

AUGUST 16, 1996 ■ ISSUE 825

How Big is That GOP Tent?

Log Cabin Republicans Meet in San Diego

By Curt Morrison

The "Big Tent" philosophy of the Republican party that claims to be both inclusive and diverse is being questioned. The Policy Institute of the National Gay and Lesbian Task Force (NGLTF), citing polls, indicates

that only 14% of self-identified gay and lesbian voters cast their ballot for George Bush in 1992. No surprise there, considering the tumultuous GOP convention that occurred in Houston that same year. What is surprising however is the exit polling data from 1994. According to a Mitofski Organization report released by the NGLTF, 32% of our community voted Republican in 1994. Whether or not the 1996 Republican ticket of Bob Dole and Jack Kemp can maintain that

level of the gay and lesbian vote remains to be seen and is certainly incumbent upon what happens in the months to come during this election cycle.

Log Cabin Republicans (LCR), a nationwide gay and lesbian group, convened in San Diego last weekend prior to the GOP convention to work with the Republican establishment in an attempt to dissuade the intolerance that has become synonymous with the Republican Party. Not an easy feat for any organization who goes against the grain of the GOP's grass root ideologues, however, the gay group is currently in a better position to confront the bigotry than it has been in previous conventions. With 10,000 members nationwide, Log Cabin is three times the size it was in 1992 providing the organization with much more influence.

The group's influence was prevalent during their National Convention held in San Diego prior to the Republican National Convention. Texas Log Cabin members from Austin, Dallas, Houston and San Antonio were present at the LCR convention providing our state with an impressive presence. The

Houston chapter had the largest delegation led by LCR Houston President Gary Van Ooteghem. Upon arrival, the organization was invited to a welcoming reception with the Mayor of San Diego, Susan Golding, a "moderate" Republican. And, for the first time three openly gay delegates, all of whom are members of the organization, will be participating in this year's Republican National Convention. The three delegates who comprise this historic first are: New York delegate Mike Flynn who works for Mayor Rudy Giuliani; Abner Mason, a Massachusetts delegate who works for Senate Candidate and state Governor William Weld; and Mark Patrosso, a delegate from California who works for an electronics firm.

During the LCR convention, the group participated in several committee meetings, luncheons with dignitaries and lobbying media and delegates about the organization's goals to incorporate the GOP into that Big Tent party they purport to maintain. The weekend began with a compelling keynote address by famed author Chandler Burr who

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Scott Kennedy and Kevin Maye bring the Gay Comedy Jam to Houston's Laff Stop

Gay Comedy at Laff Stop

Local guys prove being Gay is a laughing matter

By Deborah Bell

The first impression of Scott Kennedy and Kevin Maye is that they are really nice guys. And that they have a caring, committed relationship that many in our community might envy. The fact that these two found each other and love in the wacky world of stand-up comedy, developed a relationship while both were traveling all over the country for gigs, and that they have developed a very successful "Gay Comedy Tour" is rather amazing. They were named by the Hollywood Reporter as "The Most Successful Gay Comics." That honor apparently was well earned as the two can't even play all the dates they have been asked to play, and have sell-out audiences all around the country and Canada. They have appeared on the Comedy Channel, Evening at the Improv, and HBO. They've opened for many top name performers. They will be featured in an October episode of "In the Life" which airs on PBS stations around the country (call Ch.8 and ask them when it will be on here). Tuesday you can catch the guys on the radiowaves at Buzz 107fm.

They will appear at The Laff Stop at 1952 W. Gray on Monday August 19th and Tuesday, August 20th, starting at 8pm each night. Opening performer is Frank Lockwood. Tickets are pre-paid only and if you haven't gotten a ticket yet, hurry, their shows are sell outs, with good reason. Group discount rates are available prior to Monday. The guys are especially excited about playing in their hometown and that the Laff Stop

show will be a live taping for a new CD, their first.

They've been Domestic Partners in real life since 1993, but they perform separately. They have closed many of their shows by sharing the stage and conducting an "audience participation" gay version of the dating game. Starting The Gay Comedy Jam Freedom Tour 1995 was somewhat as a defense mechanism so that the two could have more time together. "Being able to do what you love and do it with the person you love is the best thing in the whole world," says Kennedy. "You always have somebody next to you to do something with and talk to." Maye agrees that it was really a smart choice for them both personally and professionally. "It was a really smart move that enhanced our careers and made us enjoy it a lot more", he asserts.

"We definitely consider our relationship a marriage," Kennedy explains, agreeing with me that there are no good words for us to use as same-sex partners. "We say Domestic Partners, but that sounds like one of them is a pet." He adds, "I know, it's not a good word. We haven't come up with anything we like."

Scott Kennedy defies many stereotypes and jokes about being someone that the Lesbians are attracted to because of his "jock" personae. "Yeah we can go play pool after the show, they win, everyone has a nice time and Kevin can do their hair." He explains that prior to touring together, the two spent a lot of time apart as their out of town gigs took them in various directions. Kennedy says that they both always wanted to be performers. Getting started is the hardest part. "There is no school for it," Kennedy explains. Growing up in the Southwest, including New Mexico and Lubbock, Texas, playing football and attending a military school, few people suspected his sexual orientation. Kennedy was such a "regular guy" it didn't occur to his crowd of friends that he was a "faggot", a

(Continued on page 11)



This Walgreens may soon be a protest spot.



Brian Keever, Board Member and Darren Armstrong, treasurer of the Pride Committee of Houston present checks to Dallas Crawford of the AIDS Housing Houston/Milam House, Christi Burchette, Co-facilitator of the Texas Lesbian Conference, and Jim Carper, treasurer of the Gay and Lesbian Switchboard Houston.

Walgreens that AIDS Built target of Protest

Removal of Publications at Issue

A Walgreens Drugstore in the Montrose Area has become a target of protest after removing a locally published magazine directed to a gay and lesbian readership. The

magazine OutSmart and other such publications are no longer being distributed from the Walgreens store located at 3317 Montrose Boulevard. This Walgreens has been called "the drugstore that AIDS built" due to the large volume of business the store does because of the HIV and AIDS treatment drugs it sells. It has been said

to be the second largest revenue producer in the Walgreens chain in the country. The Houston Gay and Lesbian Political Caucus (HGLPC) at its meeting on August 7 discussed this matter and directed its President Pat Gandy to notify the press.

Gandy had contacted the corporate office via phone and letter after ascertaining that it was true that the magazine had been pulled from the store. In addition to sending letters, Gandy has talked to the manager of the Montrose Walgreens Store in person. He assured her that the decision is a corporate one and that he has no control over the issue now.

Specifically, HGLPC would like for those who are upset by this action from Walgreens to do the following:

1. To protest this decision, write to:

Mr. Daniel Jorndt, President,

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 Letters to the Editor

Loving Your New Voice to Us

FROM KASEY KING
 Dear Deborah,
 It is incredible that you are back available to us out here in the suburbs with your wit and humor and seriousness and availability to your "family." I am so glad to be hearing you through your words that I had to jot a note. I have missed you on *Lesbian and Gay Voices* and have let you know that numerous times. Oh how wonderful that you and this newspaper struck a cord together. Your voice is once again out there to your fans and I'm glad. I heard your interview on the show last Thursday.

Love Nancy Ford's new column. She really gave B. a hoot to talk about for months to come at the Janis Ian concert. B. could have died a thousand deaths to be outted there. I thought it was great. We have come so far since our first encounter.

Thanks for hanging in Houston and getting back into the community spotlight. You have lifted the Voice to a nice high. I did not like it much as some other papers until you took over. Now I look forward to each issue. I only wish it reached out here in the burbs. Any chance??? The Houston Press does now and with the probable annexation of the area I think you should consider dropping it off out here. There are women who love women out here and even a few men who love men, what are the chances?????

Here's good things to you, let's not lose contact.

EDITOR'S NOTE: *Kasey, Great to hear from you—I'm so glad you like the Voice and the work we are doing. Your continuing support means a lot to me. Arrangements can be made to have a distribution point in your area if a friendly business can be found or if there is a group that meets in the area that might want to be a "pick-up" place.* —db

We Get Kudos

FROM SAMUEL THOMPSON
 KUDOS to you and your publication for printing the guest editorial by Martina Cartwright in the August 9, 1996 issue!

Through my own personal experiences as well as discussion with peers and my own research, I too have found that the issues of racism and sexism have not truly been dealt with by the lesbian, gay, bisexual, and transgendered community. Although solutions have been found in the forming of separate organizations for those who have been "slighted," it is obvious that as our community moves into the next millennium these issues must be addressed, not solely for purposes of creating "a more unified front," but also for the greater purpose of consciousness-raising and changing.

It is my hope that your publication will continue the discussion of these issues in the future.

EDITOR'S NOTE: *Thanks, Samuel, we shall.* —db

Re: The Avondale Civic Association

FROM RICK EHRlich
 For those readers unfamiliar with the name, this is the Montrose area civic

group whose borders include the strip of lower Westheimer. The vast majority of Montrose residents and businesses will agree that this area has been plagued for 15 years by blight, street crime vagrants/loiterers, trash, and while Houston recovered from the oil crash years, this strip did not really recover much, as much as all of us want it. Recently the Avondale Association and other local associations voted to request the HPD's cooperation in a brief effort to reduce the number of vagrants, derelicts, hookers/hustlers and street drug dealers from our beloved Montrose area neighborhood.

As there is no city penalty for loitering, HPD can only do this effectively by a "zero tolerance" campaign; for example, the derelict loiters with no risk, but when he steps into the street, he is stopped for jaywalking-HPD runs his name in the computer, and as many of the street types are ex-cons or current fugitives, there may be outstanding bench warrants against them. By this means, HPD is able to get them out of the Montrose area. It definitely has had a helpful effect. I understand there were several unfortunate unintended situations where a legitimate resident or business patron was stopped and/or questioned by HPD for jaywalking, or other technical minor infraction. Hopefully the affected individuals will not mind too much, recognizing it as a minor side affect of the greater, worthwhile effort.

As some of these unfortunate incidents occurred near the cluster of gay bars (J.R.'s, etc.), some construed it as an anti-gay effort. We should strongly emphasize to all that the program was supposed to help all the legitimate residents and patrons of our area. We embarked on this as a unified neighborhood effort. If some of those unfortunate instances were among gay individuals, we must stand united in our sincerity that this was very much unintended. We must resolve together that if we can achieve reductions in the number of hooker/hustlers on our streets, it benefits the legitimate gay community just as much as others in the area; if it results in less vagrants hanging around (as a crime risk, because most of them are ex-cons, and as a visual blight element because they make our neighborhood look trashy), it helps all residents and patrons. It is disappointing to hear anyone, including the usually thoughtful activist Ray Hill, say that the effort was anti-gay, because I believe with all my heart that this is not so.

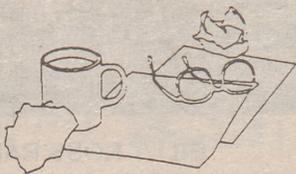
Following the conclusion of the effort, if it again is a problem, I hope the Associations will have the unified resolve to vote to request the zero tolerance campaign by HPD again. The best of civic associations have differing opinions within their memberships, and the Avondale is improving in membership and thoughtful dialogue. I hope to see more business and residential neighbors at the future meetings where this type of effort is debated and voted. Personally, I'll vote for this program, and encourage all to join in because it helps our whole Montrose area.

EDITOR'S NOTE: *Mike Springer was the author of the letter that appeared last week regarding Avondale. He had asked that his address not be used and inadvertently his name was left off as well.* —db

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In My Own Voice

by Deborah Bell



Gender Gap Wide Open

I have been wooed, courted as it were, but rather than feel the glow of amorous intentions, I feel as if someone is playing me as a fool. Maybe because my suitor was an unwelcome one. I tried to like her, really listened and hoped for a glimmer of understanding. It just isn't there. The chemistry has to be right you know. I know what they want. They want me for my vote. It is highly unlikely that they will get it even though they talked a good talk. I saw through their ploy. It takes a little more substance to earn my respect and support, and most importantly, my vote.

The gender gap is the difference between the way women vote and the way men vote. The Republicans have a problem with it. Mostly it is a problem with their candidate, Bob Dole not being viewed as someone who is really supportive of women, although his wife Elizabeth is a powerful and successful woman in her own right. The 1994 elections and the huge turnover of seats to Republicans was characterized as being brought about due to the "Angry, White Male Voter." This time, it's our turn to make the difference with the Women's vote.

The Republican Party at its show in San Diego paraded before the assembly and television audiences last Tuesday night its best and brightest. Attractive, articulate, successful women. These women such as Texas Senator Kay Bailey Hutchinson and New York Congresswoman and Keynote speaker, Susan Molinari bashed Clinton while trying to make a case for why women should vote Republican. They questioned Clinton's personal integrity and the Democratic fiscal policies. One of the things the Republicans are doing is taking credit for matters that they either had no part in or are laying claim to in hopes that we will believe that they really are working in our best interest. Hutchinson claims that the Republicans in killing of Clinton's health plan was a great victory for women. Because, she said it didn't cover mammograms for women before age 50 and she had friends under that age that had breast cancer. She failed to mention that nothing in any of the Republican plans would have provided the mammogram services either. Furthermore, while it is of grave concern, women have many more health concerns than breast cancer, and with no health plan in place, our overall health and ability to care for our families is in jeopardy. Hutchinson made a jab at Hillary Clinton by saying "We don't want to have a village raise a child, we want a family to raise a child." Clinton's book on raising children published last year is titled "It takes a Village to Raise a Child". Clever line, but it misses the point of the African saying that inspired the saying to begin with. The village (the community) should be family for every child. Children need and deserve the love, nurturing and guidance of everyone in the community to be the child's extended family. The job is too big for just parents. We have to count on children receiving that same care from teachers, coaches, their scout leaders, and neighbors to have the kind of society that is part of the American Dream. The American Dream—that was another term they used quite a bit, claiming that putting a Republican in the White House would restore the American Dream.

One of the most moving speeches was made by a rape survivor and victim's rights advocate. She bravely shared her

story of horror at being awoken while in her own bed and finding a stranger who tore her clothes and touched her body. I was touched by her story and impressed by her courage. I agree with her that we need tougher laws and better enforcement. I think the victim's rights far out weigh those of the criminal. But I don't agree with her that voting for Republicans is the answer. I just don't trust them.

The party who used to tout that women belong in the home raising children and had such leaders as Phyllis Schlafely of the Eagle Forum and Beverly LeHaye of the Concerned Women for America has changed its tune a bit. It is always interesting to me that the women who share this view with their male counterparts are never women who maintain that role and whose careers (or marriages) put them in the wealthy category. Now they are advocating for "the working women." They promise a that a more equitable wage, along with tax cuts will put more money in our pockets and give more time to be with our families. This from the party who was largely responsible for the defeat of the ERA. hummm.

Women are more likely to vote for Democrats. They make up their minds later than men do, because they want more information about the candidates before making their decisions. They care about voting "smart." Hopefully, they are too smart to fall for the Republican's charade. In San Diego, they managed with cameras tricks to make it look like they really are the "Big Tent" party with showing every person of color present at the convention (3% Black, 3% Latino, and a number of Asians). The camera showed many women's faces and did not reveal that only 33% of the delegates are women (down from 45% in 1992). Just how much coverage have you seen of support by the GOP for the rights of Gays and Lesbians? I haven't seen, except through the Gay media, any reports on the presence of the Log Cabins who are struggling to make a place for themselves within the party. Maybe that is one reason I'm a Democrat, we already have a place.

So far the polls in Texas are claiming that Clinton and Dole are in a dead heat, but when it comes to Women, Clinton leads 41% to Dole's 34%. 13% of women favor Perot and 12% remain undecided. Among men Dole leads with 43% over Clinton's 36% with 12% being undecided and only 8% in favor of Perot. Kemp's selection as GOP vice president increased men's support of Dole but had no effect on the women.

The Republican women have demonized feminism yet touted how far we (women) have come. Who do they think opened the doors to begin with?

It is very hard for me, as well as the voters under the age of 40 who have a hard time believing that Dole is the person to lead us into the 21st century. It also impossible for me to believe that a party that is anti-choice and anti-gay as stated in its platform, can be working in my best interest. If women do not have the choice to terminate a crisis pregnancy, they have no choice at all. Women are people of conscience and they and they alone are the ones who must maintain the control of their own bodies and reproductive lives. The Republicans want to change welfare, but while I agree that reform is needed, their plan penalizes the most vulnerable in society (teenage women with children). They want to do away with affirmative action based on classism and judgmental elitism. They keep talking about restoring the American Dream. What they need to look at is the American Reality.

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In Loving Memory



STEPHEN TAYLOR BRALICK

Born: April 15, 1953
Died: August 2, 1996

Stephen passed away peacefully on Friday, August 2nd at Park Plaza Hospital in Houston. Born and raised in Waukesha, Wisconsin he graduated from the Waukesha Public School System and then attended beauty school in Milwaukee. He spent the next 20-plus years as an accomplished hairdresser and color expert. After moving to Houston he worked for Frost Bros. until its closing, then moved to Alexander in River Oaks. Stephen periodically did hair and make-up for the Houston Grand Opera and also spent several years volunteering his skills at Bering Care Center and other AIDS care facilities. He was an outstanding man who never met a stranger.

Stephen is preceded in death by his father John E. Bralick, and his soulmate Richard Hupp. He is survived by his mother Peggy Bralick of Waukesha, WI; his brother John Bralick, sister-in-law Roxanne, and nephews Zachary and Charles of Warrensburg, MO; his sister Susan Brown, brother-in-law Tim, and nephews Seth and Shane of Johnson Creek, WI; his sister Maggie Bralick, and partner Cindy McCullough of Houston; and his 13 year old Basset, Buster.

The family wishes to thank nurses, Karen and Billie, and all others of Park Plaza, 8th fl., who gave Stephen such wonderful care and their great concern.

A Celebration of Life and balloon release will be held on Sunday, August 18th at 3 p.m. at Mary's Outback, 1022 Westheimer.

GEORGE E. WATSON

George Watson, Jr., 37, affectionately known by his friends as "Bit" passed from this life on August 2, 1996. George was a valued employee at Methodist Hospital Health Care Systems where he worked as a purchasing specialist. He is survived by his spouse Randol Lindsay, D.Min., a sister and brother, Catherine Barbato and Nicholas Jack Watson, of Mobile, maternal grandmother Mrs. E.

