

HOUSTON

# VOICE

FEB. 2, 1996  
ISSUE 797

A Weekly Community News Publication



*Positively Fabulous...New York City's AIDS Theater Project performs a rousing musical parody on stigma in the television documentary 'Positive: Life With HIV,' airing in Houston this month. Review, Page 21*

## AIDS drug results called 'milestone' at conference

By DANIEL Q. HANLEY

AP Science Writer

WASHINGTON (AP)—A triple-punch combination of an experimental new AIDS drug and two others already on the market is by far the most potent treatment yet for people infected with the deadly virus, researchers reported Monday.

The therapy does not cure AIDS. At best, it will slow and perhaps stall the disease for long periods. Even this could be a significant advance, since currently

available virus medicines do little to extend AIDS patients' lives.

The treatment involves one of a new class of drugs called protease inhibitors and is still in early stages of human testing. Nevertheless, AIDS researchers who have seen many promising initial results go sour in the past are enthusiastic about the latest findings.

The key to the new combination is indinavir, a still-experimental protease inhibitor developed by Merck & Co., of Whitehouse Station, N.J. to be sold under the brand name Crixivan. It is combined with the standard AIDS medicines AZT and 3TC.

"It's wonderfully exciting. It's a milestone," said Dr. Gerald Friedland of Yale University.

(Continued on Page 11)

## Houston PFLAG coordinating bus trip to Washington

### Families to lobby for ENDA

(HOUSTON)—When a handful of Texas parents with gay and lesbian children started planning a spring lobbying trip, they had no idea how much national interest it would spark.

The Houston chapter of Parents, Families and Friends of Lesbians and Gays (PFLAG) is coordinating "Moms and Dads Go to Washington," a cross country bus trip ending with a day of lobbying in the nation's capitol Tuesday, March 19. The focus of the event is to support the passage of the Employment Non-Discrimination Act (ENDA). The federal bill, introduced last June, is aimed at pro-

tecting gay and lesbian people in most jobs from being fired based on their orientation. Currently, there is no federal law prohibiting job discrimination against lesbians and gay men.

In addition to lobbying representatives, PFLAG has plans for a media breakfast and a candlelight vigil on the steps of the Capitol. "We want to talk to the public, to touch their hearts and call upon their sense of fairness as Americans," said event coordinator Gail Rickey.

The 55-seat bus is scheduled to depart from Houston on March 16, and will travel across seven states, picking up families

bound for Washington. Along the way, at community meetings, press conferences and church luncheons, the group will deliver PFLAG's message to large urban areas and small towns, members said.

To send off the parents with a "bang," a pep rally/kickoff party is scheduled for Friday, March 15, from 7-9:30 p.m. at Christ Church Cathedral, 1117 Texas Avenue, in the Great Hall.

So much excitement has developed over the trip, according to Rickey, that PFLAG chapters in other parts of the country have begun planning similar bus and train trips to D.C. "We have confirmations from across the U.S.—Alaska, Maine, Colorado, Kentucky, Florida, you name it/Families are getting excited about this opportunity."

PFLAG's efforts are being supported by the Human Rights Campaign, the country's largest gay and lesbian political organization. HRC Executive Director Elizabeth Birch says that ENDA is legislation the majority of Americans can agree on. "People should not be fired from their jobs for a reason that has nothing to do with their abilities," said Birch.

Birch added that HRC is excited about working with PFLAG because parents can offer elected officials a unique perspective. Rights for gays and lesbians become family issues.



Aiming-to-be-famous Amos... Interview, Page 14

## Play examines impact of AIDS on Black community

By ANDREW EDMONDSON

Houston Voice/Houston

(Houston)—The Ensemble Theater will take an unflinching look at the impact of AIDS on the African-American community this week.

The Ensemble, the Southwest's leading professional African-American theater, will present the Houston premiere of *Before It Hits Home*, a hard-hitting problem play by the African-American playwright Cheryl West.

*Before It Hits Home* chronicles the experiences of Wendal, a struggling 30-year old bisexual saxophone player who tests HIV-positive. In one particularly riveting scene, the audience watches as Wendal discloses his diagnosis to both his male and female lovers. The balance of the drama examines Wendal's relationship with his family.

Both the play and the playwright arrive with excellent credentials. For her work, West was given the Helen Hayes Award and the prestigious Blackburn Prize, an international literary award given to a woman for an outstanding English language play.

*Before It Hits Home* has been seen in performances at Seattle's Group Theater, at the prestigious Arena Stage in Washington,

D.C., and by the Second Stage company at the New York Shakespeare Festival.

West knows the emotional terrain of her play well. Her last job, before she devoted herself full time to a career as a playwright, was as a post-test counselor for individuals who had been diagnosed HIV positive. She also worked for 15 years in the social services field.

(Continued on Page 16)



Houston's Ensemble Theatre takes a hard look at difficult issues in 'Before It Hits Home'

## Mardi Gras Approaches

The 1996 Mardi Gras season is approaching, with major festivities planned for Houston, Galveston, New Orleans and a host of smaller cities throughout the south.

In Galveston, the 1996 Silk Stocking Ball will be a featured event. It will be held in Moody Gardens Friday, Feb. 16. For more information telephone 409 765-5891 days or 409 737-3122 nights.

The Krewe of Olympus is planning their 26th Annual Mardi Gras Ball Saturday (Feb.3) in the Texas Medical Center Conference Center. This gala event will benefit the Stone Soup Pantry.

Check the Houston Voice next week for more complete Mardi 'Gras reporting.

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## Street Festival poster contest

### Art Notes

(HOUSTON)—The board of directors of the Westheimer Street Festival has announced the third annual spring poster competition. A cash prize of \$250 will be awarded to the artist who wins this year's open competition; the winning poster art will be reproduced both as a poster and T-shirt for the Spring, 1996 Westheimer Street Festival.

The following rules and regulations apply to all entries: (1) There is no entry fee. (2) Entry must be original. (3) Entry is not to exceed 24 inches wide by 24 inches long. (4) Entry must be either framed or shrink-wrapped and be ready to be hung for display; each entry must be camera ready artwork; entries that cannot be hung for display and jurying will not be accepted.

The host for the Westheimer Street Festival Poster Competition is the Hyde Park Gallery, 711 Hyde Park, Houston, 77006. Entry forms may be obtained at the gallery and must accompany each entry when submitted.

Entries must be delivered to the Hyde Park Gallery by Feb. 29, no later than 5:00 p.m. No entry will be accepted after that time.

Entries submitted will be on exhibit from Feb. 29 to March 29 at the Hyde Park Gallery. The Westheimer Street Festival poster committee will jury the entries on the evening of Friday, March 1 and the winner will be announced on Saturday, March 2.

The gallery is open Sunday, Monday and Thursday from noon until 6:00 p.m., and Friday and Saturday from noon until 9:00 p.m. For more information, call Larry Crawford at 526-2744.

## Community Calendar by Carolyn Roberts

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

### Friday, Feb. 2

- \* Borders Book Store Gay/Lesbian Book Club meets at the Espresso Bar at 9634 Westheimer. Call 782-6066.
- \* HIV Art classes at the Art League. Call 523-8817
- \* HATCH meets. Call 942-7002.
- \* 12 step program at Montrose Counseling Center. 6:00 p.m. Call 529-0037.
- \* Aftercare Group Treatment at Montrose Counseling Center. 6:00 p.m. Call 529-0037.
- \* Houston Tennis Club meets at 7:30 p.m. Call 868-5039.
- \* Free Buffet at the Brazos River Bottom. 4:00 p.m.
- \* Art Opening at the Art League of Houston. 6:00 p.m. Call 523-9530.
- \* Houston Professional Men's Association of Houston meets at the Hobbit Hole Cafe. Call 866-4079.
- \* Book Signing at Main Street Books. "For Colored Girls" and "Liliane" by Ntozake Shange. Noon. Call 520-0055.
- \* Book Signing at Main Street Books. "Red Diary" by Howard Jones. 6:00 p.m. Call 522-3555.
- \* Get on the InfoNet demo by Bill Kidd at Borders Book Shop. 7:00 p.m. Call 782-6066.

### Saturday, Feb. 3

- \* Houston Chain Gang Bicycle Club rides. Call 863-1860.
- \* After Hours on KPFT 12:00 a.m. to 3:00 a.m. 90.1 FM. Call 526-5738.
- \* Texas Association for Transsexual Support meets at 7:00 p.m. Call 827-5913.
- \* Art Opening at the Blaffer Gallery at the University of Houston. 1:00 p.m. Call 743-9530.
- \* Film at MFA: Summer Interlude at 7:30 p.m. and Sawdust and Tinsel at 9:15 p.m. Call 639-7300.
- \* Visual Art Alliance meets at 10:00 a.m. at Texas Art Supply. Call 526-1214.
- \* "Your Crisis is Your Birth" spiritual talk by Sandy Penny. At Borders Book Shop. 3:00 p.m. Call 782-6066.

### Sunday, Feb. 4

- \* Houston Chain Gang Bicycle Club meets. Call 863-1860.
- \* Front Runners meet at 9:00 a.m. at the Tennis Center in Memorial Park. Call

522-8021.

- \* HATCH meets. Call 942-7002.
- \* Inner Loop Sunday Bowling League. Call 522-9612.
- \* Out in Ft. Bend meets. Call 344-0638.
- \* Brunch at the 611 12:30 p.m. \$3
- \* Steak Night at the Brazos River Bottom. 5:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m.
- \* Pool Tournament at Chances. 6:00 p.m.
- \* Houston Tennis Club meets at noon. Call 868-5039.
- \* The Women's Group meets at 10:45 a.m. Call 529-8571.
- \* Film at MFA: Miss Julie at 7:00 p.m.
- \* Rock lady Tara Rae speaks at Borders Book Shop. 4:30 p.m. Call 782-6066.
- \* Parents, Friends & Families of Lesbians and Gays (P-FLAG) meets at 2:00 p.m. Call 867-9020.

### Monday, Feb. 5

- \* AFH Creative Writing Class. 3:00 p.m. Call 623-6796.
- \* Gay Fathers/Fathers First support group. 8:00 p.m. Call 861-6181.
- \* HeartSong open rehearsal at the Community Room in Sharpstown Center. 7:00 p.m. Call 526-9095.
- \* Calendar/Computer workshop for Pride Week. 7:00 p.m. Call 529-1223.
- \* Agora meets at 7:30 p.m. Call 623-6796.
- \* Positive Living Group at Montrose Counseling Center. 2:15 p.m. Call 539-0037.
- \* Outpatient Group Treatment at Montrose Counseling Center. 6:00 p.m. Call 529-0037.
- \* Women and HIV/AIDS Group at Montrose Counseling Center. 6:15 p.m. Call 529-0037.
- \* Men Survivors of Sexual Abuse Group at Montrose Counseling Center. 6:15 p.m. Call 529-0037.
- \* Lesbian Survivors of Cancer and their care givers at Montrose Counseling Center. 6:30 p.m. Call 529-0037.
- \* Men's HIV Group at Montrose Counseling Center. 7:00 p.m. Call 529-0037.
- \* Gay and Lesbian Readers group meets at Barnes and Noble. 3003 W. Holcombe at 7:00 p.m. Free! Call 349-0050.
- \* Colt 45's monthly meeting. 8:00 p.m. at the Brazos River Bottom.
- \* Exxon Association of Gay and Lesbian Employees (EAGLE) meets at 7:00 p.m. Call 916-8810.

### Tuesday, Feb. 6

- \* Front Runners meet at Memorial Park. 6:30 p.m. Call 522-8021.
  - \* Helping Cross Dressers Anonymous meets at 239 Westheimer. 8:00 p.m. Call 495-8009.
  - \* Basic Computer Skills Class at the Kolbe Project. Call 522-8182.
  - \* Southern Country gives dance lesson at the Ranch. 9200 Buffalo Speedway. 8:00 p.m.
  - \* Gay Men HIV+ Psychotherapy at Montrose Counseling Center. 4:30 p.m. Call 529-0037.
  - \* Outpatient Group Treatment at Montrose Counseling Center. 6:00 p.m. Call 529-0037.
  - \* Aftercare Group Treatment at Montrose Counseling Center. 6:00 p.m. Call 529-0037.
  - \* Bereaved Partners/Spouses at Montrose Counseling Center. 6:15 p.m. Call 529-0037.
  - \* AIDS Alliance of the Bay Area meets at 7:00 p.m. Call 488-4492.
  - \* PROTECT support group meets at 7:00 p.m. Call 520-7870.
  - \* Women Survivors of Childhood Abuse at Montrose Counseling Center. 6:30 p.m. Call 529-0037.
  - \* Free Dance Lessons at the Brazos River Bottom. 9:30 p.m. Call 528-9192.
  - \* Live Jazz at Borders Book Shop. Call 782-6066.
- ### Wednesday, Feb. 7
- \* Shiela Lennon performs at Chances. 9:00 p.m. Call 523-7217.
  - \* Houston Pride Band practices at Dignity Houston. Call 524-0218.
  - \* GLOBAL meets at 4:00 p.m. Call 743-7539.
  - \* Toopee's Coffee Bar has "Activity Night" with a complimentary buffet. 5:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. Call 522-7662.
  - \* HIV survivor Support Group meets at 2929 Unity Drive. 7:00 p.m. Call 782-4050.
  - \* Men's Network at Montrose Counseling Center. 7:00 p.m. Call 529-0037.
  - \* Houston Tennis Club meets at 7:30 p.m. Call 868-5039.
  - \* Lambda Rollerskating Club skates at 8:00 p.m. Call 933-5818.
  - \* Women's Network at Montrose Counseling Center. 7:00 p.m. Call 529-0037.
  - \* Ongoing Mixed Living in Process Group for men and women. Call 622-7250 for more info.
  - \* Living with Chronic Pain at Montrose Counseling Center. 9:30 p.m. Call 529-

0037.

- \* Aftercare Group Treatment at Montrose Counseling Center. 6:00 p.m. Call 529-0037.
- \* Women's Issues Process Group at Montrose Counseling Center. 6:30 p.m. Call 529-0037.
- \* Women's Action Coalition (WAC) meets at 7:00 p.m. Call 867-9581.
- \* Lesbian/Bisexual Survivors at Montrose Counseling Center. 6:30 p.m. Call 529-0037.
- \* Bi-Net of Houston meets at 7:00 p.m. Call 861-9149.

### Thursday, Feb. 1

- \* Montrose Ice Picks skate at the Galleria. 8:00 p.m. Call 629-1432.
- \* Broadway Showtunes at J.R.'s. 9:00 p.m. Call 521-2519.
- \* Art Classes at The Art League. 1:00 p.m. Call 523-8817
- \* Front Runners meet at Memorial Park. 6:30 p.m. Call 522-8021.
- \* Gay Men's Chorus of Houston open rehearsal at 7:00 p.m. Call 521-7464.
- \* Twentysomething meets at 7:30 p.m. Call 531-9396.
- \* KPFT Lesbian and Gay Voices airs at 8:00 p.m. to 10:00 p.m. Call 866-6505.
- \* Burger and Chili night at the Brazos River Bottom. 6:30 p.m. to 9:00 p.m.
- \* Steak Night at the 611 Pub. 6:30 p.m.
- \* Dance lessons at the Brazos River Bottom. 9:30 p.m. Free. Call 880-0670.
- \* Safer Sex for Lesbians at Ms. B's 9:30 p.m. Call 666-3464.
- \* Ongoing gay men's Living in Process Group. Call 622-7250.
- \* Open Mike Night at Cafe Artiste. 1601 W. Main. 8:00 p.m. Call 528-3704.
- \* HIV+ Men Psychotherapy at Montrose Counseling Center. 1:15 p.m. Call 529-0037.
- \* Relapse Prevention at Montrose Counseling Center. 2:00 p.m. Call 529-0037.
- \* Outpatient Group Treatment at Montrose Counseling Center. 6:00 p.m. Call 529-0037.
- \* Aftercare Group Treatment at Montrose Counseling Center. 6:00 p.m. Call 529-0037.
- \* Meditation and Chanting Group meets at 7:00 p.m. Call 942-0923.
- \* HIV Affected at CASA. 7:00 p.m. Call 796-2272.
- \* Men's Therapy Group at Montrose Counseling Center. 7:00 p.m. Call 529-0037.

## Community Organizations Bulletin Board

### Chocolate Gala

The 1996 "Sweet Charity" Eighth Great Gala benefiting The Foundation for Interfaith Research and Ministry (FIRM) will take place Sunday Feb. 4, in the Ballroom at the Texas Medical Center Conference Center, 2151 West Holcombe.

This is Houston's only chocolate gala featuring a cocktail dinner at 5:00 p.m. and Dessert Tasting at 7:30 with delicious desserts created and presented by leading chefs. There will also be a live auction. Lynn Mathre and Hershey Grace are co-chairs for the events.

Proceeds benefit FIRM's in-home care programs and other support services for adults and children affected by chronic and debilitating illnesses.

Ticket prices for the event are: \$125 for dinner and dessert or \$35 for dessert tasting only. For ticket information contact FIRM at 682-5995.

### End Hate Crimes

Queer Nation, the activist group, is calling upon those committed to ending hate crimes to attend the City Council public comment session Feb. 6 at City Hall.

With a stated purpose to condemn Mayor Bob Lanier and the city council members for their silence in the wake of the recent wave of hate crimes including the gaybashing murder of Fred Magione Jan. 4, individuals wishing to make their voices heard must be pre-registered for the 2:00 p.m. session. One, two or three minute blocks of time can be reserved by telephoning the city secretary at 247-1840.

The gay, lesbian, bisexual and transgendered activist group has three demands to put before the city council: that the city council pass a resolution urging the State Legislature to pass hate crimes legislation which includes race, ethnicity, religion, sexual orientation and gender identity; that the city council make passage of such hate crimes legislation a priority for the city's lobbyist to the State Legislature; and that the city council mandate that the Houston Police Department develop and implement a training program teaching HPD officers how to recognize and respond to hate crimes including how to deal with the victims of such crimes.

Members of the community are also encouraged to write letters to their council members and Mayor Lanier urging them to take action on hate crimes. Letters can be sent to City Hall, 901 Bagby, Houston, TX 77002.

For additional information contact Queer Nation at 868-9335.

### Gay Fatherhood

The Men's Network, a discussion group for social and educational development of gay and bisexual men will present "Challenges of Gay Fatherhood" Wednesday evening, Feb. 7 from 7 until 9 o'clock at the Montrose Counseling Center, 701 Richmond.

