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Page 12

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FEBRUARY 4, 2005

**EQUAL RIGHTS:** Achieving it means real activism. Page 3



**PRIDE 2005:** A new logo and a political slogan. Page 3



**FAREWELL JIMBO:** Houston mourns Jim Humble. Page 4



## Gay Democrats jump on Dean bandwagon

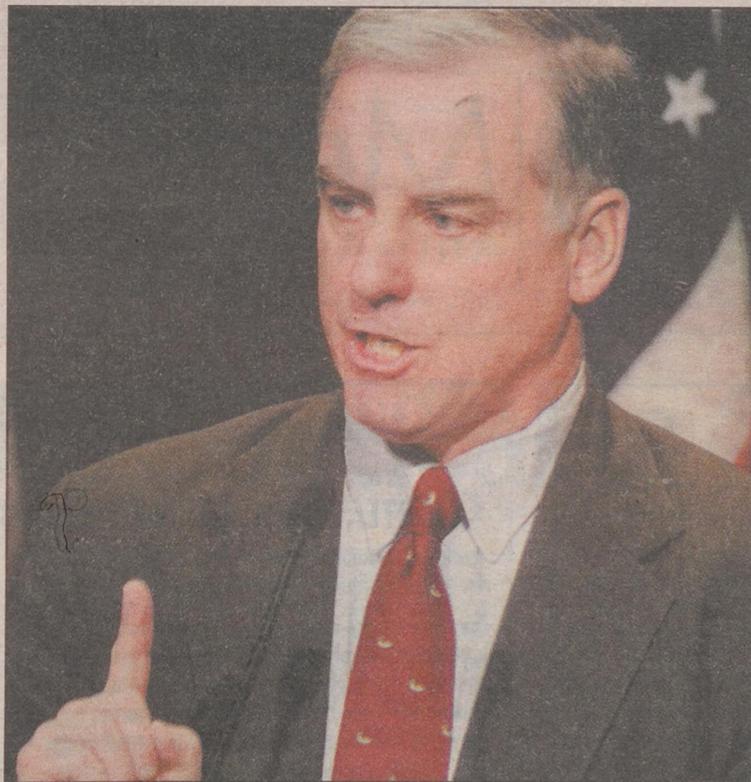
Frontrunner for DNC chair post opposes gay marriage

By LOU CHIBBARO JR.

The head of the Democratic National Committee's Gay & Lesbian Americans Caucus joined a growing number of party leaders this week in endorsing former presidential candidate Howard Dean's bid to become the chair of the Democratic Party.

Dean, who is viewed as too liberal by party officials in the South despite a record of governing as a moderate, appeared to have lined up enough votes to win the Feb. 14 DNC election for chair late this week. Most of his leading opponents have dropped out of the race and endorsed him.

In his role as governor of Vermont, Dean is credited with pushing through that state's historic civil unions statute, which provides same-sex couples with all of the rights, benefits and obligations of marriage under Vermont law. In his unsuccessful race for president last year, Dean emerged as one of the nation's most gay-sup-



Howard Dean is likely to become the next chair of the Democratic National Committee. (Photo by AP)

portive presidential candidates.

However, Dean drew criticism from some gay activists for his position against same-sex marriage. In campaign appearances, he said he personally believes marriage must remain an institution between a

man and a woman and that Congress should instead pass legislation recognizing civil unions bills approved by state legislatures.

While troubling to same-sex

Please see **DNC** on Page 7



Pat and John Jaynes are waiting for a forensic pathologist to confirm that remains of a man whose body was left unidentified three years at the county morgue is that of their missing son. (Photo by Dalton DeHart)

## Parents: Are remains those of their son?

A forensic pathologist will determine whether remains are those of Simeon Jaynes, missing since 2001

By BINNIE FISHER

A Pasadena couple waits to hear news from a forensic pathologist that could finally give them answers to a mystery that has put their lives on hold for three years.

After a thorough examination of the decomposed remains of a man whose body was left for three years at the county morgue, John and Pat Jaynes hope the physician can tell them whether or not their missing gay son has been found.

The Jaynes' attorney, Jerry Simoneaux, commissioned the physician after the couple received a call in late December from the Harris County Medical Examiner's Office informing them

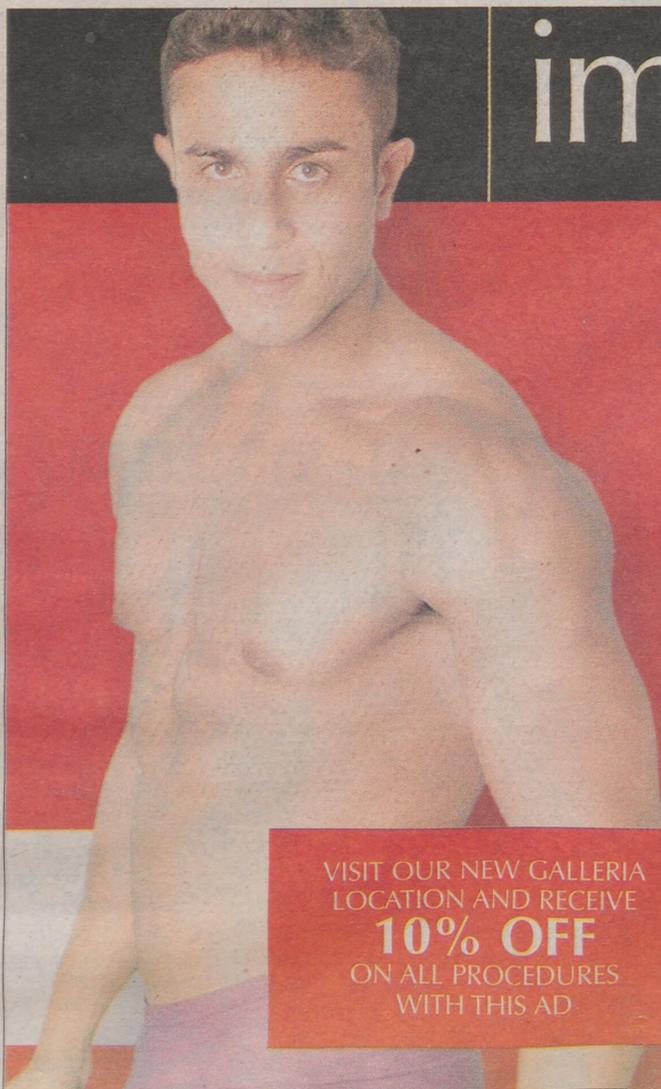
Please see **PARENTS** on Page 5



**local life**  
Scott Kenyon talks leather and Luezy this weekend in Houston.  
PAGE 8

**dish**  
Ellen DeGeneres has a new role, Dolly Levi in Tara Reid's real-life search for true romance.  
PAGE 18





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## houston news

## Civil rights advances are possible with hard work

Matt Foreman told Houston activists that they must do more than talk, they must work for gay civil rights

By BINNIE FISHER

Amid talk of a federal amendment on marriage and numerous state amendments, Matt Foreman, executive director of the National Gay and Lesbian Task Force, said he is convinced that advances toward gay equality can still be made.

As a roomful of activists noshed and sipped wine in Houston Tuesday night, Foreman laid out a plan that he said is the only formula that will work.

The main ingredient, he said, is more action and less talk.

"Our mission is to build grassroots political strength," he said. "We're really focused on not being theoretic but on being real."

He cited as an example what took place at a recent statewide conference on gay and lesbian activism that the task force and the Lesbian and Gay Rights Lobby of Texas (LGRL) staged in Austin.

While those in attendance may have



Matt Foreman, executive director of the National Gay and Lesbian Task Force, said significant achievements toward equal rights can be made in five years if activists are genuinely committed. (Photo by Dalton DeHart)

come expecting to attend plenary sessions and listen to keynote addresses, Foreman said, that wasn't how it went.

Instead of talking about identifying voters who were sympathetic to the struggle for gay rights, Foreman said, "They went out and did it."

Conference attendees were dropped off in a predominately Republican neighborhood

and in a matter of hours, Foreman said, "They identified over 300 pro-LGBT voters."

Instead of talking about fundraising, those who attended the conference were told to do it.

"In 90 minutes, they raised \$14,000 for LGRL," he said.

Volunteer recruitment went the same way. Attendees were dropped off at affirming churches, coffee shops and businesses.

"In another two-hour session, they recruited another 300 volunteers," he said.

To sum up his message, he said, the fight for equal rights must begin at home. "It's essential for people here to invest their time and their money in the political organizations here. They need to get involved at the grassroots level."

That, Foreman said, is a lesson that conservative groups learned 30 to 40 years ago. They began by promoting their candidates for city, county and school board offices across the country.

"All that grassroots work is bearing fruit now," he said, referring to conservative gains at the polls in recent years. "Those people are winning elections because they do politics the way politics has to be done."

In reality, he noted, "But if you look at the polls, their views do not match the views of most Americans."

It is those Americans whose views tend more toward progressive than conservative that gay and lesbian activists must

identify, Foreman said. Identifying those voters means approaching people at polling places and going door to door.

"People have an understandable fear or reluctance to go door to door," he said. "Once they do it, they understand that it's not that hard. What I know about voter identification is that it is the most effective and cost-efficient way of generating votes."

Grassroots work and voter identification will be needed nationwide to support the goals of the task force.

"I do want to say that we are focusing on bringing out a new, comprehensive federal equality bill that would go far beyond workplace equality," Foreman said. "We really think it's a doable thing. It's vital that we put on the table something that is positive and that resonates with the American public."

The campaign for same-sex marriage may have been ten years ahead of its time, he said, but by asking for marriage in 2004, gays and lesbians will achieve much more than they would had they asked for less in the beginning.

"One thing I do know is that we've got to be much more honest and direct about marriage," he said. "There's no point in making appeals about it being wrong to write discrimination into the Constitution. We've got to come up with a visceral, heart-felt message about marriage."

Then, he said, that message must be sold door-to-door, person-to-person.

## Pride goes political in 2005

Pride Houston changed its name, unveiled a new emblem and slogan with a political ring and introduced grand marshal nominees

By ELLA TYLER

If Salome had provided the draping for the Pride Committee's Logo Unveiling Party on Jan. 28, she would have been indecently exposed before the night was over.

Lots of news about preparations for the 27th Pride Parade, to get underway at 8:45 p.m. Saturday, June 25, was announced.

The unveiling of the 2005 Pride logo revealed a more political statement than was made in 2004, when the theme was "Pride as Big as Texas."

In 2005, the familiar, joyous figures from the Pride Committee emblem dance against a red background that bears the slogan "Equal Rights. Nothing More. Nothing Less." Rebecca Mahaffey and Yvonne Feece headed the committee that designed the logo.

Nick Brines, president of the steering committee, announced that the Pride Committee is changing its name. "We are much more than a committee, so we are now calling ourselves 'Pride Houston,'" he said, and unveiled the new pride emblem. Other than the name change, the design is the same.

Brines also announced that a Pride Festival is planned at Yoakum and Westheimer from 2 p.m. parade time and that Jack Valinski has been named Executive Director of Pride Houston.

Those who attended the unveiling were encouraged to vote for the parade's Grand Marshals. A new method, instant run-off voting, is being used. Valinski said. "We think it is fairer and it eliminates the need for a run-off election." He added, "This is what they use in San Francisco."

Valinski explained the system. "In the races for male and female grand marshal, voters mark their ballots with first, second and third choices. The ballots are counted.

If no candidate gets a majority of first-place votes, the last place candidate is eliminated and those ballots are examined for the

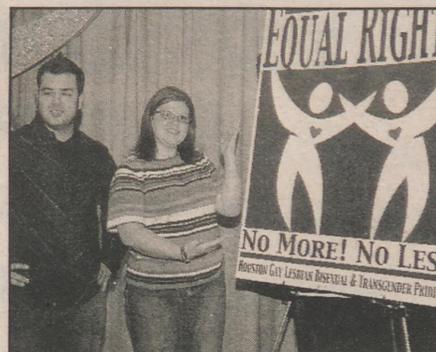
second place choice. Then all ballots are recounted. This process is repeated until a candidate receives a majority," Valinski said.

Voting for grand marshals is scheduled from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. this Saturday and again Saturday, Feb. 19 at the Pride Office at 1415 California, Suite 110.

"Anyone, no matter their age, who lives in Harris or the surrounding counties may vote," Valinski said. "All they need to do is provide some identification with their address on it, such as a drivers license or utility bill." The winners will be announced on March 4.

Nominees for Organizational Grand Marshal are Bayou City Boys Club; The Empire of the Royal, Sovereign, Imperial Court of the of the Single Star; and Miss Camp America Foundation.

Female Grand Marshal nominees are Michelle Dean, a teacher and gay rights advocate; Phyllis Randolph Frye, a transgender attorney and activist who struck down Houston's cross-dressing ordinance; Kathy McCann, an activist and volunteer who presents safe sex talks; Deb Murphy, youth services worker for HATCH; Judy Reeves, founder and curator of the Gulf Coast Archive and Museum of GLBT History (GCAM); Brenda Thomas, an activist who has planned and chaired state and national transgender conferences; and Brandi Williams, an activist, volun-



Dane Powell and Rebecca Mahaffey unveiled the 2005 Pride emblem, which they helped create. Photo by Dalton DeHart.

teer and educator on transgender issues.