McGloughlan, and a niece and nephew. Services were held in Mobile at St. Ignatius Catholic Church with interment at Cedar Crest Cemetery. A Memorial Service will be held in Houston for George's many friends on Saturday, August 17, 1996 at Christ the King Lutheran Church, 2353 Rice Blvd. @ Greenbriar at 4:00 pm with reception immediately following at "Widowwood", 1216 W. Drew, hosted by Rick Carter, Dennis Leasman, Michael Mixon and Randol Lindsay. Memorial contributions in memory of "Bit" may be made to the Assistance Fund.

ROBERT T. (BOBBY) VEITH

Born: June 30, 1952
Died: August 6, 1996



Bobby passed to a better, safer place at sunrise Tuesday morning, August 6th, from The Passage in Corpus Christi after a long and courageous battle with AIDS. During his life he touched many lives with his infectious smile and lighthearted sense of humor. Houston and Dallas knew him as one of Texas' first Fan Dancers. Bobby proudly wore the Texas Riders colors and participated everywhere. He was educated at King High School and Delmar College in Corpus Christi before moving to Houston. Bobby had many talents, but was most proud of his career as a real estate agent. He is survived by his grandmother Hazel Freeman of Pasadena, TX; his mother Joan and stepfather Felix Veith, his brother William Veith and nephew William Veith, Jr. all of Corpus Christi; his father George Stone of Lake Conroe, TX; his soulmate Steve Bargo of Atlanta, GA; and his many loving friends. He was preceded in death by his lifemate Louis Edward Farr.

A private service for immediate family was held in Corpus Christi and his ashes scattered on Little Shell Beach on South Padre Island where he had found life's greatest regeneration and peace. A celebration of Bobby's life will be held at the Venture N on Sunday, August 25th at 3:00 p.m. to be followed by a balloon release. In lieu of flowers, donations are requested to Bering Community Service Foundation.

We love and will miss you, Bobby. You made our lives more exciting and will always be in our hearts.

Love,
Greg, Pec, Doug and Charles

BILLY ROSS RAMSEY

Born: July 9, 1947
Died: August 11, 1996

Bill Ross Ramsey, age 49, formerly of Houston, died Sunday, August 11, 1996, at Christopher House in Austin. He was born in Lampasas.

After serving as Student Body President and Debate Team member at Southwest Texas State University, Bill represented Texas in the LBJ Administration. Upon his return, he taught school in San Antonio and continued his leadership in Young Democrats. Houston became his home in 1972 where for many years he was prominent in business and politics. He and his late partner J. Cary Chellette founded J. Ross Real Estate, Tropicana Swim Club, and Cock-a-too; scenes of Houston's first and best teas dances, earning them repeated Diana awards. Following his work in Washington, D.C., Billy served with the administrations of innumerable Democratic elected officials, including Mayor Kathy Whitmire, Commissioner El Franco Lee, Representative Debra Danburg and as Executive Director of the Office of Governor Ann Richards. Bill was Executive Director of the Harris County Democratic Party during "his" Governor's successful campaign.

Billy delighted in his travel to San Francisco, New York, Fire Island and points beyond...and had the spirit to let Debra talk him into everything from SCUBA diving to whitewater rafting, though he was a lousy swimmer. Charities that benefited from Billy's work and remarkable organizational skills are countless. He began the first Montrose Activity Center, Tea for 2000, and served on numerous community boards and fundraising steering committees. Bill will receive the Political Lifetime Achievement Award from the Human Rights Campaign on September 28 in Austin, and has requested that memorial contributions be made to Christopher House, 2820 E. Martin Luther King Jr. Blvd., Austin, TX 78702 in appreciation of the wonderful care given to him and other loved ones. His friends also thank Dr. John Owens for years of life-enhancing care, and Nancy Pittman and Dr. Lenzi of M.D. Anderson.



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HEALTH

Cryptosporidium Study

A nationwide phase II double-blind placebo-controlled clinical trial is being conducted in 13 cities (including Houston) for the debilitating and sometimes life-threatening opportunistic pathogen *cryptosporidium parvum* (C.parvum).

The initial study in San Francisco General Hospital had approximately 50 percent of patients gaining therapeutic benefit with no serious adverse reactions. The drug being used is a milk-based antibody product derived from colostrum, the antibody-rich milk collected from a cow immediately following the birth of a calf from a cow immunized with C.Parvum.

To be screened for participation in the study, AIDS patients, male or female, must be at least 18 years of age and have had watery diarrhea for at least 10 days in the previous three weeks.

Patients or physicians may call 1-800-372-AIDS or visit the trial website at <http://www.aids-research.com> for more information about the study or participating in the study.

Breast Cancer Web Site

The Y-ME National Breast Cancer Organiza-

tion announced the opening of a Home Page on the World Wide Web. The page includes a list of frequently asked questions about breast cancer, instructions on breast self-exam (BSE) including diagrams, guidelines for mammography, and a bibliography. The site features language that is friendly and caring.

Y-ME, based in Chicago, is the nation's largest consumer-driven resource for breast cancer information, support and referral. The web address is <http://www.y-me.org>. Anyone with suggestions to offer of topics to be included can e-mail Michelle Melin at YMEONE@AOL.COM.

Lesbian HIV Report

The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) has published the first federal government report on Lesbian HIV issues, reflecting the current knowledge of the impact of this disease on women who have sex with women and provides direction to the CDC on developing appropriate research and prevention initiatives.

This report includes 25 recommendations under four major headings: research; surveillance; communications & publications; and further meetings. It also explores the four major areas of transmission for lesbians and bisex-

ual women: needle sharing, unprotected sex with men, unprotected sex with women and insemination.

The meeting report can be ordered by calling the CDC National AIDS Clearinghouse at 1-800-458-5231.

Low-Fat and Skin Cancer

Research at Baylor College of Medicine has revealed that patients on a diet of 20 percent fat (considered very lean) had fewer precancerous growths and non-melanoma skin cancers than patients on a diet with the normal 38 percent fat.

"The participants had already had one to three non-melanoma skin cancers, so the study involved a group with a history. After two years, the patients on the low-fat diet had an average of three precancerous growths while the normal diet patients averaged 10," said Dr. John Wolf, Chairperson of Dermatology at Baylor.

Avoiding excessive sun exposure is still the best way to prevent the initial damage that causes skin cancer, Wolf added. He also stated there is evidence that a low-fat diet may be beneficial in reducing the risk for colon, prostate and breast cancer and proof that it influences cardiovascular health.

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the site and click on the News and
Views. There is no charge for this
service.

Family Values

by Esperanza Lavender Jazz Paz



With A Name Like That, What Did They Expect?

One woman introduced herself and said, "I have been married to the same man for twenty-five years and we have three kids." Approving nods all 'round.

The next one said, "I am new to Houston, my husband was transferred here from New Orleans. I can find my way to work and to WalMart and that's all." Several generous offers to provide geographic assistance.

"I live with a woman in a committed relationship. We have three kids, all grown."

Gasps, embarrassment and clutching of breast. Not from my new co-workers, but from my brother (straight, but stretching to accommodate his sister's outness) whom I related my first-day-on-the-new-job experiences to. He agreed with my partner Jan, that I had become pale and eccentric, slouching alone in front of a computer all day tapping out my fortune on a keyboard. They thought I needed to be around people, earning vacation time and wearing some of the new clothes I spent all my writing earnings on. He despairingly predicted that I had just outted myself out of a good job where I had only hours before been assigned an office with my name on the door (and a picture of Jan on my desk) and more money than I have ever made in my life. Downtown. Free parking. A pass key and password, security clearance,

and voice mail. It is an appointment requiring ethical judgment and sensitivity to possible fraud. I was pretty proud of myself for being awarded such a position, and here he was projecting my queer self into the unemployment lines. (And I don't think you're even eligible for unemployment if you are fired for a reason of offense. "You offended those people by saying that!") I certainly offended *him* by saying it. He has known since I have that I am a Lesbian. He knows Jan and he likes her enough to take us both out for pizza. He attends our parties and meets our friends and he loves my kids. But this! This was too much: Walking into a room of new orientees and "blurting out" to them—and to my new boss—that I am Gay. "That's like telling them that you're deaf, or not a Christian, or, not white, for Christsake!" And he was vehement because he knew I did tell them all of that, but only as it came up in conversation. And no one seemed to suffer the indignation he did when they heard it.

He sighed. He said he hoped I still had a job the next day. Not that he would discriminate against an employee who was Gay, or very hard of hearing or not Christian or not White, but in his experience other corporate supervisors tended to be less tolerant of those peculiarities than himself.

We'll see.

Jazz is an out-and-proud sister of her openly white, straight, corporately successful brother.

The Gallery

Hyde Park Gallery

Individually done by hand to archival standards, photographic prints of investment quality by artist photographers Paul DeRigne and Chris Magisano will be on display at the Hyde Park Gallery, 711 Hyde Park, beginning with a reception planned for Friday, August 16 from 7 until 9:00 p.m.

Paul DeRigne's "The Heart Has its Reasons" at the Hyde Park Gallery



Toni Jones Gallery

Painting, drawings and sculptures by JoAnne Copeland, Sheila Bemis Greene, Geno Haber, Robert White and others will be on exhibit at the Toni Jones Gallery, 1911-C W. Alabama (at Hazard) through Saturday August 24. The gallery is open Monday to Saturday from 10:00 a.m. until 5:00 p.m.

Barbara Davis Gallery

The show "Convergence" will be open at the Barbara Davis Gallery, 711 Louisiana, (Ground Floor of the Pennzoil Building) through Sept. 25. The gallery is open from 8:00 a.m. until noon, Tuesday to Friday, and the show features work by many artists using most mediums.

Contemporary Arts Museum

The work of Dan Friedman, a radical modernist designer, will be showcased at the Contemporary Arts Museum, 5216 Montrose Blvd. until Sept. 22. The museum is open T,W,F,Sa 10-5; Th, 10-9 and Su, noon to 5. No charge for admis-

sion but a \$3 donation is suggested.

The work of Sugimoto, an exploration of photography, Buddhism, and time, capturing harmony with nature, an individuals immediate surroundings, the beauty of plainness, rusticity, and simplicity and continual repetition of established gestures, will be on exhibit until Sept. 1.

Project Row Houses

In the 3rd Ward, Project Row Houses displays the work of young artists who have been connected with the project. The display is open W,Th,F, noon to 6 and Sat. noon to 5 and is located at 2501 Holman between St. Charles and Live Oaks Streets. Telephone 526-7662.

Watercolor Art Society

The Watercolor Art Society—Houston, at 1601 W. Alabama, is open Tu-Sa, 10-3. The current show, Reflections, will be hung until Sept. 6.

Members are reminded of the membership show coming in October. Telephone 942-9966 for details.

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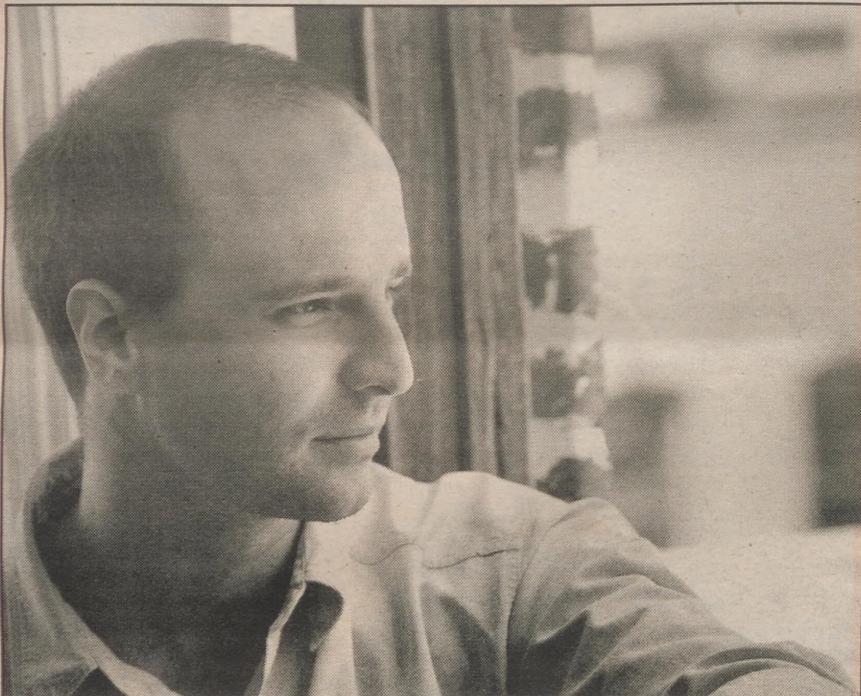


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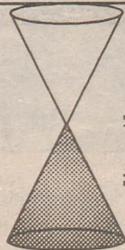
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PLAIN SPEAKING

by Larry Lingle

Real Work Is Behind The Scenes

National political conventions invariably recall, for me, a nostalgic recall of hot summer days beside a radio blaring the thunderous declamations of political correctness and the far more interesting roll call of states as delegates voted on substantive issues and, finally, on their choice of standard bearer in the coming November crusade for the soul of America.

I recall the thundering party-line sermon of Alban V. Barkley in 1948 which single-handedly gained him the vice presidential nod. Now such decisions are singularly decided by an already chosen top of the ticket before the first sitting of delegates. Suspense and drama once highlighted our national political gatherings. In 1924, it took 102 ballots for the Democrats to select their ultimate loser, John W. Davis—he with the support of the Ku Klux Klan.

And in 1956, the destined loser—but always a winner in my heart—Adlai E. Stevenson left it to the convention to determine his running mate. The ultimate winner was his chief rival with the unenviable monocle, Estes Kefauver (I had to resort to David McCullough's "Truman" to revisit the spelling on that one).

While in hindsight Franklin D. Roosevelt seemed indestructible, winning four presidential elections from a wheelchair, he only gained that first crucial nod after several ballots when William Randolph Hearst, of newspaper and Marion Davies fame, switched his support. And while Dwight David Eisenhower, having conquered Europe, seemed a likely nominee, it was actually a close call in 1952 over a senior senator, much in the mold of a Bob Dole, Robert A. Taft of Ohio. Taft, like Dole was pursuing his third attempt at the nomination.

All that high drama and suspense vanished from our political scene with the advent and popularity of the state primaries. And as states now vie for the earliest slots the decision is settled before many of the later primaries. Whereas the motivation for the primaries was a distaste of the smoke-filled corridors of the conventions where a small number of party leaders made the decisions, now only a few hundred thousand voters preclude any change in the script.

Speaking of scripts, not even a Hollywood blockbuster is as well orchestrated as a political convention. While it was a minor scandal when reporters found the Republican script, minute by minute, for their 1972 convention, now it is a given. Even the unruly Democrats have accepted this restraint, a party which Will Rogers endearingly referred to when he remarked "that I don't belong to any organized party, I'm a Democrat."

So the story in San Diego this week, as will be the case in Chicago later, is already written. The smoke and mirrors of controversy which was to have been the platform was relegated to obscurity during the first afternoon session on Monday.

After all, even Dole had remarked to a San Diego newspaper that he had not read the platform. Most political platforms tend to be ignored during the campaign; this is perhaps a first when the "presumptive" nominee turns his back on the supposed party principles before the first gavel has fallen.

While it appears everything about the convention is geared for television, nothing could be further from the truth. For behind those well-rehearsed speeches and choreographed demonstrations the real work of the delegates is going on in sundry parties and gatherings, bankrolled like never before by corporations vying for political attention.

But wait, we have election reform; corporations cannot donate to political campaigns. And, besides, there are dollar limits on all contributions. Nye, nye, friends. The scare of Watergate is forgotten—after all, politicians of all people know that voters have short memories—they rely on this. The two words now are "soft money." Friendly regulators and compliant judges have ruled that all limits apply only to politicians themselves. Anyone can give all they want to parties and satellite committees which promote "ideas," not candidates. So, folks, you can promote the Republican Party and the Democratic Party nationally without promoting Dole or Bill Clinton. Yeah, like I can advocate same-sex marriage without backing gay rights.

The television network which captured by brief attention Monday night caught a glimpse of some of the high-power parties and corporate jets (Colin Powell arriving on a drug company plane) but GOP security did its best to block such shots. After this passing shot, even the networks seemed to lose interest in this real story behind the convention.

Only the business-minded Wall Street Journal seemed interested in the party thrown by the Securities Industry Association for House Banking Committee Chairperson James Leach of Iowa, or the Union Pacific feast for House Transportation Committee Chairperson Bud Shuster of Pennsylvania. The roll call goes on. For \$100,000 you can actually sit down with Dole and Jack Kemp right after their "nominations" on Wednesday. Oh, yeah, you also get a photo op with the happy pair.

If you want to attend the gala for the candidates after their acceptance speeches, don't line up at the ticket office, as if there was one, but call the offices of the Association of Wholesale Distributors in Washington. While he is keeping a low profile during this convention, you can have lunch with Speaker of the House Newt Gingrich courtesy of General Motors. And, as if anyone is eager to party down with Haley Barbour, the GOP chair, you can attend a "Melee with Haley" through the good graces of Philip Morris, Miller Seagram and Coca-Cola. After all, it looks as if Haley is fond of all four. I can hardly wait for Chicago where Clinton's New Democrats have learned the financial virtues of corporate sharing.

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GOP continued...

(Continued from page 1)
 discussed his findings as detailed in his best-selling book, *A Separate Creation*, about the gay gene (maintaining the theory that "we are homosexual due to genetic make-up"). Burr, who was eloquently introduced by Texas' Log Cabin President Dale Carpenter, enthralled the crowded luncheon with his presentation of his research concluding that homosexuality is not learned behavior, rather it is genetically pre-disposed. Burr attributed the controversy surrounding his findings to an innate fear from the gay community as to what affect his research will have in terms of consequentiality (If they know what causes it, they might do something to stop it).

The Saturday evening banquet featuring Rep. Steve Gunderson (R-WI) and his life partner Rob Morris was filmed live by C-Span. Gunderson and Morris delivered the keynote address together with clever repartee and insightful anecdotes. Promoting their book, *house and home*, the couple demonstrated their compassion and commitment to each other in spite of their different political affiliations. Gunderson, who is not running for re-election, is a highly respected member of the House Republican Conference who has been an outspoken advocate on the virtues of tolerance. Rep. Jim Kolbe (R-AZ), who just recently came out, also visited with LCR members during an impromptu reception in the lobby of the convention site hotel.

