



Lois Griffing works wizardry behind the scenes of a lavish stage production and believes she's doing her small part for lesbian rights... Interview, Page 11

## Lesbian-Gay Pride Week 1996 elects co-chairs, officers

### PCOH Gears Up For Parade Debate

The Pride Committee of Houston named new co-chairs and officers for Houston Lesbian/Gay Pride Week 1996 on Tuesday, launching what community observers expect to be a particularly interesting and eventful planning cycle for the city's 16th annual observance.

Elected as co-chairs for L/GPW '96 were Terry Vega, who served as on the executive committee as parade chair for Gay/Lesbian Pride Week '95, and Howard McHale, previously involved with various local gay and lesbian broadcasting/media collectives. Dean Walradt was elected secretary and Darren Armstrong as treasurer. Armstrong is the only officer returning in the same position he held in '95.

Julie Siska, who has served as a Pride Week co-chair for the past two years, was named executive director of PCOH. Other PCOH board members for 1996 are Jack Valinski, Brian Keever, Scott Lewis and Darren Armstrong.

As planning opens for next year's celebration, the committee is gearing up for what could be an intense debate over a proposal to change a central element: the scheduling of the Houston Lesbian/Gay Pride Parade.

Lesbian/Gay Pride Week (the words "lesbian" and "gay" alternate in title placement each year) has been celebrated in June since 1979, when Houston joined numerous other cities in commemorating the 1969 Stonewall riots of New York with an annual parade.

(Continued on Page 5)

## Actor Bryan Batt follows 'Jeffrey' to screen

### 'I'm Just Happy To Be Working'

By JON ANTHONY  
For the Houston Voice

Bryan Batt's poignant and inspiring portrayal of Darius in the new movie version of "Jeffrey" has earned critical praise as one of the better aspects of the film. "Jeffrey" is based on Paul Rudnick's ("Addam's Family Values") Off-Broadway play of the same moniker.

The movie stars Steven Weber (of NBC's "Wings") as Jeffrey and Michael T. Weiss as Steve, Jeffrey's new found perfect companion. Bryan Batt and Patrick Stewart, of Star Trek, The Next Generation fame, portray Darius and Sterling, respectively. Sterling is Jeffrey's best friend and Darius is Sterling's lover, who is dying of AIDS.

Batt's sensitive and charming performance as Darius was inspira-

tional and demonstrative of the theater background he has amassed. Bryan originated his role of Darius at the WPA Theatre in New York and subsequently recreated the part in the Los Angeles production. His recreation of Darius for the film version, marks Bryan's debut in feature films.

In a recent phone interview, Batt remarked how excited he was to see the initial box office receipts, which have been good.

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Among the guests at a gala benefit for AIDS Foundation Houston, hosted by the Alley Theatre with the Houston premiere of the film "Jeffrey," last Thursday were members of the cast from Stages' 1994 production of the Paul Rudnick play. From left: Kent Johnson, Joe Kirkendall, Connie Cooper, Randy Jobe and Paul Hope (Photo by David Goetz)

## Company agrees to pay \$65,000 to fired worker with AIDS

HOUSTON (AP)—A Houston firm has agreed to pay \$65,000 to a former employee with AIDS whom it fired after polling other company employees.

Gulf Grinding Co. also agreed to train its managerial and supervisory employees on employment discrimination laws, including the Americans with Disabilities Act, according to a consent decree signed by U.S. District Judge Lee Rosenthal.

The Equal Employment Opportunity Commission filed the lawsuit on behalf of the fired

worker, who agreed to the settlement.

The company did not admit to any violation of the Americans with Disabilities Act, according to the consent decree. Samuel Hooper, attorney for Gulf Grinding, said Wednesday the company agreed to settle the lawsuit to avoid a costly trial.

The employee, known in court documents as "John Doe," worked as a grinder until he notified his employer that he had AIDS. His supervisor then asked employees to vote on

whether he should be allowed to return to work.

Gulf Grinding violated Doe's right to privacy with the vote, said Mitchell Katine, the man's lawyer.

Of the 26 ballots passed out, 13 employees voted to fire Doe and the remaining either voted to keep him on or didn't state their preference, said Sharona Hoffman, the attorney in charge of the case at the Equal Employment Opportunities Commission.

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# Community Organizations Bulletin Board

## H.E.L.P. Housing

The River Oaks Health Association (ROHA), a 501(c)3 non-profit corporation, was recently awarded a HOPWA grant by the Houston City Council enabling the organization to open its Phase II housing facility.

ROHA began its 90-day phase one transitional living facility for homeless or near homeless HIV-positive men in Oct. 1994. It has served more than 40 clients. Now individuals needing assistance will have the opportunity to continue in Phase II for a period of six to nine months. In addition to housing, transportation, nutritional services, vocational assessment and training, rental assistance and counseling will be made available to H.E.L.P. Housing Initiative clients.

With both Phase I and II in operation, H.E.L.P. will be able to serve 16 clients concurrently. Plans are set for Phase III and IV which will more completely support people living with HIV/AIDS.

For more information regarding the H.E.L.P. Housing Initiative, please telephone Dot Anderson, Eric Carman or Erin Orzeck at 528-2124.

## AALGA Plans General Meeting

The African-American Lesbian/Gay Alliance will have a general interest meeting at the Bering Memorial United Methodist Church, 1440 Harold on Sunday, Aug. 20 at 5:30 p.m.

The main topic will be "the Black gay and lesbian movement—where we are, where we should be and where do we need to go." If you are interested in joining the group or attending the meeting please telephone 864-2242.

## Positive Choices Offers Choices

The Positive Choices Wellness Program is offering variety of classes focusing on issues affecting people with HIV/AIDS and their loved ones. All classes encourages people to take control of their illness by going on the offense: learning about their options and acting before a crisis arrives.

This week focuses on sex, advocacy and nutrition. Tuesday, 22nd, "Exploring Sex and Eroticism in the 90's" will entertain audiences with a discussion of sexuality both in and out of relationships. Wednesday, 23rd, "Political Advocacy: Making a Difference" will teach how to take action and speak up for your rights and Thursday, 24th, Richard Elbein will discuss his "Food For Life" program on good nutrition.

All classes require pre-registration and have a minimum of five to insure presentation and will be held at the Metropolitan Multiservice Center, 1475 West Gray from 7:00 until 9:00 p.m.

Pre-registration is also being accepted for the six-week course "Stop Smoking Class" and a two-week "Self-Hypnosis Class" both to be scheduled as the free classes fill up. For more information on these or generally on the Wellness issues, contact Bart Loeser at AFH, 623-6796 or Scott Clark at Body Positive, 524-2374.

## AHA! Announces Card Campaign

The Anti-Homophobia Alliance (AHA!) has launched its first awareness campaign—designed to make businesses more aware of gay/lesbian patronage.

Individuals are encouraged to present, with purchase or include with mail payment, a business sized card with the message "Your Business has just been supported by a gay or lesbian person, Anti-Homophobia Alliance."

AHA! feels that this type of non-violent activism will provide our community with significant exposure in circles where we might not be otherwise recognized. Also, by including this card in monthly payments we are able to educate businesses and thus society at large, of the economic impact we possess.

The project was originated by PFLAG and has been in effect for some months.

For additional information or obtaining cards please telephone David at 650-6919. Contributions to cover costs will be accepted.

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# SPORTS NOTES

## Bowlers Update

The Houston gay bowling leagues report the following standings this week:

The Inner Loop Sunday Evening League reports A Quiver Runs Through It in first place, while All Major Credit Cards Accepted is in second place and Bayer, Babb, Benson and Sikes is in third. High scratch Game of 233 and series of 673 was bowled by Bob Roberts for the men. For the women, high scratch game of 201 and series of 561 was bowled by Pam Spayde. Fall League begins Sept. 11. For information, call Tom at 522-9612.

The Montrose Monday Night Men's League has begun the Playoffs and Rolloffs. In first place in the Playoffs is Party of Four, followed by Doggie Style Too, Behind Garage Doors and duck sausage. The rolloffs are led by Queens of the Damned with Keep it tight in second and Press On Nells in third. High scratch game of 233 and series of 633 was bowled by Chris Bennett. Fall

League begins Sept. 10. For more information, call Gardy at 641-5424.

The Monday Nite Women's League reports Legal Insanity is in first while Maybe, Maybe Not is second, Balls R Out is third and Nine is Fine is fourth. Fall League begins on Sept. 11; for more information call Pat at 437-6218 or Marla at 862-3630.

The Wednesday Nite Mixers report first place is occupied by Tongue Wrestlers, second place by Three Men and A Tub and third by Daisy Mae and Seedlings. High scratch game of 259 and series of 679 was bowled by Mace Adams for the men. For the women, Tricia Oneal bowled scratch game of 237 and series of 638. Fall league begins Sept. 20. For more information, call Tom at 522-9612.

Note: No Tap Candlelight Doubles is this Saturday, Aug. 19 at palace lanes. Registration begins at 7:00 p.m. with play beginning at 8:00 p.m.; entry fee is \$11. "Bring a partner or pick one up at the alley."

## IN MEMORY OF



**HAROLD LAMB**

Harold "Hal" Lamb, born October 22, 1963 in East Point, Georgia, passed away July 9, 1995 at Park Plaza Hospital in Houston. Hal is survived by friend

and lover, Les, from Houston; his mother and family from Cincinnati, Ohio; and many loving friends here in Houston.

*Natures first green is gold  
Her hardest dew to hold  
Her early leaves a flower  
but only so an hour.  
Then leaf subsides to leaf  
like Eden sank to grief  
down goes down today  
nothing gold can stay.*

I love and miss you my little buddy bear. My life will never be the same without you. Wait for me, I'll be there soon. Love Always, Les  
Thank you Bill Clair Mortuary for handling everything so well.

**CHRISTOPHER HERBERMANN**

*Born: August 9, 1954  
Died: August 8, 1995*

Chris Herbermann passed away due to complications from AIDS just one day short of his 41st birthday in Gainesville, GA. He was surrounded by his family and Hospice care giver.

Chris was the Aramis Counter Manager in Men's Fragrances at Foley's Downtown Houston location until he returned to Georgia in June of 1994. He enjoyed traveling throughout Europe and the United States, especially Hawaii.

Chris will be missed by his many friends and former coworkers at Foley's. The family requests that donations be made to local AIDS service organizations.



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**VOICE**  
A Weekly Community News Publication

ISSUE 773  
August 18, 1995  
Published Fridays  
Established 1974 as the Houston Montrose Star, re-established 1980 as the Houston Montrose Voice, changed name to The New Voice in 1991 incorporating the New Orleans Crescent City Star, re-established December 1, 1993 as the Houston Voice

811 Westheimer, Suite 105  
Houston, Texas 77006  
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Contents copyright 1995  
Office Hours: 9am-5:30pm  
weekdays

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**LOCAL/STATE**

# County attorney: legal service for HIV patients at hospital 'inappropriate'

By SHERI COHEN DARBONNE  
Houston Voice Editor

A program that has been providing free legal services to patients of an HIV clinic at the Harris County Hospital District's LBJ Hospital has been discontinued after its sponsors, the Houston Volunteer Lawyers Program, learned indirectly that their efforts had been deemed inappropriate by the office of County Attorney Mike Driscoll.

According to a letter sent by Driscoll's office to Bill Adams, HCHD executive vice president and chief operating officer, last month, the project was felt to be problematic because it involved lawyers meeting with HIV patients from LBJ's Women's Immunology Center at the hospital, rather than in their own offices. "We have discussed this situation with physicians from UT and they agree with us that the lawyers may be exposed to illness and other problems at the District... (additionally) there may be a problem with inappropriate disclosure of medical records or other District records," the letter states.

Veronica Jacobs of HVLP said the legal group was never directly notified, but stopped going to LBJ after copies of the letter from Driscoll and a subsequent letter from Adams to LBJ Senior Vice President Margo A. Hilliard "made the rounds" at the district. "We were never given a logical reason... (but) we know they don't want us there," Jacobs said.

Through the HVLP program, clinic patients received legal services including advice on family law matters and assistance in the areas of drawing up living wills, physicians directives and other documents pertaining to their medical care, as part of package of services provided to coincide with the patients' scheduled medical visits. HVLP lawyers have been meet-

ing with LBJ patients for about a year, Jacobs said.

"We've been doing this kind of thing for four or five years," she said. "We don't know what they're talking about. There isn't any disclosure of medical records, we don't ask for anything like that."

"We've heard from our clients that it's just so much easier (to meet there) than to make a separate appointment" at HVLP's offices, she said.

As well, Jacobs believes that the patients of the women's clinic would be far less likely to seek legal services elsewhere. "Women are less likely to get out and access the services... even if we go to the support groups, many just don't go to any of these things. They don't have the social openness, they have child care issues and other issues," she said.

AIDS Advocate Matt Locklin, chair of the Thomas Street Health Center Citizens' Council and secretary of the HCHD Council-At-Large, said he is concerned that the county ruling in denying HVLP's hospital services could be extended to other such programs provided at HCHD clinic sites, including Thomas Street. Additionally, said Locklin, the legal services project is federally funded under Ryan White and similar programs are operating at hospitals across the country. "It's standard procedure in 30 cities," he said.

The Houston Volunteer Lawyers' office is not on a bus line and, in addition to being difficult for an ill person to get to, is located in a high-crime area, Locklin added.

Locklin called the suggestion that lawyers could be subject to illness in the hospital setting "uninformed, irresponsible and paranoid." ("Really, isn't anyone who walks into a hospital at risk of being exposed to illness?" he asks).

# Forum set to discuss parade, other issues

(Continued from Page 1)

For the past two years, however, organizers have been besieged with suggestions to change the scheduling of the parade, citing Houston's searing summer heat and its health effects on some parade participants and observers, particularly people with AIDS.

Recently, a petition began circulating in the community urging the committee to move the parade to the spring, when temperatures usually aren't as extreme. The petition suggests leaving other Pride events in June as a tribute to Stonewall.

Skeptics, however, say the change would detract from the meaning of the event, that splitting the

schedule would cause a drop in attendance and interest at the events and that weekends during the spring months, particularly April, are frequently rainy in Houston. They say the heat problem could be partly avoided by moving the kick-off time for the parade to a later hour.

The pride committee has scheduled a community forum in September to discuss the parade and other Lesbian/Gay Pride Week issues. The intensive meeting, at which organizers hope to gain input from a broad-based pool of community members, is set for Sunday, Sept. 17, 1:00-5:00 p.m. at the Harvey Hotel. An outside moderator will facilitate the discussion.

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## FDA wants blood banks to adopt new AIDS test

WASHINGTON, Friday, Aug. 11 (AP)—The Food and Drug Administration wants blood banks to start using a new test for the AIDS virus that the agency estimates could prevent a handful of infections every year from transfusions.

Currently, blood donors are tested for an immune reaction to HIV, but it can take up to 25 days after HIV infection for that reaction to occur. Colter Corp. of Miami has created a test that will detect the virus itself about six days earlier, and the FDA said it is just about to approve the test as soon as some details are worked out.

