

A Weekly Community News Publication

Hate crime suspected in slaying of gay man; few leads in case

By SHERI COHEN DARBONNE

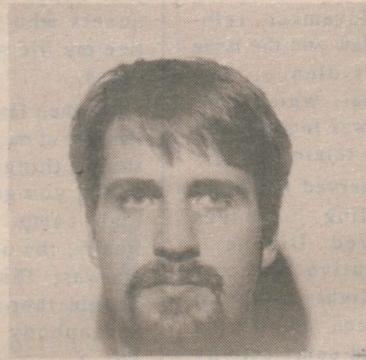
Houston Voice Editor

A Houston man found shot to death last Saturday afternoon on a road in north Harris County may have been the victim of an anti-gay hate crime, Sheriff's deputies working the case said.

The death of Michael J. Bruzinski, 29, is being investigated as a possible hate crime because detectives have had difficulty establishing any other motive, Sheriff's Department Sgt. Danny Billingsley said.

Bruzinski's body was found in the 15800 block of Northview Park Drive, south of East Richey, at about 3:00 p.m. on Saturday, July 30. He was killed "execution style," shot once in the head, Billingsley said. He may also have been beaten before he was killed.

His red 1988 Mazda had been found earlier, at about 7:00 a.m. Saturday morning, burned and abandoned in the 2200 block of Dolly Wright in the Acres Homes area. Bruzinski, who moved to Houston from



Michael Bruzinski was shot to death Saturday, July 31, after leaving a gay bar

Toledo, Ohio, about four years

ago, lived in the 1100 block of Augusta.

He was last seen alive in the Montrose area at about 1:30 a.m. July 30, either at the Ripcord on Fairview or the Montrose Mining Company on Pacific Street, Billingsley said.

"From the information we have, we aren't sure which (bar) he was in last, but he apparently had been out drinking in that (Pacific-Fairview) area that night.

"We've been having a hard time trying to figure out a motive," Billingsley said.

"No one knew of anyone who had anything against him, who might want him dead, and the way he was killed isn't the way someone is shot during a robbery."

"There was also nothing to indicate robbery was a motive because (Bruzinski) was not the kind of guy who carried a lot of cash or wore flashy jewelry. His car wasn't new, it was an '88," he said, adding that the victim's family and friends indicated he had no known enemies. Bruzinski also was not a known substance abuser.

(Continued on Page 2)

Gay man's killer gets death penalty in state's first 'hate crime' trial



Donald Aldrich: sentenced to death

By GLENN STEHLE AND SHERI COHEN DARBONNE

The Houston Voice

(Kerrville)—In what was perceived by gay leaders as a landmark decision, a Kerr County jury found the killer of a 23-year-old gay Tyler man guilty of capital murder and sentenced him to death.

The closely watched capital murder trial of Donald Aldrich, 29, came to a close Thursday, Aug. 4 in Kerrville, after four days of testimony. The jury deliberated for only 30 minutes before returning with the verdict of capital murder. The punishment phase of the trial began the following day.

On Tuesday, the seven man, five woman jury gave Aldrich the death penalty after deliberating just over an hour.

This trial was the first to fall under the state's hate-crime law, which went into effect last September and provides enhanced punishment for a crime motivated by bias or prejudice. It also marks the first hate-crime murder in Texas of a lesbian or gay person in which the accused was actually convicted of capital murder,

instead of receiving a lesser verdict.

The Lesbian/Gay Rights Lobby of Texas closely monitored the case before the court. Dianne Hardy-Garcia, executive director of LGRL, said she was in attendance throughout most of the proceedings.

"In Texas, there is a history of devaluing the lives of gay men and lesbians, which means people who murder gays and lesbians tend to receive lighter sentences because of who their victims are," she said. "But today was different, it was definitely historic. Justice was served.

The ruling was in stark contrast to recent sentences handed out to killers of gay men in Dallas, Houston, San Antonio and Midland.

In the most recent of these, a Midland man charged with the capital murder of a gay man was convicted of a lesser charge of murder and sentenced to 12 years in prison. The killer, Ramsey Harrell, shot Tommy Musick in the back of the head four times and then robbed him. Ramsey claimed Musick's killing was provoked by a sexual advance Musick made towards his companion at the time of the shooting.

West was abducted from a park in downtown Tyler and carried 10 miles out of town where he was beaten, terrorized and shot to death. A minimum of nine shots were fired into his body.

Aldrich, one of three men accused of participating in the brutal slaying, was characterized by prosecutors as a career criminal who targeted homosexual men as the victims.

The trial was moved to Kerrville because of the intense publicity the murder had received in Tyler.

(Continued on Page 11)

Reports from 10th world AIDS conference: HIV does not necessarily lead to AIDS; US must refocus research agenda

FROM STAFF AND WIRE REPORTS

(Editor's note: The following summary of news updates from the 10th International Conference on AIDS was compiled from information provided by: Kathleen Williamson, a registered participant who is also representing the Houston Voice at the conference; Ogilvy, Adams & Rhinehart, coordinator of the conference press office; the press office of the National Institute for Allergy and Infectious Diseases; the HIV Information Network of World Health Communications Inc.; and the Associated Press).

(YOKOHAMA, JAPAN)—Some of the world's leading experts on AIDS are finally giving respectful consideration to the theory that infection with the HIV virus does not invariably lead to the deterioration of the immune system, development of AIDS disease or death.

A presentation on Tuesday at the Tenth International Conference on AIDS by Dr. David Ho, director of the Aaron Diamond Research Center in New York, was being described as one of the "few rays of hope" at the gathering of scientists, researchers and medical professionals that has been marked primarily by modest expectations, diminished enthusiasm and a rather glum and cynical outlook.

Dr. Ho was one of several researchers who presented new information on one of the most optimistic subjects discussed at the conference:

"long term nonprogressors," or people with the HIV virus who have remained healthy for up to 15 years or longer. According to Ho and other researchers, there is reason to believe some HIV-positive persons will never progress to AIDS.

Ho said Tuesday that in eight of 10 such patients he has studied, there appears to be a good chance of remaining healthy.

According to reports at the conference, between five and 10 percent of HIV-infected men being followed by researchers have now carried the virus for 13 years with no sign of damage to their immune systems. Learning what keeps them healthy should provide new treatment strategies.

(Continued on Page 18)

IN THIS WEEK'S ISSUE

"Time flies"... it did this month - Page 2

Did AIDS charity make sweetheart deal with pyramid queen? - Page 7

Lee pledges support for ENDA - Page 10

Deputies say slain man could be hate crime victim

(Continued from page 1)

Although Bruzinski was killed sometime Saturday, the slaying was not reported in the local media until mid-week, primarily because investigators were unable to identify the body until Monday, Aug. 1. Last Wednesday, Bruzinski's family held a press conference, offering a \$5,000 reward for information leading to the arrest and conviction of his killers.

The victim's parents, Kay and Ed Bruzinski of Toledo, said during the conference that they accepted their son's sexual orientation, but could not accept the idea that he may have been killed just because he was gay. "If indeed it was a hate crime, then that's an atrocity," Kay Bruzinski said.

Terri Richardson, president of the Houston Gay and Lesbian Political Caucus, commended the Harris County Sheriff's Department for its investigation of the case as a possible hate crime.

"I applaud the Harris County Sheriff's department for raising the hate crime issue on its own, without pressure from the community," she said,

adding that she hoped local law enforcement agencies would continue to take hate crimes seriously.

Ironically, news of Bruzinski's killing came to light as the first trial to fall under the state's hate crime law, which went into effect last September, was taking place elsewhere in Texas. The trial of Donald Aldrich, one of three men accused of the gay-bashing killing of Nicholas Ray West of Tyler last November, refocused attention on the law and the issue of hate-motivated violence. The defendant in that trial, which concluded last Thursday, was found guilty of capital murder (see related story).

"While justice was served for Nicholas West, the killing continues elsewhere," observed Dianne Hardy-Garcia, executive director of the Lesbian/Gay Rights Lobby of Texas, which has been monitoring hate crimes and related court activity throughout the state.

Anyone with information is urged to call the Harris County Sheriff's Department, 967-5810, or Crime Stoppers, 222-TIPS.

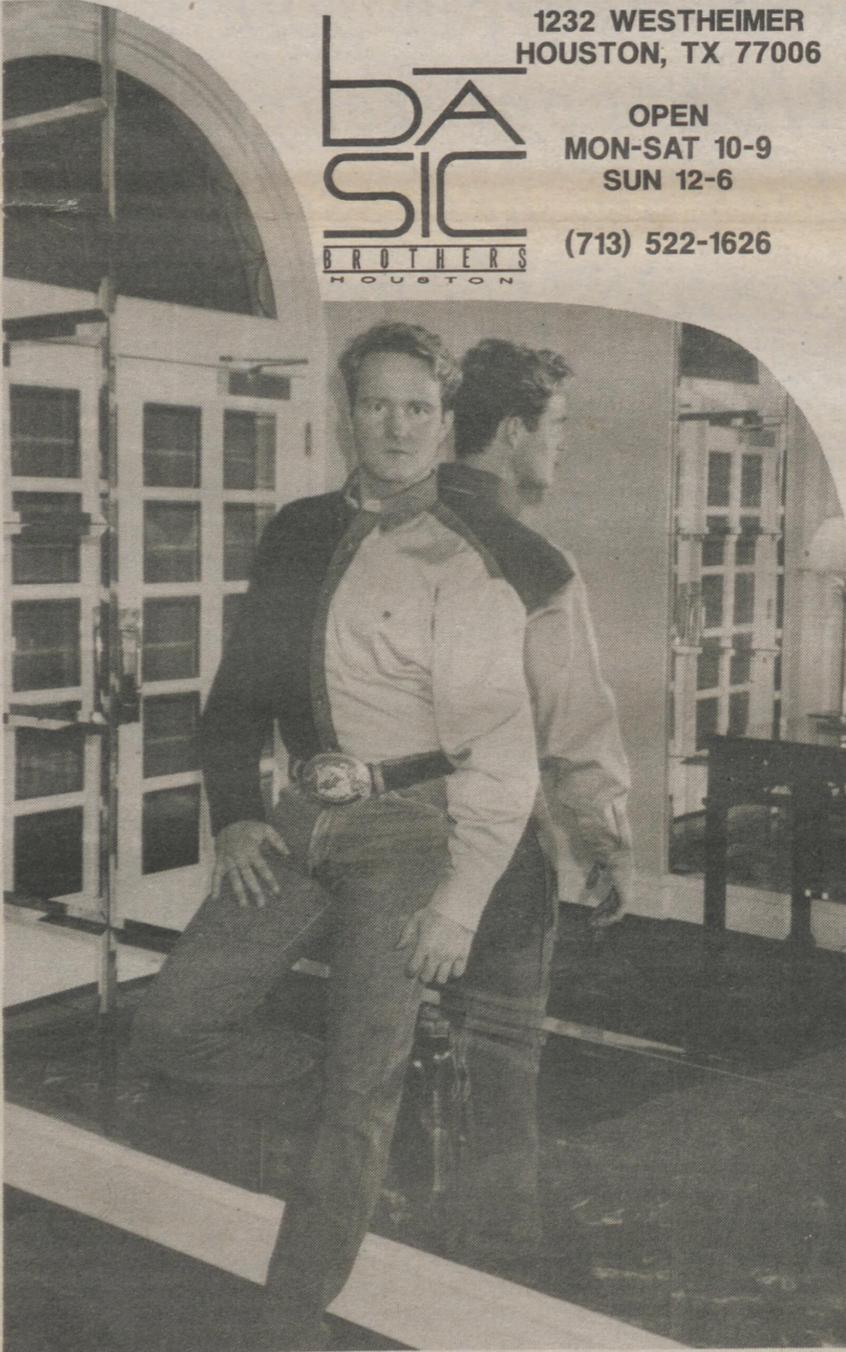
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HOUSTON VOICE MAIL

Letters to the Editor

Donna's Day Not So Dull

From **ROB BAKER**

Houston, Texas

When I was a kid I never played dress up in mama's closet. And in high school, I may have thought the homecoming queen had a beautiful gown, but I had absolutely no desire to borrow it. I just happened to be one of those queers who's been quite content to live my life without ever putting on a dress.

But then last week, peer pressure got the best of me, my friends wore me down saying things like, "It's the Garden Party, you gotta do drag," and "It's high camp, you'll love it." And, finally, the one line that really got to me was, "There will be hundreds of people there, you'll blend right in and nobody will even notice you!"

Yeah, right! I blended in so well that the next thing I knew, I was on center stage receiving the "Donna Dull" trophy as one of the ugliest drag queens in the history of the world.

Yet, in spite of my initial embarrassment and after I overcame my paranoia that this was somehow a diabolical scheme cooked up by my friends to ruin my life, I have to admit that I had a great time at the garden party, and I'm grateful to have won my award, for I learned that it was given with love...and that it got me free drinks all night in every bar I went to (almost). So thank you Garden Party, I'm proud to be your Donna Dull for 1994 and I promise, I'll never do drag again...until next year!

RSICSS Announcement

From THE ROYAL, SOVEREIGN AND IMPERIAL COURT OF THE SINGLE STAR

Houston, Texas

It is with great pride and excitement that the Imperial Court of the Single Star informs you of a very important occasion. On Sunday, Aug. 14 at 2:00 p.m. at Gentry, 2303 Richmond, Emperor X Deb Dillehay and Empress X Damita Jo will announce the charity that will receive the proceeds from Reign X and Coronation XI.

The Imperial Court of the Single Star is part of an international association of charity fund raising organizations that began over 25 years ago in San Francisco. Even though our titles and ceremonies are "camp" in nature, our purpose is very serious. We work very hard all year long to raise money for those in need, especially within the gay and lesbian community of Houston.

The list of organizations that have benefited from our efforts include the Colt 45's, Pet Patrol, AVES, the Gay and Lesbian Switchboard, Casa de Esperanza, the Montrose Clinic, the NAMES Project, MCCR, Kolbe House, the Bering Community Service Foundation and many more.

Coronation XI, "Rags to Riches: Back to Our Roots," will take place on Saturday, Jan. 28, 1995 at the Holiday Inn Medical Center.

We look forward to seeing you on August 14 at our announcement ceremony and in January at Coronation XL.

QUOTE NOTE

"My gay audience is as important to me as my pumps...I don't feel whole unless I have on five inch pumps, and I don't feel whole unless I have a gay crowd." Legendary diva Patti LaBelle, quoted in September's OUT Magazine.

TIME FLIES...

...happenings in August



By Bob Ainsworth

AUGUST 11, 1999 The 20th century's last total solar eclipse casts a shadow visible from central Europe to India.

AUGUST 12, 1881 In the Sudan, Mohammed Ahmad, a Muslim who has declared himself to be the prophesied incarnation of the Mahdi ("divinely guided one"), declares a jihad against the British-backed rulers of Egypt. The Mahdi's call to holy war gathers enormous support, beginning a bloody 17-year long, ultimately unsuccessful revolt.

AUGUST 13, 1476 Sailing in a Genoese merchant convoy bound for Flanders, Christopher Columbus has a lucky escape when he safely swims six miles to shore near Sagres, Portugal, after his ship is burned and sunk by French pirates off Cape St. Vincent.

AUGUST 14, 410 The already tottering Roman Empire suffers the ultimate indignity when the Visigoths sack the city of Rome itself. At midnight, Roman slaves, hoping for freedom, let the barbarians at the gates pass through; the ensuing rampage lasts six days.

AUGUST 15, 1877 Thomas Edison, envisioning that telephone lines between two parties will be permanently open, works on the problem of how callers can attract the attention of the folks at the other end. "I don't think we shall need a call bell," he writes, "as 'Hello!' can be heard 10 to 20 feet away." Edison's salutation soon becomes standard etiquette, replacing Alexander Graham Bell's preferred greeting, "Ahoy!"

AUGUST 16, 1927 Although he's only supposed to sing during the filming of the first sound sequence for "The Jazz Singer", star Al Jolson changes the course of movie history when he enthusiastically shouts, "Wait a minute! Wait a minute! You ain't heard nothin' yet!" Hearing the impact of Jolson's ad-libbed speech, studio boss Sam Warner decides to reshoot previously silent sequences to include spoken dialogue, thus giving birth to the first talking picture.

AUGUST 17, 1788 Settlers in the Ohio Territory found Losantiville, soon to be renamed Cincinnati.

Brady's Corner



HISTORY NOTE

Karl Heinrich Ulrichs' 169th birthday will be celebrated on Aug. 28. Gay historians recognize Ulrichs as the first known openly gay person to speak and write that gay people are healthy in both mind and body. In 1867, at age 41, before a convention of 500 jurists assembled in the Grand Hall of the Odeon Theater in Munich, Germany, Ulrichs made a public plea for the inalienable rights of gay people, even before the word homosexual had been coined. Ulrichs spent 18 years producing 12 books on gay rights. He legally defended gay people, and the Prussian police twice imprisoned him for his political views. At age 55 he retired in Italy and died in L'Aquila on July 14, 1895. Readers who want more information about this pioneer of the gay movement may contact: Michael Lombardi-Nash/P.J. Nash, 6858 Arthur Court, Jacksonville, FL 32211; tel. (904) 744-7879.

Houston Spotlight



NANCY FORD

Have you heard the one about Newsweek's lesbian centerfold? If you live in Houston and like to laugh, chances are you have. Local openly gay comic Nancy Ford's one woman improvisational shows, "Comedy-Music-Sex-Politics-Religion" and "I Was a Lesbian Centerfold for Newsweek" have played in Houston clubs and theaters since 1991. Ford burst onto the comedy scene with her brazenly Lesbicentric act long before national networks discovered gay and lesbian comics with a sharp sense of humor and a political axe to grind. She's performed original comedy and music in clubs and cabarets since 1986, raising funds for scores of AIDS and gay/lesbian rights organizations including AIDS Foundation

Houston and the Human Rights Campaign Fund. More recently, she served as host for the 1994 Houston Gay & Lesbian Pride Week Rally and performed at the Gay Games IV/Stonewall 25 events in New York City. Nancy is also an internationally syndicated humor writer and columnist who contributes regularly to Texas gay, lesbian and progressive publications and the Gaynet Wire Service. (This weekend, Ford will join comedians Scott Kennedy and Kevin Maye for the Gay Comedy Jam at the Laff Stop; her current improvisational show and monthly Safer Sex for Lesbians seminar continue Aug. 25, Sept. 8 & 22 at Ms. B's at the Ranch).

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Michigan experiment tries gene therapy to fight AIDS virus

ANN ARBOR, Mich., Saturday, Aug. 6 (AP)—Gene therapy could become another weapon in the battle against AIDS, if trials under way at the University of Michigan are successful.

The trial targets people who carry the virus that causes AIDS, but who have not yet developed the lethal disease. The gene therapy would not cure AIDS, but it could help control the virus and improve patients' lives.

"This is really what I'd call the first anti-viral strategy," Dr. Gary Nabel, who oversees the study, told

The Ann Arbor News for an article published Thursday.

Researchers take white blood cells from patients and insert new genes into one type of cell, known as T-lymphocytes or T-cells. T-cells are a critical part of the immune system.

When the virus invades those cells, it may sit dormant for years. But once activated, it multiplies until the cell is destroyed. Then thousands of copies of the virus spill out and infect other T-cells.

As T-cells are killed off by the virus, the immune system fades away, leav-

ing the patient vulnerable to diseases and infections.

The therapy inserts into T-cells a mutated gene called M-10. It confuses the virus, crippling its ability to reproduce inside the T-cell.

After the T-cells are treated, they are transfused back into the patient.

The technique has worked in the laboratory, but it's too soon to know if it will help people, researchers said.

So far, three people are enrolled in the trial. Eventually nine others will join them. Besides keeping the virus from reproducing, the gene

therapy could also preserve T-cells' ability to function while infected.

That could allow infected people "to live in peace with the virus," Nabel said.

But gene therapy is difficult. Researchers must get the new gene into the correct cells, and get them working at the right time, when the virus starts reproducing.

"And then, after having done all that, see whether it really will affect the progression of the disease," Nabel said.

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HOUSTON VOICE

ISSUE 720
August 12, 1994

Published Fridays

Established 1974 as the Houston Montrose Star, re-established 1980 as the Houston Montrose Voice, changed name to The New Voice in 1991 incorporating the New Orleans Crescent City Star, re-established December 1, 1993 as the Houston Voice

811 Westheimer, Suite 105
Houston, Texas 77006
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Contents copyright 1994
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weekdays

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PROJECTS IN PROGRESS

Dr. Jim Sears, author of "Growing Up Gay In The South," is in the process of researching his new book, *Generations: An Oral History of Lesbian and Gay Southern Life* to be published by Westview Press. The book portrays the complex experiences of different generations of southern gays and lesbians.

The authors are seeking to interview individuals who were involved or know of others involved in Houston's original Gay Political Caucus; who have knowledge and dealings of in lesbian and gay life before World War II anywhere in Texas; who grew up in Galveston in the mid-30's and 40's, and individuals who know of gay related events after World War II into the mid-60's in Texas that they feel should be included in the book. They are particularly interested in hearing from persons of color and transgendered persons.

Anonymity will be used at individual's request. To participate, contact Dr. Jim Sears to the attention of Gabriel Chong, University of South Carolina, College of Education, Columbia, SC 39208 or call (803)

QUOTE NOTE

"It's strange to find the world following dyke fashion...the 'authentic' look, Ralph Lauren and competitors charging \$75 and up for work clothes much of the nation buys at Sears." Writer E.J. Graff on mainstreaming lesbian fashion, quoted in September's *OUT Magazine*.

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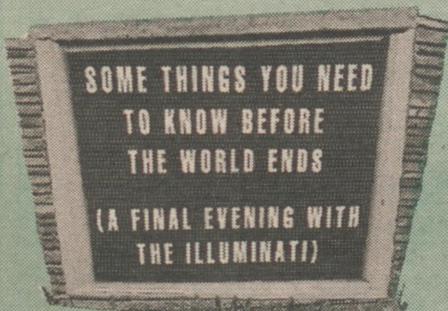
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Wisconsin insurer decides against insuring unwed campus couples

MADISON, Wis., Saturday, Aug. 6 (AP)—An insurance company that provides medical coverage for University of Wisconsin students has rejected a request to provide special policies for young people living together as domestic partners.

"Domestic partners" refers to unmarried heterosexual and homosexual couples. Premiums for domestic partners would have been the same as those offered married students.

Physicians Plus Insurance Corp. had agreed in May to offer the cover-

age to the Madison campus under the Student Health Insurance Plan, which has about 3800 customers.

But the offer was halted because of a difference of opinion with the state about whether an insurer has to provide "continuation and conversion coverage" for unwed participants, company spokesperson William Salvin said.

The provision allows people to continue on a policy 18 months after it expires. That makes it difficult to assess risk, the company says.

"There is so little data on domestic

partners," Salvin said Thursday.

"We're disappointed by this outcome," Dean of Students Mary Rouse said.

Rep. Tammy Baldwin, D-Madison, an advocate of domestic partner coverage, blames political pressure for halting the offer.

"That wall was the Office of the Commissioner of Insurance," Baldwin said.

Fred Nepple, attorney for the commissioner, denied there was political pressure.

"At no point did we indicate that the policy could not be offered," Nepple said.

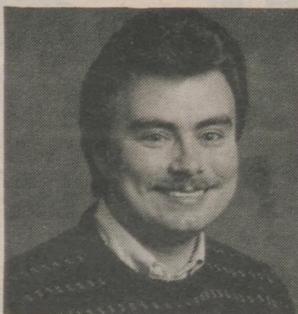
Physicians Plus originally proposed that domestic partners have no special right to continuation or conversion of policies.

The commissioner's office said the insurer has to provide the extended coverage.

The company will wait for the Legislature to settle the question, Salvin said.

Baldwin said a change in law could be several years away.

