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MARCH 14TH 1997 • ISSUE 855

Gay Group Presses For Human Cloning

by Curt Morrison

The Clone Rights United Front (CRUF), a group of gay activists, is pressing for more research on human cloning.

The group was formed last week by Randolph Wicker after reports were released to the media on the successful cloning of a lamb from an adult sheep. The group of approximately 15 members held a demonstration in Greenwich Village last Saturday. At issue is proposed legislation that would make the act of cloning a felony in the state of New York.

Wicker told USA Today last week that the group was fighting for research and the protection of an individual's reproductive rights.

"I realize my clone would be my identical twin, and my identical twin has a right to be born," Wicker told the newspaper.

According to the report, Ann Northrop, a columnist for LGNY (a gay and lesbian news weekly in the Big Apple), says the issue is of interest to the community for several reasons.

"In a time when we're afraid that discovery of a genetic basis (for homosexuality) would lead to people aborting us, cloning would be a way of surviving," Northrop told USA Today.

"This has the potential of giving women complete control over reproduction...a stunning possibility that could, carried to its logical extreme, eliminate men altogether," said Northrop.

Since the issue is relatively new to the community, there is no clear consensus on the matter.

President Clinton has indicated he would take steps to ensure that human cloning is not conducted in the United States.

According to Human Rights Campaign spokesperson Kim Mills, the gay and lesbian community is diverse and the group believes there are many varying opinions on the subject within the community. The organization has not yet taken a position on human cloning.

The subject matter has become heavy fodder on the Internet according to Jack Nichols, Web site editor of gaytoday.badpuppy.com. In fact the Web site has a forum devoted to the subject.

Nichols indicated there is no consensus in favor of human cloning, albeit it is leaning toward that direction, he says.

"It's new to all of us. It's like jumping in the air into chaos. If we don't close our minds, I'm sure we'll land safely," Nichols informed.

Near Mishap at Local Eatery



A motorist lost control of their vehicle earlier this week during heavy rainfall. The incident occurred as a result of the weather and startled many patrons of Ruggles restaurant in Montrose when the vehicle slid

within inches of the restaurant's atrium. The unidentified driver was transported to a local hospital. At press time, details concerning injuries or damage were unavailable.

PHOTO: JAMES TOWSE

Entertainment Reviews



The Greeks is a sweeping two-part saga of love, murder, revenge and rescue drawn from the great classical stories of the Trojan War and the Fall of the House of Atreus. See review by David Richardson on page 19.



Crazy for You star Bob Walton, discusses his career in an interview with Jon Anthony. The zany musical of Gershwin songs is currently playing at the Music Hall. See interview/review on page 18.

FBI Warns Groups Targeted By Hate Crimes: Bomber May Strike Again

Atlanta (AP) - The FBI has warned minority communities and other groups that have been targeted by hate crimes that the person responsible for bombing an abortion clinic and a gay nightclub may likely strike again.

"I don't think we have evidence that the person is going to strike again, we're just being cautious," FBI spokesman Jay Spadafore said today.

The FBI told Georgia lawmakers about the warning last week, The Atlanta Journal-Constitution reported today.

"We've been attempting to do it in a low-key fashion," Spadafore said. "The goal is to be prudent and vigilant without creating alarm or a panic."

The agents offered congressional leaders no conclusive theories as to why Atlanta was

targeted, although they suggested the city's international exposure from the 1996 Olympics was one possibility, the newspaper reported.

Agents said they have not ruled out that the recent explosions were tied to last summer's bombing at Olympic Centennial Park, which killed one person and injured more than 100 others.

The FBI's briefing was conducted at the request of Sen. Paul Coverdell, R-Ga. Several other members of the Georgia delegation and staff members attended.

Agents said their forensic work is moving slowly. They told the congressional leaders that the bombs used in all of the explosions were constructed of widely available materials, making individual components difficult to trace.

Ballet with a Bite

Million Dollar Dracula Premieres in Houston

Rich Arenschieldt

"I could feel the soft, shivering touch of the lips on the super-sensitive skin of my throat, and the hard dents of two sharp teeth, just touching and pausing there. I closed my eyes in a languorous ecstasy and waited - waited with a beating heart."

-- Dracula, Bram Stoker

In celebration of the centenary of Bram Stoker's monumental Victorian gothic tale, Houston Ballet has decided to unearth Dracula in a completely new, full length production. With choreography by longtime Artistic Director Ben Stevenson, music of romantic Franz Liszt and production design by Thomas Boyd, this Dracula promises to be a visual spectacle.

Can a choreographer best known for the fluffier side of ballet switch from nutcrackers to a nocturnal nemesis rivaling Frankenstein? According to Sean Kelly, Houston Ballet Principal dancer, "There is a lot of new movement in Dracula - a lot of interesting work both for the soloists and the 'Brides of Dracula,' composed of the women corp(ses) de ballet."

Ben Stevenson's idea for this work has been germinating for over ten years. When asked to create a work for the American Ballet Theater and star dancer Kevin McKenzie, Stevenson immediately thought of the 'Vampyr.' "Kevin was so tall and elegant, perfect for the part." As a choreographer he has historically used dancers as muses; like Balanchine, has often created works with specific dancers in mind.

Though blood thirsty, Stevenson's



PHOTO: BREW DONOVAN

Dracula is also a "sensual aristocrat with impeccable manners," (perhaps this means that you receive a 'mighty morphin power rangers Band-Aid after your jugular impalement). This ghoul is quite sensual - in certain versions of the story Dracula is merely a bloodseeker. Stevenson has created a being that has a lustful attraction to his characters, usually the most beautiful women his deadly dentures can entrap. "He has charm, he's a count, handsome, courtly and intriguing to women," Stevenson recounts, perhaps reflecting his own slightly polite British sensibility.

This legend is ripe for balletic characters - villains, priests, heroes, and innocent, lithe-some women abound. In addition to Dracula, the other principal male role of Frederick, 30

See BALLET page 19

Classifieds
pages 31 & 32

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Houston Ballet Slated To Host Fundraiser For Milam House

The Houston Ballet is planning to host a Spring fundraiser benefiting Milam House/AIDS Housing Houston in conjunction with its upcoming production *Dracula!* The Houston Ballet is staging the World premier production of *Dracula!* under the stewardship of Artistic Director Ben Stevenson in honor of the 100th Anniversary of the first publication of Bram Stoker's novel by the same name. (See Cover Story).

The Milam House fundraiser will be held Sunday, March 23, 1997 at 2 p.m. The afternoon includes a performance of *Dracula!* at the Brown Theatre at the Wortham and a wine and cheese reception in the Founder's Lounge at the Wortham with members of the Houston Ballet Company immediately following the performance. Seating for the event is limited and reservations are required. Cost for the event is \$60. For more information call George Jone at 522-2240.

Log Cabin/Texas Announces Fundraiser

Log Cabin Republicans of Texas (LCRT), the state's largest organization of Republican gays and lesbians, will hold a special fundraiser on Saturday, March 22 during the weekend of the Gay Pride March Against Hate Crimes. The event will be held at the home of Mr. Joe Cloud, a leader in the Austin gay community for equal rights.

The event is expected to draw members and supporters from around the state, who will be in town that weekend for the March Against Hate Crimes the following day, and for Lobby Day that Monday. Proceeds from the fundraiser will benefit the Log Cabin Republicans of Texas, a statewide organization that advocates equal rights for gays and lesbians in the Texas Republican Party. The group has active chapters in Dallas, Houston, Austin, and San Antonio.

Tickets for the event are \$20. Individuals may also donate at the Host level, which is \$100. Attire is casual. For complete information about the event, call Ronnie Bounds at 512-371-3585.

Three Tenors Concert Canceled

The "Three Tenors" concert scheduled for this Sunday, March 16, 1997 has been canceled. The concert featuring Luciano Pavarotti, Placido Domingo and Jose Carreras was to have been the World Tour Grande Finale. The concert has been postponed indefinitely to purportedly overhaul the sound system. The concert was to take place at the Astrodome.



(L-R) Placido Domingo, Jose Carreras, Conductor James Levine and Luciano Pavarotti.

Ticketholders should contact Ticketmaster for information concerning a refund. The concert is supposed to be re-scheduled; however, ticket sales did not meet expectations and it is doubtful whether it will be re-scheduled anytime soon.

Community Center Launches Founders Club

The Houston Lesbian and Gay Community Center's Board of Directors is launching a Founder's Club with the goal of raising \$3,000 to secure an initial site for the proposed Center. The club will be made up of individuals and groups that donate \$250 or more to the Center effort.

"We are offering Houstonians a chance to be a part of history by helping us make this

community center happen," said Brian J. Tognotti, President of the Board. "We've accomplished a lot in the last few months, establishing a web site and talking to a wide variety of organizations regarding the community's needs. We are now ready to find a space and begin offering services."

The Center will offer meeting rooms for other organizations and maintain bulletin boards for organizations to post notices. Additionally, the Center goals are to work in conjunction with other organizations to co-sponsor activities such as community forums, cultural activities and social mixers that bring the community together. Individuals or groups interested in being a part of the Center or seeking additional information can call (713) 867-7094.

Date Set For Second Annual Gala Benefiting Montrose Clinic

The Friends of Montrose Clinic have announced the date for this year's "Hats Off to Broadway" fundraising benefit for Montrose Clinic. This year's event, its second, combined with "A Roast of Honorary Chair, Dr. Scott Sawyer" will be held at the Edwin Hornberger Center in the Texas Medical Center on Sunday, June 8, 1997.

The event includes a cocktail hour, silent auction and entertainment provided by the Todd Vullo Trio followed by dinner and Broadway-style entertainment featuring Houston legends Jerry Attwood and Sharon Montgomery as well as Keith Caldwell, Clay Howell, Keira O'Keefe, Terry Pierce, Juliana Wathen and Ralph Sikes. Dance music provided by Scott Clertner will conclude the evening.

Underwriter and individual tickets are available for both events or for "Hats Off" only. For more information, contact the Clinic's development office at (713) 520-2000.

Blockbuster Music and KRTS Host Eschenbach Signing

Houston Symphony Orchestra Music Director Christoph Eschenbach will be signing copies of the symphony's new CD release of all-Schubert music on Koch International Classics. The classics were recorded at Jones Hall for the Performing Arts in 1996.



HSO Music Director Christoph Eschenbach

The newly released disc contains the Schubert/Berio Rendering as well as the Schubert/Joachim Symphony in C Major, Grand Duo. The Houston Symphony regularly includes the works of Franz Schubert in their repertoire. Indeed, the orchestra will feature Schubert's Symphony No. 4, Tragic and the Mass in A-flat, No. 5 along with the Houston symphony Chorus in observance of the 200th Anniversary of Schubert's birth. The concerts take place March 22 through 24.

Prior releases by Eschenbach and the HSO have received critical acclaim and worldwide recognition. The signing will take place at Blockbuster Music at Shepherd and Highway 59. Refreshments will be served at the event which takes place from 1:30 to 3 p.m. The event is co-sponsored by Blockbuster and KRTS Radio. For more information, call KRTS at (713) 921-5787.

Gaylapalooza Benefit for Q-Patrol Hits Houston

Gaylapalooza, the biggest gay comedy event ever, is coming to Houston for two nights only March 24 & 25. The event features such prominent comedy stars as Scott Kennedy, Kevin Maye, Bob Smith and

Georgia Ragsdale.

Kennedy and Maye are the co-stars of "The Gay Comedy Jam" which has sold-out over 150 shows making it the most successful all gay stand-up comedy act ever to tour the US and Canada. In addition, the duo has appeared on HBO's Comedy Channel.

Smith made history in 1995 as the first openly gay comic to have his own HBO Special and appear on The Tonight Show with Jay Leno. Ragsdale, who resembles Jackie O, is considered to be one of the most talented comedians in the world. She has appeared on HBO and PBS.

The show will benefit Houston's Q-Patrol, a citizens watch group that has detoured hate crimes in the Montrose area for over 15 years. The event takes place at Laff Stop, 1952A West Gray at 8 p.m. both nights. For tickets or information, call Q-Patrol at (713) 528-SAFE or the Laff Stop at (713) 524-2333.

Zydeco Bash Benefits Children With AIDS

The first annual Zydeco Jam Festival, a Louisiana style gala, will hit Houston this Saturday, March 15 at the Baytown Fairgrounds. The festival showcases Beau Jocque & the Zydeco High Rollers, Step Rideau & the Zydeco Outlaws, Boo Zoo Chavis & the Magic Sounds and Geno Delafosse, each playing their own blend of Zydeco.

Sponsored by KCOH Radio, a portion of the proceeds will benefit the Loving Arms Foundation, Houston's only child care facility focused on the needs of serving children infected with HIV/AIDS. Monies will be used for vehicle maintenance, in house training and education materials, according to the group. For more information, call Audrey Kennerson Gassama at The Loving Arms Foundation at (713) 526-8798.

Prom Night Benefit For HATCH To Be Held At Lovett Inn

The Houston Area Teen Coalition of Homosexuals (HATCH) will be hosting their annual Prom Night fundraiser June 21, 1997 at the Lovett Inn. The gala event is open to the public.

Prom Night allows gay and lesbian youth to enjoy a special event otherwise denied them because of their sexual orientation and provides the organization a major portion of their annual funding.

Sponsorship for this event is available on three levels. Individual sponsorships are \$100, Business sponsorships are \$250 and underwriter sponsorships are \$500. For more information concerning this Summer event, contact Tom Staley at (713) 522-2052.

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to give up on any of it. Not work, not play, not even romance. Oh, there is one thing, though.

You do have to give up being afraid to take care of yourself.

AMERICAN CANCER SOCIETY
Get a checkup. Life is worth it.

MCC Offers Chemical Dependency Program

The Montrose Counseling Center (MCC) is offering a Chemical Dependency Program "targeted toward the gay, lesbian, bisexual, and transgendered community." Licensed by the state of Texas, the outpatient treatment program offers a combination of education, therapy and counseling in a safe environment.

According to MCC, the rates are affordable and grant sponsorship is available. Participants will attend group sessions five nights per week and a limited number of individual counseling sessions. For more information, contact Tom Strain, LMSW-ACP at (713) 529-0037.

Briefs

Tickets are still available for this year's Houston AmFAR: Together for Medical Research III, the third annual benefit for AIDS research slated to be held at the Arena Theatre March 22, 1997. The evening features Grammy-Award Winner Tony Bennett and special guests Farrah Fawcett and Betty White (Golden Girls). "This is a real and tangible disease to all of our lives and if we all join together, there is hope," said event chair Maxine Messinger. For information, call (713) 524-0555.... A new gay organization is on the horizon. Gay, Racially Equal, And Together (GREAT) Southwest, an umbrella organization from the now defunct Men of All Colors Together (MACT), will become an official chapter of the National Association of Black & White Men Together (NABWMT). A reformation process of the Houston, Austin and San Antonio MACT chapters is being planned. During the interim, GREAT Southwest will serve all three cities for those interested in becoming members. For more information, call 1-800-NA4-BWMT.... Project LEAP (Learning Empowerment, Advocacy, Participation) will celebrate its' first commencement ceremony March 29, 1997 at the Park Plaza Professional Building at 6 p.m. The organization focuses on increasing the effectiveness, empowerment and participation of persons who want to become community champions and play key roles on planning councils, advisory and review committees for groups responsible for the assessment and provision of HIV-related service needs in the Houston area. For more information, call (713) 623-6796.... Scriptwriters/Houston, a nonprofit organization of Houston-area writers, has announced its seventh annual competition for 10 minute playlets for its Ten by Ten production at Main Street Theatre in Rice University Village. The deadline for entries is April 5 and the 10 winning playwrights will be paid. For additional information, call (713) 707-5194.

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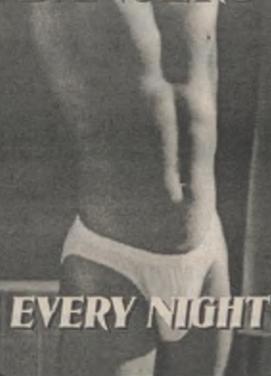
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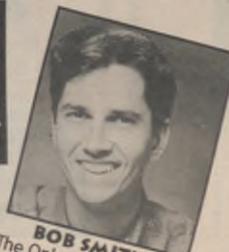
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NATIONAL NEWS

Nationally Known HIV Researcher To Speak In Houston

Rich Arenschioldt

Dr. Lark Lands, author of "Positively Well, Living with HIV as a Chronic, Manageable Survivable Disease" will speak at Bering United Methodist Church, 1440 Harold Street on Thursday, March 20, 1997 at 7:00 P.M.

This community forum co-sponsored by the Center For AIDS, Body Positive/Houston, and AVES, will focus on Ms. Lands' presentation, 'The Ten Commandments of Living Long and Well with HIV Disease.' As a pioneer in HIV related wellness she has presented this seminar to thousands of individuals across the country and around the world.

Her work, has been described by the San Francisco Sentinel, as "one of the most valuable guides for developing strategies for surviving AIDS -- an indispensable tool for people attempting to maintain optimal health despite HIV illness." Dr. Lands' talk will present concrete scientific information that is a rational foundation for an integrated survival program. This approach is focused on healthy, symptom free survival and immune system damage prevention. Concurrently, it also seeks to prevent, to the greatest extent possible, side affects and other systematic damage caused by medications used in the treatment of HIV.

Dr. Lands frequently shares information with the most advanced HIV specialists

throughout North America. She spends time with medical practitioners and patients to inform and educate them of 'cutting edge' total body approaches to preventing internal decline, slowing disease progression and eliminating symptoms. Key components of her approach include lessening infection risk and drug induced nutritional problems. These, combined with information on the best available antivirals, immune modulators, and the reduction of opportunistic infections, provide a broad base of information to participants, regardless of their HIV status.

With extensive experience in research, design and implementation of clinical trials, she has worked with numerous doctors and patients in creating integrated health enhancement programs.

This is a unique opportunity to hear and interact with one of the nation's best alternative therapy HIV service providers. Dr. Lands has a tremendous following nationwide -- this free forum will provide an interesting perspective on HIV and complementary treatments.

For additional information, please call the Center for AIDS at 713-527-8219 or Body Positive Houston/Houston at 713-524-2374. Spanish speakers may contact AVES at 713-626-2837. Those individuals with special needs should notify Sara Steen at the Center for AIDS by 5:00PM on March 17, 1997.

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by Larry Lingle

David Leavitt published his last novel, "While England Sleeps" four years ago when his career as a writer, albeit a gay writer, was at its zenith. Then, controversy swooped down in the form of a great gay poet, Stephen Spender, and Leavitt is still trying to recover. His latest form of therapy is three novellas (less than a novel) called "Arkansas" (if you, like myself, wonder on the name it comes from a quote attributed to Oscar Wilde near the end of his own life cut short by scandal).

The controversy, for those who might have slept through 1993, was that Leavitt, in "While England Sleeps", took an episode from Spender's early autobiography, "World Within World", and in fictionalizing it, he turned the story into what Spender called pornography by adding sexual scenes not in the original.

In the United States this would be a hard case to litigate, but in Spender's England he had a "moral right" to protect his work from such adaptations. For those interested, the episode involved an affair between Spender and a young man, with the latter rushing off to fight in Spain when Spender married a woman. As even Spender's autobiography illustrated the marriage did not stand in his way of having other affairs with men, including one particular rising star of American literary circles.

In any case, Leavitt's book was trashed, literally, by the British publisher and not reprinted by his American publisher. He later transferred to another American publishing house which purchased the paperback edition with parts rewrit-

ten to satisfy Spender's sensibilities. The aged Spender has since died.

All of this is important to rehash in light of "Arkansas", made up of three even shorter novels. The first, "The Term Paper Artist", was bought by Esquire magazine but then not published after its publisher deemed it "inappropriate", apparently because of the sexual content which was entirely homosexual in nature.

"The Term Paper Artist" is, in fact, Leavitt's fictionalized account of his reaction to the earlier controversy. So much so that the main "fictional" character is called "David Leavitt". Whereas the real Leavitt fled, with his lover, to Rome, the fictional Leavitt retreated to his father's place in Los Angeles from whence he ended his writer's block, induced by conflict, by writing term papers for cute straight collegians in return for acts of fellatio.

Perversely, Leavitt noted in an interview that "it is so common to write autobiographical fiction in which your own experience is thinly disguised. I thought it could be very interesting to do the opposite with a story where even a tiny amount of research into my life would prove it did not happen, and make it seem like it did happen and thereby turn the conventions inside out." This interview, giving due attribution, was with Celestine Bohlen of the New York Times.

It is also possible that Leavitt dwells on the sexual content as a response to Spender's strong objections earlier on the same grounds. Sex is a principle tool in all three stories and, as much as Leavitt might object to the appellation, these are gay plots.

The middle story is "The Wooden Anniversary" and after a few pages the reader discovers that the narrator is a woman and as such never seems more than an observer to the events being told. In fact, the only character in this story who takes on any dimensions is the one gay man who, like the fictional Leavitt earlier, seeks sex and/or love among straight men.

The final story, "Saturn Street", relates the loneliness of a gay man who has lost his lover. His desperation is expressed in adult videos and phone sex which Leavitt sees as the plight of the urban gay man. It is a world in which, as Leavitt concludes, "you can have the illusion of intimacy, the illusion of human contact, the illusion of an erotic experience without ever having to leave your bed, and of course the Internet - and virtual sex - is the ultimate because you don't even have to have a voice."

Ultimately, whatever moral lessons Leavitt attempts to draw from his devastating literary controversy such are poorly served in these three stories. Hopefully, however, this book allows Leavitt to break from the writer's block he implies followed his Spender battle and the apparent evidence of this is the promise of his next novel, "The Page Turner", the story of a child-prodigy pianist whose successful adult career leads to a relationship with an adoring fan. Leavitt's lover, by the way, is a musician, prodigy or not.

Miscellaneous tidbits: James Watson, the co-discoverer of DNA, supports the idea that women should terminate pregnancies if they find out that their children might grow up gay.

The London Times followed this with an interview with Quentin Crisp of "Naked Civil Servant" and lavender hair fame, as in full agreement. Crisp, who described his own life as very unhappy and "absurd", said he now "avoids" gay people. His American publisher might want to keep that in mind when they release his latest book later this spring.

Speaking of "Naked Civil Servant," it appeared with several other books on a list supplied by California Assembly member Carole Migden, a lesbian for those who did not know, to Vice President Albert Gore, at his request in order to learn more of the gay and lesbian experience. Fortunately, the list also included "The Celluloid Closet", "Before Stonewall", "Angels in America" and "A Boy's Own Story".

Finally, amongst my favorite reading, the New York Times obituaries, was notice of the death of C.V. Wedgwood, the English historian. C.V. was Dame Cicely Veronica Wedgwood of the famous potter family and daughter of Sir Ralph, former head of the British Railways. Dame Veronica was a specialist in seventeenth-century English history and was a contemporary of another noted English historian, A.L. Rowse, whose lifetime of scholarly works culminated in his now classic "Homosexuality in History" which, of course, included his own.

As noted in the Times, Dame Veronica was survived by her companion Jacqueline Hope-Wallace with whom she had lived for nearly 70 years. English historians do it with such style. Perhaps Quentin Crisp should read more history.



NATIONAL NEWS

Task Force Names New Media Director

Washington, DC — Kerry Lobel, Executive Director of the National Gay and Lesbian Task Force (NGLTF), announced the appointment of Mark F. Johnson as Media Director. Johnson joins the staff of the Task Force after a three-month national search to fill the position.

Prior to coming to NGLTF, Johnson was a Media Specialist with the Democratic National Committee (DNC) where he worked primarily on outreach to the gay and lesbian media and also on public relations efforts aimed at the lesbian and gay community.

Johnson was also the News Media Director for the Gay and Lesbian Alliance Against Defamation (GLAAD). In that position, he managed the organization's news office and served as its chief news spokesperson and media strategist. Before taking the position in New York, Johnson worked for eight years in the lobbying department of the American Association of Retired Persons (AARP) in Washington, D.C.

At AARP, Johnson focused on age and employment discrimination issues, national service, campaign finance reform and other issues. He also worked with the national media to help disseminate the Association's legislative message. Before coming to AARP, he worked as a reporter and covered Congress and federal agencies for "Tax Notes," a weekly tax and business publication based in Arlington, Virginia. Johnson also worked in the Washington Bureau of The New York Times.

