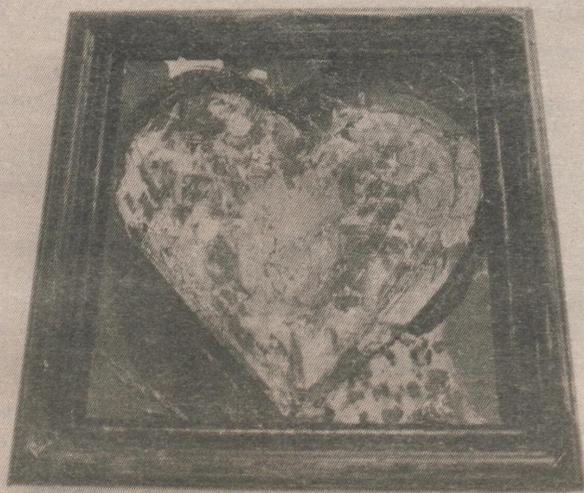


HOUSTON

VOICE

FEB. 16, 1996
ISSUE 799

A Weekly Community News Publication



Love was the theme, and art the vehicle for 'Proof of Love,' an exhibition benefiting the Design Industries Foundation Fighting AIDS (DIFFA). (Photo by Kim Thompson)...Page 20

Radical Right crafts anti-gay hate plank

Both parties' Texas conventions targeted

By MARK HENRY

Houston Voice/Houston

If there was ever any doubt about the real agenda of the radical religious right, this week's disclosure of documents that reveal their intentions of using the upcoming March 12 Texas Primaries to advance an extreme anti-gay agenda in both major political parties should lay those doubts to rest unequivocally. The documents, which were released by The Log Cabin Republicans of Texas, clearly demonstrates the agenda that the religious right movement intends to unveil on the eve of the March primary. The resolutions, also known as planks, will be discussed and voted on at the respective party precinct conventions and subsequently submitted for approval at each party's state platform.

(Continued on Page 6)

DA may seek felony charges against local promoter

By ALEX COLVIN

Houston Voice/Houston

(HOUSTON)—Harris County Assistant District Attorney, John Boone, said last Friday that his office may be filing felony charges this week against local gay event organizer and promoter, Bruce Alan Bourgeois, 35, in connection with his writing a hot check to New York-based entertainer Lynn Lavner.

Lavner was one of several well-known openly gay entertainers who performed in a concert last June at Houston's Astro-Arena as part of the Spectrum '95 Gay and Lesbian Expo, which Bourgeois promoted. Records show the DA's office began its probe as a result of Lavner's filed complaint. Currently, said Boone, Lavner is the only complainant to step forward and file with his office. Although he declined to disclose the amount of the check, Boone said it was "between five-hundred and one-thousand dollars."

Bourgeois, a Houston resident, has been the target of heated controversy since that event reportedly lost over \$70,000, according to un-audited financial statements submitted to the *Houston Voice* by the promoter.

Nevertheless, Bourgeois is apparently no stranger to troubled waters involving money. Records with Houston and Tarrant County law enforcement agencies show Bourgeois was arrested in the Ft. Worth/Dallas area three times between December, 1985 and September, 1986; on his first and third offenses he was charged with theft by check, and on his second, theft of services. That second offense, a third degree felony, in which he was charged with stealing between \$750 and \$20,000 worth of services,

earned Bourgeois seven years probation. That probation was revoked because he failed to report to his probation officer, probation records show. He was later sentenced to six years at the Department of Corrections and Criminal Justice in Huntsville in May, 1989. Bourgeois served just under two years until being paroled in October, 1991. His parole ended in May, 1995 while living in Houston.

Spectrum '95, an ambitious event combining a business exposition, art exhibit, concert and community "Town Meeting" was held June 18, 1995.

Speaking via telephone from her home in New York, Lavner declined comment regarding the case saying only, "I feel it would be inappropriate to comment while the case is pending."

(Continued on Page 8)



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Outsider Pg. 20



R.E.F. Studios Richard Fluhr joins chair Jeff Pickett at L'Art Erotique, the seventh annual St. Valentine's art-sale event benefiting Omega House.

Houston Ballet's *Cruel Garden* examines life of gay poet

By ANDREW EDMONSON

Houston Voice/Houston

(Houston)—The life and work of the one of the twentieth century's greatest gay artists will take center stage next weekend.

From Feb. 22-March 3, Houston Ballet will present *Cruel Garden*, a dramatic chronicle of the life of the great gay poet Federico Garcia Lorca, at the Wortham Center in downtown Houston.

An impassioned, darkly erotic dance/

theater piece, *Cruel Garden* integrates the vibrant, swirling colors of Spain, snatches of Garcia Lorca's haunting poetry, and a fiercely demanding style of dance to create a theatrical experience that will not soon be forgotten.

It makes a profound and powerful statement about a gay person living with dignity, integrity, and courage in a time of terrible violence and repression.

(Continued on Page 14)

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Community Calendar

by Carolyn Roberts

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

Friday, Feb. 16

- * Borders Book Store Gay/Lesbian Book Club meets at the Espresso Bar at 9634 Westheimer. Call 782-6066.
- * HIV Art classes at the Art League. Call 523-8817
- * HATCH meets. Call 942-7002.
- * 12 step program at Montrose Counseling Center. 6:00 p.m. Call 529-0037.
- * Aftercare Group Treatment at Montrose Counseling Center. 6:00 p.m. Call 529-0037.
- * Houston Tennis Club meets at 7:30 p.m. Call 868-5039.
- * Free Buffet at the Brazos River Bottom. 4:00 p.m.
- * Tom Knowles and Bett Guinness at Borders Bookshop. 3:00 p.m. Call 782-6066.
- * Film at MFA: The Day the Sun Turned Cold at 8:00 p.m. Call 639-7300.
- * Gulf Coast Transgender Community support group meets. Call 780-4282.
- * The Women's Group meets at 10:45 a.m. Call 529-8571.
- * Lesbians in Business (LiB) meets at 6:30 p.m. Call 529-0077.
- * Empowerment for Living Interfaith meets for potluck. Call 861-9149.
- * Astro Rainbow for the Deaf meets at 7:30 p.m. Call 869-2287 via 800-735-2988.

Saturday, Feb. 17

- * Houston Chain Gang Bicycle Club rides. Call 863-1860.
- * After Hours on KPFT 12:00 a.m. to 3:00 a.m. 90.1 FM. Call 526-5738.
- * Voodoo slide show at Borders Bookshop. 3:00 p.m. Call 782-6066.
- * Film at MFA: The Day the Sun Turned Cold at 7:30 p.m. Call 639-7300.

Sunday, Feb. 18

- * Houston Chain Gang Bicycle Club meets. Call 863-1860.
- * Front Runners meet at 9:00 a.m. at the Tennis center in Memorial Park. Call 522-8021.
- * HATCH meets. Call 942-7002.
- * Inner Loop Sunday Bowling League. Call 522-9612.
- * Out in Ft. Bend meets. Call 344-0638.
- * Brunch at the 611 12:30 p.m. \$3
- * Steak Night at the Brazos River Bottom. 5:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m.
- * Pool Tournament at Chances. 6:00 p.m.
- * Houston Tennis Club meets at noon. Call 868-5039.
- * The Women's Group meets at 10:45 a.m. Call 529-8571.
- * Art opening and reception at Archway gallery. "Going with the Flow"-artist Margaret Scott Bock. 5:30 p.m. Call 522-2409.
- * City Dance Studio perform at Borders bookshop. 3:00 p.m. Call 782-6066.
- * The Women's Group meets at 10:45 a.m. Call 529-8571.
- * Lesbians Over Fifty-Five (LOAF) meets at 2:00 p.m. Call 661-1482.
- * AMIGA de Houston meets at 5:00 p.m. Call 527-0941.
- * African American Lesbian Gay Alliance meets at 5:30 p.m. Call 864-2242.

Monday, Feb. 19

- * AH Creative Writing Class. 3:00 p.m. Call 623-6796.
- * Gay Fathers/Fathers First support

group. 8:00 p.m. Call 861-6181.

- * HeartSong open rehearsal at the Community Room in Sharpstown Center. 7:00 p.m. Call 526-9095.
- * Calendar/Computer workshop for Pride Week. 7:00 p.m. Call 529-1223.
- * Agora meets at 7:30 p.m. Call 623-6796.
- * Positive Living Group at Montrose Counseling Center. 2:15 p.m. Call 539-0037.
- * Outpatient Group Treatment at Montrose Counseling Center. 6:00 p.m. Call 529-0037.
- * Women and HIV/AIDS Group at Montrose Counseling Center. 6:15 p.m. Call 529-0037.
- * Men Survivors of Sexual Abuse Group at Montrose Counseling Center. 6:15 p.m. Call 529-0037.
- * Lesbian Survivors of Cancer and their care givers at Montrose Counseling Center. 6:30 p.m. Call 529-0037.
- * Men's HIV Group at Montrose Counseling Center. 7:00 p.m. Call 529-0037.
- * Gay and Lesbian Readers group meets at Barnes and Noble. 3003 W. Holcombe at 7:00 p.m. Free! Call 349-0050.
- * Pool Tournament at the Brazos River Bottom. 8:00 p.m. Call 528-9192.
- * New Video Club meets at Borders Bookshop. "Tampopo" airs at 7:00 p.m. Call 782-6066.

Tuesday, Feb. 20

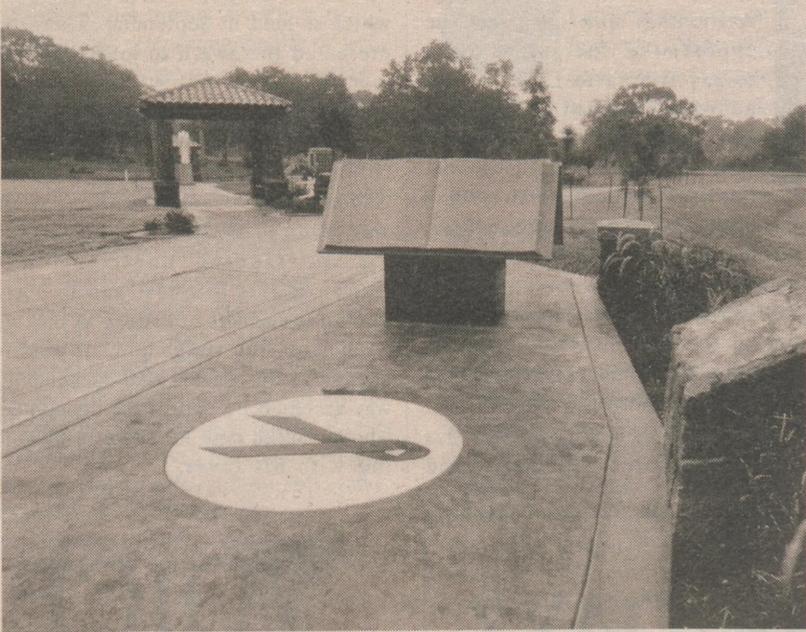
- * Helping Cross Dressers Anonymous meets at 239 Westheimer. 8:00 p.m. Call 495-8009.
- * Basic Computer Skills Class at the Kolbe Project. Call 522-8182.
- * Southern Country gives dance lesson at the Ranch. 9200 Buffalo Speedway. 8:00 p.m.
- * Gay Men HIV+ Psychotherapy at Montrose Counseling Center. 4:30 p.m. Call 529-0037.
- * Outpatient Group Treatment at Montrose Counseling Center. 6:00 p.m. Call 529-0037.
- * Aftercare Group Treatment at Montrose Counseling Center. 6:00 p.m. Call 529-0037.
- * Bereaved Partners/Spouses at Montrose Counseling Center. 6:15 p.m. Call 529-0037.
- * AIDS Alliance of the Bay Area meets at 7:00 p.m. Call 488-4492.
- * PROTECT support group meets at 7:00 p.m. Call 520-7870.
- * Women Survivors of Childhood Abuse at Montrose Counseling Center. 6:30 p.m. Call 529-0037.
- * Free Dance Lessons at the Brazos River Bottom. 9:30 p.m. Call 528-9192.
- * Live Jazz at Borders Book Shop. Call 782-6066.
- * Houston Lesbian/Gay Pride Week Committee meets at 7:00 p.m. Call 529-6967.
- * Dating and Mating-Erotic Choices in Safer Sex workshop. 7:00 p.m. Call 524-2374.

Wednesday, Feb. 21

- * Shiela Lennon performs at Chances. 9:00 p.m. Call 523-7217.
- * Houston Pride Band practices at Dignity Houston. Call 524-0218.
- * GLOBAL meets at 4:00 p.m. Call 743-7539.
- * Toopee's Coffee Bar has "Activity Night" with a complimentary buffet. 5:00 p.m. to 8:00p .m. Call 522-7662.
- * HIV survivor Support Group meets at 2929 Unity Drive. 7:00 p.m. Call 782-4050.

(Continued on Page 28)

AIDS Memorial dedicated on Valentine's Day



The AIDS Memorial Terrace and Garden of Angels at Forest Park Lawndale was dedicated Wednesday, Feb. 14

(HOUSTON)—A memorial to all who have been lost to the AIDS virus was formally dedicated Valentine's Day, announced Gary Pullen, general manager of Forest Park Lawndale, where the new memorial has been recently constructed under the sponsorship of the Foundation for Interfaith Research & Ministries (FIRM).

"To our knowledge, this is the first AIDS Memorial in Houston, and perhaps the United States within a property such as ours," says Pullen. "The project became even more exciting when we discussed the possibilities with our friends at FIRM and we were able to expand our proposed philanthropic outreach."

Uniquely, this project is a true memorial. The setting, along the banks of Braes Bayou, is a tranquil, tree-lined terrace. Large stone books will immortalize the names of those lost to this disease. And, an adjoining Garden of Angels reflection and meditation area is open to the public. Memorial Book name inscriptions are available to anyone who wishes to remember a friend or loved one who has been lost to AIDS.

All proceeds from inscription sales, excluding a small stone cutters fee, will be donated to AIDS-related charities in Houston, through the newly established AIDS Memorial Fund founded by Forest Park Lawndale and FIRM.

Recognizing that many life-threaten-

ing diseases in today's world are equally as worthy of support and recognition, Mr. Pullen noted that their idea to do this project stemmed from a donation of a number of burial plots by a religious order stipulating that they be used for individuals who have died of AIDS who could not otherwise afford funeral expenses.

"It seems appropriate to honor their donation with a matching donation because AIDS is a disease that has not only touched countless families in all countries, sparing no race, color, age or creed, but it has also taken some from our own corporate family. We felt like this would be a way to give something to the community; a place to grieve and remember lost friends and family who have fallen to this dreaded disease. What better time to remember our loved one than St. Valentine's Day," says Pullen, "and we feel there needs to be central memorial giving opportunity for those who have not requested specific charitable outlets at the time of death."

A community advisory board of local citizens active in AIDS related work has been formed to assist with plans for the Memorial as well as dedication activities and charitable distributions.

The formal dedication ceremony was held at 1:00 p.m. Wednesday on site at the AIDS Memorial Terrace located at 6900 Lawndale. For additional information please telephone Debra Moore at Forest Park Lawndale, 921-6668.

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Colorado senate committee approves hate crimes bill

By JENNIFER MEARS
FOR THE HOUSTON VOICE

DENVER, Wednesday, Feb. 7 (AP)—Sending a message that crimes based on sexual orientation, age and physical disability are unacceptable, a Senate committee on Wednesday approved a bill expanding the state's ethnic intimidation law.

"I'm very encouraged. This is a major, major step for us as a body to take this on and say that hate crimes are not OK," Sen. Dorothy Rupert said shortly after the Senate Judiciary Committee voted 7-2 to approve the bill.

Several attempts to expand the state's 1988 ethnic intimidation law have been unsuccessful. Rep. Ken Chlouber, R-Leadville, sponsored a

bill last year, which passed one House committee, but died in a second.

The Boulder Democrat initially presented her bill to the committee on Monday. After hearing from witnesses, the committee remained skeptical of the ability to enforce the measure and its constitutionality.

With the blessing of committee chairperson Dottie Wham, R-Denver, Rupert pulled the bill from consideration in order to modify it. She returned with the modified version Wednesday.

"It really is as pared down as we can make it ... it also very much mirrors what has been held constitutional," she said. The next stop for the bill is the Appropriations Committee, where its cost will be reviewed.



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The Foundation for Interfaith
Ministry & Research and
Forest Park Lawndale

Local Log Cabin honors retiring party chair

By CURT MORRISON

Houston Voice/Houston

(HOUSTON)—More than 100 people attended a recent fundraiser for the Log Cabin Republicans honoring Betsy Lake, who is retiring from her post as Harris County Republican Party chairperson. The fundraiser, held at Baich's Restaurant, took place last Sunday Feb. 11 under the auspices of celebrating celebrate Abraham Lincoln's birthday. Community activists in attendance included Marion Coleman, Terey Counts, and former City Controller George Greanias.

The annual event, which consisted of an auction and tributes to pillars of the community, was a huge success. The

festivities included a buffet and cake shaped like a Log Cabin. Betsy Lake has addressed the organization on prior occasions and her support of gays and lesbians has been instrumental to the organizations success. Lake was presented with a certificate and an etched plaque in acknowledgement for her contributions to Human Rights progress in our community. Ms. Lake was introduced to the SRO crowd by two long-time friends: City Councilperson Martha Wong and local Republican strategist Jim Evans, author of *Where Liberals Go to Die*. Wong, who is currently running for Harris County



Betsy Lake

Tax Assessor/Collector, lamented on her long political relationship with Lake said she appreciated the opportunity to pay tribute to Lake for her accomplishments. Lake accepted the plaque and said she would continue to fight for what she believes in and was retiring because of the time such a position requires. Lake urged all participants to vote in the March 12 primaries and stressed the importance of attending the precinct conventions. "If you don't remember anything I've said, remember that," said Lake.

An unexpected second award was also presented that afternoon that would

have normally been given at the organization's Elegant Elephant party which is held in September. The group presented the award to long time community activist Bill Whiting who was at home too ill to attend the event. Whiting was presented the Log Cabin Republicans-Houston's 1996 Lifetime Achievement Award. The award, which was given to Whiting "to immortalize his outstanding contribution to Human Rights progress and to assign him tot the annals of history as one who challenged the status quo for positive change in the world. And succeeded!," was accepted by two of his "daughters" who he helped raise for 18 years while living with his lover."

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HOUSTON VOICE

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(713) 529-8490
(800) 729-8490
Fax: (713) 529-9531
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Office Hours: 9am-5:30pm
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Crad Duren/publisher
Jack Leonard/general manager
Matthew Pennington/production manager

EDITORIAL DEPARTMENT
Sheri Cohen Darbonne/editor

STAFF WRITERS:
Jon Harrison, Javier Tamez,
Glen Webber, Mark Henry,
Carolyn Roberts

CONTRIBUTING WRITERS:
Jon Anthony, Andrew Edmonson,
John Reed, Jazz Paz,
Chris Lambert, Kerry Kadell,
Sam Dawster, Curt Morrison

CARTOONISTS
David Brady, Scotty, Earl Storm

PHOTOGRAPHERS
David Goetz, Kim Thompson

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In Loving Memory



JEFF HEINE

Born: October 4, 1961
Died: January 30, 1996

A memorial service celebrating the life of Jeff Heine was held at Bering Methodist Church on February 3, 1996. Jeff is survived by his father, Bobby Heine; his grandparents, Mrs. Isabelle Locklin and Mr. and Mrs. Herbert Heine; sisters, Natalie Secrest, Kathy Walston, Rachael Walston; and brothers Greg Heine, Kelly Walston and Kolby Walston. A special appearance was made in Jeff's life by his aunt Fritzie Simons. Jeff has joined his mother Faith in the hereafter. We will all miss the whimsy and lust for life that Jeff brought to us and be forever grateful that we were fortunate enough to share it. Have a safe journey, Jeff, and thanks so much for the ride!
Your loving friends



LESLIE CHARLES (LES) WINSPER

Born: 1943 Died: 1996

Les Winsper died on 8 February, 1996, with his dear friends, Tony and Bruce at his bedside. His death resulted from AIDS related complications. He was fifty-two years old. Surviving family members include a half-brother, Jackie and wife, Pam Dyer from Atlanta, Georgia, and a number of wonderful friends, including those at Bethany Christian Church in Houston of which he was a member. In addition to his family above, several aunts, uncles, and cousins live in England where Les was born near Stratford-On-Avon. He was preceded in death by his mother, Irene M. Tarter, in 1980, and his father, Leslie Winsper, who died during World War II. Les was a graduate of Eastern New Mexico University, where he majored in business administration and banking, and was employed by the Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation for 23 years before retiring. Les wanted to express his utmost love,

respect, and thanks to his very dear friend, Tony Carroll, Tony's spouse Dr. Bruce Smith, and his brother, Jackie. Without the constant loving attention, care, kindness, and encouragement of these individuals, the disease would have been unbearable. With Tony and Bruce's help, Les was able to maintain his self respect, dignity, hope, quality of life, and, of course, his constant dry sense of humor, until the end. Jackie provided that unconditional love which all families should be privileged. With love, hope is possible, with hope, everything is possible. Les understood that his life on this earth was but a fleeting moment in time -- merely a transition that was preparing him for the wonderful adventure in that life of perfection hereafter. Les especially wanted to thank the fine dedicated staff of Park Plaza and Twelve Oaks Hospitals. Les was a very private person, and in lieu of flowers or a memorial service, he asked that a generous donation be made to a favorite AIDS charity. Les' ultimate and unselfish gift is perhaps the donating of

his remains to further advances in AIDS research, hopefully helping in the finding of the illusive cure.



