



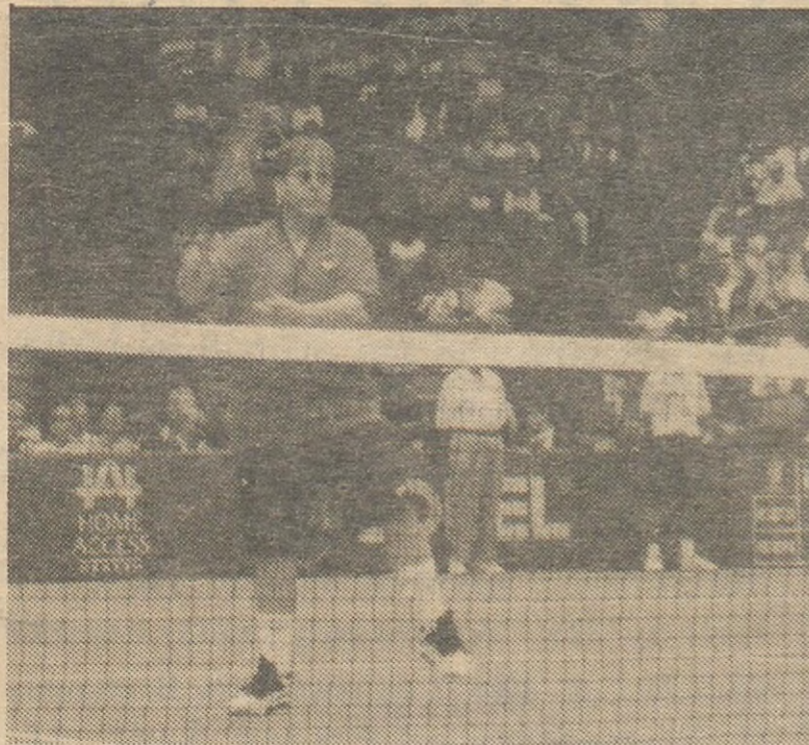
SEPTEMBER 20, 1996 • ISSUE 830

Smash Hits Exactly That!!

By Lee Davis

There was a report of Rocket sightings at the Summit on Thursday, Sept. 12, not the Houston Rockets, except for a brief courtside appearance by Clyde Dexter. "The Rocket Man", Elton John, was in town for his Fourth Annual World Team Tennis All-Star Smash Hits. Benefiting locally the AIDS Foundation Houston, the Montrose Clinic and the HIV Wellness Center of Austin, over \$300,000 was raised thanks to the generosity of Houstonians.

Before the tennis match, a silent auction was held in the Grand Ballroom of the Renaissance Hotel in Greenway Plaza. The auction drew some of Houston's elite—Oscar Wyatt, Morty Cohn, Maxine Messinger and even Alvin Van Black. Elton John donated two seats at his \$30,000 per table "1996 Grand Slam for Children Event" to be held in Las Vegas Sept. 20-21, Billie Jean King donated her personal tickets to both the men's and women's finals at Wimbledon and three nights in a hotel, and Martina Navratilova donated a black Labrador puppy. Also being auctioned were a pair of Elton's red-and-silver high heel platform shoes, which went to Houston's Tricia Cline for \$6,000 and a piano bench used during his concerts. Pete Sampras donated a tennis racket, which Elton bought for \$9,000. All proceeds from the auction went directly to the Elton John Aids Foundation, which to date has distributed \$6 million in grants in North America and \$3 million internationally. Working with a staff of only five people, Elton is reported to insist



The Rocket Man himself at the Houston Summit raising money for the Elton John AIDS Foundation.

on knowing where every penny of the money is used.

The tennis match pitted the Philadelphia Freedoms vs. the Houston EZ Riders. The Freedoms were captained by Elton himself, with the talents of Andre Agassi, Luke Jensen, Martina Navratilova and Monica Seles. The Riders were led by Billie Jean King along with tennis greats Murphy Jensen, Chanda Rubin (out with injuries), Pete Sampras, Lindsay Davenport, and Natasha Zvereva. With talent like that, it was amazing that only over 9,000 people came to see this great match! But those few who did attend, were treated to a night of fun, great tennis and a lot of laughs. Do not let Elton fool you! The man can sing, play piano, compose songs, promote AIDS research, but he also swings a mean tennis racket. The pros were obviously serving a little slower than usual, but Elton takes his tennis very seriously. All the players were in a more playful and relaxed mood which

made the evening especially fun since it was minus the tension of serious tournament play.

In the first match, Elton & Monica teamed up against Billie Jean & Andre. Although labeled a "Pro-Celebrity Match", Monica and Andre did not ease up a bit as they were very competitive throughout. The second match featured Pete and Murphy against Andre and Luke. At one point in the match, Luke went into the audience some 20 rows up and served. To everyone's delight, the service was good. Completely stunned, Pete could only stand there and watch. In the end, Andre and Luke won 6-2. In the Women's Singles, Monica defeated Lindsay, the 1996 Gold Medalist from the Olympics in Atlanta, 6-4. Lindsay is a very imposing 6'2-1/2" tall who serves at over 100mph. The Women's Doubles was next. Monica

(Continued on page 10)



Martina and Monica were paired as doubles players beating out their opponents Lindsay Davenport and Natasha Zvereva.



Patricia Ireland

Patricia Ireland at NOW State Convention

Houston Woman is New State President

By Deborah Bell

"Women Changing the Law" was the theme for this year's 1996 convention of the Texas Chapter of the National Organization for Women (NOW). And in keeping with that theme it is appropriate that three women attorneys were prominent participants in the activities. The weekend long convention was held in Austin.

First of all by the participation of the organization's national President, Patricia Ireland. Ireland is currently on a book tour promoting her autobiography "What Women Want." The book speaks frankly about her own journey to empowerment—both political and personal: from being a teenage bride and flight attendant for Pan American Airlines, to becoming a successful corporate lawyer and the leader of the country's largest organization for

(Continued on page 10)

Same-Sex Marriage Likely To Become Legal

By Philip A. Greenberg and Gerald B. Gasman

Special for the Houston Voice

Just as the Marvin v. Marvin decision by the California Supreme Court in the 1970's drew national attention to the issue of palimony, the Hawaii case of Baehr v. Lewin has generated controversy nationwide concerning the possibility that a Hawaii state's court could place a stamp of approval on same-sex marriages. However, acknowledging that this issue is much more far reaching than palimony, state legislatures are now

considering whether to pass laws banning the recognition of same-sex marriage and many states have already passed laws written to do just that. Appropriate to the gravity of this legislative and social battle, partisan rhetoric on both sides of the debate and press coverage has been overwhelming.

As far as Congress is concerned, it has already disposed of the issue by passing what they refer to as the Defense of Marriage Act (DOMA). Both the House of Representatives and the U.S. Senate recently passed this bill, cosponsored by Republican presidential candidate Bob Dole, that denies federal recognition of same-sex marriage even if legalized

by individual states. Specifically, the act denies federal tax, welfare, pension, health, immigration and survivor's benefits to same-sex married couples, regardless of whether any states recognize such unions. The same bill says that the states are not obligated to recognize same-sex marriage, although

they may if they legislate to do so. President Clinton

(Continued on page 9)

Homophobic Allegations in Turner Case

By Deborah Bell

Homophobic statements and rumors made via affidavit were brought up in court this week in Sylvester Turner's libel case. Turner, a one time mayoral candidate is charging a local TV station with libel. The suit has gone on for over two weeks. On Tuesday, Sept. 17 an affidavit was introduced that indicated Turner's possible sexual involvement with another man. Turner brought charges against reporter Wayne Dolcefino and KTRK after he was linked to a "fake death" insurance scam.

(Continued on page 19)



Sylvester Turner (Photo by Kaye Marvins)



"Masquerade"—new work by Larry Crawford. See story on page 8.

In Loving Memory



DAVID HAMILTON
1954 - 1991

It's been five years since I lost you but I miss you just as much now as I did then. I hope you are happy and will wait for me to join you someday. You were my first and only to date. You died on 9/19/1991 at 19:19 in room 109. If there is anyone out there who can make logic of these numbers, please contact me through this publication.

I love you dearest,
Douglas Lake

Washington Quilt Display Training

Not Too Late To Be Involved

Volunteer training and orientation sessions will be held at various central region (Hirshorn) locations the last week in September.

Because of the vast size and layout of the DC '96 Display (44,000 panels), volunteers are still needed. Contact Perrie Dolph at 713/729-9662 or plan on attending the training session in your area. Volunteer handbooks will be distributed, a short new video pertaining to the Washington display and job descriptions will be shown. The unfolding ceremony will be practiced and in case of rain (bad word) the emergency rain-fold. Information regarding new panels, Washington Names Project merchandise and the Central (Hirshorn) location on the National Mall will be available. Our region is now called the Hirshorn Museum Area instead of Central, directly in front of that Museum and running to 7th Street.

Assignment (display duties) letters will be mailed in the next two weeks to all volunteers who have registered to date. Every attempt was made to honor your wishes however there is no guarantee that your assignment is your first choice.

Perrie Dolph, the Central Region Volunteer Coordinator sends the following message, "I look forward to meeting you at your training session or in Washington. To each and every one of you, thank you for responding to our request and sharing this important weekend of your life in October with us."

Houston: Sunday, Sept. 29th, 6pm at Rich's, 2401 San Jacinto; **Ft. Worth:** Saturday, Sept. 28th, 5pm at 707 Del Mar Ln; **Arlington/Dallas:** Saturday, Sept. 28th, 2pm at the AIDS Resource Center, Egan at Brown; **San Antonio:** Thursday, Sept. 26th, 6pm at AIDS Foundation, 818 E. Grayson; **Tulsa:** Saturday, Sept. 28th, 2pm at Fellowship Congregational Church, 2900 S. Harvard; **Baton Rouge:** Tuesday, Sept. 24th, 7pm at Jones Creek Regional Library, Jones Creek Rd.

Support the BERING CARE CENTER

LiB Meeting Sept. 20th

We told you who but inadvertently left off the essential information of where, why, and when, in the article about Kristin K. Anderson, PhD. in the Sept. 13 issue of the Houston Voice. Dr. Anderson will be the speaker at the Lesbians in Business (LiB) meeting on Friday, Sept. 20. The topic is "Sex, Sports, and Rock and Roll." The meeting starts at 6:30pm at the Innova Building (just off Cummins & Richmond). The cost for members is \$3 and \$5 for non-members. The meeting is open to all women. Anderson played football at the Gay Games in 1994, a Houston's Women's flag football league in the formation stages with over 150 women already signed up! Come to the LiB meeting if you are interested in joining a team.

NOTICE OF PUBLIC MEETING

THE TEXAS DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION (TXDOT) WILL CONDUCT A PUBLIC MEETING REGARDING THE PROPOSED IMPROVEMENTS TO US 59/SPURS27, FROM SHEPHERD DRIVE TO HAWTHORNE, IN THE CITY OF HOUSTON, HARRIS COUNTY, THE MEETING WILL BE HELD:

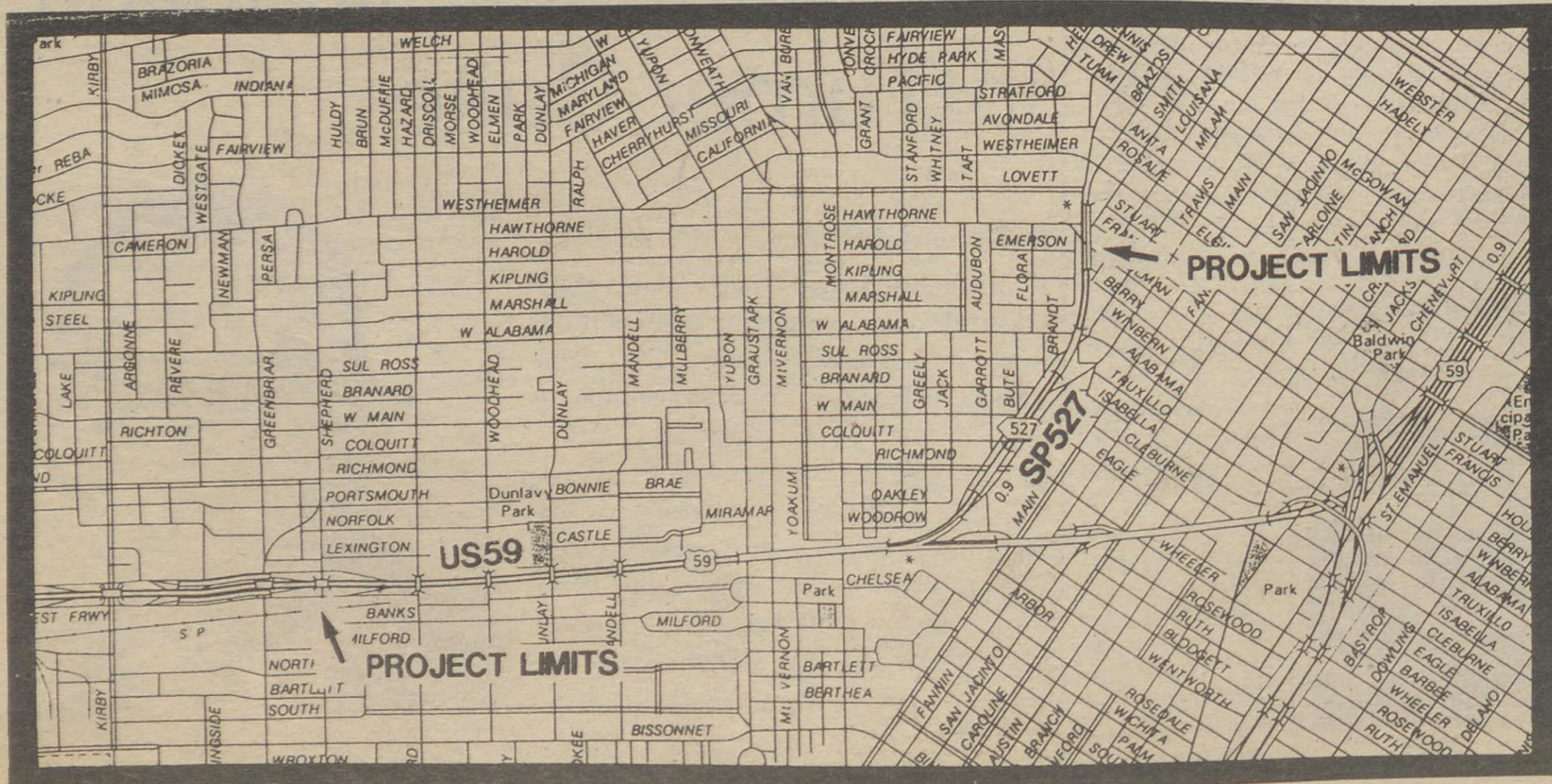
THURSDAY, OCTOBER 3, 1996
7:00 P.M. IN THE CAFETERIA
POE ELEMENTARY SCHOOL
5100 HAZARD
HOUSTON, TEXAS 77098

THE PROPOSED PROJECT INVOLVES THE CONSTRUCTION OF A HIGH OCCUPANCY VEHICLE (HOV) FACILITY AND THE RECONSTRUCTION OF FOUR BRIDGES AT HAZARD, WOODHEAD, DUNLAVY AND MANDELL. THE ORIGINALLY PROPOSED DESIGN INCLUDED AN ELEVATED HOV FACILITY ONE LEVEL ABOVE THE FREEWAY LANES BETWEEN MONTROSE BOULEVARD AND HAWTHORNE STREET; DUE TO PREVIOUS PUBLIC INVOLVEMENT, THE DESIGN HAS BEEN REVISED TO ALLOW FOR THE HOV FACILITY TO BE CONSTRUCTED AT FREEWAY GRADE LEVEL. ADDITIONAL RIGHT OF WAY AND DISPLACEMENTS WOULD STILL BE REQUIRED.

PROJECT SCHEMATICS SHOWING THE PROPOSED ROADWAY GEOMETRY AND LOCATION OF THE PROJECT AND ANY OTHER INFORMATION RELATIVE TO THE PROJECT WILL BE ON DISPLAY AT THE MEETING. INFORMATION ABOUT RIGHT OF WAY ACQUISITION AS WELL AS INFORMATION REGARDING THE TENTATIVE SCHEDULES FOR CONSTRUCTION, WILL BE ADDRESSED AT THE MEETING.

PERSONS INTERESTED IN ATTENDING THE MEETING WHO HAVE SPECIAL COMMUNICATION OR ACCOMMODATION NEEDS ARE ENCOURAGED TO CONTACT THE TXDOT PUBLIC AFFAIRS OFFICER AT (713) 802-5072 AT LEAST TWO DAYS PRIOR TO THE MEETING. SINCE THE PUBLIC MEETING WILL BE CONDUCTED IN ENGLISH, ANY REQUESTS FOR LANGUAGE INTERPRETERS OR OTHER SPECIAL COMMUNICATION NEEDS SHOULD BE MADE AT LEAST TWO DAYS PRIOR TO THE PUBLIC MEETING. TXDOT WILL MAKE EVERY REASONABLE EFFORT TO ACCOMMODATE THESE NEEDS.

ALL INTERESTED CITIZENS ARE INVITED TO ATTEND THIS MEETING AND EXPRESS THEIR VIEWS.



Houston VOICE

ISSUE 830
September 20, 1996
Established 1974 as the Houston Montrose Star, reestablished 1980 as the Houston Montrose Voice, changed name to the New Voice in 1991 incorporating the New Orleans Crescent City Star, reestablished December 1, 1993 as the Houston Voice
811 Westheimer, Suite 105
Houston, Texas 77006
(713) 529-8490
(800) 729-8490
FAX: (713) 529-9531
E-mail: HouVoice@AOL.com
Contents copyright 1996
Office Hours: 9am - 5:30pm weekdays
PUBLISHER
Crad Duren
EDITOR
Deborah Moncrief Bell

EDITORIAL DEPARTMENT
J.C. Michelak/editorial assistant
Jon Anthony/entertainment editor
Lee Davis/sports editor
Carolyn Roberts/society editor

WRITERS:
Andrew Edmonson, Larry Lingle,
B.R. McDonald, Curt Morrison,
Jazz Paz, Carolyn Roberts,
Javier Tamez (theatre review)
Glen Webber

CARTOONIST:
Earl Storm

PHOTOGRAPHERS:
Steven David, David Goetz

PRODUCTION
Matthew Pennington/manager/art director
Maggie Bralick/production layout

OFFICE MANAGEMENT
J.C. Michelak/office manager
Maggie Bralick/assistant manager
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<http://www.usgaynet.com>.
To reach The Houston Voice, access
the site and click on the News and
Views. There is no charge for this
service.

Community Organizations Bulletin Board

The Swan at Stages

The Swan, directed by Rob Bundy, runs at Stages Wednesday thru Sunday, Sept. 18 until Oct. 13. Wednesday thru Saturday, showtimes are at 8pm, and 5pm on Sundays.

Fierce in its poetic treatment of love, *The Swan* provides a comic gloss on whether or not we descended from the beasts...and what are we supposed to feel when we find them lurking in our truest selves?

Free Art Course

The HIV Art Course at the Art League of Houston is starting its annual Christmas ornament making class. This ongoing course, now in its fifth year goes through many projects, painting, drawing, ceramics...but every September ceramic Christmas ornaments are made. It is free to all who have HIV/AIDS and meets every Thursday/Friday at 1953 Montrose, from 1-4pm. Call 523-9530 or 523-8817 for information.

One-Day Workshop

The Montrose Counseling Center hosts a one-day workshop on Friday, Sept. 27. Dee Mosbacher MD, founder and president of Women Vision, will speak on homophobia during a luncheon at the workshop, "Issues in Providing Services to Gays & Lesbians." Open to the public, the workshop will be held from 8am until 6pm at the Renaissance Houston Hotel, 6 Greenway Plaza East. Cost of the workshop, including the luncheon, is \$95. Continuing Education Credits are available. Call Montrose Counseling Center at 529-0037 for registration and luncheon ticket information.

Alley Oops!

It was errantly reported in last week's Bulletin Board that Raymond Chandler & Quentin Tarantino was starring in The Alley's latest production, *In the Jungle of Cities*. The play is notable for its dark *noirish* style that prefigures the later work of novelist Raymond Chandler and current filmmaker Quentin Tarantino.

For ticket info, call 228-8421 or 1-800-259-ALLE. Ticket prices range from \$35

to \$37.

Extremely Debra

You are invited to join State Representative Debra Danburg for her extremely debra birthday party on Wednesday, Sept. 25 from 6:30-9pm at Revere, 3717 Revere @ Norfolk. Sponsors (a minimum \$35 donation) or general admission (a \$10 cash bar) are available by calling 52-DEBRA. Sponsors of \$100 and above are invited to a pre-party fundraiser at Debra's new home.

NACE Fundraiser

The Houston Chapter of the National Association of Catering Executives (NACE) has named the Bering Community Service Foundation as the primary beneficiary of its annual fund raising gala. The event, "Diamond Digs—An Amazon Adventure" will be held on Thursday, Sept. 26 at the J.W. Marriott Exhibition Center.

Table sponsorship information and individual tickets for the gala are available through the Bering Community Service Foundation Development Office at 524-9304.

H.O.P.E. Project

The HIV Outreach, Prevention and Education (H.O.P.E.) Project has hired Lorretta Jackson as Outreach Worker for its Operation Outreach. She provides one-on-one education and facilitates a support group for homeless women.

H.O.P.E. also announces seven vacancies on its Board of Directors. People interested should call 587-6914.

Pilar Medina

The Society for the Performing Arts presents Pilar Medina in her Houston Debut on Friday, Sept. 20 at 8pm in the Wortham Center's Cullen Theater. Pilar's sensual, one-woman performance based in flamenco dance will inspire the audience. Tickets are \$20, \$24 and \$30 and are available at the Houston Ticket Center in Jones Hall and the Wortham Theater Center as well as all Ticketmaster locations. To charge by phone, call 227-ARTS or 1-800-828-ARTS.

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Eleanor Munger Honored

Eleanor Munger was honored on Sunday, Sept. 15, during the AIDS hospice's annual Founder's Day reception. Since opening August 29, 1986, Omega House has provided hospice care to more than 360 medically indigent patients in the terminal phase of AIDS.

The Founder's Day Reception paid tribute to the volunteers of Omega House and to Munger, who was presented with a book of letters written by friends and supporters in recognition of Omega House's 10th anniversary year. The presentation was a closely guarded secret prior to the reception as it was intended as a special surprise for Munger.



Honoree Eleanor Munger (left front) was joined by former city council member Eleanor Tinsley and hosts (L-R) Dr. Robert Awe and David Fincher

The Gay Men's Chorus of Houston and Jerry Atwood provided entertainment for the event which was held at the home of Dr. Robert Awe and David Fincher.

Strikes Against AIDS

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For more information call the PWA Coalition Office — 522-5428

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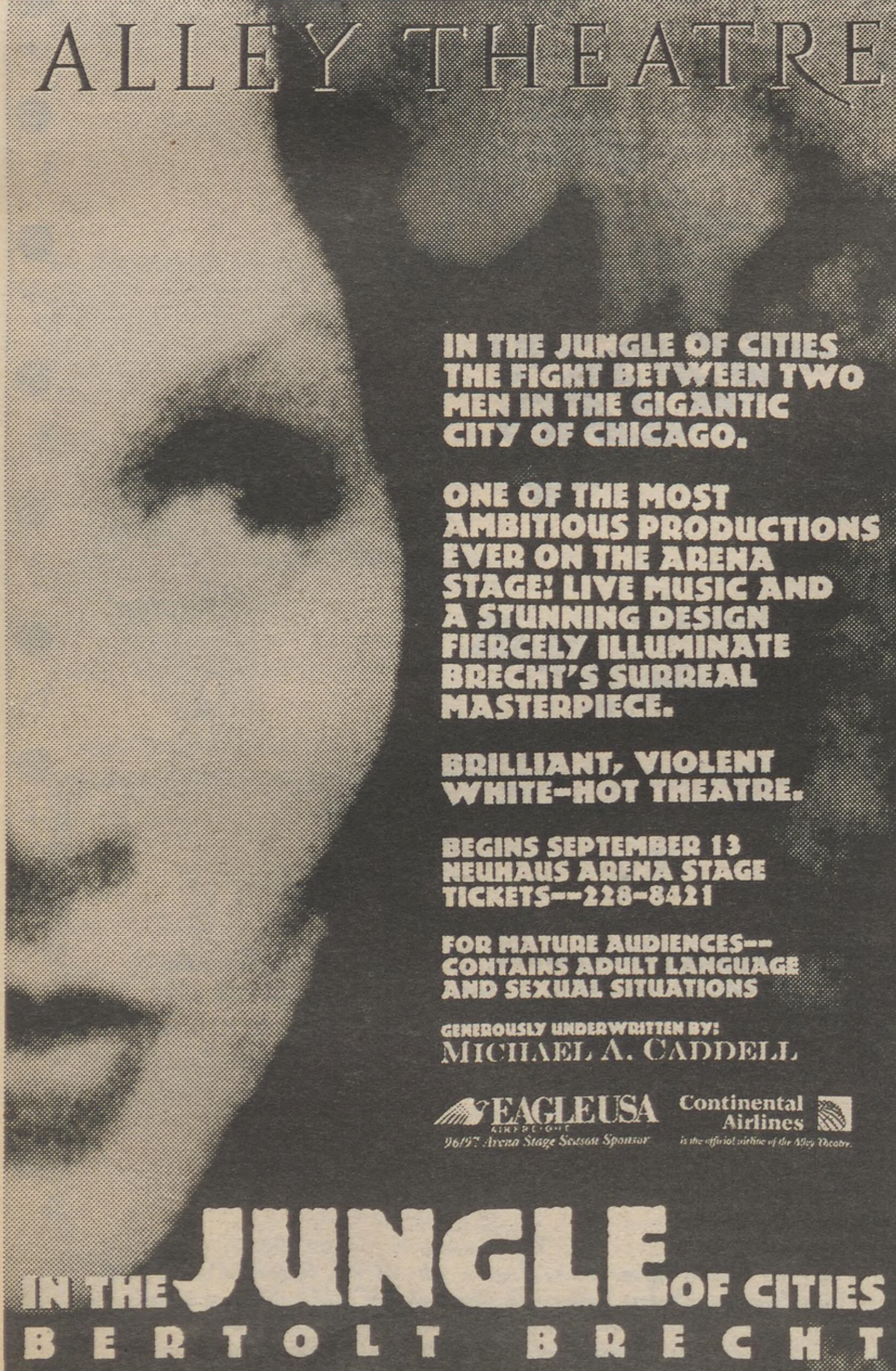
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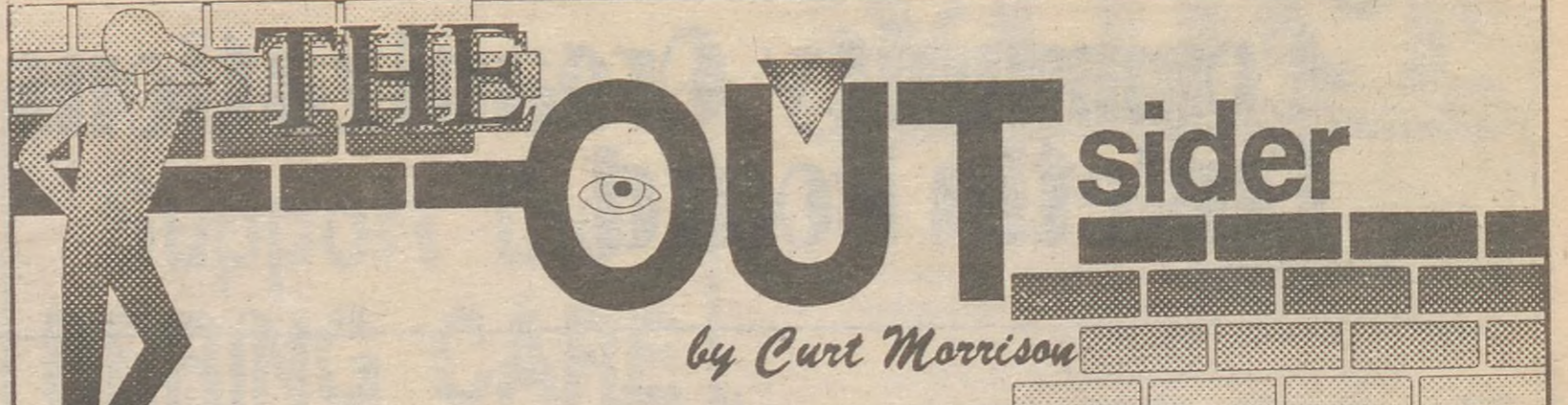
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IN THE JUNGLE OF CITIES
BERTOLT BRECHT



THE OUTsider
 by Carl Morrison



Family Feud

Tom and Shelby met while they were both attending the University of Massachusetts. Tom graduated at the top of his class and is currently working for a highly prestigious downtown law firm. A successful corporate attorney, Tom's annual emoluments are in the six figure range. Shelby, a Registered Nurse, works in the Pediatrics Department at St. Martins Children's Hospital.

