

THE NEW VOICE

A HOUSTON VOICE EXCLUSIVE
GALAXY GAYZER
SEE PAGE 36

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Rocking the campus closet: UH students bring Gay issues to fore

By SHERI COHEN DARBONNE

Houston Voice Editor

When the University of Houston's Gay, Lesbian Or Bisexual Alliance (GLOBAL) chose to celebrate National Coming Out Day on Oct. 11, many of its members and officers were aware their event would be infused with an extra, if purely coincidental, bite at the campus status quo. This was the first year a campus group had celebrated the unofficial gay identity awareness day. And this year, Oct. 11 was also the high heat date of the university's Homecoming celebration.

Although the group, which evolved from the long-lived Gay and Lesbian Students Association, had publicized its activities before, the NCOD rally—held on a hill near the University Center Satellite on the heels of a homecoming event in the same site—struck a nerve previously left unscathed. Coupled with the rehiring of an openly gay, militant-leaning and outrageously cynical staff columnist by the UH student newspaper, the Daily Cougar, the event touched off a continuing controversy in the halls, student government and the Cougar's editorial pages.

In the wake of this week's passage of landmark, statewide legislation in Massachusetts protecting gay and lesbian college students and organizations from on-campus discrimination, local gay student leaders took stock of the ongoing debate and the fallout of their daring fall foray.

"People were aware of our existence before, that is, they knew about the group and that (gays and lesbians) were here. But after Coming Out Day, they really HAD to know. It was in their face," recalled GLOBAL president Elizabeth Lee.

"We had a good turnout, at least 200 to 250 people. It was the biggest thing (GLOBAL has sponsored) so far that was actually on campus," Lee said.

Most of the response members of the group received personally, Lee noted, has been positive. There was, however,

a telephoned, anonymous message left with the university's activities council. "(The caller) wanted to know how UH could let such an organization...a gay organization... have a march," said Lee.

Taken in a decidedly more outreach-oriented direction under Lee, the organization changed its name in September from GLSA. The new name was chosen to reflect a new dedication to inclusiveness, a sensitivity to the presence of bisexuals and ethnic minorities. The re-energized student group marked NCOD with a rally and march to "celebrate and call for unity and equality" and to show support for peers in the process of coming out. The speakers included one of the founders of NCOD, Greg Cason, a former UH student and Montrose Counseling Center staff member, and an assortment of well known "outsider" activists; the march invaded a significant campus path between the University of Center arbor, with the accompaniment of the Women's Action Coalition Drum Corps.

After the event, student participants say they received enthusiastic expressions of support, and Global members add they have always enjoyed the support of administration representatives and most faculty.

However, shortly after the NCOD rally, a small drama began to unfold—beginning with anonymous fraternity pranks and escalating into a war of words in the Cougar and a struggle for control in student leadership and representation, prompted by rightist religious student factions.

When Delta Lambda Phi, a fraternity that accepts openly gay men as members, unfurled a recruitment banner on campus shortly after the NCOD event, it was torn down and replaced by a banner for another fraternity, Sigma Phi Epsilon.

Then, in a move intended as a humorous "slam" against another non-gay fraternity, Tao Kappa Epsilon, as well as the campus gay population, someone hung out a banner



The Cougar's controversial openly gay columnist, shane patrick boyle (photo by Stephen Stelmak)

reading "TKE: We're He're, We're Queer."

"I think a lot of the uproar was because the National Coming Out Day rally was held at the same time as homecoming," said Rob Huebschmann, a GLOBAL member. "I think that ticked some people off."

Huebschmann said he got both positive and negative feedback from his participation in the event. "We were a large enough, and loud enough group, that people couldn't really ignore us. The people watching (the rally)...a lot of them were heterosexual. And I don't think most of them were offended.

"Overall, I think it was a good idea," he said. "It never hurts to open a few minds."

Several letters to the editor that have appeared in the Cougar over the past two months have criticized the gay march and the gay student's increased visibility. Others have urged the ouster of a gay staff writer at the paper, and challenged the student body to return to "traditional Christian values." Taking a glaringly less-than-objective stance in the debate is the sitting Student Association president, Jason Fuller. This month, Fuller, in a letter to the editor, opined that the Cougar should be abolished due to the misguidance of its editorial staff.

Columnist shane patrick boyle—who, like e.e. cummings and k.d. lang, chooses to spell his name in lower case let-

ters—has more than once spelled trouble with a capital "T" for the Daily Cougar. The weekly column by boyle, which often has addressed gay and lesbian issues, has been the most frequent target of the daily's hate mail, reaching a mild frenzy after NCOD.

The disarmingly reserved-looking boyle, by his editorial critics, has been credited with turning the Cougar into "The Daily Homosexual" and "an Amateur Advocate," and letters tagged with such headlines as "No Mo' Homo" have badgered the Cougar to boot him.

Actually, says boyle, he'd already been fired once, over a year before. "At the time, though, we had two gay columnists," he said. Conservative groups, he said, felt there was an overemphasis on gay issues. The present editor, boyle noted, has been supportive.

A former fundamentalist Christian himself, boyle says he has little patience with the hypocrisy of the right wing, and his stinging satires have reflected this predisposition.

On top of this, his writings on gay topics have often reflected views at variance with those of other gay and lesbian students, making his celebrity something of a thorn in the side of GLOBAL as well as the Cougar. In a recent column that attracted much criticism, he advocated negating the appeal of gay bashing by "bashing back." In another, boyle sardonically recounted meeting Jesus Christ, disguised as Santa Claus, who suggested a rendezvous in Heaven (an in-joke that likely sailed over the heads of most non-gay readers).

"A lot of the people seem to just taking shane's views to be all of our views," complained Huebschmann. "But shane isn't representing GLOBAL or all of the gay people on campus. (Non-gay) people don't understand that, they think we're all the same." As an example, Huebschmann cited an AIDS Awareness Week column in which boyle suggested that the usefulness of the red ribbon symbol had run its course. "I

spent two hours on campus passing out red ribbons, and then that came out," he said.

But boyle defends his attention-grabbing tactics as necessary in the same light as the focus on coming out. "It's possible I've made some (other students) uncomfortable, because I go beyond gay rights to the larger issue of human rights, and I advocate activism," he said. "But my work gets the debate out into the open, and the people who are homophobic are going to have those views anyway."

GLOBAL president Lee said National Coming Out Day, and even the backlash that followed, had the intended impact. "The homophobes are complaining because they're scared," she said. "It woke some people up."

"What we intended was to let people know that we are here, and we accomplished that. It's especially important, I think, for those who are in the process of coming out."

"I came out in my freshman year, and it was pretty scary. It was my first time working, my first time supporting myself, and I wasn't sure what I wanted. A lot of people are going through that while they're here," said Lee.

GLOBAL tries to provide a supportive space for the many students who are just getting in touch with their own identities, she said. The group has approximately 60 dues paid members, but provides a far larger network of gay students with a resource, and a connection to the broader community. Meetings are held Wednesdays, with two times to accommodate varying student schedules: 4:00 p.m. and 7:00 p.m.

Planned projects include participating in minority issues awareness training for fraternities, raising money for a group trip to the Stonewall '94 celebration, and a gay and lesbian leadership conference for Houston students.

"We are, after all, going to be the future leaders of this community," said Lee.

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LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

From LADY VICTORIA LUST

FOUNDER AND DIRECTOR, PWA HOLIDAY FUND (SHELTERED BY COLT 45'S HOUSTON)

During this holiday season I want to express my most sincere Best Wishes and Thank You's to all the wonderfully generous people of the Houston gay/lesbian community, who once again supported and made possible the activities of the Lady Victoria Lust PWA Holiday Fund.

By providing something special during various holiday seasons to bring a little comfort, enjoyment and dignity into the lives of people living with and fighting HIV/AIDS, we let the world know that though a person may be poor in health and pocketbook, loving and caring people will not tolerate these people being impoverished in spirit and hope.

Founded in 1987, we begin our seventh year of "Lifting Hearts at the Holidays." The holiday food distributions to Stone Soup clients at Easter and Thanksgiving, the cash gifts at Christmas and Christmas in July, the end-of-summer PWA picnic and the special holiday distributions to adults and children in day care centers, special homes, hospitals and hospices was able to touch the lives of over 2300 people in 1993.

The fabulous fund raising activities of The Imperial Court of the Single Star, the loving generosity of the congregation of MCCR, the generosity of the owners, staffs and patrons of the BRB, Gentry, E/J's, Mary's and Cousins, the TGRA Royalty Candidates, the Firedancers—Houston, the Texas Renegades, and the continued support of the Colt 45's, along with a wealth of talented entertainers, deserve a rich and joyous holiday season for all that they have done this year.

But no matter if you put on a fundraiser, worked on one, gave a lot or gave a little, you are the ones that made it possible. Thank you, and best wishes for a Merry Christmas and Happy New Year.

Thanks from S.A. Gay Fiesta

From FRAN MENDEZ

GAY FIESTA COMMITTEE

The Blue Light Candle Gay Fiesta Committee is proud to announce it has been able to distribute \$9,000 to agencies that supply direct services to persons living with HIV/AIDS. There were many facets to this program, and along the way, many people donated their time and energy. We want to take this opportunity to thank each one.

Mike, owner of Sparks for hosting the Mr. Gay Fiesta contest. Scott Gambuti, for planning and producing. Lollie Johnson, Noo Zoo Company for hosting the Ms. Gay Fiesta contest. Buford Mills, for coordinating the contest. Randy Cuniff, owner of the Wild Club, for hosting the Miss Gay Fiesta Contest; Daniel Campos for producing and coordinating the program.

We thank the Wild Club staff for outstanding support and services as the official Gay Fiesta club.

Although we have been asked not to recognize the coordinator of our very successful advertising program, we know who he is and he has our thanks.

Hector Sanchez definitely deserves our thanks for overseeing the many bartenders required for an eight hour event of such size. Luis Vargas took good care of the money bags and ticket cages, as well as many other chores.

Glenda Shaefer was very valuable doing some of everything. Thanks. Gail Monig and Lou Ann Cook worked for hours on end at the door; Franny helped in the money room; Robin Samienego was a great cashier. Ray Ramos, Romero Rodriguez, Avi Vielma. The list is long and we can't get everyone in, but we thank you all.

HHS secretary touts health reform plans

GUEST COMMENTARY

By DONNA E. SHALALA

In 1987, John McGann of Houston lost his health insurance. Not because he didn't pay his premium. Not because he lost his job—and not because his employer dropped health coverage from its benefit package. McGann lost his insurance because he has AIDS.

McGann died in 1991 without ever regaining his insurance. But his fight, taken eventually to the Supreme Court, taught us that we need to reform our health care system so that people with life-threatening diseases such as AIDS don't face this greatest of personal crisis without the protection of health insurance.

Since the epidemic began 13 years ago, thousands of people with AIDS and other life-threatening or chronic diseases have systematically been excluded from the private insurance market. In particular, women and children and minority group members are constantly confronted by obstacles to insurance coverage.

Profit-conscious insurance companies have used both crude and sophisticated methods to keep those people from getting coverage. For example, many insurers require individuals and employees of small companies to submit to HIV antibody screening tests. Others refuse to sell insurance to entire communities where AIDS is prevalent. Some invoke pre-existing medical condition clauses to refuse coverage. And a growing number of insurers impose unrealistic lifetime limits on insurance coverage or specifically limit reimbursement for AIDS-related services.

As a result, today an estimated 27% of people living with AIDS care uninsured—nearly double the national average. Another 45% rely on Medicaid for their coverage, and 4% get coverage through Medicare. The remaining 24% live in daily fear that their often limited private insurance coverage will either disappear or be priced beyond their reach.

This spotty coverage can lead to reduced life expectancy for those with AIDS who are uninsured and who cannot avail themselves of medical and preventative treatments. Similarly, among those who are HIV-infected, a lack of insurance can lead to more rapid acceleration to full-blown AIDS and an inability to take advantage of the research and treatment advances we have achieved.

For a desperately ill person without insurance, the news of a new drug approval or research breakthrough may not be a cause for celebration, but merely a cruel hoax.

The cost of treating such patients does not go away. Rather it is shifted unevenly

to other parts of societies, including inner-city hospitals that are left with the burden of uncompensated care.

This has got to stop. And when Congress enacts President Clinton's Health Security Act, it will stop.

The Health Security Act provides all American with coverage that is affordable, portable, and permanent. For people with AIDS, those who are HIV-infected, and those with other life-threatening or chronic diseases, these benefits are of tremendous value.

First, insurance reforms will prohibit exclusion on the basis of pre-existing condition; bar the use of lifetime or disease-specific coverage limitations; and return to the use of old-fashioned community rating, which spreads cost of care for the chronically ill among the members of large communities rather than exacting that cost from those who are least able to afford it.

Second, the acute care segment of our Medicaid population will be folded into regional health alliances and be given a Health Security card and a comprehensive package of benefits equal to that of all other Americans.

Third, all insurance plans will provide extensive coverage of costs of outpatient prescription drugs, which often amount to thousands of dollars a year for a person with a life-threatening disease like AIDS.

And, finally, out-of-pocket medical costs will be limited to no more than \$1,500 for an individual and \$3,000 for a family.

As a nation, we must remain committed to ending the scourge of AIDS. At the same time, we have to improve our commitment to those who are living with AIDS and other chronic and life-threatening diseases.

The President's Health Security Act is a major step in that direction and one that we can all agree must be taken.

(Editor's note: Donna E. Shalala is Secretary of the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services).

(The Houston Voice welcomes well-written, insightful and to-the-point opinion pieces for our editorial page. We ALSO welcome "counterpoint" articles that represent a different view on the issues approached in commentaries that we have run. We reserve the right to edit for length, format and readability, and we will run only one full-length counterpoint to an opinion piece. Shorter responses may run as "Letters to the Editor" at our discretion. Opinions expressed in guest commentaries are those of the writer and do not necessarily represent the views of the Houston Voice publisher, editor or staff).

Daniel Campos, the entertainment coordinator that kept everything moving along and started and finished on time. Peter Peterson, the "everywhere man"; nothing would have happened without him. Sassy, Brenda, Linda, all the great entertainers.

Vince Di Castro and wife Rita, what an asset they are to the community. Dana's smiling, for sure. Noe Mendez, the wonderful artist who designed our T-shirt and set the theme for the stage decorations. Eddie Hernandez and Cortney Balboa for set designs and hours of work everywhere they were needed.

There's really not enough space for everyone, but we love you all. Mark your calendar, Sunday, April 3 (Easter), we'll be hosting a New York Street Fair at La Villita. See you there—call (210) 824-6303 or 545-HOPE for information.

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Colorado's anti-gay law struck down

From Staff and Wire Reports

DENVER (Dec. 14, 1993)—Colorado's Amendment 2, the constitutional amendment that prohibited local governments from protecting lesbians and gay men from discrimination, was ruled unconstitutional Tuesday by District Judge Jeff Bayless. The decision comes after a year long struggle to overturn the measure.

The ruling is expected to bring about the end of a national boycott by gay and lesbian organizations, promoted by a myriad of gay-friendly celebrities, that has cost the state an estimated \$38 million in

lost convention business.

The amendment, which was voted into law but never enforced, would have overturned city ordinances in Denver, Boulder and Aspen that prohibit discrimination against gays and lesbians, as well as blocking any municipality in the state from passing such laws in the future. The three cities, which were also hardest hit by the boycott, filed the lawsuit that challenged the amendment's constitutionality, along with gay and lesbian residents of the state.

In January, two months after voters approved Amendment 2, Bay-

less had issued a temporary injunction barring its enforcement. The injunction was later upheld by the Colorado Supreme Court.

In the decision, Judge Bayless ruled that the law violated the 14th Amendment, writing that measures intended to support "traditional family values" should through steps that affirm those values, not laws that are "anti-some other group."

In Washington on Tuesday, Tim McFeeley, executive director of the Human Rights Campaign Fund, a national gay and lesbian political organization, called the decision "a major victory in the battle to end

discrimination."

"Judge Bayless reaffirmed the American of fairness and equal protection," McFeeley said "The Bayless decision is a major defeat for the wealthy far right extremists who have been traveling from state to state terminating hatred against lesbian and gay Americans. This decision says that they cannot target one group of Americans and tell them that the constitution does not apply to them."

Colorado Attorney General Gale Norton said the state would appeal to the Colorado Supreme Court But the high court, through its previous

action, appears predisposed to uphold Bayless's ruling.

However, representatives of Colorado for Family Values, a right-wing group that pushed for Amendment 2, said after the ruling that they would continue or renew their efforts to put the measure into law.

McFeeley noted that the organizers on the extreme right have begun plans to place Colorado-style initiatives on the ballots of as many as a dozen states in next Fall's elections. "We are going to organize and fight them in the states that we will ultimately succeed in our efforts to end discrimination."

Lutherans: new sexuality statement will stand on bible

By DAVID BRIGGS
FOR THE NEW VOICE

Friday, Dec. 10 (AP)—The nation's largest Lutheran group has vowed to keep closer tabs on a task force that provoked widespread protests for supporting homosexual unions, but the church is not backing off from the sex wars.

The Church Council of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America voted to appoint an 11-member consulting panel to work with the task force to make sure any official pol-

icy on human sexuality would stand on biblical foundations and the confessional tradition of the church.

Church officials also announced Thursday that the council has decided to hire up to three people to replace the Rev. Karen L. Bloomquist, who was removed as the director of the sexuality study after the first draft was released.

"We do have a crisis," said church head Bishop Herbert Chilstrom. "A crisis can be a doorway to looking at things in a new way or a teaching

moment."

The church is in the middle of its first attempt to grapple with sexuality since it was formed in 1988 by the merger of the Lutheran Church in America, the American Lutheran Church and the Association of Evangelical Lutheran Churches.

A 21-page report released in October, "The Church and Human Sexuality: A Lutheran Perspective," urged members to challenge traditional biblical condemnations of homosexuality, and argued that sup-

porting and even moving toward a practice of blessing committed same-sex unions are practices "strongly supported by responsible biblical interpretation."

"It is the binding commitment, not the license or ceremony, that lies at the heart of biblical understandings of marriage," the draft statement said.

Even before the statement was released, the 67-member Conference of Bishops expressed concerns about how marriage appeared to be

equated with the term "loving, committed relationship," and in particular with the way Scripture was interpreted in defense of homosexual relationships.

The reaction from the pews was immediate, and largely negative.

Chilstrom said he received about 700 letters.

"Most of the negative letters go directly to the issue of homosexuality. It is very clear that is the flash point," he said in a statement.

London newspaper, science journal bicker over AIDS coverage

By RANDI HUTTER EPSTEIN
FOR THE NEW VOICE

LONDON, Saturday, Dec. 11 (AP)—A respected science journal and a leading British newspaper are arguing over how to report the AIDS epidemic.

In an unusual editorial, the journal Nature announced a plan aimed at stymieing what it called the "seriously mistaken and probably disastrous" coverage of AIDS by The Sunday Times.

For more than a year, The Sunday Times has printed articles arguing that the AIDS epidemic in Africa is a myth

and strongly suggesting that the human immunodeficiency virus (HIV) does not cause AIDS.

Nature said Thursday that it was furious that the newspaper promotes "perverse" AIDS theories without including comments from established medical experts.

The newspaper's misleading articles that downplay the threat of infection by HIV will encourage people to forego the "discomforts of 'safe sex,'" Nature said.

The Sunday Times on Nov. 28 accused Nature and the mainstream press of

"self-imposed censorship" for refusing to print unpopular ideas about the cause and spread of AIDS.

The vast majority of medical experts believe HIV is the virus that triggers AIDS. The World Health Organization, British health officials, AIDS organizations and many scientists have accused The Sunday Times of misleading its 1.2 million readers.

In response, Nature said it was so concerned about The Sunday Times' "unbalanced" coverage of AIDS that it will now regularly summarize the stories "to

let readers judge whether the newspaper's line on HIV and AIDS shows signs of being modified."

Letters of protest which The Sunday Times has rejected also will be published.

"Indeed a service of this kind may even enable readers with a macabre interest in what The Sunday Times is saying about AIDS to keep the weekly purchase price (90 pence, or \$1.35) in their pockets," the editorial said.

Neville Hodgkinson, The Sunday Times' science writer who covers AIDS,

remained defiant.

"It's incredible arrogance to think it will change our views at all," Hodgkinson told The Associated Press.

He also said The Sunday Times does publish dissenting opinions from readers, but cannot print every letter received.

Nature "wants to shut up the one British voice giving attention to dissident views," said Hodgkinson. "I think it will only strengthen our resolve that we should continue to question."

This year, the designers of the annual Montrose Community Christmas Display on the roof of Mary's, 1022 Westheimer, incorporated a much more serious theme, spotlighting the frustration of the surrounding community with camp fury. The community trees (three this year) are decked only in red ribbons; the traditional celebrity cut-outs are demonstrating for an AIDS cure. The bar's window reads: "Hey, Mr. President, if you want to fight a war, fight the war on AIDS." Merry? Not quite. Mary's? Naturally. The tree lighting ceremony was held Sunday. More Pictures: see HOUSTON SOAP



Bloc vote theory works in reverse, too

Out Spoken

By SHERI COHEN DARBONNE

Houston Voice Editor

A large and very powerful bloc of the city's registered voters exerted its influence with a vengeance in the Dec. 4 runoff election.

Just in case the deluge of post-election analyses that have crammed our daily newspapers over the past several days passed you by, the runoff two weeks ago and the first election, held Nov. 2, planted a total of seven political novices on the 14-member Houston City Council. That several incumbents running in the races and friendly family substitutes for those displaced by term limitations lost their seats—literally and figuratively—is not surprising. The anti-incumbent mood among the voters was well foretold, and the pathetic 20 percent turnout of the first election was splendidly outdone in the second. The runoff legacy of a ludicrous 10 percent of Houston's electorate was a vastly changed council, half newcomers with little in the way of a city wide record. But wait...there MIGHT have been more.

There is cause to believe that vehemently anti-incumbent bulk of the voters who turned out Dec. 4 were the faithful of the increasingly organized local right wing. Even with the curiosity of that much-publicized "throw the bums out" mentality in the shadow of perceived abuses of the fledgling term limit law, it is difficult to picture a long term, generally popular incumbent dragged to a harrowing photo finish with a challenger whose only link to local politics is his 1980's candidacy as part of the Straight Slate. (You remember the "Hate Slate"—their campaign platform was homophobia, and they flaunted it). But Eleanor Tinsley, who community leaders said was at little risk of being beaten, was forced into a fight for her political life, hanging on by a mere two percentage points in the final tally.

The Houston gay and lesbian community, and the 18-year-old organization we often turn to for leadership, the Houston Gay and Lesbian Political Caucus, were clearly excited by the possibilities in the first election. Several openly gay candidates

presented an unprecedented chance to claim the direct representation for which we rightly strive. But while the energies we indulged in those races had some of the desired results—Montrose precincts reflected a higher turnout than the city wide average, and the area's hard-core-gay-voter core of about 4,000-5,000 came through—the flame tapered far too soon to light the way for Tinsley or anyone else endorsed by the caucus in the runoff.

On Saturday, Dec. 4, I was absorbed with a job change, post—and pre-holiday confusion, and dealing with some turmoil in my personal life. Like many, I was distracted. And, sad to say, I was part of that overwhelming "bloc"—90 percent of the city's voters—who didn't make it to the polls to cast a ballot in the runoff election. Because of my "little" slip (and yours if you also failed to vote), we came within 200 votes of having a rabidly anti-gay, radical right mouthpiece on the Houston City Council, a man who once told a reporter that the death penalty for homosexuals was "something to consider." That's something to think about.

And while we're thinking, we perhaps should also re-think the Mythical Magical Gay Bloc Vote strategy from square one. The votes for our openly gay candidates in that first election ranged from about 4000 to over 27,600—hardly indicative of anyone benefiting from a large, solid bloc. Rob Bridges, who ran in the race with the clearest chance of a gay person making it into a runoff, was probably the most "perfect" candidate from the perspective of our gay leadership: a common-sense Democrat, politically astute and politically correct, known in the community for hard work and innovative ideas. At the polls, he pulled the least.