IN MEMORY OF



PAUL M. QUEBODEAUX

Born: August 26, 1955
Died: June 25, 1994

Paul died Saturday, June 25th at his home after a 6 year battle with AIDS. Paul retired from Hermann Hospital in 1990. He lived life to the fullest until the end.

Paul is survived by long time companion, Tim Bagely. Also, special cousins Dianna Clark and Angie Fridge. In addition, close friends, Jason Cabot and Paul Garza. He leaves many other friends and relatives.

Paul touched so many people's lives. He was a giving and caring person. We will miss him greatly!



STEVEN WADE NeSMITH

CLOSE BY

When in doubt, look for me.
If trouble should arise, I have the key.
Look no further than your heart,
For that's where I've been from the very start.
I hold the light that heals your wounds,
I am the shade tree when all you see are dunes.
I hear your prayers and I feel your pain,
I taste the teardrops that fall like rain.
When no one else will hold or kiss you goodnight,
I, like a blanket, will cover you tight.
Happiness and love you can achieve,
If you just keep the faith and believe in me.

by Steven NeSmith

Steven had a heart of gold. He was a class clown who used humor and poetry to get through tough times. He always had time for others. He was preceded in death one month previously by his lover and soulmate, Walker "Buz" Mills. Separated by his family by circumstance and misunderstandings, Steven surrounded himself with "family of choice," Phillip and David, and many loving friends. Special thanks to his friends and coworkers at Academy who supported him through his loss. We know you've gone to join Buz; but we miss you. You will always be in our hearts.

A memorial service will be held to remember Steven on Thursday, August 18, 1994 at 6:30 p.m. at Metropolitan Community Church of the Resurrection, located at 1919 Decatur Avenue. For more information, please call (713) 523-6067. In lieu of flowers, donations can be made in Steven's name to: Milam House, 811 Westheimer - Suite 101, Houston, Tx 77006.

HEALTH UPDATE

More The Merrier

AIDS patients undergoing therapy with the drug AZT who were also given the antiviral agent Acyclovir had a survival rate 44% higher than those who took just AZT, according to a new study.

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HOUSTON

VOICE MAIL

Letters to the Editor

Letter writers are outraged over AIDS agency's reported 'investment'From BRIAN D. BRADLEY
Houston, Texas

Following Saturday's Houston Chronicle article, "AIDS charity's deal questioned," I felt less vindication than sadness by seeing in print that which I already knew. It seems yet another of the so-called, self appointed knights in the battle against AIDS was nothing more another opportunistic and parasitic infection feeding off the diseased and dying.

In papers filed last week in bankruptcy court the Houston based Foundation for Interfaith Research and Ministry (FIRM) made claims totaling \$321,615 against Teresa Rodriguez of alleged ponzi scheme fame.

Last year, federal officials with the IRS and the FBI confiscated several millions of dollars of Rodriguez' furs, jewelry and other items to satisfy a \$1.2 million lien on unpaid Social Security and withholding taxes. Rodriguez is under federal investigation for allegedly duping investors out of perhaps tens of millions of dollars.

FIRM spokesperson and board member Larry Clore acknowledged that the Houston businessperson had served on its board, during which time \$200,000 from public donations to FIRM as well as an undisclosed "significant" amount donated by Rodriguez had been invested with the businesses owned by Rodriguez. FIRM's board of directors approved the investment, with Rodriguez abstaining, said FIRM's President Earl Shelp. The remainder of the sum in FIRM's claim is apparently for unpaid interest.

Besides foundation money, board member and then-Treasurer Daryl Hays and Shelp made personal investments. Shelp declined to state to the Houston Chronicle how much he had personally invested but papers filed in court claim \$250,000.

The state attorney general's office is now questioning the AIDS charity's unusual decision in making a high-risk investment. Jan Soifer, deputy chief of the consumer protection division of the attorney general's office, quoted in the Chronicle, stated: "I think it's fair to say that as far as we are aware, most non-profits avoid risky investments. What there may be is a breach of fiduciary duty, and when you combine the two things—the self-dealing and the risky investment—it doesn't smell right. Directors of non-profit associations are expected by law to guard the assets of the association in such a way as to make sure the funds of the entity are used for the purpose for which the organization was organized—which means they are not supposed to be risking funds." In addition to the state attorney general's office, Ross Leone, a spokesperson for the IRS stated, "we will evaluate the information and if any action is appropriate we will take it."

Having served on the Ryan White Planning Council as well as its psychosocial subcommittee with FIRM's Earl Shelp, I can state none of this comes as a surprise to me. Mr. Shelp displayed no more discretion in that body's decisions than he apparently did in this matter. In fact, Mr. Shelp and his kind on said planning council had but one concern—their own. Perhaps it was here that Mr. Shelp learned to ignore the rules regarding conflict of interest. He continually served on the psychosocial committee even though it decided how much money volunteerism was allocated. It usually was not hard for him to see that his concern was funded heavily—a majority of the board members were equally guilty of the same offense. During one particularly hard pressed funding cycle it was decided that volunteerism funding would be reduced by 75% in order to provide essentials such as food and transportation. This proposal was made by me so it was also no surprise that we members soon received faxes from Harris County Judge Jon Lindsay telling us that even though he did not get involved in planning council decisions, we were wrong and in fact were doing a great disservice to people with AIDS.

Mr. Shelp was appointed by the judge, who is not unfamiliar to indictment himself or behind-the-door arm twisting. The time is long overdue for the city of Houston and particularly its gay and lesbian community to do some closer inspecting of who we give our money to or allow to serve our sick. There are many instances that our community is aware of wrong doing but we just don't speak up loudly enough, such as the time that a gay minister with MCCR was told by Shelp that no members of the church's care team would be sent to a home where there were children.

We need to ask simple questions, such as why does Mr. Shelp draw a yearly salary in excess of \$76,000 with a volunteerism budget of \$496,000 which serves only approximately 325 clients, when the executive director of AIDS Foundation Houston earns approximately \$40,000 annually and has an unduplicated client load of 1900 persons and an annual budget of \$1.2 million, or the Bering Community Service Foundation's executive director who earns \$45,000 yearly and has an unduplicated client load of 2000 persons and has a current annual budget of \$1.4 million. Is Earl really worth it, how does he earn it, or is he just profiteering on others' misery. Does he really care? In the interest of fairness and accuracy, the above quoted figures for Mr. Shelp or FIRM are from the fiscal year ending 1992, during the period I was on the boards of the Greater Houston AIDS Alliance and the Ryan White Planning Council. Mr. Shelp has declined to respond to my inquiry regarding the current numbers.

(Continued on Page 14)

QUOTE NOTE

"It's a classic civil rights issue...if lesbians and gays are only given partial civil rights, maybe they should only be required to pay partial taxes." Unsinkable columnist Molly Ivins, commenting on gay rights in address to the National Society of Newspaper Columnists, quoted in Editor and Publisher Magazine.


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U.S. Senate's education bill amendment 'anti-youth and anti-truth'

GLAAD Media Watch

By AL KIELWASSER

Gay and Lesbian Alliance Against Defamation

The U.S. Senate has voted to cut off federal funds to any school district offering programs "that have either the purpose or effect of encouraging or supporting homosexuality as a positive lifestyle alternative." This amendment to the Elementary and Secondary Education Act was sponsored by Sen. (homophobic fossil) Jesse Helms. The Helms amendment would also ban "counseling or other services on school grounds, or referral of a pupil to an organization that affirms a homosexual lifestyle."

This anti-youth and anti-truth amendment would, in effect, legislate a curriculum in hate education. The Helms amendment would ensure that homophobic indoctrination is forced upon children.

In a misguided effort to render the Helm's amendment obsolete, Senator Ted Kennedy offered his own amendment to the Education Act. The Kennedy amendment would cut off federal funds to schools that "promote or encourage sexual activity" of any kind. Unfortunately, such a law would certainly be selectively enforced at the local level and used to censor lesbians and gays. Homophobes have successfully convinced school boards

across the nation that any mention of lesbian or gay subjects in textbooks or classrooms is an open invitation to sexual intercourse.

Both the Helms and the Kennedy amendments would produce the same outcome—an intolerable and lethal silence about our lives. And whether these amendments pass or not, the very fact that they have been brought forward sends a disparaging message to our already over stressed youth.

These legislative efforts should alert us all to the necessity of fighting more vigorously for educational equity and excellence. Our community cannot afford to continue battling only the symptoms of homophobia, we must engage the causes. Chief among these causes is an inadequate, homophobic system of public education.

There are lesbian and gay students in every school across the nation, and in every classroom these students are under attack. The federal government should be leading the drive to protect the educational and civil rights of lesbian, gay and bisexual youth. These students have an absolute right to unbiased information, positive role models, and a heritage free of crippling self-hate and unchallenged discrimination.

Urge your representatives to speak out—loudly and clearly—against the

Helms and Kennedy amendments and in support of the educational rights of lesbian, gay and bisexual students. Moreover, insist that Bill Clinton veto any Education Bill that is polluted with hate and ignorance.

For the address or phone number of your representatives, you can call the League of Women Voters at (415) 989-8683 or the Capitol Switchboard at (916) 322-9900. Write to President Bill Clinton, 1600 Pennsylvania Ave., Washington, D.C., 20500. To get further involved in the fight for educational equity, contact Project 21, c/o GLAAD, 1360 Mission St., Suite 200, S.F., CA 94103, tel. (415) 861-2244.

Lesbian, gay and bisexual youth are also one of the most under-served segments of the television audience. Mostly, they are simply absent from the sitcoms of television and, when they are included, lesbian and gay youth are routinely the subjects of cruel humor. This dubious tradition was continued on a recent episode of *Weird Science*, a youth-oriented situation comedy aired weekly on the USA cable network.

Right on Tract

Remember the last time you were riding the bus and there, on the seat next to you, was one of those delightful little tracts published by fundamentalist "Christian" groups? You know the kind—those booklets with line draw-

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"Leather By Boots" presents an Erotic Leather Fashion Show!
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Saturday: Bare-As-You-Dare!
Take it off and Party Hard all night! Clothes Check available!

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The Climax of the Weekend when F.I.S.T. (Females In Search of Trouble) hang their Colors in The Leather Loft. Cocktail Parties due to be hosted by Houston's Prominent Leather Clubs starting at 7:30!



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Alley's 'The Foreigner' uncovers humor in discomfoting, familiar issues



Charles Sanders (Ellard Simms) and Jeffrey Bean (Charlie Baker) in Larry Shue's "The Foreigner," at the Alley Theatre Aug. 6-14

Theater Review

By JOHN REED

Houston Voice/Houston

They say laughter is good medicine, and so it is with the Alley Theater's concluding "Summer Chills" production "The Foreigner," easily one of the most original and cleverly written comedies of the last two decades. This play by the late Larry Shue touches on events in many of our lives we wish medicine or laughter could cure. Rejection, tyranny of words, religious hypocrisy, self serving government, and those who would use love to control others are all interwoven into this thoroughly enjoyable play directed by Alley Theater's multi-talented artistic director Gregory Boyd.

Imagine a British Army Officer "Froggy" Le Sueur (Paul Hope) going to an American Army base in rural Georgia to teach a demolition course and bringing his civilian friend, Charlie (Jeffrey Bean) along for a holiday. Because of intense shyness and to avoid interaction with any guests who may be staying at the rural lodge, Charlie pretends to be a foreigner from an undisclosed distant country. A combination of pig-Latin and words that sound suspiciously like vodka brand labels provide Charlie's new vocabulary. As it often happens, the locals assume that loud equals understanding, so everyone is always yelling at Charlie with their thick as molasses southern accents.

Charles Sanders skillfully portrays Ellard Simms as a simpleton who attempts to marry Catherine Simms (Shelley Williams) to gain access to Simms family fortunes in order to fund the establishment of a religious right movement to purify

the world (sounds familiar). The KKK is a central to this "save the World" theme (also sounds familiar). Reverend David is eventually disrobed for what he is through a clever bit of stage writing.

The two act play moves faster as the plot develops and covers the two hours in a good pace. The capacity audience on opening night split their sides laughing at this uproarious comedy as an evil plot unravels among a bizarre cast of characters. The authentic rural Bed and Breakfast stage setting, supportive lighting design and easily heard sound system (with hearing impaired services) added to the pleasure of the performance.

"The Foreigner" plays through August 14 and is strongly recommended to Houston Voice readers.

The 1994 Alley Theater season begins on Sept. 2 with David Ives' comedy "All In The Timing," followed by Arthur Miller's classic "The Crucible" beginning Oct. 14.

Start the new year with "The Mystery Of Irma Vep" on Jan. 6, 1995, and watch for the return of the hit musical thriller "Jekyll & Hyde (in collaboration with Theater Under The Stars) from Jan. 20 through Feb. 19. Edward Albee's Pulitzer Prize winning "Three Tall Women" begins Feb. 10, and running from March 17 through April 15 is George Bernard Shaw's romantic comedy "Arms And The Man."

Finally, end a great season with the Tony Award winning play, "Angels In America," a two part epic by Tony Kushner. (performed on two separate evenings) with a limited engagement from March 23 through May 14.

Ticket and performance information are available by dialing (713) 228-8421.

The Alley Theater announced today that it will extend Larry Shue's delightfully hilarious comedy, *THE FOREIGNER*, originally set to close August 14, for two additional week-ends through August 28. Strong demand for tickets to *THE FOREIGNER*, the final production of the highly popular summer theater festival, "Summer Chills", has prompted the extension. "We are pleased to be able to offer Houston two more week-ends of laughs, but we must close on August 28 to prepare for the season opener, *ALL IN THE TIMING*, which will begin previews on the Neuhaus Arena Stage September 9," Gregory Boyd said.

Ice Picks skating moves to Sharpstown Mall; leagues report standings

Sports Notes

The Montrose Ice Picks are moving their gay and lesbian ice skate nights to the Sharpstown Ice Center, located at 7300 Bellerive Road at Bonhomme Road. Take the Bellaire/Fondren exit from 59 South. The rink is three blocks from Sharpstown Mall. The change is due to the summer crowds at the Galleria and will be for August and September meetings on a trial basis.

The first skate at Sharpstown is Thursday, Aug. 18 from 8:00-10:00 p.m. The cost is \$4.75 plus \$2 for skates.

The rink is also open to the general public, so lesbian and gay skaters are asked to wear something yellow this month, or your favorite gay/lesbian T-shirts. Non-skaters are welcome to watch at no charge.

For more information, call Angel at (713) 695-9609.

Bowling Standings

Following are the weekly standings for the Houston bowling leagues:

In the Inner Loop Sunday Nite League, Sisters of Dorothy is in first place; Sunday Brunch is in second and Lip Service is in third place. For information, call 522-9612.

The Thursday Nite Mixers report Penetrating Your Galaxy in first place, Pat & Company in second and But You R Blanche You R in third. High Scratch Game of 236 and series of 607 was bowled by Tom O'Dell. For the women, Terry Shannon bowled Scratch Game of 224 and Dana Howard bowled Series of 547.

For league information, call 641, 5424.

Montrose Monday Nite Men's League has Ladies and the Tramp in the first place slot. In second place is Alley Trash, followed by The Gutter Butter in third. High Scratch Game of 235 was bowled by Tom O'Dell and series of 611 by Gerald Hagan. For more information, call 641-5424.

Monday Nite Women's League's first place team this week is Maybe-Maybe Not. They're followed in second place by Can't Bowl Straight and in third place, H.Q. (Highly Questionable). For league information, call 437-6218.

No Tap Doubles

A No Tap Candlelight Doubles bowling tournament will be held Saturday, Aug. 20 at 8:00 p.m. at Fairlanes Southway. The leagues invite all interested persons to join them for their final tournament of the summer. Registration begins at 7:30 p.m.

Billiards Standings

Following are the weekly standings in the Houston Metropolitan Billiards League:

(1) Jackson 5; (2) BRB Ball Busters; (3) Crazy 8's; (4) Coalition; (5) BP "Ate" Ballers; (6) Oui, Cousins; (7) 611 Sticks; (8) E/J's Boys; (9) Beau's Real Balls; (10) Sioux's Boys; (11) Jo's Sudden Impact; (12) Ripcord Rebels; (13) E.J.'s Mess; (14) Rebels Too; (15) King's X; (16) Dream Team; (17) Bill's Restless Boys; (18) Suicide Squad; (19) Amie's; (20) 611 Shooters; (21) Miner 69'ers.

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U.S. Senate's education bill amendment 'anti-youth and anti-truth'

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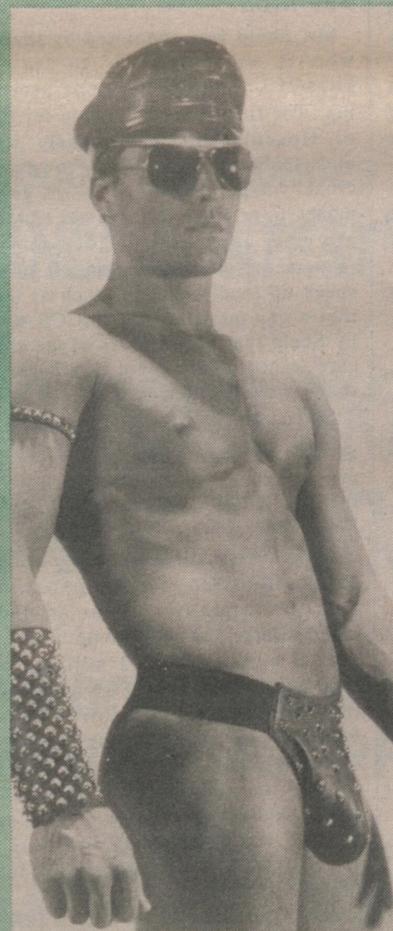
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Finally, end a great season with the Tony Award winning play, "Angels In America," a two part epic by Tony Kushner (performed on two separate evenings) with a limited engagement from March 23 through May 14.

Ticket and performance information are available by dialing (713) 228-8421.

The Alley Theater announced today that it will extend Larry Shue's delightfully hilarious comedy, *THE FOREIGNER*, originally set to close August 14, for two additional week-ends through August 28. Strong demand for tickets to *THE FOREIGNER*, the final production of the highly popular summer theater festival, "Summer Chills", has prompted the extension. "We are pleased to be able to offer Houston two more week-ends of laughs, but we must close on August 28 to prepare for the season opener, *ALL IN THE TIMING*, which will begin previews on the Neuhaus Arena Stage September 9," Gregory Boyd said.

Ice Picks skating moves to Sharpstown Mall; leagues report standings

Sports Notes

The Montrose Ice Picks are moving their gay and lesbian ice skate nights to the Sharpstown Ice Center, located at 7300 Bellerive Road at Bonhomme Road. Take the Bellaire/Fondren exit from 59 South. The rink is three blocks from Sharpstown Mall. The change is due to the summer crowds at the Galleria and will be for August and September meetings on a trial basis.

The first skate at Sharpstown is Thursday, Aug. 18 from 8:00-10:00 p.m. The cost is \$4.75 plus \$2 for skates.

The rink is also open to the general public, so lesbian and gay skaters are asked to wear something yellow this month, or your favorite gay/lesbian T-shirts. Non-skaters are welcome to watch at no charge.

For more information, call Angel at (713) 695-9609.

Bowling Standings

Following are the weekly standings for the Houston bowling leagues:

In the Inner Loop Sunday Nite League, Sisters of Dorothy is in first place; Sunday Brunch is in second and Lip Service is in third place. For information, call 522-9612.

The Thursday Nite Mixers report Penetrating Your Galaxy in first place, Pat & Company in second and But You R Blanche You R in third. High Scratch Game of 236 and series of 607 was bowled by Tom O'Dell. For the women, Terry Shannon bowled Scratch Game of 224 and Dana Howard bowled Series of 547.

For league information, call 641, 5424.

Montrose Monday Nite Men's League has Ladies and the Tramp in the first place slot. In second place is Alley Trash, followed by The Gutter Butter in third. High Scratch Game of 235 was bowled by Tom O'Dell and series of 611 by Gerald Hagan. For more information, call 641-5424.

Monday Nite Women's League's first place team this week is Maybe-Maybe Not. They're followed in second place by Can't Bowl Straight and in third place, H.Q. (Highly Questionable). For league information, call 437-6218.

No Tap Doubles

A No Tap Candlelight Doubles bowling tournament will be held Saturday, Aug. 20 at 8:00 p.m. at Fairlanes Southway. The leagues invite all interested persons to join them for their final tournament of the summer. Registration begins at 7:30 p.m.

Billiards Standings

Following are the weekly standings in the Houston Metropolitan Billiards League:

(1) Jackson 5; (2) BRB Ball Busters; (3) Crazy 8's; (4) Coalition; (5) BP "Ate" Ballers; (6) Oui, Cousins; (7) 611 Sticks; (8) E/J's Boys; (9) Beau's Real Balls; (10) Sioux's Boys; (11) Jo's Sudden Impact; (12) Ripcord Rebels; (13) E.J.'s Mess; (14) Rebels Too; (15) King's X; (16) Dream Team; (17) Bill's Restless Boys; (18) Suicide Squad; (19) Amie's; (20) 611 Shooters; (21) Miner 69'ers.

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Lee pledges to support ENDA, oppose Helms amendment at HLGPC meeting

Quick Notes

Sheila Jackson Lee, Houston City Council member and Democratic candidate for the United States House of Representatives from the 18th Congressional District, was the guest speaker at the Houston Gay and Lesbian Political Caucus meeting on Wednesday, Aug. 3. In her address to the group, Lee pledged to assist in efforts to alleviate the tension that has been perceived by some between the gay and lesbian and African-American communities in

recent years. She emphasized that cooperation between the two communities is essential in our common struggle against oppression and discrimination.

At the meeting, Councilmember Lee also clarified her position on several issues of concern to the gay and lesbian community. She declared her support for a single-payer health care plan, or, alternatively, for requiring employers to pay some of employees' health insurance costs. She was asked if she would co-sponsor the Employment Non-Discrimina-

tion Act of 1994 (ENDA), which prohibits employment discrimination on the basis of sexual orientation. "Absolutely," she replied.

In discussions of the recent Helms-Smith amendment to the Elementary and Secondary Education Act, Lee said she would urge the President to veto legislation that obstructed teachers from encouraging respect for diversity.

Lee reminded Caucus members that she has a difficult race in November and invited the community to get involved in her campaign.

In other action at the HGLPC meeting:

A resolution supporting the AIDS Cure Act, currently pending in the United States House of Representatives, was approved by the caucus. The resolution expressed support for passage of the Act and urge all Houston area Congress persons to co-sponsor the bill. The Act, introduced by Rep. Jerrod Nadler (D-NY), would mandate the centralization of all promising treatments through its right of eminent domain.

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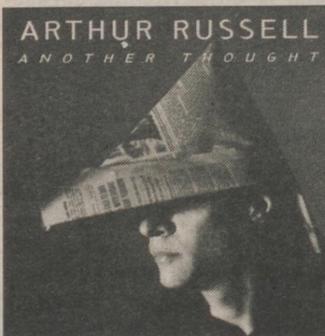
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Jury gives gay bashing killer death sentence

(Continued from Page 1)

Aldrich and his teenaged accomplices went on record as stating that their intent that night was to go "fag-bashing." Aldrich described the activity in a taped confession played for jurors, at one point referring to the act of luring and assaulting gay men as "simple fun."

Aldrich's courtroom responses appeared to many observers to confirm the assessment Smith County prosecutor David Dobbs, who described the defendant to the jury as "a career criminal who brags about what he has done" and whose past criminal record indicates he would continue to be a threat to society.

He reportedly laughed at numerous pieces of testimony during the proceedings, including a part of his own confession in which he described West's terrified reactions before he was shot to death Nov. 30, 1993.

Aldrich, in the videotaped confession, willingly acknowledged that his actions on the night West was killed were fueled by an intense hatred for gay men. He described in chilling detail his victim's, and his own, reactions to the unfolding events.

In court, Aldrich claimed to only have fired two shots, and blamed accomplice Henry Dunn for the shots that killed West.

