

HOUSTON VOICE

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HAPPY FOURTH
OF JULY

Stonewall 25: the end of a civil rights struggle or just a new beginning?

By TAD NELSON
Houston Voice Publisher

According to official reports, tens of thousands of gay men and lesbians surged through Manhattan streets, celebrating the coming of age of a civil rights movement that began 25 years ago with the raid of a New York gay bar. Some wire service reports said "hundreds of thousands," and the organizers of the epic event estimated over one million. While the numbers may remain a point of dispute, the unity of the marchers in spite of diverse causes or allegiances and the tenor of a gay reign—albeit temporary—over official and institutional oppression, rang triumphant though the parade and the massive rally that followed on the Great Lawn of New York City's Central Park.

Participants were in New York to commemorate what is now known as the Stonewall rebellion, to honor the pioneers of the gay movement, to

support one another, to protest, rejoice, to remember the dead, or to offer others hope for the future. But above all, they were marching to affirm the legacy of Stonewall: their very right to be visible.

Among them were doctors, lawyers, elected officials, military personnel, leathermen and women, drag queens, transgendered persons, mothers, fathers, children, brothers, sisters, clergy, friends of gays and lesbians and non-gay supporters.

They marched in not one, but two, parades: an official one on the east side of Manhattan that began at the United Nations in an



The march kicks off: a quarter century after the Stonewall riot, people from all over the world gathered in New York City to recognize the historic event and march for gay and lesbian rights

effort to demand that the U.N. protect the homosexuals worldwide, and a smaller unofficial march up 5th Avenue from the Village. The latter was organized by several dissenting groups that broke ranks with the others to make a

point that the most urgent problem facing gays in AIDS.

Remarkably enough, the day's events occurred relatively on schedule and without incident. In ironic retrospect, it might be noted that this 25th anniversary observation was perhaps as organized and peaceful as the Stonewall events of 1969 were unwieldy and violent.

There were no arrests made by police during the march or rally in Central Park. Police spokespersons reported that the official word from headquarters was: "turn your heads, and make no arrests that would incite riot conditions." They did just that...and they marched alongside partici-

pants who were totally nude to ensure their safety.

The march was less flamboyant than a typical gay pride parade; there were no floats and only one or two vehicles, carrying seniors' groups. There were men in gowns and topless women, but shorts and T-shirts predominated in the New York heat. The march, which began at 11:00 a.m., flowed like an endless river of humanity, and when the two parades met at 5th Avenue and 57th Street, the official parade halted respectfully to allow the rebel contingent to join before continuing on to Central Park.

At 3:00 p.m., the procession stopped for a one-minute moment of silence to memorialize people who had died of AIDS, at 4:45, officials announced that the last contingent in the march had begun its first steps.

(Continued on Page 5)

Gay and lesbian rights in America: A 25 year retrospective

SPECIAL REPORT

By WILLIAM B. RUBENSTEIN

American Civil Liberties Union
(First of Two Parts)

The struggle for equality by lesbians and gay men has moved to the center of American life at the outset of the 1990's, and during the coming decade lesbian and gay issues will form a greater part of the American political consciousness than during any other era in American history. With Bill Clinton's election and his first presidential directives, a heated debate erupted regarding the presence of lesbians and gay men in the U.S. military. Nearly every religious organization in the country is struggling with questions ranging from gay marriage to the ordination of openly gay ministers. And at no time in American history have gay people been more visible: with lesbians and gay men battling in Congress, in the streets and in courtrooms for civil rights; well known figures publicly discussing their sexual orientation, and gay characters appearing regularly on prime time television shows, few Americans can continue to claim that they have not come into contact with gay people.

At the same time, lesbians

and gay men face stiffer opposition than ever before. A well organized and well funded religious rights has pledged that "gay rights will be the 'abortion' issue of the 1990's"—the message being that adherents will vehemently challenge advances by gay people. Indeed, voter initiatives to repeal laws prohibiting discrimination on the basis of sexual orientation—and bar enactment of such laws in the future—are at issue in dozens of states throughout the country. And more and more, lesbians and gay men are attacked every year simply for being gay: anti-gay violence rose 31 percent in 1990 and 1991 in five major cities (Boston, Chicago, Minneapolis/St. Paul, New York and San Francisco), with more than 1800 incidents of anti-gay/lesbian violence reported in these cities alone (Report of the National Gay and Lesbian Task Force, 1992).

The law is a primary arena in which the struggle for gay rights has been, and will continue to be, played out. Throughout American history, sexual relations have been a concern of the secular legal system, as well as an issue of religious morality and medical "science." American society has long maintained laws that both directly and indirectly dictate what combinations of

individuals may have sex with one another and in what manner.

For lesbians and gay men, state regulation of sexuality has been particularly harsh. State sodomy laws criminalize one way in which gay people express their love for one another. Discrimination against lesbians and gay men exists in employment and housing, and gay people are often denied access to programs and public places solely because of their sexual orientation. No state has recognized lesbian and gay relationships, and sexual orientation has often been used to deny gay people custody of, or visitation with, their own children. Lesbians and gay men are frequently legally barred from adopting children or becoming foster parents.

Not only has the law typically failed to redress discrimination against gay people but such discrimination is often sanctioned by the government itself. The federal government, for example, has openly denied lesbians and gay men the opportunity to serve their country in the military; effectively, denied employment to gay people in the FBI, CIA and other security related positions, and placed burdens on gay applicants for security clearances.

Alongside this stark picture of the barriers faced by lesbians and gay men, however, lives another image. This portrait is of a constantly growing movement to eradicate these barriers, of lesbians and gay men and their advocates who, in the past 40 years, have made enormous strides in abolishing some of the barriers to equal participation by gay people in American society. This article represents an effort to understand the legal situation of lesbians and gay men. By focusing on several areas of the law—sodomy law reform, discrimination and family law—this series will depict both the struggle for liberation and equality of gay people and the work that still needs to be accomplished.

Sodomy Law

In modern American society, sodomy laws serve as a legal basis for the regulation of lesbian and gay sexuality and of lesbian and gay life generally. Discrimination against lesbians and gay men is often predicated on the existence of laws prohibiting lesbian/gay sex—sodomy laws are given as the reason, for instance, for depriving lesbians and gay men of government jobs or of the custody of their children—and sodomy laws are used, with varying degrees of suc-

cess, against lesbian and gay litigants in every possible legal context. Sodomy laws also have serious symbolic consequences: they brand the manner in which lesbians and gay men express love for one another as "criminal" and are commonly understood as criminalizing not merely homosexual acts but lesbians and gay men themselves.

It is only recently that sodomy laws have been understood as being about gay people. Historically, sodomy laws were drafted in order to proscribe sexual behavior that did not lead to procreation, including oral and anal sex between people of the same or opposite genders. The argument against sodomy laws is one of liberty and privacy, namely, that individuals enjoy a sphere of privacy or control over a set of personal decisions that the government is not entitled to dictate. Put most simply, "liberty" means that so long as adult individuals are engaging in behavior that is consensual and that does not harm others, the government cannot control it. It follows that the state cannot come into a person's bedroom and tell that individual the manner in which she may enjoy sexual relations with another consenting adult.

(Continued on Page 8)

Hot Dog, Independence Day in the great North American republic!

YOURS TRULY IN A SWAMP

By LEONARD EARL JOHNSON

Houston Voice/New Orleans

What a day to shoot your firecracker! What a bang-up journey, this passage of the United States of America from colonial rule to today.

In 1776, about one-third of the colonists in England's non-Canadian American Colonies declared their separation from old England. One-third remained loyal, and the other third didn't give a musket full of wet powder who ruled the New World.

Needless to say this set sagacious wigs to nodding in courtly London. As all warrior-minded advisors always feel, King George's advisors advised that defeating the rebellion would be a "turkey shoot" (an American expression). It was not a turkey shoot.

Many fled to Canada as the revolution wore on. In the Louisiana country, the French and Spanish cheered the rebels—not for love of freedom but for hate of England. Opinions of free-blacks went mostly unrecorded, and, of course, slaves legally had neither sole, property, nor opinions.

In 1776, the one-third proclaiming independence from England did so on a piece of parchment known as the Declaration of Independence. It was date July 4. After jazz man Louis "Satchmo" Armstrong gained fame, he told interviewers his birthday (unrecorded) was July 4. (The city of New Orleans till a few years ago celebrated July 4, not as American Independence Day, but as Satchmo's birthday.)

In 1776, leaving the debate that led to signing the declaration, Benjamin Franklin was asked of the meeting's outcome. "You've got a republic," he said, "if you can keep it!"

Keeping it has been a battle-royal ever since. The high ideas in America's notion of liberty inspired a world to smite tyranny's oppressive hand. True. But it also inspired a sea of resistance from tyrants, opportunists, and the ignorant fighting for tyranny's "good parts."

In the United States of America, in 1994, seventy-four percent are polled supporting lesbian/gay rights. The rest are somewhat indifferent, and tiny fraction is incensed and hateful of queers and "them what ain't them."

This tiny fraction is drawn from both the organized poor and the organized wealthy. Working from the grass roots up they are seizing power and working to eliminate equality for those not of their liking.

This army of the self-righteous comes heavily from congregations and pulpits of intolerant preachers—hardly a new ship on the New World's sea.

Many who signed the Declaration of Independence did not believe in lib-

erty for all. They were males only, who discounted women, and owned slaves. From this fact, combined with early-American religious intolerance, anti-liberals have concluded intolerance is the proper American way. The American way is dynamic, kind, loving and helpful.

Today the religious right is on the move. They have taken over school boards. And they are mustering votes to outlaw civil rights for queers. They are following ideology that must be called not just anti-liberal, but by their own Biblical reference "Anti Christ." They are guided by a "truth" they believe teaches hate of "them what ain't them." That is the Anti Christ, as defined in their Bible.

From the pulpit to the voting booth, their's is the advocacy of fascist rule in the name of God. Alas, no new ship on the world's seas.

The bulwark holding back this armada is you. Only you can defend your freedom. Do it. Your liberty and your life depend on it.

Don't let anybody push you in the closet, under the rug, or into your grave. No matter how glib their tongue, or how fine their reasoning if they are advocating your oppression they are preaching for the gods of darkness and voting for the new Hitlers.

Follow the lead President Bill Clinton, stand up to them! In a radio speech about opposition to his health care reform, Bill Clinton called Jerry Falwell the mendacious opportunist he is. And he called Rush Limbaugh the hate-monger he is. Stand up with him!

Follow the lead of Shannon Byrne, stand up to them! In Cobb County, Georgia, Shannon Byrne, age 24, resisted the five-member County Commission headed by her father. Agitated by Bill Byrne the County Commissioners passed a resolution saying the homosexual lifestyle violates community standards.

Shannon Byrne's father was inspired to preach hate even of his own daughter. Shannon Byrne declare publicly she is lesbian, and said, "My dad and the commission have absolutely no right to condemn us." Bill Byrne said he knew, but he loved the philosophy of hate more than his daughter.

Cobb County is fifteen miles outside of Atlanta. It is the site of Atlanta Games' volleyball competition. Gays and lesbians world wide have asked the Olympic organizers to move the games elsewhere. Stand up with them!

Like Benjamin Franklin, like Bill Clinton, Like Shannon Byrne, stand up!

"Freedom doesn't come like a bird on a wing. Freedom doesn't come like a summer rain. Freedom, freedom is hard won thing. And every generation has to win it again." (from a Sixties Civil Rights song).

Houston Spotlight



ANNISE PARKER

Though she says she's been out of the closet since age of 15, and was among the founders of Rice University's gay and lesbian support group in 1979, Annise Parker blossomed into star status as a local lesbian/gay rights activist over the last decade, since making her late-blooming interest in politics her main focus. Parker served as president of the Houston Gay and Lesbian Political Caucus in 1986-87, and as a board member of the Lesbian/Gay Rights Lobby of Texas from 1983-1990, before mounting her own campaign for Houston City Council in District C in 1991. Running as an openly gay candidate against a popular incumbent in a socially and economically diverse council district, Parker wound up with

about 20 percent of the vote, proving to naysayers of the day that there is a powerful bloc of voters in the Montrose area, and setting a hopeful precedent for qualified lesbians and gay men to run for office in the future. These days, she concentrates on helping these potential public officials through The Gay and Lesbian Victory Fund. Parker is a board member of the Fund, a non-partisan political action committee that supports only openly gay or lesbian candidates. Parker is also co-owner (with Pokey Anderson) of the lesbian/feminist bookstore Inklings, and she once chaired the Houston Police Advisory Committee, a group that relays minority concerns to the police department.

Bering Foundation thanks Don Gill; rugs donated to PWA Coalition

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

From STACIE COKINOS

Director of Development and Outreach, Bering Community Service Foundation

I would like to take this opportunity to express gratitude and appreciation to Mr. Don Gill on behalf of the programs of the Bering Community Service Foundation.

Don is an outstanding role-model in his many efforts to raise money and awareness for HIV/AIDS. Some of his accomplishments include the title Mr. Prime Choice 1994, the recent Cut-a-Thon, and as a host committee member of Vivo y Positivo '94. His commitment and compassion to the cause are without precedent. Bering's programs are fortunate to continue to benefit from Don's efforts. We wish him luck in Dallas on July 9th for the Gulf Coast Drummer Contest.

PWACH Rug Day

From THE PWA COALITION HOUSTON

Houston, Texas

The People With AIDS (PWA) Coalition Houston, Inc. is pleased to announce that Mr. Charles Leach, owner of the Rug Emporium, 1722 West Alabama has generously donated

350 fine area rugs to the Coalition. Coalition volunteers are planning a "Don't Sweep AIDS Under the Rug" day to offer the rugs for sale to the public. Volunteers will also be on hand to answer questions and increase awareness about the Coalition's program to serve those infected and affected by HIV/AIDS. The preview and sale will be held in late July at Cherryhurst Park in Montrose. Any rugs remaining after the sale will be distributed to indigent AIDS patients through the Coalition's Warehouse program.

The People With AIDS (PWA) Coalition, Houston Inc. is a unique non profit 501(c)3 organization dedicated to providing short-term crisis intervention and long-term referral for people with HIV/AIDS, promoting independence and self reliance through its programs and services, and provides public advocacy for people living with HIV/AIDS. Specifically, the organization provides social and courtesy service referrals, case management to "high need" clients, social and peer interaction activities, a household restart, Thomas Street Clinic Volunteer program and AIDS/HIV training and outreach. More information may be obtained by calling the coalition at 713-522-5428.



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HOUSTON VOICE

Brady's Corner



Church group blasts sodomy law

FORT WORTH, Texas, Monday, June 27 (AP)—About 200 Unitarian Universalists marched through downtown Fort Worth Monday in a show of support for abortion rights.

Enduring triple-digit temperatures, the marchers sang songs, carried signs and listened as speakers urged vigilance in combating the Christian right's campaign to outlaw abortion.

"We remember too well when coat hangers were pervasive and when women wanting an abortion were unsafe," said the Rev. John Buehrens of Boston, president of the

Unitarian Universalist Association.

On Sunday, Unitarian Universalist church leaders said Texas' sodomy law is unfair and that it's time for the public to accept homosexuals.

"It is the mission of the religious community to tear down walls because the idea of acceptance is still unknown to many," Buehrens said.

The Protestant denomination, which is holding its national convention in Fort Worth that ends Tuesday, has been in the forefront of supporting gay and lesbian rights.

Stonewall moments and indelible impressions: a personal perspective

By TAD NELSON

Houston Voice Publisher

The official parade commemorating Stonewall 25 began as promised at 11:00 a.m. sharp on Sunday morning June 26, 1994. Many of New York's usually bustling streets were blocked by police barricades, much to the dismay of natives, taxi drivers and pedestrians alike, making it difficult to position ourselves for the hours-long march.

Upon finding what was a relatively "safe" spot on 57th Street across from the Excelsior Hotel, we settled in for some serious picture taking among the sparse crowd around us. Then, like clockwork, it began and the procession, a literal sea of marchers began passing.

Loading the parade was what organizers touted as a "mile long" rainbow flag that covered the city streets from sidewalk to sidewalk. We were asked by organizers to toss our loose change onto the flag and the contents of the pockets of those around us as, as well as our own, were soon sailing onto the flag for collection.

Following the flag was New York Mayor Rudolph W. Giuliani, surrounded by police officers and security guards. We were mostly polite at his passing but boos were heard throughout the crowded sidelines.

Still further back were the Veterans of Stonewall, a group of mostly men in their 40's and 50's who had been in the riot at the Stonewall Inn in Greenwich Village on June 27, 1969.

Excitement and pride permeated

the sultry air on 57th. The sense of being among over a million other gay men and women was overwhelming and more than once we found tears welling in our eyes. The crowd around us was steadily swelling, as the numbers of observers increased and pushed out into the street. We noticed rainbow flags hanging on balconies all over the city and along the parade route, and at various times there was ticker-tape falling from the skyscrapers around us.

When the endless parade of "Countries of the World" (in alphabetical order) began we suddenly found ourselves stunned by the numbers of participants from foreign countries. The thought never entered our minds that there would be 2,000 people from Canada, or that Cubans would be in the parade, or that Brazil, France, Germany, Holland, Poland, Russia, Tobago, Vietnam, to name only a slight few would be represented in our march for gay pride. They came from every corner of the globe.

The thought of all the open and empty closets made us chuckle. Participants were bursting with energy and pride chanting slogans, singing national anthems, rejoicing with friends and lovers, dancing, laughing—but marching steadily and with purpose, for... recognition of the inherent dignity and of the equal and inalienable rights of all members of the human family as the foundation of freedom, justice and peace in the world.

In all there were 62 sections, each with multiple contingents in the

march. We noted numerous distinct constituencies including PWAs, women's groups, seniors, drag queens, health organizations, people of color, religious groups, various cities and states of the U.S., transgender groups, gay parents, parents of gays, political groups, students and youth groups. The crowds around us applauded and cheered the air on their way. Particularly moving was a contingent of gay men and lesbians, parents and children carrying placards with pictures of loved one lost to AIDS. When they passed the crowd stopped their cheering and respectfully began very loud applause. Observers and marchers alike were moved to tears. Tears of loss, tears of joy, tears of hope that this march would focus world attention not only on the treatment of gays but also hope that a cure for AIDS is in our futures.

About mid-parade we decided to participate and joined the parade for the march to Central Park and were again amazed by the numbers of people on the sidelines. It gave us a sense that we could conquer the city if required. The feeling of group power was awesome to behold and we were sure the police sensed it too. Sixty-two hundred on duty police would have been no match for the millions but courtesy, dignity and common sense prevailed. We stopped numerous times to ask a police man or woman directions and they were always kind and smiling.

In Central Park, we found a hill in the shade along the route to The Great

Lawn and seated ourselves for the remainder of the march—we thought! And began to observe that the parade of humanity was a beautiful parade of flesh. Gorgeous men and women, pumped and smiling and still marching.

Around 4:30 p.m. or so the rally officials announced from the stage that the last contingent had just begun the march. Again we were stunned. After finding the port-o-johns and cool water we settled in to a patch of crabgrass and shade to listen as singers and speakers inspired and enlightened and entertained. Two of the biggest crowd pleasers were RuPaul and Liza Minelli.

Thinking ahead we anticipated what 1.1 million people would be like on New York subways and we ran out of Central Park and into the subway.

Only a city like New York, with its great public transportation, could pull off an event on the scale of Stonewall 25 and the Gay Games simultaneously. And even then we overwhelmed city services.

We shudder to think the queens who might still be standing at 157th trying to catch that last subway to Soho.

What a great city. What a great march. What a feeling to be with 1.1 million other gay people and destroy that feeling forever in existence. Thank you God for allowing such a gathering. Thanks Gay Games IV and Stonewall 25 for all the great work. Thank you Houston for welcoming our athletes and ourselves back home. Good luck Amsterdam. Hope to see you all in 1998.

Montrose resident wants public hearing on proposed street closing

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

From R. CRAIG BALES, M.D.
Houston, Texas

Do you as a tax payer have a right to free and easy access to your residential area?

Consider these facts:

Within the next two years the Southwest Freeway from Highway 59 at the downtown Richmond exit/entrance to the Shepherd exit/entrance is scheduled for construction. This construction will be going on for five (5) years. The

Texas Highway Department says at times during the 5 year period most or all the freeway there will be more traffic diverted onto secondary, neighborhood streets like West Alabama, Richmond, Westheimer, Montrose, and Bissonnet.

There also immediate plans for the Annunciation Greek Orthodox Church School to purchase Kipling Street from Yoakum to Mt. Vernon and close it to through traffic! How will this street closure adversely effect your neighborhood?

Closing any street will adversely effect ingress and egress for emergency vehicles (fire, ambulance, and police) to the neighborhood especially if more traffic is diverted to the above mentioned secondary streets.

It will also be more difficult for access under street utilities such as water, sewer, and telephone.

This will provide the Greek Festival with more space to attract more people resulting noise, traffic, parking difficulties, etc.

