# 

What do Cher, Mussolini, and James Joyce have in common? See our Out On The Bayou section, starting on page 14 to find out.



**ISSUE 971** 

ALL THE NEWS FOR YOUR LIFE. AND YOUR STYLE.

**JUNE 4, 1999** 

# No pride in suicide

▶ Gay youth at greater risk of suicide, study reports

by ROBERT B. HENDERSON

Gay, lesbian, bisexual and "not sure" youth are nearly three and a half times more likely to attempt suicide than their fellow, "straight" students, a new study confirms.

The Harvard study was based on a survey done in the public high schools of Massachusetts in 1995, and based on a sample of 3,365 youth who responded to both the suicide

attempt and sexual orientation questions.

"Gay, lesbian, bisexual, or not sure youth report a significantly increased frequency of suicide attempts. Sexual orientation had an independent association with suicide attempts for males, while for females the association of sexual orientation with suicidality (sic) may be mediated by drug use and violence/victimization behaviors."

Based on their own experience the results and conclusions of this study are no surprise to those of the gay and lesbian community. What is perhaps significant is that yet another study with a greater sampling generally confirms the numbers of previous studies. But beyond more surveys the more important issue is what is being done to modify the environment impacting so severely on young gays and les-

What is being done to help curb suicides

One Houston organization seeking to provide a safe environment for young gays and lesbians is H.A.T.C.H.—the Houston Area Teen Coalition of Homosexuals. The goal of H.A.T.C.H. is to provide a safe, supportive environment for gay and lesbian youth to discuss sexuality as well as social interaction, according to Carol Petrucci, program director. Membership is for youth between 13 and 20 years old. She said they ask mature

gay and lesbian role models to speak to the youth on a variety of topics such as their experience in the community, organizing work, legislation. The "role model" people also act as small group facilitators

focusing on helping each other with prob-

lem solving. She recognized by the time a teenager gathers the courage to call H.A.T.C.H. they are usually well along in their "coming out process." She also noted for teenagers to identify themselves as gay, lesbian, bisexual or "not sure" on a survey with the supposed cover of anonymity requires a fairly confident gay or lesbian

"You have to be at a certain point in your 'coming out process,' where you're

even self-aware. A lot of the self-destructive behaviors include gay and lesbian youth being at higher risk of even impregnating young women or becoming impregnated as teen moms because there is the denial and self-hatred initially.

"I would imagine there are a great many suicide attempts and completed suicides done because of the kid's struggle with their sexuality, not even realizing they are gay or lesbian," Petrucci said.

A key to dealing with the self-destructive behavior in emerging gay and lesbian youth is to reach them in the schools and reduce the homophobia and harassment there, Petrucci offered. She said H.A.T.C.H. have tried many things to reach the schools. One of the problems is that there is no employment non-discrimination act, allowing teachers and administrators the freedom to work for understanding concerning gay and lesbian youth.

"I have heard stories from teachers of harassment, of threats of being fired, of seeing other teachers and administrators who take the lead in trying to bring

these things into the schools who faced harassment. So the fear of losing their jobs and their livelihood it is very difficult to find ones who will take the lead and say, 'Yes, I'll be the advisor for your gay and lesbian youth group," Petrucci said.

She said it has been somewhat easier to work with school counselors as there is the general assumption it is alright for a counselor to offer support because being gay or lesbian is a kind of, "pathology." Together with PFLAG (Parents And Friends Of Lesbians And Gays), H.A.T.C.H. distributed 350 packets of information to all the local counselors.

"I have heard kids say over and over again H.A.T.C.H. has saved their lives. There are kids where that is literally true where they have gotten the support they need to go out and face the harassment and the adversity. Sometimes I think the self-esteem and the good decision-making skills and the role models sort of put a 'suit of armor' on them, to help them go out and face the difficult issues they have to face," Petrucci said.

She said many of the newcomers to H.A.T.C.H. are focused on what they won't have-family, marriage, kids-the things they think of as, "normal" development. The organization assist them to see they may have a wonderful future

➤ See Suicide Page 10

# **Politics**

# Dems say no chance on ENDA, hate crimes till 2001

► Employment rights bill to be reintroduced this month, but a high profile gay rights group says it won't endorse the bill if transgender protection isn't included

by LAURA BROWN

Officials with the bipartisan Human Rights Campaign say the Employment Non-Discrimination Act will be reintroduced in Congress again as early as next week, but top Democrats contend the federal bill, to ban job discrimination on the basis of sexual orientation, has "no chance" of

passage until 2001. The Hate Crimes Prevention Act of 1999, a bill introduced in March to add sexual orientation, gender and disability to existing federal hate crimes laws, is also very unlikely to pass Rep. Frank: GOP conduring the current 106th Congress.



trol is the problem

Democratic National Committee Chair Joe Andrew and openly gay U.S. Congressman Barney Frank (D-Mass.) said.

"ENDA and hate crimes legislation on a federal basis simply will not pass unless Democrats take control of the House of Representatives (after the 2000 elections), which we plan to do with the help of gay and lesbian people all over America," Andrew said.

The only "significant action," either bill will see before new Congress members take office in 2001 is "in the sense of more Democrats talking about it, voicing it, and standing up with the

> See Congress Page 4

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# Equal benefits victory in California ruling

SAN FRANCISCO—A federal judge upheld important portions of San Francisco's landmark domestic partners ordinance when she ruled against two companies that brought lawsuits against the city over the ordinance, which requires companies doing business with San Francisco to offer the same benefits to registered domestic partners as they do to married employees.

U.S. District Judge Claudia Wilken ruled in two related cases, one brought by the Air Transport Association of America, which represents the nation's airlines, and the other by Ohio-based S.D. Myers, which lost a bid to do business in San Francisco.

"This is a case about equal pay for equal work, and the court has given us a loud judicial 'yes," Dennis Aftergut, the city's chief assistant attorney, told the San Francisco Chronicle.

Aftergut called the ruling "the first time a federal court has ever upheld a city's law requiring that private companies treat their employees with domestic partners the same as their employees who are unmarried."

"This is just really great for lesbian and gay workers everywhere," agreed Kim Mills, spokesperson for the Human Rights Campaign.

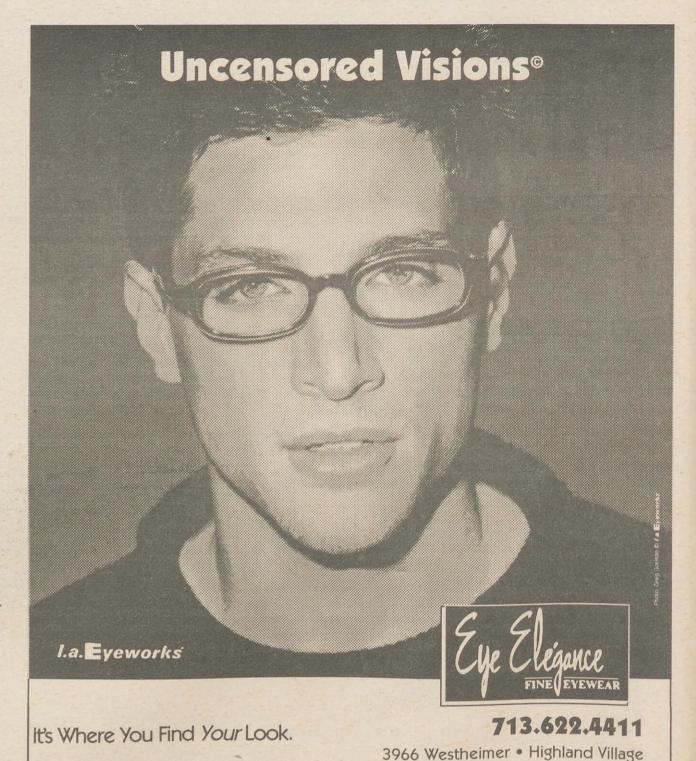
In the case of S.D. Myers, which was represented by the American Center for Law and Justice, a conservative Virginia group founded by the Rev. Pat Robertson, Wilken rejected the company's argument that state law regarding marriage and community property takes precedence over city law. The judge ruled that the company did not have standing to bring its suit.

The ACLJ quickly announced it would appeal the ruling to the 9th U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals in San Francisco.

United Airlines and Federal Express Corp. were also plaintiffs in the other suit, brought by the ATA. Last year the airlines won a partial exemption from the ordinance from Wilken, who said they do not have to provide certain types of equal benefits, including health insurance and pension provisions, since they are covered by federal law.

But in last week's ATA case, Wilken ruled that airlines using the city's airport must provide non-economic benefits, including bereavement leave, family leave and flight discounts, to registered domestic partners, as they do to married employees.

The ruling applies only to those employees working in San Francisco.



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# Task Force finds same-sex benefits across country, lacking

by GIP PLASTER

Only a tenth of employers do what Houston bank Chase Texas does—offer domestic partner benefits to its employees. A national gay and lesbian group says that is why they created a new domestic partner benefits manual—to persuade the other nine-tenths to do the same.

"In January 1999, Chase and Chase Texas started giving employees the opportunity to add qualified adults, other than immediate family members, to benefits plans," said David Byford, a spokesman for Houston-based Chase Bank of Texas, a subsidiary of New York's Chase Manhattan Corp.

"It's been received positively," he said.

Byford said the policy has shown employees the company's commitment to

diversity and has helped make the bank more competitive in its search for the best workers in the marketplace. The policy has received no complaints from either outside or inside the company, he said.

"It's something good we can tell new hires," he said. "The only feedback that I know of has been from employees and it has been positive."

Despite the experience Chase and many other companies have had with domestic partner benefits, only nine percent of companies offer the benefits, according to statistics from the Society of Human Resource Managers (SHRM). The organization randomly surveys human resource professionals in a variety of fields but does

not keep records on all companies, spokesman Kristin Accipiter said. Seven percent of companies offered the benefits in 1998 while only six percent has offered them in 1997.

The National Gay and Lesbian Task Force (NGLTF) Policy Institute published in late May, the Domestic Partnership Organizing Manual as a resource for those trying to win domestic partner benefits at the more than 90 percent

of companies that do not yet offer them. The benefits are available at over 570 companies, 141 colleges and universities and 87 cities, counties and states, according to the report.

In the manual's introduction, the institute's director Urvashi Vaid makes it clear that companies not offering the benefits are subjecting their unmarried employees to compensation that does not equal that offered to married workers, and she succinctly states the reason domestic partner benefits are necessary.

"The movement for domestic partner benefits is rooted in the democratic notion of equal pay for equal work. With benefits comprising approximately 40 percent of a worker's compensation, employees who can obtain benefits for their spouses are, in effect, paid higher than employees in relationships which are not legally recognized," Vaid said. "To avoid this contradiction and to attract and retain qualified employees in a competitive market, many

companies extend health care and other benefits to the domestic partners of employees. Domestic partner benefits, then, are a means of working toward greater economic justice in the workplace."

The manual, written by Policy Institute research fellow Sally Kohn, then provides the resources to support that statement. It includes information on defining domestic partner benefits, arguments for and against them, who supports them and ways to research and contact companies where they already exist. It separates public and private sector compa-

nies that offer the benefits from universities, states and municipalities that offer them and includes sample benefits proposals. Also included is an examination of three federal court cases and 27 state appellate court cases that relate to the topic.

Perhaps one of the most useful parts of the manual are the sections on how to argue the case for domestic partner benefits and the kinds of arguments that can be expected against them. According to the manual, companies should offer the benefits because:

- It is a matter of fairness.
- It makes companies more competitive and productive.
- It is a mainstream business practice.
- It attracts consumers and support for the company.

Those seeking to get domestic partner benefits at a company should not settle for getting the benefits only for gay and lesbian employees, according to Policy Institute spokesman Jason Riggs.

"The biggest thing we need to remember when working on domestic partner issues is that this is a gay and lesbian issue, but it also affects many other constituencies," he said.

Straight people who do not wish to marry are the most obvious, but there are others as well. Unemployed seniors living with their children could benefit from a carefully written policy by being covered under a child's insurance.

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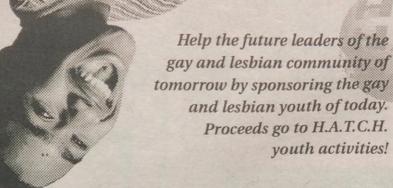
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# The political winds blow

president, and that's progress," he said. Congress from page 1

"But do they have a chance of passing?

Absolutely not."

Rep. Frank agreed with Andrew's assessment. "That is one of my differences with the Human Rights Campaign," he said. "They won't tell people what they know, which is as long as the Republicans control the House, ENDA has virtually no chance, and hate crimes has very little chance."

Yet officials with the Human Rights Campaign, the Washington-based gay rights lobby leading the fight for the bills, view their chances much more

positively.

"It would be imprudent to make a definitive statement about if either bill is going to pass, however we are cautiously optimistic around hate crimes," said HRC spokesman David Smith. "ENDA is going to be a tougher challenge, but we are hopeful and optimistic there will be a vote on both."

Yet while HRC prepares to introduce ENDA later this month, the landmark gay civil rights legislation appears to

have one less highprofile supporter: the National Gay & Lesbian Task Force, one of the country's oldest gay rights groups.

The Task Force will not endorse ENDA as long as it does not specifically include protections for transgendered people as well as

gay men, lesbians and bisexuals, said NGLTF Deputy Political Director Betsy Gressler.

**Buermeyer: More** 

sign-ons needed

"We're not not supporting ENDA. We're not working against it-but we need to endorse the legislation when it is trans-inclusive," Gressler said. Officials with HRC, which does not include transgender rights in its mission statement, have argued that passing ENDA would be much more difficult if transgender issues were specifically included, and have said they will support amending ENDA to include the transgendered after it has passed.

NGLTF, on the other hand, does explicitly include transgender rights in its mission statement, and has supported ENDA in the past. But Gressler said a strategy that makes transgender

inclusion wait for ENDA's passage no longer works for the Task Force.

Smith HRC's declined comment on the Task Force decision, noting that HRC has not been officially notified of the rationale, but he did say that HRC would not change Andrew: Gays must the language of support Democrats ENDA to include for solution transgender before



it is introduced in this month.

Bipartisan strategy defended

According to the DNC's Andrew and Rep. Frank, the best strategy for passing either ENDA or the Hate Crimes Prevention Act must be to elect Democratic congress members and a Democratic president in the November 2000 elections.

"As long as Dennis Hastert (R-Ill.) is the speaker of the House of Representatives, Republicans will do anything and everything they can to keep ENDA from passing and to keep federal hate crimes legislation from

passing," Andrew said.

"They're going to do it, they've said they are going to do it and they are proud they are going to do it, and yet we still have gays and lesbians across America who are supporting Republicans," he said. "There is a logical inconsistency there that it is part of my job to point out."

"It's one of the big differences between the parties gay and lesbian rights," Frank said, adding that "the Republicans are just too tied in to the

homophobes."

But both HRC and the national gay GOP group Log Cabin Republicans defended a bipartisan strategy for passing the bills.

Nancy Buermeyer, HRC deputy director for civil rights, said her organization's strategy for both bills will be to continue to work to sign-on additional co-sponsors, from both sides of the political fence. "We ultimately need members of both parties," she said. "We

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# ENDA and Hate Crimes Prevention Act to and fro

need Republican support to pass the legislation."

Kevin Ivers, spokesperson for the national Log Cabin Republicans, called Andrew and Frank's

"Their real goal is not to pass the bills, their goal is to take over the Congress," Ivers said. "As much as (Frank) says things like that, he is smart enough to know that it's not who controls

the Congress that mat-

ters, it's who supports the

remarks self-serving.

bills, and that support has to be bipartisan. We'll pass (the legislation) by working together, not throwing bombs at each other."

