

Congress sends conflicting messages on HIV military measure

Dornan riders repealed, approved same day

FROM STAFF AND WIRE REPORTS (WASHINGTON)—A measure requiring the military to discharge service members with the AIDS virus won approval by a House panel last Thursday—the same day Congress was voting to repeal the same provision in current law.

The same panel, the House National Security personnel subcommittee, also voted to re-establish the ban on gays serving in the military.

Both proposals were drafted by conservative Rep. Robert Dornan, R-Calif., chairperson of the subcommittee. On a voice vote with a few Democrats dissenting, the subcommittee approved them as part of the personnel portion of the 1997 defense budget.

Mere moments before the House voted 399-25 to overturn the discharge law, Dornan inserted language to restore it in the 1997 Defense Department authorization. The mixed message from Con-

gress drew mixed reactions from local and national gay leaders and others concerned with the issue.

Pat Gandy, president of the Houston Gay and Lesbian Political Caucus, lauded the Budget agreement vote, saying, "It is heartening to note that the Republican leadership finally ignored the hate-mongers in Congress and agreed with President Clinton that dismissing persons with HIV from military service was inhumane and improper public policy."

Gandy expressed dismay, however, on learning that Dornan had repackaged his amendment and reintroduced it at a markup of the 1997 defense authorization.

Congress last year approved Dornan's AIDS discharge measure without ever casting a separate vote on it. It rode into law as part of a larger defense bill. Clinton signed the bill because it included salary and other issues for military personnel, but encouraged groups to question its constitutionality by saying the Department of Justice would not defend the rider. A broad coalition that included gay rights activists, senior military officers, President Clinton and veterans groups then lobbied for the repeal.

"President Clinton is to be congratulated for sticking to his guns and insisting that this rider be removed," commented Gandy. "He made it one of the things on which he insisted that the Republican leadership compromise."

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Candlelight Memorial planned at Rothko Chapel

The 13th International AIDS Candlelight Memorial and Mobilization will be observed in Houston Sunday, May 19, at dusk, at the Rothko Chapel, 1409 Sul Ross at Yupon.

The annual event, started in San Francisco in 1983, honors the memory of those who have died of AIDS and demonstrates support for people currently living with HIV/AIDS. This year's local memorial service will feature speakers with personal experience fighting in the war against AIDS, including the Reverend Troy Plummer from the Bering United Methodist Church, as well as live music.

The theme of the 1996 event, which will be coordinated in Houston by the HIV Service Providers, is "AIDS Discrimination is a Global Epidemic." Around the world, persons living with HIV/AIDS suffer discrimination caused by fear, ignorance and misconceptions about the disease. Such discrimination promotes, rather than

prevents, the spread of HIV and AIDS.

The International AIDS Candlelight Memorial and Mobilization is coordinated under the auspices of Mobilization Against AIDS, a San Francisco base non-profit organization. For more information about the Houston observance of this special event please contact Lori Emison, with the HIV Service providers, at 964-2953.

HATCH

supports youth

(HOUSTON)—Teenage years can be tough years. Peer pressure...parental pressure...pressure to excel in sports and academics. Then there are the physical, psychological and emotional changes. All are hard to deal with.

And, if that isn't tough enough...what if you're gay? Is there anybody out there who understands what you're going through? Anybody your age who can identify with you?

Enter HATCH. The initials stand for Houston Area Teen Coalition of Homosexuals.

Originally founded in 1987, the group had a quiet existence for several years. In 1992, under the leadership of co-directors Jay Asher and Trish Morgan (Koldney), HATCH began gaining momentum when it became a 501(c)3 non-profit organization. In its early days, a handful of young people attended HATCH meetings regularly. Now, attendance at the meetings averages 30-40 youth, according to the group's coordinators.

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RuPaul

Drag MegaStar
Recording Artist
Movie Star
Self Assured
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Bonnie Tyler
Recording Artist
Next Week



A Night of Gay Stand-Up Comedy

“La La Pa Lesbo!”

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A percentage of proceeds will be donated to the MCCR Choir Fund

Community Calendar by Carolyn Roberts

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

Friday, May 3

- * Borders Book Store Gay/Lesbian Book Club meets at the Espresso Bar at 9634 Westheimer. Call 782-6066.
- * HIV Art classes at the Art League. Call 523-8817
- * HATCH meets. Call 942-7002.
- * 12 step program at Montrose Counseling Center. 6:00 p.m. Call 529-0037.
- * Aftercare Group Treatment at Montrose Counseling Center. 6:00 p.m. Call 529-0037.
- * Houston Tennis Club meets at 7:15 p.m. Call 527-1348.
- * Q-Patrol meets to walk the streets at 10:30 p.m. Call 528-SAFE.
- * Free Buffet at the Brazos River Bottom. 4:00 p.m.
- * The Women's Group meets at 10:45 a.m. Call 529-8571.
- * Cinco de Mayo fundraiser at Club Some. 7:00 p.m. Call 626-2837.
- * Russian Work/Houston Work: Art opening at the Art League at 6:00 p.m. Call 523-9530.
- * Harvey Bott: Art opening at the Art League at 6:00 p.m. Call 523-9530.
- * Using the Resources of Business Incubators to Accelerate Business Growth luncheon workshop at 11:45 a.m. Call 932-7495 X 42.
- * Phantom of the Auction at the Glassell School of Art. 8:00 p.m. Call 639-7300.
- * Houston Professional Men's Association meets at 7:00 p.m. at the Moose Cafe. Call 520-9083.

Saturday, May 4

- * Houston Chain Gang Bicycle Club rides. Call 863-1860.
- * After Hours on KPFT 12:00 a.m. to 3:00 a.m. 90.1 FM. Call 526-5738.
- * Gulf Coast Transgender support group meets. Call 780-4282.
- * Q-Patrol meets to walk the streets at 10:30 p.m. Call 528-SAFE.
- * Visual Art Alliance meets at 10:00 a.m. Call 583-8408.
- * "Salon des Oeuvres Refuses: Art opening at the Firehouse Gallery. 6:30 p.m. Call 520-7840.
- * Heartsong presents its 10th anniversary homecoming concert at 8:00 p.m. Call 947-1488.
- * Determining your Entrepreneurial Exponent for Starting a Business workshop at 9:00 a.m. Call 932-7495 X 40.
- * Film at the Museum of Fine Arts Houston: John Peirson at 3:00 p.m. and Sonic outlaws at 7:30 p.m. Call 639-7300.
- * Houston Chain Gang rides at 10:00 a.m. Call 863-1860.
- * RuPaul performs at Rich's at 7:00 p.m. Call 526-2853.

Sunday, May 5

- * Houston Chain Gang Bicycle Club meets. Call 863-1860.
- * Front Runners meet at 9:00 a.m. at the Tennis center in Memorial Park. Call 522-8021.
- * HATCH meets. Call 942-7002.
- * Inner Loop Sunday Bowling League. Call 522-9612.
- * Out in Ft. Bend meets. Call 344-0638.
- * Brunch at the 611 12:30 p.m. \$3
- * Steak Night at the Brazos River Bottom. 5:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m.
- * Montrose Softball League plays at the Tim Hern field starting at 10:00 a.m. Call 867-3913.
- * Montrose Ice Picks skate at noon. Call 629-1432.
- * Pool Tournament at Chances. 6:00 p.m.
- * Houston Tennis Club meets at 10:30 a.m. Call 537-1348.
- * Mark Sullivan performs at Cafe Maison. 11:00 a.m. Call 528-6750.
- * Open Mike Acoustic Jam Session at Cafe Maison. Call 528-6750.
- * The Women's Group meets at 10:45 a.m. Call 529-8571.
- * Watercolor Art Society meets at 1:30 p.m.

Call 583-8408.

- * Gallery show at the Watercolor Society of Houston. 10:00 a.m. Call 583-8408.
- * Film at the Museum of Fine Arts Houston: Sonic Outlaws at 7:00 p.m. Call 639-7300.
- * Galveston Freedom Fest at the East Beach.
- * PFLAG meets at 2:00 p.m. Call 867-9020.

Monday, May 6

- * Gay Fathers/Fathers First support group. 8:00 p.m. Call 861-6181.
- * HeartSong open rehearsal at the First Unitarian Church at 7:00 p.m. Call 526-9095.
- * Calendar/Computer workshop for Pride Week. 7:00 p.m. Call 529-1223.
- * Positive Living Group at Montrose Counseling Center. 2:15 p.m. Call 539-0037.
- * Outpatient Group Treatment at Montrose Counseling Center. 6:00 p.m. Call 529-0037.
- * Women and HIV/AIDS Group at Montrose Counseling Center. 6:15 p.m. Call 529-0037.
- * Men Survivors of Sexual Abuse Group. Montrose Counseling Center. 6:15 p.m. Call 529-0037.
- * Lesbian Survivors of Cancer and their care givers at Montrose Counseling Center. 6:30 p.m. Call 529-0037.
- * Men's HIV Group at Montrose Counseling Center. 7:00 p.m. Call 529-0037.
- * Pool Tournament at the Brazos River Bottom. 8:00 p.m. Call 528-9192.
- * Queer Nation meets at 7:30 p.m. at 2700 Albany.

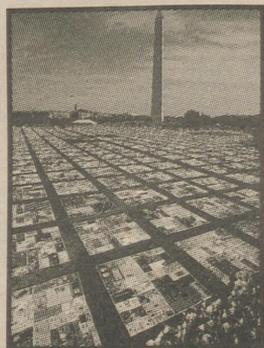
Tuesday, May 7

- * Helping Cross Dressers Anonymous meets at 239 Westheimer. 8:00 p.m. Call 495-8009.
- * Basic Computer Skills Class at the Kolbe Project. Call 522-8182.
- * Southern Country gives dance lesson at the Ranch. 9200 Buffalo Speedway. 8:00 p.m.
- * Gay Men HIV+ Psychotherapy at Montrose Counseling Center. 4:30 p.m. Call 529-0037.
- * Outpatient Group Treatment at Montrose Counseling Center. 6:00 p.m. Call 529-0037.
- * Aftercare Group Treatment at Montrose Counseling Center. 6:00 p.m. Call 529-0037.
- * AIDA Alliance of the Bay Area meets at 7:00 p.m. Call 488-4492.
- * Empowerment for Living meets for pot luck. Call 861-9149.
- * PROTECT support group meets at 7:00 p.m. Call 520-7870.
- * Free HIV testing by the Montrose Clinic at Club Body Center. 8:00 p.m. Call 520-2083.
- * Women Survivors of Childhood Abuse. Montrose Counseling Center. 6:30 p.m. Call 529-0037.
- * Survivors of loss support group meets at 8:30 p.m. Call 778-2677.
- * Free Dance Lessons at the Brazos River Bottom. 9:30 p.m. Call 528-9192.
- * Live Jazz at Borders Book Shop. Call 782-6066.
- * Pride Committee of Houston meets at 6:30 p.m. Call 529-6979.

Wednesday, May 8

- * Houston Tennis Club meets at 10:30 p.m. Call 537-1348.
- * Shiela Lennon performs at Chances. 9:00 p.m. Call 523-7217.
- * Houston Pride Band practices at Dignity Houston. Call 524-0218.
- * GLOBAL meets at 4:00 p.m. Call 743-7500.
- * Women's Action Coalition meets at Toopies. 7:00 p.m. Call 867-9581.
- * Men's Network at Montrose Counseling Center. 7:00 p.m. Call 529-0037.
- * Houston Tennis Club meets at 7:15 p.m. Call 537-1348.
- * Lambda Rollerskating Club skates at 8:00 p.m. Call 933-5818.
- * Women's Network at Montrose Counseling Center. 7:00 p.m. Call 529-0037.
- * Ongoing Mixed Living in Process Group for men and women. Call 622-7250 for more info.

(Continued on page 14)



**Sure It's A Three-Day Weekend,
But What's So Special About
This Memorial Day?**

It's the last day to send a Quilt panel to the NAMES Project for it to be part of the showing of the entire AIDS Memorial Quilt in Washington, DC.

All memorial panels received by May 31 will be unfolded on the National Mall, October 11-13 in the largest AIDS awareness event ever.

Remember Their Names



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713-526-2637

NAMES Project Dallas Metroplex
P.O. Box 190869
Dallas, TX 75219-0869
214-520-7397

The NAMES Project Foundation
310 Townsend Street, Suite 310
San Francisco, CA 94107
Tel: 415/882-5500
http://www.aidsquilt.org

NAMES Project Ft. Worth/Tarrant County
1418 Milam Street
Fort Worth, TX 76112-3339
817-336-2637

Actress, author and animal rights activist Mary Tyler Moore

By JON ANTHONY

Houston Voice/Houston

"Oh Rob!" It's been nearly 30 years since Mary Tyler Moore regularly wailed that famous utterance on the classic Dick Van Dyke show. Trooper that she is, Moore delivered that ethereal pop culture phrase for the hundreds of fans who lined up at the Tanglewood Super Crown Bookstore last Friday to catch a glimpse of the legendary actress who was in town signing copies of her best-selling autobiography, *After All*. Moore, looking splendid and radiant, was in top form as she obviously enjoyed herself and graciously posed with her fans for pictures and granted the opportunity to the *Houston Voice* for a discussion on her rigorous campaign against the drug Premarin.

Mary Tyler Moore's stellar career has many milestones and accolades. After Van Dyke, Moore starred in her own critically acclaimed award winning sitcom, *The Mary Tyler Moore Show*. The show garnered an impressive 29 Emmy awards and spawned three successful spin-offs: *Rhoda*, *Phyllis* and *Lou Grant*, all of which were produced by MTM, Moore's production company with then husband Grant Tinker. Her show ran for seven seasons and was consistently rated in the top ten. It was groundbreaking television and became the catalyst that created a new standard for excellence. Various producers and writers from the Mary Tyler Moore Show have gone on to create *Taxi*, *WKRP in Cincinnati*, *Cheers* and *Frasier*, to name a few.

Since then, Moore has starred in

four short-lived television series: *Mary* (a variety show whose ensemble debuted the talents of David Letterman and Michael Keaton), *Mary* (a sitcom), *Annie McGuire* (a dramedy) and the ill-fated *New York News*, on which she displayed her dramatic acting abilities. The show was wrought with creative differences between the star and the producers. "I was relieved," Moore told me when asked about the experience. "It wasn't turning out to be what the high hopes were for it," she replied.

Additionally, Moore left her mark in many feature films, both on the small tube and big screen. She received rave reviews and an Academy Award nomination for her spectacular performance in *Ordinary People* and has starred in numerous other films with the likes of James Garner, Christine Lahti, Robert Preston and Bernadette Peters, who Moore describes in her book as a "dear friend." During the interim, Ms. Moore displayed her exercise prowess with the best-selling *Mary Tyler Moore's Every Woman's Workout*. An accomplished ballet dancer, Moore has remained in shape through a regular exercise regimen.

After All is a well-written book that provides the reader with an anecdotal insight into her life. Always forthright, often funny, and at times poignant, Moore's autobiography is an introspective work that speaks candidly



Mary Tyler Moore at Houston book signing

about the trials and travails surrounding her bouts with alcoholism and diabetes and the loss of her son, Richard.

With newfound happiness both personally and professionally, Moore is at ease with herself. She is happily married to Dr. S. Robert Levine, who was with her at the book signing, and is committed to causes that impact her. A devout vegetarian and animal rights activist, Moore has enthusiastically lent her voice and stature to champion those beliefs. She relates in her book that once she realized the harm inflicted upon animals for mundane, unnecessary purposes, she became a strict vegetarian and donated her Russian sable coat to an organization called People for the Ethical Treatment of Animals (PETA), whom Moore describes as "a well intentioned but sometimes overly aggressive group."

True to form, Moore campaigned against a drug called Premarin last week. Premarin, derived from pregnant mares' urine, is prescribed to ease menopause symptoms. Moore screened an undercover PETA video in New York City that clearly shows the mares confined with limited water. Recently, at the shareholders meeting of Premarin manufacturer Wyeth-Ayerst, Moore unveiled a list of women who said they'll never take the drug.

"Premarin is an estrogen replacement drug that has been around for years and years and years," said Moore. Moore is appalled at

the way the mares are treated and is adamant about making the public aware of the injustice. "The mares are kept in very tight quarters and have urine collection mechanisms strapped to their haunches six months out of every year. This goes on. They are on cement. They are very seldom out for any kind of exercise. They give them very little water because they don't want to dilute this stuff," elaborates Moore.

Despite that "Premarin acts as a menopausal relief and it prevents or works to prevent osteoporosis," Moore stresses that "there are other drugs on the market and have been for many years... And, they are plant based in some cases and some are synthetic." Moore spoke from personal experience, as she shared that she had switched to one of these other drugs years ago.

Moore adds that "in the name of humanity, there is no reason why anyone should be on Premarin anymore." It is quite evident that Ms. Moore is on a mission to inform the public of the plight these animals must endure unnecessarily. She encourages those who are sympathetic to the matter to "talk about it to their female friends who may be of the age when they're going to think about taking something to replace the estrogen. In turn," she adds "they should talk to their doctors and their gynecologists because very often the doctors don't know what's going on. They're not familiar with it, they're too busy treating their patients to know what drugs are what."

Candid, witty and just plain nice, Moore is truly a remarkable woman. It was evident during the evening as she agreed to stay and greet her fans until the line vanished, even though her contract did not obligate her.

I asked Moore about plans, albeit rumored, for a movie version of The Dick Van Dyke show. "Not that I know of; if there are, they haven't told me," she replied. Moore stated in *Entertainment Weekly* that if a movie version was in the works, she "would love to see Meg Ryan play Laura. And Hugh Grant could play the Dick role, as it were." When pressed, she said "Yes, it did come to me. I think she's wonderfully funny and real."

Moore can be seen in the uproarious new film *Flirting with Disaster*, co-starring Lily Tomlin and Alan Alda. *After All*, published by Putnam, is available at Crown and other bookstores.

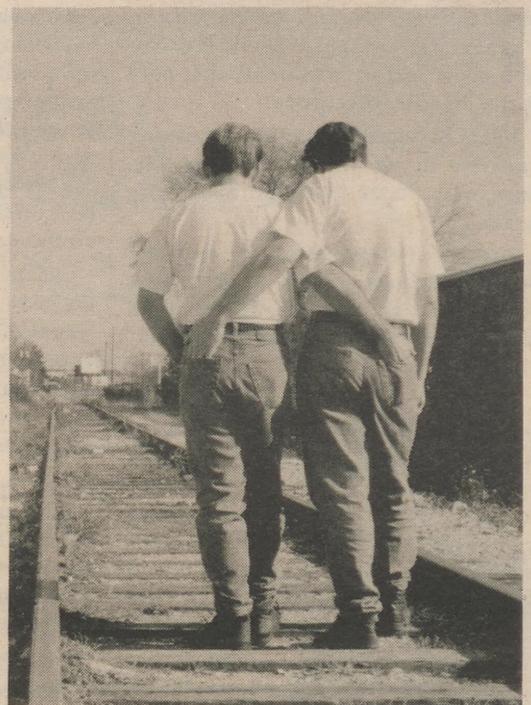
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Organization supports gay youth

(Continued from Page 1)

Kevin Davidson joined the fledgling group as a trustee. Davidson, now in his second term as president of the organization, said he sees HATCH as a critically needed support group for gay and lesbian youth. "Statistics show that there is a disproportionate number of suicides among gay youth. One of our goals is to provide peer support—to let them know that they are not alone."

Davidson is quick to point out, however, that HATCH does not provide mental health counseling. There are numerous mental health associations that provide support for both gay and heterosexual youth, he notes.

"Other groups handle mental health needs. HATCH is strictly an avenue for youth to gain knowledge about their orientation," Davidson says. "In fact, the youth who attend HATCH have already self-identified as homosexual."

HATCH does provide education on health issues such as HIV, sexually transmitted diseases, drug and alcohol abuse and suicide prevention.

"We also want to provide positive role models for gay and lesbian youth," Davidson continues. "The youth who attend HATCH meetings come from all socioeconomic backgrounds. They are rarely presented any positive (gay) role models from home life and certainly don't receive any positive reinforcement in the school systems."

The HATCH youth have two opportunities to meet on weekends: Friday and Sunday. The Friday meeting assists the youth with both educational and personal matters. With adult facilitators leading the discussion, the youth can choose from a variety of topics.

Currently, over 30 facilitators are trained to lead the discussion or activity groups. The youth decide what topics

are going to be presented.

On Sunday, the youth gather for a group social activity. Whether it's going to a movie, eating out or dancing, they can go with a group where they can be themselves.

Both for discretion and to ensure that HATCH is a safe environment, the youth themselves screen all persons wishing to attend a meeting before disclosing the meeting location. "We are under the auspices of a church," Davidson says, "and have never had any safety problems with anyone attending a meeting."

Anonymity is one of the basic tenets of HATCH. The youth are guaranteed confidentiality due to the lack of societal acceptance, even at the family level.

"It is the vision of HATCH to achieve societal acceptance without regard to sexual identity." To learn more about HATCH meetings or to become a facilitator, phone (713) 942-7002.

'Palimony' lawsuit filed against Van Cliburn

By KEVIN O'HANLON
Associated Press Writer

FORT WORTH, Texas (AP)—A former associate sued pianist Van Cliburn for palimony, seeking millions in cash and property and alleging that Cliburn exposed him to the AIDS virus during a 17-year sexual relationship.

Thomas E. Zaremba, 48, a former member of the board of the Van Cliburn Foundation, brought the suit Monday in a court in Tarrant County that normally handles divorces.

"This has been absolutely a shocking surprise to me this afternoon," Cliburn, 61, told the Fort Worth Star-Telegram.

Zaremba is represented by attorney Mike McCurley, who represented tennis player Martina Navratilova as the defendant in similar litigation four years ago.

