

New report rates presidential hopefuls on gay and lesbian issues

By MARK HENRY
Houston Voice/Houston

The Human Rights Campaign, the nation's largest and most influential gay and lesbian political organization and lobbying group has released a report on the 1996 Presidential hopefuls with respect to their support of issues that have a bearing on our community. The report analyzes public statements, campaign literature and voting records, if applicable, on all of the announced candidates. To date, Lamar Alexander, Patrick Buchanan, Senate Majority Leader Bob Dole, Robert Dornan, Steve Forbes, Texas Senator Phil Gramm, Richard Lugar and Arlen Specter have all declared their candidacy. Although President Clinton and Ross Perot have not officially entered the race, their respective records were analyzed as well, all indications suggest that they will do so.

The report is an informative examination that provides the community with a well researched background on each respective candidate to ease the decision making process that encompasses supporting a candidate. HRC officially designates three of the candidates as "extremists" for their far-reaching efforts to denigrate the gay and les-

bian community. Pat Buchanan, Bob Dornan and our own Phil Gramm are the three recipients of this dubious distinction. Gramm, the report suggest, has resorted to anti-gay diatribes in his desperate attempt to court the extreme-right backing of the party and supported the three hard-fought, yet unvictorious, Jesse Helms amendments related to the Ryan White CARE Act.

(Continued on Page 11)



Holiday happenings in the arts...For details, see page Pages 12-13

Art community to commemorate 'day without'

Book Chronicles Impact Of AIDS On The Arts In Houston

More than 30 Houston arts and education organizations have collaborated to create a commemorative book that documents the impact of AIDS on the arts in Houston. The organizations will gather at a special ceremony to assemble the book on 1995 Day Without Art/World AIDS Day on Friday, Decem-

ber 1 at 10 a.:00 a.m. at the Museum of Fine Arts, Houston. The public is invited to attend the free ceremony in the museums Brown Auditorium.

Testimony: A Houston Arts Book on AIDS will be filled with documentation, original art, photographs, children's art and writing, personal testimonies and creative writing. Each organization has created a page for the poster-sized book.

"This moving book documents the great losses of the Houston art community due to AIDS," said Janet Landay, curator of exhibitions at the Museum of Fine Arts, Houston and coordinator of this project. "We have a crucial task to perform as witnesses and chroniclers, so that others will know the terrible effects of this disease on our community-at-large."

This year, the first book will be created. It will be on display at the Museum of Fine Arts, Houston through Dec. 31, 1995. Each year on Dec. 1, new pages will be added to the book. In addition, the book

will be replicated so that every participating group has a copy to display at its own facility.

Houston Ballet's page memorializes Michael Wasmund, a former soloist with the ballet, who died of AIDS in 1983. The page will feature a photo of Wasmund dancing in "Four Last Songs," one of the ballets he was well known for in Houston. Parker, who performed with Wasmund, will present the page.

The Art League of Houston, an organization that offers art outreach classes to individuals who are HIV+, will present a page made by the class entitled "AIDS, A Perspective in Time." Clay McBee and Steve Yocum, members of the class, will present the page.

For their page, third and fourth graders from River Oaks Elementary School, HISD have created a collage of drawings related to AIDS education.

(For more information on Day Without Arts/World AIDS Day events and participating organizations, see next week's issue of the *Houston Voice*.)



A bunch of hams...John Dye, chair of the Colt 45's Stone Soup project; Steve Simpson; Crystal Rae Lee Love, Empress XI of the Imperial Court; Ruby Stone, candidate for Empress XII, and Rene Monroe distribute Thanksgiving hams for clients of Stone Soup Food Pantry. The LVL PWA Holiday Fund donated the 305 hams for the giveaway.

Tree lighting ceremony set

(HOUSTON)—The annual Tree of Remembrance Ceremony will be held again this year on World AIDS Day, Dec. 1. Co-sponsored by Body Positive Houston, along with NAMES Project Houston and the City of Houston Metropolitan Multi-Service Center, the event is described as "the Houston HIV Community's annual celebration of those we love." The lighting and decorating of the tree, the sponsors say, has become a source of comfort and healing and closure for many whose close involvement with AIDS has included so many painful moments.

(Continued on Page 4)

IN THIS WEEK'S ISSUE

Bulletin Board	Pg. 3
In Brief	Pg. 8-9
Sports reports	Pg. 10
Media Watch	Pg. 19

Conference focuses on 'AIDS, Medicine and Miracles'

By SHERI COHEN DARBONNE
Houston Voice Editor

(HOUSTON)—Of all world cultures and all societies that have existed in the history of man, only America does not recognize the role of the spirit and the importance of human interaction as components of health and healing in its medical model. This was among the assertions that AIDS educator and former model Greg Cassin laid out, in a voice as mellow and hypnotic as a lullabye, to a rapt audience at the Eighth Annual AIDS, Medicine and Miracles conference held Nov. 9-12 in Houston. "It's natural," observed Cassin, attempting to explain the healing power of touch and the importance of people gathering together, "that people hold hands when they walk together in the dark."

Cassin, whose address "From

Brokenness to Wellness: The Healing Journey" brought many in the crowd to tears, was among several speakers at the popular holistic conference who set the tone of sharing, caring, serenity and sensory openness that characterized the event at the Wyndham Warwick Hotel. The conference, which emphasizes an integrated approach—utilizing both traditional and alternative therapies and techniques—to staying healthy, also featured three special needs institutes, numerous workshops dealing with a wide range of health and wellness topics, support groups, relaxation exercises (including yoga and "peace breathing"), and a wide variety of exhibits and demonstrations by local and national groups.

(Continued on Page 17)

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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.

Friday, Nov. 24

- * 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 523-8817
- * HATCH meets. Call 942-7002.
- * 12 step program at Montrose Counseling Center. 6:00 p.m. Call 529-0037.
- * Aftercare Group Treatment at Montrose Counseling Center. 6:00 p.m. Call 529-0037.
- * Free Buffet at the Brazos River Bottom. 4:00 p.m.
- * Film at MFA: "Black Orpheus" 7:30 p.m. Call 639-7300.

Saturday, Nov. 25

- * Houston Chain Gang Bicycle Club rides. Call 863-1860.
- * After Hours on KPFT 12:00 a.m. to 3:00 a.m. 90.1 FM. Call 526-5738.
- * Montrose Ice Picks skate at the Downtown Skating Rink. Noon to 5:00 p.m. Call 629-1432.
- * Houston Area Bear's Slumber Party. Call 867-9123.
- * Author Gerald Duff signs at Borders Book Shop. 3:00 p.m. Call 782-6066.
- * Houston Gay and Lesbian Political Caucus newsletter mailout party. Call 521-1000.

Sunday, Nov. 26

- * Houston Chain Gang Bicycle Club meets. Call 863-1860.
- * Front Runners meet at 9:00 a.m. at the Tennis center in Memorial Park. Call 522-8021.
- * HATCH meets. Call 942-7002.
- * Inner Loop Sunday Bowling League. Call 522-9612.
- * Out in Ft. Bend meets. Call 344-0638.
- * Brunch at the 611 12:30 p.m. \$3
- * Steak Night at the Brazos River Bottom. 5:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m.
- * Pool Tournament at Chances. 6:00 p.m.
- * Yea!Buffet! at the Venture-N. 5:00 p.m. Benefits the Colt 45's.
- * Montrose Ice Picks skate at the Downtown Skating Rink. Noon to 5:00 p.m. Call 629-1432.
- * Film at MFA: "Mean Streets" 7:00 p.m. Call 639-7300.
- * The Women's Group meet at 5:30 p.m. Call 529-8571.

Monday, Nov. 27

- * AFH Creative Writing Class. 3:00 p.m. Call 623-6796.
- * Gay Fathers/Fathers First support group. 8:00 p.m. Call 861-6181.
- * HeartSong open rehearsal at the Community Room in Sharpstown Center. 7:00 p.m. Call 526-9095.
- * Calendar/Computer workshop for Pride Week. 7:00 p.m. Call 529-1223.
- * Gay and Lesbian Readers Group meets at 3003 W. Holcombe. 7:00 p.m. Call 349-0050.
- * Agora meets at 7:30 p.m. Call 623-6796.
- * Positive Living Group at Montrose Counseling Center. 2:15 p.m. Call 539-0037.
- * Outpatient Group Treatment at Montrose Counseling Center. 6:00 p.m. Call 529-0037.
- * Women and HIV/AIDS Group at Montrose Counseling Center. 6:15 p.m.

Call 529-0037.

- * Men Survivors of Sexual Abuse Group at Montrose Counseling Center. 6:15 p.m. Call 529-0037.
- * Lesbian Survivors of Cancer and their care givers at Montrose Counseling Center. 6:30 p.m. Call 529-0037.
- * Men's HIV Group at Montrose Counseling Center. 7:00 p.m. Call 529-0037.
- * Log Cabin Republicans meet at 7:00 p.m. Call 529-1000.
- * "Love, Lust, and Intimacy" discussion. 7:00 p.m. Call 524-2374.

Tuesday, Nov. 28

- * Front Runners meet at Memorial Park. 6:30 p.m. Call 522-8021.
- * Helping Cross Dressers Anonymous meets at 239 Westheimer. 8:00 p.m. Call 495-8009.
- * Basic Computer Skills Class at the Kolbe Project. Call 522-8182.
- * Southern Country gives dance lesson at the Ranch. 9200 Buffalo Speedway. 8:00 p.m.
- * Gay Men HIV+ Psychotherapy at Montrose Counseling Center. 4:30 p.m. Call 529-0037.
- * Outpatient Group Treatment at Montrose Counseling Center. 6:00 p.m. Call 529-0037.
- * Aftercare Group Treatment at Montrose Counseling Center. 6:00 p.m. Call 529-0037.
- * Bereaved Partners/Spouses at Montrose Counseling Center. 6:15 p.m. Call 529-0037.

- * Women Survivors of Childhood Abuse at Montrose Counseling Center. 6:30 p.m. Call 529-0037.
- * Free Dance Lessons at the Brazos River Bottom. 9:30 p.m. Call 528-9192.
- * Live Jazz at Borders Book Shop. Call 782-6066.
- * Poet Richard Howard reads and signs his book at Barnes and Noble. 8:00 p.m. Call 349-0050.
- * Arts After Hours, a networking social meets at 8.0. 5:00 p.m. Call 630-5222 ext. 913.
- * AIDS Equity League meets at noon. Call 529-9966.
- * HIV/AIDS Treatment Mixer-informal discussion sponsored by The Center for AIDS. 7:00 p.m. Call 527-8219.
- * Town Meeting, Inc. open meeting at 7:00 p.m. Call 526-2853.
- * Houston Lesbian/Gay Pride week Task Force meeting at 7:00 p.m. Call 529-6979.

Wednesday, Nov. 29

- * Shiela Lennon performs at Chances. 9:00 p.m. Call 523-7217.
- * Houston Pride Band practices at Dignity Houston. Call 524-0218.
- * GLOBAL meets at 4:00 p.m. Call 743-7539.
- * Tootie's Coffee Bar has "Activity Night" with a complimentary buffet. 5:00 p.m. to 8:00p .m. Call 522-7662.
- * HIV Survivor Support Group meets at 2929 Unity Drive. 7:00 p.m. Call 782-4050.
- * Men's Network at Montrose Counseling Center. 7:00 p.m. Call 529-0037.
- * Lambda Rollerskating Club skates at 8:00 p.m. Call 933-5818.
- * Women's Network at Montrose Counseling Center. 7:00 p.m. Call 529-0037.

(Continued on Page 7)

Community Organizations Bulletin Board

'Day Without Art' To Benefit Pet Patrol

Theater LaB Houston and the Diana Foundation will co-sponsor a special benefit performance of short plays and vocal selections Friday Dec. 1 beginning at 8:00 p.m. with proceeds from the evening benefiting the Montrose Pet Patrol.

Brent Shockley is the special event chair marking the Day Without Art, the 7th International Day of Action and Mourning in Response to the AIDS Crisis. Organized by visual AIDS and thousands of other cultural institutions, Day Without Art's goal is to increase AIDS awareness and education, mourn the community's losses, acknowledge AIDS caregivers and activists and initiate action to care for people living with AIDS.

Under its banner 'New Visions /New Works,' which spotlights Houston playwrights, Theater LaB Houston presents Houston playwrights' response to the AIDS epidemic in four ten minute playlets. This is the third annual Day Without Art event in which Theater LaB Houston has commissioned Houston playwrights.

This year's event includes "American Cleansing" written by Thomas Meloncon; "Susan at the River" by Kate Pague; Christopher Woods' Chimayo; and Speedo & Mackey" written by Nancy Mercado. In addition vocal number will be sung by Patricia Rabaza with musical composition by Dr. Mary Carol Warwick and lyrics by Sam Stewman.

Proceeds from this evening will go to the Montrose Pet Patrol which is dedicated to the loving care of the pets of AIDS patients who are unable to end to their needs, other services offered include monthly pet food delivery, veterinary care, and pet "buddy" program for walking and feeding when patients are hospitalized.

Proceeds from the evening will go to the Montrose Pet Patrol. Tickets are \$15 and are available by calling 314-2843. Theater LaB Houston is located at 1706 Alamo, off the 2100 block of Houston Ave. Secure parking is provided and the theater is handicapped accessible.

GMCH Holiday Concert

The Gay Men's Chorus of Houston's annual Holiday Concert will be presented at the First Unitarian Universalist Church in Houston Dec. 8 and 9 and the Grand 1894 Opera House in Galveston, Dec. 16.

Under the direction of interim artistic director James Winslow, the GMCH will present "Stories of the Season: Fables and Holiday Stories" at 7:30 p.m. both evenings in Houston. The First Unitarian Universalist Church is located at 5200 Fannin (at Southmore). General admission is \$12 and tickets can be obtained from any chorus member, or at the door, or by telephoning 227-ARTS.

Tickets for the Grand 1894 Opera House presentation in Galveston range in price from \$10 to \$30 and can be ordered by telephoning 1-800-821-1894.

Memorial and Healing

His Touch Ministries, a non-profit HIV service provider, will be sponsoring a Memorial & Healing Service at the Christian Tabernacle Church (133334 Wallisville Rd., Houston) Sunday, Nov. 26 beginning at 6:00 p.m.

Quilt panels will be displayed and presented. The memorial service will include music, a slide show and candle lighting ceremony. The Service will conclude with a healing and communion.

Everyone is invited to attend. For more information please telephone His Touch Ministries at 864-2158.

Learn Wellness

The Wellness Learning Center is a coordinated community wide effort to educate people infected with or affected by HIV and important issues impacting their lives. Tuesday, Nov. 28 'Love, Lust and Intimacy' will be presented in a entertaining and confidential manner as a means of developing and improving communication and intimacy in relationships through discussion and games.

Then on Thursday, Nov. 30th, 'Dollars and Sense: Money and other Matters' will feature a panel of planning specialists reviewing vital legal and financial matter concerning PWA's/HIV.

Each of the classes are free of charge and will be held at the Metropolitan Multi-Service Center 1475 West Gray. Pre-registration is encouraged and a minimum participation is necessary. Please contact Scott Clark at Body Positive/Houston 524-2374 for registration or additional information.

GMCH Recording Available

The Gay Men's Chorus of Houston (GMCH) has announced availability of its debut recording "To Friends and To Life: The Gay Men's Chorus of Houston Celebrates Its Fifteenth Anniversary."


The collection, ranging from Broadway to opera to contemporary secular, includes the world premiere recording of John-Michael Albert's moving tetralogy, "Though Much Is Taken, Much Abides," a work of loss and remembrance.

Anyone wishing to purchase a cassette or CD copy of the recording may do so by sending a check or money order payable to GMCH, PO Box 541004, Houston, TX 77254-1004. The CD is \$15 and the tape, \$10. Texas residents must add 8 1/4% sales tax. Credit card purchases can be accomplished by telephoning 521-SING.

Gallery Benefit

The People with AIDS Coalition of Houston will benefit from a showing at the Paraphernalia Frame Gallery opening Dec. 8 and running through Jan. 1996.

Organized in memory of Buck Newson, the show will highlight "Women Variations and Other Attractions" by Richard Hicks. The gallery is open from 10:00 a.m. until 6:00 p.m. Tuesday to Saturday, or by appointment. The gallery is located at 2602 Waugh Drive, Houston.



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In Loving Memory



ROBERT "BOB" HODGE

Born: May 15, 1946
Died: November 16, 1995

Bob Hodge died on November 16, 1995 due to complications from brain cancer at The Hospice in the Medical Center, Houston, Texas. A Memorial Service is planned for Sunday, December 3, 1995 from 4-6 p.m. at the Chapel on the Central Campus of the University of Houston (off Cullen Blvd. at Entrance #13).

Bob graduated from Cal State University at Dominguez Hills with a B.A. in 1979 and obtained his Master's Degree from the University of Houston, Graduate School of Social Work in May 1989. His employment at the Montrose Counseling Center continued his work with the substance abuse community and in 1984 he was named coordinator of the MORE alcohol and drug treatment program. This enabled him to expand and further develop services to lesbian and gay clients with substance abuse issues. Additionally, he became Acting Executive Director of the Montrose Counseling Center after the death of Ken Vance in 1988. He later was instrumental in the planning and opening of ADVANCE Treatment Center, a non-profit methadone treatment facility in Houston. His work also included various published articles and most recently, he co-authored a chapter in "Changing Face of AIDS" (1993), as well as co-authored a National Association of Social Work project on "Substance Abuse and Gay and Lesbian Persons." Bob was a member of the National Honor Society of Psychology Students in 1979. He also received the Award of Merit and Recognition from Texas Association of Counseling and Drug Abuse in 1988, and the Director's Award from the Montrose Counseling Center in 1986, in addition to many other honors and acknowledgements during his career. Bob is remembered for his dedicated service to both the Recovery and the HIV communities. His dedication within these areas and his activism for the lesbian and gay community will be greatly missed.