The most recent numbers muddy the political waters. Republicans currently out number Democrats in the Senate by a margin of 55 to 45, and in the House of Representatives by a margin of 222 to 211, meaning some Republicans must vote in favor of any gay rights bill, if it is going to have the majority of votes needed to pass in this Congress.

Still, while HRC's web-site claims "there is widespread bipartisan support for ENDA," the bill's co-sponsors in the last Congress were largely Democrats. Only two Republican senators and 10 Republican representatives signed on to support the bill.

The Hate Crimes Prevention Act

reflects similar numbers. The bill, currently pending in subcommittees of both sides of Congress, has only five Republican co-sponsors in the Senate and 22 in the House.

Different odds predicted

The Democratic National Committee, Rep. Frank, HRC and Log Cabin Republicans all agree on the need to pass both ENDA and the Hate Crimes Prevention Act. But in addition to disagreeing on strategies,

those leading the fight also disagree on the two measures' odds of passage this year and which battle will be more difficult.

Andrew and Frank argue neither bill is likely to pass, but place the odds slightly higher for the Hate Crimes Prevention Act.

"Some Republicans will vote for it, but the Republican leadership is really afraid of angering the right wing," he said. "Frankly, the fact that we just got somewhere on gun control makes it less likely that we will on hate crimes because the Republicans will be afraid. They've already voted the right wing down on a couple of these issues, and they can't do it on all."

HRC officials stressed the popularity of the Hate Crimes Prevention Act with the American public in the wake of the recent high profile hate-motivated murders of gay Wyoming college student Matthew Shepard, African-American James Byrd Jr. in Texas, and gay Alabama resident Billy

Jack Gaither.

"I think that while we have enormous respect for Congressman Frank, we don't agree on every issue," HRC's Smith said. "We believe hate crimes has a good chance of passing in this session.

"ENDA will be much more difficult," Smith

conceded. "But many people said it would never come to a vote, and we were able to bring it to a vote in the Senate in 1996 and come within one vote of passing. Some people might be articulating the conventional wisdom, but this is a bill that has continued to defy conventional wisdom, and we will put every amount of energy we have into moving this bill forward."

Ivers of the Log Cabin Republicans, however, said he, "can't see the (hate crimes bill) passing" in this Congress, yet predicted, "greater political developments" for ENDA.

Despite public reaction to the hate murders, the Hate Crimes Prevention Act, "is really new in this Congress," Ivers warned. "I don't really think it has the gravitas on the hill from the legislative standpoint as much as it might from a political standpoint although that doesn't mean we shouldn't be pushing it."

Log Cabin has endorsed hate crimes

legislation on a national level, though a number of local chapters and members oppose the legislation on libertarian grounds.

As for the job discrimination bill, "I don't want to put money down on ENDA until it is introduced, but I think we are going to see a political

change in ENDA this year," Ivers predicted. "I think you are going to see greater political developments, whether or not that shows in a vote."

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INFO

# National Gay & Lesbian Task Force

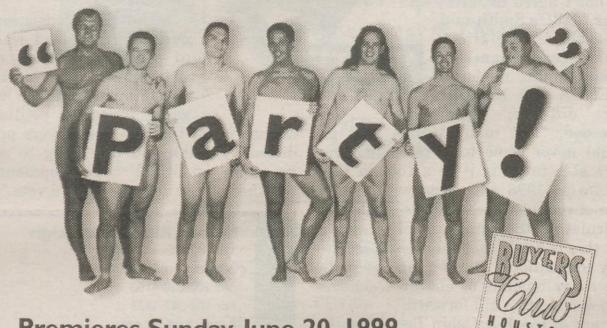
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Raucously funny...a Christmas card snapshot of a happy extended family." The New York Times



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# Film Festival fun and games



"It's In The Water," writer/director Kelli Herd (above,center) addresses the opening reception of the Houston Gay And Lesbian Film Festival inside the Crystal Ballroom of The Rice, May 28. Outside the reception, and across the street, a small group of protesters (below) picketed the opening. The film festival runs until June 6 at various venues.



# Lesbian health fair set for June 12 at the center

Free mammograms, low cost pap smears and other women's health services will be available at a Lesbian Health Fair, June 12. There will be brief talks about funeral planning, depression and other issues of interest to older lesbians and doctors will be available to answer questions. Massages, blood pressure checks and body fat testing will be available.

"The event is focused on the needs of old lesbians, but all are welcome," said Dr. Jackie Doval, of the Lesbian Health Initiative, organizer of the event. Doctor referrals are not required for tests, but it is suggested that appointments for mammograms be made by

calling "Scottie" Scott at (713)723-4306. Walk-ins are welcome.

"If you want an accurate body fat test, come fasting," Doval said.

Funding for the mammograms is provided by the Susan G. Komen Foundation.

**Lesbian Health Fair** 9 a.m.-1 p.m., June 12 Houston Lesbian and Gay Community Center 803 Hawthorne





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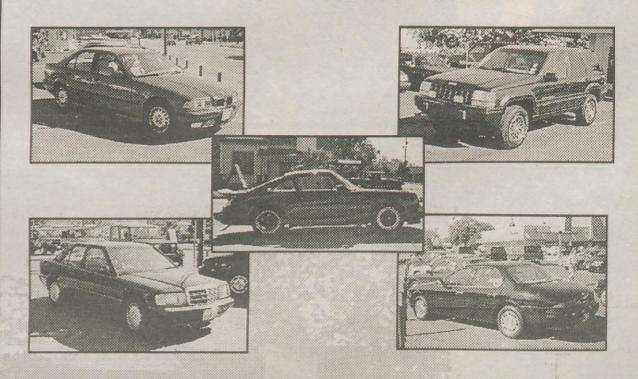
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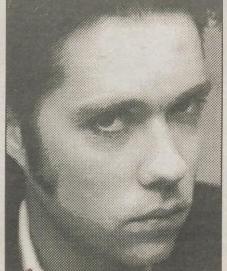
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# "Quote unquote"



"I want someone to be George Jones to my Tammy Wynette."

-Openly gay singer-songwriter Rufus Wainwright, in an interview with Rolling Stone.

"It might be normal within the context of a lesbian relationship. But by definition of the fact that those relationships constitute a very small proportion of total relationships, it seems to me to be misusing the term normal to describe a minority situation. To take a sporting analogy, a lot of people kick with the left foot. But if only 10 percent of the population kick with the left foot, that doesn't make it the norm."

-Australian Communications Minister Richard Alston, in a debate over legislation aimed at curbing "offensive" imagery on the Internet and television.

"You mean the day when all our vibrators fail?"

-Writer Suzie Bright, in her Salon magazine column, about the topic "Lesbians and Y2K," on the agenda for a California dyke march.

"In the production of this failed, 10-year-old Larry Kramer script, Alexandra Billings, in full Dragon Lady cry, portrays a power-hungry, sexually insatiable, Nancy Reaganesque First Lady, called Mrs. Potentate; and the hapless Greg Louganis minces around, often topless, as her sissy boy son Junior, who wants to be a ballet dancer."

—A Chicago Tribute review, panning Larry Kramer's "Just Say No," a bedroom farce loosely based on Nancy Reagan and Ron Reagan, Jr.



"I question how these two gay men got a child in the first place. I question the motives of these men. What does the word 'care' mean in this instance? Was it the fact that they had a personal need to be parents? Was it an extension of their gay activism, to prove a point?"

-Letter writer Mike Randazzo, of New Milford, N.J., in a letter to *The Record* about the N.J. couple Michael Gallucio and Jon Holden, who have jointly adopted a boy and a girl they raised as foster parents.



"Unfortunately with the sexual thing in this business, it takes away credibility for some reason, Gloria. I'm not going to talk about it. I'm just going to do my music. What I say about sexuality is, I leave it for my room and I lock the door. I go back to my culture. It's something you don't talk about. At home you don't talk about it."

—Puerto Rican singing sensation Ricky Martin, in Interview magazine, in response to questions from Cuban-American singer Gloria Estefan.

"If Ricky Martin turned out to be just another buff gay clone, he'd cut himself off at the knees as an international artist. Current gay male culture is too shallow to provide the kind of psychological development that a performer needs."

-Lesbian writer Camille Paglia, in her Salon magazine column, on the widely-circulating rumors that Ricky Martin is gay.



# Have You Missed Me?

The Texas Legislature is in full swing right now, and I am in the middle of the time-honored battle to protect the rights of Gays and Lesbians. It is not too late to lend your support.

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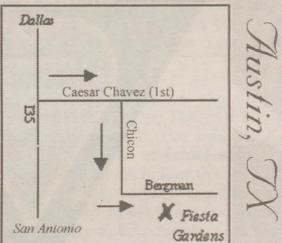
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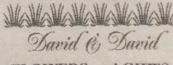








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# Schools need to take active role

Suicide from page 1

through role models who have a good life. They try to give them the opportunity to form relationships with people their own age—the opportunity to be healthy teenagers answering questions about dating and other issues.

Gary Norman, the hate crimes specialist with the Montrose Counseling Center, believes the conclusions of the Harvard study need to be seen within the larger context of a society hostile to gay and lesbian people and issues.

Within the context of the whole society, gay and lesbian youth are most at risk for violence and self-destructive behaviors according to Norman. He sees it as an issue of "resources," for gay and lesbian youth.

"I think it is difficult enough growing up. Teenagers have so many pressures. They want to experiment with things. To put on top of that dealing with, at first, questions about sexual orientation, Why am I attracted to this person. I'm not supposed to be. There are no role models really for me.' Youth become disconnected. There is a real lack of support, all the way down the line. Some parents don't have a problem with it but we know a large majority do. It can range anywhere from, 'Get out of the house. I never want to see you again.' To more mild forms like, 'Well, just don't talk about it," Norman

For youth who have not learned how to talk to their parents about their orientation, there is an intensified internal struggle. For those youth who believe they have no one to talk to there is a high potential for self-destructive behavior ranging from behavioral problems through drug abuse to suicide, according to Norman.

"If we look at things that need to be done, there's a lot of different things that could be done. The schools, I think, need to take a responsible role in, first of all, having policies inclusive of gay lesbian kids—recognizing there are gay and lesbian kids. Parents or caregivers need to be supportive and understanding what they're going through is 'normal.' Overall as a society we need to, first of all, recognize the problem," he said.

Norman said it is vitally important for a gay or lesbian youth to find at least one other person they can talk with about their feelings of discovering their sexual orientation.

Although the Houston Gay and Lesbian Center deals less directly with the issues of self-destructive behavior of gay and lesbian youth, it provides resources for those identified as being at risk by the Harvard survey, according to Carl Riedl, president of the cen-

"I think an important aspect the center provides is the fact there is a 'neutral' space openly identified as gay and lesbian in the community where they can come and get information. It also opens up the opportunity for interaction among the generations. There has not been a forum for that before.

"We have recently set up a Resource Center. We are acquiring books and videos. We are seeking to have a youth and young adults' emphasis with those materials. We recently received a donation of seven computers. We're trying to make that into a 'cyber lab' area for preparing résumés, getting information on either employment or HIV/AIDS.

"We are working on developing programming that will have a youth emphasis. We're trying to augment with our programming what H.A.T.C.H. would be doing," Riedl said.

Riedl said he thought the way of addressing the increased rate of suicide among gay and lesbian youth is to overcome their feeling of isolation. He feels, as the center is more known in the community, especially among school counselors and the school system, it will be used as a referral place for those attempting to give gay and lesbian youth the best guidance.

He observed youth seem to be coming to terms with their sexuality earlier than those of previous generations. He grew up in isolation in rural South Carolina.

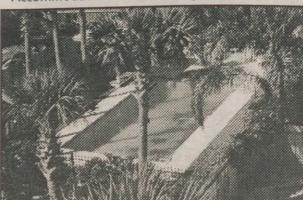
"I feel like if it had been more evident in the mainstream of the acceptance of gay, lesbian, bisexual, transgendered people, I would have progressed more quickly as far as the social skills. I feel as a result I've had to play 'catch up.' I think it would have prevented a lot of delays at social development," Riedl

INFO

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# Past Out

**GAY AND LESBIAN HISTORY** 

# The origin of sodomy laws

by DAVID BIANCO

Today in the United States, sodomy is primarily defined as oral or anal sex between two men or two women. More than a third of the states still have sodomy laws on their books, and the Supreme Court upheld those laws in 1986 in its anti-gay decision, (Bowers vs. Hardwick). But the original colonial sodomy laws, passed in the 1600s, had a much broader view of what constituted, "sodomy."

American sodomy laws derived from the so-called English, "buggery law," passed by Parliament in 1533 in the reign of Henry VIII. Until that year, the Roman Catholic Church had been responsible for judging and meting out punishment for sodomy, which was considered a mortal sin. Under the English Reformation, the king declared himself head of the church in England, cutting off the authority of the pope. "Buggery" (a popular word derived from the French "bougres," meaning "heretical") became a criminal offense punishable in the courts by hanging. Even the clergy were subject to criminal prosecution for the offense.

In the so-called "New World," the settlement at Jamestown, Va., was founded in 1607 by the London Company as a British military and trading post. During its first years, Jamestown had few clergy members or women, both of which were seen as "civilizing" influences. Though British law was implicitly in force, in May 1610 the governor or Virginia, Sir Thomas Gates, instituted martial law in order to keep the young male colonists more firmly in line.

Virginia's "Articles, Laws, and Orders, Divine, Politique, and Martial" covered a long list of both secular and religious infractions punishable by "pain of death"—theft, blasphemy, adultery, rape, illegal trade with Indians, and "the detestable sins of Sodomie." (It was plural

because sodomy included male-male and male-female anal and oral sex, as well as bestiality.)

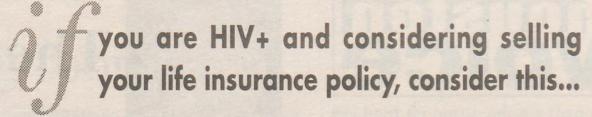
The new code sought to instill a sense of order on what was seen as a wild, unruly group who needed, "severe discipline ... sharp laws ... a hard life and much labor." Martial law was in effect for eight years, until more women and families began to arrive from England as settlers.

As the number of colonial settlements grew in the 1600s, each instituted its own local code of laws, and each included sodomy as a capital offense.

Gay historians have found approximately 20 recorded cases of sodomy charges being brought against individual male colonists from 1624 to 1740; four resulted in the death penalty. Because lesbian sexual activity didn't involve "seed spilling," it was apparently viewed more leniently. In one case of, "lewd behavior ... upon a bed" between two women in Plymouth, both women were merely given a warning. Only the New Haven colony authorized death for "filthiness" between women, judging lesbian sex acts as contrary to, "the natural use of women"-that is, child-bearing. There are, however, no recorded instances of the punishment being carried out.

After the American Revolution, separation of church and state became one of the founding principles of the new republic. Punishment for sodomy was gradually reduced to jail time and loss of property. Still, until 1961, all 50 states had some form of sodomy law. Today, most of the states with these antiquated laws on their books are in the South. Though rarely enforced, these statutes are used when convenient against lesbians and gay men, especially in child custody cases.

> David Bianco can be reached courtesy of this publication or at DaveBianco@aol.com.





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Monday, June 7 Eucharist 7:30 pm

Tuesday, June 8 Filed Trip · 9 am Holocaust Museum

Friday, June 11 Morning Prayer · 10 am

Monday, June 14 Eucharist · 7:30 pm

Friday, June 18 Morning Prayer · 10am Movie Night · 7:00pm "The Siege"



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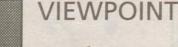


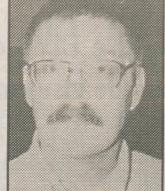
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The Gay Pride blues

by PAUL VARNELL long

about

time of year my poor old heart fills up with fear mainly because editors start making aggressive noises about Stonewall anniversaries and Gay Pride columns.