Meanwhile, the FDA wrote the American Red Cross and other blood centers this week that they should be ready to begin using the new tests within three months of their sale.

The agency unveiled its decision late Thursday. Blood centers could not be reached for comment, but they had supported the change.

Although getting HIV from a blood transfusion today is extremely rare—about 40 cases from 18 million units of blood—closing the testing "window period" will prevent five to 10 such infections each year, the FDA said.

An FDA panel of scientific advisers last month recommended the agency not push the new tests, when some voiced concern that they could cost the blood industry up to \$200 million a year to implement. But the FDA disagreed.

In another decision late Thursday, the FDA told blood banks to recall all blood products donated by people later discovered to have Creutzfeldt-Jakob disease.

Scientists have no proof that the rare, fatal brain disease is transmitted through blood. But it can be transmitted through tissue and a handful of blood donors have been diagnosed with the disease, so the FDA decided to take extra precautions.

The decision could involve thousands of patients and millions of units of blood products because many plasma products are made of blood pooled from tens of thousands of donors.

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## Denver restaurant workers cited for ant-gay slur

DENVER, Thursday, Aug. 10 (AP)—Two fast-food restaurant employees were cited by police for disturbing the peace after they allegedly called two customers "faggots" and refused to serve them.

"Supposedly, the two gay gentlemen were called 'faggots' by a couple of employees of the Burger King," police Sgt. Mike Hughes said Wednesday.

Paul Marshall and an unnamed friend complained to police about the alleged incident Sunday night at a Burger King restaurant in west Denver. Hughes said restaurant staff apologized and gave the men a corporate telephone number.

"If you heard the malice that was in these people's voice, you would know and know well that this was definitely hate, you know?" Marshall told KMGH-TV on Wednesday.

Hughes said employees Leroy Duran, 18, and Christopher Negrete, 20, were cited for disturbing the peace, accused of using "offensive language calculated to provoke a breach of the peace."

Denver has an ethnic intimidation law, but it does not apply to situations in which a person is taunted about sexual orientation, Hughes said.

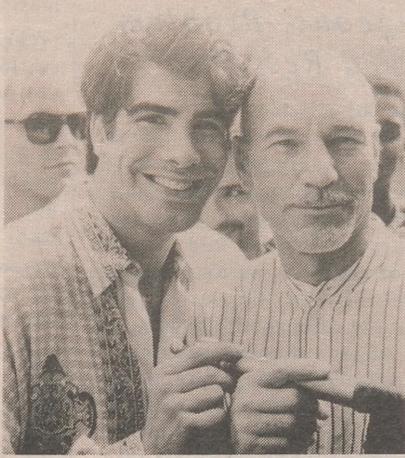
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## Interview with play and film's definitive Darius, Bryan Batt

(Continued from Page 1)

Born and raised in New Orleans, Bryan Batt knew at an early age that he was destined to become a performer. He recalls, with admiration, a congratulatory telegram he received from the beloved Helen Hayes, the first lady of the theatre, shortly after his first Broadway performance. He recalls how when he was in a school play,



Bryan Batt (left), plays Darius, a "Cats" chorus boy and Sterling's (Patrick Stewart) lover in "Jeffrey"

unbeknownst to him, Helen Hayes was in the audience. After the performance, she asked his parents if Bryan was their son. Acknowledging such, they informed Ms. Hayes of their son's desire to pursue a career in the theatre along with their reservations. She encouraged them to support their son as she felt he was extremely talented.

One needs to look no further than Bryan's resume to know that he heeded the advice of Ms. Hayes. His credits include "Cats," "Starlight Express," "Joseph and the Amazing Technicolor Dreamcoat," all Andrew Lloyd Webber productions, to playing opposite Glenn Close and Betty Buckley in Webber's current Broadway smash "Sunset Boulevard," as the understudy for the part of Joe. Working on stage gave HIM the confidence and experience to prepare for his role in "Jeffrey."

The hardest part of filming Jeffrey, he confesses, was to "match Patrick Stewart," for whom he has enormous respect and admiration. Bryan makes no bones about his respect for Patrick and feels he is the consummate professional who is the most "giving and brilliant man," he has worked with. It was apparent during our interview that Bryan was not a pre-

tentious man. His avuncular demeanor and malleable attitude was refreshing. He is also pragmatic about future prospects of feature film roles. He is reluctant to move to Los Angeles to increase his chances of obtaining more film roles, in part because he feels they are not as interwoven, with respect to support mechanisms for actors, as New York is.

Batt's advice to aspiring actors is to "get a good therapist." He laughs and continues to say that he recommends dedication to the craft and determination are the best advice he can suggest. He strongly discourages individuals from entering the fray, simply for the glamour or fame. "They will be highly disappointed," he says. Bryan loves entertaining, which was evident during our conversation. His benevolent attitude is demonstrative of someone who enjoys their craft.

At this point in his life, Bryan Batt says he will continue working on Broadway in Sunset Boulevard, sit back and relish the success of "Jeffrey," and patiently wait to see what happens. "I'm just happy to be a working actor," he states buoyantly. ("Jeffrey" opens in Houston, this Friday Aug. 18).

## Gay rights activists appeal Cincinnati amendment to court ruling

CINCINNATI, Wednesday, Aug. 9 (AP)—Gay rights activists on Wednesday asked the U.S. Supreme Court to outlaw a charter amendment barring the city from enacting or enforcing laws based on sexual orientation.

The plaintiffs say the Cincinnati amendment denies homosexuals a fundamental right to political participation and that it represents a private prejudice made into law.

They want the court to reverse a May ruling by the 6th U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals that says homosexuals are not an identifiable class of people, such as blacks or women, who can be specifically entitled to civil rights protection, said their lawyer, Alphonse Gerhardtstein.

The appellate ruling threw out U.S. District Judge S. Arthur Spiegel's

1994 decision that the amendment was unconstitutionally vague and violated the free-speech and equal-protection rights of homosexuals.

Voters approved the amendment in Nov. 1993, after the City Council approved a human rights ordinance forbidding discrimination in public housing and public accommodations. The law listed sexual orientation among anti-discrimination categories including race, color, religion and age.

A coalition called Equal Rights, Not Special Rights supported the 1993 amendment. Phil Burress, chairperson of the coalition, did not immediately return a call requesting comment.

A Colorado fight over a statewide law with wording similar to that of the Cincinnati ordinance already is before the Supreme Court.

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# Gay Today

by Glen Webber



## Outrageous Problem, Outraged Response

My recent column about gay bashing, which held straight society responsible for encouraging it, has brought a lot of response, much of it criticism from both straight and gay readers. Several straight readers said they are not part of the anti-gay hysteria that killed Paul. They say they defend gays whenever possible, and would never approve of or tolerate bashing of anyone, gay or not. Many gay readers have called me radical, and say my rhetoric is just as inflammatory against heterosexuals as their rhetoric is against us.

Thank you for responding. I appreciate those comments. But let me reiterate what I believe, radical or not. I believe that the heterosexist attitudes that dominate "straight" society are responsible for conditions that contributed to the spread of AIDS. They are responsible for creating the atmosphere that encourages bashing.

Since 1991, 11 men have been murdered in Texas, victims of gay bashers. Nationally, according to the New York City-based Gay and Lesbian Anti-Violence Project, 169 men and women have been murdered by gay bashers from January, 1992 through December, 1994. Why should our community continue to have to defend ourselves, both physically and verbally, on a daily basis and have to prove we are a legitimate part of society? Why are we being attacked by the so-called religious leaders and many politicians in responsible leadership positions?

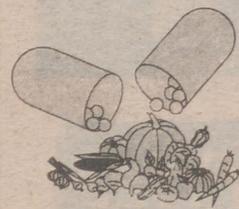
Those of you in the younger generation have freedoms today as gay people that my generation and the generation before me didn't have. Society in general has become more open and tolerant toward us over the years. But in talking with older gay men and women, you will find that all they had was fear to keep them in the closet. And you must remember the role that straight society had in causing this. They passed laws making sex between those of the same sex illegal. Mainstream churches condemned homosexuals to hell and did it with an obnoxiousness that is disgusting. Love the sinner but hate the sin? That's stupid. I don't consider my loving another man a sin, and neither should you. A man not paying child support for his children after abandoning his marriage—that is a sin.

The American Psychiatric Association for years labeled homosexuality a mental illness. Despite the fact that ten percent or more of society is gay, being gay was considered a sickness, not a gift from God. And it is a gift. I'm glad I'm gay, and I'm very sad many of you wish you weren't gay. You can have a wonderful life, but you have to accept who you are, and that your life has meaning.

The worst thing was the fact that gay men and women were forced to go "underground" in order to meet other gays and to have sex. Because bars were regularly raided by bigoted police, many gays went to seedy parts of town. The rise of bathhouses was the result. No one ever gave their true name; it was that anonymous. Everyone was afraid of being arrested and exposed to public scrutiny. These bathhouses were a hotbed for sexually transmitted diseases.

The gay newspapers and magazines we receive every week here at the Voice contain stories of men and women seriously injured and murdered by bashers. This is a weekly occurrence in America, and it must stop. You may feel safe, but any one of us can be the next victim. From what I've heard from people here in Houston, many of you know someone who has been bashed. Strong hate crimes laws may be the only way to stop this from happening. We must vote for politicians who promise to support such legislation. We sure aren't getting any support from the politicians in elected office now. On the contrary, many support the anti-gay rhetoric now being expounded by the rightwingers.

I would like to hear from you your solutions for solving the bashing problem, as well as your ideas on changing society's views on the gay community and AIDS. Pretty words and flowery phrases don't work. It is time for frankness. You must realize, that as a gay man or woman, you are part of a group that has been oppressed for years, blamed for society's problems, and is stereotyped in the worst ways. Unless we challenge people's beliefs and speak up, many of the freedoms we now enjoy may be gone. If you have something to say, please drop us a note here at the Voice. Whatever your views are, they need to be heard. That is our most important freedom, that and voting.



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# THE OUTsider

by Curt Morrison

## Examining A '96 Hot-Button Issue

According to most political pundits, a hot button issue must meet the following criteria: a.) the issue must be controversial; b.) it must motivate people's passion to go to the polls; and c.) it must sway independent voters, as they are the ones, who ultimately determine the outcome of an election. As for who determines which issue will fit the bill, that's easy, the individual who is politically astute enough to know what the mood of the electorate is and how to get their pulse pounding. The hot button issue of the 1994 election cycle was Immigration reform, spawned by the now infamous Proposition 187. Most analysts agree that the hot button issue for the 1996 election cycle will be Affirmative Action. No surprise here, if you keep up with current events. What is surprising, however, is that the same individual was instrumental in bringing both of these issues to the forefront of the political spectrum. That individual is California Governor and Republican presidential candidate Pete Wilson.

According to recent USA Today/CNN/Gallup Poll, Affirmative Action is an issue which crosses political boundaries. An overwhelming majority of Americans (73%) favor the practice of eliminating quotas and racial/gender preferences as a basis for employment, government contracts, college scholarships, etc. In fact, 35% of African Americans and 66% of women in America favor such action as well. Pete Wilson, no doubt, realized the political potency of the aforementioned and decided to seize the moment. In fact, he has staked his candidacy primarily on this issue. President Clinton, along with his advisors, are also quite aware of the impact affirmative action will have at the polls, hence, their valiant attempt to reach a compromise in order to avoid a political quagmire. The Republicans have made their course of action quite clear, however, they do not have as much to lose as the President does.

Bill Clinton is politically astute enough to realize that he needs to keep his coalition of minorities on board if he wants to be re-elected. In contrast, he also needs to regain some of the "Angry White Men," some of whom are traditionally Democrat, who defected to the Republican Party in 1994, partly because of the impact that affirmative action programs have imposed upon them. Also, Pete Wilson, who demonstrated his political prowess during his successful reelection bid as Governor, should not be underestimated. He is a fiscal conservative and social liberal who will be a formidable candidate for president. He presides over a state which is rich in electoral college votes, a state which is also a must win for Clinton in the presidential stakes.

Whatever your views on affirmative action may be, let's consider, for a moment, what prompted the public ire towards a program purportedly designed to assist women and minorities, respectively.

Affirmative Action programs were designed, implemented and legislatively enforced, as an indoctrination of the 1964 Civil Rights Act, to disavow race and gender discrimination and make amends for past conduct of discriminatory practices. Eliminating prejudicial obstacles would provide them with the opportunity to achieve these goals, was the mantra. The intent was to assist women and minorities, towards obtaining strides in their pursuit of better education, employment and socio-economic status. Unfortunately, sometimes even the best of intentions do not necessarily heed the best results. Affirmative Action clearly defines this analogy. What was suppose to help these individuals, in essence, actually has become somewhat of a hindrance.

What went wrong? Several things. First and foremost, the implementation of set asides, aka quotas, which, in my opinion, defies simple logic. The concept of ensuring that the ratio of minority students and employee's is representative to the ratio of minorities in society is disingenuous. Furthermore, the practice of placing an individual in a university or position of employment, solely on the basis of their race and/or gender is neither productive or fair. This insinuates that women and minorities are inferior, incapable or unable to accomplishing these goals on the merits of their efforts. It is an insult to their cultural heritage and a detriment to their self-esteem. What possible incentive does any individual have, regardless of race or gender, to better themselves, if they know that Uncle Sam will make sure they receive a position in life because of their genetic structure.

Secondly, with respect to women, it is impossible to achieve a proportionate representation, simply because, much to the chagrin of many, some women actually do prefer to be the happy "homemaker" and have no desire to enter the work force. These are the same women who want to dismantle affirmative action programs, as they are concerned about their husband's losing their jobs as a direct result of this impetus. This brings me to my third point. The demise of discrimination that affirmative action programs were designed to accomplish, ended up creating a different form of discrimination, known as reverse discrimination. As a result, we now have a country more divisive and intolerant towards multiculturalism than before. The irony of the entire situation is that the consequences of affirmative action could very well be the definitive cause of its own demise.

(Continued on following page)

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## Affirmative Action and ironic politics

(Continued from preceding page)

Does this mean that Affirmative Action programs should be eliminated? No! At least not in their entirety. Should these programs be reformed? Absolutely! Here's How. 1.) Eliminate Quota's entirely, they are not productive, nor are they conducive to the betterment of the individuals we are attempting to assist. The impact is cumulative and pervasive. 2.) Ensure that every individual has the opportunity to receive the best education possible, regardless of race or gender. This can be accomplished by several means, including school choice, government vouchers or tax incentives. 3.) Enact and enforce tough laws against discrimination. This can only work if adherence is strictly mandated and the ramifications of non compliance are severe. 4.) Require each and every employer to procure a standard test, for each position, comprised and based upon the job requirements. Each applicant should be given the test and the best qualified candidate rewarded the position. This will ensure that merit is the determining factor in job placement. It would also make it more difficult for employers to discriminate and easier for applicants to prove that they were discriminated against. 5.) Provide an incentive to corporate America to invest in on the job training programs. Corporations love tax cred-

its and the investment will provide all participants with great dividends.

