

HOUSTON

VOICE

SEPT. 9, 1994
ISSUE 724

A Weekly Community News Publication

26th annual Miss Camp America Pageant at the Music Hall, Sept. 17



One For The Road

On Saturday, Sept. 17—as the annual Miss America Pageant plays out its evening of glitter, glamour and the fairy tale values of a bygone era on television sets all over the country—the Miss Camp America Foundation will present its own 26th annual pageant at the Houston Music Hall.

The Miss Camp America Pageant, besides being the ultimate Miss America spoof, is an outrageously indulgent celebration of camp, featuring an all male cast decked out in oversized wigs and hairpieces, lavish sets and colorfully choreographed production numbers. This year, the theme is "One For the Road," and the introduc-

tory number has the vacation-bound cast emerging from a pink Cadillac. Can you say "subtle?"

The show decidedly more sendup than competition. Each year, the pageant's "Top Nine"—named the year before, according to that year's Miss America finalists and state names picked by MCA members in a random drawing—is showcased in talent presentations, swimwear and evening gowns. In between, cast members perform in production numbers that usually feature more sequins, feathers, rhinestones and glitter than most Las Vegas shows. Who ultimately is crowned Miss Camp America, however, is not determined by the "competition," but rather by the outcome of

the "other" pageant; again, according to randomly drawn states.

Despite the glitz of the current pageants, Miss Camp America had humble beginnings. In 1969 at a Houston apartment, 11 friends gathered to watch the Miss America pageant on television. To spice up the evening, those attending took turns drawing names of one of the states represented by the top ten finalists of that year's pageant. Before the evening was over, one of them became the first "Miss Camp America" by virtue of the state winning the title.

Over the years, this simple beginning grew into the extended list of 50 state representatives now selected from the club's membership. The once purely social group developed into a

non-profit, tax-exempt organization that has become a major fund raising force for AIDS charities, raising over \$50,000 in the last two years. In addition to naming five different AIDS related charities to receive the proceeds of this year's pageant, the members participate in the Care Bear Project, which includes monthly visits to local hospitals.

The 1994 pageant's beneficiaries are the Colt 45's AIDS Trouble Fund, Houston Names Project, PWA Coalition of Houston, The Assistance Fund and the Pet Patrol.

Tickets for "One for the Road," can be obtained by calling 227-ARTS or at Foley's, Sears, Fiesta, Jones Hall or the Wortham.

Two gay playwrights taking center stage in London

Letter from London

By ANDREW EDMONSON
FOR THE HOUSTON VOICE

Part 1: The London Stage

(Editor's Note: "Letter from London" is a three part series examining the life, culture, and politics of one of the world's great lesbian and gay cities).

(London, England)—The work of two of the twentieth century's most formidable gay artists is currently taking center stage at Britain's Royal National Theater. The National, arguably England's most prestigious theater company, has devoted its considerable artistic and technical

resources to reviving two fascinating, rarely-performed plays: "Sweet Bird of Youth" by the great poet of the American stage, Tennessee Williams; and "Les Parents Terribles" (The Terrible Parents) by the French playwright, artist, and film maker Jean Cocteau.

"We are two monsters, but with this difference between us. Out of the passion and torment of my existence I have created a thing that I can unveil, a sculpture, almost heroic, that I can unveil, which is true," proclaims a character in the third act of "Sweet Bird of Youth." A great deal of Williams' works were highly autobiographical, and in these lines, one hears clearly the playwright reflecting on the circumstances of his own life. In "Sweet Bird," Wil-

liams examines themes that preoccupied him throughout his career and that still have enormous relevance for us today: the twin American obsessions of youth and physical beauty; and the terrible spiritual cost of our society's relentless drive to success and power.

These ideas are embodied in the play's two central figures. Alexandra de Lago, the Princess Kosmonopolis, is an aging, pill-popping movie star of enormous vanity whose career is caught in a relentless spiral downwards. Chance Wayne is a hustler in his late twenties whose looks are fading and whose hopes of a movie career are almost dead.

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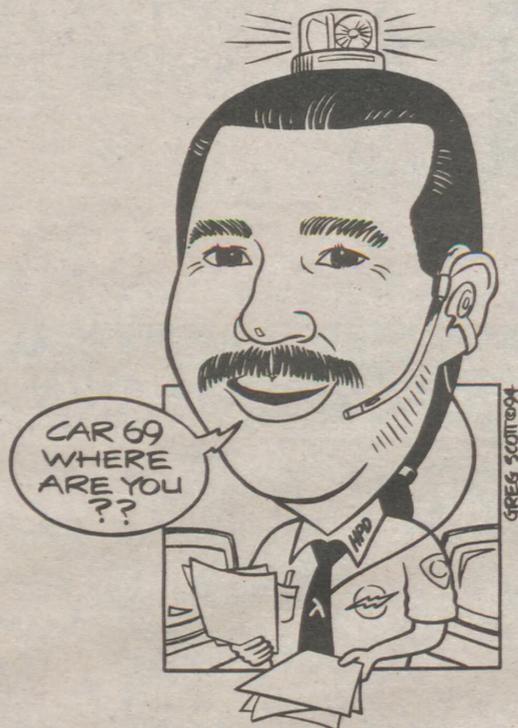
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Houston Spotlight



BUDDY JOHNSTON

The late, great Harvey Milk said that "Rights are not won on paper, they are won only by those who make their voices heard." One Houstonian who certainly fits the bill in terms of making his own voice heard is former KPFT programmer and openly gay Houston Police Department dispatcher Buddy Johnston. As the original host and creator of "After Hours," the gay late night radio show celebrating its seventh year on the air this week, Johnston was known—and occasionally, feared—for speaking his mind and calling attention to his stances. Transplanted to Houston from the hills of Arkansas in 1980, Johnston began working for

HPD in 1984, while he was still in the closet. Then, in 1987, he became the producer of After Hours, broadcast every Saturday on KPFT. "Since I was on a 100,000 watt stereo radio station screaming 'I'm here & queer' it was sorta hard to stay in the closet," he explains. But Johnston remained a respected civilian employee at the Department. In June, 1990, he was elected president of the Houston Police Support Personnel Union and is still serving as its president. After work, he lets his hair down (figuratively and literally) and enjoys being the "hippie fag your Momma warned you about."

HOUSTON

VOICE MAIL

Letters to the Editor

From CHRIS SEVERSEN

Houston, Texas

People of Houston: I would like to thank you and applaud you for your enthusiastic response to my "Christmas in July Carnival 1994."

We raised a total of \$2,005 due to your generosity. The Lady Victoria Lust PWA Holiday Fund received three fourths of that amount; the rest of the monies went to other charities and minor expenses.

I'd like to thank Bill Havard and his staff at the BRB for all their cooperation in helping to make this a

smooth and fun production. See you July 16, 1995, Bill! Thanks for asking.

Other thank you's go out to: Pops Decorating—fantastic job, guys, I hope to work with you again, and to all the volunteers who helped to distribute invitations and also cooked and sweated their balls off. Thanks also to Don Gill and Jerry Morin for their emceeing and autioneering (I couldn't have done it without you).

See all of you next July: same place different day, same time (1:00 p.m. 'till). Further details coming soon

Female Impersonator confronts straight cousin on Jerry Springer Show

At a recent taping of the Jerry Springer Show, nationally syndicated talk show host Jerry Springer met female impersonator "Vanise" and her cousin Steven Jackson. Vanise wants her cousin to accept her the way she is, but he's embarrassed by Vanise's cross-dressing. Vanise and Jackson stepped into the show's ring, armed only with blow-up dolls. This type of therapy is supposed to constructively release anger. Jackson lost and will fulfill Vanise's request of seeing her act at "Kiss" in Wonk-kama, N.Y. "Grudge Match" will air nationally on Tuesday, Sept. 13, 1994. The Jerry Springer Show is produced and distributed by Multimedia Entertainment. Check local listings for chan-

nel and time.



Vanise and Jackson battle with blow up dolls

Threat to basic property rights an overlooked aspect of Ovett saga

Observer's Notebook

By PAUL VARNELL

FOR THE HOUSTON VOICE

One of the strangest aspects of the whole controversy over Camp Sister Spirit in Ovett, Miss. was what did not get said.

Here were two strong-willed

women, Wanda and Brenda Henson, who bought a hundred acres of land for a feminist women's camp/They asked nothing more than to be left alone to build their camp and carry out their vision.

They posed no apparent threat to their neighbor's peace or safety, yet the neighbors and townsfolk apparently felt threatened. Someone fired shots in the vicinity of the camp, left dead animals on the property, made threatening telephone calls, and otherwise harassed the women and their colleagues.

In hearings before Rep. Barney Frank (D-Mass.) and Jerry Nadler (D-N.Y.) in Jackson, Miss., uneasy townsfolk testified that, to be sure, nothing the women were doing impinged on their own homes or lives, or on their town. They just did not like what the Hensons were doing, they said.

What got lost, or never got said with any force or clarity, is that these women were on their own property, that what they were—and still are—demanding is that their property rights be respected, and they very reasonably demanded that local law officials take aggressive steps to see that their property rights were upheld.

In their own testimony, the Hensons tried to make their case in other terms. According to press accounts, they spoke of democracy, of equal treatment, even a right to privacy.

But how refreshing it would have been if one of them had told Frank and Nadler and the townsfolk something like this:

"Look! This is our property. We bought it. We paid for it. We own it fair and square. We are breaking no laws and we are not impinging on your lives or property. You therefore have a moral as well as a legal obligation to respect

our property rights and not bother us.

"That is the whole point of having property rights: They allow each of us humans to acquire and be guaranteed a safe zone for us to carry out our projects, to live our lives, to pursue our dreams exactly without interference from others, without being crushed or molded or threatened by public opinion or the tyr-



Whose property in Ovett? (Photo of Brenda and Wanda Henson by Frank Parsley)

anny of a majority.

"That is what makes this country great: these property rights of ours are what permit us all to live in close proximity with one another, yet preserve our own individuality, pursuing our goals and values and developing our gifts, such as they are.

"You want to make a collective 'people's' decision about what we can and cannot do on our property. But that is what socialism is. We wholeheartedly reject that and thought you did, too.

"Let us remind you, Jim-Bob, what that aging bumper sticker says on the back of your pickup truck: 'America—Love It or Leave It.' We don't know about you, but we're staying."

This speech is followed by wild applause, cheers and whistles from the audience. The women of Camp Sister Spirit hug each other and find themselves hugging the townsfolk around them, who, with tears in their eyes, hug them back. Rep. Nadler tells the women, "That is the most moving speech I have heard since...my distinguished colleague Mr. Frank last spoke on the House floor." Choked with emotion and speechless for once, Frank nods vigorously in agreement. Then someone in the audience starts singing "America the Beautiful," and soon more and more people join in...

No, it did not happen that way. But in truth, it is hard to think of a way to give institutional support for the concepts of privacy and security without the concept of a property right—which is, of course, a human right to have property. It is hard to think of how you could have much privacy on government-owned property, as periodic police sweeps of public housing amply attest.

(Continued on following page)

San Diego court acquits sailor who had shipmate break leg

SAN DIEGO, Sunday, Sept. 4 (AP)—A military court acquitted a sailor of charges for asking a shipmate to break his leg so he could escape sexual harassment aboard the USS Constellation.

Garrett Trance, a petty officer 3rd class, admitted persuading Airman Wesley Newell to hit his leg with a steel pipe on Feb. 19. Trance's leg broke on the third blow.

Trance was a victim of sexual harassment because shipmates mistakenly believed he was homosexual, said Charles T. Bumer, his lead attorney. The court martial panel acquitted

Trance on Friday on charges of conspiracy, missing the movement of a ship and malingering.

Newell, 21, was sentenced to three months' confinement, a bad-conduct discharge and fined for the Trance case and another incident.

On the same day he broke Trance's leg, Newell shot Airman James Kinsey in the shoulder. Kinsey, 23, testified he asked Newell to shoot him after being refused medical treatment for more than a year for a painful ear problem.

Kinsey agreed to an administrative discharge with less-than-honorable status to avoid a court-martial.

Brady's Corner

... that? Oh, that's my
Good 'No homosexual Conduct'
Medal.



Anti-gay measure will be on Oregon ballot

SALEM, Ore., Friday, Sept. 2 (AP)—An anti-gay rights measure will be on Oregon's ballot in November after a court challenge failed.

The Oregon Court of Appeals on Thursday unanimously reversed a lower court's decision that the proposal unconstitutionally contains more than one subject. Opponents of the measure decided not to appeal to the state Supreme Court.

"On to the campaign," said Lon Mabon, chairperson of the Oregon Citizens Alliance, which sponsored the measure. "I feel really vindicated. Being unanimous says some-

thing about the argument they have been pursuing."

The initiative is a revised version of a more harshly worded measure defeated by Oregon voters in 1992.

It would forbid spending public money in any way that promotes or expresses approval of homosexuality. It also would outlaw teaching children that homosexuality is a classification similar to race, religion, gender, age or national origin, and it would allow adults-only access to library books on homosexuality. Opponents contended those prohibitions were separate subjects.

How restrictive property laws can be used to control minorities

(Continued from preceding page)

A commitment to "democracy" simply empowers a majority to rule, but in itself stipulates no limits to how much it may regulate or tyrannize a minority. And which majority? Overtt? Or Mississippi? Or the United States? A commitment to "equality" tends to drift in the direction of social pressure for everyone to act pretty much the same (e.g., in Overtt). Even a commitment to "human rights" that contains no property provisions is as toothless as the admirably "progressive" constitution of the late Soviet Union.

How individual, how different, you can be on private property is illustrated by the Northampton (Mass.) Lesbian Festival held last July. For the first time, the festival decided to bar men, arguing, as the festival producer said, "It's a time for lesbians to really let themselves be who they are in a way they can't in the 'real' world." They could do that this year, because the festival was held on private property.

The uneasy citizens of Overtt have also tried to think of ways to indirectly control the Hensons—laws, zoning regulations, etc. Such attempts should come as no surprise. Zoning, a kind of poor man's collectivism, has often been used as a tool for social control of minorities who simply lead different lives on their own property.

—In 1986, a court upheld a zoning category in LaDue, Mo., that limited "one family residential housing" to "one or more person related by blood, marriage or adoption." In other words, no unmarried heterosexual couples and no gay or lesbian couples.

Such couples could buy property, pay for it, even pay the taxes on it. They could not live on it.

—Denver adopted a zoning law in the 1960's that prohibited unrelated people from living in the same house in some areas of town. It was repealed in 1989 by a narrow 7-6 vote, predictably opposed by council members who argued that "the family is the fundamental structure of society."

In 1988, Lakeview, Chicago's gay neighborhood, was threatened by a proposal to "down-zone" the area, banning any new bars or the expansion of existing ones. The proposal by neighborhood heterosexuals would have been to block the growth of the economic and social base of the gay enclave, thus keeping the area from becoming "too gay." In effect, neighbors were claiming a right to control what property owners could do with their property and who they could rent to.

—Houston in 1993 considered a zoning law that would have limited to 3,500 square feet any business that obtained more than 25 percent of its income from liquor sales, thus preventing any large discos or dance bars. The law would also have allowed as few as 30 percent of the residents of any area to challenge a liquor license and close any existing bar. What kinds of bars might have been most vulnerable to challenges, do you suppose?

The lessons for us as a minority seem clear.

(Paul Varnell is a syndicated columnist based in Chicago).

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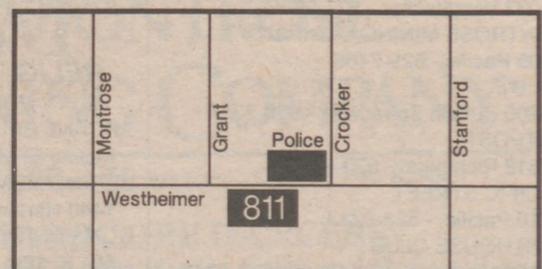
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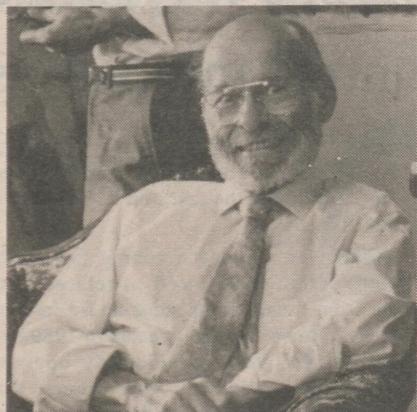
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IN MEMORY OF



DAVID P. HUDSON

David P. Hudson, 56, a key aide to Mayor Kathy Whitmire and former diplomat, died Wednesday, August 31, 1994. Born in Kalamazoo, Michigan, David served in the Marine Corps, then joined the State Department, and served in Europe, the Middle East and South America. He moved to Houston in 1975 and worked at Dow Chemical. In 1986, he joined Mayor Whitmire's staff, and his organizational and diplomatic skills made him an indispensable part of city government.

David remained with the City of Houston during the early period of the Lanier Administration to lend his expertise to the new staff, ensuring a smooth transition.

Survivors: Sister, Margaret Wilson and husband Woody; brothers Baden and wife Jackie, and Donald and wife Nancy; three nephews; two nieces; eight grand nephews and nieces; his best friend and companion Ardeshir Arjang and special friends Claire Bond and Twila Coffee and a host of others.

Farewell Service: 11:00 a.m. Saturday, September 10, Rothko Chapel, 3900 Yupon (at Sul Ross). Memorials may be directed to The Assistance Fund, 2476 Bolsover #455, Houston, TX 77005.

Thomas Street Citizen's Council to hold elections in October

Quick Notes

The Thomas St. Health Center Citizens Council will hold its biennial elections the first week in October, 1994. Thomas St. is a Harris County Hospital District health center that serves a case load of nearly 5000 active HIV/AIDS patients. The current Citizens Council will meet for the last session on Sept. 14.

Candidates are needed to fill board (15) board seats that represent the needs of the patients in the system. Although board experience is helpful, a real need for everyday people with compassion and common sense is critical, the Council membership encourages people from all walks of life to participate.

Any Harris County resident, not employed by the Hospital District, is eligible to run for a council representative seat or to vote in the upcoming election. The TSHCC also appoints two council members to board seats on the Harris County Hospital Districts' Council-At-Large, the oversees the entire community health program in Harris County. The deadline for running for a two year term for the TSHCC is at the Sept. 14th Council meeting at Thomas St. Health Center, 2015 Thomas St. (off No. Main). Meeting time is 2:00 p.m. There are 8 consumer seats (patients) and 7 non-consumer seats available.

TSHCC elections will be held Oct. 3-7, 1994 from 10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. Absentee ballots will be in community news publications, and on-site voting booths at the health center will be facilitated. For additional information please call (713) 902-2231.