Lawrence Katz, Ph.D. Clinical Psychologist, will discuss the research on Gay fathers and their children and share his own experience of the same. This meeting is for gay fathers, those who want to be gay fathers and all those who are curious and interested in gay fatherhood.

For more information telephone 529-0037. A donation between \$3 and \$5 is requested.

### Rush Outrage

In their quest to increase membership in Outrage, Inc., a Rush Party will be held at Baba Yega's Restaurant, 2607 Grant (at Pacific) Friday Feb. 7 from 7:30 to 10:00 p.m. in the private party room. Invitations are not required and all interested persons are invited to attend.

Please contact membership director Diana Hunt to RSVP or simply to get more information.

Outrage has primarily been structured as a social group but in 1995 received its 501(c)(3) status to raise monies for local AIDS/HIV related charities. To date more than \$50,000 has been raised and donated to local groups.

Their events have focused around the annual "The Halloween Party" and building award winning floats for the Pride Week parade. According to Daryl Hickman, "In 1996 we will have a full tableau of events, fund-raising and social, to keep our members very busy being an active part of the community."

"Outrage has over 10 years experience throwing parties and sponsoring events and with "Friendship" being the mantra for 1996, we hope to add new friendships in order to build a stronger organization."

### Body Positive Support Group

Body Positive/Houston is starting a new cycle of free Peer Counseling Support Groups for HIV positive individuals. All interested individuals are invited to attend an informational meeting to be held at the Metropolitan Multi-Service Center, 1475 West Gray, at 7:00 p.m. Tuesday, Feb. 6.

Each group lasts 9 weeks. Weekly meetings are facilitated by trained leaders, who are HIV positive, under the supervision of a licensed psychotherapist. There are 10-12 clients in each group. Based on a training manual developed at Body Positive/Houston, some of the topics regularly covered include: Working with your Doctor, Healing Alternatives, Relationships, Lifestyle Issues, Stress Reduction, and Relaxation. However, the group ultimately decides democratically the contents of each 1 1/2 hour session. The group sessions are closed and confidential, therefore no new members are added after a group has started. The meetings are casual and all materials necessary will be provided.

The basic objective is for clients to share information and feelings with other clients that have similar life issues. Studies have shown a greater degree of client participation and satisfaction in counseling when clients can more easily relate or bond with the other participants rather than be "lectured" or "quizzed" by a therapist. The facilitator serves only to keep the group on-track, adhere to certain courtesies, and acts as a referral source for further information.

If interested, or to obtain more information, contact the Body Positive/Houston office at 524-2374.

### Looking Forward

Sunday, Feb. 11 looks to be a busy day with the Log Cabin Republicans "celebrating" President Lincoln's birthday, the Montrose Counseling Center presenting a Jungian analyst and writer of a "dream" book and the Houston Professional Men's Association February Social at a local restaurant. More details will follow next week.

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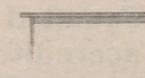
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## In Loving Memory



### CARL COULTER WARNER

Born: January 15, 1965

Died: January 22, 1996

Born in Rusk, Texas, he lived most of his life in Alto, graduated in 1983 from Alto High School, was active in Lamp-Lite Playhouse, Nacogdoches, and was a member of A. Frank Smith United Methodist Church, Alto.

A memorial service was held on Wednesday, January 24th in Alto. Surviving are his parents, sister, grandmother, and a host of friends from the Houston, Dallas, Galveston, and greater East Texas area. A memorial fund has been started at the Stella Hill Memorial Library in Alto, Texas.

**GONE, BUT NOT FORGOTTEN!!!!!!**

## Gay editor transferred after complaint

DALLAS (AP)—A gay editor was transferred from the children's section of the *Fort Worth Star-Telegram* because of a cartoon strip he did for a gay publication, but the newspaper's executive editor insists the action was "not a gay issue."

Todd Camp, 29, had served as graphics editor for the *Star-Telegram's* award-winning "Class Acts" section for six years. The job required that he work occasionally with school children.

After receiving a written complaint from a woman whose name has not been released, Camp was reassigned to a feature-writing position in the arts.

The unidentified reader's complaint

dealt with Camp's "Life Underground" cartoon strip, which has appeared in *The Texas Triangle*, an Austin-based gay weekly.

Although the woman did not identify herself as such, leaders of the American Family Association have said she is a member of the Tupelo, Miss.-based group, which has undertaken a campaign against the *Triangle*. Camp did not return a telephone message left by the AP. He told the Austin American-Statesman that he did not believe his cartoons were offensive, but "when you deal with a subject matter that's fairly uncomfortable, you run the risk of having your intentions misinterpreted."

# CAN'T FACE ANOTHER DAY?



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## HOUSTON VOICE

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# Suit claims AZT, not AIDS, killed celebrity photographer

## Prominent Law Firm Says It Has Proof

By STEPHEN CHRYSLER  
For the Houston Voice

(LOS ANGELES)—Billions of dollars, 70,000 human deaths, movie stars, AIDS, AZT, corrupt medical research, and a law firm famous for airline crashes now figure into the long and complex story surrounding a wrongful death lawsuit being engineered around the well-built, blond Hollywood celebrity photographer and fashion consultant, Jak McDonnell. McDonnell's family blames AZT for his 1994 death and have recently garnered the help of Kananack, Murgatroyd, Baum & Hedlund, one of the pre-eminent plaintiff law firms in the United States. AZT is currently made by Glaxo Wellcome, and formerly by Burroughs Wellcome.

"I lost Jak to AZT. Jak was murdered by the pharmaceutical industry and by his doctors," stated McDonnell's lover, Chris, who has become an avid AZT and AIDS activist since McDonnell's death. Such a claim seemed difficult to prove, but McDonnell's family, led by his sister Louise Jeffries, has put together enough data to retain the services of Paul J. Hedlund, at Kananack, Murgatroyd, Baum & Hedlund. Hedlund's firm has offices in Los Angeles and Washington, D.C., has handled high-

profile cases around the world and has a long record of frequent success winning massive multi-million dollar judgments against difficult and powerful defendants.

The firm claims knowledge of yet-to-be-published research results that would bolster its case.

"I would never undertake a case that I thought was going to lose," said Hedlund, whose firm's substantial resources allow it to go to unusual lengths to obtain information for its cases. He divulged: "...you understand that the Concord II study is not officially published yet, but our information is that it will show, in statistically significant numbers, that AZT shortens the life expectancy of anyone—period. It does not enhance anything. The only thing that happens is that the T-cell count goes up for a very short period of time when you first start taking AZT and then begins to dwindle off after that, and when the Concord II study comes out, we expect it to show that it will decrease your life expectancy by at least one to two years." Ramona Jones, company spokesperson for Glaxo Wellcome, was unwilling to directly comment on anything destined for litigation, but provided the following general statement, "AZT has been on the market now for almost a decade and it was the first medicine that was discovered to have any effect at all on the HIV virus."

Christine Maggiore, of HEAL (Health Education AIDS Liaison), offered a very different statement to make regarding AZT "We are 100% against the administration of AZT and other so-called antivirals to any human being under any circumstance. These DNA chain terminating drugs offer no health benefits. Instead, they cause severe and often irreparable harm to just about anyone who uses them.

"HEAL is doing everything possible to support the suit against Glaxo—Wellcome, from providing the legal firm (Kananack, Murgatroyd, Baum & Hedlund) with science data to referring survivors of AZT poisoning," said Maggiore, who also claims that, "The direct effects of AZT ddI, D4T and ddC are deadly. They include lymphoma, pancytopenia, life-threatening anemia, severe weight loss, acute nausea, loss of muscle mass and other conditions identical to AIDS."

Ramona Jones at Glaxo Wellcome disagrees: "These medicines that treat HIV are like any prescription medicine. They have risks and benefits. And there are some people who do benefit from taking them and there are others who find that the side effects cause them more problems than the benefits. So it may not be appropriate for everybody. But it is available to those that it can help."



Louise Jeffries (left) blames the makers of AZT for the death of her brother Jak McDonnell (right), shown in this happier times in this family photo

"Even though he was HIV positive, I think he could have lived a fuller and healthier life if he did not take it, take AZT," commented Jak's sister, Louise. "My pain and sadness is compounded by the fact that I saw the devastating effect AZT had on him before he died," she continued, "I hurt from the pain he felt when he looked in mirror. He saw his beautiful, muscular body dwindle away to skin and bones. For the next three years we witnessed his color change, his muscle loss, his teeth fall out and incredible sadness in his eyes. It wasn't until his death that we realized that AZT was destroying his body. My heart bleeds knowing all his dreams were over at 35, when he was diagnosed... That was the year he ushered the cast of Steel

Magnolias to the Royal Premiere in London and then on to the International Film Festival in Berlin."

"I do not want another man, woman or child to die because they took AZT. I want Burroughs Wellcome and the FDA to be punished for allowing this holocaust to happen," Louise concluded. Hedlund was approached by various AIDS activists before taking this case. He encourages people who have suffered losses due to AZT not to wait to see the outcome of this case. He warned of expiring statutes of limitations. This case is currently not a class-action suit.

(Editor's note: Stephen Chrysler is a freelance writer based in San Diego).

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**Charities: Apply Now For  
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**FROM DIANE MYERS**  
*Chair, Charities Committee, Bunnies on  
the Bayou '96, Houston*

An Open Letter to the Community:

Every year for 15 years, a group of about 30 friends get together and throw an Easter party. The object of this party started out simply to be "Have Fun!" It has since grown to be "Have Fun and Help People!" It has also grown from a small get-together to a tremendous outdoor event attended annually by over 2000 people. The invited guests of this annual party, now known as "Bunnies on the Bayou," must make a small (or large) donation of cash or non-perishable food at the door in order to enter the festivities. The food collected is donated to local food pantries. The cash and checks are divided among deserving Houston area 501(c)3 charities.

This year, Bunnies on the Bayou is asking the cooperation of the community in order to find the most deserving and needy charities. If you know of or work with a 501(c)3 charity which you feel is doing exceptional work and is in need of funds, please have them contact us. We need current information on the organization, including its background and current status, along with its mission statement. Please include a statement letting us know what any funds received from Bunnies on the Bayou would be used for. Any other information, i.e. brochures, press clippings, etc., would also be welcome.

We need to receive this material as soon as possible as we must choose our charities in March for the party on Saturday, April 7. Please send all information to: Bunnies on the Bayou, P.O. Box 66932, Houston, Texas, 77266.

**Thorne-Y Thanks**

**FROM JACKIE THORNE**  
*Duchess XI, Royal, Sovereign and Imperial  
Court of the Single Star, Houston*

Too often, in the process of raising funds for some community project, we call upon our businesses for donations and then take them for granted without thanking them properly. As a member of the RSICSS charged with assembling welcome packets for our out-of-town guests at Coronation XII, I wish to thank those who made my job much easier than it might otherwise have been.

F.I.S.T. provided all the women's packets that were put out. Leather By Boots provided the paper sacks to put the packet materials in, as well as a discount certificate for merchandise. Lady Victoria Lust provided condoms and individual lube packets. AFH provided Safe Sex brochures. Thrifty Car Rental provided city and area maps. Bistro 224 provided two for one meal coupons; Chapultepc Mexican Restaurant provided two for one breakfast coupons. Midtown Spa provided half-price tickets. The only thing I had to purchase was the latex disposable gloves, and I was given some of those by Count XI J. D. LaRue.

The amounts given were sufficient to accommodate all our out-of-town guests, as well as many in-town people. Again, my thanks for your generosity. I hope our community will consider these businesses when they have needs in the areas these businesses can fulfill.

**AHCH Thanks Hollyfield  
Foundation**

**FROM MATT LOCKLIN**  
*Executive Director, AIDS Housing Coalition  
of Houston*

The board, staff and volunteers of the AIDS Housing Coalition of Houston would like to publicly recognize the generosity of the Hollyfield Foundation. On Thursday, Jan. 25, 1996 at a gala social gathering at the Hollyfield offices, the board (recognized) the AHCH-sponsored TLC House emergency HIV/AIDS housing program as an outstanding community effort. Board Chair Dr. Claire Koepsel presented a support check in the amount of \$2,500 to Executive Director Matt Locklin, Board Chair Richard W. Rancier and Executive Board Members Wally Blood and Barbara Joseph. The funds were designated for use to sponsor telephone services and other direct support services in house.

ACHC would like to recognize our co-recipients: the Texas Human Rights Foundation, HIV Wellness Center, Steven's House, Omega House and DiverseWorks, for their outstanding contribution to society. The AHCH team thanks the Hollyfield Foundation for their tremendous confidence and support.

(The TLC House program is a six-bed emergency facility for men with HIV/AIDS who are, or who are about to become, homeless. For more information, to volunteer or to make donations, call 521-1613).

**"Dear Scumbag..."**

**FROM SAM STEWMAN**  
*Manager, Community Resale, Houston,  
Texas*

An open letter to the thieving vandal who broke in (Friday, Jan. 26):

By doing nearly \$500 worth of damage to our building, you have seriously jeopardized the existence of a worthwhile charity.

It wasn't the lamp. It wasn't the pair of 34-inch-waist black leather pants. It was the theft of the cards used to distribute clothing at no cost to people who have enough problems already. Perhaps the anti-littering program is working, since the cards were found scattered in a nasty trash bin late in the afternoon. That did not, however, repair the broken "unbreakable" glass nor heal the holed around the locks in the metal door.

The greatest harm, by far, is the discouragement and chaos which you left behind. Do you wonder that I have no "change" when you beg on the street?

**Thanks for Coverage**

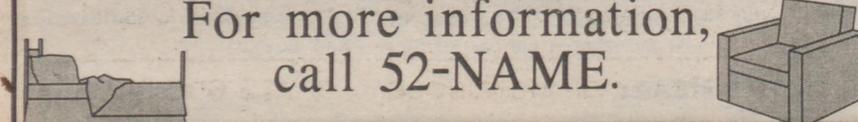
**FROM JOHN W. KELLETT**  
*Houston, Texas*

I am writing to thank the Voice and Kim Thompson for the excellent front page article on the candlelight march on 1/20 in memory of Fred Mangione. As a member of First Unitarian Universalist Church of Houston, I was gratified to have our presence recognized—we believe about 35 church members (mostly heterosexual) were there. Our Senior Minister, Bob Schaibly, who spoke at the rally, also encouraged this attendance, but all of those church members I talked with felt it was important for them to protest hate crimes, and fulfill the first principle of Unitarian Universalism: the inherent worth and dignity of every person.

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# Family Values

by Esperanza Lavender Jazz Paz



## Women's Center Provides Services For Lesbians

(Editor's Note: This column is the second in a two-part series dealing with the issue of domestic violence in the lesbian community. Last week's installment focused on awareness and education; this week, *Family Values* explores the supportive services available to lesbian women through the Houston Area Women's Center).

In 1992 the United States Surgeon General ranked physical abuse by intimate partners the leading cause of injuries to women ages 15 to 44. No distinction was made as to the sex of the abuser.

After a showing of *My Girlfriend Did It* (A documentary about lesbian-to-lesbian violence), seven Houston women gathered at the recent Lesbian Health Fair to discuss what they'd seen. "Women think that they live in a sort of lesbian utopia," one of the professionals in the video explained, "but it is widely believed that battering in lesbian relationships occur at about the same frequency as battering in heterosexual relationships. And 31 percent of survivors report forced sex as part of the abuse. We just don't want to admit it." Of the seven, four of us admitted to each other that we had suffered similar abuse at our female lover's hands. Michelle Ostrander of the Houston Area Women's Center thinks that is statistically accurate. As Information and Referral Coordinator at HAWC, she has seen the need for lesbian services and she seeks to meet the need through education and outreach.

In 1978, the center's first shelter was opened with 11 beds for women escaping domestic violence. Looking back, HAWC recognizes that since the beginning, some of the clients must have been lesbians. Some women said that they were fleeing female abusers. Some were evasive in identifying their abusers' sex. "Telling your story over and over is part of healing," Michelle says, "And some women didn't feel comfortable discussing their lesbian relationships with straight women in a group. There was not a safe place for lesbians who were beat up by lesbians to talk and heal."

All that is changing now, she said in an interview last week. Lesbian and lesbian-sensitive representatives of the Houston Area Women's Center offer educational speakers to groups (like LIB, the Lesbian Health Initiative, and the police department); information and referrals; individual counseling to lesbians (group counseling is being planned); shelter for victims of domestic violence and their children (battered women often stay with the abuser because they fear leaving—or losing—their children if they leave), support, legal advocacy, other services as needed, all for free and judgment-free. These offerings and the hotline are available in English and Spanish. The hotline will also be operated by volunteers speaking Vietnamese, Mandarin and Cantonese, starting in February.

Volunteers are the backbone of HAWC,

Michelle said. There are 65 paid staff members, and more than 500 volunteers who each attend 16 hours of basic training—which includes multicultural sensitivity awareness, general information and crisis counseling techniques—and then proceed to 12 more hours of training to work the hotlines and meet different requirements to serve as speakers, educators and sales help at their resale shop, Second to None, 1435 Westheimer at Mulberry.

"Lesbian violence is different from battering and sexual violence in straight relationships," Michelle says, "in that lesbians who have been abused have a harder time finding support than heterosexual women do. There is a myth that lesbian relationship violence is "mutual," but no one assumes that man/woman violence is mutual. Many lesbians are loathe to consider that all violence is not caused by men, and fear that exposing woman-to-woman violence causes the greater community to think we're sick." Also, "To report abuse by your lesbian partner is tantamount to coming out. Or the abuser may threaten to 'out' her victim if she seeks support."

The Lesbian Task Force of the Texas Council on Family Violence recognizes that battering and sadomasochism (S/M) are not similar. S/M is consensual power play for pleasure that includes safeguards, safe words (to stop a scene) and agreed-upon boundaries. However, if you are involved in S/M activity where you do not agree in advance to what your partner expects, or if your safe words/boundaries are not honored, you are being abused.

If you are abused, you have choices. The Houston Area Women's Center can help you sort them out. If you decide to stay in the relationship and available to the abuser, HAWC will assist you with information, support and plans for your safety. If you want to leave, they will shelter and support you and your children. If you have a friend who is being abused, try to understand that her choices are complicated and difficult to make. Don't try to persuade her to stay or leave, but do try to get her to call HAWC.

Some of us at the Lesbian health fair continued our discussion later. Each of us thought, at the time of our own crises, that we were "the only one"; certainly we were the only beat-up-by-your-partner lesbians we knew at the time we were beaten. That shame and isolation that frequently precedes the actual battering prevented us from asking for help; that and the fact that we didn't know who to ask, or exactly what to ask for. In my case, we shared our friends. I expected them all to be loyal to her. And I didn't want to lose her in spite of the abuse.

