

OCTOBER 11, 1996 • ISSUE 833

Remember

AIDS Week in Washington

by Deborah Bell

This weekend in Washington, DC the AIDS Memorial Quilt will be displayed in its entirety for the last time. The NAMES Project's massive display will mark the end result of over a year and a half of preparation, thousands of volunteer hours, endless fundraisers, and the loss of over 300,000 Americans due to the AIDS pandemic. The Quilt has been such an impressive and meaningful project that it nominated for a Nobel Peace Prize. Each of 3' x 6' panel that composes the Quilt represents the loss of a person's life due to AIDS. First shown in 1987 at the March on Washington for Lesbian and Gay Rights, the complete Quilt has been shown in October of 1989 and 1992. The display in 1992 was expected to be the last showing of the entire Quilt due to its size, as it is now too large to transport in whole. Portions of the Quilt will continue to be displayed around the country. The Quilt stands in testament and celebration of their lives and offers an opportunity for the renewal of commitment to prevention and hope.

For almost a decade, the AIDS Memorial Quilt has powerfully chronicled the impact of AIDS on American Society. As it records the history of life in this time of plague, the Quilt consoles the grieving and captures the uniqueness of human experience. It represents the love of family and friends, and advocates for a reasoned and compassionate response to the epidemic. As a result of the Quilt's magnitude, it has also become one of the most powerful tools to educate our nation's youth.

From October 11 through 13, 1996, "The Quilt" will be spread on America's front

lawn, the National Mall. As 40,000 memorial panels are unfolded, from the grounds of the Capitol to the base of the Washington Monument, the names of



The NAMES Project's AIDS Memorial Quilt serves as a catharsis for our grief and monument to the lives of the people we have loved and lost.

most lost will ring out over the open expanse. In all, 70,000 names will be read, more names than are carved into the nearby Vietnam War Memorial.

The NAMES Project's 40 U.S. chapters and five regional display committees have worked closely with the San Francisco based Foundation. Perrie Dolph of Houston has been the Volunteer Coordinator for the Central Region.

There are a number of other events sponsored by the NAMES Project and various organizations over this weekend in conjunction with the showing of the Quilt. They include:

The National Minority AIDS Council hosts

a Treatment Forum October 7-9, and presents the 6th Annual National Skills Building Conference along with the AIDS National Interfaith Network, and the National Association of People with AIDS October 11-13.

Capitol Roundup, the national gay and lesbian substance abuse recovery convention is also scheduled October 11-13.

Former Texas Governor Ann Richards will be the featured speaker A Night to Remember is a gala fund-raising dinner and silent auction to be held at the National Building Museum on Friday October 11. This event supports the work of the NAMES Project. An evening of celebration of life, the Quilt, and the individuals, groups, and NAMES Project chapters and volunteers that see to it that we all "remember their names." Houston caterer and Vice President of the NAMES Project Board of Directors, Jackson Hicks is organizing the dinner.

Hands Around the Capitol on Saturday, October 12, 1:30pm to 3:30pm. Family, friends, and lovers will meet on the West Terrace of the US Capitol Building to join hands around the US Capitol in a dramatic expression of solidarity and commitment to ending the AIDS crisis. Organized by the AIDS Action Council, Mothers' Voices, and the Gay Men's Health Crisis. Fred Miller, Interim Executive Director of the AIDS Action Council says the effort is "A reminder to our elected officials that we remember, we care, and we vote. It will also provide each person there the opportunity to turn their grief into action."

The National AIDS Candlelight March will give voice to the Quilt on Saturday, October 12. Elizabeth Taylor is the Grand Marshal and Judith Light is the National

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Suzanne Anderson, was one of the forces behind the formation of Lesbians in Business (LiB), now celebrating its 5th year.

LiB Celebrates Fifth Anniversary

by Deborah Bell

On Saturday, October 19 the group that goes by the name LiB - A Women's Empowerment Group will be celebrating its fifth anniversary. A diverse array of projects are in store for the organization this fall.

Lesbians in Business was founded by after Stephanie Scott approached Suzanne Anderson with the idea of a way for Lesbians to get together to network and support one another. There had been few places for Lesbians to interact outside the bars, recovery groups, or a few other organizations such as The Women's Group at the Unitarian Church. Womynspace was not as active as it had been in the past.

Stephanie and Suzanne were soon joined by Judith Meyer, Cicely Wynne, and Peggy Testa. The group would meet on Saturdays for lunch. That continued for about five months and was the basis for the planning and preparation that led to the group's first official meeting in March of the following year. The five founders served as a steering committee for the fledgling organization. Pokey Anderson and Annise Parker, owners of Inklings Bookshop were invited to speak about starting their own business and about 35 women showed up, filling the upstairs room at Inklings where the meeting was held.

Scott became the first President of LiB and Anderson was the Vice President, with Meyer serving as the group's Secretary. Anderson was elected President the second year and currently is once again in the role of Vice President. Cookie Davenport is the current President.

Anderson says that the name "LiB" was chosen because everyone liked the acronym and many of them felt strongly about the group being one for Lesbians. The name is a bit of a misnomer Anderson explained, "Many women got the idea that

(Continued on page 18)

If These Walls Could Talk



Demi Moore, Cher, and Sissy Spacek are the women making decisions about unplanned pregnancies in HBO's *If These Walls Could Talk*.

HBO Movie Confronts Controversy

by Jon Anthony

There is a reason HBO has swept the Emmy's in recent years for its movies and this weekends debut of *If These Walls Could Talk* is indicative of why. The film, a trilogy of dramas, depicts the lives of three women who lived in the same house

in three different decades who share a common denominator: Each woman has had to confront and deal with an unplanned pregnancy. This is fodder the major television networks avoid at all costs, precisely because they do not want to run the risk of losing advertising revenue. To attract network size viewerships, HBO cast three big name actresses - Demi Moore, Cher and Sissy Spacek - to capitalize

on their marquee value and subsequent drawing power.

The film goes inside one home, peeling back the wallpaper for intimate glimpses of the lives of three women in different social and political climates from the '50s to the '90s. Demi, Sissy and Cher star separately in the three stories that

(Continued on page 19)

State Bar Rejects Gay and Lesbian Section

by Deborah Bell

The State Bar of Texas Board of Directors

(Continued on page 18)



October 11th is National Coming Out Day. Take your next step!

(Photo by David Goetz)

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HOUSTON

VOICE MAIL

Letters to the Editor

Letter Addressed To Ms.
Debra Bell

FROM B. ALAN BOURGEOIS

When I first heard that you were to be the new editor of the Houston Voice, I was pleased and excited to know that someone with experience and integrity would finally be in that position. Sadly, however, that has proven not to be the case. Your article on Spectrum '96 and myself, only proved once again that the Houston Voice does not benefit the community. Instead of reporting fact and doing proper investigations and interviews, you chose to print inaccuracies and only half of the entire story.

I truly do not care what people think about me based on what they read in the Houston Voice, for if they want to know me they will spend the time to find out who I am and will be able to judge for themselves the factual and accurate content of your article. Your story did not bother me, even with all the usual inaccuracies, however, when you print a story, such as you did, that ultimately hurts the good of the community, one must wonder what your intent is. By publishing your story, you single-handedly caused a great deal of financial loss to over 50 businesses from the LeTS-BiGay community and their employees. I can't imagine you feel that your actions, which were so detrimental to these fine businesses and vendors, were justified.

Why is it important for The Voice to refuse a paid ad for Spectrum '96 from one of its long time advertisers? Is The Voice's desire to hurt me, on a personal level, so important that you'll risk losing clients? As well as continue to divide the community further apart especially at a time when we should be pulled together?

Other community publications printed notices that Spectrum '96 was to happen and they were fully aware of the past debts and problems, yet they chose the good of the community over the personal attack of one person. Why was the Voice the only one set out to hurt everyone?

It is my belief that to pay off the debt from Spectrum '95 would help improve a community. Unfortunately, Town Meeting Inc., will have no choice but to shut down and file bankruptcy; something we did not want to do because of the impact it would have on the community.

The Voice has won. The community is further polarized, businesses are being forced back into the closet to seek revenue from the straight community to survive instead of their own community.

B. Alan Bourgeois is the Director/ Founder of Town Meeting Inc., the sponsor of Spectrum '95 and Spectrum '96.

EDITOR'S NOTE: Wow! I feel incredibly powerful that an article "buried" on page 28 of the paper appearing one day before the event could have that much influence. If that were true, the control I could wield over this community would be awesome. I can only dream of having that kind of clout. I have yet to hear from anyone who did not attend Spectrum '96 based on my article (the accuracy of which will pass scrutiny by the way). The blame for the success or failure of the Spectrum events rests with one person, and it isn't me. I will let my reputation as

to what my contribution to our community has been speak for itself and yours speak for you.—Deborah

Supports Festival

FROM BOB TAYLOR

Over the past several months I have been reading in the Houston Voice about the debate going on concerning the Westheimer Street Festival. It seems that there are some people who feel that it is a menace to the community of Montrose. They say it brings in "undesirable elements" into the community. They complain about the noise, the trash, and those "weird people" who dress in black clothes, walk around with snakes and lizards on their shoulders, and have pierced jewelry in places that would make porcine cringe.

I first lived in the Montrose area when I attended the University of St. Thomas from 1978 to 1982. I returned to this community in February of 1993. I chose to move to this community because of its Bohemian nature. It is an area where being different is normal. People feel free to be themselves here in Montrose. That is why most of the people who live here remain, or why they moved here. This is Montrose!

The Westheimer Street Festival celebrates this nature of the Montrose community. It allows us who live here the fun of having a "block party." It allows those who wish they could live here a chance to join us and celebrate the diversity of humankind.

I do not discount that there are elements of the Festival that could use some improvement, such as trash, bathroom and crowd management. It can be said that with each year there has been a noticeable effort made on behalf of many people and business owners in the Montrose area to improve these aspects of the Festival. They have put in long, hard hours of work of which most people are unaware. They deserve credit for their care and concern for the community and the Festival.

Can it not be said of any large public gathering that the problems of trash and such are always a concern? Look at Houston's 4th of July celebration on Buffalo Bayou. How many tons of trash are collected at its conclusion? It's collection is by paid workers. I understand the Street Festival's trash is collected by volunteers and from personal observation: "THEY DO A VERY GOOD JOB!"

I have heard that hearings have been held to discuss the future of the Westheimer Street Festival. I would like to go on record as a resident of Montrose, and a registered voter, that I fully enjoy and support the continued existence of the Westheimer Street Festival. Don't take away the symbol of the flavor of the community of Montrose.

EDITOR'S NOTE: The proposed "Comprehensive Street Closing Ordinance" as described at a recent Avondale Civic Association meeting would give community organizations (such as civic associations) "say so" over events held in their neighborhoods which require street closings. This ordinance could effect events such as The Marathon, Greek Festival, The Gay & Lesbian Pride Parade, and many other events.



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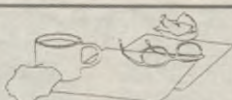
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In My Own Voice

by Deborah Bell



My Journey Out

This Friday, Oct. 11 is National Coming Out Day and in honor of that I feel compelled to share my own coming out story. This national holiday (of sorts) came about after the Oct. 11, 1987 March on Washington (the second of the three national marches that have taken place on the behalf of gay/lesbian/bisexual/transgendered rights). The impact of our visibility from an event such as a massive demonstration inspired and enabled many of us to either "come out" to ourselves or to take the next step in our coming out process. Seeing a "million or so queers" on television let Tommy in Des Moines and Lydia in Lubbock know that they were not alone.

Actually, before there was an official Coming Out Day my ever brilliant partner said "Gosh, if there was one day a year that everyone came out on, then everyone would just get over it." But since she didn't copyright it we will have to accept the fact that the 1987 March gave someone else the same bright idea. The project eventually became organized under the Human Rights Campaign (HRC) and every year they pick a national spokesperson to lead the project. This year it is Chastity Bono. We have learned that the people who actually know a gay or lesbian person are much more likely to support our rights. A celebrity being out lets others know that it is an OK thing and hopefully gives them the courage to come out for themselves. Those of us who are already out are encouraged to "take the next step." That means coming out at work, or "finally telling your folks" or taking some other step which means you will be more out than you were before. I've been so out for so long, it is hard to imagine what I would have to do to take that next step. My partner has told me that I do not have to always introduce myself by saying "Hello, I'm Deborah Bell and I'm a Lesbian." Somehow I feel it is my duty though.

We love to tell and hear each other's coming out stories. That magical, marvelous moment when we realize or accept our own sexuality as Lesbian or Gay. I have to confess that my journey out was much easier than it was for others. My joke about it is a take on the old V-8 juice commercial—I slap my forehead and say, "Gee, I could've had a woman!" I had same-sex experiences as a teenager and I knew that sexually I was attracted to both men and women. I just had never thought much about me actually being a Lesbian. The world offered to women in the late 60's when I came of age didn't provide a very attractive picture of "the gay lifestyle." The most I knew about Lesbians were from books or the bar scene. I didn't think that homosexuality was a bad thing even though I knew others did (like my birth family). Plus, since I was attracted to men and wanted children, it seemed very natural for me to marry and start a family. My second child was a year old when I started to be active as a feminist. Getting involved in the National Organization for Women (NOW) and attending the International Women's Year Conference in 1977, led me to a different association with Lesbians. When I think back on it, I remember a certain level of excitement at the thought that I would be around Lesbians.

Well, I was and it was wonderful. I suddenly had many close friends who were Lesbians, or who were women like me who were in the coming out process themselves. I went to some of the bars and activities and had a good time. It was very comfortable for me. But, since I was married, I ruled out the option of actually having a relationship with another woman. I dreamed about being with a woman, fantasized about it, but did nothing to make it happen. My marriage was already on the rocks, which had more to do with my husband's alcoholism than it did my coming out. I felt he had betrayed the basic agreement of our vows of marriage, which for me included no abuse of drugs or alcohol as well as monogamy. Maybe that gave me an excuse, but I honestly feel that my marriage was already over before I ever got involved with another

woman.

The woman I came out with was also married and on a certain level I think that we felt each of us was a "safe" person to be involved with. Since we were both married, our affair would not jeopardize our marriages. This involvement lasted for about three months. I had never entered the relationship with the thought that it would be a long term commitment which was a good thing since I soon learned that the person who I was with was untrustworthy and somewhat pathological. Now, when I look back on it, I'm not proud that she was someone I was involved with. Because of her dishonesty and cruelty, I was very hurt by the breakup. It battered my self-esteem, especially when she immediately got involved with someone who I considered one of my best friends (and who had been my confidante during our affair). Eventually I got over it and became more sure of myself.

I left my marriage, entered the lesbian world and had several other lovers over the next couple of years. I became more active not only as a feminist, but in lesbian and gay organizations and politics. I eventually met and fell in love with the darling woman who is my life partner. I became the co-host on a radio show that focused on our community. My kids had to deal with not only their parents' breakup but with their Mother being a Lesbian, and not just any Lesbian but a well-known activist and leader in the community. In that role I have lent a hand to a number of others who are in the coming out process. I used to get calls from listeners at the radio station and I would find myself advising and counseling people who were trying to get out of their closets. I sometimes would get letters. I often was rewarded by having someone tell me that I had helped them come out by being a positive role model, the encouragement I offered and by advising them about resources. I sometimes receive the same type of letters as editor of the Voice.

One young woman, who I will call Beth, told me that she wrote to me because she felt from my writing "that you really care about women." That really touched me. Beth has been living in a troublesome situation. She is in her middle twenties and still very dependent on her family. She was urged into a marriage which she didn't really want and has since left. Her family isn't offering her much support to be out and open about being a Lesbian. Coming to Houston from a smaller city, she is a bit lost and so overwhelmed by Houston's traffic, that she doesn't have the freedom to really get around. There is no telephone at home either, so she is pretty isolated. What she knows about being a Lesbian has been negative. She is shy and a bit terrified. So she writes to me and I drop her a note every now and then. I've clued her in to the wonderful groups and resources we have here in Houston. I let her know that she is not alone and have encouraged her to be true to herself. It must be working because she finally got up enough nerve to go to a Twenty-something meeting. She also finally felt brave enough to give me a call. She recently got a job and has been asked to move in with one of her sisters, so her ability to be more involved in community will be easier for her.

I wish Beth the very best and all the Bets out there who are starting their journeys out of the closet. You are coming out at the very best time. It is so much easier now with groups like HATCH, Twenty-something, and PFLAG and with all the books and materials available. It is so much easier than it was in the 1960's. And I really am happy for anyone who doesn't wait until they are 33 years old before taking their first step to come out. I know that there are people who come out much later in life than I did. No matter what your age, it is the most empowering thing you can do. Not everyone is as blessed as I am with a closet door that stands wide open, but just remember that the more open it is, the more people who can go through it.

Personal Note: Happy Birthday to the World's cutest girlfriend (you know who you are)—I love you—Deborah.

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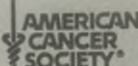


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No Ruling on Defunct Policy in Cammermeyer Case

By BOB EGELKO

SAN FRANCISCO (AP)—A federal appeals court declined to rule Monday on the validity of the military's former ban on homosexuals in the case of a lesbian colonel who was discharged and later won reinstatement. The case of Margarethe Cammermeyer is moot because she is back in the Washington State National Guard and the rules under which she was discharged have been repealed, said the 9th U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals.