However, the coroner's testimony did not confirm Aldrich's account. West had 12 bullet entry and exit holes in his body; the coroner said that the very least number of shots fired into West's body—taking into account the possibility that, under perfect circumstances, three bullets could have entered and exited the body twice, was nine. This meant that if all six of

Dunn's shots had hit West, the very minimum number of times Aldrich had shot into West's body was three.

According to testimony during the trial, West had been shot in the hand, arms, superficially through both flanks, through the breasts and in the abdomen; he was finally killed by placing a .357 magnum to the back of his head and shooting him through the head.

Aldrich's defense attorney, Bill Wright, also argued the "sexual assault" defense. Wright argued that Aldrich felt deep-seated anger against homosexuals because he had been raped. In a video-taped confession played to the jury, Aldrich stated, "I do not like homosexuals. I've got a cousin that's a homosexual and he raped me when I was nine years old."

Dobbs, Chief Felony Prosecutor for the Smith County District Attorney's office, aggressively challenged this notion by using the testimony of Texas Department of Corrections psychologist Jerry Landrum.

Landrum testified that Aldrich's confession was "pure manipulation—an endeavor to escape the consequences of his behavior by blaming others." Landrum went on to explain that pleading "sexual assault" had become a "fad" with criminal offenders and remarked that the "dramatic increase in the last few years to criminal defendants pleading sexual assault" is well documented in the literature.

A painful moment for gay observers of the trial was provided by defense witness Dr. Quijano, a psychologist in private practice, testified that most of Aldrich's aggressive behavior was directed towards homosexuals. "As a 9 year-old," Quijano testi-

fied, "this person had been homosexually raped" Quijano continued, "Rape victims develop intense anger, especially if the perpetrator is a person whom the victim trusts."

Quijano then testified that since Aldrich's aggression is directed only towards homosexuals, there is a diminished threat of future violence. "If the pool of potential victims is narrow," he said, "the chances for future violence is less."

This testimony provoked fiery responses from both Dobbs and Smith County District Attorney Jack Skeen.

In his final remarks, Dobbs shot back, "He (Aldrich) was betting on 12 people saying to themselves, 'Because the victim was a homosexual, this crime's just not as serious.'" Calling Aldrich a "predator" and an "animal," Dobbs asked the jury, "What did this man (West) do to deserve to be killed other than being in a victim group that Donald Aldrich perceived as being easy prey?"

Dobbs asked the jury if the victim's being homosexual made his death any less significant than the death of a straight man. Recalling Nicholas West's father's testimony that "there are no words to describe" the loss of a child; Dobbs asserted, "The loss to him means just as much as the loss to someone who's son is straight."

District Attorney Jack Skeen continued by describing Aldrich as a "callous, cold blooded executioner" and queried the jury: "Because Nicholas West was a homosexual, is that supposed to be the mitigation we're talking about here?"

Your "verdict is going to go out across this county and across this state," Skeen continued. Nicholas West

died "in the most heinous manner a man can die," he said.

Skeen then exhorted the jury to render the death penalty: "You commit this kind of crime and you are going to get the death penalty. You're not going to receive anything less than the death penalty. I ask you to send that message."

The message was sent Tuesday, as Aldrich sat silently. He was whisked away by jailers shortly after the verdict was read.

Hardy-Garcia commended the handling of the case by the prosecutors and police who headed the investigation into West's murder. She added that LGRL was "extremely proud of Tyler," saying the case was very well-handled and a good example for the rest of the state to follow.

"If a small town like Tyler can treat gays and lesbians equally, then cities like Houston, San Antonio and El Paso should be able to do the same, they should be able to report hate crimes and follow up on these acts of violence that are happening."

Hardy-Garcia asserted that "although Aldrich pulled the trigger, we have to remember that many other people in this society were just as responsible for this killing."

"The minister at Nicholas' funeral told mourners 'the wages of sin are death,' thereby promoting the idea that somehow Nicholas got what he deserved," she said. "We have seen the link between such attitudes and the violence going on around us. By perpetuating hatred and discrimination towards gay men and lesbians, these people are giving Donald Aldrich and others like him an excuse for their violent behavior."



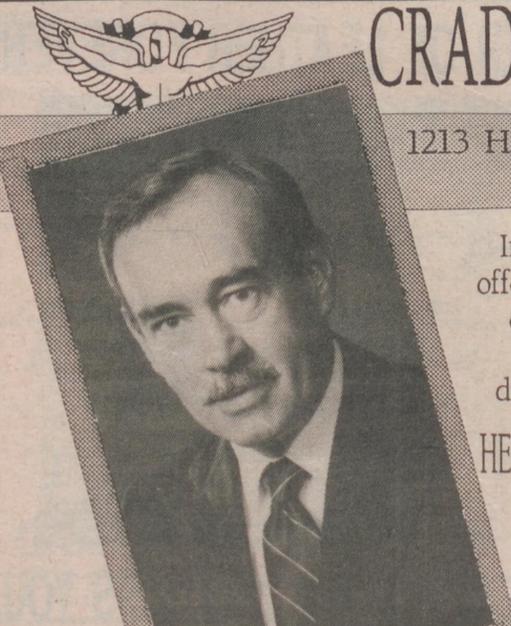
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PROJECTS IN PROGRESS

Several national lesbian/gay/bisexual organizations, educational associations and prominent historians have jointly declared October as National Gay and Lesbian History Month. A national coordinating council has been formed to raise awareness and assist in the development of grassroots activities. Local councils now exist in Seattle, Chicago, St. Louis, Boston and Columbus. Modeled after successful celebrations such as Black History Month (February) and Women's History Month (March), the designation aims to promote the teaching of lesbian and gay history in secondary and post-secondary academic settings, as well as further education within the gay community and mainstream society. Resource materials are available to individuals and organizations interested in helping to celebrate the observance. Send SASE with 52 cents postage to: LGHM, c/o Gerber/Hart Library and Archives, 3352 N. Paulina, Chicago, IL 60657. FMI: tel. (312) 883-3003.

Missouri researchers say investigational HIV vaccine looks promising

By ED SCHAFER

FOR THE HOUSTON VOICE

ST. LOUIS, Friday, Aug. 5 (AP)—Tests on a new HIV vaccine show promise, researchers say, finding no major side effects and a broader immune response than that found in earlier vaccine studies.

"We saw some very significant new findings," said Dr. Robert B. Belshe, director of the Center for Vaccine Development at Saint Louis University School of Medicine.

"The vaccine (called MN rgp120) stimulated a higher quantity of neutralizing antibody than we've seen before," Belshe said Friday. "In addition, those antibodies could attack and kill not only the laboratory strain of HIV from which the vaccine was made, but also several other lab strains of the AIDS virus.

"This is a small but important step forward. There are many strains of HIV in the real world, and we believe an effective HIV vaccine must be able to kill all or most of those strains."

The study, which involved 57 healthy, HIV-negative adult volunteers who were at low risk for HIV infection, was conducted at AIDS vaccine evaluation units at medical schools at Saint Louis, the University of Rochester in New York and Vanderbilt University. The next phase, which is scheduled to be completed in about six months, involves low-risk and high-risk volunteers.

The research is funded by the National Institute of Allergy and Infectious Diseases, a component

of the National Institutes of Health.

Belshe said other positive advances found with the investigational vaccine was its ability to stimulate a kind of antibody that can kill infected cells, as opposed to killing only the virus itself, and to prime the exposed immune system to recognize the virus in the future.

But the news is not all good, said Belshe, who notes that further development is needed if MN rgp120 is to be truly effective.

Researchers note that even higher levels of antibodies than the vaccine stimulates may be needed for it to be protective. They also found that while the antibodies were effective against laboratory strains of HIV, they could not kill HIV taken directly out of people infected with the virus. The significance of that finding is not known, they said.

"There are many tasks to be completed with basic studies such as this one," said Belshe. "Each study gives us more information. These findings represent another small step along the road to developing an AIDS vaccine."

"I am confident that we will be able to develop one. But it's an enormously complex virus and it will take a long time. I don't know if it will be five years or 15, but we will have a vaccine."

The results of the study appear in this week's issue of the "Journal of the American Medical Association" and were to be presented Friday at the International Conference on AIDS in Yokohama, Japan.

SUNDAYS

Howard Roffman © Soho Gallery. Available at Crossroads Market.



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QUOTE NOTE

"I thought being on the series would be a great way to show how a young person actually deals with HIV and AIDS. And I also thought, it's four or five months in San Francisco, how bad could it be?" Pedro Zamora, AIDS activist turned HIV-positive MTV sex symbol, on deciding to join the cast of the reality-based soap "The Real World," quoted in the August/September issue of POZ Magazine.

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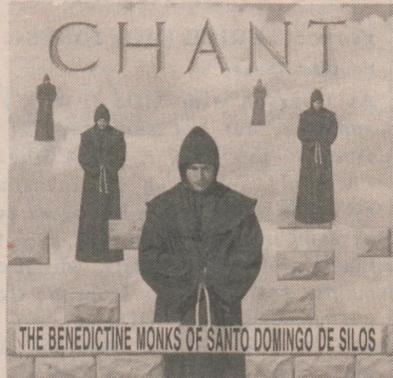


LEATHER BY BOOTS WISHES 'LEE' GOOD LUCK IN HIS FUTURE ENDEAVORS. WE WILL MISS YOU.

tunes

by tad

In last week's "Tunes," I incorrectly stated that Tori Amos would be playing at the Tower Theatre. Tori will be playing at the Cullen Auditorium on the University of Houston Campus.



Chant

The Benedictine Monks of Santo Domingo De Silos

Who would have ever believed that Gregorian chants by some Spanish Benedictine monks would be unquestionably the most remarkable success for 1994 on the popular music charts, selling in unparalleled numbers for a medieval recording? That's right. It's risen to Number 5 on Billboard's charts and is currently Number 17 where it fell from last week's number 10 on Houston's popular music charts. What makes this release different? Other releases of Gregorian chants have been recorded in studios by professional singers who specialize in this type of early music, while "Chant" documents the work of actual monks in a medieval abbey bathing their voices in the vast resounding soundstage of a church. The serene melodies which comprise "Chant" are historical and purportedly directly influenced by Pope Gregory The Great who presided over Catholicism from 590 to 604. Seven times a day, every day of the year as has been for over 1500 years, they sing these humble, lofty tunes as was commanded by Pope Gregory. As a way of preserving the singing of the monks, the texts were developed from the liturgy of the church. The music itself is composed of a single melodic line, sung in unison, free of rhythm and soaring into space with a calm certainty. This type of chant never resolves in climax and neither are different notes ever sounded simultaneously to create harmony. Yet fans of New Age music will be enthralled by the enigmatic ambience of unadorned human voices in a huge reverberant space. There are 19 chants on this CD and they last a total of 57 glorious minutes without a noticeable pause. This CD would be great for meditation, reflection, prayer, or just a soothing background. I recommend "Chant" highly, but don't hold your breath for the world tour. According to Rock Video Monthly, the abbot and monks are stunned by the success and have decreased their links with the outside

world.



The Sweetest Illusion

BASIA

Basia's back! And did she develop something new in the three years she has been away? No! She is still the Polish queen of the samba rhythm-go figure. With her latest release "The Sweetest Illusion," Basia will definitely have several hit songs including the title song and her video single hit "Yearning." Her tunes are upbeat enough to be played by just about any with-it D.J. and danceable enough to find air-time in clubland. But I learned something this past weekend while attending her concert at the Cynthia Woods—Mitchell Pavillion and that was that once you have three or four of Basia's tunes you've heard them all. They begin to melt into an indistinguishable mesh of harmonious Latino tunes until one sounds like the next and ask yourself if she didn't just play that tune fifteen minutes ago. Now mind you, this is not all bitchin.' I find her hits infectious. You find yourself wanting to go get that ol' Carmen Miranda outfit out of mothballs and dance along. Howard Greenberg, who directed Sting ("If I Ever Lose My Faith In You") and INXS ("Not Enough Time") is behind the lens on "Yearning," Basia's first video release off "The Sweetest Illusion" while Danny White, her keyboardist seems to be the man of the hour on the CD. Basia along with Danny produced and arranged virtually every cut. Her entire band is pretty incredible, but a standout at the concert was guitarist Peter White who did some incredible acoustic pieces with Basia and her three back-up singers. If you liked her first three CD's, you'll love this one too! In fact if you get the discs mixed up in the cases you might not realize if or years to come. If you haven't heard her, this is just as good as any to start with for some fine jazz fusion with a samba flair on eleven compelling songs that communicate her shared experiences with family and friends. Of interest to devoted fans: Basia makes note of a continuing "soap opera" on her last three releases, all involving someone named Rachel. This release includes "She Deserves It/Rachel's Wedding." Check it out. It's worth listening to, but gurl, find a new beat before you make our ears weary.

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San Francisco Giants raise \$115,000 for AIDS research

SAN FRANCISCO, Thursday, Aug. 4 (AP)—The San Francisco Giants say they raised more than \$115,000 for AIDS research and services on "Until There's A Cure Day."

The Giants donated \$1 from each ticket sold to last Sunday's home game against the Colorado Rockies to the Until There's a Cure Foundation, which will distribute the money to research and local non-profit organizations.

The Giants were the first professional sports team to dedicate a day to raising money to fight AIDS. More than 50,000 people attended the game.

The Giants also raised money through the sale of commemorative T-shirts

and bracelets with the looped ribbon symbol of the fight against AIDS. More than 2500 of the T-shirts were sold.

"We are proud to present this sum of money to the foundation," Peter Magowan, team president and managing general partner, said Thursday. "But we are equally proud to have witnessed such a remarkable outpouring of compassion and involvement from individuals and businesses throughout the bay area in support of this cause."

The Giants planned to inscribe the names of 5000 individuals and corporations which supported the cause on a wall at Candlestick Park.

HOUSTON VOICE MAIL

Letters to the Editor

(Continued from Page 7)

Thirteen years ago, when there was no money in the "AIDS business," there were virtually less than a handful of service providers who fought tooth and nail, day and night to marshal the resources to assist those with AIDS. Today, AIDS is big business. With over 350 known AIDS service organizations in the Houston area and over 30,000 nationwide, some people are literally making a killing off others dying.

We should be no less critical of those, such as Earl Shelp, who are part of our community. In fact, for a gay man to show as little discretion is unpardonable and unconscionable. Mr Shelp has shown a singular propensity in surrounding himself with people who have shown that they care nothing about people with AIDS.

Clortis "C.C." Roberts, who has had a six figure judgment made against her for defrauding an AIDS patient and is facing criminal felony charges is a former associate of Shelp's. Iva Sue Cooper, who has managed to single handedly give Houston the worst name nationally for incompetency, is a Shelp associate. In fact, she associated with or was the executive director of the greater houston AIDS Alliance for the approximately three years that Mr. Shelp consistently over-billed the Alliance only to find and correct his "mistake" just before each annual audit. Enough energy has been spent on Jon Lindsay, another close associate of Shelp's who has less than six months remaining before his 20-year reign of malfeasance will be over.

Aside from the clients if and the donors to FIRM the group of persons who stand to hurt the most from Mr. Shelp's indiscretions and greed are the FIRM care team members. There perhaps are no greater group of individuals currently working with HIV patients. The care team members serve strictly as 100% unpaid volunteers who reportedly give their all or more into the care of their charges and their families, often going above and beyond the scope of their mission in bringing comfort, assistance, and friendship to those in need. They are in no way financially compensated for any expenses they incur. They embody the very essence of the word volunteer, if not hero. Mr. Shelp should resign immediately as to spare them having to work under his cloud of suspicion and shame.

I am jaded enough as not to have much faith in our systems of law and government to weed out the poison which threatens to kill us all, but I am not unbelieving enough to know a rat will jump a sinking ship. We should not give to or participate in giving money to FIRM until Earl Shelp is no longer associated with it. Maybe his Christian conscience will dictate his resignation before too much damage is done. If "Sweet Charity" indeed begins at home we will leave him no choice. Lastly, Earl, does this latest round of, let's say mud mean that you will have to

give back your award from that great AIDS humanitarian George Bush, or does your point of light continue to shine even in the darkness of your foul deeds?

More Firm Rebuke

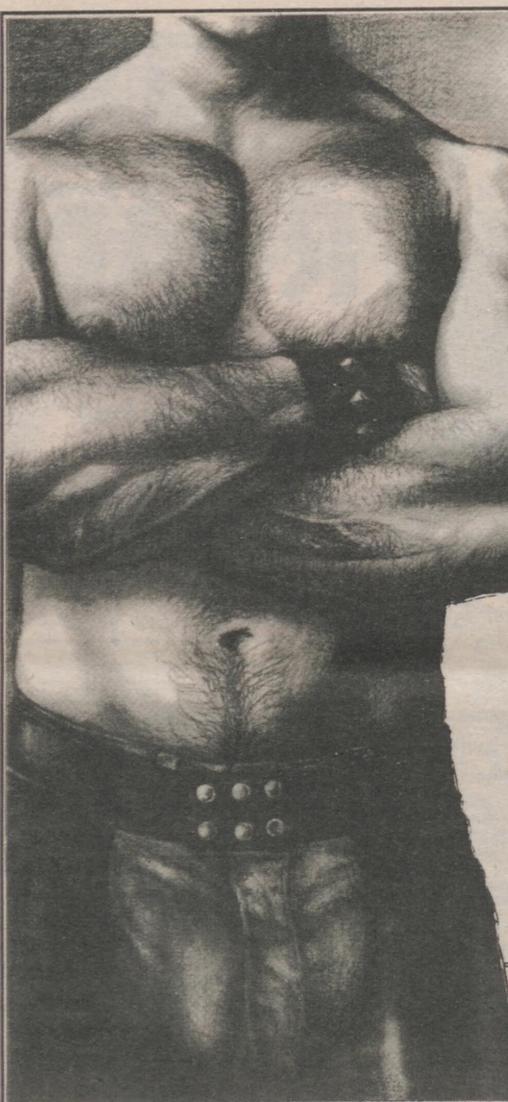
From MAURICE (MO) JONES
Houston, Texas

As a person with AIDS (PWA), I am appalled, but not surprised, at the story in the Aug. 6, 1994 Houston Chronicle regarding an investment by FIRM in the Teresa Rodriguez ponzi pyramid investment scheme. How is it that a non-profit charity, which constantly solicits funds from the Houston community for AIDS patients, has \$321,615 to invest? Weren't these funds to be used for the patients? Was any of this tax dollars? Were the donors ever informed their money was going into high risk investments? As a long-standing donor at Sweet Charity, I can assure you that I was never informed and would never have supported Earl Shelp or FIRM if I had known. Also, how is it that Earl can claim a personal loss of \$250,000? This should raise some questions about Earl's salary, reported to be the highest among the executive directors of all the AIDS charities in Houston. Is FIRM just a vehicle for Earl to get rich from the AIDS epidemic?

I and other community leaders raised questions about Earl and FIRM years ago, but no one would listen. We were suspicious of the \$11,000 he returned to the Greater Houston AIDS Alliance after the departure of Sue Cooper to Harris County during the auditing of the Alliance's books. Coincidental timing? I think not. Sue was a consultant to Earl at FIRM before her job at the Alliance, where she mismanaged millions of community, county, state and federal funds. She still controls millions in Ryan White federal dollars.

Where were Larry Chloe, Daryl Hays and the rest of FIRM's board of directors during these high-risk investments? Isn't it their job and final responsibility for Earl's actions and FIRM's integrity? Are they just high profile figureheads, uninvolved with the daily activities of the non-profit corporation, or are they responsible citizens? I suggest it is time for Earl Shelp to be replaced by the board of FIRM; for the books to be opened up for a thorough review; for civil and criminal charges to be filed; and for several other AIDS service agencies in Houston to be investigated. After the discovery of the mess at the Foundation for Women and children with AIDS recently, it is clear that the governmental agencies responsible for funding these organizations have not been wise custodians of our tax dollars in Houston.

No, Earl, FIRM is not the victim, as you stated. The AIDS patients are the victims.



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Main Street's 'Red Scare on Sunset' one of the year's funniest shows

By JAVIER TAMEZ

Houston Voice/Houston

"I like to shake up people's fixed attitudes." So said playwright Charles Busch in the preface to the acting edition of "Red Scare on Sunset." And to a certain extent, his play, which is being presented at Main Street Theater through Sept. 10, does just that. The work is a stinging spoof that derides McCarthyism, communism, the Hollywood star system and method acting. It is rife with one-liners—some silly, many biting—and has a plethora of puns that'll make you smirk every single time.

Mary Dale (Joel Sandel, who never looked prettier) is Hollywood's sweetheart—a naive, waif of a movie star who takes strong stock in values that admonish us to "work hard and make a profit." She is married to Frank Taggart (Thomas Baird), an ostensibly perfect match for Mary, but who, as of late, has been giving Mary cause for concern.

Frank is having an affair with Marta Towers (Celeste Cheramie), a B-movie starlet who advocates method acting. Mary becomes distraught when Frank tell her he has enrolled in a method acting class with Marta. Thinking she might be losing her happy home, Mary consults her best friend Pat Pilford (Ann Can-

dlar). Pat is the host of a live radio show, which she uses to advance her campaign against communists in Hollywood.

As it so happens, one of Pat's targets is none other than Marta Towers. Mary isn't sure she wants to resort to this quasi-muckraking, but when Pat begins spouting party-line propaganda on the air, Mary knows she must do something. Pat is being blackmailed by Mitchell Drake (Mark Roberts), a successful, but sleazy and slippery, screenwriter and womanizer whose first loyalty is to the party. Mitchell works with Bertram Barker (Freeman Williams), the head of the local party apparatus which uses the method acting school as its front. Bertram has had good fortune in finding recruits for his nefarious plot, though many times they join unwittingly, such as Malcolm (David Harlan), Mary's houseboy, whose greatest pleasure seems to come from undressing Frank on those nights when he's too drunk to do so himself.

Thus the demure and innocent Mary is forced into taking action, and for the audience that means a salutary, comic treat. "Red Scare on Sunset" is a whimsical delight. Busch, who also wrote "Psycho Beach Party" and "Vampire Lesbi-



Joel Sandel as Mary Dale in "Red Scare on Sunset"

ans of Sodom," has an unqualified knack for sophomoric wit. Though there are times when his devices are a bit too trite even for his brand of humor—Mary moves from laughter to stone-face as she has simultaneous conversations with Pat and Marta—Busch's silliness is, by and large, enough to keep the laughter coming. Of course, a good deal of this is having the central figure in drag. By drawing Mary Dale as something out of "The Donna Reed Show" and then calling for the character to be played by a man in drag, Busch slyly plays for laughs while at the same time imbuing the play with the readily obvious warning—all is not as it seems.

Unfortunately, Busch diminishes his own work by forgetting what he's done earlier in the play; Busch, in effect, loses sight of his own parody, at least where the McCarthyist right is concerned. The denouement has Mary testifying before the House-Senate Un-American Activities Committee. The symbolism of the sweet and innocent Mary wreaking havoc on the lives of good people should be a powerful statement. Except all those being named by Mary are bona fide communists who unabashedly proclaimed their intention to seize control of Hollywood through subversive actions. Mary isn't making a profound error in judgment; she's nailing the bad guys.

What bothered me the most, though, was probably added by Busch as a period condemnation. Neither the radicals nor the reactionaries have any sympathy for the homosexual. Pat sums up the sentiment of the right when she says, "We have to know who's buffing who." (sic) While Mitchell encapsulates the leftist view by stating that Big Brother will be in every bedroom.

This aside, the play is a sheer pleasure with smart directing and sure-fire performances. Director Claire Hart-Palumbo does everything right in

getting the most out of the production. She exaggerates the characters only when necessary, allowing the actors to find comfortable niches within their respective characterizations. Most leasing for me was the manner in which Hart-Palumbo demonstrated Mary's increasing dilemma. A psychedelic blotch of circles and dots swims around Mary every time she goes into a dither, and it gets funnier every time.