GARY-JOHN CRARY

Born: 2 March 1963
Died: 20 November 1995

"Remember me with European breezes in my hair. I will become a part of all the universe. When an autumn breeze rustles through the trees, I will be there in the nervousness of a squirrel. Remember me not in a memorial quilt with name affixed,

for I am part of the plaid in our ancestor's kilt. Keep me in your heart and I will live as long as you, Keep me in your voice and I will sing with you, Keep me in your eyes and I will recall the sunset, Keep me in your mind and I shall learn your grief.

No one can resist the call of the winds,
The seas, the stars, the universe beckons me,
And through the fires of cremation I will be released
To study the secrets of that long-suffering breeze.
And I will save your place at the table of God,
To sip the nectar of celestial splendor.
I will assure you the party is ready.
You and I will feast forever.
Afraid no more."
Peace

Gary-John was born in Fulton, New York and is survived by his parents, George and Janet Crary of Montgomery, Texas; his brothers, Jim Crary of Houston and Glenn Crary of Pearland, Texas; his sister, Marianne Towne of Monroe, LA; two nieces, Krystle and Samantha; his longtime companion, Gunter Schagerl of Vienna, Austria; dozens of friends across the country; and his best friend and care provider, Tony Duran of Houston, TX. Gary-John attended the University of Houston and received honors at the University of South Carolina while in his last semester for a master's degree in theatre. He appeared in numerous collegiate plays across the country. The Crary family wishes to thank Gary-John's other care providers, Dr. Patricia Salvato, the staff at Windsor Place and volunteers at Omega House, and special loving friends and family. A final remembrance will be announced at a later date. Gary-John's ashes will be dispersed in Texas, New York, Scotland and Austria as he wished. In lieu of flowers, memorial contributions may be made to The Crary Memorial Fund, P.O. Box 66552, Houston, TX 77266

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PHOTO BY ROB MILLER

'Tree of Remembrance' ceremony

(Continued from Page 1)

Each year, those who have lost a loved one to AIDS are invited to make or select a tree ornament in that person's honor. The major part of the ceremony is decorating the Tree of Remembrance with these ornaments while volunteers from NAMES Project read the names of those we honor. This year's ceremony is on Friday, Dec. 1 at 6:30 p.m., in the gymnasium and lobby of the City of Houston Metropolitan Multi-Service Center.

The project was originated by Houston NAMES Project, and involved Body Positive/Houston when the Tree moved to its home at the Metropolitan Multi-Service Center. This year, the ever growing event has the support and assistance of several other community organizations, including the Gay Men's Chorus of Houston, Heartsong, the Garden Party, and Miss Camp America.

There will be music, refreshments, reflections, and the traditional decoration and lighting of the Tree. Matt Hooper of Quality Christmas Tree has generously donated real trees for this year's ceremony.

In an effort to ease parking congestion at the City of Houston Metropolitan Multi-Service Center, additional parking has been arranged at the First Interstate Bank Parking Garage at the corner of Waugh Drive and West Gray. For additional information contact Body Positive/Houston at 524-2374.

Correction/Clarification

Due to an error in a press release, an article in a recent issue of the *Houston Voice* regarding the Democratic National Convention cited an incorrect address for interested people in Texas who wish to obtain information on serving as a delegate. Persons interested in such information should write to the following address: Texas Democratic Party, 815 Brazos, Suite 200, Austin, Texas 78701. For more information, call (512) 478-8746.

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HOUSTON VOICE

THE OUTsider

by Curt Morrison

A Reason For Thanks

Thanksgiving is, for better or worse, the traditional beginning of the Holiday Season. From here on out we will be inundated with Christmas promotions and New Year's Eve celebratory invites. Businesses will spend billions hawking their products, consumers will flock to malls, outlets and department stores and through it all most of us will forget the season's historical significance. That is precisely why I abhor the Holiday Season with the exception of Thanksgiving which is my favorite holiday. As a devout capitalist, I emphatically endorse a free-market economy. Since the Christmas shopping season accounts for 70% of most retail businesses annual revenue and consumer spending accounts for 2/3's of our countries economy, it would be foolhardy and hypocritical for me to denigrate the inherent commercialism permeating the season.

From a personal perspective, however, Thanksgiving represents the true meaning of celebration. That is, the gathering of loved ones (friends, family and lovers) who get together to enjoy a highly-caloric meal in an amiable setting. It is a time of year that we are suppose to reflect on the positive aspects of life and give thanks for those things we take for granted on a daily basis. It is our nature as a civilization to continuously hone in on the negative aspects of our lives and society.

In relation, we as individuals tend to focus on the negative aspects of our lives as well. I know this because its prevalent in most people you talk to and I have been guilty of such actions myself. Introspectively my abhorrence towards the holiday season stems from my focus on the negative aspects of my life. Consciously and subconsciously, I justify this through a process of analysis bordering on self-pity. I dwell on my single status, my mothers death, my irreparable relationship with my father, my break-ups with my now ex-lover's, etc. Lately, however, through honest introspection, I have realized that there are many positive aspects to my life and my problems, although genuine, are paltry compared to some of the dilemmas in other people's lives. I am not indigent, I am not physically handicapped, I do not reside in a country infested with famine and disease, nor do I live in a war torn society where your daily focus is staying alive. Take a moment to reflect and observe some of the happenings around you daily and around the world and undoubtedly you will realize that there are people whose problems stem from some of life's simplicities we take for granted.

I, as I believe most of us do, have plenty to be thankful for this holiday season and intend to remain in that state of mind throughout, however difficult that may be. Why? Because, in every negative, you can find a positive. Since I don't know each and everyone of my readers, I will use my life as an example. Although I work two jobs and find very little time do much of anything else, I enjoy the type of work I do, and all that it encompasses. I am lucky insofar that I have a wonderful boss, Mark, who allows me the freedom to accomplish my tasks with the appropriate guidance and support as needed.

Mark is the rock behind the force and can be, in fact he is, a genuine friend as well who I depend on and care for tremendously. When I get frustrated at work, I reflect upon that and it changes my perspective. In addition, the owner of our establishment provides us with his confidence in our abilities which encourages us to continue to be an asset. That's a positive. I am also blessed at *The Voice*, thanks to the support of Sheri who is a writer's best dream, a great editor. Although, we disagree on many issues, I have a tremendous respect for her acumen. Her abilities coupled with Jack's (*Voice* manager) business savvy and wit make working there a pleasurable experience. In fact, had it not been for Crad, none of this would be possible. He is a great man who I admire considerably, as well.

With respect to being single and lonely. Sure, its not great, and most of us, if honest, prefer to have someone in our lives, whether we want to admit it or not. Funny thing, however, is that I am not alone. I have wonderful friends I take for granted sometimes and am ashamed of it, for without them, I truly would be alone in a cold world. These are not acquaintances but genuine friends. There's my ex-lover Jon, who has turned out to be one of my closest confidants and best friends I've ever had. Our breakup, a truly devastating experience, has had a positive impact on my life in many aspects. It enabled me to channel my energy into foray's I may not have, had we remained together. This is not to say I do not love or care for him, I do very much, however, not in the same vein. There's my neighbor and good friend Bill who always takes the time out to listen to my goings-on when I know his life isn't a bowl of cherries either, yet, he still is always there when you need him. There's Wayne, who no matter how many times I have canceled outings with him due to my schedule, has always been a true friend in every sense of the word. He's honest, straightforward, extremely handsome and the most benevolent person you'd ever want to meet. There's Dave, someone who I have the utmost respect for. Dave and I visit once a week and I look forward to those visits with a fervor. His knowledge and years of wisdom are extraordinary and our conversations our one of the highlights of my week. I treasure our friendship immensely. There's Sal, my friend from Denver who always knows how to make me laugh when I need it most. He's raucous, flamboyant and a wonderfully sincere person. And then there's Lou. Lou is that rare breed of friend we should all have that comes once in a lifetime and should be cherished forever. Lou and I have been friends since we were teenagers. We have seen each other through many ups and downs and our friendship has been tested throughout and has astonishingly prevailed. Words cannot express the depth of care and the meaning of our friendship. Although he resides in Florida, it's as though the miles are mute and he is right next door.

All is not as bad as it seems to be at times. Look around you. Take the time to seriously reflect. Most of all, however, let those people that are important in your lives know it. If not verbally, write them a letter. Tell them you care, appreciate and love them, before it is too late. Happy Thanksgiving!

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Gay Today
by Glen Webber



A Columnist Responds

Several issues ago in my *Voice* column, I criticized a local gay political group for endorsing a particular candidate for city council in District D. I did so because I felt that the endorsement was not in the best interest of the gay community. I was aware, from the media and from several years of observing the local political scene, of some things about the candidate's background that, to me, raised questions.

The response to that column has been nasty and vicious. In reading the "Voice Mail" over the past couple of weeks, I've come across some of the most hateful comments I've ever seen.

I greatly resent the extremely personal nature of these attacks, which have targeted everything from my sex life and my personal background to my ability to write. The fact that two of these letters were from the president of the Gay and Lesbian Political Caucus and the Log Cabin Republicans shocked me.

While I don't understand why I was attacked in such a personal way, the mean-spirited letters we received in some ways seem to be following a recent trend. On top of the age-old tradition of blaming the media, something has happened in politics over the past several years that I believe is detrimental to the whole process. No longer is the message the issue. It is the messenger.

I'm not sure when it started, but I do know that soon as President Clinton started gaining strength, the Republican campaign to discredit him began. Rather than confront him on his positions, Clinton's critics instead targeted his "character." The biggest attack was on his alleged affairs with other women. It was so vicious, a weaker man than Clinton might not have held up so well.

Whatever happened to intelligent political discussion? Whatever happened to reasoned debate? Whatever happened to the friendly exchange of ideas?

Regarding my column, I will try to answer some of my critics' questions in this space. Several wanted to know why I wasn't at the GLPC endorsement meeting or other functions they sponsored with the candidates. There are many reasons. Because I work full time and part time, and am fighting full blown AIDS, it is impossible for me to be everywhere. But my decision to support a different candidate was not "uninformed." I made my own decision with information and input from several sources...including

both black and gay leaders and public officials. Also, one doesn't necessarily need to personally meet a candidate in order to make an informed decision at the polls. Records and reputations tend to follow people who are in the public eye, as many candidates are, wherever they go.

Several writers also suggested that I was not qualified to write a column. I don't feel I should have to explain my qualifications, but I have been writing all my life-in high school, college, and I've been writing poetry for many years. Writing runs in my family: my father is a successful freelance writer, and his brother, the late Everett Webber, was a very successful novelist. I also have a journalism degree.

I enjoy writing commentary, because I think one thing that helps me write is I say what I feel and don't mince words. Being blunt is a habit I picked up many years ago.

I have been accused of interfering with the political process. Give me a break. I think we in the press improve the process every time we raise questions that no one else is asking. I am not the enemy.

On a final note, my column, *GAY TODAY*, does not represent the editorial staff or owner of the *Voice*. These are my opinions, and I am given lots of latitude to write what I want. I take this responsibility very seriously. I spend a great deal of time thinking about what I'm going to say, and I spend a great deal of time talking to you dear readers, who's comments and ideas are very valuable to me. Many of your ideas have become columns. I owe you so much. Whether I write about politics, my personal struggle to stay healthy fighting full blown AIDS, my loving family, or my ideas about the gay community, I do it knowing I have the most responsible job in the world. Oh, and by the way, I don't get paid for writing this column. I haven't gotten a cent, and don't expect to. The reward I get is to be part of the community, and be part of your lives. With my health failing, I need that right now.

I hope all of you question what you don't understand, whether it is me, a political group, or anything else that affects your life. Your voice is as important as mine, and should always be heard.

One more thing, Happy Thanksgiving. Please enjoy the many family and friends that value your presence and want you to be part of their celebration. I'll be going up to see Aunt Lille in Georgetown and then to my folks in San Antonio. Thank you for your continued support of my column. I do have a lot to be thankful for.

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Community Calendar

(Continued from Page 2)

Wednesday, Nov. 29

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

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

* Aftercare Group Treatment at Montrose Counseling Center. 6:00 p.m. Call 529-0037.

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

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

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

* "Avoiding Holiday Hassles" author Suzanne E. Harrill discusses her ideas at Barnes and Noble. 7:30 p.m. Call 349-0050.

* Investment Workshop with Stephen Vaughan of Dean Witter Reynolds. Investing secrets with you at Borders Book Shop. 8:00 p.m. Call 782-6066.

* Buyers' Seminar held by Suzanne Anderson Properties. Call 529-8484.

Thursday, Nov. 30

* Montrose Ice Picks skate at the Galleria. 8:00 P.M. Call 629-1432.

* Art Classes at The Art League. 1:00 P.M. Call 523-8817

* Front Runners meet at Memorial Park. 6:30 p.m. Call 522-8021.

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

* Twentysomething meets at 7:30 p.m. Call 531-9396.

* KPFT Lesbian and Gay Voices airs at 9:00 p.m. to 11:00 p.m. Call 866-6505.

* Burger and Chili night at the Brazos River Bottom. 6:30 p.m. to 9:00 p.m.

* Steak Night at the 611 Pub. 6:30 p.m.

* Rainbow Ranglers give dance lessons at the Brazos River Bottom. 9:30 p.m. Free. Call 880-0670.

* Safer Sex for Lesbians at Ms. B's 9:30 p.m. Call 666-3464.

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

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

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

* Relapse Prevention at Montrose Counseling Center. 2:00 p.m. Call 529-0037.

* Outpatient Group Treatment at Montrose Counseling Center. 6:00 p.m. Call 529-0037.

* Aftercare Group Treatment at Montrose Counseling Center. 6:00 p.m. Call 529-0037.

* HIV Affected at CASA. 7:00 p.m. Call 796-2272.

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

* Inward and Upward with Sandy Penny at Borders Book Shop. 8:00 p.m. Call 782-6066.

* Sellers' Seminar by Suzanne Anderson Properties. Call 529-8484.

* Dollars and Sense: Money and Other Matters Seminar. Call 524-2374.

* Pre-World AIDS Day Luncheon at Sheraton-Astrodome Hotel. 11:00 a.m. Special Guest Elyse Lanier. A Benefit for Thomas Street Clinic and the WAM Foundation. Call 793-4043.

* Cocktail Buffet Reception sponsored by the HIV Service Providers at 4:00 p.m. At Codys. Call 521-9862.

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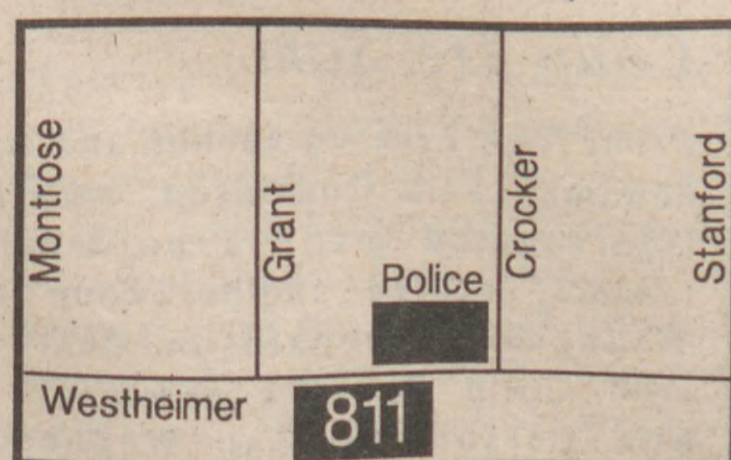
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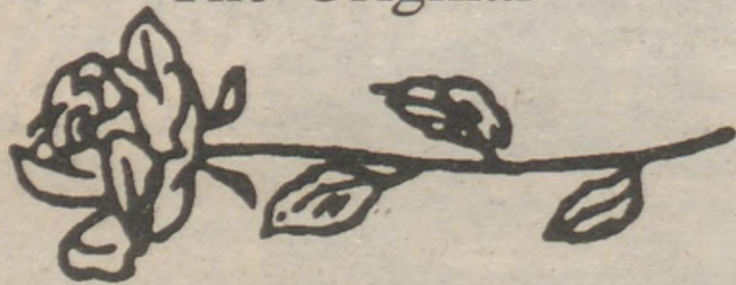
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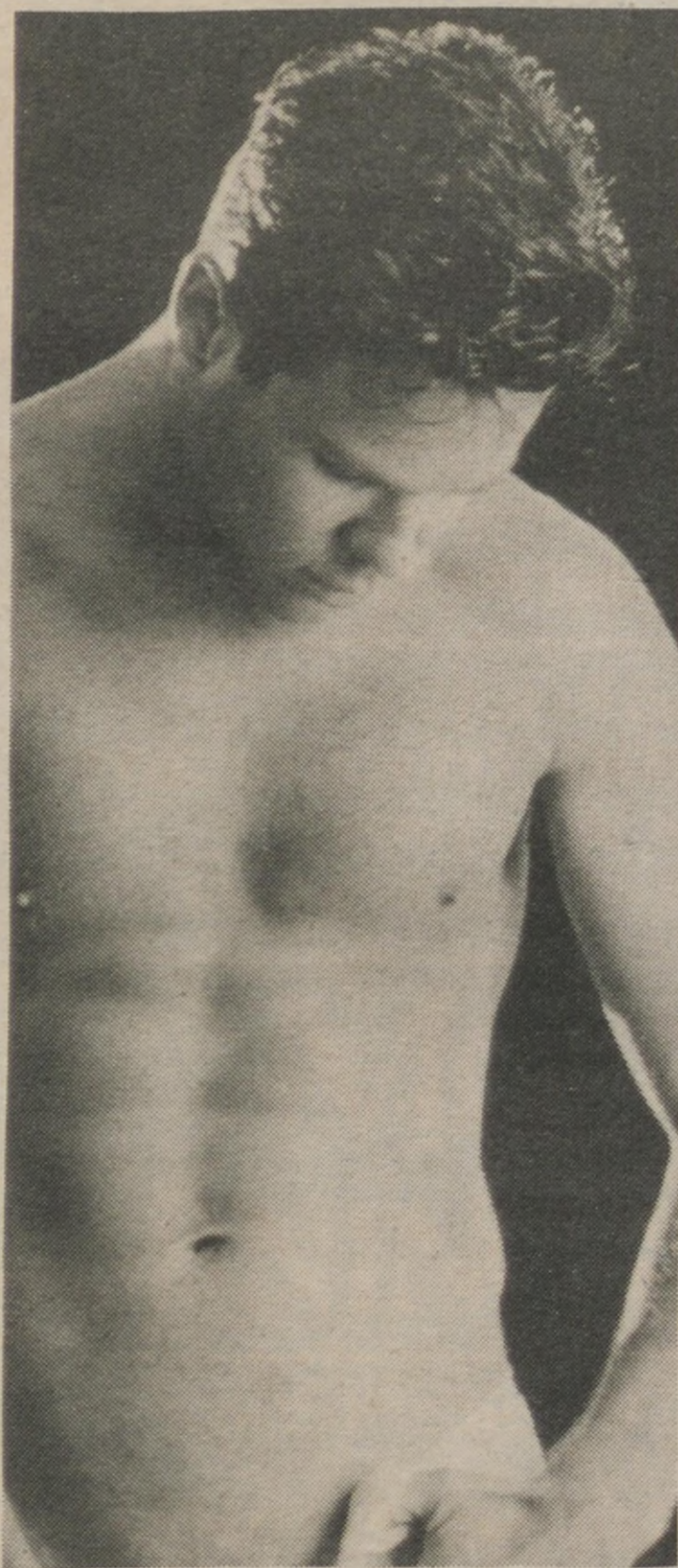
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In Brief