Cammermeyer, a decorated Vietnam veteran, was the highest-ranking officer discharged under the military prohibition on homosexuals, and her case was the last remaining under the policy, according to a government lawyer. The current policy, commonly known as "don't ask, don't tell," has been challenged in three other cases now awaiting rulings by other panels of the court. Two other appellate courts have upheld the policy. The court rejected a request by the Clinton administration's Justice Department to remove from the books a federal judge's ruling ordering Cammermeyer's reinstatement and declaring the ban unconstitutional. The court said the

judge who issued the ruling could decide whether to withdraw it.

The ruling is not binding on other courts, however. "I would have liked closure in our favor, but it certainly isn't a loss," said Cammermeyer from her home on Whidbey Island, north of Seattle. She transferred to inactive status in the National Guard in May, and said she would probably retire once the case was resolved. Justice Department spokesperson Joe Krovisky declined comment. Cammermeyer was chief nurse in the Washington State National Guard. She was asked about her sexual orientation in 1989 when applying for a top-secret clearance while seeking admission to the Army War College, and replied that she was a lesbian. The Army forced the state National Guard to discharge her in 1992. But she was reinstated in 1994 after U.S. District Judge Thomas Zilly ruled the policy to be unconstitutionally discriminatory. At about the same time, another panel of the 9th Circuit ruled that Navy sonarman Keith Meinhold should not have been discharged based solely on his disclosure of his homosexual orientation. While implementing its new policy, the Clinton administra-

tion did not appeal the Meinhold ruling or dispute the reinstatement of Cammermeyer, who was discharged for the same reason.

In light of those events, the court said Monday there was no reason to review the merits of Zilly's ruling. "Cammermeyer does not argue that the government plans to continue its allegedly illegal course of action against her," said Judge Alex Kozinski in the 3-0 decision. "(The government has) reinstated Cammermeyer and (shows) no signs of moving to discharge her." Cammermeyer's lawyer, Mary Newcombe, said Cammermeyer has no guarantee that she won't be targeted again. "It's possible they could have tried to discharge Colonel Cammermeyer under the new policy," Newcombe said. "Once everyone knew she was a lesbian, you can't unring the bell." "It points out how silly the 'don't ask, don't tell' policy is. Here is information that she was expressly asked. The military's the reason that she became a national figure. It would be a mistake on their part to pursue her because I think it would be perceived negatively by the courts," Newcombe concluded.

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Jessica Calvello as a "Young" Blanche DuBois (photo by Jann Whaley)

A Streetcar Named Montrose... The Musical

Blanche DuBois takes it on the chin (so to speak). Her beloved 'Belle Rive' a 'health' facility for the mentally disenfranchised is in imminent danger of being destroyed to make way for (of all things) a new Houston sports facility. This humid southern drama gets even hotter when the troika of Elyse Lanier, 'Wanda June' Clinton and Liddy 'Sugarbaker' Dole become inexorably and inexplicably intertwined! Political protocol is pushed aside and the Lee Press-On Nails are sure to fly as this group boards the 'Streetcar Named Montrose... The Musical.'

On Saturday Oct. 19, 1996 at 6:30pm this zany irreverent 'pseudo-sequel' of the Tennessee Williams' classic southern

theater piece will spew forth from the stage of the Texas Medical Center Conference Center, 2151 Holcombe Blvd. (formerly the Shamrock Ballroom.) The evening includes not only a side splitting show, but also extensive silent auction, cocktails and heavy hors d'oeuvres. Food and beverage underwriters are Absolut Vodka and Sausalito Seafood and Pasta Restaurant. Single tickets are \$35 for the show and for an extra \$15 you can hobnob with the 'stars' at the post performance cast party. A limited number of underwriter tables are still available. Two local HIV service organizations, Body Positive/Houston and Bering Community Service Foundation are beneficiaries of this year's world premiere adventure in laughter.

In keeping with the dramatic 'bent' of the evening, honorary chairpersons are Houston's own Pulitzer Prize winning playwright, Edward Albee, Alley Theater Artistic Director Gregory Boyd and Alley Executive Director, Paul Tetrault. This dramatic dynamic trio, while accepting no responsibility for the events taking place on stage, will be in attendance taking copious notes, (no doubt in preparation of extending an offer to the Halloween Magic Players for Houston, Broadway, and beyond—or was that Bed, Bath, and Beyond?).

After recently accepting the prestigious (and much deserved) Tony award for excellence in regional theater, the joint honorary chairpersonship of a 'Streetcar Named Montrose' will surely solidify and ensconce this Alley Theater 'thespian troika' in the annals of theater history. Perhaps it will propel 'Albee et al.' from their current positions to even more respected venues. Previous Halloween Magic honorees now have fulfilling artistic employment at the theater/mosquito pit known as the 'Bolivar Peninsula Outdoor Musicals'-tongues are wagging

as 'Streetcar' serves as a career catapult for all involved. Unfortunately, this project is aimed straight for the sludge-filled, tarball-infested Gulf of Mexico!

Event co-chairs are Steve Smith (not the newscaster), Tom Lotycz and 'Diva Latina' Gilbert Perez. They have been hard at work with local dramaturgs to assure Houston audiences a production of unparalleled excellence. Bering's (the Foundation, not the hardware store) wonderful Stacey Cokinos is Advisory Chair—meaning that she has to make the rest of the boys behave.

The kooky creative team that has given birth to 'Streetcar' (after an extended and most unsightly labor) are the witty and urbane Gary Rod, the quietly tumultuous John Tucker, the brazen Barry Mandel, and the positively peripatetic Blake Peery. The 'new for fall' 1996 production, directed by the talented Amazon, Jimmy Phillips continues the tradition of 'Art Parallels Life' as this send-up brings national and local 'persons of note' to life.

The recent wealth of presidential/mayoral election year political 'fodder' has provided much of the inspiration (and perspiration) for this years offering. In a purely coincidental 'First Wives Club' of its own, 'Streetcar' places our local and national 'ladies of influence' (Elyse, Wanda, and Liddy) in some 'steamy' surroundings. (Where, according to one notoriously nameless source, the locker fees were waived.) The resulting activities provide a riotously amusing coup de theatre as our prim and proper political prima donnas find out where they really are!

'Streetcar' is the latest in a long track of humorous theatrical endeavors. Since 1992 Halloween Magic has raised over \$150,000 for local groups helping people with HIV/AIDS. Previous artistic offerings have

included 'Rocky Whorra Beauty Shop,' a combo spoof on 'Rocky Horror Picture Show' meets the Steel Magnolias, 'Hair Wars,' 'The Sound of Montrose,' 'The Phantom of Montrose,' and most recently, the seminal Norma Desmond lampoon, 'Montrose Boulevard.' Melodramatic history is destined to repeat itself (much to Edward Albee's dismay) as Halloween Magic's 'A Streetcar Named Montrose... The Musical' hits the boards.

Tickets for this annual autumnal dramatic eclipse (with a decidedly politically incorrect twist) are available by calling 713-587-6005. Tickets may be purchased at Lobo, Inklings, Basic Brothers, and the River Oaks Antique Center. This wonderfully entertaining evening is traditionally a sellout so don't be caught outside the ballot box!



Hillary Rodham Clinton move over! It's Wanda June Clinton starring in "A Streetcar Named Montrose... The Musical" (photo by Jann Whaley)

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Family Values

by Esperanza Lavender Jazz Paz



It's A Grand Old Flag

If I had read Larry Lingle's PLAIN SPEAKING column last weekend before I took the notion to clean up the yard, I might have been a little less ambitious.

He wrote a commanding article about gay people's creeping assimilation. He noted that ACT UP has pretty much retired from acting out, and that in some locales, the glitz and neon has been muted. "How far-are we willing to carry assimilation?" he asked.

How far, indeed? All I intended to do was remove some of the geegaws from the front of our house that we have accumulated during our first year of home ownership. I had not realized how cluttered it had become until I went house-hunting with a friend. The homes that caught our eyes were not always the ones with For Sale signs in the front. They were those pastel bungalows and imposing Victorians in the Heights that were "clean" appearing. Cultivated yards with white-washed fences and lace curtains in the windows. And that's all.

The yards that were decorated with bird baths, cutesy-poo "art" and coordinating bird feeders near the front door were considered as "fixer-uppers" if the roof was intact or the foundation was square or not. It made me take a second look at my own house. I wanted our little cottage to look as nice again as it did when we saw it the first time. I wanted it to "fit in." So I removed the Victor Morales campaign sign that had graced the walkway since Pride Week. And I extricated the Clinton/Gore placard with the pink triangle. Admiring the improvement, the scene still appeared cluttered. So I peeled the Red Ribbon decals off the front room windows and I painted over the pink triangles that highlighted the address numbers near our front door.

I pulled up the pink flamingos with the iridescent twirly wings and laid down a walkway with scalloped concrete garden edging. But it was still too busy. So I took my flags down. These are not ordinary flags I am referring to. These are tablecloth size flags on six foot poles, that before my cleaning spree distinguished

our house as one that was Gay and Mexican and proud of it!

But the flags were so cumbersome that positioned as they were beside our front door, they darkened our living room and in windy weather caught people and wrapped around them as they carried groceries into the house.

The flags had to go. And when they did, the charming, dainty dollhouse we live in was once again visible from the street. And our dream house looked just like all the other quaint little cottages on our block. The vision was "clean" (Mr. Lingle would say, assimilationist).

I looked forward to the reaction of my wife, who acknowledges nothing I do to improve her life, and wondered if this time she would say, "Something seems different." But she didn't say anything because I did all this work alone while she was out, and not recognizing our sweet little home, she passed by it repeatedly, shaking her head, like she does in the mornings looking for her coffee cup, muttering, "I thought it was right here somewhere."

Once rescued, she was quickly reoriented but not entirely convinced that my intentions were honorable. "I just wanted to tidy the place up," I explained.

And I walked, unencumbered, through the front door to relax with my newspaper. Mr. Lingle, I hope you're happy. I was barely into my repose when I perceived your article. Still sweaty, I was compelled to jump up again, and prominently display my rainbow (and Mexican) flags on the side of the yard in a way that makes them visible from three streets. And I posed the flamingos again. And the political signs, and the pink triangles, too. I don't care at all if Rosie or Ellen Morgan is gay, but I am proud to be—and I don't assimilate.

Jazz's wife Jan thanks Mr. Lingle. She hated getting tangled up in those flags. But in the spirit of non-assimilating Gay Pride she has installed a huge floodlight that illuminates the flags at night in a more spectacular manner than was possible previously.

Jackson Lee speaks at GHGLCC

By CURT MORRISON

The Greater Houston Gay and Lesbian Chamber of Commerce (GHGLCC) welcomed Congresswoman Sheila Jackson Lee Monday, October 7. Lee, who is running for re-election in the 18th congressional district, spoke to the crowd about tantamount issues in the upcoming election.

"It is good to be here," Lee said. Acknowledging her friends in the audience, Jackson Lee thanked local dignitaries like Log Cabin Republican Vice President Marion Coleman thanking her for her "longstanding bi-partisan friendship." She also thanked Clarence Bagby, a longtime supporter, who she described as her "extended staff member," a consultant to the congresswoman.

Jackson Lee addressed the crowd all the while demonstrating her political prowess by delivering a fascinating campaign speech. "I am delighted to see the cross pollination because that's what all of us needs," said Jackson Lee. The dinner attracted one of the largest crowds to date and many of those in attendance were guests.

The congresswoman displayed her comedic abilities as well. "I do know that we are in a bi-partisan crowd, so let me assure all of you that I look forward to working in a bi-partisan effort and to ensure that all voices are heard. I just want them to be the right bi-partisan efforts-directed by me," jested Jackson Lee. The GHGLCC holds their monthly meeting on the first Monday of every month. For more information, call (713) 523-7576.



THE OUTsider

by Curt Morrison



(l to r) Dolly Madison McKenna, Dale Carpenter and Brian Veze.



(l to r) Marion Coleman, Liz & Jim Vilven & Gary Van Ooteghem.

Polemical Dilemma

Last Sunday, the presidential candidates—Bill Clinton and Bob Dole—participated in a debate that was viewed by 35 million people. The following day, the first Monday of October, the U.S. Supreme Court, reconvened to begin a new term. The correlation between the two events is significant on many fronts.

To begin with, the presidential debate left more questions unanswered than it answered. The moderator, PBS' Jim Lehrer, asked many questions pertaining to the economy and foreign policy. Indeed, those are issues of importance to the electorate, as are others. There were no questions concerning abortion, civil rights, Gays in the military, etc. With the media attention surrounding gay equality of late, one would think that it would have warranted a question or two. The Supreme Court ruling on *Romer v. Evans*. The Congressional votes on the Defense of Marriage Act (DOMA) and the Employment Non-Discrimination Act (ENDA). These were major issues that were debated during the past year, all of which were catapulted into major news stories. As such, the candidates should have had the opportunity to address them.

Instead, the candidates spewed the same rhetoric that we have heard through the entire campaign. Nothing significant came out of the debates other than the fact that we learned that Bob Dole does have a sense of humor and that President Clinton and Senator Dole like one another. That's great, but hardly the type of information that is going to be a deciding factor in determining who to vote for.

Meanwhile, the US Supreme Court is getting down to business for their next term. Issues that will be addressed include: English-only; Right to die; Presidential immunity; Abortion clinic protests; Sexual assaults; Cable regulation; Court access; Sexual predator laws; and the Brady law. That's pretty heavy stuff. Their decisions will have a lasting impact on our lives and the country's direction. Whether it's positive or negative depends on your own views.

Debates aside, what most of us should be contemplating when we enter the election booth on Nov. 5 is which one of the candidates we most want to appoint as justices to the highest court in the land. Make no mistake, this is the most significant and lasting legacy any president can make. Appointments to the Supreme Court will have far more impact than any legislative agenda a President sends to Congress.

Domestically and socially, regardless of who wins the presidency, nothing much is going to change in the next four years. We as a community would not lose or gain any equality we have obtained to date under a Dole administration. Nor would we



Vickie Shaw

make great strides under a Clinton administration. Ultimately, any decision either candidate makes on our behalf—positive or negative—will be determined by the courts.

This presidential election could determine the direction of the Supreme Court into the next century. Many analysts believe there could be several justices who may consider retiring in the next four years. Chief Justice William Rehnquist is 72, John Paul Stevens is 76 and Sandra Day O'Connor is 66. All three are moderate to conservative, who may just make their decision and timing of when to retire based on who wins the election. At any rate, the odds are that at least one of the justices will have to be replaced during the next four years. A Clinton presidency would most likely appoint George McGovern or Mario Cuomo. A Dole administration would appoint Sen. Orrin Hatch, Kenneth Starr or Richard Attenburgh to the high court.

Keep in mind that the Supreme Court's rulings have many affects other than civil rights. Their decisions on issues of crime, regulation, euthanasia, abortion, Gays in the military and nearly every other issue resonates into society for years. All court related issues should be taken into consideration when you determine which candidate to vote for based on their ability to appoint justices. Presidents do not just appoint Supreme Court justices, they appoint hundreds of other justices during their tenure. And remember, just because a Republican or Democratic president or governor appoints a judge does not necessarily mean that the appointee will tow the ideological line when making decisions. After all, our community gained significantly under the decision concerning *Romer v. Evans* and that was handed down by a court that consisted of seven justices appointed by Republican presidents and two by Democrat presidents. Four of those seven voted in our favor. So, when you go to the polls on election day ask yourself who you want sitting on the Supreme Court and vote accordingly.

Log Cabin Banquet

The "Elegant Elephant" annual Log Cabin Houston banquet was a resounding success this year. LCH President Gary Van Ooteghem, Vice President (and chair of the event) Marion Coleman and co-chair Ben Whittle deserve accolades for their efforts as does everyone else who participated. Pictured are some of the communities leaders and supporters who have tirelessly worked for diversity and equality.



(l to r) Rob Morris, Rep. Steve Gunderson & the Blands (Bland Cadillac)

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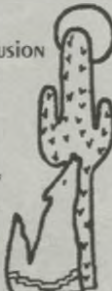
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Gay Today

by Glen Webber



Glen's Musings

I had a wonderful experience last week when I was invited to the Metropolitan Community Church of the Resurrection by my good friend David Haynes. It was a beautiful experience. The music was joyful, and looking at the crowd, you could tell they were loving every minute of it. There are so few positive experiences in the gay community, that finding one is a treasure.

Many people ask me how I can keep a positive outlook when I have full blown AIDS. That is a question I've asked myself. The first thing I realize is that I don't have it as bad as most people. I have recovered from every major illness that has put me in the hospital. With the exception of memory loss and chronic fatigue, I have been able to live a fairly normal life. I have no reason to complain.

I also am blessed to have the support of many friends and my family. My family has made the effort to learn everything possible about the disease and the upcoming cures. I am glad I no longer have secrets from them. It has made my life so much easier. I believe that being honest is always the best policy.

Of course, when you are first told you are positive, a lot of thoughts go through your head, the main one being "I'm going to die." That is why support groups are so important. In them, you can meet people who are going through or have gone through the same thing you are going through now. These groups will ease your mind and give you confidence that you will win the battle against AIDS. I give credit to Bering Wednesday night Support Group for saving my life.

I've been in the hospital three times, and they were serious illnesses. Now I am healthy, and living every minute of it. Good health is the stepping stone to a good life. I try to remember that every day.

Remember the phrase I wrote and put on my bathroom mirror? "I am not dying. I am not dead." I see that every morning and it gives me a boost to start my day. If I have a rotten day, I soon forget it when I get home, and my dog, Miss Lady, jumps up and down, glad to see

me. I forget my day's trouble in a minute. Pets will do that for you.