Joel Sandel as the diminutive Mary is just a scream. Small in stature, Sandel's soft features make him ideal for the virtuous Mary. His every gesture is made with a feminine flourish. He adds an entirely new dimension to the already overstated histrionics, and his rich baritone gives Mary a fluid voice that marks well her innocence.

Ann Candler does a fine turn as the self-righteous Pat Pilford; Celeste Cheramie thrusts a nasty foot forward as the embittered and imbalanced Marta; Mark Roberts does another grand job, this time as the oily Mitchell Drake; and Rodney Walworth does an exceptional job in four minor supporting roles.

"Red Scare on Sunset" is delightfully crowd-pleasing theater. It's both smart and silly and the funniest show I've seen all year.

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Houston Ballet offers summer fare breezy enough to beat the heat

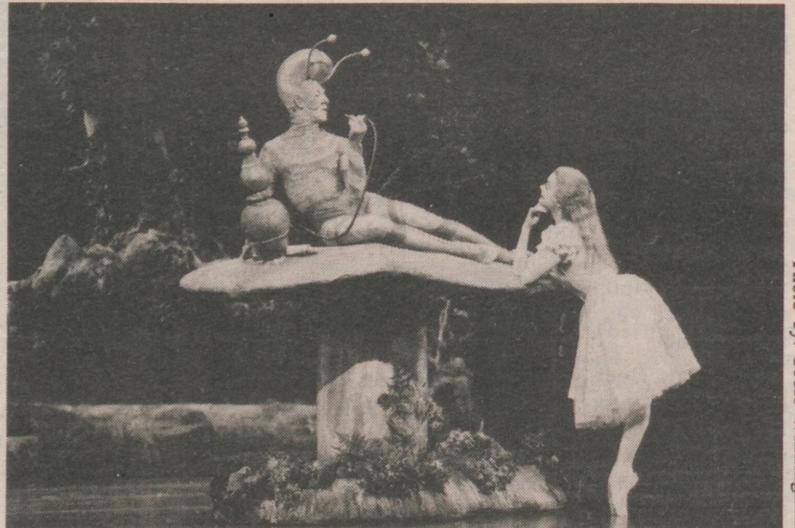


Photo by: Geoff Winningham

Steven Norman (Caterpillar) and Janie Parker (Alice) in Houston Ballet's fanciful summer production of "Alice in Wonderland"

Fine Arts Review

By JOHN REED

Houston Voice/Houston

A refreshing breeze of fine arts programming by the Houston Ballet is blowing onto Wortham Center stage this summer. Among the delightful productions cooling the sweltering local audiences is "Alice In Wonderland" which opens the 1994/95 season for the Ballet, now in its 25th anniversary year.

In this one hour and 45 minute production the classically inspired costuming, as colorful and pleasant to the eye as a dish of sherbet, was cleverly designed by ballet costumer Nadine Baylis who produced them in hues duplicating lime, orange or pineapple frozen confections. Lewis Carroll's imaginative characters are clothed in playful designs that will appeal to all ages. The white rabbit, the smoking caterpillar, the Cheshire Cat, the Queen and King of Hearts (an audience favorite) and the many unusual and unlikely forest animals appear to be having such a wonderful time dancing for the audience that it would be difficult for any gathering of viewers not to thoroughly enjoy themselves.

Houston Ballet Company's dancing in this production is generally first rate, demonstrating again the high professional degree of talent that is present. Artistic Director Ben Stevenson was masterful in choreographing the wide range dance to the music of Joseph Horowitz. The score contains pleasurable musical impressions and is played competently by a fine orchestra, but lacks any unforgettable measures. Combined with the fine dancing, imaginative sets, one hundred or more outrageous costumes, and use of spoken dialogue (uncommon in classic ballet) the musical offering of the Houston Ballet Orchestra conducted by Ermanno Florio is rendered somewhat insignificant by virtue of comparison.

Act II is more stimulating, containing far better numbers, with principals Janie Parker and Lauren Anderson as Alice and the Tiger Lily, respectively. These ballerinas

are highly skilled and consistently provide first rate performances. With fluid graceful form, their ease of movement conveys a true sense of enjoyment they must have for their craft. You can catch one of these fine performances from now until August 14 on the Brown Theater Stage at the Wortham Center.

"Alice In Wonderland" is another wonderful example of the combined effort of the performing arts in Houston and this reviewer highly recommends it to everyone. It will be a night of adult entertainment to bring out the child in you.

Tickets for Houston Ballet performances range from \$5 to \$75 and can be purchased in person at either Houston Ticket Center locations, Jones Hall or Wortham Center, 9:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m. Monday through Friday or 10:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. Saturday, or by going to any Ticketmaster outlet including Foley's, Fiesta, Sears, or Sound Warehouse. By phone tickets can be charged by calling (713) 227-ARTS or 1 (800) 828-ARTS toll free outside the Houston area. Tickets for all 1994 performances are on sale currently while tickets for performances scheduled in 1995 will go on sale beginning Nov. 21. Coming events: the ever popular holiday family classic "The Nutcracker" from Nov. 30 to Dec. 30, set to Tchaikovsky's famous score.

Begin 1995 with Ben Stevenson's World Premiere production of "Don Quixote" with performances from Feb. 23 to March 5. From March 9 to 19 the Houston Ballet will present Trey McIntyre's dynamic "Skeleton Clock," Ben Stevenson's signature piece "Three Preludes" and George Balanchine's effervescent "Western Symphony." Helgi Homasson's "Haffner Symphony" a work of pure classical dance, along with Jiri Kylian's "Sinfonietta," and the American premiere of Christopher Bruce's "Rooster" which is set to eight songs by the Rolling Stones. Finally, ending another fabulous season of Houston Ballet will be Ben Stevenson's full length ballet, "Peer Gynt" based on Ibsen's dramatic play with sets and costumes by Peter Farmer and music set to Edvard Grieg's well known incidental music for the play.

Houstonian reprises Tony-winning role in TUTS production of 'Dreamgirls'

By JAVIER TAMEZ
Houston Voice/Houston

Houston's own Jennifer Holliday will reprise her acclaimed role in Theatre Under the Stars' sensational revival of Michael Bennett's Tony Award-winning "Dreamgirls," the story of a 1960s rhythm & blues trio's rise to stardom.

For the first time ever, Houston audiences will see and experience Holliday's electrifying performance for which she garnered a 1982 Tony. Holliday plays Effie Melody White, the troubled heroine in "Dreamgirls," who is rejected by her Chicago singing group, stumbles in the face of humiliation and eventually makes a triumphant comeback in show business.

The score is a brilliant blend of Motown and gospel blues, particularly Holliday's riveting rendition of "And I'm Telling You I'm Not Going," an out-and-out scorcher that will bring you to your feet. Holliday made a hit record from the solo of that song and won a Grammy Award for Best Rhythm & Blues Vocal Performer for her work in the show's original cast album. She has since toured in concerts and musicals including "Sing, Mahalia, Sing," "Harlem Suite" and "Ain't Got



Dreams Lorrell (Adriane Lenox), Deena (Alise Gyse-Dickens) and Effie (Jennifer Holliday) perform in Cleveland

Long to Stay Here."

Holliday was first discovered in the church choir of Houston's Pleasant Grove Baptist Church. A dancer from the touring company of "A Chorus Line" heard her sing and bought her a ticket to New York City, where she had arranged for Holliday to audition for the Broadway show, "Your Arm's Too Short to Box with God." Holliday was hired that same day. While performing in the musical, she was asked to audition for

another show—"Dreamgirls."

Drawn largely from the story of the Supremes, "Dreamgirls" was originally conceived in the 1970s by composer Harry Krieger and lyricist/librettist Tom Eyrn. Eyrn went to choreographer Michael Bennet ("A Chorus Line") seeking some advice and the use of Bennett's rehearsal studio. The script was still incomplete, but Bennett became interested and eventually took over the project. "Dream-

girls" was first performed in Boston in 1981, and audiences were stunned.

When the show opened on Broadway later the same year, Holliday received accolades from virtually every critic. "The New York Times" called Holliday's performance "one of the most powerful theatrical coups to be found in a Broadway musical." The Associated Press reported: "'Dreamgirls' is a smash and Jennifer Holliday, its star, is incandescent. It's a thrilling, lavishing musical..."

This high praise launched the company on a hugely successful Broadway run that was capped by an equally successful national tour. In 1987 Bennett revived the musical (without Holliday who had other commitments), and it again received rave reviews. The current revival is being produced by TUTS and comes to Houston following performance runs in Dallas, Kansas City and Atlanta.

"Dreamgirls" is an engrossing storybook tale of the road to stardom taken by three very special women that comes alive with that inimitable Motown sound. These dreamgirls are more than just a dream; they're a musical fantasy.

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HOLLYWOOD GOSSIP

Don't Cry For Her Mr. Stone

It was last reported that Oliver Stone would direct the someday to be produced musical "Evita" and that his latest choice to play the lead was Michelle Pfeifer, but due to pre-production cost already exceeding \$60 million combined with the fact that the current Argentine president refused the use of the palace for the famous balcony scene, Mr. Stone has abandoned the project.

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News from international AIDS conference not all hopeful, but not all grim

(Continued from Page 1)

Ho noted that his studies indicated differences in these patients' immune response to HIV. Long term nonprogressors mount particularly stronger cellular and humoral immune responses to HIV infection, according to Ho's data. In addition, there is a remarkably low level of HIV in the blood cells of these patients.

Other reports presented at the conference hint at the need, particularly in the United States, to focus on new approaches to fighting the HIV virus. On Tuesday, William Paul, M.D., director of the Office of AIDS research of the National Institutes of Health, said research on anti-HIV therapies must focus on new molecular targets, in order to broaden the arsenal of weapons against HIV. In particular, this will require a more detailed knowledge of thus far minimally studied HIV regulatory proteins.

The conference opened Sunday with a leading health official—Dr. Peter Piot, president of the International AIDS Society—warning

against "naive optimism" that science will control the epidemic anytime soon.

Piot said the world should face the fact that AIDS is no longer simply an outbreak, but has become entrenched and "will be an integral part of the human condition for a very long time to come."

Current World Health Organization statistics reveal explosive growth in the prevalence of HIV infection in all areas of the world. Of a conservatively estimated 17 million HIV-infected persons worldwide, 14.5 million dwell in sub-Saharan Africa, Southeast Asia, Latin America, and the Caribbean. An estimated 4 million worldwide have AIDS. If current trends continue, by the beginning of the 21st century there may be over 40 million people infected with HIV worldwide.

Also noted in presentations at the conference:

—New molecular technology has shown for the first time that HIV is present in a huge reservoir of dormant infected cells. According to

data presented by Ashley Hease, M.D., University of Minnesota, about 25% of T-helper lymphocytes within lymph nodes are infected by HIV, far more than the 1 in 150 CD4 cells previously believed to be infected.

—A new HIV subtype, dubbed HIV subtype O, has been identified, according to Luc Montagnier, M.D., of the Pasteur Institute, Paris. The new subtype is genetically different from others previously recognized.

—Knowledge about the complex responses of the human body to HIV, which differ from individual to individual, is the necessary foundation for understanding the pathogenesis of HIV and developing effective therapies, according to Anthony S. Fauci, M.D., director of the National Institute of Allergy and Infectious Diseases (NAIAD).

—New antibiotics are being developed to fight off opportunistic infections. These are assaults by otherwise benign bugs that only harm people after their immune defenses have been destroyed by AIDS.

—New data from studies in chimpanzees show that development of a protective vaccine using an inactivated or weakened form of the HIV virus may be possible, according to scientists from the National Institutes of Health and three other institutions.

—Antiretroviral therapy has no detectable effect on the amount of HIV, the virus that causes AIDS, in lymphoid tissue or certain red blood cell, according to preliminary results from a study by investigators from the National Institute of Allergy and Infectious Diseases (NAIAD). The study is the largest to date examining the effect of therapy on HIV in lymph nodes, the main reservoir for the virus in infected individuals.

The study's findings also show that antiretroviral therapy during early HIV disease does not affect HIV replication in such cells. However, a combination of zidovudine (AZT) and didanosine (ddI) appeared to decrease viral replication in patients with more advanced HIV disease.

Britain to retain policy of dismissing gays from services

LONDON, Friday, Aug. 5 (AP)—The Ministry of Defense said Friday it had fired 260 homosexual military personnel since 1990 and that it had no plans to change its policy that homosexuality was incompatible with life in the armed services.

The information was made public in answer to a letter from an opposition Labor Party member of Parliament Barbara Roche.

Of the homosexual men and women dismissed or discharged since 1990, 154 were from the army, 49 from the navy,

and 57 from the Royal Air Force. Among them were majors, captains, two chaplains and an RAF squadron leader.

Ed Hall, dismissed from the navy, said the 260 figure did not include a large number of homosexuals who were

offered the opportunity to resign.

Hall told BBC Radio there were "a number of men and women" considering taking their case to the European Court.

The ministry issued a statement saying that in 1983 the European Commission on

Human Rights accepted that homosexual conduct by members of the armed forces could pose a particular risk to order within the forces—and the MoD's policy did not therefore conflict with the European Convention on Human Rights.

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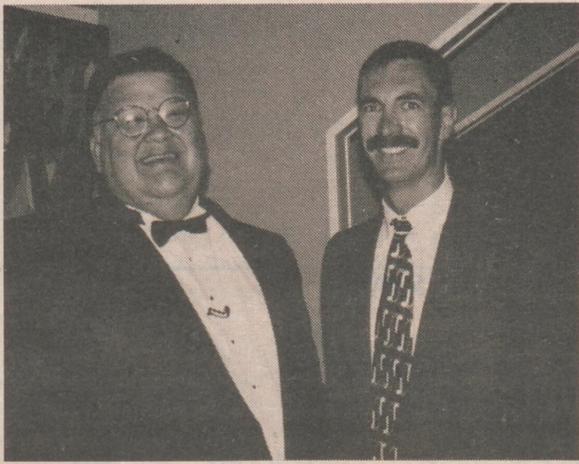
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Town Meeting II logo picked at benefit reception; 'Bellini Bash' coming Aug. 25



Alan Bourgeois, right, of Town Meeting II with television personality Alvin Van Black of Channel 13 at fundraiser (photo by Carolyn Larson)

Quick Notes

In June, 1978, over 3000 people attended a conference that changed the face of Houston politics and opened doors still used today for the local gay and lesbian community. It was the first and only event of its kind, bringing together all of the diverse elements of the gay and lesbian community, which had barely begun to make its presence felt in the city.

At the close of Town Meeting I, some of the participants were already planning a second meeting. It never happened.

Next year, an ambitious group of Houston activists, artists and business leaders hope to recreate the spark of energy that spawned several of the community's organizations

and institutions.

Tuesday evening at the Museum Restaurant, a reception and fundraiser was hosted by the planning committee for Town Meeting II, an event planned tentatively for mid-June, 1995 that will include a get-down-to-business planning meeting for the Houston gay political, social and economic agenda, as well as an art exhibition and a full-scale business exposition. Alan Bourgeois, a local business owner and producer of the Access Cable program "Gay 90's," heads the committee.

At Tuesday's event, those attending voted on proposed logos submitted by artists and graphic designers and others in the community. From a wide array of choices, the group selected a simple design featuring a pink triangle on a blue background, accompanied by the words "Gay, Lesbian, Bisexual, Transgender" to promote community unity.

The event was also intended to update the community on the plans thus far for Town Meeting II.

Those plans are gaining momentum as the planned Town Meeting picks up community support and sponsorships. At Tuesday's event, checks were presented to the group by D.J.

Jecker of Watermark Printing, Brian Brokermann of TNT Shirts and Steve Thomas of Monticello Productions. A total of \$5,000 in cash and pledges was raised, Bourgeois said.

Bellini Bash

Michael Kemper is chairing "The Bellini Bash," the grand opening of Anthony Russo's Cafe Anthony, 4315 Montrose Boulevard, on Thursday, Aug. 25, benefiting Milam House, an AIDS hospice. Tickets range in price from \$10 to \$100. For information, call (713) 526-8519.

Joining Kemper on the host committee are Jan Glenn, Jeff Pickett, Mark Cullen, Cathy and Andrew Echols, Sandra Gunn, Barry Horn, Dovie Morgan, and Jerry Suttles, among others.

Cafe Anthony (4315 Montrose Boulevard) is Anthony Russo's latest Houston area eatery, and is a pizza and past restaurant. Anthony's Pizzeria, 1001 Pineloch, (713-480-0812) and Cafe Anthony, 475 Bay Area Boulevard (713-480-6618) are located in Clear Lake.

Milam House is an AIDS hospice serving Houston area residents.

The Bellini Bash will feature a buffet, strolling violinists and Bellinis. The dress is Travatori Chic.

HIV/AIDS Housing Forum

The River Oaks Health Association will host a community forum on HIV/AIDS housing needs and solutions at 12 noon on Saturday, Aug. 20, at their offices at 1414 West Clay, near Waugh

Drive in the Montrose area. Individuals willing to lease or donate real estate for the project, HIV/AIDS community leaders with experience in housing advocacy and HIV positive persons likely to use these services are invited to attend and share their knowledge. Realty and cash donations for the project are tax deductible, needed and appreciated, said Matt Locklin, director of the PWA housing program.

Locklin said ROHA has launched an ambitious new housing project to assist the community.

"With more than 30,000 known cases of HIV/AIDS in the Houston area," says Locklin, "the existing programs through AIDS Foundation Houston and The Community Endowment Foundation are overwhelmed. The waiting lines are a mile long for affordable, independent living situations." He adds, "A disabled patient living on Social Security income receives around \$440 to \$790 a month in benefits, it is hardly enough to pay rent and utilities at fair market rate and have enough for food, clothing and medicines as well."

On Saturday Aug. 6, 1994 the ROHA board of directors appointed the veteran community health activist Matt Locklin to head the PWA housing program. Locklin, who is HIV positive, hosts the Cable Public Access TV show "AIDS Talk Houston" and serves on several Harris County Hospital District Citizen Advisory Councils, as an HIV/AIDS advocate.

For more information call (713) 902-2231.

HERPES?

FREE TREATMENT OF HERPES FOR HIV+ PERSONS

Houston Clinical Research Network is conducting two studies of a new version of acyclovir for treating and suppressing outbreaks of genital herpes. Adults who qualify are:

- HIV+
- Have history of recurrent ano-genital herpes
- CD4 count above 100

Qualified participants receive all medications, lab work, etc. at no cost.

Call Barbara Burkhardt at 520-2029 to see if you qualify for this study.

Houston Clinical Research Network

HCRN is a non-profit, American Foundation for AIDS Research (AmFAR) HIV research site, founded by the Montrose Clinic.

INVESTIGATIONAL PROGRAM FOR PEOPLE WHO ARE HIV POSITIVE WITHOUT SYMPTOMS



HIV causes progressive loss of immune function over a long period of time. Treatment with newer therapies may reduce disease progression.

IF YOU or someone you know is HIV-infected and without symptoms and would be interested in participating in a research study involving an investigational treatment for HIV, we may be able to help you.

Currently there is a nationwide research study involving more than 30 centers. The product under investigation may help you maintain your immune system longer.

Those who qualify for entry into the program will have study related medical costs covered. Some qualifying criteria are:

- You are at least 18 years of age.
- You are HIV positive.
- You do not have any current symptoms.
- Your CD4 count is between 100-400 cells/mm³.
- If female and of childbearing potential, you must be practicing effective contraception.

For additional qualifications and further information, you can call the following toll free number at any time: 1-800-584-6866.

Senate denies funds to schools that teach acceptance of homosexuality

By LISA ZAGAROLI
FOR THE HOUSTON VOICE

WASHINGTON, Sunday, Aug. 7 (AP)—The Senate voted to deny federal funds to public schools that teach acceptance of homosexuality, but

Michigan's senators voted against the measure.

Sens. Donald Riegle and Carl Levin, both Democrats, voted to allow funds to continue for those schools.

The measure, part of a \$2.5 billion education funding bill, passed 63-36

Monday. It would cut federal aid to districts that "carry out a program or activity that has either the purpose or effect of encouraging or supporting homosexuality as a positive lifestyle alternative."

The House included a similar amend-

ment when it passed the bill.

The Senate also approved, 66-33, a proposal that would allow single-gender public schools on an experimental basis.

Levin voted for it, and Riegle voted against it.

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Show Times for the Month of August

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Aug 23	11:00 pm
Aug 26	10:30 pm
Aug 27	10:00 am
Aug 29	11:00 pm

Check your local listings for Public Access Cable (PAC) channels. For more information about this show, or about other productions by Monticello Entertainment, write to P.O. Box 66128, Houston, Texas 77266-6128.

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Bette Davis & Lola THE GOSSIP LADY!
"WORLD'S FOREMOST NIGHTCLUB PUPPETEER!" - Las Vegas Today
"PACKING THEM IN FROM COAST TO COAST" - The Advocate
"HILARIOUS!" - Las Vegas Sun

Katharine Hepburn

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We're off to see the Wizard!

E/J's Houston

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- \$1.50 Well 4-7 Saturday
- \$1.50 Vodka 7am-6pm
- Mug Club 7am-10pm
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Miss Bayou City USA
* NAOMI WARWICK *
* SHANNA ROBERTS *

MON MALE STRIP CONTEST
11:00 PM with PAIVI & BRITTANY

TUE AMATEUR TALENT NIGHT (Week #1)
at 10:30 PM with BRITTANY PAIGE

WED STEAK NIGHT ON THE PATIO
With Lucy - 6:00 p.m. 'til
KARAOKE NIGHT
at 9:00 p.m. with Ray Wilkening
AND SPECIAL SHOW (SEE ABOVE)

T-Shirts are the political 'message walls' of today

Yours Truly In A Swamp

By LEONARD EARL JOHNSON
Houston Voice/New Orleans

T-shirts are modern America's greatest contribution to democracy.

I'm talking about T-shirts with slogans. They are the pamphleteers medium of today. Future history students may well study them like you and I studied Thomas Paine's American Revolutionary pamphlet, "Common Sense."

Today's T-shirts are up there with the ancient message walls of the Orient, and that fast moving digital clock in Manhattan that keeps a running tally of the mounting national debt.

This Summer, a congress of black Baptists meeting at the Louisiana Superdome in New Orleans displayed lots of T-shirts with lots of messages. Baptist are less singular in their vision than some.

Most messages, alas, blithely cheered the benefits of torture. One horrific T-shirt in Day-Glo green letters over a bloody red crown of thorns exclaimed, "No Pain, No Gain." That

perverse idea was modified by a loving message stretched across the brown frame of a tall Houston woman in her fifties. "Relationships are Jesus' Message/Not Theology," her yellow and white shirt said.

I ventured, "That should be a slogan for the gay-rights movement."

When I was a youthful seeker of life's truths, I lived in the Haight-Ashberry neighborhood of the 1960-70's San Francisco (for those under 30, that was hippie mecca). In those tender days, I regularly attended large gatherings called Monday Night Classes, at a huge dance hall on The Great Highway.

The Great Highway ran along California's greatly polluted beaches all the way to Los Angeles. "California, a paradise to live in or see..."



T-shirts and messages: everybody's got one (shirt shown available at TNT Shirts, 2400 Taft)

wrote Woody Guthrie back in the Dust Bowl Days.

Steve Gatson was our guru, back in the hippie days. He told us one Monday night, "Pardon the pun, but the trouble with Christians is they want to get everything nailed down."

Gatson was talking about dogmatic Christians. We were not that. We were youths seeking a fresh path. He told us

dogma is the trap to avoid when studying/building a belief.

I asked the tall Houston lady if avoiding dogma was what 'Relationships not Theology' meant?

"It also means life is an open-ended trip," she said. She was not lesbian she told me, and would not want her son to be gay—though she would care less should a future daughter be.

"AIDS is such a killer," she reasoned

aloud. Her son was seventeen and she worried what might happen to him were he gay.

"Gay women, on the other hand," she said, "are the group least likely to catch it."

