in all the wrong places. I'm fun-loving, humorous & open-minded. I'm a light drinker & smoker. I'm somewhat Bohemian with an appreciation for the finer things in life. I enjoy quiet evenings at home with an occasional night out on the town. Call Ext. 5264

SHM 32, thin. Seeking a gay White or Hispanic male who is 32 or older. Seeking a lifemate. Serious replies only. No games. I don't drink or smoke. I need sincerity & stability. Call Ext. 5160

SWM 5'8", brown hair, smooth muscular body, olive-complected. I'd like to meet a top who has body & facial hair. Must like to have a lot of fun. Call Ext. 5190

SWM I'm 5'9", 130 lbs. & masculine. Looking for a Black brother who is the same. Someone who is 18-28, self-assured, masculine & not into games. Call Ext. 5094

SWM Handsome, 37, 5'8", 172 lbs. I work out frequently & I'm muscular. I'd like to meet a guy in his late 30's to mid-40's who is good-looking. Must like to have a lot of fun. He should enjoy being a real top guy. If you want to play with my nice, smooth muscular body, give me a call. Call Ext. 5201

SM Top man who is demanding, sane & safe. Looking for specially skilled bottom boys who like to serve & take what's coming to them. Should be 26-40. No training is necessary. I will take care of that myself. Call me quickly. Call Ext. 5257

SM 46, 6', 280 lbs., graying hair. Seeking a gay White, Asian or Hispanic male, 25-50, who is drug & disease-free. He should be slim-to-medium-built, with fuzzy legs. I enjoy friends, music & honesty. I'm compassionate & affectionate. Call Ext. 5192

SWM 50, 6', 190 lbs., brown eyes, brown hair. I'm HIV+ & a top daddy only. I prefer a single White male who is over 40 & less than 5'10". Must be a non-smoker. No drugs or femmes. Seeking someone who enjoys quiet life, movies, theaters & sci-fi. Call Ext. 5200

SWM Brown hair, very blue eyes, 5'9", 180 lbs., very muscular, 34. Looking for a very sensual, feminine TV or TS. Let's have a really good time & see where it goes. Call Ext. 5232

SWM 27, 6'3", 195 lbs., in very good shape. Looking for a gay White man who is 27 or older, tall & masculine, to have fun with. Call Ext. 5231

SWM 37, dark olive complexion, very muscular, husky, 168 lbs. Looking for a guy who is larger than myself, very masculine & enjoys being a top. I would like to talk to you in person, if this fits your description. Call Ext. 5201

SHM 5'8", 175 lbs. I have dimples & a pretty smile. Looking for someone who has a good personality. Looks are not important. Call Ext. 5141

SM 35, 5'10", 175 lbs., blue-gray eyes, dark brown hair, goatee. Considered very attractive & well-endowed, with an athletic build. Gentleman, I'm only looking for this & the description must be precise. You're handsome, under 35, muscular, with a small waist & 10" or more. Call Ext. 5172

SHM Attractive, outgoing, 34. Searching for a special friend. Someone who is willing to understand my living with HIV for 10 years. Call Ext. 5255

SWM 5'7", 195 lbs., 45, furry, Italian, brown hair, attractive, easygoing, romantic. Enjoy the quiet life, movies, dining, entertaining & being a homebody. Looking for someone to develop a special friendship & long-term relationship with. If you're my ideal guy you'll be 35-40, able to support yourself & enjoy being a bottom. Blonde hair & blue eyes are a huge plus! Give me a call. Call Ext. 5170

SWM 38, 190 lbs., 6', HIV+, healthy, active. I enjoy the arts & having laid-back fun. I'm retired & enjoying life. Looking for friendship & possibly more. Call Ext. 5253

SWM 31, muscular, tan, smooth, 156 lbs. Like to meet a man who is stockier than I am. Not looking for a chubby guy. Would like to meet a top. If I sound attractive, leave a message. Call Ext. 5175

SWM 41, 6', 190 lbs. Looking for a top daddy who is 40-50, to take care of. Also looking for a top cowboy to ride me all night & then hold me. Must be open-minded, with above-average equipment. Willing to wear collar for the right daddy. Call Ext. 5163