Nominees for Male Grand Marshal are Christopher Bown, an activist who helped organize the Marriage Equality Rally and Demonstration in 2004; Weldon Hickey, a volunteer who has held leadership roles with a number of organizations including Krewe of Olympus; Ken Jones, a retired physician and president of the Houston Gay & Lesbian Political Caucus for the last three years; John Lawrence, a plaintiff in the historic Lawrence v. Texas case that overturned the Texas sodomy law; Jerrel McNeil, who is active in numerous organizations, including the Colt 45's and the Montrose Softball League; and Mark Nichols, a dentist who was one of the founders of the Bering Dental Clinic.

The nominees for Honorary Grand Marshal are Dennis and Evelyn Schave, licensed counselors at Community Gospel Life Counseling Center.

## i MORE INFO

Pride Houston 2005

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## obituaries

# They will miss Jimbo's smile *Service for ballet principal*

Longtime member of the Krewe of Olympus, Jim Humble, died in a fall at his Montrose home

By BINNIE FISHER

It wasn't easy, but the Krewe of Olympus staged a 35th Mardi Gras Ball last Saturday without a valued and much-loved Krewe mate.

Jim "Jimbo" Humble died last month after falling from the stairs at the town home he and his partner, Gary Evans, shared in Montrose.

This year's ball was especially hard for Evans, friends said, because he served as the 34th King Olympus.

Though grieving, his friends said, Evans shined for the sake of the Krewe.

"They had been partners for many years," said Krewe member Sonna Alton. "They were truly each other's soul mates."

Asked to describe Humble, Alton said, "The best way to describe Jimbo is just that he was somebody who always had a big smile on his face."

Weldon Hickey, a lieutenant with the Krewe, said it wasn't easy to stage a ball without Humble, who two years ago served as the 32nd Queen Olympus.

"He always did things in a big way,"



The recent memorial for Krewe of Olympus member Jim Humble was described as "eloquent." (Photo by Dalton DeHart)

Hickey said. "The grander, the better. He was very flamboyant."

As much as his friends miss him, Alton said, they know that Evans (known to Krewe members as Dame Edith) is having a difficult time without his partner.

"Jimbo's passing probably creates a great void in Dame's life," she said.

The recent memorial service was a simple service with eloquent eulogies.

"One bagpipe player played 'Amazing Grace.' That was at Jimbo's request," Alton said.

In addition to the Krewe of Olympus, Humble was active with Miss Camp America and the Diana Foundation.

Service for Mark Arvin is planned at the Hobby Center

By BINNIE FISHER

A memorial service for former Houston Ballet principal Mark Arvin is planned for 7 p.m. Monday in Zilkha Hall at the Hobby Center, 800 Bagby.

Arvin died Dec. 5 in Dallas after spending two years in a coma due to a medical mistake during routine heart surgery.

Arvin's partner, Kevin White, said in addition to his local friends, the 500-seat theater was needed to accommodate guests from California, Florida, New York and various cities around Texas.

Arvin, who left a successful career in ballet to take an equally successful leap into musical theater, was performing in New York two years ago when he experienced chest pains. Rather than undergo surgery in New York, he chose to return to Houston to the city's celebrated Medical Center.

Arvin trained at the Houston Ballet School under artistic director Ben Stevenson. He quickly rose to the designation of principal with the company.

His ballet credits include "Romeo and Juliet" and the role of "Boogie Woogie Bugle Boy" in Paul Taylor's original



A memorial service for Mark Arvin is planned next week.

"Company B" at the Kennedy Center.

His associates at Houston Ballet say he easily made the transition to musical theater, appearing in "Fosse," "Chicago," "Swing," "The Sweet Smell of Success" and "Movin' Out."

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## houston news

# Parents want answers in the case of their missing gay son

PARENTS, continued from Page 1

that their son's body has been at the morgue for three years.

"That has been priority number one, to make sure they are cremating the right body," Simoneaux said. "After all the horrible confusion, they're (the Jaynes) still unsure."

The nightmare for the Jaynes began in August of 2001, when 34-year-old Simeon Jaynes didn't come home after a night out in Houston.

When she realized her son was missing, Pat Jaynes contacted Houston police and did her best to provide them with what would be needed to identify her son.

She made more than one trip to the Medical Examiner's Office, offering photos of her son and pleading with the staff to look at any unidentified bodies to make certain her son was not among them.

As it turns out, her son's body was at the morgue. His body had been brought there on August 25, 2001 from Park Plaza Hospital, where he died of a drug overdose.

Beverly Begay, chief forensics investigator at the Medical Examiner's Office, said that when Jaynes was brought into the morgue, he wore a hospital wristband that identified him as Roger Simmons, the name he had given staff at the hospital.

At that point, she said, he was considered identified but unclaimed.

"I don't understand the distinction between unidentified and unclaimed," Simoneaux said. "If no one has claimed a body in three years, then something is wrong."

He said he wants to know exactly how the body was identified in 2004 but not in 2001.

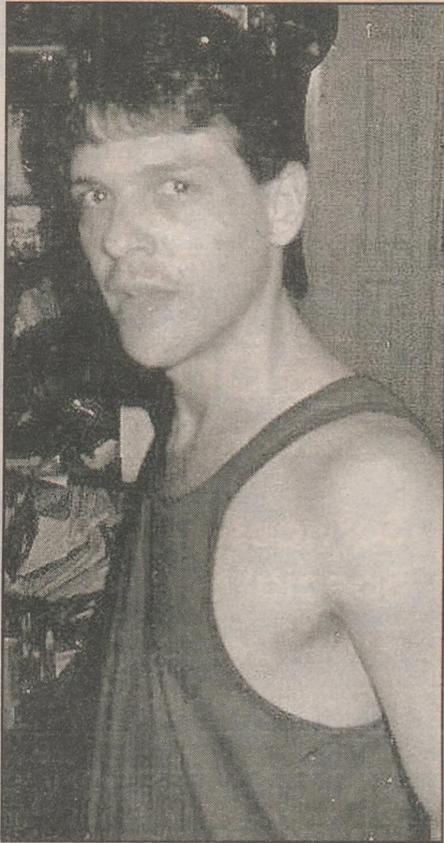
"They told Mrs. Jaynes that they did it by fingerprints," Simoneaux said. "When we found out the condition of the body, our question is, how?"

Because the body is badly decomposed, he said, he has to wonder whether fingerprints were taken in 2001 and not run until 2004.

Begay said in 2004, an identification unit was formed to concentrate on unidentified and unclaimed bodies. It was that unit that called the Jaynes in December.

"It still comes back to that they had a way to identify the body in the beginning but they didn't," Simoneaux said.

If the pathologist is able to say for certain that the remains currently being held at a storage facility in Crosby are those of Simeon Jaynes, Simoneaux said, "I'll have something to go on, to start asking some very serious questions."



Simeon Jaynes disappeared three years ago, and his parents learned recently that his body has been at the county morgue unidentified since 2001.

If the remains are not those of the Jaynes' son, he added, "If it comes back that the body is not that of Simeon, then we'll have a very different situation on our hands."

A problem that the family and their attorneys are facing is a lack of funds. Simoneaux said although he is not charging the Jaynes for his services, the case is incurring costs that must be covered.

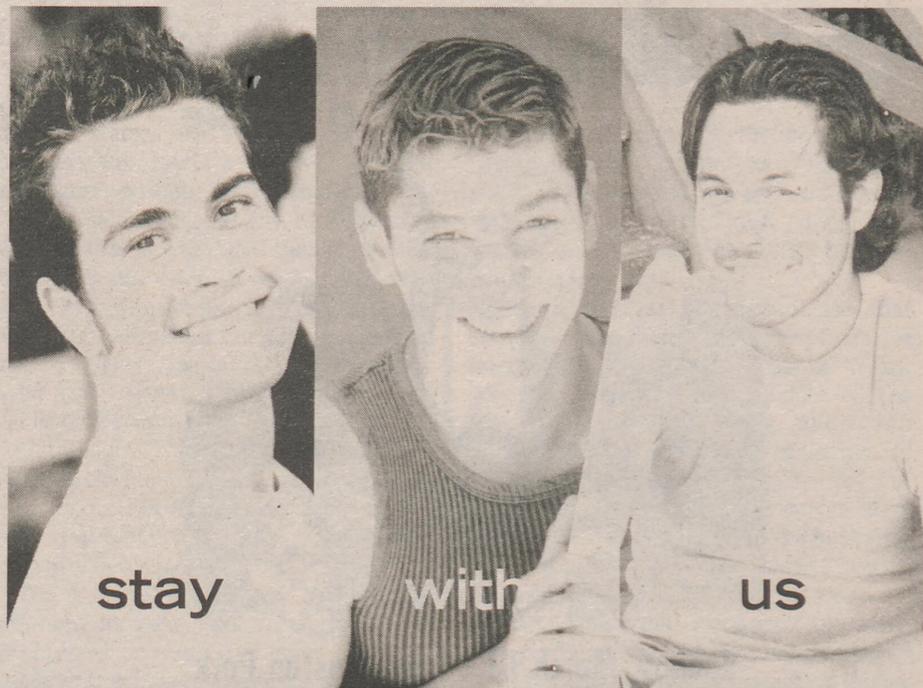
Simoneaux said the cost of the pathologist has been covered, and a church has helped with funeral expenses, but it will cost the Jaynes \$400 to bring their son's body back to Houston for cremation.

There could be additional expenses for depositions and other investigative measures, he said. A fund has been set up to help with those costs. Being a young law firm, he said, Nechman Simoneaux and Frye is, "limited by what donations we get."

In the end, he said, "The top priority of the Jaynes is to make certain this doesn't happen to anyone else."

To do that, he said, an examination will have to be made of the policies that were in place at the Medical Examiner's Office in 2001 and whether those policies were accurately followed. He also wants to examine the role the police played in the investigation of Jaynes' disappearance.

He asked, "When they have a missing person's report filed, what would it hurt to check the Medical Examiner's Office? It just seems like everybody all along the way has dropped the ball."



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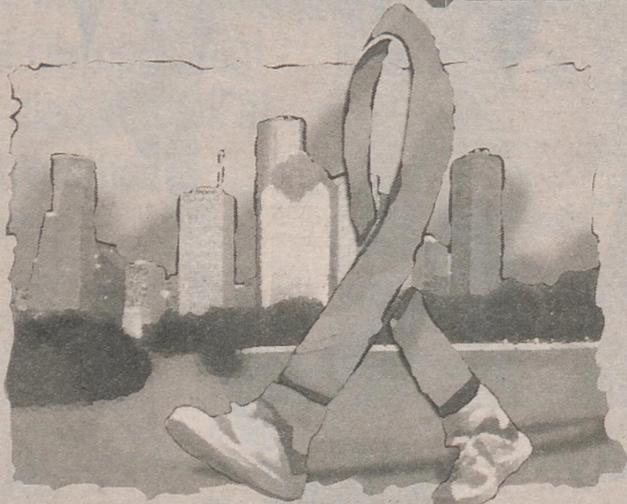
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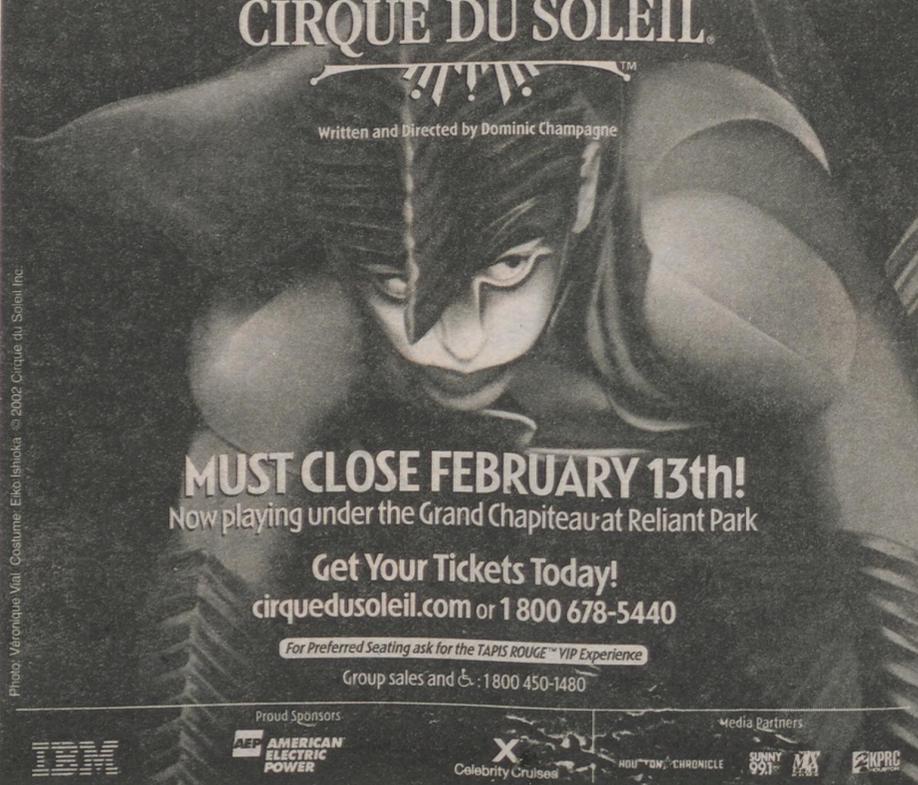
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## national news

## Gay Democrats call for more representation in party

DNC, continued from Page 1

marriage advocates, Dean's opposition to gay marriage is likely to be embraced by leaders of the Democratic Party's moderate to conservative wing, who worry that the perception of the party being too liberal will play into the hands of the Republicans.

Among those who have endorsed Dean are Jeff Soref, chair of the 16-member DNC Gay & Lesbian Americans Caucus, and Ray Buckley, the gay vice chair of the New Hampshire Democratic Party.