I was told not too long ago by one of my colleagues that the strategy of gay people involving themselves in local politics may be flawed to begin with, since the Houston gay and lesbian community does not have the numbers to elect one of its own to city wide office. However, perhaps the lesson we need to extract from this numbers game is that a gay or lesbian candidate CAN win with some level of "cross-over" appeal and a strategy that reaches beyond the narrow bounds of Montrose. It may be difficult to find a candidate with that kind of

appeal, since we tend to throw a formidable obstacle course in the paths of both our diplomats and our counter-culture heroes. The former will always be regarded with suspicion by many of us and the latter may not be around long enough to carry the rainbow flag through our maze.

Political Note Post

It was plunge week for local and state officials, beginning with Gov. Ann Richards' less than surprising formal announcement on Monday that she will seek re-election to the office. In the address from her Lakeview childhood home, Richards made note not only of a long list of accomplishments but some of the campaign promises she was unable to keep. Concentrating on the state's economy, Richards claimed an increase of over 450,000 jobs in the state and an influx of major businesses since she took office. She also reminded the crowd that she had kept her campaign promise to appoint people to state boards and commissions who reflect the "rich diversity" of Texas population.

Richards' one time Democratic primary foe, Jim Mattox, toured three Texas cities in launching his bid for the Democratic Senate nomination. On the stops, Mattox made little mention of Richards. He focused on attacking the record of the incumbent senator, Republican Kay Bailey Hutchison, linking her frequently with Texas other Republican senator, Phil Gramm.

U.S. Rep. Mike Andrews also officially announced his race for the Democratic U.S. Senate nomination on Monday. Andrews, who has a moderate voting record, pitched his appeal to the middle class. His entry into the senate race means he is stepping down as representative of the 25th Congressional District, a post he has held for 12 years.

On the local front, Vince Ryan formally entered the race to replace embattled Harris County Judge Jon Lindsay Monday. Last week, Harris County Treasurer Katy Caldwell ended speculation that she would run for county judge by filing for re-election to her own post. (The race for Harris County Judge will be examined in more detail in a future issue).

Local churches, organizations, businesses schedule their holiday events and projects

Quick Notes

By THE HOUSTON VOICE STAFF

Metropolitan Community Church of the Resurrection (MCCR) is presenting its annual Christmas Program this Sunday, Dec. 19 with performances at 3:00 p.m. and 7:00 p.m. at the church on 1919 Decatur. The program is free and as usual, come as you are.

The performance will feature the Music Ministry in both a secular and sacred portion. The sacred program will be the musical, *Behold the King of Glory*, written by Linda Serino and Mary McDonald. The secular program will be highlighted by the performances of the Jubilation Ensemble, Handbell Choir, the Children and Sanctuary Choirs.

Make a point to use this fantastic Christmas Program to start your Holiday Season Week. For more information or directions to the Church, call (713) 861-9149.

Christmas Eve

MCCR, in its celebration of the Holiday Season, also extends this invitation: "Don't spend the Holidays alone, come as you are and help us continue the tradition." MCCR will again have the very beautiful, moving and heart warming Candle Light Service on Christmas Eve, according to the staff. The service takes place next Friday at 10:45 p.m.

at the Church on 1919 Decatur St. For more information or directions call the Church at (713) 861-9149.

The Kolbe Project, a Catholic outreach, will also be holding a Christmas Eve gathering, Friday at 9:00 p.m.. The Kolbe friars enthusiastically invite those interested to bring a covered dish to share in a Christmas Eve potluck and open house. Also planned are caroling, a midnight worship service and other events; 1508 Hyde Park Blvd., (713) 522-8182.

VA Baskets

Texas Gay Veterans of Houston are planning a work party to create holiday baskets for fellow vets who are patients at the local Veteran's Administration hospital. The work day will be this Sunday, Dec. 19, from 3:00-7:00 p.m.; the group will meet at the Bering Care Center parking lot at 2:00 p.m. and carpool to a member's home. Distribution of the baskets will be Tuesday, Dec. 21 at the hospital. For more information, call Paul at (713) 359-3720; David at (713)780-9917, or Charles at (713) 650-6503.

Agora meeting

The Agora, a community service organization dedicated to presenting positive media portrayals of gays and lesbians, will meet at

7:30 p.m. Monday, Dec. 20, at the Metropolitan Multi-Service Center, 1475 W. Gray.

Topics for discussion include a pro-active advertising campaign in the mainstream and gay media; "OUT! in Houston," the Agora's TV show on the Public Access Channel community Outreach and other projects.

The organization normally meets the fourth Monday of every month. New officers include President Cicely Wynne, Vice President Denay Hudson, and Secretary Craig Stephens.

For more information, contact (713) 522-9837 or 729-4267.

Sports shorts

Team Houston will celebrate the holiday season from 3:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m., Sunday, Dec. 19 at the 611 Club (611 Hyde Park). Featured at this event will be a raffle drawing for a cash prize of \$500—just in time for Christmas! Raffle tickets can be purchased from any Team Houston member and are \$1 each.

This will be a great opportunity to meet and socialize with your fellow team members. If you haven't already joined Team Houston, then come out and see what it's all about.

Team Houston is the umbrella organization for all athletes, cultural activity participants, volunteers and spectators who will be

attending Unity '94: Gay Games IV and Cultural Festival in New York City.

For more information contact Team Houston at (713) 621-5300.

MONTROSE CLINIC BOWL-A-THON:

The staff and volunteers of the Montrose Clinic's deaf/hard of hearing program are sponsoring a bowling marathon Saturday, Jan. 29 to raise funds for their outreach efforts, announced program director Scot Pott. Pott, who is deaf, said: "The deaf community is at least five years behind the hearing community in our knowledge about HIV/AIDS and severely limited in our ability to access needed services. When weighed against this background, our program of education, testing, early intervention and case management is inadequate and under funded. In our HIV testing program, seropositivity runs double that of the hearing community. We are having the bowl-a-thon to help us meet the needs of our community."

The bowl-a-thon will be held at the Stadium Bowl at 8200 Braesmain from 1:00 p.m.—4:00 p.m. on Saturday, Jan. 29th. Participants will pledge or obtain pledges from others. A \$50 pledge covers 3 games, shoes, bowling ball and lunch. For more information call Scot at (713) 528-3678 (TDD) or Steve at (713) 520-2080 (voice).

CELEBRATE 1994

Celebrate New Year's Eve atop the Wyndham Warwick at Houston's 1st Annual Gay and Lesbian Community New Year's Eve Party

Hosted By
*The Assistance Fund, Bering Community Service Foundation
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Tickets are \$65 per person and include an open bar, hor'deuvres and a hearty breakfast buffet at 12:30 am. You may also purchase a table for ten for \$1,000 with an option to rent a suite for only \$50! A suite is a terrific place for the table host to entertain their guests before or after the party.

Dancing to the Hot Sounds of disc jockey J. Edward of Austin
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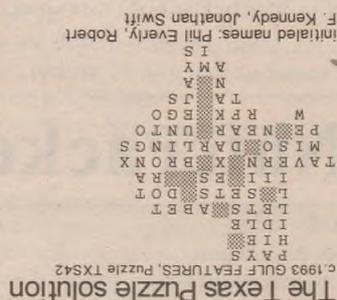
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For a pre-concert meal or a fine Sunday Brunch, Brennan's is all around first class

RESTAURANT REVIEW

By BOB AINSWORTH

Houston Voice/Houston

(NOTE: Beginning Houston Voice's Restaurant Review, the editors and staff writers have selected a series of eating establishments that by way of style of meal preparation, comfort of demographically typical Voice readers' presence, and location are thought to appeal to our readership. Additions and comments are very welcomed by your Voice. Each restaurant is visited multiple times, without identification of the diners and paid for by the Voice).

Brennan's Restaurant, 3300 Smith, 522-9711, is owned and directed by family members of the equally well known New Orleans Restaurant. One of my favorite Maitre d's in the City is a major reason for the continued success and pleasure of eating at Brennan's. Pino has that attention to detail that is so often lacking in the food service

industry today. Whether it is the extra touch of sherry in perhaps the finest turtle soup in the City, or adding freshly ground black peppercorn to your salad, he takes special pleasure in making sure that your meal is quality time. The level of seasoning is mild cajun, perhaps a bit to bland at times, but generally very well done.

On my last visit, I enjoyed what I would term a 'country chicken' prepared with sun dried tomatoes, artichoke hearts, fresh basil, and mushrooms. Autumn vegetable medley and a white season rice complimented the entree. The dinner plates are pre-warmed, and the waiters serve the china with a hand held towel to prevent finger prints from marring the cleanliness of the dinner plates. Think back to when you last dined out and were served a plate that did not have a hand full of finger prints on the boarder. Banana's Foster was chosen as dessert. This trademark sweet selection is often prepared table side and has the correct blend of a fruit flavored liquor, cinna-

mon, brown sugar, and topped with a fine quality vanilla ice cream (BlueBell's Natural Vanilla Bean ?) The coffee is an excellent New Orleans style roasted dark brew that is equally pleasant when either sugar and/or cream are added.

Brennan's Sunday Brunch is an excellent way to tell someone special that you enjoy their companionship. The meal price includes a wide choice of appetizers, main entree, and choice of fine desserts. My Mother has this Brunch as her favorite in the City. We enjoy being seated up stairs over looking the Courtyard unless the weather allows one to be comfortably seated out side. The have complimentary telephones for pager carrying guests which is a touch of thoughtfulness that so few restaurants offer. The idea of having to also pay for a cellular or a fixed wire telephone call in a addition to your meal has always seemed inconsiderate. Upon leaving there is a copper bowl with a fine praline candy for you to savor, just in case your blood

sugar has not reached a high enough level. Valet parking is available, though close at hand street side parking is readily available if you are the self park cautious type of driver. Reservations are recommended, coat and tie are appropriate for the gentlemen, though Sunday Brunch may be enjoyed with a long sleeve shirt and trousers. The temperature is comfortable for the ladies to wear a stylish dress or blouse without a sweater or jacket as many restaurants seem to feature today. Adjusting the a/c control for someone other than the patrons' comfort is also a common experience today.

On a scale of ten, please consider Brennan's a ten rated Restaurant, close to where many of us live, work and play. Perhaps more as a special events type of eatery rather than a weekly event, in part because of the \$25-30 price range. Inquire as to the level of seasoning, and if desired and possible ask if the chef may increase the amount of seasoning on entrees.

"Nutcracker" is a Holiday must for any age

By JOHN REED

Houston Voice/Houston

A brilliant Houston Christmas present has been offered by the Houston Ballet and Artistic Director Ben Stevenson. Many of our readers first heard and learned the music of Tchaikovsky's shortest of his three ballets as youngsters, but the current Houston production is anything but dated. Never has the scenery and costumes looked so grand. The music contains the memorable themes of the Battle between Nutcracker and Mouse King, Pine Forest in Winter, Waltz of the Snowflake, Arabian and Chinese Dances, Waltz of the Flowers, and Pas de Deux. Classical music simply does not get any better than these melodies, and when you add the imaginative choreography, splendid sets and elaborate costumes, you know that you are in for a first class afternoon or evening of music. Even the Brown Theater in the Wortham was comfortable the evening I attended, so that the attractive women in their Holiday dress did not have to keep their jackets or furs on to combat the often over-zealous use of air conditioning that I have experienced in the Wortham theaters.



Paul Legros is "The Nutcracker" in the Houston Ballet's spectacular production (Photo by Jim Caldwell)

Steven Casteel, dancing as Fritz, led the youthful enthusiasm of the playmates who have been invited to a Christmas Eve party in the home of president of the Town Council.

Casteel was well in control as he jumped and turned perfectly in time with the changing pace of the Act I melodies. The French nursery rhyme, Bon Voyage, Cher Dumoul-

let, is warmly played at this point.

After Clara retires to her room, the army of mice appear and over the gingerbread soldiers. The Nutcracker gives a 'call to arms' and

takes on the Mouse King in battle. The costumes are perfect and are used by cast members to greet guests at intermission for pictures and gentle 'tail pulling.' Clara throws her slipper at the Mouse King, who falls lifeless to the ground. Nutcracker is magically transformed into a handsome Prince and as a reward, carries Clara to the Kingdom of Sweets.

With the Waltz of the Snowflakes and the Flowers, Tchaikovsky composes two of European music's most melodic scores. It is difficult to realize that when this Ballet was presented in 1892 in St. Petersburg, Russia, the composition was coolly received and was from the pen of a composer who was in a deepening period of depression and emotional unrest.

Special appreciation is offered to Shirley Sastre as Clara, Michael Foster as The Nutcracker, Richard Hubscher and Robert Corbin as the talented Chinese Dancers, and Kathryn Warakomsky and Phillip Broomhead dancing the excellent Grand Pas de Deux. Houston Ballet's performance of The Nutcracker runs through Dec. 30, this is 'must see' fine arts event. Tickets are via telephone 227-ARTS.

"Shirley Valentine" a well-performed play at Alley

By JAVIER TAMEZ

Houston Voice/Houston

A mid-life crisis seems to be a virtual certainty for men and women in their 40s. Of course, I wouldn't know myself (gloat!), but from what I understand the advent of the fifth decade in a person's life brings to the fore all manner of doubts and what-ifs regarding the state and direction of one's life.

In the case of Shirley (Karen MacDonald), the title character in a charmingly whimsical one-woman play by Willy Russel, the yearning to revitalize a moribund life with passion and sparkle leads her on an enviable flight from the routine drudgery of her existence to a warm, sun-soaked village in a foreign land.

Shirley Bradshaw's life is boring. Speaking directly to the audience,

we learn from Shirley that she's mired in a deep rut with her husband, so much so that they have planned meals on given nights of the week (Thursday is steak night). She ostensibly has her most honest conversations at home with the kitchen wall.

The only excitement in her life is generated by a feminist girlfriend, who entices Shirley with an offer to bankroll a two-week excursion to Greece.

Shirley wrestles with some doubts about how her husband could possibly manage without her, but then decides it's more important for her to find her "unused life," more important for her to rediscover Shirley Valentine.

Over the incredulous objections of her daughter, but with the envious encouragement of a



Karen MacDonald is "Shirley Valentine." What: "Shirley Valentine" Where: Alley Theatre Large Stage When: Through Jan. 2, 1994

neighbor (who thinks Shirley is leaving for a sexual tryst), Shirley prepares two weeks of meals for her husband and surreptitiously departs, leaving only a short note in the way of a goodbye.

Karen MacDonald in just terrific. She never once faltered in the role, admirably maintaining her character's winsome, urban demeanor and uncomplicated pragmatism. She effectively connected with her audience in every way, and like a real pro, she maintained her composure and character after inadvertently nipping one of her fingers with a chopping knife the night I saw the production.

Moreover MacDonald's convincing delivery extended to the gaggle of other characters Shirley mimics while relaying her

story. Besides her husband and her girlfriend, the audience meets Shirley's lazy, self-indulgent daughter; a snooty and nosy neighbor, who speaks in breathy phrases; and a swaggering Greek innkeeper, full of machismo and not-so-subtle designs on Shirley.

Patrick Swanson's directing showed significant appreciation for MacDonald's natural ability to establish a rapport with her audience. He allowed MacDonald's strengths to mesh seamlessly with the play's characters.

Richard Young's set design is smart and eye-pleasing, while C.E. Slisky's sound design and Paul Charlette's lighting design are smooth and proficiently handled.

"Shirley Valentine" is a warm, feel-good play that's exceptionally performed. It's the best show you'll see this holiday season.

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Reverend John Gill, Preaching



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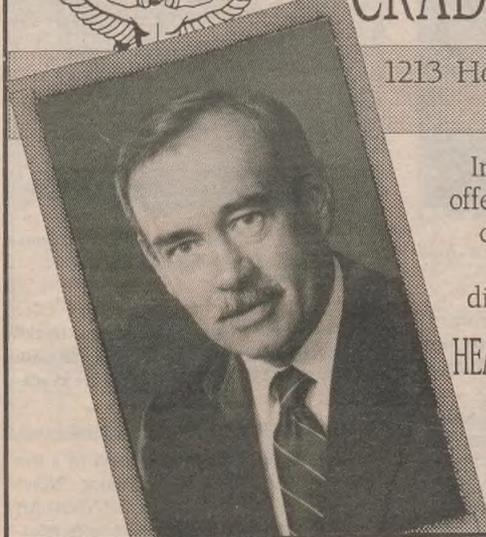
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National organization asks feds to help lesbians in mississippi

OVETT, Miss., Wednesday, Dec. 8 (AP)—The National Gay & Lesbian Task Force asked the government Wednesday to help protect a feminist educational retreat run by two lesbians in rural Mississippi.

Attorney General Janet Reno was asked to provide "immediate assistance in ending a violent situation in Overt, Mississippi, between the community and two lesbians who own land in Jones County... The women's lives are in danger."

There was no immediate response by the Justice Department.

The call by Task Force Executive Director Peri Jude Radevic in Washington followed a community meeting in Overt on Monday attended by about 250 people opposed to the retreat, called Sister Spirit Inc.

Wanda Henson, 39, and Brenda Henson, 48, said they set up the retreat on a one-time pig farm to champion issues important to women and to provide assistance to those in need. The two, who consider themselves to be married, said about 20 women live at the retreat.

Some people at Monday's meeting said they feared the lesbians will recruit

their daughters; others called homosexuality a moral sin.

"It's taught against in the Scriptures," Ray Thornton of the Baptist Ministry Association of Mississippi told the meeting. "It's in opposition for what God intended for procreation of the human race."

Wanda Henson said in a telephone interview Wednesday that she did not attend the meeting out of fear for her safety. She said the claims of opponents are ridiculous, "but make no mistake, this is like a time bomb. We honestly fear for our lives."

The Hensons said they have been receiving threatening phone calls and found a dead dog hanging from their mailbox about a month ago.

"We've had armed men come onto our land, even boys who claimed to be hunting but were not wearing the right kind of clothing," Wanda Henson said.

Opponents of the retreat are hoping to use state laws forbidding sodomy to force the women to leave town. Paul Walley, an attorney for the Perry County Board of Supervisors, has volunteered his services to the group.

The Hensons said they intend no harm and that they are the victims of prejudice because of their sexual orientation.

Radevic asked Reno to send FBI agents to monitor the situation and to initiate an investigation by the Justice Department's Civil Rights Division.

She asked that a department representative attend another community meeting scheduled for Jan. 4.

NLA at VN tonight; Club Houston Xmas Party; Briar Patch Singing & buffet

HOUSTON SOAP

By TAD NELSON

Houston Voice/Houston
HELLO HOUSTON!

Well, I hope some of you are noticing the subtle changes we are making at the HOUSTON VOICE. All in an effort to please YOU, the readers and advertisers. Keep watching for additions like our new two section format with our main editorial and arts section followed by our bar and blue pages. If you have any comments or know of an organization or feature that needs to be covered by our writers, please feel free to contact us at 529-8490 between 9 to 5:30. Or leave a message on our answering machines after 5:30. You can also FAX Press Releases to us at 529-9531. In future issues, we will try to balance Gay issues for both men and women as well as community issues as they affect us on a daily basis. And let us not forget the importance of politics not only in our city, but also focusing on state and national levels. We at the Houston Voice are striving to make our paper the leading publication of it's kind for our community. Your constructive input is requested and appreciated. And just for the record—we are NOT (contrary to rumors) out to put our friends at TWT out of business. I have never said this and never will. We are two different publications that have long served similar segments of our community and I treasure our ability to work together in harmony and cooperation. Some of my good friends work for This Week in Texas and I hope we always remain just that.

Now on with Soap...ABOUT LAST WEEK.

The new MR. GENTRY was honored last Sunday evening and he is MICHAEL BOLIN. First runner up was Robert Rodriguez and second runner up was Ted Roundtree. Congratulations guys! Del, can you believe it. We were actually there with a camera! See photo this issue.

HOW ABOUT A LITTLE DIRT!

WOLF DADDY—next time you propose marriage, don't do it to a group of bartenders at the BRB.

BEAU (BRB) all she wanted for the Xmas season is a date. Not a date from hell!

Happy Birthday TOMMY SUE (Dec. 19th) from The Red Room and Jimmy Dale and Long Stars.

RITA (Mary's) next time you play Tarzan, make sure you come in the correct door. What is her new name? Cheetah Rita?

STEVE (BRB) I'm so glad that you are taking advantage of the fly free plan. Use it up before Jan. 4th. San Francisco bound again.

STEVE KERBOW (Voice Staff) happy belated birthday Miss Thang! Remember when we met in 1976 an share the same boyfriend? Scary thought—isn't it!

Happy belated birthday to MR. JOHN PHLEGAR, butch lover of the Reverend John Gill of MCCR.

OK SPEED BUMP, here goes as close as I'll get. What member of the Houston Voice Staff partied with Shirley, Lee and Carolyn one Thursday while his lover was out of town and drank soo many Cuervos that he had to be driven home (thank you very much). And what was that unusual smell after he picked himself up out of the yard? There bitch—are you



Richard, Ken & Jim commandeered anonymous Woofers!



Good looking Michael Bolin is Mr. Gentry 1994



Jerry, Brittany & B.J. at E/I's Tree Lighting

happy?

THIS WEEK IN HOUSTON...

NLA:H is having a LEATHER NIGHT and Educational Show at the VENTURE-N tonight Thursday, Dec. 16th beginning at 7:00 p.m. This is also a night for their ANNUAL TOY DRIVE FOR CHILDREN WITH AIDS. Bring a toy that will put a smile on a young child's face this Christmas.

Friday Dec. 17th is CUSTOMER APPRECIATION NIGHT at RICH'S beginning at 9:00 p.m. They are offering free admission if you are wearing a skirt and .50 cent well drinks all night. Dec. 17th at CLUB HOUSTON is the big CHRISTMAS HOUSE PARTY with special appearances by MOUNT-N-MEN. There will be free hors d'oeuvres and beverages and lots

Misty Valdez and Puppet Master, Alan Gibson. The show will begin promptly at 11:00 p.m.

This Sunday at the VENTURE-N will be the MISS PPP CONTEST. (That's Pre Parade Party to the uninformed like myself)

Don't miss the Breakfast Buffet each Sunday sponsored by the WOLF PACK at MARY'S...NATURALLY! This buffet & breakfast begins each Sunday at 10:00 a.m. along with Happy Hour prices. The great food is being catered by CARTER & COOLEY DELI. Try it as a Sunday morning alternative to those crowded greasy spoons.

"ONCE UPON A CHRISTMAS...MARY!" is the annual Xmas show at GENTRY this Sunday, Dec. 19th. There will be photos taken with SANTA and his BOY TOY ELF from 5 to 9 pm

with .25 cent well and special Egg Nog Shots all night at Rich's.

On Tuesday, join all of GENTRY'S BOY TOY DANCERS for their CHRISTMAS PARTY at 7:00 p.m.

Tuesday is TALENT NIGHT with GIOVANNI at E/I's beginning at 10:30 pm sharp.

E/I's also has a great KARAOKE NIGHT each Wednesday with BILL SANSOM beginning at 8 pm sharp.

Our friends at MIDTOWNE SPA are now offering for a limited time a \$35 1 hour Massage Therapy along with a free locker. This is a \$65 value and you need to call an book an appointment. Along with these special sessions they now offer Personal Skin Care, Weight Manage-



Two of Lancers finest, Laura and Mark



Speed Bump with artist Larry Crawford



Members of Sundance Cattle Company enjoy Lancers Anniversary

of fun to be had by all. Damion really knows how to do these parties right, so be there! Club Houston is also offering On Site Massage by Jeffery (TX LIC.# 3236) from 11 pm till ? for a special introductory price of only \$6.00.

Also this Friday, Dec. 17th at GENTRY is the 1994 GAY PRIDE LOGO DISPLAY and preliminary judging from 5 to 8:00 p.m. Go by and see if you can spot the winner.

Saturday Dec. 18th the BACKYARD BAR & GRILLE will feature, LaWanda Jackson emcee of their show starring Tommie Ross and Poison Alexander.

BRITTANY PAIGE, Miss Mid Texas will present her SATURDAY SUPER SHOW at E/I's with Paivi and special guests The Island Diva,

and the variety show will begin at 9 pm sharp. This is a presentation by RSICSS Emperor and Empress VIII Frank Pierce and Pittypat Magnolia Sugarbaker Snow.