RONALD J. BRATTON

Ronald Bratton passed away at his home in Houston, Texas on December 27, 1995 at the age of 33. He is survived by his lifemate of

four years, Chris Reed. He is also survived by his mother, stepfather, sister and two brothers. Ron was a very active member of the Classic Chassis Car Club in Houston. He was considered the club's Cadillac Queen, having owned four classic Cadillacs during his membership in the club. Ron's warmth, sincerity, love and quick wit reached out to his many friends, relatives and to his lifemate, Chris. He will be missed by all, but the memory of his friendship continues.



RICK KELLOGG "MIDGET"

Born: February 24, 1959
Died: May 10, 1989
In Loving Memory

Community Organizations Bulletin Board

Interactive Protease Forum

A free symposium on new advances in HIV treatment is scheduled for Saturday Feb. 24 from 1 until 3:00 p.m. in the Grand Ballroom of the Marriott Medical Center, located at 6580 Fannin.

This interactive forum on protease inhibitors—a new class of drugs for the treatment of HIV—is sponsored by the Center for AIDS and co-sponsored by AIDS Foundation Houston and the Montrose Clinic.

National and local experts will discuss and answer your questions about this type of treatment. Refreshments will be served and reservations are suggested, please telephone 1-800-796-2220.

Wellness & The Mind

The Men's Network, a discussion group for social and educational development of Gay and bisexual men will present "Wellness & The Mind" Wednesday, Feb. 21 at the Montrose Counseling Center, 701 Richmond, from 7 until 9:00 p.m.

Ty O'Malley of River Oaks Health Alliance will discuss the body's manifestations of the minds thoughts. The trouble with believing the worst is that doing so has a tendency to invite such. Proper health education begins with awareness of mind, body and spirit.

The discussion is open to all interested parties and a donation between \$3 and \$5 is suggested.

Cancun Trip

Some lucky individual will be selected to receive an expense paid (airfare, hotel and cash) trip for two to Cancun, Mexico, at a drawing Feb. 25. Raffle tickets are still available and the lucky person could be you.

Made possible through the generosity of After Five Travel, Mary's...Naturally, and the Brazos River Bottom, proceeds from the ticket sales will benefit the People with AIDS Coalition of Houston.

Tickets are available at After Five Travel, Mary's...Naturally, the BRB, Thomas Street Clinic, the PWA offices; Jo's Outpost, Venture-N and Chances and are \$1 each. You can purchase as many as you

want and need not be present to win.

TGRA at Rodeo

The Texas Gay Rodeo Association (TGRA) invites everyone who plans to attend the Houston Livestock Show and Rodeo to visit their concession stands in the Astrodome.

TGRA-Houston has been working for almost a year receiving a percentage of the total sales. The chapter has worked different events including Oiler's and Astrros' Games, Tractor Pulls, Auto Shows and High School Football Games. This continues to be a successful fundraising project for the Houston chapter. Instead of continually pulling funds out of the community we are now bringing money into the community from other sources.

Beginning with the first performance of the rodeo Feb. 16, TGRA-Houston will be operating two Fanfare concession stands and one beer stand at each performance through Mar. 3. The stands are located at the north entrance of the Astrodome on Level 2 at isle 242. Stop by if you are in the area and make sure that your money goes where it can help the most.

Lasher Named Ex. Dir.

Ralph Lasher has been named executive director of the Kolbe Project, announced president Mary Fleece, who stated, "The board of directors is pleased that Ralph has accepted this position to manage the day-by-day operations of Kolbe Project.

"Our organization has benefited greatly from his work as our program director for the past seventeen months, and we look forward to even greater accomplishments in the future."

Lasher was executive director of the Montrose Clinic from 1988 until 1994 and of the Houston Clinical Research Network, which he founded, from 1989 until 1994. He has written several articles on scripture and sexuality and presents a popular course on this topic twice yearly at the metropolitan Community Church of the Resurrection.

While Kolbe Project's origins are Roman Catholic, its Franciscan traditions welcome and minister to persons of any religious background, or none.

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WEDNESDAY
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Male Strip Contest 11pm

THURSDAY
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Boy Toys at 9pm

Radical Right stealth campaign unveiled

Slate Includes Extreme Anti-Gay Resolution

(Continued from Page 1)

There are ten proposed resolutions that were drafted, including plans that would abolish abortion, oppose U.S. participation in the U.N. and endorse recognition of Jerusalem as Israel's capitol. Of primary concern to the gay and lesbian community, however, is the proposed resolution that directly deals with lesbianism and homosexuality.

The planks are an expansion of the anti-gay language that is already a part of the Republican party's state platform. The themes are familiar and consistent with past "religious right" campaigns targeted at the gay community: "special" rights, gay marriage, adoption and custody of children by gay couples, domestic partners benefits and hate crimes legislation. The language hones in on those issues and goes so far as to put gays on par with necrophiliacs, pedophiles and other idiosyncratic labels. In addition, according to Log Cabin, the resolution could be used to support legislation that would deny HIV-positive people, whether gay or straight, access to public accommodations like health clinics and restaurants.

According to Log Cabin State President Dale Carpenter, the resolution prepared by the radical religious right movement with respect to homosexuality can only be described as a "hate plank."

"It is clear that the so-called religious conservatives in the Republican Party plan once again to press an extreme anti-gay

agenda at the upcoming precinct conventions and, later, at the state convention," said Carpenter. He added that such provisions give the Republican party an "image of intolerance and prejudice. ... that image is precisely what cost the party the 1992 elections and if repeated, we'll again be defeated." Carpenter said the 1992 Republican National Convention, held here in Houston, resulted in the party being branded as intolerant and extreme concerning social issues. He suggests that "the state party could greatly expand its base, and perhaps become a true majority party, if it would welcome moderate and conservative gays—as leaders in the national party have done."

Although the radical rightists will be pursuing their agenda via the resolutions at both Democrat and Republican precinct conventions, the movement's forces are much stronger in the Republican party, as are their chances of success. Carpenter believes that Log Cabin is the only statewide gay civil rights organization that will be able to combat their agenda.

Distributing the proposed resolutions to the media and members of Log Cabin statewide is only one aspect of the organization's campaign to combat and defeat these hate planks, Carpenter said. Log Cabin is preparing a response to the planks. The organization has been diligently working on combating the religious right fanaticism for several years through the auspices of the "Precinct Initiative," originally a joint venture between the organization and the Houston Gay and Lesbian Political

Caucus, and will continue to make that their primary focus.

HGLPC's newly elected president, Pat Gandy, commented that the religious right, in all their claims about protecting people's rights are "blowing in the wind." Gandy, who was unaware of the planks' distribution, was not surprised at the movement's latest attempt to impose their beliefs upon the rest of society. Gandy dismissed their claims as jejune and typical; however, she did not take them lightly.

Gandy believes that there are people who believe that the "We the People" language in the constitution means that people should get together and decide what policy should be. "That would be chaotic," said Gandy. She stressed that we are a "representative democracy," meaning that we as a people elect a representative who in turn represents us based on knowledge and principle. If we are not satisfied with the outcome of the legislation imposed upon us, we have "recourse through the courts." Gandy, who opposed the caucus's precinct initiative, feels that the best way to combat the insurgence of the religious right is to vote for the candidates who have a proven track record with respect to issues that affect our community.

Gandy feels that many in the gay community focus on whether or not President Clinton is a "Gay Cheerleader," when we should pay more attention to his voting record. She cited Clinton's support of AIDS funding and research and his appointment of a lesbian to a high level cabinet post as proof of his commitment to our community. Gandy dismissed crit-

ics of Clinton's role in the Gays in the Military fiasco, and more recently, his signing the Defense Bill that discharges military personnel inflicted with HIV, as being politically unknowledgeable. She argues that success is measured in steps and she attributes that to political reality. Gandy credits Clinton for bringing issues of the community more to the forefront of the political spectrum than any previous president, and believes that he will ensure that the provisions concerning military personal who are HIV-positive will be rescinded in Congress, as promised.

The radical religious right agenda is rooted at the grass roots level and can only be combated from that level as well. While gay leaders differed in their strategy approach, they agreed on the necessity of a swift and strong grassroots response to the right wing threat. Both Carpenter and Gandy urged voter participation in the primaries, regardless of political affiliation.

Not content with just infiltrating the Republican party, the rightists are now doing an all-out assault in the Democratic party as well. That in itself could be detrimental to our community as a whole if there is not enough voter participation and representation from our community in the primaries and their precinct conventions which follow, the political leaders noted. The precinct conventions are instrumental in setting party platforms and participation is generally low, enabling a few individuals to control the outcome of votes on resolutions.

(Continued on following Page)

NEW ADVANCES IN HIV TREATMENT

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Right wing mounts new offensive

(Continued from preceding page)

The religious right's attempts at incorporating their planks to the party platforms is a testament to the organization skills and dogged determination of this new political player. The Christian Coalition's strength and force lie in their ability to network and get out the vote at the grass roots level where policies and agendas are set, analysts agree.

But is the right wing really as powerful and representative an influence in politics as they claim? Political analysts have opined that the faction has systematically and deliberately overstated both its strength within the Republican party and the popularity of its agenda with the American majority.

A recent USA Today/CNN/Gallup poll shows that although most Republicans are conservative, only 1 in 10 claims to be hard to the right. The poll found that while 63 percent consider themselves conservative, a mere 7 percent considered themselves "very conservative" and 29 percent claim to be "moderates." Analysts point to the surge of Steve Forbes and Lamar Alexander, considered the more moderate candidates in the race for the Republican nomination, in the polls and front-runner Bob Dole, also considered to be a moderate, as proof. Last week's anti-gay rally in Des Moines, Iowa urging candidates to sign a resolution opposing same-sex marriage is precisely the type of events that the christian coalition stages to procure an illusion of grandeur, when realistically any other organization, i.e. the gay community, could achieve the same results. It would require a dedicated commitment to emphatically get involved at the grass roots level to champion our cause in the same manner and with the same fervor.

(The HGLPC, Log Cabin and the *Houston Voice* urges everyone in the community to participate in the political process. It is important and extremely imperative that our community participates in the precinct conventions that follow on the evening of the Primary election. Participation is the

only way to defeat the religious right's extreme agenda.

Copies of the proposed resolutions referred to in this article are available on request from the Log Cabin Republicans of Texas, 512-467-9797).

the Log Cabin Republicans of Texas at (512) 467-9797.

The following is the full text of the Religious Right plank concerning Homosexuality:

Whereas, the (Republican or Democrat) Party of Texas believes that the practice of sodomy leads to the breakdown of the family unit and the spread of the deadly disease Acquired Immune Deficiency Syndrome (AIDS);
The (Republican or Democrat) Party of Texas calls upon federal state and local governments to enforce all laws with respect to homosexual conduct. We demand that state public health authorities regularly inspect health clinics, adult bookstores, bath houses, and restaurants for the presence of communicable diseases. We oppose the teaching of educational materials on AIDS and in the public schools that homosexuality is the equivalent with heterosexual expression and oppose any "celebrations of diversity" glorifying homosexuality. We believe homosexuality should be presented as unhealthy and illegal. We further demand that no person should receive special legal entitlements and/or privileges based on sexual preference (homosexuality, pedophilia, necrophilia, bestiality, or incest), including marriage between persons of the same sex or custody, adoption of children, spousal benefits for insurance or employment purposes or enhancement of criminal penalties, including so-called "hate crimes."

Be it resolved that a copy of this resolution be sent to the (Republican or Democrat) Senatorial/District Convention Resolutions Chairman from the Precinct of the (Republican or Democrat) Party with the recommendation that it be passed and sent to the State Convention of the (Republican or Democrat) Party of Texas.

Maryland legislation would protect gays, bikers

By TODD SPANGLER
FOR THE HOUSTON VOICE

ANNAPOLIS, Md., Friday, Feb. 9 (AP)—A House committee has begun considering legislation that would protect homosexuals and bikers from discrimination.

The bill would prohibit discrimination against anyone based on sexual orientation, clothing or mode of transportation.

The proposal combines two measures defeated in past General Assembly sessions in a bill introduced by Delegate Sheila Hixson, D-Montgomery, and 28 other lawmakers.

"Bigotry and prejudice should not be tolerated," she told the House Commerce and Government Matters Committee on Thursday. "It is time we recognize the inevitability of this statute."

For years, legislators have tried unsuccessfully to extend job, housing and public accommodation discrimination protections to gays. Separate measures have been aimed at stopping restaurant and bar owners from

banning bikers from their establishments.

This year, the two ideas came together in Hixson's bill (HB67).

The hearing attracted a crowd, even though there didn't seem to be any motorcycle enthusiasts in attendance.

But their absence was more than made up for by advocates for the gay and lesbian community, who testified that state offers little or no protection for homosexuals when it comes to discrimination.

Sue Silber, an TakomaPark attorney with the Women's Bar Association, said she knew of one case in southern Maryland, where a convenience store owner handed his gun to an employee and told him he should go ahead and kill himself.

He had just learned the employee was gay.

In another case, Ms. Silbersaid a landlord learned that a couple living in one of his apartments was gay. He attacked one of the men with a bottle, knocking him to the floor. But the attorney said the couple's real concern was not the attack—it was that they could be evicted.

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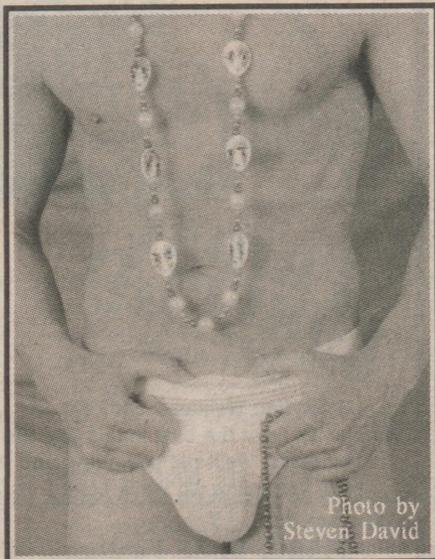


Photo by
Steven David

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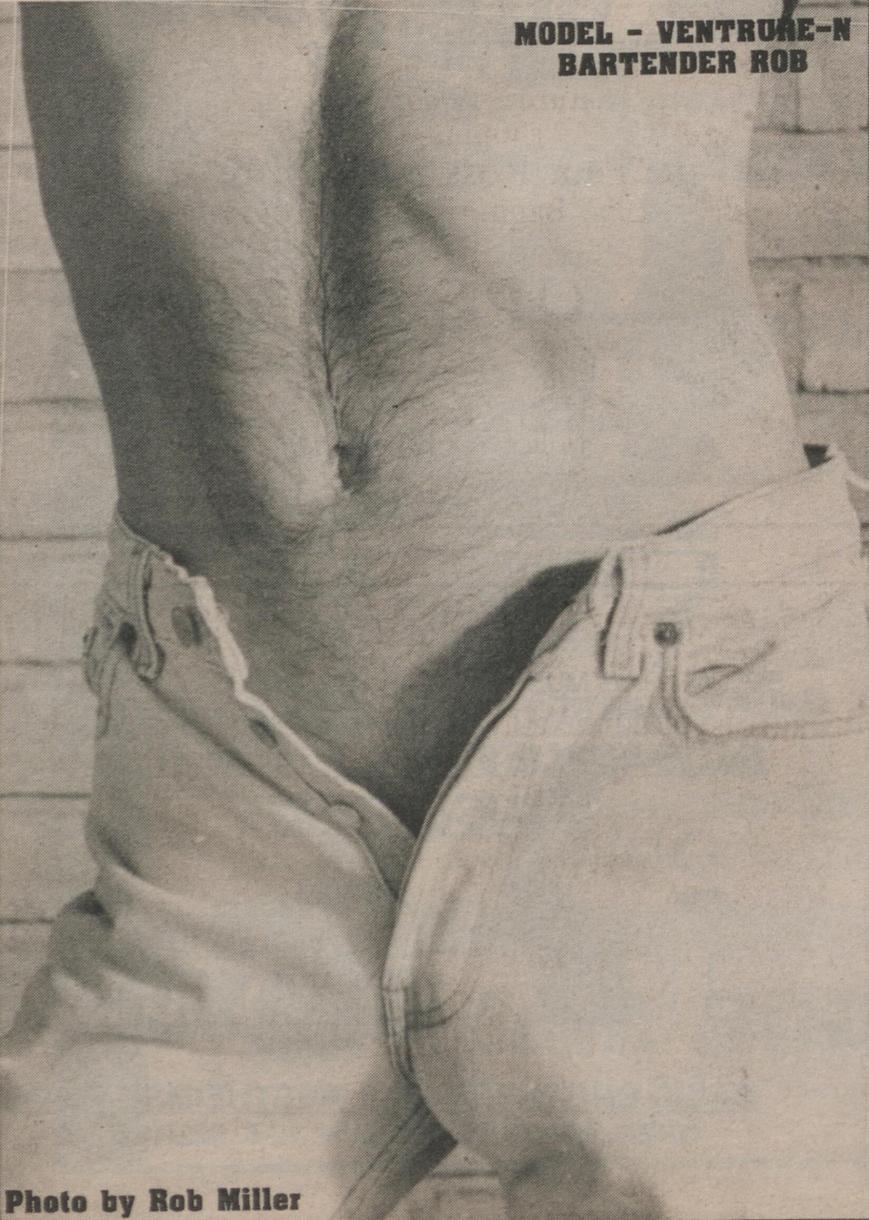


Photo by Rob Miller

Financial problems shadow 'Spectrum' event, organizer

(Continued from Page 1)

Nevertheless, Lavner is hardly alone among the half-dozen creditors, many of them openly gay entertainers, who've felt a pinch due to checks which were returned unpaid by Bourgeois, an officer of Town Meeting, Inc., a local non-profit company begun in 1994, state records show, which organized last Summer's expo. In a telephone interview from his Santa Fe home, openly-gay entertainer, Paul Phillips of Romanovsky & Phillips duo, said they also remain unpaid for their concert appearance at Spectrum '95.

"We got a check," explained Phillips, who said they're still owed nearly a thousand dollars for their performance, "but...it bounced."

Phillips said he first called the bank on which the promoter's check was drawn and was told there were insufficient funds to cover it. He then phoned Bourgeois who instructed Phillips to deposit the check anyway because, he quoted Bourgeois as saying, "three-thousand dollars had been deposited (that) afternoon."

Phillips said the pair followed the instructions, but the check still bounced and, thus far, they have received only one \$5 money order and mostly excuses from Bourgeois about the massive debts he claims to have accrued from the event.

"The reality is, we contracted with Alan and he is in breach of contract to this day," Phillips said. Asked why they didn't file a complaint with the DA's office, Phillips explained that the traveling expenses involved with such a case ruled out the complaint option, but moreover, the pair worried over being perceived as greedy by their fans.

Other creditors, however, are more sympathetic to the promoter's debt difficulties. They claim he's doing his

utmost to pay his debts and that he's a victim of circumstance and ugly rumor.