Buckley said he had been supporting Donnie Fowler, one of Dean's rivals, but was pleased to endorse Dean after Dean easily won the backing this week of the Association of State Party Chairs, an influential group within the Democratic Party. Buckley is an officer of the association.

According to Buckley, the National Stonewall Democrats, which represents gay Democrats, was also expected to endorse Dean this week. A spokesperson for the group did not return a call by press time.

Last month, the DNC gay caucus

released a statement calling on the party to continue to stand behind the "GLBT-inclusive" planks that the party adopted in its platform at the Democratic National Convention last summer.

The gay planks, which were vetted and approved by the campaign of Democratic presidential candidate John Kerry, call for full civil rights protections for gay citizens.

Although the platform language opposes a constitutional amendment to ban same-sex marriage, it avoids taking a position on whether the party supports gay marriage.

"We support full inclusion of gay and lesbian families in the life of our nation and seek equal responsibilities, benefits, and protections for these families," the platform states.

Other sections of the platform pertaining to gays call on Congress to pass legislation banning discrimination based on sexual orientation and call for passage of a "strong national law" to fight hate crimes. The platform does not specifically call for repealing the Pentagon's "Don't Ask, Don't Tell" policy on gays in the mil-

itary, but states, "We ... believe all patriotic Americans should be allowed to serve our country without discrimination."

In its statement, the gay caucus listed seven areas where the DNC should boost its outreach to gay voters. It called on the new party chair, for example, to "pledge to maintain and fund at least one full-time senior-level position of Director of GLBT Outreach at the DNC, whose primary responsibility will be policy and organizing."

Outgoing DNC Chair Terry McAuliffe retained the gay outreach director's position during his four-year tenure at the DNC. Gay Democratic activist Eric Stern currently holds the position.

The gay caucus statement calls for the DNC and its next chair to work for the appointment or election of more gay DNC members; to arrange for more gay representation among DNC staff and consultants; to push for more gay delegates at the next Democratic National Convention; and to boost support for gay community recognition in the party's Charter & Delegate Selection Rules.

The statement also calls on the DNC to

"expand activities" of the gay caucus through such means as "increased staffing, polling and research on how to motivate GLBT voters" and "underwriting an annual national GLBT training conference for activists."

Among the DNC chair candidates that dropped out of their race against Dean are former U.S. Rep. Martin Frost of Texas, who was seen as the candidate of the party's conservative wing and Ohio Democratic Party leader David Leland.

Dean's remaining rivals, as of Wednesday, were Fowler, former Rep. Timothy Roemer of Indiana, and moderate party activist Simon Rosenberg. Fowler supports full marriage rights for gays.

He told the Blade via e-mail this week, "I'm pro-gay rights, including gay marriage."

The DNC's gay treasurer, Andrew Tobias, is running unopposed for re-election to the treasurer's post and was expected to easily win another term in office. Tobias, who is a member of the DNC gay caucus, was among the gay speakers at the Democratic National Convention in Boston.

## Philip Johnson, influential gay architect, dies at 98

By YUSEF NAJAFI

Philip Cortelyou Johnson, an influential gay architect, died Tuesday, Jan. 25, of unspecified causes at his home in Connecticut, according to his partner of 45 years, David Whitney. He was 98.

The Cleveland native was well known for his post-modern architectural work, including the 648-foot AT&T skyscraper (now owned by Sony) in New York City, and Penzoil Place in Houston.

The building's 90-foot curved entrance is one of Johnson's many trademark designs, which inspired other architects to experiment with their work.

Johnson also designed Dallas' new Cathedral of Hope, the largest gay inclusive church in the nation with 3,000 regular worshippers.

The new sanctuary, which includes a chapel that seats 175 people, will be completed this summer.

Johnson was born to Louis and Homer H. Johnson, an attorney, in Cleveland in 1906.

In 1927 he graduated with honors from Harvard University, in Cambridge, Mass., with a degree in philosophy.

He launched his career as an architect in 1932, when he became chair of the Museum of Modern Art's architecture department in New York.

Johnson went on to attend the Graduate School of Design at Harvard, now called Harvard Design School, in Cambridge, Mass., in 1940. He was one of the most prominent architects of the past century.

In Washington, he created the pre-Columbian art wing of the Dumbarton Oaks Research Library and Collection, in Northwest. Johnson also created the home of the late David Lloyd Kreeger, the founder of GEICO, which is now a museum, the Washington Post reported.

Johnson's many accolades include the Gold Medal of the American Institute of

Architects, which he received in 1978. He was also the first recipient of the annual Pritzker Architecture Prize, which honors a living architect's outstanding work, in 1979.

It wasn't until later in his life that Johnson came out and spoke publicly about being gay.

Despite his extraordinary career, Johnson did have some personal regrets, such as his fascination with "Hitler-style fascism," AP reported.

"I have no excuse [for] such utter, unbelievable stupidity" he later said.

Twelve years ago, Rev. Michael S. Piazza of Dallas' Cathedral of Hope, contacted Johnson in hopes of landing the influential architect to design the church's new building.

At that time, the cathedral belonged to the Universal Fellowship of Metropolitan Community Churches (UFMCC), "a worldwide fellowship of Christian churches that reach out to gay, lesbian, bisexual and transgender communities."

Upon meeting Johnson in 1992 to discuss the new building, the two gay men quickly became friends.

"His partner David Whitney, and my partner would go to New York, and it was sort of like double-dating," Piazza said.

Initially, Johnson rejected the offer to design the Cathedral of Hope, citing his age. But he later agreed to take on the project after a brief conversation with Piazza.

"I explained to him that [the new cathedral] had to be startling," Piazza said, "to send a message, as a powerful symbol, that all gay people are children of God too."

"After we talked for about half an hour, he said 'How can I not do this?'" Piazza added.

The two presented the design of the new building during a news conference in New York on Johnson's 90th birthday in 1996.

Johnson later described the project as "the crowning jewel in my lifetime of work."

The Associated Press contributed to this report.



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## A weekend of leather and Levis

If Mardi Gras is almost over, LUEY must be about to begin

By JOHNNY HOOKS

Scott Kenyon walks into Barnaby's on Fairview wearing a smart three-button charcoal gray suit, shiny shoes, a pricey time piece peeking out from his sleeve and polished silver rings that complete his look.

However you might not recognize him as the same guy when the sun sets and Kenyon changes into his leather and Levi gear. Kenyon is the Chairman of The Houston Council of Clubs, HCC, as it is known, presents "Let Us Entertain You" (LUEY) Weekend annually coinciding with the close of Mardi Gras.

One of Houston's biggest events, LUEY will take place February 10 through 13. The party begins with registration at 8 p.m. Thursday at EJ's. Registration continues Feb. 11 at 8 p.m. at Mary's (naturally). The evening events include a barbeque dinner served at Brazos River Bottom. The official host bars are Brazos River Bottom, EJ's, Mary's (naturally), Michael's Outpost, Rich's/Houston and the Ripcord.

According to the website, "HCC consists of 11 Levi/Leather clubs and groups in the Houston area. HCC was formed to promote, sponsor and hold LUEY weekend."

Kenyon said the clubs combine for brotherhood, sisterhood, and camaraderie among member "groups," other clubs, organizations, associations, courts and individuals who share a similar ideology.

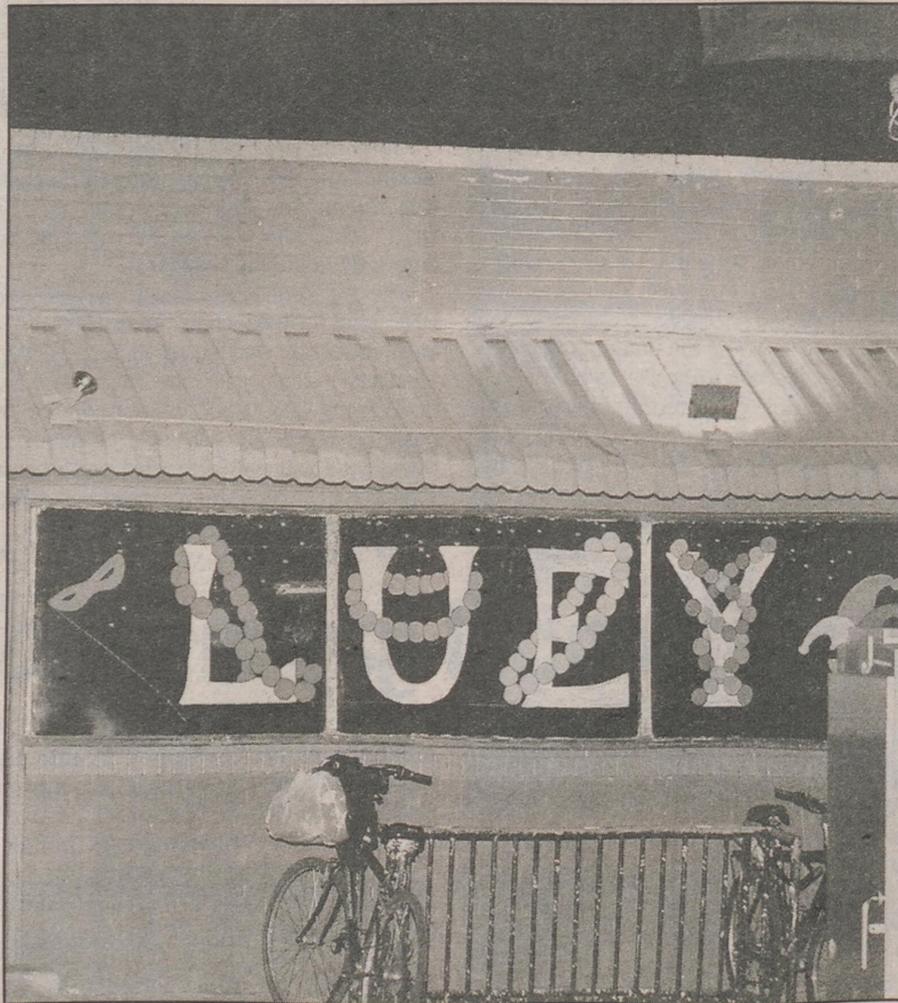
LUEY weekend began more than 30 years ago, started by the Texas Riders to keep the party going and put an exclamation point on Mardi Gras for those returning from New Orleans. The weekend after Mardi Gras was therefore designated LUEY weekend.

In its earliest days, LUEY weekend consisted of a small bar "run" where the men and women of LUEY traveled en masse from one host bar to another. Growing over the years, as many as 833 registered guests from 29 states and 5 countries have participated in LUEY.

For Kenyon, it's a long way from Kansas.

### MORE INFO

LUEY  
Brazos River Bottom, EJ's, Mary's, Michael's  
Outpost, Rich's/Houston and Ripcord  
Feb. 10-13  
[www.lueyweekend.com](http://www.lueyweekend.com)



A sign at Mary's says it all, it's LUEY Weekend.

Scott Kenyon was born on September 22, 1959 in Kansas City but quickly moved to a small Kansas town that "no one has ever heard of" called Bellville. "The town of Bellville is really small, like there are 2,000 people in the whole town, and I think I had about 77 people in my graduating class at Bellville High School."

Kenyon then headed to Kansas State University, where he received his Bachelor's degree in Public Relations. While at State, he was on the staff of the weekly paper.

After graduating, he worked at the El Dorado Times as advertising director. When Kenyon was 25, he moved from Kansas to Dallas. It was around this time that Kenyon came out and began exploring his sexuality and the varied communities open to gay men and women.

"I'll tell you exactly why I moved. One weekend I went to Dallas with some friends and when we arrived it was 75 and beautiful. When we arrived back home it was 15 degrees with a foot of snow on the ground," he said.

Kenyon began working at Sanger Harris Department Store in Dallas, which later was bought by Foley's. He transferred to the corporate office in downtown

Houston in 1987 and remains there today in the Special Events department.

### Leather was a progression

Asked about how he became interested in the leather scene, Kenyon clasps his hands under his chin and thinks. "It wasn't necessarily one event or one experience that led me into the leather/Levi scene. I really think it's a natural progression, one that some people take and others don't."

He continued, "I know people think that it's just for older men, but I think you would be surprised. Women are involved, we have the Women in Power Society. We have kept our membership at the same level for many years even though some have retired or moved."

Member communities, he said, are heavily involved in fundraising for gay organizations, "where the federal money is drying up, we are left to help even more."

The 11 official clubs are Colt 45's, Brotherhood of Pain, LSBOL (LoneStar boys of Leather), FireDancers Houston Tribe, NLAH (National Leather Association/Houston), HAB (Houston Area Bears), Rainbow Wranglers, Misfits Houston, Sundance Cattle Company, Texas



For Scott Kenyon, LUEY Weekend is among the best of times in Houston.

Leather & Lace, Houston Nomads and the WIP Society (Women In Power Society).

Auxiliary clubs include Gulf Coast Archive Museum (GCAM), Houston Big Men's Club, the Imperial Court of Houston/Space City Empire, Miss Camp America Foundation and PWA Holiday Charity among others.

The relationship between members of the different clubs seems to harken back to a time before the rise of Bayou City Boys Club and Spoiled Boyz.

The aim is to assist the local nonprofits through shows and other creative means. Many years into LUEY weekend, the Houston Council of Clubs added the "Show of Shows." The event marks the closing of LUEY weekend and is held on Sunday afternoon.

Member clubs put on "The 'Show of Shows.'" Each club is given 10 minutes to perform, and there is no theme. The results are hilarious, and no one from mayors to Michael Jackson would be safe from these skewering skits. This year's "Show of Shows" will be held at Richs/Houston.