Rep. Tom Campbell (R-CA) addressed the LCR conventioners at the Sunday luncheon to explain

his op-ed piece in the Los Angeles Times in defense of DOMA. Campbell, who has a good voting record on gay and lesbian civil rights, argued that not supporting DOMA would be inconsistent with his belief that the federal government should not impose their agenda on individual states. He reiterated his support for the rights of gays and lesbians to get married however, he believes that decision should be belong to the states. He followed his prepared remarks with a question and answer session that was informative and provided the group with thought provoking fodder. The LCR convention closed Monday morning with a prayer breakfast featuring the incomparable Rev. Mel White whose protests against the religious right are effective and legendary and have earned him the distinction of being one of their biggest nemesis'.

One of the main goals of this convention was to determine whether or not to endorse Bob Dole for president. After lengthy debate on the matter, the organizations Endorsement Committee recommended that a decision be postponed until after the Republican National Convention concludes. The group approved the recommendation, thereby delaying their position on the matter to a later date. The decision to delay came after raucous debate among members of the organization as to whether or not the Dole/Kemp ticket was deserving of our endorsement. "As a United States Senator, Bob Dole has had a non-discrimination policy in his office insuring fair treatment for his gay staff, supported legislation for people with AIDS, such as the Americans with Disabilities Act and the Ryan White Care Act," informed the LCR press release. "Much to our frustration, Bob Dole as a presidential candidate has repeatedly compromised, retreated or reversed himself under pressure from the extreme right," added the statement. "Therefore, Log Cabin Republicans will consider an endorsement of the Dole/Kemp ticket following the Republican National Convention. We urge Bob Dole and Jack Kemp to make clear exactly where gay and lesbian Americans fit into their vision for America in the next four years," said Log Cabin.

Following the press release and announcement of the groups decision, the Dole camp responded. "The Dole campaign would welcome the endorsement of Log Cabin Republicans as a sign that they too share the same beliefs as Bob Dole. Bob Dole has always held the belief that the GOP is an inclusive party," said Dole campaign spokesperson Christina Martin. "...We see this as a beginning step in opening a dialogue with the Dole Campaign and the Republican Party. We are encouraged by this historic development," responded David Greer, LCR Communications. Whether or not the aforementioned will earn the ticket an endorsement remains to be seen. What was evident throughout the LCR national convention is that there are many gay Republicans who are determined to challenge the religious right's dominance within the party apparatus. Republican candidates are starting to seek the support of the gay conservative lobby and their influence is gaining during the process, albeit gradually. Hundreds of gay Republicans descended upon this beautiful city to participate in the political process and coincidentally brought thousands of dollars of revenue to San Diego. They lobbied delegates, offered commentary to the media at will, and worked diligently to dispel any negative stereotypes that may be associated with gays and lesbians. In fact, they have done so with aplomb and effectiveness. At press time, the Christian Action Network's President Martin Mawyer challenged Log Cabin Republican Executive Director Rich Tafel to a debate, which he accepted. The debate took place last Tuesday at 2pm at the U.S. Grant Hotel and was televised for broadcast at a later date.

Curt Morrison, a member of Log Cabin Houston, is in San Diego covering the Log Cabin and Republican Party National Conventions. Next week he will report on the Republican National Convention.

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1 Through unprotected sex— Any unprotected sexual intercourse—especially vaginal or anal intercourse—puts you at risk for HIV. Oral sex can also be a mode of transmission although it is less risky than vaginal or anal intercourse. Your risk for HIV increases each time you have unprotected intimate sexual contact. Using a condom or dental dam during sex can greatly reduce the risk of HIV spreading.

2 Through blood— HIV travels in blood, and the risk of becoming infected is greatest when you are exposed to blood that carries HIV. If you have a problem with drugs, avoid sharing another person's needle or syringe.

3 Mother to Infant— HIV positive women can spread the virus to their infants before or during birth. Or, the newborn baby may become infected from breast milk. Because recent studies show that the risk can be reduced when the mother receives anti-HIV treatment, the US Public Health Service suggests that all pregnant women know their HIV status.

Talk to your healthcare provider about how to learn your HIV status...and take steps to avoid the spread of HIV.



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Comics continued...

(Continued from page 1)

crowd of friends that he was a "faggot", a label they sometimes threw at others. When playing in areas where he grew up, Kennedy says some of the people who knew him in school may be in for a surprise when they come to their show. "P.S., in case I forgot to tell you in junior high, I'm gay." He says he has done independent performances not titled "Gay Comedy" and when he comes out to the audience, they don't believe him. He says, "They'll come up after the show and tell me how funny they thought my gay character is." He tells them "Funnier than you know."

Several things strike you about Kevin. Although he has been described as the "Felix" of their odd-couple relationship and the quieter one of the two, he was very open and outgoing in our conversation. His blond, mid-western good looks and delightful smile warm you to him instantly. Although he is much thinner now than he appears many of the publicity photos, he feels good and is optimistic about the future because of the new therapies. He actually thinks coming out has helped his health. His HIV positive status has been incorporated in his act which he says was one of the scariest things he has ever done and he really struggled within himself before deciding to do so. He thinks it has been one of the best things he has ever done as it has been very liberating. He makes an analogy to the statement that "the truth will set you free". He adds he has received so much support from audiences, straight and gay, who either let him know they appreciate his candidness or share their own HIV status with him and thank him for giving them courage to come out or to make the decision to get tested. He knows that he is providing education as well as humor.

He now can even make cracks about his health, such as the fact that he has only two T-cells. "I named, Thelma and Louise," he quips. He also shared that when he was a kid he and his sisters who make fun of their grandmother. "She carried around like a whole suitcase full of pills, which was funny to us then. Now I can relate to what it was like for her. I take about 18 pills and have to do daily IVs. The thing about Grandma doesn't seem so funny now." He jokes that, "Of course, I now have less room in my luggage for my make-up." He says his illness has not been much of a problem even with their hectic schedule on the road. "Just when I first got sick, we were in Washington and I was in the hospital for ten days. That's when I found out that I was HIV positive."

Opening for the pair for both performances is Frank Lockwood. Lockwood had been in the audience one night and after the show asked Kennedy for advice about becoming a comic. Kennedy told him that the only way to do it was to "Just do it!" He took the advice and later showed up in a Houston's Funniest Person Contest at the Laff Stop where Kennedy was one of the judges although he didn't remember their prior meeting. Lockwood ran over his time so was disqualified from winning, but was so good that Kennedy asked him to open the Houston Show. Lockwood is a medical doctor and also openly gay. Scott and Kevin joked about being so successful that they now had their own doctor with them.

They don't exclude straight audiences or hetero-bash billing themselves as being "Hetero-friendly". Kennedy quips that "Some of our

best friends are straight. We know they were born that way and that's OK with us. We just don't know if we want them teaching our kids..."

Kennedy and Maye are among the pioneers of openly gay male performers, being among a handful that they know of. Maye states, "I like to think we're doing something that is on the cutting edge of a new era." They have often opened for Bob Smith, who they admire. Smith has appeared on the Tonight Show with Jay Leno as out performer. There are many more out lesbian performers, such as Kate Clinton, Lea DeLaria, Suzanne Westenhoffer and Georgia Ragsdale, and locally Vicky Shaw and Nancy Ford. The guys agree that the women have had more venues in which to perform, but things have changed so rapidly in the last few years. The thought of during the kind of show they do now five years ago would have been impossible. Gay visibility and acceptance has radically changed things. Kennedy has been in discussions with television producers regarding programming with gay characters, which may be at least 3 years away. But who knows, that could change with the right script and he will be ready when the time comes.

The guys let me know that attendees to their shows will have the first chance to buy tickets for an upcoming Suzanne Westenhoffer show scheduled for October. So come on to the Laff Stop and be ready to hold your sides, because you are bound to be sore from laughing.

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Immunity to HIV: 'Great White Hope' for Whites?

By Patricia Nell Warren

As headlines blare the big news about a mutant gene for HIV immunity, I am not too surprised. My years in agriculture and livestock breeding taught me that disease often spurs a living organism to mutate immunity. Some Dutch elms are immune to elm disease. Some food plants are bred to resist disease. Some animals inherit an immunity—to feline leukemia virus, for example. Why should humans be different?

What's worrisome about this news is that a racial label might be slapped on the mutant CCR5 gene. According to the Los Angeles Times, one researcher, Dr. Nathan R. Landau, states that around 1 out of 100 Western European whites are genetically resistant to HIV infection. By contrast, the Times said, both of the research teams announcing the news are stating that not one among several hundred Africans and Asians had the gene. But hold your horses. What is a "white"? Americans are taught to label themselves racially. Every day, we are presented with forms where we must check the right box for Caucasian, Native American, African American, Asian, Mexican-American, Pacific Islander, or Other. Many of us are "other"—meaning racially mixed. Yet this significant fact

often gets blurred. Why? Because, in so many cultures, the mixed-blood is an outcast. Since the days of slavery and tribal wars, many U.S. families have agonized at "passing for white." Some families stopped at nothing, including altering birth certificates, so they could sweep that Asian or native American grannie, or that bunch of "high yellow" cousins, under the rug.

So it is one thing to identify as "white," "black," etc. for survival reasons. It is also natural to identify as black or native American when the moment comes to reclaim pride in one's brown skin. But when it comes to scientific scrutiny of the actual millions of genes that are part of one's DNA, labels don't cut it. Take me, for example. I could pass for "white"—fair skin, blue-grey eyes, brown hair. But my native American blood is visible to anybody who looks hard. One many-times-great-grandmother of mine, Keziah, no last name recorded, who married a German-Quaker in the early 1800s, was evidently an escaped slave. Yet nothing in my outward appearance hints at Keziah's presence in my family tree. Many Americans have a similar background. Some who identify as "black" actually have strong native American blood, going back to intermarriage in early days. Some self-identified Latinos are visibly part African Ameri-

can. As for enrolled members of U.S. tribes, few are actually "pure." The rest are mixed-bloods, no matter how intensely they may feel otherwise.

People usually "identify" on what they see in the mirror—skin color, hair texture, build, etc. Geneticists refer to this as phenotype—inherited characteristics that are visible, or have a discernible result, as in inherited disease like hemophilia. But there is also genotype—the sum total of our DNA, which includes any recessive characteristics that we carry, but do not visibly express. If an ovum or sperm happens to carry a copy of that hidden gene, it will be quietly passed to the next generation. A single copy of a mutant or recessive gene can be wafted forward for 15 or 20 generations, before its carrier finally mates with another human who happens to have the same characteristic. Then, and only then, will it spring to view—as in hair color, or inherited disability, or immunity.

The CCR5 figures are supposedly based on over 1400 Western European "whites." Europeans are mixed too! Since Roman times, southern Europe was swept by trade, immigration and conquest from North Africa. More recent invasions of genes came from central Asian peoples—Turks, Magyars, Mongols. All these ethnic hues produced a

genetic rainbow that gave Hitler nightmares. Since 1960, the genetic swamping of Europe has continued unabated as immigrant workers of every ethnicity have flocked there. Indeed, this tiny, overcrowded continent is now boiling with its own brand of anti-immigrant feeling. Europe lily-white? Hardly.

So...what is behind the "white" phenotypes in these new studies? Who are their grandparents? Great-grandparents? Great-great-grandparents?

It's easy to see attitude coming, from white supremacists who will seize this research as their "great white hope"—what they view as more "proof" of Aryan superiority. Others, I'm sure, will hope that researchers are already taking a closer look at their subjects' family trees. Maybe, when the final tally is in, they'll find that immunity to HIV is influenced by another factor besides race.

So sorry, but this mixed-blood doesn't buy the "white" thing.

Patricia Nell Warren is author of *The Front Runner* and other bestselling books, as well as a widely published commentator. Her publisher is Wildcat Press.

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Guidelines

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Genetic Resistance to HIV

BY DEBORAH BELL

Two sets of researchers have found what appears to be a HIV resistant gene. Described as being present in the genetic makeup of one in every hundred "Whites." Researchers identified a so-called co-factor called CCR5, that is crucial to the infection of human cells by HIV earlier this summer it was reported in the Los Angeles Times.

The finding offers the possibility of developing an effective way to block the spread of the virus and explains why some individuals who have had repeated exposure do not develop the disease.

More than 1400 people were studied by two teams working in New York and Pennsylvania independently of one another. They have found that cells from the individuals who receive a copy of the defective

CCR5 gene from each of their parents are completely resistant to HIV infection.

The studies showed that those who received a defective copy of the gene from only one parent, appear to be more resistant to infection, but are not completely immune. This was reported as representing about 20% of the White population in *Cell* and *Nature* magazines.

Because this was found in fair skinned men, who were described as of European descent, the reports use the term "White." This terminology has been questioned by some.

The defective gene has no apparent adverse effects leading researchers to believe that they may be able to develop a drug that will block the CCR5 receptor which could slow the infection rate of the virus.

PWA Coalition Listed in 1996 POZ Givers Guide

The People with AIDS Coalition is the only Houston AIDS service organization to be listed for the second year in a row in the *POZ* Givers Guide. *POZ* is a monthly nationally distributed magazine dedicated to health, hope and providing HIV education. The Givers Guide looks into the financial health of 70 AIDS service organizations across the country. The guide provides information on how a group raises money and how it spends it before it's given.

The guide includes factual information as well as subjective evaluation and comments. It assigned grades for its inaugural 1995 survey. *POZ* polled seven executive directors and charitable-funding experts in order to establish its grading criteria. *POZ* used the same criteria to assign grades this year. The guide assigns grades for diversity in funding sources, use of money, cash reserve and representation on its Board of Directors.

The coalition, which received higher grades in this survey when compared with the 1995 survey was noted for offering

support groups and psychosocial support, direct living support, such as case management services and publishing significant original treatment information.

Executive Board President, Ray West commented, "I am quite proud of the 1996 *POZ* survey results. We continually strive to improve our current programs while adapting to the changing needs of our friends in the HIV/AIDS community. These clearly reflect our dedication and commitment to providing people living with HIV/AIDS empowered lives in comparison with other HIV/AIDS service organizations nationwide."

The People with AIDS Coalition Houston Inc. was founded in 1986 as an organization of, by, and for people infected by HIV/AIDS. Three quarters of the Coalition's volunteers are people living with HIV/AIDS.

PWACH is a 501(c)(3) organization with offices are located at 3400 Montrose Blvd. #106, Houston, TX 77006 or call 713/522-5428.

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Insurance company didn't tell man about positive test

By ALAN SAYRE
FOR THE HOUSTON VOICE

NEW ORLEANS, Saturday, Aug. 3 (AP)—For Jody Deramus, the shock was finding out that her husband had AIDS. Her anger came from learning his life insurance company had known he was infected—and steadfastly refused to tell him.

For 18 crucial months before an independent diagnosis revealed why he was getting sick so often, the couple tried unsuccessfully to conceive a child, exposing Mrs. Deramus to repeated unprotected sex.

Her husband died in 1991. So far, she says, she has tested negative for the virus—"a miracle," as she puts it.

On Monday, the 5th U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals will consider whether Jackson National Life Insurance Co. had the responsibility to tell Frank Deramus he had tested positive for the AIDS virus.

Mrs. Deramus, 53, who seeks unspecified damages, already has lost before a Mississippi federal judge, who ruled the company had no duty to disclose results of a

medical test used solely to determine insurance eligibility.

In court papers, Jackson National has not said why it withheld the results—only that it was within its rights to do so under Mississippi law. U.S. District Judge Henry T. Wingate of Jackson, Miss., agreed last September and dismissed the lawsuit without a trial.

One possible reason for Jackson National's decision—that it hoped Deramus would let his policy lapse and the company could then deny reinstatement—is suggested by Mrs. Deramus' appeal, which says a company memo instructed Jackson National employees to do just that.

"According to the judge, insurance companies can do this to anyone they want to, any time they want to. There's nothing we can do about it and there's something wrong with that," Mrs. Deramus said from Vienna, Va., where she now lives.

D. Collier Graham Jr., an attorney representing Jackson National, refused to discuss the case.

Mrs. Deramus has started a foundation aimed at lobbying Con-

gress to force disclosure of medical records to a policyholder or a person denied coverage. Currently, 29 states have disclosure laws. Mississippi does not.

In 1988, Deramus, a Jackson attorney, took a blood test as part of a routine examination required before Jackson National would consider increasing his coverage from \$500,000 to \$800,000.

The results showed he had been exposed to the virus that causes AIDS. Although he was denied additional coverage, in April 1988, for an unspecified medical reason, the company spurned numerous requests from him and his doctor for the test results, Mrs. Deramus alleges.

Shortly after learning the extra coverage had been denied, Deramus came down with a series of maladies—flu he could not shake, fatigue, headaches, loss of memory.

With a family history of cancer, the couple sought medical help, an 18-month hunt that eventually involved 26 doctors and, finally, a move to Virginia to be closer to Johns Hopkins University Hos-

pital.

Deramus had been asked whether he had engaged in AIDS-risky behavior, and always answered in the negative, but doctors at Johns Hopkins added a new question: Had Deramus been to Africa or been exposed to anyone from Africa?

A horrible bell tolled: In the mid-1980s, Deramus had been soaked in blood while helping an accident victim who had worked for about five years in Africa.

Deramus' resulting AIDS test, in Oct. 1989, was positive.

"We would see stories about AIDS in the newspapers and pass them by," Mrs. Deramus said. "They didn't affect us. We didn't engage in homosexual behavior, extramarital sex or use drugs. AIDS didn't affect us. How wrong we were."

When the other doctors found out about the diagnosis, their response was universal: "We didn't fit the profile," Mrs. Deramus said.

Deramus died in June 1991 at age 51, nine days after Jackson National finally released its test results to his doctor.

In his ruling, Wingate said it would have made no difference even if Jackson Life had informed Deramus of his condition, since AIDS remains incurably fatal. But the appeal contends Deramus might have gotten life-extending treatment had he known of the test results.

In addition, finding out that her husband had the AIDS virus while they were engaging in unprotected sex created stress-related problems for Mrs. Deramus that required psychiatric treatment, the appeal said.