The BRIAR PATCH is offering Live Entertainment this Sunday at 7:30 pm featuring the ANNUAL CHRISTMAS CAROL SING-A-LONG as well as a sumptuous buffet. It's a 25 year tradition that you won't want to miss. Go by and see their Fairy Land decorations with a Life Sized Animated Nut Cracker, king sized Christmas Lights and of course the traditional tree, holly and Kisseltoe, I mean Mistle toe. RICH'S CHRISTMAS PARTY is this Sunday, Dec. 19th beginning at 7 pm with special entertainment by long time friend JIMMY JAMES. Bring your friends and party for the holidays

ment, Nutritional Products and Natural Health Remedies. For more information or an appointment call 528-1333. Gift certificates are available, too!

COMING UP IN HOUSTON...

Dec. 23 at CLUB HEDONISM will be a live concert featuring ZETTE performing "Never Be." There will also be a display of Visual Art in the Art Bar by Howie Keck. For more information call 639-5910. Club Hedonism is at 2401 San Jacinto near downtown Houston.

Dec. 25th GENTRY gift to you is the ROXIE STARR SHOW starring JIMMY EMMERSON. Jimmy has just completed a knock out engagement at the Riviera Hotel in Las Vegas, you will delight in Jimmy's host of comedy characters including Roseanne Arnold, Divine, Dame Edna, Mama Cass, Tammy Sprynet and Madonna's fat sister.

Jan. 23rd at the VENTURE-N, McAdory Housing Program, Milam House, Omega House and Chris Seversen invite you to participate in the Second Annual WINTER CARNIVAL. (This will be an indoor carnival) For further info on this event or to reserve space call Chris at 526-4392.

Feb. 11th—13th SOUTHERN COUNTRY will present "SWEETHEARTS IN TEXAS." The annual event is scheduled to take place at the Holiday Inn Houston at I-10 West and Silber. For hotel reservations call 688-2221. More info to follow as released.

Hang tight until next week boize and gurhls. But, bye for now!



Rev. John Gill lights the tree at Mary's



A strong message goes out from Mary's roof this Xmas



Jo Ann, still lazy after all these beers!

▼▼▼ IN MEMORY OF
MARC BERMAN

Marc Berman, 39, died November 6, 1993 in Sherman Oaks, California of complications from AIDS.

In 1989, along with six other executives in the video industry Marc formed VIAAC (The Video Industry AIDS Action Committee). VIAAC has channeled nearly \$500,000 to 30 agencies including AIDS Project Los Angeles, Whitman Walker Clinic (Washington D.C.), Project Inform (San Francisco) and Stone Soup Pantry (Houston).

In 1992 Marc was elected to the Board of Governors of AIDS Project Los Angeles. He also served on the Media Strategy Committee of the Gay & Lesbian Alliance Against Defamation/Los Angeles.

As a freelance journalist, Marc wrote for Entertainment Weekly, Us Magazine, Video Review, 3-2-1 Contact, Variety and a dozen other publications. He is also the author of two books, The Encyclopedia of Home Audio and Video and Ken Uston's Illustrated Guide to the Apple IIe.

In his honor VIAAC renamed its Financial Assistance Program, which gives direct donations to individuals with AIDS, the Marc Berman Financial Assistance Program.

Donations in his memory may be made to VIAAC, 11500 West Olympic Blvd., Suite 655, Los Angeles, CA 90064.

Until we meet again, always and forever,
Polo

DAVID L. PEGISH

On December 1, 1993, near his home in Toledo, Ohio, David died due to complications of AIDS. As a long time resident of New Orleans, he was an active volunteer at NOAIDS Task Force and Friday Night Bingo.

David's generosity, love of mankind, and unwavering devotion to friends and family will be greatly missed. Everyone who knew him will always remember his positive attitude and effervescent personality. His closest friends and family are grateful for having shared part of his life and know that his spirit and love will live on in our fond memories.

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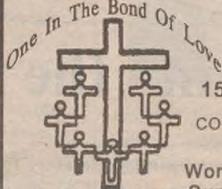
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ASK THE PASTOR

Q: "If I am given the legal responsibility to make the decision for a person who is on life support, how will I know when to pull the plug? Is it a sin to do so?"

A: Medical science and technology have done amazing things to enhance the quality and longevity of life. I believe that medicine is an instrument through which God heals. Unfortunately there are always negative sides to the positive ones. One of the negative attributes of medical science is the ability to sustain the vital signs of a human body even though the individual has no cognizance of their existence. Medical science declares a person "brain dead" when an EEG, an Electro-encephalogram, is flat. At that time a person is declared unable to ever function as a productive human being. It is referred to as irreversible brain damage. Without the life-support equipment, the person in many cases would die. There are many people who have "Living Wills." They express their desire to be removed from such life-support equipment in the event of an illness or accident that leaves them "brain dead." What this person is declaring in this document is that they no longer consider themselves alive under these circumstances. The question to wrestle with is, "What is LIFE?" In the Old Testament, the natural life was viewed as a gift from God, and was evidenced by health, prosperity, and peace. In the New Testament, after Jesus' birth, death, and resurrection, people began to recognize life beyond the natural realm. It became evident that life is more than natural existence. ETERNAL LIFE became a greater issue. Once a person has come to an understanding of their relationship with Almighty God in Christ Jesus, they need not worry about this earthly life passing away. For when a person comes to know Jesus, it is as the Apostle Paul said, "To be absent from the body is to be present with the Lord." For a Christian, there is life beyond the grave. This world is not our home, we are just passing through. We know that the body will wear out, and when it does, we go on to be with Jesus. Our responsibility is to serve Christ while we are alive. For a person to write a Living Will, they are saying, "If God wants me to live, then I will be restored by God's strong and mighty hand. I am not going to sustain my own life for the sake of breathing on a machine. For this is not living, it is existing." This person is trusting you to make the right decision at that time. They are trusting you to know when there is no possible recovery. Once you have prayed and believe that there is no hope of reversal, then you can carry out this person's wishes. I don't believe that you are playing God for them. Remember what Job said, "The Lord it is who gives and the Lord takes away. Blessed be the Name of the Lord." When the cord is unplugged you are not removing their breath. It is the Lord who takes it away.

IF YOU WOULD LIKE TO ASK THE PASTOR A QUESTION, PLEASE WRITE TO: REV. JANET PARKER, MARANATHA FELLOWSHIP MCC, P.O. BOX 667032, HOUSTON, TX 77266-7032.



Rev. Janet Parker

Enjoy a variety of Holiday Fare in Houston's Theater District this year



"Christmas Is Comin' Uptown" at The Ensemble Theater. (Left to Right) Kenneth Davis, J.E.T. Jr., BeBe Wilson, Jay Jay Wilson, Daintee Lover. (Photo credit, Jeffery St. Mary)

HOUSTON VOICE ENTERTAINMENT

By THE HOUSTON VOICE STAFF

Scrooge revamped

Ensemble Theater Artistic Director Eileen Morris announces the revival of the family holiday musical production of "Christmas Is Comin' Uptown" by Phillip Rose and Peter Udell and Music by Gary Sherman with lyrics by Peter Udell.

Back by audience demand, "Christmas Is Comin' Uptown," based on the Charles Dickens classic, "A Christmas Carol," brings out the holiday spirit in all of us. Greedy and callous Scrooge is now a Harlem slum lord, foreclosing on a rental apartment property, a neighborhood recreation center and community church on Christmas Eve. To keep pace with more women becoming economically powerful, Scrooge is now a woman. She even refuses the Christmas bonus of her sole employee and only friend, Bob Cratchitt.

"Christmas Is Comin' Uptown" will be directed by E.J. Morris, fresh from her starring role in "A Raisin in the Sun." The revived production features some new faces in leading roles and a few new surprises.

"Christmas Is Comin' Uptown" opened Dec. 2, 1993 and runs through Jan. 2, 1994.

Performance times are Thursdays thru Saturdays at 8:00 p.m., Saturday and Sunday matinees at 3:00 p.m. Ticket prices are \$12.00 for Thursday and Sundays, \$15.00 for Friday and Saturdays for general seating.

For more information and reservation call The Ensemble Theater Box Office at (713)520-0055. Everyone will share in the true meaning of Christmas.

The Ensemble Theater is Houston's Black professional theater and is located at 3535 Main.

New Year's Eve with Linda Eder

Singer Linda Eder returns to the Alley Theater for a special New Year's Eve concert on Friday, Dec. 31, 1993. Ms. Eder who was featured in the Alley's productions of "Jekyll and Hyde" and "Svengali," dazzled Houston audiences at the Alley's New Year's Eve concerts in 1990 and 1991. The Alley Theater will present the gala New Year's Eve concert on the Large Stage at 9:00 p.m., followed by a champagne breakfast and dancing to the music of "Overdrive."

Ms. Eder's repertoire will consist of Broadway show tunes, popular songs, highlights from "Jekyll and Hyde" and "Svengali," as well as selections from her albums "Vienna," "The Scarlet Pimpernel," and her soon-to-be-released album for Angel Records (Capitol/EMI). Recent concert selections have included "A New Life," "Someone Like You," "Bridge Over Troubled Water," and "Is This Any Way to Fall in Love?"

A native of Minnesota, Ms. Eder began her career by appearing on "Star Search," where she was winner of the show's final round competition in which she was named best female vocalist an unprecedented twelve times. In 1991 Ms. Eder debuted "Show The Children," by Frank Wilhorn and John Bettis at a special performance for then First Lady Barbara Bush. The piece was written for KARITAS, a charity to aid abused and homeless children. She has recently played to packed houses in Minnesota, Sarasota, New York City's West Bank Cafe, Atlantic City, and Los Angeles where she now resides.

Ms. Eder recorded "Highlights from Jekyll and Hyde" with Colm Wilkinson (Les Miserables) and sang as a featured artist on the album, "Highlights from The Scarlet Pimpernel." Ms. Eder will release her upcoming Angel Records solo album of "new songs with an old feel as well as recognized, beloved standards" in the spring of 1994. A featured guest on the album is Elektra recording artist Michael Fienstein.

Ticket prices for New Year's Eve with Linda Eder are \$75.00 and \$60.00. For more information, contact the Alley Theater Box Office at (713)228-8421.

Houston Symphony performs Handel's Messiah

The Houston Symphony showcases Handel's oratorio "Messiah" in three performances, Dec. 17 and 18 at 8:00 p.m. and Dec. 19 at 2:30 p.m. at Jones Hall. Guest conductor Christopher Seaman, from the harpsichord, leads the Houston Symphony, the Houston Symphony Chorus and soloists Christine Cairns, mezzo-soprano, Danna Hanchard, soprano, Jamie MacDougall, tenor, and William Stone, baritone, in the dramatic performance of this uplifting story.

This is Mr. Seaman's fourth appearance with the Houston Symphony, including performances of "Messiah" in 1990

and 1991 to critical and audience acclaim. Mr. Seaman was recently named music director of the Naples Philharmonic in Florida and continues as conductor-in-residence of the Baltimore Symphony. Additionally, he is noted as one of Britain's leading conductors, having completed tenures as principal conductor of the BBC Scottish Symphony and of the Northern Sinfonia. He is chief guest conductor at the Guildhall School of Music and Drama of London.

One of the most outstanding legacies of George Frideric Handel's career is "Messiah." In Britain and the United States the annual performance of this classic tale of salvation has become an integral part of our holiday celebrations in December.

The Houston Symphony Chorus will be directed by Charles Hausmann. Featured soloists for this inspirational story bring their diverse talents to the stage. Soprano Dana Hanchard has earned recognition for her unique interpretations of Baroque music. In 1991, Ms. Hanchard created the role of Gwen St. Clair for the world premiere of Meredith Monk's "Atlas" for the Houston Grand Opera.

Tickets to Handel's "Messiah," performed in Jones Hall, 615 Louisiana Street, range in price from \$10-\$30 and can be purchased at the Houston Ticket Center in Jones Hall or by calling (713)227-ARTS or 1-800-828-ARTS. Tickets to the Sunday matinee performance are available at a 50 percent discount for children 18 and under. Concert sponsors are Compaq Computer foundation, Transco Energy company, KRTS/KRTR and KHOU-TV.



Linda Eder takes center stage at Alley Theater on New Year's Eve

Check your list of exciting events in the Island City



Kristal and Buffie

GALVESTON SOAP

By JERRY STUART

Houston Voice/Galveston

Yo ho ho's, I don't know about Santa but I've already made my list and I've checked it more than twice. And believe me when I tell you there's been some naughty girls on my list this year. I guess I don't have to tell ya' it's no gift list. But it is the season to be jolly and nice so I'll save all that dirt for later. STAY TUNED!

Well with Christmas only days away the holiday spirit is really in the air here on the Island. The halls are decked and so are the clubs. People are going all out on Christmas decorations this year. Some of the homes here in Galveston are absolutely covered with lights. I can only imagine the work that goes into putting them up. I had hell just putting up a few strands on my tree. If any of you have an evening off or some free time, I would highly recommend driving through the Silk Stocking District. You really should check out some of these wonderfully decorated homes. While your out, if you have any of that last minute shopping to do you may want to stop in some of the shops in the downtown Strand District. They have some great little gifts very reasonably priced that make good stocking stuffers.

Congratulations goes out to Dominique, the winner of the Miss Galveston America 1994 Pageant. Raven Productions was proud to present the pageant this year at the Kon Tiki Club last Friday night. Dyan Michaels (Miss Texas '94) was the Master of Ceremonies and the guest entertainers included Kofi (Miss Galveston '93), Christopher Graham (Mr. Gulf Coast '93), Britany Paige, Janay St. James, Kitty Divino, Cinnamon, and Alan Gibson. This was an official preliminary to the official Miss Texas Pageant.

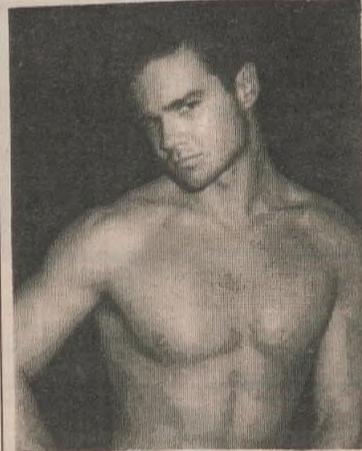
While I'm speaking of pageants, the Miss Lafitte's Pageant is coming up on Friday, Dec. 17th at

10:00 p.m. For contest rules and entry forms, contact Buffie Galore at (409)765-9092 and check their ad for details.

Also, don't forget the Miss Evolution Pageant coming up Jan. 2nd, call David the Mouth for details at (409)763-4212 and watch for ads. Miss Jessica Lynn celebrated her birthday at Club Evolution Sunday evening. When asked how old she was, she smiled from ear to ear and said she was 19. The show director stated that was her ankle size and not her age. Anyway, hope you had a happy birthday Jessie and may you have many more.

Falcon film sensation Karl Thomas was on stage last Saturday and Sunday nights at Evolution. His stage performance was fast and glitzy and later he autographed photo's for some of his local fans. Back stage I heard him say he would have really liked to have done his beer bottle routine, but after last weeks scandal, Pappa Viggi wasn't well for it. Oh well, maybe next time.

Regretfully, I missed the girls from San Antonio Saturday night that were in the show at the K.T. My car left me stranded in Houston that evening so it was unavoidable. I'll be sure to catch you next time your in town. Speaking of San Antonio girls, our once upon a time Island Goddess, Shawna Brooks will be making a guest appearance at the K.T. this Friday night the 17th along with Poison Alexander. Show time is at 11:00 p.m. Until next week, happy Holidays!



Karl Thomas at Evolution



Dominique, Miss Galveston America 1994



Rave and contestants

Julia Roberts and Denzel Washington star in "The Pelican Brief", a suspense hit

By VADA CARROLL
Houston Voice/Houston

Darby Shaw sits alone in a Washington, D.C. hotel room, still alive, still waiting. She has just seen another man murdered, only inches from her—the second in less than a week. The killers are closing in on her and Darby knows she can no longer run and hide. She'd survived for days in the anonymous shadows and tourist-filled crowds of New Orleans' French Quarter, but this last murder was too frightening, too close.

Terrified and exhausted, Darby has decided to put her faith in a stranger, Gray Grantham, an investigative reporter whom Callahan had admired—Callahan, her lover and mentor, now a fatality in this deadly chase. Darby will tell Grantham exactly what's in the speculative legal brief—the Pelican brief—she wrote about the Supreme Court justice assassinations—about the man behind it all, about the growing

cover up of big government corruption.

Darby had given Grantham very specific instruction. She'd told him to assume they're always watching and following. She hopes by now he'll understand how dangerous they are—that this isn't a game for anyone involved. And perhaps, if Grantham can confirm the information and break the story before the killers figure out where she is—perhaps she and Grantham will both survive.

If suspense is your bag, then "The Pelican Brief" starring Julia Roberts and Denzel Washington is a movie



Denzel Washington and Julia Roberts in "The Pelican Brief"

for you. Adapted from the best-selling novel by John Grisham, The Pelican Brief, tells of a New Orleans law student (Roberts) who finds herself embroiled in a terrifying web of

intrigue extending to the highest levels of government after she writes a speculative legal brief exposing the activities of a powerful oil magnate. When those close to her are killed by assassins, the young woman embarks on a desperate flight for her life with a Washington investigative reporter (Washington) her only confidant and ally.

Washington has proved himself to be one of Hollywood's more versatile actors with two films by Spike Lee, "Mo' Better Blues" and "Malcolm X" under his belt, along with such hits as "Cry Freedom" which earned him an Academy Award nomination for Best Supporting Actor and his Academy Award winning performance in "Glory." He more recently starred as Don Pedro in Kenneth Branagh's film adaptation of the William Shakespeare classic "Much Ado About Nothing" and stars opposite Tom Hanks in Jonathan Demme's upcoming film, "Philadelphia."

A top notch movie by any standards, I would give "The Pelican Brief" a solid four out of five stars for intelligent, thought provoking suspense entertainment. Why do you think Julia Roberts married Lyle Lovett anyway? Was it because she was fascinated by someone with hair bigger than hers? Just imagine how their children will look.

Sisters are doin' it for Touchstone Films - Goldberg's "Sister Act" sequel scores big

Film Review

By VADA CARROLL
Houston Voice/Houston

Touchstone Pictures has done it again with the help of one very funny lady, Whoopi Goldberg. *Sister Act 2: Back in the Habit* is the latest fare from Ms. Goldberg, and this is truly one of those rare films in which the sequel is actually better than the original it is based upon. In a five star rating system, where one is bad three is good and five is excellent, I would have give the original *Sister Act* a solid three. But this ascetic adventure deserves at least a three and a half for some solid yuks.

What's this one about? Well, the good Sisters of St. Catherine's Convent take their community outreach program to an inner-city school full of rowdy teenagers, the find hell has broken loose in the halls, and the classes are overrun by delinquents. The nuns, including Sisters Mary Patrick (Kathy Najimy), Mary Lazarus (Mary Wickes) and Mary Robert (Wendy Makkena), as well as their Mother Superior (Maggie Smith), are up to their necks in trouble and only one person can restore their faith: a sequined chanteuse named Deloris Van Cartier (Academy Award winner Whoopi Goldberg).

In the original "Sister Act," lounge singer Deloris Van Cartier found friendship, love and her own self-worth when a group of nuns helped save her from her mobster boyfriend.

Now Delores owes them one... and paybacks can be hell. Convinced she owes penance, Deloris agrees to return to her alma mater, and for her second coming as Sister Mary Clarence, she hits the hood and goes undercover as the school's new music teacher. This time, however, Deloris' disguise



Michael Jeter (left-facing) explains their impossible tasks to Najimy, Goldberg, Makkena and Wickes in *Sister Act 2: Back in the Habit*

must fool not only the stodgy priests of St. Francis High, but the street-wise students as well. With a lesson plan these undisciplined demons will never forget, Deloris once again dodging dogma and rockin' religion as she sets out to convert her "class from hell" into a hip-hop gospel choir from heaven.

The film's opening number is a medley in the tackiest of show biz terms—of 18 of Motown's greatest hits, three backup singers, ten male revue dancers, and almost as many

lights as the Vegas Strip itself, with a few surprises. It is a very fast and funny number, and it's hard to believe that between all the laughter Goldberg could complete her own singing again in this film.

Of the Fathers at St. Francis High, one standout from the crowd is the overly optimistic, high-energy, and obviously gay, Father Ignatius, played by Michael Jeter. Jeter is probably best known for his Emmy-winning portrayal as assistant football coach Herman Stiles on the CBS television series "Evening Shade." He also received a Tony Award for his show-stopping performance as Otto Kringlein in Tommy Tune's award-winning musical, "Grand Hotel." You'll love his antics.

Other names in the cast are Barnard Hughes as Father Maurice, James Coburn as Mr. Crisp, Sheryl Lee Ralph, and newcomer, Lauryn Hill as our teenage protagonist, Rita Watson.

Sister Act 2 was written for the screen by the successful team of James Orr and Jim Cruickshank, who also wrote hits like *Father of the Bride*, *Mr. Destiny*, *Tough Guys*, and *Three Men and a Baby*, the highest grossing film of 1987. The film was directed by Bill Duke who most recently directed Touchstone Pictures' "The Cemetery Club."

I highly recommend this comic outing if you are looking for a feel good movie for the holidays. It is slightly reminiscent of "Fame" done again in a Catholic school, but the great musical score and Motown hits will have you hoppin' to the beat in your theater seat. The vocals of the students are quite magnificent as well. Lock your packages in the trunk and head for the nearest theater to catch this one soon and get your mind off the few shopping days remaining before Christmas. It's a sure cure for those Christmas blues.

Screenwriter looks at Ohio candidate's case for new movie

COLUMBUS, Ohio, Sunday, Dec. 12 (AP)—A screenwriter said an AIDS discrimination lawsuit involving U.S. Senate candidate Joel Hyatt's law firm was one of hundreds of such cases he researched for a movie to be released this month.

"Philadelphia" stars Tom Hanks as a gay attorney fired by his law firm after contracting the AIDS virus. The movie was written by Ron Nyswaner.

In 1987, Hyatt Legal Services fired a man after he said he was becoming

ill because of AIDS. Clarence Cain, a senior attorney with the firm's Philadelphia offices, sued for \$1.5 million.

It is a coincidence that the motion picture takes place in Philadelphia, Nyswaner said. There are differences between the movie plot and Cain's case.

Cain won a \$157,000 judgment in the 1990 U.S. District Court trial, then died two months later. His lawyer, Richard Silverberg, said the settlement offers were not satisfactory.

"We thought the conduct so egregious that a simple offer of reinstatement and back pay, which they were legally obligated to provide anyway, did not nearly compensate him for what they had done," Silverberg said.

The Columbus Dispatch said Hyatt declined to be interviewed in an article on the case published Sunday.

Hyatt's campaign director, Melinda Swan, said the movie was not a portrayal of the Hyatt case.

"It's a fictional movie. Period," Ms.

Swan said Sunday.

She said Hyatt knew firing Cain was a mistake and offered him a similar job at the same \$44,000 salary and back pay as a settlement.

Karen Hamm, president of Stone-wall Union, a Columbus gay-rights organization, said the gay community will want to hear what else Hyatt has to say about the case.

"It would only be fair to hear all sides of the issue and make a decision from that point, and I would not want

to sit here and say we absolutely cannot support (Hyatt)," Ms. Hamm said.

Cuyahoga County Commissioner Mary Boyle, who is running against Hyatt for the Democratic nomination next year, does not plan to make the case a campaign issue, a spokesperson said.

Robert Bennett, chairperson of the Ohio Republican Party, said the case is a legitimate political issue because it reflects on Hyatt's decision-making process.

Companies poised to woo gay consumers

NATIONAL NOTES

It had to happen sooner or later: thousands of lesbians and gays in southern California will converge on the Santa Monica Airport in January to interact with the national and local companies who are reaching out to their community. The Southern California Gay and Lesbian Exposition 1994, which will be held on Jan. 28-30, will provide large companies a way to reach the gay and lesbian market, reported to have earning power of over \$512 billion, and gives consumers and active method to buy from companies that want their business. Anheuser-Busch/Budweiser Beer is among the first sponsors.