"The entire reason LUEY weekend exists, other than to keep the party going after Mardi Gras, is to showcase the city of Houston and specifically the leather/Levi scene," Kenyon said. "HCC holds fundraisers throughout the year to raise money to help in paying for the cost of the festive weekend."

He added, "Bringing in over 1,000 people annually does a lot of good for the image of Houston and gives members of other clubs a chance to taste the good gay life in Houston."

# out in houston

(Photos by Dalton DeHart)



Brad Roach (second from right), celebrated his second 29th birthday with (from left) Steven Winett, Kyle Pastrano and Julio Montano.



Members of the Montrose Soccer Club met recently to plot strategy for the upcoming season.



Newly crowned King Olympus Richard Watson (left) and Queen Olympus Floyd Martinez (right) took their bows along with Ball Captain Sands Stiefer at the Krewe of Olympus Mardi Gras Bali at the George R. Brown Convention Center.



Miss Kofi (left), presents a check for \$6,000 raised at South Beach for the Bush-Clinton Tsunami Relief Fund to Jim "Mattress Mac" McIngvale during a recent celebration at the club.



During a Houston visit, Matt Foreman (second from right), executive director of the National Gay and Lesbian Task Force, talked with (from left) Mayor Bill White's Deputy Chief of Staff Richard Lapin, Houston City Controller Annise Parker and city council candidate and Task Force board member Sue Lovell.

## APPOINTMENTS



WWW.PRIDEHOUSTON.ORG

### SATURDAY FEB. 5

Voting for Pride Houston grand marshals is scheduled from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. today and concludes during the same hours on Saturday, Feb. 19 at the Pride Office at 1415 California, Suite 110. Voters will provide identification such as a drivers license or utility bill. Winners will be announced on March 4.

Sippora Gallery travels back to the untamed west for an exhibit titled "Rawhide," that opens with a reception from 6-9 p.m. at the gallery, 234 West Gray. The exhibit features works by Houston artists Earl Staley, Larry Carwford, Holly Denslow, Jacqueline Riley, Kermit Eisenhut, David Dubois, Mala, Joseph Tidwell, Christopher Turnbow, New York Artist Oudi Aaroni; and Santa Fe artist Carolyn Mills. Gallery hours are 11 a.m. to 6 p.m. Tuesday-Friday and 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. Saturday. 713-520-1085 or www.sippora.com.



### WEDNESDAY FEB. 9

The Greater Houston GLBT Chamber of Commerce will host its third annual "Honoring Our Allies" luncheon at 11:30 a.m. at the Double Tree Hotel Downtown, Allan Center, 400 Dallas Street. The keynote speaker Robin Brand, Vice President of Campaigns and Elections at The Gay and Lesbian Victory Fund, will talk about 2005 candidates for office. The luncheon will honor Houston City Council member Ada Edwards for her work on behalf of gays and lesbians and Marsha Carlton for her lifetime of work for causes that are near and dear to gays and lesbians. Reservations are due by Saturday. Cost is \$35 with a reservation and \$40 without. 713-523-7576 or www.ghlcc.org.



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# Forum

HOUSTON VOICE

FEBRUARY 4, 2005

PAGE 10

## editorial

# Conservatives' surreal zeal

From outing *SpongeBob SquarePants* to attacking Darwinian science, the religious right is on a major roll.

By KEVIN NAFF



FOR A DOSE OF THE "Surreal Life," Americans needn't tune into the VH1 reality show of the same name. They need only pick up their daily newspaper and read up on the latest

exploits of the shameless Christian right. Surreal is the word for their behavior of late. Just this week, we saw the crazy Christians "out" *SpongeBob SquarePants* and assail a cartoon video intended to teach tolerance of diversity to school kids.

A visit to family.org, the Web site of rabidly anti-gay Christian group Focus on the Family, reveals the banner headline "Issues of Concern: January 2005." The lead item pertains to that flaming menace *SpongeBob*.

And *SpongeBob* isn't the only cartoon character to draw conservative fire.

President Bush's new Secretary of Education Margaret Spellings this week hinted at funding cuts for PBS because an episode of the kids' cartoon show "Postcards From Buster" depicted the cuddly rabbit encountering a lesbian couple in Vermont.

In a letter to PBS honchos, Spellings wrote, "Congress' and the Department's purpose in funding this programming certainly was not to introduce this kind of subject matter to children, particularly through the powerful and intimate medium of television."

Spellings' attack on PBS came on her second day on the job. Bert, Ernie and Tinky Winky must be quaking in their closets.

## i CORRECTION

An editorial by Chris Crain in the Jan. 7 issue of the *Voice* ("Don't settle like Sontag") indicated that gay activists had uncovered a 1995 essay by Susan Sontag in the *New Yorker* in which she called her relationship with photographer Annie Leibovitz "an open secret." Activist Ann Northrup, among others, did make such a claim, but no such essay exists.

THE VOICE REGRETS THE ERROR.

MEANWHILE, AFTER PRESIDENT Bush indicated in a *Washington Post* interview that he was unlikely to push for a constitutional amendment banning gay marriage because of Senate opposition, a group of social conservatives sent a letter to Karl Rove, demanding the White House appoint a "top level official" to coordinate opposition to gay marriage.

Note that these thoughtful, patriotic and religious Americans see banning gay unions as the paramount issue at a time when the United States is fighting in two wars (and, apparently, planning for a third in Iran). Surreal indeed.

Also this week, Bush welcomed the Congressional Black Caucus to the White House for a rare visit. Only 11 percent of black voters backed the president in the 2004 election, according to exit polls, a slight increase from 9 percent in 2000.

During the campaign, Republican strategists attempted to make inroads in the solidly Democratic demographic by enlisting black pastors in the fight against gay marriage. The cynical appeal failed to deliver big votes, but Bush and Rove aren't giving up.

Finally this week, the editorial pages of the *New York Times* and *Washington Post* were forced to weigh in on the timely and pressing issue of creationism. With Focus on the Family's James Dobson playing the role of William Jennings Bryan — who headed the prosecution of science teacher John Scopes — a small army of social conservatives has infiltrated school boards in certain communities around the country and, 80 years after the infamous Scopes "Monkey Trial," managed to bring creationism back to the national dialogue.

There are a few similarities between 1925 and 2005 to help explain this seemingly bizarre turn of events. In the early 1920s, religious, small-town Americans turned to literal interpretations of the Bible for solace in the face of a rapidly changing society.

Exciting new inventions, an increase in personal wealth and the risqué Charleston dance craze were taking American culture in bold and modern

directions. The brash flappers of the era were to 1925 what Janet Jackson's exposed breast is to 2005.

In the book "Center of the Storm," a Scopes memoir, Scopes is quoted as saying, "In rural areas, particularly in the South and Midwest, Americans turned to their faith for comfort and stability." That sentence could have been written to describe our post-9/11 world, in which President Bush infuses his speeches with religious references and lawmakers routinely invoke the Bible in their zeal to ban gay marriage.

The country was divided then as now between the rural religious "red" states and the urban progressive "blue" states. Back then, the red staters feared secularism and a decline in moral values. Today, red staters fear, among other things, terrorist attacks on their Wal-Marts and "moral issues" voters are credited with putting Bush back in the White House.

Science eventually won out, despite Scopes being found guilty of violating the Butler Act, which outlawed the teaching of evolution in Tennessee. The Butler Act survived for another 40 years after the infamous trial that brought worldwide attention to America's identity crisis.

The modern day self-appointed keepers of the moral flame haven't given up on creationism, though now they call it "intelligent design," a bogus theory that lacks a single shred of scientific support. Backers of intelligent design point to gaps in Darwin's theory of evolution and claim that the formation of intelligent life can only be explained by the intervention of a higher being.

Dobson, Bush and their crowd believe that higher being to be a bearded white man sitting on a cloud, guiding the world's creation. If only someone would argue that the higher being was an alien from a distant, scientifically advanced planet, maybe we could find some common ground with the "intelligent design" mob.

Perhaps the anti-Darwin trend shouldn't come as a surprise, given that 67 percent of Bush voters don't believe in evolution, according to a CBS poll.

The push to teach American school children intelligent design — in science classes, no less — points to a larger problem of the disproportionate influence conservative Christians hold over the Bush administration. Rove's obsession with courting the votes of rural religious red-staters last November is leading to some unexpected, and surreal, consequences.

The Dobson crowd clearly believes they are responsible for Bush's re-election. They want payback and the defeat of Darwinian science is only third on their list. Overturning *Roe vs. Wade* is second. And banning same-sex marriage is priority No. 1.

@ Kevin Naff is managing editor of the *Washington Blade*, a publication affiliated with this one and can be reached at knaff@washblade.com.



## viewpoint MICHAEL ALVEAR



A simple on-air mistake on NBC's 'Today Show' reveals that nothing is as emasculating as being called gay.

## Learning from 'Curry's scurry'

HOMOPHOBIA CAN BE A GIANT boulder threatening your life or a pebble in your shoe disrupting your comfort.

While there are boulders coming at us — bashings, proposed amendments to the U.S. Constitution — it's the pebbles that actually reveal how ingrained homophobia really is.

On Jan. 11, NBC's "Today Show" got some gravel in its sneakers it couldn't shake off. It all started innocently enough.

Katie Couric plugged an upcoming segment about a book whose subject was a "famous president with an 'alternative lifestyle.'"

She was referring to C. A. Tripp's controversial book, "The Intimate World of Abraham Lincoln," which many mainstream historians believe proves the 16th president of the U.S. was gay.

After a number of teasers that the segment was about to start, Al Roker tossed to Ann Curry, who said something to the effect, "That's right Al, a new book claims that President Bill Clinton is gay."

Immediately, a wave of laughter from "The Today Show" cast and crew rose up as Curry's hands rose up to cover her mouth. Even she couldn't believe what she had just said.

My roommate and I laughed at the

impromptu foible. You can't get much funnier than a serious journalist calling the biggest womanizer who ever occupied the White House "gay".

In some ways it was the kind of TV magic you wished happened more often. It was innocent, it was funny, it was spontaneous.

But it also became subtly homophobic, as Curry, trying to regain her poise amidst the on-set laughter, apologized to Clinton (and the audience) for the mistake.

CALL IT THE "CURRY SCURRY," A hurried, agitated attempt to correct an innocent mistake and winding up creating an even bigger one. See, the tone of her apology wasn't just about correcting an inaccuracy, but for insulting President Clinton.

And that's when my roommate and I suddenly felt the pebbles in our shoes. "What's she apologizing for?" my roommate asked, as both our smiles vanished. "For 'smearing' Bill Clinton with the accusation of homosexuality?"

Curry could have simply said, "Oops, I meant Lincoln" and skipped the apology. The woman made a factual error but acted as if she made a slanderous allegation.

Would Curry have "insulted" the president if she had mistakenly said a book claimed Clinton was an athlete or a bril-



(AP Photo/Jennifer Graylock)

liant mathematician? No, because other than establishing accuracy, attributing something positive to someone doesn't require an apology.

The subtle "Curry Scurry" revealed something rather obvious: Nothing can be as emasculating as being called gay.

AT FIRST, I THOUGHT CURRY OWED US an apology for her apology. But then I came to the realization that Curry was only stating the obvious.

There is no greater shame in this society than to be gay. Or just as awful, to be called gay. And in that sense, Curry slandered the president and owed him an apology.

"Accusing" people of being gay is one of the quickest ways of getting them thrown out of their house, their church, or their job.

Ask any woman in the armed forces what would happen if Ann Curry mistakenly "outed" her. Ask any man if he'd be ex-communicated from his church if an

anchorwoman mistakenly said he was gay. Ask any teen in a phys-ed class what would happen if a popular journalist told the world he loved boys.

There was an air of Seinfeldian absurdity to Curry's apology. In his sitcom, whenever Seinfeld referenced gay men he always said, "Not that there's anything wrong with that!" It was a funny line that simultaneously covered and revealed his deep discomfort with homosexuality.

The "Curry Scurry" did just that. In the live, real-time panic to correct her mistake she simultaneously covered and revealed America's uneasiness with its gay sons and daughters.

In a just world, Curry would apologize for having to apologize.

@ Michael Alvear is the author of 'Alexander The Fabulous: The Man Who Brought the World to Its Knees.' He can be reached at [mikealvear@mac.com](mailto:mikealvear@mac.com).

## THE Q

Is it fair to assign sexual orientation to cartoon characters like Sponge Bob and Tinky Winky, the lavender Teletubbie?



Sure. We assign gender to everyone and everything. Why not have some fun, since the entire concept is silly

DEB MURPHY, 49  
Galveston  
Youth Services Worker/HATCH



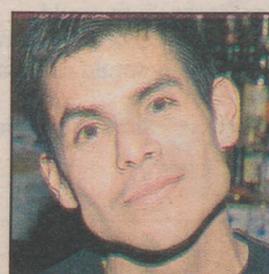
Yes.

JEREL MC NEIL, 51  
Houston  
Claims Supervisor



I think it's more a habit that adults do—if it's fair or not. Unless we see their wee-wees, we don't know if they're boy or girl. It's not fair to put anyone or anything in a category without all the information.

SANDY WARMAN, 34  
Galveston  
Lesbian Housewife/Pride  
Volunteer Coordinator



Of course. Cartoon characters are representative of our alter egos, so it would only make sense to have something for everyone.

NATHAN ADAM, 32  
Houston  
Marketing



No, I don't think it's fair to assign sexual orientation to cartoon characters. After all, they are only cartoons. This is an issue that should be taken seriously and not in a joking manner.