While rejecting Deramus, Mrs. Deramus was granted life insurance coverage by Jackson National in a simultaneous application, even though the company was aware of her husband's condition, her appeal said.

"What's galling to me is that I can't change insurance companies now. If I applied with another company I'd have to tell them that I'd been exposed to someone with AIDS or they could accuse me of fraud," Mrs. Deramus said.

Rumor: Kemp is Gay

Articles in both the San Francisco *Independent* and *LGNY* (Lesbian and Gay New York) reported this week that Jack Kemp is rumored to be gay. The rumor originally stemmed from a 1967 *New York Times* article exposing a "homosexual ring" in then California Governor Ronald Reagan's administration. It resurfaced during a 1986 NBC "Today Show" interview in which he was asked if he had ever had a homosexual experience. *LGNY* reporter Andy Humm explained that "when someone being hailed as supposedly tolerant and committed to civil rights is in reality someone who shuts the door in the faces of gay people on every single issue, it becomes relevant if he is homosexual. It's something he is going to have to address."

Kemp was quoted in the *New York Times* on August 11 as saying, "I believe in civil liberties for homosexuals. I guess I'd draw the line at letting them teach in the schools."

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Avengers Hold Yard Sale

The Lesbian Avengers Houston Chapter will hold a Yard Sale Fund-raiser on Saturday, August 17 from 10:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m., at 2610 White Oak (in the Heights). Saleable items are still being accepted as donations. Call their voice mail at 397-5062 if you have something to offer.

Soiree VI Starts Early

Soiree Aubergine, beginning their sixth year of existence, is having a raffle. Three sets of two tickets each will be raffled for Elton John's Smash Hits Celebrity Tennis Match to be held Thursday, Sept. 12 at the Summit.

Raffle ticket sales begin Friday, Aug. 16, with the winners being announced Sunday, Sept. 8, at Gentry. To purchase tickets, ask any Soiree member or your favorite bartender at Gentry. You need not be present to win. Ticket prices are \$2 each or three for \$5.

Soiree Aubergine, through various activities, strives to completely fund the Bering Care Center Meals Program each year. Thanks to the community's generosity, donations have allowed Soiree to attain their goal from year to year. Tennis anyone?

Crossroads Meeting

Crossroads, a spiritual, educational and social organization for Gays, Lesbi-

ans, Bisexuals and Transgender people who have been or are on a church staff in any capacity, is planning its next meeting for Saturday, August 17 beginning at 11:00 a.m. The meeting location is undisclosed to protect the confidentiality of those attending.

"The Rhetoric of Intolerance: An Open Letter Video to Pat Robertson" produced by Dr. Mel White, former Southern Baptist minister, author, and ghost writer for the likes of Pat Robertson, Jerry Falwell, Oliver North and Billy Graham, will be featured. Dr. White has attracted national attention since publicly coming out and an ensuing incident of a trespassing arrest and then going on a fast until his message was delivered to Pat Robertson.

For more information please contact Rev. Johnny Peden at 681-9082.

HPMA Brunch

The Houston Professional Men's Association has planned their August brunch at Crostini, 2411 S. Shepherd, for Sunday, August 18, beginning at 1:00 p.m.

The \$18 brunch includes two mimosas or orange juices, tax and tip. The restaurant features an Italian menu. Those wishing to attend should RSVP to Steve immediately, at 520-9083.

Male Survivors

The Montrose Counseling Center is offer-

ing a therapy group for gay male survivors of childhood sexual abuse. The group is designed to provide a safe environment for men who share this type of experience to work together to resolve the impacts of the trauma on everyday life.

Services are provided on a sliding scale basis and insurance is accepted. Certain restrictions apply. Call Shane Hennesey at 529-0037 for more information.

BCBC Hurricane '96

Brought to you by the Bayou City Boy's Club (BCBC) and forecast to hit land Saturday, August 24, Hurricane '96 will rage through the night fed by energy of 1000 dancing men gathered in the Garden in the Heights, 3926 Feagan, from 10:00 p.m. until 3:00 a.m.

This annual tropical event will produce torrential benefits for Omega House, The Assistance Fund and HIV/AIDS Education and Services of the Houston Red Cross. At the eye of the storm will be DJ Mike Mitchell, blowing in from Los Angeles, who will provide some of the hottest music of the season for those weathering the night.

The Hurricane '96 survival kit (consisting of tickets, which include an open bar and a map) may be purchased in advance for \$30 locally at Basic Brothers and LOBO or \$40 at the door (if available). LOBO Austin also has tickets for sale.

BCBC's recent hot-house fund-raiser, JUNGLE LUST IV, raised \$30,000 for local

agencies. Body Positive/Houston, AIDS Foundation Houston and Houston Clinical Research Network each received \$10,000.

BCBC is a volunteer non-profit 501(c)(3) organization established to raise funds for HIV/AIDS research, service and care. For more information about Hurricane '96 call 521-3696 or 222-6621 ext. 326.

Responsible Investing

Socially responsible investing and how to build an investment portfolio which compliments your views on topics such as: the environment; equal opportunity employment; defense spending; animal testing; employee relations; and charitable contributions, will be presented at The Lovett Inn, 501 Lovett Blvd., Thursday, August 22 from 6 to 7:30 p.m.

Sponsored by Merrill Lynch and presented by Scott Garrison, participants are encouraged to give a \$10 donation to AFH/Stone Soup. Please telephone Scott at 840-4816 for more information or reservations.

Want To Parade?

Notice is hereby given that Thanksgiving morning, Nov. 28, the 1996 Bank United Thanksgiving Parade will roll through the streets of downtown Houston spreading good will, good times and holiday greetings to all Houstonians.

Come join the fun. The search is on for marching groups (musical, twirling, dancing) musicians, skaters, low riders, gymnasts, clowns, cowboys and cowgirls, Christmas Carolers, cheerleaders, costumed groups and other assorted talents.

The parade will begin at 9:00 a.m. and will wind its way through a route that covers 25 city blocks beginning at Smith and Walker and ending at Louisiana and Walker. The theme for 1996 will be "Once Upon a Time" and will be based on children's storybook tales.

For more information on how to join in on the fun, and an application, contact Beth Craig at 782-8811.

Smoke Free Dining

Tobacco Free Greater Houston will provide readers a list of smoke-free restaurants in the Houston area.

The coalition includes organizations such as the American Cancer Society, American Heart Association, American Lung Association, along with concerned individuals. The group works to promote health through the reduction of youth access to tobacco and the promotion of a smoke-free environment.

For a smoke-free restaurant guide, send a self-addressed stamped envelope to Tobacco Free Greater Houston, P.O. Box 890769, Houston, TX 77289-0769.

Grief Seminars

Two free grief seminars: one for the bereaved entitled "The Heart of Grief: Lessons in Hope and Healing" and one for professional and volunteer caregivers seeking to enhance their caregiving skills entitled "Lessons in Caring for the Dying" will be held at the Ramada Hotel Astrodome/Medical Center Wednesday, August 21. World-renowned author, lecturer and practicing clinical thanatologist Dr. Alan E. Wolfelt will be the facilitator of these free informational and inspirational programs.

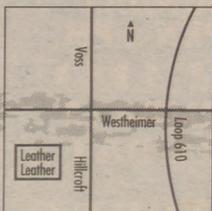
"Lessons in Caring for the Dying" will begin at 1:00 p.m. and will focus on the importance of the role of the professional and volunteer caregiver in the lives of the terminally ill. Three hours of continuing education units are available for LPC, TAADAC and social work. The evening session entitled "Lessons in Hope and Healing" will begin at 7:00 p.m. and is designed to help the bereaved cope with their feeling of loss.

This seminar is underwritten as a community service by Crespo Funeral Homes. Cosponsors include AARP/Widowed Persons Service, Memorial Healthcare Systems and The Grief Center of Texas.

Registration will begin 30 minutes prior to the start of each session. To preregister for the seminar or to request more information, contact Madeline Crespo at 485-2711.



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FORK AND SPOON

Restaurant Review

Be Yourself at Mackmurdo's

By WILMA SUMMORS

I recently took some friends to Mackmurdo's, "Houston's Casual American Restaurant & Bar," at 6006 Westheimer @ Nantucket. Mackmurdo's serves lunch & dinner from 11:00 a.m. to 10:00 p.m. Sunday—Thursday, and 11:00 a.m. to 11:00 p.m. Friday & Saturday. Portions of all meals looked like



(L-R) Hostesses Oshrat & Peggy get ready for a grand evening at Mackmurdo's

enough to feed David Duke's Summer Camp for Easily Influenced Idiots with prices ranging from \$2.95 to \$12.95. The interior is based on a theater concept, where the restaurant acts as a stage and the people are the actors. Individuals are invited to be and enjoy themselves. We certainly were!! While Mackmurdo's is not gay owned, there were certainly quite a few of Dorothy's friends in attendance that night!

Not that I drink or anything, but I managed to taste a Frozen Mackmurdo's which was pureed mandarin oranges blended with vodka (no, it wasn't McCormick), fresh tangerine juice and served frozen with a splash of Grand Marnier. Mackmurdo's also offers a wide variety of beers and other cocktails, but after the Frozen Mackmurdo's, who cared?

The waiter purported that some of the menu favorites are crab cakes, grilled chicken salad, ravioli with gorgonzola, pumpkin seed crusted rainbow trout. ...wait a minute, I seem to be getting hungry, so bring on the fork! Okay! Much better now! To continue, the grilled loin of pork and roast stuffed chicken are also favorites. Yes, Cervo-volyn, there were quite a few tasty-looking vegetarian dishes available.

I started out with a cup of tomato basil soup—absolutely deeeelish! The soup was a Castillian cream with romano & garlic croutons. Bread is served once you start with your appetizers. Pulleez girls—you must serve the bread warm!! Even though the menu was tempting me with items like grilled sirloin strips (you all know how much I despise beef), spaghetti with calamari & shrimp and scallopini of chicken, I went with the spaghetti marinara (even Grandma can't

mess this up). To my surprise, the spaghetti was incredible! I don't know what Mackmurdo's does with their basil & garlic, but I would love to tiptoe through their garden at my earliest convenience—without the pumps! Don't burst the girdle yet—you simply must save room for dessert. I guess the waiter noticed my fit & trim physique and decided I had to have a piece of their rice pudding with cinnamon & sweet cream. Someone call Betty Ford! I'm hooked!! In case you are interested, they also serve white chocolate torte with pistachio sauce, fruit & nut tart with honey vanilla sauce and poached pear with vanilla ice cream & raspberry sauce, to name a few. The ambience was exquisite, if you like loud barns!! A little acoustical tile would seem to be the cure. Once the Sun Goddess decides Houston has sweat enough, the fenced outdoor seating will be a nice place to sit, knit, and have fits looking at the beautiful people driving down Westheimer. General Manager Steve Oxen, formerly of Auntie Pasto's, Rusty Pelican, Pappadeaux and Two Pesos has his crew ready and waiting for you. Call me a cab—it's time to continue my Waist Watchers Diet at my next stop!! Be forking with you real soon!! Rating—3-3/4 triangles

RATING SCALE

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Houston Restaurants beware, Wilma may soon be in your establishment with fork & spoon in hand.

Theft Reduction Campaign

The Houston Police Department unveiled a new THEFT REDUCTION CAMPAIGN aimed at reducing theft and burglary of motor vehicle crimes in the downtown Central Business District. The campaign's theme, "Downtown Houston, Lowest In Crime, Help Keep It That Way," is an awareness message that encourages community participation with a simple crime prevention message: DO NOT LEAVE POSSESSIONS IN YOUR VEHICLE.

The Theft reduction campaign is a year long effort to reduce theft by a minimum of 5%. Theft continues to be the most reported crime in Houston, but it is among the most preventable. The theft reduction signs should be installed in all parking lots and garages in the downtown Central Business District by Sept. 30, 1996. The on-going theft reduction campaign will have monthly crime prevention goals through July, 1997.

The campaign theme: "Downtown Houston, Lowest In Crime, Help Keep It That Way," is based on per capita total reported crime, for

any major U.C.R. reporting area in Houston. For the period 1991 to 1995, Uptown Business District, followed by the downtown Central Business District had the lowest total reported crime. Major U.C.R. reporting areas include the twenty (20) Master Police Districts and the six (6) Special Reporting Districts including, Central Business District, Neartown Business Area, Uptown Business Area, 3rd Ward Area, 5th Ward Area, and the Greenspoint Business Area. Per capita population is based on residents or employees who spend 8 to 10 hours per day in the areas and does not include transient or short term visitors. This definition of per capita more closely aligns business areas and neighborhoods and only includes those who spend significant portions of their day in an area.

The downtown Central Business district has a daytime (8 to 10 hour) population of approximately 141,000. For 1995, reported crimes per thousand were 13.46 as compared to the next lowest major reporting area of 20.26 for the Uptown Business Area.

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This & That!

by Jon Anthony

Connie Stevens returns to television this Fall after a lengthy hiatus. Stevens has been signed to portray Pamela Anderson Lee's mother on the syndicated smash *Baywatch*.... **Jon Bon Jovi's** movie career appears to be shaping up. The rocker extraordinaire has just wrapped a movie titled *The Leading Man* and is set to begin filming the **Joe Eszterhas** scripted *Original Sin* this fall.... **The Smashing Pumpkins** resume their tour this fall beginning Aug. 27 with new bandmates in pivotal positions. **Matt Walker** on the drums and **Dennis Flemion** will helm the keyboards.... Nepotism prevails. *Fox News* has hired **Robert F. Kennedy's** youngest son, Doug, 28, as a reporter.... **Liza Minnelli** has issued a statement negating reports of her impending couplehood. Minnelli contends that she is "happily single at the moment,".... Only a legendary patron of the arts could draw such A-list talent to a retrospective. In attendance: **Julia Roberts, Mick Jagger, Gianni Versace, Woody Allen, Jodie Foster, Liam Neeson, Paul Newman, David Bowie, Michael Keaton, Liza Minnelli, Sting, Jeff Goldblum, Laura Dern and Faye Dunaway** to name a few. The legend: **Picasso**. The Museum of Modern Art is holding a Picasso retrospective that runs through Sept. 17 in New York.... What's an anchor to do? **Bryant Gumbel** is being wooed by CNN, CBS and ABC among others. Gumbel, whose NBC contract expires in January, is weighing options. NBC has yet to hold talks with their *Today Show* host of the past 15 years. Gumbel said last year that this would be his final stint on the morning staple. CBS has offered Gumbel his own prime-time show, a chance to anchor golf coverage (his favorite sport) and the coveted heir apparent position as evening news anchor when **Dan Rather** retires. ABC countered with the promise of giving Gumbel the *Nightline* mantle when **Ted Koppel** exits and also offered him a prime-time show. CNN told Gumbel he can write his own ticket. My

prediction: Gumbel will remain at NBC where he has worked for the past 24 years.... **The Fugees, Alanis Morissette, Dr. Dre and Nas** are slated to perform at the 1996 MTV Video Music Awards airing live from Radio City Music Hall Sept. 4.... **Al Pacino** makes his Broadway directorial debut in the **Eugene O'Neill** play *Hughie* which opens Aug. 22 and runs through Sept 14. Pacino also stars in the play.... **Colin Powell** is the individual most Americans would like to have dinner with according to a poll conducted by Good Housekeeping.... **The Eagles' Hell Freezes Over** tour conclude last week in Edinburgh, Scotland. Performance magazine said the concert played 165 shows in the past 26 months to 3.5 million fans grossing \$165 million.... **Claudette Colbert** bequeathed most of her \$3.5 million estate to her longtime friend and companion **Helen O'Hagan**. Colbert did last month at the age of 92.... **Herb Ritts** celebrated his 44th birthday in grand style last week at the now-defunct Perino's restaurant, a **Marilyn Monroe** favorite. Pals like **Madonna, Roseanne, RuPaul, Ellen DeGeneres, Ben Stiller, Sandy Gallin, Michael Stipe and Diana Ross** joined the evenings festivities.... Rumors of her demise to the contrary, **Joan Lunden** has re-upped her stint on *Good Morning America* for three more years.... **Paula Zahn** will take over the helm of the Saturday *CBS Evening News* on Aug. 24. **Bob Schieffer** who held that distinction for the last 20 years will continue in his other posts as chief Washington correspondent and host of *Face The Nation*.... **Tom Clancy's** new book, *Executive Orders* (Putnam, \$27.95), featuring the inimitable **Jack Ryan** has just been published. Orders is mired in politics as Ryan becomes president through circumstance.... Celebrities are not traditionally Republican, so it would stand to reason that there are not very many high profile entertainment figures in San Diego. The few who did lend their support: **Chuck Norris, Sonny Bono, Alec**

and **Billy Baldwin, Chynna Phillips and Norman Mailer**. Republican stalwarts **Bruce Willis, Tom Selleck and Arnold Schwarzenegger** will not be present due to prior commitments.... **Bob Hope** will be the recipient of a lifetime achievement award recognizing his contributions to family entertainment on the Family Film Awards, which airs on CBS Aug. 22. **Beau Bridges, Anna Chlumski and Joey Lawrence** host the event.... **Fabio**, the former romance novel coverboy and *I Can't Believe It's Not Butter* pitchman, has inked a deal with General Mills to endorse Frosted Cheerios in an advertisement campaign that begins airing Labor Day weekend. Fabio is also amidst negotiations to become a spokesman for a large retail chain. It's amazing what good pectorals can do for career enhancement.... The *Friends* cast showed up to work last Monday to begin rehearsing for their third season on NBC. At press time, there was no word on whether Warner Bros. ponied up the demanded salary of \$100,000 for each cast member per episode. Sources indicate the crew is working in good faith during the negotiation period.... **Catherine Crier** returns to the Cable arena. Crier who was wooed by ABC from CNN three years ago will join the new Fox Cable upstart all news channel as host of a nightly talk show.... **Randy Travis (Full Circle), Suzy Bogguss (Give Me Some Wheels), Tom Petty and the Heartbreakers (She's the One) and Glenn Miller (The Lost Recordings)** have all released new CDs this week in the hopes that you run to the record store and purchase them.... DreamWorks has reportedly nixed the release of a remix of the 70's smash Funkytown recorded as a duet by **Henry Rollins and RuPaul**. It seems as though the label feels that Rollin's association with RuPaul could damage his macho man image.... Legendary Country crooner **George Jones** just released his latest album, *I Lived to Tell It All*, which is the title of his best-selling autobiography released last year....

