

HOUSTON

VOICE

June 23, 1995
ISSUE 765

A Weekly Community News Publication



The celebration continues...!" (Photo by David Goetz)

'Spectrum' test run yields mixed results

By SHERI COHEN DARBONNE
Houston Voice Editor

(HOUSTON)—An ambitious—and expensive—first-of-its-kind community event designed to pull together diverse elements of the area's gay, lesbian, bisexual, transgender and gay-friendly populations, Spectrum '95 laid claim to Houston's AstroArena last Sunday, June 18. The experimental all-day, all-gay affair yielded

decidedly mixed results.

A well-stocked, well-attended business exposition did brisk, enthusiastic business throughout the day, while a heavily publicized all-star concert—which was to have been the event's financial balance bar—drew a disappointing door crowd, whose ranks would dwindle much more before the national headliners even took the stage.

Spectrum organizer Alan Bourgeois said Monday the event, billed early on as a fundraiser, may have lost as much as \$40,000; although, he said, two donors who attended the event have offered to cover about \$24,000 of the shortfall. "We haven't gotten all the figures in yet...but it's not a pretty picture."

Still, Bourgeois called the event a success in that "It happened...we proved we could pull it off." Sceptics, he noted, had assailed the event throughout the planning process as something that could not be done.

(Continued on Page 5)

President apologizes to gay and lesbian officials

FROM STAFF AND WIRE REPORTS

(WASHINGTON)—President Clinton apologized Monday to gay and lesbian elected officials for the behavior of Secret Service officers who had donned rubber gloves before admitting the officials to the White House for a meeting last week.

In a letter sent Saturday, Clinton offered his apologies to the officials and said Secret Service Director Eljay Bowman was taking steps to ensure it did not happen again, spokesperson Ginny Terzano said late Sunday.

The officials, invited to the White House for a briefing Tuesday, complained that security guards greeted them wearing blue rubber gloves. The visitors inferred that the guards were demonstrating fears about being infected with the AIDS virus, even though the disease, which afflicts many in the gay community, is not communicable through casual contact.

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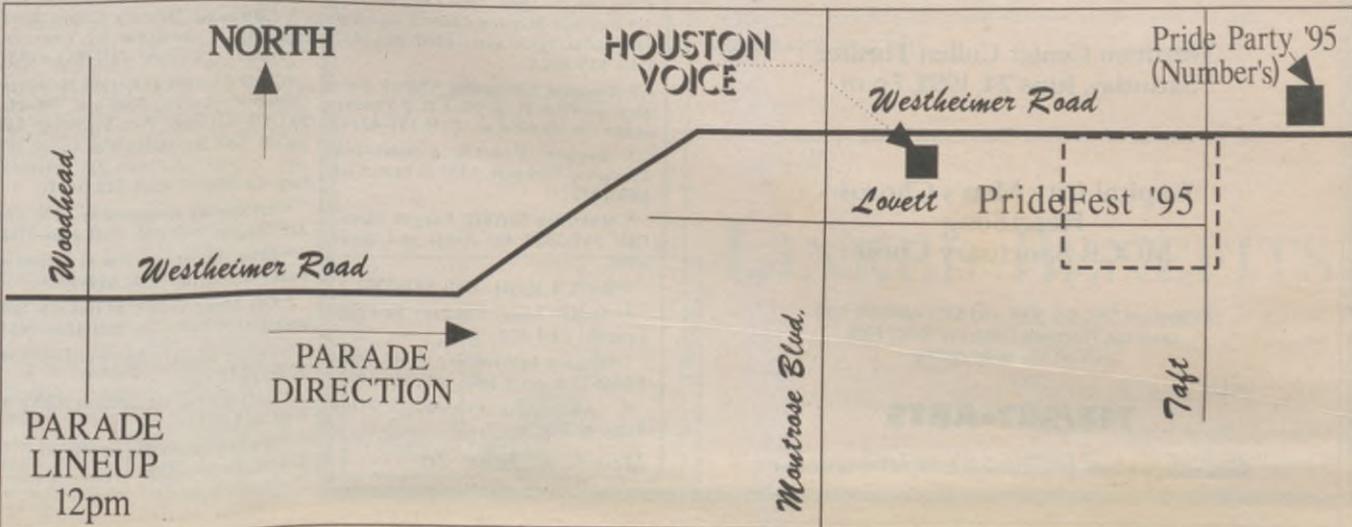
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Follow parade to fab free fest

The Houston Gay and Lesbian Pride Parade '95 starts at 2:00 p.m. Sunday along its usual Westheimer Route. This year, though, revelers won't have to drive, hike or shuttle their way to the big post-parade event.

The festive parade, with around 100 entries, will wind its way from Woodhead to Whitney; then the participants will head to the nearby site of PrideFest '95 (see map). The crowd watching the parade will be encouraged to join the march after the final units pass and literally follow the parade as it heads to Lovett Street. The post-parade festival features a free outdoor concert headlined by dance music divas Dajae and Fem 2 Fem. See you there!



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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.

The Official Pride Week Calendar of Events is on Page 3.

Friday, June 23

- * "NLA:H's "Hot Night" at the Venture-N
- * "Absolutely Fabulous" Pride Party at Heaven.
- * Borders Book Store Gay/Lesbian Book Club meets at the Espresso Bar at 9634 Westheimer. Call 782-6066.
- * HIV Art classes at the Art League. Call 225-9411.
- * Lesbian/Gay Voices on KPFT 90.1 FM 6:00 p.m. to 10:00 p.m.
- * HATCH meets. Call 942-7002.
- * CODA meets at MCCR at 7:00 p.m. Call 861-9149.
- * The Houston Symphony's 55th season at Miller Outdoor. Free. 8:30 p.m.

Saturday, June 24

- * Volunteer Meeting for Pride Parade. Call 529-6979 for more info.
- * Gay Men's Chorus of Houston performs at the Wortham. Tickets: call 227-ARTS.
- * Houston Chain Gang Bicycle Club rides. Call 520-1809.
- * After Hours on KPFT 12:00 a.m. to 3:00 a.m. 90.1 FM. Call 526-5738.
- * Midnight showing of "Priscilla, Queen of the Desert" at the River Oaks 3. Call 524-2175.
- * Dignity Houston meets for liturgy and social hour. Mass at 7:30 p.m. 1307 Yale. Call 880-2872.
- * Fundraiser at the Venture-N Hot Leather Night. Presented by Don Gill and the women of FIST.
- * The Houston Symphony's 55th season at Miller Outdoor. Free. 8:30 p.m.

Sunday, June 25

- * Houston Chain Gang Bicycle Club meets. Call 520-1809.
- * Metropolitan Community Church of the Resurrection worship services. 8:30 a.m. and 10:45 a.m. 1919 Decatur. Call 861-9149.
- * Front Runners meet at 9:00 a.m. at the Tennis center in Memorial Park. Call 522-8021.
- * Maranatha Fellowship Metropolitan Church Services at 10:00 a.m. New Location 3400 Montrose Suite 600. Call 528-6756.
- * Community Gospel Church worship service at 11:00 a.m. and 7:00 p.m. 501 E. 18th. Call 880-9235.
- * Houston Mission Church worship service at 11:00 a.m. 1505 Nevada. Call 529-8225.
- * Kingdom Community Church worship service at 11:00 a.m., Sunday School at 10:00 a.m. Call 351-4217.
- * Dignity Houston Communion Service at 5:30 p.m. 1307 H Yale. Call 880-2872.
- * Montrose Softball League plays. Call 867-3913 for fields and locations.
- * HATCH meets. Call 942-7002.
- * Inner Loop Sunday Bowling League. Call 522-9612.
- * Houston Lesbian/Gay Pride Week Parade. For more info, call 529-6979.
- * "Absolutely Fabulous" Pride Party at J.R.'s.

Monday, June 26

- * Sign Language classes at the Brazos River Bottom. Free 7:00 p.m.
- * AFH Creative Writing Class. 3:00 p.m. Call 623-6796.
- * Gay Fathers/Fathers First support group. 8:00 p.m. Call 861-6181.
- * MCCR Handbell Choir Rehearsal at 7:00 p.m. 1919 Decatur. Call 861-9149.
- * Deb Price and Joyce Murdoch at Crossroads for signing and readings. 7:30 p.m. Call 942-0147.

Tuesday, June 27

- * MCCR: CODA Support group meets at 7:00 p.m., Empowerment for Living support group and pot luck dinner at 6:00 p.m., Gloryland Singers at 8:00 p.m., The Gospel Ensemble at 6:00 p.m. Call 861-9149.
- * "Establishing Effective Case Management Units"—Seminar by Creative Consultant Services. Call 861-4338.
- * Front Runners meet at Memorial Park. 6:30 p.m. Call 522-8021.
- * PROTECT meets at Bering Church. Call 520-7870.
- * Helping Cross Dressers Anonymous meets at 1509 Fairview. 8:00 p.m. Call 495-8009.

Wednesday, June 28

- * Bear's Night Out at the Montrose Mining Company. Call 529-7488.
- * Bear of the Month Contest at the Montrose Mining Company.
- * Sheila Lennon performs at Chances. 9:00 p.m. Call 523-7217.
- * MCCR: BiNet Support Group meets at 7:00 p.m., Jubilation Mixed Ensemble meets at 6:30 p.m., Midweek uplift service at 7:00 p.m., Bible Study, Lecture Series and Choir Rehearsal 7:30 p.m. 1919 Decatur. 861-9149.
- * "Light Company" performs at Community Gospel Church. 7:30 p.m. Call 880-9235.
- * Houston Pride Band practices at Dignity Houston. Call 524-0218.
- * GLOBAL meets at 4:00 p.m. Call 743-7539.

Thursday, June 29

- * "Light Company" performs at Community Gospel Church. 7:30 p.m. Call 880-9235.
- * Montrose Ice Picks skate at the Galleria. 8:00 P.M. Call 629-1432.
- * Broadway Showtunes at J.R.'s. 9:00 p.m. Call 521-2519.
- * Community Gospel Church worship service. 7:30 p.m. 501 E. 18th. Call 880-9235.
- * "Building Healthy Client Relationships"—Seminar by Creative Consumer Services. Call 861-4338.
- * Book Signing at Bering Memorial United Methodist. 7:00 p.m. Special PFLAG National Vice President and author Bob Bernstein will speak and sign copies of "Straight Parents/Gay Children." Call 942-0147.
- * Art Classes sponsored by AFH. The Art League. 1:00 P.M. Call 526-1118.
- * Front Runners meets 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.
- * Computer Nerd Session. 7:00 p.m. 529-1223.
- * En*Light*en Up meets at 7:30 p.m. Call 528-6174.
- * Twentysomething meets at 7:30 p.m. Call 531-9396.

Gay and Lesbian Pride Week event calendar

Friday, June 23

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

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

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

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

* Houston's Hot VII: A Night in Black Leather, National Leather Association: Houston. 10:00 p.m.-2:00 a.m. Venture-N, 2923 Main 527-9666

Saturday, June 25

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

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

* Proud Out Loud! Gay Men's Chorus of Houston with other area choruses/ \$10-25; 7:00 p.m., Cullen Theater, Wortham Center, 500 Preston. Ticket information: call 222-ARTS (222-2787)

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

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

Sunday, June 25

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

* HOUSTON GAY & LESBIAN PRIDE PARADE! Grand Marshals Suzanne Anderson and Don Gill. 2:00 p.m. Map, Page 1

* PRIDE FEST '95! Free concert features hot stars Fem 2 Fem and Dajae. 4:00-7:00 p.m. Map, Page 1

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

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

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

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

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

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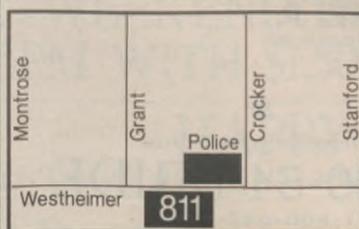
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HOUSTON VOICE

A Weekly Community News Publication

ISSUE 765
June 23, 1995

Published Fridays

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

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Houston, Texas 77006
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Fax: (713) 529-9531
Contents copyright 1995
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weekdays

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Attendance, responses vary at Spectrum '95 events



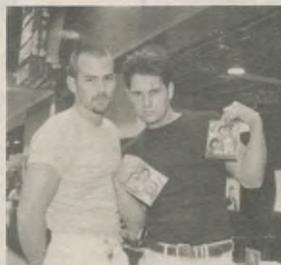
Diverse businesses hawk gimmicks, gadgets and lots of good will to the Houston gay and lesbian community at the Business Expo (photo by Frank Parsley)

(Continued from Page 1)

Despite smaller than anticipated numbers for some events, dissatisfaction seemed nowhere in evidence among the jubilant throngs who whisked through the pride symbol-festooned booths on Sunday afternoon, gathering giveaway trinkets and information on community businesses, services and organizations.

