



silence to celebration

HOUSTON GAY AND LESBIAN PRIDE WEEK 1995

HOUSTON VOICE

June 16, 1995
ISSUE 764

A Weekly Community News Publication



SONS AND LOVERS, a New York City-based, gay male a capella group are among entertainers scheduled to perform at Spectrum 95's Concert of the Stars Sunday evening. Page 13

Houston Gay-Lesbian Pride Week '95: The celebration begins

By SHERI COHEN DARBONNE

Houston Voice Editor

It's that time again.

Houston's annual celebration of gay

and lesbian pride begins this weekend—the official kickoff party is Friday evening at the Lovett Inn, 501 Lovett, from 6:00-8:00 p.m. The observance will continue through two weekends—both including high octane mega-events with guest rosters worthy of their months of preview hype—and a week in between stuffed almost to bursting with more entertainment and educational events, parties, games and special guests than anyone could possibly fit into a social schedule. This weekend, perhaps the most ambitious design ever for a community event has its test run in Houston—Spectrum '95, this Sunday at the AstroArena, combines business, politics, art, entertainment and education in a single high-gloss, day long forum.

(Continued on Page 12)

Administration won't oppose anti-gay law

By MICHAEL J. SNIFFEN

FOR THE HOUSTON VOICE

WASHINGTON, Thursday, June 8 (AP)—The Clinton administration declined Thursday to join the legal attack on a Colorado anti-gay measure that could produce the most significant Supreme Court ruling on gay rights in a decade. Gay and civil rights groups suggested calculations about the 1996 election affected the decision.

Attorney General Janet Reno told her weekly news conference she had decided not to file a friend-of-the-court brief with the Supreme Court opposing Colorado's ban on laws and policies designed to protect homosexuals from discrimination in the state.

(Continued on Page 8)

HATCH: lifeline for gay teens

Community Spotlight

By GLEN WEBBER

When Uriel, a soft-spoken 18-year-old, came to this country from his native El Salvador to join his family, he was 13 years old. In Houston, he joined his mother, two brothers and a sister who had arrived here several years earlier. Three years later, he told his mother that he was gay—a fact, he says, that she had suspected for several years because of his feminine manners.

"My family didn't react well. It turned into a family crisis," Uriel recalled. "I was lucky, though. The high school counselor gave me the number to the

crisis hotline, who referred me to HATCH."

HATCH—the Houston Area Teen Coalition of Homosexuals—is a social and support group for teenagers and young adults between 15 and 21 years of age. The group is specifically designed to aid gay and lesbian teenagers.

Coming out gay today is a difficult experience for anyone. Add to that the challenges of being a teenager, with no one to talk to, and the pressure is enormous. HATCH's success in helping these teens has earned it the honor of representing Houston Gay and Lesbian Pride Week '95 as organizational Grand Marshal of this year's parade.

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Community Calendar
by Carolyn Roberts

If you would like an event listed in this section, please feel free to call me at 529-8490 or fax the facts to me at 529-9531. (Editor's note: for information on official events of Houston Gay & Lesbian Pride Week 1995, see Page 12)

Friday, June 16

- * Houston Lesbian/Gay Pride Week starts. For more info, call 529-6979.
- * Borders Book Store Gay/Lesbian Book Club meets at the Espresso Bar at 9634 Westheimer. Call 782-6066.
- * HIV Art classes at the Art League. Call 225-9411.
- * Lesbian/Gay Voices on KPFT 90.1 FM 6:00 p.m. to 10:00 p.m.
- * HATCH meets. Call 942-7002.
- * CODA meets at MCCR at 7:00 p.m. Call 861-9149.
- * LIB's "Intimate, Intense, and Sexy Conversation about Lesbian Life and Gender Crossing" at Hamman Hall, Rice Univ. Call 228-0914.
- * "Orphans" Opening night at Skyline Theater. Call 759-0701.
- * Artist Reception at the Hyde Park Gallery. 6:00 p.m. 711 Hyde Park. Call 526-2744.
- * Charlie's Coffee Shop kick-off. New owners, new menu. 1.5% of all sales during Pride week will go to the Montrose Clinic. Call 522-3332.
- * Life... Today! TV on Public Access at 5:00 p.m.

Saturday, June 17

- * Mr. Venture-N Contest. Call Don Gill at 521-0911.
- * Houston Chain Gang Bicycle Club rides. Call 520-1809.
- * After Hours on KPFT 12:00 a.m. to 3:00 a.m. 90.1 FM. Call 526-5738.
- * Midnight showing of "Priscilla, Queen of the Desert" at the River Oaks 3. Call 524-2175.
- * Dignity Houston meets for liturgy and social hour. 1307 Yale. Call 880-2872.
- * Outdoor Skate at Memorial Park. Lambda Rollerskating Club. 1:00 p.m. Call 933-5818.
- * Texas Invitational Bowling Tournament Car Wash at Gentry. 10:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. Call 522-9612.
- * Spectrum '95 Sponsors and Entertainers party at Pacific Street. 9:00 p.m.
- * National Emancipation Association's 22nd season "Juneteenth Freedom Festival" at Miller Outdoor Theater. Free 8:00 p.m.
- * An Afternoon with Tony Kushner at Borders Book Shop. 9633 A Westheimer. Call 782-6066.
- * Life... Today! TV on Public Access at 7:30 p.m.
- * Freedom Dance 3 at Heaven featuring Pussy Tourette.

Sunday, June 18

- * Houston Chain Gang Bicycle Club meets. Call 520-1809.
- * Metropolitan Community Church of the Resurrection worship services. 8:30 a.m. and 10:45 a.m.. Choir Rehearsal-9:30 a.m. 1919 Decatur. Call 861-9149.
- * Front Runners meet at 9:00 a.m. at the Tennis center in Memorial Park. Call 522-8021.
- * Maranatha Fellowship Metropolitan Church Services at 10:00 a.m. New Location 3400 Montrose Suite 600. Call 528-6756.
- * Community Gospel Church worship service at 11:00 a.m. and 7:00 p.m. 501 E. 18th. Call 880-9235.
- * Houston Mission Church worship service at 11:00 a.m. 1505 Nevada. Call 529-8225.
- * Kingdom Community Church worship service at 11:00 a.m.. Sunday School at 10:00 a.m. Call 351-4217.
- * Montrose Softball League plays. Call

867-3913 for fields and locations.

- * HATCH meets. Call 942-7002.
- * Inner Loop Sunday Bowling League. Call 522-9612.
- * Spectrum '95—A consortium of Community Pride. At the AstroArena. Tickets \$15-\$25. Call 526-2853.
- * "Miss Life Today PWA Sweetheart Pageant 1995" at E/J's.
- * Dog Dip at Basic Brothers. Pet Patrol fundraiser. Call 522-1954.
- * "A New Beginning for All"—Fundraiser for the Montrose Clinic at Chances. Call Don Gill at 521-0911 for info.
- * The Women's Group Book Discussion. 1311 Holman, 20:00 p.m. Call 529-8571.
- * Pride Night at Fitzgerald's. 7:00 p.m. Call 529-3211.
- * National Emancipation Association's 22nd season "Juneteenth Freedom Festival" at Miller Outdoor Theater. Free 8:00 p.m.
- * Life... Today! TV on Public Access at 4:00 p.m.

Monday, June 19

- * "Striving to get The Love You Want" lecture at the Montrose Public Library. Call 529-0037.
- * AFH Creative Writing Class. 3:00 p.m. Call 623-6796.
- * Gay Fathers/Fathers First support group. 8:00 p.m. Call 861-6181.
- * "They Call Him Michael" opening night at Goat Song Theater. 8:00 p.m. Call 525-5960.
- * National Emancipation Association's 22nd season "Juneteenth Freedom Festival" at Miller Outdoor Theater. Free 1:00 p.m.
- * MCCR Handbell Choir Rehearsal at 7:00 p.m. 1919 Decatur. Call 861-9149

Tuesday, June 20

- * Make a Joyful Noise V at Community Gospel Church. 7:30 p.m. Call 880-9235.
- * MCCR: CODA Support group meets at 7:00 p.m.. Empowerment for Living support group and pot luck dinner at 6:00 p.m.. Gloryland Singers at 8:00 p.m.. The Gospel Ensemble at 6:00 p.m. Call 861-9149.

Wednesday, June 21

- * "Roller Ball" Pride Skate by Lambda Skating Club. 8:00 p.m. call 933-5818.
- * "Power of Attraction" seminar by Patrick J. Vachon at the Montrose Counseling Center. 7:30 p.m. Call 529-0037.
- * Bears' Night Out at the Montrose Mining Company. Call 529-7488.
- * Drug and Alcohol Abuse: Gaining Control in our lives. Workshop by AFH. 7:00 p.m. Call 623-6796.
- * Sheila Lennon performs at Chances. 9:00 p.m. Call 523-7217.
- * MCCR: BiNet Support Group meets at 7:00 p.m.. Jubilation Mixed Ensemble meets at 6:30 p.m.. Midweek uplift service at 7:00 p.m.. Bible Study, Lecture Series and Choir Rehearsal 7:30 p.m. 1919 Decatur. 861-9149.
- * Miss Houston Female Impersonator Pageant at Heaven. 10:00 p.m.

Thursday, June 22

- * Montrose Ice Picks skate at the Galleria. 8:00 P.M. Call 629-1432.
- * Broadway Showtunes at J.R.'s. 9:00 p.m. Call 521-2519.
- * Community Gospel Church worship service. 7:30 p.m. 501 e. 18th. Call 880-9325.
- * Non-Violent Crisis Intervention and Escape Techniques—workshop. 9:00 a.m. Call 861-4338.
- * Talking and Signing with Hedrick Smith at Borders Book Shop. 8:00 p.m. Call 782-6066.

Playwright Kushner's Houston appearances

Pulitzer Prize-winning playwright Tony Kushner, author of the current Alley hit *Angels in America*, will make a special appearance at Border Books, 9633 Westheimer at Gessner, on Saturday, June 17, from 4:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m. Kushner will be available to sign books of his plays *Angels in America*, as well as his other books.

Kushner is also scheduled to participate in the Alley Theatre's *Informance and Talk Back Series*, along with "Angels" director Michael Wilson and Alley Artistic Director Gregory Boyd. The pre-performance discussion will be Saturday, June 17 at 1:30 p.m., before the 2:30 matinee of "Part II: Perestroika." Kushner, Wilson, Boyd and members of the cast will also speak at a post-performance Talk Back on the



Catch playwright TONY KUSHNER at the Alley Theater or Borders Books in Houston Saturday

stage following the evening's performance of "Part I: Millennium Approaches," which begins at 8:00 p.m. Both the *Informance* and the *Talk-Back* are free and open to the public; no purchase is necessary to attend either discussion.

Now extended through July 9, the current Alley hit "Angels in America continues" to play to capacity houses every night. Directed by Alley Associate Director Michael Wilson, *Angels in America*, Part I: *Millennium Approaches* and Part 2: *Perestroika* are running in repertory on the Neuhaus Arena Stage. Tickets range from \$18 to \$36 and may be charged to MasterCard, VISA, American Express, and Discover. For more information on tickets, please call the Alley Theatre Box Office at (713) 228-8421 or 1-800-259-ALLE, or come by the Box Office at 615 Texas Avenue.

Author, Leroy Aarons, to speak in Houston

Quick Notes

Leroy Aarons will appear at a speaking/signing event on Wednesday, June 21, at 7:00 p.m. at Crossroads Market and Bookstore, 610 West Alabama, marking the release of his new book "Prayers for Bobby—A Mother's Coming to terms with the Suicide of Her Gay Son."

Bobby Griffith, a young gay man whose family whose family and religion taught him that his sexual orienta-

tion was a sin. Unable to live with this conflict, he leapt from a freeway overpass to his death on August 27, 1983. In his book, Aarons tells the story of Bobby's mother as she transforms from a fearful fundamentalist to an enlightened advocate for gay youth.

Leroy Aarons is an award-winning journalist and playwright. He was a national correspondent for *The Washington Post* and executive editor of *The Oakland Tribune*, and is founder of the National Gay and Lesbian Journalists Association.

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Leroy Aarons

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IN MEMORY OF

KENNETH E. KRESS

Born: April 2, 1964
Died: June 9, 1995

Kenneth E. Kress departed from this realm on June 9, 1995, surrounded by his loving family and friends at his home, to become the principal bassoonist in the Lord's Symphony. He is survived by his parents, Mike and Judy Kress; his sister, Pam Kress; sister-in-law, Theresa Hayes; Grandparents, John and Mary Duncan; aunts, Donna Kress and Cindy Kress; aunts and uncles, Carolyn and Beaver Opie, Mitzi and J.W. Shirley, John and Carroll Duncan, Warren and Pam Kress; and 36 cousins. Ken loved life, music, good times, good food and traveling. He was steadfast and generous in his love of family and friends. He has left behind his two babies,



Digit and Lucy, and his most cherished friends, Frani Scates, Tracy Hanna, Lisa Wilkerson, Gerald Frankowski, Steve Bullitt, Richard Abston, and so many others that the VOICE is not large enough to mention them all. Our family would like to thank the staff and doctors at Park Plaza Hospital for their exceptional care, concern and love for our beloved Ken. Funeral services were held Tuesday, June 13th, 1995 at Forest Park Lawndale, officiated by Rev. Chris Chiles, Rev. Ray Highfield and Rev. Richard Heard.

Ken's family was honored by his pallbearers: Gerald Frankowski, Richard Abston, Jason Coleman, Darron Tillman, Steve Bullitt and Mitchell McKean. Anyone wishing to make a donation for the fight against AIDS can donate in Ken's name to "His Touch Ministries" by calling 864-2158.



DAVID LEROY JOSEPH HEMMER

Born: May 27, 1958
Died: June 9, 1995

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"These are days you'll remember. When May is rushing over you with desire to be part of the miracles you see in every hour. You'll know that it's true that you are blessed and lucky. It's true that you are touched by something that will grow and bloom in you" ("These are Days" Natalie Merchant/10,000 Maniacs, "Our Time in Eden")
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Gay Today

by Glen Webber



Celebrating Life

Welcome to the third week of Gay Pride Month. With our parade just around the corner, it is time for personal reflection. It is time for you to think back on the most meaningful and personal experiences that have shaped your development as a gay man or lesbian. I've had several events in my life that have shaped who I am. Thank you for letting me share them with you.

My earliest life-shaping experience was a negative one: when I was five years old, I was the victim of child abuse by a neighbor. Don't let anyone tell you that abusing children is o.k. It is a horrible crime that can cause children not to trust anyone for years. Fortunately, I also have other, positive and affirming experiences to look back on. Another experience that shaped my life is my parents' acceptance of my being gay, and the incredible love and support they have given me all my life. Every time we talk on the phone, the conversation ends with "I love you." Their love has been the foundation of my success in living a happy gay lifestyle.

I thought about my attending the 1981 Gay Pride Parade in San Francisco. It was a sea of humanity, over one million people, and was our last pre-AIDS get together. It was a validating experience for me. I thought of the March on Washington in 1993. My lover of 13 years was weeks away from dying, but I felt I had to go. Being there gave me the strength to face his death. I thought of the magazine layouts I did, and how proud I was to make a national magazine cover. Winning a couple of leather contests was also exciting and validating.

I think, however, that my most meaningful gay experience—which was also the most life-changing—was when I was diagnosed as HIV-positive in April of 1990.

I hadn't been feeling well, and the doctor suggested the HIV antibody test. I knew it would come back positive, but just hearing those words sent a shock wave blasting through me. I was scared and upset. I didn't want to die before my parents did. I didn't want my niece and nephews to have to bury me. I knew the world would not stop if I died.

Thanks to the Bering Wednesday

Night Support Group, not only was I able to get a handle on my emotions, but the love and support I received was gratifying. The incredible ability of people to share their stories was inspirational. They saved my life. (Thank you so much, my friends).

