

# HOUSTON VOICE

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## IN THIS WEEK'S ISSUE

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## Galveston GOP gets statewide criticism for quarantine resolution

From STAFF and WIRE REPORTS

The passage of an AIDS quarantine resolution by Galveston County Republicans should not be dismissed by Houstonians as a regional fluke in favor of the radical right, according to the executive director of the AIDS Equity League.

"It should frighten the hell out of us," said Lewis, noting that the vote by about 300 people at the Galveston County GOP convention late last month was carried out with no objection and little debate.

"Three hundred somewhat educated, if not intelligent, people voted on this," Lewis said. "People in Texas need to realize that rights can be taken away in the blink of an eye. The blink of an eye! ... One day you have rights in Colorado, the next day you don't."

Galveston County Republicans are being harshly criticized and even threatened as word spreads about their proposal to quarantine people with HIV. The county GOP approved the resolution March 26, but it only came to light publicly in recent days, touching off a firestorm of criticism across in Galveston and across the state.

The measure was one of 115 passed at the county meeting and forwarded to the Texas GOP for possible consideration at the party's state convention in Fort Worth in June.

Last Friday, three party workers refused to staff

Tuesday's runoff election and state Sen. Jerry Patterson (R-Houston) told the Daily News of Galveston County that he had received death threats at his offices in Austin, Clear Lake and Galveston.

County Democratic Party Chair David Jameson criticized the Republicans for their stance. "This is sheer bigotry and has nothing to do with the disease," he said.

Sandi Simon, interim director of the AIDS Coalition of Coastal Texas, called the vote "a throwback to Nazi mentality."

The resolution calls for a quarantine until a cure is found so the "the general population" can be protected from the disease. It also calls for the identification of HIV-positive individuals and the tracing of their sexual partners.

HIV is not spread through casual contact.

"This story illustrates how people continue to discriminate against that which they do not understand," said Lewis. "People are still being segregated and subjugated to less than human treatment by those holding irrational fears that stem from their own ignorance and bigotries."

"Perhaps the GOP would like to quarantine all people living with hepatitis, since hepatitis can be contracted via shaking hands," he said. "Where does it stop? People should look at the GOP political mentality and ask themselves, 'How far will the GOP take this, given a chance?'"

## To the Queens' Taste: Gay New Zealanders make lesbian romance

### FEATURE INTERVIEW

By STEVE WARREN

You might think "Desperate Remedies" could only have been made by a gay man, but it was actually made by two gay men. Well known to the miniscule subset who read the credits of short films at festivals,

director-writer Stewart Main and writer-director Peter Wells are on the way to becoming household names with their first feature, especially in Gay and Lesbian households.

The New Zealanders are no longer lovers—"That's how we met," Peter admits—but they live and work together, so they might as well be. When they visited the Miami Film Festival with *Desperate Remedies* in February, they were among the few guests who hadn't left a bitter winter behind to attend—the seasons are reversed in the Southern Hemisphere.

Having made *Desperate Remedies* entirely in a studio—finding a real 19th-century village to represent their fictional Hope wouldn't have given them the stylized look they wanted, even if their limited budget had allowed it—the pale Kiwis spend their days by the hotel pool, but they take a break for an interview.

Main and Wells met in 1978. "I was working in the (film) industry as a trainee editor," Stewart says. "I was a writer of fiction," Peter adds. "I still am." Indeed, his newest short fiction collection, *Dangerous Desires* has just been published in the U.S. Most of the three novellas and five short stories have gay themes, he says.

Leaving the sordid details of their initial meeting to my fevered imagination, Peter jumps ahead to the beginning of their professional relationship. He



Stewart Main (left), and Peter Wells, two Gay men, wrote and directed "Desperate Remedies," premiering at the Houston International Film Festival (WorldFest)

watched Stewart work on someone else's film and realized they could make their own. The result, the 11-minute *Foolish Things* gave them confidence that they "could make films without leaving New Zealand."

Several documentaries and short dramas followed, including Jewel's *Darl*, about a day in the life of a transvestite and a

transsexual, and *A Death in the Family*, about a man dying of AIDS and his support group. Both won awards for the men, encouraging them to take the plunge into feature filmmaking.

Main and Wells are happy to be mentioned in the same breath with their homegirl Jane Campion, who shot "The Piano" at the same time they were filming "Desperate Remedies." There the similarity between the two films ends. While *The Piano* was dark, gloomy and realistic, "Desperate Remedies" employs vibrant colors, a blatantly soap operatic plot and acting that's just far enough over the top to wink at you and tell you not to take it seriously.

The story line has two women living together, despite the efforts of three men to come between them—one through marriage, one through blackmail and one through sexual attraction. Readers of romance novels might accept the film at face value, its makers propose—"if they can accept that sometimes in life the guy doesn't get the girl," Stewart cautions.

"It's a tricky thing," he notes—"men, albeit Gay men, making a film about dyke women." Lesbians, he says, "are our hardest audience to please because they're the most vulnerable." Peter adds that "commandeering their experience" has left the filmmakers open to Gay women's criticism, but that the reaction so far has been overwhelmingly positive.

(Continued on following page)

## Runoff: Fisher beats Mattox, Bentsen defeats Clark

Dallas millionaire Richard Fisher became Texas' Democratic U.S. Senate nominee Tuesday after defeating Jim Mattox, with a lead of over 50,000 votes. Fisher, who campaigned as the candidate for "change," said he will use a similar message when he faces Republican Sen. Kay Bailey Hutchison in November. However, he said, he does not foresee that campaign being as bitter as his runoff race with Mattox, who apparently will now be giving Fisher his support.

Mattox was endorsed by most of the state's

Gay and Lesbian political groups, including the Houston Gay and Lesbian Political Caucus.

Another candidate endorsed by the caucus, Ken Bentsen, fared much better in his runoff race with Beverley Clark for the District 25 U.S. House seat. Bentsen got about 64 percent of the vote to leave Clark, a religious fundamentalist who campaigned as the "family values" candidate and received support from anti-abortion groups, trailing.

Texas Supreme Court Justice Raul Gonzales

defeated challenger Rene Haas, who was endorsed by HGLPC and the Gay PAC's in Austin and San Antonio, with about 54 percent of the vote to Haas' 46 percent. Both had been accused of particularly vicious tactics during the campaign. The race was closely watched by Gays who had hoped to replace one of the Supreme Court Justices who had voted to uphold the state's homosexual conduct law with a candidate who had stated support for privacy rights.

Helen Cassidy easily defeated Jack Lee in her bid for 1st Court of Appeals, Place 1.

Roman Martinez, endorsed for State Senate in District 6, lost to Mario Gallegos, with only about 43 percent of the vote to Gallegos' 57 percent.

HGLPC-endorsed candidates Jessica Farrar (State Rep., Dist. 148) and David Minberg (Harris County Democratic Party Chair), and Kevin Newsome (Harris County District Clerk) won their races; Carol Alvarado (State Rep., Dist. 143) and 14th Court of Appeals candidates Ben Levy and Carl Dudenning did not.

## 'Desperate Remedies': American distributors asking for cuts to facilitate film's passage to U.S. audience

(Continued from preceding page)

If Main and Wells have one problem, it's not knowing their own strengths. Their use of color may be the most universally praised aspect of "Desperate Remedies," but in their self-deprecating way they reveal that they originally wanted to shoot in black and white. Editing on a black-and-white monitor, Peter says, "We were muttering, 'It should have been in black and white.'" Stewart credits the film's flashy color scheme to "a combination of the art department, the lighting, Fuji film stock and our taste for tutti-frutti gels."

They also have a taste for codpieces and nipple rings, used as playful anachronisms in the film. "We were not trying for Merchant-Ivory historicity," Peter notes, and Stewart finishes his thought, "Much as we like that sort of thing sometimes."

Although "Desperate Remedies" was rated "R" in New Zealand, its American distributor has asked the filmmakers for some changes. "Miramax thought we should make a few cuts," Stewart explains, "to facilitate its passage to an American audience." The most likely cut is a brief scene where Lawrence (Kevin Smith), a newly arrived immigrant sees one man bugging another in an opium den and walks away, neither excited nor disgusted, while another observer prepares to join in.

Smith, Peter reports, has been "called the sexiest man in New Zealand" by women's magazines there. Asked about

the ethnicity of Cliff Curtis, who plays Fraser, a bisexual junkie, Peter says he's Maori, but "unusually aquiline for a Maori," so one wouldn't know from looking at him.

The third man, devious politician William Poyser, is played by Michael Hurst, who is—sorry, girls—married to Jennifer Ward-Lealand, who stars as Dorothea, the Lesbian dressmaker. On screen, at least, Ward-Lealand winds up in the arms of Lisa Chappell, who plays her lover, Anne.

You wouldn't see such an "uncommercial" ending coming out of Hollywood. "The (New Zealand) film commission often talked to us about the ending," Peter says, "but there was no pressure (to change it)."

"We wouldn't make the film if we couldn't control the ending" Stewart adds. Knowing they wouldn't have such power in the U.S., Stewart says, "We don't need to make films here."

Perhaps more important than the power they have earned is the respect of the people they work with. "The crews have got more relaxed with us," Stewart says. "When we made 'A Death in the Family' they were very uptight with men kissing and all. This time we had a lot of Gay people on the crew."

Both men have made films alone, as Stewart will be doing this year—one with a "big female role"—while Peter uses the time to write more fiction. But they enjoy collaborating. As Stewart points out, "You have a good 100 percent more moments of inspiration than if you were doing it on your own."

## Houston Spotlight



### RAY HILL

Few, if any, Gay Houstonians have never heard of Raymond Wayne (Ray) Hill, at a mere fifty-something nicknamed the "Grandfather of Gay Houston." Co-founder and president of the city's first Gay organization, The Promethean Society, in 1968, Hill went on to contribute his hard work (and elaborate opinions) to virtually

every organization that has ever existed here. His most enduring work, activism for first amendment rights, took on national significance in 1987. A lawsuit filed by Hill against a Houston ordinance restricting verbal intervention in police actions resulted in a landmark decision in the U.S. Supreme court, defining a citizen's freedom of speech to complain of police abuse of another person. -(SCD)

## Cable show producer, volunteers starting HIV-AIDS referral line

### LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

FROM MATT LOCKLIN

Houston, Texas

AIDS is a horrible disease. I know because I live with the virus. My partner Joe Dan of 15 years, now entering his final weeks or days, struggles for his very life. My friends and co hosts are dead or dying. Just in my small apartment complex 7 have died and many more are ill. My journey through the AIDS community has not been pleasant, turning grief and loss into energy. From the anger I felt at being assaulted the HPD during the Republican National Convention I started communicating and educating on the public access channel on the plight of us who live with AIDS daily. What started as a one man effort to do something has turned into 3 TV programs (AIDS Talk Houston TV, Montrose Clinic TV and Life...Today! TV) and more than 100 hours of AIDS education and information being presented. From HIV research and latest medical advances to ACT-UP and Planned Parenthood to cremation and Viatical Insurance set-

tlements. I have featured many of our communities organization and given insight to their leaders efforts. I have served as your representative within Thomas St. Clinic Citizens Health Council and gone on to serve on the Harris County Hospital District Council-At-Large. Fighting for the rights of all of us. Crying out that more is needed, expressing the urgency and working with the group to find the solutions.

The one thing that has remained consistent through my journey is the endless stream of unsung heroes who work with us and care for us and help us get what we need, when we need it. Pharmacists, doctors, nurses, financial counselors, funeral directors, case managers, non-profit service providers, for profit companies that provide excellent service with compassion and feeling. I have also met the greedy girdies who profit of our plight with narrow minds and discourteous bigoted employees who treat AIDS people as something less than human who capitalize in fear and isolation many of experience.

Recently Robert "Polo" Latimer passed on due to AIDS. I remember when

he first started the Red Ribbon Foundation (a.k.a. The Robert Foundation). I was just starting my TV productions and have watched his group grow and raise funds for the fight, which is what he set out to do. I set out to educate and inform, to make it a little easier for the next human being that had to muddle through this often chaotic system. In this spirit I am saddened to see the Red Ribbon Referral Line cease operation with Robert's passing. I have in his memory opened the HIV/AIDS Referral Line through my AIDS Talk Houston TV volunteers. We have compiled an exhaustive list of good, kind people who have been there when it counted, local groups and individuals who we have consistently out performed the rest. Companies and people who support the AIDS community and its member patients.

The Referral line number is (713) 902-2231 and it is a free call. You will be in contact with others who have HIV/AIDS and who have been through what your facing. Why guess and beg for services we can show you who does what and how you get it done. Whether you want an AIDS advocate or find a social service, or get information on viatical

buy-outs of your insurance, how to obtain insurance or just get a disable license plate, or just where you can go to find free medical equipment, a good case manager that does their job and then some.

While I have your attention please let me remind each of you that you are desperately needed to step forward and continue this fight for life. After nearly two decades the HIV/AIDS leadership is either passed on already or very tired. Fewer and fewer people are picking up the torch despite the soaring rate of infection in the U.S. and abroad. Nothing will ever come about without each of us picking up the pieces and doing what we can for the cause.

I will keep on fighting for our rights and the cure. Trying to make things a little easier for the next person who gets the disease. I love you all, Houston AIDS community is brave and there are a lot of everyday heroes. I appreciate everything each of you has done for me. Your prayers and thoughts for my family in our time of need will always come back to you in your time of need. Get involved! Silence = Death!

## Texas City High School safe-sex presentation spurs abstinence talks

TEXAS CITY, Texas, Tuesday, April 12 (AP)—Sexual abstinence lectures have been scheduled at three schools after several people complained about an AIDS patient's "safe-sex" discussion at Texas City High School.

The patient violated Texas City Independent School District policy by using slang for body parts and exhibiting a condom while

speaking to several classes March 25, said Okie Anderson, district student assistance coordinator.

High school principal Bill Martin said he received letters from two parents and a pupil and took two telephone calls complaining about the talks. He said he did not know the name of the speaker.

After the complaints, the district hired

David Davis of Pearland, author of the book "Surviving as a Teenager," to talk this week about abstinence, Anderson said.

The March speaker was to have been part of a three-member panel. But one of the other participants died from AIDS on March 24 and the other was hospitalized.

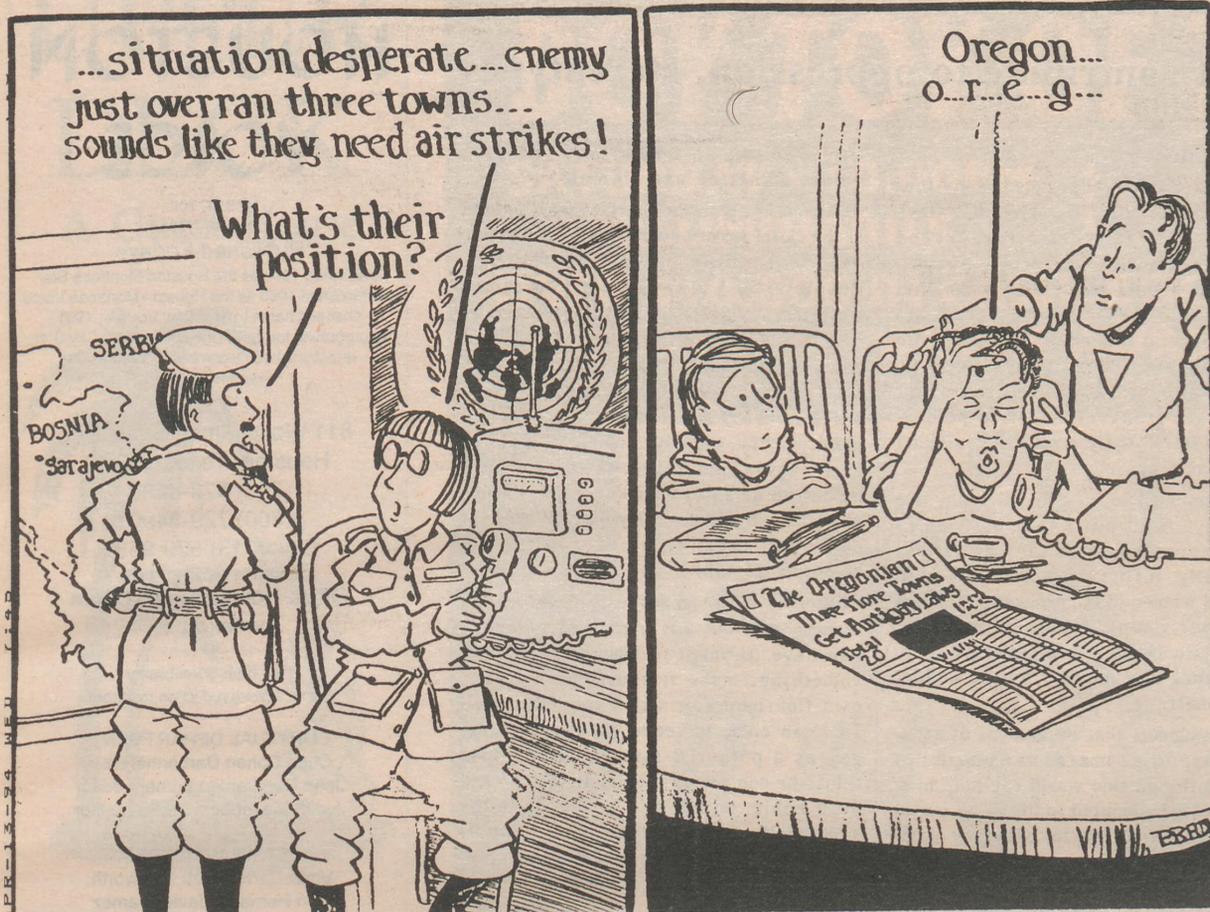
Anderson said his presentation varied some between classes and not all heard the same

language or saw the same demonstrations.

Principal Martin said that only a few words or actions out of each hour's discussion might have been inappropriate and teachers did not consider them offensive enough to justify ending the sessions.

He also said students had to return signed permission slips from their parents to hear the presentation.

## Brady's Corner



## Report: Roy Cohn wielded pen to push pets with White House

NEW YORK, Monday, April 11 (AP)—Lawyer Roy Cohn was a regular correspondent with Ronald and Nancy Reagan, New York Newsday reported today.

Frequently he wrote to help media mogul and New York Post owner Rupert Murdoch, the paper said.

Throughout his career, Cohn was a master manipulator, a favor broker and closeted homosexual who worked behind-the-scenes deals with the rich and powerful. He died in 1986 from AIDS.

Nearly two dozen Cohn letters and Reagan administration replies, obtained under the Freedom of Information Act by New York Newsday, show the Manhattan lawyer uncharacteristically left a few fingerprints that survived his death.

Perhaps the best look at Cohn's relationship with Reagan—and the return the attorney expected for his friendship—is memorialized in letters that focused on Murdoch and his publishing empire.

For example, the letters show that Cohn and law partner Thomas Bolan helped arrange at least one meeting between Murdoch and Reagan before the 1980 presidential election.

The LONE STAR



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## Self-pity as a fine art: closeted Gays should stop whining, get real

### OBSERVER'S NOTEBOOK

By PAUL VARNELL

FOR THE HOUSTON VOICE

In a column distributed for national publication on Feb. 28, syndicated advice columnist Ann Landers printed a letter from a man whose lover recently died of AIDS, but who had no one to share his grief with and felt "very much alone."

The man, who signed himself "J.C.," explained that no one knew he or his lover were gay because he is the typical "boy next door." His family and friends "would be shocked if they knew the truth," and since he worked for a "very conservative business firm" he believed that coming out would be "professional suicide."

He goes on to plead for a little "understanding and compassion" for gays. He

wonders why gays are so despised, especially when he says they had no choice. "Why," he asked, "would anyone choose to be a constant object of hatred and ridicule?"

In her new, pro-Gay mode, Ann Landers is all warmth and support. Perhaps that is for the best. But, frankly, I wish she had been a little tougher on "J.C." She should have told him "Grow up: stop whining and get real about your life."

Ann Landers' office at the Chicago Tribune says she received no letters commenting on J.C., but, in fact, J.C.'s obtuse and self-pitying letter irritated me more than almost anything I have read in the last few months.

Here is an adult man who writes as if he has never exercised any choices in his entire life. Yet he chooses not to share with his family and friends the life he has made with

the man who was most important to him. He chooses as friends people whom he assumes would be hostile to him if he shared the facts of his life with them. He has apparently chosen not to make any effort to befriend other Gays, the very people who are most likely to have shared his own experiences and who might now be able to empathize with him and provide emotional support.

And now he laments that he feels all alone with his firm, one where he is afraid to come out because it would harm his chances for promotion or continued employment. Even if his fear is justified (and increasingly it is not), no one forced him to take a job in that business. There are other professions, other employers.

Maybe he would not have made the same amount of money or have the benefits, position or prestige he apparently val-

ues. But by timidly staying in the closet to avoid putting those advantages at risk, he has chosen to cut himself off from other choice-worthy things, things he now laments not having: a life lived openly, for instance, with integrity and dignity, with understanding and supportive friends and colleagues.

Yet now he says he wants both. But if you choose between competing goods it makes no sense, once having chosen, to say you want the things you gave up. Part of growing up means learning the basic principle. So grow up, J.C. The world as it is, and not another way.

Then he has the effrontery to plead for "compassion and understanding." And he whines rhetorically, "I just wish we could all learn to live together and be a little nicer to one another." (Continued on following page)

## Show support to your local IKEA for courageous ad campaign

### GUEST COMMENTARY

By WESLEY COMBS

Project Director, National Coming Out Day  
Every Oct. 11, Lesbians and Gay men "come out of the closet" on National Coming Out Day, revealing their sexual orientation to friends, family members and co-workers. But what happens when a "straight" company makes this same courageous move?

Providing support and encouragement to someone "coming out" is what National Coming Out Day is all about and is sound advice to the inexperienced. However, as difficult as it is for a Gay person to make this revelation, it is just as challenging for non-gay people involved in the process. And they need everyone's support, especially the Gay community.

This is exactly what IKEA has done

recently with their new advertisement that features two Gay men shopping in their store. IKEA, a home furnishings retailer with locations in eight states, joined the ranks of other mainstream advertisers like American Express that feature Gay people in their advertisements. Both of these companies recognize the diversity of their customers.

In today's political and social environment, these decisions are not easy ones for companies, especially knowing that the radical right is ready to publicize any gesture a company makes toward the Gay market as "un-American" and "immoral." IKEA has joined other companies that show their support of Gay consumers, either through their advertising or through their support of issues like AIDS and discrimination against Gays. But, the rewards are not always as evident to these newcomers.

Take two examples and how the community reacted: Levi Strauss stopped giving money to the United Way in the San Francisco area when the Boy Scouts refused to allow openly Gay people participate in or serve as troop leaders. However, Levi officials sadly noted that the move was met with thousands of angry letters from conservative groups, while the Gay community's response was negligible. On the other hand, Comedy central, the all comedy cable channel, met with much more positive mail than negative when they aired their all-Gay comedy show "Out There" in 1993, a first of its kind on cable television.

Either way, these companies are taking courageous steps. It is only by the successes of these pioneers that other companies will join them and reap the same benefits of the brand-loyal and lucrative Gay market. To show IKEA how thankful we

are, send a letter of appreciation and show how many Gay people are part of their shopping public. Address your letters to: Goran Carstedt, President, IKEA North America, Plymouth Commons, Plymouth Meeting, PA 19462 or call (215) 834-0810 and ask for IKEA Marketing Comment Line. Tell the operator you are calling about the "Lifestages" campaign.

Better yet, when you are shopping at IKEA, tell the store management and staff how pleased you are about this new campaign. They are on the front lines and need the support the most. By "coming out" and speaking up, you are making every day "National Coming Out Day" and you will help everyone at IKEA know this decision was the right thing to do.

(Editor's Note: Wesley Combs is the Project Director for National Coming Out Day. For more information about NCOD, call 1-800-866-6263).

## Those who choose the closet contribute to oppression, stereotypes

(Continued from preceding page)

We might ask whether he ever did anything to earn our or anyone else's compassion and understanding. Did he himself ever do anything to help people learn to be nicer to Gays? Did he ever reach out to the people who like and respect him so that they would learn more about the decency and integrity of our lives as gays? Did he ever make any contribution to other gays, to help us in our efforts to achieve legal and social equality?

What we do know is that he denied the reality of his life to his family, friends and colleagues; he refused to affirm to others the love that he presumably felt for his "long-time companion"; he avoided making gay friends out of distaste or fear—in short, he lived a lie. And now does he feel even a twinge of regret? of guilt? of shame?

He feels sorry for himself.

J.C. explains that he is not comfortable with the image "some flamboyant homosexuals" project, that "it makes it difficult for those of us who choose not to go public." But this makes no sense at all. Even if "flamboyant homosexuals" influenced popular attitudes about Gays, since J.C. chose not to come out there is no way that those Gays could make

life difficult for him.

Or could they? Perhaps he means that were it not for the "flamboyant" Gays who create negative stereotypes he would have felt more nearly able to come out. Timid people sometimes make that argument. But, in fact, most representations of Gays in the media these days are not flamboyant. Those people (Gay or straight) who focus on the flamboyant minority are guilty of selective perception—or do so to justify a view they already hold about Gays.