The status quo has not worked and the opposing view of total elimination is not a palatable alternative either. The polemics of affirmative action has, in itself, contributed to the manifestation of racial polarization and contempt for individual responsibility.

To be sure, race and gender based discrimination has been an axiom for centuries. As a gay male in a heterosexual society, I am fully aware of prejudice, however, I do not want to succumb to a standard of mores, in which I receive my status in society solely based on my sexual orientation. It is not racist or discriminatory to deny an applicant a job or admittance to a university based on qualifications. It is racist and discriminatory to deny them the opportunity to compete for such.

One thing is certain, affirmative action will be a major factor, if not the determining factor, in the outcome of the 1996 election. In summation, there is quite an interesting point that seems to be missing from the ongoing debate. Why is there so much political posturing over an issue whose fate is not contingent upon political ideology. Affirmative Action programs will, ultimately, be decided in and by the judicial process with a final decision mandated by the Supreme Court.

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## VOICE MAIL

Letters to the Editor

### Log Cabin Member Responds To Column

FROM SCOT ALAN HEDRICK  
Houston, Texas

I read Glen Webber's column in Issue 772 of the Houston Voice with mixed emotions. As a member of Log Cabin Republicans, I was glad to see him compliment us. He correctly noted that the Religious Right has gained enormous influence in the Republican Party and that we are trying to change that. After he made these valid points, he then made a series of statements that in my opinion betrayed a collectivist bias on his part.

It may surprise Mr. Webber to find out that there are members of the gay and lesbian community who feel that the government has gone too far in the name of environmental protection. We feel that Medicare and Medicaid need to be radically reduced and supplemented by free market programs such as IRA-like medical savings accounts, and we are grateful that President Clinton failed in his attempts to socialize the rest of the health care industry. Some of us sup-

port the arts personally, and feel that such support should come from the private sector, not from taxes. To link any of these issues with gay and lesbian equal rights is absolute nonsense, and reflects the liberal, collectivist bias of the political leadership of our community.

Mr. Webber's pessimism about the national influence of Log Cabin Republicans is also unwarranted. Rich Tafel has had access to the Republican leadership of both houses of Congress while other gay and lesbian organizations have been shut out because of their liberal bias. In my opinion, the passage of Ryan White was largely due to Log Cabin Republican influence.

I can not speak for all Log Cabin members, but I personally hope to see us unite with the libertarian element within the Republican Party. Then we will be able to counter the Religious Right and prevent the passage of legislation designed to discriminate against gays and lesbians. We will also be part of the movement to drastically shrink government, reduce taxes, and increase individual rights and responsibility.

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## ARTS/ENTERTAINMENT

## Making theater magic...behind the scenes

By JAVIER TAMEZ

Houston Voice/Houston

"Miss Saigon" is a theatrical stunner that has reaped superlatives galore. And no wonder: the musical is a storytelling and entertainment masterpiece, as well as a metaphorical tour-de-force. The score is sweeping and invigorating; the acting is passionate and searing; and the production is a gigantic spectacle. And none of this would be possible without the backstage crew.

Of course, all of you may well know that, but many don't know Lois Griffing, the production stage manager for the national touring company of "Miss Saigon" that is currently being presented in Jones Hall. Griffing is an earthy, well-spoken lesbian who speaks with a quiet confidence of her place in a position still held primarily by men; of her background; and of the techno-wizardry in this production.

Originally from Kansas, Griffing became involved in the theater at an early age and followed a compulsion to work with children after college. "I started out as a high school drama teacher. I loved it, but I got burned out, and decided I wanted to try professional theater."

Her experience as a teacher, handling every single detail for a production, made her career decision within the theater an easy one. "I never been one to be satisfied with one aspect of anything. I wanted to be involved in everything, and the stage manager oversees every aspect of the show."

Having relocated to Chicago to pursue her aspirations, Griffing worked as a production stage manager in regional theater for seven years, while at the same time offering her services in the same capacity to touring productions of children's theater. But her goals were higher. "As large Broadway touring shows came through the city, I would go and introduce myself to the producers and production managers. And that's how I came by 'Miss Saigon.'"

She met Fred Hansen, director of the current touring production, which originated in Chicago, and he was impressed enough with Griffing to tag her as his production manager well before the tour got underway. "The tour didn't start rehearsals until February of this year, but I had been training since Thanksgiving 1994 with the Broadway production."

The first and most important thing of which Griffing became aware was the extent to which the responsibilities of the position changed from regional productions operating under budget constraints to national touring productions with multi-million dollar budgets. "It used to be that production managers were in charge of technical things and artistic things. But now there are many people involved in a production that help with the technical things espe-



Lois Griffing, production stage manager for the national tour of "Miss Saigon," climbs up to the truss to call the show. (At right is the base of Ho Chi Minh statue, hanging backstage)

cially. Shows run for years and the production manager is a director, who handles all organization, including bringing in computerized technology that makes the production more static."

These technological changes have taken much of the worry out of big touring productions. "All the equipment—meters, cables, computers and circuitry—that handles all the props are in truss units and everything is in place. There are 5-6 miles of cable that are in the trusses and used to hook the equipment up to each other as well as all the props. They attach together and you're set. It used to take a week to set-up for a show this size. We have that down to three days."

The way the pylons and other equipment used to make scenes are handled has also changed. They used to be on winches and they were all essentially raised or lowered. Now most touring productions use a push-chain system, which pushes out the props in one direction, becomes rigid and then retracts. "Miss Saigon" uses nine of these—four on each side and one in the center."

The biggest parts of this production spectacle are, of course, the props that are used so effectively. Specifically the helicopter, the Cadillac and the statue of Ho Chi Minh.

The helicopter is an "800-pound fiberglass replica of only the front. Restrictions in travelling and the space limitations of some of the venues we will be playing made a full-scale replica impossible. But anyway, it rests on a boom arm, so it can't swing from side-to-side, but it can pitch, yaw and roll." A wind machine was not used to duplicate the near-gale force winds created by a real helicopter because, "the wind machines blew dust into the eyes of the people in the audience. It's different with the smoke machines; they have a different ventilation system."

(Continued on Page 13)

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**The Voice Reader**



*Tricky Intersection*

("The Intersection of Law and Desire," by J. M. Redmann 1995, published by W.W. Norton & Co, 333 pages)

REVIEWED By ELLA TYLER

For the Houston Voice

Micky Knight, a lesbian private-detective working in New Orleans, would be solvent if she would take more "Oh, shit" cases—a husband looking for a wife who is probably in the local women's shelter." If Redmann's character didn't have a sex life, this book might be on a best sellers list—it's that complex and exciting.

Micky is a complex character. She's "bayou trash" with a college degree. She responds to putdowns and evasions with wicked comebacks that most of us (except Gene Harrington) don't think of till hours later, but tries to be kind to friends. She will answer to her real name (Michelle) necessary. Mickey has slept and drunk her way across New Orleans, but is trying, for the first time, to work with out a relationship with Cordelia James. Cordelia is a doctor who also inherited money and her only flaw is that she falls asleep after sex.

Mickey's mother left when she was five, her father died when she was ten and she was raised by abusive relatives. Not surprisingly, Mickey is afraid of relationships and dependency, but these issues are handled in a fresh manner. For example, Mickey can't afford the kind of expensive bicycles Cordelia and her friends ride, and Mickey refuses to accept one from Cordelia or sit at home when they go riding at the park, so she puts on her shorts and shoes and tells everyone she prefers to jog.

Mickey has two new cases: a friend's son wants to hire her to find out why his sister (10 year old Cissy) is so scared; and a former client wants Mickey accompany her to an expensive private club for a meeting with a blackmailer. Karen is offering nature of the meeting from enough money for Mickey to forgive the 'Oh, shit' nature of the prior case and to borrow a suitable dress for the meeting from her cousin, a drag queen.

Cissy's problems began when a schoolmate was killed in an accident. She won't talk about her fears but relinquishes a matchbook from a bar named 'Heart of Desire' to her psychiatrist.

Mickey visits one evening and finds it to be a 'straight' strip joint/whorehouse. While snooping around in daylight she is accosted by Karen's blackmailer. Mickey's curiosity about the connection is enough for her to

accompany him on a pimping errand, instead of meeting her lover, who is also Karen's cousin, for a friend's birthday party. In the course of the errand, Mickey discovers that Heart of Desire is also a distribution center for magazines picturing nude little girls.

She recognizes an old picture of Cissy's schoolmate. There are no descriptions of the pictures, but what they are is enough to ignite Mickey's needs, fueled by her past, to try to save these girls. She offers to work undercover for the police department and manages to convince the blackmailer to use her as an assistant in the porn rings things she would never do for money. She becomes too estranged by her work to make any apology to her lover, Cordelia, or their friends, and is afraid that the already troubled relationship is lost.

The ring also arranges sea cruises and Mickey, as bagmang finds herself without her police backup in a boat-house with the ship's crew, Karen, Cordelia, and six little girls. Karen is to be left behind as the shed is set on fire, the others are to cruise down the Mississippi to meet the paying passengers. Mickey manages to leave Karen with the means to escape, and when a mocking note informs her she is to be killed by the crew, loads Cordelia and the children into a lifeboat and remains on the ship to rescue herself.

The dramatic rescue scene is one of the most exciting I've ever read. The note helps Mickey figure out who is the mastermind of the of the operation, and their encounter leads to the beginnings of recovery for Cissy, herself, and reconciliation of her relationships.

This is a book I will be raving about for months, until the next one in the series comes out. The focus shifts very naturally from the many relationships that are examined to the action scenes. The shifts in tone from light and occasionally funny, to serious to despairing, match the book's action perfectly. Even the minor characters have unexpected dimensions, and the action scenes are exciting and original.

Child sexual abuse is dealt with as a personal, social, and criminal issue, and the prejudices against gays in with regard to this issue are not ignored, but the book is neither political nor angst-ridden. It could be shorter, but the book is so well written that nothing is superfluous and we might miss one of Mickey's absolutely perfect comebacks.

(Ella Tyler is a lawyer who is a hard core mystery addict).

*More trials under way for Phelps's church members*

EMPORIA, Kan., Tuesday, Aug. 8 (AP)—Two boys testified they saw anti-gay activist Jonathan Phelps holding an older man to the ground outside the Topeka Performing Arts Center last December during an anti-homosexual picket.

The boys' testimony came as the prosecution began its case Tuesday against Phelps and Karl D. Hockenbarger, who are members of Topeka's Westboro Baptist Church. They are charged with misdemeanor assault, battery and criminal restraint

Phelps and Hockenbarger are accused of assaulting George York, 64, who also testified about the incident. York said he saw the anti-homosexual picketers while

walking during his lunch hour on Dec. 18, and although he usually ignored them, he made the remark "Phelps fags" as he walked by one of the picketers.

York said after that comment, one man grabbed him and spun him around and then he was grabbed from behind by another man.

Houston McCarter, 12, and his brother Dallas, 14, both testified that they saw Phelps holding an older man to the ground as they were getting out of a vehicle to see a performance of "The Nutcracker" at the arts center.

Jonathan Phelps is the son of the Rev. Fred Phelps, pastor of the Westboro church.

## Lesbian stage tech in love with her work

(Continued from Page 11)

"The Cadillac is different in every production. In New York, a real one was used, but that proved too expensive to gut for a road tour, so a fiberglass hull was filled with equipment for it to work. For this production, an optical illusion is used. The car telescopes upward because of limited space and is operated with hydraulics.

"The statue of Ho is not 18 feet like it says in the program. It's a 15-foot fiberglass statue which had to be used, because most of the theaters in this tour have shorter prosceniums. If it were any taller, the audience wouldn't see its head."

Unfortunately all the computerized gadgetry and impressive props can do nothing to change old attitudes and prejudices. And Griffing realizes that she is playing her small part in advancing the causes of women in general and lesbians in particular.

"More and more women are taking production management positions, because women, more so than

men, have the temperament and the skills to effectively conduct people management. This is changing more away from Broadway than on Broadway itself.

"There really isn't a gay problem though. This is a very gay-friendly business, and beyond that everyone must be open-minded as an artist or as an individual working with artists. Problems don't really come from the people in a touring cast and crew. They really come from the locals. But the tour producers don't tolerate any kind of abuse for anyone who works with the show, so even the local people who are hired to work on a production know they can't get out of line. I guess what surprised me most about Texas is that the sexism I've encountered has been stronger than any anti-gay feeling."

These of course are not problems or issues that will disappear quickly, but they are set aside or overlooked for this incredible opportunity. "I really love doing this show. It has something to say." And so does Lois Griffing, in word and deed.

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**GLAAD MEDIA WATCH**  
 by Al Kielwasser

**Creepy Coroner's Report**

The notorious Doctors Frankenstein and Jekyll are downright conventional when compared to Spokane's coroner, Dexter Amend. On August 9, Dr. Amend held a press conference at which he was to offer his autopsy report on the murder of Rachel Carver, a 9-year-old Washington girl. The girl's body had been found near the Spokane River on June 15.

On the day that her body was found, Carver's uncle—Jason Wickenhagen—was arrested; he confessed to police that he had beaten his niece to death. Social workers further reported that the young girl had been sexually molested for much of her life by her father, uncle and mother's boyfriend.

At his August 9 press conference, Dr. Amend reported that he had indeed found evidence of sexual abuse, including sodomy. However, Amend actually blamed GAYS for the abuse, NOT Carver's uncle (the ADMITTED killer!) or the other HETEROSEXUAL men who had molested the girl.

When pressed for some explanation of his lunatic "autopsy report," Amend said that—despite extraordinary evidence to the contrary—homosexuals must have "destroyed (Rachel Carver's) life." "All they think about is sex and lust all the time," he told reporters.

Amend explained that the young girl had "been sodomized over and over and sodomy is a homosexual act. It is. To have everybody thinking homosexuality is OK is a bunch of baloney."

"I don't care what the political ramifications are on this," he added flippantly. Amend also used the occasion of the autopsy report to "inform" the press that gays are not only to blame for Rachel Carver's murder, but are also generally responsible for the spread of AIDS.

Dr. Amend theorized: "I think it (homosexuality) is an aberrant activity that is promoted by the thoughts and sensations that are associated with the sex acts that drive people to do...abnormal things and animalistic things and as a result bring about cancers and death on the part of the recipients and the active individuals."

"It's a crime that we don't expose the homosexual community," Amend concluded, "and it is not just a simple...aberrant activity. It is significant when it takes in innocent minds like this Carver gal."

That a LICENSED medical doctor and an ELECTED coroner could espouse such nonsense is a horrific commentary on the state of professional medicine—not only in Washington, but across the nation. The country's medical schools and health associations should seriously re-examine their efforts to combat homophobic hate and ignorance. There is simply NO EXCUSE for the likes of Dr. Dexter Amend.