Since then, however, I've learned a lot more about being HIV-positive. Most importantly, it's not a "death sentence" at all. For me, it has been a new opportunity to get out of the fast lane and start living a quality life again. And I have tried to do that. I'm doing things I have never done before. I'm making new friends I thought I'd never have otherwise. I'm loving life in ways I thought only other people did. I refuse to let HIV stop me from living. I refuse to go on disability. Despite low T-Cell counts, I have my full time job, my part-time writing for the VOICE, and fixing up my house. I also keep up a tight schedule at the gym. I love to sit in the back yard under my big shade trees and watch my dog, Miss Lady, run around the yard chasing squirrels...and I'm trying to rediscover the passion for love buried deep in my soul.

If you reject someone because they're positive, I understand. You're afraid you will have to bury the one you love. Many of us have already done that once. And for those of you who are negative, I understand your fear of becoming infected if you love somebody HIV-positive. It's a valid feeling. But don't be afraid. Having AIDS doesn't make us any less loving. In fact, it just gives us more of a will to live and enjoy life.

I hope all of you who are living with HIV realize that you do have options. You can discover again how beautiful life is. You can put down the drugs and alcohol, and pick up hope and a determination to live life to the fullest, to get involved in the community, and to tell all those who need support, "I love you." I know every time I get a hug, or a smile, or a kiss, I feel alive and I am grateful. There's nothing you can't do, and do it with flair and style.

My message for Gay Pride month is be all you can be. Have pride in who you are, and make loving yourself the most emotionally satisfying emotion you have. And when you see me, give me a hug, and pass on your love of life.

MCCR plans special Pride Sunday Concert

Quick Notes

Metropolitan Community Church of the Resurrection (MCCR) and its music department have announced that there will be a special concert for Pride Sunday on June 25.

This musical praise and worship service will feature the MCCR Sanctuary Choir and the Cathedral of Hope (Dallas MCC) choir and orchestra in the performance of "God With Us." The church extends a warm invitation to the community to start Pride Sunday by attending the 10:45 a.m. service at MCCR and hearing this "fab-

ulous" choir of over 70 voices and a 12 piece orchestra.

After the service, those attending are invited to join MCCR's contingent in marching in the 1995 Pride Parade along Westheimer.

MCCR is celebrating 20 years of service to the Houston community. "Our family welcomes you to attend MCCR and Experience God's Unconditional Love." MCCR is located at 1919 Decatur, off Washington Ave. between Houston Ave. and Montrose/Studemont. For directions, information on other programs or more info about special events, please call the church at 861-9149.

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OPINION

Pride equals passion, compassion and unity

Guest Commentary

By **DON GILL**

For the Houston Voice

(Editor's note: Don Gill is Male Grand Marshal of the 1995 Houston Gay/Lesbian Pride Parade).

The whole week of Gay Pride in Houston is a feeling of great satisfaction—a source of pleasure in realizing how far we have come since we marched years ago from Anita Street to the Hyatt Regency, protesting against anti-gay crusader Anita Bryant. Our sense of pride in our qualities, our merits, our compassion for all of humankind and especially for our own community is what, in time, will put us in a position to achieve our equal rights.

I have always enjoyed the day of our parade. It is my favorite day of the year. Sure we sweat our butts off, and we have even seen some of our friends pass out due to our city's intense summer heat. (Why did those Judy Garland drag queens in New York battle the New York police in June instead of October or

November?) However, the pride we all have in who we are and why we are doing this in Summer in Houston is the greatest example that can be expressed of what makes it all worthwhile.

Being named Grand Marshal of our 1995 celebration is one of the greatest honors I could ever have hoped for. Like a mother hen with her chicks, I will continue to fight for, promote kindness, and express love to ALL in our community. I have always used a saying: "United we stand; divided, we continue to fall." I see my place in Houston's gay community as that of a public servant from a professional standpoint; a fundraiser for those who need help; a friend to those who will allow me to be and most of all, hopefully, a helping hand or a kind smile with the power to bring some sunshine into someone else's life. I believe that to live one's entire life without ever helping better others' is the antithesis of pride.

I thank you, Houston, for your kindness and support—and most of all, for the trust that you have shown to this pecker from Leesville, Louisiana.

HOUSTON

VOICE MAIL

Letters to the Editor

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From **SARAH DEPALMA**

Chair, It's Time, Texas!

In a vote of 26 for and 16 against, a motion which would have included transgressors in the bylaws of the Houston Gay/Lesbian Political Caucus failed to receive the two thirds majority required for such changes. The amendment would have "Condemned all discrimination, including that based on gender identity or orientation" and would have required the caucus, "To exhibit solidarity and cooperation with transgenderists and bisexuals in their similar mission."

It's Time, Texas! wishes to thank and recognize the twenty six people who voted for this motion. Your hard work and courage is much appreciated. We will continue to work with you individually on issues of joint interest in the future.

However, given the fact that transgenderists were intentionally left out of the hate crimes bill by the Lesbian Gay Rights Lobby, and the fact that the HGLPC could not even agree to cooperate with transgenderists, we must conclude that while most gays and lesbians are at least friendly to transgenderists, the organizations which claim to represent them are not. On the contrary, while this amendment would have simply have allowed us to "ride in the back of the bus," the failure to include us can only be interpreted as a refusal to let us on the bus at all!

We see the refusal to include transgenderists in the mission statement as

being no different than white country clubs who refused to admit African Americans. In essence the HGLPC voted to remain "segregated," and we will have no choice other than to treat it as we would treat any other "racist" (or in this case transphobic) organization.

It is our view that by their actions the LGRL and the HGLPC have proven themselves to be unfriendly and even hostile to the needs of their transgendered brothers and sisters. We recognize that many and perhaps most of their member do not hold similar views, but as long as the official position of the organizations remain as they are, we have no choice but to defend ourselves against them. Expect us to act accordingly in the future.

**Gentry Says Thanks,
Responds To Rumor**

From **DEL MCGEE**

Owner, Gentry, Houston, Texas

Last weekend, Gentry celebrated its fifth anniversary. I would like to thank everyone in the gay community for your friendship and support these past five years.

I would also like to quash the rumor circulating that we have lost our lease and will be closing down. Not true! We have just renewed our lease for another three years and have options through the year 2000.

All of us at Gentry look forward to serving our community into the next century.

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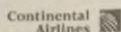
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Clinton, Reno decline role in Amendment Two legal battle

(Continued from Page 1)

"This was a matter in which we were not a party," she said. "We were not asked by the court to participate. There was no federal program or federal statute involved. We determined that we would not participate for those reasons."

Later, department spokesperson Gregory King added, "The department believes the issues were being fully briefed for the court by parties in the case."

"It was the attorney general's decision," said White House press secretary Mike McCurry. "And the president ... is fully supportive" of it. McCurry said President Clinton, widely supported by gays in the 1992 election, had spoken against the Colorado measure.

The decision was criticized by gay and civil rights groups but applauded by Colorado officials and drafters of the measure.

Both sides saw political calculation at work.

"This was a bad legal and political decision," said Elizabeth Birch, executive director of the Human Rights Campaign Fund, the nation's largest gay and lesbian political organization. "Staying silent in this case gives aid and comfort to extremists who wouldn't support the president under any circumstances."

On the other hand, Will Perkins, founder of Colorado for Family Values, which wrote the state constitutional amendment passed by Colorado voters in 1992, said, "The experience President Clinton has had with his homosexual advocacy position is certainly not a reasonable or popular one in America. Reason prevailed ... politically and realistically."

The Human Rights Campaign Fund and the Leadership Conference on Civil Rights, the largest coalition of civil rights groups, had lobbied the administration to file a brief against the measure. Colorado officials had lobbied against such action.

The rights activists had anticipated help because in Feb. 1994, Clinton condemned proposed ballot initiatives similar to Colorado's. "Essential rights and equality should not be denied through ballot initiatives," Clinton wrote. "It's not an issue of special rights for

any one group, it's a battle to protect the human rights of every individual."

And the Justice Department prepared a draft brief opposing the Colorado measure; a copy was sent to the Pentagon to be sure it would not compromise litigation over Clinton's "don't ask, don't tell" policy on gays in the military, according to Justice officials, who requested anonymity.

In New York, Suzanne Goldberg, a lawyer for Lambda Legal Defense and Education Fund, which challenged the Colorado ban, said, "It is extremely disappointing that the administration has decided to stand by in the face of blatant discrimination against a group of citizens."

Reno said she had not personally spoken with White House officials but was aware they backed her decision.

She said she discussed the issues with Solicitor General Drew S. Days, who represents the government in the Supreme Court, and others. "We considered many issues, constitutional issues."

She said she had told people who wanted to discuss the politics of the decision to stay away from her so she could base her decision on the law.

Goldberg, who met with Days and other Justice officials on March 24, said, "The court's ruling in this case will affect the security of all people's civil rights because the Colorado amendment is an effort by the majority to cut one minority out of the political process. This time, it's gay people but next time it could be any other group."

Matt Coles of the American Civil Liberties Union, which also challenged the ban, said, "They were afraid of taking flack from the Pentagon and conservatives in the election."

Reno noted that her department has acted to protect homosexuals from being denied security clearances government wide or jobs in the Justice Department and FBI.

The Colorado constitutional amendment would cancel and ban state and local laws, regulations and policies protecting homosexuals from bias in employment, housing and public accommodations. The Colorado Supreme Court ruled it was unconstitutional by denying homosexuals an equal voice in government.

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HATCH helps teenagers build self-esteem, pride

(Continued from Page 1)

Gay and lesbian teenagers and young adults have a special need for support, which is often difficult for them to find, even in the gay community. These young people are dealing with a myriad of issues, from the basic challenges of making the transition from childhood to adulthood to confusion about sexual orientation or identity and gender roles.

For people in this age group, who also use a range of self-identifications, an organization such as HATCH can make a life-changing difference by providing somewhere to go, and someone to listen.

Uriel, asked about his early gay experiences, wanted first talk about dressing in his female cousin's clothes when he was six years old. "For many years, I would put on her clothes in private. When I was 12, I realized I had sexual feelings for guys.

"My first experience was fooling around with another boy. I didn't feel like a boy or girl, just exploring sexual feelings."

From those confused beginnings, Uriel has come a long way with HATCH's help. Asked about his family situation now, he says, "Things are much better...my family is more accepting. My mother and I can now talk about issues affecting both of us regarding my being gay.

"If God stood before me and asked me if I wanted to be a straight man or a gay man, I would still pick gay," he asserts.

HATCH meets twice a week in Montrose. The meetings include general meetings, speakers and support groups. The environment is relaxed and friendly, and gives our youngest generation a much-needed opportunity to explore their feelings and talk about their needs with peers.

While there are adults involved in HATCH as counselors and facilitators, the young members generally run the meetings and any committees established to take care of business. These young adults are also responsible for putting out the HATCH newsletter, which tells the stories of these young people and how the organization has helped them with their lives.

At a recent meeting, some of these young members also shared their stories with the Houston Voice.

The young men and women of HATCH are remarkably in tune with their emotions, and they are able to express their feelings and concerns articulately. Though their stories are different, they share an intensity of spirit and put a great deal of soul-searching behind their thoughts. Overwhelmingly, they are young people who have come to terms with being gay, and are now working on establishing themselves in the

larger gay community.

Tomorrow's Leaders

* Brandon Martin, a handsome, well-spoken 20-year-old man, has accomplished a great deal since coming to HATCH.

"I considered myself bisexual until I came to HATCH," Brandon says. "There, I accepted that I was gay. When kids call up, I tell them my story.

"Many kids who call HATCH have stereotypes of what gays are/Some think they should be a man or a woman. Others aren't sure what to do."

Brandon has strong feelings about participating in the gay movement after leaving HATCH. Once a member turns 21, they must leave the group, but Brandon will still be involved as a board member, and a counselor when needed. He adds: "HATCH has given me an anger at society and I use that to speak to public groups about being young and gay. Many groups are proud that the young people can speak so eloquently about being gay.

* Quincy J. is a 21-year-old African-American who is leaving HATCH this year. He says that his positive experience in HATCH led him to help form another support group, "Twenty Something," for gays in their 20's. (The group meets Thursday nights at Bering Methodist Church).

Quincy had his first gay experience when he was eight. He says that was the beginning of a relationship that lasted several years. He was 17 when he heard about HATCH "I was very depressed. I had lost my relationship, and was looking for the Crisis Hotline to talk with someone." He came across the Gay and Lesbian Switchboard, which referred him to HATCH.

"At first I was scared to death, but thanks to my friendships at HATCH, I'm pretty secure, not many problems." As advice to young people just coming out, he offered: "Get to know yourself, above and beyond all else."

* Tiffany, a very attractive 17-year-old who now identifies herself as a lesbian, says she first felt her gayness when a friend showed more than a passing interest in her. At the time, Tiffany had a boyfriend, but she did end the relationship when she became involved with her girlfriend. "I don't feel as much pressure as many gay males do," she says. "I lot of guys I tell I'm a lesbian seem sort of attracted to that, and think I'm bisexual and can be had. But my interest is women." Of her experience with HATCH, Tiffany says: "I have met a variety of people through this fine group, it helps that there are young people there, my age, who understand my feelings and what I'm going through. It is also a great social environment, since many of us are not old enough to go clubbing.

(Continued on Page 20)



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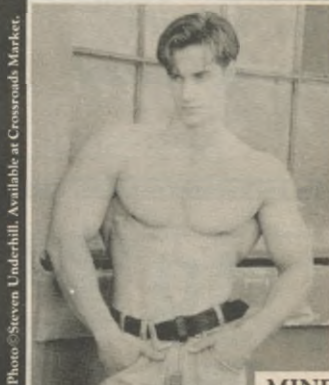


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Restaurant Review



by Bob Ainsworth

Max Mex In Midtown

Houston's Midtown area, east of Montrose and presently poised (so they say) for developmental rebound, could be "primo" ground for a restaurant—the central location is convenient to both downtown and the Texas Medical Center, as well as the nearby neighborhoods. It's here that Louis Vasquez, best known as the former owner of the popular Primo's Tex Mex restaurant in the Heights and Rockefeller's Nightclub, has launched his latest venture, and it's fast becoming a "hot spot" for the lunch crowds listed.

"El Palacio" at 3512 Main (near Alabama) is a delightful find in a historic location. Built as a Mexican restaurant, the Spanish Palace, in 1936, the building more recently housed a Christie's Seafood restaurant; Vasquez and his clan have revamped and renovated the place and restored it to its original intent.

Well, almost. While El Palacio serves authentic Latin dishes, they've been modernized to 90's dining trends: low fat and vegan dishes; grilled chicken and seafood selections; no lard.

The menu, at first glance, is a sort of blend of traditional, old style Mexican fare and the Tex Mex that made Primo's a hit. But the variety and

"diner friendliness" of the food is part of what makes El Palacio intriguing. The beef fajitas, ranked "best in town" by the Houston Chronicle, are different enough from the average to rate the cliché. The meat is marinated in zesty spices that give tilts more heavily to authentic Latin, or even Latin-influenced Pacific tastes (including soy and garlic—can you say adobo?) than the Tex-ish offerings.

Lunch offerings, however, also include other diverse choices, from fried shrimp to a low-fat chicken breast salad, and vegetarian specialties such as veggie enchiladas in tomatillo sauce. Also offered—Pechugas rancheras, featuring a grilled breast of chicken in comino and lime, and grilled fresh vegetables al Mojo. (General Manager Juan Matias prides himself in filling special requests for the diet-conscious). A specialty list of imported and fine tequilas and a variety of Mexican beers and wines are available from the bar, along with—of course—memorable margaritas (\$1 at lunch).

El Palacio is open Monday through Thursday, 11:00 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. for lunch and 5:00-10:00 p.m. for dinner; weekends 'till 12 midnight. Live entertainment on weekends. For reservations, phone 522-5041. Full catering services are available for parties and events.

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Community Organizations Bulletin Board

NLA:Houston Pride Events

The National Leather Association: Houston will be hosting two official events during Houston Gay and Lesbian Pride Week '95, and will co-host a third with the club Pacific Street.

