



GAY PRIDE 2000

Houston's Pride celebration has evolved over the past two decades. Get both the new and familiar perspectives on Pride, plus a history lesson on the event.
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INSIDE



The 14th Court of Appeals' ruling to overturn the state's homosexual conduct law will likely be reviewed by the entire nine-member court, a Harris County prosecutor said.

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'Fairy Tales' come true on stage at Theater New West.

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k.d. lang's new album 'Invincible Summer' sports radio-friendly tunes designed to leave listeners smiling, feeling good.

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Senate passes hate crimes bill

Vote marks first time either Congressional body has ever passed gay legislation on a recorded vote

by LAURA BROWN

The United States Senate voted 57-42 Tuesday to pass a measure adding sexual orientation, but resistance from Republican congressional leaders leaves its future extremely cloudy.

The Tuesday vote, which also added gender and disability to federal hate crimes laws, marks the first time that either body of Congress has passed gay civil rights legislation on a recorded vote. The Senate passed a virtually identical hate crime measure last year by a voice vote.

In 1996, the Senate fell one vote short of passing the Employment Non-Discrimination Act, a measure to ban job discrimination on the basis of sexual orientation, but most recent gay rights victories have come in the form of defeating anti-gay bills.

The Human Rights Campaign, the national gay rights lobby leading the fight for the hate crimes bill, praised Tuesday's vote as "historic."

"Thanks to the bipartisan efforts of the Senate

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AP PHOTO/MICHAEL STRAVATO

Sen. Gordon Smith (R-Oregon); Wade Henderson, executive director of the Leadership Conference on Civil Rights; David O'Malley, Commander of the Laramie Wyoming Police Force; Sen. Ted Kennedy (D-Massachusetts) praised the Senate for the historic 57-42 vote approving gay civil rights legislation Tuesday.

Houston's Lovell tapped for DNC

Activist becomes first openly gay Texas delegate

by KAY DAYUS

Sue Lovell, longtime gay rights political activist and Houston resident, recently became the first open lesbian in Texas to be elected to the Democratic National Convention.

Lovell was hand picked by Billie McClain Carr, a 32-year respected veteran of the DNC and leader of the Texas liberal Democrats.

The 72-year-old Carr's original choice to succeed her was Congressman Ken Bentsen's staffer Pat Strong. But Strong said her duties with Bentsen did not give her time for the DNC, and she recommended Lovell instead.

Carr had no problem with the choice. "Sue is a good Democrat, liberal and a

lesbian," Carr recently told the Houston Press. "The gays never had really gotten a representative, and I thought that it would be nice for Sue to go on and have that group have at least someone representing them as well as us."

In a recent telephone interview with the *Houston Voice*, Lovell said that her election to the DNC "says a lot for the Democratic Party and our community."

"I got votes from all parts of the state. It says a lot about how far our community has come."

But it was close. Lovell won by one vote.

"It was pretty cool, especially for a gay person. I even got votes from labor, and that's an indication of how far we've come. It was much different in the past," she says.

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TERRY SULLIVAN

Houston's Sue Lovell recently became the first openly gay Texas delegate elected to the Democratic National Convention.



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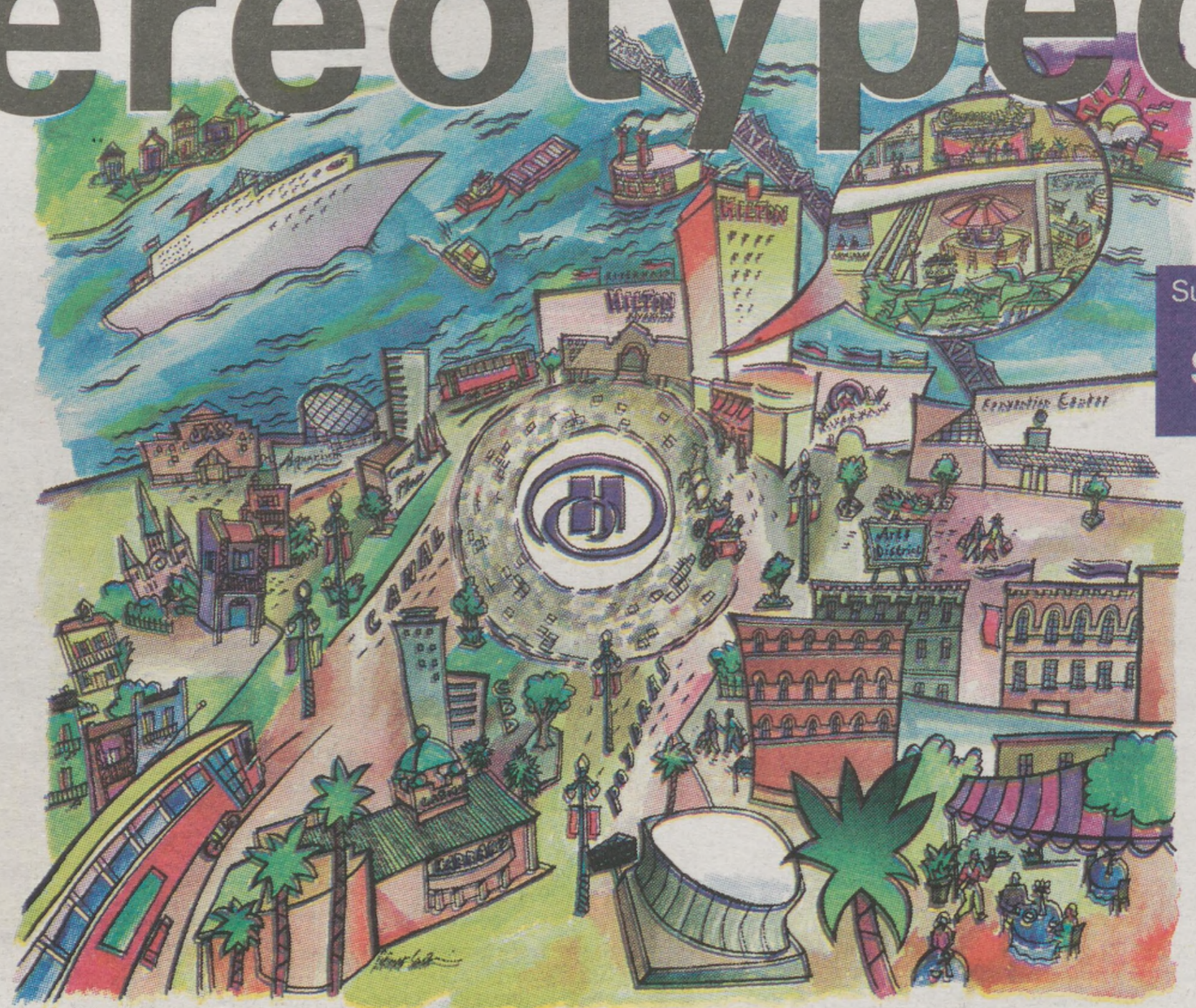
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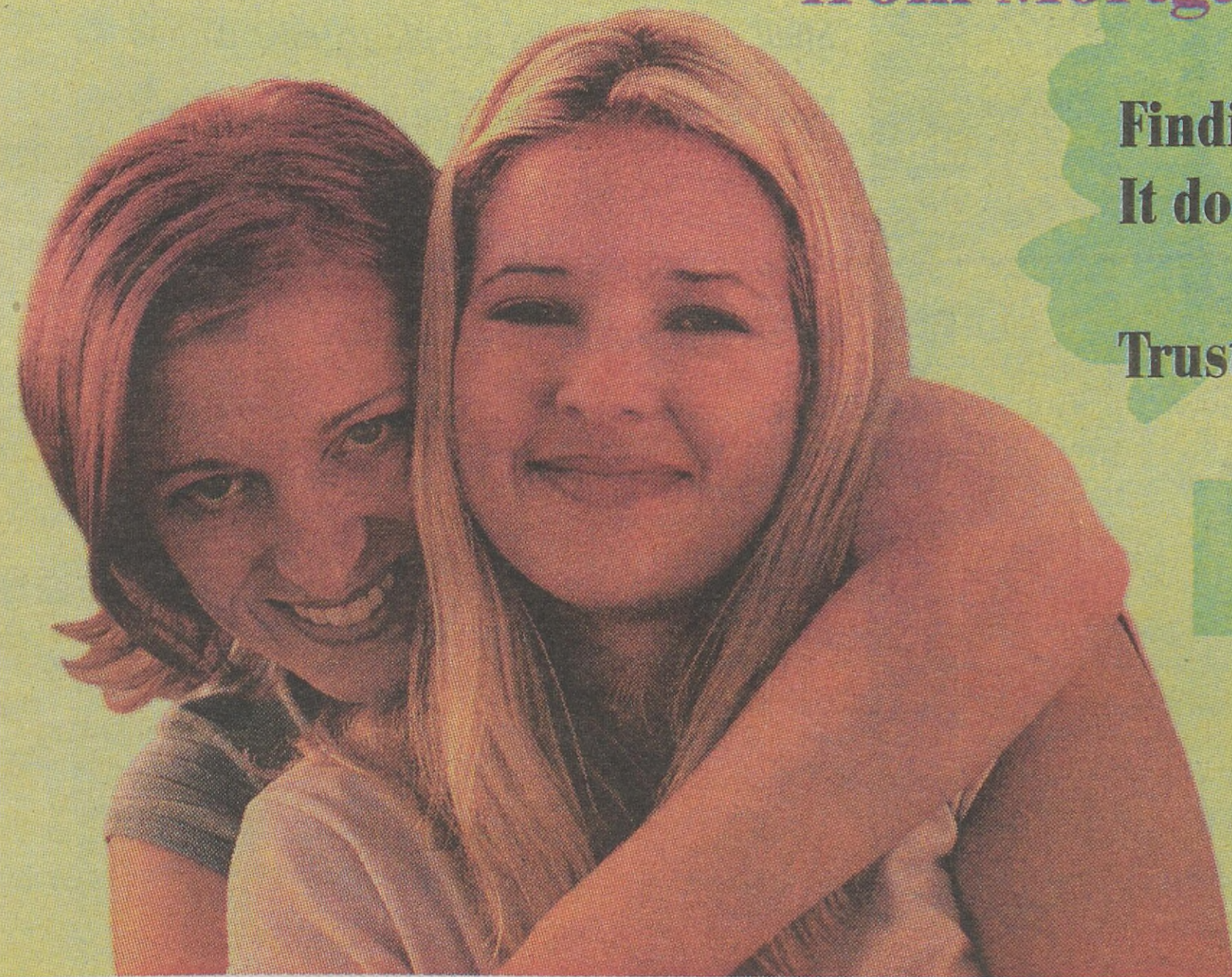
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DA may ask for review of sodomy ruling

Prosecutor concerned over precedent-setting use of Equal Rights Amendment

by GIP PLASTER

When a three-judge panel of the 14th Court of Appeals declared on June 8 that the state's homosexual conduct law—often called the sodomy law—violates the Equal Rights Amendment of the Texas Constitution, legal observers predicted there would be an appeal.

This week, the prosecutor handling the case for the Harris County district attorney's office said he will likely first ask the entire nine-member 14th Court to review the decision rather than immediately appealing it to the Texas Court of Criminal Appeals, the state's highest court.

And while he vowed to give this case his best efforts, he admitted that prosecuting misdemeanors is not why he joined the district attorney's office.

Asking the entire court to review the decision of a three-judge panel is an available option, but it's one that the 14th Court almost never agrees to do, said Harris County prosecutor Bill Denmore.

It is worth asking them to review the case because of the implications that stem from the way the Equal Rights Amendment was applied, he said.



MATT HENNIE

The 14th Court of Appeals' ruling to overturn the state's homosexual conduct law stems from the September 1998 arrests of Tyron Garner (left) and John Lawrence (right).

"At this point, I'm leaning toward asking the 14th Court of Appeals to reconsider," he said. "It's a very unusual application of the Equal Rights Amendment that would have precedent in a number of areas."

Denmore said he has about a week left to make a final decision on how to handle the case.

The ERA has not been used to protect gay men and lesbians and is not what the legislators who wrote it intended it to be used for, Denmore said.

"I really didn't expect the issue to turn on the Equal Rights Amendment. That issue sort of came out of the blue as far as I'm concerned," he said.

The ERA was designed to protect women, Denmore argued, but in a 2-1 majority opinion, Justice John S. Anderson said the homosexual conduct law violates the Equal Rights Amendment because it discriminates based on sex.

Texas has had a sodomy law since 1860,

> Continued on Page 8

Community independence to be feted with 'Big Bang'

July 4 event will benefit Body Positive Wellness Center

by RICH ARENSCHIEDT

The annual "Big Bang" party held every 4th of July to raise funds for the Body Positive Wellness Center is coming back even bigger and better this year.

With more than 700 attendees last year, the "Big Bang" has become the only event in Houston where the community celebrates Independence Day with a red, white, blue, purple, green, yellow and orange flag.

The event again will be held at the penthouse of 3400 Montrose building, now home to the live jazz club, Scott Gertner's Skybar. This Houston landmark is the best venue in the city for watching the fireworks display while not having to fight the crowds at Miller Outdoor Theater, says event chairman Todd Ramos.

"It was a great place to watch all of the display since the Skybar has two huge rooftop patios affording revelers a 360-degree view of the exploding sky," said Ramos.

Participants from previous years will



Body Positive Wellness Center board members Anthony Bianchi, Carols Arcos, Todd Ramos and Nelson Vergel expect more than 800 to attend "Big Bang 2000," July 4 at Skybar, 3400 Montrose.

notice several improvements at this year's "Big Bang." First, is the increased air conditioner tonnage that the Skybar offers to cool down what is sure to be festive cadre of partygoers. In addition to cooler surroundings,

the bar has benefited from a continual fashion upgrade since its opening.

"Guests will find a much improved space," said Ramos. "The whole place has

> Continued on Page 9



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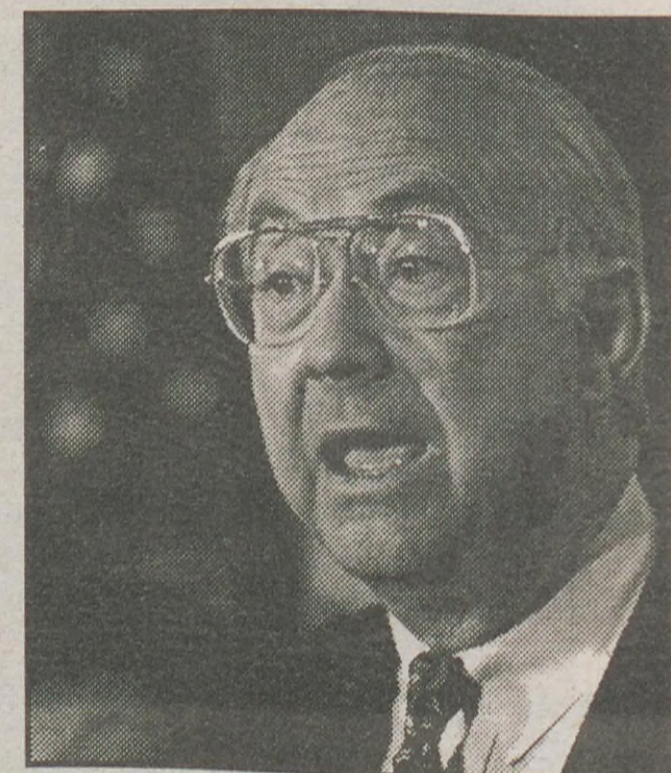
Georgians charged with 'clean-sheeting' in viatical investigation

ATLANTA—Federal investigators have charged six Georgians with crimes in an ongoing investigation into insurance fraud. The charges, announced May 24 by the U.S. Attorneys office in the Eastern District of Tennessee, stem from an investigation into the viatical industry, which facilitates the purchase of the insurance policies of terminally ill people. Carl Kirkpatrick, U.S. Attorney for Eastern Tennessee, said his office had obtained seven indictments and 13 bills of information against 20 people in four states involved in a scheme known as "clean-sheeting," where individuals hide their illness to fraudulently obtain policies to sell. Indicted are Atlantans Bret D. Adams, Ronald J. Clark, Robin D. Hill, Apostolis T. Karaplios and Bryan H. Whisnant, and Robert G. Angle from Tunnel Hill, Ga. All the Georgians face charges of mail fraud and money laundering, except Hill, who faces mail fraud only. Clark and Karaplios also face charges of conspiracy. The charges from Tennessee came five days after federal officials searched viatical settlement companies, broker's offices and residences in Kentucky, Michigan, Ohio and Georgia, including gay-owned Benefits America in Atlanta. Benefits America representatives did not respond to interview requests.

Texas GOP excludes Log Cabin, while Dems plan new caucus panel

HOUSTON (AP)—Protests outside a Houston convention center by Texas Log Cabin Republicans underscored the conservative nature of the June 10-11 Texas Republican convention, which elected many delegates with alliances to the religious right to represent the state at the national GOP convention in Philadelphia. Delegates stood and cheered when U.S. Sen. Phil Gramm said God is not on the side of any party, "but we are on God's side." The Texas Log Cabin Republicans were again excluded from the convention, and set up a "mobile information booth" in a van outside the convention center. Party organizers set up a room for prayer inside the convention center.

Meanwhile, in Fort Worth over the weekend of June 3-4, Democrats chose not to create two new seats for gay representatives on the 60-member State Democratic Executive Committee, the *Dallas Voice* reported June 16. But the newly elected president of the Texas Stonewall Democrats, Michael Milliken, said the debate focused on the size of the committee, and was not anti-gay. Non-voting, "set-aside" advisory seats already exist for a number of different minority groups within the party—including Black Democrats of Texas, Tejano Democrats, Texas Democratic Women and Texas Young Democrats.



U.S. Senator Phil Gramm received a standing ovation during the conservative-dominated GOP state convention in Texas last week when he said God is not on the side of any party, 'but we are on God's side.'

Tenn. court says Baptist hospital can fire gay church minister

MEMPHIS, Tenn. (AP)—A medical school was within its rights to fire an employee because she was a lay minister at a church that welcomes gay members, a federal appeals court says. Glynda L. Hall was a student services specialist at Baptist Memorial Health Care Corp.'s College of Health Sciences in 1996 when she told her supervisor she was a lesbian. The school offered to help find her a job elsewhere at the organization, but Hall refused and she was fired three months later. Hall, a member of the non-denominational Holy Trinity Community Church, filed a federal lawsuit charging she was a victim of religious discrimination. The 6th U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals court upheld the lower court's dismissal of her suit on June 13. Hall's attorney, Clyde Keenan, objected to the decision. "You can't get the government to give you money and say we're not going to discriminate, and then turn around and discriminate," he said. An appeal is possible, he said.

Atlanta to be one of five cities bidding to host Gay Games in 2006

NEW YORK—Atlanta is among five North American cities that will vie for the opportunity to host Gay Games VII in 2006. Bidding groups from Atlanta, Chicago, Los Angeles, Montreal and San Diego have submitted letters of intent to the Federation of Gay Games by the June 1 deadline. "The cities that are now candidates are all excellent choices to hold the Gay Games," said Susan Kennedy, co-chair of the Federation's Site Selection Committee. Two separate groups from the Los Angeles metropolitan area are presenting bids. The Site Selection Committee will select four finalists in June 2001, with the Gay Games VII host being chosen in November. The Gay Games were last held in North America in New York City in 1994.

Gay-owned businesses form guild in Miami to promote tourism

MIAMI—The newly formed Miami-Dade and South Beach Business Guild will serve as a voice for South Florida gay and lesbian-owned businesses, the Miami Herald reported June 15. "We want... to promote tourism to all of Dade County—not just South Beach, though it certainly is our jewel in the crown," said David Treece, head of the guild, which will provide business owners with the opportunity to network, share views and begin developing political standing within the community.



For more news, visit
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—From staff and wire reports

Around the Nation

Navy criticized for targeting D.C.-area gay bars in drug stings

WASHINGTON—Navy investigators routinely send undercover agents into Washington-area gay bars to identify military personnel among the clients, using sting operations to catch them in drug trafficking, the *Washington Post* reported on Saturday. Navy officials admitted the practice in testimony in an April 28 military court proceeding. The Navy denies that practice is designed to circumvent the military's "Don't Ask, Don't Tell" policy by kicking gay people out of the military for drug involvement. But the Navy held similar stings in only one primarily heterosexual bar—on a night that attracts a mixed gay and straight crowd. The undercover operation began after allegations that military personnel frequented bars in the District where ecstasy was sold. "We do not defend drug use or protest the Navy's duty to go after drugs, but there are indications on the record that they are selectively targeting patrons of gay-friendly establishments," said Michele Benecke, SLDN co-executive director.

P&G to drop 'Dr. Laura' despite criticism from conservative groups

CINCINNATI (AP)—Procter & Gamble said Monday that it will stand by its decision not to advertise on "Dr. Laura" Schlessinger's radio and television talk shows despite criticism from conservative organizations. P&G is concerned its advertising message would get lost in the controversial remarks Schlessinger has made—both those that defame gay people and her opposition to divorce and to working mothers, company spokeswoman Gretchen Briscoe said. "We really view Dr. Laura as an extremely controversial figure on a lot of issues, not just her comments on homosexuals," Briscoe said. Conservative groups, including Focus on the Family and the Family Research Council, met June 12 with senior P&G management and asked the company to reconsider its decision not to advertise. P&G officials said they were disappointed with the meeting. Also, Schlessinger's name was floated as a possible vice-presidential running mate for Reform party presidential candidate Patrick Buchanan, the *Honolulu Advertiser* reported June 12.

American comfort level with gays increases, two polls indicate

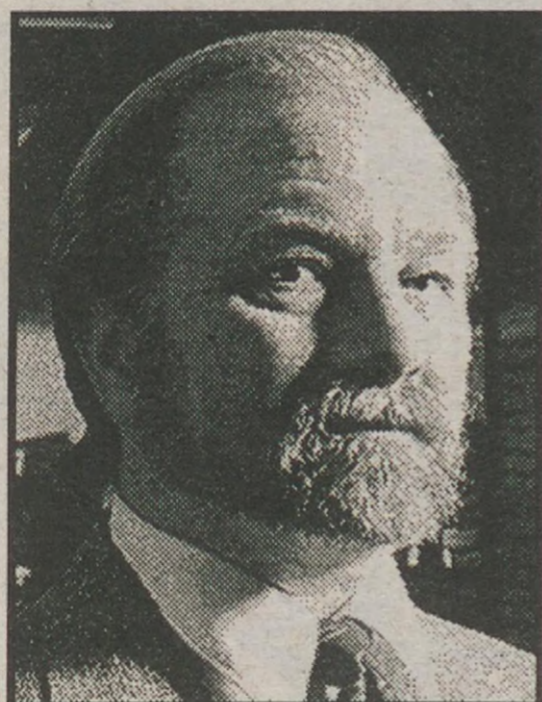
Two recent polls indicate that Americans have grown more comfortable around gay people. A *Los Angeles Times* poll found that while Americans generally think homosexuality is wrong, they have grown more comfortable around gay men and lesbians. Some 60 percent of people surveyed said they feel comfortable around gay men and lesbians, compared to 40 percent in 1983. During that time, the percentage of people who said they knew an openly gay person has more than doubled, from 30 percent to 73 percent. But only 34 percent support allowing gay couples to marry, and close to two-thirds said they believe homosexual relationships are generally wrong.

A second poll, commissioned by the Horizons Foundation and the Human Rights Campaign, found that 50 percent of Californians oppose gay marriages, down from 57 percent last year. The percentage of those who said they favor gay marriages increased to 42 percent from 39 percent last year. The percentage of those who disapprove of gay couples decreased from 44 percent to 38 percent, and 31 percent said they have favorable opinions of gay couples, up from 26 percent.

Anti-gay school measure heads for November ballot in Oregon

SALEM, Ore. (AP)—With a few weeks before the filing deadline, Lon Mabon thinks the Oregon Citizens Alliance will collect enough signatures to qualify a ballot measure to prohibit schools from "encouraging, promoting or sanctioning" homosexuality. "If everybody keeps working, I'm confident we will make it," said Mabon, whose group put anti-gay rights initiatives on Oregon's 1992 and 1994 ballots. Supporters have until July 7 to round up at least 66,786 valid signatures; if successful, the measure would be on the Nov. 7 ballot. It also would mark a political revival for the OCA, which has struggled with membership and financial problems.

Meanwhile, in Reno, Nev., organizers of a petition drive supporting a constitutional ban on same-sex marriages say they collected three times as many signatures as they need to get on the November ballot in Nevada. Leaders of the Coalition for the Protection of Marriage said they filed petitions with 121,499 signatures June 15; they needed 44,000 to qualify for the ballot. "We exceeded everyone's expectations," coalition chairman Richard Ziser said. State law already bars gay marriage in Nevada, but Ziser argues that constitutional prohibition is needed to keep same-sex unions performed in other states from being recognized. If the initiative passes this year, a majority of voters would have to approve it again in 2002 for it to take effect. A poll found 60 percent of Nevadans supported the initiative. The bishops of the three Nebraska Roman



Lon Mabon, head of Oregon Citizens Alliance, predicts his group will gather enough signatures for an anti-gay measure to be included on the November ballot.

Catholic diocese announced that they will not take an official stance on the drive to prohibit same-sex unions in that state.

—From staff and wire reports

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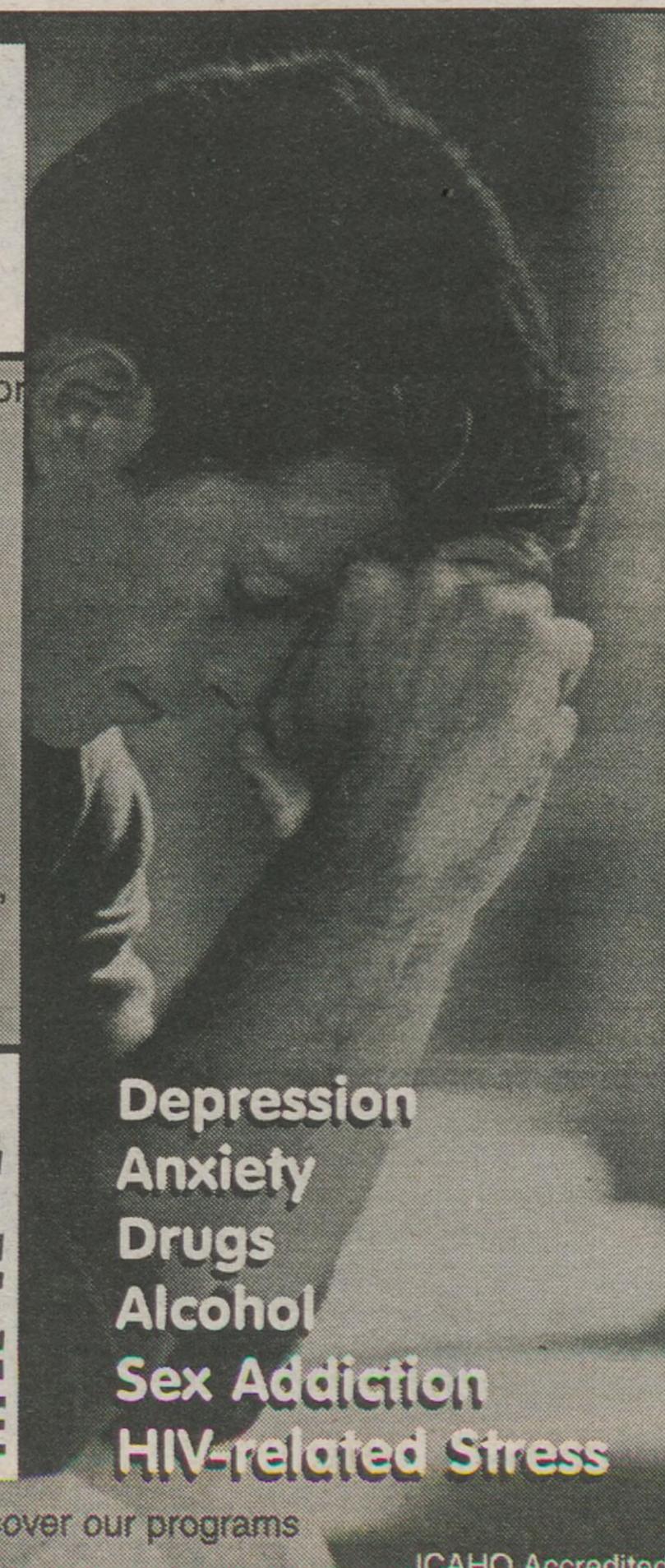
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Sodomy ruling may be reviewed

➤ Continued from Page 5

but the state decriminalized sodomy by opposite-sex partners in 1974.

"The simple fact is, the same behavior is criminal for some but not for others, based solely on the sex of the individuals who engage in the behavior," the justice wrote.

The state constitution's Equal Rights Amendment provides that equality under the law "shall not be denied or abridged because of sex, race, color, creed, or national origin."

The decision, whether it was good or not, should have been based on the constitutionally guaranteed right to privacy rather than on the amendment, said Gary Polland, a private practice lawyer in Houston and the chairman of the Harris County Republican Party.

"I'm disappointed with the ruling," he said.

Polland said his disagreement with the ruling is not political and does not concern his stance on gay and lesbian rights. He has supported the right of the gay and lesbian Log Cabin Republicans group to have a booth at the state party convention despite a ban by state party leaders.

"As a lawyer, I don't think it can stand up to appeal. And I don't think that's what the Equal Rights Amendment was designed to do," he said.

But one of the lawyers for the two men

whose case brought about the challenge to the law said she is confident about the ruling.

"We are pleased with the ruling," Goldberg told the *Houston Voice*. "It's a solid ruling with careful analysis."

The case began in September 1998 after sheriff's deputies, responding to a false third-party report of an armed intruder, entered John Lawrence's Houston apartment and found Lawrence and Tyron Garner having sex. Police arrested both men and held them in jail for more than 24 hours before releasing them on \$200 bond each. The two men pleaded "no contest" to the charges in criminal court.

The 14th Court's action earlier this month overturned the homosexual conduct law in Harris and surrounding counties that are under the jurisdiction of the court and effectively disabled the law across the state.

Goldberg said Lambda argued the case based on both equal rights and privacy.

While the overturning of sodomy laws in other states has more often been based on privacy, equal protection provisions have sometimes been involved, Goldberg said. The most recent case where equal protection played a key role was in Kentucky.

"This is the best ruling we could have gotten at the stage in the process," Goldberg said.

She said she wants to see the law overturned statewide.

"As this case demonstrates, the law is still a threat to all gay and lesbian Texans," she said.

Denmore of the district attorney's office said he does not think the law will be overturned and he does not expect the issue will end in the 14th Court even if they accept his request to review the ruling.

But he said his work to prosecute the case should not be seen as an attack against the gay and lesbian community.

"We're prosecutors. We try to figure out what the law is and if it's being applied fairly. There's no one else to do that," he said.

He said the officers on the scene took actions that left the district attorney's office with no choice but to pursue the action.

