

HOUSTON

VOICE

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A Weekly Community News Publication

Gay Texans march to "Stop the Hate"



An estimated 5,000 people from all over the state marched in Austin Sunday to urge passage of a hate crime bill pending in the legislature.

Spirited march, rally bring serious message for lawmakers

FROM STAFF AND WIRE REPORTS

(AUSTIN)—They came to bring a serious, even somber message—to call on the state's lawmakers to enact legislation revising Texas' hate crimes law to provide specific protections for gay men and lesbians. But the prevailing mood among the 5000 or so marchers who gathered under unseasonably clear skies and a scorching sun last Sunday, April 2, seemed almost celebratory, as the Texas March to Stop the Violence, Stop the Hate wound its way to the Capitol in a kaleidoscope of rainbow flags and multi-colored contingency banners with a pulsating unity and pride.

The message was recaptured, however, in remarks from the podium at the spirited rally that followed the march on the Capitol lawn. "We are here

because we are angry, we are sad, we are hurt that some of our fellow Texans, and a growing number of them, are choosing to act on their hatred and fear of us," declared Letitia Gomez of the National Latino Lesbian and Gay Organization (LLEGO).

"We petition the Legislature to strengthen the hate crimes law and recognize that no citizen should become a target of violence because of his or her sexual orientation," said State Rep. Glen Maxey, Texas' only openly gay legislator.

Two years ago, Texas lawmakers passed a hate crime law that enhances penalties for crimes committed due to "bias or prejudice." Prosecutors and police, however, have said the statute is too vague and may be unconstitutional.

Activists from all over the state came to Austin last weekend to support a bill currently pending in the Legislature that enhances penalties for crimes motivated by prejudice or hatred on the basis of "race, color, disability, religion, national origin or sexual orientation."

The legislation has been a central priority of the state's gay lobby in the wake of a highly publicized string of hate-motivated murders here in 1994. Eight gay men were lost their lives in Texas last year, in horrific crimes that attracted national media attention.

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Fighting a hateful tide in the mainstream

Homophobia Put In Perspective

By SHERI COHEN DARBONNE

Houston Voice Editor

(HOUSTON)—The conference opened with an inspirational message from a fiery evangelist, thundering disapproval for a certain societal ill and praise for the hope of its eradication in the dutiful hands of the faithful in a single breath. In the audience, a sea of rapt faces—ministers in collar, suit—and-tied businesslike men scribbling on legal pads, keenly groomed, sitcom—wholesome ladies

in heels and flowy dresses, and silver-haired seniors—signaled its agreement. America is in the throes of a mad, moral crisis that must be stopped...but with love and faith, it is possible for decent to overcome.

No, this meeting was not another event churned out by the propaganda machine of the Radical Right. Rather, it was the second "Healing the Hurt: Conference of Homophobia" sponsored by the Houston chapter of Parents and Friends of Lesbians and Gays (P-FLAG)—a hopefully annual event that puts the very real problem of homophobia in perspective, and directs the fight against it to the proper battlefield—the American mainstream.

The conference, geared primarily to mainstream professionals affiliated with "support communities," institutions and services—such as education, law enforcement, social work, health care and mental health and, with a particularly intense emphasis this year, religion, is unique in its focus. Homophobia—not homosexuality—is the topic to be dealt with in this forum, the societal problem that needs attention and discussion.

Over 600 people attended this year's event at the Sheraton Astrodome Hotel last Friday and Saturday—doubling the roll from last year's first confer-

ence. The conference featured a long list of nationally prominent speakers and presenters; workshops and panels examined ways to reduce homophobia in schools, churches, and the work place, among other issues.

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Play Ball... The Montrose Softball League opened its 16th year of play Sunday, April 2. Pictured, The Houston Voice Team; Story on Page 13

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"PROUDLY TELL 'EM YOU SAW IT IN THE HOUSTON VOICE!"

'Boy to Boy': education on dating and sex for Generation X

(HOUSTON)—Recently released reports have indicated an alarming leap in the rate of new HIV infections among young gay and bisexual men, and 20—something local activist Michael Crawford believes he (and most of his young adult friends) know some of the reasons why.

Gay people in general, asserts Crawford, have never had a chance to learn the basics of dating and intimacy. Young gay adults usually have spent confusing adolescence lost in a heterosexist culture and often, deep in the closet. Deprived of the chance to go through the usual "fumbblings" of teenage social interaction, this is a group whose introduction to relationships and intimacy is in the context of sex, said Crawford, a member of the Houston support group "Twentysomething." And, too often, the urgency of safer sex is lost on a group with too great a desire for companionship and too little information, about both relationships and AIDS.

"A lot of my friends say they want a boyfriend, but most of them don't have one. There's a desire for intimacy (among young gay men) but we've only

learned about sex," he said.

Too, those sexual encounters usually occur in circumstances that are not necessarily conducive to negotiating safer sex, Crawford added. "Even I've had unsafe sexual encounters, and I'm someone who should know better," he said.

At the onset of the AIDS epidemic in the early 1980's, it was the gay community that took the lead in prevention and education. Gay men targeted their own community with life-saving "safer sex" messages, at a time when the rest of society believed the epidemic confined to "risk groups"—homosexuals, IV drug users, hemophiliacs and people from certain developing countries. The message worked, to a large measure: as HIV seroconversions continued to rise and spread in other communities, the rate of infections among gay men, for several years, went down.

Today, again, the charts are changing. A report released in late March by the Gay and Lesbian Medical Association (GLMA) warns that massive numbers of gay and bisexual Americans and Canadians will become newly infected with the HIV virus

unless dramatic new steps are taken.

Twentysomething is a support and social group for gay, lesbian, bisexual and transgendered young adults ages 20-29. The group's members represent a generation in the Houston gay and lesbian community, one that has grown in a comparatively more open and tolerant atmosphere, generally has come out at an earlier age, and is fiercely involved with community issues though not necessarily interested in politics. Their interests, issues and outlook are different, according to Crawford. They are bored with the idea of a lifestyle revolving around sex...but like everyone else, they're also human.

"Actually, most gay young adults have heard all the messages, and people know the basics, how to put on a condom. But the message that has dominated (prevention programs) so far hasn't dealt with the other issues. We don't know anything about dating. We don't learn how to say to someone, 'I think you're nice, I'd like to get to know you better...but I don't necessarily want to go to bed with you right now,'" he said. "It's not that there's a lack of information, but with so many

young queer guys not practicing safer sex, it seems the simple 'use a condom' message isn't working. The (prevention) message needs to change. It needs to expand, to deal with issues like coming out and self-esteem."

This in mind, the members of Twentysomething decided to develop a workshop specifically designed with the needs of their generation in mind. Titled "Boy to Boy," the first workshop is scheduled for this Tuesday, April 11, 7:00 p.m. at Bering Methodist Church, 1440 Harold.

The workshop grew out of a desire on the part of the group to empower young gay people to take control of their lives. HIV prevention education was an area that needed a special message for the group, said Crawford.

Instead of a strictly "teaching" format, the program will utilize an interactive session to enable the participants to learn communication skills. The workshop will be facilitated by Bart Looser of AIDS Foundation Houston's Wellness Program. For more information, call 315-6786.

Community Calendar

by Carolyn Larson

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

04/07 * Fem 2 Fem appear at J.R.'s at 7:00 p.m. to meet and sign autographs. A benefit for the Lesbian Health Initiative and 800 Pacific Street Employee Emergency Fund.

04/07 * "Getting The Love You Want"—workshop by Patrick Vachon. Call 529-1913. Voice Mail #4.

04/07 * Tim and Tracy perform at Ms. B's.

04/07 * Lesbian and Gay Voices on KPFT 6:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. 526-KPFT.

04/07 * Houston Mastery Weekend. Call 523-8711.

04/07 * Mishpachot Alizim—An organization that provides a forum for Gay and Lesbian Jews and their families. For more info, call 748-7079.

04/7 to 9 * NLA:H's Anniversary weekend run. Call 527-9666

04/08 * Westheimer Street Festival! For more info, call 521-0133.

04/08 * Fem 2 Fem perform at Heaven at midnight.

04/08 * Rainbow Ranglers guest bartend at the Brazos River Bottom.

04/09 * TGRA President's show at the Brazos River Bottom. 7:00 p.m.

04/09 * "Senza Misura" a recital. 11th to 20th century women composers. Unitarian Fellowship of Houston. 1504 Wirt Road. 7:30 p.m. \$10. \$5-students. Call 521-1681 for more info.

04/09 * Torn Levi Party at the Mon-

trose Mining Company.

04/11 * Houston Gay/Lesbian Pride Week meeting. 2700 Albany. 7:00 to 9:00 p.m. 529-6979.

04/11 * Financial Planning Workshop—at 1475 W. Gray at 7:00 p.m. Sponsored by AFH. Call Bart at 623-6796.

04/11 * Juice Plus Meeting at the Greenspoint Marriott. 7:30 p.m. Free. Call 578-3744 for more info.

04/11 * "Twentysomething" workshop entitled "Boy to Boy" 7:00 p.m. and Bering Church, 1440 Harold. Call 315-6786.

04/11 * Empowerment for Living at MCCR. Call 861-9149.

04/12 * Houston Gay and Lesbian Political Caucus Board meeting. 2700 Albany 7:00 p.m. Call 521-1000.

04/12 * Women's Network at the Montrose Counseling Center. 701 Richmond 7:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m. Call 529-0037.

04/12 * "Healing and Happiness through Wellness"—A program by Bart Loser of AFH, at the Multi-Purpose Center, 1475 W. Gray, 7:00 p.m. Call 623-6796 for more info.

04/12 * "Actualizing Health, Happiness, and Fulfillment" workshop sponsored by AFH. Call Bart @ 623-6796 for more info.

04/13 * The Last Days of Charles/Kathryn and Split: Portrait of a Drag Queen. At Rice University. Call 527-4882 for more info.

04/13 * Montrose Ice Picks skate at the Galleria. 8:00 p.m. Call 639-1432.

04/13 * National Leather Association: Houston—General meeting.

711 Hyde Park. 7:00 p.m. Call 527-9666.

04/13 * "HIV/AIDS Treatment Options," a program sponsored by AFH. Call Bart @ 623-6796 for more info.

04/13 * Montrose Ice Picks skate at the Galleria. Call 629-1432 for more info.

04/13 * Chat and Chew at Gentry.

04/13 * Maundy Thursday Services at Houston Mission Church, 1505 Nevada. 7:30 p.m.

04/13 * Maundy Thursday Service MCCR. 7:00 p.m.

04/14 * Good Friday Services: Community Gospel Church, Community of the Reconciling Servant, Houston Mission Church and Kingdom Community Church will present their annual joint "Seven Last Words" worship services at Houston Mission Church, 1505 Nevada at 7:30 p.m. Refreshments will be served after the service.

04/14 * Good Friday Service at MCCR @ 7:00 p.m.

04/14 * Texas Leather and Lace and Texas Riders Annual "Bunny Run."

04/14 * "Paris is Burning"—An award winning, witty and revealing documentary on "voguing" and the drag balls of Harlem. At Greenway 3. Call 626-0402 for limited show times.

04/14 * Pottery Classes with Jan Knight begin. Call Clifton at 522-8600 or 527-8490 to register.

04/15 * The Colt 45's guest bartend at the Brazos River Bottom.

04/15 * Jungle Lust III—A party sponsored by the Bayou City Boys

Club. Benefit for HCRN. Call 529-9712 for more info.

04/15 * Houston Wrestling club meets for practice and fun. 1475 W. Gray 1:00 p.m. Call 453-7406.

04/15 * LoneStar Volleyball Classic VIII Video Highlights Party at Gentry. 10:00 p.m.

04/15 * LoneStar Volleyball Classic VII Video highlights party at Gentry 7:00 p.m.

04/15 * "Bar Singin' Buddies Anonymous" benefit show for the Colt 45's. The New 611. 9:00 p.m.

04/16 * Easter Breakfast: Kingdom Community Church 8:00 a.m. 4404 Blossom. Sunday School will follow at 10:00 a.m. and Worship Service at 11:00 a.m.

04/16 * Sunrise Service at MCCR 6:30 p.m. and Breakfast @ 8:00 p.m. Call 861-9149 for location.

04/17 * Free Sign Language Classes at the Brazos River Bottom. 7:00 p.m.

04/18 * Empowerment for Living at MCCR. Call 861-9149.

04/19 * Lambda Skate Night at the Dairy Ashford Skate Rink. Call 933-5818.

04/20 * Power Workshop: Restoring Wellness at 1475 W. Gray Registration required. Call 522-6330.

04/21 * "Come Blow Your Horn"—Houston Premier performance of the Houston Pride Band. A benefit for Annise Parker Campaign fund. Texas Commerce Auditorium, 601 Travis, 7:00 p.m. \$15-singles, \$25-couples. Event co-sponsored by Pride @ Rice University. For more info, call Russel @ 524-0218 or E-mail HousTxBand@aol.com.

Gays, supporters rally in Austin for passage of hate crimes bill



Photo by Steven David

Several Houston organizations, including the Houston Gay and Lesbian Political Caucus, Pride Committee of Houston and the Spectrum '95 committee were represented at the march and rally last weekend

(Continued from Page 1)

Still, conservative legislators have loudly protested the inclusion of sexual orientation in the hate crimes law. In a widely publicized interview, State Rep. Warren Chisum (D-Pampa) went as far as to suggest that gays are responsible for the violence directed at them.

The crimes in 1994 took place in scattered areas of the state, from metropolitan areas including Houston and Dallas to small cities like Midland and Tyler. The makeup of the march on Sunday, fittingly, also reflected the regional diversity of Texas, with contingents of marchers from Lubbock, Amarillo, Port Aransas, Waco, Temple and Killeen represented along with Austin, Dallas, Houston, San Antonio and El Paso.

Members of the families of the gay victims, carrying signs with photographs of their slain loved ones, joined the marchers. Several relatives of the gay murder victims also delivered emotional speeches at the rally. Daniel

Saldana, whose son Ernest was beaten to death by gay-bashers in Austin last November, told the crowd that passage of the hate crimes bill could make spare other the families the pain that he and his family were going through.

Other speakers at the rally included Terri Richardson, president of the Houston Gay and Lesbian Political Caucus; Francis "Sissy" Farenthold and the Rev. Mel White.

Dianne Hardy-Garcia, executive director of the Lesbian/Gay Rights Lobby of Texas, urged non-gay Texans to put aside any personal prejudices to "stand united against violence."

"You don't have to agree with us...all you have to do with this issue is say that it's wrong to kill people because we disagree."

Many of the marchers remained in Austin through Monday to participate in a special day of legislative lobbying on hate crimes and other issues of concern to gay men and lesbians at the urging of LGRL.



Photo by Steven David

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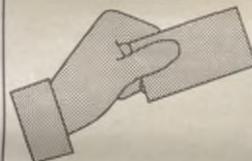
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Half-sister of house speaker urges gay activism

By PATRICK REYNA

FOR THE HOUSTON VOICE

MIAMI BEACH, Fla., Saturday, April 1 (AP)—Waves of applause greeted Candace Gingrich as she urged gays and lesbians Saturday to "come out" and combat the resurgent political right led in part by her half-brother, House Speaker Newt Gingrich.

Ms. Gingrich, a liberal Democrat and lesbian, increasingly has spoken out publicly since her brother became speaker following last November's Republican victories.

"Hopefully, we can help put an end to anti-gay legislation that just keeps cropping up and unfortunately has been cropping up even more recently since the Republicans took control of the House," said Ms. Gingrich, 28, a delivery service shipper and computer technician for Pennsylvania's Department of Education.

Her brother was not left out of criticism as the soft-spoken Ms. Gingrich addressed the Pathways To Pride conference sponsored by the Miami-based gay rights public information group Safeguarding American Values for Everyone, or SAVE.

But she lauded the return to the 1996 federal budget of funding for AIDS research, as well as money earmarked for housing indigent AIDS patients. Funding for both programs had been removed from the budget proposal earlier.

Saying "tolerance at this time for (lesbians and gays) is not enough," Ms. Gingrich called for support of the Employment Nondiscrimination Act, awaiting passage in Congress.

"Personally, I've never been a victim. I've not been fired or not hired because of my sexual orientation," she said. "But I have very close friends, and there are instances all over the country where we know people that've been fired, been harassed, whose lives have been turned upside down, merely because of who they are."

The most important first step before lesbians and gays can start to seek political change, she said, must be made by publicly acknowledging their homosexuality.

"It's very important for us to remain visible, to not be the faceless, nameless citizens that we've been allowed to kind of be pushed back into over the years," Ms. Gingrich said.

Talk about host and arch-homophobe Pat Buchanan has announced his bid to be the Republican nominee for President of the United States. He has also established a toll-free number

1-800-GO-PAT-GO.

Intended as a fundraising effort, the phone number also offers an opportunity for those who disagree with Buchanan and his bigotry to register their opposition, literally, at his expense.

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Community Organizations Bulletin Board

'Gay Week' At UH

GLOBAL, the Gay, Lesbian, and Bisexual Alliance will be sponsoring "Gay Week" at the University of Houston from April 10-14. This week will be full of entertainment and education aimed at the university community and the community at large. Films, speakers, and showings of Gay, Lesbian, and Bisexual Talent will be part of the fun.

Headlining the week will be a keynote address by Dianne Hardy-Garcia, the executive director of the Lesbian/Gay Rights Lobby of Texas. Hardy-Garcia has been in the forefront of the fight against hate crimes and is the state's only full-time lobbyist for gay and lesbian rights. She was recently featured in an article in "Vanity Fair" magazine on hate crimes in Texas and is currently lobbying the Texas Legislature to pass hate crimes legislation. She will be speaking on Monday, April 10 at 7:30 pm in the University Center Houston Room, on the UH Campus.

