

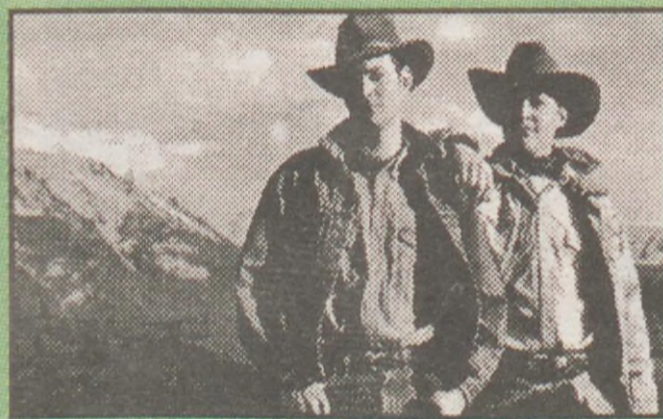
The 13th annual Texas Lesbian Conference, held May 19-21 in Houston, was 'awesome,' organizers said. Urvashi Vaid kicked off the event. **Page 5**



Cheryl Dunye's groundbreaking film, 'The Watermelon Woman,' hits Houston on May 27 during a screening at a local film festival. Dunye talks to the *Houston Voice* about it. **Page 21**

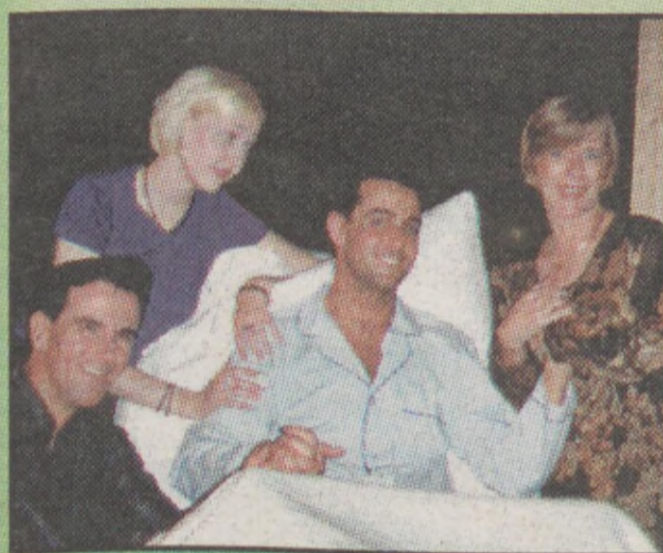


## inside



Houston's Rainbow Ranglers Dance Club brings the International Association of Gay/Lesbian Country Western Dance Clubs to town for the group's seventh annual convention at the Radisson Hotel Astrodome through May 29.

Page 17



Two weeks after the phenomenal opening of his musical "Falsettos" that would later garner him a Tony Award, the composer/lyricist William Finn was diagnosed with an "arteriovenous malformation" of his brain. He survived and, six years later, turned his misfortune into song: the operatic 'A New Brain.'

Page 18



Columnist Michele Forsten bemoans her family's less-than-enthusiastic reaction to an invitation to a Gay Pride Parade. 'It would be good for my ego to have my biological family share the Gay Pride Parade with me, to see me in my milieu instead of my partner and I always having to accommodate to their straight lives.'

Page 9

# Unanswered questions

Chat room killing of a Texas A&M student allegedly by a man who posed as a woman leaves a trail of unanswered questions, speculation that the killer is gay

by GIP PLASTER

Gay overtones and unanswered questions surround the case of a Texas A&M University student who was killed last month, allegedly by a San Antonio man believed to be posing as a female student in an Internet chat room.

Kenny Wayne Lockwood, an unemployed 31-year-old San Antonio man, allegedly confessed April 27 to killing 20-year-old Kerry Jason Kujawa of Richmond, an engineering student who was described by his mother as smart and mature.

But exactly what circumstances led Kujawa on April 7 to travel from A&M to San Antonio to visit Lockwood are still a mystery.

Kujawa was shot in the back of the head and his body dumped on the ranch of a Hays County man who was a former neighbor of the Lockwood family. The body was discovered April 19.

Lockwood was arrested after police linked the screen name of the person who posed as female A&M student "Kelly" in an Aggie chat room on the Internet with Lockwood.

Kelly and Kujawa posted messages in the chat room before Kujawa went to San Antonio to meet; Kelly made posts after Kujawa's disappearance and death indicating that the two of them were together.

> Continued on Page 14



Texas A&M University student Kerry Jason Kujawa (left) was killed in April after traveling to San Antonio to meet Kenny J. Lockwood (top) who police say was posing as a woman on the Internet and allegedly killed the 20-year-old college student.

# 'Civil unions' for Texas gays?

Couples from states across the U.S. are heading to Vermont to pledge their 'civil union,' but will the relationship be recognized back home?

by LAURA BROWN

This summer, Becky Spitzner and Pam Gauntt are tying the knot twice in two days.

On July 9, the Georgia couple will pledge their commitment in a "holy union" ceremony before friends. The next day, they'll fly to Vermont to pledge their "civil union" in front of a judge or justice of the peace.

"The more of us that get civil unions, from many different states—that's the only way we can get it to spread," said Spitzner. "If nobody goes, then their relationships aren't going to be recognized anyway, and we have already lost the fight."

The couple has learned the hard way about the need for legal protections, after a difficult

fight for custody of Gauntt's children.

Vermont's landmark "civil unions" law, which goes into effect July 1, will ultimately give same-sex couples in that state many of the same benefits afforded to married heterosexuals under state law—including automatic inheritance rights, hospital visitation, the right to make medical decisions for a partner, the right to be treated as a couple for state tax purposes, the ability to obtain joint insurance policies and joint credit and parenting rights.


But according to the Vermont government, a civil union doesn't give access to federal Social Security benefits or any of the

> Continued on Page 10



R.O. YOUNGBLOOD

Pam Gauntt and Becky Spitzner plan to have a 'holy union' ceremony in their home state of Georgia, then fly to Vermont to register their 'civil union' there.



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SUSTIVA isn't just effective in combination treatment of HIV-1 infection; it's effective long-term. In clinical studies, combination therapies containing SUSTIVA were proven superior to protease inhibitor-containing regimens in lowering the HIV virus to levels that were undetectable.<sup>1</sup> In one study, SUSTIVA kept it at those levels for more than two years.<sup>2</sup>

## TAKE IT JUST ONCE A DAY

SUSTIVA fits the way you live because you take it just once a day. It can be taken with or without meals, and there's no need to drink lots of liquid.

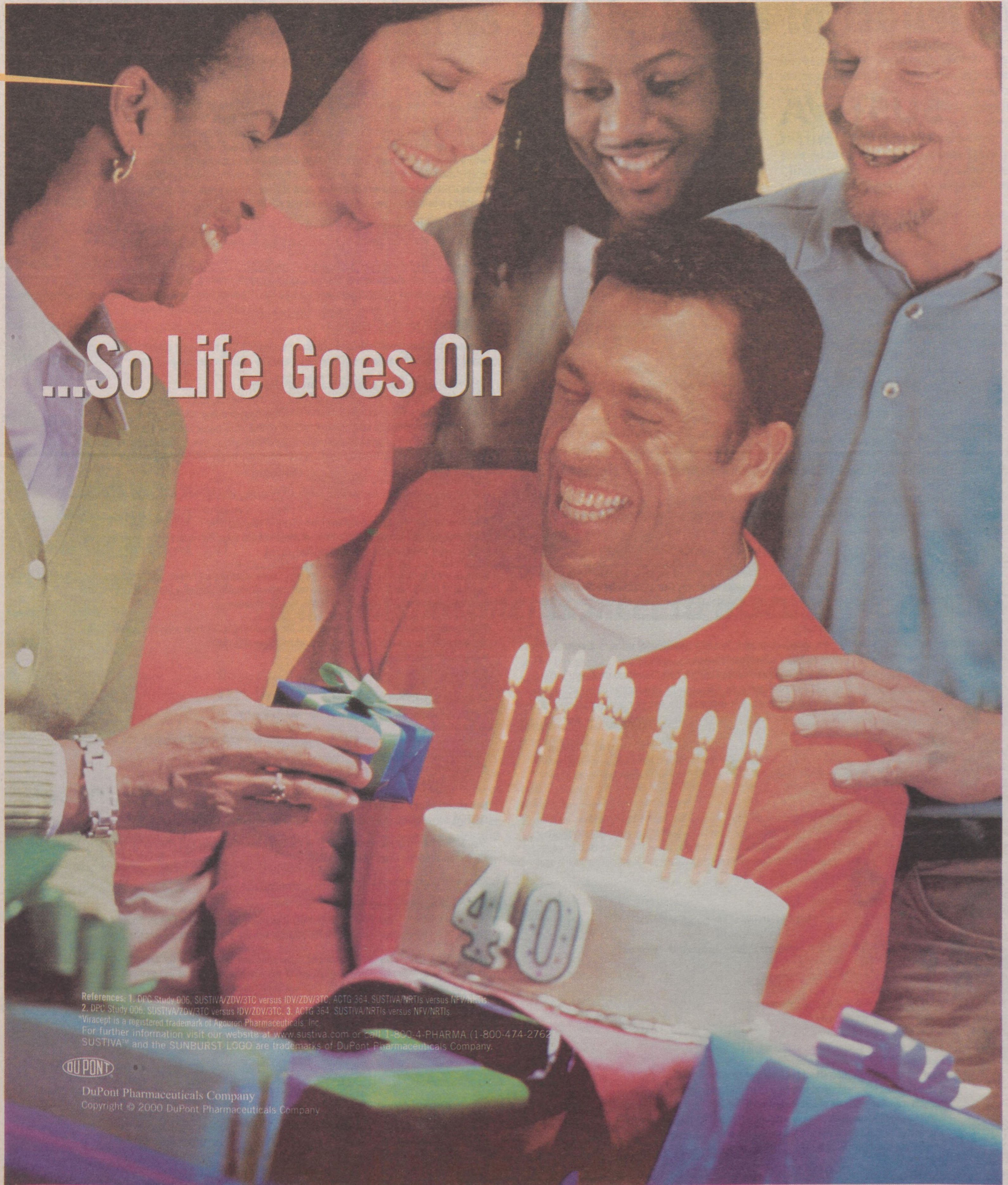
## GENERALLY TOLERABLE SIDE EFFECTS

SUSTIVA is generally well tolerated, with fewer gastrointestinal (GI) side effects, such as nausea, vomiting, and diarrhea, than Viracept<sup>®</sup>.<sup>3</sup> Diabetes, kidney stones, and life-threatening liver problems are rare.

## SAFETY INFORMATION

Many patients have dizziness, trouble sleeping, drowsiness, trouble concentrating, and/or unusual dreams a few hours after starting SUSTIVA. They tend to go away after you have taken the medicine for a few weeks. A small number of patients have had severe depression, strange thoughts, or angry behavior. If you have these symptoms, you should contact your doctor immediately to discuss your therapy. There have been a few reports of suicide, but SUSTIVA has not been established as the cause. Women should not become pregnant while taking SUSTIVA because birth defects have been seen in cynomolgus monkeys given SUSTIVA. See Patient Information about SUSTIVA on the following pages.

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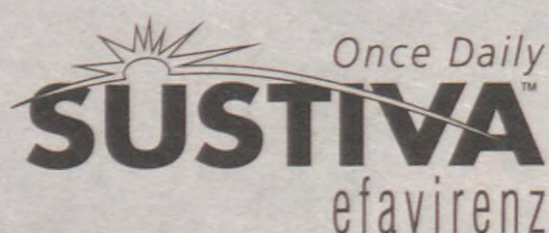


# ...So Life Goes On

References: 1. DPC Study 006, SUSTIVA/ZDV/3TC versus IDV/ZDV/3TC, ACTG 364, SUSTIVA/NRTIs versus NFV/NRTIs  
2. DPC Study 006, SUSTIVA/ZDV/3TC versus IDV/ZDV/3TC, 3. ACTG 364, SUSTIVA/NRTIs versus NFV/NRTIs  
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capsules**

Patient Information about SUSTIVA\* (sus-TEE-vah)  
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Please read this information before you start taking SUSTIVA. Read it again each time you refill your prescription, in case there is any new information. Don't treat this leaflet as your only source of information about SUSTIVA. Always discuss SUSTIVA with your doctor when you start taking your medicine and at every visit. You should remain under a doctor's care when using SUSTIVA. You should not change or stop treatment without first talking to your doctor.

**What is SUSTIVA?**

SUSTIVA is a medicine used to help treat HIV, the virus that causes AIDS (acquired immune deficiency syndrome). SUSTIVA is a type of HIV drug called a "non-nucleoside reverse transcriptase inhibitor" (NNRTI).

**How does SUSTIVA work?**

SUSTIVA works by lowering the amount of HIV in the blood (called "viral load"). SUSTIVA must be taken with other anti-HIV medicines. When taken with other anti-HIV medicines, SUSTIVA has been shown to reduce viral load and increase the number of CD4 cells (a type of immune cell in blood). SUSTIVA may not have these effects in every patient.

**Does SUSTIVA cure HIV or AIDS?**

SUSTIVA is not a cure for HIV or AIDS. People taking SUSTIVA may still develop other infections associated with HIV. Because of this, it is very important that you remain under the care of your doctor.

**Does SUSTIVA reduce the risk of passing HIV to others?**

SUSTIVA has not been shown to reduce the risk of passing HIV to others. Continue to practice safe sex, and do not use or share dirty needles.

**How should I take SUSTIVA?**

- The dose of SUSTIVA for adults is 600 mg (three 200 mg capsules, taken together) once a day by mouth. The dose of SUSTIVA for children may be lower (see **Can children take SUSTIVA?**).
- Take SUSTIVA at the same time each day. You should take SUSTIVA at bedtime during the first few weeks or if you have side effects, such as dizziness or trouble concentrating (see **What are the possible side effects of SUSTIVA?**).
- Swallow SUSTIVA with water, juice, milk or soda. You may take SUSTIVA with or without meals; however, SUSTIVA should not be taken with a high fat meal.
- Do not miss a dose of SUSTIVA. If you forget to take SUSTIVA, take the missed dose right away. If you do miss a dose, do not double the next dose. Carry on with your regular dosing schedule. If you need help in planning the best times to take your medicine, ask your doctor or pharmacist.
- Take the exact amount of SUSTIVA your doctor prescribes. Never change the dose on your own. Do not stop this medicine unless your doctor tells you to stop.
- When your SUSTIVA supply starts to run low, get more from your doctor or pharmacy. This is very important because the amount of virus in your blood may increase if the medicine is stopped for even a short time. The virus may develop resistance to SUSTIVA and become harder to treat.

**Can children take SUSTIVA?**

Yes, children who are able to swallow capsules can take SUSTIVA. Rash may be a serious problem in some children. Tell your child's doctor right away if you notice rash or any other side effects while your child is taking SUSTIVA. The dose of SUSTIVA for children may be lower than the dose for adults. Capsules containing lower doses of SUSTIVA are available. Your child's doctor will determine the right dose based on your child's weight.

**Who should not take SUSTIVA?**

Do not take SUSTIVA if you are allergic to SUSTIVA or any of its ingredients.

**What other medical problems or conditions should I discuss with my doctor?**

Talk to your doctor right away if you:

- Are pregnant or want to become pregnant
- Are breast-feeding
- Have problems with your liver, or have had hepatitis
- Start or change any medicine
- Have side effects while taking SUSTIVA
- Have a history of mental illness, substance or alcohol abuse

**What are the possible side effects of SUSTIVA?**

A small number of patients have had severe depression, strange thoughts, or angry behavior. Some patients have had thoughts of suicide and a few patients have actually committed suicide. These problems tend to occur more often in patients with a history of mental illness. You should contact your doctor immediately if you think you are having these symptoms, so your doctor can decide whether you should continue to take SUSTIVA.

Many patients have dizziness, trouble sleeping, drowsiness, trouble concentrating, and/or unusual dreams a few hours after starting treatment with SUSTIVA. These feelings may be less noticeable if you take SUSTIVA at bedtime. They also tend to go away after you've taken the medicine for a few weeks. If you have these side effects, such as dizziness, it does not mean that you will also have severe depression, strange thoughts or angry behavior. Tell your doctor promptly if any of these side effects continue or if they bother you. There is the possibility that these symptoms may be more severe if SUSTIVA is used with alcohol or mood altering (street) drugs. You should avoid driving or operating machinery if you are having these side effects.

One of the most common side effects is rash. These rashes usually go away without any change in treatment. In a small number of patients, rash may be serious. If you develop a rash, call your doctor promptly.

Other common side effects include tiredness, upset stomach, vomiting, and diarrhea. However, this is not a complete list of side effects reported with SUSTIVA when taken with other anti-HIV drugs. Do not rely on this leaflet alone for information about side effects. Your doctor can discuss a more complete list of side effects with you.

Please contact your doctor immediately before stopping SUSTIVA because of side effects. Tell your doctor or other healthcare provider if you notice any side effects while taking SUSTIVA.

**What about birth control, pregnancy, or breast-feeding?**

Women should not become pregnant while taking SUSTIVA. Birth defects have been seen in animals treated with SUSTIVA. It is not known whether this could happen in humans. You should use a condom or diaphragm in addition to other methods of birth control while taking SUSTIVA. Inform your doctor immediately if you are pregnant. If you want to become pregnant, talk to your doctor. Do not take SUSTIVA if you are breast-feeding. Talk to your doctor if you are breast-feeding your baby.

**Can I take other medicines with SUSTIVA?**

SUSTIVA may change the effect of other medicines (including ones for HIV). Your doctor may change your medicines or change their doses. For this reason, it is very important to:

- Let all your doctors and pharmacists know that you take SUSTIVA.
- Tell your doctors and pharmacists about all medicines you take. This includes those you buy over-the-counter and herbal or natural remedies.

Bring all your medicines when you see a doctor, or make a list of their names, how much you take, and how often you take them. This will give your doctor a complete picture of the medicines you use. Then he or she can decide the best approach for your situation.

The following medicines may cause serious and life-threatening side effects when taken with SUSTIVA. You should not take any of these medicines while taking SUSTIVA\*\*:

- Hismanal® (astemizole)
- Propulsid® (cisapride)
- Versed® (midazolam)
- Halcion® (triazolam)
- Ergot medications (for example, Wigraine® and Cafergot®)

The following medicines may need to be changed or have their dose changed when taken with SUSTIVA\*\*:

- Crixivan® (indinavir)
- Fortovase® (saquinavir)
- Biaxin® (clarithromycin)

**How should I keep SUSTIVA?**

SUSTIVA is available as 50 mg, 100 mg, and 200 mg capsules.

Keep SUSTIVA at room temperature (77°F) in the bottle given to you by your pharmacist. The temperature can range from 59°-86°F.

Keep SUSTIVA out of the reach of children.

**How can I learn more about SUSTIVA?**

Talk to your doctor or other healthcare provider if you have questions about either SUSTIVA or HIV. For additional information you can visit the SUSTIVA website at <http://www.sustiva.com>.

**This medicine was prescribed for your particular condition. Do not use it for any other condition or give it to anybody else. Keep SUSTIVA out of the reach of children. If you suspect that more than the prescribed dose of this medicine has been taken, contact your local poison control center or emergency room immediately.**

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Distributed by:  
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Wilmington, DE 19880

6495-03/Rev. February, 2000

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# Event draws 150 lesbians to Houston

by KAY DAYUS

The 13th annual Texas Lesbian Conference, held May 19-21 in Houston, was "awesome," said Christy Burchette, co-chairwoman for the event. And judging from those attending the conference, organizers got the diversity they were looking for.

Ages ranged from the teens to retired lesbians, and every age between. The event also attracted a cross section of cultures, something organizers were hoping to attract.

"I think our choice of speakers and entertainers helped us achieve the diversity," Burchette said.

Even though the event is non-profit, the committee made a little money to sock away until the next time Houston plays host to the TLC in 2004, organizers said.

This year's TLC drew 150 lesbians from around Texas and the region, said Burchette.

"We had anticipated about that many registrants. But just a couple of weeks before, we were way down on registration and we were worrying about it," she said.

In the last two weeks, organizers breathed a sigh of relief as another 50 women registered.

"The speakers were incredible. We had nothing but compliments and nothing negative about the conference," Burchette said.

Janina Rafalska agreed.



TERRY SULLIVAN

Longtime activist and author Urvashi Vaid delivered a 'powerful' opening speech at the Texas Lesbian Conference May 19 and met with community members the next day at the Houston Lesbian & Gay Community Center.

"It was my first TLC," she said. "It was great. I liked the workshops and the entertainment. I would go again."

Workshops ranged from the more serious

issues of home ownership, lesbian health issues and parenting to the more lighthearted issues of dating, holistic therapy and massage.

Psychologist Maria Minicucci's big circle of women in the "erotic self" session revealed much about themselves and seemed to enjoy doing so. Guided gently by Minicucci, they talked freely about issues very relevant not only to lesbians but to women in general.

Vaid, who heads the policy institute at the National Gay & Lesbian Task Force, delivered a "powerful and inspiring" kick-off speech to the conference, Burchette said.

Alison Bechdel, author of the cartoon strip "Dykes to Watch Out For," elicited much laughter from the laid back luncheon crowd on May 20 by drolly narrating a slide show of how her cartoon characters have evolved over the years.

Saturday night's entertainer, Latina comedian Marga Gomez, was a big hit. She burst onstage in a bright pink shirt, black jacket and pants, and a big, pink cowboy hat with Brooklyn emblazoned across the front. During her hour or so stint, so had the audience of more than 200 in stitches.

Houston resident Ntosake Shange closed out the conference with readings from her literary works. Next year's conference will be in San Antonio. For more information, e-mail to smwest@Texas.net.