For the past ten years Johnson has had an active freelance writing career and has written for several gay publications throughout the country including the Washington Blade, Windy City Times, Southern Voice, Chicago's Outlines, and the Baltimore Gay Paper. His monthly column, Out This Way, which focuses on political and media issues, has regularly appeared in Kick magazine, and he has also written a Washington-based column for SBC magazine. "NGLTF is a good fit for me," said Johnson. "The Task Force has a very bright future and so much strength to contribute at this critical time in our movement's history. I'm very excited about working on these issues in Washington and I'm glad to be with an organization that has a proven commitment to making a difference."

EXPAND THE ATTACK ON HIV

NUCLEOSIDE ANALOGUES

Viramune (nevirapine)

by Leslie Ramsay

News of the drive-by-shooting death of the gangster rap star Notorious B.I.G. reminded me of one of the reasons why I permanently left the music business -- stress.

For far too many years, I worked for music distributors that sold gangster rap by the truckload to retail chains nationwide.

At first, I loved my job. I stood firm, daily, against the mass merchants "do not carry" lists. Several chains implemented whatever Jimmy Swaggart preached against on Sunday to the "DNC" list on Monday. I would go out to the stores and attempt to defend each artist that was added to the list. I would somehow convince the store managers that this was a free speech issue. I so profoundly believed in the freedom of all speech that I actually equated the banning of the 2 Live Crew release, "Nasty As They Wanna Be", to the banning of Mark Twain's "Huckleberry Finn". My sworn enemies were Jimmy Swaggart and Tipper Gore.

Tipper Gore organized the Parents Music Resource Center (PMRC) to create what was reported to be a quasi-censorship board. Billboard magazine wrote reams of articles about how Tipper Gore came home to find her daughter listening to an "obscene" Prince song. She was supposedly surprised that her daughter could walk into a record store and buy such "obscene" and "objectionable" music. In my view, I was surprised that Mrs. Gore was not supervising her daughters purchases herself.

As a result of the publicity surrounding the PMRC, the widespread use of the Parental

Advisory stickers was born. The record industry voluntarily placed warning labels on products that contained objectionable lyrics. Subsequently, with the warning system in place, record companies began to recruit more controversial artists. Initially they attempted to sell "clean" or "radio ready" versions of rap music side-by-side the "nasty" version. The "nasty" version out sold the "clean" version in my accounts by 100 to 1. Hence, the record companies learned very quickly that "nasty" sells.

The gangster rap genre was born out of this censored, stickered environment. It wasn't until the PMRC stuck their noses into the music business did this type of music become mainstream mass popular culture. Thank you very much, Mrs. Al Gore.

Now that I have been out of the music business for awhile, I have been reflecting upon what this proliferation and glorification of gab-bashing, woman hating, drug addicted, racist, criminal hate speech has created in our society. Millions of Americans are listening to music that encourages not only the behaviors I mentioned before but also the killing of police officers. The children and adults that listen to this music day in and day out are getting a skewed vision of society. This music amplifies all of what is wrong with our society and puts it to a snappy drum beat.

The Houston Press recently ran a cover story about a local "remix" artist and his fan base. The majority of the article surrounded drug usage, driving under the influence and the loy-

alty of the teenage fans. The local music scene is littered with musical groups that were rising very quickly in the race to the top of the gangster rap heap. Drugs, alcohol and run-ins with the law have cut short the majority of their careers. The lifestyle that is depicted by this type of music is one long hazy marijuana clouded violent orgy. Occasionally, the musicians that try and live their lyrics are soon living in prison.

Warner Brothers Records has been taken to court over the lyrical content of several of their releases. They realized too late that the little advisory sticker would not protect them from legal defense and court fees. The possibility of government regulation may have pushed them into releasing Ice-T from his contract. His song, "Cop Killer", brought a flood of negative press to Warner Brothers. The song never really sold until the record label attempted to pull it from the shelves.

Currently, there is a turf war raging amongst the gangster rappers. Apparently, there are only so many ways to remix "Killing Me Softly..."

The police are still investigating while the news media is reporting, that the killing of Biggie Smallz, a.k.a. Notorious B.I.G., was in retaliation for the drive-by-shooting of 2Pac. In the shooting of Biggie, there were 200 witnesses. I wonder how many will testify against the shooter?

2Pac has risen from the dead as a saint to many teens. If you ask any kid on the corner if 2Pac is really dead you may get the answer, "No". In life, he was reported to be extremely

hot tempered and violent. A friend of mine that toured with him in the very beginning of his career informed me that he had to stop 2Pac from doing some really stupid things that would have ended his career, if not his life, many years before a bullet in Las Vegas finally did. I asked my friend if he thought 2Pac was worthy of all of this hero worship? He just laughed and cussed.

The record industry is in the business of creating mega-hits. They focus on the short term "one hit wonders". The deal to make a quick buck off of a catchy tune is valued over the artist development contract. The gangster rap genre is primed for this type of environment. Killing off the competition is becoming a way of life. Once a gang banger, always a gang banger...

NOTE: In response to Plain Speaking's request last week for further information into the laws that have passed that have either abridged or eliminated the first and second amendment protections of the constitution for some Americans -- I offer the following common examples: The Handgun Violence Protection Act of 1993 (the Brady Bill) and the Don't Ask, Don't Tell policy of the military. For further information please see the web site at www.fac.org. If you have time, the whitehouse web site at www.whitehouse.gov also provides occasional press releases on bills that the President has signed.

By the way, my words are my own. I fear blind liberalism most of all.



NATIONAL NEWS

Cher, Tracy Ullman Added to GLAAD Media Event

GLAAD will kick off its three-city Media Awards in Los Angeles March 16. Fifteen hundred people will gather at the Century Plaza Hotel for the star-studded event, with such special guests as Ellen DeGeneres, Gina Gershon, Jennifer Tilly, Gregory Peck, Me'Shell Ndegeocello, Mitchell Anderson, Cher, Adam Arkin, Valerie Bertinelli, Tracey Ullman, Ed McMahon and many more. Awards presented at the event will include: Outstanding Film (Wide Release), Outstanding Television Comedy Series, Outstanding Television Drama Series, Outstanding Television-Individual Episode, Outstanding Music Single, Outstanding Los Angeles Theater Production and the Stephen F. Kolzak Award. For more information contact Bragman Nyman Cafarelli (Public Relations) at (310) 274-7800.

PSU Recognizes Anti-Gay Group

State College, Pa. (AP) - An anti-gay student group won recognition at Penn State University, after an appeals board decided it would not break the institution's discrimination codes.

"Most people think that the school does not want us to exist, but I did everything by the book, and they basically had no choice," said Darin Loccarini, 27, who founded STRAIGHT in November and has about 50 members.

STRAIGHT, which stands for Students Reinforcing Adherence in General Heterosexual Tradition, was denied recognition by a student court and Loccarini envisioned a court fight.

The board's reversal of a student court ruling, announced Thursday before spring break, said STRAIGHT didn't discriminate in selecting members and gave no sign it would discriminate based on sexual orientation.

Recognition means that STRAIGHT can use a Penn State letterhead and meet in university buildings - and will have to admit lesbians and gays as members.

New Viramune[®] 200 mg Tablets (nevirapine)

The first of a new class of antiretroviral agents

Unique mechanism of action: a non-nucleoside reverse transcriptase inhibitor

- Acts at a different site than nucleoside analogues
- Synergy shown *in vitro** with ZDV, ddI, d4T, and 3TC
- No cross-resistance shown *in vitro** with nucleoside analogues

Unique advantages for combination class therapy

- In a study of 151 treatment-naïve patients receiving VIRAMUNE[®]+ZDV+ddI or ZDV+ddI or VIRAMUNE[®]+ZDV, significantly more patients on VIRAMUNE[®] triple therapy had HIV RNA levels below the limit of detection after 24 weeks. The clinical significance of this is unknown.

PERCENT OF PATIENTS WITH HIV RNA LEVELS BELOW LEVEL OF DETECTION (400 COPIES/ML)

75%	VIRAMUNE [®] +ZDV+ddI
46%	ZDV+ddI
0%	VIRAMUNE [®] +ZDV

Mean CD4+ cell counts remained significantly above baseline in the VIRAMUNE[®]+ZDV+ddI group and the ZDV+ddI group. There was no significant difference between these arms.

- Sustained (48 weeks) immunologic and virologic improvements also seen in nucleoside-experienced patients

- Indicated for use in combination with nucleoside analogues for the treatment of HIV-infected adults who have experienced clinical and/or immunologic deterioration. This indication is based on analysis of changes in surrogate endpoints in studies of up to 48 weeks duration. At present, there are no results from controlled clinical trials evaluating the effect of VIRAMUNE[®] with nucleoside analogues on the clinical progression of HIV-1 infection, such as the incidence of opportunistic infections or survival.

- VIRAMUNE[®] in combination with protease inhibitors is not recommended until clinical data are available.

- Generally well-tolerated—most commonly reported adverse events were rash, fever, nausea, and headache

- Severe and life-threatening skin reactions have occurred in patients treated with VIRAMUNE[®], including Stevens-Johnson syndrome. VIRAMUNE[®] must be discontinued in patients developing a severe rash or a rash accompanied by constitutional symptoms such as fever, blistering, oral lesions, conjunctivitis, swelling, muscle or joint aches, or general malaise.

Simple one-tablet, twice-daily dosing*

*Relationship between *in vitro* susceptibility of HIV to nevirapine and inhibition of HIV replication in humans has not been established.

Recommended dose: one 200 mg tablet q.d. for first 14 days; then one 200 mg tablet b.i.d. This lead-in period should be used because it has been found to lessen the frequency of rash.

See Brief Summary of Prescribing Information on adjacent page.

Senate Growth

Rep. Christopher Shays, a Connecticut Republican, announced today that he will be a lead co-sponsor of the Employment Non-Discrimination Act (ENDA), a bill to outlaw job discrimination based on sexual orientation.

"Gaining Shays as a lead co-sponsor adds to the growing body of proof that the ENDA is a moderate, mainstream piece of legislation," said Winnie Stachelberg, HRC's legislative director. "We are gratified to see so many members of Congress recognizing that gay men and lesbians deserve basic job fairness."

The Human Rights Campaign began asking members of Congress in 1993 to include sexual orientation in their non-discrimination policies. At the close of the 104th Congress, 307 members reported that they had instituted such policies in their offices—241 in the House and 66 in the Senate. The party breakdown in the House was 73 Republicans and 168 Democrats/Independents, and in the Senate, 24 Republicans and 42 Democrats. The only Texas notable from these figures was Kay Bailey Hutchison.

LAMBDA Literary Award

Marc Adams' *The Preacher's Son* has taken his place alongside four other finalists vying for the Lambda Literary Award for Best Spirituality Book. The book chronicles Adams' life growing up gay as the son of a fundamentalist Baptist minister in rural Pennsylvania where he endured a childhood of physical, emotional and spiritual abuse. He went on to attend, by choice, Jerry Falwell's Liberty University where he also was employed for 3-1/2 years in the student recruiting/university relations department. His book articulately reveals life at Liberty and the struggle to conform to the standards for which he would have been a martyr. Award recipients will be announced at a gala banquet in Chicago on Friday, May 30, 1997.

New Grants Awarded

The Lesbian Health Fund of the Gay & Lesbian Medical Association has awarded \$26,464 in grant money to finance promising new health research projects across the country. Awardees are selected for the excellence of their project's design, their experience in research and the significance of the project to the lesbian community. The awards are given without regard to the recipient's sexual orientation.

The recipients include Sandra S. Butler of the School of Social Work at the University of Maine, Ann Pollinger Haas, PhD, of the Department of Health Services at Lehman College, Clifford J. Rosen, MD, of the Maine Center for Osteoporosis and Yannick Durand, PhD, in Brooklyn.

After Midnight

Actor Brad Davis (*Midnight Express*), who died of AIDS in 1991, struggled for years with the question of whether to "come out" as an HIV-positive actor in Hollywood.



Actor Brad Davis.

But as one of the industry's most popular and attractive leading men, Davis believed his career wouldn't recover from a public announcement. Instead, he secretly wrote an intensely personal account of his life in Hollywood and struggle with AIDS, fin-

ished after Davis' death by his wife, Susan Bluestein Davis. Their book, to be published later this month, is excerpted exclusively in POZ's April edition.

After *Midnight* tells how Davis, who learned he was HIV-positive at the height of his movie and television career, slipped into the AIDS treatment underground, with assumed names and secret doctors' visits. Bluestein also discusses her husband's off-camera life; his extravagant use of drugs and affairs with famous women; the rumors of his homosexuality, his devotion to this wife and young daughter, and his involvement with AIDS treatment activists who urged him to come out as HIV-positive.

Ugly Ads

In Minneapolis/St. Paul, a so-called "ex-gay" ministry is running commercials on two local network affiliates during lesbian, gay and AIDS-sensitive programming. During ABC's "Happy Birthday Elizabeth" & the episode of "Roseanne" when Bev introduced her new girlfriend, KSTP-TV aired a commercial telling lesbians & gay men that they could become straight. The sponsor, Outpost, Inc., is a local "ex-gay" ministry, and the ad's voice-over states: "If you are gay or lesbian and don't want to be, there's hope for change. Many have left the

lifestyle and you can, too. For more information call 1-800-201-2890, extension 'Hope for Change.'" The commercial has also run repeatedly on KARE-TV, the local NBC affiliate.

Conference On AIDS

AIDS Action Foundation is co-sponsoring four one-day dialogues across the country—the first of which will be held March 26 in Miami, Florida. The other co-sponsors are AIDS Service Organization Network, Alliance for the Aging, Florida AIDS Action Council, Mothers' Voices South Florida, South Florida Hospital & Healthcare Association, and Tampa AIDS Network. The Conference begins at 9am at Pan American Hospital, 5959 Northwest 7th St. in Miami.

Briefs

The National Gay & Lesbian Task Force announced the appointment of Mark F. Johnson as Media Director. Johnson joins the staff of the Task Force after a three-month search to fill the position....A needle-exchange program will be shut down in Willimantic, Connecticut on March 21. State health officials cited poor community support for the program, which was created to slow the spread of AIDS....A gay rights group in Detroit said the number of gays

who reported they were verbally or physically attacked in the Detroit area because of their sexual preference increased 29% last year....The number of fake bomb threats in Atlanta has soared over the past year. During January 1996, police recorded 17 phony bomb threats, followed by 11 in February. This year, there were 53 in January and 59 in February, police said....The U.S. Army is scrambling for recruits in the face of increased discharges under the "Don't Ask, Don't Tell" policy. They are lowering recruiting standards and increasing its advertising budget from \$12 million to \$44 million....In Suffolk (New York) Family Court, Judge William Kent allowed two lesbians to cross-adopt each others' daughters. "This is the first cross-adoption in the U.S. by two lesbians whose children are half-sisters," said Dominic Barbara, the women's lawyer....According to the Lambda Legal Defense and Education Fund (LLDEF), a new congressional report from the General Accounting Office reveals that at least 1,049 laws addressing marital status deny benefits, rights and privileges to same-sex couples. "Six months after voting for the Defense of Marriage Act, Congress just now is checking out what civil marriage means under federal law," said Evan Wolfson, marriage project director for LLDEF.



BRIEF SUMMARY

WARNING: VIRAMUNE® (NEVIRAPINE) IS INDICATED FOR USE IN COMBINATION WITH NUCLEOSIDE ANALOGUES FOR THE TREATMENT OF HIV-1 INFECTED ADULTS WHO HAVE EXPERIENCED CLINICAL AND/OR IMMUNOLOGIC DETERIORATION. THIS INDICATION IS BASED ON ANALYSIS OF CHANGES IN SURROGATE ENDPOINTS IN STUDIES OF UP TO 48 WEEKS OF TREATMENT. AT PRESENT, THERE ARE NO RESULTS FROM CONTROLLED CLINICAL TRIALS EVALUATING THE EFFECT OF VIRAMUNE® WITH NUCLEOSIDE ANALOGUES ON THE CLINICAL PROGRESSION OF HIV-1 INFECTION, SUCH AS THE INCIDENCE OF OPPORTUNISTIC INFECTIONS OR SURVIVAL.

THE DURATION OF BENEFIT FROM ANTIRETROVIRAL THERAPY MAY BE LIMITED. ALTERATION OF ANTIRETROVIRAL THERAPY SHOULD BE CONSIDERED IF DISEASE PROGRESSION OCCURS WHILE PATIENTS ARE RECEIVING VIRAMUNE®.

RESISTANT VIRUS EMERGES RAPIDLY AND UNIFORMLY WHEN VIRAMUNE® IS ADMINISTERED AS MONOTHERAPY. THEREFORE, VIRAMUNE® SHOULD ALWAYS BE ADMINISTERED IN COMBINATION WITH AT LEAST ONE ADDITIONAL ANTIRETROVIRAL AGENT.

VIRAMUNE® HAS BEEN ASSOCIATED WITH SEVERE RASH, WHICH IN SOME CASES HAS BEEN LIFE-THREATENING. WHEN SEVERE RASH OCCURS, VIRAMUNE® MUST BE DISCONTINUED.

CONTRAINDICATIONS: VIRAMUNE® IS CONTRAINDICATED IN PATIENTS WITH CLINICALLY SIGNIFICANT HYPERSENSITIVITY TO ANY OF THE COMPONENTS CONTAINED IN THE TABLET.

WARNINGS: Severe and life-threatening skin reactions have occurred in patients treated with VIRAMUNE®, including Stevens-Johnson syndrome (SJS). VIRAMUNE® MUST BE DISCONTINUED IN PATIENTS DEVELOPING A SEVERE RASH OR A RASH ACCOMPANIED BY CONSTITUTIONAL SYMPTOMS SUCH AS FEVER, BLISTERING, ORAL LESIONS, CONJUNCTIVITIS, SWELLING, MUSCLE OR JOINT ACHES, OR GENERAL MALAISE. (SEE PRECAUTIONS, INFORMATION FOR PATIENTS, ADVERSE REACTIONS)

VIRAMUNE® therapy must be initiated with a 14-day lead-in period of 200 mg, which has been shown to reduce the frequency of rash. Dose escalation should not occur if rash is observed during this lead-in period until the rash has resolved. (SEE DOSAGE AND ADMINISTRATION)

PRECAUTIONS: General: When administering VIRAMUNE® as part of an antiretroviral therapy regimen, the complete product information for each therapeutic component should be consulted before initiation of treatment.

While nevirapine is extensively metabolized by the liver and nevirapine metabolites are extensively eliminated by the kidney, the pharmacokinetics of nevirapine have not been evaluated in patients with either hepatic or renal dysfunction. Therefore, VIRAMUNE® should be used with caution in these patient populations.

Abnormal liver function tests have been reported with VIRAMUNE®, some in the first few weeks of therapy, including cases of hepatitis. VIRAMUNE® administration should be interrupted in patients experiencing moderate or severe liver function test abnormalities until liver function tests return to baseline values. VIRAMUNE® treatment should be permanently discontinued if liver function abnormalities recur on readministration.

Drug Interactions: Although clinical studies have not been conducted, induction of CYP3A by nevirapine may result in lower plasma concentrations of other concomitantly administered drugs that are extensively metabolized by CYP3A. (SEE CLINICAL PHARMACOLOGY) Thus, if a patient has been stabilized on a dosage regimen for a drug metabolized by CYP3A, and begins treatment with VIRAMUNE®, dose adjustments may be necessary.

Rifampin-Induced: There are insufficient data to assess whether dose adjustments are necessary when nevirapine and rifampin or rifabutin are coadministered. Therefore, these drugs should only be used in combination if clearly indicated and with careful monitoring.

Protease Inhibitors: Nevirapine may decrease plasma concentrations of protease inhibitors. Therefore, until clinical data are available that evaluate the need for dose adjustments, these drugs should not be administered concomitantly with VIRAMUNE®.

Oral Contraceptives: There are no clinical data on the effects of nevirapine on the pharmacokinetics of oral contraceptives. Nevirapine may decrease plasma concentrations of oral contraceptives (also other hormonal contraceptives); therefore, these drugs should not be administered concomitantly with VIRAMUNE®.

Information for Patients: Patients should be informed that VIRAMUNE® is not a cure for HIV-1 infection, and that they may continue to experience illnesses associated with advanced HIV-1 infection, including opportunistic infections. Treatment with VIRAMUNE® has not been shown to reduce the incidence or frequency of such illnesses, and patients should be advised to remain under the care of a physician when using VIRAMUNE®. Patients should be informed that the long-term effects of VIRAMUNE® are unknown at this time. They should also be informed that VIRAMUNE® therapy has not been shown to reduce the risk of transmission of HIV-1 to others through sexual contact or blood contamination.

Patients should be instructed that the major toxicity of VIRAMUNE® is rash and should be advised to promptly notify their physician at any rash. The majority of rashes associated with VIRAMUNE® occur within the first 6 weeks of initiation of therapy. Therefore, patients should be monitored carefully for the appearance of rash during this period. Patients should be instructed that dose escalation is not to occur if any rash occurs during the two-week lead-in dosing period, until the rash resolves. Any patient experiencing severe rash or a rash accompanied by constitutional symptoms such as fever, blistering, oral lesions, conjunctivitis, swelling, muscle or joint aches, or general malaise should discontinue medication and consult a physician. Patients should be informed to take VIRAMUNE® every day as prescribed. Patients should not alter the dose without consulting their doctor. If a dose is missed, patients should take the next dose as soon as possible. However, if a dose is skipped, the patient should not double the next dose.

VIRAMUNE® may interact with some drugs; therefore, patients should be advised to report to their doctor the use of any other medications.

Patients should be instructed that oral contraceptives and other hormonal methods of birth control should not be used as a method of contraception in women taking VIRAMUNE®.

Carcinogenesis, Mutagenesis, Impairment of Fertility: Long-term carcinogenicity studies of nevirapine in animals are currently in progress. In genetic toxicology assays, nevirapine showed no evidence of mutagenic or clastogenic activity in a battery of *in vitro* and *in vivo* assays including microbial assays for gene mutation (Ames, Salmonella strains and *E. coli*), mammalian cell gene mutation assays (CHO/HGPRT), cytogenetic assays using a Chinese hamster ovary cell line and a mouse bone marrow micronucleus assay following oral administration. In reproductive toxicology studies, evidence of impaired fertility was seen in female rats at doses providing systemic exposure, based on AUC, approximately equivalent to that provided with the recommended clinical dose of VIRAMUNE®.

Pregnancy: Pregnancy Category C. No observable teratogenicity was detected in reproductive studies performed in pregnant rats and rabbits. In rats, a significant decrease in fetal body weight occurred at doses providing systemic exposure approximately 50% higher, based on AUC, than that seen at the recommended human clinical dose. The maternal and developmental no-observable-effect-level dosages in rats and rabbits produced systemic exposures approximately equivalent to or approximately 50% higher, respectively, than those seen at the recommended daily human dose, based on AUC. There are no adequate and well-controlled studies in pregnant women. VIRAMUNE® should be used during pregnancy only if the potential benefit justifies the potential risk to the fetus.

Nursing Mothers: Preliminary results from an ongoing pharmacokinetic study (ACTG 250) of 10 HIV-1-infected pregnant women who were administered a single oral dose of 100 or 200 mg VIRAMUNE® at a median of 5.8 hours before delivery, indicate that nevirapine readily crosses the placenta and is found in breast milk. Consistent with the recommendation by the U.S. Public Health Service Centers for Disease Control and Prevention that HIV-infected mothers not breast-feed their infants to avoid risking postnatal transmission of HIV, mothers should discontinue nursing if they are receiving VIRAMUNE®.

Pediatric Use: Safety and effectiveness of VIRAMUNE® in pediatric patients have not been established. VIRAMUNE® has been studied in two open-label, uncontrolled trials (BI 882, BI 892) in 37 HIV-1-infected pediatric patients with a median age of 0.9 years (range 0.1 to 15 years) who were treated for a median duration of 23.7 months. Seven patients developed rashes while receiving VIRAMUNE®. In an ongoing, controlled trial of VIRAMUNE® combination therapy in HIV-1-infected pediatric patients (ACTG 245), one of approximately 288 patients treated with VIRAMUNE® experienced Stevens-Johnson syndrome.

Because there are no data on multi-dose pharmacokinetics in children, no recommendation on dosing can be made. Based on single-dose pharmacokinetics in 9 HIV-1-infected pediatric patients (age 9 mos. to 14 years) who were administered nevirapine in a suspension formulation, it appears that oral clearance is approximately 2-fold greater in children when compared to adults.