Local activists in Spokane have begun contacting Dr. Amend's office, urging him to resign or, at least, to apologize. A possible recall effort might also be in the works.

\*\*\* Contact Dr. Dexter Amend, Spokane County Coroner's Office, West 1201 Broadway, Spokane, WA 99206, tel. 509-456-2296. Send letters-to-the-editor regarding this

travesty to "The Spokesperson-Review," W. 999 Riverside, Spokane, WA 99201, tel. 509-459-5000, fax 509-459-5482 and "The Seattle Times," P.O. Box 70, Seattle, WA 98111, tel. 206-464-3730, e-mail edtimes@hebron.connected.com or opinion@seattimes.com. Share your thoughts with Spokane Mayor Jack Geraghty, 808 W. Spokane Falls Blvd., Spokane, WA 99201, tel. 509-625-6250, fax 509-625-6217. Finally, urge the American Medical Association to denounce Dr. Amend's gross malpractice and to support vigorous efforts to combat medical homophobia; contact the AMA, 515 N. State Street, Chicago, IL 60610, tel. 312-464-5000, fax 312-464-4184.

**Welcome Aboard**

"The Crew" is a new situation comedy to be broadcast by the FOX television network. The series is based around the lives of four airline flight attendants, one of whom is gay.

"The Crew" is the creation of producer-writers (and real life gay couple) Marc Cherry and Jamie Whooten. "Jaime and I have a vested interest in making sure this is a very positive portrayal," Cherry said of the show's gay character. Speaking to a group of television critics, Cherry added: "We're very thankful for the network to let us have this voice because it's not a voice that you see on every show." He reminded the audience that "you can't deny the existence of gay people throughout this country...people who have a distinct comedy voice and should be heard."

Actor David Burke will play Paul, the gay member of "The Crew." Cherry and Whooten previously wrote for "The Golden Girls," where they were responsible for creating another queer character, Blanche's gay brother. According to Whooten, homophobic organizations like the American Family Association (AFA) "came after us big time" over that portrayal. "They went after the advertisers. They did the whole thing," he said.

Whooten and Cherry are determined to provide a cutting-edge character in Paul, who—they promise—WILL be given a "social life." "He will absolutely at some point be dating," Whooten said. But, Cherry cautioned: "A lot of that is going to be dependent upon, you know, does the audience get the show? Do they like the show? The rule is that the more successful your show is, the more risks you can take."

\*\*\* Early support for "The Crew" can be sent to: Marc Cherry and Jaime Whooten, "The Crew," c/o FOX Broadcasting, P.O. Box 900, Beverly Hills, CA 90213; copy your correspondence to Chase Carey, President, FOX Broadcasting, at the same address, tel. 310-277-2211, e-mail foxnet@delphi.com.

**Some Friendly Advice**

"Ask Beth" is a syndicated advice column for teenage newspaper readers. On August 3, a young woman wrote: "Dear Beth—The more I know this boy at school, the better I like him. I'm 15 and he's 16." The reader further explained that this boy "confided in me that he is gay. I'm so devastated! Whenever I am near him I want to kiss him. Is there any way to change the way he feels?" The letter was signed, "Peter's Friend."

(Continued on following Page)

# GLAAD MEDIA WATCH

by  
Al  
Kielwasser

(Continued from preceding page)

Beth Winship replied, matter-of-factly: "No, there isn't." She added that "there are some bisexual people, who are attracted to both sexes, but this doesn't seem to be Peter's situation." Winship further advised that a platonic relationship with Peter could be "a wonderful kind of friendship."

\*\*\* Send encouraging feedback to Beth Winship, in care of the Los Angeles Times Syndicate, 218 South Spring Street, Los Angeles, CA 90012, tel. 213-237-5485.

## Media Briefs

Critical Mass...Queer media activism seems to be paying off, perhaps substantially, in prime-time. In the August 1 issue of "Inside Media," Ed Martin reports on a July "Television Critics Tour" in Los Angeles at which ABC, NBC, CBS and FOX "unveiled" 34 new fall TV shows. Among the noteworthy themes, according to Martin, "was a substantial increase in homosexual characters...in new series, with producers insisting that they would all have prominent storylines and romantic relationships throughout the season." Keep watching!

Let's get clinical...Robert Bray, media activist and field organizer for the National Gay & Lesbian Task Force, will offer "Media Action Clinics" at the Nov. 1995 "Creating Change" conference in Detroit, Michigan. These clinics are "designed for groups that want to garner better press coverage, spin proactive messages to the media, and shape public opinion." Contact: NGLTF, 2320 17th Street, NW, Washington, DC 20009, tel. 202-332-6483, ext. 3329.

PINK ON BLUE...Alan Bush, writing for "USA Today" (August 8), reports that actor Bill Brochtrup, who plays the role of a gay secretary on "NYPD Blue," WILL BE returning next season. According to Bush: "Now, Brochtrup, 31, is ready for even more air time. Having sparked more fan mail during his six-episode stint than any other character on the show, he's slated to be a recurring character 'upstairs in the anti-crime unit' as 'NYPD Blue' starts its third season." Only this May, "USA Today" was

reporting that the character's future was in serious doubt. Keep those (obviously effective!) cards and letters coming! Contact: Steven Boccho and David Milch, Executive Producers, "NYPD Blue," Steven Boccho Productions, 10201 W. Pico Blvd., Los Angeles, CA 90035; copy your comments to Ted Harbert, President, ABC Entertainment, 2040 Avenue of the Stars, Los Angeles, CA 90067, fax 310-557-7170, e-mail abc-audr@ccabc.com.

E-MEDIA..."BillWatch: A Weekly Newsletter Tracking U.S. Federal Legislation Affecting Civil Liberties" is an excellent on-line resource, published every Friday as long as Congress is in session. To receive a copy of the latest version, e-mail vtww@vtw.org, with "send bill-watch" in the subject line. To get on the distribution list for "BillWatch," e-mail listproc@vtw.org, with "subscribe vtww-announce Firstname Lastname" in the subject line.

SOUND BITE..."So far as I am aware, I'm conventionally a heterosexual male. And yet I find something quite flattering in these suggestions that I'm something else" (Patrick Stewart in the August 22 "Advocate," discussing his role in the new film "Jeffrey" and why he is not bothered by rumors that he is gay).

UN SOUND BITE..."I will go on record and say that I have sexual relationships with men only. Why do people think that every famous person is gay?...I think it's a way of cutting you down. It's sad, and it has to stop. That's why Richard has resisted answering the question for so long. The day that attitude changes is probably the day Richard will go on the record." (Cindy Crawford in September's "Playboy," discussing rumors that she and now-separated husband Richard Gere are queer).

To notify GLAAD/SFBA of any defamatory or affirmative media coverage, or to request GLAAD membership information, please call our 24-hour Media Watch Hotline (415-861-4588) or write to: GLAAD/SFBA 1360 Mission Street, Suite 200 San Francisco, CA 94103. Office phone: 415-861-2244. Fax: 415-861-4893. E-mail: glaadsfba@aol.com. URL: <http://www.gay-trek.com/gaytrek/glaad.html>.

## Bar Training available

Pacific Street has announced an open Server Training session for individuals wanting or needing a State Certificate. The training is scheduled for Wednesday, Aug. 30 from 11:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. at 710 Pacific Street.

The Texas Legislature passed a voluntary Server Training law to improve the perception of the mixed beverage industry and to somewhat distribute liquor liability. The law acts both as an incentive for employers to hire

state certified server personnel and addresses the issue of illegally selling to minors or intoxicated persons.

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# Sex, laughs, and stereotypes

## Movie Review: 'Jeffrey'

By JON ANTHONY

For the Houston Voice

"Jeffrey," the much heralded and eagerly anticipated film version of Paul Rudnick's off-Broadway play, is a palatable slice-of-life dramedy with political overtones. Directed by Christopher Ashley, "Jeffrey" stars Patrick Stewart and Steven Weber, of "Wings" fame. It is a film about the perils of dating in the era of AIDS.

Jeffrey is a gay actor who survives, as most actors do, as a waiter. An avowed sexaholic, Jeffrey valiantly attempts to live a life of celibacy, shortly after a sexual romp is interrupted due to the rupture of a condom. The scenario allows the film to exploit every comedic possibility it can out of Jeffrey's dilemma.

Jeffrey's travails become cumbersome when he arrives at a health club and meets "Mr. Right," Steve (Michael T. Weiss). That is, until Jeffrey discovers Steve is HIV-positive. Although it is quite apparent that Jeffrey has found his soulmate, he is reluctant to act upon his emotions and does everything possible to avoid the entire matter. His exploits range from a fantasy game show, participating at a motivational seminar reminiscent of a Marianne Williams seminar, to a bizarre encounter with the mother of a "pre-operative transsexual lesbian son."

There is also a scene with the multi-talented Nathan Lane ("Love! Valour! Compassion!") as a lascivious priest (Father Dan) who communicates via showtunes and is not shy about his sexuality. Jeffrey's efforts to seek spir-



Jeffrey (Steven Weber, left) meets "Mr. Right" Steve (Michael T. Weiss) at the Jim in "Jeffrey," the film adaptation of the hit off-Broadway play by Paul Rudnick

itual guidance turns into a highly unorthodox church experience. Instead of the guidance he sought, he receives a sexual advance, confusing him even more. When he questions the vow of celibacy he was under the impression all priests adhered to, he is rebuked, when Father Dan reminds him he is a Catholic priest...with the lingering insinuation that all Catholic priests are homosexuals. This is about as ludicrous as insinuating that all homosexuals are limp wristed wimps. This scene, as written, was entirely unnecessary to the content of the film and more than likely was added for controversial elements. It would be an unfortunate consequence, if this particular scene was the only

indelible impression left upon the audience, rather than the more poignant tale of two men struggling through their ordeal of love, pain and loss with courage and conviction.

Patrick Stewart's excellent portrayal of Sterling, Jeffrey's best friend, provides this film with some of its finest moments. He's the consummate actor who's verbal agility and droll demeanor as an interior designer, flamboyant at times, yet tough and stable, brought an aura of depth and respectability to the film. Bryan Batt—the only member of the original New York stage ensemble to be cast in the film—portrays Darius, Sterling's lover, who is dying of AIDS. Sterling and Darius' situation provides a cat-

alyst for Jeffrey, and merely adds to his vacillating emotional state. Jeffrey, finally coming to grips with his state of perpetual perplexity, ends with a whimsical, yet touching and realistic final scene, in which he and Steve have a romantic dinner with Mother Theresa on the grand piano.

An eclectic array of supporting actors were showcased throughout the film. The stellar cast included: Sigourney Weaver, Olympia Dukakis ("Moonstruck, Steel Magnolias"), Kathy Najimy ("Sister Act"), Robert Klein, and Christine Baranski (Mary Ann on "Cybill"). With the exception of Sigourney Weaver, in one of the years worst performances, this talented ensemble lived up to their prestigious monikers.

"Jeffrey" is a heartfelt effort that puts a face to what is for many a deadly but faceless disease and courageously confronts issues in which the gay community must live with day to day. The film does not really make clear whether or not Jeffrey was afraid of AIDS or intimacy; however, one can only conclude, due to the depiction of his prior promiscuity, that it was a combination of both.

At its best, this is a poignantly funny film which could have had more depth. At its worst, it delved into disturbingly stereotypical portrayals and unnecessary political zings. I left the screening pondering the film's intent and wondered why it was not more definitive.

"Jeffrey" is neither a great film, nor is it a bad film. It is a 2 1/2 star film that deserves to be successful, if for no other reason than the fact it will encourage Hollywood to make more films with positive gay portrayals.

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# Highlight: Eagle Travel Connections

Eagle Travel Connections began providing travel services on Nov. 1, 1994. A venture started by Suzanne Upshaw and Glenda Redworth, the business has seen steady growth during the months in operation.

Suzanne has a Bachelor of Science degree in business management and has worked as a systems analyst. Glenda has her Masters in Mathematics and has worked as a geophysicist, systems analyst and database analyst. The day to day operations of the business and the planning and booking of travel are handled by Suzanne. Glenda handles various administrative duties and continues her job as a database analyst while the business is still growing.

When Suzanne's last employer offered a severance package in a downsizing effort, she saw her opportunity. Both Glenda and Suzanne wanted a business where they could work together. Suzanne has always enjoyed planning travel

almost as much as traveling. Every time she considered a career change she looked for opportunities in the travel industry. After attending several business opportunity shows and much research they decided on a home-

based travel business. A home-based operation has a much lower startup cost than a store front a once.



based travel business. A home-based operation has a much lower startup cost than a store front a once.

They contracted with an established agency that provides training and support. To announce their new venture, letters were mailed to family and friends. Also during the

first month they distributed numerous business cards using the "three foot rule," anyone that got within three feet of them or a business card.

Eagle Travel Connections is a member of IGTA (International

There are many destinations currently available for the Gay/Lesbian community. As the business grows, Suzanne plans to organize and promote Gay/Lesbian tours while continuing to provide quality service to all clients.

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# Wisconsin custody case goes to federal court

MADISON, Wis., Wednesday, Aug. 9 (AP)—The mother of a 6-year-old boy believes her constitutional rights will be violated if a former lesbian lover gets court permission to visit her child, a civil suit says.

The lawsuit filed in U.S. District Court on behalf of Elsbeth Knott requests an injunction preventing Sandra Holtzman from winning a state-court ruling in the dispute.

The Wisconsin Supreme Court sent the case June 13 to Circuit Judge George Northrup to consider Holtzman's claim to visitation rights.

The two Madison women have disputed the visitation issue since their breakup in Jan. 1993.

Court records say they met in 1983 in Boston and bought a house together, exchanging rings in a ceremony in Sept. 1984.

Holtzman attended childbirth

classes with Knott and was present when the boy was born. The pair moved to Madison in June 1992, where Holtzman attended law school.

After the breakup, Holtzman filed for custody and visitation rights, saying she had acted in the role of a parent.

Northrup ruled in 1993 he could grant neither custody or visitation because there was no court action such as a divorce petition.

However, the Supreme Court ruled Holtzman could pursue her argument in Northrup's court.

Knott's federal court suit, filed Tuesday by Madison attorney Charles Schute, describes Holtzman's claims as "intrusions" by a non-family member.

The claim is "denying her the rights generally given an intact marital family to be free from government intrusion."

# MCCR announces free concert

## Ken Medema To Perform

As part of its continuing concert series the Metropolitan Community Church of the Resurrection (MCCR) will present Ken Medema at 6:00 p.m. Sunday August 27th. The concert is free and will feature the blind musician, alone on stage with a grand piano, two state-of-the-art synthesizers and an electronic percussion machine.

Mr. Medema began writing and performing his own work in 1970 for his work as a music therapist in a psychiatric hospital. He is now involved full time in a performance schedule that has taken him to four continents.