Organizers estimated that a total of 2000 people turned out for the day's events, with the largest numbers touring the spread of business, organizational and art booths.

Attendance at most Speaker Forum events met or exceeded presenters' expectations. But what might have been the most popular workshop, focusing on "Starting Your Own Business," had to be canceled due to illness of the scheduled presenter, Victory! Magazine publisher M.J. McKean-Reich.



Rap duo and concert act "DV-8" mug for the press while giving away CD's (photo by Gabriel T.)

One of the scheduled acts at the Concert of the Stars, the Gay Comedy Jam team of Scott Kennedy and Kevin Maye, also had to be canceled. The duo was unable to get a flight out of Vancouver to make it in time for the show, according to Bourgeois. Just under 1000 concert tickets were sold and the opening crowd was enthusiastic and animated, but the extended event (performances ran overtime by more than an hour) saw its audience trim down as the night wore on.

Town Meeting

Fewer than 35 people wound up taking part in Town Meeting II, a community planning meeting around which the initial inspiration for Spectrum had evolved. Patterned after the historic Town Meeting of 1978, in which an estimated 4000 people participated, TM II drew only a handful of participants who were not directly involved in either the structuring of the event or preparation of several previously released proposals on the agenda.

TM II, chaired by Deborah Bell and moderated by Linda Morales, nonetheless got down to business, passing quickly and with very minimal discussion the three resolutions dealing with maximizing local gay and lesbian economic strength and clout and a total of 11 resolutions proposed by transgender activists.

Participating representatives of the Houston Transgender Caucus appeared thrilled at the uncontested votes.

Transgender activists, thwarted in recent efforts at lobbying local, state and national gay rights organizations to specifically include their community and its issues, emerged a dominant force at TM II. The conference passed resolutions supporting political inclusion of transgendered persons in the gay/lesbian community and inclusion in proposed hate crimes legislation, along with provisions of the "International Bill of Gender Rights." Other resolutions adopted support education about transgender issues for youth, resource and support organizations, sensitivity training on transgender issues for social service agencies and health service providers and increased efforts to improve relationships with law enforcement groups and religious rights for the transgendered community, as well as a resolution declaring "union of purpose" in working toward the repeal of Texas Penal Code statute 21.06. As the meeting closed, a teary Phyllis Frye, Houston attorney and long-time transgender advocate, recalled the defeat of similar planks at

the original Town Meeting. "I've been waiting 20 years for this," she said.

Noting that plans are already underway for a Spectrum '96, Bourgeois gives an optimistic overview: the success of the Business Expo, in terms of both turnout and exhibitor feedback, is encouraging and inspiring, he said, and the organizers have learned valuable lessons to incorporate in the coming year's planning. The Spectrum organization, like other event committees, will hold various fundraising events to pay off the '95 debt and to raise seed money for next year, he said.

Spectrum 96 will be held in early June instead of during Lesbian and Gay Pride Week and will not include a Town meeting, Bourgeois said, adding that a number of community groups have already expressed an interest in working on the event.



Houston artist Kermit Eisenhut at Spectrum 95 Art Expo (photo by Gabriel T.)

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BOOK-SIGNING EVENTS

Deb Price & Joyce Murdoch

Syndicated journalist Deb Price and partner Joyce Murdoch will read from and sign copies of *And Say Hi to Joyce on Monday, June 26 at 7:30 P.M.*

at Crossroads Market & Bookstore
A free reception will immediately follow!

Robert Bernstein

Special PFLAG Speaking Event and Reception

PLFAG National Vice President and author Bob Bernstein will speak and sign copies of *Straight Parents/Gay Children on Thursday, June 29 at 7 PM*

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Gay Today

by Glen Webber



Gay Pride Notebook, Part IV

Welcome to week four of GAY PRIDE MONTH. The excitement is in the air. It is time to remind Houston who we are. We are no longer going to sit back and be verbally abused or physically attacked any more. Our strength is in our numbers and our community is thousands strong.

The success of the Spectrum '95 Business Expo made me realize something. Not only do we have power through voting, we have power through the almighty dollar. We are empowered by who we do business with.

At Spectrum 95, there were businesses who clearly wanted our money and support. They were saying to us that we are important, that our needs can be met, and our problems can be solved. They showed us they were gay friendly. I know there were other businesses that were afraid to show up. They were afraid of going public with their support. That's fine, but if a business is afraid to come out publicly and ask for my business, I'll be afraid to give them my money! We need to update our list of gay friendly businesses, then remind everyone else that our quite large disposable income will go to those businesses on the list. Think of every dollar you spend as a vote. And don't ever forget to think "Gay First."

As we celebrate with our parade, we also need to remember that we are being watched and judged. We are once again showing the world we are part of the world community. It's important that we dress to be comfortable, due to the heat. But please keep the Halloween outfits in the closet until Halloween. Let's party and let's have our nelly ribbons. But personally, I'm insulted by those who come out in outrageous outfits to attract attention. This is not the time to do it. For the sake of all the hard working adults who want to be taken seriously, who want to be Gay and Proud, now is the time to act responsibly.

The day of the parade is also a time to remember our friends. I frequently think of my friends who can't be here to celebrate with us. I remember meeting my good friend, Mike Lefleur, during our parade many years ago. He was one of those handsome men who attracted people with his beautiful smile and warm personality. We

talked on the phone every day. He taught me how to relax and enjoy the party. His death was the first of my close friends. I remember George Blair, for years my workout partner at the gym. He was one of those handsome well-built men without an ounce of attitude. He inspired me with the success he achieved both personally and professionally, and we shared a comparable sense of humor. He was the best friend anyone could ever hope to have.

I remember Norman Guttman, a political powerhouse, who never hesitated to speak his mind, and demanded to be respected as a gay man. He also threw fabulous parties and had the most diverse and unusual group of friends I've ever seen. He was intelligent, educated, well spoken and proud of who he was, and he taught me a lot about who I was.

Dr. John Conti was my friend since we were young adults in San Antonio. He was a Marine Corps doctor, a lover of music, and a body builder who taught me to take care of my body as well as my mind. He was very funny. We always laughed and had a joyous time together. He brought a love of life to everything he did. Our paths crossed over the years in many different cities, and I loved him very much.

And of course, Kelse Anderson, who I shared my life with for 13 years. He was a quiet man whose actions spoke louder than words. While we led separate lives most of the time, the bond between us, the support we gave each other, and the love we shared will never be forgotten. He taught me more than I'll ever remember.

There are, of course, many more friendships that made me who I am today. Among them was Sgt. Leonard Matlovich, the first openly gay soldier, who lost his career but gained a self-respect that carried him through life. He told me to never shy away from the truth, and that's a lesson I've finally learned all these years later. Another was Bob Damron, founder of the Damron Gay Guide, who brought me to San Francisco in 1981, to work for him on publishing the Guide book. What a dear man. He was very giving, and we stayed friends until his death. He made traveling the gay thing to do.

So enjoy the parade, party with your friends both here and in your heart, and be proud. And give me a hug when you see me.

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Human Rights CAMPAIGN FUND Action Alert

Ryan White Renewal Threatened

The Ryan White CARE Act is the leading source of federal funding for the care of people with HIV/AIDS. This life-saving help will run out in September if Congress does not act now to renew the program.

Senator Jesse Helms (R-NC) has put a hold on the CARE Act, threatening to stall the bill until it expires. Congress must act now to ensure that people with HIV/AIDS get the help they need. Senate Majority Leader Bob Dole (R-Kan) has co-sponsored the bill. He can override Helms' hold and bring the bill to the Senate floor for a vote.

This is no time to retreat on AIDS. The Centers for Disease Control has reported that AIDS is the leading killer of all Americans aged 25-44. The federal government has a responsibility to help states and cities address this national health crisis. A poll commissioned by the Human Rights Campaign Fund (HRCF) found that 77% of Americans favor increasing or maintaining federal funding for AIDS care.

The Ryan White CARE Act provides necessary federal support while allowing local communities to decide how dollars are best spent. As HRCF staffers fight for the CARE Act on Capitol Hill, Senator Dole and the rest of Congress must hear from the majority of Americans who support it.

Urge Senate Majority Leader Robert Dole to bring the Ryan White CARE Act (S. 641) to the Senate floor for a vote. Call Senator Dole at (202) 224-6521; fax him at (202) 224-8952; or

write to him: The Honorable Robert Dole, 141 Hart Senate Office Building, United States Senate, Washington, DC 20510.

Urge your Senators and Representative to support the Ryan White CARE Act and oppose any cuts in AIDS funding. Call them. Dial the U.S. Capitol at (202) 224-3121. If you aren't sure who your Senators and Representative are, just ask the switchboard operator. When you are connected to your Member's office, ask to speak to the staffer who handles AIDS issues. Write to them, include your name and address, and send your politely worded letter to: The Honorable (Senator), U.S. Senate, Washington, DC 20510, or The Honorable (Representative), U.S. House of Representatives, Washington, DC 20515. Fax and e-mail them. Call and ask for their fax numbers. Some Members of Congress have gone on-line, so ask for their e-mail addresses as well.

Copy this Action Alert column for your friends and ask them to help too. The more Ryan White supporters Congress hears from, the sooner this vital funding bill will be renewed.

For more information, call HRCF. Our Federal Advocacy Network (FAN) will provide information on contacting your elected officials. Call (202) 62-4160 or write FAN at HRCF, P.O. Box 1396, Washington, DC 20013.

The Human Rights Campaign Fund (HRCF), the nation's largest lesbian and gay political organization, works to end discrimination, secure equal rights, and protect the health and safety of all Americans. To join, call (800)-HRCF (777-4723).

The Houston Voice welcomes well-written, insightful and to-the-point commentaries for our opinion/editorial pages. We also welcome "counterpoint" articles that represent a different view on the issues approached in articles we have already run. We reserve the right to edit for length, format and clarity. The views expressed in guest commentaries and letters to the editor published in the Houston Voice are those of the writers. We seek to provide a broad-based forum which reflects the varying points of view of our rich and diverse community. Selection for publication is at our discretion. Send articles to: The Houston Voice, Attn.: Editor, 811 Westheimer, Houston, TX 77006, or fax to 713-529-9531.



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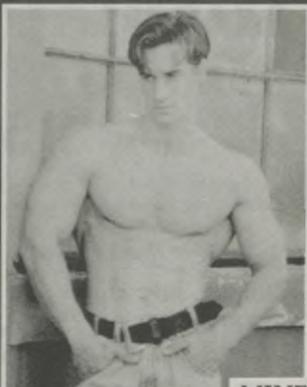
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*Clinton apologizes for
White House glove flap*

(Continued from Page 1)

On Sunday afternoon, protesters upset by the incident retaliated by decorating the White House fence with the offending items. The group, which reportedly had just left the line of a Gay Pride Parade, chanted "shame, shame" and festooned the black iron fence with rubber gloves.

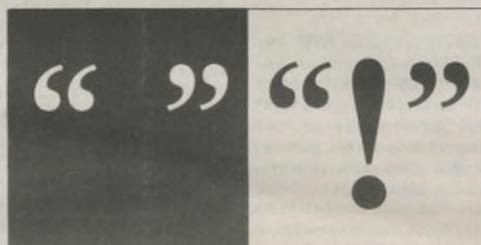
The gaffe was viewed as particularly offensive because the Clinton administration has boasted of its AIDS Policy Office's workplace AIDS education efforts, and because the Clinton is due to announce a newly appointed AIDS advisory panel this week.

"I want to apologize for the inappropriate and insensitive treat-

ment several of the participants were subjected to at the entrance gate of the White House. It was wrong," Clinton said in the letter, according to Terzano.

Clinton said the meeting had been productive, and he looked forward to working with the gay leaders in the future.

Some gay leaders have accused Clinton of distancing himself from a constituency that strongly supported him in the 1992 presidential race after he took a political pounding over the issue of allowing gays in the military. Many gay activists have been angered by the administration's recent decision not to intervene in a Supreme Court case involving gay rights.



silence to celebration

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HOUSTON

400,000 attend San Francisco parade

By ELIZABETH WEISE
FOR THE HOUSTON VOICE

SAN FRANCISCO, Monday, June 19 (AP)—The city's 25th annual gay pride parade was full of firsts this year—for some surprised tourists, a few new participants and the event itself.