J.C. acknowledges that he does not like being Gay. He reports that he tried to "be" heterosexual but says he failed, incidentally inflicting emotional pain on several women in the process. (So much for wanting people to be nicer to one another.) He says he would choose to be heterosexual in a minute, but he cannot help himself.

So one suspects that no amount of accurate or supportive images or examples of gays from the outside world can help him, because he is committed to his own view of homosexuality as an involuntary deficiency and inadequacy, even a sign of his own failure. How, he asks self-pityingly, could it be thought that Gays choose to be

Gay when they are held up as a "constant object of hatred and ridicule."

But, contrary to the fears of most people in the closet, most of us who are openly Gay experience little hatred and ridicule. People almost always treat you pretty much the way you indicate you expect to be treated. We may suspect that the hatred and ridicule that J.C. fears are largely in his own mind. He must be exquisitely sensitive to every nuance—every playful Gay joke, every merely political attack, every casual put-down of Gays—because he has no defenses against them: no sense of his own dignity as a Gay man, no sense of his own psychological health, no strength of soul.

But to achieve genuine self-esteem, to feel good about any aspect of yourself, you have to put it to use to accomplish something, make it contribute to your own flourishing or well-being. But until J.C. can come to see-to experience-being gay as a potential for achieving those things he can see as good and valuable and even noble, he is likely to remain in the same self-pitying condition, conducting his life to please the uninformed opinions of others, and left all alone to bewep his outcast fate.

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## California man testifies he had sex with scout volunteer who wants gays banned

SAN DIEGO, Friday, April 8 (AP)—A man testifying in the civil case of the Boy Scouts ban on gays said he had sex with the high-ranking Scout volunteer who had testified homosexuality is "contrary to the laws of God."

Another man testified Thursday he saw the Scout volunteer, Christopher Leach, in a gay X-rated adult video store. Leach had testified last month that the Scout oath promising to be "morally straight" means that homosexuals should be barred from the organization.

The civil case was brought by El Cajon police Officer Chuck Merino, 38, who was ousted from leading a Boy Scouts Explorer post in August 1992 after he publicly acknowledged his homosexuality.

Merino's attorney, Everett Bobbitt, said he called the two witnesses to the stand because he wanted to show the flaws in the Scout's policy of prohibiting homosexuals.

Merino wants to be reinstated as leader of the Explorer post affiliated with the El

Cajon Police Department.

J. Mark Crouse of San Diego testified that he recognized Leach from a photograph in the newspaper that appeared with an article about his testimony in the Boy Scout case.

He said he first met Leach at an adult bookstore in fall 1990 and saw him on and off for a month. Crouse said he saw Leach again in the spring of 1991 at a bathhouse patronized by gay men.

"Sometimes we would have sex together, sometimes we would not. Sometimes we would just talk," Crouse said.

Under questioning by a Boy Scouts lawyer, George Davidson, Crouse denied he had an interest in Merino winning his case against the Boy Scouts.

Leach's lawyer, Michael Edwards, said Leach, his wife and children went to Utah after receiving numerous harassing phone calls that followed news reports of his testimony.

"I thought it was pretty slimy," Edwards said of yesterday's testimony.

"They run the man and his family out of town and then they do a hatchet job on him."

Another witness, Len Potter, said he saw Leach at a gay X-rated video store about two years ago. He said Leach covered his face with his hand and Potter followed him to the back of the store.

"He was embracing another man, mutual fondling, touching," Potter said.

Leach, a member of the local scouting organization's governing board, had testified that he had been involved with the Boy Scouts almost all his life and would resign if homosexuals were allowed to become members.

"I do not want an openly gay individual teaching my children," Leach testified. "I'm afraid they will become exposed to a lifestyle with which I disagree."

Superior Court Judge Anthony indicated he would rule on the case in about two weeks.

### THEATER LaB HOUSTON PRESENTS

## MY CHILDREN! MY AFRICA!

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Boy Toys Strip, Strut  
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**WEDNESDAY**  
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Sizzle Strip Contest With  
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10:30pm

**THURSDAY**  
Boy Toy Dancers 5pm - 1am



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## Gay event raises \$20,000 for Kennedy; Pet Patrol to hold Dip Day at Basic Brothers



Sen. Edward Kennedy, left, and his wife Vicki, were honored at a fundraising dinner in Houston hosted by Charles Armstrong, right, and Frank Campisi

### QUICK NOTES

Sen. Edward M. Kennedy (D-Mass.) and his wife, Vicki, were the guests of honor last Wednesday, April 6 at a fete in Houston, put together by local Gay and Lesbian professionals and business leaders. The \$500-per-plate dinner, a fundraiser for the senator's reelection, was hosted by Frank Campisi and Charles Armstrong at Tony's Restaurant Wine cellar.

The event, which raised over \$20,000, was attended by doctors, lawyers, politicians and

business owners from the Houston Gay/Lesbian community.

"As we pointed out in remarks during the event, (Sen. Kennedy) has always been there for the Gay community," said Campisi. "He has been a leader in educating Congress on the subject of AIDS and his interest in women's health issues is well known. he has always been a stalwart leader in pushing equal rights and civil rights legislation for all people."

### Dog Dip

The Pet Patrol and the staff of Basic Brothers

invite all dog owners in the community to bring their "best friend" to the Patrol's first Dip Day and pet food drive of the year.

The flea dip and food drive will be held Sunday, April 24, between 10:00 a.m. and 1:00 p.m. in the parking lot at Basic Brothers, 1232 Westheimer. Pet owners are asked to bring the required leash, collar and towel; the Patrol will supply the dip (sorry, no cats). Pet Patrol clients and volunteers get in free; others are asked to donate \$5 or the equivalent in pet food to benefit

the Pet Patrol, a non-profit organization whose volunteers care for pets in the homes of persons with HIV/AIDS. Donations help defray the costs of veterinary care, city registration, spaying and neutering, pet food, supplies and flea control. Volunteers provide grooming, in-home assistance or foster care for pets, hospital visitations with the pet and friendship to both owner and pet.

For more information, contact The Pet Patrol, 522-1954 or Fred, 529-2272.

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**IN MEMORY OF**



**PHILLIP J. BLEYENBERG**  
Born: September 9, 1957  
Died: April 8, 1994

Born in Kansas City, and a resident of Houston since 1982, Phil died at Park Plaza Hospital after a long, courageous battle with AIDS. Phil was one of those rare people who could maintain a positive attitude and fighting spirit long after most would have given up. Among his interests in life were blue water, computers (aka-Phil-Anderer and Philatio on local BBS's), theater, gardening and the meta-physical.

Phil is survived in Kansas City by his parents and four brothers. His is survived in Houston by his lover, Wayne; his two kitties, Rosalind and Russell; and a host of friends including Bill, Pam, Mo, J.D. and Scott who were always there with love and helping hands.

A memorial service will be held at the Church of the Holy Spirit (Episcopal), 12535 Perthshire, on Friday, April 15 at 7:00 p.m. In lieu of flowers, donations may be made to The Assistance Fund.



**SHANNON L. KIRTS**  
Born: September 9, 1959  
Died: March 30, 1994

She was a very loving and caring person. She had many friends here and past. Lisa and Bob Jackson, Diane, Sandy, Heather and Monique Torres.

The world will miss you but the Heavens will love you.

Lisa & Bob



**JOHN PATRICK SHARP**

John Patrick Sharp, 29, died April 10, 1994. Survived by life partner, Thomas Goggins; parents Gene and Dona Sharp; sisters, Lawanna Mayfield, Gerri Briggs, and Jean Swauger; grandmother, Lawanna Goforth; numerous other relatives.

Funeral services are 11:00 a.m. Saturday, April 16, 1994 at Earthman Resthaven Chapel, 13102 North Freeway with Pastor Chris Chiles officiating. Interment: Earthman Resthaven Cemetery.

**JEFF CAMPBELL**

Jeff Campbell, the executive director of New Orleans' Task Force until April 1993, died of AIDS related complications April 7, 1994. Mr. Campbell died at his French Quarter home. He was 48. The NO/AIDS Task Force is Louisiana's oldest and largest AIDS service agency. Campbell took over the executive director's job in 1989. During his tenure the agency grew from eight employees to forty-five, and the annual budget grew from \$450,000 to \$2.5 million. Campbell said in a 1992 interview, "My job is growing because of the good work my staff is doing, that is good. But sadly it is also growing because of the pandemic growth of this disease."

Mr. Campbell was gay and spearheaded efforts to move AIDS awareness out of the closet and into the main stream. The fastest growing population of new infections nationwide is among heterosexual women. Larry Bagneris, Jr., a long time employee of NO/AIDS speaking at a memorial service held for Mr. Campbell last week at the Bultman Funeral Home in New Orleans said, "I have lost a close personal friend, and this community has not only lost a leader it has a lost a great friend." Mr. Campbell became involved in AIDS awareness in the early 1980's while executive director of the Epilepsy Association of North Carolina. He did similar work in Los Angeles prior to moving to New Orleans.

He was born in Houston, Mississippi and reared in North Carolina. He graduated from the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill in 1968.

Survivors include his parents, Blum Wilford Campbell and Annie Laurette Couch Campbell of Union Grove, North Carolina; a sister, Susan Elizabeth Campbell Templeton of Union Grove; and three brothers, Charles Gilliam Campbell of Union Grove, Eddie Wallace Campbell of Yadkin County, N.C., and Gerald Clifton Campbell of Harmony, N.C. Besides the New Orleans memorial service, a private funeral service will be held April 17 in Union Grove. Burial will be in the Zion Baptist Church Cemetery in Union Grove.

**Key AIDS researcher says scientists need boost in search for vaccine**

By **ALEXANDER G. HIGGINS**  
FOR THE HOUSTON VOICE

GENEVA, Sunday, April 10 (AP)—The development of an AIDS vaccine is essential if the epidemic is to be controlled, but scientists are discouraged by the complexity of the task and the politics surrounding the disease, a top researcher said.

"HIV vaccine development today is truly at a crossroads," Dr. Peter Piot, director of AIDS research at the Geneva-based World Health Organization, said in a speech prepared for delivery at Biotech 94, an AIDS conference in Florence, Italy.

Piot, speaking Sunday at the opening session, said "a tremendous collaborative effort" by government, industry, researchers and developing countries is needed "if we are ever to have a vaccine that can also be used in the developing world."

But researchers are discouraged by the complexity of the challenge and by the politics of testing and delivering a vaccine for HIV, the AIDS virus. "They say the science is not there yet, and the politics are complicated," Piot said.

Variations in the virus, which has appeared with the greatest diversity in Asia and Africa, presents a major challenge to researchers, he said. Any vaccine must protect against all or most subtypes of the virus, he said.

The World Health Organization wants to ensure that vaccines are appropriate for use in developing countries and that Third World countries have scientifically and ethically sound ways to evaluate the vaccines, he said.

Piot said industry and science are making a tremendous effort to develop an AIDS vaccine, but "we must intensify and extend our efforts, especially in basic research and vaccine development, to reach this goal as soon as possible," he said.

Piot said vaccines should be tested as soon as possible, given the millions of lives at stake. WHO is helping Third World countries prepare for testing, he said.

WHO estimates that well over 15 million people have been infected with HIV since the start of the epidemic in the 1980s.

More than 9 million infections have occurred in Africa, 2 million in Asia and 1.5 million in Latin America, Piot said. About 350,000 AIDS cases have been reported in the United States.



## Houston's HCRN among recipients of first Stadtlanders Foundation grants; 'Raise the Rainbow' planned as major fundraiser

### QUICK NOTES

The Houston Community Research Network is among 43 AIDS service organizations which will receive support for HIV/AIDS treatment from The Stadtlanders Foundation HIV/AIDS Community Grant Fund in its initial grant cycle. In all, the Foundation awarded a total of \$100,000.

Other Texas organizations chosen to receive funds were Dallas' AIDS Resource Center and Oak Lawn Community Services; the San Antonio AIDS Foundation and the Southwest AIDS Committee Inc. of El Paso.

The Stadtlanders Foundation was established by Stadtlanders Pharmacy in 1993 to provide support to charitable endeavors which improve quality of life for individuals living with chronic health conditions. The initial \$100,000 in grant funds was donated by the pharmacy, a national company specializing in serving the needs of patients with AIDS and other chronic conditions.

The organizations funded come from across the nation and reflect the many faces of AIDS today, their service projects ranging from meal delivery for homebound PWAs to nutrition counseling, treatment newsletters, and educational workshop. Over \$1 million dollars in grant applications from nearly 200 organizations were received by the newly-formed foundation, stressing the desperate need for AIDS funding at the grass roots

level, foundation representatives said.

It is in response to the demand and to help meet these dramatic needs that the private foundation recently launched the "Raise the Rainbow" fund raising project. A one-mile long rainbow flag will be carried up 5th Avenue in New York City this June 26 as part of the Stonewall 25 March, with marchers making a tax-deductible contribution of \$50 each to take part in the historic event and receive a 30-foot wide commemorative strip of the flag following the event. Because all costs for the flag are underwritten by Stadtlanders Pharmacy, every dollar donated by marchers will go directly to the Stadtlanders Foundation's HIV/AIDS Community Grant Fund, to be awarded in grants to AIDS service organizations this fall, representatives said.

Bart Casimir, president of the National Association for People With AIDS (NAPWA) and a member of the foundation's advisory board, commented: "I believe America cares about AIDS, but not enough, and mostly in the abstract. Through Raise the Rainbow, the Stadtlanders Foundation is forging a public partnership that blends caring with results, and in doing so, helps to meet the real needs of people with HIV and AIDS."

The project aims to raise \$500,000 for AIDS charities nation wide. To register to participate, or for more information, call 1-800-NYC-1994.



Gilbert Baker (center) oversees volunteers helping to build mile-long rainbow flag in the Raise the Rainbow workshop in New York City (Photo by Mick Hicks/Boston)



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## Ice Picks resume monthly ice skate gatherings; LRC plans festival outdoor skate; Summer bowling leagues kicking off

### SPORTS NOTES

The Montrose Ice Picks are restarting their monthly Gay and Lesbian ice skating get togethers at the Galleria Ice Rink, 5015 Westheimer, next Thursday, April 21. The skates run from 8:00 p.m. to 10:00 p.m. and the admission is \$5 plus \$2 for skates.

The rink is also open to the general public, so Lesbian and Gay skaters are urged to wear red this month, or Gay/Lesbian organization or club T-shirts.

For more information or to get on the free Montrose Ice Picks mailing list, call Angel at (713) 630-0707. Those who need rides can meet at E/J's, 2517 Ralph Street at Westheimer between 7:00 and 7:30 p.m.

### Roller Skating

The Lambda Rollerskating Club will hold its next Skate Night at Hobby Skate World (off I-45/Monroe), from 7:30-10:30 p.m. Tuesday, April 19. Admission of \$5 includes skates and raffle ticket.

Skaters are asked to please note that this will be the last LRC skate that will be held at Hobby Skate World. As of May, 1994, the club will be skating every first, third and fifth Monday at the Dairy Ashford Roller Rink, off I-10 and Dairy Ashford.

An outdoor skate in Memorial Park is planned for Friday, April 15 (weather permitting). Also, on Sunday, April 17 there will be a special "Art festival skate in Montrose." Meet behind Heaven, in the parking lot, at 1:00 p.m.

For more information on any of these events call Keith at 933-5818 or Ray at 862-4875.

### Bowling Standings

Following are the weekly standings in the Houston Gay Bowling leagues:

The Houston Thursday Night Mixers League championship was won by Luci's Loosies. Coming in second was Cheaper Than therapy, and third was Tops and Bottoms. High Scratch Game of 244 for the men was bowled by Dean Ainsworth and series of 638 by Mace Adams. Andrea Black bowled the High Scratch Game of 212 for the women, and the series of 582 was bowled by Marla Aizenshtat.

The Summer League begins April 21 at Emerald Lanes on Boone Rd. For information, call Mace Adams at 432-7239.

The new Inner Loop Alternative League got off to a great start Sunday evening with 64 bowlers (16 teams). If you missed the first night, it's not too late to join. New teams can still be formed this week. Call 522-9612 for information, or come to Palace Lanes on Bellaire Blvd. at 6:30 p.m. Sunday, April 17.

The Montrose Monday Nite Men's League resumes play at Fairlanes Southway on Monday, April 18. Call Gardy Harvey at 641-5424 for information.

The Monday Nite Women's League resumes play at Fairlanes Southway on Monday, April 18 as well. Call Pat DeCarlo at 437-6218 for information.

## Crossed wires: long distance companies appear headed for court battle

By **KIMBERLY GRIFFIN**  
*Windy City Times*

A heated legal battle may be brewing between Community Spirit, the company marketing long distance service to gays and lesbians nationwide, and Trans National Communications, their former long distance re-seller.

The two companies began sparring publicly in late February, shortly after Community Spirit broke off contract negotiations with TNC, ending its relationship with the company that provided billing, customer support and other services for Community Spirit's clients. Community Spirit, which was launched last year after the March on Washington, then moved its customers to another long-distance re-seller, Americonnect, said Jeff Vitale, president of the Chicago-based Community Spirit.

Last Friday, however, Vitale learned that the company's more than 20,000 long-distance customers had been switched back to TNC, based in Boston. Eric McNulty, a TNC spokesperson, acknowledged that "the customers are all with us." But a matter of dispute, which will likely be settled in federal court, is whether the customers belong to Community Spirit or to TNC.

In the meantime, TNC has announced the launch of The Pride Network, its own long-distance program for the gay and

lesbian community. The base they're starting with, McNulty said, is the customers they served for Community Spirit. As with Community Spirit, customers would be allowed to choose AIDS and gay and lesbian organizations to receive a 2 percent donation from their monthly bill. The money will be disbursed quarterly, McNulty said.

In the initial round of press releases issued by the embattled companies, TNC attacked Community Spirit for not having disbursed checks to the charitable organizations customers had chosen. Vitale said Community Spirit had not received reports from TNC indicating how much money should be sent out and to which organizations. Last week, checks were sent to a total of 1053 community organizations, Vitale said.

"Our goal," Community Spirit's Vitale said last week, "is to make sure that everybody understands the companies are not the same. There is an attempt by Trans National to steal our traffic."

Community Spirit sent all of its customers a lengthy letter April 2 attempting to explain the goings-on. TNC followed shortly thereafter with a mailing to the customers announcing a change of name from Community Spirit to The Pride Network, which is not the case, Vitale said. The net result, he said, has been hordes of confused customers jamming the customer

service lines with questions. On Monday alone Community Spirit handled 1200 calls.

"We're in the process of getting people moved back (to Community Spirit), but we were taken quite by surprise by TNC's move," Vitale said.

McNulty said last week that TNC had contacted most of Community Spirit's commercial customers—about 600—and nearly all opted to stay with TNC as their long-distance provider. The company planned to contact the residential customers-to persuade them to stay with TNC, he said. But by the end of last week, all the customers had been involuntarily switched from Americonnect to TNC.

Vitale characterized the latest development as "an unprecedented infringement."

Long-distance re-sellers like TNC and Americonnect act as "middlemen" of sorts, purchasing bulk quantities of long distance time at wholesale costs from, in this case, Sprint, and then offering slightly reduced rates to their customers. Community Spirit's contract with Americonnect differs from that with TNC, Vitale said, in that Community Spirit has assumed control over virtually all operating procedures except for negotiating with Sprint to purchase the long distance time. Community Spirit now has control of pricing, debt collection, customer service, and many other tasks previously performed by TNC, he said.

"We decided it's really something we had to handle in-house," said Vitale, who employs a staff of 14 at both Overlooked Opinions and Community Spirit. The employees have been working 12 to 15 hour days during the past few months, handling the transfer of services in-house and processing payments to the more than 1000 organizations set to receive donations, he said.

"It's because people are committed," he said. "They're fighting to keep this thing going."

Vitale said he is appalled at TNC's claim that they are entitled to Community Spirit's customer base.

"The whole program is marketed in and began in the gay and lesbian community," he said. "The whole thing would be fraudulent if Trans National were the owners."

A survey conducted earlier this year by Community Spirit found that 84 percent of its customers said they wouldn't have switched to the carrier if it weren't gay-owned and operated, and 79 percent said they wouldn't have switched without the option to donate 2 percent of their bills to community organizations, Vitale said.

"We are not gay or lesbian-owned," TNC's McNulty said, "but we consider ourselves gay-friendly. We have many openly gay people working in our organization, and we're

active locally in publicly supporting organizations like AIDS Action...Americonnect is not gay-owned or operated either."

McNulty said TNC denies the charges leveled against them in Community Spirit's most recent press release, issued April 2, including allegations that TNC infringed on Community Spirit's trademark during telemarketing calls and refused to provide them with the proper reports.

Community Spirit also attacked TNC for cutting off the long-distance service of Bruce, a man living with AIDS, four days before Christmas over an unpaid \$15 bill. McNulty said that without more information about the man's last name or phone number, he could not comment on the particular incident.

"About 70 to 80 percent of our customers are billed through the local phone company," McNulty said, "so it could have been the local phone company who cut them off. We have offered payment plans to some people...It's a last, last step to cut somebody service off."

Vitale said he expected hearings to be held within the next few weeks on TNC's request for a restraining order to bar Community Spirit from transferring customers to another long distance company.

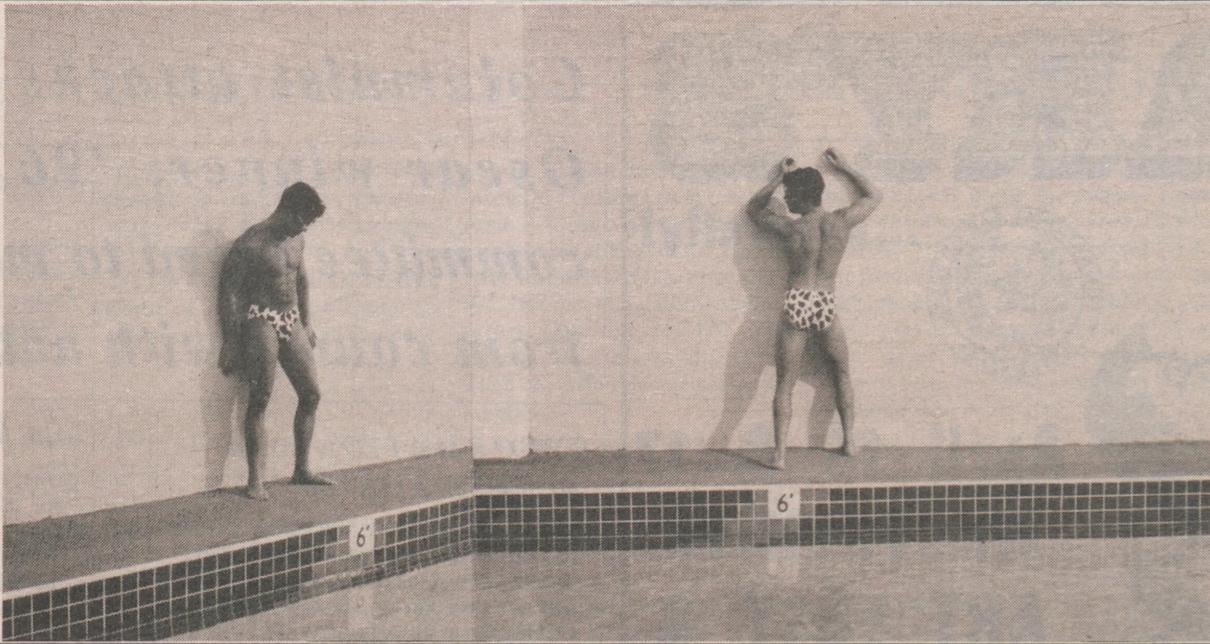
"I expect a full-blown war," Vitale said.

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## *Trial ordered in slaying of gay Pennsylvania lounge musician*

SMITHTON, Pa., Friday, April 8 (AP)—A gay-rights activist called for peace after hearing a couple testify how their friend visited their home at night with blood on his hands and said he had beaten a homosexual man who later died.

Witnesses said Thursday that Edward Steckman died two hours after his head and face were pummeled March 27 in Smithton, which is about 20 miles south of Pittsburgh.

The defendant, 17-year-old Samuel Sethman, told police he struck Steckman because the man made advances toward him, including asking him to go to a bar and pinching his buttocks. He has been charged as an adult.

"This is a society that we all have to live together in. Regardless of our differences, we cannot go around beating the dickens and killing people just because they're gay," said Chris Young, a member of the League of Gay and Lesbian Voters.

He attended Sethman's preliminary hearing, which ended with a magistrate ordering Sethman tried on a homicide charge. The defendant's attorney, John DeBaradinis, said Sethman did not intend to kill Steckman.

Two of Sethman's friends, William and Tracy Shanz, lived a block from the street where Steckman was found. They said Sethman had blood on his hands and clothing when he knocked on their window one night.