His music is earthy and direct, full of stories and humor. It utilizes musical styles from classical to rock, from ballad to blues, from sacred to profane—always searching for ways in

which people can connect to each other, enabling them to sense the sacred within themselves and in surprising places. His comedic and satirical skills leave an audience laughing, his gifts as singer, poet and storyteller evoke tears, deep unexpected feelings and powerful personal insights.

He has several distinctions including being the first performance of music as part of a Senate hearing when he testified at the U.S. Senate hearings on Music and Aging in August 1991. Ken is also a frequent guest on the "Hour of Power" TV show and has been involved in many events pertaining to the signing of the Americans With Disabilities Act.

The concert will take place at 1919 Decatur, MCCR's facilities. For more information about the concert, directions, or other programs, telephone 861-9149.

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## ASK THE PASTOR



Rev. Janet Parker

**Q:** "Why should I believe in the deity of Jesus? Currently, I think he's just another prophet from way back when. Why should I believe otherwise?"

**A:** Last week I began to address this question. To say that Jesus was just a prophet or a good moral person is not possible. Jesus was either a liar, a lunatic, or the Son of God. We looked at the possibility of Jesus as a liar last week, unable to come to this as a conclusion. This week we look at Jesus as a possible lunatic. I am sharing with you from Josh McDowell's book, "More Than a Carpenter."

If it is inconceivable for Jesus to be a liar, then couldn't he actually have thought himself to be God, but been mistaken? After all, it's possible to be both sincere and wrong. But we must remember that for someone to think himself God, especially in a fiercely monotheistic culture, and then to tell others that their eternal destiny depended on believing in him, is no slight flight of fantasy but the thoughts of a lunatic in the fullest sense. Was Jesus Christ such a person?

Someone who believes he is God sounds like someone today believing himself Napoleon. They would be deluded and self-deceived, and probably would be locked up so they wouldn't hurt themselves or anyone else. Yet in Jesus we don't observe the abnormalities and imbalance that usually go along with being deranged. His poise and composure would certainly be amazing if he were insane.

It's hard to imagine that Jesus was mentally disturbed. Here is a man who spoke some of the most profound sayings ever recorded. His instructions have liberated many individuals in mental bondage. Clark H. Pinnock asks: "Was he deluded about his greatness, a paranoid, an unintentional deceiver, a schizophrenic? Again, the skill and depth of his teachings support the case only for his total mental soundness. If only we were as sane as he!"

Psychiatrist J.T. Fisher states: "If you were to take the sum total of all authoritative articles ever written by the most qualified psychologists and psychiatrists on the subject of mental hygiene---if you were to combine them and refine them and cleave out the excess verbiage---if you were to take the whole of the meat and none of the parsley, and if you were to have these unadulterated bits of pure scientific knowledge concisely expressed by the most capable of living poets, you would have an awkward and incomplete summation of the Sermon on the Mount. And it would suffer immeasurably through comparison. For nearly two thousand years the Christian world has been holding in its hands the complete answer to its restless and fruitless yearnings. Here...rests the blueprint for successful human life with optimism, mental health, and contentment."

I cannot personally conclude that Jesus was a liar or a lunatic. The only other alternative is that he was the Christ, the Son of God, as he claimed. Next week: Jesus. Was He LORD? (P.S. The Sermon on the Mount is found in the Gospel of Matthew, chapters 5-7, 10; 13; 18; 24-25---check it out!)

**IF YOU WOULD LIKE TO ASK THE PASTOR A QUESTION, WRITE:REV. JANET PARKER, MARANANTHA FELLOWSHIP MCC, P.O. BOX 667032, HOUSTON, TX. 77266-7932**

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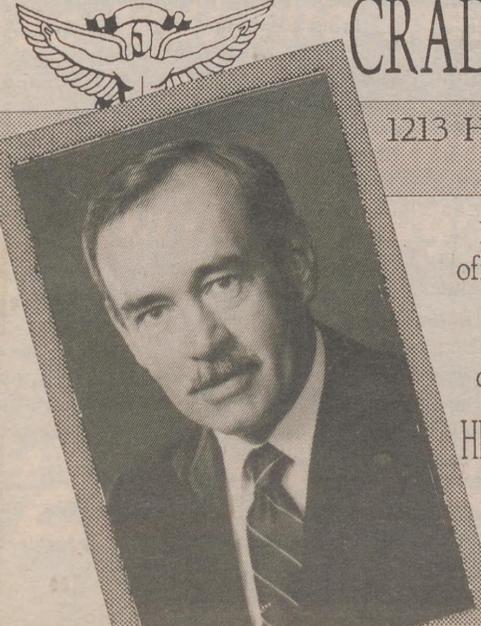
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**'Sister Mary Ignatius' a  
hilarious look at Catholic  
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Diane Tobola as Sister Mary Ignatius with Barry Hall (L) and David M. Duker

**Theater Review**

By JAVIER TAMEZ

Houston Voice/Houston

Growing up Catholic is one, helluva way to reach adulthood. Penance as punishment (not a bad deal all-in-all); the silly mysticism of the confessional (a sort of telephone booth to God); the seemingly endless slapping of straight rules across open, upturned palms (at least for those who went to Catholic school); the priests in their flowing vestments delivering service (for many a first exposure to drag); and of course those pillars of parochial propriety, the sisters, whose somber habits and tightly drawn wimples became indelibly etched in the subconscious of Catholic school children everywhere.

Among the latter is Sister Mary Ignatius (Diane Tobola), of the Sisters of Perpetual Sorrow, who brings her sage counsel and crippled sense of fairness to "Sister Mary Ignatius Explains It All For You" by Christopher Durang. The short play is being presented in conjunction with "Catholic School Girls" at Theater LaB Houston. Together the two shows comprise a sort of Catholic comeuppance, in which the staid traditions and the downright absurd customs of the Catholic masses (get it!) are laid bare on the altar of scrutiny.

Speaking directly to, and often interacting with, the audience, Sister Ignatius explains many of the things that make Catholicism so unique. For instance, the difference between Purgatory and Limbo is addressed: the former being the waiting area for souls who have to be completely cleaned of the sins committed while on earth and the latter being the netherworld for the millions of poor infants who were born but not baptized Catholic through no fault of their own. In a like manner, she covers the difference between the Immaculate Conception and the Virgin Birth, the difference between a mortal sin and a venial sin and how things have changed since Pope John XXIII and the second ecumenical council.

With the help of Thomas (George Parker III), an eager-to-please 7-year old, Sister Ignatius also offers Catholic wisdom on the morality of sex, nuns in the john, the perceived effeminacy of Jesus, the fear of death and masturbation as a mortal sin. And for each correct answer Thomas spouts, which he will do only from the designated point in the classroom, he receives a cookie. Of course, the real tough ones,

such as evil in the world, are merely tossed aside.

Into this religious rehash arrive Diane (Therese Kotara), Gary (David M. Duker), Aloysius (Barry Hall) and Philomena (Rebecca Tindel), former students of Sister Ignatius. Though the sister has forgotten, the four former students have come to present a Christmas pageant as they have promised they would when they were in Sister Ignatius' class. And their little show is a stinging skewering of the birth and death of Jesus Christ. More importantly each arrives carrying distinctly non-Catholic baggage including homosexuality and abortion. And here more than anywhere else the utter incomprehensible nature of the Catholic doctrine is laid bare.

Though this work will undoubtedly be funnier to those who can recall their own experiences with a Sister Ignatius, the laughs are nonetheless loud and long for everyone who sees it, because this is a very funny play. Even better, the humor takes a darker bent just when the play is on the verge of taking itself too seriously.

In so short a play, genuine character development is not really possible, and beyond the sister, with her intractable, blind faith and her roly-poly nature, none of the other characters is given much depth. This is fine as long as the actor in the title role realizes its potential. Diane Tobola does. She is completely convincing as Sister Ignatius. Playing her part with a thoroughly pleasant disposition and a contentedly unshakable belief in the traditions of the Catholic church, Tobola provides a powerful reminder to anyone who grew up Catholic in the shadow of a sister's habit and confirmation of the stereotyped sister to those who were raised as non-believers (you know, Protestants and such).

George Parker III, who did such a great job as a pre/early teen in "The Destiny of Me," comes up decidedly short portraying a child. Though the level of enthusiasm in his characterization was handled well enough, he lacked a child's wide-eyed wonderment and never successfully captured or projected the bumbling innocence of a child. Therese Kotara makes an unsympathetic tragic figure and David M. Duker was woefully stiff. Bill McDonald's directing is light and unforced.

"Sister Mary Ignatius Explains It All For You" is a knee-slapping fun time. Just be sure and go to confession afterwards.

*Down the hall faintly through the fog you see him. He's coming your way...*



# THE FOG

Photo by Steven David

*An event like no other. First the "Porn Stars" and then the "Drag Queen" parties, now something entirely new! Houston's first Fog Party! Join us for a night in the fog! The lights will be out, the fog will be everywhere and so will the men!*



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# A fundraising weekend; Grace Jones at Rich's

## Houston Soap, Part One

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### Past Events

The Venture-N was the site of a fundraiser hosted by The Court and the Houston Area Bears. At press time, \$1500 in cash had been donated as well as 14 bags of stuff for Stone Soup. Way to go! The Colt 45's donated \$1000 to this fund in the memory of Cal Moran.

The male line of the Court had a car wash last Sunday at Gentry. They raised \$762. If you had purchased a ticket you can use it also on Sept. 2. Keep up the good work!

E/J's had a fundraiser for the Q-Patrol this past Sunday. Thanks to Cameron and Tara Dion for hosting this fundraiser.

In memory of Cal Moran, Don Gill and Don Dowden hosted a fundraiser this past Sunday at the Brazos River Bottom.

Grace Jones graced the stage at Rich's this past Sunday. It was an SRO crowd. This fundraiser was for the Human Rights Campaign Fund!

Heaven hosted a toga party this past Sunday as a fundraiser for the Q-Patrol! The little toga-donned dancers made for an interesting evening.

The Pajama Game snuggled on the stage of Gentry this past Sunday. This was a fundraiser for the Court. Next time, I'll wear my jammies!

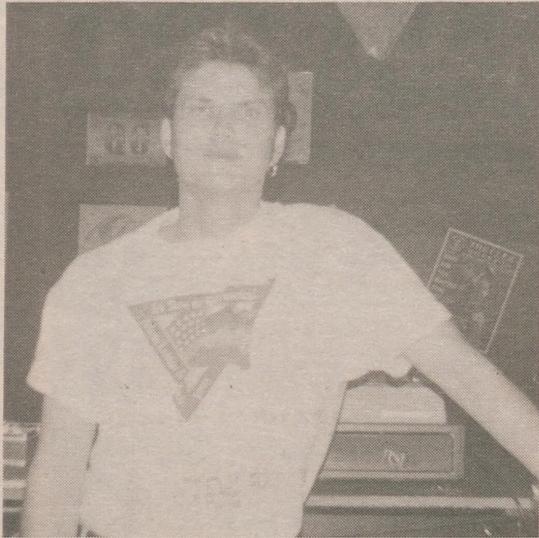
Cousins' stage was full of many local talents this past Sunday!

Miss Alabama hosted a fundraiser at Q.T's this past Sunday! I understand it was a packed house!

### Friday, August 18

J.R.'s continues their Friday night drawing. Enter to win a trip to places like Las Vegas, P-Town, New Orleans, and other fun places every Friday night. The drawing is at 12:30 p.m.

The Montrose Mining Company is having another Torn Levis Party! Wear your oldest, ripped, torn, razor-bladed Levis and enjoy \$1.75 well drinks and domestic longnecks until 8:00 p.m. Frozen Ritas are \$1.75 all night! The Montrose Mine, where hot men party plenty!



Lane Lewis is the newest member of the Pacific Street Fraternity

Celebri-tease tonight at Club 403 features the talents of Jennifer Holiday, Reba McIntyre, and Diana Ross. The show starts at 10:30 p.m.

The Boy Toy Dancers wiggle whopper wads with wanton wickedness within the wood walls of Gentry tonight starting at 6:00 p.m. until 2:00 a.m.

Rich's has trash disco tonight. Drag out those platforms and head down to Rich's and have a boogie, oogie, oogie of a good time.

The Brazos River Bottom has a buffet this and every Friday.

### Saturday, August 19

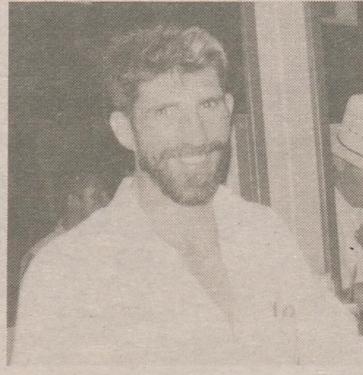
The Venture-N has a pool tournament this afternoon starting at 5:30 p.m.

J.D. LaRue and the Court are having a scavenger hunt this afternoon at Cousin's. The hunt starts at 2:30 p.m. Later, at 8:00 p.m., they will be taking the stage to perform for your pleasure!

Two hot leathermen, John Benavidios and Jim Henley will be guest bartending on the back patio of Pacific Street tonight. They are using the tips to help pay for the trip to the Drummer contest in San Francisco. Stop in and help them get on their way!

The men and women of the Colt 45's will be guest bartending on the patio tonight at the Brazos River Bottom. Scoot down after 9:30 p.m. and say "Howdy!"

Roxanne Lee Love, Miss Bacchus II 1995, is the host for an "All Star Salute" at Club 403 tonight at 10:30 p.m. This fundraiser is a roast of Paivi Lee Love.



Ray delivers for the Houston Voice

Ean's Cabaret is located downtown at 112 Travis. Clip the ad on page 8 to get in free! Ean's has luscious ladies dancing for lesbians every Saturday starting at 9:00 p.m.

E/J's super Saturday show is hosted by Brittany Paige. This week's guests are: Jessica Van Shelton, Candi Cole, and the Island Diva—Misty Valdez. The show starts at 11:00 p.m.

Sundance Cattle Company is having their anniversary party today at Mary's.

The stage of the Lazy J is filled tonight with the talents of Miss T.T, Catia Lee Love, Tricia Blake, Frankie Lane, Keisha McIntyre, and Naomi Warwick. The show starts at 10:00 p.m.

Sheila Lennon will be on stage at Chances tonight. She sings cool, country sounds. She goes on stage at 9:00 p.m.

Hurricane '95 blows in tonight. This annual party, sponsored by the Bayou City Boys Club, (501 (c) (3)) will rage on at the Backyard Bar and Grill, 10200 South Main, at 10:00 p.m. Tickets are \$30.

### Sunday, August 20

Hal and Jim are cookin' up a storm at the Venture-N this afternoon. The menu changes each week. Yea! Buffet!

There is a car wash today from 10:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. in the parking lot at Basic Brothers. Handsome Christopher Graham, attractive Oscar Paredes, and elegant Thomas Rodriguez will be sudzing 'em up to raise money to help them get to the Mr. Gay All-American contest in Little Rock. I just bet they will be modeling some of Basic Brothers skimpiest swim wear while they wash!