"Gay Pride is coming up again," they chirp. "You know what that means."

It means I have to think of something new to say about Gay Pride.

This year is even worse.

"And it's the 30th anniversary of Stonewall," they inform me, as if I could escape this fact. "Isn't that exciting?" they burble. But that's ancient history, for goodness sake. In 1969 most young gays weren't even born.

Especially most gays under 30. We might as well celebrate the Battle of Tours, whenever that was.

What is there to say about Gay Pride? Worse yet, what is there new to say about it? Not much. Nevertheless, yielding to editorial persuasion, and the fact that I would like my to keep my job, I have come up with the definitive schema on Gay Pride. Feel free to take notes.

Thesis one: Being gay is wonderful and we all should feel proud that we are gay. Put this way, the idea of Gay Pride seems pretty silly. You can really only feel proud about the things you accomplish. But being gay is not something you accomplish; it is something you discover about yourself. You do not choose to be gay any more than you choose your race or height or your eye color.

This is a definitive argument against the whole notion of Gay Pride. There is no possible rebuttal. Which accounts for the fact that no one bothers to rebut it. But oddly, it makes almost no impression on anyone at all.

People go right ahead talking about Gay Pride, saying they feel gay pride, claiming they are glad to be gay, and all the rest. So we must try to make sense of what seems on the surface to be nonsensical. This leads to:

Thesis two: True, you don't choose to be gay, but you can choose to come out and you can take pride in coming out, in having the courage to overcome social stigma and affirm your own character.

This thesis at least has the advantage of being defensible. But coming out is getting easier and easier, at least in most places, so coming out is not such a big deal any more. Fifteen-year-old tots are coming out these days, so doing it in your 20s or 30s does not seem like much of an achievement, much less a source of pride.

Then too, I have known people who are out of the closet, but who conduct

their lives badly. They may be rude and insensitive. They may act foolishly and even destructively. They can cause pain to others and themselves. Maybe they thought that after they came out, they had no further obligations—as if that were all. Are they examples of Gay Pride? Not that I would want to introduce to anyone. Sometimes I wish they would just go back into the closet. (I have a list.) These plain facts lead us to:

Thesis three: "Being gay" is, in an important sense, more than just being openly homosexual. It seems to require that you develop the strength of character, the emotional stability, and social equipoise to live openly and function well in a primarily heterosexual society that still offers many opportunities for missteps and miscalculations.

Flourishing in this milieu necessarily involves rolling with some punches, evading others, blocking some karate

'What is there to say about Gay Pride? Worse yet, what is there new to say about it? Not much'

chops, and occasionally using jujitsu to throw an adversary off-balance. (These are metaphors, please note.) It can also include firm resistance and a calm assertion of one's own dignity. The trick is to understand these techniques and to know which is appropriate under what circumstances. Some gays, alas, do not manage their lives well under these intermittently adverse circumstances. If you can, that is something to take pride in.

Still, the Gay Pride parades and events as we see them today do not seem so individualistic as all this. They do not seem to be involve a collection of people expressing pride about achieving social adeptness. So what is going on? This leads us to:

Thesis four: A gay person might say he was proud of our community and the institutions that we have created over the last 30 or 40 years. We created social service, health care institutions and advocacy groups. We created clubs, sports leagues and business groups. We increased our political presence in both parties and in large corporations. Of all these accomplishments we can be proud.

But there is a problem here. The "we"

that did the work to create "our" community is some of us "we" but not others of us "we." Some of us "we" (and you know who you are) did absolutely nothing to help. In order to be justifiable, pride in anything should probably be proportional to the contribution a person made to it. Just being around while other people did some work does not seem like much of an achievement.

A person could reply, maybe somewhat testily, "Well, those things show what gays can achieve." So they do. And that is excellent. And people who created those things deserve the credit and deserve to feel a sense of pride. But what about the others? It seems a little odd to say you are proud of someone else's hard work. That sort of collective thinking ultimately seems parasitic; it seems strange to be proud of being a parasite. So we wind up at our final rationale for Gay Pride:

Thesis five: "Gay Pride" may lack a firm basis in careful thinking, but it is an entirely understandable and reasonable reaction to past persecution and stigmatization. It represents a kind of over-compensation. Proclaiming "Gay Pride" is something like an archer who aims above the target in order to hit the target. We tell people to be proud in order to overcome the negative messages the culture sends.

Well and good, but since our goal is a society in which gay is viewed as no different from heterosexual, "Gay Pride" is at best a temporary response in our current transitional era. As acceptance of gays grows over time, it will become less significant, and will finally be irrelevant.

If this is true, then "Gay Pride" is mainly a form of PR propaganda aimed both at the large number of gays who have yet to fully accept themselves, and at those heterosexuals who still find themselves able to feel a smug, disdainful superiority to gays.

This rationale for "Gay Pride" has the most merit, chiefly because it is the most honest.

See you at the parade.

Paul Varnell is editor of the Independent Gay Forum website (www.indegayforum.org) His e-mail address is PVarnell@aol.com

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STRAIGHTJACKET

# Inside the lesbian living room

by ANTHONY CONNOLLY

e find the answers, sometimes

in tea cups. Or, there are notes left inside an old book, cherished bounty beneath the couch cushions. There are pictures of long ago displaying half-opened mouths giving us counsel

In our living rooms, we house the treasures of our own lives. This is where we feel at home; this is where we surround ourselves with what defines us. It is absurd on the surface, to consider a vase of silk roses as a personal historical root back to ourselves. Only when we sit quiet enough to hear the story of the roses, do we come to know ourselves, our contexts, our own personal (sometimes secret) histories.

For all intents and purposes, our living rooms become museums of where we have been and who we are. We bought those hideous lamps because at some point in our lives, they reflected who we were; those lamps told our friends how to think of us. It gave our selves texture.

There are coffee cup rings, stains on rugs, or names written on the top of dusty tables. There are pictures in frames, photo albums, vinyl records, and books. There are memories in concentric circles, of definitions of who we are.

There is a shaft of afternoon light, and my sister Denise is half in and half out of its haze. We are drinking tea in her living room. Her partner, Diane is in the kitchen with my partner, Dyan, leaving us alone in the living room.

Outside grasshoppers worry wheat and children play hide-and-go-seek. I can hear someone counting, then "come out, come out, where ever you are..."

As I look at my sister, I see an upended tea cup. She smiles, when she is done; she places it beside her cigarettes and her lighter on the table. This is her living room. This is where she feels most at home. This is where she tells her little brother she's a lesbian, without uttering a word.

Sharon Hayes knows a thing or two about lesbian living rooms.

In 1997, for almost four months, the New York performance artist traveled the country giving performances and searching for quintessential lesbianism. During the "Lesbian Love" tour, Hayes passed through 45 "lesbian living rooms," where she produced her art, and apparently they passed through her too. Something stuck.

She began to see the living room as an anthropological site, a place of artifacts, a context to which lesbians could identify themselves, or feel safe enough, to define themselves within its four walls.

Her travels took the artist through rural America, where she says there are no lesbian bookstores, coffee houses or community centers. "The living room was the locus of the lesbian community."

In those rooms, Hayes came to form the backbone of her new performance piece, "The Lesbian." (Performances of "The Lesbian," go June 10-12 at 8 p.m. at DiverseWorks.)

While in Houston, she has asked the local community for items from their living rooms: a table, some chairs, lamps, pictures, books and bric-a-brac. Hayes is setting the items up in a temporary living room installation at DiverseWorks. Audio tracks from conversations she had with lesbians across the country will play in the background. ("The Lesbian Living Room" installation will be located in the DiverseWorks subspace from June 4 to 12.)

Her performance and the installation are not to codify all that lesbians are, but rather to expand and perhaps, complicate the matter.

Part of the beauty of Hayes' work is that the viewer is a part of it. The lesbian who donates the books will see the installation as more than a work of art. She will view her world differently; she will see, hopefully, a constructive meaning to what it is to be lesbian within the context of others.

When Denise and I were growing up together in a small prairie town in Canada, there was no one quite like my sister. She was captain of her allmale ice hockey team; she formed a girl gang; she was my personal bodyguard.

Everyone knew Denise because she could party like no one else. She made softball pitchers very nervous. She wasn't great at school, but everyone liked her and knew she would give you the shirt off her back. I have met few people as good-hearted, as fair, as kind, as my sister.

We idolize one another totally. It

was hard for her to tell my then girlfriend, now wife, Dyan that she was a lesbian. We were in a bar, the night before my other sister's wedding. In the women's bathroom, she took Dyan aside and told her. She said she didn't know how her little brother would take it. I, like almost everyone else, already knew. But Denise wanted to make sure everyone was OK with it.

It would be two years later, on a visit when Denise shared a cup of tea with me in her living room, when she would silently nod and confirm her love for Diane. It was plain to see, the love filled the living room. One picture in particular stuck out in my mind; I looked at it that day as the children outside squealed in a game of hide-and-seek.

Diane is sitting on Denise's lap and my sister has her arm around her. I was so jealous; that was my hero you see. That's my sister, the one I am so damn proud of. It was the living room Denise felt most comfortable in, to talk about her love to me. It was there, quite clearly, where she found herself.

We are very close, and on every occasion to celebrate, we send each other gifts. One year, I got a special present. Denise, who doesn't make a lot of money, sent me something from her own living room. I'm going to see if Sharon Hayes will want this special present my sister sent me. I'm going to see if it can sit there in an installation, miles from its home, in another lesbian living room.

If you lean in real close, you can see the love there, you can hear it... "come out, come out, wherever you are..."



LETTERS

# Conference coverage lacking key issue

Editor:

I was very surprised to read the article about the recent Texas Lesbian Conference (*Houston Voice*, May 28, page one). It sounded almost as if I had been at a different conference.

The organizers went on and on about how wonderful it was and how all their evaluation forms said so but I know that everyone did not think it was so wonderful.

As well, the article had no mention of Robin Tyler's attempts to squelch the controversy over the proposed Millennium March on Washington 2000. Tyler gathered up flyers that had been distributed by placement on the chairs prior to her keynote address. The flyer had been been placed there by a member of the Continuations Committee for An Open Process and contained eight questions which chal-

lenge the way the Millennium event is being organized. There were few witnesses to this act but some of the TLC organizers were involved in aiding Tyler to continue to have a closed process when it comes to full disclosure about the event, which is inaccurately being called a march. It was bad enough that Tyler's speech was filled with non-factual information—like taking credit for coming up with the idea for the 1979 March on Washington when most people seem to remember that it was Harvey Milk's idea.

Why is Tyler and the other organizers of MMOW2000 so afraid of there being a discussion about the merits of this event and so anxious to cut off any debate about it? The *Houston Voice* article and an article in the *Dallas Morning News* touted the politics of the conference, but once again it was the politics of a closed process.

Name withheld by request via e-mail

# Discussions on image should also deal with age

Editor:

It was heartening for me to witness the Fabulous Boys Network forum at the Houston Lesbian and Gay Community Center, early last week. This is just the sort of event that can be important in creating the kinds of lives we want for ourselves and repudiating those which we do not.

I write here, also, because I want to trouble the question of age. The Fabulous Boys Network states that it is primarily for under, "30-somethings" but does not close its doors to those who are older. I appreciate that as well as want to know more about it. Is age not another inscription on the body like other social distinctions of class, race, ethnicity, etc. Have you ever walked into a bank and been disrespected because you appeared too

young at 21 to be a person of means? I have. Have you ever walked into a bank at 43 where you were given the royal treatment because you looked liked you were a person of some countenance? I have. Do you make assumptions about people based on their aged appearance? I do. Do you recognize that age is no more a "natural" category than any other distinctions we might draw about bodies in the field? I think to a large extent that this is so. Power operates in complex and insidious ways. How do we untangle these complex intersections and vectors of meaning, oppression and discrimination? Do we want to? Why or why not?

Sitting between the boundaries of Greenwich Village Clone culture and Chelsea Boy culture I have often found myself in a precarious position

(or two).

David Knapp Whittier via e-mail

# **UPCOMING EVENTS**

#### June 5:

10 a.m. CAESAR Sex, a forum workshop put on by Project CAESAR, the gay men's health initiative at AIDS Foundation Houston. The workshop is at 3202 Weslayan. It is free, 713-623-6796.

Second Annual Birthday Luau/Gemini Party, 8 p.m. at Gallery Bar, 903 Richmond. Event is to raise funds for Montrose Clinic. Donations of office supplies to clinic suggested, for more information, 713-830-3006.

#### June 7:

**Texas Bound**, stories from state writers read aloud by theater actors, such as John Benjamin Hickey is at 7:30 p.m., Alley Theatre, 615 Texas Avenue. Tickets \$14, 713-228-8421.

**Pageant**, a musical satire of beauty pageants, previews at 8 p.m. at the New Heights Theatre. Tickets \$20, 713-869-8927.



#### June 8:

Golden Threads, premieres on PBS' "POV", 9 p.m. on KUHT Channel 8. The documentary examines the personal struggles and triumphs of Christine Burton, 90, who began an international network for older lesbians.

# Ongoing:

Volleyball Sundays at the University of St. Thomas, 4000 Mt. Vernon, from 4:30 p.m. to 9:30 p.m. For more information contact the Lone Star Volleyball Association at 713-878-4629.



Free Yoga classes at 6:30 to 8 p.m. on Monday, Wednesdays and Thursday down at the Devanand Yoga Center, 3115 W. South Loop. For information contact 713-965-9642. Thursday it also hold free meditation classes. Ohm!

# **MEDIA DIET**

### Listen to this!-

Don't let the fact that Yvette Freeman is a TV star (she portrays a nurse on "ER") fool you: This

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-Anthony Connolly

# Outouthe Bayou

HOUSTON VOICE • JUNE 4, 1999

A GUIDE FOR YOUR LEISURE TIME







# Film brings together collection of Divas 'in a dream come true'

by EARL DITTMAN

Hollywood insiders were whispering a collective prayer for ItalianBdirector Franco Zeffirelli.

The 76-year-old creator of such legendary cinematic classics such as B"Romeo and Juliet" and "Brother Sun, Sister Moon" was in fine health, mind you. But he was about to take on an all-star female cast that included three Academy Award winners (Cher, Judi Dench and Maggie Smith) and two Tony victors (Lily Tomlin and Joan Plowright) for his semi-autobiographical film "Tea With Mussolini."

These Tinseltown naysayers were soliciting some divine intervention to ensure Zeffirelli's stars wouldn't turn the set into a madhouse. But, according to the ladies in question, the filming of the movie was free of cat-fighting and temper tantrums. To suggest otherwise, they say, is just a sign of narrow-mindedness among misogynist men.

"I think when each one of us arrived in Florence (Italy) to do the film, we all left our egos on the plane, because we had nothing but the greatest respect for, and the most fun with, one another," said Cher, who is currently dominating music charts with her dance hit, "Believe."

"I think everyone expected us to hate one another, because we are all from such different backgrounds, acting-wise and geographically. But, to tell you the truth, we all fell in love with one another, the minute we laid eyes on each other."

Tomlin, who plays a lesbian archeologist in the film, also said she found her female co-stars completely delightful to work with.

"It was like being part of a big plum pudding," said Tomlin. "I don't want to sound like I'm diminishing my old friend Cher's acting abilities or anything, but, I have to say, it was pretty exciting to work with those three English gals. I mean, they are legends. And, to have them be such sweet, wonderful women in real life was just...like a dream come true."

Dench, fresh from winning a Best Supporting Oscar for her performance in "Shakespeare In Love," said dismissed the notion that only havoc and out-of-control egos would be the order of the day when a film's cast consists of award-winning actresses.