LLOYD VELA, 36  
Houston  
Loan Officer

Sound off about what's happening in your world at [www.houstonvoice.com/soundoff](http://www.houstonvoice.com/soundoff).

Interviews and photos by Dalton DeHart



**Mug for the camera**  
A celebrity photographer's most recent, headline-grabbing pic is his own police mug shot.  
Page 18

## from Miss America to AIDS activist

ACTRESS KATE SHINDLE WANTS THE WORLD TO KNOW THAT WHEN ABSTINENCE DOESN'T WORK, SAFE SEX DOES.

By DON MAINES

**d**

OLLAR SIGNS" IS WHAT ACTRESS AND AIDS activist Kate Shindle remembers thinking when she visited Houston her first time, during her year of service as Miss America 1998.

"I saw an awful lot of money, but I didn't think it was being used to

do the things that were not being done to stop the epidemic, especially in terms of education about HIV," she said Wednesday.

In town again, this time playing the Marilyn Monroe-like character, Maggie, in the Alley Theatre's production of Arthur Miller's "After the Fall," Shindle recalled how, while helping local volunteers stock shelves at Stone Soup Kitchen in 1998, she blamed conservative political, behavioral and philosophical forces for failing people with HIV/AIDS.

A class during her freshman year at Northwestern University in Evanston, Ill. triggered Shindle's activism, already fueled by the diagnosis of HIV among several of her friends and members of her family.

"I took a class that required us to volunteer for 10 hours and write a paper about it," she explained. "I took the train to Chicago and did mail-outs and answered the phone (at a People With AIDS service center),

busy work that any college kid off the street could do. Ten hours (of volunteering) has turned into eight years now."

Shindle's crusade for HIV/AIDS awareness stuck to the no-nonsense approach begun by Miss America 1993, Leanza Cornett, who scandalized school administrators, especially in southern states, by speaking to students about condoms.

When a smart-aleck in the audience would ask either Shindle or

Cornett if they practiced safer sex, both would answer that it wasn't any of their business if they even had sex, but if they did, they definitely would use condoms.

"I had never had sex with anyone," Shindle revealed to the Houston Voice.

### **i** MORE INFO

'After the Fall'  
Through Sunday  
Alley Theatre  
615 Texas Ave.  
713-228-8421  
www.alleytheatre.org



Then: Kate Shindle was crowned Miss American in 1998 by Tara Holland. Now: Former Miss America Kate Shindle said she has worked to make Maggie 'her own animal' in Arthur Miller's 'After the Fall' at the Alley Theatre.

"That is what was so crazy, that I was accused of promoting teen sex, but life is what it is," she said, a sentiment repeats often.

"I definitely believe that abstinence is the way to go, but I knew a lot of young people were doing it," she said. "If one program worked for every kid, I would be the first person to want kids to postpone sex, but I knew from anecdotal experience that wouldn't work, and real-hard statistics show fewer teen pregnancies and STDs (sexually transmitted diseases) when people practice responsible, safer sex."

At 21, Shindle passed the Miss America crown to her successor, Nicole Johnson, and returned to Northwestern University for her senior year.

ARMED WITH A THEATER DEGREE, SHE HIT NEW York City the following year, where a couple of chance occurrences led to her Broadway debut as Lucy in "Jekyll & Hyde," which had had its world premiere at the Alley.

Last June, the Alley's artistic director, Gregory Boyd, met Shindle when he went to New York to direct her in a "Jekyll & Hyde in Concert" workshop.

He liked what he saw and asked her to consider making her Alley debut as Maggie. Director and actress agreed that Marilyn Monroe was "unmistakably the genesis of the character," but they worked hard "to

make Maggie her own animal," said Shindle.

The play closes Sunday, after which Shindle will return to New York, pick up her two kittens and fly with them to San Diego to rehearse a new musical.

"I know what I am doing until April 25," she explained. "Then I have two offers for the summer. A lot is going on, and I am very happy about that right now."

HIV/AIDS awareness also remains atop her agenda, along with another goal, to influence the future of the Miss America Organization, which has struggled through "four or five" CEOs in the past few years and suffered through a series of mishaps, including breaking off its relationship with ABC-TV.

Shindle and a number of former Miss Americas "have all gotten together this year to try to turn the pageant ship around," she said. "It's a really cool group of women, but it's tough to tell what is going to happen. No doubt it is a question of leadership. It's broken at the top, but I don't know that I know how to fix it."

However, she said assuredly, "The worst thing that could happen would be to consider it just a telecast. Trying to make a great TV show is going about it backwards. The Miss America program stands for giving young women an opportunity to inspire people. A few pageants and you can go on to make a very significant difference in a year of service."

**GAY CRUISING:** Reality TV producers are casting on Pacific this weekend for a new cruise show . Page 15

**BEYOND THE BELT:** Great Pan-Asian cuisine can be found outside Montrose at Pang Tai's. Page 16



The word on HIV:

Ask your doctor how REYATAZ, in HIV combination therapy, can help you

**fight HIV your way.**

*Individual results may vary.*

**INDICATION:** Reyataz (atazanavir sulfate) is a prescription medicine used in combination with other medicines to treat people who are infected with the human immunodeficiency virus (HIV). Reyataz has been studied in 48-week trials in both patients who have taken or have never taken anti-HIV medicines.

Reyataz does not cure HIV or help prevent passing HIV to others.

**IMPORTANT SAFETY INFORMATION:**

**Do not take Reyataz if you are taking the following medicines:** ergot medicines, Versed<sup>®</sup>, Halcion<sup>®</sup>, Orap<sup>®</sup>, Propulsid<sup>®</sup>, Camptosar<sup>®</sup>, Crixivan<sup>®</sup>, Mevacor<sup>®</sup>, Zocor<sup>®</sup>, rifampin, St. John's wort, AcipHex<sup>®</sup>, Nexium<sup>®</sup>, Prevacid<sup>®</sup>, Prilosec<sup>®</sup> or Protonix<sup>®</sup>. Do not use Viagra<sup>®</sup>, Levitra<sup>®</sup>, Cialis<sup>®</sup>, or Vfend<sup>®</sup> while you are taking Reyataz without first speaking with your healthcare provider. **This list of medicines is not complete. Discuss all prescription and non-prescription medicines, vitamin and herbal supplements, or other health preparations you are taking or plan to take with your healthcare provider.**

Tell your healthcare provider right away if you have any side effects or conditions, including the following:

- **A change in the way your heart beats** may occur and could be a symptom of a heart problem.
- **Diabetes and high blood sugar** may occur in patients taking protease inhibitor medicines like Reyataz.
- **Yellowing of the skin and/or eyes** may occur due to increases in bilirubin levels in the blood (bilirubin is made by the liver).
- **Rash** (redness and itching) sometimes occurs in patients taking Reyataz, most often in the first few weeks after the medicine is started, and usually goes away within two weeks with no change in treatment.
- **If you have liver disease**, including hepatitis B or C, your liver disease may get worse when you take anti-HIV medicines like Reyataz.
- **Some patients with hemophilia** have increased bleeding problems with protease inhibitor medicines like Reyataz.

**Changes in body fat** have been seen in some patients taking anti-HIV medicines. The cause and long-term effects are not known at this time.

**Common side effects** of Reyataz taken with other anti-HIV medicines include: nausea, headache, stomach pain, vomiting, diarrhea, depression, fever, dizziness, trouble sleeping, numbness, and tingling or burning of hands or feet.

You should take Reyataz once daily with food (a meal or snack). You should take Reyataz and your other anti-HIV medicines exactly as instructed by your healthcare provider.

Please see important information about REYATAZ on the next page.

**Once Daily REYATAZ** is a protease inhibitor (PI) that is taken in HIV combination therapy.

- ◆ Can help raise your T-cells
- ◆ Can help lower your viral load to undetectable\*
- ◆ Low chance of diarrhea (shown in clinical trials)<sup>†</sup>
- ◆ Two pills taken once-a-day (with a snack or meal)<sup>‡</sup>

\*Undetectable is defined as a viral load of less than 400 or 50 copies/mL (depending on the test used).

<sup>†</sup>REYATAZ in combination therapy had a 1-3% rate of moderate-to-severe diarrhea.

<sup>‡</sup>People who have taken anti-HIV medicines before usually take REYATAZ with ritonavir once daily as part of their HIV combination therapy.

You and your doctor can **fight HIV your way.**

**REYATAZ**<sup>®</sup>  
(atazanavir sulfate) 150 mg/200 mg capsules

## PATIENT INFORMATION

Rx ONLY

# REYATAZ® (RAY-ah-taz)

(generic name = atazanavir sulfate) Capsules

**ALERT: Find out about medicines that should NOT be taken with REYATAZ.** Read the section "What important information should I know about taking REYATAZ with other medicines?"

Read the Patient Information that comes with REYATAZ before you start using it and each time you get a refill. There may be new information. This leaflet provides a summary about REYATAZ and does not include everything there is to know about your medicine. This information does not take the place of talking with your healthcare provider about your medical condition or treatment.

### What is REYATAZ?

REYATAZ is a prescription medicine used with other anti-HIV medicines to treat people who are infected with the human immunodeficiency virus (HIV). HIV is the virus that causes acquired immune deficiency syndrome (AIDS). REYATAZ is a type of anti-HIV medicine called a protease inhibitor. HIV infection destroys CD4+ (T) cells, which are important to the immune system. The immune system helps fight infection. After a large number of T cells are destroyed, AIDS develops. REYATAZ helps to block HIV protease, an enzyme that is needed for the HIV virus to multiply. REYATAZ may lower the amount of HIV in your blood, help your body keep its supply of CD4+ (T) cells, and reduce the risk of death and illness associated with HIV.

### Does REYATAZ cure HIV or AIDS?

REYATAZ does not cure HIV infection or AIDS. At present there is no cure for HIV infection. People taking REYATAZ may still get opportunistic infections or other conditions that happen with HIV infection. Opportunistic infections are infections that develop because the immune system is weak. Some of these conditions are pneumonia, herpes virus infections, and *Mycobacterium avium* complex (MAC) infections. **It is very important that you see your healthcare provider regularly while taking REYATAZ.**

REYATAZ does not lower your chance of passing HIV to other people through sexual contact, sharing needles, or being exposed to your blood. For your health and the health of others, it is important to always practice safer sex by using a latex or polyurethane condom or other barrier to lower the chance of sexual contact with semen, vaginal secretions, or blood. Never use or share dirty needles.

### Who should not take REYATAZ?

#### Do not take REYATAZ if you:

- **are taking certain medicines.** (See "What important information should I know about taking REYATAZ with other medicines?") Serious life-threatening side effects or death may happen. Before you take REYATAZ, tell your healthcare provider about all medicines you are taking or planning to take. These include other prescription and nonprescription medicines, vitamins, and herbal supplements.
- **are allergic to REYATAZ or to any of its ingredients.** The active ingredient is atazanavir sulfate. See the end of this leaflet for a complete list of ingredients in REYATAZ. Tell your healthcare provider if you think you have had an allergic reaction to any of these ingredients.

### What should I tell my healthcare provider before I take REYATAZ?

#### Tell your healthcare provider:

- **If you are pregnant or planning to become pregnant.** It is not known if REYATAZ can harm your unborn baby. Pregnant women have experienced serious side effects when taking REYATAZ with other HIV medicines called nucleoside analogues. You and your healthcare provider will need to decide if REYATAZ is right for you. If you use REYATAZ while you are pregnant, talk to your healthcare provider about the Antiretroviral Pregnancy Registry.
- **If you are breast-feeding.** You should not breast-feed if you are HIV-positive because of the chance of passing HIV to your baby. Also, it is not known if REYATAZ can pass into your breast milk and if it can harm your baby. If you are a woman who has or will have a baby, talk with your healthcare provider about the best way to feed your baby.
- **If you have liver problems or are infected with the hepatitis B or C virus.** See "What are the possible side effects of REYATAZ?"
- **If you have diabetes.** See "What are the possible side effects of REYATAZ?"
- **If you have hemophilia.** See "What are the possible side effects of REYATAZ?"
- **About all the medicines you take,** including prescription and nonprescription medicines, vitamins, and herbal supplements. Keep a list of your medicines with you to show your healthcare provider. For more information, see "What important information should I know about taking REYATAZ with other medicines?" and "Who should not take REYATAZ?" Some medicines can cause serious side effects if taken with REYATAZ.

### How should I take REYATAZ?

- **Take REYATAZ once every day exactly as instructed by your healthcare provider.** Your healthcare provider will prescribe the amount of REYATAZ that is right for you.
  - For adults who have never taken anti-HIV medicines before, the usual dose is 400 mg (two 200-mg capsules) once daily taken with food.
  - For adults who have taken anti-HIV medicines in the past, the usual dose is 300 mg (two 150-mg capsules) plus 100 mg of NORVIR® (ritonavir) once daily taken with food.

Your dose will depend on your liver function and on the other anti-HIV medicines that you are taking. REYATAZ is always used with other anti-HIV medicines. If you are taking REYATAZ with SUSTIVA® (efavirenz) or with VIREAD® (tenofovir disoproxil fumarate), you should also be taking NORVIR® (ritonavir).