The parade, led by Candace Gingrich, the lesbian sister of House Speaker Newt Gingrich, drew 400,000 marchers and watchers.

"You go, girl!" a woman shouted to Gingrich, who roared in a convertible purple Ford Mustang. "You tell your brother we love you!"

"This is San Francisco," Gingrich said over the roar of the crowd. "This is the mecca of outness. It's great."

This year for the first time, a TV station broadcast the event, officially named the "Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender Pride Celebration," live. San Francisco's independent KOFY-TV went 2 hours over its allotted two-hour broadcast because it proved so popular, the station said.

Another first-time participant was Navy Lt. Cmdr. Zoe Dunning, who learned last week that the government is dropping its efforts to drum her out of the military for homosexuality.

"I never felt safe before, I was in the middle of litigation. This is the first time I've felt free to be part of my community," she said, as she walked with members of the Alexander Hamilton, San Francisco's gay American Legion post.

The gay and lesbian alliance from San Leandro High School screamed out their school cheer and waved signs that read: "School's Out—And So Am I."

"We're the first high school to be in the parade. The response has been really, really great," said junior Julie Morris.

Off to one side of the parade route, 17 protestors waved signs reading "God hates fags," "AIDS cures fags" and other anti-gay messages.

"The whole thing is calculated to warn this evil city that they're going the way of Sodom," said the Rev. Fred Phelps, whose Topeka, Kan., church group made its first appearance at the march.

Four people were arrested. Three had thrown eggs or tried to throw eggs; a fourth managed to jump two of the barricade lines before police tackled him.

The group left after police told them officers were having difficulty protecting them from the crowd.

Despite Phelps, the parade flowed on, featuring marching bands, floats, square dancers, unicyclists and stilt walkers. The crowd roared at the arrival of the West Hollywood Cheerleaders—12 men with big hair, big pompons and short skirts.

A group of bicycling lesbians, naked from the waist up, carried signs identifying them as "Scruffy Dykes On Clunky Bikes."



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Editorial

by Sheri Cohen Darbonne

From Celebration To...?

Since last week, when we ran the "Silence to Celebration" logo of Houston Gay and Lesbian Pride Week 1995 on our front page, we at the Houston Voice have gotten a few unexpected inquiries. The more surprising questions were along the line of, "What is that thing, anyway?" The more thought-provoking: "What's it supposed to mean?"

The "Silence to Celebration" theme, adopted by several cities' Gay and Lesbian Pride Week coordinators for this year's observances, of course refers to the long trek from the dark ages of universal closets, scandal and secret societies to the presumably free, open and "gay-friendly" 1990's.

There is certainly much to celebrate about today's cultural freedoms and the progress won through the visibility of out-of-the-closet gay men and lesbians at every level and in every corner of society. But a quick look at the headlines of the day reminds us that much work remains to be done before we can truly escape the trappings of a voiceless past.

The desperate attempts of a young gay man to come out publicly (and to defend a friend branded across the nation as a pedophile because officials at first suspected he was 18, not 16) are still being smothered by the outrageous claims of his parents and others in the media.

Last week at the White House, a delegation of gay and lesbian ELECTED OFFICIALS were greeted by Secret Service personnel who wore rubber gloves "for protection" when

checking the groups' belongings and shaking hands.

In a state to the east of this one, where I spent four rather confused years of my own life and to which I've had occasional daydreams of returning, an expected candidate for governor has suggested tattooing HIV-positive people, and a legislator has reportedly introduced a bill allowing killers of HIV-positive people to claim justifiable homicide if they feel threatened. And in every state, our community's political strength and interest in the gay and lesbian movement is dying down, at the same time as the strength and organization of groups whose very existence is dedicated to denying us our rights are at an all-time high.

As we take a long, close look at the theme and logo of Houston's Gay and Lesbian Pride Week '95, we can take stock of both our successes and our shortfalls.

For many people in our community, "Silence to Celebration" is not the intended assessment of how far we have come as a community, from the pre-Stonewall era to the cultural successes of today. For too many, it is a description of a transition routinely made from day to night, or week-day to weekend, in the confusion of a society that does not acknowledge our existence and refuses to validate our relationships.

Hopefully, however, the meaning of that powerful theme will hit home for many during the emotion-charged events of this weekend. And hopefully, after the celebration, fewer will be content fade back into the illusory comfort of their silence, emerging only to criticize others for speaking up.

Kent, Washington welcomes 4000 gay-lesbian softball players

KENT, Wash., Thursday, June 15 (AP)—Some officials in this south Seattle suburb are ready to welcome 4000 gay and lesbian softball players to a mid-August tournament that could bring the community as much as \$4 million.

But Mayor Jim White says he will not be available that week and "won't be here to welcome them."

The Catch the Spirit World Series, scheduled Aug. 14-20 by the North American Gay Amateur Athletic Association, is "one of the biggest tournaments we've ever hosted," said Kent Parks program coordinator Gary Quantz.

"They're expecting a huge turnout," Quantz said, adding, "The city will definitely benefit."

White said he's not sure the event will be good for Kent. At the same time, he said the organization "is just another group as far as I'm concerned. ... I'm not opposed to it if that's what you're asking."

Buz Fleming, who has the concession contract for city softball fields, said area merchants should be sure to make themselves available.

A small weekend tournament was sponsored here last year by the Emerald City Softball Association, a

Seattle-based gay and lesbian league, she recalled.

"They are big spenders," Fleming said. "They're very friendly, very happy."

Last year's tourney didn't have the heavy competitive atmosphere of some such contests, she noted.

"These people are having fun. ... I enjoyed working with them," Fleming said.

Tournament director Gail Britto said 3000 of the players will be from outside the area, mostly the East Coast. About 1000 rooms have been reserved at area hotels.

"The rooms should bring in well over \$500,000," said tourney travel agent Karen Farrell. "We anticipate well over 700 (rental) cars, well over \$100,000."

Another \$500,000 is going to air fare. The remaining millions are expected to be spent on food, merchandise and entertainment.

"They appear to have the bucks and they want to spend them," Farrell said.

The group also is spending \$15,000 to \$20,000 for city field rentals, and has bought a \$5,500 lighted scoreboard that will be donated to the city.

OPINION

Problems at Thomas Street need to be addressed

Guest Commentary

By BAR WILSON

A number of problems are routinely encountered by clients of the Harris County Hospital District's Thomas Street Clinic. FYI, Thomas Street is the District's designated clinic where persons with HIV/AIDS are generally treated.

What does it mean, personally, to be treated at Thomas Street? Foremost, you must qualify by not having any significant financial resources.

Admittedly, the Clinic's conditions have improved dramatically over the past year, but there are significant problems in the areas of personnel, drug treatment and dispensing, infection control and confidentiality policy, and continuity of care. All need to be addressed by the District.

Personnel

The very last thing that anyone wants to deal with is an uncaring clerk with an attitude problem. Far too often, people who are ill are seen crying, in rage or quiet frustration at some rude clerk's actions.

Admittedly, there is a system to eliminate problem clerks, but it is extremely involved and requires too much paperwork, with at least two documented violations to get rid of some supposed civil servant who is not doing their job.

It is essential that the District initiate quality service seminars and incentives for the clerks. Training the employees to understand that clients are people and are to be treated professionally with some common courtesy, or that consequences, a swift termination of employment, will follow.

Drug Treatment & Dispensing

Thomas Street has a number of problems in drug dispensing. The first, if a client has a prescription for a drug, it needs to be filled there at the clinic. It is inexcusable for the Thomas Street pharmacy not to fill a PWA's prescriptions because a particular drug is not on some arbitrary bureaucratic list of approved medications. Additionally, the time waiting on prescriptions to be filled might justify contracting the pharmacy to a private firm. I know of no private drugstore that has as high a number of employees nor is as slow in processing orders.

Secondly, get over having a problem dispensing pain medication to AIDS patients who are in pain. Explain to me, please, the problem in giving a terminal patient a habit forming pain killer? Is this some sort of puritanical character building exercise or what? For mercy's sake, give these sick people the medication they need to have some sanity and dignity, and quit treating them like they were drug fiends.

Finally, there are instances when I have heard of Thomas Street Physicians stating of a private physician, "He tends to over-medicate" and not prescribe anything for a client with the same or similar symptoms as a pri-

vate care patient. Thomas Street's doctors are becoming known for under-medicating their clients. I am not a physician, but it seems obvious that a balance needs to be struck here for the ultimate health of these patients.

Infection Control & Confidentiality

Thomas Street's Administration seems to care more for the confidentiality of their clients records than for their health.

Staff and volunteers are not informed when clients have, for instance, active cases of TB (or any other contagious disease). This presents a problem when these clients refuse to maintain infection control procedures (wear their masks). Because of confidentiality you can be sitting next to someone with active TB and no one knows except the TB patient and his Doctor. This idiocy exposes the remaining clients, along with the staff, to TB.

Ethically, maintenance of confidentiality is accessory if a patient with an infectious disease will not follow infection control protocol and thus causes even potential spread of a disease. If a client is being treated at Thomas Street they must accept responsibility for their own actions. When a client breaks infection protocol they violate the covenant. Confidentiality, a well intentioned practice, is medically and morally unsupportable in this instance and the client population and staff must be protected against these violators. Paranoia and political correctness do not make proper medical practice.

Continuity Of Care

Most clients in further stages see a single care provider who is familiar with their case. Clients who are only in Thomas Street once every quarter do not. Obviously, work loads need to be distributed in order that all clients see a care giver who is familiar with their case history!

Let's Get Real

My hat is off to the people at Thomas Street Clinic. What happens there every day is fairly miraculous. There are some very dedicated, really good people there and I thank God that Thomas Street is there for this Community. In short, this is not a blanket indictment of the Hospital District, Thomas Street Clinic, nor their administrators, employees or volunteers. It is a sincere attempt to call attention to areas that need improvement in Thomas Street Clinic's services.

However, it is high time that Thomas Street's clients were treated professionally by all of the employees of the Hospital District, that all PWA's prescriptions are filled in a reasonable time frame, that the clients' and staffs' health is not endangered by ridiculous, politically correct confidentiality protocol and that a PWA can expect to meet a single care giver who is familiar to the PWA and with his case.

Your comments and suggestions are welcome c/o the "Houston Voice."

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LOCAL/STATE

San Antonio journalism teacher, AIDS activist dies

SAN ANTONIO, Monday, June 19 (AP)—W.B. "Dub" Daugherty Jr., a longtime college journalism teacher and AIDS activist, has died from complications of the disease. He was 52.

As chairperson of mass communications at San Antonio College, Daugherty helped launch thousands of journalism careers. He died Saturday at his Monte Vista area home.

"He took a medical leave in January and his condition has kind of been up and down the last four weeks," said Irene Abrego, a friend and SAC colleague. "(His) house has been full of people for the last three days."

Active in the fight against AIDS, Daugherty was founding director of the San Antonio AIDS Foundation. His home was the first hospice for AIDS patients in the Alamo City.

Daugherty described his educational credo as "expect the best and accept nothing less."

Born on May 15, 1943, in Mill Creek, Okla., the family later moved to Ardmore, Okla., where Daugherty attended Plainview School. He was valedictorian in 1961.

Daugherty received his master's degree in journalism from the University of Oklahoma in 1965 after receiving bachelor's degrees from Murray State College and Southeastern State College.

He taught at Southeastern and Connors State College before joining the SAC faculty in 1969.

In his 26-year tenure at the community college, Daugherty, while serving as an adviser, helped transform the student newspaper, The Ranger, into a nationally recognized college publication.

Daugherty is survived by two sisters, Thelma Whitson of Ardmore, Okla., and Lois Rolon of Kingston, Okla., as well as numerous nieces and nephews.

Memorial services are scheduled for 2:00 p.m. Thursday at San Antonio College's McAllister Fine Arts Center and 7:00 p.m. Friday at the River City Living Church.

In lieu of flowers, donations may be made to the W.B. Daugherty Scholarship administered by the Society of Professional Journalists or to the Food for Today program administered by River City Living Church.