"No one ever questions what the behavior on a set is going to be like when five big-name actors are put in a movie together," said Dench, who was awarded the Order of the British Empire in 1970 and named Dame of the British Empire in 1988. "All of us are professionals, we've been in this business for a long time. To think that our hormones dictate how we behave on a set or how we treat one another is absurd. When we all agreed to do this film, we went into it knowing we had a job to do, and we did it.

➤ See Tea page 21

# On Stage

THEATER NEWS & REVIEWS

# The brilliance of Stoppard, the absurdity of pie

by DL GROOVER

It's to the great genius of Tom Stoppard that his 1972 multi-award winning play, "Travesties," is impervious to directors, for it gets everything thrown at it-I swear I saw a kitchen sink sail by-and yet, miraculously, still goes on ticking.

You might say it even thrives in these inhospitable conditions. Nothing can hurt it.

The play takes place in the addled mind of Henry Carr, a minor bureaucrat at the British Consulate in Zurich in 1917. Through his fevered memory we meet James Joyce, Tristan Tzara (Dadaist supreme), and Vladimir Lenin. In fact, all four of them lived in Zurich at that time, and there was a real Henry Carr who did appear in an amateur production of Wilde's "The Importance of Being Earnest," under the auspices of James Joyce. In Stoppard's superlative rendition, Carr is truly one of the finest creations written for the stage. His kaleidoscopic soliloquy in which he introduces the characters is no less than a theatrical tour de force.

What was the director thinking? It's obvious he admires this play, or he wouldn't have given it such a sumptuous staging, but, my word, he shows his love in a most subversive way.

Stoppard's ravishing comedy of manners, a mind-bending take on Oscar Wilde's "The Importance of Being Earnest," along with great Shavian swaths of dialogue on art, class, and politics, isn't treated disrespectfully, so much as it's treated with ill manners. There's already enough Monty Python, verbal gymnastics, dazzling theatricality, and utter cleverness in the play. It doesn't need the Three Stooges.

The exaggerated sound effects and bumping of heads during the Prologue didn't bode well, but the magic of the play (and the exceptional performances) dissipates these imperfections within a few minutes. For a time, things go smoothly. It's to the director's credit that he gives this production a smooth polish and cinematic gloss like an ace film cutter. There are seamless transitions, superlative lighting effects, and a flow that befits the crazy-quilt patterns Stoppard has interwoven like a five-handed Penelope.

As a travesty of the highest order, Act Two mocks the Moscow Art Theatre as Lenin and his wife give us their spin on the Revolution. Here, somehow, the false beards, binoculars, and general skulking around by Carr and his butler Bennett work in this context—the Marx Brothers mock Marx. Lenin leaves for the Finland Station on a little toy train; Cecily performs her striptease; Dickens is given his sentimental dues with a Punch and Judy show. All the added touches are fairly in tune with what Stoppard asks for.

But then comes the pie fight!

In my playbook, Gwendolen and Cecily (there's "Earnest" again) are having tea



Jeffrey Bean as Tristan Tzara in Tom Stoppard's 'Travesties'

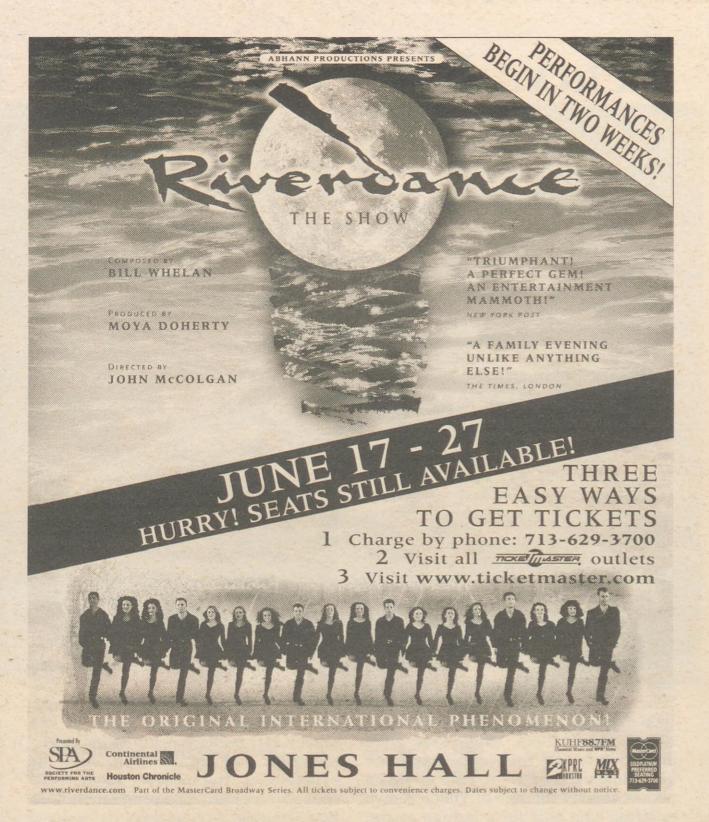
and speak in the meter of the ancient, "Gallagher and Shean" vaudeville song while their relationship deteriorates. Here though, the stagehands appear at the scene change and with high ceremony unfurl a very large tarpaulin. Bennett, now dressed as a circus ringmaster, wheels in a cart loaded with custard pies. What Gwendolen and Cecily say to each other I don't remember-I was ducking meringue.

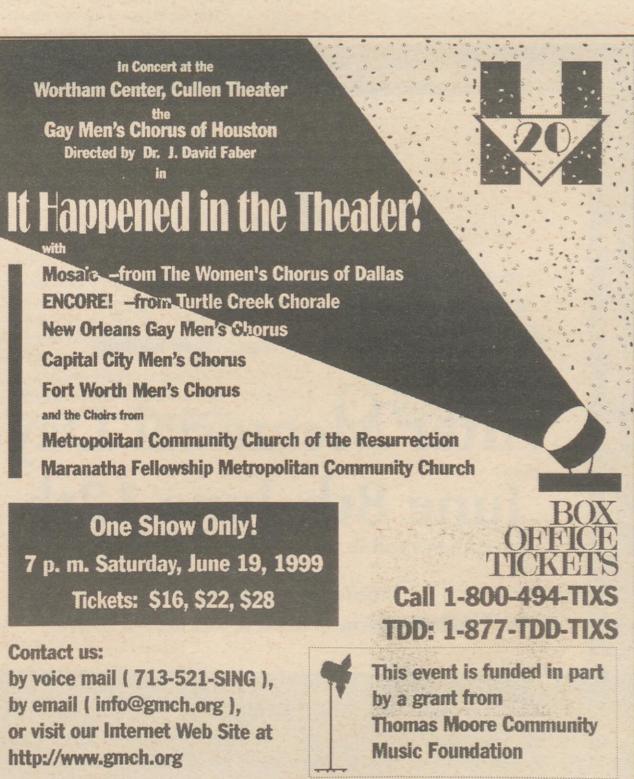
For all the misguided steps and tackedon tackiness, this is still Stoppard, and you must go and experience this play. Stoppard's use of language is sensual. You've got to hear it performed. And perform it, they do. My hat is doffed to the director for eliciting the incredible per-

Except for the roles of Gwendolen and Cecily, whose interpreters never quite hear the call of the Wilde, the cast is perfect, spearheaded by a dazzling, pyrotechnic performance by John Tyson as Henry Carr, who spins out his great thread-bare fantasies like some hopped-up spider. Jeffrey Bean, an old hand at playing Wilde these days, gives his heart to Dada with nuance and wonderful comic timing. With a light limerick touch of the brogue, James Feltch renders the imperious James Joyce so that we can see the immense book within him. James Belcher is picture-perfect as the obtuse Lenin who cries at a Beethoven sonata while cracking heads of those who disagree. Paul Hope, as the supercilious Bennett, knows a whole lot better than his betters; and Annalee Jefferies as Lenin's wife displays enough inner heat to melt any Communist's cold disdain.

713-228-8421

Tom Stoppard's 'Travesties' Alley Theatre, Neuhaus Arena Stage 615 Texas Avenue Through June 18 Tickets, \$13-\$46





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# 'Relax...It's Just Sex' gives Tilly more r-e-s-p-e-c-t

by EARL DITTMAN

Even after receiving an Academy Award nomination in 1994 for her superb performance in Woody Allen's "Bullet's Over Broadway," Jennifer Tilly was still having a tough time being taking seriously as an actress by most of Hollywood's biggest producers and directors.

"For the longest time, there seemed to be this perception that I was just this ditzy, airhead who couldn't really act, but looked good on the screen," Tilly said. "I thought getting nominated for Best Supporting Actress would wake a lot of people up to the fact that there was a lot more to me then what meets to eye. But, in a lot of ways, I think it just made their perceptions worse. They thought I just lucked out by getting nominated. It was really frustrating."

Not everyone who held a Directors Guild card, though, believed Tilly was just another talentless, Hollywood bimbo. The writing and directing sibling team of Larry and Andy Wachowski (the brains behind the current box-office mega-hit "The Matrix") had found her acting turns in films like "The Getaway," and "The Fabulous Baker Boys," was, "absolutely awesome." So, in 1995, when they were preparing to cast their upcoming indie film "Bound," they knew Tilly would be perfect to play the role of Violet, a mob mistress who falls for a lesbian ex-con



Jennifer Tilly and Mitchell Anderson in "Relax It's Just Sex"

(Gina Gershon of "Showgirls" fame). The Wachowski's were right on the money. Her performance was both mesmerizing and intoxicating. And, as expected, all the industry know-it-alls that had labeled her acting inept, were now singing her praises. It seemed

Jennifer Tilly had finally attained r-e-sp-e-c-t.

"That film changed my life," she admitted. "When they (The Wachowski Brothers) first approached me about being in it, I wasn't sure it was right for me. But, after listening to what they

wanted to do with it, I figured, 'What have I got to lose? No one gives a shit about me, anyway.' Boy, it was the best decision I ever made as an actress. And, I'm not saying that because everyone finally decided I was a good actress. Because, once I put it all in perspective, I realized I shouldn't care what other people think of me. It was a good decision because it made me realize what it meant to get a good role and make it mine. From that point on, I decided I was only going to take parts that made me work as an actress."

Despite becoming an "overnight success," Tilly avoided the temptation of jumping into big studio motion pictures. Instead, she continued to play choice roles in small independent fea-

That's exactly where writer/director P.J. Castellanta's "Relax...It's Just Sex" came from. Hilariously filled with the highs and lows of gay, lesbian, straight and bisexual relationships, "Relax...It's Just Sex" can best be described as a gay, severely libidinous, version of the hit TV show, "Friends."

Tilly was cast as Tara, the straight den mother to the film's assorted cast of outrageous characters. It's a wellrounded role that allows the actress to flaunt her artistic muscles.

"I loved playing Tara, because it gave me the chance to show sides of my acting abilities that I don't think a lot of people have seen yet," she said.

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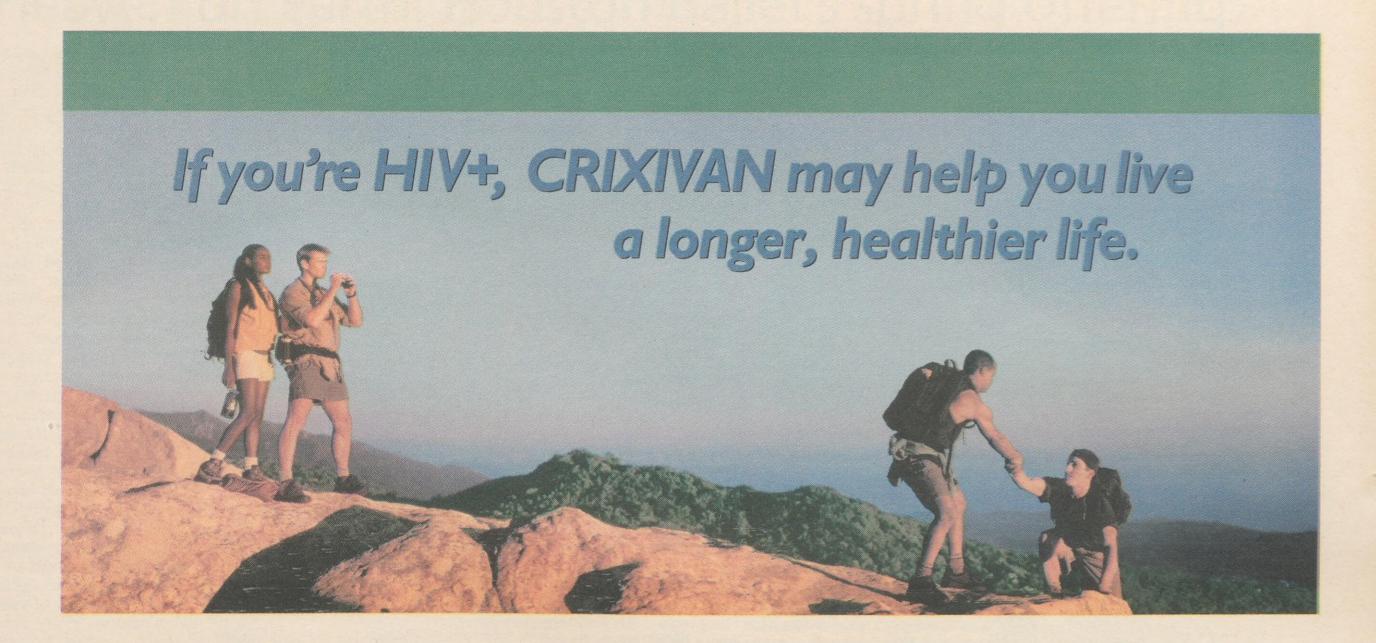
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■ NIH research showed people taking CRIXIVAN in triple therapy lived longer and experienced fewer opportunistic infections.

Recent year-long research conducted by the National Institutes of Health (Protocol ACTG 320) studied over 1,000 patients and confirmed results from another study. The group of patients receiving CRIXIVAN along with 3TC and AZT achieved a reduction in deaths and AIDS-defining illnesses over those taking 3TC and AZT alone. This reduction was significant enough for the NIH to recommend the study be stopped, so that all participants could benefit from the findings. Because the study was ended early, there was insufficient data to determine the statistical impact of CRIXIVAN on survival.

■ CRIXIVAN in triple therapy continues to hold serum viral load down below the limit of detection at the one year mark.

In a separate, ongoing landmark study, over 90% of the 3I patients receiving CRIXIVAN, AZT, and 3TC reduced their HIV serum viral load below the limit of detection after 24 weeks (as measured by available tests; the virus may still be present in other organ systems). Importantly, the limited number of patients who chose to stay with the study for longer periods of time maintained these results through the one year mark.

### **■ CRIXIVAN** is generally well tolerated.

CRIXIVAN can be taken with a light meal or on an empty stomach. There are side effects associated with protease inhibitors in general and CRIXIVAN in particular. Some patients treated with CRIXIVAN may develop kidney stones. For some, this can lead to more severe kidney problems including kidney failure. Drinking at least 6 glasses of water each day may help reduce the chance of forming a kidney stone. Other side effects reported include rapid breakdown of red blood cells and liver problems. There are some common medications and AIDS-related medications you should not take with CRIXIVAN. As with other protease inhibitors, severe muscle pain and weakness have occurred in patients also taking cholesterol-lowering medicines called "statins". Discuss all medications you are taking or plan to take with your doctor. Additionally, as with other protease inhibitors, increased bleeding in some patients with hemophilia and increased blood sugar levels or diabetes have been reported. Please read the following page for detailed information on side effects and dosing.

Please read the following page for more detailed information about CRIXIVAN.

CRIXIVAN is a protease inhibitor that fights HIV. CRIXIVAN can help reduce the chance of illnesses and death associated with HIV. CRIXIVAN can also help lower the amount of HIV in your body (called "viral load") and raise your CD4 T-cell count. Some patients may not experience these effects. CRIXIVAN is not a cure for HIV or AIDS.