Tom and Shelby have lived together for nearly ten years. During that time they have survived periods of tumult and calm in their day to day lives. They have endured, some might say prospered, out of their mutual respect, admiration and love for one another. When Tom was sick with Epstein-Barr, a debilitating disease commonly known as Chronic Fatigue Syndrome, Shelby held vigil at bedside during those occasions when Tom could not muster the strength to get up. His disease in remission, Tom has changed his dietary habits and his energy level is back to normal.

Several years ago, the couple purchased a house in Wilmington, an upscale suburban neighborhood near Boston. Overlooking the splendor of Lake Hudson, their two story chalet has brought harmony and comfort to their lives. A private couple, Tom and Shelby have few friends. They don't socialize with co-workers or belong to any social or civic clubs. Once a week they visit with their friends Doug and Terry. Every week they donate several hours of time at the Pediatric AIDS Foundation. Tom and Shelby do not have any children, albeit not by choice. They do however have each other and that bond provides them with the strength and stamina to meet life's daily trials and travails. Tom and Shelby are honest law abiding citizens who make the most of their life and make every effort to help out their community when needed.

Mark and Lynn live across town in Roxbury. They have been together for approximately three years. Mark, who is a construction worker, has had difficulty maintaining a job, mostly because of his drug dependency. He attends his weekly

Narcotics Anonymous meetings as stipulated by his probation. Lynn works as a receptionist at a local dentist's office in order to support her children from a previous marriage, five year old Bobby and seven year old Simone. Mark met Lynn during an office visit for some orthodontic surgery. They began to date, took a liking to each other and married within three months. Everything seemed to be going good until Mark got arrested. Mark is a recidivist. The last thing Lynn wanted to do was divorce, since she already had been divorced twice before. So, she decided to stay with Mark and believed that this time he would straighten out. Through the years, Mark would beat Lynn on occasion. She wished he hadn't done so in front of the children however. But she reasoned that he did not mean it. It was the drugs making him do it. So she forgave him.

Mark and Lynn's relationship is in stark contrast to Tom and Shelby's. Theirs is more strenuous and volatile. Bobby and Simone often wish that they got along better and stopped fighting. It scares them. They do not understand about drug addiction, financial hardship and co-dependency. After all, they are just children, even though they are easily influenced. Mark has two more years to go to meet the criteria of his probation and Lynn is continuing her efforts to support the family.

The government says that marriage is the threshold to societal stability and mores. In order to protect the institution, it is necessary for the definition of marriage to remain as a union between a man and a woman. Marriage, according to our government representatives on both sides of the aisle represents family values and any threat to the heterosexual norm would be devastating to our cultural survival. Therefore, we must protect it at any cost, including federally mandated legislation.

Tom and Shelby are unable to get married because they're gay. Mark and Lynn are heterosexual and married. Based on the aforementioned, which couple do you think best represents family values?

State Log Cabin Officers Win Re-Election

Log Cabin members across Texas have overwhelmingly returned their leaders to office for another term, the group reported. The officers re-elected to two-year terms are: Dale Carpenter, President (Houston); Laird Parker, Vice President (Dallas); Terey B. Counts, Secretary (Houston); and Kelton Dillard, Treasurer (Austin).

"I look forward to representing Log Cabin and its members and am proud to have received their support," said Carpenter, who will serve as State President through August 1998. "This is a pivotal time for Gays and Lesbians to make inroads in the Republican party and I welcome the challenge to provide the leadership necessary to obtain our goal of inclusion."

Carpenter announced that he would continue to stress the importance of grassroots involvement in the GOP. He promised additional increases in Log Cabin membership state-wide and the development of more chapters.

The past year has amply demonstrated the challenges and possibilities for

success that lie ahead. Log Cabin membership in Texas has more than doubled. A San Antonio chapter was added this past spring. In March, the group organized a stunningly successful effort to elect gay and gay-friendly GOP precinct chairs. In Houston, gay GOP activists ousted a long-time religious right stalwart from his position as a senate district chair. More openly gay delegates were elected to the state convention than ever before.

On the other hand, the state GOP is more than ever in the hands of religious conservatives who oppose equality for Gay and Lesbian people. The state party denied Log Cabin booth space at the state convention, prompting a lawsuit by the group. One day before the state convention, the State Supreme court ruled in the party's favor.

Log Cabin is an organization of Gay and Lesbian Republicans supporting Gay and Lesbian equality within the Nation-wide, it has over 10,000 members. In Texas, Log Cabin has chapters in Austin, Dallas, Houston and San Antonio.

PFLAG starts Election Season Campaign

Community Support Needed

FROM PFLAG RELEASE

HOUSTON—Parents, Families and Friends of Lesbians and Gays (PFLAG) is feverishly raising funds for an election-season billboard campaign called Gay & Lesbian Families of America.

"We're trying to reach the minds as well as hearts," said Brad Diskin who developed the advertising campaign. "Gay and lesbian families represent all walks of life. We want to convey that we're a large, diverse, responsible group of people who deserve recognition, not hatred and discrimination."

The series which portrays positive messages about Gays and Lesbians was originally produced for last month's Republican Convention. Sponsored by San Diego's Gay and Lesbian Alliance Against Defamation, the campaign generated over 200 national media reports.

"The campaign focuses on three themes," Diskin said, "Family, workplace and basic human rights." The objective is to deliver a positive message to mainstream America from the gay com-

munity and to direct media attention to the broad spectrum of diversity among gay and lesbian families."

As part of PFLAG's Project Open Mind, the billboards will hit Houston in mid-October. It is no coincidence that the 30-day campaign is aimed at the election season.

"We can see by the recent fervor over the Defense of Marriage Act that the gay and lesbian community is once again being used as an election tool for right-wing politicians," said PFLAG Media Chair Kyle Young. "We must remind voters and those running for office that people they care about are Gay and Lesbian."

PFLAG hopes to do between nine and eleven large billboards (14'x 48'), covering every major freeway feeding into Houston. Boards are also planned for the Richmond Strip, Westheimer at Gesner, and Downtown on Fannin. Each board will cost approximately \$4,000. In order to get the boards up by October 15,



New billboard Campaign by PFLAG hopes to educate Houstonians

PFLAG must collect all donations by the end of this month.

"It's obvious that we need a great deal of money very quickly," said Young, "but if twenty-two movers-and-shakers in our community could each make a commitment to raise two thousand dollars from friends and family, PFLAG could do eleven boards. With that, the campaign would reach over one million people everyday, not to mention the guaranteed media exposure." Tax-deductible

gifts to the project can be sent to PFLAG BILLBOARDS c/o Arden Eversmeyer, 4123 Swarthmore, Houston, TX 77005. Checks should be made payable to PFLAG Houston. For more information contact Kyle Young at 713/521-7793. PFLAG is an international organization with chapters in over 380 communities. It is PFLAG's mission to support families, educate the public and advocate for equal rights.

NOT ALL
BATTLES
ARE FOUGHT
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Family Values

by Esperanza Lavender Jazz Paz



Pride and Prejudice

My wife works for a stone company. Her employer sells all types of rock, from cobblestones to boulders, to homeowners edging their flower beds to monument makers all over the country. She works with a variety of characters who bring disparate philosophies and capacities to work with them.

One of the men who work in the yard prominently displays a decal of the Mexican flag on his walkie-talkie and carries it in his pocket so that the flag is recognizable from a distance. As he interacts with customers and loads trucks with rocks he discusses the weather, the price of merchandise and delivery schedules in English and with ease. At work he is a wage earner. With his co-workers he is a team member. When he introduces himself, he rolls the Rs unaffectedly pronouncing his name the way he learned it. Knowing nothing about him but this is enough to inspire racial hatred toward him in some people. He seems aware of this, but he remains determined to proudly be himself to everyone he meets.

This man has been on my mind lately, since I am meeting a lot of people on my new job and in my community activities (gay as well as straight) who can casually observe, by my informal references to my life and habits that I am a Lesbian. Without as much effort as it takes to break a sweat, almost anyone who wanted to know, could also figure out that I am a parent, a writer and a pet-lover.

Unfailingly when I meet straight women, the first getting-to-know-you question they ask, after, "Are you married?" ("No, I live with a woman in a committed relationship.") is "Do you have children?" ("Yes, we have three.") When I meet another Lesbian, the first question after "How do you do?" is "Are you out? (How out? Are you out at work? Are you out to your family? What do they think?)"

Since I have been deliberately noticing, most of my lesbian friends and acquaintances present to be successful in their personal and professional lives. Most of them are women I'd like to know get to better. They all seem to be good role models for younger women, straight or gay.

Well, maybe not all are so good at presenting gayness. Some of us are so self-consciously gay, so expecting to be "noticed" (and censured) for our gayness, and so fearful of offending others by our "open" gayness that the first issue after names are exchanged in introductions is the precise establishment of perimeters regarding each person's okayness with their outness.

Jan says the man I referred to at her job can sometimes be, as well as any man can be, a real jerk. Perhaps so. I don't know him. But with a lot more to lose and a lot less support, he comfortably and unselfconsciously reveals his pride. No one ever has to ask him where he's from. And he never has to explain it.

Jazz carries her Mexican flag icon on her key chain.

HOUSTON VOICE MAIL

Letters to the Editor

Pet Patrol Thanks RSICSS

FROM DON WELCH

I am writing to thank the Royal Sovereign and Imperial Court of the Single Star (RSICSS), for all of their efforts doing their show *Puppy Love* at Gentry on Sept. 1st. The court raised \$500 for the Pet Patrol.

My thanks to Crystal and everyone in the show for their time and talents. I hope our community realizes what a great group of people the court is in their many fundraising efforts for so many organizations.

Again my thanks to the Court and everyone who supported them that night.

It Is A GLOBAL Thing!

FROM THE GLOBAL AT UH

Thank you for taking the time to listen to GLOBAL (Gay, Lesbian, or Bisexual Alliance at the University of Houston) and for the information and advice you have given. At GLOBAL part of our focus involves planning activities that help to educate the University of Houston Community as well as the community at large of issues that are of concern to gay and lesbian students.

Being a student group, we often find ourselves having limited resources to accomplish the events that we plan throughout the semester, such as our meetings, the National Coming Out Day Rally, Triangle Ball, as well as "Gay Week." These events can at times invoke rather large expenses for our group which is why it is so critical for us to seek out new ways of fundraising within the community to help fund these activities. Furthermore, it is for these reasons that any help we receive, be it advice or financial assistance, is cherished and appreciated.

Once again, we thank you for your time and support.

Bering Thanks Miss Camp

Bering Community Service Foundation is so proud of Miss Camp America and their astounding accomplishment with Saturday's 28th Annual MCA show! It was an incredible evening. It is hard to imagine how many long hours MCA spent rehearsing, staging, and costuming to give the community such a fabulous show. We appreciate every minute they spent!

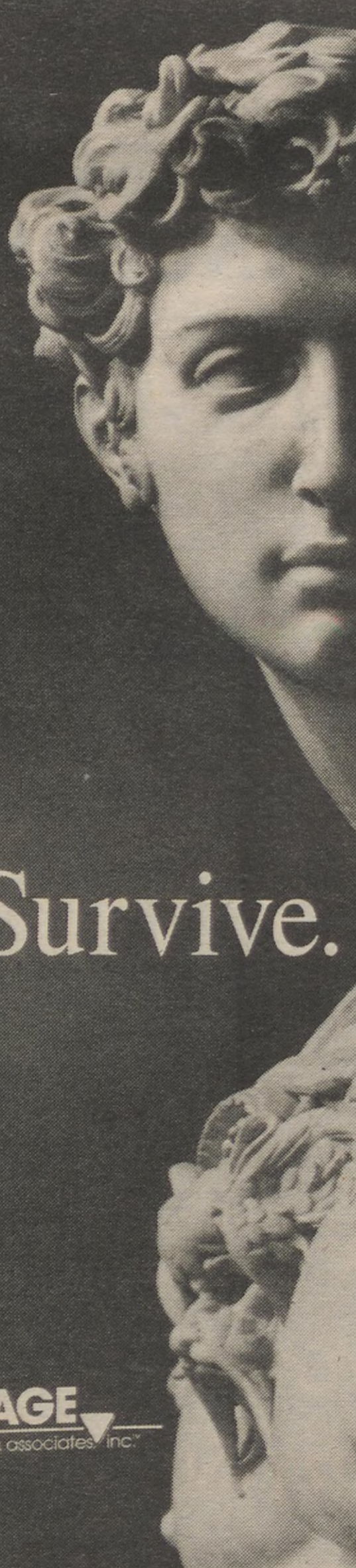
MCA's presentation of \$25,600 to the Bering Care Center is a generous symbol of their love and dedication to Bering. We are grateful for their generosity, which enables us to sustain our devotion to caring for persons with HIV/AIDS.

MCA is truly Bering's shining star. They have been with us throughout the year, from last year's pageant, through New Year's Eve, and this year's pageant. We appreciate their unending support. The membership of Miss Camp America sparkles in our hearts and lights the road ahead.

Gratefully, Stacie Cokinos, Director of Development and Outreach; Kelly DeHay, Broad Trustee; Bill Kersten, Executive Director

Voice Gets Thanks For Books

The Houston Voice recently gave an overflow of books in its library to several community organizations. They were the Houston Area Teen Coalition Houston (HATCH), the People with AIDS Coalition Houston, and The Houston Gay and Lesbian Parents group. We received thank you cards from each group. We're glad the books could be of use to these organizations.



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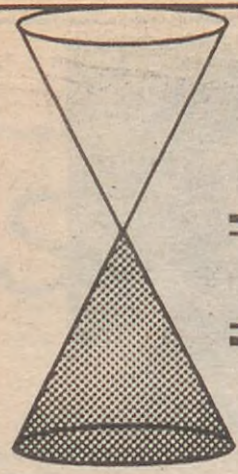
Liz Harmon—San Diego Business Journal, April, 1994

"The final months or years of a person's life are lived with the dignity of not going broke..."

Phil Donahue—The Donahue Show, December, 1992

"...they're just as likely to give a terminally ill person a second lease on life."

William Hoffman—Small Business News, April, 1994



PLAIN SPEAKING

by Larry Lingle

A Model to Fight Crime

The rate of crimes has been declining in recent years. The number of violent acts against individuals—murder and assault—are down significantly. Then along comes a study showing that young people are turning increasingly to drugs. Dull Dole blames Bill Clinton and the Fraternal Order of Police endorse the President. It all seems to cancel out in the end.

Can any political leader take credit for such national trends? Possibly Clinton's effort to put more police on the streets has had an effect. Certainly New York City is reaping the rewards of a new administration which is placing greater reliance on policing the streets and cracking down on petty offenses—the philosophy being that if you discourage the small crimes you thwart the future criminal for materializing.

This approach should be applied to drugs. But it is not enough to "just say No" to drugs, it requires education and interdiction, both approaches which Dull Dole has opposed in the past. And perhaps the Republican emphasis on "family" could better be applied to parents policing their kids, rather than at the expense of society at large. Or perhaps the fervent members of the Christian Coalition prefer to believe that their children would never use drugs. Time for a wake up call to slobbering Pat Robertson and his hand-held puppet, Ralph Reed (placing Dole beside Reed turns Dull Dole into charisma personified in contrast).

Actually, the problem may be that both Dole and Clinton are missing the boat on crime. They both talk of tougher laws and Jack Kemp would throw away the perks of prisons—televisions and such. Wouldn't it be ironic if the best example for an attack on crime came from the gay community?

And such is the case. Faced with an epidemic a decade and a half ago, when the number of deaths were still minuscule compared to today, the gay and lesbian community, recognizing the potential for disaster—a cry fell on deaf ears in the Reagan White House—rallied with initiatives both local and national and created a blueprint for community action.

A New York City study has shown that unsafe sexual contact declined one thousand percent in our community in the first decade. Before Ryan White funding and a friendly administration gay communities across the country dug deeply within themselves to fund and care for the sick and dying.

It was these same communities that spawned street activists, without whom the machinery of government would have failed to respond. Even today the need for

activism is not over. A Republican Congress and a Republican White House would never respond to compassion, only to the pleadings of a profit-driven drug industry—an industry with an invested interest in a prolongation, not a termination of this pandemic.

If the gay community's efforts have failed anywhere it is, paradoxically, among the young. There is a new generation of young gay men who see AIDS as the disease of an older generation. And, like all teenager, they view themselves as invulnerable to death. If teenagers take increasingly to drugs—even tobacco—it is more to prove their supposed independence from adults as it is from pressure from their peers.

What are the chances society at large might turn to the gay community for some valuable instruction on coping with this new epidemic of drugs? Not Likely. Moralistic slogans, be they from the Christian Coalition or the Republican Party (as if there is a difference these days) usually fall on deaf ears among the young. In fact, studies have shown that often teenagers will act out the reverse of these preachings to ascertain just what it is they might be missing. This applies to teen pregnancies as well as drugs.

A case can also be made that the rise in HIV infection among young gay men is the result of the lack of education on the subject in high school. Again we have the religious right to thank for this. One of the first targets of the Christian Coalition was seats on the local school boards. And from there it was easy to forbid any talk of teenage sex except the message of abstinence. After all, if teenagers don't have sex there won't be any pregnancies or HIV infections.

The fallacy in that is the intended audience. Teenagers are naturally intrigued by sex and that which is forbidden becomes that much more attractive. And both in regard to sex and drugs teenagers know enough that such admonitions are coming from an older generation with no room to preach.

Coming around to this presidential election, where does all this leave us? Well, Dole is dredging up the crime issue as has every Republican since Tricky Dick Nixon. Like his tax cut, he promises to reduce teenage drug use in half, only he doesn't let us in on how he's going to do this. Clinton, through his putting more police on the streets and such programs as Americore, seems to recognize that any solutions are local solutions. That, after all, has been the gay response since day one in fighting AIDS. Maybe Clinton needs a Larry Kramer in place somewhere to stir up some action.

In the meantime, how about these bank robberies? What a clever idea for the criminals to go where the money is.

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Gay Today by Glen Webber



Putting A Stop To Gay Bashing

I had four friends call me in the last two weeks telling me about their experiences of being gay bashed. I could hear the terror in his voice in the first call as my friend described the beating he received from a single individual.

In that case, my friend got a description of the pickup and the license plate number, as well as a good description of the person. I have not heard if he has been caught, but we decided that the truck he was driving was probably stolen. I was told that in the last several weeks there have been over ten bashings in the Montrose area.

I would like to hear from those of you who have been victims, even the graphic details. I would also like your permission to publish them in the Houston Voice. We will not use your name if you don't want us to. It is important that those who have not been victims hear first hand how terrible it is.

Don't blame the police for not preventing the bashings. I talk frequently with a gay friend who is a police officer and he tells me how busy they are. They have to cover a lot of territory on their patrol with the many duties they must perform. It would be nice if they could do more and he says they wish they could, but the reality is they can't.

Let's not forget the Q-Patrol. They are the most dedicated group of men and women we have to watch out for us. The problem is there is not enough of them. They need volunteers to fill the ranks. I've been out with the patrol, and it is a very interesting experience. You start looking for cars of people who don't belong in Montrose or suspicious activity. And they have motorized patrols that will follow cars whose occupants look like they are up to no good. They get license plate numbers and write cards to the owners of the cars to inform them of the driver's activity. If a teenager and a group of friends are cruising around in Dad's car were they shouldn't be, then the parents find out this way and might be able to put a stop to Junior's activity. The Q-Patrol is adding a skating patrol soon. If you have been looking for a way to get involved in the community and have a few hours a week to volunteer, this is a great group to sign up with and they could really use your help.

Here are some suggestions for protecting yourself while on the streets:

1. Walk assertively. If you walk tall, with your fist clenched, you might have someone watching you who will attack if they think you are an easy target. Sometimes gays are purposely picked as targets due to

the myth that they have a lot of money and that they will not resist because they are afraid of being outed. There is also the misconception that gay men are weaker and therefore easy victims. I heard a good story once about a gay ex-Marine who was a combat veteran and who beat the heck out of three guys who attacked him.

2. Never walk alone unless you have to. There is safety in numbers. Stay in well-lit areas. Cross to the other side of the street if someone approaches you that looks like they mean to do you harm. Look them in the eye to let them know you see them, but don't be overly-friendly. That will give them an excuse to try to be closer to you.

3. Never wear a lot of jewelry out. Nice shiny jewelry is like a magnet to thieves. What starts as a robbery may easily turn into a gay bashing.

4. Be careful around that ATM. You don't know who is leaning against a car watching you. There should be some kind of blinders around those machine to protect the people using them. Some cities have ATMs that are in enclosures where you have to use your card to enter and exit them. That would be a lot safer, especially at night.

5. Don't walk the streets drunk. You could be such an easy target for anyone wanting to hurt you. Stay sober. If you know you're going to be drinking, take a cab to the bars. Cabs are not that expensive in Montrose.

6. Leave purses at home (this is for those of you who may carry such items). I know you carry things you need, but a purse hanging on the shoulder by straps is an easy target as well. Keep money in more than one pocket (use a money clip on a stack of one dollar bills wrapped with a \$20 on the outside). If they ask for your money throw the clip as far as you can and run away. Chances are that they will go after the money. You keep your wallet with your ID and the rest of your money. It is dangerous to not have any money on you because they will just get mad and hurt you.

7. If you see someone being attacked, don't intervene. The best way to be a hero in this situation is to yell for others and draw their attention to what is happening. Scream, bang on doors, go get help, call 911, but don't rush in. Your getting involved may not help the victim and could put you in danger.

I can't believe we live in an age where personal safety is so important, but we must do whatever we can to protect ourselves. I don't want any of you hurt.

Glen Webber is a person living with AIDS in the Montrose area of Houston where he tries to stay safe and to help others

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New Work--New Look

The Work of Larry Crawford at Martin's

Fifteen recent paintings by Houston artist Larry Crawford will be on view at Martin's Fine Art Gallery, Sept. 21 through Oct. 21st. Crawford is one of the most highly regarded of the younger generation of American painters today who are working in a realistic figurative style. The human condition and form is the central motif in virtually all of Crawford's work. The faces and figures are often painted in intense colors, surrounded by the grace and the reflections of life itself. Crawford has developed a distinctive vernacular, balancing his subjects and figures within rhythmic compositions patterned with color and light thereby giving the viewer an understand-

ing of the joys and sorrows of the everyday person.

Larry Crawford was born in Beaumont, Texas. He received his training in Fine Arts from individual instructions and classes. Reviewed in 1991 by the Fine Arts Forum and cited as one of the most talented portrait painters, Crawford has lent his talents in creating portraits of Cher, Pearl Bailey, Rod Stewart, Marilyn Monroe, and Carol Channing just to mention a few. Crawford presently lives and works in Houston.

Larry Crawford will be present at the artist's reception on Saturday, Sept. 21, from 6 to 8pm. Martin's Fine Art Gallery is located at 1641 Westheimer, 10am to 6:30pm Monday through Saturday and from 1:30pm to 6pm on Sundays. Call 523-6925 for additional information.

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Same Sex continued...

(Continued from page 1)

has promised he will sign the bill and it appears to be a virtual certainty that it will become law.

It is widely recognized that passage of a federal law was hastened by President Clinton's desire to prevent Mr. Dole, from making same-sex marriage a campaign issue. Perhaps, since Dole cosponsored the bill, the Democrats were convinced that he would claim partisan credit for the legislation and the issue. However, if President Clinton does sign it, it will no longer be a campaign issue. More importantly, however, supporters of same-sex marriage contend that this federal legislation, as well as state laws which ban recognition of same-sex marriage, are unconstitutional.

Equal Protection versus State Interest

In the Baehr case, the Hawaii Supreme Court determined in May 1993 that the state's refusal to issue marriage licenses and otherwise to recognize same-sex marriage was in violation of the state constitution's guarantee of equal protection. But, rather than deciding that the state must recognize same-sex marriages the high court remanded the case to the trial court to undertake a strict-scrutiny review in order to determine whether or not a compelling state interest justifies the discriminatory effect of not recognizing same-sex marriage. The case is now pending and will be decided this year.

In the time since the Hawaii Supreme Court's decision, the state's legislators have taken action similar to that of other states that are in opposition to same-sex marriage. In an attempt to circumvent the still pending trial court's decision, the Hawaiian legislature passed a bill in 1994 affirming marriage as intended for "man-woman units" and has considered a bill proposing to amend the state constitution to ban same-sex marriage.

Domestic Partners Law

A commission appointed by Gov. Ben Cayetano has urged that Hawaii adopt a domestic partners law that would grant both same-sex and heterosexual unmarried couples many of the rights and benefits of marriage. Still, even if this kind of proposed law is

enacted, issues raised by the Baehr case would remain undecided. In fact, domestic partner laws, such as those enacted in San Francisco and other cities, are primarily ceremonial and are limited to the local jurisdictions that passed specific laws for this purpose. Thus, they do not provide same-sex couples with all the rights and obligations of married couples—particularly if they travel or settle outside the local jurisdiction. Nor do domestic partner laws offer surviving partners survivorship benefits under Social Security aid other Federal laws.

Should Hawaii, later this year—or some other state at another time—decide, by court or legislative action, that same-sex marriage can be contracted in the state, there is significant uncertainty concerning the effect on other states. In addition to the Federal legislation about to be enacted, many states have passed, and many others now are considering, statutes that would refuse to recognize same-sex marriages even if made legal in a jurisdiction that provided for them.

Legislatures in fifteen states have already adopted such anti-same-sex marriage laws. Other states such as California are hotly debating whether to pass similar laws. In addition, the governors of Alabama and Mississippi recently signed executive orders barring recognition of same-sex marriages. If and when Hawaii or another state legalizes same-sex marriage, state courts—and most likely the U.S. Supreme Court—will ultimately decide the fate of same-sex marriage. That is the courts will have to decide whether other states must recognize same-sex marriages contracted in Hawaii (or in another state) and whether federal legislation to the contrary is enforceable.

Full Faith and Credit Clause

The most compelling reason for same-sex marriage to be recognized nationwide, however, is because of the full faith and credit clause of the U.S. Constitution, which guarantees, "Full Faith and Credit shall be given in each State to the Public Acts, Records and Judicial Proceedings of every other State. And the Congress may by general laws describe the manner in which such Acts, Records and Proceedings shall be proved and the Effect thereof".

The authors of this article believe that Congress has overstepped its powers by telling states that they have

the option to disregard a marriage contracted in another state. In fact the "Defense of Marriage" act does more than determine the manner and effect of a same-sex marriage contracted in Hawaii or another state. That is, the federal legislation is not interpreting the decision of Hawaii or another state to provide for same-sex marriages, but instead is telling the states they can ignore completely such a decision.

Because marriage is considered to fit into all three categories i.e., "public act," "record" and often even a "judicial proceedings," a same-sex marriage validly contracted almost certainly have to be recognized by the other states.

Common-Law Rules

Those in favor of same-sex marriage should also be encouraged by the rules of common law. States banning the recognition of another state's laws, both at the state and federal level, run contrary to the U.S. Constitution, as well as long-standing state common-law principles. Under the common law, the general rule is to look to the place where the marriage was celebrated to determine whether the parties are married. In doing so, courts should consider whether the marriage could have been contracted within its own borders. For example in Cross v. Cross, a New York court found that there was no common-law marriage between the parties. The court made this ruling not because the state had abolished common-law in 1933 but because, in that particular case, the actions of the parties in Pennsylvania and Washington, DC, which permitted such marriages were insufficient to create a common-law marriage in those jurisdictions.

