

Houston Voice sponsors HGO's world premiere of new opera 'Harvey Milk'



Tad Nelson of The Houston Voice presents check to HGO's president, David Gockley and development director, Jon Gossett, representing the Voice's corporate sponsorship of the opera 'Harvey Milk'

also introduced Jeff Bray's "Amanda B. Recondwith" column, which currently runs in Austin's Texas Triangle. Today, The Voice continues to be an innovator in publishing here in Texas as well as across the nation.

The Houston Voice adds yet another first to its community publishing belt by becoming the first gay corporate sponsor of the new world premiere opera, Harvey Milk. According to Jon Gossett, development director of the Houston

Grand Opera, the Voice is HGO's first outwardly gay corporate sponsor and the first gay sponsor to sign up for this important opera about the life of the former San Francisco city supervisor, Milk, San Francisco's first openly gay political candidate to be elected to office, was assassinated on the job.

Houston Voice entertainment editor Tad Nelson said, "My partner and I have been asked to participate in a multitude of projects and benefits just like most of you have also, but this opera, Harvey Milk is the first time we have been approached in such a gracious manner and for such an historic piece of contemporary American art.

Crad Duren, Nelson's co-sponsor for the big event added, "Not only will this be an historic piece significant to gays and lesbians lacking social and historical perspective in our community, but it will hopefully remain a relevant piece of opera, lighting a path to a more socially acceptable future.

Throughout history, all minorities have been seeking three things: attention, recognition and acceptance," said Duren. "Harvey Milk was one of the best examples of a politically knowledgeable gay candidate who worked with a predominantly heterosexual electorate to achieve these goals. It is important that Houston's gay political movement for 1995 understand that essentially none of our problems

and goals of the upcoming year have not been faced by leaders of the past such as Harvey Milk and that our effectiveness in 1995 will be based on understanding how the political process may be used for our benefit."

Nelson and Duren agree that after having read the libretto by new friend Michael Korie, this HGO production in association with The New York Opera and the San Francisco Opera companies, promises to be an evening of great fun and entertainment. Brought to the Wortham Center stage in the form of street scenes, park scenes and other vignettes, the production is designed to touch audiences on a personal level and make them laugh and cry out loud.

Harvey Milk is currently under production in Houston and is scheduled to open on the Brown Theater stage beginning Jan. 21 at 7:30 p.m., running also on Jan. 25, 28, 31, Feb. 3 with a 2:00 p.m. matinee performance on Feb. 5. All other performances are at 7:30 p.m. For single ticket information call (713) 227-ARTS.

Merry Christmas Houston, from the Houston Voice!

Readers of The Houston Voice have been turning the pages for many years, through thicker or thinner times, and in doing so have shared many "firsts" in the community. The Voice introduced Houston to Gary Larson's cartoon strip, "The Farside" which outgrew the diminutive media and moved to the Houston Chronicle. It

Town Meeting on Hate Crimes held in Houston to discuss anti-gay violence

By ANDREW EDMONSON
Houston Voice/Houston

The grim list of names goes on and on. Paul Broussard, Phillip Smith and Michael Burzinski of Houston, Nicholas West of Tyler, John Anthony Burwell of San Antonio, Joe Trevino of El Paso, Michael Benishek of San Antonio, Larry David Allen, Leopoldo "Paul" Quintanilla Jr. and Larry Leggett of Dallas.

These men have several things in common. They were all gay. They were all Texans. And they were all brutally murdered in circumstances that indicate that they were victims of anti-gay prejudice.

In response to this epidemic of violence, community leaders and Houston area activists gathered at DiverseWorks alternative art space on Thursday, Dec. 15 to discuss the problems of hate crimes in Texas.

Speakers at the forum included gay/African-American activist Michael Crawford, who organized the event; HIV activist Brian Bradley; Sarah DePalma, a transgender activist who heads the organization "It's Time, Texas!" which advocates on behalf of the transgender community; and Terri Richardson, president of the Houston Gay and Lesbian Political Caucus (HGLPC). (Dianne

Hardy-Garcia of the Lesbian/Gay Rights Lobby of Texas had been scheduled to appear, but was unable to attend as her plane flight from Austin to Houston was canceled due to bad weather conditions, according to Richardson).

Participants in the forum discussed the history and current status of hate crimes activism as well as perceived weaknesses and gaps in current hate crime laws and support systems and strategies to strengthen those laws and/or combat hate crimes. The exchange was intended by its organizers to provide an opportunity to discuss ways of combating homophobic violence and to inject renewed energy into hate crimes activism locally and across the state.

Recent History

A galvanizing event in the fight against hate crimes for the gay and lesbian communities of Houston and Texas occurred in July, 1991 in the aftermath of the murder of Paul Broussard. Broussard, a young banker, was beaten and killed by a group of ten attackers, armed with nail-studded two-by-fours, after leaving the Montrose disco "Heaven" with friends on July 5.

The event inspired a firestorm of gay and lesbian activism.

(Continued on Page 7)

Gaps, weaknesses in hate crime laws

Speakers at a public forum on hate crimes cited the following weaknesses and problems in current hate crime laws:

Double Victimization

Not only are hate crime victims physically attacked by their assailants; when they go to report the hate crime and seek assistance, they are often brutalized by insensitive, homophobic police officers and medical personnel with little understanding of their situation or their psychological needs.

Omission of Transgendered

Transgendered need to be specifically mentioned in all hate crime legislation. If transgendered aren't included in the laundry list of protected groups, the courts will rule that the law does not apply in their cases. Minnesota is the only state that has enacted hate crime legislation that specifically protects transgendered.

Fear of Outing

Transgendered persons and closeted gays and lesbians who are victims of hate crimes are caught in a double bind: they fear the publicity that will come if they report that they have been victimized. Panelists concurred that there should be a confidential way of reporting these crimes; otherwise, they will be vastly under-reported.

No Community Support

System

There is no immediate, dependable support structure or mechanism within the Houston gay/lesbian community specifically to assist victims of anti-gay attacks. Victims of hate crimes often don't know whom to contact to report hate crimes or how to go about filing a complaint.

Daunting Process, Uncertain Results

A long, arduous process is required to pursue a hate crime conviction: reporting the offense to an insensitive, homophobic police officer; appearing in court at the trial of the person accused of committing the hate crime; lobbying campaign to combat early parole of those imprisoned for hate crimes.

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"TELL 'EM YOU SAW IT IN THE HOUSTON VOICE"

Coming home for the holidays

Guest Commentary

By AMANDA BEARSE
FOR THE HOUSTON VOICE

The first time you bring someone special home to meet mom and dad can be stressful. But, when you are a daughter, and you bring home a woman, this adds an entirely new dimension. Will they reject you and stop loving you? All sorts of fears race through your mind.

You could call me one of the lucky ones. As an openly lesbian actress on Fox's *Married...with Children*, my co-workers, fans, friends, and family know and accept me for who I am. And while my family loves me and includes me in all our family celebrations, including the holidays, being the gay family member has not always been easy.

While it was always not easy, it has been my openness and honesty with my family about who I am that showed them the truth about gays and lesbians, not the negative stereotypes they learned from society. I'm not sure if there was a right time or a wrong time to bring someone I cared about home to meet my parents, but when someone plays a significant role in my life, I want them to be a part of the family. There is now no question in our house what family means to us.

But many gays and lesbians choose not to include themselves in family celebrations because of the fear of rejection. While I know of families that turn their backs on their gay children, there are so many more families that are never given the chance to know their gay relatives because of the self-imposed exile called "the closet." Some of my friends have even said, "I'm sure they don't want to know my lifestyle, so why even go home."

Now that I have a family of my own that includes my daughter, I cannot imagine her missing the joys of the season I have grown so fond of over the years. She won't have to, because I took the initiative to weave all parts of my life into the fabric of my family.

Lesbians and gays must acquaint "our families" with each other, showing them how loving and devoted our relationships truly are. For me, it meant having my friends meet my family, sharing those who matter most to me with each other. It has also included bringing my partner with me to work social events. This has shown my non-gay friends and family that my personal relationships are just as important and significant as theirs.

So, before gays and non-gays continue to chart their separate courses, I encourage everyone to give the gift of yourselves this holiday season. For gay people, take the step that's right for you and come out to your family and friends, letting them know who you are and how being gay has no bearing on how good a son, daughter or friend you are to them. At work, it means putting a picture of your life partner or friends on your desk, or perhaps discussing with the office manager company policies and benefits for domestic partners. (Most companies that have implemented domestic partnership benefits for their employees have done so because gay employees have asked them.)

For non-gay people, it means listening to these family members and friends whom you have grown to love and respect. Understand that they are taking a big risk in telling you about a very personal, yet integral part of who they are. All they are doing is asking for the opportunities to share special events with the ones they love, which includes their life partner, friends and family.

Reflecting on my life during the holiday season, I realize I have a lot to be thankful for. And, because of the investment my family members have made in each other. I know that my coming out to them now enables me to truly come home for the holidays.

(Editor's note: Actress Amanda Bearse is a spokesperson for National Coming Out Day, a non-profit educational project of the Human Rights Campaign Fund)



Hay, Buhay!

Question: What do Paul von Wupperfield, president of the Austin-based Log Cabin Republicans of Texas, and Steve Michael, ACT UP Washington's angry mouthpiece and co-editor/publisher of the kick-assentation alternative gay newspaper DCQ, have in common?

Answer: Both are not exactly impressed with the recent announcement by the National Gay and Lesbian Task Force that it had selected Melinda Paras of San Francisco as the organization's new executive director.

The announcement itself was actually quite impressive; in fact, perhaps too much so. An unusually detailed, effusive press release shopped out by NGLTF, the oldest national organization in the gay and lesbian rights movement, was accompanied by an even more unusual multiple page addendum, including a list of endorsers of the appointment and testimonials of support. Were it not for the covering release, a few publishers or editors across the country might have assumed they had received someone's resume packet.

Co-chairs of the Task Force's board of directors were worshipful in their written statement of support. In the four months she had served in a temporary chief operating officer position, stated Deborah Johnson-Rolon and Chris Collins, "(Paras) has created a new vision for a re-engineered NGLTF and has succeeded in stabilizing the organization's finances. These accomplishments give us the deepest confidence in Melinda's ability to lead NGLTF into the future."

There are two possible explanations for the urgency implicit in the style of the announcement. NGLTF has been buffeted in the media in recent years, in part because of the frequent turn over at its helm and budget problems that resulted in shuffling and down scaling of other staff positions; so, it would seem natural for the board to feel pressed to over-qualify such a decision. There is, however, another angle: Paras, 41, since even stepping into the temporary position, has been a lightning rod for controversy. Following on the heels of the announcement, in interviews with gay and lesbian newspapers all over the country, Paras and NGLTF communications director Gregory Fisher attempted to deflect some of the criticism—much of it coming, as did Paras, from San Francisco.

Perhaps most peculiarly interesting, however, is the spin that has been given (or fed?) to this string of stories: Paras, a lesbian of color and self-declared "progressive Democrat" with left-wing ties left over from

the radical 70's, is unfairly being castigated as a "radical leftist." She is controversial because of her politics, and her long-past political at that. She's been called a Marxist, and it ain't so, and her years of radical organizing in Cuba and the Philippines are long gone. ("She inhaled...not pot, you understand, but the politics of the time," opened the front page story on Paras in the *Texas Triangle*, an Austin-based gay and lesbian weekly).

And, oh yeah, well, there's also that thing with the AIDS group in S.F. But of course nothing negative was ever proven, and anyway, nobody stole any money, it was just "misspent" among organizational projects, and the whole controversy was political.

This interpretation of the Problem with Paras was probably (inadvertently) given credence by the letter von Wupperfield sent out to the national gay press. The Austinite, you see, is among those whose main concern with NGLTF's new leader indeed lies with her politics. "At a time when the nation is moving increasingly to the right, it is appallingly short sighted for the National Gay and Lesbian Task Force to choose as executive director an individual from the most extreme leftist fringe," drones the statement.

The idea, though, that the national gay and lesbian community in general—and especially the heavily liberal, outreach-oriented population of supporters of the National Gay and Lesbian Task Force—would brutally reject a leader over a history of left-wing activism strikes an odd chord.

The notion does, however, hit all the right internal paranoid traps in guilty "privileged liberal" hearts. Paras IS an ethnic minority lesbian. She HAS been known to crusade for (some) under-served populations within the community. She DID work with communist guerrillas attempting to overthrow then-President Marcos of the Philippines (which should make her a hero to anyone who ever had the chance to observe close hand his vicious, fascist administration in that country). Does THAT explain all the controversy?

Paras' critics in San Francisco tell a radically different story, not only about the point of controversy, but the nature—and direction—of their political differences with Paras.

Before coming to NGLTF, Melinda Paras' most significant position in organizational administration was as deputy director at the San Francisco AIDS service provider agency Shanti Project. It was her service in that position, from which she resigned in February, 1992, that has generated the most controversy in that city.

(Continued on following page)

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Yule grief: a Christmas story from the swamp

Yours Truly in a Swamp

By LEONARD EARL JOHNSON

Houston Voice/New Orleans

It is not supposed to be this way. The tinsel and glitter of Christmas is suppose to evoke home-fires.

In a French Quarter bar, huge blue snowflakes try, but fail to conjure Yuletide cheer. They hang from the ceiling, surrealistic as an overdressed fat man dashing to the swamp from the North Pole.

I am in this bar to meet a friend. I see him, an overdressed fat man who has just arrived from Chicago.

The walls twinkle with little blue lights. A beer distributor from St. Louis is passing out a new product—free cheer. (Maybe there is a Santa Claus?) My friend sits on a corner stool sipping one of the free beers. Beside him, a man in a tuxedo has opened his pants, and a woman in a blue-sequined gown entertains him.

"Where is the vice squad?" I whisper, as I take my place with the pre-midnight crowd.

"Under indictment for shakedowns,

prostitution, drugs, and murder," my friend mutters. He is in his cups. He adds, "Christmas in New Orleans is not like going over the hill to grandmother's house, is it?"

"Take your pick," I say, "vice cops in charge of shakedowns, prostitution, drugs, and murder; or people in evening clothes enjoying themselves for free. Well, maybe not free, but less than the cops charge."

The beer distributor hands us two cold Red Wolfs. My friend says, "Shouldn't you call this Riding Hood?"

The beer distributor laughs nervously, hands us a mostly full six-pack, and says he has to catch a plane back to St. Louis.

I say, "Thank you."

The distributor smiles weakly and moves towards the door; through it we can see a waiting London Livery Limousine.

The bartender says to us, "Let me put that beer on ice for you gentlemen."

I get up to go to the rest room, and my Chicago friend pulls a snowflake from its string and bellows, "Who the hell told you to hang blue f... snowflakes in a

stinking swamp?"

The bartender jumps at the verbal blast, and the man in the tux falls off his bar stool. The woman in the blue gown helps him to his feet and they stumble outside, holding onto each other's clothes. They lunge into the limousine and motion to the St. Louis bound beer man, who shrugs and climbs in with them.

As the rest room door closes I hear the bartender saying, "The corporate fatheads in Chicago who own this bar." He does not know he is talking to corporate fathead number one, his ultimate boss.

Coming out of the rest room I put a quarter in a slot machine and watch my life savings whirl away. I don't care. It is Christmas, and my friend is in town to wine and dine us for three days. We have known each other since boyhood. He likes having, as he puts it, "a creative bum for a friend." I like having a rich one.

In the wastebasket, by the slot machines, I see a stack of paper teddy-bear Christmas tree ornaments, each with a red AIDS awareness ribbon pinned to its chest. I pick one up and read the name printed on its stomach, along with "born August 22, 1973/died Dec. 8,

1992." I gather all the paper teddy bears and put them in my pocket.

My friend and I finish our beer, then stand to leave. I tell the bartender, "Keep the beer." My friend gives him a one-hundred dollar bill, his card, and this advice: "Tell those fatheads in Chicago this is a f... swamp."

Outside, my friend stares at the empty curb and says, "Where the hell's my limousine!?"

I say, "Forget it, let's walk."

He slips out of his top coat, and hands it to a bewildered man in dirty blue jeans and a faded Andy Warhol T-shirt. We move on. I take the paper teddy bears from my pocket and show them to my friend. He takes one, reads it, and says, "Ah, geez, what am I supposed to do about this?" Then he brightens and says, "Let's give 'em out like Christmas hand bills."

We walk toward Canal Street singing, "We Three Kings of Orient Are..." Every time someone asks, "Where's your other King?" We hand them a paper teddy bear.

Merry Christmas.

New NGLTF leader has critics, supporters and political ties at both ends

(Continued from previous page)

Problems at the Shanti Project arose not only from Paras' poor preparation for the deputy director position (she had no background in social services or financial administration), but her politically-tinged and somewhat paranoid management style, according to Ellen Hardtke, former director of housing for Shanti, once the nation's largest provider of AIDS housing.

In a telephone interview, Hardtke said she was involved in the hub of the controversy that erupted later at the agency. The story may have eerily familiar echoes for Houstonians. In 1993, an audit conducted by an independent accounting firm, Coopers & Lybrand, found that Shanti project had mismanaged almost every one of its government contracts and could not properly account for over \$2.7 million in public funds.

Paras has stated that the money problems arose from a sudden influx of Ryan White funds into the agency and Shanti's lack of experience in managing that large a budget.

No one was ever accused of stealing money from the agency and pocketing it; rather, the money is said to have been spent on projects other than those contracted for and in ways not authorized by the organization's contracts. But Hardtke, for one, is angered by the NGLTF's

interpretation of this fact as exoneration of Paras for mismanagement, and the simplistic conclusion that no harm was done because "all the funds were spent for AIDS services." The \$2.7 million, she claims, was skimmed from her department and some of it used for purposes other than direct services.

Hardtke said she reported the problems to her superiors at Shanti, but was "stonewalled." So, she said, she took it to the health department.

Hardtke charges that Paras created salaried positions with various projects that were not in the agency's contracts and used funds designated specifically for housing to pay for them. A non-contract position was also created in Hardtke's department, she said. "These were not low paying jobs...they weren't secretaries or support staff. They were upper management positions," she said.

Paras San Francisco critics, including Larry Bush, a San Francisco Examiner columnist and newsletter publisher who developed a sort of journalistic crusade involving the Shanti Project, and even Hardtke, don't deny there is also a political cloud over the controversy. This group, however, is not much concerned about anything that happened 20 years ago on some Pacific island. They see a fuzzy political thread that

runs in a different direction...ending curiously at the doorstep of Republican Mayor Frank Jordan. After the Shanti mess, Jordan appointed Paras to the city's health commission, where she worked alongside her former lover and now chief defender, Jean Harris.

Harris and Paras claim—and their critics don't dispute—that some political friction took root when Paras, as an officer of the Harvey Milk Democratic Club, led the organization away from supporting former Mayor Art Agnos, and that friction continues to follow Paras.

But Paras was also controversial in her roles with the Harvey Milk Club (she was blamed for alienating the club's Black Caucus, which split to form a separate organization) and, among AIDS activists, on the health commission. As the only openly gay member of that commission, in a move that angered numerous Bay Area activists, Paras reportedly cast the deciding vote in favor of a proposal to cut health funding.

AIDS activists elsewhere, including D.C.'s Michael, were infuriated by reports that Paras, apparently attempting to deflect suggestions that she would be a one-issue commissioner because of her ties to Shanti, stated that AIDS was not her epidemic. "I have my own epidemic that I'm worried about," said Paras, who

has Chronic Fatigue Immune Dysfunction Syndrome.

In its Dec. 15 edition, the San Francisco gay and lesbian newspaper Bay Area Reporter ran an in-depth analyses of the controversies surrounding Paras and her selection to lead NGLTF. Under the irreverent headline "Is Paras Burning?," BAR noted that many of the testimonials of support distributed with the NGLTF release came from persons with "interlocking financial relations with Paras"—for example, Mitchell Katz, head of San Francisco's city HIV office, who essentially reports to the health commission.

The article also provides a list of organizations whose names were conspicuous by their absence among those providing endorsements: ACT UP, AIDS Action Council, the National Association of People With AIDS (NAPWA), the National Minority AIDS Council, and the National AIDS Task Force. Notes BAR: "They simply were not asked."

Yet, NGLTF's Fisher, responding to the AIDS questions, told Boston's Bay Windows that "Everybody important" in AIDS agreed with their pick.

In case your wondering, the Tagalog phrase in the first headline is an expression that translates roughly to the English "That's life" or the French "C'est la Vie..." but with amplified angst.

Brady's Corner



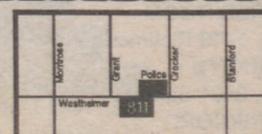
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IN MEMORY OF



GLENN DEWAIN JOHNSON, JR.

Born: July 3, 1949

Died: December 20, 1994

Petunia, the pink pygmy potbellied pig, has now lost both of her Daddies. On October 7, 1992, the beloved Billy Gober died. From that day forward she was a good part of the force and comfort that kept Glenn going. The two men

and their Petunia were known state-wide (and then some), but home has always been in Houston.

Being a native Houstonian gave Glenn great pride. So did his tropical jungle of a yard, his massive extended family and friends, and work that he loved in food service. But highest on the list was his pride in the love shared with Billy and Petunia.

Glenn Died at Casa Hospital with his family and loving friends at his side.



RICHARD DAVID WESLEY

Born: September 26, 1959

Died: December 5, 1994

"When a friend passes away, it is like watching a library burn down."

— E.G. White

Born and raised in Lakeland, Florida to Frank and Martha (Pete), youngest of 6 children. Brothers: Doug, Wayne, Bob, Alan and sister Karen.



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(Issue 739)

He attended Polk Community College and Florida State University and received his degree in Psychology. Richard moved to Houston in 1983 and began his career and in Food Service at River Oaks Country Club then Adams Mark and Hotel Sofiele.

Richard possessed an intense passion for knowledge, humor, trivia, music and languages. His friends knew if they had a problem he would not just be the first in line to help but also the last in line.

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Jody

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HOUSTON VOICE

ISSUE 739

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Acknowledging the issues of lesbian moms and gay dads

Politics in Perspective

By NADINE SMITH

I stood at the podium wrapping up my two-minute speech. The crowd cheered. As the emcee smiled and nodded approvingly, I moved to the edge of the stage, confident that I had done my job. Everyone knows the two-minute rally cry to fire up the masses at Pride or energize volunteers at a meeting. Start with a list of the horrors we face—job discrimination, losing our homes, violence—but always leave them with hope and the knowledge that just one person can make a difference.

