

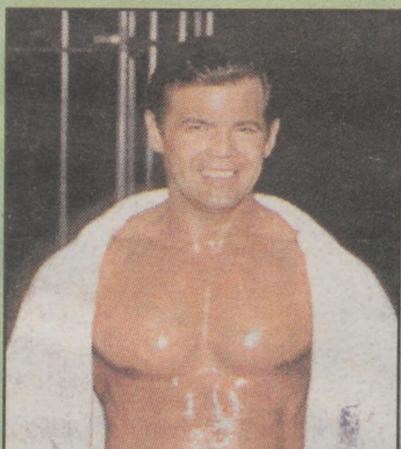


### INSIDE



Tel Aviv's first openly  
lesbian councilmember  
visits Houston

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Stryker's 'Hard Time' offers  
flaccid jail tale

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Old-fashioned hardware  
stores can solve  
home-improvement  
problems you didn't know  
you had

Page 25

## Gay death-row inmate denied new trial

Court rejects claim sleeping  
lawyer hindered Burdine's  
defense

by GIP PLASTER

The 5th U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals last week rejected gay death row inmate Calvin Burdine's attempt to get a new trial because his lawyer slept during the original trial. But Burdine's death is far from a certainty.

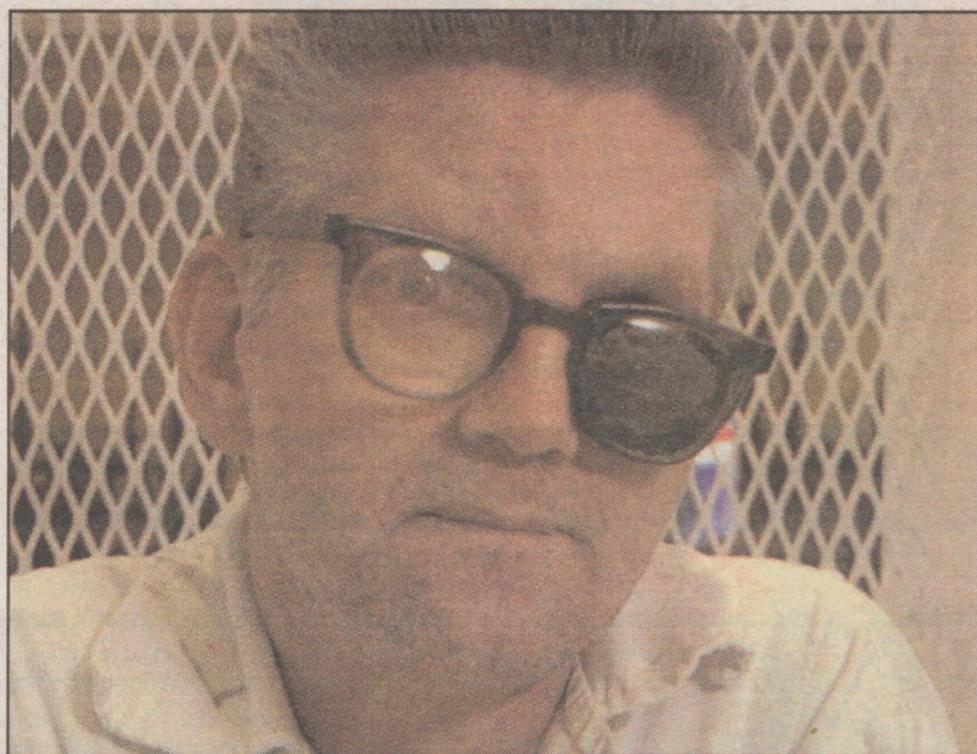
The court said that Burdine, 47, who was sentenced to die in 1983 for killing his male housemate, could not prove that his lawyer slept through key portions of the his 1984 murder trial.

Burdine's legal battles have previously included such irregularities as a missed deadline by the state, a prosecutor's gay slur and the sleeping defense lawyer who also called gays "faggots," "fairies" and "queers."

By a ruling of 2 to 1, the three-judge panel overturned a decision ordering either a new trial or release for Burdine.

Since trial transcripts and previous hearings on the matter do not prove that the

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(AP PHOTO/BRETT COOMER)

The 5th U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals last week ruled that death row inmate Calvin Burdine's attorney provided an effective defense despite the fact that the attorney slept through some of the original six-day trial. Burdine, 47, has been imprisoned since 1984 for killing W.T. Wise, 50, a night supervisor at a Houston security service.

## Gay family values

Houston's GLBT community redefines  
traditional parenting

by ELLA TYLER

When Alden Clark came out to his parents in 1980, his mother said, "The saddest thing is that you'll never have a family."

"And in 1980, that was true," Clark, now the father of an 18-month-old boy, says, "and it was very painful to me because I've wanted children all my life."

As he approached his mid 30s, he began to examine his options for single parenthood.

• Part one of two

"I decided I wanted a child and that if I waited until I was involved with the right person, it might never happen."

Clark had begun the process to adopt a child from Russia, when gay friends called him and said the mother of their child was expecting another. Did he want to adopt this one?

Adoption is not easy, Clark says.

"Your entire life is under a microscope."

However, he says, many social workers are supportive of gay parenting, but not openly.

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Janet Cohen, far right, and her partner of 17 years, Melody Blake, chose adoption as a way of creating their family. Joy Cohen-Blake, canter, is 17-months-old.

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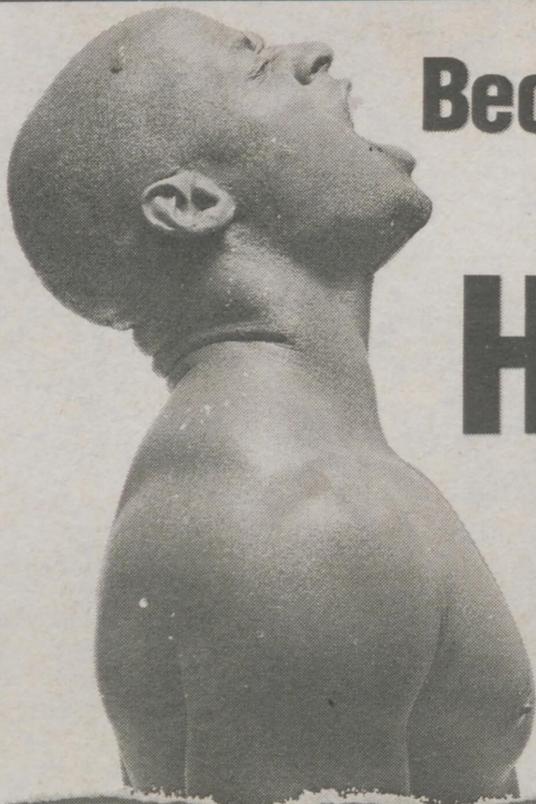
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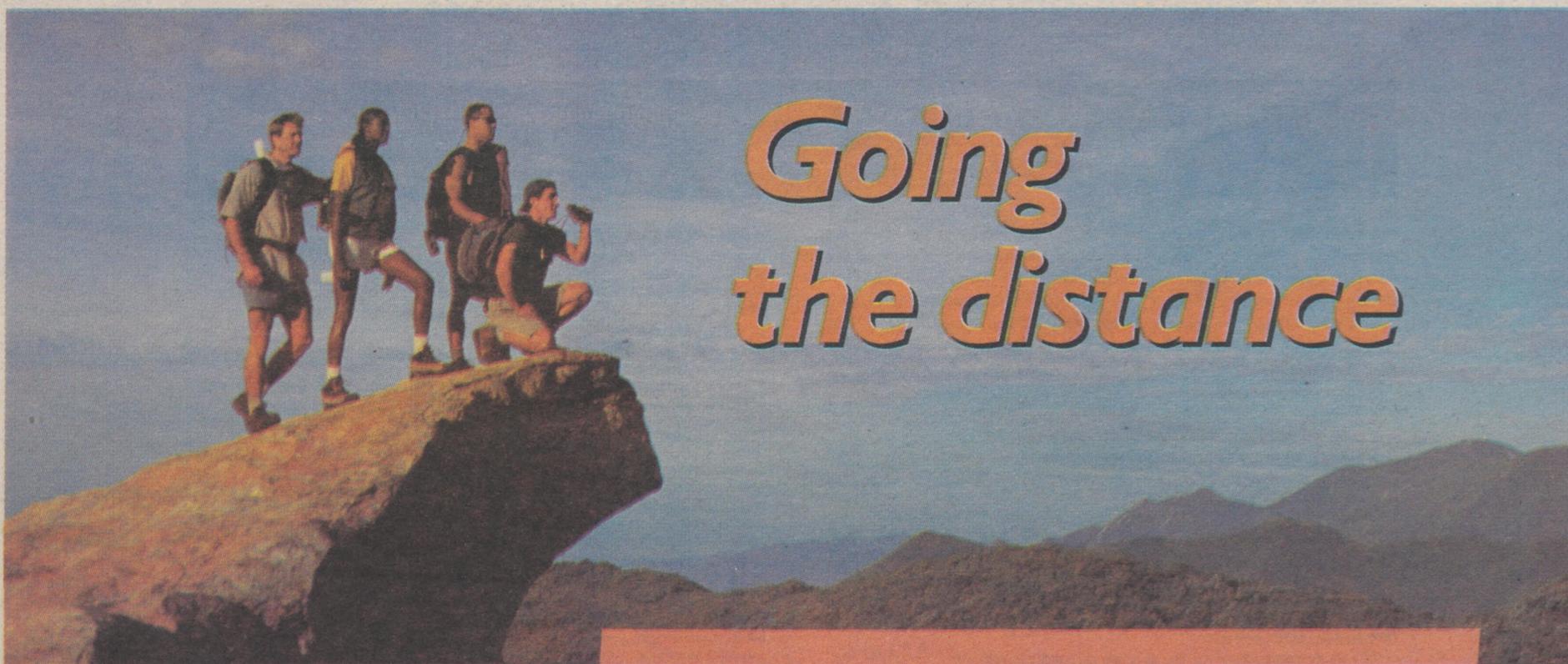


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#### ■ HIGHLY EFFECTIVE THERAPY

CRIXIVAN in combination with antiretroviral agents is a powerful protease inhibitor that fights HIV and is among the preferred treatments for HIV in federal healthcare guidelines.<sup>1</sup> CRIXIVAN can help reduce the chance of illnesses and death associated with HIV; CRIXIVAN can also help lower the amount of HIV in your body (called "viral load") and raise your CD4 T-cell count, as shown in studies over a one-year period. Some patients may not experience these effects. CRIXIVAN is not a cure for HIV or AIDS.

#### ■ DURABLE RESULTS

In a landmark study, over 90% of 31 patients receiving a combination of CRIXIVAN, AZT, and 3TC reduced their serum viral load below the limit of detection after 24 weeks. Importantly, the limited number of patients who chose to stay with the study for longer periods of time maintained these results through the one-year mark. In a separate study, 30% of 261 patients receiving dual therapy of CRIXIVAN and AZT had serum viral loads below the limit of detection at 48 weeks. In another landmark study, 43% of 40 patients receiving combination therapy with CRIXIVAN, AZT, and 3TC had plasma viral loads below the limit of detection at 40 weeks. In this study of over 1,000 patients, the group of patients receiving CRIXIVAN along with 3TC and AZT achieved a reduction in deaths and AIDS-defining illnesses over those taking 3TC and AZT alone. Overall, the number of deaths was inadequate to assess the impact of CRIXIVAN on survival. Blood viral loads were measured by available tests and the virus may still be present in other organ systems.

#### ■ THINGS YOU SHOULD KNOW ABOUT CRIXIVAN

CRIXIVAN can be taken with a light meal or on an empty stomach. Some patients treated with CRIXIVAN may develop stones in the kidney or urinary tract. For some, this can lead to more severe kidney problems, including kidney failure. Drinking at least 6 glasses of water each day may help reduce the chance of forming these stones. Other side effects reported include rapid breakdown of red blood cells and liver problems.

As with other protease inhibitors, changes in body fat, increased bleeding in some patients with hemophilia, and increased blood sugar levels or diabetes have been reported. Additionally, severe muscle pain and weakness have occurred in patients also taking cholesterol-lowering medicines called "statins." There are some common medications and AIDS-related medications you should not take with CRIXIVAN. Also, taking CRIXIVAN with any products containing St. John's wort, an herbal supplement, is not recommended because it may lead to increased viral load and possible resistance to CRIXIVAN. Discuss all medications you are taking or plan to take with your doctor.

For more detailed information about CRIXIVAN, please read the information immediately following this advertisement.

<sup>1</sup>Guidelines for the Use of Antiretroviral Agents in HIV-Infected Adults and Adolescents. Panel on Clinical Practices for Treatment of HIV Infection, Department of Health and Human Services (DHHS), May 5, 1999.

**Remember to ask your  
doctor about CRIXIVAN.**

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(indinavir sulfate)  
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**CRIVAN**  
(indinavir sulfate)  
Capsules

### Patient Information about CRIVAN® (KRIK-sih-van)

for HIV (Human Immunodeficiency Virus) Infection  
Generic name: indinavir (in-DIH-nuh-veer) sulfate

9024512

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

#### What is CRIVAN?

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

#### How does CRIVAN work?

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

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

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

#### How should I take CRIVAN?

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

1. **Take CRIVAN capsules every day as prescribed by your doctor.** Continue taking CRIVAN unless your doctor tells you to stop. Take the exact amount of CRIVAN that your doctor tells you to take, right from the very start. To help make sure you will benefit from CRIVAN, you must not skip doses or take "drug holidays". If you don't take CRIVAN as prescribed, the activity of CRIVAN may be reduced (due to resistance).
2. **Take CRIVAN capsules every 8 hours around the clock, every day.** It may be easier to remember to take CRIVAN if you take it at the same time every day. If you have questions about when to take CRIVAN, your doctor or health care provider can help you decide what schedule works for you.
3. **If you miss a dose by more than 2 hours, wait and then take the next dose at the regularly scheduled time.** However, if you miss a dose by less than 2 hours, take your missed dose immediately. Then take your next dose at the regularly scheduled time. Do not take more or less than your prescribed dose of CRIVAN at any one time.
4. **Take CRIVAN with water.** You can also take CRIVAN with other beverages such as skim or non-fat milk, juice, coffee, or tea.
5. **Ideally, take each dose of CRIVAN without food but with water at least one hour before or two hours after a meal.** Or you can take CRIVAN with a light meal. Examples of light meals include: dry toast with jelly, juice, and coffee (with skim or non-fat milk and sugar if you want) corn flakes with skim or non-fat milk and sugar.  
Do not take CRIVAN at the same time as any meals that are high in calories, fat, and protein (for example — a bacon and egg breakfast). When taken at the same time as CRIVAN, these foods can interfere with CRIVAN being absorbed into your bloodstream and may lessen its effect.
6. **It is critical that you drink at least six 8-ounce glasses of liquids (preferably water) throughout the day, every day. CRIVAN can cause kidney stones.** Having enough fluids in your body should help reduce the chances of forming a kidney stone. Call your doctor or other health care provider if you develop kidney pains (middle to lower stomach or back pain) or blood in the urine.

#### Does CRIVAN cure HIV or AIDS?

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

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

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

#### Who should not take CRIVAN?

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

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

Talk to your doctor if:

- You are pregnant or if you become pregnant while you are taking CRIVAN. We do not yet know how CRIVAN affects pregnant women or their developing babies.
- You are breast-feeding. You should stop breast-feeding if you are taking CRIVAN.

Also talk to your doctor if you have:

- Problems with your liver, especially if you have mild or moderate liver disease caused by cirrhosis.
- Problems with your kidneys.
- Diabetes
- Hemophilia
- High cholesterol and you are taking cholesterol-lowering medicines called "statins".

Tell your doctor about any medicines you are taking or plan to take, including non-prescription medicines, herbal products including St. John's wort (*Hypericum perforatum*), or dietary supplements.

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

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

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

##### Drugs you should not take with CRIVAN:

SELDANE® (terfenadine)	HISMANAL® (astemizole)
VERSED® (midazolam)	HALCION® (triazolam)
ORAP® (pimozide)	Ergot medications (e.g., Wigraine® and Cafergot®)
PROPULSID® (cisapride)	

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

In addition, you should not take CRIVAN with the following: Rifampin, known as RIFADIN®, RIFAMATE®, RIFATER®, or RIMACTANE®.