I have also enjoyed starting my new life in an apartment complex. I have made many friends there. I am also trying to have a more varied social life, but that hasn't been too successful. I guess that's O.K., because once I get home and sit in my orange recliner that I have had for 15 years, I don't want to move. And to answer my many friends, no, I will not get a new recliner.

Of course, the hardest thing to deal with was the death of my lover, Kelse. We has a wonderful 13 years together. I always thought he was too strong to die, but the illness made him weak. I had alot of guilt, first not feeling I had done enough for him while ill, and then not being there when he died. I had a lot to work through, but after about a year and a half I realized what was done was done. I did the best I could. I was never strong, but I was made strong by Kelse. I thank him for that.

There are many people who are negative about AIDS. There is nothing so boring as listening to someone complain about their health. I have been around long enough to know that people who have a negative attitude towards AIDS, die quicker than most people. I also feel that people who abuse alcohol and drugs quickly weaken their immune systems and come down with life threatening illnesses more easily.

The best way to become positive about your health is to keep a journal every day. Record your feelings and moods. Be honest with yourself. Since I started writing about AIDS in this column, I have learned so much about my strengths and weaknesses and how I can become stronger. Judging from the large numbers of letters I get from readers, there are many eloquent writers out there. Writing is easy. You write from your heart. God gave me this unique ability and I am grateful I could write about my life as a person living with AIDS. It is a topic that affects everyone in our community.

Glen Webber is living every minute of his life in the Montrose area of Houston where he sometimes sits in his orange recliner and pets his dog, Miss Lady.

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Westheimer Street Festival Fall '96

Houston's largest free festival returns when the O'Maoileidigh Irish Dancers of Houston and Budweiser present the 47th Biannual Westheimer Street Festival, Saturday, Oct. 18th and Sunday, Oct. 19th. The city's most fascinating stretch of road, from the 100 to the 1000 block of Westheimer, will once again be transformed into a sampler of the best of Houston in art, music, handicrafts, food, and festival fun.

Four stages will showcase Houston's top talent including: Carolyn Wonderland & the Imperial Monkeys, Tammy Taylor, Moses Guest, Under the Sun, Hightailers, Tone Kings, Sonny James, New October, and many more. Each season's festival presents new and exciting elements. This year the festival offers the Firefighters Combat Challenge on Sunday.

The Westheimer Street Festival exists to celebrate and invite Houston into a very special neighborhood, the home of our local arts community. Proceeds from the festival benefit several neighborhood associations and the Westheimer Police Store Front. The producers have worked diligently with each event to continue improving the ten block site, bringing new businesses and residents to the area.

To alleviate parking problems experienced in the past, The Westheimer Street Festival Corp. has set up a parking plan downtown just east of the festi-

val with continuous shuttle service. From north of Westheimer, take Fairview off Montrose. From south of Westheimer, take W. Alabama from Yoakum. Either route will take you to the downtown parking area. The Westheimer Shuttle runs a circuit from Brazos to Hadley to Milam to Elgin to Westheimer. There will be both free and paid lot and garage parking, as well as plenty of street parking within that 47 block area, and some parking to the west of the Festival site. Cars illegally parked will be towed. Festival goers are strongly urged to take advantage of this service out of consideration to the neighbors immediately surrounding the Festival.

Once at the festival, enjoy the wide variety of great food while shopping the wares of Houston's finest artisans, or just people-watch the greatest and most eclectic cross section of Houston life you'll see in one event. The many and varied sights give this festival its unique charm every season. The festival runs from 11:00am to 7:00pm both Saturday and Sunday. As always **ADMISSION IS FREE** and everyone is welcome.

The Fall Festival benefits the O'Maoileidigh Irish Dancers of Houston, a non-profit organization dedicated to preserving and promoting Celtic culture through traditional Irish dance classes and performances throughout the Southwestern United States.

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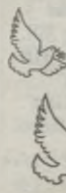
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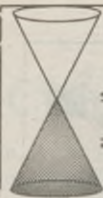
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PLAIN SPEAKING

by Larry Lingle

In A Sane World

I have always been a political junkie. Sitting glued—literally, from sweat—by the radio listening to Alben Barkley spinning the tried-and-true litany of Democratic gospel in 1948 to Bob Kerr of Oklahoma (bought and paid for by BIG OIL) delivering a homily on New Dealism.

And I recall all too well driving my VW bug with the Kennedy poster in the back window around the then all-girl (sprinkled with a lot of Texans) Stephens College in Columbia, Missouri. My best friends in high school, girls obviously, were triplet daughters of the local judge, a Republican. So only common sense prescribed that I attach an Adlai Stevenson sticker to his car. Like all good Republicans, the judge failed to see the humor in this.

But something seems to have possessed my political soul of late. I totally ignored the Republican Convention (and only four years ago I was out demonstrating against them at the now infamous Gate Four). I watched only parts of the Democratic gathering. And, this past Sunday, I missed the first presidential debate of my life. Instead I was sequestered in Webster Hall in the East Village of Manhattan as the First Annual Gay/Lesbian American Music Awards (GLAMA) honored our own.

And, quite frankly, from what I have read since, I didn't miss anything that wasn't predictable. The political pundits told us in advance that Dour Dole would try to establish his supposed private sense of humor, combined with the tan he had been working on in Florida for several days—under the mistaken belief that a tan makes one look younger. Clinton, on the other hand, must remain presidential.

Not that the pundits all agreed. Some were saying that Dole should not bring up the character issue as it would appear a cheap shot. It becomes debatable if his reference to Clinton's drug use constituted a mention or not. And after the debates one columnist for the New York Times faulted Dole for not jumping on the issue.

Then, of course, there were polls going into the debates and instant polls immediately after the debates. There are now polls after these polls. And, surprise of surprise, the polls indicate that people saw a winner pretty much along the lines as to how they planned to vote. If pollsters are to be believed, the election was over sometime in June. But, naturally, Dolesters must persist in pronouncing that the only poll that counts is on elections day.

It takes no leap of mighty deduction to realize that I hope Clinton wins. I even would like to see a Democratic Congress. But underlying these hopes borne out of decades of habit, I am experiencing an even deeper sense of apathy. I know that it would not be the end of civiliza-

tion as we know it if the Republicans recaptured the White House. I even believe that the inevitable tide of gay and lesbian progress to equal rights will not be reversed—although definitely no helped—by such a result.

And probably the main reason I continue to harbor a hope for a Democratic Victory is my profound dislike for what passes as the heart of the Republican Party—the Christian Coalition.

As I sat in the balcony at Webster Hall listening to an array of lesbian and gay performers I realized there was more heart and soul in that insignificant place that night than in the not so distant auditorium at Hartford. While the mass media paid homage to a predictable misnomered debate my own kind paid tribute to the talent of Michael Callen, among others.

After my share of decades in the rude world I suppose I have matured enough to realize that politics is just part of the total picture, and even then one of the more corruptible parts.

Winging my way to and from New York this weekend I read Patrick Merla's "Boys Like Us, Gay Writers Tell Their Coming Out Stories." Putting aside the logical question as to why Merla could not mix gay and lesbian coming out stories, the chapters share the common bond which links us all—the gradual realization sometime in our lives that the sense of being different has to do with the object of our affections.

The occasion for my New York trip was the reopening of a gay bookstore there which I recently purchased. And on a beautiful sunny Sunday afternoon several hundred gays and lesbians trooped through the enlarged if still small store, mingling together in the fullest sense of community.

In a corner of Christopher Street merchants debated the drift to Chelsea, while another small group, including my manager there, Kim Brinster, held a mini reunion of the Bronx Gay and Lesbian Democrats Club. The one topic absent throughout that afternoon was the presidential race. The one topic absent that night at Webster Hall, except for a brief jab by Kate Clinton, was politics.

I don't mean to imply that my political malaise has infested our entire community. And I certainly realize that my sense of removal from the fray is of a more personal nature, drastically reordering my priorities and my perception as to what is or is not important in my life.

While I certainly know more of politics than I do of music, I harbor a sense that at least the heart and soul of the music I heard last Sunday will outlast all the worlds spilled in Hartford either from the podium or the spin rooms afterward. And that is perhaps as it should be—art should triumph over politics in a sane world.

Here's Your Chance!

By JON ANTHONY

If you've always wanted to be a star or perhaps you are a talented veteran of the stage, then the following will be of interest to you. Auditions are being held for the revival of HAIR, the smash Broadway hit of the sixties. The revival is being mounted by Empire Productions for a scheduled run Dec. 20 through the 31 at the Cullen Performance Hall.

Casting will be interracial and all roles are paid. Auditioners are encouraged to prepare two contrasting rock songs (not to exceed 32 bars each) and a snippet from HAIR according to Mark Wilson, the director. Wilson is looking for per-

formers who can realistically portray ages 16-25 and one Mom and Dad in the fortysomething range. He is seeking "passionate and soulful performers."

The auditions will be held in Melcher Gym, 3858 Holman Street, on the University of Houston campus. Sessions will run Friday, Oct. 18 from 6:30 to 9:30pm; Saturday, Oct. 19 (by appointment only through 713/921-SHOW); and Sunday, Oct. 20 from 12:30 to 5:30pm. An accompanist will be provided. For more information call the aforementioned number or 713/TAP-3030. You can also check into the website at <http://www.neosoft.com/empire/on> the internet.

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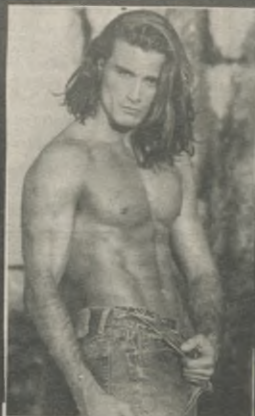


Photo by Steven David

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This & That...



by Jon Anthony



International superstar Liza Minnelli will return to the stage of a New York theater for the first time in more than a decade. Minnelli will star in the title role of *Victor/Victoria* for a month this January, 1997. The Julie Andrews vehicle, directed by her husband, famed film maker Blake Edwards, has had a grueling affect on Andrews, who desperately needed a break from the production to re-energize her stamina. Andrews will presumably return in February, however, I suspect that will depend on the box-office receipts with Minnelli at the helm. *Victor/Victoria* has not been as successful as producers and investors had hoped. With Minnelli's drawing power, that may change. The touring production begins this May and a

London production is being contemplated. Details of who will star in the road tour have not been released. Minnelli last appeared on Broadway, circa 1984, in *The Rink*, with Broadway legend Chita Rivera. Veteran actress Hayley Mills will portray Mrs. Anna in the touring production of *The King and I*, which is slated to hit the road early next year in March. After an eight year absence, the New York Philharmonic will return to the airwaves. Time Warner will sponsor five live broadcasts beginning January 25 of next year featuring some of the world's most acclaimed soloists such as cellist Yo-Yo Ma and pianist Evgeny Kissin. The broadcasts will be nationally syndicated from New

York's WQXR-FM. No word yet on which Houston station will carry the broadcasts. Singer Mel Torme has been removed from intensive care after suffering a stroke last August. Torme is currently undergoing rehabilitation in Los Angeles and his prognosis is good. PBS has renewed its popular adolescent series *Wisnbone*, about classic literature as seen through the eyes of a adorably cute canine. ABC has reshuffled its TGIF Friday night line-up due to the unexpected ratings success of the season premiere of *Sabrina, the Teenage Witch* starring Melissa Joan Hart, formerly of Nickelodeon's *Clarissa Explains it All*. Beginning immediately, Sabrina will replace *Clueless* as the anchor show for the evening at 8pm. *Clueless*, the highly touted sitcom based on the hit film, has not lived up to ratings expectations. It will now follow Sabrina at 8:30pm. *Family Matters* and *Boy Meets World* will air at 7 and 7:30pm respectively. *20/20* continues to air at 9pm. Besides Sabrina, CBS' *Early Edition* looks like the new seasons' other sleeper hit. *Edition*, about a man who receives tomorrow's newspaper today, won its timestot hands down and helped the network win the night. The *Friends* cast has reportedly resolved their differences concerning remuneration for services rendered. According to TV Guide, the stars of the NBC hit sitcom have come to terms with the studio in their contract negotiations. The cast will be paid \$75,000 per episode each this season and receive a pay raise each year culminating in 1999 at \$120,000 per episode. Rumor has it the name of the show will soon be appropriately retitled *Rich Friends*. Paramount is developing a sitcom vehicle for Jenny McCarthy (MTV's *Single Out*) for fall 1997. McCarthy will return to *Singled Out* for part of the new season and then hand over the reins to Carmen Electra, a comic book entrepreneur and former protege of Prince, in January when her new MTV show debuts. Woody Allen has done it again! Allen has aligned another stellar cast for his next project, *Deconstructing Harry*, currently in production in the Big Apple. The dark comedy will feature: Allen, Demi Moore, Robin Williams, Julia Louis-Dreyfus, Kirstie Alley, Julie Kavner, Judd Hirsch, Amy Irving, Philip Bosco, Stanley Tucci, Richard Benjamin, Judy Davis, Bob Balaban and Elisabeth Shue. During the interim, Allen's

Everyone Says I Love You featuring the likes of Goldie Hawn, Julia Roberts and Drew Barrymore opens Nov. 1. Screen legend Donald O'Connor guest stars on the Oct. 16 episode of CBS' *The Nanny*. Jay Leno's new book, *Leading With My Chin*, is fast becoming a bestseller. A funny and compelling read, *Chin* is available at Crossroads Market. Valerie Harper is riveting in a compelling episode of CBS' *Promise Land* Oct. 15. Harper portrays a best-selling children's book author who shoots drugs. Land airs Tuesdays at 7pm. Matt Lauer, NBC's Today show newscaster, will be Gumbel's heir apparent come January when Bryant Gumbel's contract ends. Gumbel indicated last year that this would be his last year as host of the morning news program. No word on whether Gumbel will remain at NBC or accept one of the many offers he has been proffered. Lesley-Anne Down makes a rare television appearance on CBS' *Diagnosis Murder* Oct. 17 at 7pm. David Caruso, whose highly publicized rift with NYPD Blue creator Steven Bochco, is poised to return to the small screen as a federal prosecutor in a new CBS drama series set in New York. Since Caruso's foray into feature films was, well lets just say, not successful, and Hollywood has not exactly been racing to the phone to call his agent, he is jumping at the chance to return to television. Caruso had to get Bochco's seal of approval prior to accepting the series because he had contractually agreed not to appear on television until 1998 in order to be released from his Blue contract. Since it's launch last July, MSNBC has not put much of a dent in its rival's ratings. CNN still garners most of the cable news viewers. MSNBC's highest rated program is its daily simulcast of the Don Imus New York syndicated radio show. Fox's cable news outlet is set to debut this month. *Minding My Own Business* is the name of Dolly Parton's highly anticipated CBS sitcom slated as a midseason replacement. Barbara Mandrell delivers a gutsy performance in an episode of CBS' *Dr. Quinn, Medicine Woman* that airs Oct. 12 at 7pm. Tiny Tim, the 64 year old ukulele strumming falsetto singer of *Tip-Toe Thru the Tulips* fame announced he is pondering retirement after his collapse last week due to an undisclosed ailment. What a revelation! How would the music world survive without his presence? The *RuPaul Show* debuts

on VH-1 Saturday Oct. 12. Dennis Rodman guests on the premiere episode. Future guests include Whoopi Goldberg and Cher. Check local listings for time. ABC has signed film maker Ed Burns (*Brothers McMullen*) to produce a sitcom for next fall. Burns and his brother Brian will executive produce and co-write the series. The as yet untitled sitcom will focus on two couples living in Queens, N.Y. The network also announced last week that they signed a deal with Laurie Metcalf (sister Jackie on *Roseanne*) to star in her own sitcom next season, fueling speculation that this will indeed be *Roseanne's* last season. Milestones: Bibi Besch died of cancer at the age of 54. The veteran character actress (*Star Trek II: The Wrath of Khan*, *Northern Exposure*) was one of Hollywood's most respected. Making the Rounds: Olivia Newton John visits the set of ABC's *Good Morning America* Oct. 18 at 7am. Melissa Etheridge (Oct. 14), Mary Tyler Moore (Oct. 16) and Ann-Margaret (Oct. 17) chat with Rosie O'Donnell on daily talk show airing at 4pm on Channel 13. Margaret also chats with Tom Snyder on his CBS late night show Oct. 14 at 12:35pm. Snyder's other guests this week include: Melissa Gilbert, Neil Simon and the legendary B.B. King. David Letterman's *Late Show* (CBS) provides its having an 'Encore' week (Oct. 14 - 18), airing reruns of some of the shows highlight celebrity appearances over the past year. Encore guests for the week include: Kim Basinger, Alec Baldwin, Diana Ross, Helen Hunt, Cher, Roseanne, Jerry Seinfeld and Jim Carrey. *Late Show* airs nightly at 10:35pm. Top of the Charts: *The First Wives Club* reigns supreme at the top of the box office for the third consecutive week. NBC's *ER* was the highest rated show for the week according to the Nielsen. *Macarena* and Celine Dion's *Falling Into You* are the best-selling single and album in the country according to Billboard Magazine. Oprah Winfrey's *Making the Connection*, co-written with Bob Greene, dominates the literary charts according to the New York Times best-sellers list. Quote of the Week: "God help you if you want someone to play a 50 year old, because nobody who's over 50 working in the movies hasn't had plastic surgery!" - Nora Ephron commenting in Entertainment Weekly on Hollywood actresses didactic obsession with beauty.