A woman was making her way toward the edge of the stage where several people had gathered to give me a pat on the back. She reached over someone and grabbed my hand and pulled me close. Her eyes were filled with tears. "You forgot the children and the lesbian mothers and the gay fathers," she said, her voice cracking in anger and sadness. "Our children are being stolen away from us and no one seems to care. I know people lose their jobs but that doesn't compare to losing a child. I have lost my children, and you didn't even mention it."

She clutched my hand, staring at me, demanding an answer. Midway through, a woman raised her hand and asked why my organization did not provide child-care and barred children from our general meetings. Despite several attempts to explain that we never turn away parents with children and certainly have no policy against kids in our meetings, she was unswayed and still furious. I finally realized her anger had more to do with a general attitude. We certainly have no policy forbidding children, but we just as certainly have made no effort to encourage them and their parents to attend. In our years of work, I cannot think of an instance of outreach or even a discussion on the issue gay parents among our organization's members.

Almost every lesbian couple I know either has children or is considering the possibility. More and more gay

male friends are in the same situation. And yet it does not there is a silence surrounding the issue in the "activist" community.

Certainly there are exceptions. We respond to the well-publicized cases, and the National Center for Lesbian Rights is headed by a lesbian mother who speaks and writes passionately on the issue. Yet, I do not know how to begin to support these efforts. As a community, we have had a difficult enough time dealing with basic issues affecting teen-age lesbians, gays and bisexuals, let alone those areas involving gay parents.

We have spent so much energy refuting the pedophile label that little time is spent on the actual work of creating support and safety for our brothers and sisters raising children. Unless there is a legislative issue we can lobby for or against, rarely do the issues of children or parenting come up.

Here in Tampa, few of the lesbian mothers or gay fathers I know are involved in political groups. The vast majority I've spoken to are extremely closeted for fear of losing their children. For the past six months, I've replayed those two hostile exchanges in my mind. I wasn't sure how to answer that furious woman clutching my hand at the Pride Rally. After a few long seconds, I said, "You're right. I'm sorry."

But, I have to admit my first thought was, "Excuse the hell out of me. I'll get to that right after I save the rain forest and reduce the federal deficit." Maybe somewhere between her anger and my defensiveness we could have come up with some answers or at least some ideas.

With millions of families headed by same-sex couples, it is a conversation long overdue.

(Nadine Smith, co-chair of the 1993 March on Washington, is a member of the Democratic National Committee and the executive director of the Human Rights Task Force of Florida. Column copyright 1994, Empire Syndicate)

Marvelous news: gay superhero is back

GLAAD Media Watch

By AL KIELWASSER

Gay and Lesbian Alliance Against Defamation

Marvel Comics, which is currently revamping its X-Men comic book story line, has announced that the short-lived gay superhero "Northstar" might make a comeback.

The Northstar character was featured in the Alpha Flight comic book series and he officially "came out" in 1992, drawing expected fire from fundamentalist homophobes (on his national television show, preacher/politician Pat Robertson lambasted Alpha Flight, calling the comic book "another example of a godless morality being legitimized to our youth").

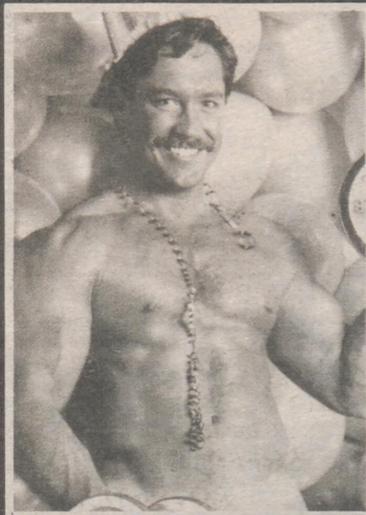
In an interview with WIZARD magazine, comics writer Scott Lobdell said that Northstar could be introduced as part of the new X-Men series. When spe-

cifically asked if Northstar would continue to be a gay character, Lobdell said, "If he appears in the book, yes. I don't think it would be fair to introduce him into the book and not explore every facet of the character."

The X-Men series is currently one of the most popular comic book creations, and the inclusion of a gay character would represent a significant breakthrough. Marvel has already demonstrated a commitment to gay visibility (the Alpha Flight comic book series was phased out for reasons not related to its gay character).

Encourage Marvel and the X-Men writers to bring back Northstar, providing a unique and much needed role model. Send letters to Stan Lee, Publisher, Marvel Comics, 387 Park Avenue South, New York, NY, fax 212-576-9289.

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Police say California murder victim was a man

CONCORD, Calif., Tuesday, Dec. 13 (AP)—Police investigating the death of a transvestite who was married to a Washington state Navy sailor were unsure whether the victim's sexuality was a factor in the killing.

"It's certainly possible, but we just don't know," police spokesperson Joe Kreins said Monday.

The 28-year-old transvestite who went by the name Terrie Ladwig was found strangled in the couple's apartment on Dec. 2.

Ladwig married Navy Petty Officer Steven Ladwig last summer in Reno. The couple had dated about four months before Steven Ladwig dis-

covered that his partner was a man.

"I was kind of confused, but I wasn't upset," said Steven Ladwig, 25. "I consider her full female. I'm not gay. I don't feel that way. It wasn't really a sexual relation. We were friends. I was lonely, she was lonely. Mostly we enjoyed each other's company."

Steven Ladwig found his partner's body in their apartment after returning from a tour of duty aboard the USS Parche. He is not a suspect in the killing, Kreins said.

Terrie Ladwig, also known as Larry Earl Thompson, intended to have surgery to become a transsexual, police said.

LGRL announces plans for 1995 Texas march; numerous organizations endorse weekend events

State News Notes

The Lesbian/Gay Rights Lobby of Texas announced this week that a march to the State Capitol is scheduled in Austin on April 2, 1995 at 12 noon to protest the hate, violence and discrimination faced by gay and lesbian Texans. According to LGRL executive director Dianne Hardy-Garcia, thousands of lesbian and gay people from across the state are expected to participate.

The name of the march will be the "Texas March to Stop the Violence, Stop the Hate." This theme was selected due to the fact that seven gay men were brutally killed in Texas this year because they were gay, Hardy-Garcia said.

In 1994 hate crimes against lesbians and gay men rose to 16.2 percent of all hate crimes committed in Texas. In addition to the violence, lesbian and gay Texans continue to face hatred and discrimination in employment, housing, health care, and economic opportunities. The 1995 March is the third state wide march for lesbian and gay civil and equal rights. The last one took place in 1991.

The "Stop the Violence, Stop the Hate" theme of the march coincides with the Lobby's top legislative priorities for the 74th session. LGRL is seeking to strengthen Texas hate crime laws. "It is our hope that a strong hate crime law will deter these types of crimes and hold people accountable for their actions, and send a clear message that hate-related violence will not be tolerated in Texas," said Hardy-Garcia. "LGRL will also attempt to pass legislation which would prohibit discrimination in employment which is based on sexual orientation. LGRL will also focus on obtaining HIV and AIDS funding, cancer funding, insurance reform, and civil rights legislation to pro-

tect all Texans."

Following the march LGRL has also scheduled a "Lesbian and Gay Lobby Day" for April 3, 1995. LGRL invites lesbians and gay men from around the state to help lobby their state legislators. Lobby training will be available in the morning on April 3rd. "We urge everyone to take Monday, April 3, 1995 off from work to talk to our Texas lawmakers about the issues facing lesbian and gay Texans," said Hardy-Garcia.

In addition to the march, the whole weekend of March 31 thru April 3, 1995 will be packed with activities for queer Texans. The Texas Lesbian Conference is scheduled for March 31 thru April 2. TLC '95 will end their conference by joining the state wide march on April 2, 1995. For more information on the Texas Lesbian Conference call (512) 326-4453.

There will also be "The Biggest and Hottest Party in Texas" on Saturday night, April 1, 1995. The party will be hosted by Texas Human Rights Foundation and Lesbian and Gay Rights Lobby of Texas. Both the 1995 "Texas March to Stop the Violence, Stop the Hate" and "The Biggest and Hottest Party in Texas" are co-sponsored by the Lubbock Lesbian and Gay Lesbian Alliance, West Texas Lesbian and Gay Alliance, Gay/Lesbian Alliance, Log Cabin Republicans of Texas, the Valley Voice, Gay/Lesbian of Central Texas—Waco, East Texas Gays and Lesbians, Houston Lesbian and Gay Political Caucus, Tarrant County Lesbian and Gay Alliance, Amarillo Lesbian and Gay Alliance, LAMBDA Services of El Paso, Port Aransas Lesbian and Gay Alliance, Lesbians and Gays of Bryan/College Station, San Antonio Equal Rights Political Action Committee, Gays/Lesbians of Central Texas—Ft. Hood, and the Austin Lesbian and Gay Political Caucus.

TELL 'EM YOU SAW IT IN THE HOUSTON VOICE

Report: 151 people murdered in anti-gay violence in recent years

SAN FRANCISCO, Tuesday, Dec. 20 (AP)—At least 151 gay people in the United States have been murdered over the past three years in hate-motivated killings, according to a report released today.

The report, believed to be the first survey of gay murder victims, examined killings in 29 states, including Nebraska, and Washington, D.C.

"These murders are only the end result of the rampant violence we face as gay people," said Lester Olmstead-Rose, executive director of the Community United Against Violence, which helped conduct the study.

"What we face is terrorism—the demand by thugs that we conform to their personal and religious standards," Olmstead-Rose said in a statement.

The study, culled from police and news media reports, describes numerous

killings in which victims were bludgeoned, stabbed repeatedly or mutilated, or where witnesses heard anti-gay remarks or suspects confessed to anti-gay sentiment. Twenty-four people were victims of serial killers.

"What we've found is an extreme level of viciousness during anti-gay murders," Olmstead-Rose said.

The gay homicides also appear to be solved at a lower rate than killings in general, 51 percent vs. 65 percent, the report said. It suggested friends or family members fear revealing a victim's sexual orientation to police, and that anti-gay killings may be a lower priority for some police departments around the country.

FBI spokesperson Rick Smith in San Francisco said he had "no basis for comment" on the report because the FBI does not differentiate between killings of gays and heterosexuals in its crime statistics.

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Anti-hate crime strategies discussed at Town Meeting

(Continued from Page 1)

The direct action group Queer Nation organized a march against anti-gay violence that attracted over 1500 Houstonians, put the murder on the front pages of the city's newspapers and at the top of every television news broadcast. There was intense lobbying of city officials to begin compiling official records on the incidence of bias-related crimes. The murder of Paul Broussard was the first official "hate crime" acknowledged and recorded by the Houston Police Department.

About the same time, a group of concerned Montrose residents banded together to form Q-Patrol. They patrolled the streets around Montrose's gay bar district on foot and in cars, monitoring the area for suspicious activities and alerting police officers in the case of attacks on citizens.

After strenuous efforts by community activists, HPD instituted gay/lesbian sensitivity training for incoming cadets.

HPD also instituted "Operation Vice Versa," an innovative undercover project in which straight, plain clothes police officers were put on the streets, posing as homosexuals, in order to monitor the level of attacks on gays and lesbians. At the time, officers testified that they experienced an overwhelming onslaught of anti-gay violence.

Houston became the focus of national media attention as the problem of violence against gays and lesbians generated considerable public discussion. "The New York Times" reported on Operation Vice Versa, and columnists on the paper's editorial page expressed astonishment and outrage at the frequency of violence. The national news program "Street Stories" aired a report on the activities of Q-Patrol and the issue of assaults on gay men and lesbians.

Momentum in the fight against hate crimes appears to have stalled in the three years since the initial burst of activism, said several of the forum speakers.

According to activist Brian Bradley, HPD officer Gene Kennedy oversees the recording of hate crimes in Houston. While Bradley credits Officer Kennedy with being sincere and committed in his duties, he noted that Kennedy was a lone agent. Neither the Houston Police Department, Police Chief Sam Nuchia or Mayor Lanier seem to take much interest in Kennedy's efforts, said Bradley.

HPD cadets still undergo "sensitivity training," so ideally, they should be aware of issues and concerns impacting gays and lesbians reporting hate crimes. However, activist Ray Hill noted that HPD's gay and lesbian sensitivity training was merely a small part of a multi-week course for incoming cadets. "It takes more than one day to change prejudices," he said.

HGLPC president Terri Richardson observed that the Texas legislature had passed hate crimes legislation when in session two years ago. But the resultant law was highly ineffective because it contained no laundry list of protected people. The legislation did not specify such categories as race, religion or sexual orientation.

According to Richardson, the Lesbian and Gay Rights Lobby of Texas has formulated a piece of hate crimes legis-

lation that includes sexual orientation as a protected category. State Senator Rodney Ellis has agreed to introduce and carry the bill in the next legislative session.

Several panelists, including Bradley and Bill Cunningham of the Houston Gay & Lesbian Switchboard, spoke of a need to broaden the definition of what a "hate crime" is.

Are Laws the Answer?

Panelists expressed diverse views in a debate over the validity and effectiveness of hate crimes legislation.

Attorney and HIV activist Keith Stewart questioned the effectiveness of hate crimes as a means of discouraging anti-gay violence.

"We live in a violent society. We can't keep criminals off the street," Stewart observed. "The answer is not enacting more hate crimes enhancement laws. The solution is making sure that criminals are incarcerated for their full term so that they'll be kept off the streets."

The debate then turned to the old argument: Laws in America theoretically protect everyone. We don't need to enact a special hate crimes legislation. We need to make sure that all people are equally protected by the law.

Another fundamental question was implicitly raised in this debate, but not directly addressed: do hate crime enhancements actually deter violence against gays and lesbians?

Suggested Strategies

* VOTE. Elect gay and lesbian officials, said Terri Richardson. "The best way to advance hate crime legislation is to elect people to office from our own community." Specifically, Annise Parker, who has been labelled by the media as one of three front-runners in the race for the seat left vacant by Sheila Jackson Lee. "The single most defiant thing that we can do is vote." Parker will give the community a place at the table; Chief Nuchia and HPD will have to answer a queer voice on City Council.

* Build coalitions with other minority groups, says Michael Crawford. This is a perfect opportunity to build coalitions with other groups: African-Americans, Japanese, transgenders, etc.

* Media activism/street demonstrations: Crawford announced a march against hate crimes that he was organizing tentatively scheduled for Feb. 4. (In a separate announcement this week, the LGRL dedicated the theme and title of its March on Austin in April to the hate crimes issue).

Crawford informed the assembled group that Vanity Fair magazine was planning an extensive article in their Feb. 1995 issue on the incidence of hate crimes in Texas. He predicted that this article would generate enormous media attention around this issue. The early February march would capitalize on the increased publicity and public debate about anti-gay violence.

* Volunteer action: Connie Sawyer, a representative of the citizen policing group Q-Patrol, suggested that one way people could get actively involved in the fight against anti-gay violence was to become in Q-Patrol. She lamented the general apathy of the lesbian and gay community.



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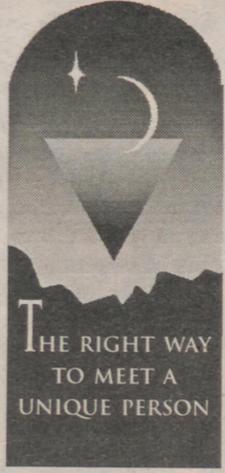
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Oregon Citizens Alliance chief: third time's the charm

By BRAD CAIN
FOR THE HOUSTON VOICE

SALEM, Ore., Friday, Dec. 16 (AP)—The attorney general's office has rebuffed a bid by the Oregon Citizens Alliance to put its latest anti-gay-rights measure on the May 1996 primary ballot instead of the November ballot.

Though statewide citizen initiatives have always gone on the November ballot, the OCA said it wants to place its new plan on the May ballot to avoid competition from other measures in the fall election.

Attorney General Ted Kulonski's office said Friday the state constitution spells out that votes on initiatives measures are to be held in the general election, unless the Legislature specifies otherwise.

OCA Chairperson Lon Mabon said his group might challenge that interpretation in court. To be safe, however, the group has filed a new measure for the Nov. 1996 ballot as well, he said.

The OCA's latest attempt to enact a statewide anti-gay-rights policy was rejected by voters in the Nov. 8 election.

Chief Rabbinate Court in Israel criticizes recognition of gay couples

JERUSALEM, Tuesday, Dec. 13 (AP)—An Israeli Supreme Court ruling recognizing the rights of gay couples will destroy the fabric of Jewish life, Israel's Chief Rabbinate said Tuesday.

Moshe Friedman, spokesperson for the nation's top religious authority, said the ruling ignores the principles of the Torah, or Jewish Bible.

"This decision provides a dangerous opening toward justifying a way of life defined in the Torah as an abomination," Friedman said in a statement.

"The ruling uproots the central place of family in Israel and undermines moralistic Jewish character as it is expressed in the Torah."

The high court ruled Oct. 30 that the national airline El Al must grant the

boyfriend of a flight attendant the same benefits granted to spouses of other employees.

The rabbinate, made up of the chief rabbis of the Ashkenazi and Sephardi Orthodox communities, called for Israel's parliament to pass a bill using Jewish law to define a couple.

Leaders of the Reform Jewish movement accused the rabbinate of trying to impose its Orthodox standards on a largely secular public.

"The Chief Rabbinate has a monopoly over Jewish life in Israel and we don't agree with that," said Amir Shacham of the Israel Religious Action Center, a Reform group.

Shacham said Reform rabbis would not perform a homosexual wedding ceremony because of religious principle, but the issue at hand was one of civil rights.

Michael Goff: on the inside, looking OUT

By SHERI COHEN DARBONNE

Houston Voice Editor

He made the "VIX 20," Newsweek's list of "Very Important Generation X'ers," the prestigious national magazine's assessment of the country's top 20 twenty-somethings. In a cover story titled "Move Over Boomers," another national mag, Business Week also lauded Michael Goff, founder and president/editor of OUT Magazine, which itself won the Folio Award for Editorial Excellence—a coveted peer affirmation in the magazine publishing business—earlier this year: an impressive first for a publication targeting the gay and lesbian community.

Goff, who visited Houston last week in the course of wrapping up a national tour to promote the critically acclaimed book, "Out in America," that he created with his OUT magazine staff, has become among his colleagues the Young Urban Publishing Executive to watch out for. But while he says he finds the personal attention very flattering—and despite the liberal punctuation of his non-written communication with the word "like"—Goff, who just turned 29, isn't sure he's comfortable the Generation X label. "I would say there's an overlap," he says of his generational identification.

"I came out into the ACT UP age, I came of age in the Reagan-Bush years," he says. "But I meet kids now who are coming out and who say they've never experienced (homophobia). It's great, but it seems very strange."

While coming from a very open-minded, liberal and ethnically diverse family, Goff notes that his own coming out was not entirely stress-free. "It took some explaining, still," he says. "It wasn't about homophobia, as much as, like, homophobia. They didn't know enough to realize this (kind of bias) was the same as any other." It took a while to get there, but Goff says his family today is "almost overly supportive" of his endeavors.

Goff, a slim, easy-going brunette, quite obviously Queer Pride Identified with dark, boyish good looks, actually appears even younger than 29. Hearing him tell his story, one might be too easily convinced that he stumbled, overnight, onto the impetus that radically changed the face—and broad-market placement—of gay and lesbian publishing.

The facts of the story, however, point to a savvy and studied business move, and Goff noted that from concept to page, the development of OUT magazine took at least two years.

"I was working for (mainstream) magazines in New York, and in the evenings, I wrote a column for Outweek (a gay news weekly). And, like, working in the business, I met all of these incredible people, all gay. And finally I started thinking, here we are, we're putting out everybody else's magazine, and why doesn't the gay community have one like this?"

He decided to shop his idea to other gay and lesbian people in the field.

The planning paid off. Goff put together an editorial board and creative staff made up of professionals who previously had lent their talents to publications including Premiere, Essence, Ms., Harper's Bazaar, Esquire, the New York Times and Interior Design Magazine. The



Michael Goff

goal was to create a glossy, gay and lesbian targeted magazine that was of top quality in every area: editorial, production and design.

Co-creating the concept with Goff was OUT's executive director and co-founder Sarah Pettit, who he describes as a full partner throughout the process. Goff said he wanted to make sure that the magazine would appeal to both gays and lesbians, and would approach issues and entertainment with a general community interest, non-judgmental approach.

The formula, of course, was successful. OUT now boasts a paid circulation of 100,000—"By far the biggest of any gay publication, ever," Goff notes, with an estimated pass-on rate of 3 1/2 readers per copy. Goff said the readership is the result of the original, and continuing, dedication to professionalism. "(OUT) has had to prove itself. It's about quality...doing good journalism and professional production. You have to take what you're doing seriously."

Unlike some business analysts, Goff said he does not believe glossy magazines will ever displace community newspapers. "There's really a long and rich history of gay publishing...about 30 years," he said. "Nothing, nothing can replace local (gay and lesbian) newspapers. I definitely don't think the glossies have anything on the papers when it comes to reporting the news...theoretically, we do, like, more of a follow up. In depth reporting, I guess that's where we (magazines) fit in. Our writers can follow one story longer over time."

Goff said he follows gay and lesbian newspapers from all over the country to keep abreast "of what's going on in the news" nation wide. As well, he noted, "The first thing I do, when ever I get to any city, is pick up the local publication. Between the news and the ads, it tells me everything I need to know."

Marketing wise, slick magazines have largely been unsuccessful with hard-news-oriented covers and hard-hitting, prescriptive editorial styles. OUT shaped its own style to its broader, targeted readership, says Goff. The magazine's covers concentrate heavily on entertainment and popular culture, though there have been some noteworthy news covers, including issues dealing with AIDS and politics. The two most popular stories in OUT's history, both featured high profile couples: Bob and Rod Jackson-Parris, and lesbian pop star Melissa Etheridge and her lover. The most controversial is one of Goff's favorites, an in-depth, from-all-angles look at the North American Man-Boy Love Association (NAMBLA).

The current issue on the stands (February) sports as cover models Col. Margarethe Cammermeyer and actress Glenn Close, who will portray her in the upcoming NBC TV-movie based on Cammermeyer's experience with the U.S. Military. In the same issue, the magazine explores the "then" and "now" of the real "Don't Ask, Don't Tell" gays in the military policy, and interviews the queen of crass celebrity Roseanne's lesbian sister, Geraldine Barr.

Goff hints that the OUT team has some surprises in the works for the near future, but says he can't reveal them yet.