It is not recommended to take CRIVAN with the cholesterol-lowering drugs MEVACOR® (lovastatin) or ZOCOR® (simvastatin) because of possible drug interactions. There is also an increased risk of drug interactions between CRIVAN and LIPITOR® (atorvastatin) and BAYCOL® (cerivastatin); talk to your doctor before you take any of these cholesterol-reducing drugs with CRIVAN.

Taking CRIVAN with St. John's wort (*Hypericum perforatum*), an herbal product sold as a dietary supplement, or products containing St. John's wort is not recommended. Taking St. John's wort has been shown to decrease CRIVAN levels and may lead to increased viral load and possible resistance to CRIVAN or cross resistance to other antiretroviral drugs.

##### Drugs you can take with CRIVAN include:

RETROVIR® (zidovudine, ZDV also called AZT)	EPIVIR™ (lamivudine, 3TC)
ZERIT® (stavudine, d4T)	isoniazid (INH)
BACTRIM®/SEPTRA® (trimethoprim/sulfamethoxazole)	DIFLUCAN® (fluconazole)
BIAXIN® (clarithromycin)	ORTHO-NOVUM 1/35® (oral contraceptive)
TAGAMET® (cimetidine)	Methodone

VIDEX® (didanosine, ddI) — If you take CRIVAN with VIDEX®, take them at least one hour apart.

MYCOBUTIN® (rifabutin) — If you take CRIVAN with MYCOBUTIN®, your doctor may adjust both the dose of MYCOBUTIN and the dose of CRIVAN.

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

RESCRIPTOR® (delavirdine) — If you take CRIVAN with RESCRIPTOR®, your doctor may adjust the dose of CRIVAN.

SPORANOX® (itraconazole) — If you take CRIVAN with SPORANOX®, your doctor may adjust the dose of CRIVAN.

SUSTIVA™ (efavirenz) — If you take CRIVAN with SUSTIVA™, your doctor may adjust the dose of CRIVAN.

Talk to your doctor about any medications you are taking.

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

Like all prescription drugs, CRIVAN can cause side effects. The following is not a complete list of side effects reported with CRIVAN when taken either alone or with other anti-HIV drugs. Do not rely on this leaflet alone for information about side effects. Your doctor can discuss with you a more complete list of side effects.

Some patients treated with CRIVAN developed kidney stones. In some of these patients this led to more severe kidney problems, including kidney failure or inflammation of the kidneys. Drinking at least six 8-ounce glasses of liquid (preferably water) each day should help reduce the chances of forming a kidney stone. Call your doctor or other health care provider if you develop kidney pains (middle to lower stomach or back pain) or blood in the urine.

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

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

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

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

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

Changes in body fat have been seen in some patients taking protease inhibitors. These changes may include increased amount of fat in the upper back and neck ("buffalo hump"), breast, and around the trunk. Loss of fat from the legs and arms may also happen. The cause and long term health effects of these conditions are not known at this time.

##### Clinical Studies

Increases in bilirubin (one laboratory test of liver function) have been reported in approximately 10% of patients. Usually, this finding has not been associated with liver problems. However, on rare occasions, a person may develop yellowing of the skin and/or eyes.

Side effects occurring in 2% or more of patients included: abdominal pain, fatigue or weakness, low red blood cell count, flank pain, painful urination, feeling unwell, nausea, upset stomach, diarrhea, vomiting, acid regurgitation, increased or decreased appetite, back pain, headache, dizziness, taste changes, rash, itchy skin, yellowing of the skin and/or eyes, upper respiratory infection, dry skin, and sore throat.

Swollen kidneys due to blocked urine flow occurred rarely.

##### Marketing Experience

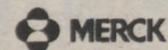
Other side effects reported since CRIVAN has been marketed include: allergic reactions; severe skin reactions; yellowing of the skin and/or eyes; heart problems including heart attack; abdominal swelling; indigestion; inflammation of the kidneys; inflammation of the pancreas; joint pain; depression; itching; hives; change in skin color; hair loss; ingrown toenails with or without infection; crystals in the urine; painful urination; and numbness of the mouth.

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

#### How should I store CRIVAN capsules?

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

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# Tel Aviv's first openly lesbian council member speaks

## Michal Eden campaigning in U.S. for spot on Israeli Parliament

by MARIA MINICUCCI

In the midst of a major upcoming presidential election in the U.S., a thought-provoking, determined, articulate lesbian council woman from Tel Aviv, Michal Eden, is touring this country informing Americans of her desire to be elected to the Knesset, the Israeli Parliament, this year.

Eden was in Houston on Oct. 28. She came to meet interested LGBT Houstonians at a breakfast meeting at the Houston Lesbian and Gay Community Center, 803 Hawthorne.

Amidst an eager and interested handful of people, including State Rep. Debra Danburg, Eden spoke about her involvement as the first openly lesbian woman elected to the city council in Tel Aviv.

She informed the crowd that Tel Aviv is a city that upholds human rights for everyone.

"In Tel Aviv, it would not be unusual to see gay and lesbian couples walking down the street holding hands," Eden said.

She pointed out that "the municipality in Tel Aviv has willingly funded the Gay and Lesbian Pride celebration, a gay and



DALTON DEHART

Michal Eden, Tel Aviv's first openly lesbian councilmember, visited the Houston Lesbian and Gay Community Center Oct. 28. She is touring the United States to raise funds for her campaign for the Israeli Parliament.

lesbian community center, funding for breast awareness for women, and its most recent endeavor is building a shelter for runaway LGBT youth."

Eden's manner of speaking was very forthright and welcoming of questions from the audience, so when asked about the LGBT agenda in Israel, she responded

by saying, with a chuckle, "Israel has been at war for most of the 48 years that it has been in existence. Gay and lesbian issues never seem to reach the top of the priority list when people's lives are at stake continuously."

"We keep getting told that our issues

> Continued on Page 15

# From poetry to turkey, Community Center has full month planned

## FROM STAFF REPORTS

Here is an update on the numerous activities, events, programs and happenings at the Houston Lesbian and Gay Community Center, 803 Hawthorne.

LIA (Lesbian Island Association) grew out of lesbians in their 20s who have an interest in meeting other lesbians for fun, conversations, getting involved in their communities, becoming activists, etc. Some of the things they have been doing during the past six months include organizing camping trips, group visits to the bar, concerts, hosting a lesbian history movie night, fund-raising, volunteering for the community center and other organizations. The new group is having a reevaluation and planning meeting on Friday, Nov. 3 at 6 p.m.

**GAME NIGHT FOR WOMEN**—Is a new addition to the center's regularly featured programs. A devout participant in the Lesbian Coming Out Group decided that she would enjoy an easy, relaxing, "at home" kind of Friday evening among fun-loving women. Now every second Friday of the month, all women are welcome to drop in and play their favorite board game, card game, or socialize with other women. Friday, Nov. 10, will be the first game night, starting at 7 p.m.

The topic of racism and its impact on all

LGBT lives has been an ongoing exploration every other week at the Community Center. As an outgrowth of the first public forum—**RACIST RAINBOW: WHO ME?**—people have committed to attending a discussion/action group which meets biweekly on Sunday evenings. The emphasis in this group is the ongoing work of unlearning racist attitudes, raising community consciousness about the prevalence of and perpetuation of racism among LGBT communities, and healing from internalized racial conditioning. These meetings are open to anyone committed to this problem in the community. The next meeting will be: Sunday, Nov. 12, at 6:30 p.m. Bring your favorite snack!

**GOLDEN MEN: THE POWER OF GAY MID-LIFE**, a book written by New York psychologist, Hal Kooden, is piquing the interest of gay audiences throughout the country. On Monday, Nov. 13, at 6:30 p.m., Kooden will be at the Community Center to impart the message of his book and to enjoy the company of Houston's LGBT community. This event is open and free to the public.

**POETRY, PASSION AND POLITICS-2**—A second opportunity to enjoy an evening of innovative and moving work by local LGBT poets will be held on Friday, Nov. 17. Simone Cunningham will read from her new work, Donna Garrett, Alex Morua, Michael Locke and Aaron Coleman

will also be featured. This will be an open mic evening, so please feel free to share your creative vision as well.

**A BIGGER HOME**—A community-wide meeting will be held on Saturday, Nov. 18, from 2-4 p.m. at the community center. Directors say the current facility at 803 Hawthorne has been an incredible location to birth Houston's LGBT community center, but the community has outgrown it! The purpose of this community meeting will be to garner input from LGBT organizations, groups and community members about what kind of place is needed, and where to go from here. Take pride in "your queer home" and plan to attend this meeting with enthusiasm and ideas.

**RAY HILL—STORYTELLER EXTRAORDINAIRE** will inspire, entertain, agitate and no telling what else on Sunday, Nov. 19, at 7:30 p.m. This will be a benefit performance for the community center and for Hill's upcoming medical expenses.

**THANKSGIVING DAY DINNER**—Yes, the community center will be open from 12 to 7 p.m. on Thanksgiving Day. A "gaily traditional" meal will be served at 2 p.m.—first come, first eat. All-day football will also be available on the big-screen TV. Please RSVP if you plan to join us for dinner. A \$2 donation is requested, but not required.

> Continued on Page 14

## Issue 1045



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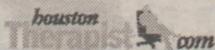
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# around the nation

## AOL chief responds to criticism over \$8 million gift to anti-gay ministry

WASHINGTON—In a letter to Human Rights Campaign executive director Elizabeth Birch, Steve Case, CEO of America Online, said that a gift from him and his wife to a school run by a religious-right church was "not intended [to] support any anti-gay efforts." Case and his wife, Jean, gave more than \$8 million to Westminster Academy, Jean Case's alma mater, erupting a controversy among some gays. The school was founded by Coral Ridge Ministries head D. James Kennedy, who led a 1998 South Florida publicity campaign to promote a "cure" for homosexuality. "It was a gift to my wife's alma mater, given at the same time as a similar gift was given to my alma mater in Hawaii," Case said in the letter. The gift was intended to say thanks, he said. Birch responded to Case's letter by pointing out that Case "must understand that this large contribution will continue to make many people uneasy, and understandably so."

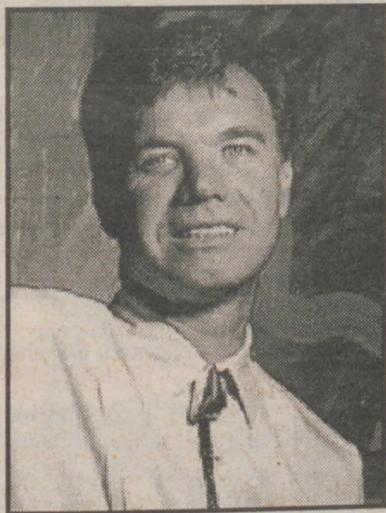
## Iowa loses discrimination suit for not stopping harassment of lesbian

DES MOINES, Iowa (AP)—The state of Iowa has lost a federal discrimination suit because it did not stop employees of a state-owned casino from spreading rumors that a gaming enforcement officer was a lesbian. A federal jury awarded \$54,493 to Jacqueline M. Montagne, an officer who works aboard Iowa's riverboat casinos. She had sued the state, claiming it failed to do enough to discourage others from spreading false rumors about her sexual orientation. Montagne lawyer, John Fatino, said her suit is unusual because she didn't claim that her co-workers or superiors had harassed her, but that they took no action to discourage third parties—casino employees—from doing so. Federal guidelines say employers are liable for workplace discrimination committed by non-employees if they knew or should have known about the harassment and did not take prompt action. Montagne, who had worked with the state since 1995, sued in 1998, claiming not only that the state hadn't done enough to stop the alleged harassment, but that she had been unfairly denied a promotion.

## Clinton again pushes for new federal hate crimes bill with threat of veto

WASHINGTON (AP)—President Clinton threatened to veto a stalled spending measure if Republicans did not attach to it an amendment expanding the federal hate crimes statute. Clinton said in a letter that he would veto the Commerce-Justice-State appropriations bill if it didn't include, among other things, some "hate crime legislation that would cover crimes motivated by bias on the basis of a victim's gender, disability or sexual orientation." The anti-hate crimes provision would add those categories to the list of offenses already covered under a 1968 federal law, and allow federal prosecutors to pursue a hate-crime case if local authorities refuse to press charges. In a debate back in her home state of Wisconsin, open lesbian U.S. Rep. Tammy Baldwin stood up for the hate crimes bill, Madison, Wis.'s *Capital Times* reported. "Our country needs to say this is wrong," said Baldwin. Baldwin's Republican challenger John Sharpless opposes the measure. "I think executing somebody is about as far as a state can go," Sharpless said. The measure has been stalled in Congress for weeks.

## Gay Quark founder cashes in stock to follow passion for philanthropy



DENVER—Tim Gill, the openly gay founder and chair of Quark Inc., has sold his 50 percent stake in the company and plans to direct the proceeds toward gay and lesbian causes, the *Denver Post* reported. In 1981, Gill, now 47, founded the software company, which makes QuarkXPress, the leading desktop publishing software. Quark has an estimated \$500 million in annual sales and more than 700 employees in nine countries. On Oct. 24, Gill told employees in an e-mail that his "passion has moved on to philanthropy." Gill has already given away \$19 million of the Gill Foundation's \$165 million endowment to support AIDS work and gay and lesbian issues.

Tim Gill, the gay man who founded Quark, is leaving the company to focus more on gay philanthropy.

## Gays targeted for \$122 million retirement community in Calif.

CATHEDRAL CITY, Calif.—Cathedral City officials hope a \$122 million retirement home and resort geared toward gay men and lesbians will help spur downtown business and development, Ontario, Calif.'s *Business Press* reported. Arbours at Cathedral City, unveiled Oct. 18, would be the first luxury retirement resort in the U.S. targeted at gays, developer John DeLeo said. The resort will include 170 apartments, eight of which will be luxury penthouse lofts, 80 assisted-living suites, and 50 time-share residences, said DeLeo, who is gay. It will also feature a hotel, restaurant and retail space, commercial office space, a community theater and an exhibition hall. "I wouldn't say that it's going to be the centerpiece of our downtown redevelopment, but it will be a crown jewel," Mayor Gary Amy said. Arbours at Cathedral City will be built in multiple phases and is expected to be completed by the end of 2003.



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# GLBT parents find support among friends, family

➤ Continued from Page 1

"They know what's going on, but have a don't ask, don't tell policy. I've heard of gay couples in which one partner was described as a roommate who shares expenses and will help make a safe household for the child."

Clark's son, Travis, is a friendly, outgoing child whose laugh could be recorded for commercial soundtracks. He is, Clark says "Cajun, so he looks like he could be any ethnicity. He will be in an HEB diaper commercial soon."

Travis has seven godparents who are very active in his life.

"This is different from my straight friends who are parents," Clark says. "I have lots more outside support."

"Gay friends who don't want children still want to watch him," he continues.

Clark is not surprised by the support he has gotten from his gay friends, but is surprised at the reaction of his parents and straight friends.

"I was very worried about them, but the support from my straight friends has been incredible. I don't know if they're doing it because they think Travis needs a 'good influence' or if they think my being his father is a great thing, but I welcome it."

Clark's father's reaction surprises him the most.

"When I told my parents what I was planning to do, they were supportive, but not enthusiastic. Now, it's all different."

"When Travis was about 10 months old, I took him to visit and he and my dad were in the den rolling around and laughing. My father was never physically demonstrative with me or my brothers. My dad has told me 'we don't need you here now.' You can leave."

Clark said dating is difficult.

"I'll be out, and after about 20 minutes, I think, 'I'd rather be home.' I also find men who seem to think 'Wow, instant family', and are more interested in Travis than me."

He said that many of the gay fathers he knows were married to women and have teen-age children.

"They have only recently come out and think I'm weird. They think I should be going to wild parties."

"I'd do it again," Clark says, "but that doesn't mean I want two."