Other events this week include a coffee house on Tuesday night, April 11, featuring gay and lesbian poets and open mic, at 8:00 pm in Oberholtzer Hall, Rm. 3A on the UH Campus; a presentation of "The Hunger," starring Catherine Deneuve, Susan Sarandon, and David Bowie twice on Wednesday night, April 12, in the University Center Pacific Room; and a Performance Night featuring Gay and Lesbian Talent on Thursday night, April 13. Also, please join the students of the University of Houston at Rich's, 2401 San Jacinto, on Friday, April 14, as they continue the celebration of GAY WEEK!

For more information, contact Ruben Cantu at 743-7539.

Dizinger Photography Class

Richard Hinsen of the Houston Center for Photography will teach a free, eight week photography class for the Dizinger Foundation, beginning April 24. Classes meet Monday and Wednesday, 5:30-7:30 p.m. Participants need a basic, 35mm single-lens reflex camera. Film, darkroom and other supplies are provided by the Dizinger Foundation. To register, call Clifton Hazelwood at the Dizinger Art Gallery, 527-8490 or 522-8660 to register.

Pottery classes with teacher Jan Knight begin April 14, 12:00-3:00 p.m. and will run for two more Fridays. Framing classes are also being planned. Call the above number to register or for more information.

'Positive Choices' Classes

The "Positive Choices" Wellness Program, a consortium of local AIDS service agencies is offering free regular classes to discuss options for improving and maintaining the health of HIV+ individuals. These classes provide vital information to help people coping with HIV/AIDS to address legal, financial and health issues before their situations become

crises.

This week, the Wellness Program will feature a panel of experts addressing "HIV/AIDS Financial Issues" on Tuesday, April 11. The workshop will focus on organization, disability concerns, entitlements, insurance, and budgeting.

On Wednesday, March 12, Bart Loeser will present the introductory program, "Actualizing Health, Happiness and Fulfillment," teaching not only how to survive, but how to thrive with HIV/AIDS. This workshop is a great foundation for the overall program and can be applicable to everyone.

Then on Thursday, March 13, the program will offer another panel of experts discussing the issues of "HIV/AIDS Treatment Options," to help people learn the basics of understanding lab test results, medical approaches and treatment options, as well as medical information resources. "It's a great resource for understanding your relationship with your doctor and how to make the best choices for individualized therapy," states program coordinator Bart Loeser.

The workshops are open to anyone and take place from 7:00-9:00 p.m. at the Metropolitan Multiservice Center, 1475 W. Gray. Although free classes are subject to cancellation when minimum attendance is not met, RSVP is strongly encouraged (although not required). For more information about these or other wellness programs, please contact Bart Loeser at AIDS Foundation Houston, (713) 623-6796 or Scott Clark at Body Positive, (713) 524-2374.

Loving Arms Gets PR Ball Proceeds

Families assisted by the Loving Arms Foundation are benefiting from financial support raised during the First P.R. Ball, a pre-Mardi Gras celebration held by The Royal Sovereign and Imperial Court of the Single Star of Houston (R.S.I.C.S.S.), also known as "The Court".

The festive ball, entitled "A Night of Fantasy," included costume presentations, check presentations from local businesses, and a procession of The Court's royal monarchs. Founded nearly 30 years ago in San Francisco, The Court primarily combines its community involvements with laughter, camp and pageantry.

Proceeds raised by the event enabled the organization to present the Loving Arms Foundation with a check for \$3265.62. "Because of the generous support of organizations such as The Court, we are able to improve the lives of many children and families affected by AIDS and HIV," said Audrey Gas-sama, executive director of the Loving Arms Foundation. "We couldn't exist without this love and support."

Established in 1993, Loving Arms Foundation aims to improve the lives of AIDS/HIV-infected children and their families through counseling, legal advice, day care, emotional support, and pastoral care.

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P-FLAG Conference on Homophobia: education, inspiration and family values

(Continued from Page 1)

The evangelist who delivered the opening keynote speech at the conference was Jane Adams ("Janie") Spahr, the openly lesbian minister who was at the center of a prominent controversy in the Presbyterian Church from 1991-93. In her address, Spahr sought to expose the pervasive and destructive effects of heterosexism in the American culture. Those effects are particularly devastating when they come from religious institutions and faith communities, she noted.

Heterosexism, or the promotion of heterosexuality as the only acceptable sexual orientation, "Has systemized fear, abuse and violence against us, our family and friends...it keeps us and our families in secret and perpetuates a system of denial," Spahr told the crowd. Homophobic churches and society have kept many gay and lesbian people tucked in guilt-ridden closets of their own making, by smothering them in negative messages and misinterpretations of Biblical Scripture.

Spahr suggested, "Many churches perpetuate a 'bad person' or 'abomination' mentality

But while gays and lesbians often accept the definition of their identities as unnatural, the very words used against them are the same labels long used to malign the forces of nature. Spahr pointed out, "We are called mysterious, dark, sensual, perverted and uncontrollable," she said.

The good news, according to Spahr, is that when gay men and lesbians come out, they have the chance to prove the systemized misinformation wrong—and believe it or not, this can be accomplished. She inspired the audience with her stories of "conver-



Human Rights Award winner Wesley Beard

sion" from the trappings prejudice through the persistence of honest, open and out gay men and lesbians who refuse to accept the lies.

Family and friends of gay men and lesbians share the responsibility of re-educating. Spahr and other speakers opined at the P-FLAG conference. And while the organization's members know they are still swimming against the tide in the mainstream, they are also

aware of an important factor: sometimes, peers can provide a more effective voice in reaching those who are confused.

Other guests at the conference included former Portland, Oregon Police Chief Tom Potter (and proud father) and his lesbian daughter,

Katie, also a police officer; and former presidential adviser David Mixner, and Cheryl Weill, a scientist whose field of research expertise is sexual orientation biology.

A highlight of the conference was the presentation of the organization's first National Human Rights Award for Bravery to Jacksonville auctioneer Wesley Beard. Beard, honored for the great personal risks he took as organizer of the 'Stop the Hate' rallies in Tyler and East Texas' first lesbian and gay alliance, received a cash prize of \$2,500 as well as specially designed, commemorative trophy.

Overall, the conference accomplished many of its goals merely by bringing gays and lesbians, their parents, family and friends, and hundreds of community professionals together to interact in a mutually supportive environment. Unlike the conventions scripted by the Radical Right, "Healing the Hurt '95" was an uplifting demonstration of true and basic Family Values.

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Letters to the Editor

Thanks From The Colt 45's

From JACKIE AGUILERA

Vice President, Public Service, Colt 45's Inc.

Walt Whitman was quoted as saying "When I give, I give myself," and it is in this frame that the Colt 45's would like to honor the following for their giving of themselves through the Colt 45's assistance fund.

First of all, the Colt 45's owe an abundance of thanks and praise for the years of support that Mr. TGRA Virgil Burke and Miss Shelby St. John have generously showered upon our clients. Last year, they both made our clients their number one priority, and through their talents, years of hard work, and caring hearts, Virgil and Shelby joined in a mass community effort that was truly momentous, and thankfully is a continuous support for our clients. On behalf of those very clients, the Colt 45's most humbly salute Virgil and Shelby and strongly support Shelby's bid for Miss TGRA and Virgil's pursuit of Mr. TGRA.

In addition, the Colt 45's proudly thank and praise the Royal Sovereign Imperial Court of the Single Star's continuous support and most graciously thank Empress Crystal Rae Lee Love and Emperor Jerry Moran for the honor of choosing the Colt 45's as their benefactors and for making the Colt 45's "The Imperial Protectors of Empress XI." This honor commemorates years of mutual respect and support, and the Colt 45's are more appreciative, especially on the behalf of their clients.

Thirdly, the Colt 45's most auspiciously thank the Houston Chapter of TGRA for their concerns and assistance in helping the Colt 45's remain in good legal standing. Without their perseverance to insure that we had the information we needed to continue serving the community and assisting our clients, the long term losses for

those we serve would have been devastating. The outstanding efforts of the Board and the Membership of TGRA to put clients' needs first is commendable and the Colt 45's tip their hats in thanks for their active interest in, and support of the community we all serve.

Most importantly, the Colt 45's thank the community, for without the support of the community there are no funds to activate and distribute forms of welcome relief to those less fortunate than ourselves.

'First Step' For LGRL

From SARAH DEPALMA

Chair, It's Time, Texas

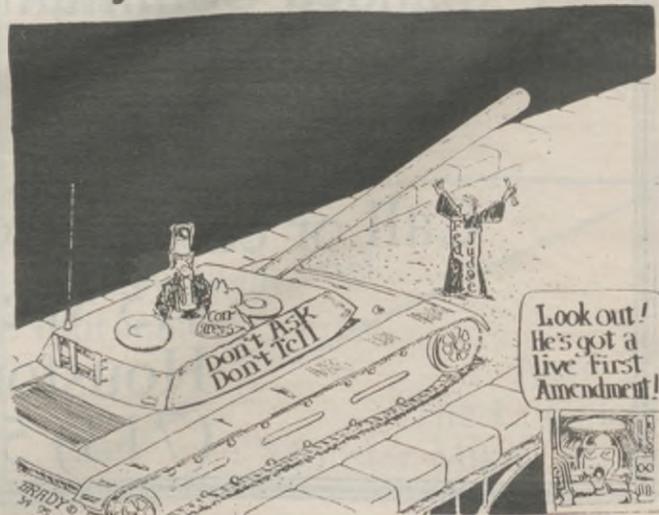
We wish to acknowledge the decision made by the Lesbian/Gay Rights Lobby board of directors to form a committee to study ways of seeking transgender inclusion in future hate crimes legislation. While this does not come close to meeting our demand to be included in the bill currently before the legislature, their decision is a good first step in the right direction and we acknowledge it as such.

We would also like to thank Dianne Hardy-Garcia for keeping her word and presenting the resolution to the board for their consideration. It was very gracious of her to invite our chair, Sarah DePalma, to speak at the rally and we offer our thanks.

It must be pointed out, however, that it took the staging of a highly successful protest at the March on Austin to obtain even this small concession, and this is only a commitment to talk about talking about transgender inclusion. So although we appreciate this first step, It's Time, Texas! will continue to closely monitor the LGRL for signs that their words will be translated into action. We continue to strongly urge that an openly transgendered person be placed on their board of directors and look forward to working with the LGRL on matters of transgender inclusion in the future.

The Houston Voice welcomes well-written, insightful and to-the-point commentaries for our opinion/editorial pages. We also welcome "counterpoint" articles that represent a different view on the issues approached in articles we have already run. We reserve the right to edit for length, format and clarity. The views expressed in guest commentaries and letters to the editor published in the Houston Voice are those of the writers. We seek to provide a broad-based forum which reflects the varying points of view of our rich and diverse community. Selection for publication is at our discretion. Send articles to: The Houston Voice, Attn.: Editor, 811 Westheimer, Houston, TX 77006, or fax to 713-529-9531.

Brady's Corner



OPINION

Gay Today

by Glen Webber



The Fight Of Our Lives

P.T. Barnum was right when he said there is a sucker born every minute. One only needs to look at last November's elections to realize that those who voted believed everything they were told. The circus now isn't P.T. Barnum's "Greatest Show On Earth," but the Republican Party Circus. In city after city, state after state, the loud noise of landslide victories has given power to the party whose most vocal supporters are the religious right. These self-righteous people's views on how life in America should be are dangerous to our freedom as the gay community. Their "Family Values" theme is the bullet that will shoot our community right in the heart.

Keep in mind our lack of interest in the election last fall has cost us friends locally and nationally. Our remaining gay-friendly elected officials must be wondering...where is the support they need to stay in office and work for our protection? The religious right has not only gained a foothold in the door of the Republican Party but of America as well. In cities and towns across America, they are working to destroy the gains made by us in order to strengthen their power base. And how are they doing that? By scaring the hell out of middle America.

One base of power they are attaining directly is election on school boards. Using scare tactics to attract support, they want to change what is being taught to kids. Instead of teaching free will, self-esteem and lifestyle choices with responsibilities, they want to program kids to be closed-minded robots who follow a strict religious ideology. Included in that ideology is a heavy anti-gay message. Pity the poor kids who will need help and won't get it...who will kill

themselves because they don't fit in. Hate is the new four-letter word that won't go away anytime soon. And with so many elected candidates who owe their support to the religious right, the anti-gay message is increasing.

Cities that have passed anti-discrimination or protection clauses in their city charters are now being asked to remove those clauses. Without these protections, many gays will find themselves out of jobs and homes with nowhere to turn. If you think this can't happen, wait for a couple more elections and see the Republicans and their right-wing power base grow stronger.

The right wing hate mongers have gained control in Congress and now are on the attack. Because the Public Broadcasting Service dared show the three part mini-series "Tales of the City" and it was a rating hit, funding for PBS is now in jeopardy. Because the National Endowment for the Arts supports gay artist and other artists who approach issues with an open mind, its continued existence is in doubt. Because AIDS is now being touted again as a gay disease, AIDS funding is now in question.

What can we do to reverse this trend? First, we have to admit that our liberty is in question. We have to accept that regardless of our economic level or family beliefs, we are gay and part of the gay community. Period. If those gay Republicans think they are going to make a difference in that party, they are wrong. They are being used now, but when the right wing gains total control they will be thrown out of the party. The battle hand needs you and every gay person to work for the preservation of the gay community: to fight for our rights to live openly and freely, to register and vote and make sure our voices are heard. Those who seek to destroy us are gaining ground. It is now or never.



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The Voice Reader

by Chris Lambert



Love And Life Among The Yuppies

("Just as I Am" by E. Lynn Harris, \$10.95 paperback, Anchor Books, 1994, 368 pages).

From porn to politics to prose, gay writing continues to develop toward a more, shall we say, mainstream type...though God knows a fair amount of "straight" fiction seems headed in the opposite direction. The arguments, pro and con, over the mainstreaming of "gay" fiction is one of those things over which endless cups of cafe latte can be and are consumed. Nevertheless, the mainstreaming beat goes on.

"Just as I am," the second novel by Mr. Harris, is a mainstreaming attempt to

explore a territory in which few of us have any experience—gay, black urban professionals, a subset of a subset of a subset. Mr. Harris deserves credit for making this anthropological sounding study human and interesting, and not just polemical, though there is the occasional de rigueur political statement about gay rights or the AIDS crisis.

The novel's theme is "lessons on lust, loss, love, and life" as demonstrated by the novel main protagonist, Raymond, a closeted lawyer in Atlanta, who is going through the usual hell of looking for true love. The novel chronicles his life as he moves progressively from lust, a torrid affair with a paranoid "straight" pro football player, through the loss to AIDS of his friend Kyle, to finally finding the life partner

he wants so desperately. During this progression Raymond also deals with such problems as his possible bisexuality, therapy, and coming more or less out of the closet. The novel is successful in making us care about the joys and pains of the characters. Kyle, the flaming New York queen, is especially delicious. The author is a storyteller. "Just as I am" is a good read.

Mr. Harris also attempts some rather interesting effects in his novel. For example, the story line actually has two narrators, the other being Nicole, a successful straight Broadway actress who Raymond, in a period of confusion, romanced and, once, had sex with. Nicole is going through the same lust-loss-love odyssey as Raymond with the twist that she no longer trusts men, fearing all are bisexual and incapable of loyalty. This double hero-heroine format is, in Mr. Harris' hands, much less confusing than it sounds. The two narrators provide a stereo view of events.

Bisexuality is a major issue. Nicole considers herself, in some extreme way, betrayed. Raymond calls himself a "sexual mulatto," a nice phrase, to express his confusion and guilt over what he is and wants. Though the novel makes it clear that Raymond is gay, he does have twinges. Family and societal pressures can make twinges major problems. The author makes the interesting point that while gays have a problem with commitment and long term loyalty, bisexuals must have an even greater problem. The playing field is larger. There's a double set of rules. "Will the real me please stand up!" Gosh, and I thought being gay was hard.

The novel does have some problems, the main one being that some issues which are addressed are never really explored. One topic which is sideswiped is religion. The title of the book is also the title of a famous hymn, and several of the characters go to church, have prayer partners, and so forth. Religion is a major part of Southern life, even Southern yuppies, but, of course, those Old Testament injunctions DO keep cropping up. The issue is never adequately resolved. Instead, the characters mumble about "acceptance" and move on.

A second problem is sex. Sex for sex, without commitment, which happens VERY infrequently, is described in the usual twentieth century style. Sex among the committed, even LESS frequent, is described with words such as "member." Perhaps such Victorianism enhances the value of the "real" experience. Perhaps. Even more curiously, Raymond considers chastity to be the greatest expression of love in the age of AIDS. So, we have at least two instances of where loving, not to say horny committed couples express their deepest feelings by sleeping naked together without sex. Indeed, the ultimate seems to be the capacity to, babylike, drift blissfully off to sleep while cuddled with the object of your desire. Excuse me? I thought only Albigenian elders did such things. Maybe I'm missing a major trend here, but I think not.

Finally, there are some unrealities in the book. Raymond puts a law firm partnership offer on hold and continues to collect what seems to be close to a six figure salary while taking off half a year to care for the dying Kyle. Everybody is handsome and/or beautiful. Despite everybody's paranoia, virtually all the heteros are sensitive, warm and supporting. Obviously, I should have listened to my Mom and became a Yuppie.

There are some mistakes in the book—grammar and typos. Somebody at Anchor is not doing his/her job. But that is a minor irritation. Mr. Harris writes gracefully and well and he had told an interesting story.

(Editor's note: Author E. Lynn Harris was scheduled to appear in Houston for a book-signing event Thursday evening, April 6 at 7:00 p.m. at Crossroads Market & Bookstore, 610 West Alabama).