Meetings, Workshops & Classes

The DIZINGER FOUNDATION is offering free photography classes for people with HIV/AIDS, from 5:30-7:30 p.m. on Mondays and Wednesdays at the foundation's offices, 3701 Montrose Blvd. Interested participants are asked to attend an information session at 5:30 p.m. Sept. 12. Classes are taught by Richard Hinson from the Houston Center for Photography; participants must bring own 35-mm camera. For information, call 522-8660.

—A Relationship Enhancement Workshop for people who simply want to improve the quality of communication in their relationships will be held on Saturday Oct. 1 from 8:30 a.m. to 6:00 p.m. at Whole Person Recovery Center, 2200 S.W. Freeway, Suite 310. Conflict resolution, sexual, financial and boundaries will be addressed. Call Michael Yeager (713) 521-0707 for information.

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Twins used in AIDS research in Fort Worth

FORT WORTH, Texas, Monday, Sept. 5 (AP)—Rudy Vasquez of Fort Worth, who has AIDS, says he's looking forward to a federal research project he's been asked to participate in, even if he doesn't understand it.

Vasquez and his brother are among 12 sets of identical twins who are scheduled to participate in a federal blood cell-sharing test. In each of the 12, one twin has AIDS and the other does not.

"I feel like it's helping other people, being a part of research," said Vasquez, diagnosed with AIDS in 1992 after he was hospitalized for weeks with a bout of nearly fatal AIDS-related pneumonia.

"I hope it can benefit and help somebody else," he said. "And, I hope it does what they want it to do in my system."

Vasquez, 32, and his brother, Ronnie, leave Wednesday for the initial physicals and screenings at the National Institutes of Health of Health in Bethesda, Md., a suburb of Washington, D.C.

Later, Rudy will be transfused with genetically treated immune-system

cells from his uninfected brother.

Under privacy guidelines, project officials said they could not confirm the identity of research participants.

The goal of the research is to learn how long T-cells live in the body of an individual with AIDS, said Dr. Robert Walker, principal investigator in the project for the National Institutes of Health.

T-cells are a component of human blood that are key to fighting infection. A barometer of the overall strength of the body's immune system, the T-cell count is about 800 in an average, healthy person. Rudy Vasquez said last week his T-cell count is "holding steady" at about 15, leaving him prey to nearly any type of infection.

Walker's research, which is about three months old, genetically treats T-cells drawn from the uninfected identical twin, causing more of the cells to grow in a laboratory environment. The cells are also "marked" so they can be tracked inside the infected twin.

It's a hack counter-attack: Helms' homophobic hotline may backfire

By SHERI COHEN DARBONNE

Houston Voice Editor

The latest characteristically sleazy attempt by anti-gay crusading Sen. Jesse Helms (R-N.C.) could easily backfire; at least, that's the fervent hope of recent contributors to a gay bulletin board network on the Internet.

Helms, who apparently sees the gay demon in everything from education to agriculture, recently received more than his share of media attention, once again, for tagging an avalanche of anti-gay amendments to various bills in Congress. The senator moved in stealth, however, when he set up an 800 number so that supporters of his anti-gay legislation could call their legislators free to make their feelings known. The line was also intended to be used by conservatives in their attempt to block national health care reform.

Here's how it works: when a caller dials the number, an operator will say "Capital;" the caller then asks for a specific senator or representative. The caller expresses his or her views to the

Congress member; Helms pays for the call.

Since Aug. 30, however, the number—(800) 768-2221—has been burning up the bulletin boards. (The original "Gaynet" contribution was attributed to "Ray R").

Although the number was set up specifically for conservative callers to use, anyone can call an "800" number for free; the person or organization set up the line pays the fees for the line. Since the number hit the Internet, it's a safe bet that a good number of callers to the "homophobe hotline" were from those who do not support Helms, his amendments or his views!

"Jerry," a Houston Voice reader and Internet user in Waco, says he's mounted his own campaign to encourage gays and lesbians to call their Congress members and senators to vociferously complain about the Helms amendments, and to make their feelings known about any other legislation that might impact their lives. In addition to the Helms line to the Capital, he has compiled a list of House and Senate fax numbers from C-Span's U.S. Congress Handbook; he's feed-

ing it back in to the board as an "action package" in hopes of mobilizing gays and lesbians to use the technology and access information the conservatives discovered long ago.

Some bills of specific interest to gays and lesbians include:

Elementary and Secondary Education Act (ESEA), includes Helms-Smith amendment that would ban federal funds to any school with any program that portrays homosexuality as "a positive lifestyle alternative," number unavailable.

AIDS Cure Act (HR 4370), calls for establishment of a centralized research center dedicated to finding a cure for AIDS.

Employment Non-Discrimination Act (ENDA), (HR 4636; S. 2238), protects employees from discrimination on the basis of sexual orientation.

(U.S. Representatives from the Houston area: Bill Archer, Dist. 7-R; Craig Washington, Dist. 18-D; Michael Andrews, Dist. 25-D; Gene Green, Dist. 29-D. Texas Senators: Phil Gramm-R; Kay Bailey Hutchison-R).

York, Pa. mayor criticized for appointing anti-gay rights leader

YORK, Pa., Friday, Sept. 2 (AP)—Gay rights advocates and the city council are challenging the mayor's decision to name a homosexual rights opponent to the city's Human Relations Commission.

Mayor Charlie Robertson has nominated Robert S. Erb Sr., a leading opponent of the city's gay rights ordinance, to serve on the commission, which oversees enforcement of local anti-discrimination laws.

Robertson also proposes to replace four longtime commissioners—including both the panel's chairperson and its only Hispanic member—with an all-white group. Among the four proposed new members is the president of the gay and lesbian group York Area Lambda.

The mayor could lose the vote scheduled for Tuesday's council meeting.

"I would have an objection to Robert Erb, knowing that he's against the gay rights ordinance," Councilwoman Carol Downs Brady said. "I would not see him... being fair in enforcing it."

"If he has such a strong political orientation, opposing gay rights for heaven sakes, I can't understand

why the mayor would appoint him," Councilwoman Marilu Beier said.

Exactly how Erb came to be nominated is unclear. The mayor said Erb requested the post. Erb said the mayor offered it.

Either way, Robertson said he hadn't focused on Erb's gay rights record, which includes a failed city council campaign that focused on opposition to the ordinance.

"Maybe the mayor should check into these people before he endorses them," said Cindy Mittel, Lambda's vice president. "In trying to get a mix of people, I don't know why he'd want to get a professed bigot on the commission."

The mayor noted that he also nominated Lambda president Peg Stoppard. She asked to be nominated and told him of her affiliation with the group, he said.

"I said 'I have no objections,' and I introduced her name," Robertson said.

Erb said that he opposes discrimination but considers the gay rights ordinance unnecessary. "Gays are mainstream now," he said.

Erb said he and other York whites are discriminated against, too.

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Lesbian mom hopes new found support can help her keep visitation



Houston mother Beth Christoff must raise \$2,000 by Sept. 15

By SHERI COHEN DARBONNE
Houston Voice Editor

A Houston mother of three, saddled with a prohibitive past-due child support bill to her ex-husband, is hoping her lesbianism won't be used in court to take away her visitation rights to her two young sons and daughter.

But although Beth Christoff is still short on luck, funds and time, she says she now feels hopeful for the future, thanks to an outpouring of support and help from friends in the Houston lesbian and gay community.

Christoff, who admits to being a recovering alcoholic, says that she's been gradually been putting her life together since her divorce in March, 1992. She recently started working at a Houston car dealership about 30 hours a week, a job she hopes will become full time.

But Christoff, who was unemployed and living with her parents at the time of her divorce, says she's still struggling to catch up with the bills and has not been able to pay \$350 per month in child support for her daughter and two sons. When she first contacted the Houston Voice two weeks ago, she was facing what she considered impossible odds of raising \$2,000 by next Thursday, Sept. 15.

She also said she'd been under pressure from her ex-husband over her relationship with another woman, and his perception that the children might be influenced by their mother's "gay lifestyle" now that Christoff no longer lives with her parents. At one point, he threatened to keep the children from visiting her in her home, she said.

"He called my mother and said, 'why are you letting her take those kids, when you

know she's a lesbian,'" she said.

Christoff said if she did not come up with the money, she would be forced back into court and could even wind up in jail.

This week, however, Christoff said she feels encouraged by the support she's received from the community. Her network of gay and lesbian friends, she said, pooled their resources and donated items for a yard sale to help raise the child support money. The sale is set for this Saturday, Sept. 10 at 1635 Ebony Lane. Other fundraisers are in the planning to help pay for legal costs, she said.

Christoff contacted the Houston Gay and Lesbian Parent's Support Group, where she found a much-needed emotional resource as well, she said.

Someone even gave her a car so that she would be able to sell her 1978 Pontiac Grand Prix.

"I hadn't even been able to afford to insure my car (before), so I parked it, and it's been sitting there, anyway," she said.

Like many lesbian and gay parents, Beth Christoff lives daily with the fear that her rights may be taken away at any time, the whim of an unsympathetic judge. (She notes that the judge in her own divorce case is among several justices who have long been the subject of protests at the Harris County Family Courts building).

Around the country, however, recent court rulings appear to offer some hope for a more balanced future. The Virginia Court of Appeals recently declared that Circuit Court Judge Buford Parsons Jr. erred in ruling Sharon Bottoms of Virginia an unfit mother solely because of her sexual orientation. The Court cited numerous psychological studies that show a parent's sexual orientation has nothing to do with his or her ability to raise a child, nor does it significantly influence a child's sexual identity, according to "The Family Next Door," a newsletter for gay and lesbian parents.

And in Birmingham, Ala. late last month, Jefferson County Family Court Judge Sandra Ross returned three children to their lesbian mother, Gretchen Chateau of Orlando, Fla., ruling that her home was more stable than that of their heterosexual father, an Alabama resident.

Bishops discharge resolutions on sexuality

INDIANAPOLIS, Wednesday, Aug. 31 (AP)—Bishops of the Episcopal Church want to keep open the church's discussion of human sexuality, but they're not taking a stand when it comes to supporting ordination of homosexuals or binding clergy to follow traditional ideas toward sexual behavior.

The bishops gathered in Indianapolis for the church's convention voted Tuesday to approve a resolution commending a pastoral study document on human sexuality "as part of (the) ongoing dialogue" in the church.

At the same time, they threw out a list of resolutions that would have bound clergy to adhere to traditional understandings of sexual behavior and one that would have allowed ordinations of people in committed homosexual relationships.

One resolution rejected by the bish-

ops would have added the blessing of homosexual unions to a list of offenses for which clergy can be brought up on charges before an ecclesiastical court.

Bishop Alex Dickson of Tennessee defended the measure.

"These resolutions that we are considering were an attempt to put in canonical form some way to order this house so that we do not have a continual parade of bishops acting unilaterally" to ordain noncelibate lesbians and gay men," Dickson said.

"Unless we come to grips with this, we're not going to be able to function and carry on the mission of the church as a united body," he said.

The bishops debated the pastoral document on sexuality a week ago. It was derailed by traditionalists calling for the church to remain loyal to Scripture and tradition.

Citing drug failures, feds expand alternate program treatments

By RICHARD COLE
FOR THE HOUSTON VOICE

SAN FRANCISCO, Friday, Sept. 2 (AP)—Less than a month after an international AIDS conference in Japan reported little progress in drug therapy, the federal government has launched a \$25 million program for alternative treatments.

More money and applications are slated to be approved next year, officials of the National Institutes of Health said Thursday. They acknowledged that the future of drug and vaccine therapies appears gloomy in the battle against AIDS.

The treatments getting the money aim to strengthen the immune system and genetically attack HIV, said Dr. Anthony S. Fauci, director of the NIH's National Institute of Allergy and Infectious Diseases.

"This effort is crucial because currently available anti-HIV drugs only partially and temporarily suppress replication of the virus, and their use is hampered by toxicity and drug resistance," he said.

More than 14 million people worldwide are already infected by HIV, and the World Health Organization has projected that the disease could kill 121 million people by the year 2020.

The NIH money will be divided among six institutions: The New England Medical Center in Boston, the University of Pennsylvania, the University of Michigan, the Fred Hutchinson Cancer Research Center in Seattle, Stanford University and the University of California at San Diego.

All must begin human trials by at least the third year of the four-year grants.

The Stanford team is taking infection-fighting cells out of healthy people, treating them and inserting them into a sibling with AIDS.

Along the same line, the New England researchers seek to boost the number of the body's so-called killer T cells, the AIDS fighters the body initially produces when infected.

So far, the new grants represent only a small part of the NIAID's \$558 million budget. But the agency says it is committed to expanding the initiative.

Experts studying how to halt the AIDS epidemic say this week in the journal Science that a powerful vaccine alone will not conquer AIDS and could even make the epidemic worse, because it might create a false sense of safety and cause people to ignore risks. They emphasize that it will take safe sex and other changes in behavior to stop the virus.

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BOY TOYS SEVEN DAYS A WEEK

Works by Williams and Cocteau revived by London's Royal National Theater

(Continued from Page 1)

The curtain rises to find two of them locked in a claustrophobic hotel room in St. Cloud, Florida. Chance has returned to his home town, the site of his many boyhood successes, for a rendezvous with his teenage sweetheart Heavenly. The Princess is along for the ride, having picked up Chance at a hotel in Palm Beach to accompany her on her drugged-out odyssey as she flees the memory of a comeback movie that went disastrously wrong.

From the outset of the play, the net of circumstance in which Chance is caught tightens inexorably around him. Heavenly's father, Boss Finley, is a ruthless demagogue in the tradition of Huey Long. He despises Chance, forbids Heavenly to see him and gives Chance until dawn to get out of Saint Cloud. Yet Chance clings ferociously to his dream of a movie contract and a reunion with Heavenly.

The director of the production, Richard Eyre, has assembled a gifted cast. With a thrusting intensity and a voice like sand paper, Clare Higgins paces around stage like a caged tiger, bringing Alexandra de Lago vividly to life. "When monster meets monster," Princess growls at Chance, "one monster has give way, And It Will Never Be Me!" The American actor Robert Knepper brings dark good looks, a lithe body, and just the right touch of dissipation to the role of Chance. He skillfully evokes the weariness and desperation lurking just beneath the surface of Charlie's shrill bravado.

Scenic designer Anthony Ward creates a moody, atmospheric set. He uses haunting images, projected on screens in front of the set, to open and close each act.

Although there are many interesting elements in the National's revival of "Sweet Bird," the production ultimately falls short of being a definitive

interpretation of the play.

In his program notes, director Eyre notes that he obtained five of Williams' drafts of "Sweet Bird" from University of Texas archives.

Fearing that the playwright's original intentions had been corrupted by the strong influence of Elia Kazan, the director of the first Broadway production,

Eyre has re-worked the text, making "minor changes of emphases and line allocations in the first half of the play" and adding a scene that had originally been cut from the third act. Unfortunately—be it the fault of Eyre or the playwright—several of the scenes seem talky and overly long, particularly the second act confrontation between Heavenly and Boss Finley.

Moreover, some of the performances seem a hair's breadth off. Clare Higgins lacks the deliciously bitchy scene of high comedy that Geraldine Page brought to the role of Princess in the 1962 film. And while he delivers his believably, Richard Pasco, who plays Boss Finley, misses the sense of menace and barely repressed violence that give the play so much of its tension and drive.

Emma Amos, the striking blonde actress portraying Heavenly, is simply miscast. She delivers her lines in a mushy,



Claire Higgins as The Princess Kosmonopolis from the Royal National Theater production of "Sweet Bird of Youth"

overdone Southern accent, and her emotions too often degenerate into shrill melodramatics. It is hard to understand why Chance would risk so much for someone who, to all intents and purposes, seems so insipid.

But Eyre's production does succeed in one key respect: it cracks open Williams' text and allows the fierce, dark beauty of the playwright's poetry to be heard strongly and

clearly.

The phrase "dysfunctional family" has been very much in vogue of late. But in 1938 the French playwright Jean Cocteau was light years ahead of pop psychologists when created a biting portrait of the quintessential family in his work "Les Parents Terribles."

So scandalous was his story of an incestuous Parisian family that French authorities felt compelled to close not just the original production, but also a 1941 revival. Over fifty years after it was originally produced, the work—in director Sean Mathias's erotically charged revival at the National—still has the power to shock.

The play opens with mother Yvonne—a neurotic, manipulative invalid—in the midst of a violent seizure in her cluttered, but opulent Parisian apartment. As she recovers, her son Michael returns home, kisses her on the lips, buries his

head in her breasts, and announces that he is going to marry Madeline, a young working class girl. Yvonne panics at the thought of losing her only son to another.

The plot is further complicated when it is revealed that George, Michael's father, has also been conducting a clandestine liaison with Madeline. To resolve the emotional impasse, Leonie—the family's live-in confidant who once was in love with George—decides that George must end his affair with Madeline and that Madeline must break off her engagement with the son, Michael.

And all this takes place in the first act.

Legend has it that Cocteau composed "Les Parents Terribles" in eight delirious days during an opium binge. Unfortunately, it shows. The play veers wildly in tone from boulevard farce in the first act to romantic melodrama in the second to black tragedy in the last act.

Luckily director Mathias is abetted in his efforts to sustain the play's momentum by an impeccable cast and a wonderful design concept. The ensemble performing on the Lyttleton Stage is unlikely to be matched anywhere. (Cocteau openly admitted that the character of Yvonne was an amalgam of his own mother and that of his lover's, Jean Marais). As the sensible Leonie, Frances de la Tour is as dry as a cocktail, delivering line after throwaway line with superb comedic aplomb.

But the real revelation of the evening is newcomer Jude Law's portrayal of the son Michael. Law is blessed with a matinee idol's good looks, a dynamic stage presence, and a dauntless capacity for portraying emotion. In the second act, when Michael learns that his fiancée has rejected him, his anguish is almost unbearable. Law takes a moment that could easily have been maudlin or hollow and invests it with the power of tragedy.

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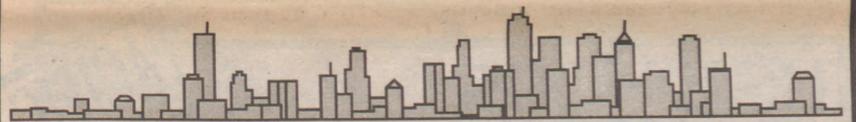
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California researchers search for treatments of AIDS-related skin disorder

By JANE E. ALLEN
FOR THE HOUSTON VOICE

LOS ANGELES, Monday, Sept. 5 (AP)—Doctors who believe Kaposi's sarcoma has been neglected in the AIDS war are exploring new approaches toward the disfiguring skin tumors.

One of them, Dr. Steven A. Miles, a hematologist-oncologist at the UCLA AIDS Institute, calls Kaposi's "the forgotten stepchild" of AIDS because so little research has been devoted to it.