ADVERSE REACTIONS: The most frequently reported adverse events related to VIRAMUNE® therapy were rash, fever, nausea, headache, and abnormal liver function tests.

The major clinical toxicity of VIRAMUNE® is rash, with VIRAMUNE®-attributable rash occurring in 17% of patients in combination regimens in Phase III controlled studies. Thirty-seven percent of patients treated with VIRAMUNE® experienced rash compared with 20% of patients treated in control groups of either ZDV+ddI or ZDV alone (Table 1). Severe or life-threatening rash occurred in 1.6% of VIRAMUNE®-treated patients compared with 1.2% of patients treated in the control groups.

Rashes are usually mild to moderate, maculopapular erythematous eruptions, with or without pruritus, localized on the trunk, face and extremities. The majority of severe rashes occurred within the first 28 days of treatment; 25% of the patients with severe rashes required hospitalization, and one patient required surgical intervention. All patients recovered. Overall, 7% of patients discontinued VIRAMUNE® due to rash.

Table 1: Percentage of patients with rashes in controlled trials*

	ACTG 241 ^b		BI 1037		BI 1011		COMBINED DATA	
	NVP-ZDV+ddI	ZDV+ddI	NVP-ZDV	ZDV	NVP-ZDV	ZDV	NVP	CONTROL
n	197	201	30	30	25	24	252	255
Rash events of all Grades and all causality	38.6%	23.9%	26.7%	6.7%	32.0%	4.2%	37.3%	20.0%
Grade 3 or 4 rash events, all causality	8.1%	1.5%	3.3%	0%	8.0%	0%	7.6%	1.2%

* At recommended dose of one 200 mg tablet daily for the first 14 days followed by one 200 mg tablet twice daily

^b Trial ACTG 241 was designed to report Grade 3/4 (severe or life-threatening) events; except for several pre-specified events including rash for which all grades are reported

Table 2 lists treatment-related clinical adverse events that occurred in patients receiving VIRAMUNE® in ACTG 241 and in Trials BI 1037 and BI 1011.

Table 2: Comparative Incidence of Selected Drug-Related Events in Controlled Trials

	ACTG 241		Trial BI 1037 and BI 1011	
	Grade 3/4 events	All severities	NVP-ZDV	ZDV alone
Number of patients	197	201	55	30
Overall incidence of related adverse events	31%	23%	42%	35%
Rash	8	2	20	3
Fever	3	3	11	3
Nausea	5	4	9	3
Headache	3	3	11	0
Diarrhea	2	2	0	0
Abdominal pain	1	2	0	0
Ulcerative stomatitis	0	0	4	0
Peripheral neuropathy	0	0	0	0
Paresthesia	1	0	2	0
Myalgia	1	0	2	7
Hepatitis	1	0	4	0

Laboratory Abnormalities: Table 3 summarizes marked laboratory abnormalities occurring in three controlled studies.

Table 3: Percentage of patients with marked laboratory abnormalities

	Data combined for controlled trials	
	VIRAMUNE® n=252	Control n=255
Hematology		
Decreased Hg (<8.0 g/dL)	1.2%	2.0%
Decreased platelets (<50,000/mm ³)	0.8	0.8
Decreased neutrophils (<750/mm ³)	11.1	10.2
Blood chemistry		
Increased ALT (>250 U/L)	3.4	3.5
Increased AST (>250 U/L)	2.0	2.4
Increased GGT (>450 U/L)	2.4	1.2
Increased total bilirubin (>2.5 mg/dL)	4	1.2

Asymptomatic elevations in GGT levels are more frequent in VIRAMUNE® recipients than in controls. Because hepatitis has occasionally been reported in VIRAMUNE®-treated patients, monitoring of liver function tests should be considered.

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1790 RBW (9/96)

California Bar Bans 'Straight' Kiss

San Francisco (AP) - A city commission has reprimanded a popular Market Street gay bar for a policy that bans heterosexual couples from kissing.

The Cafe, in the city's predominantly gay Castro District, violated non-discrimination laws by ejecting a man and woman last August and invoking a "no straight make-out" policy, according to Cynthia Goldstein of the Human Rights Commission.

After The Cafe failed to retract its policy, Goldstein asked the commission to issue a "director's finding" against the bar on Feb. 23. The bar faces no penalty, but is on record in San Francisco as having committed discrimination.

"I was trying to be sensitive to the needs of my customers," bar manager Morgan Gorrone told the San Francisco Examiner on Saturday. "My main complaint from customers is there are too many straight people here."

Gorrone said he has since changed the policy and now bans heavy kissing by people of all sexual orientations.

The kissing dispute started when Damon Jacobs, a friend of the couple, complained to the city after the couple was thrown out of The Cafe last summer. The couple was "kissing pretty deeply," Jacobs said.

"The bartender went up to them and said something like 'This is a gay bar. What you're doing is very offensive to people here. I'd like to ask you to leave for your own safety.'"

Moments later, Jacobs, who is gay, and the couple were thrown out by the bouncer. Another friend also was forced to leave.

"I was appalled that this was happening to my friends in this community," Jacobs said. "It's very disappointing to me that our businesses are being such poor role models."

Gorrone said the man and woman were ejected mainly because they were drunk; they began kissing and blocking the bar only after being refused drinks, he said. "It wasn't really a straight issue. It was a drinking issue," he said.

But the Human Rights Commission took a closer look at the incident after Gorrone wrote to the Bay Area Reporter, a local gay newspaper. Gorrone's Sept. 19 letter defended his bartender's decision to eject the couple.

"She (the bartender) told them a lot of gay people find it offensive when straight people come into a gay bar and start to make out," Gorrone wrote. "It's like throwing water in our face."

"As for The Cafe changing our policy on straight people making out, this will not change," he wrote. "They will still be asked not to, once. If they don't like it, they can leave. This is a gay bar and they are the guests of our community."

Said Goldstein: "Whether they were drunk or not drunk was not really the issue. (Gorrone) stated there was a policy that treated people of a different sexual orientation differently."

Gorrone maintains that The Cafe welcomes everyone. But in recent years, he said, more straight people have frequented the bar, causing complaints from some gay customers.

"People feel the Castro is being invaded," he said. "But we don't care about straight people (coming to the bar) as long as they don't flaunt it."

Some of Gorrone's customers agreed with a ban on straight kissing.

"When we can get married, they can kiss in our bars," said Patrick Wagner, a Castro resident sipping a beer on the bar's outdoor deck on Saturday. "There are several hundred bars where straights can go kiss. So, out of respect for our community, I think they should refrain from kissing here."

But Maurice Harris, a patron at a nearby bar, said any ban on sexual expression would mar the Castro's tradition of embracing all lifestyles.

"Anyone can kiss around here," said Harris, who is bisexual. "You can be anything you want in the Castro. The Castro is all about tolerance."



FBI Denies Reports of Bomb Links

Atlanta (AP) - Federal officials denied reports that investigators have linked the Centennial Olympic Park bombing and later attacks on an abortion clinic and a gay nightclub in Atlanta.

News reports Friday said investigators found similarities in the three bombings, and that there may be a "fuzzy" video image of the Olympic bomber.

"We don't have the silver bullet," FBI spokesman Jay Spadafore said of the videotape report.

As for links in the bombings, Spadafore said it's not possible to conclude that any of the devices were made by the same person or persons.

"We're not being disingenuous," Spadafore said. "We have strong similarities among the devices and differences as well. If we had a signature and knew it was the same guy, the differences wouldn't matter."

Time magazine's online news service, citing unidentified sources, reported that the FBI determined the devices in all three bombings bore the same "signatures."

An unusual metal was used in components of all three sets of devices, the Time sources said. One source also said the timers and copper wiring in the fusing mechanisms were the same.

CBS News reported that metallurgical tests at the Department of Energy's National Laboratory in Oak Ridge, Tenn., on debris from the Olympic bombing

showed "a similarity" with fragments from the other bombings.

Previous news accounts have linked the wiring, timing devices, and dynamite used in two Jan. 16 bombings at an abortion clinic in suburban Atlanta with those used in the Feb. 21 bombing at a gay nightclub.

Investigators, however, say they have not completed forensic testing on evidence taken from those attacks. CBS also noted that black powder was used in the Olympic attack and dynamite in the other two.

CBS also reported that investigators examining photographs and video taken in Centennial Park on the night of the July 27 bombing have derived images of six people they'd like to question.

One of the images is "enhanced to the point of being virtually unrecognizable," but the other five pictures are expected to be released at an FBI news conference next week, CBS reported.

All six people were near the blast site and two were described as carrying backpacks. The Olympic park bomb was hidden inside a military-style backpack when it exploded, killing one person and injuring more than 100.

Time's online service also reported that the FBI has a fuzzy image of a person who may have planted the bomb on a videotape. Spadafore said he knew of no suspect image, fuzzy or otherwise.



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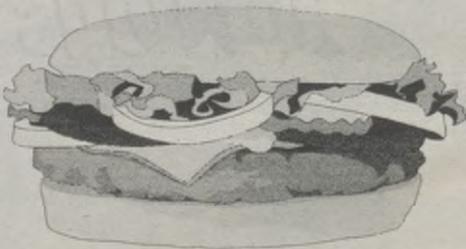
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PWA HOLIDAY CHARITIES

French Attorney: Drop Blood Case

by Nicolas Marmie

Paris (AP) - France's top prosecutor recommended today that charges be dropped against a former prime minister and two others in the contamination of 1,300 French hemophiliacs with AIDS-tainted blood products in 1985.

The recommendation by the chief prosecutor, based on what he called lack of evidence, means it is almost certain the three former officials will not be brought to trial.

Former Prime Minister Laurent Fabius, former Social Affairs Minister Georgina Dufoix and former Health Minister Edmond Herve, all members of the 1984-1986 Socialist government, had been charged with "complicity in poisoning," which carries a maximum 30-year prison sentence.

The charges came amid a scandal that shook confidence in France's public health system and helped bring down the Socialist government in 1993.

The scandal broke in 1990 with revelations that five years earlier, health officials used blood supplies known to be contaminated with the AIDS virus, rather than purchase U.S. technology to treat or test the blood. A French test was being developed at the time.

About 1,300 hemophiliacs became infect-

ed with the virus, and more than 500 have died. Four high-ranking health officials have since been convicted, and two have been jailed.

Fabius, Dufoix and Herve were charged in 1994, after two years of pressure from victims' families. Since then, a special court had been examining the evidence.

Fabius and his former colleagues claim they never knowingly approved the use of tainted blood.

Today, the chief prosecutor of France's highest court of appeal, Jean-Francois Burgelin, informed the Republic's Court of Justice there was insufficient evidence to put the three on trial.

The special court is the only forum empowered to prosecute officials for crimes committed while in office. In theory, the court could go ahead with a trial, but the body, created in 1993, has never gone against the recommendation of the chief prosecutor.

Burgelin said that while he was asking that criminal charges be dropped, "the political responsibility of the ministers should be examined."

But he added: "Criminal responsibility, on the other hand, is not established for the ministers."



M.D. With AIDS Denies Misconduct

London (AP) - A Zambian-born gynecologist who reportedly has performed invasive procedures on hundreds of patients despite being HIV-positive denied Monday he was guilty of professional misconduct.

But a lawyer for the married doctor, identified in weekend press reports as Patrick Ngosa, told a professional disciplinary hearing that he admitted having a 19-month sexual relationship from May 1994 with another woman who told him she was HIV-positive.

According to news reports, it was this woman, identified only as Mrs. A, who first reported the doctor to the health authorities.

Ngosa, who has three children, also accepted he had not taken adequate steps to check his own HIV status after Mrs. A told him of her illness.

The Zimbabwe-trained doctor was not present at Monday's hearing by the General Medical Council, which has the power to prevent him from practicing if it finds he put off having tests knowing he likely had the virus.

There have been several recent cases of HIV-positive doctors from Africa, or who have lived in Africa, working in British hospitals.

The Ngosa case has provoked renewed demands for compulsory AIDS tests. Currently, medical personnel only have to report to authorities if they find out they are HIV-positive.

Health officials in two south England

counties, Gloucestershire and Essex, said their staffs have spent two weeks checking the records of 50,000 women who might have been treated by Ngosa, who has been working in the country since 1991.

They have drawn up a list of cases where he had taken part in procedures such as Caesarean births and hysterectomies and set up help lines.

Officials said Monday they believe that 1,752 of the women may have been exposed to a very slight risk of contracting HIV.

Davies, Ngosa's lawyer, said he had been prepared to attend the hearing, but pulled out after his identity became known.

"There may be a very good reason why he is scared to attend today. He was scared for himself and he was scared for his family," she said.

Pointing to the packed press gallery, she added, "Witch hunt would not be too high a term to describe what has happened this weekend." She asked for the case to be adjourned to a later date.

But Rosalind Foster, a lawyer for the General Medical Council, said the case must go on in the public interest.

"The anxiety is that this doctor may have practiced elsewhere," she said, adding authorities only recently discovered that Ngosa had worked at four British hospitals, rather than three.

"His failure to attend ... this morning speaks for itself," Foster said.

The case continues this week.

Japan AIDS Scandal Trial Begins

by Seth Sutel

Tokyo (AP) - Testifying in the first of several trials in a widespread AIDS scandal, a former doctor denied charges today that his negligence caused the death of a hemophilia patient who got the AIDS virus through untreated blood.

Takeshi Abe, a professor and former vice president of Teikyo University, told the Tokyo District Court that he did not know at the time that using untreated blood products was dangerous.

Abe served as head of a Health and Welfare Ministry panel on AIDS in 1983 and 1984 and persistently opposed quick approval for safe heat-treated blood products being used in other nations.

Prosecutors suspect that Abe may have refused to agree to importing treated blood products because of his close relations with Japanese pharmaceutical companies, which were working on their own versions of the products.

The heat treatments weren't approved until

1985. About 2,000 Japanese, mostly hemophiliacs, contracted the AIDS virus from the untreated products. About 400 have died.

Later this month, separate trials will begin for former Health and Welfare Ministry official Akihito Matsumura and three former presidents of Green Cross Corp., the top supplier of the blood products.

The scandal has appalled a nation where malpractice suits are rare and has led to more calls for bureaucratic reform.

The government and five pharmaceutical firms have reached an out-of-court settlement with the patients and their families who had sued for damages.

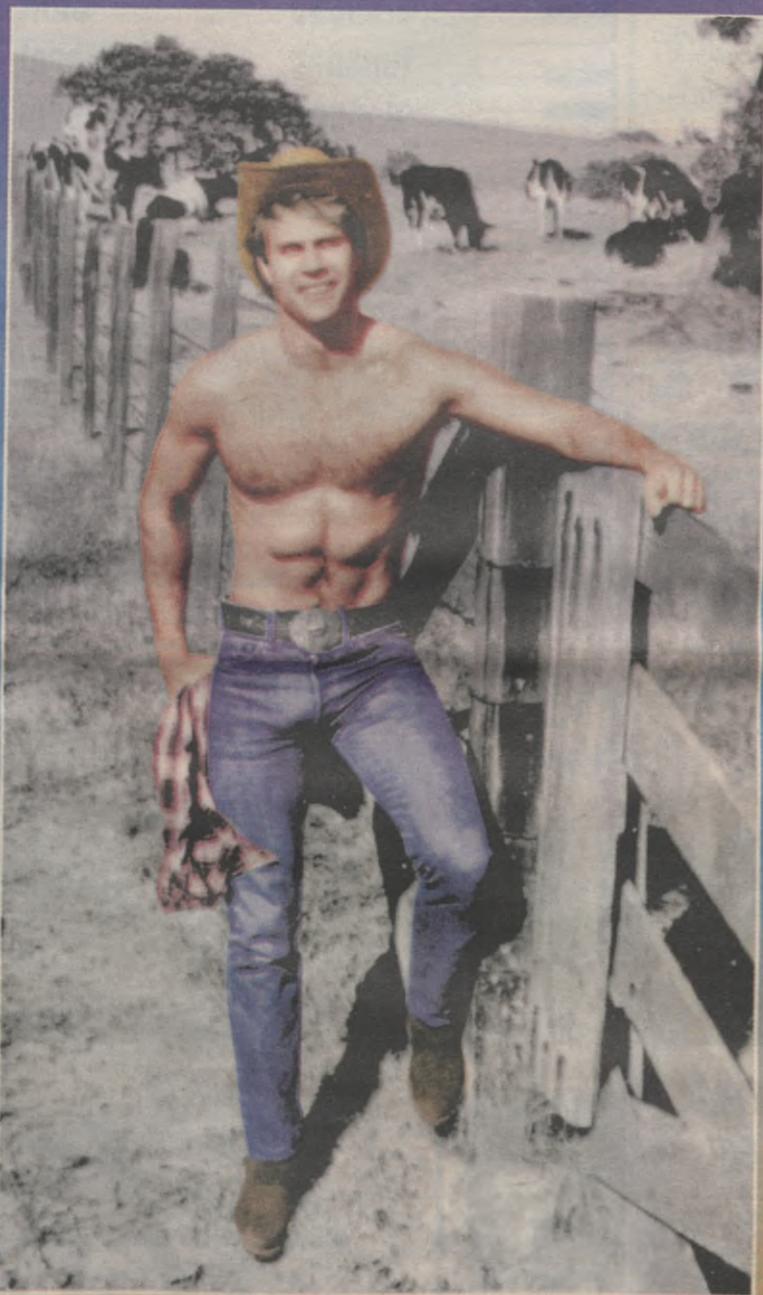
Although suspicions against Abe are wide-ranging, the formal charges involve only a single case in the summer of 1985 when a hemophiliac patient treated at Teikyo University became infected with the AIDS virus. He later developed AIDS and died in 1991.

If convicted on the charges of causing death by professional negligence, Abe could be sentenced to up to five years in prison.



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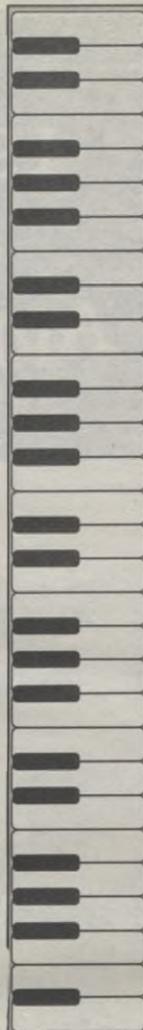
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WED	3/19	Granny's Burgers!

by David Richardson

The first question you must ask yourself before picking up the book Arkansas by David Leavitt is "Can I enjoy a book with unlikeable characters?" If you can answer yes to this question, then by all means pick it up. Many readers of gay fiction are already familiar with the stories of Mr. Leavitt whose novels Family Dancing and The Lost Language of Cranes have become staples in contemporary gay fiction. His last book entitled While England Sleeps created such a stir that it was pulled from many bookstores due to content.

In his latest offering Arkansas we are treated to three novellas within one book. The first one, The Term Paper Artist, concerns a writer who comes home to stay with his family for a time after a recent book he wrote causes a scandal and he is sued. While he is home he is introduced to an undergraduate student for whom he feels an infatuation. Putting his literary talents to work, he writes a term paper for the lad in exchange for sex. Here is where I was first put to the test because being a former college student as well as a writer of sorts, I found this character to be reprehensible. Nonetheless, a story is a story. The character begins bartering with many college students in the same vein and at the end has felt neither remorse or retribution for his actions.

The second story takes place in the Italian countryside of Tuscany where Nathan and

Celia, characters familiar to readers of Mr. Leavitt's other short stories, have an awkward reunion after a five year period to celebrate Celia's wedding anniversary to a husband who is largely absent throughout the story. Here too, we have a character (Nathan) who has no qualms about sleeping with someone else's amour, even when the consequences are tragic for all concerned.

The third story in the book is the best in this reader's eyes. Saturn Street is the tale of a disaffected screenwriter in Los Angeles who takes on a job as a volunteer, delivering lunches to homebound AIDS patients only to find that he falls in love with one of them. Their relationship is never consummated however, and the ending is both touching and poignant.

Another book that I have to mention this week is Travels With Lisbeth by Lars Eighner. While not a new book, it was passed on to me by a friend who assured me I would like it. In actuality, I did. The story concerns a man who has spent three years on the road and in the streets living as a homeless person, with his one constant companion being his pet dog Lisbeth. Mr. Eighner's story gives readers a fresh perspective on the struggles of people who live in the streets, but does so with a keen sense of wit that is so sly that in some cases it almost passes you by. I wouldn't pass by this book if you can obtain a copy as it makes for a fun read.



THEATRE NOTES

by David Richardson

It certainly is an interesting season for theatre! When the curtain rises, even if it's late (and stop hissing at Faye Dunaway already, ghost say boo, not polite theatre goers) there is a diversity abound that is refreshing. For example, here are just a few of the treats in store for ticket buyers at this time of year:

First off take a walk down memory lane when Main Street Theatre presents Schoolhouse Rock Live! Billed as a childrens show, it still carries camp value for anyone who saw the cartoon versions back in the 70's. This show runs through March 23rd. Tickets (713) 524-6706.

Jackie O is making several appearances in town this month which is pretty impressive for someone who is not breathing. Houston Grand Opera presents Jackie O March 14th-16th at the Wortham Center. Tickets: (713) 227-ARTS. She will also be appearing at Theatre LaB during their production of First Ladies Suite, a musical that includes Eleanor, Bess, Mamie and Lady Bird Johnson. Can Hilary be far behind? Tickets (713) 868-7516.7516.

Vampire lovers will go bats over the world premiere of Ben Stevenson's new ballet Dracula March 13th-23rd at the Wortham Center. Tickets: (713) 227-ARTS. With the dead being resurrected it seems only fitting that the Country Playhouse will revive the old warhorse Death of a Salesman March 14th-April 5th. Tickets (713) 467-4497.

If you are crazy about George Gershwin, or even if you are just plain crazy, the Music Hall is the place to be March 7th-23rd when TUTS presents Crazy For You. Tickets (713) 622-TUTS.

Look for local favorite Mozelle Felder

who will be in the cast of Vieux Carre. This show is about Tennessee Williams life in New Orleans and is said to be as steamy as a night in the Quarter. So take the nearest streetcar to the New Heights Theatre March 12th-April 12th. Tickets (713) 869-8927.

Everything is relative when visiting with Uncle Vanya in the Chekov classic at the Main Street Theatre March 6th-April 6th. Tickets (713) 524-6706.

Actors Theatre brings us the scathingly funny comedy Return Engagements playing March 21st-May 4th. This is billed as a story of three couples and the tangled lives they live.

Park your car and help celebrate the 40th season of Theatre Southwest as they present Stations Garage March 7th-April 5th. There is a warning that gunshots and profanity occur during this production. Perhaps I should preface my reviews with that statement as well. Tickets (713) 728-5178.

For those with a desire to be on the stage instead of just watching it, the Ensemble Theatre is holding auditions for a murder mystery comedy called Who Killed Hazel Patton? Auditions will be held April 26th from 12 to 4 PM. If this show is anything like their recent production of Jar The Floor, it should be hilarious so keep your eyes open for it. The Ensemble is also seeking an assistant for their Artistic Director. Interested parties in either the audition or the position should contact Eileen J. Morris at (713) 520-0055.

It's all Greek to me, or so says the Alley Theatre who are present The Greeks: an Epic In Two Parts through May 4th. See my review of this for more details. That is the buzz from the boards for this week. See you at the footlights!

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by David Richardson

I would like to start my column this week by outing someone who is very famous. No, not Ellen. O.K., here goes...the Easter Bunny is gay! I can see you looking at me like I am crazy, but I tell you it's true. Think about this for a moment: while most rabbits are best known for making other rabbits, this Easter Bunny character spends his days hopping about making colorful woven straw baskets filled with treats while in pastels. So the way I figure it, he's either gay or he is Martha Stewart. Have I made a point here?

And it's about that name. Peter Cottontail. Whose tail was he caught in is what I want to know? I am still kind of waffling on the issue of the importance of rabbits in the first place. I mean, if they were such a big deal why hasn't Andrew Lloyd Webber made a musical about them yet? Actually, I'd better not give him any ideas. I for one would be terrified to find a large rabbit leaping around my living room, although after seeing that really scary photo of the Mayor of New York in drag recently, I guess I can survive a lot more than I thought.

I guess by now you have figured out that this weeks column is about Easter, which is just around the corner. Religious connotations aside, there are a few things about this holiday that I just don't understand. First off, what in the hell is the deal with Marshmallow Peeps anyways? For those of you unfamiliar with this particular culinary treat, it has a crusty sugar coating over some white substance that resembles old tires in texture and consistency and can pass through the human body without ever being digested and they are only put out during Easter holidays. Oh, and did I mention that they are shaped like baby birds? Call me old fashioned, but I can't remember the last time I had an uncontrollable urge to climb a tree and devour some helpless baby birds right out of the nest. Can you? My friends at PETA would never forgive me.