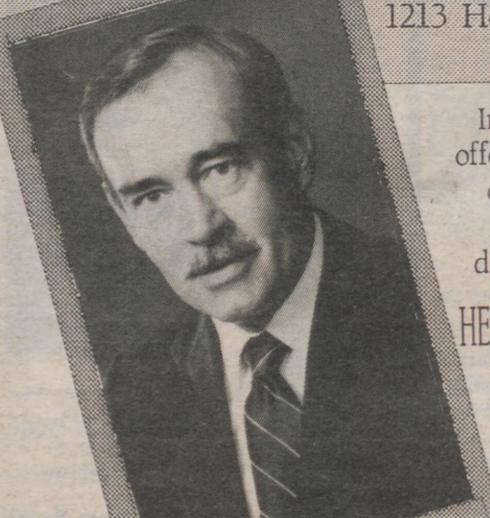
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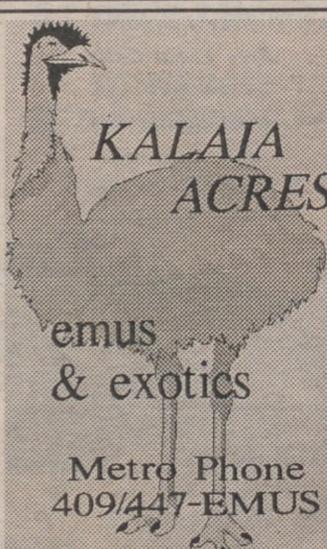
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Photographer Jeff Palmer to be special guest at A2O's 'L'Art Erotique III'

Art Notes

"L'Art Erotique III," an art sale benefit for the Alpha 2 Omega Foundation, will be held Tuesday, Feb. 14, 1995 at the Weirzbowski Gallery, 1431 West Alabama. A special committee of the A2O Foundation, chaired by Michael Kemper, will host the annual St. Valentine's Day event in conjunction with an exhibit that runs from Feb. 9-28. San Diego's Jeff Palmer and Joe Pascale, creators of the AIDS Benefit Calendar, will be the special guests and will autograph their 1995 calendar.

The Alpha 2 Omega Foundation is a non-profit foundation organized to raise funds for Omega House, an AIDS hospice, and other AIDS related non-profit health, education and charitable organizations. L'Art Erotique, a committee of the foun-

ation, is a juried art show and sale of romantic art, described as "fantastical, sensual and flirtatious" by event organizers and created by local artists.

Tim Duyka of the Weirzbowski Gallery, located in the Museum District, will curate the show. The art, which is not pornographic, "piques one's romantic imagination in the tradition of Rodin, Rubens and Renoir," organizers said.

The AIDS Benefit Calendar, which has contributed more than \$200,000 to non-profit organizations across the country, is dedicated to a future without AIDS, according to Palmer and Pascale. It is "a call for caring people everywhere to mobilize the energy, goodwill, resources and generosity necessary in the fight to stop AIDS. The future depends on it."

U.N. agency: new approach needed in tackling AIDS crisis

By CAROLYN HENSON
FOR THE HOUSTON VOICE

GENEVA, Friday, Dec. 16 (AP)—The explosion of the AIDS epidemic requires a radical new approach in tackling the disease, the director of the new U.N. AIDS program said Friday.

One of the main concerns of the new agency headed by the Belgian Peter Piot will be to try to help communities cope with the huge impact of illness and death caused by the epidemic.

The battle against the epidemic, first identified nearly 15 years ago, was now reaching a critical point as longtime HIV carriers developed full-blown AIDS, said Peter Piot.

Last year AIDS cases increased by 60 per cent to some 4 million sufferers world wide because of this timebomb phenomenon, according to World Health Organization figures.

And next year, the U.N. health agency says, an increase of 250 percent is not impossible.

"Because of the changing nature of the epidemic... we have to consider the impact of the epidemic and provide more care for people and affected communities," Piot said.

The greatest support is likely to be needed in Africa where AIDS has struck most deeply.

Healthy, sexually active men are prime targets for AIDS and as they sicken and die from the disease their towns and villages are affected by loss of productivity, orphaned children and an overburdened health service.

Piot admitted that mistakes had been made in originally approaching the AIDS epidemic purely as a health problem.

"Over the years we have seen that it is not enough just to promote condoms, if the basic driving forces of the epidemic are not tackled," he told reporters.

The underlying root causes such as social and economic issues which were compounding the AIDS crisis, now had to be addressed as well, he said.

HOUSTON VOICE MAIL

Letters to the Editor

More Holiday Thanks

From JACKIE AGUILERA
Vice President, Public Service, Colt 45's Inc.
While Santa had Dasher, Dancer, Donner, Vixen, Comet, Cupid and Blitzen, Mrs. Claus and the Elves, the Colt 45's had The Court, Miss Camp, Garden Party, Outrage, Diana Foundation, TGRA, Southern Country, leather clubs, and Vicki and Dicki, and the most famous of all—The Community—to load our assistance fund sleigh to deliver utility, rent, food, hygiene, and optical provisions for all the

needy persons of our town. And as we approach 1995, the Colt 45's thankfully tip their hats and give a six gun salute to all our supporters. Truly, the season of giving exemplifies what this entire year has been thanks to generous amounts of time, talents, and charity. If the saying "what goes around, comes around" holds true, then the coming year should be a jackpot of joy, goodwill, and plenty for all of you.

Happy holidays to all from the Membership of the Colt 45's of Houston, Inc.!

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**Conservatives push FDA for
 quick approval of AIDS home test**

By MICHELLE MITTELSTADT
 FOR THE HOUSTON VOICE

WASHINGTON, Wednesday, Dec. 14 (AP)—AIDS activists are questioning the credentials of conservative groups demanding speedy government approval for an experimental home test kit to detect the virus that causes the fatal disease.

The heads of two conservative organizations, the Free Congress Foundation and the Institute for Justice, held a news conference Tuesday demanding that the Food and Drug Administration move quickly to approve the home test. In the absence of FDA approval, the groups signaled they may seek legal or legislative remedy.

But the head of the National Lesbian and Gay Health Association, which has raised concerns about home testing, questioned the organizations' commitment to the fight against the disease.

"Where are these people coming from?" asked executive director Christopher Portelli, whose organization is an umbrella group for 11 clinics that provide HIV testing for some 150,000 people annually.

"I don't see any contributions these people have made in the fight against AIDS," he added.

Paul Weyrich, president of the Free Congress Foundation and a founder of National Empowerment Television, said he feels compelled to speak out because the situation isn't improving.

"The FDA now for seven years has sat on a proposal for home access HIV testing and counseling," Weyrich told a news conference. "We are not going to tolerate this unconscionable delay any longer and if they persist we will seek a legislative remedy, which I think is now very possible given the new political realities in Washington."

Joining the organizations in their request for rapid approval of the home test kit was Texas Congressman Ralph Hall, a conservative Democrat not usually inclined toward activism on health issues.

"Home testing is a public health issue and, assuming that this kit passes control standards, it's past time for the FDA to respond affirmatively in support of early detection, treatment and prevention of this dread disease," said the Rockwall lawmaker, who is a member of the Free Congress Foundation.

The issue of home testing has proved quite controversial.

Proponents contend hundreds of thousands of Americans who currently decline to be tested at public health clinics would take advantage of a test they could buy at a drug store and use in the privacy of their home. After pricking a finger, consumers would send the dried blood spots to a lab and get the results by telephone.

Experts in the field believe at least 40 percent of the estimated 1 million infected Americans have never been tested.

Critics question whether the telephone counseling offered with the home test would be adequate to inform about health risks and guard against suicide. They also are worried that the test could be misused by employers and that the testing could provide inaccurate results.

Opponents also have criticized Johnson & Johnson, which is the furthest along in the approval process. AIDS activists have complained that the company is promoting its home test kit illegally in advance of FDA approval. Johnson & Johnson has denied the charge.

FDA spokesperson Don McLearn said he couldn't discuss whether agency approval of the home test kit is pending. But he dismissed complaints by Weyrich and others that the agency's process is dragging on without justification.

"There is a sense of urgency but FDA has to be sure that any product fulfills the requirements of the law that it be safe and effective for use and has to be labeled correctly and has to be able to be used properly," McLearn said.

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AIDS UPDATE

Blacks, Hispanics Hardest Hit

Minorities are coming down with AIDS at a rate up to five times higher than that of whites in the U.S. According to new statistics released by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, 55 percent of the 106,949 AIDS cases reported last year involved minorities, up from 51 percent two years ago. The rate of disease among whites is 30 cases per 100,000; among blacks, 162 per 100,000; among Hispanics, 90 per 100,000. Lower rates were found for Asians (12 per 100,000) and Native Americans (24 per 100,000).

In the Northeast, HIV is spread among black and Hispanic men mostly through intravenous drug use, while in other parts of the country the primary means of transmission appears to be unsafe homosexual activity.

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Bowlers report standings, announce New Year event

Sports Notes

The Inner Loop Alternative Sunday Evening League reported the following standings: first place team, Fish-N-Pole; second place, Beavers and Buttheads and third place Bambi's Bandits. For the men, high scratch game of 267 and series was bowled by Brian Elley. For the women, Andrea Black bowled scratch game of 197 and Linda Dees series of 513. For league information call Tom at (713) 522-9612.

The Montrose Monday Night Men's League reported Division A standings in first, second and third place: 4 Non Blondes, Hindlick Maneuver and Punga Pirate. Division B standings are 5 Easy Pieces, The Point After and Bill's Brats. High scratch game of 234 was bowled by Bob Roberts and series of 639 by Mace Adams. For more information call Gardy at (713) 641-5424.

The Monday Nite Women's League: First place—Maybe, Maybe Not; second place—Balls R Out; third place—Lesborados and fourth place is Can't Bowl Straight. For more information call Pat at (713) 437-6218.

The Houston Thursday Nite Mixers reports first place team is Pat & Company, second place is Download and Unzip and third place #6, Yes It's Our Name. High scratch game of 257 and series of 651 was bowled by Marty Rutherford for the men. For the women, Andrea Black bowled scratch of 198 and series of 504. For more information call Tom at (713) 522-9612.

A special New Year's Day fund raiser is planned for Jan. 1 at 7:00 p.m. at Palace Lanes. A new twist has been added to the Candlelight theme. The tournament will be a 69 Mystery Doubles No Tap Event. Individuals sign in and draw for a lane assignment and whoever draws the opposite lane becomes their partner. However, in order to bowl with a partner of your choice you can sell your assigned partner for \$5 which goes directly into the charity fund. Also, the sixth and ninth frames are guaranteed strikes. The funds raised will benefit the Texas Invitational Tournament and Jim Buck's designated charities, Project Inform and Northern Lights Alternatives. For more information call Tom at (713) 522-9612.

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Houston Ballet's 'The Nutcracker': a holiday tradition



magnificent new theater, as well as their fertile imaginations, Stevenson and Heeley created a production full of special effects including a Christmas tree which grows to 40 feet, a stunning winter wonderland complete with gently falling snow, flying cooks and a breathtaking Kingdom of the Sweets. In 1993, Houston Ballet presented forty performances using 56 dancers, 80 children and a 60 piece orchestra. Almost 80,000 people attended the performances. This season, nine rotating cast will perform in 41 performances.

Houston Ballet is among hundreds of ballet companies across the country which perform "The Nutcracker" every year. This phenomenon had its genesis fifty years ago in San Francisco when William

Arts Highlight

Christensen created the first American production of "The Nutcracker" for the San Francisco Ballet in 1944. At that time, the ballet was virtually unknown in the United States. The combination of Tchaikovsky's fabulous music, a holiday theme and an enchanting story of dreams come to life has resulted in a classic which has steadily increased in popularity over the last fifty years. Guest Conductor Paul Connelly will lead the Houston Ballet Orchestra.

From Wednesday, Nov. 30 through Friday, Dec. 30, Houston Ballet will present 41 performances of "The Nutcracker" in the Wortham Center's Brown Theater in downtown Houston. Set to Peter Ilyich Tchaikovsky's beloved score, "The Nutcracker" tells the story of a young girl named Clara whose gift of a Nutcracker one snowy Christmas eve takes her on a magical journey from her humble farmhouse through the Land of Snow and into the Kingdom of the Sweets. Comedy, drama and enchantment come together to make "The Nutcracker" spectacular entertainment for the whole family. A Houston tradition, "The Nutcracker" has come to symbolize the very essence of the holidays.

For the first time this season, five performances have been scheduled for 6:00 p.m. to allow business professionals and families to take advantage of an earlier curtain time. The performance runs for approximately two hours. Ticket prices for "The Nutcracker" are reduced up to 25 percent off regular season ticket prices to enable families to enjoy this event together. "The Nutcracker," music by Peter Ilyich Tchaikovsky, choreographed by Ben Stevenson with sets and costumes by Desmond Heeley and lighting by Duane Schuler will have performances at 7:30 p.m. on Nov. 30, Dec. 1-4, 9-11, 16-18, 20-23 and 26-30. Performances at 2:00 p.m. will be held on Dec. 3, 4, 10, 11, 17, 18, 20-24, and 27-30. Performances will be held at 11:00 p.m. Dec. 8 (Student Matinee-Group Sales only). All performances will be held at Brown Theater, Wortham Center at Texas and Smith. Ticket prices are \$10-\$55. Call (713) 227-ARTS or 800-828-ARTS for tickets and information. Tickets are also available at Houston Ticket Center (in Jones Hall and Wortham Center) and at all Ticket-Master outlets including Foley's, Fiesta, Sears and Blockbuster Music.

Currently celebrating its 25th Anniversary, Houston Ballet has had a long and prosperous relationship with this cherished classic. The fledgling company first presented a full length production of "The Nutcracker" in 1972 with choreography by Frederick Franklin and designs by Peter Farmer. Six performances were presented in Jones Hall with an attendance of 10,000 people. In 1976, when Ben Stevenson joined Houston Ballet as artistic director he created new choreography for the 28 dancers and 30 children who appeared in 13 performances of the production that year. In 1987, when Houston Ballet moved into the newly opened Wortham Center, Mr. Stevenson collaborated with Tony award winning designer Desmond Heeley to create the lavish production which has captivated Houston audiences ever since. Utilizing the space and technology of the

Utah man accused in attacks on lesbians pleads guilty to reduce charges

SALT LAKE CITY, Tuesday, Dec. 13 (AP)—A man charged with hate crimes in assaults on two lesbians has pleaded guilty to reduced charges as part of a plea-bargain arrangement.

Gilberto Arrendondo, 44, Salt Lake City, the first person in Salt Lake County to be charged with a hate crime, pleaded guilty Monday to third-degree felony aggravated assault, misdemeanor assault and an unrelated count of misdemeanor attempted assault by a prisoner in the county jail.

In exchange, the judge dismissed four third-degree felony hate-crime counts, three other assault charges and two phone harassment counts.

"What was important was to get a plea to a third-degree felony," said Deputy County Attorney Barbara Byrne.

The charges carry a possible sentence of up to five years in prison. Sentencing was set for Jan. 9.

Arrendondo was accused of attacking Cecilia Rinehart and Rose Padilla, The 1992 hate-crimes law covered only racial, ethnic and religious bias.

Arrendondo was charged under the argument that he violated the women's civil rights by trying to keep her them from associating with their friends. Victim advocate Antonia De La Guerra said the gay community hopes lawmakers will pass a stricter hate-crime

law during the session beginning in January.

From January through September, 74 alleged hate crimes were reported in Utah, according to the Utah Bureau of Criminal Identification. Of those, 48 were said to be racially motivated, eight involved national origin, six religious bias and 12 sexual orientation.

Padilla, 43, said she was disappointed Arrendondo ducked a hate-crime conviction.

"A lot of people in this state get hurt because of their sexual origin," Padilla said. "I live with a woman who is a lesbian, and Mr. Arrendondo didn't

like that fact. He hurt me and the woman I love."

Arrendondo, who lives with Padilla's sister, was charged with two different attacks on Padilla and Rinehart.

Rinehart was attacked April 23 in an alley behind her home. Court documents allege Arrendondo was angry because Rinehart had flirted with his wife. The beating left Rinehart, 23, with two half-inch scars on her face.

On Oct. 16, Rinehart was attacked again and Padilla was beaten.

In court Monday, Arrendondo said, "I was mad at the time and drunk."

TAKE ONE
(Movie Reviews)
by Vada Carroll



Jennifer Jason Leigh as Dorothy Parker in "Mrs. Parker and the Vicious Circle"

Mrs. Parker And The Vicious Circle

Miramax films

Robert Altman has produced some pretty interesting films including his sure to be "hit" Pret A Porter (Ready To Wear), but the reason for his affiliation with this lengthy piece of celluloid is questionable.

Star of "Single White Female," Jennifer Jason Leigh is so into her title character of Mrs. Dorothy Parker, the famous writer/poet of Vanity Fair and The New Yorker that you have to wonder if she remained as sullen throughout the entire shoot. And although I never heard Mrs. Parker speak personally, you would have to imagine that she is right on the money with her accent and speech pattern (which will annoy you to death by mid movie).

The other actors in the film include, Campbell Scott, Matthew Broderick, Andrew McCarthy, Peter Gallagher, Jennifer Beals, Sam Robards, Martha Plimpton and Lili Taylor, which I just realized are a complete "brat-pack" roster of earlier years. None of the acting other than Ms. Parker's is outstanding enough to be mentioned, but Steven Baldwin is soooo good looking it's worth the rest of the film.

Historically this film takes place in a war torn period around the depression and WWI. Prohibition is in force, but the speakeasies are booming and every Jane or Jerry has their own bathtub still working overtime to fill the appetites of this group of major alcoholics (the vicious circle). Consider that you might seem vicious too if you were constantly living off a hangover. Oops, how insensitive of me...many of you are! Like many young people today, they were enjoying their version of Sex, Drugs and Rock'N'Roll and the sex is frequently implied here. (Why, Mrs. Parker makes Cuervolyn look like a blessed saint).

A little long by my taste for such downer fare, it is saved only by the constant

dry/black humor and the black and white poetry by Mrs. Parker. Definitely not a kiddie film or to be considered by anyone contemplating suicide. Yet if you are a fan of Robert Altman, Jennifer Jason Leigh or the brat pack it is worth a look see. Opens at the Landmark Saks on Post Oak on Dec. 23. Call (713) 681-1970 for schedules and other information.



Jodie Foster is the title character in "Nell"

Nell

20th Century Fox

A lot of you out there are Jodie Foster fans like myself and have been anxiously awaiting the release of this movie, "Nell." The film is directed by Michael Apted and also stars Liam Neeson and Natasha Richardson.

Based on a play "Idioglossia" by Mark Handley, "Nell" the title character played by Jodie Foster is raised in a remote cabin in the woods speaking a strange, impenetrable language. But she is a source of great wisdom and inspiration to the doctor (Liam Neeson) and Psychologist (Natasha Richardson) whose lives are unexpectedly transformed as they decide to bring this mysterious young woman into contemporary society.

In a recent interview Foster said, "Nell is a character that defies categorization. They think she has never known any human contact, that she has never known love, that she can't articulate anything, that she is dull. They come up with these boxes in which they put her. What they soon discover however, is somebody who is totally the opposite of that and, if anything, is perhaps wiser and more in touch with things that the other characters themselves have lost."

In the narrative, we discover that Nell was raised by a reclusive mother, Violet Kelty, whose speech patterns were damaged by a series of strokes. Subsequently Nell was forced to invent her own, seemingly impenetrable language, dubbed "Nellish."

(Continued on following page)

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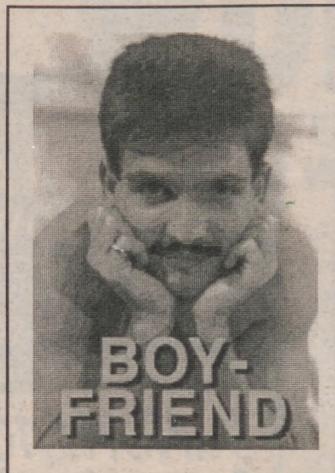
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CURBSIDE



Take One, Part II: movie reviews

(Continued from preceding page)

"I think what we can all learn from Nell," said Foster, "is the kind of tranquility that comes with somebody who is free and doesn't judge. Is her life perfect? Of course not, but unlike the rest of us who spend so much time putting things into categories and saying good, bad, bigger, less, etc, she is at peace and living in the present. There's a lot to be said about living at peace."

NELL will begin at theaters in Houston on Dec. 25.



Paul Newman stars as Donald "Sully" Sullivan in "Nobody's Fool"

Nobody's Fool

Paramount Pictures

North Bath, N.Y. is a hard-luck town, and nobody in the place has had harder

luck than Donald "Sully" Sullivan (Paul Newman). At 60 years old, Sully is a construction worker with no steady work, no love and no money. He does have an estranged dysfunctional family, a cretin for a best friend and a mangled kneecap that is refusing to heal. He also has an acrid sense of humor that has enabled him to laugh through sixty years' worth of the dead-end life he's been leading.

Now Sully finally may have a chance to turn things around and piece his world and his family back together. Most of the eccentric locals on North Bath are betting against him, including his employer Carl Roebuck and Carl's attractive, frustrated wife (Melanie Griffith). But his eighth-grade teacher Miss Beryl (Jessica Tandy), who is now his landlady, thinks her former student may have one last glimmer of potential left in him.

Paul Newman, Jessica Tandy, and Melanie Griffith star in Paramount's "Nobody Fool," based on the recently published novel by Richard Russo.

This is another non violent type of family movie of the "heart warming" category that you can safely take your children to see. Beautifully filmed in upstate New York with a cast as good as gold it has some pretty strong performances by Newman and Tandy. Sadly this is one of the last times you will see Jessica Tandy on film in a new production since she recently died. Highly recommended. This film opens soon in theaters everywhere. Check your local listings.

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Rev. Janet Parker

Q: "Why is tithing such a public event (envelopes with people's names on them; people openly and proudly discussing what percentage of their net or gross income is tithed)? I always thought tithing was a very personal gift between the giver and God?"

A: What is personal about tithing is that it is a decision made between you and God. No one else can help you make that decision. With knowledge and understanding of the Scripture, every Christian must decide who is the owner of their possessions. Once that decision is made, you are free to rejoice in what has become a stepping stone of spiritual growth and maturity. Becoming a steward (manager) of God's blessings in your life means that one-tenth will be returned back to God as an indicator that God is the Owner and Provider of your needs and desires.