# Health departments meet to discuss gay issues

by LAURA BROWN

Health department officials from big cities around the country, including Houston, met last week in Boston for the first time to discuss the health needs of gay, lesbian, bisexual and transgendered citizens.

"What we want is to normalize the delivery of services to the GLBT community, and have health departments provide the same type of targeted, well-documented service plans to those populations that they do now for other populations like women, people of color and adolescents," said John Auerbach, executive director of the Boston Public Health Commission.

The Boston Public Health Commission co-hosted the meeting with the New York City Health Department. Participants also included health department employees from Atlanta, Philadelphia, Washington DC, Miami, Houston, Chicago, Los Angeles, San Francisco and Seattle.

"This was the first opportunity for major cities to get together and, if nothing else, show and talk about what they have been doing, and what they feel like needs to be done," said Jim Petty, who attended the conference representing Atlanta.

Many public health officials first began addressing gay constituents during the height of the HIV/AIDS crisis. While HIV remains a key health concern, the meeting also addressed a variety of other gay health issues.

Participants discussed how social discrimination can lead gays to face increased isolation, harassment and violence, prompting

some to need mental health services to cope with depression, substance abuse or higher suicide rates.

Studies have shown that lesbians and transgendered people are less likely to have health insurance, Auerbach said, while gays may also fear coming out to their health providers.

Lesbians may be at increased risk for breast cancer because many do not bear children, and having children and breast-feeding reduce the risk of breast cancer. And in addition to AIDS, some studies have shown increases in rates of other sexually transmitted diseases among gay men.

"It's not so much that AIDS is getting better, but that AIDS has forced city health departments to deal in an open way with the needs of the gay community," Auerbach said.

"In many instances, for the first time [AIDS]

brought gay and lesbian leaders into the department, and also normalized the discussion of sexual orientation."

Auerbach said meeting participants discussed ways to build from that understanding to offer other programs targeted toward gay men and lesbians.

Ideas included specific outreach to let this population know about public health care and insurance options, educating public health care providers to make sure they are sensitive to patients' needs, and offering targeted programs like mammography for lesbians or educating gay men on the dangers of diseases like hepatitis and syphilis.

Several cities have created specific offices within their health departments to respond to gay, lesbian, bisexual and transgendered health issues.

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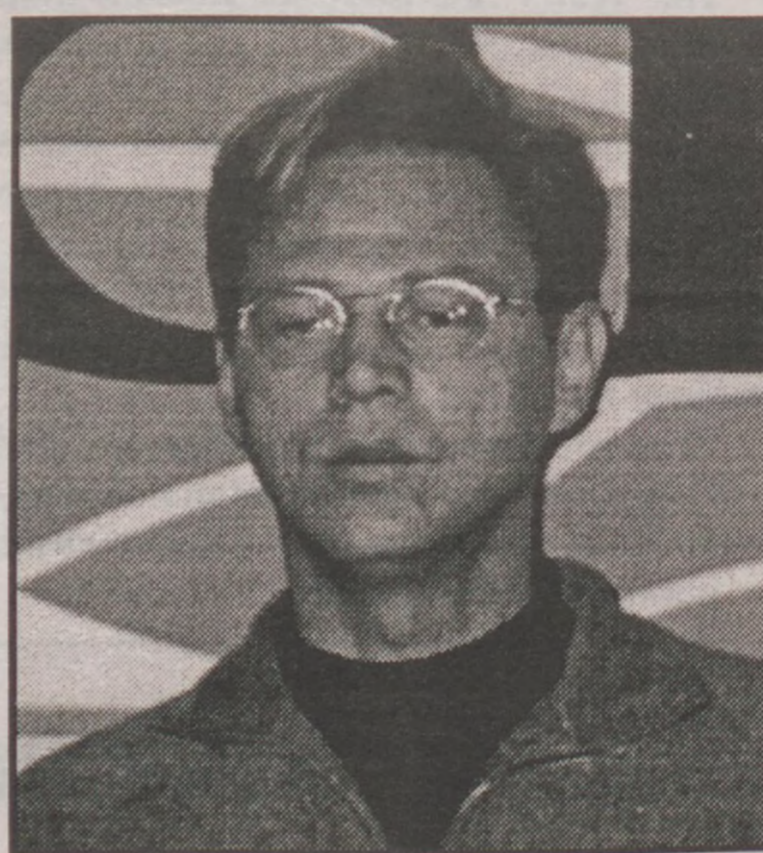
## Around the South

For more news coverage: [www.houstonvoice.com](http://www.houstonvoice.com)

### Commander set to leave Army post where gay soldier was killed

FORT CAMPBELL, Ky. (AP)—Maj. Gen. Robert T. Clark will leave his position as commanding general of the 101st Airborne Division and of Fort Campbell in June, the Army announced. Clark was in charge of Fort Campbell, the base where Pfc. Barry Winchell was murdered last summer. The Army called the change in command routine, pointing out that Clark has been on the job two years, the typical tenure for a post commander. But the fact that Clark will receive neither a third star nor an immediate promotion may signal that the upcoming report from the Army Inspector General on the command climate at Fort Campbell may not be favorable. "This raises a concern that Army leaders may be intending to shield Maj. Gen. Clark rather than holding him accountable for the widespread anti-gay harassment permitted under his watch," said Michelle Benecke, co-director of the Servicemembers Legal Defense Network. That report will be released the week after Clark's departure, which is scheduled for June 9. Any increase in rank for Clark would have to be approved by the U.S. Senate, which would create an opportunity for Democratic senators to hold hearings on Winchell's death, the *Washington Post* reported May 22.

### King widow, gay assistant cited but not prosecuted for jury flap



Lynn Cothren, special assistant to Coretta Scott King, told investigators he hadn't realized the jury was present when he and others refused to stay on an elevator and paraded past the jury.

ATLANTA—A Georgia Bureau of Investigation report released last week decided against prosecution for Coretta Scott King, Lynn Cothren, her openly gay special assistant, and others, for a confrontation in a courtroom hallway with jurors considering charges against the son of civil rights leader Ralph David Abernathy. Details of the investigation were reported by the *Atlanta Journal-Constitution* on May 20. King, Cothren and Rev. Al Sharpton were among a group that blocked a hallway as jurors retired during the corruption trial of former state Sen. Ralph David Abernathy Jr. According to the report, King and her entourage showed up outside the ninth-floor courtroom and refused to allow the jury to leave until a guard pleaded with them. But when the jury was walked down to the eighth floor to catch an elevator, King and her entourage again materialized, this time in the elevator. Guards asked them to stay on the elevator because "we have the jury here." But Cothren, a longtime gay

rights leader, told the guard, "This is a public building," and instructed the guard to get out of the way. Cothren, who is also a board member of the National Gay & Lesbian Task Force, later insisted he hadn't heard the guard mention anything about the jury, and the King party didn't realize it was the jury they were walking past. The report concluded that criminal charges could be filed against the entourage but recommended against it. Abernathy was convicted in the January trial and sentenced to four years in prison.

### Investigation into Texas murder leads to gay papers' personal ads

DALLAS—Investigators affiliated with the National Park Service are poring over personal ads in three Texas gay publications as part of their investigation into the murder of a man whose body was found nearly two months ago in Big Bend National Park, the *Dallas Voice* reported. Supervisory Park Ranger Cary F. Brown said that Shannon Roberts, 43, was a fourth-year medical student in San Antonio. Investigators have requested copies of personals ads published in the *Dallas Voice*, *This Week in Texas* and the *Texas Triangle* for a four-month period beginning last November. Roberts' body was found in the West Texas park March 31 after he had been reported missing from his home earlier that month. Roberts had "a history of using personal ads to find other gay men," and his death could have been a kind of "pick-up crime," Brown said. Investigators do not believe Roberts' death was a hate crime.

### Bob Jones tells grads to 'walk the Bible line,' avoid 'heathenism'

OXFORD, Ala. (AP)—In a graduation speech, the president of Bob Jones University assailed President Clinton's positions on gay civil rights, telling graduates from Trinity Christian Academy that they should "walk the Bible line." University President Bob Jones III spoke May 21 at the Baptist-affiliated school, saying that the morality of political leaders can be judged by the laws they make. "The laws of this land are increasingly promoting heathenism. Morality is more important than issues of education, economics and world view," Jones said. The school had a dozen graduates and about 200 people at the church service. Jones said he is "very concerned" about Clinton's efforts to make anti-gay statements a hate crime. "What would we do?" Jones asked. "We'd go to jail for preaching the word of God. We'd be criminals." On the doctrine of other denominations: "I believe more people are going to hell through church doors than through tavern doors."

—From staff and wire reports

# Around the Nation

For more news coverage: [www.houstonvoice.com](http://www.houstonvoice.com)

## N.J. congressman acts to ban gays from overseas adoptions



**'Vulnerable children need households that don't practice that kind of lifestyle.'—N.J. Congressman Chris Smith, on the 'alarming trend' of gay couples adopting children overseas**

WASHINGTON—A New Jersey Republican congressman is trying to ban international adoption by gay men and lesbians, the Newark *Star-Ledger* reported May 18. An international adoption treaty, the Hague Convention on Intercountry Adoption is designed to simplify and professionalize the overseas adoption process. But Rep. Chris Smith says that an "alarming trend" of increasing numbers of gay couples going overseas to adopt children, needs to be curtailed. "Vulnerable children need households that don't practice that kind of lifestyle," said Smith, who is seeking a House vote on his amendment to the treaty's implementing legislation. Several congressional aides on both sides of the aisle said anonymously that Smith's amendment adds a controversial issue to a treaty that was expected to receive speedy approval. Maureen Hogan, director of Adopt

America Advocates, said Smith has been unwilling to discuss the issue with representatives of adoption groups, and has taken a stance she described as "irresponsible."

## Air Force seeks recoupment from S.F. psychiatrist who came out

SAN FRANCISCO—An Air Force psychiatrist who came out in 1997 is facing a demand from the military that he repay \$71,000 in tuition, the San Francisco *Examiner* reported May 19. "I felt it was very important from a psychological standpoint to be open about my personal life to co-workers," said psychiatrist John Hensala, 35, who came out when he started practicing in 1995, and was honorably discharged in 1997. Now, the Air Force is trying to recoup tuition money from him, and Hensala sued the Air Force in federal court May 18, asking for a ruling that he does not have to repay the funds. Steve Collier, Hensala's attorney, says that the Air Force can attempt recoupment of funds under the law only if his client had committed misconduct, refused to serve, engaged in homosexual acts, or made his coming-out statement in an effort to escape service.

## Appeals court says Yeshiva can bar live-in lovers from school

NEW YORK (AP)—An appeals court in Manhattan has ruled unanimously that Yeshiva University can bar a lesbian medical student's lover from living with her in school-subsidized housing. The court upheld a lower court ruling that Yeshiva's policy—which provides housing to students, their spouses and dependent children at below-market rates—violates no city or state laws. The suit was filed by Sara Levin, 28, of San Francisco, a fourth-year student at Yeshiva's Albert Einstein College of Medicine. She said the school discriminated illegally by not allowing her domestic partner to live with her. The court pointed out that the university does not let unmarried heterosexual students live with their lovers in school housing either, and rejected the argument that the housing policy discriminates on the basis of marital status and sexual orientation, because lesbians can't marry each other.

## Allan Spear, second-ever openly gay legislator, retires in Minn.

MINNEAPOLIS—Allan Spear, the first openly gay man to serve in the Minnesota Senate, retired May 17, the Minneapolis *Star Tribune* reported May 17. Spear, who was first elected in 1972, came out in 1974 "to stop the tittering," and eventually rose to the position of Senate president. Almost 20 years after he came out, in 1993, the Minnesota legislature amended the state's human-rights law to include sexual orientation as a protected category. During that debate, Spear delivered one of his most memorable lines, arising in the middle of a debate about whether homosexuality was a choice, he dryly noted, "I'm 55 years old; it's not a phase." Spear is also retiring from his position as a professor of history at the University of Minnesota.

## Ohio 12-year-old says school failed to protect from harassment

TOLEDO, Ohio (AP)—A family sued a school district May 18 for failing to protect their son from taunts and assaults after he spoke out in support of his gay brother. Matthew Schroeder, now 12 and home-schooled, said classmates punched, kicked and ridiculed him nearly every week for two years. He was treated at a hospital after one of the beatings. The family said school administrators in suburban Maumee were no help. "They said as long as he kept talking about gay issues, he was going to get beat up," said the boy's mother, Sandra Schroeder. The taunting and abuse began in 1998 after Matthew started talking about gay rights and famous gay people during his fifth-grade history class at Fort Miami Elementary School. His openly gay brother, Christopher Schroeder, 26, said he warned Matthew to stop talking about gay issues at school, but the younger brother insisted on speaking out. That year, two girls pinned Matthew down on a school bus, jumped on him and kicked him in the groin, said Sandra Schroeder, a mother of five boys. Lawyers said they would seek compensation for Matthew's emotional suffering, counseling and his future education costs. "This is not simple schoolyard teasing," said Jillian Davis, an ACLU attorney representing the family. Maumee schools superintendent Gregory Smith said he would not comment on pending litigation.

—From staff and wire reports

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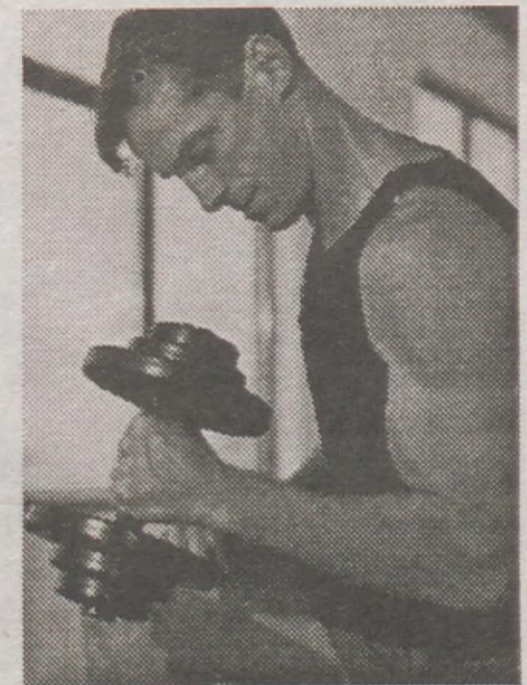
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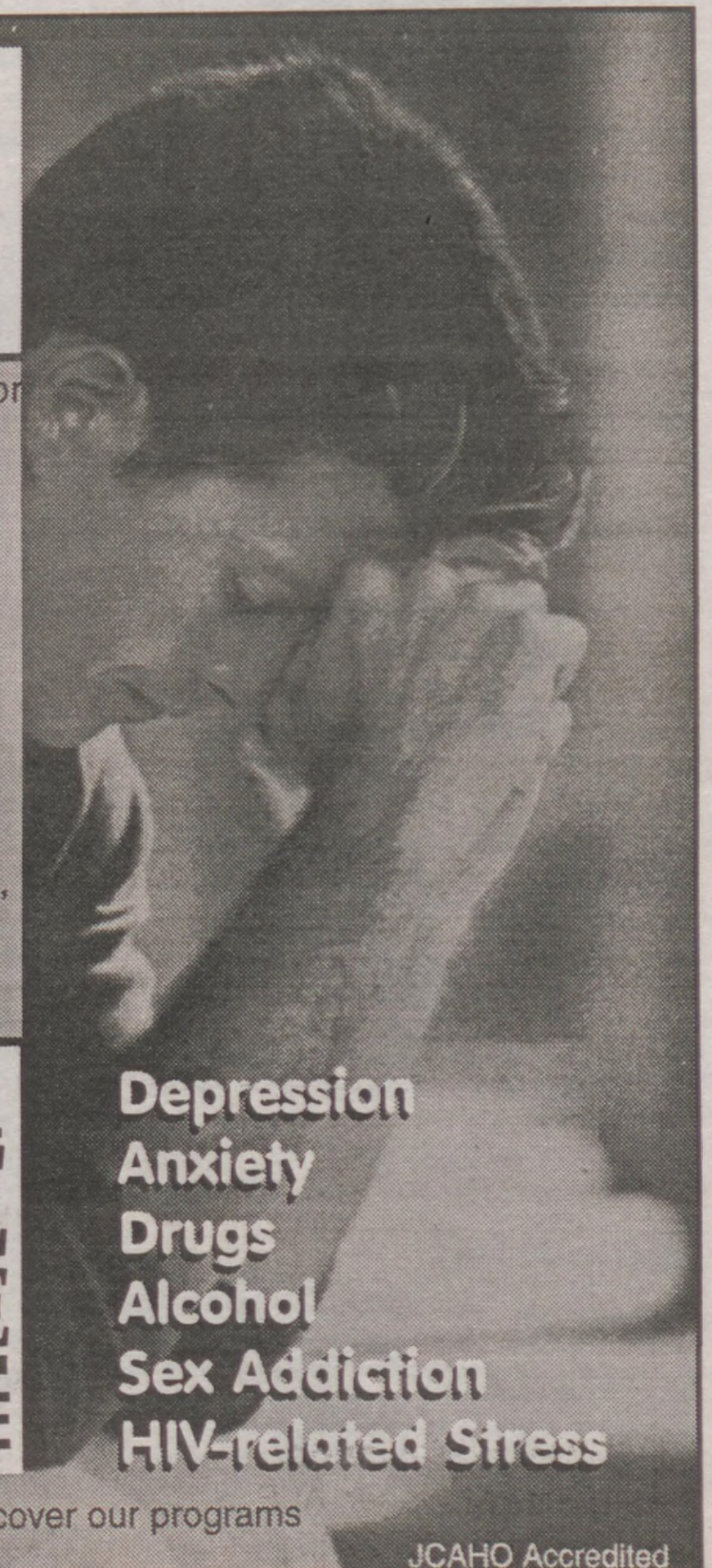
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A WindowMedia Publication

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## VIEWPOINT

# A lesson in self-defense against prejudice

by MICHAEL ALVEAR

*Editor's note: Part two of a two-part series*

What nobody tells you about living an out, open and liberated life is how often you have to lift the chains off yourself. You'd think once they're off they'd stay off. They don't.

When the owner of my karate studio told a group of us "I'd kill myself if my son turned out queer," I sat silent, the chains wrapping around me. And when her 14-year-old son said "Don't worry, mom, I'm not a fag," I could feel the chains choking the breath out of me.

That I sat silent through their diatribe is one of the great shames of my life. What they said may have been nasty and inappropriate, but what I didn't say was immoral.

It took me a couple of weeks before I had the courage to confront the studio owner. How do you begin a confrontation like this? What do you say?

Do I attack her for attacking me? Do I try to make her feel as bad as she made me feel? And what was I hoping to accomplish? You can't really change people. What could I say that would make any difference?

As her office door clicked shut behind me, my heart beat wildly.

"Can I talk to you for a minute?"

"Sure. What's up?" she asked cheerily.

"A couple of weeks ago we had a conversation that kind of upset me, and I was hoping I could talk to you about it." Silence. Her eyes narrowed.

"You made some disparaging remarks

about gay people." My voice trailed off. "And I don't know how to reconcile what you said with the teachings of this school." I pointed to a permanent sign on the wall:

*Respect Yourself. Respect Others.*

She froze, unable to summon any

vert him. I'm always trying to convert people away from things I don't understand."

I gently interrupted her. "I need to ask you something and I'd like an honest answer even if it's difficult for you to say it or for me to hear it."

Silence. I leaned forward and lowered

What nobody tells you about living an out, open and liberated life is how often you have to lift the chains off yourself.

words. I knew what I had to say next because if I didn't it would have put the conversation on a political rather than personal level.

But fear was inching up on my courage. I was on the high diving board, too proud to climb down, too scared to jump off. I took an extra breath and finally said what I had come to say.

"And as a gay man, I was really hurt by what you said."

Her eyes went wide. My moment of truth had come and gone. Hers was about to begin. And in between these two moments, all I could think of was that it didn't matter how she reacted.

She could throw me out of the school and it wouldn't matter. I had accomplished something more important than any reaction she could have: I had redeemed myself.

"Oh, my God!" she half-whispered. "I am so sorry. Please don't take offense at what I said. I have a big mouth and sometimes I need to keep it shut."

"I just had dinner with a good friend who's gay and I'm always trying to con-

my voice.

"Am I welcome here?"

I went on before she had a chance to answer. "I don't want to leave and join another school because I love it here. But I can't stay if I'm not welcome."

Her answer? She went on with her apologies and asked me to forget about leaving the studio, that I belonged there. "Listen," she said. "You've already missed the first 10 minutes of class by talking to me. If you hurry you can catch the rest of it."

The teacher was in the middle of the mat. "Never use your strength and knowledge to attack people," he was saying to the class. "Only to defend yourself."

It occurred to me that I had done that. I didn't attack the studio owner. I didn't call her a bigot. I didn't try to "educate" her. I didn't try to change her mind.

Instead, I did what I was taught at the school: I defended myself. And in the process, I came one step closer to being the kind of the man I want to be.

Michael Alvear can be reached at [mikealvear@aol.com](mailto:mikealvear@aol.com)

## LETTERS

### Death row gays don't deserve our sympathy

To the Editor:

Maybe it was the graphic description of the horrific acts they committed, but your recent article on gays on death row ("Taking a stand on the death penalty," Feb. 25) left me feeling a little apathetic toward those members of the community to which I belong.

The acts they're convicted of are reprehensible and inhumane. I frankly don't care what the gender, race, ethnicity or sexual orientation of the perpetrator happens to be.

It is a shame and a tragedy that gays should face more juror discrimination than any other segment of the population, but when we make decisions to commit crimes, we ready ourselves to accept any and all consequences that ensue. I have no doubt that the justice system and its innermost workings leave an awful lot to be desired, but let's not hide behind our sexual orientation for protection.

I am not completely insensitive to the plights of these convicted people. I know that money, clout and fancy lawyers are often a defendant's ticket to freedom and the less harsh, life sentence. I am also sad that maybe, if different options were available and different roads were traveled, these people might not be behind bars.