Sticking with the candy subject for a minute, I know that speaking against Jellybeans would be an absolute blasphemy but they really have gone a bit too far with those gourmet flavored ones. Most children have little use for a jellybean that taste like

roasted duck cooked in a light wine sauce with just a hint of basil.

I did try to get into the spirit of the holiday when the Easter stuff began to appear in the supermarkets...so that would have been about November I guess. I even dyed some eggs. How could I have known that you were supposed to boil the damned things first? My niece is still trying to scrub the yoke out of her dress. And speaking of clothes for a minute...

Ladies, nothing personal but take my advice and don't do "the bonnet thing" this year. Allow me to remind you that you are not Judy Garland, or even Judy Tenuta for that matter. Let me put it to you another way. You have been walking around all year long with a perfectly lovely hairstyle, so just because it's Easter Sunday does not mean that you should feel the need to put a plate of rutabagas and dried flowers on your head. Resist this temptation at all cost. Many people already have something ridiculous looking above their necks. In most cases it is their own heads, but that's another story.

Many religious holidays' origins can be traced back to times of great suffering, so I guess that's why we have to go visit our relatives at the holidays. We are just keeping the tradition of suffering alive. Having to choose between being walled up inside a cave with a huge stone blocking the door or going to visit my Aunt Bernice with her hideous striated glazed holiday ham...these are tough decisions.

Always being one to look at the practical side of things, here's a little tip for you. When you have everyone over for the big Easter Egg hunt, tell the children that instead of looking for eggs, they should be looking for all the things you have lost at your home in the past year. Imagine their squeals of delight as they unearth such treasures as three sets of car keys, a couple of losing lottery tickets, and a stick of gum still in its foil wrapper. You can't buy happiness like that! Just make sure they don't come across your Swedish Erotica collection or you are going to have a lot of explaining to do. In all seriousness (like I know the meaning of the word) I would like to wish you and yours a very Happy Easter...And, there you have it!

RAINBOW READER

by Jone Devlin

Everyone knows Thomas Jefferson was a founding father who authored the Declaration of Independence. But who was Thomas Jefferson to the people he worked with, lived with and owned? Roberta Grimes explores this aspect of one of America's historical heroes in her book *My Thomas*. *My Thomas* is written from the perspective of Martha Jefferson, who married Thomas Jefferson in the early 1700s, bore him seven children (three of whom lived) and died before he reached the legendary status with which history would mark him.

My Thomas is taken from actual letters written by Martha to her husband, and from surviving excerpts of a journal she kept during their marriage. It details slavery, women's rights, medical care, and the American Revolution from the day to day perspective of someone who was living it. Martha is outspoken for a woman of her day and years (she is only in her twenties), yet it is through her outspokenness that we learn the things history books will never tell us.

For instance, a popular topic of debate in the 1700's was whether or not women had souls. Slaves it was automatically assumed, did not, not even the ones fathered by the masters of the house, a practice which was common and generally accepted. Martha does not accept it however, and talks often of how one reason she loves her Thomas so much is because he would never do something like that (a fact which history would later disprove in the person of a slave named Sally Hemmings, who, strangely enough, was Martha's own half sister). Martha also insists throughout the book that she and her husband truly want to set the slaves free, but cannot in good conscience because it would be too hard for them to live without being "cared for". This is said even as the horrors of slavery are discussed openly by Martha who ends all of these frank, brutal accounts with a rationalization that she and her husband never beat, rape, torture or otherwise molest any of their slaves, and, as to the other plantation owners (including Martha's own

father and brothers in law) well she and her husband have no control over that and thus cannot speak to it.

Unfortunately as this sentiment against injustice is mirrored all too often in our own society today, it becomes easy to see how it could become pervasive enough to allow a "civilized" society to enslave an entire race of people for hundreds of years.

Even more horrifying than Martha's descriptions of slavery however, are her descriptions of the medical care received by herself and others. Bleeding patients is common practice and used to cure everything from tuberculosis to the common cold. In one particularly hideous segment of her journal Martha

describes in detail a friend's mastectomy, a procedure which involved the woman being stripped, held down on a table by four men and, after having a spoon thrust in her mouth to stop her screaming, had her breast cut off and her breastbone scraped. No pain killer was given her, as the only pain killer available in those times was rum, and it wasn't considered proper for ladies to drink spirits.

Childbirth, meanwhile, is always a gamble, and it is not unusual for both mother and child to be lost in the process. It is also not unusual for people of Martha's age to be widowed, or on their second or third marriage. Thomas Jefferson in fact, is Martha's second husband. At one point in her journal she coyly notes that she was married at 17, a mother at 18 (a child she later lost to illness), and a widow at nineteen. She also notes that her waiting period of two years before taking another husband was most unusual, as the majority of women in her circumstance remarried as soon as possible.

Written in the language of the times *My Thomas* is interesting, enlightening, and frightening all at once. Roberta Grimes has done an excellent job of tying together the pieces of this forgotten woman's life, and through her we get to know Thomas Jefferson as he truly was rather than as history tells us he was.

Etheridge and lang Join Ellen

by Jennifer Bowles

To help Ellen Morgan, the quirky character played by Ellen DeGeneres, make that historical leap, the actress gets a little help from her friends: Actress Laura Dern, talk-show host Oprah Winfrey and openly lesbian singers Melissa Etheridge and k.d. lang will appear in the long-anticipated, one-hour episode, scheduled to air on Disney-owned ABC on April 30.

While several shows such as "Roseanne" and "Mad About You" have featured homosexual characters, Ellen Morgan will be the first openly gay lead in a prime-time show. "There is an incredible amount of care going into this - that it's done right and done well," said executive producer Dava Savel. "We realize there's a lot on our shoulders here."

In the episode, half of which was taped Friday night, Dern plays a lesbian who comes into town with an old college friend of Morgan.

Morgan finds she's more attracted to Dern's character than to her male friend, said Mark Driscoll, another executive producer. Winfrey plays yet another of Morgan's therapists.

During scenes taped last Friday night, a very nervous Morgan declares that she is gay and confesses her attraction to Dern's character, said David Tomb, a member of the audience who heads a gay and lesbian organization of United Airlines employees.

Her declaration, made in an airport, is accidentally carried over a public address system, he said.

"My friend and I were very choked up at that moment," said Tomb.

"It was a very emotional moment for us as gay people, partly because we could identify with her character. Why is it so difficult, why can't we just come out and say who we are?"

Members of DeGeneres' staff who watched were in tears. Afterwards, DeGeneres hugged them. Then she walked

over to a woman and said, "I'm free," Tomb said.

He said he did not know the woman's identity.

The idea was leaked to the media last September. Since then, there have been several on-air quips by Morgan and off-air jokes by DeGeneres that she may be "Lebanese" or that the show will add a new guy character named Les Bian. In one episode, Morgan told her divorcing parents: "What if I said something shocking to you. Like my whole life has been a lie and I'm really ... left-handed."

Etheridge will perform a song during the opening title sequence, and lang, with whom DeGeneres shared a passionate public kiss at an event last weekend, will appear as a singer-waitress in a bookstore.

The plan for the series, now in its fourth season, has already generated some expected criticism from conservatives, something not lost on the producers, ABC and Disney.

"It was really important to Ellen to reveal it in such a way that everybody, including middle America, was on board," Savel said. "That everybody saw her angst, everybody saw what she was going to go through, and that by the end, you're rooting for her."

Savel and Driscoll wrote the episode, along with DeGeneres and consulting producers Tracy Newman and Jonathan Stark.

Driscoll said the idea for the episode was first mentioned by DeGeneres in June. "We all met in the summer and Ellen pitched this idea and we toasted it with champagne," he said.

After many discussions with the network and "Ellen's" production company, Walt Disney Television, on how the coming-out episode would be handled and where later episodes would go, ABC chief Robert Iger gave his approval.

"It's never going to become the lesbian dating show," Driscoll said. "I think a lot of people are nervous about that. Ellen Morgan has always had problems dating anyway and that will certainly continue."

HSO and Eschenbach Conclude European Tour

by Jon Anthony

"The last week was very intense," intoned Houston Symphony Orchestra (HSO) Conductor-in Residence Stephen Stein. "This has been a very logistically well laid out tour. If there was something you would wish to change about the schedule of the tour is that the most physically grueling part of the tour is not at the beginning when people are refreshed but at the end when we've been on the road for 2 1/2 weeks," opined Stein.

"We have had five nights of concerts in a row in five different cities which involved a train trip or bus ride every day. Nonetheless, everyone involved continued to play with enormously high standards."

The Orchestra played in the Philharmonie last Tuesday to overwhelming response. The concert hall is the very famous home of the great legendary Berlin Philharmonic. "It was actually quite interesting in more ways than one," said Stein.

"We were suppose to rehearse in the hall from 6:30 p.m. to 7 p.m. and perform the concert at 7:30 p.m. We arrived on time and the Berlin Philharmonic was still on stage rehearsing. They did not finish on time for us to rehearse. So, the concert started 15 minutes late. Although, some in the audience were a little disturbed about that, it was a spectacular success and we have the reviews to prove it."

According to Stein, some cultural differences were clearly evident. Some of the German musicians who stayed to watch the HSO rehearse were surprised and amused that the HSO rehearsed with a clock on the stage.

"Their rehearsals end when the work is done; however, in America, American pro-

fessional orchestral musicians are union musicians and they end when the union contract stipulates that the rehearsal shall end and not a second later or there is overtime penalties. The Berlin Philharmonic rehearsed 20 minutes more than time had allotted because they needed to and wanted to. It's a very different kind of work ethic. It was very very interesting," explained Stein.

"Their method is vastly different," he contends. "I think their method is certainly better but it calls for those in charge not to abuse that system. There is a system of honor and privilege. Many of the cities in which we were traveling have incredible public transportation systems for which you ride on what's called the honor system. You can get on without paying anything...because they trust you to pay whether you are a three year old child or an 80 year old woman. Their system trusts that management and conductors are not going to abuse the system and that everyone is going to work together to a common cause. I personally happen to think it's healthier. I don't think any conductor would disagree," intoned Stein.

Stein described the twenty four hours spent in Berlin as "fascinating", because, he says, it is such an "electric" city. A city in transition. "The eastern side, while still clearly not the same as the Western side, has made great strides, since the last time I was there four years ago," stated Stein. "It is a much more unified country."

He vividly remembered a trip where he drove from Berlin to Hamburg back in 1992. "The minute you left West Berlin, it was like you stepped back fifty years and it wasn't until you got to former Western Germany that you felt back in the 90's," reflected Stein. See STEIN page 18



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15 Years Later, The Magic Is Still There

by Chris Rundquist

On Friday, March 14, the final installment of the Star Wars Trilogy, *The Return of the Jedi* Special Edition, will grace movie screens everywhere. This final chapter will run concurrently with *Star Wars* and *The Empire Strikes Back* Special Editions. If you were unable to see these films when they were originally released, it will be well worth your while to see them now. The Special Editions are even better than the originals. Originally slated to be released last weekend, *Jedi* was held over as a result of the box-office success of its two predecessors.

The greatest improvement to the restoration of *The Return of the Jedi* is the sound. When this film was originally made, THX sound had not been invented. The original DOLBY sound, while excellent at the time, can no longer compete with today's technology. Academy Award-winning sound designer Ben Burtt, who supervised the sound for the original film took on the same duties for the Special Editions. Burtt and his team completely re-mixed the surround sounds, adding new material to provide enhanced spatial effects throughout the films.

"Spaceships will now be heard going over your head," Burtt says. "We also added really low frequencies that will shake you during explosion scenes and spaceship pass-bys." Indeed, it feels like the entire theater shakes during these sequences.

Since the film has been digitally re-mastered, the visual "feel" of the movie has been improved as well. Of course just seeing this film in a theater "feels" much better than watching it on TV. The visual effects are crisper, and convey a better sense of reality. Unfortunately, a lot of the creatures in some

segments still have that "rubber toy" look.

The movie has incorporated three major additions to the script. The additions are nice, but the only one that actually improves the film is the celebration sequence at the end of the movie. It really helps convey a sense of closure that was missing from the original. This is important since the next set



Princess Leia (Carrie Fisher) plays captive to Jabba the Hutt in RETURN OF THE JEDI SPECIAL EDITION.

of *Star Wars* films will be prequels, taking place prior to the current trilogy.

Since it will be a couple of years before the prequels come out, make an effort to see all three of the *Star Wars* films in the theater. These **** films can only be fully appreciated on the big screen. They simply lose too much of their impact on TV.

STEIN/

from page 17

Stein. "The drive now, in 1997, from Berlin to Hamburg was much much more homogenous. You did not sense that kind of drastic socio-economic crash at all. The country has had enormous strides. That is fascinating," said Stein.

"Hamburg was a very important concert for the HSO because Eschenbach grew up in Hamburg and it's a very important place in his music life and as a young musician," informed Stein. And, it is taking on new meaning because he is going to become the new music director of the North German Radio Orchestra based in Hamburg. As a result, the show sold out, as did all the other cities. "There was a special electricity in the air because their new music director was appearing with his current orchestra," Stein stated proudly.

The city holds meaning to Stein as well because in 1982, he had a short apprenticeship at the Hamburg State Opera. He remembers the experience in detail, one he labels "fantastic."

"Learning about the world of Opera and conducting Opera in a company that does 20-25 performances a year. To be a part of that for just one month was phenomenal," enthused Stein. "So the city for me, as well as for Christoph, has some very strong sentiments."

The reviews of HSO's tour have been excellent. The tour has been a resounding success beyond anyone's comprehension. Houston audiences should be proud to have such a highly respected symphony orchestra lead by a world renowned music director whose status in the industry is legendary. Not to mention, a Conductor-in-Residence



HSO Conductor-in-Residence Stephen Stein.

who has had a tremendous impact on generating interest among our youth for the appreciation and sanctity of the musical art form.

Gershwin a Labor of Love for Crazy For You Star

by Jon Anthony

Crazy For You, currently in performances at the Music Hall, stars veteran stage and television actor Bob Walton. The Houston Voice caught up with Walton on his day off to talk to the benevolent actor about the production and his upcoming endeavors.

Walton, who went to college with director and choreographer Alan Coats, is a veteran of four Broadway productions — *Show Boat*, *City of Angels*, *A Funny Thing Happened on the Way to the Forum* and, most recently, *Once Upon a Mattress* with Sarah Jessica Parker, which he is scheduled to return to after his stint in *Crazy For You*. He is also scheduled to star in a production of *The Music Man*.

Walton has appeared on the small screen as well. To date, he has guest starred on *Newhart*, *Eisenhower* and *Lutz* and other situation comedies, a form of the medium he is not averse to. Indeed, he would like to make a foray into television, however, he truly enjoys live theatre.

"When I moved to L.A., I did a few guest spots on several situation comedies. Nothing spectacular. If you had an allergy attack, you probably would have missed me. A little more than a sneeze," jokes Walton. He informed that when he moved his family out to L.A. from New York, he was touring in *A Funny Thing Happened on the Way to the Forum* with Mickey Rooney and initially offers for guest spots were good. "I think TV has always been of interest to me, especially the sitcom arena, but it is a tough market."



Bob Walton and Cathy Wydner in a scene from "Crazy for You".

Walton said the timing was not right when he was in L.A. due to circumstance. "There were strikes and other things that made it tough for newcomers, so I started doing more theater," said Walton. His wife then encouraged him to move the family back to New York where theater opportunities are more enticing.

A degree'd major of musical theater, Walton does not believe it opens doors. "You can't like knock on doors and say: See CRAZY page XX

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Happy St. Patrick's Day

The Alley Theatre Makes History With Lavish New Production

by David Richardson

The life of a General in ancient Greece was never an easy one. Sacrificing children to the Gods, conquering foreign territories, pillaging, womanizing, and overall burst of mayhem get kind of tiring after a while. Take, for example, the story of Agamemnon and the fall of the House of Atreus.

The Alley Theatre has done just that in their epic production of *The Greeks*, combining stories by Euripides, Aeschylus and Sophocles to create a massive tale rich in history, mythology and drama. Mounting a production of this magnitude was an ambitious project, but the Alley has pulled it off with aplomb, dividing the tale of the Greeks into two parts, the first being *The War and The Murders* and the second dealing with the Gods.

The first part begins with a group of women telling stories of old. I have to go on record at this point and say that every time I see Bettye Fitzpatrick in a role at the Alley, she astounds me with her versatility and talent, but I digress.

The action moves on to the Greek camp at Aulis. Agamemnon, the General of The Greeks has agreed to rescue his brother Menelaus' wife Helen from the Trojans. He organizes an Army on the shores of Aulis, but the Goddess Artemis demands the sacrifice of the Generals daughter Iphigenia in

order to ensure a successful journey. Despite the frantic pleas of his wife Clytemnestra, Agamemnon kills his daughter and sets sail for Troy.

James Black is perfectly cast as the swaggering General. He takes command of the stage as well as his troops. Elizabeth Helfin does justice (and dispenses it) in the role of Clytemnestra. Unfortunately, Debra Eisenstadt to be a bit too placid as Iphigenia. After finding out that her father has betrayed her and she is to be sacrificed, her nonchalance would make one think she had only been asked to be on a serving line at a Sunday School picnic.

The play then moves on to the story of Achilles which takes place at a Greek encampment at Troy. Accolades are in order to costume designer Susan Tsu for her innovative work. Achilles looked rather like a Samurai and Thetis, a sea nymph was a sparkling bejeweled bit of gossamer. Also to Jean Arbeiter as the actress who played Thetis for presenting the character with a balletic grace which was captivating.

After Achilles comes the woful tale of the Trojan Women. This group of high born women are taken back to Greece as captives. It should be mentioned at this point that while most of the music played through the production was pleasant to listen to, there was a particular song in this piece which was so cacophonous and unmelodic that it



PHOTO: T. CHARLES ENGLISH

The sea nymph Thetis (Jean Arbeiter) expresses her love and concern for her warrior son Achilles. The Greek is a sweeping two-part saga of love, murder, revenge and rescue drawn from the great classical stories of the Trojan War and the Fall of the House of Atreus.

was as lamentable and tragic as the fall of Troy itself. Would that a large wooden horse have rolled over the orchestra at this point, I would not have grieved.

Following a brief intermission we are introduced to the story of Hecuba, the fallen queen of Troy who enacts a terrible vengeance on the king of Thrace who murdered her son. Jacqueline Knapp gives Hecuba a

dignity and nobility that shines through even when she is held captive and made a slave. Also chewing up the scenery here was Corliss Preston as a mad, frenetic, and yet prophetic Cassandra, daughter of Hecuba.

The final tale in part one of *The Greeks* concerns Agamemnon who has returned victorious from Troy with Cassandra, whom he has taken as a mistress. Clytemnestra has planned a very special homecoming for her philandering husband, and in the true style of Greek drama she enacts her revenge by murdering him. When Clytemnestra appears (post murder) drenched in blood I was momentarily reminded of Sissy Spacek's prom night in the film *Carrie*. I half expected to see Piper Laurie rush in from the wings brandishing a bible and screeching about dirty pillows. This did not happen, but the murder did help fulfill the prophecy of a curse upon the House of Atreus.

There has been some kvetching by traditionalist about the touches of humor that have been added to this particular production, however, this critic found it to be a refreshing change from the Sturm und Drang style of other shows in this genre.

In finality, with terrific acting, brilliant sets and costumes, mostly good music and a little passion, madness and murder thrown in for good measure, this is a show you don't want to miss. I can only hope the second half of this production lives up to the quality of the first. One could say that the Alley's Artistic Director Gregory Boyd has not only given us history, but made it as well. The *Greeks* runs through May 4th at the Alley Theatre Large Stage. Call (713) 228-8421 for tickets and show times.

BALLET/ from page 1

betrotted to Svetlana, provides the necessary male bravura part. Carlos' air Acosta, seen as 'the incredible Chosen One' in the recent *Rite of Spring* will no doubt serve as a formidable adversary to the Prince of Darkness. In true traditional form, much of the action will be carried by the eighteen talented women of the company. They will provide much of the movement, and Stevenson's choreography will highlight their classical and dramatic abilities.

Though the dancing will be recognizable to the audience, having seen several of this choreographers previous works, this production promises additional delights for eyes and ears. Musically, arranger John Lanchberry, (collaborator for Houston's production of Peer Gynt and most notably, the ballet cult film *The Turning Point*), has combined numerous works of Hungarian composer Franz Liszt for this production.

Liszt's romantic, gothic sensibilities are a natural musical choice to accompany this ballet. Much of his compositional output is based on dark themes, The Mephisto Waltzes, (four of them) the famous Totentanz for piano and orchestra based on the ancient 'Day of Wrath' hymn tune, and his last orchestral tone poem, *From Cradle to Grave*, were all inspired by the macabre. Liszt, regarded as the father of modern piano playing was also one of the most bizarre composers of the late nineteenth century. His music moves through various key signatures many times within a single work. This amorphous quality lends itself to a production like *Dracula*, full of characters known for their own bat-like metamorphoses.

Preliminary glimpses of the set and costume design suggest that this production will be a beautiful bite to swallow. Set designer Thomas Boyd and costume designer Judanna Lynn, both of whom collaborated on the *Don Quixote* seen here recently, reunite for this world premiere.

The story comprises three scenes, Dracula's crypt, the village square and lastly, the Dark One's boudoir. Both designers wanted to give the impression of timelessness, foreboding and oppression. Instead of the typical 'happy peasant dance' (complete with those horrible flower garlands that look so fake and cheesy), these folks dance as if they live in the shadow of Dracula's castle, fearful and smothered by the evil lurking above. Darkness reigns through much of the production and is conveyed by the sets,



JUDANNA LYNN: DESIGNER AND ARTIST WHO CREATED THE SKETCH

Count Dracula, seen from behind, created by Costume Designer Judanna Lynn's redesigns for Houston Ballet's world premiere of *Dracula*.

lighting and costumes.

The choreography may be good, and the music powerful, however, the costumes are exquisite. Judanna Lynn's designs evoke all that is rich and evil about this tale. During an unscheduled romp through Houston Ballet's wardrobe department (along with wardrobe mistress Pat Padilla) it was apparent to me that the stuff that these dancers will be wearing is spectacular. From the sheer 'bridal gowns' to the detailed gold trim of Dracula's cape, ("We've stitched our fingers off!" says the weary Ms. Padilla), much of this ballet will come to life through thread and cloth.

Expectations and hype are high for *Dracula*—after its premiere here, the company takes the production to Los Angeles this summer, where opening night there is already sold out. Even as a co-production (thankfully) with the Pittsburgh Ballet Theater, our share of the price tag is still high. Though the company is in better fiscal shape than in years past, a great deal is at stake (no pun intended) here. A significant financial and artistic investment has been made in this new production.

Houston Ballet dancers can do anything a choreographer demands of them—hopefully this trio of creator, costumer and set designer will allow them to descend to new depths of originality and ultimate evil.

Dracula runs (or more appropriately, flies) through March 23rd. Tickets are available by calling 713-227-ARTS.

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HEALTH

Tuberculosis Strategy Planned

by Linda A. Johnson

Princeton, N.J. (AP) - Public health experts warn that the number of people infected with tuberculosis is continuing to grow, in part because the antibiotics that could control the disease are often used incorrectly.

In fact, they say, the disease is now killing 3 million people a year worldwide - more than at the turn of the century.

The experts blame TB's spread on improper treatment, increasing international travel, refugees fleeing their homelands and AIDS, which destroys the immune system.

"We're talking AIDS with wings. We're talking about a disease that's got a mortality rate higher than Ebola (virus), and it's airborne," Richard Bumgarner, deputy director of the World Health Organization's Global Tuberculosis Programme in Geneva, said in an interview prior to a Feb. 23 conference on the crisis.

The experts met at Princeton University to discuss how to pressure governments, international agencies and volunteer groups to better combat what some called "the world's largest health issue."

Baumgarner said patients who don't take daily medication for the six months needed to cure TB - at a total cost of less than \$40 in poor countries - develop strains resistant to the nine antibiotic drugs effective against it because the hardest bacteria survive, mutate and reproduce.

"Those people are coughing, expelling 10 million bacilli in a cough," and those bacilli can linger in the air up to 5 hours, Bumgarner said.