If the church is allowed to close

off that street, when might they decide to close Marshall Street from Yoakum to Mt. Vernon or Harold from Montrose to Yoakum? Where does it stop?

The Annunciation Greek Orthodox School, the Annunciation Greek Orthodox Middle School, the Annunciation Greek Orthodox Church, and the Annunciation Greet Orthodox Early Childhood Center are all tax exempt institutions. They already receive the taxpayer supported city services of fire, ambulance, police, water, and sewer.

There is no public hearing scheduled concerning this street closure. Make your feelings know to the City before it makes it's decision by demanding a public hearing before City Council. Write your comments to Mr. Mark Kosmoski, Joint Referral Committee, City of Houston Public Works and Engineering Department, 1801 Main Street, Eighth Floor, Houston, Texas 77002 or fax your comments to Mr. Mark Kosmoski at (713) 754-9684 by Thursday, June 30.

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**CATHERINE HAGGERTY
 LENAHAN**

Catherine Haggerty Lenahan, 49, died June 25, 1994 after a courageous battle with lung cancer. Preceded in death by her father Lawrence G. Haggerty. Survivors: life companion Carolyn Collins; children Thomas Luke Lenahan, Julia Ellen Lenahan, Margaret Maureen Browning and husband James and their father James L. Lenahan; mother Mary Ellen Haggerty; sisters Eileen Mundy, Peggy Haggerty, Sheila Mahoney, Maureen Warmuth and Monica Haggerty; brothers Mike Haggerty, Pat Haggerty and Tim Haggerty. Friends will be received from 6:00 - 8:00 p.m. Friday, July 1, 1994, Earthman Downtown Chapel. Funeral Mass: 10:00 a.m. Saturday, July 2, 1994, St. Theresa Church, 6622 Haskell, Rev. Adam McCloskey and Rev. Don Kuder, C.S.B., con-celebrants. Cremation to follow. Memorials may be directed to: Dominican Sisters, 6501 Alameda, Houston, TX 77021.



AVERY BURTON NIX

Avery Burton Nix, 43 had died in Houston after his battle with AIDS. His ashes were scattered in front of the original MoveMasters on Tuesday, June 21. He is survived by his father's wife, Lou Nix of Eastland, Tx.

We wish specially thank Stan Ford for his professionalism in a difficult situation; CJ and Tim for their neighborly acts of kindness; and to Lindy Huffman, a million times over for her indefatigable efforts of behalf of Burton.

Burton, you will be missed.
 Richard, Rick, Julian and Fred



MARVIN (SANDY) PURSELLY

On Sunday, June 26 at 11:00 a.m., Marvin (Sandy) Purselly left our presence for a place with no pain and suffering.

Sandy was born here in Houston and worked mostly as a bartender in many Houston clubs, claiming his home at the Venture-N.

He is survived by his father in Waco, his mother in South Carolina, his brother in Memphis and his lifemate A.J. in Houston and many of the many, many friends whose hearts he touched.

Sandy,
 I know your holding God's hand now until I join you through the walk of eternity. Thanks for the great honor and privilege of knowing and loving you. I'll always miss that twinkle in your eye and smile on your face, but your ring is on my finger, your smile is in my heart, and your love is everywhere I go.

God, take care of my baby. I love you so much.
 Thanks for being you,

A.J.

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Stonewall 25: questions remain as birth of gay rights movement celebrated

(Continued from Page 1)

Meanwhile, in Central Park, participants, observers and entertainers gathered amid the dust and heat of the Great Lawn area for the rally, speeches and music. Shade and water were at a premium, until the crowd dispersed at 8:00 p.m.

As usual, city officials and march organizers disagreed as to the official count of heads. Organizers estimated the total crowd at 1.1 million while police figures were at 100,000. Officials said the Great Lawn was known to hold 180,000, and that it appeared to be half full.

Crowd estimates have long contributed to the lore of great gatherings, and numbers have been manipulated both by those who want to celebrate, and those who wish to downplay the events. Stonewall 25 was certainly no exception.

"The oval of the Great Lawn itself holds 180,000," said Alexander R. Brash, chief of the Urban Park Service, an arm of the New York City Parks and Recreation Department. "We figure its about half full. And in some people and other areas, and turnover, and it's about 100,000."

How, then, to explain the Park Department's inconsistent estimates—as high as 500,000 people, spread out on blankets in the same area—for a concert by Luciano Pavarotti last year, or 750,000 for Paul Simon's 1991 concert? And, while the Great Lawn may indeed have been half full, many people had to spread to the east or west in search of shade, and many more took to the streets and subways to avoid the last minute commuter crunch.

Tony Incalcaterra, a Stonewall 25 spokesperson, said his group estimated that 1.1 million had turned out, a figure based on the Great Lawn's estimated capacity of 600,000 people.

And whose estimate was that? "The Parks Department," he said.

Similarly, there was no agreement on the size of the two marches that preceded the rally in the park.

John Miller, the deputy police commissioner for public information, offered an estimate of no more than 12,000 people for the officially sanctioned march and an even lower 7500 for the smaller march. Organizers and observers alike agree that these figures are ludicrously low for a march that took over six hours to proceed from the U.N. to Central Park. Lawrence F. Loesch, a police spokesperson reported that the number of police alone was 6,200 on duty, the largest number ever assigned to a single event.

The march commemorating Stonewall 25, along with the preceding week long festivals of gay and lesbian culture and the sports and camaraderie of Gay Games IV, mark a time in history that gay men and lesbians have achieved unprecedented visibility in American life. "We will never turn back," said Franklin Fry, a march organizer. "We will never be invisible again."

It may seem remarkable, as well, bringing together all of the diverse elements of the gay rights movement, from the drag queens to the gay Republicans, for such a landmark event. Yet, many say this very diversity is both a mark of the movement's success and an impediment to the single-minded focus needed to force social change.

For a number of the participants in the events marking last week's anniversary of "the birth of the American gay rights movement," the questions surrounding the status of that civil rights movement endure. Is our struggle nearly over? Or did Stonewall 25 mark a true beginning, as gay men and lesbians move into mainstream culture?

Governor reappoints openly gay Houstonian to TDH coordinating council

The Texas Department of Health has announced that Gov. Ann Richards has appointed Dana S. Fitzsimmons of Houston to the Statewide Health Coordinating Council.

Fitzsimmons, who was first appointed to council last year, is one of only four members who served in 1993 to be reappointed. The council was briefly disbanded, and 17 new members were appointed when the board was reorganized.

Fitzsimmons has been a member of the council since Jan. 1993. Members serve staggered terms of two, four and six years.

He originally applied through the appointment project of LGRL's Allen Calkin Fund.

The council oversees development of the Texas State Health Plan, which proposes strategies to correct major deficiencies in the health care delivery system. It is also involved in coordinating the efforts of state-supported institutions of higher education with those of health and human services agencies to close the gaps in health services statewide. The plan is a major health policy guide

for decision-makers.

Currently, members are involved in encouraging legislation to support the plan that was written and presented to the governor in 1993, Fitzsimmons said this week. "I was really pleased to be reappointed (to the council)," he said. "I think the governor has been very fair and understanding in her appointments."

Fitzsimmons is assistant director of the department of pharmacy for the Texas Children's Hospital. He is also a member of the Phi Kappa Phi National Honor Society and Rho Chi Pharmacy Honor Society. He was appointed to the council Feb. 17, and his term will expire Aug. 31, 1997. Dana and his partner, Philip, currently reside in Houston.

"We are very pleased about this appointment," stated Diane Hardy-Garcia, Executive Director of the Lesbian/Gay Rights Lobby of Texas. "The appointment of a 'out' gay man to the Statewide Health Coordinating Council gives our community something to celebrate especially since health concerns remain critical issues for lesbian and gay Texans.

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Karen Ann Edwards in concert at MCCR; sign language class offered

QUICK NOTES

Metropolitan Community Church of the Resurrection (MCCR) and its music ministry will host vocalist Karen Ann Edwards in concert on Sunday, July 10 at 6:00 p.m.



Vocalist Karen Ann Edwards will give a concert Sunday, Jan. 10 at MCCR

Edwards is a familiar face to theater and club audiences in Florida, where she has appeared in many cabarets, theaters and clubs throughout the state. She has also performed in other parts of the country, and has received national awards for her work as a cabaret artist and for her performance as the Princess Margaret in "The Student Prince."

She has been involved in a wide spectrum, of professional entertainment ranging from concerts and opera to Broadway shows, cabarets and nightclubs. However, since her acceptance of Christ and dedication to God's work at the age of 17, Edwards has been actively working in numerous churches as a soloist, guest artist and as a director of music, directing adult and children's choirs. Utilizing both gospel and inspirational secular music, Edwards has performed for local non-profit organizations to raise money for homeless families, abused children, drug and alcohol programs, hospices and AIDS services. Her love for Christ and the word has also brought Edwards through a difficult period that included damage to her vocal cords and ill health, to return to a ministry through music accompanied by a strong testimony to the power

of healing. Edwards continues a busy traveling schedule as a musical evangelist through her "High Praise Ministry," which was elected to be a special work of the Southeast District of the Universal Fellowship of Metropolitan Community Churches (UFMCC). She has been on a tour of the churches throughout the

Western, Midwest and Eastern United States, and recently released her first recording, "Lighting the Way," a selection of inspirational and contemporary Christian music.

This concert is part of an on-going effort by MCCR and its music ministry to bring a series of Gospel and Christian musicians to Houston. For more information, call the church office at 861-9149.

Sign Language Class

Also on July 10, MCCR's deaf ministry will begin a sign language class from 4:00-6:00 p.m. in the church's Fellowship Hall. The classes will continue on Sundays through Sept. 4.

The class is designed to introduce participants to deaf culture and communications, said coordinators. The fee is \$10 per person; scholarships are available to those persons needing assistance.

To sign up for the course, request a scholarship or for more information, call the church office, 861-9149 between 9:00 a.m. and 5:00 p.m., Monday through Friday.

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Cobb County legislators call resolution a mistake

MARIETTA, Ga., Thursday, June 23 (AP)—Three Cobb County state legislators Thursday urged both sides to compromise on a County Commission resolution condemning the gay lifestyle.

"It won't go away. It won't be the last step. But we have got to make a first step," said state Sen. Johnny Isakson, R-Marietta, a former gubernatorial candidate. "It's time to declare where victories have been won and stop the body count."

Isakson, state Sen. Chuck Clay, R-Marietta, and Rep. John Hammond, D-Marietta, called on gay advocates, church leaders and other groups divided by the original resolution, passed last year, to unite behind a milder resolution proposed by Commission Chairperson Bill Byrne.

That resolutions gives both sides a partial victory, the lawmakers said, by eliminating references to the gay lifestyle and focusing instead on support for human rights and opposition to domestic partnership benefits, drug use, teen-age pregnancy and youth violence.

Commissioners will vote on the new resolution Tuesday, but they have stressed that it will not rescind the earlier one.

The legislators said Cobb County commissioners erred by mixing politics, sex and religion into the first resolution.

"The resolution was a mistake and rescinding it would be the best thing they could possibly do," Isakson said.

But he acknowledged that is not likely. Many conservative church leaders who support the original resolution want the controversy to end and would accept the new one, said evangelical minister Ralph Barker.

Local gay advocates, meanwhile, praised lawmakers for speaking out, but said they should be pushing for rescission of the original resolution rather than endorsing another drafted for political expediency.

"If it was about Jews or blacks or some other minority, this would not be tolerated," said Elaine Hill, co-chairperson of the Cobb Citizens Coalition, a gay advocacy group.

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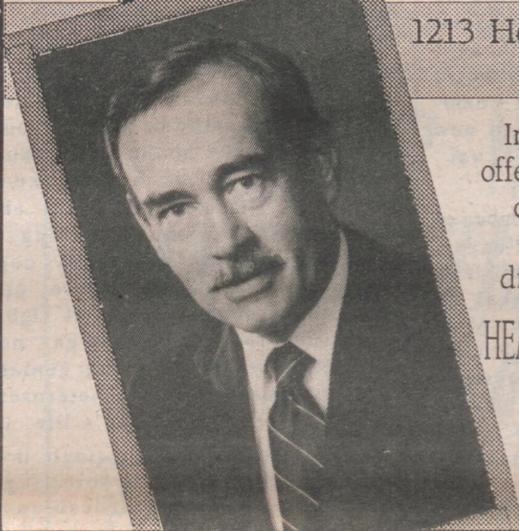
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Anthology is a mixed bag, but The Group's 'Closets' worth entering

THEATER REVIEW

By JAVIER TAMEZ

Houston Voice/Houston

For a dozen years now, The Group (Theatre Workshop) has presented works by and of the gay and lesbian community. And as so often has been the case in the past, the company's current production is a decidedly mixed bag. "Closets: A Stonewall Celebration," which is being presented at the Westheimer Art Bar & Theatre, July 8-30, is an overly long anthology of nine not-always-so-short one-act plays that portray the lesbian and gay experience from a variety of perspectives. The quality of the various pieces covers an equally wide span, ranging from the truly intriguing to the genuinely awful.

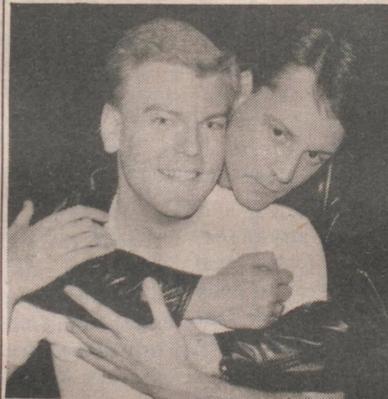
The anchor piece is a wrap-around story entitled, "The Queer Museum, Featuring the New 3D IMAX Production, 'The Closet.'" Written by Damon Thomas (who could surely have come up with a more concise title), the work features a single character, Miss Cosmo (Andrew Dawson), who serves as a tour guide for the queer museum. The tour is conducted in five scenes interspersed at varying intervals between the other one acts, with Cosmo providing occasionally insightful commentary on gay history and heroes, the possibility and ramifications of a gay gene, the inherently nefarious nature of closets and musings on two versions of hell—

one for homophobes and one for homosexuals.

Playwright Thomas does well in drawing his characters as unequivocally effeminate. As Cosmo points out, in a time when our flamboyant brothers are increasingly viewed with disdain and embarrassment by those of us who place such weight on passing for straight, it is wise to remember that these "girls" were the first among us to say enough is enough.

The closing production of the first act is "Radar" by Don Maines. This is a fetching little work that tells the story of a drag queen Timmy (Robert Bullard), who is arrested in a honky-tonk town. Passing as a female, he is imprisoned as a woman, but a gay, endearingly wholesome, deputy sheriff, Champ (Lamont Pfaff) recognizes Timmy as a man and helps secure his release. Champ, speaking directly to the audience, introduces the story, which comes with a trite, little flashback. Actually the whole thing is achingly sweet enough to be dismissible as syrupy fodder, except it follows three less worthy works.

"Box For 4" by Travis Jon Mader is a boring, unconvincingly performed monologue that wallows in hollow self-discovery and uninteresting observation. "Secret Ingredient" by Judith Meyer is a borderline pleasantry with a woman's reflections on her life presented as analogous to a



The Group (Theater Workshop) production of "Closets: A Stonewall Celebration," opens July 1

cooking recipe. "David" by Kyle Corley is a stale dose of ranting from a man who shares recollections of his brutal childhood replete with allusions to sado-masochism and bestiality.

The second act features "Loving God" by Charles Harvey which makes use of virtually every conceivable stereotype ever associated with black queens and "Jesse and Damian" by Gregg Rodriguez, which is nothing more than your run-of-the-mill romance/drama tripe.

Far more interesting is "March On" by Holli Bara. Here two lesbians Tami (Kim Sevier) and Liz (Rebecca Byars) have a chance-encounter at a gay rights rally and they discover that they attended the same high school together. Resentment of and apologies for incidents from their days as teen-agers give way, predictably

enough, to mutual attraction. While this is hardly new plot material, its presentation is fresh and the performances are vibrant.

Also highly noteworthy is the closing piece, "The Right Hacienda" by Bob Scanlon. By far the most powerful piece of the evening, this work briefly explores the tragedy of AIDS from a far less accounted perspective. Not from the victim or the lover (these two are never seen), but rather from the viewpoint of the estranged parent.

Miranda (Dawson) is a hospice worker, who has found purpose in providing comfort to the near-dead. Kelso (Gene Griesbach) is a father, searching for the son he ostracized years earlier. Miranda's stalwart insistence on making the remaining days of his charges as comfortable and stress-free as possible and his refusal to waste time in needlessly repeating old arguments runs head long into Kelso's inability to understand his son's sexuality, even at this late stage. Kelso is not, however, an antagonist. The tragedy of a parent losing a child is made more profound as Kelso realizes that he has lost his son twice, the first time because of his own stupidity.

Director Joe Watts knows well the risks involved in presenting untried works. Though his directing is at its usual, competent state, nothing at this level could redeem some of these selections.

The performances include some stand-outs worthy of mentioning. Andrew Dawson shows surprising depth in moving from the highly-charged and flighty Miss Cosmo in "Queer Museum" to the resolute and no-nonsense Miranda in "The Right Hacienda." Suzanne Anderson displays a comforting honesty as the woman whose secret to life could be encapsulated in a recipe in "Secret Ingredient." Kim Sevier and Rebecca Byars fill a re-encounter with remarkably unforced romantic potential in "March On." Joe Okonkwo has all the prissy flair necessary for the gay African-American in "Loving God." Gene Griesbach gives a wonderful turn as the anguished and angry father in "The Right Hacienda." And Lamont Pfaff brings a boyish charm to the role of Champ in "Radar."

"Closets, A Stonewall Celebration" covers well the spectrum of our community's wonderfully varied experience. Though some of the pieces are lumbering sloths there are enough works with character to make this closet one you'll want to enter.

"Closets" will run from July 8-30 (Fridays and Saturdays) at 8:00 p.m., and Sunday, July 24th at 4:00 p.m. at Westheimer Art Bar and Theatre, located at 1102 1/2 Westheimer. Tickets are \$12 and for reservations call (713) 522-2204.

Lesbian and gay in the U.S.A.: the struggle against discrimination

(Continued from Page 1)

In 1961, every state in the country had a sodomy law. While these laws outlawed heterosexual as well as homosexual sodomy, every one of them criminalized the manner in which gay men and lesbians express love for one another, even if the acts took place between consenting adults in the privacy of their home.

Today, fewer than half the states have sodomy laws. Nearly all of the states that no longer have sodomy laws abolished their law through legislative action rather than a court decision declaring it unconstitutional. In particular, many state legislatures in the past 30 years have modernized their entire system of criminal law by adopting a version of the Model penal code; because the Code did not criminalize private, consensual, adult behavior, as state legislatures adopted the Code throughout the 1960's, they did away with their sodomy laws. In several states, though, the legislatures were so appalled to be without a prohibition on homosexual sodomy that they added new laws barring ONLY homosexual sodomy.

Despite much effort and a number of highly publicized legal challenges, in only a few states have sodomy laws been declared unconstitutional by the highest court in the state. Most importantly, in 1986 the United States Supreme court rejected a constitutional challenge to Georgia's sodomy law in "Bowers v. Hardwick, 478 U.S. 186 (1986)." Michael Hardwick was arrested for having sex with another man in his own bedroom. Although the state did not criminally prosecute him for this act, Hardwick brought a civil suit challenging the sodomy law as violating his constitutional rights. He was joined in this effort by a heterosexual couple who complained that they feared that the Georgia law—which applied to ALL oral and anal intercourse—could be enforced against them as well. By a 5-4 vote, the Supreme court ruled against Hardwick. Despite the Georgia law's ban on oral and anal intercourse, the Court focused only on homosexual sodomy: it held that the "right to privacy" recognized under the federal Constitution did not encompass a right to engage in homosexual sodomy and, therefore, that states are free to criminalize such conduct.

The "Hardwick" decision was a major blow to the movement for lesbian and gay rights in the United States. It means that despite the progress made in the past few decades, in nearly one half the states in the United States of America it is still illegal for lesbians and gay men to express love to one another. To lesbians and gay men, this means, as Larry Kramer has written, "We are denied the right to love. Can you imagine being denied the right to love?" Worse still, the U.S. Supreme Court has condoned this oppression, ruling in the "Hardwick" case that same-sex love has no place in American constitutional jurisprudence.

Despite its harsh outcome, the

"Hardwick" decision may have activated many in lesbian/gay communities and solidified support for this fight among many non-gay people. Notwithstanding "Hardwick," for example, the effort to eradicate sodomy laws has continued, based on challenges brought in state courts under STATE constitutional theories. Since "Hardwick," sodomy laws have been declared unconstitutional by lower courts in Michigan and Texas, and by the highest court in Kentucky. And in 1993, the state of Nevada and the District of Columbia repealed their sodomy statutes. Nor has "Hardwick" impaired gains in other areas.