"I popped a microwave dinner in the microwave, and the next thing I knew, there was knocking at the window. It was Sam," Mrs. Shanz said. "He said he had beat up a faggot. My husband gave him some paper towels to wipe his hands off, and I took off in my car" to check on Steckman.

Steckman, 47, left New York City two years ago to care for his sick mother in his hometown of Smithton. He was a regular piano player in several Pittsburgh taverns. Sethman lived in nearby Jacobs Creek and did not know Steckman before March 27.

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## *Columnist attacks 'weepy' Oscar winner; '96 Olympic committee urged to move events from county with anti-Gay law*

### **INFORMATION and ACTION FORUM**

Syndicated columnist Mike Royko (Tribune Media Services), no stranger to homophobic rantings, hit a new low with his column on this year's Academy Awards, which ran in the Houston Chronicle's "Outlook" section Sunday, April 3. In what he framed as a lament on the "depressing" character of this year's Oscar winners, Royko devoted the bulk of his comments, eight paragraphs, to attacking Tom Hanks' emotional acceptance speech. (Hanks won the Best Actor Oscar for his role as an attorney with AIDS in Philadelphia). Royko called Hanks' plea for a reasoned response to AIDS "one of the worst displays of incoherent, weepy blubbering that I have ever seen or heard" (an interesting irony, to anyone vaguely familiar with this "humorist's" fare).

He went on to note that when Anthony Hopkins won an Oscar "for playing a loony who killed and ate people, he didn't stand there weeping and blubbering about victims of serial killers or any murder victims at all." Similarly, Royko opined, recipients of awards for "The Godfather" didn't shed tears for "the many widows and orphans of those bumped off by Mafia thugs."

But in another paragraph, this writer showed the true root of his discontent: "...had he really wanted to give us something original, he might have said, 'we should call on the government to shut down the Gay bathhouses in San Francisco and all over, where irresponsible individuals pass the disease around. I mean, if we can browbeat smokers with taxes and social condemnation, what about self-absorbed people who bring health problems on themselves, then blame society for it.'"

As of our press deadline this week, not one letter directly addressing the homophobia, AIDS-phobia and misinformation in this column had run in the Houston Chronicle. We wonder if Royko's local readers shouldn't be asked to consider whether any of the extras or bit players in "Silence of the Lambs" and "Godfather" extras and incidental actors, after meeting and working with the leads during the movies' filming, died at the hands of serial killers or organized crime figures, and if such might have given those actors a more personal or emotional perspective. Write: Viewpoints, Houston Chronicle, P.O. Box 4260, Houston, Texas 77210, or fax: (713) 220-6575. (Note: Name and full address are required for verification).

### *A Gold Medal in Bigotry?*

Billy Payne, President of the Atlanta Committee for the Olympic Games (ACOG), has publicly responded to protests concerning the 1996 Olympic events scheduled to be held in Cobb County, a county which has enacted hate legislation that condemns Lesbians and Gays. Since passage of that legislation, there has been a documented increase in hate crimes and Neo-Nazi/KKK activities in Cobb, according to the Gay and Lesbian Alliance Against Defamation. Various individuals and organizations have asked, with no success, that the Olympics Committee join in a boycott of Cobb County.

In a meeting with the editorial boards of the Atlanta Journal and Constitution, Payne was asked: "But if you learned, for example, that Cobb County did not welcome black people, would that make a difference in your decision?" Payne's response: "First of all, I don't think there is an analogy between African-Americans, who are minorities legally and given protection, and Gays and Lesbians who have not yet attained that legal status."

Contact Billy Payne, President, ACOG, P.O. Box 1996, Atlanta, GA 30301-1996, tel. (404) 224-1901, fax (404) 224-1969; Juan Antonio Samaranch, President, International Olympic Committee, Chateau de Vidy, CH-1007, Lausanne, Switzerland, fax 011-41-21-624-1552. For more information, contact the Olympics Out of Cobb Coalition, P.O. Box 77341, Atlanta, GA. 30357-1351, tel. (404) 798-7822. (Source: GLAAD Media Watch)

### *NGLTF Publications*

The National Gay and Lesbian Task Force has recently released several new publications that may assist activists in their work. The Health Policy Project has released "The Clinton Health Security Act Analysis" (20 pg., \$5); the Anti-Violence project has released "Anti-Gay/Lesbian Violence, Victimization and Defamation in 1993," (54 pg., \$7); and the Fight the Right Project has issued "A Survey of Voters' Attitudes about Gay-related Questions," (21 pg., \$3) and "Resource List of groups Fighting Anti-Gay Initiatives (5 pg., free).

For copies, write to NGLTF Publication Dept., 1734 Fourteenth Street NW, Washington, DC 20009; or call (202) 332-6483 ext. 3327.

## **Federal judge grants injunction in suit challenging military's gay policy**

NEW YORK, Tuesday, April 5 (AP)—A federal judge ruled that six homosexuals who sued over the Pentagon's "don't ask, don't tell" policy cannot be kicked out of the service until the case is decided.

U.S. Judge Eugene Nickerson issued the ruling Monday on behalf of five men and a woman who challenged the constitutionality of the policy on March 7.

The policy allows gays to serve in the military as long as they are discreet about their homosexuality.

One of the plaintiffs, Coast Guard Petty Officer Robert Heigl, was notified last month that he would be discharged. The others feared that participating in the case could itself get them thrown out of the military.

"There is a serious question as to whether a regulation goes beyond what is reasonably necessary to protect any possible government interest when it inhibits six service members from continuing to speak in court to make a constitutional challenge," Nickerson said.

Under the new Pentagon policy, recruiters are not supposed to question men and women about their sexual orientation, and military officials are not supposed to try to ferret out suspected homosexuals.

The lawsuit alleges the policy violates homosexuals' right to free speech and equal protection under the law and is no better than the outright ban that preceded it.



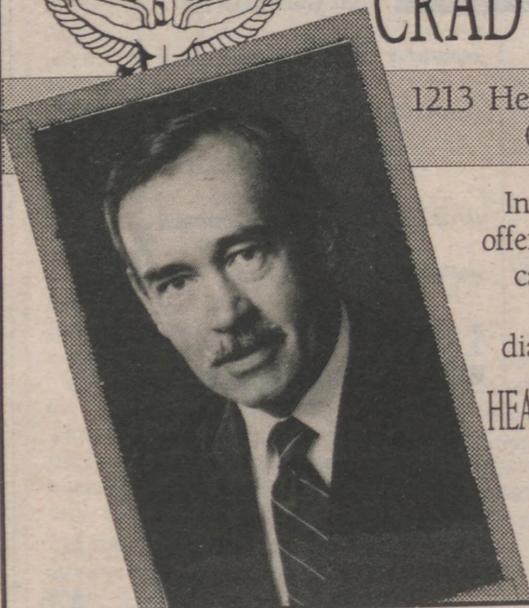
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# Local cases focus attention on jury selection and anti-Gay, AIDS bias

By **SHERI COHEN DARBONNE**  
*Houston Voice Editor*

Media coverage of two recent court cases has opened a debate on the issues of asking jurors questions involving bias against people with AIDS or Gays and Lesbians.

Last week, a state criminal appeals court addressed the question directly, ruling that the attorney for a Gay man with AIDS should have been allowed to question suspected jurors about their prejudices involving the disease.

As well, statements made to prospective jurors by one of the

attorneys in a high profile civil lawsuit stirred a small controversy when they came to light this week.

In the first case, the 1st District Court of Appeals last Thursday threw out a 180-day jail sentence assessed by a jury to Sam W. Ryan, a Houston PWA who was found guilty last year of failing to stop after hitting a parked car.

Ryan's attorney said his client had panicked because he had been drinking and had a history of multiple DWI convictions.

The court said a new jury should determine punishment for Ryan because his attorney, James Kuhn, was not allowed by Crimi-

nal Court-At-Law Judge Michael Peters to question jurors about their possible bias. The appeals court agreed with Kuhn that failure to allow the line of questioning when jurors were selected left open the chance of bias against Ryan when the panel decided his punishment.

"I was shocked, in a way, because I'd questioned (jury panels) before about these things, and I'd never had a judge restrict me before," said Kuhn. "I've asked the same questions, about bias against Gay people and people with AIDS, with other judges."

"I suppose (Judge Peters) thought I was going for sympathy, looking for leniency because of (Ryan's) medical condition, but I just wanted to take people off the panel who were biased. Because there is bias...some people don't even want to be in the same room with someone who has AIDS," Kuhn said.

Though noticeably in a confused mental state, Ryan, currently hospitalized in Houston's Park Plaza Hospital, was more direct. "I think the judge had a bias himself, I think he's homophobic," he said. "(AIDS bias) should be considered, and

those people should at least have been allowed to know the condition I'm in. If I were to go to jail, I'd die, I know that for a fact."

The District Attorney this week appealed the ruling to the state's Court of Criminal Appeals, a move that also surprised Kuhn.

"It's not very common in a case like this," he said. However, he noted, at least pending the appeal Ryan, will not be in jail. "It could take a year or more for this to get to (the Court of Criminal Appeals)," Kuhn said. Ryan may not survive the wait, he said. (Continued on following page)

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## Rev. Ralph Lasher

was an Episcopal priest who was asked to resign from the church 35 years ago after he announced he was gay. He is Executive Director of Houston's Montrose Clinic and serves as a member of the pastoral staff at MCCR. Rev. Lasher last year was published in the *Texas Observer* and recently had an article in the new *Houston Out Smart Magazine*.



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## Comments to jury pool by attorney in civil suit sparked some debate

(Continued from previous page)

At the center of a separate discussion on jury questioning issues is Joel Androphy, part of the three-member volunteer team that won a \$175,000 judgment for Lawrence White against his former care giver, the director of a local AIDS foundation.

In an interview this week, Androphy said he was "amazed" to hear from a colleague that he had been criticized for admitting to prospective jurors, in the course of trying to select the least biased, that he understood himself understood disapproval of "the homosexual lifestyle."

"It was really amazing to me...I never would have thought that people would take this negatively," Androphy said. "My responsibility was to win this case for Lawrence White, and, let's face it, (anti-Gay) bias is out there. It's there."

Androphy, like the character Denzel Washington played in the movie "Philadelphia," made a point of telling prospective jurors that he was married, and the father of two children. He also said that he "disapproved of homosexuality."

Later, he would reflect that perhaps "disapproved" was too strong a word. He pointed out that he has represented, and later befriended, other Gay and transgendered people.

"If I disapproved in the way people have tried to suggest, why would I even have taken on Lawrence White's case? I may not agree with someone's lifestyle, but it doesn't affect my personal or professional relations with others. You don't have to be Gay to represent a Gay person. You should be able to set aside your feelings, whether you approve or disapprove."

With White and the AIDS factor, Androphy freely admitted to an initial "apprehension." And even in defending it, he revealed a glimmer of the widespread bias he had already acknowledged: "(White) was the first AIDS patient I'd had to meet with in his home," he said; and, reminded that over-

whelming medical evidence shows HIV is not spread by casual contact, he commented, "I'm also aware that (the medical/scientific community) can change their minds about something after a few years, and say they were wrong."

But Androphy said he and the other attorneys took a personal interest in White's plight, helping him when he had no one else to turn to. "I brought him Thanksgiving dinner, because no one else was with him, no one brought him anything," he said. "I brought



Houston attorney Joel Androphy (Photo by Amber Ratisseau)

him a Christmas tree. Me and the other attorneys brought him books. This guy was all by himself.

"The issue in this case was not Lawrence White's lifestyle, or that he was Gay. The issue was that he was sick, and he'd been victimized and taken advantage of," he said.

A major issue in the questioning, however, was the bias of society, and how that might affect the jury's decision, Androphy said he believed.

"I wasn't going to close my eyes to what the reality is. There is a division within society about homosexuality...my job as a lawyer,

is to win. You have to assume that they're all prejudiced (on the panel)," he said.

Others, however, disagreed that the tactic was necessary.

Ken Broughton, another member of the team that represented White, said he felt Androphy's "playing to" a perceived bias was not necessary to select a fair panel. He noted that members of the jury in the case said after the trial they did not address the issue of sexual orientation in their deliberations.

Mitchell Katine, openly Gay Houston attorney and chair of the Houston Bar Association's subcommittee on AIDS, said he thought the line of questioning was "inappropriate" under the circumstances.

Katine, however, agreed that bias against Gays and people with AIDS is widespread and said it has influenced the outcome of jury trials.

"I think it was inappropriate (of Androphy) to tell the jury his sexual orientation. It's nobody's business whether an attorney representing a Gay or HIV positive person is Gay or HIV-positive," Katine said. "If he felt it was necessary to say that he was married and a father, because most people are biased...what does that say for those of us who are Gay? What should we do?"

Katine said he received calls after a story on the case, in which Androphy was quoted, ran on the front page of the Houston Chronicle. "People were objecting, because (Androphy) has a reputation as a relatively liberal lawyer. For him to make a statement that he disapproved of homosexuality, that was surprising," he said.

Androphy, Katine noted, is a scheduled speaker at a "roundtable" on AIDS issues this weekend, sponsored by the HBA committee in cooperation with local AIDS organizations. About 80 local legal professionals are expected to attend the event, organized before the trial and subsequent publicity and titled, ironically, "HIV In A Society of Social Stigma and Media Hype."

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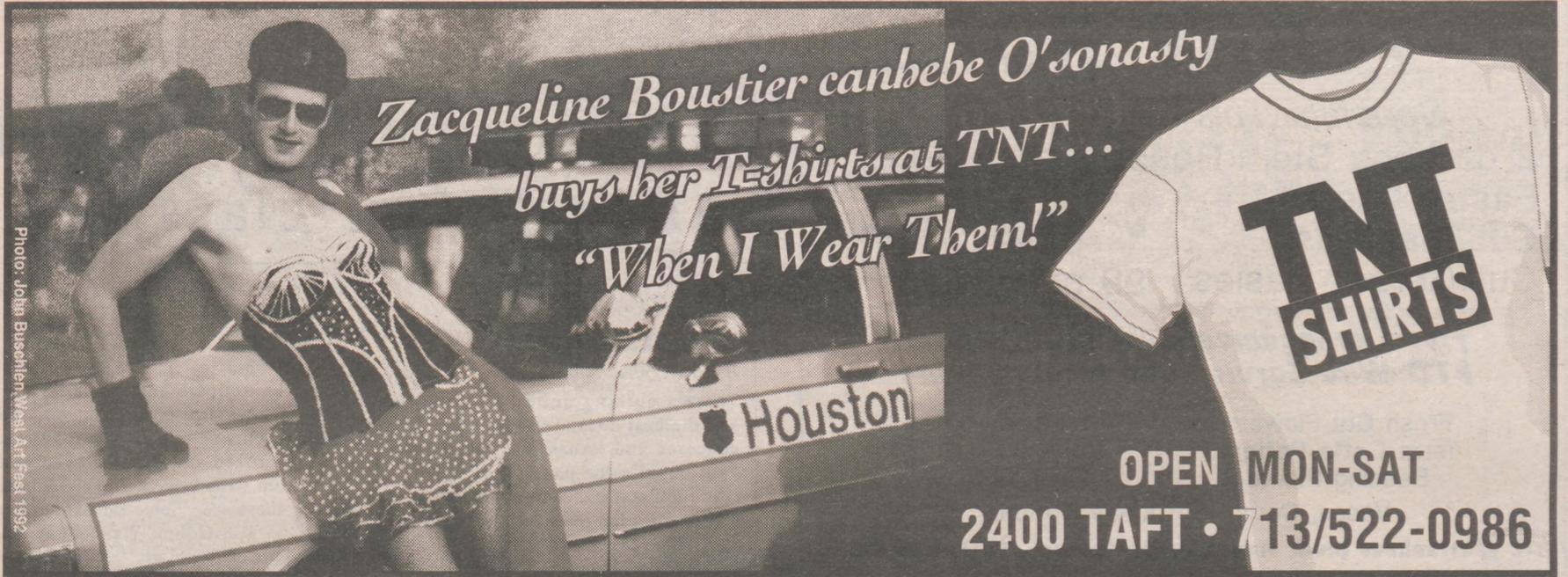
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Photo: John Bueschlen, West Art, Feb. 1992

## The AIDS war goes on amid tears and hopes

### YOURS TRULY IN A SWAMP

By LEONARD EARL JOHNSON  
*Houston Voice/New Orleans*

Everyone has seen the ads. They run virtually every lesbian/gay publication in America. They also run in most of the nation's daily newspapers and glossy magazines. In each of them a singular figure is featured looking introspective, saying something about how they felt on learning they were HIV positive. Obviously not great.

This ad is called "Living With HIV" and gives one of these troublesome 800 telephone numbers written in letters that are easy to remember but hard to find on the keypad, along with the slogan "The Sooner You Take Control The Better."

The ads are paid for by local AIDS agencies along with national AIDS organizations and the Burroughs Wellcome Company. There has always been a controversy about these ads.

Burroughs Wellcome is the manufacturer of AZT, the expensive HIV-intervention drug developed with tax money but available only through Burroughs Wellcome. Better the drug and the ads than not, according to many. But not all. From the outset many claimed AZT was at best ineffective. Sadly, recent studies seem to support that disheartening idea.

Buddy Clark was a model used in many of those Burroughs Wellcome ads. Several years before his death he and I talked during a break from one of the many health conferences he regularly attended around the United States.

"We go out and show people you can live with this disease for a long period of time. The eighteen months, two years theory is out the window now because of early intervention, good care, good medical attention and the four L's: Learning to Live and Living to Learn."

Clark knew of what he spoke. He said that day, "I'm a seven year P.W.A. (Person With AIDS.)"

His work was exciting. People approached him with the unmistakable thrill of meeting a celebrity. "I didn't have to be an HIV individual to be a star, I was a star before I ever

became infected."

Clark told me he had been the 1962 American Legion national twirling champion. Under their sponsorship he visited New Orleans that year for Mardi Gras, and marched in the lead position at the Rex Parade.

"I was awfully good," he said smiling. "I've been an exhibitionist longer than most people have been alive."

Originally from Atlanta, Clark moved to New York City in 1975. In 1977, he moved to Washington, D.C. to take a "Presidential appointed position to the Regional Post Master General under the Carter Administration. I retired on disability in 1986. I was the first Federal employee to go out with AIDS on his personnel records as cause of disability retirement."

"I get a modeling fee from the agency that puts the ads together. I'm on the HIV advisory Board for Burroughs Wellcome. And I am the national PWA spokesperson for the company."

Clark had been working in the "Living With HIV" campaign for two years when we met. "I was the initial model. They wanted other people and I got them Janice, a heterosexual woman who's husband was an I.V. user; and this girl," he pointed to a picture of a young woman. "She was date raped and became infected."

Clark said he not paid directly by Burroughs Wellcome. "They provided the money for 'Life Link' to set up this booth and they take care of all our expenses. To help educate. I haven't seen any Bristol Meyers people here."

Bristol Meyers manufacturers DDI, a more recent HIV intervention drug. I pointed out they were later out of the gate and Clark repeated, "They are late out of the gate."

"Burroughs Wellcome has been involved in Community AIDS work for eight years," Clark said. "They spend a million dollars a day on AIDS research. Most people don't know that; but they will."

Clark meant we would all come to know more about AIDS because of promotional work like his. For that and other, sadder reasons Clark was speaking the truth. Buddy Clark died of AIDS related complications.

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# TUTS' 'South Pacific' well-done production of still-relevant classic

## THEATER REVIEW

By JAVIER TAMEZ  
Houston Voice/Houston

There's nothing quite like a classic, and the best ones are those addressing concerns and issues that remain relevant despite the passing of years. In "South Pacific," being presented by Theatre Under the Stars at the Music Hall, through April 24, the issue is prejudice.

This potentially volatile subject matter, made all the more remarkable when one considers its 1949 Broadway debut, is presented as the underlying obstacle to love and it is set against a backdrop of war.

As the story opens we meet Ensign Nellie Forbush (Cathy Rigby) a nurse who has developed a serious attraction to Emile de Becque (Vernon Hartman) an expatriate, French plantation owner, who has asked her to marry him.

A new arrival on the island is Marine Lieutenant Joseph Cable (Don Burroughs), who has been stationed on the small island with orders to conduct

with their hearts as they pray for a safe return for their missing loves.

Together with "Oklahoma!," "South Pacific" is widely acknowledged as Rodgers and Hammerstein's most successful collaboration. The musical contains some of the most readily recognized and most beloved numbers from Broadway history. Included among these are "Some Enchanted Evening," "I'm Gonna Wash That Man Right Out of My Hair," "I'm in Love with a Wonderful Guy" and "Younger Than Springtime."

With songs that make you tap your toes and sing under your breath and with a love story that confronts prejudice, "South Pacific" is undoubtedly one of the safer musicals for a company to mount. This being the case, it would have been easy to let this one ride out on its name, but TUTS' production cuts no corners. The sets by David Potts are grandly designed and include, for scenes on one of the islands, a wading pool fed by a small waterfall.

The acting ranges from the merely good to the exceptional. Cathy Rigby, no longer a surprise talent in musical thea-



Cathy Rigby as Nellie and Stephen Berger as Luther perform during a talent show in TUTS' "South Pacific"

reconnaissance missions on the Japanese fleet from a neighboring island. To accomplish this, however requires the assistance of someone familiar with the terrain, specifically Emile de Becque.

Emile adamantly refuses the American's request for assistance, saying he is unwilling to risk his future with Nellie. Having no success, Lt. Cable finds diversion on a souvenir—hunting foray. There he meets Liat (Cinderella Gatcheco), a beautiful Polynesian woman with whom he falls in love.

Prejudice rears its ugly head when Nellie discovers that Emile has two children from a previous marriage to a Tonganese native. Unable to understand love across racial barriers, Nellie rebuffs Emile's proposal. Lt. Cable faces the same dilemma when Liat's mother insists they will make a perfect husband and wife. He knows he loves Liat, but he is equally certain he cannot marry her, not a Polynesian.

With Emile no longer risking a future with Nellie, he agrees to accompany Lt. Cable on the reconnaissance mission. Radio communication makes the success of the mission clear, but then the two men are reported missing, and Nellie and Liat must separately struggle

ter since her nation wide tour as the lead in "Annie Get Your Gun," makes a strong showing as Nellie. Rigby has all the wholesomeness you could possibly want and she exudes a booming warmth that gives her a stature on stage ten times her size.

Vernon Hartman as Emile is splendid. He has a sweeping baritone that permeates the hall with its richness and flavor. Don Burroughs makes for a handsome and dashing Lt. Cable, while Cinderella Gatcheco is perfectly wide-eyed and diminutive as the dainty Liat.

Among the supporting cast, Stephen Berger does well as Luther Billis, a navy scalawag who jumps on money-making opportunities; Sharon Wilkins is great as the abundant Bloody Mary, singing the praises of island life and island wares. Carlos Compean as Abner and Stephen Hiltbrand as Stewpot, two of the enlisted men, also give noteworthy turns.

Director/choreographer Norb Joerder didn't try anything new here, and thank goodness for that. Some shows don't need improving, just sound directing and acting. And this is provided aplenty in "South Pacific." You'll leave with a smile.

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Parking Lot**Secret Tapes of Jesus': Minister Mike's stinging wit, talent live on**

By JAVIER TAMEZ

Houston Voice/Houston

We are all familiar, some of us painfully so, with the devastation that AIDS has particularly wrought on the artistic community. One such victim was Houstonian Michael Morrow who died on March 26, 1994.

Morrow only realized his artistry a few years ago. He inadvertently came across a program on Access Houston, entitled "Todd's Regret," which purported to show the deathbed conversion of an AIDS victim. His mother said in the video that she had prayed for her son to contract AIDS if that was the only way for him to find Jesus.

Galvanized by this pseudo-Christian crap, Morrow created Minister Mike and launched his own series of self-produced shows on Access Houston. "The Minister Mike Show" was a scathing satire of televangelists that so accurately parodied these frenzied malcontents that the original episode was mistaken by many for the real thing.

"The Minister Mike Show" proved to be one of the most popular, and controversial, offerings on public cable. And

it was only the forerunner of Morrow's blossoming talent as a satirist and screen/playwright.

His last completed work, "The Secret Tapes of Jesus: A Consciousness Comedy" is having its world premier as the initial production of the Westheimer Art Bar & Theatre and will be presented through April 30.

In "Secret Tapes," Morrow continued his barrage against reactionary fundamentalists and their shameless appropriation of religion to foster their own stifling sense of morals. The work is actually three vignettes that are tied together, and introduced in turn, by a narrator, Jesus (Tim Hanlon), who speaks before and after each of the scenes. This Jesus is far more a humanist that Bible thumpers would prefer to think. He talks of tolerance and understanding and proudly wears an oversized red ribbon.

Jesus speaks directly to the audience, and he explains that he has gathered some of his flock to relay to them "three from the Book of Life." Jesus appears pretty much as Western tradition has long depicted him, but he explains that

his appearance is merely for the benefit of his audience. Using what he calls hologram discs, Jesus presents three stories with which he hopes to impart a moral.