If passersby inhale even one of the airborne microorganisms, they can become infected with a drug-resistant strain and be at risk of illness and death. A cure can then take several years and cost up to \$250,000.

While there are 8 million to 10 million new cases of active TB worldwide each year and many more people are infected with the bacteria, only 10 percent of healthy people infected develop an active disease because the body's immune system walls off the bacteria, keeping it dormant indefinitely.

Bumgarner was part of a panel discussion with the executive director of one of three U.S. model TB control centers and two prominent members of Princeton's Class of 1955 public interest group, Princeton Project 55: consumer advocate Ralph Nader and Dr. Gordon Douglas, president for global vaccines at drug maker Merck & Co., based in Whitehouse Station, N.J.

"About one-third of the world's population is infected with tuberculosis," and children under 15 account for 300,000 TB deaths annually, Douglas said. "Nothing that we have done has interrupted the transmission of this disease."

Available vaccines don't work in adults and do little for children, and people in group settings such as prisons, hospitals and nursing homes are at particular risk, he told nearly 150 health officials, Class of '55 alumni and current students gathered at the Woodrow Wilson School of Public and International Affairs.

TB experts from several state and city health departments, the federal Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, the National Institute of Allergy and Infectious Diseases, and the International Union Against Tuberculosis and Lung Disease also attended.

"Tuberculosis is one of the most important health problems on this planet," Douglas said. "It's not going to go away."

Nader said Project 55, which organized the conference, plans to put together a staff to marshal the talents of Princeton alumni and students - from researchers and politicians to lobbyists, international businesspeople and marketing and public relations experts - to push for funding and better coordination in a global campaign against TB.

Audience members suggested strategies from holding telethons and finding champions in Congress to piggybacking on existing social and economic programs in poor countries.

Nader, meanwhile, criticized governments for spending billions on defense and other programs and far too little on TB.

Dr. Lee Reichman, executive director of the National Tuberculosis Center at the New Jersey Medical School in Newark, agreed. "Tuberculosis is not eliminated because, and this is the shocking part, nobody cares," he said.

Reichman said bureaucrats and health officials around the world have failed to establish programs that ensure patients get daily medication until they are cured.

In the United States, nearly 23,000 new cases and about 1,100 deaths were recorded in 1995.

He and other panelists said the solution includes a grass-roots effort to raise public concern and push Western nations to construct a core of consultants to create and monitor programs in developing countries to ensure patients get cured instead of developing drug-resistant TB strains.

Such programs in Newark and other hard-hit U.S. cities have helped level the number of TB cases after a frightening resurgence in the late 1980s. Reichman credited a tenfold increase in U.S. TB funding early in the decade, but warned such progress will be reversed if funding drops.

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Friday, March 14, 9:00 pm
RSICSS and Imperial Prince Royale Sean Carter presents
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benefiting Montrose Counseling Center

Saturday, March 15
Faces Band featuring Andre on Vocals.

Thursday, March 20
Happy Birthday Kim! How does it feel sleeping next to Ms. Montrose?

Friday, March 21 at 8:30 pm
RSICSS & The Staff of Chances present
Mr., Miss & Ms. Chances Pageant
Winners must participate in the Chances Gay Pride Celebration!
Drop by Chances or The New Barn for your application & rules. \$10 entry fee to benefit The Montrose Clinic Outreach Program.

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AMERICAN CANCER SOCIETY

by Lee Davis

The Ten Commandments

The Center for AIDS, the first and only HIV/AIDS organization in this region devoted exclusively to disseminating the latest treatment information about HIV/AIDS, will sponsor a lecture by Dr. Lark Lands on Thursday, March 20th at 7pm. A reception for Dr. Lands will be held from 6:00 to 6:45 pm at 1407 Hawthorne. Titled "The Ten Commandments of Living Long and Well with HIV", this presentation is the second in their 1997 Hollyfield Foundation Spring Series of Community Forums on Treatment and Research. For info contact Michael Peranteau at 527.8219.

Stargardt Disease

A gene causing Stargardt disease, the most common hereditary cause of loss of central or reading vision, has been identified by researchers at Baylor College of Medicine in collaboration with three other research institutions. The findings appear in the March 3 issue of the journal *Nature Genetics*.

While the progression of Stargardt disease varies, legal blindness is often the end result. Glasses or contact lenses are unable to compensate for the vision loss, due to degeneration of the central portion of the retina. The disease often goes undiagnosed or misdiagnosed in the first few years of onset, due to minimal findings during eye examinations. The gene may aid in a test for the direct diagnosis of the disease.

Brain Tumor Survivors

Health care professionals and brain tumor survivors will gather to share state-of-the-art medical information and support during a special conference March 14-15. "Taking Control: A Conference for Brain Tumor Patients, Families and Health Professionals" begins with registration at noon Friday, March 14, at the Adam's Mark Hotel, 2900 Briarpark Dr. The two-day event is sponsored by The University of Texas M.D. Anderson Cancer Center and The National Brain Tumor Foundation. For info call 713.792.2222.

Thyroid Disease Screening

The Thyroid Foundation & Support Group will meet Thursday, April 3 at 6:30 pm at the Tracy Gee Community Center, 3599 Westcenter. Featured speaker will be Jeannette Greer, M.D., Dermatologist, presenting "Thyroid Disease/Skin Manifestations."

Thyroid Disease Screening will be conducted on Friday, April 11 between 1:00 - 5:00 pm by appointment only for \$10. Please call 281.496.4460 for a reservation. Thyroid disease symptoms can often be mistaken for menopause, depression or aging. Some symptoms of thyroid disease include: fatigue for no apparent reason, hair loss, thinning eyebrows, weight gain or loss, constipation, fast heart rate, tremors, goiter, heat/cold intolerance, infertility and muscle aches.

Needle Exchange Ban

The Gay Men's Health Crisis is once again calling for a lift on the ban for needle exchange programs. The latest study shows a shortage of programs caused 10,000 HIV infections in 16 major U.S. cities between 1987 and 1995. Aggressive funding of needle exchange programs would prevent an additional 11,300 infections by the year 2000, according to the study's authors, Peter Lurie, MD, MPH of the University of California San Francisco, and Ernest Drucker, PhD, of the Montefiore Medical Center College of Medicine in New York.

America's failure to acknowledge needle exchange as a proven strategy to prevent HIV transmission is not only an incalculable human tragedy. It also represents an economic disaster. The costs of treating HIV through the lack of needle exchange range from \$244 to \$538 million.

Tracking HIV's Progression

Scientists at Harvard Medical School, the University of Pennsylvania and LeukoSite have now pieced together more of the puzzle of how HIV cripples then destroys the immune system. New data about the role of two recently identified receptors or gateways for HIV entry into T cells may explain the progression of HIV from an asymptomatic condition to fully symptomatic AIDS.

Researchers used monoclonal antibodies to the chemokine receptors CCR5 and CXCR4, the two critical receptors utilized by HIV to enter lymphocytes to map receptor distribution on the various cells of the immune system. As "memory" T cells are infected and disabled, more virulent strains of HIV begin attacking other so-called "naive" T cells. In contrast to memory T cells, these T cells have not had any exposure to foreign antigens and therefore are immunologically "naive" to foreign substances. A patient develops symptomatic disease as T cell counts decline. The full results of this testing are found in the March 4, 1997 issue of *The Proceedings of the National Academy of Science*.

SPORTS CAPSULE

by Lee Davis

Five? Easy? Pieces?

The Montrose Monday Night Men's League reports Division A is headed by We Go There, Beat the Meat Again and Four Tops. Five Easy Pieces, Thirsty Wives Club, and Spank My Feet lead Division B. Mike Figliola bowled High Scratch Game of 278 and High Handicapped Game. Ron Bayer bowled High Scratch Series of 679 and High Handicapped Series. Bowling is at Palace Lanes at 9pm on Monday. Call Tom at 522.9612.

The Inner Loop Sunday Evening League reports standings as Please Don't Eat the Daisy in 1st, We Go There Too in 2nd and Sleeping with the Enemy in 3rd. For the men Kirk Johnston bowled High Scratch Game of 249, Rodney Seiler bowled High Scratch Series of 646, Mike Figliola High Handicapped Game and Don Burken High Handicapped Series. For the women, Peri Cain swept all categories with a High Scratch Game of 206 and Series of 674. For more info call Tom at 522.9612. Bowling is at Palace Lanes at 7pm on Sunday.

The Wednesday Night Mixers reports Gutter Bumper in 1st with Gutter Trash in

2nd and Charley's Tunas in 3rd. For the men Mike Hudgens bowled High Scratch Game of 256 and High Handicapped Game. Tom O'Dell bowled High Scratch Series of 586. Ray Davis bowled High Handicapped Series. For the women, Terry Shannon swept all categories with a High Scratch Game of 244 and Series of 606. Call Tom at 522.9612. Bowling is at AMF Southway at 6:30pm on Wednesdays.

The Monday Night Women's League bowls at 6:30pm at AMF Southway on Mondays. Balls R Out is in 1st with Marks-A-Lot in 2nd, Bitches in Beautiful Shirts in 3rd and TAZ Club in 4th. For more info call Pat at 281.437.6218.

The monthly No-Tap Candlelight Doubles is this Saturday, March 15 at 8pm. You don't have to be a league member to participate. Registration starts at 7pm with a fee of \$12.

Your Serve!

The Lone Star Volleyball Association (LSVA) invites all interested parties to play in their Winter Season '97 Leagues. They are actively seeking individuals to play in all divisions. Please call their HotLine at 713.878.4629 or go to the Univ. of St. See SPORTS page 22

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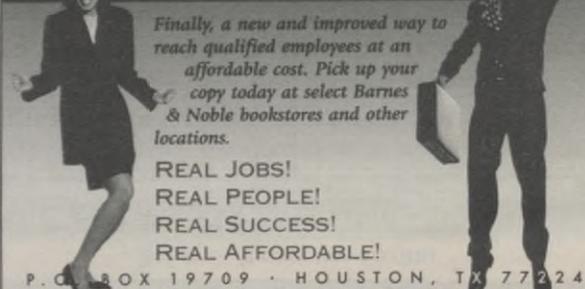
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SPORTS/ from page 21

Thomas Jerabeck Center and play a couple of games with them.

LSVA meets each Sunday from 4:30-7pm (Recreational & Intermediate Leagues) and also from 7-9:30pm (Competitive & Power Leagues). All are welcome to join this diverse group (male/female). Remember, the action begins Sunday, Mar. 16 at 4:30pm.

Strike Her Out!

The Houston Women's Softball League (HWSL) is gearing up for another season of play. They welcome all new coaches, teams and/or individual players. Games will tentatively begin March 15 & 16 with their Pre-Season tournament. For info call Trish at 713.688.9468.

Basketball at the "Y"

Get fit at The Cossaboom Family YMCA at 7903 South Loop East, near Gulfgate Mall. The Adult Men's Basketball League begins on April 3. Games will be played on Thursday evenings with a tournament at the end of the league. Also, they offer Adult Co-Ed Volleyball each and every Friday evening from 7-9pm. For info, stop by their front service desk or call them at 713.643.4396.

Run the Table!

The Independent Billiard League of Houston reports that after the second night of play, the top five teams are Highrollers from Cousins, Yo Mama's from 611, Dynamite Sticks from the Mining Company, Full Throttle from the Mining Company and Sudden Impact-Suicide Squad.

Free Fishing Trip

The Rainbow Fishing Club is holding a drawing for a free trip on the Texsun II of Galveston worth \$60. Tickets are \$1 and are available at EJ's from Robert White and Lucy and at the 611 Club from Chester Dickerson and Bobbie Frida.



Howard Loftin of the Fishing Club!

The drawing will be at the March 15 Barbecue & Shrimp Boil at EJ's, 2517 Ralph St. at 6pm. The winner does not have to be present. The barbecue will run from 2pm to 6pm and will cost \$3.50 a plate. Everyone is invited.

The next Rainbow outing on the 70-foot deluxe deep sea fishing boat will be Sunday, June 22. The cost for the 12-hour trip is \$60 with a \$30 deposit due now. The club will also be going out in April on the New Buccaneer and in May on the Cavalier, both out of Galveston. For info and to get on the free mailing list, call 713.523.6381.

MSL Wants You!

The Montrose Softball League (MSL) is still recruiting for their season of play beginning April 6. With competitive and recreational divisions, there is something for everyone! There is never any experience

needed and the fun is endless! For information please call 867-3913.

Service Out!

The Lone Star Volleyball Classic IX is still looking for volunteers for their tournament to be held Friday, March 28 and Saturday, March 29. Volunteers are needed to distribute welcome packets, register players, house players, assist at the gyms, show the city, etc. If you are interested, please leave a message on the Lone Star Volleyball Association's 24 hour voice mail at 713.878.4629.

Everybody Skate!

The Lambda Roller Skating Club host their Weekly Skate Night on Wednesday, Mar. 19 at Starlite Skating Rink, 8075 Cook Road (corner of Cook and Beechnut). Skate time is 8-10pm with a nominal admission fee of \$5 plus \$1.50 if you need skates. You may bring your own skates or blades. Everyone and all ages are welcome! For more info call 933.5818 or visit their website at <http://www.neosoft.com/~lrsc>.

Let's Ride!

The Houston Chain Gang Cycling Club invites you to join them on Saturday, Mar. 16 at 8:30am for their ride to Magnolia. For more info and to RSVP call John at 768-8793. Sagg support will be available. This is a 50-mile ride. Meet at John Williams' house located at 1860 White Oak Dr. #219 at 8:30am and head out to Magnolia. Please RSVP by calling the Houston Chain Gang Hot Line at 768-8793. There will be a gourmet picnic lunch featuring red beans and rice following the ride. All Chain Gang rides are free and open to all. Houston's only Gay & Lesbian Bicycling Club.

More Club Info

The Montrose Ice Picks skate every Sunday at the Galleria ice skating rink. Meet them at 5pm or call 713.629.1432 for info.

A Gay sky diving club called Houston Triangle Divers hosts outings for those brave of heart throughout the year. For info call 530.7822.

The Movie Club is a Gay social club that meets every 1st & 3rd Saturday night of the month for dinner and a movie. What better way to enjoy friends, both new and old. Call 952.4048 for info.

A Bicycling Club for Womyn, Rainbow Riders meet every Sunday morning for easy, long off-road rides. All womyn are welcome regardless of ability and experience. For info call Cookie Davenport at 869.1686 or email her at guusje@aol.com.

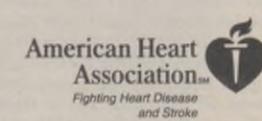
If you like running, then go with the FrontRunners who meet at 9am at the Memorial Park Tennis Center on Sundays. If Sundays are not good for you, meet them at 6:30pm on Tuesday or Thursday nights. For info call 713.522.8021.

The Houston Tennis Club is a lesbian and gay club with members of all levels of play--beginner to advanced. Meet at 9am on Sundays at Memorial Park Tennis Center or call 713.692.2703 for info.

Think dancing isn't a sport? Try to argue with these two organizations! The Southern Country Dance Group provides dance lessons at the Ranch, 8-10pm on Tuesdays. The Ranch is located at 9200 Buffalo Speedway.

The Rainbow Ranglers promote Texas Style couple dancing, including the beginning level. Classes are free and open to the public from 8:30-10pm on Thursdays at the Brazos River Bottom, 2400 Brazos. For more info call 713.880.0670.

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CHURCH CALENDAR

Friday-3/14

- Catholic Mass at 10:00 am; Movie Night at 7:00 pm at the Kolbe Project. 522-8182.
- AIDS Healing Service & Eucharist, Christ Church, 1117 Texas; 7:00 pm. 266-6008.

Saturday-3/15

- Mass at Dignity Houston at 7:30 pm. 880-2872.
- "Coming Out to Yourself" at Crossroads 11am. 681-9082.
- Sunday-3/16
- Maranatha Fellowship Metropolitan Church Services "A Study in the Gospel of Mark" and "The T Factor" (How to be a positive influence on others as a witness for Christ) at 10:00 am Praise and Worship, Ministry of the Word, Drama and Personal Ministry. 11:00 am at Maranatha Fellowship 528-6756.
- MCCR worship services 9:00 am & 11:00 am 861-9149.
- Worship Service 11:00 am at Faith and Hope Fellowship 773-4429.
- Grace Lutheran Church Sunday school for all ages at 9:30 am Worship Service at 10:30 am 528-3269.
- First Unitarian Universalist Church Sunday Services at 9:30 am and 11:30 am 526-5200.
- Services at 5:30 pm Dignity Church 880-2872.
- Community Gospel worship service at 11:00 am & 7:00 pm. 4305 Lillian 880-9235.
- Houston Mission Church worship service at 10:30 am 529-8225.
- Covenant Baptist Church Worship service 1:30 pm and education hour at 3:00 pm 668-8830.
- Bering Memorial United Methodist Church Worship service 10:50 am. Seekers class 9:15 am 526-1017.
- Church of the XII Apostles worship service at 10:30 am. Chapel of the Santana

Funeral Home, 5352 Katy Freeway, 665-7903.

- Catholic Mass at 7:30 pm Kolbe Project 522-8182.
- MCCR Handbell Choir Rehearsal at 7:00 pm 861-9149.
- Unitarian Fellowship of Galveston County, 402 Church St. in Galveston. Sunday Services at 10:30 am weekly. 409-765-8330.

Tuesday-3/18

- MCCR: Empowerment for Living support group & pot luck dinner at 6:00 pm, Gloryland Ensemble at 6:00 pm 861-9149.
- PROTECT meets at Bering Church. 520-7870.
- HIV Affected group meets at 7:00 pm. Judy or Pam at 880-9235. At Community Gospel.
- Maranatha Fellowship MCC has groups that meet in each others home for a time of fellowship, sharing God's word, and prayer. Call for the location in your area 528-6756.

Wednesday-3/19

- MCCR Bible Study 7:30 pm 861-9149.
- Worship Service 7:30 pm at Faith and Hope Fellowship 773-4429.
- MCCR: Jubilation Mixed Ensemble meets at 6:30 pm Midweek uplift service at 7:00 pm, Bible Study, Lecture Series "Women's Health Issues" with Mike Bartley, MD on "Mental Health Issues in the Lesbian & Gay Community" (suggested \$5 donation) & Choir Rehearsal 7:30 pm 861-9149.

Thursday-3/20

- Bible Study 7:00 pm at Faith and Hope Fellowship 773-4429.
- Midweek Service at Community Gospel 7:30 pm 880-9235.

If you want an event listed in this section,
 please call Lee at 529-8490 by 12 noon Mondays.

RELIGION

Nuns May Replace Mother Teresa

Calcutta, India (AP) - More than 100 nuns from Mother Teresa's order are expected to choose her successor in the next few days, sources said Sunday.

An earlier vote was abruptly postponed without an announced reason or new date. That led to speculation the nuns could not decide on a successor to Mother Teresa, who founded the Missionaries of Charity 50 years ago, and might try to persuade her to stay on as their leader.

But according to sources familiar with the discussions who spoke on condition of anonymity, she is unlikely to be re-elected head of the group.

The 86-year-old Roman Catholic nun has said she no longer wants to lead the order because she is too ill. She underwent an angioplasty to remove blockages from two arteries late last year after a mild heart

attack, and a persistent lung infection and kidney problems have impeded her recovery. She has been spending an hour a day discussing policy with the nuns, and continues to be the guiding force in the charity.

The nuns have been meeting to discuss the succession at the order's Calcutta headquarters since January.

The order's constitution called for elections in 1996, but the vote was delayed because of Mother Teresa's poor health. She had tried to step down in 1990, but the other nuns re-elected her.

The Missionaries of Charity has more than 4,000 nuns and runs 517 orphanages, homes for the poor, AIDS hospices and other charity centers around the world. Mother Teresa won the Nobel Peace Prize in 1979 for her work with the poor.

Catholic Group Seeks Gay Role

by Bruce Stanley

Pittsburgh (AP) - Auxiliary Bishop Thomas Gumbleton doubled his efforts to teach tolerance after learning of his own brother's homosexuality. Sister Jeannine Gramick changed her life's course after learning of the anguish Roman Catholic college students felt at being gay.

Gumbleton and Gramick are among 620 activists and church leaders meeting in Pittsburgh this weekend to discuss how the Catholic Church, which still teaches that homosexual activity is sinful, can help reach out to gays and lesbians.

"Homosexual people have experienced such terrible alienation from the church," said Gumbleton, an auxiliary bishop in Detroit. "They've felt unwanted and condemned very often. The church has not been very successful in ministering to them."

Hosted by the New Ways Ministry, the 2 1/2-day symposium aims to broaden the role of homosexual members in an institution they see as opening slowly to them.

"Too often the church has been a follower and not a leader," said Gramick, a nun who directs the Lesbian-Gay Ministry for her order, the School Sisters of Notre Dame.

"I think we have a responsibility now, at the end of the 20th century, to educate people about acceptance of minorities and of people who are different from the mainstream," she said.

But many in the church oppose the New Ways Ministry and its attempts to open up to homosexuals.

In November, Bishop James Hoffman overruled a priest's decision to play host to the group's meeting in Toledo, Ohio. The ministry found an alternative venue - an Episcopal church.

"We've always found a Protestant church nearby that was hospitable and accommodating," said Frank DeBernardo, the min-

See **ROLE** page 24

by Larry Garrett

My partner Ken is HIV-. When he first met me he knew I was HIV+ and the possible complications that could result from this. I feared in the early days of our relationship that should something happen and I got sick that he would run away.

Well, this fear has turned out to be completely unfounded. I'm lucky to have a person stand so completely at my side through all the doctors appointments, medical procedures, chemotherapy, etc. As frustrating as it gets for me, I know it frustrates him. I can no longer do the things I once did...dancing till dawn at the BRB, traveling, or just working outside in our flower beds have become all but impossible tasks for me.

My second greatest fear about involving myself with a person that was HIV- was the possibility that through some accident or careless act that I might transmit this nasty virus to my partner. Luckily this has never happened despite a very healthy sexual relationship. We are careful and there are just certain things that we do not do. I am not willing to risk putting another person through the hell and the torment that I have had to endure with this disease. HIV infection is not something I'd wish on my worst enemy.

When you're only HIV+ and asymptomatic there is little for one to worry about except getting plenty of rest, exercise, and eating right. However, once you become symptomatic and start having health problems, everything in your life changes. Very seldom are those changes for the best. Once your health begins the spiral down putting on the brakes at any given moment is a very difficult if not impossible task.

In my own case my downward spiral started out as chronic respiratory problems that were initially diagnosed as asthma. Although I did have asthma, the root of my respiratory problems were of a much more severe nature in the form of pulmonary Kaposi's Sarcoma. The KS spread quickly to

various areas in my body and we quickly discovered the joys(?) of systemic IV chemotherapy. Later, I also developed HIV-related Cardio-Myopathy (Congestive Heart Failure). This added another new dimension to my overall treatment regimen and health care plan.

I can understand the reason why a person would "fear" becoming intimate and close with a person that is HIV+ or has an AIDS diagnosis. I do NOT accept those reasons as having any legitimate basis in fact or in reality. I do not understand those types of people who refuse to be friends with a person who is HIV+ or has AIDS, refuse to have lunch or dinner with them, or refuse to take in a movie as their friend. You may think I'm exaggerating here, but I speak from personal experience. It continues to happen every day in almost every city in the world in some form or fashion.

For those of us infected, it hurts us more than the virus does. Yet somehow I'd like to think that those who discount us so easily solely because of our HIV status are somehow the real ultimate losers in this game of life. They are cheating themselves of having the benefit of a very unique insight. I do not give my "friendship" easily nor do I call a person a friend simply because I know their name. The true measure of a person's success is not how many people they know, but how many people their lives have touched in a positive manner. Think for a moment - how many lives have YOU touched in a special way? Practicing random acts of kindness and consideration takes a pro-active effort on your part. It is not difficult, yet it does not come easily.

As you go about your daily lives should you happen to meet a person who later reveals that they are HIV+ or have AIDS, please do not fear them. Do not run away from them. I understand you're not wanting to have unsafe sex or becoming deeply and physically/emotionally involved with them, but do not discount their value as a friend or as a person.

Are You Well-Adjusted?

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—Jim Vilven, Graphic Artist



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Horoscope For The Week of March 15 - 21, 1997

IF YOUR BIRTHDAY IS THIS WEEK: Let the lessons of your past experiences guide you to any practical applications of your ideas for the future. It's time to review your job, relationships and financial commitments, to see how they match up with your future life goals. Make plans to change whatever isn't working.