McCurley said Zaremba met Cliburn in 1968 and the two became sexual partners in 1977. The lawyer described the relationship as "akin to a common-law marriage" and said it broke up two years ago. McCurley said Zaremba does not have the AIDS virus and that he had no reason to believe that Cliburn has HIV. But he accused the pianist of

having sex with other people who were HIV-positive during his relationship with Zaremba.

Cliburn said he has not been tested for HIV and does not have AIDS.

Zaremba, who teaches mortuary science at Wayne State University in Detroit, declined to comment when reached at his home in a Detroit suburb.

Although the exact total had not been determined, Zaremba will seek "multiple millions" of dollars in cash and property, McCurley said. He contended the pair agreed to share Cliburn's income in exchange for Zaremba providing services as a business and personal consultant, the lawsuit contends.

Cliburn rose to fame in 1958 at 23 when he won the Tchaikovsky International Music Competition in Moscow. He toured for the next 20 years, but suffered from stage fright. He left the stage in 1978 after earning a fortune but returned to touring on a reduced schedule two years later.

His foundation sponsors the Van Cliburn International Competition for the world's most prestigious piano gold medal. The 10th competition is to be held in Fort Worth next year.

IN MEMORY OF



**EDWARD "EDDIE"
JOHN HAUSCHILD**
(wearing hat)

Born: March 1, 1951

Died: May 4, 1994

You stood beside me.
I was blessed with the
love you gave.

You gave me faith, when I could not see.

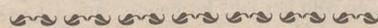
The strength to go on, when I felt all was lost.

But through it all, my life has meaning, because of you and our enduring love.

You are still the wind beneath my wings.

My love, life, & companion.

John



HOUSTON VOICE

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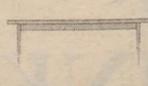
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Phone 522-5428 or Pager/VoiceMail 949-2412.

Community Organizations Bulletin Board

New Group Forming: 'Abled Queer'

"Abled Queer" is a support group for gay, lesbian, bisexual and transgendered persons with mental and physical disabilities and the people who love them. The group, open to anyone who has a physical or mental disability or cares for a disabled person, will meet this Tuesday, May 7, 6:00 p.m. at Charlie's Coffee Shop on Westheimer. Issues scheduled to be discussed at the meeting include self-esteem, support for caregivers and maintaining relationships. For more information, call JJ at 522-1332 Ext. 2.

Montrose Counseling Center Funding Intact

As it has in the past, the Montrose Counseling Center continues to provide free counseling for HIV-positive individuals and their caregivers, the center announced in a statement this week. These services are funded through the Ryan White CARE Act, Texas Department of Health, DIFFA, Names Project and United Way. Center representatives, worried that some clients may be confused by recent press reports about another HIV counseling project which recently lost funding, said they hoped to clarify that these same funding sources are currently in place.

Ann Robison, director of the Montrose Counseling Center, said there has been some confusion about the continued availability of services. "We just want the clients and community to know that free services are still available at the Counseling Center for people affected by HIV."

Between Sept. 1, 1994 and August 31, 1995, over 700 clients received free

counseling at the center, Robison noted. Along with HIV services, the Montrose Counseling Center provides substance abuse treatment for as little as \$5 per week. Trauma resolution counseling for issues such as sexual assault, incest and domestic violence are available as well, for as little as \$15 per session; this type of counseling may also be paid for by state funding, in which case the services are provided to the client at no cost.

For more information about services or fees at the Montrose Counseling center, call 529-0037 between 8:00 a.m. and 7:00 p.m. Monday through Friday.

New Leather Contest

John Benavides (Mr. Gulf Coast Drummer 1995) and Margo Grace, both of Houston, recently announced the formation of Texas Leather Productions, founded to co-produce the Texas Leather Contest, a new "non gender-preference" competition in which both men and women may vie for the same Texas Leather title.

The first Texas Leather Contest is tentatively scheduled for the weekend of August 23-25, 1997; the winner will be sponsored to either the International Mr. Leather or International Ms. Leather. Texas Leather Productions will start preliminary city contests in September of this year. The group hopes to hold preliminaries in Dallas, Waco, Austin, San Antonio, Corpus Christi and Houston. Texas Leather Productions has also taken over the production of the Ms. Gulf Coast Leather contest, and is working on putting together a book for new leather title holders. For more information about any of these projects, contact Texas Leather Productions, P.O. Box 667072, Houston, Texas 77266-7072; e-mail address dmack@hti.net.

Wanted: Texans to participate in AIDSWatch '96

(AUSTIN)—The Texas AIDS Network has issued an urgent call for Texans interested in traveling to Washington to help educate members of Congress about AIDS issues. AIDS Watch '96, a national lobbying initiative that aims to educate state Congressional delegations about HIV/AIDS prevention, care, research and housing is scheduled to take place May 19-21 in Washington, D.C.

In its fifth year, AIDSWatch is an opportunity for people affected by HIV/AIDS to voice their concerns directly to their elected officials during scheduled office visits. Experienced HIV/AIDS advocates accompany AIDSWatch participants in their meetings with members of Congress.

"AIDSWatch is one of our best opportunities to demonstrate grassroots support for sound and compassionate HIV/AIDS policies," said Dr. Carolyn Parker, executive director of Texas AIDS Network and the Texas regional coordinator for AIDSWatch '96. "But we must have broad participation for

our voices to be heard. We are in urgent need of more Texans to volunteer their time and join us in Washington."

Although participation in AIDSWatch is free, volunteers are responsible for their own transportation and lodging during the three day event. Texas AIDS Network has reserved hotel rooms in Washington starting at \$69 per night. The national organizers will provide an in-depth briefing on the 1997 federal budget and HIV/AIDS issues, as well as information packets for participants to pass along to lawmakers, Dr. Parker noted.

On Sunday, May 19, AIDSWatch '96 participants are invited to attend the International Candlelight Vigil, an evening march from the White House to the Capitol to show public concern for HIV/AIDS issues.

Texans who wish to attend AIDSWatch '96 must register with TAN by May 10. Interested individuals can reach the Network by telephone at (512)447-8887; by e-mail at tan@global.org; or by mail at P.O. Box 2395, Austin, TX 78768.

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This & That!

by Jon Anthony

Kelsey Grammer has optioned the film rights to *The Only Thing Worse You Could Have Told Me*, a play written by Frasier co-star **Dan Butler**. Butler, who is openly gay, portrays the heterosexual Bulldog on the critically acclaimed sitcom. In addition, Grammer plans to produce and guest in a new sitcom for NBC, set in a drag club. "It's acceptable to be very entertaining and charming and witty and urbane. I think everybody should be doing it more often. There are so many dull straight men," commented Grammer in a cover story titled *More Than Friends: How Sitcoms Became the new Gay Art Form*, written by **David Ehrenstein** for the May issue of Los Angeles magazine. Grammer appears on the cover embracing **Phil Hartman** of NBC's sophomore hit *NewsRadio*. **Nathan Lane**, fresh from his successful stint and glowing reviews for his performance in *A Funny Thing Happened on the Way to the Forum*, will host this year's Tony Awards airing on CBS June 2. **Diana Ross' Anaid** (Diana spelled backwards) Productions has signed a deal with TriStar Pictures to develop a remake of *Divina*, a critically acclaimed French film released in 1982. Ms. Ross is expected to star in the film based on the relationship between a singer and obsessed fan. **David Geffen**, the music mogul who formed DreamWorks with **Steven Spielberg** and **Jeffrey Katzenberg**, has obtained the rights to record the new Pulitzer Prize winning rock musical *Rent* slated to hit Broadway April 29. Geffen ponied up \$1 million for the rights to the story about young artists dealing with drug addiction and AIDS in New York's Lower East Side. *Rent* promises to be a smash and the soundtrack, to be released on the DreamWorks label, hits record stores in May. **Greg Kinnear** is under consideration for the lead in the big-screen adaptation of *The Green Hornet*, based on the radio serial of yesteryear. **Nicholas Cage** and wife **Patricia Arquette** are contemplating a remake of the classic Nick and Nora Charles saga *The Thin Man*. **Priscilla Presley** is the latest celebrity to visit the Melrose Place set. Presley portrays Nurse Benson on the May 6 episode. Melrose airs at 7 p.m. on Fox. **Valerie Harper** guest stars on the May 4 episode of CBS' *Touched by an Angel*. **Sally Jesse Raphael** has a cameo in the same episode as a bus driver. The show airs at 7 p.m. Next up on Angels: **Kathie**

Lee Gifford, May 11 - Gee, I can't wait.... NBC's *Fresh Prince of Bel-Air* airs its final episode May 20 at 7 p.m. **Sherman Hemsley**, **Isabel Sanford** and **Marla Gibbs**, formerly of *The Jeffersons*, and **Gary Goleman** (*Diff'rent Strokes*) will all guest on the series finale. Prince will not return next season.... **Rosie O'Donnell** has just signed a \$3 million deal with Warner Books to pen a tome for the publisher. O'Donnell's book will simultaneously incorporate autobiographical material and comedic fodder.... **James Redfield** (*The Celestine Prophecy*) and Warner Books have just released *The Tenth Insight: Holding the Vision*, the highly touted sequel to *Prophecy*. *Insight* is available at bookstores everywhere.... **Mark Knopfler** (*Dire Straits*) has just released his solo debut entitled *Golden Heart* on Warner Brothers Records.... **R.E.M.**, **Elvis Costello** with **Brian Eno**, **Sheryl Crow**, **P.M. Dawn** and **Alice Cooper** lend their immeasurable talents to the new album *Songs In the Key of X*, a compilation of music from, and inspired by, Fox's hit show *The X-Files*. **Stevie Nicks** and **Lindsey Buckingham** reunite for the first time since the breakup of **Fleetwood Mac** on the upcoming soundtrack to *Twister*, this summer's must see action adventure. The duo, whose last collaboration on an album was back in 1975, have recorded the title song, aptly titled *Twisted*, for the soundtrack.... Jazz legend **Ella Fitzgerald** celebrated her 78th birthday last week.... **Jon Bon Jovi** is the latest high-profile celeb to don Versace fashion for an ad. **Madonna**, **Prince**, **Elton John** and **Sylvester Stallone** are some of the previous Versace models. Bon Jovi's ads appear in the next Vanity Fair.... **Ransom**, the **Ron Howard** directed **Mel Gibson** thriller currently shooting in New York has cast 9 year old **Brawley Nolte** as the kidnap victim. A touch of nepotism? Nolte is the son of actor **Nick Nolte**. **Anthony Hopkins** has been cast as the lead in the upcoming Merchant-Ivory film *Surviving Picasso*. ABC has renewed *Muppets Tonight!* for a full season order despite its anemic ratings. The network plans to relaunch the show in the fall in a more cushy time period. The final episode for this season featuring **Sandra Bullock** as the guest in a mock *Speed* parody was preempted because the executives thought it would be in poor taste to air the episode on the anniversary of the Oklahoma City bombing. The episode will

air at a later date.... *Fox News Sunday* makes it debut this week at 9 a.m. The hour long current affairs show is Fox's attempt at competing with *This Week with David Brinkley* (ABC), *Face the Nation* (CBS) and *Meet the Press* (NBC). USA Today columnist **Tony Snow** will host the weekly gabfest. Panelists for the topical show will include former Clinton aide **Paul Begala**, **Al Hunt** (Wall Street Journal) and **Linda Chavez** (USA Today). **Scott Turows** best selling *One L* has been optioned by NBC in an exclusive deal to adapt the tome into a prime-time series as a possible mid-season replacement.... **Gerald McRaney** (*Major Dad*) has been tapped by CBS to star in a spin-off of the networks surprise hit *Touched by an Angel*. **Richard Dean Anderson** (*McGyver*) will star in the action thriller *Pandora's Clock*. Anderson plays the pilot on a plane carrying a passenger infected with an Ebola-like virus in the NBC miniseries slated to air during the November sweeps.... The remaining members of **Grateful Dead** are planning a summer tour.... **Jose Feliciano** will receive the El Premio lifetime achievement award at the seventh annual Billboard International Music Conference on May 1.... The American Society of Composers, Authors and Publishers have bestowed the highly coveted and prestigious Voice of Music Award to **Amy Grant**. **Stefanie Powers** won her libel lawsuit against the British tabloid *The Sun*. Powers, who insisted she did not sexually harass her assistant, received a public apology from the weekly and was awarded \$90,000 for her tumult.... NBC has renewed the critically acclaimed *Homicide* for two more years.... CNBC is contemplating airing reruns of NBC's *Tonight Show* starring **Johnny Carson**. **Gabrielle Carteris** returns to *Beverly Hills, 90210* for the two hour finale May 22 and **Julianne Phillips** will reunite with her NBC *Sisters* for the final episode of the long-running series currently in its last season. Phillips' appearance airs May 4 at 9 p.m.... Pulitzer Prize winning writer and astronomer **Carl Sagan's** new volume, *The Demon-Haunted World: Science As a Candle in the Wind*, concerning culturally irrational pseudoscience has just been published and released by Random House.... **Christopher Darden** and producer **Steve Tisch** have reached agreement with Paramount to develop his current bestseller, *In Contempt*, into a feature film,

according to Daily Variety.... Screenwriter **Joe Eszterhas** (*Showgirls*) will pen a script for Paramount about U.S. militia groups for a reported \$2 million.... **Divine Brown** will re-enact her infamous encounter with **Hugh Grant** in *Sunset and Divine: The British Experience*, an hour long video focusing on the tryst and slated for release May 6. No word on who portrays Grant in the adult oriented film.... **Michael Jackson** purchased a celestial estate in the French countryside last week for a hefty \$11 million.... WOR Radio has signed **Bob Grant** and **Alan Dershowitz** to their roster of talk show hosts. Dershowitz and Grant were recently ousted by rival WABC Radio amidst controversy.... **Scott Weiland** was ordered by a Pasadena, California judge to spend the next four to six months at a drug rehab under 24 hour supervision. As the lead singer for the **Stone Temple Pilots**, Weiland's plight halts the band's plans for a summer tour.... **Milestones: Mary Poppins** creator **Author P.L. Travers** died at her London home at the age of 96. **David Joseph Ruffahr**, Bartles in the popular Bartles and Jaymes wine cooler ads died after a heart attack last week. He was 61.... **Top of the Charts: Jean-Claude Van Damme** may be a loser with the critics, but audiences across the country spoke louder marking his directorial debut *The Quest* as the #1 box-office champ for the week. *Seinfeld* ruled the Nielsen charts as the most watched show of the week. **Mariah Carey** muscled **Celine Dion** from the top of the singles chart with *Always Be My Baby*. *Evil Empire* by **Rage Against the Machine** is the top selling album of the week. *You Win My Love* by **Shania Twain** dominates the country charts and **Oasis' Champagne Supernova** is the hot modern rock track. **Mary Higgins Clark's** novel *Moonlight Becomes You* and **Christopher Darden's** *In Contempt* dominate The New York Times bestseller list for Fiction and Non-Fiction, respectively. **Quote of the Week:** "It started when the family opened the doors of Sotheby's for a public auction. And you can quote me on that." - **Joan Rivers**, in response to criticism that she has resorted to crass commercialism in her efforts to turn the image of the 19th century French painting, *A Park View*, which she purchased at the **Onassis'** auction, into a "smashing" scarf and pin to be sold on QVC.



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Letters to the Editor

Living Wage Essential

FROM MICHAEL CRAWFORD, CHRIS JIMMERSON, PAUL MULLEN, JEFF ORDOWER AND NANCY ROWE

Houston, Texas

In his recent column, Curt Morrison suggests that discussing raising the wages of the working poor is "entirely political and meritless." Instead, perhaps Congress should be spending more time investigating White-water, debating how many rounds per second a handgun can fire before it is considered an assault weapon, or most importantly, assisting Steve Stockman in investigating the horrors of the Kinsey report. Or perhaps we would like to see a Congress that just ignored poor people entirely, or gays and lesbians for that matter. After all, Congress should not be trying to curry favor with any particular "special interest group" by doing the right thing.

In fact, raising the minimum wage is a serious issue which will not only affect millions of workers who earn the minimum wage, but also just above the minimum wage. Unfortunately, too many people, like Mr. Morrison, gather their statistics from the narrow band of workers who earn exactly the minimum wage, rather than concentrating on the larger segment of working poor. Good heavens, even McDonald's, bastion of corporate progressivism, pays its workers a dime above the minimum once they successfully complete their probationary period. For that reason, we need to talk about creating a living wage, rather than just merely voting to increase the minimum wage. In Houston, many of us are involved with local grassroots organizations such as ACORN (Association of Community Organizations for Reform Now) and local labor unions in a campaign to create a living wage of \$6.50 an hour within the city limits. Given the national political climate, our best hope of success is at the local level.

First, we must focus on why creating a living wage is especially important to Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual and Transgendered people. Quite simply, the struggle for equal rights transcends class, race, gender, and sexual orientation. As an unprotected class of people, we cannot advocate for a freer society for ourselves unless we work for a more open society for everyone. A worker's right to earn a wage at which she can provide housing and food for herself and family is a fundamental right. The basic question of this campaign is simply, "Should work pay?" Our answer is a resounding yes.

In issues unique to our community, gay youth in particular often suffer from the lack of a familial safety net, and must be self-sufficient quite early in life. An increase in the minimum wage would enable a young lesbian student to pay her tuition since her family cut her off, or help a gay teenager earn enough for an apartment without having to resort to hustling.

Equally important is the fact that as a community we are a cross-section of the nation at large...How as a community can we fail to recognize everyone's fundamental human dignity and right to earn enough to put a roof over their head, buy food, and perhaps most importantly, afford some form of health insurance?

Naturally, the opposition has a wide variety of arguments against raising the minimum wage. Virtually all of their arguments are alarmist and not borne out by the facts. The first set of arguments runs along the lines of "it will create an absolute catastrophe for business and will end our economy as we know it." This argument suggests to me that every other time the minimum wage was raised it led to the absolute collapse of the U.S. economy. Naturally, this is untrue. Historically, an increase in the minimum has either had no effect or led to a slight jump in employment, as many who had given up on working choose to reenter the workforce because work actually really pays. Additionally, the vast preponderance of studies and evidence, even those cited by Morrison and with the exception of those funded by the National Restaurant Association (the other NRA), indicate that there is no evidence that an increase in the minimum wage will have a negative impact on the economy. While a significant increase in the minimum might in fact lead to a decrease in corporate profits, that would not in fact be catastrophic, as corporate profits have increased at four times the rate of wages over the past six years.

Second, opponents of a wage increase worry about the destructive effects of mandating wages as opposed to our steadfast "free enterprise" principles. We often verge on tears as we pass local elementary schools and think about how greatly we have interfered with free enterprise by establishing child labor laws. As Gays and Lesbians, we might want to reconsider our support of ENDA, the Employment Nondiscrimination Act as undue interference on the free enterprise system.

Third, local minimum wage increases actually benefit the local economy because of the multiplier factor. Each dollar spent in Houston, for example, circulates six times before it leaves the city. As more working people have more money in their pockets they will spend the money locally...

Fourth, the number of the working poor is statistically significant and the need for a substantial raise is greater now than ever. According to the Bureau of Labor Statistics, at least 10 million workers will receive a raise if the minimum is raised to \$5.15 per hour. In Texas a full one-fifth of wage earners earn less than \$5.15 hourly and almost one-third (30%) earn less than \$6.15 per hour. These are pretty significant numbers, especially when you consider that the poverty level for a family of three is \$6.04 per hour. For a family of four, it is \$7.28 per hour. The current minimum wage is at perhaps its lowest point ever and should be \$7 per hour if adjusted in real dollars with what it was in 1968.

Supporting a living wage is not about supporting the rhetoric of a particular party, but rather about supporting our brothers and sisters and our common humanity. As Gay men and Lesbian women, we are beginning to organize within our community to fight for a living wage here in Houston, where we can have an impact. You can contact us through ACORN at 868-7015 (or write to us) c/o ACORN, 704 E. 11 1/2 St., Houston, TX 77008; fax 863-1964.

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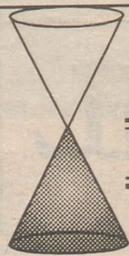
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PLAIN SPEAKING

by Larry Lingle

An Engaging Issue

Two years ago, while the Republicans under the baton of Newt Gingrich were sweeping away two generations of Democratic rule in Congress, no one could have guessed that one of the hottest issues of this presidential year was as yet undiscovered and unmined. Yet today same-sex marriage is fast becoming the touchstone of both left and right.

Even in the gay community the issue was of minor importance. I, like many others, have never been certain as to the most appropriate manner in which to refer to my "significant other." Quite frankly, I have never been completely comfortable with "lover" since this implies strictly a sexual liaison. Whereas "partner" is too businesslike, although this was the term my late better half and I most often used—but in our case it at least encompassed the breadth of our relationship which extended to include our business.

And "significant other," itself, seems so cumbersome and artificial. Appropriating the movie title, "longtime companion" seems better suited for obituaries than everyday conversation (introducing someone as "my longtime companion" seemed to indicate that lurking somewhere is a "shorttime companion"). Borrowing from straight society the terms "husband" and "wife" implies role playing and, besides, denotes gender or, at the very least, campy gender playing.

Being widowed (is this gender implied?) now, the issue interests me less. Perhaps you, dear reader, caught my usage of "better half," which at least has the virtue of implying the "whole" and as well as conveying a sense of appreciation for the other.

Now the good State of Hawaii has created an entirely new situation. Through no special lobbying by the gay community a case arose in that state because Hawaii's constitution provides safeguards against sex discrimination. And later this summer its highest court will probably rule that this constitutional protection extends to same-sex marriages.