This unprecedented event will consist of more than 300 vendor booths, where companies hoping reach out to gays will offer samples, information and demonstrations from the entertainment, health and fitness, health care, retail and travel markets. Also planned: an entertainment complex with nationally recognized performers, and "A Taste of Gay L.A.," a culinary exposition of Los Angeles area restaurants.

Funders directory

Gay and lesbian organizations working on worthwhile community projects may face less of a struggle paying for them with the help of a new directory produced by the New York-based Working Group on Funding Lesbian Issues. "Funders of Lesbian, Gay and Bisexual Programs: A Directory for Grantseekers," the first publication of its kind, is specifically intended to provide information on potential funding sources for organizations and projects working within lesbian, gay and bisexual communities.

Although the directory lists over 100 foundations

and corporations from across the country who have supported lesbian or gay programs, the actual amount of support remains well below one percent of the total philanthropic dollars spent each year. All of the organizations listed in the directory have provided financial support to lesbian, gay and/or bisexual programs. However, the extent of support varies greatly, from exclusive funding of lesbian and gay projects, to awarding a single grant to a gay or lesbian organization. The majority of grant makers included fund programs only in their local geographic area, however over 25 percent of the entries also fund programs throughout the country. "We are pleased to see other grantors are taking an interest in funding lesbian, gay and bisexual projects," stated Mary Ann Snyder, executive director of the Chicago Resource Center and co-chair of the Working Group. "However, we remain one of only two private foundations in the country with program areas dedicated to lesbian and gay issues." For more information: (212) 475-2930.

Fund seeks candidates

The Gay and Lesbian Victory Fund is a seeking qualified openly gay and lesbian candidates who plan to run for public office in 1994 or 1995. The Victory Fund, which puts the power of its national donor network behind its recommended candidates, has contributed more than half a million dollars directly to campaigns since its inception in 1991. Sixty percent of Victory Fund-recommended candidates have won their races.

The Fund is currently supporting seven candidates, and its members have made more than \$200,000 in 1993 campaign contributions. Among the victorious 1993 candidates to receive financial support from Victory Fund members are Shelley Gaylord, Wisconsin's

first openly lesbian judge; Craig McDaniel, Mike Nelson, Christine Kehoe and Tom Roberts, the first openly gay and lesbian city council members in Dallas, Carrboro, N.C., San Diego and Santa Barbara respectively; and Manhattan Civil Court Judge Marilyn Shafer.

Candidates seeking information or applications should contact the Victory Fund by phone, (202) 842-8679; fax, (202) 289-3863 or mail, 1012 14th Street N.W., Suite 707, Washington, D.C. 20005.

Winter solstice

At this time of year, most Americans celebrate the Christmas holiday. Not so, however, for the 10 percent of Americans who are Atheists.

The Austin-based, national organization American Atheists (parent organization to the Houston-based American Gay Atheists) has suggested a secular alternative for winter celebrations: the observance of the passing of the Winter Solstice in the northern hemisphere, which this year will occur at 3:26 p.m. EST, Dec. 21. Winter Solstice is one of four natural festivals which have been commemorated since ancient times, celebrating natural cycles of the changing of seasons. The observance, according to the group, could present an opportunity for Atheists to reflect on world affairs, celebrate the passing of the seasons, spend quality time with family and friends, exchange gifts, and erect conifers as a centerpiece to all the activity. Atheists, and non-believers of other stripes, now can also send Solstice cards to each other. American Atheist Press publishes 31 different designs of Winter Solstice greeting cards, designed for the sending of truly secular greetings. Information: write P.O. Box 2117, Austin, Tx. 78768.

Houston Black Tie Dinner distributes funds

QUICK NOTES

By The HOUSTON VOICE STAFF

Frank Campisi and Shelly Porter, dinner co-chairs and president and secretary, respectively, of the committee that produces the Houston Black Tie Dinner, recently presented checks to the beneficiaries of the 1993 event which was held on Nov. 6.

The majority of funds raised, approximately \$52,000, were distributed to eight local organizations: AIDS Foundation—Houston, The Assistance Fund, Bering Community Service Foundation, Gay Men's Chorus—Houston, Heartsong, Lesbian Health Initiative, Montrose Clinic/Houston Clinical Research Network and the Texas Human Rights Foundation. The Human Rights Campaign Fund of Washington, DC received over \$39,000.

The presentation was attended by committee chairs, table captains and underwriters of the event. Campisi remarked that "the success of the dinner was a great community effort to help our own locally and lobby for our rights in Congress."

The funds raised are a tribute to a lot of hard work and spirit of working together in the "Pursuit of Freedom," he added, playing on the theme of this year's gala. Since the 1993 dinner sold out, organizers have reserved a larger ballroom for next year, Campisi noted.

Event calendar

Have you ever planned an event and didn't get the turnout you expected, because another community event was also occurring at the same time? Have you ever wanted to plan an event and didn't know where to check for other conflicting activities? Well, it doesn't have to happen again. Metropolitan Community Church of the Resurrection (MCCR) has announced they are organizing a "Community Calendar" for Special Events. Letters and event forms have been mailed out to community organizations. If your organization did not receive a letter and would like to participate in the Community Calendar please call the Church at (713) 861-9149 and ask for Claire.

It is the hopes of MCCR that the Community Calendar will grow each year. Once the data has been gathered and entered the participating organizations can get a copy of the Community. Other organizations and individuals may call MCCR to find out what is happening around Houston. The Community Calendar will be updated on a regular basis and as new events are scheduled.

HIPY cards

This holiday season, community conscious shoppers are invited to send a greeting whose proceeds assist adolescents who are living with or at highest risk of acquiring HIV disease. Holiday greeting cards benefiting the Houston Institute for the Protection of Youth are now on sale.

The cards have been hand silk-screened on 100 percent recycled paper by youth receiving support and assistance from HIPY. All proceeds from the sale of these cards will benefit HIPY programming which targets adolescents who are homeless, runaway or throwaway, living with HIV disease, and/or facing discrimination due to sexual orientation or ethnicity.

The cards cost \$10 for a pack of ten with ten matching envelopes. They are available at Crossroads Market and Inkling Bookstores, or you can order them by calling Jeff at HIPY at (713) 942-9884.

Bear-ing gifts

Volunteers from the Greater Houston area will assist members of the Dizinger Foundation as they deliver soft cuddly, teddy bears on Christmas day to AIDS patients throughout the city.

Hans-Willi Rotheudt, president and founder of Dizinger Foundation, explained, "it is important that people with AIDS know that they are neither alone nor forgotten."

Volunteers will take bears to clients of the Bering Care Center on Dec. 17 at 1:30 p.m. and there will be a daily "Bear Drawing" at Thomas St. Clinic from Dec. 13-17.

On Christmas Day, volunteers will be visiting 16 hospi-

tals in the Houston area "bearing" some 300 X-mas teddy bears.

There will be a meeting of volunteers on Dec. 13 at 7:00 p.m. at River Cafe, 3615 Montrose Blvd. All those interested in helping Dizinger Foundation in this time honored tradition are strongly encouraged to attend and become a part of our growing volunteer team.

Dizinger Foundation is a 501(c)3 organization with offices located at 3701 Montrose Blvd., Houston, Texas 77006.

Milam House reception

Milam House, a non-profit residence for people with AIDS, is sponsoring a Holiday Open House tonight, Thursday, Dec. 16, from 6:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m. The residence is at 4100 Milam Street at West Main.

Milam House is a supportive residence for people with AIDS. This large restored home, staffed by caring volunteers, fills a pressing need for its residents. It provides a real home during the time a person can no longer live alone but still does not need the expensive care provided by a nursing home or hospital.

Visitors can tour the unique and artistic living areas and bedrooms, each of which has been decorated and furnished by a different Houston interior design firm. Among the most popular tour stops is the tiny powder room with unusual art work and dramatic lighting effects. This extraordinary little room alone represents the contributions of dozens of artists, craftsmen and generous companies. It illustrates the great care taken to make Milam House a comfortable and attractive place to live.

Donations to help Milam House maintain its vital programs will be accepted at the door. Visitors will also receive the opportunity to contribute money for specific projects such as freezer repair, new light fixtures, water bill payments and much more. For information, call (713) 520-9248.

All proceeds from the open house help pay Milam House operating expenses.

SAAF trees & greeters; Homeless Memorial Hot Chocolate coming home for the Holidays

SAN ANTONIO SOAP

By LEFTY TAYLOR

Houston Voice/San Antonio

Tis the season for head colds and I have a doozy! About a million pounds of cedar pollen from the hill country has been dumped right on top of my house and I seem to be suffering quite severely. That's only me and few hundred thousand San Antonians. Not only is it cold and flu season, its Christmas time! That wonderful time of year when giving is better than receiving. This year at Windsor Park Mall you can help the San Antonio AIDS Foundation by supporting the AIDS awareness trees in the food court. Also, those wonderful holiday greeters at the main entrance are volunteers from the foundation. They will even help you shop if you ask and then help you safely to your car. Its still not too late to volunteer. Please call 225-4715 for more information.

This year Fran tells me there will be a special Posada to remember the homeless who have died in San Antonio on Tuesday, Dec. 21. It will start at Drwyer Avenue Center (309 Drwyer Avenue) will to the City Hall. The Posada will start at noon and will end at the San Fernando Cathedral. The services will be from 1:00 p.m. to 1:30 p.m. and the reception from 1:30 p.m. to 2:30 p.m.

Congratulations to Donna from BB's for winning the TGRA fajita cook off at the 2015. This Saturday the 18th, the Royal Sovereign Court is hosting a show at the 2015. This will be a special Christmas show. You can see dancers at the 2015 on Thursday from 9:00 p.m. to 1:00 a.m., Friday from 6:30 p.m. to 11:00 p.m. and Sunday from 10:30 p.m. to 1:00 a.m. The Tuesday night steak night is the best in town. They have the largest steak night in town for \$5. The steak night goes on from 6:30 p.m. to 9:30 p.m.

Coming home for the holidays in a San Antonio exclusive show is Hot Chocolate. She will be appearing at the Papermoon with Tandi Andrews, Amanda Hall and Shady Lady on Tuesday, Dec. 28th. I still have fond memories of Hot Chocolate. She was the first queen I ever saw in my life. I was fourteen years old and sneaking into the bars in Pensacola, Florida. That was ten years ago. Boy does time fly. On Wednesday the 29th, Pauletta will host the talent night finals for December with .50 cent well and \$1.75 longnecks as specials all night. This Sunday the show will include Tandi, Pauletta, Shady, Kourtney Devereaux and special guest Denise Mycles. Coming soon to the Papermoon in January on the 21st the Miss Southwest USA and on the 25th the Papermoon Newcomer of the Year Award. I got the pleasure of seeing Denise Fairchild performing this Sunday. This girl is hot.

Waylon Payne sings at the Silver Dollar on Wednesday nights and if I can ever get him to give me a picture, you will see just how good looking he is. Wednesday is also steak night at the Silver Dollar and no, Waylon isn't serving up the meat.

This Saturday night at the El Jardin, The Hardly Girls



Staff and owners at Industria

will be performing with special guests. They've found some great new Christmas numbers and they are ready to help you get into that spirit of giving. And speaking of spirits Miss Billy has been trying to raise the dead ever since she got out to the maternity ward. I just found out that now she didn't have twins and not they weren't mix breeds. The hospital just put her in the maternity ward because they didn't know where else to put a bloated up old broad like her. She is back in business at the El Jardin with her old schedule and she is still mad about whoever sent that funeral spray. I told her don't worry, on the good die young and you have a long way to go.

Its going to be quite a festive week at the Wild Club. Again we can welcome back the infamous Mount-N-Men. They will be at the Wild Club Saturday, Dec. 18th with the Wild Club dancers and special guest MC Scott Free. Then coming that Thursday the 23rd, the Wild Club will host the Jimmy James Christmas Special. Showtime will be at 11:30 p.m. On Thursday nights Aaron Davis hosts the best newcomer show in town. This last week I saw her in a silver spandex body suit and when I asked her where she got it, she said Scott Hamill. That's where I got mine. Mine is red, but it is amazing what people will leave at your house. I'm still trying to get those skate marks off the walls. Victoria West hosts the Wild and Wicked Sunday show. She is one of the prettiest impersonators in town and if you haven't seen her, its time you did. You ain't driving down Broadway to see this girl. She's got class. Jimmy the D.J. would like to invite everyone down to the Wild Club on Monday



Abel, new barback at the Silver Dollar

nights to hear the old introspective crisco disco and to see Amber Nixx and the Drag Races. Jimmy has only now recovered emotionally from that attack of sea gulls down in Corpus Christi from a few weeks back. He said he felt like Tippi Hedron. That's what you get for imitating a parrot and using birdseed as breasts.

What can you do on Sundays? You can got to the Wild Country of course and for the best special in town. They have .25 cent draft from 4:00 p.m. to closing. Free chili dogs until 6:00 p.m. Well drinks and longnecks are \$1.50 from opening until 9:00 p.m. and male dancers at 6:00 p.m. There will also be a wide variety of music played so there will be something for everyone to enjoy. And on top of that, what more could you ask for? No cover. While there, you can see the handsome and sophisticated Victor at the front door. He has been there since the bar opened and his picture was in last week. I would also like to give out a warm welcome to Felix (Krystal Kelly). He will be a new door person working along side Victor.

Murphy's law hit the Hardly Girls bad at the Nexus this Friday. The Hardly Girls pulled out all the stops and did the absolute best numbers from previous shows and a few new good ones. Beyond a few minor incidents the show was a success. Mary was great and even Vivian got up to perform. They were trying to get her in drag in the back but all she would go for was a little brown lip stick. Dana is a wonderful bartender now that I know how to make her smile.



Denise Fairchild at the Paper Moon

Coming Friday, Dec. 17, Nexus will host its 3rd annual Christmas show benefiting kids with AIDS. Showtime will be at 9:30 p.m. Nexus would like to wish all of their customers a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year from the owners and staff.

There is no way to get out of it, there is always something going on at Sparks. Every night of the week the excitement will take you by storm. There are dancers every night and on Tuesday nights its hot oil wrestling. You even get to grease them down and hose them off. Then on Mondays and Thursdays its karaoke night. You can bellow out your favorite tunes to the dismay of the rest of the crowd like I did once. Sparks also has the best looking bartenders in town. Even if Robert won't talk to me anymore now that I have Peter.

They are still working hard and Miriams will be open soon. They've got a telephone number now. For more information on the new bar please call 308-7354. They will be opening soon!

This Sunday there is live entertainment at Memories. (Dec. 19th) There is no cover and the show will start at 8:30 p.m. The drink specials on Sunday are \$1.75 cue-rvo, \$2 margaritas and \$2 well drinks. While there, you can say hello to Sluggo. I say you go girl! I would have popped him one too. There's only so many people you can irritate before it comes back to haunt you. Next week: Scandal of the year! Where is the Dart League money?

Ken Bradshaw is one of the busiest people in town. And its no wonder. What a better gift to get someone than a new home. Ken is there to help you with all your housing needs and will even throw in a few specials to help you get going. Value Housing 653-7711.

Christmas is kind of bleak for us this year. We bought the original Charlie Brown Christmas tree and decorated it accordingly. The tree kept blowing a fuse so the landlord sent and electrician over who went to school through the mail. He decided that the reason that a fuse kept blowing was because there wasn't enough outlets in the house and proceeded to put one in every room without regard to what was there. Now we have gaping holes in our walls with a lovely fuse box directly above the bed where you can't miss seeing it in the throws of passion.

Nothing beats the lighting at the new bar Industria. It is truly one of the prettiest bars in town. They also have a little store section in the front with old items and new stuff San Antonio has never seen before. Tim, formerly of the Bonham and Woody, formerly of the Menger, both are working there. Not to worry when you go in. The upper floor will be open soon and then you all can ride the elevator to the top floor.

Now the animals are screaming with hunger and for the first time I realize that this is the first year we haven't had a tree destroyed by cats. What a blessing. Have a great Christmas season! Chow!

Merry Christmas from the Colts

LETTER TO THE EDITOR

FROM THE COLT 45'S

"He ain't heavy, he's my brother; she ain't heavy, she's my sister." What an inept way for the Colt 45's to wish a joyous holiday season to our friends,

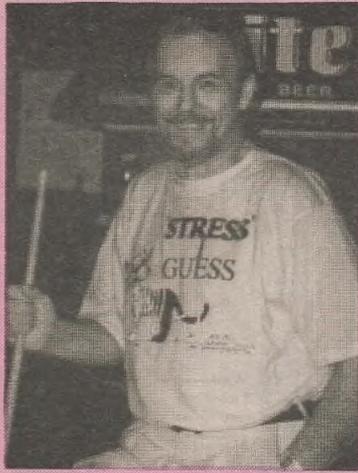
community, and our clients. For through our supporting organizations, friends, members, and well-wishers of all backgrounds, the Colt 45's have been able to make it Christmas each and everyday throughout this year.

It is the Colt 45's sincerest wish that all of your hopes and dreams for the community can, and will, be fulfilled, and that the seeds can be planted and

nurtured to grow and blossom into the fruit which fills the banquet table of life for the upcoming year. And through all our unified efforts, may the hopes and dreams of all become realities for all our tomorrows.

Again, Merry Christmas and a most Happy New Year from the Colt 45's!!!

Great Show at 10th Ave; Teryland Homecoming



Happy birthday, Max

RIO GRANDE VALLEY SOAP

By ALICIA LUGO

Houston Voice/Rio Grande Valley

I'm writing this from what feels like my deathbed. Actually I only have the flu, but what's the difference, right? But being the faithful writer that I am, I'll sit here and weakly type out all the latest that's going on in the Valley. Sniffle, sniffle, cough, cough.

We'll start out with 10th Avenue where I got the chance to see a really terrific show last Friday night starring (Sophisticated Lady) Poison Alexander, Miss Gay Galveston, Miss Gay Beaumont; and directly from LaCage in Las Vegas, Lawanda Jackson (Donna Summer?). Completing the terrific trio was 10th's own Misty Duval. The three really worked the



Esmer at Just Tery's

crowd! Hope to see them back again soon.

Next week I'll be sure and have all the scoop on how the Sumo Wrestling went. I wonder if they had a bunch of those XXX large, chubby, short dudes with pony tails and teeny tiny underwear that fall off every time they scream hiiiiyaaa! I don't think so, cause I haven't seen too many of those guys here in the Valley. And I'm not really sure if they'd hang out at gay bars either. Oh well, it could happen! I think what happened is that Isaac went to La Plaza and saw Santa Claus and accidentally thought it was a Sumo Wrestler. He fell in love (at first sight) but lost him in the crowds. Now he had this contest to see if his true love would respond to the ad. Like I said, it could happen. Just kidding Isaac, I know your heart really belongs to the Easter Bunny.

Tonight (Friday) 10th will have some of the hunks from Muscles in Action. I hope they wear their amulets when they come because here in the Valley the guys are good at making "ojo." Saben lo que digo? And get ready for next week when 10th will be bringing back Apollo by popular demand.

Just Tery's had their second annual Teryland Homecoming last weekend. And how lucky can you get? Little Ricky was voted not only Homecoming Queen (how appropriate), but Homecoming King too! But being the great sport that he is, he gave Velma his competitor for Homecoming King the mum (he kept the title). This year's Band Sweetheart is Tom Veran. And last but not least, Tery was chosen this year's Football Sweetheart. What have you been doing for the boys in the locker room, Tery?

Don't forget Just Tery's will be having Super Sunday Shows featuring local talents and Special Guest Jacqui Fabiane. And starting in January, Just Tery's will have talent night the first Sunday of every month. You can perform in drag, sing live, dance, do drama or anything you feel you are particularly talented at. The monthly winners will then compete at the end of the year for the coronation of Ms. or Mr. Calendar Girl. For bookings

contact Ms. Jacqui Fabiane at (210)682-CHER from 4:00 p.m. till 7:00 p.m., Monday through Wednesday.

At P.B.D.'s, Chuck went all out as usual with his fantastic Christmas decorations: I'll bet Santa is stopping by there for sure this year.

As Chairperson of the Ryan White Pediatric Task Force for the Valley AIDS Council, I would like to thank The New Hope Congregation, Just Tery's and P.B.D.'s for sponsoring Angel Trees to purchase gifts for our kids this Christmas. Great going guys! And thanks also to everyone who picked up a card from the trees to purchase a gift.

Special thanks to Ralph who donated all the children's books, and to Valley Voice members who decorated the stockings.

Another special thanks to Robert Rosas and all his friends at Zippers who also did a terrific job in Harlingen by sponsoring some of the children. Thanks to everyone for showing the true spirit of Christmas.

I would like to wish Max at Zippers a Happy belated Birthday. Sorry I missed it Max, I was out of town. Max turned 19, again (and again, and again). Oops, just kidding Max!

I here from Max that Zippers has some surprises up their sleeves for the holidays. Go out and check them out.

Last Friday, The Planet was in orbit with a spectacular performance by Coco, Miss Gay Texas; and special guest, Paulina Mercedes Lane, two all time crowd pleasers. What? You missed Coco? Not to worry, cause she'll be back again this weekend.

This Sunday night, The Planet and Michael Brooks Productions will present the Miss Magic Valley U.S.A. Pageant featuring some of Texas' finest entertainers. Special guest will include Coco. Oprah De Marro, Aaron Davis, Kathryn York, Mr. U.S.A. Chachi, male stripper Darrin. Special guest M.C.'s will be Isaac Sanchez and Aaron Davis. Show time will be at 10:00 p.m.

Be sure and catch the erotic Christ-



Coco at the Planet

mas Fantasy Show at The Planet on Christmas Eve. Like the man put it, "you'll never think of Santa the same way again!"

And get ready for the New Year's Extravaganza with Plaz Productions, starring the lovely Chanel and Velma de los Santos. There will also be complimentary party favors and a mid-night champagne toast. I'll get back to you next week with more details.

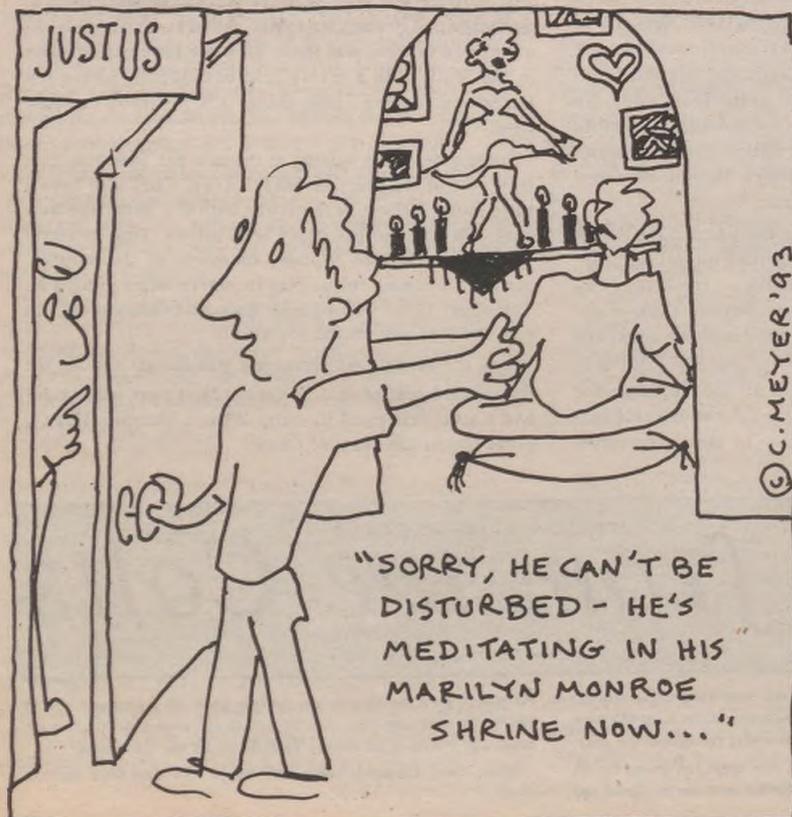
A special thanks goes out to Melissa Mejia for the photos this week.

This coming Tuesday, Valley Voice will meet at 2313 E. Crockett in Harlingen for a Christmas Party at 8:00 p.m. For more information call (210)428-6800.

Don't forget to check us out next week for our special Christmas Issue. See ya' then! Ciao!