ARIES (March 21-April 20) You both look and feel good; your high energy and upbeat attitude is catching on with others. Take advantage of your appeal to make gains in your personal and professional life. It's a great time to improve relationships.

TAURUS (April 21 - May 21) Make it a point of accomplishing those things that have been on your to-do list. There will be great personal power for you. A certain amount of stress will no doubt accompany your busy schedule; lashing out at family members will get you nowhere.

GEMINI (May 22 - June 21) Romance is in the air, and that warm glow from you and your lover will get you through any unpleasant situations in the workplace. Get chores and errands out of the way, creating extra quality time to spend with family and friends.

CANCER (June 22 - July 23) You might fall in love, so take extra care with who you shower your affections on. It's time to consult a financial planner on any long term investments you've been considering. Your intuition about money is right on target. Avoid criticism.

LEO (July 24 - August 23) This entire month will be quite busy for you, both at home and at work. You are getting closer and closer to personal and career goals, so remember those who have helped you achieve what you want. Be supportive of family members, especially children.

VIRGO (August 24 - September 23) Help out wherever you can this week, but make sure to avoid any manipulators, all those efforts should go to a worthwhile cause. There may be an extra cash flow just in time for weekend fun you have planned. Enjoy any break from your usual routine and have fun.

LIBRA (September 24 - October 23) You are ready to conquer all obstacles in your way, just make sure not to hurt anyone. You're likely to find kindred spirits to further career and social plans. Major home repairs may be very necessary. It isn't such a bad idea to spend some time alone.

SCORPIO (October 24 - November 22) This week will both begin and end on a high note. You are in tune with your sweetheart and everything seems to be running smoothly. You can move closer to your goals, with a possible new business partnership in the offing. Sign that new contract.

SAGITTARIUS (November 23 - December 21) You may need to get away from your hectic routine and be alone with your thoughts. It's a great time to travel. Be confident of successes in any business dealings. Avoid unpleasant financial surprises by going over bank statements for any discrepancies.

CAPRICORN (December 22 - January 20) A friend challenges you to break out of your shell and promote yourself for advancement. You've nothing to lose, and will be happier in the long run. Time spent with someone close can make your day. The world is filled with dreamers and doers, be a doer.

AQUARIUS (January 21 - February 19) Very prominent people will want your opinion, so be very careful how you word any responses. It is hard to avoid confrontation with those around you, so it's better to remain silent than drawn into unnecessary arguments. Someone close may turn on you.

PISCES (February 20 - March 20) Career advancement is effortless, so pursue your cherished goals. Co-workers will welcome your ideas. Keep your cool in family situations which may be getting out of hand. There may be a difference of opinion, causing distance between you and someone close to you. Be fair.



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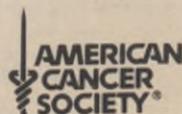
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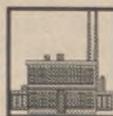
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Important Stuff!

The Ms. Gulf Coast Contest was held this past weekend at the Venture-N. Congrats to Houston's own Tiffany Swanger and Cherly Wilcox of Jacksonville. There was a tie.

The Texas Lesbian Conference is May 16-18. For more info, call 867-3934.



Larry Crawford, you never looked lovelier!

The Brazos River Bottom is having a big Customer Appreciation party on March 15!!!!

Yes, it is ture, Rascal's has closed thier doors!

On of the hottest shows in town hits the keyboard of the BriarPatch on Sunday, March 23. Miss Nikki Nokkers does her one woman show, which features Bunny O'Hare and Bill Senson in less than starring roles. Sounds like fun. Also at the BriarPatch, Fancy Pace Lawrence brings them all out for a "River Prance" to benefit the Omega House on Sunday, March 16!

"Let's Save Lives Together: A Dance Party" will be at Rich's on March 28, 9:00 pm. This is an energetic bash featuring guest DJ Danny M. from South Beach, Shawn Welling and Planet Funk, Absolut drink specials, door prizes and Mix 96.5 FM giveaways. For more info, call 782-0634.

Milestones

A happy birthday to TAFKAR. (That is The Artist Formerly Known as Rabbitt!)

Happy birthdays to Houston Area Bears Steve B., Malcolm W., and James M.

Happy birthdays to Meg of Mary's, Del McGee of Gentry, Buffy of the Wolf Pack, and my old, old, buddy Lloyd!

Rodent Droppings

The fuzzy little ferrets are fine and dandy! Have I told you that I found a new treat for Ratrat? Well, just get his nose within 5 feet of a box of raisins and he goes wild! He attacks the box, rips it open to ferret out the tasty



Harvey!



Kiss me again!

morsels. Harvey on the other hand has not got any interest in raisins at all! Who'd a thunk!

My disclaimer is in force! Lies, gossip, and trash, oh my! What goes in the ears and out the mouth is gossip! And boy, do I have big ears and a larger mouth!

Reno (JR's): I understand that you are walking around with one ball in a bag made for two! Is that like sleeping single in a double bed?

Bruce (Fakawwee Lodge): That wasn't Ralph you were seen with last Friday having a late supper with at the Lodge! Who was he?

Damon (Bricks II): I've heard of "Dialing for Dollars", but Fu**** for Jeeps? Is that a new game show? And I hear you were a fire baton twirler in your past life?

Laura (Gay and Lesbian Yellow Pages): How many Lesbians does it take to bait a hook?



The party goes on at Bricks II.

Kody/Jody (Chances/New Barn): The "J" and the "K" are way too close on the keyboard! Sorry Jody, last week's gossip was about Kody, not you!

Steve (Heaven): Gas up the "Escort!" Guess who is coming back to Houston!

Lil Don (BRB): What does your bowling ball and your mind have in common? They are always in the gutter! And what is this I hear about you



Leon at the 611.

doing "drag queen mud wrestling?"

Dave (hangs at Bricks II): And I quote: "Smoking ultra lights is like sucking on a small sucker." Who needs 'em?

Bob Bouton (HCC/Renegades): The Brotherhood of B.O.B lives on!

Dirk M. (NLA:H/Misfits): Six costume changes in one evening! Who says leather isn't drag? Who called you "Mrs. Venture-N?"

Alan W. (Misfits/NLA:H): Was Mr.

International Drummer teaching you "breath control" techniques?

Cody (BRB): Just how many husbands do you have? And "we" love your new name tag! Did it come off your double-wide trailer or your double-wide butt?

Leo (Heaven): Threatening your sister Louisa over Woodlake trade?

Jerry Sherman (BCLA/Pride): Peddling T-shirts and pins is one way to get people to pay attention!

Mario (hangs at the BRB): Is it true that sex with Vera will make all your teeth fall out?

Jerry J. (Mary's): I saw you hogging up the entire street in that big Caddie of yours!

Buddy Jackson (Lazy J): Was Woody (hangs on every barstool) as good looking when he was young as he is now?

Miss A. (BRB): Is it true you're mov-



Bob, who is that "lady" as your date?

ing to Guam to open a dairy?

Whit (Heaven): How long can a girl go without a shower?

Chris P. (BCLA/HCC): Yes, Tiffany (Ms. Gulf Coast Leather) wants respect, but did she really have to write on your bare back?

Doug (Bubba) Decker: So, where were you on Saturday night?

Mike G. (House of Glade): Investiture for H.O.G. is coming up! Are you ready?

Mike (Gentry): Quit taking people home with bunny rabbits! And how is a gal gonna make a buck with two old queens?

Vera (BRB): We can swallow, but we don't fall down?

Bear (hangs at Gentry): Who needs a dog? I hear you lick yourself clean!

Don P. (hangs @ BRB): And I quote: "We are going to Bricks II and neither one of us need a facial!"

Debbie (Outpost): You suck the heads then do the tails?

Larry Joe (E/J's): Why did Richard change your name to "Hot Lips?" Was it because of last Sunday?

Kneel (NLA:H): More than a name, it's a command!

Jennifer Ellsworth (RSICSS): What, I had heard you were going to enter the



Purr...tyl!



I caught these two hanging out at The New Barn.

Ms. Gulf Coast Leather contest! What happened?

Jay Allen (Pacific Street): Thanks for the dinner and a movie last Monday night! And also, did you see the "haunting" at the Venture-N two Friday nights ago?

Kyle Brandon (Mr. International Drummer): Don (Mr. Wonderful) Gill tells me you use a spoon in the cutest way? I want to see!

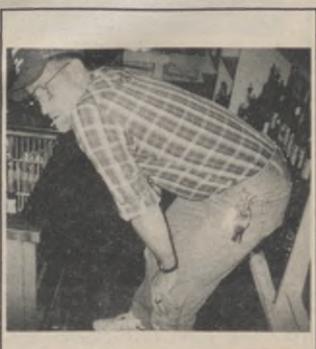
Larry Arbo (Dallas Eagle): Thanks for the copy of the DV you sent! And I also heard that you got only 4 hours of sleep the last 3 day trip you made to Houston! What a man, what a man!

Damon (Bricks II): Two days away? You know the goats need milking!



Now...can we have the beer?

Gang at the BriarPatch: I hear love is in the air! Bear & Rabbit, Auntie Richard & the umentionable city, Charlie and LA, Clint, showtunes, and small appliances, and Mud Bug and Mrs. Mud Bug are at it again!



Beep! Beep! Beep! Look out bottles!

Wayne G. (BriarPatch): What are you "putting in the Martinis" to get all this love stuff going on?

David and Brian (hangs at Bricks II): Paradise under the pine trees?

Adam S. : So, at least last week you were caught in a gay bar and not in Memorial Park again!

Have a great week!
Cuervolyn



Friday, Mar. 14

- BerryHill II: Happy Hour 6 until 10pm.
- Brazos River Bottom: Drink specials 7am until 9pm; Buffet at 5pm.
- BriarPatch: Steve plays for Happy Hour: Wayne Gray, Tony & Guest Stars play the rest of the night! Blackjack tables with Dave open at 9:30pm.
- Bricks II: Happy Hour 10am to 9pm; \$1.75 well; \$1.75 Domestic Longnecks; \$1.50 shots & \$1 mug draft all day.
- Chances: Power Hours with \$1.75 domestic beer & well from 10am to 3pm; Happy Hour 3 to 8pm with \$2.25 domestic beer & \$2.75 well cocktails; \$2 Jose Cuervo.
- Club Incognito: Boyz night out.
- Cousin's: Drag show at 11pm.
- E/J's: Happy Hours 7am to 9pm; \$1.50 Well 4 to 7pm; \$1.50 vodka 7am to 6pm; Mug Club 7am to 10pm; Male Strip Contest at 11pm.
- Gentry: Happy Hour from 2 to 8pm; Boy Toys dance at 6pm; \$2 Kamikazes.
- Heaven: \$1 well & \$1.75 Miller. Doors open at 9pm.
- J.R.'s: Texas Pride Happy Hour 4 to 7pm \$2.25 well, \$1.75 domestic longnecks, \$3.50 Absolut Martinis & \$4.50 doubles. \$3.75 Skyy & Stoli: hard body male dancers.
- Lazy J: 8-ball tournament.
- Mary's: \$1.75 well drinks & longnecks from 7am to 9pm; \$1.50 Vodka drinks from 7am to 2pm.
- Midtowne Spa: Shower Dance Show 11pm.
- Montrose Mining Company: \$3.75 premium vodkas; Happy hour until 10pm; male dancers 8pm to 2:30am; After hours until 4am.
- 19th Hole: 75¢ Kamikazis all day & nite.
- OutPost: Happy Hour 11am to 8pm.
- Pacific Street: Foreplay! No Cover till 9pm. \$1.25 well; \$1.75 beer; \$3 call; \$3.50 premium; \$1.25 Schnapps; Doors open at 7pm. No Cover for Club Members in Club Colors!
- Rich's: 18+ welcome; \$1 well, \$2 beer, \$3 call; Doors open at 9pm.
- Ripcord: Happy Hour 1 to 8pm; After Hours until 4am.
- 611 Hyde Park Pub: Pizza Buffet at 5:30 pm; dancers at 9pm.
- The Lodge: Happy Hour Power 4-8pm; live music 10pm to 2am.
- The New Barn: Power Hours with \$1.75 domestic beer & well from 12 to 3pm; Happy Hour 3 to 8pm with \$2.25 domestic beer & \$2.75 well cocktails.
- Venture-N: \$2 well, beer, & wine from noon until 7pm; NLA: Houston guest bartender at 9pm.

Saturday, Mar. 15

- BerryHill II: Happy Hour 6 until 10pm.
- Brazos River Bottom: Drink specials 7am until 9pm.
- BriarPatch: Wayne Gray tickles the ivories tonight along with guests; Bunny deals Blackjack at 9:30pm.
- Bricks II: Happy Hour 10am to 9pm; \$1.75 well; \$1.75 Domestic Longnecks; \$1.50 shots & \$1 mug draft all day.
- Chances: Power Hours with \$1.75 domestic beer & well from 10am to 3pm; Happy Hour 3 to 8pm with \$2.25 domestic beer & \$2.75 well cocktails; \$2 Jose Cuervo.
- Club Incognito: Ladies' Night.
- Cousin's: Drag show at 11pm.
- E/J's: \$1.50 well 4 to 7pm; Mug Club 7am to 10pm; \$1.50 vodka 7am to 6pm; Star-Studded show with Roxanne Lee Love at 11pm.
- 800 Pacific block party: \$1 well & \$1.75 domestic longnecks! 9 to 9:30pm at Santa Fe Bar & Patio, 9:30 to 10pm at the Montrose Mining Company, 10 to 10:30pm at J.R.'s Bar & Grill, & 11 to 11:30pm at Heaven.
- Gentry: Boy Toys at 2:30 pm.
- Heaven: \$1 well 9 to 11pm; \$1.25 Schnapps; Doors open at 9pm.
- J.R.'s: Texas Pride Happy Hour 4 to 7pm \$2.25 well, \$1.75 domestic longnecks, \$3.50 Absolut Martinis & \$4.50 doubles; \$2.75 premium frozen drinks & premium draft beer, \$3.25 super premium draft beer.
- Lazy J: Drag show at 10:30pm.
- Mary's: \$1.75 well drinks & longnecks 7am to 7pm. Lancers guest bartender on the patio at 2pm.
- Montrose Mining Company: \$3.75 Bacardi Limonade; male dancers 9pm to 2:30am; happy hour until 10pm; After hours until 4am.
- 19th Hole: \$1.50 Gold Ritas all day & nite.

- OutPost: Happy Hour 11am to 8pm.
- Pacific Street: Leather & Flesh Fantasy Night at 9pm. No cover for men in Erotic Leather. Doors open at 9pm. No cover for Club Members in Club Colors!
- Rich's: 21 & up tonight! No cover before 10pm; \$1 well drinks 9 to 11pm; DJ J.D. Arnold spins the beat of Billboard. Doors open at 9pm.
- Ripcord: After hours until 4am.
- The Lodge: Live music 10pm to 2am.
- The New Barn: Power Hours with \$1.75 domestic beer & well from 12 to 3pm; Happy Hour 3 to 8pm with \$2.25 domestic beer & \$2.75 well cocktails.
- Venture-N: \$2 well, beer, & wine from noon until 7pm.

Sunday, Mar. 16

- BerryHill II: Happy Hour 6 until 10pm.
- Brazos River Bottom: Drink specials 12 pm until 7pm; Steak night from 5 to 9pm.
- BriarPatch: Drawing for Dollars at Happy Hour; Blackjack with MudBug at 9:30pm; guests artists tickle the ivories at 9:30pm; open pool tables. "River Prance" 8:30pm.
- Bricks II: Happy Hour 12 Noon to 9pm; \$1.75 well; \$1.75 Domestic Longnecks; \$1.50 shots & \$1 mug draft all day. Sign Language Classes 3-4pm.
- Chances: Power Hours with \$1.75 domestic beer & well from noon to 3pm; Happy Hour 3 to 8pm with \$2.25 domestic beer & \$2.75 well cocktails; \$2 Jose Cuervo.
- Club Incognito: Super Sunday Show at 11pm. No cover before 10pm.
- Cousin's: Drag Show at 11pm.
- E/J's: \$1 Bud & Bud Light All Day & Night.
- Gentry: Happy Hour from 2 to 8pm; Boy Toys Dancers from 5 to 9pm; Pool tournament at 5:30pm; 9pm.
- Heaven: 75¢ well drinks 8 to 10pm; \$2.25 frozen Ritas; \$3.50 Absolut & Bacardi Limonade; 75¢ draft beer; Super Show at 11pm.
- J.R.'s: 99¢ well vodka juice drinks noon until 11pm, \$2.75 Shiner Bock; SRO Karaoke at 6pm; Male Swim wear strip contest at 11pm.
- Lazy J: Erica's Sale in Parking Lot 12 to 4pm.
- Mary's: 50¢ draft beer; \$1.75 Well drinks & longnecks from 10am to 2pm. PWA Holiday Charities guest bartender at 2pm on the Patio.
- Montrose Mining Company: \$2 domestic longnecks; \$2.25 well drinks; Beer Bust \$2 (optional) with 25¢ refills; male dancers 9pm to 2am.
- 19th Hole: \$1.50 well 8-11pm; \$4 Pitcher domestic beer all day & nite.
- OutPost: Happy Hour Noon to 8pm.
- Pacific Street: Male Overload! Doors open at 7pm; No shirt, no cover! \$1.25 well, \$1.75 beer, \$3 call, \$3.50 premium, \$1.25 schnapps. No cover for Club Members in Club Colors.
- Rich's: 18 & up welcome; \$1 well, \$2 beer, \$3 call, Klub Kamp...a comedy revue with Simply Divine & Lana Blake at 10:30pm; Doors open at 8pm.
- Ripcord: \$1.50 well & domestic beer all day/all night.
- 611 Hyde Park Pub: Brunch at noon.
- The Lodge: Shepherd Plaza Street Fest; 12 to 9pm; live bands.
- The New Barn: Power Hours with \$1.75 domestic beer & well from noon to 3pm; Happy Hour 3 to 8pm with \$2.25 domestic beer & \$2.75 well cocktails.
- Venture-N: \$2 well, beer, & wine from noon until 7pm; Snacks on the "Far Side" & Houston Area Bears guest bartender at 5pm; 8pm "Grin 'n Bear It with Anita Mann, Express XIII.

Monday, Mar. 17

- BerryHill II: Free pool.
- Brazos River Bottom: \$1.75 well & domestic beer all day, all nite.
- BriarPatch: Auntie Richard's Antics at 8pm; Open pool tables at 8pm; Clint plays topless at 9:30pm.
- Bricks II: Happy Hour 10am to 9pm; \$1.75 well; \$1.75 Domestic Longnecks; \$1.50 shots & \$1 mug draft all day.
- Chances: Power Hours with \$1.75 domestic beer & well from 10am to 3pm; Happy Hour 3 to 8pm with \$2.25 domestic beer & \$2.75 well cocktails; \$2 Jose Cuervo.
- Club Houston: Half price lockers from noon to midnight.
- E/J's: Happy Hour 7am to 9pm; \$1.50 Well 4 to 7pm; \$1.50 vodka 7am to 6pm; Mug

- Club 7am to 10pm; Male Strip 11pm.
- Gentry: Happy Hour from 2:00 to 8pm: Leprechaun Dancers at 6pm; \$2 Jameson Irish & Kamikazes.
- J.R.'s: Texas Pride Happy Hour 4 to 7pm \$2.25 well, \$1.75 domestic longnecks, \$3.50 Absolut Martinis & \$4.50 doubles; Martinis & Muscles! \$3.75 top shelf Martinis, \$2.25 domestic longnecks, frozen Margaritas \$1.75; "Pump" male dance contest at 11pm.
- Mary's: \$1.75 well drinks & longnecks from 7am to 9pm; \$1.50 Well vodka drinks from 7am to 2pm; \$1 longnecks at 8 to 11pm.
- Midtowne Spa: Half-Price night.
- Montrose Mining Company: \$3.50 double well drinks, \$1.75 well, \$2 domestic longnecks; Pool tournament at 8:30pm; male dancers 9pm; Happy hour until 10pm.
- 19th Hole: \$1.50 longnecks 8-11pm.
- Outpost: Happy Hour 11am to 8pm.
- Pacific Street: Balloon Drop with 100s of lottery tickets; \$1.25 Gold Margaritas all nite long; doors open at 9pm. No Cover for Club Members in Club Colors.
- Ripcord: Happy Hour 1 to 8pm; \$2 domestic beer all night; free pizza.
- 611 Hyde Park Pub: Open Pool Tables.
- The New Barn: Power Hours with \$1.75 domestic beer & well from 12pm to 3pm; Happy Hour 3 to 8pm with \$2.25 domestic beer & \$2.75 well cocktails.
- Venture-N: \$2 well, beer, & wine from noon until 7pm.

Tuesday, Mar. 18

- BerryHill II: Happy Hour 6 until 10pm.
- Brazos River Bottom: \$1 well drinks 7am to 11pm; \$1 domestic longnecks all day & nite. C&W Dance Lessons at 8:30pm. Burgers on the patio from 6 to 10pm.
- BriarPatch: Mama Marcie holds court on the piano at 9:30pm.
- Bricks II: Happy Hour 10am to 9pm; \$1.75 well; \$1.75 Domestic Longnecks; \$1.50 shots & \$1 mug draft all day.
- Club Houston: Half-price lockers, rooms, & video rooms from noon until midnight.
- E/J's: Happy Hour 7am to 9pm; \$1.50 well 4pm to 7pm; \$1.50 Vodka 7am to 10pm; Mug Club 7am to 10pm; Amateur/Talent Night at 11pm.
- Gentry: Happy Hour from 2 to 8pm; Boy Toys dance at 9pm; \$2 Windx shots.
- J.R.'s: 2 for Tuesdays! \$2 domestic longnecks, well drinks, frozen Ritas & wine; Jockey short contest at 11pm; grab for cash at midnight.
- Mary's: \$1.75 well drinks & longnecks from 7am to 9pm; \$1.50 Well vodka drinks from 7am to 2pm; \$2 Cuervo.
- Montrose Mining Company: \$1.75 domestic longnecks; \$2.50 well drinks; \$3 any other drink in the house! Happy hour until 10pm; male dancers 9pm to 2am.
- 19th Hole: \$1.50 well 8-11pm.
- OutPost: Happy Hour 11am to 8pm.
- Pacific Street: Executive Night. No cover with your personalized business card. \$1.25 well, \$1.75 beer, \$3 call, \$3.50 premium, \$1.25 schnapps. Doors open at 9pm. No cover for Club Members in Club Colors.
- Ripcord: Happy Hour 1 to 8pm.
- The New Barn: Power Hours with \$1.75 domestic beer & well from 12 to 3pm; Happy Hour 3 to 8pm with \$2.25 domestic beer & \$2.75 well cocktails.
- Venture-N: \$2 well, beer, & wine noon to 7pm.

Wednesday, Mar. 19

- BerryHill II: Happy Hour 6 until 10pm; Free Pool Tables. FACES plays at 9pm.
- Brazos River Bottom: Drink specials 7 am until 9pm; \$1.75 domestic longnecks all day & nite.
- BriarPatch: Charlotta's martini night specials; Beverly Siscoe makes em sing standards at 9:30pm.
- Bricks II: Happy Hour All Day & Nite; \$1.75 well; \$1.75 Domestic Longnecks; \$1.50 shots & \$1 mug draft.
- Chances: Power Hours with \$1.75 domestic beer & well from 10am to 3pm; Happy Hour 3 to 8pm with \$2.25 domestic beer & \$2.75 well cocktails; \$2 Jose Cuervo; Sheila Lennon's Karaoke night at 9pm.
- E/J's: Happy Hour 7am to 9pm; \$1.40 well 4 to 7pm; \$1.50 Vodka 7am to 6pm. Mug club 7am to 10pm; Burger night.
- Gentry: Happy Hour from 2 to 8pm; Boy Toys dance at 7pm; \$1.25 Schnapps; Male Strip contest hosted by Dyan Michaels at 11pm.