On Friday evening, June 23, from 10:00 p.m.—2:00 a.m. at the Venture-N on the Farside, "Houston's Hot VII: A Night in Black Leather" will take place. The event, billed as a "fetish and scene ball," will provide free entertainment and education about leather/fetish/SM issues and activities. Members of NLA:Houston, Houston P.E.P., Leather Knights of Dallas and guest leather titleholders will present scenes and fantasies throughout the evening, according to NLA. Admission is free.

The group's second official Pride Week Event is the fourth annual Leather Symposium, conducted each Pride Week since 1991 as an educational contribution in the spirit of Pride week. This year's Symposium will take place at Pacific Street from 1:00 p.m.—4:00 p.m. Members of Houston PEP and NLA and Ragoo of Ragoo's Cycles and Tattoos will present simultaneous workshops/seminar. Workshops confirmed so far cover such topics as electricity and SM play, tattooing, bullwhips and flogs and the leather lifestyle. Admission is \$1 to cover space rental and cleanup. For more information on these events or NLA:Houston, call (713) 527-9666 or write P.O. Box 66553, Houston, TX 77266-6553.

NLA:Houston is also co-hosting with Pacific Street the third annual Loading Dock '95 celebration party on June 25, the day of the Pride Parade. The party starts at the bar at 5:00 p.m. and runs through 2:00 a.m. NLA:Houston members and guests will be guest bartending on the patio. Door charge is the bar's usual Sunday cover, with \$1 well drinks and \$1.75 longnecks. Leather/levi, uniform or "less" attire is encouraged; a clothes check will be provided.

FIRM Starts Pastoral Care Program

The Foundation for Interfaith Research and Ministry (FIRM) has introduced a new agency program for HIV+ clients and their caregivers. The Pastoral Care Program. FIRM will accept requests for clergy visits from HIV+ clients and their families in the greater Houston Area.

Recently, major HIV funding sources sponsored a comprehensive survey of 450 interviews with HIV+ people, titled "The Greater Houston EMA HIV+ Community Needs Assessment." The survey was completed in 1994 and Pastoral Counseling ranked in the top 12 out of 45 listed "needs" most requested by persons participating in the survey, representatives of the Foundation explained.

The Pastoral Care Program's chaplains' corp will offer pastoral counseling, visitation, listening, scripture/devotional materials, and funeral consultation. Other support programs provided by FIRM include Care Teams for the frail elderly and persons with Alzheimer's and other dementia affected families. Referrals can be made by calling the Coordinator of Pastoral Care, Pat Meister, at FIRM's office, 713/682-5995.

FIRM's other programs include its congregation-based Care Teams with over 1200 volunteers who give hands-on compassionate care to clients with HIV/AIDS and their caregivers, professional counseling and the Challenge/FIRM Co-op which offers food, diapers, school supplies and hygiene products to meet the needs of individuals and families affected by HIV/AIDS.

Gay And Lesbian Switchboard Benefit

Some of Houston's hottest up-and-coming bands will be playing a benefit for the Gay and Lesbian Switchboard/Houston at Fitzgerald's (Studemont at Whiter Oak) on June 18. Bands scheduled to appear include: Monster Soup, Violent Blue, Starbelly, Clover, Boy/Girl and Objection. A representative from Aids Foundation Houston (AFH) will also conduct a brief safer sex workshop between sets. Cost is \$6 at the door. The event runs from 6:30 p.m. to 12:00 midnight.

For more information call the Gay and Lesbian Switchboard at 529-3211.

Gay Officials Meeting

The next meeting of the Texas Association of Lesbian and Gay Elected and Appointed Officials will be in Houston on Saturday, July 8, 1995 at 10:00 a.m. at 6671 Southwest Freeway, 3rd floor (Hillcroft and Hwy 59).

All lesbian and gay elected and appointed officials, and those interested in becoming an elected or appointed official, are invited to attend. There is no charge or fee to attend.

For further information and directions, call Mitchell Katine at (713) 981-9595.

AALGA Juneteenth Event

The African American Lesbian/Gay Alliance of Houston will be hosting a Juneteenth Pride Celebration this Saturday, June 17 at XTC. The previously announced time of the event has been changed; please note that the celebration will take place from 5:00-9:00 p.m., with honored guest Rev. Phillip Matthews and several entertainers. For more information on this event or the Alliance, phone 864-2242.

Chances

Stop In or Call *Chances* to find out what Marlene and the staff are doing *Everyday* for Gay and Lesbian Pride Week.

June 18. . . 8:00 PM

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Houston Gay and Lesbian Pride Week '95

(Continued from Page 1)

This issue of the Houston Voice is also our official Gay & Lesbian Pride Week '95 edition—although, due to the extended schedule and "double dose" of celebration, next week's issue could conceivably be called a pride issue as well.

This week and next, look for special event calendars, pride-related features (this week's special focus is gay and lesbian youth issues, in honor of HATCH's selection as organizational honoree) and a map of next Sunday's Gay & Lesbian Pride Parade.

Inside both issues, our readers will find reflection and introspection from our writers and various community leaders on this year's theme—"Silence to Celebration"—as well as stories on many events, recognitions, contests, etc. that will be a part of our lives here for the next two weeks.

This week and next, our readers will also find our traditional coverage of news, issues and events that are not related to our annual celebration of pride. This is precisely because those issues do not stop being relevant, and because those events and occurrences we perhaps would rather be silent about for a week or two won't stop to take a breather while we're celebrating.

History Of Houston's Gay & Lesbian Pride Week

While the true story of the Stonewall riots has always been a bit elusive, it is generally agreed by gay historians that the events that took place in New York in late June, 1969 represented a rallying cry and turning

point in the American gay and lesbian rights movement.

In 1970, Morris Kight, a noted gay activist from Los Angeles organized a "Remember Stonewall" vigil that spawned yearly events around the country. In 1975, the first gay and lesbian march in Texas was held in Dallas as a part of the Stonewall remembrance.

Community activists in Houston held a widely attended news conference that summer which announced, among other things, the formation of a political coalition that developed into the Houston Gay and Lesbian Political Caucus. In 1976, an estimated 200 people held a march in downtown Houston to commemorate the Stonewall riots, sponsored by the fledgling Gay Activists Alliance of the University of Houston.

In 1977, singer and anti-gay rights crusader Anita Bryant's appearance as the featured entertainer at the convention of the Texas Bar Association brought an estimated 5000 angry gay women and men to Houston's streets in a march of protest. A few weeks later, Houston's gay community held its first gay rights rally in Cherryhurst Park in Montrose.

In June, 1978, over 4000 community activists met at the AstroArena for Town Meeting I, the first organizational gathering in Houston that included gay men and women from every aspect of Houston society. The following year, Houston's first Gay Pride Parade was held.

Since 1979, the gay community of Houston has celebrated Gay and Lesbian Pride Week with a full schedule of events, usually spanning 10 days in late June.

Gay & Lesbian Pride Week events

Friday, June 16

* The official kick-off party sponsored by the Pride Committee will honor the Grand Marshall's from 6:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. at the Lovett Inn.

* Charlie's Coffee Shop is donating 1.5% of all sales to the Montrose Clinic during Pride Week. The new owner's at 1100 Westheimer invite you to experience a new dining attitude.

* The Hyde Park Gallery is featuring work by local Gay and Lesbian artists. The gallery, at 711 Hyde Park, is open 6 to 10:00 p.m. Telephone 526-2744 for more information.

* A special show live from the Lovett Inn features the history of pride week and our community, and some of the week's upcoming events. Continuing during the week KPFT will include segments of womyn's music, reviews of gay and lesbian cultural events and news from This Way Out.

Saturday, June 17

* Freedom Dance 3 with a live performance by Pussy Tourette at midnight at Heaven

* "Angels in America" author and Pulitzer Prize winning playwright, Tony Kushner will be at Borders Books, 9633 Westheimer, from 2:00 p.m. till 4:00 p.m.

* The Dizinger Foundation will present, with some items for sale, photographs and masks made by people living with HIV/AIDS at 214 Avondale from 2:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m.

Sunday, June 18

* Spectrum '95 with Town Meeting II, business expo, art show, speakers' forum and evening concert will happen all day long at Astroworld.

* A variety show at Chances with Lady V and her two Don's will benefit the Montrose Clinic. The show will feature drag and live presentations.

* A benefit for the Gay and Lesbian Switchboard featuring some of Houston's hottest up and coming bands will be at Fitzgerald's (Studemont at White Oak) from 7:00 p.m. to midnight. \$6 entry.

* The River Oaks Health Association will benefit from the 2nd Annual Miss Life Today Pageant at E/J's from 8:00 p.m. until 10:00 p.m.

Monday, June 19

* Striving to Get the Love You Want, a lecture based on Imago relationship therapy development by best-selling author Harville Hendrix, PhD. Montrose Library, 4100 Montrose, 529-1913.

* They Called Him Michael, Goat Song Theatre Group. Opening Night proceeds benefit People With AIDS Coalition. 8:00 p.m. \$25. stages, 525-5960.

Tuesday, June 20

* Make a Joyful Noise V. Local churches unite to celebrate Jesus. Sponsored by Community Gospel Church, 501 E. 18th at Columbia, 880-9235

(Continued on Page 19)

Spectrum '95: an experiment in gay-lesbian pride



Pussy Torette

By SHERI COHEN DARBONNE

Houston Voice Editor



Romanovsky and Phillips

Among the highlights of Houston's 1995 Gay and Lesbian Pride Week observance is a precedent-setting event that combines diverse elements and interests of the community in a day-long intensive. Spectrum '95 is also an experiment on a national scale, and community organizers all over the country will likely be watching the ultimate outcome of the Houston event, which combines a community Town Meeting (politics) with a business exposition (commerce), an art exhibit and an all-star concert featuring the nation's top "gay names" in comedy and music (arts and entertainment) and a speaker forum (education).

All events will be held Sunday, June 18, at the AstroArena. The shades of Spectrum:

Town Meeting

Town Meeting II, to be held from 1:00-5:00 p.m., will attempt to recreate the success of the historic Town Meeting in 1978, a community-wide strategizing session held at the same location with about 4000 participants. Many Houston community institutions, including the Montrose Counseling Center and Montrose Clinic, had their roots in resolutions passed at Town Meeting I.

A long list of resolutions are scheduled to be presented during the four-hour open discussion, on topics ranging from establishment of a "Gay Chamber of Commerce" and a gay and lesbian village to a slate II resolutions dealing with gender identity issues from the Transgender Caucus. Members of transgender community, regrouping from recent defeats in efforts to be included in the



Scott Kennedy

mission statement of the Houston Gay and Lesbian Political Caucus and in the proposed hate crimes bill that failed to pass in the recent legislative session, are expected

to be vocal participants in the discussion.

Business Expo

Houston's first gay business expo has a snappy theme—LeTs Bi Gay (TM), and an impressive roster of over 300 exhibitors from all over the country.

According to Spectrum '95 organizers, Houston's "LeTs Bi Gay" economic value has been estimated to be approximately \$2 billion strong. The purpose of



DV-8

the event, besides the obvious networking potential, is to encourage the community to actively use that economic clout.

Speakers Program

Running concurrently with Town Meeting II, the educational speaker series features experts on legal, health, business and other topics.

Art Expo

Local gay and lesbian artists and celebrity guest contributors offer works for every taste.

Concert Of The Stars

The name says it all. The top names in OUT gay and lesbian entertainment from all over the country (see accompanying photographs), along with Houston and Texas' own talented entertainers present an evening of "family" musical and comedy entertainment. headliners include Romanovsky and Phillips, Lynn Lavner, DV-8, and the Gay Comedy Jam team, Scott Kennedy and Kevin Maye.



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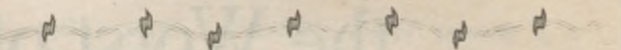


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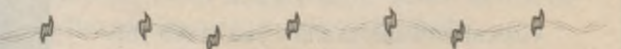


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ARTS/ENTERTAINMENT

Young Houston playwright takes center stage

'Unconscious Studies' Concludes Gay And Lesbian Performance Series

By ANDREW EDMONSON

Houston Voice/Houston

Playwright Travis Mader, one of the Houston theater community's most exciting young artists, is on a high. He just finished serving as assistant director for the Alley Theater's runaway hit, "Angels in America." He is currently preparing to work on two other Alley productions in July: "The Mousetrap" and "I Hate Hamlet."

And on Friday, June 23, DiverseWorks will cap its 1995 "Beyond Desire" Gay & Lesbian Performance series with the premiere of Mader's multi-media performance "unconscious studies: footage from a work in progress."

Mader brings excellent credentials to the project. He is a graduate of Edward Albee's prestigious playwriting class at the University of Houston. At only 24, Mader has had plays produced in San Antonio, Fort Worth, and Houston. In 1993, his work "Flowers on the Moon," a depiction of the Vietnamese experience during the Vietnam War, won The Houston Suitcase Theater's playwriting competition.

"Travis is an extremely sensitive and perceptive young artist. I observes Alley Theatre Associate Director Michael Wilson, who staged the company's production of "Angels in America." "He was instrumental to me in my work on "Angels." He's a little miracle."

In "unconscious studies," Mader traces the relationship of Tony, an

emotionally needy, troubled sixteen year-old, and Pneuman, a thirtysomething artist. The two first meet on the Internet, and their relationship progresses through several phone conversations that assume a pseudo-sexual quality. Late one night, a distraught Tony appears at Pneuman's apartment, and they spend the evening drinking and awkwardly conversing, as Pneuman shows Tony a giant mural that he has created entitled "Dahmer Dissected."

Video projections are used to illustrate the personal histories of the two characters.

Tony's story is one of abuse and drug problems, while Pneuman has struggled with emotional issues and the beginnings of schizophrenia. The performance climaxes in a chilling confrontation between the two main characters.

"unconscious studies" has been germinating in Mader's imagination for a considerable period of time. He wrote a long one-act play called "unconscious," which was under consideration for a production in Edward Albee's playwriting workshop. Plans ultimately fell through for this presentation. When Diverse-

Works invited Mader to participate in its Beyond Desire series earlier this year, he seized his moment, expanding and developing his original one-act.

"unconscious studies became a sort of workshop of "unconscious," and it allowed me to explore the two main characters of Pneuman and Tony in a less conventional format," Mader observed. "I mean, this isn't theater per se. It's more like theater, video, performance art, and a radio play rolled into one."

In creating the performance piece, Mader was influenced by several artists, both literary and theatrical: auteur/theater director Robert Wilson, novelist William Burroughs, the visual artist and AIDS activist David Woj-

narowicz, and the novelist Dennis Cooper.

"Dennis Cooper has been really supportive," Mader remarked proudly. "I've sent him several sections of the piece, and he's responded by saying he feels they are very strong, which means a lot to me considering that he's my favorite writer."

Mader serves as both director and author for unconscious studies, and he

will also oversee video and design elements for the production. Sound design and digital art direction is by Ray Ogar, with Bill McDonald designing lights and serving as technical director. The cast features Barry Hall as Pneuman and Gregg Rodriguez, director of the AIDS Foundation Houston's writing project, as Tony.

The work of many young playwrights is highly autobiographical. But Mader claims that he was largely influenced by the experiences of friends in creating unconscious studies. "The topic of abuse—physical and emotional—was really becoming an issue for me because of things I was going through with friends. Seeing and hearing their stories inspired me to write something from their point of view. And mine too, I guess."

"I wasn't abused as a child, but most of us grow up feeling some kind of residual pain left over from childhood. I wanted to tap into that part of the relationship between Pneuman and Tony in the play. That overwhelming and ingrained pain and the need for someone to relieve it. If that's even possible."

"It's a universal kind of thing. I think. It's a real need. It's real for me at twenty-four. Looking back, I see myself and that struggle in Tony. With the character of Pneuman, I look forward a few years."

"unconscious studies" will be performed at 8:00 pm on Friday, June 23 and Saturday, June 24 at DiverseWorks, located at 1117 East Freeway, just off North Main near the University of Houston Downtown campus. Tickets are \$12 for the general public, \$10 for DiverseWorks members, and \$7 for students. For tickets, call 223 8346 or 228 0914 (24-hour ticket line).