Christopher, Oscar, and Thomas are really busy today. They will be performing at E/J's tonight starting at 10:00 p.m. This is a fundraiser



Mike Harwell (R) thanks Charlie, mgr. of the Mine (L) for a \$1000 donation to the Montrose Softball League

to help them get to the Mr. Gay All American contest in Little Rock!

Steak night at the Brazos River Bottom starts at 6:00 p.m. The grill stays hot until 10:00 p.m. The cost is \$6 for a big ol' hunk of beef, baker all-the-way and salad. You are welcome to hang around for the show at 8:00 p.m. This week's show is a benefit for IGRA. Virgil Burke hosts, with guest performers Nevada, Houston City Limits, and Ms. Tuna Melt.

Christian Fox, Studio 2000's adult video star, fills the stage at Heaven tonight at 11:00 p.m. Hang out after the show and get his autograph and maybe win a copy of his latest Studio 2000 video!

\$1 domestic longnecks? Sunday? Patio? Hot Men? Beer Bust? What do these things have in common? The Montrose Mine of course!

Tonight at Gentry several events, will take place. First, a silent auction that starts at 5:00 p.m. then at 8:00 p.m., the President's show "Over the Rainbow" takes the stage. These are fundraisers for TGRA. At 10:00 p.m., Regina Dane dazzles the crowd during the male strip contest. A full night of entertainment and cocktails at Gentry!

### Monday, August 21

The Venture-N has a great "power hour" drink special today thru Saturday, 5:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m. You can get your favorite refreshing well beverage or a domestic longneck for only \$1.50.

Paivi hosts a male strip contest tonight at E/J's. The contest starts at 11:00 p.m.

Pacific Street has Clubbers' night tonight. This is a great chance to visit with all your favorite bartenders on the same side of the bar. You can get in free if you show a pay stub from a local restaurant or nite club or don your colors of your club.

The Ripcord has a pool tournament tonight. Bring \$3 to buy-in and rack the balls at 8:00 p.m.

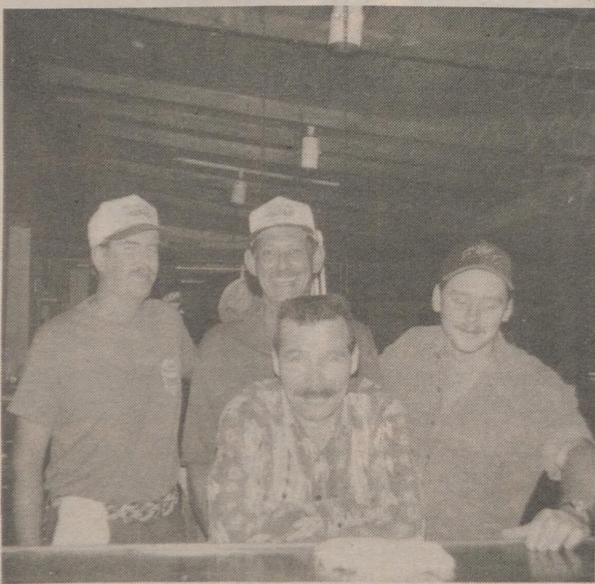
### Tuesday, August 22

There is a fall white sale tonight at the Brazos River Bottom. All white well liquors and domestic longnecks are only \$1 from 9:00 p.m. until 2:00 p.m.

Dynamic Duo Kofi and Lindsay host the J.R.'s "2-4-Tuesday" Strip contest. They also have \$1 domestic longnecks all night long.

The amazing illusions of Kip are featured at the Skyy Lounge tonight! Head up to the Pacific Street Towers and check out his act. Show time is 9:00 p.m.

Tuesdays! What am I supposed to do on Tuesdays? Something about Mary's and Cuervo come to mind! I think I have \$2!



Some of the friendly faces behind the bar at the BRB



Backstage at E/J's before the Q-Patrol fundraiser

# Fun things to do with RODENT DROPPINGS



Randy Jobe at Heaven's Toga Party

## Houston Soap, Part Two Wednesday, August 23

Catia causes commotion tonight at Gentry. She hosts the weekly wienie waivers war starts at 11:00 p.m.

Shiela Lennon sings country tonight starting at 9:00 p.m. at Chances. Be sure to get there early and enjoy the great happy hour!

It is half-price night at Midtowne Spa. They also offer a free dinner buffet!

## Thursday, August 24

Brian (Damita Jo) Keever serves hamburgers, hot homemade chili, and attitude tonight at 6:00 p.m. at the Brazos River Bottom. Stop in and give Brian a hard time; he needs something hard once in a while!

Dueling Divas Kofi and Lindsay host the strip contest tonight at Heaven. There is \$200 in cash prizes. Well drinks are only 75¢ all night long!

Chances has a new drink special. A Rum Neon Tangerine Cocktail is only \$2.50 I've tried this one and it is real light and tasty! I use it to chase my \$2 shots of Cuervo!

It is half-price night at Club Houston.

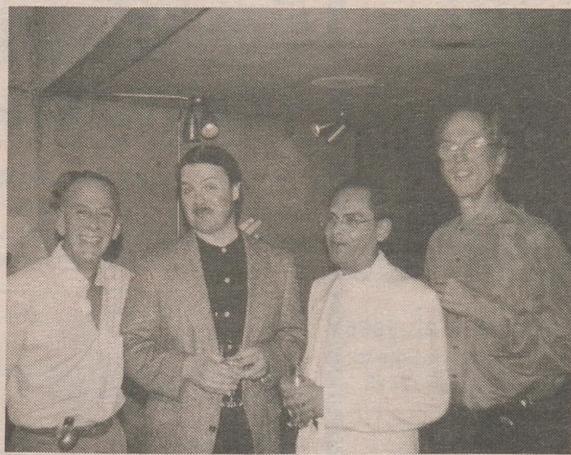
## Other Important Stuff

The Texas Riders are hosting their 3rd annual Daddy's Boy Auction on August 26th at the Venture-N. If you would like an application, or more info, call 771-9726.

It has been brought to my attention that a lot of people are unfamiliar with the way strip contests winners are chosen. Most of the bars use one of the following methods. The most common is by audience response. The only fair way to measure this is to



Larry Joe on his usual barstool at E/J's



I found these handsome men at the screening of the film "Jeffrey" at the Alley

use a sound meter, or have one nonbiased person deciding which stripper received the most applause. The other way is to use a panel of judges that have score sheets. The panel of judges

use a series of categories to measure, poise, posture, ability to remove clothes and shoes in an appealing manner, and so on! Keep in mind that the audience may not feel the same way as the judges. I recently judged a contest where the all the judges agreed on the winner and runner ups, while the audience and MC disagreed with us. But, we were the judges. Please keep this in mind next time you go to watch one of these contests.

If you are looking for opera-length latex gloves, stop in at Leather Forever and ask manager Steve to model a pair for you! They also have tons of other fun stuff.

Bistro 224 is located at 224 Westheimer! Stop by this new restaurant and give their fabu menu a try!

Are you looking for something different in home furnishings? Check out Outrageous at 9000 Richmond for furniture with an attitude!

Next weekend, the WICS band will be performing at Chances.

Something special is brewing at the Club Houston. Check out the ad on page 21 for all the details.

The pizza is hand-tossed at the Avondale Pizzeria. They have a lunch-time buffet, all-you-can-eat for only \$3.99.

Carlos at PastTime is presenting a "Tribute to Selena" contest.

Here's the dirt! There are 3 preliminary contests: Aug. 26, Sept. 2, and Sept 9. The finals are on Sept 16. There is a \$300 grand prize. Check out the ad on page 7 for all the details.

Chances will be selling non child proof lighters!

Rainbo de Klown is looking for people to participate in Drag Queen Mud Wrestling. If you are interested, call 448-0959.

I received a note from the cast of Miss Saigon. Did you know that the cast has agreed to leave all monies from the benefit "From Miss Saigon, With Love" in Houston, rather than contributing half to Equity Fights AIDS as most touring companies do. Historically, this is the second time in Houston that a touring company has told EFA that "if we're getting the money from the community, it's staying in the community, not half of it going to New York." The benefit for Loving Arms is Monday, Aug. 21, 8:00 p.m. at Rockefeller's.

"To Dallas with Love" happens on August 26th. This is a challenge

between the Houston fundraisers and the Dallas fundraisers. Our group will be raising money to donate to Dallas charities and the Dallas group will be in Houston in November to try to beat our total. The Dallas group will donate their funds to the Colt 45's. If you would like more info on this challenge, call Don Gill at 521-0911.

## Birthday Corner

Madonna had a birthday on the 16th. Happy Birthday to one of my idols!

Larry Joe (Hangs at E/J's) had a birthday last week!

Happy birthday to Evelyn Bicknell, owner of Bicknell Plumbing.

Vicci at the Ranch has a b-day this week!

Cookie of the Sambuca Sisters had to buy an extra large jar of wrinkle cream this past week!

Bruce of the BRB is having a birthday this week!

Happy Anniversary to Steven David and Tim!

## Rodent Droppings

I want to include something new in my disclaimer! "This part of the Houston Voice is gossip, rumors, things I overhear in bars, restaurants, or stuff I feel like makin' up! I am not a journalist or reporter, just a witch with a computer and an evil pen. The Houston Voice is in no way responsible for the filth and trash I spew." Ok, on with the droppings!

Harvey (you know, the Ferret-possum, or a Ferosum) is just as rowdy as ever. I know the vet thinks he is part possum, but I was watching a special on the Mongoose, and well, Harvey looks like one! Who knows! I played a little trick on them this week, I switched cages on them! Rarat in Harvey's cage was a trip. He could not figure out how to climb into the hammock. He finally gave up after falling off several times! Harvey decided that Rarat's food bowl needed to be dumped, and well, I have ferret food all over the place! Boys will be boys!

On with the dirt!

Lindsay Love (DQ Diva): Kofi wasn't hiding up your butt? Then where was she?

Cody (Basic Brothers): How come every time I'm in Basic Brothers, you are fondling underwear? Have you been taking lessons from Bill?

Crystal Rae Lee Love (RSICC): Do you have a favorite room at Richmond News and Video or do you go from room to room?

Scott Lewis (Heaven): I'm glad you finally found a "keeper!" I hope Danny feels the same way! Will he be



Halloween comes early at Steven David's Photo studio

the one helping you initiate your new bed? And, are you really going to sleep with a \*\*\*\*\* to get this bed?

Vera (BRB): Loved your t-shirt— "Help! I'm talking and I can't shut-up!"

Patty Duke: Glad to see you out again. Why is your ass sore?

Elizabeth (Baba Yega): Hanging out at Pacific Street? And thanks for the great service last week! The Veggie Ruben was great!

Jerry Morin (RSICSS): Don't you know better than to go to a bar without your ID?

Pumpkin (PS): I understand you need child-proof lighters at your house 'cuz your husband is a child!

Lane Lewis (PS): Welcome to the world of Pacific Street!

Carlos (PastTime): I understand you are tight all the way around!

Lance (Dancer at PS): Next time I offer to take your photo to put in Soap, don't tell me I'll have to pay \$20. I was trying to do YOU a favor by giving you free publicity... you blew it kid!

Dennis (BRB): How many times will 25 go into 52?

Michael Jones (RSICSS): I understand that you are the "daddy" of Trixie Truxstop's bouncing baby! Was it a mercy f\*ck?

Tom Sawyer (Ripcord): Honey, don't do dial a shot when you don't know how to hang up the phone!

Barbara (Chances): Licken Woman? And I understand that you like to "do it" while it is raining. I bet with hurricane season upon us you, get upon someone!

If you want to see Don Gill do drag, call me! We are taking a reader's poll!

Steve (Club Houston): You wear a mental chastity belt?

Eric Bush: Thanks for the geode. It's lovely!

Have a great week!

Hugs

Cuervolyn



Here's the ring to prove that I'm not joking

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To advertise in the Houston Voice Classifieds call (713) 529-8490 or (800) 729-8490 if not in Houston. Office hours are 9:00 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. Monday through Friday

### ANNOUNCEMENTS

**STUDIO 911 - A HAIR SALON**  
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Have you moved? Let us know! Write to:  
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JONATHAN FOLEY  
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### HELP WANTED

**GENTRY** is seeking a *Food Service Coordinator* for Sunday afternoons/evenings. No cooking is required. Six to seven hour shift every Sunday. Please apply in person at 2303 Richmond from 2pm until 6pm.

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

**GENTRY** is accepting applications for *door, barbacks and bartenders*. Please apply in person at 2303 Richmond Ave. from 2 pm to 6 pm. A recent photo is required. No telephone calls please.

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## amnesty

by Louise A. Blum

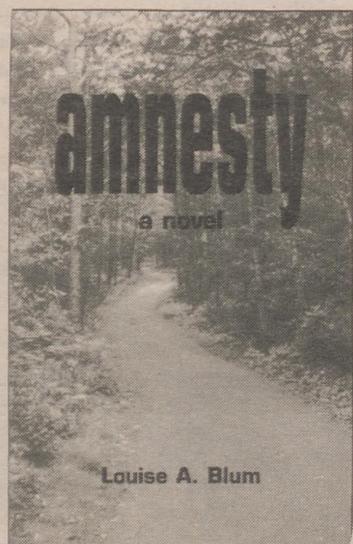
Maura Jaeger has hidden herself in the hills of rural Pennsylvania, teaching English at a small state college and rigorously avoiding all relationships. When her father dies, she must return to the small town where she grew up. Forced to re-examine the childhood that she has fought so hard to forget, Maura must grant herself her own amnesty, and begin to live her life on her own terms.

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by Louise A. Blum

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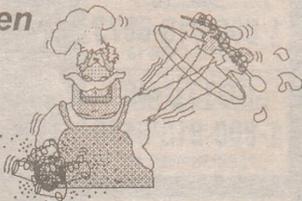
Alyson Publications  
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### RECIPES BY THE KUNTRY KIDD

Hey ya'll! A couple of weeks ago I mentioned to you to go into the "Houston Voice" and meet my friend Maggie. Don't know if any of you have, but if you have, you will know the person that passed this recipe onto me to share with ya'll. It's very easy to make and is very good. I know we all like easy recipes with our busy work schedules, and you can't get much easier than this. Of course unless you are really lazy and eat fast food all the time. And if you do, SHAME on you! Most fast foods are just too fattening. So, this is from Maggie to all of you who take the time to read the recipes.

#### Forgotten Chicken

- 1-1/2 C uncooked rice
- 3 C boiling water
- 1 can Cream of Mushroom soup
- 1 pkg onion soup mix
- 1 chicken



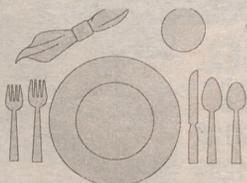
Grease a 9 x 13" pan. Put the rice in the pan and add the water and mushroom soup, and stir them together until mixed thoroughly. Layer the chicken into the pan and sprinkle onion soup mix over the top. Cover tightly with foil and bake at 350 degrees for 1 to 1-1/2 hours: until the chicken is done. That's it!!!