## Blended families

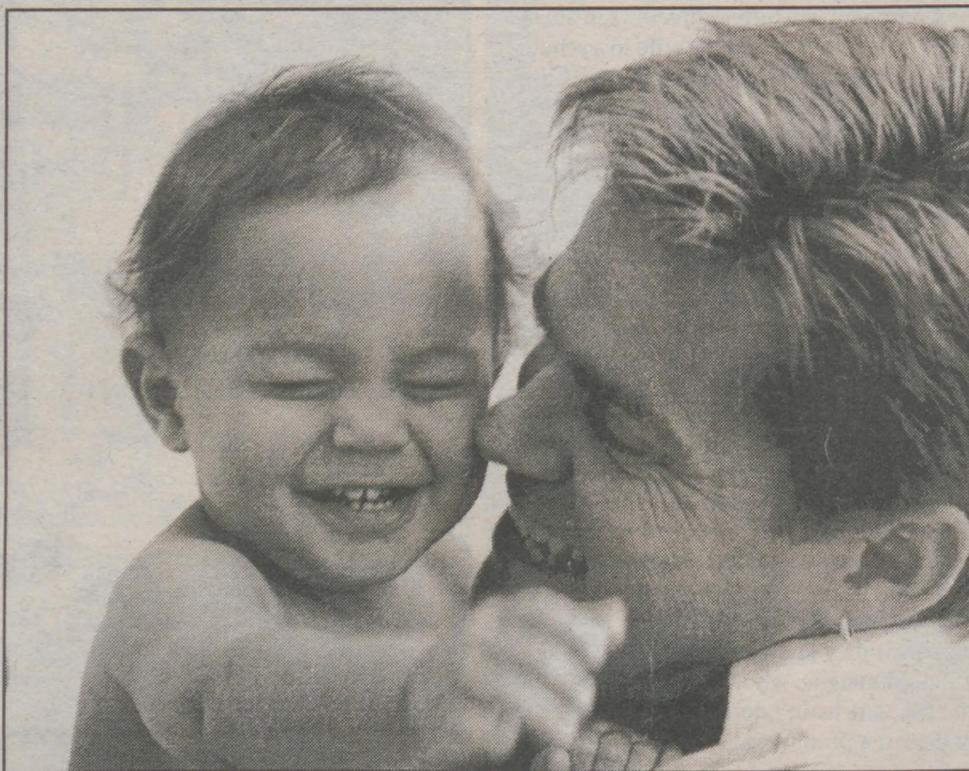
Chuck is the father of a five-year-old daughter and a 15-year-old stepson. His daughter was adopted when she was an infant, when he was married to a woman.

He came out about three years ago and had been divorced for two. He lives in Bellaire with a partner.

"We live in Bellaire because it's about five minutes away from my ex wife so the kids can be near both of us. It's a family-oriented community, and I liked family life before and like it now," he says.

His daughter spends three days a week with Chuck, and calls his partner "Dad" or "Daddy."

"My partner always wanted children,



Alden Clark says he always wanted children, but didn't want to wait to find a life partner before adopting Travis, 18 months.

but knew his orientation much earlier than I did, so he never had children," Chuck says. "I married my stepson's mother when he was four, and I'm the only father he has really known. He doesn't spend as much time with us, but he stays here about one day a week."

Chuck doesn't know if his son has told his friends about his gay father.

"He has stopped putting away the rainbow stuff when he brings friends over, though, so he might have," Chuck says. "Right now, we are in the process of rebuilding a family structure. It's just different this time. There are lots of things that we can't do, but we can do them later."

"My partner and I try to put the kids 'needs' before our 'wants.'"

Chuck says his former wife has been "as good about this as can be expected," and that he sees the children more than his divorce decree requires. He says his parents say they always knew he was gay and always were and still are crazy about his children.

## Starting over

Cheryl is the recently divorced mother of three who lives with her three children and her partner of a year and a half. She moved to suburban Houston three months ago, after a nasty custody battle in Victoria, where she lived.

"Victoria is a very conservative town. No 'out' lesbian has won her kids in the courts there. I spent four days in court fighting for my kids. The major theme was 'a lesbian family is not the way to raise kids!'"

Cheryl thinks the fight was won when her lover took the witness stand.

"Every lawyer in town thought my lawyer was crazy to put a lover on the stand in a custody battle."

"Lisa went on that stand and knew

every facet of my kids lives. She knew their faves and dislikes. She knew their sizes. On top of that, one could see the sincere love in her eyes as she spoke about her 'step children.' You could hear the gasps when she referred to herself as a stepmother."

"On the other hand," Cheryl says, "their father knew very little about them. He could not even recall which kids were born by C-section." All three were, she says.

Cheryl, Lisa and the children are delighted with their lives together.

"The kids call 'mommy!' and we both jump, we both respond and then we sit back and laugh."

## Unconventionally traditional

Beth's family is both traditional and unconventional. She is transsexual and fathered her children prior to her 1995 sexual reassignment. She remains married to her wife.

They have a 10-year-old daughter and a 12-year-old son. They moved to the Tomball area because of Beth's job just as she began living as a woman.

"Our neighbors just assumed we were a lesbian couple," she says.

Sometimes friends ask "Which one of you is the parent to the children?" and Beth says if she feels like revealing her situation, she and her spouse reply, "We both are."

"I have some fun with it," Beth says. "I let them keep asking questions until they figure it out or I explain it."

If she doesn't feel like explaining, she says, "We both think of them as our own."

When Beth travels with the children, she carries their birth certificates and her name-change documents.

"We want to be prepared for problems."

Beth enjoys life in the suburbs, because it is close to her work and there are lots of children around.

"I don't spend lot of time with the GLBT community, but I do come inside the loop on Wednesdays to take my daughter to singing lessons. Most of the time, though, we are sucked up into suburban family life."

"I did come to the protest when Elizabeth Birch came to town."

Beth says that her family, "is pretty accepting," but her wife's family ignores her.

"That is better though than when they were actively hostile and tried to get the kids."

The children, she says, deal mostly with the same issues other teenagers face. "We did have to look for a Boy Scout troop that would welcome him, though. The first troop we talked to wouldn't accept a child from a lesbian couple."

## The adoption option

Janet Cohen lives in Galveston, and recently adopted a girl who is now 17 months old. She and her partner have been together 17 years and tried to get pregnant for a long time.

Two years ago, they decided to try adoption.

"We were worried that Texas was going to pass a law that forbid gay adoptions, so there was a great deal of urgency about the process."

She and her partner were listed as a couple wanting to adopt with one source, "but we weren't getting any responses, so I listed myself as a single adopter, and someone responded."

"It got hectic. One social worker backed out of the home study, and the second one hadn't finished it, and the baby was born early. She drove in from Victoria to deliver it so we could go get the baby."

The child was born in another state, so Janet and her partner spent a week away from home with the baby, while the paperwork in both states was complete.

"We got dozens and dozens of e-mails when we were gone, and when we got home, there were 75 people here to greet us."

Janet said her friends have been very supportive.

"We have had to hire a baby sitter only once since she was born."

Their family has been delighted, too, she said.

"I knew that it was most likely that we would get a child 'of color' since we were working in such a short time frame, and we spent a lot of time preparing our families for that. My nieces and nephews were more interested in whether her belly button was an in or out."

"When we interviewed day care centers, we asked about their experience with lesbian couples. The one we chose said 'We don't have any, but we're trainable,'" Janet said.

INFO

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# Court says sleeping lawyer was adequate defense for gay man

> Continued from Page 1

lawyer slept during the presentation of "crucial" or "uncontested" evidence, Burdine is not entitled to a new trial simply because his lawyer was sometimes asleep, the court ruled.

Some testimony in a 1995 hearing showed that defense attorney Joe Cannon, now dead, slept for stretches of up to 10 minutes.

Burdine's current attorney Robert McGlasson, who has represented him for 12 years, said the decision is troublesome.

"It is disturbing to say the least," McGlasson said. "Or to use the words of the dissenting judge, it 'shocks the conscious,' and well it should."

Judges Rhesa Hawkins Barksdale, a Bush appointee, and Edith Jones, a Reagan appointee—both considered conservative—ruled against Burdine, but Judge Fortunato Benavides, a Clinton appointee, dissented.

"It shocks the conscience that a defendant could be sentenced to death under the circumstances surrounding counsel's representation of Burdine," Benavides wrote in a 15-page dissent.

But the other two judges chastised Burdine for waiting 11 years to raise the sleeping-lawyer issue and for allowing Cannon to represent him for his first appeal.

"Cannon is not the only person in this case who slept; Burdine slumbered as well—on his rights," Barksdale wrote.

McGlasson, however, said that statement

seems in opposition to the American ideal that a lawyer's job is to protect your rights for you, he said.

"To me, that sort of turns the whole idea of you having a right to counsel on its head," he said.

McGlasson intends to appeal the panel's decision to the full 14-judge 5th Circuit and to the U.S. Supreme Court if the full court will not take the case or eventually rules against his client.

"We feel confident that either the 5th Circuit or the U.S. Supreme Court will take a view with me that justice asleep is justice denied," McGlasson said.

South Texas College of Law professor Neil McCabe said that the decision is not surprising.

"The court, of course, is not saying it's okay [for your lawyer to sleep during a trial], they're saying that Burdine can't prove that it harmed him," he said. "The fact that the lawyer's fallen below the standard doesn't mean you get a new trial."

Still, McCabe said he thought the court might have tried to find a way to take a difference stance.

"This case is so notorious now. It's gotten such attention as a case of bad lawyering and the problems with the criminal justice system in Texas, one would have hoped the court would have found a way to send a message to the state of Texas and to the country," he said.

## Long, long history

Burdine's 17 years on death row began after he was convicted of the April 1983 robbery and murder of W.T. Wise, a 50-year-old night supervisor for a security service.

Testimony showed that the pair had a gay relationship and had been living together for 3 1/2 months before a dispute caused Burdine to move out of their trailer. Burdine told police that Wise wanted him to work as a prostitute.

Some trial evidence showed that Douglas McCreight was the primary perpetrator. McCreight pleaded guilty to a lesser charge and was paroled after eight years in prison.

Earlier this year, District Judge Hittner order that Burdine be released after the state missed a retrial deadline, but the 5th Circuit threw out the lower court's ruling.

A panel of the appeals court on March 3 issued a terse two-page ruling saying Burdine should remain in prison pending review of Hittner's finding that the original trial was unfair.

McGlasson said then that Cannon referred to people who patronize gay bars as "faggots," "fairies" and "queers" while being cross-examined during a hearing to investigate charges that Burdine received an unfair trial in 1984.

That shows a conflict of interest, at the least, because Cannon was biased against gays, he said.

"I sensed no moral or other concerns by him regarding the use of those terms," he said.

McGlasson said he also has evidence that Cannon allowed homophobic jurors on the panel during the 1984 trial.

Long before the missed deadline and the hearing in the 5th Circuit, gay rights and anti-death penalty advocates, including the American Civil Liberties Union, called Burdine's 1984 trial a "travesty of justice."

The ACLU filed a friend of the court brief while the trial was at district court level because of a comment by the state prosecutor that a gay man would not be punished by a prison sentence.

"Sending a homosexual to the penitentiary certainly isn't a very bad punishment for a homosexual, and that's what (Cannon) is asking you to do," prosecutor Ned Morris told the jury.

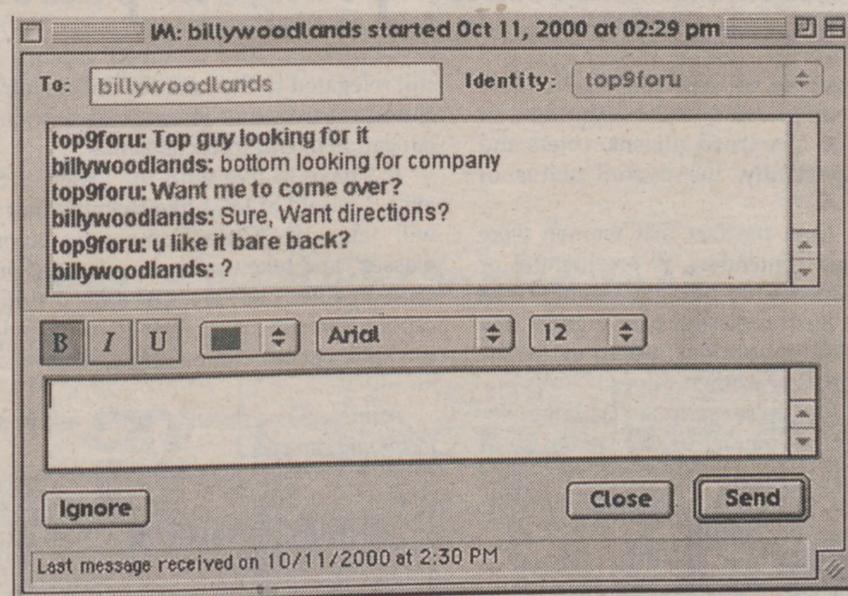
In a previous interview with the Houston Voice, McGlasson said that if the sleeping-lawyer situation is not resolved in favor of his client, the issues involving the gay slurs may be reason for future appeals.

"There are lots of other issues in the case that have not been ruled on," he said.

McCabe said this week that the gay slurs could eventually play an important role in the case.

"I wouldn't be surprised if the Supreme Court get interested in that at some point," he said.

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## VIEWPOINT

# If it's such an emergency, where is everybody?

by RICH ARENSCHIELDT

This close to presidential elections you probably expect to read about something highly politically motivated.

Unfortunately, in Houston, politics and HIV/AIDS policy are about as far away from one another as Ralph Nader is from residing at 1600 Pennsylvania Ave.

Think back almost a year ago—with much hoopla and a surprising amount of media coverage Mayor Lee P. Brown, utilizing the symbolic Dec. 1 "World AIDS Day," declares a "State of Emergency" as the result of increasing rates of HIV and AIDS in the African-American community.

Bowing to pressure from community-based groups and a small, but vocal group of black activists, Brown took the plunge into the murky world of HIV and public health policy.

This "call to action" was the result of some rather startling epidemiological statistics from the city health department. While the overall percentage of AIDS diagnoses among whites decreased from 60 percent in 1990 to 26 percent in 1998, blacks had opposite results with diagnoses increasing from 27 percent to 53 percent during the same period.

The months pass and nothing substantive

happens. At mid-year things are slogging along and the full task force of some 60 people has met only once. The group has been split into task-oriented committees and a bit of work is accomplished.

Billboards appear, some radio spots are created and the African-American community begins to hear more about HIV. One of the committees is slated to work with faith-based organizations.

This is an effective strategy, however, according to Pastor Lewis, black churches still have a lot of work to do in accepting the realities of HIV/AIDS. Lewis is a solid, gravel voiced powerhouse within the black community of faith. He is the senior part of a father/son team that has recognized the devastation of the epidemic.

When asked about the current state of emergency, Lewis has hope that the anticipated "community mobilization" will occur sooner rather than later.

"We have health educators who are trying to get the word out to those who are at high risk for contracting HIV. We have been submitting funding proposals [to the city] and we just have to sit and wait for a response. People can only volunteer their time for so long than you have to pay them for their work."

Efforts to implement any effective plan are further hampered by the fact that the city designates

"less than \$200,000 annually to fund HIV related activities," according to Steve Walker, newly appointed executive director at the Donald R. Watkins Foundation, a provider whose client base is 95 percent African-American.

This local funding is paltry, especially when compared to the \$5 million Houston receives from the Centers for Disease Control for prevention funding.

In recent days, there has been a conference on "AIDS In The Workplace" sponsored by the city of Houston and others. During this event, the mayor and director of the city health department were both in attendance, made brief welcoming remarks and then, like Elvis, left the building.

While these kind of gatherings are needed, public health policy mandates that we contain the epidemic. This can only be done by getting people tested so that they can know their HIV status, not simply by providing education and awareness about the disease.

As voters recover from months of immersion in an endless round of political maneuvering, maybe we can regroup some political energy to ask city leaders to follow the examples of Mayor Bill Campbell in Atlanta and Mayor Willie L. Brown Jr. in San Francisco—they are at war with HIV and AIDS.

In Houston our "State of Emergency" is just barley emerging.



## VIEWPOINT

# The 2000 presidential election—pick your poison

by MARIA MINICUCCI

As a lesbian feminist with an anarchist mind set, I have been having a very personal, very serious, "presidential election crisis."

The simpler, more popular, perhaps even more logical attitude to take would be to do my part in making sure that George W. Bush does not become our next president.