10/12 Star Studded Saturday Show 11:00pm

Hostess

Roxanne Lee Love

Special Guests

- Dyan Michaels
- Black Velvet
- Paivi Lee Love and talent night winner

Join us for E/J's La Cage Revue, Crème de la Femme Show Saturday at 11:00 pm!!

FRI 10/11 MALE STRIP CONTEST at 11:00pm with Paivi Over The Hill Gang gives FREE HIV testing until 1:30 pm \$1 Budweiser & Bud Light All Day All Night

SUN 10/13 Benefit Show at 8:30 to send Shelby St. John to IGRA

MON 10/14 MALE STRIP CONTEST at 11:00pm with Paivi

TUE 10/15 Amateur/Talent Night Finals at 11:00pm with Paivi

WED 10/16 Granny's Burgers

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South of the Border Night Thursday October 17 11:00pm

Hostess

Victoria Nicole, Theresa Michaels, Vanessa Raye, Jessica Van Shelton, & a Special Guest! ALSO Granny's Tacos!

Contemporary Dance Series

By RICH ARENSCHIEDT

Oct. 17-20 marks the long awaited return of first class contemporary dance to Houston. Top brass at the ballet have finally realized that there is indeed a strong following for dance that explores the boundaries of movement. The works of three choreographers comprise this brief "one weekend only" run. Houston principal dancer Sean Kelly will premiere his *Sinuosity*. Trey McIntyre brings *Second Before the Ground* and the one "out of town" American Ballet Theater's John Selya will showcase his *Ingredients*.

In a much lamented cost cutting move, Houston Ballet cut the Contemporary Series from the season in 1994. As the vehicle responsible for such innovative dances as Christopher Bruce's *Cruel Garden*, Paul Taylor's *Company B* and James Kudelka's *Musings*, many wondered why our dancers were trotting off to China on tour while artistically depriving the home audience of newer works. The series is back, albeit for a brief cameo appearance.

With two of the three creators 'home boys' this rep highlights talent that has been on our very own doorstep. Sean

Kelly, Houston Ballet member since 1985 and current principal dancer, is presenting the first work specifically for 'his' company. *Sinuosity* will feature 15 dancers in a neoclassical idiom with a contemporary feel. The work is not narrative in nature but more of an essay on movement. The music of new age artist Enya reinforces the mood and style of the work. According to Kelly "The wonderful thing about creating a piece here in Houston is that I was able to conceive of sections of the work with specific dancers in mind." There are parts created for couples Barbara Bears and Philip Broomhead and an athletic pax de deux for Lauren Anderson and Carlos Acosta. Houston's dynamic dance duo. According to Kelly "Only Carlos and Lauren could do what this piece requires them to!" The piece is expansive in nature and the movement is flowing, hence the title.

Trey McIntyre, Houston Ballet Choreographic Associate presents his joyous *Second Before the Ground* to the music from the avant ensemble, the Kronos Quartet. McIntyre has presented other works here (*Skelton Clock*, *Touched*) and is well on his way to becoming a creative force in the dance world.

The intense rhythms of the music are an unusual accompaniment dance using a 'classical vocabulary' yet the simplicity yields beautiful results.

The music of Paul Simon provides the backdrop for American Ballet Theater's John Selya choreographic exposition focusing on family relationships. Inspired by many of the lyrics he's heard since childhood, *Ingredients* portrays a son and his parents and the emotional interplay between them.

Three interesting and highly creative works by three distinctly different choreographers. This is exactly what the Houston dance community has been craving. It is not enough for us to support modern dance icons such as Bill T. Jones, Mark Morris, Alvin Ailey, and Merce Cunningham, in huge expensive touring productions (even though I am grateful they do come to Houston). We must provide the impetus for the highest caliber contemporary dance to be created and performed here.

Let not the masses of unthinking, creatively stunted individuals dictate that we must tolerate dance where only 'the



Courtney Harris and Christopher Veljovic perform in Trey McIntyre's *Second Before the Ground*, a ballet about modern romantic relationships set to the music of The Kronos Quartet. (Photo by Jim Caldwell)

costumes have been changed to protect the innocent' and not dance that challenges us aesthetically and intellectually.

Tickets for the Cullen Contemporary Series are available by calling 227-ARTS.

Them and Us

By DEBORAH BELL

Do you always think "they" could have done a better job of the parade? Do you have unique, creative insights? Do you have something to offer and a few hours a week to spare? Well, the Pride Committee of Houston has a job for you. And guess what? There is no they. The Lesbian/Gay/Bisexual and Transgendered Community of Houston is the "We" that forms the committee that takes the responsibility of planning not only the parade, but the entire week of events we call Pride Week.

The first time ever excitement of having a night parade (Saturday night by the way) has excited those folks who are already involved in the Pride Committee as they begin the planning session which will lead up to the late June event. Getting involved with these fine folks is a gift you can give yourself while offering something to the community. And it is so easy to do.

Beginning Oct. 15 the Pride Committee will meet at the Metropolitan Multi-Service Center at 1475 West Gray. The group had been using space offered by the Houston Gay and Lesbian Political Caucus in their office space at 2700 Albany which they were very grateful for. The reasons for the change include a more efficient classroom-style meeting facility, improved lighting, availability of visual aids, extra parking and on-site security. The Pride Committee is hoping for a significant growth in volunteer participation as it faces a big year of planning and preparation in accordance with the plans for the night parade.

The meetings will be held on the first and third Tuesday of each month starting at 7pm. Call the Prideline at 713/529-6979 for more information.

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Church Calendar of Events

Friday-10/11

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

* Catholic Mass at 10:00 am. Movie Night at 7:00 pm. Kolbe Project 522-8182

Sunday-10/13

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

Monday-10/14

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

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

Tuesday-10/15

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

* PROTECT meets at Bering Church. 520-7870.

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

* Maranatha Fellowship meets to formulate its Mission Statement and Ministry plan at 7:15 pm. 528-6756.

Wednesday 10/16

* MCCR Bible Study 7:30 pm 861-9149

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

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

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

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

* Maranatha Fellowship MCC meets to formulate its Mission Statement and Ministry Plan from 7:00 pm to 9:15 pm. Everyone is welcome. 528-6756.

* "Coming Out to Yourself" at Kolbe Project. 7:30 pm. 522-8182.

Thursday-10/17

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

* Community Gospel Church worship service 7:30 pm 880-9235

* Service for Healing with Anointing at Kolbe Project. 7:30 pm. 522-8182.

If you want an event listed in this section, please call 529-8490 .

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Satisfy Your Sweet Tooth

The Swan at Stages

By JAVIER TAMEZ

Houston Voice/Houston

Stages Repertory Theatre begins its new season with a new artistic director. Rob Bundy, who also provides directing duties for the season—opening production, arrived at Stages, indicating that he was the man to revive the once cutting-edge company that had, under the helm of former artistic director Sydney Berger, fallen into the habit of producing safe, complacent pieces (and WAY too many musical revues). Bundy is welcome, and he's off in the right direction, but the first vehicle he has chosen to take Stages in that direction doesn't get the theater very far.

"The Swan," by Elizabeth Eglloff, would be called a "chick-flick" if it were a film, and it wouldn't be a very good one. This modern-day fairy tale is a bitter-sweet, almost touching account of a woman's dream coming true in a form so foreign she almost doesn't recognize it. Dora (Theo Lane Moffett) is a lonely Nebraska nurse who after a string of failed relationships has settled into a comfortable affair with Kevin (Nelson Heggen) a milkman, who is married and has a family. One night a swan crashes into Dora's living room window. Frightened at first, Dora quickly becomes attached to the injured bird and over Kevin's protests decides she will nurse (corny, huh?) it back to health.

And the swan (Robin Burke) is magically transformed into a man. But he is still a bird. Honking and flapping around without a clue, the swan exhausts itself into a whimpering slumber that seems to be alleviated only by Dora's touch.

Kevin is, of course, far more concerned about the presence of a young man-in-Dora's home than he was about a swan. But Dora succeeds in persuading Kevin that the man is actually the swan. Kevin doesn't understand (actually no one does), but he accepts the swan-man's presence, since it seems to make Dora happy.

The swan's mannerisms start to become human, it/he learns to speak, and then develops an unmistakable interest in Dora as a woman. He explains how as a swan, he became caught in a snowstorm and flew off course. Hoping to escape the storm he flew further and further inland, until his wings could carry him no longer. Acknowledging that he is both bird and man, the swan pines for Dora, and plants in her the idea that she could also be a bird. Kevin meanwhile has decided to leave his wife and family and begin anew with Dora as the only means of keeping his relationship with her. He recognizes the swan as a

rival and in an understated manner develops a conviction for what he feels must be done.

"The Swan" is a pretty enough idea, and the notion of dreams coming true in forms not necessarily apparent does have its charm. But this play lacks the soaring dialogue and character development that are really needed for it take flight.

As is, the play is a fairy tale for adults that only carries the artistic development of a story for children. Dora and Kevin, for instance, are easily recognizable as character types. And that's exactly where Eglloff leaves them. There is no depth to these two-dimensional figures.

Where Eglloff does strike a chord, albeit an uneven one, is with her dialogue. For the most part, it carries the blue-collar cadence of the minimally educated that, perhaps unfairly, seems ideal for characters from the country's great Midwestern bowels. There are times though when Eglloff speaks with a vivid, near-poetic shimmer as Dora and the swan began an unnatural courtship.

Bundy's Stages premier then finds itself with a worthwhile production that is somewhat stifled by the very material it is presenting. His directing is sound and shows a lean staging well suited to the relatively small space. He elicits decent performances from his cast, but they amplify the underdevelopment of the characters rather than enhancing it.

Perhaps it was because I was at a preview performance (Hey! What did I know?! I though I had been invited to opening night!), but the cast all fail to shine in the delivery of mediocre performances. Theo Lane Moffett has an appropriately worn mien which is re-energized by the swan. Moffett is best at those moments when Dora is uncertain and cautious, but misses the mark completely in her attempts at any other emotion.

Nelson Heggen gives his subdued portrayal an earthy attraction, but his presentation is so soft-spoken that the character never seems the least bit excitable, even when ostensibly angry.

Robin Burke does fine with the swan. He nailed the physical routine of a swan adjusting to a new body, but the faulty speech and slow, faltering learning was more playing dumb than playing unfamiliar.

"The Swan" is sweet in really every way. But sweet is far from enough, unless all you want are cavities.

The Swan plays through Oct. 13 at STAGES. Call 713-527-8243 for ticket information.

Walk-N-Roll Against Hate Crime

FROM Q-PATROL RELEASE

Q Patrol, Inc. is co-sponsoring Walk-N-Roll Against Hate Crime on Friday, Oct. 18, 1996! THIS IS NOT A RALLY OR A DEMONSTRATION.

Q Patrol, Inc. invites you and/or members of your organization to come out on patrol with us for just one night. We invite you to walk, roll or ride with us as we patrol the gay/lesbian/bisexual/transgender community against hate crime. Join us at 9:00pm on Oct. 18, 1996 in the parking lot just East of Suzanne Anderson Properties at 239 Westheimer. If you are representing a particular organization, you are welcome to wear your organization's t-shirt. We also invite you to bring information about your organization which we will place at our fundraising booth in the parking lot of Pacific Street Bar.

Q Patrol, Inc. has concluded that if rep-


resentatives from every community organization volunteer with us just once a year, Q Patrol would be guaranteed to have a patrol every Friday and Saturday night of that year. One night, that is all we are asking.

Q Patrol, Inc. is an all inclusive organization, all are welcome. So, come join us for a night of solidarity against hate crime, and while you are out with Q Patrol you can: 1) see who your ex is dating; 2) find a date for Friday or Saturday night!; 3) meet some wonderful people; and 4) get some great exercise!

If you would like more information or would just like to let us know you will be there, please feel free to call Q Patrol, Inc. at 528-SAFE.

Remember, Q Patrol is out on the streets for you, but we can not do it without you! We look forward to seeing you on Oct. 18th!

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 Madeline Duvic, M.D., University of Texas Dermatology Research Center, Principal Investigator, Ligand Pharmaceuticals, Inc.
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Thursday, October 24, 1996

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Thursday, November 14, 1996

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And There You Have It!

By David Richardson

The quest for good health is making me sick. While talking with my mother on the phone recently, I informed her that I had made the decision to start working out. She gave me an exasperated sigh and a line about the importance of "inner beauty." Sorry Mom, the only person concerned with the appearance of my insides is my proctologist.

Upon applying for my gym membership, I was asked to sign a waiver releasing them from liability in cases of accident, injury, or death. They asked me if I might not be more happy at home with a Jane Fonda workout video and a bag of Cheetos. Touchy! Touchy!

Looking around, I was wondering what was with all the mirrors. Covered in sweat, hair flopped in face, breathing heavily, the last thing I want to do is look at myself magnified and multiplied. At least if they installed fun house mirrors, my flaws and disfigured reflections could be blamed on something.

My personal trainer, who, with a title like that, would surely be ordering me to roll over, play dead, and not pee on the carpet; instead, he told me to do a bench press. So I sauntered over to the nearest bench and pressed it as hard as I could. Once again, I was asked about the Jane Fonda thing.

Next came aerobics. "Lift! Bend! Stretch! Fold!" screamed the instructor. "Are we working out or putting

together boxes?," I wondered silently. Nearly blinded by the multicolored spandex, lurex, and rayon outfits on display (some of these people would make Richard Simmons look butch), I remembered an article I read recently that stated that today's gyms are the sexual battlegrounds of the 90's. Well I guess if cramped spaces with hot sweaty bodies are sexual, then sweat shops, factories, and any place that makes Kathy Lee Gifford's clothing are real dens of iniquity.

I was having problems. Weight lifting seemed to make little sense. After all, do I really want bigger breasts than my mother? And sit-ups and push-ups made me want to lie down. Pedaling on the exercise bike, I resembled Margaret Hamilton in the *Wizard of Oz*.

It slowly began to dawn on me that exercising sounded an awful lot like exorcising which is appropriate, since they both contain elements that are both hellish and painful. I also felt that gymnasiums should be renamed gymnauseums for the feelings they induce.

So I packed in my gym bag, stopped by a store for a bag of Cheetos and a Jane Fonda video... *Barbarella*, then sallied home. After all, I already get plenty of exercise fleeing at high speeds from bill collectors at the end of the month...and there you have it.



News You Didn't See on TV

by Patricia Nell Warren

COMMENTARY By PATRICIA NELL WARREN

Weird Things I've Noticed About The Election

With a month to go, major media are giving less space to the Presidential election. Despite early fanfares from both candidates about the "moral future of America," public interest is fading too. Bob and Jack and Bill and Al are having to share major air time with Ellen, Boris and O.J.—to say nothing of bombings, the Olympics, Mideast war, and a 7-year-old suspended from school for kissing another tot on the cheek.

How seriously can one take a campaign where the Secret Service lets Bob take an unseemly tumble off the platform in view of the cameras?

Why does the White House contest have vanishing credibility in these desperate times? Were there conspiracies to downplay in the no-smoking conference rooms of media moguls? Or are many Americans finally reaching the nadir of disgust with politicians? Is there a feeling out there that positive change will not come from the Oval Office, no matter who sits there?

Items:

***While Bob and Bill censored Ross out of the debates, controversies about censorship are becoming a daily reality in many schools, libraries, communities.

***No sooner has Bob sermonized about drugs, than we learn our federal government is the biggest crack dealer of them all.

***Bill will let NASA spend billions on a Mars shot—which will probably wipe out any budget cuts he got by "ending welfare."

***Even as Bob and Bill are agreeing to quash same-sex marriage, convicted serial killer Richard (Ramirez) and murderer Eric (Menendez) get to celebrate high-profile heterosexual marriages behind bars.

***Bill might as well give up on gun control—some genius in L.A. has figured out a way to shatter windshields and terrorize people on the freeways without even using bullets.

***Neither Bill nor Bob have much to say about affirmative action, though the country is coming to a boil about it.

***Here in California, Pete just signed a bill outlawing the import of goods made by slave labor abroad. Meanwhile, our wonderful U.S. penal system is fast being subcontracted to private enterprise... which has a vested interest in large prison populations working for a few cents an hour.

***Morality aside, Americans won't worry long about low-fat diet if both parties go on saying nothing about falling food production. A recent statistic from the WorldWatch Institute reveals that, since 1985, grain yields are falling behind population growth. Erosion, vanishing aquifers, development have degraded 25 percent of U.S. farmland. Those well-stocked grocery shelves in New York City and Peoria are a mirage—heavy on imports. Are Bob or Bill worried about the future of eating? I wonder. Come to think of it, maybe that's why the media have shifted focus. Even last Sunday's high-profile debate was just the same-old, same-old from both Bob and Bill. Urgent problems are out there, grabbing headlines away from political charades that breed more and more rage, contempt and apathy in our citizens. The handwriting is on the wall, big as the HOLLYWOOD sign. But are Bob and Bill—and their handlers—ready to read it?

Patricia Nell Warren is author of "The Front Runner" and other bestselling books, as well as a widely published commentator. Her publisher is Wildcat Press. Copyright (c) 1996 by Patricia Nell Warren. All Rights Reserved.