"I don't really have an agenda. When I went to Mr. Holmes [the district attorney] and asked him about this appeal, he said 'I want you to be a lawyer and defend the constitution.'"

Cases that involve the Texas Constitution are "intellectually interesting," Denmore said, but prosecuting a case based on the homosexual conduct law is not why he became a prosecutor.

"I'm a career prosecutor and I would prefer to spend my time putting criminals in jail—real criminals—not dealing with class C misdemeanors with a maximum fine of \$500."



Gary Polland, Harris County Republican Party chairman, says the recent ruling by the 14th Court of Appeals overturning the Texas sodomy law should have been based on the constitutionally guaranteed right to privacy rather than on the state's Equal Rights Amendment.

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'Big Bang' celebration on July 4

> Continued from Page 5

DJ Michael Tank will be providing dance music during 'Big Bang,' July 4 at Skybar.



really developed into a beautiful bar with furnishings that are plush and elegant."

New sound and lighting equipment have been added as well.

"We expect 800-plus people at this year's event and the new music system should enable us to rock on through Independence Day with real style," Ramos said.

"The 'Big Bang 2000' is about celebrating Independence Day among friends with great dance music, \$1 drink specials, great food and a spectacular view of Houston's fireworks," said Pete Sharpe, president of Body Positive Wellness Center.

Participants can dance the night away to music provided by D.J. Michael Tank. Several restaurants, including La Strada, Sausalito's and Riva's, are providing a buffet.

This collaborative effort between Body Positive and Scott Gertner's Skybar represents something unique in Houston. Gertner has been a figure on the Houston club circuit for years and is known as an accomplished musician. His new Skybar venture has placed him at the forefront of Houston's

inner loop party scene.

"This is a very diverse club - members of our community will feel very welcome here, not just on July fourth, but on every other day of the year as well - the door is always open here," Ramos said. "As many of us know, planning an event such as this can be a challenge. Scott Gertner's intense personal involvement with this project has been very refreshing.

"He cares a great deal about our community and about the work of the Body Positive Wellness Center and other organizations similar to it."

All proceeds from "Big Bang 2000" will support the Body Positive Wellness Center, the first facility of its kind in the country.

"The Wellness Center's main function is to teach people living with HIV/AIDS the best way maintain a healthy lifestyle utilizing nutrition, exercise and other mind-body programs," Nelson Vergel, Body Positive's vice president of programs, said. "Many cities are looking at our wellness center here in Houston

to lead them in creating new wellness centers around the country. People are surviving this illness, but their quality of life has not improved, largely due to significant side effects from the new drugs. Our mission is to change that."

The wellness center is located on the sixth floor of 3400 Montrose and according to Ramos, "Our clients involved in this wellness program get to see the same view as they work out and undergo training for wellness related activities - it's a great space for us to be in."

Tickets may be purchased on the day of the party at the door for \$20 or for \$15 with a discount coupon from www.bodypositivehouston.org.

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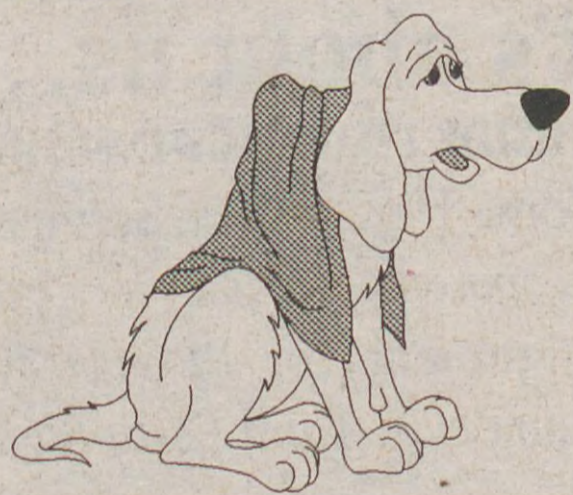
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Lovell tapped for DNC

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Lovell says she and Carr are "cut from the same political cloth. We are not afraid to stand up and fight; not afraid to stand up to the powers."

The election to the DNC is not Lovell's first "first."

She was the first female president of the Houston Gay and Lesbian Political Caucus in 1983 and was reelected in 1984. She was a founding member of both AIDS Foundation Houston and the Texas Human Rights Foundation.

She's also a single mother of three young boys, ages 5, 9 and 11.

How does she keep it all together?

"Flow charts," she says. "They are all through my house. Flow charts and a very good support system."

Lovell says, "I plan to go do a good job in the DNC and help elect Al Gore as president. And I'll remind the DNC that gay and lesbian concerns are part of the Democratic Party."

Lovell also plans to do something that she feels will make her unpopular in the Party.

"We (the DNC) raise money for national races. I would like them to leave some of the money here; at least a small percentage of it, to build up our statewide efforts."

"There are some good people out there who need help."

Lovell was elected at the Texas Democratic Convention in Ft. Worth and will be confirmed at the national convention in Los Angeles in August.

Although her election to the DNC is a first, Lovell believes it is only the beginning.

"It will happen more and more. There are so many young people out there; young people who have grown up to be open. That's where the future of the Democratic Party lies," she said.

Ala. sends first gay delegate to Dem. Convention

by LAURA BROWN and AMY GILL

Alabama will send its first-ever openly gay delegate to the Democratic National Convention this year, when David W. White represents the state's 6th Congressional District as a delegate for Vice President Al Gore.

White, a Birmingham resident and claims coordinator for Blue Cross Blue Shield of Alabama, leads the Gay & Lesbian Alliance of Alabama.

While White said he knows of closeted gay people who have served as Alabama delegates in the past, he hopes his open presence sends a message to the Democratic Party at the national and state level.

"The main thing is that I want people to understand that gay people are everywhere in smaller states as well as bigger states," he said. "I also want to send a message to the Alabama delegation: They need to know that they receive a lot of support from the gay and lesbian community in Alabama, and I am here to put a face on that support."

"I think the Democratic Party in Alabama needs to reach out more."

Alabama doesn't have a chapter of the Stonewall Democratic Federation, a gay Democrat group, and White said he mounted his campaign to become a delegate on his own.

After losing a spot by 150 votes in 1996, this year White placed ads in Alabama's monthly gay paper and discussed his campaign with family, friends and coworkers.

Although everyone knew he is gay, "I'm pretty much the poster boy over here," he laughed.

He received the second-highest number of votes at the June 6 caucus, winning one of the two male delegate slots from his district.

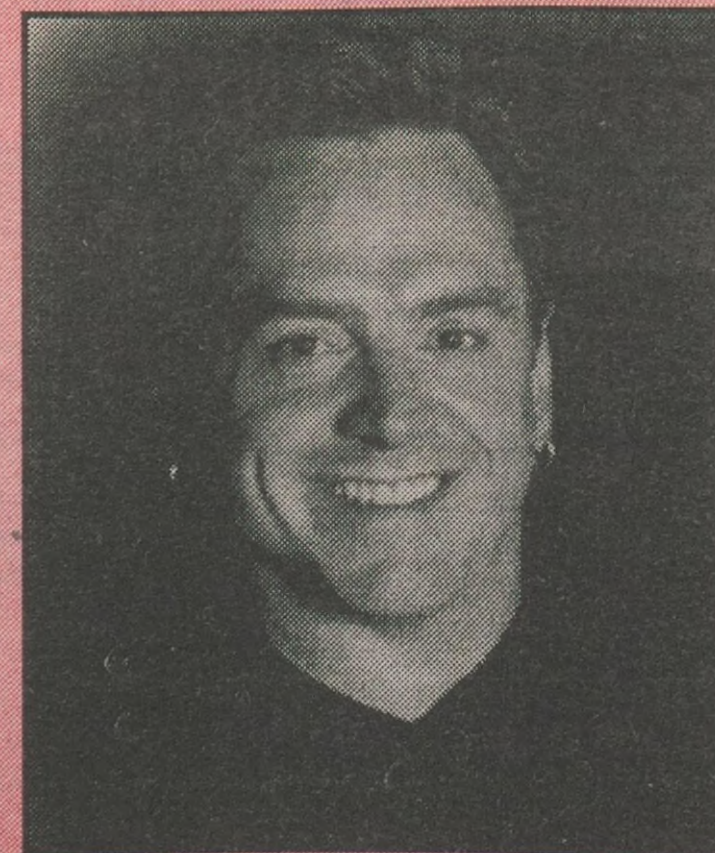
First place in the selection process went to former Alabama Attorney General and gubernatorial candidate Bill Baxley. "He had a lot of name recognition, and I am really honored that I was people's second-highest choice after him," White said.

Louisiana sending two gay delegates

This August, Louisiana will be sending two delegates who are openly gay and lesbian to the Democratic National Convention in Los Angeles.

Jan Harrell and Christopher Daigle were both elected as at-large delegates by the Democratic State Central Committee, which met June 3rd in Lafayette.

This will be only the second time in Louisiana history that openly gay delegates have been elected: The first was



David White, who heads up the state's gay rights group, was the second-highest rate getter.

in 1984.

Both Harrell and Daigle are from New Orleans. Daigle is the chair of LAGPAC, the Louisiana Lesbian and Gay Political Action Caucus.

Harrell is a former chair of LAGPAC, and at one point she and Daigle co-chaired the organization.

Daigle and Harrell campaigned for the delegate positions by faxing committee members a flyer that described the voting power of gay, lesbian and bisexual residents of Louisiana.



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Hate crimes bill passes

➤ Continued from Page 1

and the leadership of President Clinton, America is one step closer to becoming a safer place for all Americans," said HRC Executive Director Elizabeth Birch.

Clinton lobbied strongly for the measure, which passed as an amendment to the massive Department of Defense authorization bill. In his State of the Union address in January, Clinton urged Congress to pass the legislation without delay. The president visited Monday with the family of African-American hate crime victim James Byrd Jr., then called senators to ask for their votes.

"Crimes motivated by hate are really fundamentally different and I think should be treated differently under the law," Clinton said. "I ask all of you to stand up with this fine family. We have to pass this legislation."

Vice President Al Gore left his presidential campaign trail in Kentucky to fly back to Washington, in case he was needed to cast a tie-breaking vote in favor of the bill in the Senate.

Gore presided over the Senate during the vote, but did not need to vote because 13 Republicans crossed party lines to vote in favor of the measure. Only one Democrat, Sen. Robert Byrd (D-W.Va.) voted against it.

Texas Senators Kay Bailey Hutchison and Phil Gramm, both Republicans, voted against the hate crimes measure.

Within 24 hours of Tuesday's historic

vote, Senate Majority Leader Trent Lott (R-Miss.), put aside the Defense authorization bill containing the hate crime amendment, turning the Senate's attention on Wednesday to a foreign aid measure.

GOP hate bill also approved

Shortly before passing the gay-inclusive hate crime bill, which was co-sponsored by Sen. Ted Kennedy (D-Mass.) and Sen. Gordon Smith (R-Ore), the Senate also voted 50-49 to add a GOP-sponsored hate crimes amendment to the Defense bill.

That proposal, sponsored by Sen. Orrin Hatch (R-Utah) in an attempt to derail the Kennedy-Smith amendment, did not add sexual orientation and the other new categories.

It also did not expand federal jurisdictions over prosecutions; instead, it called for study on whether state and local prosecutors were pursuing hate crimes and allocated \$5 million to help pay for prosecutions. The gay-inclusive hate crimes amendment also included funding for state and local prosecution.

Hatch's proposal also did not include specific categories like race, religion and sexual orientation that would be the basis of a hate crime.

Hatch's proposal directed the use of federal money to prosecute crimes "motivated by animus" because of the victim's "membership in a particular class or group."

"The vagueness of this kind of language led a Utah state judge to dismiss felony charges against two gay bashers because he determined the language to be 'incomplete' and 'unenforceable,'" HRC reminded Senators in an e-mail titled "Why a Vote For Hatch Does Nothing to Fight Bias Crime."

Final passage still uphill

Tuesday's vote represents a major victory for the gay-inclusive hate crimes bill, which was known as the Hate Crimes Prevention Act last year and is now dubbed the Local Law Enforcement Enhancement Act of 2000.

But the measure still faces an uphill battle to win final passage. The Senate version of the defense authorization bill now includes more than 100 amendments, and as Senate majority leader, Lott has suggested he may table the mammoth legislation indefinitely unless the amendments could be separated out.

The Clinton administration, which allowed last year's hate crime rider to be removed by conference negotiators, has vowed to prevent a similar fate for this year's measure, according to a report in the New York Times. Gore told the newspaper that the president has promised to veto the defense spending measure if the hate crime amendment is removed, a tactic that has worked in the past.

The House of Representatives also must approve the defense bill, and many observers feel it is unlikely to pass the hate crimes bill as an amendment to its version. The hate crime proposal has 190 House

sponsors, including 170 Democrats and 20 Republicans, according to the National Stonewall Democratic Federation.

House Majority Leader Dick Armey (R-Tex.) has indicated the measure will not even receive a vote in that body, but supporters are optimistic.

"We'll make Armey eat his words," Kennedy said.

The Hate Crimes Prevention Act failed to pass last year under similar circumstances. On an unrecorded voice vote that provided cover to those who didn't want to be known as supporting gay rights, the Senate attached the hate crimes bill to an appropriations bill for the departments of Commerce, State and Justice.

The House failed to do the same, and did not even debate the Hate Crimes Prevention Act. Facing fierce Republican opposition, the hate crimes bill was dropped from the appropriations bill in the conference committee.

But supporters of the bill said they hope the results will be different this year, and they reminded potential opponents of the litany of high-profile hate crimes—including Byrd's murder and the murder of gay Wyoming college student Matthew Shepard—as proof of the need for the bill.

Kennedy urged his colleagues to "take a clear and unequivocal stand" against hate crimes of all categories.

"Hate crimes are modern day lynchings," he said during debate in the Senate. "They tear at the heart and soul of our country."

The Associate Press contributed to this report.

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SLOUCHING THROUGH SODOM March for the right reasons

by MICHAEL
ALVEAR

Watching a Pride parade is like watching Ralph Reed, Jerry Falwell and Gary Bauer go over the Grand Canyon in your new convertible.

On the one hand you get to see freaks go over the edge. On the other hand, it comes at a tremendous personal sacrifice.

Pride marches went over the cliff a few years ago when we decided all that crap about rights and equality was cutting into our partying. In the early years, going to Pride was an admirable, courageous act, the equivalent of going on a firewalk.

Today, Pride parades are more freak shows than rites of passage. And bad ones at that. My biggest beef isn't that they suck (they do—I've seen better floats in high school homecoming parades) or that they tear down everything we work for (we act out every offensive stereotype we spent the past year trying to break down).

No, my biggest beef against Pride marches is that they celebrate the wrong thing—being gay.

Why? Because there's nothing intrinsically good about being gay. For every Walt Whitman there's a Roy Cohn. For every Elton John there's a Jeffrey Dahmer. For every gay hero there's a gay asshole.

If we were going to celebrate anything, it should be the way we *handle* being gay. Like surviving it, for starters.

There is no other group in America today—none—that is so systematically and publicly attacked by society. From birth to death, we're constantly faced with the threat of abandonment, isolation—even physical attacks—from friends, strangers, teammates, families and churches.

Things have improved dramatically, but we still live in a society that bares its fangs at us every chance it gets. And you just never know whether it's a pose or a poise to strike. Ask Matthew Shepard.

You can't live under those conditions without it profoundly affecting you. The real source of pride in our lives isn't that we're gay; it's that we're survivors. And our survival is a testament to our resiliency, our character, not our gayness.

For those of us who faced the sometimes mortal danger of being different and didn't turn to the bottle, a razor or a fake marriage, there is real reason to celebrate, real reason for pride. We've kept our humanity in the face of brutality. We've learned how to bloom in barren soil.

In straight life, heroism is a usually a one-time phenomenon. A dangerous event happens *once*, and the hero rises to the occasion with strength and courage.

In gay life, the dangerous event happens over and over and over again. Every day somebody says they hate fags. Everyday some church wants to excommunicate us. Everyday the military wants to banish us. Every day some parent throws his gay kid out the door.

Like most gay people, my life is filled with the opportunity for fear to flourish. Cowardice and heroism are wings that beat simultaneously, jerking me in one direction and then another. The times I am heroic, I'm quite clear that I'm not forging a gay identity; I'm forging human character.

And that's what we should be celebrating at Pride—character. Not homosexuality. Self-esteem isn't built by wearing buttless chaps at an all-gay event straight people won't attend. It's bringing a male date to the company picnic.

Pride isn't forged because you sit in the back of a convertible wearing a dress. It's earned when you don't let go of your boyfriend's hand, even when you see straight people coming.

Self-respect doesn't come because you flash your tits to a drunk crowd. It comes from telling that nice lady sitting next to you on the plane the real reason why some young man hasn't snatched you up yet.

A lowered voice, a hand unclasped, a fact omitted—these are the words and gestures that make up the language of being gay.

A raised voice, a hand clasped, a fact clearly stated—these are the words and gestures that make up the language of being a hero.

Celebrating our gayness is like congratulating grass for being green. Celebrating our heroism, now *that's* worth a parade.

Michael Alvear can be reached at mikealvear@aol.com

VIEWPOINTS

Nothing wrong with being 'on the outside'

by MARIA E.
MINICUCCI



I freely and with pride admit that I am a woman in love. I have, for 25 years, been completely captivated, enthralled and ecstatic with my heart's desire. There never has been nor ever will be a worthy rival to influence my life choice. This Great Love in my life is—my Lesbianism.

It was a "love at first foray" type of situation and, against all odds, has endured and remained a most cherished part of who I am. Since I have a tendency to be ruled by my passions, discovering woman-to-woman love had me exclaiming its virtues to anyone and everyone. And, anyone and everyone could not argue against such a convincing proclamation.

As we celebrate Gay Pride 2000, many "queer revelers" will fill the streets hoping that anyone who is dubious, will be convinced that being gay, lesbian, bisexual or transgendered is okay, acceptable even.

The annual Gay Pride celebration is a culmination of hours, days and weeks of developing and implementing a gay agenda to squeeze into the flow of mainstream

issues. And, rightly so, securing human rights for all is integral to the well being of society.

Alas, my jubilation over Gay Pride and all that it represents has, over the years, diminished. My enthusiasm for my lesbianism has remained solidly intact. But, I have become increasingly disconcerted over our strident efforts to assimilate so thoroughly with the status quo. I have repeatedly heard the argument that, after all, we are just like heterosexual people and therefore, our rightful place is around and alongside the 'norm.'

Of course, as human beings, we possess the same needs, experience the same feelings, deserve the same rights and rewards. There is, however, a very distinct and deliberate point of departure between Us and Them. Since our culture has devised a locktight system of compulsory heterosexuality, any person who contradicts this sexual mandate is automatically thrust outside of the mainstream. As sexual outlaws, we are relegated to the fringes of society; we are on the outside looking in. At first glance, a logical strategy may be to maneuver to the more prominent position of front and center.

Let us take another look from the

fringes: let us consider the possibility that there may be advantages to being on the outside. What possible advantages could there be? Well, we definitely have a much sharper image of the goings on inside. We can discern more readily and with critically trained vision, what to accept and what to reject. We have much more 'space' to recreate thoughts, values, mindsets, ways of being that reflect a gentler, kinder civilization. Living around the edge leaves us more unencumbered by psychic debris; the stuff that is detrimental to persons and the planet.

Some queers, consciously or not, have taken up their place on the fringes with relish. Those audacious queers may, in fact, prove to be a boost to our soaring spirits and 'soulful' sensibilities rather than an embarrassment to the 'Family.'

This year, consider taking Pride a step further; embrace the privilege of being among society's sexual outlaws. We live extraordinary lives. We love in extraordinary ways. Aren't we worth staying on the outside of ordinary?

Maria E. Minicucci is director of the Center for Creativity, Knowledge and Change, and current president of the Houston Lesbian and Gay Community Center.



VIEWPOINTS

A femme by any other name isn't necessarily feminine

by JENNIFER VANASCO

Gay people are always mistaking me for a femme.

It's an easy error to make, I guess. I have longish hair, I wear dresses and I've been known to slip the occasional tube of pink lipstick into a purse.

I've noticed that more people have started labeling me as femme now that I have a girlfriend on the athletic, butch side.

When I meet new friends, I can almost feel them tucking us nicely into a well-worn equation deeply inscribed in our collective memory: Lesbian couple equals butch-plus-femme.

This is a real change from my previous relationship, when we were both more feminine looking. Lesbians, gay men and straight folks alike were often not quite sure about how to peg us. We were used to being asked, "Are you really lesbians?"

People are more comfortable with me now that they think that my girlfriend and I are settled into roles we're all familiar with, roles we all know how to act out. They see her as the butch and me as the femme.

But it's just not true.

In fact, for a long stretch of my life, I tried my best to make it as a swaggering dyke. In third grade, I nearly punched the class bully because I was trying to protect a delicate, sweet-faced second-grader. In

sixth grade, I was Luke Skywalker for Halloween, not Princess Leia.

My first year of college, I cut my hair off and practiced masculine hand gestures. I saw more masculine or androgynous women as rejecting hurtful patriarchal values; I saw them as strong, powerful and sexy, and I wanted to be like them.

That doesn't tell all of the story, of course. I have also always enjoyed the light swishing of skirts around my ankles, and the tickle of curls at my neck.

My bedroom is painted pink. I'm not

to find their way out of the woods.

But in the end, a femme is defined by the way she routinely works to keep up a girl appearance.

As for me, I'm careful not to wear anything that would ruin if I were to sit on a curb or get splashed by a taxi. I don't do anything to my hair that would cause me to panic if confronted by a sudden, drenching rainstorm. I use gel-type stuff, but who would notice?

As the song goes, I enjoy being a girl—but I don't put a lot of effort into expressing it. That's why I'm not a femme.

Femme is a gender; it's about how you present yourself to the world. Femininity is about the type of person you are.

athletic. I wear clothes that emphasize the female attributes of breasts and hips. But all this doesn't make me a femme.

It just makes me feminine.

What's the difference? Femme is a gender; it's about how you present yourself to the world. Femininity is about the type of person you are.

Femmes are femmes because looking like a girl is a priority. They may be independent, they may be able to change a tire on the highway, perhaps they can even jerry-rig a compass out of an acorn

Saying someone is femme doesn't tell you anything about her personality. Some people think that femmes won't do anything that might chip their nail polish. Not true.

But we know a femme when we see one, because she is the woman checking her mascara in her compact; she is the one whose shoes match her purse.

Saying someone is feminine, however, tells you less about what she wears and more about who she is. She is likely to be sensitive, tender-hearted, given to liking children and small animals.

She's deeply nostalgic. She cries. And she wears everything from lace and lingerie to boxers and a ball cap. In other words, the kind of person she is often seems to be the kind of woman a female is "supposed" to be.

Femmes seem more powerful somehow. Look up the word "femme" in a search engine, and you get referred to pages for "La Femme Nikita," the Violent Femmes and dominatrixes.

Look up "feminine" and you find pages devoted to wishy-washy spirituality (often engaging the "feminine spirit") and tampons.

Femme and feminine aren't mutually exclusive. There are plenty of feminine femmes; they're just not all that way. And there are plenty of feminine women who regularly "femme out," particularly when heading to the bars. (I fall into that category.)

I guess I should take it as a compliment when people say I'm a femme; but how can a label be a compliment if it doesn't describe who you really are? It's like being called a jock when you've never been able to catch a ball.

There's nothing wrong with being a femme. But labels can be dangerous and restrictive. Sometimes, subconsciously, we try to round our edges to make ourselves fit.

E-mail Jennifer Vanasco at vanasco@chicagofreepress.com.



Don't give in to the butch-femme, hetero role models

by PAUL VARNELL

In principle, there is nothing complicated about homosexuality. Some men like men. Some women like

women. Period. End of story.

But our culture's attempt to understand same-sex attraction is saturated with stereotypes, gender role expectations, social pressures and ideology.

The dominant view of sexual attraction is that it is a natural force that occurs between male and female, masculine and feminine, Rhett Butler and Miss Scarlet—just as magnetism occurs between opposite poles of a magnet.

Rather than trying to make sense of the idea that men can be attracted to men and women to women, many people tend to view homosexuality in terms of the heterosexual model they already know.

They assume that at least one partner or—incoherently—maybe both partners in a gay couple somehow embody the other sex.

Pioneer 19th century gay advocate Karl Ulrichs argued that gay men had a female soul in a male body. Actress Mae West admonished police in the 1920s that they should not beat up gay men "because it is like hitting a woman."

This view still has influence. College students shown films of a series of brief

interviews with people they did not know rated the men as more effeminate when told they were gay than when told the same men were heterosexual.

Most gay men and lesbians now reject this view of their sexuality as an alien imposition. But historically some (not all) gays and lesbians apparently accepted the idea uncritically and acted out "butch-femme" relationships.

Gender role differences between the sexes are especially pronounced at the lower

expected dress, attitude and erotic behavior."

Modern feminism with its advocacy of sexual equality offered a persuasive critique of butch-femme as heterosexual role-playing.

Among gay men, by contrast, "butch" and "femme" refer not so much to comprehensive social roles as to components of personal behavior.

Gay men who come out later in life continue to act much the way they did before they came out. But some young gays just coming out do seem to pass

Many of us are uncomfortable when we meet someone acting out a cross-gender stereotype because we suspect we're in the presence of an act, a pose—a performance, not a person.

economic and educational level. So it is not surprising that some lower level gay men and, particularly, lesbians simply modeled their own relationships on the heterosexual relationships they saw around them.

Writing in the "Encyclopedia of Homosexuality," archivist Joan Nestle says that historically butch-femme lesbian couples existed mostly among lower economic level ("working class") lesbians.

According to Nestle, young newly out lesbians were pressured to choose one role or the other and were then instructed in "the

through a mildly effeminate phase before they settle down into a stable, secure self.

They may have absorbed from the media or their peer group the cultural stereotype that gay men are sissies or somehow feminine.

Young men whose personalities are not fully stabilized may experiment with different behavior to see what feels most authentic for them.

Acting in a cross-gender, stereotypical, or stylized fashion is a way to draw attention. Jack on "Will and Grace" is funnier and gets more attention than Will.

Young gay men need not be urged to act masculine and young lesbians to act feminine. That is not the point.

But we should reassure young people that they do not have to act out mainstream society's view of what gays are or should be like. "Relax, just be yourself," we can say.

Eventually, of course, most young gays grow out of any cross-gender behavior once they become comfortable with themselves and it no longer meets a psychological need.

This provides a clue for why many of us find ourselves uncomfortable when we meet someone who is acting out a cross-gender stereotype. We suspect we are in the presence of an act, a pose—a performance, not a person—and that we are being related to not as an individual but as an audience.

Most of us want to relate to the real person behind the pose. But some people, especially young people, may fear that their real self is just not very interesting or appealing, so they are reluctant to expose it.

If so, then the pose, the performance really functions as a sort of defense mechanism. And it is disconcerting to see anyone betray his insecurities so conspicuously.

Paul Varnell is a syndicated writer and edits the Independent Gay Forum web-site (www.indegayforum.org). His e-mail address is: Pvarnell@aol.com



VIEWPOINTS

Pride without prejudice: A birthday story

by RICH ARENSCHIELDT

"I'll be right back, you get the boarding passes and I'll meet you at the gate" said my li'l gay sis, Paige, as she went to park the car in some remote airport lot. I trundled in with the bags [cosmetic case for me, "Carmex" in nine flavors for her] and wait patiently by the gate.

The minutes pass, the departure time to our ancestral home in Philadelphia ("City of Brotherly Love") draws near. I begin to worry, thinking I might call her on her ambically attached cell phone to make sure she's okay. Then, out of the corner of my eye, I see a bunch of balloons large enough to rival the Pride Parade Disco Ball. They are attached to my sister who is floating toward the gate.

With my sis are her partner, Sunny, and my best friend, Cary, who is bearing a "Happy Birthday" sign as big as the scoreboard at Enron Field. I suddenly realize that the four of us are spending the weekend together for an early surprise celebration of my fortieth birthday—something not supposed to happen until early July. Much to the shock of the lady sitting next to me I dissolve into an emotional puddle at the thoughtfulness of spending a celebratory weekend with those in my 'family' who mean the most.

We arrive at the east coast home of my grandmother, (literally 'over the river and through the woods') who, coincidentally, is the 84-year-old Bavarian matriarch of our family. She greets Paige and me with her traditional formal kiss, welcoming Sunny and Cary (both of whom she has never met) with an even more formal "Hello."

More surprises are in store—from the den emerge my aunt and uncle who have flown in for the weekend festivities. They are from a microscopically small town in the mountains of western North Carolina, a place where the preachers are loud and the tea is sweet. My aunt is the only

living connection I now have to my mom, and I treasure her. My uncle is that particular type of southern guy who can go the grocery store for milk and make 12 new friends in the process.

Upon seeing them, (and my other sister) I blubber some more—this time the hysterics are captured on film by my dad, who in evil concert with Paige has made this massive convergence to our childhood stomping ground possible. We are a small clan and everyone who is important to me is here. After some small talk our travel weary gang decides to get some shut eye and we all scatter through the big old house to bed.

My grandmother, particularly concerned about sleeping arrangements, puts Cary and me in the back room where we are relegated to separate day beds, contraptions which have been designed for 3-foot pygmies with excellent spinal fortitude. Cary and I lay on our respective medieval torture sofas and talk.

squeakily in her head).

"No, we aren't together," I say. "But he's very important to me—part of my family." I mention other friends she knows about as additional points of familial reference points and she, as if all of the sudden, understands my meaning. Her old world conventional concept of family melds with my highly unconventional view and both are able to co-exist in her mind. Then she asks "Do you want a bagel? You know, I've never eaten one." She munches the doughy bread—new experiences abound.

As traditional as we are, my family history in terms of sexuality has been much more accepting than most. Our parents have been wonderfully supportive of their two gay kids and we have never felt compelled to hide our lifestyle. However, this weekend is the first time we have spent any time mixing extended family with our gay friends and partners.

We had unexpectedly taken a hard left turn smack into the middle of the city's gay pride festival... At that moment I knew that those I cared about were able to share in my life—all parts of it—not just those aspects they were comfortable and familiar with, but also the fringe elements that were totally alien to them.

"Did I make a good impression?" he asks. "Don't worry," I reply, "just be polite and eat everything Grandma puts in front of you—you'll do fine." We laugh at this as Cary has never in his entire life refused any nutritive substances ever offered to him.

The next morning I awake uncharacteristically early and slip downstairs to hear Grandma mutter and putter about. She still wonders why I can't eat a 'proper breakfast' at 7 am. She inquires about Cary (I can hear the wheels turning

The occasion was particularly interesting in that my sister's partner Sunny is Japanese. She has unknowingly entered into one of the most white-bread families in the known universe. As the weekend progresses, I notice how much my extended family has accepted everyone. I was soon to find out just how much they had changed.