We find in looking back to the Old Testament that the Tabernacle or the Temple was a public meeting place where people brought their sacrifices and their gifts. It was very much a public affair. It was a way of showing others how much God had blessed you. It was not a matter of pride or showing off how good you were as a farmer, a rancher, a gardener or a seamstress. All of the glory went to God.

In the New Testament we have a story of Jesus in the Temple watching the offerings being given. He was observing in a very discrete way and noticed a remarkable offering being given. There was a widow who walked up to the offering box and dropped in two small copper coins. It was all that she had. It was not her excess after bills had been paid. It was her own personal treasury—given to God. Jesus noticed that she was the only one who did not give what was left over, but gave out of her own need. (see Mark 12:41-44)

Giving out of our excess is not a noticeable gift as much as giving out of our need. What is more commendable to God—giving the first fruits of your income before you pay any other bills, thereby declaring God your provider, or—giving after your bills are paid and breathing a sigh of relief that you had enough left over? Which move takes the greater amount of faith?

You may want to ask those who are talking about their tithing why they discuss it so freely? Is it because they are astounded at what miracles God has performed with their finances ever since God took charge of their possessions? Why are others so quiet? Is it because they have not gotten to the place where they can declare God the owner?

There is great joy in crossing over this threshold. It opens up new dimensions of who God is. We then become the recipient of many of God's promises and blessings. Think about taking that step of faith. It takes a lot of courage to trust God with all that you have. It is worth talking about. In the sharing of this great joy the lives of others are touched and blessed and challenged.

Let us remember that tithing has nothing to do with the amount that you give. Tithing is always in proportion to what God has blessed you with. One penny out of every dollar is the same demonstration of faith and trust as one dollar out of every ten dollars or one thousand dollars out of every ten thousand dollars. Don't wait to win the lottery to show God how important God is to you. Begin now with what you have!

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

Lone Star Volleyball ends fall season

Sports Highlight

The fall season of Houston's Lone Star Volleyball Association came to a climax Sunday, Dec. 11 with the championship playoffs. The Life-guards surprised everyone, coming from last seed to move past the Grand Old Fags and Two Bumps & A Pump before capturing first place in the recreational division.

Alfredo Samaniego was named MVP and Jesse Parra was voted best sportsman. At the awards ceremony held at BRB Friday, Dec. 16, Craig Whitfield was named MVP after leading his Clueless Misfits past Johnny's Angels and High Steppers to win Squad 3 of the competitive division. Johnny Sanchez was chosen best sportsman by the other players. Fresh from his heroic performance at the 1994 New York Gay Games, Kent Gilliam pushed Bare As You Dare over the top in Squad 2 of the competitive division and received MVP honors for his efforts. Both Jedi Knights and BRB put up tough fights and are expected to be strong contenders

next season. BRB's Gerald Stanley was awarded best sportsman in squad 2 for never losing his winning smile even in the middle of tough matches. Squad 1 was a dead even race all season long with three highly competitive teams who regularly travel to regional tournaments. Stampede recently won the B division at the Dallas DIVA tournament in October but came up a few points short against Gentry this time. The merciless spiking of Joe Barkowski, Squad 1 MVP, and Ino Colon led gentry to victory over Barnaby's in the final match. The ever-effervescent Blake Croft was voted best sportsman in emotionally charged Squad 1.

Many teams from LSVa will be on the road in January, competing in the New Orleans tournament before beginning the spring season scheduled to start Sunday, Jan. 22. LSVa offers different levels of play from recreational in-your-face competition depending on a player's skill level. New members are always welcome. Call 878-4629 for more information.



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'Tambourines to Glory': Hughes' cheery musical perfect for season

By JAVIER TAMEZ

Houston Voice/Houston

Langston Hughes is recognized as one of the premier contributors to the "Harlem Renaissance" of artistic creativity in the 1920s. Hughes was a hugely prolific writer who expressed himself in poetry, plays, novels and short stories. Through his many expressive outlets, he effectively captured the nature of black existence in urban America, particularly the north; he also relayed what was for him the painful reality of being both black and gay.

Hughes was tortured by his sexuality (though he physically gloried in it), and as a result, he frequently ignored his troubled sense of self-awareness and instead drew wholesome, idealistic scenes of the life around him. "Tambourines to Glory" is one such work which Hughes created as a celebration of the black experience through music. The musical is being presented at The Ensemble Theatre through Jan. 1.

"Tambourines" is one of Hughes' most often produced works. Hughes wrote the musical specifically to appeal to audiences. As quoted in the program, Hughes' intention was simple: "When the curtain falls, the final effect must be that of having heard a song—a melodic, likeable, dramatic song."

This Hughes certainly accomplished, but he did so in a very surface fashion. Consequently, the play is largely

unsophisticated, the musical pieces are all ordinary compositions and taken as a whole, the work lacks the more circumspect insight Hughes utilized in his poetry.

The play opens with a monologue. Big-Eyed Buddy Lomax (W.C. McMullin), a slick, slippery tongued, self-promoting huckster, introduces himself to the audience as the devil. The audience is about to see a story, he explains—a story in which he plays a part. A mark of Hughes' aim at audience appeal is clearly present in the monologue: Lomax states forthrightly, "I always lose." The message to the audience: this tale has a happy ending.

The story unfolds with Laura (Kimberly Herbert) arriving home to discover her neighbor and good friend, Essie (Catherine Kemp), has been evicted and is sitting out on the curb with her meager belongings.

While the two are finding common ground in the burdens of life, Laura comes up with the idea of founding a church, conducting services on the curb and raising money in the name of the Lord. While both women see full coffers as a solution to Essie's incipient homeless-



(L-R) W.C. McMullin, Catherine Kemp and Kimberly Herbert in "Tambourines to Glory"

ness, Essie further imagines the extent of good works that can be accomplished in the community, while Laura envisions baubles and finery for herself.

Laura's original motives may not have been completely altruistic, but neither were they as nefarious as her later actions would be. Swayed by the wily and romanticizing Lomax, Laura's inherently decent nature is washed away by unadulterated greed. So basely avaricious does Laura become, she even sells bottled tap water as holy water to the growing and trusting congregation.

All of this is happening over Essie's objections, whose personal use of collected mon-

ies has been primarily limited to sending for her teenage daughter. But despite Essie's warnings about Lomax, Laura refuses to listen and even makes plans to buy a Cadillac for Lomax with money collected for the church.

The arrival of Marietta (Cristal Triscott), Essie's daughter, signals the beginning of the end of Lomax's spell. The self-styled womanizer can't keep his overdrive libido in check, and he tries to seduce Marietta, and this eventually leads Laura to drastic action.

Strong performances from the three principals are the biggest boon for this production. W.C. McMullin makes a slithery, slimy slug as the evil Lomax; he's terrific. Kimberly Herbert delivers a winning performance as Laura, combining her character's lust for life and passion for people into a smart, fetching stage persona. Catherine Kemp is nothing short of splendid as the righteous, good-hearted Essie. Kemp's portrayal has a waxing maternal presence that bespeaks the strength of a woman whose faith never falters, even in the face of strident adversity.

Unfortunately, of the three principals, only Herbert had

a singing voice capable of matching her acting prowess. McMullin's range was severely limited, while Kemp's vocalization was surprisingly weak for a woman of her girth.

The directing by Sterling Vappie was consistent if hardly inspiring. The three main characters, and to a lesser extent Marietta and her ostensible boyfriend, C.J., are left fairly much as Hughes intended. There is nothing deep or revealing, but rather simple, recognizable characters. Vappie could be lauded for maintaining Hughes' unpretentious characterizations, but this hardly demonstrates a directing competence.

Michael Ballard's choreography is fine for the most part, but he seriously missteps by overcrowding the stage. Both he and Vappie, it seems, forget the rudimentary theatrical tenet which holds that the appearance of a crowd is easily achieved on a small stage, and it's not necessary to squeeze everyone onto the limited space. Sad to say, that is precisely what occurs several times in this production, and it's a wonder elbows aren't slamming into ribs all over the stage.

"Tambourines to Glory" is not the most refined musical you'll ever see, not by a long shot. But it does have an effusive and infecting good cheer that's perfect for this jolly time of year.

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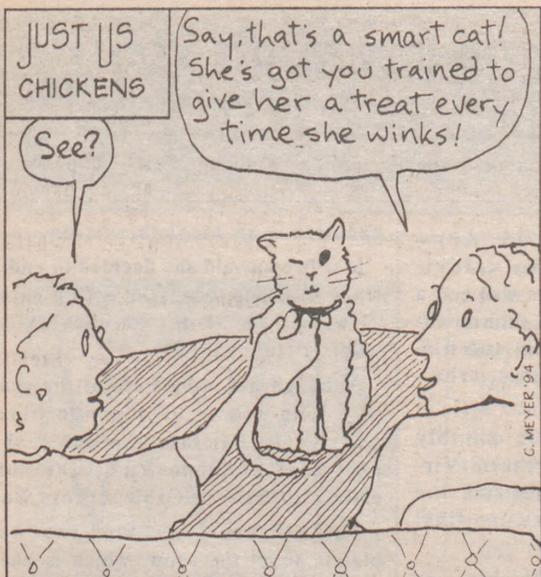
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Former Kentucky coach says her sexual orientation led to her dismissal

COLUMBIA, Ky., Sunday, Dec. 18 (AP)—Many Lindsey Wilson College volleyball and softball players coached by a woman who says she was fired because she is a lesbian say the coach's personal life was never an issue for them.

The players are expressing outrage at Diana Chalfant's firing. They say they never thought about Chalfant's personal life.

"Number one, she never told any of us she was a lesbian or ever commented on it. It was not an issue," said Melissa Schultz, 19, a sophomore volleyball player from Campbell County.

"It didn't matter. It wasn't an issue. ... If they did fire her because she's a lesbian, that's just not right."

Chalfant was preparing the women's softball team for its first fast-pitch season this spring when she was fired Dec. 9 by Ray Wells, athletic director of the private, liberal-arts college affiliated with the United Methodist Church.

"When we found out, we were shocked that this could happen," said Sonya Mouser, 19, a freshman from Nelson County.

Chalfant said Wells told her he didn't like her handling of the volleyball

program, although the team had just finished a winning season. The team, in just its second year, compiled a 24-13 record after going 9-15 the previous season under a different coach.

Wells also said there had been "some lesbian incidents," Chalfant said.

Chalfant, 30, acknowledges that she is gay, but said she was not open about it on campus and never made advances toward any of her players.

Wells and college President John B. Begley declined last week to talk about Chalfant's firing. They cited a school policy that forbids publicly discussing personnel matters.

"She was a fine coach," Begley said. "All personnel decisions are hard to make, and it was particularly hard with Diana."

Begley said the school must follow the lead of the church, including its social principles. Methodists believe homosexuals should be treated fairly, but the church does not condone homosexuality and considers it incompatible with the Christian faith, Begley said.

Chalfant said Wells fired her after first asking her to resign quietly. When she asked for a detailed explanation, he wouldn't give one, she said.

Man suspected of gay slashings charged with Florida murder

JACKSONVILLE, Fla., Wednesday, Dec. 14 (AP)—The man authorities say confessed to killing six homosexual men has been charged with first-degree murder in the slaying of his roommate.

But Gary Bowles pleaded innocent through his attorney Tuesday in Duval Circuit Court to murder and armed robbery charges in the death of his roommate, 43-year-old Walter Jammell Hinton of Jacksonville, said prosecutor Tom Bishop.

Bowles, of Clifton Forge, Va., was arrested last month, days after being added to the list of the FBI's 10 Most Wanted Fugitives.

"He has confessed to six and says that is all he did," Jacksonville Sheriff Jim McMillan said at the time of Bowles' arrest. "All of us are relieved he is off the street."

"There is no doubt there would have probably been more."

The FBI says Bowles frequented gay

bars, hustling men in exchange for lodging, household chores or sexual favors. He confessed to murders in Jacksonville, Daytona Beach and Hilliard, as well as Atlanta, Savannah, Ga., and Silver Spring, Md., McMillan said.

All the victims were bludgeoned, strangled or shot.

Bowles was arrested at a day labor office in Jacksonville Beach and questioned about Hinton's killing. Hinton had been found dead in his

mobile home last month.

Bowles, 32, has been charged with fleeing prosecution after being charged with strangling a 72-year-old disabled veteran in Savannah, Ga. He also has been charged with murder in the strangling of a 39-year-old loan processor in Silver Spring, Md., and the death of a 37-year-old Hilliard man.

Authorities said he has confessed to murders in Atlanta and Daytona Beach but hasn't been charged.

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Maine dentist's refusal to treat AIDS, HIV patients heads to court

PORTLAND, Maine, Sunday, Dec. 18 (AP)—A Bangor dentist who faces civil rights lawsuits for his refusal to treat patients with AIDS and HIV denies that his policy was motivated by prejudice against homosexuals.

Dr. Randon Bragdon, who maintains that patients with infectious diseases cannot be treated safely in a dentist's office, faces lawsuits under both the Maine Human Rights Act and the federal Americans With Disabilities Act.

Bragdon says the virus that causes AIDS can spread in ways yet unrecognized and that policymakers are taking the wrong approach by treating the epidemic as a political issue rather than a medical issue.

"Dr. Bragdon's political thinking and science is way outside the mainstream," responds attorney Bennett Klein, who is handling both court cases on behalf of the Boston-based AIDS Law Project of Gay and Lesbian Advocates and Defenders.

Suits have been filed around the country involving refusal to treat AIDS and HIV patients, and the cases involving Bragdon are not the first in Maine. The state's earlier cases, however, have been settled quietly out of court, said Deborah Shields, executive director of The AIDS Project in Portland.

A lawsuit was filed against Bragdon in state court early last year by the Maine Human Rights Commission and the estate of a Brewer man, identified in the complaint as John Doe, who died of AIDS on Sept. 26, 1992.

Doe's complaint said he called Brag-

don's office in 1991 for root canal treatment only to be told of the policy against treating anyone with HIV or other infectious diseases.

Doe went to the Maine Human Rights Commission, which concluded that Bragdon, as owner of a "public accommodation," had discriminated against Doe.

Sidney Abbott, also of Brewer, filed her lawsuit Dec. 1 in U.S. District Court. The suit said that when Abbott told Bragdon that she had HIV, he said he would treat her in a hospital operating room and that she would have to pay the hospital's fee.

Bragdon's policy runs counter to standard dental treatment of people with HIV and AIDS. Both the federal Centers for Disease Control and the American Dental Association say that by taking adequate precautions, dentists can treat such patients safely.

The Maine Dental Association says the risk of infection is so slight that "refusal to treat, based solely on a patient's HIV-positive status, is unethical," says Frances Miliano, the MDA's executive director.

Klein says writings by Bragdon about HIV and AIDS demonstrate that his policy "is strongly colored by nothing more than pure prejudice towards gay men and other people infected by HIV."

Bragdon responds that his practice includes gays and that he is doing what he knows is right.

"People who want to treat this as a disease are not homophobes," he says.

Award-winning gay cable show ends two-year run in D.C. area

FAIRFAX, Thursday, Dec. 15 (AP)—An award-winning cable television talk show aimed at gays will end a two-year run that featured such headliners as actress Lily Tomlin and film director Jonathan Demme, the show's producer said.

"One in 10 People," seen monthly on cable stations in northern Virginia, suburban Maryland and the District of Columbia, airs its final show this month.

The show is produced by volunteers at Channel 10, Fairfax County's public access station. It won numerous awards for cable television production and became the nation's most widely distributed gay cable program, said producer and creator Pearson Brown.

"My goal was to put out a high-quality show which would represent the gay community accurately and show them as accomplished and productive members of society. It was like 'Entertainment Tonight' with a gay slant," Ms. Brown said.

The title is a reference to gay rights' groups estimate that 10 percent of the population is gay.

The show was a finalist last year in the American Film Institute's nationwide competition promoting

excellence in local television.

Ms. Brown said she decided to end the show in order to pursue a film career. "I wanted to get out while everything was still exciting."

Although gay issues are at the center of a long debate over public library policies in Fairfax, the cable show provoked no opposition, said officials with Fairfax Cable Access Corp.

The company received no complaints about the show, which is one of about 100 regularly featured on the station, station officials said.

Kelly Mullins, a spokesperson for the Traditional Values Coalition, which opposes homosexual activism, said she knew of no complaints about the show.

"If it's objectionable to adults, they can change the channel. And it's up to parents to monitor what their children watch," Ms. Mullins said.

"One in 10 People" generally featured a breezy interview format, and often focused on celebrities visiting the Washington area.

One show focused on a volunteer program that provides pets for AIDS patients. Other shows dealt with parenting, relationships, books, art and movies.

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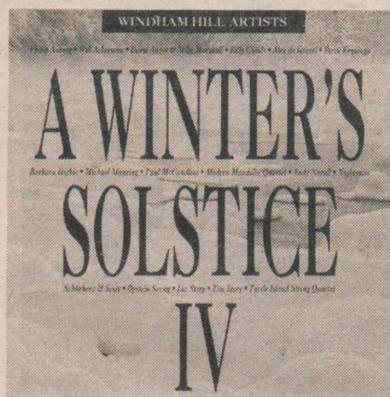
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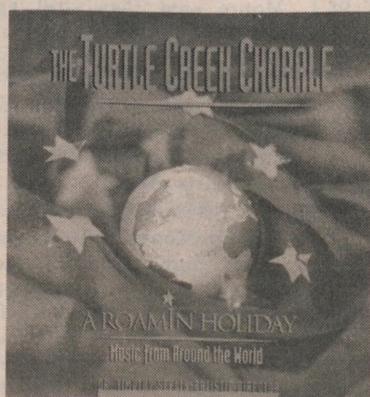
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Windham Hill Artists
Windham Hill/BMG

This CD is perfect background listening for your favorite Holiday gatherings, those special quiet dinners with loved ones or opening presents on Christmas morning. The CD includes some of Windham Hill's best know artists such as Phillip Aaberg, Paul McCandless, Liz Story, Michael Manning, and Alex de Grassi to name only a few. As you may recall from my earlier Christmas CD review, artist Liz Story, has the Christmas release known as "The Gift" to her name. Story is a brilliant pianist who can take a familiar tune and change it into something quite different but still pleasing to the ear. Personal favorites of this reviewer are Barbara Higbie's "We Three Kings" that includes some beautiful harp arrangements; or "Trumpet Tunes" by Alex de Grassi—Alex plays one of the best acoustic guitars around. All in all this is another great CD to add to your collection and you can still get out there and pick it up at Planet Music in time for that Christmas Eve drive to look at the decorations around town. Highly recommended. A must for Windham Hill collectors.



A Roamin' Holiday

The Turtle Creek Chorale
TCC Records

If you are a believer in the "buy gay" way of thinking, then there are two good reasons to purchase this Holiday CD; one because the singers are the famous gay men's chorus from Dallas, The Turtle Creek Chorale and two because it is simply fabulous! The chorale is a 200 member male chorus under the direction of artistic director, Dr. Timothy Seelig. This is TTCC's 7th CD release and was made live during 4 sold-out performances of the 1993 holiday concerts. On this CD, the chorus makes a magical jour-

ney around the globe with songs from Spain, France, Germany and Africa as well as American favorites. I prefer the traditional pieces such as O' Holy Night, and Have Yourself a Merry Little Christmas, but songs like Calypso Noel will have a special interest for the adventuresome listener. Never has there been a finer group of all male voices or a more prolific gay chorus. After 15 years together, if you are unaware of them or have just never heard one of their CD released, this one would be excellent to add to your collection for Holiday listening year after year. Available at finer music stores or here in Montrose at Crossroads Market at 610 West Alabama. Recommended.



The Holly and the Ivy

Natalie Cole

With a style all of her own and a voice so warm that it melts butter who is more perfect for a CD of reminiscent Christmas tunes than Natalie Cole, daughter of Nat King Cole. She has put together a collection including The First Noel, Silent Night, Winter Wonderland, Merry Christmas Baby and with a voice like hers why leave out The Christmas Song (Chestnuts Roasting On An Open Fire) which is incidentally one her father made famous.

Miss Cole has been in the business for quite some time during which she has seen fame and fortune taken a fall from the top due to drugs and alcohol misuse. She has however made a recovery from that unfortunate time of her life and has moved on to become bigger and better in spite of it. Holly & Ivy is a great album that I recommended for your Christmas collection. It's not Natalie does "Dangerous" but it is some of the best work she has done.

Thanks to my friends at Planet Records who were so kind as to give me my review copy. For those of you who have missed the spotlights in the sky the past few nights, follow them. They lead to the newest Planet Records store in Houston now located in Meyerland Plaza. Nearly 30,000 square feet of display space with plenty of CD's in stock for all tastes. Planet Records is a membership store similar to Bookstop which means that for a price you are given a card good for a year that will allow you a 20 percent discount on all music in stock. Don't forget that there is also a Planet Records open at Westheimer and Gessner where my friends Rick Birgel is manager. Go by this "gay friendly" music store and be afraid—be very afraid—because there is temptation around every bin.

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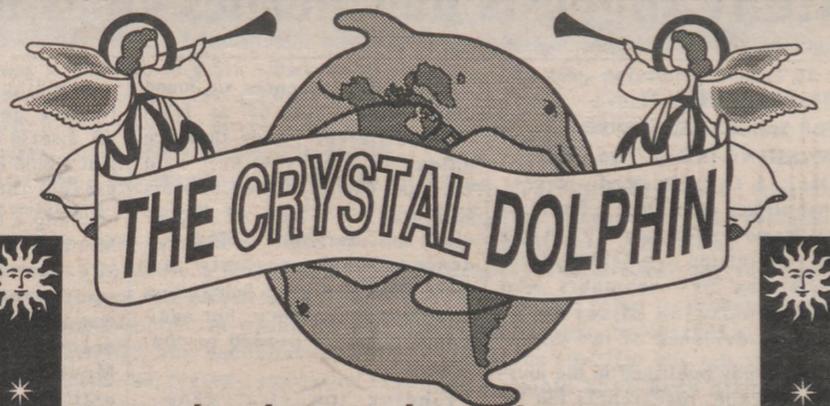
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 MALE STRIP CONTEST
 at 11:00 PM with
CATIA & PAIVI

TUE
 AMATEUR TALENT NIGHT
 at 10:30 PM with
BRITTANY PAIGE
 Week # 7

WED
 Return of
LUCY'S STEAK NIGHT
 ON THE PATIO
 6 p.m. 'til

Study suggests new herpes virus may cause AIDS-related cancer

By **PAUL RECER**
 FOR THE HOUSTON VOICE
 WASHINGTON, Thursday,
 Dec. 15 (AP)—A deadly cancer
 that strikes more than a fourth of
 all homosexual men with AIDS
 may be related to a herpes virus,
 according to researchers who
 report today on discovery of
 genetic evidence of the virus.