For me, it has not been so simple, or so clear cut. No, I absolutely do not support in any way what Bush represents and how those values and priorities would impact the country. However, I remain dubious about the intentions of the Democratic platform and the endorsement of Al Gore.

I can't seem to shake off the prickliness I feel about both the Republican and Democratic Parties and their respective leaders.

When I share these thoughts and feelings with friends, colleagues and diligent activists who are putting forth anti-Bush efforts, the most frequent feedback I receive is, "well, just vote for Gore, at least he is the lesser of two evils."

Ah ha! That is exactly my source of discontent.

Do we really want to yield so readily to any degree of "evil?" Can we afford to, personally, financially or socially be blindsided by obvious shortcomings of the entire polit-

ical system?

An example of this campaign's more glaring omissions is the recognition of women—as concerned citizens, voters and most importantly, the overall status of women.

Aside from the fact that women were not serious contenders as presidential or vice presidential candidates, neither the Gore nor Bush campaigns have given any relevant or substantial attention to the enhancement of women's lives.

And, for those serious "activists for social change" among us, we should be as equally outraged by this as the ridiculous things that Bush stands for and will try to shove down our throats.

Both parties can easily be accused of leading us away from the very real things that are in our way as we work towards a more just, compassionate, humane, safe and financially secure society.

Overlooking the "woman's" issue is one of their major failings since the world remains unjust, unsafe and financially precarious for the majority of women living in the United States. Having the dominant culture as it is represented by Gore and Bush act as if we are an equal, integrated society is nothing more than slick politicking.

For the rest of us, colluding with this illusion is hideous and dangerous to the welfare and well being of all disenfran-

chised groups. And all GLBT persons are still relegated to the ranks of the disenfranchised regardless of your social, economic, educational, ethnic, racial status.

If I have to live with the lesser of two evils, I would at least like to know that we will take off "Gore/Democratic colored glasses" and take up "queer outrage" pressure against the blatant and insidious repercussions of gender, race, class inequities to our campaign efforts.

*Minicucci is a freelance writer, college professor and counselor.*

## Are you registered to vote?

Election officials throughout Harris County are reporting that many voters who registered, have not received their voter registration cards in the mail and may not be on the eligible voters list at the polls.

If you have not received your card by mail, call 713 368-2000 to see if you are on the voter registration list.

If you are certain you registered, but are not on the list, you may request an affidavit of a challenged voter, fill it out and be permitted to vote in the Nov. 7 election.



VIEWPOINT

# Anti-Gore/Bush? Then vote for justices

by RANDAL BEACH

NEW ORLEANS — Do you remember Ronald Reagan's conservative landslide in 1984, or Newt Gingrich's "revolution"? What kind of U.S. Supreme Court would we have chosen in those years over what we received?

On Nov. 7, we will elect a new president. In a very real sense, however, we are likely electing justices for the U.S. Supreme Court indirectly that day, along with many courts of appeal and federal court judges.

Right-wing zealot Gary Bauer recently cited gay rights, school prayer and abortion when he proclaimed, "All the culture-war issues will be settled by the court." Following his own failed bid for the Republican nomination, Bauer stated, "The court is the most important division between the two candidates. When Gov. Bush mentioned [Justices] Scalia and Thomas, it sent an unmistakable message to grass-roots conservatives he will do the right thing."

George W. Bush has pointed to justices Antonin Scalia and Clarence Thomas, the most conservative members of the Supreme Court, as the justices he most admires and would model his appointments after. Bush's mantra

is "I don't believe in liberal, activist judges; I believe in strict constructionists, and those are the kind of judges I will appoint."

In stark contrast to those who say there's no difference in the two candi-

minorities, redistricting of legislatures and Congress, unreasonable search and seizure issues like narcotics checkpoints, and dozens of other issues that affect our lives every day, you need to cast your vote for Gore.

ing the few questions actually considered by the Supreme Court.

From his first day on the job, either Bush or Gore will begin naming judges to those courts. Most of those judges will serve 20 years, 30 years, or longer, holding your fate in their hands. They'll decide whether you can adopt children, enter into civil unions, be fired from your job—in short, whether your lives will be respected by our government.

And while you're thinking about all of this, throw in some thought about the races for seats in the U.S. Senate. Florida, Georgia, Mississippi, Tennessee and Texas all elect senators on Nov. 7. If the worst happens and George W. Bush is elected, our best hope is for a Democratic majority in the Senate to serve as a check on his attempts to appoint draconian ideologues to the courts.

The rest of your life depends on this vote. How many people have you called so far to offer rides to the polls?

Randal Beach, a partner in the Beach Law Firm in New Orleans, is president of the Louisiana Electorate of Gays and Lesbians, Inc. (LEGAL) and a member of the board of the Louisiana Lesbian and Gay Political Action Caucus (LAGPAC).

Right-wing zealot Gary Bauer recently cited gay rights, school prayer and abortion when he proclaimed, 'All the culture-war issues will be settled by the court.'

dates, Vice President Gore responded, "In my view, the Constitution ought to be interpreted as a document that grows with our country and our history. ... And when the phrase 'strict constructionist' is used, and when the names of Scalia and Thomas are used as benchmarks for who would be appointed, those are code words."

Gore has named the late justices Thurgood Marshall and William Brennan, both liberal activists, as model justices.

If you like the laws in this country, then you want "strict constructionist" judges. But if you care about gay civil rights, or if you care about a woman's right to choose, environmental issues, equal opportunity for women and

Yes, I have friends who are supporting other candidates like Ralph Nader. But Nader will not win. And whether you think of it as choosing the better of two bad candidates or not, this year more than any other you should choose between Bush and Gore. One of them will win, and George W. Bush hopes you help him by voting for Nader.

The Supreme Court has never ruled squarely on whether or not our Constitution's guarantee of equal treatment for all citizens includes protection from discrimination based on sexual orientation or gender identity. The justices can only avoid it for so long.

In the meantime, the 13 federal Courts of Appeal continue making laws every day through their rulings, fram-

## Dykes To Watch Out For by Alison Bechdel



# health news

## Lesbians as likely as heterosexual women to get STDs, new study shows

LONDON—Australian researchers have found that lesbians are just as likely as heterosexual women to get sexually transmitted diseases, Reuters reported. Women who have sex with other women were thought to have a small chance of acquiring sexually transmitted infections, but a study by scientists from the Sexual Health Unit in Alice Springs showed their risk is just as high as other women. "We demonstrated a higher prevalence of bacterial vaginosis, hepatitis C and HIV risk behaviors in women who have sex with other women compared with controls," Dr. Katherine Fethers said in a report in the journal *Sexually Transmitted Infections*. The researchers compared the medical histories and sexual behavior of 1,408 lesbians and 1,423 heterosexual women who attended a sexual health clinic in Sydney between March 1991 and December 1998. Fethers said that only seven percent of the women who had female sex partners said they had never had sex with a man. But they were more likely to have had a relationship with a gay or bisexual man and to have had more partners than the other women during their lifetime.

## Young gay men in U.K. having risky sex as unprotected sex rate increases

LONDON—British researchers have found that gay men are having more unsafe sex despite the continuing threat of HIV, BBC News reported. A study published in the *British Medical Journal* reports the first increase in unsafe sex among gay men in England since the start of the HIV epidemic 20 years ago. Over a period of three years, more than 6,500 gay men—aged 15 to 78 years—responded to a questionnaire about their sexual behavior. The survey shows a significant increase in the reporting of unprotected anal intercourse, particularly among men under 25. The willingness to have unprotected intercourse with partners whose HIV status was unknown also increased over the three-year period. But the study did reveal that most gay men still use condoms for anal sex most of the time, though there was a seven percent increase in the number of gay men having unprotected anal sex. It also found that 45 percent of those who took part in the survey had unprotected anal sex at least once during the year.

## Feds charge man who sold hundreds of faulty HIV tests over Internet

NEWARK, N.J. (AP)—Hundreds of people used the Internet to buy an HIV home test kit that lacks federal approval and doesn't yield accurate results, authorities said. The online sites selling the Ana-Sal kit claimed it produced results in five minutes that were more than 99 percent accurate. But tests by the FDA disproved those claims, Assistant U.S. Attorney Scott Christie said. Neither Christie nor the FDA could say whether the kits, which tested saliva samples, tended to give false positive or false negative results. The FDA has approved only one home HIV test kit—the Home Access Express HIV-1 Test System, which requires that blood samples be mailed to outside facilities. Stanley Lapides, 56, pleaded guilty Oct. 24 to a felony charge of distributing misbranded medical devices with the intent to mislead. He said he mailed 628 kits to U.S. customers from October 1997 to March 1999. Christie said the government was attempting to notify the buyers.

## House approves \$30 million in sanctuaries for infected chimpanzees

WASHINGTON (AP)—The U.S. House approved funds Oct. 24 for a network of chimpanzee sanctuaries, which would care for the animals after they are no longer needed for biomedical research. The measure, which passed on a voice vote, would allow spending up to \$30 million to set up the centers, which would be privately managed. Government researchers overbred chimpanzees at the beginning of the AIDS epidemic, according to Rep. James Greenwood (R-Pa.), the bill's sponsor. But they found the monkeys to be a poor model for study because the animals rarely contracted AIDS after being infected with HIV. Chimpanzees, which can live up to 60 years, cannot be returned to the wild after medical research because of the diseases they carry. "These animals deserve far better from us than they have been getting," Greenwood said.



Citing an overbreeding of chimps for scientific study of AIDS, Rep. James Greenwood (R-Pa.) backed a bill to create sanctuaries for the infected animals.

## New strategy shows adding immune booster to HIV therapy can help

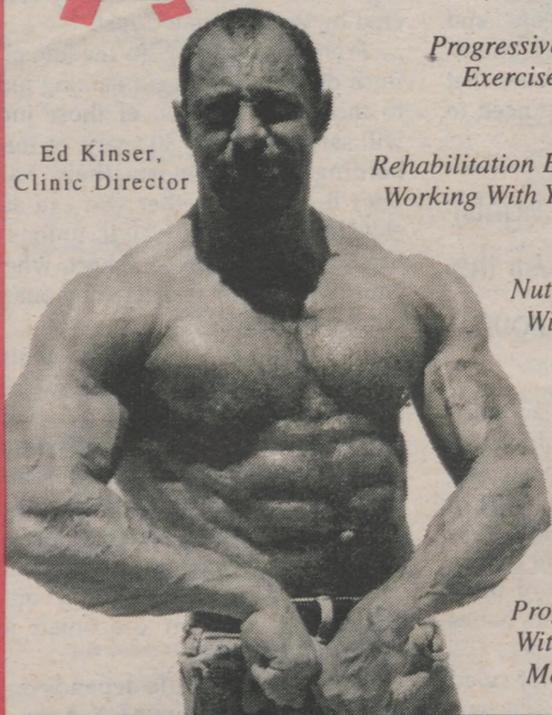
WASHINGTON—Scientific research has found that adding an immune booster to standard HIV therapy seems to help patients control the AIDS virus better than the drugs alone, Reuters reported. The immune booster, interleukin-2, increased the number of CD4 T-cells, the immune system helper cells that are attacked by HIV, researchers said. "We believe our findings point to a new strategy for helping people with very low T-cell counts fight advanced HIV disease," said Dr. Ronald Mitsuyasu, director of the University of California Los Angeles AIDS Research and Education Center. Mitsuyasu said his team added interleukin-2 to the drug cocktails of 164 patients, while 55 patients got only the standard drug cocktail. The patients who received the combination therapy had a dramatic increase in new CD4 cells, and experienced fewer episodes of AIDS-related illnesses.

—From staff and wire reports



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# "quote/unquote"

compiled from STAFF REPORTS

"For those in need of a reason to vote on Nov. 7, here are two:

1. Because Matthew Shepard cannot.
2. Because Dr. Laura can."

—A letter to the editor published in the Oct. 26 issue of the *Cleveland Plain Dealer*

"I do not worship at the altar of Cox."

—Atlanta Mayor Bill Campbell (right), expressing his disdain for the *Atlanta Journal-Constitution*, which is owned by Cox Communication, during an Oct. 26 interview on radio station WNNX, 99X



"I do worship at that altar. On my knees."

—"Gay Bob," (left) a recurring character, during a segment following the mayor's Oct. 26 appearance on WNNX, 99X

"Hands off the children, you pigs."

— Umberto Bossi, leader of Italy's right-wing Northern League, denouncing gay couples who want to adopt children, in a party convention speech in September, reported by CNN



"The drug companies? We gave them our bodies, an army of bodies, to be their guinea pigs, so they could develop decent treatments that could then be exported to the rest of a desperately needy, dying world. We got them fast track so they could make billions instead of finishing their work, refining their product.

"They used our bodies to create poisons that kill HIV and kill us, too, and then they decamped without improving their wares, and without any consideration for all the dying people everywhere. This is immoral. Can't you feel hate in your heart for every greedy slimy bastard who works at a drug company?"

—Author and ACT UP cofounder Larry Kramer (right), *Poz* magazine, October issue

**PRESIDENT JOSIAH BARTLET:** I like your radio show. I like how you call homosexuality an abomination.

**"DR. JENNA" JACOBS:** I don't say homosexuality is an abomination, Mr. President, the Bible does.

**BARTLET:** Yes, it does. Leviticus.

**JACOBS:** 18:22.

**BARTLET:** Chapter and verse. I wanted to ask you a couple of questions while I had you here. I'm interested in selling my youngest daughter into slavery as sanctioned in Exodus 21:7. She's a Georgetown sophomore, speaks fluent Italian, always cleared the table when it was her turn. What would a good price for her be?

While thinking about that, can I ask another? My chief of staff, Leo McGarry, insists on working on the Sabbath. Exodus 35:2 clearly says he should be put to death. Am I morally obligated to kill him myself, or is it okay to call the police?

Here's one that's really important cuz we've got a lot of sports fans in this town. Touching the skin of a dead pig makes one unclean. Leviticus 11:7. If they promise to wear gloves, can the Washington Redskins still play football? Can Notre Dame? Can West Point?

Does the whole town really have to be together to stone my brother John for planting different crops side-by-side? Can I burn my mother in a small family gathering for wearing garments made from two different threads?

Think about those questions, would you? One last thing, while you may be mistaking this for your monthly meeting of the Ignorant Tight-Ass Club, in this building, when the president stands, nobody sits."

—Exchange on the Oct. 18 episode of NBC's "West Wing" between the president character played by Martin Sheen (right) and a character clearly meant to be "Dr. Laura" Schlessinger



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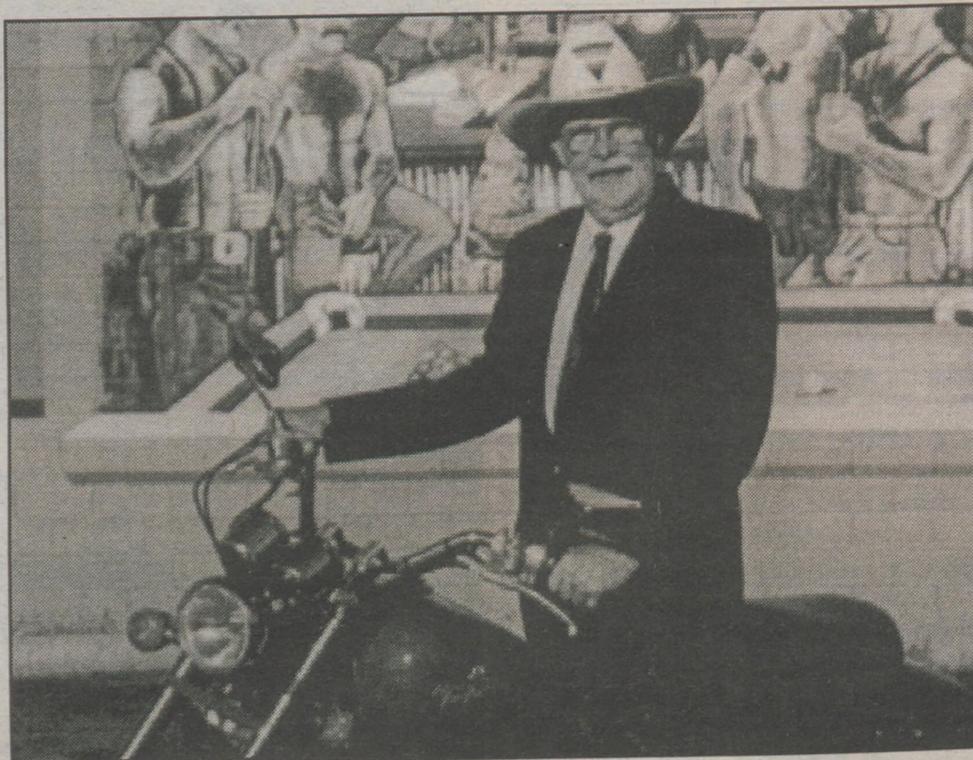
# HLGCC starts game night, continues race forum

➤ Continued from Page 5

**THE DYNAMICS OF INTERRACIAL RELATIONSHIPS IN A RACIST CULTURE** is the second of an extremely popular series of examining racism and the impact on LGBT communities, organizations, lives. Come early, stay late, participate in some lively discussion, share stimulating and innovative action plans, and meet some extraordinarily interesting and dynamic people on Monday, Nov. 27, 7 p.m.