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Tokyo company that fired AIDS victim ordered to pay damages

By PETER LANDERS

FOR THE HOUSTON VOICE

TOKYO, Thursday, March 30 (AP)—A company that fired an employee because he had the AIDS virus must rehire him and pay damages, a Tokyo court ordered Thursday in Japan's first ruling on the right of AIDS victims to work.

The Tokyo District Court ruling also was the latest in recent years to challenge the legal rights of Japanese employers, who have long enjoyed favorable treatment on such issues as

hiring and defective products.

The court ordered a computer software company to pay the man, identified only as Mr. A, 6 million yen, or about \$68,000, in damages and 9 million yen, or about \$100,000, in back pay.

The company learned of Mr. A's infection through a hospital AIDS test that was conducted without his knowledge when he was assigned to a company subsidiary in Southeast Asia.

The man was ordered back to Japan, where he was informed of his infection by the company president. The com-

pany, which also was not identified, fired him shortly afterward, in Oct. 1992.

"With this decision, corporate attitudes will have to change," said the man's lawyer, Tsutomu Shimizu.

The decision was one of several landmark cases to go against corporations in recent years. Last year, a court in western Japan ordered Matsushita Electric Industrial Co. to compensate a customer for a defective television set that exploded.

Yet the fact that the plaintiff chose to

remain anonymous illustrated the widespread prejudice in Japan against AIDS victims.

"There's social discrimination," said Shimizu. "The situation in Japan now is such that if his name were disclosed, the discrimination would extend even to his family."

According to the Health and Welfare Ministry, 3233 people in Japan have the virus that causes AIDS, up from 2914 a year ago. The ministry says 889 have full-blown AIDS, and 536 people have died from the disease.

Judge precludes church from entering same-sex trial

HONOLULU, Wednesday, March 29 (AP)—A Circuit judge refused Tuesday to permit the Mormon Church to enter the legal battle to keep same-sex marriages illegal in Hawaii.

The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints wanted to join the state in defending the ban on same-sex marriages.

Three gay and lesbian couples filed a lawsuit against the state four years ago seeking to overturn the law banning their marriages. Preliminary court rulings sided with the couples, and the matter is set to be heard by the state Supreme Court in September.

The Mormon Church submitted its petition seeking to intervene earlier this winter. At the time, Don Hallstrom, the regional representative for the church, said it did so because of the seriousness of the issue and its potential impact on society.

"There are times when certain moral issues become so compelling that churches have a duty to make their feelings known," Hallstrom said.

The attorney for the couples had argued the church's motion was filed too late and the church had no legal standing.

Utah Gov. Mike Leavitt recently signed into law a bill denying recognition to homosexual marriages made in other states.

Opponents of the bill have said it violates constitutional guarantees, and gay groups said they will sue over Utah's law if Hawaii legalizes same-sex marriages.

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COMMUNITY

Exciting kick-off for Montrose Softball League's season



The Montrose Softball Season started up with some great games last Sunday, April 2.

On Sunday, April 2, the Montrose Softball League (MSL) kicked off its 16th year of play at Tim Hearne Field (corner Memorial & Jackson Hill). Opening ceremonies were led by State Rep. Debra Danburg, who read proclamations from the City of Houston and the State of Texas. All of this year's participating teams were introduced, including the league's two new members the Montrose Inn and the Montrose Counseling Center.

Following opening ceremonies, the 1995 season was in full swing with the Competitive Division starting things off. In the first game, the Briar Patch defeated the Montrose Inn 14-6. Russel Garrison was the first player of the season to knock a ball over the fence. He also led the team in runs scored with three. Way to go Russel!!! In the second game, the Mining Company Texans and the Houston Voice fought down to the wire in a nail biter. In the

end, though, the Mining Company won 5-3.

In the Recreational Division, J.R.'s Fighting Flamingos defeated Rich's Prime 5-1. Pacific Street held on to an early lead to beat The Traveler's 10-7. Play continued with Positively BRB defeating Chez E.J.'s 10-4. In the finale, the Gentry GAPS defeated the Montrose Counseling Center's Auntie Depressants 10-4.

Next Sunday's action is being held at Memorial Park Fields #4 and #5 for double headers as follows: 12:00 Rich's Prime vs. Traveler's, J.R.'s vs. Pacific Street; 1:00 p.m. Pacific St. vs. Rich's Prime, Traveler's vs. J.R.'s; 2:00 Gentry vs. BRB, Briar Patch vs. Mining Co.; 4:00 p.m. Mining Co. vs. M. Inn, H. Voice vs. Briar Patch.

If you have any questions concerning the Montrose Softball League, please call (713) 867-3913.

Westheimer Street Festival has green spirit, blues music

New attractions and entertainment with environmental and blues themes mark the spring offering of the Bi-Annual Westheimer Street Festival on April 8-9, a music, arts and crafts celebration along lower Westheimer. The festival runs from noon to 7:00 p.m. both Saturday and Sunday. To accommodate the large turnout, Westheimer will be closed to traffic between Bagby and Montrose.

The Spring '95 festival will differ in focus from last October's event. The 25th Anniversary of Earth Day and the 1st Annual Spring Blues Festival coincides with the Westheimer's celebration giving the weekend a historic and musical theme. The event will be celebrating the 25th Anniversary of the first Earth Day Celebration in addition to enjoying the blues.

During the weekend, a mix of entertainment from alternative to Zydeco will be presented on four stages. The main stage will be located in the 100 block. Other stages will be located in the 300, 400 and 1000 blocks of Westheimer. Fulfilling a promise made before the October festival, the organizers have incorporated a children's activities area, including the Full Spectrum Circus Juggling School and Hal Newson's Wildlife Company. At least two ani-

mal rest stops with drinking and bathing water will be maintained at the festival.

One of the big draws of this festival is actually the people who attend it. Westheimer is known as Houston's premier people watching event. The folk artists, craft merchants and food vendors representing many countries and cultures will be out in full force to ply their wares among the colorful crowds.

Festival attendance is free. Festival organizers are requesting donations of non-perishable food or money to assist the hungry. All contributions will benefit the Houston Food Bank. A one dollar donation will deliver \$25 worth of food to Houston Food Bank Clients. The proceeds from the festival will also benefit the community. Festival organizers are donating one third of the profits to Westheimer area civic associations to be used to beautify the neighborhood.

This event is a joint production of Samuel Roggers & Associates and EarthWorks, a non-profit festival production company. For more information, or to inquire about participation in the festival as a volunteer, vendor or performer, please call the Bi-Annual Westheimer Street Festival Hotline (713) 688-3773.



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Multi-faceted service provider grew from church-based support group

By GLEN WEBBER
Houston Voice/
Houston

The realization that you are infected with the HIV virus is an overwhelming experience. Many questions come to mind: Where can I turn for help? Can my friends help me deal with this life-changing experience? Can my family give me the support I need? Will I be judged for becoming positive when I should have known better? This is only the beginning of the questions, and the search for answers.

It was these same questions that a few members of Bering Memorial United Methodist Church asked themselves when a church member became ill. With the support of Dr. Don Sinclair, senior pastor, a support group was formed. From that humble beginning, the support group grew into what is now the Bering Community Service Foundation. Established in 1987 as a non-profit agency, it has grown by leaps and bounds. Under the umbrella of this foundation is the Bering Dental Clinic, Bering Care Center and the foundation's Support Group Network.

Statistically, the number of people helped by this community-based network through the years is impressive. But the real story is in the people behind the numbers—volunteers and staff members who have brought to life the purpose and vision of the foundation, and have improved the quality of life of thousands of people with HIV/AIDS, their friends and family members.

The Support Group Network is a series of support groups that meet throughout the week for those dealing with HIV/AIDS issues. The most prominent group is the Wednesday Night Support Group, led by the Rev. Troy Plummer, LPC. Plummer is a degreeed psychotherapist as well as a minister at Bering Church and group's facilitator, and he uses both the spiritual and psychological to counsel Bering Foundation clients dealing with AIDS. The support group meets every Wednesday night to discuss AIDS and related issues. All BCSF clients, their friends and family members are welcome to attend.

Troy is a soft-spoken man with keen insight into his clients' needs. He offers personal counseling Monday through Thursday for persons with



HIV/AIDS, their family and friends.

"Being HIV-positive is not the end, it can be the beginning of a new adventure. You just have to make it so," he says. "For example, an HIV-positive person may be angry at the world, and in that anger may numb (himself/herself) by excessive use of alcohol, drugs and

promiscuous sexual behavior. We help those people find a level of self-esteem where they can live a quality-filled, productive life."

Support group volunteer Stan Brewer is a corporate executive who generously gives his time to both Bering Methodist Church service programs and the Bering Foundation. He is on the foundation's board and is chair of the committee that oversees the support group and the hospital outreach program.

Stan got involved with the support group as a charter member when his lover of 16 years was diagnosed as HIV-positive. Stan continues to test HIV-negative. When his lover Paul tested positive and became ill, Stan says, "I was hurting very much. I felt like Paul was abandoning me. I tended to internalize my feelings...it was like an emotional dam ready to burst. The support group taught me the value of sharing feelings in a safe space with others who shared the same common denominator, the HIV virus." Stan also participates in another support group, for those HIV negative people who share problems relating to being HIV-negative. The group focuses on living in the age of AIDS and how to remain negative while having meaningful relationships.

Christine Coberly, the Bering Foundation's hospital and home-bound visitation coordinator, spends almost all her time visiting people who are too ill to leave their home or hospital bed. With her degree in pastoral counseling, her training at M.D. Anderson and her reassuring demeanor, she brings to those in need a level of caring and insight that helps many people keep a positive attitude while ill. "The Bering Support group," she says, "is like family, with the most diverse group of persons you can imagine who are able to support each other due to their common experience with HIV."

(Continued on following page)

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Four community churches plan joint pre-Easter worship services

Community Gospel Church, Community of the Reconciling Servant, Houston Mission Church and Kingdom Community Church will hold combined worship services on Thursday, April 13 and Friday, April 14. Both services will begin at 7:30 p.m. at Houston Mission Church, 1505 Nevada at Commonwealth.

The Maundy Thursday service will be conducted by Rev. Bill Tarter and will include a hand washing ceremony in commemoration of the washing of the disciples' feet.

The Good Friday service will be a series of short sermons on the Seven

Last Words spoken by Jesus from the cross. Members of each of the participating churches will bring their interpretation of what each of these last sayings of Jesus means to us today.

The four churches invite the community's participation in these special services, and in the separate Easter worship services to be held on Sunday, April 16 by the individual congregations. For more information, call Community Gospel Church, 880-9235; Community of the Reconciling Servant, 462-7154; Houston Mission Church, 529-8225 or Kingdom Community Church, 862-7533.

Church and non-profit foundation share vision for HIV service, support



(Continued from preceding page)

Another important part of the foundation's work is the Bering Care Center, an adult day care center. The center's director, Bob Snellgrove, is a former architect with a Master's Degree in social work who says his objective with the B.C.C. is "to keep people as healthy as possible, avoiding expensive alternatives such as nursing homes and hospitals by using a holistic approach to care."

The facility is currently undergoing a massive renovation project that, when complete, will meet all licensing requirements from the Texas Department of Health. The remodeling is being financed entirely by donations and community fundraisers. "I would like to thank the community for all their efforts. Without them, this new center would not be possible," Snellgrove said. The new center will be open Monday through Friday. A physical therapist and nurse will be on staff to help clients with their particular health needs. In addition, meals and snacks will be served five times a day.

The foundation also operates the

Bering Dental Clinic, the only such clinic specifically geared to the patient with HIV/AIDS—and often, the only option available to such clients for dental treatment by professionals

Though the Bering Community Service Foundation is separate from Bering Church, they share volunteers, building space and a dedication to the care and support of people with HIV/AIDS. The two entities together have set an example of how the church can take a leadership position and make a positive difference in the community, and Bering has become a model for many other churches' AIDS ministries.

Rev. Don Sinclair, senior pastor of Bering Methodist Church, says, "The Bering Foundation is the heartbeat of our AIDS ministries. It's the lowest in the budget requirements because of our wonderful volunteers, many of whom are not members of the church...it has purity because there is no hidden agenda to the work of the foundation. We follow people through the course of their illness from beginning to end and help celebrate their life."



SPORTS NOTES

Ice Picks Skate

The next monthly Montrose Ice Picks ice skating get-together is Thursday, April 13 at the Galleria Ice Rink, 5015 Westheimer.

The cost is \$5 plus \$2 for skates and the session runs from 8:00 p.m. to 10:00 p.m. The rink is also open to the general public. Look for the "Ice Picks" sign inside the entrance. For more information or to get on the free mailing list, call Angel at (713) 629-1432.

HMBL Standings

The Houston Metropolitan Billiards League reported the following standings for week 12 of the 1995 Winter/Spring Season:

(1) Coalition; (2) Jackson 5; (3) Oui, Cousins; (4) 611 Sticks; (5) Knights; (6) Ripcord Rebels; (7) Masters of the Mine; (8) Crazy 8's; (9) BP's Med Center Mob; (10) E.J.'s Misquid; (11) Tight racks; (12) Suicide Squad; (13) King's X; (14) Sioux's Boys; (15) Kissin' Cousins; (16) BR's Bottoms.

The election of officers will be held at the next monthly meeting. Nominees are: president-Dan Kalin, Dan Tucker; vice president-Ron Sioux; treasurer-Steve Kerr; secretary-Corey Collins, Greg Decuire; sergeant-at-arms, Dan Kalin, Raymond Ray. Also at the meeting, bid packages for the Awards party will be presented for a vote. The party is scheduled to be held June 4, 1995.

Bowling Standings

The Inner Loop Sunday Evening League has ended the Winter Season with the following standings: League Championship was won by President and First Ladies. Fish-N-Pole captured second place and Sweet and Sassy came in third. Fourth place went to Beavers and Buttheads. Awards celebration will be held at The Penthouse, Saturday, April 8 at 3:00 p.m. Summer league

begins April 23 at 7:00 p.m. (first night meeting at 6:00 p.m.) at Palace Lanes. For league information call Tom at (713) 522-9612.

The Montrose Monday Night Men's League reported final results of the playoffs. In first through eight place: Party of Four, Hindlick Maneuver, Nellie by Choice, 4 Non-Blondes, Unlisted Numbers, Gutter Gamblers, Bill's Bratts and Naughty by Nature. The total pin rolloff was won by Penthouse Playboyz with Jim Buck's Brats and Five Easy Pieces coming in second and third. Summer league begins April 24 at 9:00 p.m. (with first night meeting at 7:00 p.m.) at Palace Lanes. For more information call Gardy at (713) 641-5424.

The Monday Nite Women's League also reported final standings for the season with Maybe, Maybe Not recapturing the League Championship. Second Place was taken by Can't Bowl Straight and Third Place by Three Vets and a Virgin. Fourth place belongs to Highly Questionable. Summer league begins April 17 at 6:15 p.m. at Fairlans Southway. For information call Pat at (713) 437-6218 or Marla at (713) 862-3630.

The Houston Thursday Nite Mixers reported the Downloaders taking the league championship with TD2 a close second. Third and fourth place was taken by Pat & Company and Bowling Impaired. Summer league begins May 17 on Wednesday at 6:30 p.m. at Palace Lanes. The Thursday Nite Mixers are becoming the Wednesday Nite Mixers. For more information call Tom at (713) 522-9612.

The monthly Candlelight Doubles Bowling will take place at Palace Lanes on Saturday, April 15 at 8:00 p.m. Bring a partner or come alone and we'll find you one. Entry fee is \$11.00 with a portion going to the Texas Invitational Tournament Fundraising effort.

Judge bans names of gay witnesses at murder trial

VANCOUVER, British Columbia, Friday, March 31 (AP)—The British Columbia Supreme Court has imposed a publication ban on the names of three gay men who don't want their sexual orientation revealed publicly.

The three men—a medical doctor, a civil engineer and a banker are witnesses at a trial in which a West Vancouver man is accused of murdering his former lover.

"Public revelation of the names of the three witnesses and of their sexual orientation would quite likely cause them serious personal harm through no fault of their own," said Justice Richard Low.

"Their homosexuality is a fact, not a lifestyle choice, and they have the misfortune to live in a society which treats homosexuality as a choice rather than a fact."

The existence of the ban, imposed March 20 in the absence of the jury,

could not be revealed until it was freely discussed Wednesday with the jury in the courtroom.

Low said the ban was requested by prosecutor Joe Bellows. The judge said defense lawyer Sheldon Goldberg opposed it.

The judge emphasized that he did not make the order simply to avoid embarrassment to the three witnesses.

"There are many situations in which people have to testify in court about their own foolishness or immoral conduct," he said. "I do not suggest that the court should routinely ban publication of the identities of such witnesses to save them public embarrassment."

The three are witnesses at a trial in which Dale Roger Paterson, 33, has pleaded not guilty to a charge of first-degree murder in the death of Scott Kraft, 31, who was bludgeoned and strangled Aug. 3, 1993.

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ARTS/ENTERTAINMENT

Urgency, passion propel gripping drama in 'Millennium Approaches'



Joseph Haj (Louis Ironson) and John Felch (Prior Walter) in the Alley Theatre's production of "Angels in America." Tony Kushner's acclaimed epic opened with "Part I: Millennium Approaches" on March 29.

Theater Review

By JAVIER TAMEZ

Houston Voice/Houston

There is an urgency to "Millennium Approaches," Part One of "Angels in America," the award-winning drama by Tony Kushner. Louis Ironson, one of the less appealing characters, says, relatively late in the play, "What AIDS shows us is the limits of tolerance, that's it's not enough to be tolerated, because when the shit hits the fan you find out how much tolerance is worth—nothing."