Kathy Griffin, a local private investigator, told the *Houston Voice* she's received \$300 thus far in installments of the nearly \$4,000 owed by Bourgeois for security services her company provided over a four-day period during last Summer's expo. Instead of filing a complaint with the DA's office, Griffin explained, she'd rather try to re-coup her losses by helping Bourgeois become successful in his current fundraising efforts. Thus, in her spare time, Griffin explained, she's helping to sell booth space to local gay merchants who want to participate in the second expo, dubbed Spectrum '96, now in its planning phase. That event is scheduled to be held this October at the George R. Brown Convention Center.

"I look at it this way: If Alan Bourgeois was a crooked thief who didn't care about anything but putting money back in his own pocket, or anything but making a buck, he would have been long gone. We wouldn't have seen Alan Bourgeois. There would have been thousands of people with lawsuits against him. The fact that he's trying (in spite of) the negative press, (is evidence that) he's trying to make (Spectrum '96) successful," she said.

Contacted at his home, Bourgeois reacted with scorn, calling the DA's probe "unfair, and a shame," and Lavner's complaint, "vicious." Such accusations, he continued, "don't help the (gay) community." "I'm not an angel by no means. I'm not an innocent person; I'm still learning and dealing with things. If I end up in court, then I'll be found innocent. If Lavner had just waited she would have been reimbursed. But for her to go after me in this way is just an ego trip."

HGLPC endorses candidates

The Houston Gay and Lesbian Political Caucus issued its endorsements for the Democratic and Republican Party Primaries at its Feb. 7 meeting. The following candidates were endorsed:

In the Democratic Primary, the caucus picked Houston attorney **John Odom** in the race for the U.S. Senate seat currently held by Sen. Phil Gramm, who dropped his bid for the Republican presidential nomination this week. The organization stood by U.S. Rep. **Gene Green** in his bid for re-election in Houston's 29th Congressional District. Also endorsed are **Alma Allen** (State Board of Education, Place 4) and **John Whitmire** (State Senate Dist. 15).

In State Representative races, the caucus endorsed **Scott Hochberg** (District 132); **Debra Danburg** (District 137); **Ken Yarborough** (District 138); **Diana Davila** (District 145); **Garnet Coleman** (District 147); and **Jessica Farrar** (District 148).

Patrice Barron was endorsed for Texas Supreme Court, Place 1. **Frances Northcutt** was endorsed for Court of Crimi-

nal Appeals, Place 1; **Gary Taylor** for Court of Criminal Appeals, Place 2. **Jeffrey Gelb** was endorsed for the 215th Civil District Court.

The caucus endorsed **Sylvia Garcia** in the Democratic primary for Harris County Attorney. Other endorsed candidates: **Jack Abercia** (Constable, Pct. 1); **Victor Trevino** (Constable, Pct. 6); and **A.B. Chambers** (Constable, Pct. 7); **Victoria Dawson** (Justice of the Peace, Pct. 7), and **Molly Luhrs** for Democratic Party Chair.

HGLPC issued a dual endorsement for Harris County Sheriff, endorsing in both primaries: **Art Contreras** was endorsed in the Democratic Primary and **Paul Day** in the Republican Primary. Day was the only candidate endorsed in the Republican Primary.

"The caucus is proud of its endorsed candidates," said Pat Gandy, HGLPC president. "We invite folks who have questions about our endorsements, or who want to volunteer, to call us." HGLPC can be reached at (713) 521-1000.

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HOUSTON VOICE

Family Values

by Esperanza Lavender Jazz Paz



One Woman's Journey Inside and Out

Every once in a while I meet an interesting "family member" that you may not know, but who you would probably like if you did. Occasionally, I hope through this column to allow my readers to meet people who are valuable to our community, even if they are not yet widely recognized as heroes.

Lydia Godfrey is a modest, hard working individual with a powerful message for all of us: wherever you are in your coming out process is okay. Don't let other people hurry you up or slow you down in your own process.

This has been a very hard-won truth for Lydia to become aware of and to incorporate into her own life. She was raised in Pineville, Louisiana. "Except no one ever admits they are really from Pineville," she says. "That was where the boys and girls' reform schools were, the mental institution and the school for the mentally retarded. My dad was a chemistry professor at the college there; that's why we lived there."

That was also where Lydia lived during her own college years with her long-time lover. The women lived as life partners, sharing a house, responsibilities, their income and their exclusive love—the love that dared not speak its name. Once, when Lydia did make reference to their love making, her girlfriend icily replied, "I don't know what you're talking about." So for eight years they continued to live and love together, never discussing it again.

And then her lover left her to marry a man. "That was one of the biggest heartbreaks of my life," she recalls. "But we were in a church that believed women could be cured (of almost anything) by meeting and marrying the right man. So I expected if I waited, it would happen to me, too."

Lydia was also a Bible lover. Her major was elementary education, her minor was Greek and Library Science. Her goal was to teach school children Greek "so that they could study the Bible accurately." Lydia loves kids. She was a librarian with HISD before her recent retirement. She feels she was forced out of her position by accusations made by homophobic teachers who openly speculated that she was "one of those people." To be one of those (gays, out or not) was unacceptable.

Unsure in her own heart how to answer her accusers, Lydia began therapy. During her second session with counselor Sharon Goodwin, she revealed her hurt

over being called "one of those people." Her therapist replied, "Well, are you?"

"Well, if I am, doesn't that make everything even more complicated?" She had made the decision to begin counseling to solve problems, not invite new ones.

Years later, her happy answer is YES! In celebration of her recovery, she named the two cats that adopted her during this time Gozo (Joy) and Crecimiento (Growth). She's learned from her pets that it's okay to ask for what she needs. Her reading or working does not prevent them from jumping into her lap when they desire attention. When Lydia needed more space for personal growth, she chose to take leave from HeartSong and the Lone Star Symphonic Band.

Lydia Godfrey has changed a lot during her process of knowing herself and coming out. She now owns her own car sales business, Do-Jo (which means House of Enlightenment) and enjoys travel and the outdoors. She would like to live in a log house in the woods someday, maybe with a lover (especially if the lover came with kids). Her intent is to continue to understand how life's most negative experiences give her the most positive direction ("The people who out-ed me at school unwittingly helped me with my hardest task, to come out myself.")

In the meantime, she is a volunteer at Houston Area Teen Coalition of Homosexuality (HATCH), where she reviews books for their newsletter and transcribes the kids' stories for the newsletters. "The hardest thing for kids is to tell their story, and it's the most important thing," she says. "Too many kids think they're the only lesbian or gay teenager, that they're a freak. The newsletter is reaching a lot of teens who can't come to the meetings." She is also writing a book detailing the history of the gay and lesbian community in Houston.

As to her extensive understanding of Bible truths, Lydia takes comfort in Romans 1:27, with its reference to the sin of "even women forsaking their natural affections for unnatural ones." She knows now that God made her with natural affections toward women, and "it would be unnatural for me to be affectionate with a man."

Lydia Godfrey sees herself making little baby steps every day towards being out and whole and well. But for those who come behind, her quiet, confident example of faith and courage seem like bridges she built and roads she paved, showing the way for us to follow.

SUNDAYS TRASH DISCO

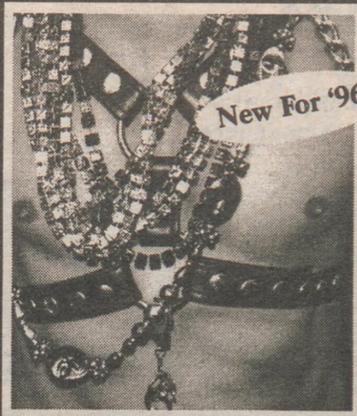


Photo by Frank Parsley.

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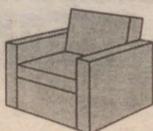
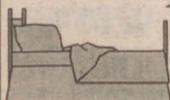
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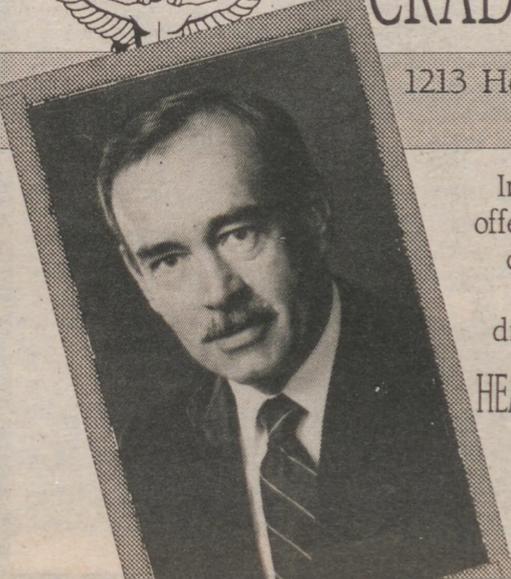
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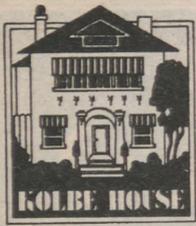
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CHURCH CALENDAR OF EVENTS

FRIDAY - 2/16

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

SATURDAY - 2/17

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

SUNDAY - 2/18

- * Maranatha Fellowship Metropolitan Church Services "Looking at Relationships from a Godly Perspective" & "Homosexuality & the Bible/Spirituality & Sexuality Integration" at 10:00 a.m. Praise and Worship, Ministry of the Word, Drama and Personal Ministry. 11:00 a.m. Maranatha Fellowship, 3400 Montrose, Suite 600, 528-6756.
- * Metropolitan Community Church of the Resurrection (MCCR) worship services. 9:00 a.m. & 11:00 a.m. 1919 Decatur. Call 861-9149.
- * Community Gospel Church worship service at 11:00 a.m. & 7:00 pm 501 E. 18th. Call 880-9235.
- * Houston Mission Church worship service at 10:30 a.m. 1505 Nevada. Call 529-8225.
- * Kingdom Community Church worship service at 11:00 a.m., Sunday School at 10:00 a.m. Call 862-7533. "The Celestine Prophecy, An Experiential Guide" at 10:00 a.m.
- * Ecumenical Catholic Church Mass at 10:15. 1405 palm. Call 526-8095.
- * Covenant Baptist Church. Worship service - 1:30 pm 6610 Alder. Call 668-8830.
- * Bering Memorial United Methodist Church Worship service. 10:50 a.m. Seekers class 9:15 a.m. 1440 Harold. Call 526-1017.

MONDAY - 2/19

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

TUESDAY - 2/20

- * MCCR: CODA Support group meets at 7:00 pm, Empowerment for Living support group & pot luck dinner at 6:00 pm, Gloryland Singers at 8:00 pm, The Gospel Ensemble at 6:00 pm Call 861-9149.
- * PROTECT meets at Bering Church. Call 520-7870.
- * Basic Computer Skills Class at the Kolbe Project. Call 522-8182.
- * Over Eaters Anonymous support group meets at MCCR - 6:00 pm. Call 861-9149.
- * "Shepherd Group" meets at 7:30 pm for Praise, Prayer & Bible study. Call Maranatha Fellowship at 528-6756.

WEDNESDAY - 2/21

- * MCCR: Bi-net Support Group meets at 7:00 pm, Jubilation Mixed Ensemble meets at 6:30 pm, Midweek uplift service at 7:00 pm, Bible Study, Lecture Series & Choir Rehearsal 7:30 pm 1919 Decatur. 861-9149.
- * "A Course in Miracles"- Study Group using the book, published by the Foundation for Inner Peace, which is aimed at removing the blocks to our awareness of one's presence. Kingdom Community Church 7:30 pm Call 862-7533.
- * Ecumenical Catholic Church Mass at 7:00 pm 1405 palm. Call 526-8095.
- * "Shepherd Group" meets at 7:30 pm for Praise, Prayer & Bible study. Call Maranatha Fellowship at 528-6756.

THURSDAY - 2/22

- * Community Gospel Church worship service. 7:30 pm 501 E. 18th. Call 880-9325.

ASK THE PASTOR



Rev. Janet Parker

Q: "Explain the difference between the "Son of God" and the "Son of Man." Jesus is given both of these titles. When did the title change in the course of events?"

A: Jesus had a dual nature. He was the Son of God and the Son of Humanity. Both titles were used to show that Jesus was both Deity and human. Jesus was God in the flesh. He had no human father, but was born of a woman. Jesus came to earth to identify with humanity. Jesus was the one who primarily used the title "Son of Man" in his teachings and in the parables. He used this title to show his humanness. It is only in the gospels that the title "Son of Man" is used. We find that God and others refers to Jesus as the "Son of God" both in the gospels and throughout

the Epistles. The Apostles knew Jesus as a human being. Their own personal revelation was to see Jesus as the Son of God. They were familiar with his humanness. They lived and walked with Him everyday. Scripture is able to clearly show us how human Jesus was. Jesus possessed a material body and a rational soul. In his physical makeup He was the same as any other man (Matthew 26:38; Luke 24:39). Jesus was subject to the laws of human development. He grew like every other child, in wisdom and stature, and naturally as any child (Luke 2:40). He was tempted and learned obedience (Luke 2:51; Hebrews 2:10). He had the bodily and spiritual faculties and emotions of a man. We read of Him as being hungry, thirsty, weary, angry, sorrowful, compassionate, and as One "standing in the need of prayer."

Jesus was the world's only Perfect human being. He was free from hereditary depravity, or actual sin (John 8:46; 18:29; II Cor. 5:21; Heb. 4:15). He became our example of how to be in relation to both God and people. (I Pet. 1:21).

Jesus became---and is---the God-Man (Human). The great mystery our finite minds cannot comprehend is the fact that Jesus was one Person, having a dual nature, namely, divine and human, but single consciousness. These two natures were joined yet divided, distinct yet united. In Christ, God became a human being (I Tim. 3:16), and His career among people reveals two things no reader of the gospel can miss---1. First, His Deity never erased or blotted out his humanity; 2. Second, His humanity did not degrade or nullify the Deity, but was suppressed by a self-chosen state of manifest humiliation. The perfect harmony between His two natures is seen in some of His miracles, and likewise in His dealings with those who crossed His path.

As the Man (Human), He was weary and thirsty and asked for a drink from the woman at the well. But as God, He revealed His omniscience (All-Knowing Ability) when He unveiled the woman's past and yet her aspirations, so much so that she caught a glimpse of His Messiahship: "Come, see a man which told all things that I ever did---this is indeed the Christ, the Savior of the world" (John 4:29, 42).

The two titles and the many instances of what Christ did show us Jesus as God's perfect Human, and Humanity's perfect God. As the perfect Human, Jesus knows all about our human needs, and as God, Jesus can meet every one of them.

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

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"A Church Built On Love"

Gay Today

by Glen Webber



...then 'They' Became 'Me'

I want to share with you how good I have been feeling these past few days. My energy level is up, and I am actually getting some things done. I'm glad, because the week before I was feeling very bad and not only got nothing done, I didn't even leave the house except to come to the paper. With the wonderful people here, it always feels great coming to the Voice.

I've always felt I had things under control, yet I guess it has surprised me how quickly this HIV-virus has taken hold of my life, and the damage it has done. Among my many recent diagnoses is progressive dementia, which does scare me...a lot. I would think that the word "progressive" indicates my dementia will get worse. And I do feel its effects, day after day, including memory loss and loss of control of some body functions. But, I still get around and still function very good, so I cannot complain.

For many years, I was actively involved with the Bering Wednesday Night Support group. Through this group I met some of the nicest and friendliest people I've ever known. As someone diagnosed with HIV, of course I recognized the program's deeper role. The peer group was there to help people deal with the disease.

As a participant in this group, one thing I always took notice of were the members who came in who were particularly ill. With a sort of displaced, disturbed compassion, I watched what the progression of the disease was doing to them physically and mentally.

The feeling is familiar in other ways. As a gay man, I have lost so many friends and acquaintances. As a writer, I have told the stories of people I have known and lost, as well as those of some I never got a chance to know. Perhaps familiarity breeds its own form of denial.

Through all of this, never in my life could I imagine what was happening to these unfortunate young men could ever happen to me. Never could I imagine severe memory loss, a 15 pound loss in weight, regular outbreaks of oral herpes, and a host of other problems that have limited me lately in what I can do. I could never imagine developing a passing out problem, so severe that it is even affecting my driving. I have been asked not to drive, though right now, I have no choice. But I haven't passed out while behind the wheel in over a week and a half now. That's good, isn't it? But let me tell you, the last

episode scared the heck out of even me.

I haven't worked out in over two months. You know, for some time I was going every day for at least two hours, and during that period I had such a beautiful build, one I enjoyed showing off. Now, I think I look terrible and am having a great deal of trouble convincing myself to go back to the gym. I know I am being silly, but I fear that seeing all those men in such great shape will really intimidate me. Why can't I get it together? I don't know what is worse, having AIDS, or having no courage to try to live the life I had before I became sick.

My romantic life doesn't exist either. I mean, no dates, no sex. I want to blame it on the disease, but maybe it is me. I like to think I'm a nice looking guy with a great personality, but who knows? Maybe it's my age. As you know, I will be 42 in two weeks. I promise if I ever have a date again, I will not drive, and I will not pass out in the middle of the date.

Not being able to work has left me broke. This is the first time I have ever had no money. I mean, I am totally broke. I went to Social Security last week to apply for disability, but that will take six weeks. I'm not sure what I'm going to do for six weeks with no money. That part scares me a lot.

My eating habits aren't healthy, but I am trying to do better. It is hard to have an appetite sometimes, and even harder to cook. But I am trying to have one good meal a day. I do eat my Cheerios every morning, so I do ok at breakfast. Dinner is always the problem. But I am trying to do better.

One good thing I have learned from all this is how many friends I have. How many call to check up on me, how many come over to help me with things. I realize how lucky I am to be loved by so many. I can't express enough that being loved is the greatest feeling in the world. To have people care so much that they want to help me is wonderful. (I especially want to thank my good friend Stan Brewer, who happens to share my birthday of Feb. 24, for his help. Now I'm trying to get him to take us out to birthday dinner).

I want all of you dear readers who, like me, are affected by this illness, to please keep up the fight. Don't for one minute settle back and let it take control. As long as you have strength and determination, you are winning. We are not going to lose this battle because we gave up. And yes, be sure to tell all those people who love you how much you love them. They need to hear it as much as you do. Love is the strongest medicine of all.

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Live Out Your Fantasy Today

HOUSTON
VOICE MAIL
Letters to the Editor

Rascals Radical, Not Religious

FROM DAVID RAFFIELD

Houston, Texas

Recently, British daily and weekly papers reported that intelligence officials there have received information that links German and European neo-Nazi groups to Timothy McVeigh, Terry Nichols and the so-called citizen militias. This involves their heinous criminal act at the federal building in Oklahoma City back on April 19, 1995.

When or if this allegation is proven, I predict that Republican elected officials and candidates will begin to oppose and criticize the Radical Right and its agenda. I sincerely hope that Americans and voters do not allow themselves to be duped by these rascals and their supposed new awakening and change. Like myself, these rascals have been well aware of this situation for years. They are not so sweet and innocent in this problem.

The Radical Right is very heavily influenced by the big-time criminal element, Ku Klux Klan, White Supremacists, Aryans, National Rifle Association (NRA), citizen militias, etc. In view of this, I am not shocked at all to hear about the (recent) alleged connections.

When in the world did these bigoted, racist, homophobic, neo-Nazi hate and warmongers become the righteous and true Christians? I for one am tired of hearing and seeing the mainstream, liberal, feminist and gay news media refer to these low-life rascals as the "religious" or "Christian" right. This assessment could not be proven by anyone.

For years, radical right-wingers and Republicans have been accusing the Trilateral Commission on Council and Foreign Relations, Democrats, liberals, feminists, gays and the news media of leading the U.S. into a one-world (communist) government. At the same time, they have been leading us down the path to a one-world neo-Nazi government. Thanks to the good authorities in Great Britain, this has become more obvious and clear.

In the November presidential election, I firmly believe that this deplorable situation will prove to be the ultimate downfall for the Radical Right and for the Republicans against Bill Clinton. (Extremism) will be the real and only issue.

Today's Gays Want Marriage

FROM MARCUS W. BOLTON

Houston, Texas

(To Voice columnist Glen Webber):

Your column in the 2/9/96 issue of the *Houston Voice* (Do Gays Really Want Marriage?) is one of the most irresponsible positions I have read on this issue. It infuriated me. Not because I want to marry, mind you. You made some good observations, some the community should wisely consider, but you should be ashamed of believing that the citizens of our community cannot handle the responsibility of marriage.