The first is called "Flo's Stable," and takes place today in a dressing room in the ladies' department at Neiman Marcus in Houston. Flo (Jenny Lee Wax) is trying on a variety of ensembles with her son, Milton (Joel Sandel) offering fashion advice as only a gay man could. Flo is a good ol' gal, nouveau riche in the extreme but fully aware that money buys genuflection if not outright respect. Milton is an outrageously flam-

boyant queen (is that redundant?), who was wearing "stiletto heels two days after he learned how to walk." Milton has vicious fun accosting Brenda (Mary Hooper), a snooty, though hopelessly out of her league, sales clerk.

Through a series of biting one-liners, we learn that Flo has participated in a vote at a prestigious local church. The vote was to decide whether or not the congregation should be split. Milton is aghast. The vote was organized by elements within the church objecting to the "progressive" views of some members of the congregation, and is intended to ostracize suspected Gays.

Though the characters are largely caricatures, their brief time on stage, makes this characterization far more permissible than if they were in a full length production. Milton's anger, Flo's exasperation and Brenda's cattiness mesh together in a sly, sometimes rapacious display of verbal repartee.

The second feature is called "Jenny Lies," and it takes a much more somber turn. It is set in a single cell in an unnamed Nazi concentration camp. Jenny (Lauren Lewis) is a lovely, young Jewish girl, who serves as a whore for the Nazi guards so that she may be spared the horrors of the camp. Jenny knows what she does, and she thanks God for her physical beauty which makes this possible. In nauseating fashion she flatters a Nazi captain (Colin McLetchie), who has taken a liking to her. The entire scene is unnerving and sickening, but Morrow makes his point (which Jesus spells out for us). Judgment is not reserved for us; situations dictate actions.

The final scene is based on the videotape Morrow saw of Todd and his conversion. It is called "Todd's Regret," and like the actual incident on which it is based, it is set in the Bible-backwater town of Palestine, Texas.

Todd (Sandel) has AIDS and is in the final stages of his life. His deathbed is surrounded by religious reminders such as scripture quotes above the headboard and a velvet painting of Jesus on the night stand. Fran (Wax) and Janice (Hooper) have set up a camcorder in Todd's bedroom to record their telling of how his soul was saved.

The two women sport towering beehive hairdos and their shrill presence borders on the nerve-racking. And the picture of these cackling shrews around a dying man is a powerful juxtaposition. In the course of making the recording the two harpies attempt to extract confessions from Todd. But in Morrow's rendition, Todd offers them only hard truth and sarcastic wit.

"The Secret Tapes of Jesus" is a dark satire that veritably bludgeons those religious misfits who claim to speak for the almighty. The play contained some of the best acting I've ever seen on a small stage. Tim Hanlon does a super job as Jesus. He already looks the part, and he carries himself and delivers his lines in an unforced and pleasant fashion.

Joel Sandel is just great. There have been many plays with effeminate characters before, but none played like this. Too many times, the actor didn't really seem to be acting (we know how queens are typecast), or the actor seemed to stiff and uncomfortable in the part (those butch boys have no savoir faire). But Sandel was a pure gem. He had all the right aplomb; his performance alone would make the show worth the trouble.

Jenny Lee Wax and Mary Hooper are also admirable in their respective double roles, but do particularly well as those leftovers from a 50s grade B-movie. Colin McLetchie does fine as the captain but he is well overshadowed by Lauren Lewis as Jenny. Her expressions become rigid as she forces herself to be beguiling for the captain, and one can visibly see her effort to control her gag reflex. In one scene, after the cap-

Jenny, Lewis looks like she's ready to rip her insides out, so disgusted is she with herself. She's amazing.

Hooper directing is sound but did contain a critical misstep. In "Jenny Lies" both Lewis and McLetchie speak with German accents. The attempt is good but neither is able to sustain it effectively, and at times this gives the work an unintended levity.

"The Secret Tapes of Jesus" is sharp, cutting-edge satire. I know this is trite, but if anything qualifies as "must see" this one does.



Tim Hanlon as Jesus with Jenny Lee Wax (l) and Mary Hooper (r) in "The Secret Tapes of Jesus: A Consciousness Comedy."

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## NGLTF praises retiring Justice Blackmun's record on privacy rights; 'Lesbianville, USA' has guide for visitors

### NATIONAL NOTES

(Washington, D.C., April 6)—As Justice Harry Blackmun announced his retirement from the U.S. Supreme Court today, the National Gay and Lesbian Task Force (NGLTF) praised his passionate defense of the right to privacy during his 24 years of service to the nation.

Justice Blackmun's eloquence in defense of the right to privacy extended beyond his landmark opinion in *Roe v. Wade* to his forceful dissent in *Bowers v. Hardwick*, in which the Supreme Court denied that a fundamental right to consensual sexual intimacy between two adults of the same sex exists.

"Depriving individuals of the right to choose for themselves how to conduct their intimate relationships poses a far greater threat to the values most deeply rooted in our Nation's history than tolerance of nonconformity could ever do. Because the Court today betrays those values, I dissent," he wrote.

"As Justice Jackson wrote so eloquently," Blackmun added, "Freedom to differ is not limited to things that do not matter much. That would be a mere shadow of freedom. The test of its substance is the right to differ as to things that touch the heart of the existing order."

"Administration officials have discussed the need to ensure that the next Supreme Court appointee is able to build consensus on the Court," noted NGLTF Executive Director Peri-Jude Radecic. "It is imperative that President Clinton appoint a consensus-builder who is also able to carry on Justice Blackmun's legacy of defending the right to privacy."

*Out-of-Towners Welcome*

(Northampton, Mass., April 6)—The secret is "out" about this little New England town and its unusually large Lesbian community.

Dubbed a "town like no other" by *Newsweek* and "Lesbianville, U.S.A." by the *National Enquirer*, Northampton has had more than its share of attention from the press in the last two years. So much, in fact, that the civic and business organizations were not initially prepared to handle the tidal wave of phone calls and letters that came in from gays and lesbians around the country, requesting information about visiting or moving to the area. It seemed as if comedienne Kate Clinton's prediction of a "lesbian gold rush to Northampton" was indeed coming true.

Step in Northampton's Lesbian and Gay business community. In response to the increased demand for information about the area, several community business leaders got together and formed the Northampton Area Lesbian & Gay Business Guild (NALGBG). The Guild's goal is to develop Northampton into a recognized gay and lesbian travel destination along the lines of San Francisco or Provincetown. The Guild has published a brochure about the area that is specifically geared to the lesbian and gay visitor. "We literally had people driving four or five hundred miles into town and wandering around wondering where to go," said Martha Nelson, Guild President. "Now we have a concise way to relay information about what's available here and how to find out more."

The brochure is already going into its third printing and is available free of charge. To receive a copy, send a self-addressed, stamped business envelope to: NALGBG, P.O. Box 682, Northampton, MA 01061.

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## ASK THE PASTOR



Rev. Janet Parker

**Q:** "What do you know about a psychotherapy program called "A Course in Miracles" recently popularized by Marianne Williamson's book, *A Return to Love*?"

**A:** Last week I addressed the origin of this *Course*. Today I would like to begin looking at its teachings. I will also make a comparison of its teachings with the Bible of Christianity. A resource book for information on its teachings is: *Texte Marrs Book of New Age Cults & Religions*.

First of all, the *Course* claims that we are in charge of and are part of our own atonement. It insists that Jesus' crucifixion was not for the sins of the world and that we individually are responsible for our own salvation. Obviously, this is a direct variance from

the Bible which tells us that all have sinned and fallen short of the Glory of God, but that through God's grace and through the redemption that comes by Jesus, we are saved through faith in Christ (Romans 3:23-25).

The *Course* also claims that God does not condemn us for our evil or even hold us personally to blame for our bad deeds. It also rejects the Biblical account of Adam and Eve being driven out of the garden. Judgment is depicted not as something that God undertakes, but something we ourselves must determine. However, the Bible says that Jesus has been appointed as Judge of both the living and the dead (Acts 10:42 and see II Corinthians 5:10).

Like all New Age teachings, the *Course* proclaims that *everyone* has God's Word written on their hearts and that salvation is universal. All will be saved. But the Bible says that the natural person does not receive the things of the Spirit of God for they are foolishness to them and they cannot understand them. Only the one who is born again and through the free gift given by God (John 3:3 and I Corinthians 2:14) have God's Word inside as a testimony, a witness, and a guide.

The *Course* also teaches another cardinal New Age doctrine--that there are "Teachers" in the spirit world whom we can call on for assistance and help. This is simply *necromancy*, or communication with familiar spirits (demons), a practice which is expressly prohibited in the Bible (Deuteronomy 18).

Here are a number of other discrepancies in *A Course in Miracles* as compared to the truth of the Bible: 1. The *Course* teaches that the world we see is simply an illusion, that material matter does not exist. God did not create it. When we turn to scripture we see, however, that the heavens declare the glory of God and are the work of God's hand (Psalm 19:1; John 1:1-3; Colossians 1:16; Hebrews 1:2-3).

Stay tuned next week for more on *A Course in Miracles* and how this in full of New Age thinking. We will continue to compare its teachings with the Bible's teachings.

**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**

## Gay atheist group informs IRS of church's political violations; Men's Network to discuss 'Spiritual Abuse'

### QUICK NOTES

For several months, the Houston-based national office of American Gay & Lesbian Atheists has been sending information the Exempt Organizations Division of the Internal Revenue Service to document various violations on the part of Houston area churches which involve themselves in direct partisan politics. Direct political involvement on the part of churches and other non-profit entities is strictly prohibited by Internal Revenue codes.

Don Sanders, director and co-founder of the nation's largest and oldest Gay/Lesbian atheist organization, said he feels it is time that the IRS steps in to curtail what has become mean-spirited, malicious, hateful and harmful political involvement on the part of a number of Houston area churches.

A copy of a letter, written on the official church stationery of the Antioch Missionary Baptist Church of Houston was sent recently to the Internal Revenue Service Center in Dallas as an example. The letter, in support of a political candidate, contained several anti-Gay references.

In addition, photographs of political campaign signs in the yards of several Houston area churches have also been sent.

"The type of malicious mud-slinging, hate-mongering and homophobic-baiting Rev. Williams (of Antioch) and other ministers of the Houston Baptist Ministers' Association and other ministerial

groups have engaged in are in the same league as the white-sheeted Knights of Ku Klux Klan," Sander said. "The only difference now is that the sheets are being worn by black men in an attempt to torment and deny civil rights to homosexually-oriented citizens."

"It is grossly unfair for churches and ministers who represent those churches to engage in partisan politics in defiance of IRS regulations while the rest of us must obey the law," said Sanders. "If our organization can abide under non-profit directives and stay out of partisan politics, the same must apply to churches."

"The law of the land is secular and applies as equally to atheist organizations as to churches. Since Jesus has failed to make his followers abide by the secular laws, perhaps the IRS can," he concluded.

### Men's Network Meeting

Wednesday, April 20, the Men's Network will present "Spiritual Abuse: Love thy neighbor, except if thy neighbor is Gay?" Join Pastor Ray Highfield as he talks about how some religions may have actually abused your spirituality when it could have been nurturing it, just because you are Gay. Bring your own stories and experiences.

The Men's Network is open to Gay and Bisexual men and there is no cost for admission, although donations are accepted. Highfield will speak at the Montrose Counseling Center, 701 Richmond, 7:15 p.m. to 9:00 p.m. For more information please call (713) 529-0037.

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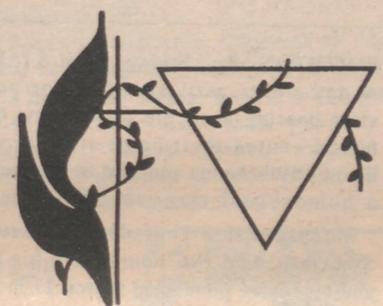
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## Trial ordered in slaying of gay Pennsylvania lounge musician

SMITHTON, Pa., Friday, April 8 (AP)—A gay-rights activist called for peace after hearing a couple testify how their friend visited their home at night with blood on his hands and said he had beaten a homosexual man who later died.

Witnesses said Thursday that Edward Steckman died two hours after his head and face were pummeled March 27 in Smithton, which is about 20 miles south of Pittsburgh.

The defendant, 17-year-old Samuel Sethman, told police he struck Steckman because the man made advances toward him, including asking him to go to a bar and pinching his buttocks. He has

been charged as an adult.

"This is a society that we all have to live together in. Regardless of our differences, we cannot go around beating the dickens and killing people just because they're gay," said Chris Young, a member of the League of Gay and Lesbian Voters.

He attended Sethman's preliminary hearing, which ended with a magistrate ordering Sethman tried on a homicide charge. The defendant's attorney, John DeBaradinis, said Sethman did not intend to kill Steckman.

Two of Sethman's friends, William and Tracy Shanz, lived a block from the

street where Steckman was found. They said Sethman had blood on his hands and clothing when he knocked on their window one night.

"I popped a microwave dinner in the microwave, and the next thing I knew, there was knocking at the window. It was Sam," Mrs. Shanz said. "He said he had beat up a faggot. My husband gave him some paper towels to wipe his hands off, and I took off in my car" to check on Steckman.

Steckman, 47, left New York City two years ago to care for his sick mother in his hometown of Smithton. He was a regular piano player in several Pittsburgh taverns. Sethman lived in nearby Jacobs

Creek and did not know Steckman before March 27.

An hour after Sethman visited the Shanzes, he was arrested by state troopers near a bank.

"At first he said, 'What am I arrested for, underage drinking?' I said, 'No, not tonight.' Then he made a voluntary statement as to what happened," Trooper Samuel Ferguson testified.

DeBaradinis, the defense attorney, said he will try to invalidate Sethman's statements to police because they were made 42 minutes before Sethman was read his rights.



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## UN body says Tasmania violates human rights of gays

CANBERRA, Australia, Monday, April 11 (AP)—The U.N. Human Rights Committee has ruled that Tasmania's anti-homosexual laws violate international human rights agreements that Australia has signed, Australia's attorney-general said Monday.

The panel ruled Tasmanian laws barring "unnatural sexual intercourse" deny the right of personal privacy guaranteed by the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights, said Attorney-General Michael Lavarch.

The law provides penalties of up to 21 years in jail for "unnatural" acts in private between homosexuals, but it has not been enforced for at least 10 years.

"Tasmania is a nice, quiet place, a Christian-based society, whose people believe in the Bible," the Tasmania Attorney-General Ronald Cornish, said last week.

The March 31 ruling by the committee, meeting in New York, decided a case brought to the United Nations by Tasmanian man Nick Toonen, who told The Associated Press that he only received notice of it on the week-

end.

The Tasmanian Gay and Lesbian Rights Group, which supported Toonen's legal battle, hailed the U.N. Human Rights Committee's action as "one of its most significant and far reaching decisions . . ."

"We call on the federal government to move as quickly as possible to overturn Tasmania's oppressive and archaic anti-gay laws," said group spokesperson Rodney Croome.

Lavarch said he received a copy of the U.N. decision Monday and would discuss the matter with the Tasmanian government.

"The U.N. committee has suggested the repeal of the laws would be the appropriate response," he said. "I'm not going to rush in with legislation. We'll give Tasmania a fair time to look at the decision."

The U.N. committee has asked the federal government to advise it within 90 days of how it intends to respond to the decision.

Recourse to the committee was made possible after the federal government became a party in 1991 to a protocol consenting to UN adjudication of human rights complaints.

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## PBS drops plans for sequel to 'Tales of the City' mini-series

SAN FRANCISCO, Friday, April 8 (AP)—The Public Broadcasting System has scrapped plans to finance a sequel to "Tales of the City," the popular but controversial miniseries that drew protests in Phoenix and elsewhere.

PBS executives say they decided against backing "More Tales of the City" because they can't afford it. Not so, says the man who wrote the book on which the series was based.

Author Armistead Maupin says PBS was enthusiastic about "More Tales" until religious

conservatives blasted the original series for its partial nudity and positive portrayal of gays in San Francisco in the 1970s.

"For them to deny that they're running scared at this point is preposterous ... I think that's exactly what they're doing," Maupin told the San Francisco Chronicle in a story published Friday.

"Tales of the City," which tells the story of an enigmatic landlady and her web of acquaintances, won critical acclaim when it aired on public television stations as part of "American Playhouse" in January. It

was PBS' highest-rated dramatic miniseries in more than a decade.

But the show also generated controversy. Some PBS stations decided against running the program; others used a version in which naked breasts were covered by pixelated pasties.

A long kiss between two male lovers also drew fire.

The Tupelo, Miss.-based American Family Association last month urged its members to protest the government's funding of PBS, calling it the "Homosexual Pride Tax-Funded TV

Network."

But PBS spokesperson Karen Doyle said the decision not to fund "More Tales" had nothing to do with the criticism.

"Provocative programming is nothing new to PBS," Doyle said. "Doing a popular program doesn't mean we're going to do it again and again."

Lindsay Law, executive producer of "American Playhouse," says his budget was cut from \$6.6 million this \$2.2 million next year. It will lose its funding in 1996, although it formed a partnership with Samuel Goldwyn Pictures to pro-

duce movies for eventual PBS broadcast.

Law said PBS' enthusiasm for "More Tales" has waned since January, but added he has not heard that the series' content hurt its chances for backing.

"The money side is easy to figure out. I'm not going to have any money, so how can I do it," he said.

Britain's Channel 4, which financed nearly all of the original series, now is looking for a new American partner for "More Tales," which is planned as a six-hour, \$8 million production.

## California Lutheran delegates pledge 'continuing partnership' with ousted gay pastor

By JOE BIGHAM  
FOR THE HOUSTON VOICE

FRESNO, Calif., Monday, April 11 (AP)—Delegates to a regional Evangelical Lutheran Church conference have pledged "continuing partnership in ministry" with an Oakland church pastor ordered removed from the pulpit because he is gay.

But a resolution adopted at the Sierra Pacific Synod in Fresno during the weekend does not specifically urge the national church to restore the Rev. Ross Merkel as pastor of Oakland's St. Paul Lutheran Church.

The resolution by church delegates from throughout Northern California and Nevada does "lament" the church's loss of Merkel. It offers "continuing partnership in ministry" with Merkel because "in our understanding and experience of God's love and grace in our lives, we can do no other."

The last phrase is lifted from a statement to the Diet of Worms on April 18, 1521 by Martin Luther, founder of the Protestant Reformation and the Lutheran Church.

"Here I stand; I can do no other," Luther said. "God help me. Amen."

Delegates to the Diet of Worms then condemned Luther for heresy against the Roman Catholic Church.

In the current case, a discipline com-

mittee of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America voted to remove Merkel as a pastor on grounds that practicing homosexuals are barred from serving as Lutheran ministers. Merkel announced to his parishioners last June that he has a long-term, committed relationship with another man.

The discipline committee ruled that Merkel "has engaged in conduct incompatible with the character of the ministerial office in the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America."

The synod's interim bishop, Lauren Egdahl, said the resolution will be distributed to all of the church's 220 congregations in Northern California and Nevada. During the synod, delegates also elected the Rev. Robert Mattheis bishop. Mattheis currently is pastor of St. Paul Lutheran Church in Lodi.

Merkel has continued to preach at the Oakland church he has served for 12 years even though his ouster was to have taken effect March 25. His supporters said they hope the resolution will help lead national church leadership to allow gay clergy.

"I think that through the association people have with gay and lesbian clergy, they will change their views," Karen Ball, a member of St. Paul's and delegate to the synod told the San Jose Mercury News.

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## P.O.V.'s 'Silverlake Life' wins Peabody Award; film on attempts to 'cure' homosexuality to air in June

One of the nation's top awards for broadcast journalism will go to "Silverlake Life: The View From Here," which aired on the PBS documentary series "P.O.V." last summer. The 1993 Peabody Awards were announced this week by the University of Georgia, which has administered the awards program for 54 years. Bronze Peabody medallions will be presented at a May 16th ceremony at the Waldorf Astoria in New York.

"Silverlake Life" began as a collaboration between Tom Joslin and his lover of 22 years, Mark Massi. Well before Joslin's death, it was agreed that his former student and long time friend Peter Friedman would step in when the time came. Completed in early 1993, the film also aired through out Europe.

P.O.V. co-executive producer Ellen Schneider commented: "This is a bitter-sweet triumph. Silverlake Life profoundly affected viewers, young and old, gay and straight, all over the world, and we're very happy that the Peabody board has chosen to recognize the power of such honest and bold filmmaking."

This is the fifth Peabody Award presented to a film broadcast in the series in six years on PBS. Several P.O.V. documentaries have dealt with AIDS or Gay and Lesbian issues, and others are in the works.

One to watch for this summer: on June 14, Teodoro Maniaci and Francine Rzeznik's "One Nation Under God," which chronicles bizarre and frightening efforts to "cure" homosexuality through the eyes of those with first-hand experience. From Nazi experiments to make-over workshops to show Lesbians "how pretty they can be," "One Nation Under God" provides a historical perspective and looks at why gay men and lesbians are being asked to change.

Later in the season, P.O.V. will present "The Heart Of The Matter," an award winning film on women and sexuality in the age of AIDS. The work is a collaboration of Gini Retiker and Amber Hollibaugh. They have worked together previously on films dealing with AIDS; Hollibaugh also heads up the Lesbian AIDS Project of New York's Gay Men's Health Crisis. The film will air on July 5.

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## Anti-gay advocate blasted by Las Vegas mayor

LAS VEGAS, Thursday, April 7 (AP)—Mayor Jan Jones responded angrily to accusations by an anti-gay rights activist that she and other Nevada politicians promoted child molestation by supporting civil rights for homosexuals.

"Take your hate and fear and take it somewhere else," Ms. Jones told Lon Mabon, head of the United States Citizens Alliance, parent organization for anti-gay rights initiatives in Oregon, Nevada, Washington and Idaho.

"The statements you made are not only inappropriate, they're wrong, they're cruel, and they're hate and fear-mongering against both the governor and myself," she said.

Mabon had scheduled a news conference at City Hall to discuss the initiatives and Ms. Jones stepped out of a City Council meeting to respond to comments he made about her and Gov. Bob Miller at a church on Tuesday.

Mabon repeated his comments Wednesday that anyone who opposes his initiative, as Ms. Jones and Miller have, is saying "there's nothing immoral about homosexual activity, lesbianism and cross-dressing."

Miller said Mabon's claims that political figures in Nevada condone

child molestation are so ridiculous that they make Miller's point for him.

"This group has an underlying motivation, that they don't even attempt to conceal, of instilling hatred and intolerance," Miller said, adding that pedophilia is a serious crime and one which he prosecuted as Clark County district attorney.

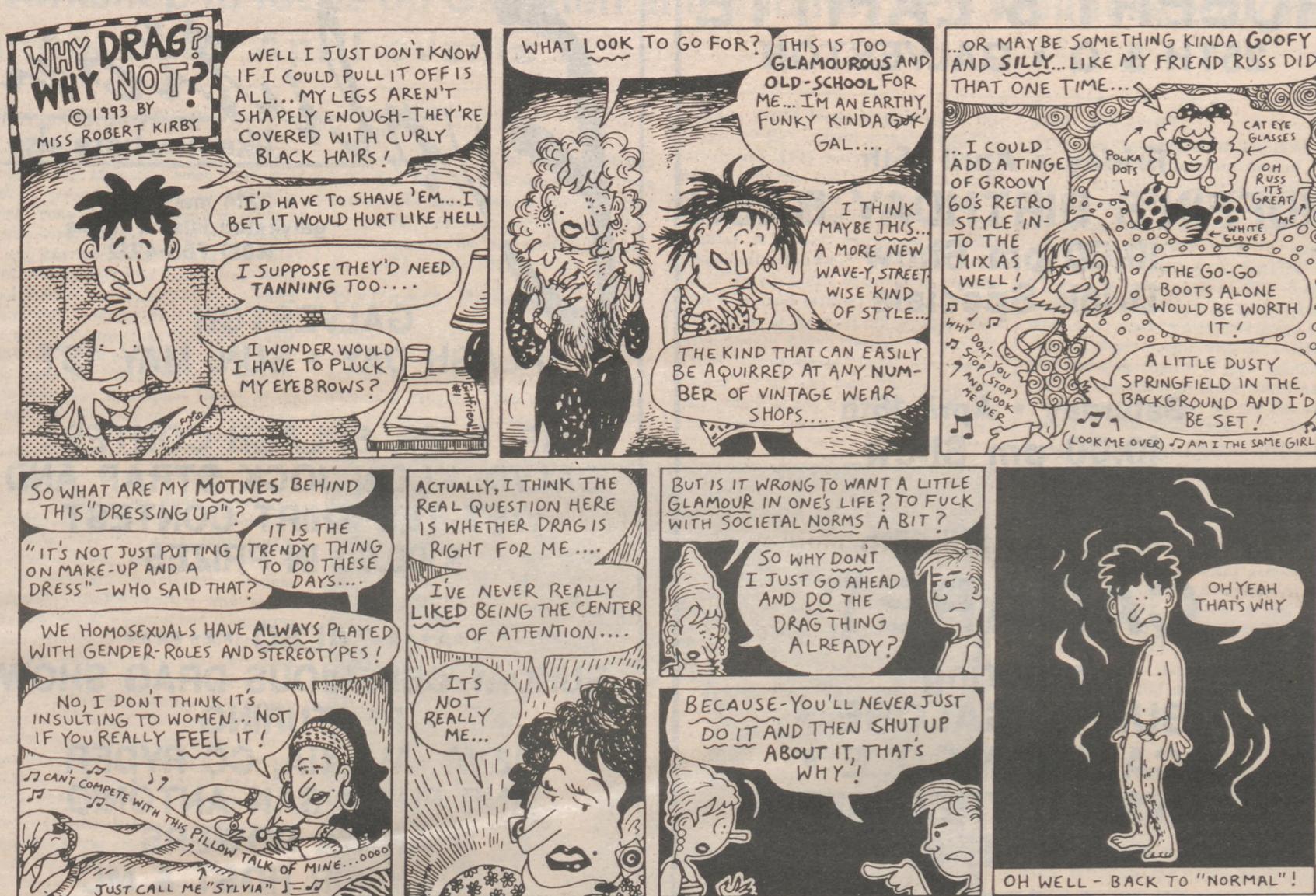
Miller and Jones are running for governor as Democrats. The two leading GOP candidates, Secretary of State Cheryl Lau and Reno Assemblyman Jim Gibbons, also oppose the initiative.