SWM Attractive, 38, HIV+, long brown hair, brown eyes, mustache & beard. I'm straight-acting & appearing. I like to enjoy life, concerts, movies, traveling & good friends. I'm retired, healthy & financially secure. Looking for that special friend who is also straight-acting & appearing, with similar interests. Looking for someone who wants to get out & enjoy life. Call Ext. 5178

SM Leave me a message & I will call you as soon as I can. Call Ext. 5233

You've got it & I want it. You're Hispanic or Latin, dark-complected, a smoker, drug & alcohol-free, height/weight proportionate, mature. I'm a gay White male, 158-160 lbs., 5'8", brown hair, blue eyes, considered attractive, work out daily, very fit, mature, HIV- & a top. Interested in mature bottoms, no games. Interested in simple encounters, possibly more. Discretion is needed & will be given. Call Ext. 5267

SHM 5'7", 170 lbs. Looking for Black males, between 23-35, who want to have fun. Give me a call. Call Ext. 5218

SBM 27. Seeking other males who want to have fun. Give me a call. Call Ext. 5159

SM Asian. In search of a Married White cop who needs to relieve the stress of work & family life. If you want some mid-day encounters, give me a call. Call Ext. 5189

White male, 38, blonde hair, blue eyes, athletic. I'm wealthy, married & bored. You must be young, hot & a little wild. I'm a healthy, imaginative top. Call Ext. 5227

SBM 27. Seeking other Black males. I'd like to meet a top. I enjoy swimming, bowling, reading & having fun. I'd prefer to meet someone 20-30. Call Ext. 5158

SWM 44, 5'9", 165 lbs. I'm a bottom, with brown hair & brown eyes. I'm clean-shaven, with short hair. I'm straight-acting & discreet. I enjoy giving blow jobs & receiving anal action. Looking for a White male who is a top man. Someone who is taller than me. Must be muscular, with above-average endowment. Smokers & light drinkers are okay. Call Ext. 5244

SWM I'm a certified sailing skipper. I lost my captain to the North Carolina waters. Looking for a captain with a crew. I'm also interested in forming a gay sailing club. Call Ext. 5149

SWM 60, 5'8", 290 lbs., brown hair, blue eyes. I'm a bottom. Looking for guys in their 20's or 40's. Race is not important. Honesty & sincerity are prime factors. Let's share respect, love & an active physical relationship. I enjoy quiet times at home, dancing, traveling, the beach, dining in, dining out & the company of an affectionate friend. Call Ext. 5187

SWM Gay, 41, 5'5", green eyes, reddish-blonde hair. Enjoy quiet evenings at home, movies, rock 'n roll music & playing board games on occasion. Looking for a White or Hispanic male to spend some time with. Call Ext. 5220

SWM 31, 5'5", 145 lbs. I'm very boyish-looking. Looking for a gay, White or Hispanic male, 21-32, who likes sports, rock music, cars, traveling & casinos. Call Ext. 5252

SWM 5'7", brown hair, brown eyes, 43. I like music, arts, opera, the theater, museums & quiet dinners at home. I also enjoy kissing, cuddling & touching. I'm open to new & varied interests. I'm a laid-back, sensitive & down-to-earth person. I'd like to meet Hispanic, White or Asian males who are between 25-50. Call Ext. 5240

SM 6'1", 200 lbs., brown hair, brown eyes, Cuban/French. Interested in guys who are versatile & 20-30. Race is not important. Looking for someone to really have a good time with. Sex would be great! Let's get good & nasty. Call Ext. 5177

SBM Handsome, 26, new to Texas. I hear things grow big in Texas. I'm very straight-acting & looking. In search of a 20-30-year-old who is straight-acting & appearing. Race is unimportant. Must be in shape. Call Ext. 5242

SWM Late 30's, cute. Looking to meet an athletic Black guy who knows what he wants. Call me for more information. Call Ext. 5145

SWM Attractive, 5'11", 180 lbs. Would like to meet a female impersonator. Call Ext. 5261