Sure, "50% of all straight marriages will end in divorce." But you failed to explain why you think the problem lies with the institution of marriage. Marriage has been around a long time, and the divorce rate (once it was even allowed) has not always been so high. Rather, it is a sad reflection of our quick fix society. I have known many people, straight and gay,

that were much more in love with the idea of being married or belonging to someone than the person they hoped to marry. I have known people, straight and gay, that, although they believed they loved their partner, would take steps to protect themselves from harm, indicating that the trust necessary for such a relationship was never there in the first place. I have known people, straight and gay, that did nothing but fight, argue, and have great sex. Or they believed that sex was love, and good sex was worth marrying. Or that have experienced pain, fights, disagreement, separation, and the yo-yo reunion cycle of leaving and coming back, leaving and coming back. I have also known people, straight and gay, that have been together for more than 10 years, because they worked on their problems instead of turning tail and running. I respect the hell out of them for it, and so do their kids.

It is not the institution of marriage that is the problem here. Likewise, it is not the "government issued license" that creates a marriage, rather it is the love the couple invests (or fails to) that leads to the end result. I am delighted that you shared a loving relationship for as long as you did. And although you state "our relationship was no less important" because you were not married, surely in your heart, you were married. You were life-mates. But I must have missed something...who ever said that gays wanted marriage because they felt less than whole or they felt their relationship was less important? I love my partner dearly, and gladly wear his ring, and I like to think we'll be together for the rest of our lives. But would I marry him? I don't know, but it sure would be nice to ponder for real.

In the eyes of the ill-informed straight majority and the conservative right, our relationship (and yours) is nothing more than queers doing what queers do. Many straights believe that being gay is nothing but rampant anonymous sex, that being gay cannot possibly mean commitment. We are hated and feared for what we are, not who we are. None of them see what you or I or thousands of other gays see or want in a relationship. Officially recognized marriage could be a milestone first step in getting these people to realize that we want the same things they want in a relationship...companionship, tenderness, the reward of making a difference in another person's life, monogamy, and the chance to grow old with the person that you love. It's a strong statement that says we'd rather love one another as couples and we're really not out to recruit your children and molest your nephews. These lies and misconceptions continue to be promoted because the conservative right and religious zealots are greater in number and their voices are louder. Legally recognized, government backed acknowledgement of gay commitment could not only change the way we are seen, but even the way we see ourselves.

You said "Our community has a bad habit of wanting whatever straight people have..." it's not the fact that they are straight and we want their stuff, we just want the right, should we choose, to be able to express our love just like anyone else. It just so happens in this case the 'anyone else' are straight, because they have the right and we do not.

It's a shame you used your forum to tell the public to run from the most exciting potential change of their lives. You did the community a great disservice by advising them to turn tail and run rather than welcome the burden, roll up their sleeves, do a little work, and try to come out ahead.

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HOUSTON VOICE MAIL
Letters to the Editor

Watching The Waters

FROM TIREY B. COUNTS
Houston, Texas

Pat Buchanan finished the Iowa Primary with a VERY strong second place showing (he only missed the first place slot by 3% of the vote). This, in addition to his victories in the Alaska and Louisiana Primaries, leads me to make the following statement: If this doesn't scare you enough to vote in the Texas Republican Primary on March 12, I don't know what else will! Many of my friends (Gary, David, Daniel...) are still unwilling to give up their votes in the Democratic Primary, even though Bill Clinton has no serious opponent for his party's nomination.

It doesn't help when writers such as Glen Webber write such disparaging remarks as "Some think supporting the Republican Party will make a difference. Ha! We might as well jump in and let the sharks eat us for dinner." The point is that unless some of us get in the water to see what the sharks are up to, then they are allowed to go completely unchecked. A perfect example of this is Terri Leo's race for the State Board of Education. It is only because Log Cabin-Houston is working with many moderate members of the Republican Party that we have been forwarded copies of her endorsement list. Evidently, Stephen Hotze thinks enough of the Leo campaign that he has allowed his name to be used on her campaign literature. This "Seal of Approval from the Radical Right" is one of the many reasons I will not be voting for her.

The point is NOT that we love every position that the party takes, every candidate that the party offers or every part of the party platform. The point IS that we want to be in the room to change the misconceptions that some within the party have about gays and lesbians, to identify and expose candidates that support an extreme fundamentalist agenda, and to vote against parts of the platform that are hateful to our community. We can make HUGE inroads toward this goal in the same way that the Radical Right did in the early 80s: by attending our precinct conventions at our polling places at 7:00 p.m. the night of March 12. See you there!

Imperial Thanks

FROM EMPRESS XI CRYSTAL RAE LEE

LOVE, RSICSS

Houston, Texas

I would like to take this opportunity to thank the Houston community for the support given me during my reign as Empress XI of the Royal, Sovereign and Imperial Court of the Single Star of Houston. This past year is one that will never be forgotten. I have had the opportunity to meet so many people and work with many organizations in helping raise money to fight AIDS and increase awareness of the rich diversity of our community.

Through the hard work of the members and because of the support of so many, the Court raised approximately \$18,000 in direct benefits this year for several organizations including Bering Community Services Foundation, PWA Coalition, Omega House, AVES, Loving Arms Foundation, Body Positive, Pet Patrol, Gay and Lesbian Switchboard, Community Visions, the Lady Victoria Lust PWA Holiday Fund, Montrose Clinic Capitol Gifts Campaign and the Colt 45's charities. In addition, at PR Ball II, we presented the Colt 45's a check for \$10,000, which represents the net proceeds from our reign and from our major fundraiser, Coronation XII. Additional monies from PR Ball will be distributed shortly, which will take the total money raised for our community to over \$30,000.

There are many who feel that we are just a "drag queen" organization, but I can assure you that there is more to it than meets the eye. We are proud to count among our ranks many men who do not wear dresses and many women who do not wear pants. They work just as hard, if not harder, than the "drags" and offer an abundance of love and talent. I, for one, am proud to be associated with each and every member.

I extend a very special thank you to the bars, leather/levi clubs, businesses and organizations in this city and promise to continue my work and support. Congratulations to Emperor XII Jim Halbert and Empress XII Ruby Stone. I hope that your reign is as wonderful as mine and I assure you that I will be there to help whenever you need me.

Thank you once again and remember... "Together we can make a difference, divided they will get us one by one."

With everlasting Love...

Brian Weil, activist and photographer, dead at 41

NEW YORK, Thursday, Feb. 8 (AP)—Brian Weil, a photographer who captured New York's more unusual denizens and founded the city's first needle-exchange program, has died. He was 41.

Weil was found dead Monday night at his M—OXX other people he documented we e Hasidic Jews in the Williamsburg section of Brooklyn, sex club workers, people with AIDS and transsexuals.

His first exhibit was at Artists Space in Manhattan in 1980.

In the past eight years, Weil taught at Manhattan's International Cen-

ter of Photography, which in 1991 featured an exhibition of his photographs of AIDS sufferers.

Weil's work also is in the collections of the Jewish Museum, the Museum of Fine Arts in Houston and the Moderna Museet in Stockholm.

In 1985, Weil began organizing projects and volunteering for the AIDS cause, and he joined Act Up in the late 1980s. In 1990, he helped start a needle exchange program for drug users in Harlem and the South Bronx.

Weil also worked with the World Health Organization to help set up community AIDS organizations in Haiti, South Africa and Thailand.

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Cruel Garden recalls times, spirit of great Spanish artist

(Continued from Page 1)

At its premiere in London, *Cruel Garden* caused a sensation. The London Spectator hailed it as "a great masterpiece of the English stage."

When Houston Ballet presented the American premiere of the work in Nov. 1993, it played to a ten-minute standing ovation. Ann Holmes, dance critic for The Houston Chronicle, called it, "a dazzlingly surreal and imaginative collage that recalled the spirit, the times, and the disarming sensibility of Spain's great poet Federico Garcia Lorca... *Cruel Garden* is a fiesta of ideas and images, full of talent at every level."

Federico Garcia Lorca has emerged as one of Spain's most haunting poetic voices. Born in southern Spain in 1898, Lorca began his studies at the University of Granada in 1914.

During this time, he became one of the focal points of a revival of interest in the heritage of old Spain, collecting and setting to music the old folk songs of his country and publishing his poems.

Much of Lorca's work reflects this passionate embrace of Spanish culture.

In 1919, Lorca settled in Madrid, striking up friendships with two champions of the avant garde, the film maker Luis Bunuel and the artist Salvador Dali. Throughout this period in his life, Lorca struggled to conceal his homosexuality.

In 1929, Lorca traveled to New York for nine months to study English at Columbia University. This visit had a profound and lasting influence on him. He was horrified by the prejudice against African-Americans and the mechanization of humanity evident in industrialized America. These two experiences are vividly dramatized in *Cruel Garden*.

Lorca Targeted Because He Was Gay

In 1931, Lorca returned to an increasingly turbulent Spain. Under the auspices of the new Republican government, he became the director of the touring theater and puppet company "La

Barracall, which carried the tradition of Spanish theater to remote villages all over Spain.

Despite the rising tide of violence and political turmoil in his native country, Lorca's plays, particularly *Blood Wedding* and *Yerma*, enjoyed enormous popular and critical success. It is these plays, filled with violent passion and poetic symbolism, that have secured Lorca's reputation as one of Spain's greatest writers. On July 18, 1936, Francisco Franco led a military insurrection that took Granada. As an artist, a known homosexual, and an opponent of Franco's fascist forces, Lorca immediately became a target for retribution.

In the early hours of August 19, 1936, Lorca was shot in the head, murdered by the Fascist Assault Guard, and the paramilitary Black Squad because he was a "red fag"—a communist and a homosexual.

His body was never recovered, and the circumstances surrounding his death were suppressed for many years by Spain's fascist regime. Because he had

alienated Franco's forces, his works were proscribed in Spain for many years, and his plays went unperformed.

Cruel Garden does not attempt to give a documentary portrait of Lorca's life, tracing his progress from cradle to grave in an orderly chronological fashion. Rather, the work evokes the essence of Lorca's life through a series of dream-like images and encounters depicting key moments in his history.

Cruel Garden was conceived and staged by two English artists, the theater director Lindsay Kemp and the choreographer Christopher Bruce. According to them, the events in *Cruel Garden* are what Lorca might have envisioned as his life flashed before his eyes in the moments just before his death.

"We made that one-eighth second into one and a half hours of memories," Mr. Kemp observed.

"I think that Lorca was a wonderfully versatile artist," Mr. Bruce commented. "He wasn't just a great poet and playwright; he was also a very good musician and painter. He was a most cultured person. "One of the reasons that Lindsay Kemp and I picked Lorca was that we were both extremely interested in and inspired by his work and life.

"I like the idea that Lorca was from a well-to-do family, but appears to have been very sympathetic to the cares of the poor and the dispossessed. He seemed interested in not just an aesthetic elite, but in these poorer people and their popular culture, one that had an ancient and primitive source that came out of the land."

(Continued on following page)

Fred Phelps and son to face felony counts

TOPEKA, Kan., Friday, Feb. 9 (AP)—The Rev. Fred W. Phelps Sr. and his son, Jonathan Phelps, have been ordered to stand trial on two counts of aggravated intimidation of a witness or a victim.

The decision Thursday to bind the Phelpses over for trial was the first time members of the Westboro Baptist Church have faced felony charges since they began anti-homosexual picketing in 1991.

Asked for his reaction to Shawnee County District Judge Eric Rosen's ruling, Fred Phelps Sr. said, "We'll knock their heads off. Looking forward to it."

The charges stem from incidents that followed a misdemeanor disorderly conduct charge filed against Phelps Sr., 66, in which he was charged with calling Topeka lawyer Jerry Palmer a "sodomite" and a "fat ugly sodomite." Phelps also will be tried on the disorderly conduct charge.

Rosen said Palmer, who was to be a witness in the disorderly conduct case, had made it clear that on two incidents in June, 1993, he felt threatened and thought he was in danger from the defendants.

Jonathan Phelps, 36, was carrying a picket sign June 20, 1993, at St. David's Episcopal Church bearing the messages, "Pig Palmer FUS (fat ugly sodomite)" and "Gays are worthy of death." Palmer testified during the preliminary hearing that the messages implied "Palmer is worthy of death."



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Gay artists created, perform in story of poet, playwright Lorca

(Continued from preceding page)

A leading figure in Europe's gay avant garde, Lindsay Kemp's career has spanned dance, mime, theater, film and the visual arts. He is perhaps best known for *Flowers*, a musical version of Jean Genet's *Our Lady of the Flowers* that was performed in London's West End and on Broadway in the mid 1970s.

A flamboyant and charismatic personality on the British cultural scene, Mr. Kemp has also ventured into several other arenas. He directed David Bowie's celebrated Ziggy Stardust concerts in London in the 1970s. He has appeared in films by Ken Russell and Derek Jarman. In the early 1990s, he appeared in and collaborated on a major video/film with the English rock star Kate Bush.

For Kemp, *Cruel Garden* has "multi-autobiographical" qualities. "Not only is it about Garcia Lorca," he observes, "it's about the dancers themselves, and in particular, the creators Christopher Bruce and myself. It's one of those multi-portraits of an artist that changes according to the interpreter."

The leading roles of the poet Lorca and his nemesis, a character called the Bull, will be performed by two gay Houston Ballet artists: Mark Arvin

and Dominic Walsh.

Former principal dancer Arvin will make a special return appearance with the company to dance the role of the Bull. At the American premiere of *Cruel Garden* in 1993, he won glowing notices for his performance in the role.

Soloist Dominic Walsh, a rising young dancer in the company, will star as Lorca, a long and enormously demanding part. They are both excited about the prospect of performing in *Cruel Garden* again.

"*Cruel Garden* is so powerful, so moving, such a haunting work," Arvin commented. "The audience is on the edge of their seats throughout. It's a completely engrossing experience for both the dancers and the audience."

The piece seems to provoke the same kind of visceral response from audiences across the world, according to choreographer Bruce. At the time of its world premiere in London, Bruce was overwhelmed by audience reac-

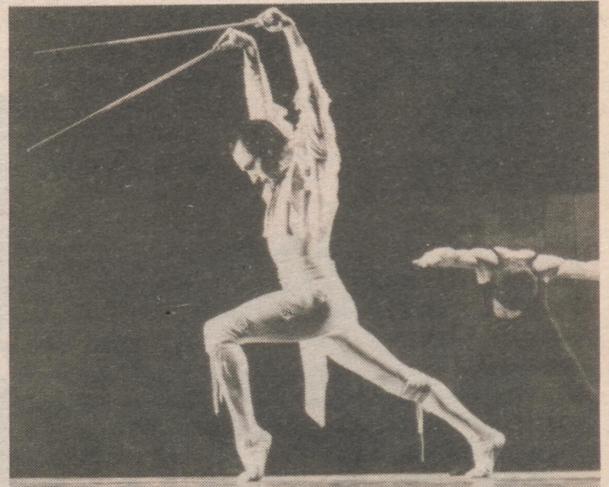
tion to *Cruel Garden*.

"The reaction to the work was so great," Mr. Bruce recalls. It became famous so quickly, and it was a very emotional time for me after the struggle to make the work and then perform it.

"I remember people who came backstage in tears. The Spaniards in particular who were big fans of Lorca's work, but had never been able to voice it in recent times.

"They felt that we had captured his world, a world that had been repressed in Spain right up to the end of the Franco era.

Houston Ballet will dance *Cruel Garden* from Feb. 22-March 3 at the Wor-



Choreographer Christopher Bruce dances the starring role of the poet Lorca at the world premiere of *Cruel Garden* in London. Houston Ballet will perform the work Feb. 22-March 3 at the Wortham Center

tham Center downtown. Tickets are \$10-\$75 and may be purchased by calling 227-ARTS (227-2787).

Gay Connecticut trooper resigns in wake of lawsuit

WESTBROOK, Conn., Wednesday, Feb. 7 (AP)—A state trooper who last month sued the department for not allowing her to wear her uniform in a gay-pride parade has resigned, according to published reports.

Trooper Stacey Simmons, assigned to Troop F in Westbrook, resigned Tuesday, The Hartford Courant reported. She gave two weeks notice.

The resignation comes three weeks after she filed a \$2.5 million suit in federal court in Hartford accusing state police of violating her civil rights as a lesbian.

The lawsuit names several state police officials, including Public Safety Commissioner Kenneth Kirschner.

State police spokesperson Sgt. Dale Hourigan said Tuesday the department would not comment on the lawsuit because it is pending litigation.

In early January, Simmons filed a 12-page complaint claiming that she was sexually harassed and discriminated against, behavior she said was condoned by state police officials.

When she complained about her treatment, Simmons said, state police officials retaliated by transferring her from troop to troop and denying her requests for special assignments.

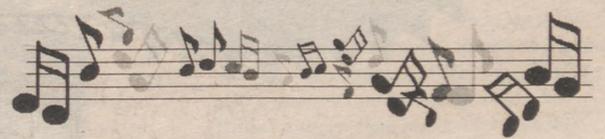
Simmons joined the state police in 1988. Simmons was transferred six times during her career, five coming after she acknowledged her homosexuality in 1991, the complaint says.

For most of 1994, she was a member of the department's gang task force.

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This & That!

by Jon Anthony

The February sweeps contest gets hotter and hotter. CBS has snared **Elizabeth Taylor** to appear as herself on all four of the network's Monday night sitcoms, *The Nanny*, *Can't Hurry Love*, *Murphy Brown* and *High Society*. The plot revolves around the disappearance of Taylor's black pearl necklace. The necklace gets lost on *The Nanny*, is found and lost again on *Love*, prompting Taylor to be interviewed about its disappearance on *Murphy*, and all is explained on *Society*. Billed as "Liz Night," the episodes all air on Feb. 26.... **Mariah Carey** and **Boyz II Men** will perform their #1 smash *One Sweet Day* live on the *Grammy Awards* slated to air Feb. 28. on CBS. **Coolio**, **Howie** and the **Blowfish**, **Alanis Morissette**, **TLC** and **Dwight Yoakam** are also scheduled to perform at the awards ceremony. Presenters include **Tim Allen**, **Gloria Estefan**, **Lisa Kudrow**, **Tupac Shakur** and **Chris Isaak**.... Brazilian authorities paved the way for **Michael Jackson** to film the video for his next single titled *They Don't Care About Us* to be directed by **Spike Lee**. Concerned that Jackson's desire to film the music short in a slum might tarnish the country's image at a time when they are vying to be host for the *2004 Summer Olympics*, prompted some officials to consider denying the King of Pop a visa for the project.... **Christopher Reeve** will pen his memoirs with the help of co-author **Roger Rosenblatt** for **Random House**. The book, which the publisher reportedly purchased for \$3 million, is slated to be released in late 1998.... A fire destroyed the home of actress **Patty Duke** in Coeur d'Alene, Idaho last week. Duke, who was in L.A. at the time, was unharmed and an investigation is ensuing.... **Billy Dee Williams** was charged with misdemeanor spousal battery in L.A. for allegedly attacking his girlfriend.... Police discovered approximately 2,000 prescription

pills and capsules in the home of famed movie producer **Don Simpson** (*Top Gun*, *Days of Thunder*) who recently passed away. An autopsy is pending as to the cause of Simpson's death and police indicate that if the culprit was a drug overdose, charges against his doctors will be seriously considered.... **Christian Brando**, son of screen legend **Marlon Brando**, is moving to New Hampshire to attend *The Technical College* in Nashua. Brando was released from prison last month after serving a five year sentence for voluntary manslaughter for shooting **Dag Drollet**, his half-sister's Tahitian lover, and is currently on Parole.... Hunky **Matt LeBlanc** of TV's *Friends* will star in the heartwarming comedy *Ed*. The premise is about a minor league pitcher in the slumps who resorts to enlisting a chimp named **Ed Sullivan** to remedy the situation. Ed will hit theaters this spring.... Also slated for spring releases: *Bogus*, starring **Whoopi Goldberg** and **Gerard Depardieu** about a boy whose imaginary friend counsels and consoles him through his father's sudden death. *Two Much*, starring **Melanie Griffith**, **Antonio Banderas** and **Daryl Hannah** in a screwball comedy concerning a daffy socialite and an eccentric art dealer. *Carpool*, starring **Tom Arnold** as a carnival owner who resorts to robbery to solve his problems only to create more when he inadvertently takes a van full of kids hostage.... **Robin Williams** is currently filming the **Francis Ford Coppola** film *Jack*. Williams portrays a boy with a genetic disorder that causes the body to age at four times its normal rate in the film, his 19th since *Mork and Mindy*.... **Fran Drescher**, who appears on CNN's *Larry King Live* Feb. 22, is the latest sitcom star to hit the bookshelves. The *Nanny* star has penned an autobiography entitled *Enter Whining* (Reaganbooks), which is available at bookstores.... Anonymous, needless to say, the unknown author of the novel *Primary*