The initiative is called the Minority Status and Child Protection Act and would legalize discrimination against homosexuals in Nevada.

If 52,000 valid signatures are gathered by June 21 and voters approve the ballot question in 1994 and 1996, the Nevada Constitution would be changed to say that homosexuals do not have the civil rights guaranteed to other minority groups.

Mabon said landlords and employers would be able to discriminate against homosexuals in housing and employment if the initiative passed. Schools would not be able to teach about homosexuality.

# PLAY SAFE



## Univ. of South Florida sophomore apologizes for threats against gays

TAMPA, Fla., Thursday, April 7 (AP)—A University of South Florida sophomore has apologized for making threatening telephone calls to a gay student group, saying he ranted at them out of "deep frustration."

Nelson Trujillo's apology appeared as a letter to the editor Wednesday in the Oracle, USF's student newspaper. His apology won't end a possible criminal case being investigated against him.

A police telephone trace found Trujillo left more than a dozen death threats and harassing messages on the telephone answering machine of the USF Gay, Lesbian and Bisexual Coalition.

They included taunts of "Die, faggots, die," and predictions that 17 homosexuals would be killed in April.

In Wednesday's letter, Trujillo admitted calling the coalition's answering machine repeatedly since October to express his outrage against homosexuals.

"I went to grade and high schools where the issue was taboo," he wrote. "Coming to USF was an abrupt change, where gay and lesbian issues are discussed openly. ... I should have used a different approach to express my ideas."

Trujillo, 20, faced a student disciplinary hearing Tuesday. His punishment could range from suspension to expulsion, but USF administrators have reaffirmed their decision not to make their decision public.

## Hawaii senator writes own report on same sex marriage bill

HONOLULU, Friday, April 8 (AP)—Senate Judiciary Committee member Anthony Chang has written his own report on the same-sex marriage bill, saying he agrees with the bill but disagrees with the committee's official report.

"I do not join the majority report in rebuking the Hawaii Supreme Court for engaging inappropriately in public policy-making," Chang said in his rare if not unprecedented dissent.

"While I agree that there must be judicial deference to legislative choices, those choices suggesting prejudice against minorities in society must be subjected to close analysis in order to preserve the values of equality and liberty," he said.

His reference was to the Supreme Court's decision last May that it was an unconstitutional discrimination on the basis of gender for the state to deny marriage licenses to same-sex couples without showing a compelling state interest to do so.

The committee's report said it "believes that the court's intervention in this matter encroached on the functions of the Legislature in its law-making function, thereby impinging on the separation of powers of the respective branches of government."

Expanding the traditional definition of marriage being a union of a man and a woman to include same-sex relationships "is clearly a policy question and wholly within the purview of the Legislature and not the courts," the committee said.

Chang, however, said there is insufficient information for the committee to conclude that the high court improperly entered into public policy and encroached on legislative functions.

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\*No purchase necessary. Our Grand Prize drawing will be held this spring on Tuesday, April 26, 1994. You may register every Tuesday between now and the Grand Prize drawing. Further rules and regulations are on the official entry form at JR's, Houston.

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10:00 pm Show  
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FEATURING  
DEVA, ALEXIA, CC RYDER  
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MARAYA POWERS  
WITH YOUR HOST & MC  
CINNAMON  
CONTEST TIME 10 SHOW AT 11**

## Russian-American gay couple rejected at wedding palace

By JULIA RUBIN  
FOR THE HOUSTON VOICE

MOSCOW, Tuesday, April 12 (AP)—Robert Filippini and Yaroslav Mogutin say they're breaking new ground in Russian-American relations. But there are some relations Russia isn't ready for.

On Tuesday, authorities turned down the men's application for marriage.

The couple had arrived at Wedding Palace No. 4 clutching bouquets of flowers and their application for a two-groom wedding. But they didn't really expect the application to be accepted.

"The main thing is to draw attention to the problems of homosexuals in Russia, protest the politics of sexism and show the strength of Russian-American ties," Mogutin said.

The couple's visit to the marriage authorities came a year after Russia lifted a Soviet-era law that had made male homosexuality a crime punishable by up to five years in prison.

Since then, Russia's few gay activists say discrimination has been rampant and gay issues remain in the closet.

Mogutin, a free-lance journalist who turned 20 on Tuesday, and Filippini, a 41-year-old artist from New York, were ushered into the official registration room, where pictures of smiling brides and grooms line the walls and photographs of wedding cakes cover the table.

Reporters mobbed the tiny room as Karmen Bruyeva, director of the Wedding House, told the couple she could not accept their application. The Russian Code on Marriage and Family, she said, describes marriage as "a voluntary union of a man and a woman."

"I'm pretty broad-minded myself," Bruyeva said later. "But I'm afraid what they want is not possible under Russian laws."

Bruyeva advised the men to go to parliament instead and get the law changed.

"We are disappointed but not daunted," Filippini said afterward.

"We'll consult with friends, and see whether we should really try to draft legislation."

Filippini and Mogutin, who already have exchanged rings in a private cere-

mony, still plan a big wedding party and a honeymoon in Europe.

One friend attending the registration was Evgenia Debryanskaya, director of the Triangle Association, Russia's first nationwide gay advocacy group. She said the case was important "because it illustrates the absence of legal and social guarantees for people in homosexual families."

Russian gays and lesbians face discrimination getting housing, jobs, inheritances, insurance and adopting children, she said.

Debryanskaya said her group would help Filippini and Mogutin if they try to draft legislation.

But Lisa Granik, another friend of the grooms and an American lawyer specializing in Soviet law, questioned whether gays fighting for their civil rights should expect much from laws.

"The law in Russia right now is really irrelevant, and the question is how (homosexuality) is accepted in society," she said. "There they've got a long way to go."



## Two ministers criticize Albuquerque mayor's proclamation

ALBUQUERQUE, Tuesday, April 5 (AP)—Two Baptist ministers say they don't believe the late Rev. Martin Luther King Jr. would agree with Mayor Martin Chavez invoking King's name in prohibiting discrimination against homosexuals.

Frank Cates, minister of Mount Zion Baptist Church and head of the local Southern Christian Leadership Conference, and Ron Knight, pastor at St. Luke's Baptist

Church, said Monday that Chavez insulted the black community by banning discrimination against homosexuals on the anniversary of King's death.

Chavez last week issued an executive order prohibiting City Hall from discriminating on the basis of sexual orientation or medical condition.

The mayor's news release Monday cited the anniversary of King's

assassination.

"I wanted to take a policy action which was substantive in nature to mark his civil rights legacy in an appropriate manner. ... Today we take a small step toward justice; I believe Dr. King would approve," the news release said.

Cates and Knight said they don't believe in discriminating against homosexuals, but said gay behavior shouldn't be a protected legal

category because it goes against their Christian beliefs.

Knight said Chavez was twisting King's legacy.

"Before civil rights, Dr. King was a minister," Knight said. "Martin Luther King stood on biblical principles. (King) was a Christian man. I think he would totally disagree with that."

But Chavez on Monday cited the

words used by King's widow, Coretta Scott King, last year when she spoke in favor of homosexuals serving in the military.

She quoted her husband as saying, "Injustice anywhere is a threat to justice everywhere. ... Like Martin, I don't believe you can stand up for freedom for one group of people and deny it to others."

# Workshop to focus on Gay men and midlife; AFH Wellness Program announces April events

## HEALTH NOTES

The journey to maturity can be difficult for gay men, especially when confronted with a youth-oriented society that defines status and self-esteem in terms of sexual attractiveness. What role do middle-age gay men have in such a society? How do they perceive themselves? What about their sexual needs? In the examination of this "journey of maturity", therapist and community activist Bill Scott, LMSW-ACP will present a one-day workshop entitled "Gay Men & Midlife-Addressing the Emotional Needs of the 'Stonewall Generation,'" on Saturday, May 7, at First Unitarian Church, 5200 Fannin (at Southmore), Houston, Texas, from 10:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.

"Little research has done specifically about gay people and their psychological development as they enter middle age. Issues such as sex, starting and maintaining relationships, loneliness, changes in health, communication and social interaction are all a part of our aging process and must be addressed with the same openness and tenacity that we have applied to our political and social growth," states Bill Scott, "The transition into midlife and the kinds of events that often occur between the years of 40 to 60 can be dramatic and difficult. They can also be a time for continued personal growth and emotional development."

The workshop will also address the uniqueness of the emotional shift for gay men as they mature, according to co-facilitator Harry Livesay MSW(c), "Society's historically hostile attitude toward non-traditional communities greatly affects the maturation process for gay men. The workshop will provide dialogue for personal events and characteristics unique to 'being gay' and

"coping with hostility" as we adjust to midlife."

The enrollment fee for the workshop is \$15. The workshop is open to gay men between the ages of 40-60 and enrollment is limited. For more registration information, contact the New Counseling Center at (713) 529-1913.

## Wellness Program

AIDS Foundation Houston (AFH) announces free upcoming classes promoting health options through the AFH Wellness Program. The regular or special classes are promoted through the

monthly "AFH Wellness Calendar," distributed to HIV support groups, Body Positive's and AFH newsletters, or can be mailed directly via a confidential mailing list. Some events are listed below: On Tuesday April 19 and 26, AFH offers their regular safer sex workshops entitled "Sensual Pathways to Erotic Safer Sex." This is a fun, entertaining exploration of sexual information and options and will be at the AFH office, 3202 Wesleyan (Annex Bldg.) starting at 7:30 p.m. These workshops—"Safer Sex House Parties"—are also available for any private groups at any time or place. Hosting your friends to a house party can be just a

phone call away!

Then on Thursday, April 21, 1994, AFH Wellness Program coordinator, Bart Loeser will lead a panel of specialists to discuss concepts of wellness and the variety of alternative to traditional medical treatment, plus techniques for improving health and happiness. Entitled "HIV Treatment Alternatives and Supplements," the workshop is open to anyone wishing to share and explore many of the ways in which people with HIV/AIDS can take and keep control of their health. It is open to anyone with these concerns and begins at 7:00 p.m. at the Montrose Library, 4100 Montrose.

And after a long absence, AFH is reprising its popular "Stop Smoking Class," a free 8-week course taught by a local psychologist every Monday night from 7:00 p.m. to 8:30 p.m. starting on May 2, 1994. It is a fact that the smoking habit can present a health hazard for many people, especially for those with a history of lung-related infections. This course has a high success rate for graduates and anyone—regardless of HIV status can be eligible for the program. Registration and a commitment to the full eight weeks is all that is required. Sponsored by AFH (713) 623-6796 at their office, 3202 Wesleyan Annex.

In addition to these courses, AFH also offers regular self-hypnosis classes for addressing issues of self-esteem, breaking habits, as well as stress management. Hypnotherapist T.C. LeNormand has been teaching the three-week mini-course for over four years. Classes are scheduled on demand with registration through LeNormand at (713) 789-0713.

For more information regarding these or other HIV/Wellness Issues (including joining the calendar mailing list, call Bart Loeser at AFH (713) 623-6796.



Houston counselors Harry Livesay and Bill Scott will lead workshop addressing the issues of Gay men in midlife, May 7

FRI

**STRIP CONTEST**  
at 11:00 PM with PAIVI

SAT

After the Art Fest  
Saturday, Join Us For  
**SUPER SATURDAY SHOW**  
Starring BRITTANY PAIGE  
With Special Guests Direct From Galveston  
• CINNAMON  
• MR. HEART OF TEXAS  
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• E.O.Y. San Antonio '94  
PORSCHE PARIS  
Show at 11:00 SHARP

MON

**MALE STRIP CONTEST**  
11:00 PM with B.J. WILLIAMS

TUE

**TALENT NIGHT**  
at 10:30 PM with BRITTANY PAIGE

WED

**KARAOKE NIGHT**  
at 8:00 PM with Bill Sansom  
**STEAK NIGHT ON THE PATIO**  
Our New Year-A-Around Heat & Air Patio  
6:00 PM til — With LUCY

THUR

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There's a hot one!  
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There's a hot one!

After looking at all the  
**HOT ONE'S** at the  
Art Fest, Come on down  
& **HAVE A COLD ONE!**



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- Mug Club 7am-10pm
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COMMERCIAL MEMBER



HOUSTON - 1993

# Sighting near San Antonio; Westheimer artfest, street fair this weekend

## HOUSTON SOAP, PART ONE

By CAROLYN LARSON  
Houston Voice/Houston  
Hello Houston!!

Breaker... Breaker... Tad and the Trucker were seen at the Flying J Truck stop just outside San Antonio... See the photo. It looks like they ran into a bit of trouble... I was going to stop and help, but the nice police officer looked a little busy. Why did Tad look so natural in those handcuffs?! I got back to Houston quickly to try and raise the bail.. I'm still working on it!!

### LAST WEEK:

At Gentry last Sunday, the TGRA Show raised \$555 for the Houston Chapter treasury. Congrats Cowboys and Cowgirls!!

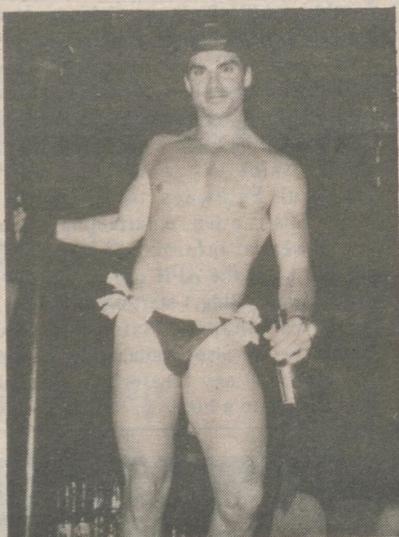
The ROAST of Walter Carter raised over \$2,000. Congrats!!!

Viola Wills tore up the stage at Rich's. Check out her new album, "A Portrait," when it hits the record stores.

Sunday night at Heaven, L.A. Art Card and Calendar model Jimmy Johnson was dancing across the bar tops. Not only did the crowd get the thrill of seeing and meeting Jimmy, the club's give away for Alison Moyet's new single "Whispering Your Name" was a great success. Heaven also gave away dozens of copies of this former YAZZ great's new CD and cassette entitled "Essex" as well as posters and 12 inches.

### Coming up:

Monday, Monday, just about everyone hates Mondays, but not those that go to Pacific Street on Mondays. It is Clubber's night. Doors open at 9:00 p.m. Monday is the night your favorite bartenders and waiters party. No cover with a current pay stub for any restaurant, bar or night spot's employee. All Club members welcome with no cover while in Col-



Jimmy Johnson, L.A. Art Card and calendar model, wows 'em at Heaven

ors.

Every Monday night at J.R.'s and Santa Fe: Miss Lindsey Love's strip contest. Enter to win cash and prizes.

Over at E/J's on Monday nights, B.J. Williams hosts the Male Strip Contest. The clothes start to go at 11:00 p.m.

If you are over Murphy Brown, and even if your not, set the VCR and head over to the MINE for their weekly pool tournament with Pool Mistress Bill. The games begin at 8:30 and continues until there is no one left but the winner... of course, if you hit your balls right it could be the one!!

My favorite place on Tuesday is Mary's... Naturally. It is 2 for Tuesday. Cuervo shots are only \$2 all day all night. No wonder I'm a little groggy every Wednesday morning... and thru the afternoon...

Tuesday at Midtown offers FREE LOCKERS To MEN 18-22 plus half price lockers, rooms and video rooms. All you need to do is bring 3 items for donations to Stone Soup! So clean out your pantry and put it to a better body for you and help someone eat a little better!!



Devon burning Barney but not the first time

Time is running out for SOLOFLEX TUESDAY'S at J.R.'s. Every Tuesday at J.R.'s you can register to win the SOLOFLEX MACHINE or \$500 in cash. The drawing will be held on the last Tuesday of this month, April 26 during the Tuesday show with emcee KOFI.

Wednesday is a busy night around town. The CLUB has "Buddy Night" Buy a room and your buddy gets a free locker. You might want to run by E/J's first to enjoy Steak night on the Patio with Lucy. It starts at 6:00 p.m.

If you are in the mood you dance your dinner off, check out Hot Hump night at Pacific Street. No cover with a pass from your favorite bartender.

Maybe you feel like being entertained, Wednesday nights sizzle at Gentry. As Ms. Gay Texas, Dyan Michaels hosts a male strip contest. The club is packed to the rafters for this weekly penile projection extravaganza.

J.R.'s and Santa Fe offer happy hour till 10:00 p.m. Imported beer specials as well as hot dancers to help you work up a thirst.

By Thursday you should be ready to start work up for your weekend parties. Think about "Happy Hour" at the Red Room. It is a great place to unwind after a long day at work.

Talking about Happy Hour hang outs, the Venture-N still has the original Power Hour 5-7 every day. Go by and check out Bruce and Rita's act. The V-N has a few new faces behind the bar!!

The Montrose Mining Company opens every day at 1:00 p.m. Most days you will find Red there to serve up a drink and a smile. Don't forget the Mine is open for AFTER HOURS until 4:00 a.m. every Friday and Saturday nights, with Hard Core Dancers...

Get your jock strap out and head to Pacific Street... Flesh and Fantasy night. Clothes



Gerald (left) and Eddie (Mr. BRB) at TGRA's Sunday show at Gentry

check is available. Doors open at 9:00 p.m. every Saturday night. Be sure to check out the laser lights and the music by Adrian.

This weekend is the Westheimer Art Festival. Get out your walking shoes and wallets and have a great time. I go just to watch the people. You can still rent space at Amie's.

The Spring Festival... Under the BIG TOP. Bering Memorial United Methodist Church is holding a traditional pancake breakfast on Saturday, April 16, 1994. There is a raffle for a trip to Hawaii, door prizes and lots of other goodies. Tickets are available by calling 526-1017.

MIDTOWN SPA April BLOWOUT Party is April 16th. This means NO COVER. ... YES NO COVER!! This is a great time to check out the clean facilities they have with out spending a dime. Even I was impressed the last time I was there.

WESTERN CIVILIZATION DECLINES AGAIN!!!!!! The 8TH Annual MISS MONTROSE PAGEANT is Sunday April 17th 6:00 p.m. at the Brazos River Bottom!!

After the ART FEST walk on over to E/J's for the SUPER SHOW!! This Saturday's STAR is the lovely Brittany Paige, with special guests direct from Galveston: Cinnamon and The Puppet Master Alan Gibson. Also appearing the EOY SA 1994 Porsche Paris.

The Garden Party Presents HAIRSPRAY... A Musical Revue. It will be Sunday April 24 at the Brazos River Bottom. There will be drawings for tickets to the Garden Party!!!! Leave it to the Guys and Girls of GARDEN PARTY to pull this one off!!!

At Gentry on Saturday April 23, is the Gay Bowlers Car Wash from 10:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. Drive on by to get your car or truck all shined up.

Heaven screams "Switch you Bitch!!" to herald the return on America's favorite Lesbians FEM 2 FEM. Saturday, April 23, dance music's most controversial success story returns to Houston with an all new show that is guaranteed to leave you screaming for more.



Club Tar Tare crew: Larry, Randy, Night Mgr. Howie, and Evan (dancer)



Somewhere on the outskirts of San Antonio...

## Capsule review: L. Pico Village Restaurant

By CAROLYN LARSON  
Houston Voice/Houston

L. Pico Village has been serving fine quality food in the same location for over 40 years. Only minutes away from the Montrose, this historic restaurant just south of downtown is worth the trip.

Larry Pico has been in the restaurant business since 1946 with the Balinese Room in Galveston. He opened Spanish Village at 4720 Alameda (Near Blodgett) in 1953. The name was changed to L. Pico Village in 1992. Ricardo has been cooking up a storm for over 25 years.

L. Pico Village offers a wide selection, from the basic Tex-Mex to Paello Valenciana, Stuffed Crabs, Shrimp Adovados, Deviled Shrimp, Charbroiled Chicken or Steaks. My personal favorite special is every day 2:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m. FREE Cheese Nachos with a purchase of

their secret recipe Margaritas.

During the lunch hours, this restaurant pulls in a true mix of people: the shirts and



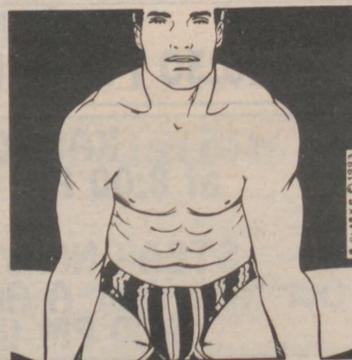
Larry Pico of L. Pico Village

ties form the downtown business district, the Med Center people, and the locals. L. Pico Village is easy to get to and has ample off street parking. It is open Monday thru Thursday 11:00 a.m. to 9:30 p.m., Friday and Saturday 11:00 a.m. to 10:00 p.m. and closed on Sunday and Mondays, which can be reserved for private parties.

L. Pico Village is NOT to be confused with the Medina's Spanish Village. There has never been any connection or lease with them, regardless of what you might have read elsewhere, according to the owners. Larry Pico did lease it to J.F. Hernandez back in 1984, but it returned to Larry Pico nine years later.

Stop in to feel the warm authentic atmosphere with Larry and the rest of the staff. The brightly colored surroundings and friendly wait staff will make your meal delightful.

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# Boy Toys, Discodaze at Gentry; twin attractions for the White Party

## HOUSTON SOAP, PART TWO

By CAROLYN LARSON  
Houston Voice/Houston

Marcia Johnson, candidate for MS. TGRA is hosting a Hayride & Trailride. Bring your horse or enjoy the hayride!! It is \$7. per person with proceeds benefiting the Love Foundation Sheltered by the Colt 45's. These funds are earmarked for the Loving Arms Home. The fun begins at 10:00 a.m. on Sunday April 17. For further info call (409) 931-2092.

Club Tar Tare is serving it up RAW every Sunday. And besides hot men, music and videos, you can see some of the best female impersonation shows in town, upstairs. Downstairs offers some of the hottest talented dancers.

On Sunday April 24 at Gentry is DISCODAZE. It is presented by the Imperial Court!! Make sure to mark this one on your calendar.

The "BOY TOY" of the Year contest is at Gentry's on April 16 and 17. Mark those calendars!! Preliminaries are Saturday at 10:00 p.m. and the finals are Sunday Night at 9:00 p.m. Gentry is offering over \$10,000 in Cash, Bookings and Prizes! Either enter the contest or go by and watch. It should be a great weekend over at Gentry's.

Club Tar Tare brings in America's sexiest twins for the "White Party." This year's theme is "The Other White Meat." Leave it to Rich's to cum up with the wildest theme parties.

April 16, Taylor Dayne graces us with a show at Rich's. It's Live, It's Hot!! - Doors open at 9:00 p.m. Plan to get there early to beat the line!!

Team Houston has some upcoming fund raisers: 2 car washes... April 16 at Fiesta 11:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. and May 1 at Heaven. Next meeting April 13, 7:00 p.m. at 1475 W. Gray. You can find many places around the Montrose to purchase raffle tickets. They are good for a free trip for 2 and hotel accommodations at the Gay Games. Pull out a buck or two to maybe win a trip to this most memora-



Josie of F.I.S.T.

ble event.

Past Time is starting a "MONDAY MOVIE NIGHT." This Monday is "Who's Afraid of Virginia Woolf." It starts at 9:00 p.m. every Monday. Past time is offering Happy Hour prices, free popcorn and open pool tables during the movie.

I have been informed that the FOOD BARRELS for the PET PATROL are at AMIE'S this month. Amie's needs only 200 more pounds of food to beat the current record. Good Luck!

TNT T-shirts has a great fund raiser going on right now. The Red Ribbon T-shirts are on sale for \$17; of that, \$5 is going directly to the Pet Patrol. Good idea Brian... or was that one of Travis's ideas!!