Discrimination

While the premise for the repeal of sodomy statutes has been a claim to "privacy," privacy has been only one of the goals of the lesbian/gay rights movement. Beyond wanting to be left alone by the government regarding control over life's most intimate decisions, lesbians and gay men also want to be able to "come out," to be open about their sexual orientation just as heterosexuals openly discuss their lives and relationships, without fearing discrimination or worse. By contrast to sodomy's argument for privacy, the argument for civil rights protections for lesbians and gay men is essentially one of being guaranteed an equal ability to heterosexuals to be open about one's life.

In 1971 there was not a single law, ordinance or policy prohibiting discrimination against lesbians and gay men. No one had ever heard of, nor had any public or private entity ever adopted, a policy that prohibited discrimination on the basis of sexual orientation. Today, eight states (Wisconsin, Massachusetts, Hawaii, Connecticut, New Jersey, Vermont, California and Minnesota), the District of Columbia and more than 100 municipalities ban discrimination against lesbians and gay men. These laws generally ban discrimination on the basis of sexual orientation in employment, housing and places of public accommodation.

Notwithstanding these advances, in 42 states it remains perfectly legal for a private sector employer to deny employment or refuse to serve or rent to lesbians and gay men based solely on their sexual orientation—unless one happens to be in a municipality that has a gay rights ordinance. In 1991 a restaurant chain, Cracker Barrel, fired all of its lesbian and gay male employees, announcing that it was a "family" restaurant where such employees were not welcome. Although Cracker Barrel operates in many states throughout the country, its actions only occur in areas that are not protected by gay rights laws.

Moreover, in those areas that lesbians and gay men have gained some protection from discrimination, a powerful backlash has taken place, and is intensifying. In the 1970's, Anita Bryant, known nationally as

the spokesperson for Florida orange juice, instituted a nationwide campaign to repeal local ordinances prohibiting discrimination on the basis of sexual orientation and to enact laws banning lesbians and gay men from teaching in the public schools and from being around children. A number of local ordinances were repealed in these campaigns. Currently, a new wave of anti-gay hysteria is sweeping the country. In 1992, in two states (Colorado and Oregon), voters were asked to amend their state constitutions so as to repeal the portions of sexual orientation laws that banned discrimination against lesbians, gay men and bisexuals; these constitutional amendments would also have prohibited any locality in the state from enacting such laws in the future. While the Oregon constitutional amendment was defeated (57%-43%), the Colorado constitutional amendment, known as Amendment 2, was enacted by the state's voters by a margin of 53%-47%. A lawsuit was immediately filed in Colorado and Amendment 2 was stopped by the courts from going into effect. That court case is now in the Colorado Supreme Court.

Notwithstanding the unconstitutionality of Amendment 2, anti-lesbian/gay ballot initiatives continue to be proposed by the radical right. In 1993, voters in Cincinnati, Ohio adopted such an amendment changing the city charter, while voters in Lewistown, Maine repealed a recently enacted law prohibiting discrimination on the basis of sexual orientation and voters in Portsmouth, New Hampshire registered their disapproval of such a provision. Similarly, nearly a dozen municipalities in Oregon have enacted laws barring non-discrimination protections for lesbians and gay men. As in Colorado, the courts have barred the Cincinnati law and most of the Oregon laws from taking effect.

These ballot initiatives demonstrate the tenuous nature of civil rights protections—enacted by local legislatures to protect minorities from majoritarian prejudice, civil rights laws are then prone to repeal through ballot initiatives by the very majority that the law is designed to protect against. These initiatives, which attempt to deny the opportunity to provide an equal playing field to minorities, deprive minority citizens of the equal protection of the laws and thus, not surprisingly, have met with disapproval by the courts. This dynamic between the proponents and opponents of civil rights protections for lesbians and gay men—law, repeal, lawsuit—is likely to continue throughout the decade, particularly as the radical right (as noted above) has switched its primary emphasis from abortion to gay rights.

While the courts have so far rejected attempts by the populace to deprive legislatures of the chance to pass gay rights protections, the courts have

note been as protective of other types of governmental discrimination against lesbians and gay men. In policing government actions that discriminate against gay people—for instance, the firing of a lesbian civil servant—courts have ruled that the Constitution generally prohibits the government from firing lesbians and gay men without first articulating some nexus between the worker's sexual orientation and his or her ability to do the job. This "nexus" requirement is also a part of the federal civil service regulations protecting federal employees. Yet, in practice, the nexus test has provided little protection for lesbians and gay men: the federal government has successfully prohibited lesbians and gay men from serving in the military, and from working for the FBI and CIA, and created extra burdens for lesbians and gay men who apply for security clearance. State and local governments are no better: often, they openly ban lesbians and gay men from holding jobs ranging from teaching to police work. Despite the nexus requirement and other constitutional standards, courts have with near and unique uniformity ruled that such government line drawing that discriminates against gay people does not offend the Constitution. In the cases referred to above, the courts have condoned the military's bias against lesbians and gay men as well as that of the FBI, CIA, Foreign Service, Defense Department Security Clearance office, and many school boards and police departments. Some recent lower court victories against the military are the exception, potentially an expanding exception. Nonetheless, the Constitution has been little more than a promise to lesbians and gay men.

Thus, in most areas of the United States, lesbians and gay men are not protected from the reach of criminal law in their homes, and they are left, in effect, legally naked if they choose to come out publicly. What's worse, in the smattering of states and municipalities with some protections against discrimination, highly visible hate campaigns are being waged to deprive lesbians and gay men of these hard fought civil rights. With such minimal legal protection—and often confronted by employers who frown upon them—gay people must constantly negotiate how open to be about their sexual orientation in all realms of their lives. (Next week: gay people and family law).

(William B. Rubenstein is the director of the Lesbian and Gay Rights Project of the ACLU. For more information about the Project or legal issues involving gay men and lesbians, write to: Lesbian and Gay Rights Project, American Civil Liberties Union, 132 West 43rd Street, New York, NY 10036. Entire contents of this article copyright 1994 by the author; published with permission).

Gulf Coast Center announces new HIV division

QUICK NOTES

(Galveston)—The Gulf Coast Center Recovery Programs has announced a new HIV Division, headed by Sandi Simon, HIV clinical specialist. Simon was formerly employed by the

AIDS Coalition of Coastal Texas Inc. for four years as services director and later as interim executive director.

The center received federal Ryan White Title II funding to provide case management services for HIV-positive adults who either have a history of alcohol/substance abuse or do not take

their medications as prescribed. Although it is not necessary for clients referred to this program to enroll in chemical dependency treatment, they will learn how specific drugs and alcohol may interact to hasten disease symptoms and decrease their opportunity for survival.

Services are provided by appointment in Galveston at 1721 Tremont (23rd); in Texas City at 6510 Memorial Drive and in Angleton at 2512 N. Velasco. For more information, call (409) 762-5945; (409) 935-0506 or (409) 849-2311.

One in four employees of major corporations now covered by non-discrimination policies

TRENDS WORTH TRACKING

Over 5.7 million, or one in four employees of Fortune 500 Service and Industrial Corporations are now protected by a written orientation non-discrimination policy, according to a census released by The Wall Street Project, a program of the Community Lesbian and Gay Rights Institute.

The national census found that 134 of the Fortune 500 Service and Industrial Corporations now have written several orientation policies-triple the number in 1990. Companies range from General Motors with 750,000 employees to Bay View Capital Corporation with 275 employees. Other firms with policies include such companies as Sears Roebuck, Walt Disney and Harley-Davidson.

Fields leading in non-discrimination included Financial, High Tech and Diversified Services representing 28 percent, 12 percent, and 12 percent respectively, although virtually every type of field was represented.

According to Diane Bratcher, co-chairperson of The Wall Street Project, "The number of companies now offering non-discrimination policies shows that real change has occurred in corporate America when it comes to giving gays and lesbians protection from unfair treatment. It is also important to note it is not just large corporations doing so. Smaller firms such as Trek Bicycle, Fidelity Federal Bank of Glendale, CA, and Johnson & Higgins have also joined the growing trend and adopted policies."

Bratcher continued, "It is also interesting to note that in the majority of cases employees asked for the policy and their request was granted. This proves that the time for employees to speak up on this issue has come."

Alan G. Hevesi, New York City's Comptroller, who oversees the city pension funds expressed strong support for the results of the Census. "The Wall Street Project has performed an important service by identifying an impressive list of Fortune 500 Service and Industrial companies that have written policies mandating equal treatment for employees regardless of their sexual orientation. All corporations should adopt similar policies."

Hevesi continued, "New York City pension funds want the companies in which we invest to choose employees from the widest possible talent pool. The pension funds have played a leading role in fighting discriminatory employment practices and will continue to do so. The work of The Wall Street Project will make that effort easier."

The census shows fairly even distribution of policies across the country with the exception of the South. When divided into regions of the Northeast, West, Midwest and

South companies with policies were distributed 43 percent, 30 percent, 22 percent and 5 percent respectively. "Change may be coming slower in the South," said Nick Curto, co-chairperson of The Wall Street Project, "but with Southern companies such as Knight-Ridder, Tandy, and Intergraph having policies in place, we feel it won't discriminate."

The Wall Street Project is a non-profit program committed to help educate Americans on the need to provide non-discrimination policies to gay and lesbian employees. It also seeks to inform corporations of the financial clout and investing power of gays, lesbians and their friends and family.

Many prominent members of the gay and lesbian community see the change in corporate employment policies as purely economic. Michael Goff, Editor of OUT Magazine, says, "This census handily proves that equality for gays and lesbians is good for the country and the economy. Unlike government, these Fortune 500 Service and Industrial companies change policies only for good business reasons. And clearly, they feel that providing these employment protections is good for business."

Citing The Gap and Levi Strauss, Bratcher sees many companies recognizing the buying power of gays, lesbians and their friends and families and taking aggressive advertising and marketing positions which are aimed at the community. "We want Americans to take these policies into consideration," insists Bratcher, "when purchasing and investing decisions are made. We urge consumers and investors alike to contact companies and ask them to adopt non-discrimination policies."

This type of support for non-discrimination policies was seen on a large scale recently when the New York City Employees Retirement System (NYCERS), one of the nation's largest institutional investors, took shareholder action to end anti-gay discrimination by Cracker Barrel Old Country Store, Inc., a company which made headlines for its firing of gay and lesbian employees. The NYCERS shareholder resolution was supported by the multi-billion dollar pension funds of the states of California, Minnesota, Connecticut, New York and New Jersey and TIAA-CREF, the largest institutional investor in the United States.

Curto commented, "We see more large scale support coming forward on this issue. As a matter of fact, NYCERS is keenly interested in results of The Wall Street Project's national census as are several socially responsible investment firms." Curto added, "However, today I am proud that we can say 25 percent of Americans in major corporations have been given basic human rights. We will continue to work towards the goal of 100 percent."



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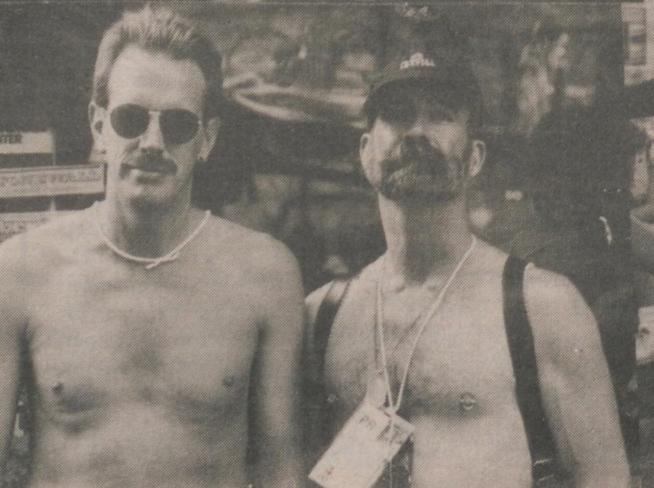
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Gay vets not allowed to march with banner in Maryland Fourth of July parade

CATONSVILLE, Md., Friday, June 24 (AP)—A gay veterans group prohibited for the past two years from marching in the Catonsville Fourth of July parade will not be allowed to march this year under its banner.

Two weeks after last year's event, the Gay and Lesbian Veterans of Maryland Inc. filed a parade permit application for July 4, 1994, for the noon to 5:00 p.m. time slot during which the parade normally is held.

"We were hoping to get the permit and then use it as a bargaining chip with the parade committee by agreeing to relinquish the time in return for participating in the parade," said Alan Stephens, spokesperson for the veterans group.

Instead, the county granted the Catonsville Celebrations Committee a permit for the afternoon and gave the gay veterans group a permit

to march in the morning of July 4.

"I thought by granting the veterans group a permit to hold a parade in the morning, I had found a positive solution and wouldn't have to say no to either group," said Eugene A. Freeman, chief of licenses and regulations services.

But the gay veterans group said it does not want to hold a separate parade.

"We feel that we are part of the community just like any other organization and should be included in the main parade," Stephens said. "Bottom line, if we weren't gays or lesbians, we wouldn't be having this problem."

The parade committee said the gay veterans can march, but without the organization's banner, which the committee says is a political statement.

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Bering Care Center's long time director honored at farewell reception

QUICK NOTES

Clients, friends, and supporters of the Bering Care Center know Lindy Huffman, who served as the center's director for over four years, for that rare combination of incredible energy, dedication and compassion that defines one who has truly earned the title of "service and care provider." Huffman, who stepped down from the position this week (June 30), was recently honored for her years service to the local AIDS/HIV day center and nutrition program at a luncheon and reception hosted by the Bering Community Service Foundation.

At the farewell party on June 17, Huffman was presented with a plaque by Jody Huckaby, executive director of the Bering Community Service Foundation, who noted her contributions to both the center and the community. Then, four BCC clients from diverse backgrounds shared stories of how Huffman's service and friendship had personally touched their lives.

Huffman joined the staff of Bering Care Center as a part-time kitchen and program coordinator in 1989, having previously served the center as a volunteer.

Movie Club Goes Weekly

The Movie Club, a recently formed lesbian/gay social group, has announced that due to "overwhelming response from the community," members have decided to hold its dinner-and-theater gatherings on a weekly basis. The gang now meets at a previously decided restaurant on Saturday nights around 7:00—8:00 p.m. to eat, get to know each other and socialize; later, they go together to view a recently released movie in the 9:00-10:00 p.m. range. There are no dues, but members pay for their own meal and movie ticket.

The club is also now forming another group, for those who like to would like to play card and board games together and socialize. Organizers say the meetings will include games like Skip Bo and poker and board games like Yazzi and Trivial Pursuit, and members are encouraged to bring their own "unusual" games for the group to play. This group meets every Friday at 7:30 p.m.

For more information on these groups and activities, call "Jimmy,



Jody Huckaby, left, presents plaque to Lindy Huffman at farewell party for the long time director of Bering Care Center

the Movie Watching Queen", at 952-4048.

Community Meetings And Events

TEXAS GAY VETERANS OF HOUSTON (the local chapter of Gay, Lesbian and Bisexual Veterans of America) will hold its next regular meeting on Tuesday, July 12. The group meets on the second Tuesday of each month at the VA Medical Center. For additional information, call Patrick McIlvain, 869-0982; Charles Moody, 650-6503 or James Grace, 649-8808.

THE MEN'S NETWORK of the Montrose Counseling Center presents a "no—holds barred" discussion of the reasons gay men are still having unsafe sex, July 20, 7:00 p.m. This discussion "isn't for prudes." The Men's Network meets the first and third Wednesday of each month at the Montrose Counseling Center, 701 Richmond Ave. For gay and bisexual men only.

DIZINGER FOUNDATION is offering free photography classes on Monday and Wednesday evenings,

5:30-7:30 p.m., beginning July 11, 1994 for people living with HIV/AIDS. Interested participants must attend an opening information session, Monday, July 11 at 5:30 p.m. Classes will be taught by Richard Hinson of the Houston Center for Photography and will concentrate on basic photography, offered free of charge by the Dizinger Foundation and materials will be provided. Participants will need a 35 mm basic camera. The classes, offered as part of the Dizinger Foundation's "Positive Power of Art" Program, will be held at the Foundation's offices, 3701 Montrose Boulevard. Enrollment is limited. To register, call 522-8660.

COMMUNITY GOSPEL CHURCH recently held a class concerning what the Bible says about who can be saved. The class was a tremendous success, according to church representatives, and because of the response, C.G.C. is making tapes available on audio cassette. The tape, titled "What the Bible Really Says" is a two hour study of the Bible, exploring various scriptures widely used to condemn gays. Free tapes and handouts are available at Community Gospel Church, 501 East 18th Street (at Columbia) in the Heights. All interested persons are welcome at the church's services at 11:00 a.m. and 7:00 p.m. Sundays, or 7:30 p.m. Thursdays.

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Life Today TV - Houston

(R) Ken Malone, Pres. of The Assistance Fund joins AIDS Talkshow Host, (center) Matt Locklin on Life Today TV. (L) Rick Perry, Pres. of Life Today, Inc.* presents a corporate support check for \$415.00 from Operation: Giveback, a program designed to bring in corporate donations to area nonprofit AIDS related groups.

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"When Rick Perry asked me what more the Life Today Financial Services team of professionals could do to help local and statewide AIDS nonprofit community, my reply was MONEY!!!", says Matt Locklin local AIDS advocate and Public Access Cable 17 Talk Show Host. "Every agency in town is underfunded and underexposed to the general public. I set out to gain the televised interviews to gain wide ranging public support and understanding with the Citizens. The Life Today, Inc.* Team went to work on making sure Houston support agencies received well deserved corporate donations through this referral program, that directly benefits the AIDS community.

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Order temporarily lifts most prohibitions on New Orleans gay relations

NEW ORLEANS, Thursday, June 23 (AP)—A court order issued Thursday temporarily prohibits enforcement of Louisiana's sodomy law in New Orleans, except for provisions barring sexual relations with homosexual prostitutes and animals.

"... this Court cannot imagine an individual activity more personally private and more deserving of constitutional privacy protection than non-commercial, consensual, private sexual behavior by adult human beings," Civil District Judge Michael G. Bagneris wrote in granting the preliminary injunction.

"It is unconscionable that a law prohibiting such behavior be viewed by any reasonable

mind as anything other than a violation of the constitutional right of privacy," Bagneris' order said.

Though the order now applies only to Orleans Parish, attorney John D. Rawls said he would ask later for the prohibition to be broadened to include prosecutors and law enforcement agencies statewide.

The suit brought by Rawls, nine other men and women, and Louisiana Gays and Lesbians Inc. has been assigned to Judge Bernette Johnson, who has not yet set a trial date.

John Keller, special counsel for Orleans Parish District Attorney Harry F. Connick, and state Attorney General Richard Ieyoub were not immediately available for comment on Bag-

neris' ruling.

The state could appeal the order to the state's 4th Circuit Court of Appeal, but "unless it is reversed on appeal or withdrawn, this will remain the law in Orleans Parish," Rawls said.

"The state has no business going into the bedroom if the only people there are consenting adults," Rawls said. "This is why I went to law school, to fight for individual freedoms, not just for lesbians and gays, but for everybody."

Bagneris said Rawls had shown that the statute's continued enforcement would have a "direct deleterious psychological effect on lesbians and gay men."

Bagneris further stated that "prohibition of all oral and

anal sex deprives lesbians and gay men of physical sexual intimacy that is essential for physically and mentally healthy people and for healthy relationships."

In earlier arguments, Bagneris asked Keller: "What public interest does the state have in regulating noncommercial, consensual sex by adults?"

"I can only speculate that when it was drafted it was what legislators considered orderly conduct should be," Keller said.

"That's what I thought. There really isn't a response to that," the judge said.

"That's my response, your honor," Keller said.

Keller's brief said the crime against nature law is the same as other public morals offenses

such as carnal knowledge of a juvenile, prostitution, pornography, pandering or obscenity—a contention that Rawls challenged.

"Obviously, the other offenses have something to do with the public fabric. Certainly protecting a juvenile from sex—since they cannot consent—protects the public fabric," Rawls said.

The other crimes all involve selling sex or sexual materials, he said.

Courts have ruled that although it is illegal to sell pornography, it is entirely legal to read it, Rawls said.

"I could read pornography ... but I could not enjoy gay sex in the privacy of my own home," he said.

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Misty Valdez returns to the Kon Tiki Club; Crabs run wild on the beach

GALVESTON SOAP

By **JOSH DAVIS**

Houston Voice/Galveston

Hidy ho gang! It's the voice of Galveston bringing you a little love, lots of laughs, and course, dirt! First things first, I need to clean the air (so to speak). A not-so-local girl actually had the nerve to accuse "yours truly" of being a "fictitious (sic) writer." She even went so far as to say "while the article is entertaining, Galveston is just too boring for all of those stories to have occurred in one summer." Well, first off girlfriend, while Galveston is not the Metropolis of Scandal she does have her moments, and besides you should never criticize someone with words that do not exist. "Fictitious," really! Do try to better verse in English next time ok? Second, while I have never claimed every story (lie, ooops!) I have brought to light has been gospel, I can assure you I don't need to resort to making up stories. I do admit, God has given me a certain flair for words and why you have live in Galveston as long as I have, you know when to be in the right place at the wrong time. Catch my drift? And if I didn't see it, I know a sister who did. Thought you knew! Well, now you do. Neeexxt!