- **Always take REYATAZ with food** (a meal or snack) to help it work better. Swallow the capsules whole.
- **Do not open the capsules.** Take REYATAZ at the same time each day.
- **If you are taking antacids or VIDEX® (didanosine) Chewable/Dispersible Buffered Tablets,** take REYATAZ 2 hours before or 1 hour after these medicines.
- **Do not change your dose or stop taking REYATAZ without first talking with your healthcare provider.** It is important to stay under a healthcare provider's care while taking REYATAZ.
- **When your supply of REYATAZ starts to run low,** get more from your healthcare provider or pharmacy. It is important not to run out of REYATAZ. The amount of HIV in your blood may increase if the medicine is stopped for even a short time.
- **If you miss a dose of REYATAZ,** take it as soon as possible and then take your next scheduled dose at its regular time. If, however, it is within 6 hours of your next dose, do not take the missed dose. Wait and take the next dose at the regular time. Do not double the next dose. **It is important that you do not miss any doses of REYATAZ or your other anti-HIV medicines.**
- **If you take more than the prescribed dose of REYATAZ,** call your healthcare provider or poison control center right away.

### Can children take REYATAZ?

REYATAZ has not been fully studied in children under 16 years of age. REYATAZ should not be used in babies under the age of 3 months.

### What are the possible side effects of REYATAZ?

The following list of side effects is not complete. Report any new or continuing symptoms to your healthcare provider. If you have questions about side effects, ask your healthcare provider. Your healthcare provider may be able to help you manage these side effects.

#### The following side effects have been reported with REYATAZ:

- **rash** (redness and itching) sometimes occurs in patients taking REYATAZ, most often in the first few weeks after the medicine is started. Rashes usually go away within 2 weeks with no change in treatment. Tell your healthcare provider if rash occurs.
- **yellowing of the skin or eyes.** These effects may be due to increases in bilirubin levels in the blood (bilirubin is made by the liver). Call your healthcare provider if your skin or the white part of your eyes turn yellow. Although these effects may not be damaging to your liver, skin, or eyes, it is important to tell your healthcare provider promptly if they occur.
- **a change in the way your heart beats (heart rhythm change).** Call your healthcare provider right away if you get dizzy or lightheaded. These could be symptoms of a heart problem.
- **diabetes and high blood sugar (hyperglycemia)** sometimes happen in patients taking protease inhibitor medicines like REYATAZ. Some patients had diabetes before taking protease inhibitors while others did not. Some patients may need changes in their diabetes medicine.
- **if you have liver disease** including hepatitis B or C, your liver disease may get worse when you take anti-HIV medicines like REYATAZ.

- **some patients with hemophilia** have increased bleeding problems with protease inhibitors like REYATAZ.
- **changes in body fat.** These changes may include an increased amount of fat in the upper back and neck ("buffalo hump"), breast, and around the trunk. Loss of fat from the legs, arms, and face may also happen. The cause and long-term health effects of these conditions are not known at this time.

Other common side effects of REYATAZ taken with other anti-HIV medicines include nausea; headache; stomach pain; vomiting; diarrhea; depression; fever; dizziness; trouble sleeping; numbness, tingling, or burning of hands or feet; and muscle pain.

### What important information should I know about taking REYATAZ with other medicines?

**Do not take REYATAZ if you take the following medicines (not all brands may be listed; tell your healthcare provider about all the medicines you take). REYATAZ may cause serious, life-threatening side effects or death when used with these medicines.**

- Ergot medicines: dihydroergotamine, ergonovine, ergotamine, and methylergonovine such as CAFERGOT®, MIGRANAL®, D.H.E. 45®, ergotrate maleate, METHERGINE®, and others (used for migraine headaches).
- HALCION® (triazolam, used for insomnia).
- VERSED® (midazolam, used for sedation).
- ORAP® (pimozide, used for Tourette's disorder).
- PROPULSID® (cisapride, used for certain stomach problems).

### Do not take the following medicines with REYATAZ because of possible serious side effects:

- CAMPTOSAR® (irinotecan, used for cancer).
- CRIVIVAN® (indinavir, used for HIV infection). Both REYATAZ and CRIVIVAN sometimes cause increased levels of bilirubin in the blood.
- Cholesterol-lowering medicines MEVACOR® (lovastatin) or ZOCOR® (simvastatin).

**Do not take the following medicines with REYATAZ because they may lower the amount of REYATAZ in your blood.** This may lead to an increased HIV viral load. Resistance to REYATAZ or cross-resistance to other HIV medicines may develop:

- Rifampin (also known as RIMACTANE®, RIFADIN®, RIFATER®, or RIFAMATE®, used for tuberculosis).
- St. John's wort (*Hypericum perforatum*), an herbal product sold as a dietary supplement, or products containing St. John's wort.
- "Proton-pump inhibitors" used for indigestion, heartburn, or ulcers such as AcipHex® (rabeprazole), NEXIUM® (esomeprazole), PREVACID® (lansoprazole), PRILOSEC® (omeprazole), or PROTONIX® (pantoprazole).

### Do not take the following medicines if you are taking REYATAZ and NORVIR® together:

- VFEND® (voriconazole).

### The following medicines may require your healthcare provider to monitor your therapy more closely:

- CIALIS® (tadalafil), LEVITRA® (vardenafil), or VIAGRA® (sildenafil). REYATAZ may increase the chances of serious side effects that can happen with CIALIS, LEVITRA, or VIAGRA. Do not use CIALIS, LEVITRA, or VIAGRA while you are taking REYATAZ unless your healthcare provider tells you it is okay.
- LIPTOR® (atorvastatin). There is an increased chance of serious side effects if you take REYATAZ with this cholesterol-lowering medicine.
- Medicines for abnormal heart rhythm: CORDARONE® (amiodarone), lidocaine, quinidine (also known as CARDIOQUIN®, QUINIDEX®, and others).
- VASCOR® (bedridil, used for chest pain).
- COUMADIN® (warfarin).
- Tricyclic antidepressants such as ELAVIL® (amitriptyline), NORPRAMIN® (desipramine), SINEQUAN® (doxepin), SURMONTIL® (trimipramine), TOFRANIL® (imipramine), or VIVACTIL® (protriptyline).
- Medicines to prevent organ transplant rejection: SANDIMMUNE® or NEORAL® (cyclosporine), RAPAMUNE® (sirolimus), or PROGRAF® (tacrolimus).

### The following medicines may require a change in the dose or dose schedule of either REYATAZ or the other medicine:

- FORTOVASE®, INVIRASE® (saquinavir).
- NORVIR® (ritonavir).
- SUSTIVA® (efavirenz).
- VIDEX® (didanosine) or antacids.
- VIREAD® (tenofovir disoproxil fumarate).
- MYCOBUTIN® (rifabutin).
- Calcium channel blockers such as CARDIZEM® or TIAZAC® (diltiazem), COVERA-HS® or ISOPTIN SR® (verapamil) and others.
- BIAXIN® (clarithromycin).
- Medicines for indigestion, heartburn, or ulcers such as AXID® (nizatidine), PEPCID AC® (famotidine), TAGAMET® (cimetidine), or ZANTAC® (ranitidine).

**Women who use birth control pills or "the patch" should choose a different kind of contraception.** REYATAZ may affect the safety and effectiveness of birth control pills or the patch. Talk to your healthcare provider about choosing an effective contraceptive.

### Remember:

1. Know all the medicines you take.
2. Tell your healthcare provider about all the medicines you take.
3. Do not start a new medicine without talking to your healthcare provider.

### How should I store REYATAZ?

- Store REYATAZ (atazanavir sulfate) Capsules at room temperature, 59° to 86° F (15° to 30° C). Do not store this medicine in a damp place such as a bathroom medicine cabinet or near the kitchen sink.
- Keep your medicine in a tightly closed container.
- Throw away REYATAZ when it is outdated or no longer needed by flushing it down the toilet or pouring it down the sink.

### General information about REYATAZ

This medicine was prescribed for your particular condition. Do not use REYATAZ for another condition. Do not give REYATAZ to other people, even if they have the same symptoms you have. It may harm them. **Keep REYATAZ and all medicines out of the reach of children and pets.**

This summary does not include everything there is to know about REYATAZ. Medicines are sometimes prescribed for conditions that are not mentioned in patient information leaflets. Remember, no written summary can replace careful discussion with your healthcare provider. If you would like more information, talk with your healthcare provider or you can call 1-800-426-7644.

### What are the ingredients in REYATAZ?

**Active Ingredient:** atazanavir sulfate

**Inactive Ingredients:** Crospovidone, lactose monohydrate (milk sugar), magnesium stearate, gelatin, FD&C Blue #2, and titanium dioxide.

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Revised July 2004

# television JOHNNY HOOKS



A new reality show gets ready to set sail and is recruiting a gay and lesbian cast this weekend at South Beach in Houston

## Gay reality cruise sails

TEXANS HAVE SEEN THEIR SHARE OF reality show contestants hailing from the Lone Star State. Colby and Brandon from "Survivor" come to mind, and who could forget "American Idol's" Kelly Clarkson?

But Houston also has reasons to cheer. "Project Runway's" Vanessa Riley,

"American Idol's" Kimberly Caldwell, Daniel Hu and Jolanda Jones from "Survivor" and Karamo, seen on the current season of the "Real World, Philadelphia" all call the Bayou City home.

While many people consider the phenomenon of reality programming washed up, the people at Bunim/Murray, the production company behind "The Cruise," hope the prognosticators are wrong.

Bunim/Murray arrives in Houston on Saturday to begin casting for its latest reality show called, "The Cruise." For the first time, the premise is gay centered, and "The Cruise is being created for the LOGO Channel, MTV's much heralded and delayed gay and lesbian cable network.

According to Damon Furberg of Bunim/Murray, "The Cruise" follows the adventures of real people as they take part in a gay-themed vacation cruise. "We are looking for all types of gay men and women, both singles and couples, and their straight friends," Furberg says. "In addition to individuals, we hope to cast groups of people with pre-existing relationships, or a particular "agenda" for going on the cruise."

He lists as examples, "couples trying to rekindle a romance in trouble, couples wishing to have a marriage or commitment ceremony or celebrate an anniversary, couples having their parents 'meet the partner' for the first time, a 'June/December' romance, singles who are newly 'out' and looking to explore the scene for the first time, friends with a secret (or not-so-secret) crush on each other, and remember, your straight friends are also welcome to apply."

He adds with urgency, "However, applicants must be over 18."

Bunim/Murray is not new to the reality show game. In fact, the production company has a successful track record."

In 1991, Jonathan Murray and Mary Ellis Bunim pitched their idea for an "unscripted drama series" to MTV. At that time, "unscripted dramas" were a new and untried formula for cable and especially for network television.

MTV bought the show and the amazing success of Bunim/Murray Productions had

begun. "The Real World" quickly became a part of the pop culture landscape and continues to thrive with its 15th season now airing and its 16th season now in production.

Over the last decade or so, the partners created and executive produced a wide array of hit entertainment programs including "The Real World," "Road Rules," "Real World/Road Rules Challenge," "The Simple Life," "The Real Cancun," "Starting Over," "Making the Band," and "Love Cruise."

Despite the loss of Mary Ellis Bunim to cancer in early 2004, Jonathan Murray continues leading the company to new and unknown frontiers.

While the production company has never exclusively dealt with a gay and or lesbian theme, Furberg says, "Through Real World and its other programs, Bunim/Murray is well-known for portraying gay men and women in a positive light as multi-faceted individuals."

In fact, ever since "Real World San Francisco's" HIV-positive cast member Pedro Zamora swept into living rooms, openly discussing and living his AIDS fight before the cameras, the "Real World" has been a pioneer. Viewers once wondered which cast member would turn out to be gay or lesbian, but that novelty has since worn off.

"The Cruise is scheduled to begin shooting in March with a debut on LOGO set for the summer of 2005.

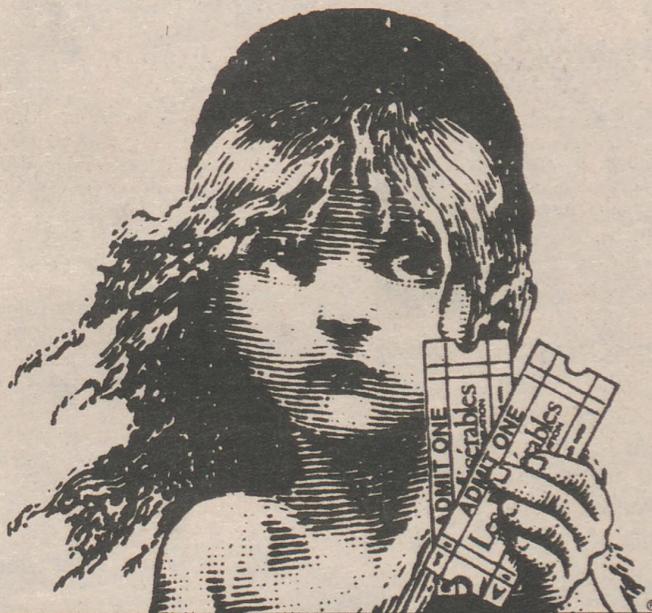
As for the delayed debut of LOGO, Furberg says, "We are delighted to be part of the birth of the first gay and lesbian network. Our shows have had a tremendous following in the gay and lesbian community, so it has long been obvious to us, as a company, that the gay and lesbian community is a tremendously underserved segment of the viewing public. We expect LOGO to be a great success."

Open casting in Houston is scheduled from 11 a.m. to 7 p.m. Saturday at South Beach, 810 Pacific.



The originators of MTV's 'The Real World' are casting in Houston for a reality TV show that takes gays and lesbians on a cruise.