Our last day was spent sightseeing in Philadelphia. We saw the Liberty Bell and Independence Hall. The tour was so dull—Cary and I were primarily interested in the décor and

the all the guide could discuss was something he called the "most significant event in American history." We wanted to know "Where did those sconces come from?" and "Could we get them from Pottery Barn?" Then, upon leaving the most "hallowed place in America" it happened... the most cathartic event of the weekend.

As our car rounded the corner we noticed an almost instantaneous change in the crowd. Suddenly, muscle clones, softball girls and pairs of men and women in all shapes and sizes materialized out of nowhere. Our little back seat gay quartet (me, Cary, Paige and Sunny) pricked up its ears. There was a definite change in the scenery.

Abruptly my 'good ole boy' uncle proclaimed (in his "Hee-Haw" accent) "Lookit that!"

While stopped in traffic, we came face to face with one of the drag queen wonders of the northern hemisphere—platinum hair, matching platinum lamé one-piece bathing suit, five-inch platinum heels and makeup just as thick.

We had unexpectedly taken a hard left turn smack into the middle of the city's gay pride festival! We exploded into fits and giggles. At that moment I knew that those I cared about were able to share in my life—all parts of it—not just those aspects they were comfortable and familiar with, but also the fringe elements that were totally alien to them.

In this week of pride, I am most proud of those who have supported me every day of every year. While many of our family and friends may be unfamiliar with the gay lifestyle, they are certainly familiar with each of us as individuals.

While a lighted extravaganza of a parade is a great way to celebrate ourselves, many of our family, friends and co-workers are 'en-light-ened' by each of us one small bulb at a time.

Houston resident Rich Archenschieldt writes about the arts, HIV, and advocacy issues for the Houston Voice.

Dykes To Watch Out For by Alison Bechdel

Comic strip panels with dialogue bubbles and a title box. The title box says 'the sweet bye-and-bye' and 'DIGGER'S DEVOTEES HAVE BEEN STOPPING BY ALL MORNING TO PAY THEIR FINAL RESPECTS.' The dialogue includes: 'OH MY GOD! YOU WERE JUST A BABY!', 'WASN'T SHE AN AMAZINGLY SWEET PUPPY?', 'I MEANT YOU.', 'OH, YEAH. THAT WAS IN 1985, RIGHT BEFORE I STARTED GRAD SCHOOL AND MOVED IN WITH SPARROW AND LOIS. LOOK AT THAT DEWY, HOPEFUL FACE.', 'LITTLE DID I KNOW THAT FIFTEEN YEARS LATER, I'D BE TEACHING AT BUFFALO LAKE STATE AND STILL LIVING HERE.', 'WHO ARE ALL THESE WOMEN PETTING DIGGER?', 'THAT'S LOIS'S OLD AFFINITY GROUP. WHAT ACTION ARE YOU PLANNING HERE? THE ONE WHERE YOU BLOCKADED THE BANK, OR THE ONE WHERE YOU CHAINED YOURSELVES TO THE FEDERAL BUILDING?', 'JEEZ, THE LAST THING I REMEMBER CHAINING MYSELF TO WAS SONYA'S NIPPLE RING. AND EVEN THAT WAS LONGER AGO THAN I CARE TO CONTEMPLATE.', 'WHAT'S GOING ON HERE? DID DIGGER HAVE MANGE?', 'OH, THAT WAS AFTER THE '92 PRIDE MARCH. THOSE QUEER NATION STICKERS WERE A BIT MORE ADHESIVE THAN I EXPECTED.', 'GOD, I DIDN'T EVEN GO TO PRIDE THIS YEAR. DID YOU GUYS?', 'NOPE. I HAD TO WORK.', 'I WAS AT A COMMITMENT CEREMONY.', 'UM... I WENT.', 'SIGH.', 'I'M NOT A LESBIAN BUT MY GIRLFRIEND IS.', 'I KEEP TELLING MYSELF, DEATH IS JUST CHANGE. JUST TRANSFORMATION INTO SOMETHING ELSE.', 'OH, WELL NOW I JUST LOVE THE IDEA.', 'UH, GINGER? I HAVE TO GO, HON. CAN I CALL YOU LATER?', 'YEAH. I MIGHT NOT WANT TO TALK, BUT CALL.', 'BYE, GIRL.', 'SNORK - I LOVE YOU.'

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Around the World

World Pride during Holy Year turns spotlight on gays in Italy

ROME (AP)—The furor over whether an international gay Pride festival should take place in the midst of a Vatican Holy Year has made homosexuality the talk of the town in Italy. Accommodating, but at heart conformists, Italians have always taken a "don't ask, don't tell" approach to gay issues. "Our country has a double morality. Some things can be done, but they can't be spoken about," says Niki Vendola, the only openly gay member of Parliament. So strong was the taboo that when a Cabinet minister broke it recently, he was criticized not for being bisexual, but for talking about it. This couldn't have been what the Vatican intended when it went public this spring with its objections to the World Pride Roma 2000, scheduled for July 1-9, which it said would be an affront to the pilgrims visiting Rome for the Holy Year. "People are talking, people are coming out," said Deborah Oakley-Melvin, World Pride's international director. "The political and media attention has made this event exceptional." The flap threw the city and the emier, whose governments are leftist and viewed by Italians as tolerant, into a tizzy. Mayor Francesco Rutelli began backtracking on an event his city had approved in 1998 and Premier Giuliano Amato declared World Pride "inopportune."



Rome's mayor, Rutelli Francesco, has backtracked on his support for World Pride next month, but he won't ban outright the event, which has become the talk of Italy.

Israeli government wants lesbian custody decision overturned

JERUSALEM—The Israeli government asked the country's High Court of Justice to hold another hearing on its decision to order the Interior Ministry to register a lesbian as the adoptive mother of her partner's biological child, the *Jerusalem Post* reported June 13. The original 2-1 ruling was issued May 29 in the case of Nicole and Ruti Barnir-Kadish, and Ruti's biological son, Matan. The Barnir-Kadish family petitioned the High Court after the Interior Ministry refused to register the fact that the state of California had recognized Nicole as Matan's adoptive mother. The government wants the entire High Court of Justice, and not just a three-judge panel, to rule on the case. "The ruling opens a wide breach, as wide as an auditorium, to register social-judicial institutions which are not recognized at all by Israeli law. ... These decisions should be made first and foremost by the legislature," said government attorney Osnat Mandel.

Concession granted in Scottish debate over 'no promo homo' repeal

EDINBURGH—The Scottish government has agreed to put a "marriage clause" into a bill that would repeal laws that forbid the promotion of homosexuality in schools, clearing the way for the bill's passage, BBC Online News reported June 17. The provision agreed to by Labor Education Minister Sam Galbraith would stress in sex education classes "the importance of stable family life and relationships," with the addition "including the responsibilities of parenthood on marriage." Those fighting the repeal of the so-called Section 28 laws were pleased. "After a long hard battle I am relieved that common sense has finally prevailed," said wealthy businessman Brian Souter. Galbraith denied that the new provisions represented a U-turn in Labor's position.

HIV-positive Japanese man sues police for canceling job offer

TOKYO (AP)—A man filed a suit against Tokyo police June 15 for canceling a job offer after he was found to be HIV-positive. The man in his late 20s, whose name was withheld, is seeking \$100,000 in damages, said Tsutomu Shimizu, his lawyer. While a graduate student in 1997, the man passed an exam to become a policeman. But the Tokyo Metropolitan Police department rejected his entry to the force a day before he was to begin work because he tested positive for HIV—a test was conducted without the man's permission, Shimizu said. "Despite having contracted HIV, I can work as a policeman without harming my health," the man said in the suit. He claimed "grave privacy infringement" by police in carrying out the HIV test without his consent and using that information to cancel his employment. On June 23, a court near Tokyo ordered a company and a hospital to pay about \$61,600 to a 35-year-old Brazilian man of Japanese ancestry fired from his job after he was found to be HIV-positive.

Canadian principal apologizes for lesbian teacher's disclosure

MISSISSAUGA, Ont.—The principal of a school where a teacher announced to her students that she is gay has apologized to parents, the *Toronto Star* reported. On June 9, a first-year teacher told two fourth grade and two special education classes that she is gay. The disclosure resulted in a discussion about sexual orientation with her students. "I have personally counseled the teacher involved and advised her that she must refrain from further discussions in this matter," said Principal Debra Powell in her letter to parents. Powell said the topic was raised in the classroom as a result of questions from a number of students in the playground after some asked the teacher about her sexual orientation when they saw a newspaper picture of her and another woman at a parade.

—From staff and wire reports

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Religion News

Brazil blasts local Catholic church officials for banning condoms

SAO PAULO—Brazil's government blasted the local Roman Catholic church for backtracking on a relaxation of its ban on condom use, Reuters news service reported June 17. On June 13, Bishop Eugenio Rixen, a member of a Catholic health committee, expressed some support for condom use to prevent AIDS, in spite of the Vatican's ban. "We are reflecting whether the use of condoms is less serious, morally speaking, than getting infected or infecting other people with the AIDS virus," Rixen said. But by the end of the week, the National Bishops' Association reiterated after an internal debate the church's stance against condom use by Catholics. The Brazilian Health ministry strongly objected to the change. "The Health Ministry understands that sexual abstinence, chastity and fidelity are the recommendations... of the church, but the church should not confuse dogma with science, by prescribing condoms or not," said a June 17 ministry statement. A Sao Paulo newspaper also quoted Brazilian AIDS official Paulo Teixeira as saying the final ruling of the church association represented only the point of view of the "conservative top," while those working with the people had a different opinion.

Elton John assails Scottish cardinal who disparaged gay love

LONDON—British pop star Elton John lashed out June 15 at the leader of Scotland's Roman Catholics for his "ignorance" over homosexuality, Reuters news service reported. "Cardinal [Thomas] Winning and his ignorance, is totally representative of why people are turning away from the Church," John wrote in *The Spectator* magazine. John, a part-time Atlantan, was responding to a *Spectator* article written by Winning in which the priest said homosexuals were engaged in "a lifestyle that can never respond to the deepest longings of the human heart." John said he was astonished to be getting advice from a celibate individual. "As a gay man I am perfectly happy with my sexuality and my life," wrote the singer. "I can honestly say that the deepest longings of my heart are satisfied."



Elton John slammed Scotland's Cardinal Thomas Winning for saying gays were engaged in 'a lifestyle that can never respond to the deepest longings of the human heart.'

UCC establishes \$500,000 scholarship for gay ministry students

CLEVELAND (AP)—The United Church of Christ has set up a \$500,000 scholarship fund for gay and lesbian ministry candidates and urged wider acceptance of gays in the ordained ranks of other denominations. The fund, which the 1.4 million-member church will seek to double, will provide up to 10 annual scholarships of at least \$2,500 each to openly gay men or lesbians planning to serve in the UCC ministry. The fund is intended to underscore the church's openness to gays both in the pew and the pulpit, and is named for the first openly gay man to be ordained by the UCC, Rev. William R. Johnson, currently a staff member at UCC national offices in Cleveland. "What gives me great hope is that there is at least one Christian denomination, the United Church of Christ, that has worked diligently to understand the Bible and the theological tradition of Christianity," Johnson said.

Lesbian youth minister sues Episcopal Church in Colo. after firing

BOULDER—Two Boulder lesbians filed suit against the Episcopal Church June 13, charging that one of them was fired as a youth minister for both homophobic and religiously discriminatory reasons, the Rocky Mountain News reported June 15. Lee Ann Bryce and her partner, Rev. Sara D. Smith, an ordained minister in the United Church of Christ, are both plaintiffs in the case. In early 1999, following a series of public discussions in church committees about Bryce and Smith's relationship, officials told Bryce she would be fired at the end of that year because of her relationship. Robert Franken, spokesperson for the Episcopal Diocese of Colorado, said that this was a case "of the fundamental civil right" of a church to "select and supervise its own ministers as it so deems."

Nun expects dismissal following her defiance of Vatican silencing

BALTIMORE—Sister Jeannine Gramick said she expects to be expelled from her order as a result of her defiance of the Vatican's order that she not discuss lesbian and gay issues, the *National Catholic Reporter* reported June 14. Gramick was served in late May with a formal order of silence by the general superior of the School Sisters of Notre Dame, her religious order in Rome. Gramick has refused to obey the order, which required her to refrain from speaking about her experience of running New World Ministries, which worked with gay men and lesbians. Gramick said the order to be silent violates her conscience. "I feel that no one has the right to ask another person not to tell their own story to a group of people who are willing to listen." Gramick's co-worker in the ministry, Father Robert Nugent, has said he will comply with the order he received.

—From staff and wire reports

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Police Beat

Fla. man convicted for beating to death a dog he thought was gay

OCALA, Fla. (AP)—A man accused of fatally beating a dog because he thought it was gay was convicted June 13 of animal cruelty. George Stephens Finley, 58, could get up to a year in jail. Witnesses testified that Finley was upset that his wife's neutered male poodle-Yorkshire terrier mix repeatedly tried to engage in sexual activity with another family dog, a male Jack Russell terrier. "He felt that the dog was a queer-type dog and it made him angry," said Sheriff's Capt. Mike McQuaig. Prosecutors said Finley hit the dog in the head with a plastic vacuum cleaner wand and hurled it against a tree. The dog lapsed into a coma and was put to death. Finley maintained he struck the dog accidentally.

Md. jury deadlocks in trial of man who sold aloe vera as AIDS cure

BALTIMORE (AP)—A federal jury deadlocked in the trial of a businessman accused of selling AIDS and cancer patients an expensive aloe vera solution that he fraudulently touted as a cure, while a co-defendant was cleared of all charges. Jurors deadlocked June 15 on 19 counts—including conspiracy, selling an unauthorized drug, and wire fraud—against Allen J. Hoffman, 52, of Baltimore. Odus Hennessee, 50, of Lawton, Okla., who supplied Hoffman with aloe vera he used to make the "T-Up" solution, was acquitted of all of 11 charges against him. Prosecutors said Hoffman received \$12,000 for a two-week course of intravenous treatment. Witnesses testified they watched loved ones suffer and die after being given the injections. Assistant U.S. Attorney Virginia B. Evans said the government would retry the case against Hoffman.

Police interview gay bar patrons after stabbing death of Fla. man

LONGBOAT KEY, Fla.—A man who was found slain in his home last week had been beaten and stabbed multiple times, the Bradenton Herald reported June 13. Police found 57-year-old James L. "Jamie" Brown dead in his home June 15 after a friend from New York asked police to check on him. Brown's clothed body was found face-down on the living-room floor, said John Kintz, Longboat Key police chief. Friends and associates have told police that Brown, who was gay, sometimes brought young men to his home, Kintz said. A bartender at Rowdy's, a gay bar in Sarasota, said detectives went to the bar over the weekend and were asking patrons questions about Brown.

Neb. soldier charged with raping male subordinates deserts trial

OFFUTT AIR FORCE BASE, Neb. (AP)—An Air Force airman who disappeared before being sentenced for having sex with male subordinates faces a second court-martial for desertion. Eric Marcum, 34, is charged with one count of desertion in a military trial scheduled for June 22. He disappeared May 22, one day after being convicted of seven counts for sexual misconduct with subordinates, including performing non-consensual oral sex on one airman and engaging in group sex with other male subordinates. Marcum said he is bisexual, but denied he assaulted anyone. An eight-officer panel sentenced Marcum to 10 years in a military prison May 25, despite his absence. A desertion conviction carries a sentence of up to six months in prison and a bad conduct discharge.

Eric Marcum, an Air Force airman who deserted his court martial, had denied coercing a male subordinate into having oral sex.



R.I. sailor charged with sexual assault, attempted murder of man

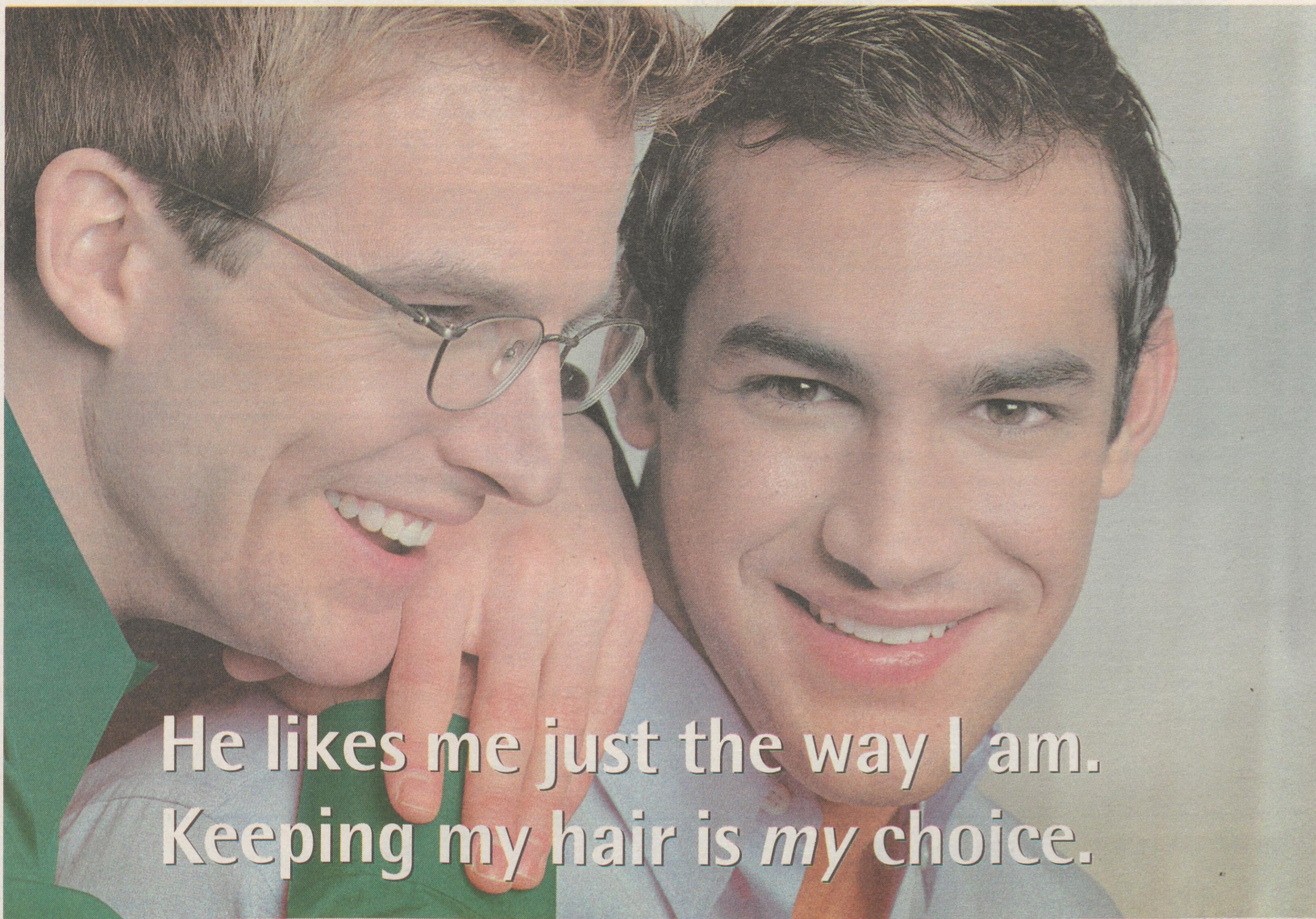
MIDDLETON, R.I. (AP)—A Navy clerk infected with HIV has been charged with sexually assaulting and trying to murder a 29-year-old disabled man. The attempted murder charge was filed against Petty Officer 1st Class John Taylor because he knew he was infected with HIV and was aware of the risk to the victim, police said. Taylor, 35, is a 16-year Navy veteran now working at the Newport Naval War College. Police would not say whether the disabled man had been infected with HIV.

Two men arrested in 1997 fatal stabbing of Wisconsin AIDS activist


GREEN BAY, Wis. (AP)—Two Wisconsin men have been arrested in the fatal stabbing of an AIDS activist three years ago, police said. Paul Foss, 27, who is serving an eight-year sentence for an unrelated armed-robbery attempt, wrote a letter to the Milwaukee FBI office implicating himself and Daniel Chipman, 30, in the June 24, 1997 stabbing at a Motel 6 of Jeffrey Wahlen, 45, of Marinette, Wis. The two men met Wahlen at an adult bookstore and arranged a meeting that ended with Wahlen's being stabbed 50 times in the back, chest, throat and groin, the Green Bay Press-Gazette reported. Foss said he "got real disturbed" and "freaked out a little" after looking at a pornographic magazine Wahlen gave him, and stabbed Wahlen in the back a few minutes later with a small pocket knife. Chipman's version of the event said that Foss kept stabbing and kicking him, saying "You know you love it."

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What is male pattern hair loss?

Male pattern hair loss is a common condition in which men experience thinning of the hair on the scalp. Often, this results in a receding hairline and/or balding on the top of the head. These changes typically begin gradually in men in their 20s. Doctors believe male pattern hair loss is due to heredity and is dependent on hormonal effects. Doctors refer to this type of hair loss as androgenetic alopecia.

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How should I take PROPECIA?

Follow your doctor's instructions.

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- You may take PROPECIA with or without food.
- If you forget to take PROPECIA, do **not** take an extra tablet. Just take the next tablet as usual.

PROPECIA will **not** work faster or better if you take it more than once a day.

Who should NOT take PROPECIA?

- PROPECIA is for the treatment of male pattern hair loss in **MEN ONLY** and should not be taken by women or children.
- Anyone allergic to any of the ingredients.

A warning about PROPECIA and pregnancy.

- **Women who are or may potentially be pregnant:**
 - must not use PROPECIA
 - should not handle crushed or broken tablets of PROPECIA.

If a woman who is pregnant with a male baby absorbs the active ingredient in PROPECIA, either by swallowing or through the skin, it may cause abnormalities of a male baby's sex organs. If a woman who is pregnant comes into contact with the active ingredient in PROPECIA, a doctor should be consulted. PROPECIA tablets are coated and will prevent contact with the active ingredient during normal handling, provided that the tablets are not broken or crushed.

What are the possible side effects of PROPECIA?

Like all prescription products, PROPECIA may cause side effects. In clinical studies, side effects from PROPECIA were uncommon and did not affect most men. A small number of men experienced certain sexual side effects. These men reported one or more of the following: less desire for sex; difficulty in achieving an erection; and, a decrease in the amount of semen. Each of these side effects occurred in less than 2% of men. These side effects went away in men who stopped taking PROPECIA. They also disappeared in most men who continued taking PROPECIA.

In general use, the following have been reported infrequently: allergic reactions including rash, itching, hives and swelling of the lips and face; problems with ejaculation; breast tenderness and enlargement; and testicular pain.

Tell your doctor promptly about these or any other unusual side effects.

- **PROPECIA can affect a blood test called PSA (Prostate-Specific Antigen) for the screening of prostate cancer. If you have a PSA test done, you should tell your doctor that you are taking PROPECIA.**

Storage and handling.

Keep PROPECIA in the original container and keep the container closed. Store it in a dry place at room temperature. **PROPECIA tablets are coated and will prevent contact with the active ingredient during normal handling, provided that the tablets are not broken or crushed.**

Do not give your PROPECIA tablets to anyone else. It has been prescribed only for you. Keep PROPECIA and all medications out of the reach of children.

THIS LEAFLET PROVIDES A SUMMARY OF INFORMATION ABOUT PROPECIA. IF AFTER READING THIS LEAFLET YOU HAVE ANY QUESTIONS OR ARE NOT SURE ABOUT ANYTHING, ASK YOUR DOCTOR.

1-800-830-7375, Monday through Friday, 8:30 A.M. TO 7:00 P.M. (ET).

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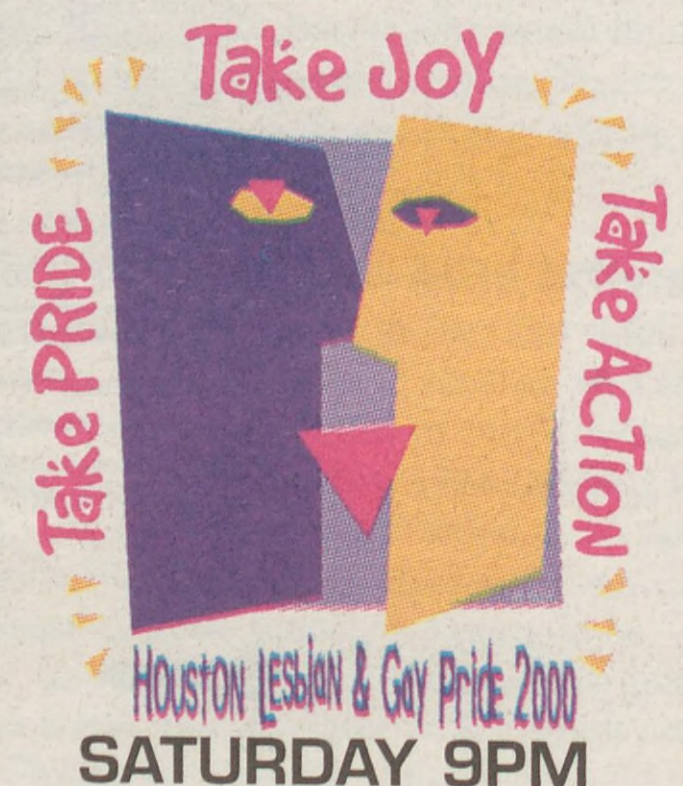
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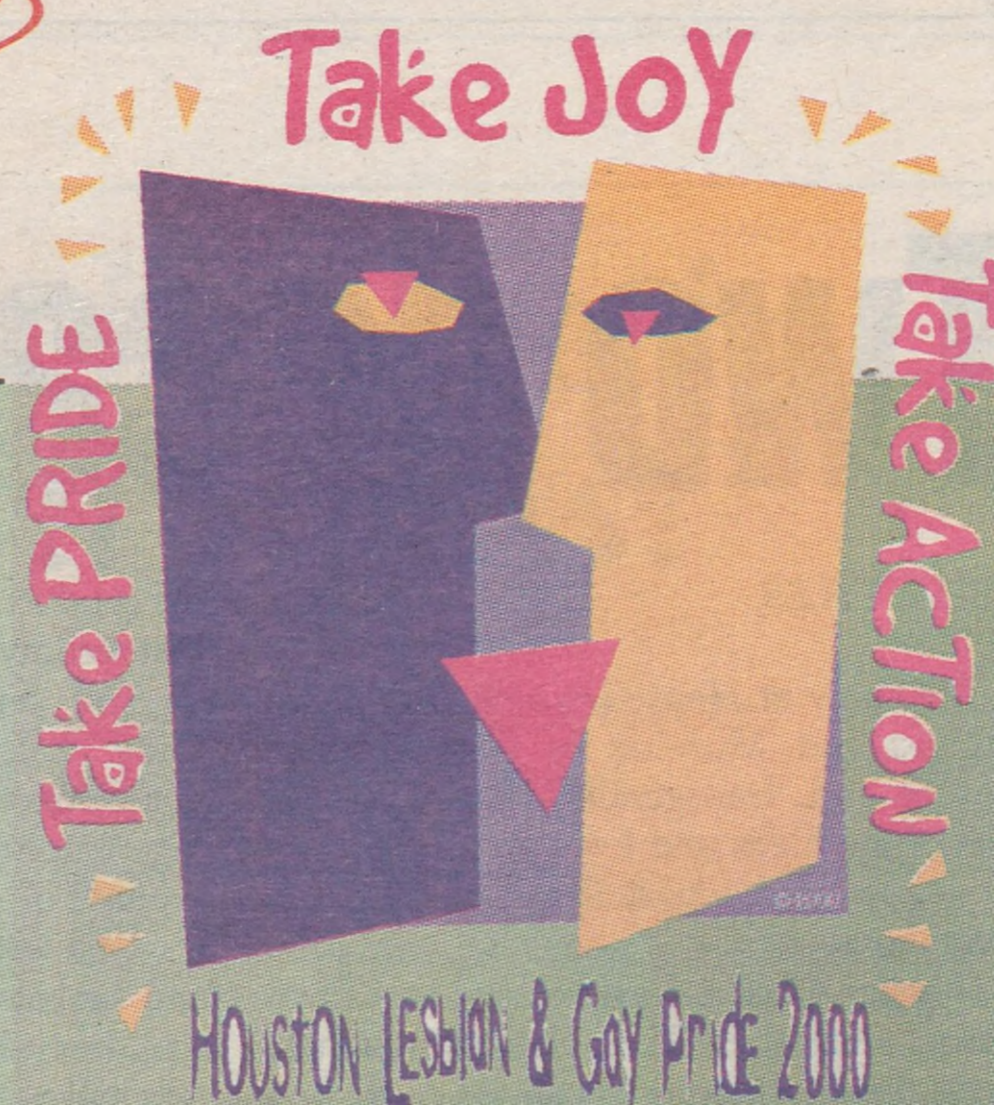
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Where to party for Pride 2000

BRIAR PATCH—The staple piano bar will not break tradition during this year's pride. They will feature their trademark piano sing-a-long sessions all night. Like always, there will be no cover. Briar Patch is located at 2294 Holcombe. For more information, call 713-665-9678.

MARY'S—The parade practically centers around this bar, so they plan to make good use of it. Mary's is shipping in guest **DJ SHAWN RUSSELL**, and converting the bar into a dance club. And of course, Mary's features an incredible view to the parade, with their rooftop perched right on Westheimer. The festivities start at 8 p.m., and there is no cover. Mary's is located at 1022 Westheimer, for more information, call 713-527-9669.

SONOMA—The fabulous eatery will be featuring a pre-Parade Dinner. Park early, enjoy dinner and walk to the parade. Get a complimentary appetizer with dinner, 5-9 p.m. Sonoma also will feature a final hurrah inside and out with a live DJ, dancing and \$1 mimosas Sunday, starting at 3 p.m. 1415 California. For more information, call 713-522-7066.

J.R.'S BAR AND GRILL—A post-parade party with professional dancers throughout the club is planned. The hell raising begins at 11 p.m., lasts until 2 a.m. and there is no cover. 804 Pacific Street. For more information, call 713-521-2519.

RICH'S—Rich's welcomes dance-floor princess **TINA COUSINS**, performing several of her club hits, including the new smash "Pray." The club will definitely be packed with shirtless boys at 2401 San Jacinto. For more information, check out www.richs-houston.com, or call 713-759-9606.

Coming out has come a long way

Since Pride began in Houston two decades ago, more resources have developed to help gay youth

by KAY DAYUS

What a difference a decade or two or three make in the history of the gay community. Ray Hill, native Houstonian and long-time activist, came out when he was about 16 without support from anyone. Brian Carlson, a fresh-faced kid, came out in middle school with the aid of the Houston Area Teen Coalition of Homosexuals, and he's still only 16.

Carlson has a great support system in the other young members of HATCH. Dressed in jacket and tie at



Donna Kenney and April Painter were among the youths attending the Houston Area Teen Coalition of Homosexuals prom June 17.

DALTON DeHART

last week's HATCH prom night, Carlson said that pride to him means, "Diversity of the community and the fact that we don't have to hide who we are; that we are proud of who we are; that we are accepted."