Colors has signed a movie deal for more than \$1 million. Legendary producer/director **Mike Nichols** (**Diane Sawyer's** husband) purchased the rights to the novel, an insider's account of **Bill Clinton's** 1992 presidential campaign. Anonymous's literary agent **Kathy Robbins** is the only individual who knows his or her identity, much to the chagrin of many.... **Newt Gingrich** will appear as himself on an upcoming episode of CBS's *Murphy Brown* and Texas Senator **Kay Bailey Hutchison** will make an appearance on the networks *Walker*, *Texas Ranger* drama series.... **Jane Pauley's** return to the *Today* morning show on NBC was triumphant. Today scored its highest ratings in seven years as a result of Pauley's return to the anchor chair.... **Chris Wallace** is being wooed by NBC to be a star correspondent for the networks *Dateline* franchise, especially the Sunday version which will compete with CBS's fading, yet still powerful, *60 Minutes*. If Wallace, whose ABC contract expires, jumps ship to NBC, he may be competing with his father who is a correspondent for *Minutes*.... **Tina Turner** received the coveted honor of being made a *Chevalier of Arts and Letters* in Paris last Monday. The prestigious medal is bestowed upon artists deemed to have accomplished major contributions to French pop culture. Other recipients of yesteryear include **Clint Eastwood**, **Sharon Stone** and **Bob Dylan**.... **Placido Domingo** will star in **Antonio Carlos Gomes'** composition *Il Guarany* from Nov. 9 - Dec. 1. The Verdi-esque opera, which has not been heard in the USA since 1884, will be the first production of the season for the *Washington Opera*. This is also Domingo's first stint as artistic director for the famed site.... *Good Company*, the highly touted CBS ensemble comedy concerning the creative team of a New York ad agency, is slated to debut on March 4 at 8:30 p.m. in the cushy time period following

the network staple *Murphy Brown*. The critically acclaimed but low-rated *Bonnie Hunt Show* is set to return to the airwaves after a brief hiatus. CBS will air *Hunt* at 7:30 p.m. following *Cybill*. *Hunt* replaces *Almost Perfect*, which moves to Mondays at 7:30 p.m. following *The Nanny*.... As a result of the forementioned he CBS sitcoms *Can't Hurry Love* and *High Society* will be going on hiatus and there fate has yet to be determined.... Famed actor and director **Sydney Pollack** will produce the big screen adaptation of the spy thriller *The Night Manager* based on the best-selling tome written by **John Le Carre**.... **Lynda Carter** returns to network television in the NBC tele-pic *A Secret Between Friends* airing Feb. 19. Ditto **Lindsay Wagner**, who stars in the CBS movie *Sins of Silence* on Feb. 20.... **Bette Midler** will join **Wynona Judd** on her CBS special, *Wynona: Revelations*, promoting her new album of the same name. Midler and Judd will perform a duet together. The special airs Friday Feb. 23 at 9:00 p.m. **Top of the Charts:** *Broken Arrow* topped the box-office earning more than \$15 million during its opening weekend. The **John Travolta** vehicle co-starring **Christian Slater** cemented Travolta's status as current King of the box-office. **ER**, once again, topped the Nielsen's last week. *Intensity*, by **Dean Koontz** and *Primary Colors* by **Anonymous** are the bestselling fiction and non-fiction books, respectively. *One Sweet Day* is the hottest song in the country for the umpteenth week. The Soundtrack to *Waiting to Exhale* also remains #1 on the album charts. **Joe Diffie's** *Bigger Than the Beatles* tops the country chart, *Wonderwall* by **Oasis** retains their #1 position on the modern rock tracks chart and *Amor* by **Cristian** tops the latin charts. **Quote of the Week:** "Earlier this week, *Cats* became the longest-running Broadway musical in history. And as a special treat, the cast was given tuna instead of dry food." - **David Letterman**

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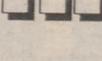
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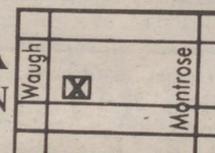
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Oscar choices leave some perplexed, many anxious

By JAVIER TAMEZ
Houston Voice/Houston

Wow! When you follow the Oscars with unabashed passion and pleasure, you become accustomed to shocking, inexplicable, what-in-the-world-could-they-have-been-thinking surprises. And by golly, those wacky Academy voting members have gone and done it again. The nominees for the 68th Academy Awards were announced Tuesday morning. And Oscar watchers the world over were left with jaws agape.

Leading the pack with ten nominations, including Best Picture, was *Braveheart*. *Braveheart!!!!* Mel Gibson's beautiful epic of Scottish independence was certainly considered a contender, but to rake in the most nominations is a stunner.

Finishing second in a strict number count was *Apollo 13*, Ron Howard's stirring tale of the near disaster in space and the nerdy heroes who saved the day. *Apollo 13* walked away with nine nominations, a very expected Best Picture nod among them. Tied for third, with seven each, also including Best Picture, were *Sense and Sensibility*, Emma Thompson's adaptation of Jane Austen's romantic comedy, and *Babe*, the whimsical fairy tale of a pig who aspires to be a sheepdog.

The fifth Best Picture nominee was also the biggest surprise. *Il Postino*, an Italian romantic comedy, directed by an American, was ineligible for Best Foreign Film under the arcane rules which govern the nominating process in that category. A good film

to be sure, it rode a wave of sentimentality into the chosen five and received four other nominations for good measure.

The most glaring omissions: *Dead Man Walking*, about a nun who commiserates with a death row convict and, even more conspicuous, "Leaving Las Vegas," a dark tale about two losers falling into a deeper abyss and which has already been named Best Picture of the year by critic societies on both coasts.

Less passionate arguments could also be made for *The American President*, *Casino*, *Sabrina*, *The Bridges of Madison County*, *Richard III*, *Nixon*, *Get Shorty*, *Toy Story* and *The Usual Suspects*.

For Best Actor the Academy honored Nicholas Cage (*Leaving Las Vegas*), Richard Dreyfuss (*Mr. Holland's Opus*), Anthony Hopkins (*Nixon*), Sean Penn (*Dead Man Walking*) and Massimo Troisi (*Il Postino*). All of them were legitimate contenders, though Troisi's nomination was completely unexpected. Again sentimentality was a key factor. Troisi was fiercely dedicated to the completion of his film, and in an example of live drama seldom matched by art, he died only 12 hours after his portion in the film's production was complete.

Still, Michael Douglas (*The American President*), Tom Hanks (*Apollo 13*), John Travolta (*Get Shorty*), Jack Nicholson (*The Crossing Guard*), Ian McKellen (*Richard III*), Laurence Fishburne (*Othello*), James Earl Jones (*Cry, the Beloved Country*), Jona-

than Pryce (*Sense and Sensibility*), Clint Eastwood (*The Bridges of Madison County*) and Patrick Swayze (*To Wong Foo...*) could have been left scratching their heads.

Among the women, the choices for the top five were exceptionally difficult because there were so many truly outstanding performances. The nominees are Susan Sarandon (*Dead Man Walking*), Elizabeth Shue (*Leaving Las Vegas*), Sharon Stone (*Casino*), Meryl Streep (*The Bridges of Madison County*) and Emma Thompson (*Sense and Sensibility*).

Left wondering how they missed the boat were Jennifer Jason Leigh (*Georgia*), and her omission is arguably the biggest shocker, Nicole Kidman (*To Die For*), Sandra Bullock (*While You Were Sleeping*), Angela Basset (*Waiting to Exhale*), Annette Bening (*The American President*), Michelle Pfeiffer (*Dangerous Minds*) and Vanessa Redgrave (*A Month by the Lake*).

The directors always seem to raise the most eyebrows, and this year is no different. Nominated are Chris Noonan (*Babe*), Mel Gibson (*Braveheart*), Tim Robbins (*Dead Man Walking*), Mike Figgis (*Leaving Las Vegas*) and Michael Radford (*Il Postino*). A bit of trivia—all five nominees are being thus honored for the first time.

And what happened to Ron Howard (*Apollo 13*), Rob Reiner (*The American President*) and Ang Lee (*Sense and Sensibility*). Well your guess is as good as mine, but Howard and Lee in particular were robbed. Clint East-

wood (*The Bridges of Madison County*), Oliver Stone (*Nixon*), Zhang Yimou (*Shanghai Triad*) and Bryan Singer (*The Usual Suspects*) are also could-have-beens that weren't.

The Best Supporting Actress nominees are Joan Allen (*Nixon*), Kathleen Quinlan (*Apollo 13*), Mira Sorvino (*Mighty Aphrodite*), Mare Winningham (*Georgia*) and Kate Winslet (*Sense and Sensibility*). Here's another surprise: these women are actually the five most deserving to be nominated in the category.

But Anjelica Huston (*The Crossing Guard*), Kyra Sedgwick (*Something to Talk About*), Anne Bancroft (*Home for the Holidays*), Nancy Marchand (*Sabrina*) and Maggie Smith (*Richard III*) probably had their own, now disappointed, cheering sections.

For Best Supporting Actor the Academy selected James Cromwell (*Babe*), Ed Harris (*Apollo 13*), Brad Pitt (*12 Monkeys*), Tim Roth (*Rob Roy*) and Kevin Spacey (*The Usual Suspects*). As with the directors, this is the first time for each of these guys.

On the other hand Alan Rickman (*Sense and Sensibility*), John Leguizamo (*To Wong Foo...*), Don Cheadle (*Devil in a Blue Dress*), Richard Harris (*Cry, the Beloved Country*) and Paul Sorvino (*Nixon*) could easily have made the cut.

The most interesting thing about this year's Oscar race is that for the first time in years, it's actually a race. There's no clear front runner in any of the categories and this makes the Oscar season all the more exciting.

Stein provides super kickoff for 'Little Room' in Montrose

Theater Review

By JAVIER TAMEZ

Houston Voice/Houston

Gertrude Stein. Her name connotes fabulous wit, piercing intellect and Bohemian chic. A celebrated, expatriate American, lesbian living in Paris and rubbing elbows with titans of the artistic and literary world—a company in which she included herself. A genuine celebrity, a media personality, in the days before mass, much less electronic, media. To those more familiar with her actual works though, her name also brings to mind egregiously unreadable, pointlessly cerebral and repetitive, syntactically scrambled verbiage.

Of course this last is one of the woman's trademarks. "Rose is a rose is a rose is a rose," is undoubtedly the most famous line from her poetry, and it is fittingly reflective of her body of work as a whole (or at least as much as a single line can be). And this repetition was present in her conversation as well. That is if playwright Marty Martin's characterization of the woman in her twilight years is to be believed.

Gertrude Stein, Gertrude Stein, Gertrude Stein is being presented by the Little Room Downstairs theater. The one-woman show, starring Sheryl Croix, is a witty, revealing, superbly performed piece that will leave Stein fans awash in joy-

ful bliss. But this work is also esoteric and long-winded, so much so that casual familiarity with the woman and her work suffers, rather than being enhanced.

The entire production takes place in the salon of her home at 27 Rue De Fleurus. The viewer is invited into one of Stein's Saturday soirees—intellectual, communal tete-a-tetes in which she reveled in her American-ness and delighted in discussing her enviable collection of Cubist masterpieces. Stein never shied away from expressing her opinion on painting, writing, life or love, but the woman was so enthralled with her position amidst so many artistic figures, that she never did realize how severely limited her own talent really was.

Martin's play is set in 1938, long after the soirees had lost their luster and their pre-eminent guests. And Stein contemplates and shares her illustrious life. Her deliberate repetition—sometimes tinged with subtle changes of inflection and at other times with screaming differences in delivery—becomes immediately apparent, as she tells (at no small length) how she and her salon came to be a comfort spot and watering hole for the artistic geniuses of the early 20th century.

Stein and her brother Leo, whom she describes as "a quattrocento art enthusiast living in a Japanese landscape," begin collecting art. They became acquainted with a collector by the name of

Vollard, who had his own gallery, and were soon collecting pieces of their own. Cezanne, Matisse, Monet, Renoir and Gauguin all found places on the walls of Gertrude and Leo's salon.

In the course of the monologue, Stein explains how the collection and the soirees developed. And there are a litany of good stories to tell and hear: the time she offended Isadora Duncan (who never returned); the afternoon the French poet Apollinaire coined the term Cubism, which would be applied to the art movement to which Stein played a kind of wet nurse; her experiences with Etta Cone, a future Baltimore philanthropist, who was not a very good typist; her conversational exchanges with Hemingway, Fitzgerald and Sherwood Anderson; her favorite portrait, by Picasso and of herself; her recollections of a brief, passionate, but apparently non-physical relationship with one May Traver; her feelings about being an American; and of course, her relationship with Alice B. Toklas.

In truth, many (if not all) of these stories could probably be fleshed out into a theatrical piece in their own right, but in "Gertrude Stein" they are presented as but fleeting passages in a very long telling, that at times seems like a sermon that will never end.

Sheryl Croix's performance is unparalleled. The woman is utterly captivating. She presents a warm, contented dis-

position. Eager to share, pleased by the company and happy to be hosting, Croix delivers as honest and believable a performance as any I've ever seen.

Michael Wonio's direction is excellent. No grand gestures, trick staging or theater magic of any kind is found here. This is as intimate as theater can get, and it's presented as impassioned, heart-felt conversation. It's you and Gertrude and no one else is there.

Jodi Bobrovsky's set design is perfect. The tiny space (and I do mean tiny!) could not possibly have been utilized better. A dazzling array of Cubist reproductions (done by Bobrovsky herself) fill the walls of the set. It is handsomely furnished with passable copies if not authentic period pieces. Bobrovsky's work is outstanding.

Gertrude Stein, Gertrude Stein, Gertrude Stein is an intriguing look at an undeniably fascinating woman. But three hours is a long time for any monologue, no matter who is speaking or what the subject may be. But prepare yourself for a long evening, and the rewards will be grand, grand, grand.

What: "Gertrude Stein, Gertrude Stein, Gertrude Stein"

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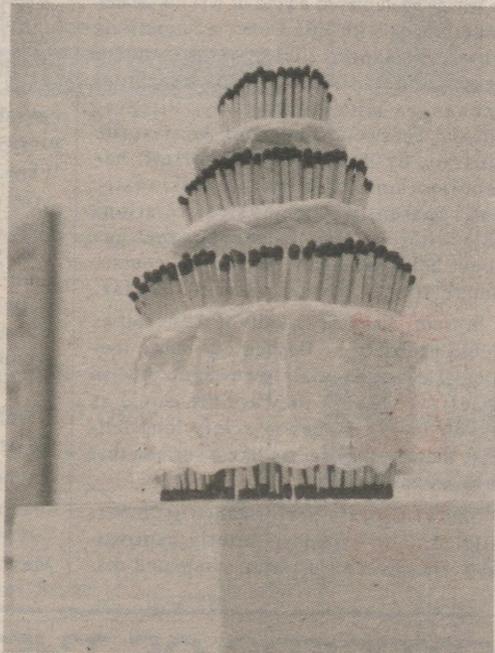
(HOUSTON)—The Houston art community jumped at the chance to prove its love by participating in the second annual Proof of Love benefit for the Design Industries Foundation Fighting AIDS (DIFFA).

The benefit, which features a multi-media exhibit coupled with a series of fund raising dinner parties, revolves around Valentine's Day and the artistic theme focuses on love. This year, 52 Texas artists contributed to the exhibit in the Lynne Goode Gallery. The opening night reception and sale was held Friday, Feb. 2. About half of the art pieces in the exhibit were before or during the opening, organizers said.

In addition to the art exhibit, the benefit includes about 20 separate dinner parties. At press time, about \$38,000 had been raised altogether for DIFFA, but DIFFA/Houston director Tori Williams noted that additional proceeds were expected from the remaining parties.

Gallery owner Lynne Goode Crowley said that she donated space for the exhibit in memory of Bill Gramm, a friend she had

lost three years ago to AIDS. "It was very painful to watch and ever since then my husband and I have worked on numerous AIDS fundraising events. AIDS has devastated the arts and continues to devastate the entire world," she said.



Lisa Ludwig's Valentine Cake: one of the more original entries in the all-media exhibit



The Politics of Perception

Judging from the results of the Iowa caucuses and the media barrage of political analysis, it would appear as though the GOP's religious conservatives are poised to take over the reigns of the party. On the surface, that may be what it looks like; however, upon close analysis of the results, there is hardly any concrete evidence of such.

For years, Republicans have been painted as right-wing fanatics and inconsiderate greedy hate mongers at the behest of the liberal Democrats and the news media in general. To the contrary, most Republicans are fiscally conservative and socially moderate, as is most of society. In fact, a recent USA Today/CNN/Gallup poll reveals some very interesting facts that dispel several myths concerning all parties. In the poll, participants were asked to identify their political ideology as either liberal, moderate or conservative. The results might surprise you. 63% of Republican respondents claim to be conservative, 29% moderate and 6% liberal. 23% of Democrats consider themselves conservative, 41% moderate and 25% liberal. 32% of Independents label their views conservative, 47% moderate and 16% liberal. Of the 63% of Republicans who espouse conservatism, only 7% consider themselves very conservative or extremist. The poll indicates that combined 39% of society is conservative, 39% moderate and 17% liberal.

Pat Buchanan's second place finish in the Iowa caucuses sent the media into overload with hyperbole over the influence of the religious right and the Christian Coalition in the party. To be sure, the religious right is a powerful organization and they do have influence but that cannot be construed as to suggest that all Republicans are zealots. Iowa is a conservative state comprised of many individuals who consider themselves Christian and they showed up at the polls. The dismal turnout in Iowa, one of the lowest in several decades, catapulted Buchanan to second. This brings about an interesting point. If only 6% of Democrats are unabashed liberals and 7% of Republicans are devout conservatives, why do these fringe elements wield so much power in their respective parties? Passion. That's right, passion. The leftist liberals and the radical right wing fringes are so steadfast in their ideology that they are motivated to do whatever it takes to succeed, including wielding their perceived clout in any way they can, despite the fact that other than in their party apparatus, they don't wield any power at all. There has been evidence of this both locally and nationally.

Locally, the HGLPC endorsement of Jew Don Boney for city council is a prime example. While the caucus would like to suggest that their endorsement contributed to his winning the election, the poll results from Montrose precincts indicate otherwise. In fact, his opponent received more gay votes than he did. So while it appears as though we wielded considerable influence, the fact is we did not since the candidate who received most of the gay votes was actually defeated at the polls. In politics, its called a spin and there are "spin doctors," whose sole job is to analyze the results to their organization or candidates favor. It's quite common in an industry where perception is more important than reality.

Nationally, one only needs to turn on CNN or any other news network and watch the political pundits spin the data of even the worst results to their favor. Bob Dole is a prime example. If you listened to him or his campaign staff, he is the savior of the Republican Party and the front-runner for the GOP nomination as a result of his victory in Iowa. Pat Buchanan's second place finish clearly demonstrates, first and foremost, the party's disenchantment with Dole. The Republican party will not nominate Pat Buchanan, much to the chagrin of Democrats, because they know he could not win—he is too extreme. In fact, not only is Mr. Buchanan a right wing fanatic, he is also the most liberal candidate with respect to economic issues in the entire field of presidential candidates. Since his nomination prospects are dismal at best, that leaves us with three other candidates who could have a chance at viability: Bob Dole, Steve Forbes and Lamar Alexander.