Political, Legal, Media
and Business News Notes

COMPILED BY MARK HENRY

For the Houston Voice

Boy Scouts

Superior Court Judge Patrick McGann in Freehold, N.J. upheld a previous court decision to allow the Boy Scouts to exclude gays. McGann indicated that "men who do those criminal and immoral acts cannot be held out as role models." He added that the "criminal law has changed. The moral law—as to the act of sodomy—has not." James Dale, 25, of New York City, who was expelled when scout leaders learned of his sexuality said he was upset that "a judge would rule this way."

Inflation Update

Federal Reserve Board Chairperson Alan Greenspan suggested last week that the Fed cannot become complacent in the fight against inflation. Noting that "price stability is an ongoing objective, and past successes will not count for much if we mistakenly let down our guard," Greenspan suggested that complacency could reverse the gains that the central bank has made in recent years.

Local Buyout

Diamond Shamrock bought out National Convenience Stores (NCS), the largest convenience store chain in Texas, last week for \$260 million. The deal makes Diamond Shamrock Texas' biggest gasoline retailer. Sources indicated that was Diamond Shamrock's main purpose for the buyout. Diamond Shamrock has had limited success with their own foray into the convenience store market and is not expected to meddle with NCS's proven track record of successfully pulling out of Bankruptcy. NCS's flagship Stop n' Go are all expected to retain the moniker and operate as usual with Diamond Shamrock gasoline. A conflict with PepsiCo. that arose when the merger was announced has apparently been resolved. PepsiCo's Taco Bell and Pizza Hut divisions have outlets in many of the Stop n' Go stores.

AWOL Kinsley

Michael Kinsley, an ardent foe of John Sununu, Pat Buchanan and Robert Novack through the years on CNN's Crossfire, has resigned from his post and will be leaving the popular talkfest in a few weeks. Kinsley, a staunch liberal and senior editor at *The New Republic*, told the Washington Post that he is "a little burned out." CNN executives were surprised by Kinsley's decision and hopes he'll return in the future. Kinsley, long considered a quintessential Washington insider will apparently move far away from the Beltway to Seattle where he is planning to start a general interest magazine for Microsoft for on-line usage.

Coup De Sam

PrimeTime Live co-anchor and ABC newsman Sam Donaldson, who has interrogated many a political leader, scored another coup last Wednesday. Donaldson delivered Colin Powell's newspaper to him personally last Wednesday morning prior to his afternoon press conference. Powell allowed Donaldson to zing the first question at

him. Not content, Donaldson hitched a ride home with Powell after the press conference. The significance? Donaldson aims to be the lucky recipient of the first sit-down interview with the now non-candidate Powell.

Ask Dr. Elders

Dr. Joycelyn Elders, outspoken former Surgeon General of the U.S., will soon be hitting the airwaves as a radio talk show host. Elders will join the ranks of other controversial former political figures who have entered the lucrative foray. Oliver North, Mario Cuomo and G. Gordon Liddy have all had tremendous success in their endeavors on the airwaves. Ms. Elders promises to focus on health issues, however, she feels that there are many political issues that indirectly affect health. She promises to address all of the "isms," i.e. sexism, racism, homophobia, "because I feel that those things all affect health." She indicated that she does not feel remorse for her removal from the Surgeon General's office and does not lay the blame on President Clinton. Elder's radio talk show premiered last month on KSYG in Little Rock and WERE in Cleveland. The show airs daily for an hour.

Mickey and Coke

Coca-Cola made headlines several years ago when they transferred their advertising account from a reputable Madison avenue ad-agency to CAA an agency whose main purpose is brokering movie deals for film stars. However, it wasn't the agency that Coke was impressed with, rather, it was the man behind the agency, Michael Ovitz. Ovitz is legendary in Hollywood for his astute ability to handle superstars, negotiate deals and his remarkable marketing wizardry. Ovitz recently departed from CAA to join Michael Eisner at the helm of Disney, so it is only befitting that Coca-Cola and Disney announce last week a joint-venture advertising agency whose first client will be the soft-drink giant's ad campaign. It's a marriage made in heaven. Coke sells their product at Disney theme-parks and enables them to use Disney films and characters in their advertisements. In related news, Disney laconically announced that they will be extending the same spousal benefits that married employees receive to non-married employees who have significant others.

Gay Parental Rights

The U.S. Supreme Court on Monday let withstand a Wisconsin Supreme Court ruling to allow a lesbian mother's ex-lover the opportunity to prove she is entitled to visitation rights. The 6-year old child considers the mother's ex-lover one of his parents. The conflict was brought on by the mother, Elsbeth Knott, who bore the child through artificial insemination after exchanging wedding vows with Lynn Holtzman. When the couple broke up, Knott asked the Wisconsin courts to prevent her ex-lover from having visitation rights. The State Supreme Court refused to deny visitation rights and granted temporary visitation rights until further deliberation on the matter. The Supreme Court decision to let the Wisconsin courts decision withstand helps to reshape the definition of the family and could be a precedent for the foundation for gay rights.

In Brief, continued

JFK, Jr. Stump?

Esquire magazines' Jeanette Walls reports that White House advisers want John F. Kennedy, Jr. to stump for President Clinton in 1996. Democrat strategists feel that Kennedy's presence could help improve Clinton's standing with younger voters who have recently tended to vote Republican by a significant margin. Kennedy, in a statement issued to USA TODAY via his personal assistant said, "I haven't been approached, and since I'm running a non-partisan political magazine (George), I won't be campaigning for anyone."

Ailing Officials

Popular New Jersey Gov. Christine Whitman, a pro-gay/pro-choice Republican, was released from a New Jersey Hospital last week. Gov. Whitman underwent surgery to remove a benign ovarian cyst and her right ovary. Doctors found no sign of malignancy. Ms. Whitman is recuperating and expects to be fully recovered and ready to go back to work by next week. Washington, D.C. Mayor Marion Barry has announced that he has been diagnosed with Prostate Cancer. Mayor Barry said he is contemplating how to combat the cancer and his options. Prostate Cancer is the second biggest cancer killer in men. If detected in its early stages, the cancer can generally be controlled. Several prominent figures have been afflicted with prostate cancer and have survived including Gen H. Norman Schwarzkopf, Michael Milken and Sen. Bob Dole, R-Kan. The disease has claimed the lives of Telly Savalas, Bill Bixby and Dick Sargent. In related news, Attorney General, Janet Reno announced that she has been diagnosed as having Parkinson Disease, which is currently in remission. Reno's doctor, Jonathan Pincus said "her prognosis is excellent." Approximately 1.5 million people suffer from the disease in the USA. Reno plans to "stay on the job" and will be given medication to treat any symptoms.

Gift Ban

The U.S. House of Representatives overwhelmingly voted to ban virtually all gifts to lawmakers from lobbyists. In a rare bi-partisan vote, congress voted 422-6 to approve the gift ban. The bill co-sponsored by Speaker Newt Gingrich, R.-GA. and Rep. Chris says, R.-Conn. prohibits all gifts, meals, and free trips to posh resorts from influential business and political action committee's. Representatives will still be allowed to accept free travel for themselves and their families while making speeches or attending meetings.

Hate Crime Update

FBI statistics indicate that cases of reported hate crimes declined 15% in 1994. That's the second consecutive decline in statistics of crimes reported to law enforcement authorities as hate crimes, according to the FBI. New York state and New Jersey had the highest rate of reports, 911 and 895, respectively. South Dakota (1) and the District of Columbia (2) had the lowest rate of reports. Montana was the only state that did not have one reported hate crime. African Americans were the largest victims of hate crimes totaling 2154 cases. Jews were second with 908 incidents. Gays and Hispanics were third and fourth, however, their exact figures were not released.

AOL Warning

America Online has issued a warning to their 4 million users to avoid downloading files attached to e-mail from individuals whom you don't know. Reason: The files could contain a Trojan horse, a program that can possibly corrupt your computers' hard drive.

Calvin Probe

The Justice Department has closed their probe concerning the controversial advertisements for Calvin Klein jeans. The ads were criticized and deemed offensive by President Clinton and conservative critics. The Wall Street Journal reports that Deputy Assistant Attorney General Kevin V. Di George, in a letter to Klein's attorney, said the department's Child Exploitation and Obscenity Section "independently verified that minors were not used as models in the particular photographs that raised questions." The Justice Department considers the matter closed and will not prosecute the infamous designer.

Fuel Down

Triple A has good news for consumers who plan to travel via their vehicles this Holiday Season. The auto service reported that gas prices will be down an average 4.2 cents compared to last year.

Peacock Sale?

General Electric announced last week that they may take a portion of NBC public to determine its value. The IPO, if enacted would generate large investor interest due to their successful portfolio. NBC is currently the top rated network and has vested interest in several cable networks as well. Their entire Thursday night lineup dominates the top five positions on the Nielsen Rating charts which translates to a potential windfall generated from future syndication profits.

CNN Offspring

CNN plans to debut a new cable channel CNNfn, focusing on finance, to compete with the successful CNBC cable network. The sister network will premier in 4 million homes on Dec. 29 and its programming will cover technology, management, financial news and market savvy. Lou Dobbs, CNN's Moneyline anchor will be in charge of the upstart network and said in a recent USA Today article that CNNfn plans to "make programming that is compelling, interesting and even entertaining."

Dow Record

The Dow Jones industrial average rose 50.94 points last Wednesday passing the 4900 mark for a record close of 4922.75. The stock market record was achieved in spite of the budget impasse consuming the Beltway. Investors have ignored the stalemate since its inception. Analysts indicate the predictions of financial dismay over the halt in budget negotiations may have been premature. The scope of the debate in Washington has primarily been over the time frame for balancing the budget, not the idea of balancing the budget, which both sides agree must be accomplished. That message has resonated in the minds of investors, hence, alleviating their fears of a continuation of governmental financial irresponsibility from years past.

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PHOTO - ROB MILLER

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SAT., NOV. 25 - FALL ROUND BUFFET 8PM
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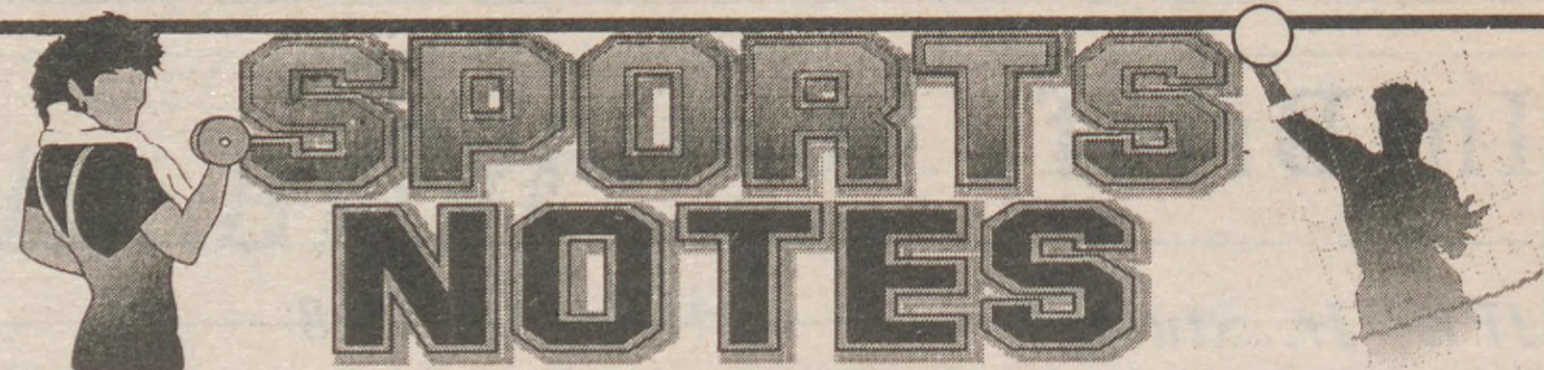
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HouTex XV: A Texas Record

HouTex XV, sponsored by the Houston Tennis Club, attracted more than 200 gay and lesbian tennis players from Canada, Puerto Rico and across the United States to Houston Nov. 10-12. HouTex XV was the largest gay and lesbian tennis tournament ever held in Texas.

Beautiful glass trophies were awarded to winners in 22 different events for men and women participating in singles, doubles, and mixed doubles at all levels from beginner to teaching professionals. The top divisions were won by Chris Walker of New Orleans who defeated Chris Staples from Miami in the finals. Walker has now won the tournament five of the last six years. He teamed with Staples for the doubles title. Bonnie Beachy of Houston won the women's title and teamed with Sylvia McClure for the doubles title.

The tournament was supported by many corporate sponsors including Swilley-Hudson Realtors, Whole Foods Market, Talent Tree Staffing Services, Naya Water, Christy and Associates, Advance Damron Travel, All Texas Vending, Anheuser-Busch and Home Loan Corporation.

HouTex XVI is scheduled for Nov. 9-11, 1996. If you're interested in joining the Houston Tennis Club please call Bobby Riggins at 868-5039.

Chain Gang Rides & Romps

The Chain Gang Bicycle Club will tour downtown Houston on Sunday, Nov. 26, starting at 9:00 a.m. We will be meeting at the front of Heaven at 800 Pacific. This is a easy 15 mile ride that goes through the streets of downtown. All rides are free. For more information on this ride call John at 863-1860.

Nov. 27 at 7:00 p.m. The Houston Chain Gang will have a social event at Cafe Adobe. Come join the club for Margaritas and dinner and mingle with other club members. Cafe Adobe is located at the corner of Westheimer and S. Shepherd. Please RSVP with John at 863-1860.

Pet Fete Reset

The Montrose Softball League's (MSL) First Annual Pet Show, which had been scheduled for Sunday, Nov. 19, was postponed because of the unrelenting rain showers. The league has rescheduled the Pet Show for Sunday, Dec. 3 at Tim Hearne Field (corner of Jackson Hill & Memorial, due west of the Waugh Exit) from 1:00 pm to 3:00 p.m. Hopefully the weather will cooperate this time!

MSL members are still taking applications for the Pet Show. If you missed the previous deadline, now is the time to enter your favorite pet! Call 867-3913, leave your name and number, and they'll get back to you and send an application.

More News From MSL

The Fall League Championship game scheduled for Nov. 19 has also been rescheduled for Sunday, Dec. 3 at 1:00 p.m. between the Orange and Red Teams. Come on out and watch this exciting game, and you'll also have a chance to see some unusual pets!!

MSL's Christmas Holiday Special will be held on Sunday, Dec. 10 at the Midtown Spa from 1:00 pm until 3:00 p.m. The manager of Midtowne has closed part of the spa to the public for our CLOTHING MANDATORY social. You may wear your bathing

suit, if desired, as we have access to the pool, steam room, and whirlpool. Entertainers including Jennifer Elsworth, Ruby Stone, Renee Monroe, Crystal Rae Lee Love, and Anita Mann will put on a poolside holiday show.

The public is invited to attend the social for entertainment, fun, and food—all for a nominal charge of \$5.

For more information about MSL activities, please call the league's voice mail at 867-3913.