SM Looking to meet some interesting & uninhibited guys to get together & have some versatile fun with. I like to give, as well as receive. Although, giving is my greatest joy in life. I consider it my duty in life to give pleasure to men. Call Ext. 5259

SWM I'm a chubby nudist in search of other chubby nudists. I'm 38, 5'7" & 228 lbs., with strawberry-blonde hair & blue eyes. Race is not important. Call Ext. 5157

SM Looking for someone for drinks & walks on the beach. Someone who is single, Black & manly to hang out & have a good time with. Call Ext. 5171

SM I'm a cross-dressing transvestite. Looking for other transvestites who enjoy conversations, getting together, being sisters & having girl talk. I enjoy dressing up, going out, having drinks & pajama parties. Looking for a sister or close friend. Call Ext. 5203

SWM Attractive, early 40's, 5'10", 175 lbs. Seeks femme-looking cross dresser or transsexual, 21-45, for dating, fun or a possible long-term relationship. Please respond. Call Ext. 5258

SWM 20, bi, brown hair, hazel eyes. I enjoy camping, fishing & more. Looking for someone who has a sense of humor who likes to party. If you think you are the one, leave me a message. Call Ext. 5236

SBM 33, 6', slender, smooth, HIV+, very healthy & active. I love music, sports, dining in, dining out & cuddling. I'm very flexible & willing to try other things. Looking for Black males for friendship & a possible relationship. I'm honest, sincere & trustworthy. Must like to have fun. Call Ext. 5265

SWM 29, 6', 160 lbs., blonde hair, blue eyes, smooth chest, tan body. I'm a construction worker from Louisiana. Looking for a gay, White or Hispanic male to show me around, in more ways than one. Friends first, possibly more. No games. No chubbies or above. If you are 21-35, a brunette & 5'4" or taller, call me. I will bring you there. Call Ext. 5238

SM 46, 6', bi curious. I have one or two experiences that were not satisfactory. I would like to meet someone to help me investigate it more. Contact me. Call Ext. 5266

SWM 40, 5'11", 230 lbs., football player build, professional, HIV+, excellent health. Looking for someone 30-50, for friendship & a possible relationship. Enjoy traveling, the theater, cooking & quiet evenings at home. Prefer a non-smoker, non-drug user who can enjoy life to the fullest. Call Ext. 5223

SBM 22, 5'11", 143 lbs. In search of a single White, male, 18-30, who is pretty masculine, handsome & not into games. Call Ext. 5229

SM 37, 5'8", 165 lbs., attractive, brown hair, dark-complected. I'd like to meet a guy my age or older who is in good shape & attractive. Should prefer to be top. Seeking a fairly active guy. If you have a good sense of humor & you like to have fun, give me a call. Call Ext. 5123

SWM 34, 6'1", 275 lbs., brown hair, brown eyes. I own my own business. I enjoy movies, dining in, dining out & intimacy. I have a lot of love to give. Looking for someone to love & get to know. Possible long-term relationship. Call Ext. 5186

SWM I'm a very young 43-year-old, sailing skipper looking for a sailing captain. I'm a 6', 220 lb. teddy bear. I'm considered stocky, beefy & a linebacker build. I have red, strawberry-blonde hair, hazel-green eyes, a mustache & a hairy chest. Looking for guys with similar qualities, or those who are attracted to my qualities. Also looking for a gay sailing club & interested in forming one if one is not out there. Call Ext. 5212

SBM In search of other masculine Black males who are 19-45. Seeking someone who is well-endowed & masculine. Call Ext. 5154

I'm a married man, 40's, 5'9", 165 lbs., clean, discreet & HIV-. Looking for sexual buddies who are the same & want to go out & have fun. Call soon. Call Ext. 5228

Gay male, 23, 6'1", 172 lbs., dark hair, dark eyes, well-toned, smooth. Looking for bodybuilders to have good times with. I'll call you back. Call Ext. 5195

SWM 5'11", 155 lbs., blonde hair, bluish-green eyes. Looking for Hispanic males 18-35. I enjoy going to the beach, the gym & hanging out with friends. Call Ext. 5155