Houston playwright Travis Mader tackles timely issues, experimental presentations in "unconscious studies"

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"Congo"

Paramount Pictures

Under the direction of Frank Marshall ("Arachnophobia"), author Michael Crichton's 1990 novel, "Congo," has made it to the big screen. Crichton is also known for "Jurassic Park," "Disclosure," and "The Andromeda Strain." For anyone who has read "Congo," the book, the movie will leave you somewhat confused and perhaps even a little disappointed. A good part of the original story has been lost in its transformation to the screen. For those who have not read the book, however, the story is easy to follow, fun and moderately entertaining.

Each character in "Congo" has a personal motivation for wanting to journey into the Virunga Volcano Region of Central Africa. TraviCom, an American Communications company, has lost contact with their field expedition who had managed to locate The Lost City of Zinj AND the chemically flawless diamonds that would allow the company to dominate their industry. C.E.O. A.B. Travis, played by JOE DON BAKER ("Reality Bites," "Cape Fear") wants the diamonds and sends project supervisor, Karen Ross, (LAURA LINNEY of "A Simple Twist of Fate" and "Dave"). Ross cares little about the diamonds. Her concern is to locate the lost expedition whose team leader was her ex-fiance and is the C.E.O.'s son.

Primatologist Peter Eliot, played by DYLAN WALSH ("Nobody's Fool," "Betsy's Wedding") needs to get his gorilla, Amy, back to her homeland. Amy is unique in that she has a vocabulary of 620 'sign' words and is equipped with a data glove that can read and translate her gestures, allowing her to speak! Rather than simply "telling" Eliot of her desire

to return to her home, Amy displays it through numerous jungle finger paintings and reoccurring nightmares. Amy's designer, STAN WINSTON, who has won Academy Awards for "Jurassic Park," "Aliens," and "Terminator 2: Judgment Day" did an impressive job creating Amy and she easily becomes the star of the show.

European philanthropist, Herkemer Homolka, played by (guess who?!) TIM CURRY, is on a self-serving mission of pure greed. Curry speaks with a somewhat unrecognizable accent that almost sounds Russian one minute and Irish the next, but of course, he offers a likeable performance just the same.

Fate brings the group together and they are led into the jungles by Monroe Kelly (ERNE HUDSON from the "Ghostbuster" films). They journey to a place where human greed and the laws of nature come into unavoidable conflict.

Special visual effects and animation for "Congo" was provided by INDUSTRIAL LIGHT AND MAGIC whose credits include "Indian in the Cupboard," "Jurassic Park," "Ghost," "E.T.," "Star Trek Generations," "Indiana Jones," (stop me!). Naturally the special effects are good, but they seemed to come very late into the movie. I expected, or maybe hoped, that there would be more.

The theme of "technology versus nature," I'd heard so much about, seemed to run weakly throughout the picture. I walked out feeling no significant impact though I had been entertained. "Congo" is a fun movie. It offers suspense, action, humor and a few thrills. I can't remember any chills, but I'd still probably see it again.

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5 PM
CONNIE MOORE
PARTNER, MOORE & HUNT, LLP

SPEAKERS PROGRAM 1 PM - 5 PM 2ND FLOOR MEETING ROOM #3

STARTING YOUR OWN BUSINESS 1 PM
MJ MCKEAN-REICH
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HIV IN THE WORKPLACE 2PM
BALANCING THE RIGHTS OF
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MITCHEL KATINE
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ADOPTIONS FOR SAME SEX COUPLES
3 PM
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BREAST CANCER SELF EXAMS 4 PM
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'Soul Survivor' spry, 'spirited' fun

Theater Review

By JAVIER TAMEZ

Houston Voice/Houston

Losing a lover is hard. Getting on with one's life following the loss of a partner is, for some, even harder. In "Soul Survivor," by Anthony Bruno, a man knocking on middle-age's door is ready to begin romance again, but his emotional stirrings are challenged by the sudden appearance of a ghost from his past—literally, a ghost.

Jerry (Paul Nicely) and Mark (Hunter Dutton) are having a date. Actually it's their third date, but it's the first time that Mark has been invited over to Jerry's duplex home (presumably Jerry has never been to Mark's place). Jerry lost his lover, Brian, to AIDS about two years earlier, and he has since been reluctant to become involved in another relationship. Still, Jerry senses the possibility of something more meaningful with Mark, hence the invitation.

The date gets off to a slow start, but a perfectly natural conversation develops and soon the two are engaged unaffectedly in each other's company. When Mark makes a play for intimacy, though, Jerry hesitates. A frustrated Mark is anxious to know if anything will ever "happen," and Jerry explains that he regards Mark as more than just a trick and wants to take it slowly. Jerry also admits that the memory of Brian still affects his ability to become involved with someone, so much so that no one else has slept with Jerry in the bed he shared with Brian since Brian's death.

The slow road to passion speeds up considerably, however, when Mark discovers Jerry's closet full of leather raiment and accoutrement. Mark sniffs, long and longingly, the assorted S&M attire. He even tries on a pair of chaps, and this, of course, is when Jerry walks back into the room. Caught with his hand in the cookie jar, so to speak, Mark readily admits his fascination with all things leather, though adding that his only leather item is a pair of soft leather pants, with pleats.

When asked if he would like to wear any of the leather, Mark says he'd rather see Jerry wearing it. Mark tosses in a few "yes, sirs" and needing very little encouragement, Jerry is soon masterfully (get it!) modeling the latest in B&D active wear. With Jerry all decked out in black finery, a cliched, but probably representative, scene of sadomasochistic foreplay ensues. And Jerry seems well on his way to socio-sexual recovery, even inviting Mark to spend the night. But outside, the sound of cackling laughter is heard.

The second act opens in the same manner as the first act did—Jerry is getting ready for a date. However, when the doorbell rings, it's not Mark on the other side of the door, it's Brian! It seems that Brian (Colin McLetchie) has received some sort of time-constrained pass out of heaven, and he has returned to see Jerry for a quick roll in the hay (or more accurately a quick crack of the whip).

But Jerry is extremely put-out by the idea of having sex with a ghost (a word Brian hates). Besides the obvious skittishness regarding intimacy with a corpse, even an animated one (apparently Jerry's fetishistic tendencies don't extend to necrophilia), Jerry is also very concerned about the implications this will have on his budding relationship with Mark. When Brian learns that there's another man involved, he reacts with expected and



Paul Nicely and Hunter Dutton (top and bottom) in "Soul Survivor" What: "Soul Survivor" When: Fridays and Saturdays June 9 thru July 1 Where: Curtains Theater Presented by The Group (Theatre Workshop)

exaggerated indignation. Brian huffs-and-puffs, so by the time Mark rings the doorbell, the stage is set for all types of ghostly pranks.

"Soul Survivor" is a spry little comedy that engenders laughter, albeit perfunctory, and which utilizes simple, effective and well-constructed dialogue to propel the plot forward. Playwright Bruno's ear for conversation is well-honed. The interaction between Jerry and Mark begins awkwardly, replete with hemmed and hawed searches for a topic. An easy flow then develops and extends through the first act, diminishing only during the foreplay, but becoming decidedly inconsistent during the frantic interplay of the second act.

Unfortunately, this same affinity for capturing a smooth course in exchanges between characters is not evident in the actions taken by Bruno's characters. Mark's search for a match, which leads to the discovery of the leather wardrobe, is utterly contrived, as is Mark's subsequent posing with several of the pieces. Also, though the S&M foreplay is probably an accurate depiction of such sexual shenanigans, the acts of the two lovers evoke chuckles as much as anything else.

The Group's production of "Soul Survivor" (its first revival) is a satisfying affair. Director Joe Watts deserves high praise for not pandering to baser instincts (and foregoing what almost certainly would have been higher ticket sales) and refraining from turning the love scene into some tawdry display of gratuitous nudity. Beyond that Watt's directing is crisp and effective. The natural discourse is paired with perfectly believable stage action.

The acting never rises beyond the solidly steady, but the performances are ample enough for the text. Paul Nicely marks his role as Jerry with a quiet virility. His laid-back manner in act one contrasts nicely with his frenetic energy in act two, but he seems to lack the bark (and the bite) of an ostensible leather-top.

Hunter Dutton as Mark delivers a smart portrayal, giving his character both whimsy and concern. Colin McLetchie as a sassy Brian seemed well-suited to his character (in a myriad of ways), but the portrayal ran close to the stereotype.

"Soul Survivor" does wear thin at times, but it's funny and enjoyable and a good time for all.

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SPORTS NOTES

Bowling League News

The Inner Loop Sunday Evening League reports the following standings: Sticky Wickets is in first place, We Hate This Game is second, and Another Ex is third. High Scratch game of 234 was bowled by Bob Davidson and series of 655 was bowled by Bob Roberts for the men. For the women High Scratch Game of 210 was bowled by Judy Hatfield, and series of 545 was bowled by Peri Cain. For League info, call Tom at 522-9612.

The Montrose Monday Night Men's League reports Division A standings of Four Blonde Beavers in first place, Lube It or Lose It is second, and Doggie Style Too is third. Division B is headed by Miss Dee Dee & Do Doh in first, Party of Four is in second, and Striking Beauties is in third. High Scratch game of 247 was bowled by Rodney Seiler, and series of 652 was bowled by Gerald Hagan. For more info call Gardy at 641-5424.

The Monday Nite Women's League reports Legal Insanity is in first, while Can't Bowl Straight is second, Walking Wounded is third, and Nine Is Fine is fourth. For info call Pat at 437-6218, or Marla at 862-3630.

The Wednesday Nite Mixers report first place is taken by Tongue Wrestlers, second place by Some R Some Rn't, and third by Daisy Mae & The Seed. High Scratch game of 266, and series of 666, was bowled by Chris Bennett for the men, and for the women Tricia O'Neal bowled 205 and 585 series. For more info call Tom at 522-9612.

CANDLELIGHT NO TAP BOWLING is postponed until Saturday, June 24. The Texas Invitational Tournament invites you to have your vehicle washed this Saturday at Gentry's from 10 to 4.

Pride Ice Skate

The 4th Annual Lesbian and Gay Pride Ice Skating Celebration will be Thursday June 22 at the Galleria Ice Rink, 5015 Westheimer. The fun is from 8 to 10:00 p.m. Admission is \$5 plus \$2 for skates.

The ice rink will be open to the general public so gay and lesbian skaters are urged to wear pink clothing or your favorite lesbian/gay T-shirt.

For more information or to get on the free, Montrose Ice Picks mailing list, call Angel at 629-1432.

REPORT YOUR SPORTS

Community Forum



Understanding HIV Pathogenesis

You are invited to attend a live interactive video teleconference to learn about recent advances in understanding HIV pathogenesis from research experts and community advocates including Moises Agosto (NMAC); Bill Bahlman (ACT-UP New York); Martin Delaney (Project Inform); Gregg Gonsalves (TAG); Dr. Mark Holodny (VA Medical Center, Palo Alto, CA); and Dr. Michael Saag (University of Alabama, Birmingham)

DATE: Thursday, June 29, 1995

TIME: 5:00 PM - 7:30 PM Central Time
Refreshments will be served 1 hour before broadcast.

LOCATION: Westin Galleria
5060 West Alabama, Houston, TX
713-960-6553

CO-MODERATORS: Joseph C. Gathe, Jr., MD, Park Plaza Hospital
Bart Loeser, AIDS Foundation Houston

INFORMATION: For further information, please call the Teleconference Coordinators at 1-800-555-9587 (in New York State, 1-800-521-1177) between the hours of 9:00 AM and 8:00 PM, eastern time.

This program is co-sponsored by the National Association of People with AIDS, the National Lesbian and Gay Health Association, the National Minority AIDS Council, and Project Inform and is supported under an unrestricted educational grant from Burroughs Wellcome Co.

HGLPW '95 Community Calendar

(Continued from page 12)

Wednesday, June 21

* Bring Your Money Out of the Closet. Julie LaRue, financial advisor, discusses financial planning for gay men and women. RSVP, limited seating, free. 6:30 p.m. The Acacia Group, 9 Greenway Plaza 3000, 888-3500

* Rolling with Pride. Lambda Rollerskating Club's 4th annual Pride Skate Night. \$5. Dairy Ashford Roller Rink, 1820 Dairy Ashford, 933-5818

Thursday, June 22

* Legal and Financial Planning for People with Life-Threatening Illness. Presented by Attorney Mitchell Katine, Connie Moore and Debra Hunt and financial advisor Julie LaRue. 6:30 p.m., The Acacia Group, 9 Greenway Plaza 3000, 880-3500

* Lesbian/Gay pride Ice Skate. Sponsored by Montrose Ice Picks, \$7 including skates, 8:00-10:00 p.m., Galleria Ice Rink, 5015 Westheimer

* Broadway Show Tunes, celebrating 50 years of the gay and lesbian contribution to theater. Emcee Randall Jobe, 9:00 p.m., J.R.'s Bar and grill, 808 Pacific.

Friday, June 23

* Absolutely Fabulous Pride party, themed around the Britcom that has become a gay phenomenon in the U.S. Heaven, 810 Pacific, 521-0107

* Lesbian and Gay Voices. A special show on the future of Pride Week and the Houston Gay and Lesbian Community. 6:00-10:00 p.m. KPFT 90.1 FM. On air line 526-KPFT

* Theater Night: "Me and Jezebel." The Company We Keep. \$12. 8:00 p.m. New Heights theater, 339 W. 19th, 523-9000

* Theater Night: "Soul Survivor." The Group. \$12. 8:00 and 10:30 p.m. Curtains Theater, 3722 Washington, 522-2204

* Houston's Hot VII: A Night in Black Leather. National Leather Association: Houston. 10:00 p.m.-2:00 a.m.

Venture-N, 2923 Main 527-9666

Saturday, June 25

* Leather Forum and Symposium, 1:00-4:00 p.m., 527-9666

* Enclosed Beer Garden at Chances all weekend. Bleachers seating for the Pride Parade available for \$5 donation to Montrose Clinic.

* Proud Out Loud! Gay Men's Chorus of Houston with other area choruses/ \$10-25; 7:00 p.m., Cullen Theater, Wortham Center, 500 Preston. 743-5904.

* HATCH Prom. \$15, fundraiser for the Houston Area teen Coalition of Homosexuals. 8:00 p.m., Majestic Metro, 911 Preston, 942-7002.

* BAILE '95. The largest pride event indoors. Live Tejano Band. \$25 benefits gay charities. 8:00 p.m.-2:00 a.m. Adam's Mark Hotel, 2900 Briar Park

Sunday, June 25

* Pride Sunday at MCCR. Choruses to perform, 10:45 a.m., 1919 Decatur, 861-9149

* HOUSTON GAY & LESBIAN PRIDE PARADE! Grand Marshals Suzanne Anderson and Don Gill. 2:00 p.m. Map, Page 23

* PRIDE FEST '95! Free concert features hot stars Fem 2 Fem and Dajae. 4:00-7:00 p.m. Map, Page 23

* Loading Dock Party '95. Leather/Levi dance co-hosted by NLA: Houston and Pacific Street. 710 Pacific, 523-0213

* Absolutely Fabulous After Parade Party. J.R.'s Bar and Grill, 5:00 p.m. 808 Pacific, 521-2519

* After-Parade Beer Bust. Montrose Mining Company, 805 Pacific, 5:00 p.m. 529-7488

* Official After Fest Party. DJ John Sims spins records from the 70's and 80's at Numbers, 5:00-11:00 p.m. Numbers, 300 Westheimer, 529-6979.

* Temple presents "The Nellie Ribbon Encore Party." Special guest Rozella, 7:00 p.m., Rich's, 759-9606



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Grand jury indicts two in Florida hate crime slaying

WEST PALM BEACH, Fla., Friday, June 9 (AP)—A Palm Beach County grand jury has indicted two men in the robbery and killing of a gay man prosecutors said was motivated by hate.

Ronnie Knight, 26, and Sean Stephens, 20, were indicted Thursday with first-degree murder with a firearm, armed robbery and grand theft-hate crime in connection with the May 8 slaying of 22-year-old Brendan Meehan.

According to police, Knight and Stephens met Meehan at an area nightclub and drove him to a remote area near West Palm Beach, where they robbed and killed him.