The important point here is that the court in the Cross case reaffirmed that a marriage contracted in a state that provided for common-law marriage would be recognized in New York. New York's Court in Shapiro v. Thompson recognized that states may not "unduly interfere with the right to migrate, resettle, find a new job and start a new life." It follows, therefore, that states should recognize validly contracted same-sex marriages because the alternative would impose undue interference with the travel and relocation of same-sex couples, since their marital rights and obligations would be prejudiced if they settled in a state that forbade recognition of their marital status. Furthermore, in Griswold v.

Connecticut the Supreme Court recognized that the right to marry is of fundamental importance. This precedent also points towards the recognition by all states of a validly contracted, same-sex marriage.

The validity of same-sex marriage, however, certainly will affect other areas of law, such as divorce law, estate planning and taxation. For example, the dissolution of same-sex marriages may result in more "fair" divorce proceedings. Although states, in the aftermath of the Supreme Court's decision in Orr v. Orr, have adopted gender-neutral divorce laws, most practitioners will acknowledge that these laws still are not applied on a gender-neutral basis. In the case of same-sex marriages, however, there could be no preference for one sex or the other, because, by definition, each spouse is the same sex.

If same-sex marriages were recognized at the federal level, the largest deduction available for the federal estate tax, the marital deduction, would become available to the surviving member of a same-sex marriage. If a spouse left his or her entire estate to the surviving spouse, the estate would be subject to federal estate taxes. This exemption would provide a married same-sex couple substantial savings on estate taxes.

The survivor of a same-sex marriage also would benefit from estate tax savings on jointly owned property, life insurance proceeds, the deceased spouse's retirement plan benefits and protection from creditors. Same-sex married couples could file tax returns jointly or separately as married couples, and air uninsured spouses will have access to the health and medical benefits of the covered spouse.

The issue, however, is far from settled regardless of the ultimate outcome of the Baehr case. "While the U.S. Congress and many states have already voted to ban recognition of same-sex marriage, the actions of the federal government and these states may be unconstitutional, as many of the proponents of same-sex marriage have argued. For that reason, it will, in the end, be up to the U.S. Supreme Court, which is much less concerned with presidential politics, to decide whether or not the federal government and the states must recognize same-sex marriage.

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NOW Convention continued...

(Continued from page 1)

women's rights. One of the most influential feminist leaders in America, Ireland has used her experience as a groundbreaking activist to move NOW to the forefront of the political scene. Assuming the presidency of NOW in December 1991, she brings extensive legal credentials to her work with the women's right movement. In addition to her keynote address, Ireland lead a workshop on "wedge issues". These are the issues that sometimes make it difficult for women from diverse backgrounds to reach find the common ground to work together on feminist projects. The workshop identified class issues, the race card, and homophobia as being the main areas of difficulty.

Jeanne Sommerfeld who has served the last year as the President of Houston Area NOW was named "NOW Activist of the Year." This award is to recognize the work of a Texas NOW activist who has achieved the respect and admiration of other Texas NOW members for dedicated service to NOW causes. An attorney, Sommerfeld has been active the last several years in reactivating the Houston Area NOW chapter. The successful series of workshops she developed for the local chapter became the theme of the state convention. Sommerfeld was also elected President of the State organization for 1996/97. Sommerfeld started her career as a NOW activist while still in college at the University of Houston. Law school sidetracked her devotion to the organization for a while but after several years on a partnership track, Sommerfeld refocused her career to allow her more time to pursue involvement in feminist organizing. Dedicated to taking action, Sommerfeld is expected to lead the

organization to great things in the coming year.

Another highlight was the presentation of the "1996 Feminist of the Year" award to Paula Pierce. This award is given annually to recognize a Texan who has contributed significantly to the cause of justice and equality for women in our state. Pierce, an attorney was chosen due to her involvement in a case in Nacogdoches concerning eight women who had been molested by their neurologist. The doctor has received only a slap on the wrist in the criminal case and still holds his license to practice medicine. The women were getting nowhere in their attempt to win legal justice until Pierce took on this complex case on a pro bono basis. She practices law from an office in her home in order to give the time and energy needed to mother her two young children. Pierce received the award with her daughter Zoe in her arms. Zoe still dressed in a ballerina costume from an earlier in the day birthday party and with a butterfly painted on her face enjoyed the attention she received while her mother was being honored.

A number of workshops allowed activists, seasoned and rookie to hone their skills with topics like "Influencing the Media"; "Law and Relationships"; and "Ending Violence Against Women". Attendees also were treated to the presentation of two films. One featured the fight for women's right to vote, the other was about the women who have served in the Texas Legislature. The latter film included the late Barbara Jordan who said "It is important for women to get into the political arena because it is there were every facet of one's life is touched." A powerful message for us to remember.

Smash Hits continued...

(Continued from page 1)

and Martina beat Lindsay and Natasha 6-3. In the Men's Singles, fun times were almost over. Serving at over 130mph, Pete defeated Andre 6-4. During this match, an overzealous female fan crawled under the court apron stalking Andre. While cautiously backing away from the fan, Andre realized she posed no threat and allowed one of her friends to take a picture of the two. Knowing this is taboo in The Summit, the woman was whisked away by security. Elton, watching the entire incident, ran over to the guard and persuaded him to allow the fan to return to her seat. This not only merited her a picture with Andre, but a kiss upon her return! In the final match, the Mixed Doubles team of Andre and Martina took Pete and Zvereva 6-4, giving the Philadelphia Freedoms a 26-21 win over

the Houston EZ Riders.

All the players were in a more playful and relaxed mood which made the evening especially fun since it was minus the tension of serious tournament play. Martina even treated the crowd to her dance version of the Village People classic "YMCA" and a bit of the "Macarena."

The next time Elton brings his Smash Hits back to Houston, we need to all join forces for a good cause and sell out the tournament. Where else can you see all of the World's best tennis talent under one roof--all in one evening. For information concerning the Elton John Aids Foundation, contact them at P.O. Box 17139 in Beverly Hills, California, 90209-3139.

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Love, Lust, Obsession

All Explored In "Passion"

By JAVIER TAMEZ

Houston Voice/Houston

Sex and love; love or sex. They certainly go well with one another, but they can also exist independent of each other. And nowhere is this more beautifully illustrated than it is with "Passion." This searing, agonizing musical by Stephen Sondheim (music & lyrics) and James Lapine (book) is the season-opening production from Theater LaB Houston, and it marks the beginning of what appears to be another grand season at TLH.

Now this musical is far from perfect, in fact musically, it's not even close (it's four Tony awards notwithstanding). Sondheim's typically choppy, disjointed musical style is even more pronounced in this short production. The melodies are, without exception, coarse and unpleasant, even annoying. None of the tunes are memorable, and most of them are eagerly forgotten. In short, from a musical standpoint, "Passion" stinks.

In every other way, however, this intermission-less musical is one for the ages. Sondheim's heart-rending lyrics are the ideal complement to Lapine's bitter, unhappy story. And together they form an aching testament to the pangs of true emotional connections and the spiritual emptiness of physical gratification.

Giorgio (Greg Coles) is a suave officer in late 19th century Italy, who is having a torrid affair with Clara (Robin K. Smith). Blissfully content in the throes of unbridled rapture, the couple sing of their joy, wondering rather smugly "how many times has pity turned to love." Their passion is interrupted when Giorgio receives orders to a remote military outpost, and he and Clara pine for the intimacy they will be unable to share while he is away.

At the outpost, Giorgio meets Fosca (Julia A. Kay), the sickly, plain, unattractive (OK make that ugly) cousin of Colonel Ricci (Terry Jones), the outpost commander. Giorgio is initially very concerned for Fosca's health, but Dr. Tambourri (Michael Wonio) explains that Fosca's illness is terminal, and there is nothing that can be done. Thus when Giorgio does meet Fosca, he goes to great effort to treat her genteelly. In the course of ostensibly polite conversation, Giorgio casually speaks of love and beauty, evoking resentment from Fosca, who feels it is unkind to discuss things so foreign to her in her presence.

Despite reservations about misleading Fosca and the protestations of Clara, Giorgio allows a friendship to develop with Fosca. Though he tries to maintain a polite distance, Fosca, presumably unaccustomed to having so dashing a man give her some attention, begins to fall in love. She makes no effort to conceal her growing feelings for Giorgio, though he makes it a point to explain his relationship with Clara.

Unfortunately, Fosca's infatuation quickly descends into obsession, and she literally throws herself at his feet, proclaiming her love, and begging to be told what she can do to help him love her. It's an altogether shocking, revolting, pitiable scene.

For his part, Giorgio can not understand the nature of Fosca's feelings. He sings of his total bewilderment at this "Love without reason, love without mercy/love without pride or shame./ Love unconcerned/with being returned—/no wisdom, no caution, no judgment, no blame."

Fosca's failed attempts to control her desperate yearning prove fruitless, and Giorgio allows himself to be persuaded to stay with her one evening. And through this evening, punctuated only by a tender embrace, Giorgio is awakened to the possibility that the licentious pleasures he has been enjoying with Clara are not love at all.

Sondheim, who has a history of stifled emotion evident in his work, let loose the flood gates with "Passion." The measure taken here of a soul exposed, an obsession unattainable and a despondency unrelenting are the stuff of Greek tragedy, and they make for a compelling stage work.

The strength of this work is instrumental in overcoming the lapses of the production, particularly among the cast, but this doesn't apply to Julia A. Kay, for her performance had no shortcomings. The woman was incredible; defeat, pain, anguish and agony (and for all, in both a physical and emotional manifestation) are present in every nuance of her portrayal. Kay makes a sad, pathetic creature swallowed whole by the utter wretchedness of her situa-



Robin Smith (front—as Clara) and Greg Coles (as Giorgio) with Julia A. Kay (as Fosca in background)

tion and the hopelessness of her condition. What a performance!

Greg Coles as the confused Giorgio and Robin Smith as the enticing Clara both do well enough, but lack any genuine zeal. Coles was well short of adequately conveying the strain of conflicting feelings, while Smith was perky and light but lacked anger or even stridency when both would have been appropriate.

The biggest problem with this production lies with the supporting cast. Not a single honest emotion seemed to come from any one of these players—dead fish, the lot of them. But what they lacked in acting ability was somewhat compensated by their singing, which was beautiful.

Director Ed Muth wisely spent much time in honing the performances of his principals. And he does so quite well. For instance, the contrast between the lovely Clara and the lonely Fosca is exceptionally realized. But in sharpening the portrayals of Fosca, Giorgio and Clara, Muth neglected to imbue the remainder of his cast with the slightest sense of their stage characters. Seemingly left to their own interpretation, the result was stiff, false and glaringly mediocre.

The performance of Julia Kay alone is enough to warrant an evening of "Passion." Make no mistake, you will not leave feeling good or snappy—quite the contrary. But you will have left knowing that you saw remarkable theater.

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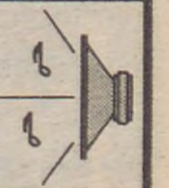
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Best of luck to CHRISTOPHER GRAHAM, Mr. Gay Texas USA, who will compete in the Mr. Gay USA Contest in San Antonio, September 19-22 at The Saint and to OSCAR PAREDES, Mr. Southeast All-American, who will compete in the Mr. Gay All-American Contest in Little Rock, September 18-21.



This & That...



by Jon Anthony

This Fall's television season hasn't even begun full force and already deals are being made for next season. **Spike Lee** has agreed to write, produce and direct a new sitcom for ABC to debut in the Fall of 1997. Co-produced with former NBC honcho **Brandon Tartikoff**, the comedy series will focus on two male characters, one black, one white, who develop a bond despite having different viewpoints on contemporary issues. The famous and controversial film director and basketball fanatic has signed to pen a memoir about the game. Slated for a June 1997 release. *The Best Seat in the House* (Crown) will take a historical look at the game through Lee's eyes.... **Kirstey Alley** has signed a deal to star in an NBC half hour comedy series for next Fall.... **Karen Carpenter's** never released solo debut album will be released this Fall, sixteen years after it was produced. Carpenter died of anorexia nervosa nearly a decade ago. She captured the hearts of millions with her melodic voice and sold millions of records worldwide.... **Bruce Willis** and **Richard Gere** will star in the remake of *The Day of the Jackal*. Willis portrays the Jackal and Gere the officer that pursues him.... **Anna Nicole** is shopping her memoirs to interested publishers. Lets see, her claim to fame was her marriage to an octogenarian tycoon and her trysts at the Betty Ford Clinic. Oh Yeah!, I'm sorry, she has done some modeling and cameo appearances. Should be a riveting read.... **Alanis Morissette** has tied **Whitney Houston** for the biggest selling debut album by a female artist. Both *Jagged Little Pill* and Houston's self-titled debut have sold 12 million copies. No other albums by a female artist have sold that many units. **Carole King's** *Tapestry* at 10 million and **Mariah Carey's** *Music Box* and



Madonna's *Like a Virgin* (9 million each) are the duo's closest competitors. This feat puts **Morissette** and **Houston** at No. 6 in all time sales, male and female. **Michael Jackson**, **Bruce Springsteen**, **Elton John**, **Garth Brooks** and **Prince** are the only artists who have sold more than 12 million copies of an album.... Harper Collins has just published a children's book by singer/songwriter **Mary Chapin Carpenter** with illustrations by **Julia Noonan**. Originally a song, *Dreamland*, became a lullaby to assist parents getting their children to go to sleep.... **Phil Collins** releases his first solo effort in three years, *Dance Into the Light*, due Oct. 22.... Comedy Central has purchased the rights to air an all new BBC *Absolutely Fabulous* television movie. The film airs in Britain in November and hits the small screen stateside in early 1997. Original series stars **Jennifer Saunders** and **Joanna Lumley** reprise their roles as the saucy duo.... **Greg Kinnear** will be leaving his duties as host of his NBC talk show *Later*. Kinnear wants to focus on his film career, currently on the rise. He co-stars with the inimitable **Jack Nicholson** in the comedy *Old Friends* due this Fall.... **Whoopi Goldberg** and **Rosie O'Donnell** co-host a special on Nickelodeon encouraging kids to volunteer for the betterment of community. The special airs Sept. 28.... **Oprah Winfrey** taped an hour long interview with **Barbara Streisand** for the all important November sweeps.... **Tina Turner's** latest single *Missing You* is climbing the charts and the song is available on her new CD *Wildest Dreams*.... **Whitney Houston** has bowed out of the planned *Cinderella* remake for CBS. Negotiations are underway with teen sensation **Brandy** starring in an updated African American version live on television.



Houston has indicated she would consider playing the fairy godmother. No deals have been finalized... ABC airs the film *Two Mothers for Zachary* this Sunday at 8pm. The film, based on the true story, stars **Vanessa Redgrave** and **Valerie Bertinelli**. Bertinelli portrays **Jody Ann Shaffell** who divorces her husband and settles down with her lover, a young woman, much to the chagrin of her mother (Redgrave). Jody's mother takes her daughter to court in an attempt to gain custody. Although I have not previewed this movie, other critics have described it as a compelling and thought provoking presentation.... Oscar winning actress **Olympia Dukakis** guest stars in this Saturday's episode of CBS' *Touched by an Angel*. **John Ritter** is the guest in the series' new time slot this Sunday at 7pm.... Wildman **Dennis Rodman** appears in the season opener of last season's only bona-fide hit *3rd Rock From The Sun*. Sun's hour-long season premiere airs Sunday on NBC at 7pm.... Legendary country crooner **Johnny Cash** appears on NBC's underrated comedy gem *NewsRadio* in its new berth Wednesday at 8pm.... **Milestones**: Legendary dancer/actress **Juliet Prowse** died last week at the age of 63 from complications due to her bout with pancreatic cancer. The "Can-Can" star was highly respected in Hollywood and danced with some of the industry's greatest, a category she would be placed in with ease. A tribute is planned in her honor Sept. 30 during the Bob Fosse Awards in Santa Monica. Rapper **Tupac Shakur** died this past weekend from a gun shot wound that occurred under questionable circumstances.... **Making the Rounds**: Author/historian **James Michener** visits the Today set on NBC Sept. 23 at 7am. **Lily Tomlin** and **Candace**



Bergen chat with the crew at CBS' *This Morning* that same day at 8am. **Oprah Winfrey** spends an hour with **Natalie Cole** on Sept. 23. at 4pm on Channel 11. **Anthony Hopkins** discusses his latest film, *Surviving Picasso*, on *This Morning* Sept. 24 at 8am on Channel 11. **Carl Bernstein** chats about his new book on **Pope John Paul II** with **Larry King** on *Larry King Live* Sept. 25 at 8pm on CNN. King encores at 1am. **Vince Gill** visits with **Rosie O'Donnell** Sept. 24 at 4pm on Channel 13. **Stephen King** talks to **David Letterman** on the *Late Show* Sept. 24 at 10:35pm on Channel 11. **Goldie Hawn** visits *This Morning* Sept. 25 at 8am. The cast of *The Jeffersons* reunite on *Rolanda* Sept. 25 at 9am and on Sept. 26 at 9am **Flip Wilson**, **Tiny Tim** and **Phyllis Diller** are *Rolanda's* guests. The show airs daily on Channel 11. **Carol Burnette** appears on the *Rosie O'Donnell* show Sept. 26 at 4pm. **Tom Hanks** talks to *Oprah* on Friday Sept. 27 at 4pm.... **Top of the Charts**: *ABC Monday Night Football* ruled the Nielsen ratings last week. *The Emmy Awards* was second. **Pearl Jam's** *No Code* tops the album charts for the second week in a row and *Macarena* by **Los Del Rio** continues to dominate the singles chart (Why!?) according to *Billboard Magazine*. **Bryan White** has the hottest country song, *So Much for Pretending*. **Jean-Claude Van Damme**, penned No. 1 at the box office over the weekend with \$5.6 million - not exactly a hit by industry standards. **Tom Clancy's** *Executive Orders* and **Scott Adams' The Dilbert Principle** top the New York Times best-seller list in the fiction and non-fiction category, respectively.... **Quote of the Week**: "A woman can't be told what to do by some guy in Washington. We can't be statistics; we've got to be women." - **Cher**, in Toronto with **Demi Moore** at the Toronto Film Festival promoting their new film concerning abortion, *If These Walls Could Talk*.

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What a World, What a World...

by Nancy Ford (appears bi-weekly in the Houston Voice)

Quicklies

If you never thought that one vote, more or less, doesn't make a difference, please note that the Employment Non-Discrimination Act was defeated last week in the Senate, 50 to 49. And today it remains lawful to discriminate against gay and lesbian people. Perhaps it's time to revolt, and hit'em where it hurts; in their peer pressure. Perhaps gay and lesbian professionals in wedding-based industries should join together and refuse to do any kind of business relating to marriage, exclusively offering their expertise to Holy Unions and "illegal commitment ceremonies" and so on. No wedding floral arrangements, no expert gown fittings, no tasty catering, no travel arrangements for the honeymoon, no nothin'. Now let's see who wants to get married. Extreme, sure. But doesn't it make you a little nuts that Hakeem Alajuwon's recent nuptials not only were to an eighteen year-old stranger, but were, as their religious culture dictates, arranged by her father. Yet my friends M and R who last month celebrated 21 years of (semi) blissful matrimony without benefit of penis, are breaking the law. Just wondering.

In addition to speculating yet simultaneously denying he is gay, the tabloids continue to aid Tom Cruise by insisting that his sperm count is just fine. All the while, Julie Cypher is with child, and nobody has dared speculate that it isn't Melissa's.

The latest celebrity to jump on the "Hey, I'm no queer, but I sure look like one" bandwagon is country star Terri Clark. Clark, despite her regulation lesbi-wear (white T-shirt, jeans, boots

and cowgirl hat) and Amazonian stage presence, insists in a recent *National Enquirer* story that "I just hope my fans will know what the truth really is. If I were gay, I'd admit it, but I'm not!" How high her sperm count remains to be seen.

According to author and Concordia University Wisconsin vocational guidance director Donald Seymour, 98% of Americans are unsuited for their occupations, based on "health, emotion, senses and their capabilities." That means that a big 2%, are—yet another reason to want to be in that "2%" bracket. Historically, does this meant that only one of the twelve apostles were up to the job, but only Judas displayed behavior akin to a disgruntled postal worker? Perhaps of the Seven Dwarfs, more than six of them want to be Harlem Globetrotters.

If I know our community, many of you are reading this column while standing in line at the local MegaCinema for "First Wives Club" tickets. Already I see a sequel tailored to us—the first wives are actually first lovers who bring havoc to their former spouses who are vacationing on the coast with their new lovers. No, wait—that's *Jaws II*. Oh well; same thing. Congratulations to Miss Kansas winner of this year's Miss America pageant, the first queen to be crowned via call-in vote by the viewing populous. A recount may be in the future, however, as an estimated 25% of participants thought they were ordering a free bottle of Snapple.

Nancy Ford is a Houston-based comedian and writer. She emcees the evening concert at the Houston Women's Festival Saturday, Sept. 21, at Garden in the Heights, 3926 Feagan. For more information call 713/868-1910.

Girls with Guitars

Houston Women's Festival This Weekend

The duo "Girls with Guitars" will be among the performers featured at the Houston Women's Musical Festival this Saturday. Starting at 1pm and running to midnight, this day of fun, music, and art will be at The Garden in the Heights, 3926 Feagan (near Memorial Dr. and Waugh). Along with musical performances there will also be standup comedy, a community marketplace, an artshow, refreshments and plenty of free parking. Tickets are still available at Inklings and Crossroads in advance for \$10 and at the door for \$12.

The line-up to take the stage includes Cindy Watts, Terry Maldonado, Paper Moon, Glenda Trotter, Lynette Louise, Lesli Wood, Rawslyn Ruffin, Kelly Conway, Liviya, Diana Jones, Nancy Scott, The Cow Pattys, and Outrageous.

Girls with Guitars are Ferryn Martin

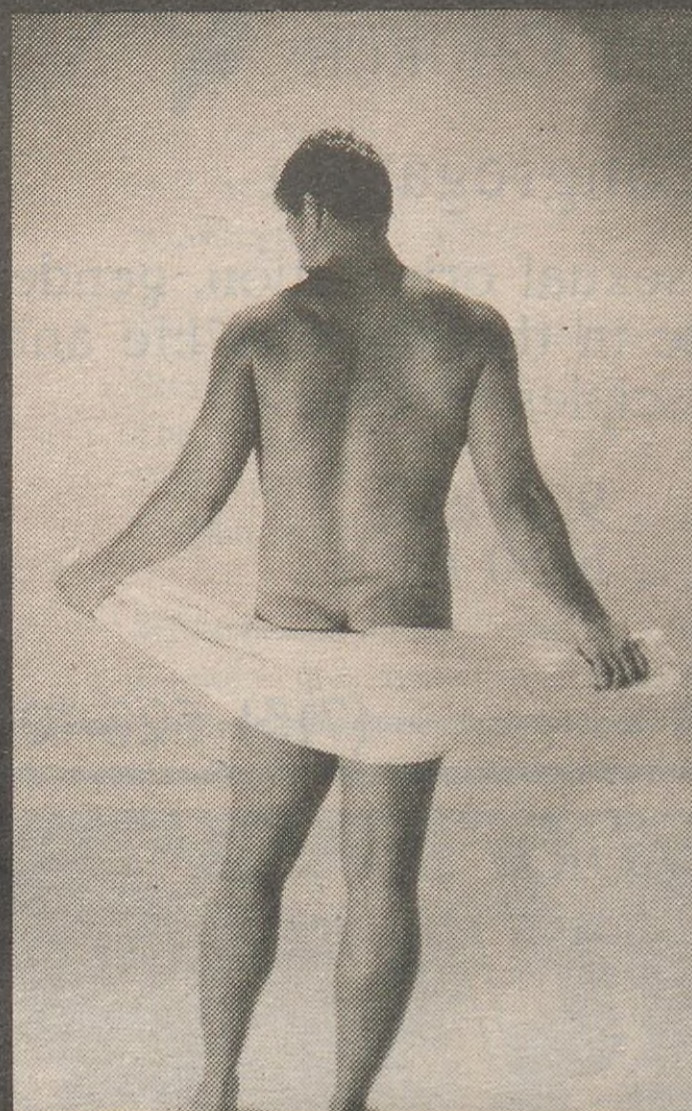


Girls with Guitars will take the stage at 7pm at the Houston Women's Festival—Rain or Shine, Be there!

and Kelly Wallin, a singer-songwriter duo featuring acoustic guitar and vocal harmony. Whether performing their original music or covers, their interpretations of insightful and contemporary lyrics and melodies moves listeners from the humorous to the heartfelt. Eleven of their original songs are featured on their first, soon-to-be-released CD.

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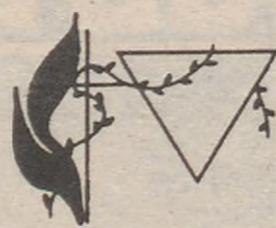


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on Thompson at Lillian)

Pastor - Chris Chiles
(713) 880-9235

(Paid Advertisement)

ASK THE PASTOR



Rev. Janet Parker

Q: "When God returns, what will happen to "good people" and "people of other faith" who don't know Jesus as their Savior?"

A: Maybe another way of asking this question to make sure I understand it is to say, "Will good people go to heaven if they don't know Jesus Christ as their Savior?" The second question I believe you are asking is, "Will people of other faith who do not profess Jesus Christ as their Savior go to heaven?" Let me first address the question about "good people."

Jesus tells the story in Mark 10:17 about a rich young man who came to Jesus and asked how he could earn salvation. He was interested in learning what he must "do" to inherit eternal life. The young man had referred to Jesus as the Good Teacher. Jesus responded by saying, "No one is good --- except God

alone." Jesus went on to give this man a long list of the things he must do to inherit eternal life. The young man actually assessed himself as having kept all the laws. Jesus then points to an area of weakness that the man failed to see in his own life --- his love of possessions. The man went away sad because he was not able to part with his treasures.

I believe the point of this story is to show us that eternal life is not earned or deserved. It is a free gift that God gives to each one of us. It is a gift that we cannot take credit for. It is the gift of a good and loving God. The most critical element for every human being is to be able to see their need for this gift. The difficult part of receiving this gift is that a person's life (Jesus) was given so that the gift could be offered. Jesus died for all of humanity so that we could have forgiveness. The forgiveness that each of us must see the need for is found in our thinking and believing that we can work our way into heaven. We tend to fool ourselves into thinking that we can keep a set of rules and thereby merit this gift.

Each one of us has something in our lives that is or has been a weakness in receiving this gift of eternal life. Only you know what it is. Prayer can reveal it to you. What is most important is that you and I realize that we are not graded by God on our goodness. The Apostle Paul in the book of Romans makes a comparison of the human race. He first says that the Gentiles (all who are not Jews) are guilty of not listening to their own conscience about who God is and how to live that life. The Gentiles have gone their own way and done their own thing. They have denied the initial revelation of who God is in the beauty all around them. The Jews, God's people who were in covenant relationship with God through Abraham, had become prideful. They assumed that they were better than the Gentiles. They thought they had the corner on the market. When Christ came to earth, the entire system was turned upside down. A new standard was being set forth. Neither group understood God's grace. God's Son came to show us a more excellent way. We began to see the life of God lived out --- full of grace and truth. Jesus became our standard. He put everyone --- Jew and Gentile --- on equal footing. The declaration was: There is no one who is in right standing with God apart from Jesus Christ. No one is good on their own merit. BUT salvation is offered to EVERYONE who calls upon the name of the LORD!!!

Just as there was a conviction of ALL, so there was a way made for ALL to come to repentance and eternal life. God is inclusive of ALL people --- can you accept this gift?