Louis' words exemplify the intensity of Kushner's passion, for though his epic work touches on many themes, its subtitle, "A Gay Fantasia on National Themes," is indicative of its underlying cohesiveness. With poignant drama, trenchant commentary, heart-rending pathos, expert allusion and bountiful hilarity, Kushner has crafted the most incredible work on gay America ever. And it is an amazing work to behold.

The plot is somewhat resistant to easy summation, but is, at its most essential, a recounting of the collapse of two relationships—one gay, one straight—and Roy Cohn. The gay couple is Prior Walter (John Felch) and Louis (Joseph Haj); the straight couple, or at least the couple composed of a man and a woman, is Joe Pitt (David Whalen) and Harper Pitt (Annalee Jefferies).

Prior is dying of AIDS. Though he has a bemused resignation to the impending inevitable, he is actually frightened and attempts to balance his fear with self-deprecating wit. "My problems are lesion," he chirps to Louis when the first sign of KS appears, but Prior's levity is hollow and quickly revealed as such when he admits fearing abandonment. In Prior, Kushner draws a searing picture of the agony of AIDS. No quick, merciful deaths here, but rather the beginnings of painful, vicious demises that shred any vestige of romance from dying, particularly from AIDS.

Louis is a man at odds with himself. He futilely attempts to come to terms with his fear of illness in others—a deathly fear which will lead Louis away from Prior when Prior needs him most. Analytic and intellectual, Louis desperately rationalizes his incipient action, in absurd philosophic arguments, asserting that the "neo-Hegelian positivist sense of constant historical progress toward happiness" doesn't always allow room for sickness. Yet he never denies the utterly reprehensible nature of the act he ponders and then commits.

Joe is a dutiful, honor-bound clerk at a federal appellate court. Joe is, in

effect, symbolic of all the values that were supposed to be good in this country. But he is also homosexual and vehemently wrestles with his orientation, stating he has "fought, with everything I have, to kill it." Joe is also trapped in the throes of a failed marriage, a failure which occurred in no small part, because he is gay and can't provide the warm, nurturing relationship to his wife that she (as do all decent spouses) has a right to expect.

Harper is a woman adrift. Despondent because of her loveless marriage, she finds solace in a valium addiction, an affliction which plagues her with hallucinations. Harper, too, denies the truth she knows, hoping that "companionship and love and protection, and safety from what's outside" will be hers.

Roy Cohn (James Black) is a frightening representation of the darkest aspects of the Reagan years. Cohn is accurately depicted by Kushner as a man of gargantuan ego who relished in his connections and his ability to make or break politicians and judges. Cohn is in the very twilight of his career and he will go down fighting both AIDS and disbarment proceedings.

Moreover, in Cohn, Kushner depicts the plight of the gay community as it was unsuccessful in galvanizing the administration into action against AIDS. "Homosexuals are men who know nobody and who nobody knows. Who have zero clout," Cohn rails. The unmistakable analogy: not having political muscle, the gay community was ignored.

Kushner's clout analogy is only one of many. Indeed, the playwright uses virtually every literary device with which I am familiar: foreshadowing (lots of that), parallelism, metaphor and references that are historical, cultural, literary and religious.

The metaphors are the most powerful and they overwhelmingly are correlated to AIDS. Well before Louis is introduced, in each of the first three scenes of the first act, Kushner alludes to the plague. In scene one, a rabbi eulogizing Joe's grandmother says, "soon all the old will be dead," and the analogy is crystalline. In the second scene, Cohn, arguing with a client about missing a court date, says, "I have clients in Haiti," and Kushner picks this particular geographic location because of its notoriety vis-a-vis AIDS in the early days of the crisis, possibly foreshadowing Cohn's imminent affliction. And in the third scene, Harper, immersed in one of her hallucinations, observes that "things are collapsing, systems of defense giving way," words often used to describe the immune system's destruction.

(Continued on following page)

Part I of 'Angels' at the Alley an amazing theatrical experience

(Continued from preceding page)

The parallelism is most obviously notable in the two disintegrating relationships—the wretchedness and lack of honor felt by Louis and Joe, and the feelings of abandonment which Prior and Harper have in common.

It is the slew of references, however, which are most pervasive. There are over a dozen mentions to works and stars of film and theater. Kushner's own background provides a trove of sources for Jewish references throughout the play, and his fascination with Mormonism positions it strongly in "Millennium."

Kushner uses methods both tried and relatively untested in tying his characters together. Louis, as it so happens, works in the same courthouse as Joe. Joe walks in on Louis in the bathroom where he is dabbing at crocodile tears. The two exchange pleasantries and apologies for the awkward moment. In the brief discourse, Louis reveals his assumption that Joe is gay. An assumption he affirms with a peck on the cheek, even after Joe denies being homosexual, and a base is laid.

The judge for whom Joe clerks happens to be in the hip pocket of Cohn, and Cohn offers Joe a job in Washington, D.C. working for the Justice Department.

Two other characters enter the story through the dynamic events occurring in both relationships. Belize (Michael McElroy) is Prior's former lover and a now a good friend. A no-nonsense queen, Belize shows great patience with both Prior and Louis, yet little tolerance for wayward behavior from either, and she has arrived to offer care and comfort to Prior.

Hannah Pitt (Bettye Fitzpatrick) is Joe's mother. She has a salt-of-the-earth presence with a stern, matronly disposition. She goes to New York when Joe informs her that he is gay.

Perhaps the best part of Kushner's structure are the dreams and hallucinations. Prior and Harper share one together, in which they also share the "threshold of revelation," and thereby reveal aspects of each other's lives.

Harper's hallucinations are generally haunted by Mr. Lies (McElroy), a sinister travel agent who guides Harper through her dreamscapes. Prior's dreams at first consist of a mellifluous voice, but eventually involve apparitions of two ancestors. Prior 1 (Whalen) and Prior 2 (Black) are prior Prior Walters, who were both victims of plagues from their own time periods.

Cohn's hallucination is by far the worst. He must face Ethel Rosenberg (Fitzpatrick), and years earlier Cohn had been instrumental in ensuring that Rosenberg had received the death penalty. Her appearance ignites Cohn's stubbornness and bravado, but she is more than an illusion of the past come to haunt the present. She is a harbinger of irrevocable change: "History is about to crack wide open. Millennium approaches." And



James Black as Roy Cohn in "Millennium Approaches"

Kushner pointedly states that there will be an accounting for all sins.

There are masterful performances from the entire cast. John Felch has a coy and disarming, though not overpowering, femininity as Prior. Felch exudes a succoring contentment, an indignant rage and a willowy amazement. His performance is sustained and touching.

Joseph Haj has an affably analytical demeanor as Louis.

Though the torment he exhibits seems somewhat forced, Haj more than compensates with a salutary run through Louis' rambling rationalizations and lamentable acknowledgments.

David Whalen gives a sterling performance as Joe. He does a stunning job with Joe's interactions with Harper, moving from perfunctory concern to self-righteous denial to anguished admission.

As both the nefarious Roy Cohn and the ebullient Prior 2, James Black is remarkable. Black has an explosive stage personality that erupts in fire-brand posturing, and he brilliantly captures Cohn's undiluted arrogance.

Annalee Jefferies is hypnotic as the distraught Harper. At times lacking in stridency, Jefferies nevertheless displays an identifiable resolve in her otherwise ethereal characterization.

Michael McElroy has a grand élan as the ebullient Belize. He performs with unabashed panache and brings a distinctive familiarity to his delightful role.

Director Michael Wilson is in top form with this production. He astutely places emphasis in all the right places: Cohn's unbridled rage, Belize's giant flourishes; Prior's desperate pleas; Louis' continuing guilt; Harper's spacey monologues; and Joe's stoic morality are all vividly elicited from the players by Wilson. Most importantly Wilson doesn't over dramatize the work (which could easily be done). Kushner's play is rife with humor, and Wilson doesn't miss a single line in that regard.

"Millennium Approaches" is a magnificent drama, but one thing it most certainly is not is a complete work. This is definitely a part one, for "Millennium" has no finality whatsoever. The closing lines, "Greetings, Prophet/The Great Work begins/The Messenger has arrived," clearly portend much more to come.

And though only half a play, "Millennium" is unsurpassed as drama. Mark this: before the millennium has arrived college students everywhere will be analyzing this text, providing their own insight and interpretation, and they will be doing so for generations to come; that is the literary significance of this work—it will be a tool of instruction, a model of superior theater. "Millennium Approaches" is a tremendous experience, and I urge you with trembling pleasure to see this play. It's the greatest theatrical work of the last half of this century. Bravo!

MARYS



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Miss Montrose Pageant

* Note: Due to the Westheimer Street Festival, Mary's Dinner Theatre and Steak Nite and Beer Bust are cancelled until next week



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EPAH packed 'em in for Leather and Lace; Joe De Rosa is Mr. Prime Choice '95



Winners and hosts of EPAH's 8th annual Leather and Lace

Houston Soap, Part I

By CAROLYN LARSON
Houston Voice/Houston
What a week!

The Executive and Professional Association of Houston's (EPAH) 8th annual Leather and Lace party this past Saturday night at Pacific Street was packed! All you needed to do is pour on the Crisco and slide in! At press time, the money was still being counted. I should have a figure by next week!

Congrats to the new Mr. Prime Choice '95, Mr. Joe De Rosa. Even though the contest was smaller than usual, over \$2,000 was raised to kick off this year's fund raising efforts for local charities. Don Gill raised \$26,000 in the name of Mr. Prime Choice last year!

The Montrose Softball League had their opening day festivities this past Sunday. There was an introduction of all 12 teams! The league plays on Sundays at the Tim Hearne Field. If you would like more info, call Lee at 751-2588.

Ean's Cabaret had a "Ladies' Only" night this past Saturday. The response was so great, that Ean's will be having "dancers" for women only again on April 22nd. Keep your eyes open for this all female revealing show!

The Super Show at E/J's this past Saturday is the buzz of the community this week. Brittany Paige hosted, with special guest Veronica De Vore, Vanessa Raye, and special guest, Miss Austin USA, Lauren Taylor. I'm sorry I missed this one! Also, the Ralph Street awards were presented earlier in the evening. Highlights are: "The Amazing Hand"—Paul Stewart; "Critic of the Year"—Patsy Recline; "I did what last night?"—Tony Vacarro; "Sero-ge Award"—Patsy Recline; "I have a tear in my beer"—Reno; "This is MY Stool"—BBQ Joe; "Favorite Stripper"—Denny; and "Bartender of the Year"—LuLu. These are just some of the categories! Congrats to all the new "Title Holders!"

The Double Dime Anniversary Run last weekend was fantastic! The new MR. Renegade is Carolyn (No, not me!) of the Flying W's out of Dallas! Out of 9 contestants she was the butchest



Rev. Gill of MCCR presents Bob Reynerson a certificate of high bid at MCCR's choir auction

one of all! Jim Watts received a "camp" title from the Court: "Eternal Supreme Concubine to all the Armies of the Realms!" and Go Fig, the almost winner of the "Slut-Pig" of the run went to David (Miss) Roberts! The pool party at Club Houston was one of the highlights of the weekend! Congrats to the River City Outlaws and the Texas Renegades!

Congrats to Dot and Jeanette on their 25th anniversary!

Congrats to Linda and Patsy on their nuptials!

Congrats to Duane and Jim on their nuptials!

Friday, 4/7

Registration for the National Leather Association-Houston's 4th Anniversary run weekend starts tonight at the Venture-N @ 9:00 p.m. There will be cocktail parties, food, and well, run-fun!

The Penthouse is serving dinner tonight and tomorrow night starting at 6:00 p.m. Be sure to call for reservations to get one of the best views in town.

The Boy Toys strut their stuff at Gentry

will not have their usual Saturday afternoon dinner and movies! But, look for them to return next week!

The NLA:H's run continues at Mary's, naturally. Breakfast is at 10:00 a.m.

The Super Show at E/J's this week boasts the talents of Naomi Warwick, Sivi Ross, Rochelle Stevens, and Loretta Lick. The show starts at 11:00 p.m.

Erica's Showcase at the Lazy J tonight features the talents of Dallas Hill, Bunnie LaCara, Frankie Lane, and one secret special guest! The show starts at 11:00 p.m.

Back by popular demand, "Priscilla, Queen of the Desert" will be showing tonight at the River Oaks 3 at midnight. There will be a costume contest, with prizes! Everyone in costume gets in free! Call 524-2175 for more info.

The Rainbow Ranglers will be guest bartending on the patio of the Brazos River Bottom tonight. Stop in and see these dancin' fools boot, scoot, and boogie to get your drink order!

The Gulf Coast Bears meet tonight at the Venture-N in the upstairs bar. Stop in and check out what has crawled out of the den!

Don't forget that Gentry has power hours, with \$1.50 well drinks and domestic longnecks from noon until 5:00 p.m. What a great way to spend a Saturday afternoon. Also tonight, Gentry extends Happy Hour prices until



Don Dowden (MC); Mr. Prime Choice '95 Joe De Rosa; runner up Jerry Morin and Ben Moore (MC) at the Ripcord

tonight starting at 6:00 p.m. Oh, baby, oh! They strut it, shake it and wave it until 2:00 a.m.!

Leora Sald is performing at Cafe Maison tonight and tomorrow night starting at 9:00 p.m.

"Fem 2 Fem" are back in Houston. See these sexy Femmes at J.R.'s tonight at 7:00 p.m. This is a special happy hour appearance! It is a warm-up for the photo shoot and autograph party at Heaven that starts at 9:00 p.m. and their performance tomorrow night at midnight at Heaven! Don't miss these sex kittens as they help raise money for the Lesbian Health Initiative and the 800 Pacific Street Emergency Fund! Don't miss this show! Fem 2 Fem are Scandalous!

Carlo Cansella is a pop performer with an army of electronics at his command. He takes the stage at the Toy Box tonight at 9:00 p.m. There is a \$3 cover charge, and I hear, worth every penny of it! Next week, The New Octobers will be on stage. Or, if you are just a happy hour person, check out the free country cookin' mini buffet every Friday at the Toy Box. Grittles are served about 5:30 p.m.

Saturday, 4/8

The Westheimer Street Festival is this weekend! Remember not to litter!!!

Naturally, Mary's is having their infamous Annual Roof Top Review while the Westheimer Street Festival is happening. The show runs continuously from 1:00 p.m. until 6:00 p.m., both days. Because of the crowd, Mary's

will not have their usual Saturday afternoon dinner and movies! But, look for them to return next week!

Tonight on KPFT 90.1 FM, Gigi will present a segment on Dyslexia and Attention Deficit Hyperactivity Disorder and how it affects the gay/lesbian community. Michelle will present a segment on "Queer Youth." And, as always, there will be "Queer Music" and information that is a must for the Gay and Lesbian Community.

Chances is having a "Beer Garden" for the Westheimer Street Festival. There will be live music on stage before and after the Mary's roof top review. I hear The Freds and Susan Maser are just a couple of the performers.

Sunday, 4/9

The Sunday OVERLOAD parties at Pacific Street are hot...hot...hot! There is no cover for shirtless men all night long. Also, there is no cover from 7:00 p.m. until 9:00 p.m. If you just can't party enough, head to Pacific Street.

There is a dart tournament tonight at Past Time. The buy-in is \$4 and the bar will match the pot. Time to shoot!

Don't forget that Mary's opens at 10:00 a.m. every Sunday. They have a continental breakfast.

The dance floor of the Brazos River Bottom will be "Somewhere Over the Rainbow" tonight as the President of the Houston chapter of TGRA hosts this fundraiser. Be sure to get there early and



Tommie Ross, Miss Gay National and Black Velvet, Miss Gay Houston

enjoy steak night on the patio. Hot hunks of beef at a very reasonable price. Can't beat it!

Tonight at the Venture-N there is a fun fundraiser. The "Jailhouse Rock" features "Get Out of Jail Free" cards and "Warrants for Arrest." This is a fundraiser for Children with AIDS. Please come out and support this worthy cause!

There is a celebration of life this afternoon of a life-long Montrosean, Jean Blakeway. Join her friends this afternoon, 1:00 p.m., at Gentry for a farewell toast.

Texas' biggest beer bust is back! The return of the \$2 buy-in and 25¢ refills are back at the Montrose Mining Company starting at 4:00 p.m. and going until closing!

Monday, 4/10

Watch this space! I'll be announcing the return of the Ripcord's Monday night pool tournament soon! Keep your eyes open.

Things are changing at Past Time. Tonight they have free pool all night long. Be sure not to get your shooting hands too messy as you enjoy the free BBQ Chicken.

There is a new party on Monday nights at the Penthouse. "Drop Zone" is turning out to be one of the city's hottest parties to be at on Mondays! The doors open at 8:00 p.m.

"Clint Plays Topless"—sounds like a splashy headline in a tabloid! Oops! Stop into the BriarPatch and see what... I mean hear him stroke the keys into ecstasy!

Tuesday, 4/11

Tonight is Executive Night at Pacific Street. There is no cover all night long with your personalized business card. Come on in and get the "fax."

"Twentysomething" announces a workshop for guys who like guys to talk about relationships, safer sex, and intimacy. The workshop is titled "Boy to Boy" and is scheduled tonight at 7:00 p.m. at Bering Church, 1440 Harold. If you would like more info, call 315-6786.

Super Tuesdays are at J.R.'s Bar and Grill. They offer \$1 domestic longnecks and \$4 Texas sized doubles all night long!



David Davis and Scott King—getting hitched at the BRB

More coming events and specials; love and marriage, dirt and lies



Another Holy Union at MCCR. (Pictured: Janet Minyard, Patrick G. Lamp, Linda Owens, Duane Davis, Glen Barnes, Jim Jolly and Kathy Drake)



Winner Dickie Russel and first runner up Shawn Hendon are surrounded by MC's Dean Walradt and Brian Keever at the Bear Contest



Happy honeymoon to Patsy and Linda

Houston Soap, Part 2

It is week #5 in the search for new talent at E/J's Amateur night contest. Be there by 10:30 p.m. if you want to sign up to try out a new act!