Bowling Tournament Sunday

It's a vacation week for the bowling league, however, a special NO-TAP DOUBLES tournament will take place on Sunday, Nov. 26 at 5:00 p.m. at AMF Southway, Hwy 59 at Gessner. This tournament is an official fund raising event for the Texas Invitational Tournament, Houston's very own IGBO affiliated regional tournament and is sponsored by AMF Southway.

Entry fee is \$12.00 with \$1.00 designated for the Thomas Street Clinic Christmas Fund. The format will be to bowl four games and throw away your lowest game for a three game total. First Place will pay \$100.00 based on at least 50 entries.

Registration begins at 4:00 p.m. Sunday and is open to all bowlers whether currently bowling in a league or not. Come join us for competition in the spirit of fun, fellowship and unity! For more info call Tom at 522-9612.

LRC Benefit Skates

Along with the next weekly skate night to be held on Wednesday, Nov. 29th, Lambda Rollerskating Club has two big benefit skates scheduled.

Wednesday, Dec. 6th, LRC will host a benefit skate for PWA Coalition. Proceeds from the door on this night will be donated to PWA Coalition.

Wednesday, Dec. 13th, LRC will hold their annual toy drive benefiting Casa de Esperanza. Everyone coming to Skate Night is asked to donate a new toy to help brighten a child's holiday who is infected with HIV.

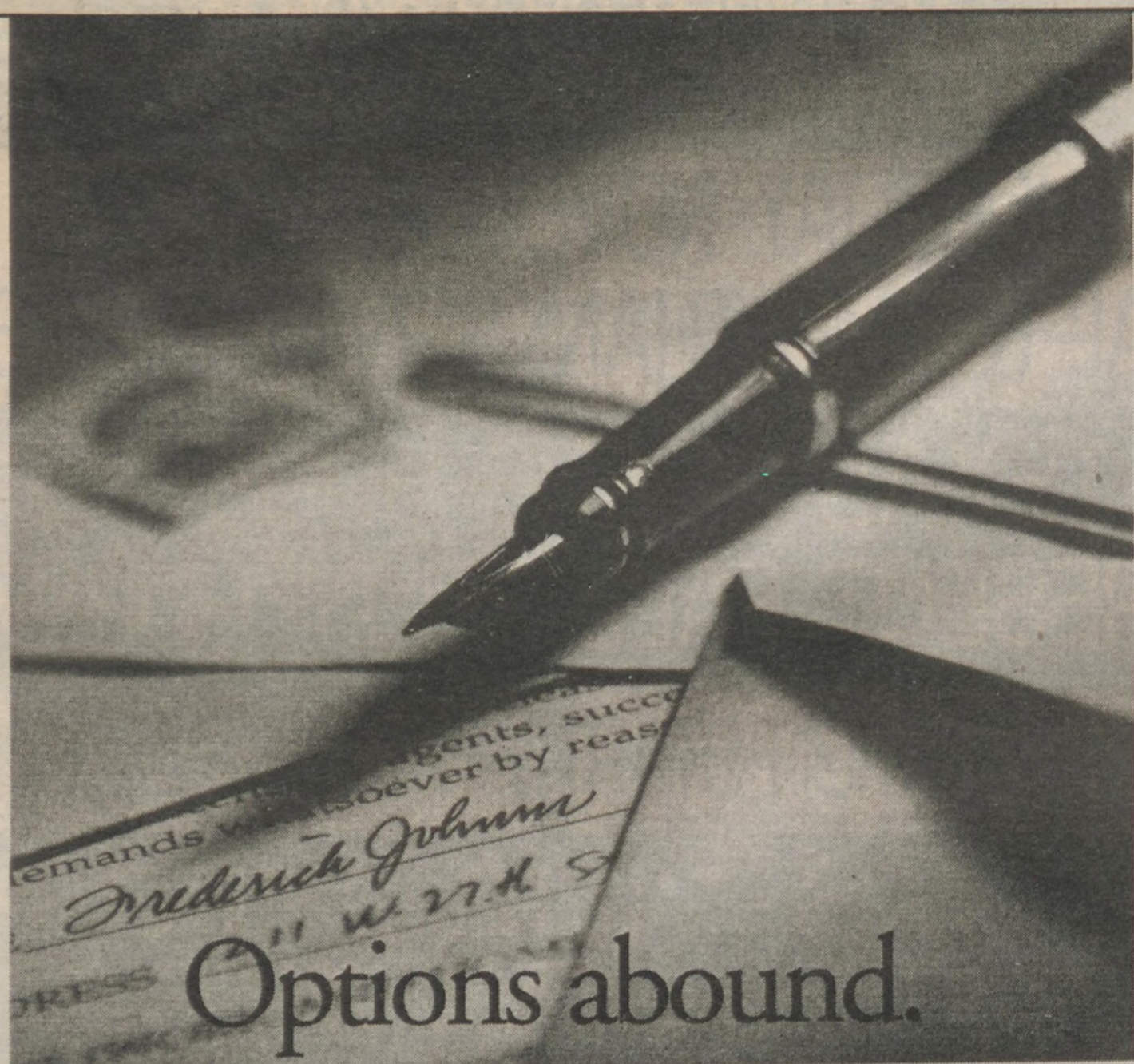
Lambda Rollerskating Club skates every Wednesday night from 8:30-10:30 at the Starlite Skating Rink located at 8075 Cook Rd. (this is the corner of Cook and Beechnut). Everyone of all ages and skating experience is welcome. Admission is \$5.00 plus \$1.00 skate rental. You may bring your own skates, inlines welcome, and pay only \$5.00. For more information about Skate Night or to organize a fundraiser for your organization, call 933-5818.

Ice Picks Outdoor Skates

The Montrose Ice Picks will be skating every Sunday from noon to 5:00 p.m. at the new downtown outdoor ice rink, located next to Foley's at 1000 Main St. The seven skate dates run from Sunday, Nov. 26 to Sunday, Dec. 31, plus Monday, New Year's Day, from noon until 10:00 p.m.

The rink will be open seven days a week from Thanksgiving Day to New Year's Day, 11:00 a.m. to 11:00 p.m. Cost is \$6 plus \$2 for skates. Elaborate decorations, quality concessions and a holiday market will be located around the ice rink, a project of the Downtown District's Main Street Task Force.

For more information on the Ice Picks, call Angel at (713) 629-1432.



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The Voice Reader

Rainy Day Reading

(*Pay Dirt* by Rita Mae Brown and Sneaky Pie Brown, Bantam Books)

REVIEWED By ELLA TYLER

For the Houston Voice

Rita Mae Brown has written more than a dozen books, including

Rubyfruit Jungle and *Venus Envy*. *Pay Dirt* is her fourth mystery. In the mystery series, Sneaky Pie, a cat, presumably collaborates by writing the dialogue for the pets, and if it makes Ms. Brown happy, who am I to argue. The result is funny, easy and fun to read and an excellent mystery. Both writers have a sharp ear for the peculiarities of human and animal behavior and of Southern manners.

This series is set in Virginia, and features the thirtyish postmistress Mary Minor Hairsteen (Harry), her cat and dog, and assorted other humans and animals. Despite the animals and the drawings, there is nothing "cute" about the book.

It had been a dull summer in Crozet until a man rides up to Ash Lawn, the historic home of President and Mrs. Monroe, on a gleaming black Harley Davidson, and accosts the docents, demanding to see "Malibu." Of course, no one called "Malibu" would be a docent there.

The biker is murdered. When he is identified and his former employer is located, it is revealed that he and his girlfriend, Malibu, had worked at a gay bar in San Francisco and black-mailed the customers.



Rita Mae Brown with Sneaky Pie, her "Harry" mystery series co-writer

Then, in a series of expertly handled plot twists, computer virus strikes, the bank loses two million dollars, the bank president and then vice president are murdered, and it is discovered that the biker and Malibu have an account there. How can these people be connected to Crozet, where everyone has known every-

one else for years? Brown connects all these events so smoothly they don't seem contrived.

A bank employee is arrested for the murders, and although the evidence against her is strong, Harry, her assistant and the animals try to help. Harry's assistant realizes that postmarks on critical evidence are forged. In a very satisfying conclusion, the killer is identified in a confrontation at Ash Lawn.

This is perfect rainy afternoon book. There's no blood, guts or sex; the plot is intricate but easy follow; and the characters are easy to keep track of and are appropriately human or animal. Human emotions like love, hate and greed are all examined. Competent police work is combined with the help of talented amateurs who have special expertise.

Houston Book Signing Tuesday

Special note for Rita Mae Brown fans! Brown will be signing *Pay Dirt* at Murder by the Book, 2342 Bissonnet, from 5:30 to 7:30 on Tuesday, Nov. 28, 1995.

HRC compiles report on '96 presidential candidates

(Continued from Page 1)

HRC encourages all members of the community to invest the time in researching the candidates who, if elected, will have a tremendous impact on our lives. At stake are issues such as equal employment opportunities, AIDS funding for assistance and research, hate crime legislation and a host of other cause celebs. The organization has stressed that they are not endorsing any candidates at this time, merely providing the information necessary to make an informed

decision about the candidates. Since the '96 elections are a year from now, this provides adequate time to review these reports.

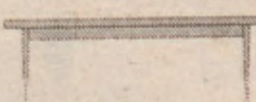
At present, in 41 states it is legal to fire an employee on the basis of your sexual orientation. According to statistics release by HRC, 74% of Americans favor preventing job discrimination against gay people. HRC believes this support transcends to a majority of voter support for the community as a whole. For a copy of the report, call Sloan Weisen at (202) 628-4160.

PWA Coalition Warehouse Wish List



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December 10th Annual Community Christmas Tree Lighting



Anyone who would like to participate in decorating the community Christmas Tree, please bring a weatherproof ornament no smaller than 4" x 4", no bigger than 6" x 6" to Mary's no later than Thursday, December 7th.



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Holiday happenings in the arts



Eder

With the Thanksgiving turkey not yet on the table, it may seem to be a bit early to be making plans for New Year's Eve. But that's exactly what local arts organizations are doing, and with the spectacular events they've been announcing, it may be a wise bet for arts patrons to consider their winter holiday plans and ink in their social calendars early. Here's a sampler of the entertainment that will be offered at Houston venues this season.

Linda Eder In Concert At The Alley

The popular musical theater/recording artist Linda Eder returns to the Alley Theatre for a special New Year's Eve concert to benefit the Alley on Sunday, Dec. 31, 1995. Ms. Eder, currently starring in the Alley's production of the national tour of *Jekyll and Hyde*, debuted in the Alley Theatre's 1990 world premiere of *Jekyll & Hyde* and was featured in the Alley's world premiere of *Svengali*, which was written especially for her.

Ms. Eder dazzled Houston audiences at the Alley's New Year's Eve concerts in 1991 and 1993. The Alley Theatre will present the festive "New Year's

Eve with Linda Eder " on the Large Stage at 10:00 pm, followed by a post-concert party with buffet and dancing to the live music of "Overdrive." Ticket packages with additional benefits are also available. The concert is generously underwritten by Coastal Telephone Company.

Michael Feinstein Caps Houston Symphony Season

Michael Feinstein, the popular, multi-talented American singer/songwriter/pianist, will perform in concert with the Houston Symphony on Dec. 31, 1995, capping the Houston Symphony's a complement of holiday concerts with the traditional New Year's Eve Gala Concert followed by dancing on the stage of Jones Hall to the big band sounds of the Cary Richards Orchestra.

Known for his warm, generous voice, graceful piano playing, and energetic stage presence, Michael Feinstein has a devoted following world-wide. He has performed on Broadway, played for England's Queen Mother, entertained presidents at the White House, and recently debuted at Carnegie Hall to a sold-out audience.

In concert with the Houston Symphony, Michael Feinstein will perform a selection of his signature songs. The concert begins at 8:00 p.m. in Jones Hall for the Performing Arts, 615 Louisiana Street. Tickets are \$35-\$85. Champagne will be \$1 a glass all night.

(Continued on following Page)



Saturday, November 25th
Join us on the Patio as the



Rainbow Ranglers Guest Bartend 9:30pm - ?

Sunday, November 26th, 7:30pm
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Houston arts venues announce festive seasonal events

(Continued from preceding page)

Symphony's Holiday Schedule

The Houston Symphony's holiday season begins the weekend of Dec. 8, with four Houston Symphony-Exxon Pops concerts scheduled through Dec. 10.

A *Merrie Olde Christmas*, led by Conductor-in-Residence Stephen Stein, recreates the warmth of an English Christmas with works such as Britten's *Courtly Dances* from *Gloriana* and Vaughan Williams's *Fantasia on Greensleeves*. The Houston Symphony Chorus is featured in the Hallelujah Chorus of Handel's *Messiah*, Holst's *Christmas Day*, and *The Holly and the Ivy* and *The Twelve Days of Christmas*, traditional carols arranged by John Rutter. *Joy to the World* and *Carol of the Bell* feature the sounds of the Houston Festival Ringers, a handbell choir, in performances with the orchestra. An audience sing-along of carols and *We Wish You A Merry Christmas* complete the program.



Dancers Shirley Sastre (Clara) and Christopher Veljovic (The Nutcracker) with other artists of the Houston Ballet in holiday classic 'The Nutcracker' (Photo by Geoff Winningham)

A *Merrie Olde Christmas* will be performed in Jones Hall for the Performing Arts on Dec. 8 and 9 at 8:00 p.m. and on Dec. 10 at 2:30 p.m. and 7:30 p.m. Tickets are \$15-\$52, and at the Dec. 10 matinee tickets are half—rice for children 18 and under.

Also on Dec. 9, the Houston Symphony's Christmas concert for children will be presented. Stephen Stein will lead the orchestra in *Christmas Comes A' Caroling*, the second of the 1995-96 Mervyn's First Concerts. Houston area high school choirs and the Houston Festival Ringers join the orchestra for a one-hour concert of seasonal favorites, including a sing-along of carols. The concert begins at 10:30 a.m. in Jones Hall for the Performing Arts. Pre-concert activities, including visits by Frosty the Snowman and Santa, begin at 9:30 a.m. Tickets are \$3-12.

Rounding out the holiday offerings, guest conductor James Paul will lead the Houston Symphony and Chorus and a quartet of soloists in the treasured *Messiah* by Georg Frederic Handel. A Houston tradition for many Christmases, the Houston Symphony's performances of *Messiah* this year are on Dec. 16 and 18 at 8:00 p.m. and on Dec. 17 at 2:30 p.m. in Jones Hall for the Performing Arts. Ollie Watts Davis, soprano; Claudine Carlson, mezzo-soprano; David Gordon, tenor; and Mark S. Doss, bass-baritone, are the soloists. Charles Hausmann is the director of the Houston Symphony Chorus. Tickets to *Messiah* are \$15-\$40. On Dec. 17, tickets are half-price for children 18 and under.

Tickets to the Houston Symphony's holiday concerts are on sale the public beginning Nov. 6 at the Houston Ticket Center, 615 Louisiana Street, and at all Ticketmaster outlets, and by calling 713-

227-ARTS or 800-828-ARTS.

Forty Chances To See 'The Nutcracker'

The Houston Ballet will give 40 performances of its beloved holiday-themed classic *The Nutcracker* between Thanksgiving and New Years.

The Nutcracker, set to the lush score of Tchaikovsky and featuring choreography by Ben Stevenson, opens to the public this Friday, Nov. 24 and run through Saturday, Dec. 30.

The timeless and unforgettable story of the young girl named Clara who receives a magical nutcracker for Christmas has become, over the years, a very popular seasonal tradition in Houston.

When Houston Ballet unveiled its new production of *The Nutcracker* in Dec. 1987, both critics and the public alike were enthralled by designer Desmond Heeley's enchanting setting for the classic ballet. The public's affection for this popular Houston arts tradition grows each year; over 500,000 Texans have attended the current production of *The Nutcracker*, and reacquaintance with the classic story seems to only make the heart grow fonder. For tickets (\$10-\$60) and performance times, call 713-224-ARTS or 800-828 ARTS. Tickets are also available at Ticketmaster Outlets.



Feinstein



Stein

CHURCH CALENDAR OF EVENTS

FRIDAY - 11/24

- * CODA meets at MCCR at 7:00 p.m. Call 861-9149.
- * "Your Sacred Self" - study group using the best seller by Wayne Dyer. COME learn more about your sacred self, sacred sisters & brothers, & the sacred, loving Creator God who made it so. Kingdom Community Church, 4404 Blossom. Call 862-7533.
- * Catholic Mass at 10:00 a.m. Kolbe House, 1509 Fairview. Call 522-8182

SUNDAY - 11/26

- * Metropolitan Community Church of the Resurrection (MCCR) worship services. 9:00 a.m. & 11:00 a.m. 1919 Decatur. Call 861-9149.
- * Maranatha Fellowship Metropolitan Church Services "Looking at Relationships from a Godly Perspective" & "Homosexuality & the Bible/Spirituality & Sexuality Integration" at 10:00 a.m. New Location 3400 Montrose Suite 600. Call 528-6756.
- * Community Gospel Church worship service at 11:00 a.m. & 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 862-7533. "The Celestine Prophecy. An Experiential Guide" at 10:00 a.m.
- * Dignity Houston Communion Service at 5:30 p.m. 1307 H Yale. Call 880-2872.
- * Ecumenical Catholic Church Mass at 10:15. 1121 Welch. Call 526-8095.