Carlson says he is not ashamed of who he is and will tell anyone who asks that he is gay.

"Only one person has asked though," he says with a shy smile. His parents know and are very accepting of him. "My mother's brother was gay, so my mother understands." Carlson has been going to HATCH for almost two years and loves it. He plans to march proudly in tomorrow's parade.

Carlson's perspective is new, fresh, open and proud. Hill's perspective back in the '60s and '70s was no less proud and no less open, but it was different in many other ways. There wasn't cohesiveness; there wasn't community among gays and there wasn't support. In fact, Hill dates activism in Houston back to 1977. "That's when we became a community," he says.

The very first stirrings of community came in 1975, says Hill. And it was brief stir.

"In 1975, pride week was a news conference announcing the birth of what was to become the Houston Gay and Lesbian Political Caucus." And in 1976, he says, the parade consisted of around 200 people marching downtown. "But that was the quietest June Houston has ever seen," says Hill with a chortle.

"In 1977, Anita Bryant came to town just before Pride week," said Hill. That year, Houston didn't celebrate pride week at all, but between 8,000 and 12,000 gays came out and protested against Bryant instead. "It galvanized the whole community, and after that, people came out of the closet all over and often," Hill says with more than a touch of pride in his voice. He adds that the first "real" pride parade was in 1979.

For 15-year-old Lesli, Pride 2000 is her first parade. Dressed in a formal off-the-shoulder dress at the prom, this pretty HATCH member says Pride means many things to her.

"It means being able to tell people who you are and what you are about and having them maybe not always accept, but communicate with you and come to an understanding where they know what you're talking about and try to understand what you're going through."

Donna Kenney who's 18 and April Painter, 19, met through HATCH and recently moved in together. Kenney lived in Angleton, and she said her first step in coming out just three months ago, was moving to Houston to a friendlier environment. Kenney said that Pride to her means, "Being able to be out and just be yourself."

Painter, dressed in shiny purplish shirt, black tie and black slacks, said she's been out since she was about 13. For Painter Pride is "a sense of balance; a sense of knowing that you're out and the community at-large somewhat accepts you. It means you can actually be yourself around people without hiding yourself."

> Continued on Page 23

Two decades of pride

From protests to parades, Houston's gay and lesbian community has noted its diversity since the late '70s

by ELLA TYLER

The show at Houston's new Gulf Coast Archives and Museum of Gay, Lesbian, Bisexual and Transgender History shows some of the highs and lows and the themes and logos of the past 21 years of Pride Celebrations.

Houston's first gay pride event was Town Meeting I, held June 25, 1978, at the Astohall. Harris County Commissioners Court, had passed a resolution condemning the event, but the following week voted to rescind the resolution. Harris County owned the facility, but did not operate it.

The first Pride Parade was July 1, 1979. The crowd was estimated at between 10,000 and 12,000. Fireworks at Spotts Park closed the evening. This was the first parade, but not the first mass gathering of gays and lesbians.

There were protests against Anita Bryant in 1977 and a small march in 1976. Parades and celebrations followed each year.

In 1981, the Pride theme was "We The People," in 1982 it was "A Part Of" and in '83, it was "Unity Through Diversity."

In 1984, several weeks before the Pride Parade, the Klu Klux Klan tried a march in Montrose. Fewer than 100 Klansmen appeared and the small crowd of watchers consisted of mostly hecklers. It rained.

Lee Brown, then the police chief, praised

the conduct of the onlookers and complained that security for the event cost \$80,000.

The theme for 1985 was "Alive With Pride." Later that year, in a referendum, city voters rejected Houston's ordinance prohibiting employment discrimination on the grounds of sexual orientation.

1988 was the first year that Houston Gay and Lesbian Pride was printed on every T-shirt. Bruce Reeves, museum president, remembers the discussion.

"The year before, some T-shirts said Houston Gay and Lesbian Pride and some did not," Reeves recalled. "I wanted it on the front, under the slogan "Rightfully Proud," but lost that battle. It was printed on the sleeve so it could be rolled up and hidden."

The 1989 parade commemorated the twentieth anniversary of Stonewall with the slogan "A Generation of Pride." In 1990, the theme was "Look to the Future," while in 1991, the slogan was "Take Pride." This is the only year it has rained on the parade, and only for the last few minutes.

The collection of material for 1991 includes the front page of the *Houston Chronicle's* metropolitan section which includes a picture of a Pride float.

"We do not know if this is the first time the *Chronicle* covered the event in such detail. If there are earlier clippings, we'd love to have them," Judy Reeves, secretary



The theme for 1985 was "Alive With Pride." Later that year, in a referendum, city voters rejected Houston's ordinance prohibiting employment discrimination on the grounds of sexual orientation.

KIM THOMPSON

of the museum, said.

In 1992, a presidential election year, the theme was "Pride and Power." The first big march to Washington D.C. was 1993. Locally, the theme was "Out and Proud." The slogan for 1995 was "Houstonewall 25."

Houston's first night parade was June 28, 1997, to the theme "Glowing With Pride." In 1998 the theme was "Unified, Diversified, Electrified."

The theme for 1999—"Pride, Power,

Pizzazz"—prompted Bruce Reeves to suggest a pizza for the Krewe of Olympus float, but "I was voted down," he said.

The Gulf Coast Archives and Museum of Gay, Lesbian, Bisexual and Transgender History will be compiling a complete history of Pride parades.

"We have the Pride Guides for every year except 1986, and would welcome more material," said Judy Reeves, museum director.

For more information, call 713-227-5973.

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Photo: Scott Ashton

Coming out has come a long way

> Continued from Page 21

Painter and Kenney are helping build HATCH's float and they plan to march with the rest of the members.

There was no such place as HATCH for Hill and his contemporaries to meet back in the '50s and '60s. "We met in the streets or at Simpson's Diner downtown. We'd cruise the streets," he remembers. He says they were afraid to go to the gay bars because those would be raided a few times a year.

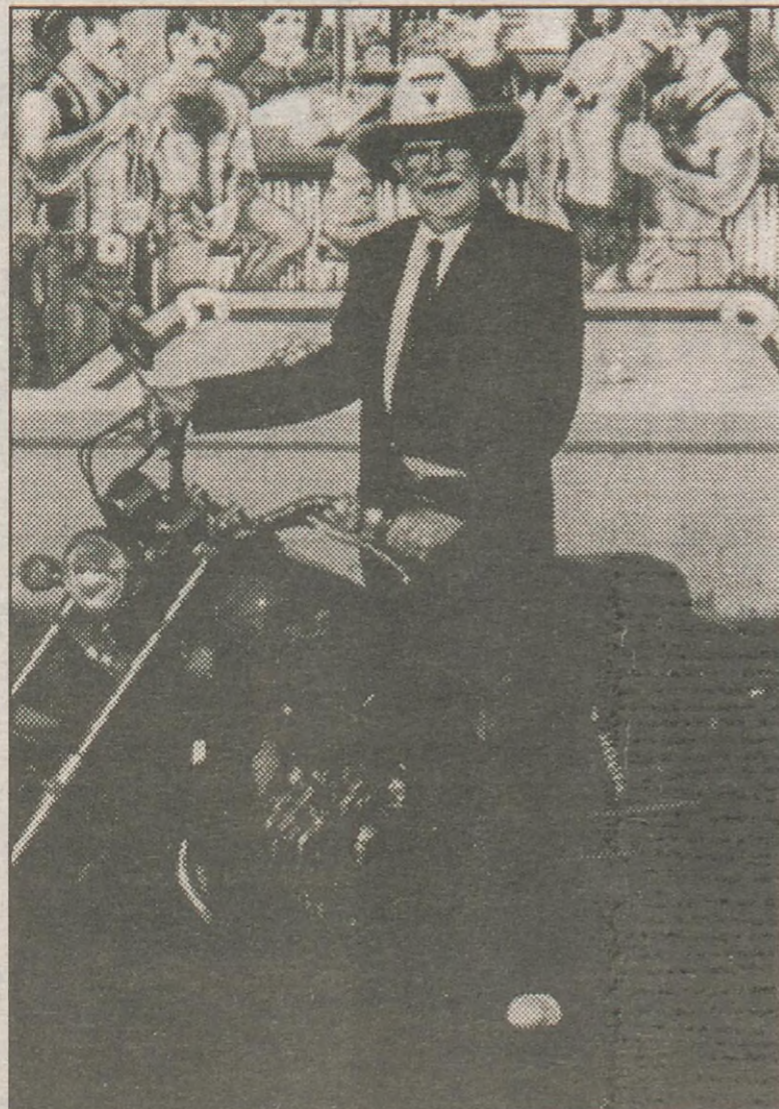
Gays were too scared to be themselves back then, says Hill. "No one used their last name. They were too scared. It was Joe from Baytown or Jim from Beaumont. You never knew the last name."

On the other hand, HATCH youths appear to be confident, secure and proud to be who they are. They have support from peers, family, friends and in some cases, their school.

"These are the good old days for the kids. To be able to be who you are is a vast difference from being nobody. And back then, we were nobody-individually and collectively," says Hill.

"We had no role models back then, but today there is a great difference," Hill said. "People and celebrities are coming out of the closet all the time. Today's gay kids have more role models. They have more insight."

But, he cautions, "Today's kids are going to encounter opposition and it's our job as parents to teach them how to deal with it," he says.



Longtime community activist, Ray Hill, says youths today have more role models and resources than he did, but feels it's the duty of older generation to help youngsters find a place in the community. "Today's kids are going to encounter opposition and it's our job as parents to teach them how to deal with it," said Hill.

Hill will be at the parade and so will the kids of HATCH—the old guard and the new guard, side by side. And with a little help, the new guard will pick up the march from the old timers and take the fight for civil rights to new heights.

'Do you believe in Gay civil rights?'

Progressive Voters in Action to register, document liberal voters during Pride

by ELLA TYLER

Politics will mix with Pride on Saturday when more than 190 volunteers from Progressive Voters in Action will register voters at the Pride Parade.

The volunteers, who will be wearing white stickers with PVA in large black letters, will ask "Do you believe in Gay civil rights?" said Alex Morua, the group's field director.

"We want to register new voters, but we also want the names of people who are already registered," he said.

The first shift of volunteers will be visiting with the parade participants as they assemble at 5:30 p.m.

"These are people who are activists in the LGBT communities, and as far as we know, no one has ever collected their names," Morua said.

At 7 p.m., a new group of volunteers will spread out along the parade route

to canvass people as they gather to view the parade.

"We're doing this because this is the only time of the year a large percentage of all the communities are all together," Morua explained. "If every one of the 100,000 people who watched the parade



voted, we'd be living in a different city."

The organization hopes to collect names of 10,000 registered voters on Saturday. Progressive Voters in Action was founded in September 1999 when Annise Parker decided that she wanted

> Continued on Page 30

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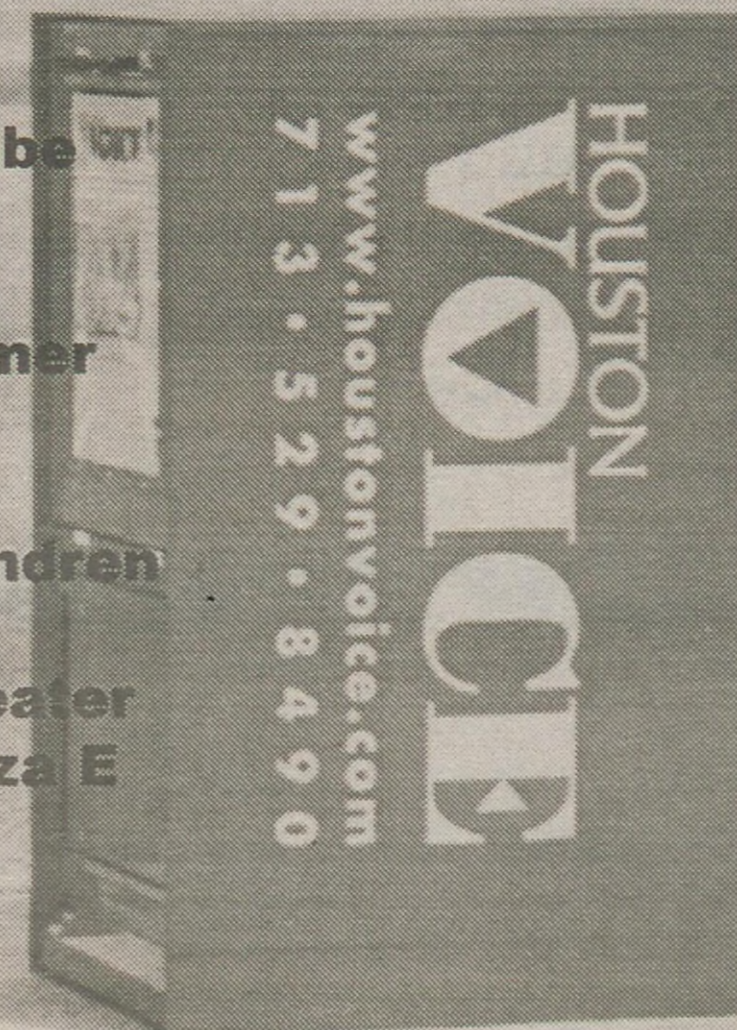
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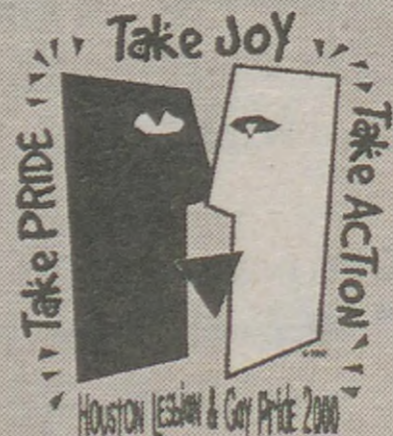
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For 26 years, Houston's gay community has had a *Voice*

by ROBERT B. HENDERSON

When Henry McClurg first moved to Houston in 1972 to be a newscaster and disc jockey at radio station KULF, he had a lot of free time because he was only working six hours a night, five days a week.

He bought an IBM typesetting device and started publishing a newspaper to occupy some of his time. He was in competition with Nuntius, an early gay and lesbian Houston paper. Nuntius went out of business, leaving McClurg's *Montrose Star* without any competition in the niche market.

It was 1974. The gay and lesbian community was beginning to find focus in Montrose, but the older "gay ghetto" was in southwest Houston, around Greenway Plaza, according to McClurg. He sold the *Star*, but in a few months it had gone under and the "no-competition" clause of the sales contract became moot. The name was still owned by the short-term owner, so McClurg opened his newspaper with the name *Montrose Voice*.

"I also had a newspaper in New Orleans called the *Crescent City Star*. I decided to merge the two papers into one, make it more of a regional paper," McClurg remembered. "I changed the name, when I merged them together, to the *New Voice*. It was the name it had when Crad Duren bought it. He changed it to the *Houston Voice*."

The *Houston Voice* is the oldest and, with several temporary exceptions, the only newspaper geared to Houston's gay community. McClurg said it was perseverance that kept the paper going. It was not a non-profit business, but no profits were the norm during his ownership.

"Having a gay paper, having a 'voice' out there... to cover these [police raids on gay bars] and report them, so everybody could actually see it in print... was a part of the liberation movement in every city.

Tolerance can survive if you have an open press," McClurg said.

He also credits the election of a number of political candidates to coverage from the *Voice*.

"The [Gay & Lesbian Political Caucus] was mostly responsible for [electing candidates]," McClurg said, "but we reported their endorsements and helped reach more people.

"Thus more people voted for the GLPC candidates in the early days when it was the 'all-powerful' political organization and very influential. We elected politicians who were favorable to us. The politicians who were not favorable to us were not elected."

Larry D. Lingle, an opinion columnist for the *Voice* for a number of years, said most of the reaction to his columns came from customers of his Montrose business.

"Partly because I'm older, they saw me as the voice of an older gay man speaking. They related because I often did connect things to the past and the fact of my own experience. The chord I hit was usually with older readers," Lingle said.

A labor of love, McClurg sold the paper in December 1993 to Dr. Crad Duren, who became the publisher with his life-partner, Tad Nelson, who served as editor.

Nelson had worked for McClurg for a number of years, and Duren caught wind that McClurg was interested in selling the paper.

"I thought this would be a fun thing to do," Duren said. "By chance I had studied journalism both in high school and college before I became a pre-med major. It was a field I was not unfamiliar with to some extent.

"I thought we had the advantage with Tad being there as to 'hands on' experience for multiple years. It wasn't like the nuts and bolts would be completely unknown—he had worked with the people, he had worked with Henry, he knew the advertisers," Duren said.

As major achievements during Duren's

> Continued on
Page 30



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Please see Brief Summary for COMBIVIR on the adjacent page.

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March 2000

BRIEF SUMMARY

COMBIVIR® Tablets (lamivudine/zidovudine tablets)

The following is a brief summary only; see full prescribing information for complete product information.

WARNING: ZIDOVUDINE, ONE OF THE TWO ACTIVE INGREDIENTS IN COMBIVIR, HAS BEEN ASSOCIATED WITH HEMATOLOGIC TOXICITY INCLUDING NEUTROPENIA AND SEVERE ANEMIA, PARTICULARLY IN PATIENTS WITH ADVANCED HIV DISEASE (SEE WARNINGS). PROLONGED USE OF ZIDOVUDINE HAS BEEN ASSOCIATED WITH SYMPTOMATIC MYOPATHY.

LACTIC ACIDOSIS AND SEVERE HEPATOMEGALY WITH STEATOSIS, INCLUDING FATAL CASES, HAVE BEEN REPORTED WITH THE USE OF NUCLEOSIDE ANALOGUES ALONE OR IN COMBINATION, INCLUDING LAMIVUDINE, ZIDOVUDINE, AND OTHER ANTIRETROVIRALS (SEE WARNINGS).

INDICATIONS AND USAGE: COMBIVIR in combination with other antiretroviral agents is indicated for the treatment of HIV infection.

Description of Clinical Studies: COMBIVIR: There have been no clinical trials conducted with COMBIVIR. See CLINICAL PHARMACOLOGY for information about bioequivalence. One COMBIVIR Tablet given twice a day is an alternative regimen to EPVIR Tablets 150 mg twice a day plus RETROVIR 600 mg per day in divided doses.

Lamivudine Plus Zidovudine: The NUCB3007 (CAESAR) study was conducted using EPVIR 150-mg Tablets (150 mg b.i.d.) and RETROVIR 100-mg Capsules (2 x 100 mg t.i.d.). CAESAR was a multicenter, double-blind, placebo-controlled study comparing continued current therapy (zidovudine alone [62% of patients] or zidovudine with didanosine or zalcitabine [38% of patients]) to the addition of EPVIR or EPVIR plus an investigational non-nucleoside reverse transcriptase inhibitor, randomized 1:2:1. A total of 1816 HIV-infected adults with 25 to 250 (median 122) CD4 cells/mm³ at baseline were enrolled; median age was 36 years, 87% were male, 84% were nucleoside-experienced, and 16% were therapy-naïve. The median duration on study was 12 months. Results are summarized in Table 1.

Table 1: Number of Patients (%) With At Least One HIV Disease-Progression Event or Death

Endpoint	Current Therapy (n = 460)	EPVIR plus Current Therapy (n = 696)	EPVIR plus a NRTI* plus Current Therapy (n = 460)
HIV progression or death	90 (19.6%)	86 (9.6%)	41 (8.9%)
Death	27 (5.9%)	23 (2.6%)	14 (3.0%)

*An investigational non-nucleoside reverse transcriptase inhibitor not approved in the United States.

CONTRAINDICATIONS: COMBIVIR Tablets are contraindicated in patients with previously demonstrated clinically significant hypersensitivity to any of the components of the product.

WARNINGS: COMBIVIR is a fixed-dose combination of lamivudine and zidovudine. Ordinarily, COMBIVIR should not be administered concomitantly with either lamivudine or zidovudine.

The complete prescribing information for all agents being considered for use with COMBIVIR should be consulted before combination therapy with COMBIVIR is initiated.

Bone Marrow Suppression: COMBIVIR should be used with caution in patients who have bone marrow compromise evidenced by granulocyte count <1000 cells/mm³ or hemoglobin <9.5 g/dL (see ADVERSE REACTIONS).

Frequent blood counts are strongly recommended in patients with advanced HIV disease who are treated with COMBIVIR. For HIV-infected individuals and patients with asymptomatic or early HIV disease, periodic blood counts are recommended.

Lactic Acidosis/Severe Hepatomegaly with Steatosis: Lactic acidosis and severe hepatomegaly with steatosis, including fatal cases, have been reported with the use of nucleoside analogues alone or in combination, including lamivudine, zidovudine, and other antiretrovirals. A majority of these cases have been in women. Obesity and prolonged nucleoside exposure may be risk factors. Particular caution should be exercised when administering COMBIVIR to any patient with known risk factors for liver disease; however, cases have also been reported in patients with no known risk factors. Treatment with COMBIVIR should be suspended in any patient who develops clinical or laboratory findings suggestive of lactic acidosis or pronounced hepatotoxicity (which may include hepatomegaly and steatosis even in the absence of marked transaminase elevations).

Myopathy: Myopathy and myositis, with pathological changes similar to that produced by HIV disease, have been associated with prolonged use of zidovudine, and therefore may occur with therapy with COMBIVIR.

PRECAUTIONS:

Patients With HIV and Hepatitis B Virus Coinfection: In clinical trials and postmarketing experience, some patients with HIV infection who have chronic liver disease due to hepatitis B virus infection experienced clinical or laboratory evidence of recurrent hepatitis upon discontinuation of lamivudine. Consequences may be more severe in patients with decompensated liver disease.

Patients With Impaired Renal Function: Reduction of the dosages of lamivudine and zidovudine is recommended for patients with impaired renal function. Patients with creatinine clearance <50 mL/min should not receive COMBIVIR.

Information for Patients: COMBIVIR is not a cure for HIV infection and patients may continue to experience illnesses associated with HIV infection, including opportunistic infections. Patients should be advised that the use of COMBIVIR has not been shown to reduce the risk of transmission of HIV to others through sexual contact or blood contamination. Patients should be informed that the major toxicities of COMBIVIR are neutropenia and/or anemia. They should be told of the extreme importance of having their blood counts followed closely while on therapy, especially for patients with advanced HIV disease. Patients should be advised of the importance of taking COMBIVIR as it is prescribed.

Drug Interactions: Coadministration of ganciclovir, interferon- α , and other bone marrow suppressive or cytotoxic agents may increase the hematologic toxicity of zidovudine (see CLINICAL PHARMACOLOGY section of full prescribing information).

Carcinogenesis, Mutagenesis, and Impairment of Fertility: Carcinogenicity: Lamivudine long-term carcinogenicity studies in mice and rats showed no evidence of carcinogenic potential at exposures up to 10 times (mice) and 58 times (rats) those observed in humans at the recommended therapeutic dose.

Zidovudine: Zidovudine was administered orally at three dosage levels to separate groups of mice and rats (60 females and 60 males in each group). Initial single daily doses were 30, 60, and 120 mg/kg per day in mice and 80, 220, and 600 mg/kg per day in rats. The doses in mice were reduced to 20, 30, and 40 mg/kg per day after day 91 and then to 300 mg/kg per day on day 279.

In mice, seven late-appearing (after 19 months) vaginal neoplasms (five nonmetastasizing squamous cell carcinomas, one squamous cell papilloma, and one squamous polyp) occurred in animals given the highest dose. One late-appearing squamous cell papilloma occurred in the vagina of a middle-dose animal. No vaginal tumors were found at the lowest dose.

In rats, two late-appearing (after 20 months), nonmetastasizing vaginal squamous cell carcinomas occurred in animals given the highest dose. No vaginal tumors occurred at the low or middle dose in rats. No other drug-related tumors were observed in either sex of either species.

At doses that produced tumors in mice and rats, the estimated drug exposure (as measured by AUC) was approximately three times (mouse) and 24 times (rat) the estimated human exposure at the recommended therapeutic dose of 100 mg every 4 hours.

Two transplacental carcinogenicity studies were conducted in mice. One study administered zidovudine at doses of 20 mg/kg per day or 40 mg/kg per day from gestation day 10 through parturition and lactation with dosing continuing in offspring for 24 months postnatally. The doses of zidovudine employed in this study produced zidovudine exposures approximately three times the estimated human exposure at recommended doses. After 24 months, at the highest dose, an increase in incidence of vaginal tumors was noted with no increase in tumors in the liver or lung or any other organ in either gender. These findings are consistent with results of the standard oral carcinogenicity study in mice, as described earlier. A second study administered zidovudine at maximum tolerated doses of 12.5 mg/day or 25 mg/day (~1000 mg/kg nonpregnant body weight or ~450 mg/kg of term body weight) to pregnant mice from days 12 through 18 of gestation. There was an increase in the number of tumors in the lung, liver, and female reproductive tracts in the offspring of mice receiving the higher dose level of zidovudine.

It is not known how predictive the results of rodent carcinogenicity studies may be for humans.

Mutagenicity: Lamivudine: Lamivudine was negative in a microbial mutagenicity screen, in an in vitro cell transformation assay, in a rat micronucleus test, in a rat bone marrow cytogenetic assay, and in an assay for unscheduled DNA synthesis in rat liver. It was mutagenic in a L5178Y/TK⁺ mouse lymphoma assay and clastogenic in a cytogenetic assay using cultured human lymphocytes.

Zidovudine: Zidovudine was mutagenic in a L5178Y/TK⁺ mouse lymphoma assay, positive in an in vitro cell transformation assay, clastogenic in a cytogenetic assay using cultured human lymphocytes, and positive in mouse and rat micronucleus tests after repeated doses. It was negative in a cytogenetic assay using cultured human lymphocytes.

Impairment of Fertility: Lamivudine: In a study of reproductive performance, lamivudine, administered to male and female rats at doses up to 130 times the usual adult dose based on body surface area considerations, revealed no evidence of impaired fertility (judged by conception rates) and no effect on the survival, growth, and development to weaning of the offspring.

Zidovudine: Zidovudine, administered to male and female rats at doses up to 7 times the usual adult dose based on body surface area considerations, had no effect on fertility judged by conception rates.

Pregnancy: Pregnancy Category C.

Reference: 1. Hammer SM, Squires KE, Hughes MD, et al. A controlled trial of two nucleoside analogues plus indinavir in persons with human immunodeficiency virus infection and CD4 cell counts of 200 per cubic millimeter or less. *N Engl J Med.* 1997;337:725-733.

COMBIVIR® Tablets (lamivudine/zidovudine tablets)

COMBIVIR: There are no adequate and well-controlled studies of COMBIVIR in pregnant women. Reproduction studies with lamivudine and zidovudine have been performed in animals (see Lamivudine and Zidovudine sections below). COMBIVIR should be used during pregnancy only if the potential benefits outweigh the risks.

Lamivudine: Reproduction studies with orally administered lamivudine have been performed in rats and rabbits at 130 and 60 times, respectively, the usual adult dose (based on relative body surface area) and have revealed no evidence of teratogenicity. Some evidence of early embryolethality was seen in the rabbit at doses similar to those produced by the usual adult dose and higher, but there was no indication of this effect in the rat at orally administered doses up to 130 times the usual adult dose. Studies in pregnant rats and rabbits showed that lamivudine is transferred to the fetus through the placenta.

Zidovudine: Reproduction studies with orally administered zidovudine in the rat and in the rabbit at doses up to 500 mg/kg per day revealed no evidence of teratogenicity with zidovudine. Zidovudine treatment resulted in embryo/fetal toxicity as evidenced by an increase in the incidence of fetal resorptions in rats given 150 or 450 mg/kg per day and rabbits given 500 mg/kg per day. The doses used in the teratology studies resulted in peak zidovudine plasma concentrations (after one-half of the daily dose) in rats 66 to 226 times, and in rabbits 12 to 87 times, mean steady-state peak human plasma concentrations (after one-sixth of the daily dose) achieved with the recommended daily dose (100 mg every 4 hours). In an additional teratology study in rats, a dose of 3000 mg/kg per day (very near the oral median lethal dose in rats of 3683 mg/kg) caused marked maternal toxicity and an increase in the incidence of fetal malformations. This dose resulted in peak zidovudine plasma concentrations 350 times peak human plasma concentrations. No evidence of teratogenicity was seen in this experiment at doses of 600 mg/kg per day or less. Two rodent carcinogenicity studies were conducted (see Carcinogenesis, Mutagenesis, Impairment of Fertility).

Antiretroviral Pregnancy Registry: To monitor maternal-fetal outcomes of pregnant women exposed to COMBIVIR and other antiretroviral agents, an Antiretroviral Pregnancy Registry has been established. Physicians are encouraged to register patients by calling 1-800-258-4263.

Nursing Mothers: The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention recommend that HIV-infected mothers not breastfeed their infants to avoid risking postnatal transmission of HIV infection.

COMBIVIR: Zidovudine is excreted in breast milk (see CLINICAL PHARMACOLOGY: Pharmacokinetics: Nursing Mothers subsection of full prescribing information); however, no data are available on COMBIVIR or lamivudine. Therefore, there is a potential for adverse effects in nursing infants. Mothers should be instructed not to breastfeed if they are receiving COMBIVIR.

Pediatric Use: COMBIVIR should not be administered to pediatric patients less than 12 years of age because it is a fixed-dose combination that cannot be adjusted for this patient population.

ADVERSE REACTIONS:
Lamivudine Plus Zidovudine Administered As Separate Formulations: In four randomized, controlled trials of EPVIR 300 mg per day plus RETROVIR 600 mg per day, the following selected clinical and laboratory adverse events were observed (see Tables 2 and 3):

Table 2: Selected Clinical Adverse Events (>5% Frequency) in Four Controlled Clinical Trials With EPVIR 300 mg/day and RETROVIR 600 mg/day

Adverse Event	EPVIR plus RETROVIR (n = 251)
Body as a whole	Headache 35%
	Malaise & fatigue 27%
	Fever or chills 10%
Digestive	Nausea 33%
	Diarrhea 18%
	Nausea & vomiting 13%
	Anorexia and/or decreased appetite 10%
	Abdominal pain 9%
	Abdominal cramps 6%
Nervous system	Neuropathy 12%
	Insomnia & other sleep disorders 11%
	Dizziness 10%
	Depressive disorders 9%
Respiratory	Nasal signs & symptoms 20%
	Cough 18%
Skin	Skin rashes 9%
Musculoskeletal	Musculoskeletal pain 12%
	Myalgia 8%
	Arthralgia 5%

Pancreatitis was observed in three of the 656 adult patients (<0.5%) who received EPVIR in controlled clinical trials. Selected laboratory abnormalities observed during therapy are listed in Table 3.