SHM 34, attractive, bottom. Looking for masculine guys for friendship, romance or simple encounters. I like guys who are taller than 5'7". Race is not important. Positive attitude is a plus. I'm discreet & friendly. Please be over the age of 25 & confident of your own needs. Call Ext. 5143



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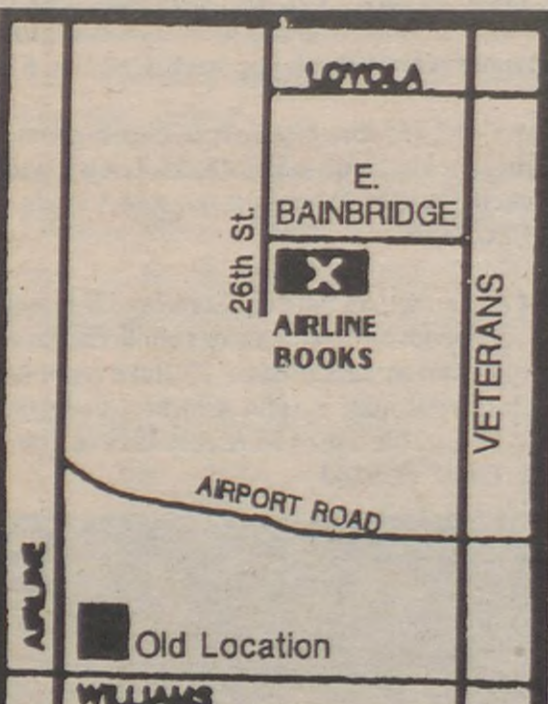


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Uproarious Dalmatians

By JOHN TOUPS

"I need those puppies," exclaimed Cruella DeVil as she rampages in a frenzy to acquire 101 dalmatian puppies to create her new dress. Who among us isn't familiar with this legendary Disney classic. The animated version has long been a staple that crosses generational boundaries. The live-action remake features Glenn Close as the campy diva. Arguably, Close is one of filmdoms greatest actresses and her versatility never ceases to astonish. Having recently triumphed on stage in Andrew Lloyd Webber's production of "Sunset Boulevard" for which she received a Tony Award, Close returns to the big screen in a risky venture. There are two rules most actors live by in Hollywood. Never star opposite a child or animal. Bringing to life an infamous character also has its drawbacks, lest we forget Faye Dunaway's career decline following her stint in Mommie Dearest. Nevertheless, Close is convincing as Cruella and transforms the animated character into realism with a fervor that requires skill.

The movie begins with Anita, played by Joely Richardson, working as a fashion designer for the House of DeVil, owned by none other than Cruella. As Anita is designing another dress, using a series of odd patterns from cow print to dalmatian print, Cruella sneaks up on her and absolutely falls in love with her drawing of the dalmatian dress. Cruella's infatuation with the garment compels her to find enough dalmatian puppies (their fur is softer) to create the dress.

Later that day, Anita and Perdy (her dog) set out for a bicycle ride through the park. Elsewhere, a man named Roger (Jeff Daniels) and his dog Pongo also set out for a ride at the very same park. Needless to say, the cycling pet owners cross paths at the park and, lo and behold, their precious pooches become smitten with one another. Instantly, Pongo, who happens to be leashed to Rogers bicycle handlebars, jets off after Perdy which lands Roger resting on his laurels sitting in a cold pond. Unleashed and oblivious to Roger's plight, Pongo lasciviously flirts with Perdy. Realizing that his dog's incessant lust for Perdy caused a similar mishap and subsequent consternation for Anita, Roger extends her the courtesy of inviting her to his home to warm up from the cold. In typical fairy tale fashion, the human couple become as

fascinated with one another as their animal counterparts. Who knows—maybe they truly fell in love at first sight? To their credit, the producers moved this love-fest along at a rapid pace—Roger proposed to Anita that same day.

Realistically, this is not your typical family. Roger, a video game designer, whose business is purportedly not doing well and Anita live in an extravagantly decorated townhouse apartment and employ a maid. Moreover, they are expecting a child. Fascinating? Yes! Believable? No! Unless they either have rich families, or are doing better off than depicted. Meanwhile, Pongo and Perdy have consummated their relationship as well and have a litter of their own.