This past weekend in Galveston was a

doozy! As the summer season progresses, the Island just seems to get more and more festive. Down at the dunes, there was lots to see, in and out of the water. Out of the water, there were boys everywhere lying around practically naked in the sand. (Gives ya goose pimples just thinking about it). In the water the sights were a tad bit comical what with everyone dodging crabs lurking just beneath the surface. (It's spawning season!) Probably the only thing more comical is watching a drag queen who wears a size 12 pump perform in a size 9.

The club scene this past weekend was quite a hoot. (If I don't say so myself). While none of the local bars were packed to the gills, the crowds were of an adequate size and the selection was quite nice. Being the connoisseur of trade that I am, I could not decide whether to have chicken fricassee or rooster flambe,' so I decided to have both! I can also report that Misty Valdez has returned to the Kon Tiki



Misty Valdez is back at the Kon Tiki

Club. Backstage, before the show, I got a chance to dig some dirt. Misty has informed me that Miss Cinnamon is NOT the new show director. In fact, she even went as far as to say the "Kon Tiki never had a show director and never will." How's that for a news flash. Nonetheless, Misty we're glad to your back! Miss Tommie Ross was back in town and she put on a fabulous performance again?

Across the street, Evo's hosted their monthly talent night with special guest Kitty Divino, Miss New Orleans 1994. I can report there were actually some new talents involved in this months lineup! Just a piece of advice though, Deva honey, you are too tall for that beaded dress! (The pen is truly mightier than the sword!) Oh, and here's a news flash, Jessica Lynn has turned in her resignation as hostess. Imagine that! Really girl, its not like your changing careers. Evo's is now looking for a suitable replacement. The only requirement is that you must weight less than 200 lbs. (Oooops!)

Now next weekend promises to be really

festive for the 4th of July. Over at the Kon Tiki, Miss Tiffany Arriagus is going to town courtesy of Mr. Jesse Garza and Garza Productions. I also hear Apollo with MIA is going to be there too. You remember Apollo, he's the ex LaBare dancer with really long schlong! (I know I do!) The 4th of July is also Ron Burgess's birthday. For those of you not in the know, Ron is the co-owner of the Kon Tiki! There's a big party planned with free food, so don't be shy. Not to be out done, Evolutions is holding a bash of their own. And for all the lovely lezzies out there, the show is to include 2 twin (Yes fish, I said twin) female dancers, Chachi, Mr. Gay USA, and Chance (a hunk from hell). You know I will be there with bells on! Down by the sea, Robert's Lafitte's is hosting their version of the 4th of July with your hostess with the mostess, Miss Buffie Galore and crew. The shows are to also include the talents of Miss Naomi Warwick, Robert the Mouth and another one of those hair-larious puppet shows. It promises to be an eye full, so plan to spend the fourth on the beach. Oh, and by the way, Power 104 will be hosting the fireworks this year at 29th and seawall. For more information or just a quick chat give me a ringy dingy on the tele (409) 763-4109. Until next week, "He who dies with the most toys, dies anyway!" See ya!

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ASK THE PASTOR



Rev. Janet Parker

Q: "Isn't the Bible full of discrepancies and errors? I have heard that the Bible is nothing more than a source of literature and good thought by which to live. Is the New Testament really reliable?"

A: Last week I began to review how historical literature is tested for reliability. The first test is the Bibliographical test. This determines that the text we now have is what was originally recorded. We found that the New Testament has more manuscript authority than any piece of literature. The second test, the Internal Evidence test, determines whether the written record is credible and to what extent. It was important to determine if the writer or witness was telling the truth. This was determined by the witness's nearness geographically and chronologically to the events recorded. Now let's look at what the writer's wrote about their accounts as found

in the New Testament.

In the Gospel of Luke, 1:1-3, we read: "Many have undertaken to draw up an account of the things that have been fulfilled among us, just as they were handed down to us by those who from the first were eyewitnesses and servants of the word. Therefore, since I myself have carefully investigated everything from the beginning, it seemed good also to me to write an orderly account for you, most excellent Theophilus, so that you may know the certainty of the things you have been taught."

In the second letter of Peter, II Peter 1:16, we read: "We did not follow cleverly invented stories when we told you about the power and coming of our Lord Jesus Christ, but we were eyewitnesses of his majesty."

In the first letter of John, I Jn 1:3, we read: "We proclaim to you what we have seen and heard, so that you also may have fellowship with us. And our fellowship is with God and God's Son, Jesus Christ."

In the Gospel of John, 19:35, we read: "The one who saw it has given testimony, and their testimony is true. They know that they tell the truth, and they testify so that you also may believe."

This closeness to the recorded accounts is an extremely effective means of certifying the accuracy of what is retained by a witness. The New Testament accounts of Christ were being circulated within the lifetimes of those alive at the time of his life. These people could certainly confirm or deny the accuracy of the accounts.

In the Book of Acts, written by Luke, he tells us about Paul who challenges the opposition to acknowledge that they, too, knew he was telling the truth. Acts 26:24-28 "At this point Festus interrupted Paul's defense. 'You are out of your mind, Paul!' he shouted. 'Your great learning is driving you insane.' 'I am not insane, most excellent Festus,' Paul replied. 'What I am saying is true and reasonable. The king is familiar with these things, and I can speak freely to him. I am convinced that none of this has escaped his notice, because it was not done in a corner.'"

Next week, let's finish this question by looking at the final test of reliability of the New Testament.

IF YOU HAVE ANY QUESTIONS AND WOULD LIKE TO HAVE THEM ADDRESSED BY REV. JANET PARKER, PLEASE WRITE TO: MARANATHA FELLOWSHIP MCC, P.O. BOX 667032, HOUSTON, TX

MSL wraps up great season as Recreational Division concludes play

SPORTS NEWS

The heat and humidity were once again relentless last Saturday and Sunday as the Montrose Softball League (MSL) concluded its Recreational Division.

The Recreational Division games got off to a rough start Saturday as the rain canceled the majority of games. Before the shower, Travel In Style defeated Rich's Prime by forfeit 7-0. Gentry also won by forfeit over BRB/Bowling. On Sunday, games were postponed until the afternoon so the field would have time to dry out. At 1:00 p.m., the action began with Gentry defeating J.R.'s 8-4. Then Ripcord's bats were as hot as the weather and came on late to defeat Gentry 17-10. Body Positive defeated Ripcord 7-6 in a close extra-innings game. Rich's Prime forfeited to J.R.'s 7-0. E.J.'s won by forfeit over BRB/Bowling 7-0, then lost to Travel in Style 13-4, who had just defeated BRB/Body Positive.

Congratulations to Greg and Travel In Style upon winning the Recreational Division! The Recreational Division final standings are Travel In Style 11-3; E.J.'s 9-4; Rich's Prime 8-6; BRB/Body Positive 7-6; Ripcord 5-8; J.R.'s 5-8; Gentry 5-9 and BRB/Bowling 4-10.

On Sunday, July 17, the Montrose Softball Awards Banquet will be held at Mesa Restaurant on W. Gray next to Birraporetti's from 4-6 p.m. A lavish buffet and cash bar are available for all those wishing to attend. Please RSVP your attendance by calling (713) 867-3913 no later than Thursday, July 14 at 5:00 p.m. Please leave your name and telephone number on the voice mail when responding.

This was a great year for MSL. We wish to thank all of the sponsors, participants, and non-playing members for their support throughout the year!

For information regarding the Montrose Softball League, please call (713) 867-3913.

Bowling Standings

Following are this week's standings in the Montrose gay bowling leagues:

First place in the Inner Loop Sunday Nite League is Sisters of Dorothy; second place, Lip Service and third place, Sunday Brunch. High Scratch Game of 269 and series of 681 was bowled by Brian Elley for the men. For the women, High Scratch Game of 199 was bowled by Andrea Black and series of 528 by Terry Shannon. For information on this league, call 522-9612.

The Thursday Nite Mixers report Penetrating your galaxy in first place, with the second place slot occupied by But UR Blanche UR, and Pat & Company is in third place. High scratch Game of 264 was bowled by Gardy Harvey and series of 641 by Tom O'Dell. For the women, Jeanne Blakeway the High Scratch Game of 201 and Terry Shannon bowled 533 series. for league information, call 432-7239.

In the Montrose Monday Nite Men's League, Ladies and the Tramp is in first place, followed by Alley trash in second and Itchy Kitty in third. High Scratch Game of 257 and series of 678 was bowled by Gardy Harvey. For more information, call 641-5424.

In first place in the Monday Nite Women's League is Electric Slide. Can't Bowl Straight is in second place and Maybe-Maybe Not is in third place. League information: 437-6218.

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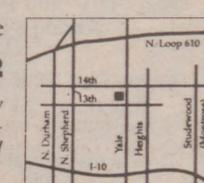
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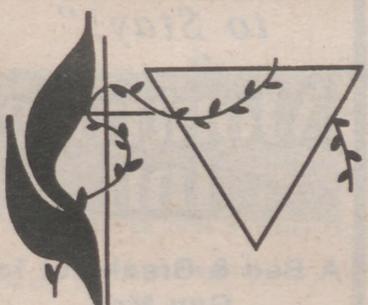
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Daniel Dyer stars in 'Divine' new one man show at Westheimer Art Bar

ENTERTAINMENT NOTES

Don R. Poston, Jr. is presenting the world premiere of a daring new one man show "Divine: Portrait Of A Sex Goddess," written and directed by Vaughn Monroe and starring Daniel Dyer as Divine.

The show will enjoy an open ended run, Fridays and Saturdays, Midnight, beginning July 8, 1994 at the Westheimer Art Bar and Theater, located at 1102 1/2 Westheimer.

Harris Glenn Milstead, better known as Divine, rose to fame playing outlandish female characters in the campy films of his high school friend, John Waters. The 300-pound actor best remembered for early Waters films including "Pink Flamingos," "Female Trouble," and "Polyester," died of a heart attack at the age of 42.

"Divine: Portrait Of A Sex Goddess" takes place backstage in Divine's dressing room, altering to the concert stage down front up-close and personal.

It is a work-in-progress that we are mounting into a tour across Texas and the U.W. with our sights on Off-Broadway. It explores the enigma that Divine and it's creator Glenn Milstead.

The show's creator Vaughn Monroe has been a performer in television, motion pictures, stage and stand-up since 1976. His stand-up routines have been enjoyed by audiences in Las Vegas, Houston, Dallas, Austin, San



Daniel Dyer stars as camp actor Divine in "Divine: Portrait of a Sex goddess"

Antonio, Lake Jackson and yes, even Lubbock. Houston theater goers may remember his well received performance as Serafina in "Arrivederci Pappa."

Not long after Divine's death, Monroe says he began wondering "who was this guy? This 'man behind the myth,' who was Glenn Milstead?"

"This spurred me into months of research, and through my correspondence an transcripts of personal interviews with John Waters, Lainie Kazan, Shaboom, Mink Stole and others, I was left with more questions than answers. For this reason, I have chosen to bill this as a work in progress."

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Maxo splash on a minnow budget: 'Go Fish,' go figure

FILM REVIEW/ INTERVIEW

By SHERI COHEN DARBONNE

Houston Voice Editor

It is 10:00 a.m. on a Tuesday, but it feels like the weekend...poolside at the Omni Hotel, where Rose Troche and Guinevere Turner, co-producers of the new, critically acclaimed and surprise "crossover" lesbian movie, "Go Fish," are greeting Houston interviewers. I'd seen "Fish" (which is scheduled to open commercially this Friday, July 1 in Houston and 39 other cities) the week before, and what instantly strikes me is seeing Turner—who stars as the ebullient Max in the film—out of character for the first time. There is little discernible difference.

According to Troche and Turner, they were as stunned as anyone to learn that their snappy, sexy almost "cute" little youthful yarn of girl-meets-girl under the watchful eye and deliberate manipulations of a well-meaning clique of out-dyke friends, is being touted as a potential crossover success story. They say "Go Fish" was designed to reach a specific lesbian audience, one she believes the majority of lesbian-themed films so far have not addressed.

"I hate the term Genera-

tion X," declares Troche, who has just marked the milestone of her 30th birthday. "But so many of the lesbian films that are made speak to an older group."

So director Troche and Turner, who's 26, decided to make the film they've never seen—an offbeat and campy young urban romance, shot in black and white with a heavy dose of MTV-docubyte style flip frame visuals and a backbeat of coffee house performance poetry...set in a world where sexual and social interaction dominates, and sexual orientation is almost beside the point.

It is this long overdue departure that makes "Go Fish" refreshing: unlike lesbian characters in films of the past, both the Hollywood attempts and most independent, insider efforts, the hip dykes in Troche and Turner's community view aren't struggling with the "trauma" of coming out or bringing someone else through the process. It's a "been there, done that" kind of thing, you know? No, the environment that's



Rose Troche, right, directs Guinevere Turner in "Go Fish." Troche and Turner, who stars as Max, co-produced the film, which opens in Houston Friday

assumed here is probably much more reflective of the real experiences of Troche and Turner and most of the people involved in the production...not to mention most of they're targeted, movie going lesbian audience.

The central characters in "Go Fish," Max, Kia, Ely, Ely and Daria, all range from about 25-35. They're a pretty politically correct handful of friends—a black college professor who is drawn as the most intellectual and most conservative of the bunch; her culturally mired Latina lover; a sassy, promiscuous and very un-PC bartender; a shy, plain homebody, cat lover and hippie holdover who can't let go of her long gone lover, and Turner's character, whom

the actress describes as "young and well intentioned but somewhat naive."

The basic story line is really sort of a fluffy fairy tale—there's an erotic subtext, but it is so innocuous and universal that one can hardly imagine the film's lesbian sexuality derailing gay men or heterosexuals from relating to the plot. It deals with the efforts of

Kia (the professor and Max's roommate), Ely (Kia's lover), Daria (the slut) and an ever changing cast of Daria's girlfriend-of-the-weeks to match Max, a self centered and somewhat obnoxious hip-hop princess whose real name is Camille, with shrinking violet Ely; how the two eventually do fall in love, and how the relationship transforms them, natch, for the better. If there is a theme, it's that romance can descend on anyone, by chance or by design ("The Girl Is Out There")...and that this is good, no matter how long it lasts.

There are several aspects, however, that make this project stand out, and the producers say they are intended. There are only three times in

the entire film that heterosexuality's existence and its impact on the lesbian universe is even implied. The first is a scene where Ely, who lives at home although she spends most of her time at Kia and Max's apartment, is outed by her vindictive ex-husband to her very Catholic mother, who kicks her out. Then, there is a surreal sequence (a dream?) in which Daria, after having casual sex with a man, is surrounded and grilled in trial-like fashion by a pack of PC-pure lesbians.

The latter scene is one of several serious sections scattered through the film, Troche's words, "abrupt and tossed in." The final scene in which the heterosexual frame of thought is touched on is another: Max's daydreaming reflections on commitment and marriage, and a fleeting pondering of the society-sanctioned security of that other life.

There are also silly scenes that border on parody, although Troche denies that was the intent. For example, after the remodeled Ely and Max make love for the first time, Ely literally skips and dances through the city streets, grinning and glowing; strangers congratulate her and offer her flowers.

(Continued on following page)

Bruce Hayes sets world masters record in 1,500 meter freestyle

NEW YORK, Friday, June 24 (AP)—Olympic gold medalist Bruce Hayes set a world masters record in the 1,500-meter freestyle Friday at the Gay

Games. Hayes swam the distance in 16 minutes, 21.25 seconds, breaking the mark of 17:05.25. The record, which

must be approved by United States Masters Swimming, is for a short-course metric pool in the 30-34 age group.

Hayes, who set a world mas-

ters record in the 800-meter freestyle last Saturday, has won six individual gold medals at the Gay Games.

Hayes won a gold medal in the

4x200-meter freestyle relay at the 1984 Summer Olympics in Los Angeles.

CURBSIDE by Robert Kirby

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The Rose Medical Center in Denver has put together a five-minute health assessment quiz for men, as well as short reports and resources on single fatherhood, choosing a doctor, quitting smoking, coping with stress, beginning an exercise program and preventing sports injuries. All documents are available through a computerized fax service (for touch tone phones only). From the Rose Medical Center men's health resource program. Hours: 24 hours a day.



Lesbian movie may be poised for crossover success

(Continued from previous page)

There is a running commentary on the unfolding events from a Greek chorus of Max and Ely's friends, who every so often put their heads together—literally—to discuss the potential couple's progress. In these scenes, the group is laying on the floor and the camera is shooting straight down at a pinwheel of four women's heads. It is one of the film's many uses of clever camera angles and artistic lighting that echo experimental, short film techniques.

"We wanted to make a feel-good, light romantic comedy that also dealt with some serious issues," says Troche, who adds that she freely and deliberately drew from her background in shorts for her first feature length effort.

"I felt I needed to continue these elements... If you're used to watching Hollywood films and independents that mimic them, it may be more difficult to follow."

The ethnically diverse casting was no accident, according to Troche, who says she was striving to depict more realistically the probable ethnic mix of the film's out, urban setting.

Troche and Turner originally set out to make a film "by, for and about lesbians." They started the project under the auspices of Troche's Can I Watch Pictures production company, got commitments from the cast members to stick with it as long as it took to finish the film and financed the project largely out of their own pockets, with money from their "day jobs."

"Our budget was very low...we're not going to say how low," says Turner.

Later, the pair realized the "lesbians only" concept might hinder the project's completion.

"It was a pressure we imposed on ourselves with our potentially politically correct audience in mind," says Troche. "We wanted to make sure we avoided as many PC traps as possible, yet we found ourselves trapped by that very thing. In the end, we had men on our crew, we took money from men, and it's still a lesbian film."

Assurances aside, the movie as a finished product emerged from a careful chronology of savvy compromises—including the abandonment of what Troche calls a striving for "lesbian purity" in

the production and process, in favor of the reaching the ultimate goal.

It worked. Troche contacted Christine Vachon ("Swoon," "Poison"), who agreed to executive produce the project. Vachon formed a production company with Tom Kalin, who became co-executive producer.

It was Vachon, as well, who asked Troche and Turner to come up with a catchy new name (the film was originally titled "Ely and Max"), and the one they settled on may well have factored into the success hook. Turner says they spent an evening playing around with tongue-in-cheek titles when they came up with "Go Fish."

More than a double entendre, the name as it relates to the themes of the film could have several meanings. The "fish" on its own is a loaded symbol in the lesbian community—the word has long been used as a slur against women in general, and in the separatist 70's it was appropriated by gay men to denigrate lesbians who dared to infiltrate "their" bars, parties and culture. But the reference to the movie could well be more to the old card

game, in which the goal is making matches. (The plot and often stated theme would certainly attest to this). Or, assuming a lesbian identifier, it could mark a population's re-claiming of a "negative" word, in the pattern of "queer," as an empowering one: "Go, Fish!"

With Vachon and Kalin's involvement, this little BW lesbian flick wound up at the prestigious Sundance Film Festival. There, it was snapped up by mainstream distributor The Samuel Goldwyn Company, amid other offers. Since the festival success and the sale to Goldwyn, Troche and Turner have also sparked the interest of the commercial film community as director and actress. Not bad for first film fallout.

As movies go, "Go Fish" is an entertaining romp for "Gen Thirteneers" bored with years of heterosexually-skewed Hollywood lesbian fantasy and politically charged, social conscience-saturated, angry or documentarian festival fare. The MTV hip-hop styling, however, might leave some dykes born over 13 years B.S. (Before Stonewall) muttering "I don't get it." Or, "I want my CNN."

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Comic Suzanne Westenhoefer has nothing in her closet but clothes

FEATURE PROFILE

By JOELLE YUNA
FOR THE HOUSTON VOICE

(Editor's note: In 1990, Suzanne Westenhoefer entered a comedy contest at Kelly's piano bar in New York, did a three minute routine and won. She had never appeared as a comic before.

Over the last three years, Westenhoefer, an "out" lesbian who uses her act as a vehicle

to challenge stereotypes and break down the barriers on stage, has played in major clubs and venues throughout the country. Popular with diverse audiences—Westenhoefer performs primarily in non-gay clubs)—her new show "Nothing In My Closet But Clothes," has received rave reviews throughout the country...and now, she has something else to brag about. She's the first openly lesbian comic to have her own show on HBO.

Westenhoefer stars in her own HBO comedy special, airing Thursday, July 14 at 11:00 p.m. and again on Tuesday, July 19 at 10:00 p.m. She's a familiar face in television comedy, having appeared previously on ABC's "Day One," "Evening at the Improv," Comedy Central's all-gay "Out There" and a host of other network and cable appearances. Recently, she won New York City's Outstanding Achievement Award for Comedy.

In this interview with Oakland-based freelance writer Joelle Yuna, Westenhoefer shares her perspective on being "out in the spotlight," coercing live and television audiences to become, through laughter, part of the conspiracy to change the world into a more open, mutually tolerant and better place to be).