Lawanda Jackson and Poison Alexander at 10th Ave



U.B.U. celebrates first anniversary; Hidden Door gets set for Christmas



Ms. Andrea (her name says it all)

CORPUS CHRISTI SOAP

By SUZETTE LOCKE

Houston Voice/Corpus Christi

Happy First Year Anniversary U.B.U., and what a year it has been! One of the hottest hip hop clubs in town celebrates it's first anniversary with cocktail parties, shows and strippers! Friday's show hosted by San Antonio's Aaron Davis, flawless as always! Special guests



Found at Choices!

included Key Hole Productions, male dancer Rico, along with Speedy, Lori Adams, Nadine Sun, and in the Zenith, Andrea Ozmond. A "Taste of La Cage" Revue...Excellent! with Poison Alexander and La Wanda Jackson! Recently, U.B.U. raised over \$100 towards Adopt-A-Client. A program to help fund a special Christmas list...and with this week being an anniversary come and celebrate Sunday night with Miss U.B.U. Get your pens ready! Every Wednesday night is talent night at U.B.U., \$50 cash prize. A great way to earn extra Christmas money. If you're ready to party Christmas Eve, Rhonda House, Jasmine SX, Aaron Davis and Malissa Mycheals are ready to help you get there where it is always a packed party. Get your wrapping done early! Key Hole Productions bring it to you live Sunday, Dec. 26th! Mmmm...you must have been good boys this year for Santa to bring you the Key Hole Dancers!

Moving right along...Merry Christmas to everyone from the Hidden Door—Corpus! May your holidays be safe and responsible! The Hidden Door welcomes the ever incomparable Alan Tovas to the family! Salute! Don't forget to bring a non-perishable item for the Hidden Door and T.R.E. food drive and receive a well drink or can beer for \$1. (The drive ends on Dec. 20th) Steak Nights and pool tournaments are still on Thursdays. Come on down for a hot meal for only \$4 from 7:00 p.m. till 10:00 p.m. After Dec. 21st Steak Night will for discontinue for the '93 year. Watch here for some of the hottest drink specials every day of the week! Draft beer is .50 cents, happy hours till 7:00

p.m., and \$1 well drinks on Wednesday all day and all night! Come and enjoy the fun at the Hidden Door. Join Hidden Door's family for Christmas dinner at 2:00 p.m.! Feliz Navidad! Hello to you in the land of BALLS. Corpus Christi Gutter League welcomes you to join next season beginning Jan. 7th a 8:00 p.m. (Riviera Lanes) Come and join the fun! There are only three weeks of bowling! Corpus Christi Gutter League wishes everyone a very Merry Christmas!

Desert Hearts, the hottest spot on the Texas Riviera is gearing up for a blow out New Years Eve Party! Rolling in the New Year right...with Dena Kaye, Jan. 15! But first, Toys for Tots on Dec. 17th benefiting Driscoll Children's Hospital. A toy or a donation will cover the door charge to another fantastic show put on only at Desert Hearts. Be mindful that there are "older" children who also spend Christmas in the hospital. D.J. Scotty G. is ready to pump you up with the only country and dance mix on the coast!

Choices does it again! Talent night with the beautiful Temptress: Empress VII, Kay Y. Halsey, Monday nights with \$1 well drinks. Choices Male Express dances for you Wednesday and Sunday! Never a cover charge! Happy hour 7 days a week, 2:00 p.m. to 11:00 p.m. Coming soon, watch for the Corpus Christi Treasure Hunt with cash prizes and complimentary drinks. Register to win a complimentary birthday party! Call 888-8742 for more information. Join Choices for a New Years Eve party you won't forget.

Recently Babalou's hosted a smashing barbecue to raise money for the Metropolitan Community Church and it was quite a success! The hottest tejano music and the juiciest meat available! One hell-u-va night A special guest from San Antonio will emcee the next tantalizing tejano affair. Erika Lynn will host a super Christmas show with Larissa Gilbert and other special surprise guests! Showtime is at 11:30 with hors d'oeu-



Alan, Hidden Door's newest 'tender

vres and a free buffet every Sunday night with \$1 can beer from 7:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m. Babalou's...bring your favorite spirits and they'll set you up for a great evening!

The Christ's Temple: Metropolitan Community Church welcomes all to worship at 1315 Craig Street. Services start at 11:00 a.m. No more excuses! Bring the children to the comforting services.

Have a very Merry, safe Christmas!



K.Y. invites you to show yours, Talent Night

Out on campus: a personal view

By PAUL GANDY

UH Gay, Lesbian or Bisexual Alliance

For me, being out of the closet on campus at the University of Houston is a little different than it is for some. I am out, but I am a fairly masculine guy, so unless my sexuality comes up in conversation or I choose to tell someone, many do not know. This is not to say it is particularly easy, though. I still see, read, and hear all of the negative comments that come from many of the groups and individuals here on this campus.

I guess I "officially" came out last year, during the fall semester, when I first became a Residential Advisor in the campus residence halls and my privacy was no longer my own. When I first came out, it was a time when being gay was what I was, as opposed to just being part of what I am. I needed to see that other people still liked, approved

and accepted me after they knew I was gay. Essentially, I was at a time when I was judging my own self-worth on what others thought of me.

Because I had a boyfriend and the RA's in the south tower where I was assigned were a pretty tight knit bunch, some already knew I was gay. Then, during one of two mandatory in-service trainings that dealt with gay and lesbian issues, we had a panel of speakers who were there to answer questions as well as talk about being gay on campus, in the city, and in the residence halls. I was one of the panelists.

Of the 65 RA's, I guess only 15 or so knew I was gay. I'll never forget as I walked into the room, hearing all of the gasps from fellow RA's who had known me for a long time, who I guess never knew. I was so nervous sitting in front of that group, I was shaking and couldn't sit still. Actually, neither could half the RA's in the

room.

It went well though; I had a couple of good friends in there who kept giving me assuring nods or blinks to help me through. After it was all over, I had so many people come up and tell me how great I was, and that they wondered why I hadn't told them earlier.

During this whole time, though, I never went to GLOBAL. I was not ready to be one of those political activists who run around campus shouting that I'm gay and proud. I was still insecure with myself and did not want to be associated with a group like GLOBAL. Unfortunately, what I did not know was that my preconceived ideas of what that organization was were all wrong.

Coming Out Day was a unique experience for me. It was my next big step in coming out. I went to the parade site to just watch from the sidelines. I didn't care who knew about my sexual-

ity (or so I thought) but I had no intention of marching across campus and making an issue of it.

So, I sat up on a bench looking at all of the people gathering together to get ready to march across campus. I remember thinking, it's great for them to march and it needs to be done, but it's just not for me. And then, in the group of people I saw standing together getting ready to march, I saw Liz. Liz was the first person I ever came out to, over a year and a half ago, long before I told anyone else. I sat there and thought that if Liz, being straight as an arrow, could march through the campus for gay rights, then I should get out there and do it too. And I did. I never felt such overwhelming relief as when I walked the route with her and felt the freedom of finally NOT CARING of anyone knew I, Paul Gene Nelson Gandy, was gay.

Being gay on a college campus

is probably quite easy compared to the rest of society. There are difficulties, but many more people are liberal or at least tolerant in the college atmosphere. The experience that each of us feels is different.

As for GLOBAL, all of my initial misconceptions have been laid to rest. It is not a political group planning the overthrow of anything. It is a place where I have met some really incredible people. I have shared quite a few emotional moments in the group; it's a positive atmosphere for anyone, whether they are in or out of the closet, or still confused. GLOBAL gives me a place where I can go twice a week to get things off my chest, see friends, and find out what's going on in the gay community. And mostly, to realize that among the 30,000 or so students at UH, I am not alone.

What Christmas means to me...(or not)

OBSERVER'S NOTEBOOK

By PAUL VARNELL

There was a terse note in my office mailbox from The Editor. "See me about special Christmas column," it said.

I walked reluctantly down the long hall past the offices of all the hard-working assistant editors and knocked on The Editor's door.

"Enter," came the familiar stern voice.

I entered. The Editor was bent over his desk marking up some hapless manuscript. He was wearing his usual green eyeshade. But today, perched atop his head was a Santa Claus hat with the white snowball at the end. It tilted over to the side, giving him an oddly rakish look.

As The Editor looked up, a little bell in the white snowball jingled cheerfully.

"Season's greetings, boss," I chirped in my best multi-cultural, generic holiday fashion.

"Where is your Christmas column?" he said glowering at me.

"What Christmas column?"

"Our Christmas issue is coming up and we need an appropriate column," he said. "Preferably something light and fluffy."

"Light and fluffy?" I squeaked.

"Fluffy. Appealing. Something our readers will like—for a change. They've got to be tired of all your dreary 'What Hegel Means to Me' stuff and all those irritating attacks on political correctness. I mean, who cares? Think fluffy. Can you do fluffy?" "Fluffy? How? Like what, boss? Like, my favorite Christmas memory?"

"I suppose that would do. But with a gay angle. Gay Christmas gifts, gay Christmas cookie recipes, something to put our readers in a festive Christmas mood. You know...Deck the halls, joy to the world, to grandmother's house we go, fa la la la, that sort of thing. Get my drift?"

He looked doubtful.

"How about Santa delivering gifts to a leather bar, something like that?"

"I'm sure they'll eat it up," he said. He didn't sound sincere: Later, talking with a friend over coffee, I

found myself complaining.

"I hate to sound like Brenda Starr," I said, "but editors really are a menace to intellectual creativity."

"I actually like Christmas," my friend said. "It's a great time of the year. You know, the thing that's always impressed me most about Christmas is that it's the one time of the year when Christians start acting like they're suppose to act all year long. Not just Christians, but everybody. People act a little friendlier, smile a little more, nod at strangers, even give a quarter to a panhandler. It's like something comes over the nation for a little while; then poof, it's gone. I wonder why all that is."

"Please," I said. "I'm trying to think fluffy. How about if Santa Claus were actually a retired gay hairstylist? The reindeer could be named Dasher, Dancer, Prancer, and Mr. Bruce...and Rudolph could have a lavender nose instead of a red one."

"It's like there is this officially approved period where people actually try to be nice to one another—sort of—because they are expected to," he went on, ignoring me. "We all do have this kind of common focus. The whole business of 'doing' Christmas is a bit of a task, but it's a task we all have in common with everybody else, so we can sort of empathize with their struggles. And it's certainly an easy topic of conversation, even with casual acquaintances—even with virtual strangers in a grocery store line."

"I've got it," I interrupted. "I could do the 12 days of Christmas with a gay theme—like eight go-go boys dancing, seven porn magazines, six Barbara Streisand records, five gold..."

"Then too," he went right on, "I think it must be connected somehow, with the notion that we have to buy presents for people, presents they might like. And that means we have to consider a little bit what their point of view might be, what their values are. We have to sort of imagine our way inside their heads, see the world from their point of view. That must get us in the habit of thinking about other people as thinking beings."

"This is not helping me with my column," I said. "We're leaving 'fluffy' in the dust." I motioned to the waitress for a refill of my coffee.

"The point is," he went on, "during Christmas something pressures us-or permits us-to be more aware of other people as having goals, aims, purposes that are

analogous enough to our own for us to have some concept of them. But they are different enough for us to have to take account of in a thoughtful rather than an automatic way. I wonder if it is possible for us as a society to generate a way to keep this awareness alive in us all year round?"

"Maybe something about gay Christmas cards would work," I said.

"Not for me thanks, I'm married," said the waitress who I suddenly realized was refilling my coffee.

"Christianity," my friend continued, "tried to make people be nicer to one another by propagating the idea that people had little parts of God—souls—inside them and said that everyone should respect people because they had these little parts of god. But that only worked so long as people believed in gods. I wonder if we can get people to respect one another without that kind of belief."

"Philosophers talk about persons as moral agents and how only equality of moral autonomy can satisfy the rationality principle," I offered helpfully.

"You know, that's what's wrong with you, Varnell," he burst out. "You bring in all that high-flying theory before you get firmly grounded in the real-world thing you're trying to talk about. There are perfectly simple ways of explaining these things without that highly abstract language. Forget all this 'what Hegel means to me' stuff!"

"Have you been talking with my Editor?" I asked.

"Huh? No. But remember how one of the characters in one of Vonnegut's novels—'Breakfast of Champions,' maybe—is crazy or on drugs or something and he keeps seeing other people as big shimmering bands of light? I think that's a really wonderful metaphor: it focuses on the faculty of consciousness that people have. That's how we should think of one another and keep in mind what a remarkable capacity it is in a mechanistic universe."

"I think I lost you right after 'Breakfast of Champions,'" I said. "Could we go through that again, only do it more slowly?"

His eyes twinkled. "How about if some of Santa's elves came out of the closet and Mrs. Santa Claus decided to join Parents and Friends of Lesbians and Gays?"

(Editor's Note: Paul Varnell is a syndicated freelance writer based in Chicago).

Report: Boy Scout leader fired for being gay

Sunday, Dec. 12 (AP)—A 67-year-old respected Boy Scout leader has been fired because he is gay, the New Haven Register reported Sunday.

The leader, whose identity was withheld by the newspaper because he reportedly feared harassment, is a former Eagle Scout who has volunteered with the Scouts for 25 years, most recently as a top-ranking volunteer official in a shoreline district of the Hamden-based Quinnipiac Council. The leader trained other adult volunteers and was two opera-

tional levels above troop leader. He is appealing his expulsion.

The Quinnipiac Council expelled the leader after obtaining "written allegations" that he is an "avowed homosexual," said Scout official Al Halliwell, of Madison.

The Boy Scouts have a national policy that bars gays from the organization.

The expelled leader said the council is probably referring to his advocacy work in gay organizations outside scouting.

On Friday, John Hunt, director of the Quinnipiac Council, would say only that a volunteer had been dismissed. While Hunt would not discuss the reasons for the dismissal, he acknowledged that in his 2 1/2 years as the council's director, three other former Scout members have been expelled "for the same allegations." A fourth was dismissed for a different reason, he said.

The Scout leader's expulsion has outraged many, including six members of the Board of Aldermen and one alderman-elect, Stefan Pryor.

Pryor on Sunday sent a letter of protest to the United Way of Greater New Haven, which provides \$70,000 a year to the council, about 8 percent of the council's \$870,000 annual budget.

Pryor's letter, a copy of which was sent to The Associated Press, called the council's action "a clear act of discrimination."

"It is appalling that the council would expel such an exemplary leader from its ranks simply because of his sexual orientation," it said.

The letter went on to say that

"although it would be unfortunate for the United Way to reconsider its support for the council, we believe that there would be no other choice if the discriminatory policy were not altered within a reasonable period of time."

Six other aldermen signed the letter, including the board's majority leader, the deputy minority leader, the chairperson of the Black and Hispanic caucus, and the chairperson of the Subcommittee to Promote Harmony and End All Discrimination.

Oregon's anti-gay rights opponents now face recall

CANBY, Ore., Sunday, Dec. 12 (AP)—Two city council members face recall elections this week for their opposition to an anti-gay rights ballot measure passed by voters in this small town six months ago.

But the recall is only part of the fallout caused by the gay-rights debate; Scott Taylor, the town's mayor,

"This issue keeps being brought up, it won't go away, and it makes it hard to get people to focus on what I think are more pressing real issues," Taylor said.

The gay rights measure sponsored by the Oregon Citizen's Alliance passed by 56 percent in Canby. Voters in 15 other cities or counties have approved similar measures.

A law passed by the Legislature this year blocks enforcement of the measures, but court challenges to that statute are pending. The measure would ban the city from spending money to promote homosexuality or enacting gay-rights ordinances.

City Councilors Maureen Miltenberger and Joe Driggers tried to keep the measure off the ballot

and later filed a lawsuit to block its enforcement.

But Phil Sargent, one of the recall's sponsors, said the election Tuesday will not be about the two councilors' stance on gay rights.

"If this had happened to an initiative about spitting on the sidewalk, we would have done the same thing. They wanted to take away our right to the initiative

procedure," Sargent said.

Miltenberger and Driggers say they were elected to take stands on controversial issues.

"I made a choice based on my conscience, values and what I felt would benefit the community as a whole. I will never be able to make decision that will reflect everyone's viewpoint," Miltenberger said.

Massachusetts governor signs gay student rights law

By ROBERT W. TROTT

FOR THE NEW VOICE

BOSTON, Saturday, Dec. 11 (AP)—A new gay student rights law will help young people feel welcome in their own schools, an advocate said.

"We're going to be making a big push to encourage students to go to their senior prom this year. We're going to attempt to make a legal case that when a school teaches health or sex education they're obligated to include gay and lesbian issues," David LaFontaine, head of the Governors Commission on Gay

and Lesbian Youth, said after Gov. William Weld signed the law Friday.

"We hope that the bill's passage here is going to signal a whole new frontier in the gay rights movement," LaFontaine said.

He also said harassment cases could be taken to court.

"Gays will be able to sue school systems that are failing to protect their safety, and it's the rare school system at this point that is a safe place for gay students," LaFontaine said. "I think we're going to see some precedent-setting lawsuits."

Weld, however, said it was "an unanswered question" whether gay students could sue "upon alleging that the atmosphere at a school had become intolerable."

Some school systems have gay rights policies, but no other state has adopted such a law, which flatly bans discrimination against gays in schools, said the Washington-based group Parents, Families and Friends of Lesbians and Gays.

"The governor feels schools should be places where students can learn. No one should be discrimi-

nated against based on their sexual preference," said Weld spokesperson Virginia Buckingham.

In 1989, Massachusetts became the second state, behind Wisconsin, to enact a gay rights law that banned discrimination against homosexuals in housing, credit and employment.

LaFontaine, who is also political director for the state Coalition of Gay and Lesbian Civil Rights, said the law, which takes effect in 90 days, will open up all school activities to gay students.

Many students have been prohib-

ited by principals and school districts from organizing gay and lesbian student groups, he said.

Gay rights opponents condemned the Republican governor's "total subservience to the homosexual lobby."

"The next step is homosexual programs in public schools that specifically affirm the gay lifestyle, and that will be done at taxpayer expense," said C.J. Doyle, director of the Catholic League for Religious and Civil Rights.

Settlement of fired FBI agent's suit would ban discrimination

SAN FRANCISCO, Saturday, Dec. 11 (AP)—Fired gay FBI agent Frank Buttino didn't get his job back but he still considers the outcome of his lawsuit against the bureau a triumph.

The FBI, in tentatively settling Buttino's suit on Friday, agreed not to discriminate against homosexual employees or applicants.

"I look at this as a victory for all Americans who believe that any kind of discrimination is wrong," Buttino said at a news conference.

Buttino, speaking at a news confer-

ence, said four FBI employees, including one agent, have disclosed their homosexuality and kept their jobs since he filed his suit in 1990.

Other gay employees now "can be honest and not fear losing (their) job," he said.

The resolution of Buttino's suit came a week after Attorney General Janet Reno prohibited the FBI and other Justice Department agencies from discriminating on the basis of sexual orientation.

But the proposed settlement goes fur-

ther and forbids discrimination on the grounds of "homosexual conduct among consenting adults in private." New FBI guidelines, which are being implemented independent of the settlement, specify that applicants generally should not be asked about their sexual orientation or conduct.

Buttino, 48, sued the FBI when he was fired in 1990, after 20 years with the FBI. Under the settlement, he will not get the reinstatement he originally sought but will get partial restoration of his pension rights and \$53,000 in legal fees.

The FBI, which denounced Buttino throughout the case as a liar who was unworthy of a security clearance, also agreed to issue a statement praising his record as an agent.

A scheduled one-week trial of Buttino's suit began a week ago but was suspended Thursday during Buttino's testimony. Justice Department spokesperson Carl Stern said the administration had reached an "agreement in principle" and planned to sign it within two weeks. Final approval is required from U.S. District Judge Sandra Brown Armstrong.

The settlement also says the FBI will reconsider the application of Dana Tillson and offer her a job unless it discovers some new disqualifying information.

Tillson testified that she applied in 1987 and got high marks until the FBI learned she was a lesbian, a fact she had not tried to hide.

The settlement will "change the course of the way our government treats a whole class of people," said Tillson, 32, now a San Francisco private investigator.

Conservative Idaho legislator at it again with Anti-Gay proposal

BOISE, Idaho, Sunday, Dec. 12 (AP)—State Sen. Stan Hawkins of Ucon has been called "maverick conservative," "independent," and even "rogue elephant."

The eastern Idaho Republican has reinforced that reputation by taking on an issue his party has avoided: the anti-gay initiative.

Hawkins said he plans to propose legislation that deny homosexuals specific status as a minority. Republican leaders in the Senate are not pleased.

The Idaho Citizens Alliance is raising

its own signatures to put the matter on the Nov. 1994 ballot.

Those who have worked with him say they are not surprised Hawkins would take up the potentially divisive issue.

"He takes on the establishment, and in a sense, sometimes, that's a breath of fresh air," said former House Speaker Tom Boyd of Genesee. "His main problem is if he needs help from everyone, he won't get it."

Hawkins proudly says his style and conservatism often leave him at odds with what he calls the more liberal

contingent of his party.

"There are a lot of people in both houses of the Legislature that don't like people who bring forth issues, especially issues that are tough and really draw the lines as to where people stand politically," he said.

In response to conservative efforts in 1992 to unseat more moderate Republican incumbents, he and fellow Sen. Rex Furness, R-H Rigby, were stripped of committee chairpersonships.

Hawkins fought back, unsuccessful-

fully, to open caucus meetings to the public.

He also backs another issue unpopular with politicians, the latest version of the One Percent property tax limit initiative pushed by tax activist Ron Rankin.

On the eve of the next legislative session, he is trying to force lawmakers to debate what he calls "special rights" for homosexuals—or any other group not singled out by the U.S. Constitution.

Initiative opponents reply they are

not asking for special rights. The initiative, they say, would deny basic civil rights.

Hawkins has not yet drafted his proposal, and he said his aim is not to limit anyone's rights.

But Hawkins believes allowing any group to achieve minority status would set an unwise precedent for the future.

He said lawmakers are avoiding the issue. The Democratic Party has opposed the initiative, but the Republican Party has declined to take a stand.

HIV infection up by 2 million in past year; Africans hit hardest

By TERRIL JONES

FOR THE NEW VOICE

MARRAKESH, Morocco, Sunday, Dec. 12 (AP)—About 2 million more people were infected with the AIDS virus in the last year, mostly in Africa where teenagers and young adults are being infected at an alarming rate, the World Health Organization said Sunday.

Nearly 70 percent of the world's 15 million people infected with the human immunodeficiency virus are in Africa, said Michael Merson, director-general

of WHO's Global Program on AIDS.

He spoke at the opening of the eighth annual International Conference on AIDS in Africa.

Most alarming is the spread of AIDS among African youths and young adults. Merson said a new WHO study of the African epidemic shows that 60 percent of new infections are among people ages 15-24.

"This demonstrates the vulnerability of Africa's youth and shows us where to focus our prevention efforts," Merson

said.

Ethiopia has close to half a million infected people, while in Nigeria as many as 22 percent of the men treated at sexually transmitted disease clinics are HIV-positive, he said.

"And to the south, where we think the epidemic may take its greatest toll, already one in three women seeking post-natal care in Francistown, Botswana, are infected," Merson said.

He said migration and population displacements because of civil strife are

encouraging the spread in Africa of the fatal disease, which destroys the body's immune system.

"Since the last AIDS in Africa conference ... only a year ago, some 2 million more men, women and children worldwide have become infected with HIV, most of them in Africa," Merson said.

About 3500 medical researchers, sociologists, health officials, AIDS activists and artists from 40 countries gathered in this north African city for the five-day congress to examine the spread of AIDS

and discuss prevention.