Pet Patrol and the staff of Basic Brothers invites you and your best friend to their First Dip Day and Food Drive of the year in the parking lot at Basic Brothers. This Sunday 10:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. Bring the required leash, collar and towel. They will provide the dip. Sorry, dogs only!! Pet Patrol clients and volunteers get in free. All others are asked to donate \$5. or the equivalent in pet food which benefits the Pet Patrol. Pet Patrol is a non-profit organization whose volunteers care for pets in the homes of persons with HIV/AIDS.



Ed at E/J's finds being a club owner isn't all glamour



Virgil (left) and Gary at Gentry for Sunday's TGRA show

Keep up the great work!!!!

Angels, Women's Softball begins March 12, anyone interested call Mary Beth at 864-0871.

The Women of F.I.S.T. (Females in Search of Trouble) are still recruiting. I know most of the "members." F.I.S.T. is having a meeting April 21 at 7:30 p.m. This month's subject is "Learning the Ropes." Call 528-2127 for address and directions. Also listen to KPFT on April 23, 12:30 a.m. for a one-on-one interview with F.I.S.T.'s President Josie.

On Wednesday, April 20, Mondo Bizarro at Heaven celebrates the opening of John Water's new film "Serial Mom" with Kathleen Turner and Ricki Lake. Come in for a chance to win posters, T-Shirts and passes to see this new comedy from the man who brought us Divine and such camp classics as "Lust in the Dust", "Female Trouble" and "Polyester."

Club Hedonism is bringing in a very special Act from California on April 28. Shaheen Shari will be pounding his tribal drums on the Hedo-dance floor. This drummer has toured the west coast, now we finally get him to Texas. If you miss him Thursday, you can catch him Saturday at Rich's.

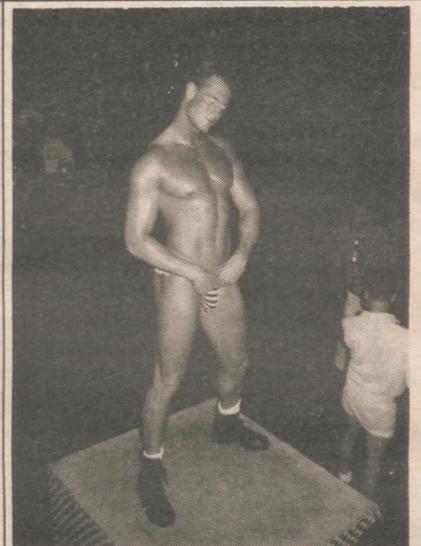
And now for some dirt. . . . Clay (MINE) announces he is about to become a bride. I hope he is not planning to wear white.. or even off white. I think RED is more your color.

I was at Pacific Street and boy were the bartenders chatty:

Cliff is a very busy guy... Just ask any of his 16 husbands for details. You can find their numbers in the yellow pages under "Suckers"!!

Bobby tells me he is always hot and horny. He let it slip out that a "Private" Ms. PS contest was held. You will have to see him to find out which one won the crown!! Question?: Which PS bartender has his dates park their strollers and pacifiers outside, and why does a big yellow school bus make him moist???? Bobby, that cute little curl in the middle of your forehead sure makes you gossip like one of the girls!! Love ya Honey!

Sheki (PS) I saw you go down for a dime.. just what will you do for a dol-



Hot Hunter at Club Tar Tare

lar??

And a Happy Birthday to my "other husband" JT (PS). Just how old are you going to be this Friday???? Be careful, some of us have seen you in the light of day!! and I know where you live!!!!

VERA (BRB) Just what did you get all over the floor behind the bar. JoAnn can barley move around back there.

An unnamed source from the BRB states Bill H. is stubborn and Rick C. is old and set in his ways. Is this true??

Lance... Water your bed and kick your cat. (Must make sense to someone, I was asked to print it just that way?).. Go Figure!

Nelly Kelly (Charlie's) wants our own Don Dowden. Kelly, Don is WAY, WAY to old for you. You would wear him out very quickly!!!!!!

Crayola (RED ROOM)... I checked my sources and it was NOT you being recalled. It was just the cheap imported crayons that got those little boys sick. I'm sorry I got "Them" confused with you-the REAL NON-TOXIC CRAYOLA!!

Meg (Mary's) It has been told that even you can blow out a burning Barney!! I always knew you were full of hot air!!

Tim (Of many bar stools) has proved once again he can have a hang over on Monday morning, even if he stays home on Sunday.

Dog Lips (Mary's..ect) Phoebe wants to know just how big your "Thing" is?

Michelle Michaels is alive and well in Houston. Betcha can't find her!

News Flash!!!! Blanche is moving to a new country.. Illinois... To an Island named Decatur. Blanche has been warned to find out the difference between "head and nursing" Why does a poor little naive calf cum to my mind??

Walter (BRB) It was a great Roast... you are lucky the BRB's BBQ pit is too small for you to fit on...to get you well done!!

Well, it is Cuervo time for this Cuervolyn.. have a great week.



Laura Lee Love and Erika Lane at Amie's Friday night



# Sailor who says he's not gay sues over dismissal

NORFOLK, Sunday, April 10 (AP)—Eric Freeman wants back in the Navy, claiming that he was discharged on false allegations that he was a homosexual.

Freeman's claims have been upheld on appeal to the Navy Board for Correction of Naval Records. But the board's recommendation that Freeman, 29, be reinstated was not followed.

When his final appeal was denied, Freeman filed suit in U.S. District Court in Norfolk for reinstatement in the service.

"I asked the Navy, 'What can I do? How do you prove somebody is or isn't gay?'" Freeman said.

The Navy said its evidence was irrefutable. In court papers, Navy lawyers cited the testimony of Freeman's roommates. Both reported seeing Freeman have sex with the drunken sailor. The two picked the same man out of a lineup.

"All decisions were supported by sub-

stantial evidence of record," Assistant U.S. Attorney Susan L. Watt said in a brief filed in court. She declined to be interviewed about the case.

The incident took place on Nov. 21, 1987, when Freeman was a seaman enrolled at the Navy Guided Missiles School at the Fleet Combat Training Center at Dam Neck in Virginia Beach.

Freeman said he saw a sailor stumbling across a base parking lot who was too drunk to drive. Freeman said he took the man, whom he did not know, to the barracks to let him sleep it off.

The next day, a fight broke out in the enlisted men's quarters. His roommates accused Freeman of being gay. Some of them threatened to beat him up.

When Freeman went to the Naval Criminal Investigative Service a day later to report the threats, he discovered his roommates had been there before him. They had charged he was gay.

"They accused me of this incident without any evidence," Freeman said. "The whole thing doesn't make any sense. That's what's frustrating."

During an administrative discharge board hearing in April 1988, the Navy presented testimony from two of Freeman's roommates and a statement from the man who Navy lawyers said was the drunken sailor. The sailor's statement said he was in Freeman's room that night but they did not have sex.

The panel voted to discharge him, and he was kicked out of the Navy on July 12, 1988, for homosexuality.

The Navy Board for Correction of Naval Records voted in August 1991 to recommend the Richmond man be reinstated, but the Navy's assistant secretary for manpower and reserve affairs overturned the ruling less than a month later. An appeal request in July 1992 was denied.

Freeman said one of the roommates who

testified against him and the man the Navy said was the drunken sailor are supporting his effort to get back into the service.

Keith Lieblang of Amityville, N.Y., who is no longer in the Navy, wrote a letter on Freeman's behalf, saying he was drunk on the night of the incident and might have been mistaken about what he saw.

Freeman found the man who the Navy said was the drunken sailor in Washington. Both agreed they had never met before, and in a written statement, the other man recanted the story he allegedly made to a Navy investigator.

"Eric Freeman is steadfast in his position he is not a homosexual and has never been a homosexual," said his lawyer, Gregory K. Pugh. "He was caught up in the near hysteria that was going on at the time about gays in the military. It steamrolled over him."

## Washington attorney general urges court to let voters decide gay rights initiatives

OLYMPIA, Wednesday, April 6 (AP)—Attorney General Christine Gregoire doubts the constitutionality of two proposed initiatives that would curb gay rights but believes voters should be allowed to consider the proposals.

In a brief asking the Supreme Court to reject a lawsuit seeking to bar the measures from the November ballot, Gregoire argued that while there may be a "clash of fundamental rights, it is best to first allow voters their choice, and then to assess the final product."

The 31-page brief filed on Tuesday was in response to a legal challenge filed last month by religious and civil rights groups, including the Washington Association of Churches, the Women's Law Center and the American Civil Liberties Union.

Supreme Court Commissioner Geoffrey

Crooks will decide whether to dismiss the suit or send it to the full court for action.

The suit asks that the secretary of state be barred from placing either Initiative 698 or Initiative 610 on the ballot and that both measures be declared "beyond the scope of the initiative process."

Both are judicial rather than legislative in nature, violate a requirement that an initiative be limited to one subject and are "patently unconstitutional" attempts to restrict the fundamental rights of a group of Washington citizens, the suit said.

The courts have been reluctant to consider the constitutionality of any issue before it becomes law. Gregoire urged the Supreme Court not to sway on this issue.

"The court should view with great caution the invitation to bar an initiative from the ballot based on the assertion that

the mere public debate on its merits would be too divisive or painful. The free exchange of ideas is at the heart of our constitutional process," the brief said.

The attorney general acknowledged the two initiatives contain "nonlegislative material," but rejected the argument that the rhetorical language or breadth of the initiatives is any basis for barring their consideration by voters.

Signatures are being gathered for Initiative 608 and Initiative 610. At least 181,667 signatures of registered voters must be gathered for each initiative by July 8 for them to qualify for the ballot.

Initiative 608 would prevent homosexuals from claiming minority civil rights states and bar schools from presenting homosexuality as an acceptable lifestyle.

Initiative 610 would bar state and local

governments from granting gays minority status, outlaw gay adoptions and marriages and bar public educators from presenting homosexuality as a healthy lifestyle.

The suit is the second attempt by the church group and Hands Off Washington, a gay rights coalition, to keep the two initiatives off the ballot.

In February, King County Superior Court Judge Marsha Pechman refused to bar the secretary of state from filing ballot titles for the measures.

Shortly after the initiatives were filed in January, Gregoire said she had serious questions about their constitutionality and said she may be unwilling to defend them if they pass.

## Washington African-American commission seeks to heal rift with gays, lesbians

SEATTLE, Tuesday, April 5 (AP)—The state Commission on African-American Affairs is working to forge closer ties with gays and lesbians after its decision not to take a position on a gay-rights bill defeated in the Legislature last month.

"There hasn't been much dialogue in the African American community about gay rights," said James Kelly, the commission's executive director.

"This is an issue the commission wants to have an open dialogue about in our community," said Kelly, who met Monday night with members of Brother to Brother, an African American gay and bisexual support and advocacy group.

The commission plans to hold a forum on discrimination within the next few weeks as part of a campaign to reach out to gays, with an emphasis on improving relations with black gays and lesbians, he said.

The state's commissions on Hispanic and Asian-American affairs both endorsed the gay-rights bill, but the African-Amer-

ican panel decided not to take a stand.

The measure, defeated by the Legislature last month for the 17th time in as many years, would have extended to gays, lesbians and bisexuals protection against discrimination in several areas, including housing and employment.

Some blacks who endorsed the bill said the commission's silence reflected divisions among members over homosexuality and fears that the initiative could distract from the panel's primary mission of improving the lives of blacks in Washington.

Appointed by the governor for three-year terms, the commission's nine members include a minister, educators and business executives with impressive records in civil rights and strong community involvement.

Some black gays and lesbians said their concerns were ignored by the commission.

"There are African American people—

gay and lesbian people—who would have benefited from this bill," said James Griffin of Seattle.

"As an African American, I'm being represented by the commission, and because I'm gay doesn't mean they shouldn't support me."

"The biggest reason they would take a stand like that is because they didn't think the issue through," said Gwen Hall, a black lesbian. "They failed to realize that oppression is oppression and those of us who are African Americans know oppression."

Kelly said much of the criticism over the commission's neutral stance was unwarranted. He noted the commission's active support of a bill last year that extended protection against malicious harassment to gays and lesbians.

"This is part of the sad reality of people not realizing the commission has a history of helping people who are gay and lesbian," he said.

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## Austin judge orders doors open for dance troupe

AUSTIN, Tuesday, April 5 (AP)—A judge has ruled that a ballet company should be allowed back into the studio. Roy Lozano's Ballet Folklórico de Tejas says it was locked out by the landlord after it became known that its founder had AIDS.

Justice of the Peace Jade Meeker on Monday issued a writ of re-entry order because she found no evidence of rent delinquency or that notice was given regarding the reason for eviction.

She also ruled that there was an appearance that the eviction may

have violated the Americans with Disabilities Act.

Attorney Frank Hill, who is representing the landlord—Capitol Star Center owned by Sue and Joe Shell—said his clients had no idea about Lozano's illness at the time.

He said the ballet company had been late paying their rent almost every month since the Shells bought the building in July 1993.

Lozano, 40, died March 4 of AIDS-related pneumonia.

Jim Harrington, the legal direc-

tor for the Texas Civil Rights Project, who is representing Ballet Folklórico, said the company has always paid the rent within a couple of days at the beginning of the month.

A full hearing on each sides' claims will be held April 19.

# Scientists report evidence AIDS can cause cancer directly

By RICHARD COLE  
FOR THE HOUSTON VOICE

SAN FRANCISCO, Friday, April 8 (AP)—Scientists already know that infection with the AIDS virus can lead to cancer by weakening the immune system. But a new study suggests the virus causes cancer directly, by switching on cancer genes in the cells it invades.

The finding could lead to better treatment for both AIDS and cancer. But it also raises doubts about the safety of some forms of gene therapy and casts a cloud over scientists' goal of creating an AIDS vaccine.

AIDS has been associated with certain types of cancer, including lymphoma and Kaposi's sarcoma, that most researchers believe take advantage of the weakening of the immune system.

But in a study being released

today, researchers at the University of California at San Francisco found that when the AIDS virus inserts its genetic material into a cell's DNA, it can apparently activate a nearby cancer-causing gene.

That gene then starts up a less common variety of lymphoma, non-B-cell lymphoma, though the exact mechanism remains a mystery, Drs. Michael McGrath and Bruce Shiramizu said.

"This is the first direct evidence that we have a human virus causing cancer through some mechanism—not just indirectly by immunosuppression," McGrath said.

The scientists spent two years reviewing 30 lymphoma cases and found four in which the AIDS virus inserted itself into the same spot in a cell's DNA. McGrath said the researchers now have additional examples, and they estimated that up to a third of

all cases of non-B-cell lymphoma in AIDS patients may be directly caused by the virus.

The study is to be published April 15 in *Cancer Research*, the journal of the American Association for Cancer Research.

Dr. William A. Blattner, chief of the viral epidemiology branch of the National Cancer Institute, called the finding an important step in understanding how a retrovirus—the class of virus that includes the AIDS virus—can cause cancer.

"This has been seen in animal retrovirus, but it's the first example of an insertional retroviral situation in man," he said.

Dr. Dawn Willis, a virologist and scientific program director for the American Cancer Society, called the study "a very exciting finding."

She said the link between AIDS and cancer was always

considered indirect because no one had ever found the AIDS virus in a cancer cell before. The discovery could suggest research in tracing the role of viruses in other cancers.

"It definitely leads us in some directions," Shiramizu said. "Lymphomas, Hodgkin's disease—right now we don't know what's causing them."

Now that researchers know where to look for viruses, further discoveries are possible, he said.

But the study also casts a cloud over the goal of creating a live-virus AIDS vaccine. The study's authors and other scientists fear such a vaccine could trigger cancer genes while halting AIDS.

More broadly, the study raises questions about the use of any retrovirus in a vaccine, as well as their increasing role in the new field of gene therapy. Retroviruses can be

used to carry a gene into an organ to correct its functioning.

"This causes a lot of concern over the use of retroviruses for anything—for vaccines or even gene therapy," McGrath said. "Hooking up a gene to a retrovirus and then infecting human cells might risk cancer."

But Shiramizu emphasized that the study doesn't show the AIDS virus' exact role in causing cancer, leaving related long-range questions unanswered.

Dr. Irving Chen, director of the University of California at Los Angeles AIDS Institute, called the study very important if confirmed.

But he said it was important to know how often the virus caused cancer, and how long it takes to develop. That could determine whether a future AIDS vaccine is worth the cancer risk.

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## Utah AIDS Foundation cuts services because of financial troubles

SALT LAKE CITY, Wednesday, April 6 (AP)—The Utah AIDS Foundation has cut hours and staffing because of dwindling donations and a shortfall in federal funds.

"The support has gone down and the people we're trying to serve has increased tremendously," said LaDonna Moore, director of the nonprofit organization.

The agency will be closed Fridays. One staff member was laid off, another's hours were reduced and the remaining 17 employees have taken a 20 percent pay cut.

"It's bound to impact how many we can serve," Moore said.

A recently completed state survey found the AIDS virus may infect as many as 6400 Utahns.

Since 1983, 506 Utahns with AIDS have died. That does not include another 194 whose AIDS was diagnosed elsewhere but who died in Utah.

The AIDS Foundation offers crisis counseling, grief therapy and a statewide hot line. It provides companions for those who have no family to be with them when they die.

AIDS and their families. And volunteers deliver 20 hot meals every week to people unable to leave their homes. That program, supported by Holy Cross and LDS hospitals, will not be disrupted by the reduced hours, Moore said.

The foundation also provides community education and prevention, including outreach in the state's parks and bars and among its population of prostitutes.

Moore said she is most worried how the Friday closing will affect clients in need of crisis

diagnosed, any of our walk-in population, you'd have to be concerned about anyone who would find us closed," she said.

She said the funding shortfall was caused by an increased demand for services at the same time as donations fell. The decline in donations has numerous causes, Moore said.

"Apathy. Grief weariness. There are a lot of people who don't believe that being gay is OK," she said. "Anyone who sees AIDS as an issue of morality and not a public health issue is going to impact us."

## Gay student's book review spawns controversy at Maryland high school

By SEAN O'SULLIVAN  
FOR THE HOUSTON VOICE

BERLIN, Md., Thursday, April 7 (AP)—In the past several months, 17-year-old Jennifer Canard, has twice called her mother in tears asking her to come to Stephen Decatur High School and take her home.

In addition to the pressure of schoolwork, Canard has gotten into shouting matches in the lunchroom, been called things unprintable in a family newspaper and jostled in the hall. She also watched the entire girls' washroom quickly empty as she entered.

Canard, a junior, returns to school each day only with a great deal of reluctance. Her mother, Debbie Hindi, said because of the past few months she no longer feels certain her child will be secure in the hands of the school system. Every day seems to hold the promise of more trouble.

Why the anguish? Jennifer Canard is gay and nearly everyone at Stephen Decatur High School knows it.

Despite her distinction as a target of scorn at SDHS, Canard appears to be a normal teen-ager: slightly shy around strangers and terminally embarrassed by her family. When her mother injected herself into a conversation, Canard rolled her eyes, flashed the braces on her teeth and drawled out as only a teen-ager could: "Mother!"

"I guess I'm different from most other kids... but I don't think so," she said.

Canard's emerging sexual orientation, which she said she has never tried to hide, was elevated to a matter of public debate earlier this year after a parent complained in an open school board meeting about an article Canard wrote in the school newspaper.

In the November issue of the Stephen Decatur "Hawk," Canard favorably reviewed "Tim & Pete: A Unique Love Story," a book with homosexual themes.

"I am going to take a risk and recommend this book to anyone with an appreciation for humor and a love for the realistic," wrote

Canard.

She did not realize exactly how risky that recommendation would be.

The review touched off a wave of homophobia at the school. A second wave followed a month later when Tom Anderson, a parent and local political activist, complained "The Hawk" was "promoting the gay agenda" in allowing the review to be printed. He said school officials should exercise more control over what is put into the newspaper.

"I (and several other parents) felt it was not proper for a high school paper. Suppose it had been (a review about) a pedophile love story," said Anderson. "The school paper is supposed to carry things about proms and sports events."

Canard's article was not sexually explicit, nor did it endorse homosexuality, but Anderson said encouraging students to read that book was "almost recruitment."

The paper's faculty adviser, the school principal and the

board of education all stood by the decision to publish the review, saying it was an opinion piece and Canard was entitled to her opinion.

"I honestly did not think (the review) would be controversial. I underestimated the opposition to that lifestyle," said student editor-in-chief Jamie Hand, adding she was happy to get some diversity of opinion in the paper.

Faculty adviser Shirley Moran said this was not the first article "The Hawk" has ever published that dealt with homosexuality.

Anderson's comments, however, caught the attention of the local press and two papers carried reports of the controversy. Soon afterward, a reporter called Canard at home and asked her point blank: "are you homosexual?"

Canard, who said she had been struggling with that question for about two years, put the reporter on hold for several minutes to consider her answer and ask her mother for advice.

Hindi told Canard she could always decline to answer, but she eventually told the reporter she was bisexual.

She said she does not regret admitting the truth, but added, "once you say it, it's not something you can take back."

The next school day, copies of the newspaper were all over. Canard said the negative reaction was not limited to fellow students. At one point, a faculty member holding a copy of the story, loudly voiced his negative opinion within earshot of Canard.

"The positive responses I've received have overcome all the negative things for me," said Canard, who has received many supportive phone calls and letters, some from gay students who have looked to her for support.

While Canard said she had no regrets, she conceded her comments have made life tough.

"It has been stressful, especially for my family and for my mom," she said. "I just deal with it the best I can."

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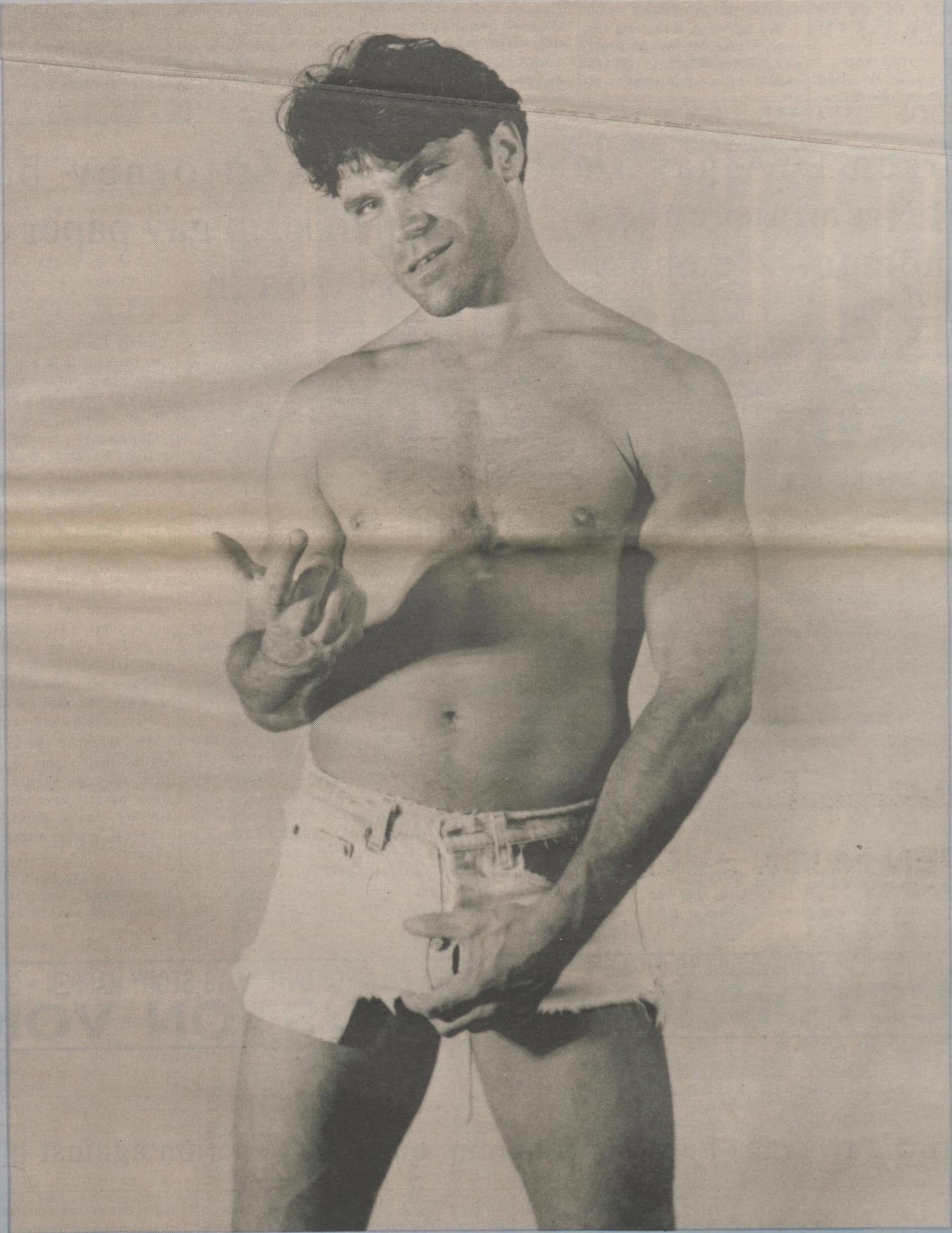
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*Photo by Jay Allen*

## Mixed verdict for Catholic student in poster charges at Pittsburgh university

PITTSBURGH, Wednesday, April 6 (AP)—A college student is planning to appeal a punishment of two months of probation because he removed a poster that criticized the Roman Catholic Church.