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TAKE ONE
(Movie Reviews)

*Lions, Tigers,
And Scares, Oh
My!*

By DAVID RICHARDSON

The year is 1896. An engineer named John Patterson (Val Kilmer) is sent to Tsavo, Africa to build a bridge as part of a planned railroad project commissioned by the British Empire. All is not well in Tsavo, however, as two cunning lions begin to prey on the people working on the bridge. Something must be done about this, so a famous big game hunter named Remington (Michael Douglas) is brought in to help in tracking down and killing the ferocious lions, who have been nicknamed "the Ghost" and "the Darkness" by the superstitious natives. After many mishaps, the lions are finally destroyed and work is allowed to be completed on the bridge.

My main problem with this movie was its star, Val Kilmer, in this reviewer's opinion, was laughably miscast with frosted, perfectly coiffed hair and earth toned fashions. He would have appeared to be more at home on the pages of a Banana Republic catalogue than in the wilds of Africa. Did they have mousse in the 1800's? Was there a salon tucked away in the Serengeti? Why was it that only in the final ten minutes of the film that he appears to look mildly



Bridge-building engineer John Patterson (Val Kilmer) is forced to be a hunter in the new adventure thriller "The Ghost and the Darkness" from Paramount

disheveled? Maybe the lions could have ate Ellen Mirojnick, the costume designer of this movie, and done us all a favor. Also annoying was the high level of jocularity exhibited by the characters in the movie. I guess there is no time for witty remarks and sarcasm like when lions are devouring the natives. Lastly, the river that the bridge was being built over visually had all the ferocity of a babbling brook.

Despite these flaws, the film is saved by strong performances by Michael Douglas and John Kani. Plus, the movie is made more interesting when you realize it's based on a true story. The Ghost and the Darkness is a moderately entertaining film, but pretty lightweight fare after a long summer of blockbusters.

I give this movie **** (4 out of 5 stars).

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Rainbow Reader

Lizzie—did She Or Didn't She?

REVIEWED BY JONE DEVLIN

Lizzie, by Evan Hunter provides yet another (fictional) account of what happened on that fateful day in August 1896 when Lizzie Borden's father and step-mother were found brutally hacked to death by an ax. But Evan Hunter's book goes far beyond Lizzie's subsequent arrest and trial. It discusses in detail a fateful trip to Europe several years earlier. It was on this trip where Lizzie met, was seduced and embarked on a glorious affair with a lovely Englishwoman named Alyson. This revelation about who she was frightened and exhilarated Lizzie, and eventually led to the events on that hot August day in a way that made Lizzie Borden the stuff of legend.

If none of this sounds terribly exciting so far, remember, this is the nineteenth century, where nice church going Protestant spinsters (of which Lizzie was one) did not even think about sexual matters, much less engage in them with members of the same sex. It was also a time when women were not allowed to vote, to go anywhere unescorted, to work or to attend college. The fear, the repression, and even Lizzie's own guilt about not being a true "Christian" woman who uncomplainingly accepts her lot eventually come together in a mad climax that anyone who's ever been told who and what they are is wrong can easily relate to.

The thing I liked the most about this book was that Lizzie's sexuality was never treated in a patronizing manner. The seduction scenes, as the far more experienced Alyson drops more and more obvious hints to the very attracted but deeply in denial Lizzie are guaranteed to turn on anyone straight or gay. The love scenes are just that. And the characters are real. Lizzie is described as a 30-year old red-haired blue-eyed woman who is somewhat heavy and can only be described as plain but strong. Alyson, who is somewhat older, is described as delicate and attractive, but not beautiful by any means. Hunter also manages to fit the affair easily into the context of the times, so that you never feel he is reaching for credibility. His characters stay consistent, and you never forget that all this is taking place in the 1890s.

Of course we all know what actually happened on that late Summer day when Lizzie's parents were murdered is not clear to anyone, even now. But, Hunter has taken copies of the testimonies of Lizzie as well as several key witnesses and woven them into a compelling fictionalized but fact based account of the trial of the 19th century. Meanwhile the scenes from Lizzie's vacation, her affair and the devastating aftermath when Alyson stops communicating with her, are interspersed throughout, so that we can get a much better idea of who this woman, on trial for murder, is and what her emotional life has been for the last several years. Although somewhat long (around 500 pages in hardback) *Lizzie* is a truly engrossing tale and I would highly recommend it.

Jone Devlin is one of the Co-host of Lesbian and Gay Voices, Thursdays 8 to 10pm on KPFT 90.1fm Radio.

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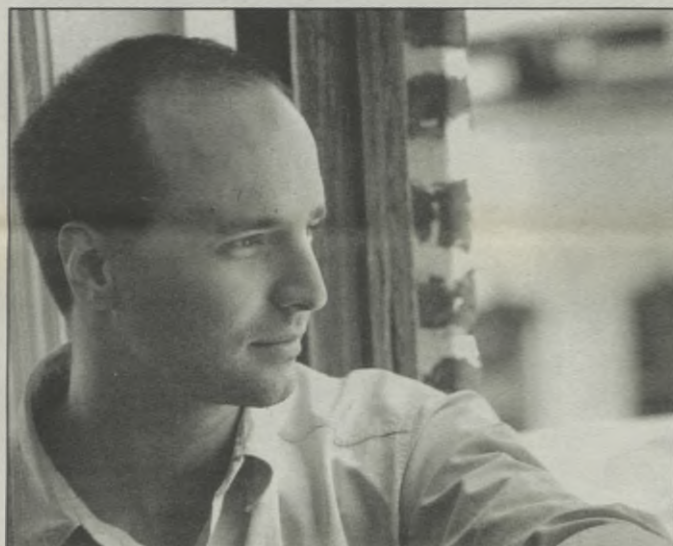
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LiB continued...

(Continued from page 1)

you had to own your own business to be in LiB and that is totally not true. We have a diversity of situations from women who do own their own businesses, do manual labor, to those who are currently unemployed and looking for work. We also have a good share of students, and retirees." When questioned about the group becoming more social than business oriented, Anderson points out that it was never intended to be a strictly business organization but one where women could be empowered in "the business of living." She also noted that there has always been a conscious effort to make the group very affordable and for it not to be classist. And while some women are still uncomfortable about being out as Lesbians, most of those involved have maintained that LiB is truly meant for Lesbians. "Women who do not identify as Lesbians have many outlets and organizations they can utilize, it was important to us that we could create something for ourselves", Anderson shared.

The 5th anniversary party will be an open house at the office of Suzanne Anderson Properties at 239 Westhemier from 4pm to 7pm. Comic Vickie Shaw will emcee the entertainment and light refreshments will be served. Past board members will be roasted and members are asked to bring their favorite story about LiB.

The anniversary party follows by a day the regularly scheduled monthly meeting of the group on Friday, October 18. "Rhythm is Gonna Get You" starting at 7pm, with Jackie Doval, Mina Garcia, Liz Mendez, and Gloria Silva. These four will present a playful evening full of latin music. They will offer a "crash course" in latin music and dance. They will offer some of the history behind the rhythms and teach some basic steps to some of the popular latin dances such as the merengue, Salsa, Cha-Cha, Conga, and Tejana (What? No Macarena?) LiB meets at the Innova Building in the Greenway Plaza area (off Richmond Ave. and Cummins).

Showing the diversity of the interests and talents of LiB members, Doval and Garcia are Caribbean dance enthusiasts offering LiB members a chance to add some spice to their lives. Dr. Doval is a Chiropractor who spends her "spare time" in private practice at Alternative Health and Wellness Center and Mina Garcia is a Chemical Lab Specialist at M.D. Anderson. Liz Mendez is a professional pianist who has played for several local bands during the last 15 years, including the popular Norma Zenteno Band. Gloria Silva is a professional singer who began her career at the age of 12.

The November monthly meeting will feature as guest speaker, Chasity Bono. Daughter of actor/singer/diva Cher and now Republican Congressman Sonny Bono, Chasity will talk about her personal struggles of coming out as a Lesbian and her work with the Human Rights Campaign and the National Coming Out Day Project. A writer for The Advocate, Chasity is also a singer, musician, and composer. That meeting will be on November 15, also at Innova.

Call the LiB line at 529-0077 for more information about the group.

LiB traditionally has a December holiday event and its biggest fundraiser of the year is the annual New Year's Eve Dance. The dance is quite the affair and rumor has it that two LiB members will be celebrating by having a wedding ceremony at the dance this year.

Many LiB members are also involved for the plans for the 1997 Texas Lesbian Festival (TLC '97). The tenth anniversary for the annual conference will be May 16-18 at the Renaissance Houston Hotel. A celebration of lesbian visibility and empowerment, the conference moves to a different Texas city each year. This is the fourth time for Houston to host TLC which features speakers, entertainment and workshops. Help is needed of course, so any Lesbian who is interested in getting involved can call the TLC Voice Mail Message phone at 713/867-3934.

State Bar continued...

(Continued from page 1)

meeting in Fort Worth on Saturday, October 5 rejected by two votes to add a gay and lesbian issues section. This is the first time in the history of the organization that the bar has denied a request to add a section devoted to a particular legal area.

Houston Attorney Mitchell Katine who led the effort to have the section added, felt the 19-17 vote in opposition still offered some understanding and education on gay and lesbian issues to the group through the debate and discussion that took place. Two board members had come prepared to vote against the section but were persuaded to change their vote. Several board members

felt that creating the section made sense, was warranted under board policy, and would encourage more lawyers to become involved with the bar.

Fort Worth Attorney, David Evans, voted against the addition he said because he did not feel it was a substantive area of law that wasn't already addressed in other sections.

Bar President Colleen McHugh, of Corpus Christi, voted against the section and President-elect Frank Newton supported the section's formation.

Katine says he feels what they did was positive for the bar, saying "We raised this issue to a level of consciousness that is very hard to go backward on."

Volunteers Needed

The Houston Voice has need of a number of people to work on a voluntary basis. Positions include artists, cartoonists, reporters, reviewers, proofreaders (needed on Wednesdays), help with distribution, and various other tasks as needed. We offer a progressive "Out" environment, some job training and a great group of folks to hang out with, besides it will look good on your resume some day to have this work experience. Interested? Contact the Editor, Deborah Bell at 529-8490.

Walls continued...

(Continued from page 1)

comprise the film. "These stories attempt to look beyond the politics, beyond the laws, and focus on the painful truth each woman faces in this circumstance," says Moore. Abortion is a tumultuous issue on both sides and it is rare when television depicts the matter in a serious and balanced manner. "I really try to show respect for both sides -- different groups of both sides -- pro-choice and pro-life," observed Cher. With the upcoming elections, abortion is a hot-button issue on the political radar screen that resonates with women. "It's a very important issue, certainly with women," notes Spacke.

The first story, circa 1952, focuses on Claire Donnelly (Moore), a widowed nurse whose recent tryst has resulted in an unplanned pregnancy. Claire solicits assistance from a doctor where she works, only to be harshly rebuffed, because abortion is illegal. Subsequent requests are similarly dismissed. As a result, Claire takes matters into her own hand, albeit unsuccessfully. Ashamed of the disgrace that her pregnancy could place on her dead husband's family becomes desperate. An ensuing phone call to a man who makes "special" house calls determines her fate.

In the second episode, we visit the Barrows family in 1974. Barbara Ryan Barrows (Spacke), a college student and mother of four, discovers that her pregnancy test is positive. Barbara, whose children range from 10 to 18 years old is equally as passionate about attaining her degree as she is about balancing her family life. Her husband John, a police officer, assumes that she will have the baby and make the necessary sacrifices. Barbara however wrestles with her decision in a world after Roe v. Wade which has bestowed upon her the right to choose. After contemplating

the situation, Barbara decides on her own whether or not to abort.

The final episode brings us right up to 1996 and the house has been transformed into a student residence. One of the students, Christine, gets impregnated by her architecture professor, a married man who unflinchingly provides the necessary funds for her to have an abortion. Meanwhile, Christine's roommate Patti is morally opposed to the idea of abortion and attempts to discourage Christine from visiting a family planning clinic to no avail. Upon arrival at the clinic, run by Dr. Beth Thompson (Cher), Christine is confronted by members of a prayer group. She meets with a counselor and expresses her confusion and indecision. Advised to take more time and think things through, Christine goes home. After some soul-searching, Christine returns to the clinic with Patti, who decides to offer her roommate moral support, despite her beliefs. The pair encounter a large group of protesters, yet manage to push through the crowd. Despite the palpable tension, the clinic appears to be conducting business as usual. The chaos outside escalates as Christine meets Dr. Thompson, when suddenly events take an unexpected turn.

The film boasts a stellar supporting cast including co-star Anne Heche (Christine), Eileen Brennan, Lindsay Crouse, Joanna Gleason, Catherine Keener, Shirley Knight, Jason London (Too Wong Foo, Thanks for Everything, Julie Newmar), Craig T. Nelson, Jada Pinkett (The Nutty Professor, CCH Pounder (ER), Diana Scarwid and Rita Wilson (That Thing You Do). Debuting this Sunday, October 13 at 8pm on HBO, *If These Walls Could Talk* was produced by Demi Moore and Directed by Nancy Sávoca and Cher (in her directorial debut).

Quilt continued...

(Continued from page 1)

Celebrity Choir of the event. Everyone is asked to assemble by 6pm at the west front lower terrace of the US Capitol.

The Roman Catholic Cathedral Church of the Archdiocese of Washington will conduct a special **Quilt Mass** to remember those who have died of AIDS on Saturday evening, October 12 starting at 5:30pm. Everyone is welcome to attend the mass which will be held at St. Matthew's Cathedral, 1725 Rhode Island Ave. (at Connecticut). This event represents the first time the Archdiocese has ever held Mass honoring and recognizing the very special event of the whole Quilt Display, going so far as to place advertisements in *The Washington Blade*, a gay publication. "This is considered a small breakthrough for gay Catholics," testifies James Bedore, a member of Dignity/Washington, a gay & lesbians group for Catholics. An inter faith service of Inspiration and Hope is scheduled at the Washington National Cathedral on Sunday, October 13.

Also on Sunday, the **Music for Life** Concert will take place at the DAR Constitution Hall, at 18th and D Streets NW. Presented by the Gay and Lesbian Association of Choruses (GALA) this choral tribute will feature the combined voices of over 280 singers from across the US and Canada. Among the highlights of

the concert will be a performance of music from the Emmy Award-winning documentary "After Good-bye: An AIDS Story." Entitled *When We No Longer Touch*, this extraordinary work by Kris Anthony was composed as a requiem for men's voices and orchestra. The test is based on Peter McWilliam's book *How to Survive the Loss of Love*. Even though Kris lost his battle with AIDS in 1992, his music continues to touch the lives of millions through the many television broadcasts of 'After Goodbye', which powerfully portrays his story and music.

Entertainment venues also include the Second Annual "In Tribute" Concert *Love at First Laugh*. This promises to be an evening of uproarious fun. Starring funny women Downtown Julie Brown, Margaret Cho, Kate Clinton, Thea Vidale and a special appearance by BETTY! it is hosted by the National Minority AIDS Council on October 11 at Lincoln Theatre. The concert benefits NMAC's Women and Families AIDS Program. NMAC will hold a dance party on October 12.

A National Youth March is scheduled for the weekend as well as the National Conference of Parents and Friends of Lesbians and Gays (PFLAG). The fifteenth Annual Conference will take place October 11 through 14.

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HOUSTON VOICE

Community Calendar by Carolyn Roberts

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Friday, Oct. 11

- * Borders Book Store Gay/Lesbian Book Club meets at the Espresso Bar at 9634 Westheimer. 782-6066.
- * HIV+ Art classes at the Art League. 523-8817.
- * HATCH meets. 942-7002.
- * 12 step program at Montrose Counseling Center. 6:00 pm. 529-0037.
- * Aftercare Group Treatment at Montrose Counseling Center. 6:00 pm. 529-0037.
- * Garden and Yard Society (GAYS) a newly formed gay gardening club meets at 2415 McClendon. 862-3922.
- * Houston Tennis Club meets at 7:15 pm. 527-1348.
- * Q-Patrol meets to walk the streets at 10:30 pm. 528-SAFE.
- * AIDS Mastery workshop starts. 861-6453.
- * Free Spaying and Neutering Program. 522-2337.
- * Drag show at Cousin's at 11:00 pm.
- * Gary Poe of Dallas tickles the ivories tonight at the BriarPatch.
- * Free hors d'oeuvres from 6:00 pm to 8:00 pm at Rascal's.
- * Bad Boys dance at 6:00 pm; \$3.50 Absolut-ly anything at Gentry.
- * The Men of Chicago perform tonight at J.R.'s Video Bar.
- * \$1.75 well drinks and longnecks at Mary's. 7:00 am to 9:00 pm.
- * Boyz night out at Club Incognito.
- * Shiela Lennon performs at 10:00 pm at the Ranch.
- * \$1.75 Well, beer, and wine at the Venture-N from noon until 9:00 pm. The National Leather Association guest bartends starting at 9:00 pm.

Saturday, Oct. 12

- * Houston Chain Gang Bicycle Club rides. 863-1860.
- * After Hours on KPFT 12:00 am. to 3:00 am. 90.1 FM. 526-5738.
- * Gulf Coast Transgender support group meets. 780-4282.
- * Q-Patrol meets to walk the streets at 10:30 pm. 528-SAFE.
- * Visual Art Alliance meets at 10:00 am. 583-8408.
- * Diana Foundation's annual Miss Angela's Country Dinner at the Houston Polo Club. 639-2000.
- * Drag show at Cousin's at 11:00 pm.
- * Gary Poe of Dallas tickles the ivories tonight at the BriarPatch.
- * Bad Boys dance at 9:00 pm \$2; Dreamsicles at Gentry.
- * "Glow in the Dark" party at Club Houston. 11:00 pm till ???
- * Film at the Museum of Fine Arts Houston: Buckminster Fuller: Thinking out Loud at 7:30 pm. 639-7300.
- * Pool party at Club Houston from 1:00 pm to 3:00 pm.
- * Drag show at the Lazy J at 10:30 p.m.
- * The Men of Chicago perform tonight at J.R.'s and Heaven.
- * \$1.75 well, beer, and wine at the Venture-N from noon until 9:00 pm. The 5th Bear Auction, fundraiser for the Pet Patrol, at 10:00 pm.
- * After Hours at Mary's.
- * \$1.75 well drinks and longnecks at Mary's from 7:00 am to 7:00 pm.
- * Ladies' Night at Club Incognito.