Michelle Ostrander says that's pretty predictable. Women try to break up with their abuser on the average of seven times before they actually end the relationship...or the abuser ends them.

If I had known then what I know now, I would have called the Houston Area Women's Center at 528-6798, or their domestic violence hotline at 528-2121, or their rape crisis hotline at 528-RAPE. I would have asked for help, instead of for my abuser's forgiveness.

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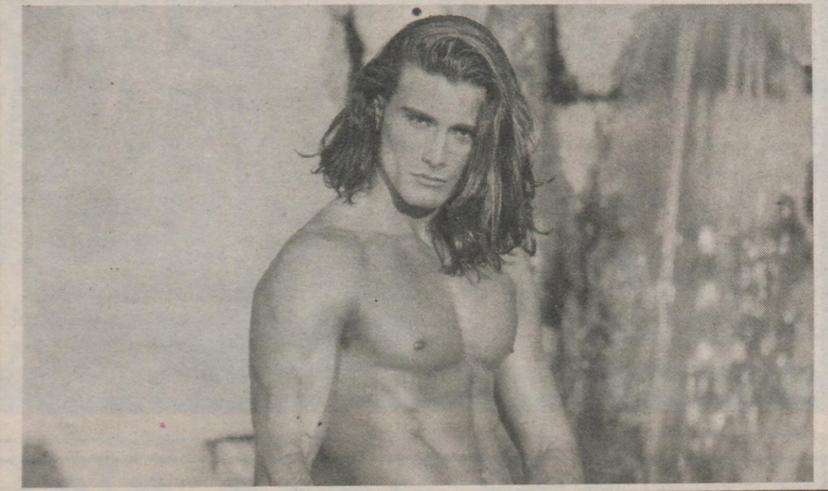
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## Gay Today

by Glen Webber



### The Best Medicine

My one-year anniversary of writing my column is coming up in March. You know, it is hard to think of something every week, but somehow I keep doing it. One of the things that keeps me going is the support I get from you.

I want to once again thank each and every one of you for the beautiful letters you send me. They are very articulate and touching. I am glad you can share with me your thoughts on what is going on in your life. Many of you are going through health problems similar to those I am now struggling with on a daily basis, and I want you to know that I get so much strength from you. Thank you very much for writing.

I've been receiving about five to seven letters a week, and they are all so beautiful. Please keep writing and share with me your thoughts, and please continue to say hi when you see me out. I value that very much. As you know, I love you dear readers very much.

As my anniversary approaches, I can also reflect on how lucky I feel to have gotten this chance to work with the wonderful staff at the *Voice*. They are some of the nicest people I've ever met. They give me so much love and support, and are always glad to see me. Although I'm only in the office a few hours a week, those are the best hours of my week. I love them all very much.

I also want to thank my doctor, Crad Duren, and his assistant, Betty, for taking such good care of me. Dr. Duren's excellent bedside manner and knowledge about AIDS gives me confidence that I will be ok. I love them both very much.

I believe my car wreck injuries are healed. But my health problems related to AIDS continues to haunt me. Of course, the biggest problem right now is that I've been passing out. It seems to happen any time, day or night. It happens while I am driving, and it is very scary. I mean, I'm

driving and suddenly, I'm gone. I am trying to not drive much, but because I live off Telephone road and 45 South, I have to drive to come into town. I am thinking of moving into Montrose and selling my house. It would be safer for the citizens of Houston, I'm sure.

The other problem that is plaguing me is memory loss. This week, I went to the Fed Ex office downtown, and when I came out, my car was gone. I thought I had been towed. I became very distraught and called for help. While I was sitting on the curb, looking down the street, suddenly I recognized a car, and it was mine. I forgot that I had parked down the block. If you have ever forgotten where you have parked your car, you know that feeling. Of course, I still am forgetting my most-called phone numbers, which I hate.

My absolute lack of energy continues to plague me. The problem it is causing is that I'm not able to take care of my house the way it should be. I am going to have to get help with it. It is so messy now, I would not invite anyone over. Plus, being so tired, I don't want to do anything social. By about eight or nine at night, I'm ready for bed. I hate it when I'm watching my comic hero, Dave Letterman, and then for a second close my eyes, then I wake up and no more Dave. I've missed more shows lately. ...

Please understand, I am not complaining about my health. I am not angry, upset, or mad that I have AIDS. It is the way it is. I don't mind asking for help. I'm glad I know people who would help me if I asked. What I hate is the inconvenience of being ill. But I try to plan around it, so I can still function the best I can. With so many friends and so much love around me, I feel I can do anything. To all of you who are ill, continue to fight for your health. Continue to fight for a quality life. Continue to smile when people say hi. Continue to tell people you love that you love them. And keep those cards and letters coming. They are the best medicine I have.

## Clinton will sign Defense Bill with HIV discharge clause

(WASHINGTON)—President Clinton has indicated that he will sign the \$265 billion defense bill despite the fact that the bill includes a provision that would discharge service members afflicted with the AIDS virus. According to White House spokesperson Mike McCurry, the president intends to sign the bill because "on balance, this bill does a lot of important things." Although the President has expressed disappointment over "some of the details" of the bill, he supports the military pay raise it contains and approves of the concessions the Republicans agreed to concerning missile defense.

The decision has drawn the ire of AIDS advocacy groups and other critics, who argue that it is discriminatory. One source of major contention is the administration's assertion that the discharged individuals will retain full medical and dental benefits. In a statement to the press, McCurry insisted that those discharged will "be in a situation similar to other military retirees." According to the language of the amendment, which was attached by Republican presidential hopeful Rep. Bob Dornan, that is not the case. The Associated Press has reported that "the discharged service members won't be eligible for disability pay, and their spouses and children

won't be eligible for medical benefits."

Former chair of the Senate Armed Services Committee, Sen. Sam Nunn (D-Ga.) took issue with the discharge policy, saying: "we're talking about punitive actions." Critics also argue that the military does not follow the same policy with personnel who suffer from other debilitating medical conditions, such as cancer or asthma. Others question Clinton's political motives for signing this bill, noting that last year Clinton blocked the bill precisely because of this provision. They cite Clinton's desire to appeal to moderates and conservatives in his re-election campaign as suspect. USA Today, in an editorial on the matter stated that "Government expedience has momentarily outweighed fairness and compassion."

The Defense Department said that 1049 members of the military will face discharge if the bill becomes law. The White House argues that it is a matter of politics, insofar that it is essential for the Pentagon to have a budget and that the offending language can be reversed in another bill. The administration will "pursue legislation that would reverse this policy and do so...within the six month period before it takes effect," said McCurry.

# THE OUTsider

by Curt Morrison

## Bob Dole and The 'Vision Thing'

Last week's State of the Union Address by President Clinton demonstrated beyond a shadow of a doubt why President Clinton should be taken very seriously as an opponent by the Republican Party.

After listening to Clinton speak and sound like a Republican, I listened to the Republican response from Senate Majority Leader Bob Dole, and quite frankly, was not impressed. If Bob Dole wants to be our next president, he is going to have to become a little more impassioned about his goals for our country and how he plans to implement them.

To be sure, Bob Dole has served his party well, and he has been a player in the Washington establishment for many years. He is a decorated war hero and an elder statesman for the Republican Party. That's part of the problem. Bob Dole does not have a vision or a mantra that he can market to the masses. To nominate the Senator for president solely based on the theory that it is his turn does not bode well for the Republican Party or the country. The Republican party needs to nominate a leader who has a vision and the strength and personality to carry it through. Bob Dole has not met that criteria to date. He has run for the Republican nomination twice before and lost, precisely for the same reasons.

If Dole's response to the State of the Union address is any indication of what's in store, then we are in dire straits. Based on that performance, there is no question in my mind that Dole would be no match for Clinton in a presidential debate. The conservative *Manchester Union Leader*, a New Hampshire newspaper, perhaps summed it up best in an editorial that intoned: "Any Republican watching Bob Dole's cadaverlike performance following Bill Clinton's masterful State of the Union address had to have been shaken." Indeed, it was not a comforting moment by any stretch of the imagination.

Lamar Alexander lambasted Dole at a Republican debate last month when he told the Senator that although he may be next in line, this was not his revolution and he should let someone who has the conviction to implement the changes this country needs to embark on lead the way. I couldn't agree more. If Bob Dole wants to be president as fervently as he espouses, then he needs to demonstrate why. His lethargic delivery and less than awe-inspiring speech and demeanor have got to go by the wayside. He needs to demonstrate to the electorate why he is the

right man for the job. And furthermore, if the Republicans choose to nominate him as a token of their appreciation for his tenure, then they can only blame themselves if they lose the election, unless of course that is their intent.

That is not so far fetched. In 1988, there were many conservatives who wanted Bush to lose the election because they anticipated that it would be better for the party in the long run. They were correct. If George Bush had won the presidency in 1992, we probably would not have a Republican-controlled Congress today. Considering the success that President Clinton bestowed upon the Republicans in 1994 as a result of two years of his chameleon persona, there are many Republicans who think a second Clinton term would not be that terrible and increase our majority in congress tenfold. I am not one of them, and I believe that this country can not afford four more years of the "poll surfing" Clinton.

It is imperative that we procure a candidate that is a viable contender, who can take his or her message to the constituents and get elected with a mandate to put this country on the right course. The question is who? I'm not convinced Steve Forbes is the answer; however, his rise in popularity should confirm that there are many people in the Republican party who are uncomfortable with Dole at the helm. There are many candidates who could lead the charge with a vision that delivers. Governor Weld of Massachusetts would be an ideal candidate: a fiscal conservative and social moderate who won election as a Republican in a Democrat stronghold. Wisconsin Governor Tommy Thompson, whose educational policies have earned him accolades, is another viable alternative, as is Gov. Christine Whitman of New Jersey. These are younger, more vibrant and enthusiastic politicians who could have a greater impact on the electorate.

The primary season begins Feb. 12 in Iowa and it appears as though it's going to be a Dole/Forbes race for the time being. If history repeats itself as is often said, Dole should lose ground after New Hampshire. What the outcome will be is anybody's guess. Whoever wins the nomination will have a formidable opponent to contend with, and I for one certainly hope they're up to the task. Keep in mind that if President Clinton is re-elected, he will be a lame duck president who does not have to worry about re-election and could therefore show his true colors without fear of reprisal from the voters. That thought alone will compel me to vote for his opponent... whoever it may be, including Bob Dole.

## Dutch government to offer help to third world gay groups

By JENNIFER M. FREEDMAN  
FOR THE HOUSTON VOICE

AMSTERDAM, Netherlands, Wednesday, Jan. 24 (AP)—Believing that gay rights are human rights, Dutch government officials said Wednesday they plan to offer financial support to gay and lesbian organizations in developing countries.

The Ministry of Development Cooperation will instruct Dutch embassies in Africa, Asia, Latin America and the Caribbean to keep an eye out for local groups needing financial or other assistance, spokesperson Sineke van der Veen said.

The plan will go into effect in the coming weeks, she said. No specific financial allocations have been made.

Minister Jan Pronk decided on the strategy after meeting with representatives of Dutch gay and lesbian organizations Monday, van der Veen said.

Pronk "sees sexual orientation as part of human rights," van der Veen said. "There should be no discrimination for homosexuality."

The Netherlands has an open gay and lesbian culture, with sexual orientation no apparent bar to advancement in business or politics.

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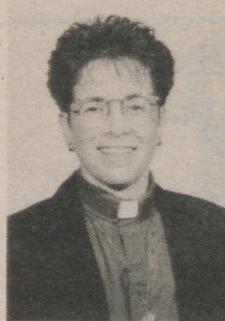
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**ASK THE PASTOR**



Rev. Janet Parker

**Q: "Where did the Holy Spirit come from? Compare the "Spirit" of the Old Testament to the "Holy Spirit" of the New Testament."**

**A:** In Genesis we find that Elohim (the plural for God) is present in creation. God who is Parent, Spirit and Child is present from the beginning. God is said to have no beginning and no end (Revelation 1:8) We find in Genesis 1:2 that the Spirit of God was hovering over the waters at the moment of creation. The Hebrew word for Spirit is "ruwach." This means the breath of God was moving over the face of the earth. The Spirit of God was active in creation. Job mentions in Job 33:4 that the Spirit of God made him and the breath of the Almighty gives him life.

In both the Old and New Testament the Spirit of God is referred to as the breath of God. We find that in the Old Testament the Spirit of God came upon individuals to inspire, empower, direct, etc. for God's purposes and plans. The Spirit of God did not live in people as on a permanent basis. In the Old Testament times the Spirit of God had not been given to live in the hearts of people on a permanent basis. The Spirit of God had breathed into every soul and spirit the breath of God to have physical life. The Spirit of God would also be present to accomplish God's work as individuals made themselves available for God's use.

We find in the Old Testament that God would anoint people such as Abraham and Sarah, Moses, Joshua, Queen Esther, Daniel, Isaiah, etc. with the Spirit of God to do God's will in the earth. God's Spirit would be present in power as long as the individuals were open to be used by God and were serving God with an obedient life.

When Christ came to the earth we find the Spirit of God resting upon him at his baptism. From that moment on Jesus moved in the power of the Holy Spirit. He gave authority and power to his disciples to do the works that he had done. Before he was crucified he told the disciples that he would be going away. What he meant was that he would be crucified, die and be resurrected. He told them that he was going away so that he could send the Comforter. The Comforter is described as the Holy Spirit (Spirit of God) who would not just be WITH you, but now would be IN you. The Spirit would teach you all things, guide you into all truth, and convict the world of sin. Every believer in Christ was said to be the temple of the Holy Spirit. The individual believer in Christ had become the dwelling place of the Spirit of God. The Spirit was promised by Jesus. In the book of Acts 1:8 we see where Jesus told the disciples to wait in Jerusalem until they were filled with power from the Spirit of God. Jesus told them that they would do greater and mightier things than he did when the Spirit came. The book of Acts demonstrated every word that Jesus spoke to be true. Even today we are witnessing the power of the Holy Spirit in our churches and lives.

In Ephesians 1:13 we are told that those who are born of the Spirit of Christ Jesus have been sealed. This means that we have been marked as owned by God. The New Testament gives us the indication that ownership is a permanent situation. God doesn't have an eraser on the pencil. God's Spirit is here today to bring you to God through the life of Christ Jesus. It only takes an invitation on your part to reach out and ask the Spirit of God in Christ to come in. It's that simple.

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

**CHURCH CALENDAR OF EVENTS**

**FRIDAY - 2/2**

- \* "Your Sacred Self" - study group using the best seller by Wayne Dyer. COME learn more about your sacred self, sacred sisters & brothers, & the sacred, loving Creator God who made it so. Kingdom Community Church. 4404 Blossom. Call 862-7533.
- \* Catholic Mass at 10:00 a.m. Kolbe House. 1509 Fairview. Call 522-8182

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**SATURDAY - 2/3**

- \* Traditional Mass at 7:30 pm. Dignity Church, 1307 Yale. Call 880-2872

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**SUNDAY - 2/4**

- \* Maranatha Fellowship Metropolitan Church Services "Looking at Relationships from a Godly Perspective" & "Homosexuality & the Bible/Spirituality & Sexuality Integration" at 10:00 a.m. Praise and Worship, Ministry of the Word, Drama and Personal Ministry. 11:00 a.m. Maranatha Fellowship, 3400 Montrose, Suite 600, 528-6756.
- \* Metropolitan Community Church of the Resurrection (MCCR) worship services. 9:00 a.m. & 11:00 a.m. 1919 Decatur. Call 861-9149.
- \* Community Gospel Church worship service at 11:00 a.m. & 7:00 pm 501 E. 18th. Call 880-9235.
- \* Houston Mission Church worship service at 10:30 a.m. 1505 Nevada. Call 529-8225.
- \* Kingdom Community Church worship service at 11:00 a.m., Sunday School at 10:00 a.m. Call 862-7533. "The Celestine Prophecy, An Experiential Guide" at 10:00 a.m.
- \* Ecumenical Catholic Church Mass at 10:15. 1405 palm. Call 526-8095.
- \* Covenant Baptist Church. Worship service - 1:30 pm 6610 Alder. Call 668-8830.
- \* Bering Memorial United Methodist Church Worship service. 10:50 a.m. Seekers class 9:15 a.m. 1440 Harold. Call 526-1017.

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**MONDAY - 2/5**

- \* Catholic Mass at 7:30 pm Kolbe House, 1509 Fairview. Call 522-8182
- \* MCCR Handbell Choir Rehearsal at 7:00 pm, 1919 Decatur. Call 861-9149.
- \* Sex Addicts Anonymous Support Group. Meets at MCCR. 7:00 pm Call 861-9149.

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**TUESDAY - 2/6**

- \* MCCR: CODA Support group meets at 7:00 pm, Empowerment for Living support group & pot luck dinner at 6:00 pm, Gloryland Singers at 8:00 pm. The Gospel Ensemble at 6:00 pm Call 861-9149.
- \* PROTECT meets at Bering Church. Call 520-7870.
- \* Basic Computer Skills Class at the Kolbe Project. Call 522-8182.
- \* Over Eaters Anonymous support group meets at MCCR - 6:00 pm. Call 861-9149.
- \* "Shepherd Group" meets at 7:30 pm for Praise, Prayer & Bible study. Call Maranatha Fellowship at 528-6756.

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**WEDNESDAY - 2/7**

- \* MCCR: Bi-net Support Group meets at 7:00 pm, Jubilation Mixed Ensemble meets at 6:30 pm, Midweek uplift service at 7:00 pm, Bible Study, Lecture Series & Choir Rehearsal 7:30 pm 1919 Decatur. 861-9149.
- \* "A Course in Miracles"- Study Group using the book, published by the Foundation for Inner Peace, which is aimed at removing the blocks to our awareness of one's presence. Kingdom Community Church 7:30 pm Call 862-7533.
- \* Ecumenical Catholic Church Mass at 7:00 pm 1405 palm. Call 526-8095.
- \* "Shepherd Group" meets at 7:30 pm for Praise, Prayer & Bible study. Call Maranatha Fellowship at 528-6756.

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**THURSDAY - 2/8**

- \* Community Gospel Church worship service. 7:30 pm 501 E. 18th. Call 880-9325.

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# SPORTS NOTES

## Disco Rollers

The theme for Lambda Rollerskating Club's next skate night will be "Trash Disco" with a D.J. playing some of your favorite hits from the 70s, 80s and 90s and participants encouraged to dress in a favorite 70s outfit.