Texas Senator Phil Gramm was expected to drop out of the race Wednesday, shortly before the primary in New Hampshire as his campaign is a dead duck. Bob Dole's showing in Iowa clearly demonstrates that his support as the party's nominee is not locked up. In fact, exit polls showed that most Republicans do not feel that Dole has the necessary elements to wage a formidable campaign against Clinton in November, a fact with which I must concur. Keep in mind that the majority of Republicans who participated in the caucus voted for someone other than Dole, not exactly a ringing endorsement. Despite the Dole camp's spin of the results, I would venture to say that his nomination prospects are hovering around 50-50. That withers the field down to Alexander and Forbes. Alexander's impressive showing in Iowa was the evenings true success story. His campaign had been considered floundering and his third place finish demonstrates that he is a viable contender indeed. Historically, the front-runner in Iowa doesn't translate into a win in the November contest. In 1988 George Bush received 18.6% of the vote in Iowa compared to Dole's 37.4% and went on to resoundingly capture the White House. With respect to Forbes, he can not totally be discounted yet. He still ties Dole in New Hampshire, a state where the religious right does not have a well organized grass roots structure.

As for polls that suggest none of the Republican candidates would beat Clinton, I would remind you that in 1980 a Gallup Poll showed that then President Carter would clobber challenger Ronald Reagan by 57%—27%. Need I say more. It is absolutely ludicrous to lend credence to these polls considering that they never prove true come election time. When both candidates are chosen and start debating the issues is when the electorate will decide whom they choose to support and prior to that everything is merely speculative conjecture. As it stands now, we don't know who the nominee will be, although I would venture to say it will either be Forbes or Alexander. Other factors that will play a role during the next 8 1/2 months of political posturing in determining the outcome include Whitewater, the state of the economy, U.S. involvement in Bosnia, Ross Perot and voter turnout to name a few. At any rate, 1996 promises to be a fun and interesting election cycle that will inevitably wield some surprises that even the best of pundits will not be able to predict.

SPORTS NOTES

Lambda Rollers

The Lambda Rollerskating Club is planning its next Skate Night at the Starlight Roller Rink Wednesday, Feb. 21 from 8:30 to 10:30 p.m. The skating rink is located at 8075 Cook Road.

Everyone is welcome to skate and a variety of events will be scheduled along with door prizes. Admission to the rink is \$5 and, if needed, skate rental is available for an additional \$1.

The skating club will be electing officers Feb. 25 at 10:00 a.m. For more information about Lambda and its skating events, contact gayskate@aol.com or telephone 933-5818.

Bowling Rollers

The Montrose Monday Night Men's League reports the following standings. Division A is headed by Party of Four, The Queen Sick Court, and Dem Damn Dawgs. Division B reports In By 9 Dirty in first, Tennis Anyone? in second, and Five Easy Pieces in third. High scratch game of 277 was bowled by Joe Petersen and series of 707 by Rodney Seiler. For more information call Gardy at 641-5424. Bowling is at the Palace Lanes and begins at 9:00 p.m.

The Inner Loop Alternative Sunday Evening League is headed by Screw It! in first place, To Wong Fo U? in second, and Sticky Wickets in third. For the men Ray Davis bowled high scratch game of 248 and Bob Roberts rolled series high with 641. For the women, Peri Cain bowled high scratch game of 246 and series of 567. For more information call Tom at 522-9612. Bowling is at the Palace Lanes and

begins at 7:00 p.m.

The Wednesday Night Mixers has in first place, 3 Tops And A Bottom, Half & Half in second and in third, Robbed—Call 911. For the men Jack Adams bowled high scratch game of 243 and Chris Bennett series of 611. For the women Terry Shannon bowled high scratch game of 186 and series of 504. Bowling is at AMF Southway at 6:30 p.m. For more information, call Tom at 522-9612.

The Monday Night Women's League reports first place is taken by Maybe, Maybe Not, second by Lesbordados, third by Festive Foursome and fourth by Taz Club. For more information call Pat at 437-6218. Bowling is at 6:15 p.m. at the AMF Southway Lanes.

A No-Tap Candlelight doubles Tournament is Saturday, Feb. 17 at the Palace Lanes beginning with registration at 7:00 p.m. and bowling at 8 o'clock.

HMBL Standings

The Houston Metropolitan Billiards League (HMBL) has posted its third week standings with Coalition's won game average of .756 heading the 13-team roster.

J.R.'s Cue Crew's average of .644 places them in second while a .578 won game average puts the Jackson 5 in third place. The HMBL plays Tuesday evenings.

Team captains are reminded to fill in the sportsmanship on your side of the score sheet, and all players are reminded of the rule "Any person involved in any unsportsmanlike conduct will be suspended from the League, until the following monthly called meeting."

NEWS NOTES

Compiled by Mark Henry

Anti-Gay Rally In Iowa

The Colorado for Family Values group unveiled a new video entitled "The Ultimate Target of the Gay Agenda" at its anti-gay rally in Des Moines, Iowa last Saturday, Feb. 20, just prior to the Iowa caucuses. The purpose of the video is to protect marriage against the "destructive, demoralizing, disruptive and extensive impact of legalizing same sex marriage." The Human Rights Campaign (HRC) lambasted the rally which was organized by several national religious right political organizations who intend to stir public fear of same-sex marriage throughout the nation. "In the Republican presidential political calculus, they need an enemy. At the moment, we seem to be it," said David Smith, communications director for HRC. GOP presidential candidates Pat Buchanan, Phil Gramm and Alan Keyes addressed the anti-gay rally which was telecast live on C-SPAN. Candidates Steve Forbes, Bob Dole and Lamar Alexander did not attend; however, the sent letters of support, specifically with respect to the marriage plank. "I fully support the position taken in the resolution—that the state should not legalize same-sex 'marriages' but 'should continue to reserve the special sanction of civil marriage for one man and one woman as husband and wife,'" Dole wrote in his letter dated Feb. 8. "You would have thought that candidates like Bob Dole would have learned by now that pandering to the most extreme right groups and bashing gays will only come back to hurt you," replied Rich Tafel, president of Log Cabin.

Baboon Cell Implants Fail

The controversial baboon bone marrow implant into AIDS patient Jeff Getty has not produced disease-fighting cells as hoped, according to Dr. Steven Deeks. Deeks, who performed the procedure last December at San Francisco General Hospital, said that Getty is doing "surprisingly well," in spite of the implants failure to work. Getty, 38, who is currently undergoing chemotherapy told USA Today that his immune system is doing "wonderfully." "I actually feel better than when I went into the hospital," said Getty. Previous experiments with baboon infusions have also failed when the cells were rejected by humans. Deeks said this particular procedure proved that a baboon bone marrow infusion is safe and that "we'll be more aggressive with the next approach."

Republican Legislators Rated

Almost half of the Republicans in Congress are neutral on issues concerning homosexuals in spite of the party's image of being anti-gay, according to an in-depth analysis conducted by the Log Cabin Republicans, a gay Republican organization. The comprehensive study reviewed legislative votes, statements, hiring practices and other pertinent actions of the 235 GOP Congressman and 52 Senators. Each lawmaker was scored on a scale of 0 to 100 and placed in eight categories ranging from "Leader" to "Antagonistic," based on the results. The study revealed that 34

senators and 109 House members were classified as "Tolerant" and considered to be "the neutral ground," according to the organization. In the "Nonsupportive," "Hostile" and "Antagonistic" category were 18 senators and 127 House members. Perfect scores were relegated to Sen. John H. Chafee (R.I.), Sen. James M. Jeffords (VT) and Rep. Steve Gunderson of Wisconsin who is the only openly gay Republican in Congress. Of all the GOP lawmakers, only two earned a score of zero. North Carolina Senator Jesse Helms and California Representative Robert Dornan. Richard Tafel, executive director of the Log Cabin Republicans said the study confirms "there is a wide spectrum of views on gay and lesbian issues," within the Republican Party.

Reich Condemns Corporate Tax-Breaks

Secretary of Labor Robert Reich called corporations seeking tax breaks from state and local governments "irresponsible." "This practice simply deserves condemnation. ...this is simply an example of bad corporate citizenship," Reich revealed in a recent interview. The Labor Department is planning to release the results of a study conducted to determine the cost of the tax breaks governments offer business. Martin Regalia, who is the chief economist at the U.S. Chamber of Commerce, said that in a free market companies choose to relocate for a host of legitimate reasons, one of which includes tax costs. Regalia called Reich's comments "baloney" and "wrongheaded." "Is he unaware that communism has fallen?" Regalia asked. Reich stressed that he blames the companies and not the local governments.

Clinton Signs Defense Bill

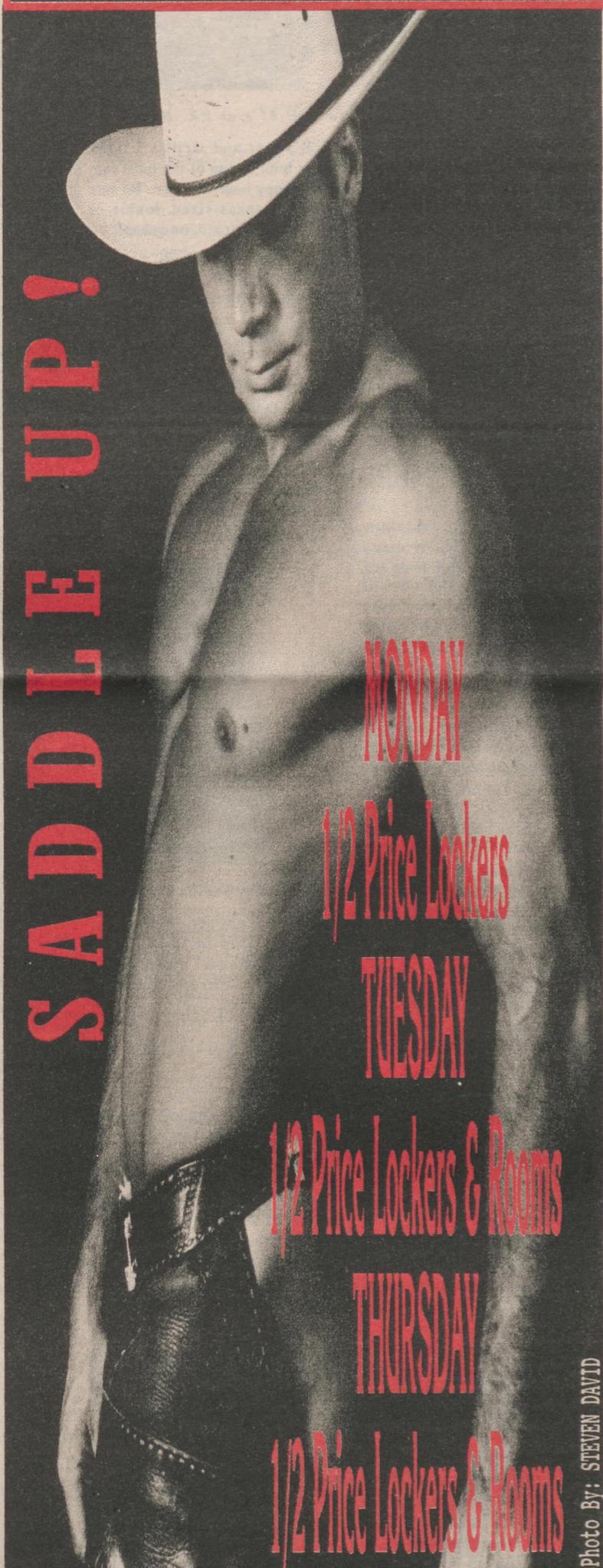
President Clinton signed the \$265 billion defense bill Saturday and said he would battle for the repeal of the "blatantly discriminatory" section, referring to the provision offered by California Rep. and presidential candidate Bob Dornan that would discharge 1049 men and women in the armed forces who have tested positive for the HIV virus. Clinton defended his signing of the bill due to the essential contributions to the welfare of service members and their military mission. He added that he will fight for the repeal of the provision and ask the Supreme court to throw it out on the basis that it is unconstitutional. The AIDS Action Council, a national organization devoted solely to shaping federal AIDS policy and legislation and advocating increased AIDS funding, labeled Clinton's signing of the bill a "sad chapter in AIDS history." "President Clinton did not need to, nor should he have, signed into law a bill codifying such a blatantly discriminatory and un-American provision," the group said. Elizabeth Birch, executive director for the HRC, said "Now that the president has signed the bill, he is responsible for this measure...we will hold him accountable for keeping the promise he has made to see this odious measure repealed."

TELL US HOW WE'RE DOING!

The HOUSTON VOICE is your Voice in Houston, and we value your input and suggestions. Write us at 811 Westheimer, Suite 105, Houston TX 77006 (Fax: 529-9531) to tell us what you like and don't like or to share your own creative ideas. (Please indicate if your letter is for input only, as we also receive numerous letters for publication).



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SADDLE UP!

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THURSDAY
1/2 Price Lockers & Rooms

Photo By: STEVEN DAVID

24 HOURS a day
365 DAYS a year

Mardi Gras Texas Style!



The Court presents \$10,000 to the Colt 45's at P.R. Ball II!

Houston Soap

By CAROLYN ROBERTS

Houston Voice/Houston

Friday, Feb. 16

Mardi Gras madness hits Galveston this weekend! The Kon-Tiki is having a weekend-long party with the Muscles-in-Action dancers and super hot shows. The Kon-Tiki is just outside the gate and you don't have to pay the gate charge to get in! The Kon-Tiki is hot fun! Over at Evolution, Pam Ross and the 10 'till 6 band will be playing in the upstairs bar on Saturday night starting at 10:00 p.m. Evolution also has rainbow Mardi Gras beads available and the stages are full of both male and female dancers! Evolution will be open for after hours for those party animals that just can't stop partying! The main event is the Silk Stocking Ball! This event is held at Moody Gardens and they invite you to stroll the streets of New Orleans! This year there will be an actual parade with decorated floats, the Knights of Regina Color Guard, Puppet Pizzazz and who knows what else! Returning for the second year, Dr. Rockit will help you dance the night away along with the Dixie Kings, and Houston's own "Party Animals!" Tickets are available by calling 409-765-5891.

Friday foreplay at Pacific Street! Some of the best sounds in town fill the walls and you will be mesmerized by the Lazer Wizard's laser light show! The doors open at 7:00 p.m., so get ready to dance, dance, dance!

Casey hits the stage at Bacchus II tonight with her cool country sounds! If you dare, you can join her on stage for some karaoke!

"Coming Out" tonight? Join Ruby Stone and Jim Halbert tonight at Chances for a variety/drag show tonight. This is a benefit for the Reign XII of the Royal, Sovereign and Imperial Court of the Single Star. Show time is 8:30 p.m.



Whose wig closet is this?

J.R.'s Bar and Grill's Friday happy hour is one of the most fun-filled happy hours in town. Be sure to have a texas-sized double or munch on hors d'oeuvres!

Saturday, Feb. 17

Buses leave from both the Brazos River Bottom and the Ripcord for Mardi Gras in Galveston at 10:00 a.m.

Mary's offers hamburgers-n-stuff on the patio this afternoon as well as 50c draft beer and a movie matinee at 3:00 p.m. With Houston's warming weather, the patio of Mary's, naturally is the place to spend a Saturday afternoon. Saturday nights at the Venture



Alec and Tom smile behind the bar at J.R.'s.

are filled with men, music, and madness! Stop in and find out where a lot of hunky men are hanging out on Saturday nights!

Sunday, Feb. 18

If you are going to be in New Orleans today, the Sunday before the "fat," you are invited to participate in the 5th annual "Rosa La Gorda Parade," at high noon at the Corner Pocket Bar, 940 St. Louis. The theme of this year's parade is "Rosa Goes to Egypt," so the queens of the mighty Mississippi will be floating down in de Nile! The parade (bar run) winds through the streets of the French Quarter to some of the finest community bars that serve reasonably

priced cocktails and have easily accessible rest rooms. This high "kamp," not politically "kor-rect" event is again sponsored by (no I did not make this up) the National Association for Advancement of Mexican Whores. If you need more info, you can call Rainbo de Klown, Houston's charter member at 448-0959.

The Ripcord offers \$1.50 well cocktails and domestic long-necks all day and all night, all Sunday, all right!

"Ranglers Round-Up 2" hits the Brazos River Bottom tonight at 7:30 p.m. Performances by way too many to list local celebrities and non-profit groups! This is a benefit for the Bering Care Center. This should be one heck of a show. Don't forget that you can enjoy steak-n-stuff on the patio before the show!

Sundays at Gentry are full of fun and surprises! The 8-ball tournament starts at 5:00 p.m. and the Boy Toys also start at 5:00 p.m. At 8:00 p.m., the Royal, Sovereign and Imperial Court of the Single Star presents "A Salute to the Silver Screen" at 9:00 p.m. Black Velvett takes the stage at 11:00 p.m. to make the boys strip to almost naked! A filling day at Gentry!

Bourbon Street? Pacific Street? Beads! Trinkets! Mardi Gras Pacific Street



Bears in Heat 2 at the Venture-N.

lockers tonight! This is an inexpensive way to enjoy the facilities of the Club Houston for a mere pittance!

Boxer shorts and booze are on the menu tonight at the Ripcord! Stop in to find out which bartender fills out his boxers the best!

Every night is live at the Briar-Patch! They play the songs you want to hear! Stop in for a Texas-sized martini or one of their other tasty cocktails and sing the night away!

Tuesday, Feb. 20



Local vocalist Keith Caldwell at 'Hats Off to the Montrose Clinic' benefit, Sunday at City Streets (Photo by Kim Thompson)

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

"Bounce Your Boobies with 2 Rubys!" Ruby Stone and Ruby Barbeaux present the 1st Breast Cancer Awareness Show tonight at Chances! Performances by Ruby Barbeaux, Ruby Stone, Jim Halbert, Renee Monroe, Crystal Rae Lee Love, Trixie Trux-stop, Debbie DuPont, B.J. West, the Women in Comfortable Shoes (WICS) band with Susan Maser, Barbara Walker, Frankie Ferranto, Rita Charles, Marilyn Marx, Michael Jones, Jerry Morin, Babe, Rebecca, Regina Dane, Linda Kelly, and Ouisa! This fundraiser benefits the Marion Panser Breast Cancer Fund thru the Montrose Clinic. This is a show not to be missed! The boobies bounce on stage starting at 5:30 p.m.

You can have a light brunch today at the 611 Hyde Park Pub! Brunch is served starting at 12:30 p.m.

Sundays at the Montrose Mining Company are full of hot men, pounding music, and cold beer! The Mine offers a \$2 optional buy-in and refills of ice cold Miller Lite Draft for only 25c or you can enjoy any domestic longneck for only a buck!

Monday, Feb. 19

The Club Houston offers 1/2 price

Man of the month finals are tonight at J.R.'s Bar and Grill! All winners from the previous four weeks of nightly strip contests compete for \$300 in cash prizes and the title of Mr. Aquarius '96. The contest starts at 11:00 p.m. with the dynamic duo Kofi and Lindsay Love! J.R.'s Bar and Grill also celebrates February birthdays tonight! Show the bartender your driver's license to prove you are a February baby, and J.R.'s will have a cake and presents for you! Don't forget to have a \$2 long-neck, well cocktails, frozen 'Rita, or wine!

Pacific Street celebrates Fat Tuesday tonight with \$2 Hurricanes and \$1 Hurricane shots all night long! The doors open at 9:00 p.m.

Jody wants to teach you to dance, C&W style tonight at the Brazos River Bottom. Dance lessons are free and they start at 9:30 p.m.

Wanna work off your Fat Tuesday? After a good work-out at the Club Houston, you can rent a room for 1/2 price tonight! The lockers are 1/2 price too!

Tara Dion will be the guest MC tonight at E/J's for the super Tuesday show. This week's guests are Kalexus

Davenport, Kourtney Van Wells, Tandy Cole and the winner from Saturday night's talent contest. Join Tara at 11:00 p.m. for this all-star cast show!

Absolut Mardi Gras! The Ripcord offers Absolut drinks for \$1.75 all day and all night!

Matchmaker, matchmaker... make me a match! Well, Cuervolyn and Cuervo Tuesdays at Mary's, naturally are a match!

Wednesday, Feb. 21

Hump on down to Mary's, naturally, for happy hour prices all day and all night! I love a good hump!

Head over to the Lazy J tonight and enjoy tasty cocktails and stimulating conversation!

Commander Catia coos coy, capable candidates to caucus for cash tonight a Gentry! In other words, the male strip contest, hosted by Catia Lee Love starts at 11:00 p.m.

Cousin's has a dart tournament tonight at 8:30 p.m.! Stop in and give darts a shot!