In a study published in the journal
 Science, researchers led by
 a husband-and-wife team at
 Columbia University report
 that unique DNA sequences, or
 fragments of genes, were isolated
 from tissues of Kaposi's sarcoma
 lesions taken from
 AIDS patients and that the gene
 material may be from a previously
 unknown human herpes
 virus.

"The DNA sequences we found
 contain portions of at least
 three different genes that are
 unique to herpes virus," said
 Dr. Yuan Chang of the Columbia
 University College of Physi-
 cians and Surgeons. "The evi-
 dence strongly suggests that
 these DNA sequences belong to a
 new herpes sequence, but addi-
 tional tests are needed to con-
 firm it."

Finding the viral gene
 sequences in nearly all of the
 Kaposi's lesions tested raises
 the intriguing possibility
 that the same virus is the cause,
 or at least a contributor, to the
 cancer, said Chang. But she
 emphasized this is only specu-
 lation.

Proof that a virus causes Kapo-
 si's sarcoma could lead to

developing a diagnostic test
 to find people susceptible to
 the disease and perhaps to a drug
 that would kill the virus and thus
 prevent the cancer.

Chang's husband, Dr. Patrick
 Moore of the Columbia Univer-
 sity School of Public Health,
 said Kaposi's Sarcoma, or KS,
 was a rare cancer, usually seen
 only in elderly men of eastern
 Mediterranean ancestry,
 until the AIDS epidemic. Since
 then, KS is found in 25 percent to
 50 percent of all gay men infected
 with human immunodeficiency
 virus, or HIV, which
 causes AIDS.

Moore said that the classic KS is
 a slowly developing disease of
 the skin but that in AIDS patients
 the cancer can spread through-
 out the body and is "very serious

and very aggressive."

Laboratories all over the
 world have been trying to deter-
 mine if KS is caused by some infec-
 tious agent. Other viruses or
 bacteria have been suggested
 in the past, but were never con-
 firmed.

"It's really good work and it
 could be a substantial
 advance," Dr. Robert Gallo of
 the National Institutes of Health
 said in Science. "But I have
 major questions."

Gallo and other researchers
 suggest more proof is needed of
 the precise role of virus in KS.

Change and Moore said they plan
 to test for the virus in tissue from
 patients with the classic KS not
 associated with AIDS. If the
 virus is found there, it would sup-

port the suggestion that the
 virus causes KS.

There are seven human herpes
 virus, and all are troublesome.

Moore said that viral gene
 sequences isolated so far show
 that the new virus is most closely
 related to Epstein-Barr, a her-
 pes-type virus that causes mono-
 nucleosis and has been asso-
 ciated with some cancers, and to
 samimiri, a herpes virus that
 causes cancer in monkeys.

Chang, Moore and their col-
 leagues found the virus gene
 sequences in 25 of 27 tissues tested
 from AIDS-related KS le-
 sions. The sequences were found
 in six of 39 non-cancerous spec-
 imens from patients who had
 AIDS. In 85 people with neither
 AIDS nor KS, the gene sequences
 were not found.

N.Y. Santa with AIDS reactivates suit against Macy's

By **CATHERINE CROCKER**
 FOR THE HOUSTON VOICE
 NEW YORK, Saturday, Dec. 17
 (AP)—Mark Woodley's Santa
 costume hangs in his closet like
 an old tuxedo. He put it on only
 once this season. Five years ago,
 when he was Macy's grand old elf,
 children opened their hearts to
 him.

But then he got the virus that
 causes AIDS. The world's larg-
 est department store refused to
 rehire him. And he filed a lawsuit
 against Macy's saying it had dis-
 criminated against him because
 he was HIV-positive.

The suit lay dormant, how-
 ever, after Macy's bankruptcy
 in 1992.

During the next three years,
 Woodley kept busy as an archi-

tect and played Santa for private
 parties, mostly for children
 with AIDS. But he still dreamed of
 getting back his job at Macy's.

Now, with the store's acqui-
 sition by Federated Department
 Stores Inc. and its emergence
 from Chapter 11, Woodley and
 his lawyers are dusting off his
 lawsuit and pushing ahead for a
 day in court.

"Basically, after waiting
 three years to get my day in court,
 we are going forward to do that,"
 Woodley, 45, said Friday. On
 Tuesday, his lawyer, Eliza-
 beth Koob, sent a letter to Macy's
 lawyers informing them that he
 was proceeding with his case.

Woodley is seeking more than
 \$3 million in damages, as well as
 the opportunity to play Macy's

Santa again. He also said he filed
 the suit to educate people about
 AIDS.

"It was a personal thing that has
 an important principle behind
 it," he said. "You can't get AIDS
 from Santa Claus. You can't get
 AIDS by sitting on Santa's lap. If
 it was transmitted that easily,
 everyone in the country would
 have it. The fear that was behind
 Macy's decision not to rehire me
 is a fear that I think needs to be
 addressed."

Besides, he said, "I was one of
 the best Santas they had when I
 was there. I really did the job
 well. ... I believed in it, in the
 magic of Santa Claus."

Macy's spokesperson, Chris-
 tine Carter, said the store would
 not comment on the suit, but

added, "We absolutely do not
 discriminate. We never have
 discriminated. And we are an
 equal opportunity employer."

Macy's officials have said in
 the past that the year Woodley
 was not rehired, he was offered a
 job supervising Santas at more
 pay. And they noted the store has
 give thousands of dollars to
 AIDS causes.

Macy's also said it was worried
 that the drug Prozac, which
 Woodley was taking for depres-
 sion, would cause him to have
 sharp mood swings. He had writ-
 ten on his employment applica-
 tion that he was taking AZT, an
 AIDS medication, as well as
 Prozac.

Woodley has been diagnosed
 as having AIDS, but no infec-

tions have set in, he says. He
 describes his health as "pretty
 good."

He recalled that in 1989 he went
 to Macy's to play Santa because he
 thought it would help him get over
 the death of a friend who had
 AIDS. "What better way to reaf-
 firm life than being around
 kids!" he says.

This week, as he listened to the
 wishes of children with the AIDS
 virus at the State University
 Health Science Center in
 Brooklyn, he felt his own life was
 reaffirmed. The children, he
 said, reminded him of how impor-
 tant it is to live in the moment.

"They don't let (AIDS) stop
 them," he said. "They go full
 tilt."



CUERVOLYN'S CALENDAR

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

12/23 * Fellowship Friday at Metropolitan Community Church of the Resurrection. 6:30 p.m. Call 861-9149 for more info.

12/23 * Trash Disco Party at Rich's.

12/24 * Christmas Eve Service at Maranatha Fellowship, 7:00 p.m. at the Holiday Inn, 3131 W. Loop South.

12/24 * Christmas Eve Candlelight Holy Communion Worship Service at 10:45 p.m. Metropolitan Community Church of the Resurrection, 1919 Decatur.

12/25 * Christmas Day Service at 10:00 a.m. at Maranatha Fellowship, Holiday Inn, 3131 W. Loop South.

12/25 * "Antler Dance" at Rich's.

12/26 * The Lambda Network meets at 5:00 p.m. at RAS W-204 (School of Public Health Bldg.) Call 523-5539.

12/31 * Traditional New Year's Eve Blow-out at Pacific Street

12/31 * New Years Eve Party South Beach Style at Heaven.

12/31 * Classic New Years Eve Party at J.R.'s.

12/31 * Miss Cousins Contest.

12/31 * L.i.B.'s New Year's Eve Party at the Double Tree. Call 759-0202 to get your reservation in early!

12/31 * Bayou City Boy's Club Party at the Wyndham Warwick. Call Stacie at 529-6071 or Brad at 529-9712 for info and reservations.

12/31 * "No Booze Blues" New Year's Eve Blow-out party at Cappuccino Plus. Call 526-6933 for info.

12/31 * Jodi Watley performs at Rich's.

12/31 * Giant New Years Eve Party at the 611 Hyde Park Pub.

01/05 * New Year Pot Luck at the Kolbe House. 1508 Fairview. Dinner and presentation by Consumer Credit Counseling Service. Call 522-8182 for more info.

10/07 * Dinner with Mr. Texas Drummer at the Venture-N. A fundraiser for The Assistance Fund.

01/07 * "Hot Buns" contest/auction at Gentry.

01/07 * Houston Wrestling Club meets at the Metropolitan Multi-Service Center at 1:00 p.m. for instruction, practice and an opportunity for unstructured free style wrestling. Newcomers and beginners welcome. Call Larry at 453-7406 for more info.

01/12 * National Leather Association: Houston's "Social Nite Out" Meet at Luby's (Buffalo Spdwy) at 8:00 p.m., then bowling at Palace Bowling (4191 Bellaire).

01/12 * "A Service of Healing" at Kolbe House. 1509 Fairview. 7:00 p.m.

Call 522-8182 for more info.

01/13 to 15 * Ms. Gulf Coast Leather 1995 weekend. Sponsored by FIST (Females in Search of Trouble) Call 522-4533 for more info.

01/14 to 21 * Winterfest '95 in Park City Utah. Gay Ski Trip sponsored by Travel Heights (861-0378) and Travel in Pride (621-0247.)

01/19 * Houston Gay and Lesbian Parents (HGLP) General Meeting at the Montrose Library. 7:00 p.m. Call 980-7995 for info.

01/19 * "Harvey Milk," a benefit performance of a world premiere opera. At the Wortham Theater, 7:30 p.m. Benefiting Bering Community Service and the Names Project. Call 529-6071 for info.

01/19 * "Proof of Love" kick-off. A benefit for DIFFA/Houston. Call Tori Williams at 552-9445 for more info.

01/21 * "Night in Black Leather"—a benefit for the Bering Care Center hosted by Don Gill and Soiree Aubergine at the Venture-N, 9:00 p.m.

01/21 * Voting for Emperor and Empress XI for the Royal, Sovereign and Imperial Court of the Single Star at the Houston Voice office, 811 Westheimer, Suite 105. 10:00 a.m. until 6:00 p.m.

01/21 * "The Assistance Fund Presents Jekyll & Hyde," a benefit for the Assistance Fund at the Music Hall. Call 529-4788 for more info.

01/21 * Houston Wrestling Club meets at 1:00 p.m. at the Metropolitan Multi-Service Center for instruction, practice and an opportunity for unstructured free style wrestling. Newcomers and beginners welcome. Call Larry at 453-7406 for more info.

01/22 * 3rd Annual Winter Carnival at the Venture-N. Starts at 1:00 p.m. Benefit for the Colt 45's Troublefund and Bering Community Services Foundation. Call Chris at 526-4392 for more info.

01/28 * Coronation XI—The Royal, Sovereign and Imperial Court of the Single Star at the Holiday Inn Medical Center. 7:00 p.m. until 1:00 a.m. Cost \$20.

01/28 * "Living Proof" photography exhibit opens. A benefit for DIFFA/Houston. Location TBA. Call Tori Williams at 552-9445 for more info.

01/29 * Rainbow Ranglers' Rangler Round-up Dance and Variety Show. A benefit for the Colt 45's Troublefund. 7:00 p.m. at the Brazos River Bottom. Call 880-0670 for more info.

02/04 * Montrose Clinic's 2nd annual Bowl-a-thon. A fundraiser for the Clinic's Deaf and Hard of Hearing programs. Call Steve Nettles at 520-2015 for more info.

Washington man's holiday legacy: ornaments decorated with his ashes

RICHLAND, Wash., Tuesday, Dec. 20 (AP)—Bryan Granger wanted to leave a Christmas legacy when he died three years ago.

So the 31-year-old man, whose sister says he was a jolly soul, asked her to save some of his cremated remains to decorate ornaments.

"Christmas was his favorite holiday, and he wanted to make sure he was with each of us on Christmas Day," said Granger's sister, Selena Carrick of Richland.

"He's been on my tree every year since he died," Carrick says.

Most of Granger's ashes were scattered at sea after he died of AIDS in 1991.

"He was always jolly, constantly wore a Santa Claus hat and constantly sang Christmas carols," Carrick told the Tri-City Herald on Monday.

"He always used to dress up like Santa to surprise the kids."

At Carrick's house, Granger's ashes are dabbed on the eyes of four small teddy-bear ornaments. A picture of Granger is placed near the tree.

"I know he's there, and my kids know he's there," Carrick said.

Not all of Granger's family embraced the idea of putting his ashes on ornaments.

"At first, nobody else wanted to do this for him," Carrick said.

This year, a sister-in-law and two nieces decided to use an ash-decorated ornament on their Christmas trees.

Granger expected some resistance, so he asked Carrick to keep a small bit of the ashes on hand to give other family members a chance to change their minds.

"He knew it would take people time to accept this," Carrick said.

Vermont Supreme Court upholds conviction of man who lied about having AIDS

By ROSS SNEYD

FOR THE HOUSTON VOICE

MONTPELIER, Vt., Tuesday, Dec. 20 (AP)—A letter a Milton man wrote in which he falsely claimed to have AIDS was properly used as evidence against him in a sexual misconduct case, the Vermont Supreme Court says.

Norman D. Powers was convicted on four counts of fondling a boy who was a neighbor of a St. Albans camp he owned. Powers was accused of fondling the boy on several occasions after taking the youngster to his Milton home and then to Burlington to go swimming.

After charges were filed against Powers, he wrote a letter to the state Social and Rehabilitation Services Department "in which he stated he had AIDS and recommended that the victim be tested, implying that he and the victim had engaged in sexual activity," the court wrote.

Powers, who testing later proved was not infected with AIDS, protested allowing the letter to be submitted as evidence on the lewd and lascivious conduct charges. He argued that prejudiced the jury against him.

"In moving to have the court exclude

the letter, defendant argued that he did not have AIDS, that he was not charged with conduct that could transmit the disease, that the letter was prejudicial and that he wrote the letter solely to retaliate against the victim for making false accusations," the court said Monday.

But District Court Judge Linda Levitt, the trial judge, properly instructed the jury that Powers was not infected with AIDS, the court said. And she also deleted portions of the letter that could have prejudiced jurors against Powers before they saw it, the court said.

"In sum, we hold that the trial court properly exercised its discretion in admitting the letter," Justice Ernest Gibson wrote for the court.

The court also rejected Powers' argument that the charges against him were not specific enough and therefore should have been dismissed.

Powers also claimed prosecutors violated his right to refuse to testify at his own trial when his wife was asked on the stand whether she had any evidence proving he was innocent.

Levitt told the jury it was up to the prosecution to prove Powers' guilt and told jurors to ignore the question. The Supreme Court said that was sufficient to protect Powers' rights.

AIDS UPDATE

AIDS As Population Control?

Experts at the International Conference on Population and Development in Cairo, Egypt, issued an unsentimental assessment of how the AIDS pandemic will affect population growth: It will slow it but probably won't do much to solve the world's overpopulation woes. The report took a look at the city of Kampala in Uganda, where an estimated 25 to 30 percent of the population is infected with HIV. Researchers determined that with the current pace of reproduction, which in Uganda is said to average seven children per woman, the population of that country will hit 35 million by the year 2020, double what it is now. Barring the AIDS epidemic, that number would have been 50 million.

The Staff and Management of the
**HOUSTON
VOICE**
wish you a
**HAPPY
HOLIDAY SEASON**

Homo for the holidays: local businesses 'make the yuletide gay'

Houston Soap, Part 1

By CAROLYN LARSON

Houston Voice/Houston

Past Events

The stage of Gentry was filled with many local talents this past Sunday for their "Happy Homo Christmas" show. This benefit raised \$830 for the Pet Patrol! Way to go! I have been told by several audience members that this was one of the best shows Gentry has ever done! I'm sorry I had to miss it!

The LiB (Lesbians in Business) Holiday party was held at the Penthouse on the 15th of this month! A great time was had by all. The staff and management of the Penthouse really know how to host a party!

Last Sunday's fundraiser for the TLC House hosted by the "Bar Singin' Buddies Anonymous" was quite a success. This was held at E/J's! Special thanks to the show director Roy Cisneros and MC Jessica Van Shelton. Other performers included Ray Wilkening and Chris Carter. Cameos from Randy Huffman and "Lea" brought the crowd to their feet. Matt Locklin also sends a special thanks to Ed and Jeff of E/J's and everyone else involved!

The fundraiser held at the Venture-N on Dec. 3 raised \$938.50 for the Pet Patrol. Special thanks to David Szynal and Don Welch for their generous contributions.

Last Sunday at Pacific Street, porno star Dallas Taylor raised \$110 for Q-Patrol just by signing autographs and posing for photos!

Friday, 12/23

The doors of Pacific Street open tonight at 7:00 p.m. There is no cover until 9:00 p.m. Don't forget that Pacific Street has the lowest regular drink prices in town, and they also have an indoor Pulse machine.

The Gay 90s cable TV show airs tonight at 7:30 p.m.

"Boys life," the movie opens at Greenway 3 Theater tonight for its one week exclusive engagement. It won 9 film festival awards.

Phyllis Nelson takes the stage tonight at Rich's singing her hits: "I Like You" and "Don't Stop The Train." DJ J.D. Arnold will be spinning your favorite trash disco all night! They have a drink special of \$1 well drinks and beer all night long!

The Penthouse is offering a complimentary bottle of champagne to the first 24 dinner parties seated. Minimum party of 2. There is a limit of 1 bottle per table. This holiday special is being offered tonight and Saturday night. The chef starts dinner at 6:00 p.m. and the kitchen is open until 10:30 p.m.

Saturday, 12/24

The Mailbox Bar opens its doors tonight! They are located at 4215 Washington Ave. This is a "Gay Latino Club where Latin Lovers are found!" Tonight's show features the talents of Latina and Company! Call 864-2977 for info and directions!



Men in skirts at the Ripcord...go figure!

It is time to "Don we now our gay apparel" at Pacific Street. The doors open at 9:00 p.m. Pacific Street would like to remind you to be sure to designate a driver, especially throughout this holiday season!

If you don't want the regular holiday meal tonight, head over to Mary's, naturally, for their Saturday afternoon "steak night." The grill is open starting at 3:00 p.m. and goes till everyone is full! For only \$5.50 you get a 12 oz. T-bone, baked potato, salad, and all the trimmings! You can wash it all down with beer from the beer bust and also enjoy the movie du jour!

The Gay 90s cable TV show airs this afternoon at 2:30 p.m.

Feel the Christmas spirit at Gentry with \$1.50 well drinks and longnecks until 5:00 p.m. and extended regular happy hour prices until 10:00 p.m.

Gentry has been decorated to make you feel right at home for the holidays!

The 611 Hyde Park Pub has sexy male dancers every Saturday night! They bump and grind from 9:00 p.m. until 1:00 a.m.

Celebrate Christmas Eve with the Kolbe House Family. They are having a pot-luck dinner at 9:00 p.m., at 10:00 p.m. is fellowship and good conversation and a midnight mass. Kolbe House is located at 1509 Fairview.

There is no Saturday night Super Show at E/J's tonight.

The Venture-N is having a "Leather Elf" party tonight! Don your favorite leather wear and head down to 2923 Main for a jolly old time!

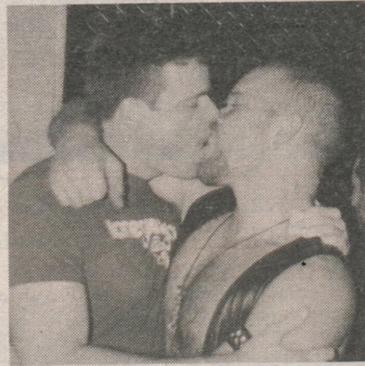
Sunday, 12/25

Ho! Ho! Ho!

"Joy to the World" hosted by the "Fabulous Miss BRB Ladies" starts at 7:30 p.m. Regina Dane ('95), Shelby St. John ('94), Brandi Houston ('93), and Paivi ('92) have ganged up together to raise money for the Colt 45's Stone Soup fund! With all this wonderful talent, it ought to be quite a show! Be sure to get there early 'cuz the "Brazos Gang" is serving a Christmas Dinner from 3:00 p.m. until 7:00 p.m.

The Gay 90s cable TV show airs tonight at 9:00 p.m.

The beer bust at the Montrose Mining Company has changed! Thanks to TABC! There is



Matt (PS), who is this hunky guy you are sucking face with

no longer a \$1 buy-in! The cold Miller Lite Draft beef is 50¢ a glass! It is still one of the best party spots in town!

Sunday nights at Heaven are still going strong. There is no cover until 10:30 p.m. if you bring a donation for Stone Soup! After 10:30 p.m. it is only \$3 to get through the doors. Heaven also offers \$3.50 Absolute cocktails and \$1.50 "frozens" and domestic longnecks all night long! They still offer 25¢ drinks from 7:00 p.m. until 11:00 p.m.

There is no cover tonight at Pacific Street from 7:00 p.m. until 9:00 p.m. Pacific Street is a great place to meet up with your friends after spending the day doing the "family thing!"

Mary's is the place if you want to watch the football game this afternoon. George is on the patio with his infamous beer bust!

Gentry is opening at 6:00 p.m. tonight with the hypnotizing Boy Toy Elves.

There is a buffet this afternoon at the Mailbox Bar. The buffet goes from 2:00 p.m. until 4:00 p.m.

The 611 Hyde Park Pub is having their 11th annual Christmas Party. There will be a buffet and lots of good cheer! The buffet is from 2:00 p.m. until 5:00 p.m.

The Venture-N opens at noon today. Hal and Jim are cooking up one heck of a Christmas dinner buffet. The buffet starts at 5:00 p.m.

Chances opens at noon today for great fun and free food. Marlene and her staff ask you to stop in and spend the day with out family.

Monday, 12/26

It is "Absolutely Fabulous" night at J.R.'s Bar and Grill. Every Monday at 7:30 p.m. and 10:30 p.m. they show the hit show on their fabulous multi-media screens! Don't miss this show that is taking America by storm!

Catia and Paivi host the male strip contest at E/J's every Monday night. The show starts at 11:00 p.m.

Lockers are only \$5 tonight at Club Houston!

The Brazos River Bottom has happy hour all day and all night today! Git down there and git some of those cold longnecks and hot cowboys and cowgirls!