Sunday, Oct. 13

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

* Films at the Museum of Fine Arts Houston: Nosferatu the Vampyre at 7:00 pm and Cobra Verde at 9:00 pm. 639-7300.

- * JFU (Just for Us) social group for 6th to 12th graders with gay/lesbian parents meets. 284-4939.
- * Turn-About show at 8:30 pm; Drag show at Cousin's at 11:00 pm.
- * "Who's the next... Bitch, Whore, Drunk" of the Brazos River Bottom Turn-About show at 8:00 pm; Steak Night from 6:00 pm to 10:00 pm.
- * Open pool tables at the BriarPatch.
- * Bad Boys dance and the pool tournament starts at 5:00 pm; Dyan Michaels as Reba at 9:00 pm; Dyan hosts male strip contest at 11:00 pm; \$2 Kool-Aids at Gentry.
- * Film at the Museum of Fine Arts, Houston: The Mystery of Kaspar Hauser at 7:00 pm.
- * Super Sunday show at Heaven. 11:00 pm.
- * Beer Bust at the Montrose Mining Company.
- * Cook-out and the Texas Riders Guest bartend at the Venture-N at 5:00 pm.
- * Rascal's opens at 2:00 pm for football action; Mimosas \$2, well drinks \$1.25.
- * "La Cage Aux Patch" at 8:30 pm at the BriarPatch. Benefit show for Stone Soup.
- * The Men of Chicago perform tonight at J.R.'s, the Montrose Mining Company, and Heaven.
- * 99 c well Vodka juice drinks from noon until 11:00 pm; male dancers at 6:00 pm; swimsuit contest at 11:00 pm at J.R.'s Video Bar.
- * Chocolate Covered Cherries band plays at Chances. 6:00 pm.
- * \$1.75 well, beer, and wine at the Venture-N from noon until 9:00 pm.
- * \$1.75 well drinks and longnecks at Mary's. 10:00 am to 2:00 pm.
- * Fundraiser for Shelby St. John at 8:30 pm; \$1 Bud and Bud light all day and all night at E/J's.
- * Super Sunday Show at Club Incognito. 11:00 pm.
- * Fundraiser for CJ Wright (Owner of the Trading Post) at 1:00 pm. 726-1963.

Monday, Oct. 14

- * Free HIV Testing and counseling by the Montrose Clinic at the Brazos River Bottom. 4:00 pm to 8:00 pm.
- * Gay Fathers/Fathers First support group. 8:00 pm. 861-6181.
- * HeartSong open rehearsal at the First Unitarian Church at 7:00 pm. 947-1488.
- * Calendar/Computer workshop for Pride Week. 7:00 pm. 529-1223.
- * Positive Living Group at Montrose Counseling Center. 2:15 pm. 539-0037.
- * Outpatient Group Treatment at Montrose Counseling Center. 6:00 pm. 529-0037.
- * Women and HIV/AIDS Group at Montrose Counseling Center. 6:15 pm. 529-0037.
- * Men Survivors of Sexual Abuse Group at Montrose Counseling Center. 6:15 pm. 529-0037.
- * Lesbian Survivors of Cancer and their care givers at Montrose Counseling Center. 6:30 pm. 529-0037.
- * Men's HIV Group at Montrose Counseling Center. 7:00 pm. 529-0037.
- * AVES sponsored free HIV testing from 10:00 am to 5:00 pm at 4125 SW Freeway, Suite 1717.
- * Lambda Network meets at Toupees Coffee Bar at 7:30 pm. 284-2954.
- * Houston Wrestling Club meets at 1:00 pm at Midtowne Spa.
- * Male Strip contest at E/J's. 11:00 pm.
- * Male dance contest at J.R.'s. 11:00 pm.
- * Escape! at Pacific Street. No cover until 11:00 pm.
- * \$1.75 well, beer, and wine at the Venture-N from noon until 9:00 pm.
- * Bad Boys dance at Gentry at 9:00 pm.
- * Open pool tables at the BriarPatch.
- * Monday night football on the big screen; free pizza; Miller Lite products for \$1.50; Cuervo shots \$2. Rascal's.
- * \$1.75 well drinks and longnecks at

Mary's. from 7:00 am to 9:00 pm.

Tuesday, Oct. 15

- * Helping Cross Dressers Anonymous meets at 239 Westheimer. 8:00 pm. 495-8009.
- * Basic Computer Skills Class at the Kolbe Project. 522-8182.
- * Gay Men HIV+ Psychotherapy at Montrose Counseling Center. 4:30 pm. 529-0037.
- * Outpatient Group Treatment at Montrose Counseling Center. 6:00 pm. 529-0037.
- * Aftercare Group Treatment at Montrose Counseling Center. 6:00 pm. 529-0037.
- * AIDS Alliance of the Bay Area meets at 7:00 pm. 488-4492.
- * Empowerment for Living meets for pot luck. 861-9149.
- * PROTECT: an HIV negative support group meets at 7:00 pm. 520-7870.
- * Free HIV testing by the Montrose Clinic at Club Body Houston. 8:00 pm. 520-2083.
- * Women Survivors of Childhood Abuse at Montrose Counseling Center. 6:30 pm. 529-0037.
- * Survivors of Loss support group meets at 8:30 pm. 778-2677.
- * FrontRunners meet at 6:30 pm. 522-8021.
- * Live Jazz at Borders Book Shop. 782-6066.
- * Houston Women's Caucus for Art reception at 7:00 pm. 1413 Westheimer. 520-7840.
- * Female Dancers at BerryHill II. 10:30 pm.
- * Jockey shorts contest at J.R.'s. 11:00 pm.
- * Executive night at Pacific Street. No cover with your personal business card.
- * Bad Boys dance at Gentry at 9:00 pm.
- * \$1.25 well drinks and domestic longnecks at Rascal's.
- * \$1.75 well drinks and longnecks at Mary's. from 7:00 am to 9:00 pm.
- * Male Strip finals at E/J's. 11:00 pm.
- * Free Dance Lessons by Southern Country at The Ranch.

Wednesday, Oct. 16

- * Free HIV testing and counseling by the Montrose Clinic at Mary's. 4:00 pm to 8:00 pm.
- * Houston Tennis Club meets at 10:30 pm. 537-1348.
- * Houston Pride Band practices at Dignity Houston. 524-0218.
- * GLOBAL meets at 4:00 pm. 743-7539.
- * Women's Action Coalition meets at Toupees at 7:00 pm. 867-9581.
- * Men's Network at Montrose Counseling Center. 7:00 pm. 529-0037.
- * Houston Tennis Club meets at 7:15 pm. 537-1348.
- * Lambda Rollerskating Club skates at 8:00 pm. 933-5818.
- * Women's Network at Montrose Counseling Center. 7:00 pm. 529-0037.
- * Ongoing Mixed Living in Process Group for men and women. 622-7250.
- * Living with Chronic Pain at Montrose Counseling Center. 9:30 pm. 529-0037.
- * Aftercare Group Treatment at Montrose Counseling Center. 6:00 pm. 529-0037.
- * Women's Issues Process Group at Montrose Counseling Center. 6:30 pm. 529-0037.
- * HIV Survivor Support Group meets at 7:00 pm. 782-4050.
- * Women's Clinic at the Montrose Clinic. 5:00 pm to 8:00 pm. 520-2000.
- * AVES offers free HIV testing from 10:00 am to 5:00 pm at 4125 SW Freeway, Suite 1717.
- * Lesbian/Bisexual Survivors at Montrose Counseling Center. 6:30 pm. 529-0037.
- * Films at the Museum of Fine Arts Houston: Scream of Stone at 7:30 pm. 639-7300.
- * Bad Boys dance at 7:00 pm. Male Strip Contest with special MC Dyan Michaels at Gentry. 11:00 pm.

* Showtunes night at J.R.'s. 10:00 pm.

- * \$1.50 domestic longnecks; Lil' Rascals strip contest at 10:00 pm & free hors d'oeuvres from 6:30 pm to 8:00 pm at Rascals.
- * Houston Council of Clubs meets at the Brazos River Bottom at 8:00 pm.
- * Free hors d'oeuvres from 6:30 pm to 8:00 pm at Rascal's.
- * Shiela Lennon's Karaoke night at Chances at 9:00 pm.
- * \$1.75 well, beer, and wine at the Venture-N from noon until 9:00 pm.
- * Prime Meet! at Pacific Street. No cover with a pass!
- * \$1.75 well drinks and longnecks at Mary's. from 7:00 am to 9:00 pm.
- * Boy's Night Out at Plaza 9200.

Thursday, Oct. 17

- * Free HIV testing and counseling by the Montrose Clinic at the Venture-N from 4:00pm to 8:00 pm.
- * Art Labs at The Art League at 1:00 pm. 225-9411
- * Front Runners meet at Memorial Park at 6:30 pm. 522-8021.
- * Gay Men's Chorus of Houston open rehearsal at 7:00 pm. 521-7464.
- * Twentysomething meets at 7:30 pm. 315-6786.
- * KPFT Lesbian and Gay Voices airs from 8:00 pm. to 10:00 pm. 866-6505.
- * Ongoing gay men's Living in Process Group. 622-7250.
- * Open Mike Night at Cafe Artiste. 1601 W. Main. 8:00 pm. 528-3704.
- * HIV+ Men Psychotherapy at Montrose Counseling Center. 1:15 pm. 529-0037.
- * Relapse Prevention at Montrose Counseling Center. 2:00 pm. 529-0037.
- * Outpatient Group Treatment at Montrose Counseling Center. 6:00 pm. 529-0037.
- * Aftercare Group Treatment at Montrose Counseling Center. 6:00 pm. 529-0037.
- * Meditation and Chanting Group meets at 7:00 pm. 942-0923.
- * HIV Affected at CASA. 7:00 pm. 796-2272.
- * Men's Therapy Group at Montrose Counseling Center. 7:00 pm. 529-0037.
- * HIV Survivor Support Group meets at 2929 Unity Drive. 7:00 pm. 782-4050
- * Center for the Healing of Racism. 7:30 pm. 738-RACE.
- * Gay Men's Chorus of Houston meets at 7:00 pm. 521-SING.
- * EAGLE (Exxon Gay and Lesbian Employees) meet at 7:00 pm at the Montrose Library's upstairs conference room. 425-4206.
- * Lecture: "Trashing, Bashing, and Responsibility: Second Thoughts on Contemporary Art" at 4100 Stanford. 7:00 pm. 526-0773.
- * The Center for AIDS Community Forums. 7:00 pm. 2700 Southwest Freeway. 527-8219.
- * Burger Night at the 611 Hyde Park Pub.
- * Male Dancers at BerryHill II at 10:30 pm.
- * South of the Border night at E/J's at 11:00 pm.
- * Star Search Gold Karaoke at J.R.'s at 10:00 pm.
- * Amateur strip contest at Heaven at 11:00 pm.
- * Sexx Thursdays at Pacific Street. No cover with current gym card.
- * Half-price night at Club Houston.
- * Bad Boys dance at Gentry at 9:00 pm.
- * Retro Rewind at Rascal's.
- * \$1.75 well drinks and longnecks at Mary's. from 7:00 am to 9:00 pm.
- * \$1.75 well, beer, and wine at the Venture-N from noon until 9:00 pm.
- * Nancy Ford's Comedic Bizarro from 8:30 to 10:00 pm. Open Mike & Karaoke from 10:30 pm to 1:00 am at Ms. B's.

Glow in the Dark Party!

**Saturday,
October 12**

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the black lights
go on and
everything
takes on a
shining new
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SPORTS NOTES



Members of IBL Pool League

Cycling Venue

The Houston Chain Gang Cycling Club sponsors a 35-mile ride on Sunday, Oct. 13 beginning at 8am. Meet on the south-east side of Mervyn's parking lot, West Oaks Mall, Highway 6 @ Westheimer. Sag support will be available. For info call 863-1860.

MSL Rained Out!

Play scheduled for Sunday, Oct. 6, was rained out. The Montrose Softball League (MSL) continues action on Sunday, Oct. 13 with the following schedule: at 11am Purple v. Red; 12pm Yellow v. Purple; 1pm Orange v. Yellow; 2pm Blue v. Orange; 3pm Green v. Blue; and at 4pm Green v. Red. The games from Oct. 6 will be played on Sunday, Oct. 27. All games are played at Tim Hearn Field, corner of Waugh & Memorial Dr.

There is never any softball experience needed to play in MSL and you may join at any time. Call 867-3913 for info.

Skating Club

The Lambda Rollerskating Club will join with the Southern Country group this Wednesday, Oct. 16 from 8-10pm at Starlite Skating Academy, 8075 Cook Rd. Admission is \$5 plus \$1.50 if you need skates. Everyone is welcome to join in for this fun event. For info, call Keith at 933-5818 or visit <http://members.aol.com/gayskate1/lambda.htm> on the net.

Deep Sea Name Hunt

The Deep Sea Fishing Club is accepting club name proposals. The newly formed Gay & Lesbian Fishing Club has had names such as Montrose Fishing Club, Pink Snapper Fishing Club and Mermaids with Mussels & Deep Sea Trolls! The first club fishing outing will be very soon with a 611 Hyde Park Pub organized

trip from Galveston. Cost will be about \$120 per person. Limited to 12 people, you need to call Dennis at 526-7070 for reservations and/or info call ASAP. To get on their mailing list, call John at 523-6381.

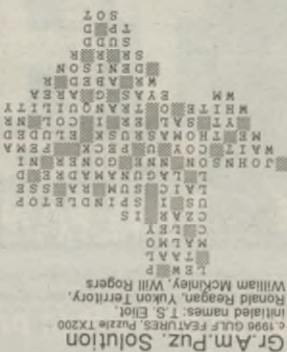
Bowling News

The Montrose Monday Night Men's League reports Division I standings as One Watches Four Play, Dog Tired & Narcisisters in 1st, 2nd and 3rd place, respectively. In Division II, Pearlized Sisters, Read My Hips & Five Easy Pickups occupy the top spots. High Scratch game of 247 was bowled by Tom O'Dell & Ralph Sikes and series of 682 by Ralph. Rich Hurder bowled High Handicapped game and Ralph series. Bowling is at Palace Lanes 9pm on Monday. For info call Tom at 522-9612.

The Inner Loop Sunday Evening League reports Macarena & Cheese in 1st, Palace Pussies in 2nd and Please Don't Eat the Daisy in 3rd. High Scratch and Handicap game was bowled by Stacy Moore, Scratch series by Chris Bennett & Handicap Series by John Marr for the men. For the women, Peri Cain bowled High Scratch Game and series, Judy High Handicap Game & Lisa McDougald Handicapped Series. Bowling is at Palace Lanes 7pm on Sunday.

The Wednesday Night League reports The Rump Rangers are in 1st with Polar Bears & We Come When You Call in 2nd & 3rd. Allen Schram bowled high handicapped series & Jack Green handicap game. For the women, Terry Shannon bowled high scratch game of 210 and series of 600. Kristen bowled high handicapped series & Tonya Laducer game. Call Tom at 522-9612 for info.

The Monday Night Women's League bowls at 6:15pm at AMF Southway on Mondays. TAZ Club is in 1st with Marks A Lot in 2nd, Lesborados in 3rd and In the Hole in 4th. For info, call Pat at 437-6218.



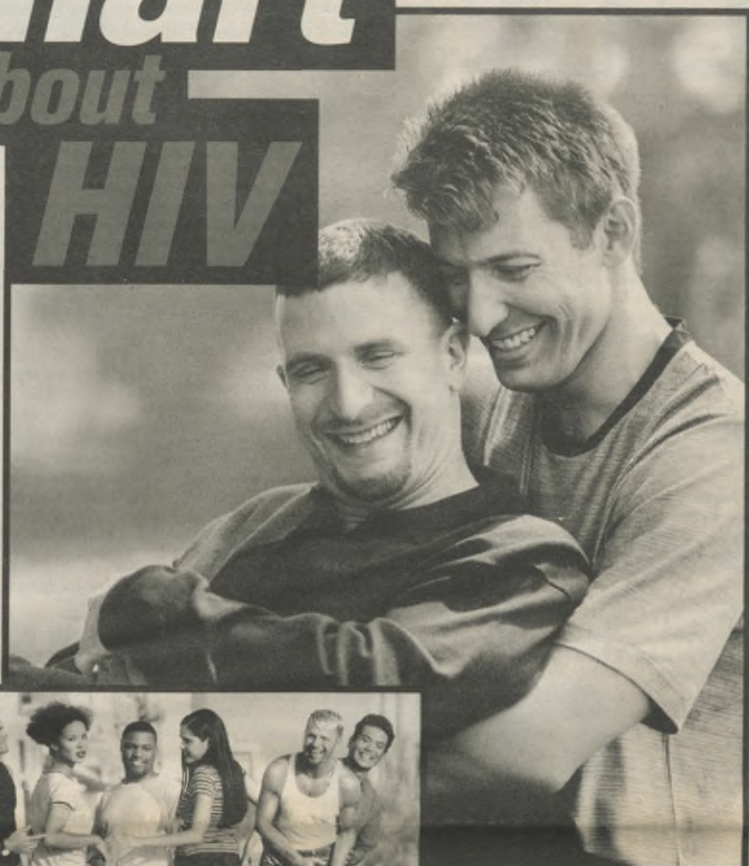
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DTP13480

OCTOBER 1996

Rodent Droppings



Kip is the newest friendly face behind the bar at Gentry!