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

Church Calendar of Events

Friday-9/20

* "Your Sacred Self"—study group using the best seller by Wayne Dyer. COME learn more about your sacred self, sacred sisters & brothers, & the sacred, loving Creator God who made it so. At Kingdom Community Church 862-7533

* Catholic Mass at 10:00 am. Kolbe Project 522-8182

Saturday-9/21

* Services at 7:30 pm at Dignity Church 880-2872

Sunday-9/22

* Maranatha Fellowship Metropolitan Church Services "A Study in the Gospel of Mark" and "The 'I' Factor," (How to be a positive influence on others as a witness for Christ) at 10:00 am Praise and Worship, Ministry of the Word, Drama and Personal Ministry. 11:00 am at Maranatha Fellowship 528-6756

* MCCR worship services 9:00 am & 11:00 am 861-9149

* Worship Service 11:00 am at Faith and Hope Fellowship 773-4429

* Grace Lutheran Church Sunday school for all ages at 9:30 am Worship Service at 10:30 am 528-3269

* First Unitarian Universalist Church Sunday Services at 9:30 am and 11:30 am 526-5200

* Services at 5:30 pm Dignity Church 880-2872

* Community Gospel Church worship service at 11:00 am & 7:00 pm SERVICE IN NEW LOCATION, 4305 LILLIAN 880-9235

* Houston Mission Church worship service at 10:30 am 529-8225

* Kingdom Community Church worship service at 11:00 am Sunday School at 10:00 am 862-7533 "The Celestine Prophecy, An Experiential Guide" at 10:00 am

* Ecumenical Catholic Church Mass at 10:15 am 526-8095

* Covenant Baptist Church Worship service 1:30 pm and education hour at 3:00 pm 668-8830

* Bering Memorial United Methodist Church Worship service. 10:50 am Seekers class 9:15 am 526-1017

Monday-9/23

* Catholic Mass at 7:30 pm Kolbe Project 522-8182

* MCCR Handbell Choir Rehearsal at 7:00 pm 861-9149

Tuesday-9/24

* MCCR: Empowerment for Living support group & pot luck dinner at 6:00 pm, Gloryland Singers at 8:00 pm, The Gospel Ensemble at 6:00 pm 861-9149

* PROTECT meets at Bering Church. 520-7870.

* AIDS Affected Group meets at Community Gospel Church. 7:00 pm 880-9235

* Small home groups meet to sing, share their faith and pray for one another at 7:30 pm These groups are open to all people. Maranatha Fellowship at 528-6756 for location each week.

Wednesday 9/25

* MCCR Bible Study 7:30 pm 861-9149

* Worship Service 7:30 pm at Faith and Hope Fellowship 773-4429

* MCCR: Jubilation Mixed Ensemble meets at 6:30 pm Midweek uplift service at 7:00 pm, Bible Study, Lecture Series & Choir Rehearsal 7:30 pm 861-9149

* "A Course in Miracles"—Study Group using the book, published by the Foundation for Inner Peace, which is aimed at removing the blocks to our awareness of one's presence. Kingdom Community Church 7:30 pm 862-7533.

* Ecumenical Catholic Church Mass at 7:00 pm 526-8095

* Small home groups meet to sing, share their faith and pray for one another at 7:30 pm These groups are open to all people. Maranatha Fellowship at 528-6756 for location each week.

Thursday-9/26

* Bible Study 7 Pm At Faith And Hope Fellowship 773-4429

* Community Gospel Church worship service 7:30 pm 880-9325

* Bible Study at MCCR. 7:30 pm. 861-9149. *If you want an event listed in this section, please call 529-8490*

**KINGDOM
COMMUNITY
CHURCH**

Catch a glimpse of the Kingdom of God
Sunday School - 10 A.M.
Sunday Worship Service - 11 A.M.
Wednesdays: A Course in Miracles -
7:30 P.M.
4404 Blossom at Snover
713-862-7533

**Maranatha
FELLOWSHIP**
Metropolitan
Community Church

**PRAISING • TEACHING
ENCOURAGING**

SUNDAY 11am
Reverend Janet Parker

An evangelical ministry
with celebration services
of Praise, Prayer and
Study of God's word.
Bible Class: 10am

3400 Montrose, Suite 600
(Handicap accessible)
(Montrose at Hawthorne)
For info. on weekly home groups, call
528-6756

Dignity
HOUSTON

**God Loves YOU, so Come share the
LOVING EXPERIENCE.**

**Serving the Gay, Lesbian, Bi-sexual
Community of Catholics & Friends.
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SERVICES
Saturdays 7:30 pm
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Call and press 4 for our
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(Full details in '95 - '96
Gay and Lesbian Yellow Pages)

In the Heights 1307 Yale
Ste. H Phone 880-2872

**KOLBE
PROJECT**

COMING OUT TO YOURSELF

If you are an adult who thinks you are gay, lesbian or bisexual, KOLBE PROJECT's workshop "Coming Out to Yourself" may help you understand your sexual orientation. This free workshop will be held every Wednesday in October from 7:30 to 9:00 pm. To learn more about this workshop and to make a first name only reservation, call co-facilitators Loren Connell or Ralph Lasher at 522-8182.

1509 Fairview Street
(Montrose) • Houston, Texas 77006
Additional Parking on
Hyde Park cul-de-sac.
(713) 522-8182

FORK AND SPOON

Restaurant Review

By Wilma Lee Love
 Boudreaux's, a quaint New Orleans Style Coffee House located at 2312 Crocker, is now open for business. Just across the street from Leather by Boots and Ripcord, Boudreaux's is a nice getaway for those beginning or ending their day. With hours of 10am-10pm Sunday thru Thursday, and 10am-4am on Friday and Saturday, you just can't miss.



The ever-imposing Boudreaux!

The outside looks just like any other house in the area, but the inside makes you want to slap yourself!! When entering the front door, you are greeted by a statue of Boudreaux (a fictional character invented by stories of Jean LaFitte). If only some of my dates could have been so prominent! After catching your breath from the size of Boudreaux—yes I mean his height, you are amazed at the fine antiques from floor to ceiling. Even the bathrooms have antique dressers. No need to anchor them to the floor because they are too big for any purses, including my own! The floor is laminated with glitter pieces, looking like Bourbon Street the day after Mardi Gras in New Orleans. The tables are adorned with leather pieces that serve as coasters. Every wall in the place is covered by original oils, decorative copies, and in general, every type of artwork ever conceived!

On to the goodies—the food, girlz, the food!! Chef Andrew (leave him alone as he travels the straight line) is impeccable in serving every order. There are imported teas and coffees available for all ranges of tastes. Italian cream sodas and iced milks of various flavors are yours for \$1.50 to \$1.75. On the lighter side, there are bagels with cream cheese, cups of fruit, brioche, croissants and muffins—all for a \$1. I took some friends with me on this review and both were extremely pleased with their orders. One ordered the tuna salad sandwich and the other ordered chicken salad. Enough to feed one you might ask?? Try three or four people. The sandwiches were huge and served with potato chips and pickles. I tried the Marquis d'Meatball. A very tasty sandwich

served on french bread with melted provolone. I, like the others, had to ask for a container to take home my leftovers. Various sandwiches are available including reubens, pastrami, roast beef and many others. If you are able to, Boudreaux's offers some devilishly delightful desserts, ranging from ice creams to cheesecakes (I hear Jenny Craig calling now).

When asked, Chef Andrew said by far the most popular offering is his famous "Andrew's Special." Resembling a Philly Cheesesteak sandwich, Andrew's Special is touted as a "warm and spicy roast beef with your choice of cheese and grilled onion" sandwich. Sounded great, but the girdle was screaming for relief! Will try that next time!

Boudreaux's is the place to be when in the Montrose area. Go there before, during or after your day's activities. You won't be disappointed. The service is friendly, courteous and at your beckoned call, the ambience divine and the food to die for! When the weather cools a little—is that two days in December every year?—try sitting on the patio and enjoy great conversation with friends, eat a little or drink some imports.

Rating—3-1/2 triangles

| RATING SCALE | |
|--------------|---|
| ▲▲▲▲ | Pack my bags, I've died and gone to heaven! |
| ▲▲▲ | Pack my bags, I think I'm dying! |
| ▲▲ | Pack my overnight case, I'm only temporary! |
| ▲ | Forget the bag, call 1-800-PIZZA! |

Judge Censured for Anti-Gay Comments Retires

DALLAS (AP)—A Dallas County judge known for his controversial comments about two gay murder victims and involvement in high profile cases says he will retire Thursday. State District Judge Jack Hampton, 64, will step down from the district court bench position with a retirement party among colleagues who say his public censure in 1989 for comments about homosexuals may tarnish the memory of his otherwise good career. "If you remove that one case, and just put it aside, I always thought he was a very fair judge," said Edwin King, immediate past president of the Dallas Criminal Defense Lawyers Association.

Hampton presided over several high profile trials in his 15-year career. He recently sentenced former Dallas police Officer Johnnie Hernandez to six years in prison after Hernandez pleaded guilty to charges that he tried to hire a hit man to kill Dallas Cowboys star receiver Michael Irvin. The comments that resulted in Hampton's censure came in a Dec. 1988

interview with the Dallas Times Herald in which he called two murder victims "queers."

"These two guys that got killed wouldn't have been killed if they hadn't been cruising the street picking up teenage boys," Hampton said in the interview. "I don't care much for queers cruising the street picking up boys."

Gay activists in the community have not forgotten those words, said Charles Domingues, Executive Director of the Foundation for Human Understanding. "I would say that it's unfortunate that he didn't step down sooner," Domingues said. "His words speak for themselves. They were shocking at the time and they still are."

Hampton was appointed to the 283rd Judicial District bench in 1981 by Gov. Bill Clements, after 20 years in private law practice. Hampton was among the longest-serving criminal court judges currently on the Dallas County bench.

HOW TO REACH MEMBERS OF CONGRESS & THE PRESIDENT

Call the Capitol switchboard -even if you are not sure who represents you, just ask the operator and you will be connected. Ask for their fax numbers and e-mail addresses as well:

Call: U.S. Capitol 202/224-3121 (Senators & Representatives)

Write:

The Honorable _____
 U.S. Senate
 Washington, DC 20510

The Honorable _____
 U.S. House of Representatives
 Washington, DC 20515

The President of the United States
 President Bill Clinton
 The White House
 1600 Pennsylvania Ave.
 Washington, DC 20500

White House Public Comment Line: 202/456-7639
 E-mail: president@whitehouse.gov

THE OWNERS CLIFF & GAYE



THE MANAGEMENT
 & STAFF
 INVITE YOU TO
 PARTY WITH US
 ...NATURALLY

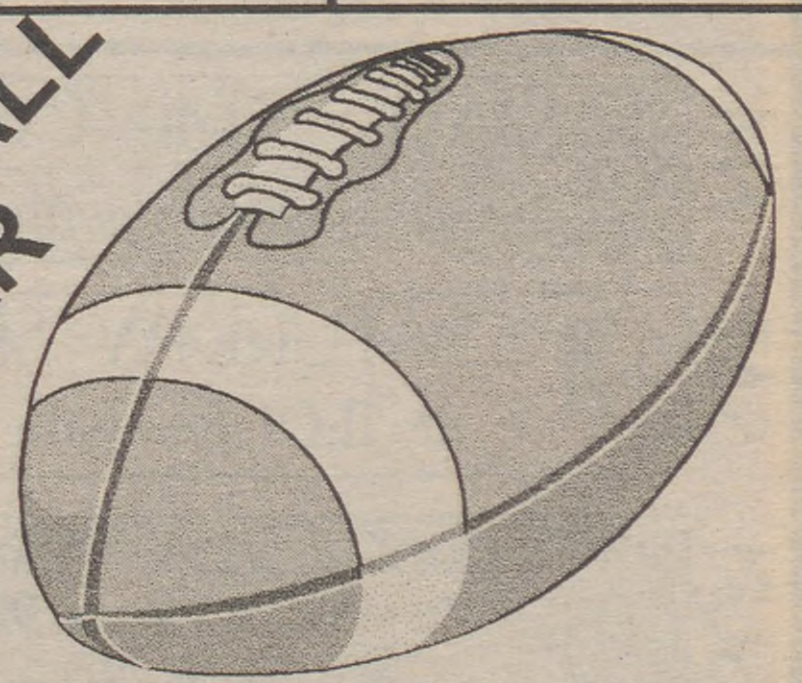
MONDAY - FRIDAY
 \$1.50 WELL VODKA & \$1.75 MIMOSA
 7AM - 2PM

WEDNESDAY
 DRINK SPECIALS ALL DAY
 SLOP SHOT POOL 1PM

SATURDAY
 NELLIE DRINKS WITH GUS
 PATIO BAR



MONDAY
 NIGHT FOOTBALL
 PATIO BAR



\$1.00 LONGNECKS 8PM - 11PM
 HOT DOGS AND CHIPS
 WITH CINDY

WESTHEIMER STREET FESTIVAL
 BOOTH SPACES AVAILABLE - MARY'S PARKING LOT
 CALL 527-9669 * 9AM - 3PM * MON. - FRI.

'Arcadia' rates a Bravo!

By JAVIER TAMEZ
Houston Voice/Houston

Landscape gardens, chaos theory, Newtonian physics, and oh yes, sex are all part of the make-up of Main Street's latest offering.

"What is carnal embrace?" asks Thomasina Coverly (Shannon E. Emerick), a 13-year old girl far wiser than her years, of her tutor Septimus Hodge (Rob de los Reyes), who responds "Carnal embrace is the practice of throwing one's arms around a side of beef." And that pretty much sets the stage (get it!) for "Arcadia," by Tom Stoppard, the first production of the 96-97 season for Main Street Theater at its Chelsea Market venue, the best work ever by the playwright, and quite possibly the best British play to hit America's shores since copies of Shakespeare found their way to the colonies.

"Arcadia" you see, is about sex. Now mind you, Stoppard uses some wonderfully clever metaphors to mark the unflinching attention we all give to sex, and he immerses them in sharp, ingenious, and magnificently crafty dialogue. But there's no mistaking, it's all about sex. Whether the characters are discussing the history of British landscape gardening, Newtonian physics, chaos theory, Fermat's Last Theorem, or the whereabouts and wheretofores of a young Lord Byron, it's really all about sex.

There is, of course, more to it. Stoppard offers brilliant theatrical insight into the chanciness of fame, the meaning of genius, the semblance of order and disorder, and the rise of Romanticism as the Age of Enlightenment is eclipsed, in comparison with contemporary Nihilism. The playwright also constructs his work around stunningly

fashion, rather than the studied, carefully planned layout she prefers.

In the present day, the manor is now the scene of research and investigation. Hannah Jarvis (Claire Hart-Palumbo), an author, is trying to learn precisely when and how the garden changed in the early 19th century. Bernard Nightingale (Bryan Bounds), a professor (don in the program), has arrived at the estate to try and find evidence that will prove his theory that Lord Byron was not only present at the estate in April 1809, but that he had an affair with the mistress and later killed her husband in a duel.

And so it goes. Back and forth between the two time periods. The past serving as the counterpoint to the theories and notions (invariably incorrect) developed in the present of what transpired on the estate so long ago. And it culminates in an inspiring scene that brings the denizens of each century together in a strangely metaphysical conjunction, through which they dance and play the mating game.

Stoppard's metaphors, which at times are comets zooming across the stage (how's that one?), would be ideal for any student of literary interpretation. Why, the extent to which they could be analyzed would be enough for a doctoral dissertation. But even more majestic (literarily speaking) is the parallelism.

Septimus and Bernard are sexual predators and in this regard mirror images of one another. Each with a confident flair and handsome features, and both easily diverted from the matters at hand for the sake of matters of the flesh. Thomasina and Hannah, though years apart in age, are both studious, inquisitive, doubting and determined. Each

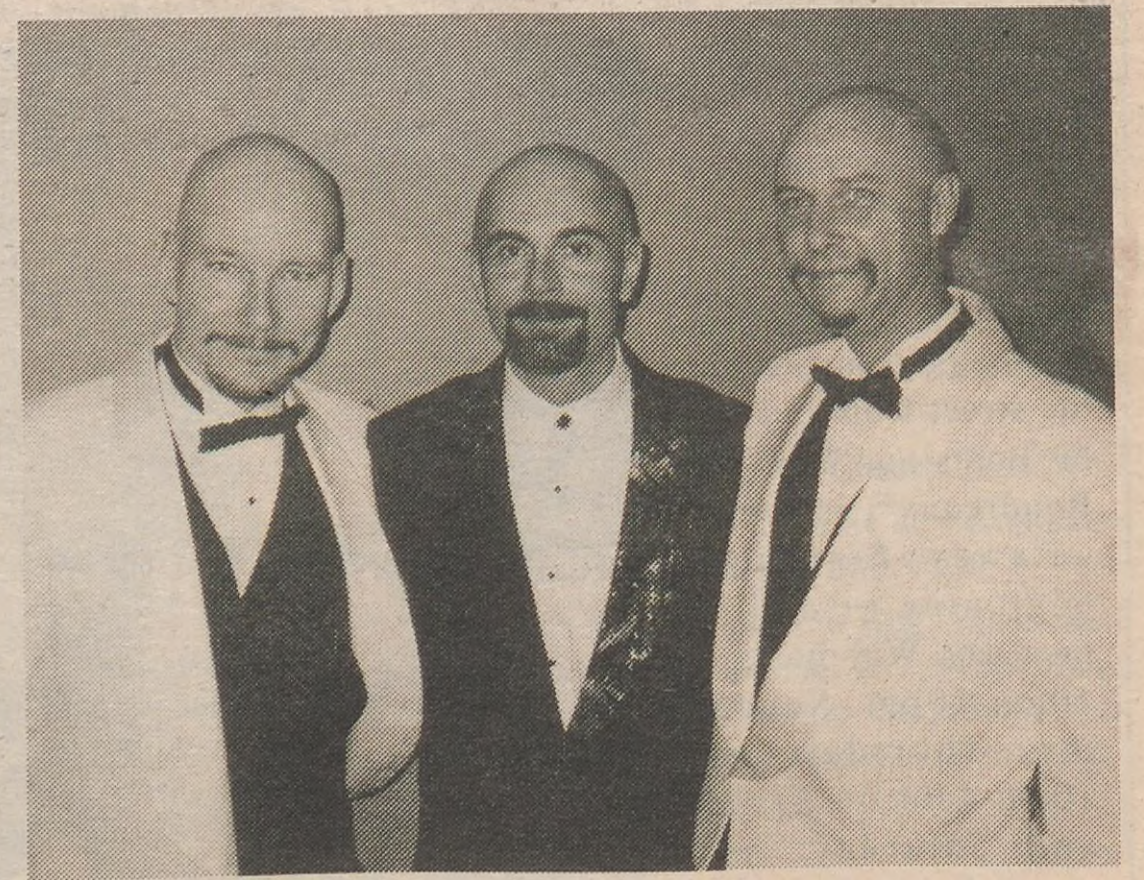
Congrats to Rascals

Grand Opening Success

The newest addition to the Montrose bar scene is Rascals. Located at 1318 Westheimer (next to McDonalds), Rascals held its Grand Opening on Saturday, Sept. 14 from 2-6pm. Music, champagne, hors d'oeuvres and lots of friendly faces adorned Rascals for this afternoon of excitement and revelry.

Beginning with the front patio, customers may sit outside to enjoy good drinks, conversation and great cruising along Westheimer. With patio covers to keep the heat out, patrons were treated to the sights and sounds of "Irie Time." A local band, Irie Time played greatly diversified music to keep everyone happy.

Once entering the front door, guests are able to choose from two bars and a small, but useful dance floor. State-of-the-art sound speakers, a DJ/VJ booth, smoke machines, strobes, and enough lighting to fully cover a small Texas farm keeps everyone dancing! The restrooms are equipped with small televisions so you don't miss your favorite video. A patio



Aaron & guests at Rascals' opening


shaded with huge pecan trees welcomes you in the back of the bar for those cool afternoons/evenings when you might want to just relax!

Upstairs is a true adventure. Beautifully treated wood panels grace the upstairs bar. Chairs, tables and window seats allow you to view the Houston skyline (quite a sight at night). There is a small (termed quiet) bar with limited seating for those desiring more privacy. Finally, continuing out the back way you are greeted by a well-lit pool room.

The staff is courteous and the price is right! Male strip contests, star-studded impressionists and just plain old-fashioned fun awaits you at Rascals. Don't delay, go today!

Tell EVERYONE you saw it in the HOUSTON VOICE

9/21 **Star Studded Saturday Show** 11:00pm

Hostess  Paivi Lee Love

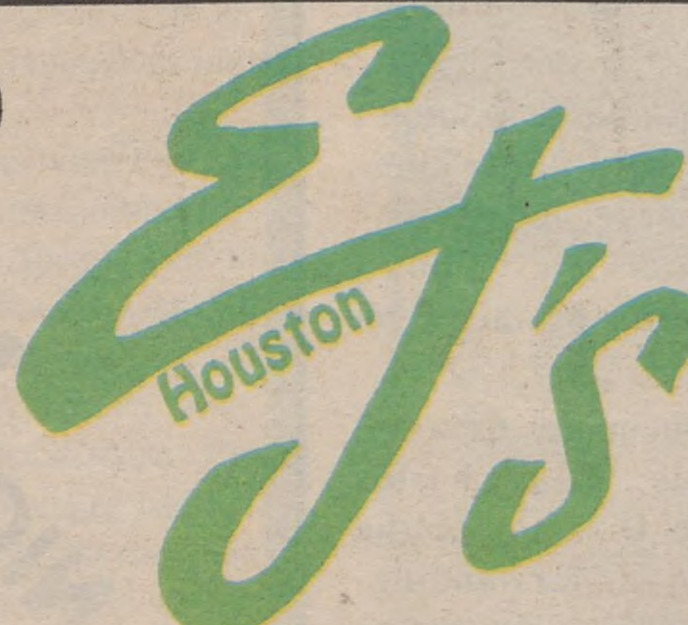
Special Guests
Dyan Michaels
Roxanne Lee Love
Regina Dane
and talent night winner

Those darn cats are back again!

Meow This!

For the Miss Kitty Litter III Contest.

| | | |
|-----|------|---|
| FRI | 9/20 | MALE STRIP CONTEST at 11:00pm with Paivi |
| SAT | 9/21 | SATURDAY SHOW at 11:00pm with Paivi |
| SUN | 9/22 | \$1 Budweiser & Bud Light All Day All Night Miss Kitty Litter III • 9pm w/ Mr. & Miss EJ's |
| MON | 9/23 | MALE STRIP CONTEST at 11:00pm with Paivi |
| TUE | 9/24 | Amateur/Talent Night at 11:00pm with Paivi |
| WED | 9/25 | Granny's Burgers |



2517 Ralph Street at Westheimer (713) 527-9071

- Happy Hour 7am-9pm weekdays
- \$1.50 Well 4-7 Saturday
- \$1.50 Vodka 7am-6pm
- Mug Club 7am-10pm
- \$3.75 Pitchers & \$1.75 Mugs

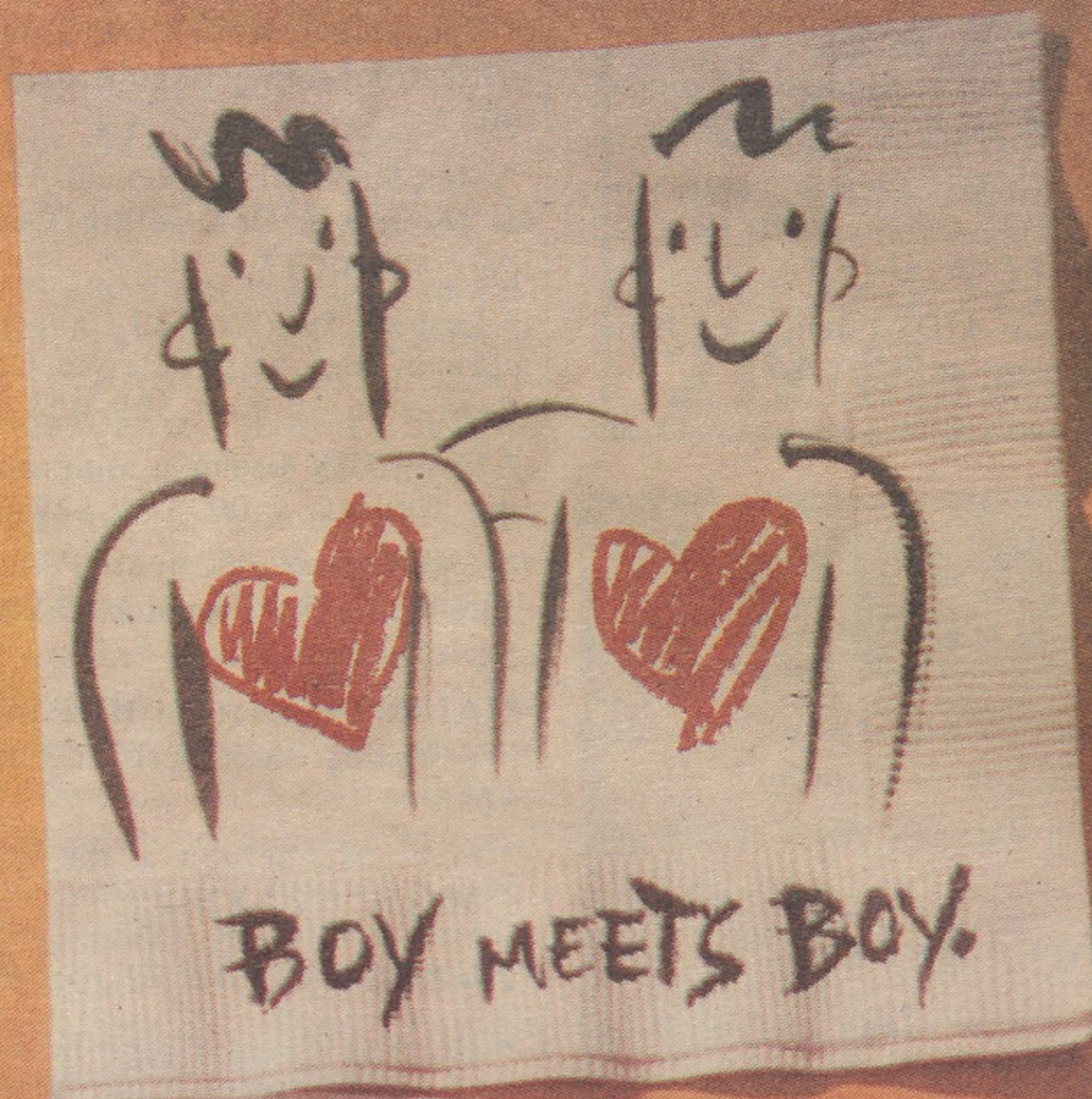
SUNDAY, SEPT. 22 AT 9PM
Miss Kitty Litter III

Hosted by Mr. & Miss EJ's
All proceeds benefit The Pet Patrol

PET food DONATIONS gladly ACCEPTED AND ENCOURAGED  FOR info. OR TO ENTER CALL: 522-1954

South of the Border Night with Vanessa Raye
Thursday, Sept. 26, 11:00pm
with Special Guests
ALSO Granny's Tacos!

IT'S A STORY WE'VE HEARD
 MANY TIMES BEFORE. GAY MEN
 ENGAGING IN WHAT THEY
 THOUGHT WAS SAFE SEX,
 ONLY TO CATCH HEPATITIS A
 THROUGH ORAL/ANAL
 CONTACT OR HANDLING
 A CONDOM. THE VIRUS
 RARELY KILLS, BUT IF YOU
 GET HEPATITIS A, VOMITING,
 ABDOMINAL PAIN, JAUNDICE
 AND DIARRHEA CAN
 DEBILITATE YOU FOR WEEKS.
 FORTUNATELY, THERE'S HAVRIX,
 THE WORLD'S FIRST VACCINE
 AGAINST HEPATITIS A.
 A SINGLE DOSE WILL PROTECT



YOU FOR UP TO ONE YEAR,
 AND A BOOSTER DOSE SIX TO
 12 MONTHS LATER WILL
 PROLONG PROTECTION.
 THE MOST COMMON SIDE
 EFFECTS AFTER RECEIVING
 HAVRIX ARE HEADACHE OR A
 LITTLE SORENESS IN YOUR ARM*
 ASK YOUR DOCTOR OR
 CALL **1.800.200.HEPA**
 FOR MORE INFORMATION.
 AND MAKE SURE YOUR STORY
 HAS A HAPPY ENDING.

*PLEASE SEE
 IMPORTANT

Havrix
 Hepatitis A Vaccine,
 Inactivated

PATIENT INFORMATION
 ADJACENT TO THIS AD.