As for groups like HRC refusing to take a stance on the death penalty, I say good for them. What would we like them to do for these murderers? Run an "Adopt a Gay Death Row Inmate" program where our donations pay for magazines and cigarettes?

I had a dear friend, Caity Mahoney, who was fiercely opposed to the death penalty. At 24, she was a wonderful activist who donated hundreds of hours of her life and talent to many, many gay and civic organizations.

I would be curious to hear her opinion on this article, but that won't happen. Almost three years ago, she and several other people were slaughtered in a botched robbery.

But will I be sad or conflicted if the death penalty is doled out to the person responsible? Don't count on it.

Tara Unger  
Atlanta

## Not a friend of W.

To the Editor:

As a recent past three-term president of Log Cabin Republicans-Houston, I would like to add my voice to others speaking out about the candidacy of George W. Bush for president: Beware of him.

He is not to be trusted. Especially with something as precious as basic civil rights; especially gay civil rights. George W. is a wolf in sheep's clothing. Don't be fooled by him or his remarks.

His form of discrimination is more subtle, but just as dangerous. He is no friend of the gay community past, present or future.

Gary J. Van Ooteghem  
Houston



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VIEWPOINT

Two very different sisters, two very different parades

by MICHELE FORSTEN

"That has got to be your sister," the white-haired guy with the baton said, pointing at me while addressing my sister, Marla.

I smiled self-consciously, acknowledging him, and then, to dispel my unease, quipped, "Yeah, and I'm the younger one." My sister, who is actually six years my junior and not on my humor wavelength, looked at me quizzically and gave a tentative laugh.

This exchange took place a year ago in Bay Ridge, Brooklyn, on the morning of Memorial Day. My sister was in the street with the other members of the Kings County American Legion Band and my partner, Barbara, and I were on the sidewalk, snapping photos of her before the parade stepped off.

What was my 38-year-old sister doing in the company of a bunch of older men, her music strapped to her wrist and American Legion hat perched on her head? She had answered an ad in a local Brooklyn paper requesting "musicians of all levels" to join a marching band.

She hadn't played the flute since graduating from high school 20 years before, but she wanted to make music and spice up her social life.

Happily, she found the men welcoming, even though she played lots of wrong notes and hadn't quite gotten the hang of marching in sync with everyone else. So there she was on a hot day in May, getting ready to march two miles to Fort Hamilton while performing "Anchors Away" and the "Marine Hymn."

Waving miniature American flags, spectators lined Third Avenue, the Verrazano-Narrows Bridge looming majestically in the distance. The crowd became the most animated when the paralyzed

veterans rolled by in their wheelchairs.

All the cheers made me think of another parade and a very different group of marchers, in the June Gay Pride Parade in Manhattan. A highlight is the Parents & Friends of Lesbians & Gays (PFLAG) contingent holding banners proclaiming their love for their gay children and grandchildren.

They are warriors, too, fighting for their loved ones' rights to "life, liberty and the pursuit of happiness."

"How many people here today will also be at the gay pride parade?" I asked Barbara. "Two, me and you," I said, answering my own question. I was grateful that Barbara was there to take some of the edge off of my discomfort.

Again, I was reminded of how different my sister and I were. Her conservative nature extends from joining an American Legion band to not expecting her husband to help around the house to addressing single women as "Miss." I am a lesbian feminist.

Marla talks nonstop; I choose my words carefully. She's kindhearted; I'm judgmental. She's a kindergarten teacher; I'd go crazy if I had to spend my days with five-year-olds.

Among her passions are her bowling league, "Star Trek" conventions, wrestling matches at Madison Square Garden and going on vacation at Kutsher's in the Catskills. These activities are as appealing to me as having a Republican in the White House.

"So, are you going to the Pride Parade this year?" I asked her a few days later. In the 20 years I had marched in or watched the Pride Parade, my sister had never shown any interest in joining me. She replied that she felt "a little weird" about going, an indirect way of saying no.

"The only gay people I really know



One marches in the gay pride parade and the other with the American Legion. Can you tell who's who?

are you two," she said, meaning me and my partner. "Other than that, there was just a girl at college who I thought might be gay. She looked at me funny, like a guy would look at you."

Then, in her way of straying from the matter at hand, she added: "Now I'm spoiled by all these older men in the band looking at me. It's good for the ego."

It would be good for my ego to have my biological family share the Gay Pride Parade with me, to see me in my milieu instead of my partner and I always having to accommodate to their straight lives.

None of my aunts or cousins live in the city, my mother has been dead more

than 20 years and my father and I don't relate. That leaves my sister.

So, sister, I traveled to a straitlaced Bay Ridge street—with not a pierced eyebrow, nose or bellybutton in sight—to watch you in your parade. It's your turn. No excuses this year.

I'll be marching down Fifth Avenue on June 25. But let's call this trading of parade experiences enough of a foray into each other's lives. Wrestling matches at the Garden? A Trekkie convention? Kutsher's? I don't think so!

Michele Forsten is a writer living in New York City.

Dykes To Watch Out For by Alison Bechdel



# Despite Vermont victory, fate of gay unions still murky

> Continued from Page 1

more than 1,000 federal marriage benefits.

And although the Vermont law allows couples who reside in other states to come to the state and enter into Vermont civil unions, whether the union will carry any legal weight outside of the state remains unclear.

"The theme of my whole answer is that we really don't know," said Steve Scarborough, staff attorney with the Lambda Legal Defense & Education Fund.

"There are a lot of things that a civil union is not, although it is a wonderful, extraordinary breakthrough step."

Vermont's law creates a "civil union review" commission that will meet for two years and report to the state legislature and governor annually on issues including "information about the recognition and treatment of Vermont civil unions by other states and jurisdictions."

Alabama's attorney general has already announced his stance that the state's law against same-sex marriages also bans recognition of same-sex "civil unions."

## Impact outside Vermont

While officials in some states may not expect immediate ramifications from Vermont's new law, gay legal experts said the effect will be nationwide—although it remains too early to say exactly what forms it will take.

"I don't think we should assume that no states will recognize [civil unions], although I don't want to predict how and where," said Mary Bonauto, civil rights director for Gay & Lesbian Advocates & Defenders.

"I do believe it's possible some institutions will find it in their best interest to recognize civil unions, but we'd all be kidding ourselves if we thought it would be everywhere," said Bonauto, who served as attorney for the gay Vermont couples whose lawsuit prompted the civil unions law.

Couples from outside of Vermont that contract civil unions should take the step seriously, and consider the possibility that states may recognize the "burdens" of civil unions—like responsibility for each other's debts—before the benefits, said Paula Ettelbrick, family policy director for the National Gay & Lesbian Task Force Policy Institute.

There is already a precedent for such disparate applications, Ettelbrick said. She recounted a case she litigated in New York, where a lesbian couple split after having a child.

The courts refused to recognize the non-biological mom's right to visit the child, although in another case they had recognized a gay parenting relationship for the purpose of requiring the non-biological mom to pay child support.

Despite fears over uneven applications, Ettelbrick predicted Vermont's civil unions law will have a broad impact on the gay civil rights movement.

"There is now a demarcation in history called pre-Vermont and post-Vermont," she said. "Post-Vermont, I think we will see increased activity seeking formal recognition of our relationships, and it could take one of many routes."

Ettelbrick listed several possible strategies: continued court challenges to marriage laws, like the one in Vermont that prompted passage of the civil unions law, and an earlier battle in Hawaii; court challenges in other states seeking recognition of Vermont civil unions; attempts to pass same-sex marriage laws in state legislatures; or attempts to pass civil union laws in other states.

"Or it could be increased efforts to adopt progressive steps toward full recognition of gay relationships [such as California's domestic partner registry], which I think is most likely in a lot of states," Ettelbrick said.

Gay couples throughout the country can help set the stage for these battles by openly discussing their relationships with their family, friends, neighbors and other contacts, said Evan Wolfson, marriage project director for the Lambda Legal Defense & Education Fund.

"People need to see this as a big step, but the work is not yet done," he said. "It's very important that people not just think about lawsuits as the only mechanism [for winning relationship rights]."

"There is no substitute for engaging non-gay people in every community."

## Court battles expected

Even with grassroots outreach, with no states expected to automatically give full recognition to civil unions, many observers believe the battle will ultimately end up in the courts.

Ettelbrick predicted litigation asking for full marriage rights could be introduced soon in New Jersey, known for its liberal Supreme Court.

She also acknowledged that Vermont's civil unions law could possibly be used to challenge the federal Defense of Marriage Act. Many gay legal observers have long said that they believe DOMA is unconstitutional, but they have lacked a case for a legal challenge.

Because the law says that states don't have to recognize same-sex relationships "treated as a marriage," Ettelbrick speculated that a couple in a civil union could be used to challenge the law, instead of having to wait for a state to legalize same-sex marriage.

Others have suggested that plaintiffs in other states could argue that the "full faith and credit" clause in the U.S. Constitution should compel states to recognize Vermont civil unions.

But "that's not how full faith and credit works," Ettelbrick said. "You can't force one state to adopt any old law another state adopts—that would undermine state autonomy. Full faith and credit applies when states have adopted like-minded laws."

Bonauto and Wolfson, both viewed as leaders in the fight for recognition of gay relationships, declined to speculate on what federal or state-level legal cases could ensue after the



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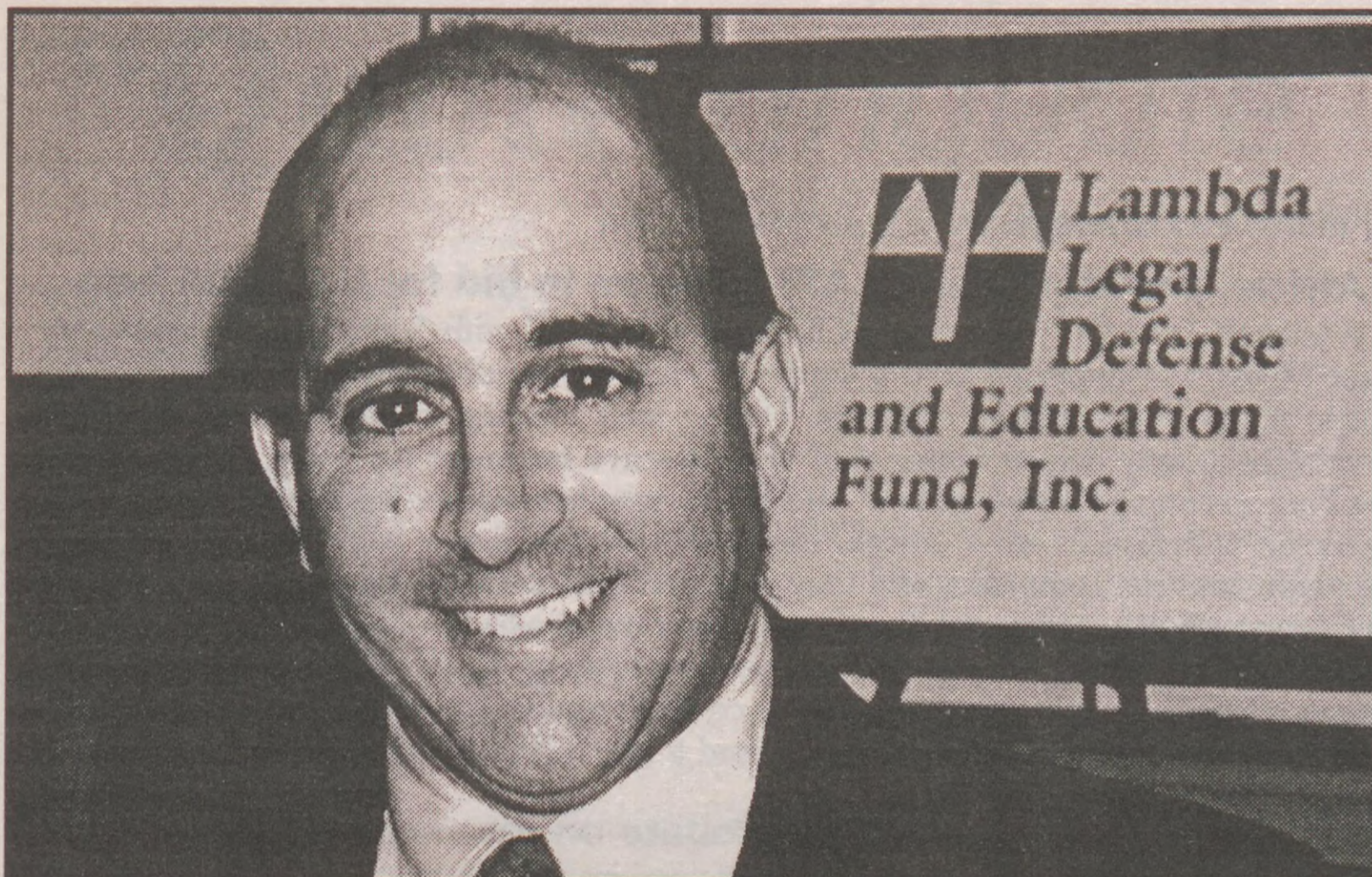
"The public response we've gotten in the past several months is overwhelming: People care to know about their genes." Joseph Matthews, President of 21st Century Biotechnology, went on to explain that the coming tidal wave of genome information presents individuals and society at large with several problems which the company was established to confront.

Mr. Matthews continues: "I can't imagine anyone who wouldn't care to know if they were immune to AIDS. A simple swab of their cheek is all it takes." Long-term HIV resisters and multiply-exposed uninfected individuals prompted the search for genes which make carriers practically immune to the most dangerous viral disease of the past century. In 1996, several independent research groups discovered the delta-32 CCR5 mutation, and soon another mutation associated with delayed disease progression was discovered. 21st Century Biotechnology provides tests for these mutations, and for other genes involved in a range of conditions.

Genes always come in pairs, and people with a pair of normal CCR5 genes are at risk of infection by HIV. However, people with a pair of mutated CCR5 genes resist the virus almost completely. Individuals with one mutated and one normal CCR5 resist infection. They can contract the virus if exposed, but disease progression is retarded. The mutation causes a change in the protein synthesized by the gene. HIV-1 uses normal CCR5 to enter the cell and begin the infection.

A problem 21C is meant to address is the trend toward self-reliance in health care. "It's a good problem now, because we're in a position to screen ourselves for genes we've seen cause Alzheimer's in our parents and grandparents. In a few years it could be a serious problem, because insurance companies will certainly try to improve their odds by restricting access to health and life insurance using genetic screening, and these genes could still become the intellectual property of for-profit companies."

21st Century Biotechnology is the leader in Personal Research. They provide laboratory services for individuals, industry and academia. The company's goals are to protect individuals from genetic discrimination by increasing the public's genetics savvy, to increase privacy rights of individuals, and to promote the common rightful ownership of human genes by humans. All services are completely confidential. To learn more about biotechnology in the 21st Century, visit the 21st Century Biotechnology Company on the web at [www.21CBiotech.com](http://www.21CBiotech.com).



While the passage of a civil unions bill in Vermont was a big victory for gays, there is still much work to do to win relationship rights for same-sex couples, said Evan Wolfson, marriage project director for the Lambda Legal Defense & Education Fund.

Vermont law takes effect.

But Bonato did urge caution. "I don't think litigation should be widespread," she said. "As in any civil rights litigation, it needs to be carefully selected to be in the right place with the right facts at the right time."

Especially with the first cases, lawsuits related to civil unions will have a "ripple effect through the entire country," Bonato said. She urged those considering suing to first contact a gay legal group like GLAD, Lambda Legal, the National Center for Lesbian Rights or the ACLU's Lesbian & Gay Rights Project.

Although non-resident couples may be tempted to fly to Vermont, return home, and immediately sue for recognition of their relationship in their home states, Scarborough from Lambda Legal speculated that the best cases would be couples who actually lived in Vermont at the time of their civil union.

Vermont couples who built their lives around the legal relationship, and then had to move away due to job transfers or other reasons, would have the best chance of showing actual harm for states not recognizing their union, he said.

## Goin' to Vermont, gonna get C.U.'d

Vermont's civil union law goes into effect July 1, with tax and insurance sections taking effect Jan. 1, 2001.

You do not have to be a resident of Vermont to contract a civil union, although you must be a resident to get a "dissolution" of your civil union in the Vermont courts.

### Requirements

Vermont law establishes requirements for parties to a civil union that parallel the state's marriage laws. To enter into a civil union, both parties must:

- be 18 or older and mentally competent;
- not be a party to another civil union or marriage;
- be of the same-sex;
- not be closely related: The law says you may not enter a civil union with your parent, grandparent, child, grandchild, sibling, niece, nephew, uncle or aunt.

### Step by step

The procedures for joining in a civil union also parallel those for civil marriage in Vermont.

- First, you must obtain a civil union license from a town clerk in Vermont, for a \$20 fee. All town clerks must issue the licenses, or if they have strong religious

objections, appoint a designee to issue the license.

• Vermont couples must get the license from the clerk in the town where they live. Out-of-state couples can get their licenses from any town clerk. To locate the town clerk, check the phone directory for the town you plan to visit.

• After you have the license, your civil union must be certified by a judge, justice of the peace or clergy within 60 days, or it expires. A member of the clergy who does not live in Vermont can come to Vermont to certify your civil union, as long as the clergy member first obtains special authorization from the probate court in the district where the union is to be certified.

• A listing of local judges and justices of the peace can be obtained from the town clerk, or by calling the Vermont Secretary of State's office at 802-828-2363. For those who like to plan ahead, lists can be obtained by phone requests in advance of your visit. The Secretary of State's office recommends contacting town clerks for the most up-to-date information.

• The person who certifies your civil union then has 10 days to file the signed certificate with the town clerk that issued the license. You can obtain a certified copy of your civil union certificate for \$7.

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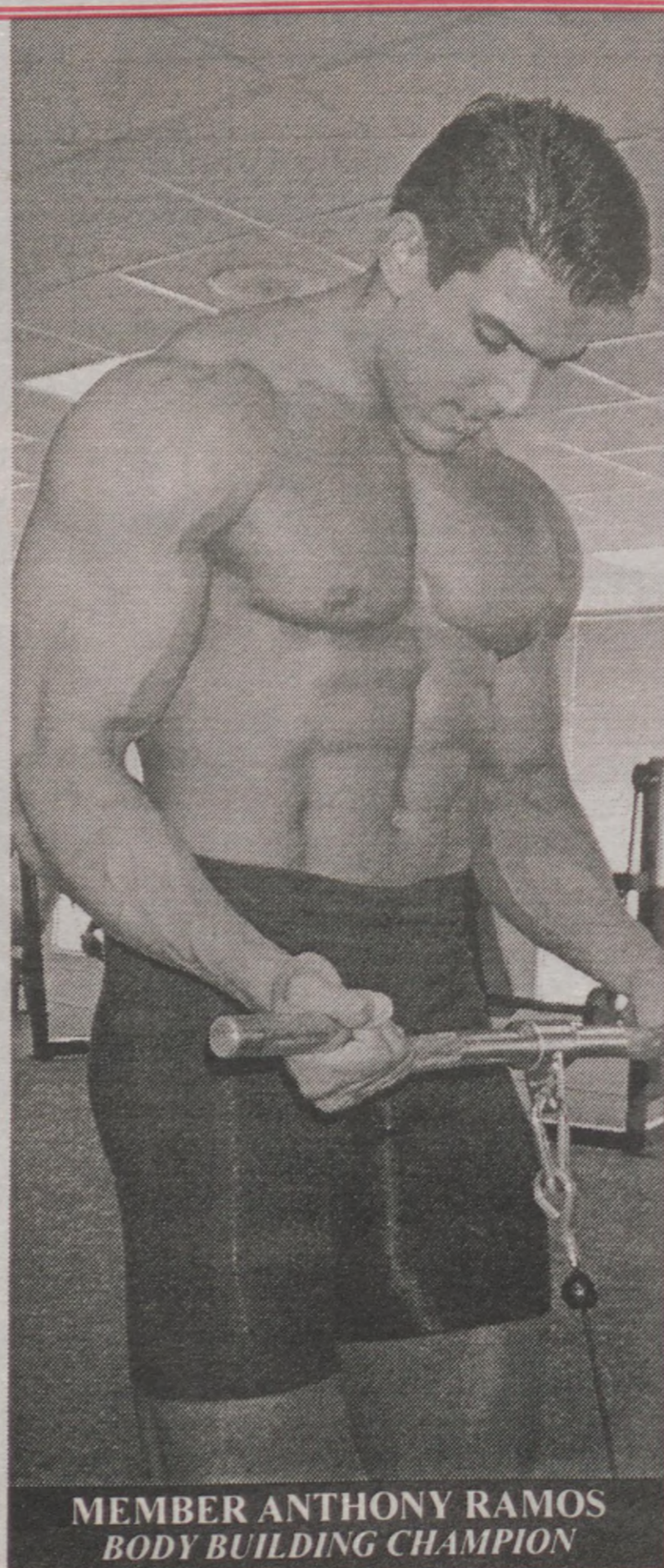
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## Health Briefs

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### S. African president denies AZT criticism in bid for U.S. AIDS help

WASHINGTON (AP)—President Clinton met May 22 with South African President Thabo Mbeki, who appealed for U.S. support “whatever our differences” over how best to combat AIDS on the African continent. During their meeting in the White House East Room, Mbeki flatly denied calling AZT an ineffective treatment for AIDS. “I never said that. Pure invention. Pure invention,” said Mbeki, who has angered some scientists by having contact with researchers who argue that HIV is not the cause of AIDS. The week before, five pharmaceutical companies said they would cut the price of treatments for HIV and AIDS, an offer South Africa said it could not accept if it also had to give up the right to seek cheaper generic drugs. Clinton said he was sympathetic to Mbeki’s goal of obtaining cheaper AIDS drugs and would do what he could to resolve the drug dispute. “We’ve got to get them to him. He’s got to be able to afford them,” Clinton said.