Half-price day/night at the Club Houston! Check out the cheap ways to take it off. ... the extra pounds that is!

Cuervo Tuesday! Mary's, naturally! \$2. Meet me there to fill me in on all the dirt you know!

Wednesday, 4/12

Better hurry and catch Dyan Michaels before she leaves town. She is at Gentry tonight hosting their weekly penile extravaganza... aka a male strip contest. Dyan really knows how to get those guys to take it almost all off. The contest starts at 10:30 p.m., but get there early to get a good chair!

Roger is at the keyboard at the Briar-Patch. Head on down to the BP and listen to his great way of tickling the ivories!

"Bears Night Out" at the Montrose Mining Company. Domestic long-necks are only a buck, and there is free pizza on the patio at midnight!

Thursday, 4/13

Cy Brenson is on stage tonight at the Penthouse. She starts at 8:00 p.m.

"Chat and Chew" with the Royal, Sovereign and Imperial Court of the Single Star. Meet up with the guys and girls of the Court at Gentry at 7:00 p.m.

Open Mike night is really catching on at the Toy Box. There is everything from musicians, vocalists, comedians, bands, and well, you can see just about anything there. Check out this new and exciting way to spend Thursday nights!

There is a weekly talent search at Club 403 hosted by Miss Bacchus II, Roxanne Lee Love. There are cash prizes for 1st and 2nd places. To sign up, be there at 10:00 p.m.; the contest starts at 10:30 p.m.

Steak night is back at the 611 Hyde Park Pub! Only \$5 gets you a steak, baker with all the trimmings and a salad. The grill is lit from 6:00 p.m. until 9:00 p.m.

Other Important Stuff

Do you remember Splash Day in Galveston? Well, Star 104.9 FM is working on making Splash Day what is used to be. The festivities will kick off on May 27th at 2:00 p.m. There will be food, music, parties and just good old-fashioned fun in the sun. If you would like more information, call (409) 762-2100.

Have you seen the complete showing of all 4 "Minister Mikes"?

shows? Well, the Ripcord has them and will be showing all of them on April 23rd. Mark your calendars.

This week's features at the French Quarter are: "Power Driver" and "9 1/2 Inches."

This week's feature at the Greenway 3 is "Priest." It is about homosexuality and men of the cloth. I bet you could have gotten that from the title!

It is greek to me! Niko Niko's has great Greek food. Be sure to clip out the coupon in this issue to buy one, get one free!

The People with AIDS Coalition has a prescription drug card for sale. This is open to EVERYONE, not just PWA's. The card offers discount prices on all prescription drugs at pharmacies like Kroger, Walgreens, and thousands of others. Check out the ad on page 3 for more details. This sounds like a great deal, especially for people like me who have no health insurance!

Birrapoready... is a division of Birraporetti's that offers complete catering, for both home and office. Call Harold Kelly at 961-1012 to set up a feast for you and your associates! Sunday Afternoon Tea Parties! Keep your eyes open for your personal invitation arriving soon!

Tear out the coupon for Cafe Anthony's brunch in this issue. Don't just stick it on the fridge... use it! The food there is wonderful!

Rodent Droppings

Do I have to type it? Well, I better! I'd don't want to be sued for libel! Ok, you know the drill, this is dirt, out right lies and gossip! Take your chances!

Billie Bailey (RSICSS): So, you have figured out what a can of Crisco and red hankies are all about! Was it fun?

Pickles (The Club): Now I know why you were carrying a 5 gal. bucket while walking down Fairview last



Dog Lips...is this the photo you begged me not to print?

week. You were giving away apples to dirty old men. What a way to pick up tricks!

Joe (BRB): Is it true you sit on Miss A's knee and take dick-tation? AND what is this I hear about you getting a kiss in the T-room?

Steve Underwood (Heaven and J.R.'s): So, you are now getting Chi Chi LaRue's sloppy seconds! Next time, keep a leash on your chubby chasing boyfriend!

Scott Underwood (Alt. Source): I hear you have also been receiving "jail mail!"

Miss A. (BRB): Is it true you are working at BRB only because Vera brought you a new gold finger?

Ricky (Hangs at the BRB): I hear you have a new bed partner. A Bud Bundy blow-up doll!

Damon (The Club): I hear you are still playing with chickens! At least this time you did not have to wrap your arms around them to get them heated up! Also, what is this "Wheel of Fortune" in your office? You must have turned the letters right to get a new piano and a bunch of new furniture!

Big Gary (Ripecord): Honey, I told you I would give you one week before I let your little secret out! This is a warning!

Doug (Carter and Cooley): So, the bandages on your forehead are from David throwing a beer bottle at you and a trick! At least the trick had the good sense to duck. I guess he was not as big and stupid as you thought!

Larry Crawford (Hyde Park Gallery): You need to take rollerblading lessons from LaMarr. I hear you even grabbed a stop sign and that couldn't stop you!

Dog Lips (Wolf Pack): Heard Cindy is decking the halls? Could it be with Holly? April Fool's, Love Helen!

Tierra (Toy Box): Why does your ballcap say: "That is Daddy Tierra to you, Bitch?"

Rocky (Gentry): Who died and made you the "Hair Critic from Hell?"



Lulu of E/J's with a Budweiser in his hand...what a novel sight

Miss Roberts: So, I understand you were giving shots out of your forehead again a few weeks ago on the patio of the BRB! I know the BRB did not run out of shot glasses! What is your excuse!

Ed (E/J's): If you did not have sooooo many recycling bins in the yard, they would have not left you a junk refrigerator!

Stanley (The Club): Taken any hot steamy shower with one day visitors lately?

Clay Parker (Now of San Francisco): Gee, girl, you move halfway across the country and I still hear about you! 7 on a pool table, after hours! We should have sent a nationwide warning when you left our fair city!

Boots (LBB): How come all of your companies are listed in the IRS files as "S.A.S. Ass.?"

Ben Moore: And I quote "What I use to do all night, it now takes all night to do!"

David (Ripecord): So, someone grabbed your new tit ring and it bled for 3 days! He must have pulled just a little bit too hard!

Animal (BRB): So, you fell off the 3 day wagon! I did not know you could stay on it that long in the first place! Also, Happy 4th anniversary at the BRB!

Devin (Mary's): Just because the time changed is not a good reason to give for being late for work!

Dakota: You scammed me too!

Cliff (Mary's): I hear you are on pussy patrol!

Dean (NLA:H): I hear you finally pinned more people in a weekend than Miss Keever can!

Jerry V. (Hangs at Gentry): Do you know where your puck is?

Ken (BBHOL): Tossing your cookies on the bar at the 611! What's wrong honey... a different brand of scotch!

Happy Birthday to Richard Thoen... We wish you luck in your move to Buffalo, NY. We'll miss you!

Well, kids, I'm off for a screening of the new movie "Bar Girls." I'll let you know my reaction next week!

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New smiley face, Maggie at the Houston Voice

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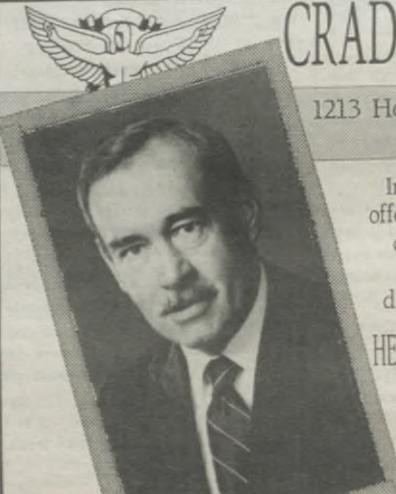


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PERFORMING ARTS NOTES

By John Reed



The company in a scene from the Fourth National Touring company of CATS, returning to Houston April 11-16

Arts Happenings In April

Currently thru April 29

McMurtrey Gallery hangs a new show of works by IBSEN ESPADA. The new show is titled "Silent Motions." McMurtrey Gallery is located at 3508 Lake Street in Houston and you may call (713) 523-8238 for more information.

April 6

The RICE MEDIA CENTER presents two new documentary films that deal with the fascinating and controversial topic of transsexuality. THE LAST DAYS OF CHARLES/KATHRYN will show at 7:30 pm followed by SPLIT: PORTRAIT OF A DRAG QUEEN at 8:30 p.m. Admission is \$4.50. The Rice Media Center is located on the Rice University Campus, just inside Entrance #8 at University Blvd. and Stockton St. For more information, patrons may call the Film Information Line at 527-4853. April 7

Society For The Performing Arts presents the incredible beats of THE DRUMMER OF BURUNDI in the Cullen Theater of the Wortham Center. This marks the group's Houston premiere of their unique blend of African rhythms, bright costumes and movements of gymnastic precision. Tickets are available for \$18, \$22 and \$26 at the Houston Ticket Center in Jones Hall and Wortham Center as well as all TicketMaster locations. To charge by phone call 227-ARTS. For more information call (713) 227-1111.

April 7, 8, & 9

Back by popular demand are THE KINGSTON TRIO, the world-renowned vocal ensemble that changed American popular music forever playing smash hits Tom Dooley, Greenback Dollar, Where Have All The Flowers Gone, Blowin' in the Wind and many more. Conductor-In-Residence Stephen Stein will lead the orchestra.

April 8 thru June 25

At the CONTEMPORARY ARTS MUSEUM, "Art Guys: Think Twice 1983-1995." The exhibition is a survey of the 13 year collaborative effort of Michael Galbreth and Jack Massing, a team better known as the Art Guys. Their work includes performance, sculpture, actions, installation, photography, drawing and video. CAM is located at 5216 Montrose Blvd. For information call (713) 526-0773. Also currently on display at CAM thru April 23 is "George Condo: Recent Paintings." This exhibition explores 10 works created by George Condo and is his first exhibition in Houston.

April 11 thru 16

CATS, Andrew Lloyd Webber's musical megahit, make its triumphant return to Houston as a non-subscription special of the 1994-1995 Nations Bank Houston Broadway Series. This show now holds the record for being the

longest, continuously touring musical in theatrical history at 7 years. Tickets are available at all TicketMaster locations. To charge by phone call 629-3700. Tickets are priced from \$32 to \$38. Performance times vary. Please call for further info.

April 13

The Atrium Society, a non-profit organization created to help fund student scholarships for the University of Houston College of Architecture, will host the first "Show and Tell" Opening Reception from 5:30 to 6:30 p.m. in the Atrium of the College of Architecture, UH Campus. The project titled "Vision 2000" will depict Houston in the year 2000. Open to the public Friday April 14 thru 21 at the college. Tickets to the reception are \$25.00. For additional info call (713) 743-2353.

April 21 thru May 5

The Houston Grand Opera presents DER ROSENKAVALLIER in the Wortham Center's Brown Theater. Houstonian RENEE FLEMING is a part of the impressive cast for this production. Tickets are \$10 to \$125 and are available by phone at 227-ARTS.

April 22

Houston Museum of Natural Science offers activities and classes to celebrate the 25th Anniversary of EARTH DAY on Saturday April 22. For more information call (713) 639-4600.

April 21, 22 & 23

April 28, 29 & 30

The BUFFALO BAYOU ARTPARK will open its annual outdoor art exhibit titled SCULPTURE HOUSTON 1995. Co-sponsored by the Houston International Festival the exhibit will continue through December with sponsorship from the Houston Downtown Management Corporation. Sculpture will be placed in Tranquility Park by artists: Mario L. Cuellar, John H. Edgerton, Meredith M. Jack, John Pabor, Jim Robertson & students, Charlie Sartwele and Troy R. Woods. (The Buffalo Bayou Artpark is an artist-run organization whose purpose is to exhibit artwork in city and private parks.)

April 28, 29 & 30

Enjoy an evening of Dixieland Jazz, as the EXXON POPS presents New Orleans' favorite son, PETE FOUNTAIN playing such tunes as Basin Street Blues, When the Saints Go Marchin' In and others. (The Houston Symphony will not appear on this special presentation concert.)

April 28

Houston Grand Opera presents ATTILA as the season finale for the 1994-1995 season opening Friday April 28 in the Wortham Center's Brown Theater. Tickets and information are obtained by calling 227-ARTS. April 29,

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Rhode Island house of representatives passes gay rights bill

By **TIM WHITMIRE**
FOR THE HOUSTON VOICE

PROVIDENCE, R.I., Thursday, March 30 (AP)—The Senate's leading supporter of legislation extending civil rights protections to homosexuals is predicting safe passage for the bill on its 11th trip through the General Assembly.

"I think that (supporters) were much more organized this year," Sen. William Fitzpatrick said in explaining the relatively comfortable 56-41 margin by which the House passed the measure Wednesday.

Similar bills have been passed by the House and Senate in past years, but never by both in the same year. The bill was defeated by a tie vote in the House in 1990, by a 25-23 vote in the Senate in 1992 and by a 9-7 vote in the House Judiciary Committee in 1993.

Fitzpatrick predicted passage by the Senate, which received the bill minutes after its approval by the House.

"The Senate passed the bill in 1993 (by a vote of) 30-17," he said. "The Senate hasn't changed."

Fitzpatrick, who is gay, said although there are 11 new senators this year, many of them replaced people who voted

against the bill in 1993.

Gov. Lincoln Almond has said he supports the bill, which would add sexual orientation to the list of factors that cannot be considered by individuals and institutions offering employment, credit, housing and public accommodation.

"I feel elation, absolute elation that the House has done the right thing," said James Staskavage of the Rhode Island Alliance for Lesbian and Gay Civil Rights.

"I'm delighted," said Rep. David Cicilline, D-Providence, who spoke in favor of the bill before the House Special Legislation Committee and again on the House floor.

The version of the bill passed included an amendment removing language that would have directed the state Department of Elementary and Secondary Education to prepare an anti-discrimination curriculum for use in the state's schools.

The amendment was approved 61-34 despite the opposition of some of the bill's supporters who objected to removing the educational requirement.

"(This amendment) is a little like cut-

ting out the heart to save the patient," said Rep. Edith Ajello, D-Providence.

The bill's sponsor, Rep. Frank Gaschen, D-Cumberland, voted against the amendment, but acknowledged it was necessary "as a strictly political maneuver."

Fitzpatrick said the amendment was added at the request of Almond's legal counsel.

"I have mixed feelings (about the amendment)," Fitzpatrick said. "But I can live with it."

Several House members questioned during floor debate whether the educational language would force schools to promote homosexuality as part of teaching them not to discriminate on the basis of sexual orientation.

Rep. Charles McDevitt, R-Lincoln, said teaching children not to discriminate against homosexuals would require teaching them what homosexuality is.

"This seems to be the forcing of one's sexual philosophy on an organization," McDevitt said. "I don't think I have to live with people flaunting in front of me a lifestyle with which I do not agree."

Rep. Harold Metts, D-Providence, also voted against the bill for religious reasons.

"Ladies and gentlemen, there is no middle ground ... and I want to be on the Lord's side in this spiritual battle," he said. "Deviant sexual behavior does not qualify as a criteria for defining a minority." "This is the word that I stand by," Metts said, holding up a Bible.

Rep. Jeffrey Teitz, D-Newport, said the state's colonial origins as a haven for those suffering from religious discrimination argued in favor of protecting homosexuals from discrimination three centuries later.

"We, as a state made up of immigrants and the children and grandchildren of immigrants should be particularly sensitive to discrimination in our midst today," Teitz said.

Responding to arguments that discrimination against homosexuals should not be prohibited because sexual orientation is a personal choice, Teitz pointed out that religious discrimination is prohibited, even though "religion for many is a matter of choice, not birth."

The Senate referred the bill to the Special Legislation Committee.

The *Houston Voice* welcomes well-written, insightful and to-the-point commentaries for our opinion/editorial pages. We also welcome "counterpoint" articles that represent a different view on the issues approached in articles we have already run. We reserve the right to edit for length, format and clarity. The views expressed in guest commentaries and letters to the editor published in the *Houston Voice* are those of the writers. We seek to provide a broad-based forum which reflects the varying points of view of our rich and diverse community. Selection for publication is at our discretion. Send articles to: The *Houston Voice*, Attn.: Editor, 811 Westheimer, Houston, TX 77006, or fax to 713-529-9531.<

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Several show up to protest Colorado for Family Values seminar

LONGMONT, Colo., Saturday, April 1 (AP)—Several people, including an off-duty Boulder County sheriff's deputy, were removed from a Colorado for Family Values meeting that protestors denounced as a promotion of hate.

About 400 people turned out for the anti-homosexuality "Time to Stand" seminar Friday. An estimated half in attendance were in support of Colorado for Family Values. The other half took part in a candlelight vigil outside a Longmont church and a vocal protest inside.

Gay rights has been a touchy issue in Longmont ever since a local high school coach was transferred to a middle school after he allegedly harassed two women coaches he accused of being lesbians.

The coach, David Vander Molen, did not attend Friday's meeting, and his attorney said the coach has nothing to do with the Colorado Springs-based Colorado for Family Values.

But Mary Belle Spencer was in full support of CFV, and she generously donated a check to the anti-gay rights group.

"A heterosexual doesn't carry on with their sex in the street. Why should (homosexuals) be allowed to do it?" Spencer said.

Protestors shouted during a movie titled "Gay Rights, Special Rights" and then heckled former lesbian Jami Breedlove as the woman spoke out on her religious beliefs.

"I'll take a chance on missing some good gay sex rather than missing eternity with my maker," Breedlove said. The congregation responded in unison with a chorus of "Amen."