JY: How did you get started in comedy?

SW: "I went to New York in 1983 to become a great Broadway actress, but I didn't even really try it. People said to me, 'You should do comedy, you're so sunny.' But I thought comedy wasn't



Suzanne Westenhoefer is the first out lesbian to star in a solo comedy special on HBO

for me at all. Then my ex-lover made me take a comedy class—where I refused to perform until finally the teacher said 'Maybe you would be more comfortable being a gay comic.' But I wanted to perform for straight people, too. So ignoring lots of good advice, I began doing gay comedy in straight clubs.

JY: So, how does your comedy career compare with your original ambition to be a great Broadway actress?

SW: "As much as I miss being on stage and acting, the best part of doing comedy is that I get to perform, and it's so honest.

JY: How did you first "come out" in public?

SW: "It was at an open-mike night at a cabaret owned by a gay women in the West Village. Since it was comedy night, the audience was mostly straight. Anyway, I walked out on the stage and said, 'Thank you all for coming out...so I guess I will, too...No, really, I mean it!' And I was out. The audience was surprised, but they loved it, and I even won the contest for the night."

JY: What kind of reaction do you usually receive as a gay performer in a straight club?

SW: "They're shocked. Shocked by the way I look. Shocked that I'm admitting I'm a lesbian. Shocked that I'm funny. You know, lesbians, we don't have a sense of humor. Lesbians, we all look like men. Lesbians, we all hate men—all those stereotypes. In one fell swoop-boom—they all fall away."

JY: What do you like best about playing to straight audiences?

SW: "Instead of seeing gays and lesbians as some generalization, I let them know someone specific who is gay; I make it personal. It is much harder to hate when they see me. It's harder for someone who actually knows a gay person to go out and beat one up. We have to let them know that gays can also be moms, dads, brothers, sisters, aunts, and uncles."

(Continued on following page)

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Virginia lesbian's mother appeals custody ruling

RICHMOND, Friday, June 24 (AP)—A decision awarding a lesbian custody of her 2-year-old son was appealed Friday to the Virginia Supreme Court, perhaps delaying the child's reunion with his mother.

A lawyer for Kay Bottoms, the boy's grandmother, filed the notice of appeal with the Virginia Court of Appeals, which on Tuesday had awarded custody of Tyler Doustou to

Sharon Bottoms.

The court of appeals order was scheduled to go to Henrico County Circuit Judge Buford Parsons for his signature 14 days after Tuesday's ruling. Parsons was the judge who upheld a juvenile court decision granting custody of Tyler to Kay Bottoms.

But Richard Ryder, attorney for the grandmother, said "the court of appeals mandate

will not be issued until the Supreme Court rules" in the case.

He said he could not predict whether the Supreme Court would agree to hear the case.

Neither Sharon Bottoms nor her lawyer, Donald Butler, immediately returned phone calls to The Associated Press.

"We do agree that the rule says the mandate cannot issue

until the state Supreme Court has decided the petition," said Stephen B. Pershing, legal director of the state American Civil Liberties Union. "But that doesn't mean we might not be able to have a court decide that Tyler should be with Sharon in the interim."

In March 1993, a Henrico County Juvenile and Domestic Relations Court judge granted custody of Tyler to his

grandmother. Parsons upheld the order in September, saying Sharon Bottoms was an unfit mother because she and her live-in lover violated the state's "crimes against nature" law.

The ruling was overturned by the state appeals court, which said illegal sexual conduct alone is insufficient reason to take a child from a parent.

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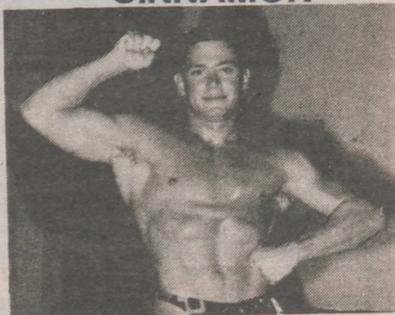
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SUPER SHOWTIME
FRIDAY • SATURDAY • SUNDAY



**TAYLOR KENNEDY
 MISTY VALDEZ
 CINNAMON**



BOOKING BY
*Garza
 Productions*

**MUSCLES
 IN ACTION**



**FROM MIAMI BEACH
 TIFFANY ARIEGAS**



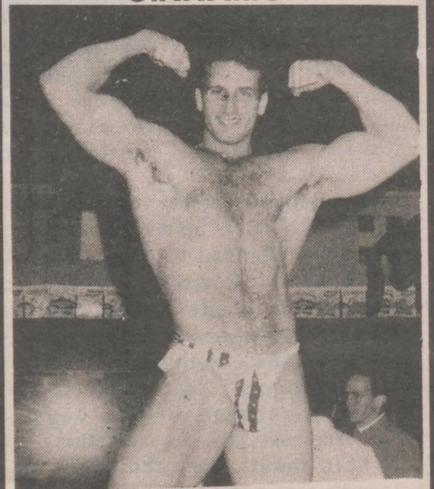
BOOKING BY
*Garza
 Productions*

**MUSCLES
 IN ACTION**

**MUSCLES
 IN ACTION**

**SUPER SHOW
 3 HOT MEN
 PLUS**

**MISTY VALDEZ
 CINNAMON**



**MUSCLES
 IN ACTION**

Lesbian comic: 'They think we're performing witchcraft and levitating cow guts'

(Continued from previous page)

JY: And then there's an opening to educate them, perhaps?

SW: "Yeah, I tell them that gay relationships are the same as hetero relationships. We fight about the same things like who left the cap off the toothpaste, who's gonna take out the garbage, who's gonna kill the bug. But most people don't think our relationships are equal. They think we're performing witchcraft and levitating cow guts. So many people are so misinformed and afraid of us. I want to be able to say the things I need to say in a way that everybody has a good time. Gay is normal; gay is fine!"

JY: Do you have a "straight-club" approach?"

SW: "No. I do the same act for a straight audience as I do for a

gay audience. I don't curse or say things which can give them an excuse to dislike me. At the same time I use the words dyke and queer to let them know that I am accepting of those labels. That makes the words useless as weapons against me.

JY: What are you most often asked in interviews?

SW: "That's easy: 'How does someone become homosexual?' And I answer that homosexuals are chosen first on talent, then the interview, and then the swimsuit and evening gown portion gets rid of the undesirables."

JY: How did being gay affect you as a child growing up?

SW: "By the time I was in 6th and 7th grade, I sensed that I was different and felt I was hiding some deep secret from everyone, which I now understand was probably my gayness."

JY: What is your family's reaction to your being gay?

SW: "I spend an incredible amount of time explaining my jokes to my mother... Actually, my relationship with my family is very good. I think my coming out was almost a relief to her because she knew that explained a lot of things: what I had been trying to hide and what I had been trying to run away from. When I came out, my whole personality changed. I was so happy and so normal and so-loving"

JY: Were you a funny child?

SW: "My mother has a reel-to-reel cassette of me at six or seven doing the entire 'Edith Ann' thing from Lily Tomlin on 'Laugh-In,' and my sister has tapes of me at eight just sitting around being silly with friends. I wanted to be a famous movie star from the time I was old enough to think, but I wanted to be famous funny

movie star, sort of a Carole Lombard or a Carol Burnett. I loved Susan Hayward. I loved Elizabeth Taylor, I love all those women, but I wanted to be funny."

JY: Do you feel as if you have a special responsibility because you are a gay comedian?

SW: "Yes, I do. I love performing for the gay community, but there's no message there. I want to get up in front of straight audiences and say, 'It's okay to be gay.' And I want to do it everywhere-on the Tonight Show, on my own sitcom, whatever."

JY: What have you learned as a direct result of performing in the past few years?

SW: "That comedy is my talent. And that I can say what I want to as long as it is said with lots of humor. I can make people laugh and still slip a message."

JY: What do you see ahead for Suzanne Westenhoefer?

SW: "I think there's a built-in curiosity about homosexuality that's going to work for me, which is great. I already taped an HBO Comedy Special (airing in July); it's the first HBO Special ever for an out lesbian. As soon as people realize that it's not a weird thing to be gay, they'll have some fun."

JY: Is it true your ambition to have your own television show which will be unabashedly gay-themed?

SW: "Yes, I want young lesbians and gays to turn on the t.v. and see someone who is one of them. I want to be a role model, a hero. Obviously, I can't speak for every one of us cause there are all kinds of gay people, and we represent every possible opinion, but for the general gay community, I want to be a voice."

Pope: Sex not 'taboo' subject for church

VATICAN CITY, Sunday, June 26 (AP)—Sex is not a "taboo" subject for the Roman Catholic church, but discussion must be free of birth control and only between married couples, Pope John Paul II said Sunday.

The address to the crowd in St.

Peter's Square was part of the pope's desire to amplify the Vatican's positions on morality and family-related issues before a U.N.-sponsored conference on population control in September.

The pope, who strongly opposes

the meeting, has focused most of his recent Sunday addresses on issues such as the importance of stable marriages and the church's ban on birth control.

The pontiff noted Sunday that sex plays a profound role in the lives of all humans and is held in

"grand esteem" by the church. But, he insisted, sex must not become "trivialized" by "free love," homosexuality and contraception.

"The church has been blamed at times for making sex taboo. The truth is very much the opposite

... sexuality constitutes a language to express love," the pope said.

The pope has led a Vatican campaign against some themes of the U.N. conference, including discussions on abortion and birth control methods.

Kathy and Mo Show extended at TheaterLaB, 'Phantom' AIDS fundraisers

ENTERTAINMENT NOTES

Due to ticket requests and sold-out performances, TheaterLaB Houston is extending the Houston premiere of *The Kathy and Mo Show: Parallel Lives* by Kathy Najimy and Mo Gaffney.

A recent Off Broadway hit, this delightful and biting comedy explores the plight of women and men in the 90's pandemonium when the two sexes try to get together for more than a drink. It has proved itself to be an equal hit with Houston audiences.

This production is directed by Ron Jones and features a cast of Deborah Hope and Dee Macaluso.

The extended run will be Fridays and Saturdays through July 23, 1994. There will not be performances on July 2 or 3. Curtain is 8:00 p.m. Ticket price is \$12 for all performances. Call (713) 868-7516 for reservations and information.

Theater Lab Houston is located at 1706 Alamo (Off 2100 Houston Ave.). The theater is disabled accessible, with secure, lighted parking.

Phantom at the Omni

Grant Norman, who stars as the Phantom in the Houston run of Andrew

Lloyd Weber's "Phantom of the Opera" will be the guest of honor at the kickoff party for AIDS Foundation Houston's "From All Walks of Life" walkathon. The cocktail party will be held in the Palm Court at the Omni Houston Hotel from 5:30 to 7:30 p.m. on Monday, July 11.

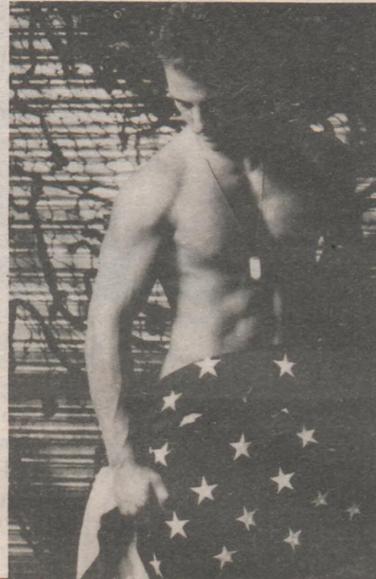
"Phantom at the Omni" is the first in a series of pre-walk events designed to promote contributions and community commitment to the 6th annual walk, run and roll-a-thon, scheduled for Sunday, Nov. 6 at 8:00 a.m. The Walk is the primary fund raising event for AIDS Foundation Houston.

Tickets to the Phantom party are \$20 and can be obtained by calling Linda Blount at the Omni, 871-8181. All proceeds will benefit "From All Walks of Life."

More Phantom Fund Raising

Cast members of "Phantom of the Opera" will also be featured in a separate AIDS fund raising event at Ovation, 2536 Times (in University Village), on Sunday, July 10. The cabaret style performance, which begins at 11:00 p.m. will benefit Broadway Cares/Equity Fights AIDS; admission, \$20.

FOURTH OF JULY WEEKEND SUNDAY



**MINE SHAFT
BEER BUST**
\$1 Buy-In • 25¢ a Cup
for Each Refill of
Miller Lite Draft Beer
4pm "Extended" until 2am

**MINE SHAFT
HAPPY HOUR**
\$1.75 Well
Drinks
Frozen Margaritas only \$1.75
4pm until 8pm

**\$1.75 Domestic
Longnecks**
All Day/All Night

HARDCORE DANCERS

From 10pm Male Dancers Hump, Pump and Flex until 2am
Hardcore Dancers... Hardcore Music... Hardcore Men

MONTROSE MINING COMPANY

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MONDAY • JULY 4th • BEER BUST
\$1 Buy in • 25¢ a cup • Miller Lite Draft
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HOUSTON VOICE PERSONALS

Our very own! All are REAL! All are CURRENT! All are from readers of the HOUSTON VOICE!



• To PLACE a Personal Ad by Phone:

First, before you call, write out your ad. Use up to six (6) words in a bold headline and up to fifty (50) words in regular type. Call us at Houston (713) 529-8490 or Nationwide (800) 729-8490. After you've read your ad to us, and we prepare it to go to print, we will give you an 800 toll-free telephone number, your personal 5-digit ad number and your secret 4-digit personal identification number (PIN). Call the 800 number using a touch-tone phone and follow the verbal instructions to record, in your actual voice, your ad. (Somewhere in the verbal ad, say what city you live in.) Cost is \$24.95 for up to a year. We will mail you a bill. You can change your ad as often as desired during the year, but you must call us every four weeks to keep your ad running.

• To PLACE a Personal Ad by Mail:

Write out your ad using up to six (6) words in a bold headline and up to fifty (50) words in regular type. Then mail it with your check for \$24.95 to the Houston Voice, 811 Westheimer, Suite 105, Houston, TX 77006. Please enclose your name, mailing address and telephone number where you can be reached during the daytime. We will mail back to you an 800 toll-free number, your personal 5-digit ad number and your secret 4-digit personal identification number (PIN). Call the 800 number and follow the verbal instructions to record, in your actual voice, your ad. You can change both your voice and written ad as often as desired but you must phone or write us every four (4) weeks to keep your ads running.

• To RESPOND to a Personal Ad by Phone:

Call 1-900-454-3576. Listen to the verbal instructions. A charge of \$1.49 per minute will appear on your telephone bill. You can respond verbally, leaving your name and phone number, to as many personal advertisers as you wish. You can browse through all the personal advertisers until you hear someone that interests you. As the individual advertisers periodically check their incoming verbal mailboxes, they will retrieve your response. Call (713) 529-8490 (Houston) or (800) 729-8490 (Nationwide) for more information about this service or to obtain information about a pre-paid toll-free answering account. You must be 18+ to use this service.

• To RESPOND to a Personal Ad by Mail:

Place your written response inside a blank sealed envelope and write the 5-digit ad number on the envelope. Place this envelope along with \$2.00 inside another envelope and mail to the Houston Voice Personals, 811 Westheimer, Suite 105, Houston, TX 77006. Your response will be forwarded to the advertiser the same day received by first class mail. You may mail multiple responses in the same envelope, but enclose \$2.00 for each response mailed. Responses received without fees will not be forwarded nor returned. Call (713) 529-8490 in Houston or (800) 729-8490 Nationwide for information about this service or to obtain information about a toll-free answering account. You must be 18+ to use this service.

• To RECEIVE Responses to Your Personal Ad:

We will forward to you daily, unopened, at no charge, all responses received by mail. To see if you have any verbal messages waiting, call the 800 toll-free number we gave you when you placed your ad. If the recording says you have verbal responses waiting, have your 5-digit code and secret 4-digit PIN handy and call 1-900-454-3576 to retrieve your verbal messages. A charge of \$1.49 a minute will appear on your phone bill. Call (713) 529-8490 in Houston or (800) 729-8490 Nationwide for information about this service or to obtain information about a toll-free answering account. You must be 18+ to use this service.

• ADDITIONAL REQUIREMENTS:

To take advantage of this \$24.95-per-year offer, you are required to participate in the "live voice" aspect of our Personal Ads by calling the special 800 toll-free number you will receive when you place your ad. You must record, in your own voice, your personal ad. If you do not participate in this "live voice aspect" your ad may be discontinued after the first week without reimbursement. If you do not desire to participate, you may instead purchase a personal ad at the rate of 55¢ per word weekly. Additionally all ads, both in print and voice should not contain references to sexual acts or organs. All ads should be "positive", that is describing only those people or traits desired. People or traits not desired should not be listed.

Pet Patrol auction raised over \$13,000; rockin' parties at Rich's, PS



Alvin Van Black with Del Fullen and Donna Sullivan at the Pet Patrol's auction

HOUSTON SOAP, PART 1

By CAROLYN LARSON

Houston Voice/Houston
Hello Houston!

If you thought you were going to be spared of my poison pen this week because of the heat wave, Sorry to disappoint you...I'm still dishing it out (No extra charge for the sweat!!)

Last Week

The threat of thunderstorms and the Rockets' final game could not keep over 450 people from attending the 5th Annual Pet Patrol Benefit held at the Black Labrador Restaurant. Over \$4,000 worth of pet food and supplies were donated at the door. The Celebrity Auction was a howling success. Over \$13,000 was raised making this the largest and most fruitful event in the history of the Pet Patrol. Congratulations to Chairperson Del Fullen and Co-chairs Randy Lamb and Donna Sullivan for a job well done! I can't wait to see how you are going to top this one for next year!!

Last Sunday at Gentry's, the Imperial Court raised \$319 for Coronation XI!

Rich's had two special birthday parties this weekend. They were rockin' Bubba McNeely and Simply Divine served SRO crowds cake, champagne, a buffet, and beads! Fun was had by all, especially Bubba "Girl, you're killing me" McNeely!!

The First Annual Ball Busters Ball at Pacific Street was a truly grand affair. The place was packed to the rafters with some of the hottest looking people I have ever seen!! I look forward to next year ball already!!

Weekend Parties

The Club is hosting a three day "Party by the Pool" starting on Saturday. The big blowout will be on Monday the 4th with a free buffet, free beverages, free sunshine, door prizes and men everywhere.

Thinking about spending the Fourth of July weekend in Galveston? The Kon Tiki Club in Galveston is having a "Get More Bang For Your Buck" weekend!! The Kon Tiki is offering Hot Men, Hot Music, Stiff Drinks, Ice Cold Longnecks and Hot Fun!! Garza Productions' "Men With Muscles" will be there all weekend long!!

Rich's will be all fireworks this weekend as the excitement returns with special guest Tribal Drummer Shaheen Shary. The fireworks start Saturday with Shaheen on the dance floor and the best in high energy dance. Then plan to Blow It Out on Sunday and "Dance to the Beat of a Different Drum"



New bar in Houston? Not...It's the Venture-N!

party with Shaheen plus "Tropic Sound" live on the patio and "Cool" surprises. Rich's is the place to be this 4th of July weekend!

Friday, July 1

Warm up your weekend at Pacific Street! No Cover 7:00 to 9:00 p.m. Tonight you can meet the contestants for Mr. Texas Drummer 94/95.

Male Strip Contest at E/J's with Paivi Lee Love. The clothes start to go at 11:00 p.m.

Saturday, July 2

Movie Matinee and Beer Bust at Mary's. 1:00 pm to 7:00 p.m. The buy in is \$3.50 and refills are only 2 bits!!

CUIR Magazine presents "Cuir Next Door Party" at Pacific Street! David Rhodes will have his camera ready to get your ASSETS in the cumming issues of CUIR Magazine! There is NO Cover for erotic leather attire and, as usual, a clothes check is available!!

The Ripcord celebrates our freedom with "Bare As You Dare" party tonight!! The guys of the Ripcord request you to be sure that you are street legal!

The Super Show at E/J's starts at 11:00 sharp. This week the delights of Brittany Paige, Nikki Collins, Vanessa Rae and special guest star Oprah De Marro will keep you entertained.

Free Burgers and such...at the 611 Hyde Park Pub. They only thing they ask is if you might make a donation to the Colt 45's Troublefund box! You will want to stay after the sun goes down to watch some of the hunkiest dancers in town strut their stuff. They take the stage from 9:00 pm to 1:00 a.m.

Today at 2:00 pm is a seminar hosted by Brotherhood of Pain (BOP) and Females in Search of Trouble (FIST). The topic is "SM and the Law." The speakers will be an local attorney, a retired police officer and several local leather folk. If you ever had legal questions about some of the kinky things you do this is the time to ask. They are asking a \$2 donation at the door. For further info call 528-2127

"To Friends and to Life" at the Wortham Theater is tonight. The Gay Men's Chorus of Houston invites you to their 15th annual concert. Tickets are available by calling 227-ARTS.