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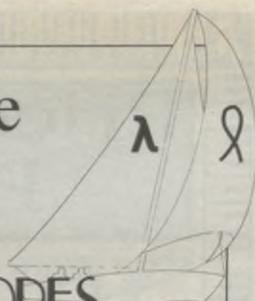
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Community Organizations Bulletin Board

Eyes For Bette Davis

The producers of an upcoming local production Elizabeth Fuller's stage play, "Me and Jezebel," are looking for Bette Davis memorabilia for the show's Southwest Premiere here. Posters, life-size cut-outs, 8x10 photos, trinkets, knick knacks—contribute anything Bette Davis, and you'll get an acknowledgment in the program for the July 5-31 run at New Heights Theatre, according to The Company We Keep.

The producers are also offering community organizations an easy way to raise \$500, \$1000 or \$1500 in one night. For details, call Lee Harrington at 523-9000.

Thank You Parties

Two local community organizations recently held appreciation parties to recognize hard working volunteers and/or officers.

On June 11, NAMES Project Houston held an appreciation party at KAD's Restaurant to thank volunteers and participants in the recent AIDS Memorial Quilt Display at Houston's George R. Brown Convention Center. During the event, a special award—the first ever NAMES Project jacket from the San Francisco national organization—was presented to Houston Names Project's Pete Martinez in appreciation for his years of work with the Quilt.



David Jackson, co-chair of recent Quilt display in Houston, presents Pete Martinez with special gift at NAMES Project volunteer party



Karla Randle, right, PWA Coalition Houston executive board member, presents plaque of appreciation to past president Jay Stlemmer

The People With AIDS Coalition of Houston honored past president Jay Stlemmer for his six years of service to the organization on June 15. The event also was the site of the "1994 Bill Napoli Awards," which honored Holly Patterson, Escler Pruitt and Ray West.

Transgenders Protest HRCF

The three largest transgender rights organizations have agreed to take joint action in a protest of the Human Rights Campaign Fund, the largest gay and lesbian rights organization, local members of the groups reported this week. It's Time, America!, Transgender Nation and Transsexual Menace will picket and/or hand out informational pamphlets speaking out against HRCF at fundraising events throughout the country in response to the organization's position excluding transgenders from the Employment Non-Discrimination Act (ENDA).

When the ENDA was first introduced in Congress, HRCF "actively worked to have transgenders excluded from the language of the legislation," said Sarah DePalma of it's Time! Texas in a statement. On June 16, DePalma said "HRCF did it again! As a result, transgendered people have once again been excluded from the protection offered by ENDA.

"The difference is that this time transgenders are not going to take this insult without a fight," the statement continues.



Bowling Leagues Report Standings

The Inner Loop Sunday Evening League reports the following standings. Sticky Wickets is in first place, Another Ex is second and We Hate This Game is third. High Scratch game of 228 was bowled by Bob Roberts and series of 620 by Chris Bennett for the men. For the women High Scratch game of 191 and series of 560 was bowled by Judy Hatfield. For League info, call Tom at 522-9612.

The Montrose Monday Night Men's League reports Division A standings of Four Blonde Beavers in first place, Lube It or Lose It is second and Doggie Style Too is third. Division B is headed by Party of Four, and second is Striking Beauties. Third place is taken by Duck Sausage. High Scratch game of 236 was bowled by Chris Bennett and series of 610 by Gardy Harvey. For more info call Gardy at 641-5424.

The Monday Nite Women's League reports Legal Insanity is in first while

Can't Bowl Straight is second, Maybe, Maybe Not is third and That's All Folks is fourth. For info call Pat at 437-6218, or Marla at 862-3630.

The Wednesday Nite Mixers report first place is taken by Tongue Wrestlers, second place by Daisy Mae & The Seed and third by Some R Some Rn't. High Scratch game of 236, and series of 671, was bowled by Rodney Seiler for the men and for the women, Terry Shannon bowled scratch of 203, and C.J. Johnson series of 454. For more info call Tom at 522-9612.

Candlelight No Tap Bowling is "happening" Saturday, June 24, at 8:00 p.m. at Palace Lanes. Call 522-9612 for information.

The Texas Invitational Tournament Committee reports on overwhelming response to the upcoming July 1 and 2, Tenth annual event. Capacity for the tournament has been reached and another team shift has been added to accommodate the overflow. For more info call Andrea at 447-8133, or Tom at 522-9612.



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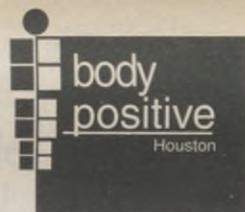
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Supreme Court: Boston St. Patrick's Day parade can exclude gays

FROM STAFF AND WIRE REPORTS

(WASHINGTON)—The U.S. Supreme Court ruled unanimously Monday that the organizers of a St. Patrick's Day Parade in Boston have a free-speech right to exclude a group of gay and lesbian Irish-American marchers.

The high court said the organizers' free-speech rights under the Constitution's First Amendment takes precedence over a state public accommodation law barring discrimination based on sexual orientation in public places.

"The issue in this case is whether Massachusetts may require private citizens who organize a parade to include among the marchers a group imparting a message the organizers do not wish to convey."

Justice David Souter said for the court in the 24-page opinion.

"We hold that such a mandate violates the First Amendment," he concluded.

The Irish-American Gay, Lesbian and Bisexual Group of Boston sued after the parade's organizers, the South Boston Allied War Veterans Council, excluded them in 1992 and 1993 from the parade that also commemorates the March 17, 1776, departure of British troops from Boston.

A trial judge called the parade a recreational event open to the public and ruled that the gay and lesbian group cannot be excluded just because of its members' sexual orientation. The Massachusetts Supreme Judicial Court agreed.

But Souter declared the state court wrong, holding that parades were a form of constitutionally protected expression that convey a message to bystanders.

If the gay marchers prevailed under the state law, then any group with a particular message would have the right to take part in the parade, he said. That would violate the First Amendment's fundamental rule that the government lacks the power to control the choice of a speaker.

"While the law is free to promote all sorts of conduct in place of harmful behavior, it is not free to interfere with speech for no better reason than promoting an approved message or discouraging a disfavored one, however enlightened either purpose may strike the government,"

Souter said.

He emphasized the decision was based on a commitment to protect free speech and expressed no view about the message conveyed by the parade's organizers in refusing to allow the gay marchers.

"Today's decision was not a broad pronouncement on the rights of gay and lesbian people in American society generally," a lawyer for the gay and lesbian rights group, Mary Bonauto, said in a statement.

"In fact the Court reaffirmed the basic principle that discrimination against gay, lesbian and bisexual people is wrong. Instead, today's ruling is limited to a disagreement about what constitutes discrimination in this very narrow and unique set of circumstances," she said.

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ARTS/ENTERTAINMENT

Gay-O-Rama at DiverseWorks

Entertainment Notes

What's the final step "Beyond Desire?" At DiverseWorks Artspace, It's "Gay-O-Rama"—a pride-filled trio of playlets that teams two top talents in local alternative theater—Joe Watts and Gerald LaBita. The presentation shares a double bill this Friday and Saturday, June 23 and 24, with Travis Mader's consciousness work "unconscious studies" as the finale of this year's Beyond Desire: Gay and Lesbian Performance Series. Performances begin at 8:00 p.m.

For Gay-o-Rama, TheaterLaB impressario LaBita and Watts, of The Group Theatre Workshop, will present three short playlets, featuring a total of five actors and focusing on gay and lesbian identity and relationships.

"Touch" by David Demchuk is an affectionate look at two gay lovers as they ponder questions about keeping the erotic ablaze in their relationship. David Dukes and Chris Craigs make up the cast.

Dukes and Craigs also appear in Watts' "Mornings," with Becky



Suzanne Anderson is featured in "Secret Ingredient"

Byars and Kim Seiver. In this piece, a unique relationship between a lesbian and a gay man wreaks havoc on their significant partners.

"Secret ingredient," starring this year's Houston Gay and Lesbian Pride Week female grand marshal, Suzanne Anderson, traces a lesbian's odyssey from her Baptist upbringing in Tulsa to the March on Washington. The playlet was written by Anderson's partner, Judith Meyer.

Tickets are \$12 (\$10 for DiverseWorks members, \$7 for students). For reservations, call 228-0914.



Chris Craig and David M. Dukes share a moment from "Touch" by David Demchuk, one of three short playlets in "Gay-O-Rama," June 23-24 at DiverseWorks

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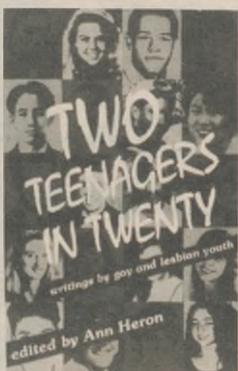
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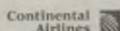
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ARTS/ENTERTAINMENT

Peters and Pops at the Pavilion

Entertainment Notes

Broadway, film and recording artist Bernadette Peters takes to the stage at the Cynthia Woods Mitchell Pavilion on Friday, July 28 at 8:00 p.m. Peters will perform her debut with the Houston Symphony Pops under the direction of her musical director and pianist Marvin Laird with drummer Cubby O'Brien. The program will be announced from the stage that evening.

Peters was born in Ozone Park, New York and made her theatrical debut at age 13 in a road company of Gypsy, playing Dainty June. While still a teenager, she made her Broadway debut in *The Girl in the Freudian Slip*, initially as an understudy. She then went on to perform in *Johnny No-Trump* and *George M!* with Joel Grey. Her first of four Tony Award nominations was received for a Broadway revival of *Bernstein/Comden* and *Green's Musical On the Town*. Her sec-



Bernadette Peters will perform with the Houston Pops July 28 at Cynthia Woods Mitchell Pavilion

ond nomination came a season later when she co-starred with Robert Preston in *Mack and Mabel*.

In 1983 she starred in *"Sunday in the Park with George,"* written and directed by James Lapine and received her third Tony Award nomination for Best Actress in a Musical. She then starred in *Song and Dance* and won the Tony Award for Best Actress.

Peters has also starred in 15 movies and has recorded two of her own albums and numerous original cast albums.

Tickets to "Bernadette Peters and the Pops" range in price from \$10-\$25 and can be purchased at the Pavilion's new, on-site ticket office, open Monday through Friday from 10-6, Saturday from 10-4, and concert days through intermission. Tickets may also be purchased at all TicketMaster Ticket Centers, including Blockbuster Music, Foley's, Fiesta and Randalls, or by calling 713/629-3700. Call the Cynthia Woods Mitchell Pavilion at 713/363-3300 for further information.

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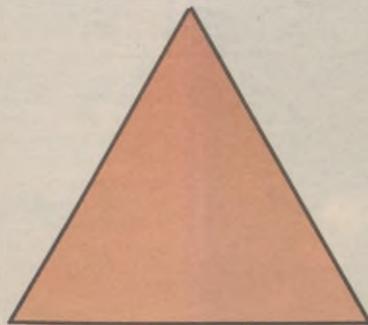
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GLAAD MEDIA WATCH

by Al Kielwasser

S.F. TV Station Threatened Over Parade Coverage

James Gabbert—the newly “out” gay media mogul—decided to do what (remarkably) no broadcaster in the United States had yet done...televise live coverage of a Pride Parade. Gabbert announced that his KOFY-TV station would cover the 25th Annual San Francisco Lesbian/Gay/Bisexual/Transgender Parade and Pride Celebration (held Sunday, June 18).

Since he began airing ads for the broadcast, Gabbert reported receiving a number of boycott—and death—threats. Hundreds of homophobic callers threatened to put pressure on KOFY advertisers, especially those that might advertise during the “demonic” broadcast.

Gabbert rejected the threats, however. A week before the scheduled broadcast, he told the press: “This is not just a gay event, it’s an event for all of San Francisco. I thought it would be a really neat thing to broadcast it, and I still do. We’re going to do it.”

** Direct feedback to James Gabbert, Owner and President, KOFY-TV, 2500 Marin Street, San Francisco, CA 94124, tel. 415-821-2020.

SurfWatch Takes Another Look

On-line media have become the latest targets of censorship campaigns around the world. In response, various “self-censorship” programs are being developed by computer software companies. Though touted as solutions to the censorship problem, these programs raise troubling concerns for the lesbian, gay and bisexual communities.

SurfWatch Software, Inc. recently released “SurfWatch,” a new product that the company describes as a “breakthrough.” According to the manufacturers, SurfWatch “helps you deal with the flood of sexually explicit material on the Internet. By helping you to be responsible for blocking what is being received at any individual computer, children and others using your computer have less chance of accidentally or deliberately being exposed to unwanted material.”

To accomplish the program’s objective, SurfWatch utilizes a database of newsgroups, World Wide Web pages, and other on-line sources that the company deems “objectionable.”