MONDAY - 11/27

- * MCCR Handbell Choir Rehearsal at 7:00 p.m. 1919 Decatur. Call 861-9149.
- * Catholic Mass at 7:30 p.m. Kolbe House, 1509 Fairview. Call 522-8182.
- * Sexual Addicts Anonymous support group meet at MCCR - 7:00p.m. Call 861-9149.

TUESDAY - 11/28

- * MCCR: CODA Support group meets at 7:00 p.m., Empowerment for Living support group & 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.
- * PROTECT meets at Bering Church. Call 520-7870.
- * Basic Computer Skills Class at the Kolbe Project. Call 522-8182.
- * Over Eaters Anonymous support group meets at MCCR - 6:00pm. Call 861-9149.
- * Advent Scriptures for Gay/Lesbian Christians: 7:30 pm at Kolbe House, 1509 Fairview 522-8182
- * "Shepherd Group" meets at 7:30 p.m. for Praise, Prayer & Bible study. Call Maranatha Fellowship at 528-6756.

WEDNESDAY - 11/29

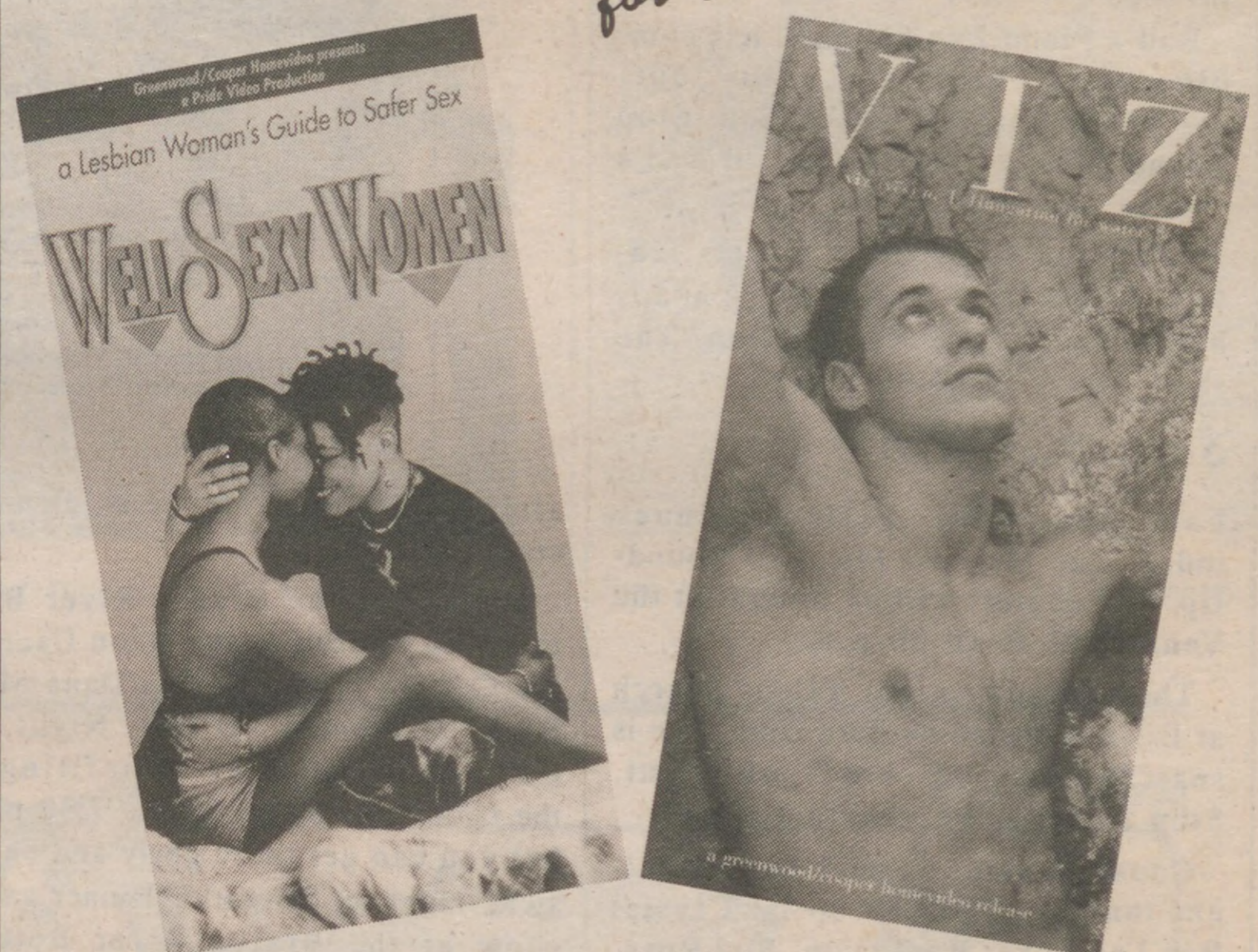
- * MCCR: Bi-net Support Group meets at 7:00 p.m., Jubilation Mixed Ensemble meets at 6:30 p.m., Midweek uplift service at 7:00 p.m., Bible Study, Lecture Series & Choir Rehearsal 7:30 p.m. 1919 Decatur. 861-9149.
- * "A Course in Miracles"- Study Group using the book, published by the Foundation for Inner Peace, which is aimed at removing the blocks to our awareness of one's presence. Kingdom Community Church 7:30 p.m. Call 862-7533.
- * Ecumenical Catholic Church Mass at 7:00 p.m. 1121 Welch. Call 526-8095.
- * Catholic Mass at 8:30 a.m. Kolbe House 1509 Fairview. Call 522-8182.
- * "Shepherd Group" meets at 7:30 p.m. for Praise, Prayer & Bible study. Call Maranatha Fellowship at 528-6756.

THURSDAY - 11/30

- * Community Gospel Church worship service. 7:30 p.m. 501 E. 18th. Call 880-9325.
- * "Service of Hope & Remembrance" at St. Philip Presbyterian Church, 4807 San Felipe. 7:15 p.m. Sponsored by F.I.R.M. Call 868-9723

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Fall Round-Up VIII this weekend



Hello Handsome!

Houston Soap

By CAROLYN ROBERTS

Houston Voice/Houston

Friday, Nov. 24

The Texas Riders-Houston present "Fall Round-Up VIII" this weekend. Registration starts at 9:00 p.m. at the Venture-N. This run lasts all weekend long with fun, cocktails, bar games, cocktails, dinner, cocktails, brunch, and more cocktails.

Paivi Lee Love is on stage at E/J's tonight for the male strip contest. The clothes start to go at 11:00 p.m.

More stuffing anyone? Friday's "ForePlay" party at Pacific Street fill fantasies. Get it hard, get it wet, get it ready! The doors open at 7:00 p.m. and there is no cover until 9:00 p.m.

The Boy Toys wiggle their wads at Gentry starting at 6:00 p.m.

Friday's at Cousin's are full of talented "showgirls!" This week's guests are Miss Zack, Kara Dion, Frankie Lane, and just in from Denver, Coco Marie Sugarbaker. The show starts at 11:00 p.m.

Roger is at the keyboard for happy hour tonight at the BriarPatch. Stop in and join in the sing along with a BriarPatch sized martini!

Kad's Piano Bar and Grill has complimentary hors d'oeuvres during happy hour this afternoon. Stop in and have a taste of some of Kad's savory specials.

The Fabulous Friday Follies feature Regina Dane, Gina Malone and is hosted by Jessica Van Shelton. The show starts at 11:00 p.m.

Saturday, Nov. 25

Fall Round-Up VIII continues today. The Mr. and Ms. Fall Round-Up VIII contest will be tonight at the Venture-N at 10:00 p.m.

The Saturday night Talent Search at E/J's is hosted by Tara Dion. She is searching for all kinds of talent. Stop in and give your act a try!

Cousin's stage is packed with talent tonight. The line up is: Crystal Rae Lee Love, Kara Dion, Sivi Ross,



Don't Ask!

and direct from Denver, Coco Marie Sugarbaker. Show time is 11:00 p.m.

Miss T.T. and her star cabaret feature the talents of Patsi Kline, Ami Safe-sex, and a very special guest, Tuesday Holiday. Miss T.T. takes the stage at 10:30 p.m. Be sure to stick around after the show and listen to the sounds of DJ Bill Gonzalez.

The Rainbow Rangers will be guest bartending at the patio bar at the Brazos River Bottom. Stop in after 9:30 p.m and join them for a cocktail.

Men in erotic leather get in free tonight at Pacific Street. Leather, flesh and flesh fill the dance floor. Doors open at 9:00 p.m.

Extraordinary friendships begin at the BriarPatch: Wayne Gray tickles the ivories tonight and will play the songs you want to hear!

Sunday, Nov. 26

Fall Round-Up VIII concludes this

Sistahs) Softball Team present a salute to Soiree Aubergine V. At 11:00 p.m., Black Velvet takes over the stage for the Sunday male strip frenzy.

Sunday brunch at Kad's features a elegant selection of delicious brunch items as well as atmosphere provided by the talented Jim Arthur. Stop in and find out what I'm talking about.

Monday, Nov. 27

Start your week off right at Chances. Check out their new bar! It is way cool and has mucho places to sit around it! Keep your eyes peeled for more



Roger plays at the BriarPatch!

longnecks at the Brazos River Bottom are on your dance card tonight. You can also learn to C&W dance for free at 9:30 p.m. Jody will teach you to swirl, spin, and scoot.

You can enjoy \$2 well cocktails, domestic longnecks, wine, and frozen margaritas all night at J.R's Bar and Grill. Be sure to stay for the 11:00 p.m. male wet strip contest. Oh la la! Kofi and Lindsay Love host this wet and wild contest.

Wednesday, Nov. 29

White hot Wednesday at Pacific Street spotlights the sounds of Adrian and the lights of the Lazer Wizard that make you get up and dance, dance, dance!

This is real cool! LifeBeat, the non-profit organization that helps people in the music industry living with HIV/AIDS is having a disco party tonight at Heaven. LifeBeat has produced a CD with all the artists donating their talent, and EMI donating all costs related in producing this CD. "Mighty Real" will make it's Texas debut tonight. One half of your cover charge will be donated to LifeBeat. There will be disco all night as well as \$1 well cocktails! This should be quite a party!

Wednesday. Catia Lee Love. Gentry. Strip contest. 11:00 p.m. What more can I say?

What happens on the last Wednesday of the month at the Montrose Mining Company? Houston Soap readers know that it is the Bear of the Month contest! Enjoy \$1 domestic longnecks as MC Dean drags Bear wannabes on stage starting at 10:30 p.m.

Cousin's has a dart tournament tonight at 8:30 p.m. There is a \$3 entry fee.

Sheila Lennon fills the stage at Chances tonight! Her sexy sounds start at 9:00 p.m.



Baste this, baby!

afternoon at the Venture-N. Brunch starts at noon.

Tonight at the Brazos River Bottom, the Church of the Neon Cactus, the Colt 45's, and Regina Dane-Miss BRB '95 present "O Holy Night," a Christmas musical benefiting the Colt 45's. Show time is 7:30 p.m. but you can get there early and enjoy steak night on the patio. Dinner and a show at the Brazos River Bottom makes for a fun time on Sundays.

Kara Dion, Burgundy Woods, Victoria Nicole, and Sivi Ross are the entertainment tonight at Cousin's. The show starts at 11:00 p.m.

Live the fantasy tonight as Heaven puts you in bed with Falcon's adult video star Johnny Hanson. He pulls back the sheets at midnight! If you need some courage, Heaven has 50c well cocktails until 11:00 p.m.

Gentry has a 8-ball tournament this afternoon at 5:00 p.m. as well as a BBQ dinner for only \$3.50. At 9:00 p.m. the Gentry Gaps (Gay and Proud

changes at Chances!

Club 403 has a dart tournament tonight at 8:00 p.m. There is a \$4 buy in and the bar matches the pot! Give darts a shot!

Tuesday, Nov. 28

The Tuesday Super Show at E/J's features the talents of Jessica Van Shelton, Chevelle Brooks, Crystal Rae Lee Love, and the winner from the Saturday Night Talent Search. Hostess Catia Lee Love opens the show at 11:00 p.m.

Mary's and Cuervo go together like turkey and dressing. Stop in for a \$2 shot of my old friend Jose. \$1.75 domestic



Party Animals at Chances!

Rodents in Drag!



Caught in your usual pose!



Animal with his animal and his artwork

Don't forget, the Ripcord's Anniversary in on Dec 4. I'm looking forward to the piles of shrimp and seeing the employees in tuxedos!

You can do a little early holiday shopping at the R.S.I.C.S.S.'s craft sale that will be held at Gentry on Dec. 1 & 2. Also, on the 3rd, the Gentry

for ticket info.

Birthday Corner

A Happy (I'm hung like a donut) Birthday to Lady Lee at the Lazy J.

A Happy (I Spin you round and round) Birthday to Adrian, DJ of Pacific Street.

A Happy (I feel pretty, oh so pretty) Birthday to Crystal Rae Lee Love.

Rodent Droppings

Ratrat and Harvey were all ready for the Pet Show sponsored by the Montrose Softball League this past Sunday. I had made them both little "drag" dresses. Have you ever tried to put a dress on a ferret? It ain't easy. I finally got Ratrat's on, he jumped down, ran around the living room and disappeared behind the bookcase. When he came out, he was without his dress! Now, Harvey, on the other hand, was not very amused by his dress and tiara! I have never seen him so agitated. So much for the "dress" rehearsal. Maybe they will be ready for the rescheduled pet show on Dec. 3.

I lifted their dresses and found:

Uncle Phoebe (Sundance): I understand you are looking for a bunch of geisha girls! Just what are you going to do to/with them?

Mike G. (NLA:H): You are

one of the last persons I would have ever thought of running around the Venture-N in high heels and spangle earrings!

Crystal Rae Lee Love (RSICSS): How did you get this new nickname "Your Blow Hole Ness?"

Rex (Mary's): I understand that you were caught without your favorite pen clipped on to your shirt! Shame, shame!

Ed (E/J's): And I quote "I am too old to wiggle!"

Benny (Hangs at Chances): Please, no more Selina!

Kip and Ken (PS): Did you come back from your trip "lifted?"

Steve (Gentry): You wear your wine glass like a crown!

Jack (Houston Voice): Golden Boy?! Just how did you get this nickname?

Shawn (Gentry) and Darin (Cousin's): Who wins?

Glen Holt (Q-Patrol): I hear you have a house full of pussy!

Al K. (Houston Voice): Why does the pool in your backyard look like a big bowl of lime green jello? Where are the marshmallows?

Matt (Houston Voice): The next time you sabotage my column, I am going to tie you to a stake, pour gasoline on you and set you on fire! Be afraid, be very afraid!

Huggs,

Cuervolyn



Houston Soap

By CAROLYN ROBERTS

(Continued from preceding page)

Thursday, Nov. 30

Scott will fill your dance card tonight at the Brazos River Bottom. He offers free C&W dance lessons starting at 9:00 p.m. If you don't know how to boot, scoot, and boogie, this is your chance to learn.

The Boy Toys wiggle on the stages of Gentry tonight starting at 9:00 p.m.

Regina (Whip Me!) Dane takes the stage at the Montrose Mining Company. It is all about male bodies, body worship, skin trade, and tattoos. The contest starts at 11:30 p.m. and there is a \$25 cash prize for the "Best Chest," "Best Tattoo," "Best Buns in Levis," and "Hottest Tattoo." You can enjoy \$1.75 Budweiser products and premium vodka cocktails for only \$3.50.

Randall Jobe is on the stage of J.R.'s tonight with Star Search Gold Karaoke! There are cash prizes to the winners and a chance for the finalist to win an ounce of Troy gold! Enjoy \$3.75 top shelf cocktails to get your courage up to enter the contest.

Other Important Stuff

Mark your calendars for Nov. 29 and Dec. 3. The Roxie Star Show, direct from "An

Evening at La Cage" at the Riviera Hotel Casino in Las Vegas hits E/J's.

Welcome Eye Q Optical, Dramatika, Kad's Piano Bar and Grill, and Cousin's Bar to our family of advertisers. Bistro 224 has a coupon in this issue. Clip it out and save!

Mary's, naturally, will be putting up the community Christmas Tree. If you would like to donate an ornament, you need to bring it to Mary's before Dec. 7. The ornament must be no smaller than 4" X 4" and no larger than 6" X 6." The lighting will be on Dec. 10.

Carpets by Joy has a unique selection of holiday rugs. Stop in and check out these seasonal rugs you can use for years to come. Carpets by Joy is at 1704 Westheimer. For more info, call 523-2509.

The Montrose Softball League's pet show had to be canceled because of that nasty rain this weekend. It has been rescheduled for Dec. 3. If you need more info, call 867-3913.

Everything Special has delightful gifts for your early holiday shopping. On Dec. 1, they will be having an open house. Everything Special is located at 375 W. 19th, right behind Carter and Cooley Deli. Check out the ad in this issue for 10% off.

"Turn About" will take the stage. It will be ugly and uninhibited! Be afraid, be very afraid.

The Actors Workshop presents "Times Square Angel," a Christmas Fantasy by Charles Busch. This will be on stage until Dec. 23. Call 236-1844 for ticket info.

On Dec. 1, there will be a fundraiser at Chances.

"Another Day Without (Their) Art" will be a benefit in memory of local Houston performers that are no longer with us. This is presented by The Mother and Daddy of Montrose as well as a host of inbred family members. Watch next week for more details.

Stop in to Club 403 and meet their new bartenders Cheryl-Ms. Club 403 and Grandma Bruce.