This morning from 10:00 a.m. to noon is the seminar on Accessing Medicare, Medicaid and Disability Benefits at the River Oaks Health Alliance. Learn how to wade thru the red tape!! Call 528-0144 for info.

Sunday, July 3

Mr. Texas Drummer Contest is tonight at Pacific Street! This is the preliminary contest to Mr. Gulf Coast Drummer. Special appearances by Scott Kennedy, of the Gay Freedom Comedy Jam Tour, and Calvin Buckley and Dean Walradt, both former Mr. Texas Drummers. The contest begins at 9:00 pm! There is still time to enter. Call Ken or Jay at Pacific Street 523-0213 before Saturday!!

Virgil Burke, Candidate for Mr. TGRA 1995 presents "Older Women Make Better Lovers... or do they!!" This show will feature Trixie Truckstopp (Bill Harvard...and we ALL know that he is really OLD), Tuna Melt (Chuck Cobb) and special younger guest stars!! The Show starts at 7:30 p.m.

Gerald Ennis, candidate for Mr. TGRA 1995 is sponsoring "Cracker of a Jam" at Gentry's. This will be a cookout with burgers, dogs and a sumptuous buffet of side dishes. The fire gets turned on at 4:00 p.m. Eat, drink and stick around for the show starring Houston City Limits. All proceeds benefit the Loving Arms Foundation.

Don't forget Mary's opens at 10:00 a.m. every Sunday. Brunch is served by the Wolf Pack!!

E/J's is having a special show tonight!! It is called "Let Freedom Ring." You won't want to miss Brittany Paige, Paivi Lee Love, Catia Lee Love, and Lana Blake as they celebrate the Fourth of July in style. The show starts at 8:00 p.m.

The 611 Hyde Park Pub has a brunch every Sunday! The menu changes every week! They open at noon!

This Sunday, the Venture-N is hosting a "Dinosaur Party." You see, a bunch of the OLD bartenders will guest tend behind the bar. They will also be showing "Rocky Horror" in memory of Sandy Purselly.

Heaven is proud to present a Star Spangled Sunday Super Show tonight. Direct from Los Angeles it's the Ultra HOT CHOCOLATE, who will be joined by Miss National Tandi Andrews and former Miss Gay Texas Lindsay Love. The show starts at 11:00 pm and is sure to be the hottest ticket in town.

The Montrose Mining Company is extending their Mine Shaft Beer Bust until 2:00 a.m.!! It starts at 4:00 pm and you can keep the refills coming for only a quarter, with a \$1 buy in!

Monday, July 4

Do you want a great place to watch the fireworks tonight? Midtowne Spa is having a Blow Out Celebration on the Roof!! Free BBQ, Beer, Beverages, Baked Chicken, Hors D'oeuvres,

and Door Prizes from 1:00 to 8:00 p.m. Stay on the roof to get a great view of the fireworks. A sizzling and spectacular show will start at 7:00 pm starring Playgirl Centerfold Chad Ulery and DPIC recording artist Tranae Chardon will emcee. This show is one not to be missed!!

Chill out at Gentry's with \$1.50 well drinks and longnecks until 8:00 p.m. The Boy Toy dancers will start bumping and grinding at 5:00 p.m.

Create your own fireworks at Mary's (naturally)!! Happy hours today are 7:00 a.m. to 1:00 pm and again from 5:00 to 9:00 pm!!

Boot, scoot and boogie down to the Brazos River Bottom for one hell of an Independence Day Buffet. BBQ Brisket, Sausage, Potato Salad and all the trimmings. The grill is smoking from 3:00 pm to 6:00 p.m.

Dennis and the Gang at the 611 Hyde Park Pub invite you to an afternoon hamburger cookout. Drop a couple of bucks or more in the Colt 45's Troublefund box is all you gotta do to get a "Beefy cake" hot off the grill.

Hal and Jim will be cooking up a storm at the Venture-N today. Their traditional YEAH!BUFFET! will start at 3:00 p.m. Along with dinner, the bar will show "Hair" and "Greater Tuna."

Heaven will be open tonight!! Doors open at 9:00 pm with DJ/VJ Steve Underwood spinning the best in dance music.

Jr's Bar and Grill has "Houston's Best Happy Hour" with five fabulous Frozen Drinks and \$1.50 Bud all night. There is also a "Best Buns" contest tonight at 11:00 p.m. What a great way to show off your tan lines!!

The Montrose Mining Company is having their famous MINE SHAFT Beer Bust Party today!! It is only \$1 buy in and 25 cents for a refill!! This special is on Miller Lite Draft. They will also have well drinks and domestic longnecks for only \$1.75. What a way to cool down on a hot day!

Tuesday, July 5

Lockers and video rooms are half price today at The Club!! It is a great way to beat the summer heat.

Tuesday * Cuervolyn * Cuervo * Cheap * Chilled * All Day * All Night * What do these things have in common?? Why it's Mary's (Naturally)!

It is week # 4 at E/J's for the Amateur Talent Contest. Brittany Paige is your MC. She is searching for different types of talent. If you would like to enter, contact 527-9071.

Check out the Montrose Mining Company's Mine Shaft Happy Hour. \$1.75 well drinks and frozen Margaritas every day from 4:00 pm to 8:00 p.m.

Wednesday, July 6

Enjoy Houston's Hottest Male Strip Contest at Gentry's, with Miss Dyan Michaels as your hostess with the mostess. Show starts at 10:30 p.m.

Hump day at Mary's means Happy Hour prices all day and all night!!

Hungry? Not a lot of extra cash? Want a hunk of beef? Head over to E/J's. Lucy heats up with the grill for steaks and all the trimmings for only \$5.50. Such a deal for a hot piece of beef "cake!!" Then, stick around for Karaoke night with Ray Wilkening. The songs start at 9:00 p.m.

White—Hot and Humping at Pacific Street tonight! Enjoy the sounds of Adrian and watch the Lazer Wizard do his stuff every Wednesday night!

Thursday, July 7

If your short on cash tonight, head over to The Club. Video rooms and lockers are half price.

The 611 Hyde Park Pub has Steak night tonight. For only \$5.00 you can get a cook to order steak, Baker all the way and a salad! Such a deal! The dinner bell chimes at 6:00 p.m.

Other Important Stuff

Monticello Entertainment, producers of "Positive Fitness," announces a new cable show for the lesbian and gay community of Houston, "Gay 90's." The executive producer, Alan Bourgeois, who had helped produce the Agora's show "OUT! in Houston," says that his new show will be in a news magazine format offering a variety of topics from local news and serious issues, such as HIV clinical testing, nutrition, book reviews, restaurant reviews and many other items of interest. The first show will have its premiere at Pacific Street on July 10, 8:00 p.m. The topic will be Town Meeting I, with the premiere and t-shirts sales proceeds benefiting Town Meeting II. The show will then air regularly starting in July on Public Access. The producers are adding new talent both behind the scenes and in front of the camera to give people a chance at refining their various skills. If anyone is interested please call Alan Bourgeois at 949-3119.

(Continued on following page)



Bon Voyage to Beau and Rick of the BRB



So, Lee, this is the "Lady of the House!!!"

More important stuff, coming events and this week's best dirt

HOUSTON SOAP, PART 2

(continued from previous page)

Midtowne Spa wants to make sure that everyone knows that they will honor competitors' memberships!! So cum early and play late!!

Keep in touch with VOX, voice mail for only pennies per day!! Prices start at \$4.95 per month. They offer a private local number, message forwarding, and several other options that will keep you in touch!! Call 440-9884 or see advertisement in this paper for more details!

If you are looking for work as a bartender or barback, go by or call Mary's!!

Help to make your dreams come true!! Call Life Today at 977-5433. They can get immediate cash from your life insurance company!!

"Christmas in July" is just around the corner. Be sure to get an invitation. This year the fun will be at Rich's!

I hear that a new Exotic Male Tanning Salon has opened in Houston. It is called "Come-N-Tan." They cater to gay and bisexual men. Call 868-3811 for further info and directions.

Hate Crimes Hot Line: 526-9615

ACT UP meets at 7:30 pm on the second and fourth Thursday of the month, at 3400 Montrose Suite 520. For further info call 523-9199

People Exchanging Power (PEP) info line is 787-9586. They meet every the 1st and 3rd Wednesday of the month at the River Cafe.

Free Referrals for people living with HIV/AIDS 902-2231.

National Leather Association info line is 434-2417.

There is a new place in town to go 24 hours a day!! The Triangle Bar and Grill is at 4200 Southwest Freeway (at Wesleyan). The bar is open until 2:00 a.m. with a happy hour buffet every day. They offer a Sunday special, a \$1 Mimosa drink special. They also have breakfast and lunch buffet that is quite tasty.

There is good news for Vodka Drinkers! A new Vodka that has just entered the scene is



Hey guy—want to come and join us?

getting rave reviews from coast to coast. It is SKYY Vodka and not only is it the best tasting Vodka that will ever pass through your lips, it is hang over free!! If you don't believe this, head over to J.R.'s and try one. On Friday's, Skyy Vodka cocktails are only \$3.75 all night long, along with those great new frozen drinks and five flavors of non-alcoholic bottled waters. With all the drink specials and seven (yes 7) gorgeous male dancers, it is no wonder J.R.'s is SRO every Friday night!

The Upper Deck Guest House on South Padre Island has been remodeled. The 15 room paradise is only 500 feet from the Gulf of Mexico! Next time you and your "sweetie" need a weekend getaway, call and reserve a room. They offer a 2 for 2 deal of \$125 for 2 people for 2 nights!!

Theater Info

Starting July 8 at The Westheimer Art Bar and Theater is an outrageous new one man show written by Vaughn Monroe! Don R. Poston Jr. presents Daniel Dryer as "Divine, Portrait of a Sex Goddess"! Tickets are available by calling 523-7217.

THEATER LaB HOUSTON is proud to announce that they have extended "The Kathy & Mo Show" until July 23rd. This is great comedy!! Call 868-7516 for info and tickets.

CURTAINS Theater presents MoonRiver Productions' "Having It All," featuring Michelle Britton. This is written and directed by Dan Barclay. The show will run June 19 thru July 31. Ticket info by calling 461-8394



Carol and friends at J.R.'s

Opening July 1 at the River Oaks 3 is "GO fish." The hot lesbian ticket of the year. I have already seen this one!! I found the story line quite invigorating and it "got me to thinkin"! Call 524-2175 for show times!

Coming Up

If you would like to have something mentioned in this area, please call 529-8490 or Fax 529-9531 as soon as possible!!

July 8 * Mr. Gay Houston contest at the BRB at 7:30 p.m.

July 9 * TGRA Car Wash on Gentry's parking lot from 10:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.

July 9 * Miss Camp America has reserved the Tower Theater for a Pre Pageant Party!! There is NO admission fee. Lots of entertainment, a raffle and other goodies.

July 9 * Mr. Gulf Coast Drummer Contest in Dallas! Good Luck to Mr. Don Gill and Mr. Calvin Buckley!!

July 10 * Screening of "Gay 90's" at 710 Pacific Street 8:00 p.m.

July 10 * Miss Tiffany Ariegus direct from Miami's South Beach at Heaven.

July 10 * The Imperial Court presents "Just Watch My Lips" at Gentry's at 9:00 p.m.

July 15 * Silver Dolphins 5th Anniversary

July 16 * Estate Planning for the Terminally Ill at the River Oaks Health Alliance. Call 528-0144 for info.

July 17 * Hot Tropical Afternoon III. Call 498-1234 for info.

July 24 * Christmas in July Carnival at the Brazos

River Bottom. Call Chris Severson at 526-4392 for info and to reserve a booth.

July 30 * Viatical Settlement Seminar at the River Oaks Health Alliance. Call 528-0144 for info.

July 31 * Denim Party at the Brazos River Bottom.

August 12 * Sundance Cattle Company Anniversary Weekend.

August 15 * Gay Night at the Laff Stop.

August 19 * Bay Area L & L "Hot Tuna 94" in Corpus Christi.

Dirt, Dirt

Well, it is that time again! I checked into the "Betty Ford" for most of the weekend, so I don't have my usual abundance of trash to print!! The usual disclaimer is in force.. Lies, Gossip, anything I feel like making up, and bathroom wall material is what is to follow!!:

David (Gentry): How many guys rubbed your "Rabbit's Foot" during the Rockets Championship game? And how did it grow from 3 inches to 8 inches so many times in one night?

Lee (Leather Forever): Correction: Those were not panty hose by my car, it was a grease rag a mechanic left when he was using his piston to adjust my valve! Love, Lee (you see, Lee made a special trip to my office and handed me the above note... and yes there was a grease rag, a red one, on the right side of his car, but there was ALSO panty hose!! When I confronted him with this info, he claimed that the panty hose belonged to the "Lady of his House.." Well, that "Lady" had four very short legs and the above said panty hose would not fit her.) *(I better watch it here, I am the only real female that lives at our apartments!!)

Clifford (d'Artagnan) is looking for a chess partner! Call me at the office and I'll forward your number!! He is a little shy about publishing his number in the paper. (Honey, that is the first time Clifford has ever been shy!!)

Nelly Kelly (Pot Pie): How come it looks like your crow's feet have turned into elephant tracks? You certainly can't go hubby shopping



Dwight shows it's easy to stay cool this summer

looking like that! May I recommend an egg white mask to tighten up!!

Armand (Ripcord): I just found out that you're a record holder!! (If you remember a bar called the Silver Bullet and the "infamous" tree stump, then you know what I am referring to, if you don't know, go to the Ripcord and ask him!! He will be more than pleased to tell you just HOW much he can take!!)

Who has been "seeping" at the new Miss Kitty's?

Phoebe (Sundance) What is this I hear about you having to have someone pry your "crab legs" open? I am also curious about whose slippery butter fingers you have been licking on?

Don (The Schnauzer): So did you have fun playing with the girls at the Ranch this weekend?? I can't wait to hear the gossip on this story!!

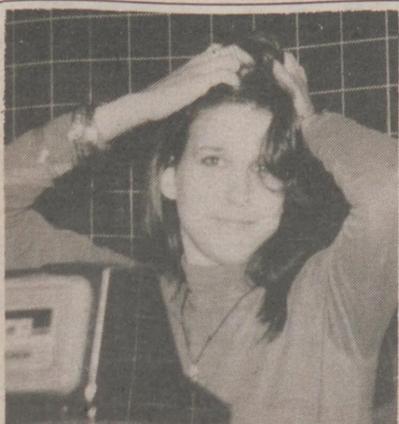
Jay Allen (PS): Why do you call your boat the "Betty Ford"? I guess when you spend most of your time in a bar it makes sense!! Thanks for inviting the Lazer Wizard and I for a little R&R!! We needed it!!

Meg (Mary's): I took a picture of you in your "Stonewall Drag..." Honey, you make an "Ugly Drag Queen" or at least that is what my camera said... the picture broke my camera!!

I have had several reports from friends that went to New York for the Gay Games and for the Stonewall March!! All are saying it was one of the most important things they have ever done in their lives. Our own Tad was there, and hopefully will have a report by this printing!! It was nice to see that here in our own fair city, a picture of the mile long rainbow flag was on the front page of one of our major local papers!! I am pleased with the media coverage of all the happenings around town and the country. Keep in mind that in the past three weeks or so, there have been several "major" news stories breaking besides our own parade, Stonewall 25 the Gay Games!!!

Well, kids, it is almost Cuervo time!! TTFN!!

Cuervolyn



Jennifer guards the door at Heaven



Gentry's softball team clowning around

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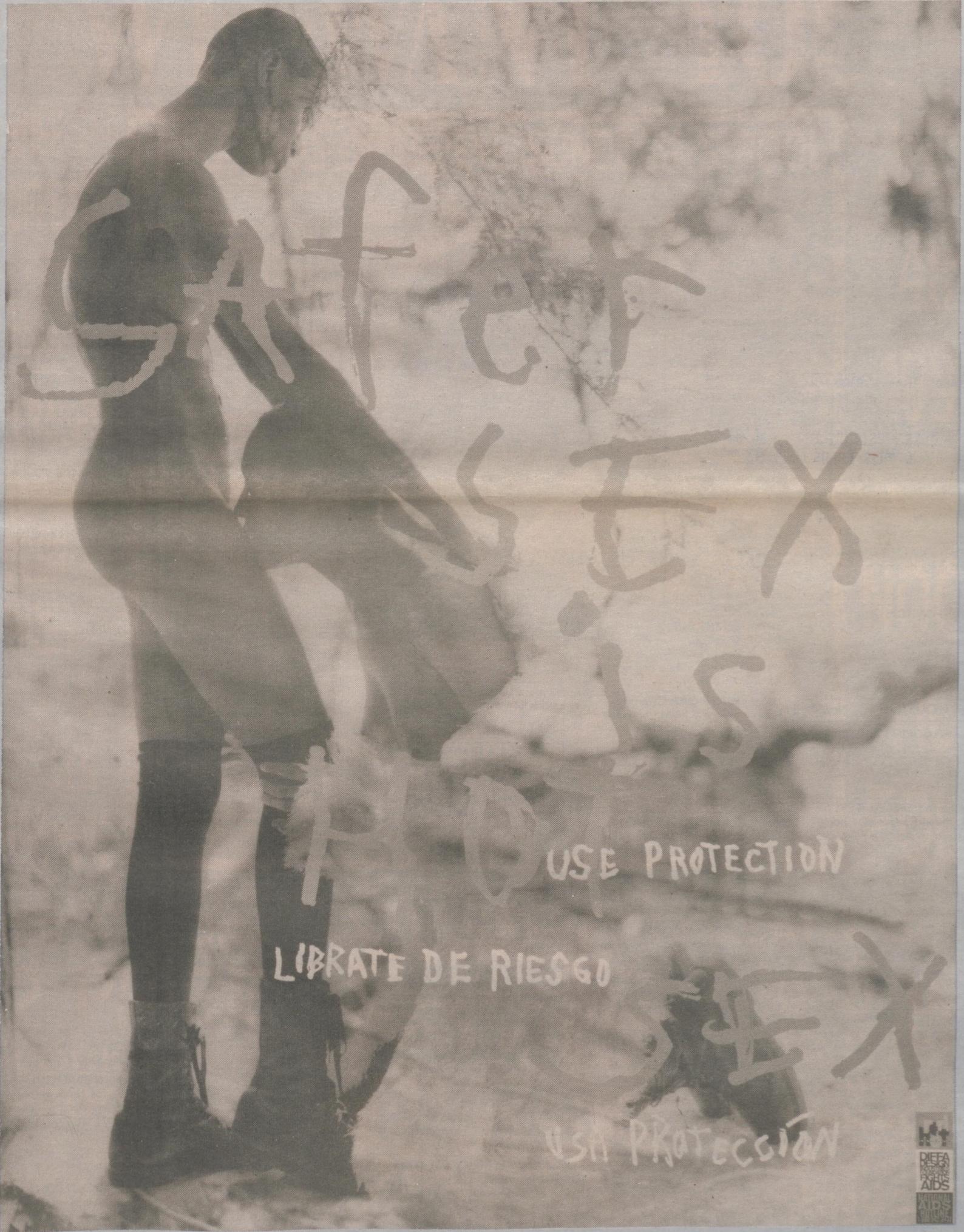
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Austin CAN BUY ME LOVE:

6', stach, nice tan body seeks a Hispanic or black male for good times. Wealthy a plus. #31216

Austin **SUMMER FUN:** 26 yr. old GWM, into playing out in the sun, seeks somebody, tall and mature and about 20-35 yrs. old. I am interested in starting a relationship with the right guy. #31570

Austin **THE NEW GUY:** Attractive, young professional seeks a 18-24 yr. old male for friendship and more. I am new to the area. #31683

Austin **KICK BACK:** 24 yr. old GHM, 5'8", laid back, looking for others to share in common interests. #31884

Austin **GOOD CHASSIS:** 18 yr. old GWM seeks a long term relationship with a BTM, 18-23 yrs. old. Nice body a plus. #32121

Austin **HARDER THAN ALGEBRA:** GM, 32, 6'1", seeks a Hispanic or white male, 27-39 yrs. old for fun times. #32210

Austin **CURIOUS GEORGE:** College student, 18, Hispanic and at the curious stage. I like dancing and going out. #32264

Austin **WHAT EXACTLY DO YOU HAVE IN MIND:** 29 yr. old white professional, gay curious, 6'2", looking for clean safe exotic fun with a 35 yr. old male or TV who will show me the ropes. #12376

Austin **NO MIND BENDERS:** GWM, 33, 5'8" seeks a gay Hispanic male for a friendship and maybe more. You are honest and not into head games. #14914

Austin **TWO ON TOP:** GBM, 5'11", in good shape, TP, looking for a TP GWM or GHM for great times. #21994

San Antonio **USDA CHOICE:** 18 yr. old, 5'8", Blk/Brn, GWM seeks others about the same age for fun, fun, fun. #27791

Meet HOUSTON Men Now!