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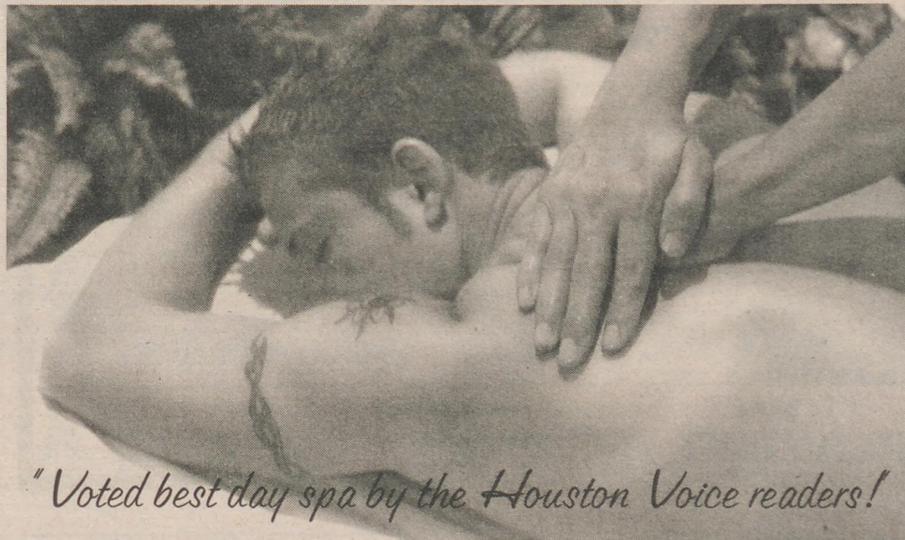
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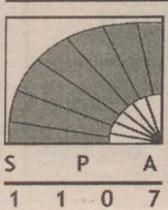
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### MORE INFO

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1-800-997-6907  
www.bunim-murray.com

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## dining J.A. CHAPMAN

Venturing outside Montrose can have its rewards such as turning up Pan-Asian gems like Pang Tai's, with scrumptious miso soup and happy-hour sushi.

# Outside the Beltway

VENTURING OUTSIDE ONE'S USUAL haunts can pay dividends.

It did for me, when I visited Pang Tai's Strifry Bistro, located not just outside the Loop, but outside the Beltway.

With a modern, black and light wood interior and a rectangular serenity pool down the middle of the space, it's both stylish and comfortable. Gauzy silk cloth in shimmering forest tones form upside down umbrellas on the ceiling, while Asian-themed fabrics highlight the booths.

Pang Tai's offers Pan-Asian favorites, Asian fusion dishes, sushi, and its signature dish - a build-it-yourself wok bowl.

The signature bowls start at \$6.95 for vegetarian, and you can add a variety of protein from tofu to chicken to shrimp for an additional cost (\$2 - \$5). Choose noodles or rice, belly up to the long salad bar, or "vegetable corner," and pile your bowl high with everything from bamboo shoots to zucchini. Add a sauce, drop it off at the chef's counter and a few minutes later your waiter will bring it to you, piping hot.

The wok bowls are cooked to perfection, with still-crisp vegetables and tender bite-sized bits of meat. My bowl was so full I couldn't begin to finish it, and the leftovers served as a nice lunch the next day. It's easily one of the best options at Pang Tai's.

But if you're not in the mood for the do-it-yourself wok, there are plenty of other things to try. For a light lunch, try a soup with one of the salads. The hot and sour soup (\$2.25) is spicy and loaded with mushrooms, tofu and other goodies, but never falls into the trap of being too thick, unlike many versions of this classic. The miso soup (\$2.25) is also packed with tofu and seaweed and is a warming start to any meal.

The Asian chicken salad (\$6.95) was a bit of a letdown. Limp green leaf lettuce formed the base, instead of the romaine promised on the menu. The cabbage was a tad bitter, and the plum vinaigrette was unusually oily. All in all it was a bit pale and drab, but tasty nonetheless, with crispy noodles adding an interesting texture.

IF YOU'RE IN A HURRY, try the lunch specials, which vary daily. With fried rice and eggroll, they're a bargain at \$5.95. The green pepper steak was a standout. Tender beef stir-fried with crisp red and green peppers and onions in a black bean sauce was a garlicky delight. The crispy eggroll impressed, as did the non-greasy fried rice.

The ebi tempura (\$4), two shrimp plus asparagus and carrots tempura-style was a pleasant enough starter, although the shrimp were a tad overdone. The sushi and sashimi varied as well. The unagi (eel) sashimi (5 pieces for \$9.75) was excellent and served warm.



Sushi is a specialty at Pang Tai's Strifry Bistro.

ON THE OTHER HAND, WHILE MOST of the fish on the assorted sushi platter (\$9.50) was of high quality, the salmon failed to impress. Sushi happy hour is offered in the afternoon until 6:00 p.m., and late in the evening as well.

The Grand Marnier dessert (\$5.95), which sounded like an alcoholic tres leches, turned out to be mostly white chocolate mousse, with a hint of sponge cake as a crust. It was pleasant, but ultimately failed to impress.

Pang Tai's offers an extensive wine list, with an emphasis on Australian wines. Surprisingly, only one kind of sake is available, served hot or cold (\$3.99). It proved to be disappointingly harsh.

The one real drawback of Pang Tai's is the service, which can vary wildly. At one lunch visit, the service was efficient and polished. At another, the waiter brought me the wrong salad. At dinner, we had the worst service in recent memory.

Still, Pang Tai's is beguiling and inviting. The food is fresh and innovative, the atmosphere is tranquil and it's fun to make your own dish.

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## nitelife JOHNNY HOOKS



Another restaurant down, the diner opens, Elton is coming, a bus goes to Galveston and the cutest guys, uh rides, are at the Auto Show.

# Adios, mi amigo

WELCOME BACK, BACK AGAIN! TO HoVo on the Go-Go. This week we'll give you heads up to some queerific music shows coming to town, check out all the new models, and find a ride with family for Mardi Gras!

THERE SEEMS TO BE A TREND IN the Montrose. Of businesses closing!

We have been reporting for the last month about the recent rash of closings of some local landmarks including **O** and **Café Noche** and the **River Café**. Now comes word that **El Felix** at the corner of Grant and Westheimer has called it quits. Most people I know are either in love with El Felix or in loathe with it. Regardless, it has been serving Mexican food in the same location for 50 years or so. This spot may fall to **Archie Patterson**, who owns **Prive Lounge** (upstairs) next door and is expanding the downstairs, and adding a small nightclub. At least **Montrose Diner** is opening nearby next week!

HOTGG KNOWS NO LIMITS IN bringing you, the best in what to see and to do.

Last weekend we went on a fact-finding mission to ensure that this next spot was a good bet. We started at the beginning, scouring each and every row for the latest models, the hottest lines and each and every special feature. Yes we were at the **Houston Auto Show**, in its final weekend at the Reliant Center, but we were looking at the hot guys, not the cars! Rarely do you see this many men falling all over themselves to see the latest Lotus or the newest Mini. But gay or straight there's something about those wheels. Saturday and Sunday, 10 a.m. till 7 p.m. \$10 gets you in the door, **cash only**. Parking at the Reliant Center will run you five.

THE PEOPLE AT SIPPORA GALLERY just keep rolling out one great show after another. This Saturday they're at it again with **Rawhide!** According to their release "Travel back in time to the untamed Wild West. Where men herded cattle, and there were rustlers, wild Indians, rattlesnakes and plenty of other dangers to deal with along the way. It's Rawhide where the West is fun!" This western themed exhibit features the art of **Earl Staley**, **Larry Crawford**, **Holly Denslow**, **Jacqueline Riley**, **David Dubois**, **Maia**, **Joseph Tidwell**, gay artist and man about town **Kermit Eisenhut**, **Christopher Turnbow**, New York artist **Oudi Aaroni**, and Santa Fe artist **Carolyn Mills**. The opening reception is Saturday, from 6 - 9 p.m. at



Sir Elton is coming to Houston

Sippora, 234 West Gray. 713-520-1085. www.sippora.com

THE EARLY SPRING MUSIC LINEUP for Houston, keeps getting better.

First up **Ani DiFranco**, the radical girl, poet and singer appears at the Verizon Wireless (VW) theater at 8 p.m. today. While her look has softened recently, her music is as confrontational and mesmerizing as ever. Next up is **Duran Duran**, back with the original lineup on a smash world tour. They play the Toyota Center on Saturday, February 20. HotGG met D2 way back in the 1980's when they played the Summit and we had the same hair as **Nick Rhodes!** Other upcoming must-sees include **Jill Scott** on February 23 at the VW, **Elton John** on March 26 at Toyota Center and finally, a new tour for **Erasure**, scheduled for May 10 at the VW.

IF YOU'RE HEADING TO GALVESTON Mardi Gras, why not ride with family?

**John Hubert** wants you all to join him and "Montrose Gem" publisher **Henry McClurg** and a hundred or so of their closest friends. "**The Krewe of the Moons of Uranus**" has chartered a bus to Galveston Mardi Gras for Saturday. **The Ripcord** will open at 10:00 a.m. for a sendoff party. The bus will depart at 11 a.m. and usually returns no later than 9:30 p.m. Tickets are \$40.00, which includes breakfast snacks, lunch and cocktails there and back, not to mention all the fabulous prizes that will be given away on the ride down. Tickets are still available at The Ripcord but are going fast. The Ripcord is located at 715 Fairview (713)521-2792. While in Galveston, why not stop by a HotGG's fave, Third Coast Bar at Ninth and Seawall. News is they're moving soon, so make sure and give them a big Mardi Gras sendoff!

@ If you have any club announcements or events, email them to [jhooks@houstonvoice.com](mailto:jhooks@houstonvoice.com) or call 713-529-8490. See you on the Go-Go!

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**dish** There's a Fine Line Between Telling the Truth and Talking Trash

## Ready for his closeup

David LaChapelle  
arrested at Sundance,  
Ellen plays matchmaker  
and Kylie admits mistakes

When you're a celebrity photographer, you always want your pics to make a splash. Too bad for gay photog **DAVID LACHAPELLE** that his most recent headline-grabbing photo is his mug shot.

LaChapelle was arrested Jan. 22, outside the nightclub Harry O's in Park City, Utah. He was in town for the opening of his first documentary feature, "Rize," at the Sundance Film Festival and was out celebrating the movie's debut when the trouble began.

The Salt Lake Tribune reports that LaChapelle was leaving the club with his friends **PAMELA ANDERSON**, **PARIS HILTON** and choreographer **JOHN BYRNE**. A crowd had gathered in front of the club, and police were trying to keep fans away from Hilton and Anderson, who were being ushered to a waiting car.

But police also kept LaChapelle and Byrne away, who ended up in the crowd, separated from their "dates." As LaChapelle and Byrne continuously tried to reunite with their friends, the police blocked their effort.

"During the exchange, LaChapelle became verbally and physically abusive," Summit County [Utah] Sheriff Dave Edmunds told the Tribune. "My deputy developed enough probable cause to make an arrest."

Both LaChapelle and Byrne spent the night in jail on suspicion of disorderly conduct. They were released the next day and no charges have been filed, but the Summit County Attorney's office is still reviewing the case.

"Neither John or David did anything wrong to warrant arrest and detention," Jim Bradshaw, LaChapelle's lawyer, told the Tribune.

The good news is that "Rize," a documentary about the phenomenon of "krumping," a wild form of hip-hop dancing popular in South Central Los Angeles, was picked up for distribution by Lion's Gate films for almost \$1 million.

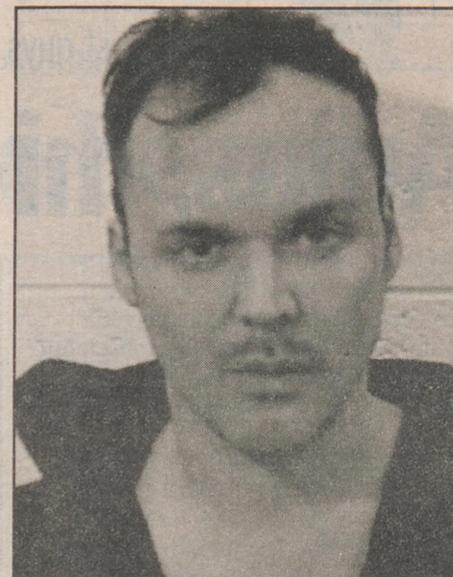
### Matchmaker, matchmaker

Notorious party girl and "American Pie" star **TARA REID** is looking for a different road to love and has enlisted the help of lesbian talk show host **ELLEN DeGENERES**.

Reid, who was on DeGeneres' show earlier this week to promote her universally panned new movie "Alone in the Dark," said, "I want a nice guy, a nice, funny, good sense of humor,



Tara Reid



Gay photographer and filmmaker David LaChapelle was arrested outside of a club during the Sundance Film Festival. (AP photo/Summit County Jail)

cute, obviously, you know, just a good guy."

To help her along, DeGeneres displayed an address where interested men can send a 60-second videotape to get Reid's attention. If you send a tape, you'll at least get an "I [Heart] Tara" T-shirt, guaranteed to be the hot accessory for spring.

Speaking of Ellen (you thought you were going to escape without your weekly "Ellen's new relationship update," didn't you?) she recently got a wedding ring from none other than her new girlfriend, "Arrested Development" star **PORTIA DE ROSSI**.

The New York Post's gossip column Page Six reports that de Rossi, 31, gave DeGeneres a platinum Tiffany wedding band for her 47th birthday last Wednesday.

Could a march down the aisle be far behind?

### Kylie's tragedies

Dish isn't sure how reputable British music and entertainment news Web site [www.ContactMusic.com](http://www.ContactMusic.com) is or where they get their information, but they have certainly had some hot gay scoops over the past few weeks.

Check out this quote from singer **KYLIE MINOGUE** talking about her status as a gay icon.