Stages Repertory Theater presents "The Little Match Girl." This play runs thru Dec. 30. Call 52-STAGE



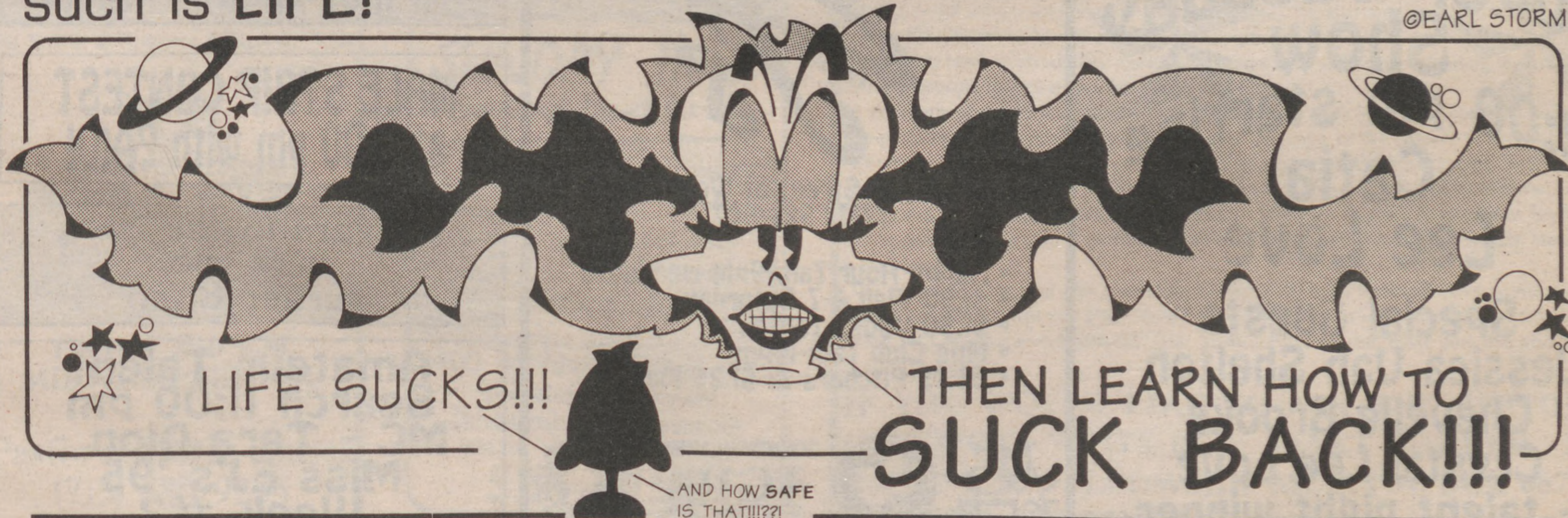
Giving away hams and such at Stone Soup



Two new faces behind the bar at Gentry!

such is LIFE!

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Lawmakers call on state to accept AIDS education funding

AUSTIN (AP)—Sixteen Democratic state representatives have taken aim at Education Commissioner Mike Moses' rejection of a \$1.35 million federal grant for a statewide AIDS curriculum.

The lawmakers said in a joint statement issued last Thursday that they were dismayed by Moses' decision.

They said that denying schools access to the AIDS education and prevention training money "contradicts the Bush administration's stated goal of local control for school districts."

"In a time of scarce dollars

for public education and big cutbacks in federal funding for health and human services, it is fiscally irresponsible to turn away any money that could provide training for health educators," said the lawmakers' statement.

Earlier this month, Moses had notified the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention in Atlanta that Texas would not accept the remaining three years of funding in the grant, at \$450,000 a year.

Moses—appointed by Gov. George W. Bush, a Republican—already has said he would reconsider returning the grant if Texas were assured

"that it could teach sex education as it sees fit."

But negotiations with the CDC have been slowed by the federal budget problems, said Moses' spokesperson, Debbie Graves Ratcliffe.

"The CDC employees are on furlough," Ms. Ratcliffe said. But she added, "We're optimistic we can get the issue resolved."

The grant was used to finance statewide seminars on preventing AIDS. It also was used to develop materials that public schools could use to supplement their health classes.

Former Education Com-

missioner Lionel "Skip" Meno had suspended the state's acceptance of the grant in Dec. 1994 pending the development of a state health policy. The move followed controversy over the materials.

Ms. Ratcliffe noted this week that the 1995 education law rewrite requires the curriculum to stress that abstinence is the only 100 percent effective way to prevent pregnancy and sexually transmitted diseases.

However, the lawmakers insisted the grant doesn't require schools to teach an abstinence-only curricu-

lum.

Those issuing the statement were Reps. Roberto Alonzo of Dallas, Hugo Berlanga of Corpus Christi, Harryette Ehrhardt of Dallas, Bob Glaze of Gilmer, John Hirschi of Wichita Falls, Glen Maxey of Austin, Elliott Naishtat of Austin, Sylvester Turner of Houston, Kevin Bailey of Houston, Dawna Dukes of Austin, Jessica Farrar of Houston, Sherri Greenberg of Austin, Jesse Jones of Dallas, Nancy McDonald of El Paso, Sylvia Romo of San Antonio and Leticia Van de Putte of San Antonio.

Baptists refuse to ban delegates from churches with gay pastors

SAN ANTONIO (AP)—The Baptist General Convention of Texas wrapped up its annual meeting by refusing to ban delegates from churches with homosexual pastors or deacons.

The action Tuesday was seen by many as merely procedural, however, rather than a change of policy from the traditional Baptist condemnation of homosexuality as anti-biblical.

The nation's largest Southern Baptist convention decided instead on the last day of the two-day annual meeting to refer the proposed ban to its executive board for further study.

On Monday, a messenger from a Lubbock church had asked that any messenger from Austin's University Baptist Church be denied seating at the convention because it had ordained a gay as a deacon.

But Credentials Committee Chairperson Danny Souder said no messengers from University had registered, rendering the point moot.

The church, which was expelled last month from the Austin Baptist Association last month because of the ordination, had already announced that to avoid a floor fight it would not send delegates to the convention.

The Rev. Roger Deerinwater, pastor of the First Bap-

tist Church in Archer City, said during Tuesday's debate that by referring the motion to committee, "we are saying we can't decide whether homosexuality is a sin or not."


He said: "I believe if we were to poll the pastors and deacons present here, we would find a nearly unanimous consensus. We do not need to refer this to anybody."

The Rev. Bruce Prescott, pastor of Easthaven Baptist Church in Houston, said

the real issue is whether a state convention can exclude messengers on the basis of a local church's decisions.

"It's a matter of Baptist doctrine and principle the autonomy of the local church. It's a fundamental, bed-rock issue," Prescott said.

Baptist policy is founded on the autonomy of local churches.



Oh, have you heard that Roxy Star is coming direct from Las Vegas back to EJ's on Nov. 29 & Dec. 3?


Thanks goodness, I need to borrow a dress.

Yeah, you will have to take it in... a lot!

Direct from Las Vegas


The **Roxie Starr Show**

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MALE STRIP CONTEST
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Amateur Talent Search 11:00 pm
MC - Tara Dion - **Miss EJ's '95**
Week #2

FRI
MON
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Acclaimed holistic AIDS conference held here

(Continued from Page 1)

Another conference speaker, Lark Lands, author of *Positively Well: Living with HIV as a Chronic, Manageable, Survivable Disease* and outlined the basics of an effective nutrition and supplementation program. Lands, who has diabetes, also stresses the importance of adequate exercise, stress reduction self-monitoring of one's health condition as essential components of health maintenance for anyone with life—challenging, chronic illnesses.

Subtitled "What Holds Promise," the conference/retreat presented a balanced program, blending the latest "expert" information and research findings regarding AIDS/HIV, widely recognized factors for maximizing and maintaining health such as good nutrition and creative self-expression, and more experimental treatments and therapies. "We're usually called a holistic conference, but in

fact it's a lot more than that. We advocate an integrated approach (that incorporates) the mind, body and spirit," said Charles Robbins, executive director of the Boulder, Colo.-based AIDS, Medicine and Miracles organizations.

This month marked the first time such a conference has been held in Texas, and it was noted during the event that most of the registered participants were from out-of-state. However, numerous Houstonians and local organizations participated in the conference presentations and workshops. Among them, Nelson Vergel, founder of PoWeR: Program for Wellness Restoration, presented his popular workshop, which emphasizes the importance and implementation of proper nutrition, exercise, supplements, hormonal intervention and motivational techniques. Bart Loeser, HIV educator and gay outreach coordinator for AIDS Foundation Houston, presented workshops on sex, dating and intimacy.

Church Calendar on Page 13.

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ASK THE PASTOR



Rev. Janet Parker

Q: "What is the difference between a 'prayer language' and the 'baptism of the Holy Spirit'? How can a person receive this? Does it make one a better Christian if you have received this?"

A: Having had the experience of receiving a prayer language and knowing the power of the Holy Spirit, I want to share what I have seen and witnessed over the past 24 years. The experience of 'speaking in tongues' and the 'baptism of the Holy Spirit' has been used by many people to show that they are 'one notch up' on the ladder of success as a Christian. It has been used at times in the wrong spirit which has reflected "classism." I have also seen people have this wonderful experience and then

walk in the opposite direction of Christ and have this experience do them no good. There is nothing automatic about the Pentecost experience. No matter what happens to us in our walk with Christ—whether we have a salvation experience, a healing, receive a prayer language, or experience God's power in service—our walk is still a day by day walk. We are as effective for Christ as our daily surrender to the power and working of the Holy Spirit.

What we cannot dispute is the change that this experience made in the lives of the disciples. We saw Peter go from a place of denying Christ to standing up for Christ in the face of great danger. Why could he not face danger before Pentecost, but he could after? What enabled Peter to preach and see 3,000 souls saved after Pentecost? Why were things different? I believe that this is the question we must ask. Rather than look around and see what this person has experienced and say, "I guess they think they are better than me because they speak in tongues," is no different than saying, "Since they bought that new car we don't see them hanging around us anymore. I guess they think they are too good for us." Some Christians HAVE been known to flaunt what they have received. What they don't realize is that it is a gift. They did not do anything to merit receiving it. We also see Christians being jealous of what other Christians have experienced. Jealousy and envy sneak in and instead of desiring what others have received, they resent what others have and begin defending themselves, becoming insecure in their own relationship with Christ.

A good rule of thumb is to watch the fruit of a person's life. Have you observed a change in this person's life as a result of their new prayer language, or the baptism of the Holy Spirit? Are you an eye-witness to this person's life that is yielded to Christ and the Holy Spirit? If so, you have probably seen a noticeable difference. It may be as dramatic as those disciples before and after Pentecost. Whatever we receive from God is given to us so that God's work can be done and that God is glorified. Nothing is ever given to us so that we can boast about it for ourselves.

We must trust that God will give to us whatever we need to be effective witnesses to the Gospel of peace. When you pray, "God I want more of You"—be ready for what will come. It just may be your own Pentecost! Don't be afraid to ask—but make sure that you ask, expecting to receive!

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

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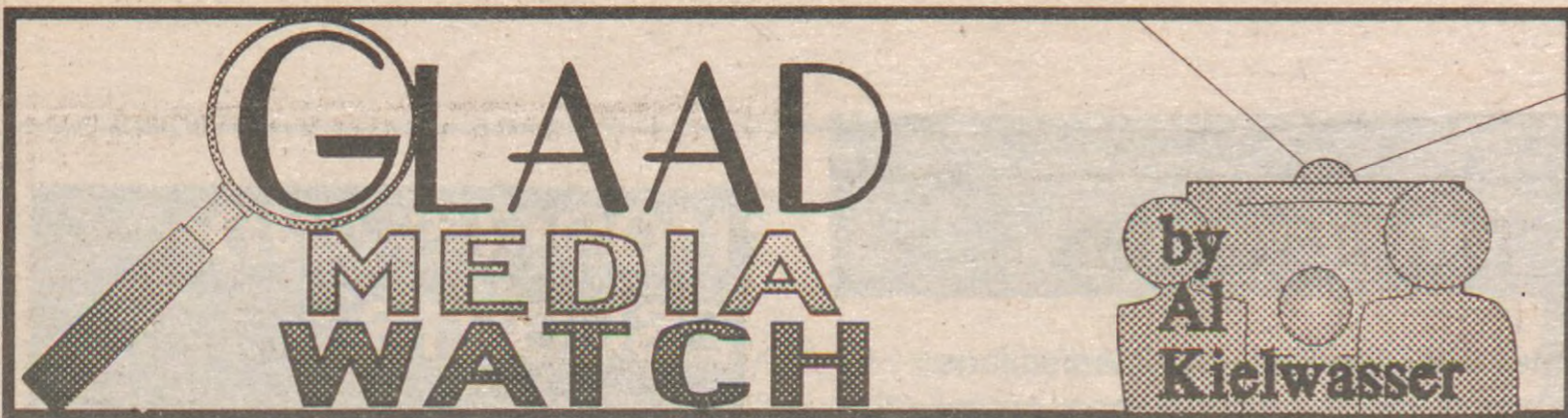
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Partners in Slime?

Billed as an effort to reduce network dependence on federal funds, the Public Broadcasting Service (PBS) has announced a partnership with the Reader's Digest Association, Inc. (PBS does not produce any of its own programming, but obtains broadcast material from varied sources). Reader's Digest will invest \$75 million over five years to develop "family-oriented" programming for initial broadcast on PBS television stations.

Unfortunately, "Reader's Digest" has exhibited little excellence and much homophobia over the years. The magazine has a record of reprinting homophobic articles, without any apparent concern for fairness or accuracy. "Reader's Digest" has consistently failed to reprint articles that take an affirmative approach to lesbian, gay or bisexual concerns.

The purpose of public broadcasting is to offer alternative programming, especially for and about marginalized communities that have been shut out of the media mainstream. By teaming up with Reader's Digest, PBS now seems to be rushing away from that historic ideal.

*** ACTION ALERT! Insist that PBS seek immediate clarification from Reader's Digest, to ensure that "both partners' standards for family entertainment" specifically EXCLUDE homophobia and INCLUDE support for fair, accurate and diverse programming about lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender subjects. If Reader's Digest can make no such claim, then PBS must explain why the PUBLIC'S EDUCATIONAL broadcast system is doing business with IGNORANT BIGOTS; at the very least, PBS should take extra effort to seek out equal or greater funding for positively queer programming!

Contact: Ervin Duggan, President, Public Broadcasting System, 1320 Braddock Place, Alexandria, VA 22314, tel. 703-739-5000, fax 703-739-5295, e-mail , URL <http://www.pbs.org>. Copy correspondence to your local PBS affiliate(s) and to George V. Grune, Chair, The Reader's Digest Association Inc., Reader's Digest Road, Pleasantville, NY 10570, tel. 914-238-1000, fax 914-238-5324.

Here Comes The Judge

The Nov. 8 episode of the CBS drama "Courthouse" offered an overdue focus on the show's African-American lesbian character, Judge Rosette Reide. One of several storylines centered around an impending visit with the judge's parents, "church folk" who would not understand Reide's relationship with her female partner, Dannie.

To avoid "trouble," Reide actually suggests that Dannie should stay in their hotel room on the night she planned to sing in the church choir and hear her father as guest preacher. Dannie protests vigorously and departs the judge's chambers saying icily, "If you need me tonight, I'll be in the closet!"

Stung, Reide decides to tell her parents the truth, and plays out a scene that so many real-life lesbians have had to endure. Reide asks why her parents cannot give her unconditional love—as Dannie does. She receives no reply.

Ultimately, Reide foregoes the

church service. Deciding that she belongs with her partner rather than her parents, Reide stays the night in the hotel room with Dannie. The two cuddle up on the bed and watch the service on television. This is progress, to be sure, though the script did NOT contain the make-up kiss that heterosexual TV couples always share at such moments.

*** ACTION ALERT! "Courthouse" has created the first continuing African-American lesbian character in television history. Unfortunately, poor ratings have made the show a likely candidate for cancellation. Send encouragement to Deborah Joy LeVine, Executive Producer, "Courthouse," Columbia Pictures Television, Sony Pictures Plaza, 10000 W. Washington Blvd., Culver City, CA 90232, tel.—310-280-8597, fax 310-280-4398. Copy your correspondence to Peter Tortorici, President, CBS, 7800 Beverly Blvd., Los Angeles, CA 90036.

Walls of Silence

This month, the Denver School Board heard arguments for and against plans to display an informational poster in the district's 10 high schools. The poster advises queer and questioning youth that they may contact the Gay, Lesbian and Bisexual Community Services Center of Colorado. Students would be provided with additional assistance from school counselors.

In most classrooms across the nation, an informational vacuum deprives and degrades lesbian and gay youth. Textbooks either ignore or demean homosexuality. Teachers seldom challenge homophobic harassment. Students are left to fears rather than facts, torment instead of tolerance. Testifying before the Denver School Board, one parent described this climate as a "wall of silence."

Certainly, hanging a simple poster on that wall of silence is the LEAST a school might do. However, even that modest act has come under fire. According to the "Rocky Mountain News," several parents have criticized the poster's message as "an intrusion on families," an assault on the "true authority of parents," and "an improper role for the district." And in a letter to school board members, James Dobson, president of Focus on the Family, said: "The poster's intent is clear: It is meant to promote same-sex romance among teens."

Both the district's director of student services, John Leslie, and superintendent, Irv Moskowitz seem supportive. Moskowitz told parents he understood "the horrors" gay students often face in silence. "We will be on guard," he told parents of gay children, "You've certainly touched us."