Many of you may recall all too well the rush to judgment by the various Republican candidates during the Iowa primary when, under the sponsorship of the Christian Coalition, the GOP aspirants fell over one another in their eagerness to sign a pledge against same-sex marriages as an affront to family values. There should be no doubt that the Coalition will attempt to pump new blood into their anti-gay agenda by placing this in the Republican platform. Already a number of state governments have considered measures attempting to guard their borders from the intrusion poised by the specter of bonded pairs of gays and lesbians.

In actuality, only a handful of states have so far passed such measures. And more importantly for the issue at hand, the Hawaii Senate, by 15 to 10, rejected a House passed measure to ban the licens-

ing of such unions. As observed by William Safire in the *New York Times*, this vote further undermines the argument that the ban on same-sex marriages is of "compelling state interest." And as Safire also noted, a ruling in favor of such unions could not be attributed solely to the actions of a liberal judge.

And the United States is not alone in this dilemma: The Dutch parliament has called for similar legislation which, under the European Union, would require recognition of such unions throughout Europe.

Now Safire, the *Times'* resident conservative columnist and a former Nixon speechwriter, after reaffirming his credentials as a libertarian (conservative libertarians are Republicans who are conservative on economics but moderate on social issues, as opposed to religious conservatives who currently dominate the Grand Old Party) finds the solution in a compromise rejected by the Hawaiian legislators—namely, that the government recognize "domestic partnerships" which would have allowed pension and insurance rights as well as certain tax benefits.

What Safire, in effect, has endorsed is the modern-day version of "separate but equal." He would create two classes of committed couples, one for the traditional, straight pairs of family values and the other for the less than moral but legally equal gay couples. And, in answer to that dubious question seen on every form known to man, are you married? Well, not exactly but I have a domestic partner. Oh, you have someone who helps you clean the house. Or, you have someone who owns a part of your home. Look mom, this is my domestic partner. Well, son, who, then, is your foreign partner?

Despite Safire's self-serving protests that he opposes discrimination, cherishes privacy and rejects homophobia, creating a separate class of "domestic unions" to save the family because, as he notes, "most Americans are not ready to go beyond toleration to active approval" echoes once again the past. The nation is not ready for integration of the armed services. The people are not ready to desegregate the schools. Discrimination is not up for a popular vote. Basic rights should not be denied because the majority holds to bigotry acquired from the self-serving.

My better half and I did not need the state's license to build a stable and mutually supportive union. And we certainly did not need the blessing of any church. But if the issue must be met on the political battlefield it should be resolved only on the terms of bonded marriages or unwed relationships. It is clear where goeth the Republicans on this issue. As for the Democrats, they have yet to fully test their focus groups and uncharacteristically they opt at this point for states' rights—a true copout. The battle is yet to be joined. Somehow, I believe San Diego will be the point of engagement.

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THE OUTsider

by Curt Morrison

Politics Reaches The Pumps

President Clinton's announcement earlier this week that he has ordered the sale of 12 million barrels of oil—purportedly in an effort to reduce rising gas prices—clearly demonstrates the lengths to which he will go to be re-elected. As usual, the more interesting aspect of the President's announcement stems from the facts that were omitted, rather than proffered.

The sale of reserve oil, which comes from the Strategic Petroleum Reserve, had already been authorized by Congress in the latest budget deal in an effort to raise \$227 million to offset increased spending on education programs. Of course, the President did not feel compelled to include this in his speech. To do so would not provide any political advantage in California, where there are 54 highly coveted electoral votes. And the President knows very well that California's consumers are not too thrilled with the latest increase at the pumps.

The most ludicrous aspect of the President's announcement is that he honestly believes that infusing the market with 12 million barrels of oil will have an impact on gas prices. Oh, and let's not forget, it will also offset that education spending increase. It will not have any effect at all and he knows it.

The United States consumes 17 million barrels of oil each and every day. Now, does anybody really believe that flooding the market with approximately two thirds of one day's oil supply is going to cause gas prices to take a major downturn? Highly unlikely. But that's not the point. The facts are irrelevant in an election year.

Consider for a moment the alacrity with which the President intoned that he has also ordered the Energy Department to investigate why gasoline prices rose so quickly. How soon we forget, Mr. President. In 1993, the President and Democrat-controlled Congress imposed a 4.3 cent federal gas tax increase to help reduce the deficit. Is it any wonder, that gas prices have steadily risen? If Clinton is so concerned about the economic impact that rising gas prices imposes upon his constituents, then perhaps he ought to support the pending Republican initiative to repeal it.

Most economists agree that prices would have leveled off irrespective of gov-

ernment intervention. In fact, in some states prices have already decreased or leveled off and in most states the increase has been minimal with the exception of California—a must win state for the President. Furthermore, the Strategic Petroleum Reserves were not intended to be used for governmental attempts at price control. The intent is to protect our country against any foreign manipulation with the flow of oil. No matter, as long as Clinton can gain political cover and convince the electorate that he solved the problem (which his party's policies created), it is irrelevant if the reserves were used for political advantage.

There are many reasons for the rise in fuel prices. Besides the Democrat-imposed tax increase, severe winter weather and the subsequent tightening of inventory by oil firms have contributed. In addition, traders are nervous about the dilatory pace of negotiations to allow Iraq to sell oil again. And keep in mind that a steady rise in oil prices transcends to increases in the prices of other goods and services. Not an ideal situation in an election year.

"I've been very concerned about this dramatic, although apparently temporary, rise in the price of gasoline at the pump," Clinton said. He adds, "It affects the take-home pay of working people who have to commute to work." Really!? Since when has this man ever been concerned with individual take home pay. Mr. Clinton, if you are concerned about our take home pay, then there is an easy way to demonstrate your commitment to such. Reduce our payroll taxes. It's that simple. Raising gas taxes in one breath and then suggesting that you're concerned with the effects of such on our take-home pay can only be described as unabashed lunacy. Not to mention, a complete and total disregard for the integrity and intelligence of the American public.

Unfortunately, most consumers will be swayed by the President's propaganda because Mr. Clinton is one of the best orators this country has ever seen in the Oval Office. He even has the general media believing this rhetoric. The bottom line is that oil prices were on the rise for several reasons and were beginning to level off on their own, except in California. As a result, the White House decided to use the 12 million barrel oil reserve sales for the purpose of politics instead of what they were intended for: Education. If anything, at least we know where the President's priorities lay.

State pumps nearly \$5 million into new HIV drugs for poor citizens

AUSTIN, Wednesday, April 24 (AP)—Most of a \$5 million state health fund will be used to purchase new drugs to combat HIV among poor citizens, according to a plan announced by state health officials.

The Texas Health Department chose that option over another plan to continue purchasing additional drugs that fight illnesses brought on by the disease, such as pneumonia.

A panel had recommended a plan that would have forced some 5000 poor Texans with HIV to go elsewhere for medication.

But Health Commissioner David Smith said Monday that the department will not leave poor people on their own to purchase those medications. He said most of the HIV Medication Program's \$5 million will go to new HIV drugs, but some money

will continue to go to other medications.

Smith also said an additional \$500,000 will be added to the fund to help purchase medications for AIDS-related illnesses.

"We are grateful and pleased for the additional funds the commissioner was able to find to continue supplying certain drugs to the indigent HIV population," said Tom Sheffield, chairperson of the Austin Area Comprehensive HIV Planning Council.

The added \$500,000 was expected to last through June, Smith said. The department was searching for other funds to continue the additional medication purchasing through the end of the year.

According to the department, between 49,400 and 71,100 Texans have HIV.

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Gay Today
by Glen Webber



Hope or Hype?

You know that famous story of the boy who
cried wolf. It wasn't long before the boy was
wolf stew. This is how I feel about the con-
tinuing announcements that a cure for
AIDS is close to being found.

I believe I may be the only cynic around who
doesn't believe a cure will ever be found. To
me, a cure is when they will completely
eliminate the virus from my body. I mean,
they shoot the cure in my veins, and I no
longer test positive.

Will I know there is a cure because I gain my
health back? Does finding a cure mean my
body will heal, or is the damage already
been done? Does it mean those poor AIDS
victims stuck in the hospital or hospice
beds will still be stuck there? Does this mean
we can all play unsafe again like the old
days?

I believe the pharmaceutical compa-
nies will lose too much money if a cure is
found. While the cost of a cure may be high
initially, it may not be needed after a while.
You know the pharmaceutical compa-
nies will try to find a way to make a large
profit so they can satisfy the bottom line.
The only justification these greedy
money pigs should need is that they will save
lives.

Look at the facts. AIDS has been around
since 1980. More than a hundred thousand
men and women have died. And my question
has always been, when will it stop? It is so sad
reading all the obituaries in all the gay
papers of successful young men who have
died. Their wonderful lives and marks on
society will eventually fade from mem-
ory, except for lovers and families. And
you know what, they have not even found a
cure for the common cold, and that has been
around forever.

The prediction of many people is that
AIDS will be a treatable illness like so
many illnesses of today. We may have to
take shots or more pills to prevent the virus
from growing. I guess that is fine, but it is
not a cure.

I don't want to take away the hope of thou-
sands of people out there praying for a
cure. I am not going to knock hard working
scientists who are doing their best. Hope
is the best medicine many people have.

Many people use hope as the lifeline to
their future. And I believe that people will
pay any price for a cure.

Of course, research did cure polio, but as
you know, they were not able to help those
already affected. Wouldn't it have been
great if all those people could have thrown
down their crutches and gotten out of their
wheelchairs.

Of course, there are so many illnesses out
there, and they are very important to those
affected. To some, cancer is more impor-
tant than AIDS. We can't always assume that
people are fighting the same battle we
are. The only time people get concerned
about something is when it affects them.
And that is O.K. If you have ever seen any-
one very ill with cancer, it will make you
cry.

I think it is great that so many celebrities
are involved in raising money for AIDS. I
think it is great they are willing to talk
about it publicly. In a recent magazine, I
think Entertainment Weekly, they had
pictures and reviews of 100 movie indus-
try workers who died from AIDS. These
were people like us, and their deaths left a
gap that will never be filled. I can look into
the eyes of these men and feel their souls
crying out.

The only thing for certain is that men and
women will continue to get ill and die. I pray
it will end. We all hear stories every week of
someone we know who died. In current
publications, the first place people turn
to is often the obituaries. Isn't that sad?

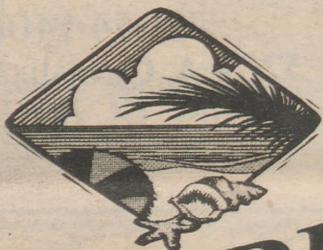
We must continue our AIDS research, but
how much more money and time will it take? I
hear these big numbers of how much has
been raised and it is a lot of money. I would
rather give my money to fund raisers here in
Houston. Money that helps people. The
only way to avoid the virus is to play safe. I
know you all are tired of hearing about safe
sex, but once you are infected, you stand a
big chance of becoming sick. Please be
careful. You are a valuable part of the
gay community. If you do come down ill,
we will do our best to take care of you, but we
would rather have you well and being pro-
ductive. I ask that we have a moment of quiet
reflection to remember our friends who
couldn't be here today.



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*United Methodists:
ministers should not
officiate at same-sex
union*

DENVER, Friday, April 26 (AP)—
United Methodists have ruled that the
church's ministers cannot officiate
at same-sex unions.

On Thursday night, they later voted to
have the Judicial Council, the
church's highest court, decide whether
the prohibition would be church law or
simply a statement of guidance.

The church bars "self-avowed prac-
ticing" homosexuals from ordina-
tion or jobs in churches, a stand that was
reiterated Wednesday.

Church delegates turned down a
softer statement that would have
acknowledged divisions in the 8.6-
million-member church.

The Methodist organization for
gays, Affirmation, called Wednes-
day's action "bearing false witness."

A group of 15 dissenters wanted the
church to change its position on gay
ministers, including Denver Area
Bishop Mary Ann Swenson.

The conservative Concerned Meth-
odists of the Rocky Mountains has
since called for Swenson's resigna-
tion.

In other action, delegates voted to
save an estimated \$72 million by not
moving the church's mission agency
from New York to Reston, Va.

They also reiterated the church's
position on abortion, which says the
decision should be made only after
"thoughtful and prayerful consid-
eration by the parties involved."

The 10-day international conven-
tion, attended by 1000 delegates, was
to end today.

Family Values

by Esperanza Lavender Jazz Paz



Cinco De Mayo: History of a Cultural Celebration

Cinco de Mayo. It's *not* "like their Fourth of July." (in Mexico, the Fourth of July is pronounced, "El Cuatro de Julio." Mexican Independence Day, by the way, is El Diez y Seis de Septiembre.)

The date of Cinco de Mayo memorializes a moment's military victory and the blazing courage of those who refused to succumb to invading terror. It was imperial France's intent to "bring order" to impoverished and war-torn Mexico in 1862. The plan was to overcome El Cuidad and seize control of the country. On the path from Veracruz to Mexico City the French army marched through Puebla. The French general commanded 6000 well-educated and handsomely uniformed dragoons and foot soldiers. The Mexican army was led by an amateur tactical officer (but he was a seasoned guerrilla fighter) and his 4000 poorly trained troops who carried decrepit arms left over from Waterloo. (The weapons had been purchased at a bargain price by Mexico's ambassador to London back in 1825, 50 years before).

To demonstrate his contempt for the rag-tag band of soldiers in Puebla, the French general ordered his troops to storm General Ignacio Zaragoza's strongest position of defense.

The charge carried his cavalry through soggy ditches, over a crumbling adobe wall and up the steep slopes of the Cerro de Guadalupe. He paid for his arrogance with the lives of more than one thousand French soldiers. The Mexican army revived and counter-attacked the French back to Orizaba and then attacked again and forced the remaining marauders back to the coast.

This was the first French defeat in over half a century and it was all the more humiliating to have been not at the hands of a major

European power, but of a penniless and scattered Mexican brigade. The brilliant victory was short-lived and France did occupy Mexico in the end, but the indignant inspiration of the paisanos to rule themselves and to determine their own destiny continues today.

Cinco de Mayo is a national holiday in Mexico. Many cities (especially Puebla) have parades in the morning with men dressed as the French and Mexican generals. Lines of men dressed as soldiers follow their leaders, along with some men dressed as soidaderas (women soldiers) who traveled with the army to cook and care for the wounded. Some carry rifles to honor the women who actually fought in the battle. The afternoon is devoted to the reenactment of the battle. "War!" is lustily declared and those representing Zaragoza's army rush onto the plaza wearing tatters, carrying rusty machetes and antique firearms.

The actors portraying the French battalion gallop out on horseback, exquisitely dressed, carrying fresh loaves of French bread and jugs of fine wine.

Amid much shouting and shooting of gunpowder (which makes a lot of noise and smoke) the crowd cheers them on until nightfall when the two commanding officers meet in sword-to-sword combat. When Mexico wins, the night is illuminated with fireworks and celebrations.

Every village, town and city in the country calls its most major thoroughfare Cinco de Mayo.

In Houston, Cinco de Mayo is a cultural celebration of Hispanic contributions to the community and the richness it adds to life for all Houstonians. As such, it is a holiday that belongs to everyone who rejoices in the music, De Colores, the exuberance and the pageantry of the Hispanic culture. And to everyone whose proud spirit refuses to give up under attack.

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Ensure Pro Drink
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Fruit Juices
Gravies and Sauces

Hamburger and Tuna Helper
Jello/Pudding
Jelly - 16 oz.
Ketchup - 14 oz.
Mayonnaise - 16 oz.
Mustard - 8 oz.
Paper Towels
Pasta (dry)
Peanut Butter - 16 oz.
Razors
Rice
Saltine Crackers
Shampoo
Shaving Cream
Side Dishes (rice or noodles)
Soup (canned or dry)
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ASK THE PASTOR



Rev. Janet Parker

Q: "Did the Bible tell stories or tales to make a point or did those things really happen?" (Like Jonah and the whale and the three men in the furnace, etc.)

A: The Bible is full of true stories that really happened. Most people would say that many of the Bible stories are supernatural events. That is why they are hard to believe. Because we live in a world that is understood in the natural realm, it is hard to imagine how a man can be spared in a den of hungry lions, or the Red Sea can part at just the right moment and then come together in time to swallow up an entire army. Believing these stories really happened would involve believing in Someone who is greater than ourselves. If you don't believe in God then it is easy to say that these stories are only make believe. You are limited by what you know and "who" you know. Small thinking is restricted to the natural realm. In the natural realm everything has to be explained with scientific facts. There is an understandable explanation for everything. As human beings, if we cannot understand it or explain it, then we refuse to accept it or believe it.

This happens many times with people who are miraculously healed. One day a person is terminally ill and the next day they are completely normal. No one can explain it. It just happened. Why do we always have to explain it away for it to be a reality? Why can't we just accept a miraculous story for what it is----a miracle, a phenomena! For the person who knows God and believes in God, these stories are just par for the course. For the person who knows the God of Creation, it is no secret what God can do. We serve a God who is able to do very powerful and awesome things beyond what we could ever expect or imagine. Why is it hard for the average person to believe in a God who would do supernatural things? Is it that they have a hard time believing that God would do something supernatural for me? I'm just a very ordinary person. What is surprising is that the people in each of the Bible stories were people like you and me.

The God of the Bible is a very personal God who is involved very intimately in the lives of those God loves. Since we know that Jesus died for the sins of the world, there isn't anyone that God doesn't love. With that in mind, there isn't anything that God would not do for you or me. Supernatural or natural, God can do all things and is a very capable God. Is this the God you serve?

The problem that most people have is that they are limited in their thinking. As human beings we tend to be trapped in a mindset involving only the natural realm.

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

CHURCH CALENDAR OF EVENTS

FRIDAY - 5/3

* "Your Sacred Self" - study group using the best seller by Wayne Dyer. COME learn more about your sacred self, sacred sisters & brothers, & the sacred, loving Creator God who made it so. Kingdom Community Church. 4404 Blossom. Call 862-7533.
* Catholic Mass at 10:00 a.m. Kolbe House. 1509 Fairview. Call 522-8182

SATURDAY - 5/4

* Services at 7:30 pm. Dignity Church, 1307 Yale. Call 880-2872

SUNDAY - 5/5

* First Unitarian Universalist Church Sunday Services at 9:30am and 11:30am. 5200 Fannin at Southmore. 526-5200.
* Services at 5:30 pm. Dignity Church, 1307 Yale. Call 880-2872
* Maranatha Fellowship Metropolitan Church Services "A Study in the Gospel of Mark" and "The 'I' Factor," (How to be a positive influence on others as a witness for Christ) at 10:00 a.m. Praise and Worship, Ministry of the Word, Drama and Personal Ministry. 11:00 a.m. Maranatha Fellowship, 3400 Montrose, Suite 600, 528-6756.
* MCCR worship services with Rev. Jim Burns. 9:00 a.m. & 11:00 a.m. 1919 Decatur. Call 861-9149.
* Community Gospel Church worship service at 11:00 a.m. & 7:00 pm 501 E. 18th. Call 880-9235.
* Houston Mission Church worship service at 10:30 a.m. 1505 Nevada. Call 529-8225.
* Kingdom Community Church worship service at 11:00 a.m., Sunday School at 10:00 a.m. Call 862-7533. "The Celestine Prophecy, An Experiential Guide" at 10:00 a.m.
* Ecumenical Catholic Church Mass at 10:15. 1405 palm. Call 526-8095.
* Covenant Baptist Church. Worship service - 1:30 pm and education hour at 3:00pm. 6610 Alder. Call 668-8830.
* Bering Memorial United Methodist Church Worship service. 10:50 a.m. Seekers class 9:15 a.m. 1440 Harold. Call 526-1017.

MONDAY - 5/6

* Catholic Mass at 7:30 pm Kolbe House, 1509 Fairview. Call 522-8182
* MCCR Handbell Choir Rehearsal at 7:00 pm, 1919 Decatur. Call 861-9149.

TUESDAY - 5/7

* MCCR: Empowerment for Living support group & pot luck dinner at 6:00 pm, Gloryland Singers at 8:00 pm, The Gospel Ensemble at 6:00 pm Call 861-9149.
* PROTECT meets at Bering Church. Call 520-7870.
* Small home groups meet to sing, share their faith and pray for one another at 7:30 pm. These groups are open to all people. Call Maranatha Fellowship at 528-6756 for location each week.

WEDNESDAY - 5/8

* MCCR: Jubilation Mixed Ensemble meets at 6:30 pm, Midweek uplift service at 7:00 pm, Bible Study, Lecture Series & Choir Rehearsal 7:30 pm 1919 Decatur. 861-9149.
* "A Course in Miracles"- Study Group using the book, published by the Foundation for Inner Peace, which is aimed at removing the blocks to our awareness of one's presence. Kingdom Community Church 7:30 pm Call 862-7533.
* Ecumenical Catholic Church Mass at 7:00 pm 1405 palm. Call 526-8095.
* Small home groups meet to sing, share their faith and pray for one another at 7:30 pm. These groups are open to all people. Call Maranatha Fellowship at 528-6756 for location each week.

THURSDAY - 5/9

* Community Gospel Church worship service. 7:30 pm 501 E. 18th. Call 880-9325.
* MCCR worship services, 7:00 p.m. 1919 Decatur. Call 861-9149.
* Prayers for Healing and Anointing, 7:00 p.m. Kolbe House, 1509 Fairview, 522-8182.
If you want an event listed in this section, please call (713) 529-8490.

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SPORTS NOTES

Softball Summary

April 28 was a good day for the Briar Patch in Competitive Division play in the Montrose Softball League. The Ripcord, entering Sunday's game undefeated, suffered their first defeat of the season at the hands of the Patch in a hotly contested game. The 13-12 victory by the Briar Patch was not decided until the very last play of the game, on a close call at first base. In an earlier game, the Patch also defeated Hyde Park Gallery 13-4 to gain their first double header victory of the season.