I told her how some in the queer-rights movement use that fact as a weapon to fight the religious rights' crack-brained idea that AIDS is God's Retribution.

"That is a crack-brained idea," she said, "God is not a germ, and that kind of work is the Devil's work not God's!"

I said I could not agree more, "Like the T-shirt says, Relationships are what's important."

It was refreshing, standing in the morning sun. The breeze came gently from the direction of the river. It was heartening, talking to this Christian who finds love in the Gospel's message rather than another justification for hate.

I tell my new friend, "There is a T-shirt heralding the message, 'Hate is not a family value!'"

"That's nice," she says, "Do you know where I can get one?"

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ASK THE PASTOR

Rev. Janet Parker

Q: "I have heard that the first Eve was really named Lilith. Is this true? Who do you understand Lilith to be?"

A: There are several sources that tell us about the name of Lilith. In the book, "When God Was A Woman," by Merlin Stone, Lilith is described in Hebrew mythology as the first wife of Adam, who refused to be sexually submissive to him. Later, Lilith is described as the name of the demon who hovered about, waiting to find spilled sperm, of which to make her "illegitimate demon children."

In the ancient Sumerian tablets, Lilith is said to be a young maiden of the Queen of Heaven, Inanna. Lilith is sent out into the streets to bring men into the temple. As late as the sixteenth century AD, Hebrew scholars compiled a text known as the Kabbalah. The name of Lilith was presented as the symbol of evil, the female devil. In the Zohar, a part of the Kabbalah, it was stated that "Lilith, Queen of the demons, or the demons of her retinue, do their best to provoke men to sexual acts without the benefit of a woman, their aim being to make themselves bodies from the lost seed." It gave the warning that Lilith hovered about, just waiting for available sperm from which she created demons and illegitimate children.

In the book, "Lilith," by Siegmund Hurwitz, Lilith is described as an archaic goddess who becomes bi-polar. According to Jewish mythology, Lilith is seen as a terrible mother-goddess. When faced with a man, the aspect of a divine whore comes more to the forefront.

What is more in question here is the significance of Lilith and what she represents. According to Judeo-Christian tradition, male patriarchy was predominant. Woman was viewed as inferior, threatening, and was devalued. Lilith is viewed as a negative figure, a seductive woman. After all, it was Eve who was deceived Adam and ate the apple. We could therefore conclude that women cannot be trusted. They will deceive you every time if given the chance. The other side is that they are also easily deceived and therefore do not have the ability to reason and make good judgments.

Lilith represents in its mythology the horrible stigma attached to Eve (woman). Whether the first woman created was named Eve or Lilith is not significant. What is most important here is the view of woman in her role in creation. Adam was created first. Adam was the composite of both male and female attributes (Genesis 1:26,27). God made humanity bearing the attributes of God—both male and female qualities. God then subdivided the person Adam into two people, a male and female representation. Why would God then choose to be male over female if God was equally represented in the creation of Adam? Humanity went on to view God as male, but in actuality, God is both male and female. What Eve did in the garden has nothing to do with her being female. It has everything to do with her will, attitude and choice to obey or disobey. Lilith has taken on the negative aspect of Eve's behavior. She is even viewed as demonic, seductive and destructive. Thank God we have been liberated in Christ Jesus. He has come to remove the stigma and set us free. We do not have to worship a male God or a female God to find our liberty. We worship God who is both the El Shaddai (all-breasted one) and our Jehovah Jireh (our provider).

IF YOU HAVE ANY QUESTIONS AND WOULD LIKE TO HAVE THEM ADDRESSED BY REV. JANET PARKER, PLEASE WRITE TO: MARANATHA FELLOWSHIP MCC, P.O. BOX 667032, HOUSTON, TX 77266-7032

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There was lots of fun and fund raising last weekend at Houston clubs



The new Miss Mary's

Houston Soap, Part 1

By CAROLYN LARSON

Houston Voice/Houston

Hello Houston!

Last Week:

It was a fun and fund raising weekend!

This past Saturday night, many friends gathered at the Venture-N to help a dear friend. The checkbooks were loose and over \$2300 was raised to help Don Dowden! I was looking for a packed house, and I found one! I would like to thank everyone involved for being so generous!

Sunday at Mary's (naturally) was this year's "Miss Mary's" Contest. I really wanted to enter this one, but my schedule prohibited me. A well-earned CONGRATS to the New "Miss Mary's (Naturally)" to Lee Chardon. You Go Girl! Also, consolation prizes to Rita Charles (2nd), and to Norman (3rd). I wish I could have been there!

Marcia Johnson's benefit show at Gentry last Sunday raised \$252 for the Gay and Lesbian Switchboard of Houston! Marcia is always sharing her talents for the benefit of others! We need more like you in our community! Keep it up Girl!

Candyland was a big, big hit this past weekend at Club Hedonism, with hundreds of "club kids" and others dressed up to fit the theme. Paula (Gaydar) did a great job, with special thanks to Kyle, Lara, Divine and Danny.

The PWA Coalition's fundraiser and rug sale, held on July 22 and 23 was attended by over 400 friends and shoppers. The Coalition raised over \$7500 on this event, with special thanks to Charles Leach, owner of the Rug Emporium!

Chances' Grand Opening was full of food, drinks and fun! Marlene and the staff would like to thank all who passed thru the doors!

Friday, August 12

Sundance Cattle Company 14th Anniversary weekend starts tonight at Mary's (naturally). Registra-



What's so funny?



Cuervolyn counts the chips—this is what a fundraiser is all about

tion starts at 9:00 p.m.

Did you know that The Ranch has live C&W bands every Friday night Betsy and the girls of The Ranch ask you to call (666-3464) each weekend to find out who the headliner is! This weekend it is "Bustin' Loose" and "Dale Nowack."

J.R.'s Bar and Grill is a great place to wind down from your hectic week and get wound up for a weekend party!

Saturday, August 13

There is a Car Wash this afternoon in the parking lot of Gentry's. They will tidy up your car/truck between 10:00 a.m. and 4:00 p.m. Then at 9:00 pm the Imperial Court presents "Church Lady Revue." Look out! Robb and Meg are hosting another infamous Black-Out Party tonight at Mary's. The lights go OUT at 8:00 pm and the place stays dark all night long!

The Venture-N's stage will be full of Bears for sale tonight! This is a fund raising auction for the Court and Pet Patrol! The fur growls on the stage starting at 9:00 p.m.

Free Burgers and Buns at the 611 Hyde Park Pub today from Noon until 5:00 p.m.

The lovely (and older) Brittany Paige takes the stage tonight at E/J's at 11:00 pm hosting their weekly Saturday Super Show! Tonight's guest include Tiffany Brooks, Naomi Warwick and Shanna Roberts!

"Erotic Leather and Flesh Fantasy" tonight at Pacific Street. There is NO cover if you are in "Erotic Leather" or "Flesh."

Tiger is behind the DJ/VJ booth every Saturday night down at XTC. Be sure to ask her how she got "involved" with FIST! The story is a "good one."

Sunday, August 14

Help Nancy Ford celebrate her "First (yeah right!) Mid-Life Crisis" tonight at Plaza 9200! The party starts at 6:00 p.m. There will be a silent auction, raffle and a long list of entertainment. The "Special Guest" is Julia "It's Pat" Sweeney of the Saturday Night Live fame! This is a show not to be missed!

The 611 Hyde Park Pub offers free brunch today from Noon until 2:00 p.m. The menu varies each week, so be sure to eat it out, oops, I mean check it out often!

It is Family Day at Plaza 9200. It is an old fashioned Bar-B-Q every Sunday, with steak, chicken, sausage, baked potatoes, salad, country baked beans and all the trimmings! It looks like E/J's is having an all day affair. Let's see, there is a car wash, a Bar-B-Q, and a hot show, all to benefit the E/J's softball team going to Nashville!

Got a Minute? Get a Tan! (Talk about stealing someone else's idea. Oh well, it came to mind. Who said advertising doesn't work?) If you have a minute or several hours free today, go down to The Club at 2205 Fannin. If you

have never been to "the tubs," I think you should. The Club is a complete fitness center. They have every thing you could want, including Damion! (See Blue Page Cover this week's issue!) This weekend and every weekend during the "hot summer months," The Club has Pool Parties. This place is clothing optional and even I have seen some of the hunks that walk around in just a skimpy towel or nothing at all! (It is nice to have "special" privileges.)

You never know who you are going to bump into at the Montrose Mining Company—and that is half the fun. It is a sure bet that Sundays at the Mine are cruiser than (Miss) Kroger's on a Saturday morning!

Look for Jon Sims DJ/VJ at Heaven tonight! He is returning from NYC for this special guest appearance!

It is steak night at the Brazos River Bottom! By now, everyone in Montrose should know this!!

Monday, August 15

I'm gonna be at the Laff Stop tonight to see the "Gay Freedom Comedy Jam." Scott Kennedy and Kevin Maye are 2 of the funniest comics I've seen in a long time!! If you want tickets, call 524-2333 as fast as you can. They were sold out the last time Scott and Kevin were in town. Nancy Ford will be the emcee of the evening! Let's hope she is over her Mid-Life Crisis!

"Coiffeur Shop Talk with Vanna" at Gentry's is this afternoon. She will "hairburn prices" down to \$1.50 for well drinks and beer. If you get too "burned" you can stick around for the Boy Toy Dancers from 5:00 pm until 1:00 a.m.

J.R.'s is heating up on Monday nights with a new drink special that will quench your summer thirst! Mondays are Martini Madness! Only \$3.25 gets you an Absolut Martini all night long! MC Lindsay Love takes the stage at 11:00 pm to showcase Houston's hottest men in an amateur strip contest that will leave you begging for more!

Monday must be the day for Martinis. The Triangle Bar and Grill has \$3 Skyy Martinis all night long! Look out Jeremy and Jeff, Miss Keever will most likely move in every Monday night!

Tuesday, August 16

Happy Birthday Madonna!

Tonight is the Miss Houston Pageant for Female Impersonators at Heaven. This is sponsored by the lovely Miss Lindsay Love. Call 861-4667 if you would like to compete!

Show your business card and gain Free Entry at Pacific Street! Tuesday's are Young Executive night. Be sure to see JT and his "Shirt and Tie" look!

The Firedancers are "Putting on the Ritz" tonight at Mary's. They will be guest bartending on the patio starting at 7:00 p.m.

Super Tuesday's at J.R.'s offer \$1.75 well drinks and \$1.75 for domestic longnecks. The sizable talents of Kofi take the stage at 11:00 p.m.

I bet you thought I was not going to mention where I am on Tuesdays! By now you should know where the Cuervo is cold and cheap!

This Tuesday and every Tuesday, the Triangle Bar and Grill has a "Strip to your Skivvies" Contest! The Bar is offering cash prizes starting with \$150 for first place. Be sure to call and find out who will be hosting this ever so skimpy display of meat!



Christopher Graham and Oscar Parades "in action" at E/J's Sunday show

Wednesday, August 17

Miss Dyan Michaels is your Hostess La Mostest for the weekly strip contest at Gentry's tonight. The weenies start waiving at 10:30 p.m.

White Hot Hump night at Pacific Street. The sounds of Adrian and the talents of the Lazer Wizard make this an exciting night!

This is a special night at E/J's tonight! The world renown puppeteer and impressionist Jerry Halliday will be doing the voices and characters of Joan Rivers and her guests! If you don't frequent E/J's, this would be the time to check out their facilities! I've got this one on my calendar!, The Ripcord and Mary's offer the same drink special today! Both bars have Happy Hour prices all day-all night to help you make it thru the Hump day and night!

Thursday, August 18

This is something I am going to have to check out: Moonlight Volleyball at The Ranch. They also have a billiards special. Sounds like the place to go for "spectator sports" to me!

The Brazos River Bottom has Beginner Dance Lessons tonight at 8:30 p.m.

The Triangle Bar and Grill is hosting weekly "Strip to your Skivvies" tonight. They have a special guest MC (I know who it is, but I'm not telling!) as well as a first prize of \$150, 2nd prize is \$75, 3rd is \$50, and 4th is \$25. Come on down and SEE the show!

Carolyn's Calendar

If you want something "put in my book," call 529-8490 or fax at 529-9531 just as soon as you can!

August 19 * The Black Weekend starts at Pacific Street!

August 19 * Brian Black at the Brazos River Bottom.

August 19 * Rich's 11th Anniversary party weekend starts.

August 20 * Tommie Ross, Naomi Warwick and Shasha Boom at Club 403.

(Continued on following Page)



Looks like Dennis the Menace to me!!

Rich's getting ready for anniversary blowout; Question of the week



Here's looking at you, kid!

Houston Soap, Part 2

August 20 * River Oaks Health Alliance—Community Forum about housing. Call 528-0144 for details.

August 20 * Reception at Archway Gallery from 5:00 to 8:00. Call 522-2409.

August 21 * FIST Color Hanging at Pacific Street.

August 21 * Wolf Pack brings brunch back to Mary's.

August 21 * Gerald Ennis' Benefit show at Gentry's.

August 22 * Auditions at MCCR Theater Ministries. Call 861-9149.

August 27 * Texas Rider's Daddy's Boy Auction at the Venture-N.

August 27 * RSICSS Car Wash and Bake Sale at Gentry's.

August 28 * Benefit show for Lady Victoria Lust Holiday Fund.

August 28 * Virgil Burke's Benefit show at Gentry's.

August 29 * "Travel in Style" kick-off weekend starts at the 611.

August 26 * "Fabulous Fifties" at Club 403.

Sept. 4 * RSICSS Benefit for Colt 45's all day at Gentry's.

Sept. 10 * Fabric of Fashion open at The Museum of Fine Arts.

Sept. 11 * Annual Turnabout Show at Gentry's.

Sept. 17 * Miss Camp America Pageant at the Music Hall—227-ARTS.

Other Important Stuff

The 611 Hyde Park Pub has 50¢ draft beer everyday as well as \$1 Vodka drinks Monday thru Friday from 7:00 a.m. until 1:00 p.m.

I've got a scoop on the Rich's 11th Anniversary party weekend! They are getting ready for a BLOW OUT weekend starting with Trash Disco on Friday. They invite you to dance to your favorite tunes that you have heard at Rich's for the past 11 years! Also, get this; ** 11 c** drinks all night long! Saturday, plan to be at Houston's hot night spot for great drink specials and surprises all night. It is gonna be a sweaty night on San Jacinto! To top the weekend off, they are starting a "Beer Bust" on the patio at 5:00 p.m. You can enter free at the back patio gates. The Beer Bust will go on until 7:00 pm, including hot-humpy-homocancers. The doors for the T-Dance open at 7:00 pm with 25¢ well drinks and \$1.50 beer and "frozens" as well as the best dance music in Houston.

A Comedy about religion guaranteed to offend Robertson, Falwell and Helms, Amen! I am announcing the opening of "Some Things You Need To Know Before The World Ends." The Houston premiere is at Theater LaB



Strike a pose!

Houston. Tickets are available by calling 868-7516. First Curtain is on August 18, @ 8:00 p.m.

Would you give someone the T-shirt off your back? Brian, Mary Jane and the staff of TNT T-Shirts will—for a price, of course. They have a great selection of T's to fit your every muscle.

I get a zillion press releases every week! Here is one of them: The Deaf Gay and Lesbian of West (Deaf GLOW) Conference hosted by Astro Rainbow Alliance of the Deaf planning committee will be held at Wyndham Warwick on the weekend of August 31 thru Sept. 4, 1994. In addition, it is during the Deaf Awareness Month for the Greater Houston Area! The purpose of the conference is to promote Deaf Gay and Lesbian people to get educated, to get socialized, to get feedback representing their local chapters in the western region of the U.S.

Have you got your calendars out? Do you need a quick weekend getaway? Call Upper Deck Guest House on South Padre Island. They have a Labor Day special of 3 nights for 2 people for only \$225. Call (210) 761-5953 for reservations.

Another Press release: Goat Song announces auditions for the second show of the season, "Tobacco and Boys," subtitled "Tragical History of Christopher Marlowe." Call 439-1825 for info.

Don't forget the Ripcord opens at 1:00 pm every day except Sunday. Happy Hour runs 1:00 pm until 8:00 p.m. Sunday the doors open at Noon, with Happy Hour until 5:00 p.m.

Basic Brothers puts it's West foot forward. That's right! The shop has added Western Shirts to it's to the line up! So go West, young man!

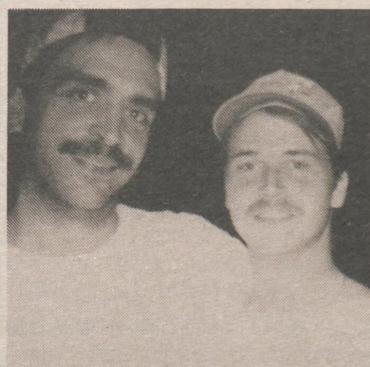
Birthdays And Such

Stanley at Club 403 has just gotten another wrinkle or 20!

My dear Druid friend Ken had another birthday! You look almost as old as the trees you worship (Not really—you are much younger than me!) Love ya Honey! Watch it, or I will make you



A cute face guards the door at Rich's



What a cute couple!!

glow!

Wayne Gray of the Briarpatch is turning older, once again! Just how many times are you going to do this? Vicci (Ranch) you old pussy hound you, I hear you are having one too!

Dirt, Lies, Stuff I Make Up

Ok, the usual disclaimer is in force. This part of Houston Soap is truly fictional. It is what ever I hear, see, read or feel like making up to please my own personal whims! If you can find any truth in this part I will have your first born!

Brittany: OK, I think I have done enough with the older jokes! You are still lovely and curvaceous, even though you just had a birthday! La Ya Honey!

Devin (Mary's): Why did it take you 2 jumbo boxes of Stayfree Maxi-pads to soak up the excess? And why did you need so many flotation devices to keep your head above water?

Rodd (Triangle): What is the matter honey, did you fall asleep with your cock ring on again? I thought you knew better!

Wilma (Mary's): I hear you have had a new litter! or was that a little one...it is so hard to hear sometimes with all the loud music!

Al (Riders): I wish I could have seen the look on your face when you ran into your hubby at the tubs!! Talk about a surprise!

Gary (VN): Congrats on finding your hubby at the tubs! Was he in the sling room? Also, good luck with your new position with the Texas Riders!

Cliff (PS): I know you are the queen of "Romper Room," but now I see you are also the queen of "Bumper Cars!"

Wendall (Potpie): How did you loose your teeth in the bathtub?

Robb (Mary's): I'm gonna spank you the next time you forget to squeeze a bit of lime into my Cuervo! Knowing you, you will "forget" on purpose!

Sissy (VN) Are you still looking for a husband?

Jeff (Triangle): So, you will holler



Never dare me to take your picture!!...I'll do it!!

for a dollar! What will you do for \$10?

Lee (Ripcord): Sorry I have not been to see you lately! I hear thru the rumor mill that you are doing well and staying in trouble!

I have a special "Good Luck" wish to Don. You will make a great asset to the Texas Riders!

Advice to Jerry Morin: Before you drive Vanna back to Gentry's again, don't you think it would be better to get a Driver's License first!

OK, It is time for Pottygate #4: This is directed to Scotty of Mary's. The faucet in the little boy's room is NOT a sexual device. Do not insert it anywhere! Also, the plunger is NOT a butt plug!

I want to thank all of you that tried to answer the question of the week last week. I had people trying to figure out how many shots of Cuervo are in a bottle, how many bottles to a case and so forth, just to figure out how many it takes me to get excited! Out of all the answers I got, only ONE got it right! The correct answer is: NONE, I am always excited! The answer to the other question is: John and Stan! They are celebrating their 10th anniversary with the Colt 45's!

Question of the Week #1: Who got last week's answer right?

Question of the Week #2: What is "The Trucker's" real name?

Call 529-8490 or Fax 529-9531 your answers! I have prizes!!

Did anyone see the Houston Chronicle on July 31? There was an ad for Foley's featuring male models in briefs and boxers. The guy in the boxers was really well hung, you could see it hanging out! Well, of course we checked on it. According to Lisa Campaigne, PR Dept. for Foleys, "It was a shadow from the back hem of the boxer shorts." They have gotten several calls about it. I find it kind of ironic, the Houston Voice made a similar "foe-toe" error on Blue Pages Cover (issue 706) and we got many calls, complaints, inquiries, letters and heavy breathing! It think it shows that we as a community are more vocal about this kind of thing than the "rest" of the city!

I just got a visit from Don Gill (Mr. Wonderful & Everything.) He is putting together a roast in honor of the hard-working, ever-present and truly big-hearted Lady Victoria Lust. So, get out the spit, collect some dirt and Don will get the fire started. The date for this is not set, but I'll keep you informed!

Well, I'm off to judge a few wienies waving in a strip contest! Man, do I have a rough job! TTFN!

Cuervolyn



John cleaning a john!!

Sealed With A Kiss

National News Briefs: notes from all over

The Associated Press

Washington, D.C.

Conservative North Carolina Sen. Jesse Helms, infuriated over Sen. Edward Kennedy's efforts to dilute an anti-gay amendment that passed the Senate this week, has threatened to make war on Kennedy in his own back yard.

"I am simply stating facts," said Helms, a Republican. "There are increasing numbers of citizens and groups of citizens who no longer will stand idly by while the senator from Massachusetts, or anyone else, arrogantly and single-handedly tosses aside principles supported by the overwhelming majority of the American people."

At issue is a Helms amendment that would cut federal funding from schools that encourage acceptance of homosexuality.

Targeted were programs or activities that "have either the purpose or effect of encouraging or supporting homosexuality as a positive lifestyle alternative."

Massachusetts, where the Safe Schools program teaches tolerance and offers such support, stands to lose a lot. That, in part, led Kennedy to propose a watered-down amendment.

Kennedy's proposal, which also passed, stated that no federal funds could be spent to promote sexual activity of any kind in schools. It's up to a joint conference committee to decide which amendments stay in the final education bill, and Kennedy is hoping his will serve as a replacement for Helms.

Olympia, Wash.

Harassment by foes of anti-gay rights initiatives underscores a need for legislation to protect signature-gatherers, but the challenge will be to come up with a constitutional fix, Washington's chief elections officer says.

Secretary of State Ralph Munro said Friday his informal probe of

alleged intimidation and harassment by "Bigot Busters" leaves no doubt in his mind that foes of two anti-gay rights initiatives violated the rights of the signature-gatherers.

He was referring to a number of complaints lodged with his office by backers of initiatives 608 and 610 about the conduct of groups of self-described Bigot Busters. Initiative backers told Munro that loud, argumentative and verbally abusive groups of opponents would descend upon signature-gathering areas, trying to interrupt the project or persuade people not to sign.

The Bigot Busters, a group not directly affiliated with the main Hands Off Washington campaign, has steadfastly denied doing anything more than educating would-be signers about the impact of the initiatives.

"I'm confident nobody on the Bigot Busters overstepped any boundaries whatsoever," spokesperson Kathleen Conroy said Friday in an interview. "Some bystanders not part of our group may have decided to get actively involved, and certainly harassment should be curtailed. We would support pursuing any remedies from the attorney general or the secretary of state or the Legislature."

Los Angeles

Daniel Calder, a professor of English who helped push gay and lesbian studies into the curriculum of the University of California, Los Angeles, has died. He was 55.

Calder died Tuesday from complications related to AIDS, the university announced Friday.

At the time of his death, he was working on a book of contemporary gay fiction.

Calder joined the UCLA faculty in 1971 after several years at the University of Washington. He headed UCLA's Department of English from 1983 to 1990.

Recently, Calder devoted much of

his time to furthering the recognition of gay and lesbian studies. He taught several seminars on gay literature and a course in gay and lesbian studies and was a founder of UCLA's Gay and Lesbian Faculty and Staff Network.

He is survived by his companion of 28 years, Joseph Turk of Sherman Oaks, and his parents, Gillmore and Margaret Calder of Campobello Island, New Brunswick.

Richmond, Va.