Knight previously faced a second-degree murder charge in the 1993 death of another gay man, Richard Kunkel. He was freed on bail and escaped those charges

after witnesses refused to testify against him.

Prosecutors don't expect any problems with this case: Knight and Stephens remain in jail without bail.

"With Ronnie Knight in jail, we don't anticipate any apprehension of witnesses in taking part in this case," said Mike Edmondson, spokesperson for the Palm Beach County State Attorney's Office.

Stephens' attorney, Ted Brabham, said his client was "an innocent bystander."

The hate crime enhancement to the grand theft charge allows prosecutors to ask for a heavier sentence, 15 years in jail instead of five. Edmondson said state law does not allow the hate crime charge to be attached to the other charges.

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Creating community for gay and lesbian youth

(Continued from Page 9)

"I haven't come out to (my parents) yet. I may next year before I leave for college. But they do suspect, and they seem very supportive. My sister knew of my girlfriend, and referred to her in that context around my parents. My father does work with some lesbians, and he values their friendship very much," she notes hopefully.

Tiffany's future plans and outlook are typical of many young adults. "My main focus is to enjoy life and follow my career path. I don't want to have to identify myself as a lesbian on the first meeting with new friends. I just want to be accepted for who I am."

She adds, "Kids my age have to mature really fast, so we keep up with today's issues affecting gays and lesbians. I think information on HATCH should be available in every school for those students who need advice and someone to talk to."

Don, now a co-director of HATCH, joined the group as a facilitator two and a half years ago. "I was impressed with the boundaries between facilitators and the group. All adults are screened before getting involved with HATCH and don't mingle with the group except at meetings."

He adds: "The young people are so articulate. I think that comes from the pressure they have to deal with. Sometimes they have to grow up quickly. HATCH helps them in many ways. It becomes a meeting ground for all diverse types of people, and gives the kids a social outlet, a place to be themselves. I've seen kids unsure of their sexual identity become so secure in who they are that many come

out to their parents months later.

"HATCH becomes a community to the young people who socialize with each other regularly. Being a gay teenager in the 90's is not the same as in the 60's and 70's. We can't assume our gay experiences of 20 years ago are the same as now."

The group currently meeting at HATCH is predominantly male. "Men make up 75 percent of our group. We're not sure of how growing up lesbian is different from growing up as a gay male. We're not sure why (women) are less inclined to be part of the support group. Our turnover rate for lesbians is high. But they are welcome, and we would like to see more young ladies become a part of HATCH," said Don.

The young people interviewed seemed more aware of AIDS and safe sex practices than their non-HATCH counterparts. One young man said, "My peers in school think nothing can happen to them. I've seen what AIDS can do, and try to tell them to play safe. Some listen, some don't. But I know, and that helps when getting in relationships now."

Most of the young people agreed that the one thing they wanted most was to be accepted by their peers in the gay community, in high school and in college. They also want older gay men and women to take them seriously and listen to their needs.

(HATCH can be reached by phone at 713-942-7002. A recorded message will ask for your name and number and the best time to reach you; response time is very quick. HATCH does not disclose its meeting locations, for the protection of its members).

GMCH presents 16th annual pride concert, 'Proud Out Loud'

Entertainment Notes

Reserve your seats now for the Gay Men's Chorus of Houston's 16th Annual Pride Concert, "Proud Out Loud!" Saturday, June 24 at 7:00 p.m. in the Wortham Center's elegant Cullen Theater.

"GMCH's theme for 1995 is 'Our Texas Family,' says president Ed Gumnick. "In keeping with this theme, we are honored to host HeartSong, the Capital City Men's Chorus and Houston's MCCR Sanctuary Choir."

With this performance, GMCH lives up to its well-earned reputation for musical variety. Whether its folk tunes or show tunes, you'll find something memorable in this concert—and of course, a few surprises along the way. The choruses will perform a wide variety of music sure to get your heart pounding with pride! Bring a loved one

to share this extraordinary experience. Tickets for the concert are \$10, \$15, \$20 and \$25 and are available by calling (713) 227-ARTS.

Theater Benefit For PWACH

Playwright Gary Laird's comedy/drama, "Doublewide," returns to the stage for a ONE NIGHT ONLY encore performance benefiting the People with AIDS Coalition of Houston. A gay couple's return to East Texas for a family funeral serves as a catalyst for processing the past. The show features Todd Greenfield, Candace Davis, Ken Morris, Paula McRae and Brent Shockley. The Goat Song Production will be presented on Friday, June 23, at 9:00 p.m. at Stages, 3201 Allen Parkway. For reservations and information call (713) 525-5960.

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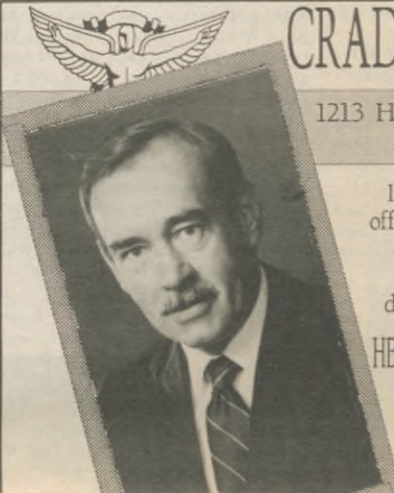
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Pride Week kicks off; Texas Riders, Gentry celebrate anniversaries

Houston Soap

By CAROLYN ROBERTS

Happy Gay/Lesbian Pride Week!

Past Events

The Texas Riders-Houston celebrated their 27th anniversary last weekend with the induction of new officers: President-Jerry Sherman, Vice president—TCC Rep.—Dana Denning, Secretary/Treasurer—Chris Patterson, and Pledge master—Roland Maldonado. Other members include Kelly Walker, Don Sumrall, and Jason Louque. Congrats to the Texas Riders on their continuing success.

This past Sunday at Mary's, \$631 was raised for the PWA Coalition. Congrats to all involved.

Congrats to Jessica Van Shelton for sweeping the "Miss 403 Pageant" held at Club 403 a couple of weeks ago!

Gentry celebrated their 5th anniversary last weekend! I had my share of 5¢ drinks! I look forward to many more years of partying at Gentry!

Congrats to Charles Armstrong and the staff and management at the Montrose Mining Company for 17 years of continuing success!

Friday, June 16

The Gentry Boy Toy dancers strut from 6:00 p.m. to 2:00 a.m. tonight!

Fabulous Fridays at J.R.'s Bar and Grill offer \$3.75 Skyy and Stolie cocktails all night long, as well as hourly give a-ways, 7 dancers, and hors d'oeuvres during happy hour!

The Hyde Park Gallery takes great pride and joy in presenting a group showing in celebrating of Lesbian/Gay Pride titled "The Artist Eye, Silence To Celebration." The reception for the artists will be from 6:00 p.m. to 10:00 p.m. at 711 Hyde Park.

Inside/Outside Productions opens "Orphans" tonight at the Houston Skyline Theater. Tickets are \$10. Call 759-0701.

LiB (Lesbians in Business) present: An Evening with two of the leading writers of our time... Minnie Bruce Pratt and Leslie Feinberg. They will discuss Feinberg's upcoming book, "Transgender Warriors: A History of Resistance" and Pratt's new book "S/he," followed by a facilitated discussion and questions. You can reserve tickets or get more info by calling 228-0914.

Power Tools has something new... Club Phuck! This is an alternative

night, with mild S & M themes and, well, you know, Power Tools stuff! I welcome Power Tools as a new advertiser and look forward to going many of their parties! Power Tools is at 709 Franklin!

Saturday, June 17

Tonight at the Kon Tiki in Galveston, Miss Nationals Cezanne and Tommie Ross grace the stage. This is a Garza Production! The show starts at 11:00 p.m.

A new "Mr. Venture-N" will be chosen tonight. The contest is at 10:00 p.m. There is a \$10 entry fee, which along with the tips will benefit the Houston Gay/Lesbian Pride Week and the Lady Victoria Lust PWA Holiday fund. \$100 cash to the winner, along with gift certificates from Leather By Boots and Leather Forever. The runner-up gets \$50 cash, as well other goodies. This event is an official Pride Week Event and a Don Gill Production. Guests performers are Mark Press and Shelby St. John.

Miss T.T. takes the stage tonight at the Lazy J. Her special guests are: Gina Malone, Miss Peaches, Veronica DeVore, and Yvonne Supreme. The show starts at 10:00 p.m., but you might want to get there early to get a good seat at the newly remodeled Lazy J.

Pussy Tourette, Susie K, DV8, and



The Texas Riders

"Miss E/J's!" The show starts at 11:00 p.m.

The Gay Bowlers car wash on the Gentry parking lot is from 10:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. While having your car cleaned, step in side and enjoy \$1.50 well drinks and longnecks until 5:00 p.m. Don't forget that Gentry has extended happy hour prices until 10:00 p.m. featuring the sin-sational boy toy dancers!

The Colt 45's guest bartend on the patio at the Brazos River Bottom tonight after they celebrate their 19th anniversary!

Pussy Tourette will perform tonight at Heaven at midnight! This sounds like a show not to be missed!

"Mr. Club 403" will earn his title tonight. The contest/show starts at 10:00 p.m.

Sunday, June 18

Happy Father's Day!

Spectrum '95 is today! This event is one not to be missed. Check out the ad on page 16 to get all the info on this epic event!

Temple rises at 2401 San Jacinto! What happens every Father's day? A new "Daddy of Montrose" is named! The contest starts at 4:00 p.m. at Mary's, naturally!

"A New Beginning" is tonight at Chances. This is the kick-off fundraiser for the Montrose Clinic-Chances Challenge. Get this, for every \$1 you donate, they have \$7 matching funds from corporations and individuals! The show will start right after the Daddy of Montrose Contest at Mary's.

The 2nd annual Miss-Life Today's "Miss PWA Sweetheart Pageant '95" is tonight at E/J's. This is an official Pride Week event and a benefit for the River Oak Health Alliance's TLC House. The MC's are Jessica Van Shelton and Matt Locklin. The show starts at 8:00 p.m. There will also be a "Hamburger-Fest" starting at 5:00 p.m.

There is an 8-ball tournament tonight at Gentry at 5:30 p.m. "Life is a Dance" benefit show starts at 8:00

p.m. This is a benefit for the Bering Care Center. Following the benefit, the Sunday Frenzy Male Strip contest starts at 10:00 p.m.

"Miss Gay Harris County-USA-at-Large" will be voted for tonight at the Brazos River Bottom. The show/contest starts at 7:30 p.m.

This and every Sunday, the Montrose Mining Company has one heck of a beer bust! You have a choice of: a) \$2 optional buy-in and 50¢ refills of Miller Lite Draft on the patio or b) \$1 domestic longnecks! Decisions, decisions!

The "Queen's Quarterly" is tonight at the ToyBox.

Monday, June 19

The pool tables at PastTime are open tonight. They also offer free BBQ! Sounds like a great way to spend a Monday night.

Honky Tonk nights at Gentry are tonight and tomorrow with open pool and Juke Box, 75¢ schnapps and \$2 cuervo shots!

Tuesday, June 20

The Pride Parade Grand Marshall's reception is tonight at Gentry from 7:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m. This is sponsored by the Imperial Court.

It is Cuervo Tuesday at Mary's. Cold Cuervo is only \$2 per shot. They also have burgers on the patio starting at noon!

The "Man of the Month" contest is tonight at J.R.'s Bar and Grill. Cash and prizes will be given away!

Miss Lindsay Love presents: "Miss Houston Female Impersonator Pageant" tonight at Heaven. The show/contest starts at 10:00 p.m.

Wednesday, June 21

PastTime has great drink specials tonight. Stop in and say Hi! to Carlos and the gang and enjoy a cold one. PastTime is located at 617 Fairview.

Bear's Night Out at the Montrose Mining Company features hairy men, hot music, and cold domestic longnecks for only \$1. Lumber out of your den and enjoy "Bear's Night Out."

Thursday, June 22

SEXX... Pacific Street! enter the doors free with a Club Houston card or any other valid gym card and get a "Blow-Job," "Cherry," or a "Tube Shot" for only \$1.25. The towel boys will be there to wipe up any dribbles off your chin.

Club Hedo's wild sounds fill the walls at Rich's tonight. The doors open at 9:00 p.m.

(Continued on following Page)



What a pair!

Pinque will be a Pacific Street tonight starting at 9:00 p.m. This is a welcoming party for Spectrum '95 sponsors and entertainers. The doors open at 7:00 p.m.

The Saturday Super Show at E/J's tonight is "Miss E/J's in Revue!" The guests are Paivi Lee Love, Lana Blake, Tara Dion, and Sivi Ross, all who were a



Friendly faces behind the bar at the Mine.

News of community businesses, birthdays and this week's gossip



The Bears meet at the Venture-N

Charlie's Coffee Shop has new owners, new menu, new decor, and well, a new atmosphere! Stop in and find out what is going on! After lunch or dinner, wander next door to Chances! Marlene and the staff will be doing something special EVERY day through Pride Week!

I get a zillion faxes each week! "Free School Texas—Houston's first Democratic School is opening this fall for students ages 6-19 years old. For information regarding our weekly meetings, call Scott Shaffer @ 785-2287."

Mary's has NEW Pride t-shirts on sale! There are still a few roof top tickets available for the parade.

Birthday Corner

Happy Birthday to BJ Williams.

Happy Birthday to Wendi at Alternative Visions.

Richard at E/J's is getting another wrinkle this week!

Rodent Droppings

Ratrat is back to his old rodent self! I had "Summerized" the room he and Harvey live in and blocked out ALL the daylight! Poor rats, living in total darkness 24 hours a day! Now that I have fixed this, the boys are feisty as ever!

Disclaimer! Disclaimer! Disclaimer!

Things you might read from this point on this page is not journalism, just stuff I hear while hanging out in gay/lesbian establishments! I never take the time to check for facts, or verify sources, that is what a REAL reporter does! I'm just a witch with a pen!

Daniel (PastTime): With a cute one like Keith at home, why do you play with dogs at work?

Bart (611): Are you the real McCoy... Run Away!

Damion (Club Houston): I love the way you show you Rockets spirit. It is bad enough that you drive a pick-up truck, but really, painting "Orlando Who?" on the side is just a bit butch for a diva like you!

Joe (BRB): What's this about the full moon over Brazos?

Brian Keever (RSICSS, TWT, etc.): Your dreams and fantasies will come true, some day soon!

Danny King: Did you get all the hair out of your teeth from last weekend?

Carlos (PastTime): You keep your eye glasses clean, but you can't seem to keep track of them! I hear you have lost/misplaced 3 pair in the past month! Or do you have a thing for your eye doctor?

Ricky (Hangs at the BRB): Is it true, when you pick up a trick, you ask them if they use dental floss?

Vera (BRB): I heard you made a bet with Bill Havard and had to cough up \$4.25 out of your pocket! What did you bet on?

Lang (611): Where's the bag of chips? On a hill? With a friend? Montrose wants to party with you!

Charles: How was it being dumped at Memorial City Mall? Steve loved it!

Blister Pussy (Toy Box): I can't believe it! You actually got a job!

LuLu (E/J's): Are you still using poppers?

Jimmy Bubba Dale (Toy Box): I hear you are working you way thru the roster to get into the "Lone Star!"

Tom Sawyer (Ripcord): I hear you are breaking in the new bartender Ed at the ToyBox with "Dial a Shot!" I'm glad I was there, Ed didn't know what that is!

Bob (Sojourns): So, your friends call you Buffy!

Michael Allen: How come David Montgomery is still smiling!

Marlene (Chances): I heard you did a little chair rearranging at a restaur-

rant! I bet that street person was glad that all you rearranged was the chairs, and not his face!

Dana (Riders): OK, A bubble bath without water and soap is one of the polite ways to infer that you have a real bad and noisy gas attack! Need I explain more?

Myra: How did that dollar bill get in your underwear?

Nelly Kelly (Riders & V-N): I keep waiting on the photos of you, a tree and the whip!

Rocky (Gentry): Is it true that you pet bird Echo trims your pubic hair?

David (Ripcord): Did you get to keep the tu-tu?