Remember to ask your doctor about CRIXIVAN.



Going the distance.

www.crixivan.com

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## Patient Information about CRIXIVAN' (KRIK-sih-van)

Please read this information before you start taking CRIXIVAN. Also, you should read the information included with CRIXIVAN each time you receive your prescription, just in case anything has changed. Remember, this information does not take the place of careful discussions with your doctor. You and your doctor should discuss CRIXIVAN when you start taking your medication and at regular checkups. You should remain under a doctor's care when using CRIXIVAN and should not change or stop treatment without first talking with your doctor.

## What is CRIXIVAN?

CRIXIVAN is an oral capsule used for the treatment of HIV (Human Immunodeficiency Virus). HIV is the virus that causes AIDS (acquired immune deficiency syndrome). CRIXIVAN is a type of HIV drug called a protease (PRO-tee-ase) inhibitor.

#### How does CRIXIVAN work?

CRIXIVAN is a protease inhibitor that fights HIV. CRIXIVAN can help reduce your chances of getting illnesses associated with HIV. CRIXIVAN can also help lower the amount of HIV in your body (called "viral load") and raise your CD4 (T) cell count. CRIXIVAN may not have these effects in all patients.

CRIXIVAN is usually prescribed with other anti-HIV drugs such as ZDV (also called AZT), 3TC, ddl, ddC, or d4T. CRIXIVAN works differently from these other anti-HIV drugs. Talk with your doctor about how you

CRIXIVAN has been studied in adults. The safety and effectiveness of CRIXIVAN in children and adolescents have not been established.

#### How should I take CRIXIVAN?

There are six important things you must do to help you benefit from CRIXIVAN:

- 1. Take CRIXIVAN capsules every day as prescribed by your doctor. Continue taking CRIXIVAN unless your doctor tells you to stop. Take the exact amount of CRIXIVAN that your doctor tells you to take, right from the very start. To help make sure you will benefit from CRIXIVAN, you must not skip doses or take "drug holidays. If you don't take CRIXIVAN as prescribed, the activity of CRIXIVAN may be reduced (due to resistance).
- 2. Take CRIXIVAN capsules every 8 hours around the clock, every day. It may be easier to remember to take CRIXIVAN if you take it at the same time every day. If you have questions about when to take CRIXIVAN, your doctor or health care provider can help you decide what schedule works for you.
- 3. If you miss a dose by more than 2 hours, wait and then take the next dose at the regularly scheduled time. However, if you miss a dose by less than 2 hours, take your missed dose immediately. Then take your next dose at the regularly scheduled time. Do not take more or less than your prescribed dose of CRIXIVAN at any one time.
- 4. Take CRIXIVAN with water. You can also take CRIXIVAN with other beverages such as skim or non-fat milk, juice, coffee, or tea.
- 5. Ideally, take each dose of CRIXIVAN without food but with water at least one hour before or two hours after a meal. Or you can take CRIXIVAN with a light meal. Examples of light meals include:
  - dry toast with jelly, juice, and coffee (with skim or non-fat milk and sugar if you want) - corn flakes with skim or non-fat milk and sugar

Do not take CRIXIVAN at the same time as any meals that are high in calories, fat, and protein (for example — a bacon and egg breakfast). When taken at the same time as CRIXIVAN, these foods can interfere with CRIXIVAN being absorbed into your bloodstream and may lessen its effect.

6. It is critical that you drink at least six 8-ounce glasses of liquid (preferably water) throughout the day, every day. CRIXIVAN can cause kidney stones. Having enough fluids in your body should help reduce the chances of forming a kidney stone. Call your doctor or other health care provider if you develop kidney pains (middle to lower stomach or back pain) or blood in the urine.

### Does CRIXIVAN cure HIV or AIDS?

CRIXIVAN is not a cure for HIV or AIDS. People taking CRIXIVAN may still develop infections or other conditions associated with HIV. Because of this, it is very important for you to remain under the care of a doctor. Although CRIXIVAN is not a cure for HIV or AIDS, CRIXIVAN can help reduce your chances of getting illnesses,

### Does CRIXIVAN reduce the risk of passing HIV to others?

CRIXIVAN has not been shown to reduce the risk of passing HIV to others through sexual contact or blood

### Who should not take CRIXIVAN?

Do not take CRIXIVAN if you have had a serious allergic reaction to CRIXIVAN or any of its components.

# What other medical problems or conditions should I discuss with my doctor?

- You are pregnant or if you become pregnant while you are taking CRIXIVAN. We do not yet know how CRIXIVAN affects pregnant women or their developing babies.
- You are breast-feeding. You should stop breast-feeding if you are taking CRIXIVAN. Also talk to your doctor if you have:
- Problems with your liver, especially if you have mild or moderate liver disease caused by cirrhosis. Problems with your kidneys.
- Diabetes
- Hemophilia High cholesterol and you are taking cholesterol-lowering medicines called "statins."

Tell your doctor about any medicines you are taking or plan to take, including non-prescription medicines.

#### Can CRIXIVAN be taken with other medications?\*\*

Drugs you should not take with CRIXIVAN:

SELDANE® (terfenadine) HISMANAL® (astemizole) VERSED® (midazolam) HALCION® (triazolam)

PROPULSID® (cisapride) Ergot medications (e.g., Wigraine® and Cafergot®)

Taking CRIXIVAN with the above medications could result in serious or life-threatening problems (such as irregular heartbeat or excessive sleepiness).

In addition, you should not take CRIXIVAN with rifampin, known as RIFADIN®, RIFAMATE®, RIFATER®, or RIMACTANE®.

Drugs you can take with CRIXIVAN include:

RETROVIR® (zidovudine, ZDV also called AZT) BIAXIN® (clarithromycin) isoniazid (INH)

TAGAMET® (cimetidine) DIFLUCAN® (fluconazole) ORTHO-NOVUM 1/35® (oral contraceptive) ZERIT® (stavudine, d4T) EPIVIR™ (lamivudine, 3TC)

BACTRIM®/SEPTRA® (trimethoprim/sulfamethoxazole)

VIDEX® (didanosine, ddl) — If you take CRIXIVAN with VIDEX®, take them at least one hour apart. MYCOBUTIN® (rifabutin) — If you take CRIXIVAN with MYCOBUTIN®, your doctor may adjust both the dose of MYCOBUTIN and the dose of CRIXIVAN.

NIZORAL® (ketoconazole) — If you take CRIXIVAN with NIZORAL®, your doctor may adjust the dose of CRIXIVAN.

Talk to your doctor about any medications you are taking.

#### What are the possible side effects of CRIXIVAN?

Like all prescription drugs, CRIXIVAN can cause side effects. The following is not a complete list of side effects reported with CRIXIVAN when taken either alone or with other anti-HIV drugs. Do not rely on this page alone for information about side effects. Your doctor can discuss with you a more complete list of side effects. Some patients treated with CRIXIVAN developed kidney stones. In some of these patients this led to more severe kidney problems, including kidney failure or inflammation of the kidneys. Drinking at least six 8-ounce glasses of liquid (preferably water) each day should help reduce the chances of forming a kidney stone. Call your doctor or other health care provider if you develop kidney pains (middle to lower stomach or back pain) or blood in the urine.

Some patients treated with CRIXIVAN have had rapid breakdown of red blood cells (hemolytic anemia) which in some cases was severe or resulted in death.

Some patients treated with CRIXIVAN have had liver problems including liver failure and death. Some patients had other illnesses or were taking other drugs. It is uncertain if CRIXIVAN caused these liver problems.

Diabetes and high blood sugar (hyperglycemia) have occurred in patients taking protease inhibitors. In some of these patients, this led to ketoacidosis, a serious condition caused by poorly controlled blood sugar. Some patients had diabetes before starting protease inhibitors, others did not. Some patients required adjustments to their diabetes medication. Others needed new diabetes medication.

In some patients with hemophilia, increased bleeding has been reported.

Severe muscle pain and weakness have occurred in patients taking protease inhibitors, including CRIXIVAN, together with some of the cholesterol-lowering medicines called "statins." Call your doctor if you develop severe muscle pain or weakness.

# Clinical Studies

Increases in bilirubin (one laboratory test of liver function) have been reported in approximately 10% of person may develop yellowing of the skin and/or eyes.

Side effects occurring in 2% or more of patients included: abdominal pain, fatigue or weakness, flank pain, feeling unwell, nausea, diarrhea, vomiting, acid regurgitation, loss of appetite, dry mouth, back pain, headache, trouble sleeping, dizziness, taste changes, rash, upper respiratory infection, dry skin, and sore throat. Swollen kidneys due to blocked urine flow occurred rarely.

### Marketing Experience

Other side effects reported since CRIXIVAN has been marketed include: allergic reactions; severe skin reactions; abdominal swelling; inflammation of the kidneys; inflammation of the pancreas; increased fat appearing in areas such as the neck, breasts, abdomen, and back; change in skin color; hair loss; ingrown toenails with or without infection; crystals in the urine; and numbness of the mouth.

Tell your doctor promptly about these or any other unusual symptoms. If the condition persists or worsens, seek medical attention.

### How should I store CRIXIVAN capsules?

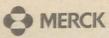
- Keep CRIXIVAN capsules in the bottle they came in and at room temperature (59°F-86°F).
- Keep CRIXIVAN capsules dry by leaving the small desiccant. "pillow" in the bottle. Keep the bottle closed.

This medication is prescribed for a particular condition. Do not use it for any other condition or give it to anybody else. Keep CRIXIVAN and all medicines out of the reach of children. If you suspect that more than the prescribed dose of this medicine has been taken, contact your local poison control center or emergency room immediately.

This provides a summary of information about CRIXIVAN. If you have any questions or concerns about either CRIXIVAN or HIV, talk to your doctor.

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# Heaven on Earth: Houston Ballet's spring offering

by D.L. GROOVER

Flesh and spirit have always been a combustible combination. When the physicality of dance, with its perfection of body, is added to this racy mix, the soul ignites.

'Four Last Songs'

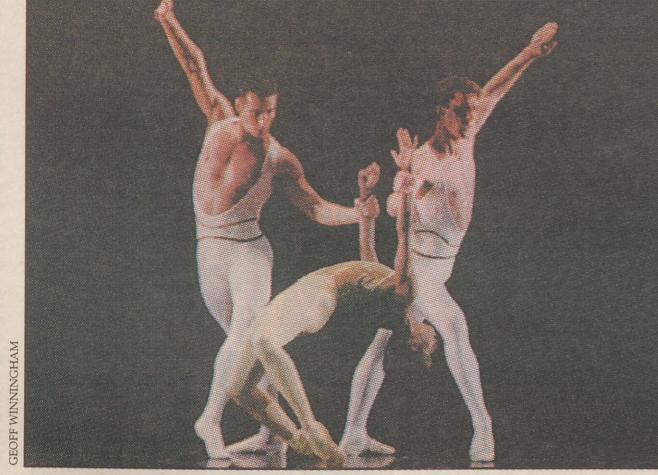
If there is a heaven, the Baptists not withstanding, it will be filled with music and dancing. One of the selections on the celestial jukebox will certainly be Richard Strauss' "Four Last Songs," and the cherubs will dance Ben Stevenson's ravishing ballet.

Written in 1948, these four songs (the last works he composed) epitomize Strauss' rhapsodic, lush style. Stevenson's ballet complements them gloriously, adding sublime images to their emotional core of death and transfiguration. The songs were radiantly realized by Stella Zambalis and conducted with late-Romantic zeal by David Briskin.

"Spring," is all youth and optimism, danced with vernal dewiness by Cameron Smith and Dominic Walsh.

As the immense sculptural drape of a background transforms and the light fades to amber, the trio of "September," gives visual resonance to the languid mood of autumn. Barbara Bears, the epitome of cool grace, moves with perfect fluidity to Strauss' limpid song and is partnered with loving masculine care by Nicholas Leschke and Damian Schwiethale.

The drape flows down like a teardrop,



L-R: Phillip Broomhead, Lauren Anderson and Sean Kelly in Glen Tetley's 'Lux In Tenebris.'

as the duet, "Beim Schlafengehen" ("Going to Sleep") glows in icy blue. Night/sleep/death intermingle in this expressive pas de deux, danced with searing emotion by Julie Gumbinner and Phillip Broomhead. Not wanting to leave this Earth, sometimes just twirling out of his arms, she is carried down stage in diagonal, skimming the floor with just the tip of her toe.

As if bowing to fate, Lauren Anderson begins "Im Abendrot" ("At Twilight") with upper body contractions and movements to the floor. It's a very human solo with plaintive pointe work, and, when she hears the celestial voice, her arm reaches out in jump cuts.

'Lux In Tenebris'

In its world premiere performance, Glen Tetley's "Lux in Tenebris," ("Light in the Darkness") opens in silence as a woman in gold body-stocking is spotlighted in a misty void. Two males in white, with torsos exposed, enter. When she touches their outstretched hands, the music begins.

"Lux ..." maintains this air of mystery and metaphysics throughout, like a lot of Tetley, which gives the work a haunting quality just somewhat out of our reach.

each.

tionships.

'Rules Of The Game'
After the cerebral Tetley, Lila York's world premiere, "Rules of the Game," bursts onto stage like a pop-up Valentine, displaying cut-out facets of love in ever-shifting patterns and rela-

Using "Brahms' Variations on a Theme by Haydn," York's whirliging of love's variations spins appealingly.

In the Finalé, Dominic Walsh, left alone on stage, whirls off into the background arms upraised, pleased with himself and on the lookout for more hearts to set spinning.

The entire evening?: Heaven.

Houston Ballet Spring Repertory

'Four Last Songs,' by Ben Stevenson
'Lux in Tenebris,' world premiere by Glen
Tetley

'Rules Of The Game,' world premiere by Lila York

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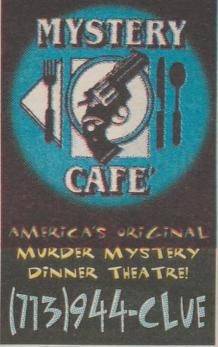
Medical Director

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# Out In Print

**BOOK NEWS** 

# Portrait of an angry young gay artist

by J.S. HALL

He's back, and he's ticked off.

Granted, readers familiar with Ford's monthly column (and previous book, "Alec Baldwin Doesn't Love Me,") will already know he's never the happiest of campers, but as the title of his new book indicates, he's in a somewhat bellicose mood, and ain't gonna take nobody's crap no more. For instance, when neighborhood bullies tear down his rainbow flag, he fumes for a while, then buys ten flags which he distributes to his neighbors and pointedly reminds the hoodlums that they're outnumbered.

This is not to say, "That's Mr. Faggot to You," isn't as funny as its predecessor, just funny in a slightly different, more thought-provoking way.

Ford may lead a queer life, but doesn't devote every waking moment to gay causes—partly because his black Labrador retriever, Roger, takes up so much time and energy, not to mention bed space! His essays involving Roger may not be specifically gay, but they are some of the better parts of "Mr. Faggot," particularly when he chronicles the absurdist turf wars in the local park, which culminated in his slashing a park ranger's tire in protest of her over-zealousness.

One of the more refreshing aspects of

"Fun" - The Advocate

Ford's writing is his ability to say what many of us are secretly thinking, no matter how politically incorrect. In the wake of the Columbine massacre in Littleton, Colorado, Ford's "My Contract on America: A Fantasy," may seem disturbing, but really it's the sort of vaguely homicidal thing we've all idly contemplated at one time or another.

And similarly, in perturbed response to bashers of, "In & Out," within the gay community, he declares, "I for one am really tired of gay people who use the word 'stereotypical' when what they really mean is 'what we're afraid of looking like'."