Colorado for Family Values director Kevin Tebedo further heightened tensions when he said homosexuals are more likely to be mass murderers, rapists and child molesters. He added that gays and lesbians are more likely to commit suicide, infect their partners with disease and die at a young age.

That prompted Boulder County sheriff's deputy Catherine Lachman to stand up and denounce Tebedo as a liar. She was escorted from the meeting shortly thereafter.

Once outside the meeting, Lachman said Colorado for Family Values is "promoting such hatred among people."

RELIGION/PHILOSOPHY

MCCR's Easter Celebration Begins This Weekend

Quick Notes

Metropolitan Community Church of the Resurrection (MCCR) has announced its Easter week services and programs. On Palm Sunday, April 9, the 8:30 a.m. service will be led by the Rev. Dr. Charles Perroncel and the 10:45 a.m. service the Rev. Elder John Gill will be officiating. The 10:45 a.m. service is signed for the hearing impaired and nursery facilities are provided. On Sunday evening, April 9 at 6:00 p.m., the MCCR Sanctuary Choir will perform in concert "God With Us" a celebration of contemporary praise and worship.

On Monday Thursday, April 13 at 7:00 p.m., the Rev. Ralph Lasher will be officiating. The worship will include Holy Communion.

On Good Friday, April 14 at 7:00 p.m., the Rev. Elder John Gill will be officiating.

On Easter Sunday, April 16, the Sunrise Service will be at 6:30 a.m. with the Rev. Carolyn Mobley officiating. The service will be held east of the Dandelion Fountain on Allen Parkway—across from the American General building. The traditional Easter breakfast will be served in the MCCR Fellowship Hall at 8:00 a.m. The 8:30 a.m. service will be officiated by the Rev. Ralph Lasher. This year an Easter Egg hunt will be held at 10:00 a.m. for the children toddlers to age 12. The Rev. Elder John Gill will be officiating at

the 10:45 a.m. service. This service is signed for the hearing impaired and nursery facilities are provided.

Empowerment For Living Activities

In other news from MCCR, the church's HIV ministry, Empowerment for Living (EFL) announced its monthly schedule. EFL meets every Tuesday night in the Fellowship Hall at MCCR. They begin with visitation at 6:00 p.m. and pot luck meal at 6:30 p.m. and the program begins approximately 7:00 p.m. EFL is the oldest Christ-centered HIV support group in Houston. Following are the group's scheduled activities in April:

Tuesday, April 11, will be an open night for the group.

On Tuesday, April 18, the presentation will be on the pre-planning of final arrangements.

On Tuesday, April 25, will be movie night for the group. The planned movie is "The Gay Deceivers."

On Tuesday, May 2, will be the quarterly planning meeting for the EFL.

MCCR is located in the Historical Old Sixth Ward at 1919 Decatur Street off Washington and White Street between Studemont/Montrose St. and Houston Ave. For more information about Empowerment for Living, directions to MCCR or other programs at MCCR please call the Church Office at (713) 861-9149.

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Arkansas senate approves bill to make it a crime to transmit AIDS virus

By IAN MADER

FOR THE HOUSTON VOICE

JUNEAU, Tuesday, March 28 (AP)—A bill to create a new felony crime of knowingly transmitting the AIDS virus passed the Senate on Tuesday, despite criticism that it might deter voluntary testing for the virus.

The charge would apply to people who knew they were infected with HIV and nonetheless had unprotected sex or shared a drug needle. It would not apply if the partner knew of the infection and agreed to have sex or share a needle anyway.

"What we're really saying is you have to notify your sexual partners," said Sen. Robin Taylor, R-Wrangell and

prime sponsor. "I don't know that that's such a burden to ask of people."

The legislation is opposed by the administration of Gov. Tony Knowles.

State Health and Social Services Department officials argue that people with high-risk behavior would more likely choose not to be tested if they knew they could face a felony for knowingly transmitting the virus.

Taylor countered that statistics have not shown a decrease in voluntary testing in the 26 other states that have made transmitting HIV a felony.

But Dr. Peter Nakamura, state Public Health Division director, said testing generally is rising anyway, and

that officials are most concerned with tests not being done on the relatively small number of truly reckless people.

"The group that we're concerned with—the nonconforming group is quite small. Yet the medical implication if we don't get access to them is quite large," Nakamura said.

The bill passed 13-7, and was to be sent to the House pending a possible reconsideration vote Thursday.

State prosecutors say criminal charges already exist under state law to deal with cases involving HIV transmission.

If there is intent to kill, the defendant can be charged with attempted murder. Otherwise, the defendant can be

charged with reckless endangerment, a misdemeanor.

Taylor argued that intent to kill is difficult to prove, and that for cases where such intent cannot be proven, there should be a charge more serious than reckless endangerment.

"That's a Class A misdemeanor. That's the same penalty as a DWI or getting into a bar fight and punching somebody in the nose," Taylor said.

Assistant Attorney General Dean Guaneli said any benefit of having a stronger charge would be outweighed by a negative impact on people voluntarily coming forward to be tested for the virus.

The measure is Senate Bill 91.

Vaccine against one AIDS virus type works against another in monkey

NEW YORK, Friday, March 31 (AP)—Monkeys vaccinated against one type of AIDS virus were partly protected from a different type, a small study found.

The result suggests that an AIDS vac-

cine for people might be able to protect against a wide variety of HIV, researchers wrote.

Rhesus macaques were immunized against HIV-1, the dominant type in the United States, and exposed to HIV-2,

which is prevalent in West Africa.

Three of eight vaccinated macaques resisted HIV-2 infection during the six-month observation period, while all three unvaccinated animals became infected, researchers reported in the

April issue of the journal Nature Medicine.

The scientists, from the National Cancer Institute and elsewhere, said they didn't know how the vaccine worked against HIV-2.

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Please report errors and corrections to the HOUSTON VOICE - (713) 529-8490 (Issue 754)

GLAAD MEDIA WATCH

by Al Kielwasser

Phobic Pizza

One of the nation's leading fast food chains has hired one of the nation's leading homophobes to serve as a company spokesbigot. Pizza Hut's new television campaign features none other than Rush Limbaugh.

In the Pizza Hut commercial, Limbaugh praises both the pizza and his ego. Shown stuffing a pizza slice in his mouth, Limbaugh chats about his knack for "always being right."

In a somewhat odd twist, Limbaugh has already used his own national TV show to promote the Pizza Hut commercial. He recently described, at length, the ad's content and told his viewers to be on the look-out for it. Needless to say, Limbaugh has also offered glowing praise for Pizza Hut, urging fans to praise the company for having the "good sense" to hire him.

When he's not too busy pushing pizza, of course, Limbaugh is busy bashing lesbians and gays, women, an people of color. His radio and television broadcasts are filled with homophobic misinformation and downright ridicule. During one broadcast of his TV show, for example, Limbaugh derided a meeting of rural lesbians, which took place on a farm. The women, Limbaugh said, were "mating with pigs" in order to "perpetuate the species."

Fortunately, "operators are standing by" at Pizza Hut's corporate offices, monitoring public response to the Limbaugh commercial. Reports are being filed on the basis of each telephone call.

Register your toll-free complaint by calling 1-800-358-2222. You can also write to Pizza Hut, Consumer Affairs, 2100 Powers Ferry Road, Suite 200, Atlanta, GA 30339-5014.

Inquiring Minds Want To Know

For all its sensationalist sleaze, the "National Enquirer" has a certain reputation for accuracy when it comes to gossipy entertainment news. In January, the popular tabloid reported that scriptwriters for "Roseanne" had put together an episode titled "D.J.'s Coming Out," in which the Conner's teenage son tells his parents that he is gay. The "Enquirer" quoted the "insider" who claimed the plot could unfold over several episodes, with the "Coming Out" storyline ready to air this May (a critical "ratings sweeps" period, when the popularity of TV shows are surveyed nationally).

In a rumored scenario, D.J. (played by Michael Fishman) develops what the "Enquirer" described as "an unusually close friendship with a new boy at school." The script reportedly will deal with the harassment poor D.J. experiences, his father's "macho" efforts to teach him self-defense, and the young teen's eventual revelation that "I was fighting myself—fighting my feelings."

The "Enquirer's" source also reported that—while "Roseanne" producers are bracing for a homophobic backlash from the network (ABC)—

the plot development is fully backed by Roseanne herself, who hopes "that D.J.'s coming out could help kids who are going through the same thing."

It remains to be seen if these rumors have any basis in fact. Rest assured, however, that the widely-read "Enquirer" has already provoked letters from "concerned" homophobes, who prefer gay boys kill themselves rather than come out.

Already overpopulated with heterosexual teens, prime-time television would surely benefit from "D.J.'s Coming Out." Send encouraging feedback to Roseanne, Co-Executive Producer, "Roseanne," c/o ABC Entertainment, 2040 Avenue of the Stars, Los Angeles, CA 90067, tel. (310) 557-7777, fax (310) 557-7170. Copy your correspondence to Ted Harbert, President, ABC Entertainment, at the same address; e-mail abc-audr@ccabe.com.

Media Briefs

The first issue of "The Mirror" has just been published by the Russian Lesbian and Gay Library. According to Viktor Oboin, Editor-in-Chief, the new bulletin was published despite "modest means" and "social conditions in Russia that still require us to be discreet in our work." "The Mirror" includes a chronicle of events and a review of lesbian/gay content in Russian news media. The Library continues to seek "foreign language materials of all types, which we translate and include in our collection." Send all correspondence to Library, P.O. Box 9, Moscow, Russia 125047.

—Right Wing groups continue to pump out hate, lies and video tape. The latest video from the Family Research Council (a homophobic "think" tank) is "The Children of Table 34," which "debunks Kinsey studies of sexuality" and "reveals that Kinsey used children as young as two months of age in sex experiments conducted by pedophiles." Contact the FRC at (800) 225-4008. A new video series entitled "Certain Future" is being touted by the American Family Association as a "powerful expose" that "shows how the federal government is using education reform in the public schools to promote the new world order." Contact Prime Time Design/Opportunity Productions at (800) 954-1122 (ext. 1). Finally, American Portrait Films, Inc., has released "Rock-n-Roll Sorcerers of the New Age Revolution;" this film for young audiences argues that rock music is "a vehicle for propaganda of Satanism and New Age philosophies." For more details, contact APF at (216) 531-8600.

We must confront the media's homophobia in order to cure it! To notify GLAAD/SFBA of any defamatory or affirmative media coverage call our 24-hour Media Watch Hotline at (415) 861-4588, or write to "Media Watch," Gay & Lesbian Alliance Against Defamation/San Francisco Bay Area, 1360 Mission Street, Suite 200, San Francisco, CA 94103; tel. (415) 861-4893, e-mail glaadsfba@aol.com.

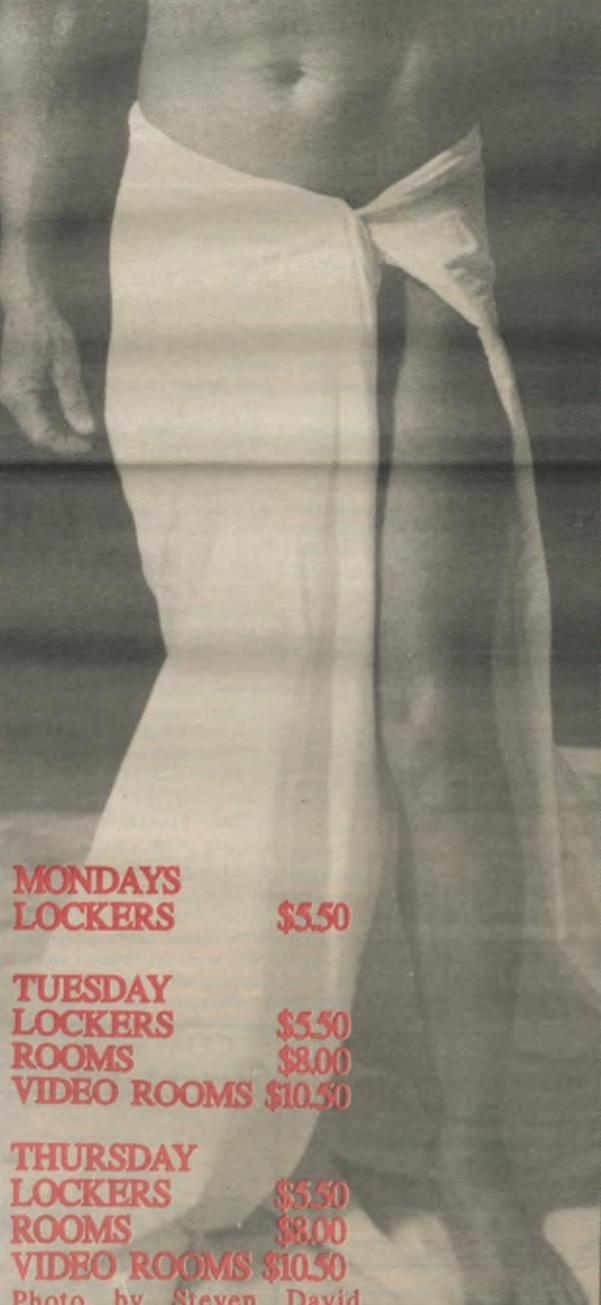
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RECYCLE

Body Positive announces benefit performance of 'Perestroika'



David Whelan (Joseph Pitt) and Joseph Haj (Louis Ironson) in the Alley Theatre's production of "Angels in America." The second part of Tony Kushner's epic, "Perestroika," begins performances on April 18; Body Positive's benefit preview is April 15

On Saturday, April 15 at 7:30 p.m., the AIDS service organization Body Positive will sponsor a special benefit performance of "Perestroika," the second part of Tony Kushner's epic "Angels in America," on the Alley Theatre's Neuhaus Arena Stage. Tickets are \$50, and may be purchased by calling (713) 524-2374.

"Angels in America" has garnered more awards—including the Pulitzer Prize, two Tony Awards, and London's Evening Standard Award—than any other American drama in recent history. Writing in *Newsweek*, drama critic Jack Kroll called it "a Broadway godsend." Frank Rich of *The New York Times* praised the work as "the most thrilling American play in years." Hailing it as "a true millennial work of art, uplifting, hugely comic, and pantheistically religious in a very American style."

The Alley Theatre's regular run of "Angels in America" is almost completely sold out. Body Positive is one of the few organizations to still have tickets available for "Perestroika."

"Angels in America" traces the relationships of two New York couples as they struggle to understand each other and themselves. Louis Ironson is a gay, Jewish worked professor living in Manhattan with his lover Prior Walter, who has just been

diagnosed with AIDS. Joe Pitt is an ambitious Mormon lawyer with a bright future in the Reagan administration. He finds it increasingly difficult to cope with his mentally unstable wife Harper, who is addicted to sedatives and spends her days cloistered away in the confines of their Brooklyn apartment.

Into this mix playwright Kushner sprinkles a host of unlikely characters: Roy Cohn, an angel, Mormon pioneers from the nineteenth century, the oldest living member of Russia's communist party, and the ghost of Ethel Rosenberg.

Founded in 1988 by six Houstonians concerned about the AIDS crisis, Body Positive's mission is to encourage individuals at risk of HIV infection to get tested; and to help those infected with HIV to actively manage their lives and health for maximum quality of life. Body Positive is one of the few organizations to address specifically the needs of the asymptomatic HIV-positive individual. Its objectives include providing affected individuals with emotional support, education and opportunities to socialize. Body Positive is a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization.

For more information on the special performance of "Perestroika," please call (713) 524-2374.

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A: This is a question that has plagued many people. I know of a man who suffers from a mental disorder. When he gets confused he hears voices who tell him to blaspheme the Holy Spirit. His religious training taught him that this sin was unpardonable. He would call me to see if he had committed this sin after listening to the voices and responding by cursing the Holy Spirit. His heart was very repentant and he was truly sorry and did not mean it. For this person I do not believe that he committed the unpardonable sin. There are some churches who dwell on legalism and control and fear. For those of us who were raised in this environment, we respond to the "don'ts" of the Bible. We worry about what will happen to us "if" we do a particular thing. Dwelling on the negative instead of the positive aspects of God can fill our minds with worry and fear. This same fear has led many people to worry about committing this unpardonable sin. I would say that if you are worried about it, then you haven't committed it! If we look at the passages that deal with this "unpardonable sin" we find an answer. First of all, we must realize that Jesus died for ALL of our sins. When our hearts are truly repentant (this means that we turn from our sin and walk in a new direction), God cleanses us and forgives us of all of our sin. In the gospel of Mark 3:28,29 we find the reference to our question today. Jesus is addressing the Pharisees (the religious legalist of the day). Jesus is saying to the Pharisees that for every kind of sin and every form of blasphemy or slander, forgiveness is available WHEN SIN IS REPENTED OF. So what is the problem? The nature of this sin is such that one does not repent of it, because those who commit it and persist in it do not know that they are sinning. Jesus had been going around healing and delivering people of all kinds of diseases and evil spirits. The Pharisees had accused Jesus of doing this by the power of Satan instead of by the power of the Holy Spirit. Their eyes were so tightly closed to the light that for them light had become darkness and good had become evil. The light is there for those who will accept, but if someone refuses the light, where else can they hope to receive illumination? In Luke 12:10 Jesus is talking about blaspheming the Holy Spirit that involves a refusal to receive the power of the Spirit offered to every person to save them from denying Jesus as Lord. The Apostle Peter denied knowing Christ, but was repentant of his sin. The power of the Holy Spirit was received by Peter when he repented of his sin. There was forgiveness and restoration for him. When Paul (Saul) was struck down on the road to Damascus, he heard a voice and saw a bright light. If he had not responded positively to this voice and light and listened to God, Paul may very well have continued in his own way and never received God's gift of salvation. We are talking about a person who refuses to see their need for repentance and illumination. This person walks in darkness and has rejected the light. Forgiveness is ALWAYS available through Jesus Christ to the person who sees the condition of their soul and repents.