When Kaposi's strikes a person carrying the AIDS virus, the endothelial cells that line the blood vessels switch into high gear, multiplying rapidly and forming new vessels. The abnormal growth creates the characteristic purple or red lesions on the skin of a sufferer's limbs, trunk or face. They are generally painless in early forms but are prone to painful swelling later.

When AIDS was first identified, KS was commonly the initial diagnosis. In the last decade, with new drugs prolonging symptom-free life with AIDS, Kaposi's usually occurs much later in the course of the disease, after other opportunistic ailments have weakened the patient.

Because of the way the federal Centers for Disease Control and Prevention records new AIDS cases, however, it can appear Kaposi's is on the wane. In the early 1980s, for instance,

Kaposi's was the initial AIDS diagnosis in 40 percent of new cases; in 1992, only 9 percent of new cases entered listed Kaposi's.

Yet studies consistently show that up to 40 percent of gay men with AIDS eventually develop Kaposi's, and one survey showed 49 percent of Los Angeles AIDS patients had Kaposi's at autopsy.

The Kaposi's afflicting young gay men today differs markedly from the disease identified in the late 19th century by the Hungarian doctor, Moriz Kaposi. That form chiefly affected legs and feet of elderly Mediterranean men and elderly Eastern European Jewish men. A second, more aggressive form was identified among African men in 1914; a third appeared in transplant recipients, particularly kidney recipients, at least two decades ago.

Although AIDS-related Kaposi's was commonly called "gay cancer" before AIDS was isolated, many doctors doubt it is a true cancer, despite the rapid spread of lesions, because it doesn't seem to cause chromosomal changes.

However, recent findings presented by Dr. Robert Gallo, co-discoverer of the AIDS virus and now chief of the Laboratory of Tumor Cell Biology at the National Cancer Institute in Bethesda, Md., show some KS cells are malignant.

National Coming Out Day 1994 plans, theme announced; TV star named chair

(Washington, D.C.)—Actress Amanda Bearse, the openly lesbian star of the FOX television network's hit sitcom "Married...With Children" has been named the national spokesperson for this year's "National Coming Out Day" campaign, organizers of the annual observance announced.



Actress Amanda Bearse will chair National Coming Out Day 1994 (photo by Frank Parsley)

National Coming Out Day, now entering its seventh year, is recognized every Oct. 11 to celebrate America's lesbian and gay community by encouraging gay men, lesbians and bisexuals to be honest about their sexual orientation to family, friends and co-workers. According to NCOD project director Wes Combs, it is a day "that salutes diversity, honesty and acceptance for all Americans regardless of their sexual orientation."

Appearing in NCOD's print and broadcast public service announcements, Bearse contrasts her acting career with her life as an open lesbian mother. "I'm not a straight person, but I play one on TV," the ad reads. "Acting belongs on television, not in real life. That's why I stopped acting and came out."

Reaching a potential audience of millions through public service education messages and scores of community events, National Coming Out Day this year will shift its own emphasis from one-day visibility to an all-year education and outreach effort. Bearse's participation signals this new emphasis, as well as this year's theme: being out in the workplace.

Project Director Combs points out: "In the workplace, you often establish yourself as an employee first, and as a person second. By coming out in the workplace, gays and lesbians can have the important dialogue with others that can start turning ignorance into acceptance. Many people

seem to fear most what they cannot understand or just don't see. Being out, as we have seen again and again, really has power to change attitudes."

At the same time, other lesbians and gays gain encouragement from the examples of those who are living honestly, said Combs. This is especially critical for lesbian and gay youth, who often lack role models.

A Newsweek survey conducted in 1992 showed that 75 percent of Americans believe homosexuals should have equal rights in job opportunities. The survey also revealed that tolerance and understanding inevitably increase when the individual personally knows someone gay.

National Coming Out Day, a non-profit educational project of the HRCF Foundation, seeks to motivate and inspire lesbian and gay people to take the next appropriate step in their coming out process. All NCOD initiatives are designed with the ultimate goal of converting ignorance and intolerance into recognition and acceptance, Combs said.

This year, NCOD welcomes its first national sponsors: The Advocate, the nation's leading gay and lesbian news magazine; Gay Entertainment Television, and Shocking Gray catalog. Other official sponsors include more than 20 college campus groups and 16 retailers.

From coast to coast, participating groups have planned a host of events designed to educate and entertain. Locally, these events include a campus rally at the University of Houston, which will be followed by the "Gay Taste of Houston" food fair. As a benefit for the Gay and Lesbian Switchboard of Houston, the evening will be topped off by "The Triangle Ball," featuring positive role models from the lesbian, gay and bisexual community.

Reinstatement of gay sailor to the Navy is a legal boost

JACKSONVILLE, N.C., Sunday, Sept. 4 (AP)—The reinstatement of a homosexual sailor to the Navy is a legal boost for a Camp Lejeune Marine who admitted he was homosexual, the Marine's lawyer said.

The 9th Circuit U.S. Court of Appeals last week upheld the reinstatement of sailor Keith Meinhold, who was discharged after revealing his sexual preference on television after President Clinton announced his intention to lift the ban on homosexuals in the military.

The court ruled that the military can bar homosexuals for sexual acts, but not for merely saying they are homosexuals.

"Clearly the Meinhold decision will be very helpful to us," said attorney Lanny Breuer, who represents Marine Sgt. Justin Elzie. "The court

found exactly what we've been arguing."

Elzie disclosed his homosexuality on national television in 1993 after hearing Clinton's announcement about lifting the ban on homosexuals in the military.

An administrative board at Camp Lejeune voted in March 1993 to remove Elzie from the Marine Corps. Elzie filed a lawsuit against the government, claiming that the discharge violates his rights to free speech and due process.

Last year, U.S. District Judge Stanley Sporkin of Washington, D.C., forbade military officials from discharging Elzie or taking any other "adverse action" until Elzie's lawsuit is resolved.

"He continues to serve and do his job every day," Breuer said.

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Thomas and Cindy Occhuizzo of Big O Brokerage Environmental Division display fluid conditioner and travel-size water purifier

Business Notes

According to recent estimates, up to 60 percent of the cars on the U.S. roads today may not pass emissions testing required under a new law that goes into effect next year. Getting these vehicles' emission systems up to grade to conform with the '95 standards is expected to be expensive; however, according to the owners of a new Houston business, it may not have to be.

Thomas and Cindy Occhuizzo of Big O Brokerage claim that a tiny magnetic device, one of the products available through Big O's new Environmental Division, could save some Houston motorists hundreds of dollars next year. The device, which costs about \$100 for most cars, uses a concept called magnetic fluid conditioning, that is also used to soften water and reduce hard deposits and other contamination in water pipes.

Thomas Occhuizzo explains that molecules lose their polarity with changes in time, pressure and/or temperature and begin to cluster. The clusters are carried along with the fluid and, as they grow larger, they no longer stay suspended and begin to deposit on pipe walls. The small magnetic device, which is attached to the vehicles fuel line, repolarizes the molecules and breaks up the clusters, as well as softening pre-existing deposits and resuspending them in the fluid. Besides reducing harmful emissions, the fluid conditioner increases the power of the engine and helps it to run more smoothly, according to Occhuizzo.

Other products in Big O's environmental line include a water conditioner that utilizes the same concept of repolarizing molecules to make water softer, lengthen the life of pipes and enable water heating units to operate more efficiently; and a line of water filtering systems, avail-

able in sizes, ranging from a convenient travel model that can be for traveling by car or boat, camping and in hotel and motel rooms, to under counter and counter top kitchen models, to a 250,000 "whole house system" with pre-filter that purifies all water flowing through the incoming main line. They also have air purifiers available in an array of sizes: room sizes from small bedroom to large meeting room units, and even larger institutional systems capable of controlling dust, odors and cigarette smoke in clinics, pet stores and day care centers.

Cindy Occhuizzo said she believes that filtering the pollutants from the air and water in one's environment means living a healthier life. "Today, it's not enough to eat healthy," she said. "You need to live healthy, which means clean air and water...doing it right and doing it all the way."

For information on any of these environmental products, call (713) 465-7860.

Ikea "Sharing the Caring"

On Sept. 10 and 11, the Houston Ikea furniture outlet will present "Sharing the Caring," a health fair geared especially toward children. Ikea, known for its support of diverse modern families, will hold the fair Saturday, Sept. 10 from 10:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. and Sunday, Sept. 11 from 11:00-4:00 p.m. on the store grounds, Katy Freeway at Antoine.

During the two-day health and safety fair, the Houston Department of Health and Human Services will administer immunizations and Hermann Children's Hospital will provide health services including dental programs and hearing and eye testing, safety seminars and exercise classes. Additional service will be available, according to Ikea representatives, that many parents have to struggle to fit into their saturated schedules. There will also be refreshments and entertainment for children.

Although there is no charge for any of the services, all attending are asked to bring either a new toy to donate to the Escape Center for Abused Children; a canned food donation for the Houston Food Bank or a financial donation of any amount to Hermann Children's Hospital.

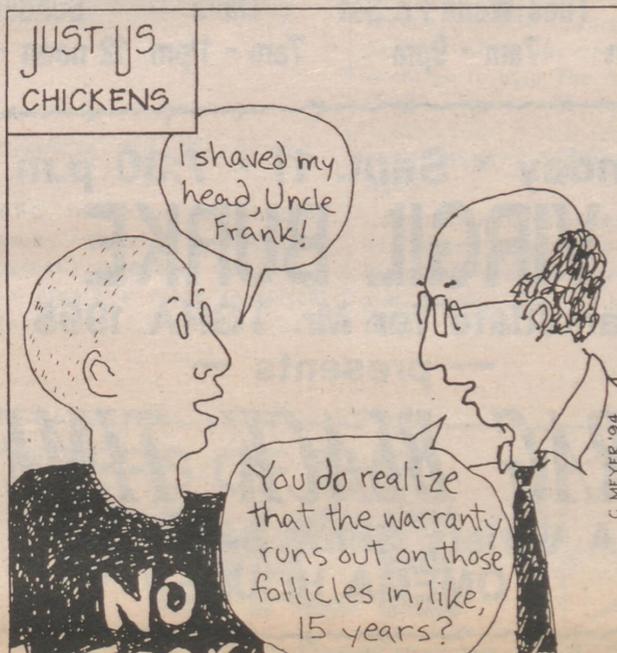
"Although we are fairly new to Houston, we plan to be here for a long time and we want to be a part of the community and do our share to help," said Hans-Erik Oystila, store manager of Ikea Houston.

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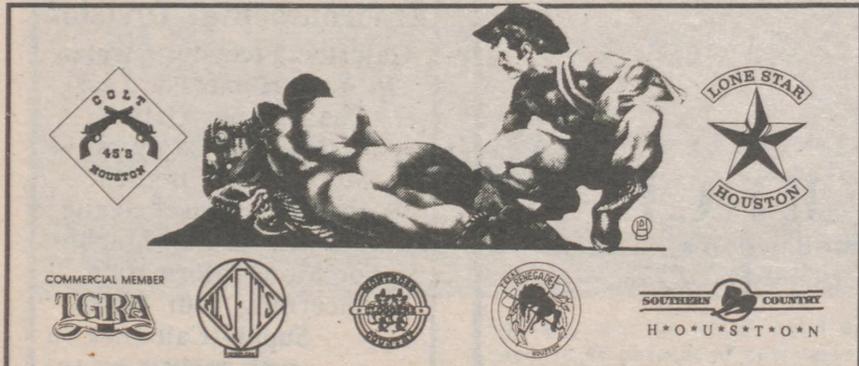
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Insurance and tax issues of interest to the gay and lesbian community

Legal Alternatives

By IAN M. CAIN

FOR THE HOUSTON VOICE

Today, most employers who provide health coverage to employees also cover their employees' spouses and dependents. Traditionally, an employee's "spouse," as used in this context, has not included a person with whom the employee co-habits in a committed relationship unless the relationship has been sanctioned by the state as a marriage. Fortunately for the gay and lesbian community and for many different-gender unmarried couples, an increasing number of enlightened employers, both public and private, have begun to consider, and in some cases, to implement, an extension of employer provided health benefits to non-spouse domestic partners of employees. If you are fortunate enough to have an employer who offers non-spouse health benefits, however, you should be aware that the Internal Revenue Service is not so forward thinking: Employer provided health benefits, which are not subject to tax when they benefit a "traditional" spouse, are suddenly taxable if they benefit unmarried partners.

The Internal Revenue Code provides that employees are not taxed on employer provided accident or health plan coverage. IRS regulations extend this exclusion to coverage for an employee's spouse and dependents. Unless a non-spouse partner of the employee also qualifies as a dependent of the employee, however, coverage provided to the non-spouse partner of the employee does not fall within either the statutory or regulatory exemption and is taxable. An inquiring mind might ask, what if the non-spouse partner qualifies as the employee's dependent, could the benefits be excluded from income tax? The usual requirements may not be onerous: A partner would normally qualify as the employee's dependent if the employee pays more than half of the partner's support, the partner's principal place of abode for the tax year is the employee's home, and the partner is a member of the employee's household. But, and it could be a big but, the IRS will not recognize a person to be a member of another's household if the relationship violates local law.

If the partner does not qualify as the employee's dependent, the employee is taxed on the fair market value of the employer provided coverage for the partner. To make matters even worse, at least one IRS ruling has determined that the fair market value of coverage for a non-spouse partner is the amount that the

partner would have to pay for such coverage at individual, not group, policy rates, regardless of whether the actual cost to the employer was less. The bottom line is that employees who take advantage of employer provided benefits to their partners had best be prepared to pay more taxes to Uncle Sam.

Another insurance/tax issue which impacts our community is the taxability of an insurance benefit payable only in the event the insured becomes terminally ill. Many insurance policies now offer their customers the option of cashing in their life insurance policy pursuant to a terminal illness provision which typically requires that the insured have a medical condition expected to be terminal within 12 months. At least one insurance company has advised its customers that the payment is considered by the IRS to be a death benefit from a life insurance policy so that there are no federal income taxes due. Wrong! While it is true that there are proposed IRS regulations that define such a benefit as a death benefit, the proposed regulation would be effective only for insurance policies issued or entered into after June 30, 1993. Further, the regulation is in a proposed form and, as such, is not binding on the IRS, taxpayers, or the courts.

I recently spoke with Ann Logan, a Washington-based IRS employee who was involved with the drafting of the proposed regulations. She indicated that the proposed regulations were purposely limited in scope and that the project, from the IRS perspective, is on hold pending a health care bill coming out of Congress. Each of the pending health care bills in the now recessed Congress addresses the issue of life insurance company payments to terminally ill persons and each has a different effective date for tax-free treatment of pre-death policy payments. This makes for a tough decision for terminally ill persons who are deciding whether to cash in part or all of their life insurance policies. If the policies are cashed in now the proceeds will likely be taxable. If they wait hoping that a health bill will provide for tax free treatment of the insurance proceeds, they may find that they will receive the monies too late to get full use and enjoyment from them. Anyone who is considering cashing in their policy is well advised to speak with their tax advisor to get the latest update.

(Ian M. Cain is a Texas attorney in sole practice in the Lyric Office Centre in downtown Houston. He is also a former president of the Southeast Texas Legal Clinic, a nonprofit corporation established to render legal advice and assistance to persons living with AIDS).

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The Assistance Fund 1995 fundraiser is 'Le Cirque Fantastique'

Charity/Social News

"Ladies and gentlemen, children of all ages..." the words of the circus ringmaster echo from our childhood. These words will spring from the lips of some very well-known Houstonians who have been announcers as "Celebrity Ringmasters" for the upcoming performances of the Pickle Family Circus (PFC). The PFC will perform four shows at the Cullen Theater in the Wortham Center to help raise money for The Assistance Fund (TAF), Houston's only non-profit organization which helps pay insurance premiums for AIDS patients until they qualify for Medicare.

This year's fundraiser is a departure from the Fund's annual "It's In the Bag" event, at which bags decorated by celebrities were auctioned. "Le Cirque Fantastique" is intended to be accessible to a broader audience and appeal to all ages and audience groups.

Susan Lennon and Larry Moon, the radio station KHM-FM (Mix 96.5), will serve as Celebrity Ringmasters for the opening night performance. Other local celebrities who have agreed to appear in the ring are Nellie



The Pickle Family Circus stars in "Le Cirque Fantastique," this year's major fundraiser for The Assistance Fund

Connally, Barney and Ellen Kogen, Faye and Linda Sarofim, Martha Turner, and the Houston Fire-fighters' Calendar Models.

The PFC integrates acrobatics, aerial work, balancing and juggling with originally composed music and dance to create a more theatrical format for a circus. The Pickles have

been entertaining audiences with their unique act since 1974. They are the first professional troupe in the Western Hemisphere to utilize a single ring, rather than the traditional three ring format. The single ring format is very popular in Europe but has not been tried in the U.S. by anyone other than the Pickles.

There will be four performances, running from Sept. 26-28 at the Cullen Theater in the Wortham Center. Each performance will begin at 7:30 p.m. There will also be a 10:00 a.m. matinee on Sept. 27.

Tickets are currently on sale at select Randalls' Advantix locations, or by calling 1-800-766-6048. Adult floor seats are \$17.50 and balcony seats are \$15.00. All of the proceeds from the event go to help The Assistance Fund (TAF), Houston's only non-profit organization which helps pay insurance premiums for Houstonians with AIDS.

A special underwriters Gala will be hosted by Honorary Chairperson Jackson Hicks from 6:30 p.m. to 9:30 p.m. Sunday, Sept. 25 at Jags Restaurant.



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National news this week in brief: notes from all over

The Associated Press

Washington, D.C.

Almost one-fifth of Americans have been attracted to someone of the same sex at some time since age 15, according to a new study that has been criticized by some statisticians but touted by gay rights activists.

The study, conducted by researchers at the Harvard School of Public Health and the Center for Health Policy Studies in Washington, found that between 6.2 percent and 20.8 percent of American men and 3.3 percent and 17.8 percent of American women could be considered "incidentally homosexual." The higher numbers are based on reported homosexual behavior or attraction since age 15. The lower estimates are based on reported same-sex sexual behavior during the previous five years.

"Our perspective is that sexual orientation isn't just a yes-no, heterosexual-homosexual (question)," said David Wypij (pronounced "wippy"), a Harvard statistician and a co-author of the study. "I think in most individuals there is some sort of range. You may be more heterosexual, you may be more homosexual."

Research that might help define the size of the homosexual community plays directly into the debate over extending civil rights protections to this minor-

ity. Congress is currently considering legislation that would outlaw job discrimination based on sexual orientation.

Eugene, Ore.

The American Civil Liberties Union has filed a lawsuit against the city of Eugene, claiming two anti-gay rights initiative petitions are unconstitutional and should not be allowed to circulate.

A group that calls itself A New Voice introduced the two initiatives after the city council approved a human rights code that bans discrimination based on sexual orientation.