San Antonio **LOOKING FOR LOVE:** 23 yr. old GM, interested in meeting a white or Hispanic male 23-33 yrs. old who is interested in a friendship and possibly a relationship #31351

San Antonio **MY SPECIAL GUY:** 5'7", Blk/Brn, interested in movies, dancing, art, seeks that special fellow for a special relationship. You are 25-35 yrs. old. #30855

San Antonio **THE START OF SOMETHING GOOD :** 5'7" GM, into just about everything, looking for a guy 25-35 yrs. old and maybe ready to start a relationship. #30855

San Antonio **LOOKING FOR A CERTAIN PERSON:** You are 5'6", long hair, and beautiful. If this is you, here I am. #31697

San Antonio **YOUR SERVE:** 32 yr. old Hispanic male into tennis and swimming looking for others interested in similar activities. #31756

San Antonio **ENTER AT NO RISK:** 5'7" GM, Blk/Brn, interested in music and dancing seeks guys 25-35 yrs. old for fun times. #30855

San Antonio **RED HOT CHILLI PEPPER:** Looking for Hispanic males 18-25 yrs. old for good times. #32008

San Antonio **NO SHIRT, NO DRESS, NO SHOES, SERVICE:** Richard, seeks CD's who want to be taken care of. I will be honest and true to you. #32246

San Antonio **JUST PASSING THROUGH:** Steve, I will be visiting the area in a couple of weeks and am trying to line up some fun things to do with fun people. #32266

San Antonio **SERVICE STATION:** Looking for well endowed TP's for servicing. You are masc and in good shape. #32273

Houston **HOLA PEPE:** 5'8", med, Bln, hair, 28, into dancing and movies seeks a young Hispanic male who would be like a little brother to me. #31223

Houston **OUTGOING FOR GOING OUT:** Just moved here. I am 24 yrs. old, 5'5" and am looking for some new friends who are outgoing. #31275

Houston **DOUBLE YOUR PLEASURE:** GW couple, slender, 6'1" and 6'1", looking for someone to swap videos and pictures with. #31512

Houston **BACK DRAFT:** 5'7", black male, professional, looking for a professional in his 30's to 40's who is down to earth. Fireman and policeman a plus. #30545

Houston **NOT-SO-TINY TIM:** 22 yr. old GWM, 5'8", looking for chubby white guys. Hairy a plus. Age unimportant. #31664

Houston **MOUNT UP:** WM, 6'2", Bln/Blu, interested in a 20-25 yr. old White of Hispanic male. You must know something about horses because I own a horse ranch. #31706

Houston **ONCE YOU GO BLACK....:** Black male, 6'2", handsome love to do go out and dance. I am very interesting. #31803

Houston **IN THROUGH THE OUT DOOR:** GWM, 30, 5'9", looking for other GWM, smooth, under 25, under 5'9" for a long term relationship. #31828

Houston **MUCHACHO:** Clean cut Hispanic male, 5'4" looking for a white male over 6". If you are looking for a relationship, I'm your man. #8210

Houston **RAY IS READY:** 28, GWM, seeking white, Asian, or Hispanic males 21-29 yrs. old. I like sports and travel and enjoying life. #32085

Houston **SHOPPING FOR A TV:** Looking for TV or TS. I just got out of a marriage and want to fulfill a long time dream. #32333

Houston **SOUTH OF THE BOARDER:** Clean cut Hispanic male looking for a white male over 6' with Bln/Blu. #8210

Houston **TOP IN MY CLASS:** 5'10" TP, well built looking for attractive men. If this is you call. #29716

Houston **TAILS, YOU WIN:** Good looking GBM, new to the area looking for a GWM, good looking who is around 25 yrs. old. #29926

Houston **OUT OF THE PAN, INTO THE FIRE:** 41 yr. old just coming out of a relationship looking to jump back into another. Looking for younger guys in their 20's. #29980

Houston **HAIR I AM!:** 39 yr. old GWM, 5'10", beard and stach and hairy, very romantic seeks a GWM 25-35 yrs. old. Hairy body a plus. #20146

Houston **RIDE 'EM COWBOY:** 27 yr. old GWM seeks a country type of similar age. #29872

Houston **I'VE BEEN A NAUGHTY BOY:** GWM, 6', stach, 36, seeking men

interested in spankings and being disciplined. #30258

Houston **SLEEP ON IT:** 29 yr. old GBM, 6'1", seeks very attractive black, Latin or Italian male for a discreet relationship. #30353

Houston **YOU NAME IT:** 31 yr. old GWM, 6'1" seeks very Hispanic and masc male 18-25 yrs. old for fun and whatever. #30448

Houston **WANTED:** Aggressive TP. I am 41 yr. old white male new to the area. #30674

Houston **I'LL SHOW YOU MINE:** 6'2" GM seeks bi curious males into working out and showing off. #30682

Houston **PICK UP AND DIAL:** 5'7" Bln/Blu, GM seeks guys 25-40 yrs. old for a good time. #30700

Houston **MUSCLES ON MUSCLES:** 40 yr. old GBM seeks friendships with macho

San Antonio **CLOSE ENCOUNTERS OF THE DAY KIND:** Day time encounters only; very non committal; I am a 6'1" Bln/Green Swede with good build. #29496

San Antonio **SKY'S THE LIMIT:** Music and movie lover; Everybody likes me and you will too. #29505

Austin **GO OUT FOR A PASS:** 5'5", 140, into workouts. Hispanic guy with a well-defined body and red hair seeks a receiver. #28713

Austin **LIKE A FENCEPOST:** 24 yr old GWM, 6', slender guy seeks a similar partner. #28745

Austin **NO BARFLIES ALLOWED:** Seeking quality, athletic, GWMs who are masculine. I am a 5'9", 165, handsome Hispanic guy. I am the frat-type all-american. #28825

Austin **BEEFCAKE:** 5'9" 165lb. GM with a beautiful smile who enjoys outdoors. Looking for a 25-35 yr. old beautiful, smooth-skinned man. #26627

Austin **GREAT BALLS OF FIRE:** 40 yrs. old drk. red hair professional. Love animals with a wide variety of interests. Looking for GWM professional for friendship and more. #29298

Austin **PROFESSIONAL:** 38 yr. old seeks a guy around his age. Please be professional and not into games. I like quiet evenings, hip-pie hollow, and partying. #28703

Houston **DEEP IN THE HEART OF TEXAS:** 32, 6', 185. Seeking an Hispanic or Anglo guy for fun and friendship. #27142

Houston **SHOWER ME:** 21 yr old Latin guy, 5'11", 160, clean cut. I am cute and like cats, music. Seeking a daddy who would like to dance and go to the movies. #27585

Houston **PEDAL PUSHER:** 5'8", 150, blonde and blue. Seeking a guy who likes to ride bikes and workouts. Hry chest A+. #27458

Houston **I'M READY TO GIVE IT A GO:** 18 yr old WM, bi-curious seeks Mr. Right. Any race is OK. #27726

Houston **VERY CULTURED:** Seeking friends to share some action. French, Greek and groups. Call if interested. #27582

Houston **NORTH SIDE:** I am seeking any and all yng guys. Any race is OK. I aim to please. #27644

Houston **BLACK AT YA:** 6'2", brn hair, grn eyes and a stache. I love sports and having a GOOD time. Seeking a good looking, in-shape black male. Call me at home. #27860

Houston **THE RIGHT KEY:** College sophomore, violinist seeks a music lover. I love dancing and the quiet stuff. I hope to meet a special friend. #27917

Houston **I'VE BEEN BAD:** Seeking older WMs who are great administrators. #27819

Houston **CHOCOHOLIC:** Chocolate sought by 32 yr old Hispanic. Please 24-34 yrs old. #28304

Austin **WELL BUILT:** I am a gym rat, masculine and smooth. 5'9", grn/brn. I am sane and healthy and seeking a guy who can handle me. I have varied interests from music to the outdoors. #26627

Austin **YOUNG FUN:** 18 yr old, 5'10", brn/brn. Seeking an athletic guy into bikes, dancing and the clubs. #26836

Austin **BIG BROTHER:** 35 yr old WM top seeks smooth, slim guys. #26901

Austin **WHEN IN ROME:** I am 5'11", 170, brn/brn, rough top. #26919

Austin **NORTHEAST:** Blonde Swede, 6'1", muscular seeks guys for daytime fun. Black/Hispanic/Anglo preferred. #27006

Austin **STRIP POKER:** Cute GWM seeks others for Truth or Dare. #27054

Austin **COME ON OVER, BOYS!:** Seeking young Anglos, 18-30. Must like the outdoors, BBQs and music. I live on a ranch and would love to have you over. #27243

Austin **TRIP THE LIGHT FANTASTIC:** 26 yr old is fresh to town. 6'2", 185, brn/bru. I am seeking new friends for fun times. I love dancing and going out. #27259

Austin **THE BEST OF TIMES:** 25 yr old seeks guys for a really good time. I am in shape, 6'1", 175, and lean. No strings meetings with this top. #26861

Austin **LOVE, BRUCE:** 32, Blonde; Looking for fun guys, going to clubs; looking for guys with similar interests #28110

Austin **DIVE RIGHT IN:** Blonde hair, blue eyes; like swimming 5'9". Looking for friendships. #28126

Austin **GHM:** 28, 5'8". Great bodied BTM with a dynamite tan seeks an older top who appreciates good legs. #28080

Corpus Christi **SOUTH SIDE:** 32 yr old guy seeks a yng man for a meaningful relationship. #28272

San Antonio **TALLER THE BETTER:** 25 yr old blk male, 6'3", 200. Seeking a WM, 20-30, tall A+. #26885

San Antonio **IT'S YOUR SERVICE:** Asian male, 31, 5'10", 160. Into movies, tennis and friendship. Seeking a blk male, 25-35, who is stable. #26997

San Antonio **FLEX-ABLE:** GHM, 30, 5'6", muscular. I am into jogging and am sexy and romantic. I am monogamous and seek an attractive guy, 20-40. #27193

San Antonio **YEE HAW:** Bi-WM, seeks a guy, 25-40. Hispanic cowboy A+. Hoping for a special relationship. #27627

San Antonio **I NEED A TOWEL:** Hot Latin stud with lots of muscle seeks guy under 25 who are good looking and ready for brief and swty encounters. #27735

San Antonio **WITH THE LIGHTS OUT:** 18 yr old, 5'8", blk hair seeks masc guys near his age. #27791

San Antonio **DO YOU WANNA DANCE?:** 27 yr old, overweight Hispanic seeks a guy, 18-30, to get wild at the clubs with. Please be a WM or Hispanic. Come see me at talent night. (I'll be the one with the dozen carnations at the Wild Club.) #27785

San Antonio **TOP GUNS WANTED:** 20 yr old, 6'3", seeks a GM for friendship and maybe more. Tops only pls. #28195

TX **SMALL TOWN BLUES:** These people have peas for brains! 6', green eyes, 46" chest. I am very attractive and masculine. I love horse back riding. #27534

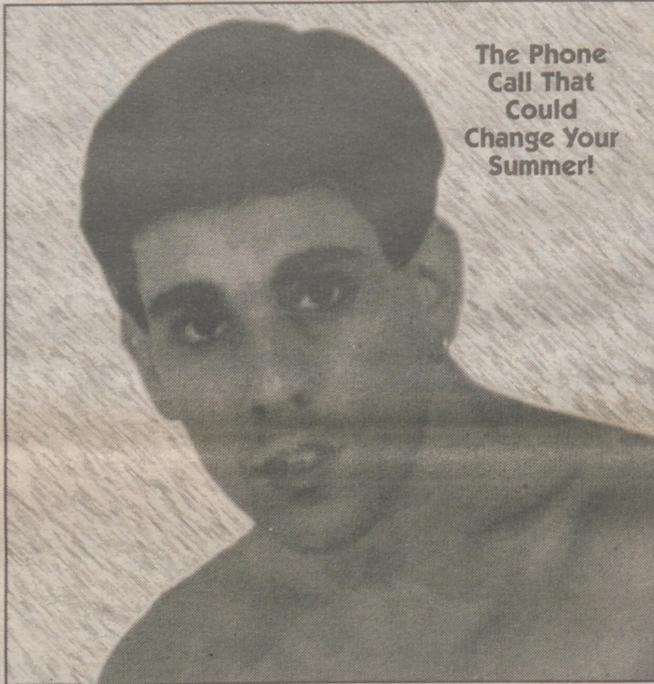
817 Area Code **ZESTY:** 23 yr old, 5'8", 132, seeking a guy for a relationship. I am a lot of fun and love movies, skiing and dining out. #27223

817 Area Code **GRIDIRON GOD:** 26 yr old, 6'4", blonde smooth football player's build. I am into quiet times and a little watersports. #27910

Austin **FLEX-ABLE?:** 47 yr old WM attractive, 5'8", 165, blonde and blue with a short beard. Seeking similar. Big muscles are A+. #25706

Austin **ROCK MY WORLD:** GWM, 29, new to area, 5'9", 180. Casual dresser/drinker/smoker seeks an outgoing loving cuddler for LTR. #26436

San Antonio **BLACK LIKE ME:** 39 yr old masc blk male seeks other black guys who are masc/slim/well-built, under 41. #20081



The Phone Call That Could Change Your Summer!

men 18-35 yrs. old. You are very, very muscular. #30911

Houston **GLOVES AND BOOTS:** Looking for men who are interested in wearing boots and gloves and want daytime fun. #30920

Houston **FOR A LIFETIME:** 20 yr. old, 5'4", musc. GBM looking for a person to share my life with. #30947

Houston **MANLY MEN:** Seeking Latin men who are masculine. Staches A+. Ages, 20-45. I am looking for good times-nothing serious. #28513

Houston **MONTROSE:** Sparkling blue eyed baby-face seeks his daddy. Please be a real bear into S&M and leather. Keep me in an LTR. Post haste. #28729

Houston **GIVE ME FIVE:** (or more) Good looking GBM, 25, seeks a GWM, 19-25. #28800

Houston **TAKE IT OUTSIDE:** GBM, bbuilder, 31, brn/brn. Masculine, vers, intelligent guy loves to cook and spend time in the outdoors. Seeking a guy who takes care of himself emotionally, physically and spiritually. #28857

Houston **COME ALL YE GENTLEMAN:** 29yrs. Bln/Blu looking for singles, couples, groups, whatever. #29417

San Antonio **HI THERE!!!:** 5'10" 165lb. looking for a 25-32 yr. old for friendship and possibly more. I love dancing and biking. #26691

San Antonio **LET BILLY GET YOUR GOAT:** I am Billy, a 24 yr. old looking for fun times and games. I am looking for Hispanic 18-35 yrs. old. #29433

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Houston Gay Personals

ATTENTION -NUDIST

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

GIVING/RECEIVING LOVE IS A DECISION ...

... not a feeling! Both decisions in loving, long-term, monogamous, committed relationship. You: GWM, DDF, NS, proportionate h/w; 30-45 (exceptions allowed); attractive, emotional/mental maturity, somewhat masculine; home-loving, fun/laughter; single-life left behind. Me: same as you, except I'm a youthful 50's; br/blond, blue. Not into playing daddy/husband/wife. Ad 25798

READY FOR THE REAL THING?

Handsome, 33, DDF, blue-eyed country boy. Masculine, romantic, in shape, intelligent, Seeking masculine GWM, DDF, 28-50, with similar traits. I like dining out, slow dancing, snuggling, museums, football, horseback riding and good old-fashioned romance. If you're ready for the real thing, baby, I'm your man. Ad 25631

GWM physician, 41, looks 35, feels 21, 5'10", 170lbs, attractive and in search of a special young man 18-30. Interested in a long term, monogamous relationship. Must be sincere, stable guy who knows what he wants. Enjoy movies, plays, travel, quiet evenings, eating out, etc. Prefer a non-smoker. If you're the right person, I've got a lot to offer. Ad 25796

2 hot, horny, hung GWM's seek other hung young men for fun/frolic -poolside. (713) 862-4486.

YOU MUST BE SINCERE FOR ...

consideration by this attractive, 43 y.o., hirsute, GWM, 6'2", 185lbs, br/hzl. I'm educated, professionally employed, good sense of humor. Enjoy home life, good friends, music, dinner in/out and occasional travel. You are 30-45 y.o., handsome, masculine, GWM, HWP, NS, DDF, employed, affectionate, relationship oriented, sense of humor, kind heart and sincere! Ad 25769

SEEKING SUGAR DADDY WHO WILL HELP

Due to unfortunate circumstances need assistance. Tall, athletic, handsome, stable, ambitious, sensual, sincere, affectionate, friendly, DDF, safe, Wm. Seeking generous benefactor. You: Sincere, fun, DDF, safe and proportionately built gentleman. You/me: private and discreet. Flexible availability. Please contact. Serious only. Thanks. Ad 25978

BABY WANTED!

by attractive, stable, professional, white woman who is racing the biological clock. Seeking attractive, intelligent caucasian male or male couple for cooperative effort in having a child. Full custody for the mother but father (s) can alternatively have plenty of involvement/visitation alternatively. Would also consider a platonic "marriage of convenience" so that both parents could live with the child. Ad 25740

I WANT MORE!

Single GWM seeks singles and couples for safe fun. I am blonde/green, 5'7", 135lbs, good looking and well-endowed. If interested, please respond now. Ad 25754

MARRIED MAN SEEKS OLDER MAN

BiWm, 38, blonde, blue, tall, professional, healthy, workout regularly, married (to a woman), seeks older man 40-58, for discreet times, you must be healthy, nice looking, height and weight proportionate, stable, financially/mentally secure, confident and able to handle a relationship with a married man. Ad 25633

Kinky top seeks kinky bottom.

I am a male, 44, 5'9", 180lbs, white, hairy, bearded. You: male, 21-45, any height (proportionate to weight), any race. Ad 25134

WANTED: LESBIAN FRIENDS

GBF 41, independent, stable, sincere, seeking friendship with other GF's who find it difficult to meet anyone in the bars. If you are reading this ad you might be having the same problem. So why not call me! We could both gain a new friend. Ad 25974

HIV+ HISPANIC MALE

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

INTRIGUE! SUSPENSE! ROMANCE! TERROR!

All in the comfort of one's living room. Montrose gaming group being assembled. Experience with role playing games not necessary. Just a sense of whimsy, a flair for style and a thirst for adventure required. Who knows what evil lurks in the hearts of men ... Find out! Ad 25773

GWM NEEDS FANTASIES FULFILLED

36 year old, blonde hair, blue eyed guy needs man to dominate me into acting out my numerous fantasies. Fantasies include humiliation such as stripping to womans lingerie, spanking, bondage and more, all in public. Take me shopping for toys and lingerie. Love being video-taped. Will be you devoted slave. Ad 25634

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

WELL ENDOWED, HEALTHY, MASCULINE CUTE GWM

outgoing, DDF/NS wants to meet other(s) the same for friendship and safe fun. If you are well-endowed, masculine, attractive, under 45 years of age, weight in proportion height, outgoing, not into S & M, DDF/NS, and want to meet the same respond to Ad 25749.

MARRIED MEN

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

CONROE - HUNTSVILLE

New to area. I'm a GWM looking to establish gay friendships in this area with stable, masculine men for socializing. I live in the Sam Houston National Forest. I love the outdoors, am a non-smoker, very light drinker and no drugs. I'm br/br, 5'11", 160lbs. Let's connect. Ad 25792

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

IN THE ARMS OF LOVE, FRIENDS ...

Professional, GBM, 40ish, height/weight proportionate, HIV+ with a positive attitude and good health. No mind games, just honesty. Enjoy walks, music, movies and quiet times at home. You: GSM, GHM or GWM, honest first, sensitive, warm and emotionally strong. Let's see what happens! Ad 25758

GALVESTON: LOOKING FOR SEXUAL BUD-DIES

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

YOU'VE THOUGHT ABOUT THIS TOO?

Have a partner -but want to play around safely with others (singles or couples). I'm a GWM, great-looking, athletic, 6ft. tall, 190lbs., muscular, healthy. Not interested in relationships -just fun. Will consider guys 21-40, any ethnicity. What are you waiting for -this is what you've thought about too! Ad 25531.

WANTED! HOT TOP!

Who is healthy, vers., hairy, well endowed, over 30 for safe fun; tit action & blindfold. I'm a WM, 5'10", 180#, 41, Galleria Area. New to Houston. 3 comes A+. Ad25797

IT'S HARD...

to find someone compatible when you've been spending too much time working, and not enough playing! But now, I'm ready! This GWM, 36, 6'2", 175, stable (emotionally and financially), professionally employed, in excellent health and spirits is looking for a distraction. I'm interested in meeting a GWM who is 30-45, intelligent, charming and single. C'mon, drop me a line. Let's get together and see if it really is hard. Ad 25716

SEEKING COMPATIBILITY/COMPANIONSHIP, FRIEND, LIFEMATE

Sincere GWM, 30's (look young), attractive, 5'1", h/w proportionate, BOTTOM, DDF, 125lbs., br/hazel, with moustache. Mature, easy going, honest, caring, affectionate and a non-smoker. You: an attractive GWM, well endowed, aggressive TOP (35-50 guy next door type) with a very high libido, non-smoker, dark hair/graying okay, (moustache or beard gets my attention), w/h proportionate, masculine, DDF. Someone who will take the time to get to know what's inside this quality person. A monogamous relationship is desired. Be upfront/open and honest with me. If interested please contact mail box 25741.