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

RECIPES BY THE KUNTRY KIDD

Here is a recipe I copied off the boob tube about two weeks ago. It was given by a chef that lives in the states that is originally from Ireland. I prepared it for last night's dinner, and it turned out pretty good. Keep it on hand for St. Patrick's Day next year.

IRISH STEW

Serves: 6-8

- 3 Tbsp. oil
- 3 pounds beef (stew meat or whatever cut you desire, cubed)
- 3 onions (white or yellow)
- 1-12 oz bottle stout (you can use any dark beer)
- 2 C. beef stock
- 1 pound carrots, cut into 1-1/2 inch pieces
- 1 pound parsnips, diced
- 1 pound rutabagas, diced
- Salt and pepper to taste



Sauté' meat in oil (Do in 3 batches), and remove the meat from pan.

Add onions in oil and sauté' about 8 minutes.

Return meat to pan with the juices and onions-add beer.

Add stock to cover meat mixture and cover and simmer for 1 hour.

Add vegetables and cook until vegetables are done.

You don't have to use on the vegetables I have listed, use your imagination. I couldn't find parsnips, so I used potatoes. You could add celery, turnips, etc. The Irish use the three veggies I have listed, because there is not much of a variety there to cook with.

UNTIL NEXT WE EAT!

KUNTRY KIDD



THE TEXAS PUZZLE

Includes Clues About Texas, Current Events & Standard Crossword Clues

By Henry McClurg

ACROSS*

- 1 bags
- 2 handle
- 6 Land of Lincoln state, abbrev.
- 7 symbol for chemical element iron
- 8 of the stem part from which a leaf grows

- 10 midgets
- 12 French masculine pronoun
- 13 actor Gibson
- 14 brothers to be retried for 1989 killing of wealthy parents
- 20 verb suffix used to form past participles
- 21 from this or that in place or time
- 23 2nd letter of Greek alphabet
- 24 major Houston-based airline
- 27 boastful talk
- 33 verb suffix, cause to be
- 34 couple
- 35 move through the air
- 37 slight or pale coloration
- 38 relating to the pope
- 40 American WWII general MacArthur, initials ("It must be of the spirit if we are to save the flesh.")
- 42 Texas county with Cooper as seat
- 45 to cast a ballot

or singer Tiny

63 gentle touches, strokes

9 her initials if Dinah Shore had married Louie Armstrong

11 fill with joy

14 human

15 gazed upon

39 'the' in Spanish

41 cat's sound

43 lieutenant, abbrev.

44 beat Ark. Apr. 3 to be the new NCAA bas-

35 triangular sail used especially on Mediterranean Sea boats

46 Greek god of love

49 lair

51 half of a lulu

52 30's movie star Gable, initials

55 fine reward

57 25th U.S. president McKinley, initials

58 21st U.S. President Arthur, initials

62 computer company

63 1976 movie filmed in Terrell, Texas

64 Bob, our LI. Governor

66 wicked person

67 a division of the psyche

69 abbrev. for lethal dose & learning disability

71 because

73 gov't agency we all love

Solution elsewhere this issue © 1995 GULF FEATURES, PUZZLE TEXAS 120

GALAXY GAYZER

A HOUSTON VOICE EXCLUSIVE



HOUSTON VOICE HOROSCOPE FOR THE WEEK OF APRIL 7 - APRIL 14, 1995

HOUSTON VOICE readers born this week share the week of their birth with Sir John Gielgud. Born in 1904 this star of stage and screen is familiar to most.

ARIES (Mar 21 - Apr 20) Happiness will be yours around the corner especially if you are involved with a service or volunteer organization. There will be not only the genuine 'thank you' for making a meaningful difference in someone's life, but the very real possibility of learning an important life's skills from the other person (s). Your friends in the educational field experience this all of the time.

TAURUS (Apr 21 - May 20) You will notice an increase in your creative skills, either in writing or art creativity. Be as imaginative and as bold as you dare, to make your efforts stimulating and stand above the crowd. Springtime is a wonderful time for arts, as the brightness of colors, freshness of appearance and newness of creation lend themselves to your efforts. Telephone THE VOICE office for us to publish your work.

GEMINI (May 21 - June 21) Be definite about doing a better job in taking care of yourself physically. You may have had a close call health wise last week. One where a lesson was acutely taught. You need to return to the gym, to re-begin your work out schedule. Even if your weight has not changed, the shaping of your body needs some work. Continue to have confidence in your skills and intelligence, as they are strong points for your future success.

CANCER (June 22 - July 23) Look over your wardrobe and see where you are able to brighten up your appearance, without having to purchase any more items. At least not a major clothing purchase. A new shirt, tie, blouse, scarf or inexpensive piece of jewelry may be all that is needed. The colors will give to you a more up to date, contemporary appearance that will help to have you noticed by your friends and boss.

LEO (July 24 - Aug 23) Make a list of strengths and weakness' of your present relationship. Go over the strengths and locate the ones with your friend that maybe formed even better. With regards to the weak areas, talk them over in a non judgmental manner, e.g. without fault finding, and see how each of you may change in these areas. Do not be surprised if you find areas where a compromise is almost impossible.

VIRGO (Aug - Sept 23) The many facets to your personality are still being learned by yourself. Therefore, do not be surprised when your actions startle close friends. The secret in maintaining relationships for you, is to go more slowly when you change from one side of your personality to another. This will give to people a better chance to adapt to the 'new' you. For a person to love you, she/he will need to be more secure in their own right than a lot of people are.

LIBRA (Sept 24 - Oct 23) Look through the sales catalogues to find some of the bargains that you are hunting for. It is too bad that you do not own a pickup truck or van to haul home all of the wonderful bargains that fall into your way from weekend garage sales. Do not buy something unless it truly fits into your master decorating scheme or the low price suggests a profit taking prompt resale is very likely.

SCORPIO (Oct 24 - Nov 22) Consider adding a coat of paint in a different color to your quarters to give a wonderful and fresh appearance to your living spaces. The cost will be small, but the improved look will be worth many times your outlay of time and dollars. I suspect that you may not have the skill to chose the colors yourself. Seek the help of a friend whose living quarters have always been attractive to you.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov 23 - Dec 21) Use this weekend to experiment with new hair styles. Gentlemen readers of this column need to watch a change of color, as the falseness is still readily apparent, even with the better hair dyes. People your age simply do not have hair that color. Do not forget to trim your eye brows to make yourself look younger, and watch the present of hair around the ears in both genders.

CAPRICORN (Dec 22 - Jan 20) Pat yourself on the back, to acknowledge doing a great job this week. The strong points of your Astrology sign center around the intelligence level that you have. Unfortunately, your very strong ego gets in the way and frequently prevents you being as effective as you might be with interpersonal relationships. Though it is easier said than done, stop being so fragile with criticism.

AQUARIUS (Jan 21 - Feb 19) I do not see Ms./Mr. wonderful coming into your life during the next three weeks. This means that any new relationship that you might establish is probably going no where as. But then even if is only in meeting a new person who has a chance of becoming a new friend is not all that bad. Make sure that your home is clean and orderly, as these qualities are very important to anyone that you may bring home with you.

PISCES (Feb 20 - Mar 20) Look closely at the new friend that you have recently met. While your friendship is still young in weeks, she/he maybe that individual that you have been looking for. One of the things that I believe that you are being cautious about, is the educational difference and seeming maturity. These differences are definite pluses for you. Make sure that you are able to meet the person's considerable sexual needs.

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HELP WANTED

WANTED: "HOUSE BOY" needed parttime for general household chores, minor repairs and yard maintenance. In Montrose (713) 529 - 5993.

Clerk/cashier needed for adult bookstore in Montrose area. Applicant must be 21 years of age. Call (713) 528 - 1363 for information

WORK WANTED

I'm Available:
Anything's easier with help. Call me and make your chores easier -- two hours to full time - it's your life make it easier. Reasonable and References, too. Ray - VoiceMail, 603-7586

JACK OF ALL TRADES!
Mowing, cleaning flower beds, raking leaves, painting and a little carpentry. Charles (713) 528 - 1752

ANNOUNCEMENTS

SO YOU WANT TO BE IN PICTURES? We're looking for male models to appear on posters and

Apartment for Rent -- N.E. Montrose -- unique 3-bdrm, 2 bath (w/ skylite), formal dining rm, fireplace, wall to wall carpet, hardwood floors, ceiling fans, dishwasher, disposal, washer/dryer connections, 1,400 sq.ft. \$550 mo. plus utilities, \$550 security deposit 529-0711

billboards. If interested call J.C. (713) 618-5386.

APARTMENT FOR RENT

MONTROSE 2/1+ GIANT PATIO & SWIMMING POOL All appliances incl. dishwasher & disposal. Central air & free gas heat, ceiling fans, mini-blinds, big closets, laundry, covered parking. 306 Stratford at Taft. \$575.00 plus Elec. plus \$450.00 deposit. Dog or cat ok with pet deposit. (713) 523 - 6109

ROOMMATES

SGWM wants to share 2/1 Richmond Square Apt. Pool and cable. Non-smoker, non-drug user. \$315 a month + 1/2 utilities (713) 520 - 7662.

GWM, straight-acting, NS, seeks same to share 3/2 spacious League City home. \$350 + 1/2 bills. (713) 334-3940 leave message

WORKSHOPS

COME HOME TO YOUR EROTIC BODY The Body Electric School of Oakland, CA presents a 2-day workshop to teach the healing power of erotic energy. This weekend experience celebrates erotic energies a primary life force. This process allows GAY/BI men to feel at home in their bodies, to connect with ALL of who they are, to let go of fear, shame and guilt and experience erotic energy as playful, sacred, energizing and transformative.
CELEBRATING THE BODY EROTIC is taught in 5 countries and comes to Houston April 29-30, 1995. Tuition: \$275-- partial scholarships available for men in recovery and HIV. Information/Registration: Tom Crow (713) 528 - 6588.

FOR SALE

Must move. Selling everything in apt. Call Randy at (713) 523-5254. Also 1973 restored Chevy Caprice Classic for sale.

Solo Flex Machine - 7 months old. Excellent condition. All attachments \$850 or payment schedule. Will deliver - Scott (713) 528 - 6069

HOT BUY
1995 Saturn-SL with a/c \$11,260. Your personal consultant "Uncle" Jim will assist you in your purchase 777 - 6100 ext. 825. Ask for Uncle Jim, Saturn of Houston, 10050 SW Fwy.

Believe the LIE and DIE! 5 years ago "they" said I'd DIE! AIDS patient regained health without "them." 7 pages of information for \$5 S&H. Alternative Health Advocates, 6886 North 9th Avenue, Suite 75, Pensacola, FL 32504

NATION/WORLD

Human Rights Campaign Fund Action Alert

Help End Job Discrimination

(Editor's Note: HRCF Action Alert is a monthly column compiled by the Human Rights Campaign Fund, a national gay and lesbian political organization, to encourage grass roots lobbying on critical issues by the gay and lesbian community).

Cheryl Summerville worked as an award-winning cook at a Cracker Barrel restaurant until the company fired its lesbian and gay employees. Her termination notice read: "Employee is terminated due to violation of company policy. Employee is gay." She was left with no way to pay her mortgage or provide for her family, and no law to turn to for justice.

This could happen to you. No federal tax law protects people from discrimination on the basis of sexual orientation. You can be fired, refused work, paid less or otherwise discriminated against just for being lesbian, gay, bisexual, or even heterosexual. Only the District of Columbia, certain cities, and eight states have laws protecting people from job discrimination: California, Connecticut, Hawaii, Massachusetts, Minnesota, New Jersey, Vermont and Wisconsin. Elsewhere, you're on your own.

A poll commissioned by the Human Rights Campaign Fund (HRCF) found that a majority of American voters support equal rights in the work place for lesbian and gay Americans. That includes 64 percent of Republicans, 71 percent of Independents and 77 percent of Democrats. The American public clearly opposes job discrimination against lesbian and gay people.

The Employment Non-Discrimination Act (ENDA) is being re-introduced in the 104th Congress to prohibit this kind of discrimination. ENDA won

record support from Republicans, Democrats, and Independents in the last Congress. It can move forward in the new Congress with your help.

Well-funded radical right groups are attacking ENDA, claiming that we seek "special rights." In fact, lesbian and gay Americans lack the most basic rights. Help fight the radical rights distortion campaign. Call, write, e-mail, fax and visit your Senators and Representative. Ask them to support the Employment Non-Discrimination Act.

—Write to your Senators and Representative. Send a politely worded letter to: The Honorable (Representative), U.S. House of Representatives, Washington, D.C. 20515; or The Honorable (Senator), U.S. Senate, Washington, D.C., 20510.

—Call them. Dial the U.S. Capitol at (202) 224-3121. If you aren't sure who your Senators and Representatives are, just ask the switchboard operator.

—Fax and e-mail them. Call and ask for their fax number. Some Members of Congress have gone on-line, so ask for their e-mail address as well.

—Copy this Action Alert column for your friends and ask them to help too. The more equal rights supporters Congress hears from, the sooner we'll have equal rights.

For more information, call HRCF - Our Federal Advocacy Network (FAN) will provide free information on contacting your elected officials. Call (202) 628-4160 or write FAN at HRCF, P.O. Box 1396, Washington, D.C. 20013.

The Human Rights Campaign Fund (HRCF), the nation's largest lesbian and gay political organization, works to end discrimination, secure equal rights, and protect the health and safety of all Americans. To join, call 800-777-HRCF (777-4723).

RELIGION/PHILOSOPHY

Performance of Easter play to benefit AIDS housing program

Quick Notes

Steve Munsey's Passion Play, "Jesus of Nazareth," will be performed April 8 at 7:30 p.m. at Christian Tabernacle, 13334 Wallisville Road, to benefit the AIDS housing program of His Touch Ministries. Besides the play, His Touch will honor Dr. Adan Rios for his work with the community during the benefit, along with selected others in the AIDS service community.

His Touch Ministries operates an

AIDS service project that includes transitional housing, care teams, support groups and educational programs, hospice care, and adult and child day care.

The production of Jesus of Nazareth has become a Houston Easter tradition at Christian tabernacle. The inspirational performance includes "intense drama and live animals." Tickets are still available for \$6, general admission and \$8 reserved seating. And can be ordered by calling (713) 453-7000.

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HOUSTON PERSONALS

BY MANFINDER

Houston **MARRIED** WM 42 5'9 170 brn/blu iso discreet GWM with masc athl build, 25-45 like to have some hot visits-#37216

Houston **LOOKING FOR A COWBOY:** Patrick, 57, 115, looking for a cowboy who likes to have fun, and listens to CW music, if ur interested give me a call-#37394

Houston **ANYTHING!** Michael, int are anyone and anything, anthing goes- call me!-#37401

Houston **SHORT AND SLIM:** middle aged top guy looking for a young short, slim btm, like to have fun go out, like energetic older fella, give me a call-#2922

Houston **PEN PALS:** Mark, 5'11 65, blond blu, chn shaven, 26, want to carr with other guys, meet new friends and go from there, lv a message and we'll go from there-#22559

Houston **NEW IN TOWN:** Ray, just recently moved here iso other guys, lv a message and I'll get back to you-#37478

Houston **SPICY THIRD:** Steven, and Frank 30 BM has 24 HM looking for a little "sauce" to our relationship, if ur an attr man, and ur interested, masculine, hairy a plus give us a call-#37482

Houston **SWIMMERS BODY:** Mike, very youthful 37 yr old rebel, with dk exotic gd looks, swimmers body, smth 6'2 165, handsome, well educ succ professional, varied int, dancing sports iso WM 18-30 wants phys intimacy gdlkg blond/blu a plus-#37566

Houston **LATINO DUDES:** David, looking for latino dudes, te gusta chapar, tenga grande, if ud like to have some fun with me lkg for the ONE! hope to hear from you soon-#37596

Houston **PETER 25, 5'9, 140,** brn/brn, iso guys 22-32 who want to have a good time, bottom looking for a well endowed top for a good time-interested give me a call-#37611

Houston **CULTURALLY EDUCATED,** 21, GWM 5'9, 145, brn/blu grn, iso GWM, 21-27, must be cult educ, friends first maybe more-#37675

Houston **ALTERNATIVE SIDE:** Edward 6'2 165, 30, attr masc long haired GWM who likes alternative side of the city like biking and outdoors, like slim guys 18-25 new to scene is cool, like to get together and explore life, give me a call-#37679

Houston **PLAYS WITH TOYS:** John, young 35, like to party and play with toys, give me a call Montrose area-#37734

Houston **HISPANIC MALE:** Abel 5'4 115 31 hisp male bottom iso WM, who likes to be catered to give me a call-#37754

Houston **SMOOTH BLONDE:** David, 5'9, 140 smooth body blond/blu iso men who want to have a good time get to know each other and see what happens-#37818

Galveston **BLONDE BTM:** WM, 31, 5'10, 150, blond/blu iso a hot top, age 20-35, give me a call-#37826

Houston **STRONG BONDING:** Ray, 41, BM, iso strong bonding with men of color, with a good tan, 18-30 lift wts, weigh 200-300 lbs give me a call-#37917

Houston **TEXAS A & M:** John, looking for a GAM 23-33, in the Houston/Austin area, I'm a grad student at Texas A & M 30, 5'11 brn curly hair,blu 225, give me a call-#37968

Houston **FRIEND AND TEACHER:** Jason, BM, 5'9, 160, mid 30s, iso friend and teacher with no strings, pref masc macho,

like reading cooking movies and fun, lets bond- pls call masc only-#37992

Houston **PROFESSIONAL ATTORNEY:** Steven, GWM prof'l attorney, looking for a good top man, non smoking yuppie, who likes the physical- give me a call-#38474