The **LESBIAN COMING OUT GROUP** is alive and doing well with the life journey of coming out. The recent rumor emanating from this group is that Debra Murphy, the group's dynamite dyke facilitator has some fantastic "dating" adventure in the works. Houston's single lesbians keep your eyes and ears open for the definite date and time in the near future. This group meets every Tuesday evening at 7 p.m. Murphy facilitates this in the feminist "consciousness raising" format. It is an open group for any woman at any stage of sexual identity exploration.

**LESBIAN FILM NIGHT** will continue as a legacy to Jessica and Robin Wicks and because so many women enjoy the potluck/social time at 7 p.m. prior to the 8 p.m. movie time on the fourth Friday of the



Longtime community activist Ray Hill will perform at the Houston Lesbian and Gay Community Center, Sunday, Nov. 19, at 7:30 p.m.

month. Lynne Huffer, professor at Rice University Women and Gender Studies Department, and Adriane Bowie, from S.I.S.T.E.R.S. will be your hosts for the next couple of movie nights. In the near future,

various women's groups and organizations will rotate hosting the movie night. This will be a great way to not only enjoy a fine film and good company, but become more familiar with what the Houston women's com-

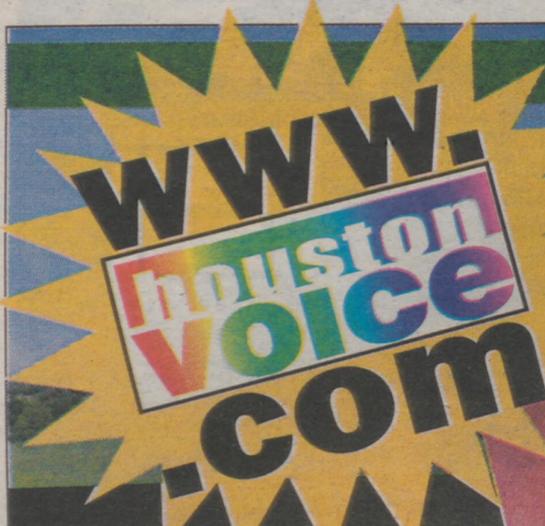
munity has to offer! Due to the holidays, there will not be a movie night in November or December. The event will resume in January.

**THE MONTROSE WRITER'S GROUP** is now being facilitated by Blas Falconer. Falconer is a creative writing graduate student at the University of Houston and is eager and committed to facilitate this group to other committed, aspiring writers at any level. Contact the community center and leave a request for Falconer if you are interested in attending this group. The group has been scheduled to meet every Saturday from 3 to 4:30 p.m. Falconer is open and flexible to your writing and scheduling needs!

**WRITE ON, WOMEN** is a biweekly group for women dedicated to their writing and the support of other women's creative endeavors is on hiatus until January. More information will be available at that time.

**WHAT LESBIANS DO** has been attracting a roomful of women every month for the past eight months. All of Houston's sex goddesses and divas of desire plan to continue sharing, caring, coveting the power and passion of women loving women. The group meets on the first Thursday of every month at 7 p.m. at the community center and will be meeting throughout the holidays.

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## Feminist conference slated at Rice this weekend

Activist Angela Davis is keynote speaker at tonight's kickoff for the event

by MARIA MINICUCCI

Rice University professors Lynne Huffer, Carol Quillen and Susan Lurie say that this weekend's Feminist Conference at the university is a time for academic and grass roots feminism to share the same stage.

Huffer, who teaches in the Women and Gender Studies Department, said that taking this from an idea to reality has been in the making for a little over a year. The decision to invite activist Angela Davis was based precisely on the organizers' priority to merge the academic and grass roots dimensions of feminism, which, according to Huffer, "have equal validity and value."

"Angela Davis seems to embody both the academic environment and the grass roots approach to social change."

Davis is an avowed feminist, anti-capitalist, prison activist, anti-racist activist and is on the faculty at the University of California, Santa Cruz

campus in the History of Consciousness Department.

The conference organizers were also very deliberate about inviting feminist scholars who represent the feminist challenges of this decade. Huffer says they are excited about bringing in "a diverse group of women from different fields all over the United States."

The conference will be a forum forging thought in the areas of African-American writings of women, the relationship between feminism and globalization, reproductive technologies and the most contemporary of queer theories.

What role does feminism have in academia today?

From Huffer's perspective, a very significant and crucial one.

"Feminism in the academy is much like a critical lens for the more traditional areas of knowledge. Feminist theory, which focuses on the influence of gender, race and sexuality opens up a whole new field of knowledge to explore and partake in."

The conference organizers also hope that this format will be a catalyst for conversations across multiple differences and disciplines.

Huffer, who maintains that feminism

is alive, well and a well-established field in academic institutions, also points out that new challenges still need to be met "particularly the relationship between feminist critique and the sciences."

"In the past science has been on one end of the academic spectrum and women's studies at the other, when in reality, feminist theory does impact not only science, but every discipline.

"This separation, has also tended to leave women's studies programs with much less of the research dollar."

Speaking of money, sponsors for this conference include: The Center for the Study of Cultures, Fondren Library, Office of the President of Rice University, Office of the Provost of Rice University and the Baker Center.

The conference is free and open to the public.

INFO

### Rice University Feminist Conference

Register on-line:  
[www.rice.edu/feministconf](http://www.rice.edu/feministconf)

e-mail: [culture@rice.edu](mailto:culture@rice.edu)

Angela Davis will be speaking  
Friday, Nov. 3, at 8 p.m.

The conference continues  
through Sunday.

## Tel Aviv councilmember visits Houston

> Continued from Page 5

cannot be dealt with until these other, more important things get taken care of."

Eden was quick to clarify that after 10 years of being involved in public politics in Tel Aviv, she decided to be instrumental in raising LGBT issues closer to the top of the list.

Eden had no problem declaring, "when will it be our time?" So, much of her priorities and subsequent activities have been addressing the improvement of LGBT lives in Israel.

Much of Eden's initial impetus to focus on LGBT issues sprung from her own personal experience.

"When I was 20 years old, I came out to my family and my family disowned me. That is when I decided I had to do something about my loss and try to make things better for other gay and lesbian people."

Eden was elected to the city council in 1990. She is a member of the left-wing liberal party in Israel, the Meretz.

She hopes to be able to continue to fight for LGBT issues as an elected official to the Israeli Parliament, the Knesset. Due to the most recent of upsets in the Middle East, these elections may be moved up to February or March instead of the usual time in May.

Eden invited people to take the opportunity to contact her through her website, [www.michaleden.com](http://www.michaleden.com).

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# Out on the Bayou

A guide for your leisure time

HOUSTON VOICE • NOVEMBER 3, 2000

## SADDLE UP, PARDNERS

Texas Gay Rodeo rides into Fort Worth next week

by D.L. GROOVER

All right, you Bayou buckaroos, it's time to round up them doggies and head up that dusty trail toward Fort Worth for the 17th annual Texas Gay Rodeo Association's "Rodeo 2000," Nov. 9-12.

There'll be more cowboys, cowgirls, tight jeans, chaps, bulls and hats than a season of "Bonanza."

And everybody's family.

It's going to be a long, satisfying country/western weekend of strenuous, sometimes bone-breaking competition, two-steppin' and waltz dance contests, barbecues, pool parties, King and Queen of the Rodeo contest and a chance to get acquainted with some real-life western guys and gals.

Rodeo events will be held in the W.R. Watt Arena in the Will Rogers Memorial Center, University Drive and West Lancaster Avenue.

Non-rodeo events will be held at the host hotel, the Holiday Inn South at 100 Altamesa East Boulevard (817-293-3088), or the 651 Club (651 South Jennings), Fort Worth's country/western dance bar.

As of this writing, the Holiday Inn was filling fast and alternative hotels sanctioned by TGRA include Comfort Suites, 6504 S. Freeway (817-568-9500), Best Western, 6500 S. Freeway

(817-551-6700) and Inn Suites Hotel, 2000 Beach Street (817-534-4801).

When you book reservations at any of these, ask for the TGRA rate, which is \$69 per room with four-person maximum occupancy. That's eight boots and four hats to a room. Very reasonable.

The icon of the rugged solitary cowboy roaming the wide open spaces has been an ingrained gay fantasy decades before Stonewall, but gay rodeo is only 25 years old.

It started in Nevada in 1975 when Phil Ragsdale, Reno's Imperial Court Emperor I, decided to raise money for the Muscular Dystrophy Association by having an amateur gay rodeo. Local ranchers refused to lease out their animals to homosexual cowboys, but Ragsdale managed to scour up five cows, 10 calves, one pig and a Shetland pony.

A popular hit, if not much of a monetary success the first year, the idea caught on like brush fire. The National Reno Gay Rodeo was on its way, the gay parent of what would soon become the International Gay Rodeo Association.

The Texas chapter followed in 1983. Currently, the IGRA has 20 member associations, representing 25 states, the District of Columbia and British Columbia.

> Continued on Page 18



## Gathering, learning, healing



Paul Guillory founded the Men's Gathering of Houston to 'affirm, celebrate and empower gay, bisexual and transgendered men of African descent.' The group meets weekly.

### Men's Gathering of Houston helps GLBT African-American men communicate with, nurture each other

by GARY LAIRD

If I had to choose one word to describe Paul Guillory, that word would be "committed."

Guillory is the founder and leading light behind an organization called "The Men's Gathering of Houston," a group that "affirms, celebrates and empowers gay, bisexual and transgendered men of African descent."

I met Guillory for coffee to see what this was all about.

My first impression is, "This is a big man." Tall, imposing physically, my second impression is, "This man is in control." We do the little pre-interview dance, sizing each other up, then settle down at a table.

I already have the information about the organization that Guillory e-mailed. There are several pages of goals and objectives, a clearly worked-out mission statement.

The Men's Gathering of Houston works in the areas of advocacy, health, education and consciousness raising to

provide "opportunities for the free and uncensored exchange of information, ideas and expression among men of color."

A pretty tall order.

What I want to know first is, why? What made him see the need, and what propelled him to take it on?

"Back in 1995, I discovered a similar group in Dallas—The Men's Gathering of Dallas—and I attended some meetings," Guillory said.

"This was at a time when I was coming out—leaving a 20-year marriage and a family, and coming to terms with myself as a gay man. And I was hated. By my ex-wife, who felt betrayed by what she saw as the pretense of our marriage, all the lying. By other African-American women who saw my coming out as the 'loss of a good one'.

"I made straights uncomfortable, because if I was gay, who else might be? It made them take another look at their

> Continued on Page 19

# TGRA celebrates 17th year

## ➤ Continued from Page 17

For you tenderfeet, there are four categories to the rodeo's events: rough stock, roping, speed and camp.

Rough stock has nothing to do with your last blind date, but deals with the big boys: bulls, steers and broncs—bull riding, steer riding, bareback bronc riding and chute dogging.

Bull riding is the premier event of any rodeo. Wrapping your legs around three tons of roaring beef is a daunting challenge for the best of professionals, male or female.

Steer riding is like the above only on a smaller scale. Think jeep, not tank.

It's no less dangerous, since the rope they're holding onto for dear life can't have any knots tied in it.

With one hand tied into the "bareback riggin'" on the bucking bronc, staying on for the requisite six seconds can be impossible.

Chute dogging is the quaint rodeo term for steer wrestling: 60 seconds to convince an ornery slab of meat to fall over by twisting its head over its shoulder. Sometimes this works, sometimes it doesn't. Sometimes, it's the cowboy's head that gets twisted.

Calf roping on foot keeps the con-

testant stationary. The calf is released from its pen and the roper must lasso the little guy's head before he runs out of range.

Mounted break-away is calf roping on horseback. With only one chance, the rider must throw the lasso clean over the calf's head, while he's darting all over the place.

Team roping has two riders. One, the header, must lasso the steer's horns and instantly wrap the rope around the saddle horn, which, if properly done upends the critter, throwing his back legs into the air, which then must be lassoed by the "heeler."

In the barrel race, the equine and human team tear around three barrels set in a triangular pattern. A five-second penalty is assessed if a barrel is knocked over.

Pole bending is a straight course of six equally-spaced poles, around which the horse and rider must maneuver while going as fast as they can.

For the flag race, a triangular course like the barrel race, a flag must be plucked out of a barrel, the rider makes the second turn and must plant the flag in the third barrel. Moving through the course at 30 miles an hour adds to the

excitement and increases the chance of knocking over either a barrel or missing the flag entirely.

No self-respecting gay rodeo would be complete without silliness, hence, the camp events.

Steer decorating is a two-person event; three, if you count the steer. With a rope tied around the steer's horns, the team coaxes the recalcitrant animal across a designated line and then attempts to untie the rope while the other teammate ties a ribbon around its flailing tail. The fastest time wins.

The wild drag race is not a stockcar rally, but a three-person team of male, female and one drag, either male or female. And a steer. First, the team must get the animal across a designated line 70 feet away from the chute, then the "drag" must ride it back across the line.

Until all four feet of the steer have passed the finish line, the drag rider has probably been bucked off numerous times, to the merriment of the audience.

Goat dressing involves a two-person team putting a pair of underwear on a goat, who's usually in no mood for such foolishness, or modesty. Briefs, not boxers, are the preferred undies of choice.

## 17th annual TGRA Rodeo schedule

**Thursday, Nov. 9**—TGRA Royalty Competition, 8 p.m., 651 Club, 651 South Jennings

**Friday, Nov. 10**—Pool Party, 2 p.m. Contestant Registration, 6 p.m.-9: p.m. Kick Off Party, 9 p.m.-midnight, Holiday Inn, 100 Altamesa East Boulevard

**Saturday, Nov. 11**—New Contestant Meeting, 8:30 a.m.

Rodeo, 9 a.m. to 6 p.m.

Opening Ceremonies and Grand Entry, noon

State Election, 10 a.m. to 6 p.m., Will Rogers Memorial Center, W.R. Watt Arena

Dance competition preliminaries, 3 p.m. Texas Bar-B-Q, 6 p.m.

TGRA Dance Finals, 8 p.m., 651 Club, 651 South Jennings

**Sunday, Nov. 12**—Rodeo, 9 a.m. to 6 p.m., Will Rogers Memorial Center, W.R. Watt Arena

TGRA Meeting, 7 p.m.

Awards Ceremony, 8 p.m.