The first 50 people to enter will receive a free whistle to blow along with the music and everyone is encouraged to wear their favorite whistle.

Skate time is 8:30 until 10:30 p.m. at the Starlite Rink located at 8075 Cook Road (corner of Cook and Beechnut). Admission is \$5 and skate rental costs an extra \$1. Everyone of all ages and abilities is encouraged to attend. For more information call 933-5818.

## Bowling Standings

The Montrose Monday Night Men's League reports the following standings. Division A is headed by Dem Damn Dawgs, The Queen Sick Court and Party of Four. Division B reports Five Easy Pieces in first, In By 9 Dirty in second and Tennis Anyone? in third. High scratch game of 258 was bowled by Gardy Harvey and series of 676 was bowled by Ron Grose. For more information call Gardy at 641-5424.

The Inner Loop Alternative Sunday Evening League is headed by Screw It! in first place, Sticky Wickets in second and To Wong Fo U? in third. For the men Joe Petersen bowled high scratch game of 247 and Brian Elley series of 633. For the women Pam Spayde bowled high scratch game of 214 and series of 603. For more information call Tom at 522-9612.

The Wednesday Night Mixers has in first, 3 Tops and A Bottom; in second, Half & Half; and Robbed Call 911 in third. For the men Don "Crazy as a Daisy" Burken bowled high scratch game of 265 and series of 637. For the women Terry Shannon bowled high scratch game of 192 and series of 541. For more information call Tom at 522-9612.

The Monday Night Women's League reports first place is taken by Maybe, Maybe Not, second by Lesborados,

third by Festive Foursome and fourth by Dragon Ladies. For more information call Pat at 437-6218.

## MSL Recruiting

The Montrose Softball League will soon begin its 16th season and is looking for a few good men and women to put on a uniform and play ball. The league has three divisions depending on skill level so if you are interested in having a good time come on and try out.

The League plays Sunday afternoons and Opening Day is scheduled for April 14. Teams are forming right now—give the league a call for more information at 867-3913 and leave a short message and you will be contacted.

## MSL Recognized

The Royal Sovereign & Imperial Court of the Single Star of Houston (RSICSS) named the Montrose Softball League "Best Organization Presentation" at their Coronation Jan. 20.

Jerel McNeil, disguised as a "john" tried to entice Lee "Wilma" Davis into tricking with him as Wilma danced to Madonna's song "Spank Me." Soon thereafter Herb "Shaboom" Muenchow appeared as the Church Lady along with her band of banner carrying Bible thumpers decrying such outrageous behavior.

It was a great skit for a good cause and Jerel graciously accepted the plaque at the following day's Award Brunch. Lee Davis would like to thank all those who helped on the number.

## Billiard Standings

Team Standings for the Independent Billiard League of Houston after the third week of play are as follows: First Place, Bad Boys; Second, Ripcord 3; tied for Third, Ladies & the Tramp and Suicide Squad; Fifth Place is Juniors. We are still accepting applications for substitute players. The deadline for joining the League is Feb. 8, 1996. The registration fee is only \$10.00. Please call the league secretary, Gilbert Vargas, at 524-9261 for more information.

## Promising new drug study results reported

(Continued from Page 1)

Dr. Roy Gulick and colleagues from New York University gave the combination to 26 patients. After six months, they could find no measurable trace of the AIDS virus in 24 of them. Their treatment is continuing, but researchers say it is still too soon to know how long this effect will last.

Gulick planned to present his results in detail Thursday at the annual Conference on Retroviruses and Opportunistic Infections, an AIDS meeting sponsored by the Infectious Disease Society of America. However, Dr. Emilio Emini of Merck released some of the findings at the meeting Monday at a standing-room-only session on protease inhibitors.

"This is the best response of any anti-retroviral therapy that has been seen to date," said Gulick, and several other AIDS experts at the meeting agreed.

"We all share the excitement of the moment that long-term suppression of this virus is real," said Dr. Paul Volberding of the University of California, San Francisco.

The first protease inhibitor to reach

the market was saquinavir, a Hoffman-LaRoche drug approved last month by the U.S. Food and Drug Administration. Hoffman-LaRoche is headquartered in Nutley, N.J. However, experts believe that indinavir and ritonavir, another protease inhibitor being tested by Abbott Laboratories are considerably more powerful.

Like other AIDS drugs, protease inhibitors attempt to short-circuit HIV, the AIDS virus, by disrupting its life cycle. They block production of protease, an enzyme crucial to the virus's survival.

Other AIDS drugs on the market work by intercepting the virus at a different stage in its reproduction. These standard medicines can inhibit the virus briefly but quickly lose their punch as mutant forms of HIV evolve that are immune to their effects.

A major question is whether—and how quickly—HIV will become resistant to protease inhibitors, too.

Dr. Douglas Richman of the University of California, San Diego, speculated that because the combination so sharply suppresses growth of the virus, it will hold down the evolution of resistant strains of HIV, as well.

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Photos by Steven David

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# Monumental performance, masterful direction by Redgrave in *Antony and Cleopatra*

## Theater Review

By JAVIER TAMEZ

Houston Voice/Houston

In a 1975 interview with *Newsweek* magazine, Vanessa Redgrave stated: "The stage is actor's country. You have to get your passport stamped every so often or they take away your citizenship."

Well, if ever there were just cause for awarding citizenship emeritus, Redgrave's sensational performance in *Antony and Cleopatra* warrants such an honor. Her monumental portrayal of the passionate, opportunistic Egyptian ruler is far and away the finest example of acting I've ever seen on a Houston stage. An inspiring array of personality traits is realized in Redgrave's characterization. The last of the pharaohs is seen as both coquette and temptress, diplomat and tyrant, ruthless schemer and frightened child; she is an emotionally fulfilled lover, playful and starry-eyed; and she is a betrayed lover, consumed by jealousy, making her bitter and vindictive.

And Redgrave successfully masters the challenge of one of the most difficult passages in all of theater—Cleopatra's crushed realization and all-encompassing defeat when she realizes Antony has committed suicide and she prepares herself for the same fate.

A performance this powerful and strong, of such superlative caliber, is alone reason enough to categorize this production as a "must see." It is all the more remarkable then when one considers that Redgrave's performance is only one part, albeit the best part, of a production that is truly outstanding on every level.

The collaboration between the Alley Theatre and London's Moving Theatre is a spectacular success. Two companies, two countries, two cultures find common ground on the stage. And the result is theater

at its most profound and majestic.

*Antony and Cleopatra* is by no means Shakespeare at his finest. Character motivation is at times unclear, bouncing back and forth as it does between Egypt and Rome (and points in between) the text requires more concentration than most, and the denouement is not realized in a thundering climax but rather in a steady, even, and slow-moving pace.

Ten years have elapsed since Antony (David Harewood) and Octavius Caesar (Howard Saddler) have defeated Brutus, Cassius and other senators in civil war following the assassination of Julius Caesar. As part of the peace settlement, Antony, Caesar and Lepidus (James Black) have divided the Roman world between them, with Antony laying claim to the Roman possessions in the eastern Mediterranean.

In this time he has met Cleopatra and the two have fallen in love. And it is here the play opens—with warm, gushing, demonstrative evidence of the affection the two protagonists feel for one another. Antony, however, is called to Rome by a fuming Octavius, angry because he feels Antony is neglecting his responsibilities to Rome. In an attempt to keep Rome from fracturing further, Antony marries Octavia (Aicha Kosoko), Octavius' sister.

The two erstwhile partners, rivals and partners again join forces to ensure that Sextus Pompey (Anthony Skordi) the son of a rival partner of Julius Caesar will pose no threat. Under the auspices of ensuring peace, the three men, along with Lepidus, settle their differences aboard a ship. An agreement reached, Octavius promptly has Pompey murdered.

When Cleopatra receives the news of Antony's marriage, she's enraged, and when she sees Antony again, she demands that virtually the entire eastern half of Roman lands be ceded to Egypt. Though Antony recognizes the madness of Cleopatra's request, beguiled by her charms, he remains with her.

Antony and Cleopatra renew their torrid relationship, but Antony learns that Octavius has had Lepidus killed because of military reverses. Antony also discovers that Octavius, as a means of consolidating his power in the Senate, has been attacking Antony in speech after speech.

War becomes inevitable. Defeated at sea and then deserted by his remaining forces on land, Antony kills himself. Anguished at defeat and rather than be taken back to Rome in chains, Cleopatra does the same.

Though it is common for edited versions of *Antony and Cleopatra* to be produced, it is a credit to Redgrave that she chose to present the entire text. And this is typical of the excellent choices she made in her capacity as director.

Among the others: In the opening scenes we find a Cleopatra that is practically drunk with giddiness. Every response she gives is geared toward whimsy and laughter. And why not? This is a queen in love, and her gaiety is gorgeous and contagious and perfectly natural. Cleopatra's jealous rage and tragic end, I have seen performed in a definitive manner before, but this is the first interpretation I've seen which shows Cleopatra with all the school-girl happiness one would expect from a young woman in love.

Redgrave also captures well the drunken revelry aboard Pompey's ship; the easy-going atmosphere of Cleopatra's court; the rigid stiffness and calculated cunning of Octavius; the passionate anger that explodes on the stage when Antony and Cleopatra come to blows; and the wrenching poignancy of the tragic conclusion.

This exceptional directing is also evident in the performances Redgrave evokes from



Vanessa Redgrave in "Antony and Cleopatra"

her fellow cast members. David Harewood's Mark Antony has a calm, confident, even cavalier demeanor, which makes his transition to a deserted general and distraught lover all the more striking.

Howard Saddler is a cold, shrewd Octavius whose only displays of kindness are directed at his sister. James Black is appropriately sycophantic as Lepidus; Jeffrey Bean makes a comic, sympathetic Mardian (Cleopatra's eunuch slave); and Shelly Williams makes a loyal, vibrant Charmian (Cleopatra's servant).

*Antony and Cleopatra* is an inspired and inspiring theater production. If this serves as an indication, I pray that the Alley Theatre and the Moving Theatre have a long and productive partnership.

Poof! Poof! Poof!

Oh, that is Lee Davis of MSL taste testing the deviled eggs...

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# Act of the Imagination clever, but lacks polish



Bill Symington (L) and Michael L. Sullivan in "An Act of the Imagination"

## Theater Review

By JAVIER TAMEZ

Houston Voice/Houston

Where do writers get their inspiration? From their own experience is the obvious, and generally true, response. In *An Act of the Imagination*, by Bernard Slade, and being presented by The Actors Workshop, this question forms the basis for the cleverest whodunit thriller I've seen since *Deathtrap* (to which it bears more than a passing resemblance).

Arthur Putnam (Michael L. Sullivan) is a successful mystery writer. As a way of expanding beyond his literary niche, Arthur pens a love story about an affair between a tweedy, frumpy, boring writer and an earthy, passionate younger woman he encountered by happenstance.

Julia (Karla Brandau-Jonte), Arthur's wife, loves his new, as yet unpublished novel. She recognizes that Arthur has based the male lead in his new book on himself. But she wonders who might have been the woman on whom Arthur based the female lead.

Julia's amazement with Arthur's ability to convey love and passion so realistically in print is well-grounded in her own reality. Arthur is comically, almost pathologically, forgetful. He forgets that Julia has stopped drinking; he forgets engagements, and he forgets names. He is so altogether staid, that he made the "other woman" in his novel Welsh, because he wanted to "add some color." And he has lost interest in sex, at least with Julia. So much so that when she moves to kiss him, he turns his cheek.

The only passion Arthur does display is aroused by his son, Simon (Jeff Mavro). Simon is a young man without direction, who has been involved in one failed venture after another. His latest idea is a restaurant—"The Good—Enough-for-the-Likes-of-You Bar & Grill"—which Simon envisions as having an American atmosphere, complete with sawdust on the floors. Arthur, however, is tired of functioning as Simon's financial trough. He loses his temper and tells Simon to find a means of supporting himself.

Later that day, Holly (Marty Campbell), an editor from Arthur's publisher, arrives to discuss the book. She, like Julia, is astounded over the scintillating reality with which Arthur has imbued the romantic passages of the book. Holly says the passages are so moving that it's as if Arthur had actually experienced those things. But Julia is no longer impressed with Arthur's creativity. Rather, she now has doubts about her husband's fidelity.

These misgivings are compounded when Brenda (Amanda Holmes) shows up at the Putnam residence and claims

that she is the "other woman." She apologizes for arriving so abruptly and says she's really "not like that," but she's desperate and wants £5000, or she'll destroy the marriage.

Brenda's announcement naturally causes a tumult. Holly thinks Brenda is lying outright, pointing out that everything Brenda has said is in the manuscript. Simon also thinks Brenda is lying, but his convictions are not firm, while Julia is visibly shaken and strives ardently to maintain her composure in the face of mounting skepticism.

The household is still in an uproar when Arthur arrives home. He denies knowing Brenda, but she demands that she be given the money she needs, or they can deal with the consequences of public exposure.

Struggling to come to grips with the threat hanging over their heads, the family is stunned to learn that Brenda has been murdered. Detective Fred Burchitt (Bill Symington), a friend of the family, brings them the bad news.

And the delectable surprises begin to unfold.

This play is clever and enticing and easily holds viewer interest. The plot twists, to a seasoned aficionado of the genre, will be somewhat predictable. But for the majority of the patrons, playwright Bernard Slade's delightful machinations will keep them guessing.

Unfortunately, the production does not match the potential of the material. The accents are hopelessly uneven, so much so that director Nancy Walters would have been better off Americanizing the play, which would have required very little substantive changes. Beyond that, Walters' directing was adequate but not much more.

The acting is similar to the directing in that it manages to be acceptable but is far from exemplary. Michael L. Sullivan as Arthur has a properly British stiff upper lip, but his characterization is virtually lifeless. Karla Brandau-Jonte does well conveying the growing doubts in Julia, but she is otherwise devoid of emotion. Marty Campbell's Holly is a non-nonsense go-getter, but

she is easily the most un-British of all the players. Bill Symington makes a dense detective, while Jeff Mavro's performance seems like cinema's comic clown du jour, Jim Carrey, trying to play a straight role (and he employs ridiculous mannequin-pose gestures in his delivery).

Only Amanda Holmes as Brenda brings any spirit to her performance. She has an airy, refreshing composure, and her characterization of a woman driven to desperation, but still feeling out of place doing so, is a salutary treat.

Walters' set design was simple and effective, though her use of framed photos of Buckingham Palace guards is a bit too touristy.

*An Act of Imagination* is the product of a spry and lively imagination. This production lacks polish, but the text provides a fine base coat.

What: *An Act of the Imagination Where* The Actors Workshop of Houston

When: Fridays-Saturdays through Feb. 24



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# Tori Amos: staking out her own musical style

By JON ANTHONY

Houston Voice/Houston

From the moment that Atlantic recording artist Tori Amos emerged onto the music scene in 1992, it was apparent that she would not be your normal mainstream artist. Indeed, she has created a musical genre all her own that can best be exemplified as unique, shocking, eclectic and interesting. Amos has just released her third album, *Boys for Pele* amidst a whirlwind of promotion. In a recent interview with the *Houston Voice*, Amos provided an insight to her views and how they interplay with her music.

Born in North Carolina, the daughter of a Methodist preacher, Tori grew up with the music of Fats Waller, Nat King Cole, Jimi Hendrix and John Lennon. A gifted prodigy, she could play the piano by the age of three and compose musical scores when she was four. "I was a freak child who had really good rhythm," she laments. Tori was admitted to the prestigious

Peabody Conservatory in Baltimore at the age of five and expelled at the age of 11 when she realized that she had no desire to conform. "I just didn't want to do what was expected of me," explained Tori. "The whole idea was for me to be a concert pianist," she recalls. "But I found out that I was more interested in free expression. I couldn't live with the piano in a regimented way."

Amos spent the next several years performing at gay bars in Washington, D.C. and Baltimore at the age of 13 playing Gershwin standards. Amos said she was "brought up in the clubs by gay's." She reflects without hesitancy on how they "taught me how to give head and stuff on a cucumber." Amos claims that coming "from a very Christian household" didn't prepare her for the gay scene and allowed her to "see a different side of life." She enjoys gay bars because she can be friends with gay people without worrying about men coming on to her. She adds that gays enabled her to

experience a "whole 'nother way of looking at life."

Amos says her new album, *Boys for Pele* is a "story of a descent of this woman to find her fragments." The album satisfied Amos' quest for creative freedom, which she had in making this album. "My songs have always been reflective of what is going on in my life at a particular time," says Tori. She drew on recent events in her life for this album as well. "Relationships in my life were ending quickly...dramatically, albeit all of them had a certain kind of chemistry." Her relationship with her soulmate ended on the Pink tour promoting her second album *Under the Pink*. Amos reflected on how she had to "face the fact that I was looking to them (relationships) for fire and passion." Instead, she was inundated with emptiness, regardless of her successes. The songs on *Boys* reflect the "hidden" aspects in relationships and "things that weren't said." "I incorporated all of this into this album,"

she explains.

Her influences are extraordinary and original, as evident in her response when asked who her idols were: Sylvia Plath, Bette Davis, Barbara Stanwyck, Billie Holiday, Jimmy Page and Fat Albert. She insisted that I not forget to mention Fat Albert as he was "very important." Amos recorded the new album in Louisiana and Ireland, which she has an affinity for. Ireland reminds her very much of the south, "where things are hidden." She feels that in Ireland there is a "closed judgmental attitude that you find running rampant...a big part of which is the church." She visited Ireland to "reclaim a part of a passion for the church which I stamped out at an early date."

At the time of the interview, Tori spoke of just beginning a relationship and commented on "how I see a relationship turn to myself a lot more."

"You have to really remember we all have access to all emotion that exists...have to remember

how to get there instinctively and find it...instincts that haven't been honed." With *Boys for Pele*, Tori was allowed the creative freedom to have an musically enhanced emotional catharsis and spew any venom that she deemed fit. Amos is a fascinating person to talk to. She is a no holds barred individual who is whimsical, honest and forthright to a fault. She is also a huge recording artist overseas. Her first two albums *Little Earthquakes* and *Under The Pink* have sold two million copies each in the U.K. and her success in the United States has been impressive as well.

Out Magazine, Atlantic Records and Chip Duckett are sponsoring a *Boys for Pele* promotion for Tori Amos at J.R.'s next Friday, Feb. 9. J.R.'s will play songs from the album and you can become eligible to win prizes ranging from CD's to posters. The album is available on Atlantic Records at most music outlets.