Now Maggie gave me a couple of pointers that she does with this recipe that I also did. Neither of us uses a whole chicken. I prefer white meat, and also this has less fat than the dark meat, so I buy boneless skinless breasts. We also cut up fresh mushrooms and used the baby carrots, and also some pearl onions to put around the chicken. Add all of these before you start to bake the chicken, and everything is done at the same time and you have a complete meal.

I also mentioned to you the Texmate rice. This is another turn on to me from Maggie. If ya'll haven't tried this brand, you should. It smells great while cooking and has a nice nutty flavor.

To close, I just want to say "Thank you Maggie for sharing this with us." I will also be giving you some more recipes later on that are being shared with us from Maggie.

UNTIL NEXT WE EAT!  
KUNTRY KIDD

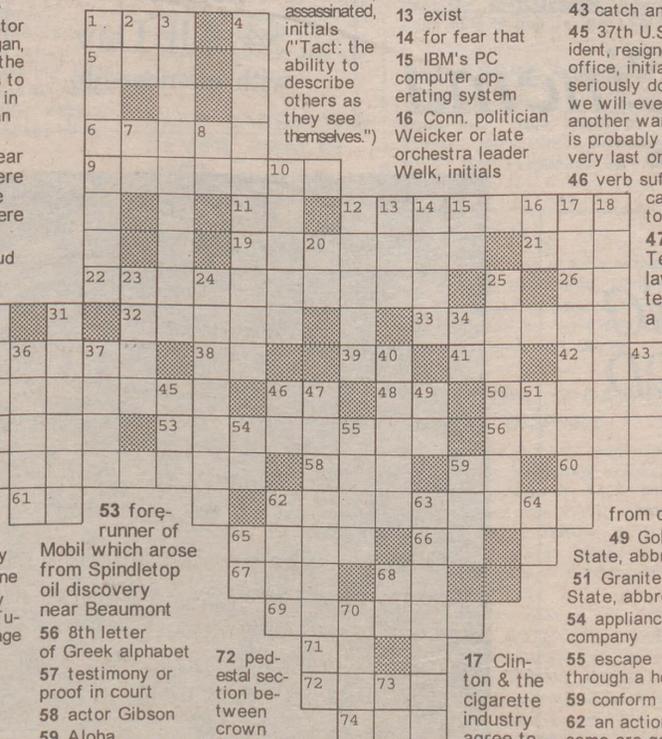


### The Great American Puzzle TEXAS EDITION

By Henry McClurg  
**ACROSS**

- 1 clear
- 5 consumed
- 6 be of use
- 9 thoroughfares
- 11 American actor & president Reagan, initials ("We're the party that wants to see an America in which people can still get rich.")
- 12 battlefield near Brownsville where 1st shots of the Mexican War were fired, 2 words
- 19 soils with mud
- 21 network
- 22 insinuations
- 26 suffix to make some nouns plural
- 27 home of Baylor University
- 32 hit with a cane
- 33 how they say the Italian city Turin in Italian language
- 35 newswoman Walters or actress Steinwyck
- 38 abbrev. for top secret
- 39 Palmetto State, abbrev.
- 41 to a horse, stop!
- 42 computer keyboard key similar to the 'Ctrl' key
- 44 parquet circle
- 46 20th century American author Hemingway, initials ("Courage is grace under pressure.")
- 48 1800's American statesman Clay, initials ("Courtesies of a small and trivial character are the ones which strike

- deepest in the grateful and appreciating heart.")
- 50 fury
- 52 get into one's possession



- 53 fore-runner of Mobil which arose from Spindletop oil discovery near Beaumont
- 56 8th letter of Greek alphabet
- 57 testimony or proof in court
- 58 actor Gibson
- 59 Aloha State, abbrev.
- 60 salesperson
- 61 over
- 62 what followers of the Grateful Dead are called
- 65 central point of an office
- 66 19th century Irish wit Wilde, initials ("Morality is simply the attitude we adopt toward people whom we personally dislike.")
- 67 establish
- 68 Chinese-Ameri-

- can human rights activist in Wuhan prison, China
- 69 disparage
- 71 16th U.S. president Lincoln, assassinated, initials ("Tact: the ability to describe others as they see themselves.")

- 72 pedestal section between crown & base
- 74 storage box
- DOWN**
- 1 2nd Japanese city to be hit with atomic bomb 50 years ago
- 2 movie creature who liked little boy
- 3 Ross Perot's birthplace
- 4 popular name for Africanized honeybees now invading Texas
- 7 Green Moun-

- tain State, abbrev.
- 8 Latin for 'that is,' abbrev.
- 10 direction of movement
- 12 devout
- 13 exist
- 14 for fear that
- 15 IBM's PC computer operating system
- 16 Conn. politician Weicker or late orchestra leader Welk, initials

- 17 Clinton & the cigarette industry agree to try to curb these smokers
- 18 passe, no longer used
- 20 Old Line State, abbrev.
- 23 Tarheel State, abbrev.
- 24 cause to know not
- 25 country that launched attack with much success in early August on rebel Serbs
- 28 a human blood type

- 29 head covering
- 30 harangue
- 31 dense flower cluster
- 34 Buckeye State, abbrev.
- 36 shout of approval
- 37 grass in wetlands
- 40 juvenile
- 43 catch an animal
- 45 37th U.S. president, resigned from office, initials ("I seriously doubt if we will ever have another war. This is probably the very last one.")
- 46 verb suffix, cause to be
- 47 unique Texas law protecting a home
- 49 Golden State, abbrev.
- 51 Granite State, abbrev.
- 54 appliance company
- 55 escape through a hole
- 59 conform strictly
- 62 an action, some are good, some are bad
- 63 where the trial of the accused Selena killer will be
- 64 perform
- 65 musician Severinsen or comedian Smothers, initials
- 68 Evergreen State, abbrev.
- 70 chatter
- 73 English princess or an army drill instructor

SOLUTION ELSEWHERE THIS ISSUE  
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## David Geffen gives \$4 million for AIDS services

LOS ANGELES, Wednesday, Aug. 9 (AP)—Record mogul David Geffen is giving \$4 million to New York's Gay Men's Health Crisis and a related organization—the largest single gift for AIDS services, the GMHC said Wednesday.

"AIDS must be everyone's fight," said Geffen, one of the founders of the new DreamWorks studio. "I hope my contribution will encourage more people to come forward and give generously. In the face of so much death, it's essential we do all we can to support life."

The gift will be used by the GMHC and God's Love We Deliver to build a testing center at an undetermined site. The previous single largest gift was also given by Geffen, a \$1 million donation, the GMHC said.

### READERS POLL

Do you feel that discrimination against gays and lesbians can be compared to discrimination against racial and other minorities?

Respond to:  
1-900-226-5573 ext.22507  
\$2.95/call. 18+.  
Polling Purposes  
Commlink Int'l

(Results maybe obtained by staying on the line. There is no additional fee.)



### GALAXY GAYZER A HOUSTON VOICE EXCLUSIVE

#### HOROSCOPE FOR THE WEEK OF AUGUST 18 - 25, 1995



**IF THIS WEEK IS YOUR BIRTHDAY:** You are in tune with the sexual potential all around you. People will notice a new vibrancy about you and want to be with you more. If you are looking for love, you could quite easily connect with someone, probably a very passionate partner.

**ARIES:** (March 21-April 20) Have confidence in your hunches or intuitive flashes this week and follow through on them when the

timing is right. Keep your eyes set on your ultimate goals and it will be easier to achieve them if you take it all just one step at a time.

**TAURUS:** (April 21 - May 21) Try not to become involved in another's financial dealings the outcome may be much worse than you could have ever thought. Taking stock of yourself and how you intend to achieve specific goals should be part of your self-analysis - quiet time will help.

**GEMINI:** (May 22 - June 21) Your week is a bit hectic with problems arising with a family member. Harsh words may be exchanged over future plans - let things cool down a bit before you start the discussions back up again. Be alert for an educational opportunity within your reach.

**CANCER:** (June 22 - July 23) A new romance is just around the corner, if you are looking for it. Work is really the name of the game this week, and if you try to get out of it, you'll no doubt land in an even more restrictive setting. Make the best of a rather dreary day.

**LEO:** (July 24- August 23) Your love life, pleasurable or creative interests, and fun matters involving children will be featured this week, providing you discard negative thoughts and feelings. Your charm and powers of persuasion will help you win an important business deal.

**VIRGO:** (August 24 - September 23) A number of diverse interests will be highlighted this week. Domestic matters, possibly concerning children, improvement of property and innovative career concepts may keep you busy. It's time to turn on the charm if you are seeking progress at work.

**LIBRA:** (September 24 - October 23) There are some romantic developments in the works for this week. A partnership may work nicely for you, and money dealings should be sound if you put your trust in reports from experts. Any close alliances are now in a positive mode, work with them.

**SCORPIO:** (October 24 - November 22) You will probably take the initiative in a business-financial situation early in the week, however, this could be a time of win some and lose some. A new chapter will open soon in your life concerning a family member or property interest. Don't act impulsively.

**SAGITTARIUS:** (November 23 - December 21) Both your interests at home and monetary gain are linked this week. Personal plans may cut into work time, but you are currently pretty organized and will be able to cope with a number of interests. Travel plans for later in the year arouse deep interest in you.

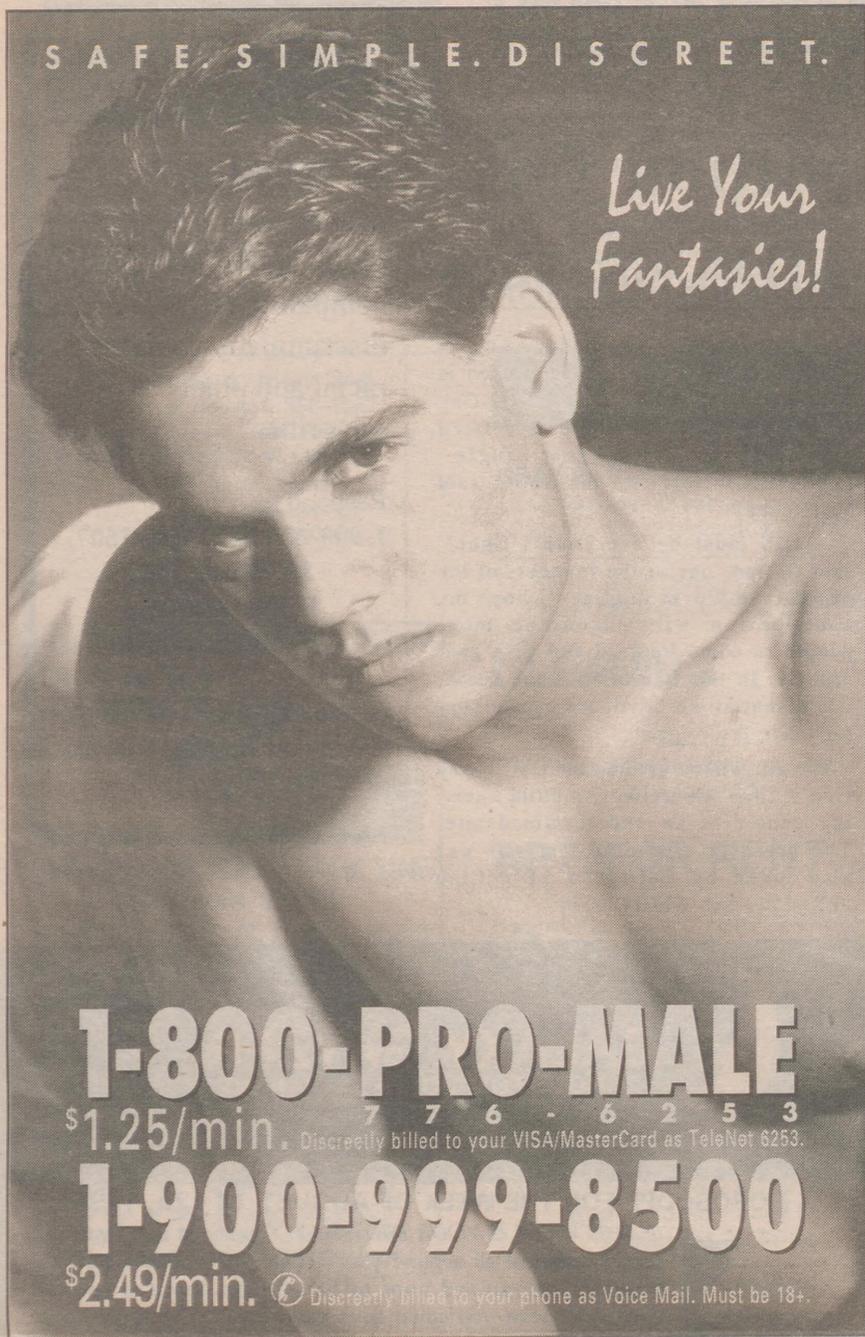
**CAPRICORN:** (December 22 - January 20) You will no doubt need to strive very hard to keep your head above water this week - try to look at it as a positive learning experience, a lesson to be learned. Communication between you and a special person will become more meaningful in the near future.

**AQUARIUS:** (January 21 - February 19) This week will start a moderate trend in which your best traits and talents will be intensified, and your self-confidence will soar. Give renewed consideration to a financial matter involving others. This may be a case where diplomacy pays off.

**PISCES:** (February 20 - March 20) You are feeling attractive this week and that feeling is communicated to everyone around you. Naturally, you will get your share of attention as a result. Although you enjoy romance, it is more likely that you are presently being pursued, instead of doing the pursuing.