The first initiative would prohibit the city or the Eugene Water & Electric Board from spending public funds or acting "in any manner to promote homosexual behavior."

The second initiative would prevent the city or the utility board from providing health benefits to anyone other than an employee, the employee's spouse or the employee's legal dependent.

The lawsuit against the city was filed Thursday in Lane County Circuit Court by two lesbians who work for the city, a bisexual woman who works for the board, and a staff member of the ACLU.

The complaint claims the city's acceptance of a ballot violates a 1993

state law that prohibits local governments from enacting any law or policy that singles out citizens for their sexual orientation. The suit also claims that the initiatives are unconstitutional because they deal with administrative rather than legislative matters, and because they're constitutionally unenforceable.

Boise, Idaho

Idaho's famous potatoes and world-class resorts might face boycotts if voters pass an anti-gay rights initiative in November. But the man behind the measure says the state's businesses have nothing to fear.

Idaho Citizens Alliance Chairperson Kelly Walton predicts American companies who share his group's fear of a nationwide homosexual agenda will more than make up for the loss by bringing their business to Idaho.

"We can have the best of both," Walton said. "We can do the right thing and the economic consequences will be a positive."

But groups against Proposition One remember 1990.

As the Idaho Legislature considered what would have become the nation's most restrictive anti-abortion law then, pro-choice forces nationwide warned they would boycott Idaho potatoes. The threat only passed

when Gov. Cecil Andrus vetoed the bill.

Brian Bergquist of the No On One Coalition is convinced national boycotts could hamstring vital industries in such a sparsely populated state.

"If I were designing a state to boycott, it would be Idaho," Bergquist said. "We have the disadvantage of being a very small state where we feel any losses."

Boycotts in the wake of a Proposition One victory likely would strike at the products most identified with Idaho—tourism and potatoes.

Albany, N.Y.

An assistant attorney general has been reinstated to his supervisory position after he apologized for making an anti-homosexual remark to a co-worker in his office.

Thomas Neidl, deputy chief of the attorney general's criminal prosecution bureau in Albany, told a co-worker in July that he didn't believe homosexuals should be allowed to have children.

Unbeknownst to Neidl, the comment was recorded by a woman's answering machine. He had just left a message for the woman but somehow failed to break the phone connection, so the answering machine picked up several minutes of conversation in Neidl's office.

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TIME FLIES...

...happenings in August By Bob Ainsworth



- 9 SEPTEMBER 1087 William the Conqueror died after falling from his horse.
- 10 SEPTEMBER 1919 New boundaries were settled at the Treaty of Saint-Germain which brought about the end of the Austrian Empire.
- 11 SEPTEMBER 1917 Georges Guynemer, the legendary French fighter pilot, disappeared on active service. (It is said that French schoolchildren were told that 'he flew so high that he could not come down'.)
- 12 SEPTEMBER 1814 An intended attack on Baltimore, by the British fleet, was preceded with the bombardment of Fort McHenry, the vital point of the city's defenses; and an American lawyer, Francis Scott Key, who witnessed the action, was inspired to write a poem, 'The Star Spangled Banner', later to become the official national anthem of the USA.
- 13 SEPTEMBER 1761 Born on this day was Caspar Wistar (1761-1818), the American anatomist whose name was given to the genus Wisteria.
- 14 SEPTEMBER 1901 U.S. president William McKinley died, eight days after he was shot by an anarchist.
- 15 SEPTEMBER 1830 This date marks the first accident caused by a moving train which occurred at the opening of the Liverpool and Manchester Railway, when the British statesman William Huskisson was fatally injured by Stephenson's Rocket.

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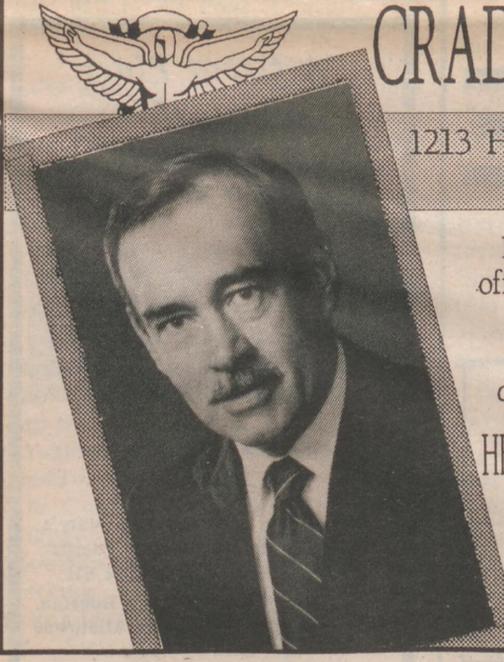
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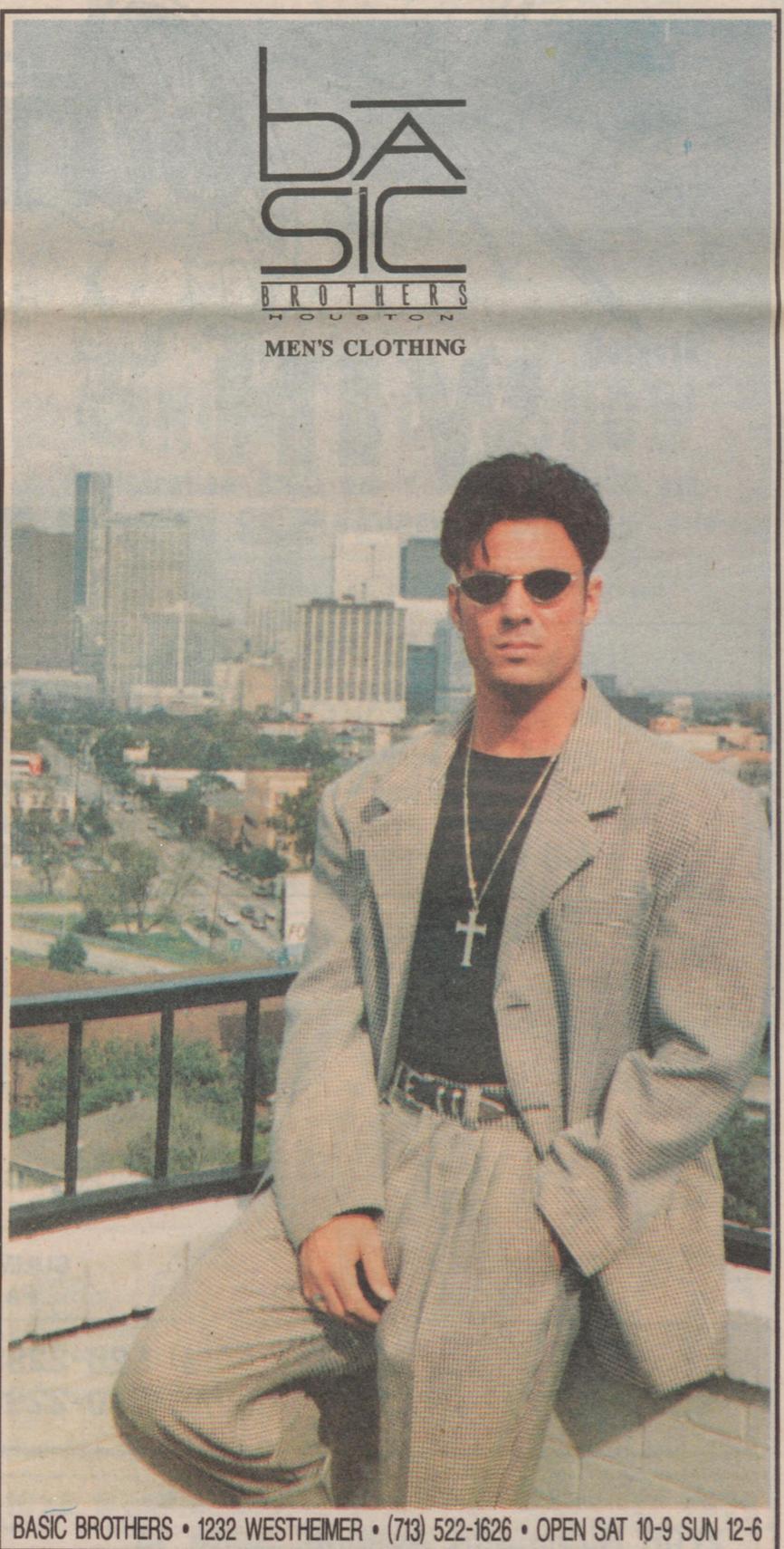
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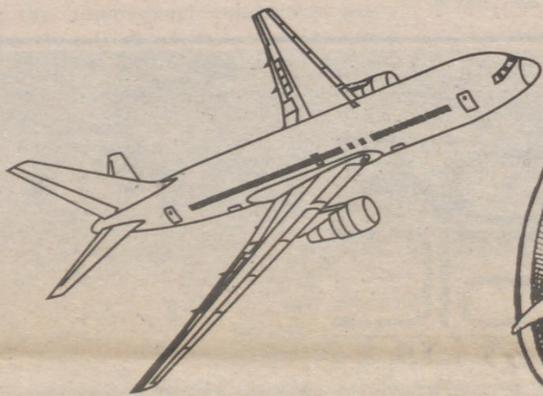
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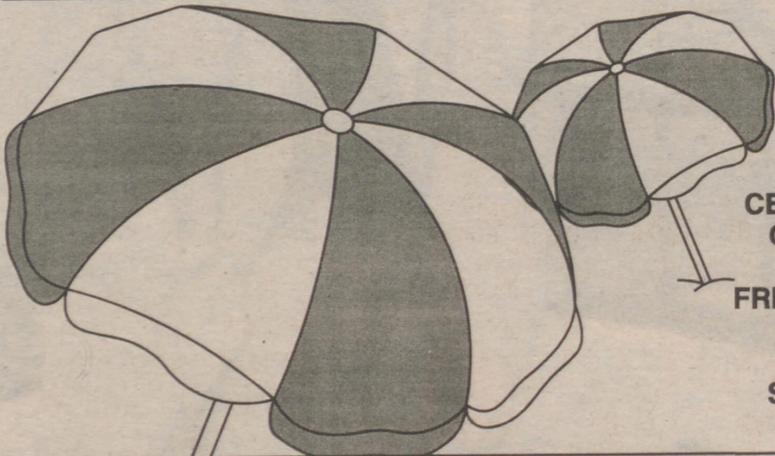


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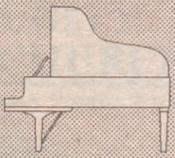
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SYMPHONIC SOUNDS



By John Reed

The Houston Pops' 1994-95 season began this past weekend at their usual home in Jones Hall. Just as this warm summer weather seems to have continued for an inordinately long time, the memories of the musical classics presented for an appreciative Houston audience go on for many a year.

The first half of the program contained three well known and widely enjoyed pieces, opening with Leonard Bernstein's Overture to the opera *Candide*. It has been four years since Bernstein's death at age 72 in New York City, but his presence is still very contemporary and vital when we are able to hear his compositions performed as forcefully as last week. This 1956 composition contains many delightful melodies and has a bright, happy and detailed quality to the score. There is a wonderful interaction between the string sections and the woodwinds, with the brass and percussion sections adding important details to the score.

Edvard Grieg's Suite No. 1 from Peer Gynt, Op. 46 continued the musical treasures of the evening, opening with the tone poem, titled *Morning*. The listener senses the beginning of a day with gentle stirring of the morning colors, field and forest bird and wildlife moving about and a gentle breeze providing movement to the scene.

The Overture to *Romeo and Juliet* by Pitor Tchaikovsky concluded the first half of the Pops' Concert. This wondrously detailed and richly penned composition depicts musically many of the personal emotions the listeners may have felt in their love affairs. Most of us would prefer not to have love affairs quite this tempestuous, but we are quickly drawn along with the beauty of the melodies. The brass and percussion sections punctuated the drama flowing forth from the strings.

All three of these classic compositions were made all the more rewarding to listen to by the excellent playing the Houston Pops Orchestra that evening and the fine direction of our immensely talented and personable Conductor in Residence, Mr. Stephen Stein. Since joining the Houston Orchestra in 1992, from serving as music director of the Anchorage, Alaska, Symphony, Mr. Stein has provided local audi-

ences with uniformly talented and insightful interpretations. He has one of the most engaging personalities from the podium and presents a genuine appearing personality that seems to be as happy to be present that evening as the audience. I have seen him present in the audience on the occasion when Maestro Christoph Eschenbach is conducting, and Stein is as attentive and responsive to the program as fellow audience members seated about him. He courteously chats with other attendees and does as much as any member of the Houston Fine Arts team in communicating with citizens of our Community through public and private endeavors.

The second half of the opening concert featured the musical mastery of Burt Bacharach. Accompanied by four female vocalists and four instrumentalists, Bacharach took the Pop's audience on a trip back to the 1960-70's with songs including "What the World Needs Now is Love, Sweet Love," "I'll Never Fall in Love Again," "Rain Drops Keep Falling on My Head," "Alfie," "Close to You," and "That's What Friends are For." I was amazed by the variety in rhythm, meter and tone that he has used in the varied compositions. The audience loved each one of the numbers, humming or singing along with the master, that evening. The vocalists and accompanying instrumentalists demonstrated their own strong talents as they were intermittently featured in solos or in a duet with Bacharach.

Bacharach, who had flown in from the West Coast the morning of the weekend concert that I attended, presented a fresh, enthusiastic and warm stage personality, as if it were the only concert he was performing in this month. The music flowed so easily from his keyboard that it was surprising that the orchestra knew when to re-begin the accompanying of the soloist.

The next Houston Pops concert is the weekend of Oct. 21-23, featuring music from Lerner and Loew's best loved musicals, including "My Fair Lady," "Brigadoon," "Paint Your Wagon," "Camelot," and "Gigi." The Pops' season is strongly recommended for Voice readers. Tickets are available by telephoning 227-ARTS.

Boston lawyer charged in stabbing

BOSTON, Wednesday, Aug. 31 (AP)—A Boston lawyer involved in the dispute over gays in the military told police he was trying to help a man he is charged with stabbing in the stomach.

Attorney Mel Dahl faced arraignment Wednesday in Boston Municipal Court on charges of stabbing Farrokh Captain in an office building men's room. Dahl said he was trying to prevent Captain from committing suicide at the time of the stabbing.

Captain was upgraded Wednesday from serious to fair condition at Massachusetts General Hospital.

Workers in an office building at 11 Beacon St. who investigated a commotion in the ninth-floor men's room at 1:20 p.m. Tuesday said that when they opened the door they saw a blood-soaked Captain slumped against the wall, holding Dahl by his tie.

"The guy who was bleeding started yelling, 'He tried to kill me. He tried to kill me,'" attorney Linda Long said. "Then the other guy (Dahl) said he was the man's attorney and he'd tried to prevent a suicide."

Dahl sued the U.S. Navy in 1982 after he was discharged for homosexuality. Last fall, a judge found Dahl's discharge was unconstitutional.

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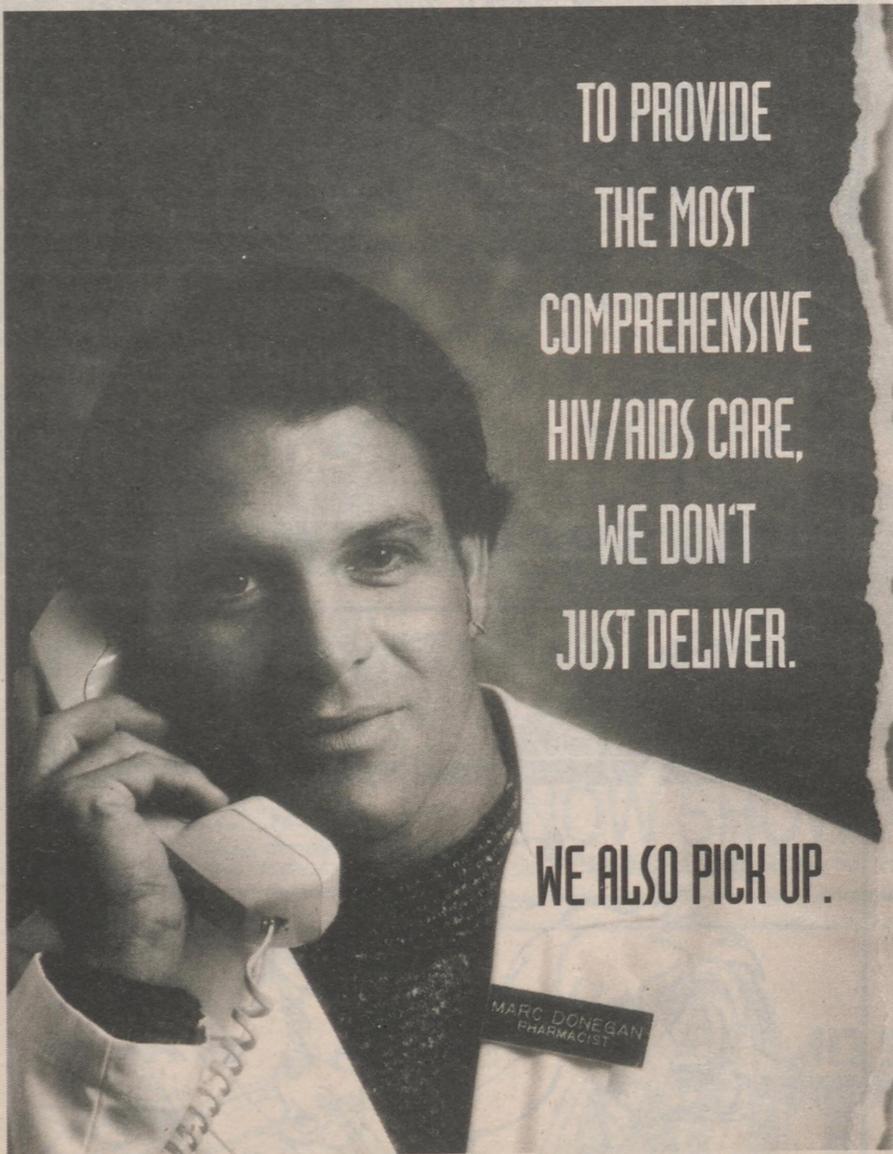
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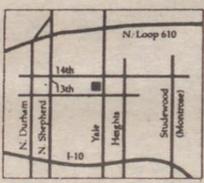
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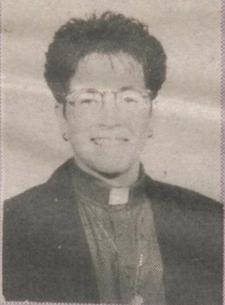
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ASK THE PASTOR


 Rev. Janet Parker

Q: "What does the Bible give to Christians in regard to guidelines for dating? Are the guidelines the same for gay people as they are for straight people?"