Manufactured by
SmithKline Beecham Biologicals
 Rixensart, Belgium
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Distributed by
SmithKline Beecham Pharmaceuticals
 Philadelphia, PA 19101
 HA8153

Havrix is a registered trademark
 of SmithKline Beecham.

COMMUNITY

Hepatitis A Vaccine, Inactivated Havrix®

See complete prescribing information in SmithKline Beecham Pharmaceuticals literature. The following is a brief summary.

INDICATIONS AND USAGE: Havrix is indicated for active immunization of persons ≥ 2 years of age against disease caused by hepatitis A virus (HAV).

CONTRAINDICATIONS: Havrix is contraindicated in people with known hypersensitivity to any component of the vaccine.

WARNINGS: Do not give additional injections to patients experiencing hypersensitivity reactions after a Havrix injection. (See CONTRAINDICATIONS.)

Hepatitis A has a relatively long incubation period. Hepatitis A vaccine may not prevent hepatitis A infection in those who have an unrecognized hepatitis A infection at the time of vaccination. Additionally, it may not prevent infection in those who do not achieve protective antibody titers (although the lowest titer needed to confer protection has not been determined).

PRECAUTIONS: As with any parenteral vaccine (1) keep epinephrine available for use in case of anaphylaxis or anaphylactoid reaction; (2) delay administration, if possible, in people with any febrile illness or active infection, except when the physician believes withholding vaccine entails the greater risk; (3) take all known precautions to prevent adverse reactions, including reviewing patients' history for hypersensitivity to this or similar vaccines.

Administer with caution to people with thrombocytopenia or a bleeding disorder, or people taking anticoagulants. Do not inject into a blood vessel. Use a separate, sterile needle or prefilled syringe for every patient. When giving concomitantly with other vaccines or IG, use separate needles and different injection sites.

As with any vaccine, if administered to immunosuppressed persons or persons receiving immunosuppressive therapy, the expected immune response may not be obtained.

Carcinogenesis, Mutagenesis, Impairment of Fertility: Havrix has not been evaluated for its carcinogenic potential, mutagenic potential or potential for impairment of fertility.

Pregnancy Category C: Animal reproduction studies have not been conducted with Havrix. It is also not known whether Havrix can cause fetal harm when administered to a pregnant woman or can affect reproduction capacity. Give Havrix to a pregnant woman only if clearly needed. It is not known whether Havrix is excreted in human milk. Because many drugs are excreted in human milk, use caution when administering Havrix to a nursing woman.

Havrix is well tolerated and highly immunogenic and effective in children.

Fully inform patients, parents or guardians of the benefits and risks of immunization with Havrix. For persons traveling to endemic or epidemic areas, consult current CDC advisories regarding specific locales. Travelers should take all necessary precautions to avoid contact with, or ingestion of, contaminated food or water. Duration of immunity following a complete vaccination schedule has not been established.

ADVERSE REACTIONS: Havrix has been generally well tolerated. As with all pharmaceuticals, however, it is possible that expanded commercial use of the vaccine could reveal rare adverse events.

The most frequently reported by volunteers in clinical trials was injection-site soreness (56% of adults; 21% of children); headache (14% of adults; less than 9% of children). Other solicited and unsolicited events are listed below.

Incidence 1% to 10% of Injections: Induration, redness, swelling, fatigue, fever (>37.5°C), malaise, anorexia, nausea.

Incidence <1% of Injections: Hematoma, pruritus, rash, urticaria, pharyngitis, other upper respiratory tract infections; abdominal pain, diarrhea, dysgeusia, vomiting; arthralgia, elevation of creatine phosphokinase, myalgia; lymphadenopathy, hypertonic episode, insomnia, photophobia, vertigo.

Additional safety data

Safety data were obtained from two additional sources in which large populations were vaccinated. In an outbreak setting in which 4,930 individuals were immunized with a single dose of either 720 ELU or 1440 ELU of Havrix, the vaccine was well-tolerated and no serious adverse events due to vaccination were reported. Overall, less than 10% of vaccinees reported solicited general adverse events following the vaccine. The most common solicited local adverse event was pain at the injection site, reported in 22.3% of subjects at 24 hours and decreasing to 2.4% by 72 hours.

In a field efficacy trial, 19,037 children received the 360 ELU dose of Havrix. The most commonly reported adverse events were injection-site pain (9.5%) and tenderness (8.1%), reported following first doses of Havrix. Other adverse events were infrequent and comparable to the control vaccine Engerix-B® (Hepatitis B Vaccine, Recombinant).

Postmarketing Reports: Rare voluntary reports of adverse events in people receiving Havrix since market introduction include the following: localized edema; anaphylaxis/anaphylactoid reactions; somnolence; syncope; jaundice; hepatitis; erythema multiforme; hyperhidrosis; angioedema; dyspnea; lymphadenopathy; convulsions; encephalopathy; dizziness; neuropathy; myelitis; paresis; Guillain-Barré syndrome; multiple sclerosis; congenital abnormality.

The U.S. Department of Health and Human Services has established the Vaccine Adverse Events Reporting System (VAERS) to accept reports of suspected adverse events after the administration of any vaccine, including, but not limited to, the reporting of events required by the National Childhood Vaccine Injury Act of 1986. The toll-free number for VAERS forms and information is 1-800-822-7967.

HOW SUPPLIED: 360 ELU/0.5 mL NDC 58160-836-01 Package of 1 single-dose vial.
720 ELU/0.5 mL NDC 58160-837-01 Package of 1 single-dose vial.
NDC 58160-837-02 Package of 1 prefilled syringe.

1440 ELU/mL NDC 58160-835-01 Package of 1 single-dose vial.
NDC 58160-835-02 Package of 1 prefilled syringe.

Manufactured by **SmithKline Beecham Biologicals**, Rixensart, Belgium.
Distributed by **SmithKline Beecham Pharmaceuticals**, Philadelphia, PA 19101.
BRS-HA-L5A

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Havrix is a registered trademark of SmithKline Beecham.

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

Friday, Sept. 20

- * Borders Book Store Gay/Lesbian Book Club meets at the Espresso Bar at 9634 Westheimer. 782-6066.
- * HIV+ Art classes at the Art League. 523-8817
- * HATCH meets. 942-7002.
- * 12 step program at Montrose Counseling Center. 6:00 pm. 529-0037.
- * Aftercare Group Treatment at Montrose Counseling Center. 6:00 pm. 529-0037.
- * Art Classes at AIDS Foundation Houston at 1:00 pm. 526-1118.
- * Houston Tennis Club meets at 7:15 pm. 527-1348.
- * Q-Patrol meets to walk the streets at 10:30 pm. 528-SAFE.
- * Free Spaying and Neutering Program. 522-2337.
- * Tai-Chi and Pa-Kua classes at Borders Books. 6:30 pm. 782-6066.
- * Lesbians in Business meets at 7:00 pm. 529-0077.

Saturday, Sept. 21

- * Houston Chain Gang Bicycle Club rides. 863-1860.
- * After Hours on KPFT 12:00 am. to 3:00 am. 90.1 FM. 526-5738.
- * Gulf Coast Transgender support group meets. 780-4282.
- * Q-Patrol meets to walk the streets at 10:30 pm. 528-SAFE.
- * Visual Art Alliance meets at 10:00 am. 583-8408.
- * Gallery Talk with Lari Pittman at 4:00 pm. 526-3129.
- * Houston Women's Festival at the Garden. 868-1910.
- * Author John Bradshaw talks at 11:00 am. 681-9082.
- * The Smothers Brothers perform in Galveston. 480-1894.
- * Toopees has live music at 8:30 pm. 522-7622.
- * Tzimon Barto with the Houston Symphony. 227-ARTS.
- * Art Reception at the Firehouse Gallery. 7:00 pm. 520-7840.
- * Art Opening at Martin's Gallery. 523-6925.
- * "The Journey" at the Museum of Fine Arts at 6:00 pm & 8:15 pm. And "The Jar" at 8:00 pm. 639-7531.

Sunday, Sept. 22

- * Houston Chain Gang Bicycle Club meets. 863-1860.
- * The Women's Group meets at 10:45 am. 529-8571.
- * FrontRunners meet at 9:00 am at the Tennis center in Memorial Park. 522-8021.
- * HATCH meets. 942-7002.
- * Inner Loop Sunday Bowling League. 522-9612.
- * "The Jar" at the Museum of Fine Arts at 6:00 pm. 639-7531.

Monday, Sept. 23

- * Free HIV Testing and counseling by the Montrose Clinic at the Brazos River Bottom. 4:00 pm to 8:00 pm.
- * Gay Fathers/Fathers First support

- group. 8:00 pm. 861-6181.
- * HeartSong open rehearsal at the First Unitarian Church at 7:00 pm. 947-1488.
- * Calendar/Computer workshop for Pride Week. 7:00 pm. 529-1223.
- * Positive Living Group at Montrose Counseling Center. 2:15 pm. 539-0037.
- * Outpatient Group Treatment at Montrose Counseling Center. 6:00 pm. 529-0037.
- * Women and HIV/AIDS Group at Montrose Counseling Center. 6:15 pm. 529-0037.
- * Men Survivors of Sexual Abuse Group at Montrose Counseling Center. 6:15 pm. 529-0037.
- * Lesbian Survivors of Cancer and their care givers at Montrose Counseling Center. 6:30 pm. 529-0037.
- * Men's HIV Group at Montrose Counseling Center. 7:00 pm. 529-0037.
- * AVES sponsored free HIV testing from 10:00 am to 5:00 pm at 4125 SW Freeway, Suite 1717.
- * AIDS Foundation Houston's Creative Writing Class meets at 3:00 pm. 623-6796.
- * Free basic aerobic at the Waistbasket. 7:30 pm. 721-8282.

Tuesday, Sept. 24

- * Helping Cross Dressers Anonymous meets at 239 Westheimer. 8:00 pm. 495-8009.
- * Basic Computer Skills Class at the Kolbe Project. 522-8182.
- * Gay Men HIV+ Psychotherapy at Montrose Counseling Center. 4:30 pm. 529-0037.
- * Outpatient Group Treatment at Montrose Counseling Center. 6:00 pm. 529-0037.
- * Aftercare Group Treatment at Montrose Counseling Center. 6:00 pm. 529-0037.
- * AIDS Alliance of the Bay Area meets at 7:00 pm. 488-4492.
- * Empowerment for Living meets for pot luck. 861-9149.
- * PROTECT: an HIV negative support group meets at 7:00 pm. 520-7870.
- * Free HIV testing by the Montrose Clinic at Club Body Center. 8:00 pm. 520-2083.
- * Women Survivors of Childhood Abuse at Montrose Counseling Center. 6:30 pm. 529-0037.
- * Survivors of loss support group meets at 8:30 pm. 778-2677.
- * FrontRunners meet at 6:30 pm. 522-8021.
- * Live Jazz at Borders Book Shop. 782-6066.

Wednesday, Sept. 25

- * Free HIV testing and counseling by the Montrose Clinic at Mary's. 4:00 pm to 8:00 pm.
- * Houston Tennis Club meets at 10:30 pm. 537-1348.
- * Houston Pride Band practices at Dignity Houston. 524-0218.
- * GLOBAL meets at 4:00 pm. 743-7539.
- * Women's Action Coalition meets at Toopees. 7:00 pm. 867-9581.
- * Men's Network at Montrose Counseling Center. 7:00 pm. 529-0037.
- * Houston Tennis Club meets at 7:15 pm. 537-1348.
- * Lambda Rollerskating Club skates at 8:00 pm. 933-5818.

- * Women's Network at Montrose Counseling Center. 7:00 pm. 529-0037.
- * Ongoing Mixed Living in Process Group for men and women. 622-7250 for more info.
- * Living with Chronic Pain at Montrose Counseling Center. 9:30 pm. 529-0037.
- * Aftercare Group Treatment at Montrose Counseling Center. 6:00 pm. 529-0037.
- * Women's Issues Process Group at Montrose Counseling Center. 6:30 pm. 529-0037.
- * HIV Survivor Support Group meets at 7:00 pm. 782-4050.
- * Women's Clinic at the Montrose Clinic. 5:00 pm to 8:00 pm. Call 520-2000.
- * AVES offers free HIV testing at 10:00 am to 5:00 pm. At 4125 SW Freeway, Suite 1717.
- * Lesbian/Bisexual Survivors at Montrose Counseling Center. 6:30 pm. 529-0037.
- * Tai-Chi and Pa-Kua classes at Borders Books. 6:30 pm. 782-6066.
- * Birthday Bash for Debra Danburg at 6:30 pm. 523-3272.
- * Houston Area Bears dine out at 7:00 pm. 867-9123.

Thursday, Sept. 26

- * Free HIV testing and counseling by the Montrose Clinic at the Venture-N. 4:00pm to 8:00 pm.
- * Art Labs at The Art League. 1:00 pm. 225-9411
- * Front Runners meet at Memorial Park. 6:30 pm. 522-8021.
- * Gay Men's Chorus of Houston open rehearsal at 7:00 pm. 521-7464.
- * Twentysomething meets at 7:30 pm. 315-6786.
- * KPFT Lesbian and Gay Voices airs at 8:00 pm. to 10:00 pm. 866-6505.
- * Ongoing gay men's Living in Process Group. 622-7250.
- * Open Mike Night at Cafe Artiste. 1601 W. Main. 8:00 pm. 528-3704.
- * HIV+ Men Psychotherapy at Montrose Counseling Center. 1:15 pm. 529-0037.
- * Relapse Prevention at Montrose Counseling Center. 2:00 pm. 529-0037.
- * Outpatient Group Treatment at Montrose Counseling Center. 6:00 pm. 529-0037.
- * Aftercare Group Treatment at Montrose Counseling Center. 6:00 pm. 529-0037.
- * Meditation and Chanting Group meets at 7:00 pm. 942-0923.
- * HIV Affected at CASA. 7:00 pm. 796-2272.
- * Men's Therapy Group at Montrose Counseling Center. 7:00 pm. 529-0037.
- * HIV survivor Support Group meets at 2929 Unity Drive. 7:00 pm. 782-4050
- * Center for the Healing of Racism. 7:30 pm. 738-RACE.
- * Tai-Chi and Pa-Kua classes at Borders Books. 6:30 pm. 782-6066.
- * Gay Men's Chorus of Houston meets at 7:00 pm. 521-SING.
- * Art reception for Rene Yung at 7:00 pm. 526-3129.

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Hawaii Gay Marriage Case Underway

The Hawaii equal marriage rights case, *Baehr v. Mike*, goes into its second week in the Honolulu Circuit Court. In the case, the burden of proof is on the state to justify compelling interest in continuing discrimination against same-sex couples by denying them the right to civil marriage. The Friends of Hawaii Equal Rights Marriage Project has established 1-900-97-MARRY in order to raise funds for the defense of same-sex marriage. For more information contact Tom Ramsey (Friends of Hawaii Equal Rights Marriage Project) at (808) 944-6742 or e-mail at ramsey@math.hawaii.edu. For information on the trial, please contact Peg Byron (Lambda Legal Defense and Education Fund) at (212) 995-8986.

Navy Gay Bashing Murderer Asks For Clemency

Terry Helvey, serving a life sentence for the vicious murder of gay Navy Petty Officer Allen Schindler in 1992, is attempting to have his sentence reduced. On Oct. 27, 1992, in Sasebo, Japan, Helvey and his accomplice, Charles Vins, beat Schindler so badly that a medical examiner compared the injuries to those that would occur in an airplane crash. In the ensuing trial Helvey made it clear that he felt justified because Schindler was gay. Helvey's clemency hearing is scheduled for Sept. 18. For more information contact Kirk Childress (Servicemembers Legal Defense Network) at (202) 328-2344 or e-mail at sldn1@aol.com.

Shooting On New Gay Movie Begins

On Sept. 16, shooting begins on *In and Out*, a film starring Kevin Kline as a teacher who is outed by a former student (played by Matt Dillon) when the student receives an Oscar for a gay role. Tom Sel-

leck plays a gay reporter for Entertainment Tonight who is attracted to Kline, and Debbie Reynolds plays Kline's mother. Once Kline's character is outed, he breaks off the engagement to his fiancée, played by Joan Cusack. Openly gay screenwriter Paul Rudnick penned the screenplay, Frank Oz directs and Scott Rudin produces. For more information contact Eric Myers (Paramount Pictures) at (212) 664-0364.

Rocky Mountain Conference Builds Bridges

On Sept. 21, the Denver chapter of Parents, Families and Friends of Lesbians and Gays (PFLAG) will host a conference at the Denver Hilton South to address homophobia and its detrimental effects on the whole community. The training is for professionals in the fields of education, religion, business and mental health who strive to achieve diversity and acceptance. The next day, the Gay, Lesbian, and Straight Teachers Network (GLSTN) will hold "Changing Hearts, Changing Minds," a one-day seminar for educators seeking to bring greater inclusion of lesbian and gay issues into schools. For more information contact Tracy Phariss (GLSTN) at (303) 232-3789.

To report events that merit media coverage, or news stories breaking in your area, please contact us. The Gay & Lesbian Alliance Against Defamation (GLAAD) is the nation's lesbian & gay news bureau and the only national lesbian & gay multimedia watchdog organization. GLAAD promotes fair, accurate, and inclusive representation as a means of challenging discrimination based on sexual orientation or identity. **TO REPORT DEFAMATION IN THE MEDIA** —Call GLAAD's Alertline at 1.800.GAY.MEDIA or go to the GLAAD Web Site at www.glaad.org and report through our Alertline Online. GLAAD promotes fair, accurate and inclusive representation as a means of challenging discrimination based on sexual orientation or identity.

Turner continued...

(Continued from page 1)

Turner claims this allegation wrongfully tied him to the death of his client Sylvester Foster. Turner charges that the report by Dolcefino libeled him and ruined his chances for election when it aired just prior to his run-off election against Bob Lanier in 1991.

An affidavit by Turner's then wife, Cheryl Gillum Turner was presented in court Tuesday by attorneys for the television station. Part of her statement in the 1991 divorce suit against Turner, charges that she heard comments that he was sexually involved with other men and that he may have been the target of blackmail. A co-conspirator in the insurance scam, Keith Anderson died of AIDS two years ago. It was his affidavit that linked Turner to the scam which investigative reporter Dolcefino announced in his report.

Dolcefino, who was criticized for not investigating the story fully, says that even though the allegations by Turner's estranged wife may not be true, it showed a reason for him to be suspicious of Turner's claims of being happily married.

Dolcefino was shown the affidavit by a private investigator four days before the airing of his Dec. 1991 story. Cheryl Gillum Turner, a former assistant District Attorney and Turner were married in 1983. Her affidavit charged that his firm had not been making money before the time of the alleged scam. The jury in the libel trial did not see all nine pages of the statement and the allegations regarding telephone recordings revealing Turner's apparent homosexual relationships including one with a longtime friend, Dwight Thomas. Gillum claimed to have heard suggestions that Turner's former campaign aide, Carter "had control of Sylvester", supposedly because he knew what was described as "Sylvester's deepest, darkest secrets."

Dolcefino did not use any of the allegations in his story because he thought that the then Mrs. Turner may have been using the affidavit to negotiate a better settlement in her divorce. Sylvester Turner had testified earlier in the trial that their marriage unraveled because they were on different paths. He as a very public figure and that she wanted a more private life.

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Miss Camp America The Agony of De'Feet

Photos by Steven David



Ivanna Star Cabral Crowned Miss Camp America



Randall Stripling (aka Buffy, 1 Bayou, Miss Camp America 1996) celebrates with the newly crowned Miss Camp America 1997, Ivanna Star, in the persona of H.L. Cabral at the After-the-Event Brunch.

\$66,500 Raised For Charities

BY PERRIE DOLPH

The 28th annual Miss Camp America Pageant played out its evening of glitter, glamour and the fairy tale values of a bygone era at Houston's Music Hall last Saturday evening before 2000 adoring fans.

The pageant, besides being the ultimate spoof of that Atlantic City review, is an outrageously indulgent celebration of camp featuring its all male membership.

The high-point of the evening was the presentation of the grant checks to this year's designated charities by Jerry Clifton and Perrie Dolph to the following Houston Service Organizations; The Houston Names Project, \$6400, Body Positive, \$6400, AIDS Foundation, Stone Soup, \$9600, The Assistance Fund,

\$18,500, and The Bering Care Center, \$25,600 for a grand total of \$66,500, surpassing last years total of \$60,000.

"There she is!!! is this year's Miss Kansas, Ivanna Star, the 29th Miss Camp America and one of the many stars in next year's September Pageant and supported by her top nine of: Miss Hawaii, Sara Jane Stewart; Miss Louisiana, Dana Winterhoff; Miss Indiana, Patti O. Chair Clifton; Miss Kentucky, Rula Marzke; Miss Texas, Imelda Marcos Garza; Miss Oregon, Faye Ray West, Miss Alabama, Cha Cha Rodriguez; Miss Mississippi, Lisa Trailer Wilson; and Miss Missouri, Lafonda Deaux Slemmer.

This year's production was directed and produced by David Stewart and Choreographed by Stephanie Mitchell. The Master Of Ceremonies was Mr. Danny Williams of RSVP Cruise Line fame.

Vermont Student to Continue Wearing Dress

Burlington, VT. (AP) A Burlington High School student is vowing to continue wearing a dress, makeup and a wig to school every day even though he has been and will continue to be barred from class in such attire. Sophomore Matt Stickney, 15, who is gay, has been the subject of a swirl of attention and controversy for the past several days because he has been showing up at school in a dress and the administration has been sending him home.

Administrators say his clothing disrupts class and therefore violates the school's dress code. Stickney said Friday after his latest expulsion led to a walkout by other students that he did not plan to change his wardrobe. "This is who I am," said Stickney, who showed up Friday with a black top and a

pink, red, and green flowered skirt. "If they're going to kick me out every day of the week, this is going to happen every day." About 100 BHS students cut class Friday morning to protest the school's decision.

High school Principal Ridgely Schott said Stickney's dress disrupted the school's business. Friday, Schott again told Stickney he couldn't wear a dress. He then suspended Stickney for using abusive language toward Schott and an assistant principal. Students gath-

ered around Stickney outside the school building, some boys wearing pink lipstick and girls wearing white button-down shirts and ties.

"I'm 17. If I'm going to wear a leotard, they're not going to stop me," said Louis Gilbeau, a junior. "What's the difference between a leotard and a wrestling uniform?" Lisa Martell, 15, a freshman, said girls can wear lingerie to school, but boys cannot wear dresses. "People should wear what they want. That's discrimination," said Martell, who wore a tie. "It's not fair." Gay services organizations supported Stickney's actions. "There are gay, lesbian, bisexual, cross-dressing young people," said Karin Eade, Executive Director of Outright Vermont. "For a school not to celebrate that and not to provide a safe environment for him to learn ... I think is dangerous." Outright Vermont provides resources and referrals for gay, lesbian and bisexual youths and offers educational programs.

In a statement Friday, the Burlington School District said it was concerned that allowing Stickney to wear the clothing he chose would disrupt learning. "We are responsible for protecting the educational environment from disruption and maintaining a safe environment for all students," it said.

Dream a little dream for me...

graphics by : DAMCO

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Teacher's Group goes 'Back to School'

GLSTN Teaches Respect

Working on behalf of teachers and students of all sexual orientations, the Gay, Lesbian, and Straight Teachers Network (GLSTN) has launched its second annual Back-to-School Campaign. Olympic champion Greg Louganis has agreed to serve as a spokesperson for this effort and was named an Honorary Board member of GLSTN. Joining Louganis as representatives for the campaign are student leaders Kelli Peterson and Jamie Nabozny. The Back-to-School Campaign, in which Lesbian, Gay, and Bisexual adults and their allies write to their former schools and to educational leaders demanding action to end homophobia in schools. The annual event is staged each September and is the only national organization specifically working to end homophobia in K-12 schools.

"We're planning to dramatically increase the scope and impact of the campaign this year," said Kevin Jennings, GLSTN's Executive Director. "We've set a goal of sending a minimum of 5000 letters and are mapping out an aggressive strategy to meet that goal. "We've garnered significant support from both the mainstream educational establishment as well as from the Lesbian and Gay community for the Campaign," said Jennings, citing endorsements of the campaign by groups as varied as the National Association of Pupil Services Administrators, National Association of School Principals, The National Organization for Women (NOW), and Parents and Friends of Lesbians and Gays (PFLAG). A public education effort targets Gay/Lesbian publications and will also be distributed as posters for use in schools and the community to get the word out in every way possible that bigotry in our schools is wrong and needs to end today.

"If everyone who cared about Gay youth would write one letter," said Jamie Nabozny, "it would save many youth from going through what I went through in high school." Nabozny attended public high school in Ashland, Wisconsin, where he faced four years of anti-gay abuse. He expressed that he suffered through four years of violence, including an attack by two other boys in ninth grade who "knocked me to the floor and urinated on me." He received no support from the school administrators and he filed the first-ever federal suit on anti-gay violence in schools. Nabozny won an important victory in his case in early August when the US 7th Circuit Court remanded the case to a lower court which found against Nabozny, with instruction to reconsider the case as a violation of Jamie's right to equal protection.

Kelli Peterson, a 1996 graduate of East High School in Salt Lake City, Utah, grabbed national attention last winter when she founded a Gay/Straight Student Alliance club at her school. Kelli was prompted by her own experience of harassment as a Lesbian student. "Freshman year, a group of girls in my gym class started teasing me, saying things like 'You're such a queer. You even look like a boy,'" said Peterson. "As I was putting my backpack on one day in the locker room, I was pushed to the ground by someone who was behind me. When I hit the ground, they began kicking me and screaming 'Dyke!' and 'Faggot!'" Kelli's club, based on the popular model developed by GLSTN, sought to address this kind of harassment. When Utah's elected officials found that they could not ban the club from meeting under the Federal Equal Access Law, the state legislature met in special session and voted to ban all student clubs to prevent the GSA from having the right to meet. "All students must be cared for in this place where we are forced to be," said Peterson, "and GLSTN's work is helping make that happen."

What happened to Kelli and Jamie is more the norm than the exception," said Kevin Jennings, citing statistics that show that 80% of Gay/Lesbian youth feel severely isolated at school. "It's time we did something to make equal opportunity a reality for our students." Jennings, a former high school history teacher, went on to add "Every day we make them pledge aHegiance

we kept our end of that bargain for Lesbian and Gay students?"

First staged in 1995, The Back to School Campaign is a grass-roots education and advocacy effort in which Lesbian, Gay, and Bisexual (LGB) adults and their allies are encouraged to write their former schools and use their own experiences there to help school staffs understand the impact of homophobia on young people. Many teachers, administrators, and community members believe homophobia is someone else's problem, something that doesn't happen in their community, even though this mind set flies in the face of some basic facts: 97% of high school students report regularly hearing homophobic comments in their schools; 53% report hearing such comments from school staff; 28% of LGB students drop out of school; 30% of all LGB adolescents attempt suicide.

Studies show that the most single most effective way of reducing homophobia is for an individual to know a person who openly identifies as a Lesbian, Gay, or Bisexual. Contact with LGB alumni is the single most motivating factor in getting school administrators and teachers to take action on homophobic issues. The Back-to-School Campaign uses the letter-writing technique to make sure that school staff realize that homophobia is damaging to young people by putting a human face" on the issue—one of a former student who the letter recipient knew. The empathy these letters generate provide powerful motivation for staff to act to insure that their schools are places where all students get the education they deserve, regardless of sexual orientation.

To write your own letter, follow these three easy steps: 1. Write a letter to someone at your former school this Fall and use your own experience to educate them on what homophobia does to young people. 2. Follow your letter with a phone call offering to provide resources (such as GLSTN's "What you Can Do" packet) or even return to your old school to speak with faculty and students. 3. Join GLSTN and become involved in your local chapter's work to end homophobia in your community's schools.

With over forty chapters and a membership of over three thousand teachers, parents, and concerned citizens, The Gay, Lesbian, and Straight Teachers Network is the largest national organization working to insure that schools are places where all people are respected and valued, regardless of sexual orientation. Their website is <http://www.glstn.org/respect/>, the local contact for GLSTN/Houston is Trish Kolodney at 713/796-0834, E-mail: pmorgan@bcm.tmc.edu

NEXT WEEK: A Teacher's Story

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BACK TO SCHOOL CAMPAIGN

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Ellen's Coming Out

By FRAZIER MOORE

NEW YORK (AP)—Ellen DeGeneres' character on ABC's "Ellen" may reveal she's a lesbian this season, TV Guide says. If the character does come out of the closet—as the magazine reports in its Sept. 28 issue that the series' producers and star are lobbying for it—"Ellen" would make television history. No prime-time network series has had a homosexual as its central character. The magazine says the show has already paved the way for the revelation in the season's first nine episodes.