In other competitive action, Hyde Park Gallery and the Ripcord were also entangled in a closely fought game, with the Ripcord gaining the upper hand in an 8-6 victory. It was the second week in a row that Hyde Park Gallery gave the Ripcord a hard-fought game, only to come up short. The saga continues next Sunday, May 4 at Tim Hearn Field. Updated standings in the Competitive Division: Ripcord (5-1); Briar Patch (3-3); Hyde Park Gallery (1-5).

In the Recreation Division, Rich's Prime continued their winning ways this past Sunday, defeating Nowlin Mortgage's Loan Rangers 15-3. With the victory, the Prime upped their record to a perfect 4-0 and remain the only undefeated team in the recreational division.

However, waiting in the wings for the Prime to falter are three teams with 3-1 records. Pacific Street (3-1) shut out Club Inergy, 14-0. The Past Time Packers (3-1) defeated Gentry 8-3. J.R.'s (3-1) defeated Chances 4-3 in another hotly contested game that went down to the wire.

The MSL begins its fourth week of play this Sunday, May 4 at Tim Hearn Field, which is located on Jackson Hill at the northwest corner of Waugh Drive and Memorial. All are invited to come watch the action and cheer on their favorite teams. Games are generally played from 10:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.

Skate Night

Lambda Rollerskating Club holds its next Skate Night Wednesday, May 8 at its new time of 8-10:30 p.m. at the Starlight Roller Rink, 8075 Cook Road. Admission is \$5 plus \$1 skate rental (or \$5 if you bring your own skates). Everyone is welcome to skate, and a variety of events will be scheduled, along with door prizes. The club also helps other organizations raise funds with special benefit skate nights; the next one will be held May 29 for the Gay/Lesbian Switchboard of Houston. If your club or organization would like to hold a skate event, or for more information about the Lambda Rollerskating Club and its activities, call (713) 933-5818 or contact gay-skate1@aol.com.

HMBL Standings

Houston Metropolitan Billiards League's 14th week of play saw the team Coalition lose its first match of the season. The loss drops Coalition's won match average into a tie with J.R.'s Cue Crew, both at .923. Coalition still leads won game averages at .656; Cue Crew is close behind with a won game average of .651.

In third place is the BP team, with a won match average of .769 and a won game average of .579. Jackson 5 has a won match average of .692 and a won game average of .585.

Individually, Billy Lea of Coalition is still in front with a won game average of .795 (win-loss record 31-8). Keith Fusell of J.R.'s Cue Crew is still in second place, with a won game average of .769 (30-9).

The highlighted rule of the week: "The League or Tournament Director has the

right to disqualify any player from a game for unsportsmanlike conduct or tactics detrimental to the League or Tournament, in which case the player forfeits all rights to prizes."

IBL Season Wrap-Up

The Independent Billiards League reports the following final standings for the 1996 Winter season:

In first place is Bad Boys (Outpost); followed by Bad Chx X Big Stix (Bacchus II) in second and Full Throttle (Mining Co.) in third. Suicide Squad (E/J's) is in fourth place; Demolition (Past Time) in fifth; Ripcord 3 in sixth; Juniors in seventh. Hot Pockets (Venture-N) is in eighth place; Pool Party (Gentry), ninth; Wet Dream Team (611), 10th. In 11th place is T-N-T (Lazy J) and in 12th Place, Strike Three (611).

Individually, Richard Chew of Mining Company's Full Throttle has the first place spot, followed by Joel Reyes of Outpost's Bad Boys in second and Bob Miller of T-N-T (Lazy J) in third.

The league thanks all of the players and sponsors who made the season a success. The awards banquet will be held at the Santa Fe side of J.R.'s on Saturday, June 1.

The end of season tournament will be held this Saturday, May 4 at Past Time. Registration begins at noon and play starts at 1:00 p.m. All league members are encouraged to play; registration is \$5. For more information, call Gilbert Vargas at 524-9261.

Bowling Report

The Montrose Monday Night Men's League reports the following Division A standings: in first, second and third place, respectively, are A Frickin'

Fairy tale, Eight Balls and The Queen Sick Court. Division B is headed by Ms. Dee Dee & Da Dahs, followed by Striking Beauties and J.R.'s Bar and Grill. High scratch game of 237 and series of 596 was bowled by Chris Bennett. For more information, call Gardy at 641-5425.

The Inner Loop Alternative Sunday Evening League reports Tough and Tight in first place, Stroken in second and Faster Pussycats in third. For the men, Ron Bayer bowled high scratch game of 236 and Brian Elley, series of 658. For the women, Terry Shannon bowled high scratch game of 206 and Peri Cain series of 566. For more information, call Tom at 522-9612. Bowling is at Palace Lanes at 7:00 p.m. Sundays.

The Wednesday Night Mixers reports first place is occupied this week by Charlie's Tunas; second by The Terminators and third by 1 Gal and 3 Guys. Roy Rainwater bowled high scratch game of 242 and series of 591 for the men. For the women, Marla Aizenshat bowled high scratch game of 197 and Terry Shannon series of 535. New teams and individuals will be accepted for one more week. Contact for information is Tom at 522-9612. This league bowls at AMF Southway at 6:30 p.m. Wednesdays.

The Monday Night Women's League reports that its first place team is Walking Wounded. In second place is Leave It To Beaver Again, third place is taken by Half & Half and in fourth is Don't Go There. For more information about this league call Pat at 437-6218. Bowling is at AMF Southway at 6:15 p.m. Mondays.

Thirty Houston bowlers visited Oklahoma City for the OKC Classic tournament last weekend. OKC has become one of the most popular tournaments on the IGBO circuit. Houston's Gardy Harvey and Kenny Harmon took first place in the doubles event, while in the singles event, Tom O'Dell placed fourth; Stacy Moore, fifth; Gardy Harvey 24th; and Lyn Hanek 27th. In all events, Kenny Harmon placed 11th and Gardy Harvey, 19th.

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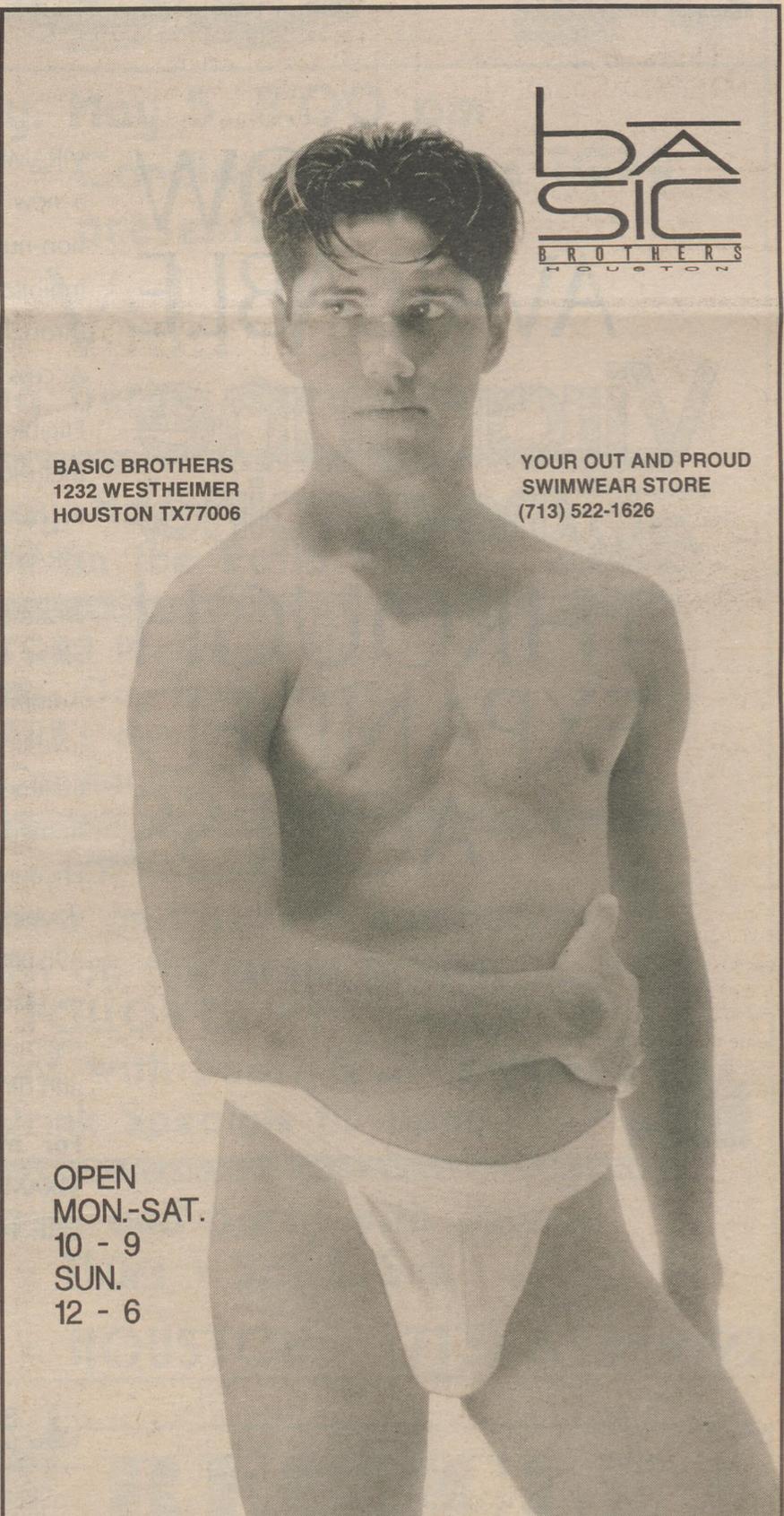
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Virginia agency's employees not included in 'traditional family' definition

By **BILL BASKERVILL**
FOR THE HOUSTON VOICE

RICHMOND, Wednesday, April 24 (AP)—The Virginia Housing Development Authority denies low-interest home loans to unmarried couples, including homosexuals, but it applies far less restrictive workplace rules to its own employees.

The VHDA in January reversed a policy it adopted in June 1994 to allow unrelated people to pool their incomes when applying for loans. The decision marked a return to a policy of making loans only to people related by marriage, blood or adoption.

Gov. George Allen pushed for the change, and it was approved on a 6-2 vote. The six commission members Allen appointed voted for the new policy.

"We feel like the new regulation will encourage the traditional family," VHDA commission Chairperson Michael G. Miller said at the time.

But Section 603.12 of the VHDA's own "Personnel Policies and Procedures" for "illness-death in family" leave goes beyond the traditional definition of family.

It allows leave with full pay for employees in the event of illness or death of "parents, spouse, children, brother, sister, grandparents, 'significant others' or any individual residing in the same household as the employee."

And, "absences caused by pregnancy, miscarriage, abortion or childbirth, regardless of marital status," are covered by the maternity leave policy.

"This is a grand hypocrisy," said Kent Willis, executive director of the American Civil Liberties Union in Virginia.

"According to the commissioners, the reason for making this change was to promote traditional families. They felt the previous policy was too expansive a definition of family, yet the previous policy and their own definition of family was almost identical," Willis said.

The ACLU plans to challenge the loan policy in court.

VHDA declined to comment on the leave policy. "We do not discuss personnel policies publicly," said spokesperson Mike Anderson.

"Significant others" also use the agency's exercise parlor, called the

"Body Shop" by some employees, said a source familiar with the VHDA's personnel policies. The source spoke on condition of anonymity, but Anderson confirmed that employees pay 77-cent monthly fee that allows one friend to use the exercise room.

VHDA employees are not allowed to apply for or receive agency loans.

The U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development, the Federal Trade Commission and the Federal Reserve Board are checking whether the VHDA's lending rules comply with federal regulations.

Lloyd A. Jones, state director for the federal Rural Development program, said the general counsel of his parent agency, the U.S. Department of Agriculture, is reviewing the VHDA policy.

He said Rural Development would stop guaranteeing the housing authority's loans if it is determined that the policy violates federal laws.

Jones has expressed concern in letters to VHDA commissioners that the new regulations violate the Fair Housing Act of 1988, the Equal Credit Opportunity Act and various civil rights laws.

Carolyn's Calendar

(Continued from page 2)

* Living with Chronic Pain at Montrose Counseling Center. 9:30 p.m. Call 529-0037.

* Aftercare Group Treatment at Montrose Counseling Center. 6:00 p.m. Call 529-0037.

* Women's Issues Process Group at Montrose Counseling Center. 6:30 p.m. Call 529-0037.

* Women's Action Coalition (WAC) meets at 7:00 p.m. Call 867-9581.

* Lesbian/Bisexual Survivors at Montrose Counseling Center. 6:30 p.m. Call 529-0037.

* Bi-Net of Houston meets at 7:00 p.m. Call 467-4380.

* "The Bible and Homosexuals" series by Ralph Lasher. At MCCR at 7:30 p.m. Call 861-9149.

Thursday, May 9

* Montrose Ice Picks skate at the Galleria. 8:00 p.m. Call 629-1432.

* Broadway Showtunes at J.R.'s. 9:00 p.m. Call 521-2519.

* Art Classes at The Art League. 1:00 p.m. Call 523-8817

* Front Runners meet at Memorial Park. 6:30 p.m. Call 522-8021.

* Gay Men's Chorus of Houston open rehearsal at 7:00 p.m. Call 521-7464.

* Twentysomething meets at 7:30 p.m. Call 531-9396.

* KPFT Lesbian and Gay Voices airs at 8:00 p.m. to 10:00 p.m. Call 866-6505.

* Burger and Chili night at the Brazos River Bottom. 6:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m.

* Steak Night at the 611 Pub. 6:30 p.m.

* Dance lessons at the Brazos River Bottom. 9:30 p.m. Free. Call 880-0670.

* Ongoing gay men's Living in Process Group. Call 622-7250.

* Open Mike Night at Cafe Artiste. 1601 W. Main. 8:00 p.m. Call 528-3704.

* HIV+ Men Psychotherapy at Montrose Counseling Center. 1:15 p.m. Call 529-0037.

* Relapse Prevention at Montrose Counseling Center. 2:00 p.m. Call 529-0037.

* Outpatient Group Treatment at Montrose Counseling Center. 6:00 p.m. Call 529-0037.

* Aftercare Group Treatment at Montrose Counseling Center. 6:00 p.m. Call 529-0037.

* Meditation and Chanting Group meets at 7:00 p.m. Call 942-0923.

* HIV Affected at CASA. 7:00 p.m. Call 796-2272.

* Men's Therapy Group at Montrose Counseling Center. 7:00 p.m. Call 529-0037.

* HIV survivor Support Group meets at 2929 Unity Drive. 7:00 p.m. Call 782-4050

* Funny Politics-Houston Area Women's Center's Spring gala. 6:00 p.m. Call 528-6798 X 228.

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Three convicted in plot to bomb buildings

By KELLY KURT
FOR THE HOUSTON VOICE

MUSKOGEE, Okla., Thursday, April 25 (AP)—Their attorneys portrayed them as simple country folk—a preacher, a homemaker and a family man down on his luck. A federal jury saw a different side, convicting the three in a plot to make a bomb and blow up buildings.

The jury deliberated about five hours Wednesday before returning the verdict against self-proclaimed prophet Willie Ray Lampley, his wife, Cecilia, and John Dare Baird.

They were accused of conspiring to build an ammonium nitrate bomb and target buildings such as civil rights centers, gay bars and abortion clinics.

No bombs ever went off.

Last week's one-year anniversary of the Oklahoma City bombing didn't help the defendants, said Mrs. Lampley's attorney, Donn Baker. He had urged the jury not to be sidetracked by feelings about the bombing, which killed 168 people.

"I thought it was terrible timing, with lots of news and everything on it," he said.

The jury was recessed during the week of the anniversary.

Lampley, 65, swallowed hard and briefly closed his eyes when the verdict was read. His wife pressed her fist to her lips, and Baird dropped his head and looked at the floor.

The sheriff in Gregory County, S.D., testified during the trial that Lampley and another man attended a militia meeting in South Dakota to look for money and supplies to blow up five buildings. Sheriff Charlie Wolfe said he attended the meeting in an undercover role.

Conversations secretly recorded by a government informant who offered to infiltrate militias after last year's bombing played a key role in the case, Assistant U.S. Attorney Doug Horn said.

"There's nothing like having defendants' own words, especially in a conspiracy case," he said.

Prosecutors said the three were consumed by a desire to fight what they

feared was the coming of a new world order.

"This personal war of Ray Lampley and his followers can only be brought to an end by a verdict of guilty on each of these counts," Horn told the jury in closing arguments.

Through the recordings, jurors heard the defendants discuss the plot and Lampley name targets including the Southern Poverty Law Center in Alabama and the Anti-Defamation League in Houston.

Lampley's attorney, Warren Gotcher, maintained the three would have continued to live peacefully near Vernon if FBI informant Richard Schrhrum had not come along and led them astray. An appeal is likely, Gotcher said.

Military AIDS measure

(Continued from Page 1)

"(Clinton) took a lot of criticism from folks who do not understand the political process. Had he vetoed the entire military budget over an HIV issue, the military service people would have been angry at him and the HIV community instead of Dornan," she added.

Kim Mills, spokesperson for the Human Rights Campaign, a gay rights group that has lobbied against the Dornan provision, said the attempt to place the measure back into law would fail.

"He's just dressed up the same issue and tried to make it more palatable to the members, but he's lost this one," Mills said.

Both the repealed and newly introduced Dornan measures would force the discharge of all HIV-positive service members. There are currently 1040 active-duty service members known to have HIV, according to the Pentagon.

"I think enough is enough," said Rep. Jane Harman, D-Calif., noting that the committee should be focusing on issues of military readiness, not on divisive social issues. On the issue of gays serving in the military, Harman said the courts should be allowed to have final say on the constitutionality of the current "don't-ask, don't-tell" policy, in which service members and recruits are not asked about their sexual orientation.

Harman and other Democrats said they would try to defeat the Dornan measures next week when the full House National Security Committee takes up the 1997 defense budget bill.



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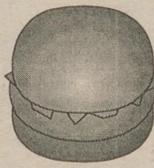
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Drag Megastar RuPaul: More than a pretty dress

By JON ANTHONY
Houston Voice/Houston

In the early hours as commuters rush to their destination in The Big Apple, tens of thousands of people are listening to morning drive radio. Nothing unusual about that, in fact, it's commonplace throughout the country. The difference, however, is that in New York City, listeners can tune in to KTU's morning drive show with the incomparable RuPaul at the helm. Originally scheduled as a "three month gig," the show, which debuted about a month ago, may soon be syndicated. "Syndicating a show is something I've always wanted to do," informed RuPaul.

A formidable interview for sure, RuPaul makes no bones about his disdain of the process, and manages to demonstrate his uncanny ability to match wits with the interviewer. Unnerving at first, the banter becomes challenging and fun. Having just completed his morning stint on the radio, RuPaul wanted to skip the formalities and dive right into the interview. Obliging, I commented on the music he was listening to, which was very evident in the background: *One By One* by Cher. "I'm the biggest Cher fan," he intones. "In fact," he continues, "we're doing Cher week on my radio show." On his VH-1 series, Party Machine, RuPaul loves "to do Cher impersonations" and use her in his segment "How to lip-sync."

Attempting to avoid complacency, I ask RuPaul to expound on his fame. "I always knew I wanted to be famous and I did whatever it took," he states matter of factly. He cautions that it is "important to love yourself and explore who you are." Indeed, RuPaul has achieved an element of fame that is unprecedented considering he is a "drag megastar." His milestones are nothing short of astonishing. In 1993, he released his debut album *Supermodel of the World*, which yielded three number one maxi-singles on the *Billboard* dance charts catapulting the former punk rock band member into superstardom. A duet with Elton John followed and the result, a remake of *Don't Go Breaking My Heart*, became an international smash.

Recording is not the only facet of the industry that RuPaul has conquered. He has appeared in several feature films as well. Critics lauded his performance in *The Brady Bunch Movie* as a school counselor, which, in this critics' opinion, was one of the film's most uproarious scenes. In addition, he was featured in *Crooklyn*, *Wigstock: The Movie*, and the box-office hit *To Wong Foo... Thanks for Everything, Julie Newmar*. In 1994, he previewed his act at the Sahara Hotel in Las Vegas during a two-week engagement. In the process, he became the first star to receive a return invitation for a second stint prior to completing the first. Plans are underway for a documentary about the Vegas appearance.

RuPaul believes that success "means more if there were hard times" along the way but adds that it is "sweet when dreams become reality. We're on this planet to learn, make mistakes, evolve and transcend who it is we are," he philosophized, "We are an extension of the power that created the whole universe." RuPaul emphasizes that success—"once you get that recognition"—derives from "planting seeds, dream-

ing and projecting." "Dreams do come true, I'm a living example," he iterates. "Success is not about being on Jay Leno or MTV, it's about being who you are," adding that you "needn't look any further than the people around you for inspiration."

It's apparent from his achievements that he has a grasp on the formula for success.

In addition to the music and film industry, RuPaul has also made his mark in the television and literary arena. He has guested on *Sister, Sister*, *In The House*, *The Crew*, *All My Children* and most recently on the new Don Johnson series *Nash Bridges*. He also starred in the highly acclaimed Emmy nominated USA movie "A Mother's Prayer." As a result, RuPaul has signed a deal with Buena Vista to host his own late night show in the near future.

The paperback version of his best-selling book *Lettin' It All Hang Out* is slated for release this summer. The hard back, in its third printing, garnered rave reviews amidst much fanfare last summer and plans are underway for a movie version of the autobiographical tome.

RuPaul began his career in Manhattan's club scene with a punk rock band. He grew up with his mother and sisters after his father abandoned the family when he was seven. The combination of both "evolved into doing drag."