A: The Bible is a very practical book for everyday living. For people who are Christians (and even for non-Christians), God's Word gives us direction even in the area of dating. Dating for the most part may be defined as that process which one follows in order to find a permanent lifemate or spouse, or partner (whatever your term might be). There are probably those individuals who never intend to settle down with any one person, but this question will be answered under the assumption that dating is for the purpose of finding God's ideal mate for you.

Most people like guidelines or boundaries by which to live. A certain amount of structure is helpful. We learn when to say "no" to a situation and "yes" to another. God's Word is like that to us. A very simplistic approach to dating would be found in I Corinthians 13. This is called the "Love" chapter in the Bible. Here we find that love is a gift from God, given to each one of us. Once we learn how to receive God's love, we can then learn how to love ourselves, and then love others. The love that God gives to us is described so beautifully in this chapter.

For instance, love is described as being patient and kind, not envious, not boastful, not proud. Love is not rude, it is not self-seeking, is not easily angered, and keeps no records of wrongs. Love is not happy with evil but is happy with the truth. Love patiently accepts all things. Love always trusts, always hopes, and always remains strong. Love never ends.

If we take this attitude of love with us as we date other people, we will choose to be patient in our search. We will think of the other person and not use them for our own purposes. And even if we mutually decide to "have sex" as in a one-night stand, we will come to see that even this is selfish. We are only meeting each other's needs temporarily because of our impatience in finding the right person for our mate.

We tend to forget that God is the author of passion and romance. God loves us with an everlasting love. God wants us above all things to be happy, content and fulfilled in every way—spiritually, physically and emotionally. When we short-circuit God's plan, we find ourselves cheated, abandoned, abused, wounded and left alone. The cycle repeats itself until we come back to the One who loved us first—God. Once we tap in to learn about God's love, we can then begin to really love others because we finally have learned to love ourselves.

Much abuse abounds in our world. A lot of this abuse comes upon us by our own actions. We are living in a world that offers a lot to help us through our dysfunctions to a place of wholeness. It may be through therapy, a church, a support group or friends who care.

God's Word does not discriminate between sexual orientation in regard to sexual ethics. I believe that God's Word is for all people of every sexual orientation. God's law of love is universal. Stay tuned next week for specifics regarding how to apply this law of love to your dating life!

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

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Indiana convention controversy keeps sexuality in Episcopal debate

By ANTHONY JEWELL
FOR THE HOUSTON VOICE

INDIANAPOLIS, Thursday, Sept. 1 (AP)—The Episcopal Church won't be able to put the divisive topic of homosexuality behind it any time soon.

The nagging issue popped up again last week during the church's General Convention. A group of conservative Episcopalians from Michigan asked the bishop of the Michigan diocese to resign because he ordained an openly lesbian deacon.

A church spokesperson said bishops were wrestling with the issue but were doing so in a positive manner.

"I think the civil manner in which the bishops have dealt with this issue is a sure sign the church can disagree without coming apart at the seams," James Solheim said Wednesday.

A letter signed by 17 delegates at the convention and delivered Tuesday called for the bishop, Rev. R. Stewart

Wood, to resign.

Wood ordained Jennifer Walters on Aug. 19, five days before the convention convened, upsetting conservatives within his southeast Michigan diocese.

The letter told Wood he had acted "in violation of your ordination vows and in defiance of the laws of the church. ... By your action, you have broken communion with the church and its longheld position on human sexuality."

Wood said he would not comment on the protest—called a presentment by the church—until he returned home from Indianapolis.

For its part, the church has been unwilling to take a stand on such ordinations and other delicate issues.

On Tuesday, bishops dismissed a resolution that would have officially opened the ordination process to persons in same-sex relationships. The bishops also discharged a

resolution that would have allowed bishops, priests and deacons to be charged before an ecclesiastical court for blessing same-sex unions.

Instead, the bishops passed a resolution commending a study document on human sexuality.

"This convention has made it clear there will be no immediate decision on sexuality issues," Solheim said. "We're deeply divided, and we'll remain that way for a long time. But we know we need to stay together while disagreeing."

Shortly after the letter condemning Wood became public, supporters released a letter signed by 17 Michigan clergy and 19 others backing the bishop.

"You are exercising courageous leadership for our diocese. ... By ordaining qualified people to the priesthood such as Jennifer Walters you are working with us to continue the dialogue on human sexuality," the letter said.

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Here's the story: new Paramount film may include a dyke named Brady

GLAAD Media Watch

By AL KIELWASSER

Gay and Lesbian Alliance Against Defamation

"Here's the story of a lovely lady, who was bringing up three very lovely girls..." For well over a decade, the familiar Brady Bunch refrain has chimed daily from television sets around the globe. Now, the campy 70's hit is made into a Hollywood feature film, and one of those "lovely girls" might be a lovely lesbian.

The Paramount film is currently in production and writers Jim Berg and Stan Zimmerman (creators of Roseanne's infamous "lesbian kiss" episode) have suggested that the character of Marcia Brady will become involved with another woman. In the film, Marcia's best friend is Nicole, an out lesbian. Marcia's friend develops a crush on the eldest Brady daughter and, according to Stan Zimmerman, "Nicole gets what she's after in the end."

Of course, it could be argued that Jan Brady would have been the more logical choice for a lesbian love interest. In the original series, after all, it was she who demonstrated the most pronounced queer qualities—intelligence, sincerity, and a passion for justice (she was, after all, a member an oppressed community of middle children).

But seriously, a queer Brady—any queer Brady—could powerfully subvert the historical heterosexism of television's "family" sit-coms. A lesbian Marsha would explode the mythic heterosexuality of The Brady Bunch, radiating a uniquely affirmative message throughout the popular culture. Such cultural transformations—whether humorous or serious—are essential to combating homophobia, which is largely maintained through the media of film and television.

Send feedback to Stan Zimmerman and Jim Berg, Brady Bunch movie, c/o Paramount Studios, 5555 Melrose Avenue, Hollywood, CA 90038, tel. (213) 956-4900.

People Who Read "People"

Readers of People Weekly have been treated to an improved, more lesbian—positive magazine. Most recently (Sept. 5), the popular magazine's "Couples" section featured a two-page spread on singer Melissa Etheridge and her lover Julie Cypher. "Her Grammy is nice," the magazine notes, but Etheridge's lover is her "greatest prize."

"A House in Harmony," written by Peter Castro and John Griffiths, profiles Etheridge and Cypher in both words and photos. The feature deals nonchalantly with the couple's blossoming relationship and peeks—without sensationalism—into the personal histories of each woman.

Make sure that the magazine's letters-to-the-editor page is filled with more than just hate mail from panicky homophobes. Send your letter to Jason McManus, Editor-in-Chief, People Weekly, Time & Life Building, Rockefeller Center, New York, NY, 10020.

Free Speech on Trial

Yaroslav Mogutin, a 19-year-old free-lance journalist in Russia, is facing a court trial and a possible five-year sentence. The young journalist is being persecuted for conducting a well-publicized investigation into Russia's heterosexual marriage laws. He is being charged under Article 206.2 of the Russian Criminal Code for writing an article that contained references to homosexuality and other "vulgar language."

Russia's claims to democracy and free speech are clearly called into question by this kind of censorious harassment. Send letters or protest to A. Ilyushenko, General Procurer of the RF, Pushinskaya ul., 15a, Moscow 103793. Send copies of your correspondence to the International Lesbian and Gay Human Rights Commission, 1360 Mission St., Suite 200, San Francisco, CA 94103.

Media Briefs

* Billing itself as an alternative to the Federal Communications Commission (FCC), the Free Communications Coalition is an umbrella organization supporting democratization of mass communication and the use of micropower ("pirate") broadcasting stations. For information, contact Free Radio Berkeley/Free Communications Coalition, 1442 A Walnut St. #406, Berkeley, CA 94709, tel. (510) 464-3041, e-mail frbspd@crl.com.

* "Express Yourself" is an Interactive Macintosh Hypercard stack designed to inform students about their First Amendment Rights. The diskette is available to students and educators free of charge. Contact ACLU Foundation of Northern California, 1662 Mission St., Suite 460, San Francisco, CA 94103, tel. (415) 621-2493.

* Ways to Fight Censorship and Important Facts to Know About the Censors" is a how-to manual published by the Institute for First Amendment Studies, P.O. Box 589, Great Barrington, MA 01230, e-mail frdmwriter@aol.com.

(We must confront homophobia to cure it! To notify the Gay & Lesbian Alliance Against Defamation of any defamatory media coverage call our defamation hotline at (415) 861-4588 or write to GLAAD/SFBA, 1360 Mission Street, Suite 200, San Francisco, CA 94103; fax (415) 861-4893.

Send items for this weekly report to the attention of "Media Watch" at GLAAD/SFBA or e-mail to glaads-fba@aol.com.)

Sports Notes

The next monthly Montrose Ice Picks ice skating get together in Thursday, Sept. 15 at the Sharpstown Ice Center, located at 7300 Bellerive Road at Bonhomme, three blocks from Sharpstown Mall (take the Bellaire/Fondren exit from 59 South).

The cost is \$4.75 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, so please wear something white or your favorite gay/lesbian T-shirt. Non skaters coming with skaters can enter at no charge.

For more information, call Angel at 695-9609.

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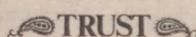
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Houston Soap, Part 1

By CAROLYN LARSON
Houston Voice/Houston

Last Week:

This event gets top billing in my book, because I was a "victim!" Gentry's had a day long fundraiser for Stone Soup. There was food and fun... well, if you can call getting a "pie" shoved in your face fun. Yes, it was "Cream a Friend." I was the recipient of SEVERAL pies in my face. I would like to thank the "friends" of mine who showed up for this event. One nameless (at this time, I'll get him back later) "friend" got two for me. One to pay me back about putting an awful picture of him in bad drag in Soap, and the other was a pay back for all the nasty things I am going to say about him in Soap because he "creamed" me. I would also like to thank Crystal Rae for roping me into doing this! I'll get you back, too! I think Miss Keever has some black mail pictures of you! Look Out. Anyway, the total fund raising came to \$1000. The show and food was \$584 and that pie thing raised \$416.

There was a fundraiser for Vera Cruz at QT's on Sunday. Thanks to Mr. Wonderful and Mr. Everything Don Gill and Lady Victoria Lust for spearheading this event. Almost \$1500 was raised to help Vera rest easier.

The Ripcord had one "Harley of a Good Time" weekend. The place was packed all weekend long. The guys at the Ripcord sure do know how to throw a good party!

Pacific Street's "Nights of Labor" weekend was full of hot men in hard hats and t-backs!

Jason Stuart was Out... Jealous at the Laff Stop this past weekend. The audience on the night I attended was predominantly guy/girl couples. I think most of them got the humor, but not all of them did! I found out that he did kiss Geraldo Rivera when Jason appeared on his show! Way to go!



Randy and Ken at the Penthouse

The Penthouse's Grand Opening was a great party! The buffet was a sample of almost everything off their delightful menu. I'm rather fond of the menu—it has many selections for non-meat eaters like me! If you have not had a chance to go up to the roof, it is well worth the trip. The view is spectacular!

Labor Day weekend was incredible at 800 Pacific. Derrick and Eric, "America's Sexiest Twins" put on a show that will not soon be forgotten. On Monday, Liberty City took to the stage before a packed house. The crowd would not let lead singer Shawna rest until she performed "Some Lovin'" a second time!

The Montrose Mining Company had its Bear of the Month Club on the last Wednesday of the month. There were 12 contestants, the largest turnout ever. Brian (the Birthday girl) Keever was really having a bear of a good time!

Friday, 9/9

Something new! Do you want to go to Vegas and can't get away? The 611 Hyde Park Pub has Blackjack night every Friday from 6:00 pm until 10:00 p.m. They do ask for a donation to the Colt 45's Troublefund box! Get there early to get the "hot" seat.

Trash Disco has returned to Rich's and the mirror balls are out! The crowds are flocking back to where it all began every Friday at Rich's.

Saturday, 9/10

The Texas Renegades guest Bar tend at the Brazos River Bottom today.

Head over to the Triangle Bar and Grill after the bars close. They have a "Red Eye" breakfast buffet for only \$3.95, which starts at 2:00 a.m.

Sunday, 9/11

AIDS Alliance of the Bay Area, Inc., in partnership with Dizinger Foundation presents: Art by persons living with AIDS. You are invited to an Art Show and Open House in the new AABA suite at 17511 El Camino Real, Suite 159. Come and enjoy art, refreshments, and friendship from 2:00 pm until 6:00 p.m. Art proceeds will benefit the artists and Dizinger Foundation. For further info, call 488-4492.

Get out your leashes! The Annual Dog Show is at Mary's today! Registration is at 3:00 p.m. Gaye Yancey and Pickles will be your "Woofers." Be sure to dress your pooch up and maybe you'll win one of the awards. As usual, they have many different categories.

Mama Jo has a party going on today! At 7:00 pm, The Outpost is having a FREE drawing for FREE trips. Check the ad on page 14 for all the info. Well, on second thought, don't go... that way I will be sure to win!! (Just kidding!) The Outpost will also have a free buffet and Happy Hour prices all day and all night!

Virgil Burke, Candidate for Mr.

TGRA '95 presents: "Drag Back Time," a benefit for Omega House. The show starts at 7:30 pm at the Brazos River Bottom.

"Our Sister's in Trouble!" Go to Chances at 5:00 pm and help the benefit show for Molly Cacers. Molly is a lifelong Houstonian fighting liver cancer. There will be tons of talent donating their time and talents to support this sister in need.

Beer Bust! Rich's! No Cover! 5:00 pm! 50¢ ice cold draft! Patio!

Gentry's is "Turning-about" at 9:00 p.m. This is the annual Turnabout show! The headliners are: Sparkle-Papa Del, Candy-Chris, Jessica-Rabbit, Pebbles—Rocky, Vanna-Barry, Maxine-Mr. Gentry, Michelle—Boy Toy Dancer, Wilma—Gentry GAPS and very special guests: Regina Dane, Jennifer Ellsworth and Shaboom! There is no cover! Don't miss this one!

Hal and Jim are in the kitchen again. Every Sunday the Venture-N has a buffet. All they ask is you donate to the Clot 45's Troublefund box. Dinner is at 5:00 p.m.

Monday, 9/12

Ms. B's has a super Happy Hour until 8:00 p.m. Go by and visit Betsy and the Girls!

Martini Mania Monday's at the Triangle Bar and Grill. Start your week off with a touch of class with \$3 Skyy Martinis and \$1 domestic long necks!

Tuesday, 9/13

No, I'm not gonna do it! I'm not going to do any more promos on Mary's Tuesday

special. You would think by now everyone would know that shots of Cuervo are only \$2 all day and night. I'm really getting tired of writing about Mary's and Cuervo Mary's and Cuervo. Oh merd, where is my delete key?

It is Young Executive night at Pacific Street. Show your business card and gain free entry. The doors open at 9:00 p.m.

Tonight at E/J's, Miss Brittany Paige MC's an Amateur Talent Night Contest. It is week # 3. The show starts at 10:30 p.m.

Super Tuesdays continue to be Houston's biggest week night party. Every Tuesday at J.R.'s you can enjoy the sights of Kofi moving her lips to other people's songs. If you catch her on a good night, she might actually know the words! Grab for cash is at Midnight offering you the chance to win over \$500 in cash and prizes.

Wednesday, 9/14

Join Miss Dyan Michaels as she pales hot male flesh at Gentry's male strip contest. The butts are bare starting at 10:30 p.m.

Don't forget the Montrose Mine has some of the hottest men in town. It is a great place to spend your "hump" day.



Miss Keever, winner Gary and runner up Giovanni, Bear Club for Men at the Mine

The Montrose Mining Company is super cruisy on Wednesday. Go and grab any Miller product for only \$1.25 and then grab a man! Sounds so easy... well it is!

Thursday, 9/15

Every Thursday at the 611 Hyde Park Pub is Steak Night. Dennis and the "lovely" bartenders invite you for dinner from 6:00 pm until 9:00 p.m. For only \$5 you can get steak, potato and salad. They also have a dart tournament that starts at 7:30 p.m.

Club Hedonism is a favorite among the Club Kids. You can see them every Thursday, with wild hair and weird attire! While your there say Hello to Divine in the Voodoo lounge!

It is Club Night at the Venture-N. Happy Hour all night in your Club Colors!

Carolyn's Calendar

If you would like something listed in this section, please call 529-8490, fax info to 529-9531 or you can hunt me down at any place that serves Cuervo cold and cheap.. like Mary's does every Tuesday afternoon!

9/16 * Fan-Tasy at Rich's.

9/17 * Miss Camp America Pageant at the Music Hall! Hurry tickets are going fast. Call 227-ARTS.

9/17 * Seminar: "The Mystery of Egypt Revealed." Call 893-4540.

9/20 * Firedancers tend bar on the Patio of Mary's.

9/21 * Cuervolyn's Birthday! I wear a size 14 dress and size 6 ring!

9/25 * Drag Queen Mud Wrestling at Mary's.

9/25 * "Mr. Inergy" contest. Call 771-9611 for info.

10/8 * Oktoberfest by the Texas Riders.

10/11 * National Coming Out Day!

10/16 * Lee Chardon at Chances benefiting IVL PWA Christmas.



Big Martha Turner and Susan Masar at Chances

Coming events, birthdays, question of the week and dirty laundry

Houston Soap, Part 2

10/23 * The Annual Vickie and Dickie Awards.

11/11 to 11/13 * TGRA 11th Annual Rodeo in Austin. Call 214/720-6051 or 512/835-5314.

11/18 * "Star Trek:TNG-The Movie" and "Interview with a Vampire" hit local theaters!

12/4 * 8th Annual Lady Victoria Lust's "PWA Christmas."

Other Important Stuff

I hear through informed sources that "The Grey Party" has chosen their charities! This year the lucky parties are: Stone Soup, Pet Patrol, and the Assistance Fund! The Grey Party is by invitation only. This year it will be on Oct. 16th.

You can watch AIDS Talk TV, hosted by Matt Locklin on Channel 17 on the following days: 9/17 @ 11:00 pm, 9/18 @ 11:30 a.m. and 7:00 pm, 9/19 @ 8:00 a.m., 9/22 @ 11:30 pm, 9/23 @ 12:00 pm and 9:00 pm, 9/24 @ 3:00 pm and 8:30 p.m. This month they are featuring guests from The Assistance Fund.

HIV/AIDS free referrals 902-2231! Call if you have any questions or need information.

The Penthouse Club presents Keith Caldwell every Tuesday and Wednesday, from 8:30 pm until 12:30 p.m. Be sure to get there early for dollar drinks 4:00 pm until 9:00 p.m. The free buffet (and boy is it tasty!) is from 5:00 pm until 8:00 p.m.