"Ellen" centers on Ellen Morgan, a single woman in her mid-30s played by former standup comic DeGeneres. Past episodes have dealt with Ellen's unsuccessful relationships with men and her mother's frustration that Ellen hasn't

married. DeGeneres' own sexual orientation has been the subject of speculation. She has refused to discuss the matter and declined to comment on the TV Guide article. Her manager, Arthur Imparato, told the magazine: "If you look hard at the whole series, there are a lot of elements over the years that could be laying the groundwork for that story line." Gay rights groups said they'd welcome the change "We're certainly seeing more gay and lesbian characters than ever before, and the Ellen character coming out would be a fantastic thing," said Alan Klein, a spokesperson for the Gay and Lesbian Alliance Against Defamation. "Millions of viewers feel Ellen Morgan is a friend, and this would help to normalize (homosexuality) for millions of viewers. We hope it pans out." In one of the upcoming episodes of the

show says TV Guide, Ellen is standing behind a closet door in her new house. On stepping out of the closet, she says, "Yeah, there's plenty of room, but it's not very comfortable." Later in that episode, her parents announce plans to divorce and she says: "What if I said something shocking to you—like my whole life has been a lie and I'm really ... left-handed."

On Friday (Sept. 13), an ABC spokesperson referred calls to Disney Television, which produces the series through its Touchstone subsidiary. A Disney spokesperson declined comment. Ellen's coming out, if it happens, could put new heat on the Walt Disney Co., which also owns ABC. Disney has repeatedly been attacked by Christian conservatives for what they consider non-family-friendly practices. One Christian group

criticized "Growing Up Gay," a book for teen-agers published by Disney-owned Hyperion Press. Another group voted to have its membership boycott Disney because the company extends benefits to companions of gay employees and releases R-rated movies. Meanwhile, advertisers have shown a reluctance to associate their products with shows that depict gay life too explicitly. In 1994, under pressure from advertisers, Fox cut a kiss between two men from "Melrose Place," and two TV stations pulled an episode of "Northern Exposure" that featured a gay wedding. Yet gay characters have become an accepted part of TV series ensembles, from "Roseanne" and "NYPD Blue" to newcomers such as "Spin City," "Relativity" and "Party Girl." "Ellen" started its fourth season Wednesday.

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6610 Alder - 668-8830

DAWN OF FAITH CHURCH
8405K Alameda-Genoa - 991-6766

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AIDS FOUNDATION HOUSTON
Weslayan - 623-6796

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4200 Montrose # 540 - 522-7014

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1103 W. Gray - 524-4005

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LEATHER BY BOOTS (the Ripcord)
715 Fairview - 526-0444

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711 Fairview - 526-6940

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7519 Westheimer - 977-9393

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3939-S Montrose - 522-5156

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Please report errors and corrections to the
HOUSTON VOICE - (713) 529-8490 (Issue 830)

Recrownings and Fun-draisings!!!



Clowning around at the BRB

Houston Soap

By CAROLYN ROBERTS

Past Events

The reigning Miss Montrose, Tequila Rose left our fair city to live in Utah. She heard that she could have many husbands there. With Tequila gone, the 1st runner up, Miss Ouisa, already had way too many crowns, therefore, the 2nd runner up, Cherry Maraschino, is wearing the crown of Miss Montrose. Good luck!

TGRA candidate, Jamie Roberts, held a fundraiser for Soiree Aubergine at Gentry this past Sunday. \$141 was raised! Keep up the good work!

There was a fundraiser for Don Woods' Travel Fund held at the Venture-N this past Saturday night! \$514 was donated, with a \$300 pledge from Pacific Street still to come. This is to help get Don to the Mr. International Drummer contest! Good luck!

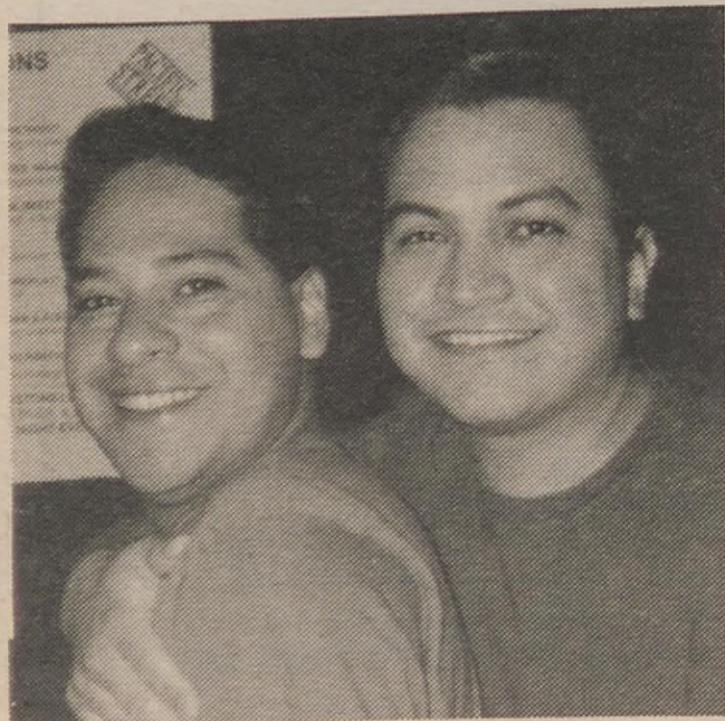
Candidate for Mr. Prime Choice '97, Ken (Daddy of Montrose) Claude, held a fundraiser for AFH Stone Soup this past Sunday at Mary's, naturally it was a very successful event in spite of the inclement weather! Ken thanks everyone involved!

Friday, Sept. 20

Camp Drag tonight at Chances! The Court is putting on another fundraiser. Be there at 9:00 pm to see Empress Ruby Stone and her band of hussies!

Fill up on Fridays at the Brazos River Bottom. They offer a scrumptious buffet from 5:00 pm to 8:30 pm and drink specials until 9:00 pm.

Fall into Fridays at J.R.'s Video Bar! Take advantage of the all-American happy hour until 10:00



Partying at Pacific Street

pm, and enjoy hors d'oeuvres starting at 6:00 pm; and the go-go gods dance all night long!

The bad boys dance at 6:00 pm at Gentry. You can get Absolutly anything for \$3.50 all day and all night!

Week-ends warm up fast at Pacific Street. There is no cover from 7:00 pm to 9:00 pm and they always the lowest regular drink prices in town! \$1.25

well cocktails, \$1.75 beer, \$3 call cocktails, \$3.50 Premium cocktails, and \$1.25 Schnaaps!

The Lancers Motorcycle Club will be guest bartending top side tonight at the Venture-N. They serve 'em up starting at 9:00 pm.

The drag show at Cousin's features the talents of Miss Zack, Paivi Lee Love, Nikki Collins, and Sivi Ross. The show starts at 11:00 pm.

Saturday, Sept. 21

Paivi Lee Love hosts the Saturday night show at E/J's. Join Paivi and her guests Dyan Michaels, Roxanne Lee Love, Regina Dane, and the winner from the talent night contest. Show time is 11:00 pm.

The Imperial Court will be washing cars today at Gentry from 1:00 pm to 4:00 pm.

Shelby St. John is having a benefit show at Bacchus II tonight at 10:00 pm. The shows always start on time at Bacchus II.

Local artist Larry Crawford is hanging at Martin's Gallery. No, not Larry himself, but his delightful works of art. Larry tells me that this show is different from anything else he has done! The reception is from 6:00 pm to 8:00 pm. If you would like more info, call Martin's at 523-6925.

Peaches and Frankie Lane MC the 10:00 pm show at the Lazy J tonight. Join them and their guests Burgundy Woods, Sister Mary Pitiful, and a secret guest! After the show, stick around and listen to the sounds spun by Bill Gonzalez!

The Houston Area Bears are celebrating their 2nd anniversary tonight at the Venture-N. There will be cocktail parties, food, and fuzzy fun! Congrats to the Bears!

The National Leather Association: Houston presents "Sex, Toys, and Video Tape," "Love, Lust, and Intimacy," and "Safer Sex and SM," workshops today at 1:00 pm. AIDS Foundation Houston's Bart Loeser will be at the helm. This is free and open to all interested parties! It will be at the Days Inn, 4640 Main St. If you would like more info, call 527-9666 or 861-2598.

Do you play on the BBS? Join your other Gay/Lesbian computer junkies at the Brazos River Bottom this afternoon from 3:00 pm to 6:00 pm.

The Brotherhood of Pain hosts a "Exploring the SM Life Style" seminar tonight at the Ripcord. See you on the patio at 10:00 pm.

Sunday, Sept. 22

Miss Kitty Litter III, a feline fantasy, will be at E/J's tonight at 9:00 pm. This is a fundraiser for the Pet Patrol! Please bring pet food donations and lots of singles to tip the contestants. If you would like more info, call 522-1954.

Texas legend Carmen Del Rio will be at Heaven tonight! Hostess Kofi fills the stage at 11:00 pm and her other guests are Black Velvett and Lana Blake. Be sure to get there early to take advantage of the reduced cover charge from 8:00 pm to 11:00 pm. The doors open at 8:00 pm with 50¢ well cocktails until 10:00 pm and \$3.50 Absolut Cocktails and Barcardi Limonade all night long!

The Montrose Mining Company pounds trash disco this and every Sunday! Join in the optional \$2 buy-in and get refills of Miller Light Draft or Frozen Ritas for next to nothing! The men, the music, the Mine!

The women of FIST (Females in Search of Trouble) are guest bartending on the farside of the Venture-N this afternoon starting at 5:00 pm. The Venture-N will also be cookin' out at 5:00 pm.

The Chocolate Covered Cherries Band takes the stage of Chances tonight from 6:00 pm to 10:00 pm.

Shelby St. John and Eddie Taylor present "Hands Across Texas" tonight at the Brazos River Bottom. The show starts at 8:00 pm, but go early and hungry! Steak night is from 6:00 pm to 10:00 pm.

The bad boys dance tonight starting at 5:00 pm. It is "Miss Gay Texas or Bust" tonight at Gentry. This is a fun-filled fundraiser for Lori Love. The busts bust at 9:00 pm. Following the show, Black Velvett hosts the male strip contest at 11:00 pm.

The drag show at Cousin's features the talents of Miss Zack, Kara Dion, Victoria Nicole, and Leah Halston. The show starts at 11:00 pm.

Lounge on the patio of Rascals this afternoon with \$1.25 well cocktails all day and all night!

Monday, Sept. 23

It is half-price locker night at the Club Houston!

Clint plays the songs you want to hear at the BriarPatch. Stop in and join in the fun!

Tuesday, Sept. 24

Trash Tuesdays at the BRB offer trash dumpster disco all night long! Don't forget the domestic longnecks are only a buck all day and all night long!

Ladies' night at BerryHill II offers happy hour drink prices until 10:00 pm and nearly naked ladies dancing all night!

If it is Tuesday, you must be at



Ova Ewe and Oscar at Mary's Mary's for \$2 Cuervo!

Twisted video night at the Ripcord!

Wednesday, Sept. 25

Bacchus II is where professional women meet on Wednesdays!

Wayne tickles the ivories tonight at the BriarPatch!

Rascals offers \$1.50 domestic beers all day and all night this and every Wednesday! At 11:00 pm, the Lil' Rascals strip contest starts!

Drink 'till he is cute drink specials run all day and all night at Mary's, naturally!

Beam me up! The Ripcord offers Star Trek: Voyager on the big screen at 8:00 pm. Join other trek-kies and blast off.

Thursday, Sept. 26

Get "Puckered Up" at Pacific Street tonight. Wild Pucker is a new flavor from the same people who brought you Aftershock and Avalanche! You can get in free with your valid Club Houston (or any other health club) card and have a Puckin' good time! If you get Puckered out, head to Club Houston and get half-price on rooms and lockers!

You can get a hamburger or a turkey burger on the patio of the BRB tonight from 6:00 pm to 9:00 pm. C&W Dance lessons start at 9:30 pm and drink specials run until 11:00 pm.

The 611 Hyde Park Pub has big ol' burgers for a buck tonight!

Retro Rewind tonight at Rascals! Dance to your favorite music spanning three decades! The vodka cocktails are only \$1.50 all day and all night!

BerryHill II has male dancers tonight starting at 10:30 pm.



The dynamic duo!

Rodent Droppings Galore!!



Handsome men behind the bar at Rascals!

Other Important Stuff

The Houston Voice would like to welcome Story Book Weddings to our family of advertisers! Revs. J.R. Straugh and Peggy Murphy can create your wedding of a lifetime. See their ad on page 26.

We also welcome Alpha Publishing to our family of advertisers. They have a "How To" book on earning money with your home PC. Call Mary Taylor at 800/235-6646.

Famous Lesbian comedian Suzanne Westenhoefer will be at the Houston Laff Stop on Oct. 3, at 7:30 pm and 9:30 pm. Tickets will go fast, so call 524-2333 now!

The People With AIDS Coalition, Houston are celebrating their 10th anniversary next weekend (9/29) with "Strike Against AIDS," a evening of rock 'n roll, bowling, and fifties fun! This event will take place at Palace Lanes, 4191 Bellaire at 8:00 pm. Tickets are available at the PWA Coalition office, Palace Lanes, Basic Brothers, Inklings, and Lobo. For more info, call 522-5428.

Pacific Street has a web site: <http://www.insync.net/almnahal/pacific.htm> and the Ripcord address is <http://www.hic.net/rip-cord/journal.htm>

Damion and the hunky staff of the Club Houston are throwing one of their infamous parties next weekend! The Fog rolls in at 11:30 on Sept. 28. This is a party not to be missed!

The Gentry Social Club meets every day for \$1.50 well cocktails, \$1.75 domestic longnecks, and \$3.50 Absolut martinis until 7:00 pm.

The Venture-N offers 84 power hours per week featuring \$1.75 well cocktails, beer, and wine!

Basic Brothers has underwear on sale! Stop in and pick up a few pairs! Oct. 5 "Lust in Las Vegas" rolls in at the Venture-N!

Boudreauxs has opened! Check out the ad on page 6 and read the review of this fine New Orleans coffee house



Steve is the new adorable man behind the bar at Chances!

on page 15.

Birthday And Anniversary Corner

Happy birthday to ME, Nelly Kelly, me, Rob Baker, me, Cora Jane, me, Theresa Monet, Daddy Dot, Renee Monroe and Don Dowden, and me! Happy 15 years together to Ray and Rene!

Rodent Droppings

Get this! I am going camping for my birthday! The last time I went camping I was wearing my girl scout's uniform and we stayed in a bunk house! Yes, I will take pictures! The Lazer Wizard and I need to get out of town for a few days, and this way we are not reachable by phone! Wish me luck! How do I pack the kitchen sink?

I had to miss my Houston Ferret Association meeting this past weekend! There was just too much going on in my schedule! Harvey and Ratrat have been good little rodents lately. Last week, Harvey did the "I'm sleeping and look like I'm dead" routine again! It is really scary! I need to find out if this is normal for ferrets or if it is just Harvey.

My disclaimer is in force. You know this section is gossip, lies, and trash found in, around, under, and in the gutters of Montrose. The Houston Voice takes NO responsibility for this filth! So, if you have done something "rodent worthy," I most likely will find out about it! Be afraid, be very afraid!

Stacey Gruemmer: No make-up! Had a few cocktails! Getting a little loud were we?

Ronda Kelly: What type of seafood platter was that you showed everyone at Charlie's on Saturday night?

Mike (Heaven): I'm so glad that you find Raun interesting. The only problem is he doesn't know you!

Xavier Luna: Why were you late to the party Saturday night? Did you have trouble swimming the bayou? Love ya!

Raun (Nicole Blake): Just who was that cute Hispanic boy you were talking to at the BRB? It wasn't Rey!

Woody (BRB): In the words of Brenda Lee, "I'm sorry."

Virgil Burke: When are you and Paco getting married?

Charles (Bacchus II): Renewal notices are issued for a reason!

Bob (hangs on telephone poles): Just what do you do with the chickens?

Rodent Rooter: Keep 'em coming! Please keep a watchful eye this weekend, as I will be out of town!

Buzz Davis: I love the bald head! It looks very handsome on you!

Armand (Ripcord): I think you ought to go into anti-perspirant commercials. I'm sure they might need a taste tester!

Patty Duke: You have the "Hi-Pro Glow!"

Robert (hangs at PS): Fun-Twister?

Lloyd (PS): And I quote: "I want great sex; I want any sex!"

Barry (Riders): I heard you were a chocolate covered cherry and banana mud pie this past weekend at the TCC land site! All of this by candle light, no less, and lots of golden show-

ers afterwards!

Cherry Maraschino and Ova Ewe: I saw you two speeding down the Southwest Freeway on your way to a hot shoe sale!

Jerry (BCLA): How was your chocolate treat in New Orleans?

Ralph (Mine): Do you miss Steve? And where is the other half of the tooth? And I hear you were break dancing at Rascals grand opening! Or was that break your butt dancing?

Larry Crawford: I hear you broke your sling! How? And just how much did it cost to add links in that new bracelet?

Adrian (PS) and Adam (DJ): You woke up late, together?

Kurt (Rascals): And I quote: "I don't know what hole it goes in."

Bill (retired from Basic Brothers): And I quote: "We are sorry, but we don't know better."

Ruby Stone: And I quote: "I prefer to be naked in the bar, but Marlene has no sense of humor."

Barbara and Kim (hangs at Chances): Joint pap smears?

Nick (BRB): If you start working out, in a few years you could look like Woody!

Steve (Chances): And I quote: "I see you want your usual screw!"

Bud Mike (BRB): Miss A (BRB) told me she likes long boney fingers, too!

Marlene (Chances): And I quote: "I'll slip it into my pants and it will come up my back!"

Molly (BRB): I hear you were stopped the other night; the cops thought you were hustling! You told them no, you were just trying to buy it back!

Scott (hangs at PS): And I quote: "My mother thinks that my being a gynecologist is the reason I am gay!"

Vera (BRB): Was that your water that broke and flooded the Side Pocket?

Mike P. (BRB): Oh, it wasn't Vera's water that broke, it was yours!

Myrtle (hangs at PS): I heard the only chocolate you got for your birthday was on your cake, despite your wish!

Miss Mullhandand (BRB): I hear you found Curtis' (Cousin's) teeth in the rest area. I see they fit properly.

Ken (PS): Which will it be tonight, the red or the blue?

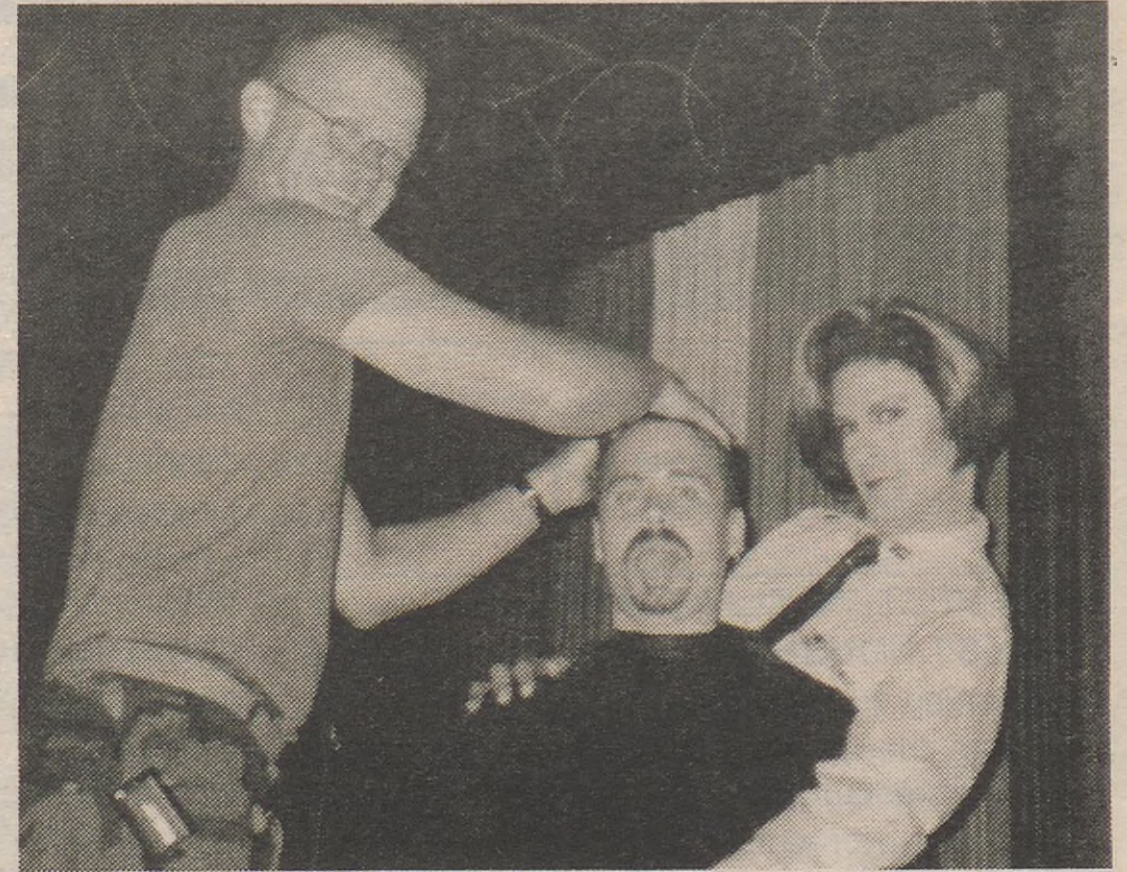
Glenwood (hangs at PS and Steam): You might have been reading for your "close-up," but your grand dame falling act at Steam wasn't very attractive!

John (Venture-N); And I quote: "I saw the light!"

Jerel and Sean (Gentry): Grand Papa and Me-Ma Carter!

John (BRB): Last Saturday Curtis (Cousin's) saw you flopping your towel between your legs. She wants to know if that is all you flop and what was dripping?

Miss Ouisa: Well, I hear you put on quite a show at the BRB this past Sunday! As it was told to me, you leaned over to put a tip in the big ol' tip bucket,



"Cum into the Woods" at the Venture-N

and kinda, well, fell in! You hair went one way and your glasses went another! I wish I had seen this tumble. I hope you did not get hurt. I know from personal experience just how hard that floor is!

Michael (Venture-N): How was your trip to San Antonio?

Pooh Bear: Saturday afternoon you hit a home run after 17 years. When the guy woke up he thought he had conditioner in his hair! And I heard you go down for \$5 any time, any where. What is this about the mirrors? How was the bacon?

Judy (BRB): Ab sculptor and gas do not go together!

Mary (QTs): I hear you have been jumping the fence! How high was it?

Doug (Rascals): For a three-way instructional video, call 1-800-BAR-BACK!

Tim (E/J's): Should we call Webster for the meaning of "funderful?"

Victor (Rascals): I hear it "weren't no Tommy Tune."

Dwayne (Outpost): I heard you were drilled and were still numb!

Papa Del (Gentry): Mama Doug says I don't give a sh*t!

Steve (Rascals): Your husband would not resort to salt peter, would he?

Greg (hangs at Gentry): I never called a kettle black!

Wesley (Rascals): For once you couldn't get your heels high enough. A little cheese and chives on the side?

Darlene (Outpost): Breasticles?

Dennis (hangs at Mary's): It is Ratrat not Tartar you dyslexic fool. But, "Look" you are a "Kool" guy anyway!

Tom S. (Ripcord): Congrats on the addition to your family! I think every one should have 2 ferrets!

Mike Stubblefield: I used a lot of bev naps to wipe the drool off your face at Mary's on Tuesday night! So, you like truck drivers!

Cuervolyn



So there!

CLASSIFIEDS

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

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ANNOUNCEMENTS

Westheimer Street Festival booth space available in MARY'S parking lot. Call Mon.-Fri., 9am - 3pm. 527-9669.

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If you have moved or want more information please write to: P.O. Box 130773, Houston, TX 77219 or E-Mail Grey Party@AOL.com

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SHARON PARK VILLAGE - Galleria area - Offering 1 & 2 bedroom apartments with 8 sparkling pools, fitness center and on-site store and dry cleaners. A gated community set in lush courtyards will complement your lifestyle. No application fee with this ad. Prices start at \$385. 1 Free Month with 12 month lease. Call 667-5620 or stop by 5600 Chimney Rock, just south of 59. Open 9-6 daily.

1 bdrm upstairs apt. for rent. Close to museum. \$450/mo. \$450/deposit. Small pet ok. 528-5328.

WESTBURY GARDENS:
2 bedroom townhouse condo, \$600.00.
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Call 729-9316. Agent.

1 bdrm. condo - San Felipe @ Post Oak. \$600/mo A.B.P. 528-1197.

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100 Gal. saltwater aquarium. Fully operational. Includes fish. \$500 negotiable. Call 270-8083.

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New, never used. Music stand, straps, lyres, flip folders, case, music included. Retail \$1500. Sacrifice \$900. Jazz 868-5153.

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HELP WANTED

Desperately seeking doorman for Houston's #1 location Leather, Levi dance club. Call 523-0213, 10am to 2pm, Mon. - Fri.

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Video store clerk wanted. Will train. Good chance for advancement. Salary + commission. Must be at least 21 yrs. old. 447-9513.

HOUSTON VOICE HELP WANTED:
Advertising professional with proven record of success wanted to carve new territory in Greater Houston Market for weekly gay publication. Commission basis. Must be aggressive and have a positive attitude. Call Deborah Bell at 529-8490.

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

Here's your chance! **CHANCES** is looking for bartenders, barback & waitstaff. Call 523-7217 after 2pm. Ask for Marlene.

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.

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

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

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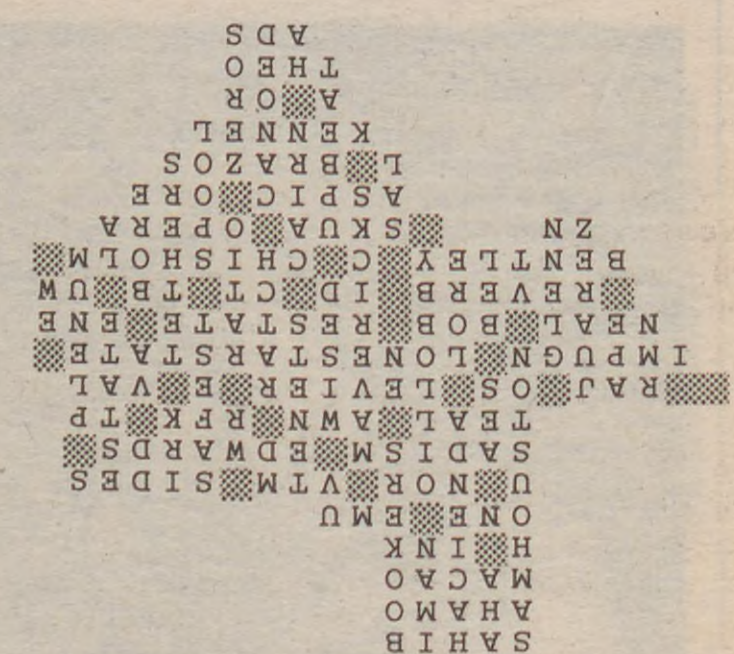
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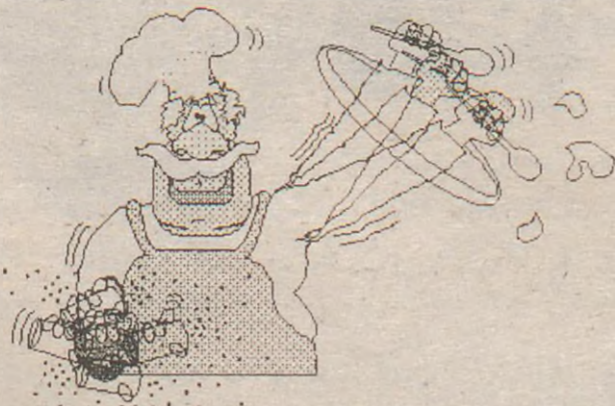
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RECIPES BY KUNTRY KIDD

Hey y'all! I haven't given you a recipe for a fish dish for awhile, so I tried one last week and it turned out pretty good. You can choose one of several varieties of fish. I used Halibut. This is a recipe you may not have all the ingredients for on hand. I hope you like it.