### Psychiatrists cancel convention debate on reparative therapy

CHICAGO (AP)—The American Psychiatric Association canceled a panel discussion of whether homosexuality can be altered through therapy. The debate was pulled from the APA’s May 17 convention agenda after two psychiatrists withdrew from the panel. The cancellation led to a protest by Exodus International, a non-denominational Christian organization that seeks to help gays switch their sexual orientation. “I’m here as one representative for a virtually unseen but sizable population,” said Exodus’ national board chairman, John Paulk of Colorado Springs. The canceled debate was organized by Dr. Robert Spitzer, the same person who spearheaded the APA’s decision in 1973 to remove homosexuality from the list of mental disorders. At the time, he argued that homosexuality does not meet the criteria necessary to be considered a mental disorder. Now Spitzer wants to explore whether homosexuality can be reversed for some people. He contends that the only way to determine whether that is possible is to conduct scientific experiments and share information. “It hasn’t been studied,” said Spitzer, who called the cancellation distressing.

### Report suggests AIDS drugs can lead to diabetes, lipodystrophy

WASHINGTON—Powerful drugs that help keep HIV-infected people from developing AIDS can cause diabetes by blocking the body’s ability to store glucose, Reuters news service reported May 17. The study confirmed researcher’s fears that, while HIV drug cocktails keep patients alive and healthy, there is a price down the road—the drugs can disrupt elements of their metabolism. Mike Mueckler and colleagues at Washington University in St. Louis found that human fat cells absorb less glucose after they are exposed to HIV drugs known as protease inhibitors. An inability of cells to respond to insulin is called insulin resistance and is one of the first steps toward the development of diabetes. The research also helps explain the lipodystrophy, or strange fat deposits that occur in up to 83 percent of patients who use the drugs.



Protease inhibitors can cause diabetes and the irregular storage of fat, all while staving off HIV.

### Oral HIV vaccine using Salmonella is prepared for Uganda tests

BALTIMORE (AP)—An oral AIDS vaccine under development at an institute headed by Dr. Robert Gallo, co-discoverer of HIV, could provide an inexpensive form of prevention, officials at the University of Maryland’s Institute of Human Virology said. The vaccine, which uses the common Salmonella bacteria, is expected to begin testing in Uganda in about 18 months, said Jennifer Schorr, a spokesperson for the institute. The International AIDS Vaccine Initiative, which is investing more than \$10 million this year to triple the number of AIDS vaccine candidates it is moving toward trials, is providing at least \$3 million over three years to complete development of the Maryland Institute’s vaccine, Schorr said.

### AIDS recount by feds could force states to HIV names reporting

WASHINGTON—The latest draft of the U.S. House bill that will reauthorize the expenditure of federal funds for AIDS care may have a provision in it that would significantly change the formula used in allocating AIDS dollars, the Washington Blade reported May 12. The proposal, which would take effect in 2004 if passed, would stop counting the number of cases of “full-blown AIDS,” and instead allocate money on the basis of the number of people infected with HIV. Republican Rep. Tom Coburn of Oklahoma is the author of the bill, which had not been introduced as the Blade went to press. The change could cost states, like Georgia, that don’t track HIV infections or states, like Texas, that use a “unique identifier” system instead of tracking by name, a system the CDC has criticized. Passage of the provision could force all states to track HIV infections by name, and, activists fear, imperil the privacy of people infected with HIV. The Senate’s version of the bill does not contain the HIV formula language provisions.

—From staff and wire reports

# “Quote unquote”

compiled by REX WOCKNER



“She’s Jerry Falwell’s prom date!”

—Actor Nathan Lane (left) on anti-gay radio host Dr. Laura Schlessinger, at the Millennium March on Washington Equality Rocks concert, April 29

“The Millennium March on Washington was attended by 125,000 people, a dramatic plunge in participation compared to the 1993 and 1987 national marches. The low turnout helped to confirm criticisms aimed at the closed-door organizing process of this event.”

—From a May 1 press release from the anti-MMOW Ad Hoc Committee For An Open Process

“This [quote above] should be from the ‘Ad Hoc Committee of Snotty Process Control Queens.’”

—Reader Mike Friedman in an e-mail to this column, May 1

“Nothing is wrong with those who oppose Dr. Laura’s views running a boycott campaign. It’s the American way. If the Southern Baptists can do it against Disney, gays have every right to do it against Dr. Laura. What’s downright dangerous about this particular campaign is its effort to demonize and suppress the speech of those who have a principled disagreement with the gay-rights agenda.”

—Rod Dreher, in his May 23 column in the *New York Post*

“There is neither heterosexual nor homosexual. There are people who are predominantly attracted to members of their own sex in every age and every culture.”

—Right Rev. Richard Harries, Bishop of Oxford, one of the most senior bishops in the Anglican Church

“I see those [anti-gay] picketers and I think, you know, if I weren’t a loving, nonviolent, spiritual person, I would really go over there and grab those signs and smash them over their heads and shove them up their asses.”

—Actress Ellen DeGeneres at the Millennium March on Washington, April 30



“A sports stadium full of queers—how fuckin’ brilliant!”

—Singer George Michael (left) at the Equality Rocks concert during the Millennium March festivities in Washington, D.C., April 29

“When did George Michael become a hero in the struggle for gay rights? Until he got arrested with his pants down in a public toilet, George Michael was an insipid closet case, occasionally taunted by that insipid out-of-the-closet-case Boy George. But there he was, at the Equality Rocks concert and the march, blathering about gay rights.”

—Gay journalist Dan Savage writing in Seattle’s *The Stranger*, May 5

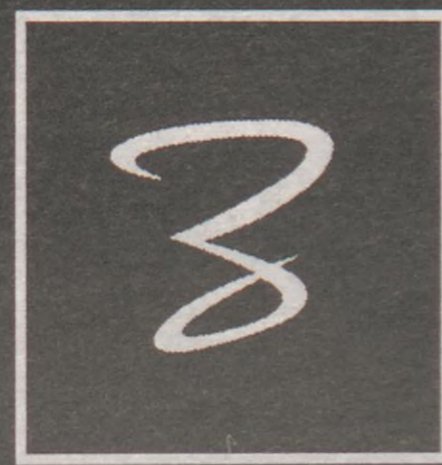
“Perhaps Dr. Laura did say that homosexuality is a ‘biological error.’ Isn’t it? All creatures have a drive to reproduce. That is the usual course of nature. If the sex drive is diverted from its natural object onto something else, precluding the possibility of procreation, that suggests an error. To a Darwinian even more than to a Bible believer, homosexuality must seem to be maladaptive.”

—Syndicated columnist Mona Charen, in her May 21 submission



“You’re beautiful! We will stand with you!”

—Tipper Gore (right), Al’s wife, at the Equality Rocks concert during the Millennium March festivities in Washington, D.C., April 29

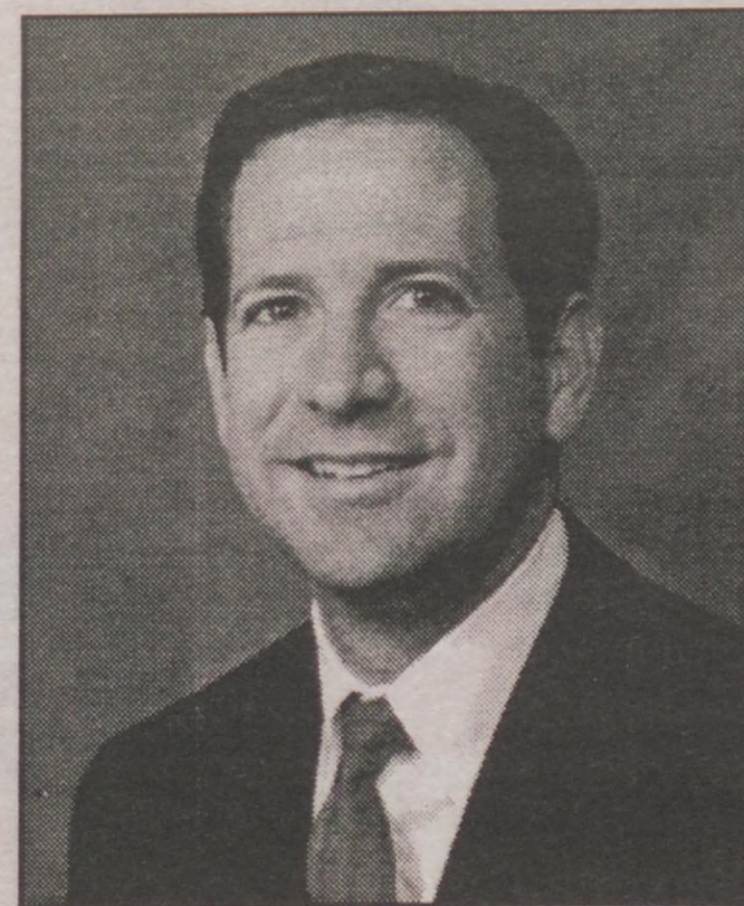
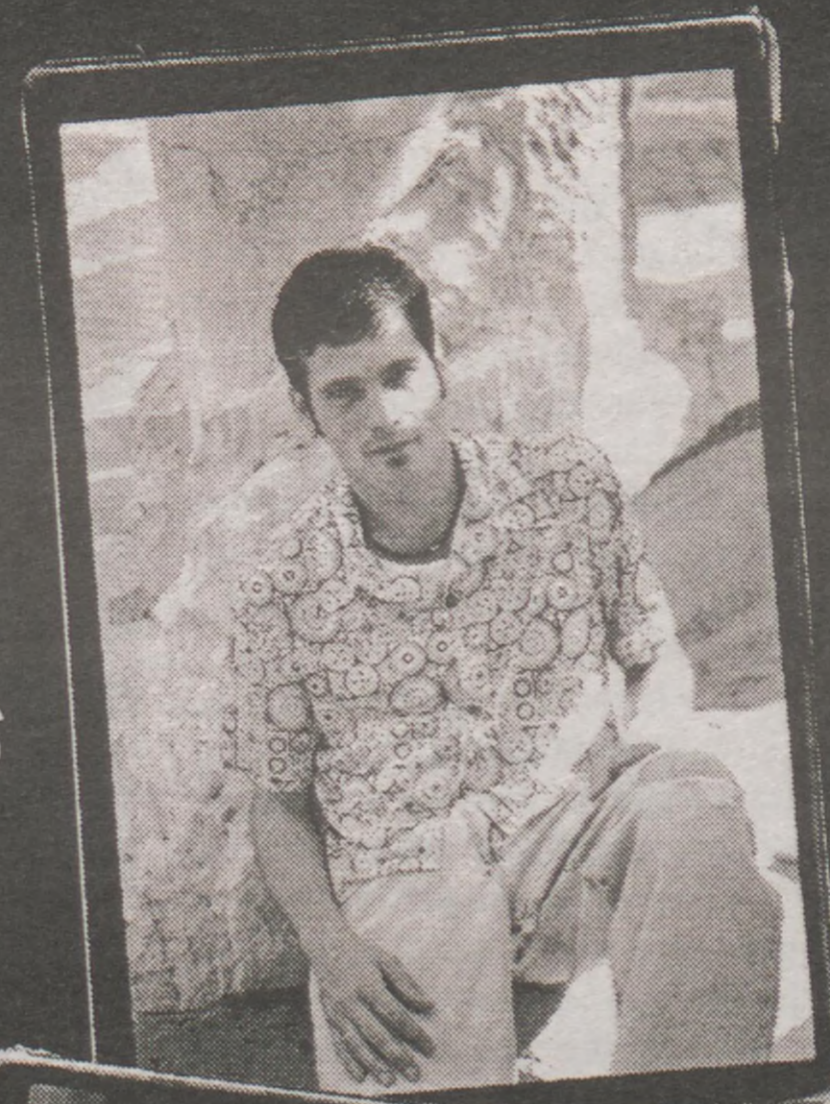


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# Meeting through Internet can pose deadly risks

➤ Continued from Page 1

Kujawa's vehicle was found at an airport in College Station on April 10, before Kujawa was reported missing. Police speculate that Kujawa was killed soon after he left A&M and his car was returned to the airport.

Charles Branham, Kujawa's college roommate, received a message April 9 from someone claiming to be Kujawa indicating that Kelly's little brother Isaac would be coming to the dorm room.

Branham later entered the room and saw a man working at Kujawa's computer. The arrest affidavit indicates that the roommate did not interact with the man whom he later identified as Lockwood, but he told police that the man had with him a duffel bag Kujawa had taken to San Antonio.

Another man, Scott Schneider, claimed to have met a man posing as Kelly's brother Isaac in December 1999, but he said he was suspicious of the man's identity. He later identified that man to police as Lockwood, police said.

The Hays County sheriff's office, the lead agency investigating the killing, did not return repeated calls for comment. The Texas Rangers, who assisted with the case, also would not discuss the matter.

## Media portrayal unfair, mother says

While reports from authorities indicate that Kujawa was lured to the Lockwood home by the fictional Kelly, Lockwood's mother Dina Lockwood said Kujawa must have known it was a man he would be



Montrose Counseling Center's Gary Norman says meeting people over the Internet "is a dangerous practice."

meeting. She said that her son, who lived with her until his arrest, made a number of calls to the same number at A&M before and after Kujawa's death. She said she believes it was the phone number for the dorm room of Kujawa and Branham.

That number, provided to the newspaper by Dina Lockwood, rang unanswered. Texas A&M police, as well as Kujawa's mother and Branham's mother, refused to verify that the number belonged to the dorm room, though it has an A&M prefix.

Dina Lockwood said she speculates that her son had conversations with Kujawa before they met in San Antonio, which would conflict with media reports and police theories that Lockwood lured Kujawa to San Antonio under the guise of being a woman.

Because of that, Dina Lockwood said the media hasn't treated her son fairly.

"I know for the last three or four months, it was a lot of long distance calls to A&M. It was a couple of hours [worth of calls] to A&M," she said. "You don't spend \$15 [on one call] and talk to a guy for that long and not know it's a guy."

Dina Lockwood also said that she's unsure if her son is gay, though she and her husband have asked him before.

She said she once asked her son if he was gay, but he did not give a direct answer.

"I don't know that much about it because he never admitted it to me," Dina Lockwood said.

Mike Lockwood, Kenny's father who is separated from his wife, told a similar story

to the *Houston Chronicle*.

"There's been some suspicions in our family, but I never pushed it. I remember one time Mama did ask him, and he flew into one of those rages that you wouldn't believe," Mike Lockwood said.

Lockwood's father has lived for the last five years in Timberon, a small community in the Sacramento Mountains of New Mexico, and has not seen his son for at least six months, he told the *Chronicle*.

He said he has once found gay videotapes among his son's property.

"Some of the videotapes I found were kind of raunchy and most them had sort of gay themes, but he had some normal ones in there, too," Lockwood said of his son.

## 'A rage problem'

Mr. Lockwood called the crime a "horrible, horrible thing" and said his son "has a terrible rage problem," according to the *Chronicle*.

Dina Lockwood provided a differing picture of her son.

"Kenny, he was moody, okay? He was more quiet. You know what I'm saying," she said. "When he was sick, it got worse. He kept a lot of things to himself."

Dina Lockwood said her son is diabetic and had pancreas problems that resulted in several surgeries and the removal of the organ. He also had his spleen and part of his stomach removed, but she said the cause of her son's medical problems was never determined.

Kenny Lockwood had only one love

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interest in his life, according to his mother. It was a girl named Kelly, the same name he allegedly used on the Internet. But she said the girl pursued her son, even showing up the night of his prom ready to attend the event despite the fact that her son had never invited her.

Dina Lockwood still supports her son.

"He is very gentle. I know he would not hurt a person," she said. "I know he says it was an accident."

Kenny Lockwood is being held in lieu of \$500,000 bail. He has requested that the state appoint him a lawyer, but one has not yet been provided.

### 'Smart and mature,' mother says

Lucille Kujawa said her son's brutal death was something she never expected.

"If he could be fooled, anybody could be fooled," she said of Kerry Kujawa.

She refused to discuss the details of her son's death or the case against Lockwood, but described her son as truthful, honest and mature.

"Kerry was one of those kids who was born mature. He could have run my house when he was six years old," she said.

Lucille Kujawa also said he was smart, graduating 6th in a class of over 560, as well as athletic and a fan of computers and video games. But she said computers were not an obsession for him, simply one part of his life. He occupied some of his time more recently with swing and country-western dance classes, she said.

Kujawa's mother said she was aware that her son was traveling to San Antonio to visit Kelly, but she did not tell her husband,

who was ill with back problems. She said she thought nothing of the trip.

Lucille Kujawa also flatly denied that her son knew he was meeting with a man in San Antonio. Her son had a girlfriend until December, she said.

"My son was not gay. There is no way. You could interview everyone he knew," she said. "And it's not that he would have had a problem telling us because although he knew it wouldn't have pleased us, he knew that we would have loved him unconditionally."

### The risk of online meetings

Gary Norman of Houston's Montrose Counseling Center said the center has never dealt with a case in which someone was victimized as a result of a meeting arranged on the Internet, but he said the phenomenon is not that different from pick-up crimes, which the center often sees.

"When it comes to actually meeting a person you got to know on the Internet, who knows what could happen," Norman said.

In both situations, the victim is either robbed or physically assaulted, Norman said. The difference is that if the meeting is arranged via the Internet, rather than in person, the victim can have a false sense that they already know the other person even though they have never actually met, he said.

"Overall, meeting someone you know only through the Internet is a dangerous practice, and the danger would be heightened in the gay community," he said.

Being alone with someone you do not know is never a good idea, Norman said.

"It's like the new age version of bathhouses," he said of Internet chat rooms.

## Groups launch survey of Black Pride celebrations

by LAURA BROWN

Researchers hope to survey at least 2,000 participants in black gay pride celebrations around the country this year, including one held recently in Houston.

The "Black Pride 2000 Survey" is the first project under the National Gay & Lesbian Task Force Policy Institute's racial and economic justice initiative. The survey is a collaboration with the National Black Lesbian & Gay Leadership Forum and Black Pride organizers in Philadelphia, Houston, Washington, Oakland, Chicago, Los Angeles, Detroit, New York and Atlanta.

"We're really excited about this project, although it's just a first step," said Sean Cahill, research director for the NGLTF Policy Institute. "We think it's going to provide some information that will be very helpful in doing public policy advocacy and really broadening the agenda for the GLBT movement."

Volunteers with clipboards will canvass the 10 festivals, with the goal of getting at least 200 surveys completed at each. Participants will be asked about the three most important issues they face, political priorities, and experiences of dis-

crimination, as well as demographic information including whether they are in relationships and whether they have kids.

"Having looked over the questions, ... we think it is a very good tool to begin to identify who we are, and also identify some common needs," said Rev. Antonio Jones, board co-chair for In the Life Atlanta. "We have never had that happen on such a large and national scale before."

The survey could have a local and national impact, Cahill said. "Our goal is to provide information that is useful to local activists on the priorities identified by African-American GLBT people, and also to provide data that can back up advocacy needs," he said.

"For example, if the survey documents that 30 percent of black GLBT people don't have health insurance, then advocating for more comprehensive health insurance should be a priority for the GLBT community if it wants to advocate for the entire community."

The Black Pride 2000 Survey has already taken place at Philadelphia Black Pride and Houston Splash, where completed surveys topped organizers' goals.


"We got 380 in Houston—much more than we expected," Cahill said.



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# Out on the Bayou

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A GUIDE FOR YOUR LEISURE TIME

## BOOT SCOOTIN' ON THE BAYOU

International C&W dance convention two-steps into Houston for Memorial Day weekend competition

by D.L. GROOVER

Hosted by the Rainbow Ranglers Dance Club, Houston's own preeminent gay and lesbian country dance organization, the International Association of Gay/Lesbian Country Western Dance Clubs (known by the tongue-twisting acronym IAGLCWDC) holds its seventh annual convention here this weekend.

Dubbed Houston 2000, the event includes workshops, dance lessons, competitions, banquets, parties, a Montrose bar shuttle, a BBQ benefit at AstroWorld for H.A.T.C.H. (Houston Area Teen Coalition of Homosexuals) and AIDS Foundation Houston, and a bus excursion to Galveston and Moody Gardens. There's even a dance competition in the Cha Cha.

"You can take just about any ballroom dance and cross over into country and western," said Joe Weaver, coordinator for dance competitions and exhibitions for this year's convention. He wasn't the least bit fazed that cowboys dance the Cha Cha.

"Country and western dance is nothing more than bastardized ballroom," he said.

According to Weaver, any of the rhythms and steps of formal ballroom dancing can be transferred to the cowboy

milieu. There's even a mambo danced to George Strait's "Shouldn't Be Doin' This." The classic C&W dance, the two-step, derived from the fox-trot, and a C&W waltz is basically a one-two-three step with a twang.