Houston **BLONDE ROCKER:** David, WM 5'11 blond/blu, iso some Hisp or WM for fun, early to late 20s, like to get to know me better, rock and roll and have a good time on spring break give me a call-#37109

Houston **SOUL AND SALSA** Steven and Frank, hisp btm Steven BM, sexy top, lkg for someone int in having a little fun, adding a little spice to our rel, if ur interested, give us a call-#37482

Houston **RAY 41,** Afr Amer, like to have sincere bonding and friendship with men of color 18-30, iso men into weightlifting and powerlifting, into 200-300 lbs of u/muscles 5'5 + rock hard body, like to hear from blue collar guys 18-30-#38056

Galveston **GWM 31** 5'10, 150, blond/blu, looking for hot tops, 25-35 for a good time give me a call-#38330

Houston **YOUR NAME IS:** David GWM iso prof'l GWM or GHM int in a long term rel, like reading, eating out, music, sports you name it, lv a number-#38443

Houston **TWO BUDDIES:** David and Tony two buddies looking for singles and couples, to est some qual friendship with, 2 gdlkg guys in their 20s and 30s, into good times, beach zoo and quiet eves at home, iso 18-30 give us a call-#38451

Galveston **RICKY** hot btm iso dam tp if ur interested give me a call-#38469 Houston **WANT A CUDDLER:** Archie, cute 41, 5'8 145, brn/blu, honest sincere caring, smoker, iso a cute guy 33-43 honest like outdoors, likes to watch movies and cuddle- interested give me a call-#36538

Houston **SUPER MUSCLES:** Ray, 41, BM, native to Houston, seeking strong friendships with men of color if you are built like a football player 18-35, give me a call- like to get together, short hair shaved heads a plus- super muscular build! #36594

Houston **LEATHER AND LACE:** Danielle, like all kinds of good things, 38, gdlkg well built masc men like leather and lace, like to have a good time and do twisted things if ur interested give me a call- Galleria area-#36501

Galveston **BLONDE GUY:** Victor, 31, 5'10, 155, blond/blu, lkg for WM HM 18-35 for friendship, pass rel-#36943

Houston **GBM Darren,** 5'11, 165, looking for another BM, same proportion to spend time get to know share interests-#36972

Houston **HARDBODY:** Brad 24, 6', 175 short brn/blu, attr, gdlkg, hard body, iso 20-30 thats masc gdlkg, give me a call-#37073

Houston **NEW FRIENDS:** David 36, 5'11 blond/blu like the beach movies and having a good time, give me a call, iso males, up to 30 WM or HM well end'd a plus, like to get some friends in my life bye now!-#37109

Port Natchez **PEN PALS:** Rick, bi WM 6'2, 220, brn/brn, lkg to pen pal with other gay or bi men out there, write me!-#37120

Houston **POSSIBLE RELATIONSHIP:** 52 yr old tp guy iso btm might be int in a relationship, like arts, dancing theatre, if ur looking for a rel, give me a call-#2922

Houston **ATHLETIC PROFESSIONAL:** James, iso someone professional, athletic, WM, between 30-45, BM 28 5'6, 115, very smooth if ur interested in quiet times together-#31009

Houston **ALL AMERICAN BOY:** Seth, hands attr 5'11, 20 all amer boy iso others 20-29 masc appearance, discreet attr professional give me a call-#35808

College Station **GM 23** looking for someone int in camping outdoors having a good time pass rel-#35811

Houston **GBM, 20,** like to hook up with other BM around the same age give me a call-#35820

Houston **TJ 29 5'7** 150 short blond, athl masc toned, end'd, iso guys 20 - 30 want to get together and have a good time like to have fun safely, thanks bye-#35847

Houston **BLONDE BTM:** Victor 31 WM 5'10 155 blond/blu, lkg for a gdlkg WM or HM between 18-32, #35847

Houston **GREENWAY PLAZA AREA:** Dave, 29 WM, 5'7, 135,

brn/grn, well end'd vers, if ur int in getting together give me a call-#36033

Houston **COZY NITES:** Raney 20 5'11 128, blond/grn, iso GWM or GHM 20-39, like dining out cozy nites, not really into bars, - smoker, give me a call if interested-#35988

Houston **ASIAN MAN:** David, asian 26 5'9 148, looking for someone under 35 medium build, but not overweight-#35619

Houston **TWISTED FUN:** Mike, lkg for some twisted fun, lets see what happens-#29235

Gittings **HELP ME OUT OF THE CLOSET:** Married WM never been with a man, like to try 34, stocky, give me a try, help me out-#24592

Houston **CAMPING AND FISHING:** Alan, 28 5'4 blond blu, int in camping, fishing, movies, malls, like to meet 29-32; 5'9-6'3 well built masc, some body hair, give me a call-#1514

Houston **BEDTIME STORIES:** Dave, 29, gdlkg brn/green 5'7 135 built, come over and fuck me in for the night-#35602

Houston **SLIM BUILD:** David, Asian 24, 5'9 140, go to movies, dining out iso someone under 35 slim to med build, give me a call if ur interested-#35619

Houston **FOURTH FOR BRIDGE:** Thomas, WM looking to get with someone who wants to have fun, like playing cards, monopoly, or watching tv, smoker, drink occasionally, interested-#35640

Houston **BIG BLACK MEN:** Glenn, SW area iso a few good big black men 200+ linebacker build to start a club called black bears, big men who like to socialize, watch games on tv big men admirers-#35703

Galveston **HOT GUYS:** Victor, 31 WM 5'10 155, blond/blu, lkg for hot guys, 18-32, for a good time pass friendship give me a call lets get together-#29937

Houston **CURLY HAIR:** James, GBM 5'6, 125 very curly hair, prof'l iso WM 5'6-6' give me a call-#30999

Houston **SINGLES AND COUPLES:** David, 29 gdlkg WM brn/grn 135, well end'd iso singles and couples for playtime adventure lets have a ball-#31092

Houston **MR. DRUMMER, ARE YOU OUT THERE?** Paul, 30, blond/blu, 6'1 190, in good shape gdlkg hard working iso someone ready for intimate rel, where is my Mr. Drummer? ages 20-45-#31787

Houston **NIGHTTIME FUN:** Dustin, looking for some good night fun, if ur 18-29, give me a call-#31902

Houston **NEW TO AREA:** Eli, just moved to Houston, gdlkg engr, GAM 29, 5'8, 145, lived all over the world, scuba, hiking, camping, clubs, movies, iso masc WM 22-33 share same interests friendship pass more, if ur the rt person-#25521

Houston **MOVIES AND MUSICALS:** David, single WM 5'6, 37, dk hair blu eyes, stocky, like to dance, like movies, and musicals, like to travel, walking on the beach, like eves w/ friends iso GWM Asian, or hisp 30-40 ht/wt prop, pass rel-#24790

Houston **HEY, BEARS!** Brian, int are one on one, BM WM well built masc hairy, very well end'd movies, cooking eating out good conv pass rel, and outdoors animals, extra hairy and beard and mustache-#24852

Bryan **BLACK BODYBUILDERS:** Otis, 5'5, 125, blk/brn, BM int in big blk gay guys, like to meet very handsome BM body

La Grange **LETS MESS AROUND:** Alan, 30 GWM 5'10 blond blu, lkg to talk to guys that wouldnt mind coming over and mess around, pass rel, not really into the bar scene- give me a call-#25357

Houston **INTO EVERYTHING:** masc gdlkg 40+ prof'l into everything, want married or masc, want to play just reg fun, #25424

Houston **STORM 22,** brn/hzl, 5'11 190, Romantic, candlelight dinners, sitting on the beach watching the moon on the bay, the sun come up, like camping, nature, animals travell-#26090

Houston **TWO STEPPIN'** Bob, 6'3, 172 brn blu, like to work out, into two stepping, just lazing on the couch on a rainy day-#26176

Houston **GAY CURIOUS:** Charles, int in meeting GWM from 20-30 gay curious, never really had with a man-#26295

Houston **ATHLETIC BLONDE:** Scott, 5'8 145, grn, dirty blond, gdlkg attr iso same, lkg for someone 18-24, around my ht, athletic, like to have fun-#25865



TO RESPOND TO THESE ADS AND 1,000'S MORE CALL:
1-900-407-GUYS
Must Be 18+ AV. SF. CA \$1.99/Min. 415-281-3183

HOW TO JOIN US...TOLL-FREE

- To record your personal ad CALL: 1-800-546-MENN(6366).
- Follow the easy voice instructions to record your personal ad.
- Write down your new voice mailbox number.
- We'll print your recorded message like the ones shown above.

HOW TO MEET THEM

- To respond to ads CALL: 1-900-407-GUYS and at the main menu: Press 3 to respond to ads you like.
- Press 2 to browse the latest ads sorted by area code.
- Press * to pick-up new messages left in your mailbox.
- A busy signal = Men on the line. Call again later.
- Comments or Questions call 1-415-281-3813 24hrs.

LEATHER LINE

DOMINATES/SUBMISSIVES

1-900-740-GUYS
18+, \$1.99/Min. CA 415-281-3183

MODELS AND ESCORTS

Hot, extremely handsome hispanic guy. Great hard body with washboard abs nice chest, arms, and bubble-but! Great face! Amilcar (A-meal-car) (713) 521-1506 - Pager 762-6645.

JOE, ATTRACTIVE MASCULINE ITALIAN, 1 DELIVER 24HRS. Hm. (713) 961 - 1577

HOT, HAIRY, "READY FOR YOU" - ERIC (713) 666-9373

LET THIS GORGEOUS WELL-DEFINED, BI-SEXUAL BLACK MALE make your fantasies come true and put you mentally in a spell! Domonique, (713) 674-0301. 24 hours.

Best of both worlds. Awesome, hot Latin transsexual. 36C-24-36. Clean, very discrete. (713) 529-6937 Angie.

Lesbian Personals
FOR WOMEN ONLY



There's no charge to leave a greeting:
1-800-326-MEET

To pick-up your private responses or browse:
1-900-933-4256

ADULTS ONLY MUST BE 18 OR OLDER. \$10.00 PER CALL. \$1.00 PER MIN.

CONNECT WITH HOUSTON
MAN -TO- MAN!

LOCAL HOUSTON TALK LINE
2 Hours for \$4
make friends or relationships
FREE VOICE MAIL BOXES & free info line
(713) 778-6689
flat rate subscriptions available
(214) 761-6066
1-900-820-8799
\$4 the 1st minute & 65¢ each addl.
2 hr. access for 1 min. cost press Option 8
18+ • MultiChannel • (214) 761-6066

It's Hot
It's New
Photo Sex TV JANET
Dominant Bitch
Some have already cum to Janet
Kiss my thigh.
I want you to hear me moan!
I want to feel your hot breath.
For photo in ad, price list & color brochure (with different poses & outfits), send \$10 to:
Photo Sex
P.O. Box 691131
Houston, TX 77269
Call 894-1070



Look for TV JANET during the Westheimer Street Festival giving away photos!

ADVERTISE YOUR BUSINESS IN THE
HOUSTON VOICE

NEVER BE LONELY AGAIN!!!
CALL 1-900-726-0033
Ext. 8909
\$2.99 per min.
Must be 18 yrs.
Procall Co.
(602) 954 - 7420

MEET NEW PEOPLE THE FUN WAY TODAY
1-900-726-0033
Ext. 8912
\$2.99 per min.
Must be 18 yrs.
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★ **Airline** ★
Adult Books



1404 26th St.
Kenner, Louisiana
Just around the corner
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FRENCH QUARTER
(713) 527-0782 3201 LOUISIANA HOUSTON

All Male Cinema
presents

MIDNIGHT MATINEE SPECIAL
Sunday thru Thursday
Midnight til Closing
Admission \$4 with membership

THURSDAY Matinee
\$4 All Day with membership



LANCE HOWARD PRESENTS A STEVEN LUCAS FILM
9 1/2 INCHES
SIZE VIDEOS

POWER DRIVER

and

NINE 1/2 INCHES



POWER DRIVER
A Sanderz Production
ALICE POWERS
In Hollywood, more than just the deal goes down...

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

Houston VOICE Personals

NEED DADDY YOU NEVER REALLY HAD?

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

SEEKING TO MAKE NEW FRIENDS

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

HAIRY DADDY SEEKS BOY

Boy should be 21-40, weight proportionate to height, open-minded. Daddy is 50, 5'9", 180, bearded. Let's discuss possibilities. Photo exchange will be required eventually. Ad 25673

ATTENTION -NUDIST

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

GWM SEEKS HOT GAY FUN-NO STRINGS!

You: HWP, GW/H/A, NS, DDF, LD, 25-55. Me: HWP, DDF, LD, NS, 46, hairy, moustache, gray/brown/green, for hot safe fun times, friends possible. Interested? Leave message. Live in Texas City, little distance to travel, I'm worth the trip. Business men out of town welcome also. 7" or more a plus. Ad 25682

FOR \$24.95 PER YEAR YOU CAN HAVE AN AD IN THIS SECTION

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

HELIUM HEELS???

If you are a bottom who enjoys his "legs in the air", contact this 38 year old, blue-eyed, clean cut, endowed safe top who visits Texas from Atlanta. Ad 25676

FREE TO LOVE

GWM, handsome, sexy, charming, br/bl, 5'10", 175#, 40, athletic, mature, real, in touch with life and down to earth, and interested in passionate true love with another masculine handsome man who is also in touch with his feelings, knows what he wants and how to get it. Ad 25690

LOOKING FOR VARIOUS SERIOUS BOTTOMS

Like to submit, be passive? Like to service? Like following instructions? Like B & D? Naughty boy lately? Do you know your place with an aggressive hot top? Your choice. If GM, 25-40, fit, clean, healthy, easy going, bright, nice guy, then I am expecting your call. Ad 25653

INCURABLE ROMANTIC

Dependable, faithful, honest and open with a sense of humor. I love the outdoors, music, dancing and movies. In search of a fem soft butch 30-45 with same interests. No mind games or rebounds. Ad 25672

LOOKING FOR LIKE/PROF. FOR LONG-TERM RELATIONSHIP

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

GO FOR IT!

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

GALVESTON: LOOKING FOR SEXUAL BUDDIES

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

LOOKING FOR FRIEND IN WEST HOUSTON

GWM, 44, 5'5", 175lbs, DDF, looking for friends in West Houston/Bear Creek area. Professional, stable guy looking for other professionals. 30's to 40's, also DDF for friendship, fun, possible relationship. I like animals, cooking, movies and quiet evenings at home. Smoker, light drinker not into heavy bar scene. If interested in a short hairy guy please respond to Ad 25671.

WANTED:

part-time houseboy/servant who knows how to be of service. Master is 44, 5'9", 180lbs, demanding, lives in Montrose. Ad 25134

BLACK MALE SEEKS WHITE MALE

37 year old black male, HIV+, 30 waist, 6', 155, healthy and active. Seeking GWM HIV+ age 25-40 for monogamous relationship. Must be sincere. No one nighters please. Ad 25681

QUEER WHITE BOY

GWM, 39, 5'11", 160lbs., wants to meet straight acting GW/HM liberal Democrat for companionship and maybe more. I'm blue collar, very straight acting, laid back, lean, muscular, fearless. I enjoy the outdoors, animals, drinking beer, rock and roll, quality smokes, partying with friends, occasional bar hopping and quiet evenings at home. Ad 25651

HIV+ HISPANIC MALE

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

SERIOUS DISCIPLINARIAN NEEDED

Out of control mid 30's, white male seeks serious minded older male to administer must needed discipline. Ad 25793

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

PLAY SAFE INSTRUCTIONS

TO PLACE a Houston Voice Personal Ad --

Come to our offices at 811 Westheimer, Suite 105. It's a good idea to write out (up to fifty words) what you want to say. The annual cost is only \$29.95 -- less than one dollar per week. (You must restate [by phone] your desire for the ad to keep running every four weeks.) At the office you will be given the functioning details. Ads can also be placed by mail, with payment enclosed, phone 713-529-8490, for details.

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

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

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

ADDITIONAL REQUIREMENTS: To take advantage of the \$29.95 per year offer, you are required to participate in the "live voice" aspect of our Personals by calling the special 800 toll-free number. You must record, in your voice, your Ad. If you do not participate in the voice aspect, your ad may be discontinued without reimbursement. The voice message can be as simple as "You read the ad, leave a message" to complex and informative. The ads, both print and voice, can not contain references to sexual acts or organs (FCC et al. regulations). If you are having difficulty recording your message, phone 1-800-780-4947, for assistance. Ads should be positive, describe what you want, undesirable qualities/characteristics need not be listed.

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

If you are reading this page, your Houston Voice Personal should be listed!!
Call 529-8490

WE'RE GAY.

WE LISTEN.

WE UNDERSTAND.

WE HELP.

As a member of our community, we serve you face to face, privately and confidentially. We are experienced and trained to simplify the viatical process for you. We work for you, securing the highest value for your insurance in the quickest time possible - without hidden fees - without stress - and without pressure.

Come by, sit down *face-to-face* with someone who understands your situation and let's work together to find your best solution.



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OF HOUSTON
A Viatical Service Company

811 WESTHEIMER ▽ SUITE 208 ▽ HOUSTON, TEXAS 77006 ▽ (800) 275-3090 ▽ (713) 528-6777

▽ PERSON TO PERSON ▽ GAY OWNED & OPERATED ▽ HIGHEST POSSIBLE VALUE ▽ PRIVATE & CONFIDENTIAL ▽ NO PRESSURE ▽ NO FEES

WE ALSO VIATICATE FEGLI AND ALL OTHER GOVERNMENT EMPLOYEES INSURANCE POLICIES