Baked Fish with Pine Nut Crust

- 3 Tbs. pine nuts
- 1/2 C. dry seasoned bread crumbs or seasoned croutons
- 1/4 C. Kalamata olives, pitted
- 1 tsp. minced shallots
- 1 tsp. minced garlic
- 1/2 tsp. minced fresh tarragon
- 2 Tbs. olive oil
- Salt & freshly ground pepper to taste
- 4 filet portions Halibut, Sea Bass, Cod or other firm white fish, 5 to 6 ounces each
- Juice of 1 lemon
- 1/4 C. dry white wine
- 1 C. julienne onions or leeks
- Leaves from 1/2 pound fresh spinach
- 1 C. peeled, seeded, and chopped tomatoes



Chop the pine nuts fairly fine by hand or in a food processor and mix them with the bread crumbs. Set aside.

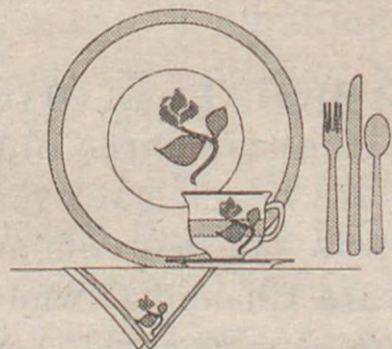
Combine the olives, shallots, garlic, lemon zest, and tarragon on a cutting board and chop them finely together. Transfer them to a bowl and stir in enough olive oil to make a spreadable paste; season to taste.

Preheat oven to 450 degrees. Lightly oil a baking dish just large enough to hold the fish. Spread one side of each fish portion with about 2 tsp. of the olive paste and lightly press a quarter of the crumb mixture on top. Place the fish in the baking dish crumb side up and carefully pour the lemon juice and wine around the fish to a depth of about 1/8 inch. Bake uncovered until the fish is tender in the center when probed with a skewer, 6 to 10 minutes depending on the variety of fish and the thickness of the cut.

While the fish is baking, heat 2 Tbs. of oil in a large skillet and sauté the onions until soft. Add the spinach and tomatoes and cook until the spinach wilts. Season to taste and arrange on warm plates, top with the baked fish.

UNTIL NEXT WE EAT!

KUNTRY KIDD

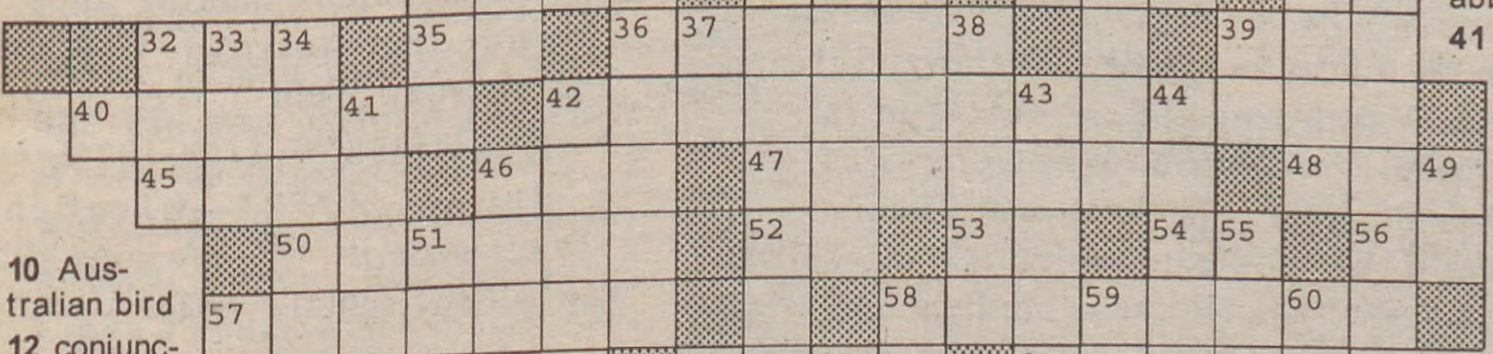


The Great American Puzzle

TEXAS EDITION

By Henry McClurg
ACROSS

- 1 title of respect for male Europeans in colonial India
- 6 OMAHA in a mirror
- 7 peninsula & Portuguese province west of Hong Kong
- 8 this puzzle is printed with it
- 9 separate



- 10 Australian bird
- 12 conjunction meaning not the next one either
- 14 MTV in a mirror
- 17 parts of either side
- 21 delight in cruelty
- 24 aquifer that provides much of west Texas water
- 26 short-necked river duck
- 27 a plant's bristlike appendage
- 29 attorney general during JFK presidency, initials
- 30 township & title page abbr.
- 32 in India, the British rule prior to 1947
- 35 Old Style abbr.
- 36 one who levies taxes
- 39 valley abbr.
- 40 to oppose as false
- 42 Texas' nickname, 3 words
- 45 another spelling of the given

- 46 move up & down
- 47 express in words again
- 48 direction Abilene to Texarkana, abbr.
- 50 reverberate
- 52 Gem State, abbr.
- 53 Constitution State, abbr.
- 54 late actress Bankhead, initials
- 56 sounds like 'you double you'
- 57 17th-18th century English cleric Richard; Mass. 4-year college
- 58 cattle trail from San Antonio to Kansas
- 61 symbol for chemical element zinc
- 62 predatory gull-like sea bird
- 64 musical drama
- 65 savory jelly of meat
- 67 mineral with valuable constituent

- 62 name Neil
- 63 950-mile river in E. New Mexico & central Texas
- 64 dog shelter
- 65 Beaver State, abbr.
- 66 short for Theodore
- 67 advertisements
- DOWN**
- 1 one of Texas
- 2 1st 2 U.S. senators, 2 words
- 3 interjection used to express surprise
- 4 ranch house
- 5 ? ???, you woman
- 6 those who book
- 7 11 ultraviolet abbr.
- 8 American Petroleum Institute, 2 words
- 9 principles of belief

- 16 Old Line State, abbr.
- 17 most secured from danger
- 18 annoy
- 19 initials Pres. Eisenhower's first & middle names

- 32 37th U.S. president, resigned from office, initials ("A riot is a spontaneous outburst. A war is subject to advance planning.")
- 33 mimic
- 34 Mexican city across from El Paso
- 37 verb suffix, cause to be
- 38 short for ratchet
- 39 Old Dominion State, abbr.
- 41 John,

- 20 land
- 22 Stevenson, Demo candidate against Eisenhower, initials ("... We live in an era of revolution—the revolution of rising expectations.")
- 23 Dallas' NBA franchise
- 25 early 20th century American author & actor Rogers, initials ("We can't all be heroes because someone has to sit on the curb and clap as they go by.")
- 28 when used with 'up,' became more aware
- 31 fullness
- 42 traditional knowledge
- 43 proportion
- 44 leashes
- 46 10 decibels
- 49 20th century American jurist Warren, chief justice of U.S. Supreme Court, initials
- 51 Green Mountain State, abbr.
- 55 a dull person
- 58 memorial mound of stones
- 59 cylinder that holds thread
- 60 Pelican State, abbr.
- 62 Latin for salt
- 63 cheerful; optimistic
- 66 traveled in a canoe
- 69 bunch of O's
- 73 AH in a mirror Solution elsewhere this issue c.1998 GULF FEATURES, PUZZLE TX197

GALAXY GAYZER

A HOUSTON VOICE EXCLUSIVE

HOROSCOPE FOR THE WEEK OF SEPTEMBER 20 - 26, 1996



IF THIS WEEK IS YOUR BIRTHDAY: You give the impression of being quiet and detached. With strong powers of attraction, you are also very selective in what you desire. You will attract exactly what you need and not much more. Try to start knocking down the walls you've put up.

ARIES (March 21-April 20) There is a touchy family matter which will resurface, since it has never quite been resolved - so the less said, the better. As your week gets under way, you are right on target with your well directed energies and initiative. All efforts

will be noticed.

TAURUS (April 21 - May 21) Getting organized as early in the week as possible will assure successful results either in business or your personal life. There are various complications which show the need for a new approach to a current problem with a mate or a close associate.

GEMINI (May 22 - June 21) Whether single and eligible, or married, you may discover that dreams really do come true in the love-and-marriage arena. Pursuing your heart's desires in a no-nonsense way keeps others on their toes, and can strengthen important ties.

CANCER (June 22 - July 23) Fantastic trends should enable you to get more mileage out of your efforts by simply following your instincts. Both romance and financial gains are favored. Be prepared to cope with a sudden and unexpected development regarding a partnership; it will pass.

LEO (July 24 - August 23) Tread gently on the sensitive feelings of a mate or lover, comments may result in a fiery overreaction, so guard your manner and speech. Although you may be in the mood to have things go your own way, it's not time to insist on it - back off a bit.

VIRGO (August 24 - September 23) Give your best efforts to your job and health interests. Don't let others sidetrack you or go overboard about any private matters. The time is right to follow through on any financial dealings. You may be quite pleased with the results.

LIBRA (September 24 - October 23) Behind the scenes manipulations may be the key to getting ahead now where business and career aims are concerned. Be attentive to those to whom you mean a lot; this may be more welcome than you think. Both creativity and romance are high.

SCORPIO (October 24 - November 22) The work ethic is strong in you this week and you may feel compelled to take on a sizable project, or new self-improvement program. An on-the-job problem may also be a worry, but the prognosis will be good. Extra effort now will pay off.

SAGITTARIUS (November 23 - December 21) This will be one of your better weeks on which relationships, financial interests, home and health matters all seem to be going smoothly. It is a gratifying time of personal accomplishment, for people around you seem to be receptive to your practical ideas.

CAPRICORN (December 22 - January 20) It's definitely a working week, and you may be tied down to chores or routine tasks while others seem to be having the time of their lives. Follow through on a project which you have been mulling over for some time - it's family or money related.

AQUARIUS (January 21 - February 19) Your financial prospects look relatively good right now, although you may be on the brink of some large expenditure that will possibly change that monetary cushion swiftly. You may have to put in extra effort at work, with little to no thanks.

PISCES (February 20 - March 20) The week will begin with encouragement from your mate or lover who are sympathetic to your ideas. The way you manage your financial affairs is the focus of an argument between you and a family member. This argument will go on forever if you let it.

Pig Out for a Good Cause

Rib Eatin' Contest For Charity

HOUSTON, TX—Sept. 9, 1996—For the sixth consecutive year, Luther's Bar-B-Q is hosting the "World's Largest Rib Eatin' Contest for Charity." This year's contest is being held on Saturday, Sept. 21, 1996 at the Great Tastes of Houston—downtown on a special stage built right on top of the reflection pond in front of City Hall. All entrance fees go to benefit the Center for the Retarded, Inc. with matching contributions from Luther's Bar-B-Q.

Contestants compete in three categories: Consumption, Consumption with Style and Style. Prizes are a Luther's Catered Party for 50, a Rib Plate a Week for a Year and a \$100.00 Luther's Gift Certificate, respectively. Each prize category winner also receives a trophy and all contestants take home their ribs (or what's left of them)! Contestants have 10 minutes to pig-out. While the Consumption competition is determined by high-tech weighing equipment, the other two categories are strictly based on the judges discretion. A panel of celebrity judges include Houston Chronicle's Ken Hoffman, County

Criminal Court Judge Michael Peters, and Jon Matthews of KPRC Radio.

The Style competition is becoming more and more popular with those not up to the monster task of porking down all those ribs (FYI last year's Consumption winner ate 40.96 ounces of rib meat). Past Style contestants have included a tuxedo clad rib eater toting a candelabra and classical music; a French maid to hand feed the contestant; a two headed farmer; a mother & baby tag team and last year's winner included an entourage of Polynesian dressed fan waivers.

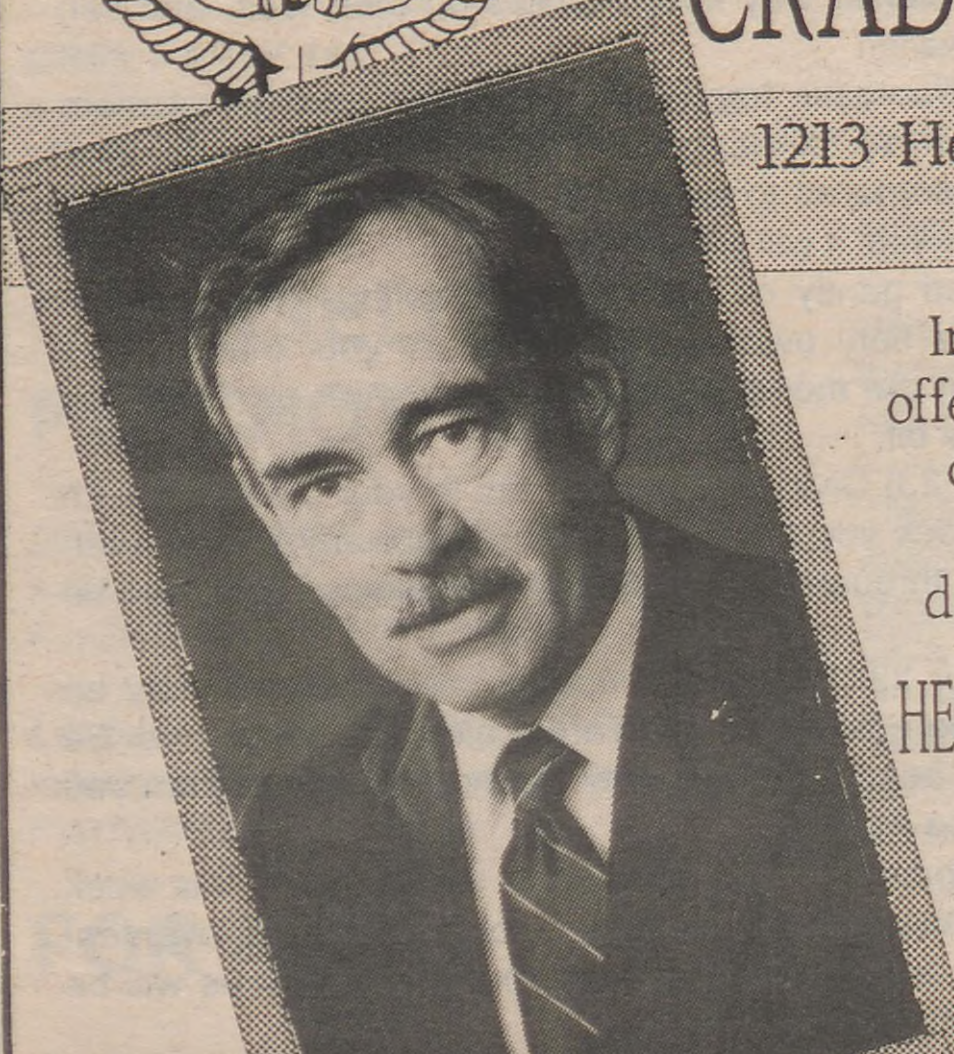
Contestants can register in advance (it helps to know how many ribs to put on the pit) by calling (713) 537-0868 ext. 102 or by picking up a registration envelope at any Luther's Bar-B-Q restaurant. Registrations will also be accepted at the contest beginning at 4pm. The contest starts at 5pm, SHARP. The registration/entrance fee is \$35.00 and, again, will go entirely to CRI and will be matched by Luther's to equal a \$70.00 donation per contestant. "It's a great feeling to watch so many people have so much fun and know that it's all helping some of Houston's most deserving mentally and physically challenged individuals." comments Mike Jolley, President and CEO of Luther's.

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 Montrose Inn: Walk back from the gay bars. Or take a \$3 cab.

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

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

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

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

Motel: Maid knocking 8 a.m., you moan but she's coming in anyway. Checkout 11 a.m.
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TAKE ONE

(Movie Reviews)



Diane Keaton, Goldie Hawn, and Bette Midler in *The First Wives Club*

ished product. Maggie Smith is superb as a society matron and the rest of the stellar supporting cast live up to their monikers. Bronson Pinchot, Rob Reiner, Eileen Heckart, Stephen Collins, Gloria Steinem, Philip Bosco and Ivanna Trump have cameos in this first rate comedy. Produced by Scott Rudin, *The First Wives Club* was directed by Hugh Wilson. This film rates **** as it is deliciously entertaining and accomplishes what it sets out to do—make you laugh.

The First Wives Club

By JON ANTHONY

Based on the best-selling book novel by Olivia Goldsmith, her first, Paramount Pictures' highly touted film *The First Wives Club* hits theaters this Friday. Bette Midler, Goldie Hawn and Diane Keaton star in this hysterically funny film that delivers the goods. Rarely does a screenplay upstage a best-selling tome, however in this instance that is precisely what the producers accomplished. Goldsmith's book was somewhat staid. Robert Harling is credited with providing the screenplay with some much needed panache.

Brenda (Midler), Elise (Hawn), and Annie (Keaton) are three old college chums who are reunited at a funeral of a classmate who had just committed suicide. Stockard Channing, who portrays the classmate in an unbilled cameo, gives a riveting performance as a depressed alcoholic divorcee who jumps to her death. The trio break away to a local pub and catch up with each other's lives. Realizing they took different paths since their younger days, the women all have one thing in common—their husbands dumped them for younger models. Smarting from the pain, Brenda, Elise and Annie join forces and concoct a plan to exact the most exquisitely bitter vengeance imaginable.

What ensues is a visual romp that is sure to take your mind off of the daily grind. The film starts off a little slow and the beginning scene with the trio could have been cut in half. Once the film gets rolling and the women put their plan into gear, the film revs to pure delight. Predictable? Yes! But with such pros as Midler and Hawn at the helm, it is downright riotous. The surprise here is Keaton. While she is certainly an expert at her craft with Oscars to prove it, her comedic timing is impeccable and she has an uncanny ability at delivering understated comedy.

The scene where the women are on the window washer elevator will have you rolling in the aisles. There is also a scene (featuring lesbian comic Lea Delaria) where the women visit a gay bar. Annie's daughter comes out to her mother in the beginning of the film and she runs into her daughter at the bar. It is an honest depiction of coming out and the film does not resort to negative stereotyping.

Midler has some of the best lines in the film and deservedly so—apparently she adlibbed most of them and the powers that be left them in the fin-

Feeling Minnesota

By CAMERON

The newest movie starring Keanu Reeves is titled *Feeling Minnesota*. In my opinion Keanu Reeves is not a good actor. Although he's appealing to the eye, his acting ability lacks luster. I decided to give his latest effort a chance, hoping he might redeem himself with a better performance and that more of him might be revealed on a physical level.

"Feeling Minnesota" explores the tormented relationship between two brothers, Sam (Vincent D'Onofrio) and Jjaks (Reeves), and the young woman, Freddie (Cameron Diaz), that comes between them. The movie begins with the unromantic wedding of Sam and Freddie. This so-called union was set up by Red (Delroy Lindo), a small time crime boss, who uses the wedding as punishment for Freddie who allegedly stole money from him. Forced into a life of misery, Freddie is swooned by the arrival of Jjaks, who against his better judgment, shows up for the wedding. Just as he knew it would, Jjaks family reunion quickly becomes a family diffusion. The movie continues with Jjaks and Freddie becoming intimate, thus setting off a passionate and deadly love triangle as both Sam and Jjaks go for the girl they love.

Kind of a cross between *Dumb and Dumber* and *Natural Born Killers*, *Feeling Minnesota* is a *** star film as it does a good job with moving the story along and entertaining the audience. Keanu Reeves performance is good, but Cameron Diaz has an excellent future as a leading lady. Other notables celebs making appearances include Dan Ackroyd, Courtney Love and Tuesday Weld. "Feeling Minnesota" is playing at area theaters.

Movie Rating: *****—Excellent!
 ****—Don't miss it! ***—A good flick
 **—Wait for the rental *—Don't bother.



Keanu Reeves and Cameron Diaz as star crossed lovers in *Feeling Minnesota*

SPORTS NOTES

Bowling News

Over 300 Gay & Lesbian bowlers have joined the four Gay & Lesbian Fall Leagues, bowling on Sunday at 7pm, Monday at 6:15pm and Wednesday at 6:30pm. A few more individual bowlers are needed to fill out teams. New teams are still being accepted also. For info about the mixed leagues or men's league call Tom at 522-9612. For info about the women's league, call Pat at 437-6218.

MSL Fall League

The Montrose Softball League (MSL) kicks off their Annual Fall Fun League this Sunday, Sept. 22 at Tim Hearn Field (corner of Waugh & Memorial Drive). At 11am, Purple v. Blue; at 12pm Green v. Orange; at 1pm Red v. Purple; at 2pm Blue v. Green; at 3pm Orange v. Yellow; and at 4pm Yellow v. Red.

It's never too late to join! No experience is necessary! Call 867-3913 for info.

Lambda Rollerskating

Lambda Rollerskating Club holds its next Skate Night Wednesday, Sept. 25 from 8-10pm at the Starlight Roller Rink, 8075 Cook Road. Admission is \$5 plus \$1.50 skate rental (\$5 if you bring your own skates). Everyone is welcome to skate, and a variety of events will be scheduled along with door prizes.

If your club or organization would like to hold a skate event, please contact us at the number listed. For more info about Lambda and it's skating events, contact gayskate1@aol.com or call 787-0625, or our WEB Page site which is http://members.aol.com/gayskate1/

lambda.htm.

Bike Ride

The Houston Chain Gang Cycling Club will meet at the Information Center in the Woodlands at 9am on Saturday, Sept. 21 for a 16-mile ride. Touted as one of the club's best rides, the Chain Gang invites all interested parties to join them by calling 863-1860 or write to them at 1860 White Oak Dr. #219, Houston, Texas, 77009.

The Houston Chain Gang Cycling Club is a cooperative group; event organizers or leaders should not be considered experts. Cyclists are reminded to wear helmets and obey all traffic regulations.

HOG Events

The Houston Outdoor Group (HOG) has a busy weekend forthcoming. On Saturday, Sept. 21 at 9am, join them at Toppie's Coffee Shop at 1830 W. Alabama. Call Dennis at 529-2691 for details or just show up. Also on Saturday, HOG members and interested guests are going to Galveston for Splash Day at 1pm at the East End Beach. For info on that, contact Ross Hancock at 868-9723.

On Sunday, Sept. 22 at 4pm bring your favorite game and potluck dish to Lisa's house. This is a social function so all are invited. Be sure to call Lisa at 466-3309 for details and directions. On Thursday, Sept. 26, a planning meeting for the Fall and Winter camping season is being held. Come and bring a friend and your ideas! Business meetings are held at the Assistance Fund on Jackson at 7pm on the fourth Thursday of each month.

Dancing with Style

Outspoken dancers! DiverseWorks sets out to prove that dance need not be a silent art form set only to music with the works of four rhapsodic choreographers who combine text and movement. Nancy Galeota-Wozny presents "a scientific experiment explaining my Ragin Agin Dancer Babe Theory of Authen-ti-co insti-honest movement science and a performance with occasional bursts of dance horror story." She will also perform *The Place Where the Ground Holds Me*, a work that dares to combine my poetry, dance, and Chopin." Linda Phenix will present *Pioneer Mother of Mine*, a work which pays tribute to Texas women who struggled for women's and worker's rights, and *Fear of Falling*, a trip back to the Sixties, a decade when American society challenged traditional roles and rules. *Home Wrecker* is a piece by Dallas choreographer Michelle Spencer which employs text and Thomas Hobbes, fast food and classical ballet, video and free verse poetry to explore deception, powerlessness, projection, and reconciliation. New Yorker Jane Weiner offers two new works. Employment the movements of a toddler, *Orange Soup* investigates the need to keep all things simple and child-like, as it winds its way through Beethoven with keen juvenile integrity. *Calling Dr. Bombay* is a look into the room of a pre-teen, where 45's and TV are her only solace. Nancy Galeota-Wozny and her "Danceologues" are well-known to Houston audiences; she has also performed in



"Pioneer Mother of Mine"—dancers (L-R) Victoria Loftin, Juanita Lindley, Rebecca Walls

Washington, DC and at Spoleto. Linda Phenix, Director of the Rice Dance Theater, is Resident Choreographer for Chrysalis Dance Company and has recently joined Express Theatre for Children. The work of Michelle Spencer has been performed at Dance Theater Workshop in New York, Dancer's Group/Footwork, Build, The Marsh, New Performance Gallery in San Francisco, and at Jacob's Pillow. Jane Weiner is currently dancing with the Doug Elkins Dance Company of New York. New Dates have been released for Textural Dance. Friday & Saturday, Sept. 27 and 28 at 8pm. Tickets are \$12, \$10 for DiverseWorks members and \$7 for students. Call 228-0914 for reservations and information.