*** ACTION ALERT! It is vital that queer adults in ANY city stand up for queer youth in EVERY city. Encourage Denver to take the first step toward educational equity and a curriculum that is fair, accurate and diverse. Write to: All Members, Denver Board of Education, 900 Grant Street, Denver, CO 80203, tel. 303-764-3211, fax 303-764-3216. Copy your correspondence to: Letters to the Editor, "Rocky Mountain News," 400 W. Colfax Avenue, Denver, CO 80204, fax 303-892-2568, e-mail letters@denver-rmn.com.

• SHOWERS • WEEKEND POOL PARTIES •

THE CLUB

H O U S T O N



ex-traor-di-nar-y

(ek-stro'-'de-ner'-e, ik-, ek'stre-or'-) adj.

1. Beyond what is ordinary, usual, or commonplace. 2. Exceeding the ordinary degree, amount, or extent; exceptional; remarkable.

Ex: An extraordinary private men's club.

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**SWINGERS, BI-SEXUAL,
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Wet & wild hard bodies seeking sultry co-
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MONTROSE: Exquisite old home with lots
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Call 268-2238, Agt.

MONTROSE/TLC HOUSE: Emergency
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friendly. Bills paid. No deposit. \$75 weekly
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Great alley VU, indoor plumbing,
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The **BRB** is accepting applications for
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No phone calls.

PACIFIC STREET is now accepting
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professional?
Gift certificates available.
Call Ray (713) 603-7586 (pgr/vm)

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young, willing and able...just without the
"young" part. Oh, and the "able" part
really depends on how good that
estrogen stuff works. But I'm willing, sexy
boy! Want to be that special someone?
Just give me a call and speak loud (my
ears are not waht they use to be - but the
rest of em still works, if you know what I
mean!) Life is Harsh. Your Tequila
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Husky, Hairy.
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DADDY BLADE
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Puzzle Solution
c.1995 GULF FEATURES, Puzzle TX153
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by Diana Rivers

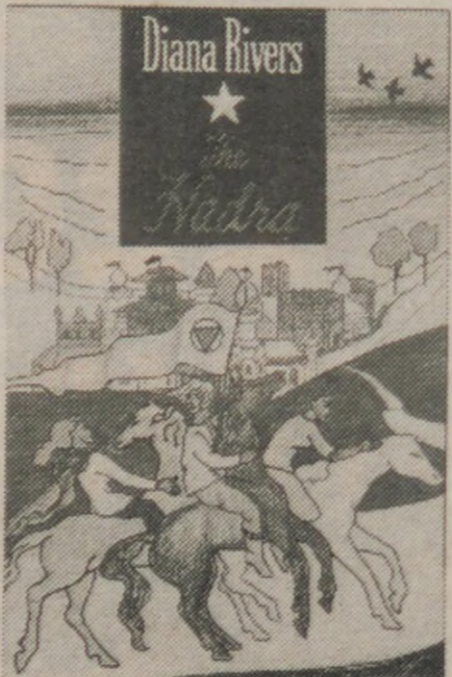
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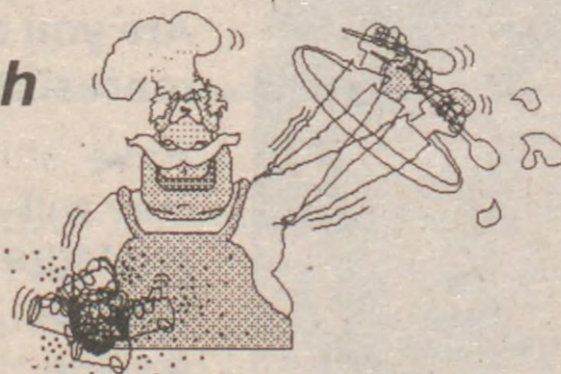
Look for
**Houston Voice
Personals in
every issue**

RECIPES BY KUNTRY KIDD

Hey y'all! These are the last two recipes I can share with you before "Turkey Day". I tried these recipes last year, and they will become a regular dish for our Thanksgiving feast. I hope you enjoy them.

Cranberry Relish

- 1 12-oz bag cranberries
- 1 C. sugar
- 1 C. toasted English walnuts
- 1 12-oz jar orange marmalade juice of one lemon



-Preheat oven to 350 degrees. Pour sugar over cranberries in 9x13 pan. Cover tightly with foil. Bake 350 degrees for 1 hour.
 -Mix toasted nuts into berries. Stir in orange marmalade and lemon juice. Place in refrigerator to cool. Makes approx. 3 cups.
 -To toast walnuts, spread on top of the foil covering the cranberries during the last 15-20 minutes of cooking time.

Shoe Peg Corn Casserole

- 1 large onion, chopped
- 1 Tbs. margarine
- 1 can Ro-Tel tomatoes
- 1 Tbs. dried onion soup
- 2 cans (12-oz size) Shoe Peg corn, drained
- 1 can (8-3/4-oz) cream style corn
- 12 oz Sharp Cheddar cheese, grated

-Sauté onion in margarine until clear. Add tomatoes and onion soup mix. Stir, cooking for 10 minutes. Add corn. Bake in uncovered casserole, at 350 degrees for 20 minutes. Remove from oven and sprinkle with cheese. Return to oven until cheese is melted and bubbly. May be prepared a day ahead. Serves 6-8.
 -This dish is very peppery because of the Ro-Tel tomatoes. Cut down on the tomatoes according to taste.
 -There really is a corn called "Shoe Peg Corn." The brand I use is Green Giant.
 -Y'all have a wonderful and very safe holiday weekend!! Pig out!!!
 -Guess what? Spec's Liquor, across from the B.R.B., is now selling Emu meat - smoked, steaks, summer sausage, filets and ground meat! Check it out.

UNTIL NEXT WE EAT!

KUNTRY KIDD



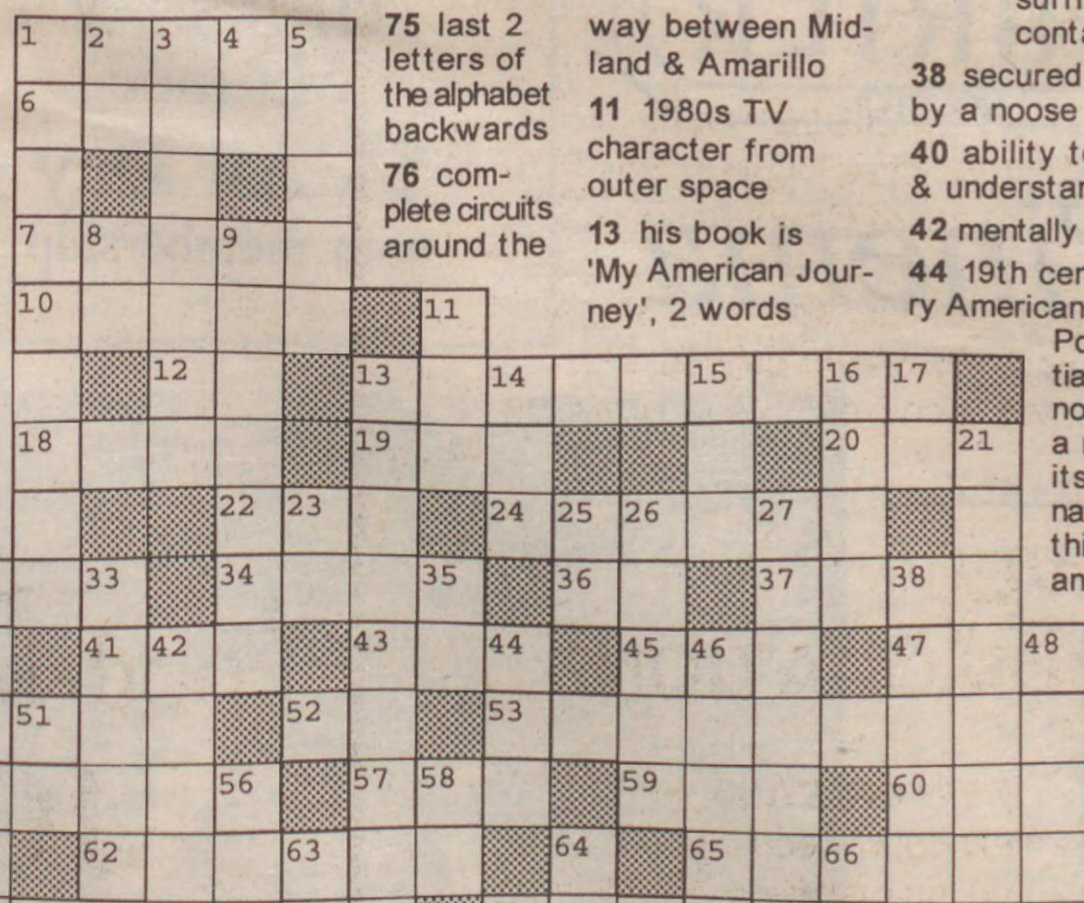
The Great American Puzzle

TEXAS EDITION

By Henry McClurg

ACROSS

- 1 disorders
- 6 put something in
- 7 association
- 10 in Roman mythology, twin brother of Romulus
- 12 'you be' in shorthand
- 13 winner 1995 American League Pennant



- 75 last 2 letters of the alphabet backwards
- 76 complete circuits around the way between Midland & Amarillo
- 11 1980s TV character from outer space
- 13 his book is 'My American Journey', 2 words

- capital Whitehorse
- 32 attracting fish
- 33 estimated
- 35 adjective suffix for containing
- 38 secured by a noose
- 40 ability to learn & understand level
- 42 mentally healthy
- 44 19th century American author Poe, initials ("The nose of a mob is its imagination. By this, at any time,

- 18 anesthetized
- 19 again & again
- 20 relating to it
- 22 nocturnal bird of prey
- 24 city about halfway between San Antonio & Temple
- 28 ultraviolet abbrev.
- 30 city about halfway between Dallas & Shreveport
- 34 Columbian drug cartel that Pres. Clinton spoke of during his U.N. address Oct. 22
- 36 weight abbrev.
- 37 animal's neck hair
- 39 art objects
- 41 inquire
- 43 frozen water
- 45 battering beam
- 47 ball
- 49 of these ships, there are the I and II, named after Queen Elizabeth
- 50 movie star Hayworth
- 52 version of indefinite article used before a vowel sound

- 53 San Antonio's football/basketball stadium
- 54 city about halfway between Odesa & Ft. Worth
- 57 food for infants
- 59 tablet of paper
- 60 postured
- 61 newscaster Rather
- 62 tyrant
- 65 Queen of Tejano killed in Corpus Christi
- 67 Ga. GOP congressman Gingrich, initials
- 68 female adult bovine
- 69 square danced (pronounced shae-SAYed but not spelled that way)
- 71 name of Ross Perot's political party in Calif
- 72 noun suffix for quality
- 73 Spanish for 'the'
- 74 Wolverine State, abbrev.

- track
- 78 unit of electric power
- 79 1 of 2 3rd & 4th century Chinese dynasties
- 80 the way 'easy' is pronounced
- DOWN**
- 1 river that forms border with Mexico, 2 words
- 2 Hoosier State, abbrev.
- 3 amount of something that is best
- 4 2nd day of the workweek, abbrev.
- 5 upright wall supports
- 8 5th & 2nd vowels of the alphabet
- 9 city about half-

- 15 allow
- 16 Columbus ship
- 17 daylight time abbrev.
- 21 Grayson County seat
- 23 Evergreen State, abbrev.
- 25 underwriter abbrev.
- 26 strip of leather
- 27 not modesty
- 29 abbrev. for verses or vice versa
- 30 way of walking
- 31 official abbrev. for Canada's north-western territory,

- it can be quietly led.")
- 46 accumulate
- 48 2nd letter of Greek alphabet
- 51 Land of Lincoln state, abbrev.
- 55 prohibit
- 56 the mark on computer keyboard key 'escape'
- 58 positioned
- 63 tiny hole
- 64 Agatha, 20th century English writer of detective fiction
- 66 meadow
- 69 Houston computer company with Hakeem Olajuwon as spokesman
- 70 exist
- 75 syllable that sounds the same as zoo
- 77 interjection used to express sympathy

Personal 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. (6 months -\$17.50 and 3 months-\$10) 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 place a Houston Voice personal ad you are required to participate in the "live voice" aspect of our Personals by calling the special 800 toll-free number. You must record, in your voice, your Ad. If you do not participate in the voice aspect, your ad may be discontinued without reimbursement. The voice message can be as simple as "You read the ad, leave a message" to complex and informative. The ads, both print and voice, can not contain references to sexual acts or organs (FCC et al. regulations). If you are having difficulty recording your message, phone 1-800-780-4947, for assistance. Ads should be positive, describe what you want, undesirable qualities/characteristics need not be listed.

- G - Gay, M - male; F - female;
- W - white; B - black;
- H - hispanic, A - asian,
- HWP - height, weight, proportionate,
- DDF - disease, drug free



GALAXY GAYZER

A HOUSTON VOICE EXCLUSIVE



HOROSCOPE FOR THE WEEK OF NOVEMBER 24 - 30, 1995



IF THIS WEEK IS YOUR BIRTHDAY: Your closest relationships are stable for now, but your inner voice may be prompting you to take time alone for self-renewal. Professional advancement is at hand, so keep yourself on the straight and narrow. Your creative urges may turn into profit. **ARIES** (March 21-April 20) Your mood might be cranky, resulting from tensions either at home or at work. Speak softly and avoid any disagreements with others. You are in a practical frame of mind and sharp in matters of money. It's a

happy time for romance and love.

TAURUS (April 21 - May 21) Spend extra time with family - fun and adventure will be highlighted. It may be the perfect opportunity for a heart-to-heart talk with your children. Roadblocks are likely in realizing a financial goal, you're closer than you think. Your passion deepens.

GEMINI (May 22 - June 21) You and your mate get along throughout the entire week. All those chores that really need to get done will be accomplished like clockwork. Your career is highlighted, so don't be surprised if you receive a raise or promotion. Keep your patience around children.

CANCER (June 22 - July 23) Start the week in a practical frame-of mind. Take time alone and treat yourself to something that will make you feel extra special. Some co-workers are be critical and sarcastic, but otherwise work runs smoothly. Your career is about to take a big step forward. Managers are impressed with your effort.

LEO (July 24- August 23) Listen to a friend's advice on money matters - an objective point of view is what you need. Your sweetheart may be feeling neglected, and accuse you of unrealistic expectations - so make the time for romance and more intimacy. It's time for a few practical steps to improve your image.

VIRGO (August 24 - September 23) There will probably be a strong urge to immerse yourself in creative pursuits. Keep an open mind and you may be pleasantly surprised at the results. Both business and household projects enjoy favorable influences; and you may get a bonus for recently positive efforts.

LIBRA (September 24 - October 23) The more you depend on your reserves, the stronger you are. You inspire family members likewise. There are some self doubts lingering which only you can work through. Self-improvement efforts will succeed. Remember - if you can't say any thing nice, don't say anything at all.

SCORPIO (October 24 - November 22) Spend time with close friends and you'll find that your friendships and loves are very fulfilling. There is someone trying to undermine your position with flattery and bribery. Keep your cool. There will be great news about money, and possibly a new, lucrative job offer.

SAGITTARIUS (November 23 - December 21) It will be an effortless and pleasurable week for you. Keep in mind you do have the power to make all sorts of changes for the better. Everyone seems overly emotional as of late, so be on guard for lies and accusations. Harmony will be restored at home by week's end.

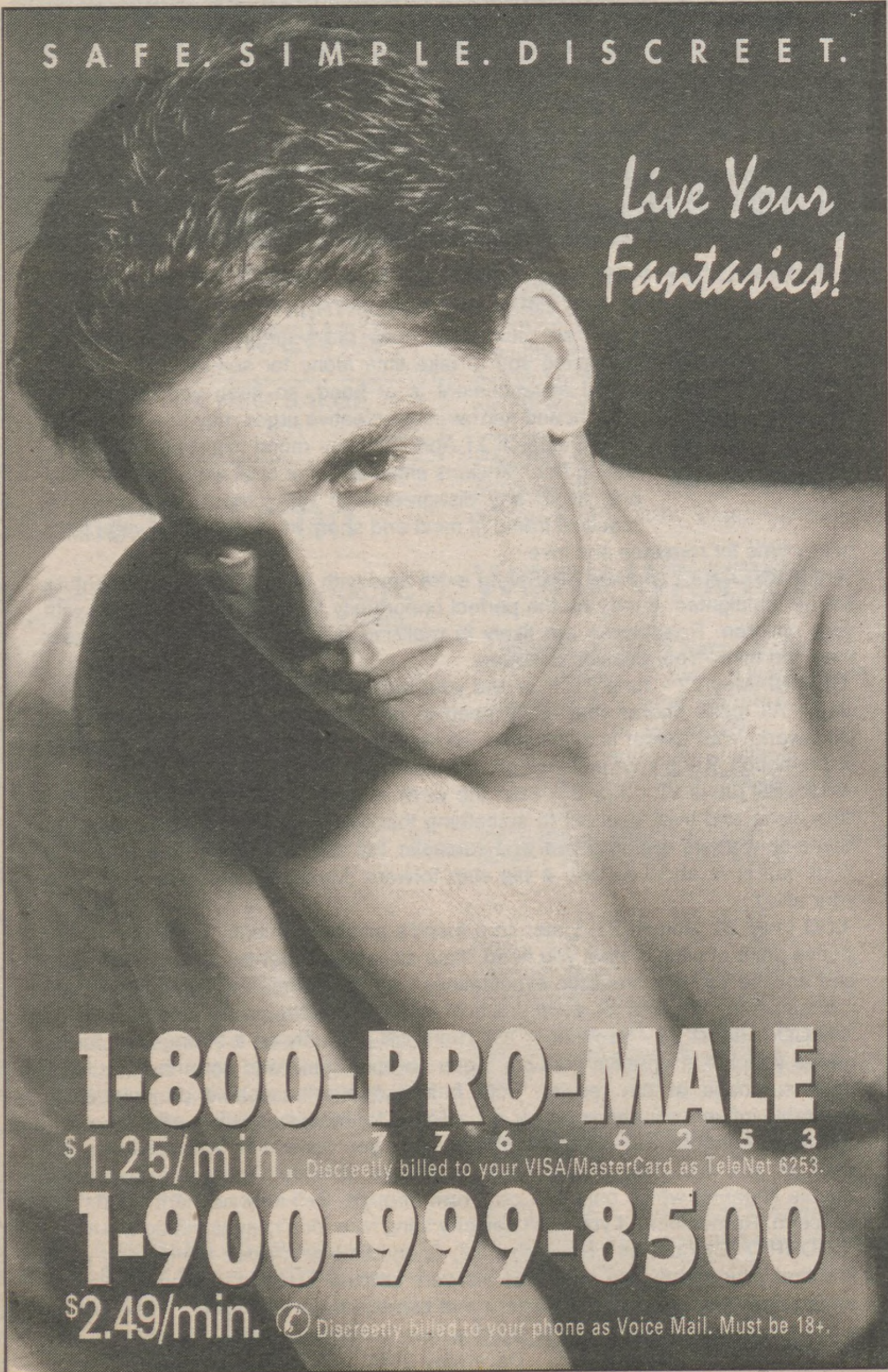
CAPRICORN (December 22 - January 20) Wherever you are, you will be surrounded by friendship and luck. Unexpected money is coming your way. Both family and work responsibilities are heavy, take one situation at a time. Be aware that guidance comes through your dreams. Positive vibes continue at home.