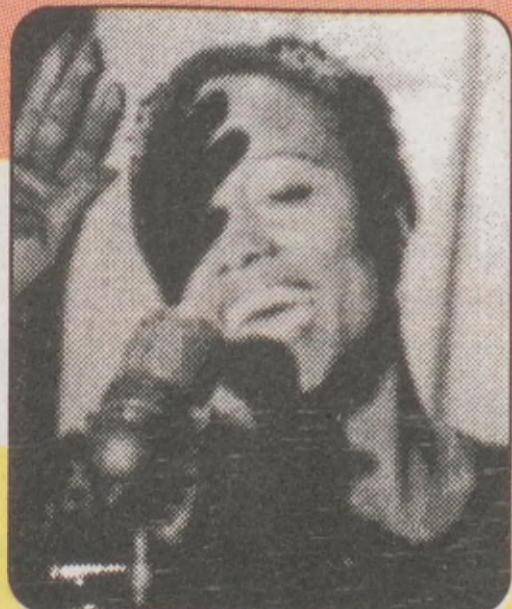
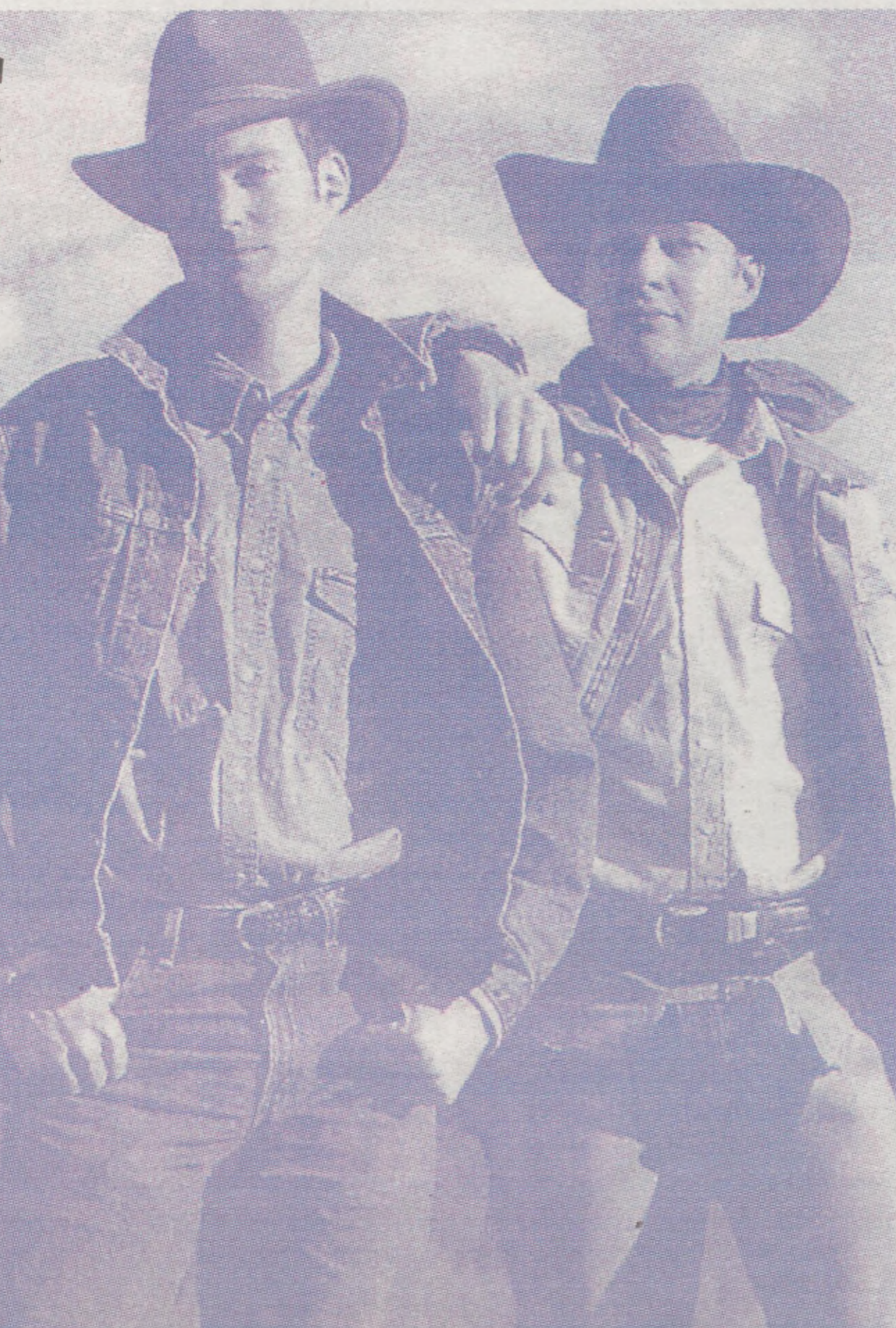
Weaver's formal training was in ballroom and jazz dancing and he happily discovered that, with slight changes in accent, it was relatively easy to apply any type of dance pattern to those done in boots.

"It's not your mom and dad's country anymore," he said. "It's much more popular and mainstream. A formal cha cha goes one-two-three-four and while a C&W cha cha goes one, two, cha-cha-cha, three, four, cha-cha-cha. Kind of like Debbie Harry in "Hairspray"—"Faster, Amber, faster!"

Good-bye Merle Haggard and Johnny Cash, hello Dixie Chicks. Even the line dances of early '70s disco, influenced by "Saturday Night Fever," have been appropriated to wild approval and mind-bending routines in C&W exhibitions.

Everyone is invited to the convention, straight or gay, nimble or flat-footed. Participants have registered from Amsterdam, Ontario, Quebec, England and Australia, as well as from all over the U.S.

> Continued on Page 22



## Making waves with watermelon

Lesbian filmmaker Cheryl Dunye in town for Houston Gay & Lesbian Film Festival screening of 'The Watermelon Woman'

by LAWRENCE FERBER

Cheryl Dunye's groundbreaking film, "The Watermelon Woman," has been making waves since winning The Berlin Film Festival's Teddy Award in 1996.

Its 1997 theatrical release made history, becoming the first ever feature film by a black lesbian filmmaker. Jesse Helms attacked the film with his trademark conservative froth when it received a \$31,500 grant from the National Endowment for the Arts (NEA). It's fame has sent its Philadelphia-born creator to film festivals and workshops across the globe.

A book of Zoe Leonard's "period" photographs of the fictitious Watermelon Woman was exhibited at the Whitney Biennial, while a book was published in 1997. And of course, all this has led to Dunye's next, uber-anticipated feature, which is slotted to begin production in summer, 2000.

The movie hits Houston on May 27 during a screening at the Houston Gay &

> Continued on Page 21

## Houston Gay &amp; Lesbian Film Festival 4

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## On Stage

### A new love, anyone?

by RICH ARENSCHIEDT  
and D.L. GROOVER

Two weeks after the phenomenal opening of his musical "Falsettos" that would later garner him a Tony Award, the composer/lyricist William Finn was diagnosed with an "arteriovenous malformation" of his brain. Shock and a well-earned case of writer's block ensued.

He thought he was about to die and never write again. But he survived and, six years later, turned his misfortune into song: the operatic **A NEW BRAIN**.

Taking a page from Dennis Potter and his caustic television musical "The Singing Detective," Finn has created a phantasmagoric romp through the brain of musician Gordon Schwinn as he undergoes the grueling hospital stay, operation and recovery.

While he lies partially comatose, entombed in the MRI or sleeping fitfully in his wheelchair, the people in his life swirl through his fevered brain: his patient and loving boyfriend Roger, his optimistic mother, his nurses, the bag lady he met on the way to the hospital, the hospital minister, his co-worker, and his employer, the malignant diva of a kiddie show host, Mr. Bungee, the amphibian from hell.

For all its deadly subtext, this Broadway opera (it's completely sung throughout) is amazingly sweet and gentle. Except for the frog, everyone is tame and unquirky; unfortunately, so is the music. There is a ravishing torch song for the mother, a haunting love ballad for Roger, a stirring anthem at the end, but the rest is just ordinary—filler, not show tunes. What's truly brain dead are the lyrics: tortured, simplistic and forced into the rhythms.

Borrowing heavily from the New York production of Graciela Daniele, the Little Room Downstairs positively expands and glows in this stirring rendition. The cast is so strong. When they come on singing and dancing en masse at the triumphal end, you'd swear you're hearing the Mormon Tabernacle Choir in all its glory. They make all those medical bills worthwhile.

At the Alley Theatre, Oscar-winner Tom Stoppard's **THE REAL THING** closes the season with a wordy romp through the emotional morass of love and the incalculable angst of writers obsessed with their craft.

"The Real Thing" received its London premier in 1982 to critical acclaim, eventually coming to Broadway and landing five Tony nominations. Stoppard is known for his maximum density works—pieces filled with intricate verbal repartee, wit and dramatic juxtaposition. This stellar combination allows Stoppard to be numbered among the best contemporary British playwrights of the last half of the 20th century.

Stoppard is a man in love with words and in "The Real Thing," he presents us with just such a man.

In a stylishly snappy production, Alley company member John Felch (Henry) gives an articulate and unusually understated performance opposite Elizabeth Heflin (Annie),



The Little Room Downstairs Theater presents 'A New Brain' by William Finn, featuring Jonathan McVay, Johanna Beth Harris, Roger Hanson and Deborah Boily. The play runs through June 3.

which results in terrific theatrical chemistry. As an actor portraying a writer created by a playwright, Felch has a daunting task in front of him, especially when the creator in question happens to be Stoppard.

Felch negotiates the labyrinth-like dialogue with a relaxed intensity as if words in their various permutations travel from brain to tongue with no interference whatsoever.

Heflin's Annie matches her mate's cerebral wordsmithing with emotional fervor and a visceral sexuality. This actress, fairly new to the Alley company, seems comfortable in any theatrical format—farce, dark Irish drama or in this case, complex romantic comedy.

Husband Henry so loves her that she controls him and most of the emotion in "The Real Thing." She is the object of what he calls "the exclusive voracity of love." This play is full of love and emotions that look like love, but probably aren't. Stoppard has characters woefully interconnected by sometimes vicious, sometimes erotic versions of marriage, sex and infidelity.

In addition to lovers Annie and Henry, Stoppard fills the rest of "The Real Thing" with characters who are completely separated from the tenuously true love experienced by the two main characters.

The smart almost monochromatic set give this show an intimate feel, almost as though the audience was sitting in a theater half the Alley's size. Staging reflects Stoppard's love of irony—different cast members experiencing similar situation are repeatedly put in the same place on stage. This gives the piece a wonderful focused continuity.

#### A New Brain

Through June 3

The Little Room Downstairs Theater  
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#### The Real Thing

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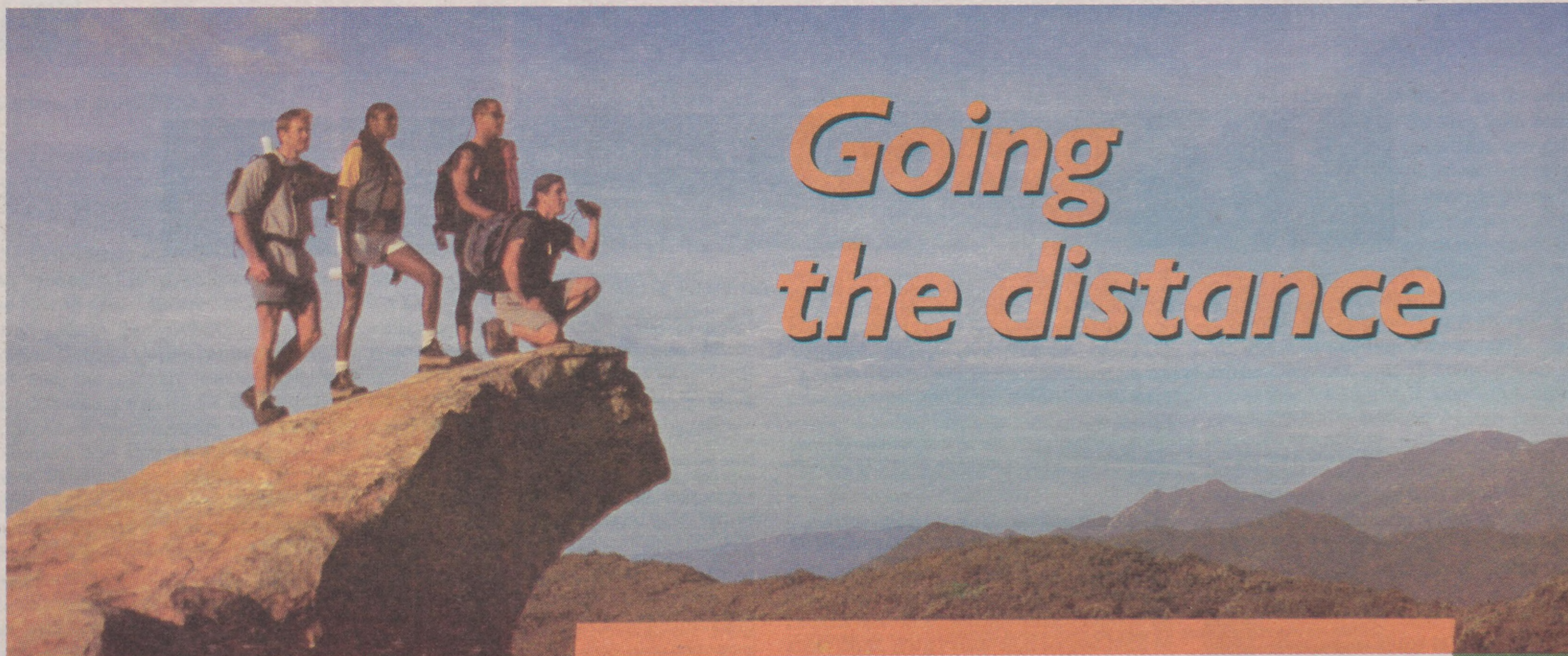
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# Going the distance

*If you're HIV+,  
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healthier life.*

#### ■ HIGHLY EFFECTIVE THERAPY

CRIXIVAN in combination with antiretroviral agents is a powerful protease inhibitor that fights HIV and is among the preferred treatments for HIV in federal healthcare guidelines.<sup>1</sup> CRIXIVAN can help reduce the chance of illnesses and death associated with HIV; CRIXIVAN can also help lower the amount of HIV in your body (called "viral load") and raise your CD4 T-cell count, as shown in studies over a one-year period. Some patients may not experience these effects. CRIXIVAN is not a cure for HIV or AIDS.

#### ■ DURABLE RESULTS

In a landmark study, over 90% of 31 patients receiving a combination of CRIXIVAN, AZT, and 3TC reduced their serum viral load below the limit of detection after 24 weeks. Importantly, the limited number of patients who chose to stay with the study for longer periods of time maintained these results through the one-year mark. In a separate study, 30% of 261 patients receiving dual therapy of CRIXIVAN and AZT had serum viral loads below the limit of detection at 48 weeks. In another landmark study, 43% of 40 patients receiving combination therapy with CRIXIVAN, AZT, and 3TC had plasma viral loads below the limit of detection at 40 weeks. In this study of over 1,000 patients, the group of patients receiving CRIXIVAN along with 3TC and AZT achieved a reduction in deaths and AIDS-defining illnesses over those taking 3TC and AZT alone. Overall, the number of deaths was inadequate to assess the impact of CRIXIVAN on survival. Blood viral loads were measured by available tests and the virus may still be present in other organ systems.

#### ■ THINGS YOU SHOULD KNOW ABOUT CRIXIVAN

CRIXIVAN can be taken with a light meal or on an empty stomach. Some patients treated with CRIXIVAN may develop kidney stones. For some, this can lead to more severe kidney problems, including kidney failure. Drinking at least 6 glasses of water each day may help reduce the chance of forming a kidney stone. Other side effects reported include rapid breakdown of red blood cells and liver problems.

As with other protease inhibitors, changes in body fat, increased bleeding in some patients with hemophilia, and increased blood sugar levels or diabetes have been reported. Additionally, severe muscle pain and weakness have occurred in patients also taking cholesterol-lowering medicines called "statins." There are some common medications and AIDS-related medications you should not take with CRIXIVAN. Discuss all medications you are taking or plan to take with your doctor.

*For more detailed information about CRIXIVAN, please read the information immediately following this advertisement.*

<sup>1</sup> Guidelines for the Use of Antiretroviral Agents in HIV-Infected Adults and Adolescents. Panel on Clinical Practices for Treatment of HIV Infection, Department of Health and Human Services (DHHS), May 5, 1999.

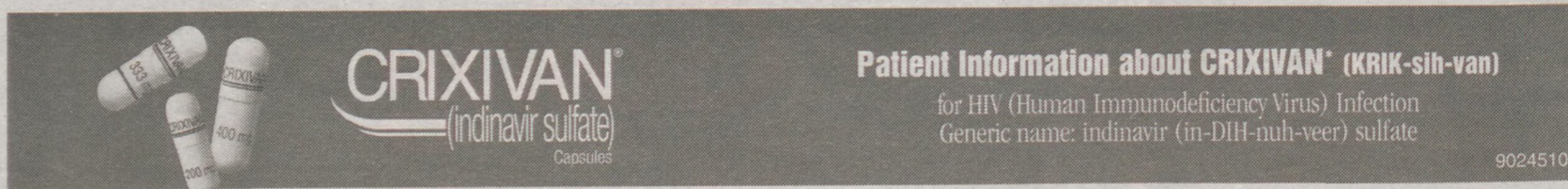
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003424(3/510)-CRX-CON

**Remember to ask your  
doctor about CRIXIVAN.**

**CRIXIVAN<sup>®</sup>**  
(indinavir sulfate)  
Capsules



## Patient Information about CRIXIVAN® (KRIK-sih-van)

for HIV (Human Immunodeficiency Virus) Infection  
Generic name: indinavir (in-DIH-nuh-veer) sulfate

9024510

Please read this information before you start taking CRIXIVAN. Also, read the leaflet each time you renew your prescription, just in case anything has changed. Remember, this leaflet does not take the place of careful discussions with your doctor. You and your doctor should discuss CRIXIVAN when you start taking your medication and at regular checkups. You should remain under a doctor's care when using CRIXIVAN and should not change or stop treatment without first talking with your doctor.

### What is CRIXIVAN?

CRIXIVAN is an oral capsule used for the treatment of HIV (Human Immunodeficiency Virus). HIV is the virus that causes AIDS (acquired immune deficiency syndrome). CRIXIVAN is a type of HIV drug called a protease (PRO-tee-ase) inhibitor.

### How does CRIXIVAN work?

CRIXIVAN is a protease inhibitor that fights HIV. CRIXIVAN can help reduce your chances of getting illnesses associated with HIV. CRIXIVAN can also help lower the amount of HIV in your body (called "viral load") and raise your CD4 (T) cell count. CRIXIVAN may not have these effects in all patients.

CRIXIVAN is usually prescribed with other anti-HIV drugs such as ZDV (also called AZT), 3TC, ddI, ddC, or d4T. CRIXIVAN works differently from these other anti-HIV drugs. Talk with your doctor about how you should take CRIXIVAN.

CRIXIVAN has been studied in adults. The safety and effectiveness of CRIXIVAN in children and adolescents have not been established.

### How should I take CRIXIVAN?

There are six important things you must do to help you benefit from CRIXIVAN:

1. **Take CRIXIVAN capsules every day as prescribed by your doctor.** Continue taking CRIXIVAN unless your doctor tells you to stop. Take the exact amount of CRIXIVAN that your doctor tells you to take, right from the very start. To help make sure you will benefit from CRIXIVAN, you must not skip doses or take "drug holidays". If you don't take CRIXIVAN as prescribed, the activity of CRIXIVAN may be reduced (due to resistance).
2. **Take CRIXIVAN capsules every 8 hours around the clock, every day.** It may be easier to remember to take CRIXIVAN if you take it at the same time every day. If you have questions about when to take CRIXIVAN, your doctor or health care provider can help you decide what schedule works for you.
3. **If you miss a dose by more than 2 hours, wait and then take the next dose at the regularly scheduled time.** However, if you miss a dose by less than 2 hours, take your missed dose immediately. Then take your next dose at the regularly scheduled time. Do not take more or less than your prescribed dose of CRIXIVAN at any one time.
4. **Take CRIXIVAN with water.** You can also take CRIXIVAN with other beverages such as skim or non-fat milk, juice, coffee, or tea.
5. **Ideally, take each dose of CRIXIVAN without food but with water at least one hour before or two hours after a meal.** Or you can take CRIXIVAN with a light meal. Examples of light meals include:
  - dry toast with jelly, juice, and coffee (with skim or non-fat milk and sugar if you want)
  - corn flakes with skim or non-fat milk and sugar
 Do not take CRIXIVAN at the same time as any meals that are high in calories, fat, and protein (for example — a bacon and egg breakfast). When taken at the same time as CRIXIVAN, these foods can interfere with CRIXIVAN being absorbed into your bloodstream and may lessen its effect.
6. **It is critical that you drink at least six 8-ounce glasses of liquids (preferably water) throughout the day, every day.** CRIXIVAN can cause kidney stones. Having enough fluids in your body should help reduce the chances of forming a kidney stone. Call your doctor or other health care provider if you develop kidney pains (middle to lower stomach or back pain) or blood in the urine.

### Does CRIXIVAN cure HIV or AIDS?

CRIXIVAN is not a cure for HIV or AIDS. People taking CRIXIVAN may still develop infections or other conditions associated with HIV. Because of this, it is very important for you to remain under the care of a doctor. Although CRIXIVAN is not a cure for HIV or AIDS, CRIXIVAN can help reduce your chances of getting illnesses, including death, associated with HIV. CRIXIVAN may not have these effects in all patients.

### Does CRIXIVAN reduce the risk of passing HIV to others?

CRIXIVAN has not been shown to reduce the risk of passing HIV to others through sexual contact or blood contamination.

### Who should not take CRIXIVAN?

Do not take CRIXIVAN if you have had a serious allergic reaction to CRIXIVAN or any of its components.

### What other medical problems or conditions should I discuss with my doctor?

Talk to your doctor if:

- You are pregnant or if you become pregnant while you are taking CRIXIVAN. We do not yet know how CRIXIVAN affects pregnant women or their developing babies.
- You are breast-feeding. You should stop breast-feeding if you are taking CRIXIVAN.

Also talk to your doctor if you have:

- Problems with your liver, especially if you have mild or moderate liver disease caused by cirrhosis.
- Problems with your kidneys.
- Diabetes
- Hemophilia
- High cholesterol and you are taking cholesterol-lowering medicines called "statins".

Tell your doctor about any medicines you are taking or plan to take, including non-prescription medicines.