- Heaven: \$1 well, \$1.75 Budweiser & 75¢ Miller on tap; DJ Michael DeGrace: Doors open at 9pm.
- J.R.'s: Texas Pride Happy Hour 4 to 7pm \$2.25 well, \$1.75 domestic longnecks, \$3.50 Absolut Martinis & \$4.50 doubles; \$2 domestic longnecks, \$2.75 Bacardi Limonade, \$2.75 Desert Long Island Tea: Joe Boxer dance contest at 11pm.
- Mary's: \$1.75 well drinks & longnecks; \$1.50 Well vodka drinks from 7am to 2pm; Slop Shot Pool at 1pm hosted by Don Dowden: Drink specials all day & all night.
- Midtowne Spa: Half-Price night & shower dancers with a \$100 cash prize.
- Montrose Mining Company: \$2 domestic longnecks & well drinks, \$4 doubles; Male dancers at 9pm; Happy hour until 10pm.
- 19th Hole: Happy hour prices all day & nite; \$4 domestic beer pitchers.
- OutPost: Happy Hour 11am to 8pm.
- Pacific Street: No Cover for Club Members in Club Colors. Doors open at 7pm.
- Ripcord: \$2 well & domestic beer all day/all night.
- The New Barn: Power Hours with \$1.75 domestic beer & well from 12 to 3pm; Happy Hour 3 to 8pm with \$2.25 domestic beer & \$2.75 well cocktails.
- The Palace 5351 W. Alabama @ Rice 8pm with \$1 Bar Drinks til 11. 850-7699.
- Venture-N: \$2 well, beer, & wine from noon until 7pm.
- XTC: \$3 Pitchers, \$1.75 well drinks.

Thursday, Mar. 20

- BerryHill II: Happy Hour 6 until 10pm; Male Dancers at 10:30pm.
- Brazos River Bottom: Drink specials 7am until 11pm. Dance lessons at 9pm.
- BriarPatch: Edith Head...Liza...Liz...you name it at 9:30pm.
- Bricks II: Happy Hour 10am to 9pm; \$1.75 well; \$1.75 Domestic Longnecks; \$1.50 shots & \$1 mug draft all day.
- Chances: Power Hours with \$1.75 domestic beer & well from 10am to 3pm; Happy Hour 3 to 8pm with \$2.25 domestic beer & \$2.75 well cocktails; \$2 Jose Cuervo.
- Club Houston: Half-price lockers, rooms, & video rooms from noon to midnight.
- Cousin's: Talent contest at 11pm.
- E/J's: Happy Hour 7am to 9pm; \$1.50 well 4pm to 7pm; \$1.50 vodka 7am to 6pm. Mug club 7am to 10pm; Tacos on the patio.
- Gentry: Happy Hour from 2 to 8pm; Boy Toys dance at 9pm; \$3 Skyy vodka.
- J.R.'s: Texas Pride Happy Hour 4 to 7pm \$2.25 well, \$1.75 domestic longnecks, \$3.50 Absolut Martinis & \$4.50 doubles; \$3.75 top shelf liquor, \$2.25 Imported, Saint Arnold & Micro brewed beer: Star Search Gold Karaoke at 9pm.
- Mary's: \$1.75 well drinks & longnecks from 7am to 9pm; \$1.50 well vodka drinks from 7am to 2pm; 75¢ Schnapps. Open Dart Tournament Registration at 6pm, play at 7pm.
- Montrose Mining Company: \$2.25 domestic longnecks, well, & wine; Male dancers at 9pm; Happy hour until 10pm.
- Ms. B's: Nancy Ford at 8:30 to 10pm, open mike & karaoke 10:30pm to 1am.
- 19th Hole: \$1.50 draft 8-11pm and 10¢ wings.
- OutPost: Happy Hour 11am to 8pm.
- Pacific Street: Sexx Thursdays; \$1.25 well, \$1.75 beer, \$3 call, \$3.50 premium, \$1.25 Schnapps. No cover with current gym card. No cover for Club Members in Club Colors.
- Ripcord: Happy Hour 1 to 8pm; StarTrek on the big screen at 8 & 9pm; Classic Rock night.
- 611 Hyde Park Pub: \$1 Burger Night.
- The Lodge: Happy Hour Power 4 to 7pm; \$2 drink specials; R&B Jazz 7 to 11pm.
- The New Barn: Power Hours with \$1.75 domestic beer & well from 12 to 3pm; Happy Hour 3 to 8pm with \$2.25 domestic beer & \$2.75 well cocktails.
- Venture-N: \$2 well, beer, & wine from noon until 7pm.

To be included in the bar calendar, please call 529-8490

If you would like an event listed in this section, please feel free to call Lee at 529-8490 or fax at 529-9531 by Monday noon.

Friday, Mar. 14

- AIDS Mastery Workshop. 861-6453.
- Borders Book Store Gay/Lesbian Book Club meets at the Espresso Bar at 9634 Westheimer. 782-6066.
- HIV+ Art classes at the Art League. 523-8817
- HATCH meets. 942-7002.
- Aftercare Group Treatment at Montrose Counseling Center. 6pm. 529-0037.
- "Out of the Closet:Cinema" group meets. 822-8511.
- Frost Eye Clinic: Free eye exams for HIV+ people. 520-2000.
- Lesbian Avengers meet at Toopee's, 1830 W. Alabama @ 7pm.
- Q-Patrol meets to walk the streets at 10:30pm. 528-SAFE.
- Free Spay and Neutering (SNAP) 522-2337 at Harris County Animal Control.
- Gulf Coast Transgender Community meets. 780-4282.
- Lesbian Love Letters at DiverseWorks. 228-0914.

Saturday, Mar. 15

- After Hours on KPFT 12am to 3am. 90.1 FM. 526-5738.
- Gulf Coast Transgender support group meets. 780-4282.
- Q-Patrol meets to walk the streets at 10:30pm. 528-SAFE.
- Visual Art Alliance meets at 10am. 583-8408.
- Autumn's Seasons Bondage Club discussion group at 10:30am. 788-5593.
- Montrose Clinic HIV Testing/Counseling at Rich's 10pm to 2am.
- Houston Area Bears Monthly Social at Venture-N Topsiside. 9pm.
- Exploring the SM Lifestyle; Ripcord; 10pm.
- 100% Debt Free; Leisure Learning Center; 877-1981; Class #9308.
- Make-up Applications; Leisure Learning Center; 877-1981; Class #5575.
- Astrology; Leisure Learning Center; 877-1981; Class #5852.
- Chinatown Walking Tour; Leisure Learning Center; 877-1981; Class #3405.
- E-Mail, Voice Mail, Fax & Telephony; Leisure Learning Center; 877-1981; Class #9987.
- Outdoor Dutch Oven Cooking; Leisure Learning Center; 877-1981; Class #0350.
- Ikebana (Oriental Floral Design); Leisure Learning Center; 877-1981; Class #1310.
- Saddle Up! Keys to a quality saddle;

Leisure Learning Center; 877-1981; Class #0910.

- Beginning Lap-Quilting; Leisure Learning Center; 877-1981; Class #1416.

Sunday, Mar. 16

- The Women's Group meets at 10:45am. 529-8571.
- HATCH meets. 942-7002.
- Houston Gay & Lesbian Parents Kite Flying. 284-4939.
- Just For Us; Houston Gay & Lesbian Parents; Sam Houston Raceway; 284-4939.
- Galveston PFLAG meets 2pm; 27th & Broadway; 409-744-3200.
- AALGA meeting; 864-2242.
- Volleyball for the Fun of It; Leisure Learning Center; 877-1981; Class #8200.
- Basic Massage Techniques; Leisure Learning Center; 877-1981; Class #5511.

Monday, Mar. 17

- Menopause (Foods & Herbs); Leisure Learning Center; 877-1981; Class #3529.
- Gay Fathers/ Fathers First support group. 8pm. 861-6181.
- Calendar/Computer workshop for Pride Week. 7pm. 529-1223.
- Outpatient Group Treatment at Montrose Counseling Center. 6pm. 529-0037.
- Men Survivors of Sexual Abuse Group at Montrose Counseling Center. 6:15pm. 529-0037.
- Frost Eye Clinic: Free eye exams for HIV+ people. 520-2000.
- AIDS Caregiver's Support Group meets at 6pm. 732-4300.
- AVES sponsored free HIV testing from 10am to 5pm at 4125 SW Freeway, Ste 1717.
- HeartSong meets. 541-3495.
- Miss Camp America Meets. 520-STAR.
- Houston Area Women's Center's volunteer training. 535-6363.
- Texas Medical Center Lambda Group meets. 523-5539.
- Free HIV testing by the Montrose Clinic; Brazos River Bottom 4 to 8pm.

Tuesday, Mar. 18

- Tool Time; Leisure Learning Center; 877-1981; Class #1101.
- Sex, Toys and Video Tapes workshop by AIDS Foundation Houston 7-9pm 623-6796.
- Helping Cross Dressers Anonymous meets at 239 Westheimer. 8pm. 495-8009.
- Basic Computer Skills Class at the Kolbe Project. 522-8182.
- Gay Men HIV+ Psychotherapy at Montrose Counseling Center. 4:30pm. 529-0037.

- Youth-Rap at 6:30pm. 822-8511.
- Aftercare Group Treatment at Montrose Counseling Center. 6pm. 529-0037.
- AIDS Alliance of the Bay Area meets at 7pm. 488-4492.
- Empowerment for Living meets for pot luck. 861-9149.
- PROTECT: an HIV negative support group meets at 7pm. 520-7870.
- Free HIV testing by the Montrose Clinic; Club Body Center 8pm to Midnite.
- Women Survivors of Childhood Abuse at Montrose Counseling Center. 6:30pm. 529-0037.
- Survivors of Loss support group meets at 8:30pm. 778-2677.
- Live Jazz at Borders Book Shop. 782-6066.
- Free Spay and Neuter Assistance (SNAP) at Pt. Houston Elementary School. 522-2337.

Wednesday, Mar. 19

- Roundtable meets 7pm at Cafe Express; 779-8620.
- Learn Ayurvedic Medicine through April 2, 5:30-7:30pm. 718-5303.
- Free HIV testing by the Montrose Clinic; Mary's 4-8pm; Bricks II 8pm to Midnite.
- Frost Eye Clinic: Free eye exams to HIV+ people. 520-2000.
- Houston Pride Band practices at Dignity Houston. 524-0218.
- GLOBAL meets at 4pm. 743-7539.
- Women's Action Coalition meets at Tootpees at 7pm. 867-9581.
- Women's Network at Montrose Counseling Center. 7pm. 529-0037.
- Ongoing Mixed Living in Process Group for men and women. 622-7250.
- Aftercare Group Treatment at Montrose Counseling Center. 6pm. 529-0037.
- HIV Survivor Support Group meets at 7pm. 782-4050.
- Women's Clinic at the Montrose Clinic. 5 to 8pm. Call 520-2000.
- BiNet of Houston meets at 7pm. 861-9149.
- AVES offers free HIV testing from 10am to 5pm at 4125 SW Freeway, Suite 1717.
- Cancer Dialogue Support Group meets at noon at Park Plaza Hospital. 1/800-611-CARE.
- Free Spay and Neuter Assistance (SNAP) at S.H.A.P.E. Community Service. 522-2337.
- Beginning Mah Jongg; Leisure Learning Center; 877-1981; Class #8610.
- Stress Relief through Mantra Meditation; Leisure Learning Center; 877-1981; Class #5865.
- Basic Self-Hypnosis; Leisure Learning Center; 877-1981; Class #5820.

- Healthy Mexican Cooking; Leisure Learning Center; 877-1981; Class #3521.
- Compassionate Confrontation; Leisure Learning Center; 877-1981; Class #5219.
- The Gay, Lesbian & Straight Teachers Network meets 7:30pm; 5200 Fannin; 529-4571.

Thursday, Mar. 20

- Art Labs at The Art League at 1pm. 225-9411.
- Gay Men's Chorus of Houston open rehearsal at 7pm. 521-7464.
- Twentysomething meets at 7:30pm. 315-6786.
- KPFT Lesbian and Gay Voices airs from 8 to 10pm. 866-6505.
- Ongoing gay men's Living in Process Group. 622-7250.
- Open Mike Night at Cafe Artiste. 1601 W. Main. 8pm. 528-3704.
- HIV+ Men Psychotherapy at Montrose Counseling Center. 1:15pm. 529-0037.
- Relapse Prevention at Montrose Counseling Center. 2pm. 529-0037.
- Outpatient Group Treatment at Montrose Counseling Center. 6pm. 529-0037.
- Aftercare Group Treatment at Montrose Counseling Center. 6pm. 529-0037.
- Women's Therapy Group at Montrose Counseling Center; 5:30pm. 529-0037.
- Meditation and Chanting Group meets at 7pm. 942-0923.
- HIV Affected at CASA. 7pm. 796-2272.
- HIV Survivor Support Group meets at 2929 Unity Drive. 7pm. 782-4050
- Women's Social Group meets at 7:30pm. 822-8511.
- Center for the Healing of Racism. 7:30pm. 738-RACE.
- Gay Men's Chorus of Houston meets at 7pm. 521-SING.
- The Center for AIDS forum meets. 527-8219.
- Free Spay/Neuter Assistance Program (SNAP) at Wesley Community Center. 522-2337.
- Houston Pride Band practices at Dignity Houston. 524-0218.
- Great French Literature; Leisure Learning Center; 877-1981 Class #4040.
- Juice Fasting; Leisure Learning Center; 877-1981 Class #3518.
- Cooking Chinese; Leisure Learning Center; 877-1981 Class #3446.
- High Altitude Mountaineering; Leisure Learning Center; 877-1981; Class #0810.
- Successful Car Buying; Leisure Learning Center; 877-1981; Class #9700.
- Free HIV Testing by Montrose Clinic; VentureN 4-8pm; Rich's 10pm-2am.
- NOW Meeting 6:30-9pm; 665-8NOW.

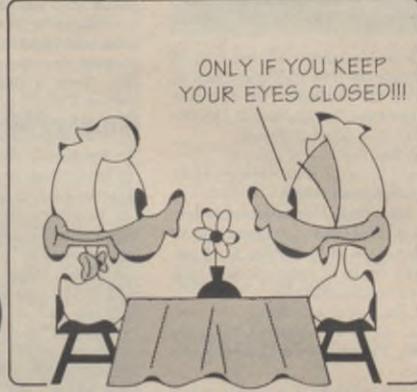
such is LIFE!



I HAD THAT ONCE... IT TASTED ALOT LIKE CHICKEN!!!



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CLASSIFIEDS

To advertise in the Houston Voice Classifieds call (713)529-8490 or (800)729-8490 if not in Houston. Our office hours are 9:00 am-5:30 pm Monday through Friday. All major credit cards and personal checks accepted.

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Southwest Houston. 1-1 condo. Gated entry, fireplace, vaulted ceilings, W/D connections. Great shape. \$375/month. 713-802-0671.

Westbury Square Townhomes, 11550 Chimney Rock @ West Bellfort, Two bedroom, 1 1/2 bath townhouse condominium, approximately 1280 s/f, w/d included! \$725 includes most utilities. Free Cable TV & Showtime & door to door trash collection. \$725 deposit. Pets on case basis w/ deposit. A 2 1/2 bath unit is also available, approximately 1440 s/f, \$800/month. REALTOR 713-729-7077.

Westbury Square Townhomes, one bedroom condominium (1 up & 1 down), approximately 810 s/f, large bedroom with 2 walk-in closets, huge kitchen, and more. Beautiful and quiet property. \$525/month. Deposit: \$250. Pets on case basis. REALTOR 713-729-7077.

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Montrose New Orleans Style Living. 2-2 1/2 Townhome in small complex. Undercover parking, pool, secure courtyard, central a/h. Washer & Dryer connections. \$850/month. call 526-2450.

Montrose, 2 bedroom, 2 1/2 bath townhouse. Water, gas, and electric free. \$890. First month only \$700. 522-8021.

2/1 duplex, central air/heat, hardwood floors, fenced yard, pool, no children or large dogs. \$700/month. \$350 deposit. 667-5718.

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Cedar Village (4450 Sherwood Lane). \$525/month, reserved parking, small complex, New Orleans-style, 2/1, includes all appliances. Agent (281)444-7176.

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For Sale

Westbury Gardens townhouse condo for sale \$27,500. Elegantly refurbished with new oak kitchen cabinets, faux marble countertops, new sink, stove, refrigerator, dishwasher. Flooring is ceramic tile, parquet, and Berber carpet. Master has sliding mirrored closet doors. Master bath with Chippendale mahogany vanity, procelain sinks with brass taps. Powder room has demi-lune mahogany vanity. Built-in bookshelves in master and living areas. Recessed lighting. Two bedrooms.

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Westbury Square Townhomes, 11550 Chimney Rock @ West Bellfort. Two bedroom, 1 1/2 townhouse condominium, approximately 1280 s/f, all appliances included, new paint, carpet, and vinyl. Ready to move in! New Loan Required. \$39,500. REALTOR 713-729-7077.

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Domestic Part-time in Montrose, person to clean and tidy up home and small business. Someone who can work alone and get the job done. Laundry, bathrooms, yard, vehicles, also work from a list and willing to do most any cleaning job. Hours 10 - 2 Tuesday - Friday. Call for interview: 528-2302 - Dennis.

Real Estate Research Assistant needed for Montrose office. Must have PC experience and own transportation. Call Rick at 520-8888 ext. 233 for personal interview.

Gentry is seeking a door/parking lot monitor for Wed/Fri/Sat/Sun. Please apply at 2303 Richmond between 2pm & 6pm. No phone calls please.

Rich's is now taking applications. If you are a fun, energetic, creative individual, apply in person at Rich's - 2401 San Jacinto. (Just south of downtown). Fridays, 2-4pm.

Waiters And Waitresses WANTED

If you have a smiling face and are willing to learn, apply after 10am and ask for Nick. We want friendly cooperative waitpersons to serve our valued customers. We are never closed - so your choice of shift is usually available. **Charlie's** - 1100 Westheimer.

Accepting applications for experienced bartenders. Apply Tuesday through Thursday 9am-3pm. Please bring photo. **Mary's Lounge.** 1022 Westheimer.

HOUSTON'S #1 LEVI-LEATHER CRUISE BAR - THE MONTROSE MINING COMPANY is accepting applications for honest, hard-working team players to work as bartenders, barbacks and doorstaff. Apply Mondays 12-2 p.m. with a recent photo. No phone calls. **MONTROSE MINING COMPANY, 805 Pacific, Houston.**

If you have never worked in a bar and can learn to do everything from mop floors to sling a Singapore sling, **CHANCES** might take a chance on you. Drop off an application with a photo to Chances, 1100 Westheimer. No phone calls please.

The CLUB HOUSTON now accepting applications for all positions. **Apply in person. Mon.-Thurs., 10am - 2pm 2205 Fannin**

Seeking energetic, honest, dependable, and hard working individuals who want the opportunity to grow with a service oriented company. Positions available include floor/desk staff and male dancers. Apply in person only. No phone calls. **MIDTOWNE SPA,** 3100 Fannin.

The **BRB** is accepting applications for all positions. Apply between 9am-4pm at 2400 Brazos. Photo required. No phone calls.

Counter/cashier help wanted. Chinese food experience helpful. See Fai or Peter at **Ming's Cafe,** 2703 Montrose @ Westheimer. (713)529-7888.

Gentry is interviewing for a Monday through Friday afternoon Bartender. Previous bartending experience is required. Please apply between 2pm and 6pm at 2303 Richmond. A recent photo is required. No phone calls please.

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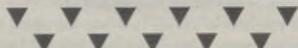
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this category of any such ads which might
suggest solicitation. The Houston Voice will
not knowingly accept any ads of this type.



The Great American Puzzle

TEXAS EDITION

By Henry McClurg

ACROSS

- 1 a Slavic-speaking person
- 4 sheep sound
- 6 sins
- 8 airport designator for Dallas' Love Field
- 9 poems expressing grief
- 12 Spanish-speaking man

13 White House bedroom used by guests

20 thing in the middle of tennis court

21 shaped dough

22 prince in the Middle East, alt. spelling

24 positioned

25 TWIXT in a mirror

26 MTV in a mirror

27 Bay State, abbr.

28 U.S. Navy station near Corpus Christi

33 meadow

35 space man Shepard

37 5th & 3rd vowels of the alphabet

38 2nd & 4th vowels of the alphabet

39 foreign substance in your body that causes you to create antibodies

42 Texas most oil-producing county, home of Longview

43 home of Blue Bell ice cream

46 noun suffix for 'one that is associated with'

47 short for the jackdaw bird

48 fried clay

50 Pogo cartoon creator Kelly, initials ("We have met the enemy and he is us.")

51 strangeness

53 sheep & monkeys; humans next?

55 river that forms much of Texas' border with Louisiana

57 '... hee hee,' a laugh

59 WWII American General Patton, initials

60 Dallas newspaper said Timothy McVeigh did this

65 tropical grassland

66 Baptist abbr.

68 SI upside down

69 person with messy hairdo

72 another spelling of the given name Neil

73 self-esteem

DOWN

1 people who live in Stockholm

2 Taylor County seat, song by George Hamilton IV

3 valley abbr.

5 in a state of activity

7 Jack, Houston native, president of Motion Pictures Assn. of America

10 gained; won

11 short for coleslaw

14 tropical American fiber used to make bags & rugs

15 Canada's

16 South American rodent

17 Mirabeau Buonaparte, a president of the Republic of Texas

18 state that is 'Land of Enchantment,' abbr.

19 quarrels

21 mild red sweet garden pepper

23 making a representation of

24 because

28 3rd & 5th vowels of the alphabet

29 pen point

30 onion-like herbs

31 indefinitely long time

32 legendary figure who pledged his life for friend Pythias

34 stops

36 consort of Zeus in Greek mythology

44 sounds like 'are double you'

45 ...nob, to associate on friendly terms

49 extra-sensory perception

52 First State, abbr.

54 legal

claims against another's property

56 type of electric current, abbr.