## This & That!

by Jon Anthony

1996 promises to be a banner year for film releases featuring your favorite cinema icons. **Tom Cruise** will co-star with his wife **Nicole Kidman** in the erotic thriller *Eyes Wide Shut* slated to start filming this summer.... Moving Pictures, the production company headed by actress/mogul **Demi Moore** just signed a three-year development deal with Universal Pictures. Moore plans to develop feature films and television projects including a suspense film, already in production, in which she will star and based on the suspense thriller *Requiem for a Glass Heart*.... **Vanessa Williams** co-stars with **Arnold Schwarzenegger** in the action-adventure flick *Eraser*.... **Glenn Close** will camp it up as Cruella DeVil in Disney's live-action *101 Dalmations*, produced by **John Hughes**.... **Mary Reilly**, the often postponed horror film based on *Jekyll-and-Hyde* starring **Julia Roberts** and **John Malkovich** will finally be released later this year.... **Sylvester Stallone** stars in the upcoming feature film *Daylight* billed as a *Die Hard* in an underwater tunnel.... **Eddie Murphy**, trying to revitalize a stagnant career as of late, stars in the remake of the **Jerry Lewis** classic *The Nutty Professor*, scheduled for release this year.... **Patrick Stewart** reprises his role as Picard in *Star Trek: Resurrections* slated for release this Thanksgiving.... **Sexy Keanu Reeves** stars in the latest thriller directed by **Andrew Davis** (*The Fugitive*) entitled *Dead Drop*.... The forth installment in the *Alien* series, appropriately titled *Alien 4*, was written by **Joss Whedon** who also penned *Speed* and will hit theaters this fall.... *The Last Man Standing*, a remake of *Yojimbo* starring **Bruce Willis** hits theaters this summer.... **Geena Davis**, whose *Cutthroat Island* has the dubious distinction of being one of the worst bombs in movie history having lost nearly \$80 million, will try to resuscitate her career in the suspense thriller *The Long Kiss Goodnight*.... **Bill Murray** returns to the big-screen after a lengthy hiatus in the soon to be released *Large as Life*.... **Woody Harrelson** and **Randy Quaid** co-star in the upcoming film *Kingpin* about a

hustler (Harrelson) and an Amish bowler (Quaid) who become friends.... **David Schwimmer** (*Friends*) follows in the footsteps of **George Clooney** and transcends his acting ability from television to the big-screen in the comedy *The Pallbearer*.... **Harrison Ford** will star in the big budget action flick *Air Force One* originally offered to **Kevin Costner** who could not accept because of other commitments. Ford will follow *One with Ivan Reitman's Six Days, Seven Nights* and is planning a fourth installment of the *Indiana Jones* franchise.... **Walter Matthau** and **Jack Lemmon** have been signed to reprise their Grumpy characters for a third movie of the hot franchise. *Grumpier Old Men* was one of the 10 highest grossing movies of the year. Meanwhile, the pair begins filming *Out to Sea*, a new comedy slated to be released later this year.... The legendary **Ertha Kitt** celebrated her 68th birthday last week.... **Stephen Collins** has replaced **Mandy Patinkin** in *The First Wives Club*, this summers hot comedy featuring **Bette Midler**, **Goldie Hawn** and **Diane Keaton**. Patinkin left due to creative differences. **Heather Locklear**, **Rob Reiner** and **Jon Stewart** co-star.... **Whitney Houston** signed a two year production deal with Touchstone pictures to produce and star in film and television projects.... **Connie Chung** appears poised to take over the anchoring duties on *CBS This Morning*. Chung and CBS have apparently settled their differences, which stemmed from her departure as co-host of the *CBS Evening News* with **Dan Rather**, and seem to be on the mend. CBS desperate to boost *This Morning's* share of the audience which has lagged behind *The Today Show* and *Good Morning America* in the ratings for years, needs someone with star power to combat their competitors in the heavily contested morning news wars. Network insiders feel that Chung's "chatty, fun side" coupled with her news experience could be their best hope yet.... CBS is planning reunion movies for two of its former prime time soap operas, *Dallas* and *Knots Landing*, to air next season....

**Kathleen Turner** plans to star in a television series and is exploring her options. **Norman Lear** would like Turner to star in a sitcom he is currently developing about a former model who runs her own agency, according to TV Guide. Turner is also being wooed by Disney.... **Hal Linden**, **B.B. King** and **Al Jarreau** will all guest on the CBS hit *Touched by an Angel* this Saturday.... *Laugh-In* regulars **Henry Gibson**, **Arte Johnson**, **Gary Owens** and **Jo Anne Worley** appear as themselves on a clever outing NBC's hit comedy *Mad About You* this Sunday.... **Nathan Lane**, **Michael Jeter** and **Tony Goldwyn** star in the uproarious, yet poignant, Hallmark Hall of Fame movie special *The Boys Next Door* airing Sunday, Feb. 4 at 8 p.m. Since February is sweeps month, when networks set their advertisement rates based on ratings, the networks bring out their big guns to compete with one another. Slated to compete with *Boys* on Sunday are the **Ted Danson/Mary Steenburgen** mini-series *Gulliver's Travels* based on the **Jonathan Swift** novel written in 1726. The mini-series stellar cast includes **Peter O'Toole**, **Alfre Woodard**, **Ned Beatty**, **Edward Woodward**, **Omar Sharif**, **Geraldine Chaplin** and **Sir John Gielgud**. ABC counters with yet another (yawn) airline disaster tele-pic entitled *Hijacked: Flight 285* starring **Ally Sheedy**, **James Brolin**, **Michael Gross** and **Perry King**.... **John Travolta** visits **Jay Leno** Monday, Feb. 5. and **Joan Collins** has a chat with **David Letterman** Feb. 6. to discuss her new movie, *A Midwinter's Tale*.... *Biography* the A&E series that chronicles the lives of the rich and famous will profile **James Brown** (Feb. 5), **Madonna** (Feb. 6), **Annette Funicello** (Feb. 8) and "Mr. Entertainer" himself **Sammy Davis, Jr.** (Feb. 9) next week. The shows air at 7 p.m. and a rerun at 11 p.m.... **Tim Conway** will make a guest appearance on the ABC sitcom *Coach* Feb. 6 in its new time slot at 7:30 p.m. following *Roseanne*.... **Jessica Fletcher** gets revenge! CBS's decision to move *Murder, She Wrote* from Sunday night to Thursday night opposite NBC's *Friends*

drew the ire of series star **Angela Lansbury** last fall. Although Lansbury and CBS have settled their differences, Lansbury is getting even through her alter ego, **Jessica Fletcher** on this weeks witty and hysterical outing of the series. **Jessica** visits the set of "Buds", a T.V. sitcom about six Generation Xers only to discover murder and mayhem amongst the principal cast members.... **Walker, Texas Ranger** and feature film star **Chuck Norris** just released his autobiography, *The Secret Power Within*.... **Legendary Country crooner John Anderson** new album *Paradise* is currently in stores.... **The Sex Pistols** are planning to regroup and tour this summer in honor of the band's 20th anniversary.... **Bonnie Pointer** is in the studio working on a new album, **Neil Diamond** has just released his first album of new material in four years and **Sting** releases his new album after a three year absence from the music scene on March 12. **Sting** will release the first single, *Let Your Soul Be Your Pilot*, off of the album titled *Mercury Falling* this Friday to radio stations galore and the single will be available at record stores Feb. 13. **Sting** will perform the song live with a 70 member choir on *Saturday Night Live*, Feb. 24.... **Top of the Charts: Mr. Holland's Opus**, starring **Richard Dreyfuss** was the #1 box office champ of the week. *One Sweet Day* (**Mariah Carey/Boyz II Men**) tops the singles chart and the *Waiting to Exhale* Soundtrack tops the album charts. **Deja Vu?** **Shania Twain's I'm Outta Here!** is the hot country song, *Wonderwall* by **Oasis** is the #1 modern rock track and *Amor* by **Cristian** tops the Latin charts. Now here's a surprise, *Superbowl XXX* was the highest rated show of the week according to Nielsen's ratings. *Intensity*, the latest thriller by **Dean Koontz** debuted at #1 on the *New York Times Best Seller* list for fiction. The #1 non-fiction tome is *The Road Ahead* by **Bill Gates**. **Quote of the Week:** "George Burns turned 100 years old today. I don't know the secret to his longevity, but I think I speak for all of us when I say I hope Pauly Shore doesn't know it either." - **Norm MacDonald** on NBC's *Saturday Night Live*

## Boys less than inspiring

### Music Review

By JON ANTHONY

*Houston Voice/Houston*

"Musically," says Tori Amos, "I always allow myself to jump off cliffs. At least that's what it feels like to me. Whether that's what it actually sounds like might depend on what the listener brings to the songs. But, to me, this album sounds like the biggest cliff yet." Sorry Tori, but this album sounds like the biggest angst-ridden musical opera to hit laser this year. Somehow I expected more from an artist who delivered a musical masterpiece with 1992's *Little Earthquakes*.

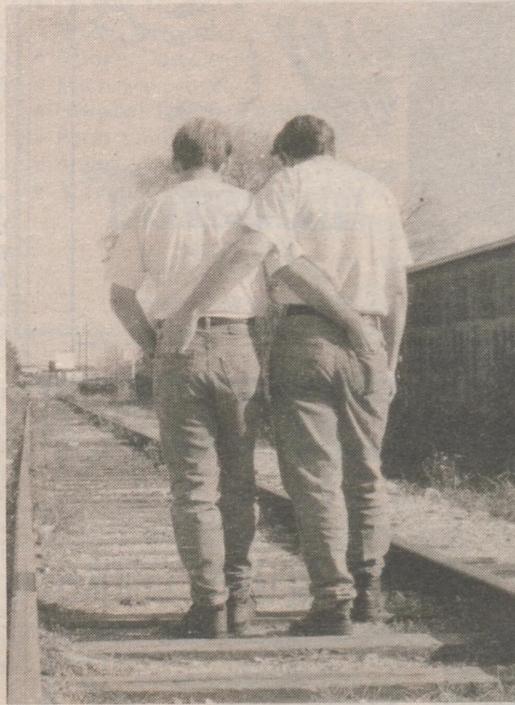
Amos relentlessly inundates us with her exhibitionist vocal meanderings and provocative lyrics that are less than inspiring. Her previous albums had some direction and sense of purpose. Not this one. Perhaps Amos shouldn't produce her own albums, at least not if this is the result of her creative freedom. Amos sounds like a cross between Judy Collins and Alanis Morissette on this awful album. The songs are undecipherable and her voice lacks the power of her previous efforts. "Caught a Lite Sneeze," the first single, is by far the best track on the album and that's not saying much considering the rest of this 18 song album is pretty jejune. The arrangements are misguided and her breathiness should be more masked. She sounds as though she's inserted the microphone in her mouth.

One of the album's biggest flaws is that Amos turns some of the most simple songs into mini-operas that are annoying beyond belief. Just when you begin to enjoy a particular song, Amos decides to take you on a musical trip that belies credibility. With the ascension of women in rock, you would expect something better from an artist who has demonstrated in prior work her talents. There are a few good songs such as "Sneeze," beautifully accented by her harpsichord, and the harrowing "Hey Jupiter" where she displays genuine emotion rather than the tortured excesses she delves into on the rest of this \* album which is entirely too long at 70 minutes. I listened to the album several times hoping to find something that inspires, to no avail.

Unless you're a Tori Amos devotee, avoid this nonsensical music opera. If you're yearning for the sound of women rock singers, then I suggest you listen to Joan Osborne, Alanis Morissette or Melissa Etheridge. Either that or just go out and buy Tori Amos' last two albums—at least they were palatable. Maybe Amos will forgo creative freedom next time around and let someone else produce her album. Although it might not make her happy, I'm sure it would please critics and fans alike.

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## Daring production hits home for Ensemble director

(Continued from Page 1)

"I would like to feel that my work opens up discussions and challenges certain attitudes that might be hurtful or harmful," West has remarked. "I'm not afraid to go where my work takes me."

*Before It Hits Home* will be staged by the celebrated playwright Ntozake Shange. Shange is perhaps best known for her choreo-poem *For Colored Girls Who Have Considered Suicide when the Rainbow is Enuf*, a paean to the resiliency of African-American women to and the power of their sisterhood.

Shange has served as The Ensemble's resident director for the past two years, directing *For Colored Girls* for the theater in 1994 and *Flying West* in 1995. She received a copy of *Before It Hits Home* from The Ensemble's artistic director Eileen Morris, who asked if she would be interested in mounting it.

"I found the play to be intriguing and challenging so I said yes," Ms. Shange remarked over lunch during a recent break in rehearsals.

A question about the response of the African-American community to the AIDS crisis brings an impassioned response.

"It was absurd at the beginning of the epidemic. I was infuriated," she remembers. "The response of the churches and the beneficent societies in the Black community—they had their own walk-out on the epidemic because it touched on homosexuality. (But) Homosexuality has certainly existed in the Black community, just as it has in every community."

"One reason that I feel particularly committed to this piece is that it's very painful. In some ways, it should be. I find it amazing that the IV drug using community should be more organized to protect themselves than we (African-Americans) are."

Shange has taken pains to ensure that the production's depiction of an individual living with AIDS is realistic. Several actors in the cast have visited AIDS patients and doctors at Houston's Park Plaza Hospital.

Shange has been touched personally by the AIDS crisis, having lost 37 friends to HIV at last count. "As a non-infected, heterosexual woman, I didn't want to direct the play in a patronizing way. I wanted to make sure that I was handling the play in a way that gave people with AIDS a sense of dignity and that they could enjoy themselves...."

"Both the bisexual and the heterosexual lovers in the play are very sensual. I directed it that way so that the actors wouldn't show any difference (in the portrayals of the heterosexual and homosexual encounters)."

The play's frank examination of bisexuality in the Black community has touched a raw nerve. When *Before It*

*Hits Home* was performed in Washington, reaction to Wendal and his male lover was often hostile; at several performances, men in the audience groaned, hissed, and sometimes even shouted their disapproval.

Shange has taken the necessary steps to deal with all eventualities.

"Since I'm not joking around with this play and AIDS isn't joking around with people's lives, I've asked for two very strong security officials at the theater to protect my actors and so that the show can continue," she states.

"I know how vile and desperately violent people who don't want to understand can be. And it's not going to happen here."

But the play is not all sturm and drang. "There's a lot of comedy in the piece that I couldn't see at the first reading, noted Shange. "There's a jocular, familial feel to the play. And there are some moments where there is a very strong black humor and a sense of irony in the scenes with the lovers."

Several AIDS service organizations, including the AIDS Foundation Houston and Loving Arms, have attended preview performances of the play. Thus far, audience response to the play has been positive. "It's been very good," Shange remarked. "People have laughed and cried. Some have been befuddled because they don't understand non-heterosexual relationships. The response thus far has been warm and gracious."

"I know that this play affects older Baby Boomers and their parents in ways that it may not affect younger people. The parents of Baby Boomers have been through so many different crises: the Vietnam War, the Civil Rights Movement, the sexual revolution, the realization that their children will make less than they did."

"If homosexuality or the HIV virus was the last issue between a Boomer and their parents, the parents are fluid enough to respond to another need."

"In many cases, it's the grandparents who end up caring for people with AIDS and their children. Crack and HIV have reinvented the extended Black family in a sad, but very interesting way. It's sad that this is the way that we reinvented extended-family living, by dying."

"I'm hoping that this show will demonstrate to them (the grandparents) a new appreciation of the time and effort that they have given in caring for those affected by the AIDS crisis."

*Before It Hits Home* will run through Sunday, March 10, with performances Thursday through Sunday. The production will be performed at the Midtown Art Center at 3414 La Branch. Tickets are \$10-\$20, and may be purchased by calling the Ensemble Theater Box Office at 520-0055.

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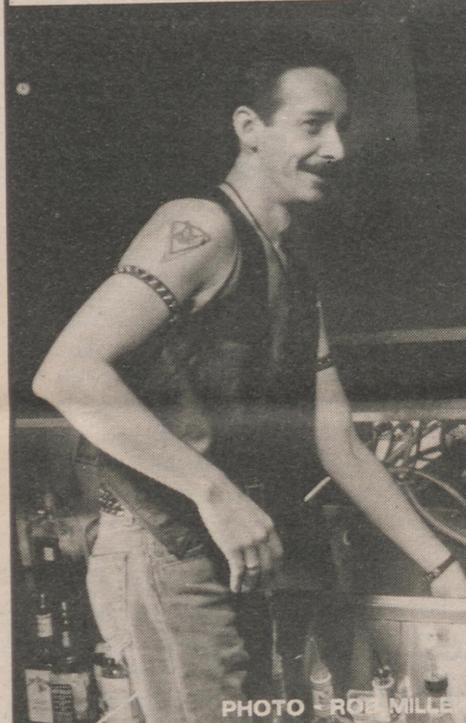


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# Business Notes

## Airline Sales Manager To Address GHGLCC

(HOUSTON)—Rick Cirillo, American Airlines' national sales manager for the gay and lesbian community, will speak at the upcoming monthly membership meeting of the Greater Houston Gay and Lesbian Chamber of Commerce, according to Sandra Wilkins, GHGLCC board member.

Cirillo is scheduled to speak about American's anti-discrimination policy, treatment of their gay and lesbian employees and the airline's Gay and Lesbian Employee Association. The meeting will begin at 6:30 p.m. on Monday, Feb. 5 at the Doubletree Hotel at 400 Dallas Avenue, downtown. The meeting includes dinner, is open to the public and the cost is \$20.

"While working as a sales representative for American covering the San Francisco Bay area, Cirillo began sales and marketing efforts within the gay and lesbian market for the Gay Games and Stonewall 25," Wilkins explained.

Cirillo says those efforts were so successful that he presented a proposal for a position as gay and lesbian community sales representative. The company was so intrigued that the position was put into effect almost immediately. He has held the position for over a year and a half.

Since that time the position has grown substantially, according to Wilkins, who says the marketing and sales efforts have made American the most gay-friendly airline in North America.

American is now the national sponsor for organizations including the Human Rights Campaign and Turtle Creek Chorale. The company also sponsors several gay community events throughout the United States and Canada.

Cirillo is a member of the board of directors of the International Gay Travel

Association and Cheer Dallas.

For more information about the GHGLCC call the chamber office at 523-7576.