Ford also returns to some familiar topics, such as his distrust of certain mechanical appliances like a CD player seemingly possessed by the religious right—and his exasperation with the Internet (both with logging onto it and with those who'd censor it), concluding that, "I'm sure there is a lot of weird stuff out there. And maybe some kids are finding ways

to get their hands on it. If they are, I wish they'd come over and show me how to find it." He occasionally returns to his religious upbringing, remember-

A LECTED DWIN DOESN'T LOVE ME **FURTHER TRIALS FROM** 

> ing his mother's abhorrence of Kiss; presenting Mattel with an entire line of religious-oriented toys, like The Original Sin Playset; and describing his connection with God as if it were a failed relationship.

In "That's Mr. Faggot to You," Michael Thomas Ford's bark has lost none of its bite. He delivers testy, trenchant commentary with an understated flair, and achieves that rare balance of laughing at our foibles while

'I for one am really tired of gay people who use the word 'stereotypical' when what they really mean is 'what we're afraid of looking like'.'

-Michael Thomas Ford

embracing them at the same time. He continues to be fabulous in his own wonderful way, and one can't help thinking that if he were to throw a barbecue, the hamburger patties would be made from sacred cows.

That's Mr. Faggot To You: **Further Trials From My** Queer Life

by Michael Thomas Ford

Alyson Publications, 248 pages, \$11.95

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# MY QUEER LIFE

# What your neighbors are reading...

- **Every Man For Himself** by Orland Outland, \$22
- Are You Ready? by Rik Isensee, \$13.95
- **Eye Contact** by Michael Craft, \$12
- Birds Of A Feather by Jackie Calhoun, \$11.95
- Ins And Outs Of Gay Sex by Stephen Goldstone, \$12.95
- The Drive by Trisha Todd, \$11.95
- **Just A Little Lie** by Kate Allen, \$12.95
- Finding The Boyfriend Within by Brad Gooch, \$21
- Male Couples Guide, 2nd Edition by Eric Marcus, \$17
- 10 Early Embraces, Part Two by Lindsay Elder, \$12.95

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- Abide With Me by E. Lynn Harris, \$24.95
- Wicked Good Time by Diana Tremain Braund, \$11.95
- Snake Eyes by Pat Welch, \$11.95
- **Change Of Heart** by Linda Hill, \$11.95
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- Queer Astrology For Women by Jill Dearman, \$13.95
- Super Eros by Aaron Cobbett, \$29.95
- That's Mr. Faggot To You Michael Thomas Ford, \$11.95
- 10 The Vintage Book Of Intl. Lesbian Fiction edited by Naomi Holoch and Joan Nestle, \$15



3939 Montrose Boulevard 713-522-5156

# 'Tea With Mussolini' set in World War II

Tea from page 14

The fact that we all got along, quite well, was just an extra added delight."

Based in part on his memoirs "Zeffirelli: An Autobiography," the film is the story of a teen-aged Zeffirelli's encounters with the, "Scorpioni," a group of British expatriates living in Italy at the beginning of World War II.

It's the filmmaker's 13th full-length feature, though a film he has wanted to make almost all of his life.

"Tea With Mussolini' is this filmed journey through some Franco Zeffirelli's fondest memories," said Tomlin, who portrays Georgie, the Yank who befriends the Scorpioni. "He's a Florentine. He's from

Florence. And, he knows every square inch of the wonderful city. He's lived a very long life, but he told me his fondest recollection is of the Scorpioni, this colony of English women who lived there. I can see why, because they're unforgettable. One character in the movie asks why they are called that, and my character replies, 'Because they bite.""

Throughout the course of "Tea," the Scorpioni spend the better part of their time sharpening their fangs on American vamp Elsa Morganthal, a former Ziegfield Follies dancer, played by Oscarwinner Cher. After a self-imposed exile from silver screens to record, write a book and hit the talk show circuit to help her lesbian daughter, Chastity Bono, the Diva simply couldn't refuse Zeffirelli's offers to star as the sometimes over-the-top, obnoxious Elsa.

"I would have done anything Franco had asked me to do, because he is one of the world's greatest living directors," said Cher, who is in the midst of putting the final touches on an upcoming tour. "But

once I read the script, there was absolutely no way I could say no to it. There was something about Elsa that I related to, in a deep way."

Besides the obvious, Tomlin, who is currently developing a series pilot for CBS, also found personal similarities in her character, Georgie.

"She's a rather spunky kind of lady, extremely outspoken and much more modern than the other womenthat sounds familiar doesn't it," Tomlin said.

"The ladies of the Scorpioni live in Florence, yet, they barely speak the language, act totally English and follow all the English traditions. They live very regimented, narrow lives, even though they are in this beautiful foreign country. Georgie is a bit outrageous, but, yet, she's extremely fond of this rather puritanical group of British women that she's come to know and care for. I'm a lot like that. I'm always championing the underdogs."

Like Cher, the chance to work with Zeffirelli was an opportunity she could not turn down, Tomlin said.

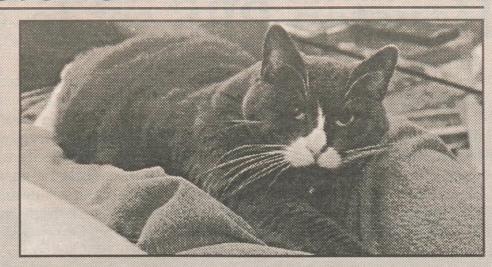
Dench was already familiar with Zeffirelli's unique brand of directing. She first worked with the director, on stage, over 30 years ago.

"My recollections of him are from the 1960s, when he was directing a stage version of 'Romeo and Juliet' at The Old Vic (in England)," Dench said.

"He would direct us, by acting the role out for us first. I would watch him, out of the corner of my eye, and realize that he was acting it out much, much better than I ever could. Not many directors can get away that, but, since this story was so personal to him, I felt like he knew my character better than I ever could."

# Occasions

Pet of the Week Ziggie loves to sleep on Orlin and Vernon's Levis.



# Birthdays

Happy birthday and bon voyage wishes to Adam. Good luck at chef school.

Happy (the big 4-0) birthday to songstress Sheila Lennon.

Rodgers of the Montrose Clinic celebrates a birthday on June 9.

The fabulous, and always gay, Gaye Yancy (owner of Mary's) lifts her glass for a birthday on June

The Houston Voice's production wizard John (call me Miss Mocha) Sweeney adds another birthday candle to his cake on June 10.

The Houston Voice's former production goddess Connie Marmojelo rings in



Sheila

John

another year on June 10.

Decades regular Gene will be a handsome 71 years young on June 10.

# Anniversaries

Barry Petree and Bob Meyer (the Empress and Mary Todd to their friends) celebrate another year together on June 7.

David and Gary will celebrate their 17th anniversary on June 5.

Steve Simpson and Barry Larson

(Sil and Vanna) have not killed each other yet in their seven years together, celebrated on May 30.





Steve



Barry

Connie

Gene

# Dykes To Watch Out For by Alison Bechdel



SEAL SEAL

# Home Forum

AHEAD: LOCAL NEWS • SENSE OF PLACE OCCASSIONS • HOROSCOPES

# Houston PBS set to show 'After Stonewall'

by KAY Y. DAYUS

Unlike Georgia Public Broadcasting Television, there has never been any doubt that Houston's Public Service Broadcasting station KUHT TV will screen the gay civil rights documentary "After Stonewall." The movie airs June 23 when it is fed nationwide by PBS says Andrea McKenna, assistant program director at KUHT.

In fact, directly after, the local station will screen, "Before Stonewall," in honor of Gay Pride Month.

Although GPTV's original decision not

to air "After Stonewall," was later reversed, no date was set for showing the program. When pressed for details, GPTV Executive Director Werner Rogers, declined to specify when the show would be broadcast or answer any other questions about his decision to first not to air the show, then to air the show.

"After Stonewall," chronicles gay life since 1969 when riots at New York City's Stonewall Inn sparked the modern gay civil rights movement. On June 27, 1969, gay patrons of the Stonewall Inn spontaneously united and fought back against

chronic police harassment, jeers and arrests.

Narrated by Melissa Etheridge, "After Stonewall" consists of archival and neverbefore released footage from the gay and lesbian community. The movie is a sequel to the Emmy award-winning documentary "Before Stonewall," which brought gay and lesbian issues to national attention with its PBS release in 1986. John Scagliotti, producer of both movies says "through this film, viewers will be educated about the profound influence gays and lesbians have had on the shaping of the 20th century."

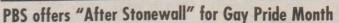
McKenna says it may seem odd for them to screen "After Stonewall," prior to "Before Stonewall," this month, but, she says, "We want to show AS first so it gets maximum exposure."

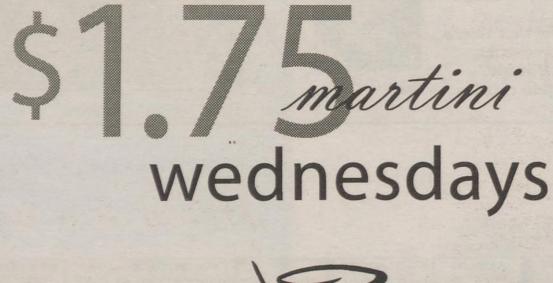
McKenna could only remember one instance when Houston's public broadcasting station refused to air a gay-related movie. That was "Tongues Untied" about eight years ago. The decision not to air the show, "was not because of its homosexual theme," says McKenna, "but because of its language and flagrant nudity." The station later aired an edited version of the movie.

McKenna says that KUHT does not get too much adverse reaction when it airs shows with a gay theme. "It all depends on the content," she adds.











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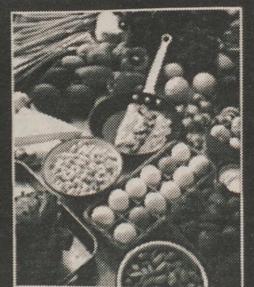
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# Eating Out

# Hogg Grill stumbles, but succeeds

by BUD LILE and RANDY INGRAM

Theater and opera patrons have been very fortunate with the revival of downtown, for it has meant the opening of a number of restaurants in the Theatre District. Hogg Grill, located at the corner of Prairie and Louisiana, is within walking distance of Wortham Center, Alley Theatre, and Jones Hall, making it convenient for a pre- or post-performance dinner. Garage parking is plentiful in this part of downtown; valet parking and street parking is also available.

The décor of the restaurant is very much in the style of a loft space; the walls are roughly textured and painted in muted tones, and ductwork is exposed. The seating arrangements are simple: tables draped in white tablecloths and ladderback chairs with rush seating surfaces. The large windows complete this airy space and allow for easy people watching; on the night that we dined, a group of young men were outside dancing on the sidewalk, providing much amuse-

The service this particular evening had a few minor glitches. Timing was a little out of sync; the second course appeared before we were done with the appetizers,

for example. Our waitress was helpful in making suggestions and provided excellent service when she was present, but on several occasions we found ourselves wishing she would be slightly more attentive.

For appetizers, we decided on a seafood and sausage gratin and a salmon and leek cheesecake with pecan crust. It

should be noted that the portions were enormous-easily enough for two or more people to share. The seafood and sausage gratin was a flavorful combination of heartily spiced sausage, mussels, crab meat, and shrimp. The cheese sauce was rich and sharply flavored; overall, the flavors melded in a most appetizing way. The salmon and leek cheesecake had a remarkably light three-cheese base and was more delicately flavored, with the slightly sweet flavoring of the capers apparent with every bite.

For our next course, we chose tortilla dumpling soup and a classic mixed greens salad with basalmic vinaigrette. We're still puzzling over where the dumplings were in the soup, but it was pleasing nonetheless. Strong flavors coexisted in relative harmony; the guacamole, tomatoes, and onions complemented the rich earthy flavor of the tortillas. This dish is also well peppered and packs a considerable amount of heat. The salad was crisp and served with a lively basalmic vinaigrette, although the greens were a little brown around the edges.

The entrees were slightly disappointing after such a strong start. The tuna steak was served with pineapple salsa and a

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ragout of black beans and chicory; while it sounded as though it would be an exciting dish, I found it a bit wanting. The tomatoes in the salsa were quite tasty and delightful in conjunction with the tuna, but the pineapple was not quite ripe and detracted from the flavor. If the pineapple had been a little sweeter, it would poten-

> tially have been much more successful marriage of ingredients. The black beans were interestingly flavored with chicory, and a side of greens served with a dollop of hot basalmic vinaigrette proved to be the most enjoyable part of this dish. Lackluster unfortunately describes the rib-eye steak, which was seasoned with herbs and spices and served with garlic potatoes and

grilled vegetables. The cut of steak was not as tender as we would have expected, and the herbs and spices were not readily apparent to the taste buds. Randy reported enjoying the well-prepared garlic potatoes and grilled vegetables more than the steak.

We decided to brave dessert and coffee, hoping for a stronger finish. The coffee was served piping hot with a strong yet mellow flavor. The raspberry eruption-a raspberry mousse in angel food cake with white chocolate-was a winsome choice. It possessed just the right amount of sweetness and was boldly flavored yet amazingly light in texture. Unfortunately, the crème brûlée didn't appeal nearly as much. The caramelization was overdone, ruining the dish with a slightly burnt flavor; further, it hadn't hardened completely, making for a messy first few bites. The custard itself was competent-silken in texture and replete with the classic vanilla bean flavor.

The stumbles of the kitchen and the waitstaff were a bit disconcerting; however, its prime location, the successes that did come from the kitchen, and our positive past experiences will guarantee that we'll try again.

# VOLUNTEERS NEEDED FOR A CLINICAL TRIAL **HIV Vaccine to prevent HIV**

Research volunteers are needed for clinical trials to test a synthetic vaccine to prevent and immunize against HIV (the virus that causes AIDS). You cannot get HIV infection from this synthetic vaccine

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•Females at risk for acquiring HIV •Negative for HIV by HIV-screening test

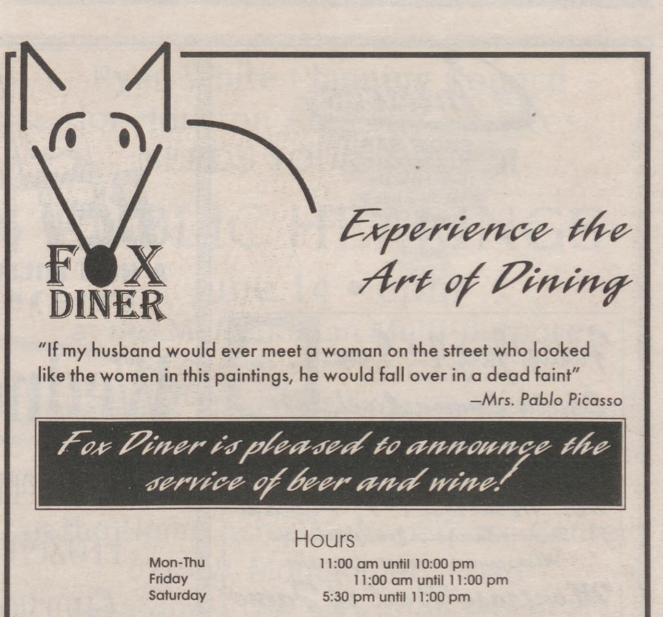
•Willing to accept safe-sex counseling

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# Community Calendar

#### Friday, June 4

HIV Testing by the Montrose Clinic. Rich's 10 p.m. to 1 a.m. and Midtowne Spa 8 p.m. to midnight. 713-520-2000.

**Houston Area Teen Coalition of** Homosexuals (H.A.T.C.H.) meets. 713-942-

Houston Tennis Club at 7:30 p.m. 713-864-

Aftercare Group Treatment. Montrose Counseling Center at 6 p.m. 713-529-0037. Frost Eye Clinic. Free eye exams for people with HIV. 713-830-3000.