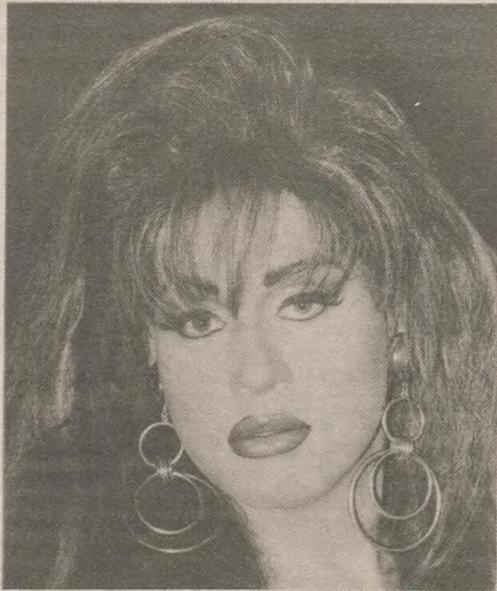
"AIDS is becoming more and more a problem of poor countries and of the outcasts of rich countries," Hakima Himich, president of the Morocco Association to Combat AIDS, told *Le Matin* magazine this week.

"It is a disturbing evolution, because as long as rich countries are concerned about it they will invest in research, but if one day they fail to feel threatened they will do no more for research," she said.

Melissa Mejia

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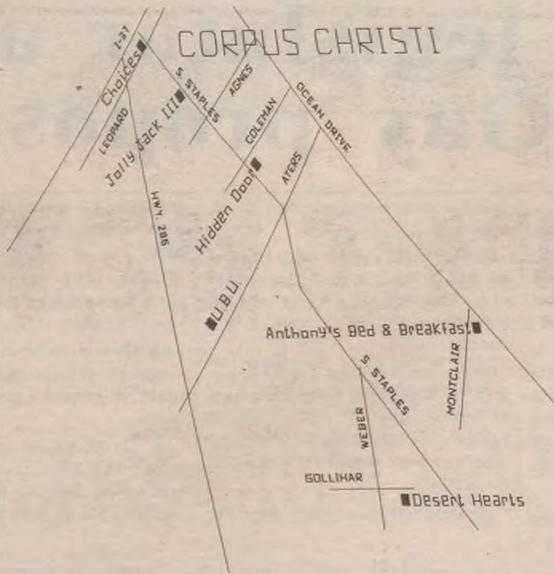
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Corpus Christi Club Events

Corpus Christi, Friday, Dec. 17
Happy hour 11am-7pm, Hidden Door; Happy hour 2-11pm, Choices; Happy Hour 3-7pm, Desert Hearts; \$1.00 shot specials 3pm-2am, Desert Hearts; Fish Fry \$2.00 5:50-9pm, Choices; Happy hour, \$1 beer, \$1.75 Coronas 7-9pm, Babalov's; \$2.00 margaritas 8-9pm, Desert Hearts; 25¢ draft, 75¢ well 8-11pm, U.B.U.; \$1.00 well drinks 9-10p., Desert Hearts; \$1.50 domestic longnecks 10-11pm, Desert Hearts; DJ 10pm-2am, Desert Hearts; Show midnight, U.B.U.

Corpus Christi, Saturday, Dec. 18
25¢ draft beer 11am-7pm, Hidden Door; Happy hour 11am-7pm, Hidden Door; Happy Hour noon-7pm, Desert Hearts; Choices; \$1.00 shot specials 3pm-2am, Desert Hearts; Steak Night \$4.00 4-9pm, Choices; Happy hour, \$1 beer, \$1.75 Coronas 7-9pm, Babalov's; \$2.00 Crown Royal 8-9pm, Desert Hearts; 25¢ draft, 75¢ well 8-11pm, U.B.U.; \$1.00 well drinks 9-10pm, Desert Hearts; \$2.00 Colorado Bulldogs 10-11pm, Desert Hearts; DJ 10pm-2am, Desert Hearts

Corpus Christi, Sunday, Dec. 19
25¢ draft beer noon-7pm, Hidden Door; Happy Hour noon-7pm, Desert Hearts; Happy hour noon-7pm, Hidden Door; Crown Royal & bloody marys \$2.00 noon-2am, Desert Hearts; Happy hour 2-11pm, Choices; Male strippers 6-9pm, U.B.U.; Happy hour, \$1 beer, \$1.75 Coronas All night long, Babalov's; 25¢ draft, 75¢ well 8-11pm, U.B.U.; Show Midnight, U.B.U.

Corpus Christi, Monday, Dec. 20
Happy hour 11am-7pm, Hidden Door; Happy hour, Choice's Male Express 2-11pm, Choices; \$1.00 well drinks, Male Strippers 2pm-2am, Choices; \$2.00 drink special 3pm-2am, Desert Hearts; Happy hour 3pm-closing, Desert Hearts

Corpus Christi, Tuesday, Dec. 21
Happy hour 11am-7pm, Hidden Door; Happy hour 2-11pm, Choices; \$2.00 Margaritas & Colorado Bulldogs 3pm-2am, Desert Hearts; Volleyball 6-8pm, Hidden Door; Steak Night 7-10pm, Hidden Door; 25¢ draft beer 7-11pm, Hidden Door; Pool tournament, \$20 prize, no entry fee 9pm, Hidden Door

Corpus Christi, Wednesday, Dec. 22
Happy hour 11am-7pm, Hidden Door; \$1.00 well drinks 11am-2am, Hidden Door; Happy hour 2-11pm, Choices; Happy Hour 3-7pm, Desert Hearts; \$2.00 Absolute 3pm-2am, Desert Hearts; \$4 steaks & real tators 6-10pm, Desert Hearts; Happy hour, \$1 beer, \$1.75 Coronas 7-9pm, Babalov's; 25¢ draft, 75¢ well 8-11pm, U.B.U.

Corpus Christi, Thursday, Dec. 23
Happy hour 11am-7pm, Hidden Door; Happy hour 2-11pm, Choices; Happy hour 3-7pm, Desert Hearts; \$1 well drinks 3pm til closing, Desert Hearts; Happy hour, \$1 beer, \$1.75 Coronas 7-9pm, Babalov's; 25¢ draft beer 7-11pm, Hidden Door; 25¢ draft, 75¢ well 8-11pm, U.B.U.; Pool Tourney, no entry fee, \$50 cash prize 9pm, Desert Hearts; Variety show Midnight, U.B.U.

Corpus Christi, Friday, Dec. 24
Happy hour 11am-7pm, Hidden Door; Happy hour 2-11pm, Choices; Happy Hour 3-7pm, Desert Hearts; \$1.00 shot specials 3pm-2am, Desert Hearts; Fish Fry \$2.00 5:50-9pm, Choices; Happy hour, \$1 beer, \$1.75 Coronas 7-9pm, Babalov's; \$2.00 margaritas 8-9pm, Desert Hearts; 25¢ draft, 75¢ well 8-11pm, U.B.U.; \$1.00 well drinks 9-10p., Desert Hearts; \$1.50 domestic longnecks 10-11pm, Desert Hearts; DJ 10pm-2am, Desert Hearts; Show midnight, U.B.U.

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HAPPY HOUR SPECIALS
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25¢ DRAFT 4PM TIL
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\$1.50 Well & Longnecks 2pm-9pm

Male Dancers at 6pm

plus

A Wide Variety of Flawless Music
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HOT CHOCOLATE

With Tandi Andrews
Amanda Hall and
Shady Lady

TUESDAY

DECEMBER 28th



Wednesday
December 29th
TALENT NIGHT FINALS
For December with
PAULETTA LEIGH
50¢ WELL
\$1.75 LONGNECKS
ALL NIGHT!!!

THE SUPER SUNDAY SHOW



Special Guest
DENISE MYCLES

\$1.00 WELL • 9-11 • 50¢ DRAFT • ALL NIGHT AFTER HOURS

★ ★ Coming Soon ★ ★

January 25th

PAPER MOON NEW COMER OF YEAR

January 21st

MISS SOUTHWEST U.S.A.



Live Entertainment Sunday

December 19th

No Cover

Show at 8:30pm

Sunday
\$1.75 Cuervo
\$2.00 Margaritas
\$2.00 Well

MIRIAM'S

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Coming Soon

2015 place

Saturday • December 18th
CHRISTMAS SHOW

Sponsored by
ROYAL SOVERIGN COURT

STEAK NIGHT • TUESDAY • 6:30 - 9:30

DANCERS

Thursday
9pm - 1am

Friday
6:30pm - 11pm

Sunday
10:30pm - 1am

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San Antonio, Tx
(210) 223-7177



Happy Hour Everyday

SPECIAL CHRISTMAS SHOW

Starring
THE HARDLY GIRLS
and
Special Guests

11:00 PM SHARP
SATURDAY • DECEMBER 18TH

San Antonio Club Events

San Antonio, Friday, Dec. 17

\$1.00 bloody marys & screws 10am-3pm, El Jardin; Happy hour, \$1.75 well drinks 10am-10pm, El Jardin; Happy hour 2-8pm, 2015; Happy hour 2-8pm, Country Club; Happy hour 2-8pm, Silver Dollar Saloon; \$1.75 longnecks, \$2.00 Cuervo & \$1.75 well drinks 2pm-2am, Country Club; Fiesta hours 4-9pm, Bamboleo's; \$1.25 well drinks & longnecks 6-8pm, 2015; 75¢ draft & \$2 frozen drinks, Wild Club; Male & female strippers, Bonham Exchange; Male Dancers, Wild Club; Male dancers 6:30-11pm, 2015; No cover til 10pm, 75¢ well & draft, Bonham Exchange; 75¢ draft & \$2 frozen drinks 9pm-draft, Paper Moon; Dancers 11pm, Sparks; Shady Lady hosts Muscles-in-Action midnight, Paper Moon; After hours 2-4am, Paper Moon; After-hours 2am, Wild Club; After-hours 2-4am, Bonham Exchange

San Antonio, Saturday, Dec. 18

\$1.00 bloody marys & screws 10am-3pm, El Jardin; Happy hour, \$1.75 well drinks 10am-10pm, El Jardin; Happy hour 2-8pm, 2015; Happy hour 2-8pm, Country Club; Happy hour 2-8pm, Silver Dollar Saloon; Drink specials all night, Country Club; Fiesta hours 4-9pm, Bamboleo's; \$2 drinks, Memories; 75¢ draft & \$2 frozen drinks, Wild Club; Shady Lady hosts The Wild Club Dancers, Wild Club; Adults no cover to 10pm, Bonham Exchange; \$1.75 drinks 8-11pm, Bonham Exchange; 75¢ draft & \$2 frozen drinks 9pm-2am, Paper Moon; Dancers 11pm, Sparks; Sweet Savage hosts Muscles-in-Action midnight, Paper Moon; After hours 2-4am, Paper Moon; After hours, Wild Club; After-hours 2-4am, Bonham Exchange

San Antonio, Sunday, Dec. 19

Sunday Tea Dance with early male dancers, Sparks; \$1.00 bloody marys & screws noon-3pm, El Jardin; Happy hour, \$1.75 well drinks noon-10pm, El Jardin; Happy hour 2-8pm,

2015; Happy hour 2-8pm, Country Club; \$1.50 well & longnecks, 50¢ draft 2-11pm, Silver Dollar Saloon; 50¢ draft 2pm-2am, Country Club; Fiesta hours 4-9pm, Bamboleo's; Tea Dance 4-9pm, Silver Dollar Saloon; \$1.75 Cuervo Ole, Memories; \$3.00 cover, 50¢ well & draft, Bonham Exchange; The Wild & Wicked Sunday Show, Wild Club; \$1 well drinks 9-11pm, Wild Club; \$1.50 well & 50¢ draft 9-11pm, Paper Moon; Sassy's Variety Show 9:30pm, Memories; Dancers at 10:30pm, 2015; Dancers 11pm, Sparks; Super Show, no cover 11:30pm, Bamboleo's; Male & Female strippers 11:30pm, Bonham Exchange; Super Sunday Show midnight, Paper Moon; After-hours 2am, Wild Club; After hours 2-4am, Paper Moon

San Antonio, Monday, Dec. 20

\$1.00 bloody marys & screws 10am-3pm, El Jardin; Happy hour, \$1.75 well drinks 10am-10pm, El Jardin; Happy hour 2-8pm, 2015; \$1.75 well & longnecks 2pm-2am, 2015; Happy hour 2pm-2am, Country Club; Fiesta Hour All day, all night, Bamboleo's; \$1.75 frozen margaritas, Memories; Pool tourney, Memories; Talent contest & square dancing & no cover, Bonham Exchange; \$1.50 well, 50¢ draft & \$2 longnecks 9pm-2am, Paper Moon; \$1.75 well drinks, \$1.75 longnecks & 50¢ draft all night, Wild Club; The Shady Lady Show, Wild Club; Dancers 11pm, Sparks; Chanel White with Musical Chairs 11:30pm, Paper Moon

San Antonio, Tuesday, Dec. 21

\$1.00 bloody marys & screws 10am-3pm, El Jardin; Happy hour, \$1.75 well drinks 10am-10pm, El Jardin; Happy hour 2-8pm, 2015; Happy hour 2-8pm, Country Club; \$1.75 well & longnecks 2pm-2am, 2015; \$1.75 well drinks 2pm-2am, Country Club; Fiesta hours 4-9pm, Bamboleo's; Happy hour to 9pm, Memories; \$1.75 well drinks, 75¢ draft & \$2 frozen drinks, Wild Club; Dance all night, Wild Club; No cover, Bonham Exchange; \$1.50 Well drinks, \$1.75 dom. beer, 75¢ Schnaaps 9pm-2am, Bamboleo's; \$2 well & longnecks 9pm-2am, Paper Moon; Dancers 11pm, Sparks; Hot oil wrestling 2am, Paper Moon; Dancers 11pm, Sparks; Hot oil wrestling 2am, Paper Moon; Dancers 11pm, Sparks; Hot oil wrestling 2am, Paper Moon; Dancers 11pm, Sparks; Paper Moon; After-hours 2am, Wild Club; After-hours 2-4am, Bonham Exchange

San Antonio, Wednesday, Dec. 22

\$1.00 bloody marys & screws 10am-3pm, El Jardin; Happy hour, \$1.75 well drinks 10am-10pm, El Jardin; \$1.25 longnecks to 7pm, Memories; Happy hour 2-8pm, 2015; Happy hour 2-8pm, Country Club; \$1.25 frozen margaritas 2pm-2am, 2015; \$1.75 frozen margaritas, 50¢ draft & \$3.00 pitchers 2pm-2am, Country Club; Fiesta hours 4-9pm, Bamboleo's; Steak 2am, Country Club; \$4 steak, salad & bread 5:30-9:30pm, Silver Dollar Saloon; Adults \$3.00 cover, 50¢ well & draft, \$1.50 well Exchange; Hot chest contest, Bonham Exchange; \$1.50 well & longnecks & 50¢ draft all night long, Silver Dollar Saloon; Jennifer St. John hosts 5x5 Specials, 75¢ draft, \$1.25 longnecks & 50¢ well drinks all night, Wild Club; \$1.25 well drinks, \$1.50 dom. beer, 75¢ Schnaaps 9pm-2am, Bamboleo's; 25¢ well & \$1.75 longnecks 9pm-2am, Paper Moon; Live Show with Waylon Payne 10:30pm & midnight, Silver Dollar Saloon; Dancers 11pm, Sparks; Shady Lady & her Boys midnight, Paper Moon

San Antonio, Thursday, Dec. 23

\$1.00 bloody marys & screws 10am-3pm, El Jardin; Happy hour, \$1.75 well drinks 10am-10pm, El Jardin; Happy hour 2-8pm, 2015; Happy hour 2-8pm, Country Club; Happy hour 2-8pm, Silver Dollar Saloon; \$1.50 longnecks & 6 ponies \$4.00 2pm-2am, Country Club; Fiesta hours 4-9pm, Bamboleo's; \$1.75 well, 75¢ draft & \$2 frozen drinks, Wild Club; Tandi's Talent Nite, Wild Club; 50¢ well drinks & draft, Bonham Exchange; Karaoke Sing Along 9-11pm, Sparks; Male dancers 9pm-1am, 2015; \$1.75 well & 50¢ draft 9pm-2am, Paper Moon; Sassy St. James host strippers 9:30pm, Memories; Amateur Contest 10:30pm, Bamboleo's; Dancers 11pm, Sparks; Strippers midnight, Bonham Exchange; Tandi's T.E.A. Party midnight, Paper Moon

San Antonio, Friday, Dec. 24

\$1.00 bloody marys & screws 10am-3pm, El Jardin; Happy hour, \$1.75 well drinks 10am-10pm, El Jardin; Happy hour 2-8pm, 2015; Happy hour 2-8pm, Country Club; Happy hour 2-8pm, Silver Dollar Saloon; \$1.75 longnecks, \$2.00 Cuervo & \$1.75 well drinks 2pm-2am, Country Club; Fiesta hours 4-9pm, Bamboleo's; \$1.25 well drinks & longnecks 6-8pm, 2015; 75¢ draft & \$2 frozen drinks, Wild Club; Male & female strippers, Bonham Exchange; Male Dancers, Wild Club; Male dancers 6:30-11pm, 2015; No cover til 10pm, 75¢ well & draft, Bonham Exchange; 75¢ draft & \$2 frozen drinks 9pm-2am, Paper Moon; Dancers 11pm, Sparks; Shady Lady hosts Muscles-in-Action midnight, Paper Moon; After hours 2-4am, Paper Moon; After-hours 2am, Wild Club; After-hours 2-4am, Bonham Exchange

Notice to our advertisers

A holiday deadline schedule will be in effect for all advertising for the next two weeks. The deadlines are as follows for the December 23 (Christmas) and December 30 (New Year) issues:

The deadline for next week's issue is **FRIDAY, DECEMBER 17.**

The deadline for December 30 is **THURSDAY, DECEMBER 23.**

Papers will be delivered in all locations on Thursday, December 23 and Thursday, December 30.

SAN ANTONIO

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Saturday 
December 18th
The Return of the

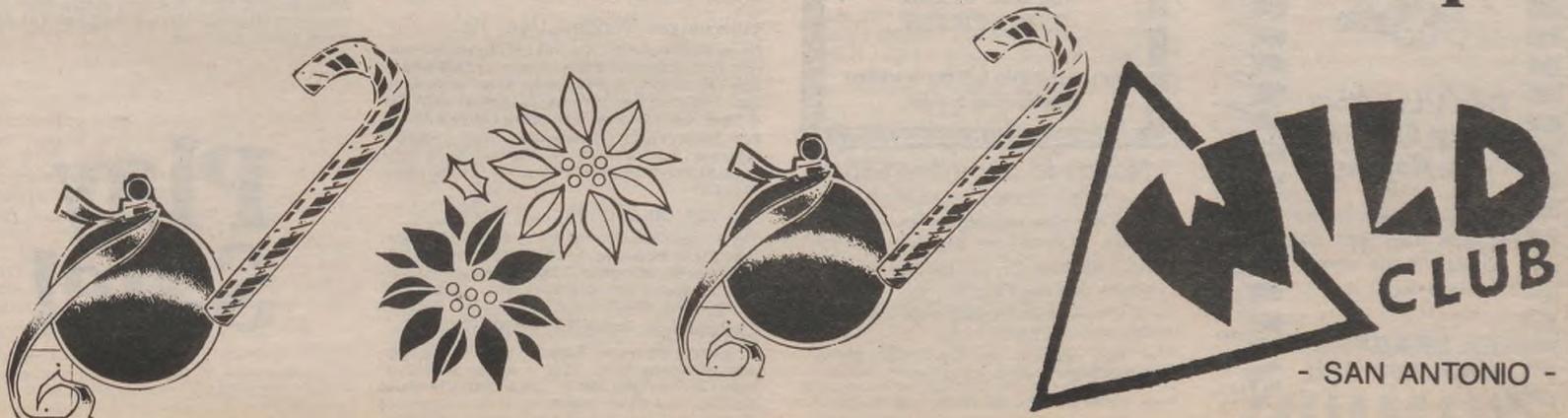
MOUNT -N- MEN

Plus Wild Club Dancers
and Special Guest M.C.
SCOTT FREE

Showtime Midnight Sharp



Thursday
December 23rd
Wild Club Hosts
The
JIMMY JAMES
Christmas Special
Showtime 11:30pm



SAN ANTONIO

SAN ANTONIO

SAN ANTONIO



3rd Annual CHRISTMAS SHOW

Merry Christmas to all of Our Customers From the Owners & Staff at Nexus!

Benefiting **KIDS with AIDS**
Showtime **9:30pm**
Fri • Dec 17th



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"YOUR PERSONAL CITY GUIDE AND COMPANION"

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Friday, Dec. 17th 10 p.m.

Never a Cover Charge!

For contest rules & entry forms, contact Buffie Galore at (409) 765-9092

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Texas

For Houston Gay Personals, see separate listing

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Gay Per-

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GALVESTON: LOOKING FOR BUDDIES

I'm 43, married, 160, 5'10, Haz/bl, discreet, no drugs, HIV-, Friday nights free. Clean, looking for buddies & friendship. Ad 25598

SAN ANTONIO: SWEEP ME OFF MY FEET!

With hugs and kisses; play me in dance and massage, excite me with meals, trips and shows. Y te lo hare lo mismo. GWM, NS, 50, 5'7", bl/br, DDF in wanting GM, NS, 35+ Ad 8099

SAN ANTONIO: GLASSY EYED ITALIAN MALE

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Notice to our advertisers

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The deadline for December 30 is **THURSDAY, DECEMBER 23.**
Papers will be delivered in all locations on Thursday, December 23 and Thursday, December 30.

Galveston Club Events

Galveston, Friday, Dec. 17

Happy hour 10am-9pm, Robert's LaFitte; Corona Party, \$1.50 margaritas & Corona all day, Kon-Tiki; Happy Hour, well \$1.50, longnecks, \$1.50, mega mugs \$1.25 4-8pm, Kon-Tiki; Happy hour 8-10pm, Evolution; Recession Busters, well \$1.75, longnecks, \$1.75, mega mugs \$1.25 8-10pm, Kon-Tiki; Pretty Boys 9pm, Evolution; Muscles in Action 10pm, Kon-Tiki; After hours 2-4am, Evolution

Galveston, Saturday, Dec. 18

Happy hour 10am-9pm, Robert's LaFitte; Happy Hour, well \$1.50, longnecks, \$1.50, mega mugs \$1.25 2-8pm, Kon-Tiki; Happy hour 8-10pm, Evolution; Recession Busters, well \$1.75, longnecks, \$1.75, mega mugs \$1.25 8-10pm, Kon-Tiki; Pretty Boys 9pm, Evolution; Muscles in Action 10pm, Kon-Tiki; Show with Buffie Galore & Muffin 10pm, Robert's LaFitte; After hours 2-4am, Evolution

Galveston, Sunday, Dec. 19

Happy hour noon-9pm, Robert's LaFitte; Happy Hour, well \$1.50, longnecks, \$1.50, mega mugs \$1.25 2-8pm, Kon-Tiki; \$1.00 well drinks, draft & Schnapps 4pm-2am, Evolution; Beer Bonanza, 1st draft \$1 refills 10¢ 5-10pm, Kon-Tiki; Show with Buffie Galore & Muffin 8pm, Robert's LaFitte; Happy hour 4-10pm, Evolution; Recession Busters, well \$1.75, longnecks, \$1.75, mega mugs \$1.25 8-10pm, Kon-Tiki; Cabaret 10:30pm sharp, Kon-Tiki

Galveston, Monday, Dec. 20

Happy hour 10am-9pm, Robert's LaFitte; Happy Hour, well \$1.50, longnecks, \$1.50, mega mugs \$1.25 4-8pm, Kon-Tiki; Happy hour 8-10pm, Evolution; Recession Busters, well \$1.75, longnecks, \$1.75, mega mugs \$1.25 8-10pm, Kon-Tiki; 75¢ well 10-11pm, Kon-Tiki

Galveston, Tuesday, Dec. 21

Happy hour 10am-9pm, Robert's LaFitte; Happy Hour, well \$1.50, longnecks, \$1.50, mega mugs \$1.25 4-8pm, Kon-Tiki; Happy hour 8-10pm, Evolution; Recession Busters, well \$1.75, longnecks, \$1.75, mega mugs \$1.25 8-10pm, Kon-Tiki; Pool Tournament 10pm, Kon-Tiki; Lone Star longnecks 75¢ 10pm-2am, Kon-Tiki

Galveston, Wednesday, Dec. 22

Happy hour 10am-9pm, Robert's LaFitte; Happy Hour, well \$1.50, longnecks, \$1.50, mega mugs \$1.25 4-8pm, Kon-Tiki; Happy hour 8-10pm, Evolution; Recession Busters, well \$1.75, longnecks, \$1.75, mega mugs \$1.25 8-10pm, Kon-Tiki; \$1.00 well drinks, draft & Schnapps 8pm-2am, Evolution; Shear Madness, \$1.25 well, \$1.25 dom. longnecks, 75¢ Schnapps, \$2 Harvey Wallbangers 8pm-2am, Kon-Tiki

Galveston, Thursday, Dec. 23

Happy hour 10am-9pm, Robert's LaFitte; Happy Hour, well \$1.50, longnecks, \$1.50, mega mugs \$1.25 4-8pm, Kon-Tiki; Happy hour 8-10pm, Evolution; Recession Busters, well \$1.75, longnecks, \$1.75, mega mugs \$1.25 8-10pm, Kon-Tiki; Lottery drawing 10:30pm, 11:30pm, 12:30am & 1:30am, Kon-Tiki

Galveston, Friday, Dec. 24

Happy hour 10am-9pm, Robert's LaFitte; Corona Party, \$1.50 margaritas & Corona all day, Kon-Tiki; Happy Hour, well \$1.50, longnecks, \$1.50, mega mugs \$1.25 4-8pm, Kon-Tiki; Happy hour 8-10pm, Evolution; Recession Busters, well \$1.75, longnecks, \$1.75, mega mugs \$1.25 8-10pm, Kon-Tiki; Pretty Boys 9pm, Evolution; Muscles in Action 10pm, Kon-Tiki; After hours 2-4am, Evolution

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KEN BRADSHAW (210) 653-7711

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**DEC. 25th
XMAS PARTY
BUFFET
3-6pm**



.....You're Daytime
Watering Hole!
Happy Hour prices
7 days a week!