## Rainbow Classifieds On WWW

(HOUSTON)—Texas' first "Internet Information Depot" on the World Wide Web for the state's gay and lesbian communities is now available for viewing and posting information. The Texas Rainbow Classifieds offers 12 areas/sections to browse: Community Services, Social Calendar, Business Guide, Coupons, Want Ads, Personal Ads, Announcements, Employment, Obituaries, Community Needs, and Links to Other Web Sites and Search Engines. The service's goals are to promote community businesses; to assist gay, lesbian, bisexual and transgendered individuals in establishing meaningful relationships; and to promote and support organizations which benefit the community.

Free community announcements, personal ads, personal announcements, want-ads and obituaries are currently being accepted, representatives said. The first 50 businesses to advertise on the classifieds will get three months of advertising free of charge.

This Internet Web Page is not only for textual information. Those who wish may use this medium to transfer such information as full color graphics, sound files and video clips. Anyone with Internet access, whether via a service provider or on-line service such as America Online, Prodigy, etc. may browse this area. The Internet address or URI (uniform resource locator) is <http://www.insync.net/pgraphic>.

Additional information is available by contacting Dan DiDonato at Preferred Graphics, (713) 528-7654, or e-mail your request to [pgraphic@insync.net](mailto:pgraphic@insync.net).

## Montrose Clinic reports client increase in 1995

(HOUSTON)—Over 9500 clients visited the Montrose Clinic in 1995 for medical services related to HIV and Sexually Transmitted Diseases, up from 8,191 such visits the previous year, clinic officials reported. At year's end, STD services saw an increase of 27 percent; HIV testing and counseling increased by 13 percent; and client visits for HIV-related research studies at the Houston Clinical Research Network increased by 5 percent, according to Eileen Hegar, president of the clinic. She credited expanded services, more efficient hours of operation and the new facility at 215 Westheimer with offering more Houstonians access to the medical services provided by the clinic.

The greatest increase over the previous year were seen in the second half of the year, after the Clinic changed to scheduling services by appointment and expanded its hours, Hegar said. From July through August of 1995, STD services saw a 62 percent increase over the same period in 1994, while HIV testing and research services saw increases of 67 and 31 percent, respectively, for the same time period. HCRN also saw a 27 percent increase in the number of HIV-related clinical trials by the end of 1995, and a 72 percent increase in the total number of active clients participating in a clinical trial.

While the percentage of people who tes-

ted positive for HIV at the Montrose Clinic did not go up, the number of people who tested positive did, simply because more people overall were tested this year. Hegar views the rising number of people getting tested as a positive trend: "The good part of these increases people testing and seeking services is that we are now able to offer intervention to people who would not have known their status otherwise."

The Montrose Clinic is a non-profit, community based agency established to provide low or no-cost health, social, educational and research services. The clinic specializes in identifying unmet needs and developing client-centered programs to address those needs. All services are scheduled by appointment. Hours of operation are as follows: *HIV Testing* -Monday, Wednesday and Friday from 5-8 p.m.; Tuesday and Thursday, 1-5 p.m. *STD Testing* -Monday, Wednesday and Friday, 11:00 a.m.-8 p.m.; Tuesday and Thursday, 9:00 a.m.-6 p.m. *Frost Eye Clinic* -Monday and Thursday from 9:00 a.m.-5 p.m. *CMV Retinitis Screening* -every other Wednesday by appointment only. *HIV Dermatology Screening* -Tuesday, 1-5 p.m. *OB/Gyn Services* -Wednesday, 5-8 p.m. *Nutrition Clinic* -Thursday, 9:00 a.m.-12 p.m. (Call 285-1293 for scheduling). *Hearing screening* -first Monday of each month.

## Steven's House Wish List:

HIV/AIDS Transitional Living Home

- Fruit Juices: apple, grapefruit, orange, cranberry
- Soft Drinks: cola, diet cola, uncola, fruit flavors
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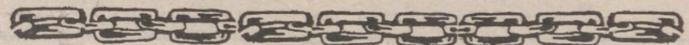


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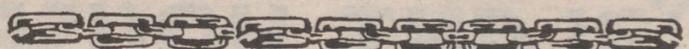
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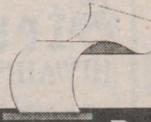


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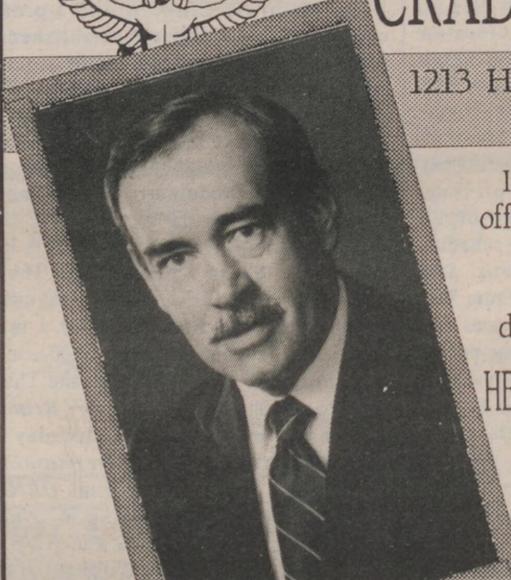
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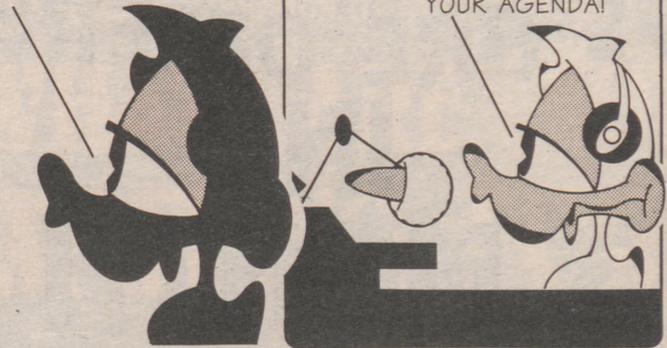
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# NEWS NOTES

Compiled by  
Mark Henry

## Symbolic Weddings Approved

The San Francisco Board of Supervisors unanimously approved a measure that recognizes symbolic civil wedding ceremonies between homosexual couples. The city-sanctioned ceremonies will not be recognized legally; however, it will allow gays and lesbians to formalize their relationships. "It's a very San Francisco sort of thing," according to Supervisor Carole Migden. The measure takes effect March 21 and weddings can begin at that time. San Francisco also enacted a city ordinance five years ago allowing gay couples to register as domestic partners for a fee of \$35. Over 3000 couples have registered to date.

## Homosexual Marriage Update

Rep. Terrance Tom, Hawaii's House Judiciary Committee chairperson issued a statement this week saying the states proposed same-sex marriage legislation appears to be dead, at least for this year. Tom said more study is needed on the effect the legislation would impose on the state's economy. The proposal was being heavily monitored throughout the country because marriages conducted in one state usually must be recognized in all states. The state Supreme Court ruled in May of 1993 that it was unconstitutional to deny marriage licenses to gay couples unless the state can prove a "compelling interest." Hawaii will attempt to do just that at a hearing in a suit by three gay couples who were denied marriage licenses. The hearing is set for July 15, 1996 in the state Supreme Court.

## Alabama Gay Rights Ruling

An Alabama law enacted in 1992 that bars state spending on homosexual groups was struck down by a federal judge in Montgomery. Judge Myron Thompson said that a state "may not exclude viewpoints with which it disagrees." Thompson added that the law was an unconstitutional prior restraint on rights of gays and was "naked viewpoint discrimination." An appeal is expected.

## New Yorker Writer Dies

A longtime staff writer at *The New Yorker* died of AIDS last Friday. Harold Brodkey, a critically acclaimed writer and poet, disclosed his illness in an essay that appeared in the June 21, 1993 edition of the magazine. "I have AIDS. I am surprised that I do..." the essay began. Brodkey's final essay for the monthly publication entails his last thoughts about impending death entitled "This Wild Darkness" will appear in the Feb. 5. issue.

## Israel Blood Bank Controversy

Ethiopian Jews have violently protested Israel's national blood bank policy of accepting blood donations from them, just to discard it for fear the blood may be tainted with the AIDS virus. Ethiopian Jews are upset and angered over the "separate and unequal" treatment they are being subjected to. Ethiopian Israelis are seeking the resignations of Health minister Ephraim Sneh and Blood Bank president Amnon Ben David. Protest organizer Adisu Messele issued a statement saying "we did not intend the demonstrations to become violent, but the

anger, the rage and frustration" overwhelmed. Israeli Prime Minister Shimon Peres apologized to the Ethiopians and called the blood bank policy "stupid, irresponsible and regrettable."

## Justice Department Questions Farrakhan- Gadhafi Link

The U.S. Justice Department is investigating whether or not Nation of Islam leader Louis Farrakhan is working on behalf of Libyan dictator Moammar Gadhafi. JANA, the Libyan news agency reported that the two met last week to discuss increasing the influence of minorities in the 1996 elections. In a letter to Farrakhan, the Justice Department informs him that it is a legal requirement to register under the Foreign Agent Registration Act in order to work with a foreign entity to influence U.S. policy. In related news, Farrakhan met with South African President Nelson Mandela where the two agreed on the principle of non racialism. Farrakhan also renewed his pledge to set aside land in Africa for descendants of U.S. slaves.

## Clinton Plan To Curb Immigration

The White House, at the behest of President Clinton, is preparing an executive order that would prohibit companies from receiving federal contracts if they knowingly hire illegal immigrants, according to USA Today. The directive would instruct the Labor Department's Office of Federal Contract Compliance and the Immigration and Naturalization Service to collaborate their effort at effectively alienating contractor who have hired illegal immigrants.

## Business/Media Capsule

General Media International, publisher of *Omni* and *Longevity* magazines has suspended publication of the monthly periodicals and laid off 40 staff members citing the rising cost of paper and postage. Publisher Bob Guccione said the magazines will be available through on-line services and return to newsstands when costs decrease.... American Express and MCI are jointly developing a service that will allow business travelers to charge MCI long-distance calls to their American Express Corporate accounts. ... Visa International and Block Financial, a division of H & R Block, plan to unveil a Web-Card Visa. The credit card will be marketed to "Web nuts" who have a fealty and penchant for the computer network. Card holders will be able to see their statements on line and download that information into personal finance software. ... Wal-Mart Stores and Microsoft are developing a joint on-line shopping venture titled Wal-Mart Online. The project, which is still in development, is planning to launch this spring. The service will allow shoppers to browse and buy Wal-Mart's regular array of merchandise on-line via the Internet. ... CBS News plans to air the interview with former tobacco executive Jeffrey Wigand this Sunday on *60 Minutes*. The network pulled the interview last November for fear of a threatened lawsuit from Brown and Williamson, Wigand's former employer. Wigand, in the interview, claims that the former CEO of Brown and Williamson committed perjury when he told Congress that nicotine is not addictive.

# Channel 8 to air documentary, *Positive: Life With HIV*



'Leather jacket angel' Marga Gomez provides a satirical overview

## Television Review

By JON ANTHONY

Houston Voice/Houston

Pull out your day planner and plan to be a couch potato for a couple of hours this Saturday, Feb. 3 from 11:00 p.m. to 1:00 a.m. KUHT Channel 8 in Houston will be airing the extraordinary series *Positive: Life With HIV*. If you are planning to be out Saturday night, I suggest you learn how to set your VCR to record this spectacular series. The four part series begins this Saturday and continues next week. Part 1: "Community" and Part 2: "Identity" air this weekend and Part 3 and Part 4 next weekend.

The programs are oriented around major themes related to the HIV experience. In "Community," we are introduced to a broad range of individuals who are afflicted with HIV. This is riveting television at its best. Emotional, poignant and informative, this series will leave you with a new understanding of community. In Part 1, we meet Stephanie, a ten-year old who through her drawings and candid words introduces us to her family and talks about her book *My Parents Have HIV/AIDS*. It is hard not to get misty eyed when Stephanie relates, "Like me, some of you may be living with HIV or AIDS in your families or among your friends. Your dad may have HIV, or your mom, or your brother or sister. My advice to you is don't be afraid to love them. They need lots of love."

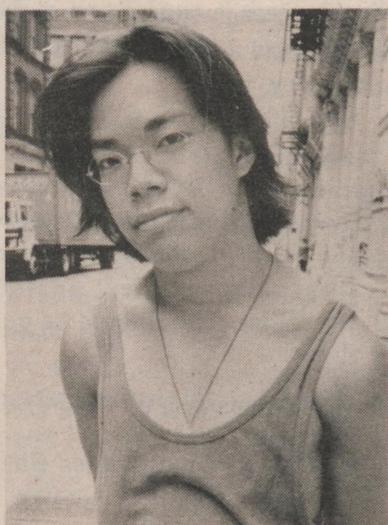
That's pretty profound coming from a 10 year old. In addition, The program takes us into a harlem community that works to reclaim crack-infested brownstones and provide safe housing and services. In other segments, a "leather-jacket angel with an attitude" provides us with a satirical overview of the AIDS crises, John and Kevin share their lives with respect to relationships and HIV and Lam Duc Kim shares the intricacies of cultural differences.

Part 2: "Identity" delves into similar turf, yet each and every story or vignette is unique and provides a different per-

spective to the viewer. Tonya Hall, 19, reflects on how she contracted the virus from her boyfriend at a time when they were still calling it the "gay cancer."

"I was the only woman I knew with HIV, so I felt like a leper," said Tonya. Sexuality is an interesting segment that provides opinions of issues of dating relationships and safer sex from the vantage point of HIV positive people. Debbie Thomas takes her son's advice on this segment to "get a life" and started a dating service for positive people. In a tender and poignant dramatized story, Snowfire, a West Indian man is unable to accept his gay son's life until faced with his death. The photo animation and experimental narrative are mesmerizing. *Smashing Plates* is a hysterically rousing parody performed by the New York City's AIDS Theater Project on stigma. This tongue-in-cheek musical comedy segment, where waiters break plates amidst the irrational fears of their customers, is riotous yet sad in its reality of society's ignorance with respect to this disease.

This is breathtaking television that will make you laugh, cry, feel and possibly motivate you to lend a hand or ear to those in our community who are confused, lonely or just plane scared. It's rare that documentaries of such a caliber get made, let alone viewed. This is worthy of your time and regardless of your status will provide you with an insight into the human psyche that we so often tend to forget. What's very interesting about the first two segments is that the series focuses on heterosexual victims of this disease more than the homosexual element. Further proof that this is not a "gay disease," rather a disease that inflicts people regardless of their race, gender, sexual orientation or another immaterial factor. This \*\*\* series is magnificent and should be watched by anyone and everyone who cares about their fellow human beings.



Lam Duc Kim is among the diverse individuals profiled in 'Community'

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# "Slave" Auction at the Ripcord!



A more dignified photo of new Emperor Jim Halbert and Empress Ruby Stone!

## Houston Soap

By CAROLYN ROBERTS

### Friday, Feb. 2

"On the Road to Vegas" is the theme of tonight's show at the Venture-N. MC's Jerel McNeil and Anita Mann, Imperial Prince and Princess X will lead you down the primrose path to Vegas. This is a fundraiser for the Court's P.R. Ball and the Colt 45's. Show time is 10:00 p.m. The guys and gals of the Court will be guest bartending in the upstairs bar also tonight from 9:00 p.m. 'till 1:00 a.m.

The Brotherhood of Pain and the Ripcord present a "slave" auction and SM carnival tonight! Buy those slave bucks now! The bids are sought starting at 10:00 p.m.

Get it hard, get it wet, get it ready! Friday "Foreplay" at Pacific Street features no cover until 9:00 p.m. The doors open at 7:00 p.m.

Gentry offers Absolut "anything" for only \$3.50. The Boy Toys whip it up for you starting at 6:00 p.m.

Happy hour hits J.R.'s Bar and Grill with hors d'oeuvres, hourly give-a-ways, and \$3.75 Skyy and Stoli!

Paivi pants the pants off of patrons at E/J's tonight! The male



Party Animals!



A picture is worth a 1000 words!

strip contest starts at 11:00 p.m.

### Saturday, Feb. 3

After a day of running errands, stop in Gentry for a cool imported beer for only \$3.50 and stick around for the Boy Toys that wiggle at 10:00 p.m.

The 611 Hyde Park Pub has male dancers for your pleasure tonight starting at 9:00 p.m.

Extraordinary friendships begin at the BriarPatch. Stop in tonight to hear Wayne play the songs you want to sing-along with and enjoy tasty cocktails.

"Leather and Flesh, and Flesh" Saturday nights at Pacific Street are hot, hot, hot! There is no cover for men in erotic leather. Pacific Street, where the cages of decadance are filled with men for your pumping pleasure.

### Sunday, Feb. 4

Soiree Aubergine's fundraising efforts are in full force! Tonight at the Brazos River Bottom, "Creme de la Creme" will take the stage at 7:00 p.m. This fundraiser, as all the fundraisers for Soiree, are to benefit the Bering Community Service Foundation Meals Program.

Sundays at J.R.'s feature 99¢ well vodka juice drinks from noon to 11 p.m., karaoke with Marsha Carlton at 6:00 p.m., and Kofi and her amateur strip contestants cap the evening off at 11:00 p.m.

Relieve some tension and knock a few balls around today at 5:00 p.m. at Gentry. The 8-ball tournament starts at 5:00 p.m. Still have some pent up energy? The Boy Toys will make it harder at 7:00 p.m., and if you are still up to it, Black Velvet makes 'em take it off starting at 11:00 p.m. If you need to keep cool, try a \$2 Kool-Aid shot. The special runs all day and all night!

OK, this is a first! The First Annual Deviled Egg contest will be at E/J's today at 2:00 p.m. There is a minimum of one dozen eggs to enter. For more info, call E/J's at 527-

9071.

Men and Mine! Sundays offer Texas' largest beer bust on the patio! \$2 optional buy-in and refills of Miller Lite Draft for only 25¢, or wrap your hands around a domestic longneck for only a buck!

There is a celebration of life for Tom Dureit at 2:00 p.m. in the outback at Mary's.

### Monday, Feb. 5

It is half-price locker night at Club Houston. You can enjoy the entire facility for \$5.50.

Start your Monday morning off with an eye-opener, cup of coffee, or the hair of the dog at Cousin's. The doors open at 8:00 a.m. Happy hour runs until 9:00 p.m.

Paivi pampers partisans of promiscuity to please patrons of E/J's tonight starting at 11:00 p.m.

Chances always opens its doors and hearts to all members of our community! Be sure to check out their economy priced Jose Cuervo at \$2 per shot today and every day!