A dean at Carnegie Mellon University ruled Tuesday that Patrick Mooney violated the free-speech rights of cmuOUT, a gay students' group, when he took down the unsigned poster March 3 in Baker Hall.

Headlined "Stop the church," the poster described New York Cardinal John O'Connor

as a "public health menace" for his opposition to condoms, which prevent transmission of AIDS. O'Connor's stances on contraception and homosexuality have prompted demonstrations by AIDS activists at Catholic churches in New York.

Mooney was cleared of an accusation that he berated a gay drama professor who told him he agreed with the poster.

"We don't look at this as a victory," said Mooney's attorney, Peter Blume. "There should be no punishment at all."

He said Mooney, a senior political science major from Frederick, Md., will appeal to Carnegie Mellon President Robert Mehrabian within a week. The probation will not delay Mooney's graduation this spring, Blume said.

Drama professor Tim Saternow told Mooney "there was a bit of truth" to the poster just before Mooney removed it. Saternow said he told Mooney that removing the poster violated university policy.

"He admits to removing the poster because he was going to take it to the dean's office

next day, which he did," Blume said.

"He took the poster down because it violated a university policy that the name of a sponsoring organization must be on a poster," Blume said. "He also was planning to protest because the poster was offensive to him as a Roman Catholic."

Saternow alleged that after the poster was removed, Mooney verbally harassed him about his criticism of Catholic opposition to homosexuality and contraception. He said Mooney knew in advance of Saternow's

book bag.

Mooney said he did not harass Saternow. He said he asked Saternow to explain his criticisms, and he said the professor responded that it was none of Mooney's business.

Saternow declined comment Tuesday evening.

Students on probation face more severe punishments if they commit other offenses, said Murphy, the CMU dean. He declined to comment on Mooney's need to protect the privacy of everyone involved.

## Colorado PTA gay rights debate reminiscent of Amendment 2 campaign

COLORADO SPRINGS, Colo., Monday, April 11 (AP)—A gay rights debate reminiscent of the Amendment 2 campaign is raging among members of the Colorado Parent Teacher Association.

An eight-member PTA committee plans to introduce a resolution during a state PTA convention later this month that is designed to protect homosexual students from harassment.

Since the draft resolution was announced, the Colorado PTA has been swamped with calls. At least one local PTA group has voted against the resolution.

Some critics fear the resolution would allow educators to refer students to off-campus, "pro-homosexual counselors" and for adult homosexuals to recruit in the schools.

"Homosexuals are being invited into the schools and are raising doubts in children's minds about religious prohibitions against homosexuality that they've been taught," said Barbara Sheldon, chairperson of the Colorado chapter of the Traditional Values Coalition.

Sheldon's group wants to put an alternative resolution before the PTA that would prohibit schools from receiving state money if they implement a program to encourage or support homosexuality as "a positive lifestyle."

In 1992, Colorado voters approved

Amendment 2, which would prohibit laws that outlaw discrimination based on sexual orientation. It was ruled unconstitutional by a Denver district court judge last year. The ruling is being appealed.

The PTA committee cited high rates of suicide, homelessness and dropouts among homosexual students as evidence of the need to protect them from harassment.

The resolution also would encourage access, primarily at the junior or senior high levels, to information about homosexuality, bisexuality and transsexuality. Parental permission would be required for students to get the information.

If the resolution is approved at the April 28-30 convention, it will be submitted at the national PTA convention in June.

The resolution "really has to do with basic human dignity," said Mary Davis, president of the El Paso Council PTA. "We're not condemning or condoning a lifestyle. We're not even talking about adults. We're talking about youth(s) who are being harassed."

Kat Willett, who heads the PTA committee, said the resolution would allow individual PTA groups to decide whether to support it. "We couldn't force them to do anything on seat-belt safety, let alone homosexuality," said Willett of Lakewood.

## Fairfax attorney backs plan to keep gay paper out of easy reach

FAIRFAX, Va., Tuesday, April 12 (AP)—A Fairfax County staff attorney backed a controversial policy to keep a newspaper aimed at homosexuals out of easy reach of young library patrons.

County Attorney David Bobzien said the county's Library Board was on firm legal ground in voting to place copies of the weekly "Washington Blade" on a high shelf in county libraries.

"The attorney's opinion verified we have a good policy," said Library Board member Mark Sickles.

In a memorandum dated Monday and obtained by The Washington Times, Bobzien answered questions from the board about the legal issues involved in the yearlong fight over distribution of the Blade.

The Blade contains explicit personal ads and sometimes carries photographs or descriptions of homosexual affection.

The newspaper is distributed free in the lobbies of the county's 22 branch libraries and a single issue is kept with the libraries' periodicals.

Opponents of the newspaper wanted it banned from libraries, but the

Library Board last year refused to do so. Instead, bulk copies of the paper were placed on the high shelf, out of reach of youngsters but still accessible to adults.

Opponents, led by conservative activist Karen Jo Gounaud, want the paper restricted further, either by placing it behind the counter or in a separate adults-only area.

Mrs. Gounaud said Bobzien's memo indicates the board could do more to restrict the paper.

"He made it clear that ... if they sequestered the Blade it was defensible in court," Mrs. Gounaud said. "It is perfectly legal to recognize some material as unfit for minors."

Sickles and other board members said they have no intention of changing the policy, which they said is working.

Mrs. Gounaud and others have also shifted their sights to other publications they say should be restricted. Some parents have complained to the Library Board about explicit personal ads in other magazines and newspapers.

"It certainly isn't fair to pick on homosexual material like the Blade," Mrs. Gounaud said.

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## California city keeps Explorer program, but studies action against gay ban

LAGUNA BEACH, Calif., Wednesday, April 6 (AP)—The city has decided to keep its Police Explorer program while exploring ways of its own to battle a Boy Scouts of America ban on gay members and leaders.

Councilman Robert Gentry said Wednesday the debate was complicated because "we have a very popular program in our community, and that popular program excludes a major segment of our population."

A city ordinance prohibits discrimination because of someone's sex life. The City Council voted unanimously Tuesday night to lobby the Boy Scouts to change its position against homosexuals and to study setting up the city's own police intern program.

Explorers here and in other cities help police with non-hazardous work such as searches and traffic control. The programs lead to police careers for many youngsters. Eleven are in Laguna's organization.

National leaders of the Boy Scouts of America say parents don't want gay role models for their children. A decision in the 2nd District Court of Appeal last month supported the organization's right to exclude the unwanted.

While many at the meeting urged cutting all city ties with the scouts, others argued for keeping the Police Explorer program intact while lobbying the scouts to change. There was no support for the homosexual ban, however, Gentry said.

"One of the wonderful things about this

is not one person stood up and said gays should not be permitted to join the program, which meant that we've come a long way in our movement, in educating people and our civil rights," said the councilman, who is gay.

A task force will come back with recommendations in six weeks, Gentry said.

"I think the city took a major step forward, and that was to abhor the Boy Scouts' position and say we're going to do something about it," he said.

## Oregon anti-gay measure ruled ineligible for ballot

By CHARLES E. BEGGS  
FOR THE HOUSTON VOICE

SALEM, Ore., Tuesday, April 12 (AP)—The fate of a proposed anti-gay rights initiative measure once considered highly likely to be on the November ballot now is clouded by uncertainty after a judge's ruling.

Marion County Circuit Judge Rod Miller said the proposal is not eligible for the ballot even if its sponsor, the Oregon Citizens Alliance, collects enough signatures to submit the measure to the voters.

Miller ruled that the proposal violates a provision of the Oregon Constitution barring proposed constitutional amendments containing more than one subject.

OCA Chairperson Lon Mabon said the organization will appeal the ruling, as will the state Department of Justice.

Marla Rae, department spokesperson, said Miller's decision injects confusion into the whole process "and invites new court challenges of every new initiative."

The court fight is not over, but the OCA has to deal with a new timing problem. The group has a July 8 deadline to submit at least 89,000 signatures to the secretary of state in hopes of a November vote.

Mabon said the OCA will file a new initiative proposal aimed at satisfying Miller's concerns and will gather signatures on both initiatives. If Miller's ruling stands, the second proposal would be substituted, assuming at least 89,000 signatures are collected for it.

Mabon said about half the needed signatures have been collected for the original proposal.

Julie Davis, executive director of Support Our Communities, a Portland-based group fighting OCA measures, said she was pleased by the court ruling but that it is just a small part of the overall controversy.

"It's a victory we should enjoy and recognize as one victory in a much larger battle," she said. "OCA will be back again and we have to plan and prepare to fight its initiatives."

"Clearly they're not going to go away. They will recraft their measures and try to confuse the voters."

Voters in 20 cities and counties have passed local OCA-backed measures similar to the proposed statewide law. But a law passed by the 1993 Legislature bars enforcement of the local ordinances.

Charles Hinkle, a Portland lawyer who represents the American Civil Liberties Union and argued for disqualifying the measure, said the ruling was a victory for voters.

"The constitution requires a single subject so voters are not confused or misled," Hinkle said.

He said the ruling would have been the same, for example, if a single measure were proposed to ban gillnet fishing and field burning.

Mabon said OCA opponents are bringing lawsuits to do what they cannot do at the ballot box.

"It seems like the homosexual community, considering that they can't win any of these local measures, have moved into the courts to find friendly supporters to try and stop the will of the people by judicial fiat," he said.



## Hawaii same-sex marriage bill moves toward full Senate vote

HONOLULU, Thursday, April 7 (AP)—State Sens. Ann Kobayashi and Rosalyn Baker added their signatures to same-sex marriage bill on Wednesday night, moving it out of committee and on to a full Senate vote, Judiciary Chairperson Rey Gaulty said.

The controversial bill would prevent the state from licensing marriages between two people of the same sex.

Gaulty had been racing a Friday midnight deadline to secure enough committee votes to send the bill to the Senate floor.

Kobayashi and Baker joined fellow Democrats Randy Iwase and Richard Matsuura and Republicans Stan Koki and Rick Reed in backing the bill.

Judiciary members Matt Matsunaga and Andy Levin have staunchly opposed the measure.

The four senators that previously pledged support of the measure must now approve some minor language changes, Gaulty said.

If the bill passes the full Senate in a vote scheduled for next Tuesday, it will move on to a conference committee that will work out its differences with the more limited House version passed earlier.

The Legislature is acting in response to a state Supreme Court ruling made last year that puts the burden on the state to prove a compelling reason for discriminating on the basis of gender when it comes to marriage.

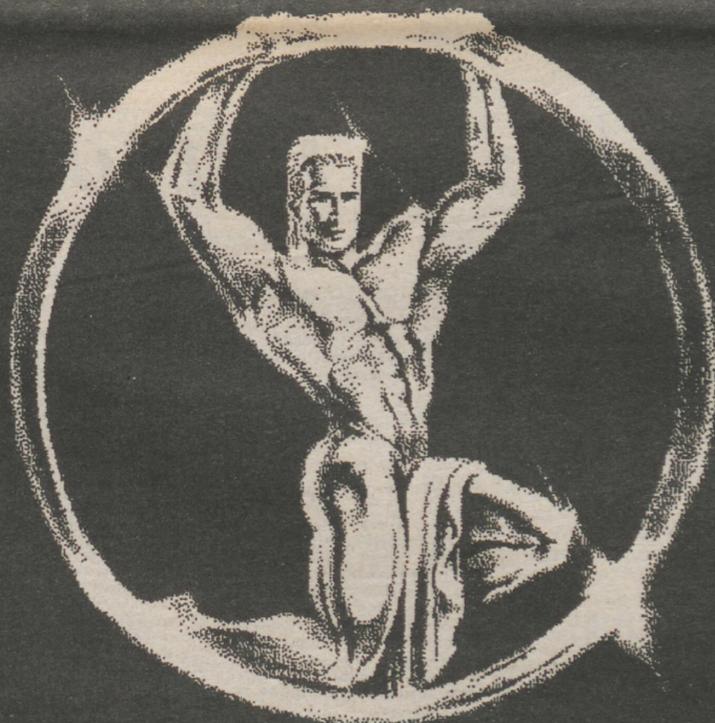
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(ek-stror'-de-ner'-e, ik-, ek'stre-or'-) adj.

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# Jimmy Emerson gives grand performance at Kon Tiki; Lafitte's gets ready for Muffin's b-day; fashion show planned at Evolution

## GALVESTON SOAP

By JERRY STUART

Houston Voice/Galveston

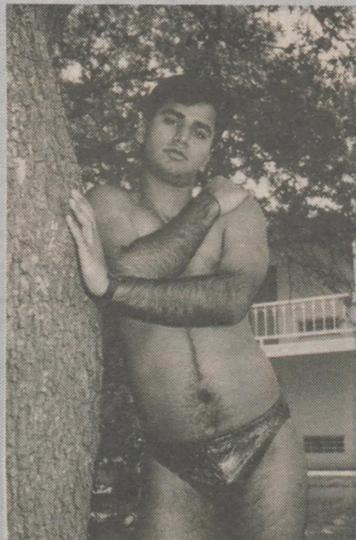
This past weekend I stopped by the Kon Tiki Club Saturday night to see the Roxie Starr show starring Jimmy Emerson. She was a real hoot, just as the New York Times said she was. The show lasted about one hour and "my how the time flew by." Jimmy literally flew through about five different costume changes and each different caricature was fabulous. My favorites were Roseanne Barr and Devine, but they were all very funny. The Galveston crowd loved him and would certainly like to see more of this type of entertainment at the clubs in the future. Jimmy's show plays regularly at the Riviera Hotel Casino "An evening at La Cage in Las Vegas. On behalf of my sisters at the Kon Tiki I would like to thank Ron Burgess as well as Jesse Garza for bringing these shows to Galveston.

While I'm on the subject of grand shows ad entertainers Lafitte's is planning one this Friday night April 15 for Muffin's birthday. God only knows the true age of the old broad but if you come by the bar for the 10:00 p.m. show we'll all roast the old bird and maybe she'll sing for us.

The show in her honor will include Crystal Tremain (Miss Lafitte's 1994) as well as Cassie Nicole, Buffie Galore, our newly crowned Miss Evolution, Jessie B. and a special guest as well as Muffin herself. Check their ad in this week's issue for details.

Club Evolution is also planning a great show in the very near future and believe it or not it's not a drag show. This show is one we can all relate

to and the topic being one any red blooded American queen can appreciate; that being "fashion!" Sources tell me the show is going to be put on by some of the hottest guys in Texas and they'll be modeling some Basic Brothers hottest 1994 summer swim wear. Picture it girls, beautiful men in some of the skimpiest, sexiest swim wear and lingerie that Basic Brothers has to offer. They'll all be there to entertain you until your tongues get hard. So bring your cash and cameras because this is one show you won't want to miss. Stay tuned for exact times and dates. Be sure to watch for the ads in upcoming issues of the Houston Voice.



Haji Dawood on the Island

Also while I'm on the subject of hot men in swim wear; I'm starting boys of summer in my weekly column.

This week I would like to introduce you to Haji. He is 21, single and lives in Houston. He loves coming to Galveston to visit the beach and hopes to some day build his own home on the coast. He dreams of waking up to some he loves on one side of him and a view of the ocean on the other side of him. This modern day Aladdin is from Pakistan but has lived with his brother for 5 years. His favorite past times are swimming, dancing, hiking but most of all shopping. He now attends college at the University of Houston and is majoring in accounting. He also pursues a career in modeling. So what do you all think of the first person in my New Boys of Summer (section of the Houston Voice)? Mmmm... Stay tuned for more hot guys and girls in Galveston Soap section.

Before I sign off I just want to remind you all about our annual Splash Day coming up soon. Until next week have fun and don't forget to play safe.

## Two arrested in Washington state during protest of no-show anti-gay leader

LAKESWOOD, Wash., Wednesday, April 6 (AP)—Two people were arrested during a protest of the scheduled appearance of the leader of an anti-gay movement.

The two were among about three dozen protesters who turned out

at the Lakewood Mall Tuesday night hoping to confront Lon Mabon, chairperson of the U.S. Citizens Alliance.

The two were cited for trespassing and obstructing police and released, said Curt Benson, a

Pierce County sheriff's spokesperson.

The Washington Citizens Alliance, an offshoot of the national organization, had scheduled a meeting at the mall's community meeting room. But they said

Mabon's appearance was canceled because of a scheduling conflict.

Instead, Phillip Ramsdell, the alliances's national field director, spoke at the mall meeting. The national alliance is pushing

state initiatives that would prevent homosexuals from being classified as minorities and exclude them from protection against discrimination in jobs, housing, lodging and obtaining credit.

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.

# Houston Gay Personals

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

### "LET'S HAVE A DATE?"

Man to man, let's connect!! Well adjusted, high-spirited, good-looking, masculine, "well built", GM, 36, 6', 170lbs., gr/br, DDF, non-smoker/medium drinker looking for same to date/sleep with/be in a relationship with. I'm through with bars and attitude; Let's treat ourselves to a little intimacy, honesty, and adventure. I have multi-various interests...we have a lot to talk about... Please respond for more details. Ad 25759

### BABY WANTED BY GWM!!

Me: Handsome, stable, self-employed. You: attractive GHF/GWF who desires no contact with infant. I would agree to having two children -1 for each if you also desire parenthood. Also if you have or know of anyone unable to care for an infant (preferably male) please contact me. Ad 25766

### MALE COUPLE SEEKING HOT PLAYMATE!

GWM couple, mid 50's and 20's, both bearded (5'8", 250 -6', 185). Seeking young hung, hot, hard, hairy, multi-organic, GWM/GBM/GHM for a top position and french action. Bare upper torso/swimsuit photo or any photo appreciated. Ideal for a young top seeking fun times. Voice box 25911 detailing your interest.

### HEARTTHROB!

32 yr. old healthy professional, 6'1", 170lbs, well built, black/brown, moustache, sensual, attractive, witty, and loves good company. Enjoy dining out, movies, theater and anything else. You: same age group, build, looking for fun times and maybe more. Go ahead! Take a chance! Ad 25784

### LOOKING FOR THE RIGHT MAN

25-45, masculine, neat in appearance and at home, DDF, NS, (light drinker) who wants to share apartment in a peaceful, quiet, very luxurious atmosphere, with a mature person. Must be financially responsible and able to afford \$400 monthly for his part of rent and utilities. Ad 25700

### OUTGOING, ATTRACTIVE, MASCULINE, PROFESSIONAL

seeks same GWM/BIWM for special friend and safe fun. I and respondent will have a great sense of humor, weight in proportion to height (or thin), DDF/NS, under 45 years of age, clean shaven (moustache okay), not into bars or S & M, and have time to spend with a new special friend. Ad 25011.

### DOES THE OUTDOORS, ANIMALS AND PLANTS

appeal to you? Are you a slim, warm, considerate, GM between 30-45? I am a GWM, br/br, 5'10", 160lbs, 40, handsome, trim, and smooth, NS, DDF. Likes long walks, swimming, and intelligent conversation. Enjoy spiritual topics (A Course in Miracles), new age thought and astrology. Want intimate non-smoking buddy for companionship possibly more. Ad 25745

### 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

### SUBMISSIVE MEN!

are sought by Houston man (44, 5'9", 180, hairy, aggressive, demanding). Seeking 21-48, masculine, any race. I travel on business so out-of-town replies are welcome. Ad 25134

### GALVESTON: LOOKING FOR SEXUAL BUDDIES

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

### SEEKING AFFECTIONATE GENEROUS GENTLEMAN SUGAR DADDY

Tall, healthy, sensual, affectionate, fun, friendly, athletic, stable, ambitious, sincere, out-going, handsome, blond, varied interests. You: fit, height/weight proportionate, affluent, very generous gentleman. Able to give: affection, fun, friskiness, contributions, gifts, travel, etc. Casual to serious relationship. Privacy, discretion, friendship, companionship assured. Let's fulfill each other's needs, wants, desires. Ad 25978

### EPITOME OF FEMININITY!

Looking for an extremely ultra-feminine woman, slim/medium build, a warm, gentle, calm, stable, positive personality who'll be the "center of my attention, who loves being pampered. Me: GWF, soft butch, small build, blonde/blue. I like doing unto a woman as I would have her do unto me. Ad 25553.

### QUALITY OLDER SEEKS QUALITY YOUNGER!

If you are young, slim, healthy, not addicted to alcohol/drugs, and would enjoy gay fun times with a mature WM who is decent, sincere, sensitive, and will treat you right, I would like to meet you. Ad 25947.

### SCORPIO LOVERS ARE WONDERFUL MAGIC MAKERS

GWM, 6', 190, br/br, handsome, distinguished, professional, well-educated, and traveled, socially and financially secure, in search of a drug/smoke free masculine GWM 30+. Healthy, happy, honest, sincere, romantic, fun-loving guy. One who enjoys dining by candlelight, quite evenings at home, "black-tie affairs," old movies, opera, theater. Most important loving and being loved and wanting a long term monogamous relationship. Ad 25275

### LOOKING FOR ...

GWM 31, goodlooking, professional, masculine, honest and sincere. 5'11", 140lbs, br/green eyes, DDF/nonsmoker looking for same GWM 32-42 who is interesting in a monogamous relationship. Serious responses only. Ad 25785

### ATTENTION: WHITE CALVIN WEARERS

GWM, Daddy bear, 43, 5'6", moustache, balding, hunky, HIV-. Successful professional with a dry sense of humor and a lot of energy. Not looking for love, relationship, or anything serious-just someone who wants to play and who likes to cuddle after. If you are 23-35, straight, bi, or gay, athletic, and look hot in white Calvins, why not give it a try? Attorneys, architects, doctors a plus. Ad 25387

### MAN TO MAN!

GWM, 38, independent, fun-loving person, romantic, passionate, aggressive, HIV+. Who is active and enjoys working out and living life day to day. Seeks GWM in shape (30 to 40) who would enjoy an evening of good safe fun...possibly longer. Ad 25780

### COME OUT, WHERE EVER YOU ARE!

GBM, 41, 5'11", 195lbs., beard and moustache, receding hairline, HIV+, asymptomatic. I enjoy good conversation, evenings at home, movies, museums, dining out, and just about anything you can think of. Seeking good natured, masculine men, H/W proportional, with similar interest for friendship, dating, and other fun activities. I want to hear from you. It's time for something different. Ad 25974

### 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.

### SOUTH AMERICAN COUPLE WANTS A BOY!

We 25/34 y.o., white, nice looking. You: 18-22 y.o., white, cute, boyish good looks, slim, DDF who likes an intimate cozy friendship. Social drinking and smoking okay and must like pets. Ad 25747

### YOU'VE THOUGHT ABOUT THIS TOO?

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

### 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.

### RESTLESS IN MONTROSE, SEEKS PLAYMATE

Playmate should be a GWM, 35-45 who is a "top" only for this GWM, 41, HIV+, 5'9", 140#, br/br with moustache playmate. I am of small endowment, "bottom" only, but active/passive in all other areas of play. Cuddling, exploring each others bodies and having a mutually hot time is what I desire. I smoke and occasionally drink, if you think I could be your plaything then please respond to Ad#25904

### ARE YOU INTERESTED?

I'm an attractive 39yr. old, 5'9", 150#, well built professional WM that enjoys working out, art, music, outdoors, travel, dinners out, good conversations and hot times with masculine, muscular men of all ages and races. If you are muscular and looking for someone to date and perhaps develop a relationship, let me hear from you! Ad#25935

### LONDON, PARIS, SYDNEY, NEW YORK CITY

Travel companion wanted for traveling around the USA and the world. Travel agent needs reliable and responsible GM to accompany him to split cost at discounted prices. Must be non-smoker and drug free. Prefer light drinker to non-drinker. Passport required. Possible relationship. Ad 25972

### SMALL TOWN GAL...

who is a mature, outgoing, humorous, positive minded, completely unattached, 30+ GWF who loves to enjoy life. Maybe we can build a friendship into a possible relationship. (I'm also old-fashioned) If you are an intelligent GWF or GHF with similar or compatible interests, why not take a chance? We'll never know if there is a future for us unless you respond! Ad 25748

### VERY ATTRACTIVE, SINCERE, DARK HAIR, BLUE EYES, 5'10" AND 180LBS., INTERESTED IN MEETING SOMEONE TERRIFIC FOR A LONG TERM MONOGAMOUS RELATIONSHIP ... FUN TO BE AROUND, INTERESTING, FOCUSED, MASCULINE AND SINCERE. Ad 25783

### DOMINANT GWM

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

### HAVE AN AFFAIR

GWM, 30ish, Clear Lake Homeowner, educated, well dressed, limited social time due to profession, DDF, work-out, seeks: WGM, bi, or married man 25-45, for serious affair, DDF, personality and sense of humor a must. Ad 25778

### AFFECTIONATE GM SEEKS SAME!

24 yr. old GBM, 6all, slender, cute, boyish looking. Interests: theater, politics, jazz, mythology, opera, eating out, history, books, conversations, writing, art, cd shopping, bookstore browsing, handholding, hugging and cuddling. Seeking gentle, affectionate GM (age 23 or older) for friendship, possibly more. Any race. NO REPUBLICANS. Ad 25786

### FLIGHT ATTENDANTS

Come visit Atlanta Blue eyed top, boyish, 38, romantic, sexy, seeks: safe bottom boyfriend for hot fun. Ad 25787

### 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 hearted and sincere! Ad 25769

### LONELY BIWM SEEKING SAFE FUN

I'm 5'6", weight proportionate, DDF/NS/LD, average looks, 44, sincere, discreet, masculine, likes sports, reading, movies, dining out and intimate evenings plus a BIGWM with same qualities as above. Experienced, average looks, height/weight proportionate 30-50, DDF/NS/LD equals safe fun times -no strings, let's talk. Let's meet and talk. Ad 25378

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With 3 item donation to Stone Soup

**TUE**

**FREE LOCKERS To Young Men Ages 18 - 22**

PLUS 1/2 price lockers, rooms & video rooms  
With 3 item donation to Stone Soup

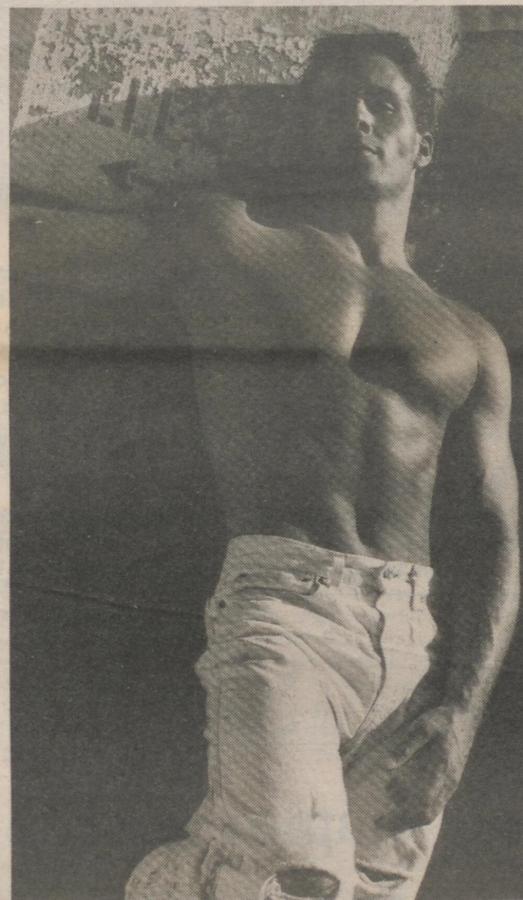
**WED**

**1/2 PRICE lockers, rooms & video rooms**

**THURS**

**HOT MALE DANCERS!**

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## 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 low jobs and talk dirty on the phone. Mail Box 1176

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

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

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

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

**DOUG**, 27, good looking, straight acting WM, dark hair/eyes. I have a great, muscular body, and am into leather. Looking for the same with a big dick. 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

**PAUL**, very successful business man. Looking for traveling (cross-country/global) companion. You must be very young (18-24), versatile and very good looking. I am a wild older guy (39). I will compensate accordingly. Mail Box 1378

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 16.