"Make your
New Year Plans Now!"
Wave goodbye to the old...
...and ring in the new at your
Montrose Country Home.

9pm - 2am
\$8.00 per person
\$10.00 per couple

(Party Favors, Champagne
and Breakfast Buffet
at 2am)

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BRUNCH By The WOLFPACK
And Happy Hour from
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Tuesdays • \$2.00

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Happy Hour • All Day...All Night

SLOP SHOT POOL TOURNEY
Thursdays with Roger • Slop Shot Rules Only

You Asked For It! • You Got It!
AFTER HOURS with Jack
Friday & Saturday Nights



HAPPY HOURS
Morning 7am-1pm • Afternoon 5pm-9pm • Saturday 7am-7pm
1022 WESTHEIMER • HOUSTON • (713) 527-9669

Houston Club Events

Houston, Friday, Dec. 17

Happy hour \$1.75 well drinks 7am-1pm, Mary's; Blue light specials 7am-6pm, Brazos River Bottom; Well \$1.75 opening-8pm, Past Time; Happy hour 7am-9pm, Brazos River Bottom; Happy hour 7am-9pm, E/J's; Happy hour till 10pm, Mother's; Happy Hour \$1.75 well, beer & wine noon-5pm, Venture-N; Happy hour, longnecks and well drinks \$1.50 Noon-6pm, The 611 Hyde Park Pub; Buffet 4-8pm, Brazos River Bottom; Power hour \$1.00 well, beer & wine 5-7pm, Venture-N; Happy hour \$1.75 well drinks and beer 5-9pm, Mary's; Longnecks & well drinks \$2.00 6-9pm, The 611 Hyde Park Pub; TGI Friday party, no cover 7-9pm, Pacific Street; 90¢ well all night, Pacific Street; 8 Ball Pool Tournament 8pm, Past Time; Pool tournament with cash prizes 8pm, E/J's; Lee Denning, D.J., Venture-N; Strip contest with Paivi 11pm, E/J's; After-hours 2-4am, Ripcord; Open all night, Club Houston; Open all night, Midtowne Spa

Houston, Saturday, Dec. 18

Blue light specials 7am-6pm, Brazos River Bottom; Happy hour 7am-7pm, Mary's; Happy hour 7am-8pm, Ripcord; Happy hour 7am-9pm, Brazos River Bottom; Mug club 9am-noon, E/J's; Happy Hour \$1.75 well, beer & wine noon-5pm, Venture-N;

Happy hour, longnecks and well drinks \$1.50 Noon-6pm, The 611 Hyde Park Pub; Beer blast on the patio 2pm till, Mary's; Well drinks \$1.50 4-7pm, E/J's; Mug Club 4-10pm, E/J's; Power hour \$1.00 well, beer & wine 5-7pm, Venture-N; Longnecks & well drinks \$2.00 6-9pm, The 611 Hyde Park Pub; \$1.25 well vodka 6-11pm, Mother's; Dart tournament 7pm, E/J's; 90¢ well all night, Pacific Street; 9 Ball Pool Tournament 8pm, Past Time; 9-ball tourney 8pm, Past Time; Lee Denning, D.J., Venture-N; Leather & Flesh, no cover for men in leather 9pm-2am, Pacific Street; Pretty Boys 10pm, Mother's; Super Saturday Show starring Brittany Paige 11pm, E/J's; After-hours 2-4am, Ripcord; Open all night, Club Houston; Open all night, Midtowne Spa

Houston, Sunday, Dec. 19

Bloody Bulls, \$1.25 Noon-5pm, Venture-N; Blue light specials noon-5pm, Brazos River Bottom; Happy Hour \$1.75 well, beer & wine noon-5pm, Venture-N; Happy hour noon-5pm, Brazos River Bottom; Happy hour noon-5pm, Ripcord; Beer blast on patio Noon-6pm, Mary's; Happy hour, longnecks and well drinks \$1.50 Noon-6pm, The 611 Hyde Park Pub; \$1.50 vodka noon-8pm, Mother's; \$3.75 pitchers & \$1.25 mugs all day, E/J's; Trash Disco 4-7pm, Brazos River Bottom; Happy hour noon-11pm, Past Time; Blue light specials 5pm till, Venture-N; Beach Party, no cover 5-7pm, Pacific Street; Power hour \$1.00 well, beer & wine 5-7pm, Venture-N; Free buffet 5pm-?, Venture-N; Steak night 5-9pm, Brazos River Bottom; Dart

tournament 6pm, Venture-N; Longnecks & well drinks \$2.00 6-9pm, The 611 Hyde Park Pub; Man Dance/T Dance 7pm, Pacific Street; 90¢ well all night, Pacific Street; \$3.75 pitchers & \$1.25 mugs all night, E/J's; Pretty Boys 10pm, Mother's; Open all night, Club Houston; Open all night, Midtowne Spa

Houston, Monday, Dec. 20

Happy hour \$1.75 well drinks 7am-1pm, Mary's; Blue light specials 7am-6pm, Brazos River Bottom; Well \$1.75 opening-8pm, Past Time; Happy hour 7am-9pm, E/J's; \$2.50 pitchers, 75¢ mug Miller Lite 7am-2am, Mother's; Happy hour all day & night, Brazos River Bottom; Happy Hour \$1.75 well, beer & wine noon-5pm, Venture-N; Happy hour, longnecks and well drinks \$1.50 Noon-6pm, The 611 Hyde Park Pub; Lockers 1/2 price noon-midnight, Club Houston; Happy hour 4-8pm, Ripcord; Power hour \$1.00 well, beer & wine 5-7pm, Venture-N; Spagggggggetti nights, \$2.00 5pm-?, Venture-N; Happy hour \$1.75 well drinks and beer 5-9pm, Mary's; 1/2-price rooms & lockers with food donation to Stone Soup, Midtowne Spa; Longnecks & well drinks \$2.00 6-9pm, The 611 Hyde Park Pub; 90¢ well all night, Pacific Street; 8 ball slopslot pool tournament 8pm, Brazos River Bottom; "Clubbers Night", no cover for men wearing colors 9pm-2am, Pacific Street; Male Strippers with B.J. Williams, M.C. 10:30pm, E/J's; Open all night, Club Houston; Open all night, Midtowne Spa

Houston, Tuesday, Dec. 21

Happy hour \$1.75 well drinks 7am-1pm, Mary's; Blue light specials 7am-6pm, Brazos River Bottom; Well \$1.75 opening-8pm, Past Time; Happy hour 7am-9pm, Brazos River Bottom; Happy hour 7am-9pm, E/J's; Happy Hour \$1.75 well, beer & wine noon-5pm, Venture-N; Happy hour, longnecks and well drinks \$1.50 Noon-6pm, The 611 Hyde Park Pub; 6 month membership special (1/2 price locker) noon-11:45pm, Midtowne Spa; Lockers & rooms 1/2 price noon-midnight, Club Houston; Happy hour 4-8pm, Ripcord; Hot Dog night 5pm till, Past Time; Power hour \$1.00 well, beer & wine 5-7pm, Venture-N; Happy hour \$1.75 well drinks and beer 5-9pm, Mary's; 1/2-price rooms & lockers with food donation to Stone Soup, Midtowne Spa; Longnecks & well drinks \$2.00 6-9pm, The 611 Hyde Park Pub; 90¢ well all night, Pacific Street; Southern Country C&W Dance Lessons 8-10pm, The Ranch; Young executive night, no cover with personalized business card 9pm-2am, Pacific Street; C&W dance lessons 10pm, Brazos River Bottom; Talent night with Giovanni 10:30pm, E/J's

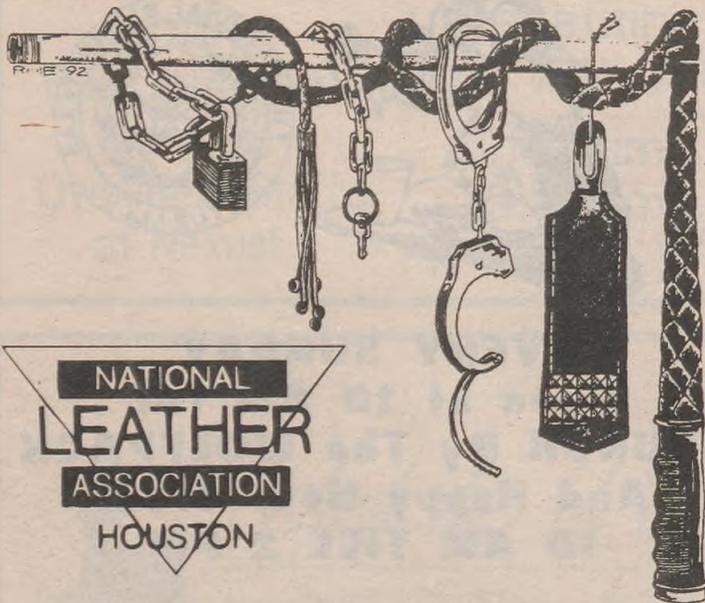
Houston, Wednesday, Dec. 22

Happy hour \$1.75 well drinks 7am-1pm, Mary's; Blue light specials 7am-6pm, Brazos River Bottom; Well \$1.75 opening-8pm, Past Time; Happy hour 7am-9pm, E/J's; Happy hour, \$1.00 Margaritas 7am-11pm, Brazos River Bottom; Happy Hour \$1.75 well, beer & wine noon-5pm, Venture-N; Happy hour, longnecks and well drinks \$1.50

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**NATIONAL
LEATHER
ASSOCIATION
HOUSTON**

**TONIGHT • 7 PM • DEC 16, 1993
HOLIDAY PARTY &
EDUCATIONAL LEATHER SHOW**

*** PLEASE BRING A TOY FOR THE TOY DRIVE**

**SUNDAY • DEC 19, 1993 • 7:30 PM
MS "P.P.P." CONTEST**

(THAT IS PRE PARADE PARTY FOR THE UNINFORMED)

**\$1.00 POWER HOURS
WELL/BEER/WINE
EVERY DAY • 5 - 7 PM**

**COME BRUNCH WITH SANDY & A.J.
EVERY SUNDAY 10 AM (YES - 10AM)
FULL BAR SERVICE AVAILABLE**



Saturday Night at

The Backyard Bar & Grille

Dec. 18th - Showtime - 11:00



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Tommie Ross



Poison Alexander

Doors Open at 9pm.

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DECEMBER 16**

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WELL DRINKS
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**FUN &
SURPRISES**

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DANCERS**

**COMING
THURSDAY
DECEMBER 23**

LIVE IN CONCERT

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**PERFORMING
"NEVER BE"**

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ART BAR
BY ARTIST
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Rich's Christmas Party

Sunday, December 19th / 7pm

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25¢ Well Drinks All Night**

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2/1 duplex, washer/dryer, small pets okay. \$800 a month (713) 528-7723.

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Are you having those holiday "CRAZIES" because you can't get everything done? Call Ray! Honest and energetic. Pager (713) 268-0027.

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Looking for new friends and activities outside the bars? We're looking for YOU! Discover Houston's newest social/professional men's group! Plans are now underway for cultural events, socials, weekend trips, etc. If you are a quality professional looking to meet/network with other similar men. JOIN US for our next meeting on Friday, January 7th. Looking to attract men in the 30-50 age range. Couples or singles welcome. Call phone message and confidential details will be provided (713) 866-4079.

The National Latino/A Lesbian & Gay Organization (LLEGO) seeks qualified individuals for Technical Assistance & Training project with Latina/o lesbian & gay organizations. 2 Technical Assistance Managers: coordination of mapping assessments & technical assistance plans; sub-contract monitoring & support. 1 Communications Manager: design, production & dissemination of newsletters, manuals, curriculums; develops national mass media communication strategy. 1 Administrative Assistant: general administrative duties, front office & information systems management; computer literacy & processing skills. Deadline: December 21, 1993. Resume & cover letter to LLEGO, P.O. Box 44483, Washington, DC 20026-4483. (202) 544-0092.

Rental Property Owner needs helper for office and maintenance duties. Free apartment, small salary, incentive bonuses. (713) 786-0955.

Now T.V. showcasing for bachelors and bachelorettes. Needed are straight, bi-sexual and gay people of all races. No fees involved. (713) 738-6732 -9:00 a.m. -5:00 p.m. only -Tuesday-Saturday. (713) 808-0556 24hrs., Troy.

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PACIFIC STREET



CELEBRATE THE SEASON !

Monday Dec. 20th 9pm

Plan to attend THE THIRD ANNUAL CITY-WIDE BARTENDERS CHRISTMAS PARTY!

Come sit on Santa's Lap and get your picture taken!

FREE GIFTS to the first 300 Guests!

Crown: Barwhore of the Year!

Free Dessert Buffet! Raffles, Surprises, and Lots of Holiday Cheer!

Tuesday: Executive Night! NO COVER with your personal business card!

ALWAYS: The Lowest Regular Drink Prices in Town: \$.90 WELL/ 1.50 BEER & \$1.00 SCHNAPPS

Nightly: Caged Heat/Men Behind Bars! Our Shameless Male Strippers! The hottest studs from all across Texas Strip & Strut for you!

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Noon-6pm, The 611 Hyde Park Pub; 6 month membership special ((1/2 price room) noon-11:45pm, Midtowne Spa; Happy hour 1pm-2am, Ripcord; Tex-Mex Buffet 5pm, Brazos River Bottom; Power hour \$1.00 well, beer & wine 5-7pm, Venture-N; Happy hour \$1.75 well drinks and beer 5-9pm, Mary's; 1/2-price rooms & lockers with food donation to Stone Soup, Midtowne Spa; Longnecks & well drinks \$2.00 6-9pm, The 611 Hyde Park Pub; Bare chest/ harness night-Extended Happy Hour til 11pm, Venture-N; 90¢ well all night, Pacific Street; Karaoke night with Bill Sansom 8:00pm, E/J's; Southern Country Group C&W Dance Lessons 8:30pm-10pm, Brazos River Bottom; White Hot Wednesday, DJ/VJ Victor Toledo plays top hits 9pm-2am, Pacific Street; Pretty Boys 10pm, Mother's; Open all night, Club Houston;

Open all night, Midtowne Spa
Houston, Thursday, Dec. 23
Happy hour \$1.75 well drinks 7am-1pm, Mary's; Bluelight specials 7am-6pm, Brazos River Bottom; Longnecks \$1.75 opening-8pm, Past Time; Happy hour 7am-9pm, Brazos River Bottom; Happy hour 7am-9pm, E/J's; \$1 Schnapps shots 7am-2am, Mother's; \$1.50 longnecks all day & all night, Brazos River Bottom; Happy Hour \$1.75 well, beer & wine noon-5pm, Venture-N; Happy hour, longnecks and well drinks \$1.50 Noon-6pm, The 611 Hyde Park Pub; Rooms & lockers half price noon-midnight, Club Houston; Slop shot pool tourney 1pm, Mary's; Happy hour 4-8pm, Ripcord; Power hour \$1.00 well, beer & wine 5-7pm, Venture-N; Happy hour \$1.75 well drinks and beer

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Come and Join Us EACH WEDNESDAY FOR KARAOKE NIGHT

at 8:00 p.m.
with **BILL SANSON**

THEN

BE SURE TO
COME BACK
THE NEXT TUESDAY
FOR OUR WEEKLY

TALENT NIGHT

AT 10:30 P.M. WITH **GIOVANNI**

ATTENTION!



FLASH!

NOTICE!

EJ's HAS NOW BECOME A BIKER BAR!

FRI

POOL TOURNAMENT
at 8:00 PM with
Cash Prizes

STRIP CONTEST
at 1:00 PM with
PAVI

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SUPER SATURDAY SHOW
Starring **BRITTANY PAIGE**

Miss Mid-Texas
with **PAVI** and
Special Guests

- The Island Diva - **MISTY VALDEZ**
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Promptly at 11:00 PM
DON'T MISS IT!

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Every Saturday at 7:00 PM



2517 Ralph Street at Westheimer
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- Happy Hour 7am-9pm weekdays
- \$1.50 Well 4-7 Saturday
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- \$3.75 Pitchers & \$1.25 Mugs



COMMERCIAL MEMBER



MALE STRIP CONTEST
at 10:30 PM with
B.J. WILLIAMS

MON

TALENT NIGHT
at 10:30 PM with
GIOVANNI

TUE

KARAOKE NIGHT
at 8:00 PM
with **Bill Sansom**

WED

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A FIFTY'S FRENZY

ANNUAL CHRISTMAS SING-A-LONG CAROL BUFFET

*"A Holiday Thank You
from the
Staff & Management
of the
Briar Patch"*

It's A Tradition....

You've been coming to our
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Please Don't Miss
This Year

SUNDAY • 7:30 PM
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SUNDAY ONCE UPON A CHRISTMAS...MARY!

PHOTOS WITH SANTA
AND HIS BOY TOY ELF
5PM - 9PM

CHRISTMAS
VARIETY SHOW
9PM SHARP

PRESENTED BY R.S.I.C.S.S. EMPEROR AND EMPRESS VIII
FRANK PIERCE AND PITTYPAT MAGNOLIA SUGARBAKER SNOW

TUESDAY
BOY TOYS CHRISTMAS
PARTY 7:00PM

WEDNESDAY
MALE STRIP
CONTEST 10:30PM

this week

FRIDAY
Boy Toy Dancers 6pm - 2am
SATURDAY
Liquor/Longneck Bust 5pm - 9pm
Boy Toy Dancers 10pm - 2am

SUNDAY
Eight Ball Tournament 5pm
Boy Toy Dancers 5pm - 9pm
Christmas Show 9pm

MONDAY & TUESDAY
Boy Toy Dancers 5pm - 1am



2303 Richmond (713) 520-1861

WEDNESDAY
Boy Toy Dancers 6pm - 10pm
Male Strip Contest 10:30pm

THURSDAY
Boy Toy Dancers 5pm - 1am

CHRISTMAS NIGHT

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 25 • 11:00PM • NO COVER

OUR GIFT TO YOU

DIRECT FROM LAS VEGAS
Starring

**JIMMY
EMERSON**

The
**Roxie
Starr**
Show



Houston Gay Personals

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

BLACK ATTACK!

Very good-looking GWM, crazy about experiencing black guys. I'm 6 ft. tall, well-muscled, trendy, work out regularly. I'm safe, disease-free and ready to go. Not interested in relationships - just hot fun. You gotta respond to this! Let's go! Ad 25531.

MARRIED MEN

Spend quality time day or night w/ semi-retired GWM in Houston. Ad 25328

GWM 54, SEEKS GM 18-35

Looking for that special someone, must be drug free. I am 6'1", br/blu eyes. Interests include dining out, movies, astrology, numerology and other new age subjects. Want someone to love, caress, appreciate you? To depend on? Please respond to Ad#25984.

HUG, SQUEEZE & PLEASE

GWM 37, 5'10", 185, brown/brown, med. blt., moustache, contacts/glasses. Enjoy going out on occasion, the outdoors, jogging, quiet evenings, cooking, cuddle up, kiss, etc. I'm S.E. inside the loop, also occasionally out to Cypress/Cy Fair area. I'm passive looking for get-togethers. Nothing serious for now. Ad 25612

DOMINANT GWM

40, 145, 5'9 seeks GWMs into S/M-B/D. Limits respected. Ad 25336.

PECKS AND PENCIL ERASURES!

Bi-WM, 39, 5'11", 163, non-smoker, DDF, into exercise. Enjoy riding mountain bikes among other things. Seeking well-toned totally smooth person who enjoys physical activities. I'm in the 59 North area. Please respond to Ad 25322.

FEISTY, FEMINE FEMALE WANTED!

You: very feminine, small/medium build, uninhibited, playful, intimate, conversationalist, positive attitude. Me: GWF, 105lbs, 5'3", long blonde hair, blue eyes, soft butch, assertive, flirtatious, likes having fun. Ad 25553.

SMALL TOWN TEXAN SURVIVING IN CITY

HIV-, 38 yr. old GWM, 6', 170lbs, br/br who enjoys bicycling, football, basketball, tennis, camping, hiking, fishing, junk stores, C&W music, movies, television, Nintendo, small towns and travel seeks monogamous relationship with GM 25-40 with same interests. Ad 25288

DADDY, SON, BOY, BOOT-BOY, SLAVE

Do any of these or similar terms interest you? I am 40, fit, attractive, and muscular and looking for a well toned muscular GWM for some experimentation (nothing too heavy or serious). Ad 25298

INTERESTED IN KINK?

I'm 44, 5'9", 180, hairy, aggressive, demanding. If you're open minded and your tastes go beyond plain vanilla, let's talk. Ad 25134

THE MORE MASCULINE THE BETTER

34 yr. old, GBM, 6', 200, beard, handsome, non-smoker seeks GM, 30-40, for friendship with possible romance. This degreed professional enjoys volleyball, bicycling, baseball, music, movies and dining. Women find me attractive but I don't return the favor to them. Ad 25162

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.

WANT A GREAT SPECIAL FRIEND?

I am and you will be masculine acting and sounding, GWM/GHM, attractive, under 45 years of age, sincere, weight in proportion to height, possess a great sense of humor, reasonably intelligent, non-smoker, non-substance abuser, not into bars or S & M, and have free time for safe get-togethers. Ad 25011.

GORGEOUS FROM HEAD TO TOE

GWM, 30, 5'10", 170lbs, brown/hazel stocky build. I have my own business, and am looking for a very unique, sincere, generous man to have fun with and spend quality time. Not your ordinary, average, typical guy and looking for the same. Ad 25250

SCORPIO LOVERS ARE WONDERFUL MAGIC MAKERS

GWM, 6', 190, br/br, handsome, distinguished, professional, well-educated, and traveled, socially and financially secure, in search of a drug/smoke free masculine GWM 30+. Healthy, happy, honest, sincere, romantic, fun-loving guy. One who enjoys dining by candlelight, quite evenings at home, "black-tie affairs," old movies, opera, theater. Most important loving and being loved and wanting a long term monogamous relationship. Ad 25275

LONELY BIWM ROOKIE LEANING TOWARDS MALES

I'm 5'6", weight proportionate, DDF/NS/LD, average looks, 44, sincere, discreet, masculine, likes sports, reading, movies, dining out and intimate evenings plus a BIGWM with same qualities as above. Experienced, average looks, height/weight proportionate 30-50, DDF/NS/LD equals safe fun times - no strings, let's talk. Let's meet and talk. Ad 25378

EXCEPTIONAL ERUDITE ECLECTIC IN ESCROW

BiWM, 35, 5'7", 155, college graduate, attractive, interesting, romantic. Hobbies include film, art, tennis and politics. Looking for athletic, masculine acting/looking man to share a monogamous, honest, mature relationship with, built on friendship and similar interests. Ad 25925

LOOKING FOR A MAN!