Tuesday, 12/27

Lucy grills hamburgers on the patio of Mary's. Stop and she her for lunch from 11:00 a.m. until 4:00 p.m. Mary's also has a Cuervo special on Tuesday's. It is only \$2 for a shot. I personally never touch the stuff! Just ask anyone who knows me!

The Penthouse has a great happy hour special! It is only \$1.75 for house brand drinks and domestic longnecks. They also have a yummy munchies buffet from 5:30 p.m. until 8:00 p.m.

The River Oaks Health Association's TLC House is holding a volunteer committee meeting tonight at 7:00 p.m. at 117 Tuam. Persons interested in assisting their transitional living center for HIV+ males in Montrose need to attend. Housing Director Matt Locklin is



Friendly faces at Leather By Boots

encouraging people form all walks of life to participate in organizing fund raisers and client events for 1995. If you would like more info, call Matt at 902-2231 or Jo Anne Mandell at the ROHA PWA Day Clinic at 528-0144.

Wednesday, 12/28

Every Wednesday Mary's...naturally has happy hour prices all day and all night! What a great place to spend your hump day and night!

The Gay 90s cable TV show airs tonight at 10:30 p.m.

One of the hottest male strip contests is tonight at Gentry. The cheeks get red starting at 10:30 p.m.

It is Ladies' night at the Penthouse tonight. The sounds of Mysti Day fill the room as you chat and laugh with your friends. Happy hours are from 4:00 p.m. until 9:00 p.m.

Steak night on the patio of E/J's starts at 6:00 p.m. It is only \$5 and you get a hunk of beef, cooked to your specifications accompanied by all the trimmings! Lucy sure can cook it up right!

Thursday, 12/29

The Club Houston has half price night tonight! Go there for a work-out, then shower,sh*t, and shave and head over to Pacific Street. If you show any valid gym card you can get in free.

Stop in on your way to the office and have an eye-opener with Ralph at the 611 Hyde Park Pub. The Vodka drinks are only \$1. The doors open at 7:00 a.m.

Happy hours run from 7:00 a.m. until 11:00 p.m. today at the Brazos River Bottom!

Other Important Stuff

Mark your calendars for the first Saturday of each month! KPFT 90.1 FM has the gay/lesbian version on "Love Connection!" It started out with one of the DJs (Scott Lewis) husband hunting for himself, and the idea took off. They have made several matches, with one lesbian couple boasting of a 3 month and still going strong relationship! The show airs from midnight until 3:00 a.m.

The Club Houston is having one hell of a New Year's Eve party! They will close at 8:00 p.m. on the 31st and reopen at 10:00 p.m. Only Damion and the staff know what is in store! They would not even tell me!

Got any last minute shopping to do? Head over to Appearances and check out their line of men's wear! Appearances is located at 1340 Westheimer.

Playing this week at the BriarPatch are: Marcie Rae, Theresa Maunet, Jim Cater and of course Wayne Gray! The piano is all tuned up and ready to play all your favorites every night at the BriarPatch. They play all night, even up until closing time the place is still "carrying on!"

Midtowne Spa is having a New Year's Eve Extravaganza! The talents of Black Velvet (Miss Essence Houston/USA), Tranae Chardon (DPIC recording artist), and Bubba McNeely will be the "Emcee!" The staff and management of Midtowne is suggesting reservations. Call them at 522-2379 and reserve your room before it is too late!



What a scary group!



I caught these two hanging out at the Venture-N

More important stuff, plus lies, gossip and trash



Dennis (owner 611) hands birthday drawing winner Robbie Robinson \$227 as Larry (mgr) watches



Sally and Tiger (XTC): So, which one of you has a real penis?

Houston Soap, Part 2

The Mailbox Bar is open Wednesday thru Sunday, from 2:00 p.m. until 2:00 a.m., with after hours until 4:00 p.m. on Saturdays!

Every night at 7:00 p.m., the 611 Hyde Park Pub has the daily birthday drawing. How this works is a staff member draws a month and date out of a hat. If anyone in the bar has the date picked, they win! The pot starts with \$200, and for every day no one wins, it goes up \$3.

The Penthouse is a great place to spend your entire evening. You can have a cocktail or two as you watch the sun set, enjoy a scrumptious dinner menu selection, listen to Mysti Day as you dine, then dance the night away with the sounds of the Penthouse's DJ!

Is one of your New Year's resolutions "do some Volunteer work?" Then Steven's House is looking for people to donate time (and money.) The mission of the Steven's House is to provide intermediate care in a homelike environment for people living with HIV/AIDS. The home will address their physical, emotional, social, and spiritual needs while preserving their dignity. Call 464-6971 to offer your assistance.

Has anyone seen the new sign near the front door of Pacific Street? It reads: "We tolerate straight people as long as they act gay in public... respect our lifestyle."

Good Luck to Marcia Johnson! She is running for Ms.IGRA!!

The Crystal Dolphin is closing their doors soon! Right now they have at least 50% off everything in the store! I'm gonna finish up my shopping there! They have some of the most unique gift items I have ever run across! The Crystal Dolphin is located just off Dunlavy at 3400 W. Lamar.

The Venture-N has daily happy hours. They start at noon and go until 7:00 p.m. Don't forget there is never a cover at the Venture-N.

Has anyone noticed that Niko Niko's is flying the leather pride flag?

Need a tax deduction? Q-Patrol, Inc. is a 501 (c) (3) corp. They have a monthly pledge program to support their operating expenses. You can pledge \$5 per month or more and Q-Patrol will send you a tax receipt at the end of the year. You get an income tax deduction and we all benefit from Q-Patrol's pro-active response to hate crimes. For more info call 871-8519. Also, look for Q-Patrol in Dallas this Spring!



Del...what are you doing to Mighty Mike?

Birthday Corner

A happy Birthday to Mary's own Jerry Jones!

Dirt, Lies, Gossip And Trash

It is disclaimer time! This following tidbits of information in the Houston Voice may be news, but it is certainly not meant to be true journalism! I hang around bars, meet new people and ask everyone I see if they have some gossip! And that is just what this is...gossip!

Scott Lewis (Heaven): Who is this Fabian person and why did you put his name in lights at Heaven? Oh-La-La!

Charlie (BriarPatch): Why are you waiting for that big bird in the sky flying in from London? Could it be Christopher?

Damion (Club Houston): Sorry I'm gonna have to miss this party! Why? Remember what happened the last time I went to one your fabulous parties! Can we say room 212? Can we say "Sugar Cookies?"

Dennis (611): What are the odds on winning the 611's Birthday drawing? They must be pretty good! You have had to pay off twice in as many weeks!

Mike G. (NLA:H): So you got your cupcakes and a beef cake Colt Leatherman's Calendar! Too bad those pesky candles wouldn't blow out! You must need more practice blowing hot things till they drip!

David (BriarPatch): What's this about a saxophone player hanging out at the BriarPatch? Everyone knows that the BriarPatch is a piano bar!

Steven S.: Heard you got a wake-up call by HPD while "snoozing" in line at Taco Cabana!

Devin (Mary's): What were you doing by the pool table last Monday? Sucking on what!

Tom (PS): When you dance, you look like a leprechaun!

Michael P.: So I hear your pizza man delivers more than pizza when he rings your bell! Was it a pepperoni or an extra sausage?

Brian (TNT): That cute guy you introduced me to as your new husband is most likely your new ex-husband!



The Miss Camp America Foundation board of directors presented their membership the Danny Villa Award. The award, as Outstanding Community Organization of 1994, was presented by the Colt 45's

"DIRT ON CUERVOLYN" CONTEST

Everyone remembers the incident years ago when Cassandra awoke from the orgy to the muffled sound of the princess phone ringing in her whoopser — don't they.

Well, it's been outdone!

In an under the covers investigation we discovered that our very own Mrs. C. visited Montrose Counseling Center with the problem of hearing bells and voices when she was alone. It seems that they thought it was all in her head. (Everyone assumed that the schitzy bitch thought she was Joan of Arc and wanted to burn her at the stake), until on the third visit the counselor also heard the bells and voices coming from a more southerly direction! After referral to the Clinic, the problem was traced to a mobile phone that the dear had used in a moment of desperation and subsequently forgotten — cordless and with a whip antenna — who can blame her.

The shoulder deep removal was performed using fire tongs and the jaws of life. To everyone's relief, although the tongs were dented by Ms. C.'s copious array of bicuspid, the phone came out okay! The patient is fully recovered, planning a book (My Pussy Mine) and has given permission to proceed for a team of A&M scientists who are planning an expedition into "The Abyss" to find the lost Energizer Bunny.

Ripley's Believe It Or Not! announced that they will soon be coming to Montrose to award their highest honor — the Too Much award. We are given to understand that Ripley's will place a bronze plaque at Mary's next to the spot where Ms. C. fell off her bar stool and had to be saved by the Houston Fire Department. (The sot gouged the concrete flooring so deeply with her vibrator that she was stuck).

Immediately following Ripley's dedication, the Houston Fire and Police Department will present their first joining awarding of the 1994 Red Hot Mamma and the 1994 Best Head awards. The first is for the rescue in the most compromising position and the second for the best head given to avoid parking and jay-walking tickets.

Anyway, come one — come all (Ms. C.'s philosophy of life) to Mary's on Saturday the 31st to see the slut get her just deserts and her new title: St. Cuervolyn of Montrose.

Love and Kisses, Pickles and Bar

In Issue 702 (April 8, 1994), Carolyn Larson began an infamous career writing the Houston Soap column. Although her first anniversary has yet to approach, it's time to give her back some of the *rat droppings* she has reaped among us all.

So continuing during the month of December, the Houston Voice will publish some of *your* dirt, lies, etc., which most of you have on the Cuervo 'girl.'

You may MAIL your entries to: Cuervolyn Dirt Contest, c/o Houston Voice, 811 Westheimer, Suite 105, Houston, TX 77006; or CALL it to us at (713) 529-8490 during regular business hours (9:00 a.m. to 5:30 p.m.) or FAX it to (713) 660-6808 (not our regular fax number) and we promise she won't have access to be able to edit your entries, but please keep them clean enough to print.

Prizes will be available to the best entry each week as judged by the staff of the Houston Voice (with the exception of Cuervolyn, of course.) THERE IS ONLY ONE WEEK LEFT! This weeks jeweled AIDS pin goes to Pickles. Please call Jim or Boots to make arrangements to get your prize.

Kim (A Man's Resale): Just how do you "wear" your face out? Did we get a little razor burned?

Rabbit (Gentry): Thanks for lugging in those heavy bundles of the Houston Voice for me every Thursday! What was this I heard about you breaking in a leather jacket at "Froze Bud?"

Darlene (Outpost): I just heard about your Wolf Pack invasion on the day after Thanksgiving. I hope you didn't get fleas!

Joe DeRosa: I don't think the customers of the Ripcord had ever heard "ghur-lfriend" and "sister" as many times as they did when you and Don (Schnauzer) guest bartended! You need to be a little more butch when behind the bar at the Ripcord!

LaMarr (Kroger): It is kinda scary joining d'Artagnan and I for our Tuesday night adventures!

Rex (Mary's): Prozac banana bread?

Clay (Penthouse): So...why do you like Bob's wrists so much?

Marlene (Chances): It is about time you finally did some housework!

Gary (Flower Girl): What is it with the beard and goatee? Trying to look butch? Who are you trying to kid? Also, you claim to sweet and virtuous! Yeah Right! Get a life!

"He said, she said, then Meg hit her! Season's Beatings and to all a red bottom!" Don't ask me, I found this scribbled in my little black notebook!

David and Randy: I met you guys at The Outpost last Thursday! And you thought I wouldn't remember! Thanks for informing me of the term "puffer," a new (to me) term for a gay male.)

Randall (PS): You are used to a little hole!

Kevin and Scott: These two are looking for someone to fall in love with! If you run into them, tell them you love them!

Alex (Gentry): You had your first "leather experience" and your nipples hurt! I have no sympathy!

Tim (Continental): What position did Rita Boulevard give you for your birthday?

Del (Gentry): I'm so sorry you have to use rubber bands to keep your condom on! Maybe you ought to write to some of the condom manufacturers and ask them to make "petite" sizes!

LuLu (E/J's): You certainly were in the holiday spirit at the Clubber's Christmas Party!

Matt (PS): Be sure to keep your toys in your underwear and not on top of the bar for all to see!

Glen (Q-Patrol): So, you are trying to become a porno star! I'll have to check out this issue of Cuir magazine!

Kirk (Penthouse): You sure can spread it all out to make it look nice and tasty!

Pottygate # 12: Thanks to a nice gentleman I met in the Ladies room of PS. Robin not only let me go ahead of him, he stepped outside and guarded the door! Thanks!

Lloyd (PS): One of your friends gave me some real hateful info on you, and now that I reread my notes... it is too bad to print! Lucky you!

Well, I hope you all found the little "Dirt on Cuervolyn" entry this week as amusing as I did! I would like to thank the authors for their creativity! Not even I could have dreamed this one up! There is only one more week, so get your entries in now! I have spoken to many people that want to send some dirt in and just haven't gotten around to it! There is no time like the present! Do it! Do it now!

Huggs and Happy Hollidaze,
Cuervolyn

Body Positive & MCA play Santa at area hospitals; TLC needs volunteers



Members of the Miss Camp America Foundation joined members of Body Positive to distribute gift bags and stockings to PWA's in local hospitals last Saturday

Quick Notes

For the seventh year, Body Positive Houston held its Holiday Hospital Visitation day last Saturday, assisted this year by the Miss Camp America Foundation.

Volunteers gathered at the Metropolitan Multi-Service Center early Saturday, Dec. 17 to stuff stockings and shopping bags with goodies. The bundles were later distributed to people with AIDS who have the misfortune of being hospitalized during the Hanukkah and Christmas seasons.

The hospital visits, intended to lift spirits and bring joy at a time when it is needed most, has become an annual tradition for Body Positive. All items for the holiday bags—including fruit and baked goods as well as socks, T-shirts, books, games, stationery and toiletries—are donated by the community. Volunteers deliver the bags to patients in various hospitals and care centers around Houston.

TLC House Volunteers

The River Oaks Health Association's TLC House is holding a volunteer committee meeting next Tuesday, Dec. 27. Persons interested in assist-

ing in an HIV/AIDS transitional living center in Montrose are encouraged to attend. Housing Director Matt Locklin said persons from all walks of life are needed to participate in organizing fundraisers and client events for 1995.

The ROHA TLC House, established in October, primarily serves HIV+, gay, bi, and transgender males who are experiencing health difficulties and facing homelessness. Its purpose is to help the clients get focused again, and to be able to help them move on after the 90 day program to more independent living situations. Therapy, full body massage and seminars are hosted weekly for TLC house clients at the PWA Day Clinic on W. Clay, in addition to housing at the center on Tuam, just East of Fairview/Montrose area.

The volunteer meeting will be held at 117 Tuam Tuesday night at 7:00 p.m. Cash donations, men's clothes, blankets, towels and rummage sale items are welcome to be donated any time. For more information on this non-profit group or to explore volunteer opportunities please page Matt Locklin at (713) 902-2231 or contact Jo Anne Mandell at the ROHA PWA Day Clinic at (713) 528-0144.

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HOUSTON

VOICE

BLUE PAGES

DEC. 23, 1994
ISSUE 739

This center pull-out section of
Houston Voice may contain
photos or articles offensive to
some readers.
Parental discretion is advised.

Merry Christmas



HI SANTA! WHERE DO ELVES APPLY?

Model: Michael Reper
Photo ©1994 Houston Voice

RESPONSES TO THE ADS ON THIS PAGE MUST BE MADE BY TELEPHONE ONLY
PLEASE CALL 1-900-407-4897 * 18+ * \$1.99/MINUTE

HOUSTON PERSONALS

BY MANFINDER

Houston **MASCULINE BM** 6' musc, very masc, pretty vers int give me a call- ☎13373

Houston **QUIET EROTIC EVENINGS:** GWM iso GB or minority male 6' brn/blu gt shape u/B 18-35 slim to musc smooth and into good safe fun, quiet erotic eyes, give me a call like to talk to you - bye! ☎14570

Houston **BIKING COWBOY:** Todd I'm a cowboy into hats, lther boots, big belt buckles if u know what I mean, like to ride & if u like to ride let me know, into lther, if ur int motorcycles, like to ride fast & hard, if u like the same, let me know- ☎17892

Houston **LOOKING FOR A FRIEND:** David, 36, Like to meet 18-30 white male asian male or hisp male iso a friend, looking for friends 5'10 blnd/blu, hope you're gdllg too -lets see what happens ☎17925

Houston **18 YR OLD:** Billy, and I'm 18, go to school, just looking for some guys to meet like goodlooking ones with big sexy bodies, dk brn hair and a face to die for- ☎18239

Houston **JUST MOVED HERE:** Austin, 22, brn/hzl, 6', 165, dk cxion, lkg for someone to meet just moved here and like to hook up with some people give me a call- ☎18240

Houston **INTO B/D:** Frank, 31, brn/brn in shape gdllg slve, bd, int in contacting me- pls call- ☎18283

Houston **JOHN 22,** brn/brn great shape, looking to meet guys in the area, give me a call- , looking forward to meeting you- ☎16793

Houston **ROCK AND ROLL!** Dave, 30s, like to meet 18-30 White, Hisp, or Asian into rock and roll and good times- ☎17925

Houston **TWENTY AND TAN:** Austin 6', 165, dk brn/hzl, tanned, good body, like to hear from some guys, 20 yrs old like to get with some cute guys ☎18240

Houston **CHRIS AND BRIAN,** 19 looking for someone to join us, looking for a vry hot guy, 19 dk brn lu 6'3 190 hot- blnd/brn dk body huge pecs- like for someone to join us asap- ☎18543

Houston **OPERA FAN:** 52, prof'l guy, looking for a rel, tp guy, int are theatre, opera and going out to restaurants, having fun, interesting guy seeking same- ☎2922

Houston **ANYTHING GOES:** GWM iso GBM, GHM or GAM 6' brn/blu, 170, good shape u should be slim, smooth or musc build, into good safe fun, anything goes type of person, give me a call- ☎14570

Houston **TALL AND FURRY:** Mark, looking for GWM or GHM into well end'd men, GWM, well end'd, 6'7, blk/blk, must hairy, 32, athletic, outdoors act, iso someone to get together with- ☎18943

Houston **TWO STEPPIN'** Eric 5'9 180

well built, work out every day looking for someone that wants to have a great time country dancing, movies, just cuddling up together- ☎18968

Houston **WHATEVER COMES UP:** Dave 29 goodlooking WM, brn/grn, 135 very end'd, iso people for friendship fun and whatever else may pop up-Greenway Plaza area ☎19025

Houston **POWERLIFTERS:** Ray, 41 BM iso serious bonding and friendship with males with a musc build 18-35, super musc bound power lifters, 200-300 partial to bi racial men, give me a call- ☎19105

Houston **MEXICAN/ITALIAN:** 30 y/o Mexican/Italian, 5'3, blk/hzl, non drinker, like to go out, dancing, quiet eyes with that special someone int in BM 25-35 want to date, give me a call- ☎19223

Houston **LINGERIE AND SPANKING:** 5'7, 165, well built, dk tan, enjoy outdoors, like lingerie, spanking and group fun- enjoy it all give me a call ☎32000

Houston **OLD MOVIES:** Jerome, 6'1, 190, brn/brn, like music, old movies, cooking, animals, smoker 26, int in meeting people the same age or older same ht or taller, looking for a poss long term monog rel- ☎18561

Houston **HOLIDAY PAL:** GAM student, looking for someone to hang out with in Houston during the holidays- ☎19004

Houston **LAMAR UNIV FRAT BOY:** Alex, Lamar Univ, frat boy iso someone to be friends with, poss rel, like outdoors, like to go to clubs, like a nice personality, likes nature hope to hear from you- ☎19183

Houston **JOHN 20 Y/O,** 5'7, blnd/blu, iso meet very goodlooking under 30, ☎19131

Houston **HISPANIC BODYBUILDER** 28, white hisp bodybuilder, excellent physique, ub under 32 lean and musc fit for competition, excellent physique, ☎19343

Houston **DORR,** int in meeting BM for friendship poss rel, give me a call- ☎15550

Houston **FRIEND OR LOVER:** Darrell, 28 BM int in looking for rel or friendship, 6'1 230 like dining, clubs movies, real good time, like to meet new people, like to meet in the area give me a call- ☎15650

Houston **HAIRY BEAR:** WM 31, 200, 5'11 brn/blu, stocky, hairy- iso friends age, race, wt, not impt- ☎15631

Houston **GBM 20,** looking to hook up with 18-35 give me a call- ☎15864

Houston **ONE ON ONE:** David, GBM 6' 180 shrt dk hair/brn eyes must iso someone for a one on one rel movies, reading, cooking, eating out, good conversation, give me a call ☎15872

Houston **DARRELL, 27** looking for a rel, like to go out and have a good time 6'1 220, BM interested in meeting- ☎15984

Houston **BLUE EYED EXEC:** Glenn 37 WM prof'l 5'9 165, gdllg, blu eyes, iso a

man of any race who is sensitive affec, masc for friendship poss rel if that sounds good, call! ☎16051

Houston **UNIV OF HOUSTON:** 22, 145, dkhair/brn hisp attr student int are; like music, country, Depeche Mode, like dance & club music, like to travel- iso someone my age 18-25, race not impt looking iso someone to hang out w/ maybe more- ☎10323

Houston **BLONDE ROCKER:** David, 5'11, 170, blnd/blu long blnd, looking for someone that would like to be a friend- talk on the phone, lets be friends first iso guys in their 20s who like to rock and roll- ☎16601

Houston **HOUSTON AREA:** Darrell 27 BM 6'1, 220, int in meeting guys from the Houston area, like to meet for poss relationship, like to dine, movies, club scene, int give me a call- ☎16935

Houston **LOOKING FOR FUN,** Austin, 22, 5'10 150 brn/hzl, looking for guys 18-28 for fun friendship or whatever- ☎13054

Houston **NEW FRIENDS,** Robert attr Hisp 24, new in town, looking for new friends, poss Mr. Right, I'm 5'7, 155, blk/blk, like to meet mature GWM or GHM for movies, long walks, all around togetherness- ☎13068

Houston **NO STRINGS FUN!!**, Are you tired of ads that scream honesty in relationship?: good safe fun! w/o strings, friend dating-what a concept! 39 GWM 5'10 180, dk/brn beard, med build, hairy body , ub 25-35, pef a GWM dk hair/lr eyes, hairy a + ☎13083