"Freedom Beads" are available to "my fans" at a reduced price of only \$3. Call Ken Randall at 537-8985 and tell him Cuervolyn sent you!

Do YOU have your tickets to "One for the Road," the 26th Annual Miss Camp America Pageant? Well, you better act fast! Call 227-ARTS!

The Brazos River Bottom has free Sign Language Classes on the 1st and 3rd Mondays. These will start Sept. 19 @ 7:00 p.m. I'm going to put this on my calendar! The Brazos River Bottom also offers free Intermediate Dance Lessons on Tuesday @ 10:30 and Beginner Dance Lessons on Thursdays @ 8:30 p.m.

"Travel In Pride" is a program created by Travel In Style, Inc., a full service travel agency located in the Galleria area. Individuals who call them for services should mention "Travel In Pride," and 30 % of those commissions will be donated to their charities! Check the ad out on page 12 for the rest of the info.

Denmark has been recognizing same-gender marriage since 1989.



Are we having fun yet?



Wash those dishes!



Paw Paw and Randy at the Penthouse



Groveling again...Lee, did you lose your crown or are you begging for a date?

Approximately 2000 marriages have been performed. As of 1994, 6% of these marriages have been dissolved. This was printed in the Wall Street Journal on May 16, 1994.

Press Release of the week: "AIDS and Families—Protect and Care for the Ones We Love" serves as the theme for this year's World AIDS Day which will be observed Dec. 1st. HIV Services Providers, Inc. is compiling a master calendar of activities and events related to World AIDS Day 1994. Organizations or agencies involved are encouraged to submit info to HIV Services Providers, Inc. at 3400 Montrose # 811, 77006.

The Club is a delightful place to spend these last dog days of summer. They have a clothing optional sun deck, outdoor pool, showers, a steam bath, massage therapy, tanning beds, free weights, Nautilus, private dressing rooms, and of course, Damion! They are open 365 days a year, 24 hours a day.

Shop at Basic Brothers! They have a great selection of Fall fashions available.

The Crystal Dolphin @ 4300 W. Lamar has some of the neatest stuff. I was in there last week for the first time. I wish I had remembered to bring my checkbook!

The Lazy J @ 312 Tuam is always a good place to find Erica Lane. Stop in and say hi!

Heights Tanning has extended their grand opening special through the end of September.

Question of the Week!

Last week I asked what Animal's (BRB) real name was. Well, Animal, your secret is safe, only 1 person came even close. (I did promise Animal that I would not print his real name.) This week's question is: Who was Ray Hill's date for his senior prom 35 years ago? Call me, I have prizes!

Birthday Corner

This month there are a bunch! I'll start off with Me, Rodd (Triangle-

9/3), Don (Triangle-9/3), Budd May (9/13), Nelly Kelly (Triangle-9/22), Brian (Damita Jo) Keever (9/1), Carolyn (FIST-9/21), Ted Ayres (9/1), and Roger Pruitt (9/10), and Cuervolyn (9-21). I know I should have put them in date order, but I'm not that anal retentive!

Lies, Gossip, and Dirty Laundry

It is time again to do the laundry! Please keep in mind my disclaimer! This section is purely fiction—well, not all of it! But I do tend to stretch the truth just a little bit. Ok, I lie, I fold, spindle and mutilate the truth to the point of no return.

Don Gill (Mr. Wonderful, Mr. Everything): Stop fondling your naked man lighter! He is going to go home with you regardless!

Timmy Todd: Don't hit Rita Charles with an ear wax soaked bar napkin! That is not nice! Didn't your mama teach you any manners?

Susan (Riders): So, who is chasing you? Also, will you and Rita Charles re grease Meg! She is in need of an oil change!

Darla (Triangle): Got ya to look! Thanks for the great service!

Russ (one of the Rowdy Girls): You sure are being quiet these days! Whatsamatta honey? Can't you find anybody to get rowdy about?

Adrian (PS): ChaCha queen?

Laura (G/L Yellow Pages): I hear you are a real whiz in the kitchen. Something about having the fluffiest buns, I mean, biscuits in town!

Patrick: It was nice meeting you at the Penthouse. Do you remember the 2 awful redneck jokes I told you?

John T (Ripcord): I have a message for you: "I'm SORRY," Donald.

Randy (Penthouse): OK, next time Ken (BBHOL) and I are up on the roof, I'll sit in your section.

Buffy (Wolfpack): How did a certain bartender from Mary's get his bar towel so dirty? Did you help?

JT (PS): You are REAL lucky I'm not going to use my poison pen on you! I have lots of really nasty stuff in my memory banks. Be afraid, be VERY afraid. Your "Charity Immunity" will not last too long! Next year, I'm gonna make real sure you get on the list for the "Cream a Friend" fundraiser! Keep in mind I have another really bad photo of you in my files! Revenge is a dish best served cold...and wet...and messy!

"Able was I ere I saw Elba." This is a dyslexic nightmare! The sentence reads the same forward as it does backwards.

Laser Wizard (PS): I really enjoyed "Creaming" you! As you well

know, for every "one" of yours, I can do multiples! Love ya Mr. Man! And WHO is this Nicki chick moving in on you? What hotel are you meeting her in? I want to read a magazine, too!

Lady Victoria: How did you keep your false eyelashes on at the pie toss? I lost all of my make-up to the pies. Leave it to a drag queen to know how to apply lashes so well!

Scott Lewis (Heaven): Thanks for the cab ride home. I wish I had been "Drunk on Love" not Cuervo!

Damion (Club): Hope you had a great vacation. We missed seeing your bright and petty face in the office. We actually got some work out of the Schnauzer. You know he can't produce anything (except drool and fantasies) while you're in our office!

Ken (Penthouse): Just how big is your cock ring? I hear you have a lot of girth!

Doug A. (PS): The next time Bobby throws something at you he will have a target.

Clay (Penthouse): So you got a divorce! I guess that is why you are behind the bar again. It is a lot easier to go husband shopping when they come to you!

Damita Jo: Why were you being led around by David (Firedancers) with a dog collar and leash? Does it have anything to do with the fact you like to bark during sex? Woof!

Pottygate # 7: Advice to scantily clad men! Do not pull your money and TDL out of your underwear and lay it down. I witnessed the aftermath of someone doing this. It seems a thief was in the bathroom and stole all his cash. Then the thief had the balls to hit the victim while he was being confronted! I'm sorry he hit the guy, but I'm glad I ducked. He tore out of there so fast I did not get a photo of him! Look out kids! There is crime even in public view!

Did everyone love the picture of my little Ratrat? I'm sorry it was so fuzzy, but it is almost impossible to get the little rascally rodent to hold still, at least when he is awake! If you have a cute pet, and would like to make him/her a star, get a photo to me!

This was my Labor Day vacation! Yeah right—me take a day off! I'm off to find a Labor Day party and eat some potato salad! Does "potato" have an "E" on the end of it or not? I never can remember... Wow! I could be the vice-president some day!

TTFN

Cuervolyn



Fun times at the BRB

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HOUSTON

VOICE

BLUE PAGES

SEPT. 9, 1994
ISSUE 724

This center pull-out section of
Houston Voice may contain
photos or articles offensive to
some readers.
Parental discription is advised.



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Houston **ALAN** 27 blond/blu lkg for someone to show me around, like outdoors, hiking camping, rafting, biking, movies and hanging out- UB 27-32 masc well built- #1514

Houston **SAVING ALL MY LOVE FOR YOU:** Dana 26 GBM 6'1 205 + currently seeking a GBM for a rel-someone to give my love to and have fun with if looking for the same masc only, call! #2071

Houston **SEE ME LIVE:** Dave late 20's uninhibited, lkg for hisp asian or white mid 20's built toned, likes to work out, go to beach, rock concerts- #2083

Houston **OPEN HOUSE:** Bob new to Houston area GWM 37, Real Estate business, seeking stable, secure 31-40 GWM for friendship, sightseeing, maybe more long term, spending time with a real special guy #2143

SINGLE? YOUR AD SHOULD BE HERE.

Houston **THAT COULD BE INTERESTING:** Jeff 6'2 150 interested in a rel- int are sports, nightclubbing and whatever else comes my way- #2276

Houston **ON THE KITCHEN TABLE, I BET:** HI looking for rel 20,5'9 love people who are outgoing, spontaneous and honest in a relationship- #2381

Houston **WORKOUT PARTNER:** Roger very new to area from NM 5'10- 215 bodybuilder, looking for similar int- not a club goer, but willing to exp new things- #243.8

Houston **HII RUSS GWM** 39 5'10 185 med build hairy body brn beard/must brn eyes vers romantic eyes, theatre, party on the weekends, dance like GWM sim bld, weight prop to height, 25-35, employed and stable -vers- all aspects of male/male encounters #20146

Houston **BLK** male 6'2 slim love to have a very good times sports and stuff like that- #31803

Houston **LET'S RUMBA-** Eddie 27 cuban/white int in hisp men only 20-35-for friend poss rel if right person-enjoy going out with friends, dancing, talking, having a good time doing whatever, #43022

Houston **THE BEST STROKE:** Joe 26 Asian male go to U of H int in movies looking for rel int in movies and dining out w/people tennis and swimming too- #2892

Houston **AUDIENCE PARTICIPATION?** Lance - I am btm, like toys BDSM you charge me up-like an audience too- #2962

INSTRUCTIONS:

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To Respond or Browse Personals CALL THE 900 # SHOWN, THEN:

- PRESS: 1. Free Personal Ad With Voice Mailbox.
- PRESS: 2. Hear Latest Personals Sorted By Area Code
- PRESS: 3. Respond To A Specific Printed Ad Shown Here.
- PRESS: 4. Instructions & Tips
- PRESS: 0. To Talk LIVE!
- PRESS: *. To Pick Up Messages In Your Mailboxes.

For Customer Service Assistance: 415-281-3183. 24 Hrs.

Houston **PROFESSIONAL OPINION:** 50 prfl guy, tp looking for a trim btm-l'm very relationship oriented, so give me a call- #2922

Houston **THE SCORE IS 30-LOVE:** Joe - 27 5'10 143 GAM go to U of H like to meet fit men in my area - from 20-35 - like to go to movies, golf, swimming and tennis too! #10892

Houston **WAITING...** attr hisp btm 32 seeking masc tps any race, any age for companionship, fun first to start a rel- #3455

Houston **NADIE SABE QUE SOY GAY:** Where are all the latins at? looking for Hispanic masc 18-35 I know you're out there- call me- #3532

Houston **BLACK AT IT:** Adrian 23, BM, 145, 6' lkg for another BM-masc, discreet 185-195, something serious-no games- Hunting for your love! #32658

Houston **CARL** GBM 6'1 220 trim musc, nice rear, work out - like to meet a nice man to spend time with intimacy and to fulfill fantasies- #3679

Houston **GHM** 32 live in Montrose area- 5'11 185 attr, lkg for someone sim in 30's call me- #3970

Houston **JASON** 22 brn/brn lkg for someone 18-25- 6'4 185, outgoing, love to go out, #3991

Houston **FREE AGAIN:** I'm young, intell, attr, got out of a long rel last year - ready to meet someone my age for a healthy rel noi into bars- unmaterialistic, but good looks are imp- masc only pls- #4033

Houston **RICKY** 24 GWM lkg for a GWM 18-26 for good times, dating, poss rel - I'm 5'9 brn/brn slender 130 - #4514

Houston **WM ONLY-** sorry don't mean to be rude-but I know what I like- Lee black cowboy who seeks WM only HM tp 170 swimmer build very passionate, cuddling quiet eyes, dirty dancing with the right one- #4701

Houston **GWM** 19 6'3 brn/green, int in meeting people the same age, like to do anything, movies, dining out looking for fun and poss serious rel- #4706

Houston **COUNTRY BOY** 21 college student- sandy brn hair/blu, hairy chest-loyal, loving, no head games, (+) financially stable- #4711

Houston **YOUR BODY CALLING ME-** BM 32 gdlkg very good build, like outdoors, sports quiet times alone, int in wm or hm 21-39 for poss rel or friendship- must be honest healthy - #4770

Houston **RUSS GWM** 39 dk brn/brn beard and mustache- 5'10 180 med build, hairy body, varied int romantic, partier on wknds. lkg for GWM 25-35 dkhair brn eyes, vers with varied int- #20146

Houston **YOU'VE BEEN A BAD BOY-GO TO MY ROOM-** 5'7, 165 gd shape, tan, outdoors body builder- int hot times- int in being dom, spanked, disciplined- #32000

Houston **SECONDS?** Ricky 5'9 brn/brn slender lkg for poss long term friendship or more- like movies, out to dinner- diff types of things- no one niters- #4514

Houston **RICKY** 24 GWM 5'9 13- brn/brn lkg for someone for long term friendship or re. I like movies, var of activities-no one niters- #4514

Houston **TOP OFF MY WORKOUT:** Charlie, Galleria area, 35 150 dk/dk jogging, work out 3x week, looking for a TP man in my area. #32644

Houston **MR. CLEAN:** I like good, clean safe fun- like to do things on the weekends. like to party- GBM 23, looking 4 18-25. #43103

Houston **BOY TOY:** Looking for a daddy, 5'11 173, 31s blond/blu hiking, reading, camping, listening to music. Hope to hear from you soon- #43145

Houston **WAYNE** 25 blond/blu - love to dance, sing and go to clubs-looking for that special someone - looking for a lover- are you the one? - hope we can meet soon! #43157

Houston **JUST OUR SECRET:** Thomas 22 173 brn/blu, athletic, attr want to meet other disc guys- #1209

Houston **23 GWM** looking for 18-25 Gay or bi-curious WM for poss rel- #8694

Houston **LEAP OF FAITH:** Down to earth whole food veggie escapee from right wing republican family-knowledge key to better life -looking for sim int- 30's lkg for 20's 30 5'10 little smaller 160 tp patient, single awhile, ready to change- #34545

Houston **SEEKING MR. RIGHT:** 18 bi curious WM 6' 185 brn/blu - must be 25 and under ready 4 good time age race unimp like music- My name is Eddie- #27726

Houston **EDDIE** 27 cuban/white hisp males only 21-35 for friendship poss rel - going out with friends dancing, dining out, movies,, quiet eves w/special person- #1653

Houston **GBM** 29 seeking GBM built looking to have a good time- #1929

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

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

Houston **SOCIALLY UNACCEPTABLE** behavior keeps me out of heaven and JR's seeking inv to pvt clubs into red hanky pumps GW man boy 38 5'5 145 nice body still maintain boyish innocence after all these years. That was great! #34725

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

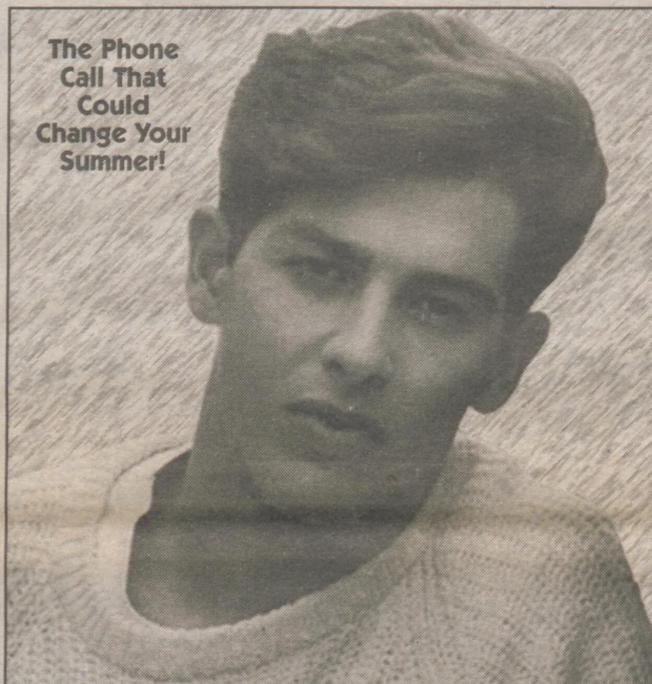
Houston **SKINNY DIPPING?** Two gay guys - were above avg looks bb's were in mid late 30's looking for other single bbs to come over and swim in Our pool good shape and nice looking only. #41045

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

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

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

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



The Phone Call That Could Change Your Summer!

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

Houston **RETAIL THERAPY:** Alan 27 GWM 5'4 blond/blu int in malls, movies, hiking, biking or horseback riding want to meet GHM, Italian, GWM 27-32 4 trips, travelling #1514

Houston **YOUR COMMAND IS MY DESIRE:** Bill 38 5'7-185 lkg for older, taller man into discipline, no nonsense types- #2530

Houston **STARTING OVER:** prfl 6' 175 young 52 left a long term rel getting back into dating, theatre movies, friends, cooking, travel, conversation for friendship maybe more- pref 40-55 non smoker- #1051

Houston **FULLY LOADED:** Chad looking for men age 28-40 I'm 32 lkg for active equipped men #1058

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Houston **TOUCH FOOTBALL:** Ray 40 GBM like to hear from all men 18-35 with a football players build 200-300 lbs of rock hard muscle- call me- #7305

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Houston **HOW DO YOU SPELL RELIEF?** Gdlkg 26 GHM smooth looking for a tall well built butch guy who wants to relax and enjoy himself- #7522

Houston **IS IT GOOD FOR YOU TOO?** looking for smooth GHM or GAM I'm 6'3 200 musc and hairy winner of Mr. Splashday contest- safe clean mutually satisfying fun! #8145

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Gay and Lesbian students harassed, beaten at Seattle schools

By ERIN VAN BRONKHORST
FOR THE HOUSTON VOICE

SEATTLE, Wednesday, Aug. 31 (AP)—From name-calling to beatings, gay and lesbian students have suffered at least 17 incidents of harassment and violence at schools around Washington state, says a new report released today.

"Clearly the schools are not safe for gay and lesbian students," said co-author Beth Reis, a public health educator for the Seattle-King County Public Health Department.

The report, based on personal accounts, was released by a 14-agency coalition called the Safe Schools Anti-Violence Project.

"I would say (the schools) are emotionally unsafe for every child because witnessing that harassment causes every child to fear they will be the next target," Reis said. "They get the same sense of powerlessness, hopelessness, and guilt."

Students thought to be gay or lesbian were beaten, spit upon, followed, cornered, rubbed against, or chased, the report said. Name-calling, rumors and graffiti were reported.

One girl was raped and forcibly kissed by three other girls who told her: "We don't want your kind, lesbian. Leave."

Three students were injured; one of them was taken to the emergency room and one was hospitalized.

Three students were injured; one of them was taken to the emergency room and one was hospitalized.

The report covers incidents at elementary through high schools in 11 school districts since 1990. Based on interviews with victims and others in person and by telephone hotline between January and June, the report does not attempt to corroborate the accounts or estimate the frequency of such incidents. Six cases involving adult targets were also reported.