Lesbian Avengers. Toopee's, 1830 W. Alabama at 7 p.m.

Q-Patrol walks the streets at 8:45 p.m. 713-

Kolbe Project. Park Plaza Hospital visitation. 713-861-1800.

Positive Art Workshop. 1 p.m. to 4 p.m. Patrick Palmer at 713-526-1118.

Lesbian and Gay Voices. KPFT 90.1 FM, 7 p.m. 713-526-5738.

Movie Time at the Kolbe Project. 7:30 p.m. 713-522-8182.

Mishpachat Alizim Shabbat Services. 8 p.m. 713-748-7079.

Co Dependents Anonymous. 7:30 p.m. At MCCR. 713-861-9149.

Healing Eucharist. 7 p.m. Christ Church Cathedral. 1117 Texas Ave. 713-222-2593.

#### ► Saturday, June 5

After Hours. KPFT 90.1 FM, 12 a.m. to 3 a.m. 713-526-5738.

Q-Patrol walks the streets at 8:45 p.m. 713-528-SAFE.

Visual Arts Alliance. 10 a.m. 281-583-8408. Rainbow Fishing Club. meeting 713-526-

Dignity mass at 7:30 p.m. for gay Catholics. 713-880-2872.

St. Stephen's Episcopal Church. Rosary at 8 a.m. 1805 W. Alabama. 713-528-6665. Houston Outdoor Group. Breakfast at 7:30 a.m. 713-KAMPOUT.

## ► Sunday, June 6

The Women's Group. 10:45 a.m. 713-529-

**Houston Area Teen Coalition of** Homosexuals (H.A.T.C.H.) meets. 713-942-

Rainbow Riders. A bicycle club for women. 713-869-1686.

FrontRunners. 9 a.m. 713-522-8021.

Lone Star Volleyball plays. 281-878-4629. Houston Tennis Club. 10:30 a.m. 713-864-

Church of the XII Apostles Anglican Rite Old Catholic Church. Holy Communion 10:30 a.m. at 239 Westheimer. 713/665-7903.

St. Stephen's Episcopal Church. Holy Rite Eucharist I at 7:45 a.m.; Holy Rite Eucharist II at 8:55 a.m.; Education hour at 10 a.m.; Choral Eucharist at 11 a.m. 1805 W. Alabama. 713-

Maranatha Fellowship Metropolitan

Church. "Preaching the Gospel" at 11 a.m. 713-528-6756.

Metropolitan Community Church of the Resurrection. Services at 9 a.m. and 11 a.m. 713-861-9149.

Grace Lutheran Church. Sunday school for all ages at 9:30 a.m. Service at 10:30 a.m. 713-528-3269.

First Unitarian Universalist Church. Services at 9:30 a.m. and 11:30 a.m. 713-526Community Gospel. Service at 11 a.m.; 7 p.m. Sunday School for children. 4305 Lillian. 713-880-9235 or www.communitygospel.org. Houston Mission Church. Service at 10:30 a.m. 713-529-8225.

Covenant Baptist Church. Service at 1:30 p.m.; education hour at 3 p.m. 713-668-8830. **Bering Memorial United Methodist** 

Church. Services at 8: 30 a.m., 10:50 a.m. Sunday school at 9:40 a.m. 713-526-1017. MCCR. Handbell Choir rehearsal at 1:30 p.m. 713-861-9149.

Unitarian Fellowship of Galveston

County. 402 Church St. in Galveston. Service at 10:30 a.m. 409-765-8330.

Faith and Hope Fellowship. Service at 11 a.m. 713-520-7847.

First Congregational Church (Memorial). Service at 11 a.m. 713-468-9543 or fcc-houston.org,

Church of Kindred Spirits (Beaumont). Service at 7 p.m. 409-835-4765.

Unitarian Fellowship of Houston. Adult forum at 10 a.m. Service at 11 a.m. and noon. 1504 Wirt. 7713-686-5876.

### ► Monday, June 7

Free HIV Testing by the Montrose Clinic. Outpost 8 p.m. to midnight. 713-520-2000. Gay Fathers/Fathers First support group, 8 p.m. 713-861-6181.

Calendar/Computer workshop for Pride Week, 7 p.m. 713-529-1223.

**Outpatient Group Treatment.** Montrose Counseling Center, 6 p.m. 713-529-0037. Men Survivors of Sexual Abuse Group. Montrose Counseling Center. 6:15 p.m. 713-

529-0037. Gay Men Survivors of Domestic Violence support group. 713-526-1017.

Bering Support Network. Grief and Divorce Groups at 7 p.m. 713-526-1017.

Frost Eye Clinic. Free eye exams for people with HIV. 713-830-3000.

AIDS Caregiver's Support Group. 6 p.m. 713-732-4300.

HIV testing. Free from AVES from 1 p.m. to 6:15 p.m. 713-626-2837.

Kolbe Project Park Plaza visitation. 713-861-

AIDS Foundation Houston. Free creative writing class at 3 p.m. 713-623-6796.

FrontRunners. 6:30 p.m. 713-522-8021. Kolbe Project. Eucharist at 7:30 p.m. 713-861-1800.

Texas Medical Center Lambda. 5 p.m. 713-523-5539.

**Integrity Houston**. For gay and lesbian Episcopalians. 7:30 p.m. Autry House, 6265

More Light Presbyterians. Meeting. 1110 Lovett. 9:30 p.m. 281-4448861 X309.

## Tuesday, June 8

HIV Testing by the Montrose Clinic. Club Houston 8 p.m. to midnight. 713-520-2000. Helping Cross Dressers Anonymous. 7 p.m. 239 Westheimer. 713-495-8009.

Gay Men HIV+ Psychotherapy. Montrose Counseling Center at 4:30 p.m. 713-529-0037.

Youth-Rap. 6:30 p.m. 713-822-8511. **Aftercare Group Treatment.** Montrose Counseling Center at 6 p.m. 713-529-0037 AIDS Alliance of the Bay Area. 7 p.m. 713-

488-4492. PROTECT. An HIV-negative support group at 7 p.m. 713-526-1017.

Women Survivors of Childhood Abuse. Montrose Counseling Center at 6:30 p.m. 713-

Kolbe Project. Park Plaza Visitation. 713-861-

Bering Support Network. Lunch Bunch Gang at 11 a.m. 713-526-1017.

MCCR. Tuesday night program at 7 p.m. 713-861-9149.

Maranatha Fellowship MCC. Home groups meet for fellowship, sharing God's word and



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prayer. 713-528-6756.

Gray. 713-524-2374.

**Men's Network**. Discussion group for social, educational development of gay and bisexual men. 7 p.m. The Montrose Counseling Center. 713-529-0037.

HIV support group. For men over 50. 7:30
p.m. Center for AIDS, 1407 Hawthorne.
Love, Lust & Intimacy. Improving communication and intimacy in relationships.
Metropolitan Multi-Service Center, 1475 W.

**Houston Gay & Lesbian Parents**. Support Group and monthly social. 10400 S. Post Oak E-263. 713-284-4939.

Pride Committee. Board meeting. 2700 Albany. 7:30 p.m. 713-529-6979. HIV/AIDS Treatment Mixer. Open discussion. 7 p.m. 1407 Hawthorne. 713-527-8219.

▶ Wednesday, June 9

Free HIV Testing by the Montrose Clinic. Mary's 4 p.m. to 8 p.m. Venture-N 8 p.m. to midnight, Mela's 8 p.m. to midnight and Ripcord 9 p.m. to midnight. 713-520-2000. Frost Eye Clinic. Free eye exams to people with HIV. 713-520-2000.

**Houston Pride Band**. Practices at Dignity Houston. 713-524-0218.

**Houston Tennis Club**. 7:30 p.m. 713-864-8468.

**Women's Network**. 7 p.m. Montrose Counseling Center, 701 Richmond. 713-529-0037.

**Ongoing Mixed Living in Process**. Group for men and women. 713-622-7250.

Aftercare Group Treatment. Montrose Counseling Center, 6 p.m. 713-529-0037. HIV survivor support group. 7 p.m. 713-782-4050.

Free Yoga classes. 7 p.m. 713-965-9642. Bering Spiritual Support Group. 6:45 p.m. 713-526-1017.

Women's Clinic. Montrose Clinic, 5 p.m. to 8 p.m. 713-830-3000.

**HIV testing**. Free from AVES. 1 p.m. to 6:15 p.m. 713-626-2837.

Kolbe Project. Hospital visitation. 713-861-1800.

Houston Harpies Ice Hockey Team recruits. 713-802-1248.

Rainbow Ranglers. 8 p.m. at the BRB. Lambda Rollerskating Club. Skating at 8 p.m. 713-933-5818.

Thomas Street Health Center Council. 2 p.m. 713-902-2231.

St. Stephen's Episcopal Church. Bible study at 12:30 p.m. 1805 W. Alabama. 713-528-6665. MCCR. Bible Study 7:30 p.m.; service at 7 p.m. 713-861-9149.

Faith and Hope Fellowship. Service at 7:30 p.m. 713-520-7847

Maranatha Fellowship MCC. Home groups meet for fellowship, sharing God's word and prayer. 713-528-6756.

Kolbe Project. Healing Service at 8 p.m. 713-861-1800.

Healing and Happiness Through Wellness. 7 p.m. Metropolitan Multi-Service Center, 1475 W. Gray. 713-623-6796.

Rainbow Roller Skating. 8 p.m. Skateworld Northwest, 9514 Anderson Mill Road.

HIV Testing by the Montrose Clinic. Mary's 4 to 8 p.m. Nighthawks 8 p.m. to midnight, Mela's 8 p.m. to midnight. 712-520-2000. Empower Kick-off. 5:30 p.m. 803

Hawthorne. 713-523-7576.

Mind/Body Connection: Alternative

Mind/Body Connection: Alternative Approaches. 7 p.m. 1475 W. Gray. 713-524-2374.

► Thursday, June 10

HIV Testing by the Montrose Clinic. Brick's II 4 p.m. to 8 p.m., Cousin's 8 p.m. to midnight, and Toyz 9 p.m. to midnight. 713-530-2000. Art Labs. The Art League at 1 p.m. 713-225-

**Gay Men's Chorus of Houston**. Open rehearsal at 7 p.m. 713-521-7464. **Living in Process Groups**. For gay men. 713-622-7250.

HIV+ Men Psychotherapy. Montrose Counseling Center. 1:15 p.m. 713-529-0037. Relapse Prevention. Montrose Counseling Center, 2 p.m. 713-529-0037.

Outpatient Group Treatment. Montrose Counseling Center. 6 p.m. 713-529-0037.

Aftercare Group Treatment. Montrose Counseling Center. 6 p.m. 713-529-0037.

Women's Therapy Group. Montrose Counseling Center. 5:30 p.m. 713-529-0037.

Meditation and Chanting Group. 7 p.m. 713-942-0923.

**HIV Affected**. CASA. 7 p.m. 713-796-2272. **HIV Survivor Support Group**. 7 p.m., 2929 Unity Drive. 713-782-4050.

Center for the Healing of Racism. 7:30 p.m. 713-738-RACE.

FrontRunners at 6:30 p.m. 713-522-8021.

HIV Art Course Program. 1 p.m. to 4 p.m.

Patrick Palmer at 713-526-1118.

HIV Prevention Community Planning

Group. 9 a.m. 713-794-9251.

Women's Clinic. Montrose Clinic, 713-830-

3000. Montrose Ice Picks. Skating. 8 p.m. 713-629-

Faith and Hope Fellowship. Bible study 7 p.m. 713-520-7847.

**Community Gospel**. Choir practice. 6:30 p.m.; service at 7:30 p.m. 713-880-9235 or www.communitygospel.org.

**Kolbe Project**. Ecumenical outreach to gays. 7 p.m. 713-522-8182.

**Montrose Ice Picks**. 8 p.m. Galleria Ice Rink, 5015 Westheimer. 713-629-1432.

**BiNet Houston**. Discussion group at 7:30 p.m. 713-467-7031.

HIV/AIDS Support Group. 2:30 at Family Service Center. 713-861-4849.

Women's HIV/AIDS Support Group. 7 p.m. Family Service Center. 713-247-3810.

HIV/AIDS Support Group. 7 p.m. Family Service Center in Conroe. 888-247-3810.

Friday, June 11

p.m. to 10 p.m., Inergy 9 p.m. to midnight, Boulevard (Galveston) 4 p.m. to 8 p.m., and Evolution's 8 p.m. to midnight. Rich's 10 p.m. to 1 a.m. 713-520-2000.

Houston Area Teen Coalition of Homosexuals (H.A.T.C.H.) meets. 713-942-7002

Houston Tennis Club at 7:30 p.m. 713-864-8468.

Aftercare Group Treatment. Montrose Counseling Center at 6 p.m. 713-529-0037. Frost Eye Clinic. Free eye exams for people with HIV. 713-830-3000.

**Lesbian Avengers**. Toopee's, 1830 W. Alabama at 7 p.m.

**Q-Patrol** walks the streets at 8:45 p.m. 713-528-SAFE.

Kolbe Project. Park Plaza Hospital visitation. 713-861-1800.

Positive Art Workshop, 1 p.m. to 4 p.m.

Patrick Palmer at 713-526-1118.

Lesbian and Gay Voices. KPFT 90.1 FM, 7

p.m. 713-526-5738.

Movie Time at the Kolbe Project. 7:30 p.m.

713-522-8182.

Mishpachat Alizim Shabbat Services. 8 p.m. 713-748-7079.

Co Dependents Anonymous. 7:30 p.m. At MCCR. 713-861-9149.

**Healing Eucharist**. Christ Church Cathedral. 7 p.m. 713-222-2593.

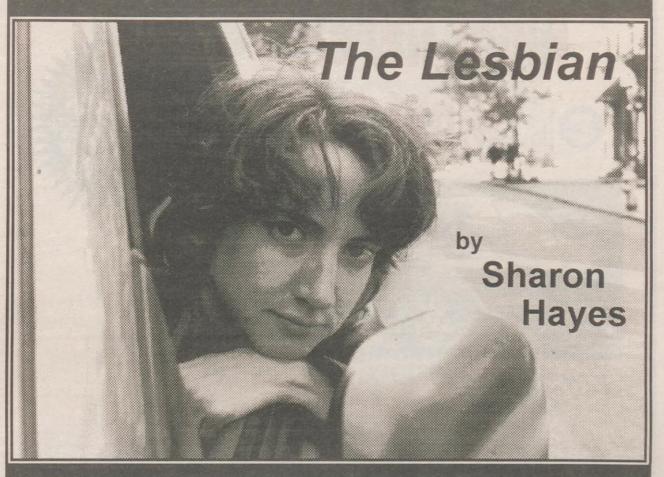
Gardening and Yard Society. Meeting. 7 p.m. 713-661-6378.

Astro Rainbow Alliance for the Deaf. General meeting. 7 p.m. 713-869-2287. Life begins at Forty. Pot Luck dinner. 6:30 p.m. 1440 Harold. 713-626-1017.

To list an event, call Carolyn Roberts at 713-529-8490, fax at 713-529-9531, or e-mail editor@houstonvoice.com. Deadline is Friday at 5 p.m.

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# PUBLIC HEARINGS

June 14 • 6pm at the Metropolitan Multi-purpose Center 1475 W. Gray Regarding "How to Best Meet the Need"

July 13 • 6pm

at the Home Acres Multi-purpose Center 6719 W. Montgomery Road Regarding "The Allocation Process"

# LET YOUR VOICE BE HEARD!

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# NEWS FROM HOUSTON AND TEXAS

# The management of diversity topic of chamber meeting

HOUSTON-Diversity in all its splendor will be the focus of the Greater Houston Gay And Lesbian Chamber of Commerce dinner meeting, June 7 at The Warwick. A panel discussion will explore Houston's diverse population and how organizations have learned to incorporate the city's mosaic into day-to-day operations. Theresa Chang, president of the Asian Chamber of Commerce; Alex Koh, also with the Asian Chamber of Commerce; Gordon Guan, president of the Philippine American Chamber of Commerce, Susan Silverman, chairman-elect of the Greater Southwest Houston Chamber of Commerce, Richard Huebner, executive director of the Houston Minority Business Council, and Clay Moore, president of the Museum Business District Alliance will serve as panelists. For more information, contact the chamber at 713-523-7576.