Milestones: Mary Thompson died as a result of cardiac arrest last week. Thompson resided in Orlando, FL, never smoked and kept a .22 in her bra. Thompson was the US oldest recorded citizen. At 120 years old, Thompson certainly reached a milestone and did so with aplomb.... **Making the Rounds: Valerie Harper** guests on CBS' *Touched by an Angel* Sat., Aug 18 at 8pm. **Sting** chat's with **Larry King** Aug. 21 at 8pm on CNN and visits **Jay Leno** on *The Tonight Show* Aug. 22 at 10:35pm on NBC affiliate Channel 2. **Melissa Etheridge** visits with **David Letterman** on his CBS *Late Show* Aug 22 at 10:35pm on CBS affiliate Channel 11. **Shania Twain** is scheduled to appear on the *Today Show* on Aug 23 at 7am on NBC. Renowned mime expert **Marcel Marceau** will have a one on one with **Lauren Hutton** on her late night show Aug. 23 at 1:05 am on UPN affiliate Channel 20. **Dean Martin, Liberace, Sammy Davis Jr. and Jerry Lewis** will be profiled this week on A&E's *Biography* series. *Biography* airs nightly at 7pm with an encore at 11pm.... **Top of the Charts: Robin Williams'** film *Jack* raked in the most receipts over the weekend to be the #1 box-office hit of the week. *Seinfeld* resumes its position as the highest rated show on television after the brouhaha over the Olympics. **Patricia Cromwell's Cause of Death** continues to dominate the number one position on the bestselling list for fiction. Meanwhile, **Gary Aldrich's** tome *Unlimited Access* rules the non-fiction list according to the New York Times. *Beats, Rhymes and Life* by **A Tribe Called Quest** is the hottest selling album in the country and 13 year old sensation **Leann Rimes** dominates the Country sales chart with her sultry hit *Blue*, according to *Billboard Magazine*.... **Quote of the Week: "Did you know every single athlete that you have seen on your television screen has been tested for drugs?... Or as NBC calls it: Must Pee TV." -- Jay Leno on the Tonight Show.**

8/17 Star Studded Saturday Show 11:00pm

Hostess



Tara Dion

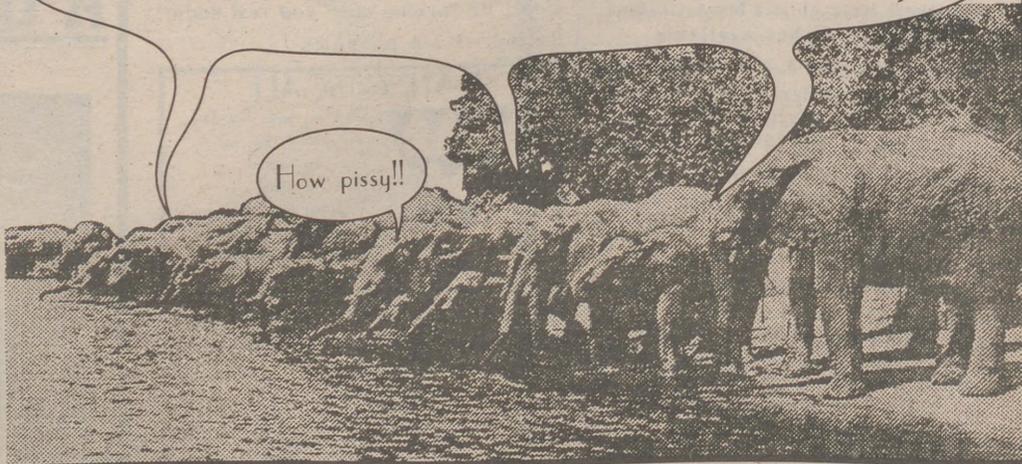
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SAT	8/17	SATURDAY SHOW at 11pm with Tara
SUN	8/18	\$1 Budweiser & Bud Light All Day All Night
MON	8/19	MALE STRIP CONTEST at 11:00pm with Paivi
TUE	8/20	Amateur/Talent Night at 11pm with Paivi
WED	8/21	Granny's Burgers



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Hill Announces for City Council Seat

Community activist Ray Hill has announced that he will seek election to a city council seat this November in what is expected to be a crowded race with as many as 20 contenders vying for the position. The At-large District #4 seat is currently held by John Peavy Jr. who has announced his resignation.

Hill has been an occasional candidate in previous races. Zoning is among the issues Hill says he is concerned with stating, "There are 15 voting members around the city council table including the Mayor and none of them seem to remember that the voters rejected zoning in a 1993 referendum." Hill continued by claiming, "Zoning failed in Montrose precincts because the city announced well in advance that the gay business district on Pacific Street would remain for a limited time and could not expand as our community grew."

"Basically government should stay out of people's lives," asserts Hill. He makes claims against two of the members of City Council by saying, "Helen Huey wants to decide what choices adults have to spend their entertainment dollars and Martha Wong wants to decide what books, magazines and videos we can read or view. The rest of City Council feels obligated to give them the power to do so. This is a silly waste of tax and police resources that are needed elsewhere." During the Texas legislative session, Hill works as a paid lobbyist for businesses that sell "adult material," such as books and videos. Hill charges that the City Council Chamber is an echo chamber. He claims there is little dissent at City Hall because they agree ahead of time to avoid conflict. Hill states, "The voters may not want 14 Ray Hills on City Council but we do not need 15 Bob Laniers either. There should be enough disagreement to create compromises in the interest of the public. As things are now there are no opportunities for compromise."

Concerning Metro funds Hill says that we are headed for a future with major mobility problems because Metro funds are being used for short term goals instead of long term planning. Hill adds, "The city administration has drained Metro's bank accounts to support costs unrelated to mobility. Now they want to get the Olympic Games here to justify the use of other tax sources to do what Metro funds were supposed to do in the first place. Poor planning and poor priorities are the result of the go along to get along attitude in Council Chamber."

Ray Hill is well known in the community as being outspoken and a bit of an agitator. He hosts "The Prison Program" on KPFT radio on Sunday afternoons, a volunteer position which he will have to leave during the time he is running for office. The fact that he has a prison record is often brought up against him. Hill was arrested and imprisoned for commercial burglary. He responds by saying that he did the crimes and paid his time. He "retired" from that business in 1970.

Hill promises to develop positions on other issues as the campaign continues.

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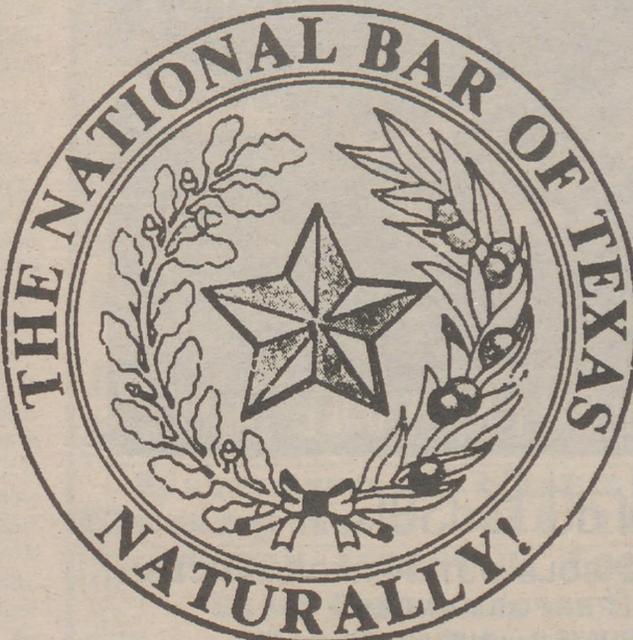
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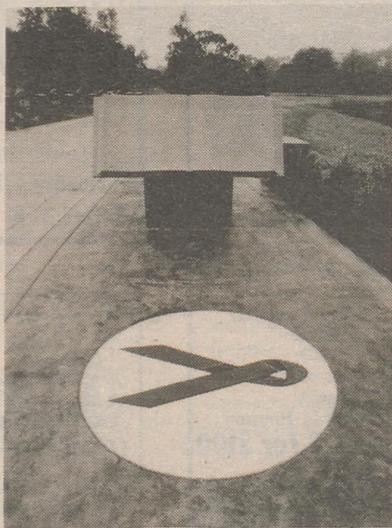
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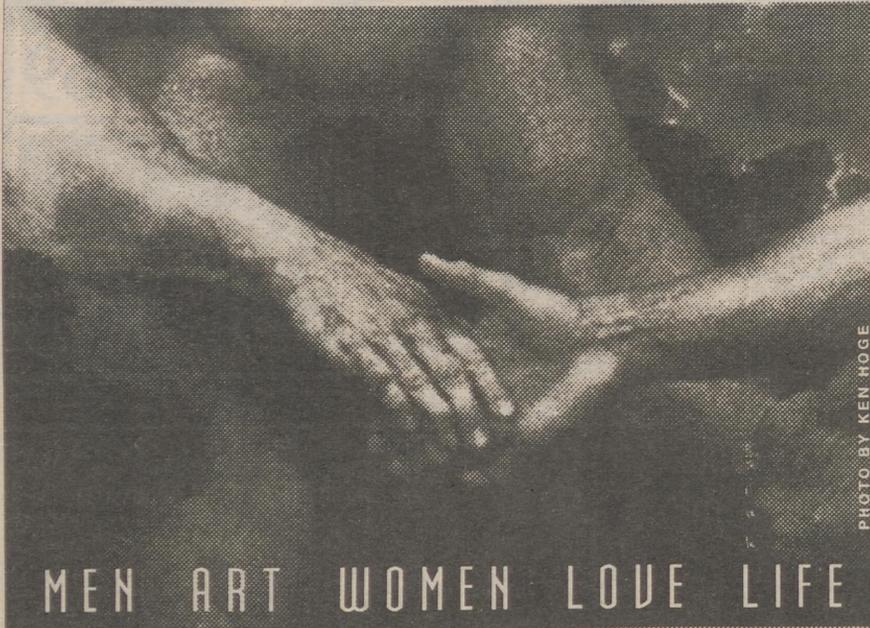


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*What a World,
What a World...*

by Nancy Ford appears bi-weekly in the Houston Voice.

Walgreens continued...

(Continued from page 1)

Walgreens Inc.
200 Wilmot Rd. #2264
Deerfield, IL 600015-4681

Or call 1-847-940-2500.

2. Send a copy of your letter to:

Mr. Anwar, Store Manager
3317 Montrose Blvd.
Houston, TX 77006

or call at 520-8000 or go by in person and tell him of your displeasure.

HGLPC maintains that these people need to be told that removing The magazine from distribution at their store is a clear slap in the face of the Gay & Lesbian community because no other business (such as Krogers or Whole Foods) have removed the magazine because it was found objectionable. Walgreens removed total distribution on the complaint of one person. That this is unacceptable to the Gay and Lesbian community was expressed in a letter that was sent to the Walgreens Corporate office by Gandy. The letter made several other points as well.

The theme of the banned magazine that particular month was "safe sex" and the article cited as being offensive by only one customer, was on "oral sex". This magazine has no pictures except in a few ads and sometimes pictures of the authors of the articles. There are not even ads for places which are characterized by some as "SOBs" or sexually oriented businesses.

In a conversation with Mr. Ed King at the Walgreens Corporate office, the policy of Walgreens regarding objectionable material was explained. Gandy expressed resentment with the fact that The magazine was lumped with magazines advocating violence and other anti-social behaviors and/or of a sexually exploitative genre. Because it was regarded so, as a result of this one article, it was subject to executive review and the decision being to remove the magazine and other future issues from the shelf devoted to "freebie" literature.

The implications of this decision are:

- That this magazine is in the same category as magazines of violence, anti-social behavior and so-called "male sophisticate" magazines.

- That because of one article in one magazine issue, which without pictures, spoke of oral sex, the issue theme being "safe sex", the magazine was removed for all time from the free distribution shelves at the Walgreens Montrose store on the complaint of one person!

- That a magazine issue devoted to safe sex and more specifically oral sex is inappropriate material for this community. One would think that Walgreens would want to support the idea of health education appropriate to the community served by that particular store.

The first implication is bad enough and the evidence of the magazine itself belies it being in this category.

The second point indicates that blatant discrimination against the Gay & Lesbian community is at work! If, for example, all the

other stores in the area had removed the magazine perhaps it could be said that this is a just decision. In this case however, many other businesses such as Krogers and Whole Foods which have as diverse a clientele in this neighborhood as does Walgreens still stock the magazine!

The third point belies a problem with free speech rights when they are connected to health education that one person may find objectionable.

Gandy says she also finds it objectionable to read all those silly headlines from pulp magazines that Walgreens sells to heterosexuals but doesn't demand their removal because she supports free speech no matter how distasteful she personally finds it.

Walgreens' decision seems ill advised. No proper criteria apparently exist which would lend it the aura of an objective decision. Since no such criteria seem to exist, it can only be surmised that this decision lacked objectivity and falls into the category of homopredjudiced behavior, which is clearly discriminatory.

The HGLPC has embarked upon a program to establish the entire Montrose area as a Discrimination Free Zone. They intend to ask all businesses in the area to sign on to the project. Refusing to present the magazine along with other "freebies" when most other businesses do include it, is an act which the Caucus deems discriminatory.

Gandy on behalf of the Caucus requested dialog with Walgreens on this issue, which could result in more objective criteria being applied, so that other magazines must meet the same criteria as the magazine! It is hoped that this can be done quickly and without any resort to direct action.

The organization generally does not do direct action, preferring to negotiate and discuss to reach accord, but HGLPC has been known to take such action. It was hoped that this issue could be worked out in a manner that is satisfactory to all concerned. Other groups in the community such as Queer Nation, Act-up and the Lesbian Avengers are known for their direct action tactics. These groups as well as supportive individuals may decide to take actions against Walgreens such as protests and boycotts.

In a statement to the media Gandy said, "Perhaps, they feel as if there are no other drug stores for Gay men and Lesbians to go to in the Montrose area. This is corporate arrogance of the worst sort. The corporate office has not even given us the courtesy of a reply to a letter I wrote them on June 30, 1996 and I know that they got the letter because I have a copy of the return receipt from the post office!"

Gandy continued by stating, "Walgreens profits on AIDS related medicines alone at this store must be huge and they think it is OK to remove a magazine from their store whose issue that month was devoted to "safe sex". Kroger did not think the issue objectionable, neither did Whole Foods. What do you think could be going through the head of the local manager and the corporate heads? I am appalled at what comes into my mind!"

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Super Weekend Shows Schedules
Showtime 11:00 pm

Friday, August 16th Miss Zack Ashlee Houston Leah Halston Victoria Nicole	Saturday, August 17th Miss Zack Paivi Lee Love Sivi Ross Kara Dion	Sunday, August 18th Diane Jackson Sivi Ross Leah Halston Victoria Nicole
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Friday, August 23rd Miss Zack Paivi Lee Love Frankie Lane Kara Dion	Saturday, August 24th Miss Zack Brandi Houston Erica Lane Ashlee Houston	Sunday, August 25th Miss Zack Kara Dion Sivi Ross Leah Halston
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ASK THE PASTOR



Rev. Janet Parker

Q: "DO YOU BELIEVE THAT BEING GAY IS A CHOICE? IS BEING GAY SIMPLY THE LIFESTYLE THAT SOMEONE CHOOSES OR ARE WE MADE THAT WAY?"

A: The best person to ask is a gay person. Most people who are gay will tell you that it is not a choice. Many people have recollections about their sexual orientation as early as age two or three. Other people delayed in dealing with their sexual orientation in hopes of fitting in with society. Marriage has been experienced by many gay/lesbian people with little success. For a person who has chosen not to act upon their gayness, they generally end up living a celibate life. Many do not marry. If it was a choice, it seems that a person would be able, with intervention, to make adjustments to live in the heterosexual world and be happy. Unless a person is bisexual, they would probably not be content in the heterosexual world. Why would a person choose to be gay when: 1. it is frowned upon by society, 2. there is significant discrimination, 3. relationships are not recognized by the legal system and the church at large, 4. families disown members because they are gay, and 5. churches tell gay people that God condemns them for "being gay." My own personal experience tells me that being gay/lesbian is not a choice. What becomes a choice for us is to learn how to be all that God has designed for us to be as gay/lesbian people. We do this by connecting with God, our Creator. We can then learn to celebrate who we are instead of defending who we are. We need to face fear and hatred by others and not be ashamed. I do believe that God made a diversity of sexual orientations. Why are we to judge another person if they do not conform to our own standards? If an individual can settle the issue, that it is not a choice, then I believe that they can then go on in life and be very fulfilled. One needs to surround themselves with a community of affirming and supportive people. When a person finds a good, healthy role model in the gay/lesbian community, they have found a good thing. Many people come to our church to see if a person really can be gay and Christian. People are searching to find someone who defies the stereotype of what the world thinks a gay/lesbian person to be, simply because they do not fit the mold. I pray that you will find peace in your heart about being gay/lesbian. Jesus Christ is the one who can give you that peace. We must learn to love ourselves and the One who made us this way!

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

Church Calendar of Events

Friday-8/16

* "Your Sacred Self"—study group using the best seller by Wayne Dyer. COME learn more about your sacred self, sacred sisters & brothers, & the sacred, loving Creator God who made it so. At Kingdom Community Church 862-7533

* Catholic Mass at 10:00 a.m. at Kolbe Project 522-8182

Saturday-8/17

* Services at 7:30 pm at Dignity Church 880-2872

Sunday-8/18

* Maranatha Fellowship Metropolitan Church Services "A Study in the Gospel of Mark" and "The 'I' Factor," (How to be a positive influence on others as a witness for Christ) at 10:00 a.m. Praise and Worship, Ministry of the Word, Drama and Personal Ministry. 11:00 a.m. at Maranatha Fellowship 528-6756

* MCCR worship services 9:00 a.m. & 11:00 a.m. 861-9149

* Worship Service 11:00 a.m. at Faith and Hope Fellowship 773-4429

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

* First Unitarian Universalist Church Sunday Services at 9:30 a.m. and 11:30 a.m. 526-5200

* Services at 5:30 pm Dignity Church 880-2872

* Community Gospel Church worship service at 11:00 a.m. & 7:00 pm 880-9235

* Houston Mission Church worship service at 10:30 a.m. 529-8225

* Kingdom Community Church worship service at 11:00 a.m. Sunday School at 10:00 a.m. 862-7533 "The Celestine Prophecy, An Experiential Guide" at 10:00 am

* Ecumenical Catholic Church Mass at 10:15 a.m. 526-8095

* Covenant Baptist Church Worship service 1:30 pm and education hour at 3:00 pm 668-8830

* Bering Memorial United Methodist Church Worship service. 10:50 a.m. Seekers class 9:15 a.m. 526-1017

Monday-8/19

* Catholic Mass at 7:30 pm Kolbe Project 522-8182

* MCCR Handbell Choir Rehearsal at 7:00 pm 861-9149

Tuesday-8/20

* MCCR: Empowerment for Living support group & pot luck dinner at 6:00 pm, Gloryland Singers at 8:00 pm, The Gospel Ensemble at 6:00 pm 861-9149

* PROTECT meets at Bering Church. 520-7870.