This medication was prescribed for your particular condition. Do not use it for any other condition or give it to anybody else. Keep CRIXIVAN and all medicines out of the reach of children. If you suspect that more than the prescribed dose of this medicine has been taken, contact your local poison control center or emergency room immediately.

This leaflet provides a summary of information about CRIXIVAN. If you have any questions or concerns about either CRIXIVAN or HIV, talk to your doctor.

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### Can CRIXIVAN be taken with other medications?\*

#### Drugs you should not take with CRIXIVAN:

SELDANE® (terfenadine)	HISMANAL® (astemizole)
VERSED® (midazolam)	HALCION® (triazolam)
PROPULSID® (cisapride)	Ergot medications (e.g., Wigraine® and Cafergot®)

Taking CRIXIVAN with the above medications could result in serious or life-threatening problems (such as irregular heartbeat or excessive sleepiness).

In addition, you should not take CRIXIVAN with rifampin, known as RIFADIN®, RIFAMATE®, RIFATER®, or RIMACTANE®.

#### Drugs you can take with CRIXIVAN include:

RETROVIR® (zidovudine, ZDV also called AZT)	EPIVIR™ (lamivudine, 3TC)
ZERIT® (stavudine, d4T)	isoniazid (INH)
BACTRIM®/SEPTA® (trimethoprim/sulfamethoxazole)	DIFLUCAN® (fluconazole)
BIAVIN® (clarithromycin)	ORTHO-NOVUM 1/35® (oral contraceptive)
TAGAMET® (cimetidine)	Methadone

VIDEX® (didanosine, ddl) — If you take CRIXIVAN with VIDEX®, take them at least one hour apart.

MYCOBUTIN® (rifabutin) — If you take CRIXIVAN with MYCOBUTIN®, your doctor may adjust both the dose of MYCOBUTIN and the dose of CRIXIVAN.

NIZORAL® (ketoconazole) — If you take CRIXIVAN with NIZORAL®, your doctor may adjust the dose of CRIXIVAN.

RESCRIPTOR® (delavirdine) — If you take CRIXIVAN with RESCRIPTOR®, your doctor may adjust the dose of CRIXIVAN.

SPORANOX® (itraconazole) — If you take CRIXIVAN with SPORANOX®, your doctor may adjust the dose of CRIXIVAN.

SUSTIVA™ (efavirenz) — If you take CRIXIVAN with SUSTIVA™, your doctor may adjust the dose of CRIXIVAN.

Talk to your doctor about any medications you are taking.

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

Like all prescription drugs, CRIXIVAN can cause side effects. The following is not a complete list of side effects reported with CRIXIVAN when taken either alone or with other anti-HIV drugs. Do not rely on this leaflet alone for information about side effects. Your doctor can discuss with you a more complete list of side effects.

Some patients treated with CRIXIVAN developed kidney stones. In some of these patients this led to more severe kidney problems, including kidney failure or inflammation of the kidneys. Drinking at least six 8-ounce glasses of liquid (preferably water) each day should help reduce the chances of forming a kidney stone. Call your doctor or other health care provider if you develop kidney pains (middle to lower stomach or back pain) or blood in the urine.

Some patients treated with CRIXIVAN have had rapid breakdown of red blood cells (hemolytic anemia) which in some cases was severe or resulted in death.

Some patients treated with CRIXIVAN have had liver problems including liver failure and death. Some patients had other illnesses or were taking other drugs. It is uncertain if CRIXIVAN caused these liver problems.

Diabetes and high blood sugar (hyperglycemia) have occurred in patients taking protease inhibitors. In some of these patients, this led to ketoacidosis, a serious condition caused by poorly controlled blood sugar. Some patients had diabetes before starting protease inhibitors, others did not. Some patients required adjustments to their diabetes medication. Others needed new diabetes medication.

In some patients with hemophilia, increased bleeding has been reported.

Severe muscle pain and weakness have occurred in patients taking protease inhibitors, including CRIXIVAN, together with some of the cholesterol-lowering medicines called "statins." Call your doctor if you develop severe muscle pain or weakness.

Changes in body fat have been seen in some patients taking protease inhibitors. These changes may include increased amount of fat in the upper back and neck ("buffalo hump"), breast, and around the trunk. Loss of fat from the legs and arms may also happen. The cause and long term health effects of these conditions are not known at this time.

#### Clinical Studies

Increases in bilirubin (one laboratory test of liver function) have been reported in approximately 10% of patients. Usually, this finding has not been associated with liver problems. However, on rare occasions, a person may develop yellowing of the skin and/or eyes.

Side effects occurring in 2% or more of patients included: abdominal pain, fatigue or weakness, flank pain, feeling unwell, nausea, diarrhea, vomiting, acid regurgitation, loss of appetite, dry mouth, back pain, headache, trouble sleeping, dizziness, taste changes, rash, upper respiratory infection, dry skin, and sore throat.

Swollen kidneys due to blocked urine flow occurred rarely.

#### Marketing Experience

Other side effects reported since CRIXIVAN has been marketed include: allergic reactions; severe skin reactions; yellowing of the skin and/or eyes; heart problems including heart attack; abdominal swelling; indigestion; inflammation of the kidneys; inflammation of the pancreas; joint pain; depression; itching; hives; change in skin color; hair loss; ingrown toenails with or without infection; crystals in the urine; painful urination; and numbness of the mouth.

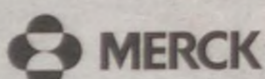
Tell your doctor promptly about these or any other unusual symptoms. If the condition persists or worsens, seek medical attention.

### How should I store CRIXIVAN capsules?

- Keep CRIXIVAN capsules in the bottle they came in and at room temperature (59°-86°F).
- Keep CRIXIVAN capsules dry by leaving the small desiccant "pillow" in the bottle. Keep the bottle closed.



**CRIXIVAN®**  
(indinavir sulfate)  
Capsules



003424(3)(510)-CRX-CON

Issued September 1999  
MERCK & CO., INC.  
West Point, PA 19486, USA



## Making waves with watermelon

➤ Continued from Page 17

Lesbian Film Festival. Dunye will also field questions from the audience after the 7:30 p.m. screening at the Museum of Fine Arts.

In the film, Dunye stars as semi-autobiographical character, Cheryl, a video store clerk obsessed with an obscure 1930s black "mammy" actress, Fae Richards, a.k.a. the Watermelon Woman. During her hunt for this woman and her hidden lesbian history, Cheryl interviews personalities like Camille Paglia, juggles a romance with a white girl (Guin Turner), and dodges the chidings of best friend Tamara (Valarie Walker).

Mixing mirth with mystery, history with imagined history, and even some hot lesbian sex, Dunye's feature has certainly earned its queer digital domain.

Currently living in Pasadena, Calif., Dunye and her partner ("Watermelon Woman" co-producer) Alexandra Juhasz, head of media studies at Pitzer College, have two young children. And between pre-production chores, Dunye teaches as an adjunct at the University of California at Los Angeles and Pitzer, while serving on Outfest's board, "giving back to the festival community that helped make me and my work important."

*Houston Voice:* Your film drew insane amounts of press from the get-go and it's still continuing.

*Cheryl Dunye:* It was actually on BET—

Stars, their HBO sort of thing—in March and that brought in a whole new audience. I was traveling in the South for a couple of lectures and was stopped at the airport by a whole different bunch of people to congratulate me, who never would have stopped me before.

*Houston Voice:* Did you ever think the film would become the career maker it has?

*CD:* It's always everybody's hope that something like this happens. But I know I have something to say, and I know from having made "The Watermelon Woman" that people want to listen and I can do it again. So if that's a career, then it's a career.

*Houston Voice:* Tell us about your two kids.

*CD:* I gave birth to a two-year-old, and my partner Alex gave birth to our little boy, who's 9 months old. They both have the same father, who's an old friend from Philly—Philly's always in our hearts—and they're great! Really good.

*Houston Voice:* Knowing how people leave films early and miss the credits—in your case, the revelation that Fae was a fictitious creation—how often were people suckered in by the story of Fae Richards and left thinking she was real?

*CD:* Continually. I think the more the film gets disseminated out there, the more people have seen it, the more who know it's a film. They give it away in its packaging, especially for broadcast. But I think a lot of people still believe and want to believe, and it's that hope that people want to believe that allows them to

have a good feeling about the film. To have brought a story to life. America's so much about nostalgia and wrongs being righted, that the film gives you one bittersweet example of that.

*Houston Voice:* And what are you working on lately?

*CD:* I'm working on a project which is being produced by Jim McKay, who did "Our Song" and "Girls' Town," and works with Michael Stipe on a company called C100. They did "Being John Malkovich" and stuff like that. The script I've been working on for several years, "Stranger Inside," is about a mother and daughter who meet in a women's correctional facility for the first time. I'm not looking at it in that they're criminals, but that they're mother and daughter.

*Houston Voice:* Is it odd seeing yourself in "The Watermelon Woman" with your naked butt right up to the camera?

*CD:* Well, there might be some butts in the camera next time, but not mine. There'll be some butts. It's a prison film so you have to play with the genre, but you also have to respect the invisibility factor. These women, this community of women, that live within a few miles of you and me right now, and why they're there and who put them there and what's going on. I'm very excited about shooting that this summer.

*Houston Voice:* Is one of the characters a lesbian?

*CD:* When I wrote the first draft of the screenplay and took it to the inmates, there

was no lesbian sex in it. They were the ones—I did it purposely to get the story from them—who said "where are the lesbian scenes?" I said, "you tell me about it. I don't want to put that on the stereotype of women in prison." So most of scenes I have in the screenplay—there's only one I created on my own—come directly from workshopping with these women in a Minnesota state prison.

*Houston Voice:* Have you seen any good work by lesbians of color these days?

*CD:* Oh yeah. I don't know if you saw "Love Tale," which is a wonderful, crowd-pleasing film by a young African American director. There's a lot more coming, too. Sundance and Outfest's Shari Frilot is finally making her short film. Yvonne Welbon's "Living With Pride: Ruth Ellis @ 100" is the hottest thing right now and it's everywhere (including the Houston Gay & Lesbian Film Festival on June 1).

### Houston Gay & Lesbian Film Festival

Cheryl Dunye's short films and "The Watermelon Woman"

Question and answer session

May 27, 7:30 p.m.

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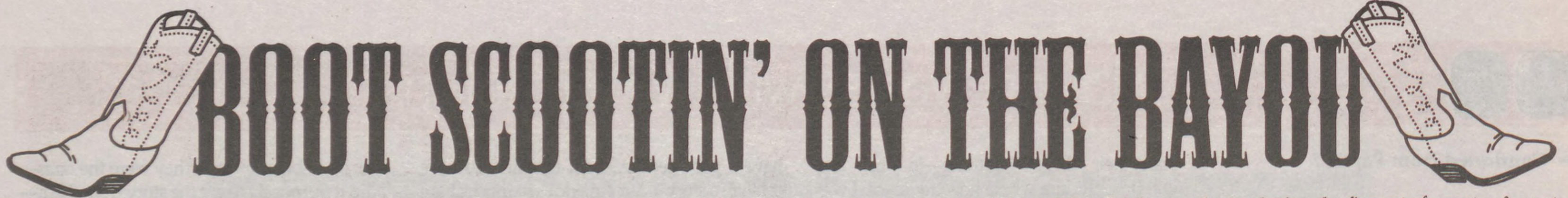
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# BOOT SCOOTIN' ON THE BAYOU

➤ Continued from Page 17

"Some teams are as small as eight, some as large as 40. The one from Southern Country South Florida is pretty intimidating," Weaver said.

Although he still competes, he's been much too busy working overtime at this year's convention to take time to choreograph and rehearse the strenuous dance routines.

"I sit on the international committee as club delegate and the dance competition committee," said Weaver, taking a break from yet another committee meeting. "We actually put together the guidelines which allow us to be a sanctioned event with the international association. I just didn't have time to put anything together."

Ever since Houston's Rainbow Ranglers Dance Club put in their bid in September 1996 to host the convention, Joe Blanton, event chairman of Houston 2000, has been as frenzied as a rodeo clown.

"The event chair's like an executive director," he said between meetings, "only there's no salary, (just) blood, sweat and tears." Then he added, "plus lots of love."

Since the host club is responsible for producing the event, there's a lot of sweat involved.

"The IA was put together to foster interaction among the various clubs about country-western music and C&W dancing. In the

straight community there are different leagues for C&W dance competition and conventions, but because it's a straight-oriented league, men are only allowed to lead, and women only allowed to follow. Our association was founded on the principle of inclusion of everyone, regardless of choice, whether it be women leading or men following."

Certainly, C&W bars existed in the '70s, but the International Association, founded in 1993, along with its satellite member organizations, is relatively new.

Blanton agrees with Weaver that the popularity of country music in the late '80s was the catalyst for the IA's formation and rapid spread, filling a need for C&W-oriented social clubs.

"It started out as an informal get-together of various clubs in Florida, Georgia and Tennessee," Blanton said. "When line dance crossed over into the C&W scene in the late '80s, it set the stage for the development of these social clubs geared toward C&W dance. Couple that with the mainstreaming of C&W music, particularly what is called 'new country,' like Garth Brooks (and there's) no more cryin' in your beer stuff."

And the association is inclusive, open to all, unlike its straight counterpart, the UCWDC (United Country Western Dance Council).

"We have about 10 percent straight involvement. Most of our crossover comes

through dance studios. Most of the straights that'll be attending will be as couples," Blanton said.

And the lesbian cowgirls account for 25 to 35 percent of the group's membership. And their numbers are growing, according to Blanton.

The prices for all events are reasonable: An hour-long dance lesson is \$5, and spread throughout the this weekend's event will be 12 one-hour workshops.

Tickets to watch the competition from 1 p.m. to 4 p.m. on Saturday are \$5.

The evening parties are \$10 at the door. The one on Friday includes the reception, launch party, Montrose bar shuttle and Zero G Party with leather and lace attire. The pool party on Saturday at 11 a.m. in the Gulf Coast Atrium is free to the public, while the Rendezvous Ball and after hours docking party on Saturday is \$10.

"After-hours socializing parties aren't wild at all," said Blanton without a trace of irony. "You have to remember, most of the attendees at our convention see each other about twice a year; it's really like sitting around in someone's living room after a long day and night of dancing and catching up."

The bar shuttle takes care of any party animals in the group.

With 400 gay and lesbian "cow-persons" expected, eager to strut their stuff and teach

the tenderfeet the fine art of country & western dancing, Houston 2000 will be, in the words of Blanton, "truly a once in a lifetime event for Houston. What else do you expect from Texas? Bigger and better and longer."

Debbie Storrs, coordinator for the silent auction and vendor area, was just as upbeat and enthusiastic.

"We've been working on this for a long, long time. It's going to be fabulous, and the dancing is spectacular. If you like cowboys and cowgirls, you're in the right spot." Then she laughed, "These boots were not made for walking."

Like a cowboy, Weaver put it succinctly and right to the point.

"It's hot butts and boots and black jeans out there shakin' their thing. It's the place to come."

## INFO

### 7th annual International Association of Gay/Lesbian Country Western Dance Clubs Convention

May 25-29

Radisson Hotel Astrodome

8686 Kirby Drive

[www.rainbowranglers.org](http://www.rainbowranglers.org)

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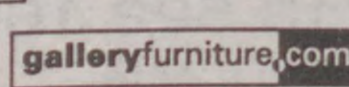
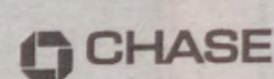


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HOUSTON Lesbian & Gay Pride 2000

# Eating Out

RESTAURANT REVIEWS

## Always good, always different

by KATHREEN LEE

If you hop from one Houston restaurant to another trying to vary your dining experience, why not just stay in one place and have the restaurant modify its menu for you?

That's the philosophy behind DAILY REVIEW CAFÉ, where the chefs produce a diversified melange of appetizers and entrees everyday, and where you can try a quiche with Shitake mushrooms one day and come back the next for a whole new bill of fare.

Some friends and I went to the Daily Review on a recent sultry Sunday morning for brunch. Despite the escalating humidity and heat, we decided to eat outside in the large patio overlooking a large splendid garden of luxurious green flora.

Surrounded by the towering contemporary townhome complexes, the isolated expanse of vegetation seemed like a green oasis to which urbanites living along Allen Parkway could stroll to relax their eyes on the lush green fields and enjoy a fresh orange juice mimosa (\$2.50). It was like eating on the grand back terrace of a plantation home overlooking the flourishing harvest fields below.

We started with crab cakes (\$8.50) consisting of a soft blend of peppers, scallions, corn and a generous helping of crab meat. The outside was perfectly toasted for a crunchy texture, keeping the crab cake together, while the inside remained soft and rich.

The Hollandaise sauce surrounding the crab cakes was not too heavy to overwhelm the flavor and tangy enough to provide just the extra zest needed. While the two mini-scoop sized crab cakes were insufficient to satiate our party of four,

The housemade challah French toast received rave reviews, offering thick fluffy bread coated with maple orange walnut syrup.

It's difficult to recommend one dish over another here.

Since the menu changes daily, what you rave about one day might not be served the next.

the dish was also accompanied with two eggs, fried potatoes and toast that kept us appeased until our main orders arrived.

We were impressed with the omelet of baby artichoke hearts (\$8.50). The diced Roma tomatoes, capers and olives were exceptionally fresh, making it like eating a fresh salad placed in an egg pocket. The liberal portions of artichoke hearts and other vegetables were also impressive.

We also tried polenta gratin of grilled zucchini and yellow squash (\$8.25). Unlike the vegetables in the omelet, the tomatoes, squash and zucchini in this dish seemed stale and limp. Even though the generous serving of black and Sicilian green olives and basil helped season the dish, the Fontina cheese was too pungent and overpowered any other flavors.

I attempted the Calzone (\$9.25), which comes stuffed with pan-seared chicken, tomatoes, spinach, mushrooms, Béchamel and smoke mozzarella, topped with marinara sauce. Served as two extra large pizza-shaped pies, the Calzone order would have been enough to feed everyone at the table. The blend of vinegary spinach and mild mozzarella provided a great complement to the dish, but the marinara sauce was overly salty and supplied the one disappointment in the meal.

The housemade challah French toast (\$7.50) received rave reviews, offering thick fluffy bread coated with maple orange walnut syrup.

It's difficult to recommend one dish over another here. Since the menu changes daily, what you rave about one day might not be served the next.

The food is so delectable that sometimes I wish they did not change the menu so often. But no matter what day you go or what mix of cuisine the chef decides to offer, you will not be disappointed by the choices offered by the Daily Review Café.

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A new recovery support group, is being held at 5pm in the Blue Room of the Educational Building. Christian support for every addiction. Everyone is welcome.

Bible Study begins at 5:30pm and nursery is available. Mid-week "Home Group" services on Tuesdays and Wednesdays

**For more info...**  
713-528-6756 or  
maranatha@ev1.net

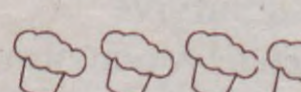
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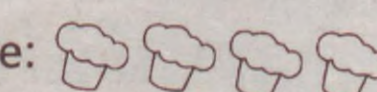


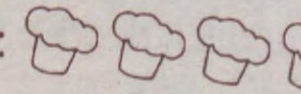
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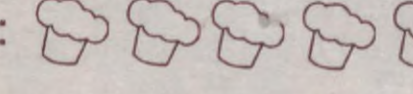
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# Out In Print

BOOK NEWS

## A writer turns actor in latest book

by J.S. HALL

What's a published author to do when the acting bug bites him? Why, surrender to all its fabulous or drearily mundane possibilities, of course! This is essentially what happened to author/actor Henry Alford.

A successful writer and author of "Municipal Bondage," he wryly describes the "gradual brownout" that began eclipsing his work in a way that fellow burn-outs can appreciate.

"I had fallen asleep at the banquet of life; at some point during my 34th year, the better part of my spirit and personality seemed to have crawled under the cover. Where was my zest? Where was my verve? I was rapidly becoming the mope of Greenwich Village."

Realizing that three of the peak moments of his adult life had hinged on, or involved performing, he sets off to learn the craft of acting, with humorous results. At the beginning of **BIG KISS**, Alford is hoofing the streets of Manhattan, trying to place his head shot in various retail establishments in hopes of bypassing performing in favor of fame, but to little avail.