"Performing live on stage is my first love," he professes. That's not to say that he does not love acting, he does and plans to do more of it. However, he is forthright about the medium. "The acting process is tedious," stresses RuPaul, "The art of reliving your emotions in front of 35 people is a very foreign surrealistic experience." Explaining that there are considerable periods of time that you just sit around on the set and do absolutely nothing until your scene comes up and you have to be able to act on cue. "Acting is understanding what your essence is." Too Wong Foo was his favorite film experience to date. "It was a fun experience. The movie was really cute and the message was fun."

RuPaul is one of those rare artists that has amassed enormous success internationally. His Christmas special "RuPaul's Christmas Ball" was an enormous hit on British television. Guests included LaToya Jackson, Taylor Dane and Nirvana. Plans to air the special in the U.S. are tentative and would likely be shown on Comedy Central if it transpires.

Asked "with considerable success in the entertainment industry, what was the highlight of your career to date?" He replied, working with my role model: Diana Ross. "The pinnacle of my career was working on stage with my idol," glowed RuPaul.

Politically, RuPaul is somewhat distant. He is reluctant to become too political and simply states that "the most political thing I can do is be myself." He compares politicians to lawyers, saying, "politicians are worse than lawyers. Not in touch with who people are, they are in touch with what people who vote want to hear. It is petty non-reality of high school stuff." He added, "life and love and living to its fullest" is the best thing we can do in this "false world."

(Continued on following page)

Tell EVERYONE you saw it in the
HOUSTON VOICE

Drag Megastar RuPaul

(Continued from preceding page)

What's next for the "drag megastar"? Plenty. In addition to the radio show and VH-1 series he continues touring his nightclub act throughout the country. His contract as spokesman for MAC Cosmetics has been renewed for a second year and he is also the Chairperson the company's AIDS Fund. A new CD of Dance mixes is forthcoming and his upcoming duet with Henry Rollins, a remake of "Funky Town" (Elektra Records), promises to be an international chart busting sensation. And, this summer, a 1997 RuPaul calendar will be released.

Houston holds significance and nostalgia for the superstar. His parents were married in our city and his sisters were born here. Moreover, outside of Atlanta, it was in Houston that he achieved "real success." In 1986 he had a NRG hit titled *Follow Me* on the Soundtrack album of the camp

motion picture *Starbooty*, which he appeared in. He frequently appeared at the Houston nightclub "Inergy" during that time and seemed to have fond memories of such.

RuPaul returns to Houston this weekend. Appearing live at Rich's on May 4 as part of the Spectrum '96 Concert of the Stars series. The event promises to be exciting and triumphant. Karel and Houston's own Pinque will be the opening acts for the concert. Advanced tickets are available at Rich's for \$15. RuPaul will also attend a VIP luncheon at La Strada for the non-profit organization Town Meeting Inc. earlier that day at 2:00 p.m. Tickets for the luncheon are \$100.

If you're not heading to Austin for Splash, Rich's will be "the place" to be this Saturday for an evening of unique entertainment and excitement that only RuPaul can deliver.

Free Bible workshop in May at MCCR

(HOUSTON)—"The Bible and Homosexuals" is the subject of a free workshop that will be offered on Wednesday evenings during May at the Metropolitan Community Church of the Resurrection. The series will be conducted by Rev. Ralph Lasher.

Rev. Lasher, who was an Episcopal priest until he announced that he was gay, has a master's degree in divinity and is a member of MCCR's pastoral staff. He headed Houston's Montrose Clinic and Houston Clinical Research Network from 1988 through 1994, and currently serves as executive director of an ecumenical ministry to men and women who are gay, lesbian, bisexual, transgendered or HIV-positive.

The May educational series will explain why the "religious right" is wrong when it claims the Bible condemns homosexuals. Topics to be covered include: the Bible and biblical times; Sodom and the Levitical Code; Jonathan and David and Ruth and Naomi; Paul's epistles; and Jesus and the Gospels.

This popular annual workshop will be held at MCCR, 1919 Decatur, every Wednesday in May from 7:30-9:30 p.m. Reservations are not required, but are appreciated; for information or to make reservations (by first name only), call the church office at 861-9149.

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Gay man fired by Penn State settles lawsuit

By MICHAEL A. GIARRUSSO
FOR THE HOUSTON VOICE

STATE COLLEGE, Pa., Wednesday, April 24 (AP)—After fighting a lawsuit for nine years, attorneys for Penn State heard one day of testimony and decided to settle with a gay man who claimed he was wrongfully fired by the university.

Andrew Winters said Penn State fired him in 1987 for pointing out discriminatory hiring practices and trying to organize programs for homosexuals.

Chester County Common Pleas Judge Robert J. Shenkin sealed Tuesday's agreement and the amount of the settlement was not released, but Winters said he was pleased with the result.

"I'm just happy that the nine-year battle is over," he said.

Winters worked for Penn State's office of Campus Life from 1984 to 1987. When he revealed that he was gay and started to organize groups for homosexuals on campus, his supervisors began plotting to have him fired, he said.

Winters complained to William Asbbury, vice president of student services, saying the university's hiring practices discriminated against minorities.

"Asbbury, who is African-American, was covering up my allegations to protect the university," Winters said. "People thought he wouldn't discriminate against other minorities, but he did."

Winters was fired for being a disruptive employee. He sued, claiming that he was terminated because he was gay and was

pointing out embarrassing problems for the university.

Asbbury and other university employees would not talk about specifics of the case Tuesday.

"The university does not discriminate," spokesperson Christy Rambeau said. "That policy was in place before this suit, and we remain committed to the policy."

The lawsuit was filed in Chester County, where Winters was living after being fired. Penn State won a summary judgment, but that was overturned and remanded back to Chester County by an appellate court.

After Winters' testimony Monday, Penn State offered to settle the case. Nine years after Winters was fired, Penn State is still in the dark ages when it comes to dealing with homosexuality and diversity, he said. "I really think the university is still in jeopardy," Winters said. "The people who did this are still there and are still being supported. These problems still haven't been addressed."

Survey: 3.2 percent gay voting block untapped

SAN FRANCISCO, Thursday, April 25 (AP)—Most of the gay, lesbian and bisexual voters in the United States are young, Democratic, concerned with social issues and living in urban areas, according to a survey released Thursday.

The report, based on exit polling in 1992 and 1994, showed that of the 15,488 voters who were questioned as they left their polling places, 3.2 percent said they were gay, lesbian or bisexual.

The National Gay & Lesbian Task Force in Washington,

D.C., said its survey was the first to give details of the country's gay voters, a constituency the group claims is still largely ignored by major candidates.

The 3.2 percent voting population "constitutes a floor, not a ceiling, and a basement floor at that," because many gays still fear publicly disclosing their sexual orientation, the report said.

"I think the essential message is this is a voting constituency that is concentrated, that is growing, that is still untapped," said John D'Emilio, the report's author

and policy director of the task force.

While gay, lesbian and bisexual voters were politically progressive, that doesn't mean an automatic vote for Democrats.

"To the Democrats, you can win this ... if you pay attention to it. To Republicans, you can neutralize it by not going out of your way to antagonize it," D'Emilio said. "But gay, lesbian and bisexual voters have a third option: They can stay home."

The report's also found:—Gays, lesbians and bisexuals

make up about 8.5 percent of the voters in cities with populations of more than 1 million; 8.2 percent of the voters in mid-sized cities with populations from 250,000 to 500,000; 1.3 percent of the voters in towns with populations of 5000 to 10,000 people.—Sixty-one percent of gay, lesbian and bisexual voters were younger than 40, compared with 44 percent of non-gays; 30 percent were younger than 30, compared with 20 percent of non-gays.—And among older voters, only 11 percent of gays, lesbians and bisexuals were 60 and older, com-

pared with 21 percent of non-gays.—Gays, lesbians and bisexuals tend to favor more government, are willing to pay higher taxes for services, and twice as many call themselves liberals.—Three-quarters of non-gays think government should encourage "traditional values."—Seventy percent of the gays, lesbians and bisexuals think government should encourage tolerance of diverse values.

The margin of error for the entire poll was about plus or minus 5 percent. The poll did not give a break down by state.

Come help us celebrate!

CW & Shaboom are having a birthday!

See you Friday, May 3 afternoon!

South of the Border Night

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5/3	MALE STRIP CONTEST at 11:00 pm w/ PAIVI	FRI
5/4	Amateur/Talent Contest at 11pm Hosted by Catia Lee Love	SAT
5/5	Congratulations Party for Jamie Lennox 9pm - A New La Cage Cast Member	SUN
5/6	MALE STRIP CONTEST at 11:00 pm w/ PAIVI	MON
5/8	South of the Border Night with Marilyn Marx	WED
5/9	\$1 Longnecks Budweiser & Bud Lite - All Day & All Night ALSO, try Granny's Burgers!!	THURS

Names Project to honor founder



Central Region DC '96 chair and national NAMES Foundation directors at recent organizing conference in Tulsa

(HOUSTON)—Names Project Houston will host a reception in honor of Cleve Jones, the co-founder of the NAMES Project AIDS Memorial Quilt, on Saturday, May 11, from 7:30 p.m. to 9:30 p.m. at The Menil Collection.

Mr. Jones will be present at the NAMES Project Houston memorial panel dedication ceremony at Main Street Theatre in Chelsea Market on Sunday, May 12 at 7:30 p.m., where he will receive the many new panels that will be incorporated into the AIDS Memorial Quilt and the DC '96 display.

Tickets for the wine and cheese reception at The Menil Collection 1515 Sul Ross, to be hosted by the Houston NAMES Project and Jackson Hicks, can be purchased for a suggested donation of \$25 from Basic Brothers, LOBO, Inklings and the NAMES Project Houston workshop on Woodhead.

Central Region Names Project Conference

The "who's who" from the San Francisco Names Project Foundation; regional chair of the DC '96 Quilt Display; and board members of regional NAMES Project chapters met in Tulsa last week to participate in strategic planning for 1996 and 1997.

"Sustaining Our Mission" was the key title for the conference, convened with the main objective of final planning for DC '96 and the showing on

the National Mall of 45,000 three-foot-by-six foot panels made in memory of people lost to AIDS.

The Quilt display on Oct. 11-13 will be the largest AIDS awareness event in history. The Quilt currently comprises 33,000 individual memorial panels. However, in the next three months, the NAMES Project expects to receive another 12,000 of which more than 200 will come from the Houston area.

Two dates that are most important to friends of the Quilt are the Houston dedication ceremony on May 12 and the closing date of May 31 for new panels for the October Washington display. All panels received by May 31 will be shown on The National Mall and included in the panel directory.

Approximately 30 football fields of fabric will stretch from the Washington Monument to the Capitol building. Up to 750,000 visitors will view the Quilt in October, and over 1500 volunteers are needed to help make the display possible in Washington from the Central Region. Contact Perrie Dolph, the central regional volunteer chairperson at 729-9662 or by writing to him at 4309 Stillbrooke, Houston, Texas 77035.

Each panel of the AIDS Memorial Quilt pays tribute to another loved one lost to AIDS. The Quilt helps us keep their memories alive, and plays a crucial role in the fight against this deadly epidemic.

BUSINESS

PanEnergy Corp. Declares 'May Day' for AFH

PanEnergy Corp. is rallying its employees to donate toiletries for AIDS Foundation Houston's Stone Soup Food Pantry May 1 and 2 during the company's May Day AIDS Awareness Day. The collected items will be delivered Thursday at 5:00 p.m. to the pantry, located at 608 Westheimer, by PanEnergyvolunteers.

PanEnergy declared May 1 AIDS Awareness day to educate its employees about HIV/AIDS and how it can impact family, friends and the community, representatives said.

"The AIDS epidemic affects the entire Houston business community," said Paul Anderson, president and chief

executive officer. "It is important for each of us to understand this disease and how it affects all of us."

"PanEnergy's May Day is aptly named, in light of the recent cuts in governmental funding for HIV/AIDS service organizations such as AIDS Foundation Houston," said Sara Selber, AFH executive director. Despite the funding shortfall, she noted, more than 1500 clients will receive help by year's end, due in part to the support of Houston corporations such as PanEnergy. The company is also supporting the Southwestern Bell "From All Walks of Life" walkathon, which will be held Sunday, May 19. The walkathon benefits 17 local HIV/AIDS organizations. Anderson and his wife Kathy are honorary team captains for the PanEnergy walkers.

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starting at 10pm
plus Garza Productions presents
KOURTNEY VAN WALES
Showtime 11pm



Saturday, May 4 TROPICAL NIGHTS FORBIDDEN DELIGHTS

MUSCLES IN ACTION
presents A Tribe of Hot Men
plus **APRIL, CINNAMON,**
MISTY VALDEZ & NAOMI WARWICK



Sunday, May 5 TROPICAL HEATWAVE

After The Beach, Come As "Bare As You Dare"
Starting at 6pm, More Hot Men from
MUSCLES IN ACTION
plus **CINNAMON, MISTY VALDEZ**
& **NAOMI WARWICK**



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New Crowns and Titles!



Lovely ladies at Gentry.

Houston Soap

By CAROLYN ROBERTS

Past Events

Congrats to Tequila Rose on being crowned the new Miss Montrose!

Congrats to Alan on being sashed the new Mr. Venture-N.

There was a fund raiser at Gentry this past Sunday for Jim "Patty" Hurst. A whopping \$2,311 was raised to help our friend!

Congrats to Vanna White Lee Love on being crowned the new Miss Chances!

Congrats to Catia Lee Love-the new Miss South East Texas America.

Congrats to Regina Dane-the new Miss Houston at Large.

Friday, May 3

The Gentry Gaps Softball team cheerleaders are sponsoring a BBQ at Gentry today from 6:00pm to 8:00pm. Each plate is only \$4.

It is Splash Weekend! The Kon Tiki in Galveston is having a weekend-long party starting tonight with the muscles-in-action dancers and an 11:00 p.m. show with Kourtney Van Wales.

The Royal, Sovereign and Imperial Court of the Single Star will be guest bartending on the Top of the Venture-N tonight starting at 9:00 p.m.

Stop in E/J's this afternoon and celebrate CW and Shaboom's birthdays!

Roger goes topless on Friday; Be sure to see him play at the BriarPatch on Fridays. Clint takes lessons for "Bare Playing" for his Monday nite gig.

This week's guest stars at Cousin's are Miss Zack, Kara Dion, Erica Lane, and Frankie Lane. The show starts at 11:00 p.m.

China Doll Productions and the Lazy J present a strip/talent contest tonight. Your hostess will be China Doll and Miss T.T. The contest starts at 9:00 p.m.

Fridays are festive at J.R.'s Video Bar. They offer \$1 off top shelf liquors until 10:00 p.m. and a troupe of muscular dancers all night long! There are compli-



Black Velvet, Kevin, Nancy Taylor and Toni.



Miss Ree Psyche, Ouisa (2nd), Tequila Rose (Winner) and Cherry Maraschino (1st) at the Miss Montrose Contest.



Jim (Owner), Alan (Winner), Ken (1st runner up) and MC Don at the Mr. Venture-N Contest.

mentary hors d'oeuvres and hourly drawings!

Saturday, May 4

Mary's meat rack is still serving today and tomorrow, 2:00 p.m. until ??

Splash weekend continues in Galveston. The Kon Tiki will have the muscles-in-action dancers as well as April, Cinnamon, Misty Valdez, and Naomi Warwick. Be prepared for tropical nights and forbidden delights!

Something new at the 611 Hyde Park Pub! This and every Saturday you can get 25¢ draft beers with a \$2 optional buy-in! What a deal!

Lady Vee, Big Robert and the Future Stars Band take the stage of Chances tonight! Stop in for the cool rhythm and blues sounds that start at 9:00 p.m.

Mary's, naturally is celebrating Splash weekend with \$2 Margaritas and \$1 Maui shots all weekend long! Dennis will be serving up grittles on the patio!

The Gay Bowlers are washing cars in the parking lot of Gentry today starting at 11:00 a.m. and the bubbles stay until 4:00 p.m. The Boy Toys start at 9:00 p.m. Something new at Gentry is the \$2 Dream-sickle special. They are a tasty treat!

Brandi Houston, Crystal Rae Lee Love, and birthday girl Sivi Ross grace the stage of Cousin's tonight! Stop in for their 11:00 p.m. show.

The guys and gals of TGRA (Texas Gay Rodeo Association) will be guest bartending tonight at the Brazos River Bottom. They will be on the patio bar starting at 9:30 p.m.

The Club Houston has catered BBQ today and tomorrow, pool side from 1:00 p.m. to 3:00 p.m. The Club Houston is a great place to work on your tan, with or without tan lines!

The Royal, Sovereign and Imperial Court of the Single Star will have a "Roasting the New Royalty" tonight at 1216 W. Drew starting at 7:30 p.m. If you would like more info, call 587-5428.

The stage of the Lazy J features the talents of Michaelay, Molly Brown, Tara Dion, and Ashley Houston. The show starts at 10:30 p.m.

Sunday, May 5

Start your Sunday with brunch at the 611 Hyde Park Pub! The tasty treats are served from 12:30 p.m. to 2:00 p.m. They also offer eye openers to complete your brunch!

Gentry will be celebrating Cinco de Mayo as only Gentry can! There is a Mexican buffet from 7:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m., a Cinco show at 9:00 p.m., which benefits AVES, followed by the male strip contest hosted by Black Velvet.

The Ripcord offers well cocktails and domestic beer for only \$1.50 all day and all night!

Dallas does it here! Adult video porn star Dallas Taylor will be in the cage tonight at Pacific Street! Also, remember that their is no cover for shirtless men on Sun-

day! No shirt, no cover, no kidding! The doors open at 7:00 p.m.

The Montrose Mine is packed on Sundays! The Mine offers a double bust! \$2 optional buy-in gets you refills of ice cold Miller Lite Draft for 25¢ or frozen Ritas for a dollar!

Headed to Galveston for Splash Day? Free beer, sodas, and hot dogs are being provided by Evolutions. There are contests and games, including body-part sculpting, tattoo beauty, flamingo relay race and pinata whack with prizes donated by Inklings and Crossroads Market. Teams and or individual participation is welcome. The party starts at noon and runs until 5:00 p.m. at the East Beach Dunes (follow the signs between Stewart Beach and Apfel park, near the high rise condos). Come out to cheer, model, strut, cruise, relax, play, and enjoy.

Celebrate Cinco de Mayo today at the Venture-N. They will be offering \$1 Coronitas, Margaritas and Cactus shots, as well as \$2.50 Jose Cuervo shots! There will also be a complimentary Mexican buffet starting at 4:00 p.m.! The Houston Area Bears will be guest bartending on the Top, starting at 5:00 p.m. Shout OLE! at the Venture-N today!

Jamie Lennox has just signed a contract to be in "La Cage aux Folles" at the Merv Griffin casino in Biloxi! There will be a going away bash tonight at E/J's to wish her well! The party starts at 9:00 p.m.

The BriarPatch will be in full swing today for their Cinco de Mayo celebration presenting "Celito Lindo." This is a benefit for AVES. Show time is 8:00 p.m. There will be pinatas, and lots of gorgeous senioritas will hit the stage.

Jamie Roberts, candidate for Miss TGRA, presents "Mi Vida Loca" tonight at the Brazos River Bottom. This will benefit the Bering Care Center. Don't forget about steak night on the patio.

Mela's Tejano Country's first annual Cinco de Mayo fiesta starts today at 1:00 p.m. There will be booths, raffles, and surprises! After dark, groove to RJ the DJ and dance the night the night away!

"The Great Gatsby" party will benefit Body Positive. It will be held at the Lovett Inn today from 4:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. Drag out your flapper dress or zoot suit to help this worthy cause. Ticket info is available by calling 524-2374.

What would Sunday be without a drag show at Cousin's? For this special Cinco de Mayo show, Tara and Kara Dion, Miss Zack, Victoria Nicole, and a special guest will be on stage starting at 11:00 p.m.

Monday, May 6

The Club Houston offers half-price lockers tonight! You can enjoy their superb facilities for a mere pittance!

Mondays at Mary's means \$1 domestic longnecks from 8:00 p.m. to 11:00 p.m.!

Jose Cuervo is \$2.50 a shot today and every day at Chances!

Tuesday, May 7

It is young executive night at Pacific Street. Show your personalized business card to the door man and he will let you in free! The doors open at 9:00 p.m. with the sounds of Adrian and lights by the Lazer Wizard!

Tuesdays at Mary's means \$2 Jose Cuervo shots all day and all night!

Big Mama Marci plays the BriarPatch this and every Tuesday! "No other bar is like it" is what they all say about the BriarPatch. Live music each and every night. If you like Gershwin, Porter, Elton John, showtunes, Billy Joel, and Carole King to name a few, you can hear them all nightly at the BriarPatch.

BerryHill II has nearly naked ladies for your fantasy pleasure. BerryHill II opens at 6:00 p.m. and happy hour runs until 10:00 p.m.

Wednesday, May 8

Back to back to Bacchus II. Stop in at 6:00 p.m. for the buffet and stay around to hear Colleen and Sandy sing your favorite songs! Bacchus II, where professional women meet on Wednesdays.

Wednesdays at the Montrose Mine offer you heart pounding music and \$1.75 domestic longnecks all night long! The men! The music! The Mine!

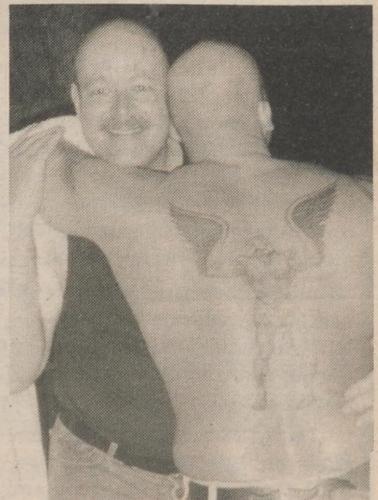
Lockers are half price today at Club Houston!