Researchers will continue collecting stories and suggest the cases they chronicled are only a fraction of the problem. The report was funded by in-kind donations of agencies as well as money from the gay community's Pride Foundation and the teachers' Washington Education Association.

In a typical case, four teen-agers would gang up on one person, the

report said. Almost always there were witnesses, but many remained silent or joined in the harassment.

More than half the incidents were not reported to school teachers or administrators, the report said. The most common reason was that anti-gay harassment was so routine that the person believed nothing would be done.

When teachers or administrators were told, they generally offered sympathy but sometimes nothing more, the report said.

Principals learned of the attacks in at least 12 cases, the report said, but only one disciplined the offender. In that case, a teacher was placed on two weeks probation. Five principals took some kind of action including reprimanding the offender and making a public statement about the incident or school policy, and two others sought outside help.

Afterward, scars remained for the victims.

Targeted students felt scared, isolated and lonely. They were likely to get sick more often, avoid parts of the school building, skip school or drop out, the report said. Three attempted suicide; three others abused alcohol or other drugs.

Arlis Stewart, a report co-author who runs the American Friends Service Committee program for gay and lesbian youth in Seattle, said young people today become aware of sexual identity in middle school or high school, much earlier than previous generations.

They are less able to cope with such devastating information, she said, unlike a 19- or 20-year-old who can imagine being self-supporting and finding a new group of friends.

"My gosh, imagine a 13-year-old going through that. They're going to be damned by their church, parents might kick them out, they'll lose everything they love," she said. "A lot of them think it is just hopeless."

To increase the safety of students, the authors recommend strong school policies of respect for diversity and safety for every child regardless of sexual orientation. They favor examination of school curricula for anti-gay bias and training for school personnel to ensure environments that are safe.

Malaysian official says Cairo conference ignoring Eastern views

KUALA LUMPUR, Malaysia, Tuesday, Sept. 6 (AP)—The United Nations population conference in Cairo is based on Western views and ignores eastern customs, Malaysia's deputy prime minister said Tuesday.

Anwar Ibrahim, speaking at the opening of a conference on women in science and technology, said too many controversial issues had been brought into the conference.

Malaysia, where Islam is the official religion, opposes abortion and recognition of homosexual relationships, two issues to be discussed at the conference.

Anwar said the meeting does not take into account religious reservations and cultures of eastern societies and interprets the family institution according to Western views.

"This is a cause for concern," he said. But he said that does not mean Malaysia should totally reject the conference.

"If we are seen to be totally opposed to the conference, it is not true, because to me the strength of the conference in Cairo is that it is a meeting to champion women who are in fact ignored," he said.



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AIDS-phobic attacker slashes throat of New York state health worker

By DAVID BAUDER
FOR THE HOUSTON VOICE

ALBANY, N.Y., Friday, Sept. 2 (AP)—A man accused of slashing the throat of a state Health Department spokesperson called police to an Albany restaurant three weeks ago because he feared a mud-covered Woodstock fan would spread AIDS.

William Lewis, who was to undergo psychiatric tests Friday, allegedly attacked Frances Tarlton Thursday afternoon after first checking to see whether state Health Commissioner Dr. Mark Chassin was in his office. Chassin was out of town.

Tarlton, 56, was in fair condition Friday at Albany Medical Center, suffering from knife wounds on her neck and left hand, officials said.

Lewis was charged with second-degree attempted murder. He was to be transferred from Albany County Jail to a local psychiatric hospital, said Edward Tighe, chief of the Capitol Police.

Lewis, a 62-year-old retired state computer programmer, told reporters Friday that he wanted to kill Gov. Mario Cuomo, but Cuomo had too many guards surrounding him. He then said he wanted to kill Chassin to get publicity for his theories about AIDS.

Lewis said he picked Tarlton as a target because he had heard her on the radio talking about AIDS and she had once denounced his theories as "incoherent."

Tighe said Lewis called police three weeks ago to an Albany restaurant, demanding they arrest some patrons who had just been to the Woodstock '94 festival in Saugerties, 50 miles from Albany. Lewis had heard that portable bathrooms at Woodstock had overflowed and mixed with mud, and worried that people who had rolled in mud could spread AIDS, he said.

When police refused his request, Lewis attempted to make a citizen's arrest and was himself arrested for trespassing, he said.

Lewis tried to run for Albany mayor last year, calling for mandatory AIDS testing, for quarantine of people infected with the disease and for repeal of the city's gay rights law. He failed to get on the Republican ballot for a primary.

Before the city passed its gay rights law, Lewis protested at city council

meetings with a sign stating condom use would cause AIDS to evolve into an air-transmitted virus.

A recorded message on Lewis' answering machine expressed the same idea: "Condom usage may force the evolution of a type of AIDS virus that can spread by sneezing."

"All humanity can become infected before the problem is even discovered. We should test and quarantine, not pass out condoms."

Cuomo said he wasn't interested in hearing what Lewis had to say about AIDS.

"He's crazy," Cuomo said. "I'm certainly not going to take advice on policy from a person who tried to kill one of our employees. I'm not interested in his views."

The public usually has free access to the Corning Tower, Albany's tallest building, where Tarlton was working at the computer in her 14th floor office when Lewis got off the elevator Thursday afternoon.

He first went to Chassin's office, but was told the commissioner was on Long Island, spokesperson Lois Uttley said. He then walked down the hall to the press office and asked to speak to Tarlton.

Tarlton is a veteran public relations staff member from Albany who for years has been the department's main spokesperson on AIDS issues.

When Lewis walked into Tarlton's private office, where she sat with her back to the door, "she thought it was someone coming up behind her to play a joke on her," Uttley said.

Without saying a word, Lewis grabbed her by the neck and cut her in the throat with a utility knife, police said. Tarlton screamed and tried to fight him off, and was also cut on her left hand, she said.

Hearing Tarlton's shrieks, a female staff member came to office, but fled after Lewis told her she would be next. Tarlton escaped the office and collapsed beside her secretary's desk. The carpet was still wet Friday after blood stains had been washed away.

A male staffer confronted Lewis and told him to drop the knife. He did, and the man closed the office door behind Lewis. That's where Capitol Police found Lewis a few minutes later and took him into custody, she said.

Dog brings affection to old and sick in San Francisco

SAN FRANCISCO, Tuesday, Sept. 6 (AP)—Jenny Stookey's dog Freedom's best trick comes naturally—he gives affection, and he gets it back.

The yellow Labrador retriever and Stookey visit hospitals and nursing homes twice a week as part of a program to bring animals to people in need of tender loving care.

"I don't like dogs in general, but I sure do like this one," said Michael Wilson, an AIDS patient at Coming Home Hospice.

Although it may not seem like much of a skill, Freedom knows how to jump on a bed without prompting, lie still and respond to the frailest touch. She hops on dozens of beds each week in hospi-

tals throughout the city and allows herself to be petted.

"I don't get a lot of closeness these days," said Wilson, who has had AIDS for four years. "It's nice to know that someone or something cares about you. This dog just feels good."

Freedom is also a guide dog for Stookey, 32, a student at San Francisco City College who lost her sight to diabetes four years ago.

"I do get a lot more dates now that Freedom is with me," Stookey said. "I should learn to trust her judgment about men more. Sometimes I meet a guy and I think he's OK, but Freedom doesn't like him. Freedom usually turns out to be right."

From La Porte, Texas through the Straits of Florida to the Promised Land

Yours Truly in a Swamp

By LEONARD EARL JOHNSON
Houston Voice/New Orleans

In 1980, I sailed as Officer's Bedroom Steward (OBR) aboard the S.S. Fairseas Adventurer, a fine German-built, American-flagged vessel belonging to the profit rich steamship company that created container-shiping.

Containerized shipping is the system by which cargo laden trailers are hoisted by cranes from eighteen-wheel trucks and on-loaded aboard ship intact, less the wheels. At destination, the containers are off-loaded directly onto other flat-beds and whisked away to happily waiting consumers.

Happiest of all with this system was the Fairseas Company, theirs being a cost cutting innovation at its speedy ship's turn-around best. Unhappiest were the lowly tars in need of shore leave, and suffering greatly from reduced time in port.

In 1980, the Fairseas Adventurer was sailing regularly from the Houston Container Terminal, recently—and cruelly—relocated two miles outside of La Porte, Texas, and a mighty distance from Houston. The container port at La Porte was a great thorny urchin in the belly of thirsty sailors the world over.

Now mind you, a dirt-floored, tin-roofed bar we called "The Goat Ranch" did nestle in the turn at Barber's Cut, a beachhead within easy walking distance from the container ship's berth. Its services were mercifully available day and night. But the Goat Ranch was not Houston.

Two miles inland lay the sleepy little town of La Porte. It boasted a few ships, a Spanish-speaking movie theater, and, for some reason, a very large Electric Train Hobby Emporium.

Sailors, contrary to popular belief, do not live by alcohol and electric trains alone. We pined for the brighter lights of Houston, with its adult attraction far in excess of the combined ones of the Goat Ranch, the Spanish movie house, and the Hobby Emporium.

In the Hobby Emporium one bright day I met Cowboy, a fine looking blue-eyed, brown-skinned, black-haired young man, with a not-so-fine looking old "pick'm-up truck." The truck was purple, and boasted on its left fender several dents and a two foot plastic Jesus holding a bleeding heart in one hand and a short pigtail radio antenna in the other. Cowboy was purchasing small red lights for this icon, "To light up the world through the eyes of Jesus," he told me. I hired him on the spot to drive me back to the ship.

Later at the Goat Ranch the Second Mate, the Chief Cook and I retained Cowboy permanently to meet our ship, take us into Houston, round us up gurgling in the morning light, and return us to dockside. And, if need be, help us clamber up the accommodation ladder and into our cabins.

Despite his youth, religiosity, and being a college boy on Summer-break from Texas A. & M., Cowboy performed his duties well, and in time joined in our in-port/out-of La Porte fun.

In those days Houston boasted many oil boom driven diversions for every taste and orientation. On Westheimer, there was an establishment that consisted of a long front porch with a series of green doors. Beside each door hung a red lantern, like those used by old-time railroaders. If the red light was on, you could enter for a price and talk privately with the scantily clad man or woman inside. Your were separated from your selection by a glass partition, but for additional money pushed through a slot in the glass you could sweet talk them into further displaying their charms. It was like having porno film. Shocking, I know. But, with the possible exception of Cowboy, we were depraved souls and not missionaries.

Cowboy and I both liked this place, though he always arrived screaming the Biblical quote, "Tis better to spill your seed in the belly of the whore than upon baron rock!" This seeming contradiction notwithstanding, Cowboy would enter through one of the green doors marked "Girl" and, as he put it, "Wax philosophic with the Jezebel inside."

One particularly drunken night, we ended up in the same cubicle. Cowboy talked to the naked woman behind the glass and I..ah..watched.

Back at the ship, I suggested Cowboy join

me in my fo'c'sle for a drink. After several, we passed out and awoke the next morning on the deck, under my bunk, with the ship gently rocking us in and out of each others arms, as it quietly found its way out into the Gulf of Mexico. Cowboy quickly grasped the situation and was not happy. "I've been Shanghai'd," he hollered, cursing in Spanish and throwing Lone Star Beer cans first at the blue sea on the other side of the closed port-hole, and then at me.

I hollered back, "Don't blame me, I hardly want a stowaway in my cabin, for Christ's sake!"

We fretted, then petted and decided to make the best of the situation till we reached Miami in two days, our last stateside stop before heading across the Atlantic Ocean bound for Rotterdam. In Miami, Cowboy could walk off the ship and catch a plane back to Texas with no one ever the wiser.

With me as OBR, sort of a combination chamber maid and room-service attendant, our plan would be easy to carry out.

Cowboy settled in and became a comfortable traveling companion. He willingly stayed in my cabin drinking beer and watching television. He feasted on food I easily spirited from the galley, and talked whimsically of his family's immigration from Cuba before the rise of Castro. He wondered if he might see Cuba when we entered the Straits of Florida. I did not think so.

South of New Orleans we picked up a Baton Rouge television station and saw footage of the Mariel Boat Lift washing in from Cuba to the increasingly perplexed, but nonetheless welcoming arms of Uncle Sam. Cowboy laughed aloud at the site of Florida's governor greeting Cuban boat people while literally sweeping his hand across his sweating brow. Then Cowboy's eyes lit up like the red-eyed Jesus on his purple pick'm-up truck. "Carumba!" he exclaimed, "If I can pass myself off as a boat person, I can shout slogans and ride America's anti-Castro obsession all the way to easy street."

It was incredulous, and I said so. "How could you, after fleeing Castro?"

"Fleeing Castro? Are you crazy? Castro was still in the hills, we had never heard of him. We were fleeing poverty. We still are!" As Cowboy was saying this I felt the ship slow, then go dead in the water.

I left Cowboy plotting his economic salvation, and went topside. The Second Mate and the Bosun were walking back from the Jacob ladder hanging over the ship's gunnel. Six sunburned Cubans were walking with them. In the water off our port bobbed an unpainted rowboat with an upended oar from which flapped a white cloth painted with large black letters reading, "Help."

This complicated the Cowboy stowaway situation greatly. I followed, and waited outside the Captain's door till the Second Mate came out. "Leonard, I'm too busy to come with you right now," he said.

"It is very important," I said, "a matter that get the ship in deep trouble." He gave in and we headed off towards my fo'c'sle.

I opened the door. "Hi, Mate," Cowboy grinned, lifting his beer can in greeting.

"Jesus H. Christ!," the Second Mate exclaimed, slamming the door tight.

In Miami, the United States Coast Guard collected our seven Cubans, one of them the youthful, handsome, un-sunburned Cowboy.

On our return from Europe there was no Cowboy to greet us. Seven months and as many trips passed. Then, one morning, as we were coming down the ladder, headed for The Goat Ranch, up drives Cowboy in a new, air-conditioned, blue Ford "pick'm-up truck."

"They didn't have purple," Cowboy explained on the ride to Houston. He informed us that Miami VFW bought him the truck and the Governor of Florida had secured him a senatorial appointment to the National Maritime Academy at Kings Point, Maryland. He would be starting next Fall. "Then I'll be sailing with you legal like," he said, handing the Second Mate a Lone Star.

"Thank you," the Second Mate said. He popped open the can, rolled down the window and screamed a Texas, "Wha-hoo!" at a herd of cattle alongside the road. He pulled his head back in the truck and said to us all, "Welcome to the Promised Land!"

Houston Gay Personals

HELLO! IS THERE ANYONE OUT THERE?

Want to meet professional, mature, goal oriented, discreet lesbian. Must be a parent or desire a family in your life. No drugs or alcoholics. Passionate, erotic and creative behind closed doors. Prefer a soft butch 30-40 with a good sense of humor. Enjoy biking, working out and sex. Ad 25657

BODY CONSCIOUS

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

I WANT MORE!

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

I WANNA FEEL WHAT LOVE IS,

I know you can show me, I am a professionally employed homeowner, 40's, DDF, bl/bl, hairy chest, moustache, 5'11", weight in proportion, non-smoker, enjoy movies, dining out, bicycling and travel. Quiet evenings around the fireplace also makes me happy. Want sincere, affectionate man for dating and possible relationship. Ad 25988

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

INTRIGUE! SUSPENSE! ROMANCE! TERROR!

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

GALVESTON: LOOKING FOR SEXUAL BUDDIES

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

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

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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!

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

WANTED: STRONG, YOUNG PREFERRED GENDER FOR

heavy lifting and walking; aid to cripple, aged man. Live with a peerless library and learn a christian life of accomplishment/and future ease. Food, expenses and liberty assured. Ad 25658

35 y/o, 5'5", 130lbs male endowed, bubble butt, 28 inch waist looking for long-term relationship. I am DDF, a great cuddler, lover, nurturer. I want to kiss, cuddle, caress, hold and sweep you off your feet. You'll be glad you called. Let me love you. I stable and secure. Ad 25652

DIVORCE FINAL! RARE GEM AVAILABLE NOW!

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

YOU MUST BE SINCERE FOR ...

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

ROUGH DADDY

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

DAD FOR DISCIPLINE

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

GHM, 37, br/br, 6'1", 180lbs., w/h proportionate, professional, affectionate, smoker, light drinker. Enjoy bicycling, outdoors, sports, movies, dining in, quiet evenings at home and various other interests. Not into living at the bars. Seeks sincere GWM, emotionally stable, kind heart, not into game playing and a sense of humor for friendship and possible relationship. Ad 25655

IT'S HARD...

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

EXTREMELY HANDSOME, HEALTHY, DISCREET PROFESSIONAL

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

MR. RIGHT?

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

REAL MEN ONLY

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

NO GAMES, NO PAIN, NO EX'S!

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

To advertise call Houston local number (713) 529-8490 Mon.-Fri. 9-5.

To respond to an advertiser and to hear his actual voice describing himself and the people he would like to meet, call 24 hours 1-900-454-3576. (\$1.49/min. on your phone bill. You must be 18+.) OR you can call (713) 529-8490 Mon.-Fri. 9-5 for more information or to establish a pre-paid toll-free answering account.

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.

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

LOOKING FOR DAD

GM, Asian graduate student, very cute, quiet, shy, slender, excellent care giver. Like to travel, looking for wealthy, successful older dad who is a generous benefactor for long term and monogamous relationship. Professional job opportunity plus. Please respond to Ad 25654

LESBIAN GWF COUPLE, MID 30'S

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

DOMINANT GWM

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

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

MARRIED MEN

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

THE LION KING

Raven hair, hazel eyes, 5'11", 185lbs., sexy, muscular, manly, 34, very attractive and in search of "mr. right." Serious only. Ad 25648

WELL ENDOWED, HEALTHY, MASCULINE CUTE GWM

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

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

WANTED! HOT TOP!

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

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

GWF WANTING THE REAL THING!!!

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

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

CARPE DIEM

GWM, DDF, health conscious, non-smoking, non-drinking, 5'8", 130lbs., lean, fit; 38 chest, 27 waist, brown/brown eyes, moustache, 40 year old professional, averagely sized, hairy. Feels great. Sexy. Prefers slim and short, dark, hairy, DDF, NS. Values honesty, intelligence, good looks, independence, stability, sincerity with a sense of humor and style. Ad 25643

HOT, BOUND, CRAVING, BOTTOM PRINCE

Discipline, initiation, hazing, training, tenderness. You need, want, deserve it. You are 30-45, under 5'10", fit, clean, healthy. Outside of play, you are (like me) easy going, quiet, bright, professional, nice guy. I am 5'10", 170, GWM, 40, waiting for your response. Ad 25653

Counseling information given to Des Moines students

DES MOINES, Iowa, Sunday, Sept. 4 (AP)—Counselors in the Des Moines School District, the state's largest, give help to students who come to them with concerns about homosexuality. Part of their program is a book called "Bridges of Respect: Creating Support for Lesbian and Gay Youth" from the American Friends Service Committee.