AQUARIUS (January 21 - February 19) You need to travel in order to check out an opportunity to increase your income. Don't neglect a mate who's starving for attention. Both your professional image and reputation is boosted to new levels. Your charm and magnetism take you through any sticky situations right now.

PISCES (February 20 - March 20) It's a week of heavy mental stimulation and challenges. Both innovative and unconventional approaches work. Your assertiveness takes you far at work and your family's happy and enjoys being together. Plan your entertainment and include others from the sideline.

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1-800-PRO-MALE
 \$1.25/min. Discreetly billed to your VISA/MasterCard as TeleNet 6253.

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Are you model material?
 Have studio/lab, will photograph & process.
 Result: Professional slides.
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 (713) 529-2325

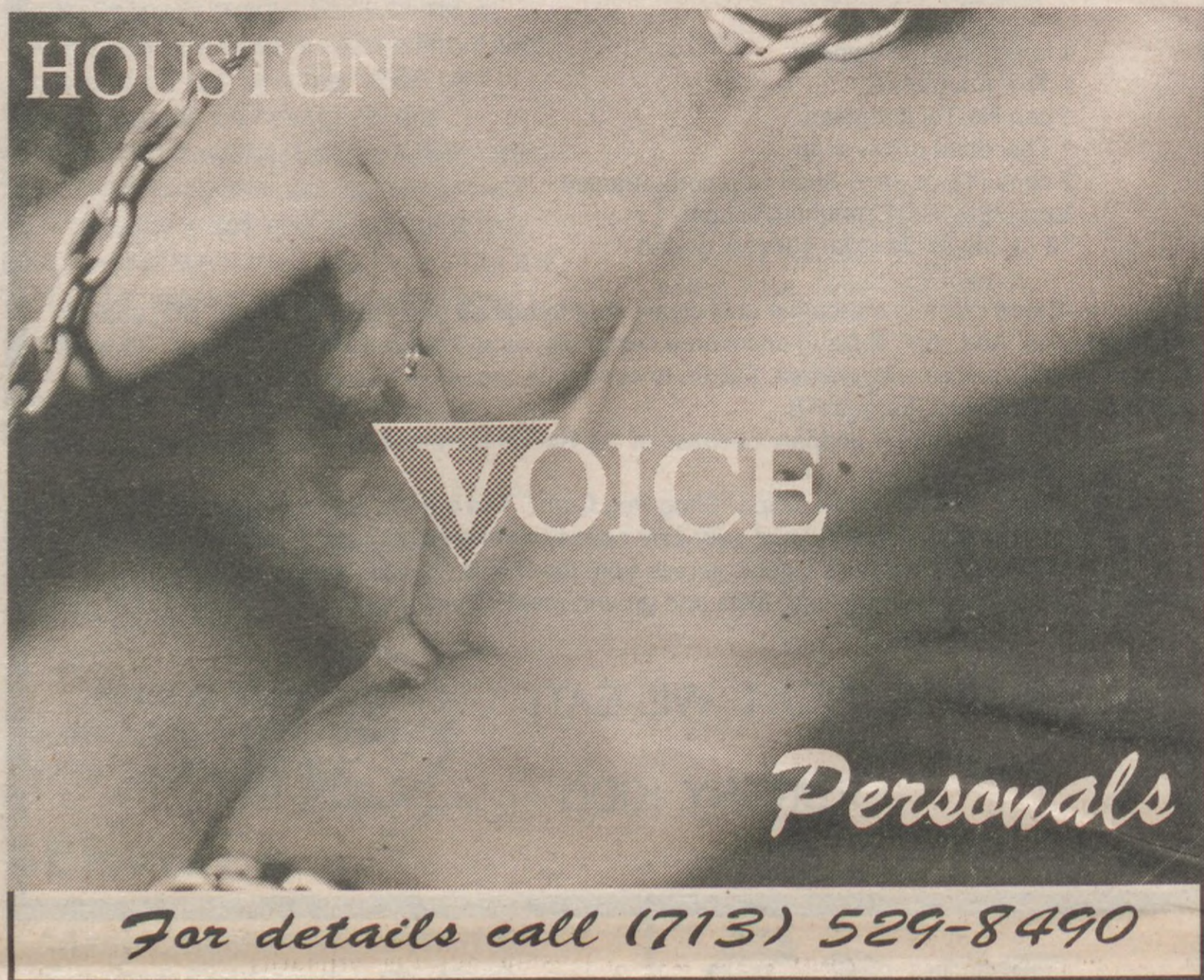
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 Midnight til Closing
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STAR POWER

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A BROTHER'S DESIRE



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 — colin harris Advocate M&E

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a brother's desire
 a his video gold plus release

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 11am - 3am
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 11am - 1am
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 1pm - 1 am

Houston VOICE Personals

LOOKING FOR NEW GOOD MEN

GWM, 43, mature, wise, intelligent, honest, happy, healthy, educated, fit, employed, professional, astrologically Leo, spiritual, political, 5'8", 165, brown/blue, stocky build, smooth, short salt/pepper beard, conversant, serious, cruising for new great men for companionship, dinner, theatre, park walks, happy hours, beach trips, and more. Call now! Ad 25653

THE FOREVER MAN

Professional, mature, masculine, successful, fun-loving GWM, youthful, 40, 5'11", 180#, well built and very attractive w/ dark hair and blue eyes. Interested in a long term monogamous relationship based on loyalty, trust, and most importantly, passion. True love runs deep, and there is nothing quite like it. Ad 25717

PARENTING IS A WONDERFUL EXPERIENCE

In search of a GWF, single or couple, to fulfill one of life's greatest enjoyments, having a baby. I'm a GWM, 38, 5'8", in very good health, college degree professional, who is considered good looking, mature, responsible and very sincere. I'm flexible pertaining to support, visitation and custody and am willing to discuss wide arrangement both during and after birth. Let's face it. Gay people make great parents and offer more love and support than many straight couples. Ad 25747

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

LOOKING FOR DEAN

Met you at the Phoenix in New Orleans Friday, Sept. 29. Lost your number. Gave you my Knights d'Orleans card. Call me collect evens, or 5-8 a.m. Got a Nawlins place for you -IN MY HEART. Take the chance. Joe. Ad 25743

GWF COUPLE LOOKING FOR NEW FRIENDS

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

WHO KNOWS...

Seeking conversationally stimulating, visually appealing, physically active, socially acceptable person to first take a walk with, then whatever comes next. I'm mature, the aforementioned and HIV+. Mail responses, please. Ad 25710

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.

TOP SEEKS BOTTOM

Top needs to satisfy/eliminate basic urges and seeks bottom to use for this purpose. I'm HWP, mature, good looking, HIV+, generally nice and I enjoy doing it especially when the bottom gets happy. Mail responses, please. Ad 25706.

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

LOOKING FOR BILL:

Your name is Bill, a GBM I met in the Ripcord. You said you were taking a friend home, but you were late in returning to the bar. I would like to get in touch with you. Ron Ad 25134

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

ABANDONED EXPECTING FEMALE SEEKS LIFE PARTNER

I am an attractive, feminine, 25 y.o., GWF w/long hair. I am 4 months pregnant, 5'7", normal weight of 135#. Taking time off from erotic dancing and college to have baby. I am ready for a long term love. Prefer mail responses w/photo. Ad 25738

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 me! HWP & DDF. Ad 25702

SWEET AND SPICY LOOKING FOR YOU!

SBF seeking healthy happy woman. I am looking for a loving friendship. Enjoy dancing, candlelight, music, laughing and a Southern Lady. Put a little spice in your life! I do want truth in all correspondence. Ad 25731

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.

AFFECTIONATE TEDDY BEAR WANTS CUDDLY CUB

GWM, 56, 6'2", 285, big bear, professional, clean cut seeks loving cub for companionship, fun, and a devoted monogamous relationship. I want what I am: sincere, loyal, sense of humor, honest, masculine, caring, sensitive, trusting, lots of T.L.C., respect, genuine and unlimited passion. Interests: Movies, art galleries/museums, dining out, quiet evenings at home, and lots of candlelight conversation and sharing. Discreet, NS, and DDF. U B 2. If you can relate, please respond. Prefer mail responses. Ad 25745

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

GWM PROFESSIONAL

40's, 5'11", 165 lbs, good looks, nice tanned body (HIV-). Enjoy movies, sports, cars, the beach, music & dining in & out. ISO younger HWP hispanic for dating. Desire monogamous relationship. Be DDF. I've a lot to offer. You will be pleased you answered. Ad 25705

BOTTOM SEEKS TOP

I.S.O.: Masculine, hairy, HWP, HIV-, well endowed GWM for safe fun. No strings. Pure indulgence. ME: 40 yr., HIV-, 5'7", 160 lbs, brown hair, brown eyes, w/S & P beard. Average guy. No hang-ups. Photo w/letter for response. Ad 25724

KIDNAP ME

Take me to your playroom. Bind me, use me, then release me in a couple of days. My captor(s): attractive, HWP, HIV-, serious master(s) and/or mistress(es). I am a successful intelligent WBIM, handsome, nice body & highly sensual, HIV-, HWP, with a weakness for the smell of leather who desires to be totally dominated. Ad 25711

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

TWICE THE FUN!

Two good looking masculine guys, 25 & 30, interested in meeting business professional (25-45) for occasional hot, safe, discreet fun. Must be successful, masculine and in shape. Prefer mail responses, letter/photo. Ad 25721

EUROPEAN GUY

I am 27 years old, 5'7", 132, brown hair and brown eyes, healthy (HIV-), warm and caring. I enjoy movies (foreign), music, animals, cars, etc. I'm looking for a compatible, masculine, professional man who is single, smart, funny and charming. Ad 25715

FEMALES IN SEARCH OF TROUBLE ...

are searching for you. All female SM/BD/Fetish social group. We might have the answers to your questions. Ad 25736

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!

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

EAT WELL

Cute Asian chef, educated, 25, 5'7", 130#, desires hamburger, tortilla, or egg rolls in my cooking pot with cooking time up to 40. Likes cooking, movies, and wild dessert for two. Will eat more if one has the right ingredients and well-flavored. Would you mold my dough? Mail responses preferred. Ad 25746

SEEKING HIV+ HISPANIC MALE

I am in my early 30's, healthy, HWP and am interested in developing a relationship with a sincere, honest and caring man. You must be professional/business-like, able to speak spanish and have proper documents to travel out of the country. Ad 25712

GALVESTON: LOOKING FOR SEXUAL BUDDIES

I'm 43, married, 5'10", 160lbs., average looks, DDF, clean, top-cut-discreet. Ad 25598.

"NOT ONLY ON WEEKENDS"

Single, black, female romantic seeks friend for possible relationship. Seeks woman who is certain of herself, her wants and desires. Interests include: movies, parks, special getaways, moonlit nights. Quality time very important; also hand-holding, good conversation, and a sense of humor. Must be stable, sincere and spiritually motivated. Ad 25740

LOOKING FOR THAT SPECIAL PERSON

GWF, early 30's, non-smoker, looking for GWF, 30-45. I enjoy movies, intimate dinners & the outdoors. Ad 25730

SEARCHING FOR KEN!

Met you in Club Dallas Texas O-U weekend. Cannot get you off of my mind. You expressed interest in seeing each other again. Call & leave a message. Bruce. Ad 25728

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

LAST RESORT

SWM, 42, masculine, muscular, handsome, athletic, college educated, isolated, sexually inexperienced, unknown in the gay community, seeking affluent man, any age but prefer older. I desperately need help with my mom's medical bills and urgency for hospitalization. I'm offering a relationship of ANY type (contractual?). I'm desperate and completely sincere. Ad 25742

HOMEBOY

GWM, 41, 5'9", 145, looking for a younger man that's always wanted to be that devoted "housewife" type. Someone a little happy go lucky to offset my seriousness. Looking for that man that wants to make a long-lasting home life together. Bedroom eyes a plus. Ad 25709

GENTLE LEATHER "DAD" SEEKS NOVICE "BOY"

Attractive GWM physician, 35, 5'10", 160, new in town, seeks boy 18-24 with interest in light S/M, B/D. Very understanding and patient. If you ever thought of getting into "leather" with a gentle but firm master, give me a call. Ad 25744

READY FOR A STEADY

Interesting GWM looking for a special gentleman. I'm 38, 6'2", 175, brown/blue, professionally employed, healthy, happy, emotionally & financially stable, warm, caring & relationship oriented. I enjoy travel, Nautilus, family, friends & more. I'm seeking a compatible GWM, 30s to 40s, height/weight proportional, who is single, smart, funny, charming, HIV-, clean-cut & happy. Respond today -I'm ready! Ad 25720

SOUL/LIFE MATE WANTED

GWM, 51, 5'10", 205 lbs. stocky weightlifter, HIV-, professional demeanor, active Christian, conservative straight lifestyle, seeks brawny, bear, linebacker, beefy hunk/chunk with similar attributes. Physically challenged encouraged to reply. Thanks! Ad 25727

FREE TO LOVE

Professional, mature, masculine, successful, fun loving gay white male, 40, 5'11", 180#, well built and very attractive, dark hair and deep grey blue eyes, and interested in a very long term monogamous relationship based on loyalty, honesty and most importantly, passion. True love runs deep, and there is nothing else quite like it ... to be devoted and committed to that one special person who is as equally into you as you are into him. Ad 25718

D ... D ...

GWM, 6', 150#, beard, mustache, very healthy HIV+, non-smoker-drinker-drugs, straight appearance seeks same in bottom. For a great time anytime let's get together. Prefer mail responses. Ad 25729

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

GEOVANNY V. WHERE ARE YOU?

Contact David K. in S.F. Ad 25726

SUBMISSIVE MEN

I seek submissive men 21-45 years old, HWP, any race. While I am interested primarily in Houston-area men, I travel on business frequently, and men outside of Houston and Texas are also welcome to respond. I am 45, 5'9", 190, hairy, aggressive and demanding. Ad 25673

PASADENA: 3 CAN BE GOOD COMPANY.

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

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

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

SNOW SKIER WANTED

GWF seeks GF, 35 to 55. Due to the discriminating nature of the travel industry towards singles, I need someone to do the "Double Occupancy" thing to Santa Fe or Lake Tahoe in February. Can you keep up with me on the slopes? Ad 25734

WANTED: BOY

For long-term monogamous relationship with "gifted" GWM in early 40s. I am 6', 170#, auburn/hazel, w/moustache. A true "daddy". I am healthy and HIV-. You should be younger, attractive, masculine and DDF. Letter only w/photo and phone #. Ad 25719

PARENTING, ANYONE?

Sincere, mature, responsible, stable, attractive, professional GWM desires to be apart of the parenting process. Lesbian couple, or lesbian single preferred to participate in one of life's greatest treasures. Joint-custody or custody to the couple with visitation for male frequently. With so much to give to a child, why waste it when gay couples and singles have proven that we are unbeatable as parents with more depth and love to give. Ad 25723

Attractive male, 32, 5'9", 145#, sincere professional. Seeking monogamous relationship with someone who is sincere, HWP, non-smoker, and values family life. Interests: museums, traveling, dining out, and quiet conversation. Prefer mail responses. Ad 25722

MATURE MASCULINE TOP

Seeking meaningful relationship with masculine bottom. Me: GWM; good looks; lean, firm body; professional; HIV-. You: sensual; good shape; employed; no addictions. Latin, Mediterranean a plus. I want what I can deliver: honesty, trust, respect, love, monogamy, intimacy, commitment. Letters preferred; include phone. Photo optional. I'll respond. Ad 25694

See Instructions on Page 21.

Breakfast, 6:40 am. Too much caffeine.

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