Table 3: Frequencies of Selected Laboratory Abnormalities Among Adults in Four Controlled Clinical Trials of EPVIR 300 mg/day plus RETROVIR 600 mg/day*

Test (Abnormal Level)	EPVIR plus RETROVIR % (n)
Neutropenia (ANC <750/mm ³)	7.2% (237)
Anemia (Hgb <8.0 g/dL)	2.9% (241)
Thrombocytopenia (platelets <50,000/mm ³)	0.4% (240)
ALT (>5.0 x ULN)	3.7% (241)
AST (>5.0 x ULN)	1.7% (241)
Bilirubin (>2.5 x ULN)	0.8% (241)
Amylase (>2.0 x ULN)	4.2% (72)

ULN = Upper limit of normal.

ANC = Absolute neutrophil count.

n = Number of patients assessed.

*Frequencies of these laboratory abnormalities were higher in patients with mild laboratory abnormalities at baseline.

Observed During Clinical Practice: In addition to adverse events reported from clinical trials, the following events have been identified during post-approval use of EPVIR and/or RETROVIR. Because they are reported voluntarily from a population of unknown size, estimates of frequency cannot be made. These events have been chosen for inclusion due to a combination of their seriousness, frequency of reporting, or potential causal connection to EPVIR and/or RETROVIR.

Endocrine and Metabolic: Hypoglycemia.

General: Sensitization reactions (including anaphylaxis), vasculitis.

Hepatobiliary Tract and Pancreas: Lactic acidosis and hepatic steatosis (see WARNINGS), pancreatitis.

Musculoskeletal: Muscle weakness, CPK elevation, rhabdomyolysis.

Nervous System: Seizures.

Skin: Alopecia, erythema multiforme, Stevens-Johnson syndrome, urticaria.

OVERDOSAGE:

COMBIVIR: There is no known antidote for COMBIVIR.

Lamivudine: One case of an adult ingesting 6 grams of lamivudine was reported; there were no clinical signs or symptoms noted and hematologic tests remained normal. It is not known whether lamivudine can be removed by peritoneal dialysis or hemodialysis.

Zidovudine: Acute overdoses of zidovudine have been reported in pediatric patients and adults. These involved exposures up to 50 grams. The only consistent findings were nausea and vomiting. Other reported occurrences included headache, dizziness, drowsiness, lethargy, confusion, and one report of a grand mal seizure. Hematologic changes were transient. All patients recovered. Hemodialysis and peritoneal dialysis appear to have a negligible effect on the removal of zidovudine while elimination of its primary metabolite, GZDV, is enhanced.

DOSAGE AND ADMINISTRATION: The recommended oral dose of COMBIVIR for adults and adolescents (at least 12 years of age) is one tablet (containing 150 mg of lamivudine and 300 mg of zidovudine) twice daily.

Dose Adjustment: Because it is a fixed-dose combination, COMBIVIR should not be prescribed for patients requiring dosage adjustment such as those with reduced renal function (creatinine clearance <50 mL/min) or those experiencing dose-limiting adverse events.

GlaxoWellcome

Glaxo Wellcome Inc.
Research Triangle Park, NC 27709

Lamivudine is manufactured under agreement from BioChem Pharma Inc.
Laval, Quebec, Canada

US Patent Nos. 5,047,407; 4,818,538; 4,828,838; 4,724,232; 4,833,130; 4,837,208 and 5,859,021

January 2000/RL-794

MEDICATION GUIDE**ZIAGEN® (z-EYE-uh-jen) (abacavir sulfate) Tablets and Oral Solution**

Established name: abacavir (uh-BACK-ah-veer) sulfate tablets and oral solution

In order to take Ziagen safely, you should read all of the information in this Medication Guide each time you fill your prescription for Ziagen.

What is the most important information I should know about Ziagen?

About 5% of patients (5 in 100) who take Ziagen have a hypersensitivity reaction (a serious allergic reaction) **that may result in death**. If you have **skin rash** or 2 or more of the following sets of symptoms, you may be having this kind of reaction:

- fever
- nausea, vomiting, diarrhea, or abdominal pain
- severe tiredness, achiness, or generally ill feeling
- sore throat, shortness of breath, or cough

A written list of these symptoms is on the Warning Card provided by your pharmacist. You should carry this Warning Card with you. **IF YOU NOTICE THESE SYMPTOMS WHILE TAKING ZIAGEN, STOP TAKING ZIAGEN AND CALL YOUR DOCTOR IMMEDIATELY.**

If you must stop treatment with Ziagen because you have had this serious reaction, **NEVER TAKE ZIAGEN AGAIN**. If you take Ziagen again after you have had this serious reaction, **WITHIN HOURS** you may experience **LIFE-THREATENING** symptoms that may include **LOWERING OF YOUR BLOOD PRESSURE OR DEATH**.

Ziagen can have other serious side effects. Be sure to read "What are the possible side effects of Ziagen?" in the section below.

What is Ziagen?

Ziagen is a medication used to treat HIV infection. Ziagen is taken by mouth as a tablet or a strawberry-banana flavored liquid. It belongs to a class of anti-HIV medicines called nucleoside analogue reverse transcriptase inhibitors (NRTIs). Ziagen is only proven to work when taken in combination with other anti-HIV medications. When used in combination with these other medications, Ziagen helps lower the amount of HIV found in your blood and keep your immune system as healthy as possible so that it can help fight infection. However, Ziagen does not have these effects in all patients.

Ziagen does not cure HIV infection or AIDS. At this time, there is no evidence that Ziagen will help you live longer or have fewer of the medical problems that are associated with HIV infection or AIDS. Because of this, you must be sure to be seen regularly by your health care provider.

Who should not take Ziagen?

Do not take Ziagen if you have ever had a hypersensitivity reaction (a serious allergic reaction) to Ziagen. In such cases, you should return all of your unused Ziagen to your doctor or pharmacist for proper disposal.

How should I take Ziagen?

Take Ziagen exactly as your doctor prescribes it.

The usual dosage for adults (at least 16 years of age) is one

300-mg tablet twice a day.

Adolescents and children from 3 months to 16 years of age can also take Ziagen. Your doctor will tell you if the oral solution or tablet is best for your child. Also, your child's doctor will decide the right dose based on your child's weight and age. Ziagen has not been studied in children under 3 months of age.

Ziagen can be taken with food or on an empty stomach.

To help make sure that your anti-HIV therapy is as effective as it can be, be very careful to take all of your medication exactly as your doctor prescribed it and do not skip any doses.

If you miss a dose of Ziagen, take the missed dose immediately. Then, take the next dose at the regularly scheduled time.

When your supply of Ziagen and other anti-HIV drugs starts to run low, get more from your doctor or pharmacy. It is very important that you take anti-HIV drugs as prescribed by your doctor because the amount of virus in your blood may increase if one or more of the drugs is stopped, even for a short time.

What should I avoid while taking Ziagen?

Ziagen has not been shown to reduce the risk of passing HIV to others through sexual contact or blood contamination. Continue to practice safe sex while using Ziagen. Do not use or share dirty needles.

Talk to your doctor if you are pregnant or if you become pregnant while taking Ziagen. Ziagen has not been studied in pregnant women and the risk to the unborn child is not known.

Mothers with HIV should not breastfeed their infants because HIV in the breast milk can be passed to the infant.

What are the possible side effects of Ziagen?

Some people have had a hypersensitivity reaction (a serious allergic reaction) to Ziagen, which can be fatal. Instructions on how to recognize a possible reaction, as well as what to do if such a reaction is suspected, are discussed in the section "What is the most important information I should know about Ziagen?"

The class of medicines to which Ziagen belongs (NRTIs) can cause a condition called lactic acidosis, together with an enlarged liver. In some cases, this condition can be fatal. Women are more likely than men to experience this rare but serious side effect.

Ziagen can cause other side effects. In studies, the most common side effects with Ziagen were nausea, vomiting, malaise or fatigue, headache, diarrhea, and loss of appetite. Most of these side effects did not cause people to stop taking Ziagen. This listing of side effects is not complete. Your doctor or pharmacist can discuss with you a more complete list of side effects with Ziagen. Talk to your doctor promptly about any side effects you have.

Medicines are sometimes prescribed for purposes other than those listed in a Medication Guide. Ask a health care professional about any concerns about Ziagen. Professional labeling is available to your doctor and other health care professionals. If you want more information, ask your doctor or pharmacist to let you read the professional labeling.

GlaxoWellcome

Glaxo Wellcome Inc.
Research Triangle Park, NC 27709

January 2000 MG - 005

This Medication Guide has been approved by the US Food and Drug Administration.

Talk to your healthcare professional about ZIAGEN. Or call 1-888-TALK-2-GW (1-888-825-5249).

I am

Ziagen[®]

abacavir sulfate 300 mg tablets

I drive down viral load

Most people who took ZIAGEN with two other nucleoside analogues as their first combination regimen achieved undetectable viral load through 16 weeks.* ZIAGEN does not cure HIV infection/AIDS or prevent passing HIV to others. It's not known whether taking ZIAGEN will slow the progress of HIV disease or help you live longer.

I am two pills a day, with or without food

The easy dosing of ZIAGEN—just one tablet in the morning and one at night, with or without food—simplifies your combination therapy.

I give you treatment options

ZIAGEN is powerful enough to achieve undetectable viral load when used in initial combination therapy*—for example, ZIAGEN + COMBIVIR[®] (lamivudine 150 mg/zidovudine 300 mg) Tablets—and may preserve future treatment options. ZIAGEN can be effective in patients who have used anti-HIV drugs before, but the effects are less.

Important safety information

About 5% of patients (5 in 100) who take ZIAGEN have a hypersensitivity reaction (a serious allergic reaction) that may result in death. IF YOU HAVE SKIN RASH OR TWO OR MORE OF THE FOLLOWING SETS OF SYMPTOMS, STOP TAKING ZIAGEN AND CALL YOUR DOCTOR IMMEDIATELY:

- fever
- nausea, vomiting, diarrhea, or abdominal pain
- severe tiredness, achiness, or generally ill feeling
- sore throat, shortness of breath, or cough

A written list of these symptoms is on the Warning Card and Medication Guide provided by your pharmacist. You should carry the Warning Card with you.

If you must stop treatment with ZIAGEN because you have had this serious reaction, NEVER TAKE ZIAGEN AGAIN. If you take ZIAGEN again after you have had this serious reaction, WITHIN HOURS you may experience LIFE-THREATENING symptoms that may include LOWERING OF YOUR BLOOD PRESSURE OR DEATH.

A buildup of lactic acid and an enlarged liver, including fatal cases, have been reported with HIV drugs of this type, including ZIAGEN and other antiretrovirals.

Most side effects were mild to moderate; the most common side effects were nausea, vomiting, malaise or fatigue, headache, diarrhea, and loss of appetite. Most of these side effects did not cause people to stop taking ZIAGEN.

*71% (62/87) of patients taking ZIAGEN with lamivudine + zidovudine in this clinical trial had viral load undetectable below 400 copies/mL using the Roche Amplicor HIV-1 MONITOR[®] Test.

Please see important information for ZIAGEN and COMBIVIR on adjacent pages.

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www.ZIAGEN.com

 **Glaxo Wellcome**
HIV

A division of Glaxo Wellcome Inc.
Research Triangle Park, NC 27709
Web site: www.glaxowellcome.com

Progressive voters

> Continued from Page 30

her political legacy to be a base of voter support for progressive issues. Morua and Grant Martin, with help from Dr. Maria Gonzalez started the group. The group is interested in gay voters, but wants non-gay voters too.

"We see gay rights as part of a broader social justice movement which includes racial and economic justice as well as reproductive freedom," Maura said.

The group works like a political campaign, but operates on an ongoing basis. PVA already has the names of 10,000 voters in its database and an active volunteer base of 60.

We began collecting names on Election Day last November by sending volunteers to polling places in precincts that have a high number of progressive voters," Maura said.

PVA volunteers have added new names to this list by calling registered voters in targeted precincts and going door to door.

"We ask if the person we are talking to supports gay adoption, hate crime legislation and reproductive rights," Maura said.

The group's goal is to have 100,000 names by 2003.

"Names on the list will not be shared with any other group or political candidate," Maura said. "If we decide to support a candidate, we will arrange with an

outside mailing house to do a mailing in that district, but the candidate never sees the names."

The volunteers for the Pride Parade project have been recruited from a variety of sources.

"We have a group of social workers, and I've been to MCC, gay day at Astroworld, a Green Party meeting, Nuestra Palabra (a monthly Latina poetry reading) and set up a table at Bocados. The GLPC is helping, too," Morua said.

Anyone who wants to help canvass of parade watchers is welcome and should meet at Hubbard Financial Service at 2615 Montrose at 7 p.m. Saturday. The candidate who will be getting most help from PVA during the 2000 elections is State Rep. Ken Yarbrough, of District 138, which is in the near Northwest part of Houston.

"Yarbrough won his last election by only 200 votes, so our help will make a difference. He is good on our issues, and the district is very interesting. It has a growing number of gay and lesbian voters and is split evenly between people of color and Anglo voters," Morua said.

"The religious right is well organized. If do not want to lose to them we must be equally well organized and committed to voting."

The Progressive Voters in Action has an office at 2700 Albany, Suite 205. The phone number is 713-521-7161.

Houston Voice History

> Continued from Page 24

ownership, he cites improvements in the paper's physical appearance, especially with the addition of more color pages. A broader array of advertisers also came on board.

"We tried to include as many segments of the community as we could—not just the bar and the club scene—but also tried to reach out to the Hispanic, black and women's organizations," he said. "We sent two people to cover the Gay Games in New York City. We reached out into the fine arts community.

"During the years I ran the *Voice*, I never took a single penny out of it. I had the advantage of earning money as a physician, so every single dollar stayed there."

Nelson became ill and died in August 1995. His death robbed Duren of his primary interest in the paper. It took Duren until 1996 to come to terms emotionally with Nelson's loss and what that meant for his ownership of the paper.

Taking things to the next level

In December 1997, he sold the *Houston Voice* to its present owners, a company called Window Media, LLC, that was establishing a small chain of gay and lesbian newspapers across the South.

"Our company was founded with the idea of professionalizing the gay press, bringing in resources and experience that

most local gay newspapers have lacked until now," said William Waybourn, one of Window Media's founding partners.

Window Media purchased *Southern Voice*, Atlanta's gay newspaper, just four months earlier. And eight months after the Houston paper was on board, the company bought *IMPACT News*, the gay newspaper in New Orleans and a former competitor to McClurg's *Crescent City Star*.

In March 1999, the company took *eclipse* magazine, then a small New Orleans bar guide run out of the *IMPACT News* office, and transformed it into a regional nightlife and entertainment publication that includes Houston as one of three key cities in its reach.

In the two and a half years the *Houston Voice* has been under Window Media's ownership, the paper has grown dramatically, and established itself among the nation's best gay newspapers, said Chris Crain, the paper's publisher and editorial director.

"All our editors have a solid foundation in mainstream journalism, along with a core commitment to the communities they serve," he said. "We're immensely proud of the feedback we get from gay journalists around the country about the improved quality of the *Houston Voice*. Even more importantly, we've seen our circulation go through the roof as we connected with more and more readers."

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Out on the Bayou

A guide for your leisure time

HOUSTON VOICE • JUNE 23, 2000

HOT SUMMER ARTS

Lots going on in
Bayou City this season

by D.L. GROOVER

All right, you're cranky. Pride celebration 2000 is winding down; the temperature in the Montrose hovers close to that on the surface of Mars; the streets are still torn up; the

remedy for all this, as it's always been, are the Arts: cool and refreshing. The following summer summary might even heat you up in a good way. Nothing will help the 'Stros.

PAGLIACCI

If you're not interested in the Parade, then you should get outta town. Lay low and stay cool at the Woodlands for this Houston Grand Opera multi-media production of Leoncavallo's justly famed one-acter about a traveling theater company. See the slide show, see the gazillion-dollar erector set of a set, listen to the liquid voice of Stella Zambalis, watch the clown cry.

June 24 Cynthia Woods Mitchell Pavilion
The Woodlands

OUTLAW: QUEER LIKE RAY HILL

What theater season would be complete without a visit from Houston's own gay one-man band. If you've never experienced the curmudgeonly, expressive Mr. Hill as he entertains with his unique brand of GLBT stream of consciousness, here's your chance. At the conclusion of his theatrical rants, you may not want to be queer like him, but you'll never be quite the same, either.

June 16 - July 16 Ashland St. Theatre 2610
Ashland 713-426-3019

CORRUPTION OF THE SPECIES

Here's something you don't get to see every day — a puppet show for adults only.

> Continued on Page 36

k.d.'s invincible summer sounds

k.d lang's
new album
is all about
smiling and
feeling good

by MARGARET COBLE

k.d. lang's new album **INVINCIBLE SUMMER** (Warner Bros.), sporting the radio-aimed single "Summerfling," leaves the listener much the same way as a blockbuster summer romance film does: Smiling, feeling good, but not cerebrally challenged by any stretch of the imagination.

Lang herself says that was basically the intention with this, her ninth studio album, which was—not coincidentally—mostly written on the beach.

"I was listening to The Mamas & The Papas, surf punk and a lot of Brazilian music," she says, noting the musical influences for "Invincible Summer." "It all put me into a super positive mood. I really zoned in on the everyday blessings of life and, in the process, re-acquired the fuel of my soul. It was like rediscovering the happy, optimistic side of myself that I lost touch with in the stress and confusion of maintaining a career."


And what a career it's been. Starting with her groundbreaking work with the Reclines in the mid '80s, through her defining solo albums

"Shadowland," "Absolute Torch and Twang," and "Ingenué," and more recently the critically-acclaimed "All You Can Eat" and "Drag," lang has made her mark in the country, pop, and alternative markets with her larger-than-life voice and tongue-in-cheek stage persona. She's sold millions of records, won multiple Grammys, and somehow also found time to dabble in activism (her controversial anti-meat campaign comes to mind, not to mention her very public coming out as a lesbian) and acting, both on television and in films.

About two years ago, following an

> Continued on Page 35





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On Stage

Bedtime story for all ages

by D.L. GROOVER

Now that President Clinton has officially declared June Gay and Lesbian Pride Month 2000, I feel that I can safely issue my own proclamation. With trumpets, banners and my hat flung high into the air, I declare **FAIRY TALES** the musical for Pride month.

As the inaugural production of Houston's newest theater venture, Theatre New West, housed on California Street in the supper club Sonoma's ground floor, "Fairy Tales," with music and lyrics by Eric Lane Barnes, is a jubilant, radiant, enlightening gay musical revue.

It is required viewing for anyone who adores theater, musicals or just an exceptional evening out on the town. This version could easily serve as a primer on staging, for the 10-by-10 foot raised platform literally seems, at times, to expand to the size of the Hippodrome, or contract to a whispered one-on-one conversation of the heart.

With wit and great charm, this revue chronicles the life and times of Matthew, a gay man who grows up in a dysfunctional conservative family, comes out, meets a lover, and eventually succumbs to AIDS.

Although solemnity runs under the story like a riptide, this musical manages to celebrate gay life in all its delicious diversity. It revels in camp, yet glorifies remembrance and humanity as it progresses from universal to specific, as Matthew's story transcends into an Everyman's tale. In this gay life parade, the quintet of performers takes on various other characters to enrich and narrate Matthew's story. It might be Matthew's story they're all singing, but it's really about us.

Alex Stutler, firm of voice and body, makes a strikingly good Matthew, all wide-eyed comic innocence as he longs for the complacency and normal existence of his favorite TV family, the Partridges, so unlike his own; until he realizes what he is and has to come out to his father in the utterly agonizing, yet lilting "Dear Dad." Keith Caldwell as Matthew's lover has the best voice of the five, resonant and redolent of the finest of Broadway. His twang rendition of "Illinois Fred" is classic parody, where the conventions of masculine role playing are hilariously given the country-western boot; while his haunting "Hummingbird," a love song to his sick lover, will make you weep.

Stephen Humble belts the best song when he portrays a jilted lover in the wickedly acidic "Letter Song," the ultimate last word on his former boyfriend's appalling lack of grammar, all while his backup girls, a la Supremes, gyrate and wag their fingers at social intercourse's faux pas. That the girls are played by Stutler and Caldwell makes the camp even richer.

Melanie Donihoo wraps her clear soprano around the folk-inspired "Ballad of



Stephen Humble, J. Leigh Lucas, Alex Stutler and Melanie Donihoo lend support to Keith Caldwell in "Fairy Tales," playing at Theater New West through Aug. 5.

Tammy Brown" and performs this haunting unrequited love song to a butch high school girlfriend with a purity of line not often heard since Joan Baez. And although J. Leigh Lucas's wide vibrato has her landing more often between notes rather than dead-on, her lovingly sung ode to her lost child "When You Meet an Angel" is one of the show's most poignant moments.

Although the 21 songs (this is a sung-through score) paint the story's individual pictures, any one of them could stand alone. It's not inconceivable, if it hasn't happened already, that Barnes's marvelous tunes could make their happy appearance in cabaret acts by Michael Feinstein, Barbara Cook or Rosemary Clooney.

As is the rage these days, the music is a melange of styles, ranging from country-western swing, be-bop, uplifting anthems, folk tunes, and razzle-dazzlers from Broadway. With its history theme of gay times from Stonewall onward, this musical approach in "Fairy Tales" is appropriate and right and works brilliantly.

This beguiling musical revue is in very capable hands: the evocative, effortless direction of Joe Watts, the marvelous choreography by Caroline Pendland, and the breezy musical direction by Keith Chapman. With minimal costuming: a boa, a pair of chaps, a wig or two, the intermissionless musical smoothly sails into enchantment.

"Fairy Tales," with its sublime mix of laughter and tears, gives us a needed boost of humanity and a wonderful feeling of pride. The signature piece is "Parade," and a more telling song for June's Celebration has yet to be written. In jubilant harmony, the quintet praises our universal presence. Representing every race, color, class, religion, profession, what have you, we are everywhere. In that unalterable fact, we therefore have our own pride parade every day. It's a stirring message of empowerment and hope. It's just what we need to see us through those other eleven months.

INFO

Fairy Tales

by Eric Lane Barnes
through Aug. 5
Theatre New West
1415 California
713-394-0464

Doris says...



Will those Divas ever learn
to make their exits?
Don't they know that their
lives are engulfed
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Every dose. Every day.™ VIRACEPT works. It is indicated for the treatment of HIV infection when anti-HIV drug therapy is warranted. It is not yet known whether taking VIRACEPT will help you live longer or reduce the number of infections or other illnesses that can occur with HIV.

Plan ahead Learn how your treatment plan helps you fight HIV. Take an active role in designing your treatment plan along with your healthcare provider. Ask your doctor, nurse, or pharmacist how VIRACEPT can be part of your strategy for long-term management of HIV.

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nelfinavir mesylate
tablets and oral powder

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TAKEN TWICE A DAY**

Things you should know about VIRACEPT VIRACEPT is generally well tolerated. People treated with VIRACEPT may experience some side effects; the most common is diarrhea. Diarrhea of moderate or severe intensity occurred in about one out of five people in clinical trials.

Some common medications and some HIV-related medications should not be taken with VIRACEPT. Protease inhibitors, including VIRACEPT, may interact with cholesterol-lowering drugs. Talk to your doctor about any prescription or non-prescription drugs you are

taking. For some people, protease inhibitors have been associated with the onset or worsening of diabetes mellitus and hyperglycemia, changes in the distribution or accumulation of body fat, and increased bleeding in patients with hemophilia. For more information, call toll free 1-888-VIRACEPT or visit www.viracept.com. (Refer to the important information on the next page.)

*IMS Health National Prescription Audit™ data for PIs and NNRTIs, 01/00-03/00.

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Agouron
Pharmaceuticals, Inc.

VIRACEPT

nelfinavir mesylate
tablets and oral powder

Information for Patients About VIRACEPT® (VI-ra-cept)
Generic Name: nelfinavir (nel-FIN-na-veer) mesylate

For the Treatment of Human Immunodeficiency Virus (HIV) Infection
Please read this information carefully before taking VIRACEPT. Also, please read this leaflet each time you renew the prescription, just in case anything has changed. This is a summary and not a replacement for a careful discussion with your doctor. You and your doctor should discuss VIRACEPT when you start taking this medication and at regular checkups. You should remain under a doctor's care when taking VIRACEPT and should not change or stop treatment without first talking with your doctor.

What is VIRACEPT and how does it work?

VIRACEPT is used in the treatment of people with human immunodeficiency virus (HIV) infection. Infection with HIV leads to the destruction of CD4 T cells, which are important to the immune system. After a large number of CD4 cells have been destroyed, the infected person develops acquired immune deficiency syndrome (AIDS).

VIRACEPT works by blocking HIV protease (a protein-cutting enzyme), which is required for HIV to multiply. VIRACEPT has been shown to significantly reduce the amount of HIV in the blood. You should be aware, however, that the effect of VIRACEPT on HIV in the blood has not been correlated with long-term health benefits. Patients who took VIRACEPT also had significant increases in the number of CD4 cell count.

VIRACEPT is usually taken together with other antiretroviral drugs such as Retrovir® (zidovudine, AZT), Efavir® (lamivudine, 3TC), or Zerit® (stavudine, d4T). Taking VIRACEPT in combination with other antiretroviral drugs reduces the amount of HIV in the body (viral load) and raises CD4 counts.

VIRACEPT may be taken by adults, adolescents, and children 2 years of age or older. Studies in infants younger than 2 years of age are now taking place.

Does VIRACEPT cure HIV or AIDS?

VIRACEPT is not a cure for HIV infection or AIDS. The long-term effects of VIRACEPT are not known at this time. People taking VIRACEPT may still develop opportunistic infections or other conditions associated with HIV infection. Some of these conditions are pneumonia, herpes virus infections, Mycobacterium avium complex (MAC) infections, and Kaposi's sarcoma.

It is not known whether VIRACEPT will help you live longer or reduce the number of infections or other illnesses that may occur.

There is no proof that VIRACEPT can reduce the risk of transmitting HIV to others through sexual contact or blood contamination.

Who should or should not take VIRACEPT?

Together with your doctor, you need to decide whether VIRACEPT is appropriate for you. In making your decision, the following should be considered:

Allergies: If you have had a serious allergic reaction to VIRACEPT, you must not take VIRACEPT. You should also inform your doctor, nurse, or pharmacist of any known allergies to substances such as other medicines, foods, preservatives, or dyes.

If you are pregnant: The effects of VIRACEPT on pregnant women or their unborn babies are not known. If you are pregnant or plan to become pregnant, you should tell your doctor before taking VIRACEPT.

If you are breast-feeding: You should discuss with your doctor the best way to feed your baby. You should be aware that if your baby does not already have HIV, there is a chance that it can be transmitted through breast-feeding. **Women should not breast-feed if they have HIV.**

Children: VIRACEPT is available for the treatment of children 2 through 13 years of age with HIV. There is a powder form of VIRACEPT that can be mixed with milk, baby formula, or foods like pudding. Instructions on how to take VIRACEPT powder can be found in a later section that discusses how VIRACEPT Oral Powder should be prepared.

If you have liver disease: VIRACEPT has not been studied in people with liver disease. If you have liver disease, you should tell your doctor before taking VIRACEPT.

Other medical problems: Certain medical problems may affect the use of VIRACEPT. Some people taking protease inhibitors have developed new or more serious diabetes or high blood sugar. Some people with hemophilia have had increased bleeding. It is not known whether the protease inhibitors caused these problems. Be sure to tell your doctor if you have hemophilia types A and B, diabetes mellitus, or an increase in thirst and/or frequent urination.

Changes in body fat have been seen in some patients taking protease inhibitors. These changes may include increased amount of fat in the upper back and neck ("buffalo hump"), breast, and around the trunk. Loss of fat from the legs and arms may also happen. The cause and long-term health effects of these conditions are not known at this time.

Can VIRACEPT be taken with other medications?

VIRACEPT may interact with other drugs, including those you take without a prescription. You must discuss with your doctor any drugs that you are taking or are planning to take before you take VIRACEPT.

Drugs you should not take with VIRACEPT:

- Hismanal® (astemizole, for allergies)
- Propulsid® (cisapride, for heartburn)
- Cordarone® (amiodarone, for irregular heartbeat)
- Quinidine® (for irregular heartbeat), also known as Quinaglute®, Cardioquin®, Quinidex®, and others
- Ergot derivatives (Cafergot® and others, for migraine headache)
- Halcion® (triazolam)
- Versed® (midazolam)

Taking the above drugs with VIRACEPT may cause serious and/or life-threatening adverse events.

- Rifampin® (for tuberculosis), also known as Rimactane®, Rifadin®, Rifater®, or Rifamate®

This drug reduces blood levels of VIRACEPT.

Dose reduction required if you take VIRACEPT with:

- Mycobutin® (rifabutin, for MAC); you will need to take a lower dose of Mycobutin.

A change of therapy should be considered if you are taking VIRACEPT with:

- Phenobarbital
- Phenytoin (Dilantin® and others)
- Carbamazepine (Tegretol® and others)

These agents may reduce the amount of VIRACEPT in your blood and make it less effective.

- Oral contraceptives ("the pill")

If you are taking the pill to prevent pregnancy, you should use a different type of contraception since VIRACEPT may reduce the effectiveness of oral contraceptives.

Special considerations

Before you take Viagra® (sildenafil) with VIRACEPT, talk to your doctor about possible drug interactions and side effects. If you take Viagra and VIRACEPT together, you may be at increased risk of side effects of Viagra such as low blood pressure, visual changes, and penile erection lasting more than 4 hours. If an erection lasts longer than 4 hours, you should seek immediate medical assistance to avoid permanent damage to your penis. Your doctor can explain these symptoms to you.

It is not recommended to take VIRACEPT with the cholesterol-lowering drugs Mevacor® (lovastatin) or Zorcor® (simvastatin) because of possible drug interactions. There is also an increased risk of drug interactions between VIRACEPT and Lipitor® (atorvastatin) and Baycol® (cerivastatin); talk to your doctor before you take either of these cholesterol reducing drugs with VIRACEPT.

How should VIRACEPT be taken with other anti-HIV drugs?

Taking VIRACEPT together with other anti-HIV drugs increases their ability to fight the virus. It also reduces the opportunity for resistant viruses to grow. Based on your history of taking other anti-HIV medicine, your doctor will direct you on how to take VIRACEPT and other anti-HIV medicines. These drugs should be taken in a certain order or at specific times. This will depend on how many times a day each medicine should be taken. It will also depend on whether it should be taken with or without food.

Nucleoside analogues: No drug interaction problems were seen when VIRACEPT was given with:

- Retrovir® (zidovudine, AZT)
- Efavir® (lamivudine, 3TC)
- Zerit® (stavudine, d4T)
- Videx® (didanosine, ddl)

If you are taking both Videx (ddl) and VIRACEPT:

Videx should be taken without food, on an empty stomach. Therefore, you should take VIRACEPT with food one hour after or more than two hours before you take Videx.

Nonnucleoside reverse transcriptase inhibitors (NNRTIs):

When VIRACEPT is taken together with:

Viramune® (nevirapine)

The amount of VIRACEPT in your blood may be reduced. Studies are now taking place to learn about the safety of combining VIRACEPT with Viramune.