INFO

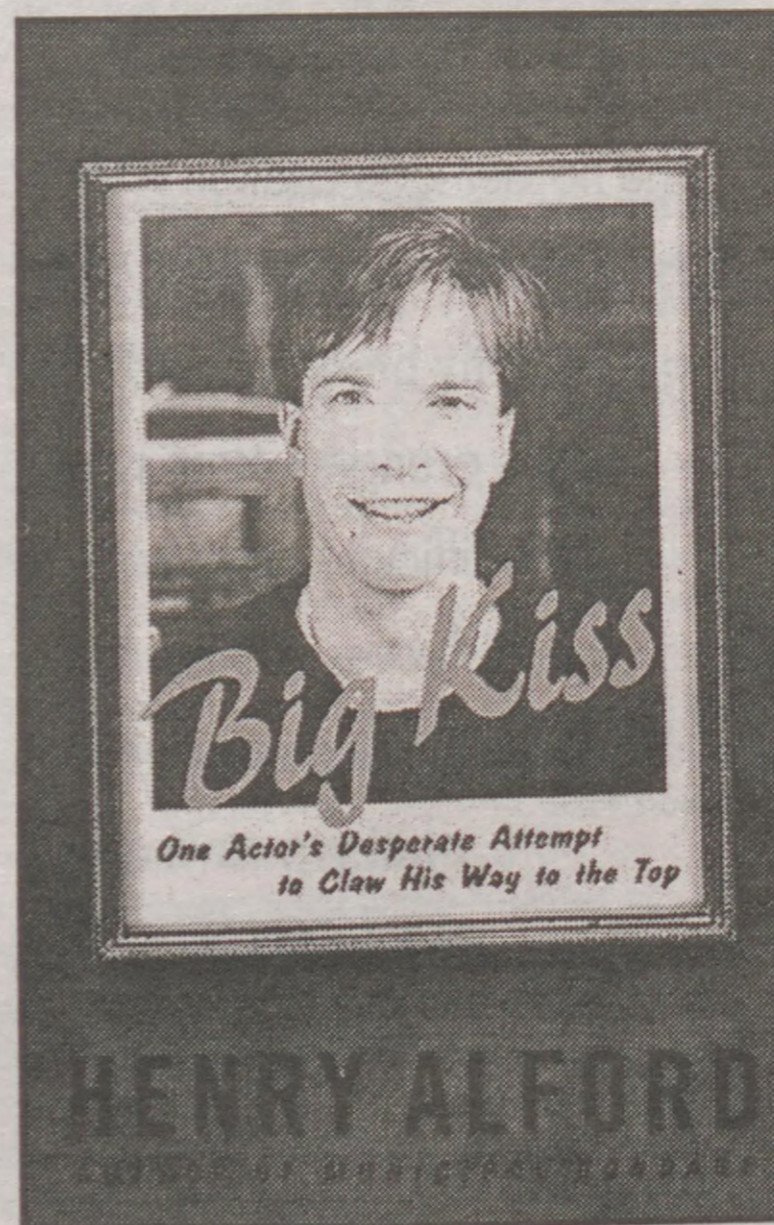
### Big Kiss: One Actor's Desperate Attempt to Claw His Way to the Top

By Henry Alford

Villard, hardcover, 242 pages, \$19.95

After this taste of desperation and rejection, we join Alford on a journey through a summer acting course at the Royal Academy of Dramatic Arts in London. When told that Alan Rickman has been known to sit in on classes, a stage-management student punctures that dream by saying, "He doesn't sit in on summer-session classes. He wants to watch people who are talented."

His 69-year-old, bird-watching, chain-smoking mother accompanies him on another plunge into the acting world when they journey to an improv camp in Michigan. Quite a character in her own right, from her "somewhat tenuous grasp of Yiddish" to her take on the proceedings, Mom naturally wins everyone over.



In the meantime, Alford snags a hilarious stint as an extra in the American version of "Godzilla," followed by some harrowing experiences with a sadistic acting coach and an enthusiastic tango instructor.

One of the book's funniest moments occurs with Alford's employment at a gay chat line. The company's reasoning that no one wants to talk to a guy locked in a room answering a phone results in further acting opportunities.

He pretends to be a paying customer in order to keep the actual customers on the line as long as possible! Deciding that this would be a great way to develop other characters, Alford begins with enthusiasm that soon wanes for reasons too funny to spoil by revealing.

"If you are gay and witty and literary and call New York your home," Alford ruefully acknowledges, "you live in perpetual contradistinction to Paul Rudnick and NPR commentator David Sedaris." So when a business opportunity for his boyfriend, Jess, meant moving to Los Angeles, he jumped at the chance to expand his chances of success. In spite of the sunny climate, Alford discovers L.A. can be as cold and rejecting as Manhattan. Success finally comes in the form of VH1's "Rock of Ages."

As the facilitator/host, Alford shows music videos to diametrically opposed groups or members of an intergenerational family and allows their commentary to run wild. As for indulging various interviewee quirks, he observes, "an ounce of artifice can enliven a pound of reality."

Does Alford have any regrets about his seemingly low niche on the totem pole of fame and acting? Not really. His first-hand accounts of the vagaries of life in the acting profession are funny and poignant, insightful and delightful.

### What your neighbors are reading . . .

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by Kenneth George, \$13.95
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by David Sedaris, \$22.95
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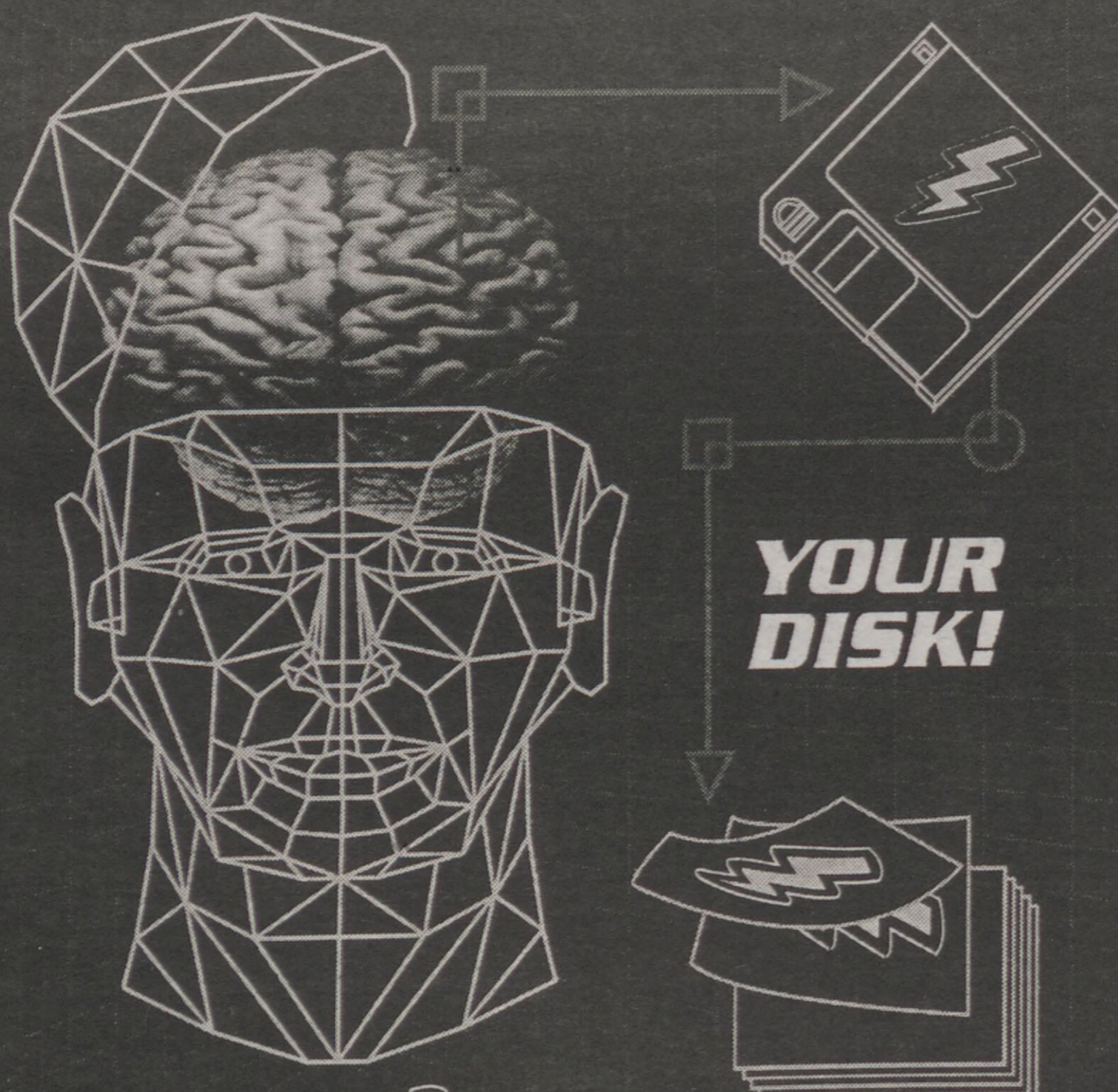
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- 1 **Stitching a Revolution**  
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by Claire McNab, \$11.95
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by Karin Kallmaker, \$11.95
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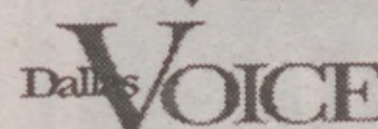
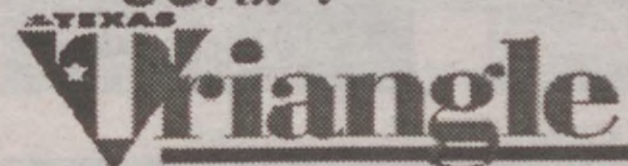
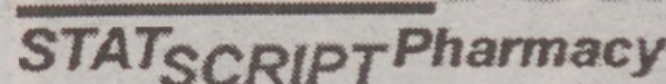
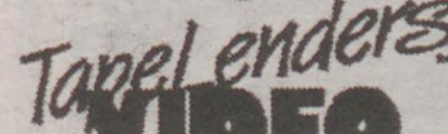


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# community calendar

## saturday, may 27

After Hours. KPFT 90.1 FM, 12 a.m. to 3 a.m. 713-526-5738.  
 Q-Patrol walks the streets, 8:45 p.m. 713-528-SAFE.  
 Dignity mass, 7:30 p.m. for gay Catholics, 713-880-2872.  
 St. Stephen's Episcopal Church Rosary, 8 a.m. 1805 W. Alabama. 713-528-6665.  
 Houston Chain Gang Bicycle Club, 713-863-1860.  
 Houston Wrestling Club, 1:30 p.m. 713-453-7406.  
 Rainbow Fishing Club, 713-526-7070.  
 Houston Faerie Circle, 2 p.m. 713-533-0150.  
 Northwoods AIDS Coalition Food Pantry Southwest Center, 281-633-2555 & Conroe 936-441-1614. 10 a.m. to 2 p.m.  
 Houston Gay & Lesbian Community Center Drop-in hours noon to 4 p.m. 713-528-3818.  
 Montrose Writer's Project, 3 to 4:30 p.m. 803 Hawthorne. 713-956-1866.

ton.org.  
 Unitarian Fellowship of Houston. Adult forum 10 a.m. Service 11 a.m. 713-686-5876.  
 Thoreau Unitarian Universalist Congregation: Adult discussion 9:45 a.m. Service 11 a.m. 281-277-8882. www.tuuc.org.  
 Houston Tennis Club, 9 a.m. Memorial Park at the Tennis Center. 713-692-2703.  
 FrontRunners, 9 a.m. 713-522-8021.

## monday, may 29

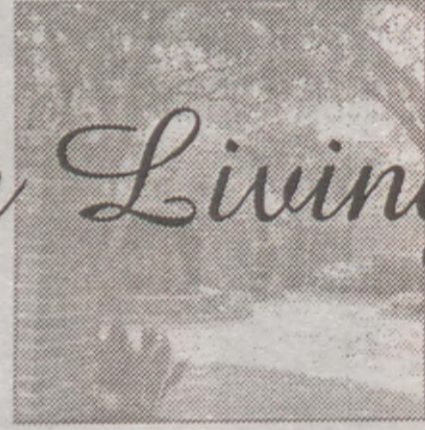
Gay Fathers/Fathers First, 8 p.m. www.GayFathers-Houston.org or 281-505-1788.  
 Bering Support Network. 7 p.m. 713-526-1017.  
 Frost Eye Clinic. Free eye exams for people with HIV. 713-830-3000.  
 HIV testing, STD Exams & treatment. Free. AVES. 1 p.m. to 6:15 p.m. 713-626-2837.  
 Kolbe Project Eucharist 7:30 p.m. 713-861-1800.  
 Northwoods AIDS Coalition Food Pantry open. 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. 936-441-1614.  
 Houston Tennis Club, 9 a.m. Memorial Park at the Tennis Center. 713-692-2703.  
 AIDS Mastery, 7 p.m. Montrose Counseling Center. 713-529-0037.  
 Grief & Divorce Support Groups, 7 p.m. Bering. 713-526-1017 X208.  
 gayDAR wellness community, 7 p.m. 713-526-1017 X211.  
 Houston Lesbian and Gay Community Center drop-in hours from 6 to 9 p.m. Black Lesbian & Gay Coalition weekly meeting, 7 p.m. 803 Hawthorne. 713-524-3818.  
 Stonewall Democrats of Houston, 7 p.m. stonewallhouston@hotmail.com.

## sunday, may 28

New Hope Christian Center Worship Service, 11 a.m. 803 Hawthorne. 713-524-3818.  
 Houston Area Teen Coalition of Homosexuals meets, 713-942-7002.  
 Rainbow Riders. A bicycle club for women. 713-869-1686.  
 St. Stephen's Episcopal Church, Holy Rite Eucharist I 7:45 a.m.; Holy Rite Eucharist II 8:55 a.m.; Education hour 10 a.m.; Choral Eucharist 11 a.m. 713-528-6665.  
 Maranatha Fellowship Metropolitan Church Service, 6:30 p.m. 713-528-6756.  
 Resurrection MCC Services, 9 a.m. and 11 a.m. Adult Sunday School 10 a.m. Youth Sunday School 11:15 a.m. Handbell Choir rehearsal 1:30 p.m. 713-861-9149.  
 Grace Lutheran Church, Sunday school for all ages 9 a.m. Service 10:30 a.m. 713-528-3269.  
 Community Gospel Service at 11 a.m. & 7 p.m. Sunday School for children 10 a.m. 713-880-9235 or www.communitygospel.org.  
 Houston Mission Church. Service 10:30 a.m. 713-529-8225.  
 Covenant Baptist Church Service 9:30 a.m. & education hour 11 a.m. 713-668-8830.  
 Bering Memorial United Methodist Church Services at 8:30 a.m. & 10:50 a.m. Sunday school 9:45 a.m. 713-526-1017.  
 The Women's Group, 10:45 a.m. 713-529-8571.  
 Unitarian Fellowship of Galveston County, 502 Church St. Service 10:30 a.m. 409-765-8330.  
 First Congregational Church (Memorial) Service at 11 a.m. Christian Education, 11:30 p.m. 713-468-9543 or fcc-hous-

## tuesday, may 30

Free HIV Testing by the Montrose Clinic. 8 p.m. to midnight, Club Houston. 713-830-3000.  
 Helping Cross Dressers Anonymous, 7 p.m. 281-495-8009.  
 PROTECT, an HIV-negative support group, 7 p.m. 713-526-1017.  
 Bering Support Network, Lunch Bunch Gang 11 a.m. 713-526-1017.  
 Gay Men's Process Group, 7 p.m. 3316 Mt. Vernon. 713-526-8390.  
 Men's Network, Discussion group for social, educational development of gay and bisexual men, 7 p.m. Montrose Counseling Center. 713-529-0037.  
 Northwoods AIDS Coalition Food Pantry open, 10 a.m. to



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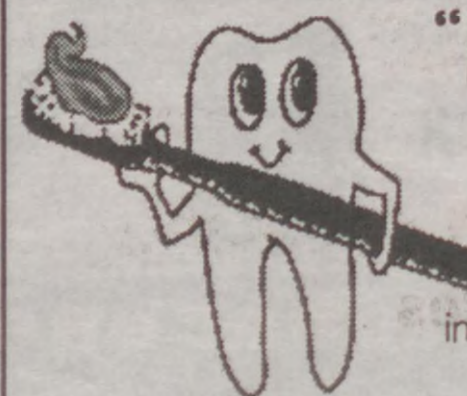
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6 p.m. 281-633-2555.  
 Lambda Skating Club skates at 8 p.m. Tradewinds. 713-410-7215.  
 Houston Lesbian and Gay Community Center drop-in hours 6 to 9 p.m.  
 Lesbians Island Young Women's Group meets 7 p.m. 803 Hawthorne. 713-528-3818.  
 Houston Outdoor Group Monthly meeting. 713-KAMP/OUT.

**wednesday, may 31**

Free HIV Testing, Thomas Street Clinic, 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. 2015 Thomas Street 713-793-4026.  
 STD Exams & treatment, HIV Testing. Free. AVES. 713-626-2837.  
 Free HIV Testing by the Montrose Clinic, 4 p.m. to 8 p.m. Mary's. 713-830-3000.  
 Houston Crossdressing Anonymous, 7 p.m. 239 Westheimer.  
 BiNet Houston, 7:30 p.m. Social meeting. 713-467-4380  
 Women's Network, 7 p.m. Montrose Counseling Center Discussion group for social, educational development of gay and bisexual women. 7 p.m. Montrose Counseling Center. 713-529-0037.  
 Northwoods AIDS Coalition Food Pantry open, 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. 936-441-1614.  
 Project: Caesar Workshops, AFH. 3203 Wesleyan. 713-623-6796.  
 Out Skate Rollerskating Club, 8 to 10 p.m. 8075 Cook Road. 281-933-5818.  
 Rainbow Ranglers free C&W dance lessons, Brazos River Bottom. 7 p.m. 713-880-0670.  
 Bible Study, noon & 6:30 p.m. St. Stephen's Episcopal. 713-526-6665.  
 Spiritual Uplift service, 7 p.m. Bible Study 7:30 p.m. Resurrection MCC. 713-861-9149.  
 Houston Tennis Club, 9 a.m. Memorial Park at the Tennis Center. 713-692-2703.  
 Houston Pride Band open rehearsal, 7 p.m. 713-524-0218.  
 Bering Memorial United Methodist Church dinner at 6:30 p.m. Various Support Groups, 7 p.m. 713-526-1017.  
 Houston Lesbian and Gay Community Center drop-in hours 6 to 9 p.m. Free HIV testing by the Montrose Clinic 6 to 9 p.m. 803 Hawthorne. 713-524-3818.  
 Free HIV Testing by the Montrose Clinic. 8 p.m. to midnight. Venture-N and E/J's. 713-830-3000.

**thursday, june 1**

Gay Men's Chorus of Houston open rehearsal, 7 p.m. 713-521-7464.  
 Rainbow Ranglers free C&W dance lessons. Brazos River

Bottom. 7 p.m. 713-880-0670.  
 Hep C Recovery Support Group, 6:30 p.m. Bering. 713-526-1017 X211.  
 STD Exams & treatment. Free. AVES. 713-626-2837.  
 Free HIV Testing by the Montrose Clinic, 8 p.m. to midnight. Toyz Disco. 713-830-3000.  
 Northwoods AIDS Coalition Food Pantry open, 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. 281-633-2555.  
 FrontRunners, 6:30 p.m. 713-522-8021.  
 HIV Art Course Program, 1 to 4 p.m. Patrick Palmer 713-526-1118.  
 Women's Clinic, Montrose Clinic. 713-830-3000.  
 Community Gospel. Service, 7:30 p.m. 713-880-9235 or www.communitygospel.org.  
 HIV Testing. Free. AVES. 713-626-2837.  
 Gay, Lesbian & Bisexual Alliance at the University of Houston (GLOBAL) meets at 4 p.m. 713-743-7539.  
 Houston Lesbian and Gay Community Center drop-in hours 6 to 9 p.m. 803 Hawthorne. "First Lust II" Lesbian sex workshop. 7 p.m. 713-524-3818.  
 EC Houston, ProGay/Pro-Christian Bible Study. 800-310-6718 X24253.

**friday, june 2**

Houston Area Teen Coalition of Homosexuals (H.A.T.C.H.) meets. 713-942-7002.  
 Free HIV Testing by the Montrose Clinic. 10 p.m. to 1 a.m. Rich's. 713-830-3000.  
 STD Exams & treatment. Free. AVES. 713-626-2837.  
 Frost Eye Clinic. Free eye exams for people with HIV. 713-830-3000.  
 Q-Patrol walks the streets, 9 p.m. 713-528-SAFE.  
 Kolbe Project. Morning Prayer. 10 a.m. 713-861-1800.  
 Houston Tennis Club, 9 a.m. Memorial Park at the Tennis Center. 713-692-2703.  
 Positive Art Workshop, 1 p.m. to 4 p.m. Patrick Palmer. 713-526-1118.  
 Lesbian and Gay Voices, KPFT 90.1 FM. 7 p.m. 713-526-5738.  
 Mishpach Alizim Shabbat Services, 8 p.m. 713-748-7079.  
 Houston Lesbian and Gay Community Center drop-in hours 6 p.m. to 9 p.m. Family Night. "Queer As Folk." 6 p.m. 803 Hawthorne. 713-524-3818.  
 Healing Eucharist, Christ Church Cathedral, 7 p.m. 1117 Texas. 713-222-2593.

To list an event, call Carolyn Roberts at 713-529-8490, fax at 713-529-9531, or e-mail editor@houstonvoice.com. Deadline is Friday at 5 p.m.

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## Announcements

### The "Chamber" June Meeting

General meeting for the Chamber is June 6th at Sonoma. • The social hour begins at 6PM and dinner at 7PM. • Cash Bar • RSVP to 713.523.7576 • \$22.00 members and \$25.00 non-members.

### The Blood Center

Donors, who would like the location and hours of operation of a donor facility close to them, may call the Blood Center at 713.790.1200 or [www.give-blood.org](http://www.give-blood.org).

### PWA Coalition

Desperately needs the following items: Dishes, silverware, pots/pans, sheets, towels, dressers, dinettes, coffee tables, sofas, chairs and small appliances. Pick-up available, call 713.522.5428.

### Thank You!

We need "Sugar Daddies", underwear and a CURE! • Community Resale at 515 Richmond Ave.

### Project L.E.A.P.

Are you interested in advocating for funding and services for people living with HIV and AIDS? The PWA Coalition-Houston announces start of Project L.E.A.P., an intensive training program for HIV positive individuals and others who want to become advocates for HIV/AIDS related services and funding. Classes for Project L.E.A.P. will begin in May. Participants must complete an application and a limited number of spaces are available. To receive an application or to obtain more information please call Rich Arenschioldt, Project Coordinator at 713.522.5428, ext. 28 or 800.999.0325.

The Ashland Street Theatre is please to show the works of Cindy Duke, a local artist in the community. Call 713.426.3019 for theatre show times.

### Body Positive Wellness Center

is a non-profit organization that seeks to empower those with HIV infection, through nutrition chiropractic services, yoga, and peer counseling. If you are interested in participation or volunteering, we want to speak with you! Visit our website at [www.bodypositive.org](http://www.bodypositive.org) or call 713.524.2374.