Retro-rave at Heaven tonight make you want to get out on the dance floor and shake your groove thing!

\$1 longnecks all day and all night tonight a the Venture-N! Be sure to check out the Venture-N's hunky bartenders!

Shiela Lennon sings live tonight on the stage at Chances! Her sultry sounds start at 9:00 p.m.

Thursday, Feb. 22

Scott and the Rainbow Ranglers teach C&W dance lessons at 9:00 p.m. tonight at the Brazos River Bottom. If you want dinner before you dance, head out to the patio for chili and hamburgers from 6:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m.

The Boy Toys will make you reach for the Skyy tonight at Gentry! The boys wiggle from 9:00 p.m. and the Skyy martinis are only \$3!

Marilyn "Conchita" Marks hosts "South of the Border" night tonight at E/J's. Join Conchita and her guests Blanca Debris, China Doll, Paivi Lee Love and Shanna Lloyd and they ole' tonight at 11:00 p.m.



Hello Handsome!

More and Less Rodent Droppings!



Darren and Jimmy Partying in New Orleans

Houston Soap

(Continued from preceding Page)

Other Important Stuff

Coming soon to a theater near you! Crossroads Market Bookstore and Cafe will be opening a new location at 1111 Westheimer! Yes, that is in the old Tower Theater where the new Hollywood Video store is located. Opening in March, Crossroads will offer a combination of books and coffee in a relaxed, Montrose style atmosphere! This new store may give a whole new meaning to "cruising the bookstore!"

Do you know what Let Us Entertain You (L.U.E.Y.) weekend is? Well, I do! It started officially 23 years ago when a bunch of people stumbled over from Mardi Gras in New Orleans to Houston to continue the party! What started out as a "group of party animals" has become one of the largest party weekends in Houston. This event is sponsored by the Houston Council of Clubs (HCC), a club of clubs, so to speak! The run fee is \$10 and includes 16 "cocktail parties," munchies, dinner catered by Carter and Cooley, 2 brunches, and a laugh-riotous show! Last year, 504 people registered for this weekend-long party and HCC expects to surpass that number this year! If you have never been on a "run," this is the best one to try! Registration is at the Venture-N on Friday, Feb. 23, starting at 8:00 p.m. and then again on Saturday, Feb. 24 at 11:00 a.m. at Mary's. If you would like more info, you can call me (I'm an HCC member) at the office 529-8490 or HCC chairperson, Bob Bouton at 956-9504.

The Lovett Inn has rooms available for L.U.E.Y. weekend. Call 522-5224, but hurry, they don't have many left!

Don't forget that after the finale of L.U.E.Y., "Dallas Does Houston with Love." This fundraiser is the 2nd part of a 2-part Dallas/Houston effort! MC Larry Arbo introduces co-owners of the Dallas Eagle Mark Fraizer and Matt Miller, J.D. Buchert,



Back stage at E/J's.

Donna Dumae, and the incredible talents of Carmen Del Rio! This show will be at the Brazos River Bottom on Feb. 25, at 7:00 p.m.

Lots of fun for L.U.E.Y. weekend! Gentry is having a special "Boy Toys in Leather" matinee on Feb. 24 for the guests of L.U.E.Y! Gyration are from 1:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m.

Lobo has Jeffrey available. Don't forget that Lobo always has a 20% discount on all hardbacks, and paperbacks are discounted 10% everyday! Lobo is located at 1424 Westheimer.

Tax time is rapidly approaching! If you need help, call Hubbard Financial at 522-9000 before Uncle Sam wants you!

Basic Brothers is having an underwear sale! Buy one pair, get the 2nd pair for 50% off. The sale includes 2Xist, Calvin Klein, and Sauvage, plus the rest of their inventory!

Heights Tanning Center is offering \$30 per month for unlimited tanning sessions! There are no hidden fees! Call 802-9373 to set up your appointment!

The AIDS Housing Coalition Houston needs donations of furniture, appliances, electronics, and other rummage items for the upcoming "1996 Spring Rummage-A-Rama." All proceeds to benefit the TLC House emergency HIV/AIDS housing program. Items of value can be issued a tax deductible receipt. Anything that still works is needed for this event! To donate goods or volunteer, call 521-1613. The sale is on March 2. Get it out of the closet and into the yard!

Are you confused about Houston's alternative retreat Feathers? Located at 427 Westheimer, on the corner of Westheimer and Whitney, Feathers appears from the outside a very non-descript small professional building that has only the address in neon as its only identifiable signage. With discrete parking in the rear, one can only see, as one enters Feathers, that this is an extremely upscale hideaway for the curious. The entry fee is \$40 and you get to choose from several gorgeous models as well as the theme room of your desires, such as Share/Ecstasy, Fly Me to the Moon, Cowboy Heaven, and Victorian Delight. One can easily find a room to fit one's fantasy.

Feathers also boasts the best equipped domination room in Houston and features specialists in the field. If you would like more info, call 527-8950.

Do you like live performances? Mark your calendar for Martha Walsh on March 3 and Planet Soul on March 9. Where else, but Heaven?

Keep your calendar

out! March 3 at Mary's, naturally there will be a "Spring Cleaning" Review and on March 13, the galaxy famous, party 'till your drop annual BRB-Mary's Switch!

We welcome Locke, Albert, Proffitt and Lea to our family of advertisers. Michael Locke is a "Wealth Builder," aka a financial planner. If you need his advice, call 964-6799.

This week's features at the French Quarter are "Sex Triggers" and "Big Balls in Cowtown." Where do they get these titles?

Birthday and Anniversary Corner

A Happy (I'm wild and crazy) birthday to Jennifer aka Jezebel.

A Happy 7 year "itch" to Maggie of the Houston Voice and Cindy!

A Happy belated (I love Bill's nubbie head) Birthday to Scott (Charlie's).

A Happy (Yes, I'm a computer nut) Birthday to Matt of the Houston Voice!

A Happy (I love jewelry) Birthday to Lulu at E/J's

A Happy (I'll sell you a house) Birthday to Mark at Suzanne Anderson Properties and Bacchus II!

A Happy (I love to pour you a cocktail) Birthday to Becky at Bacchus II.

Rodent Droppings

It has been a very busy couple of weeks for me and the rats! They are getting a little cage fever; they have not been out much in the new house! I should be finished

unpacking in a year or two, not really! The rodents did not have much in the bottom of their cages this week! Sorry, maybe I should feed them prunes!

Vera (BRB): I understand that it is hard for your husband to leave hickies on your neck! Too many wrinkles!

Dean W. (NLA:H): Did you have to build an extra closet to store your new sash?

Susan Maser: I'm glad we are still engaged! What does Marlene think about this?

Gary (Ripcord): Was that "Eat Big Red" or "Drink Big Red?"

Bill (Basic Brothers): Are you sure you don't lease your underwear? Lesser or lesser?

Jessica Van Shelton: Did you get drunk and forget where you parked your little blue roller skate? You better come move it 'for it gets towed away girl!

Scotty (Mary's): I just love doing it orally with you!

Margie (Margie's Flowers): Well, can you remember if you went out or not?

Jody (Chances): Is it true you were caught kissing an umpire in the bathroom?



Tim, Jerial, Miles, & Michael helped make the "Honey, I Love You, but I've Gone to the Tubs" party a tremendous success!

Devin (Mary's): How's it hangin' baby?

Sam (BRB): I hear you are trading your truck in on a new one... the old truck has mud on the bumpers! Where has it been?

J.T. (PS): Did you really loose your c-ring at the tubs? Or, as I was told, someone stole it off of you while you were "sleeping/passed out?"

Scott Lewis (Heaven): Do you get tacos nightly and are they heavenly?

Bud (Hangs at BRB): How long did you have to wait on Curly (hangs at BRB) to get through with the gynecologist Thursday morning?

Woody (Hangs everywhere): I understand a warning is in order! You are going back to work!

Ricky: A message from Vera (BRB) "My name could be Sam if I got pretty flowers, too!"

Tommy Sue (BRB): Rod tells me that you like the fact that he "comes with one finger" on command!

Rickles and Pico? Sounds like a really bad Mexican food dish!

Gaye (Mary's): Do you have any photos of Barbara naked? I know where you can get some!

Bobby O'Brien: I hear you are tough and chewy!

Miss A: (BRB): Did you have fun in Dallas? Is Big D the reason you were sitting on a pillow all day Monday?

Nelly Kelly: Has your beer bitten you back lately?

Chuck (BRB): I understand that you have a problem falling through the floor! Trying to impress Miss Molly?

Sam (Hangs at BRB): Dirt on your boots! Don't know where it came from, and forgot how to use the pay phone! Really, does a night out with Sue Ellen (BRB) do this to you?

Tom (J.R.'s): And I quote "I was in the Army for 4 years; I know how to feel them out!"

Have a great week!

TTFN,

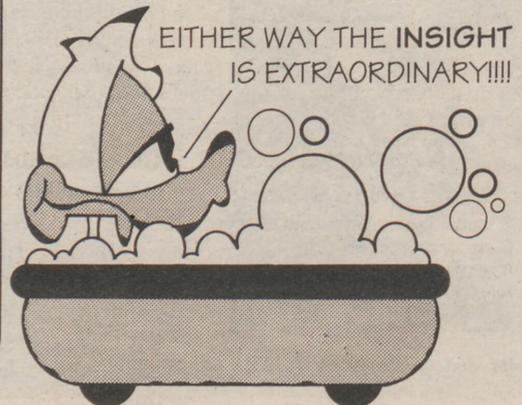
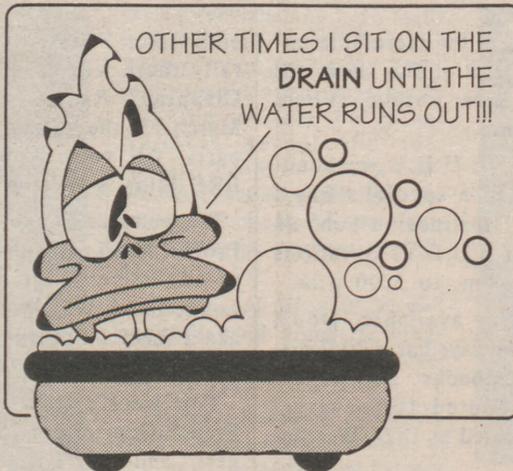
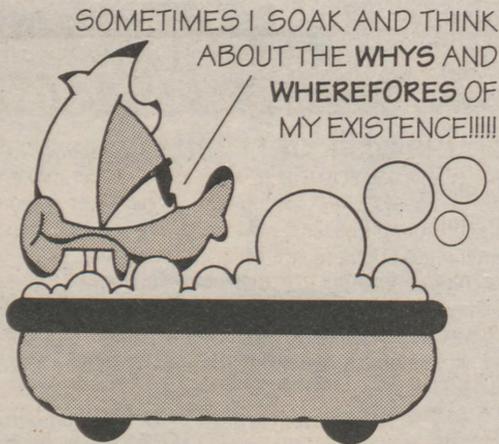
Cuervolyn



Rainbo de Klown does Mardi Gras

such is LIFE!

©EARL STORM



INTERNET: [HTTP://WWW.GAYWIRED.COM/UNITY/QUACK/SUCHLIFE.HTM](http://www.gaywired.com/unity/quack/suchlife.htm) E-MAIL: QUACKATEER@AOL.COM

CLASSIFIEDS

To advertise in the Houston Voice Classifieds call (713) 529-8490 or (800) 729-8490 if not in Houston. Office hours are 9:00 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. Monday through Friday

ANNOUNCEMENTS

STUDIO 911 - A HAIR SALON
Don Gill - (713) 521 - 0911 - 77006

STEVEN DAVID PHOTOGRAPHER
787-0785
E mail: D.CARDS@IX.NETCOM.COM

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NEW! NEW! NEW! NEW!
Dateline for everyone. Gay, Lesbian, Straight, Spanish. 1-900-420-8686, ext. 476. 24 hrs. \$2.00/min., t-tone required. 18+. Avalon Comm. (305) 525-0800.

FOR RENT

Apartments. Condos. Houses. All Areas. Chris Bear (713) 268-2247. CITHOMES

MONTROSE/TLC HOUSE
HIV/AIDS group residence. Furnished, bills paid, free laundry, no deposits. Room \$250 monthly/\$75 weekly; vouchers welcome. (713) 521-1613.

FOR SALE

When was the last time someone set off your Sirens? 10 musical diva strut their stuff on "SirenSong: A Celebration of Women in Music."

HELP WANTED

Landscaping: No drunks/druggies. Clean cut, hard working only need apply. 861-9762

Care for elderly man in Katy 4-5 days a week. Call 392-2995.

ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT
Advertising agency seeking full-time entry level administrative assistant. Must have excellent organizational and people skills. Room for advancement with a growing company. Call 627-1177, ask for Robert.

STYLIST w/clientele needed for upscale salon inside the loop/Galleria area.
GREAT COMMISSION & INSURANCE.
664-0959.

KENN KLEANING is looking for full-time & part-time help cleaning offices & residences. Must be honest, dependable & have reliable transportation. Call 661-3243.

HOUSTON'S #1 LEVI-LEATHER CRUISE BAR - THE MONTROSE MINING COMPANY - is accepting applications for honest, hardworking team players to work as bartenders, barbacks and doorstaff. Apply Mondays 12-2 p.m. with a recent photo. No phone calls. **MONTROSE MINING COMPANY, 805 Pacific, Houston**

The **VENTURE-N** is looking for bartenders and doormen. Applications accepted daily from 2 p.m. - 4 p.m. at 2923 Main St. No phone calls, please.

Take a chance! **CHANCES** is looking for bartenders, barback & waitstaff. Call 523-7217 after 2pm. Ask for Marlene.

The **CLUB HOUSTON** now accepting applications for all positions. Apply in person. Mon. - Thurs., 10 a.m. - 2 p.m. 2205 Fannin

GENTRY is accepting applications for door, barbacks and bartenders. Please apply in person at 2303 Richmond Ave. from 2 pm to 6 pm. A recent photo is required. No telephone calls please.

The **BRB** is accepting applications for bartender, doorman, floor & barback positions and security. Applications accepted daily until 4:00pm at 2400 Brazos. Photo required. No phone calls.

MALE DANCERS NEEDED
Earn top dollars in finest facility in Houston. 527-8950

WORK WANTED

For professional house & yard work, call Ray (713) 846-3339. (pgr)

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529-8808 - 603-5568 (pgr)
(MT #010270)

Bill O'Rourke (#0431), masseur with an attitude, is proud to support Soiree Aubergine. (713) 864-2233. (For info. on Soiree Aubergine, call Gentr's)

MEN'S RESOURCES

PENIS-NIPPLE ENLARGEMENT
Professional vacuum pumps with instructions. Gain 1" to 3". Permanent, safe. Enhance erection. Free brochures. Dr. Joel Kaplan (312) 409-5557. Latest surgical/non-surgical enlargement information: 1-900-976-PUMP (\$2.95/min)

MUSIC

CLASSICAL MUSIC
Interested in getting together in a small group to play for fun? Any instrument or voice. For more info. call Rudi (713) 524-8785.

PSYCHICS

PSYCHIC VISIONS
Elaine Palmer specializes in reuniting lovers permanently. She can reveal your destiny, as well as your lover's. Tarot card, aura, sand crystal and palm readings available. \$10 special with ad. Call 528-0946, 2202 W. Alabama.

ROOMMATES WANTED

ROOMMATES DISCOVERED
Houston's best roommate referral service. Call 468-5663

MONTROSE: Male, no drugs, \$179.00, expenses. 528-7628

HEIGHTS: Furnished 3/1, W/D, cable, utilities paid, smoker ok, prefer student. \$300/mo or swap portion for cooking, cleaning, etc. Call Frank 869-3331 evenings.

Oak Forest: Share 3/2/2, W/D, off-street covered parking. \$400/mo. bills paid. 682-2846 (leave message).

SERVICES

GRAPHIC DESIGN and LAYOUT of Resumes, Newsletters, Letterhead, Business Cards, Envelopes, Advertisements, Flyers, etc...
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862-3266

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(713) 666-9373

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I always work with a control word. Daddy Blade (713) 864-2233.



Gr.Am.Puz. Solution
c.1996 GULF FEATURES, Puzzle TX165
initialled names: Roger Mudd, Robert MacNeil, W.C. Fields, Will Rogers

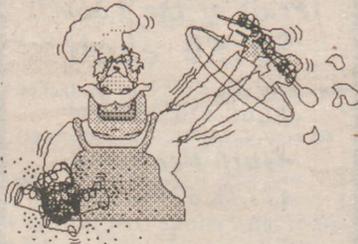
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RECIPES BY KUNTRY KIDD

Hi! Last week I had a recipe faxed to me, and I would like to share this one with you. I fixed these cookies over the weekend, and I only wish I could have gotten it to you in the last issue so you could have fixed them for your "Valentine." Oh well! You don't have to have a "Valentines Day" to fix something sweet for your sweetheart! This recipe, from what the fax said, is a recipe from Neiman-Marcus, and someone paid \$250 for this recipe. Maybe we should find out who this someone is and take up a collection from all the readers and help him/her with the cost since they shared it with us. I wonder how many readers out there shared it with us?!

Neiman-Marcus Cookie Recipe (How to add inches to your waist)

- 2 C. butter (let come to room temperature)
- 2 C. sugar
- 2 C. brown sugar
- 4 eggs
- 2 Tsp. vanilla
- 4 C. flour
- 1 tsp. salt
- 2 tsp. baking powder
- 2 tsp. baking soda
- 3 C. chopped pecans or almonds (not walnuts)
- 1 8-oz Hershey bar, grated
- 5 C. oatmeal
- 24 oz. chocolate chips



Blend oatmeal in blender to fine powder. Cream butter and both sugars. Add eggs and vanilla. Mix together flour, oatmeal, salt, baking powder and soda and add to butter mixture. Add chocolate chips, Hershey bar and nuts.

Roll into balls and place 2 inches apart on cookie sheet. Bake 10 minutes in a 375 degree oven. Makes 112 (10 dozen) cookies. This recipe may be halved very easily.

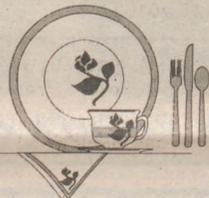
I found this recipe is very thick, even for my heavy-duty "Kitchen-Aid." I was able to mix the batter until it came time to add the chocolate chips and the nuts. I put the batter into a wide-mouth, shallow bowl and completed the mixing with my hands. I never got all the nuts and chips to stick in the batter, so you push them in as you go.

For the nuts, I used sliced almonds and left them in their sliced form. I did not chop them smaller, and it makes a better look and also gives the cookie more substance when you bite into them. My significant other asked me not to chop them. I had my chopper out to pulverize them! It was a good tip!!

I baked the cookies for about 11 minutes 30 seconds. Since everyone's oven is a little different on temperatures, it doesn't hurt to roll a couple of balls out and bake just a couple at first to test for doneness, and also to see how much the batter will spread out. This way you don't have them running into each other. I found they don't spread a lot, and they are "oooooooooh so good!"

UNTIL NEXT WE EAT!

KUNTRY KIDD

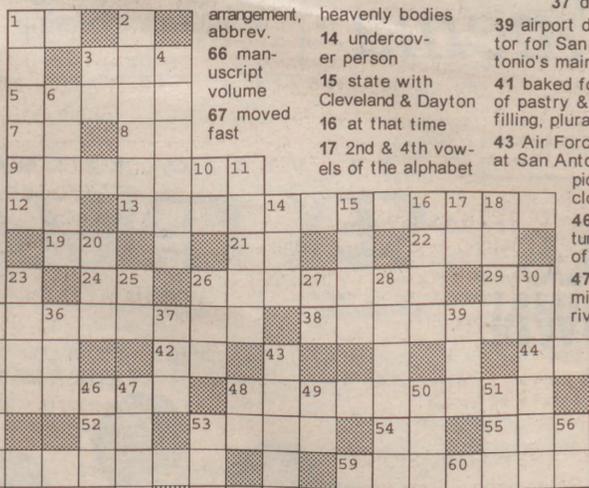


The Great American Puzzle

TEXAS EDITION

By Henry McClurg
ACROSS

- 1 what's left of 'die' if the suffix is dropped from the present participle form 'dying'
- 3 tall conical cap worn by Moslems
- 5 1st prime minister of republic of India
- 7 Roman numeral 4
- 8 Hawkeye State,



- 9 absolute ruler
- 12 Canadian province with capital Regina, abbrev.
- 13 it's made \$2.5 billion in its first 3 years, 2 words
- 19 every individual one, abbrev.
- 21 a long-playing record (originally a trademark)
- 22 half of crying sound boo ???
- 24 cola soft drink
- 26 reckless pleasure car ride
- 29 Old Dominion State, abbrev.
- 31 Ah yes, comedian Fields, initials ("Some things are better than sex, and some are worse, but there's nothing exactly like it.")
- 34 Mexican city across from Brownsville
- 38 time when the moon sets
- 40 goes away
- 42 Officer of the Guard abbrev.