Stop in Chances tonight for the sultry sounds of Shiela Lennon. She also shares the stage with you for karaoke! The party starts at 9:00 p.m.

Retro Rave is the wave at Heaven tonight! European underground house music pounds the walls as you enjoy really cheap cocktail prices!

Wednesdays at Mary's means drink specials all day long!

Commander Catia convinces contestants to unclothe on cue. In other words, the male strip contest hosted by Catia Lee Love starts at 11:00 p.m. Don't forget the \$2 Ambrosia special! They are delightfully delicious!



Partying pals at Pacific Street!

Other Important Stuff with Rodent Droppings!



Hey Lulu!

Thursday, May 9

"South of the Border" nights move back to Thursday at E/J's. Join Marilyn Marx and her guests Levy Roberts and Delihia as they entertain you with a spicy show that starts at 11:00 p.m. If you are hungry, get there early and wash down Granny's hamburgers with \$1 Budweiser and Bud Lights!

Steaks and such are on the menu tonight at the 611 Hyde Park Pub! The grill is lit from 6:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m. The patio of the 611 Hyde Park Pub is a delightful place to dine al fresco!

John cooks up burgers tonight at the Brazos River Bottom.

on their juke box. Mela's is located at 1016 W. 19th.

Other Important Stuff

The Houston Voice would like to welcome Martin's to our family of advertisers. Martin's is the place to go for all your fine arts and framing needs. Call Martin's at 523-6925. Clip the coupon on page 19 for 10% off your first order at Martin's.

Also to our family of advertisers, we welcome 24 Hour Video and News. They are located at 2039 Mangum. They have a 62 channel squeaky clean video arcade, and tons of gay, lesbian, TV's, bondage, foreign, and kink new releases! They have a coupon on page 25 for half off (yes half-price) on all videos! What a bargain!

The Mr. Prime Choice Contest will be at the Ripcord on June 2 and the Brotherhood of Pain's slave auction is on June 14. They are still taking contestants for both events.

Did you know that the Ripcord has a web site? It is [HTTP://WWW.HIC.NET/RIPCORD/](http://WWW.HIC.NET/RIPCORD/)

This week's features at the French Quarter are "Manhattan Skyline" and "Cell-block Sinner."

Mark your calendars for an official Gay Pride event, on June 18, at 7:30 p.m. at the Laff Stop: Out/Positive & Proud! A night of laughter with HIV+ comics Kevin Maye and Steve Moore. We all know Kevin from the Gay Freedom Comedy Jam Gaylapalooza tours and Steve is from LA and starred in "Out There" This is an exciting, ground breaking show! You can order tickets by calling the Laff Stop at 521-2333.

Do you have a birthday in May? Marlene and the staff of Chances will be having a birthday party for May babies on May 18. Plan to spend the night with other May babies!

Birthday Corner

A happy birthday to Joel of the Q-Patrol!

A happy birthday to Patty Duke!

A happy birthday to Frank P. of the Court!

A happy birthday to Lee Denning!

A happy 2nd birthday to

Chris (Texas Riders): I hear you had your first woman and did not know it!

Nurse Joyce (hangs at Mary's): Have you been playing in the fountain of youth again, or was that your daughter?

Paul (hangs at Mary's): Grecian formula for your chest chair?

Regina Dane: I saw you going "down" for money at the Brazos River Bottom!

Roger (hangs at Mary's): Yes, I do flip my hair too much!

Bill (Pacific Street): Don't you ever take away my Cuervo again!

Shelby St. John: A message: What's with the attitude!!!? Just Kidding! Love, Woodisa.

Gimmie Pillsen-licher: You looked so pretty passed out in the parking lot!

Day Leigh Edwards: It is about those eyebrows!

Dakota (hangs at the BRB): I thought it was so cute. During your performance at the BRB on Sunday, you never missed a beat when your beeper went off!

Crystal Rae Lee Love: Who is the daddy of your baby?

Miss Ree Psyche (BRB): I bet the city of Houston's recycle truck don't stop at your house!

Hermione (Jim @ the Ripcord): You sure do slide well!

Mike P. (BRB): I hear the dark cloud lifted off Ft. Worth since you headed back to Houston.

Daddy Blade: Honey, I know you are doing it right!

David (hangs at the Ripcord): Just how many cherries does it take?

Clay (BRB): You have been working at the BRB for one week and already have hot flashes over Vera!

Brandon (The Club Houston): I hear you have not learned to dive correctly! You should not hit your nose on the bottom of the pool!

David (Ripcord) and Meg (Mary's): I hear you two went slumming!

Bill (Charlie's): I understand that along with food, you have been known to serve a cockring while waiting tables. But next time, don't drop the cockring in front of your customers!

Vera (BRB): I hear your husband is out of town! Look out, neither man nor beast is safe while Vera is on the prowl.



Rabbitt touches up his grey with my mascara.

Max (Charlie's): If bullshit were music, you would be a full brass band!

Skip (West Point Lincoln): I hear you donated your underwear collection to a local community resale shop! But, really, 42 pairs!

Dave W. (hangs at Gentry): How do you macadanion?

Tim R. (Chain of Command): I hear that you are now running Tim's D&D. Dungeon and Dinner? Which comes first?

Brian Keever (TWT): So, this weekend at Tim's D&D you did things you have not done in over a year! Details! I want details!

Ken S. (from Austin): I hear you are now very familiar with the parking lot of Gentry!

Vera (BRB): If you work in an antique shop and the owner tells you to strip, he talking about the furniture, not your clothes!

Ken Claude (Basic Brothers): Next time you are on stage, don't forget to plug the fact that you recently starting working at Basic Brothers!

Trixie LaRue (RSICSS): I have a message for you: You are an angel with a stick, Love Skip.

Jody (BRB): Is it true your shirt stays in a perfect "V" because you have a black hole to suck it in? I would call that anal retentive!

David (Midtown Spa): I hear you are making your rounds with he other employees!

Marlene (Chances): Is it true you are having a problem sucking and blowing?

Sid (hangs at Chances): No pussy but a possum!

The hot tub in our back yard is finally fixed and boy do we love it! I especially love it because for the first time in 20 years, I have perky breasts while in the hot tub!

TTFN

Cuervolyn



Terri at Bacchus II!

The grill is lit from 6:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m., followed by free dance lessons with Scott and JD from 9:00 p.m. to 11:00 p.m. The Brazos River Bottom also offers really cheap drink specials until 11:00 p.m.

Sky Martinis are on special today at Gentry. \$3 for this ethereal treat! The Boy Toys take the stage at 9:00 p.m.

Mela's Tejano Country has buckets of beer for \$9 today and tomorrow. Stop in for a cold one and play a game of pool or pick out your favorite Tejano song



Ace columnist Glen Webber is dressed for the prom!

JOURNAL.HMT. How's that for an address?

Here some coming events for the Brazos River Bottom; On May 12, the TGRA Presidents Show, and on May 19, the Miss Gay Pride Contest.

Mark your calendars for May 8 @ 1:00 p.m.! The Dive opens! This is the new daytime bar of the Ripcord! Join Tom as he pours well cocktails for \$1.50, pitchers of beer for \$3.75, and he'll shuck your peanuts for free!

Now and Again has a fine selection of furniture, fine art, mirrors, rugs, lamps, crystal, china, and accessories to choose from. Stop in their showroom at 1819 Waugh.

Call Dorothy at 427-9256 to set up your appointment. Dorothy is a spiritualist, healer, and advisor.

"La La Pa Lesbo" is a night of gay stand up comedy to benefit the MCCR church choir. Houston's own Vicki Shaw, and LA's Amy Altshuld will keep you in the aisles laughing! This benefit is on May 10. For ticket info, call 861-9149.

The walkathon/rollathon is on May 19. For more info, call 629-WALK.



Chris Stone plays with the staff at Midtowne.

Stephanie (she hangs at Bacchus II)!

A Happy Birthday to CW & Shaboom at EJ's!!

A Happy Birthday to Sivi Ross!!

Rodent Droppings

Harvey and Ratrat will be making a trip into the office again real soon! It is time for their manicure (or should that be clawicure!) I finally found one of their new hiding places to stash stuff. There were 5 shoes/thongs/slippers that I had been looking for! Those little rats! They love to hide stuff. Ratrat has been introduced to Oreo cookies! He loves them! Harvey prefers chocolate chip cookies!

My disclaimer is in force! Do I need to tell you what it is? This is lies, gossip, and trash! Not real journalism!

On with the rodent droppings!

Mike G. (NLA:H): So, I hear your newest cockring is the size of a bicycle tire!!

John (Venture-N): What is this about you, 12 cherries and a man named Jim? And how are those new heels? Have you learned how to do the dance "Fever?"

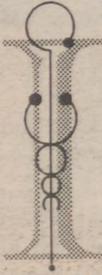


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Duke researchers to test AIDS therapy that might bring cure

By DENNIS PATTERSON
 FOR THE HOUSTON VOICE

DURHAM, Thursday, April 25 (AP)—The combination of a potent drug mixture and experimental treatment could help rebuild the immune systems of AIDS patients, researchers at Duke University said.

If drug studies show that all AIDS-related cells in the body can be destroyed, then the treatments could form the basis of a cure for the fatal disease, researchers said Wednesday.

"It (a cure) is a hypothesis. It's possible," said Dani Bolognesi, director of the Duke Center for AIDS Research. "We couldn't even talk about it several years ago. Now, conceptually, we can talk about it."

Researchers cautioned that

testing results probably will not come for two years, and that it could take several more years more before the treatment is refined—if it works.

"This has a long way to go before it can be used in the general AIDS population," said Dr. Clay Smith, one of the researchers.

With a \$4 million grant from the National Institutes of Health, researchers will conduct two sets of experiments.

The first set will involve 24 patients who are HIV-positive. They will be given a mixture of three drugs used against AIDS.

The drug mixture will reduce the amount of human immunodeficiency virus in their bodies by 99 percent, said Dr. John Bartlett, who heads Duke's Infectious Diseases Clinic.

"But what we need to do is eliminate that last 1 percent of the virus, which is hiding, and to understand why it eventually becomes resistant to drug therapy," Bartlett said.

Eight of the 24 patients in the study will get only the drugs.

Eight others will get the drugs and transplants of thymus tissue from infants. The thymus, which sits above the heart, produces antibodies to fight infections and is damaged by HIV.

A piece of the thymus is removed in heart surgery involving infants and usually is discarded. But, if parents approve, that tissue will be implanted into the test patients.

Researchers want to see whether the healthy tissue will produce antibodies to knock out the remaining HIV virus.

Eight other patients will get boosters for the immune system cells that attempt to attack HIV when it invades the body. The virus overwhelms those cells.

But their remaining antiviral cells will be extracted and stimulated to multiply rapidly. The patients will receive up to 1000 times as many of those antiviral cells in infusions. They will get infusions three times within six months.

The second experiment involves AIDS patients who also have cancer of the lymph tissue. The study will be limited to patients whose conditions have not improved with traditional chemotherapy.

They will receive the same mixture of three drugs, followed by high-dose chemotherapy and

radiation. Those two steps should destroy both the cancer and the HIV, researchers said.

To restore the immune system, Smith will use blood stem cells from placentas.

"This is really exciting for anyone with HIV whether they are eligible for the study or not," said Glenn Kent, who tested positive for HIV in 1985 and was diagnosed with AIDS in 1993.

"I would love to be involved in the study, but I don't believe I meet the criteria," said Kent, a Duke AIDS patient who attended the news conference.

Kent said he discourages AIDS patients from letting their hopes get too high or too low as research progresses.

"I look at it as another step forward," he said.

Houston Entertainment Notes

Kuumba's 'Gift'

Kuumba House Dance Theatre will present its annual Spring Concert, a dance piece entitled *Ambuya's Gift*, choreographed by Artist-In-Residence Clayton Ndlovu, a native of Zimbabwe, May 10 and 11 at DiverseWorks.

Since coming in as guest choreographer and artist-in-residence, Mr. Ndlovu, who is the assistant director of programs at the College of Ethnomusicology in Harare, Zimbabwe, has conducted Master classes and Workshops in the community including preparing students of Blackshear Elementary School for the Houston International Festival on April 19th at the African Village Stage. Mr. Ndlovu was a featured performer at the same festival playing a Zimbabwean musical instrument called the Mbira (thumb piano).

Ambuya's Gift is a dance piece about a young girl who is an outcast amongst the young maidens' society because of her lack of ability to dance. The young king who has been recently crowned is looking for a suitable maiden to marry and be his queen. One day, while the young maidens are at the river fetching water, the young outcast maiden receives a special gift from Ambuya, the oldest woman in the village. During the ceremony for the king to choose a wife, the young outcast maiden, suddenly out-dances all the other girls and gets chosen to be the king's wife.

Mr. Ndlovu is an award-winning choreographer and musician in his country Zimbabwe. He has choreographed for such major productions as *Alatangana* and *Kingdom of Sa, Mhondoro, Madhunamtuna*, to name a few. Clayton has been a dance workshop leader at Duke University's American Dance Festival. He has worked in and toured with Canada's a capella singing group Juba, for which he adapted a traditional Mdebele folk tale to incorporate song and dance. In Zimbabwe, Mr. Ndlovu also works with a youth group, Children's Performing Arts Workshop (Chipawo).

The presentation of *Ambuya's Gift* will feature the Kuumba Kids and students from Black-

shear Elementary School. The professional dance company members who will be performing are Lori Amare, Veronique Broussard, S'bongile Cook, William Coleman, Vincent James, Reaona Jones, Phindisela Mkhathshwa, Brandi Savoy and Lindi Yeni. The percussion and drum core consists of Muhamed Kivumbi, Tulani Sulaiman and Reginald Thompson.

The performance will be on at 8:00 p.m. May 10 and 11 at DiverseWorks Performance Space, 1117 East Freeway. Tickets can be purchased at Kuumba House, 811 Westheimer, Suite 110B between 9:00 a.m. and 5:00 p.m. For reservations and other information please call Gayle Waden or Sharon Hendrix at (713) 524-1079.

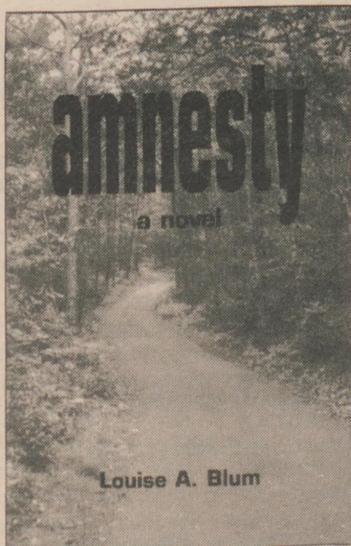
'Dance' To Be Sung

A performance of *Still We Dance*, a collection of original songs written by people with AIDS and their friends, will be presented at DiverseWorks Sunday, May 5 at 2:00 p.m. The songs have been set to music by Dr. Mary Carol Warwick and will be sung by soprano Patricia Rabazo.

Still We Dance will be followed by a presentation by The Art Guys, titled "On Pins and Needles."



Clayton Ndlovu performs in Kuumba House Dance Theatre's spring concert offering, 'Ambuya's Gift'



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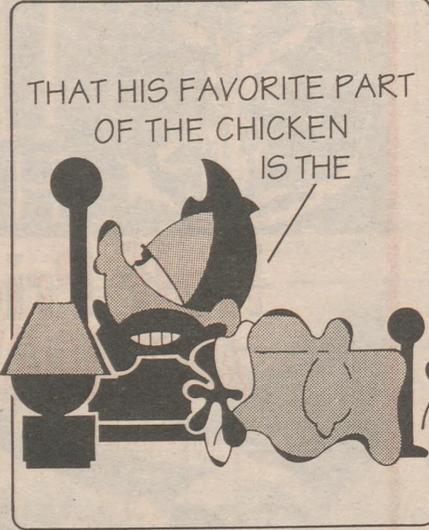
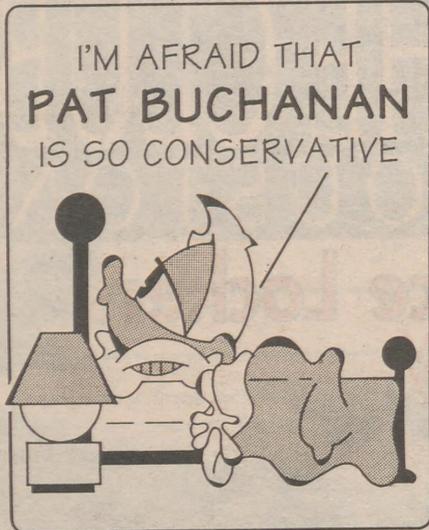
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Sounds by Sam

Girlie Bands Take Over The World

Just thought I'd write a little article on a couple of CDs you really need to consider having in your collection. This week, the sounds are focused on the 'girl bands' that seem to be getting popular. As much as we hate to say it: thank you Courtney Love.

Penelope Houston's new CD is innocently entitled *Cut You*. It is by far one of the 'sweetest' CDs I've listened to. Her soft, soothing voice is very comforting and easy to listen to. Her sound is almost like a jazz k.d. lang. But she is hard to label because of her versatility. Pay attention to tracks 2,3,7,8, and 11 (got that?). You will notice, not only her versatility, but also a underlying heartfelt joy that Penelope Houston feels when she sings.

This brings us to psycho-singer by the name of Jewel. Her CD, *Pieces of You* is about as strange as you can get. The music is very similar to her hit song (one that Jewel herself has admitted getting tired of) "Who Will Save Your Soul." It is by far the most pleasant music to listen to, but the lyrics are a different story. Because it's kind of folkish, the lyrics are not only deep, but also very powerful and extremely potent. (eg. track number 3, "Little Sister.") I'm not sure what the recorded clapping after every other song has to do with anything, but I guess it all goes with the whole "Jewel" idiom. You have got to check this woman out.

If you like Belly or Hole, or the "girl bands" of the '50s, then Lush's *Lovelife* would be for you. The sound of Lush is difficult to describe. It's more like a combination of the three types I just mentioned. At times they are nice and innocent, at others they are experienced bitches. They harmonize perfectly at times, then they express themselves through violent words. They were certainly impressive at the Buzz Fest. They were the most honest group there. This is really a good CD to at least listen to as soon as you get the chance.

And then there is Annie Lennox.

Getting slightly away from the dance (techno, underground, house, whatever) music that is usually popular, it's a little difficult to play while lounging around the house trying to "veg." These three 'girl' bands are some of the best music written, performed and listened to. One

point of clarification: Penelope Houston and Lush have men in their groups, though they are not allowed near the microphones. After all if a good woman can't lead the way, who do they have? (Bill Clinton joke inserted here...)

Give these new sounds a chance. They are certainly worth the money and the time (they may be a little hard to find). The point of this is: just following the mainstream keeps you blinded to the vast world of music that can only be discovered by those who are open minded enough to look. (Be sure to write that one down!)

MTV Buzzes for AmFAR

The latest creation from the new alternative nation that has crept into our lives has been produced by none other than MTV. They, along with Mammoth and Atlantic Records have made a new CD entitled *MTV Buzz Bin: Volume 1*. The music that is in this collection is the overplayed '104 KRBE' alternative music that we all get seriously tired of hearing three times an hour, all day, every day. However, the benefit of owning this CD is two fold: 1) It IS a good collection of that type of music and you will (in about 5 years) be very glad that you purchased it; 2) the simple fact that 25% of all proceeds of the CD goes to AmFAR.

The tracts include Stone Temple Pilots' "Plush," White Zombie's "More Human Than Human" and Gin Blossoms' "Hey Jealousy." (Well, I warned you.) Realizing of course that not everyone thinks that Radiohead's "Creep" is on their top ten singles list, this CD is catering to a certain 'MTV-ish' crowd. If this is not you, then by the time you hit the second song (Dave Matthews Band's "What Would You Say?") you would probably be ready to do a heavy dose of crack and a stiff drink.

My best advice: NEVER eat yellow snow.

As far as this CD? Think of someone who loves songs like Filter's "Hey Man, Nice Shot" and buy this for them. Not only do you help AmFAR, but you can give a nifty gift (okay, that takes care of THIS year...) Realizing that this CD is definitely not for everyone, I personally liked it when I received the promotional copy (even if it was on tape).

MTV Buzz Bin: Volume 1 was released on April 23. If this seems like a thing that you can get into (as if you can't "get INTO" enough) then stop by any CD store and check it out. If it's for AmFAR, it's at least worth a look.

Nutritional clinical trial at Montrose Clinic

The Montrose Clinic has begun enrolling HIV-positive persons with CD4 cell counts less than 100 in a nutritional clinical trial. The study is designed to look at the long term effects on HIV-related wasting of taking nutritional supplements.

Food supplements such as Lipisorb and Sustacal have been studied as a treatment for HIV-related weight loss; however, no long term follow-up has been done and it is unknown whether these supplements should be a routine part of daily care for HIV-positive persons. Recent studies have suggested that nutritional supplements containing fat in the form of medium chain triglycerides (MCTs) like those found in Lipisorb could enhance fat absorption and decrease abdominal discomfort when compared to standard supplements containing long chain triglycerides (LCTs) like those found in Sustacal Plus.

The purpose of this study is to determine if medium chain triglycerides result in a greater increase of body weight, body cell mass and quality of life when compared to a supplement with long chain triglycerides.

Qualified participants must be 18 years old, HIV-positive with a CD4 cell count less than 100. Participants must not have started a new antiviral (whether a reverse transcriptase inhibitor or protease inhibitor) in the past month and they may not use appetite stimulants, steroids, thalidomide or ganciclovir during the study. Other entry criteria may apply. There is no cost to qualified participants.

Interested persons may call Ron Cummings, RD, of H.O.P.E. Resource center at Park Plaza at 285-1293 for more information or to schedule a screening.