Contestant Party, following awards, Holiday Inn, 100 Altamesa East Boulevard

Rodeo Hotline: 713-777-0410

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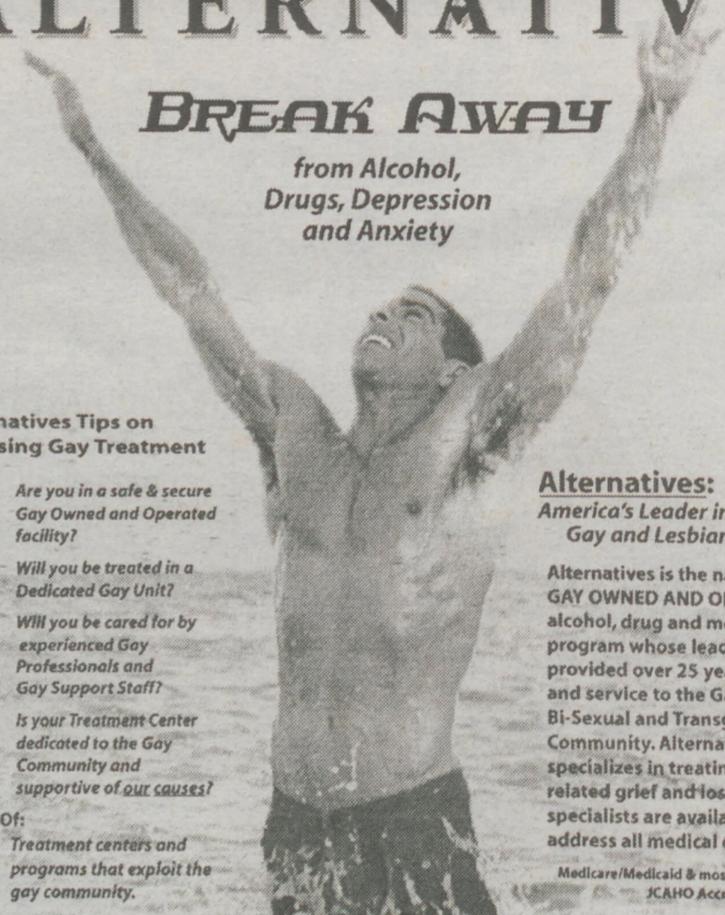
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Photo: Scott Ashton

# Bayou Calendar

## Kiki & Herb

Inhabiting the blowsy, over-the-hill chanteuse Kiki and her equally sordid piano accompanist Herb, Justin Bond and Kenny Mellman have perfected their psychologically damaged cabaret stylings to a very fine art indeed. A cult phenomenon from New York to L.A. to Australia, it is a rare privilege and honor to have them entertain us in Houston. An unforgettable night of booze, broken hearts, drag, divas and psychosis. Four nights only. What a pity, make that a scotch and ginger.

Through Nov. 5  
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Justin Bond portrays Kiki to Kenny Mellman's Herb in Theater LaB Houston's production playing through the weekend.

## Stargazer 2000

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## Group helps GLBT African-American men network

> Continued from Page 17

relationships, and it made them uncomfortable."

In 1998, Guillory moved to Houston, and in March of 1999 he organized the Men's Gathering of Houston. The first meeting netted six members.

I don't say it, but I'm wondering, "Why only African-American men? Isn't that exclusive?" Guillory picks up on it.

"Our organization is targeted to the African-American male, but we're not separatist. We separate for healing.

"When we're hurting, we tend to gather like with like, to bond with our own. In The Men's Gathering, we deal with all these issues common to the African-American male, but these are not necessarily exclusive. In fact, although our regular meetings are for men of color only, we hold open meetings every other Sunday.

"Look", he says. "When a [white] gay man looks at a black gay man, he sees black first, then gay. When a gay black man sees another gay black man, he sees gay first. It's a simple matter of perception."

I don't like the sound of that, but, in all honesty, I know it's true.

"There is no gay community for the black man," Guillory states flatly. "The power structure is not inclusive. Oh, an organization might invite a person of color from time to time, but it's because they feel they have to, not because they want to.

"Organizations that receive funding for AIDS are under pressure to include people of

color because of the changing face of AIDS and HIV, shifting from gay white males to blacks and Hispanics.

"So we gather to empower, then extend. The same prejudices that exist in society as a whole exist in the gay community."

So how did he get to where he is—a black man, a graduate of Rice University, successful in the oil and gas industry?

"I never used the race card", he says. "I'm extremely light-skinned; you don't know what I am, but I'm different. When people say, 'You're not like the rest of them', that's not a compliment.

"I just made up my mind; I won't be a victim. Wouldn't it be great if society was fair? But it's not. It will never be perfect, so I'm not going to wait for society to change.

"In The Men's Gathering, we talk about accepting responsibility for our own well-being and dealing with it." The average age of the group is mid-30's—the youngest member is 20—and the majority are professionals.

"There's a lot of pain out there", he explains matter-of-factly. "The Men's Gathering is a place where we can come together to express, to become teachers and learners."

INFO

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# On Stage

THEATER REVIEW

## Porn 101

Stryker's 'Hard Time' need Viagra

by D.L. GROOVER

Jeff Stryker is slick and smooth. Like lube. He gets slicker as the evening progresses.

In his first venture into live theatrical performance, the world's most famous male porn star has had the savvy to fashion himself a vanity production. For what it is, this star vehicle serves him well. Everyone else gets the shaft.

He and his un-credited co-writers have crafted a soft-core showcase, full of flashing siren lights, hot-key lighting, and echoes of clanking jail doors. Stryker is swathed in '40s film noir glamour with inky shadows and wet reflections. On display, his body glistens. He's his own fetish.

To be fair, you don't go to **JEFF STRYKER DOES HARD TIME** expecting "Hamlet." You don't expect Laurence Olivier, either. But also to be fair, you do assume that after scores of performances in NYC and San Francisco, the eponymous star and his tailor-made "hilarious, erotic comedy" would have more pizzazz and polish than this lumbering, cheesy effort.

As a live porn movie, this sad little affair moves with all the speed of a lump of Crisco. And is about as interesting. For all its X-rated trash sex talk, the porn's missing. It's discreet and hides behind veils.

This play needs Viagra.

There's no pacing or rhythm to the individual scenes, no variety. Each one plays just like the last. Some end abruptly. Some fall flat and lay eggs big enough to come from a 30-pound chicken. At least a movie can always cut out the dead wood, cut to something else when the tension flags, cut around bad acting.

As an opportunity to see Jeff Stryker in the flesh, smack in your face, "Hard Time" is definitely successful. But one has to sit through this ugly little play with its veneer of homophobia and gay stereotypes to finally witness Mr. Stryker's claim to fame.

He does have a jaw-dropping, or jaw-filling, piece of anatomy, no question about it. However, you could also experience the prodigious sight on video where there's a fast-forward button to speed through those dreary dialogue sequences.

Thank goodness for the appearance of Randall Jobe, in the role of the swishy queen, imaginatively named Queenie. Of all the cast, he's the only one with a sense of character, probably because Queenie has character, and Jobe knows how to play him.

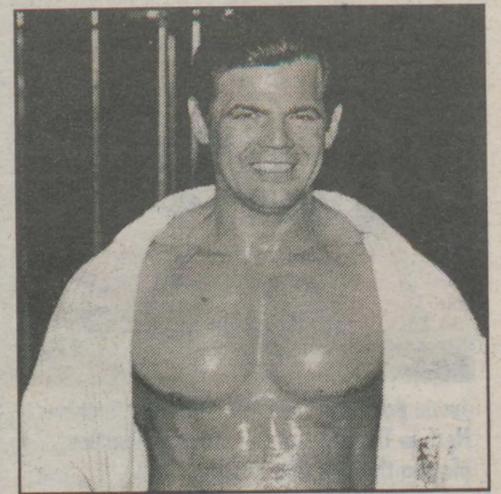
Queenie's as much of a cartoon as the others, but Jobe has the sense, and the ability, to give him freshness and a sense of life. He supplies most of the comedy in this wan, half-baked enterprise.

Camping around, wrapped in a beach towel and sporting a pink shower cap and

open-toed mules, he purrs lines like, "Your buns are like a pair of earrings waiting to be clipped on."

In another scene, he wears a short kimono, his head bundled in a gold turban, and resembles William Hurt in "Kiss of the Spider Woman." He's a lot funnier than Hurt.

Facing the macho posturing of Pretty Boy, Queenie snaps with attitude, "I'll open a can of whoop-ass on you," then squeals and runs off.



Porn star extraordinaire, Jeff Stryker, brings his ample 'talent' to center stage in 'Jeff Stryker Does Hard Time,' but it's not enough to keep the production from falling flat.

Jobe opens up the play with his outrageousness. In a way, he's too big for it; all the rest comes up short. Without his whiny bitchiness, "Hard Time" would be smothered in its fake street toughness and limp hilarity.

No one really gets to be macho except Stryker. At least, he pokes fun at himself. That is a plus. Done with a knowing wink, he caresses himself with more emotion and pleasure than he shows to anyone else.

When he preens in a double mirror or adjusts his stance so that he stands in his private pin spot, Stryker takes his hard-earned porn image and nicely screws it.

The evening ends with a mini sex show, as Stryker douses himself with baby oil and dances nude among the audience. It's one exotic dance where he brings his own pole. The curtain call has him patting his large friend in appreciation of a job well done. Let's hope his friend's insured.

Strutting to the door, Mr. Stryker stands in his terrycloth bathrobe, open provocatively to reveal his talent, saying goodbye to each one of the audience with a handshake and "thanks for coming."

We are left with a greasy palm and the overwhelming urge to wash our hands.

INFO

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# Eating Out

RESTAURANT REVIEW

## Variety with varied results

Katz's Deli hits, misses with New York fare

by ELLA TYLER

Fortunately, the people at KATZ'S DELI didn't think Houston was overpopulated with restaurants. Houston can always use another deli and another place that serves real food after midnight.

That it's in downtown Montrose is a bonus. People who work here are so bored with the places to eat lunch that, even though we have loved the old standbys for decades, we were excited when the Burger King opened, more than two years ago.

It is also a relief to finally have the brick shell at the corner of Westheimer and Crocker that has been kept standing only by the intervention of massive steel beams, rehabilitated and occupied. The city's parking ordinance required fewer parking spaces for remodeling than for new construction, which is why the empty hull wasn't deliberately demolished years ago.

So, Katz's, a branch of the popular Austin location, and a descendant of the New York deli, is a welcome new neighbor.

My first excursion was a Friday afternoon lunch with the Houston Voice writers. David, our transplanted Manhattanite, pronounced the décor authentic.

"All the deli's have floors with little hexagonal tiles like this one. Of course, this one is cleaner," he said.

The brick walls with pictures of celebrity diners and New York scenes contribute to the New York feel.

At lunch it is very noisy, but in the evening it is quiet enough to talk comfortably. The restaurant is bi-level, with the nonsmoking section upstairs, but a two-level entry and huge windows keep the spaces from feeling cramped.

The staircase is not intimidating, at least not before you eat. I wouldn't want to walk up any stairs after I'd eaten.

And that brings us to the food.

There's lots of it. The sandwiches have so much meat that one member of my group quipped, "It takes two hands to handle a whopper."

On my second and third visits, my companion took half the sandwich home. The cheesecake slices (\$4.75) are big enough to satisfy two diners, and it took real will power for me to finish my rice pudding (\$3.95).

There's also a wonderful variety. I like my first meal of the day, even if it's at 2 in the afternoon, to be breakfast, so I was delighted to find that scrambled eggs, omelets and waffles are available 24 hours a day.

By the same token, one could have a

corned beef or pastrami sandwich at 9 a.m.

The menu is full of unfamiliar items, and those are the most likely to satisfy. David, who ate borscht (\$2.50/cup, \$3.95/bowl), a foot-long hot dog (\$4.25) and a malt (\$3.50), was pleased.

"Just like New York," he said.

The borscht was a bit thin and the malt needed more malt, he observed, but he was happy.

On the other hand, the member of our Friday group who ordered a patty melt (\$7.95) wasn't pleased.

"I guess that's not the best thing to order at a deli," he said. "Frankly, I like the ones at House of Pies better."

The reviews on the Ruebens (\$8.50) were mixed. The friend who ordered the pastrami was so happy with the quality of the pastrami, that he had no complaints.

Those who ordered the corned beef ones were less happy. I heard, "The corned beef is stringy" and "It's a bit bland".

My opinion, having dissected one of the sandwiches (in the interest of science) is that whether you like the

Reuben depends on what ratio of meat to other stuff you like. I

prefer a Reuben that you must eat with a fork because everything is covered with melted cheese, but these have so much meat everything else is overwhelmed.

Next time I go, I'm going to have something with lots of sauerkraut, the bit I sampled was wonderful.

Be sure to get pickles. Everyone who has eaten them just says "Oh" or "Ah," and takes another. A free tray for the table is available for the asking.

The service is very good. The staff is careful about clearing dishes, refilling drinks and making sure your order is correct.

The prices are New York prices, though. Most of the sandwiches are \$8-\$9, without sides.



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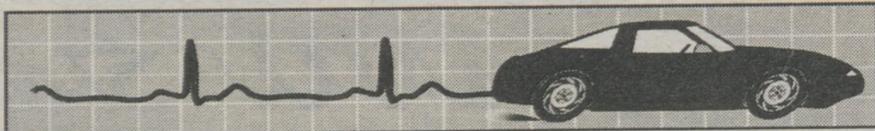
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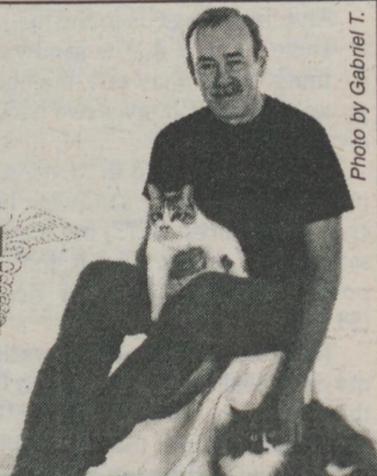


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# out in music

by MARGARET COBLE

## Stylistic gumbo

New Orleans-based lesbian singer/songwriter strives to carve out new ground with latest mix of old and new

While there's surely no dearth of folksingers within the continuum of music made by gay men and lesbians, few are as accomplished on both the guitar and the violin—and as respected within the roots music community—as New Orleans-based singer-songwriter **GINA FORSYTH**.

For the uninitiated, her recently released debut solo CD "You Are Here," serves as an excellent introduction to the breadth and depth of her style, while for longtime fans, it plays somewhat like a greatest hits collection, including material from as far back as 1984 through the present.

Cajun music aficionados will likely already be familiar with Forsyth's name, as her resume in that field is quite impressive. She's worked with the likes of Dewey Balfa and D.L. Menard, toured with Cajun rock band Mamou and collaborated with Cajun-fiddling favorite Waylon Thibodeaux on the widely popular, award-winning album "Dans La Louisiane".

Festival junkies might also recognize Forsyth from her many performances at major folk and jazz festivals around the world. She's played the Napa Valley Folk Festival, where she won an Emerging Songwriter award; the prestigious Tonder Festival in Denmark, where she accompanied Cajun superstar Bruce Daigrepoint; and annual stints at New Orleans' own infamous Jazzfest.

Born in Florida, Forsyth grew up in Alabama listening to hymns, country songs and old time fiddle tunes. She relocated to Louisiana in 1983 to study classical and jazz violin at Loyola University, and has been a mainstay on the New Orleans indie folk scene ever since.

Musically, Forsyth's traditional folk sound encompasses a stylistic range that is much more of a roots gumbo than what the term "folk" has come to represent in modern times (i.e. girl with a guitar). Bluegrass, Cajun, country, gospel, and New Orleans' rhythm and blues influences can all be heard in Forsyth's polished but down-home sound.

Her deeply personal storytelling and heartfelt vocal delivery is as "folk" as it



**You'll have to e-mail Gina Forsyth to get her new CD, but it's worth it to hear the out lesbian singer/songwriter belt out her unique combination of folk and Cajun influences, among others.**

gets, though. Just take one listen to the sing-along perfection of "You Are Here" and "Everywhere I Am," two audience favorites that set the tone for this disc.

The former is a giddy, joyous ode to love that can make even the most jaded grin with glee, while the latter is an oddly optimistic declaration of heartache that aptly captures the pain of missing someone.

Fans of Forsyth's skillful Cajun fiddle work won't be disappointed either, with the inclusion of traditional Cajun-styled songs like "J'ai Fait Tout Le Tour De Grand Bois" and "Texas Waltz."