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

BOY IN TROUBLE NEEDS DISCIPLINE

Disrespectful WM in late 30's who is out of control seeks older authoritative male to administer physical punishment/humiliation to bring him into line. Ad 25793

DOMINANT GWM

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

EPITOME OF FEMININITY!

Looking for an extremely ultra-feminine woman, slim/medium build, a warm, gentle, calm, stable, positive personality who'll be the "center of my attention, who loves being pampered. Me: GWF, soft butch, small build, blonde/blue. I like doing unto a woman as I would have her do unto me. Ad 25553.

GWM SEEKS FRIENDSHIP OF G.O.M.

Warm friendship, mutual understanding and encouragement to be all one can be is your search. You are 30-45 y.o. and you enjoy GWM in 50's. H/w proportionate. Let's talk. Ad 25775

ROCKET MAN SEARCHING FOR STELLAR LOVE

Not looking for someone perfect. Just a sincere man who wants a relationship. I'm a GWM, 28, 5'8", 150lbs, blonde/blue eyes, NS, DDF, who is romantic, funny, masculine, affectionate, and wants old-fashioned love (Not fast food). Are you a GW-HM (around 25-35) who is fairly masculine (Don't have to be super macho), in good shape, and has a tender heart? Don't be afraid, give it a try. Ad#25155

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.

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.

HOUSTON VOICE CONNECT LINE HOT PERSONALS

MICHAEL, 24 yrs. old, blond hair, blue eyes, clean cut, big dick. Call for fun and fun only. Mail Box 1098

ROGER, 5' 8" 150 lbs, good definition, 30 inch waist, brown hair and eyes, moderately hairy. Big cock, 8 1/2" x 5 1/2". Likes to jack off, give and receive low jobs and talk dirty on the phone. Mail Box 1176

TAD, 22 yrs. old, black hair/eyes, fair complexion, clean shaven into alternative music and hanging out. Mail Box 1182

MAVERICK, 24 yrs. old. Wants to meet GM between 20-30 years old. Into clubbing, partying and sex. You will not be disappointed. Mail Box 1198

MICHAEL, 23 year old slender blond hair, brown eyes. Recent U of H grad, classical musician who likes reading, music, clubbing, staying at home. Looking for friendship and possibly more. Mail Box 1199

CHRIS, 5'11" 150 lbs. brown hair/eyes. Looking for older brother type between ages of 37 - 45 to give me the discipline I need. I want to get spanked, paddled and humiliated. Mail Box 1223

DOUG, 27, good looking, straight acting WM, dark hair/eyes. I have a great, muscular body, and am into leather. Looking for the same with a big dick. Mail Box 1284

LEE. 30 years old straight acting/looking; I look 25 years old. Live in Galveston area. I have dark hair/eyes, and like working out lifting weights and biking. Looking to meet 22-30 yr old W/HISP G/BI M who is sincere, and honest for friendship leading to relationship. Mail Box 1296

DOUG, lives in Houston area. 5'11", 175 lbs, 29" waist, 17" arms, very muscular. I work out a lot! You must also. Looking for muscular guys for a good time. I like to wrestle! Mail Box 1291

MICHAEL, 6', 180 lbs, brown hair, hazel eyes, tan. Looking to meet people all over the country. I live in Texas. Want friendship plus more. Mail Box 1303

Let me rub your feet! **RAY**, 6'1 1/2", live in Houston, 195 lbs, good shape, clean shaven, hairy chest. I love feet! Total discretion, no reciprocation required. Mail Box 1313

MICHAEL, 39 years old, 160 lbs. Short dark hair, brown eyes, mustache, smooth chest. Live in Houston area. looking to talk to and meet new people. Mail Box 1347

BRIAN, 30 years old, live in Houston. 5'10", short dark blond hair, 165 lbs, blue eyes, moderately hairy, 33" waist. Looking to meet friendly guys for discreet fun and friendship. Mail Box 1351

RICHARD, older guy looking to meet younger men for discreet, safe fun. You must be young, slim and smooth. Mail Box 1377

PAUL, successful businessman looking for right guy for worldwide travel. You must be 18-24, attractive, versatile. I am a wild, older guy (39) and will compensate you accordingly. Mail Box 1378/1387

MATTHEW, 5'10", 155 lbs, brown hair, green eyes. I like movies, clubbing and working out. Mail Box 1389

BRIAN, lives in N.W. Houston, 32 years old, 5'6", 142 lbs, healthy. Looking for someone in area for friendship. I like movies, reading and dining out. Mail Box 1457

CHARLES, lives in Houston. 45 years old, good shape, 5'10", 160 lbs, brown hair and eyes. I am bottom who likes to experiment. Mail Box 1504

JOSE, 5'7", brown eyes, black hair. Looking to meet white guys. I like to cuddle. Mail Box 1523

To respond to a Houston Voice Hot Personal, you must join the Houston Voice Connect Line. It is only 10¢ per minute (plus any normal toll) and your first 30 minutes are free! To join see our Connect Line ad on page 18.

Ohio city voters may consider gay rights amendment

OBERLIN, Ohio, Monday, June 27 (AP)—A proposed charter amendment that would protect homosexuals from discrimination in hiring may be put before city voters in November.

Councilman Richard Lothrop said he would be surprised if the City Council did not give voters the chance to decide the issue.

"Where something like this might be new for other communities, Oberlin has a long history of civil rights," City Manager Gary Goddard said Friday. "Diversity has always been accepted

here."

"Everyone else from the state to the federal level is making this kind of a change," Lothrop said. "Since our charter is going to have to carry us into the 21st century, I would hope we'd be able to look forward."

Councilman Calvin Waite said the amendment was unnecessary.

"Both gender discrimination and racial discrimination have a long history, but I don't think very many people have been dismissed because they were gay," Waite said.

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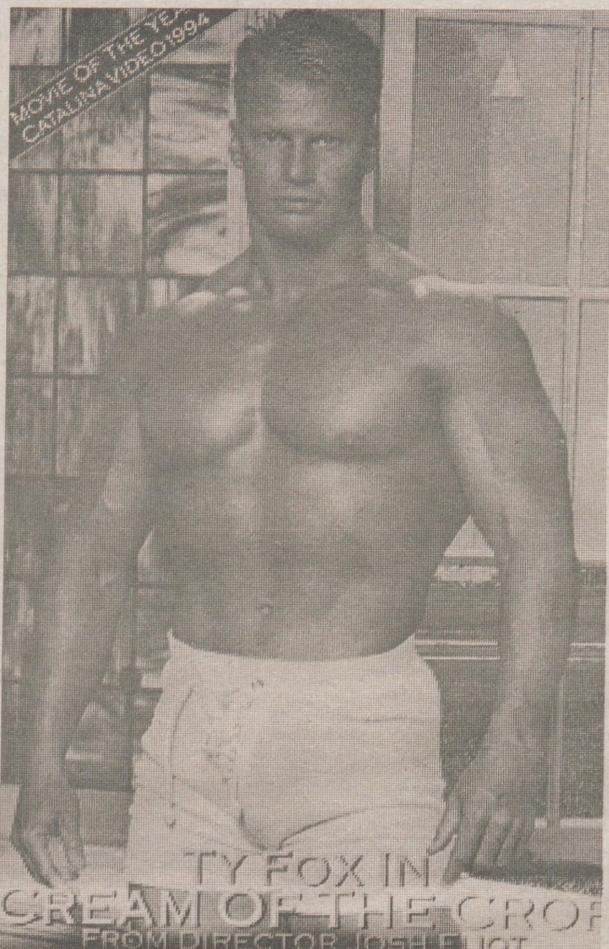
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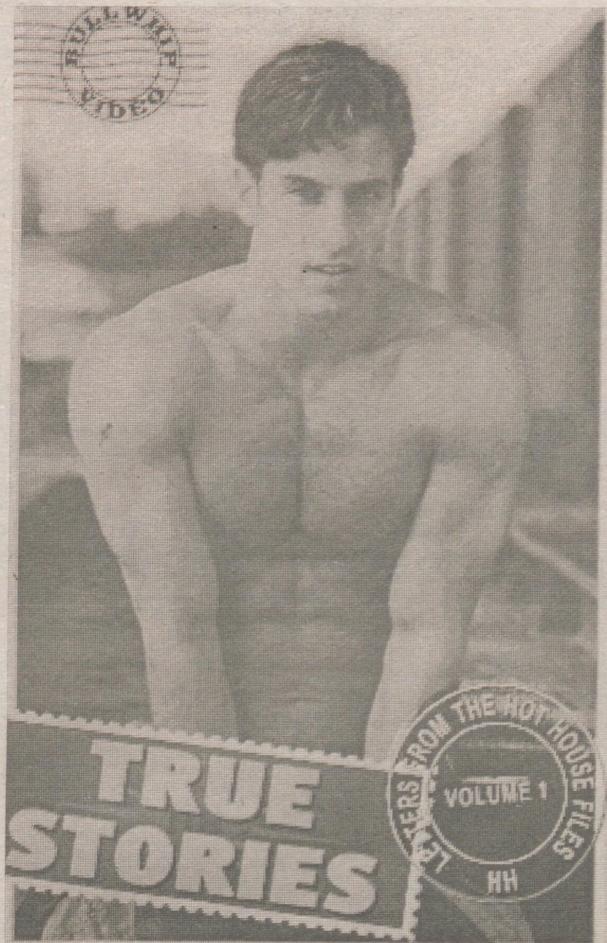


CREAM OF THE CROP

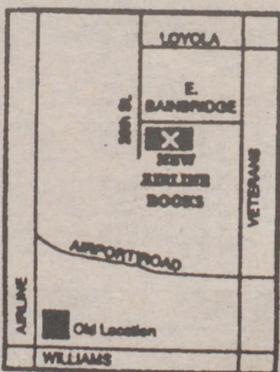
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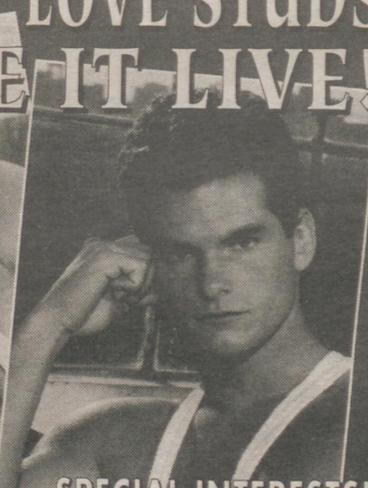
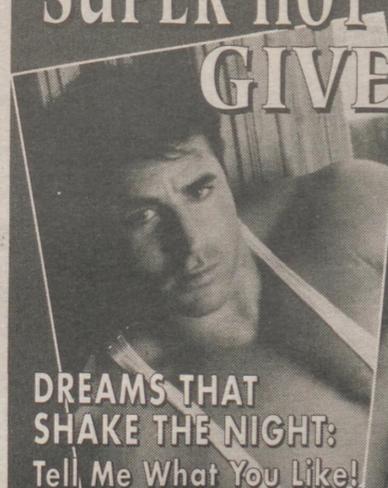
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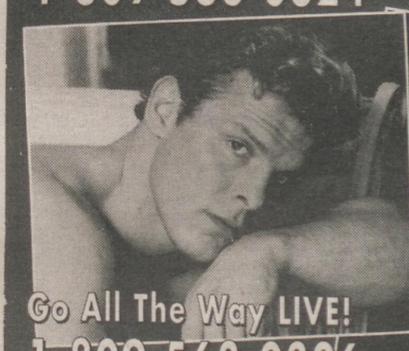
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RIV-1



HOROSCOPE FOR THE WEEK OF JULY 2 - JULY 8, 1994



HOUSTON VOICE readers born this week share with world famous Composer, Gustav Mahler born July 7, 1860, in Bohemia, the love of life as expressed through an art form. Especially in complex, detailed and elaborately crafted music.

CANCER (June 22 - July 22) Plan your weekend schedule to be able to be out and about and be seen by all the new bodies in town. Get your car washed, the kitchen sink emptied of dishes and the bathroom cleaned in case you bring someone special home. Bright and bold colors will help you to be noticed. If asked to go dance, accept the invitation.

LEO (July 23 - Aug. 22) Watch your finances this week, avoid any big ticket line, e.g. over two hundred dollars, as there may be something better in the near future. Be careful about loaning money to friends, as this maybe the last time that you will see the money. There are a number of 'users' in the world that see you as an easy mark. Finish you overdue correspondence, friends are interested in hearing from you.

VIRGO (Aug. 23 - Sept. 22) Leaving problems of the past behind you, will brighten your mood for the next weeks. Learn lessons from the past, but do not re-cross the bridges. You are a good person. A bit sensitive at times to criticism especially from friends who would like to control you, and have you seek their approval, when this is not necessary.

LIBRA (Sept. 23 - Oct. 23) Keep your living arrangements neat and orderly, especially if you will be bringing a person home with you. First impressions are important. Try the recipe from the Kuntry Kidd on this page, this will be an excellent way to impress a date. Take a chance to invite someone out for a date you have been admiring. The moon is in a perfect phase for that person to say 'yes' to your invitation.

SCORPIO (Oct. 24 - Nov. 21) Happiness is yours for the next four weeks, as the moon moves into the new quarter. Enjoy a brighter smile and more energy to accomplish projects. Leave behind you, the 'oh woe is me' syndrome, and try for a fresh start to each morning. Try a more dramatic hair style to get attention, others will react favorably to the new you.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22 - Dec. 21) Extra effort at the Office will pay big benefits to your future salary and job security. Your supervisor is judging you to see how you are comparing with co-workers. You have the talent and the ability to out shine your competition, but is a matter of effort on your part of doing the excellent work that you are capable of.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22 - Jan. 19) Look through your closet and choose new combinations and styles that you have forgotten that are there. Bold and bright colors will be noticed by others in a positive manner, even at work. If you are having complexion problems, your skin will benefit from a lower stress level and clear up. This will be a good week ahead.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20 - Feb. 18) This month is one to be careful and conservative in. Do not take chances with your health or safety. Look both ways in crossing the street. And this is especially true sexually. Practicing safe sex is especially important as your tendency to compromise is running high currently. Your sense of wanting to feel sexually satisfied along with a desire to please the other person may lead to risk taking.

PISCES (Feb. 19 - Mar. 20) Watch your gossiping at the Office, as a person who maybe jealous of you will attempt to turn your boss against you. A low profile is the way to go for the next month. Use your extra energies to be out and about in the evening hours, seeing who is new in the social scene. For the present, think of relationships more as a lust event, rather than to fall in love with. The moon is not in position to fall in love until the fall season.

ARIES (Mar. 21 - Apr. 19) In a relationship, tell your partner how very much she/he is important to you, and how that person makes your life complete. There maybe feelings of insecurity in your partner that needs reassuring. A flower on the breakfast table or on the pillow will go a long way to please that special person. When she/he is happy, you will be extra happy.

TAURUS (Apr. 20 - May 20) Welcome back from your Holiday, combining work with pleasure, Houston was not the same without you. Heard you were a hit of the areas visited. The rest of the summer looks great, filled with success and things going right in general. Use your good sense of humor to be the brightest star around. There are not many in Houston this summer who are able to match your combination of personality and winning smile.

GEMINI (May 21 - June 21) Paying attention to your work continues to have dividends for you. Spend the extra hours needed to come out on top. The next four weeks will be of a challenge for you, but nothing that you can not handle with your usual drive and persistence. Your flexible approach to life is a real plan. Be sure to compliment friends when they provide help to you.

RECIPES BY THE KUNTRY KIDD

It's that time again for me to sit here by the old typewriter and try to "whip" out a good recipe for ya'll. You will have to trust me on this one for being good. I personally have not tried it, but my mom gave it to me, and she said it was soooooo, goooooo, that I know it must be. You see, she wasn't much of a dessert eater. Mom got it for her sister, Pitty, and I know Pitty makes good desserts. Besides it will be a nice one to fix on these hot days, a cool dessert.

CRUST: YUMMY DESSERT

- 1 cup flour
 - 1 stick oleo (butter for you lucky ones)
 - 1/4 cup chopped pecans
- (Mix and press into 9" x 13" pan and bake 15 minutes at 350 degrees. Cool and mix following and pour over crust

- FILLINGS:**
- 1 cup powdered sugar
 - q teaspoon vanilla
 - 1 - 8 oz. Philadelphia Cream Cheese
 - 1 cup Cool Whip (10 oz.) Use rest for frosting

- THEN MIX:**
- 2 small packages instant pudding (vanilla, chocolate or lemon)
 - with 3 cups milk and 1 teaspoon vanilla. Pour on top of other layers and set 15 minutes.
 - Frost with rest of Cool Whip, sprinkle with chopped nuts, if desired.



Well, this better be good. I just got myself into bringing a dessert for a dinner on Saturday, and this is what I plan to make. I will try to remember to comment on what everyone thought about it next week.

Ya'll have a great and safe 4th of July. Don't do anything I wouldn't do, but if you do, **BE SAFE!!!**

UNTIL NEXT WE EAT!

KUNTRY KIDD



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By Henry McClurg

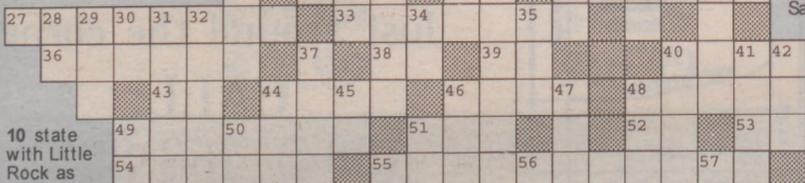
ACROSS

- 1 Mirabeau Buona- parte, a president of the Republic of Texas, known as father of public education in Texas
- 6 over
- 7 capital of Norway
- 8 endure, tolerate

62 sickly sentimental
 65 space man Shepard

250,000 miles of these
 13 state with Olympia as capital, abbrev.
 14 Spanish for 'yes'
 15 symbol for

40 more shrewd
 41 argued in court
 42 19th century American author Poe, initials ("The nose of a mob is its imagination. By this, at any time, it can be quietly led.")
 44 direction Laredo to Fort Worth, abbrev.
 45 20th century American poet Sandburg,



10 state with Little Rock as capital, abbrev.

- 12 state with violet as official flower, abbrev.
- 13 name of type of music developed by Bob Wills, who was honored with U.S. Postal stamp in 1993, 2 words
- 19 smallest of the Great Lakes
- 21 symbol for chemical element gold
- 22 extrasensory perception
- 23 Roman numeral for 400
- 25 Texas river running through Bryan, Washington, Hempstead & Richmond
- 27 June 94 was the 50th anniversary of this WWII invasion
- 33 hucksters
- 36 triangles of land at river's mouth
- 38 rural street, abbrev.
- 39 actor Lancaster or singer "Rock Around the Christmas Tree" Lee,

40 deal with difficulties
 43 symbol for chemical element titanium
 44 kiss & caress
 46 act with too great of haste
 48 Texas storm of 1961
 49 Mexican President Carlos

51 2nd day of the week, abbrev.
 52 symbol for chemical element silver
 53 20th century American poet Pound, initials ("Great literature is simply language charged with meaning to the utmost possible degree.")
 54 made like steps
 55 state bird
 58 state with Bismarck as capital, abbrev.
 59 listen
 60 that one
 61 males or females collectively

62 solemn promise
 67 of the Slavs
 68 Roman numeral for 55
 69 snakelike fish
 71 direction Lubbock to Harlingen, abbrev.

initials ("I tell you the past is a bucket of ashes.")
 46 Texas' smallest county in physical size
 47 city of Sam Houston's burial place
 48 taxis
 49 abbrev. for saint
 50 symbol for iridium, a hard, brittle element used in high-temperature materials
 51 points of a story
 55 mother
 56 Roman numeral for 3
 57 prescription for medicine
 63 villains, heels
 64 ad ??? committee, concerned with a specific purpose
 70 a lot of the 5th letter of the alphabet
 Solution elsewhere this issue
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66 solemn promise
 67 of the Slavs
 68 Roman numeral for 55
 69 snakelike fish
 71 direction Lubbock to Harlingen, abbrev.

DOWN

- 1 country created from old French Indochina
- 2 refrain
- 3 grinding tooth
- 4 door-to-door cosmetic firm
- 5 prefix for again or anew
- 9 Texas home of Shell Oil Company chemical complex, 2 words
- 11 farm animals
- 12 Texas has

18 vapor
 20 symbol for element tellurium, occurring naturally with gold, used in refining copper
 24 expose as false
 26 smell
 28 overdose
 29 color of the ruby
 30 Roman numeral for 1050
 31 achieve
 32 caught, captured
 34 cartoonist Disney, initials
 35 19th century Scottish essayist Stevenson, initials
 37 direct the activity of