Lawyers for lesbian Sharon Bottoms have asked the Virginia Supreme Court to expedite a decision on whether to hear her mother's appeal in a custody case national gay rights groups are watching closely.

Kay Bottoms won custody of her grandson last year, but the Virginia Court of Appeals in June ruled the boy should be returned to his mother. However, 3-year-old Tyler Doustou continues to live with Kay Bottoms while the case is on appeal.

"There is a young, developing child out there who remains confused about the situation," Kent Willis, executive director of the American Civil Liberties Union in Virginia, said Friday. "The faster the Supreme Court acts, the better it will be for the child."

The ACLU, which is representing Sharon Bottoms, asked for an expedited decision in briefs filed Thursday in response to Kay Bottoms' appeal.

There is no deadline for the Supreme Court to decide whether to hear the case, and Willis said he could not predict how soon such a decision might be made.

Marietta, Ga.

The Cobb County Commission's refusal to withdraw an anti-gay resolution and the removal of Olympic volleyball from the new convention center has not sent exhibitors fleeing, officials said.

"Since the announcement, we've not had a flurry of activity either

way," center General Manager Don Poor said. "But if I had to make a spot analysis, I'd say most people are saying it's done and over with and let's get on to other things."

The first cancellation was a pet show, which pulled out of the center last month because a breeder and key sponsor, the Egyptian Mau fanciers, felt uncomfortable coming to a county that officially condemns the "gay lifestyle" as contrary to community standards, promoter Larry Kaplan said.

The Atlanta Pet Show was expected to bring 8000 to 10,000 visitors to the center in September and pump approximately \$250,000 into the local economy, convention center officials said.

Three other shows cited the resolution as reason for canceling their contracts in the year since the resolution was passed.

Philadelphia

A federal judge has cleared the way for a jury to decide the case between a Philadelphia lawyer who contracted AIDS and the law firm the man says fired him after they found out.

In the case, which has been like the Hollywood production "Philadelphia" almost move for more, lawyer "John Doe" is battling his former employer, Kohn, Nast & Graf, who he says unlawfully terminated him on the basis of his disease.

Doe also filed charges of breach of contract and retaliation.

The firm had moved for a summary judgment to dismiss, arguing that Doe's claims were factually frivolous and lacked proof. But Judge Robert S. Gawthrop III said Thursday that the lawsuit had merit and would proceed.

"Viewing the facts in a light most favorable to Doe, I conclude that this is a matter for the jury, the right to which I may not thwart," he said.

Body Positive president steps down; 'HIV Treatment Alternatives' workshop

Quick Notes

The board of directors of Body Positive announced this week that Board President Susan Stanfield has resigned her post effective July 21, 1994, to devote her energies to starting her own business. Vice President Robert Berry will serve as interim president until elections are held for new board officers on Sept. 15, 1995.

Stanfield joined Body Positive's board of directors in October, 1991 and assumed the presidency of the organization in July, 1992, serving for two consecutive terms. She said she resigned to concentrate her energies on her new business venture, Lifeline Healthcare Inc., a gay-owned and operated home infusion company serving the HIV community.

Berry joined Body Positive's board in May 1993 and has served as vice pres-

ident since Jan. 1994.

Treatment Alternatives

AIDS Foundation Houston's (AFH) Wellness Program and Body Positive will co-sponsor a workshop on "HIV Treatment Alternatives" on Wednesday, Aug. 17, 1994 from 7:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m. at the Multi Service Center, 1475 West Gray. A panel of specialists will discuss the impact of Nutrition, Exercise, Acupuncture, Chiropractic and other alternatives on health and wellness for people living with HIV/AIDS. The workshop is free and open to all interested.

Other classes offered by the AFH Wellness Program include "Erotic, Safer Choices" (on Tuesdays at 7:00 p.m.), as well as the "Smoking Cessation" and "Self Hypnosis Classes," all presented at AFH, 3202

Weslayan Annex. For questions or to subscribe for the free monthly Wellness Calendar, please contact Bart Loeser at AFH, (713) 623-8796.

Community Meetings And Events:

*Texas Gay Veterans of Houston meets the second Tuesday of each month at 6:00 p.m. at the Veterans Affairs Medical Center in room 4A-322. organization, for those who have served, are presently serving or are seeking to serve in the military, is the Houston chapter of the national organization Gay, Lesbian and Bisexual Veterans of America (GLBVA) and is committed to matters pertaining to discrimination, harassment and upgrading discharges. For more information, contact James Grace at 649-8808 or Dave Tripp at 863-7183.

*Empowerment for Living, the HIV

support group of Metropolitan Community Church of the Resurrection (MCCR) has announced its August schedule:

On Tuesday, Aug. 16, the video "Living Proof" will be seen. This video was recently purchased and is now part of the EFL collection.

On Tuesday, Aug. 23, Dr. Mark Nichols of the Bering Dental Clinic will show slides and give an update on the treatment of Kaposi's Sarcoma in the mouth and hand areas.

Finally, on Aug. 30, EFL is planning its first game night. On the agenda, "No serious conversation, but a lot of fun and laughter will be shared."

Empowerment for living meets at MCCR, located at 1919 Decatur, off Washington Street between Studevant and Houston Ave. The meetings begin at 6:00 p.m. with a pot luck supper/fellowship; presentations begin about 7:00 p.m. For more information, call 861-9149.

HOUSTON

VOICE

BLUE PAGES

AUG. 12, 1994
Issue 720

This center pull-out section of
Houston Voice may contain
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some readers.
Parental discription is advised.



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TITTERING TATTERING
TOTTERING TORN

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CONFUSION IN THE,
ONESIDE RESETS INSIDE
THE OTHER SIDE WITH ME

LOVELY REJECTION
HATE BREEDING SCORN
MIDDLENESS AND MADNESS
SADNESS NO MOURN

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Houston **MUTUAL SUPPORT OR MORE:** HIV + asymptomatic blk male seeks other HIV + males for friendship or good

times #34395

Houston **SQUATS AND PRESSES:** Hey guys! 2 guys in Houston interested in new friends and get together - body builders a + #34442

Houston **PETTING ZOO:** 34 y/o gay hisp male, 5'8, 160-looking to meet white or hisp males 20-35 for good time I'm lit drinker non-smoker like pets, animals looking for a good time. #34489

Houston **PROFESSIONALLY SPEAKING:** Gary - blk male prof looking for serious, clean cut, no smoke-no drugs - I'm 152, 32w, nice build. #34529

Houston **THE ONLY DANCE THERE IS:** Carl 6', 200, 25 brn/hzl, lking for someone 2 dance w/me 4 the rest of my life I'm nto bikes, theatre, reading, I'm, lkg 4 <35, slnder, redhead a +, grt sense of humor&wants to spend their life w/someone. #34539

Houston **NO, WHAT DO YOU MEAN?:** Charlie - 24 6' 170 brn/gm into having fun, if you know what I mean. #34540

Houston **COME, SATURDAY MORNING:** Looking for someone to spend week-ends with-a cute small smart musc active BTM guy. I'm 5'10 brn brn cyclist rollerblader, into outdoors, dancing. #34545

Houston **SLEAZY RIDER:** Introductions new to area GWM 38 trim 5'5 145 looking for intro to pvt clubs safe sleaze. and other twisted things. #34725

Houston **ONE GOOD SPORT:** Mike-29, 5'9, 175-I work out 3-4x a week, running in the park lking for someone who enjoys sports as much as i do, baseball, riding waverunners on the beach, movies enjoy outdoors. seeking similar for alot of fun!! #34875

Houston **LIVE PERFORMANCE:** Dave mid 30's-interested in mid 20's to 30's Hisp White or Asian - like movies, rock concerts, going to the beach and having a good time. #34936

Houston **LOOKING FOR MEN:** Bi Single Hisp Male-32 5'8 prof'l, secure, into sports, outdoors-not into bar scene-looking for muscular, cute hispanic/white/bi/straight/gay 18-32. #34957

Houston **HOW ABOUT IT GUYS-** Mack 35 6' 1 lbm/green-hope to meet some interesting guys on this. looking for 20-30 for poss rel #34997

SINGLE? YOUR AD SHOULD BE HERE.

Houston **CHUCK GWM** 36 looking for 30+ I'm brn/blu 5'8 150 workout health conscious drug free looking for friendship or poss more #39036

Houston **Patrick** 5'10 brn 160 Looking for cute small hisp or white guy smart not jealous or crazy. likes to bicycle Patrick 5'10 brn 160 rollerblading outdoors activities. #34545

Houston **SOCIALLY UNACCEPTABLE** behavior keeps me out of heaven and JR's seeking inv to pvt clubs into red hanky pumps GW man boy 38 5'5 145 nice

body still maintain boyish innocence after all these years. That was great! #34725

Houston **HEALTHY CHOICE:** GWM looking for 30+ brn/blu 5'8 150 workout health conscious looking for friend or more #39036

Houston **SKINNY DIPPING?** Two gay guys - were above avg looks bb's were in mid late 30's looking for other single bbs to come over and swim in our pool goodshape and nice looking only. #41045

Houston **BIG JIM, GWM** 40 5'10 295 looking for in shape studs of all races who appreciate special pleasures of a chubby guy #42675

Houston **SINGLE BLACK MALE,** 18 152 6'2 looking for WM 18-35 non-smoker seek same vgdllking,looking for rel - #42829

Houston **I'VE WRITTEN A LETTER:** looking for daddy blnd/blu 5'11, 173, 31w,int in camping, hiking, reading music - whatever, nice guy, #42988

Houston **BABBALOO!** 26 Cuban/white dk brown hair/hazel eyes. 5'11 seeking a hisp male 20-30 2 do things with talk to movies dinner all these things, #43022

Houston **HE MADE LOWENGRIN:** Opera singer/Teacher: GWM 34 5'10 150 gdllking spiritual sincere dog lover well educated. healthy massage looking for slender intell trustworthy man- non smoker #43024

Houston **BI FOR NOW:** Todd bi/wm brn/brn 5'11 165 looking for other bi/wm in area #43043

Houston **DAVE** GWM 6' brn/blu 38 looking for GBM 18-35 slim masc good build good shape safe fun videos seeking quiet romantic person #43021

N. Houston **LATIN TEACHER:** Brian 23y/o GWM college student looking for dominant, mature, gay hisp man 25-35 if thats you, call me. #34493

Austin **GWM,** 21, frisky BTM looking for a GWM, 18-27 yrs. old for exciting times and a possibility for a long term relationship. #33958

Austin **BOY TOY:** IF you like going out and having fun, then we were made for each other. I am a dancer with a swimmer's build. Call for my home phone. #33047

Austin **SING WITH THE TV:** TV, I sing, dance and love to travel. I am seeking a man who can really appreciate me. All calls answered. #33208

Austin **LET'S BE CREATIVE:** 22 yr old Hispanic guy/college student. I like all things creative. #33254

Austin **DIRTY DEEDS DONE LATE:** 21 yr old black male, 6'3", 195. I am masc and good looking. I like all things done late at night. #33337

Austin **HAVE A CLUE:** GWM, 18, looking for a guy 18-25 yrs. old interested in tennis and going out and who is a goal oriented person. #33593

Austin **22 YR. OLD** Hispanic, Brn/Brn, 5'9", student, into many things looking for people to meet. #33765

Austin **ADAM,** interested in meet Hispanic men 18-30 yrs. old. I am 6'1 in my 20's, TP. #34107

Austin **TOYS R US:** 38 yr. old, boy toy, 5'9", 145 lbs, clean shaven, looking for a very long term relationship with a guy 25-30 yrs. old. #34100

Austin **MAKE MY DREAMS COME TRUE:** Hispanic male 24 6' 200 looking for hisp or w/m 18-25 to fulfill a fantasy. #34301

San Antonio **THE CHANGE HAS DONE ME GOOD:** Looking for a white or Hispanic male 25-45 yrs. old. I am a TS and am looking for your company. #33235

San Antonio **PVC AND ME:** 6'1", Bln/Blu, 29, looking for guys who have a variety of interests including walking on the beach. #33317

5'11", 34 yrs. old. If you are white, Hispanic or Middle Eastern give me a call. #33861

Houston **ACAPULCO GOLD:** 21 yr. old Hispanic male, 5'10", 160 lbs, smooth looking for a monogamous relationship with a guy 23-35 yrs. old. Race is open. #33862

Houston **FOREIGN FLAVORS:** Dave, looking for guys in the area. You are well toned and well endowed. Hispanics or Asians a plus. #34034

Richmond **HARD TOPS ONLY:** I am 36 yrs. old, 6', solid, smooth, looking for a group of well endowed TP's for regular action. #24773

Austin **CAN BUY ME LOVE:** 6', stach, nice tan body seeks a Hispanic or black male for good times. Wealthy a plus. #31216

Austin **SUMMER FUN:** 26 yr. old GWM, into playing out in the sun, seeks somebody, tall and mature and about 20-35 yrs. old. I am interested in starting a relationship with the right guy. #31570

Austin **THE NEW GUY:** Attractive, young professional seeks a 18-24 yr. old male for friendship and more. I am new to the area. #31683

Meet HOUSTON Men Now!

Austin **KICK BACK:** 24 yr. old GHM, 5'8", laid back, looking for others to share in common interests. #31884

Austin **GOOD CHASSIS:** 18 yr. old GWM seeks a long term relationship with a BTM, 18-23 yrs. old. Nice body a plus. #32121

Austin **HARDER THAN ALGEBRA:** GM, 32, 6'1", seeks a Hispanic or white male, 27-39 yrs. old for fun times. #32210

Austin **CURIOUS GEORGE:** College student, 18, Hispanic and at the curious stage. I like dancing and going out. #32264

Austin **WHAT EXACTLY DO YOU HAVE IN MIND:** 29 yr. old white professional, gay curious, 6'2", looking for clean safe exotic fun with a 35 yr. old male or TV who will show me the ropes. #12376

Austin **NO MIND BENDERS:** GWM, 33, 5'8" seeks a gay Hispanic male for a friendship and maybe more. You are honest and not into head games. #14914

Austin **TWO ON TOP:** GBM, 5'11", in good shape, TP, looking for a TP GWM or GHM for great times. #21994

San Antonio **USDA CHOICE:** 18 yr. old, 5'8", Blk/ Brn, GWM seeks others about the same age for fun, fun, fun. #27791

San Antonio **LOOKING FOR LOVE:** 23 yr. old GM, interested in meeting a white or Hispanic male 23-33 yrs. old who is interested in a friendship and possibly a relationship #31351

San Antonio **THE START OF SOMETHING GOOD :** 5'7" GM, into just about everything, looking for a guy 25-35 yrs. old and maybe ready to start a relationship. #30855

San Antonio **LOOKING FOR A CERTAIN PERSON:** You are 5'6", long hair, and beautiful. If this is you, here I am. #31697

San Antonio **YOUR SERVE:** 32 yr. old Hispanic male into tennis and swimming looking for others interested in similar activities. #31756

San Antonio **ENTER AT NO RISK:** 5'7" GM, Blk/Brn, interested in music and dancing seeks guys 25-35 yrs. old for fun times. #30855

San Antonio **RED HOT CHILLI PEPPER:** Looking for Hispanic males 18-25 yrs. old for good times. #32008

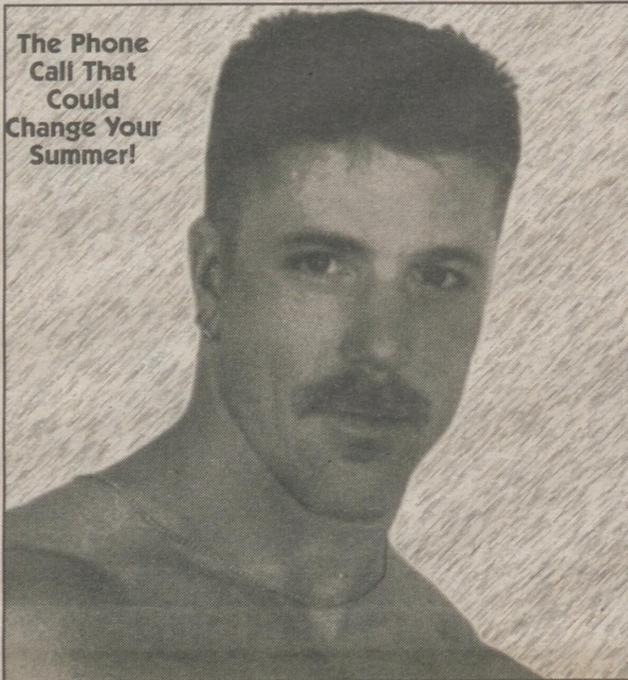
San Antonio **NO SHIRT, NO DRESS, NO SHOES, SERVICE:** Richard, seeks CD's who want to be taken care of. I will be honest and true to you. #32246

San Antonio **JUST PASSING THROUGH:** Steve, I will be visiting the area in a couple of weeks and am trying to line up some fun things to do with fun people. #32266

San Antonio **SERVICE STATION:** Looking for well endowed TP's for servicing. You are masc and in good shape. #32273

Houston **HOLA PEPE:** 5'8", med, Bln, hair, 28, into dancing and movies seeks a young Hispanic male who would be like a little brother to me. #31223

Houston **OUTGOING FOR GOING OUT:** Just moved here. I am 24 yrs. old,



The Phone Call That Could Change Your Summer!

Houston **MUTUAL SUPPORT OR MORE:** HIV + asymptomatic blk male seeks other HIV + males for friendship or good times #34395

TX I **KNEAD YOU:** James 5'7 blk male lt skin 120 very professional . like to have fun. looking for masculine men 27-40 who like to be massaged. #34337

Austin **HOMBRE:** Attractive 34 yr. old Hispanic male, 6', looking for somebody 25-35 yrs. old for fun. #24110

Austin **JOE'S JONESIN':** 26 yrs. old, 5'9", Bln/Blu, looking for some folks to get together with who are around my age. #24309

Austin **BLACK HOLE:** Black male, 5'7", slim, looking for a nicely built man of any race who is passionate and a TP. No drugs. #31645

Austin **AHHH, YOUTH:** 18 yr. old GWM seeks a long term relationship with a guy of similar age. #32121

Austin **TEACH ME:** Brn/Blu, 39, 5'8", looking for guys 18-20 yrs. old to talk to and to learn from. #27987

Austin **NICE TO MEET YOU:** Recently moved here from LA, 26, 5'9", Brn/Blu, tan, swimmer's build, cute, looking for acquaintances. #30225

Austin **COME INTO MY LIFE:** Fashion designer/singer, into art, and drinking hot tea, looking for someone to be in my life. I am 6'3", BTM. You are any race and mature. #32662

Austin **RUMPUS:** 5'10", GBM, educated looking for a GWM, 18-35 yrs. old for fun nights on the town, dancing and clubbing. #32947

Houston **FULLY LOADED:** 26 yr. old male, Blk/Blu, looking for Hispanic or Asian men of similar age for good times in the Lone Star state. #29288

Houston **TIME FOR TY:** Ty, GWM, 21, student looking for somebody who is good looking and is interested in a relationship. #32154

Houston **THE MOON ALSO RISES:** Cute guy seeks hunk. Attractive GWM, 5'9" seeks other dom GWM, 35 and under. #32373

Houston **YEARNING GERMAN:** 34 yr. old German, GWM, looking for masc professional oil guys for fun and friendship. #32448

Houston **HINNY HUNTER:** 35 yr. old, BTM, looking for a few good TP men. Let's talk about getting together. #32644

Houston **ONE-ON-ONE-ON-ONE:** Kevin, 30's, nice looking, into receiving, looking for a three way with two TP's. #32695

Houston **HOMBRES:** 21 yr. old Hispanic male, 6'1", looking for someone 18-27 yrs. old for possible relationship. #32845

San Antonio **SKETCHY:** 36 yr. old man, looking for someone around my age. I like camping, hiking, swimming, and sketching. Hispanic men a plus. #33629

San Antonio **BON APETITE:** 32 yr. old handsome guy, looking for other guys into French cuisine and good conversation. #27450

San Antonio **VIVA!!:** Art, seeks young Hispanic male, 25-30 yrs. old, 5'4" to 5'6", slender build, smooth. I am 5'4" and 33 yrs. old. #33736

San Antonio **HEAD OUT:** 21 yr. old white male, educated, attractive, looking for a guy, Hispanic or white, 20-40 yrs. old for friendship. #34016

San Antonio **JET SETTER:** 45 yr. old, 5'8", Brn/Blu seeking a friendship and a possible relationship. I am financially secure and love to travel. #33963

San Marcos **GOOD VOODOO THAT I DO:** 27 yr old Hispanic male seeks a black top guy. They say I am great at what I do. #33056

Galveston **NEW RELEASE:** White male, just divorced looking for a white male, drug free, for a friendship and maybe more later. #34149

Galveston **OUT OF THE HOLE AND ONTO THE POLE:** GWM, recently divorced, looking for someone for friendship and maybe more. #33246

Houston **DIVERSIFY:** 5'7", professional, 27, looking for a white male around 6'. I am very thin and diverse. #33039

Houston **RUMP RUMP:** 19 yr. old, good looking, 6'1", looking for someone who is the same height and slender. #33111

Houston **ROUND 'EM UP:** Lee, TP black cowboy, 6'1", looking for attractive white fillys for fun on the old ranch tonight. #33564

Houston **WHATEVER FLOATS YOUR BOAT:** 35 yr. old black professional male, looking for a companion who enjoys pleasurable things in life whatever they may be. #33631

Houston **LAWRENCE OF ARABIA:** Looking for males under 40 yrs. old. I am

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'Becoming Visible': a treasure trove of lost lesbian and gay history



"Chop Suey Dancers #1," etching by Reginald Marsh, 1929: one of a series depicting same-sex couples dancing

By ANDREW EDMONDSON
FOR THE HOUSTON VOICE

"Homosexuals are different...but we believe that they have the right to be. We believe that the civil rights and human dignity of homosexuals are as precious of any other citizen...we believe that the homosexual has the right to live, work and participate in a free society."

However innocuous and inoffensive these ideas seem to us today, they were as incendiary as the most radical ACT UP or Queer Nation tract when they were first circulated on posters in the 1960s by the Mattachine Society, one of the nation's earliest gay rights organizations.

This 1966 poster is one of a treasure trove of documents and artifacts to be found in "Becoming Visible: The Legacy of Stonewall," a fascinating, meticulously curated exhibition that chronicles the history of gay and lesbian life in America throughout the twentieth century. "Becoming Visible," which is billed as "the first major exhibition of its kind in the United States," is currently on view through Sept. 24 in the Gottesman Exhibition Hall at the New York Public Library at Fifth Avenue and 42nd Street.

Although the exhibition takes as its starting point the Stonewall rebellion of June 1969, it seeks to place the riots in a

broader historical context. Instead of organizing their material chronologically, the curators at the New York Public Library have chosen to structure the exhibition around four broad themes.

Using pictures, newspaper articles, and taped first person testimony, "Stonewall," the first section of exhibits, documents the events of the early morning hours of June 28, 1969.

What began as a routine police raid on the Stonewall Inn, a Greenwich Village gay bar, unexpectedly turned into a riot, with marginalized drag queens facing down and cornering New York's finest in a rowdy, chaotic street confrontation lasting several nights.

The second portion of "Becoming Visible," "Labeling and Policing," traces the ways in which homosexuality has been viewed and categorized by the dominant heterosexual culture: as a "sin" by religious institutions; as an "illness" by the medical and psychiatric establishments; and as a "crime" by law enforcement officials.

The documents in this section include a surveillance report prepared by the FBI on the activities of the Gay Liberation Front (GLF), one of the first gay and lesbian activist groups. Despite the fact that the GLF espoused a policy of non-violence, the Department of Justice found it "subversive." There are personnel manuals prepared by US government agencies in the 1950s that detail the ways in which gay men and communists pose a threat to national security. And, in one of the most starkly effective segments of the exhibition, an entire wall is devoted to listing the many different names and labels that have been assigned to homosexuals, ranging from "invert" to "Miss Nancy" to "bull dyke."