Out as a lesbian in her everyday life, the issue of Forsyth's sexual orientation rarely comes up in her work, she admits. She generally prefers to use the universal pronoun "you" in her frequent love songs, but one of the newer songs on *You Are Here*, the humorously rocking "She's Looking For A Dave," perhaps signals a shift in that philosophy. It's a surprisingly candid story about unrequited infatuation:

*"She's looking for a Dave/ someone to turn her lights on/*

*She's looking for a Dave/ to pin her dreams and nights on/*

*Oh, but I felt that power/ and over the fences I was flying/*

*I never knew what hit me/ tangled up on that power line/*

*She's looking for a Dave/ I don't fit that bill..."*

Regardless, "You Are Here," is a triumphant accomplishment for Forsyth. Though it's currently only available in select New Orleans record stores (Tower Records, Louisiana Music Factory) and through Forsyth herself (e-mail her at: Gina4syth@aol.com), she hopes to strike a record deal by the beginning of the year to release the disc nationally.

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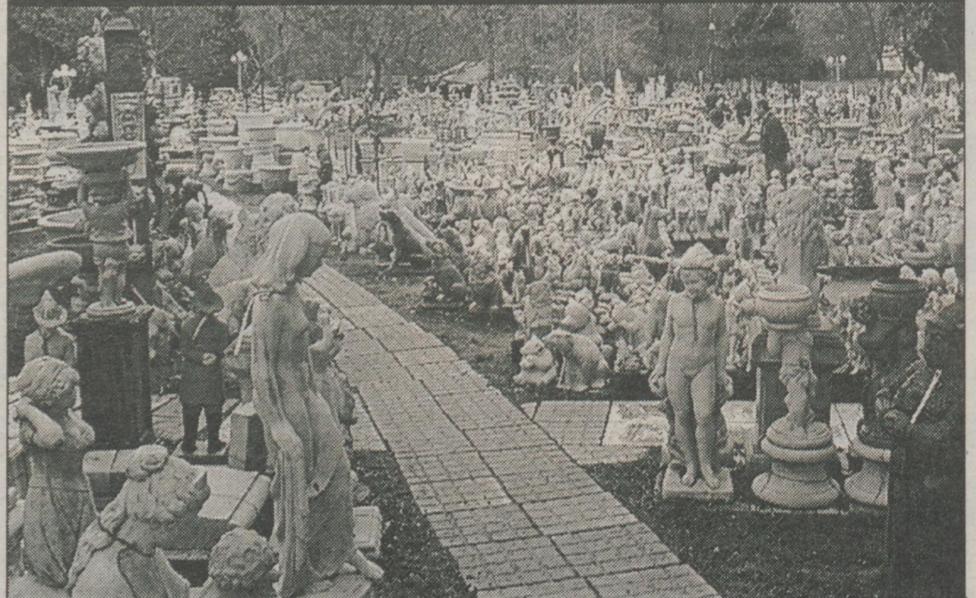


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# homefront

POWER TOOL TIME: HOME IMPROVEMENT

## Hardware heaven

Answers to home repairs and problems you didn't know existed can be found at local hardware stores

by ELLA TYLER

Several years ago, on my way to my Agricultural Construction class (where you learn to make simple repairs around the farm and ranch), I dashed into a hardware store in Spring Branch to pick up stuff to repair a piece of furniture and decided to look around rather than deal with traffic.

As I wandered around, I had what can be only called a Cosmic Insight.

"No wonder men love these places," I thought, "the solution to any problem is right here." And I mean any problem, not just "manly man" kind of problems.

This place was a "real" hardware store, not a "home improvement center," and that is the difference. At "home improvement centers" I must pass rows and rows of things that don't have anything to do with what I want to do—how many times do I want to put in a new bathtub?—before I get to the row that has what I want.

That is, if I can remember what I want or knew what it was is the first place.

At a real hardware store, I don't have to stand around looking helpless and wait for some customer to take pity on me.

These stores have people all over the place who offer to help. Over and over. They will tell you where the shelf brackets are, discuss the merits of different varnishes or explain how to change the float in the toilet tank.

I don't make trips to return the wrong thing, because I got the right thing the first time.

I can bring in a screw and they will find it's match, and then sell me just one. On one visit to Wagner, I gave them two quarters and got change.

The other thing that is truly wonderful about "real" hardware stores is that as you walk through the aisles, you find a variety of products you never dreamed existed. Unless you're expecting a visit from Marvin Zindler, you probably don't need something to clean your ice machine, but what about a grabber that lets you reach things on high shelves?

You'll find a greater variety of the things you expect, too. I had no idea there were as many kinds of tools, hinges, screen-door hooks, paint brushes, etc. and if I ever want one, I know where to go.

Hardware stores also have the right size of whatever it is that you want. Each of my bookcases seems to require a different size of shelf support, so I dig through the little drawers and find the ones that match. I don't know why someone needs a 3/8-inch dowel or 2-inch cork, but they are there.

Then there's all those things that you don't know what they are for. Someday you will. A friend explained, "You can go to the hardware store and see something that solves a problem you didn't know you had."

Real hardware stores are everywhere; you just need to know how to spot them. Montrose residents know Southland, but I'm fond of Wagner in Bellaire.

Look for a sign on the door that says, "Saws sharpened." That's a good sign, and if it says "Chain saws sharpened," like the Wagner on Kirby, you have a winner.

Ads that say "pipe cut and threaded" or "glass cut" are good indicators. Check out the "Ace Hardware" and "True Value" ads in the Yellow Pages. These are essentially cooperative buying groups of independent hardware stores and, so far, every one of them I've been in has qualified as a "real" hardware store.

These places aren't open late, and prices may seem a bit higher, but they're worth making the effort to visit. Go at lunch or during happy hour, and contemplate how much money you saved by buying six nails instead of 50.



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# community

**saturday, november 4**

After Hours. KPFT 90.1 FM. 12 a.m. to 3 a.m. 713-526-5738.  
 Q-Patrol walks the streets 8:45 p.m. 713-528-SAFE.  
 Dignity mass. 7:30 p.m. for gay Catholics. 713-880-2872.  
 St. Stephen's Episcopal Church. Rosary 8 a.m. 1805 W. Alabama.  
 713-528-6665.  
 Houston Chain Gang Bicycle Club. Call for ride locations. 713-  
 863-1860.  
 Houston Wrestling Club. Practice. 1:30 p.m. 713-453-7406.  
 Rainbow Fishing Club. Meeting. 713-526-7070.  
 Houston Faerie Circle. Meeting. 2 p.m. 713-533-0150.  
 Northwoods AIDS Coalition Food Pantry Southwest Center. 10  
 a.m. to 2 p.m. 281-633-2555 & Conroe 936-441-1614.  
 Houston Gay & Lesbian Community Center Drop-in hours noon  
 to 4 p.m. • Montrose Writer's Project. 3 to 4:30 p.m. • 803  
 Hawthorne. 713-528-3818.

Unitarian Fellowship of Houston. Adult forum 10 a.m. Service 11  
 a.m. 713-686-5876.  
 Thoreau Unitarian Universalist Congregation: Adult discussion  
 9:45 a.m. Service 11 a.m. 281-277-8882. www.tuuc.org.  
 First Unitarian Universalist Church. Services at 9:30 & 11:30 a.m.  
 Brunch available 10:30 a.m. 713-526-5200. church@firstuu.org.  
 Houston Tennis Club. 9 a.m. Memorial Park at the Tennis Center.  
 713-692-2703.  
 Houston Gay & Lesbian Community Center Drop-in hours 2 to 4  
 p.m. 803 Hawthorne. 713-524-3818.  
 PFLAG-Houston. Monthly support group. 2 p.m. 713-867-9020.

**sunday, november 5**

Common Group (formerly New Hope Christian Center) Worship  
 Service. 11 a.m. 803 Hawthorne. 713-524-3818.  
 Houston Area Teen Coalition of Homosexuals meets. 713-942-  
 7002.  
 Rainbow Riders. A bicycle club for women. 713-869-1686.  
 St. Stephen's Episcopal Church. Holy Rite Eucharist I 7:45 a.m.;  
 Holy Rite Eucharist II 8:55 a.m.; Education hour 10 a.m.; Choral  
 Eucharist 11 a.m. 713-528-6665.  
 Maranatha Fellowship Metropolitan Church. Service. 6:30 p.m.  
 713-528-6756.  
 Resurrection MCC. Services. 9 a.m. and 11 a.m. Adult Sunday  
 School 10 a.m. Youth Sunday School 11:15 a.m. Handbell Choir  
 rehearsal 1:30 p.m. 713-861-9149.  
 Grace Lutheran Church. Sunday school for all ages 9 a.m. Service  
 10:30 a.m. 713-528-3269.  
 Community Gospel. Service at 11 a.m. & 7 p.m. Sunday School for  
 children 10 a.m. 713-880-9235 or www.communitygospel.org.  
 Houston Mission Church. Service 10:30 a.m. 713-529-8225.  
 Covenant Church, Ecumenical, Liberal Baptist. Service 9:30 a.m. &  
 education hour 11 a.m. 713-668-8830.  
 Bering Memorial United Methodist Church. Services at 8:30 a.m.  
 & 10:50 a.m. Sunday school 9:45 a.m. 713-526-1017.  
 The Women's Group. Meeting & Discussion. 10:45 a.m. 713-529-8571.  
 Unitarian Fellowship of Galveston County. 502 Church St. Service  
 10:30 a.m. 409-765-8330.  
 First Congregational Church (Memorial). Service at 11 a.m.  
 Christian Education. 11:30 p.m. 713-468-9543 or fcc-houston.org.

**monday, november 6**

Gay Fathers/Fathers First. Support group. 8 p.m.  
 www.GayFathers-Houston.org or 281-505-1788.  
 Frost Eye Clinic. Free eye exams for people with HIV. 713-830-3000.  
 HIV testing. STD Exams & treatment. Free. AVES. 1 p.m. to 6:15  
 p.m. 713-626-2837.  
 Kolbe Project. Eucharist 7:30 p.m. 713-861-1800.  
 Northwoods AIDS Coalition Food Pantry Open. 10 a.m. to 6 p.m.  
 936-441-1614.  
 Houston Tennis Club. 9 a.m. Memorial Park at the Tennis Center.  
 713-692-2703.  
 Lesbian & Gay Voices Radio Show. 8 to 10 p.m. KPFT 90.1. 713-  
 529-1223.  
 AIDS Mastery. 7 p.m. Montrose Counseling Center. 713-529-0037.  
 Grief & Divorce Support Groups. 7 p.m. Bering. 713-526-1017,  
 Ext. 208.  
 gayDAR. Wellness community. Support Group. 7 p.m. 713-526-  
 1017, Ext. 211.  
 Houston Lesbian and Gay Community Center drop-in hours from  
 6 to 9 p.m. • Black Lesbian & Gay Coalition meeting. 7 p.m. •  
 803 Hawthorne. 713-524-3818.

**tuesday, november 7**

Free HIV Testing by the Montrose Clinic. 8 p.m. to midnight. Club  
 Houston. 713-830-3000.  
 Helping Cross Dressers Anonymous. Support Group. 7 p.m. 713-  
 524-0439.  
 Bering Support Network. Lunch Bunch Gang 11 a.m. 713-526-1017.  
 Gay Men's Process Group. 7 p.m. 3316 Mt. Vernon. 713-526-8390.  
 Men's Network. Discussion group for social, educational develop-  
 ment of gay and bisexual men. 7 p.m. Montrose Counseling  
 Center. 713-529-0037.

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# calendar

Northwoods AIDS Coalition Food Pantry Open. 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. 281-633-2555.  
 Lambda Skating Club skates. 8 p.m. Tradewinds. Skating Rink. 713-410-7215.  
 Houston Lesbian and Gay Community Center drop-in hours 6 to 9 p.m. • Lesbian Island Association meeting. 7 p.m. • 803 Hawthorne. 713-524-3818.  
 Lesbian Health Initiative. Monthly meeting. 713-603-0023.

## wednesday, november 8

Free HIV Testing. Thomas Street Clinic. 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. 215 Thomas Street 713-793-4026.  
 STD Exams & treatment. HIV Testing. Free. AVES. Free. AVES. 713-626-2837.  
 Free HIV Testing by the Montrose Clinic. 4 p.m. to 8 p.m. Mary's, Venture-N & E's. 713-830-3000.  
 BiNet Houston. 7:30 p.m. Social meeting. 713-467-4380  
 Women's Network. Montrose Counseling Center Discussion group for social, educational development of gay and bisexual women. 7 p.m. Montrose Counseling Center. 713-529-0037.  
 Northwoods AIDS Coalition Food Pantry open. 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. 936-441-1614.  
 Project: Caesar. Workshops. AFH. 3203 Wesleyan. 713-623-6796.  
 Out Skate Rollerskating Club. 8 to 10 p.m. 8075 Cook Road. 281-933-5818.  
 Rainbow Ranglers free C&W dance lessons. Brazos River Bottom. 7 p.m. 713-880-0670.  
 Bible Study. Noon & 6:30 p.m. St. Stephen's Episcopal. 713-526-6665.  
 Spiritual Uplift service. 7 p.m. Bible Study 7:30 p.m. Resurrection MCC. 713-861-9149.  
 Freelance Art Classes by Kermit Eisenhut for HIV+ individuals. 1 to 4 p.m. Lunch provided. 713-523-9530.  
 Houston Tennis Club. 9 a.m. Memorial Park at the Tennis Center. 713-692-2703.  
 Lesbian Literature Discussion Group. 7 p.m. 713-523-3037.  
 Houston Pride Band. Open rehearsal. 1307 Yale. 713-527-0931. www.houstonprideband.org.  
 Bering Memorial United Methodist Church. Dinner at 6:30 p.m. Various Support Groups 7 p.m. 713-526-1017.  
 Houston Lesbian and Gay Community Center drop-in hours 6 to 9 p.m. • Free HIV testing by the Montrose Clinic 6 to 9 p.m. • 713-524-3818.  
 Classic Chassis Car Club. Monthly meeting. 713-797-8615.

## thursday, november 9

Gay Men's Chorus of Houston. Open rehearsal. 7 p.m. 713-521-7464.  
 Rainbow Ranglers free C&W dance lessons. Brazos River Bottom. 7 p.m. 713-880-0670.  
 Hep C Recovery. Support Group. 6:30 p.m. Bering. 713-526-1017, Ext. 211.  
 STD Exams & treatment. Free. AVES. 713-626-2837.  
 Free HIV Testing by the Montrose Clinic. 8 p.m. to midnight. Toy Disco. 713-830-3000.  
 Northwoods AIDS Coalition Food Pantry open. 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. 281-633-2555.  
 FrontRunners. Running Club. 6:30 p.m. 713-522-8021.  
 HIV Art Course Program. 1 to 4 p.m. Kermit Eisenhut. 713-524-9530.  
 Women's Clinic. Montrose Clinic. 713-830-3000.  
 Community Gospel. Service. 7:30 p.m. 713-880-9235 or www.communitygospel.org.  
 HIV Testing. Free. AVES. 713-626-2837.  
 Houston Lesbian and Gay Community Center drop-in hours 6 to 9 p.m. • 803 Hawthorne. 713-524-3818.  
 Bi-Net Houston. Women's support. 413-467-4380.

## friday, november 10

Houston Area Teen Coalition of Homosexuals (H.A.T.C.H.) Meeting. 713-942-7002.  
 Free HIV Testing by the Montrose Clinic. 10 p.m. to 1 a.m. Rich's. 713-830-3000.  
 STD Exams & treatment. Free. AVES. 713-626-2837.  
 Frost Eye Clinic. Free eye exams for people with HIV. 713-830-3000.  
 Q-Patrol walks the streets. 9 p.m. 713-528-SAFE.  
 Kolbe Project. Morning Prayer. 10 a.m. Movie Night. 7 p.m. 713-861-1800.  
 Houston Tennis Club. 9 a.m. Memorial Park at the Tennis Center. 713-692-2703.  
 Positive Art Workshop. 1 p.m. to 4 p.m. Patrick Palmer. 713-526-1118.  
 Lesbian and Gay Voices. KPFT 90.1 FM. 7 p.m. 713-526-5738.  
 Mishpachat Alizim Shabbat Services. 8 p.m. 713-748-7079.  
 Houston Lesbian and Gay Community Center drop-in hours 6 p.m. to 9 p.m. • 803 Hawthorne. 713-524-3818.