* Small home groups meet to sing, share their faith and pray for one another at 7:30 p.m. These groups are open to all people. Maranatha Fellowship at 528-6756 for location each week.

Wednesday-8/21

* MCCR Bible Study 7:30 pm 861-9149

* Worship Service 7:30 pm at Faith and Hope Fellowship 773-4429

* MCCR: Jubilation Mixed Ensemble meets at 6:30 pm Midweek uplift service at 7:00 pm, Bible Study, Lecture Series & Choir Rehearsal 7:30 pm 861-9149

* "A Course in Miracles"—Study Group using the book, published by the Foundation for Inner Peace, which is aimed at removing the blocks to our awareness of one's presence Kingdom Community Church 7:30 pm 862-7533.

* Ecumenical Catholic Church Mass at 7:00 pm 526-8095

* Small home groups meet to sing, share their faith and pray for one another at 7:30 p.m. These groups are open to all people. Maranatha Fellowship at 528-6756 for location each week.

Thursday-8/22

* Bible Study 7 Pm At Faith And Hope Fellowship 773-4429

* Community Gospel Church worship service 7:30 pm 880-9235

* Healing Service and Anointing at Kolbe Project, 7:30 p.m. 522-8182

* AIDS Affected Group meets at Community Gospel Church. 7:00 pm 880-9235.

If you want an event listed in this section, please call 529-8490.

**KINGDOM
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Sunday School - 10 A.M.
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(Handicap accessible)
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For info. on weekly home groups, call
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Building Gets New Lease On Life

The Grande Dame of Gramercy Place has just gotten a face lift, and is poised to enter Houston Society with a fresh new look and a delightfully old-fashioned attitude. Bell Park Antiques & Interiors Inc. now inhabits the historic building at 4817 Montrose in the museum district with an appropriate nod to its long-standing reign as the belle of Bell Park.



Gramercy Place Building has New "old" look

Constructed in 1925, the two-story building flaunts the graceful lines of its European ancestors, and remains one of the few examples of belle epoch architecture which once dominated Montrose Boulevard. Although it appears to have been designed for a prominent family's residence, the building was conceived by the Bell family as the centerpiece in an innovative mixed-use residential and commercial development on the East side of Montrose between Banks and Bissonnet. The interior layout echoes that of a home, with rooms that suggest living, dining, and sleeping areas. However, a more in depth inspection reveals no closets, kitchen, or bathroom facilities were ever a part of the original design.

Through the years the building has housed many types of businesses. It is perhaps its latest incarnation as a showplace for lovely antique store,

nostalgic collectibles, and limited edition porcelain dolls that is most befitting its graceful heritage. Everything old seems new again.

The proprietors are Donald Hendershot and David Wood, who spent weeks recreating an interior ambience consistent with the landmark building's innate charm. The walls are painted in soft pastel shades of rose, peach, and dove gray; the homey hues are reflected in the glossy patina of natural oak parquet flooring. "We made an effort to showcase each room as though a part of someone's home," said Hendershot.

"We hate going into antique stores and not being able to see what things look like because they are all crowded together."

With tall live oaks in the front providing welcome shade from the Summer sun, the belle of Bell Park seems once more to be decked out in finery.

Auditions for Group Theatre Workshops Productions

The Group (Theatre Workshop) will hold auditions for their upcoming double-feature of *Dos Lesbos* and *Two Boys In A Bed On A Cold Winter's Night*. Producer and director Joe Watts, is planning to showcase the pieces on consecutive nights at a new, innovative performance space.

One woman around 30 years old is needed for *Dos Lesbos*. This two character comedy-drama by Terry Baum and Carolyn Meyers ran for two years in San Francisco and was nominated for both the Bay Area Theater Critics' Playwrights and Cable Car Theater Awards. The Group's production will be the first time for the play to be directed by a

male.

Two males around age 35 with good physiques are needed for *Two Boys In A Bed On a Cold Winter's Night*. This new play by James Edwin Parker has had successful productions in New York, San Francisco, Los Angeles and is currently running in London.

Actors interested are invited to the open auditions at the Lovett Inn located at 501 Lovett Blvd on Saturday and Sunday, August 24th and 25th from 2 to 4:00 p.m. Auditions will be read from the script. For more information contact Joe Watts at 713/522-2204.

Houston Attorney Honored

The State Bar Association of Texas has awarded its 1996 Scurlock Award to Houston lawyer Mitchell Katine for his work in making free legal services available to HIV/AIDS patients who otherwise would not be able to afford even simple basic legal help.

Katine has worked without charge for indigent HIV/AIDS patients since the mid 1980s and serves as the volunteer

legal counsel for two Houston area AIDS agencies. Much of Katine's legal assistance has been to help people with HIV/AIDS in estate planning, insurance issues, and job discrimination complaints. Katine has offered along with social worker Roseann Houseman a series of "How to..." workshops addressing the legal problems faced by people with HIV/AIDS. To find out more about these, call 961-7100.

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Your HOUSTON VOICE appreciates your news lead or feature story ideas. Call us (best time: Thursday or Friday) at 529-8490 (Fax: 529-9531).

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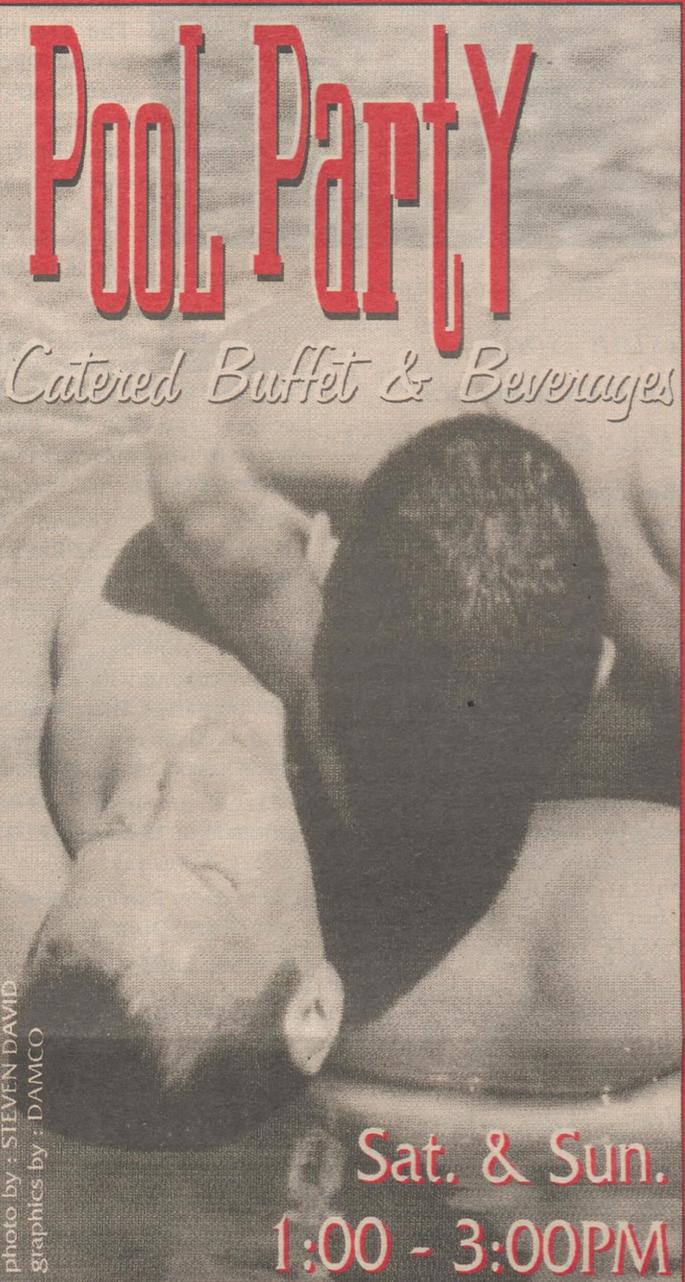
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Fundraisers and Tiaras!



Miss Bayou City US of A held at E/J's

Houston Soap

By CAROLYN ROBERTS

Past Events

JJ LaRue sponsored a fundraiser at Chances last Friday night! \$1,532 was raised to be donated to Casa De Esperanza! Keep up the good work! Mr. Prime Choice candidate Ken (Daddy of Montrose) Claude had a "nearly naked" car wash this past Saturday. \$675 was raised to be donated to Steven's House! Way to wash it!

Congrats to Lana Blake! She was crowned Miss Bayou City US of A this past weekend. Nicole Stevens was chosen 1st alternate, and both of these fine performers will be going on to Miss Texas US of A.

The fundraiser at Gentry for the Royal, Sovereign and Imperial Court of the Single Star raised \$606 for their PR Ball.

Friday, Aug. 16

The Lancers Motorcycle Club will be guest bartending "top" side tonight at the Venture-N. Head up the stairs at 9:00 pm and have a cocktail or two!

There is a cocktail reception for Chris Magisano and Paul DeRigne at the Hyde Park Gallery. Join Larry Crawford at the gallery from 7:00 pm to 10:00 pm and check out this exhibit.

The lovely Tara Dion hosts the male strip contest tonight at E/J's. The butts get bare starting at 11:00 pm.

The Brazos River Bottom has a tasty buffet tonight at 5:00 pm and reduced drink prices until 9:00 pm. The country way to start off your weekend! Miss Zack, Ashlee Houston, Leah Halston, and Victoria Nicole take the stage at Cousin's tonight at 11:00 pm.

Rich's kicks off their 13th anniversary party weekend tonight with the

Black and White Ball. Adult mega star Ryan Idol is on the menu of festivities!

Saturday, Aug. 17

The Trading Post is having a pool tournament tonight at 8:00 pm. There is a \$5 entry fee. The Trading Post offers really cheap beer prices and they also offer set-ups. If you need directions, call 726-1963.

The Club Houston has a pool party today from 1:00 pm to 3:00 pm with a catered buffet and refreshing beverages! The Club Houston is a great place to work on your tan, work out your body, or just hang out!

Direct from "Cowboy La Cage," Dyan Michaels aka Reba commands the stage tonight at Bacchus II. Her one (wo)man show starts at 11:00 pm.

Rich's continues their anniversary weekend with a customer appreciation party! There will be no cover from 9:00 pm to 11:00 pm, really cheap drink prices, and surprises in store!

Mary's, naturally has happy hour prices from 7:00 am to 7:00 pm this and every Saturday!

Miss Zack, Paivi Lee Love, Sivi Ross, and Kara Dion grace the stage of Cousin's tonight at 11:00 pm.

Sunday, Aug. 18

Miss Bunny O'Hare-Miss BriarPatch will be presenting her next to the last farewell performance tonight at the BriarPatch starting at 8:30 pm. This is not your "everyday garden variety drag show," but her reign of terror finale! All this will benefit Stone Soup.

There is an 8-ball tournament at 5:00 pm today at Gentry, plus bad boys with big boats brighten your early evening. Then at 9:00 pm, help send Black Velvet to the Miss Gay Texas US of A contest by stuffing dollars in her bra and by enjoying the show. The Sunday male strip frenzy follows at 11:00 pm. A full day of fun at Gentry!

The drinks are cheap and the bartenders are easy at the Ripcord! This and every Sunday the Ripcord offers \$1.50 well cocktails and domestic beers all day and all night!

"Grin-N-Bear-It" tonight at the Venture-N. Join hostess Anita Mann and sponsor Leather Forever for this bear contest that starts at 8:00 pm.

The Houston Area Bears will be guest bartending also on the Far Side for this warm and fuzzy function!

Trash disco pounds the walls of the Montrose Mining Company this and every Sunday! All well Bloody Marys, Screwdrivers, Cape Cods, Madras, Kamikazes, and domestic longnecks are only \$1.75. All day and all night! The men, the music, the Mine!

Crystal Rae Lee Love hosts the "Grand Ole

Opry" tonight at the Brazos River Bottom. This is a benefit for the Colt 45's Stone Soup! Show time is 8:00 pm.

E/J's offers Bud and Bud light for only a buck all day and all night on Sundays!

The Chocolate Covered Cherries Band rocks at Chances this afternoon. The house rocks from 4:00 pm to 8:00 pm.

It would not be Sunday without a drag show at Cousin's. This week's super stars are Diane Jackson, Sivi Ross, Leah Halston, and Victoria Nicole! Miss Zack actually took the night off! The show starts at 11:00 pm.

J.R.'s Party Bar offers 99¢ vodka juice drinks today.

Are you a sports junkie? The Trading Post is the answer for you! They show sports on the big screen today and every day!

Friends and family of Stephen Bralick will be celebrating his life this afternoon at Mary's, naturally with a balloon release at 3:00 pm.

The super Sunday show at Heaven boasts the talents of the world infamous Miss Dyan Michaels, Jennifer St. John, and Monica Teash. These super stars take the stage at 11:00 pm. Be sure to get there early to take advantage of the reduced cover from 8:00 pm to 9:00 pm and 50¢ well drinks from 8:00 pm to 10:00 pm.

Monday, Aug. 19

The Gay Comedy Jam: Freedom Tour hits the Laff Stop tonight. Outrageously funny guys Scott Kennedy and Kevin Maye will get you down on the floor 'til you pee in your pants laughing! Tickets will go fast, so call 524-2333 now!

Monday blues got you? Head over to the BriarPatch and have them cheer you up by playing the songs you want to hear. Always live, never karaoke at the BriarPatch.

You can win \$50 tonight at Berry Hill II! Enter in their karaoke contest which starts at 8:00 pm.

Longnecks are only a buck today from 8:00 pm to 11:00 pm at Mary's, naturally!

Tuesday, Aug. 20

Scott Kennedy and Kevin Maye have their finale 1996 Houston performance tonight at the Laff Stop! These guys are too funny for words! Call 524-2333 to reserve your tickets! This is a night of giggles you should not miss!

Gentry is hosting a pizza party at 7:00 pm and will be showing the "official" 1996 Pride Parade video. The bad boys take the stage at 9:00 pm. Be sure to try on Gentry's tasty \$2 Kamikazes!

Paivi Lee Love hosts the amateur talent contest tonight at E/J's. If you have an act, or something you want to try out, E/J's is the place to do it! The contest starts at 11:00 pm.

Tuesdays are twisted at the Ripcord. Stop in to check to see which truly twisted videos are playing!

There is no cover if you show your personalized business card at Pacific Street tonight for Young Executive night! Have fiscal sense with \$1.25 well cocktails, \$1.75 beer, \$3 call, \$3.50 premium, and \$1.25 schnapps tonight and every night!

\$1 domestic longnecks are the ticket all day and all night at the Brazos River



Cameron gets married?

Bottom today and every Tuesday! Scoot down and have a few!

Wednesday, Aug. 21

The bad boys dance at Gentry starting at 7:00 pm. Robert Rodriguez is having a show at 10:00 pm to help him on his way to Mr. Gay World. Then at 11:00 pm, the lovely Regina Dane hosts the male strip contest!

Bacchus II is the place where professional women meet on Wednesdays! Stop in for the 6:00 pm buffet and party all night long!

Shiela Lennon takes the stage of Chances tonight for a night of music! You can join in the fun with karaoke! Show time is 9:00 pm.

Grandma grills up big burgers on the patio of E/J's tonight!

Prime Meet! Join the best in Houston with a "Be my guest" card that you can get from your favorite bartender! The doors open at 9:00 pm. Pacific Street, where real men still dance!

Thursday, Aug. 22

The Gentry "Social Club" meets today and every day until 7:00 pm, featuring \$1.50 well drinks, \$1.75 domestic longnecks, and \$3.50 Absolut martinis. The only membership requirement is your presence. The bad boys dance starting at 9:00 pm.

Cousin's has a talent contest tonight at 11:30 p.m. Maybe you could win the \$50 cash prize!

Sexx! Show your valid membership card to Club Houston (or any other gym card) to the doorman at Pacific Street and he will let you in free! Be sure to grab a peek at the towel boys dancing in cages! The doors open at 9:00 pm.

The 611 Hyde Park Pub has giant hamburgers for a buck tonight from 6:00 pm to 9:00 pm.



Boys will be boys!



Mr. Drummer contest at Pacific Street

Fashion Sheriff Polices Montrose!



Enjoying cocktails at Rascal's

Other Important Stuff

The Houston Voice would like to welcome Rascals to our family of advertisers! Rascals is located at 1318 Westheimer (next to McDonald's.) Happy hours are 4:00 pm to 8:00 pm with \$1.25 well cocktails and \$1.50 domestic beers. They have a different drink special every day! Rascals offers a variety of venues to choose from. The downstairs is a dance bar; upstairs offers a pool room, VIP bar with a big screen, and what I'm calling the Rainbow Room offers a delightful view of the downtown skyline! Check out their ad on page 13.

Jewel's is a delightful little shop on Taft (at Fairview.) She has tons and tons of wigs, sequined gowns, shoes, and bunches of pretty glittery things to wear! Stop in and shop till you drop.

Don't forget that the Venture-N offers 84 hours a week of reduced drink prices!

Basic Brothers' sale racks are bulging! Stop in and help them clear the racks with up to 50% off on tons of merchandise! They are also having a swim wear sale! Basic Brothers is your out and proud clothing store!

The Labor Day Funk Fest will be at Incognito on August 31 at 9:00 pm. If you would like more info, call 237-9431.