## Autos For Sale

'92 Chevrolet Suburban • Rear A/C, 73K miles, one owner, Stk.#6999 • \$11,995 • Richard Sisco, River Oaks Chrysler/Jeep, 713.524.3189.

'97 Jeep Grand Cherokee • Leather, 45K miles, black, Stk.#6995 • \$16,995 • Richard Sisco, River Oaks Chrysler/Jeep, 713.524.3189.

'97 Mitsubishi Eclipse • Auto, 30K miles, clean, Stk.#5312 • \$10,995 • Richard Sisco, River Oaks Chrysler/Jeep, 713.524.3189.

'97 Ford Explorer XLT • 25K miles, one owner, Stk.#6994 • \$16,995 • Richard Sisco, River Oaks Chrysler/Jeep, 713.524.3189.

'98 Honda Civic EX Coupe • Auto, 21K miles, Stk.#6992 • \$13,995 • Richard Sisco, River Oaks Chrysler/Jeep, 713.524.3189.

'98 Jeep Wrangler Sport • 6-cylinder, 23K miles, A/C, Stk.#9624 • \$16,995 • Richard Sisco, River Oaks Chrysler/Jeep, 713.524.3189.

'98 Honda Accord EX • V-6, auto, 34K miles, Stk.#6984 • \$18,995 • Richard Sisco, River Oaks Chrysler/Jeep, 713.524.3189.

'94 Pontiac Grand Am SE • Power group, 66K miles, Stk.#5294 • \$6,995 • Richard Sisco, River Oaks Chrysler/Jeep, 713.524.3189.

## Business Opportunities

[www.pc4profit.com](http://www.pc4profit.com)

## Employment

### Join Democratic Campaign 2000

Promote a progressive agenda and start your activist career. Training program covers every aspect of modern political campaigning and organizing while helping Democrats take back the House. • Program runs July - November. • Housing/living stipend • Career assistance available upon completion. • Call 773.539.3222, E.O.E.

Pro-Tec Pest Control & Landscaping is looking for 2 technicians and 3 sales people. • Salary plus commission. • 713.680.1672 or [www.protecpet.com](http://www.protecpet.com).

Leather Tailor • Can you sew? We want to talk to you. • Apply in person. • Black Hawk Leathers, 3814 S. Shepard • Monday - Saturday, 10AM - 6PM.

Insurance Agency needs a sharp trainee to learn customer service. • Duties include computer word processing, filing, phones & general office work. • Please call Rob at 713.661.7700.

### Adm. Assistant

Seeking full time energetic candidate with public candor willing to make presentations and familiar with internet. • Will assist in expansion of programming and workshops. • Kolbe Project, 713.861.1800.

Café Beignet, an upscale Galleria restaurant is now hiring manager and professional wait staff. • Fax resume to 713.790.0846 or apply in person at 5381 Westheimer & Yorktown.

Nightingale ADC offers free employment assistance to HIV+ individuals • Including job preparedness training, resume development, job search assistance. For more information call 713.981.1543.

Cashier • Late night Shifts • Start \$6.50 per hour • Apply in person 3100 Fannin • Midtowne Spa.

### STEVEN'S HOUSE

HIV Intermediate care home seeks night staff • Resident interaction, housework, and clerical • Understanding/sensitivity of HIV/AIDS and experience a plus • EOE • Send resume to Executive Director • PO Box 131303 • Houston, Texas 77219-1303.

### WindowMedia

Window Media, the publisher of *Southern Voice* (Atlanta), *Houston Voice* (Houston) *Impact News* (New Orleans) and *eclipse* magazine is experiencing unprecedented growth with ambitious plans for the future. Talented, hard-working, creative and dedicated individuals are constantly in demand as opportunities arise within our publication areas: Sales, Administration, Circulation/Distribution, Editorial, Design/Production. If you are interested in a career path with a growing organization, please submit your resume to: Window Media, Attn.: Human Resources Dept., 1095 Zonolite Road #100, Atlanta, Ga., 30306.

### BASIC BROTHERS

Now accepting applications for management positions and full/part-time retail employment. Prior retail/sales experience and computer knowledge a plus • Come join our team and enjoy one of the best benefit packages around • Apply M-F, 10am-4pm, 1232 Westheimer • No phone calls please.

## Home Improvements

CLEANRITE, call John • \$8.50 hr., home or office • 713.526.2496 (10% of earnings are donated to AFH).

## Licensed Massage

### Brazilian-Swedish Massage

Relaxation or Sport massage in BRAZILIAN STYLE. • Shower facility • Male therapist (RMT#011176) • 832.656.0355.

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Experience the best in therapeutic full body massage • Call now for an appointment • Randal • RMT# MT005930 • 713.861.5458.

Massage Therapy at its finest. • Swedish, Deep Tissue, Sports, Reflexology • Don't settle for less • In/Out, Hotels, 7 Days • Jeff #016074 (Nationally Certified) 713.524.5865.

### You Need Therapy!

Massage therapy now available at Muscle Mechanics personal training & wellness studio-sports massage, therapeutic massage, relaxation therapy. Call now for your appointment! Muscle Mechanics 713.523.5330.

## Moving Services

### American Movers

Visit us on the web • [www.americanmovers.org](http://www.americanmovers.org) • 2412 A Taft • Houston, Texas 77006 • Now Statewide • TxDOT #00528-2035C • 713.522.1717

## Organizations

[www.bodypositivehouston.org](http://www.bodypositivehouston.org)

[www.bearsonthebayou.com](http://www.bearsonthebayou.com)

[www.montrosesoftballleague.com](http://www.montrosesoftballleague.com)

[www.iblhouston.net](http://www.iblhouston.net)

## Pets

### TOO CUTE!

Free to good homes. • 3 adorable black kittens will be ready to adopt by May 19th. • 2 female, 1 male • To reserve a kitten please call 713.802.2644.

The Homeless Pet Placement League is a Houston area, non-profit animal welfare organization. HPPL provides for the rehabilitation of stray and abandoned dogs and cats through its unique foster care program. All animals are spayed/neutered and have their first set of shots. For more information call 713.862.7387 or view website at [www.HPPL.org](http://www.HPPL.org).

The Spay Neuter Assistance Program will provide FREE spaying/neutering, rabies vaccinations and city licenses for animals belonging to qualifying low income dog and cat guardians. For qualifications and transportation information please call 713.522.2337.

## Products & Services

[www.mykeith.com](http://www.mykeith.com)

Computers, books, movies, CD's, gifts, travel accessories, and more...

[www.diet-w-herbs.com](http://www.diet-w-herbs.com)

[www.HoustonGayWeb.com](http://www.HoustonGayWeb.com)

[www.edwina.com](http://www.edwina.com)

[www.gayswitchboardhouston.org](http://www.gayswitchboardhouston.org)

## Professional Services

### DJ RICK S/X

Mobile DJ • Parties, clubs, ect. • Latest dance music • 713.747.8384.

### BODY WAXING FOR MEN

Personal grooming by Dale • Waxing specialist & licensed Cosmetologist • Private Location in Montrose • Call for appointment 713.529.5952.

## Publications

[www.houstonvoice.com](http://www.houstonvoice.com)

[www.sovo.com](http://www.sovo.com)

[www.impactnews.com](http://www.impactnews.com)

## Real Estate For Rent

Two story Carriage House • 1/1, den, hardwood floors, C-A/H, attached one car garage, utility room, W/D connections, storage room. • \$850 month • 713.297.5632 or 713.297.5648.

## AVAILABLE NOW!

Heights 2/1 with large closets, central air & heat, 1 car garage, large lot with electric gate, pets OK! • 1606 West 13th Street • \$1,325 plus utilities, 713.868.2133.

### Westbury Gardens

Small 1 bedroom, ground floor, \$400 • Large 1 bedroom, upstairs, \$525 • 2 bedroom, 1 bath flat, upstairs or downstairs, \$625 • 2 bedroom, 1 1/2 bath townhouse with patio, \$750 • All units in a European style complex. Large over-sized pool. Quiet community just outside 610 Loop, near Meyerland Plaza. • Call Lyn, on-site at 713.729.9316.

### Allen House Apts.

Large 1 & 2 bedrooms • Downtown location & free shuttle • Ask for specials, 888.283.1899.

### 1 BEDROOM

Great locations Montrose/River Oaks • W/D included • Garage available • New construction • Call for specials • 713.630.0006.

### RIVER OAKS

Plaza at River Oaks • 1 bedroom • W/D included • For details call 713.528.5277.

## Real Estate For Sale

New Listing! • Woodlands one story featuring high ceilings, extensive tile, custom window treatments, 4 bedrooms, great landscaping and a multi-level deck. • \$180's • Call Bernie Johnson, Keller Williams Realty, 281.364.4862.

2/2/2 condo in Montrose Hyde Park. • \$71,900 call Suzanne Anderson (agent) 713.529.8484 or Mary Walbert (agent) 713.526.5244.

Stunning Home in Cypresswood Glen. • Only 2 years old, over 3800 square feet featuring formals, large family room plus game room, marble entry, gourmet kitchen with granite counters, all stainless steel appliances, master bath has black granite and solid brass fixtures, finished 3 car garage. • Large corner lot offered at \$329,900 • Call Bernie Johnson, Keller Williams Realty, 281.364.4862.

### Just Listed!

Timber Ridge 4/2/2, all brick, great condition, excellent starter home or investment property. • \$72,500 • Call Bernie Johnson, Keller Williams Realty, 281.364.4862.

### Land for Sale

8 + acres located 35 miles east of Austin with improvements. • Magnificent view, year round creek with access to 4 - 5 acre lake. • \$6,500 per acre, 512.273.2310.

## Roommates

Roommate to share 3 bedroom home in Southwest/Fondren/59 area with GWM • \$375 month (all utilities included except telephone), 713.773.9029.

GWM seeks same to share Montrose home. • Washer/Dryer, ceiling fan, cable, unfurnished room • Must be stable, non-smoker & no heavy drinkers. • \$300 (all bills paid) • Call Jim (after 6pm), 713.528.5331.

SGWM, non-smoker/drug user seeks roommate to share 2/1, pool, security. • \$375 month plus 1/2 utilities. • Richmond Square Apartments • Call 713.520.7662.

## Travel/Resorts

[www.lovetinn.com](http://www.lovetinn.com)

### WAIKIKI

Luxury ocean view • 18th floor • One bedroom condo in Waikiki • All amenities, fully furnished, including linens and remodeled kitchen. • Lovely terrace looks out to Diamond Head. • Secure building, non-smoking • \$99/night (double), 10 day minimum, security deposit plus cleaning fee • For more information email: [glarp@earthlink.net](mailto:glarp@earthlink.net) or call 310.473.1871 (Los Angeles).

## Volunteer Information

### GAY & LESBIAN SWITCHBOARD

Volunteer classes now forming. Reserve your space on line or call 713.529.9615 or [www.gay-switchboardhouston.org](http://www.gay-switchboardhouston.org).

### VOLUNTEERS WANTED

to give four (4) hours per month for in-home care visits to people living with HIV/AIDS • For more information on Bering's Sentry Program call Craig Overstreet at 713.523.7110 EXT 119.

### Houston Lesbian & Gay Community Center

is seeking volunteers to staff the facility in more extended hours. If organizations and individuals are interested, please contact Eva Luchak at 713.524.3818 to discuss how you can help.

### RYAN WHITE PLANNING COUNCIL

is looking for volunteers to serve on the council. The primary responsibility of the council is to determine what services are most needed. Last year's Council received over \$17 million from the federal government for use in the greater Houston area. Your participation DOES make a difference. Contact Tori Williams at 713.572.3724 or email [www.rwpc.org](http://www.rwpc.org).

Call Marshall Rainwater for Rates & Info.

713-529-8490.



# Occasions

## Anniversaries

Helen and Cindy celebrate their anniversary on May 31.

"Christie... Happy Anniversary! We have made it half way there. I love you. Graceland, here we come." Love, Karla

## Birthdays

Super song spinner and artist Lee Denning celebrates his birthday on May 27.

The one and only David Syzmal will see the birthday fairy on May 28.

Allen G. is no longer "jail bait" on May 29.

The Houston Voice welcomes your special occasions. Send e-mail to [croberts@houstonvoice.com](mailto:croberts@houstonvoice.com). Fax: 713-529-9531. Mail: Occasions, Houston Voice, 500 Lovett Blvd., Suite 200, Houston, Texas 77006. Please include a telephone number so occasions can be verified and considered for publication.



Terry S. sends birthday hugs to her partner of 18 years Annie Mayes celebrating her birthday on May 27 and to their fabulous dog, Jake, whose birthday is June 2.



Thor is a full-grown, silky, long-haired kitty, who is affectionate and ready for adoption at HHS. To adopt, contact the Houston Humane Society at 713-434-5555 or [pr@houstonhumane.org](mailto:pr@houstonhumane.org).

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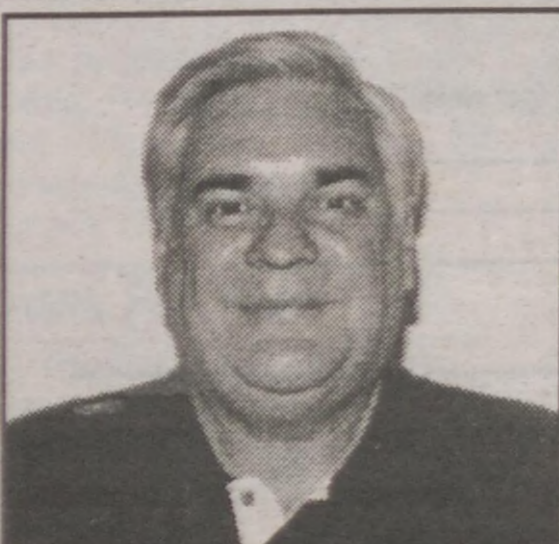
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'95 MERCEDES BENZ E320	LEATHER, 60K MILES, BOOKS, RECORDS STK # 6973	<b>\$23988</b>
'99 JEEP WRANGLER SPORT	AUTO, WHEELS, LOWEST PRICE, STK # 9609	<b>\$17988</b>
'00 JEEP WRANGLER SPORT	2" LIFT KIT, TUBULAR BUMPER, GRILL GUARD, STK # 5327	<b>\$22988</b>
'98 FORD RANGER SUPER CAB	XLT, 6-CYL, AUTOMATIC, STK # 5244	<b>\$11988</b>
'98 MAZDA MIATA CONV.	A/C, 5-SPEED, 59K MILES, STK # 5318	<b>\$10988</b>
'99 HYUNDAI ACCENT	A/C, 5-SPEED, GAS SAVER, STK # 5319	<b>\$6988</b>
'95 CADILLAC SEVILLE	66K MILES, LEATHER, SPECIAL PRICE, STK # 6997	<b>\$16988</b>
'99 CHRYSLER SEBRING JX	CONVERTIBLE, 6-CYL, POWER SEAT, STK # 9630	<b>\$15988</b>



**RIVER OAKS**

CHRYSLER • JEEP

CONTACT

**RICHARD SISCO**

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Photo by Gabriel T.

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Seeks

## GRAPHIC DESIGNER

Join the exciting, fun and fast-paced world of weekly news. *Houston Voice* is growing rapidly and needs another graphic designer. The position requires skill in Macintosh systems, Quark 4.0, Photoshop (knowledge of photo manipulation and illustration), Freehand and Illustrator. Excellent organization and communication skills necessary. Be comfortable with hard and fast deadlines. *Houston Voice* is an equal opportunity employer. Be a part of the country's fastest growing gay media company. *Houston Voice* is a Window Media publication.

Send résumé (no phone calls, please) to:

**Houston Voice, Human Resources**  
 500 Lovett Blvd., Suite 200  
 Houston, TX 77006  
 Fax: 713-529-9531  
 e-mail: [editor@houstonvoice.com](mailto:editor@houstonvoice.com)

# My Stars!

by JILL DEARMAN

YOUR WEEKLY HOROSCOPE



## May 26 - June 1



### ARIES (MARCH 21 - APRIL 20)

Why are you sitting by the phone waiting for people to call you? Try being more social and playful—a Gemini doesn't understand why you've been isolating yourself. You can't force a commitment or intense response from your partner by pushing hard. Try the smooth approach.



### TAURUS (APRIL 21 - MAY 21)

Jupiter finishes a stint in your sign, so you might as well enjoy it. Gamble big on your career and your personal life. Your sex appeal is high, so work it. There's something about your "Do me, baby!" attitude that gets others to shimmy up to you and light all your fires.



### GEMINI (MAY 22 - JUNE 21)

You are so good at figuring out what other people want. Now is your time to ask yourself what you really desire. You are on the verge of making a huge career change that will strike everyone as absolutely perfect for you. Show an Aries your winning attitude.



### CANCER (JUNE 22 - JULY 23)

Neptune retrograde in your serious relationship house could make this a confusing time for love. Throw yourself into meditation or any sort of psychic/spiritual ritual. You've got all the answers you need; you just need to find a way to access them. A Capricorn can read the map of your body.



### LEO (JULY 24 - AUG. 23)

Jupiter and Saturn will light up your lucky ninth house during the days ahead, which means that at last your hard work could pay off in your career. Afterwards, slow down and get back in touch with the people known as your friends. A Pisces makes you feel all young and innocent again.



### VIRGO (AUG. 24 - SEPT. 23)

The new moon on June 2 falls in your career house, so make some decisions already. You've been straddling the fence between two conflicting goals. Choose! And then spend your time straddling a Leo. Clear the air with pals you may have mistakenly placed on your shit list.



### LIBRA (SEPT. 24 - OCT. 23)

Don't be shy about going after what you want, romantically. A little assertiveness can pay off in a big way. Show the world that you're more than just a pretty face with a mouthful of frivolous cocktail party chatter. Throw a party to show off the new, smarter you. Invite a Sagittarius and use lots of really big words.



### SCORPIO (OCT. 24 - NOV. 22)

This is a great time for you to hook up with a partner who can increase your wealth. Think big and stop self-sabotaging. You are full of deep and wonderful secrets that you should share only with a chosen few. Put a Cancer on your speed dial. You have room for one more person in your inner circle.



### SAGITTARIUS (NOV. 23 - DEC. 22)

Several planets will be in your house of love as gay pride month begins. This is the best time for you to open your heart to the kind of relationship you really deserve. Be open to the overtures of a sincere and sexy Virgo.



### CAPRICORN (DEC. 23 - JAN. 20)

It's easy for you to get in great shape as gay pride month begins. You can transform yourself into a god (or at least a stronger version of yourself). An Aries will spot you, in bed. Put practical concerns aside and follow where your imagination leads.



### AQUARIUS (JAN. 21 - FEB. 19)

As Venus moves through your house of creativity, you can mix the worlds of art and love. You may feel a sense of confusion about your identity. Don't avoid this feeling. Go with it—it's time to see yourself as other people do. A Libra is particularly receptive to your ideas and dreams.



### PISCES (FEB. 20 - MARCH 20)

You are the Rock of Gibraltar to somebody close to you who is in pain. Don't shirk this responsibility. Being good makes you feel alive again. Be ready to make the changes you've been dreaming about around the house. You may want to go for the gusto: a live-in love affair with a Scorpio.

Jill Dearman is the author of "Queer Astrology for Men" and "Queer Astrology for Women." For information on charts and consultations, call 212-841-0177 or e-mail [QScopes@aol.com](mailto:QScopes@aol.com).

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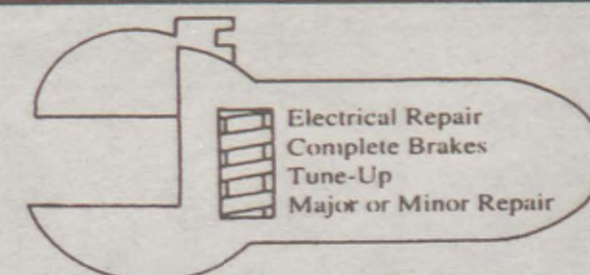


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# 325 miles in 4 days. Houston to Dallas. Impossible.

## **AIDS isn't under control? Impossible.**

Declining AIDS deaths means more Americans than ever are living with HIV. However, infection rates are rising — and even more people need AIDS services. Over 17,000 Americans died of AIDS last year. AIDS will only be under control when that number, around the world, is zero.

## **Ordinary people, not athletes, doing the AIDS Ride? Impossible.**

In fact, most have never done anything like this in their lives. Many don't even own bikes when they register. It's not a race. It's not competitive. It's cooperative.

## **Raising millions of dollars to fund AIDS programs from a bike ride? Impossible.**

Since 1994, Tanqueray's AIDS Rides USA have sent over \$62 million directly back to AIDS charities. The money you raise in 2000 will benefit AIDS service organizations throughout the Lone Star State. You will be funding hotlines, outreach, caring counselors, educational programs, and life-sustaining HIV medications. You will be making life possible again for so many people.

## **Me, living in a tent, roughing it, in the great outdoors? Impossible.**

Wait'll you see our spectacular Mobile City<sup>SM</sup>, the place you call home. We haul your luggage, provide your tent, and supply everything from hot showers, volunteer massage and chiropractic services to delicious breakfasts and dinner. And we help you get through each day—with roving bike techs at pit stops, where water, snacks, and lunch also await. People have consistently said that the AIDS Ride is the best-organized event they've ever been part of.

## **I don't think I could even ride 25 miles. 325 miles? Impossible.**

The Ride's not easy. You'll have to train. But we'll help you with that. And the fact that the Ride is tough and challenging is where most people find the meaning in it.

## **Sounds impossible. I'll have to think about it...**

The decision will never get easier. Nothing's going to change three days from now. Come on, don't you want to be out there on a training ride? One phone call, one visit to our website, opens up a whole new chapter in your life. And the life of someone living with AIDS.

# Tanqueray's Texas AIDS Ride

October 12-15, 2000

**(888) 780-RIDE**  
**www.aidsride.org**

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