58 half of the first name of one of the Gabor sisters

60 taxi

61 George Burns' radio competitor Allen (it's not Gracie), initials

62 defying urges to boycott the film, Argentines packed their theaters

63 cut off by bits

64 20th century American public official Acheson, initials

67 Land of Opportunity state, abbr.

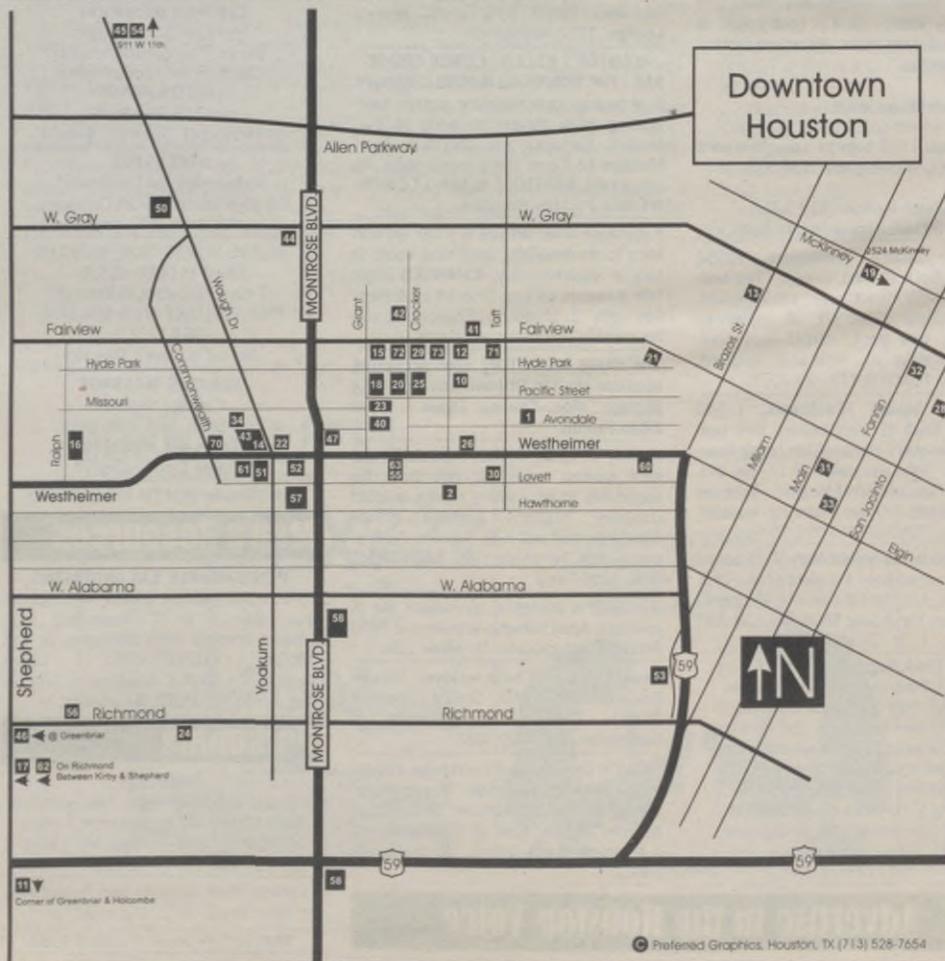
70 unit of a chromosome that carries heredity

71 heavily spiced stew

Solution elsewhere this issue

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COMMUNITY DIRECTORY



Accommodations		
1 Montrose Inn	408 Avondale	520-0206
2 The Lovett Inn	501 Lovett Blvd.	522-5224
Bars/Clubs		
10 611 Hyde Park	611 Hyde Park	526-7070
11 BriarPatch	2294 Holcombe	665-9678
12 Bricks II	617 Fairview	528-8102
13 Brazos River Bottom	2400 Brazos St	528-9192
14 Chances	1100 Westheimer	523-7217
15 Cousins	817 Fairview	528-9204
16 EJ's	2517 Ralph	527-9071
17 Gentry	2303 Richmond	520-1861
18 Heaven	812 Pacific	521-9123
19 Incognito	2524 McKinney	237-9431
20 JR's	808 Pacific	521-2519
21 Lazy J	312 Tuam	528-9343
22 Mary's	1022 Westheimer	527-9669
23 M Mining Co	805 Pacific	529-7488
24 Outpost	1419 Richmond	520-8446
25 Pacific Street	710 Pacific	523-0213
26 QT's	534 Westheimer	529-8813
28 Rich's	2401 San Jacinto	759-9606
29 Ripcord	715 Fairview	521-2792
30 Steam	402 Lovett	521-1450
31 Venture-N	2923 Main	522-0000
32 The Club Houston	2205 Fannin	659-4998
33 Midtown Spa	3100 Fannin	522-2379
34 The New Barn	1100 Westheimer	521-9533
Restaurants		
40 Baba Yega Rest.	2607 Grant	522-0042
41 Barnaby's Cafe	604 Fairview	522-0106
42 Boudreaux Rest.	2313 Crocker	526-0790
43 Charles Coffee Shop	1100 Westheimer	522-3332
44 Christy Donuts	1103 W. Gray	524-4005
45 Java Java Cafe	911 W. 11th	862-2683
46 The Lodge	2181 Richmond	522-7737
47 Ming's Cafe	2703 Montrose	529-7888
Other Businesses		
50 Cineplex-Odeon	1450 W. Gray	524-8781
51 Crossroads Market	1111 Westheimer	942-0147
52 Eckards Drug Store	1007 Westheimer	524-9229
53 Fitness Exchange	4040 Milam	524-9932
54 Heights Above Florist	911 W. 11th	862-2683
55 Houston Voice	811 Westheimer	529-8490
56 Inklings Bookstore	1846 Richmond	521-3369
57 Kroger Grocery	3300 Montrose	526-7865
58 Lobo Books & Video	3939-S Montrose	522-5156
59 Main St. Theatre	4617 Montrose	524-6706
60 Montrose Clinic	215 Westheimer	520-2000
61 Four Star Hair Prod.	1201 Westheimer	524-7785
62 CreADive Unlimited	2219 Richmond	526-5190
63 Preferred Graphics	811 Westheimer	528-7654
Clothing Stores		
70 Basic Brothers	1232 Westheimer	522-1626
71 Jewel's Boutique	2404 Taft	523-3557
72 Leather by Boots	807 Fairview	526-2668
73 Leather Forever	711 Fairview	526-6940

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Setting The Record Straight
 by Carolyn Roberts

Ray Walter Davis, 29, a long time Montrosean and employee at the Venture-N was found dead in his place of residence on Saturday, March 8 at approximately 10:00 pm.

Ray was at the Venture-N on Friday night for his shift. He was his usual jovial, customer-biting, and clowning around self. He left the bar around 4:00 am. That was the last time he was seen alive.

At press time, the medical examiner had not released information about the cause of death, but hinted that it would most likely be an "Accidental Suicide." Speaking with friends that found the body, and knew Ray well have deduced the following scenario. Apparently, sometime during the early morning hours, he locked his bedroom door and started a self-bondage scene. During this time, a rope slipped. It constricted his windpipe. He fell from a standing position onto his bed. He was found with a peaceful expression on his face.

There was no sign of a struggle or forced entry.

A celebration of life will be held at the Venture-N on Saturday, March 15, 1997, from 6:00 to 9:00 pm. There will be a purple (Ray's favorite color) balloon release. People are encouraged to bring their own favorite color balloon to join with Ray's. In lieu of flowers, please make donations in Ray's name to his favorite charity, the Colt 45s. An obituary will be in a later issue of the Houston Voice and will include funeral information.

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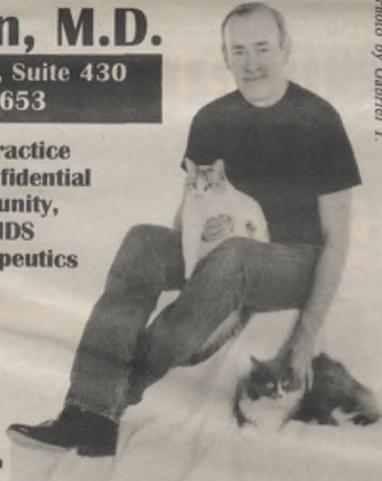


Photo by Gabriel T.

On Your Next Visit to Houston...

What you get at the motel on the highway & what you get at the Montrose Inn

Motel: Heterosexuals with kids fighting next door.
 Montrose Inn: Gay men next door. Nothing but gay men.

Motel: Several miles to the gay bars.
 Montrose Inn: 5 tiny blocks to the gay bars.

Motel: Drive to the gay bars & pay \$5 to park. Or take a \$15 cab.
 Montrose Inn: Walk to the gay bars. Or take a \$3 cab.

Motel: Drive back from the gay bars and risk the cops making you walk the straight line. Or take a \$15 cab.
 Montrose Inn: Walk back from the gay bars. Or take a \$3 cab.

Motel: Pay \$39 to \$95 a night for a room.
 Montrose Inn: Pay \$41 to \$79 a night for a room.

Motel: Eat in their restaurant. Food for the masses. Pay plenty. \$1 soft drink machine.
 Montrose Inn: Complimentary late night sandwiches & full breakfast the next day. Free soft drinks, juices, coffee 24 hours.

Motel: Cruise the parking lot and get threatened.
 Montrose Inn: Cruise the hallways. Please!

Motel: The receptionist sneers at you.
 Montrose Inn: The receptionist winks at you.

Motel: Washing machine? Ironing board? Hair dryer? Refrigerator? Stove? Microwave? VCR & gay movies? Are you kidding?
 Montrose Inn: All of the above. Free to use.

Motel: Full size bed, everything else is plastic.
 Montrose Inn: Queen size bed, hardwood floors, hardly any plastic.

Motel: Maid knocking 8 a.m., you moan but she's coming in anyway. Checkout 11 a.m.
 Montrose Inn: Handsome man next door knocking 11 a.m. to join him for breakfast. Checkout 1 p.m.

Reservations requested. 1-800-357-1228. The house at 408 Avondale.

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#70004

Women SEEKING Women

SFW 24, 175 lbs., butch. I'm intelligent. I enjoy horseback riding, poetry, playing softball & karate. I'm an all-around nice person & I get along with everyone. Looking for a feminine woman who wants to be friends or go further. Call Ext. 5385

SFW Red hair, green eyes, 20. Looking for someone, 21-25, who is White or biracial. If you are interested, give me a call. Call Ext. 5279

SBF 136 lbs., 5'2", light-complexioned. Looking for a single Black or White female to enjoy telephone conversations with & get to know a little better. If you are interested, leave me a message. Call Ext. 5321

SBF 5'5", height/weight proportionate, beautiful brown eyes, 47, but I look 37. I'm very feminine. Seeking soft butch who is very honest & sincere. Seeking someone who is willing to treat me like a lady. Call Ext. 5312

SWF 18, 125 lbs., bisexual. I'm considered very attractive. I would like to meet an older, dominant lesbian or bisexual female to become friends with or much more. I have blonde hair & blue eyes. I'm very oral. Looking to meet someone soon. Call Ext. 5276

SBF 5'3", 135 lbs. I'm a dominant female. Give me a call if you are interested. Call Ext. 5370

SF 20, college student. If interested, leave a message. Call Ext. 5277

SWE 5'2". I have money & I live in a nice apartment complex. Enjoy staying home & cooking. Looking for someone for a relationship. Call Ext. 5305

SF 23. I'm a mother who enjoys romantic walks on the beach & romantic dinners. Looking for a professional butch who is caring & sharing. She should be 32 or older. I'm looking forward to your call. Call Ext. 5298

SF 18, bisexual. Looking for other bisexual women to dominate & abuse me sexually. If you are interested, leave me a message. Call Ext. 5286

SWF 42. I'm a soft butch captain looking for a single White female first mate who is feminine. Seeking someone who is interested in boating & hanging out at marinas. Call Ext. 5348

SWF 38, 5'2", 115 lbs. Looking for a single White female. I'm in good shape & very athletic, with a college degree. Looking for a long-term relationship. If you are interested, give me a call. Call Ext. 5339

SF 23, 5'2", blonde hair, blue eyes. I'm a GQ boy. Looking for an older woman to take care of me. Call Ext. 5284

Your ad could be here.
Just call and place your **FREE** ad today!



Men SEEKING Men

SWM 35, 5'6", 145 lbs. Seeking a top man who is in control & is demanding. Someone who wants to train me. I have no diseases & seeking the same. I'm petite, with a very girlish bottom. I like wearing girly panties. Looking for a dominant man. Call Ext. 5384

SWM 170 lbs. Looking for tall, slender Black or Hispanic males who are HIV- & very versatile. If you are interested, leave a message. Call Ext. 5340

SWM 5'10", 165 lbs., brown hair, green eyes, well-hung. Looking for a White or Hispanic male who likes to give blow jobs. Leave me a message. Call Ext. 5332

SWM 35, 5'10", 150 lbs., dark hair, mustache, hazel eyes, glasses. I live in Louisiana, but I visit Houston once a month to visit family. I'm looking for guys who want to go out & have some fun. Also looking for sex partners. I'm very active & in good shape. I get to the gym 3-4 times a week. I enjoy the outdoors, camping, canoeing, hiking, water skiing & horseback riding. I like to try new adventures. Call Ext. 5300

SWM 39, 6'1", 160 lbs., green eyes, mustache, goatee. Looking for Hispanics who are 18-30. Give me a call. Call Ext. 5297

SHM 35, HIV+, 5'11", 195 lbs., black hair, brown eyes. Looking for a down-to-earth, good-looking, muscular, straight-acting gay White male who is also HIV+ & 35-40. He should be 5'9"-6' and height/weight proportionate. Looking for a non-smoker & someone who doesn't mind being a bottom. Looking for friendship & possibly more. Call Ext. 5345

SM I love to suck cock. Looking for a couple of hot, horny, young, good-looking guys who can be bisexual, straight or gay. Anyone who likes to get his cock sucked. I'm looking forward to meeting you as soon as I can. Call Ext. 5082

SHM 32, 5'7", 135 lbs., hairy legs, smooth chest. Looking for a gay White or Hispanic male who is preferably a little older than me. I'm looking for something serious. I don't want any games. I'm very open & liberal-minded and I expect to meet someone similar. Call Ext. 5325

SM I'm a cross dresser & I would like to meet other cross dressers. I enjoy get-togethers & going out. Leave a message. Call Ext. 5377

SM 5'11", 172 lbs., black hair, blue eyes. Seeking a man who is the same type, but taller. Preferably a White male of any age. Call Ext. 5363

SWM 34, 6'2", 160 lbs., HIV+, straight-acting, attractive, healthy & fit. I like laughter, music, boxer shorts, romance & building new bridges. Looking for the same in someone else. You are a White male, 30-45, with a positive mind. You should be height/weight proportionate. No games. Call Ext. 5354

SBM 28, 6'4", 215 lbs., good-looking. Looking for a real sexy Black or White cross dresser. Give me a call. Call Ext. 5322

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SWM 33, brown hair, brown eyes. I'm an HIV+ husky bear looking for well-hung, slender-but top men, 30-40, of any race. Looking for someone who enjoys quiet evenings at home. Call Ext. 5369

SM 37, 5'9", 190 lbs. Seeking masculine gay or bi White or Hispanic or Black guys, 20-45, for hot, safe fun. Must be height/weight proportionate. Being tall is a plus, but not a requirement. Call Ext. 5342

SWM Bisexual. I'm a cross dressing transvestite. I'm 5'10" & 160 lbs. Late 30's. Wanting to meet other transgenders. Call Ext. 5337

SWM 46, 6', 210 lbs., dark blonde hair. Searching for that special person. A White or Hispanic male, 30-50, who is sincere. Seeking a friendship or a relationship. I like doing simple things that people can do together. Call Ext. 5281

SM 32, 5'8", 145 lbs., brown hair, hazel eyes, mustache, average-looking. I just moved here from Florida & I'm looking for friendship. Into Asian, Caucasians or Hispanics. Enjoy sports, the outdoors, the beach, amusement parks & more. Also into erotic wrestling. Interested in guys who are 25-35. Call Ext. 5296

SM 45, HIV+, 5'11", 170 lbs., healthy. Enjoy quiet evenings at home, music, cuddling, holding & kissing. Looking for someone, 35-50, who has similar interests. Should be height/weight proportionate. Honesty is the best policy. Call Ext. 5334

SWM 45, 6'1", 150 lbs., brown hair, blue eyes. In search of older men, 30-55, who are in good shape both mentally & physically. I prefer distinguished gentlemen with a variety of cultures & eclectic tastes. Call Ext. 5340

SM Do you like lingerie, wigs & makeup? Panty & pajama parties? Are you seeking an understanding, big brother type to discreetly share your sassy side with? I'm a brown-haired, blue-eyed male in excellent shape. Let the fun begin. Call Ext. 5355

SM Interested in meeting a single Black male, 6', 33, slender, positive. Call Ext. 5375

SM Very attractive, smooth. Beefy bottom boy seeks well-endowed big daddy for mutually gratifying encounters. If you are interested, leave a message. Call Ext. 5190

SM 33, 5'9", brownish-blond hair, brown eyes, dark-complexioned. I'm a college student & a part-time teacher. I'm HIV+ & real cute. I like to have a lot of fun & I'm always entertaining. I like to laugh & I'm always positive. Looking for someone I can madly love & share my life with. Call Ext. 5373

SM 5'8", 160 lbs., medium-length dark brown hair, smooth complexion. I would like to meet a masculine, aggressive guy who enjoys being a top. I'm HIV+, but very healthy. Call Ext. 5123

SWM Early 30's, 5'8", 145 lbs., brown hair, hazel eyes, average-looking. Looking for friendship & possibly more. Into sports, dancing, partying, the beach, amusement parks & clubbing. I have a variety of interests, including erotic wrestling. Looking for people who are 25-35. Call Ext. 5308

SM Tall, slim, sissy. I love to wear feminine clothes & have the appearance of a very effeminate male. I love to do girly things, such as make-up, shopping, pajama parties & having fun. Seeking another sissy with similar interests so we can be girlfriends & priss around together. Call Ext. 5287

SWM Safe, sane. Looking for other guys into body punching. All limits respected. Call for details. Call Ext. 5292

SWM 20, brown hair, hazel eyes, 5'9". Looking for someone, 30-50, who likes going out & having fun. Must get along well with others. Call Ext. 5315



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SM Looking for a good time & hot dick. Give me a call. Call Ext. 5289

SM 30. I want to get to know a person & start off as friends. Leave a message & I will call you. Call Ext. 5372

SWM I'm a cross dresser & a Cher look-alike. I have been told I'm attractive & I like to wear feminine things. I like to priss around & act like a woman. I'm available to travel. I would like to meet guys, 18-30, with smooth bodies. Call Ext. 5374

SWM 31, 5'9", 160 lbs. Looking for a top man who is well-endowed. Should be 30-40. I like to go out for an occasional drink & I also enjoy spending time at home. Give me a call if this is you. Call Ext. 5365

SM Leave a message if you are interested. Call Ext. 5364

SM Handsome, sexy, HIV+, late 30's. I would like to meet a man in his late 30's or 40's who is attractive, masculine. Seeking someone who enjoys being a top. I prefer large men who have body & facial hair. Call Ext. 5271

SWM 46, 6', 160 lbs., handsome. I enjoy working out, movies, the theater & reading. Would like to meet a 35+-year-old, handsome, in shape, healthy, non-smoking, HIV- man. Call Ext. 5362

SM Handsome, smooth, muscular, beefy, 37, 5'8", 170 lbs. I'm a healthy HIV+ man & a bottom. I like traveling, working out, cars, landscaping & most gay things. I would like to meet a rugged, good-looking top, 35-50, with similar interests who is relationship-oriented. Call Ext. 5201

SWM HIV-, 40's, tall, slender, in good shape. I'm funny, sexy & hairy. Looking for versatile men, 5'10"-6'2", who are 135-170 lbs. Should be 25-35. Looking for a man who wants to bring out the top in me. I have been a bit shy about it, but not any longer. Call Ext. 5366

SHM 32, 5'8", medium-built, bottom. I would like to meet a top male who is 40-50. Facial hair is a must & a hairy chest is a plus. I would prefer a taller man. If you are interested, give me a call. Call Ext. 5361

Looking for hot action. A couple in uniforms are ready to fill your fantasies. We are height/weight proportionate looking for the same. Call Ext. 5357

SM 44, Indian/Italian descent. I'm very clean-cut, with a hairy chest. I like listening to music, watching movies & having fun. I love kissing, cuddling & holding. I would like to meet a White or Hispanic male who is 35-45. Give me a call. Call Ext. 5301

SHM 5'9", 165 lbs. Looking for another gay Hispanic male. Non-smoking, but drinking is okay. No games. I would like to go out & have a good time. Call Ext. 5295

SM Stocky, furry bear. I'm 47, 5'7" & 200 lbs., with brown hair & brown eyes. I'm hairy all over, attractive & easygoing. I'm a romantic top & HIV-. I like entertaining & being a homebody. Looking for that special someone for friendship & a possible long-term relationship. Call Ext. 5328

SWM Young-acting, young-looking, 40, 5'10", 160 lbs., light brown hair, brown eyes. I have very hairy legs, but I don't have fur going down my back. I'm average-built & well-proportioned. I'm also well-endowed. Looking for a bottom, 25-45, of any race. Swimmer's build is a plus. I hope to turn something into a long-term relationship. I enjoy dining out, eating in, movies & staring at the stars. I'm a smoker & an occasional drinker. Call Ext. 5333

Two men looking to play. A top & a bottom want a third for hot, sweaty sessions. We are height/weight proportionate. Call Ext. 5356

GWM 6', 165 lbs., light brown hair, hazel eyes. I'm HIV+. I'm handsome, professional, secure & open-minded. I enjoy working out, movies, dining out, evenings at home & some travel. Looking for companionship & possibly more. Seeking a gay Hispanic male, 25-40, who is height/weight proportionate. I prefer a top who is financially & emotionally secure. I like smokers & drinkers are okay. I look forward to hearing from you. Call Ext. 5353

GIVE US FEEDBACK!

We'd like to hear from you with comments, personal testimonials. How are the personals working for you? Any true testimonials will be printed right here! Write to: BureauCom Corporation
ATTN: SHERI
921 14th Ave.,
Longview, WA 98632

SWM 40, bi, open-minded. Like to get together with someone some time. Call Ext. 5352

GWM 47, 6'1", 220 lbs., brown hair, green eyes, professional. I love to dance & I love being affectionate. I love holding, cuddling & kissing. Looking for shorter men with similar characteristics, primarily for friendship and whatever else may or may not develop. Sincerity is a must. Call Ext. 5350

GWM 33, 6'1", 240 lbs., brown hair, brown eyes. I'm hairy, soft cuddly bear-type. I'm HIV+ & very healthy. Seeking gay Black males who are non-smokers. I enjoy movies, quiet evenings at home, cooking & dining out. If you are interested in talking to me further, leave a message. Call Ext. 5347

SWM 29, 6'8", slender, height/weight proportionate. Looking for a butch top man who knows how to satisfy a bottom. I will answer all replies. Hope to hear from you soon. Call Ext. 5331

SWM 5'7", 140 lbs. I enjoy having a good time with other single men. I'm a well-endowed top who is looking to meet some bottoms. Enjoy playing bottom men. I enjoy camping, working out & sports. If you are interested in getting together & exploring the possibilities, leave me a message. Call Ext. 5324

SHM Black hair, brown eyes, 34, 5'7", 142 lbs. I'm considered attractive & I work out regularly. Looking for a White male who prefers to be a top man. I want him to have facial hair & be masculine. I like to be positive & healthy. Looking for fun, friendship & maybe a little more. Call Ext. 5319

SWM 35, 5'6", 160 lbs., clean & discreet. I am very aggressive & demanding. Looking for a submissive, older White male for a possible long-term relationship. Let's fulfill both of our fantasies. Call Ext. 5282

SHM 42, HIV+, healthy. I enjoy life & quiet evenings at home. Looking for friendship & possibly more. Call Ext. 5273

SM 5'9", brown hair, brown eyes, goatee, 160 lbs., 6'1/2". I like to be a bottom. Seeking a top man up to the age of 39. I like to be tied up. I like water sports & anything that turns you or me on. I love a lot of leather. Call Ext. 5316

SWM 34, HIV+. I'm doing pretty well & I'm still going strong. I enjoy tennis, swimming, water polo & all kinds of activities. I have been in a relationship in over 3 years. Call Ext. 5313

SWM 49, young. I enjoy doing a lot of things. I'm very independent & I own my own home. I have a good job & a travel trailer. I enjoy camping. Call Ext. 5307

SM All I want is a handsome, gay White boyfriend. I'm a masculine, gay White male, 38, with strawberry-blond hair. I'm 175 lbs. & 6'. I'm HIV+ & a symptomatic. Call Ext. 5303

SHM 34, handsome. Searching for that special guy for companionship. I am HIV+. Willing to know you & share with you. Let's be good friends. It will lead us to a very special relationship of love & respect. Race is not important. Prefer someone masculine-looking & acting. Prefer a top, 26-46, who is discreet. Will respond. Call Ext. 5294

SWM Certified sailing skipper looking for a sailing captain. I'm 6' & 220 lbs. I have a tight end, football player's build, with straw-berry-blond hair & green eyes. I have a hairy body. I'm very masculine, drug free & disease-free. Looking for guys who have similar qualities or those who may be attracted to my qualities. Call Ext. 5149

SM 5'10", 200 lbs., 8". I love sex, drugs & having a good time. Give me a call. Call Ext. 5283

HOW TO USE THIS SYSTEM - Dear Reader: Enjoy reading all the ads in the category of your choice, highlighting the ones you'd like to respond to. Then just call 1-900-772-3085 (\$1.69/min. *) and follow the instructions. Ads are kept 8 weeks, replies kept 7 days and then erased. If you need help using the system, call Customer Service at 1-360-636-9267. What you see here is only a small portion of the ads currently on our Voice Personals system, so you might wish to call and browse through the newest ads. To record your own FREE voice personal, call 1-800-461-5930. You'll automatically be assigned a voice box number. Remember, we screen our ads daily, but we are not responsible for the advertisers. We urge you to screen people yourself. Talk by phone, and meet first in a public place. Publisher reserves the right to review, revise or refuse any ads. Must be 18 or older to use this system. Touchtone phone required. *Average length of call is 3 minutes, total cost determined by caller. Have fun and good luck! (Houston Voice, Houston, TX)

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SMOKED KAMELS.

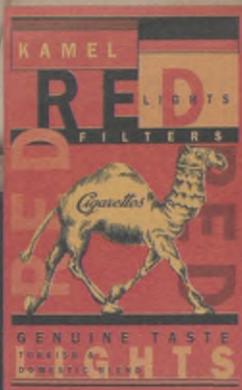


EST.
1913

BACK FOR NO GOOD REASON

EXCEPT THEY TASTE GOOD

SURGEON GENERAL'S WARNING: Smoking
By Pregnant Women May Result in Fetal
Injury, Premature Birth, And Low Birth Weight.



RED KAMEL ORIGINALS: 17 mg. "tar", 1.3 mg. nicotine av. per cigarette by FTC method.
RED KAMEL LIGHTS: 10 mg. "tar", 0.8 mg. nicotine av. per cigarette by FTC method.