Leather Leather has a great sale going on right now! For only \$1,999 you can actually purchase an entire leather living room suite and receive a free ottoman to match! Choose from 2 of Leather Leather's hottest styles, pick from 30 colors, and have it delivered in two weeks! All of Leather Leather's furniture is hand made and built in their own factory. See their ad on page 14.

Hurricane '96 blows into Houston August 24. This annual party sponsored by the Bayou City Boys Club is an event not to be missed! For ticket info, call 521-3696.

Ladies! Attention! Do you remember Ean's? Well, it is now called Chee-



Nancy (Bite Me!) Ford enjoys fish!

tahs and they have ladies for ladies dancers on Saturday, Monday, and Tuesday nights! Check it out! Be sure to look in next week's issue for their ad!

Birthday Corner

Happy birthdays to George L., Tristan M., and Bart B. of the Houston Area Bears!

Happy birthday to Lexy B. of the Court!

A special birthday message to Bruce P. from Shelby K.: I love you so much, you are the single most important thing in my whole world! I am so proud to say I'm your husband. Love always, "Goo"

Rodent Droppings

Harvey scared me to death last week! He would not wake up! He wasn't breathing. Couldn't find a pulse. Ok, I'm in tears. After shaking him, talking to him, and kissing his little head for almost 10 minutes, I opened up his little mouth and blew in it! Yeah, mouth to Ferret resuscitation, His little eyes opened and he had this look on his face like "What's wrong, Mom. Why are you crying?" Well, I wanted to kill him for scaring me like that. I have been closely observing him and he appears to be ok!

Disclaimer is in force!

Guy (Club Houston): Maybe someday you will grow up to be a big blue M&M!

Jessica (hangs at Gentry): Is Glenda really built like a Black Maglight?

Guy Cowden: I understand that you did a big jaw drop when Skip got on the stage of Chances!

Brandon (Club Houston): What is this I hear about you having a blue M&M fetish?

Mike (Gentry): I hear that you got the new voice activated phone dialing and programmed Woody's (Gentry) number in as "my studly!"

Civo (Mr. BriarPatch): Is it true you are planning to enter the Miss BriarPatch contest so you can wear two crowns!

Aaron (Rascals): And I quote: "And if it is better than sex, I want two cases!"

David (Ripcord): Are you really going to get a tan? But we like your vampire look! And I understand that Montezuma took his revenge on you!

Wayne (BriarPatch): Are they really throwing you a surprise birthday party on Saturday night? Is the North Carolina "connection" due in for the celebration? Just checking!

Ruby Stone (RSICSS): Dagger throwing?

Vera (BRB): How come when you go on vacation, Bill Havard's (BRB) bar tab goes to zero? I heard that your husband packed clean underwear, his toothbrush, and condoms. Your vacation suitcase contains Polygrip, Preparation H and support hose!

Leona (hangs at Chances): How is your Hudson shaking? Do you need a leash in the valley?

Steve C. (RSICSS): What was it that Empress I Jose, the widow Norton said could not be talked about in Ft. Worth under threat of her imperial wrath? I've heard it was something about a road, perhaps a freeway or a tollway. Oh yeah, maybe it was a parkway ... perhaps Central Parkway?

Roy (Chances): You should not use a penis pump on your tits!

Jim Halbert (RSICSS): I heard that you liked Toronto so much that you are going back for more Peter!

Sam (BRB): I hear you fall from bar stools gracefully, even when they are pulled out from under you!

Racy (Chances): What do you, Rose, and 10 dogs have in common?

Lee Davis (Houston Voice): LuLu (E/J's) wants to see you!

Tommy Sue (BRB): I heard that you can slip in and out of a bar faster than big Mike (BRB) lost his virginity.

Don (hangs on every bar stool in town): Why do you keep playing the song "I'm Leaving you for Another Man" over and over? I wonder if you are thinking of Judy?

Timmy (hangs at PS): Riding the Hershey hiway again?

Day Leigh Edwards: Is velvet really black? NAKED!!!!!!

Stacy (Ms. Bacchus II): What car wash?

Shawna St. John: So how much does it cost to buy your own roses?

Steven Baker (BRB): Does the word punctuality mean anything to you?

Pumpkin (PS): I hear you had a Cuervo drinking contest? Smart thing not inviting me! I would have won!

Ron (Venture-N): Why do your fellow employees call you "Parrot Barbie?"

Betsy (Ranch): Did you enjoy your dinner of Maraschino cherries and crackers?

Nancy (Bite Me) Ford: How was that escargot?

Mark (Venture-N): I saw you grunting like a pig rooting for truffles on the patio!

Miss A. (BRB): I heard that John (BRB) wanted to take you for a ride on his motorcycle, but you would not ride side saddle.

Dana (Texas Riders) Were you really "munching kitty" in the bathroom at the airport?

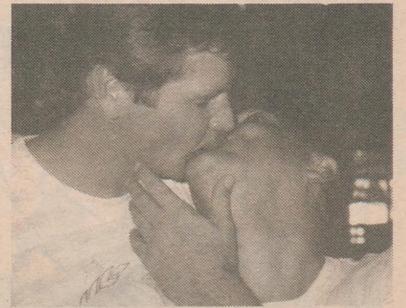
Alex (hangs with Glen and Robert): Someone told me that your buns look like two perfect honeydew melons!

John (Venture-N): You have shoulders like Herman Munster and a haircut to match!

Jim (Ripcord): And I quote: "I'm 37 years old and I still leap for a boner!"

Jeff (BRB) and Les: I want to see your new baby, Waddles!

Tom Sawyer (Ripcord): I understand that your house guest thinks your kitchen is infested with a large rodent! I like a little ferret doodoo with my coffee, doesn't everyone? I have a new guest



Rickydon sucking face, again!

columnist that will be spewing out his thoughts as the "Fashion Sheriff." Please let me know how you feel about this type of guest columnist!

TTFN

Cuervolyn

The Fashion Sheriff

From the Design Studios of Mr. Illwell, evil twin of Mr. Blackwell, twice removed!

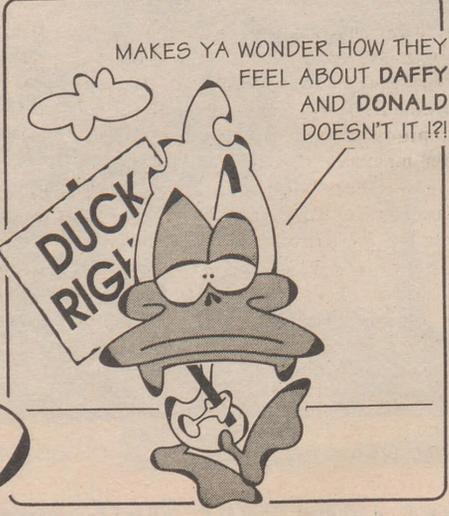
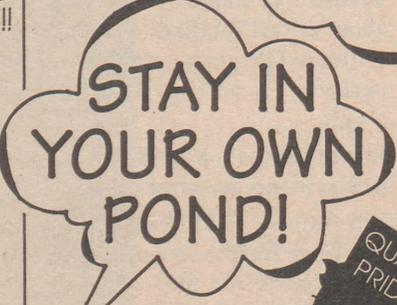
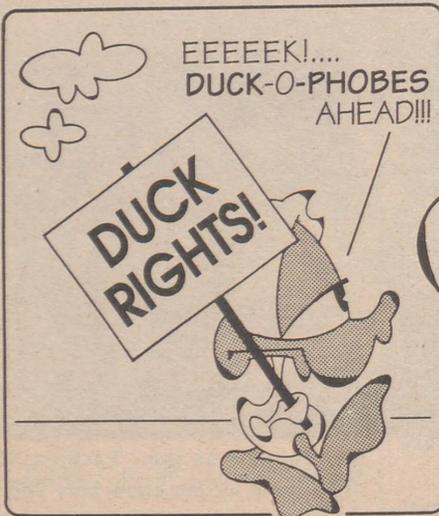
For far too long, well known people in the Montrose area have gotten away with substandard attire and appearance, by trying to convince others that they are in style. When the truth of the matter is that they have no clue as to what comprises style or good taste. I have relocated to Houston and feel it is my duty to expose these atrocities against fashion and good grooming. This column is meant to be comedic in nature and is not meant to hurt or maliciously malign any one person or group, and the Houston Voice is not responsible for any of my insanities! Therefore I feel it is my duty to offer up the best and worst dressed people in the community. Now getting down to business. Ruby Stone's illegitimate sister from New York showed off her talent (so to speak) by exposing the crowd to her nearly developed body at a fundraiser Friday night at Chances. If you missed this act, God bless you. Meanwhile JJ Larue was sporting a new hairdo inspired by Freddie Kruger. (I'm afraid of you girl.) Some of the girls in this show that night would do well to take tips from Renee Monroe and Jennifer Ellsworth. As they appeared as "Pearls amidst Swine." By the way Ruby, Anne Margaret called and she wants her hair back. This is my column for this week. I'll be watching and waiting to hear from you. Dress well, look well, and be well.

Mr. Illwell



Clowning around at the Brazos River Bottom

such is LIFE!



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1440 Harold - 526-1017
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6610 Alder - 668-8830
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1307 Yale, Suite H - 880-2872
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2603 Southmore - 522-9030
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- AIDS FOUNDATION HOUSTON**
Weslayan - 623-6796
- MARGARET DiJACKLIN & ASSOC.**
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4140 Southwest Frwy. Ste. 402 - 961-7100
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(800) 54-PRIDE
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794-5232
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Please report errors and corrections to the HOUSTON VOICE - (713) 529-8490 (Issue 825)

A Statement from the Lesbian Avengers

The following was presented for publication in the Houston Voice. It concerns the firing of Pearland High School Softball coach Holly Nuber after the state championship win of the Lady Oilers. Nuber maintains that one reason for her firing was her "alleged" sexual orientation. The Lesbian Avengers responded by writing with weedkiller in the grass the words "Hate Kills" outside the Administration Building and "Homophobia High" next to the school building. Nuber runs a lawn mowing/landscaping business in the Summer and had been thought to be responsible for the Avengers' action.

STATEMENT by THE LESBIAN AVENGERS :

It has been brought to our attention that many consider our choice of tactics (regarding the Pearland ISD action in particular) to be (at least) questionable; and to some, counterproductive or just plain wrong.

In light of these questions, we would like to clarify the position that we are taking on this action, to wit: that the struggle against homophobia has yielded many small 'victories' in the form of some small concessions by the dominant culture, but—none which—even begin to provide the protection and security which are supposed to be guaranteed by our Constitution. We are not protected from hate crimes; we can still lose our jobs, our homes, or our children and have no legal recourse; we may not marry or adopt; and, in many states, the physical expression of same-gender sexual love is punishable by law.

In light of these facts, the 'victories' obtained through four and more decades of homosexual organization seem like nothing so much as crumbs from the table of heterosexual privilege, and the user-friendly techniques of our predecessors in this movement appear as a noble attempt to do things the "right" way, an attempt which operated on an assumption of mutual respect for basic humanity on both sides. It is with regret that we conclude that to continue to extend this respect to our oppressor is impractical in the face of said oppressors continued failure to surrender his position of institutionalized supremacy.

The Lesbian Avengers recognize that our options within the system are being exhausted at an alarming rate; and that the

highest achievement of this approach, Bill Clinton's claim of support, was eventually revealed to be no more than a political expedient to be immediately forgotten upon inauguration.

It has become obvious to us that new tactics are necessary, and that these might not be comfortable, legal, safe, or polite. This is not a struggle; it has to be a war; and as our armies are outnumbered ten to one it would be ingenuous to attempt this battle on open ground. Guerrilla tactics are not adopted just for the hell of it, or out of any particular affection for mischief, vandalism, or sneakiness in general.

As concerns the Pearland action—if our oppressor has so little respect for us as to (allegedly) deny one of our (alleged) own her means to life and livelihood, why should we respect the integrity of their lawns (purchased with the tax dollars which are the asking price of our government for our citizenship, which continues to be withheld by said government)?

We killed their grass. Some say we should have tried ... What? a picket? A petition? A boycott? No. The Lesbian Avengers are saying: "Enough! Enough of this respectful requesting of our oppressors: Please be nicer to us! Please let us be people, too. Enough!" We killed their grass. The Lesbian Avengers saw an injustice occurring and moved to confront it as we thought appropriate. If our actions are seen as damaging to the public image of our community, all I can say is that there was plenty of room out there in Pearland for anyone else who cared to act in any other way which might be considered more palatable. If any think that there was a better way to represent the concerns of our community, all I can say is that they should have been there.

To Holly—one of our foremost concerns in formulating this action was that it not reflect badly upon you or your case. We regret that we did not know about your summer business. We tried to make it very clear through the flyers posted at the weedkill sites that we were reacting to homophobia in general and independently of any connection to you or your appeal except as it served to reveal the prejudice of Pearland ISD. It could have been anything that set us off, from textbook censorship to student hazing and so on. We are very sorry for any inconvenience which we may have caused to you.

The September SPIN

This month in SPIN Magazine

"AIDS: WORDS FROM THE FRONT—HOME ALONE" —Anyone who walks into a drugstore will soon be able to test themselves for HIV with a personal kit and an 800 number—privately and anonymously. Staff writer Celia Farber examines the process by which the kit was approved and some potentially serious problems with the concept. The kit, sold under the brand name Confide by Johnson & Johnson, was approved by the FDA in May 1996 and will soon be on shelves. The obvious benefit is that buying a kit is much less intimidating than a visit to the clinic. But the absence of direct counseling for those who test positive could prove to be questionable health care. "By far the gravest concern, however, is the isolation factor," says Farber. "What if people simply hang up and commit suicide? A home test for pregnancy is one thing, but a home test for a virus

believed by most Americans to be the equivalent of a death sentence?"

"REBEL GIRL" —It took her critically acclaimed portrayal of would-be assassin Valerie Solanis in this year's *I Shot Andy Warhol* for actress Lili Taylor to be fully recognized for her stable of weird, ugly and homicidal characters. Taylor has played the obsessed ex-lover in *Say Anything*, River Phoenix's entry into an "ugly date" contest in *Dogfight*, and the Queens B-girl mom in *Girlstown*, which comes out in August. After years of forsaking the Hollywood routine for more challenging and complicated roles, Taylor's career is finally on the rise. "So many female roles in commercial movies are just devices, not a lot of energy, not a lot of fun," says Taylor. "I always wanted to be the detective or the pirate, not just the girl by his side."

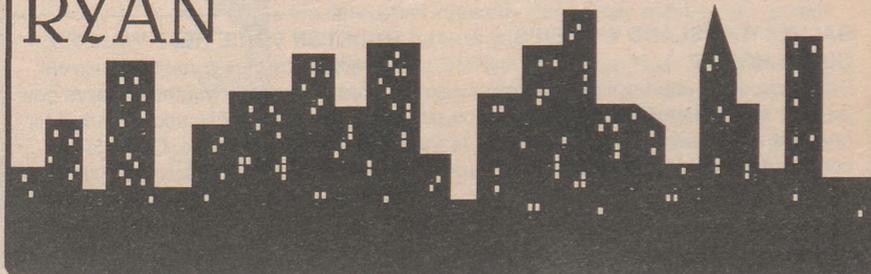
Focus group - wanted

participants to critique and give direction to The Houston Voice. For details call 529-8490. Leave name and phone number.

811 Professional Office Space
W Available in Montrose

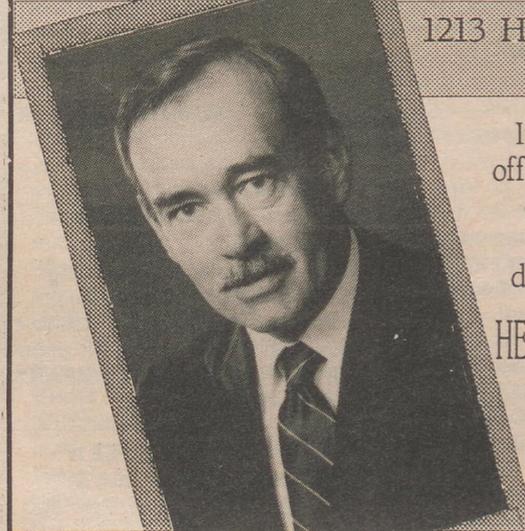
Westheimer

Bob Leasing and Management
RYAN 713/523-1600



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(713) 520-0653



Internal medical practice offering discreet confidential care to the community, including HIV/AIDS diagnostics & therapeutics

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On Your Next Visit to Houston ...

What you get at the motel on the highway & what you get at the Montrose Inn

Motel: Heterosexuals with kids fighting next door.
Montrose Inn: Gay men next door. Only gay men. Nothing but gay men.

Motel: Several miles to the gay bars.
Montrose Inn: 5 tiny blocks to the gay bars.

Motel: Drive to the gay bars & pay \$5 to park, if you can find parking. Or take a \$15 cab.
Montrose Inn: Walk to the gay bars. Or take a \$3 cab.

Motel: Drive back from the gay bars and risk the cops making you walk the straight line. Or take a \$15 cab.
Montrose Inn: Walk back from the gay bars. Or take a \$3 cab.

Motel: Pay \$35 to \$95 a night for a room.
Montrose Inn: Pay \$41 to \$79 a night for a room.

Motel: Eat in their restaurant. Food for the masses. Pay plenty. \$1 soft drink machine.
Montrose Inn: Complimentary late night sandwiches & full breakfast the next day. Free soft drinks, juices, coffee 24 hours.

Motel: Cruise the parking lot and get threatened.
Montrose Inn: Cruise the hallways. Please!

Motel: The receptionist sneers at you.
Montrose Inn: The receptionist winks at you.

Motel: Washing machine? Ironing board? Hair dryer? Refrigerator? Stove? Microwave? VCR & gay movies? Are you kidding?
Montrose Inn: All of the above. Free to use.

Motel: Full size bed, everything else is plastic.
Montrose Inn: Queen size bed, hardwood floors, hardly any plastic.

Motel: Maid knocking 8 a.m., you moan but she's coming in anyway. Checkout 11 a.m.
Montrose Inn: Handsome man next door knocking 11 a.m. to join him for breakfast. Checkout 1 p.m.

Reservations requested. 1-800-357-1228. The house at 408 Avondale.

The Montrose Inn is NOT a motel. We're NOT a hotel. We're a Bed & Breakfast. (And we're Basic & Butch. We're the B&B that's B&B.) We're completely different!