Significantly, on-line activist Christopher Kryzan reports that this list of censored sites had included many that “clearly do not contain sexually explicit materials, but rather provide information, education, resources and calendars of events.” Among the blocked information services were those provided by the International Association of Gay Square

Dance Clubs, the Queer Resources Directory, the Lesbian/Gay/Bisexual Association of the University of California at Berkeley, and the Maine Gay Network.

Following a flood of complaints, the company has just announced that these sites will NOT be blocked in the next release of SurfWatch. Kryzan reports that, “SurfWatch has also decided to put together an advisory board to assist in the review of sites, and has committed to include members of the queer community on this board.” He added: “This is a very positive step, I believe. We will be working with them to identify key individuals who are savvy with issues of queer youth online to assist in this role.”

However, Kryzan urges caution as well as enthusiasm. “This is just the beginning,” he said. “There will be more SurfWatches to come, some probably bearing the label of the Radical Right, and our vigilance in monitoring our rights to access information must accelerate, if anything.” He further warns: “We must be vigilant in ensuring that some self-proclaimed Guardians of the Internet do not impose their personal morals and values on the community at large, conducting, in effect, a worldwide book-burning in this electronic library... We must not let all topics of a gay, lesbian or bisexual nature get swept up in a frenzy of censorship.”

Blanket categorizations of lesbian and gay content as “objectionable” and “obscene” are common, AND deeply immoral. They devalue knowledge and truth, encourage sex-negativity, and are too often used to bolster irrational censorship efforts. Inevitably, they work to deny the right of lesbian and gay youth to fair, accurate and diverse information about WHO THEY ARE.

For young, closeted or isolated queers, “self-censorship” software could be used to block—in a very real sense—access to their history, their community and, indeed, their future.

** Share comments and concerns with SurfWatch Software, Inc., 105 Fremont Avenue, Suite F, Los Altos, CA 94022, tel. 415-948-9500, fax 415-948-9577, e-mail info@surfwatch.com; Chris Kryzan, Executive Director, OutProud: The National Coalition for Gay, Lesbian & Bisexual Youth, P.O. Box 24589, San Jose, CA 95154-4589, e-mail kryzan@outproud.org.

(To notify GLAAD Media Watch of any defamatory or affirmative media coverage, or to request membership information, please call our 24-hour Media Watch Hotline (415-861-4588) or write to Gay & Lesbian Alliance Against Defamation/San Francisco Bay Area Chapter, 1360 Mission Street, Suite 200, San Francisco, CA 94103; tel. 415-861-2244, fax 415-861-4893, e-mail glaad-fba@aol.com.)

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Houston playwright explores the art of looking back

By GLEN WEBBER

Houston Voice/Houston

As part of the Houston Gay and Lesbian Pride Week celebration, an encore presentation of Houston playwright Gary Laird's production of "Doublewide" is scheduled at STAGES Theater, with proceeds benefiting the People With AIDS Coalition Houston. The benefit performance will take place Friday night, June 23 at 9:00 p.m.

Laird describes the play as "a family reunion of sorts...a playwright goes back to his roots for a funeral. It becomes the catalyst for reprocessing the past."

Asked whether the play might be semi-autobiographical, Laird replied

that all of his plays have some basis from real life, and yes, there are elements of truth woven throughout this play. "Some characters are based on people I know," said Laird. The play is the fourth he has written and had produced within a period of two years. "Doublewide," said Laird, took six weeks to write but took all my life to actually get written in my head."

Gary Laird is a native Texan, born and raised in El Campo 53 years ago. He says he developed his interest in the arts through his family, who used to drive up to Houston to attend the theater. Both his brother and sister are now musicians. They will be here for the performance Friday, said Laird. "They know I'm gay, and are very supportive of all

my productions.

Laird is among a new, emerging crop of creative and prolific, "out" gay playwrights who are gaining note in Houston, though his age distinguishes him from most. Asked why he waited until this phase of his life to start writing plays, he responded, "When I asked myself why I didn't do this 30 years ago, I realized I wasn't ready yet. I needed to live through several generations of family and friends to be able to look back on my life and write about it."

Seeing his work on stage, said Laird, is "the payoff to a lot of hard work."

"This is the only medium (with which) you can create a three-dimensional person. It is very exciting. I use many personality traits from people I have

known in the past." He laughed and added, "I have an excellent memory and several people have regretted it."

Laird recently got a chance to work with a legend in his field, Pulitzer Prize-winning playwright Edward Albee, in an invitation-only writing seminar at the University of Houston. "Mr Albee is very giving," he said. "It was exciting and useful to me as a playwright. We worked in a classroom situation with 12 other playwrights. We worked on establishing characters and developing plays to proper climax. He taught us how to answer questions about our plays and ourselves."

His future plans include a production of his play "Last Splash" in Austin.

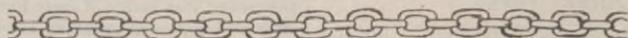
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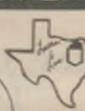
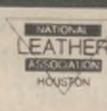
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ASK THE PASTOR

Q: "What does God say about abortion?"



Rev. Janet Parker

A: This is a very "hot" topic for many people. God doesn't address abortion per se in the Scripture but God has a lot to say about the sanctity of life. God is the Creator of all life and the Giver of all life. It is by the miracle of conception that an embryo grows in a mother's womb. Life is one of God's greatest gifts to humanity. When a life is conceived in love and by choice, what a wonderful gift it becomes!

I believe Scripture supports life for everyone. God is the One who inspired Scripture and therefore supports life. God also supports free choice for all people. God gave Adam and Eve free choice regarding the eating of the Tree of the knowledge of good and evil. If God did not allow free choice, Eve would have been kept from such an act. God did intervene to keep Adam and Eve from eating of the tree of eternal

life in the Garden of Eden. He drove them out of the garden and placed an angel at its entrance to keep them from the tree. Eating of this tree would have banished humanity from ever being reconciled with God. It was God's love that did such a thing. That is one of the few times that humanity did not have a choice.

Abortion, I believe, is about more than just terminating a pregnancy. God would have us look at the real issues. We have a group of people fighting on one side to say that God is "Pro-Life." People on the other side are saying that God is "Pro-Choice." I believe that God is both. I believe that most of the people in both groups of people agree with God that life is precious. What we disagree on is who should have CONTROL. Control over the unborn child and control over the pregnant woman. Some of the undercurrents floating around are the idea that we should legislate morality for all people and MAKE them conform to another's beliefs and standards. Some people are making themselves God for other people in their desire to tell others what to do with the life within them. This is a very scary place to be. When church and state came together in history we experienced catastrophe. We witnessed grave persecution of people as well as oppression of people who did not have control and power in society: i.e. Jews, Gays, Blacks, Women, etc.

Abortion is raising this same battle for control to the forefront. Another issue for us to address is selfishness. God has always left it to the individual to respond to what God offers to us. Many times we forego what God has for us to do our own thing. How many of us look at the consequences of our actions BEFORE we act? How many of us look at what I may have to sacrifice because of an inappropriate action? From the person who rapes another person, to a parent who commits incest with their child or relative, to a promiscuous person who has unprotected sex—all are acting irresponsibly and with selfish motives without thought for the life created. We also have people who are not promiscuous who have sex without the desire for children who do not take the precautions necessary and have an "unwanted" pregnancy. Are we addressing the "selfishness" and irresponsible acts? How do we address them? Is it by legislating morality? I don't think this is the answer.

God has a lot to say about addressing selfishness and irresponsibility. Why don't we take a look at this as another approach to seeing how God views abortion? Stay tuned next week...

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

MCCR announces 'Sexuality and the Scriptures' class

Quick Notes

Metropolitan Community Church of the Resurrection (MCCR) has announced the dates for its popular class on "Sexuality and the Scriptures," which will be held every Wednesday evening during the month of July.

People have used Holy Scriptures for years to justify their condemnation of sexual persons who are gay, lesbian, bisexual or transgendered. In doing so, they have often lifted Biblical quotations out of context and ignored more than 200 years of solid Biblical scholarship, coordinators of the course explain.

The four consecutive Wednesday evenings in July (5, 12, 19 and 26), Rev. Ralph Lasher, staff clergy at MCCR, will talk about what the Bible really says and means about sexual minorities. Rev. Lasher was an Episcopal priest

over 35 years and ago, was asked to leave when it was discovered that he was gay.

The workshops will begin at 7:30 p.m. and end between 9:00 and 9:30 p.m., depending on how many questions are asked. Workshops will be held in the Fellowship Hall, preceded from 7:00 to 7:25 p.m. by a worship service (attendance optional) in the Sanctuary. The tentative schedule of agenda topics: Sex and Marriage in Biblical Times, July 5; Levitical Holiness (Old Testament) and the Apostle Paul (New Testament) on July 12; Naomi and Ruth...King David and Jonathan, July 19 and Matthew, Mark, Luke, John and Jesus on July 28. Opportunities will be provided for questions and discussion. Reservations are requested, as the class fills up rapidly (first names only needed to make a reservation). The New International Version Bible will be used, but any translation is acceptable.

Community Gospel Church announces concert

Quick Notes

After the parade is over, the party concluded, the rally disbursed, the celebration continues at Community Gospel Church. Wednesday and Thursday, June 28 and 29 at 7:30 p.m., the Light Company from Ontario, California will be in concert. "This dynamic group is one of the best in Southern Gospel music," said Chris Chiles, CGC pastor. "The Light Company first came to Houston last December and received a very warm and enthusiastic response from all who heard them. They returned in February for Gospel Explosion '95 and

brought the house down with their energy and amazing musical capabilities. They are currently traveling through Tennessee, making a brief stay in Houston, and continuing to Arizona.

"If you have heard this tremendous group before, you won't want to miss these services. If you have not had the pleasure of hearing them, this is your chance!" There will be no admission charge; however, a free will offering will be received for the group. They will also have several of their recordings available for sale. Community Gospel is located at 501 E. 18th Street at Columbia between Heights Blvd. and Studemont.

Authors booked for Houston appearances

Quick Notes

Nationally syndicated columnist Deb Price and her spouse Joyce Murdoch will appear at a book signing event Monday, June 26, 7:00 p.m. at Crossroads Market & Bookstore, 610 West Alabama. The couple will bring copies of and read from their new book "And Say Hi to Joyce" (Doubleday, \$23.95, Hardback, 6/1/95).

Deb Price and Joyce Murdoch are the first lesbian couple to enter American homes across the country courtesy of daily newspapers. Through Price's award-winning weekly column, newspaper readers discovered an openly lesbian columnist injecting a long-overdue gay perspective into mainstream journalism. Price and Murdoch's new book, "And Say Hi to Joyce," shares not only the first 20 months of Deb's column and the story of its birth, but tells how the column is changing lives by knocking down barriers that set people apart.

Crossroads Market & Bookstore, PFLAG (Parents and Friends of Lesbians and Gays) and Thunder's

Mouth Press (New York) have also announced that author Robert Bernstein will appear at speaking events in Dallas and Houston next week.

These events mark the release of Bernstein's new book "Straight Parents/Gay Children—Keeping Families Together" (Thunder's Mouth Press, \$12.95, 203 pages, Trade Paper, 6/1/95). During his appearances, Bernstein will relate not only how he and his family came to terms with his daughter's homosexuality, but some of his own and others' experiences with PFLAG, an organization that helps parents achieve a fuller understanding and appreciation of human diversity.

Bernstein is a former supervising attorney for the U.S. Department of Justice, as well as Law Professor for Southern Methodist University. Once president of PFLAG's Washington, D.C. Metropolitan Area Chapter, he is now national vice-president of PFLAG and a freelance writer. In Houston, he is scheduled to speak on Thursday, June 29, 7:00 p.m. at Bering Memorial United Methodist Church, 1440 Harold.

Interactive teleconference explores new findings in HIV research

(NEW YORK)—A free, live Interactive video teleconference will be broadcast on Thursday, June 29, between 6:00 p.m. and 8:30 p.m. Eastern Time (5:00-7:30 p.m. Central) to 12 cities across the U.S., including Houston, to bring people concerned with HIV up-to-date on the new understanding of how HIV disease develops and what it means for people living with HIV.

The video teleconference will provide interested individuals an interactive session with leading researchers and community representatives as they discuss the implications of research published in Nature last January showing that HIV, long-thought to lie dormant in the body for years after infection, is actually engaged in an all-out battle with the body's immune system almost from the moment of infection.