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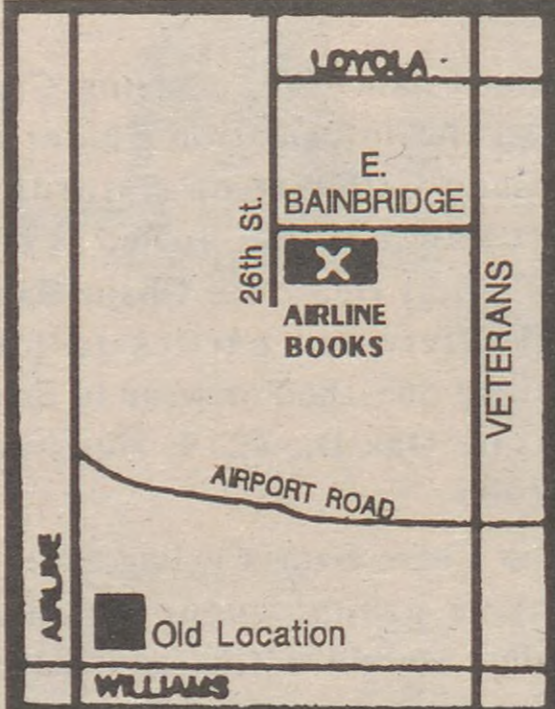


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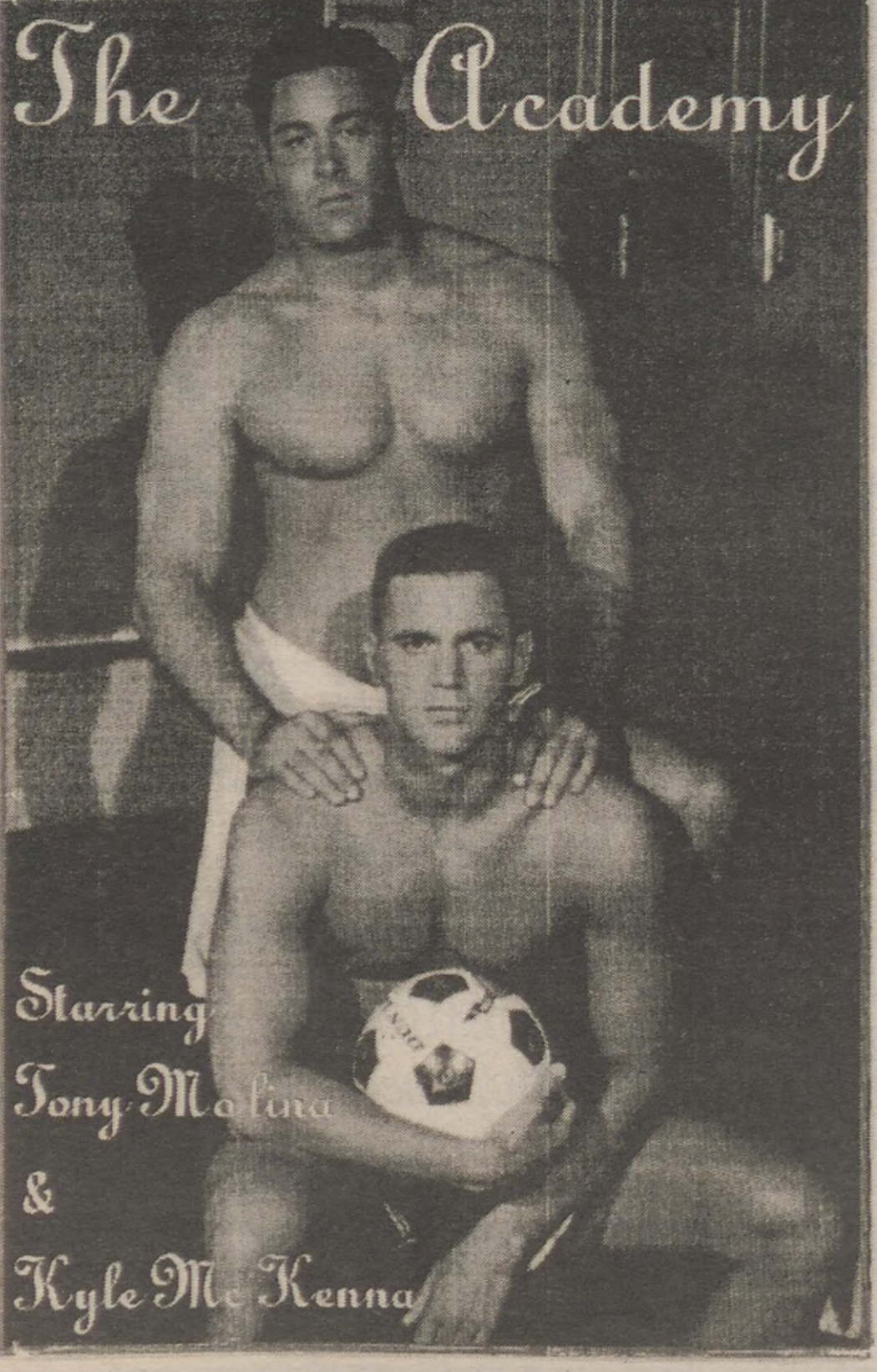
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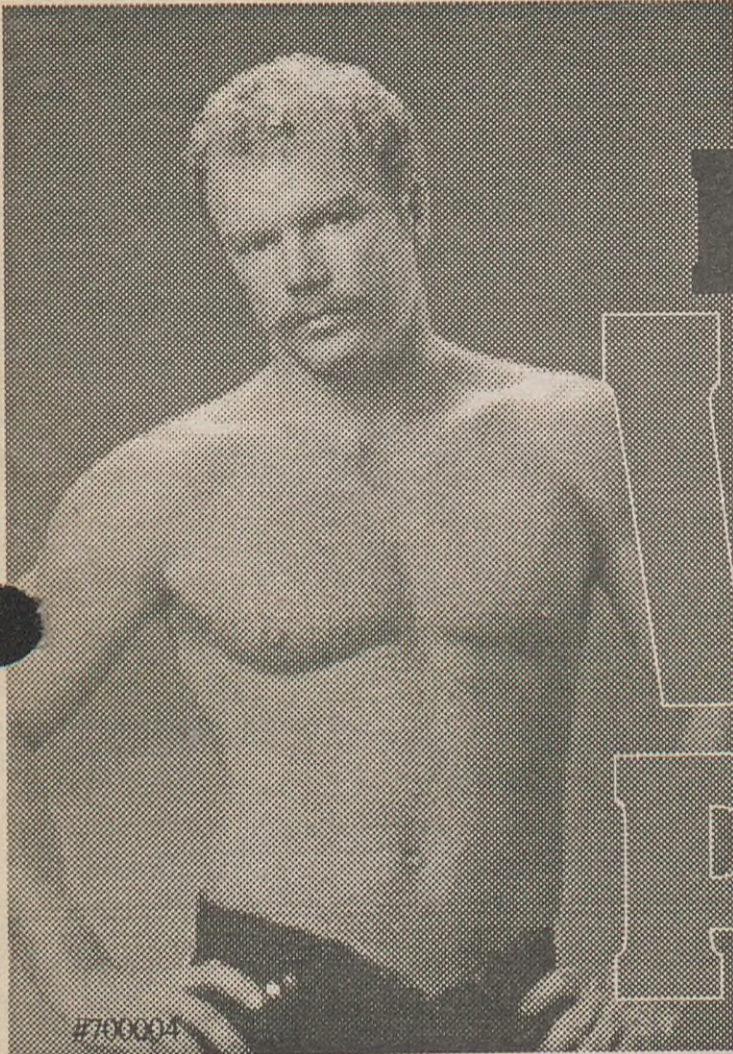
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HOUSTON VOICE PERSONALS



Women SEEKING Women

SBF I'm bi curious & I've had all of the satisfaction I can get from a man. I'm 5'7" & 162 lbs. I have big lips & a small waist. I'm looking for a woman of the same build who has blonde or brunette hair, for a night fun. Call Ext. 5105

SF 44, 5'11", 120 lbs. I love animals, gardening, reading & trying new things. I'd like to meet some women, 30-45, in the Houston area, for friendship, hanging out & a possible long-term relationship. No smokers, drugs or heavy drinkers. Call Ext. 5138

SWF 5'8", long blonde hair, deep-blue eyes. I'm straight-looking, but a soft butch inside. I'm a professional in the environmental field. I have an outgoing personality, with a compassionate soul. I'd like to meet a woman, 35-45, who is a professional, with feminine traits. Call Ext. 5148

SF I'm sexy, 21, 5'6" & 152 lbs. I'm bi curious & in search of a sexy, bisexual female of any race. She should be 120-170 lbs, big-breasted & very elegant. Call Ext. 5117

SWF I'm 5'3", with blonde hair & brown eyes. I'm a professional in the health care field. I enjoy the beach, the woods, the theater, movies & different restaurants. I'm a soft butch. I'd like to meet some new friends. I enjoy the company of a feminine woman. I'm drug-free, alcohol-free & smoke-free. Call Ext. 5119

SWF 5'7", 130 lbs., blonde hair, blue eyes, 20. Looking for a beautiful, feminine woman who is preferably the same as me. Wanting to share life. Should like going to the beach, the movies & anywhere our hearts desire. I'm very attractive, so you must be also. No jokes or running around. Call Ext. 5207

SWF I'm 40, I'm looking for someone who is butch & romantic. I'd like to make a friend or more. Call Ext. 5114

SF Looking for a feminine Black female to have a relationship with. I would like for her to be gay, height/weight proportionate & in her mid-40's. I'm available for a long-term relationship & friendship. Please call. Call Ext. 5197

SWF 30, 5'3", blonde hair, blue eyes. Looking for a female, between 28-40, who is a soft butch. Wanting to date or hang-out. Like going to movies, boating, fishing, etc. I'm drug-free, alcohol-free & a non-smoker. Call Ext. 5215

SWF 43, non-smoker. Enjoy cooking, the mall & parks. Looking for love. Should be interesting & White or biracial. Call Ext. 5208

SF Do you like dumpster diving, junking, camping or biking? I'm gainfully employed & looking for the same. She should be 35-50 & a non-smoker. No drugs, please. Call Ext. 5108

SBF I'm lonely, 34 & 5'4". I have short, black, curly hair. I enjoy outdoor sports, biking, swimming & fishing. I play the drums. I'm looking for a single, feminine Black female who is serious about life. She should have career goals. Call Ext. 5092

SBF I'm a 21-year-old, horny, Black female. If you want to know more, call & leave me a message. Call Ext. 5164

SF If you like to be wined & dined, I'm the one. I'm cute, with a wonderful personality. Check me out. Desiring a sincere, honest & intelligent female. Call Ext. 5161

SWF 33, 5'3", 135 lbs. Looking for a single White female, soft butch or fem to hang out with or date. I like to dancing, theaters & going to antique stores. Call Ext. 5169

SWF Late 40's, 160 lbs., 5'8", green eyes, gray & brown hair. Seeking a relationship with a single gay female who is height/weight proportionate. Race is not important for companionship, friendship & possible romance. I'd like to meet a non-smoker. I'm considered soft butch. I'd like to meet a very feminine female. Call Ext. 5162

SBF 45, 6'. Looking for companionship & romance. I like sex. I'd like to meet some interesting people. I like music & I live on the west side of town. Looking for a woman, no butch. Call Ext. 5194

SWF My hobbies are playing pool, shooting darts, dancing & clubbing. Looking for a female in the age group of 25-40. I'm 190 lbs., 5'11" & a security guard. Call Ext. 5173

Men SEEKING Men

SM 5'11", 190 lbs., goatee, blue eyes, salt 'n pepper hair, hairy body. Like to have fun with friends. Interested in Hispanics. Leave a message. Call Ext. 5219

SHM 5'7", 170 lbs. Looking for Black males, 23-35, who want to have fun. Give me a call. Call Ext. 5218

SBM Well-hung. Looking for someone to have a good time with. Call Ext. 5216

SWM 37, 5'8", 160 lbs., attractive, muscular, smooth, husky, dark brown hair, hazel-green eyes. Would like to meet a daddy, top guy, late 30's or 40's, who is attractive, manly build, hairy. Leave a description. Call Ext. 5201

SM Leave a name & number. Call Ext. 5175

SWM 6'1", green eyes, mustache, goatee, 39, tall, smooth body. I'd like to meet White or Hispanic guys. Give me a call. Call Ext. 5221

SWM Gay, 41, 5'5", green eyes, reddish-blond hair. Enjoy quiet evenings at home, movies, rock 'n roll music & playing board games on occasion. Looking for a White or Hispanic male to spend some time with. Call Ext. 5220

SM 32, Caucasian, very muscular, husky, smooth build, nice tan, greenish eyes, medium-to-short dark brown hair, nice tits, good-looking arms. Looking for a guy who will be a top man. If you're a daddy that's cool, please call. Looking for a guy who is larger & taller than myself who likes to be aggressive & have a lot of fun. Call Ext. 5190

SM I'm 40, 5'6" & 155 lbs. I have brown hair & brown eyes. I have a mustache & a hairy chest. I'm a loving & caring, but demanding guy. My son must be young, handsome, healthy & masculine. He must be intelligent, self-supporting & willing to satisfy my every need. If you are interested, leave me a message. Call Ext. 5083

SM I'm 5'6". I have blue eyes & blonde hair. I'm looking for a guy who is a jock. I like to give blow jobs. I enjoy anal sex, kissing & hugging. Call Ext. 5104

SHM I'm 5'4" & 130 lbs. I have light skin, brown hair & hazel eyes. I have a semi-muscular build. I like playing tennis, movies & working out. I'm looking for a single White male 20-35 who has a semi-muscular build. Call Ext. 5075

SM I'm 25 & straight-acting. I'm ready to experiment with the bottom since I have been on the top. Give me a call. I'm looking for well-endowed Black men to have a good time with. Call Ext. 5116

SM I'm 6'2" & 210 lbs. I'm looking for a hairy-chested top who would be interested in a lot of anal intercourse. Call Ext. 5115

SM I'm 27, 5'7", 155 lbs. & from Spain. I have brown hair & brown eyes. I'm looking for friends. I'd like to meet a blonde guy who is under 30. I'd prefer to meet a bottom. Must be straight-acting. Call Ext. 5113

SWM Handsome, smooth, muscular. Looking for a dominate, masculine, White, Hispanic or Black male. Should be 5'11" or taller, above 170 lbs., be between 30-40 & enjoy being in control. I have a nice body & am willing to follow orders. Let me be your boy. Call Ext. 5190

SWM 5'7", 195 lbs., 45, furry, Italian, brown hair, attractive, easygoing, romantic. Enjoy the quiet life, movies, dining, entertaining & being a homebody. Looking for someone to develop a special friendship & long-term relationship with. If you're my ideal guy you'll be 35-40, able to support yourself & enjoy being a bottom. Blonde hair & blue eyes are a huge plus! Give me a call. Call Ext. 5170

SWM 60, 5'8", 290 lbs., brown hair, blue eyes. I'm a bottom. Looking for guys in their 20's or 40's. Race is not important. Honesty & sincerity are prime factors. Let's share respect, love & an active physical relationship. I enjoy quiet times at home, dancing, traveling, the beach, dining in, dining out & the company of an affectionate friend. Call Ext. 5187

SHM 32, thin. Seeking a gay White or Hispanic male who is 32 or older. Seeking a lifemate. Serious replies only. No games. I don't drink or smoke. I need sincerity & stability. Call Ext. 5160

SBM 27. Seeking other males who want to have fun. Give me a call. Call Ext. 5159

SM I'm a very muscular, smooth, 5'8", 155 lbs., handsome, intelligent, athletic, well-traveled man. I'd like to meet a good-looking, well-built man, preferably a cop. Looking for a friend, a sex partner & possibly more. I'm attracted to masculine men who like to be loving & caring. Must enjoy being a daddy to this exceptionally handsome, well-built boy. Call Ext. 5201

SM I'm 28, 5'6" & 128 lbs. I have brown hair & brown eyes. I enjoy music, cooking, wine tasting, walking on the beach & quiet nights at home. I'm an accounting professional seeking someone 30-40. A beard & a mustache are a plus. I'm hairless. I have a slight mustache. Call Ext. 5110

SBM I'm 26. Race is not important to me if it is not a problem to you. Give me a call if you are interested. Call Ext. 5087

SM 6'1", 200 lbs., brown hair, brown eyes, Cuban/French. Interested in guys who are versatile & 20-30. Race is not important. Looking for someone to really have a good time with. Sex would be great! Let's get good & nasty. Call Ext. 5177

SM I'm 50 years old, straight-acting & straight-talking. I'm looking for a professional, sincere & normal person who is 38-50. If you are this person, straight-acting & straight-talking, please call. Call Ext. 5253

SM I'm a cross-dressing transvestite. Looking for other transvestites who enjoy conversations, getting together, being sisters & having girl talk. I enjoy dressing up, going out, having drinks & pajama parties. Looking for a sister or close friend. Call Ext. 5203

SM I'm 43, 5'10" & 175 lbs. I have blonde hair & blue eyes. I'm a professional man in the administrative field. I enjoy a quiet lifestyle. I enjoy movies & dining out, to name a few things. I'm nice-looking, drug-free & disease-free. I'd like to meet someone 30-45 who is masculine, with dark hair. Call Ext. 5101

Gay male, 23, 6'1", 172 lbs., dark hair, dark eyes, well-toned, smooth. Looking for bodybuilders to have good times with. I'll call you back. Call Ext. 5195

SWM 31, muscular, tan, smooth, 156 lbs. Like to meet a man who is stockier than I am. Not looking for a chubby guy. Would like to meet a top. If I sound attractive, leave a message. Call Ext. 5175

SM 46, 6', 280 lbs., graying hair. Seeking a gay White, Asian or Hispanic male, 25-50, who is drug & disease-free. He should be slim-to-medium-built, with fuzzy legs. I enjoy friends, music & honesty. I'm compassionate & affectionate. Call Ext. 5192

SWM I'm a very young 43-year-old, sailing skipper looking for a sailing captain. I'm a 6', 220 lb. teddy bear. I'm considered stocky, beefy & a linebacker build. I have red, strawberry-blond hair, hazel-green eyes, a mustache & a hairy chest. Looking for guys with similar qualities, or those who are attracted to my qualities. Also looking for a gay sailing club & interested in forming one if one is not out there. Call Ext. 5212

#5178 ~ Would like to get in contact with you. Call my box. Call Ext. 5204

SWM I'm 25, 5'11" & 198 lbs. I have masculine build, brown eyes, a military cut & a goatee. I'm straight-acting, with a good sense of humor. I enjoy working out, movies, reading & self-improvement. I'm in search of a stockily-built man who is masculine, with a goatee. He should enjoy being a top & be 25-35. Call Ext. 5103

SHM I'm 31, 5'11" & 240 lbs. I'm seeking an older White male who is 55+, for discreet encounters. I'm disease & drug-free. I have nice legs. I like to kiss. Call Ext. 5085

SM 5'8", 150 lbs., smooth, muscular, tan, light-brown hair, hazel eyes. Looking for a masculine man who would like to get-together for casual encounters & good times. Possible dating. I prefer men who have a larger, stockier build. I prefer men who enjoy being tops. Call Ext. 5123

SHM 34, attractive, bottom. Looking for masculine guys for friendship, romance or simple encounters. I like guys who are taller than 5'7". Race is not important. Positive attitude is a plus. I'm discreet & friendly. Please be over the age of 25 & confident of your own needs. Call Ext. 5143

SWM I'm 5'9", 130 lbs. & masculine. Looking for a Black brother who is the same. Someone who is 18-28, self-assured, masculine & not into games. Call Ext. 5094

SWM I'm a certified sailing skipper. I lost my captain to the North Carolina waters. Looking for a captain with a crew. I'm also interested in forming a gay sailing club. Call Ext. 5149

SWM 34, 6'1", 275 lbs., brown hair, brown eyes. I own my own business. I enjoy movies, dining in, dining out & intimacy. I have a lot of love to give. Looking for someone to love & get to know. Possible long-term relationship. Call Ext. 5186

SBM In search of other masculine Black males who are 19-45. Seeking someone who is well-endowed & masculine. Call Ext. 5154

SM I'm 5'8" & height/weight proportionate. I'm in my 40's & relatively new to Houston. I have brown hair & blue eyes. I'm interested in meeting other guys who are my age. Give me a call. Call Ext. 5102

SWM Attractive, 38, HIV+, long brown hair, brown eyes, mustache & beard. I'm straight-acting & appearing. I like to enjoy life, concerts, movies, traveling & good friends. I'm retired, healthy & financially secure. Looking for that special friend who is also straight-acting & appearing, with similar interests. Looking for someone who wants to get out & enjoy life. Call Ext. 5178

SHM 5'8", 175 lbs. I have dimples & a pretty smile. Looking for someone who has a good personality. Looks are not important. Call Ext. 5141

SWM Late 30's, cute. Looking to meet an athletic Black guy who knows what he wants. Call me for more information. Call Ext. 5145

SHM Looking for a 30-something White or Hispanic male to explore possibilities with. Call Ext. 5166

SWM 41, 6', 190 lbs. Looking for a top daddy who is 40-50, to take care of. Also looking for a top cowboy to ride me all night & then hold me. Must be open-minded, with above-average equipment. Willing to wear collar for the right daddy. Call Ext. 5163

SM Looking for someone for drinks & walks on the beach. Someone who is single, Black & manly to hang out & have a good time with. Call Ext. 5171

SWM 5'11", 155 lbs., blonde hair, bluish-green eyes. Looking for Hispanic males 18-35. I enjoy going to the beach, jogging & hanging out with friends. Call Ext. 5155

SBM 27. Seeking other Black males. I'd like to meet a top. I enjoy swimming, bowling, reading & having fun. I'd prefer to meet someone 20-30. Call Ext. 5158

SAM I'm 20, 5'6" & 137 lbs. I have black hair & brown eyes. I'm very cute. I like dining out, movies, walking on the beach, jogging & going to the gym. Looking for a gay White male 20-38 who is height/weight proportionate. Call Ext. 5049

SM 6'2", 190 lbs. Looking for football player build type of guys who are under 40. Call Ext. 5196

SM 31, blonde hair, blue eyes. Looking for a good time. Call me. Call Ext. 5133

SWM 29, 6'2", nice-looking. I have long hair. I enjoy alternative music. In search of a Hispanic male, 18-29 who likes the same things. Call Ext. 5131

SWM 50, 6', 190 lbs., brown eyes, brown hair. I'm HIV+ & a top daddy only. I prefer a single White male who is over 40 & less than 5'10". Must be a non-smoker. No drugs or femmes. Seeking someone who enjoys quiet life, movies, theaters & sci-fi. Call Ext. 5200

SWM 40 & a lively 270 lbs. I have a goatee & love to disco down. Looking for a dance partner for disco night. No strings attached. Why sit & watch others dance, when you can boogie-down? Call Ext. 5168

SWM 36, 5'9", 148 lbs. Looking for a drug-free, slender, gay White male. He should not be into the bar scene. Call Ext. 5128

SM Where are you? If you are like me, you are getting tired of driving to the bars every Friday night to meet guys. I would like to meet some nice guys from this area. Call Ext. 5082

SBM I'm a professional. I'm 36, 5'11" & 165 lbs. I'm looking for someone to spend some time with. I enjoy movies, listening to music, cooking & quiet nights at home. Call Ext. 5124

SM Asian. In search of a Married White cop who needs to relieve the stress of work & family life. If you want some mid-day encounters, give me a call. Call Ext. 5189

SAM I'm 32, 5'4" & 140 lbs. I'm looking for a single White male for a possible long-term, monogamous relationship. I would prefer to meet someone who is straight-acting. I'm outgoing & looking for the same. I'm organized, flexible, romantic & loving, with a strong personality. Call Ext. 5106

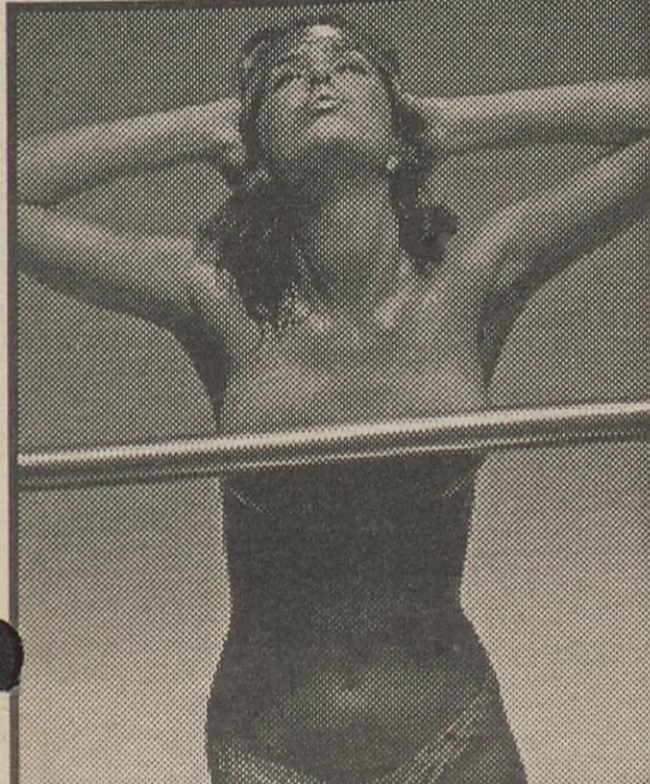
SM I'm 5'9" & 160 lbs. I have dark hair & blue eyes. I'm a physical education teacher. I enjoy all sports. I'm looking for a masculine man who enjoys sports. Call Ext. 5118

SM 35, 5'10", 175 lbs., blue-gray eyes, dark brown hair, goatee. Considered very attractive & well-endowed, with an athletic build. Gentleman, I'm only looking for this & the description must be precise. You're handsome, under 35, muscular, with a small waist & 10" or more. Call Ext. 5172

SWM 39, dark hair, blue eyes, 5'6", 170 lbs., hairy chest. I'm romantic, loyal, sincere & gentle, yet strong. I'm outgoing, with a quiet side. I love music, art & life in general. I'm HIV- & seeking a younger gay male who is Asian, Hispanic or White. Looking for fun & a relationship. Call Ext. 5137

SWM 37, 5'7", 155 lbs., well-built, muscular. I have a really good tan. I'm HIV+. I'm healthy & I feel fabulous. I'm interested in meeting a guy who is good-looking & well-built. I'm turned on by guys who have beards, mustaches & body hair. Leave a message. Call Ext. 5156

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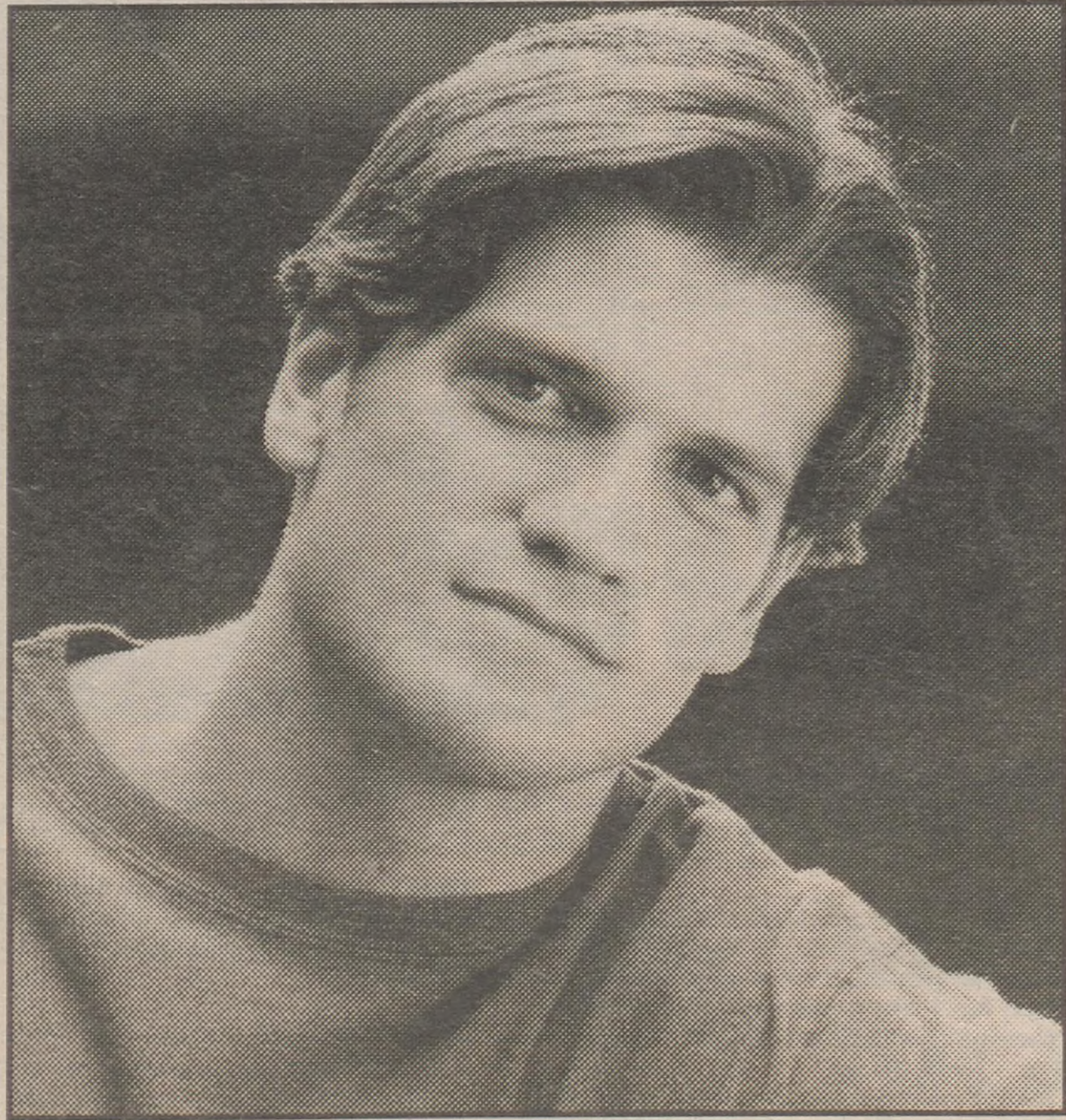


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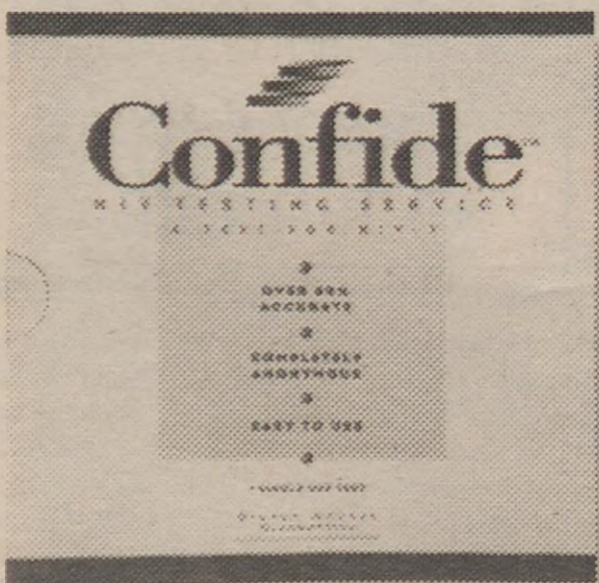
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