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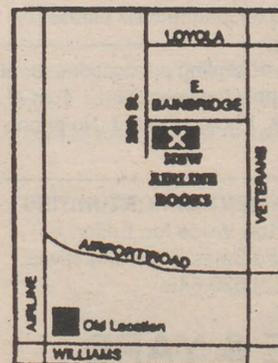


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RECIPES BY KUNTRY KIDD

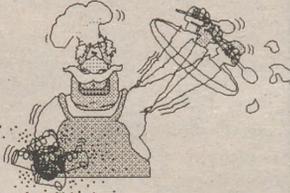
I told you a couple of weeks ago I get some of my recipes by watching the "Mike & Mattie" show, and I copied this one down. By the way, Mattie fits the true description of a dumb blonde!! It's not hard to understand why the show will be taken off the air.

I will tell you up front that if you do not like rosemary, you will not like this dish. The first bite was pretty strong for me, but then it seemed to mellow. I did not have any fresh rosemary, so I used the dry. I planted some in my garden, so next time I'll use fresh.

Yeah!! The Kuntry Kidd finally has his own garden! It's not very big, but it's a start. It even has raised beds! I hope to harvest tomatoes, red and green bell peppers, basil, rosemary, zucchini, and egg plant. Wish me luck, I'll probably need it. It's only been six years since I've wanted a garden.

White Bean and Lamb Stew

- 4 cloves garlic (minced)
- 1 LB boneless lamb
- 2 Tbs. rosemary
- 1 C. white wine
- 3 C. cooked great northern beans (or any white bean)
- 4 C. stewed tomatoes (2-16 oz cans, chopped)
- 2 Tbs. olive oil



Heat the olive oil in fry pan and add minced garlic and sauté. Add the lamb and rosemary and cook over medium heat for about 5 minutes. Add the wine and cook an additional 5 minutes. Add the 3 cups cooked beans and the tomatoes, and simmer for about 20 minutes. Serves 4.

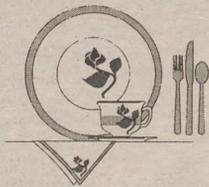
You can use canned beans if you do not have time to prepare them from the dry form.

Serve this with warm bread or salad, or both! I served mine over Maggie and mine's favorite rice. Texmati!!!

Use your own preference of lamb cut. Randalls on Westheimer and Shepherd had lamb stew meat. Not cheap, but good!

UNTIL NEXT WE EAT!

KUNTRY KIDD



The Great American Puzzle

TEXAS EDITION

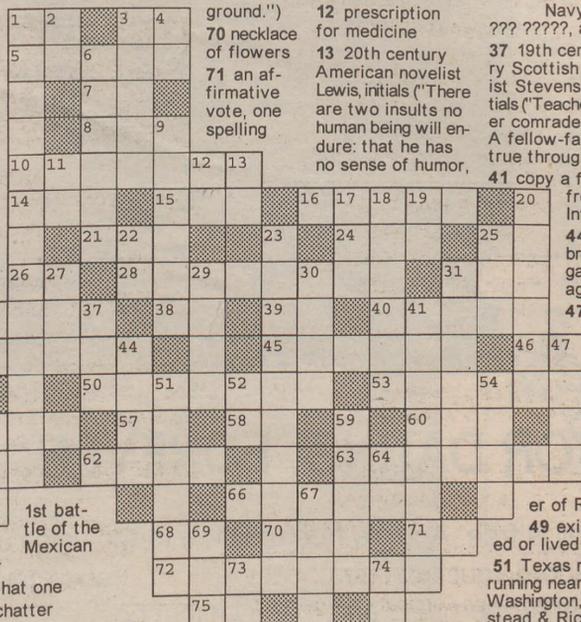
By Henry McClurg

ACROSS

- 1 noun suffix for quality
- 3 the 2 semivowels in reverse order
- 5 waned
- 7 group for alcoholics, abbr.
- 8 noun suffix, one that does
- 10 in geology, chemical sediments
- 14 solemn lyr-

DOWN

- 15 Roman numeral 1040
- 16 famous battle of March 6, 1836
- 21 drink
- 24 direction El Paso to Lubbock, abbrev.
- 25 micron
- 26 American actor & president, initials ("We're the party that wants to see an America in which people can still get rich.")
- 28 Houston Rocket's center Hakeem
- 31 bunch of people named Bo
- 32 Texas Indians rubbed bodies with oil from this animal to repel insects
- 38 Spanish for 'the'
- 39 direction Corpus Christi to Galveston, abbrev.
- 40 accommodate, fit
- 42 armed fighting between nations
- 43 believes
- 45 Zachary, American general, later to be U.S. president, who commanded American troops in



- 46 that one
- 48 chatter
- 50 secondary assigned work
- 53 faints
- 55 U.S. state which exports most (twice as much as all others combined) to Mexico
- 57 NBC's hit medical show
- 58 abbr. for verses and vice versa
- 60 direction Abilene to Amarillo, abbrev.
- 61 snakelike fishes
- 62 Coyote State, abbr.
- 63 light beer
- 65 symbol for chemical element nickel
- 66 ABC correspondent Sam Donaldson's Texas hometown, 2 words
- 68 19th century Irish wit Wilde, initials ("Where there is sorrow, there is holy

- ground")
- 70 necklace of flowers
- 71 an affirmative vote, one spelling
- 12 prescription for medicine
- 13 20th century American novelist Lewis, initials ("There are two insults no human being will endure: that he has no sense of humor,
- 17 astrological sign the lion
- 18 records of events, in order
- 19 Pine Tree State, abbr.
- 20 city of the LBJ Library
- 22 in Greek mythology, maiden loved by Zeus
- 23 site of the state penitentiary
- 25 washes floors
- 27 fish eggs
- 29 dismantled a horse
- 30 fragile
- 31 British lords or noblemen
- 33 late orches-

- tra leader Welk, initials
- 34 fail to keep up
- 35 roused to intense anger
- 36 Army, Navy & ??? ?????, abbr.
- 37 19th century Scottish essayist Stevenson, initials ("Teacher, tender comrade, wife, / A fellow-farer true through life.")
- 41 copy a file from the Internet
- 44 brought legal action against
- 47 rul-



GALAXY GAYZER

A HOUSTON VOICE EXCLUSIVE

HOROSCOPE FOR THE WEEK OF MAY 3 - 9, 1996

IF THIS WEEK IS YOUR BIRTHDAY: Changes on the work scene could bring you a promotion, but the money may not meet your expectations. Either hang in there and hope for improvement, or start looking for a better paying position. Use your intuition to resolve differences with a mate.



ARIES (March 21-April 20) Don't believe everything you hear; make sure to check sources and facts. Work at staying debt free. There may be a confining relationship which has been on your mind for some time. Give yourself some breathing space to think about which approach you want to take.

TAURUS (April 21 - May 21) This week may bring a difficult problem. Keeping your perspective will help you to hold your temper and avoid any unnecessary blowups for such trivial problems. Later, you may feel a bit unsure of your next step, give it time and it may take care of itself.

GEMINI (May 22 - June 21) Love is in the air this week. It's quite possible that you may find yourself in the midst of a new and exciting relationship, or finally seeing a romantic possibility which has been right under your nose. If you already have a committed sweetheart, the sparks are going to fly.

CANCER (June 22 - July 23) Moderation in your lifestyle is the key to making it this week. Spending time with children will keep your feet on the ground and possibly see things in a different way. Your craving for something new and exciting may have a negative effect on what you hold dear.

LEO (July 24- August 23) Old memories may be stirred up this week, and you may have a hard time putting your finger on just why this is so. Try to explore your feelings to the best of your abilities, and make an effort to look for the silver lining in that cloud over your head.

VIRGO (August 24 - September 23) Your energies are magnified during the week, but be careful just how you use the power. Don't use this energy for destructive ends, or else you may find these negative vibes coming back to haunt you, twofold. The weather, oddly enough, may have a rejuvenating effect on you.

LIBRA (September 24 - October 23) Take into consideration those things which you value most and put your energy behind it. Use your financial resources responsibly. Attending to details about money will save you from wasting time and money later on. An opportunity for wealth has strings attached.

SCORPIO (October 24 - November 22) This week you may be inclined to take a deep look at your philosophical approach to life. It may be time to shift your long held views in order to come up to date with your maturity level. Accept any praise coming your way about a job well done, but don't let it go to your head.

SAGITTARIUS (November 23 - December 21) There may be anxieties just beneath the surface which wreak havoc on your physical and mental health. Look to positive long-range plans in order to subdue your anxiety. Take changes in stride and you will see that something new may just suit you better.

CAPRICORN (December 22 - January 20) Compassion and flexibility is essential during the week. It may be hard for you to watch someone you care for wallowing in self-pity, but there isn't much you can do about it. The way you approach solutions to a problem may not be the way others do. Set your sights on the future.

AQUARIUS (January 21 - February 19) A more assertive approach in the workplace will win points with someone higher up who is watching you. Maintain your cool and co-workers will be impressed also. If the information coming to you seems confusing, take time to analysis everything before deciding anything.

PISCES (February 20 - March 20) Don't undertake a project this week that you are not equipped to do properly. It is very important to recognize your limitations. Don't take yourself so seriously, or else things will cease to be enjoyable. Everything is not a contest, no matter what others lead you to believe.

Personal Instructions

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

TO ANSWER AN AD BY PHONE - Call 1-900-454-3576 (\$1.49/min.). Listen to the instructions. You will then actually be listening to the advertisers recorded message and can leave a voice message with your name and number. You can respond to more than one personal during the phone call. As individuals check their messages, they can respond to yours. OR you can pre-pay a special 800 account, listen and respond without the cost appearing on your phone bill. Call 529-8490 for more information.

TO ANSWER AN AD BY MAIL: Each ad has a five digit code. Write your response and seal it in a stamped envelope with the five digit code in the address place. Place your sealed response and \$2.00 in an envelope and mail it to us, we will affix a mailing label and the intended person will receive your

response. This service costs \$2.00 plus postage per numbered envelope, and is available only with the Houston Voice Personals.

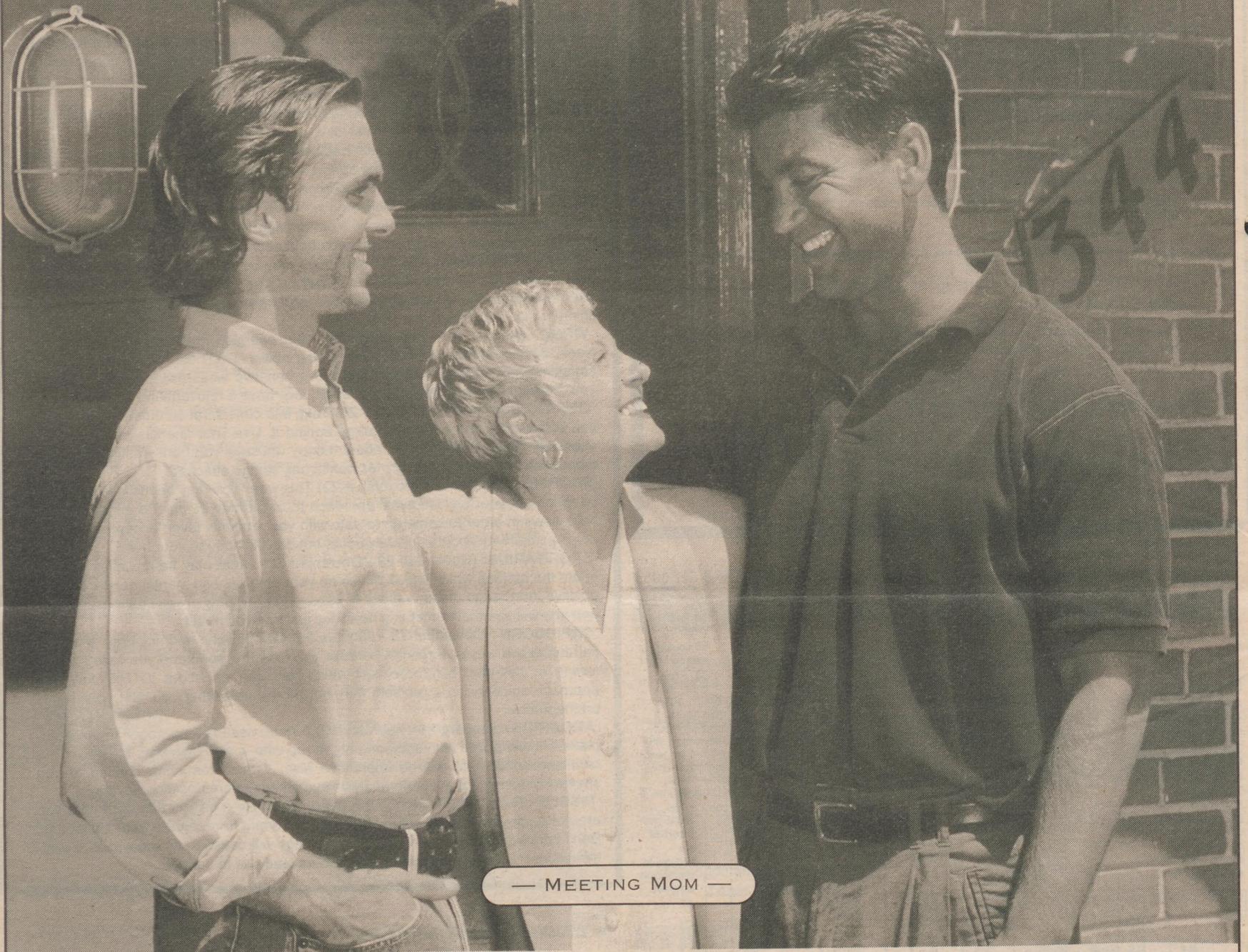
ADDITIONAL REQUIREMENTS: To place a Houston Voice personal ad you are required to participate in the "live voice" aspect of our Personals by calling the special 800 toll-free number. You must record, in your voice, your Ad. If you do not participate in the voice aspect, your ad may be discontinued without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

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

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MAN FOR ALL REASONS

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FOR ADVENTURE. FOR SEX. FOR DATING. FOREVER.

Nowhere else can you meet this many men at one time. Manline has hundreds of unique and exciting voice ads for you to check out right now.

Zero right in on your type of man. Choose him from a category that best suits the relationship type and physical description you're seeking. There are 12 categories from which to select. Enjoy the kind of relationship or intimate encounter you want.

The call is free. And it's free to listen to the voice ads and record your own personal voice ad. Trade messages with other members and make instant one-to-one connections for about the cost of a cup of tea.

Find your man the fast and easy way through Manline. Call now!

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Listen to hundreds ads in 12 categories. Featuring Man-To-Man live connections!

IMC does not pre-screen its callers and we assume no liability when meeting with someone through our service. Adults 18 years of age or older only. *Free to call within the 713 area code.

**2 Full Hours
Only \$4**
GET THE BEST FOR LESS

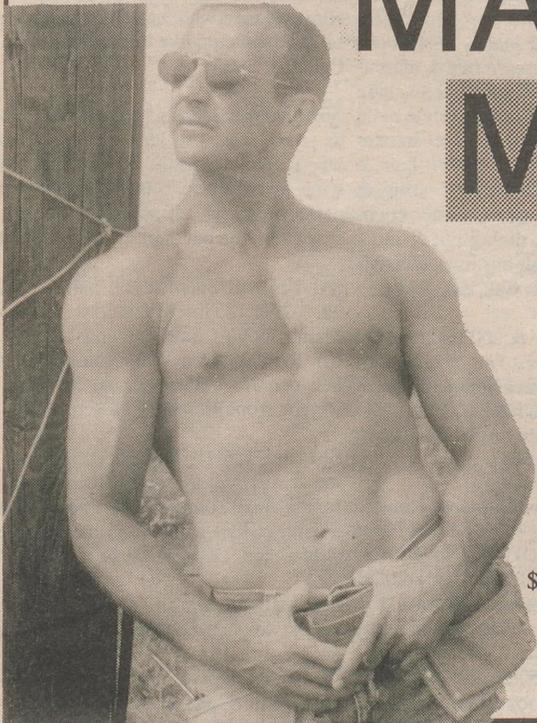
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Bulletin Board Rotates every 6 Hours

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ROUGH, KINKY STUDS ARE WAITIN'
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1-ON-1 WITH HOT-TALKIN' DUDES
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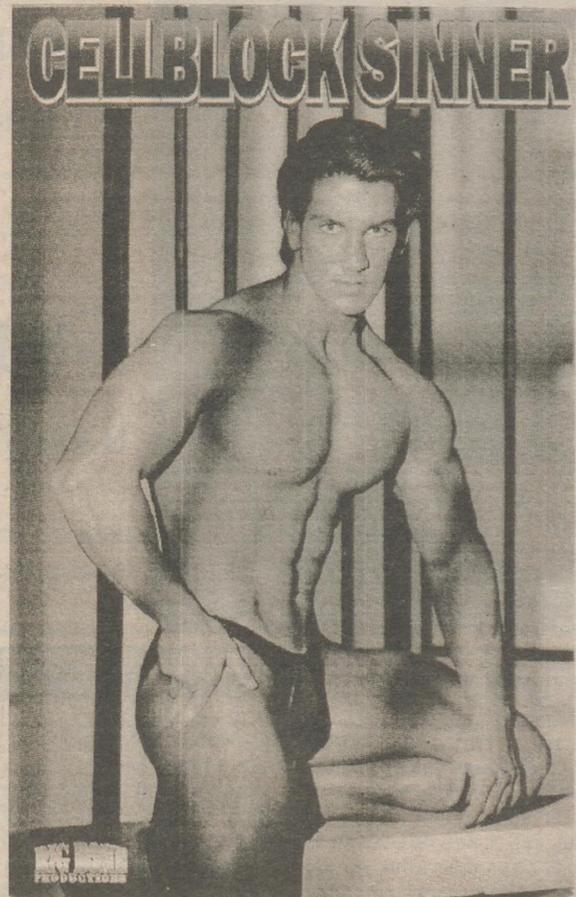


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SKYLINE**

AND

**CELLBLOCK
SINNER**

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11am - 3am
Monday-Thursday
11am - 1am
Sunday
1pm - 1 am





HOUSTON VOICE PERSONALS



Women

SEEKING

Women

SF I'm 23, 5'2" & 93 lbs. I have very short brown hair & blue eyes. So, if you're looking for a very cute GQ-looking little boy, it's me. Please call soon. Call Ext. 5048

SBF Kidnap me. Take me on a hot air balloon ride. Seeking a female. Race & age are not important. Give me a call. Call Ext. 5037

SFI I'm a short 5'2" brunette who is very active. I enjoy traveling, dining out, being in the outdoors, bike riding and much more. I'm looking for some friendships & to have a lot of fun with people. If you're interested, call me soon. Call Ext. 5025

SF I am 36, 5'4" & 115 lbs. I have gray hair & hazel eyes. I enjoy outdoor activities such as camping, kayaking, canoeing, walking in the country & riding my motorcycle. I love animals. I like all types of music, except rap & hard rock. I'm interested in meeting someone who is between the ages of 35-45 years old, for friendship or dating. I'm not looking for a hard butch, but I am looking for a soft butch, androgynous or feminine woman. I would prefer to meet a non-smoker. No drugs, please. Light drinking is okay. Please call soon. Call Ext. 5020

Men

SEEKING

Men

SM If you know how to follow orders & you want to discuss possibilities, you can call me. Call Ext. 5018

SBM I'm middle-aged, 6'1" & 190 lbs. I'm interested in meeting a height/weight proportionate, middle-aged White male 35+. He should want to get together for fun & a possible friendship. I'm not looking for a relationship. I'm looking for pure indulgence. I'm versatile. If you are healthy & masculine, give me a call. I would prefer to meet a versatile man, but at least someone who is capable of being a top. Call Ext. 5057

SM I'm 6'4". I have brown hair, blue eyes & a mustache. I'm nice-looking & masculine, with a football-player's build. I'm interested in meeting other guys who are 40 or younger, for a good time. Call Ext. 5056

SAM I'm 20, 5'6" & 137 lbs. I have brown eyes & black hair. I'm cute. I'm looking for a boyfriend who is a White male, 24-34. He must be handsome. Call Ext. 5049

SM I'm 50, 5'9" & 190 lbs. I'm looking for someone who likes to cuddle. I would like to meet someone who lives in the Waco or Houston area. Call soon. Call Ext. 5054

SHM I'm 32, 5'11" & 165 lbs. I have black hair & light brown eyes. I love the outdoors, sports, cooking & dining out. I'm full of joy. I'm seeking a White male for friendship or a possible long-term relationship. Call Ext. 5055

SWM I'm 40. Seeking submissive men. If you are interested, leave me a message. Call Ext. 5050

SM I'm 20, 5'6" & 135 lbs. I have brown eyes & long hair. I'm very cute. I'm looking for a single White male who is 24-30 & handsome. Call Ext. 5049

SAM I'm 20, 5'6" & 135 lbs. I have brown eyes & black hair. I'm looking for a White male 24-30 who is handsome. Call Ext. 5051

SWM I'm a muscular, professional, endowed man. I'm 39, 5'10" & HIV negative. I enjoy bodybuilding, sports, the arts & romance. I'm seeking a long-term, monogamous relationship with someone who is honest, passionate, endowed & HIV negative. Please, no bar flies, smokers or one-nighters. A Black male is a plus. Call Ext. 5045

SHM I'm a 30-year-old, HIV+, single Hispanic male. I'm very healthy & active. I'm 5'10" & 165 lbs., with a 29" waist. I have brown hair, dark eyes, long eyelashes, a goatee & a tan line. I'm looking for an honest & sincere Black top man who's 6' or taller & HIV+, preferably. I like the outdoors, picnics in the park, walks on the beach, the indoors, watching movies, etc. Call Ext. 5044