# Log Cabin GOP lauds ability to keep anti-gay moves at bay

AUSTIN—In a wrap up on the 76th Texas Legislature, Log Cabin Republicans are seeing the silver lining in a rather dark gay rights cloud. "Since House Republicans were carrying omnibus bills on other adoption and foster care issues, one of our priorities was to ensure that those sponsors would not accept any anti-gay amendments by Representatives Chisum and Talton," said Ronald Bounds, legislative director of Log Cabin/Texas. "In the end, there was no germane legislation for Chisum and Talton to pounce on. The Republican leadership was responsive to our requests to keep such legislation from reaching the House floor." Bounds further commented, "We were also proud to participate in the hearings on the anti-gay adoption and foster care bills. Liz Vilven's testimony on behalf of Log Cabin/Texas clearly moved everyone. We felt that it was important for members of the House State Affairs committee to hear directly from a heterosexual child who had been raised by gay parents on this legislation."

-From staff and wire reports

# A Sense Of Place



'A glimpse of two women in love is a gratuitous gift from God, a miracle of courage, daring and integrity.'

—Lorna Hochstein

# NEWS FROM THE SOUTH AND THE NATION

# 'Homo' carved in boy's back, two charged with hate crime

GREENFIELD, Mass. (AP)—Two prep school students are charged with a hate crime for allegedly carving an anti–gay slur into another student's back because he liked to listen to the British rock band Queen. Jonathan Shapiro, 18, and Matthew Rogers, 20, allegedly used a pocket knife to cut "HOMO" into the back of a 17–year–old student at the Northfield Mount Hermon School. Shapiro was charged Wednesday, a day after Rogers. The victim, a junior, did not require hospitalization, and initially kept quiet about the May 27 incident. He has since left school and returned to his family. Each suspect faces a maximum sentence of 25 years in prison if convicted. Both have been released on bail. Rogers had accepted an appointment to the U.S. Naval Academy.

# **ACLU** sues to overturn Florida ban on gays adopting

KEY WEST (AP)—Florida's status as the only state which expressly bans gay men and lesbians from becoming adoptive parents has been challenged in court by the ACLU, whose attorneys filed a class-action suit May 26 at U.S. District Court in Key West. "Parenthood is just providing a loving home," said Roger Croteau, who together with life partner Steven Lofton, serves as foster parent for three children, yet is forbidden by law from adopting them. Other plaintiffs include a single gay parent, foster children and a couple who wants a gay relative to care for their child if they should die. The Rev. Tommy Watson, executive director of the Miami—Dade Fellowship of Churches, said the state ban on gay adoptions should remain. "It's pretty difficult being an orphan itself," said Watson, 71. "When a child is adopted by two males or two females, it just adds to the confusion." Florida is the only state with such a ban on the books, though some states implement such a ban administratively.

# TV station, Time Warner won't air anti-gay ads in Orlando

ORLANDO (AP)—Central Florida News 13 and Time Warner Communications have decided not to air ads sponsored by a group that opposes Gay Days at Orlando theme parks. Both media organizations had initially agreed to air the ads prepared by the Ft. Lauderdale—based Center for Reclaiming America that tell gays and lesbians to walk away from homosexuality with the help of Christianity. Officials from both organizations said they worried the ads would be perceived as subjecting the gay and lesbian community to discrimination. The Center for Reclaiming America wanted to air the ads in Orlando during the ninth annual Gay Days, when an estimated about 100,000 gays and lesbians are expected to attend the gathering this weekend.

# GOP governor signs pro-gay job protection bill in Nevada

CARSON CITY, Nev. (AP)—Republican Gov. Kenny Guinn made Nevada the 11th state in the nation to put on the books a civil rights law banning discrimination against gays when he signed the bill May 29. "Signing this bill was a matter of fairness and doing what's right for the people of Nevada," Guinn said, the state's first Republican governor in 16 years. The bill, which passed the Assembly 30-11 and the Senate 13-8, becomes effective Oct. 1.

-From staff and wire reports.

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# The Museum of Fine Arts, Houston

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"Cavafy" preceded by "A Summer Dress"

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# **Aurora Picture Show**

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"Sleep Come Free Me"

Tuesday June 1

# Rice Media Center

"Relax...It's Just Sex" • "Hallelujah"

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Wednesday June 2 thru Saturday June 5

# Angelika Film Center

The Celluloid Closet Starts Friday June 4

# **DiverseWorks**

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"She's Real, Worse Than Queer"

"Twisted Sheets" • "Elizabeth Taylor Sometimes"

"Nice Girls Don't Do It"

"Homo(In) Visibility: Film Festivals

Come of Age (Panel Discussion)"

Friday June 4 thru Sunday June 6

Web site: http//freeweb.pdq.net/quac

FILM FESTIVAL

# Classifieds

#### Announcements

Bering Support Network 5th Anniversary Open House & Pot-Luck Dinner

Bering Support Network's PRO-JECT support members are planning to celebrate the 5th Anniversary of the group with an Open House & Pot-Luck Dinner on Tuesday, June 8, 1999 at 7:00pm. Current and past members, as well as visitors, friends, and guest (HIV-negative or positive) are invited to bring a favorite covered dish and join the special celebration. PRO-TECT provides a safe place every Tuesday at Bering Memorial United Methodist Church, 1440 Harold. R.S.V.P., coordinate food, or for more information, please call Russ Robinett at 713.526.1017, ext. 211.

# Wigs on Fire is Back! The Inferno!

Join us for a night of fun, dancing, complimentary well drinks, the most outrageous wig contest and entertainment by Bonnie Pointer (of the Pointer Sisters) as we celebrate Pride Week. The event comes to a blaze at 7:00pm and burns on until 11:00pm at Rich's, 2401 San Jacinto on Saturday, June 19, 1999. Last year the foundation raised \$70,000 for AIDS related charities. Our success has been due to the hard work of our members and the generosity of people like you! We are asking that you once again help us in underwriting our Wigs on Fire fund raising event. To receive more information on the different underwriting levels or just to donate funds please call 713.940.STAR.

#### How To Adopt Internationally

Family to Family Adoption Services, an adoption networking agency, is in partnership with several non-profit adoption agencies who are dedicated to finding loving homes for thousands of orphans in many countries. Single men, women, and couples from 25 - 57 years old are eligible to adopt. For more information please call Maxine at 713.219.1472 or email: Fam2fam@aol.com

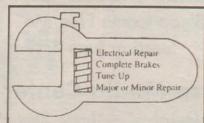
PWA Coalition desperately needs the following: Dishes, silverware, pots/pans, sheets, towels, dressers, dinettes, coffee tables, sofas, and small appliances. Available for pick-ups. Call Wilson or Kerry at 713.522.5428.

#### HATCH Seeks Sponsors for Prom Night '99

The 6th Annual Gay and Lesbian Prom Night is planned for June 19th. Sponsored by the Houston Area Teen Coalition of Homosexuals. Prom Night raises money for activities throughout the year for youth attending HATCH functions. Open to the public, tickets will be available at the door. The event is free for teens; \$20 for adults. You can also be a sponsor of the prom: for \$500 you can be a Superintendent of the event; \$250 get you Principal status; and \$100 names you as a Chaperone. Any donation will be appreciated. For more information, phone HATCH at 713.942.7002.

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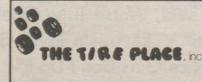


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Men's Health Initiative at AIDS Foundation Houston, Inc. is looking for that one special person to fill our Outreach Specialists position. It's a cool job, perfect for a student, and will put you to work up to 25 hours a week. If you are the one for this job, your responsibilities will include: HIV/STD prevention outreach at bars, clubs, bathhouses and public sex areas.; Recruitment of Forum participants.; Workshop HIV/STD prevention education at community based organizations.; Supervision of our volunteer outreach team, The Legion.; Maintenance of necessary documentation and in office tasks. Mail your resume to the following: Director of Education, 3202 Weslayan Annex, Houston, 77027 or fax: 713.623.4029.

HIV Positive? Need to work? We can help! Nightingale Employment Services (Division of NADC) is a non-profit organization\* that provides job seeking, skills training and placement assistance for your job search. For Houston & surrounding counties call 713.981.1543.

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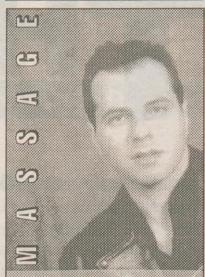
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Deadline for ad submission is: MONDAY at 12 NOON

2 WRITE YOUR AD Please print clearly		3 TOTAL YOUR COST CALL FOR BUSINESS CARD DISPLAY RATES
	# OF ISSUES:	INDIVIDUAL RATE ADS  Up to 20 words for \$7.00 per week. Additional words at 50¢ each per week.  Up to 20 words: 7.00  Additional words x 50¢:  Bold headline: 3.00 (per week)  Giant headline: 5.00 (per week)  Subtotal: x # of issues  Total: \$  BUSINESS RATE ADS  Up to 20 words per week.  I-3 weeks: 12.00 • 4-7 weeks : 10.80 • 8 or more weeks : 9.60  Additional words x 60¢ per word (per week):  Bold headline: 3.00 (per week)  Giant headline: 5.00 (per week)  Subtotal: x # of issues
		Subtotal: x # of issues
		_ CityStateZip

# NEWS OVERSEAS AND AROUND THE GLOBE

Gay men in Ireland to receive free Viagra

Viagra as other participants in the Irish health system, the London Sunday Times reported May 30. The Department of Health says it cannot discriminate against patients because of their sexuality, and so gay men will receive the same four pills a month, free of charge, that straight men get. The decision has angered conservatives, who point to articles in the British press about how the anti-impotence drug is being used as a recreational drug in New York and London. Councilor

Richard Green said the promotion and general availability of Viagra free of charge was part of "the dumbing-down of standards in Ireland." Irish Senator and gay activist David Norris said: "I don't see any reason why the

erectile dysfunction of gay men should be treated any differently from anyone else."

Australian state grants property rights to gay relationships

SYDNEY-The upper house of Parliament in the Australian state of New South Wales has granted gay men and lesbians the same property and inheritance rights as heterosexual couples, the *Sydney Morning Herald* reported May 27. The Property Relationships legislation was passed after the Opposition decided on May 25 not to oppose it. The reforms give same-sex couples liv-

ing together as a common law couple for two years access to the District Court to divide property or ask for financial support when a relationship breaks down, and allow for hospital visiting rights and inheritance rights if one partner dies without a will.

# New Zealand lesbian first woman convicted under new law

AUCKLAND—A New Zealand lesbian has been found guilty of stalking a former lover and friend, and is the first woman convicted under a 1997 same-sex harassment act, the *Auckland Sunday Star Times* reported May 16. The woman, an unnamed 35-year-old freelance television production manager, continued to harass a young bisexual graphic designer after the rejection of herromantic advances. The harassment escalated from telephone calls to driving by the younger woman's house, and finally resulted in a note that recounted the older woman's rape fantasy.

-From staff and wire reports

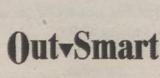
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INFERMO WIGS ON FIRE 1999

# Galaxy Gayzer

by JOSEPH MOLINA

# June 4 - June 10



Gemini (MAY 21 — JUNE 21)

Happy Birthday Gemini! At the start of a new year, know that you are born to do great things. Where things have held you back, they will no longer affect you. Where you have experienced pessimism and distress, peace will enter and optimism will take its place. Do not be afraid.



Cancer (JUNE 22 — JULY 23)

An internal cycle, some issue will be hovering over your head for most of this week. This could deal with your work, your sense of assertiveness, or your home. Although resolution may be needed, it may not come for quite some time. Shutting out the world, verbalizing your emotions could be the only way to clarify and balance this mood.

Is it love I see in your future? Or is it an obsession in the past? You can bet this week the sweet scent of amour will be all around you. You must be careful in getting played for a fool or suck-



ered into a situation that will only lead to pain.

Leo (JULY 24 — AUG. 23)

Virgo (AUG. 24 — SEPT. 23) This week, you will make your passage out of a previous emotional ordeal and move into a new awareness of yourself and what it means to be alive. This rush of energy could motivate you to finding a new better job, a second part-time job, or to enroll in school to change your career



Libra (SEPT. 24 — OCT. 23)

Coming out of uncertainties and finding your own sense of personal equilibrium, the last few months should have been adjusting, compromising, and meeting the world in the middle. Yet, as the Sun gets closer to the beginning of summer you may find you have to throw caution to



Scorpio (OCT. 24 — NOV. 22)

Change, victory, celebrating life. What a week you have ahead of you! Good old-fashioned luck abounds and with it comes personal power and success. People will bow in your presence and it will seem as though you are royalty. Take advantage of this week by going after what you



Sagittarius (NOV. 23 — DEC. 22)

This past full moon sky rocketed your life into a cycle change, the residuals of which will be felt over the next few weeks. In a moody state, keep in mind that this is the effect of the lunar cycle. Try spending some time outdoors or at the beach.



Capricorn (DEC. 23 — JAN. 20)

Success or failure this week rides on your ability to think yourself into bliss or despair. Emotionally, you could find yourself putting up wall and barriers. Some matter with your home could be affecting you or people could be trying to invade your personal space. Towards the end of the week, like a saving grace, the pressure is relived and you can once again see a bright future ahead of you.



Aquarius (JAN. 21 — FEB. 19)

Faith and devotion to a cause or an ideal is what is highlighted this week. Faith in your own abilities to achieved and in your capacity to love are what will be pushed to the limit as this cycle continues. For some, this could manifest as romance for others a need to celebrate.



Pisces (FEB. 20 — MARCH 20)

This week, hold on to your money and be careful in getting caught up in the material plane. The little things could start to get to you and out of no where push your extrasensitive buttons. Heavy thoughts will weight strong on your mind and you could find yourself in a very deep mood.



Aries (MARCH 21 - APRIL 20)

Through the passage of trials and tribulations you, because your own effort, move out of difficulties and into a land of bliss. An inner healing begins to occur and you begin to find your old self. Use this cycle to put your life in order and prepare for a new love, a new home, or a new spiritual awareness.



Taurus (APRIL 21 — MAY 20)

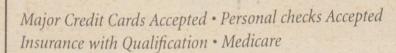
This week do your best to focus on your future and what you want to mold your life into tomorrow. Think about the unneeded habits that do nothing but cause you discord and take action to resolve them. You are cutting ties with the past and sometimes this is not easy, look up cheer up and know there is a bright future ahead of you.

Joseph Molina, a practicing psychic for over 15 years, can be reached at astralwind@astral-



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# TRACTOR BOYS



## tractor boy underwear

How one lover's fetish turned rainbow underwear into green

Drew Carey and his nipple ring, oh so super Dean Cain, Eric Roberts, brothers Emilio Estevez and Charlie Sheen, x-rated Ken Ryker and Marilyn Chambers, did we miss anything?

### need wood?

Woody won't lick ya and leave ya—he'll give you more than a mouthfull of his sage sex advice

# scene and heard

Cuervolyn spins her usual mix of lies, blended with some gossip and half-truths

# hooray for hollywood

the last time, Ted Hoover detailed plans to wed his imaginary fiancé, Kevin Spacey. Kevin's on Broadway and, Ted was on his way to meet and marry him. How did it all go wrong?

eclipse magazine

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