Houston **GREENWAY PLAZA AREA:** Dave, 29 WM 5'7 135 brn/grn, lkg to get together fo fun or other activities, hope to hear from you soon- ☎13113

Houston **MASCULINE MUSCULAR,** Mike, 6' brn/blu, 170, GWM looking for a GHM, 18-35 smooth slim musc masc into some good safe fun- like to hear from give me a call- ☎13172

Houston **LOCAL GUYS ONLY,** GHM 23, 5'9, 175 looking to meet someone in the area- ☎13362

Houston **WEST CHASE AREA,** BM 6', 200, like to go to gym work out, dk cxion, int give me a call- ☎13373

Houston **CHEEKS AND CHAPS,** Dallen, 36 grad student UH, 6'4, 195, brn/brn leather into leather bars, like to meet guys who like to have fun, play around, all that

good stuff give me a call if UR interested, ☎13400

Houston **FREDERICK,** 26 BM: looking for masc men of any race, like to have fun eat out, movies and some sports- ☎13504

Houston **CARAMEL LOVER,** Chocolate's too rich, vanilla's too plain, but caramel drives me mad! David 34 5'10, 185 attr intell like to have a good time brn/brn lkg for attr intell GHM tall beely guys, romant aggr tops, in the area best- ☎13486

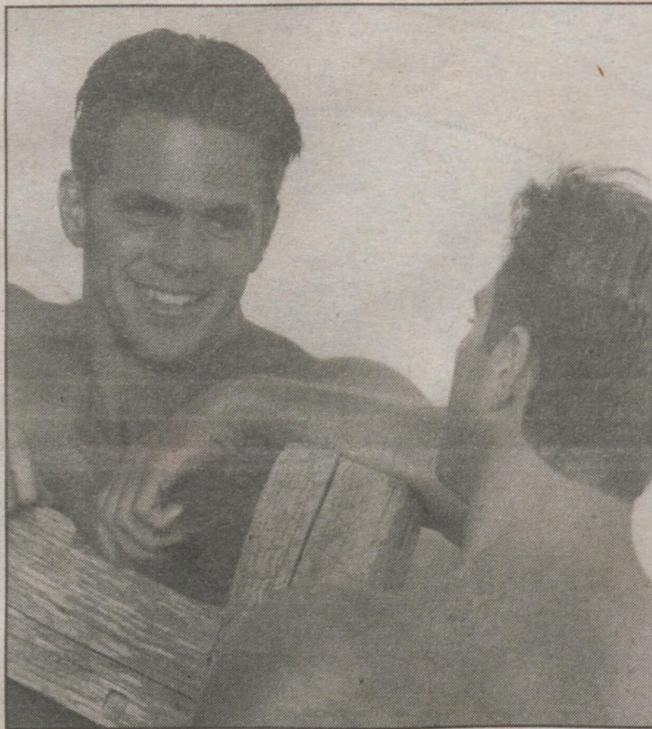
Houston **LOOKING FOR DOMINANT,** Mike looking for some guys to have fun maybe date, 31, 5'10, brn/hzl, and I'm also passive, int in GWM same age or younger, int in meeting, give a call for more info- ☎13639

Houston **THREE OR MORE,** GWC 34 & 32: 6' 170 blk/green, hairy, 5'9, 165, swimmers build, brn/brn looking for other gay couples or males for fun- ☎13704

Houston **HOBBY AIRPORT AREA,** Ricky, 5'10, 150, med bld, dk hair/brn hisp 22 student, , JR's type, preppy, don't like to go out much, ISO same, not ser rel, 18-24 ht/wt prop who likes going out once in a while things besides clubs- ☎10323

Houston **JEFF,** gdllg wm looking for someone to get together with ,young, give me a call- ☎13747

Houston **BEAR MAN,** GM 31, 5'11 200 brn/blu hairy looking for bi or gay male - age/race not impt- ☎13881



Houston **LKG FOR SUPERMUSCLE:** Ray, 41, BM iso some strong bonding and friendship with the build of a supermuscular football player, if ur 200 -300 super hard musc 18-35, like to hear from you- ☎14068

Houston **GOOD EROTIC FUN:** Mike GWM iso GHM or minority guy 38 brn/blu, 6' work out in good shape, u should be 18-35 slim, smooth or musc build, into good safe fun, good erotic fun, give me a call like to talk to you- ☎16964

Houston **LKG FOR AN OFFICER:** Ray 41 BM like to hear from all military personnel, law enforcement 18-35 if u have that big broad brawny brutish build, 200 -300 lbs of solid muscle, if ur weightlifting or powerlifting, give me a call- ☎17302

Houston **HUSBAND MATERIAL ONLY:** Scott - 24 latin male 165 5'10 med skin short black hair, must seeking monog rel, older than me- intimate, fun, sensual and understanding- ☎7136

Houston **PREPPIE PUPPY,** 5'10, 145, med bld, dk/brn attr hisp 22 int U of H, int in 18-24 preppie, looking for the same but not neces, movies dining out, clubbing, var of int- ☎10323

Houston **CRUISE DIRECTOR,** new to area, 25, 6' 200, lkg for someone to be friends, poss rel, like to get out and see Houston life- ☎12731

Houston **BLONDES HAVE MORE FUN,** Kevin 5'9, 126, blu, short blnd hair, smooth, feminine ☎12762

Houston **ROOM SERVICE,** Hunter, UH student, in hotel mgmt, like movies, theatre, dance, like musci, inti in good personality, like to hear from you- ☎14057

Houston **MALE BONDING,** Ray, 41 BM iso a strong bonding & close friendships with males 18-30 w/ musc build, if ur 200-300 lbs of rock hard muscle, powerlifter w/a football players bld, give me a call-any race, or size- ☎14068

Houston **THE BEST WOMAN,** Sean 32, str wm 5'10 140, strb blnd green lkg for 18-35 TV or TS to help me be the best woman for company and pleasure- ☎14223

Houston **STUDENT SEEKING SAME,** 22, 5'10, 145, med bld, hisp, dk/brn, attr, student, iso my age 18-22 var int, like to go dancing, not really into clubs- ☎10323

Houston **HISPANICS ONLY-** Kurt 35 5'7 150 blnd/blu beard int in hisp guys only-give me a call- ☎14545

Houston **EROTIC EVENINGS,** GWM looking for GBM u should be musc to slim, smooth, into alot of good safe fun, erotic fun filled eyes @ home 6' brn/blu 170, gdllg, give me a call- ☎14570

Houston **MANLY BOTTOM,** Eric 22, top BM iso a nice manly btm, if ur interested, lv your name and number race not impt- ☎14850

Houston **ATTN: BODYBUILDERS,** Mark 5'7 165 musc masc BM iso same, Body builders's esp, for friendship poss rel if ur attr lv a message- ☎14794

Houston **IDEAL GUY FOR ME,** iso masc dark top safe person, liek coffeehouses books, age race ht, not impt - honesty describe yourself ☎15114

Houston **A GOOD START,** Jason, 22, 6'3, 190, energeti outgoing, good sense of humor, looking for 18-25 someone to start as friends, poss rel- ☎15210

Lesbian Personals

FEMALE ONLY PERSONALS

Houston **SIMONE** 20 BF looking for other black single prf'l women ☎5750

Houston **TWO FOR FUN:** 22 blnd/blu like to go out and have fun looking for a woman who likes to have fun too. ☎6159

Houston **MONTROSE AREA:** Linda looking for a life mate quiet times at home good times out bars are just ok, looking for someone to give me what I need I have alot to give too ☎5761

Houston **SHELLEY** 31 I'm new to this- voluptuous soft lips looking for other women who like to play-no strings attached. ☎1605

There's no charge to leave a greeting:
1-800-326-MEET

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NEW YEAR

THE CLUB WILL CLOSE DECEMBER 31 @ 8:00 P.M.

~~1994~~

THE CLUB WILL REOPEN @ 10:00 P.M.

PARTY

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Photo Sex
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Kiss my thigh.
I want you to
hear me moan!
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MODELS & ESCORTS

To advertise in Houston Voice Classifieds Call (713) 529-8490 or
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**TOM, 25, BL/BL, 6'2", IN/OUT, (713) 521-7007 HM,
(713) 648-5567 PGR**

**WEST HOLLYWOOD - YOUNG ASIAN-HISPANIC MIX
IN/OUT (713) 771-5809**

**THIS GORGEOUS, WELL DEFINED, BI-SEXUAL BLACK
male will make your fantasies come true and put you mentally
in a spell! Domonique, (713) 674-0301. 24 hrs.**

COLLEGIATE YOUNG JOCK, WITH CHARM
Intelligence, good looks, and a body from heaven!
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**LONELY?
Read the
Houston Voice
PERSONALS
in the
BLUE PAGES**

**Nebraska club
owner agrees to
remove
controversial
art exhibit**

HOUSTON VOICE CONNECT LINE HOT PERSONALS

**MAVERICK, 24 yrs. old. Wants to meet GM between 20-30
years old. Into clubbing, partying and sex. You will not be
disappointed. Mail Box 1198**

**MICHAEL, 23 year old slender blond hair, brown eyes.
Recent U of H grad, classical musician who likes reading,
music, clubbing, staying at home. Looking for friendship
and possibly more. Mail Box 1199**

**CHRIS, 5'11" 150 lbs. brown hair/eyes. Looking for older
brother type between ages of 37 - 45 to give me the
discipline I need. I want to get spanked, paddled and
humiliated. Mail Box 1223**

**DOUG, goodlooking GWM, 5'8", 153 lbs, excellent shape,
athletic build, smooth body. Looking for masculine, well
endowed man under 35. Mail Box 1284**

**LEE. 30 years old straight acting/looking; I look 25 years
old. Live in Galveston area. I have dark hair/eyes, and like
working out lifting weights and biking. Looking to meet
22-30 yr old W/HISP G/BI M who is sincere, and honest for
friendship leading to relationship. Mail Box 1296**

**DOUG, lives in Houston area. 5'11", 175 lbs, 29" waist, 17"
arms, very muscular. I work out a lot! You must also.
Looking for muscular guys for a good time. I like to
wrestle! Mail Box 1291**

**MICHAEL, 6', 180 lbs, brown hair, hazel eyes, tan. Looking
to meet people all over the country. I live in Texas. Want
friendship plus more. Mail Box 1303**

**Let me rub your feet! RAY, 6'1 1/2", live in Houston, 195
lbs, good shape, clean shaven, hairy chest. I love feet!
Total discretion, no reciprocation required. Mail Box 1313**

**BRIAN, 30 years old, live in Houston. 5'10", short dark
blond hair, 165 lbs, blue eyes, moderately hairy, 33" waist.
Looking to meet friendly guys for discreet fun and
friendship. Mail Box 1351**

**RICHARD, older guy looking to meet younger men for
discreet, safe fun. You must be young, slim and smooth.
Mail Box 1377**

**PAUL, successful businessman looking for right guy for
worldwide travel. You must be 18-24, attractive, versatile. I
am a wild, older guy (39) and will compensate you
accordingly. Mail Box 1378/1387**

**MATTHEW, 5'10", 155 lbs, brown hair, green eyes. I like
movies, clubbing and working out. Mail Box 1389**

**CHARLES, lives in Houston. 45 years old, good shape,
5'10", 160 lbs, brown hair and eyes. I am bottom who likes
to experiment. Mail Box 1504**

**JOSE, 5'7", brown eyes, black hair. Looking to meet white
guys. I like to cuddle. Mail Box 1523**

**GM, black hair, black eyes, looking to meet new friends.
Mail Box 1639**

**JOHN, new to Houston, 5'11", brown hair, blue eyes,
looking for real men. I am a former college football player.
Mail Box 1678**

**JIM, 45 years old, looking for younger friends for
companionship. Mail Box 1719**

**GENE, GBM, 6'2", 225 pounds, in good shape with hairy
balls and dick. Looking for someone under 35 for good
times. Mail Box 1746**

**LITTLE SAM, 5'10", 145 lbs, short blond hair, moustach,
hairy, 7" uncut dick. I'm into hot sex and leather.
Mail Box 1787**

**ANDY, New to Houston. 25 year old highly educated Asian.
New to scene, looking for a teacher. Mail Box 1819**

**FRANK, 26 years old, new to Houston. 6'3", 185 lbs, blond
hair, blue eyes, hairy chest and legs. Mail Box 1829**

**MARK, 23 years old, 6', 185 lbs, muscular, brown hair and
eyes. Into safe hot sex. Mail Box 1864**

**RICK, 5'10", brown hair, green eyes, 185 lbs, stocky and
cute. Looking for big, rugged guys. Mail Box 1922**

**CHUCK, 40 y.o., muscular top, well hung. Looking for
bottom who is tight. Mail Box 1936**

**To respond to a Houston Voice Hot Personal,
you must join the Houston Voice Connect Line.
To get in touch with any of the members above,
enter the talking personals menu and follow the
directions. If the personal is not on the system,
you may still respond by going into option 7
from the system services menu (leave a
message for a member). It is only 10¢ per
minute (plus any normal toll) and your first 30
minutes are free! To join see our Connect Line
ad on page 16.**

OMAHA, Neb., Thursday, Dec. 15
(AP)—The owner of a nightclub has
agreed to remove a controversial dis-
play of gay art while a judge decides
whether the pictures are porno-
graphic.

Omaha City Prosecutor Martin
Conboy said he agreed Thursday not to
file charges against Terry Tippit, the
owner of the Run club, after deciding
that the issue would best be decided
through a civil proceeding.

"From our perspective, they've
agreed to stop the display," he said.
"It's as much as we can ask, and we'll get
the same resolution because we'll get
an issuance of opinion by a judge."

Police seized three pictures Tuesday
on display in the basement of the
nightclub. Tippit said the pictures
are part of a 22-piece art collection
done by gay artists from San Fran-
cisco.

"If they consider this bad, I'd say
they need to look at the floor of the Cap-
itol building and the Joslyn (Art
Museum). There's some pretty lewd
stuff in those places," Tippit said.

Tippit's attorney, Jeffery Silver,
plans to ask a district judge next week to
decide whether the pictures in ques-
tion are pornographic or obscene
under state law.

The agreement means that Tippit
avoids a criminal proceeding, Sil-
ver said.

"Ultimately, it's a question of what
scenario a court will determine this
under," Silver said. "Now it will be
civil proceeding, so that eliminates
any criminal elements."

Conboy said he had planned to file a
misdemeanor charge of exhibiting
pornography against Tippit. The
decision followed an investigation
Tuesday night in which police offi-
cers confiscated three pieces.

The works contain nudity and some
depict men performing sexual acts.

"There is no hard and fast standard or
special guideline in these cases,"
Conboy said. "But what I saw, by law,
would not be acceptable for public
display."

Houston Gay Personals

THE COWBOY WAY

WM, 28, passive, adventurous, boy/slave looking for a masculine cowboy Daddy who competes in rodeos. Looking for bull riders, steer wrestlers, bare back bronc riders, calf and steer ropers. Ad 25668

PREFER OLDER MEN?

If you are young, slender and healthy, free of drugs and alcohol and would enjoy gay fun times including full body rubs with a sincere professional I want to meet you. Call Joe at (713) 318-7188 (Pager)

ATTENTION - NUDIST

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

WHITE MALE, DDF, 24, 5'9", 270LBS

I have a desire to have a safe experience being with another man for the first time with a straight acting male, DDF, (21-35) for my first experience. You must be a nice clean-cut person with a good heart. Will answer all! Hope to hear from you. Ad 25677

POWER OF LOVE

GWM, 30, 5'9", 160lbs, above average looks, masculine, looking for unconditional love. One small thing -HIV+ for seven years and asymptomatic w/800 T-cells. You must be 20's to 40's GW or GH, adventurous, happy, employed and have time for someone in your life. Please respond to Ad 25640.

BIWM, LONELY IN GALVESTON COUNTY

You: HWP, no beer bellies/overweight, NS, DDF, LD, 30-55, like videos, live in Galveston County, Clearlake, Alvin, Kemah area. Me: HWP DDF NS, LD, 46, moustache, gray/green wants hot, safe fun times. No strings/friends possible. Interested leave message and if out of town leave message. Ad 25682

WARN HEARTED, CONSERVATIVE, DDF/NS GWM

BR/br, slim, smooth, articulate, thoughtful, professional. Enjoy jazz, classical, techno, the outdoors, honest conversation and intimate evenings snuggling between the sheets. Interested in warm and caring, GM, DDF/NS, W/PH, 30's to 40's, ready to begin anew. Please respond to Ad 25745.

Jose, 5'8", hazel eyes, black hair, looking to meet a Hispanic or WM for possible relationship and having a good time. Ad 25679

LOOKING FOR FRIEND IN WEST HOUSTON

GWM, 44, 5'5", 175lbs, DDF, looking for friends in West Houston/Bear Creek area. Professional, stable guy looking for other professionals. 30's to 40's, also DDF for friendship, fun, possible relationship. I like animals, cooking, movies and quiet evenings at home. Smoker, light drinker not into heavy bar scene. If interested in a short hairy guy please respond to Ad 25671.

SETTLED PROFESSIONAL, 52 Y.O.

GWM, 6', moustache, Blond/Gray, Green, 175lbs, HIV-, caring, shy but good listener. Far N.W. Houston. Interested in meeting settled, healthy men over 30. Prefer NS, no drugs. Personality more important than looks. Enjoy all music, dancing, old movies, staying fit, travel and quiet evenings at home with you. Ad 25678

SEARCHING FOR A YOUNGER SELF

Good looking, handsome, GWM, 6', 185, professional, br/br, healthy, happy, enjoying a rich full life, theater, ballet, opera, classical music, art, antiques, old movies, and candle light dinners. Lacking only a special discreet someone in their 30's to early 40's, intelligent, romantic, clean cut, good looking, handsome, fun loving, and drug free, sincerely looking for a long term monogamous relationship. Ad 25699

SEEKING YOUNG MAN

If you are an affectionate young GAM, GWM or GHM, boyish looking, slender and smooth this appreciative older GWM business executive wants to meet you -object safe and discreet play. I want to please you. Ad 25635.

Bi-senior, close to 70. Still capable and active, would like to meet other old guys. Any description, for fun. Not looking for any special relationship. No objection to younger men who have no objection to older men. Ad 25667

SEEKING A SINCERE HONEST PERSON

Looking for friendship/companionship and possibly more. I am a WM, 51, DDF, non-smoker, professionally employed. Average looking, tall and slim, recently divorced. I am an honest, sincere, quiet, and conservative individual. I am interested in making new friends. I like quiet evenings, enjoy cooking, gardening, the beach and the outdoors. If interested respond to Ad 25674.

WINTER IS COMING

GWM, 27, 5'5", 140lbs, blond hair. Enjoy working out, bike riding, movies, cooking and cuddling. Looking for someone with a good sense of humor and a funny personality. If your looking for someone to cuddle for the winter I'm the one. If your between the ages of 29-40 please respond. Ad 25666

GHM, 28, 6', 150lbs., masculine, attractive, mature and educated (2 degrees) is looking for a white/hispanic female with similar qualities for a marriage of convenience. Ad 4073

TO: WADE - FROM: RALPH

Wade, I have been trying to reach you the best way I know how. I lost your number during my move to Allen House Apts. from my mothers in the first week of August 1994. If you would like to call me please do so at (713) 522-5561. I'm 6'1", black male, 150 lbs. I was at your Christmas party in 1992 before I moved to Austin. Ad 25681

MARRIED MEN

Spend quality time day or night w/semi-retired GWM in Houston. Ad 25328

READY, WILLING & ABLE

GWM, 37, 175, brown/blue, healthy, happy, professionally employed, stable and fun. I enjoy nautilus, travel, snow skiing and more. I'm comfortable to be around and relationship oriented. Am looking for a GWM who is 30's to 40's, professionally employed, in good shape, smart, funny, charming, single and relationship oriented. If that's you, why not get in touch with me today. You may make a new friend, maybe a lot more! Ad 25680

SEEKING A QUALITY SINCERE SPECIAL PERSON

GWM, 39, attractive, DDF, NS, br/hazel, masculine bottom seeks attractive, DDF, endowed aggressive top for dating and/or possible relationship. Prefer a relationship oriented person. Weight prop. not as important as personality (prefer age 35-50) beard or moustache desired but not mandatory. Call John between 6:00 p.m. -10:00 p.m. weekdays. 10:00 a.m. till?? weekends or leave message with phone number to call you back. (713) 868-1932.) Please! No games, no bullsh.. or otherwise just your sincere interest.

I'M LOOKING FOR BOTTOMS, ALL KINDS

Like to submit, be passive? Like to service? Like following instructions? Like B & D? Naughty boy lately? Just want fun times with an aggressive hot top? Your choice? If GM, 25-45, fit, clean, healthy, easy going, bright, nice guy, then I am waiting for your call. Ad 25653

ROMANTIC

Professional, adventurous, very attractive, fun, very masculine, in very good shape, 5'10", young 39, 180#, very dark hair and blue eyes, interested in a relationship with another man of quality and serious about a relationship. Stable and secure, monogamous, with a good direction in life and appreciation for all it has to offer including love that endures. Ad 25670

FOR \$24.95 PER YEAR YOU CAN HAVE AN AD IN THIS SECTION

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

LOOKING FOR DADDY

GWM bottom, son, 28, 5'10", 165lbs., bl/grn, clean shaven, smooth, looking for dominate men or a group of men who are over 40 for fun only. Hairy and burly are a plus. I am into B/D, leather, verbal abuse and more. Ad 25683

White male has a good home in Orange for same who is homeless and would like to relocate. No drugs, no gimmicks. Will help pay traveling expenses. Only serious minded call collect after 3:00 p.m. (409) 883-2206.

GALVESTON: LOOKING FOR SEXUAL BUD-DIES

I'm 43, married, 5'10, 160lbs., average looks, DDF, clean, no drugs, married-top-cut-discreet. Ad 25598

NEED DADDY YOU NEVER REALLY HAD?

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

LOOKING FOR MEN OF COLOR

Great-looking, muscular, sexy GWM, 30, 6 ft. tall, 185lbs., smooth body seeking hot, safe fun with Black, Hispanic or Asian men (21-40). No relationships wanted. Action and pleasure expected. You won't be disappointed! Ad 25531.