"We've gained a deepened appreciation of how effectively the body fights HIV," said Dr. Michael Saag, Associate Professor of Medicine and Infectious Diseases at the University of Alabama at Birmingham and a contributing author of one of the Nature papers. "We need to take this new information and incorporate it into the strategies we use to treat people to keep the virus at bay as long as possible."

The researchers found that millions of copies of HIV are created every day, and that in response, the body produces approximately one billion new CD4 cells daily to combat the infection. Over time, the virus wears down the immune system to the point where it can no longer effectively respond to HIV or other infections. As a result of these findings, many researchers now believe that suppressing the amount of HIV in the body, or viral load, is critical to helping the body hold off the virus for as long as possible.

The format of the video teleconference begins with an overview of HIV pathogenesis from Dr. Saag, a related discussion on the importance of the amount of virus, or viral load, in

people with HIV from Dr. Mark Holodniy of the VA Medical Center in Palo Alto, CA, followed by a Question & Answer session with attendees at the 12 interactive sites.

Following the Q&A session, presentations will be made by community treatment advocates, including Moises Agosto of the National Minority AIDS Council, Bill Behiman of ACT UP/ New York, Martin Delancy from Project Inform and Gregg Gonsalves from the Treatment Action Group. Panel discussion will offer perspectives on how the new information impacts the management of HIV. Another Q&A session will be held after the community presentations.

The teleconference sites will open one hour before the teleconference starts; light refreshments will be served at that time. Houston's interactive conference site will be at the Westin Galleria Hotel (Ballroom), 5050 West Alabama. Registration for participants will take place prior to the teleconference, from 4:00-5:00 p.m. Moderators of the discussion in Houston are Dr. Joseph Gathe and Bart Loeser.

The video teleconference is interactive, allowing members of the audience to ask questions and receive answers from the panelists during the broadcast. Each Interactive site will be hosted by a physician expert and a community treatment representative. In addition to Houston, teleconferences will be held in Atlanta, Boston, Chicago, Los Angeles, Miami, New York, Newark, Philadelphia, San Francisco, San Juan, and Washington, DC. The video teleconference is co-sponsored by the National Association of People with AIDS, the National Lesbian and Gay Health Association, the National Minority AIDS Council and Project Inform and is supported under an unrestricted grant from Burroughs Wellcome Co.

For additional information, contact the teleconference coordinator at 1-800-555-9587.

Anti-gay initiatives attacked at regional Methodist gathering

TACOMA, Sunday, June 18 (AP)—Two anti-gay initiatives have been rejected by the Pacific Northwest Conference of the United Methodist Church.

About 900 clergy and lay representatives from Washington and northern Idaho voted Saturday at the University of Puget Sound to oppose Initiative 166, which would bar schools from portraying homosexuality as an acceptable lifestyle, and Initiative 167, which would bar gays and lesbians from adopting children or becoming foster parents.

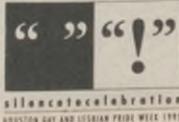
If the measures are signed by enough registered voters, the Legislature would have the choice of enacting them into law, rejecting them and sending them to a vote of the people,

or adopting alternatives and letting voters choose between the originals, the legislative versions and existing law.

"It's a civil rights issue," said Tricia Schug, conference communications director. "The United Methodist Church tries to be proactive in social justice issues."

Conference members also voted to ask the church's national board to change the Book of Discipline, a set of guiding principles which describe the practice of homosexuality as incompatible with Christian teaching.

"We want to do away with the statement and say we essentially don't have enough information on the issue and remain divided," Schug said.













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NATION/WORLD

Gay elected officials
briefed on AIDS panel

By RON FOURNIER
FOR THE HOUSTON VOICE

WASHINGTON, Tuesday, June 13 (AP)—After angering gay-rights advocates by steering clear of a key Supreme Court case, the Clinton administration met with 45 homosexual elected officials Tuesday and prepared to announce a new presidential AIDS panel.

The 30-member panel, which is to be made public Thursday, will be charged with advising Clinton and his AIDS policy director, Patricia S. Fleming, on how to support AIDS research and care.

At least six of the members are gay, and at least the same number are infected with the virus that causes AIDS, an administration official said.

The best-known board member will be Bob Hattoy, the White House liaison to the Interior Department, said the official, who spoke on condition of anonymity. Hattoy, who is infected with HIV, spoke at the 1992 Democratic National Convention.

The elected officials were given an afternoon of briefings on gay and lesbian issues by several senior administration officials, including Donna Shalala, the secretary of health and human services; presidential aide George Stephanopoulos and White House Counsel Abner Mikva.

The meetings were private but an administration official said the audience grilled the speakers about the decision last week to keep out of a legal attack on a Colorado anti-gay measure.

Several of the elected officials expressed anger, said the official who attended the meeting. But he said the audience was generally recep-

tive and supportive of the administration's overall effort to improve gay rights and combat AIDS.

The White House hoped the briefings and the panel will mollify AIDS advocates in the wake of the decision to stay out of the Supreme Court fight.

Act Up, a militant group seeking a cure for AIDS, called the panel a "worthless committee" and said in a statement the appointments will not "silence our demands for a Manhattan-style project to cure AIDS."

The administration official said the White House on Thursday will release the names of 24 of the 30 board members, including:—Mary Boland of New Jersey, director of the National Pediatric and Family HIV Resource Center at Rutgers University.—Debra Fraser-Howze, president of the National Black Leadership Commission on AIDS in New York.—Kathleen Gerus of Michigan, member of the board of the National Association of People with AIDS.—Dr. R. Scott Hitt of California, a director of Aids Project Los Angeles and co-chair of the Gay and Lesbian Victory Fund.—Dr. Alexandra Mary Levine of California, professor of medicine and chief of hematology at the University of Southern California School of Medicine.—Benjamin Schatz of California, executive director of the Gay and Lesbian Medical Association.—H. Alexander Robinson of Washington, president of the National Task Force on AIDS prevention and a lobbyist for the ACLU.—Sandra Thurman of Georgia, past executive director of AID Atlanta, the Southeast's largest and oldest community-based AIDS service organization.—Jeremy Landau of New Mexico, founder of the National Rural Aids Network.

Openly gay man to be ordained
in United Church of Christ

OMAHA, Neb., Saturday, June 17 (AP)—A campus minister who says he has been openly gay since 1980 will be ordained as a United Church of Christ pastor.

Phil Owen, 43, is believed to be the denomination's first acknowledged homosexual to be ordained in Nebraska. The ceremony was to take place Sunday.

"We knew this would be a ground breaker," said the Rev. Lee Milligan, president of the Omaha Association, the ordaining body comprised of 10 area United Church of Christ congregations. "He will make a very good pastor," Milligan said. "I am proud to have him as a colleague."

Owen, a Lincoln native, is pastor at United Christian Ministries in Higher Education, a ministry that serves students and faculty at the University of Nebraska at Omaha and NU's Medical Center. The ministry is supported by Christian Church (Disciples of Christ), United Methodist and Presbyterian churches and the United Church of Christ.

Owen is divorced and has an 18-year-old

daughter who lives with him and his male partner of four years.

Milligan, pastor at Arlington Community Church, said Owen's ordination is consistent with Scripture and denominational guidelines. The church's General Synod in 1983 said that sexual orientation is not a moral issue and should not be grounds for denying requests for ordination.

"Having that recommendation from the synod, and finding no evidence of promiscuity, we voted to ordain Phil," Milligan said last week. "I believe God has called him to ministry."

Owen said he felt called to the ministry in the late 1980s. He entered the United Theological Seminary of the Twin Cities in Minnesota in 1989 and graduated in 1992. He is a former Russian linguist for the Air Force and a former state Department of Social Services caseworker and office services manager in Omaha.

Owen holds a master's degree in education from the University of Southern California. His bachelor's degree in French language and literature is from NU's Lincoln campus.



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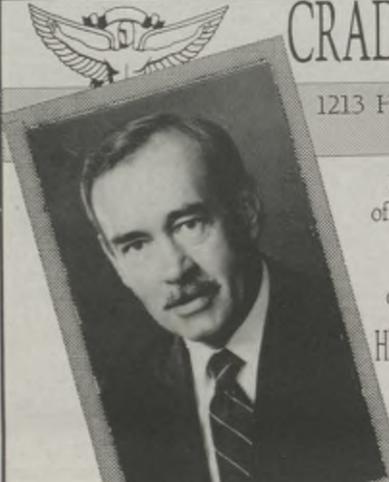
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Pride weekend parties...before and after the parade-festival



Randy, Del and Donna of the Pet Patrol pose with Alvin Van Black

Houston Soap

By CAROLYN ROBERTS

Houston Voice/Houston

Happy Lesbian/Gay Pride!!

Past Events

This past Sunday, Spectrum '95 took place at the Astro Arena. There was a business expo, art show, entertainment, and the "Concert of the Stars." We look forward to Spectrum '96 on June 1 & 2 1996!

Congratulations to the new Miss Life Today: Houston's PWA Sweetheart Brittany Paige and runner up Sivi Ross. This annual pride week contest was held last Sunday at E/J's.

Congratulations are in order to Mr. Da Vohn, who swept away the Mr. Club 403 contest held at Club 403 on June 17. Runner up was Mr. Adam. A "Community Achievement Award" was presented to Roxanne Lee Love for her fund-raising efforts! Keep up the good work girl!

Congratulations to Cheryl Lankenship on winning the title of Ms. Club 403!

What is the difference between a "Daddy" and "Daddy-O?" Just ask Daddy Mark aka Marlene of Chances. S/he won the title of "Daddy of Montrose" contest this past Sunday of Mary's. Oh Daddy!

The New Mr. Venture-N '95 is Alan! The runner is Don Welch! This contest was held last Sunday at the Venture-N. \$200 was raised, with some going to the Pride Committee of Houston and some to the Lady Victoria Lust PWA Holiday Fund! Congrats all!

The 2 Dons (Don Gill and Don Dowden) held a show at Chances last Sun-

day! \$443 was raised for the Montrose Clinic. But, this is matched times 7, that means \$3101 was raised!!!! Yeah Team!! A special thanks to Jim Grove for his hearty donation!

Friday, June 23

The National Leather Association: Houston presents: "Hot Night VII: A Night in Black Leather" tonight at

the Venture-N. This is an official pride week function! Sign up starts at 10:00 p.m.

"Celebri-tease" tonight at Club 403. This week's talent include: "Reba McEntire," "Donna Summer," and "Tina Turner." Don't miss these fabulous "impersonators!" The show starts at 10:30 p.m.

Heaven is hosting the "Absolutely Fabulous" party tonight! They will be showing clips from the new season and giving a-way t-shirts, caps, buttons, books, and much, much more.

"Unchain!!" Trash disco is the sight and sound at Rich's tonight! Drag out your platform shoes and bell bottoms and dance the night away!

Don (Schnauzer) Dowden is looking for a hard time! You can find him tonight behind the patio bar at the Brazos River Bottom!

Saturday, June 24

The Rainbow Ranglers guest bartend on the patio of the Brazos River Bottom tonight! Waltz over and say Hi!

Don Gill and FIST (Females in Search of Trouble) present: "Hot Leather Night" tonight at the Venture-N. This is a fundraiser for the Loving Arms Foundation and the FIST Titleholder's Travel Fund. There will be entertainment and demo's and fun! Be there by 9:30 p.m. to get a good seat!

The Montrose Counseling Center's MSL Softball team is washing cars and truck today at Gentry from 11:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. For only \$7 you can get both inside and outside done. Don't forget to wander inside to enjoy power hour prices from noon until 5:00 p.m.

There is a "Pre-Parade" show and party at Club 403 tonight starting at 9:00 p.m.

Get out your raincoats and rubbers! Marlene of Chances and Nick of Charlie's will bring out "The Luge" again this weekend! This thing is so cool! They take a 300 lb. block of ice and carve out a groove down the middle. Then, a specially trained bartender will pour one of your favorite shots down the groove! It is a great

way to cool down and enjoy your favorite shot at the same time!

Brittany Paige is your hostess tonight for the Super Saturday Show at E/J's. This week's talent includes: Tara Dion—Miss E/J's '95, Chevelle Brooks—Miss Gay Houston at LARGE, and LaWanda Jackson—Miss Texas National. The show starts at 11:00 p.m.

Ean's Cabaret is just for ladies on Saturday nights! Super sexy topless female dancers are on stage and up close for your enjoyment. Ean's is located at 112 Travis. Cut the coupon on page 7 to get in free! If you are taking a group, call 227-0505 and reserve special tables!

Wayne Gray tickles the ivories every Saturday at the BriarPatch!