When Perdy delivers her puppies, Cruella catches wind of it somehow and shows up at Roger and Anita's house to collect the puppies. Anita refuses to give Cruella the puppies for 7000 pounds. Consequently, she is fired. Now they have to support 3 adults, 2 dogs, and 15 puppies, not including any other expenses, of course. The ensuing mayhem is folklore to any animated buff or Disney fan and does not bear revealing to those who may not be familiar with this classic tale. Suffice it to say that the ending is in the "happily ever after" realm.

This movie ran parallel to the cartoon version except for a few things. In the cartoon, it was shown that Perdy had given birth to 101 puppies. That was a little far-fetched—so in the movie, Perdy gave birth to only 15 puppies and the others were stolen from other people in the city. Many scenes featured wizardry from the late Jim Henson's Creature Shop. The facility was called in to digitally multiply Pongo and Perdy's offspring to give the illusion of 1,000 puppies. Also, the movie has no dialogue amongst the animals (it may contain dialogue if you can understand a series of yaps and barks).

This is a very well thought out movie. It is one for any age to enjoy—old and young. Throughout the film, it is apparent the producers, John Hughes and Ricardo Mestres main intent was to provide the audience with a good time. The film is very exhilarating and pompously hilarious at points. Simultaneously, it was also serious and touching. This is a movie that can be viewed repetitiously for years to come. While this four star film is not heady intellectual fare—it never was intended as such—it is a comic tour de force that delivered the goods.

National Conference Convenes in Salt Lake

The Gay, Lesbian, and Straight Teachers Network (GLSTN) today announced its choice of Salt Lake City, Utah as the site for its first-ever national conference to be held March 21-23, 1997. Hosted by GLSTN Utah, the conference will bring together hundreds of teachers, parents, community activists, and students working to create schools where all people are respected, regardless of sexual orientation.

The issue of anti-gay bigotry in schools has been a hot one in Utah this year. In

Jan. 1996, students and teachers at Salt Lake City's East High School formed a Gay-Straight Student Alliance, an act which prompted the Utah legislature to ban Gay-Straight Alliances in April 1996 to prevent the East High GSA from meeting. In response, teachers, parents, students, and community members banded together to form GLSTN Utah, one of the GLSTN's most active chapters, which led the national organization to choose Utah as the site for its first-ever national conference.

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Montrose Inn: Gay men next door. Only gay men. Nothing but gay men.

Motel: Several miles to the gay bars.
Montrose Inn: 5 tiny blocks to the gay bars.

Motel: Drive to the gay bars & pay \$5 to park. Or take a \$15 cab.
Montrose Inn: Walk to the gay bars. Or take a \$3 cab.

Motel: Drive back from the gay bars and risk the cops making you walk the straight line. Or take a \$15 cab.
Montrose Inn: Walk back from the gay bars. Or take a \$3 cab.

Motel: Pay \$39 to \$95 a night for a room.
Montrose Inn: Pay \$41 to \$79 a night for a room.

Motel: Eat in their restaurant. Food for the masses. Pay plenty. \$1 soft drink machine.
Montrose Inn: Complimentary late night sandwiches & full breakfast the next day. Free soft drinks, juices, coffee 24 hours.

Motel: Cruise the parking lot and get threatened.
Montrose Inn: Cruise the hallways. Please!

Motel: The receptionist sneers at you.
Montrose Inn: The receptionist winks at you.

Motel: Washing machine? Ironing board? Hair dryer? Refrigerator? Stove? Microwave? VCR & gay movies? Are you kidding?
Montrose Inn: All of the above. Free to use.

Motel: Full size bed, everything else is plastic.
Montrose Inn: Queen size bed, hardwood floors, hardly any plastic.

Motel: Maid knocking 8 a.m., you moan but she's coming in anyway. Checkout 11 a.m.
Montrose Inn: Handsome man next door knocking 11 a.m. to join him for breakfast. Checkout 1 p.m.

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