Not too much to ask, is it? Me: GWM, 34, br/bl, 5'8", 168lbs, moustache and goatee, DDF, professional with strong libido. Likes top 40 to C&W, dancing, movies, sports, or just plain mindless fun. Seeks stable GWM between 25-45, a masculine "regular guy" with a strong personality, a sense of humor, and no emotional baggage. Willing to explore friendship, relationship or ...? I'm easy. Ad#25926

FRIENDSHIP IS WORTH THE EFFORT

Two GWM's, 35-52, HIV+, healthy, Houston Heights, seeks other couples or singles for friendship. Interest include movies, dinners, games, travel and good companionship. Prefer non-smokers. If your sincerely interested in finding friends we would love to hear from you. We know you are out there. Don't be afraid to reach out. Ad 25934

ATTENTION: WHITE CALVIN WEARERS

GWM, Daddy bear, 43, 5'6", moustache, balding, hunky, HIV-. Successful professional with a dry sense of humor and a lot of energy. Not looking for love, relationship, or anything serious--just someone who wants to play and who likes to cuddle after. If you are 23-35, straight, bi, or gay, athletic, and look hot in white calvins, why not give it a try? Attorneys, architects, doctors a plus. Ad 25387

TEMPORARY POSITION AVAILABLE

GWM, 41, 5'9", 140#, br/br, HIV+, seeks GWM, 30-50, who doesn't mind "small" benefits. MUST possess ability to be "active" in his field for this open position. MUST also be able to perform duties in front to other board member. Smoker/light drinker okay. Ad#25904

WHITE KNIGHT SEEKS MR. RIGHT!

GWM, 32, green eyes, blond hair, medium build, versatile! Looking for a one on one relationship with no games! I am HIV+ but very healthy and active. I love life and just want someone to share it with! Please sincere responses only, all replies answered. Ad 25910

ARE WE SEEKING EACH OTHER?

Why should we both be lonely? I'm a mid-50, br/bl, 250, 5'8", bearded, PASSIVE, GWM, seeking a younger ACTIVE GM. You're physical attributes/race are totally unimportant. I'm sincere/honest and expect the same from you. I'd love to share good times, quiet moments, dreams, enjoyment, and allow friendships to grow to a relationship. Ad 25911.

ARE YOU INTERESTED?

I'm an attractive 39yr. old, 5'9", 150#, well built professional WM that enjoys working out, art, music, outdoors, travel, dinners out, good conversations and hot times with masculine, muscular men of all ages and races. If you are muscular and looking for someone to date and perhaps develop a relationship, let me hear from you! Ad#25935

LOOKING FOR FRIEND

Attractive, well-built 29 yr. old GWM seeks GBM. I am athletic; my favorite sports are biking and running. If you are looking for a warm, sincere person and you are muscular and attractive, please respond to Ad 25979.

ARE YOU A LITTLE NERVOUS?

about experimenting with gay fun? Are you new to the gay scene? I understand and was that way myself at first. If you are young, slim, healthy, free from drugs/alcohol and would enjoy being with a 52 y.o. professional who will respect your shyness, yet introduce you to gay fun times please contact me. I am a sincere, sensitive, and caring professional whom you can trust. Ad 25947.

YOAKUM, HALLETTSVILLE, CUERO, SCHULENBURG, SCHER, VICTORIA

38yr old, 6', 175, DDF, motivated, GWM with wide range of interests. I have recently moved to this area from the city, but travel regularly. If you are a masculine, enthusiastic, good-hearted regular guy 35+ GM or BiGM and either live in or have reason to visit this area I'd like to hear from you. Ad 25993

BEAUTIFUL FRIENDSHIP TAKES NATURAL LOVE!

and vice versa of course! Patience, understanding, honesty, sincerity and friendliness coming from this clean, attractive, GWF, going to another GWF with the same qualities! Seeking someone to date and/or for a possible monogamous relationship. Ad#25967

SANE EXPRESSIVE COMPANION

Sought by GBM, 5'10", 195#, healthy, HIV+, drug/alcohol/smoke free. I am affectionate, sincere, realistic, spontaneous, honest and enjoy the company of men who have like qualities. Prefer ages 30-45, w/h proportion, facial hair, tall, but not required. Interest include but not limited to movies, music, theater and life outside the bars. Friendship encouraged, relationship possible. Respond to Ad 25974.

ACCOMPLISHED PROFESSIONAL SEEKS YOUNGER MAN

40ish GWM, grad school educated, healthy, HIV+ seeks attractive younger man in Houston for serious relationship. I'm 6'2", 190, br/bl, masculine. Women tell me I'm handsome. If you are the boy-next-door looking for an honest, loving and accomplished man please respond to Ad 25976

SEEKING AFFECTIONATE, FUN, GENEROUS, FRIENDLY GENTLEMAN

I'm tall, athletic, healthy, hairy, handsome, sensual, affectionate, fun, friendly, sincere, blond, 30's, professional, homeowner. You: fit, weight/height proportionate, affluent, generous gentleman, capable of giving time, affection, friskiness, contributions, gifts, travel etc. Relationship: casual to serious. Privacy, discretion, friendship, companionship assured. Let's spoil and pamper one another. Ad 25978

HIV+ HISPANIC MALE

Mid 30's, professional, healthy, sincere, good since 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 25987

SLIM, AUSTIN - GWM

Moustache, DDF, non-smoker, seeks same type of relocatable Houston guy for mutual visits and possible relationship. I'm 43, long and lean, 6', 135lbs, somewhat hairy and enjoy travel, hiking, nature, art, running, massage, dancing and a simple and healthy lifestyle. Ad 25711

ALONE FOR THE CHRISTMAS SEASON?

Why be alone this Christmas season when you have the gift of friendship? Handsome, masculine, easy going, single, DDF, GBM (30) visiting Houston in mid December 1993, seeks masculine, easy going, single, DDF, conversations, dining, movies, dancing and good safe fun times. Ad 25718

TWO STEPPER SEEKS PARTNER

Attractive GWM, 41, 5'6", br/hazel, moustache, weight proportionate to height, DDF, educated, honest, romantic, affectionate. C&W dancing, sense of humor, great smile, non-smoker, health oriented. Seeks similar individual who is attractive, romantic, fun loving, likes to laugh and enjoy the simple things in life. Ad 25714

I WANNA FEEL WHAT LOVE IS,

I know you can show me, I am a professionally employed homeowner, 40's, DDF, bi/bl, hairy chest, moustache, 5'11", weight in proportion, non-smoker, enjoy movies, dining out, bicycling and travel. Quiet evenings around the fireplace also makes me happy. Want sincere, affectionate man for dating and possible relationship. Ad 25988

WALLER AREA

GWM, 140lbs, 31 y.o., HIV+, would like to meet others in like circumstances in this area. Not sure what I'm looking for but friendship would be a nice start. Ad 25703

GBM WHO DARES TO BE DIFFERENT!

Independent-thinking Gay Black Male with red convertible sports car, seeks someone completely different than oneself. I have every toy a man could want except that elusive Boy-Toy. All I guarantee is a good time! Ad 25707

LOOKING FOR SINGLES AND COUPLES

We are in our late 30's looking for singles and/or couples for safe fun. We are both DDF. Serious replies only. Ad#25709

HEY, I KNOW YOU!

You're a GWM 30's to 40's, smart, stable, secure and masculine. You have integrity, wit, optimism and charm. This GWM, 36, 6'2", 175, br/bl is all the above plus compassionate, comfortable to be around, upbeat, adventurous and an extrovert. I wish to capture the heart and hand of a singular gentleman. Ad 25716

PROFESSIONAL, GYM BODY, HIV+

GWM, 40y.o. professional, 6', 185lbs, br/bl, moustache. Wide range of interests. Healthy and aggressive. Not a virgin, not a preppie and not a "y" boy. Looking for similar or daddy-type, 35-50 for good times and maybe more. Ad#25727

GWF who likes movies and dancing seeks someone 35-45 for friendship and fun. Ad#25728

Professional man, tall, slender, new in town, would like to meet an attractive "queen" for a serious relationship. I am financially secure and take good care of my companion. Write me at Ad#8029.

LOOKING FOR A FEW MASCULINE FRIENDS

I'm a 35 yr. old attractive WM, 6', long br/br eyes, moustache and beard, HIV+. Like working on my own car, camping, four wheeling, rafting, rock-n-roll and safe fun times. Not necessarily in that order. I'm looking for friends with similar interests. Ad 25719

WHAT IS LOVE?

Someone who relates to life's ups and downs. GWF, 24, 5'3", Hazel eyes, lt. brown hair, mid-masculine build, shy, loving/caring, energetic, settled, totally independent. Looking for the same. Must be DDF, feminine female, 24-30. Race not important. If you can help me mend my broken heart please respond to Ad 25721.

GWF, 36 seeking GWF who is honest and secure herself. There must be somebody out there who wants friendship and romance. I like going to movies, music and dining. Ad#25723

GHF

GHF, 28, professional, NS, lives for dancing, dining and romancing; cute cuddly and kind; enjoys all sports and honest conversations; divine sense of humor; seeks GHF or GWF under 40 who loves dancing, hates mind games and leans toward the feminine side. Ad#25143

GENTLE ACTIVE SEEKS PASSIVE

GWM, 48, 6'2", ht/wt proportionate, balding/blue, hairy body, physically fit, DDF, NS, lite alcohol, professional, educated, mature, masculine, honest, sincere, enjoy arts, movies, gym, outdoors, cuddler, active, sensitive, caring, nice guy. Seeking GM alive, fun, physically fit, smart, masculine, DDF, NS, passive, smoother the better, employed, career minded for dating maybe monogamous relationship. Ad#25726

Young professional married bi-sexual seeks discreet female for one on only interludes and lasting friendship. Age unimportant. Sincerity and discretion is of utmost importance. Ad#25729

BABY WANTED

by professional, stable, handsome, masculine, gay white male --interested in attractive, professional lesbian couple for cooperative effort in having a child, or single gay female. Custody in favor of the mothers, but for those women interested in having a child this is an opportunity for a quality male to make that possible. Totally disease free. Ad 25735

INTRIGUING, VERY MASCULINE

GWM, young, black hair/blue eyes, professional, 5'10", 180, in great shape, good attitude and very focused and successful. Very open to meeting new people. Ad25730

WANTED: ACTIVE GWM

GWM, 5'10", 44, balding, dk. br/green eyes, hirsute, beard, HIV+, passive, seeks a man for friendship or possibly more. Prefer a taller masculine man who enjoys staying home, cuddling, watching T.V., theater, walks and the finer things in life! Country lovers a plus! Ad 25731

CALL ME!

GWM, 37 seeks cute masculine GWM, 18-30 for friendship or possible relationship. Not into drugs or games. Just laughs and good times. Call me (713) 526-7426.

RESCUE ME FROM LIMBO!

I'm a GHM, 27, 5'9", average/slim, DDF/NS/LD who's lived without other gay friends or experiences. I'm in need of special friends to help me experience gay life and love. You: GWM/GHM, under 35, DDF, average/attractive, non-kicker. No expectations beyond friendship. Fireworks may follow later for that special person. Ad 25732

Very attractive, butch Hispanic, body builder in San Antonio, 29, 5'6", looking for an attractive health conscious man up to 45 years of age, under 5'10" with a sense of humor and caring heart. Interests are art, weight lifting, dancing and ghost stories. I gave up looking for Mr. Right in San Antonio. Could you be in Houston? Ad 25733

SPANKINGS NEEDED

W/M, 33, needs older white gentleman (mid 50's late 60's) to help me correct my behavior by administering spankings. Must be safe, sane and want to help me grow as a person via meaningful discipline. Ad 25734

LOOKING FOR THAT SPECIAL LADY!

GWF, 29, attractive soft butch who is kind, gentle, sincere, caring and sensitive. I enjoy a wide variety of activities. I am seeking a 25-40 feminine woman who walks and talks, laughs and learn about ourselves and each other. She must be attractive, slim /medium build, honest, confident and playful. Let's meet and talk. Ad 25736

To advertise call Houston local number (713) 529-8490 Mon.-Fri. 9-5.

To respond to an advertiser and to hear his actual voice describing himself and the people he would like to meet, call 24 hours 1-900-454-3576. (\$1.49/min. on your phone bill. You must be 18+.) OR you can call (713) 529-8490 Mon.-Fri. 9-5 for more information or to establish a pre-paid toll-free answering account.

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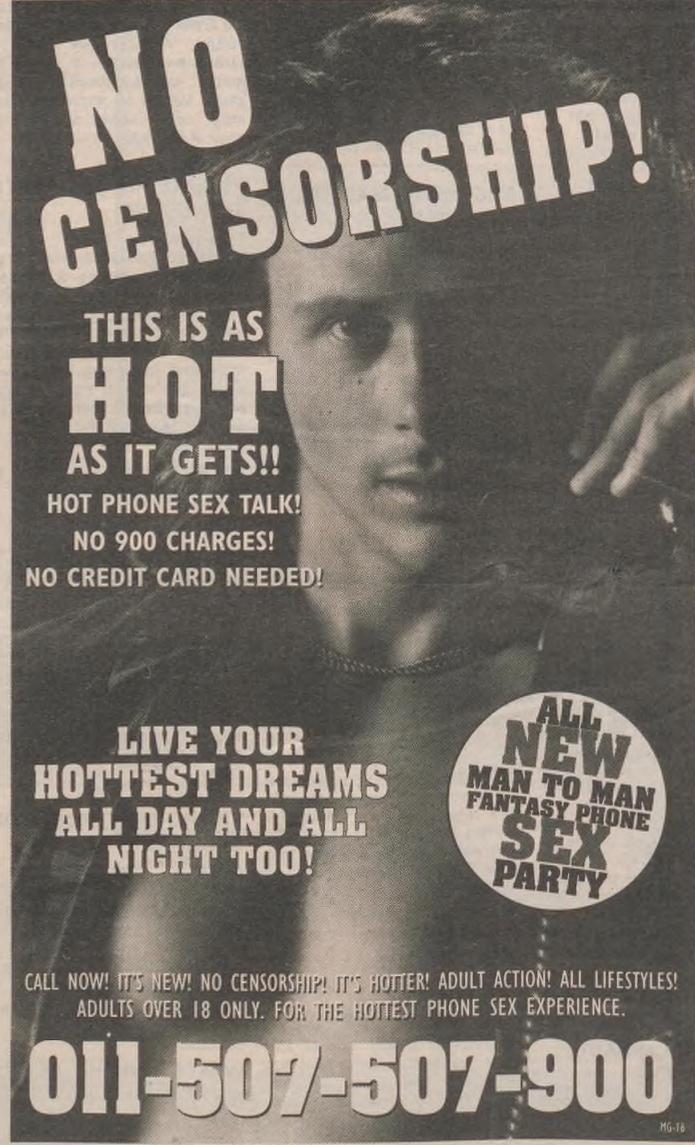
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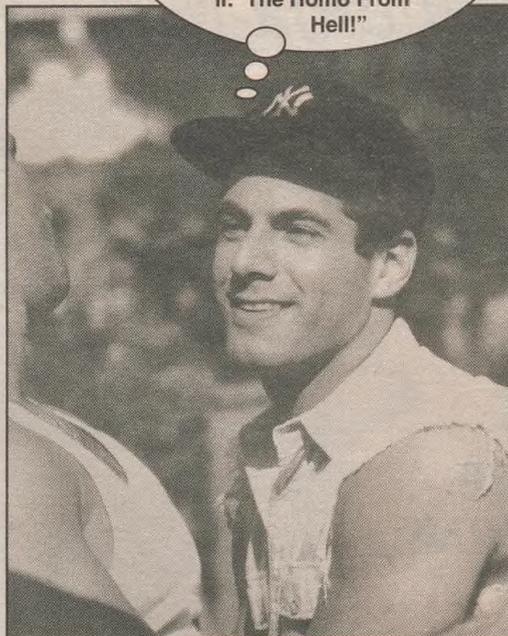


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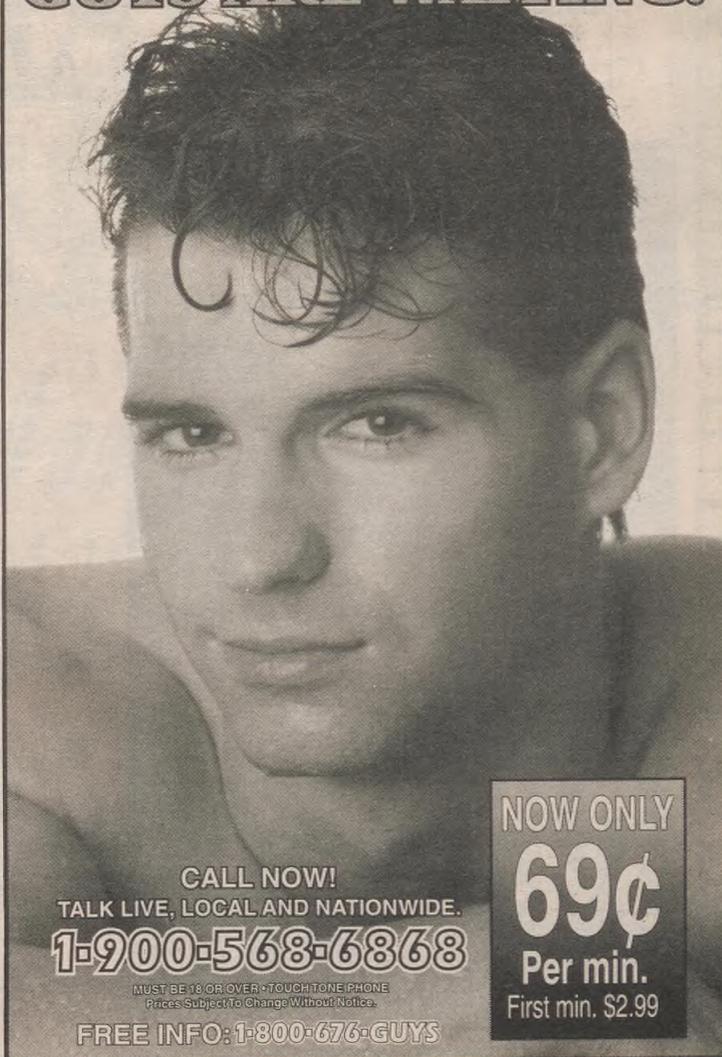
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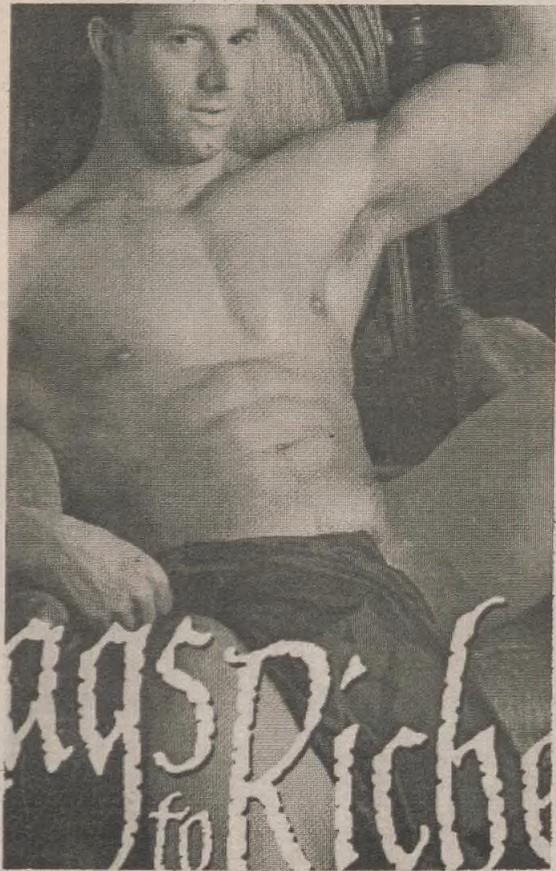
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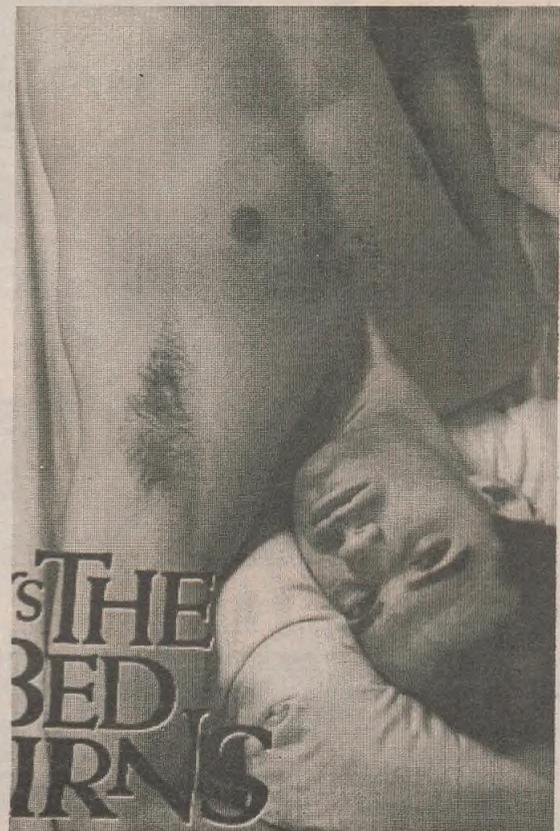


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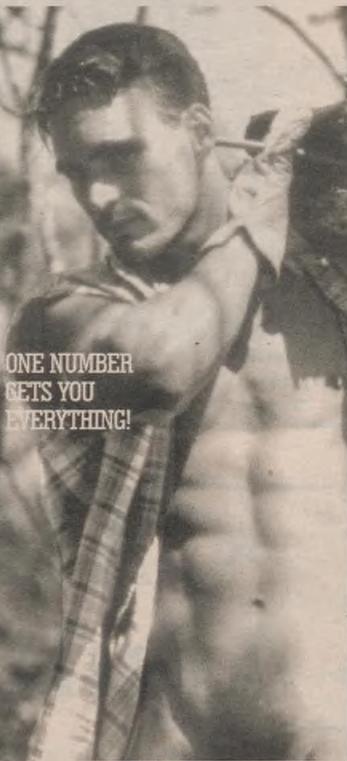
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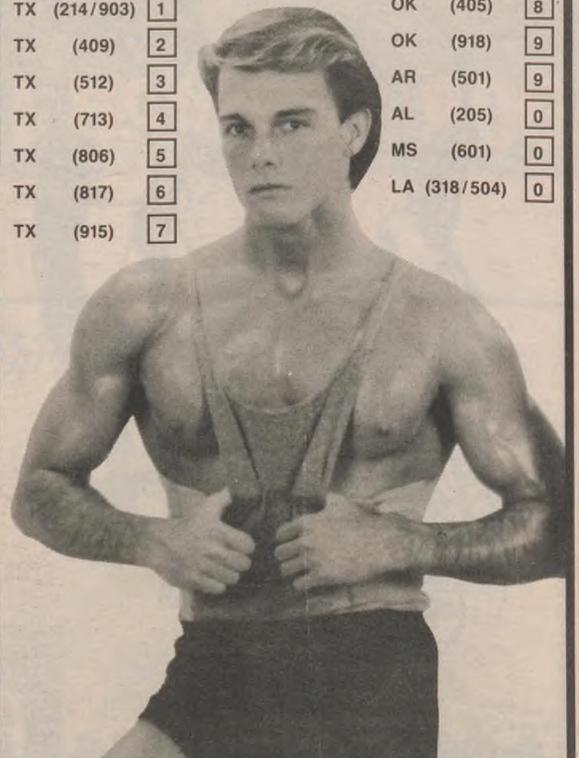


State / A.C. / Press

| | |
|--------------|---|
| TX (214/903) | 1 |
| TX (409) | 2 |
| TX (512) | 3 |
| TX (713) | 4 |
| TX (806) | 5 |
| TX (817) | 6 |
| TX (915) | 7 |

State / A.C. / Press

| | |
|--------------|---|
| OK (405) | 8 |
| OK (918) | 9 |
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