There is a pool tournament tonight at the Montrose Mining Company! You can get in the mood to rack 'em with \$3.50 Texas-sized doubles all night long! Men and the Mine!

### Tuesday, Feb. 6

It is half-price locker and room night at Club Houston. A locker is \$5.50 and a room is only \$8. Come on, try it!

Catia Lee Love hosts the show tonight at E/J's. Her guests this week are: Victoria Nicole, Dynasty, Sivi Ross, and the winner of the 11:00 p.m. Saturday night talent contest hosted by Tara Dion. This should be quite a show!

### Wednesday, Feb. 7

Attention! Commander Catia is on stage tonight at Gentry. You are invited and will attend! Catia commands handsome men to remove their clothes for you! The clothes drop at 11:00 p.m.

The Men of Chicago blow into Houston tonight and will be dancing their booties off at J.R.'s Bar and Grill and Heaven. Check out these 5 hot men from the windy city. DJ Le-



Stop in the Venture-N and have a drink with Mark!

Roy Peters spins Retro-Rave tonight at Heaven. Get in the mood to dance with \$1 well cocktails all night long!

The Venture-N offers \$1 on all bottled beer today! This special runs all day and all night!

Professional and amateur dancers are invited to dance in the cages of Pacific Street tonight! "Cage Craze" offers open cages to the willing! Come on and show off what you've got!

Slop shot pool is back at Mary's. Join Gaye and the boys for this messy pool tournament at 1:00 p.m. ALSO, the Montrose Clinic will be giving anonymous HIV testing from 4:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. It is free and they won't even ask you your name!

### Thursday, Feb. 8

Stop in Chances tonight and enjoy a Mini-Martini or a Cherry Bomb for only a dollar!

Go by the Lazy J tonight and see what they have up their sleeves! You can always find fun at the Lazy J.

Darlene pours a mean one at the Outpost. Stop in and check out the remodeled bar at 1419 Richmond.

The Men of Chicago heat up Heaven tonight! These are five hot men who will make Heaven as hot as Hell! You can cool down with 75¢ well cocktails all night long! At 11:00 p.m. Kofi and Regina Dane host the male strip contest! All these men will make you feel like you are in Heaven on earth!



Stacy and Tiffany give Roe some whipped cream...FIST style!

# Packed Rodent Droppings!

## Other Important Stuff

The Names Project, Houston is looking for donations of "stuff" to be sold at their garage sale which will be held on Feb. 17 & 18, 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. Clean out your closet or garage and donate. If you would like more info, call Pete at 52-NAME.

It is that time again! The Westheimer Street Festival and its board of directors invite one and all to enter this year's spring poster contest. Entries must be delivered to the Hyde Park Gallery before Feb. 29, 5:00 p.m. If you would like more info, call Larry at 526-2744.

The Brazos River Bottom and the Ripcord sponsor buses to Mardi Gras in Galveston. Tickets are \$25. Stop into either bar and get yours soon! They go fast.

Basic Brothers is having a sale! Buy the first pair of underwear and get the second for 50% off! This includes undies by 2Xist, Sauvage, and Calvin Klein!

Tax season is coming up! Hubbard Financial Service will do your taxes for you! Call them at 522-9000 for more info.

Does your auto go "clunk" and you don't know why? Take it to Taft Street Auto and they will be able to help you. Call 526-3723 for an appointment.

Feathers of Montrose is a unique place to try out your fantasies! They have a coupon in this issue for 1/2 price off! Call 527-8950 and set up your appointment.

Club 403 has closed their doors as of this past weekend! Bars sure drop like



Lordy, lordy look who is forty!



Ed of E/J's actually does some hard work!



"I'm just a girl that can't say no!"

flies in that location!

Do you want to see the Big Sky? Outwest Adventures is a gay ski tour company. Call 1-800-743-0458 or see the ad in this issue.

What are you and your sweetheart doing on Valentine's day? AVES and the Center for AIDS is sponsoring a Valentine's Day dance and celebration to be held at DiverseWorks! Call 223-8346 for more info.

This week's titles at the French Quarter are *Street Meat* and *Thick of It*.

Fat Man Productions presents *Toyer*, an adult thriller by Gardner McKay. This play is produced and directed by Anthony E.P. Hill and stars Carol Dougherty and Chip Manfre. Call Houston Skyline Theater at 523-1530 for info and reservations.

White Brook Originals has unique and nifty baskets for Valentine's Day and all other occasions. Call David or Mike at 952-8411.

## Birthday Corner

A Happy (Buy ME a drink) Birthday to Bill Havard!

A Happy (So now you really are somewhere between forty and death) Birthday to my old, old, OLD friend Mark Ferrin!

A Happy (Oh La La) Birthday to Rita Charles!

## Rodent Droppings

Ratrat and Harvey are getting a little anxious about the move! I can't play with them as much because of all the boxes surrounding their cages! But just think, they will have their own room in the new house! I hope I find all their toys, 'cuz they have hidden a bunch of them! Harvey did something last week I had never seen before. He wagged his tail... like a dog! Ferrets are not known for this, but really it happened!

As usual, my world-coveted disclaimer is in force! I take NO responsibility for the droppings that follow! I do NOT verify facts or even investigate what I am told! I just do what feels good!

On with the droppings!

Catia Lee Love: So, you have mirrors on the ceiling of your bedroom? Just what do you watch? Or is that your make-up mirror?

Steve Nally (TWT): So, you were out in a tux and tails! Did you get any tail with your tails?

Ricky (BRB): "So, your mind is the only thing he has that is short!

John (VN): I heard that Victor (VN) served you some cherries in a very special way last week! Wasn't that incestuous? AND Congrats on your

promo to Asst. Mgr.!

Bill Havard (BRB): I hear you have to order more Cactus Juice now that Vera (BRB) has gone to TABC school and learned that water with Cactus Juice doesn't make her as drunk as Cactus with soda.

Dwayne (The Canadian): Yes, I DO take things out of context! Got a problem with that?

Found on a scribbled bar napkin in my in-basket: "The Golden Globe Awards were last week. The best performance should go to Don (BRB). Judy thinks he is drinking coffee not booze with Vera (BRB) each day!"

Steve Baker (Houston City Limits): Congrats on winning the Mr. BRB Contest! Yee Ha!!

Lulu (E/J's): I hear the instructor at TABC school made you take your jewelry off! It was making so much noise the class couldn't concentrate!

La Tease (Hangs at Rich's): Do you always order drinks at Rich's when there is no one behind the bar?

Steve Westerfield (PS): Honey, don't you know the difference between February and November?

Byron (BRB): So, you are the new GM? Does that stand for Gay Male, Good Meal, Great Man, or Gargantuan Mess?

Jim Roberts (VN): So, you have new balls?

Dwayne (Lives behind Heaven): How come your new neighbors only lasted a week? Are you a screamer?

Mark (VN): I enjoyed meeting your friend Bubba!

Rabbitt (Ripcord): I hear that you are now one of

those people my mother warned me about! (Talk about a dangling participle!)

Nelly Kelly: I hear you have been playing around with the pay phones again!

Devin (Mary's): What's wrong honey, you don't like to wash glasses? OR do you have a plastic fetish!

d' Artagnan: And I quote: "I like Greek!"

Wendy Chicago: I hear you finally got some!

Jennifer (Chances): And I quote: "I'm looking for a girlfriend, professional, no, no, Cuervolyn don't write that down... and blonde!"

Vanna Lee Love: I hear you are the princess of the blue flame! Do the rhinestones fall off your crown when you cut cheese? AND I hear Sabrina (Vanna's puppy) does a great impression of one of Hogan's Heroes!

Val (Escape): How was that show you MC'd Monday night? Tossing your cookies again?

Scott (Rainbow Rangler): I hear you have a new name: "La Sasha Grande!"

Javier (TGRA): How are your "Wonder Woman" twirls?

George (Gentry strip contest winner): Why do they call you elephant man? And do you have an Accujack?

Papa Del (Gentry): No, I am not perfect, but I try!

Marlene (Chances): I understand that do have a casting carpet instead of a casting couch!

By the time you read this, Lazer Wizard and I will be unpacking in our new house! So, if you don't see me out and about for a while it is because I have my hands full!

TTFN

*Cuervolyn*



Barbara (Chances) cleans up well!



Renee, Madam and Alan perform at the Soiree kick-off!

# Speakers urge churches to listen to gays

DENVER, Saturday, Jan. 27 (AP)—Churches should do more to welcome homosexuals into their congregations, two faculty members at the Iliff School of Theology said.

Gays and lesbians often take a big risk when revealing their sexual orientation to fellow Christians because of discrimination, said Joretta Marshall, assistant professor of pastoral care and counseling.

Marshall and Larry Graham, professor of pastoral theology and care,

spoke Friday on the final day of the Iliff Week of Lectures. Both have studied the issue of caring for gays and written books about how churches relate to homosexuals.

"There's a risk for gays and lesbians to be public because the church has discriminated and at times been downright mean," Marshall said.

She told of an incident about 10 years ago, in a small Midwestern town, when a church member bragged to her that he and others had burned down the house where two women lived together.

Marshall said she has tried to understand the intensity of rage that would drive people to do that.

Christians should try to talk with gays and lesbians about their concerns to air the emotions and fears on both sides, Graham said.

He said Jesus never said anything about gays, and the word homosexual isn't even in the Bible. Those verses that have been used to teach that homosexual practice is sinful can be interpreted differently within Christianity, he said.

Nevertheless, "we really believe the Bible at some core level," said

Homosexuals can teach church members many things about "death and dying and other catastrophic issues," said Graham, because many have lost friends to AIDS.

Those on both sides of the issue can learn to "hear each other's fears and complexities," said Marshall.

And ministers could start by preaching sermons about homophobia, he said.

## CLASSIFIEDS

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

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The **GAY & LESBIAN YELLOW PAGES** is hiring experienced salespeople. Call 942-0084 or fax resume to 942-0085.

The **VENTURE-N** is looking for bartenders and doormen. Applications accepted daily from 2 p.m. - 4 p.m. at 2923 Main St. No phone calls, please.

Take a chance! **CHANCES** is looking for bartenders, barback & waitstaff. Call 523-7217 after 2pm. Ask for Marlene.

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

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

The **BRB** is accepting applications for bartender, doorman, floor & barback positions and security. Applications accepted daily until 4:00pm at 2400 Brazos. Photo required. No phone calls.

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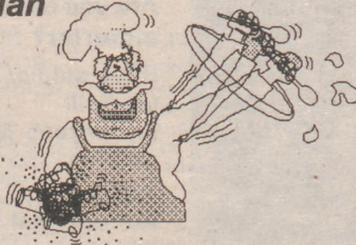
# RECIPES BY KUNTRY KIDD

Hi! Last October I gave you a recipe from a cookbook called "Southwest Taste" for a triple chocolate cake. Well, this week I have a recipe for you from the same book. If you like flan, you should really like this. The picture in the book really caught my eye. The flan is made with red yams, and I must admit, the picture turns out where the flan looks much redder than mine did, but could be made with a different variety yam than I purchased. In any case, it's very tasty. I usually make my flan from the box. Either Goya or Jello brand is pretty good for as easy as it is. This recipe does take time, but I feel it's worth your effort.

## Red Yam Flan

Serves 6 to 8

- 2 or 3 red or yellow yams (about 1-1/4 lbs) to yield 1-1/2 cups puree
- 1-1/2 cups sugar
- 3/4 cup water
- 8 eggs
- 2 egg yolks
- 1 14-ounce can Eagle brand sweetened condensed milk
- 1 cup heavy cream
- 1 cup half and half
- 1-1/2 tsp. vanilla extract
- 1/2 tsp. each ground cinnamon, allspice, and nutmeg



Preheat the oven to 325 degrees. Scrub the yams and bake for 1 to 1-1/2 hours, depending on size, until they are soft. Remove them from the oven, peel yams, cut into chunks, and puree in a blender or a food processor fitted with a steel blade (I used a blender). You should have 1-1/2 cups. Set aside to cool.

While the yams are baking, prepare the caramel. In a small heavy bottomed saucepan, bring the sugar and 1/4 cup of the water to a boil over high heat, washing down any crystals clinging to the sides of the pan with a pastry brush dipped in cold water. Watch the syrup carefully, not stirring, and when it turns a golden brown and is bubbling furiously, pour it into the center of an aluminum or glass 9-inch flan pan or soufflé dish, swirling the syrup around the bottom and partially up the side of the pan. Pour any remaining syrup that does not adhere back into the pot, add the remaining 1/2 cup of water, and bring the syrup back to a boil to serve with the flan. Set aside.

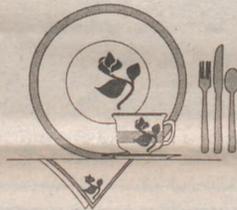
Beat the eggs and egg yolks in a bowl until light and fluffy. Add the remaining ingredients, along with the cooled yam puree, and beat well.

Pour the mixture into the prepared pan, place it in a roasting pan, and pour boiling water into the roasting pan so it comes halfway up the sides of the pan. Bake for 1 hour, or until firm throughout. Do not overbake.

Remove from the water bath, cool to room temperature, and then chill. To unmold, run a knife around the edge of the flan, place a serving plate over the flan, and invert, rapping it on the counter to loosen the flan. Pour off any juice and serve with the caramel sauce.

UNTIL NEXT WE EAT!

KUNTRY KIDD



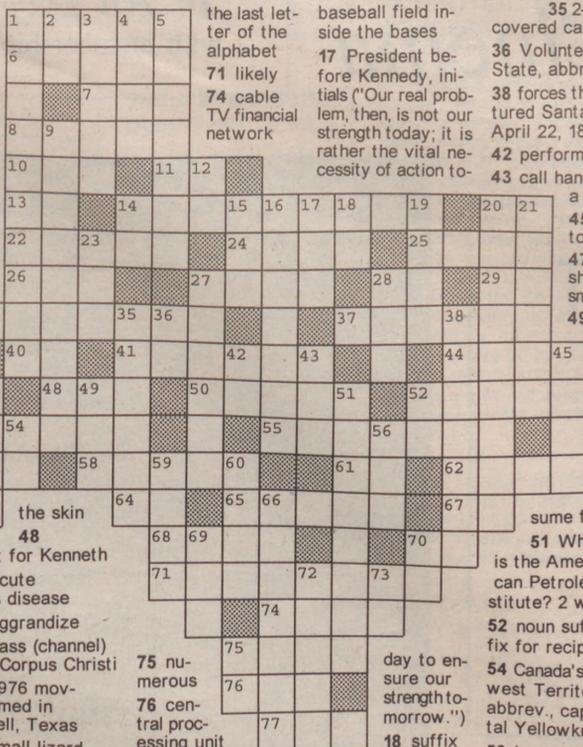
# The Great American Puzzle

## TEXAS EDITION

By Henry McClurg

### ACROSS

- 1 aux. verb used to express a command
- 6 bone between knee & ankle
- 7 Franklin, the man who stood in an electrical storm and flew a kite
- 8 amid
- 10 to make by tatting
- 11 4th day of the work week, abbrev.
- 13 Roman numeral 4
- 14 in 1836, Sam Houston became this, of Texas
- 20 group for alcoholics, abbrev.
- 22 carry by boat
- 24 stops
- 25 expel
- 26 a personal career-ending credit arrangement, abbrev.
- 27 restaurant
- 28 noun suffix for quality
- 29 country way of saying poor
- 30 order of Texas admission to the Union, 2 words
- 37 Texas city with America's largest urban bat colony
- 39 mass of floating ice
- 40 type of electricity, abbrev.
- 41 positive electrodes
- 44 periods of time
- 46 strip off



- the last letter of the alphabet
- 71 likely
- 74 cable TV financial network
- baseball field inside the bases
- 17 President before Kennedy, initials ("Our real problem, then, is not our strength today; it is rather the vital necessity of action to-
- covered carriage
- 36 Volunteer State, abbrev.
- 38 forces that captured Santa Anna April 22, 1836
- 42 perform
- 43 call handle for a knight
- 45 cause to end
- 47 a ship's small boat
- 49 con-
- the skin
- 48
- 51 What is the American Petroleum Institute? 2 words
- 52 noun suffix for recipient
- 54 Canada's Northwest Territories, abbrev., capital Yellowknife
- 56 by way of
- 59 coarse brown seaweed
- 60 capital of Norway
- 66 coverings on the hub of car wheels
- 69 large coffee pot
- 70 the letter Z phonetically
- 72 make void
- 73 author "Carroll" of Alice in Wonderland fame, initials
- 75 Roman numeral 1100
- Solution elsewhere this issue
- c.1996 GULF FEATURES, PUZZLE TX163

### DOWN

- 1 arranged in layers
- 2 Aloha State, abbrev.
- 3 monastery superior
- 4 legal claim on another's property
- 5 Judge Roy Bean held court here a century ago
- 9 Dallas' NBA franchise
- 12 symbol for chemical element helium
- 14 acronym for public relations
- 15 ocean
- 16 part of
- 19 play-things for kids
- 20 candidates
- 21 lacking a tonal center
- 23 waste cloth
- 27 rough water with small waves
- 28 interjection to express annoyance
- 31 American author Faulkner, initials ("The end of wisdom is to dream high enough to lose the dream in the seeking of it.")
- 32 pixie



# GALAXY GAYZER

A HOUSTON VOICE EXCLUSIVE

## HOROSCOPE FOR THE WEEK OF FEBRUARY 2 - 8, 1996



**IF THIS WEEK IS YOUR BIRTHDAY:** Your social agenda will be quite lively for the next several months. You will have your fair share of popularity with the opposite sex, and there is great potential for a new romance. Regarding money matters, try to consolidate any future gains into one solid investment.

**ARIES** (March 21-April 20) Your spirit of independence and adventure is strong during the week, and you may likely seek answers and opportunities far from home. Hasty decisions to questions concerning the job or everyday routine need to be avoided. Steer clear of troublemakers.

**TAURUS** (April 21 - May 21) Your mate or business partner will be very helpful in matters relating to financial dealings. Don't be too sure of what seems like a safe bet, avoid taking any foolish risks. There are a few opportunities in various areas which will expand your horizons.

**GEMINI** (May 22 - June 21) An agreement with a companion can unleash a new potential for mutual expression, whether in a creative vein, personal alliance or moneymaking scheme. You have the tendency to take much for granted and magnify situations which are not all that they seem; be careful.

**CANCER** (June 22 - July 23) Stick to routine matters and get as much accomplished as possible with minimal fuss. People both at home and at work will appreciate your diligence and efficiency. Draw on your intelligence and use your charm to get to the heart of things. You'll need help from others.