"Somebody once said to me, 'Gay icons, there's a lot of tragedy in their lives. But you don't really have that,'" Minogue is quoted as saying. "I said, 'I've had a lot of tragic hairdos and outfits. I think that makes up for it.'"

Spoken like a true gay icon.



Kylie Minogue

@ Send comments, suggestions to  
[Dish@houstonvoice.com](mailto:Dish@houstonvoice.com)

## books JOHANNA LUNGLHOFFER



Men and women share their thoughts about having gay sisters and brothers in new book with an encouraging message.

# When siblings speak

IN EDITOR ANDREW R. GOTTLIEB'S latest book, "Side by Side: On Having a Gay Sibling," 18 men and women write about discovering that one or more of their siblings is gay. Almost without exception, the authors express happiness and gratitude that their brothers and sisters came out to them.

Indeed, everything almost always works out in the end, painting what perhaps is an unrealistically optimistic picture.

"A typical, Midwestern, heterosexual male, I thought being gay meant you had to be effeminate, wear leotards, or teach aerobics," confesses Tom Nelson in his essay, "A Lesson Learned," about having a gay brother.

"A tear fell on my pillow that night, the only one I will ever shed for my brother's homosexuality," he adds. "Not that I don't care. I do. But when I imagine Dan fighting the fire hose or those plaid-shirted bigots of discrimination as a fearless leader championing equality, the sadness inevitably stops and becomes admiration."

Gottlieb is a clinical supervisor at the Children's Aid Society-Persons in Need of Supervision (PINS) Diversion Program in New York. He also serves on the "Journal for GLBT Studies" editorial board.

His other books include "Out of the Twilight: Fathers of Gay Men Speak" and "Sons Talk About Their Gay Fathers: Life Curves."

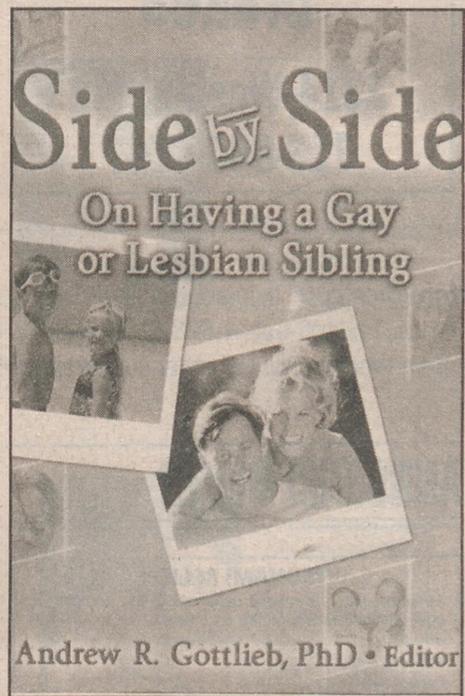
THE FIRST 10 CHAPTERS OF "SIDE BY SIDE" examine what it's like to have a gay brother. The subsequent seven explore the contributors' relationships with their lesbian sisters. The last chapter looks at one man's experience with both.

Most of the writers recall being surprised, even shocked, by their siblings' disclosures. A few, on the contrary, claimed they saw it coming.

Generally speaking, the younger authors reported being more accepting initially than their older counterparts. Religion, not surprisingly, also created its share of rifts.

Those authors who felt angry to begin with, though, didn't stay angry for long; and those who were confused eventually got over it.

For the most part, "Side by Side" is an anthology of happily-ever-afters. There are, of course, a few notable exceptions.



In "Missing Pieces," author Erin Michael Starr becomes close to a gay brother she didn't know she had until early adulthood. As Starr and her brother, John, spend time together, they discover that in addition to their similar eyes, they also have similar taste in men.

"I wished that I had Greg Brady for a brother, someone with whom I could talk and who was supportive of my interests," Starr writes. "One day my wish came true."

Unfortunately, Starr's mother sees things differently. She never reunites with her son, and never learns about his HIV-positive status.

Starr's other siblings share the mother's perspective. Although John is otherwise in very good health, Starr struggles to control her panicked thoughts of his impending death.

Several of the authors in "Side by Side" are gay themselves. They recall worrying that their siblings' coming-out might be more disruptive than their own, or vice versa.

In her essay, "There & Back," for example, Amber Hannah Love recalls feeling pressure to be the straight child her lesbian moms and gay brother had long assumed she was.

"I did not want to come out fully and thus further complicate my family's life," Love writes. "I was the straight, supportive, feminist daughter/sister."

Love's essay, like several others in the book, highlights the psychological burdens of being in the closet and having to deal with bigotry. It's a sober reminder.

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IL TROVATORE: LOS ANGELES OPERA, PHOTO BY KEN HOWARD.  
IDOMENEO: OPERA AUSTRALIA, PHOTO BY KIREN CHANG

## Houston Area HIV Services Ryan White Planning Council CALENDAR OF MEETINGS FOR 2005

January - No meeting

July 14, 2005

February 10, 2005

August 11, 2005

March 10, 2005

September 8, 2005

April 14, 2005

October 13, 2005

May 12, 2005

November 10, 2005

June 9, 2005

December 8, 2005

⌘ Attend a Meeting... ⌘ Apply for Membership... ⌘ Be a Participant...

Meetings are open to the general public and although only Council members are allowed to vote, public comment is always welcome. The Council meets on the 2<sup>nd</sup> Thursday of each month at 11:30 a.m. at our offices located between Westheimer and San Felipe in the Galleria area.

Call to put your name on the list for public comment, to request a calendar or membership application or for more information.

The calendar of all Council & Committee meetings and a wealth of other information is available on our website: [www.rwpc.org](http://www.rwpc.org). Check the calendar regularly for topics of specific interest to you.

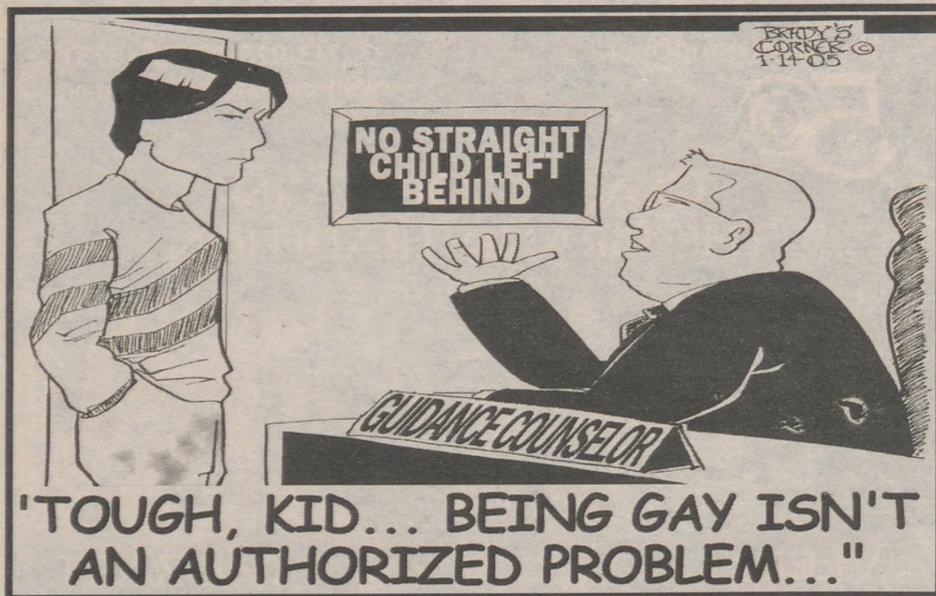
We hope to see you soon!

Houston Area HIV Services Ryan White Planning Council  
2223 West Loop South, Suite 240, Houston, TX 77027  
Phone: 713-572-3724 ⌘ TTY: 713-572-2813 ⌘ Fax: 713-572-3740

### MORE INFO

'Side by Side: On Having a Gay or Lesbian Sibling'  
Edited by Andrew R. Gottlieb, Ph.D.  
Harrington Park Press, February 2005  
\$16.95  
137 pages

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**GLBT COMMUNITY HOUSE** Seeks Aid. AHCH, the last Houston GLBT community house seeks aid. Financial, gift cards & food/toiletry stuffs. No furniture please. Help this non-profit help others! (713) 864-1795

### LOST / FOUND

**SEEKING YEN KIM TRAN!** If any one knows the whereabouts of Yen Kim Tran, please call (915) 252-2724. She needs to sign divorce papers.

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**ON MESSAGE** 8/25 447 ©2004 BY ALISON BECHDEL

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**LOIS!** **WELL, I WAS WONDERING WHAT YOU TWO DID ABOUT SEX NOW THAT THE BABY SLEEPS IN YOUR BED.** **DO YOU MIND?** **NOT AT ALL. CARRY ON. I'M JUST LOOKING FOR A SNACK.** **THEY FROWN ON TERRORISM.**

**GINGER! I DIDN'T HEAR YOU COME IN! UM...THE ARABIC LESSON RAN A LITTLE OVER.** **IT'S NOT WHAT IT LOOKS LIKE, DR. JORDAN. SHE'S JUST COMFORTING ME. I CAME OUT TO MY BOSS AT THE RIGHT-TO-LIFE OFFICE TODAY AND SHE FREAKED ON ME.** **CAME OUT?** **DID WE MENTION THE FAMILY THING?** **HI, SWEETIE! I'M SO HAPPY TO SEE YOU! HOW WAS CAMP? ARE YOU SAD IT'S OVER? DID YOU MISS ME?** **NOT REALLY.** **THEY BELIEVE CHILDREN ARE OUR FUTURE.** **THIS IS MY BOYFRIEND ALEX. HE STARTED TRANSITIONING WHEN HE WAS NINE!** **YO.** **BUT ABOVE ALL, THEY'RE PEOPLE OF FAITH.** **D'YOU REALLY THINK HE CAN WIN?** **IF HE DOESN'T, WE'RE MOVING TO MADAGASCAR.**

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# bitch session



WHY ARE SO MANY OF THE PEOPLE that you call "friend" always concerned about having more than you, trying to move in on your partner, expecting you to listen to their problems or help them out but have no interest in your needs and seem to enjoy it when you are having troubles but offer no help?

IT'S AMAZING HOW RICH TROLLS always want to go after good-looking guys but then say they are not interested in supporting anyone. Well, other than your money, what interest could a good-looking guy have in you? If looks shouldn't matter, then why don't you chase after another rich troll?

SOME OF US ARE SO OBSESSED WITH finding a man that we forget that relationships are hard work and often involve doing things you don't really want to do. The longer you're single, the harder that becomes. Make sure you're mentally

ready for it.

IF LESBIANS PUT THEMSELVES FIRST with LGBT, well it's fair. After all, men are first in everything else.

**BITCH BOY RESPONDS:** We got spirit, yes we do. We go spirit how 'bout you?!

MAYBE IF SEX DISCRIMINATION didn't exist, women would make equal money and wouldn't have to budget. So to the idiot who called lesbians "cheap," are you 12 or a moron?

WE LESBIANS NEED TO STOP BLAMING society for our lack of income. Sisters, plan your education to lead to a lucrative career. So when we're finally making the big bucks, we can hire gay men to scrub our toilets, pick up after our dogs, and hand wash our panties, because unskilled gay men are a dime a dozen.

**BITCH BOY RESPONDS:** We got spirit,

## I'm a second generation queer. My father was a Friend of Dorothy. Why must queers today be Friends of Tina?

yes we do. We go spirit how 'bout you?!

KUDOS TO OUR BLACK GAY BROTHERS and sisters for having the courage to stand up within their own racial community and denounce the lies and intolerance being pushed by black preachers. Keep up the good fight!

ATTENTION ALL BAREBACKERS: MY boyfriend just found out he has HIV. He has been dealing with the infection by going to barebacking parties and hooking with cute men online. Just something to think about.

I'M SO TIRED OF BEING THE NICE guy who gets looked over. I work out for three years, but my genes just won't allow me to get noticed by you. As much as I'd love to be your AF boy, I'm just not. Why do we all have to look like that to be accepted?

PLEASE SPARE HUNG TOPS enormous frustration: If you are an inexperienced bottom, do not respond to dating ads that prominently state that the top has a large organ. You don't know how to handle it, and it is tiresome to watch you try.

JUST BECAUSE YOU ARE OVER 40

doesn't mean you have to wear Old Spice cologne, guys. C'mon, we all don't want to be just like our dads, do we?

"YOU GO GIRL!" WAS AROUND IN THE '70s only it wasn't "strong black women" saying it; it was the puffs in the gay clubs.

WE CAN LIVE WITHOUT STRAIGHT people. We cannot be born without them.

WHY DO SO MANY GAY MEN INSIST that sex be politically correct? What bad things will happen if it isn't? I wish they worried half as much about unsafe sex.

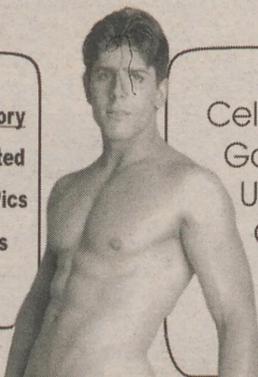
BEAR CLUBS ARE GETTING DESPERATE for membership when some of them look attractive.

BEING A BAR EMPLOYEE DOESN'T entitle you to a big head, and it doesn't make you the "gayer mayor." Appreciate your patrons and you'll get our respect in return.

**Editors' note:** These are real bitches, sent in by real readers, about gay life's little annoyances, and the big ones, too. Got a bitch? Call 1-800-858-8088 or e-mail: [bitch@expressgaynews.com](mailto:bitch@expressgaynews.com)



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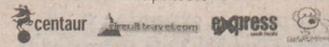
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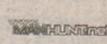
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