Sustiva® (efavirenz)

The amount of VIRACEPT in your blood may be increased. A dose adjustment is not needed when VIRACEPT is used with Sustiva.

Other NNRTIs

VIRACEPT has not been studied with other NNRTIs.

Other protease inhibitors:

When VIRACEPT is taken together with:

Crixivan® (indinavir)

The amount of both drugs in your blood may be increased. Currently, there are no safety and efficacy data available from the use of this combination.

Norvir® (ritonavir)

The amount of VIRACEPT in your blood may be increased. Currently, there are no safety and efficacy data available from the use of this combination.

Invirase® (saquinavir)

The amount of saquinavir in your blood may be increased. Currently, there are no safety and efficacy data available from the use of this combination.

What are the side effects of VIRACEPT?

Like all medicines, VIRACEPT can cause side effects. Most of the side effects experienced with VIRACEPT have been mild to moderate. Diarrhea is the most common side effect in people taking VIRACEPT, and most adult patients had at least mild diarrhea at some point during treatment. In clinical studies, about 14-20% of patients receiving VIRACEPT 750 mg (three tablets) three times daily or 1250 mg (five tablets) two times daily had four or more loose stools a day. In most cases, diarrhea can be controlled using antidiarrheal medicines, such as Imodium® A-D (loperamide) and others, which are available without a prescription.

Other side effects that occurred in 2% or more of patients receiving VIRACEPT include abdominal pain, asthenia, nausea, flatulence, and rash.

There were other side effects noted in clinical studies that occurred in less than 2% of patients receiving VIRACEPT. However, these side effects may have been due to other drugs that patients were taking or to the illness itself. Except for diarrhea, there were not many differences in side effects in patients who took VIRACEPT along with other drugs compared with those who took only the other drugs. For a complete list of side effects, ask your doctor, nurse, or pharmacist.

How should I take VIRACEPT?

VIRACEPT is available only with your doctor's prescription. Your doctor may prescribe the light blue VIRACEPT Tablets either as 1250 mg (five tablets) taken two times a day or as 750 mg (three tablets) taken three times a day. VIRACEPT should always be taken with a meal or a light snack.

Take VIRACEPT exactly as directed by your doctor. Do not increase or decrease any dose or the number of doses per day. Also, take this medicine for the exact period of time that your doctor has instructed. **Do not stop taking VIRACEPT without first consulting with your doctor, even if you are feeling better.**

Only take medicine that has been prescribed specifically for you. Do not give VIRACEPT to others or take medicine prescribed for someone else.

The dosing of VIRACEPT may be different for you than for other patients. **Follow the directions from your doctor, exactly as written on the label.** The amount of VIRACEPT in the blood should remain somewhat consistent over time. Missing doses will cause the concentration of VIRACEPT to decrease; therefore, **you should not miss any doses.** However, if you miss a dose, you should take the dose as soon as possible and then take your next scheduled dose and future doses as originally scheduled.

Dosing in adults (including children 14 years of age and older)

The recommended adult dose of VIRACEPT is 1250 mg (five tablets) taken two times a day or 750 mg (three tablets) taken three times a day. Each dose should be taken with a meal or light snack.

Dosing in children 2 to 13 years of age

The VIRACEPT dose in children depends on their weight. The recommended dose is 20 to 30 mg/kg (or 9 to 14 mg/pound) per dose, taken three times daily with a meal or light snack. This can be administered either in tablet form or, in children unable to take tablets, as VIRACEPT Oral Powder.

Dose instructions will be provided by the child's doctor. The dose will be given three times daily using the measuring scoop provided, a measuring teaspoon, or one or more tablets depending on the weight and age of the child. The amount of oral powder or tablets to be given to a child is described in the chart below.

Pediatric Dose to be Administered Three Times Daily				
Body Weight	Kg	Lb	Number of	Number of
			Level Scoops*	Level Teaspoons†
7 to <8.5	15.5 to <18.5	4	1	—
8.5 to <10.5	18.5 to <23	5	1 1/4	—
10.5 to <12	23 to <26.5	6	1 1/2	—
12 to <14	26.5 to <31	7	1 3/4	—
14 to <16	31 to <35	8	2	—
16 to <18	35 to <39.5	9	2 1/4	—
18 to <23	39.5 to <50.5	10	2 1/2	2
≥ 23	≥50.5	15	3 3/4	3

In measuring oral powder, the scoop or teaspoon should be level.

*1 level scoop contains 50 mg of VIRACEPT. Use only the scoop provided with your VIRACEPT bottle.

†1 level teaspoon contains 200 mg of VIRACEPT. Note: **A measuring teaspoon used for dispensing medication** should be used for measuring VIRACEPT Oral Powder. Ask your Pharmacist to make sure you have a medication dispensing teaspoon.

How should VIRACEPT Oral Powder be prepared?

The oral powder may be mixed with a small amount of water, milk, formula, soy formula, soy milk, dietary supplements, or dairy foods such as pudding or ice cream. Once mixed, the entire amount must be taken to obtain the full dose.

Do not mix the powder with any acidic foods or juice, such as orange or grapefruit juice, apple juice, or apple sauce, because this may create a bitter taste.

Once the powder is mixed, it may be stored at room temperature or refrigerated for up to 6 hours. **Do not** heat the mixed dose once it has been prepared.

Do not add water to bottles of oral powder.

VIRACEPT powder is supplied with a scoop for measuring. For help in determining the exact dose of powder for your child, please ask your doctor, nurse, or pharmacist.

VIRACEPT Oral Powder contains aspartame, a low-calorie sweetener, and therefore should not be taken by children with phenylketonuria (PKU).

How should VIRACEPT be stored?

Keep VIRACEPT and all other medicines out of the reach of children. Keep bottle closed and stored at room temperature (between 59°F and 86°F) away from sources of moisture such as a sink or other damp place. Heat and moisture may reduce the effectiveness of VIRACEPT.

Do not keep medicine that is out of date or that you no longer need. Be sure that if you throw any medicine away, it is out of the reach of children.

Discuss all questions about your health with your doctor. If you have questions about VIRACEPT or any other medication you are taking, ask your doctor, nurse, or pharmacist. You can also call 1.888.VIRACEPT (1.888.847.2237) toll free.

Call 1.888.VIRACEPT

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Rev. 12/13/99

k.d.'s summer sounds > Continued from Page 31

extensive American and Canadian tour in support of 1997's "Drag," lang realized she was in a rut. After 15 years of non-stop recording, touring, and living in the celebrity spotlight, lang needed a break to regroup. So she relocated from her beloved Canadian prairieland to sunny Southern California, bought a house and began an extensive renovation project, which, as it turns out, helped inspire the underlying concept of "Invincible Summer."

"From 7:30 in the morning to 7:30 at night I was working with carpenters, plumbers and contractors," she explains. "It was a time of real physical effort that I found completely invigorating. I also gained a real appreciation for everyday life and for people who take pride in what they do."

"Before, I considered myself part of a musical elite," she continues. "Now, I'm more interested in reaching people where they live. I've really gained an appreciation of the mainstream. And I think this music reflects that. Summer is one of the great pleasures we all enjoy. It's something everyone can relate to."

Produced by Damian leGassick, who was introduced to lang at a party by Madonna and her producer William Orbit, "Invincible Summer" updates lang's classic sound by incorporating subtle electronic programming with her trademark strings, steel guitars and grand vocal style.

Meditative songs like "Consequences of Falling" and "Suddenly" feature a groove-wise drum and bass backing that hints at

leGassick's techno background, while at the same time maintaining the grandiose string arrangements and rich, prominent vocals for which lang has come to be known.

Other songs have a more light-hearted pop-rock feel that calls to mind the sounds of lang's "All You Can Eat" period. An example of this is the first single, "Summerfling," which has a decidedly airy Beach-Boys-in-Brazil feel, with its retro organs, surf-rock guitar licks, and samba-like interludes.

Similarly, "It's Happening To You" has a funky rock arrangement with a little middle eastern string flair and a schmaltzy food metaphor only lang could get away with: "In this crazy world full of lemons/baby, you're lemonade."

"Love's Great Ocean" is the one song lang wrote with former partner Ben Mink, which comes closest in sound to her previous work. Despite its eerie Roy Orbison feel, it still manages to fit in nicely on "Invincible Summer" with its ocean-as-love metaphor.

"The whole album, on one level, deals with how love makes everything different," lang says, specifically speaking about the song "Extraordinary Thing." "It ties in with the summer theme of the songs, about how love feels like summer. I mean, love can also feel like winter, or spring or fall. But for me, the atmosphere of these songs, the melodies and the imagery, are definitely geared more toward that particular time of the year as a way of expressing an emotional state of being." **B+**

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The Little Room Downstairs Theater

Andrew Dawson

The Only Thing Worse You Could Have Told Me...

by Dan Butler, "Bulldog" on TV's Frasier

"... a wonderful lavender romp around this thing we call gay life."
-Rich Arenschieldt, *Houston Voice*

"Dawson soars in this collection of monologues. His characterizations are subtle and varied, ranging from the knock-kneed self-consciousness of a young boy to the meticulous carriage of an opera queen."
-Megan Halverson, *houston.sidewalk.com*

"...the evening is rather like sitting around with your friends in somebody's living room, listening to stories. Except that the stories are all funny, and Dawson's skill as an actor makes each one a gem."
- Gary Laird, *This Week in Texas*



9 Performances Only! June 29 - July 9!

For More Info Call 713.522. **LRDS**

HOT SUMMER ARTS

> Continued from Page 31

The avant-garde and highly original Bobbindoctrin Puppet Theatre makes an intriguing return with this trio of existential farces revolving around bodily invasion. Any hand puppet should be able to tell you about that! If you thought Lamb Chop or Flub-a-Dub was the last word on inanimate objects, think again.

June 18 - July 8 Atomic Cafe 1320 Nance Street 713-222-2866

MASKS: FACES OF CULTURE

Want some ideas for Halloween? Take your pick as 146 various masks, ancient to contemporary, stare at you and lead your imagination into the faces and reasons behind the dominos.

June 25 - Sept. 17 Museum of Fine Arts Houston

CABARET

Caroline in the city, as in Berlin. Lea Thompson tries for decadence as Sally Bowles in Kander and Ebb's landmark musical. Can she pull it off? Ask Richard.

June 27 - July 8 Jones Hall 615 Louisiana 713-629-3700

NAKED BOYS SINGING

If you think the Montrose doesn't have enough naked men in it, here're some more. Eight, to be precise: standing, sitting, lounging, and probably crossing their legs as they perform this musical man-o-rama by a creative team of 13 writers (!). Impervious to criticism about gratuitous nudity, the opening number in fact has that title, this illegitimate theater piece will be the hottest ticket available. The adult audience, no doubt primarily male, clawing to get in will have to be beaten away with a stick. No, not that stick!

June 30 - July 7 Bien Venue Theatre 3722 Washington 713-426-2626

THE MUNCHIE MUNCHIE

Why do certain art works compel us to touch them? Playfully turning form inside out, eight artists realign our senses, drawing us into the materials the piece is made out of, almost as much as the finished work draws us. Suffice it to say, some of these art-works seem good enough to eat.

Through July 8 DiverseWorks North Main @ Naylor 713-335-3445

ARSENIC AND OLD LACE

Now, just what would the maiden Brewster sisters think about those naked boys? They probably have enough on their minds right now in Joseph Kesselring's delightful black comedy, what with dotty nephew Teddy running up the staircase like it was San Juan Hill, the creepy Jonathan lurking around like Boris Karloff, all those widower bodies piling up in the cellar, and confused Mortimer doing more animated double takes than Roger Rabbit. Elderberry wine, anyone?

June 30 - August 6 Alley Theatre 615 Texas 713-228-8421

PANDORA'S BOX and DIARY OF A LOST GIRL

Before Dietrich and on a par with Garbo, Louise Brooks set Hollywood afire with her exquisite beauty, devil-may-care sexuality, and incandescent screen presence. Her ill-timed feistiness got her canned from Paramount, but G.W. Pabst snatched her away to make these two incredible films in Germany in 1928/29. These are must-see movies, not only for Pabst's radiant mise-en-scene, but for their modern, shocking treatment of sex and wild-horse femininity. Ms. Brooks will leave you breathless.

July 8; 7:30 & 9:30 p.m. Glassell School of Art 5101 Montrose Boulevard

EVITA

Andrew Lloyd Webber's best musical, or is it an opera? Whatever form you like, this is grand theater, and mercifully without Madonna.

July 11 - 23 Wortham Center 1-800-678-5440

TITANIC

Yet another Tony award winner, do I really have to tell you what this is about? Full of anthems and hymn-like melodies, this cast of thousands really does go down.

Don't eat seafood beforehand.

July 11 - 23 Jones Hall 615 Louisiana 713-629-3700

3 WOMEN

Without question, this is Robert Altman's worst movie. Don't take my word for it, go see this car wreck of a movie for yourself. Sissy Spacek and Shelley Duvall haven't a clue as to what they're doing in this psychological, horribly over-the-top mess. In every interview, Altman opines that the idea for this disaster came to him in a dream. Wake up, Bob, wake up!

July 15, 7:30 p.m. Glassell School of Art 5101 Montrose Boulevard

TOMMY

That psychedelic pinball wizard comes to his senses in The Who's classic rock opera. If you didn't grow up listening to this in your dorm room, surrounded by aromatic herbs, or smoking the same, now's your chance to relive the '60s. Without drugs, it's still mighty fine. Just say Yes.

July 19, 20, 21, 22, 24 - 29 Miller Outdoor Theatre 713-284-8350

TAMALALIA 2000

The fifth in the phantasmagorical romps through the hilarious convolutions of Tamarie Cooper's cerebrum, cerebellum, and medulla. Everything gets tossed into the campy mix: Lincoln, Hitler, the Utah Jazz. I hope those dancing bears from #4, The Campout, make a return. You could ask Ms. Cooper what this all means, but I don't think she knows. If she does, she's not telling.

July 20 - Aug. 26 Stages Repertory Theater 3201 Allen Parkway @ Waugh 713-527-8243

TOWARD ZERO

Let's have a weekend party and invite some couples who once played mix and match with each other's partners. Oh, is there jealousy and suspicion? Oh, my, has somebody been killed? Such bad taste, just when we were about to serve cocktails. If anyone can pull this off it's Agatha Christie. More arch than the Brooklyn Bridge, this splendidly entertaining who-done-it is a perfect summer chill.

July 21 - Aug. 6 Alley Theatre 615 Texas Avenue 713-228-8421



Sissy Spacek and Shelley Duvall star in "3 Women," showing July 15.

PATIENCE

By Jove, this should be cool. Rarely produced, this is another great show by that pre-Tony award winning team of those hotshots Gilbert and Sullivan. Here, they lambaste with all their drollery and rapier wit poor ol, Oscar Wilde and his aesthetic cult. Boosie, come here, I need you.

July 21 - 30 Wortham Theater Center 713-627-3570

THE GO-GO's/THE B-52's

They're back! If you just can't let yourself go enough to scream at Britney Spears, here's the perfect antidote. Our favorite rock groups from the not-too-distant past will make you believe. Candles not included.

July 26 Cynthia Woods Mitchell Pavilion The Woodlands 281-363-3300

OUT OF THE ORDINARY - NEW ART FROM TEXAS

Eleven contemporary artists from around the state, including Helen Altman, Todd Brandt, Chris Sauter, are featured in works ranging from video, installation, drawing, and painting. The catalog states: distinguished by a meditative rhythm and often elusive forms...their works present epiphanic moments and gestures of mesmerizing ordinariness. Shucks, just when I was in the mood for a really good velvet Elvis.

August 12 - October 8 Contemporary Arts Museum 5201 Bayard Lane 713-284-8250

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“Quote/unquote”

compiled by REX WOCKNER and from staff reports



“I’m a lesbian... although I haven’t been very open about that and throughout most of my life I’ve gone out with blokes because I haven’t necessarily been terribly comfortable about being a lesbian. But I actually am a lesbian.”

—Singer Sinead O’Connor (left) in an interview with *Curve* magazine in the June 27 issue

“Who the hell do you think you are—that these people should go through the rest of their lives without any sexual pleasure, without any affection, just because they aren’t wired the way you are? Well, screw you!”

—Conservative Atlanta talk show host Neil Boortz, responding to e-mail from what he calls his “Adam & Steve” readers, after he applauded a Texas appeals court decision striking down that state’s sodomy law

“Right now I play a gay character on TV, and I want you to believe that he’s gay. And when all this wonderfulness of ‘Will & Grace’ ends, which I hope it never does, and I move on to other roles, hopefully you’ll believe that I’m those characters as well. With the society that we live in today, I don’t want to put anything into anybody’s mind.”

—Actor Sean Hayes, Jack on “Will & Grace,” when asked by *TV Guide* if he’s gay, May 20

“They never asked me until ‘Serial Mom’ and then every reviewer asked me if I was gay. I think it became a political question with AIDS. I always said yes. They never used to ask, and I assumed they knew. They saw the movies. What are they—blind? Do they think a straight man could have made those movies? I don’t think so!”

—Filmmaker John Waters to Palm Springs’ *Gay & Lesbian Times*, May 25

“Very, very recently, I came out to my parents... And the minute I told them, it was like I was alive, really alive, for the first time.”

—Danny (right), originally from Rockmart, Ga., on “The Real World: New Orleans,” premiere episode, June 13



“Those two [Boy George and George Michael] have always been at each other’s throats with this love/hate relationship they have that is really quite funny. In the end, they are just a few bitter, old queens. If they weren’t pop stars, they’d be bantering at the local bar—George O’Dowd would be the one with the bigger mouth and be the biggest bitch of the two. Really, it’s so dull.”

—Singer Jimmy Somerville to Vancouver’s *Xtra West*, June 1



“Wearing girl’s clothing and playing with dolls will not make the boy gay. We now know that homosexuality is a matter of genetics. In other words, they are born that way. Most experts believe that children should have a say in what they wear. When the boy is older, he may be uncomfortable wearing ‘frilly’ clothing and rebel. Meanwhile, MYOB.”

—Syndicated advice columnist Ann Landers (left) in response to a reader upset that one of the boys in her daughter’s preschool “has beautiful curly hair and wears it long. He also wears ruffled and frilly dresses and stockings with designs on them. He plays with dolls and other ‘girl’ toys.”

“We are... unnerved by the appointment of Elizabeth Toledo to run the National Gay & Lesbian Task Force. ...This is the sixth consecutive lesbian feminist executive director at the Task Force. And it’s been a while, we might add, since a man has run our other major national group, HRC. ... The LGBT movement could stand some testosterone at the top. ... Just someone other than a classically attractive, 40-something lesbian.”

—San Francisco *Bay Times* newswriter Ann Rostow, May 25

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On Screen

FILM, VIDEO & TV REVIEWS

by ANDREW ALEXANDER

'Sunshine' gets a bit dreary

Midway through the first segment of the new historical epic **SUNSHINE**, everyone gathers at a New Year's party to celebrate the end of the 19th century, where Ralph Fiennes' character makes what must be one of the worst and most inauspicious predictions in movie history.

"I predict that the 20th century will be a century of love, justice and tolerance," he says.

The happily-titled "Sunshine" deals with the various fates of three generations of men in the Jewish-Hungarian Sonnenschein family, all of them played by Fiennes.

The segment tells how grandpa becomes a lawyer and falls in love, against his family's wishes, with his half-sister. To help his career, he changes his name from the Jewish Sonnenschein (which translates literally as Sunshine) into the more Hungarian Sors.

The second segment tells us of papa's career as a championship fencer, his trip to the Berlin Olympic Games of 1936, and, finally, his death in a concentration camp.

The final segment shows the third generation son dealing with the political strug-

INFO

Sunshine

Directed by Istvan Szabo

Starring Ralph Fiennes, Jennifer Ehle, Rosemary Harris

Overall: ★★
An okay, though less-than-perfect, epic.

Queer Quotient: ★
Ralph Fiennes fans will be happy.

Paramount Pictures

Rated R

Running Time: 180 minutes.

gles, vicissitudes and confusion in Budapest that followed World War II.

Director and screenwriter Istvan Szabo manages the gimmick of having Fiennes play all three generations of men surprisingly well. There are, thankfully, no split screens in which old Fiennes looks at young Fiennes.

For the most part, stand-ins play the young men, and the older generation conveniently passes on before Fiennes assumes the part of the younger. Fiennes manages the roles well, always clearly demarcating the character differences between fathers and sons.



Ralph Fiennes as Ignatz, along with Jennifer Ehle, in the less-than-perfect epic 'Sunshine.'

He's the perfect man for the part: he seems right at home in a continental, historical epic. Thin and care-worn, wearing his oddball frown-smirk, he looks like an illustration straight out of Edward Gorey.

Jennifer Ehle, and later Rosemary Harris, play the first love and matriarch of the family. They both handle well the demands of an epic, showing the changes in character in a few emblematic scenes. They bring a spark of warmth and energy to the film as the younger and older Valerie. (The actresses pinch-hitting on the same part are especially convincing because Ehle is Harris' real-life daughter).

The historical backdrop is an excellent one, tracing the Sonnenschein family from its tonic-producing village roots to its initiation into the Budapest bourgeoisie and struggles under Hitler and Stalin. The middle segment, featuring Fiennes as a championship fencer, is the most successful, perhaps because the intense drama is played out over the interesting additions of sporty-action and travel.

But the overall look of the film is unfortunately overwrought and artificially Euro. There's a lot of piano and violin music,

much gazing from windows onto forlorn squares, lush fields, cathedral bells and dark stained-wood interiors, which bring to mind an old Mueslix cereal commercial.

Worst of all is the self-consciously Old World, voice-over narration. "The tavern keeper was much loved in his village," narrator Fiennes says at one point. The dialogue stretches credibility and seemed somewhat anachronistic.

"Sunshine" also has a problem that a lot of contemporary movies seem to share: We never really get to know or care much about the characters, although a lot of dramatic and interesting things happen to them. The movie clips along at good epic pace, providing us with births, deaths, marriages, illicit unions, wars and revolutions aplenty.

At three hours, the film feels a bit too long, even for an epic, particularly during the last segment. When grandma announces, from her hospital bed, to the third generation Fiennes, "we're the only family members," we don't think about the incredible journey the family has experienced, we just realize, with a bit of relief, that this can't go on too much longer.

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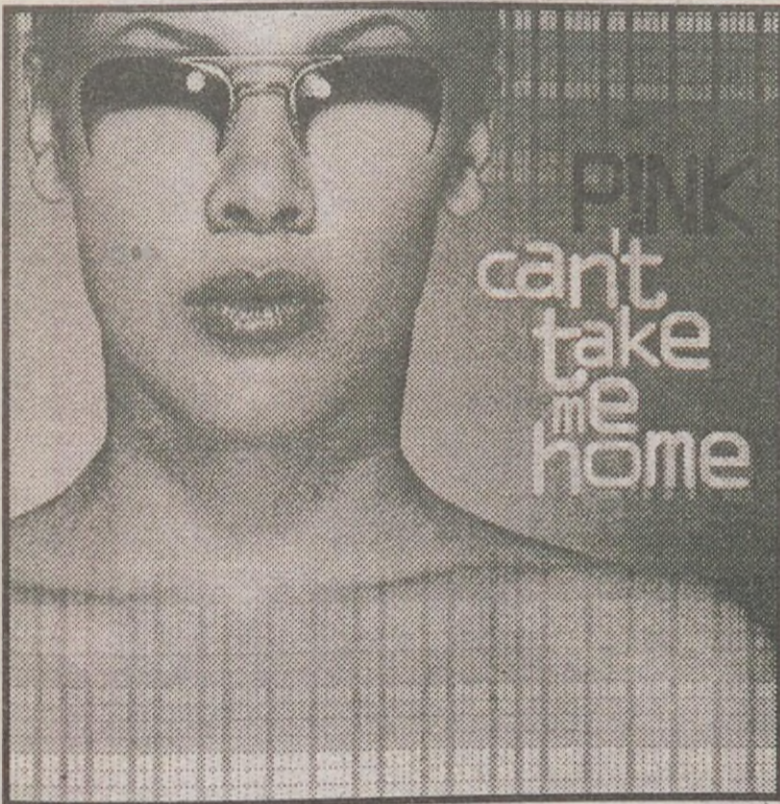
PRIVATE PARTY ROOMS ■ LIVE JAZZ ■ TUESDAY NIGHT & SUNDAY BRUNCH ■



In the second segment of 'Sunshine,' Ralph Fiennes depicts Adam, an Olympic fencer during the 1930s.

Out in Music

by MO McMILLER



PINK
'Can't Take Me Home'
www.pinkspage.com

Rating: ★★★ 1/2

Queer Quotient: ★ No gay content, unless you count the pink hair.

What an impressive debut.

The first thing you notice about PINK (Alecia Moore) is that she has a voice. Beyond the Hip-Hop beats and the hardcore R&B/Pop arrangements, this lady can really sing. Unlike the majority of today's young artists, she is not at all studio generated.

PINK has an original sound, yet one that is familiar. Her debut single, the funky "There You Go," was the perfect introduction of her to the world. The message is universal, the tune is catchy and the music danceable. The production, for the most part, is impeccable—you can't go too wrong with the likes of Babyface and She'kespeare.

But as an artist she should beware of sounds and songs that are too similar, a pitfall she narrowly escapes several times. There are some great standout tracks on this set: "Hell Wit Ya," "You Make Me Sick," "Hiccup" and "Private Show" are some of the better dance tracks. But it's the ballad "Stop Falling" that is most impressive. This song demonstrates a strong vocal range and much promise for the future.

Michael McDonald
'Blue Obsession'
www.michaelmcdonald.com

Rating: ★★★

Queer Quotient: ★ No gay content here, but shouldn't he get points for being so sexy?

Since Michael McDonald's 1982 "If That's What It Takes" debut album, we've been waiting for him to rival that success on a follow-up release. While he has turned out

some great music in the past 18 years, current release "Blue Obsession" comes the closest.

It's a well-crafted set with solid material. Lyrically, this is his best work in years. Songs like "The Meaning of Love" and "Where Would I Be Now" are thoughtful and provocative. Some great covers are also a part of this set.

Musically, the sound is tighter and more fluid than it has been in past releases. The biggest disappointment is "All I Need." It starts off great, but goes awry when Tommy Sims joins in on lead vocal. Mr. Sims' ad-libs and talking are plastic and overdone.

Various Artists

'The Best of Bond ... James Bond'
www.jamesbond.com

<http://wso.williams.edu/~mhacker/bondthemes.html/>

Rating: ★★★★★

Queer Quotient: ★★ James Bond is anything but gay, but there are some divas here. (Tina, Shirley, LuLu and Gladys to name a few.)

Flashback: A great CD you may have missed.

Who would have thought? Every great Bond theme on one CD. Nineteen tracks featuring some of the most formidable names in the music business. The CD opens with the unforgettable Bond Theme instrumental.

And of course, no Bond collection would be complete without the sultry sounds of chanteuse Shirley Bassey performing her trademark selection "Goldfinger," as well as two other Bond themes. Also look for standouts by Gladys Knight, a-ha, Nancy Sinatra, Tom Jones and Lulu.

The best songs on the set—and the reason to not miss this CD—are tracks by Tina Turner and Sheryl Crow. Turner's "Goldeneye" is the quintessential Bond song, and Crow's "Tomorrow Never Dies" is a close second.

Mo McMiller can be reached at momo72167@aol.com

COMING SOON

June 27: ABC, "Lexicon of LIVE!"

July 4: "X-Men," original soundtrack

July 11: Kansas, "Somewhere to Elsewhere"; Everclear, "Songs from an American Movie"; Ani DiFranco "Swing Set"

July 18: "Nutty Professor," original soundtrack featuring Janet Jackson

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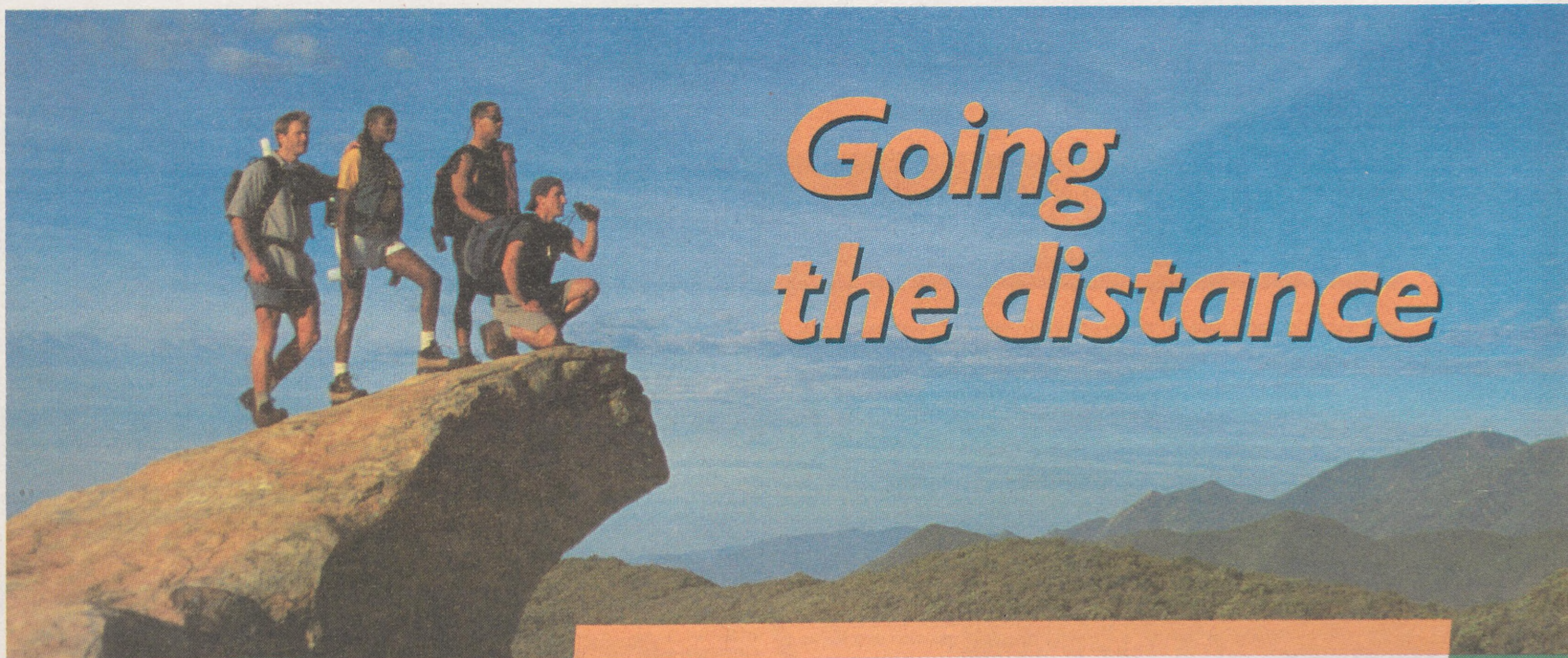
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■ HIGHLY EFFECTIVE THERAPY

CRIXIVAN in combination with antiretroviral agents is a powerful protease inhibitor that fights HIV and is among the preferred treatments for HIV in federal healthcare guidelines.¹ CRIXIVAN can help reduce the chance of illnesses and death associated with HIV; CRIXIVAN can also help lower the amount of HIV in your body (called "viral load") and raise your CD4 T-cell count, as shown in studies over a one-year period. Some patients may not experience these effects. CRIXIVAN is not a cure for HIV or AIDS.