**LEO** (July 24- August 23) Your creative juices are flowing in all directions, and positively affecting everything you do. Your heightened creativity and inventiveness will add another dimension to your work. Instead of forging ahead on your own, it's best to enlist the help of others close to you.

**VIRGO** (August 24 - September 23) Be extra cautious in communications with a loved one. Avoid arguing and using a take charge attitude, for this is definitely a joint venture. There may be a problem at work with a new co-worker, so rise above resentments and reach for a new status through hard work.

**LIBRA** (September 24 - October 23) This week is no time to let your emotions overrule your mind, try hard to follow your intuitions. Between ups and downs in home life, romance, creative pursuits and finances, you will feel like you are on a seesaw gone wild. Somehow, everything will turn out fine.

**SCORPIO** (October 24 - November 22) Your intuition is in high gear now, so it pays to listen to your inner voice regarding a financial deal. In other matters, particularly your homelife, it will probably be necessary to compromise. Zero in on routine chores and you will accomplish quite a bit.

**SAGITTARIUS** (November 23 - December 21) Forge ahead and climb up that career ladder, you have more support from higher ups than you realize. Diverse trends favor your money activities, but don't be tempted to throw away advantages you've gained to obtain instant profits. Don't try to please everyone.

**CAPRICORN** (December 22 - January 20) Try to complete unfinished odds and ends at work by mid-week, when personal interests will take over. Cooperation from others is scarce, so no matter what you do, there will probably be a bit of trouble. Your financial picture is becoming rather rosy.

**AQUARIUS** (January 21 - February 19) This week could be rather hectic, and you have the tendency to overdue it, so at least try to pace yourself. Try not to overspend, because coming up short will be tougher to work your way out of. Your pleasing manner and attractiveness will be assets in dealing with the public.

**PISCES** (February 20 - March 20) Business activities may be a bit disappointing; perhaps your expectations are exceeding possibilities. If you are getting the feeling that someone is undermining you on the job, you could be right. Do some investigating on your own, and don't overreact.

## Personal Instructions

### TO PLACE A HOUSTON VOICE PERSONAL AD --

Come to our offices at 811 Westheimer, Suite 105. It's a good idea to write out (up to fifty words) what you want to say. The annual cost is only \$29.95 -- less than one dollar per week. (6months -\$17.50 and 3 months-\$10) At the office you will be given the functioning details. Ads can also be placed by mail, with payment enclosed, phone 713-529-8490, for details.

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

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

**TO ANSWER AN AD BY MAIL:** Each ad has a five digit code. Write your response and

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

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

G - Gay, M - male; F - female;  
W - white; B - black;  
H - hispanic, A - asian,  
HWP - height, weight, proportionate,  
DDF- disease, drug free

**2 Full Hours  
Only \$4**  
GET THE BEST FOR LESS

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Uncensored Voice Mail Boxes  
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713-778-6660      713-778-6689



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65¢ each additional  
2hr. access for 1 min.  
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Result:  
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**FOR WOMEN ONLY**

There's no charge to leave a greeting:  
**1-800-326-MEET**  
To pick-up your private responses or browse:  
**1-900-933-4256**  
ADULTS ONLY MUST BE 18+ OS 415-281-9183 STILL ONLY \$1.99/MIN.

**HOUSTON**

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*Personals*

*For details call (713) 529-8490*

**MIDNIGHT MATINEE  
SPECIAL**  
Sunday thru Thursday  
Midnight til Closing  
Admission \$4  
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**FRENCH QUARTER**  
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*All Male Cinema*  
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Matinee**  
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The  
Heart  
Of  
The  
Cold,  
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**DIRECTED BY JAMIE HENDRIX**

**STREET  
MEAT  
  
AND  
  
THICK  
OF IT**

Friday & Saturday  
11am - 3am  
Monday-Thursday  
11am - 1am  
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1pm - 1 am

**THICK OF IT**

TONY BROCCO CHASE ALLEN CORY TAYLOR JASON PRIDE YORK POWERS  
ALEX DANES RYAN WAGNER  
FROM CATALINA VIDEO AND DIRECTOR CHI CHI LARUE  
MODEL: TONY BROCCO

# Houston VOICE Personals

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

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

## SERIOUS & SINCERE ONLY

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

## GALVESTON: LOOKING FOR SEXUAL BUDDIES

I'm 43, married, 5'10", 160lbs., average looks, DDF, clean, top-cut-discreet. Ad 25598.

## EUROPEAN GUY

I am 27 years old, 5'7", 132, brown hair and brown eyes, healthy (HIV-), warm and caring. I enjoy movies (foreign), music, animals, cars, etc. I'm looking for a compatible, masculine, professional man who is single, smart, funny and charming. Ad 25715

## POSITIVE MIND, BODY & SOUL

Extremely handsome Gay Latin Male, 34, 5'6", 165#, bk/bw, mustache is currently seeking special friend. Me: Financially stable, very healthy, swimmers build, smooth body, versatile bottom, romantic, honest, passionate with high pos. attitude & self esteem, easy going man with great sense of humor & sensitivity. You: GWM 28-45, 5'8" plus, HWP, good looking, financially stable & healthy versatile top. If you've been searching for a man above average, with similar values & sincerity, here's your chance! No feds or druggies. Letters preferred, photo requested. Ad 25748

## FREE TO LOVE

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

## READY FOR A STEADY

Interesting GWM looking for a special gentleman. I'm 38, 6'2", 175, brown/blue, professionally employed, healthy, happy, emotionally & financially stable, warm, caring & relationship oriented. I enjoy travel, Nautilus, family, friends & more. I'm seeking a compatible GWM, 30s to 40s, height/weight proportional, who is single, smart, funny, charming, HIV-, clean-cut & happy. Respond today -I'm ready! Ad 25720

## PARENTING, ANYONE?

Sincere, mature, responsible, stable, attractive, professional GWM desires to be apart of the parenting process. Lesbian couple, or lesbian single preferred to participate in one of life's greatest treasures. Joint-custody or custody to the couple with visitation for male frequently. With so much to give to a child, why waste it when gay couples and singles have proven that we are unbeatable as parents with more depth and love to give. Ad 25723

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

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

## FF BOTTOM HANDSOME & VERSATILE

Looking to meet dominant men into FF/Bondage/TR & other kink for red hanky action. Ad 25751

## ATTENTION -NUDIST

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

## FURTHER INVESTIGATION NECESSARY

I can't be defined in a personal ad. It's merely an introduction. You must listen to my voice, look into my eyes, feel the gentle touch of my hand to truly get to know me. I am a man who enjoys being with a man. I'm 31 GBM who sports goatee and short hair. I'm employed, have several other interests and there's a bit more to me than meets the eye. Want to find out how much more, drop me a detailed letter. My only request is that you are attractive, sexy, intelligent and compassionate. I have a slight preference to fuzzy navels and goatees. C'mon, cross over. Ad 25755

## SEEK SUBMISSIVE OLDER WHITE MEN

Oriental male looking for submissive older white men. Possible long term. I'm 34, 5'6", 160#. Clean, discreet and HIV-, aggressive and demanding. Letters preferred. Phone and photos a plus. Let's fulfill both of our fantasies. Ad 25737

## LOOKING FOR THAT SPECIAL PERSON

GWM, early 30's, non-smoker, looking for GWM, 30-45. I enjoy movies, intimate dinners & the outdoors. Ad 25730

## WANTED: BOY

For long-term monogamous relationship with "gifted" GWM in early 40s. I am 6', 170#, auburn/hazel, w/moustache. A true "daddy". I am healthy and HIV-. You should be younger, attractive, masculine and DDF. Letter only w/photo and phone #. Ad 25719

## LONELY GHM

31, 5'7", 135#, seeks GW or GHM for life-mate, monogamous relationship. Must be honest, sincere, 32+ year of age. I'm HIV-, short black hair. Enjoy travelling, being adventurous. You must be the same and versatile. No games. Photo please. Physical must be terrific. Ad 25739

## GWM TOP

Seeks Latin/dark complexion, masculine, versatile bottom. Me: Physically fit, degreed, fun, versatile for the right man. Enjoy friends, weights, dancing, running, leather. Would like to connect with another mature, employed, addiction-free, serious man. I'm HIV-/good looking. No games. Call/write ONLY if we share similar goals/interests. Ad 25694

## TWICE THE FUN!

Two good looking masculine guys, 25 & 30, interested in meeting business professional (25-45) for occasional hot, safe, discreet fun. Must be successful, masculine and in shape. Prefer mail responses, letter/photo. Ad 25721

## GWF COUPLE LOOKING FOR NEW FRIENDS

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

## BOTTOM SEEKS TOP

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

## GWM PROFESSIONAL

40's, 5'11", 165 lbs, good looks, nice tanned body (HIV-). Enjoy movies, sports, cars, the beach, music & dining in & out. ISO younger HWP hispanic for dating. Desire monogamous relationship. Be DDF. I've a lot to offer. You will be pleased you answered. Ad 25705

## PARENTING IS A WONDERFUL EXPERIENCE

In search of a GWF, single or couple, to fulfill one of life's greatest enjoyments, having a baby. I'm a GWM, 38, 5'8", in very good health, college degree professional, who is considered good looking, mature, responsible and very sincere. I'm flexible pertaining to support, visitation and custody and am willing to discuss wide arrangement both during and after birth. Let's face it. Gay people make great parents and offer more love and support than many straight couples. Ad 25747

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

## AFFECTIONATE TEDDY BEAR WANTS CUDDLY CUB

GWM, 56, 6'2", 285, big bear, professional, clean cut seeks loving cub for companion, fun, and a devoted monogamous relationship. I want what I am: sincere, loyal, sense of humor, honest, masculine, caring, sensitive, trusting, lots of TLC., respect, genuine and unlimited passion. Interests: Movies, art galleries/museums, dining out, quiet evenings at home, and lots of candlelight conversation and sharing. Discreet, NS, and DDF. U B 2. If you can relate, please respond. Prefer mail responses. Ad 25745

## SEEKING HIV+ HISPANIC MALE

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

## TURNED-ON BY INDIGENOUS CULTURES

Middle-aged GWM, intelligent, well-endowed, comfortably situated, seeking GM warrior/prince, 7 years, descended from a culture native to the Americas. Photos appreciated; native attire a plus. Ittibaapilli, ayokpuli, polooma; apaixonado se por, entusiasmo; en amor y compania. Ad 25733

## NEED DADDY YOU NEVER REALLY HAD?

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

## THE FOREVER MAN

Professional, mature, masculine, successful, fun-loving GWM, youthful, 40, 5'11", 180#, well built and very attractive w/dark hair and blue eyes. Interested in a long term monogamous relationship based on loyalty, trust, and most importantly, passion. True love runs deep, and there is nothing quite like it. Ad 25717

## GENTLE LEATHER "DAD" SEEKS NOVICE "BOY"

Attractive GWM physician, 35, 5'10", 160, new in town, seeks boy 18-24 with interest in light S/M, B/D. Very understanding and patient. If you ever thought of getting into "leather" with a gentle but firm master, give me a call. Ad 25744

## CHRISTMAS CAME EARLY

December 23, 1995 Randy, sign instructor, br. hair/eyes, goatee. Rm. 20-something M.T. Spa. Me: Br. hair/eyes, beard, hairstylist. Brief encounter was short, but not forgotten, nor is your beautiful smile. Would like to know you better under different circumstances, or meet again at M.T. Spa. Contact me and make the arrangements. Charles. Ad 25749

## LET ME MAKE YOUR HEART SMILE

I'm 5'10", 165 lbs, extra nice legs, warm smile, big heart with lots of love to offer if our chemistry is right. I'm open to all inquiries, but prefer 25-35 bottom with smooth skin as I have a hairy chest. Now please note I'm also HIV+, but very healthy, active & loving. Please give me a chance & I promise you won't be disappointed. Prefer mail response. Ad 25754

## HAIRY MAN WANTED

Attractive GWM, 30, h.brown/blue, 6'1", 155 lbs. smooth chested with facial hair, healthy, HIV+, top/bottom. Seeking attractive, clean cut GWM or GHM, 28-40, in Houston area. I like hairy chested, stocky men with facial hair, also top/bottom. If you enjoy friends, movies and nightclubs as well as quiet romantic evenings at home, lets get to know each other better. Prefer mail response with photo. Ad 25753

## CHRISTIAN SEEKS LIFEMATE

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

## KIDNAP ME

Take me to your playroom. Bind me, use me, then release me in a couple of days. My captor(s): attractive, HWP, HIV-, serious master(s) and/or mistress(es). I am a successful intelligent WBIM, handsome, nice body & highly sensual, HIV-, HWP, with a weakness for the smell of leather who desires to be totally dominated. Ad 25711

## "NOT ONLY ON WEEKENDS"

Single, black, female romantic seeks friend for possible relationship. Seeks woman who is certain of herself, her wants and desires. Interests include: movies, parks, special get-aways, moonlit nights. Quality time very important; also hand-holding, good conversation, and a sense of humor. Must be stable, sincere and spiritually motivated. Ad 25740

## EAT WELL

Cute Asian chef, educated, 25, 5'7", 130#, desires hamburger, tortilla, or egg rolls in my cooking pot with cooking time up to 40. Likes cooking, movies, and wild dessert for two. Will eat more if one has the right ingredients and well-flavored. Would you mold my dough? Mail responses preferred. Ad 25746

## VERY WELL ENDOWED

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

## HIV+ HISPANIC MALE

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

## I HAVE EVERYTHING I NEED EXCEPT YOU!!!

GWM executive, 40, 5'10", 170, attractive, seeks special guy for serious dating relationship. Enjoy movies, theater, travel, dining out, quiet romantic evenings. Prefer mature younger guy, 24-30, who needs that special person to make their life complete. If you think you deserve the best, call. Humble/Kingwood area a plus! Ad 25741

## PASADENA: 3 CAN BE GOOD COMPANY

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

## EAST SIDE GWM SEEKS FRIENDS/POSSIBLE RELATIONSHIP

I am 35, 5'8", 145, brown hair, blue eyes, healthy, HIV-, happy, well built, attractive, masculine, and successful with strong work ethic. Interested in movies, music, plants, pets, dance, intimate evenings, versatile "top." Seeking HIV-honest, sincere, attractive, healthy, financially stable GM with strong work ethic for friendships and possibly loyal, long term monogamous relationship. Not looking for someone well endowed, just intelligent with a kind heart. Send photo -mail responses preferred. Ad 25750

## SOUL/LIFE MATE WANTED

GWM, 51, 5'10", 205 lbs. stocky weightlifter, HIV-, professional demeanor, active Christian, conservative straight lifestyle, seeks brawny, bear, linebacker, beefy hunk/chunk with similar attributes. Physically challenged encouraged to reply. Thanks! Ad 25727

## IF YOU KNOW...

how to follow orders, contact me. I am 46, 5'9", 190, hairy, aggressive and demanding. Ad 25673

## INDIAN SEEKS COWBOY

Attractive, intelligent, Indian male, 30, brown hair/eyes, 5'4", DDF, not into active gay lifestyle. Interests include long walks, fishing, hiking, the beach and quiet evenings at home. Seeking stable GWM "Cowboy," 35-40, HWP, DDF, with similar interests for long-term monogamous relationship. Looks not important. All letters answered. Photo requested. Ad 25752

## SIR, ARE YOU OUT THERE?

Sir, you are aggressive, demanding, roughly 35-50 and rough. You train, order, command, and expect excellent service. At your whim and pleasure, you discipline, humiliate, restrain, bind, and abuse. I can trust you and submit. All 5'8", 165, GWM fit parts safe in your hands. Call, write, your desire. Ad 25653

## D... D...

GWM, 6', 150#, beard, mustache, very healthy HIV+, non-smoker-drinker-drugs, straight appearance seeks same in bottom. For a great time anytime let's get together. Prefer mail responses. Ad 25729

## GO FOR IT!

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

## AFTERNOON DELIGHT

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

## FEMININE GWF PRINCESS READY FOR ROMANCE

Are you looking for a young, mature, intelligent, attractive, faithful and moral special friend to share with? I'm ISO traditional type woman who insists on quality and is ready for a loving, passionate lover who is DDF, HWP and looking for a teddy bear to cuddle with. Spoil & be spoiled. Ad 25735

## ABANDONED EXPECTING FEMALE SEEKS LIFE PARTNER

I am an attractive, feminine, 25 y.o., GWF w/ long hair. I am 4 months pregnant, 5'7", normal weight of 135#. Taking time off from erotic dancing and college to have baby. I am ready for a long term love. Prefer mail responses w/photo. Ad 25738

## SWEET AND SPICY LOOKING FOR YOU!

SBF seeking healthy happy woman. I am looking for a loving friendship. Enjoy dancing, candlelight, music, laughing and a Southern Lady. Put a little spice in your life! I do want truth in all correspondence. Ad 25731

## SEEKING TO MAKE NEW FRIENDS

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

## FRIENDLY YOUNG MAN WANTED

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

Attractive male, 32, 5'9", 145#, sincere professional. Seeking monogamous relationship with someone who is sincere, HWP, non-smoker, and values family life. Interests: museums, traveling, dining out, and quiet conversation. Prefer mail responses. Ad 25722

## TOPS LOOKING FOR SEX TOY

Two GWM lovers, both tops, one 42, one 26, trim, HWP, seeking a rear end submissive bottom for three way - just plain trashy fun. Mail responses preferred or phone. Ad 25709

Breakfast, 6:40 am. Too much caffeine.

**NEW**

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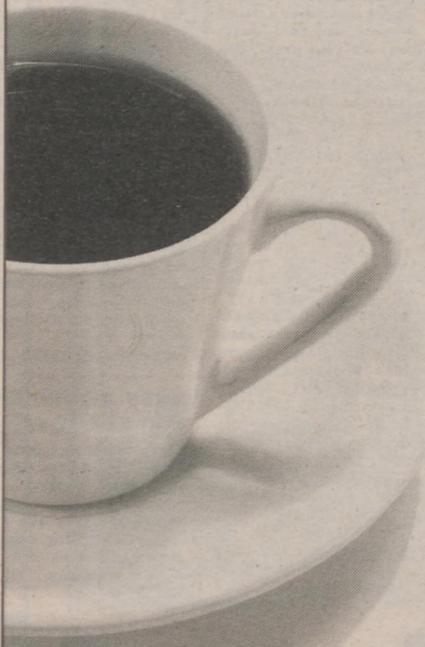


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