By CAROLYN ROBERTS Format Change!

Change is a good thing! Things are always changing at the Houston Voice. This space will be used for birthdays, anniversaries, new advertiser info, past and upcoming fundraisers, and of course Rodent Droppings. The day-by-day blows of what is going on in the bars has been moved to the Community Calendar! So, turn to page 20 to find out what is happening where!

Milestones

Happy birthday to Bobbi Jo West! Bobbi Jo invites all entertainers to join her at her birthday show at Chances on Oct. 18 @ 8:00 pm and do a number! This is a public challenge! It is a fundraiser for the Colt 45's and Coronation XIII.

Happy birthdays to Houston Area Bears Tom H., Chris P., and Tom A.

A happy birthday to Tom of the Gay & Lesbian Yellow Pages!

A happy birthday to Jewel of Jewel's. Stop in her shop at 2404 Fairview and get ready for Halloween or a party! She has tons of neat clothes, wigs, costumes, and more!

Special congrats to Jeriel McNeil and Sean Carter! A new grand baby boy!

Special congrats to Ruby Stone and Renee Monroe on the welcomed addition of 4 new "grand babies." For those of you in the birthday pool, they were born Oct. 5.

New Houston Voice Advertisers!

The Houston Voice would like to welcome Colleen R. Logan, Ph.D., LPC to our family of advertisers. Colleen counsels individuals, groups, and couples. Her office is in the same building as the Houston Voice. Call her at 523-4567 or see the ad on page 13.

We also welcome Dale Roggenbuck of Pride Mortgage to our family of advertisers. Pride Mortgage will get your loan approved! Call him at 529-4488 or see the ad on page 22.

Other Important Stuff!

The fundraiser at the Brazos River Bottom, "Lean on Me," raised \$3660.50.

The fundraiser at Mary's, "Daddy's Boy" auction, raised \$325.

The fundraiser at the Venture-N, "Lust in Las Vegas," raised \$300.

Did you know that Mary's, naturally has after hours on Saturdays?

The Houston Dance Coalition will be presenting "Houston Dance!" on Oct. 19. Call 227-ARTS!

The Imperial Court reign XIII Candidate reception and buffet will be on Oct. 22 at 7:00 pm at Gentry along with the "I'm Coming Out" show at 8:00 pm.

Gary Poe from Dallas plays at the Briar-Patch this weekend!



The Titty Boys!



The Texas Renegades at the "Lust in Las Vegas" fundraiser at the Venture-N!

"Simply Barbara" will be playing at TheaterLab Houston. Call 227-ARTS!

Wilma of Mary's, naturally and Rodney (the florist) will be guest bartending at Cousins on Oct. 13 at 8:30 for the Turn-About show.

Timeless Taffeta has tons of Halloween stuff!

The Club Houston will be having another "Glow in the Dark" party on Oct. 12.

Dyan Michaels will be doing her "One (Wo) Man Show at E/J's on Oct. 23.

The Montrose Mine will be having their Turn-About show on Dec. 10.

The Texas Cowhurls will be doing a benefit on Nov. 8 at the Venture-N.

Basic Brothers is having a sale on Halloween costumes and other fun stuff needed for Halloween! Stop in and check it out!

Lost and Wanted To Be Found!

Last Thursday, (10/3) a gold chain necklace with a gold cross was lost at the Ripcord. The necklace has great sentimental value to its owner. If you found it, or know any info on please call 526-3028.

Rodent Droppings

The Lazer Wizard was cleaning out Harvey and Ratrat's cages last week. LW thought he had secured the little varmints in our bedroom. LW was out in the back yard and looked up to see Harvey climbing out through the cat's door! We still can't figure out how he escaped from the bedroom. Fortunately LW saw him in time or we would be minus one large ferret!

My disclaimer is in force! This part of the Houston Voice is purely trash, lies, and gossip! If you did it in public, and it was silly or self incriminating, I probably found out about it!

Ed G. (Falls off the bar stools at Chances): I hear you and Keith got so carried away that you fell off your bar stool and broke your wrist! What were you two doing? Does this mean you are going to be limp-wristed?

Byron (BRB): Is your tit a little sore? Next time I see you I'm gonna grab that new tit ring and give it a big tug!

Lorena (The Bug Lady): I hear you have quite a challenge on your hands! I hear you will have to work magic on a soon-to-be-open new bar in the Montrose!

David C. (BRB): What do you, ... nothing!

Cora Jean (hangs where ever they serve Curo): Or should I call you the "The Royal King of the Closet?"

Mike P. (BRB): Did you kiss the ground in SF or fall on your face?

Tom (Ripcord): Can't tell the difference between lipstick and cigarettes?

Robert H. (BRB): Did you have a good time in California? Can you remember it?

Steve (Chances): Stump broke! And I quote: "I have never felt so at home until I moved to Houston!"

TR. (hangs at every bar): Have you used your Snap-on Tool yet?

Jimmy Arispie: I heard you had to dig deep into your wallet to get that cute boy at the auction!

Joyce P: I hear you got your fanny spanked and loved it!

Daddy of Montrose's Ken Claude and Don

Gill: I'm sorry I missed the "Padding Dadies!"

Evalita: I heard you got "Jesus on the Line" and that's why you were rolling around on the floor! And what is this award you were given on Sunday night?

Jody (Alice): "We" love your golden star! Sisters of the Golden Spoon: There is only one way to describe ya'll-Fabulous!!

Shawna St. John: Company car or future parade vehicle?

Byron (Mr. Montrose): Seats are made for sitting on, not floorboards!

Jeff (BRB): Congrats, I hear you made less than your normal number of screw-ups on the show Sunday! And, I want my bra back!

Tuna Melt: "But does he love you like he's been loving me?"

Bill Havard (BRB): Rosco called! You have to go home! And the cast and crew of "Lean on Me" send you a big ol' Texas hug!

Day Leigh Edwards: Rumor has it you were given a "special treat" so that you can really be Trisha Yearwood!

Shelby St. John: Dance, dance! You go girl! I have a message from your roommate: "I wish you the best of luck, and you better come back with that crown after all I have had to listen to!"

Nicole Blake: It's all about your two dancers Sunday night! Rumor has it you only had one afternoon to get the routine down after an unnamed person quit 4 days before the show! And, I understand that you had a special delivery at the Reba concert Friday night! Was it the person who went with you or what?

Devon DeVasquez: I've heard of really "getting into your number," but don't you think that breaking your toe is a bit much?

Aaron (Rascal's): Isn't that like calling the kettle chartreuse?

J.D. (RSICSS): Have you lactated lately?

Eddie Taylor: Good job on such short notice! Good luck at IGRA!

Aaron K. Rumor has it you were afraid to tip Reba Sunday night! I don't know why; she is just a little red headed country girl!

Rodent Rooter: Thanks, thanks! And you are slipping this week!

Your anonymous fax had your fax number on it! Maybe with some investigation, I'll

find out who you are! But, even if I do, you know I NEVER, yes NEVER reveal my sources!

Marlene (Chances): You sure do know how to use a hoe!

Kurt (Rascal's): Was it finger lickin' good?

Wendy Chicago: I hear cracks are your style!

Aussie (Rascal's): Have you had your heels behind your head again?

Jeff (Houston Area Bears): I bet you looked real cute changing a flat tire wearing a wig and bustier!

Brian Keever: So, you want to stay home and hibernate?

Steve (Rascal's): And I quote: "That's the way I come...KaBoom!" And "I swear it is not mine, I was out of town that weekend!"

John (hangs at E/J's): And I quote: "Lee, it takes a lot to hide that smell!"

Chuck (Rascal's): You know that I misquote you on purpose!



Jacqueline is a fresh face behind the bar at Chances!



JR (winner) Jimmie (buyer) and Jim (1st runner up) at the Daddy's Boy auction at Mary's.

Barbara Walker (Montrose Clinic): I have a message for you: "I love you to death." Love Kimberly.

Bob B. (hangs at E/J's): You mastered "what" by the age of 24?

Batty Bob (PS): Welcome! Be sure to card everyone, even me!

Sean (Gentry): Maybe you should try the trick of pulling your panties down to get out of a speeding ticket!

Jeanie (hangs at Chances): You have a social disorder?

Miss D. (Cousin's): Why are you telling everyone that your basement plumbing is all stopped up? And I quote: "You are all silted up!"

Kip (Gentry): I have a message from your fans at E/J's: Good luck at Gentry!

Dirk (PS): So who are you supposed to be taking to dinner?

Chris (BRB): One more time: Z-ttl,-tm, x-PLU!

Woody (hangs everywhere): I hear you are single, again!

Miss A. (BRB): How did you get Vidor confused for Dallas?

Little Don (BRB): I have a message for you from the staff & management of the Brazos River Bottom: "We hope that you don't act like Big Don!"

Over heard at Gentry: "Boy Toys. Bad Boys, it doesn't matter as long as they are boys!"

Benjamin (Houston Voice): I understand that you were in Leather by Boots trying on c-rings last week! You were heard making all sorts of noises from the dressing room!

Tommy (Chances): Watch it! Ruby just may get you up on stage!

Brian (TNT T-shirts): And I quote: "I am more my mother's daughter than my father's son!"

Charlotta (BriarPatch): What's this ... California happening? You look tired. Why?

Jim Roberts (Venture-N): Handsome picture of you in this month's Leather Journal!

Hector (hangs at Mary's): Have you rearranged any furniture lately?

Don Dowden: So, you got roped into the Turn-About show at Cousin's. I'd love to see you in a dress!

Bob (hangs at the Ripcord): When you buy a pass for the bus, don't leave it in your hotel room!

Mark (Magnolia homemaker): Yes, I know that diamonds are a religious experience!

Shelby (Basic brothers): Have you been hanging out at the Mr. Car Wash again?

Please take a few minutes and fill out the "Readers Survey" that is in this week's issue of the Houston Voice. You can drop it by our office, Basic Brothers, Mary's, Chances, the Venture-N, and Gentry. This survey gives us a chance to hear your voice!

Have a great week!

Cuervolyn



Don Dowden rounds up the new bartenders at the BRB

Lovers Can Break More Than Hearts--Part I

Gays and Lesbians and Domestic Violence

By SUSAN HOLT

As Kevin waited for his lover, Donald, to bail him out of jail, he felt a sense of foreboding as he thought about returning home. Would he encounter more abuse at the hands of his partner or would Donald be loving and apologetic as he often was following a violent argument? Neighbors had summoned the police earlier and Kevin had attempted to communicate with the officers that Donald was the violent one, but Donald had insisted otherwise. After all, Kevin was the larger of the two.

However, height and weight can never be accurate indicators of a person's capacity for violence and Kevin and Donald's situation was no exception. For the five years that they had been together, Donald consistently abused Kevin—verbally, emotionally, and physically. At first Kevin told himself that Donald was "just under stress" or having a "bad day." Later, when he summoned the courage to talk to a friend about the abuse he was experiencing, he was told that "all guys fight." In fact, Donald often told him that no one would take him seriously and Kevin came to believe him. He'd eventually learned that there were no shelters just for gay men.

Sally's partner Carol, frequently criticizes and calls her names, humiliates her in front of others, consistently accuses Sally

of being unfaithful, and periodically threatens to "out" Sally to her employer and family. Although Sally believes that Carol's behavior is unjustified, she doesn't consider it abusive because she believes that women aren't violent. Carol has never hit her. Her friend Pam is an exception to this theory but Sally thinks it is because Pam's lover, Marsha, is "very butch." Marsha once beat Pam so severely that Pam sought refuge in a shelter for battered women but left after just one day because it took so much energy to continually refer to Marsha as "he."

Gay men and Lesbians like Kevin, Sally and Pam are victims not only of their partners' abusive behavior but also of a system that should have protected them but, rather, locked the closet door.

Domestic Violence is a continuum of abusive behavior that can be verbal/emotional (name-calling, threats, intimidation, isolating the partner), sexual (rape, refusing to practice safe sex), and physical (hitting, pushing, throwing objects, etc.) and is committed in an intimate relationship or family. It is usually cyclical and if left untreated, gets progressively worse over time.

The relationship most frequently begins as a loving one but tension builds and ultimately culminates in a violent episode. Commonly, the abuser feels remorseful and the couple experiences a "honeymoon" period. However, tension eventually rebuilds and the cycle repeats.

Studies show heterosexual violence rates to be between 25 to 50 percent of all couples. Lesbians have been the focus of a number of studies during the last decade but research of gay and lesbian partner abuse is still relatively sparse. However, the accumulating body of research indicates that same-gender domestic violence exists at the same rate as in opposite-gender relationships. In fact domestic violence is the third largest health problem facing the gay and lesbian community today and trails only behind AIDS and substance abuse. And like those issues, domestic violence is often misunderstood, feared, stigmatized, progressive, and can be lethal. And like AIDS and substance abuse, domestic violence is treatable.

Lesbians and Gay men who batter use the same tactics as heterosexual batterers to achieve power and control. But they may encounter numerous barriers when seeking help.

Victims as well as perpetrators may be afraid to seek help for fear of rejection and stigmatization from the heterosexual community because of homophobia and fear of rejection and stigmatization from the gay and lesbian community because of the violence.

For some Gay men and Lesbians, disclosing domestic violence is not only to disclose that the relationship is unhealthy, but to take the risk that the disclosure will reinforce the myth that Gays and Lesbians are pathological.

Support Services and friends often minimize battering because they think that Lesbians are not violent and that men can't be victims or other myths that abound about same-gender abuse.

Gay and Lesbian domestic violence is often life threatening and tragically tolerated by many in our society. Recognizing that your relationship is abusive is the first step to resolving the problem and breaking down the closet doors that shelter homophobia and domestic violence.

Services in Houston are limited for Gay and Lesbian individuals who are dealing with violence in their lives. The Montrose Counseling Center offers a support group for Lesbians who have been battered. A group for men has disbanded, but individual counseling is available. The Houston Area Women's Center (HAWC) recently started a program for Lesbians. Gay and Straight men who are victims of a battering situation can get emergency help from HAWC in the form of vouchers for a motel room for up to three days. Limited help is available through the family violence unit of the Houston Police Department.

Next week: October is Domestic Violence Awareness Month. This article is Part I of a three part series. Part II of "Breaking More Than Hearts" will appear in next week's issue of The Houston Voice. Susan Holt is the program coordinator for Domestic Violence Prevention, Outreach, and Treatment at the Los Angeles Gay & Lesbian Community Center.

Kaposi's Sarcoma: A Link to a Herpes Virus?

By DONNA ROCHON

Etiology of Kaposi's Sarcoma

Kaposi's Sarcoma (KS), an opportunistic infection seen in AIDS patients, is not a new cancer. On the contrary, it has been known to exist in a classic, non-fatal form since it was first described over 100 years ago by a Hungarian dermatologist. Over the last 15 years, an aggressive form of KS has been seen among homosexual men in association with AIDS. Because the tumor does not ordinarily occur in the 25 to 44 age range in any substantial number, the high incidence in this age cohort can therefore be called a true epidemic. In AIDS cases, the tumor looks very similar to the classic form of KS, appearing as painless purple to brownish, slightly raised spots on the skin or mucous membranes of the mouth. These lesions may occur anywhere on the body. The gastrointestinal tract is the most common site of internal involvement with KS, and on rare occasions, the lungs and other organs are involved, but usually this does not occur until the disease has spread in its final stages. In most cases, the lesions do not cause the patient any discomfort. The course of the tumor varies from individual to individual.

Epidemiology

KS has an epidemiology unlike any other opportunistic infection or AIDS-related malignancy. Although HIV is extending to all populations, KS continues to be primarily a disease of homosexual/bisexual males. In the United States, it is rare among those infected with HIV through heterosexual contact and even more rare among injection drug users (IDUs), transfusion recipients and hemophiliacs. KS occurs in only 3% of reported cases among women, unless they were infected from bisexual males, and it is extremely rare among children.

Recent reports place the incidence of KS among AIDS patients at 15 to 20% and although this figure may be down from past years, there is a greater portion of AIDS deaths due to KS. KS was once considered an easily treated, early stage disease; this pattern may be shifting to a more aggressive disease with decreased survival (Marco:13).

A Sexually Transmitted Disease?

Many epidemiologists hypothesize that the reason for the unusual distribution of KS among homosexual/bisexual men with AIDS is that it is caused by a sexu-

ally-transmitted agent (not HIV). Some studies have suggested that it may be associated with oral-anal sex (rimming), insertive anal sex or another sexually transmitted agent. Others have theorized that a greater risk for KS may be associated with a previous history of sexually transmitted disease and a higher number of sexual partners (Marco:8). Many researchers have long suspected that a virus other than HIV causes the disease. This theory received new support after several known cases of HIV-negative homosexual men were reported to have what is now considered epidemic KS. There are other arguments in favor of KS being caused by an unknown sexually transmitted agent. The high concentration of cases among homosexual men in the 25-44 age group parallels the HIV epidemic and KS is extremely rare among children. But the two most compelling arguments, until recently, have been the geographic distribution (New York, LA and San Francisco) and increased risk for women infected by bisexual mates (Marco:9).