Sunday, June 25

PARADE.. PARADE.. PARADE.. PARADE.. PARADE.. 2:00 P.M.

Club 403 has cold beer to go today before, during, and after the parade.

The Venture-N will be serving a "Pre-Parade" brunch today starting at 10:00 a.m. with food, \$1 Screws and Bloodys until 2:00 p.m.

Chances is opening up the beer garden today for the parade. "Painted Ladies" will be serving cocktails and beer, with all of their tips going to the Montrose Clinic. Bleacher seats will be available for \$7.50, with every penny of that going to the Montrose Clinic. This sounds like a great way to enjoy our parade! If you would like more info, call Chances at 523-7217. Also, before and after the parade, Susan Masar and the 13 Hour Pride Band will be on stage!

After the parade...

PrideFest '95 is the place to be!

If you can't stand the heat, head over to Gentry. Starting at 6:00 p.m. they will be showing this year's parade in cool comfort, on the tv screens.

E/J's is having a star-studded show, featuring the "E/J's Royalty" with special guests: Vanessa Raye and Catia Lee Love. Show time is 8:00 p.m.

J.R.'s is hosting the "Absolutely Fabulous" party! There will be a give-aways galore, clips from the show, and tons of fun!

Super Sexy porno star Lex Baldwin will be displaying his talents tonight at Heaven. The sights start at 11:00 p.m.

The Montrose Mining Company

has "Pride Bust!" The beer is cold and cheap! \$1 domestic long-necks or \$2 optional buy-in and 50¢ refills of Miller Lite Draft on the patio!

"Loading Dock, The Party '95" at Pacific Street hosted by the National Leather Association: Houston, the doors open right after the parade! "Nellie Ribbons" Encore Party is tonight at Rich's. The doors open at 7:00 p.m. EPIC recording star Rozalla will be on stage later in the evening!



David plays with Pussy at Heaven

The Pre-Parade Party, Inc. will be having a "post" parade party at the Venture-N from 5:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. There will be pfinger pfoods, pfun, pfriends! \$1.50 well and beer, with a suggested \$5 donation to PWA Charities!

The Brazos River Bottom and Virgil Burke, Candidate for Mr. IGRA presents: "TGRA Celebrates Gay Pride As We Show Freedom," a benefit show for TGRA (State). Join Bill Havard and the Staff for one heck of a show starting at 8:00 p.m.

Lip-smackin' BBQ will be served this afternoon at the ToyBox. They also have open pool tables all day!

Monday, June 26

Honky Tonk nights are at Gentry tonight and tomorrow! Gentry has open pool tables and juke box, and great drink specials. My favorite is the \$2 Cuervo shot special! Go Figure! They also offer 75 ¢ schnapps!

Syndicated journalist Deb Price and her lover Joyce Murdoch will read from and sign copies of "And Say Hi to Joyce" tonight at Crossroads Markets and Bookstore. A free reception will follow. Crossroads is located at 610 W. Alabama. Call 942-0147 for more info.

Clubber's night at Pacific Street! Wear your Club Colors OR show your recent pay stub from a local bar or restaurant and get in free! The doors open at 9:00 p.m.

Clint is still doing it! He is still playing the songs you want to hear at the BriarPatch!

The Ripcord has a cash pool tournament tonight at 8:00 p.m. There is a \$3 buy-in and the bar matches the pot! Chalk up your cue!

The ToyBox is hosting the "Miss Southeast Texas Pageant" tonight. This is a regional contest. If you would like more information, please call 529-3367.



The Colt 45's celebrate 19 years



Here's looking at you, Jody

More upcoming events, birthdays and anniversaries, weekly dirtvine



Jay...do you have a new girlfriend?

(HOUSTON SOAP, continued from preceding page)

Tuesday, June 27

It is week #7 in the search for new talent at E/J's.

J.R.'s Bar and Grill has a super drink special tonight. \$1 domestic long-necks all night long! A great way to beat the Texas Heat! Also at J.R.'s tonight, KOFI takes the stage at 11:00 p.m. and grab for cash is at midnight!

Marci "and the Raelets" are the line-up tonight at the BriarPatch!

Wednesday, June 28

Hot nights and hot boys at Gentry tonight. The weekly male strip contest starts at 11:00 p.m. With the rising heat outside, it will be hot, hot, hot, inside at Gentry!

"Bear of the Month" contest is tonight at the Montrose Mining Company. This monthly contest is sponsored by the Mine, Don Gill's Studio 911, and Leather Forever. The contest starts at 10:00 p.m. Be sure to enjoy the \$1 domestic long-necks all night! There is free pizza on the patio at midnight!

Cy Brinson delights you with music and song at the BriarPatch tonight!

Thursday, June 29

The weekly talent search hosted by Roxanne Lee Love at Club 403 starts at 11:00 p.m. If you want to be in the show, be there for sign up by 10:00 p.m.

Robert Bernstein, author, will be at Bering Memorial United Methodist Church tonight at 7:00 p.m. to speak and sign copies of "Straight

Parents/Gay Children." For more information, call 942-0147.

Wayne Gray pulls up the piano bench tonight at the BriarPatch.

The Club Houston and Pacific Street have teamed up to bring you "SEXX!" Show your Club Houston card, or any other valid gym card and get in free. There is good "SEXX" at Pacific street and the Club Houston!

Nancy (Bite Me!) Ford is on stage tonight at Ms. B's. Safer Sex for Lesbians is the topic of the night! Stop in and hear how only Nancy can tell

you the safest way to enjoy someone else's body!

Other Important Stuff

Book your French Quarter Reservations NOW for Southern Decadence (Sept. 1-4). Call (504) 523-1246.

"Miss Saigon" opens at Jones Hall on July 16. Order your tickets now by calling 629-3700.

"Angels in America" has been extended thru July 9. Call 228-8421 to reserve tickets!

Attention Coupon Clippers! El Palacio has a coupon on page 9, Cafe Brasil on page 13, Aphrodite Salon on page 29, Ean's on page 7 and Bistro 224 on page 7. Cut these out and stick 'em in your wallet. Use them when spending your gay dollars!

The BriarPatch really will "save you money" with domestic beer and all well drink prices at \$1.50 daily until 5:00 p.m. The Summer dull-drums have not hit the BriarPatch; they have top talent lined up nightly. Sing, laugh, cruise, play pool, and even score at the BriarPatch, as they do it live... every night!!!

Plan for the 4th! The Club Houston is having a great weekend party!

Birthdays And Anniversaries

Happy Anniversary to Jerry and Chris of the Texas Riders! 2 years and still going!

Happy Anniversary to Jessi (Pot Pie) and Jimmy!

Happy Birthdays to: The Houston Voice Editor-Sheri Cohen Darbonne, Sid Stevens, and Bobby Fife. If you would like to send a greeting to someone, please feel free to call me @ 529-8490!

Rodent Droppings

Disclaimer, disclaimer! This part is not news, just stuff I overhear, find written on bathroom walls or my spies fax to me! I take no responsibility on verifying facts, or doing the things a REAL reporter would do, I just print what I hear! I know, I know, I'm just a witch with a poison pen and a computer!

My-o-my the little rodents have been feisty this week! Laser Wizard and I have been sooo busy that the little critters spent 2 days in their cages! I'll never do that again! It took them days to calm down! I scraped the cage and found the flowing information. I guess Harvey and Ratrat get "out" when I'm at the office, hang around Gay!

Lesbian places and eavesdrop! Bad Rats! I wonder if they want me to get them on the payroll of the Houston Voice?

Jessica (Hangs at E/J's and Gentry): What's this I hear about you starting a drag queen taxi? Why did your husband want to bring you home motor oil and condoms?

Paivi: Who is this John Gonzalez you spend so much time with? Is he a stud? Won't Jack be jealous?

Roxanne Lee Love: Is it true? Enquiring minds want to know if you will be the next "diva" of the public access TV?

Ken Brown (Alternative Visions): Such a butch haircut! And... What is Vertigo? Trust me, you can't get it by having unsafe sex!

Armand (Chances): Honey, you change jobs as often as I change earrings! Good luck at Chances! Look out for that mean "Daddy," s/he has a low tolerance for Southern Comfort!

Rita Blvd.: I hear you caused a riot at the last shoe sale at Neiman's. I know, but really girl, screaming out "those are mine... you'll never get your hooves into those pumps" over the loud speaker is just a bit inappropriate for Neiman's!

Doc Nowlin: Did they get your name plate properly installed on the door of room 43 at Richmond News? Also, is it true that all of your softball players had to schedule personal interviews in above-mentioned room?

Keith (TGRA): I hear you have created a new designer cocktail. V and V. That is Vodka and Velveeta with a foreskin garnish!

Dwayne (hangs at the ToyBox): Just what did you and that banana do in the pool?

Tim (Sojourns): What is the name of your new hair tonic? Duayne's Butt Butter? It sure gives you a nice bounce!

Bill Havard (BRB): You flew all the way to Nashville to get some brochures for Jeff (ToyBox)? You must want in his britches real bad! Also, I hear you were introduced at the Mayflower Madam... because you have one



Kurt, Charlie, Richard and David celebrating the 17th anniversary. at the Mine

whore working for you... a boy named Sue, that's Tommie Sue!

Don (Schnauzer): I hear you can get more than just a haircut at your house! Talk about full service!

Randy McCarble (MCC Softball Team): No matter what Doc Nowlin tells you, she IS eligible for Social Security!

Miss Alabama (BRB): What do you call a 3 way...precious?

Curtis (Cousins): Is it true that you haven't had it in sooooo long that you don't know which hole to plug your cable into? But really... calling Steve (BRB) for advice!

Pearl: I hear you give haircuts at the BRB. What do you charge... a trip to the dumpster?

Eric (Hangs at BRB): I hear you went to Pacific Street to find a man, but picked up your x-husband instead!

d'Artagnan: You are a slut!

Marlene (Chances): Won the title, lost the beard! Did you wake up feeling like you had been sleeping in the back of a pick-up truck?

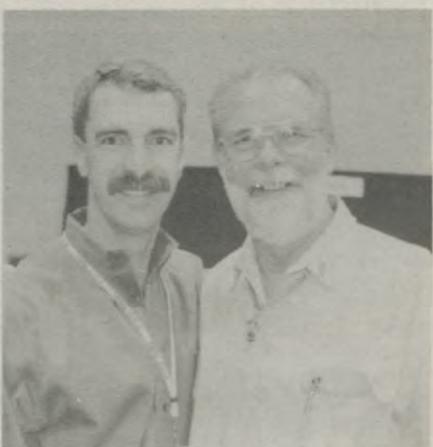
Thumper (ToyBox): We have given you a new name, Thumper-a-nator!

Lee Davis (MSL): How did you break your arm? I hear you were trying to slide in to home bar stool... not home base!

David (Ripcord): OK, I guess it was a 4x4 not a 2-2! I hope there was enough left of the tu-tu to cover your hiney!

See ya at the parade!

Huggs and kisses
Cuervolvyn



Alan Bourgeois (founder/director) and Ray Hill (president) at Spectrum '95



Mr. Venture-N...Alan

Navy drops efforts to discharge lesbian reservist

By ELLEN KNICKMEYER
FOR THE HOUSTON VOICE

SAN FRANCISCO, Saturday, June 17 (AP)—This year's gay and lesbian parade will have an extra special meaning for Navy Lt. Cmdr. (Select) Zoe Dunning.

"I'm looking forward to marching ... without fear of looking over my shoulder," Dunning, a lesbian reserve officer, said Friday in announcing that the Navy has dropped efforts to discharge her.

"From this day forward, I serve as an open lesbian in the U.S. military, with the military's condonement," she said at a news conference two days before the city's parade.

The Navy followed the recommendation of a hearing tribunal, which voted unanimously in December to keep Dunning despite her disclosing her sexual orientation at a 1993 rally.

The Navy's two-paragraph letter informed her that "your administrative separation case proceedings are closed, and you will be retained in the Naval Service."

All record of naval prosecutors' efforts to obtain an honorable discharge against her will be purged from her files, the Navy wrote.

Federal courts around the country have issued conflicting rulings on the constitutionality of the Clinton administration's "don't ask, don't tell" policy barring service members from declaring their homosexuality. The issue is expected to eventually reach the U.S. Supreme Court.

Dunning, 31, served six years in the Navy before transferring to the reserves. A management consultant in private life, she works one weekend a month as a supply officer.

Dunning credited her good service record, noting that the Navy promoted her even as it tried to discharge her. She also acknowledged she has the good fortune to be in a city where the federal appeals court took her side in the past when it ruled that Navy Petty Officer Keith Meinhold, who is gay, may stay in the service.