SM I'm a snowbird in Houston, Texas. I'm a snowbird in search of Texas cowboy snowballs who are gay White males, gay Hispanic males, 21-41, non-smokers, drug & disease free & masculine. I'm looking for someone to share love & life with. I'm a gay White male who's 45, 5'9", 191 lbs., a non-smoker & disease free. I have brown hair & brown eyes. I'm an honest, caring & loving man. I like movies, theater, country-western music, dining out & quiet evenings. Let's melt our lives together as soon as possible. Call Ext. 5039

SM I'm 35, stocky & 200 lbs. I have a goatee & brown eyes. I enjoy quiet dinners, movies & occasional nights at bars. I would like to meet someone who has a nice personality & who is fun to be with. Call Ext. 5041

SM I'm a 39-year-old native Houstonian. I like dancing & 70's disco. I love hanging out & walking. I love art & writing. I also love festivals & politics. I'm a libertarian who is interested in global topics. I'm a Virgo & I'm really looking for a Taurus. Age is not important to me. I'm 5'5" & 120 lbs. Everyone says that I look about 10 years younger than my age. I can speak Spanish. I love French, German & other languages. Call Ext. 5052

SBM I'm 5'11" & 185 lbs. I'm looking for a Black male who is between the ages of 20-30 years old. Looking for a possible long-term relationship. I like going out & bowling. I also enjoy spending quality time at home. Call Ext. 5038

SM There is a memory that lives & flows through my veins. I'm looking for an attractive & muscular bottom. Can you help me? Call Ext. 5036

SWM I'm a masculine White male who is 40, 5'6", 140 lbs. & HIV-. I'm looking for Black males who are preferably feminine. If you're interested, call me. Call Ext. 5035

SM I am 5'10" tall & 185 lbs. I am well-built & very good-looking. I'm looking for men who are between the ages of 30-45 years old. Call Ext. 5016

SM I'm 5'7", 140 lbs., Latin & fair-skinned. I'm interested in a Black or Hispanic man who wants to hang out a bit & who would like to have some fun. Call Ext. 5033

SM I'm 34 & 220 lbs. I have brown hair & green eyes. I'm looking for a man who's totally romantic & who likes red wine & soft music. I'm looking for that perfect man who'll appreciate me the way I am. You out there? Call Ext. 5030

SM I'm half-Spanish and half-White, 25, 5'7" & 135 lbs. My interests include biking, movies, quiet evenings at home. I'm looking for a White male who is between 25 & 35 years old & height/weight proportionate. Call Ext. 5026

SM I'm 35, 6'1", 175 lbs., straight-acting & straight-appearing. I'm looking for the same. Someone who knows what it's like to love a man & is comfortable with a man. Call Ext. 5024

SM I am in search of a masculine, height/weight proportionate, HIV- male for safe fun. I am 41, HIV-, 5'7" & 160 lbs. I have brown hair & brown eyes, with a salt & pepper beard. I'm an average guy with no hang-ups. If you are interested, call me. Call Ext. 5019

SM I'm told that Houston has the fourth largest population living with HIV. Okay, you guys, where are you? Why don't you give me a call? What do you have to lose? I'm in my mid-30's, caring, funny & good-looking. Give it a shot, maybe you'll like what you find. Call Ext. 5032

SM I am 46, 5'9" & 190 lbs. I'm aggressive & demanding. I'm looking for men who know what to do when they are told. If you leave me a message, I'll give you a call back. Call Ext. 5018

SWM I'm 40, over 6' tall & height/weight proportionate. I'm looking for a Hispanic or Black male who is between the ages of 35-50 years old, over 6' tall & height/weight proportionate. Please call and leave me a message & I'll get back to you as soon as I possibly can. Call Ext. 5034



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All you need is a touchtone phone. Call now. Fun and friendship await!

Call...

1-800-461-5930

today and place your FREE ad.

HOW TO USE THIS SYSTEM

Dear Reader: Enjoy reading all the ads in the category of your choice, highlighting the ones you'd like to respond to. Then just call 1-900-772-3085 (\$1.69/min.*) and follow the instructions. Ads are kept 8 weeks, replies kept 7 days and then erased. If you need help using the system, call Customer Service at 1-360-636-9267. What you see here is only a small portion of the ads currently on our Voice Personals system, so you might wish to call and browse through the newest ads. To record your own FREE voice personal, call 1-800-461-5930. You'll automatically be assigned a voice box number. Remember, we screen our ads daily, but we are not responsible for the advertisers. We urge you to screen people yourself. Talk by phone, and meet first in a public place. Publisher reserves the right to review, revise or refuse any ads. Must be 18 or older to use this system. Touchtone phone required. *Average length of call is 3 minutes, total cost determined by caller. Have fun and good luck!

(Houston Voice, Houston, TX)

Having trouble finding new friends or that significant other? The Houston Voice Personals can help! Call and place your FREE ad today. This system is fast, easy and totally confidential.

Call...
1-800-461-5930

To browse ads, respond to ads or to retrieve your messages, call...

1-900-772-3085 (\$1.69/min.*)

You must be 18 or older to use this system.



HOUSTON VOICE *Personals*

WANTED: WHITE MALE

Indian male, 30, attractive, very shy and not into an active gay lifestyle, DDF, enjoys hiking, sports, long drives in the country, quiet evenings at home, interesting conversation and an overall active lifestyle. ISO white male over 35 with similar interests for long term monogamous relationship. Looks not important. Let's exchange letters and photo. Ad 25752

Good looking, masculine, GWM seeks same who strives for balance in body, mind and spirit. You must be healthy, full of energy and enthusiasm. I'm 32, a star gazer and a romantic. My interests include world travel, nature, gardening, music and dance. Friendship first and possible life long monogamous relationship. Don't hesitate, take a chance! Prefer written responses. Ad 25764

QUALITY MAN...

That's what I want. Dark complexion, Middle East/Mediterranean a big plus. Me: GWM, very fit, masculine, 5'8", 155 lbs, good looking. You: Masculine, "addiction-free", SERIOUS. I'm educated, professional, stable, healthy, great morals/values. Desire same. Letters preferred; all answered. Take a chance; let's talk, meet, dance. Photo gets mine. Ad 25694

MAN OF PASSION

Hi quality GWM, 6'1", 178, 38, brown/blue, stable professional, healthy, honest, adventuresome, fun, intelligent, passionate, warm heart and soul, HIV-. I'm looking for one GWM who is 30-45ish, HIV-, stable, reasonably well adjusted and compatible. I hope to share excitement, laughter, support, intimacy and growth. Ad 25720

EAST SIDE GWM SEEKS FRIENDS/POSSIBLE RELATIONSHIP

I am 35, 5'8", 145, brown hair, blue eyes, healthy, HIV-, happy, well built, attractive, masculine, and successful with strong work ethic. Interested in movies, music, plants, pets, dance, intimate evenings, versatile "top." Seeking HIV-honest, sincere, attractive, healthy, financially stable GM with strong work ethic for friendships and possibly loyal, long term monogamous relationship. Not looking for someone well endowed, just intelligent with a kind heart. Send photo -mail responses preferred. Ad 25750

GIVING MY HEART

GWM attractive, spiritual, realistic, looking for new contacts for friendship and future romance. Discover within this loving heart the great chances of meeting, talking, and sharing with me the magnificent gift of all times LOVE. Respond soon, letters are greatly appreciated. Ad 25756

AFTERNOON DELIGHT

Professional GWM, 49, blonde-blue, clean shaven, 6', 165, swimmers body. I.S.O. part-time play buddy. You are good-looking, 30 to 50, HWP, drug free, without hangups. CALLS ONLY. Ad 25704

CHRISTIAN SEEKS LIFEMATE

GWM, 33, 6'1", 285, christian, professional with big heart. I'm nice looking, short brown hair and mustache. Seeking that special someone with lots of love to give for monogamous relationship. Interests include movies, intimate evenings, helping people in need, yard sales, flea markets, and my church. Ad 25708

TWICE THE FUN!

Two good looking masculine guys, 25 & 30, interested in meeting business professional (25-45) for occasional hot, safe, discreet fun. Must be successful, masculine and in shape. Prefer mail responses, letter/photo. Ad 25721

LOOKING FOR THAT SPECIAL PERSON

GWF, early 30's, non-smoker, looking for GWF, 30-45. I enjoy movies, intimate dinners & the outdoors. Ad 25730

GENTLE LEATHER "DAD" SEEKS NOVICE "BOY"

Attractive GWM physician, 35, 5'10", 160, new in town, seeks boy 18-24 with interest in light S/M, B/D. Very understanding and patient. If you ever thought of getting into "leather" with a gentle but firm master, give me a call. Ad 25744

SEEKING TO MAKE NEW FRIENDS

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

THE FOREVER MAN

Professional, mature, masculine, successful, fun-loving GWM, youthful, 40, 5'11", 180#, well built and very attractive w/ dark hair and blue eyes. Interested in a long term monogamous relationship based on loyalty, trust, and most importantly, passion. True love runs deep, and there is nothing quite like it. Ad 25717

MATURE GM, FRENCH ACTIVE, HIV-, ISO OTHER M, HIV- FOR YOUR ENJOYMENT. Ad 25762

AFFECTIONATE TEDDY BEAR WANTS CUDDLY CUB

GWM, 56, 6'2", 285, big bear, professional, clean cut seeks loving cub for companionship, fun, and a devoted monogamous relationship. I want what I am: sincere, loyal, sense of humor, honest, masculine, caring, sensitive, trusting, lots of T.L.C., respect, genuine and unlimited passion. Interests: Movies, art galleries/museums, dining out, quiet evenings at home, and lots of candlelight conversation and sharing. Discreet, NS, and DDF. U B 2. If you can relate, please respond. Prefer mail responses. Ad 25745

FRIENDLY YOUNG MAN WANTED

Affectionate older GWM seeks a young man for discreet and safe fun. I like to please young men, especially if they are slender, boyish and smooth. DDF please. Ad 25693

SERIOUS & SINCERE ONLY

Tall/Handsome/GWM. Loves to look, dance, & shop. Former LSU student turned paraprofessional. I.S.O. spontaneous, intellectual, politically incorrect friends. You must keep up w/ fashion, latest dance music, and mel HWP & DDF. Ad 25702

SOMEONE TO SHARE LIFE

Looking for someone to share life with me. A home, pets and comfortable closeness. Would like monogamous, almost platonic relationship. Tired of dinner alone? Respond. Maybe we can both finally "exhale." Please be over 30 years. Photo will get mine. Ad 25757

LONELY GHM

31, 5'7", 135#, seeks GW or GHM for lifemate, monogamous relationship. Must be honest, sincere, 32+ year of age. I'm HIV-, short black hair. Enjoy travelling, being adventurous. You must be the same and versatile. No games. Photo please. Physical must be terrific. Ad 25739

SOUL/LIFE MATE WANTED

GWM, 51, 5'10", 205 lbs. stocky weightlifter, HIV-, professional demeanor, active Christian, conservative straight lifestyle, seeks brawny, bear, linebacker, beefy hunk/chunk with similar attributes. Physically challenged encouraged to reply. Thanks! Ad 25727

EUROPEAN GUY

I am 27 years old, 5'7", 132, brown hair and brown eyes, healthy (HIV-), warm and caring. I enjoy movies (foreign), music, animals, cars, etc. I'm looking for a compatible, masculine, professional man who is single, smart, funny and charming. Ad 25715

GHM, 31, 5'11", 170, BLACK HAIR/BROWN EYES

My interests are cooking, working out, jogging, sports, the outdoors and gardening. I would like to spend time with that special man. Oh, by the way, it's so hard to meet men in Houston who are honest and sincere. I am seeking GWM for friendship and possibly a long-term relationship. I have a lot to offer. You will be pleased you answered. Ad 25763

GALVESTON: LOOKING FOR SEXUAL BUDDIES

I'm in my 40's, married, 5'10", 160lbs., average looks, DDF, clean, top-cut-discreet. Ad 25598.

KIDNAP ME

Take me to your playroom. Bind me, use me, then release me in a couple of days. My captor(s): attractive, HWP, HIV-, serious master(s) and/or mistress(es). I am a successful intelligent WBIM, handsome, nice body & highly sensual, HIV-, HWP, with a weakness for the smell of leather who desires to be totally dominated. Ad 25711

VERY WELL ENDOWED

Attractive GWM, 39, 6'1", 175 and HIV-. Dominant top/daddy type. Seeking the intimacy lacking in a world of casual encounters. I.S.O. younger masculine bottom "boy" that's muscular and attractive. Interests include movies, clubs, intimate evenings, and camping. Respond by letters only; with phone and photo please. Ad 25700

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.

I HAVE EVERYTHING I NEED EXCEPT YOU!!!

GWM executive, 40, 5'10", 170, attractive, seeks special guy for serious dating relationship. Enjoy movies, theater, travel, dining out, quiet romantic evenings. Prefer mature younger guy, 24-30, who needs that special person to make their life complete. If you think you deserve the best, call. Humble/Kingwood area a plus! Ad 25741

POSITIVE MIND, BODY & SOUL

Extremely handsome Gay Latin Male, 34, 5'6", 165#, bk/bw, mustache is currently seeking special friend. Me: Financially stable, very healthy, swimmers build, smooth body, versatile bottom, romantic, honest, passionate with high pos. attitude & self esteem, easy going man with great sense of humor & sensitivity. You: GWM 28-45, 5'8" plus, HWP, good looking, financially stable & healthy versatile top. If you've been searching for a man above average, with similar values & sincerity, here's your chance! No feds or druggies. Letters preferred, photo requested. Ad 25748

BOTTOM SEEKS TOP

I.S.O.: Masculine, hairy, H.W.P. HIV-, well endowed GWM for safe fun. No strings. Pure indulgence. ME: 40 yr., HIV-, 5'7", 160 lbs, brown hair, brown eyes, w/S & P beard. Average guy. No hang-ups. Photo w/letter for response. Ad 25724

LET ME MAKE YOUR HEART SMILE

I'm 5'10", 165 lbs, extra nice legs, warm smile, big heart with lots of love to offer if our chemistry is right. I'm open to all inquiries, but prefer 25-35 bottom with smooth skin as I have a hairy chest. Now please note I'm also HIV+, but very healthy, active & loving. Please give me a chance & I promise you won't be disappointed. Prefer mail response. Ad 25754

GORGEOUS EUROPEAN ISO AMERICAN STUD

Very handsome European, 5'10", 165 lbs, nice body, HIV-, masculine, very sexy & hot, seeks good looking b-males for fun times & more. You must be good looking, nice body & "big", dominant, straight acting, age 20-40. I'm looking for American honky-tonk, corn-fed type. I'm 29 yrs. old & ready to satisfy. Ad 25760

LOOKING FOR LIKE/PROF. FOR LONG-TERM RELATIONSHIP

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

TURNED-ON BY INDIGENOUS CULTURES

Middle-aged GWM, intelligent, well-endowed, comfortably situated, seeking GM warrior/prince, ? years, descended from a culture native to the Americas. Photos appreciated; native attire a plus. Ittibaapisilli, ayok-puli, poloama; apaixonado se por, entusiasmada; en amor y compania. Ad 25733

GWM PROFESSIONAL

40's, 5'11", 165 lbs, good looks, nice tanned body (HIV-). Enjoy movies, sports, cars, the beach, music & dining in & out ISO younger HWP hispanic for dating. Desire monogamous relationship. Be DDF. I've a lot to offer. You will be pleased you answered. Ad 25705

WANTED: BOY

For long-term monogamous relationship with "gifted" GWM in early 40s. I am 6', 170#, auburn/hazel, w/moustache. A true "daddy". I am healthy and HIV-. You should be younger, attractive, masculine and DDF. Letter only w/ photo and phone #. Ad 25719

FREE TO LOVE

Professional, mature, masculine, successful, fun loving gay white male, 40, 5'11", 180#, well built and very attractive, dark hair and deep grey blue eyes, and interested in a very long term monogamous relationship based on loyalty, honesty and most importantly, passion. True love runs deep, and there is nothing else quite like it... to be devoted and committed to that one special person who is as equally into you as you are into him. Ad 25718

LOOKING FOR A TALL GUY

Well built GWM, over 6', HWP, DDF/NS, 40's seeks aggressive G/B/H/M of similar size. You are HIV-, HWP, 35-50, employed professional and know what you want. I'm discreet, masculine, well-dressed, stable and employed. Also romantic, versatile and attractive. Brown/brown/mustache. Inside the loop home owner. All responses answered promptly. Ad 25759

SPECIAL BOT-TOMS, GIVE ME A CALL

Submissive? Provide dedicated service and do it right? Take instructions and behave obediently? Boy/slave in need of bindings and discipline? Enjoy it all and more? Need put in your place with a demanding top? If serious GM, 25-40, fit, clean, easy going, nice guy, you call now! Ad 25653

SEEKING HIV+ HIS-PANIC MALE

I am in my early 30's, healthy, HWP and am interested in developing a relationship with a sincere, honest and caring man. You must be professional/business-like, able to speak spanish and have proper documents to travel out of the country. Ad 25712

SEEK SUBMISSIVE OLDER WHITE MEN

Oriental male looking for submissive older white men. Possible long term. I'm 34, 5'6", 160#, clean, discreet and HIV-, aggressive and demanding. Letters preferred. Phone and photos a plus. Let's fulfill both of our fantasies. Ad 25737

Attractive male, 32, 5'9", 145#, sincere professional. Seeking monogamous relationship with someone who is sincere, HWP, non-smoker, and values family life. Interests: museums, traveling, dining out, and quiet conversation. Prefer mail responses. Ad 25722

PASADENA: 3 CAN BE GOOD COMPANY

And lot's of fun! GWC, barely 30's, one's versatile, one's top only. Both well endowed, HWP, DDF, tired of bars. You: GWM, 18-30, HWP, DDF, versatile or bottom. For: Safe 3-Way Fun, Friendship and Companionship. Ad 25695

SWEET AND SPICY LOOKING FOR YOU!

SBF seeking healthy happy woman. I am looking for a loving friendship. Enjoy dancing, candlelight, music, laughing and a Southern Lady. Put a little spice in your life! I do want truth in all correspondence. Ad 25731

PARENTING, ANY-ONE?

Sincere, mature, responsible, stable, attractive, professional GWM desires to be apart of the parenting process. Lesbian couple, or lesbian single preferred to participate in one of life's greatest treasures. Joint-custody or custody to the couple with visitation for male frequently. With so much to give to a child, why waste it when gay couples and singles have proven that we are unbeatable as parents with more depth and love to give. Ad 25723

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

"NOT ONLY ON WEEKENDS"

Single, black, female romantic seeks friend for possible relationship. Seeks woman who is certain of herself; her wants and desires. Interests include: movies, parks, special getaways, moonlit nights. Quality time very important; also hand-holding, good conversation, and a sense of humor. Must be stable, sincere and spiritually motivated. Ad 25740

GO FOR IT!

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

TOPS LOOKING FOR SEX TOY

Two GWM lovers, both tops, one 42, one 26, trim, HWP, seeking a rear end submissive bottom for three way - just plain trashy fun. Mail responses preferred or phone. Ad 25709

HIV+ HIS-PANIC MALE

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

IF YOU KNOW...

how to follow orders, contact me. I am 46, 5'9", 190, hairy, aggressive and demanding. Ad 25673

FURTHER INVESTIGATION NEEDED

I can't be defined in a personal ad. It's merely an introduction. You must listen to my voice, look into my eyes, feel the gentle touch of my hand to truly get to know me. I am a man who enjoys being with a man. I'm 31 GBM who sports goatee and short hair. I'm employed, have several other interests and there's a bit more to me than meets the eye. Want to find out how much more, drop me a detailed letter. My only request is that you are attractive, sexy, intelligent and compassionate. I have a slight preference to fuzzy navels and goatees. C'mon, cross over. Ad 25755

you talked. we listened.

The moment Merck named Stadtlanders Pharmacy

primary distributor of Crixivan®, we began an all-out company effort with a single focus. To make the much-awaited HIV protease inhibitor available to as many people as possible as quickly as possible.

We redirected systems and workflows. Hired and trained over 400 new employees. Produced and printed educational materials. And less than five weeks after Crixivan became the fastest FDA approved drug ever, we had shipped more than 5,000 people with HIV their first 30-day supplies.

Responding as quickly as possible is what this program is all about. So when the community spoke up about making this drug more affordable for the uninsured, we listened. And we responded.

For people who have no insurance and must pay cash for Crixivan, Stadtlanders has identified a discount prescription card through Community Prescription Service* which is accepted at thousands of pharmacies, including Stadtlanders. Currently, Crixivan is available primarily through Stadtlanders. We will inform all people who pay cash for Crixivan from us that they can receive a discount if they obtain the card.

For individuals who are insured, the price they pay for Crixivan varies by their payor and in most cases, is preset at substantially discounted levels. That means that approximately 80% of individuals who receive Crixivan from us will do so at substantially reduced rates from our retail price.

And for people who don't have insurance and have no ability to pay, Merck offers a program called SUPPORT™ that is designed to provide Crixivan free to eligible patients.

Our intent as the primary distributor for Merck's temporary distribution program is to offer the best service possible to maximize access to Crixivan while ensuring no interruption in therapy. And to do so at the best possible price.

**Stadtlanders[®]
Pharmacy**

For information on how to obtain Crixivan through Merck's temporary distribution program, call Stadtlanders' Hotline for Crixivan at 1-800-238-1548. If you have additional questions regarding pricing for Crixivan, please feel free to call our Public Affairs Manager at 412-825-8118.

*For more information on the discount drug card that can be purchased through Community Prescription Service for an annual fee of \$18.00, please call Community Prescription Service at 1-800-842-0502.