The third, and arguably the most intriguing part of the exhibition, is "Social Worlds," which examines the development of a vibrant gay and lesbian subculture in New York City throughout the twentieth century. Photos document African-American men dancing together in tuxedos and gowns in Harlem dance halls in the 1920s, while lesbians ran bohemian speakeasies in Greenwich Village. There are models of bath houses in which gay men would

come together to bathe and have sex. The curators of the exhibition demonstrate how lurid lesbian pulp novels—which today seem laughably camp and overwrought—actually provided a sense of connection and validation for many lesbians living in isolation and fear.

The final segment of the exhibition is devoted to "Organizing." It traces the evolution of gay and lesbian civil rights groups from the cautious first steps of the Mattachine Society and to the Daughter of Bilitis in the 1950s to the confrontational, "in-your-face" street theater of ACT UP and Queer Nation in the 1980s. The turning point is this evolution was the Stonewall riot, which spawned a firestorm of gay lesbian activism.

Before 1969, there were only about fifty gay and lesbian organizations. Five years later, there 3,000. Many gays and lesbians had been active in the civil rights, feminist and anti-war movements of the 1960s. The exhibition details how they drew on the radical social analysis and militant tactics of the New Left to mount their own battle for gay and lesbian equality.

The virtues of "Becoming Visible" are many. First, the exhibition is wonderfully interactive. On display in the first room are telephone booths where one can press different buttons to hear taped accounts of key events in the struggle for gay and lesbian liberation. Drag Queen Sylvia "Ray" Rivera recalls the pandemonium and euphoria of those who fought back against police at the Stonewall Riots. Allen Ginsberg and Kate Millet address the first gay and lesbian March on Washington in 1979. The fierce, impassioned chants of ACT-UP ring out on the streets of New York during the 1980s.

In "Social Worlds," a jukebox features "The Music of Nightlife," recordings of popular music from each decade of the twentieth century that has had special resonance for gays and lesbians. Selections range from Beatrice Lillie's 1934 ditty "There are Fairies at the Bottom of Our Garden" to Diana Ross's 1971 hit, "I'm Coming Out," to Maria Callas' rendition of "Sempre Libera" from the classic opera La Traviata in the 1950s.

Secondly, the exhibition avoids the

tendency to focus exclusively on the experiences of white, middle class gay men, who were often most visible and empowered members of the homosexual community. "Becoming Visible" succeeds in highlighting the diversity of experiences and backgrounds of the gay and lesbian civil rights movement. Segments of the exhibition are devoted to African American gay life in Harlem to the contributions of ambitious, highly individualistic women in turn of the century reformist movements such as Jane Hall.

But, most importantly, "Becoming Visible" reveals a world almost completely unknown to many younger gays and lesbians who came of age in the more liberal and open environment following Stonewall. The exhibition meticulously details the terrible cost—in wrecked lives, careers, and in some cases deaths—of the tremendous sexual oppression that dominated American gay and lesbian life for the better part of a century.

"Becoming Visible" is, quite simply, a landmark exhibition. The gay and lesbian research archives of The New York Library comprise one of the world's largest resources for the study of the emergence of gay men and lesbians history is overlooked or denied. It is exceedingly rare to find so many ideas, social trends, and historical experiences detailed, documented, and organized in one place in such a thoughtful, accessible exhibition.



Marchers in the Christopher St. Liberation Day Parade, June 1970

Experts urge Asian governments to stop AIDS spread now

By OLIVER TEVES
FOR THE HOUSTON VOICE

MANILA, Philippines, Thursday, Aug. 4 (AP)—AIDS experts urged Asian governments today to start formulating strategies to fight the disease now lest they face a future similar to that of central Africa, where millions are infected.

"If you invest in preventive measures now, the price you have to pay later due to a huge AIDS epidemic is lower. So do something now," Myo Thant, an economist for the Asian Development Bank, said at the close

of a regional conference on the disease.

Peter Godwin, chief technical adviser for a regional project on AIDS of the U.N. Development Program, said one of the reasons it is difficult for Asian governments to respond is that they see it as a problem of the future.

"There are a whole series of pressures on their time, on their priorities to deal with this now," Godwin said. "There's never enough money. There are always the political, social, financial pressures."

But Godwin warned that based on the experience of some African countries, AIDS has "devastating, social, psychological, political costs. ... The family, the social fabric get stretched and it can tear very easily."

He suggested the current turmoil in Rwanda may have been worsened by the fact that large numbers of people there are infected with HIV, the AIDS virus, or have full-blown AIDS.

Last month the World Health Organization estimated 4 million people have been diagnosed with AIDS

since the disease began surfacing in the 1970s, with 67 percent of the cases in Africa.

Of the 16 million people infected with HIV, the virus that causes the disease, WHO estimates at least 10 million live in Africa below the Sahara Desert—the poorest and least stable region in the world.

The disease has only begun to spread in Asia. But by 2000, WHO estimated Asia would have about one third of an estimated 30 million to 40 million HIV-infected people worldwide.

Clinton calls for renewed federal quest for civil rights

WASHINGTON, Thursday, Aug. 4 (AP)—President Clinton called on top federal officials on Thursday to bring renewed energy to the quest for civil rights "by tearing down all remaining barriers to equal opportunity."

The president said he was setting up a new civil rights working group to identify barriers to equal rights and produce a strategy to "promote tol-

erance and understanding in our communities and workplaces."

In a message to the heads of all executive departments and agencies, Clinton said: "We have accomplished much in our pursuit of a society in which all our people can achieve their God-given potential."

"But we still have a long way to go," he said.

"Americans believe that in spite of our differences, there is in all of us a common core of humanity that obliges us to respect one another and to live in harmony and peace," Clinton said.

"We must build on this belief and give real meaning to civil rights by tearing down all remaining barriers to equal opportunity in education, employment, housing, and every area of

American life."

He said it was up to each federal agency to take the lead.

"No federal office should be exempt from the obligation to further the struggle for civil rights," Clinton said.

"And every state and local government should be encouraged to do the same."

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WANTED! HOT TOP!

Who is healthy, vers., hairy, well endowed, over 30 for safe fun; tit action & blindfold. I'm a WM, 5'10", 180#, 41, Galleria Area. New to Houston. 3 some A+. Ad 25797

GWM, 38, DDF, NS, br/hazel, masculine bottom seeks DDF, NS, endowed aggressive top, h/w prop. not as important as personality (prefer 35-50/exceptions considered) for safe fun times perhaps more. Mustache or beard a must. Call John between 6:00 p.m. -10:00 p.m. weekdays/10:00 a.m. til? weekends or leave message. (713) 868-1932.

MARRIED MEN

Spend quality time day or night w/semi-retired GWM in Houston. Ad 25328

MR. RIGHT?

I am looking for you. Do you like hiking and camping in national parks? Do you like College/Pro sports? Bicycling, movies, shorts, t-shirts, & W music, and quiet evenings at home? I am a healthy GWM Democrat, 39 yrs., 6' and 170lbs. I am looking for an honest, monogamous relationship. Are you? Ad 25636

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.

SALINGER'S WAITING FOR CAMUS

GWM, DDF, health conscious, non-smoking, non-drinking, 5'8", 130lbs., lean, fit, brown/gray hair, balding, 40 year old professional, attractive, moustache, averagely sized, moderately hairy prefer slim and short, dark hair, DDF, NS, European, Jewish, Latin, Eastern/Asian, Black whose HONEST, independent, stable, sincere, with a sense of humor and style. Ad 25643

EXTREMELY HANDSOME, HEALTHY, DISCREET PROFESSIONAL

GWM, 6', 185lbs, br/br, mentally and physically secure. Ones who enjoy the quality things in life; art, music, antiques, quiet dinners by candle light for two. In search of attractive, healthy, clean cut, GWM 30's -45 possibly married (to a woman) wanting a meaningful relationship or a full time monogamous relationship with an incredible guy. Ad 25645

ROUGH DADDY

seeks submissive boys ages 21-42, any race, weight proportionate to height. If you know how to do as you're told, contact me. Ad 25134

REAL MEN ONLY

GWM, 30 with above average looks. Likes outdoors, animals, movies, working out. Would like to meet a real man. One that is confident, good looking, honest, loving. Above all else really knows how to satisfy another man in bed as well as out of bed. If interested please respond with statistics. Don't hesitate - you won't be disappointed. Ad 25640

UNLIKE THE MARINES...

I want only ONE man. You qualify if you are healthy, attractive, mature, masculine, proportionate height and weight, non-smoker, not into heavy drugs, self-supporting. I am White, brown/blond hair, blue eyes, moustache, youthful 50's, a few pounds overweight but dieting and working out. Ad 25798

YOU MUST BE SINCERE FOR ...

consideration by this attractive, 43 y.o., hirsute, GWM, 6'2", 185lbs, br/hzl. I'm educated, professionally employed, good sense of humor. Enjoy home life, good friends, music, dinner in/out and occasional travel. You are 30-45 y.o., handsome, masculine, GWM, HWP, NS, DDF, employed, affectionate, relationship oriented, sense of humor, kind heart and sincere! Ad 25769

DAD FOR DISCIPLINE

GWM, late 30's, seeks older -preferably 50's plus -dad to administer discipline. Ad 25793

California GWM, young 40's, good looking, well built, hung, healthy and versatile visiting Houston Labor Day weekend seeks fit or trim HIV-guys. Photo, phone description to P.O.B. 126163, San Diego, CA. 92112-6163. Ad 3084

YOU'VE THOUGHT ABOUT THIS TOO?

Have a partner -but want to play around safely with others (singles or couples). I'm a GWM, great-looking, athletic, 6ft. tall, 190lbs., muscular, healthy. Not interested in relationships - just fun. Will consider guys 21-40, any ethnicity. What are you waiting for -this is what you've thought about too! Ad 25531.

SINCERITY/HONESTY ARE MY BEST QUALITIES

GWM, DDF, 30's, attractive, masculine bottom who would like to meet an attractive GWM, masculine, aggressive, endowed top for dating/relationship and possibly more. Height/weight prop. not as important as personality is. Beard or mustache, dark hair a plus. I have a wide variety of interests and I'm open to new activities or ideas. Ad 25644

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

QUALITY OF LIFE

You are now a 35-45 y.o. GM, h/w proportionate with a desire for quality in your friendships...quality of support, of affection, of conversation, of mutual understanding. Your attraction is to GWM in his 50's with these qualities. Let's talk. Ad 25775

GWF WANTING THE REAL THING!!!

Throughout my 26 years of living and having learned that love does not come easily I would like to share a monogamous relationship with a mature woman who will reflect my acceptance, my understanding, honesty, faithfulness, loyalty, etc. unto myself and the world. Ad 25967

NO GAMES, NO PAIN, NO EX'S!

Me: GWF, soft butch, small build, musician, nurturing, strong, independent, patient, witty, loves intimacy, N/S. You: Feminine, preferably fluff, sorta shy, patient, intimate. Absolutely no rebounds or emotional baggage. Ad 25553.

DOMINANT GWM

40, 145, 5'9 seeks GWMs into S/M -B/D. Limits respected. Ad 25336.

DISCREET

GM, 30's, 5'10", 195 lbs, hairy and healthy, DDF, seeks another healthy DDF male for fun and good times. I enjoy movies, dining out, giving massages, and quiet evenings with a quality person. Ad 25630

CAPTAIN SEEKS FIRST MATE

Professional GWM, 36 seeks special young GWM 18-30 for sailing on 30ft. boat and travel companion. Sailing trips to South Pacific and Caribbean. I've got a lot to offer. Ad 25639

GWM, 42, 5'8", 140lbs, moustache, DDF, NS, br/br, physically fit seeking someone of the same age, must be physically fit. Ad 25638

"MUSCLE BEAR SEEKS CUB!"

GWM, 41, 6'1", 250lbs., 18" arms, 50" chest, brown eyes, blond hair, moustache, receding hairline. Masc., no BS, furry, Pagan, top, DD&DF-smoker seeks husky GWM, 32-45, 5'8" to 5'11", face & body hair plus, self-sufficient, aware and intelligent. Serious fun & power cuddling guaranteed. Ad 25974

I WANT MORE!

Single GWM seeks singles and couples for safe fun. I am blonde/green, 5'7", 135lbs, good looking and well-endowed. If interested, please respond now. Ad 25754

BODY CONSCIOUS

Bi-WM, non-smoker, DDF, 5'11", 165lbs, 49, and well toned. I love a slim athletic body and perhaps you are as sensual as I but not as shy. My home is near Humble. Please call mail box number 25799.

DIVORCE FINAL! RARE GEM AVAILABLE NOW!

GWM, 42, 6'3, 195lbs., DDF, NS, educated, handsome, professional available now for the Mr. Right Partners should be GWM's, 30-50, tall, fit, handsome, DDF. Also intelligent professional-but funny as well. Be ready for travel, theater, art, great safe fun and good food! (Not always in that order!) Ad 25649

INTRIGUE! SUSPENSE! ROMANCE! TERROR!

All in the comfort of one's living room. Montrose gaming group being assembled. Experience with role playing games not necessary. Just a sense of whimsy, a flair for style and a thirst for adventure required. Who knows what evil lurks in the hearts of men ... Find out! Ad 25773

FORTUNE AND LOVE BEFRIENDS THE BOLD

Non-smoking, DDF, GWM, 38, 5'10", 165lbs., smooth body, brown hair/eyes. Would enjoy meeting a "take charge" kind of man for friendship and possibly dating. Outdoor, nature lover a plus. I could be the one to complement your life. Ad 25745

ACCOMPLISHED PROFESSIONAL SEEKS YOUNGER MAN

40ish GWM, grad school educated, healthy, HIV+ seeks attractive younger man in Houston for serious relationship. I'm 6'2", 190, br/bl, masculine. Women tell me I'm handsome. If you are the boy-next-door looking for an honest, loving and accomplished man please respond to Ad 25976

IT'S HARD...

to find someone compatible when you've been spending too much time working, and not enough playing! But now, I'm ready! This GWM, 36, 6'2", 175, stable (emotionally and financially), professionally employed, in excellent health and spirits is looking for a distraction. I'm interested in meeting a GWM who is 30-45, intelligent, charming and single. C'mon, drop me a line. Let's get together and see if it really is hard. Ad 25716

GWF LOOKING FOR MS. RIGHT

I know one must many frogs before getting a princess, but this is ridiculous. My princess will be fem., kind, caring and fun with med. build. I am butch, emotionally and financially stable with good educational and cultural background. Family values a must. Ad 25647

WEIRD SCIENCE EXPERIMENT ENVISIONS THE EMERGENCE

of a play mate, friend, lover, GWM 31 (look 28) top, DDF, 6'1", blue, brown, athletic build. Fun side: prankster, humorous, youthful. Serious side: professional, educated, ambitious. Romantic, poet, affectionate, caring, monogamous. Seeks GWM or GHM 18-38, DDF, proportionately built, not heavy into bars, around 5'8", romantic, brown eyes admirable. Ad 25642

WELL ENDOWED, HEALTHY, MASCULINE CUTE GWM

outgoing, DDF/NS wants to meet other(s) the same for friendship and safe fun. If you are well-endowed, masculine, attractive, under 45 years of age, weight in proportion height, outgoing, not into S & M, DDF/NS, and want to meet the same respond to Ad 25749.

SEEKING YOUNG MAN

If you are an affectionate young GAM, GWM or GHM, boyish looking, slender and smooth this appreciative older GWM business executive wants to meet you -object safe and discreet play. I want to please you. Ad 25635.

LESBIAN GWF COUPLE, MID 30'S

Looking for a single person or couple for friendship, no sex, going to movies and evenings on the town. Ad 25641

SEEKING SUGAR DADDY WHO WILL HELP

Due to unfortunate circumstances need assistance. Tall, athletic, handsome, stable, ambitious, sensual, sincere, affectionate, friendly, DDF, safe, Wm. Seeking generous benefactor. You: Sincere, fun, DDF, safe and proportionately built gentleman. You/me: private and discreet. Flexible availability. Please contact. Serious only. Thanks. Ad 25978

GALVESTON: LOOKING FOR SEXUAL BUDDIES

I'm 43, married, 5'10, 160lbs., average looks, DDF, clean, no drugs, married-top-cut-discreet. Ad 25598

GWM physician, 41, looks 35, feels 21, 5'10", 170lbs, attractive and in search of a special young man 18-30. Interested in a long term, monogamous relationship. Must be sincere, stable guy who knows what he wants. Enjoy movies, plays, travel, quiet evenings, eating out, etc. Prefer a non-smoker. If you're the right person, I've got a lot to offer. Ad 25796

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HOT PERSONALS**

MICHAEL, 24 yrs. old, blond hair, blue eyes, clean cut, big dick. Call for fun and fun only. Mail Box 1098

ROGER, 5' 8" 150 lbs, good definition, 30 inch waist, brown hair and eyes, moderately hairy. Big cock, 8 1/2" x 5 1/2". Likes to jack off, give and receive low jobs and talk dirty on the phone. Mail Box 1176

TAD, 22 yrs. old, black hair/eyes, fair complexion, clean shaven into alternative music and hanging out. Mail Box 1182

MAVERICK, 24 yrs. old. Wants to meet GM between 20-30 years old. Into clubbing, partying and sex. You will not be disappointed. Mail Box 1198

MICHAEL, 23 year old slender blond hair, brown eyes. Recent U of H grad, classical musician who likes reading, music, clubbing, staying at home. Looking for friendship and possibly more. Mail Box 1199

CHRIS, 5'11" 150 lbs. brown hair/eyes. Looking for older brother type between ages of 37 - 45 to give me the discipline I need. I want to get spanked, paddled and humiliated. Mail Box 1223

GERIK, goodlooking GWM, 5'8", 153 lbs, excellent shape, athletic build, smooth body. Looking for masculine, well endowed man under 35. Mail Box 1284

LEE. 30 years old straight acting/looking; I look 25 years old. Live in Galveston area. I have dark hair/eyes, and like working out lifting weights and biking. Looking to meet 22-30 yr old W/HISP G/BI M who is sincere, and honest for friendship leading to relationship. Mail Box 1296

DOUG, lives in Houston area. 5'11", 175 lbs, 29" waist, 17" arms, very muscular. I work out a lot! You must also. Looking for muscular guys for a good time. I like to wrestle! Mail Box 1291

MICHAEL, 6', 180 lbs, brown hair, hazel eyes, tan. Looking to meet people all over the country. I live in Texas. Want friendship plus more. Mail Box 1303

Let me rub your feet! **RAY**, 6'1 1/2", live in Houston, 195 lbs, good shape, clean shaven, hairy chest. I love feet! Total discretion, no reciprocation required. Mail Box 1313

MICHAEL, 39 years old, 160 lbs. Short dark hair, brown eyes, mustache, smooth chest. Live in Houston area. looking to talk to and meet new people. Mail Box 1347

BRIAN, 30 years old, live in Houston. 5'10", short dark blond hair, 165 lbs, blue eyes, moderately hairy, 33" waist. Looking to meet friendly guys for discreet fun and friendship. Mail Box 1351

RICHARD, older guy looking to meet younger men for discreet, safe fun. You must be young, slim and smooth. Mail Box 1377

PAUL, successful businessman looking for right guy for worldwide travel. You must be 18-24, attractive, versatile. I am a wild, older guy (39) and will compensate you accordingly. Mail Box 1378/1387

MATTHEW, 5'10", 155 lbs, brown hair, green eyes. I like movies, clubbing and working out. Mail Box 1389

BRIAN, lives in N.W. Houston, 32 years old, 5'6", 142 lbs, healthy. Looking for someone in area for friendship. I like movies, reading and dining out. Mail Box 1457

CHARLES, lives in Houston. 45 years old, good shape, 5'10", 160 lbs, brown hair and eyes. I am bottom who likes to experiment. Mail Box 1504

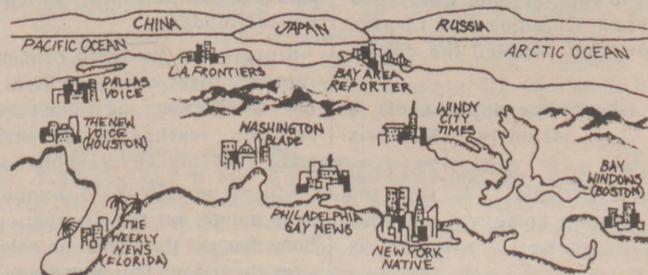
JOSE, 5'7", brown eyes, black hair. Looking to meet white guys. I like to cuddle. Mail Box 1523

GM, black hair, black eyes, looking to meet new friends. Mail Box 1639

JOHN, new to Houston, 5'11", brown hair, blue eyes, looking for real men. I am a former college football player. Mail Box 1678

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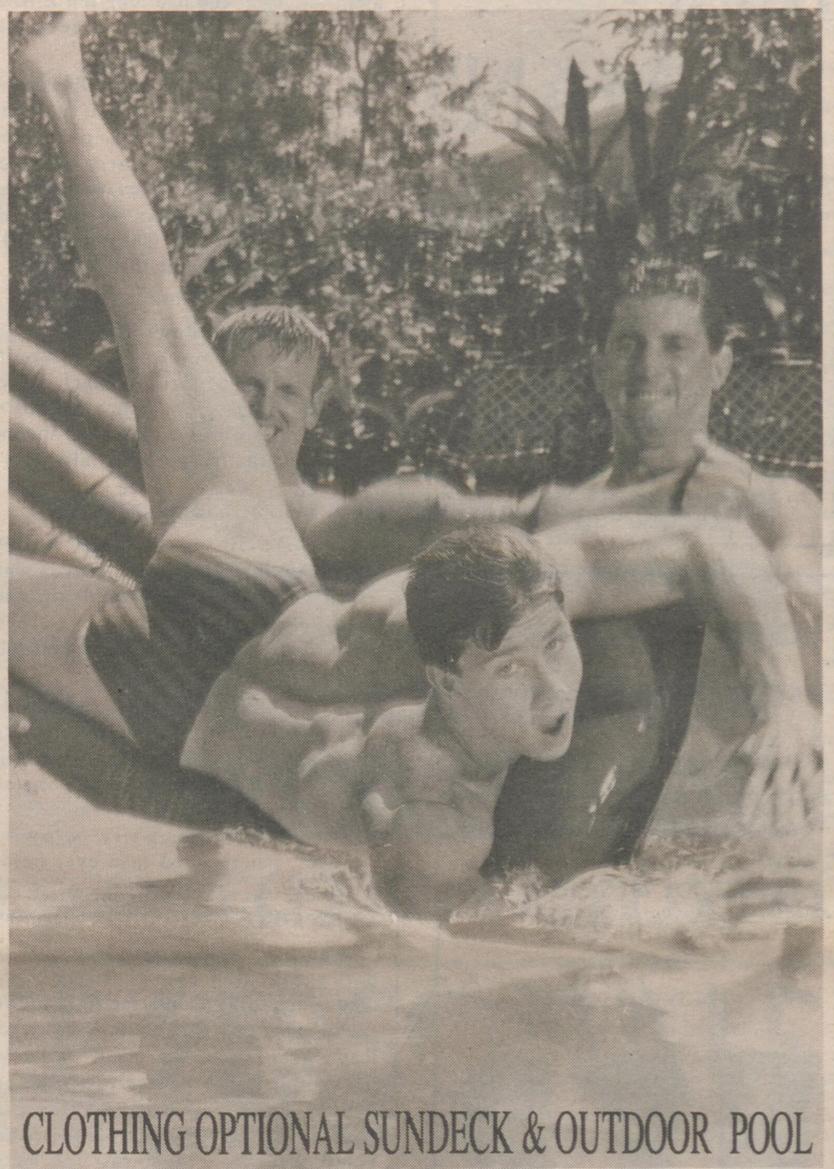
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FACTOID

The Proof Hurts

If you've been drinking and are involved in a serious auto accident, you face twice the risk of dying from your injuries as those in the same car who haven't been drinking.