That help could be interpreted as promoting homosexuality as an acceptable lifestyle under an amendment to the Senate's version of an education funding bill. That would mean the district would lose

about \$11 million in federal funding, most of which goes to students having trouble in school.

Some excerpts from the book:

"Homophobia is so pervasive that many people do not perceive mistreatment of gay and lesbian youth as wrong. Harassment is not seen as violence, but as a "natural" response to lesbians and gays. Who cares about the hurt done to people who are not regarded as fully human?"

"What matters is being sensitive to the diversity and complexity of human experience and staying alert to opportunities to support young

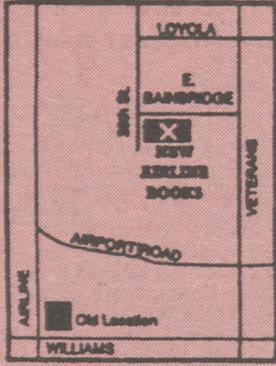
people for all of who they are. In the process of trying, we will learn better how to make connections, raising our own awareness and that of others. In so doing, we build bridges that we all may cross."

"Many educators remain silent in the face of homophobic harassment of their students, not because they are callous or agree with intolerance, but because they are afraid to speak up. They may fear creating public controversy by appearing too sympathetic to gay-lesbian young people, being accused of being gay or lesbian themselves or even losing their jobs. Nonetheless, educators have a

professional and ethical responsibility to seek a safe educational setting for all young people, regardless of differences in personal opinions about homosexuality."

"From the point of view of those who are mistreated, the time for change is always now. The first step may be something as simple and important—as speaking out against homophobic harassment of a young person and offering our support. Along the way, as we educate ourselves and others, we will discover that there are more people than we might have imagined who support our work and may even join in it."

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Iowa superintendents say legislation would hurt students

By MARY NEUBAUER
FOR THE HOUSTON VOICE

DES MOINES, Iowa, Monday, Sept. 5 (AP)—They say it's silly, unrealistic and would hurt students who need help the most. But they're not pushing for anything to be done about it.

That, Iowa school leaders say, would start a public debate, and that's just what ultraconservatives want about the amendment they've added to a federal funding bill to take money away from schools that teach acceptance of homosexuality.

Cedar Rapids Superintendent Lew Finch says there's no doubt about it—the amendment would hurt some students' performance in school.

"I'd hate to call it catastrophic, but it would be, at the least, devastating," he said.

U.S. Sens. Jesse Helms, R-N.C., and Bob Smith, R-N.H., got the Senate in August to add the amendment to the Elementary and Secondary Education Act, which would give \$12.5 billion to the nation's schools.

Under the amendment, schools that distribute instructional materials or offer counseling services that have "the purpose or effect of encouraging or supporting homosexuality as a positive lifestyle alternative" could lose that federal funding. So could those that refer students to gay organizations for counseling.

According to the 1993-94 state budget, the Helms amendment would take nearly \$53 million away from Iowa's 390 school districts. That's only about 2 percent of the state's education funding, but the money goes to poor students, particularly those who need extra help in school.

The U.S. House also put a similar statement in its funding bill, and now the legislation has been sent to a conference committee that will work out the differences.

But how do you know a school is "supporting" homosexuality? Iowa leaders say that depends on who is doing the interpreting.

"We're saying that someone isn't an evil, sick person who has these tendencies," said Janelle Cowles, a high school counselor for the Des Moines School District, the largest in the state. "I don't think that's promoting."

Cowles says counselors in Des Moines listen nonjudgmentally to all student concerns and find a way to help them understand and cope with what's going on.

HOUSTON VOICE CONNECT LINE HOT PERSONALS

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

JIM, 45 years old, looking for younger friends for companionship. Mail Box 1719

GENE, GBM, 6'2", 225 pounds, in good shape with hairy balls and dick. Looking for someone under 35 for good times. Mail Box 1746

To respond to a Houston Voice Hot Personal, you must join the Houston Voice Connect Line. It is only 10¢ per minute (plus any normal toll) and your first 30 minutes are free! To join see our Connect Line ad on page 18.

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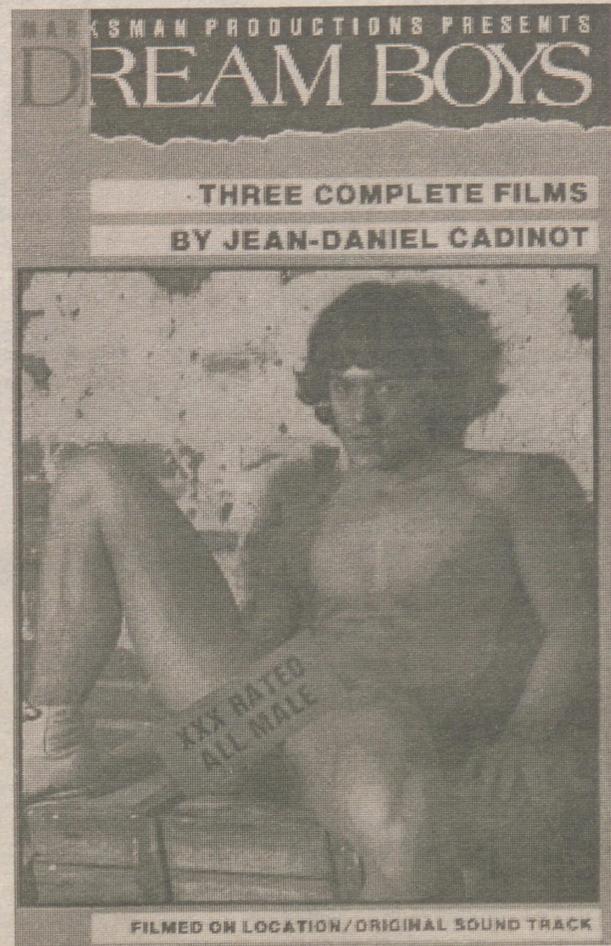


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• To PLACE a Personal Ad by Phone:

First, before you call, write out your ad. Use up to six (6) words in a bold headline and up to fifty (50) words in regular type. Call us at Houston (713) 529-8490 or Nationwide (800) 729-8490. After you've read your ad to us, and we prepare it to go to print, we will give you an 800 toll-free telephone number, your personal 5-digit ad number and your secret 4-digit personal identification number (PIN). Call the 800 number using a touch-tone phone and follow the verbal instructions to record, in your actual voice, your ad. (Somewhere in the verbal ad, say what city you live in.) Cost is \$24.95 for up to a year. We will mail you a bill. You can change your ad as often as desired during the year, but you must call us every four weeks to keep your ad running.

• To PLACE a Personal Ad by Mail:

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

• To RESPOND to a Personal Ad by Phone:

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

• To RESPOND to a Personal Ad by Mail:

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

• To RECEIVE Responses to Your Personal Ad:

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

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To take advantage of this \$24.95-per-year offer, you are required to participate in the "live voice" aspect of our Personal Ads by calling the special 800 toll-free number you will receive when you place your ad. You must record, in your own voice, your personal ad. If you do not participate in this "live voice aspect" your ad may be discontinued after the first week without reimbursement. If you do not desire to participate, you may instead purchase a personal ad at the rate of 55¢ per word weekly. Additionally all ads, both in print and voice should not contain references to sexual acts or organs. All ads should be "positive", that is describing only those people or traits desired. People or traits not desired should not be listed.



GALAXY GAYZER

A HOUSTON VOICE EXCLUSIVE



HOROSCOPE FOR THE WEEK OF SEPTEMBER 8 - 14, 1994



HOUSTON VOICE readers born this week experience the inner conflict at times as author D.H. Lawrence, born 1885, England, as they try to reconcile personnel needs and societies requirements.

VIRGO (Aug 23- Sept 22) Seek out and add to your circle of friends those folks who are upbeat and happy with their lives. Consider sorting out friends that you know who tend to be the 'oh woe is me' type of individual as they will drag your emotions down without adding any insight or benefit to your world. I suspect that you have been held back in accomplishing things that you may really want to do by others.

LIBRA (Sept 23 - Oct 23) As our out of doors temperatures begin to moderate a bit, take advantage of the sense of freedom and relaxation that comes from feeling the morning or evening breeze against your skin and in your hair. Your need for privacy and being on your own schedule is very basic to you, and this maybe accomplished by a walk or bicycle ride in the out of doors. A far better way to relax and to feel good about yourself than using drugs, as you have done in the past.

SCORPIO (Oct 24 - Nov 21) Thanks for bringing some of the treats that you baked over to the Voice Office for us to try, they were great. I doubt if any date that you might bring home this weekend, and sample your kitchen skills will be able to pass up your other talents. Two thoughts on improving your love making skills, one is to be more enthusiastic yourself, e.g. 'getting with the program', and secondly is to be more versatile and to explore new areas of sexual activity.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov 22 - Dec 21) This weekend is perfect for you to be out socially as another person is interested in observing you some more, unfortunately from a distance, but this has the good potential of being an important new friendship. She/he is especially interested in how feminine/masculine you are. Better to be honest so as to not give off false signals from the start. Their preference is for you to be butch/top. Leave your boas and heels at home.

CAPRICORN (Dec 22 - Jan 19) An extra amount of cooperation is the key for further success at your place of employment. Your independent personality has the benefit of assisting you with increased productivity but does not cause you to be seen as a team player. This latter perception by your boss and coworkers is critical to your advancement at work. Seek out others ideas as to how to do something. They will be flattered and respond with increased acceptance of you.

AQUARIUS (Jan 20 - Feb 18) You need to experience a wider range of personalities in the women/men that you date before you lock into the final type of person who will meet your needs on a long term basis. A lover relationship will only work if needs on both sides are met on a long term basis. The moon phase is such that lust, rather than love should be your aim for the next three months. If I hear that you are 'going down the aisle' before Thanksgiving of this year, I'll be upset with you.

PISCES (Feb 19 - Mar 20) Mend any family problems during the next two weeks. Lines of communications are especially open to you. But do not attempt to have your parents or siblings understand your life style any more than they might at this time. The best way to handle this, is for them to sense how truly happy and content that you are at this time. The one thing that parents want for their children above all others wishes, is for their children to be "happy".

ARIES (Mar 21 - Apr 19) Shopping bargains are yours for the careful looking over this weekend. Watch out for impulse buying, and think ahead as to how this item is going to fit into your needs six months down the line. You tend to be a bit eclectic in your tastes and the overall quality look that you want will be better served by zeroing in on one style. Have accessories and accents pieces for the color and detail interests, and use any larger items in a less dramatic manner. You have innate good taste, it is only how to achieve your design goals that is open for question.

TAURUS (Apr 20 - May 20) Increased feelings of confidence and happiness are yours at this time, as problems of the past begin to sort themselves out. Maintain a positive outlook and enjoy each day as an end in itself. Having things neat and orderly is very important to you and to those close at hand in your world. Make full use of your organizational skills to bring order to your work and home stations. Some one special in your life is very much in love with you and is very sensitive to your feelings toward them.

GEMINI (May 21 - June 21) The use of increased color and style in your wardrobe is all to your benefit as they give a sense of freshness to your appearance. Your fascination with attention to detail is legend and gives to you an edge over others who are more casual in the competitive work setting. Try not to get involved with minor problems of others at work, as you are unable to change their life's situation. Remain above the gossip and pettiness. Seek out things of beauty in your life as you seek out harmony and peace in your day by day living mood.

CANCER (June 22 - July 22) Happiness is a very valid goal of yours at this time, after some of the real 'downer' experiences of earlier this year for you. Watch your use of excessive alcohol, or other mind altering drugs to achieve this false sense of happiness. Consider spending time by yourself for meditations and listening to your inner senses for directions and calming reassurances. This may sound simplistic, but please trust me, as it really works, especially for a Cancer person with their special insights to themselves.

LEO (July 23 - Aug 22) Others will continue to respond favorably to your increased sense of confidence and more forward expression of yourself. You are a good person and have many wonderful ideas but because of your perchance to be timid at times you tend not to present yourself in the favorable light that you should. Work on your verbal skills a bit, and increase your vocabulary to present a more educated style to your speaking and writing. This will take a couple of months but will be extremely worth while.

THE TEXAS PUZZLE

Includes Clues About Texas, Current Events & Standard Crossword Clues

By Henry McClurg
ACROSS

- 1 French for light or bright
- 6 receives for services
- 7 critical moment
- 8 26th U.S. President, soldier Roosevelt, initials ("I wish to preach not the doctrine of ignoble ease, but the

- 30 doctrine of strenuous life.")
- 37 9 symbol for element ytterbium, used as an X-ray source & in some lasers
- 46 11 direction Midland to Houston, abbrev.
- 48 13 allow
- 49 16 deluges, wets
- 50 18 least miles from Cuba to Key West
- 51 22 not old
- 52 23 weird
- 53 25 in Greek mythology, maiden loved by Zeus
- 54 26 Scottish-born American inventor of the telephone, initials ("Great discoveries and improvements invariably involve the cooperation of many minds.")
- 55 27 1976 movie filmed in Terrell, Texas
- 56 30 1st World's Fair in this part of U.S., in San Antonio
- 57 35 central European river, 562 miles
- 58 37 stated value
- 59 38 state with Springfield as capital, abbrev.
- 60 39 newscaster Rather

- 61 40 official name for the Texas lottery, 2 words
- 62 46 floating platform
- 63 48 because
- 64 49 direction Texas City to Beaumont, abbrev.
- 65 51 rest on your seat
- 66 52 start
- 67 53 all of it
- 68 55 Confederate General Lee, initials ("It is well that war is so terrible—we shouldn't grow too fond of it.")
- 69 56 ignoble
- 70 57 symbol for chemical element radium
- 71 58 lacing hole in cloth
- 72 59 city about halfway between Dallas and San Antonio
- 73 61 Nobel prize winning author T.S. or English statesman Sir John
- 74 64 this is the object of the game of football, abbrev.
- 75 65 21st U.S. President Arthur, initials

- 76 66 ill-behaved child
- 77 67 weight, abbrev.
- 78 68 long flowing out-

- 79 69 of the alphabet
- 80 70 state flower
- 81 72 aquifer that provides much of west Texas water
- 82 74 direction Abilene to Waco, abbrev.
- 83 75 male hawk
- 84 76 symbol for chemical element silicon
- 85 77 19 Roman numeral for 3
- 86 78 last month of the year with 30 days, abbrev
- 87 79 strong desire
- 88 80 verb suffix used to form past participles
- 89 81 clattering sounds
- 90 82 divisible by 2
- 91 83 20th century American poet Pound, initials ("Great literature is simply language charged with meaning to the utmost possible degree.")
- 92 84 damage
- 93 85 roused to intense anger
- 94 86 suited, agreed with

- 95 87 44 Spanish for 'air'
- 96 88 45 in prescriptions, immediately
- 97 89 47 A.J., Houstonian who was 1st 4-time winner of the Indy 500
- 98 90 beerlike beverage
- 99 91 qualified voter
- 100 92 54 state with Montgomery as capital, abbrev.
- 101 93 60 state with trailing arbutus as official flower, abbrev.
- 102 94 62 experimental testing place
- 103 95 63 that one
- 104 96 66 garden root vegetable
- 105 97 67 20th century American journalist Lippman, initials ("In the blood of the martyrs to intolerance are the seeds of unbelief.")
- 106 98 69 Buckeye State, abbrev.
- 107 99 70 Volkswagen's famed 60's-era car
- 108 100 72 clothe
- 109 101 75 destroy
- 110 102 77 every individual one, abbrev.

- 111 103 Solution elsewhere this issue. C.1994 GULF FEATURES, PUZZLE TXS89

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TELL 'EM YOU SAW IT IN THE HOUSTON VOICE

RECIPES BY THE KUNTRY KIDD

Since the Summer nights are still warm, here is a recipe that will help take the heat off you, and is easy to make. If you don't like cold soup though, you're in trouble.

QUICK GAZPACHO SOUP

1 large can V-8 Juice	1 green onion chopped
1/2 bell pepper, chopped	1 tablespoon salad or olive oil
2 medium tomatoes	1 1/2 teaspoon Worcestershire sauce
2 ribs celery, chopped	1 teaspoon Tabasco
1 cucumber, chopped	Dash each of salt and black pepper

Pour juice into a large bowl. Add all other ingredients; stir well. Cover and chill for at least 4 hours. Stir occasionally while chilling. This soup will be much better if prepared a day in advance.

UNTIL NEXT WE EAT!

KUNTRY KIDD

New Mexico governor meets with gay rights leaders

SANTA FE, Wednesday, Aug. 31 (AP)—A meeting between Gov. Bruce King and gay rights leaders in the state is seen as another indication he is trying to mend fences with traditional Democratic groups in the general election campaign.

The governor recently has made overtures to groups that traditionally vote Democratic but have had disagreements with him. Among those are Indian leaders angry about King's past opposition to expanded reservation gambling and state employees with numerous complaints about King's administration.

King has been trailing the

Republican gubernatorial candidate, Gary Johnson, in early polls.

Gay rights leaders who met with King on Tuesday said the meeting produced some movement but no commitments on issues important to homosexuals.

The meeting was arranged by Patricia Madrid, King's running mate as the Democratic nominee for lieutenant governor in the Nov. 8 election.

"All I can tell you is that the governor listened very carefully," Madrid said.

King and many gay rights advocates have been at odds since the 1993 Legislature, when Senate Bill 91, which would have

outlawed discrimination based on sexual orientation, passed the Senate but died in a House committee.

King reportedly put out word he would rather not see the bill on his desk.

Linda Siegle of Madrid, N.M., a supporter of the bill, said Tuesday that King told members of the Coalition for Gay and Lesbian Rights he would support such a bill in 1995.

"We don't feel that was necessarily everything that we need," Siegle said. "We'd like to see a candidate and a governor who would work to actively assure its passage."

She called the meeting "an opportunity to have a real clear

dialogue about what our issues are and what we need from the governor so that gays and lesbians from throughout the state can support Governor King."

"We want to see a governor who will support our issues," Siegle said. "We know that Gary Johnson is not that person."

Johnson has indicated he does not favor a bill to outlaw anti-gay discrimination.

Madrid said the meeting was part of an effort to "move (King) back toward the pillars and strong workers of the Democratic Party," in this case "people who strongly support the human rights of all peo-

ple."

Siegle said she believes gays' animosity toward King "can be overcome if we have some public indication that his position has changed and he supports civil rights for gay men and lesbians."

John McKean, a spokesperson for the governor, said Tuesday that King's statements on Senate Bill 91 were misinterpreted. He said King wanted the Legislature to focus on budget matters instead of the Senate bill which, because of its controversial nature, was "a potential session killer."

"He never said that he would sign it or that he wouldn't," McKean said.