■ DURABLE RESULTS

In a landmark study, over 90% of 31 patients receiving a combination of CRIXIVAN, AZT, and 3TC reduced their serum viral load below the limit of detection after 24 weeks. Importantly, the limited number of patients who chose to stay with the study for longer periods of time maintained these results through the one-year mark. In a separate study, 30% of 261 patients receiving dual therapy of CRIXIVAN and AZT had serum viral loads below the limit of detection at 48 weeks. In another landmark study, 43% of 40 patients receiving combination therapy with CRIXIVAN, AZT, and 3TC had plasma viral loads below the limit of detection at 40 weeks. In this study of over 1,000 patients, the group of patients receiving CRIXIVAN along with 3TC and AZT achieved a reduction in deaths and AIDS-defining illnesses over those taking 3TC and AZT alone. Overall, the number of deaths was inadequate to assess the impact of CRIXIVAN on survival. Blood viral loads were measured by available tests and the virus may still be present in other organ systems.

■ THINGS YOU SHOULD KNOW ABOUT CRIXIVAN

CRIXIVAN can be taken with a light meal or on an empty stomach. Some patients treated with CRIXIVAN may develop kidney stones. For some, this can lead to more severe kidney problems, including kidney failure. Drinking at least 6 glasses of water each day may help reduce the chance of forming a kidney stone. Other side effects reported include rapid breakdown of red blood cells and liver problems.

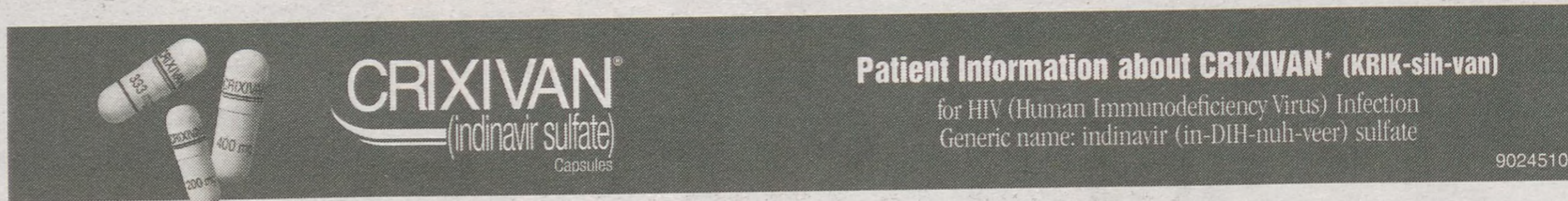
As with other protease inhibitors, changes in body fat, increased bleeding in some patients with hemophilia, and increased blood sugar levels or diabetes have been reported. Additionally, severe muscle pain and weakness have occurred in patients also taking cholesterol-lowering medicines called "statins." There are some common medications and AIDS-related medications you should not take with CRIXIVAN. Discuss all medications you are taking or plan to take with your doctor.

For more detailed information about CRIXIVAN, please read the information immediately following this advertisement.

¹ Guidelines for the Use of Antiretroviral Agents in HIV-Infected Adults and Adolescents. Panel on Clinical Practices for Treatment of HIV Infection, Department of Health and Human Services (DHHS), May 5, 1999.

**Remember to ask your
doctor about CRIXIVAN.**

CRIXIVAN[®]
(indinavir sulfate)
Capsules



Please read this information before you start taking CRIXIVAN. Also, read the leaflet each time you renew your prescription, just in case anything has changed. Remember, this leaflet does not take the place of careful discussions with your doctor. You and your doctor should discuss CRIXIVAN when you start taking your medication and at regular checkups. You should remain under a doctor's care when using CRIXIVAN and should not change or stop treatment without first talking with your doctor.

What is CRIXIVAN?

CRIXIVAN is an oral capsule used for the treatment of HIV (Human Immunodeficiency Virus). HIV is the virus that causes AIDS (acquired immune deficiency syndrome). CRIXIVAN is a type of HIV drug called a protease (PRO-tee-ase) inhibitor.

How does CRIXIVAN work?

CRIXIVAN is a protease inhibitor that fights HIV. CRIXIVAN can help reduce your chances of getting illnesses associated with HIV. CRIXIVAN can also help lower the amount of HIV in your body (called "viral load") and raise your CD4 (T) cell count. CRIXIVAN may not have these effects in all patients.

CRIXIVAN is usually prescribed with other anti-HIV drugs such as ZDV (also called AZT), 3TC, ddI, ddC, or d4T. CRIXIVAN works differently from these other anti-HIV drugs. Talk with your doctor about how you should take CRIXIVAN.

CRIXIVAN has been studied in adults. The safety and effectiveness of CRIXIVAN in children and adolescents have not been established.

How should I take CRIXIVAN?

There are six important things you must do to help you benefit from CRIXIVAN:

1. **Take CRIXIVAN capsules every day as prescribed by your doctor.** Continue taking CRIXIVAN unless your doctor tells you to stop. Take the exact amount of CRIXIVAN that your doctor tells you to take, right from the very start. To help make sure you will benefit from CRIXIVAN, you must not skip doses or take "drug holidays". If you don't take CRIXIVAN as prescribed, the activity of CRIXIVAN may be reduced (due to resistance).
2. **Take CRIXIVAN capsules every 8 hours around the clock, every day.** It may be easier to remember to take CRIXIVAN if you take it at the same time every day. If you have questions about when to take CRIXIVAN, your doctor or health care provider can help you decide what schedule works for you.
3. **If you miss a dose by more than 2 hours, wait and then take the next dose at the regularly scheduled time.** However, if you miss a dose by less than 2 hours, take your missed dose immediately. Then take your next dose at the regularly scheduled time. Do not take more or less than your prescribed dose of CRIXIVAN at any one time.
4. **Take CRIXIVAN with water.** You can also take CRIXIVAN with other beverages such as skim or non-fat milk, juice, coffee, or tea.
5. **Ideally, take each dose of CRIXIVAN without food but with water at least one hour before or two hours after a meal.** Or you can take CRIXIVAN with a light meal. Examples of light meals include:
 - dry toast with jelly, juice, and coffee (with skim or non-fat milk and sugar if you want)
 - corn flakes with skim or non-fat milk and sugar
 Do not take CRIXIVAN at the same time as any meals that are high in calories, fat, and protein (for example — a bacon and egg breakfast). When taken at the same time as CRIXIVAN, these foods can interfere with CRIXIVAN being absorbed into your bloodstream and may lessen its effect.
6. **It is critical that you drink at least six 8-ounce glasses of liquids (preferably water) throughout the day, every day.** CRIXIVAN can cause kidney stones. Having enough fluids in your body should help reduce the chances of forming a kidney stone. Call your doctor or other health care provider if you develop kidney pains (middle to lower stomach or back pain) or blood in the urine.

Does CRIXIVAN cure HIV or AIDS?

CRIXIVAN is not a cure for HIV or AIDS. People taking CRIXIVAN may still develop infections or other conditions associated with HIV. Because of this, it is very important for you to remain under the care of a doctor. Although CRIXIVAN is not a cure for HIV or AIDS, CRIXIVAN can help reduce your chances of getting illnesses, including death, associated with HIV. CRIXIVAN may not have these effects in all patients.

Does CRIXIVAN reduce the risk of passing HIV to others?

CRIXIVAN has not been shown to reduce the risk of passing HIV to others through sexual contact or blood contamination.

Who should not take CRIXIVAN?

Do not take CRIXIVAN if you have had a serious allergic reaction to CRIXIVAN or any of its components.

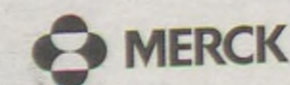
What other medical problems or conditions should I discuss with my doctor?

- Talk to your doctor if:
- You are pregnant or if you become pregnant while you are taking CRIXIVAN. We do not yet know how CRIXIVAN affects pregnant women or their developing babies.
 - You are breast-feeding. You should stop breast-feeding if you are taking CRIXIVAN.
- Also talk to your doctor if you have:
- Problems with your liver, especially if you have mild or moderate liver disease caused by cirrhosis.
 - Problems with your kidneys.
 - Diabetes
 - Hemophilia
 - High cholesterol and you are taking cholesterol-lowering medicines called "statins".
- Tell your doctor about any medicines you are taking or plan to take, including non-prescription medicines.

This medication was prescribed for your particular condition. Do not use it for any other condition or give it to anybody else. Keep CRIXIVAN and all medicines out of the reach of children. If you suspect that more than the prescribed dose of this medicine has been taken, contact your local poison control center or emergency room immediately.

This leaflet provides a summary of information about CRIXIVAN. If you have any questions or concerns about either CRIXIVAN or HIV, talk to your doctor.

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Patient Information about CRIXIVAN® (KRIK-sih-van)

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Can CRIXIVAN be taken with other medications?***

Drugs you should not take with CRIXIVAN:

SELDANE® (terfenadine)	HISMANAL® (astemizole)
VERSED® (midazolam)	HALCION® (triazolam)
PROPULSID® (cisapride)	Ergot medications (e.g., Wigraine® and Cafergot®)

Taking CRIXIVAN with the above medications could result in serious or life-threatening problems (such as irregular heartbeat or excessive sleepiness).

In addition, you should not take CRIXIVAN with rifampin, known as RIFADIN®, RIFAMATE®, RIFATER®, or RIMACTANE®.

Drugs you can take with CRIXIVAN include:

RETROVIR® (zidovudine, ZDV also called AZT)	EPIVIR™ (lamivudine, 3TC)
ZERIT® (stavudine, d4T)	isoniazid (INH)
BACTRIM®/SEPTRA® (trimethoprim/sulfamethoxazole)	DIFLUCAN® (fluconazole)
BIAXIN® (clarithromycin)	ORTHO-NOVUM 1/35® (oral contraceptive)
TAGAMET® (cimetidine)	Methadone

VIDEX® (didanosine, ddl) — If you take CRIXIVAN with VIDEX®, take them at least one hour apart.
 MYCOBUTIN® (rifabutin) — If you take CRIXIVAN with MYCOBUTIN®, your doctor may adjust both the dose of MYCOBUTIN and the dose of CRIXIVAN.
 NIZORAL® (ketoconazole) — If you take CRIXIVAN with NIZORAL®, your doctor may adjust the dose of CRIXIVAN.
 RESCRIPTOR® (delavirdine) — If you take CRIXIVAN with RESCRIPTOR®, your doctor may adjust the dose of CRIXIVAN.
 SPORANOX® (itraconazole) — If you take CRIXIVAN with SPORANOX®, your doctor may adjust the dose of CRIXIVAN.
 SUSTIVA™ (efavirenz) — If you take CRIXIVAN with SUSTIVA™, your doctor may adjust the dose of CRIXIVAN.

Talk to your doctor about any medications you are taking.

What are the possible side effects of CRIXIVAN?

Like all prescription drugs, CRIXIVAN can cause side effects. The following is not a complete list of side effects reported with CRIXIVAN when taken either alone or with other anti-HIV drugs. Do not rely on this leaflet alone for information about side effects. Your doctor can discuss with you a more complete list of side effects.

Some patients treated with CRIXIVAN developed kidney stones. In some of these patients this led to more severe kidney problems, including kidney failure or inflammation of the kidneys. Drinking at least six 8-ounce glasses of liquid (preferably water) each day should help reduce the chances of forming a kidney stone. Call your doctor or other health care provider if you develop kidney pains (middle to lower stomach or back pain) or blood in the urine.

Some patients treated with CRIXIVAN have had rapid breakdown of red blood cells (hemolytic anemia) which in some cases was severe or resulted in death.

Some patients treated with CRIXIVAN have had liver problems including liver failure and death. Some patients had other illnesses or were taking other drugs. It is uncertain if CRIXIVAN caused these liver problems.

Diabetes and high blood sugar (hyperglycemia) have occurred in patients taking protease inhibitors. In some of these patients, this led to ketoacidosis, a serious condition caused by poorly controlled blood sugar. Some patients had diabetes before starting protease inhibitors, others did not. Some patients required adjustments to their diabetes medication. Others needed new diabetes medication.

In some patients with hemophilia, increased bleeding has been reported.

Severe muscle pain and weakness have occurred in patients taking protease inhibitors, including CRIXIVAN, together with some of the cholesterol-lowering medicines called "statins." Call your doctor if you develop severe muscle pain or weakness.

Changes in body fat have been seen in some patients taking protease inhibitors. These changes may include increased amount of fat in the upper back and neck ("buffalo hump"), breast, and around the trunk. Loss of fat from the legs and arms may also happen. The cause and long term health effects of these conditions are not known at this time.

Clinical Studies

Increases in bilirubin (one laboratory test of liver function) have been reported in approximately 10% of patients. Usually, this finding has not been associated with liver problems. However, on rare occasions, a person may develop yellowing of the skin and/or eyes.

Side effects occurring in 2% or more of patients included: abdominal pain, fatigue or weakness, flank pain, feeling unwell, nausea, diarrhea, vomiting, acid regurgitation, loss of appetite, dry mouth, back pain, headache, trouble sleeping, dizziness, taste changes, rash, upper respiratory infection, dry skin, and sore throat.

Swollen kidneys due to blocked urine flow occurred rarely.

Marketing Experience

Other side effects reported since CRIXIVAN has been marketed include: allergic reactions; severe skin reactions; yellowing of the skin and/or eyes; heart problems including heart attack; abdominal swelling; indigestion; inflammation of the kidneys; inflammation of the pancreas; joint pain; depression; itching; hives; change in skin color; hair loss; ingrown toenails with or without infection; crystals in the urine; painful urination; and numbness of the mouth.

Tell your doctor promptly about these or any other unusual symptoms. If the condition persists or worsens, seek medical attention.

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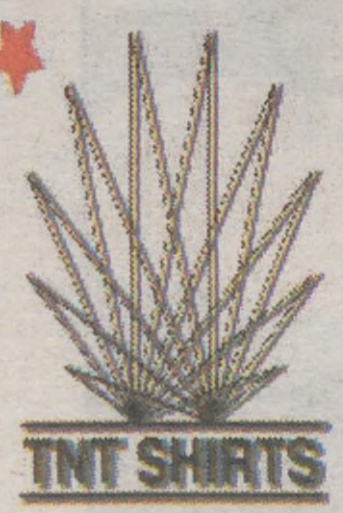
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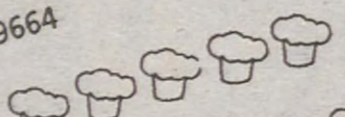
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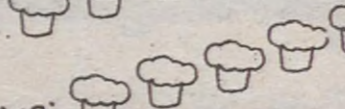


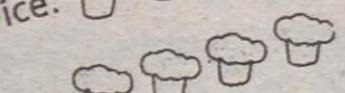
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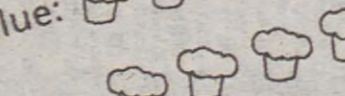
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
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

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

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


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



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Eating Out

RESTAURANT REVIEWS

Da Marco: An Italian Original

by TRAYCE DISKIN

Of all the things I've mistakenly left behind when dining out—wallet, notepad, that novel or CD I'm forever meaning to return to a dining companion—I've never mourned the absence of a good Italian/English Language dictionary.

But at DA MARCO, a new Italian bistro in the heart of Montrose, such an item would have been just as useful as a wad of cash.

The menu, while minimal in its items as well as description, is nearly impossible to translate independently, even for those with a working knowledge of terms like bucatini, olio and formaggio.

Although several of my friends found the menu's lack of accessibility utterly pretentious—obscurity for the sake of obscurity—our server couldn't have been friendlier in helping us decipher the choices.

Thick ribbons of moist pink tuna huddled on a bed of wild, crunchy greens and the black pepper crust piquantly spiked the fish, as did the glistening lime vinaigrette

His verbal description, imagery worthy of a culinary Dante, led us out of menu purgatory rung by tantalizing rung.

Considering its quirky, eye-popping raspberry exterior, the interior decor of Da Marco is soothing and professional.

With one Pottery Barn-like curtain hanging stylishly, if awkwardly directly beyond the entrance, Da Marco's mellow, plush yellows and hardwood floors create a romantic, stylish ambiance that's reinforced by the creative use of a small space.

Tables seem placed at all the right angles, and the dim, warm lighting exudes intimacy without being cramped, and style without snootiness.

The attentive and knowledgeable service made our nearly 20-minute ordering session a delight (for us—our server's opinion may be just a tad different!) as we drank a fruity carafe of mezzacorona pinot grigio.

The seared tuna salad (\$9) made an auspicious beginning, as it solved my problem of doubly craving the luscious, fresh Sea Bass special (\$23) and something more traditionally Italian.

Thick ribbons of moist pink tuna huddled on a bed of wild, crunchy greens and the black pepper crust piquantly spiked the fish, as did the glistening lime vinaigrette.

The clams veraci (\$8) stewed in red wine, olive oil and garlic were also a hit.

Although the meat wasn't the most luscious or largest clams we've had, the strong, dark broth more than made up for it.

The octopus salad (\$6) consisted of the same flawless greens with succulent chunks of bone-white and dreamy purple tentacles.

The lime vinaigrette made a welcome

encore—drizzled on every leaf and red pepper slice.

The insalatina misto (\$5) worked fine as a typical dinner salad, but why settle for the common with alternatives like those listed above?

Entrees proved even more innovative and tasty.

The boneless galetti (\$15) or game hen was tender and juicy without being the least bit greasy. Served with Sage Potatoes coated in grassy herbs and peppers, its stew of spicy vegetables and white wine made for a delicate and original flavor.

The wild asparagus risotto (\$14) featured a rich, creamy porridge heavily scented with asparagus and lined with papery strips of smoked salmon.

Although the smoked fish didn't quite fit with the steamy, rich asparagus dish, it was fresh and perfectly salty.

The bucatini (\$14) offered spaghetti marinara topped with grilled chicken strips.

Although not the most outlandish dish on the menu, a friend remarked on the fresh, thick pasta and juicy tomatoes that made the dish memorable.

My yearning for fresh fish wasn't entirely lost when another friend generously offered a bite of his sea bass.

Marinated in balsamic and served with stewed grapefruit, the tangy trace of citrus elegantly coated the light, flaky fish.

For those interested in lighter fare, Da Marco features a variety of homemade pizzas and the porcini mushroom (\$8) is a must.

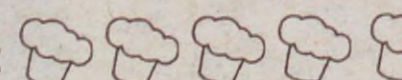
For dessert our server recommended the caramel roasted pear (\$6) soaked in brandy and stuffed with marscapone cheese.

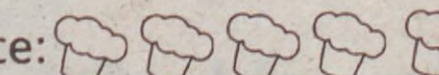
It was decadent without being overly sweet, and went beautifully with a last sip of wine or mild cappuccino.

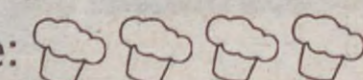
As our dinner conversation and fare lasted us well into the night, the room remained as if drenched in jewel sunlight—romantic, intimate, and worth many returns.

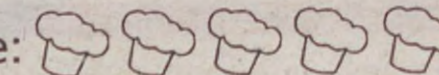
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
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

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

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


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



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Out In Print

BOOK REVIEWS

So far, so good in feminist memoir

by JEN EARLS

In the preface to **LIFE SO FAR: A MEMOIR**, Betty Friedan grumps that the only reason she wrote the book was to pre-empt others, who were about to do it for her. She says that memoirs usually signal the end of a person's career. But she's not done yet.

In her sixth book, the 72-year-old writer, mother and activist takes full credit for starting the women's revolution with her first book, "The Feminine Mystique."

"It just happened," she writes. "I would say by some miracle of convergence of my life and history, serendipity, one thing leading to another."

When "The Feminine Mystique" was released in 1963, Friedan was appearing on television to promote her book while sporting black eyes from her husband, Carl, who expressed his jealousy and envy with his fists. Amazingly, Friedan blames herself for the beatings.

The story reads like a conversation with an aging, self-reflective and beloved grandmother. Friedan peppers her narrative with rhetorical questions: "During my second year in high school, or was it my third, I made a vow my parents would never make me cry again."

Friedan is funny and familiar. "When I was almost 13, getting ready for confirmation, I went in to see the rabbi alone before class. 'Rabbi,' I said, 'I have something to tell you. I've decided I don't believe there is a God.' 'He was very smooth, that rabbi in Peoria. He didn't argue with me. He said, 'All right. But keep it to yourself until after confirmation.'"

Friedan admits she didn't start out as a feminist. While attending Smith College, she was a brilliant psychology student. A Berkeley professor said that her undergrad thesis would have been good enough to use for her Ph.D.

But she gave up a prestigious psychology fellowship at Berkeley because a boyfriend broke up with her. Friedan says she felt that being a champion in academia, leaving potential male partners behind, would make her into the kind of smothering, unhappy woman her mother was—Friedan's greatest fear. It was her mother's housewife frustration and henpecking rage that distanced her father, something Friedan never forgave her mother for doing.

As much as Friedan claims she wanted to leave her stifling hometown behind, she uses her birthplace as an excuse for her actions. In one of the first mentions of the lesbian movement, Friedan writes, "Whispers about lesbians in NOW had begun early in the movement. I didn't listen. My attitude was I don't want to know, sort of like the current military policy toward homosexuals of 'Don't Ask, Don't Tell.' I come from Peoria, Illinois, after all. I was very straitlaced and the whole idea of homosexuality made me profoundly uneasy."

Friedan, credited with warning NOW about "the lavender menace," fought efforts by NOW's lesbian members to make their

issues a major part of the women's movement in the late '60s. Friedan resisted because she felt that centering attention on such a controversial issue would detract from the overall women's equal rights movement.

"The women's movement was not about sex, but about equal opportunity in jobs and all the rest of it. Yes, I suppose you have to say that freedom of sexual choice is part of that, but it shouldn't be the main issue, the tail wags the dog," she says.

The book serves as an evocative recreation of the women's movement from one influential woman's mind. Some juicy tidbits are also included: "It was so annoying to me that Gloria (Steinem) would preach this kind of (anti-femininity) doctrine in *Ms.*, and at the same time be dating some very glamorous men and having her hair streaked at Kenneth, a very fancy New York salon."

After all her fight to change the paradigm of the role of woman, Friedan writes that her greatest challenge was leaving her husband and raising three children alone.

"Getting divorced was the hardest thing I ever did. I was so terrified of being alone. That doesn't bother me anymore. But then, I'm almost never alone. I have so many friends. Where I go, I always have people I know," she says.

LIFE SO FAR



BETTY FRIEDAN

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by Betty Friedan
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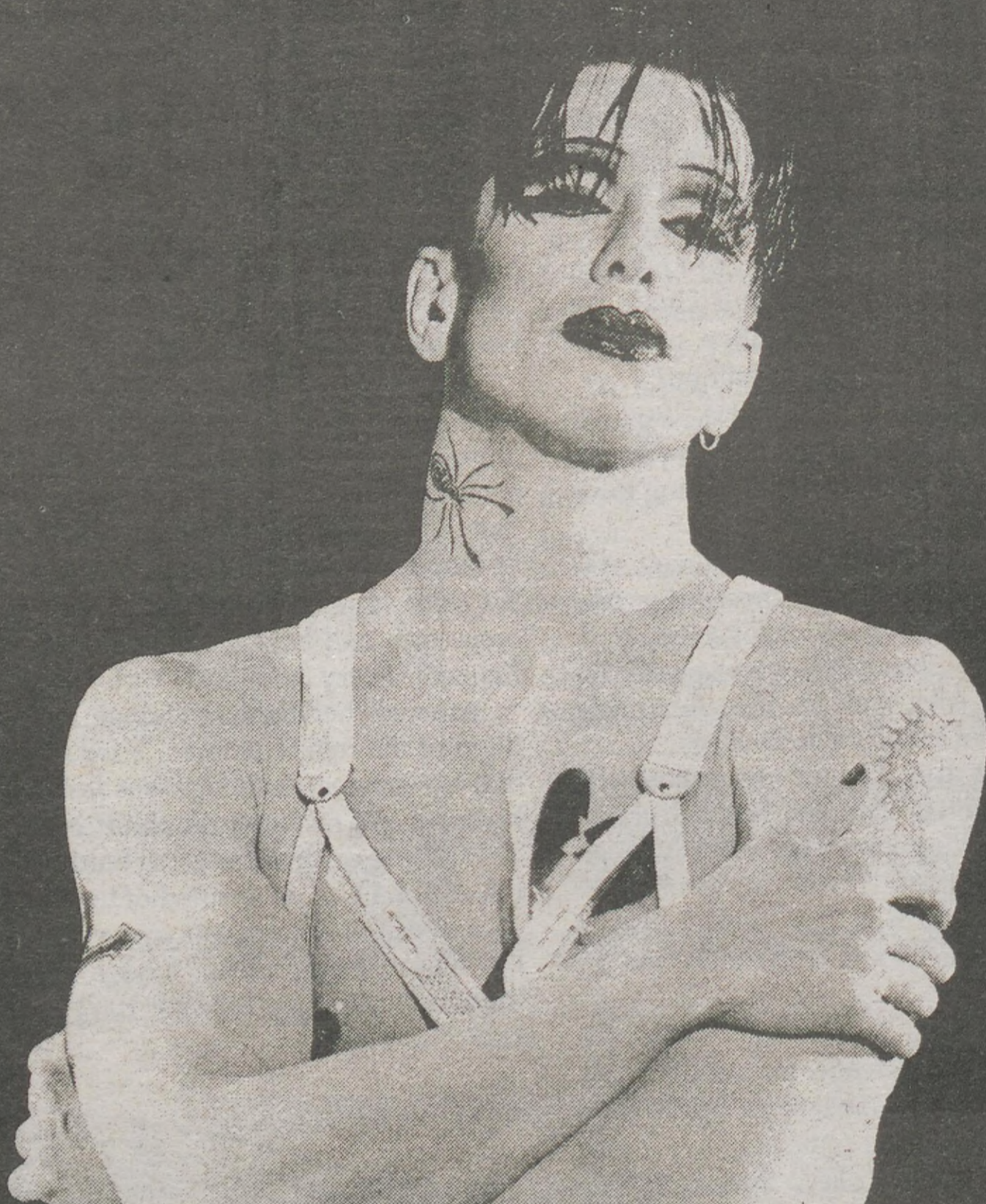
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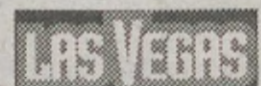
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Past Out

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THIS WEEK IN GAY AND LESBIAN HISTORY

by DAVID BIANCO

The forefront for 'fairies'

Stonewall was by no means the first time gays made themselves known in New York.

Historians date the gay liberation movement to a few nights in 1969, when New York City queers took to the streets to protest police harassment of gay bars. But the city's gay community can actually trace its roots back at least 100 years.

In the last decades of the 19th century, many young people came to New York City from small towns, rural areas and Europe, looking for the economic opportunities that the country's largest city offered. The new residents crowded the predominantly working-class neighborhoods. Among them were many gay folk who had felt isolated and alone in their hometowns.

An array of saloons and dance halls catered to the social needs of the new urban dwellers and patrons included numerous male "degenerates." The "fairies," who frequented establishments like Paresis Hall on the Lower East Side, "call each other sisters," wrote one observer, "and take people out for immoral purposes." Vice squad reports from the early 1900s show that gay men also frequented public spaces like parks and bathhouses looking for sex.

Because women led less public lives than men did, little is known about lesbians in New York before the 1920s. But many of the city's labor organizers, social workers, suffragists and academics of the late 19th and early 20th centuries were never-married women who lived in domestic arrangements with other women and had networks of close female friends.

The period between the world wars witnessed an expansion of the artistic life of the city. Bohemian culture, which embraced both artistic and sexual freedom, took root in the Village. Gay artists like Edna St. Vincent Millay, Eva Le Gallienne and Hart Crane epitomized the Village's "anything goes" atmosphere, making it a popular haven for gay men and lesbians.

At the same time, a gay subculture blossomed in Harlem. Many of the greatest contributors to the Harlem Renaissance of 1920-1935 were gay or bisexual. Drag balls and private parties called buffet flats "were not gay, but they were open," said artist and writer Richard Bruce Nugent.

Bars remained the center of gay male social life in New York throughout the



The Stonewall Riots in 1969 provided a pivotal turning point for the gay civil rights movement in New York, though queers had flocked to the city for decades before the police raid.

1950s and early 1960s, helping to foster a sense of community. Separate women's clubs like the Bagatelle and the Sea Colony offered lesbians a way to meet friends and lovers, too. The "gay girl" culture of 1950s Greenwich Village, heavily dominated by butch-femme role playing, was popularized in pulp novels of the day, like "Odd Girl Out" by Ann Bannon.

Gay New York had its political side, too.

Activist Randy Wicker, a member of the local Mattachine Society, launched a one-man campaign in 1962 to improve gay coverage in the media. Wicker's efforts culminated in the running of a gay story on the front page of *The New York Times* in December 1963—a first for a mainstream paper.

In 1967, gay activist Craig Rodwell, also a Mattachine member, founded the first gay bookstore in the world in Greenwich Village. The Oscar Wilde Memorial Bookshop was an ad hoc community center, where as much organizing took place as did book buying.

After the historic riots at the Stonewall Inn in June 1969, New York was at the forefront of the new gay liberation movement. Over the next few years, the city witnessed an explosion of gay and lesbian groups, including the National Gay Task Force (now NGLTF) and Lambda Legal Defense & Education Fund.

The news story that broke in the July 3, 1981 issue of the *New York Times*—"Rare Cancer Seen in 41 Homosexuals"—led to the organizing of a powerful array of gay social service organizations and activist groups in New York, like Gay Men's Health Crisis in 1982 and ACT UP five years later.

In 1985, the Gay and Lesbian Alliance Against Defamation got its start when some gay New Yorkers became fed up with biased mainstream media reporting about the epidemic. Both ACT UP and GLAAD grew out of meetings held at the city's gay community center, which opened in 1984.

David Bianco is the author of "Gay Essentials," a collection of his history columns. He can be reached at DaveBianco@aol.com.



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Gay New York:

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by George Chauncey
 Basic Books, 1994

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Hope for you

New brochure details gay-friendly churches in Houston

by DL Groover

Traditionally, the combination of organized religion and anything gay and lesbian might spark a clash something akin to the crusades or the inquisition, but not now, and not here in Houston.

As the old song says, there are many ways of getting into heaven. So, if you missed the inclusively jubilant musical celebration of faith hosted by the Community Gospel Church last Tuesday called "Make a Joyful Noise," their 10th Pride celebration concert, you have a second chance.