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

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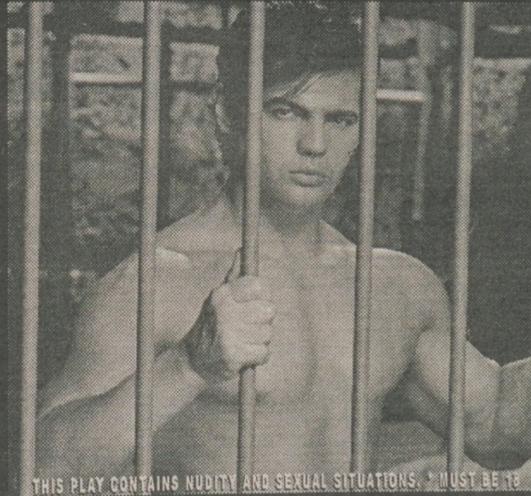
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### CALENDAR

**Friday • Nov 3**  
Morning Prayer 10am

**Saturday • Nov 11**  
Breakfast Club 9:30am

**Monday • Nov 6**  
Eucharist 7:30pm

**Monday • Nov 13**  
Eucharist 7:30pm

**Thursday • Nov 9**  
Peace Prayer for  
Middle East  
7pm

**Wednesday • Nov 15**  
Workshop on Loneliness 7pm

**Friday • Nov 3**  
Morning Prayer 10am

# Classifieds

## Announcements

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Send your name, address, daytime phone number, # of weeks the ad will run, plus a credit card number and expiration date for payment. Or call Kyle Cooke at 713.529.8490

### Black Tie Dinner

November 11, 2000

Any Tuxedo Rental \$59.95

20% Off Retail Merchandise



713.626.3318

Galleria III Second Level

### Employment

#### PSYCHOTHERAPIST/ LVN/HIV TESTER

Appropriate certifications required • Bi-lingual, English/Spanish • Experience in HIV field preferred • Comparable salary and benefits • Fax resume to Director of Education • 713.627.9646

#### HIV HEALTH EDUCATOR

Bachelor's Degree or 2 years HIV experience • Bilingual, English/Spanish • Street outreach • Public speaking preferred • Comparable salary & benefits • Fax resume to Dir. of Education at 713.627.9646

#### ASSISTANT MANAGER

Needed for after hours club • Some bar experience preferred • Drug screen required • Charitable operation • Salary + commission • ALSO part-time janitorial help needed • 713.521.1613

### 800 PACIFIC

Houston's top gay nightclubs are now accepting applications for managers, management trainees, bartenders door and floor staff. Offering Houston's best benefits package, including group health insurance.

### JR.'s BAR & GRILL

Is looking for honest, self-motivated and customer service-oriented individuals who want to join a winning team. To join our family of clubs, apply Wednesday through Friday between 1 pm and 5 pm at

804 & 808 Pacific  
A recent photo is required.  
NO PHONE CALLS, PLEASE.

### EJ's @ 2517 Ralph

Is accepting applications for a full service experienced bartender • Espresso machine knowledge a plus • Apply in person Monday through Friday, 2-4pm • No phone calls please

### ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT

Must know Windows • Have data entry skills • And be reliable • Flexible hours and benefits • Will train • Call 800.244.8373 ext 203 • Or 713.926.8128

### NIGHTINGALE ADC

Offers free employment assistance to HIV+ individuals • Including job preparedness training • Resume development • Job search assistance • For more information call 713.981.1543  
Now interviewing for Bartenders • Bar Backs • Doormen • Clean-up • Call Richard at Venture-N • 713.522.0000 after 4:00 PM

### CHANCE OF A LIFETIME SOUTH BEACH

Now accepting Resumes/ Applications • Preliminary screening for potential positions as Management Trainees • DJ/VJs • Lighting Technicians • Promotions & Marketing • For a multi-million dollar dance club in Houston • Experienced, interested persons call RANDALL JOBE • 713.521.0107

### ROMAN HAIR SALON

Independent Cosmetology Barber Stylist to lease space • Montrose area • Call Frank • 713.522.2263 • 713.522.8576 • Very reasonable

### HOUSTON DETOUR

Now hiring bartenders, waiters, DJ, barbacks, & door staff. Call 713.987.0987

# Automotive Services

Call 713-529-8490 for Directory Ad Sales



- Alignment
- Brakes



1 307 Fairview  
(3 blocks west of Montrose)  
713-529-1414



## Alignments Brakes

2314 Washington  
713-880-4747



## American & Foreign TAFT STREET AUTO

Auto Repair & Service

713-526-3723  
1411 Taft Houston, TX. 77019

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A 7-ROOM ALL-GAY B&B

We're right *IN* the neighborhood.  
And priced right!  
Queen bed, cable TV,  
phone. Walk to 15 gay bars.

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800-357-1228  
713-520-0206

montroseinn.com



Classified Order Form Fax: 713-529-9531, Phone: 713-529-8490

**TO PLACE AN AD:**

**IN PERSON:** Bring completed order form with payment to Houston Voice offices (M-F, 9-5:30 pm) 500 Lovett, suite 200. **BY MAIL:** Mail completed order form with payment to Houston Voice Classifieds, 500 Lovett, Suite 200, Houston, TX., 77006. **BY PHONE:** Call in with completed order form to 713-529-8490. **BY FAX:** Fax completed order form and credit card information to Classifieds 713-529-9531. **BY E-MAIL:** feedback@houstonvoice.com  
**AD POLICY:** Houston Voice reserves the right to edit, reclassify or reject ads not meeting Houston Voice standards. No refunds for early cancellation. Misprints: Houston Voice is not responsible for misprints appearing after first week. Check ads promptly.

Deadline for ad submission is: **MONDAY at 12 NOON**

### 1 PICK YOUR CATEGORY

**FREE:** Call for guidelines

- HIV Services & Education
- Volunteers
- Non-Profit Organizations
- \*First 20 words

**INDIVIDUAL RATE \$7:**

- Announcements
- Auditions
- Employment-Seeking
- Pets-Free or Lost & Found
- Roommates
- Personal Websites

**BUSINESS RATE \$15:**

- Auto Repair
- Business Opportunities
- Entertainment
- Help Wanted
- Help Wanted-Seeking
- Home Improvement
- Items For Sale
- Licensed Massage
- Moving Services
- Professional Services
- Real Estate For Rent
- Real Estate For Sale

Call 713-529-8490 for other categories

### 2 WRITE YOUR AD

Please print clearly

CATEGORY: \_\_\_\_\_ # OF ISSUES: \_\_\_\_\_

Giant or Bold Headline - Not to exceed 14 characters and spaces

--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--

TEXT: \_\_\_\_\_

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### 3 TOTAL YOUR COST

CALL FOR DIRECTORY AD RATES

**INDIVIDUAL RATE ADS**

Up to 20 words for \$7.00 per week. Additional words at 50¢ each per week.

Up to 20 words: 7.00

Additional words \_\_\_\_\_ x 50¢: \_\_\_\_\_

Bold headline: 5.00 (per week) \_\_\_\_\_

Subtotal: \_\_\_\_\_ x \_\_\_\_\_ # of issues

Total: \$ \_\_\_\_\_

**BUSINESS RATE ADS**

Up to 20 words for \$15.00 per week.

Additional words \_\_\_\_\_ x 75¢ per word (per week): \_\_\_\_\_

Bold headline: 5.00 (per week) \_\_\_\_\_

Subtotal: \_\_\_\_\_ x \_\_\_\_\_ # of issues

Total: \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Phone \_\_\_\_\_

Check Enclosed \_\_\_\_\_ Charge to my  AMEX  MC  VISA

Card # \_\_\_\_\_ Exp. \_\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_

Signature \_\_\_\_\_

# Occasions

## Birthdays

Randall K. Ellis marks his 31st birthday on Nov. 3.

Ray F. will be checking his e-mail for birthday wishes on Nov. 3.

Jessie G. will toast in a birthday on Nov. 4.

Size DOES matter. Happy birthday to the one and only Zilla on Nov. 5.

Art G. drives home another birthday on Nov. 5.



Happy 24th birthday to the love of my life Ovin Frazier Phalen. Love, John Esqueda.



Meet Jane. She is a 16 week old female who loves other kitties and even pooches! She also loves to cuddle and have her belly rubbed. To adopt Jane, call the Houston Humane Society at 713-434-5555 or email pr@houstonhumane.org

The Houston Voice welcomes your special occasions. Send e-mail to [croberts@houstonvoice.com](mailto:croberts@houstonvoice.com). Fax: 713-529-9531. Mail: Occasions, Houston Voice, 500 Lovett Blvd., Suite 200, Houston, Texas 77006. Please include a telephone number so occasions can be verified and considered for publication.

## Maranatha Fellowship MCC

1311 Holman

(across from HCC-Downtown Campus)

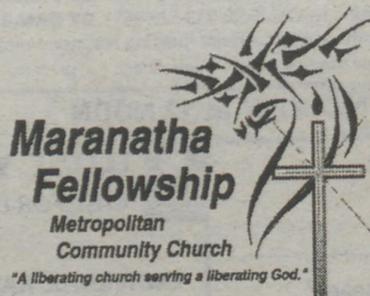
meets in the home of Central Congregational Church

- November 5 Paul Rutledge, Guest Speaker
- November 12 Rev. Ralph Lasher, Guest Preacher  
Resurrection MCC
- November 19 Rev. Carolyn Mobley, Guest Preacher  
& the Gospel Ensemble  
Resurrection MCC
- November 26 Creative workshop with drama, liturgical  
dance, readings, etc.  
Paul Rutledge, Facilitator

A Very Special Guest Pastor Each Sunday!  
Please Join Us For Evening Services And Experience  
The Love That Maranatha Fellowship MCC Has To Offer!

Bible Study begins at 5:30pm  
and nursery is available.  
Mid-week "Home Group"  
services on Tuesdays  
and Wednesdays

For more info...  
713-528-6756 or  
[maranatha@ev1.net](mailto:maranatha@ev1.net)



Our Church Can Become Your Home! Give Us A Try!  
We Would Love To Have You Visit Anytime!



# RESURRECTION

METROPOLITAN COMMUNITY CHURCH

## FALL FESTIVAL

### Saturday, November 11th

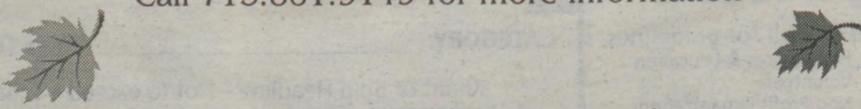
from 3pm-7pm in the parking lot

### COME & ENJOY AN OLD FASHIONED SPAGHETTI SUPPER.

We'll have a **Music Stage** (featuring Acoustic Soul, Ada Perez, The Anointing, The Gospel Ensemble, Gloryland Singers, David Barron, Bonita Kirk, Augie Paz, and One Accord!), **Dunking Booth, Cake Walk, Moonwalk, Balloon Animals, and much, much more!**

Spaghetti Supper is \$5.00/adults & \$2.50/child

Tickets on sale in the Resurrection MCC Activities Building  
Call 713.861.9149 for more information



713-861-9149 ♦ [www.resurrectionmcc.org](http://www.resurrectionmcc.org)



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# My Stars!

by JILL DEARMAN

YOUR WEEKLY HOROSCOPE

November 3 - 9



## ARIES (MARCH 21 - APRIL 20)



The full moon on Nov. 11 falls in your money and security house, so when it comes to those two key things, be cautious. You may feel dramatic, but you're still the same old lovable lug to the rest of us. The key to intense joy in your life is simple: be yourself. A Leo likes you without frills (except for that cute, little, electric-blue number).

## TAURUS (APRIL 21 - MAY 21)



Try making others feel as comfortable as possible. When you give and give, you will feel as if you are getting everything you want and need. This is the perfect time for you to appreciate all the things you have rather than torturing yourself over what's currently out of reach. A Pisces responds well to over-the-top acts of kindness.

## GEMINI (MAY 22 - JUNE 21)



Mercury, your ruler, goes out of retrograde on Nov. 8, and you should go out of your mind with joy and abandon. Do something totally unexpected, outrageous and fun! Try not to judge a colleague or relative or other pest in your life too harshly. Spend some relaxed time in your house with a Libra.

## CANCER (JUNE 22 - JULY 23)



Don't try to hide your passion—let it out. Instead of needing so much assurance about the future, allow yourself to enjoy the frightening wonder of the present. A Virgo will bear witness and be strong and cuddly like a bear for you.

## LEO (JULY 24 - AUG. 23)



You may feel as if you are squinting to see where you are going, but you just won't be able to see until you get there. Be honest with yourself, and stop acting like you're still 16. A Scorpio can help you to be your truest self now.

## VIRGO (AUG. 24 - SEPT. 23)



Your ruler, Mercury, goes out of retrograde on Nov. 8, so you can finally stop taking friends' and relatives' bad advice. Be your own counsel. You can express what's in your heart and charm the socks off of anyone who crosses your path, especially a Taurus.

## LIBRA (SEPT. 24 - OCT. 23)



You don't have to rush in your love life or your work life while Mars is on your side. You have so many lovers to choose from, but the one you should go for is the one who scares you the most. That person can open up your psyche, especially if he or she is a Capricorn.

## SCORPIO (OCT. 24 - NOV. 22)



This is a great time for you to build up your bank account and the amount of security in your primary relationship. Stop screwing around and get serious. Go where your heart leads you. And if it leads you to a complicated relationship with a Leo, make an effort to understand why. And why now.

## SAGITTARIUS (NOV. 23 - DEC. 22)



If you are feeling at a low point in a relationship, perhaps you should cool off and give yourself time to think. Give that extra loving and generosity to someone who knows how to reciprocate, like a Cancer. This cycle is all about preparing for a better future.

## CAPRICORN (DEC. 23 - JAN. 20)



The full moon on Nov. 11 falls in the most creative, dramatic and romantic sector of your chart. Love comes to you in a most surprising way. A Pisces has been dreaming about you for a long time. Wake up and smell the seduction!

## AQUARIUS (JAN. 21 - FEB. 19)



If you are asking yourself that perennial question—"Who should I really be in a relationship with?"—don't wish on a star, look around you! This is the time in your life where romance and friendship should be kept separate but equal. Another Aquarius, if you can believe it, actually needs firmer, more conventional boundaries.

## PISCES (FEB. 20 - MARCH 20)



Have you ever tried to just be happy, sweetie? All this self-torture has grown tedious. Make like Oprah and start a gratitude journal. A Libra can collaborate with you and improve your stock in the business world.

Jill Dearman is the author of "Queer Astrology for Men" and "Queer Astrology for Women." For information on charts and consultations, call 212-841-0177 or e-mail QScopes@aol.com.

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GULF FREEWAY #1 STORE

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24  
hours

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6000 square feet

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details coming  
soon

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other pick-up spots!



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Student Center

UNIVERSITY  
of HOUSTON

University Center



St. Thomas University,  
Montrose Branch Library

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**KAMEL**  
LIGHTS



EST. 1913

Red Kamel Lights: 10 mg. "tar", 0.8 mg. nicotine av. per cigarette by FTC method.

**SURGEON GENERAL'S WARNING: Quitting Smoking Now Greatly Reduces Serious Risks to Your Health.**

Saturday, November 11, 2000

# Combustion!

300 Westheimer • 9pm - 8am  
Music by **SUSAN MORABITO & MICHAEL TANK**  
Lights by **ROSS BERGER**  
Production Starring Circuit Icon **KITTY MEOW**  
Costume Design by **ZOO 14**  
Age 18 and up!

**weekend host package**

Event Hotline **\$75**  
713.415.HOT7

Web • [www.combustionhouston.com](http://www.combustionhouston.com)  
Houston Buyers Club • 3400 Montrose Blv. #605  
Basic Brothers • 1232 Westheimer

*the circuit is back!*

# Combustion!

HOUSTON TEXAS

Sunday, November 12, 2000



322 Westheimer (La Strada)  
Music By **Frank Abraham**  
No Cover! • 2pm-7pm

402 Main St (Downtown) • 9pm - 4am  
Music by **MARK MacEWAN**

Lights by **ROSS BERGER**  
Performance by Circuit Icon **KITTY MEOW**  
Surprise Billboard Recording Artist

# Rage

ad designed by Kyle Willis

Host Hotel • Hyatt Regency Houston 713.654.1234  
Mention "Combustion" for Group Rate

Portion of proceeds to benefit: Entertainment From The Heart Fund.



NUMBERS



PRAGUE