## Gay employee sues Woodstock nursing home over firing

WOODSTOCK, Vt., Tuesday, April 12 (AP)—A Woodstock nursing home is being sued by a man who claims he was fired because he is homosexual and because he rebuffed the unwanted sexual advances of a female co-worker.

Darryl Warwick is seeking \$850,000 from the Mertens House nursing home, plus his legal costs.

Lawyers for both sides have instructed their clients not to discuss the case publicly.

Vermont outlawed employment-related discrimination against homosexuals in 1991, and sexual harassment has been against the law since 1980.

Warwick worked as a nurse's aide at Mertens—a seven-year-old home with trustees that have included prominent Woodstock business people—for two years before being dismissed in July 1992.

He sued more than a year ago, but both sides have only just begun gathering information for the case.

According to court records and comments by attorneys, Warwick, 32, bounced among a number of jobs until he was hired at Mertens in June 1990. But relations with

his co-workers started to sour.

Warwick's suit says the home's stated reason for firing him was a "relatively minor" insult flung at a co-worker. In reality, the suit says, "As the only male employee on staff, (he) was subjected to unwelcome sexual advances, pressure and harassment by one of (the) corporation's employees."

"When he resisted the advances and pressure, the corporation's female employees, in their superior capacity, turned against him and began discriminating against him."

The suit claims Warwick's hours were reduced, he was put on inconvenient work shifts, and he was subjected to "insults and baseless accusations."

Warwick's suit also charges, without details, that the staff discriminated against him because he was gay.

But Peter Welch, attorney for Mertens House, said that charge is false.

"The staff and management at Mertens House have literally zero concern about a person's sexual orientation," Welch said. "He was fired for poor performance. It's very simple. He did a lousy job."

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## Seattle area mother loses bid to get son back from gay couple

By **TIM KLASS**  
FOR THE HOUSTON VOICE

SEATTLE, Tuesday, April 12 (AP)—The state Court of Appeals has ruled that a woman who gave up custody of her son, then tried to get him back after he was placed with gay foster parents, has no grounds for her case.

The three-judge panel ruled unanimously Monday that because Megan Lucas, 22, of Orcas Island already had given up custody of the toddler, she lacked legal standing to petition to adopt him.

The decision reversed a ruling by Whatcom County Superior Court Judge Steve Mura, who said the 3-year-old boy could be placed with Lucas while the state evaluated whether she could adopt him.

Lucas, who bore the child while she was an unmarried teen-ager, surrendered her parental rights on Sept. 8, 1992, after a history of child neglect, drug and alcohol abuse. At the time she was married, but separated from her husband, and had a second child, a daughter.

She filed a request to reverse the decision on Sept. 9, 1993—a day too late under state law. That left adoption her only chance.

But appellate Judge Rosselle Pekelis wrote that under state law, "termination of parental rights deprives a parent of standing to appear in all legal proceedings concerning his or her child."

The boy has been living with Ross and Louis Lopton of Seattle, who were granted custody as foster parents by the state Department of Social and Health Services. Despite Mura's ruling, the boy remained with the Loptons because the state obtained a stay pending appeal.

The Loptons hope to adopt the boy. Washington is one of six states in which adoptions by same-sex couples are allowed.

In court papers Lucas said having the boy raised by a gay couple was "her worst nightmare." But she has also told The Associated Press that she wasn't fighting to regain custody because the Loptons are gay.

Using unusually strong words, Pekelis criticized Mura for a ruling "so contrary to established principles in the law of adoption."

She added that, "this blatant attempt to circumvent the legitimate exercise of the department's custodial authority is utterly devoid of merit."

The decision will be appealed to the state Supreme Court and, if necessary, to the U.S. Supreme Court, said Richard C. Kimberly, Lucas' lawyer.

"There are parental rights that are federal, constitutionally protected rights," Kimberly said.

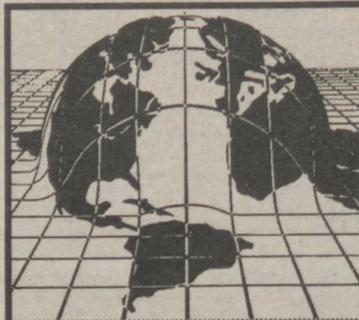
The father of the boy has never come forward. Lucas, who is 6 months pregnant, is separated from her husband, Wade Lucas. The couple has a daughter. Despite the separation, both want to pursue the adoption case, Kimberly said.

The case has been further complicated by a bankruptcy petition filed by the Lucases in August, a month before they began trying to regain custody of the boy.

They listed assets of \$5,677 and debts of \$43,573, but a private adoption specialist they hired to prepare a report to Mura on their parental suitability said they told her they were debt-free.

They were represented in Bankruptcy Court by David Vis, the only partner in Kimberly's law office at the time, but Kimberly has denied any knowledge of the bankruptcy case until sometime after the adoption battle began.

The state Bar Association has opened a disciplinary investigation of Kimberly in the matter.



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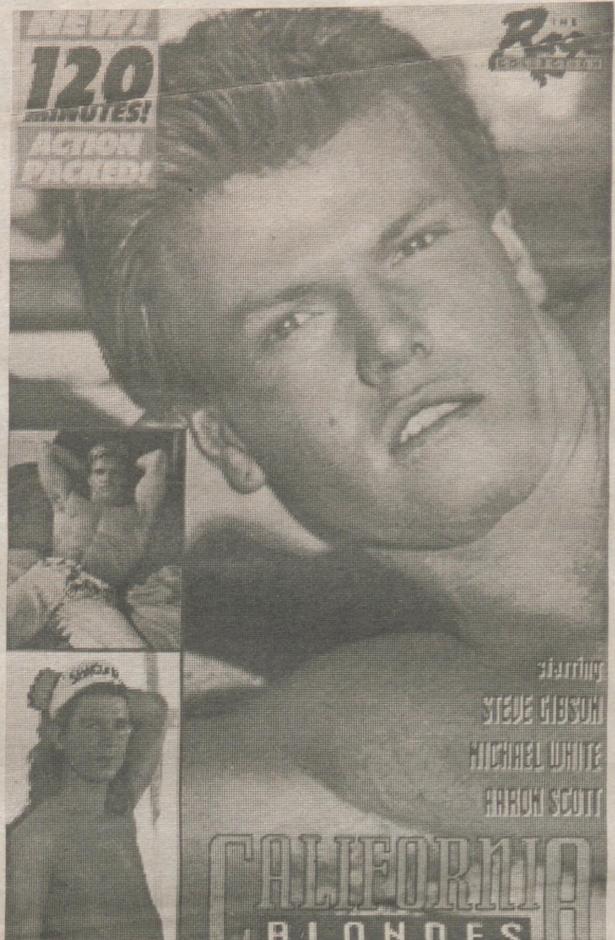
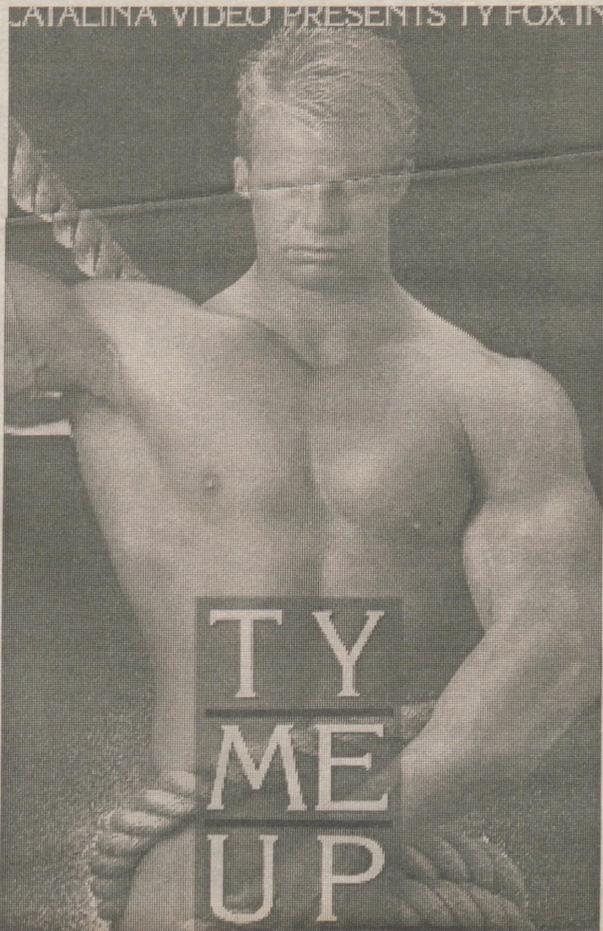
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## • To PLACE a Personal Ad by Phone:

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.

## • ADDITIONAL REQUIREMENTS:

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.

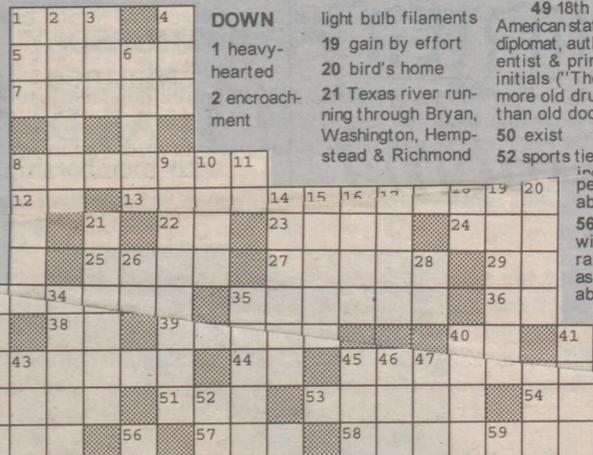


# THE HOUSTON VOICE SPECIAL PUZZLE

Includes Clues About Montrose, Texas Clues, Standard Crossword Clues

By Henry McClurg  
**ACROSS**

- 1 flags that have flown over Texas
- 5 herb related to the carrot
- 7 distills, dribbles
- 8 sparing of words
- 12 commercial in this newspaper, with large roadrunner statue, 2 words
- 22 state with violet as official flower, abbrev.
- 23 raised or lifted upward
- 24 Lincoln's first name
- 25 edges
- 27 Texas has 250,000 miles of these
- 29 a bunch of the 20th letter of the alphabet
- 30 city in Texas & Arkansas
- 35 loaded, packed
- 36 positioned
- 37 medical worker in the military
- 38 abbrev. for ounce
- 39 standards, averages
- 40 prefix for 'two'
- 42 real name for some people named Harry
- 44 U.S.-based int'l news service
- 45 Mexican President Carlos
- 49 LBJ's middle name
- 51 person addressed
- 53 capital of 1st country to extend diplomatic recognition to the United States
- 54 horsepower,



- DOWN**
- 1 heavy-hearted
  - 2 encroachment
  - 3 Roman numeral for 12
  - 4 he is, contraction
  - 6 to make good-natured fun of
  - 8 Mirabeau Buonaparte, a president of the Republic of Texas, known as father of public education in Texas
  - 9 June 94 will be 50th anniversary of this WWII invasion
  - 10 colored part of the eye pupil
  - 11 state with mountain laurel as official flower, abbrev.
  - 14 fleet blessed in Galveston every April
  - 15 implements used to accomplish work
  - 16 egg-shaped
  - 17 surrender
  - 18 symbol for very hard, metallic element
  - 20 bird's home
  - 21 Texas river running through Bryan, Washington, Hempstead & Richmond
  - 26 state with peony as official flower, abbrev.
  - 28 state with Pierre as capital, abbrev.
  - 30 longest interstate highway in Texas, 878 miles
  - 31 verb suffix used to form past participles
  - 32 Roman numeral for 11
  - 33 having more aches
  - 34 Asian peninsula containing Seoul
  - 35 deceitful
  - 40 incisive, clear-cut
  - 41 cable sports network
  - 43 one chosen at random
  - 45 Casablanca piano player
  - 46 in the sleeping furniture
  - 47 not strict
  - 48 interjection used to express surprise
  - 49 18th century American statesman, diplomat, author, scientist & printer, initials ("There are more old drunkards than old doctors.")
  - 50 exist
  - 52 sports tie breaking time period, abbrev.
  - 56 state with Sacramento as capital, abbrev.
  - 59 Roman numeral for 200
  - 62 Roman numeral for 1400
  - 65 Stevenson, Demo candidate against Eisenhower, initials ("The whole basis of the United Nations is the right of all nations—great or small—to have weight, to have a vote, to be attended to, to be a part of the twentieth century.")
  - 66 Cinco de Mayo celebrates Mexico's 1862 defeat of these people
  - 67 Texas storm of 1961
  - 68 Canadian province with capital Regina, abbrev.
  - 70 Gulf of St. Lawrence Canadian island/province, initials
  - 71 18th letters of the alphabet
  - 75 symbol for ratio of circumference of circle to its diameter

- 22 state with violet as official flower, abbrev.
- 23 raised or lifted upward
- 24 Lincoln's first name
- 25 edges
- 27 Texas has 250,000 miles of these
- 29 a bunch of the 20th letter of the alphabet
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- 42 real name for some people named Harry
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- 45 Mexican President Carlos
- 49 LBJ's middle name
- 51 person addressed
- 53 capital of 1st country to extend diplomatic recognition to the United States
- 54 horsepower,

- 55 abbrev.
- Norse goddess of love & beauty
- 57 acronym for agency in charge of Texas prisons
- 58 Treaty of Guadalupe Hidalgo ended this war
- 60 adjective & adverb suffix for comparing 2 items
- 61 exist
- 63 state with dogwood as official flower, abbrev.
- 64 young cow
- 68 American film mogul Goldwyn, initials ("No person who is enthusiastic about his work has anything to fear from life.")
- 69 home of Shell Oil Company chemical complex, 2 words
- 72 smile scornfully
- 73 state with Nashville as capital, abbrev.
- 74 licensed advanced bookkeeper
- 76 state with hibiscus as official flower, abbrev.

- 3 Roman numeral for 12
- 4 he is, contraction
- 6 to make good-natured fun of
- 8 Mirabeau Buonaparte, a president of the Republic of Texas, known as father of public education in Texas
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- 71 18th letters of the alphabet
- 75 symbol for ratio of circumference of circle to its diameter



## GALAXY GAZER

A HOUSTON VOICE EXCLUSIVE

### HOROSCOPE FOR THE WEEK OF APRIL 16 - APRIL 22, 1994



Houston Voice readers born this week share with noted playwright, Thornton Wilder, born 1897, a sense of finality as noted in his play, 'Our Town'.

**ARIES (Mar 21 - Apr 19)** Trust your intuition about a new friend and begin dating seriously. Go easy on spending a significant amount of monies on this new person, as much as your generous interests would suggest. In all likelihood the new friend does not have the finances that you do and maybe over come by your ability to spend. What she/he is really interested in, in any ways, is spending quality personal time with you alone.

**TAURUS (Apr 20 - May 20)** I strongly recommend that you pay attention to you within a relationship. I other person clearly know of you interest in continuing the relationship and the extra amounts of effort that you are willing to spend to make the relationship work. Simple things as being neater and more orderly, a note under the pillow, a flower besides the bed or in her/his car, a note to their office marked personal if safe, and squeezing the toothpaste tube their way will all count.

**GEMINI (May 21 - June 21)** Enjoy your new surroundings if traveling and be aware of the wonderfully different aspects of new cultures. You enjoy taking charge of details and trying to have others enjoy their days with you. You would make a good travel agent with these two characteristics. Communicate your personal needs and do not be afraid to admit to others that you also have needs. Your gentle way can sometimes be miss read as a lack of drive.

**CANCER (June 22 - July 22)** Your elevated happiness level this month makes you a fun person to be around. Share your upbeat attitudes with others. Stay away from people who tend to be down in personality and look at the half filled cup as being half filled. A new hair style will help to get you noticed by a special other person. Perhaps a shorter length is now just right for you.

**LEO (July 23 - Aug 22)** Make your self as indispensable at the office as you are able to, to make your job more secure and hopefully to obtain a raise in salary in the future. Your supervisor will notice the extra productivity and willingness to make your company as competitive in today's market as possible. Dressing in a more up scale manner will add further importance to your position.

**VIRGO (Aug 23 - Sept 22)** Strongly suggest that you reign in on your spending tendencies and set aside a specific amount from each paycheck for the future. Look through the cupboards and use what you have on hand to cut current expenditures. You will be amazed as to the number of valuable things that you have stored and have forgotten about. Try to get down to only one credit card.

**LIBRA (Sept 23 - Oct 23)** Take advantage of the decorative side to your personality and work about your home to add a bit of new color to the walls. The is the time for spring flowers to be planted, also. A new person in your life will be impressed with the style and flare that you have about life. And be sure to have the special plate of cookies on hand afterwards for munchies.

**SCORPIO (Oct 24 - Nov 21)** Plan to purchase and use a gym membership this spring and summer as you tone your body in anticipation of meeting someone special. Like it or not, the other person will notice your body before your personality. Look at your wardrobe and chose the form fitting clothing that best shows off your body. If in doubt, visit our friends at Appearances and Basic Brothers to get some valued help.

**SAGITTARIUS (Nov 22 - Dec 21)** Increased sexual drive for the next three will be an exciting change for you. Watch where and with whom you interact with, as you may not be as choosy as you should be. Keep a list of the more interesting persons that you meet, and when this period of time is over, go back to the list and contact the more interesting people. You may find that your sexual interests are more varied that you have considered.

**CAPRICORN (Dec 22 - Jan 19)** You may experience a bit of restlessness in your relationship to trick out and see if you have the ability to pick up a person and make it with them. This is a common drive that many of us have after being in a relationship for a while. Another way out of this is to have sex with your partner in a new setting, and let your fantasies take over. The baths and books stores maybe just the place.

**AQUARIUS (Jan 20 - Feb 18)** Your need for more order in your life will be met by going through your closets and dresser drawers and seeing what items are no longer needed, and then having a garage sale or passing the worthy items on to a charity. After this is done, consider the garage for a similar Spring cleaning. Coming home from the Office and seeing your quarters in order will do wonders for you. You may find in the process, some of your lost 'toys' that you thought your ex-lover had left with.

**PISCES (Feb 19 - Mar 20)** Your energy level will continue to climb over the next month and friends may find you hyper and more than they can easily handle. Make use of the increased drive to finish your income tax forms early this year, cleaning you home and car to get admiring remarks from someone whom you wish to impress, and writing to friends who have moved to other Cities. Be careful about falling love during this high energy time.

## SEE AN IMPORTANT NEWS STORY HAPPEN • CALL THE HOUSTON VOICE

### RECIPES BY THE KUNTRY KIDD



Well, it's time to add a little spice to your life. With this recipe you could fix poultry or pork, would be my choices, but since you are the one cooking, have at it. It's an easy recipe, and fixed the way the recipe calls for, no one has thought it to be too spicy. Of course, I don't invite whussies to my place for dinner.

#### SHOE PEG CORN CASSEROLE

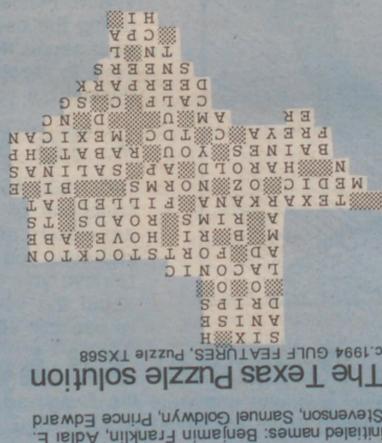
- 1 large onion, chopped
- 1 tablespoon margarine
- 1 can Ro-Tel Tomatoes (I tried Kroger's brand, cheaper and good)
- 1 tablespoon dried onion soup
- 2 cans (12 ounce size) shoe peg corn, drained
- 1 can (8 3/4 ounces) cream style corn
- 12 ounces sharp cheddar cheese, grated

Sauté onion in margarine until clear. Add tomatoes and onion soup, mix. Stir, cooking for 10 minutes. Add corn. Bake in uncovered casserole for 20 minutes. Remove from oven and sprinkle with cheese. Return to oven until cheese is melted and bubbly. May be prepared a day ahead. Serves 6 - 8.

Don't be concerned if you can't find the exact sizes of corn listed. To be sure though that you use shoe peg corn, it will say "show peg" on the can. I think I used Green Giant. Ho, ho, ho!! Happy eating.

UNTIL NEXT WE EAT!

KUNTRY KIDD



The Texas Puzzle Solution  
Evolution  
Stevenson, Samuel Goldwyn, Prince Edward

## LONELY? Read the Houston Voice PERSONALS in the BLUE PAGES

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Robert's LaFitte	2501 Avenue Q	765-9092
HOUSTON (A/C 713)		
Amie's	403 Westheimer	523-0030
Bacchus	2715 Waughcrest	523-3396
Backyard Bar & Grille	10200 S. Main	660-6285
Berryhill II	15346 Kuykendahl	587-8810
Brazos River Bottom	2400 Brazos	528-9192
Briar Patch	2294 W. Holcombe	665-9678
Club Houston	2205 Fannin	659-4998
Cousins	817 Fairview	528-9204
E/J's	2517 Ralph	527-9071
Gentry	2303 Richmond	520-1861
Heaven	812 Pacific	521-9123
JR's	808 Pacific	521-2519
Lazy J	312 Tuam	528-9394
Mary's	1022 Westheimer	527-9669
Midtown Spa	3100 Fannin	522-2379
Montrose Mining Co.	805 Pacific	529-7488
Ms. B's	9200 Buffalo Spdwy	666-3356
Outpost	2818 Richmond	520-8446
Pacific Street	710 Pacific	523-0213
QT's	534 Westheimer	529-8533
Ranch	9200 Buffalo Spdwy	666-3464
Red Room	1419 Richmond	529-3367
Rich's	2401 San Jacinto	759-9606
Ripcord	715 Fairview	521-2791
Venture-N	2923 Main	522-0000
XTC	9200 Buffalo Spdwy	666-3464