Dennis (611): Have any strange cars blocking in your motor home lately?

Philip (Gentry): Smiley face boxer shorts! Really!

The count down to the parade is down to just days away! Come on out and show your pride!

Hugs and kisses
Cuervolyn

Houston Soap, Part 2

The Slop Shot pool tournament starts at 11:00 a.m. at Mary's.

The weekly talent night at Club 403 is hosted by Roxanne Lee Love. There are cash prizes! The fun starts at 10:30 p.m.

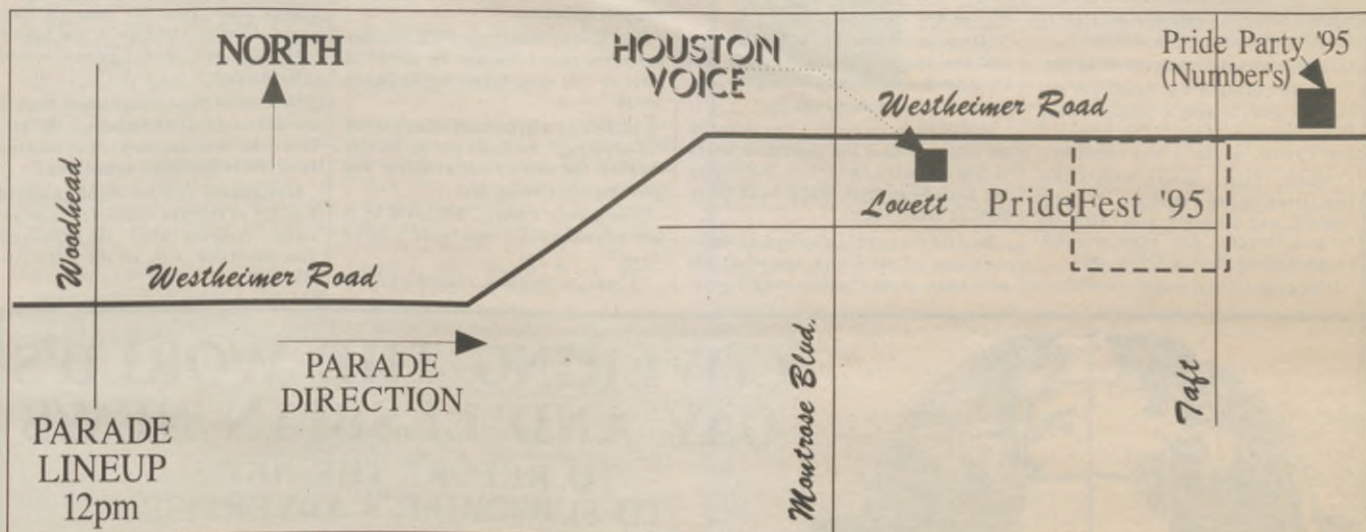
Other Important Stuff

Bistro 224 has a coupon for buy one lunch or dinner-get one free in this weeks issue. Clip it out and use it before July 31. Bistro 224 is located at 224 Westheimer.

Montrose is losing a long time community merchant. Appearances will be closing their doors in a month or so. Lynn Richards, owner, is having a going out of business sale from June 12 to July 15, with up to 50% off current inventory of the current fashions. Appearances is located at 1340 Westheimer.



One of the hunky deca-dancers at Pacific Street



Parade Starts at 2 PM

Rethinking the gay pride message

By RICHARD D. MOHR

To put more pride in Gay Pride, we need to put more gay there.

Consider gays' first trip to the Supreme Court in nearly a decade. This April, our lawyers shamefully argued before the justices that in Boston's St. Patrick's Day Parade a banner identifying its bearers as gay conveyed no message at all. The justices were understandably skeptical. Right-wing Justice Scalia mocked that surely the banner "is an expression of pride in what gays are. How else does one show pride." And he was right. Our lawyers sold us down the river by denying the importance of coming out and being out, of gay presence and gay sociability. The gay movement must abandon its fig leaf timidity and start asserting that gayness matters.

Too often gays and our allies have argued that gayness is irrelevant—that, after all, gays are just humans too. These rhetorical moves are inadvertent, even well-intentioned, erasures of gay being. They suppose that gayness is a property, like having an eye color or wearing an earring, which a person could have in isolation from all other people and without significant effect on others. And it is perfectly understandable—though wrong—that gays and others have taken up this strategy.

First, the gay rights movement for the longest part of its duration was singularly focused on civil rights legislation. In this context, if one could argue that gayness is irrelevant in general, then presumptively it is irrelevant to flying a plane, serving a meal, teaching a class, or being a cop. And so it would be unjust for society to discriminate on the basis of sexual orientation, since sexual orientation is not the basis for anything—or so it goes. The view that gayness doesn't matter had a strategic pull as well. If a person's being gay was an irrelevant (or, even better, an immutable) characteristic, then other people would not have to be so afraid of it, afraid that they might be it or get it. As a tactic against persecution and a plea for tolerance, it wasn't a bad strategy. But if we stick with it now, we will be stuck indeed.

In our social projects, we need to be thinking of gayness not as something that a person can have in splendid isolation. It takes at least two to be queer.

We need to conceptualize gayness as a relational

property, a connection between persons, a human bonding, one in need of tending and social concern. Gayness situates the gay person in social and interpersonal contexts. It is both an outflow and a reception of perception, desire, affection, and knowing—both Biblical and cognitive. We need to stop claiming that gayness is an irrelevant property and begin recognizing that it is crucially important to people's lives and identities, to social history, and, as the gay studies crowd is showing, to understanding central components of many of society's most important concepts and cherished institutions.

"We need to stop claiming that gayness is an irrelevant property and begin recognizing that it is crucially important to people's lives and identities..."

We need to take more seriously that fundamental form of connectedness which is sex and cease treating the sexual law reform movement as an awkward political and educational step—child. Even when unenforced, sodomy laws have many spin-off effects. The courts use them to justify employment discrimination, to deny gays equal protection rights, and—as we and Sharon Bottoms painfully learned—to destroy gay families. On the plane of the nation's ideals, sodomy laws tell gays and lesbians "You are alone. Your being is not a form of connection."

Add to this, the sexual gloom emanating from the AIDS crisis, and it is now time not only to defend sex

against this tide but to valorize it, indeed acknowledge that it is one of the central values of human life: as the chief portal to ecstasy, as the satisfaction of a recurrent natural need, and as the near occasion of, undergirding for, and necessary prompt to love. Strategically nothing is to be gained and potentially much is to be lost by avoiding these issues, especially now that the nation seems again, as in the early 'thirties, to be sailing into an intensely anti-sexual period, even—remember Joycelyn Elders' departure—into sexual hysteria.

In understanding gayness as connectedness, we need to begin paying more attention to issues of gay marriage, domestic partnership, child rearing, and mentoring. We cannot simply cede the "family values" agenda to the Right. Caught up in the old defensive gayness-doesn't-matter mode, our national gay lobbying and legal groups have been slow to take up these issues. Here "the people" have far outstripped their "leaders" in recognizing social needs and setting political agendas.

Again, that's because gayness matters. For gays, sexuality affects—is a foreground presence in—everyday existence, whereas for straights sexuality, especially what might be called heterosexual presumption, is an unacknowledged background phenomenon. For straights, sexuality is like the air at room temperature, pervasive and dominant, yet entirely unnoticed. This socially induced asymmetry, which parallels a similar asymmetry between racial whiteness and blackness, unjustifiably permits straights and straight-identified gays to accuse gays of being obsessed with sex should gays make any mention of sex at all, even while straight lives are themselves pervasively structured by sexuality.

The reason that gay marriage has become such a major issue for gays is that both gayness and marriage have their roots in everyday existence. Marriage is a way of incorporating gayness as connectedness into day-to-day living. It should not be surprising then that gay men and lesbians—as a matter of pride and need—have shifted issues of family life to the top of their political agenda. Gay sex, gay love, gay life, and gay presence all matter.

(Richard D. Mohr is the author of "Gay Ideas: Outing and Other Controversies").

Teen who left home to visit online friend amazed at uproar

SEATTLE, Wednesday, June 7 (AP)—When 16-year-old Daniel Montgomery skipped school and headed for San Francisco to meet a friend he'd communicated with via computer, he figured his parents might be concerned.

He didn't expect national attention. "I didn't think it was gonna get this big," he said, playing a computer game in his suburban Maple Valley home. "I don't know, maybe it was stupidity."

Damien Starr, Montgomery's online friend in San Francisco, is a teen himself, and probably won't face any federal charges, San Francisco FBI spokesperson George Grotz said.

Montgomery first encountered Starr

in a gay-and-lesbian "chat room" on the computer on-line service America Online. Montgomery said his friend had been kicked out of his home because he was gay.

"He's just like me," Montgomery told The Seattle Times. "There are just all these stupid rules and regulations about me being so young."

Montgomery received a bus ticket in the mail from Starr and spent three weeks in San Francisco with him, staying in the apartment Starr shares with three men in their 30s.

He said he wasn't involved sexually with any of them and described his adventure as an "uninformed" vaca-

tion.

"It was all pleasant until I got caught," he said. "I want people to understand there was nothing but friendly contact."

And Montgomery noted his parents had never kicked him out. He described them as "the most loving family in the world."

"I didn't do it to get back at my parents for anything," he said, adding he was looking for some responsibility and perhaps some freedom.

Montgomery's father, Bill, said he is not convinced his son wasn't lured away.

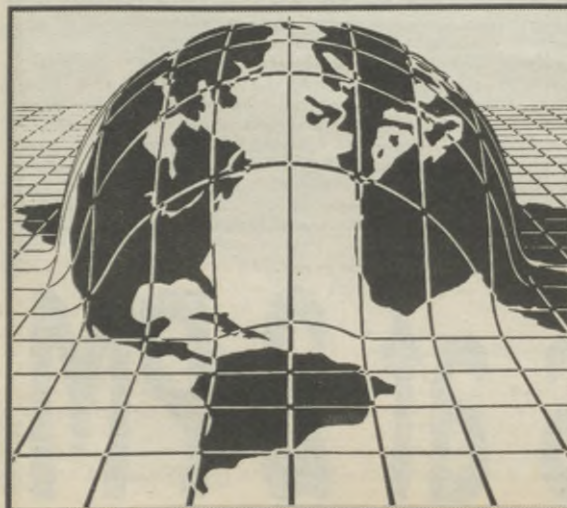
"I may be missing something," he

said. "But I still think it's criminal."

The FBI had investigated the case for possible violations of the Mann Act, which forbids transporting minors across state lines for immoral purposes. Charles Mandigo of the Seattle FBI said the investigation would remain open.

"It's one of those things where there is no clear federal violation on the surface," he said Tuesday. "But looking at it, there might be something."

Montgomery said his friends dropped him off at the San Francisco International Airport after they became uncomfortable with all the news stories.



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GLAAD MEDIA WATCH

by Al Kielwasser

Gay/Lesbian Youth And Cyber-Phobia

Rumors that a 15-year-old Washington boy had been "lured" to San Francisco by an "older" gay man—using the America Online (AOL) computer service—recently excited a rush of paranoid and homophobic news reports. The "San Francisco Examiner" ran a piece on "prowling through the Internet." A Bay Area (KGO-TV) morning news program broadcast the story, using—as background footage—images of someone searching AOL's "Gay & Lesbian Community Forum" (suggesting that the bulletin board is really a pedophile playground).

The June 19 issue of "Newsweek" ran an especially melodramatic report, "Don't 'Chat' To Strangers." The article, written by Marc Peyser, opened on this note: "Daniel Montgomery was so addicted to America Online's 'chat rooms'—a nationwide system of cyberspace pen pals—that his parents limited him to four online hours a week. But the Montgomerys didn't know how dangerous the obsession was until the 15-year-old vanished from home in Maple Valley, Wash., on May 18."

As it turned out, the "older" gay man in the Daniel Montgomery case was actually ANOTHER TEENAGE BOY. The mainstream media have been less anxious to tell that part of the story.

Missing from these and many other accounts has been any serious investigation into Daniel Montgomery's home life. The press was anxious to question how the boy could be "LURED" from his home by a "pedophile." But no one asked how he could have been DRIVEN from his home by homophobic parents. That, after all, is the more common—and yet less reported upon—situation in the lives of lesbian, gay and bisexual youth.

In fact, Daniel's parents have been described as "devoutly Christian." A report in the "San Jose Mercury News" reveals a bit more. In his June 6 article, David Plotnikoff reports that "the dust from Daniel Montgomery's on-line odyssey—which began with a meeting in one of America Online's real-time gay chat areas—has yet to settle." Plotnikoff indicates that Daniel's father—according to earlier reports—believes there are "organized gay efforts on-line to recruit boys."

Another story in the "Mercury," also on June 6, reports a conversation with Daniel's mother. Talking with her by phone, reporter Michael Dorgan quotes Ruth Montgomery as she insists that "there are no indications" that her son might be gay. "Just then," Dorgan writes, "the phone connection was briefly interrupted, after which Ruth Montgomery could be heard to say sternly, 'Don't do this to Mommy! You don't do this to your Mommy!' After several similar admonishments from Ruth Montgomery, an angry young male voice shouted, 'You'll just make it worse!'"

Unfortunately, this current spate of cyber phobia will only feed the censorious frenzy surrounding the Internet. For example, the latest (May 1995) issue of "Family Voice"—magazine of the Right Wing "Concerned Women for America"—warns readers: "The Internet has become the latest avenue for pornography to slip into the home. But now the state and federal governments are

ready to crack down on this latest assault on the family." And, indeed, Senator James Exon (D-NE) has already introduced the first of an inevitable series of legislative efforts to ban "obscenity" on the Internet.

It's impossible to avoid the uneasy feeling of *deja vu*. Censors have always been suspicious of the pleasures of children. In his 1954 book "Seduction of the Innocent," psychiatrist Frederic Wertham panicked the nation—and the U.S. Congress—with his lurid tales of how popular comic books could lead children into homosexuality and murder. Such irrational fears and fantasies have been raised in regard to every medium popular with the young, from movies to music. Now, it's the modem.

For lesbian, gay and bisexual youth, this issue is nothing less than a matter of life and death. Often isolated and despised by both family and society, these youth may find a lifeline in the on-line world of the Internet.

** Encourage the press to tell the REAL story of homophobia in the lives of young gay and lesbian teens. Ask your local papers to editorialize against efforts to censor Internet communication. Feedback can also be directed to Phil Bronstein, Editor, "San Francisco Examiner," 110 5th Street, San Francisco, CA 94103, tel. 415-777-2424, e-mail sfexaminer@aol.com; Jim Topping, President, KGO-TV, 900 Front Street, San Francisco, CA 94111, tel. 415-954-7777, fax 415-956-6402; Maynard Parker, Editor, "Newsweek," 251 West 57th Street, New York, NY 10019, fax 212-445-4120, e-mail NEW150A@prodigy.com or letters@newsweek.com; Jerome Ceppos, Managing Editor, "San Jose Mercury News," 750 Ridder Park Drive, San Jose, CA 95190, tel. 408-920-5000, fax 408-288-8060, e-mail sjmercury@aol.com or JCEP-POS@aol.com; For a free 3-month subscription to "Family Voice," call 800-323-2200, or write to Concerned Women for America, 370 L'Enfant Promenade, S.W., Suite 800, Washington, DC 20024.

Media Briefs

* Around The World . . . "BLK" has recently established a World Wide Web site, focusing on the black lesbian and gay community (<http://www.blk.com/blk/>). "Pinkboard," Australia's "oldest gay computer bulletin board system," has also joined the World Wide Web (www.pinkboard.com.au); e-mail larrys@pinkboard.com.au. "OUT"—"America's best-selling gay and lesbian magazine"—just launched its new World Wide Web service, in conjunction with Apple Computer and over 20 gay/lesbian newspapers (<http://www.out.com>). The Institute for First Amendment Studies—publishers of "Freedom Writer" newsletter ("A Hard Look At The Hard Right")—also offers a World Wide Web home page (<http://www.crocker.com/ifa/>).