Based on the mass of scientific evidence presented at the XI International Conference on AIDS, it now seems clear that there is a causal link between KS and a new strain of the human herpes virus, HHV-8, also known as Kaposi's Sarcoma Herpes Virus (KSHV). In experiments carried out independently around the world, researchers performed biopsies on KS lesions, conducted PCR tests and cultured peripheral blood mononuclear cells (PBMC) in an attempt to isolate herpes-like DNA sequences. Nearly 100 poster presentations and abstract discussions provided compelling laboratory evidence that HHV-8 plays a major role in the pathogenesis of KS: almost without fail, results showed a 100% association between KS and HHV-8.

Current Therapies and Treatment For KS

Most people with AIDS do not die from KS, they die of other diseases. In fact, KS can usually be treated—a patient with a CD4 cell count greater than 200 and no prior opportunistic infections has a good prognosis. Although there are presently no curative therapies, immunosuppressive agents help significantly. There are various treatment options at different stages, depending on the location and number of lesions, that can be palliative, limit morbidity and prolong survival.

Small lesions on the skin can be easily

removed or reduced with radiation to the involved areas, although scarring may occur. Another common approach is intralésional injections of cytotoxic chemotherapy, using an agent such as vinblastine. While effective for the treatment of bulkier and oral lesions, its side effects can include flu-like syndrome, intense edema (swelling) and alopecia (baldness) if used to treat around the eyebrows or hairline. For patients with widespread, cutaneous or visceral KS, systemic treatment with cytotoxic agents is the treatment of choice. Excellent response rates with manageable side effects have been seen with various treatment regimens using vincristine, vinblastine, doxorubicin (adriamycin), bleomycin and daunorubicin. Interferons have been widely used to treat AIDS-KS because they have a good toxicity profile at low doses, are immunoregulatory and can inhibit viral activity. Interferon-alpha has been shown to induce regression of KS lesions in roughly 30% of patients (Marco:31) but it can be very toxic at high doses.

The newest trend in KS treatment is a reformulation of old drugs, daunorubicin and doxorubicin encapsulated in liposomes. Liposomes are microscopic vesicles that resemble an empty cell and are composed of a lipid (fat) layer. The empty cells are capable of encapsulating, or surrounding, active drugs. The advantage is that liposome-coated drugs evade immune system detection and escape rapid capture and clearance from the bloodstream by the liver, spleen and bone marrow. The liposome delivers the drug to a reservoir in the lipids and allows it to get closer to a KS lesion, thus facilitating entry of the liposome-encapsulated drug directly into tumor cells intact. The drug can then be released over time directly into tumor cells, providing longer circulation and a higher concentration. Further, the highly toxic side effects of drugs like daunorubicin and doxorubicin, some of which can be life-threatening, can be minimized through this coating process.

Two liposome-coated drugs have recently been approved by the FDA as intravenous chemotherapy for the treatment of KS. Doxil, produced by Sequus, is encapsulated doxorubicin and has been approved for the treatment of AIDS-related KS in patients with disease that has progressed on prior combination chemotherapy or in patients who are intolerant to such therapy. DaunoXome, from NeXstar, is liposomal daunorubicin and has been approved as a first-line therapy for the treatment of KS.

With the recent identification of a new herpes virus in patients with KS, there have been reports on the use of antiherpes therapy (foscarnet, ganciclovir and acyclovir) to treat or prevent AIDS-KS. Several abstracts presented data indicating a correlation between administration of these antiherpes drugs and reduced risk of KS. Results suggest that foscarnet and ganciclovir may have more success in achieving their goal than acyclovir in preventing the occurrence of KS. Because antiherpes drugs do appear to be efficacious in preventing KS in patients with AIDS, the causal role of herpes virus in KS is supported. However, additional studies of the antiviral effect of these drugs are warranted to determine which drugs are most effective and which are least likely to generate drug resistance.

The KS Sequel: New Hope

Many AIDS clinicians view patients with AIDS-related malignancies as incurable. The latest laboratory and clinical data suggest that successful treatment may already be here for many of these patients. For example, the recent identification of KS herpes virus has provided a wealth of new therapeutic opportunities. Preliminary reports of new serologic assays, the efficacy of antiviral compounds and an improved understanding of the relationship between KS and HHV-8 offer multiple intervention points. Therapy for KS will be radically different in the next two years and physicians should approach patients with AIDS-related malignancies as having a potentially curable and eventually preventable disease. (Miles).

Bibliography:

Report: Current Issues in Research & Treatment of Kaposi's Sarcoma. New York, NY: Treatment Action Group.
Miles, Steven A.—1996—Curative therapy for AIDS cancers. Abstract Mo.B.435 presented at the XI International Conference on AIDS, Vancouver, BC.

Advances in the Treatment of Kaposi's Sarcoma Community Forum will be held on Thursday, Oct. 17, 1996 Forum to be held from 7:00 to 9:00 PM at American Red Cross Building, 2700 Southwest Freeway (North side of freeway between Kirby and Buffalo Freeway, Exit Kirby) Call The Center for AIDS at 713/527-8219 for more information.

Reader's Survey

Please assist us by filling out and mail in this reader's survey. This will help us decide the direction of the paper and ways to improve it. Please answer all questions you are comfortable with. None are intended to offend, the only intent is to help us to better serve our community. If you have something additional to say please include it typed on a separate piece of paper. Remember, we also are interested in forming a diverse focus group, so please call us at 529-8490 if you are interested in serving on it.

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Holistic HIV Retreat in Houston

The Ninth Annual AIDS, Medicine & Miracles holistic HIV retreat conference will be held in Houston at the Renaissance Hotel, Nov. 7-10. This nationally acclaimed retreat attracts hundreds of HIV positive individuals along with family, friends, and caregivers. The event was well received in Houston last year. Bart Loeser of the AIDS Foundation Houston says, "It is the most empowering day you could ever spend."

The conference explores the use of both traditional western medicine and complementary therapies, and provides a strong emphasis on caring for the whole person. Various workshops, plenary sessions, and creative experiences are offered to touch the heart and soul. Sessions include treatment issues, intimacy, grief and loss, humor and healing, massage, spirituality, nutrition, substance abuse and more.

Among the featured speakers are Terry Tafoya, PhD, a traditional Native American Storyteller; Sally Fisher, founder of the AIDS Mastery Workshop; Marge Poscher, MD, HIV/AIDS physician; Cade Fields-Gardner, MS, RD, HIV nutrition specialist; Gregg Cassin, founder of the San Francisco Center for Living; and Karen William, "Diva of Comedy."

Three all-day institutes will be held on Thursday, Nov. 7th including one called "Motivating Change in Our Daily Life" which is devoted to women living with HIV. A "Spanish Institute" will provide monolingual Latino/a and Hispanic communities with an integration of treatment updates and experiential group process. For caregivers and AIDS service organizations staff members the institute is called "Taking Care."

The conference tuition is \$155 for three days and includes meals. People living with HIV/AIDS are eligible for a reduced rate of \$55. Conference participants are also eligible for a group hotel rate of \$75 per night. There is a limited number of tuition scholarships available for people living with AIDS who are on disability. Early bird discounts on registration are good until Oct. 16.

Co-sponsors for the conference include: AIDS Foundation Houston, Body Positive Houston, HIV Wellness Center of Austin, and the Dallas AIDS Resource Center. For more information or to receive a registration brochure contact the AIDS, Medicine & Miracles office in Boulder, CO at 1-800-9875-9770.

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HOROSCOPE FOR THE WEEK OF OCTOBER 11 - 17, 1996

IF THIS WEEK IS YOUR BIRTHDAY: You should be smiling a lot in the months ahead. Your cup runneth over in the love department. Impulsiveness may look like you aren't thinking clearly, but the real truth is that once you make such a decision, you stick with it.

ARIES (March 21-April 20) Your intentions and thoughts are focused on your relationships, whether romantic, business-related or marriage. Any partnership desires you presently have will flourish and remain stable for quite some time. Any new business opportunity will flourish.

TAURUS (April 21 - May 21) A new love, or perhaps an ongoing relationship will finally turn in the direction you want it to. The need to be part of a couple is strong right now. You would be wise to tone down any urges to overdo or overindulge. Be cautious concerning transportation and travel.

GEMINI (May 22 - June 21) You find it very easy to attract or pursue romance this week. But do avoid any showdowns with loved ones, you can't expect to have everything go exactly the way you would like it to. All money making activities are successful and you should see an increase in your earnings.

CANCER (June 22 - July 23) The assertive and dynamic qualities of your personality will shine this week, along with any romantic notions. It is a volatile time for you with emotions running in every different direction, so proceed with extra caution. Job advancement is almost certain. **LEO** (July 24- August 23) A bit of upbeat financial news will keep you going strong for at least the rest of the year. Behind the scenes influences may be able to ease your way up the success ladder. There seems to be a certain amount of stress and strain in an important relationship.

VIRGO (August 24 - September 23) A fairly conservative type of investment will prove worth it's while this week. Don't take too much for granted, even though your social life is an absolute whirlwind. Your approach to work and achievement is effort, attention to detail, patience and good luck.

LIBRA (September 24 - October 23) Now is a time for opportunity and expansion for you. Just remember that good fortune is not going to come knocking at your door, you have to make yourself accessible, and be aware of the potential all around you. Don't overdo, overindulge or overspend!

SCORPIO (October 24 - November 22) You are due for a good time this week, so enjoy what you deserve. Your love life is moving along nicely at this time, don't let your active imagination ruin it for you. A nice financial bonanza is possible. There seems to be an influential person helping you out behind the scenes.

SAGITTARIUS (November 23 - December 21) Finding yourself in a social whirlwind will make you available for any possible romantic interests. Try to avoid immediate intanglement with a romantic prospect. Your health prospects are excellent this week. Take extra precautions when traveling or in transportation.

CAPRICORN (December 22 - January 20) It's a lively week for your social agenda and you will have a fair share of the popularity. Challenges may occur in a business relationship, so be prepared to cope diplomatically. Don't be too quick to act on rumors or too slow to get a move on when needed.

AQUARIUS (January 21 - February 19) You have a lot of positive energy that can be put to good use in building up your physical resources or work-related activities. Be especially careful to avoid accidents whether at home or in the workplace. Be cautious of any romantic involvements with strangers.

PISCES (February 20 - March 20) There seems to be a few minor hazards connected with a much too rambunctious social agenda. It may be time to redo your looks in some way. Avoid clashing with your mate or partner, your temper may cloud a relatively simple issue.

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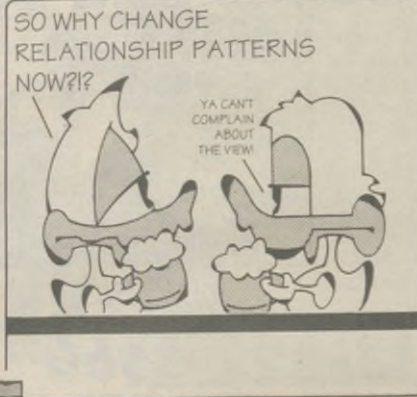
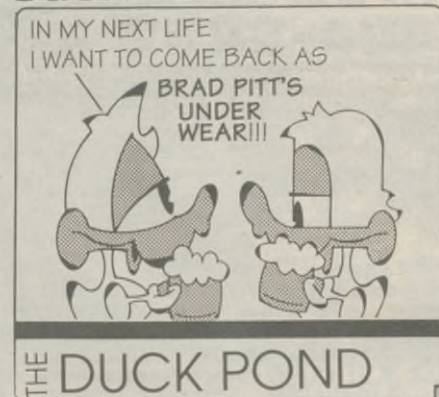
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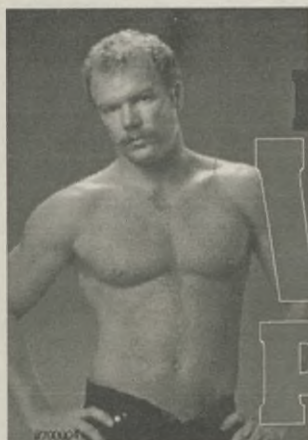
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HOUSTON VOICE PERSONALS



Women Seeking Women

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

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

SWF 5'7", 130 lbs. blonde hair, blue eyes, 20. Looking for a beautiful, feminine woman who is preferably the same as me. Wanting to share life, should like going to the beach, the movies & anywhere our hearts desire. I'm very attractive, so you must be also. No jokes or running around. Call Ext. 5197

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

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

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

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

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



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

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

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

SF 44, 5'1", 120 lbs. I love animals, gardening, reading & trying new things. I'd like to meet some women, 30-45, in the Houston area, for friendship, hanging out & a possible long-term relationship. No smokers, drugs or heavy drinkers. Call Ext. 5138

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

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

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

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

SWM 50, 5'9", slim build, very good shape. Looking for Afro-American male who is over 30 & has the same build. Give me a call sometime. Call Ext. 5233

SWM Brown hair, very blue eyes, 5'9", 180 lbs., very muscular, 34. Looking for a very sensual, feminine TV or TS. Let's have a really good time & see where it goes. Call Ext. 5232

SWM 27, 6'3", 195 lbs., in very good shape. Looking for a gay White man who is 27 or older, tall & masculine, to have fun with. Call Ext. 5231

SBM 22, 5'11", 143 lbs. In search of a single White male, 18-30, who is pretty masculine, handsome & not into games. Call Ext. 5229

I'm a married man, 40's, 5'9", 165 lbs., clean, discreet & HIV-. Looking for sexual buddies who are the same & want to go out & have fun. Call Ext. 5228

White male, 38, blonde hair, blue eyes, athletic. I'm wealthy, married & bored. You must be young, hot & a little wild. I'm a healthy, imaginative top. Call Ext. 5227

SM I'd like to meet a big, aggressive man who is HIV+ & would like to go at it like rabbits. Call Ext. 5156

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

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

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

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

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

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

SWM 37, dark olive complexion, very muscular, husky, 168 lbs. Looking for a guy who is larger than myself, very masculine & enjoys being a top. I would like to talk to you in person, if this fits your description. Call Ext. 5201

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

SWM 40, 5'11", 230 lbs., football player build, professional, HIV+, excellent health. Looking for someone 30-50, for friendship & a possible relationship. Enjoy traveling, the theater, cooking & quiet evenings at home. Prefer a non-smoker, non-drug user who can enjoy life to the fullest. Call Ext. 5223

SWM 37, 5'8", 165 lbs., muscular, smooth build, nice-looking, short dark brown hair, bottom. Would like to meet a man who is my age or older. Should be mature, fun, good-looking, well-built & have body and facial hair. I like tops. Prefer someone over 5'11" & over 190 lbs. If this is you, leave a message. Call Ext. 5123

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

SWM 50, 6', 190 lbs., brown eyes, brown hair. I'm HIV+ & a top daddy only. I prefer a single White male who is over 40 & less than 5'10". Must be a non-smoker. No drugs or fumes. Seeking someone who enjoys quiet life, movies, theaters & sci-fi. Call Ext. 5260

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

SM 35, 5'10", 175 lbs., blue-gray eyes, dark brown hair, goatee. Considered very attractive & well-endowed. I'm a professional, sincere, hard-working, fun-loving guy. Looking for this & the description must be precise. You're handsome, under 35, muscular, with a small waist & 10" or more. Call Ext. 5172

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

SWM I'm a chubby nudist in search of other chubby nudists. I'm 38, 5'7" & 228 lbs., with strawberry-blond hair & blue eyes. Race is not important. Call Ext. 5157

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

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

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

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

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

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

SAM 21, 5'6", 135 lbs. I'm very cute. I enjoy movies, dinner & occasionally going to bars. Looking for a gay White male, between 22-28, who is handsome. Call Ext. 5140

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

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

SWM 38, 6'2", 180 lbs., salt-and-pepper hair, mustache, goatee. I have a smooth body & I'm in good shape. I'm HIV+. Looking for a Hispanic top who is HIV+ & interested in trying to develop a relationship. Call Ext. 5135

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

SWM 29, 6'2", nice-looking. I have long hair. I enjoy alternative music. I'm in search of a Hispanic male 18-29 who likes the same things. Call Ext. 5111

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

SWM 40, red hair, blue eyes. I'm a gay transvestite looking for some young transsexuals to have get-togethers with, dressing & undressing. If you need a place to dress or you need clothes & make-up, give me a call. I love to get all dressed up. Looking for a playmate. Call Ext. 5126

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

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

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



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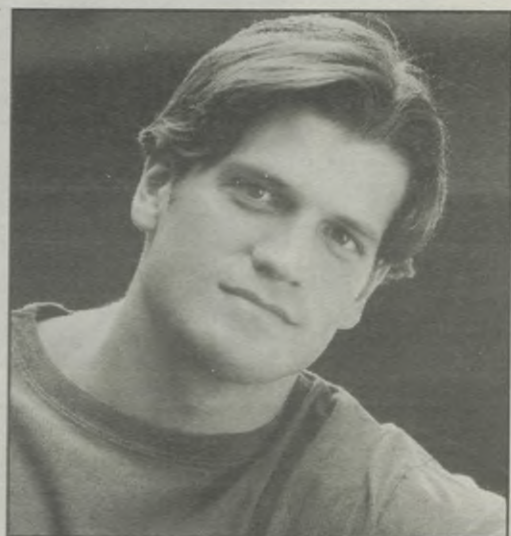
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