LESBIAN GWF COUPLE, MID 30'S

Looking for a single person or couple for friendship, no sex, going to movies and evenings on the town. Ad 25641

WELL ENDOWED, HEALTHY, MASCULINE CUTE GWM

outgoing, DDF/NS wants to meet other(s) the same for friendship and safe fun. If you are well-endowed, masculine, attractive, under 45 years of age, weight in proportion height, outgoing, not into S & M, DDF/NS, and want to meet the same respond to Ad 25749.

HAIRY DADDY SEEKS BOY

Boy should be 21-40, weight proportionate to height, open-minded. Daddy is 49, 5'9", 180, bearded. Let's discuss possibilities. Photo exchange will be required eventually. Ad 25673

HIV+ HISPANIC MALE

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

QUEER WHITE BOY

GWM, 39, 5'11", 160lbs., wants to meet straight acting GW/HM liberal Democrat for companionship and maybe more. I'm blue collar, very straight acting, laid back, lean, muscular, fearless. I enjoy the outdoors, animals, drinking beer, rock and roll, quality smokes, partying with friends, occasional bar hopping and quiet evenings at home. Ad 25651

WELL DEVELOPED BODY/ MIND PETITE FEMME

GWF, early 20's, 5'1", 108lbs, long brown hair, athletic but fluffy, intelligent, beautiful, sensitive, warm and romantic. Seeking only those butch women who are intelligent, charming, humorous, protective and emotionally expressive and open. I love to share but you have to be special. Safe tool Gallant, charming dykes preferred. Ad 25675

WANTED! HOT TOP!

Who is healthy, vers., hairy, well endowed, over 30 for safe fun, tit action & blindfold. I'm a WM, 5'10", 180#, 41, Galleria Area. New to Houston. 3 comes A+. Ad 25797

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

NO GAMES, NO PAIN, NO EX'S!

Me: GWF, soft butch, small build, musician, nurturing, strong, independent, patient, witty, loves intimacy, N/S. You: Feminine, preferably fluff, sorta shy, patient, intimate. Absolutely no rebounds or emotional baggage. Ad 25553.

WANTED:

part-time house-boy/servant who knows how to be of service. Master is 44, 5'9", 180lbs, demanding, lives in Montrose. Ad 25134

HELIUM HEELS???

If you are a bottom who enjoys his "legs in the air", contact this 38 year old, blue-eyed, clean cut, endowed safe top who visits Texas from Atlanta. Ad 25676

LOOKING FOR LIKE/PROF. FOR LONG-TERM RELATIONSHIP

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

MR. RIGHT?

I am looking for you. Do you like hiking and camping in national parks? Do you like College/Pro sports? Bicycling, tennis, movies, shorts, t-shirts, C & W music, and quiet evenings at home? I am a healthy GWM Democrat, 39 yrs., 6' and 170lbs. I am looking for an honest, monogamous relationship. Are you? Ad 25636

TRUST THIS BOTTOM

Me-late 30's, good body, masculine, hairy, bearded, seeks men for fun times & friendship. You-30's to 50's-top. Facial hair &/or large tool a plus. Also like movies, music, working out, travel, good food & good conversation. A great time will be had by all! Ad 4070

To advertise call Houston local number (713) 529-8490 Mon.-Fri. 9-5.

To respond to an advertiser and to hear his actual voice describing himself and the people he would like to meet, call 24 hours 1-900-454-3576. (\$1.49/min. on your phone bill. You must be 18+.) OR you can call (713) 529-8490 Mon.-Fri. 9-5 for more information or to establish a pre-paid toll-free answering account.

the **SALTY SPOT** *by Scotty T.*

The birthday queen, bitter from liquor,
So irked us we set out to trick her.
The call boy came calling
And I took the balling,
While Clueless just sucked her gin kicker.

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No let-up in anti-gay activity, according to liberal advocates

By KIM I. MILLS
FOR THE HOUSTON VOICE

WASHINGTON, Wednesday, Dec. 14 (AP)—Political and community leaders continued to crack down on homosexuals last year as an anti-gay campaign spread across America, says a report by a liberal advocacy group.

"While most attention has focused on two statewide anti-gay ballot initiatives in Oregon and Idaho, a growing anti-gay campaign is gaining ground all across America," said Arthur J. Kropp, president of People for the American Way.

The organization's report, entitled "Hostile Climate," documents 134 incidents of what it termed anti-gay activity in 37 states and the District of Columbia. The group counted statewide anti-gay ballot initiatives, federal or state legislative battles, court decisions, local ordinances, education-related activity, censorship, and miscellaneous incidents related to public policy.

They ranged from the introduction of 14 anti-gay bills in the Kentucky General Assembly to the cancellation of "Tootsie Day"—when boys

dress as girls and vice versa—at a high school in Apopka, Fla.

In Boulder, Colo., several school principals canceled performances of a play about censorship, "Don't Read This."

In Georgia and Oklahoma, the state legislatures took punitive actions against public broadcasting stations for showing "Tales of the City," a TV program with gay characters.

And in at least two states, well funded lobbying efforts prevented passage of legislation recognizing same-sex domestic partners or offering protection for gays against hate crimes or discrimination.

"Popular hate-filled rhetoric commonly used by religious right leaders is breathing life into a broad range of anti-gay policies and personal attacks," Kropp said in a statement. "The result is a political and social climate hostile to the principles of justice and fairness that safeguard every American."

The same report one year ago found evidence of 132 anti-gay incidents in 41 states and the District of Columbia.



Check out the holiday decor at the Wortham

NEW YEAR'S EVE EXTRAVAGANZA

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 31, 1994
9:00 P.M. to ???

Featuring

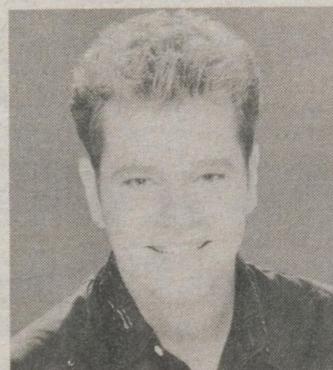


Photo by Richard Adams

BUBBA McNEELY
"EMCEE"

and performances by



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Miss Essence Houston/USA



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TRANAЕ CHARDON
DPIC Recording Artist

THE DIFINITIVE PARTY! "WILD" "SEXY"



Photo ©1994 STEVEN DAVID - HOUSTON VOICE

"EXCITING" "OUTRAGEOUS"
AND MORE!

LIVE ENTERTAINMENT • MALE DANCERS

*Complimentary Buffet and Refreshments
Catered by Maestro Chef Gene Porter*

DOOR PRIZES • PARTY FAVORS • HOT MUSIC

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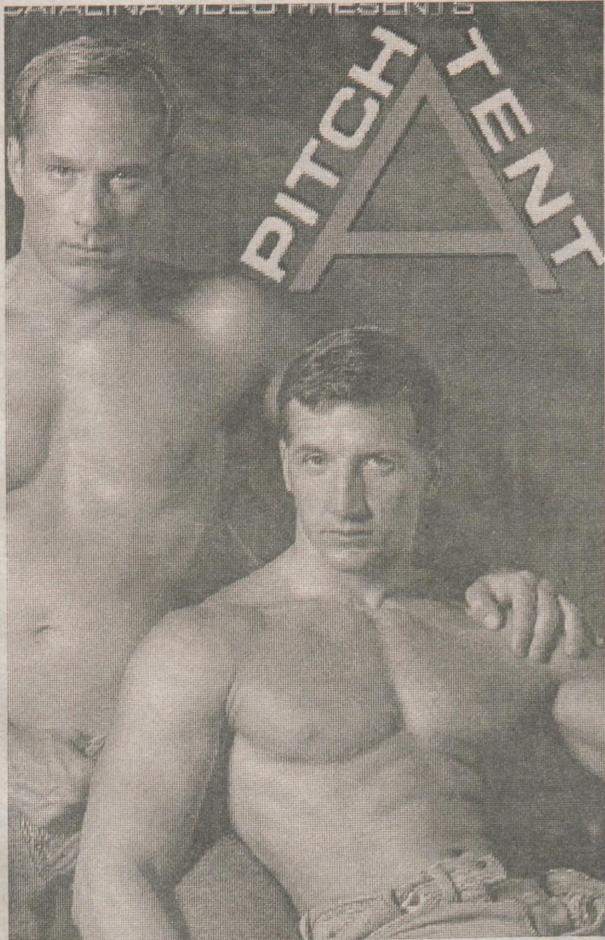
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SPECIAL**
Sunday thru Thursday
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(713) 527-0782 3201 LOUISIANA HOUSTON

**THURSDAY
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\$4 All Day
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All Male Cinema
presents



*PITCH
A TENT*

and

*OPEN
WINDOWS*

Friday & Saturday
11am - 3am
Monday-Thursday
11am - 1am
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1pm - 1 am



HOUSTON VOICE PERSONALS

Our very own! All are REAL! All are CURRENT! All are from readers of the HOUSTON VOICE!



• To PLACE a Personal Ad by Phone:

First, before you call, write out your ad. Use up to six (6) words in a bold headline and up to fifty (50) words in regular type. Call us at Houston (713) 529-8490 or Nationwide (800) 729-8490. After you've read your ad to us, and we prepare it to go to print, we will give you an 800 toll-free telephone number, your personal 5-digit ad number and your secret 4-digit personal identification number (PIN). Call the 800 number using a touch-tone phone and follow the verbal instructions to record, in your actual voice, your ad. (Somewhere in the verbal ad, say what city you live in.) Cost is \$24.95 for up to a year. We will mail you a bill. You can change your ad as often as desired during the year, but you must call us every four weeks to keep your ad running.

• To PLACE a Personal Ad by Mail:

Write out your ad using up to six (6) words in a bold headline and up to fifty (50) words in regular type. Then mail it with your check for \$24.95 to the Houston Voice, 811 Westheimer, Suite 105, Houston, TX 77006. Please enclose your name, mailing address and telephone number where you can be reached during the daytime. We will mail back to you an 800 toll-free number, your personal 5-digit ad number and your secret 4-digit personal identification number (PIN). Call the 800 number and follow the verbal instructions to record, in your actual voice, your ad. You can change both your voice and written ad as often as desired but you must phone or write us every four (4) weeks to keep your ads running.

• To RESPOND to a Personal Ad by Phone:

Call 1-900-454-3576. Listen to the verbal instructions. A charge of \$1.49 per minute will appear on your telephone bill. You can respond verbally, leaving your name and phone number, to as many personal advertisers as you wish. You can browse through all the personal advertisers until you hear someone that interests you. As the individual advertisers periodically check their incoming verbal mailboxes, they will retrieve your response. Call (713) 529-8490 (Houston) or (800) 729-8490 (Nationwide) for more information about this service or to obtain information about a pre-paid toll-free answering account. You must be 18+ to use this service.

• To RESPOND to a Personal Ad by Mail:

Place your written response inside a blank sealed envelope and write the 5-digit ad number on the envelope. Place this envelope along with \$2.00 inside another envelope and mail to the Houston Voice Personals, 811 Westheimer, Suite 105, Houston, TX 77006. Your response will be forwarded to the advertiser the same day received by first class mail. You may mail multiple responses in the same envelope, but enclose \$2.00 for each response mailed. Responses received without fees will not be forwarded nor returned. Call (713) 529-8490 in Houston or (800) 729-8490 Nationwide for information about this service or to obtain information about a toll-free answering account. You must be 18+ to use this service.

• To RECEIVE Responses to Your Personal Ad:

We will forward to you daily, unopened, at no charge, all responses received by mail. To see if you have any verbal messages waiting, call the 800 toll-free number we gave you when you placed your ad. If the recording says you have verbal responses waiting, have your 5-digit code and secret 4-digit PIN handy and call 1-900-454-3576 to retrieve your verbal messages. A charge of \$1.49 a minute will appear on your phone bill. Call (713) 529-8490 in Houston or (800) 729-8490 Nationwide for information about this service or to obtain information about a toll-free answering account. You must be 18+ to use this service.

• ADDITIONAL REQUIREMENTS:

To take advantage of this \$24.95-per-year offer, you are required to participate in the "live voice" aspect of our Personal Ads by calling the special 800 toll-free number you will receive when you place your ad. You must record, in your own voice, your personal ad. If you do not participate in this "live voice aspect" your ad may be discontinued after the first week without reimbursement. If you do not desire to participate, you may instead purchase a personal ad at the rate of 55¢ per word weekly. Additionally all ads, both in print and voice should not contain references to sexual acts or organs. All ads should be "positive", that is describing only those people or traits desired. People or traits not desired should not be listed.



GALAXY GAYZER

A HOUSTON VOICE EXCLUSIVE



HOROSCOPE FOR THE WEEK OF DECEMBER 23 - 29, 1994



HOUSTON VOICE readers born this week share their birthday with Howard Hughes born in Houston, Texas in 1905. He is said to have had a couple of bucks. He liked films, aviation, beautiful women, making more bucks, and, near the end, drugs. But if you're ready to accept the notion of Errol Flynn involved with Nazi spies during World War II, then you're ready to accept the story of the multimillionaire turning over to the handsome, virile movie star --for cold hard cash.

CAPRICORN (Dec 22 - Jan 21) Honesty in close relationships to others is a difficult thing for you. In large measure because of not wishing to be hurt emotionally. This Holiday week is perfect for you to selectively warm up to friends and see that you are able to be close emotionally to another person and not be hurt. The secret is to chose carefully with whom you confide in, and wish to befriend. Just as the planets are balanced with each other, so you must also be balanced with your feelings.

AQUARIUS (Jan 22 - Feb 19) Jupiter continues to influence your increased social feelings, making this Christmas week one of great excitement. This is a wonderful seven days to get out and about and to see whom may be out there to 'discover' yourself. Dress very carefully so as to attract exactly the type of woman/man that you are interested in. A strong sexual body language on your part will cut quickly through the 'twinkies' who may find you interesting, but would not meet your needs to any period of time.

PISCES (Feb 20 - Mar 20) This next ten day period of time will have a high love interest quality to them. More to meet prospective close friends, ? Lover, than to immediately become in love. Neptune as your ruler will be watching over you and if you listen he will help to guide you through the maze of 'turkeys' out there. Keep repeating to yourself, "this is not a poultry farm that I am running". Watch out for getting a feather up your bottom.

ARIES (Mar 21 - Apr 20) For those **HOUSTON VOICE** readers who tend to shoot from the hip emotionally without little fore thought, the next two weeks will notice a calming affect if you chose to adapt it, that will make it much easier than in the past to say "no" and to mean it without offending anyone. The secret is to be less aggressive in your body stance and voice. Backing down on you strong desire to have everything near perfect will make you seem more human and considerably more attractive to friends.

TAURUS (Apr 21 - May 21) The next two weeks are great entertainment weeks in your life. Having a small, less than sixteen people, Holiday dinner party will be an excellent way for you to learn of your neighbors and to thank them for their kindness during the year to you. Try the wonderful recipe in this week's issue of the *Houston Voice* for one of the parties. I have enjoyed the food item at the Kuntry Kidd's home, and it is great. Be sure to dress up the presentation of the entree.

GEMINI (May 22 - June 21) Try a bit harder at the office to support the team approach to getting projects done. Your independent nature sometimes gets in the way to cooperate with others. Just as your style in achieving success varies from another person, this does not mean that their manner of accomplishing a goal is not an equally good one. For those of you Gemini's in significant legal conflicts, I sense that all will turn out for you better than you could imagine.

CANCER (June 22 - July 23) In between the unwrapping of packages, listen to your mate this weekend and try to met his/her needs more completely. If you are unable or unwilling to meet their need, tell the other person this, but in a manner that your statement does not imply not loving or caring about the other person. But rather that you do not have the talent or time to accomplish this for them. Watch the short hours of sleep at night, as fatigue may be setting in early.

LEO (July 24 - Aug 22) Pay off your holiday bills and charge account as quickly as you are able to, as the sun is acting as your ruler and you need to pull back a bit in the spending department. There will be an increase in the social activity schedule with the New Year. Watch out for the temptation to get involved with people who spend more lavishly than you are able to. Bringing a nice plate of holiday cookies into the office will be appreciated by everyone, especially your boss.

VIRGO (Aug 23 - Sept 23) Your future may depend upon the public noticing you, especially if you are into the theater. Consider posing for the *VOICE* photographer and become the next centerfold 'Blue Pages' photo. How many times have you looked into the mirror wondering how you ever got the good looks that you do and what should you do with them. Happiness for you this season will in part depend upon helping other people. Consider joining the Pet Petrol or the Q-Patrol, two of my favorite organizations.

LIBRA (Sept 24 - Oct 23) Stop crossing your previous bridges over and over again. This makes it difficult for you to enjoy the holidays as much as you should. Live more in the present and the future, than in the past. The past is mainly to learn from, not to punish yourself for. The wonderful foods of the season are meant for you. We are all looking for good things to put in to our mouths. Wear brighter clothes to help become noticed while you are out socially.

SCORPIO (Oct 24 - Nov 22) "Deck the Halls" is your theme song this Christmas season as you are the life of the parties. You have the knack of making others feel good about themselves. Watch the extra use of alcohol, though, as you may be tempted to take more chance sexually than you should while under the influence of mind altering substances. You know just how to give compliments to others to make them feel good about themselves. And this self confident story is central to our personalities.

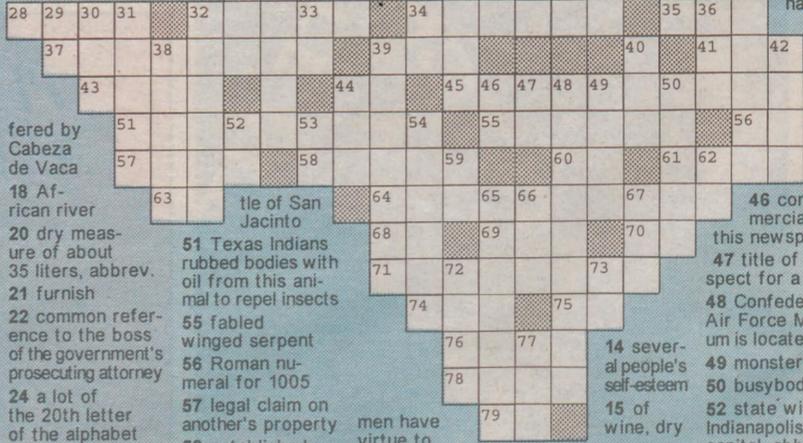
SAGITTARIUS (Nov 23 - Dec 21) This will be a great Christmas season for you if you are able to put behind you some recent unpleasant experiences. It is the old story about crying over spilled milk. You are a wonderful person and when you sport a smile, good looking too. Get involved in a community service club and see first hand how fortunate you are, as well as providing very needed services. See Father Dennis at Kolbe House for some excellent ideas.

THE TEXAS PUZZLE

Includes Clues About Texas, Current Events & Standard Crossword Clues

By Henry McClurg
ACROSS

- 1 head movement
- 4 Spanish for river
- 5 solemn promise
- 7 place teaming with action
- 10 New World cuckoo
- 11 probable site of the shipwreck suf-



ferred by Cabeza de Vaca

18 African river

20 dry measure of about 35 liters, abbrev.

21 furnish

22 common reference to the boss of the government's prosecuting attorney

24 a lot of the 20th letter of the alphabet

25 Bob, our Lt. Governor

28 gem with delicate colors

32 which state has the oldest state flag in the nation?

34 ice & mixers for drinks

35 direction El Paso to Victoria, abbrev.

37 like a study of poetic verse

39 supreme being

41 chopping tool

43 spelling error in set type

44 Spanish for 'the'

45 202nd birthday will be March 2, 1995, defeated Santa Anna at Bat-

dicator

75 1st U.S. President & revolutionary soldier, initials ("Few

cause to be

9 American actor Robinson, 1st & middle initials

12 adjoin

13 remarkable person

44 acronym for approximate time of reaching a destination

46 commercial in this newspaper

47 title of respect for a man

48 Confederate Air Force Museum is located here

49 monster

50 busybody

52 state with Indianapolis as capital, abbrev.

53 a human blood type

54 compensated back

59 English princess

62 in the Army, potato peeling duty, abbrev.

65 stupid people

66 Roman numeral for 502

67 interjection to express annoyance

72 male offsprings

73 in radio broadcasting, continuous wave, abbrev.

77 woman in a religious order

Solution elsewhere this issue

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men have virtue to withstand the highest bidder.")

76 3/4ths of a dozen

78 daze

79 symbol for chemical element tin

1 our beloved Texas armadillo is of what species, 2 words

2 1976 movie filmed in Terrell, Texas

3 King of Texas Swing, 2 words, has hometown of Turkey, Texas

6 state with scarlet carnation as official flower, abbrev.

8 verb suffix,

14 several people's self-esteem

15 of wine, dry

16

get into one's possession

17 conjunction for an alternative

19 relating to it

23 firing an employee

25 tucks in

26 a long-playing record (originally a trademark)

27 lake on the Texas/Okla. border

29 abbrev. for pages & (music) pianissimo

30 a realm of what is more than ordinary significance

31 faithful

32 shaped with a tool



Featuring Distribution in the HOUSTON/GALVESTON Area

The LONE STAR in HOUSTON's Gay/Lesbian News

HOUSTON VOICE

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Asthma On The Rise

For reasons that remain unclear, deaths due to asthma and the number of people with asthma appears to be rising throughout the United States.

Indicator Rate	Percentage Increase
Prevalence (1982-1991)	36%
Hospital discharges (1979-1991)	46%
Age-adjusted asthma mortality rate (1979-1991)	67%
Black age-adjusted asthma mortality rate (1979-1991)	83.3%

For more than 85 years, donations to Christmas Seals® have helped fund the education, advocacy, and research work of the American Lung Association. Call your local Lung Association at 1-800-LUNG-USA to find out how you can help in the fight against lung disease.

 AMERICAN LUNG ASSOCIATION. 1-800-LUNG-USA

RECIPES BY THE KUNTRY KIDD



Hey ya'll! I hope you have been more organized this year with your Christmas shopping than I have. Here it is the last few days before Christmas, and I haven't finished my shopping and haven't sent out my cards. Because I'm so far behind, you get a real simple recipe from me. Simple is better!

ORANGE BALLS

- 1-12 oz. box vanilla wafers
- 1 cup powdered sugar
- 1 cup coconut
- 1 cup chopped nuts (pecans or walnuts)
- 1 6 oz. can frozen orange juice thawed

Crush the vanilla wafers. Combine all ingredients and mix well. Make into small balls and roll into additional powdered sugar. You do not bake these balls!
 I wish each and everyone of you a safe and Merry Christmas!!!

UNTIL NEXT WE EAT!

KUNTRY KIDD