We must confront homophobia in order to cure it! To notify GLAAD-SFBA of defamatory or affirmative media coverage, call our 24-Hour MEDIA WATCH HOTLINE at 415-861-4588, or write to "MEDIA WATCH," Gay and Lesbian Alliance Against Defamation—San Francisco Bay Area, 1360 Mission Street, Suite 200, San Francisco, CA 94103; tel. 415-861-2244, fax 415-861-4893, e-mail GLAADSFBA@AOL.COM.

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ASK THE PASTOR

Q: "What kind of action is a Christian supposed to take against the injustices of the world? Am I to sit idly by and watch? What is my role to be in seeing that justice is available for all?"



Rev. Janet Parker

A: The Scripture in Micah 6:8 from the Old Testament says this, "God has shown you, O people what is good. What does God require of you? To act justly and to love mercy and to walk humbly with your God." In life we can only be responsible for ourselves and our actions. We do not have the power to change others. We do have the power and authority to pray for the world and God's people. For some people that may sound like an impotent action, but God's will and God's ways are revealed through prayer. Such a person was the prophet Habakkuk. He was a person of action. He saw tremendous injustices and complained to God about why something wasn't being done to stop it. He told God that even when he prayed God didn't listen; even when he cried out, "Violence," God still didn't save. Habakkuk goes on to say that the law seemed to be paralyzed, and justice never prevailed. The wicked seemed to always win out. In other words, Habakkuk was being honest with what he saw and was sharing his feelings with God.

What is so important in any relationship is that you hear the other side. What does God say in response to Habakkuk's remarks and feelings? God tells Habakkuk that God is going to do something in his day that he would not believe even if he were told it. God was going to use the wicked to accomplish God's purposes. God was saying to Habakkuk that even though evil existed, God was still in control. Good would win out in the end.

Habakkuk had to work through his doubts and unbelief and frustration. He became honest with God and expressed it to God. He began to see that God would answer and would not be silent. Habakkuk began to realize that God is never early or late, but right on time! He began to see that his focus was wrong. It had not been God-centered, but circumstance centered.

God encouraged Habakkuk to ask God to do the miraculous again. God reminded him of the things God had done in the past—the impossible becoming reality. God is telling him that restoration will occur, but you must trust me and believe in me.

When we realize what our role is in seeing justice win out—whether it be a peaceful march, a letter to a politician, marching in the Gay Pride Parade, or praying on our knees daily, our view of God will change.

We begin to realize that "It is not by might, nor by power, but by my Spirit," says the Sovereign Almighty God. When we get to that place of believing and seeing what God can do, then we find ourselves looking beyond our circumstances. We begin to praise the One who can deliver and set free BEFORE it happens. Each person must seek the face of God as to their role in upholding and promoting justice for all people. We must believe that God, too, wants justice for all. God's word says this clearly. One person may not be able to change the world, but one person obedient to God's voice will impact another person's life. This world will experience justice through the compassionate people who touch the lives of others through God's love and mercy!

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

Breast Cancer Prevention Day event well-attended

Three Houston organizations held a very successful first Breast Cancer Prevention Day for lesbian, gay and bisexual women on June 3. Thirty-five women received breast exams from licensed medical staff and mammograms from Texas Mobile Health—the maximum number of women who could have received these services during the six-hour event, held on the grounds of the Montrose Counseling Center.

The organizers of the event (Lesbians in Business, Lesbian Health Initiative and the Montrose Counseling Center) were contacted by more than 30 more women who were interested in the services but called after the appointments were filled. Walk-in appointments were filled as time permitted at the event, which also provided women with information about breast self-exams, breast cancer risk factors and options for detection and support services.

"In many ways, this was a trial run and we didn't know what to expect," said Madalyn McNeil, LiB president. "We were overwhelmed by the

response and the organizations are talking about making this a regular event. We also have been told by the American Cancer Society that they would work with us in the future."

Of the 35 women who received mammograms, 40 percent had never had a mammogram before. When asked about specific risk factors for breast cancer (if they have a family history of breast cancer, if they have ever given birth, the age at which their periods began, and whether they were 50 years of age or older), 11 percent reported three of these risk factors, 43 percent reported two of the risk factors, and 37 percent reported at least one.

Commented Ann Robison, Montrose Counseling Center's executive director: "Providing 35 mammograms, especially to women who never had them before, is a significant contribution to the health of the lesbian community. But even more significant is what else we learned from this event. First, the service is definitely wanted by women, especially if it is provided in a safe, accessible location. Second,

this event raised the community's consciousness about this health threat. Third, more work needs to be done to make sure women use multiple prevention and early detection methods—not just mammograms."

Seventy-seven percent of the participants reported the price of the mammogram—\$5—was an important incentive to their seeking services at the event, organizers said. Also, 60 percent said the availability of Saturday appointments was important, and 51 percent reported that it was important to them that the event was promoted as a lesbian event. Almost half reported that the location of the facility was an important factor; 20 different zip codes were represented by the participants, with 20 percent coming from the 77006 area.

"This is another step in increasing and improving health care services to lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender women," said Pat Gandy, LHI president. "We need comprehensive care, and to get that, we are going to have to pressure all providers to deal with our issues."

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RECYCLE

RECYCLE

The Voice Reader



Surprise: You're Bisexual

(Marjorie Garber, "Vice Versa: Bisexuality and the Eroticism of Everyday Life." New York: Simon & Schuster, 1995. 606pp).

Reviewed By RICHARD D. MOHR

In her just-released book on bisexuality, Harvard English Professor Marjorie Garber repeatedly reminds the reader that her last book, "Vested Interests," on cross-dressing landed her on the television talk-show circuit. Geraldo cast "Dr." Garber in the role of "expert" brought in to determine whether her transvestite couch-mates were normal. Her answer: "rare, but normal." Given bisexual chic's current status as a talk-show staple, Garber's important new book may cast her again in the same role. But when asked whether bisexuals are normal, her answer will be that they are more than normal: virtually everyone is bisexual and society will be better off for acknowledging this fact.

A sprawling book in equal measures fascinating and frustrating, "Vice Versa" is the first major cultural study of bisexuality. The book is an instant classic in that future discussions of the subject—there will be many—must take it as their point of departure.

The book rummages through virtually every dimension of twentieth-century Anglo-American culture for traces and sightings of bisexuality. The book fights the numerous cultural forces that try to erase, belittle, suppress, or re-categorize bisexuality out of existence. Garber examines and chronicles newspaper clippings, song lyrics, novels, movies, plays, psychoanalytical treatises, science journals, diaries, vampire legends, celebrity bios, and, yes, talk shows. We are treated to, sometimes swamped by, dozens upon dozens of capsule biographies and plot summaries. Ultimately Garber is more successful in finding bisexuals than explaining what bisexuality is.

But the findings are impressive. Most of the Bloomsbury group, for example, turn out to be bisexuals. The economist John Maynard Keynes is a star case, a man who had profound and openly acknowledged affairs with men, including the artist Duncan Grant, but who in later life married and lived happily, sexually, and long with the ballerina Lydia Lopokova.

Many of Garber's reclamations to bisexuality are reclamations away from perceived gay status, even from canonized gay status, as in the case of Oscar Wilde. Though Wilde launched gayness as a cultural style, the facts of his life are more accurately described as bisexual than homosexual. Garber acknowledges that these reclamations could easily be read as fronting an anti-gay agenda. But her sensitivity to lurking homophobia is so acute in so many cases—she trashes the movie Orlando for it—that she absolves herself of this charge.

Or almost does. For one of Garber's strategies to get everybody under the big tent of bisexuality is to count as bisexual any man who marries a woman even if his sexual desires are always exclusively directed toward men. For Garber there are no sham

marriages. But here we have bisexuality valorized and FTP extended by a gay erasure that depends upon privileging heterosexuality in its most institutionalized form.

Other big tent strategies are equally dubious. Garber counts everyone in a mixed-sex ménage à trois as bisexual even if every sex act performed and desire expressed by the trio is of the boy-girl variety. The reason: the very idea of the sexual triangle is itself sexy and the triangle contains both sexes. Garber also counts as bisexual any male who has ever admired a male movie star. The reason: even the butchiest of movie stars has a feminine side (Garber's one example is Sylvester Stallone). And any student who has ever had a crush on a teacher is bisexual. Her views here will give principals and deans hissyfits. She holds that to be good, teaching must be eroticized: the student must be sexually attracted to the teacher and vice versa. The book has many analytical failings. In keeping with fashionable academic skepticism about science, the book holds that bisexuality must be a product of choice, not nature, because in it one can fulfill one's sexual drive differently in relation to two different types of objects. But take the case of the lung fish. It seeks out the same thing (oxygen), from two different sources (air and water) in two different ways (though gill or lung), and yet no one would suppose that this state of affairs is anything but genetically caused or that the fish's vacillations between air and water are the product of choice. Garber also claims that because bisexuality is a phenomenon that falls across a spectrum (some bisexuals are more same-sex directed than others), bisexuality cannot be a subject of scientific investigation. But light is manifest across a spectrum and it is the subject of several sciences—chromatics, optics, quantum mechanics.

On the practical side of things, the book helps dispel various bisexual stereotypes—that bisexuals are unstable, immature, or confused. And so the book may well help in the formation of bisexual communities, perhaps even serve as a banner for them, though this is not Garber's aim. Indeed she is skeptical that bisexuality should develop as a social or political identity. Garber is not a bisexual liberationist.

On the conceptual side of things, even after 600 pages of rummaging, Garber fails to give any positive definition of bisexuality. She steadfastly denies that bisexuality can be interpreted as an overlap of homosexual and heterosexual desires, but offers no alternative account. In the end, she punts, claiming that bisexuality confounds sexual categories, is unbounded liquidity, is contradiction. But these claims are just to say that there is nothing to say. A predicate that excludes nothing, asserts nothing. The book's richly detailed case studies, though, should provide the ground from which others who wish to brave questions of bisexual definition, classification, and meaning may begin to build a better theory.



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RECIPES BY THE KUNTRY KIDD

Here is a recipe I tried last week, and I have mixed feelings on it. My significant other liked them, but to me they were just okay. They sound better than I thought they tasted. Significant said that if I hadn't used all fat-free ingredients, I would have liked them better. Could be true, but I am still watching fat intake, and so far I have managed to keep off 15 pounds. To me they tasted lots better with picante sauce over them!

Lasagna Roll-Ups

12 lasagna noodles

SAUCE:

- 1 Tbsp. cooking oil
- 1 large onion, chopped
- 1 clove garlic, minced
- 2 16-ounce cans whole Italian-style (plum) tomatoes, cut up
- 1 6-ounce can tomato paste
- 2/3 C. water
- 3 Tbsp. snipped parsley
- 1 Tbsp. sugar
- 1 tsp. salt
- 1 tsp. dried oregano, crushed
- 1/4 tsp. pepper
- 2 15-ounce containers Ricotta cheese
- 2 C. shredded Mozzarella cheese (8 ounces)
- 1/2 C. grated Parmesan cheese
- 2 eggs, well beaten



In a large saucepan, cook the lasagna noodles in boiling, salted water for 10 to 12 minutes or until tender; drain. Rinse with cool water and drain again. Set aside.

To make the sauce: In a large skillet, heat the oil. Add the onion and garlic and cook until tender. Carefully add the undrained tomatoes, tomato paste, water, 2 tsp. of the parsley, the sugar, salt, oregano and pepper. Simmer, uncovered, for 20 minutes.

Meanwhile, in a large mixing bowl, stir together the Ricotta cheese, 1 cup of the Mozzarella cheese, the Parmesan cheese, eggs and the remaining parsley. Preheat the oven to 350 degrees.

To assemble: spread approximately 1/3 cup of the cheese mixture evenly over each of the lasagna noodles.

Starting from a short side, roll up each of the lasagna noodles.

Pour half of the sauce into a 3-quart rectangular (I used a 9 x 13) baking dish. Place rolled-up noodles seam side down into the baking dish. Top with the remaining sauce.

Cover and bake in the 350 degree oven for 45 minutes. Uncover and sprinkle with the remaining Mozzarella cheese. Bake for 5 minutes more. Let stand for 10 to 15 minutes before serving.

UNTIL NEXT WE EAT!

KUNTRY KIDD



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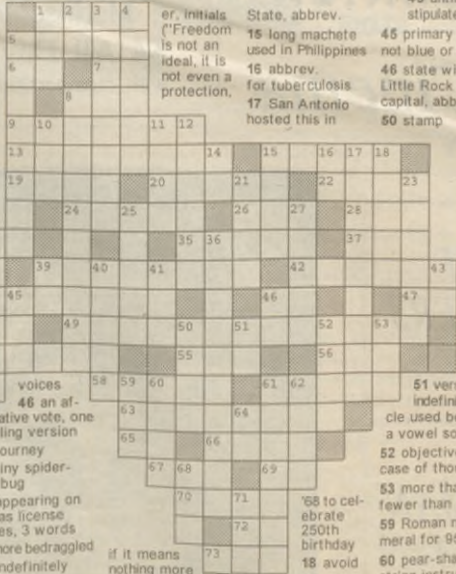
By Henry McClurg

ACROSS

- 1 fashion
- 5 punctuation mark
- 6 Officer of the Guard, abbrev.
- 7 abbrev. for polyvinyl
- 8 long-handled tool
- 9 how!

DOWN

- 13 TV screens
- 15 wash in liquid
- 19 to hit with the head
- 20 transmission by electric waves
- 22 UT-Austin's long-horn mascot's name
- 24 organisms distinguished as male & female
- 26 19th century Scottish essayist Stevenson, initials ("Quiet minds cannot be perplexed or frightened but go on in fortune or misfortune at their own private pace, like a clock during a thunderstorm.")
- 28 damage
- 29 Indonesian island
- 35 Nobel prize winning author T.S. or English statesman Sir John
- 37 state with Boise as capital, abbrev.
- 38 courtyard
- 39 U.S. Secretary of Housing & Urban Development, former San Antonio mayor
- 42 not present
- 44 lowest female



- 41 direction
- 42 Odessa to Austin, abbrev.
- 43 until a stipulated time
- 44 State, abbrev.
- 45 long machete used in Philippines
- 46 state with Little Rock as capital, abbrev.
- 47 San Antonio hosted this in
- 48 stamp
- 49 or, initials ("Freedom is not an ideal, it is not even a protection,")
- 50 15 long machete used in Philippines
- 51 16 abbrev. for tuberculosis
- 52 17 San Antonio hosted this in
- 53 45 primary color not blue or green
- 54 46 state with Little Rock as capital, abbrev.
- 55 50 stamp
- 56 51 version of indefinite article used before a vowel sound
- 57 52 objective case of thou
- 58 53 more than 9, fewer than 11
- 59 54 Roman numeral for 950
- 60 60 pear-shaped string instrument
- 61 61 Texas governor who served longer than any other, 1949 to 1957
- 62 62 work hard & long
- 63 64 20th century American novelist Lewis, initials ("Intellectually I know that America is no better than any other country; emotionally I know she is better than every country.")
- 64 68 banter
- 65 71 rest
- 66 72 Solution elsewhere this issue
- 67 73 Stevenson, Demo candidate against Eisenhower
- 68 74 Sunshine
- 69 75 1 tooth on a gear's rim
- 70 76 2 hectometer, about 328 feet, abbrev.
- 71 77 3 not courteous
- 72 78 4 warning
- 73 79 5 site where the first Congress of the Republic of Texas met
- 74 80 8 city of Sam Houston's burial
- 75 81 10 fictional TV newscaster Grant
- 76 82 1 separate or pull apart by force
- 77 83 12 rubber-like part of a pencil
- 78 84 14 Sunshine
- 79 85 25 gas in TV tubes
- 80 86 27 lingers
- 81 87 30 raise
- 82 88 31 type of computer
- 83 89 32 irreducible constituents
- 84 90 33 more diminutive
- 85 91 34 decayed
- 86 92 36 official name for the Texas lottery, 2 words
- 87 93 39 state with golden poppy as official flower, abbrev.
- 88 94 40 retail shop

GALAXY GAYZER

A HOUSTON VOICE EXCLUSIVE

HOROSCOPE FOR THE WEEK OF JUNE 16 - JUNE 22, 1995

Houston Voice Readers born this week share with actor Errol Flynn. What a surprise to most people when the news broke that the greatest of Hollywood womanizers also slept with men. Flynn of course, made his reputation on his body and on his magnificent Black Irish looks.