"Gays and lesbians should take heart that you can defy the odds," she said.

Still, Dunning acknowledged she has no guarantee that if the Clinton administration policy prevails, the Navy might not bring a fresh case against her.

"Every service member still falls under the policy that exists," said Lt. Cmdr. Jacquie Yost, a Navy spokesperson in San Francisco. "I cannot give you a guesstimate on what's going to happen next."

Dunning's case was the fourth time that gay service members have satisfied a military tribunal that they would not engage in homosexual acts, Yost said.

Matt Coles, head of the American Civil Liberties Union gay and lesbian rights project, said it also is the first time the military has backed down, without being forced by a court, from trying to expel an openly gay service member under the current policy.

Dentist who rejected HIV patients to pay \$120,000 in damages

WASHINGTON, Wednesday, June 14 (AP)—A dentist who refused to treat two HIV-positive patients will pay \$120,000 in damages under a settlement worked out by the Justice Department.

Dr. Drew Morvant of New Orleans will pay \$60,000 to Russell Hodgkinson and \$60,000 to the family of Ismael Pena, who died from AIDS in 1993, the department announced Tuesday.

On March 23, the U.S. District Court in New Orleans found Morvant had violated the Americans with Disabilities Act by discriminating against people with the HIV virus or

with AIDS, which the virus causes, by refusing to treat them or referring them to other dentists because of their HIV-positive status.

The Justice Department had sued Morvant in Oct. 1993 alleging that he and his dental corporation illegally denied routine dental service to Hodgkinson and Pena after informing them the office did not treat HIV-positive patients.

Following the March ruling, the federal court had scheduled a hearing to determine appropriate damages, but the settlement makes the hearing unnecessary.

“ ” “ ! ”

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RECIPES BY THE KUNTRY KIDD

As busy as most of us are now days, everyone enjoys simple recipes. That is if the recipes are tasty! Here is one I tried, and I think you will agree it is one you will use again and again. I followed the recipe almost to the tee, but I am going to try and substitute a couple of the ingredients the next time I prepare it. The only substitute I made this time was with the tomatoes. I used dry-packed tomatoes instead of the tomatoes packed in oil. Remember, I am watching my fat intake! Instead of the heavy whipping cream, next time I am going to use canned milk, either low-fat or fat-free. Really not too sure what there is available since I seldom cook with canned milk.

Pasta With Chicken and Dried Tomatoes

- 1 pound boneless chicken breasts (also remove the skin)
- 2 Tbsp. all-purpose flour
- 2 Tbsp. olive oil
- 3 Tbsp. dry white wine
- 1 C. heavy whipping cream
- 1 Tbsp. Dijon-style mustard
- 1/4 tsp. salt
- 1/8 tsp. pepper
- 8-10 dried tomatoes packed in olive oil, drained and coarsely chopped
- 12 ounces fresh pasta or 6 ounces dried pasta, cooked and drained



Cut the chicken into bite-size strips. Toss lightly with the flour.

In a large skillet, heat the olive oil over medium heat. Add the chicken and cook and stir for 3-4 minutes or until the chicken is no longer pink. Remove the chicken from the pan.

Add the wine to the pan and deglaze by stirring up any browned bits. Add the whipping cream, mustard, salt and pepper. Bring to a boil. Cook and stir for 3 minutes. Add the tomatoes and continue to cook for 1 to 2 minutes more or until the mixture is slightly thickened.

Return the chicken to the pan. Cook until the chicken is just heated through.

Pour the chicken and sauce over the hot cooked pasta. Toss and place in large decorative serving bowl.

When I prepared this dish, I was in a hurry. If you take the dried tomatoes and soak them in boiling water for a couple of minutes, they will be easier to cut up. If not soaked they are kind of tough and sticky. Just be sure to drain them well after soaking.

Serve with your own preference of pasta, but I prefer the tomato and herb with a sauce like this. Would also be good with spinach pasta.

UNTIL NEXT WE EAT!

KUNTRY KIDD



THE TEXAS PUZZLE

Includes Clues About Texas, Current Events & Standard Crossword Clues

By Henry McClurg

ACROSS

- 1 archaic pronoun indicating possession
- 4 symbol for metallic element ruthenium, used to harden platinum for jewelry
- 5 20th century Indian nationalist leader Nehru, initials ("A theory must be tempered with reality.")
- 6 bay in a shore
- 7 60's Soviet leader Khrushchev, initials ("Politicians are the same all over. They promise to build a bridge even where there is no river.")
- 8 field officer, abbrev.
- 9 Latin for 'that is', abbrev.
- 10 leaping blood sucking insect
- 12 cornered
- 14 airline based at Dallas' Love Field
- 21 state with Little Rock as capital, abbrev.
- 23 large bird of prey
- 25 Texas river running through Cleveland & Conroe, 2 words
- 29 one who sets others free
- 37 Cotton State, abbrev.
- 38 New York magnate Trump, initials
- 39 direction Amarillo to Fort Worth, abbrev.
- 40 act of embodying
- 41 4-winged honey-making bugs
- 43 brisk energy
- 45 brawl

44 animal taken for food by another

20 conical tent

46 woody plant tissue

47 where the 1973 low budget horror "Texas Chainsaw Massacre" was filmed, 2 words

49 decrease or lessen

50 17th century English military, political &

48 early 20th century American author & actor Rogers, initials ("We don't seem to be able to check crime, so why not legalize it and then tax it out of business.")

49 Associate in Arts, abbrev.

50 gems with delicate colors

51 Zachary, American general, later to be U.S. president, who commanded American troops in battle of the Mexican War

53 Texas river running through Bon Wier, Deweyville & Orange

56 plant from which tapioca is made

57 not like a woman

58 John, first American to orbit in space

61 parasitic insect egg

62 in the middle of

65 direction Beaumont to Port Arthur, abbrev.

66 stinks

67 borough of New York City

69 American come-

dian Fields

er known trouble.")

22 version of indefinite article used before a vowel sound

24 Dawson County seat

26 a realm of

1 Tex- as river running through Goodrick, Liberty & Moss Bluff

2 squat down

3 exceedingly large

5 southeast Texas county with Beaumont and Port Arthur

11 because

13 every individual one, abbrev.

15 gem with delicate colors

16 J. Pinckney, first governor of the state of Texas

17 units of electric power

18 self-esteem

19 20th century American novelist Lewis, initials ("There are two insults no human being will endure: that he has no sense of humor, and that he has nev-

most contagious force in the world.")

DOWN

44 animal taken for food by another

49 decrease or lessen

50 17th century English military, political &

51 ticket

52 symbol for chemical element radon

54 afield

55 major baseball league, initials

59 fail to keep up

60 symbol for chemical element nickel

63 Japanese money, 1/100 of a yen

64 U.S. state which exports most (twice as much as all others combined) to Mexico

68 19th century American author Emerson, initials ("Keep cool: it will be all one a hundred years hence.")

71 20th century American author Hemingway, initials ("Courage is grace under pressure.")

Solution elsewhere 1995 GOLF FEATURES, PUZZLE TEX131

APHRODITE SALON & SPA

The Finest Techniques for
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 Tour our Salon and Spa

Mention this Ad and get 10% off.
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2010 Commonwealth
 Houston, TX 77006 713/523-4646

GALAXY GAYZER

A HOUSTON VOICE EXCLUSIVE

HOROSCOPE FOR THE WEEK OF JUNE 23 - JUNE 29, 1995

LEO (July 23 - Aug. 22) Happiness is your byword for all this week, as your spirits have a great chance to fly high and greet everyone with a smile on your expression. This is one of the wonderful times of the year when an outgoing, happy and friendly approach to others really pays off in meeting people. Think of the week more as a time to play than to fall in love. For those within a relationship, give each other a bit more room to party.

VIRGO (Aug. 23 - Sept. 22) Try a shorter hair style for the summer to enhance your good looks and to have more friends notice you. My partner gave me a close trim last week and it is wonderful. Watch out for some users that are circling you, aiming for a hand out which will never be repaid. Be careful as to with whom you enter into financial dealings. Stop on the way home from work and consider getting a bunch of flowers for your kitchen table top.

LIBRA (Sept. 23 - Oct. 23) Stopped over to look at the cleaning job that you did at home, and your quarters look so much better. Continue organizing and throwing away never or seldom used items. This will send good signals to whom ever you bring home as a trick. If recent dating has not attracted anyone interesting, try looking for a different type of person. You maybe looking for someone a bit more active and 'rough and tumble'.

SCORPIO (Oct. 24 - Nov. 21) Dating will be more successful for you if you dress in bolder colors, e.g. black, medium red, dark blue, and seek out new friends who are a bit more assertive themselves. If your energy is down a bit, look at the number of hours of sleep you are having. Aim for at least seven to eight hours the week to sustain your late nights over the weekend. This will help the circles under your eyes, also.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22 - Dec. 21) Continue to add to your kitchen skills in helping to catch the special person in your life with the recipe on this page from the Kuntry Kidd. This week's recipe is especially good. Hold onto your urge to make a major financial purchase over the next two weeks. If the purchase price is more than one hundred dollars ask yourself will I need the item in six months from now.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22 - Jan. 19) Back off a bit in talking to friends and be more of a listener. Your friends have some interesting and worthwhile observations about yourself to make note of. This is a good week to ask trusted friends about what you are doing right and wrong in your life. If you accidentally forgot to acknowledge your Father last Sunday please consider telephoning him tonight to wish him a special Fathers' Day.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20 - Feb. 18) Continue to pace yourself energy wise, as this and the next several weeks are low energy days for you, no health problem, just a down period of time. Your co-workers will be impressed with a sense of cooperation on your part. Offer to help them with something they are doing. A bit of courtesy to others, as in opening doors, saying 'thank you', and asking how their lives are going will pay dividends in the future.

PISCES (Feb. 19 - Mar. 20) Your increased versatility is right on target, meeting new friends, exploring new things sexually and trying different foods. Watch the caloric intake for those of you who are over weight during this month, as it is an 'oral' phase for you. Wearing brighter summer colors to the office will have you noticed by your boss, you probably have just the thing already in your closet.

ARIES (Mar. 21 - Apr. 19) As much as you like to talk about yourself, be much more selective in whom you confide your opinions as not everyone who over hears you is understanding or sympathetic to you. Back down on comments about others, especially if those comments are not flattering. In meeting a new person, let them open up about themselves first, and then go ahead and selectively talk about yourself.

TAURUS (Apr. 20 - May 20) That was a wonderful party you gave your special friend. It was appreciated and welcomed. If you are in New York City for the games, have a great time, and do not worry about things at home, as the moon is smiling upon you at this time. Notice the small details of life and give special attention to them. Saw you working out at the gym, and your body is looking wonderful.

GEMINI (May 21 - June 21) Recovering from your birthday month with a high energy level of things going better in your life. There is still a great deal of stress, however, you get in over your head. Look at what needs to be organized better or eliminated. Be sure to thank close friends for their recent help to you.

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Houston VOICE Personals

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.

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

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

GO FOR IT!

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

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

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

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

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

SEEKING BOTTOM WITH ENDURANCE

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

SEEKING HIV+ HISPANIC MALE

I am in my early 30's, healthy, HWWP 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

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

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!

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

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

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

CHRISTIAN SEEKS LIFE-MATE

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

GALVESTON: LOOKING FOR SEXUAL BUDDIES

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

NEW TO HOUSTON

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

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

HAIRY DADDY SEEKS BOY

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

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.

INSTRUCTIONS

TO PLACE a Houston Voice Personal Ad --

Come to our offices at 811 Westheimer, Suite 105.

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

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

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

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

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

PLAY SAFE

HOUSTON VOICE Personals

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

FREE?!

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

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

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





and Pride Committee of Houston Present

PRIDE fest 95

Sunday, June 25

immediately following the Pride Parade
Lovett @ Taft St.



Fem 2 Fem

Featuring the Smash hits "Where Did Love Go," "Switch," and "Obsession"



&

DAJAE

Singing Dance Hits "Brighter Days," "Is It All Over My Face," and "U Got Me Up"

"Diva of The Year"--Underground News

The Celebration Continues: PRIDE PARTY 95

Sponsored by Pride Committee of Houston. \$5 Cover Benefitting Local AIDS/Community Organizations
at **NUMBERS**, 300 Westheimer. Doors open at 5 pm.

This ad space relinquished courtesy Jerry Furman at Linked Benefits of Houston.