For those in our community searching for spiritual fulfillment and guidance, the Montrose Clergy Association in observance of Gay Pride 2000 has published a welcome guide. Titled "Hope For You," this brochure details 15 local churches and religious organizations that offer "spiritual guidance to the GLBT community" and "a place to belong."



The vocal group, Excel of the Armadillo, including members: Claire Vasiliy, John Weyersmiller, Nell Decker, Kelly Caswell and Kathy Balheimer, recently performed at "Make a Joyful Noise," the 10th annual Pride celebration concert at Community Gospel Church.

Methodist Church, defined the MCA as "a group of churches in the neighborhood, close in proximity and close in spirit, to help the gay and lesbian community.

"There's a lot of spiritual resources in our community and we just want people to know that they're there, to make it easier for them to find," Plummer said.

Rev. Carolyn J. Mobley, associate pastor at the Metropolitan Community Church of the Resurrection (MCCR), has been involved with the Montrose Clergy Association since her arrival in Houston a decade ago.

"The group became a reality largely around gay and lesbian issues in the '80s when there were some churches that weren't so gay affirming," Mobley said. "The ones that were were in the Montrose area, even though some of them were not particularly excited about ministering to the gay and lesbian community, realized that that's who was around them. So, the MCA began to say, Well, we're trying to serve the same population, let's see how we can communicate with each other and cooperate and do some things together."

Thrilled with the pamphlet's publication, Mobley burst out with "right on" when commenting on the number of churches available to the community and the diverse styles of worship detailed in it.

"It gives information about each church so that people can choose where they want to go and get an idea if it's a predominantly gay and lesbian church, or if it's a mainline denomination with an open-door, policy toward gays and lesbians," she explained.

The association distributes "Hope For You" in the bars, the bookstores, and other gay and lesbian businesses in the Montrose.

"We published it with Pride Week in mind," said Mobley. "We want to saturate the community with them, while we've got lots of extra people around so they can take them and use them."

Chiles is proud of the association and its recent work at getting out the word.

"All the congregations have a vital niche to fill, no matter how big or how small they are. We're just trying to stress the importance of each. Now we're really trying to get involved and reach out to the community and let them know that we're here. With the booklet, I think that's a wonderful beginning," Chiles said.

"You know, you get hearts right, everything else falls in place."

Rev. Chris Chiles, pastor of Community Gospel Church and MCA's facilitator and spokesperson, said that the idea of the guide came from a conversation with a HATCH-ling (Houston Area Teen Coalition of Homosexuals) who felt rejected and hurt by religion's condemnation of his sexual orientation.

It readily became apparent to the MCA that teens weren't the only people to feel outcast. A resource was needed which listed various area churches that are supportive, friendly and welcoming to gay parishioners.

Rev. Troy Plummer, director of program ministries at Bering Memorial United

We published it with Pride Week in mind. We want to saturate the community with them, while we've got lots of extra people around so they can take them and use them.

—Rev. Carolyn J. Mobley

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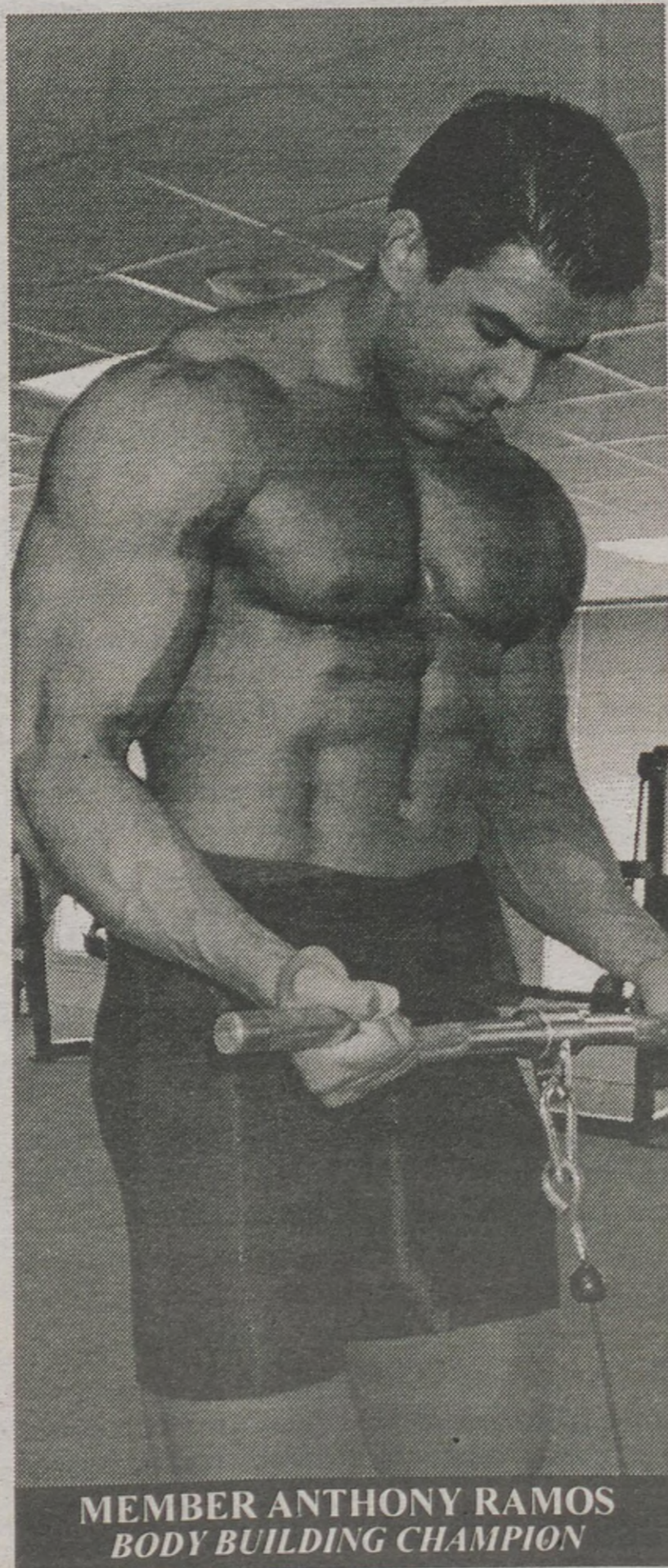
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Health News

Government study shows HIV diagnosis changes sexual behavior

ATLANTA (AP)—Ninety percent of people diagnosed with HIV begin using condoms or curtailing sexual activity after testing positive, according to a government study released June 15. "We generally found that once people that are infected know their status, they do adopt safer behaviors," said Patricia Sweeney, a CDC epidemiologist. As part of a government-sponsored study, the CDC interviewed 180 people recently diagnosed with HIV in Alabama, New Jersey and Tennessee in 1997 and 1998. Ninety percent of those interviewed said they changed their sexual behavior after learning they were infected. Among them, 60 percent said they used condoms more often, 49 percent did not have sex as often, 36 percent stopped having sex and 10 percent had sex only with a person they knew to be infected. Five percent reported engaging in oral sex only. The study indicated that although 44 percent of the 180 interviewed reported not having sex within six months of diagnosis, that number dropped to 18 percent after six months. The CDC says the results show the importance of setting up more state-level HIV testing programs.

Spermicide gel fails to protect women from AIDS in global test

GENEVA (AP)—A spermicide gel containing nonoxynol-9 failed in an African-Asian test to protect women against HIV infection, the U.N. AIDS agency said June 13. "We are clearly disappointed at the results of the trial," said Dr. Peter Piot, executive director of the Joint United Nations program on HIV/AIDS. The agency issued a statement saying the product, which is on the market in the United States and China as Advantage-S, was tested as a gel on female prostitutes in Benin, Ivory Coast, South Africa and Thailand. Dr. Joseph Perriens, head of the UNAIDS search for an effective microbicide, said that the product had been chosen for large-scale testing because it lacked side effects, such as genital sores and irritation, associated with other formulas of spermicide. UNAIDS said three other compounds are being considered for large-scale testing, and that 20 others are ready for safety trials.



Dr. Peter Piot of the Joint United Nations program on HIV/AIDS reported spermicide gel failed to protect women against HIV infection.

AMA recommends regulation of household anti-bacterial products

CHICAGO (AP)—With concern mounting worldwide over germs that are resistant to antibiotic drugs, the American Medical Association adopted a resolution June 14 at its annual meeting urging the government to step up regulation of anti-bacterial consumer products. The AMA's Council on Scientific Affairs had proposed the regulation on products like anti-bacterial soaps, lotions and mouthwashes. The Council's report says there is no scientific data showing that such products have any infection-fighting benefit. But the resolution stopped short of recommending that the AMA discourage the use of such products outright. "Nothing in our report... should discourage the public from maintaining good hygiene," said Dr. Myron Genel, council chairman.

During the same meeting, the AMA members agreed that doctors should have the ability to prescribe syringes and needles to patients in conjunction with addiction counseling to help prevent the transmission of AIDS.

Colo. researchers launch web-site to study Internet sex habits

DENVER (AP)—Researchers at the Denver Health Department are using a web-site to find out how people use the Internet to look for sex partners. The first phase of the program involved researchers observing discussions in chat rooms, and asking people who came in for counseling diseases about their Internet use. They have recently started their own web-site (www.sexquiz.org) where they can ask people intimate questions anonymously. Most of those who answer the quiz say they are over 30 years old, and the overwhelming majority are male. They are asked questions about how many partners they've had, whether they use condoms, which web-sites they've used to meet people for sex, and whether they've lied to a partner to get sex. While it is difficult to verify the responses, "we're hoping the anonymity of this will allow people to be truthful," said Sheana Sayers Bull, one of the researchers.

House votes to force reasonable prices of some pharmaceuticals

WASHINGTON (AP)—The House of Representatives voted 313-109 to require pharmaceutical companies to charge reasonable prices for products they develop as a result of federally financed research. The provision would require the National Institutes of Health to obligate companies using institute research to charge prices "on reasonable terms" for any pharmaceuticals they develop, said David Sirota, spokesperson for Rep. Bernie Sanders, a Socialist, who sponsored the measure. The provision would not apply to such products already on the market and received a majority of votes from both parties. "This is nothing more than asking a fair return for the taxpayers of this country for their investment" of billions of dollars annually in biomedical

research, Sanders said. Drug companies argue that the prices they charge are justified by the billions they must invest in producing effective new drugs.

—From staff and wire reports



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—Victor Hugo

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community calendar

saturday, june 24

After Hours. KPFT 90.1 FM. 12 a.m. to 3 a.m. 713-526-5738.
Q-Patrol walks the streets 8:45 p.m. 713-528-SAFE.
Dignity mass. 7:30 p.m. for gay Catholics. 713-880-2872.
St. Stephen's Episcopal Church. Rosary 8 a.m. 1805 W. Alabama.
713-528-6665.
Houston Chain Gang Bicycle Club. Call for ride locations. 713-863-1860.
Houston Wrestling Club. Practice. 1:30 p.m. 713-453-7406.
Rainbow Fishing Club. Meeting. 713-526-7070.
Houston Faerie Circle. Meeting. 2 p.m. 713-533-0150.
Northwoods AIDS Coalition Food Pantry Southwest Center. 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. 281-633-2555 & Conroe 936-441-1614.
Houston Gay & Lesbian Community Center Drop-in hours noon to 4 p.m. Montrose Writer's Project. 3 to 4:30 p.m. 713-528-3818.

sunday, june 25

New Hope Christian Center Worship Service. 11 a.m. 803 Hawthorne. 713-524-3818.
Houston Area Teen Coalition of Homosexuals meets. 713-942-7002.
Rainbow Riders. A bicycle club for women. 713-869-1686.
St. Stephen's Episcopal Church. Holy Rite Eucharist I 7:45 a.m.; Holy Rite Eucharist II 8:55 a.m.; Education hour 10 a.m.; Choral Eucharist 11 a.m. 713-528-6665.
Maranatha Fellowship Metropolitan Church. Service. 6:30 p.m. 713-528-6756.
Resurrection MCC. Services. 9 a.m. and 11 a.m. Adult Sunday School 10 a.m. Youth Sunday School 11:15 a.m. Handbell Choir rehearsal 1:30 p.m. 713-861-9149.
Grace Lutheran Church. Sunday school for all ages 9:00 a.m. Service 10:30 a.m. 713-528-3269.
Community Gospel. Service at 11 a.m. & 7 p.m. Sunday School for children 10 a.m. 713-880-9235 or www.communitygospel.org.
Houston Mission Church. Service 10:30 a.m. 713-529-8225.
Covenant Baptist Church. Service 9:30 a.m. & education hour 11 a.m. 713-668-8830.
Bering Memorial United Methodist Church. Services at 8:30 a.m. & 10:50 a.m. Sunday school 9:45 a.m. 713-526-1017.
The Women's Group. Meeting & Discussion. 10:45 a.m. 713-529-8571.
Unitarian Fellowship of Galveston County. 502 Church St. Service 10:30 a.m. 409-765-8330.

First Congregational Church (Memorial). Service at 11 a.m. Christian Education. 11:30 p.m. 713-468-9543 or fcc-houston.org.
Unitarian Fellowship of Houston. Adult forum 10 a.m. Service 11 a.m. 713-686-5876.
Thoreau Unitarian Universalist Congregation: Adult discussion 9:45 a.m. Service 11 a.m. 281-277-8882. www.tuuc.org.
Houston Tennis Club. 9 a.m. Memorial Park at the Tennis Center. 713-692-2703.
FrontRunners. Running Club. 9 a.m. 713-522-8021.

monday, june 26

Gay Fathers/Fathers First. Support group. 8 p.m. www.GayFathers-Houston.org or 281-505-1788.
Bering Support Network. 7 p.m. 713-526-1017.
Frost Eye Clinic. Free eye exams for people with HIV. 713-830-3000.
HIV testing. STD Exams & treatment. Free. AVES. 1 p.m. to 6:15 p.m. 713-626-2837.
Kolbe Project. Eucharist 7:30 p.m. 713-861-1800.
Northwoods AIDS Coalition Food Pantry open. 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. 936-441-1614.
Houston Tennis Club. 9 a.m. Memorial Park at the Tennis Center. 713-692-2703.
Lesbian & Gay Voices Radio Show. 8 to 10 p.m. KPFT 90.1. 713-529-1223.
AIDS Mastery. 7 p.m. Montrose Counseling Center. 713-529-0037.
Grief & Divorce Support Groups. 7 p.m. Bering. 713-526-1017X208.
gayDAR. Wellness community. Support Group. 7 p.m. 713-526-1017 Ext. 211.
Houston Lesbian and Gay Community Center drop-in hours from 6 to 9 p.m. Black Lesbian & Gay Coalition weekly meeting. 7 p.m. 803 Hawthorne. G&L Community Center Board meeting. 7 p.m. 713-524-3818.
Stonewall Democrats of Houston. Monthly meeting. 608 W. Gray. stonewallhouston@hotmail.com.

tuesday, june 27

Free HIV Testing by the Montrose Clinic. 8 p.m. to midnight. Club Houston. 713-830-3000.
Helping Cross Dressers Anonymous. Support Group. 7 p.m. 281-495-8009.
PROTECT. An HIV-negative support group 7 p.m. 713-526-1017.
Bering Support Network. Lunch Bunch Gang 11 a.m. 713-526-1017.

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Gay Men's Process Group. 7 p.m. 3316 Mt. Vernon. 713-526-8390.
 Men's Network. Discussion group for social, educational development of gay and bisexual men. 7 p.m. Montrose Counseling Center. 713-529-0037.
 Northwoods AIDS Coalition Food Pantry open. 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. 281-633-2555.
 Lambda Skating Club skates. 8 p.m. Tradewinds. Skating Rink. 713-410-7215.
 Houston Lesbian and Gay Community Center drop-in hours 6 to 9 p.m. Lesbians Island Young Women's Group meets 7 p.m. 803 Hawthorne. 713-528-3818.
 Houston Outdoor Group. General Meeting and Mailout. 713-522-7809.

wednesday, june 28

Free HIV Testing. Thomas Street Clinic. 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. 2015 Thomas Street 713-793-4026.
 STD Exams & treatment. HIV Testing. Free. AVES. Free. AVES. 713-626-2837.
 Free HIV Testing by the Montrose Clinic. 4 p.m. to 8 p.m. Mary's, Ripcord & Midtowne Spa. 713-830-3000.
 BiNet Houston. 7:30 p.m. Social meeting. 713-467-4380
 Women's Network. Montrose Counseling Center Discussion group for social, educational development of gay and bisexual women. 7 p.m. Montrose Counseling Center. 713-529-0037.
 Northwoods AIDS Coalition Food Pantry open. 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. 936-441-1614.
 Project: Caesar. Workshops. AFH. 3203 Wesleyan. 713-623-6796.
 Out Skate Rollerskating Club. 8 to 10 p.m. 8075 Cook Road. 281-933-5818.
 Rainbow Ranglers free C&W dance lessons. Brazos River Bottom. 7 p.m. 713-880-0670.
 Bible Study. Noon & 6:30 p.m. St. Stephen's Episcopal. 713-526-6665.
 Spiritual Uplift service. 7 p.m. Bible Study 7:30 p.m. Resurrection MCC. 713-861-9149.
 Freelance Art Classes by Kermit Eisenhut for HIV+ individuals. 1 to 4 p.m. Lunch provided. 713-523-9530.
 Houston Tennis Club. 9 a.m. Memorial Park at the Tennis Center. 713-692-2703.
 Lesbian Literature Discussion Group. 7 p.m. 713-523-3037.
 Houston Pride Band. Open rehearsal. 7 p.m. 713-524-0218.
 Bering Memorial United Methodist Church. Dinner at 6:30 p.m. Various Support Groups 7 p.m. 713-526-1017.
 Houston Lesbian and Gay Community Center drop-in hours 6 to 9 p.m. Free HIV testing by the Montrose Clinic 6 to 9 p.m. 803 Hawthorne. 713-524-3818.
 Women's Mixer. Center for AIDS. 713-527-8210.

thursday, june 29

Gay Men's Chorus of Houston. Open rehearsal. 7 p.m. 713-521-7464.
 Rainbow Ranglers free C&W dance lessons. Brazos River Bottom. 7 p.m. 713-880-0670.
 Hep C Recovery. Support Group. 6:30 p.m. Bering. 713-526-1017X211.
 STD Exams & treatment. Free. AVES. 713-626-2837.
 Free HIV Testing by the Montrose Clinic. 8 p.m. to midnight. Toyz Disco. 713-830-3000.
 Northwoods AIDS Coalition Food Pantry open. 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. 281-633-2555.
 FrontRunners. Running Club. 6:30 p.m. 713-522-8021.
 HIV Art Course Program. 1 to 4 p.m. Patrick Palmer 713-526-1118.
 Women's Clinic. Montrose Clinic. 713-830-3000.
 Community Gospel. Service. 7:30 p.m. 713-880-9235 or www.communitygospel.org.
 HIV Testing. Free. AVES. 713-626-2837.
 Gay, Lesbian & Bisexual Alliance at the University of Houston. (GLOBAL) Meeting. 4 p.m. 713-743-7539.
 Houston Lesbian and Gay Community Center drop-in hours 6 to 9 p.m. 803 Hawthorne. 713-524-3818.
 Houston Area Bears Dine Out. 6:30 p.m. 5757 Westheimer. 713-867-9123.

friday, june 30

Houston Area Teen Coalition of Homosexuals (H.A.T.C.H.) Meeting. 713-942-7002.
 Free HIV Testing by the Montrose Clinic. 10 p.m. to 1 a.m. Rich's. 713-830-3000.
 STD Exams & treatment. Free. AVES. 713-626-2837.
 Frost Eye Clinic. Free eye exams for people with HIV. 713-830-3000.
 Q-Patrol walks the streets. 9:00 p.m. 713-528-SAFE.
 Kolbe Project. Morning Prayer. 10 a.m. 713-861-1800.
 Houston Tennis Club. 9 a.m. Memorial Park at the Tennis Center. 713-692-2703.
 Positive Art Workshop. 1 p.m. to 4 p.m. Patrick Palmer. 713-526-1118.
 Lesbian and Gay Voices. KPFT 90.1 FM. 7 p.m. 713-526-5738.
 Mishpachot Alizim Shabbat Services. 8 p.m. 713-748-7079.
 Houston Lesbian and Gay Community Center drop-in hours 6 p.m. to 9 p.m. 803 Hawthorne. 713-524-3818.

To list an event, call Carolyn Roberts at 713-529-8490, fax at 713-529-9531, or e-mail editor@houstonvoice.com. Deadline is Friday at 5 p.m.

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New Fridays! Live rock bands at midnight. • Thursdays - Amateur male strip contest, \$100 cash prize at midnight • Wednesdays - \$25 prize for best old campy drag contest at midnight.

Family to Family Adoption Services

How to adopt internationally and domestically. • Family to Family Adoption Services is a Non-profit adoption agency dedicated to find loving homes for thousands of orphans. • Single men, women, and couples from 25 - 60 years of age are eligible to adopt. • For more information please call 713.249.5941.

The Blood Center

Donors, who would like the location and hours of operation of a donor facility close to them, may call the Blood Center at 713.790.1200 or www.giveblood.org.

PWA Coalition

Desperately needs the following items: Dishes, silverware, pots/pans, sheets, towels, dressers, dinettes, coffee tables, sofas, chairs and small appliances. Pick-up available, call 713.522.5428.

Project L.E.A.P.

Are you interested in advocating for funding and services for people living with HIV and AIDS? The PWA Coalition-Houston announces start of Project L.E.A.P., an intensive training program for HIV positive individuals and others who want to become advocates for HIV/AIDS related services and funding. Classes for Project L.E.A.P. will begin in May. Participants must complete an application and a limited number of spaces are available. To receive an application or to obtain more information please call Rich Arenschieldt, Project Coordinator at 713.522.5428, ext. 28 or 800.999.0325.

Body Positive Wellness Center

is a non-profit organization that seeks to empower those with HIV infection, through nutrition chiropractic services, yoga, and peer counseling. If you are interested in participation or volunteering, we want to speak with you! Visit our website at www.bodypositive.org or call 713.524.2374.

Auditions

Bienvenue Theatre

Auditions for chorus, understudies, and replacements for musical "Naked Boys Singing". • Males 20 -40 with good bodies call 713.426.2626.

Autos For Sale

'98 BMW 328i Convertible • 10k miles, one of a kind, stk#6968 • \$36,988 • Richard Sisco - River Oaks Chrysler/Jeep, 713.524.3189

'98 Chrysler Sebring JX Conv. • 36k miles, leather, extra clean, stk#9653 • \$15,988 • Richard Sisco - River Oaks Chrysler/Jeep, 713.524.3189

'97 Dodge Ram 1500 SLT 1/2 ton • Bedliner, nice looking truck, 38k miles, stk#5338 • \$14,955 • Richard Sisco - River Oaks Chrysler/Jeep, 713.524.3189

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Business Opportunities

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Station rental at busy leading Montrose hair salon. • 2 stations available in relaxed setting. • \$150 per week • Call Dennis for special starting deal in August, 713.528.2302

Employment

PURGATORY

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Nightingale ADC offers free employment assistance to HIV+ individuals • Including job preparedness training, resume development, job search assistance. For more information call 713.981.1543.

STEVEN'S HOUSE

HIV Intermediate care home seeks night staff • Resident interaction, housework, and clerical • Understanding/sensitivity of HIV/AIDS and experience a plus • EOE • Send resume to Executive Director • PO Box 131303 • Houston, Texas 77219-1303.

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Window Media, the publisher of *Southern Voice* (Atlanta), *Houston Voice* (Houston) *Impact News* (New Orleans) and *eclipse* magazine is experiencing unprecedented growth with ambitious plans for the future. Talented, hard-working, creative and dedicated individuals are constantly in demand as opportunities arise within our publication areas: Sales, Administration, Circulation/Distribution, Editorial, Design/Production. If you are interested in a career path with a growing organization, please submit your resume to: Window Media, Attn.: Human Resources Dept., 1095 Zonolite Road #100, Atlanta, Ga., 30306.

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Organizations

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www.bearsonthebayou.com

www.montrosesoftballleague.com

www.iblhouston.net

Pets

The Homeless Pet Placement League is a Houston area, non-profit animal welfare organization. HPPL provides for the rehabilitation of stray and abandoned dogs and cats through its unique foster care program. All animals are spayed/neutered and have their first set of shots. For more information call 713.862.7387 or view website at www.HPPL.org

The Spay Neuter Assistance Program will provide FREE spaying/neutering, rabies vaccinations and city licenses for animals belonging to qualifying low income dog and cat guardians. For qualifications and transportation information please call 713.522.2337.

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Real Estate For Rent

Small 1 bedroom condo (450 sq. ft.) - \$400 month. • 2 bedroom, 1 1/2 bath condo/townhouse (1225 sq. ft.) with W/D, fenced patio, new stove/refrigerator - \$700 month • 2 bedroom, 1 bath condo (850 sq. ft.) - \$625 month • Call Lyn, on-site agent, for an appointment, 713.729.9316.

1419 Hyde Park efficiency apartment. • \$450 Move-In-Special • Call J.D. at 713.528.0561.

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Share 3 bedroom, 2 bath home with GWM couple in Cypress. • \$400 month, includes utilities, lawn service, housekeeping. • Call 281.897.9840

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Volunteer Information

GAY & LESBIAN SWITCHBOARD

Volunteer classes now forming. Reserve your space on line or call 713.529.9615 or www.gay-switchboardhouston.org.

VOLUNTEERS

WANTED

to give four (4) hours per month for in-home care visits to people living with HIV/AIDS • For more information on Bering's Sentry Program call Craig Overstreet at 713.523.7110 EXT 119.

Houston Lesbian & Gay Community Center

is seeking volunteers to staff the facility in more extended hours. If organizations and individuals are interested, please contact Eva Luchak at 713.524.3818 to discuss how you can help.

RYAN WHITE

PLANNING COUNCIL

is looking for volunteers to serve on the council. The primary responsibility of the council is to determine what services are most needed. Last year's Council received over \$17 million from the federal government for use in the greater Houston area. Your participation DOES make a difference. Contact Tori Williams at 713.572.3724 or email www.rwpc.org.

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TO PLACE AN AD:
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BY FAX: Fax completed order form and credit card information to Classifieds 713-529-9531. **BY E-MAIL:** feedback@houstonvoice.com
AD POLICY: Houston Voice reserves the right to edit, reclassify or reject ads not meeting Houston Voice standards. No refunds for early cancellation.
 Misprints: Houston Voice is not responsible for misprints appearing after first week. Check ads promptly.

Deadline for ad submission is: MONDAY at 12 NOON

- 1 PICK YOUR CATEGORY**
- FREE*:** Call for guidelines
 — HIV Services & Education
 — Volunteers
 — Non-Profit Organizations
 *First 20 words
- INDIVIDUAL RATE \$7:**
 — Announcements
 — Auditions
 — Employment-Seeking
 — Pets-Free or Lost & Found
 — Roommates
 — Personal Websites
- BUSINESS RATE \$15:**
 — Auto Repair
 — Business Opportunities
 — Entertainment
 — Help Wanted
 — Help Wanted-Seeking
 — Home Improvement
 — Items For Sale
 — Licensed Massage
 — Moving Services
 — Professional Services
 — Real Estate For Rent
 — Real Estate For Sale
- Call 713-529-8490 for other categories

2 WRITE YOUR AD
Please print clearly

CATEGORY: _____ **# OF ISSUES:** _____

Giant or Bold Headline – Not to exceed 14 characters and spaces

--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--

TEXT: _____

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YOUR WEEKLY HOROSCOPE

June 23 - 30

ARIES (MARCH 21 - APRIL 20)

It's easy for you to revamp your life in late June and early July, especially if you start with your home. Saturn conjunct with Jupiter in your money house can help you to get your finances in order, but only if you take the long view. Forget about immediate gratification.



TAURUS (APRIL 21 - MAY 21)

You really need to get out more, sweetie. Your ruler, Venus, is hopping up your social sector, but you have to do your part, too. You should work on your communication skills. If you can bring yourself to say it, you can finally do it. Now's the time to cozy up to a Capricorn.



GEMINI (MAY 22 - JUNE 21)

Don't misconstrue the intentions of a loved one. Someone is trying to help you, but you are just not in the most objective frame of mind right now. On July 1, Jupiter enters your sign for a nice long stretch of time, and a whole heap of good luck comes with it. A Scorpio is lucky for you in bed.



CANCER (JUNE 22 - JULY 23)

The solar eclipse in your sign on July 1 could give you just the kick in the ass you need. Celebrate your birthday season by taking a chance on something you believe in. If your heart is drawn to another Cancer, you can certainly get things rolling now.



LEO (JULY 24 - AUG. 23)

The end of a long, strange trip is within sight. Finally, the eclipses move off your butt and into another sign beginning July 1. Be open to all forms of other worldly communication and stop being so literal. An Aquarius can help you thrive during the next season of your life.



VIRGO (AUG. 24 - SEPT. 23)

The solar eclipse on July 1 falls in your house of friends. This is the beginning of a real "group cycle" for you. This is a great time for you to put your career goals ahead of all other pet projects. Focus gets you far—if you can put your mind to it, you can do it. It's safe to give your cell phone number to a Pisces.



LIBRA (SEPT. 24 - OCT. 23)

The solar eclipse on July 1 falls at the top of your chart and promises a most productive career cycle over the next six months. You should put agreements in writing with partners you believe in. You have the goods to go far, but why go it alone? Just wait till Mercury goes direct on July 17 before signing on the dotted line for a Leo.



SCORPIO (OCT. 24 - NOV. 22)

You can really enjoy your life now, Scorpio darling. Give yourself the treats and thrills you desire. Lighten up and take life-affirming risks; your bitterness has grown tedious. A Sagittarius makes you laugh and long for sex in the great wide open.



SAGITTARIUS (NOV. 23 - DEC. 22)

Mercury retrograde in your house of serious relationships is warning you to exercise just a tad more patience and restraint in your love life. You could uncover a mystery involving someone you've been romantically intrigued by for months. A Taurus is well worth the wait, so why rush it?



CAPRICORN (DEC. 23 - JAN. 20)

As the solar eclipse on July 1 hits your house of love, romance takes on a much deeper meaning. You are on the verge of one of the most passionate periods in your life, so please stop obsessing about tiny details. A Sagittarius helps you to focus on what's real.



AQUARIUS (JAN. 21 - FEB. 19)

Put some energy into your day job, and it will pay off in the months to come. Instead of complaining, make the changes you desire, little by little. You may not be able to control the psychic flashes that come and go late June and early July, but you can tune in to your physical reality and make sense of it. Stay in with an Aries and work out in private.



PISCES (FEB. 20 - MARCH 20)

The solar eclipse on July 1 falls in your house of creativity, and its effects will be felt for six months at least. If you've been filling your hours with tedious, meaningless tasks, now's your chance to start an artistic project that you can put your whole soul into. A Libra knows how to help you organize your life.



Jill Dearman is the author of "Queer Astrology for Men" and "Queer Astrology for Women." For information on charts and consultations, call 212-841-0177 or e-mail QScopes@aol.com.

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