GEMINI (May 21 - June 21) Plan out your activities this coming week. Your high energy will best be used if you organize, prioritize, and criticize your recent past events and your list of things to do at this time. It may be wise to operate independently unless your co-workers and friends can match your whirlwind level of activity. You may make them nervous and ill at ease. Be sure to thank those who planned a Birthday party for you.

CANCER (June 22 - July 22) As with your Gemini friend, this week spells energy with a capital 'E'. Enjoy the Pride feeling this week with new confidence in who you are socially and sexually. Be careful with large purchase temptations as the moon is not in the correct phase to wisely spend more than two hundred dollars during the next two weeks. Look forward as to the true need of any purchase and how this item will fit into my plans six months from now.

LEO (July 23 - Aug. 22) This week will be a great week to meet new friends but only if you get out and about. "Sitting alone in your room" is not going to do the trick. Be more interested in meeting people and falling in lust, than in love. You tend to go head over heels too quickly when you meet someone interesting. Be careful about falling in love with a person who lives out of the City. Long distant romances are difficult.

VIRGO (Aug. 23 - Sept. 22) You looked great at the Pride parade, no one looked as beautiful or handsome as you did. Take advantage of having many people observe you, and be around town this week and watch carefully who seems to be interested in you. You have a problem in choosing friends who do not meet your needs in the long run. Be honest with yourself as to whom you really find interesting.

LIBRA (Sept. 23 - Oct. 23) Maintain your living space in a neat manner as any trick worth while is going to notice if your home is in order. You tend to keep items at hand not knowing if you will return to former interests and clothing preferences. It is very unlikely that you will repeat you past, as you have grown significantly in the last two years, and things that satisfied you then are no longer of interest to you now. And this includes friends and dates.

SCORPIO (Oct. 24 - Nov. 21) I told Boots that you would be over to look at some items to spruce up your wardrobe. Appearing to be more direct, in charge and assertive will help you at the Office and at home. Do not let others down play your worth as a person. Feel comfortable about spending time alone with yourself, to enjoy you as a fine person. Renting a movie, preparing a bowl of popcorn, and munching on a box of Junior Mints are wonderful ways to enjoy an evening.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22 - Dec. 21) These summer evenings are great times to be out of doors, think about buying a bicycle or a pair of roller skates. This form of exercise is a good way to decrease your stress level. You may meet new friends which is some thing that you want to do this season. Try the Kuntry Kidd's recipe on this page. This would be a perfect way to impress your next date.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22 - Jan. 19) Continue to be selective in your spending habits, as with you Cancer friend above. Ask yourself if the item will fit into your plans six months from now. There are going to be other important items to consider for purchase in the near future. Colors that will work well for you this summer include medium red, light blue, and black.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20 - Feb. 18) Your high energy weeks of earlier this Spring are being brought down to a more reasonable level. This summer will be a more mellow time for you, and happiness will come from a quieter paced life. Watch out for and guard against a high sugar intake at this time. No more than fifty grams of raw sugar in twenty four hours.

PISCES (Feb. 19 - Mar. 20) You have found excitement in trying new foods, clothing styles, and sexual events. That is wonderful. The smile and happiness in your expression carries over to your days' activities making you a more interesting person at work. Write those long over due letters to family and friends, and that will get that chore behind you. Try a bouquet of fresh flowers for the dining table for happiness.

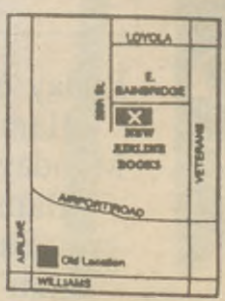
ARIES (Mar. 21 - Apr. 19) Be selective about your closest friends and watch out for those who simply wish to use you. This will be a great summer for you, in meeting new people, one of whom may become a special friend of yours. Probably not a lover, but more of a confidant. But you must be careful about whom you confide your plans and dreams to. Spend extra hours out of doors this summer, as the sun light and warm weather will make you feel very positive about yourself.

TAURUS (Apr. 20 - May 20) Thank you for working so hard on the wonderful party that you are planning for a special friend. Travel is in your plans later this month, and the new Cities visited will be a wonderful time for you. There is a real sense of loose ends finally coming together for you, after concerns of the past. It is wonderful to know that you are loved as you are.

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Billed to your Phone \$3.99 per min

Nasty Gay Phone Sex

Private / on 1
Sessions
Wild Orgy
Party Lines
Sexy Fantasies

Adults Only

1-800-418-STUD
Visa, MC \$3.99 per minute (7883)

CONNECT WITH HOUSTON
MAN

TO MAN!

LOCAL HOUSTON TALK LINE
2 Hours for \$4
make friends or relationships
FREE Voice Mail Boxes
713-778-6689
\$50 monthly subscriptions
(Visa, MC, Checks or M.O.)
FREE subscription line
713-778-6666
1-900-820-8799

\$4 the 1st minute & 65¢ each add.
2hr. access for 1 min. cost press "8"
18+ • MultiChannel • (214) 761-6066

1-800-897-4MAN
\$2.98 PER MIN. VISA / MC OR CHECK BY PHONE. 18 & OLDER ONLY.

THE BEST AND HOTTEST!

LIVE!

ALL GAY PHONE SEX!

NO CREDIT CARD NEEDED!

1-900-745-9901
\$2.98 PER MIN. ON YOUR PHONE BILL. 18 & OLDER ONLY.

BEST SEX HOT SEX FANTASIES: 212-339-8741. No credit card needed. Adults over 18 only.

Custom phone sex action - fast and easy: 312-578-5413. Adults 18+ only. No Credit Card Needed.

NEW SEX CALL SAMPLES
Horny Studs Will Turn You On!
212-339-8739 Adults over 18 only.

Dirty sex samples • No Mastercard • No Visa • No bull! 213-346-1087. Adults over 18.

SEX CALL SAMPLES Special Interests? You Know What I Mean 312-578-5416. Strictly Adults Over 18 Only. No Credit Card Needed.

Sex party samples 212-339-8738. 18+ only. No cc needed.

HOT PHONE SEX 1-800-815-6671 Adults 18+ Only. HOT SAMPLES

LOVE PHONE
ALL NEW - SPECIAL OFFER
1-800-204-9687
Adults over 18 only.

MAXIMUM PLEASURE 1-800-934-0132 Try it NOW! Find out HOW! Adults 18+. No credit card needed.

FAST SEX PHONE - NO MC • NO VISA FIND OUT HOW 1-800-934-0130. ADULTS 18+

Get off now! Sex phone action 1-800-876-8477. 18+ ONLY

SUPER HOT PHONE SEX • BEST SEX EVER 312-578-5415. Adults over 18 only.

DO THEM ALL! HOT PHONE ACTION! FOR THE BEST SEX INFO 212-339-8787. Adults over 18 only.

HOT SEX SAMPLES 415-249-4955 You must be over 18 to call. No credit card needed.

SEX FANTASY - THIS IS AS HOT AS IT GETS. 1-800-207-8108. 18+

BIG, BLONDE & BURLY! 215-474-2900 18+ ONLY.

SECRET SAMPLES BETTER THAN EVER
212-339-8733 18 & over only.
Connections For Men • 24 Hours

TALK LIVE TALK SEXY
NO CREDIT CARD
1-800-945-5225
Adults over 18 only.

Fun for married men 1-800-234-4853 Adults 18 & over

MEN OF COLOR. 1-800-806-7782. ADULTS 18/OVER.

Understanding men who need guys who can help please hot male desires and fulfill private love fantasies. 1-800-388-4847. Mature adults 18/over

Talk from men who need adult conversation. 1-800-709-2235. You must be 18+

Hot group action. Pick your pleasure 1-800-727-2883. Adults 18+ only.


Hot Sex Fantasies 1-800-216-1204 Adults Over 18 Only. No credit card needed.

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

FRENCH QUARTER
(713) 527-0782 3201 LOUISIANA HOUSTON

All Male Cinema
presents

THURSDAY Matinee
\$4 All Day
with membership



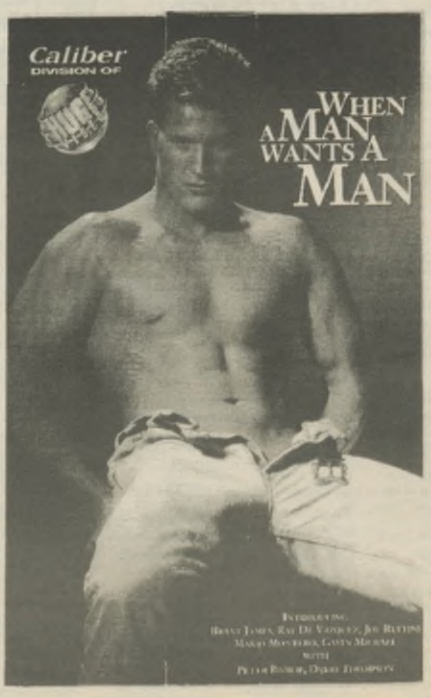
Chance Encounter

CHANCE ENCOUNTERS

and

WHEN a MAN WANTS a MAN

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



WHEN a MAN WANTS a MAN

Starring: BOB JONES, RAY DI VONICO, JOE RUFFINO, MARIO MONTANA, GUSTY MONTANA
With: PATTI BROWNE, DEAN THOMPSON

Houston VOICE Personals

HIV+ HISPANIC MALE

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

SERIOUS & SINCERE ONLY

Tall/Handsome/GWM. Loves to look, dance, & shop. Former LSU student turned paraprofessional. I.S.O. spontaneous, intellectual, politically incorrect friends. You must keep up w/fashion, latest dance music, and mel HWP & DDF. Ad 25702

VERY WELL ENDOWED

Attractive GWM, 39, 6'1", 175 and HIV-. Dominant top/daddy type. Seeking the intimacy lacking in a world of casual encounters. I.S.O. younger masculine bottom "boy" that's muscular and attractive. Interests include movies, clubs, intimate evenings, and camping. Respond by letters only, with phone and photo please. Ad 25700

BLACK MALE SEEKS WHITE MALE

37 year old black male, HIV+, 30 waist, 6', 155, healthy and active. Seeking GWM HIV+ age 25-40 for monogamous relationship. Must be sincere. No one nighters please. Ad 25681

ATTENTION -NUDIST

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

BROWN BOYS BEWARE!

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

GALVESTON: LOOKING FOR SEXUAL BUD-DIES

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

PLAYS WITH TOYS

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

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

HAIRY DADDY SEEKS BOY

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

MUSCULAR, HANDSOME SEEKING MALE 40+

SWM, 40 (look younger), gay but never been with a man, loner, very muscular, extremely handsome, masculine, athletic (former college athlete), affinity for men 40+, seeking new life and LTR, if compatible with wealthy/affluent mentor. NOT looking for free ride. Correspondence first. Absolute discretion offered. Ad 25696

SEEKING BOTTOM WITH ENDURANCE

Top seeks bottom for use in aerobic workout. Top is 6' tall, HWP, ok looks, not notably large but not small. Seeking someone HWP to be used, not abused. Mail response only. Ad 25706

SEEKING TO MAKE NEW FRIENDS

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

GO FOR IT!

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

FOR \$29.95 PER YEAR YOU CAN HAVE AN AD IN THIS SECTION

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

WANTED:

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

FRIENDLY YOUNG MAN WANTED

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

NEED DADDY YOU NEVER REALLY HAD?

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

LOOKING FOR LIKE/PROF FOR LONG-TERM RELATIONSHIP

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

PASADENA: 3 CAN BE GOOD COMPANY

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

CHRISTIAN SEEKS LIFEMATE

GWM, 33, 6'1", 285, christian, professional with big heart. I'm nice looking, short brown hair and mustache. Seeking that special someone with lots of love to give for monogamous relationship. Interests include movies, intimate evenings, helping people in need, yard sales, flea markets, and my church. Ad 25708

AFTERNOON DELIGHT

Professional GWM, 49, blonde-blue, clean shaven, 6', 165, swimmers body. I.S.O part-time play buddy. You are good-looking, 30 to 50, HWP, drug free, without hangups. CALLS ONLY. Ad 25704

NEW TO HOUSTON

Under 50, fun-loving professional seeks cerebral partner to share the many things Houston offers both professionally and socially. I'm a GWM, HWP, good looking, with a tendency towards dominance. Mail response only, please. Ad 25710

INSTRUCTIONS

TO PLACE a Houston Voice Personal Ad --

Come to our offices at 811 Westheimer, Suite 105. It's a good idea to write out (up to fifty words) what you want to say. The annual cost is only \$29.95 -- less than one dollar per week. (You must restate [by phone] your desire for the ad to keep running every four weeks.) At the office you will be given the functioning details. Ads can also be placed by mail, with payment enclosed, phone 713-529-8490, for details.

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

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

TO ANSWER AN AD BY MAIL: Each ad has a five digit code. Write your response and seal it in a stamped envelope with the five digit code in the address place. Place your sealed response and \$2.00 in an envelope and mail it to us, we will affix a mailing label and the intended person will receive your response. This service costs \$2.00 plus postage per numbered envelope, and is available only with the Houston Voice Personals.

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

PLAY SAFE

HOUSTON VOICE Personals

If The Singles Jungle Makes
You Want To Scream,
Change Your
Dating Call for

FREE?!

Come in and we will run
your PERSONAL AD for FREE
through the June 30th issue.

- No fee to check your messages
- Only \$1.49/minute to explore other personals
- Local people, local ads
- Information: (713) 529-8490
- YOU MUST place your ad in person.

Come in to
place your
personal NOW!
811 Westheimer,
Suite 105



A QUALITY OF LIFE ALTERNATIVE

WHAT IS VIATICATION?

Viatication is the process through which a person living with a terminal illness can receive a cash payment from the face value of their insurance policy.

WHO IS ELIGIBLE FOR A VIATICAL SETTLEMENT?

Generally, to be eligible for a viatical settlement you must have a documentable terminal illness, and life insurance coverage in either an individual term, whole life, or a group policy.

HOW MUCH IS MY POLICY WORTH?

The value of your life insurance policy in a viatical settlement is determined by the specifics of your policy and your unique medical situation. Not every policy is suitable for viatication, but settlement offers typically range from 60 percent to 90 percent of a policy's face value, depending on the specifics of your policy and medical history.

HOW DOES A SETTLEMENT WORK?

With your written permission, we gather medical and insurance

records with which to determine your policy's value. Then, a settlement offer is presented to you. You may always decline the offer with no obligation whatsoever. Should you accept the offer, payment is made directly to you. You pay nothing else on your policy, and you owe us nothing.

IS VIATICATING MY POLICY THE RIGHT CHOICE FOR ME?

Many factors influence whether viaticating your life insurance policy is the best financial alternative available to you. Linked Benefits can discuss all of the factors with you and your family in person, in detail, and can recommend an experienced Certified Financial Planner to assist you in planning the best outcome from your unique financial situation.

HOW IS LINKED BENEFITS DIFFERENT?

Today, many companies offer viatical settlements, doing business only by bulk advertising and 1-800 numbers. They transfer your insurance and medical records by

mail, and do business from another state.

At Linked Benefits, we believe you should be assured of complete confidentiality and the best possible service by working with us in person, face to face. We are involved on a community level and are responsible directly to our local community.

By working with you in person, but at the same time having access to nationwide financial resources, we are able to deliver the best value on your policy available today. And because of our established resources, we can deliver a settlement in less than a third of the time other companies take by mail typically, in less than 30 days.

We'll do what it takes to find the best solution for you

NO FEES. NO PRESSURE.

Montrose	Grant	Police	Crocker	Stanford
Westheimer	811			



LINKED BENEFITS

OF HOUSTON
A Viatical Service Company

811 WESTHEIMER ▼ SUITE 208

HOUSTON, TEXAS 77006

(800) 275-3090 ▼ (713) 528-6777