Years later, New York's struggle against AIDS in an ongoing elegy

By **LESLIE DREYFOUS**
 FOR THE HOUSTON VOICE

NEW YORK, Saturday, Aug. 6 (AP)—There was a life before this one. It was radiant and pulsing, a celebration shared in Greenwich Village discos and along the beaches out at Fire Island. Men, gay men who had long felt isolated, would not turn back. They were striding ahead, and it felt amazing.

There was in this life, many lives ago, a sense of great possibility. They would contribute openly to society. They would no longer marry because it was the thing to do. They would not be ashamed—not of their sexuality and not of their identity. They were full of freedom and hope in this life.

This was life before AIDS.

There is no epitaph. Death did not descend on any single day, or stop the party at any particular hour. Like a slow, mournful song, it has echoed out over time. More time than even the most vigilant truly imagined would pass in this nether world. More time than so many victims had to spend.

The loss is incalculable, terrifying for the blank spaces it leaves where talent and humor and friendship might have flourished. But out of this absence has grown something else, a marvel of courage and compassion.

Audio—and videotaped remnants of it can be found in the archives at Gay Men's Health Crisis. Dog-eared files full of faded articles and early snatches of medical research capture it—the sense of a community growing stronger, more united than ever before.

If only, survivors say, the price were not so high.

"I buried about 15 men from that support group. And each time one of them died, something inside me died as well. ... So much of it was about hope. I guess that's what GMHC was about. In the very beginning, it was a place where we gave people hope."—Luis Palacios, Gay Men's Health Crisis social worker, videotaped in a hospital bed before dying of AIDS.

In the early days, more than a decade ago, there assembled a group many now look on as modern heroes of a sort. They were disparate men whose backgrounds and predilections ran from bohemian to leather, from liberal to Republican, from boardrooms to Broadway, from shy to aggressively

open.

They came together not because they liked each other particularly, or because they were especially close. They came together because all shared a sense that this thing only beginning to surface would grow far bigger.

"These were Paul Reveres. Let there be no doubt, these were the same folks who would have been getting on horses with lanterns," said David Nimmons, 33, who encountered the earliest AIDS activists as a wide-eyed new arrival in New York City in the early 1980s.

"They knew what needed to be done. Or thought they did. It takes a certain kind of vision, chutzpah, self-assurance and courage. ... The thing I keep going back to is something like valiance."

They were Paul Popham, the engaging blond beauty everyone wanted to be, a Wall Street banker not yet out of the closet. Nathan Fain, a journalist, passionate advocate and friend. Paul Rapoport, a reserved Upper Eastside lawyer with money and a lover already lost to the virus. Larry Kramer, a fearless, sometimes cantankerous author and screenwriter. Larry Mass, a thoughtful, soft-spoken doctor born in Macon, Ga. Edmund White, a gay novelist who as a young Midwesterner sought a "cure" for his sexuality.

Of the six, the latter three are alive.

Their legacy is a monster housed in five Manhattan buildings, a \$25.5 million bureaucracy known to some as "the agency" and to many others as GMHC—Gay Men's Health Crisis. The small band that founded it did not know this disease that still had no name would consume the rest of their lives.

A model for future AIDS organizations, GMHC's roots were in a meeting Larry Kramer hosted at his Greenwich Village apartment. Eighty men showed up that evening in August 1981 to hear a doctor share what little information he had. At the end, a hat was passed and \$6,635 immediately collected.

Some months later, the six founders began putting the pieces in place.

Their original mailing list was drawn from personal address books. The early fund-raisers were conducted from behind collapsible card tables set up outside gay discos. There was no test for AIDS, no clear cause, no sense of how it was transmitted, no public outcry

or awareness.

"We are Gay Men's Health Crisis," read GMHC's first brochure. "All is not gloom and despair. The challenge also gives us the opportunity to prove that ... we are family, and we have the talent, money and concern to take care of one another."

From the start, the new agency drew scores of volunteers. Dan Bailey. Michael Callen. Bob Cecchi. Mitchell Cutler. Raymond Jacobs. Nathan Kolodner. Diego Lopez. Luis Palacios. Mel Rosen. Ken Wein. Many, many names. A generation of names that would end up in obituaries over the years to come.

A photograph in a now-yellowed newspaper article captures a bit of the early spirit, a time when activists were naive enough to vow they would do the job, then have a big party and go home to their lives.

Huddled around a desk, shirt-sleeves rolled up and neckties askew, the group looks fresh, almost like vintage film stars who at any moment might shout, "Hey kids, let's put on a crusade!"

Among them is Rodger McFarlane, an early executive director who set up GMHC's first hot line. He remembers now how overwhelming it was. More than a hundred calls a day from the start. "And I've been running from hospital to hospital ever since."

He would like to offer a sweet song of hope and inspiration. But 1,000 names have been removed from his Rolodex. His best friend is HIV-positive, as are his business partner and brother.

"To look back is profoundly frightening and demoralizing," said McFarlane, 39, now director of Broadway Cares-Equity Fights AIDS. "People who have been around long enough to understand it all are dead or fried."

His circle of friends has been decimated, forced to confront the inevitability of death in their 20s and 30s in a way usually reserved for people decades older. AIDS has aged the community prematurely, knocking thousands of vigorous young adults to their knees.

Yet McFarlane remains standing. "No matter how fried or disillusioned or cynical, I think 'Don't stop.' We have to build these things that will lead us to the end, even if we don't live to see it.

Home of gay roommates in Tacoma, Wash. targeted by vandals

TACOMA, Wednesday, Aug. 3 (AP)—For Eric Sturgis and Lee Brovold, Tacoma's worst hate crime hit home in the most direct and personal way.

The two men and their housemate returned home Sunday from a gay-pride festival to find their house damaged to the tune of \$80,000, with hate-filled slogans painted on the walls.

"I lost my house in an earthquake, and it's similar to this," said Sturgis, 26. "I just can't imagine doing this to somebody. I mean, I haven't done anything to anybody."

The vandalism has left the converted turn-of-the-century church uninhabitable, forcing the residents to move into a hotel.

The men said they had trouble getting inside the country-style cottage because of chest-high debris that included toppled appliances and furnishings.

The refrigerator lay flat, cabinetry was broken, food was smeared and about

50 pounds of rice covered the floors and was mixed with crushed glass. Swastikas and hate slogans such as "kill fags" and "get out fags" were spray painted on the walls.

No arrests had been made but the investigation was ongoing, Tacoma police spokesperson Jim Mattheis said. Police are working on leads developed from neighbors, according to a 15-page police report that detailed the devastation.

"I know (the police department) is taking it very seriously," Mattheis said.

Sturgis and Brovold, 24, said the destruction of their home was preceded by less severe scare tactics in the past six weeks.

For several weeks, they said, they were bombarded with harassing phone calls. Then, 10 days ago, someone hurled a rock through the sitting room window. On it was a black swastika and the words "Get out fags."

The three roommates drove to Vancouver, British Columbia, Friday night for the city's gay-pride celebration and international fireworks competition.

Upon their return Sunday, Sturgis noticed water pouring from the foundation at the rear of the house due to smashed water pipes, which left the house flooded.

Sturgis and the third roommate have renter's insurance, but Brovold does not. On Tuesday, the home's owner, Ken Johnson, learned his property insurance does not cover vandalism.

Sturgis and Brovold planned to wed next month but the destruction of their home has put their plans on hold. The two said they want to remove anything salvageable from the house and begin looking for a new home in another neighborhood.

"I'm glad the picture of my mom survived," Sturgis said. "Almost all the photos are gone."

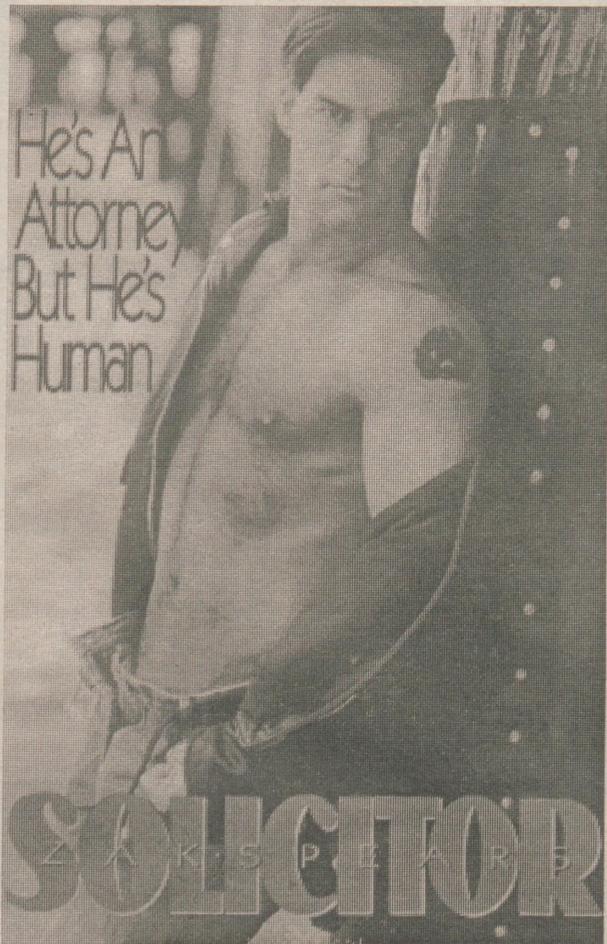
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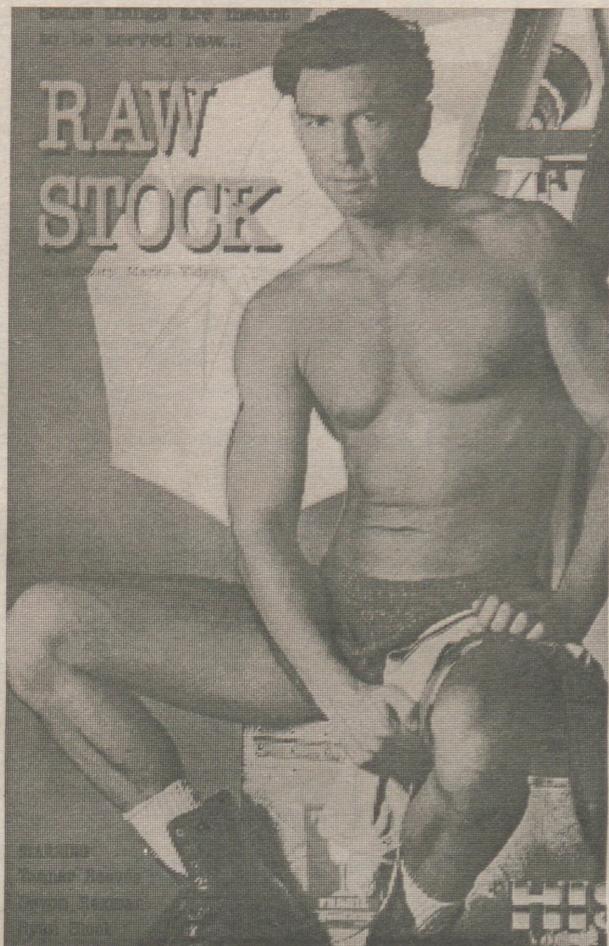


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• To PLACE a Personal Ad by Mail:

Write out your ad using up to six (6) words in a bold headline and up to fifty (50) words in regular type. Then mail it with your check for \$24.95 to the Houston Voice, 811 Westheimer, Suite 105, Houston, TX 77006. Please enclose your name, mailing address and telephone number where you can be reached during the daytime. We will mail back to you an 800 toll-free number, your personal 5-digit ad number and your secret 4-digit personal identification number (PIN). Call the 800 number and follow the verbal instructions to record, in your actual voice, your ad. You can change both your voice and written ad as often as desired but you must phone or write us every four (4) weeks to keep your ads running.

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Call 1-900-454-3576. Listen to the verbal instructions. A charge of \$1.49 per minute will appear on your telephone bill. You can respond verbally, leaving your name and phone number, to as many personal advertisers as you wish. You can browse through all the personal advertisers until you hear someone that interests you. As the individual advertisers periodically check their incoming verbal mailboxes, they will retrieve your response. Call (713) 529-8490 (Houston) or (800) 729-8490 (Nationwide) for more information about this service or to obtain information about a pre-paid toll-free answering account. You must be 18+ to use this service.

• To RESPOND to a Personal Ad by Mail:

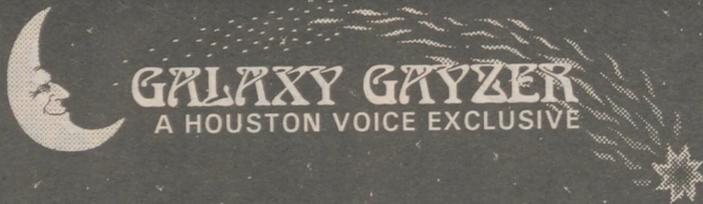
Place your written response inside a blank sealed envelope and write the 5-digit ad number on the envelope. Place this envelope along with \$2.00 inside another envelope and mail to the Houston Voice Personals, 811 Westheimer, Suite 105, Houston, TX 77006. Your response will be forwarded to the advertiser the same day received by first class mail. You may mail multiple responses in the same envelope, but enclose \$2.00 for each response mailed. Responses received without fees will not be forwarded nor returned. Call (713) 529-8490 in Houston or (800) 729-8490 Nationwide for information about this service or to obtain information about a toll-free answering account. You must be 18+ to use this service.

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We will forward to you daily, unopened, at no charge, all responses received by mail. To see if you have any verbal messages waiting, call the 800 toll-free number we gave you when you placed your ad. If the recording says you have verbal responses waiting, have your 5-digit code and secret 4-digit PIN handy and call 1-900-454-3576 to retrieve your verbal messages. A charge of \$1.49 a minute will appear on your phone bill. Call (713) 529-8490 in Houston or (800) 729-8490 Nationwide for information about this service or to obtain information about a toll-free answering account. You must be 18+ to use this service.

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GALAXY GAZER

A HOUSTON VOICE EXCLUSIVE

HOROSCOPE FOR THE WEEK OF AUGUST 12 - AUGUST 18, 1994



Houston Voice readers born this week share with famous author, T.E. Lawrence, born Wales, 1888, the spirit of adventure and strong excitement as depicted in the semi-autobiographical book and film, *Lawrence of Arabia*.

LEO (July 23 - Aug. 22) This week offers wonderful opportunities for fun and pleasure if only you will get out of the house and meet new friends. You will be surprised as to how desirable you really are, with a smile on your face, and a bounce in your step. Do not expect to fall in love, as lust is the name of the game for the next seven days. Be more explorative in your social interests and widen your horizon as to social contacts.

VIRGO (Aug. 23 - Sept. 22) Continue to be private about your desires and plans and be very careful in whom you confide your goals and ambitions. As your circle of 'friends' unfortunately does include several users. All too often, advice that is given to you is solely for the purpose of controlling you. Think hard and long over any requests for loans, as the reliability of these 'friends' is open for question. In all unlikelihood this may be the last time you would see your hard earned monies.

LIBRA (Sept. 23 - Oct. 23) Happiness begins to filter back into your psyche this week after several weeks of being in a down mood. Enjoy the warm, fuzzy contentment of the upbeat feeling to your current life. Seek out private and personal time for you to be alone. Better to avoid crowds for the present time. Let some close friends of yours who have been concerned about you know that all is going better now.

SCORPIO (Oct. 24 - Nov. 21) If your last couple of attempts at cruising have not been successful, look at your body language and where you are standing in the bars and clubs. Wearing more masculine/feminine (as your own gender dictates) clothing will make you more successful, and being more confident in your appearance you are more attractive to others. Watch the limp hand shake or way of holding a glass or cigarette.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22 - Dec. 21) Being out and about socially is exactly what you need to meet more new friends. Be selective about which of these new people are truly worthwhile to be your close friends. Watch out for superficial, insecure and users. These are three types of personality types to avoid. Garage sales may have some attractive items for you to consider. Hold off on impetuous purchases though.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22 - Jan. 19) Sorting through your closet and organizing some of your older articles of clothing will give you a welcomed sense of order. You tend to be a 'rat packer' (as I also am) and collect items that you really have little need for. Be sure to thank friends who have been especially kind and generous to you. Many people have been very kind to you, and they would like to hear from you.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20 - Feb. 18) Continue to wear brighter, more confidence colors that do look better on yourself. The reds, blues, medium greens, black and strong brown colors are exactly what you need to give you more of a sense of accomplishment. Along with an upright posture and a firm handshake, you will be amazed at how successful this new 'you' will be received by co-workers, your boss and friends. Happiness is around the corner for yourself.

PISCES (Feb. 19 - Mar. 20) Watch you spending more carefully as you maybe overdoing the buying spree of late. It is a nice idea to want to help boost the local economy, but for the next three weeks, let others do it. You will be better served in the end as you have been doing. Even small purchases add up to significant dollars. Consider paying off at least one of your credit cards.

ARIES (Mar. 21 - Apr. 19) If not already a member, seriously consider joining a gym or health club. Not only to firm up the muscles, but probably more importantly, to drop your stress level without having to resort to drugs. There can often be good cruising in the locker room, also. Look around your home and see where a bit more housekeeping should be done. Any one that you bring home is going to notice if there is dust and cobwebs laying around.

TAURUS (Apr. 20 - May 20) Happiness is gradually increasing in your world as order and success become more evident. Nothing succeeds like success for you, and gives to you the important sense of increased worth and accomplishment. The keys to your near future are patience and persistence. Your usual good looks are especially important to you at this time as you continue to re-build your earlier down emotionally period.

GEMINI (May 21 - June 21) Your attention to detail is so important to you and helps to minimize surprises. Others do not understand how important order is to you. I doubt if you are going to be able to change them. Therefore, seek out new friends who see the world much as you do; logical, with a purpose, basically friendly and surmountable. The brighter colors that I have seen you wearing look great on yourself. Makes you look more up to date.

CANCER (June 22 - July 22) The extra tan color to your skin looks good on you. If you are a fair complexed Cancer person, you probably have enough UV rays for the summer already. Practice on your cooking skills by adding the excellent recipe from the Kuntry Kidd on this page to your scrap book. Using a bit more seasoning to your entrees will be appreciated by your dinner guests who all too often think of your food as being dull and unimaginative. You are not as a person, and why should your food be?

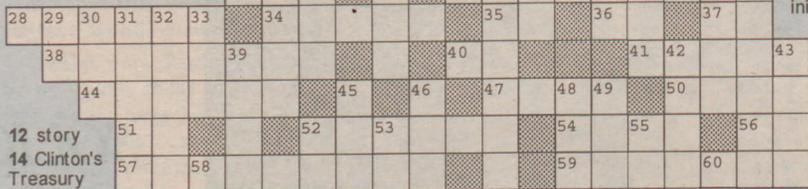
THE TEXAS PUZZLE

Includes Clues About Texas, Current Events & Standard Crossword Clues

By Henry McClurg

ACROSS

- 1 assumes position
- 5 unit of electric current
- 6 newspaper advice columnist Landers
- 8 crave
- 9 Franklin, founder of Saturday Evening Post
- 10 color



DOWN

- 12 story
- 14 Clinton's Treasury secretary
- 19 warnings for the future
- 21 20th century English-born American journalist Guest, initials ("The best of all the preachers are the men who live their creeds.")
- 23 Spanish adjective for holy
- 25 county at the geographical center of Texas
- 28 island off Greece, city in New York
- 34 surveyor whose name was transformed to give Dixie its name
- 35 state with Columbus as capital, abbrev.
- 36 French masculine pronoun
- 37 Roman numeral for 51
- 38 Schleicher County seat
- 40 Roman numeral for 900
- 41 shallow place
- 44 other half in the Neiman dept.

- 74 bring up children
- 76 18th century queen of Great Brit-

- 20 entertainers MacLaine, Martin or the late McQueen, initials
- 22 dry, red table wine
- 24 annexes

- 43 rested, reclined
- 45 castle protector
- 46 newsman Dan Rather's 1931 Texas birthplace
- 48 Russian "pyramid-scheme" investment company that collapsed
- 49 fuss
- 52 president between Eisenhower and Johnson, initials

- 61 stores
- 47 cougar

- 50 Jackson County seat
- 51 police dept., initials
- 52 succeeded Moses
- 54 Roman numeral 1650
- 56 symbol for chemical element titanium
- 57 city in Texas & Arkansas
- 59 they're the Mighty ??????? Power Rangers
- 61 cola soft drink
- 62 territory
- 64 snakelike fish
- 65 abbrev. for baronet, a British title ranking just below a baron
- 66 moved by small amounts
- 69 therefore
- 70 nation's oldest civil rights organization
- 71 clear
- 73 abbrev. for old German money, reichsmark

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- 53 ignores through disdain
- 55 crawl
- 58 Roman numeral for 90
- 60 hectoliter, metric unit of capacity, about 106 liquid quarts, abbrev.
- 63 an acid in cells
- 66 have as a purpose
- 67 Jim, star of Ace Ventura and The Mask
- 68 Vietnamese Communist leader during Vietnam War, family name Ho, initials ("The Vietnamese people deeply love independence, freedom and peace. But in the face of United States aggression they have risen up, united as one man.")
- 72 period of time
- 75 collection of misc. info on a subject

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RECIPES BY THE KUNTRY KIDD



Yo! Over the weekend I had the trucker and his "sidekicks" up for dinner to help another friend celebrate his birthday. I fixed a new dish for them, I always use them for guinea pigs, and from what they all told me, they enjoyed the dish. So, if you try this, and you don't like it, "ball" them out, not me.

FETTUCCINE WITH CORNISH HENS AND FENNEL

- 2 Cornish hens
- Salt and pepper to taste
- 2 teaspoons fennel seeds
- 3 large cloves of garlic, minced or pressed
- 2 tablespoons butter or margarine
- 2 cups dry white wine
- 1 pound fettuccine
- 1 tablespoons flour mixed with 2 tablespoons water
- Onion salt to taste
- 1/2 cup Parmesan cheese
- Garnish: Spiced red apples and parsley

Preheat oven to 350 degrees. Wash hens and dry thoroughly. Salt and pepper them inside and out. With a large, heavy knife, chop the fennel seeds very small, or grind in a mortar or coffee mill. Mix to a paste with minced garlic and butter.

Place the hens in an ovenproof casserole that fits snugly. Spread them with the butter mixture, grind on more black pepper, pour wine around them and cover tightly. Bake at 350 degrees for 35 minutes. Uncover, raise the heat to 450 degrees and bake for 15 minutes longer to brown hens lightly, basting every five minutes with pan juices.

Meanwhile cook pasta according to package directions, al dente, and drain. When the hens are done, cut them in half (kitchen scissors are best here) down the breast bone and spine. Keep them warm. Bring pan juices to a boil over medium heat either in the cooking pan and a saucepan. Stir in the flour and water paste, and cook and stir until lightly thickened.

Heap the pasta on a platter. Sprinkle with onion salt and toss quickly. Ladle on 3/4 of the sauce. Sprinkle generously with Parmesan cheese. Top with the halved hens and pour over the rest of the sauce. Serve it with additional cheese if desired. Garnish with spiced apples and parsley.

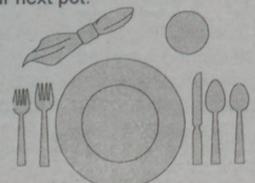
Yield: 4 servings.

I used a coffee grinder on the fennel seeds. I tried to chop them, and they flew all over the counter. The coffee mill worked great, but you will have to be sure you thoroughly clean the mill afterwards, or you may have a weird tasting coffee your next pot.

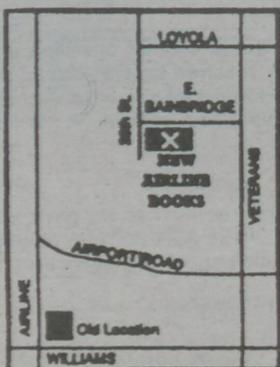
This is easy and very tasty.

UNTIL NEXT WE EAT!

KUNTRY KIDD



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