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*Live Your Fantasies!*



**1-800-PRO-MALE**  
 \$1.25/min. 7 7 6 - 6 2 5 3  
 Discreetly billed to your VISA/MasterCard as TeleNet 6253.

**1-900-999-8500**  
 \$2.49/min. Discreetly billed to your phone as Voice Mail. Must be 18+.

IN YOUR FACE 1-800-207-8107 Adults 18+  
 PHONE SEX PARTY 1-800-709-2230 Adults 18+  
 EASY ACCESS 1-800-806-7782 Adults 18+

**WET AND WILD**

1-800-815-6668  
 Adults 18 and over only



**Hot Jocks**

1-800-934-0134  
 Adults over 18



**SEXY STUDS**

1-800-964-7825  
 Adults 18 & over only

**TOPS**

1-800-815-6675  
 ADULTS OVER 18



**SIZZLING SEX SAMPLES**

1-800-825-5825  
 1-800-727-2883  
 Adults 18+



**BOTTOMS**

1-800-815-6676  
 ADULTS OVER 18

**INSTANT ACTION**

1-809-563-0326

**CASUAL CONTACT**

1-809-563-0593

Int'l long distance rates apply. 18+



**PRIVATE MESSAGES**

GET YOURS NOW

1-800-934-0130

Adults 18+ strictly



**HOT & HARD**

1-800-815-6679

1-800-216-1206

Adults over 18



**BIG ONES ONLY**

1-800-234-4865

1-800-678-2557

Adults over 18 only



**PHONE SEX SAMPLES**

1-800-207-8108

1-800-216-1204

ADULTS 18/OVER



**UNUSUAL URGES**

1-800-216-1202

1-800-934-0132

ADULTS 18/OVER



**SAMPLES**  
 1-800-709-2235  
 1-800-933-4429  
 Adults 18+

**New! HOT INTERNET ACTION**  
<http://www.listing.com/manstop> 18+

USG-127

**MIDNIGHT MATINEE SPECIAL**

Sunday thru Thursday  
 Midnight til Closing

Admission \$4  
 with membership

**FRENCH QUARTER**

(713) 527-0782 3201 LOUISIANA HOUSTON

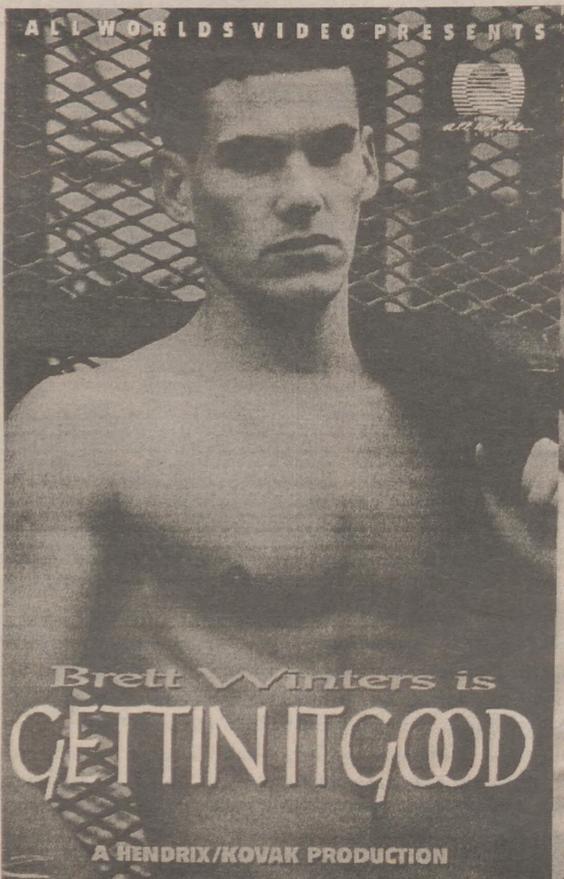
*All Male Cinema*

presents

**THURSDAY Matinee**

\$4 All Day  
 with membership

ALL WORLDS VIDEO PRESENTS



Brett Winters is  
**GETTING IT GOOD**  
 A HENDRIX/KOVAK PRODUCTION

*GETTING IT GOOD*

and

*STIFF*

Friday & Saturday

11am - 3am

Monday-Thursday

11am - 1am

Sunday

1pm - 1 am

HIS GOLD



YORK POWERS IS  
**STIFF**

# Houston VOICE Personals

## GOOD LOOKING & FIT

Inexperienced 24 yr. old male looking for a straight acting college student or young professional, between the ages of 18-24, for discrete friendship and maybe more. Ad 25716

## FREE TO LOVE

Professional, mature, masculine, successful, fun loving gay white male, 40, 5'11", 180#, well built and very attractive, dark hair and deep grey blue eyes, and interested in a very long term monogamous relationship based on loyalty, honesty and most importantly, passion. True love runs deep, and there is nothing else quite like it... to be devoted and committed to that one special person who is as equally into you as you are into him. Ad 25718

## MATURE MASCULINE TOP

Seeking meaningful relationship with masculine bottom. Me: GWM; good looks; lean, firm body; professional; HIV-. You: sensual; good shape; employed; no addictions. Latin, Mediterranean a plus. I want what I can deliver: honesty, trust, respect, love, monogamy, intimacy, commitment. Letters preferred; include phone. Photo optional. I'll respond. Ad 25694

## VERY WELL ENDOWED

Attractive GWM, 39, 6'1", 175 and HIV-. Dominant top/daddy type. Seeking the intimacy lacking in a world of casual encounters. I.S.O. younger masculine bottom "boy" that's muscular and attractive. Interests include movies, clubs, intimate evenings, and camping. Respond by letters only; with phone and photo please. Ad 25700

## ENJOY HOUSTON

Good-looking, rich (well comfortable), successful, socially connected, seeks conversationally stimulating, visually appealing person to laugh with and go places with. I'm 50, HWP, healthy HIV+. Mail responses only, please. Ad 25710

## SPECIAL SPECIFIC SERIOUS BOTTOMS

Need to submit? Need to service and do it right? Good at taking instructions? Need discipline? Naughty lately? Need bound? Know your place with a demanding top? Your call. If GM, 25-40, fit, clean, healthy, easy going, bright, nice guy, then I am expecting your call. Ad 25653

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

## HIV+ HISPANIC MALE

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

## AFTERNOON DELIGHT

Professional GWM, 49, blonde-blue, clean shaven, 6', 165, swimmers body. I.S.O. part-time play buddy. You are good-looking, 30 to 50, HWP, drug free, without hang-ups. CALLS ONLY. Ad 25704

## LOOKING FOR BILL:

Your name is Bill, a GBM I met in the Ripcord. You said you were taking a friend home, but you were late in returning to the bar. I would like to get in touch with you. Ron Ad 25134

## FRIENDLY YOUNG MAN WANTED

Affectionate older GWM seeks a young man for discreet and safe fun. I like to please young men, especially if they are slender, boyish and smooth. DDF please. Ad 25693

## LOOKING FOR LIKE/ PROF. FOR LONG-TERM RELATIONSHIP

Looking for a fellow professional with a strong work ethic. Interested in a long term relationship with someone who enjoys nice quiet weekday nights, followed by busy weekends. I'm 36, 6'1" and 175lbs., DDF. You should be between 28 and 38, established in your career, DDF and proportionately built. Life is good and I would like it to get better with the right man. Ad 25656

## BOTTOM SEEKS TOP

I.S.O.: Masculine, hairy, H.W.P., HIV-, well endowed GWM for safe fun. No strings. Pure indulgence. ME: 40 yr., HIV-, 5'7", 160 lbs, brown hair, brown eyes, w/S & P beard. Average guy. No hang-ups. Photo w/letter for response. Ad 25724

## BLACK MALE SEEKS WHITE MALE

37 year old black male, HIV+, 30 waist, 6', 155, healthy and active. Seeking GWM HIV+ age 25-40 for monogamous relationship. Must be sincere. No one nighters please. Ad 25681

## FIRST TIME

5'6" medium build middle aged straight black male beginning to find myself attracted to other straight appearing males, black or white, small to medium build. Not macho. Wish to talk or meet with others experiencing or those who have experienced the same. Never had an affair. Would like to hear from you. Ad 25714

## NEED DADDY YOU NEVER REALLY HAD?

Mature, professional, very hairy body/hairy chest, Edwardian beard, (sign of Cancer) . You, mentally mature, non-smoker, into safe fun. Please respond to Ad 25916.

## SEEKING HIV+ HISPANIC MALE

I am in my early 30's, healthy, HWP and am interested in developing a relationship with a sincere, honest and caring man. You must be professional/business-like, able to speak spanish and have proper documents to travel out of the country. Ad 25712

## HAIRY DADDY SEEKS BOY

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

## SERIOUS & SINCERE ONLY

Tall/Handsome/GWM. Loves to look, dance, & shop. Former LSU student turned paraprofessional. I.S.O. spontaneous, intellectual, politically incorrect friends. You must keep up w/fashion, latest dance music, and me! HWP & DDF. Ad 25702

## GWF COUPLE LOOKING FOR NEW FRIENDS

Lesbian couple in our mid-30's looking for a single person, or couple, for a non-sexual friendship. We enjoy movies, music, the Rockets, Reba and Melissa. Ad 25641

## FOR \$29.95 PER YEAR YOU CAN HAVE AN AD IN THIS SECTION

To establish your own advertisement in the Houston Gay Personals call (713) 529-8490 (or if outside Houston (800) 729-8490) or come by our offices at 811 Westheimer, Suite 105. Please have your ad written out. You will be given a box number as soon as we receive payment along with all instructions. Happy love making!

## CHRISTIAN SEEKS LIFEMATE

GWM, 33, 6'1", 285, christian, professional with big heart. I'm nice looking, short brown hair and mustache. Seeking that special someone with lots of love to give for monogamous relationship. Interests include movies, intimate evenings, helping people in need, yard sales, flea markets, and my church. Ad 25708

## SEEKING TO MAKE NEW FRIENDS

New to the gay scene. Recently divorced. Looking to make new friends/acquaintances. I am a WM early 50's but people say I look 40, DDF, non-smoker, permanently employed. I am average looking, tall and slim, hazel eyes, blond hair. I like quiet evenings, enjoy cooking, gardening, country and western music, the beach, and the outdoors. If interested, respond to Ad 25674.

## ATTENTION -NUDIST

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

## TOP SEEKS BOTTOM

Top seeks bottom for workouts. Nice guy, nice looking, no strings, do-it first, then talk. HIV+. Mail responses only. Ad 25706.

## GO FOR IT!

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

## PASADENA: 3 CAN BE GOOD COMPANY

And lot's of fun! GWC, barely 30's, one's versatile, one's top only. Both well endowed, HWP, DDF, tired of bars. You: GWM, 18-30, HWP, DDF, versatile or bottom. For: Safe 3-Way Fun, Friendship and Companionship. Ad 25695

Attractive male, 5'9", 145#, sincere professional. Seeking monogamous relationship with someone who is attractive, HWP, honest and willing to make a commitment. Interests include museums, dining out, the outdoors, travel and good conversation. Prefer mail responses. Ad 25722

## SPECIAL OFFER

Interesting GWM looking for a special gentleman. I'm 37, 6'1", 175, brown/blue, professionally employed, healthy, happy, emotionally and financially stable, warm, caring & relationship oriented. I enjoy travel, Nautilus, family, friends and more. I'm looking for a compatible gentleman, 30s to 40s, who is single, smart, funny & charming. Why not respond today! You may make a new friend, maybe a lot more!! Ad 25720

## INSTRUCTIONS

### TO PLACE a Houston Voice Personal Ad --

Come to our offices at 811 Westheimer, Suite 105.

It's a good idea to write out (up to fifty words) what you want to say. The annual cost is only \$29.95 -- less than one dollar per week. (6months -\$17.50 and 3 months-\$10) At the office you will be given the functioning details. Ads can also be placed by mail, with payment enclosed, phone 713-529-8490, for details.

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

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

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

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

G - Gay

M - male; F - female;

W - white; B - black; H - hispanic, A - asian

HWP - height, weight, proportionate

DDF- disease, drug free

## ADVERTISE YOUR BUSINESS IN THE HOUSTON VOICE



SEX TALK MEETINGS WITH MEN. Mature adults 18 and over only! 1-800-815-6672.

HOT FANTASIES / 2 STUDS NOW 215-474-2848. 18 & over only. It's The Maximum.

JET BLACK AND SUGAR SWEET. HOT HUNKS GIVE IT UP FOR YOU NOW. 1-800-815-6679. Adults 18/over. Take your pick.

LONELY MEN SEEK HOT GUYS. PHONE 1-800-216-1202. Mature adults 18+ only.

HANDS ON HARRY GIVES IT GOOD! 913-661-9485. Strictly adults over 18 only.

**NEW! HOT! SEX SAMPLES 213-346-1085**  
Adults 18+.

ALL STAR MALE CALL SERVICE. Find out how - Men 24 hours. NO CREDIT CARD 1-800-934-0132 Strictly 18+. Rated 4 Stars.

PRIVATE SESSIONS. HOT PHONE SEX FANTASY 1-800-934-0136. MATURE ADULTS OVER 18 ONLY. DO IT NOW.

**LOVE DIRECTORY FIND OUT HOW 1-800-934-0130**  
Adults over 18 only

GUYS AT HOME. REAL NUMBERS 1-800-945-5225. MATURE ADULTS OVER 18 ONLY. ACTION BY PHONE. Married men need talk too 1-800-777-4247. Contact for mature adults 18 + only.

SPECIAL INTERESTS YOU KNOW EXACTLY WHAT WE MEAN! 212-339-8731. ADULTS 18 AND OVER ONLY.

BIG, BURLY BRUTES - HOT!!! 415-249-4960. 18+ only. Direct Connections. 24 Hours.

Nick's best: 312-578-5415. Adults 18+ only.

"I WANNA BE LIVE WITH YOU" 215-474-2857 Adults 18/over only. Call for men.

MICHAEL'S PHONE 1-800-207-8108 18/over.

SCRUMPTIOUS STORIES 1-800-216-1204. ADULTS 18+ HAND-PICKED PLEASURES.

**NEW! Fetishes & Rituals 1-800-388-4847**  
Adults 18 plus. No Exceptions!

**HOT SAMPLES "You know what I mean" 212-339-8733**  
Strictly 18+.

MATURE MEN WITH LOVE EXPERIENCE need hot guys for fulfillment of dreams & sharing of PRIVATE DESIRES 1-800-204-9687. ADULTS 18 & OVER.

THE PALACE OF PLEASURE CALLS IN THE NIGHT 1-800-815-6671. MATURE ADULTS OVER 18 ONLY.

MEN WHO CRAVE SEX CONFESSIONS 1-800-806-7782. FOR MATURE ADULTS OVER 18 ONLY.

Soaked to the Skin.

**NEW**

HOUSTON'S ALL-NEW  
TELEPHONE DATING  
SERVICE HAS ARRIVED!

COMPLETELY  
FREE  
INTRO. SPECIAL  
CALL NOW!



**A MAN FOR ALL REASONS...**

FRIENDS > MONOGAMOUS RELATIONSHIPS  
> OPEN RELATIONSHIPS > SINGLES SEEKING  
INTIMATE RELATIONSHIPS > ATTACHED AND  
SEEKING A DISCREET ENCOUNTER > CASUAL  
DATING > ALTERNATIVE RELATIONSHIPS

Free to Call\* to Record Your Ad & Browse Through Ads.  
Message Sending and Message Receiving Also Completely FREE  
for a Limited Time.

**MANLINE**  
~~~~~

**917-3939**

WHEN ASKED, ENTER SECRET CODE 803

IMC DOES NOT PRE-SCREEN ITS CALLERS AND ASSUMES NO LIABILITY WHEN MEETING WITH SOMEONE THROUGH ITS SERVICE.  
ADULTS 18 YEARS OF AGE OR OVER ONLY. \*FREE TO CALL WITHIN THE 713 AREA CODE. TOLL CHARGES MAY APPLY IF CALLING FROM OUTSIDE THE 713 AREA CODE.