- 2 arrangement, abbrev.
- 66 manuscript volume
- 67 moved fast
- heavenly bodies
- 14 undercover person
- 15 state with Cleveland & Dayton
- 16 at that time
- 17 2nd & 4th vowels of the alphabet
- 39 airport designator for San Antonio's main field
- 41 baked food of pastry & filling, plural
- 43 Air Force base at San Antonio
- 44 Yiddish interjection to express dismay
- 45 biggest computer software firm
- 48 ship museum, 'The Blue Ghost,' in Corpus Christi
- 52 early 20th century American author & actor Rogers, initials ("All I know is what I see in the papers.")
- 53 in an appropriate manner
- 54 Pelican State, abbrev.
- 55 lock opener
- 57 Texas 1st colonial capital had 200th birthday salute to Stephen F. Austin in 1993, 2 words
- 59 what the Mexican soldiers called themselves in 1836
- 61 Beehive State, abbrev.
- 62 bottomlessly
- 65 a personal career-ending financial
- 23 related to the horse
- 37 decay
- 46 nocturnal bird of prey
- 47 220-mile river
- 48 half of a lulu
- 49 3rd to last & 2nd to last letters of alphabet
- 50 annoyed
- 51 yes
- 53 scarcity
- 56 new way of saying hello
- 58 chemical symbol for gold
- 59 most smoky
- 60 Roman numeral 560
- 63 British lords or noblemen
- 64 cloths about the shoulders
- 65 exists
- 68 period of time
- 18 roam
- 20 annex
- 23 Prince Bismarck, creator of the German Empire, 1871; or Preminger, Austrian-born American producer
- 25 Centennial State, abbrev.
- 26 run at a steady trot
- 27 initials of TV news journalists Mudd & MacNeil
- 28 what one has done when they have retrieved computer software by phone
- 30 made amends
- 32 Roman numeral 400
- 33 short for



HOROSCOPE FOR THE WEEK OF FEBRUARY 16 - 22, 1996



IF THIS WEEK IS YOUR BIRTHDAY: You don't make it easy for other people to know you, putting up big walls between you and those around you and wondering why no one tries to get through them. Let others see your fun-loving side.
ARIES (March 21-April 20) Just when you were on a roll, your momentum slows down and everything sputters to a snail's pace. Plan a few outings to spice things up. If you've been holding your feelings back, don't go to the other extreme and express affections intensely.
TAURUS (April 21 - May 21) You may feel on top of the world, both physically and emotionally - don't take unnecessary risks.

Use a close friend as a sounding board for those ideas that have been churning within you for some time. If practical, your ideas will be good.

GEMINI (May 22 - June 21) Just being yourself will be a big asset in the workplace and at home. Your personal finance situation is rosy, be aware of get rich quick schemes, and make sure to think things through completely. Adjust to whatever it is that is bothering you.

CANCER (June 22 - July 23) Doors will open which will lead to wonderful family, property or household developments. Start the week with your eye fixed on an important target. If you don't concentrate and stick to your resolve, a number of possible distractions will send you off course.

LEO (July 24- August 23) Your romantic prospects are likely to enjoy a lively up-swing during the weeks ahead, as well as life in general. You will no doubt have more free time for pleasures. The romance theme will continue for some time, but you now have a more realistic view about love.

VIRGO (August 24 - September 23) A brighter future, concerning career activities, will now be in plain view. Many actions will be related to your income, so plan carefully. There is a fortunate accent on your home and property interests this week, and your personal aims are supported by all.

LIBRA (September 24 - October 23) Don't push your luck concerning a job or career opportunity. Confidence is good, but what you may be banking on now is not a sure thing. Your efficiency on the job will be noted by a superior. You will receive answers to some questions today.

SCORPIO (October 24 - November 22) Caution is the keyword. Try not to sound off in the heat of the moment; you will no doubt say things you will later regret. Be careful regarding any transportation plans. You have ideas which will eventually come to fruition, but be practical.

SAGITTARIUS (November 23 - December 21) Love and marriage is definitely in the air. If you are already married, you and your partner will share and communicate even more, which will strengthen the rapport within your relationship. If you are presently on the sidelines, you may soon fall in love!

CAPRICORN (December 22 - January 20) This week may seem long and unduly drawn out. There is trouble everywhere you look, so be aware of what you say and what you do; others may be overly sensitive. Concentrate on doing your best at work, instead of worrying about romantic uncertainties.

AQUARIUS (January 21 - February 19) Don't take on anymore tasks than you can really handle, or you may find yourself feeling totally drained. If there is a problem, you need to speak out and not let negative feelings fester inside. Work on your various friendships this week, people need to know you care.

PISCES (February 20 - March 20) A family member or friend could use some of your sympathy and quiet understanding this week. You are in tune to a lover's feelings and are appreciated for this fact. Watch out for any mood swings which may cause you to overdo it with regards to spending or eating and drinking.

Personal Instructions

TO PLACE A HOUSTON VOICE PERSONAL AD --

Come to our offices at 811 Westheimer, Suite 105. It's a good idea to write out (up to fifty words) what you want to say. The annual cost is only \$29.95 -- less than one dollar per week. (6months -\$17.50 and 3 months-\$10) At the office you will be given the functioning details. Ads can also be placed by mail, with payment enclosed, phone 713-529-8490, for details.
TO RECEIVE RESPONSES TO YOUR AD: A toll-free 800 number will let you know if you have recorded telephone responses. You can then listen to these responses on a 900 number using your personal code and pin (personal identification number). Responses can also be received by mail, see below.
TO ANSWER AN AD BY PHONE - Call 1-900-454-3576. Listen to the instructions. You will then actually be listening to the advertisers recorded message and can leave a voice message with your name and number. You can respond to more than one personal during the phone call. As individuals check their messages, they can respond to yours. OR you can pre-pay a special 800 account, listen and respond without the cost appearing on your phone bill. Call 529-8490 for more information.
TO ANSWER AN AD BY MAIL: Each ad has a five digit code. Write your response and

seal it in a stamped envelope with the five digit code in the address place. Place your sealed response and \$2.00 in an envelope and mail it to us, we will affix a mailing label and the intended person will receive your response. This service costs \$2.00 plus postage per numbered envelope, and is available only with the Houston Voice Personals.
ADDITIONAL REQUIREMENTS: To place a Houston Voice personal ad you are required to participate in the "live voice" aspect of our Personals by calling the special 800 toll-free number. You must record, in your voice, your Ad. If you do not participate in the voice aspect, your ad may be discontinued without reimbursement. The voice message can be as simple as "You read the ad, leave a message" to complex and informative. The ads, both print and voice, can not contain references to sexual acts or organs (FCC et al. regulations). If you are having difficulty recording your message, phone 1-800-780-4947, for assistance. Ads should be positive, describe what you want, undesirable qualities/characteristics need not be listed.
G - Gay, M - male; F - female; W - white; B - black; H - hispanic, A - asian, HWP - height, weight, proportionate, DDF- disease, drug free

**2 Full Hours
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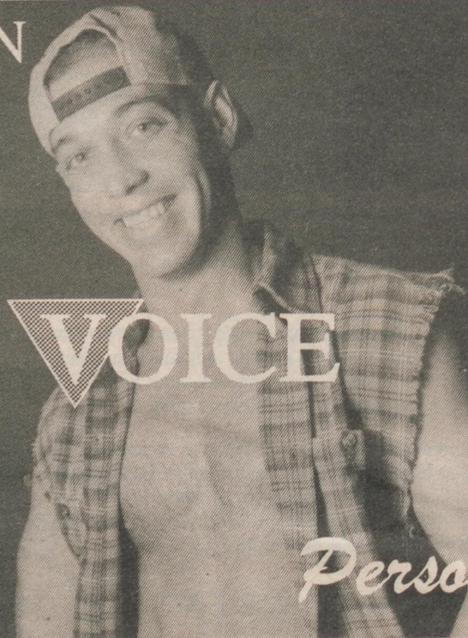
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Have studio/
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For details call (713) 529-8490

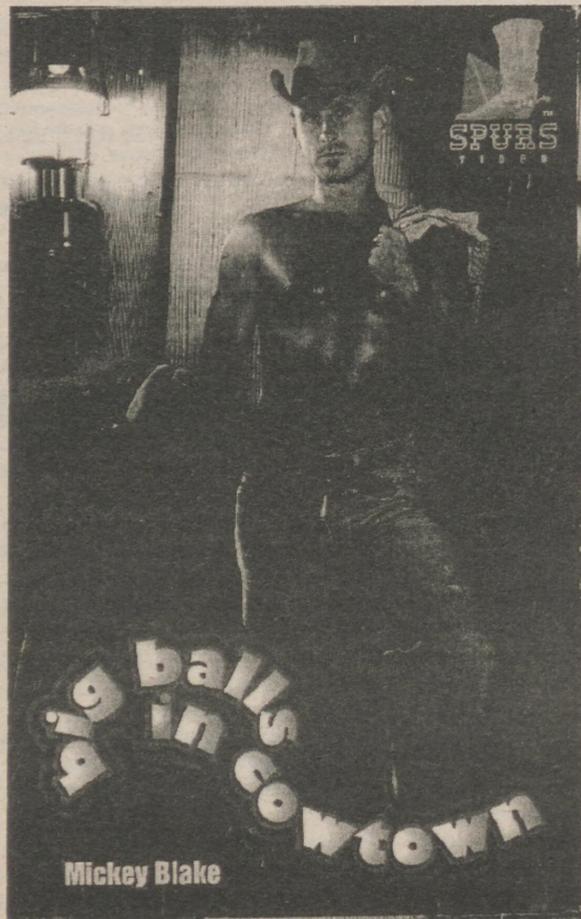
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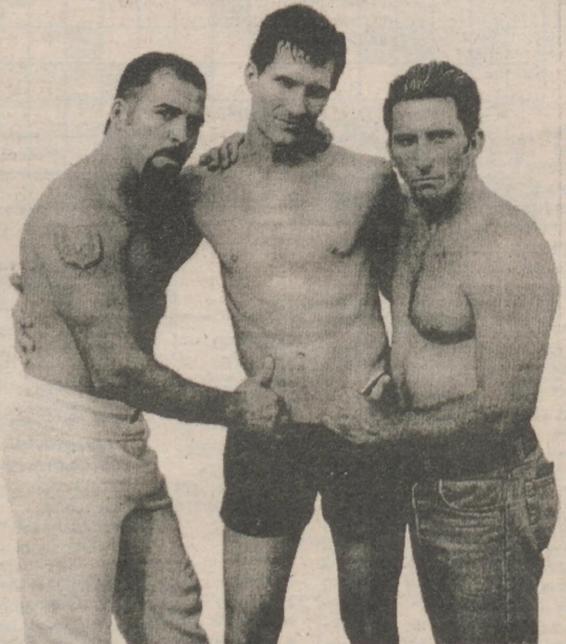
SEX VIDEO PRESENTS
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DIRECTED BY
KAREN DIOR

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CHRIS YEAGER, NICK ROMANO, JESSE SKYLER, HANK HIGHTOWER



Houston VOICE Personals

CHRISTMAS CAME EARLY

December 23, 1995. Randy, sign instructor, br. hair/eyes, goatee. Rm. 20-something M.T. Spa. Me: Br. hair/eyes, beard, hairstylist. Brief encounter was short, but not forgotten, nor is your beautiful smile. Would like to know you better under different circumstances, or meet again at M.T. Spa. Contact me and make the arrangements. Charles. Ad 25749

FREE TO LOVE

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

CHRISTIAN SEEKS LIFEMATE

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

SEEK SUBMISSIVE OLDER WHITE MEN

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

"NOT ONLY ON WEEKENDS"

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

ATTENTION -NUDIST

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

TOPS LOOKING FOR SEX TOY

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

SEEKING HIV+ HISPANIC MALE

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

BOTTOM SEEKS TOP

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

EAST SIDE GWM SEEKS FRIENDS/POSSIBLE RELATIONSHIP

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

EUROPEAN GUY

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

POSITIVE MIND, BODY & SOUL

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

TURNED-ON BY INDIGENOUS CULTURES

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

FURTHER INVESTIGATION NECESSARY

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

FF BOTTOM HANDSOME & VERSATILE

Looking to meet dominant men into FF/Bondage/TT & other kink for red hanky action. Ad 25751

I HAVE EVERYTHING I NEED EXCEPT YOU!!!

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

LET ME MAKE YOUR HEART SMILE

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

PARENTING, ANYONE?

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

WANTED: BOY

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

GO FOR IT!

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

PASADENA: 3 CAN BE GOOD COMPANY

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

SERIOUS & SINCERE ONLY

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

HIV+ HISPANIC MALE

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

LOOKING FOR LIKE/PROF. FOR LONG-TERM RELATIONSHIP

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

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

IF YOU KNOW...

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

FEMININE GWF PRINCESS READY FOR ROMANCE

Are you looking for a young, mature, intelligent, attractive, faithful and moral special friend to share with? I'm ISO traditional type woman who insists on quality and is ready for a loving, passionate lover who is DDF, HWP and looking for a teddy bear to cuddle with. Spoil & be spoiled. Ad 25735

FRIENDLY YOUNG MAN WANTED

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

SEEKING TO MAKE NEW FRIENDS

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

TWICE THE FUN!

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

D ... D ...

GWM, 6', 150#, beard, mustache, very healthy HIV+, non-smoker-drinker-drugs, straight appearance seeks same in bottom. For a great time anytime let's get together. Prefer mail responses. Ad 25729

FOR \$29.95 PER YEAR YOU CAN HAVE AN AD IN THIS SECTION

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

LONELY GHM

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

NEED DADDY YOU NEVER REALLY HAD?

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

AFTERNOON DELIGHT

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

SWEET AND SPICY LOOKING FOR YOU!

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

THE FOREVER MAN

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

SOUL/LIFE MATE WANTED

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

INDIAN SEEKS COWBOY

Attractive, intelligent, Indian male, 30, brown hair/eyes, 5'4", DDF, not into active gay lifestyle. Interests include long walks, fishing, hiking, the beach and quiet evenings at home. Seeking stable GWM "Cowboy," 35-40, HWP, DDF, with similar interests for long-term monogamous relationship. Looks not important. All letters answered. Photo requested. Ad 25752

VERY WELL ENDOWED

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

LOOKING FOR THAT SPECIAL PERSON

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

GIVING MY HEART

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

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

ABANDONED EXPECTING FEMALE SEEKS LIFE PARTNER

I am an attractive, feminine, 25 y.o. GWF w/long hair. I am 4 months pregnant, 5'7", normal weight of 135#. Taking time off from erotic dancing and college to have baby. I am ready for a long term love. Prefer mail responses w/photo. Ad 25738

READY FOR A STEADY

Interesting GWM looking for a special gentleman. I'm 38, 6'2", 175, brown/blue, professionally employed, healthy, happy, emotionally & financially stable, warm, caring & relationship oriented. I enjoy travel, Nautilus, family, friends & more. I'm seeking a compatible GWM. 30s to 40s, height/weight proportional, who is single, smart, funny, charming, HIV-, clean-cut & happy. Respond today -I'm ready! Ad 25720

GWM PROFESSIONAL

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

KIDNAP ME

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

GALVESTON: LOOKING FOR SEXUAL BUDDIES

I'm 43, married, 5'10", 160lbs., average looks, DDF, clean, top-cut-discreet. Ad 25598.

GENTLE LEATHER "DAD" SEEKS NOVICE "BOY"

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

AFFECTIONATE TEDDY BEAR WANTS CUDDLY CUB

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

SIR, ARE YOU OUT THERE?

Sir, you are aggressive, demanding, roughly 35-50 and rough. You train, order, command, and expect excellent service. At your whim and pleasure, you discipline, humiliate, restrain, bind, and abuse. I can trust you and submit. All 5'8", 165, GWM fit parts safe in your hands. Call, write, your desire. Ad 25653

HAIRY MAN WANTED

Attractive GWM, 30, h.brown/blue, 6'1", 155 lbs. smooth chested with facial hair, healthy, HIV+, top/bottom. Seeking attractive, clean cut GWM or GHM, 28-40, in Houston area. I like hairy chested, stocky men with facial hair, also top/bottom. If you enjoy friends, movies and nightclubs as well as quiet romantic evenings at home, let's get to know each other better. Prefer mail response with photo. Ad 25753

For Instructions See Page 25

A QUALITY OF LIFE ALTERNATIVE

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Community Calendar

(Continued from Page 2)

Wednesday, Feb. 21

- * Men's Network at Montrose Counseling Center. 7:00 p.m. Call 529-0037.
- * Houston Tennis Club meets at 7:30 p.m. Call 868-5039.
- * Lambda Rollerskating Club skates at 8:00 p.m. Call 933-5818.
- * Women's Network at Montrose Counseling Center. 7:00 p.m. Call 529-0037.
- * Ongoing Mixed Living in Process Group for men and women. Call 622-7250 for more info.
- * Living with Chronic Pain at Montrose Counseling Center. 9:30 p.m. Call 529-0037.
- * Aftercare Group Treatment at Montrose Counseling Center. 6:00 p.m. Call 529-0037.
- * Women's Issues Process Group at Montrose Counseling Center. 6:30 p.m. Call 529-0037.
- * Women's Action Coalition (WAC) meets at 7:00 p.m. Call 867-9581.
- * Lesbian/Bisexual Survivors at Montrose Counseling Center. 6:30 p.m. Call 529-0037.
- * Bi-Net of Houston meets at 7:00 p.m. Call 861-9149.
- * Houston Council of Clubs "Stuffing" meeting at Mary's. 8:00 p.m.
- * OutVote meets at 7:00 p.m. Call 522-9837.

Thursday, Feb. 22

- * Montrose Ice Picks skate at the Galleria. 8:00 P.M. Call 629-1432.
- * Broadway Showtunes at J.R.'s. 9:00 p.m. Call 521-2519.
- * Art Classes at The Art League. 1:00 PM. Call 523-8817
- * Front Runners meet at Memorial Park. 6:30 p.m. Call 522-8021.
- * Gay Men's Chorus of Houston open rehearsal at 7:00 p.m. Call 521-7464.
- * Twentysomething meets at 7:30 p.m. Call 531-9396.
- * KPFT Lesbian and Gay Voices airs at 8:00 p.m. to 10:00 p.m. Call 866-6505.
- * Burger and Chili night at the Brazos River Bottom. 6:30 p.m. to 9:00 p.m.
- * Steak Night at the 611 Pub. 6:30 p.m.
- * Dance lessons at the Brazos River Bottom. 9:30 p.m. Free. Call 880-0670.
- * Safer Sex for Lesbians at Ms. B's 9:30 p.m. Call 666-3464.
- * Ongoing gay men's Living in Process Group. Call 622-7250.
- * Open Mike Night at Cafe Artiste. 1601 W. Main. 8:00 p.m. Call 528-3704.
- * HIV+ Men Psychotherapy at Montrose Counseling Center. 1:15 p.m. Call 529-0037.
- * Relapse Prevention at Montrose Counseling Center. 2:00 p.m. Call 529-0037.
- * Outpatient Group Treatment at Montrose Counseling Center. 6:00 p.m. Call 529-0037.
- * Aftercare Group Treatment at Montrose Counseling Center. 6:00 p.m. Call 529-0037.
- * Meditation and Chanting Group meets at 7:00 p.m. Call 942-0923.
- * HIV Affected at CASA. 7:00 p.m. Call 796-2272.
- * Men's Therapy Group at Montrose Counseling Center. 7:00 p.m. Call 529-0037.
- * Romance authors Margie Walker and Claudette Sims at Borders Bookshop. 8:00 p.m. Call 782-6066.
- * Log Cabin Republicans meets at 7:00 p.m. Call 529-9100.