CLASSIFIEDS

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

ACCOMODATIONS

GALVESTON ISLAND WOMEN'S GUEST HOUSE
Charming queen bedrooms, sundeck, jacuzzi, many amenities! Half block to beach & many restaurants. Deluxe continental breakfast. Non-smoking. (409) 763-2450 for brochure.

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Revolution! Galvanism! Galvan 1611 Holman Houston Texas 77004.

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SHARON PARK VILLAGE - Galleria area - Offering 1 & 2 bedroom apartments with 8 sparkling pools, fitness center and on-site store and dry cleaners. A gated community set in lush courtyards will complement your lifestyle. No application fee with this AD. Prices start at \$385. 1 Free Month with 12 month lease. Call 667-5620 or stop by 5600 Chimney Rock, just south of 59. Open 9-6 daily.

TOWNHOME: 2bdm/2-1/2ba, 1,420 sq. ft., fireplace, wetbar, new carpet, patio, free cable & HBO. Very nice. Ideal for roommates. 5917 Fairdale. Available now. \$795/mo. 728-2570.

MONTROSE: Turning 1st floor in old house into apt. Presently needs work but can be seen. Handyman needs no deposit. \$450/mo includes all utilities. Cable. Gas heat/stove. 529-4693.

APARTMENT FOR LEASE
MONTROSE: 2 bdrm/1ba, 900+ sq. ft., study, w/d, 2nd flr, \$550/mo, \$500 dep. + utilities. Available 9/1. Call 528-2850.

GARAGE APT
5 minutes to Montrose. \$485/mo; large 1 bdrm; ac; carpet; w/d hookup; dishwasher; cable. 921-4703.

FOR SALE

G.E. electric dryer \$75.00, and late '50's Tappan Gas Range w/chrome and stainless top, \$150.00. 529-4693.

Duncan Phyfe style c.1950 china cabinet and dining table w/4 lyre back chairs w/needlepoint seats. Table folds to 24" and extends to over 8'. \$1,300.00. Queen Anne style secretary 4 drawer, folding desk and hutch. \$700.00. All in excellent condition. 524-1571.

Duncan Phyfe sofa and coffee table, \$500.00. Single horse trailer, \$500.00. (713) 802-0980 or (713) 802-0195.

GYM MEMBERSHIP AVAILABLE
16 mnth full membership at Fitness Exchange (thru 11/95), owner relocated, \$400 (includes transfer fee). Call 528-2850.

SOLD

HELP WANTED

RESIDENT MANAGER needed for 28-unit apartment complex in Montrose. Must have experience. Basic maintenance experience preferred. Must be honest. All references and criminal background will be checked. 266-1444.

HOUSTON VOICE HELP WANTED: Advertising professional with proven record of success wanted to carve new territory in Greater Houston Market for weekly gay publication. Commission basis. Must be aggressive and have a positive attitude. Call Deborah Bell at 529-8490.

Experienced part-time framer needed for **MARTIN'S FINE ART GALLERY**. Send resume to 1641 Westheimer, Houston, TX 77006.

Seeking energetic, honest, dependable and hard working individuals who want the opportunity to grow with a service oriented company. Positions available include floor/desk staff. Apply in person only. No phone calls. **MIDTOWNE SPA**, 3100 Fannin.

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

Here's your chance! **CHANCES** is looking for bartenders, barback & waitstaff. Call 523-7217 after 2pm. Ask for Marlene.

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

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

The **BRB** is accepting applications for all positions. Apply between 9am - 4pm at 2400 Brazos. Photo required. No calls.

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Discreetly Post/Listen to personals FREE! Access Code 7122. 713/892-5757

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has Rotts for adoption. Foster parents also urgently needed. You can make a difference!
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T-tone req'd. Serve-U (619) 645-8434.

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Know your future today. Live psychics. 1-900-484-1515 ext. 3222. \$3.99/min. 18+. T-tone req'd. Serv-U (619) 645-8434.

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2-2 bedroom flats: \$19,500
Picturesque, European ambiance, 5 appliances included. Call Lynn (Agent) for an appointment. (729-9316)

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FAST CASH
Highest Prices Paid
We buy Antiques, Estates, furniture, collectibles, jewelry etc. We come to you. 391-7515 or 994-5986 (pgr)

MODELS AND ESCORTS

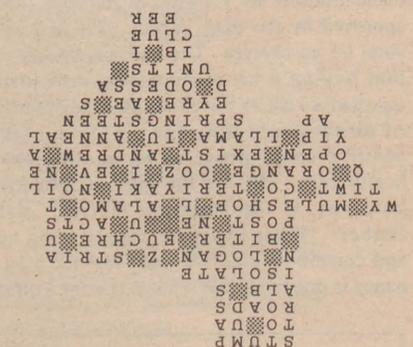
INTIMATE INTRODUCTIONS
A classy companion for any occasion. 24 hour voice mail (713) 398-6901. By appt. (Now hiring)

ITALIAN MODEL
Classic good looks, athletic, hard body. Accurate description
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TONY
Handsome, built, 29 out calls only. 623-2856.



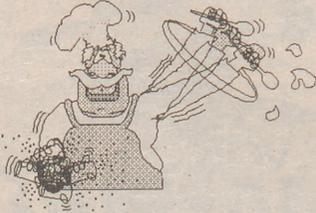
Gr. Am. Puz. Solution
c.1996 GULF FEATURES, Puzzle TX 192
Initialled names: Albert Einstein

RECIPES BY KUNTRY KIDD

Here's a green bean and tomato dish. It's easy and also a nice compliment to beef. It also gives you a break from regular green beans.

Green Beans with Tomato

- 1 pound green beans, washed, trimmed and cut diagonally into 1-inch pieces
- 1/4 C. butter or margarine
- 1/4 C. finely chopped onion
- 1 small clove garlic, minced
- 1 Tbs. brown sugar
- 1 Tbs. lemon juice
- 1/2 tsp. salt
- 1/2 tsp. dried oregano, crushed
- 1/8 tsp. pepper
- 2 medium ripe tomatoes, cut up



In large saucepan, cook the green beans in a small amount of boiling salted water for 18 to 20 minutes or until crisp tender. Drain the green beans and set aside, keeping warm.

Meanwhile, in a large skillet, melt the butter or margarine. Add the onion and garlic, cook and stir over medium low heat for 3 minutes.

Stir in the brown sugar, lemon juice, salt, oregano and pepper. Add the tomatoes, Heat through, stirring occasionally.

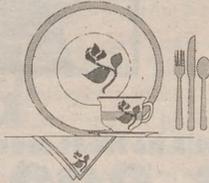
Add the tomato mixture to the cooked, drained beans. Gently toss. Transfer the mixture to a warm serving dish and serve immediately.

If you are not a green bean lover, try using this recipe with other varieties of beans, and you could also use plum (Roma) tomatoes, or even yellow tomatoes (if you can find them) for a less acidic dish.

Remember to always pack the brown sugar to equal the amount called for in a recipe (of course unless it calls for it to be loose). I did not cook the beans in water, I steamed them for about 7 to 8 minutes. Steaming the beans, I feel, keeps them more crisp tender. You won't want mushy beans for this dish.

UNTIL NEXT WE EAT!

KUNTRY KIDD



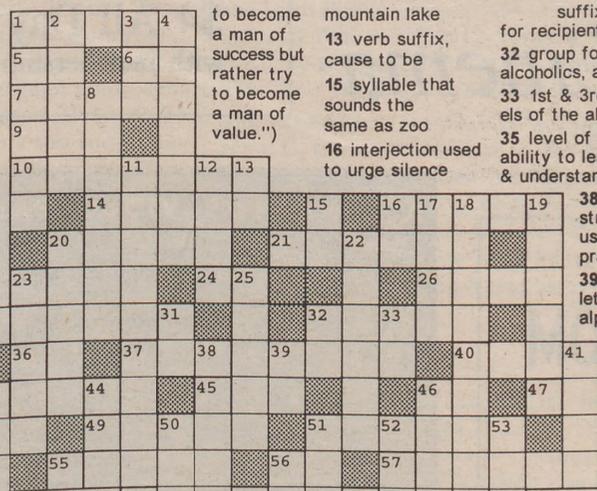
The Great American Puzzle

TEXAS EDITION

By Henry McClurg

ACROSS

- 1 confuse
- 5 in a direction toward
- 6 5th & 1st vowels of the alphabet
- 7 Texas has 250,000 miles of these
- 9 robe with tapered sleeves worn by priests
- 10 close off
- 14 WWI training camp in Houston
- 16 slight furrow in parallel with others
- 20 one who bites
- 21 card game (sounds like You-Ker)
- 23 Garza County seat; stake of wood
- 24 direction San Antonio to Lufkin, abbr.
- 26 things done
- 27 Equality State, abbr.
- 29 Texas town with giant mule statue
- 32 famous battle of March 6, 1836
- 34 TWIT in a mirror
- 36 Centennial State, abbr.
- 37 Japanese dish with marinated meat or shellfish
- 40 short fiber combed from long fibers
- 42 Texas city closest to Lake Charles, La.



- 46 abbr. for electron volt
- 47 direction Corpus Christi to Houston, abbr.
- 48 not shut
- 49 to have being
- 51 British prince that divorced the Duchess of York
- 54 similar to a yelp
- 55 South American mammal related to a camel
- 56 3rd & 5th vowels of the alphabet
- 57 to temper glass or metal
- 58 U.S.-based int'l news service
- 59 singer Bruce, suing alleged British bootleggers
- 62 shallow Australian lake; county court in medieval England
- 63 German-born American theoretical physicist Einstein, initials ("Try not

- 64 capital of the Permian Basin
- 66 smallest whole numbers
- 67 abbr. for Latin ibidem, meaning 'in the same place'
- 68 hint
- 70 noun suffix for 'one that is associated with'

- DOWN
- 1 expert to the utmost
- 2 implements used to accomplish work
- 3 soft wet earth
- 4 literary selection
- 8 do away with
- 11 official name for the Texas lottery, 2 words
- 12 small

- ter) a million watts & a thousandth of a watt
- 30 perfect place
- 31 noun suffix for recipient
- 32 group for alcoholics, abbr.
- 33 1st & 3rd vowels of the alphabet
- 35 level of ability to learn & understand

- 38 bead string used in praying
- 39 last 2 letters of alphabet

- 41 Scottish for loyal or true
- 43 horizontally ribbed fabric
- 44 coagulate
- 46 sea eagle
- 48 Yiddish interjection to express dismay
- 50 grafted new feathers to a bird's wing
- 18
- 19 Texas city with America's largest urban bat colony
- 20 a class of elementary particles
- 22 'Home Alone' star Macaulay
- 23 Texas state tree
- 25 Nobel prize winning author T.S. or English statesman Sir John
- 28 official abbr. for Canada's Yukon area, capital Whitehorse
- 29 abbr. for both (depending on the case of the 1st let-



GALAXY GAYZER

A HOUSTON VOICE EXCLUSIVE

HOROSCOPE FOR THE WEEK OF AUGUST 16 - 22, 1996



IF THIS WEEK IS YOUR BIRTHDAY: You love the spotlight, and the center stage is your natural habitat. Your sign is associated with the masculine and assertive force that naturally generates activity and growth. Your driving force is your ego.

ARIES (March 21-April 20) There may be a possibility of a money argument with someone close to you this week. Have the confidence in your intuition, and follow through with what you truly believe, when the time is right. You will enjoy close rapport with co-workers on an important project.

TAURUS (April 21 - May 21) Try not to become involved in a mild argument, or in providing information that maybe confidential. Resist any urges to spend extravagantly, and remember to take heart to the phrase that all that glitters may not be gold. How are you going to reach your goals?

GEMINI (May 22 - June 21) By using your patience and diplomacy skills this week, you may be able to advance a business association. Your evening hours will be filled with relaxation and romantic events. Any overt criticism must be avoided if you want to advance at work.

CANCER (June 22 - July 23) A new romance may be waiting just around the corner. Work is really the name of the game this week, and if you try to get out of it, you may just land in an even more restricted setting. Make the best of a rather awkward situation concerning certain family members.

LEO (July 24- August 23) If you make it a point of putting aside dreary thoughts and feelings this week, your love life, plus creative and pleasurable interests will be happily featured. If you capitalize on your power of persuasion, you will emerge a winner in any negotiations you take on.

VIRGO (August 24 - September 23) Such diverse, and yet important interests such as domestic matters, property improvement, entertaining and career advancement will be highlighted this week. This is your time to turn on the charm if you are looking for progress at work. Your charisma will get you far.

LIBRA (September 24 - October 23) A powerful new trend beginning this week will include quite exciting romantic developments, as well as a freer flow of creative expression. All money dealings should be sound if you are paying attention to details. Stop dreaming about a vacation and take one.

SCORPIO (October 24 - November 22) A special relationship will be given a shot in the arm during the week. Any news you hear during the week will be financially helpful, although this may be a time of win some, lose some. Both patience and objective thinking will do more good than acting impulsively.

SAGITTARIUS (November 23 - December 21) Both your home and monetary interests will be linked this week. Multiple interests may throw you for a loop at first, but your fine organizational skills will rescue you. Personal plans may cut into your work time, but not hinder any progress. Plan a long vacation.

CAPRICORN (December 22 - January 20) Your plans this week, and those of a family member may not mesh well at all, but someone has to give - guess who it will be, and try to be cheerful about it. Days like this can teach us all a lesson. Communication with another person becomes more meaningful.

AQUARIUS (January 21 - February 19) Your self-confidence soars for the next several weeks and now starts a trend in which your best traits and talents can be intensified. Highlighted this week are romance and social popularity. Keep your spending in control, don't be too quick to splurge.

PISCES (February 20 - March 20) This will be a positive week for financial and career goals. Expect a favor from an unanticipated source - if not right away, then in the very near future. Be wise and sidestep discussions on any touchy subjects. Tempers may be high, and reasoning low.



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SPORTS NOTES

HOG Monthly Meeting

The Houston Outdoor Group monthly meeting is scheduled for Thursday, August 22, from 7 until 9:00 p.m. in the Assistance Fund Building, 1116 Jackson Blvd., (one block north of Fairview, and west of Montrose).

Additionally, the monthly HOG breakfast is scheduled for Saturday, August 22 at Toffee's Coffee Shop, 1830 W. Alabama, beginning at 9:00 a.m. Call Howard at 528-6174 for details, or just show up.

Austin Bowling Tourney

Austin Bowlers hosted the First Annual Capitol City Classic (CCC) bowling tournament this past weekend with Bill Jay, tournament Co-Director dedicating the CCC to the memory of Arthur Knapp, recently deceased Co-Director. Fifty-eight Houston bowlers invaded Dart Bowl and carried away most of the top prizes with First Place Team, I'm At A Loss, going to Mace Adams, Chris Bennett, Randy Christ and (from New Orleans), Carl Mayeaux, Jr. Second and third place teams also went to Houston bowlers. Carol Goodreau, Judy Bailey, Dot Rodrick and Peri Cain (The Fish Baskets) were second. Third was The Wicky Sticks—Tom Benson, Don Hausen, Chris Schultz and Ralph Sikes.

The Doubles Champions were Keith Douglas and Mike Weikert from Houston. Second place went to Carl Ketterling and Ron Dacy from Arlington. Third was taken by Carol Goodreau and Dot Rodrick, fourth by Roy Gonzalez and Rene Rodriguez, all from Houston. Fifth went to Chris Bennett from Houston and Carl Mayeaux from New Orleans. Sixth went to Don Burken and Gary Teixeira from Houston. Seventh place went to Ron McDowell and Gerry Williams from Austin.

Singles champion was Bill Jay from Austin followed by Scott Harrison from San Antonio. Next was Nancy Wintle, Steve Thistle and Keith Douglass from Houston. Sixth went to Carl Ketterling from Arlington. Seventh through tenth went to Houston bowlers Norm Dube, Rene Rodriguez, Tom O'Dell and Jody Dunivant. Eleventh and twelfth went to Thomas Bolt from Austin and Teresa Fletcher from Houston.

All Events Scratch was taken by Tom Leger of Austin and All Events Handicap was taken by Mike Weikert from Houston.

Special awards were as follows: High 9-game handicap series—female, Dot Rodrick; High 9-game handicap series—male, Tom Leger (Austin). High scratch series, female—Margaret Denison. High handicap game, female—Nancy Wintle. High scratch game, female—Peri Cain. High scratch game, male—Tom O'Dell.

Lambda Skaters

Lambda Rollerskating Club holds its next Skate Night Wednesday, August 21 from 8 until 10:00 p.m. at the Starlight Roller Rink, 8075 Cook Road. Everyone is welcome to skate, the cost is \$5 with skate rental, if needed, adding \$1.

The theme for this night will be "Hats Off" to your favorite organization with the club passing out five checks of each of \$100 to Q-Patrol, Stone Soup, P-Flag, Montrose Division of the Woman's Clinic, and Gay/Lesbian Switchboard. Skaters are encouraged to wear a favorite or funny hat. A variety of events and door prizes are planned. The skate date for next week will benefit the Houston Gay/Lesbian Political Caucus.

If your club or organization would like to hold a skate event or you would like more information, please contact us at 787-0625 or at gayskate1@aol.com or visit the WEB page site at <http://members.aol.com/gayskate1/lambda.htm>.

Regular Bowling

The Montrose Monday Night Men's League reports Division A standings in first, second third and fourth are A Frickin Fairy Tale, Eight Balls, Hot Dogs Nice Buns and 1 Watches 4 Play. Division B standings are headed by The Meat to Beat, Four Mix Pieces, Fighting Nuns and Ms Dee Dee & DoDahs. This week begins the rollofs and playoffs. For more information call Gardy at 641-5424. Bowling is at Palace Lanes at 9:00 p.m. on Monday. Fall league begins Sept. 16.

The Inner Loop Alternative Sunday Evening League reports Tough & Tight in 1st, Faster Pussycats in 2nd and Boyish Looks, Girlish Figures in 3rd. For the men Bob Roberts bowled high scratch game of 259 and series of 692. For the women Linda Dees bowled high scratch game of 212 and Geri Swanson series of 565. For more information call Tom at 522-9612. Bowling is a Palace Lanes at 7:00 p.m. on Sunday. Fall league begins Sept. 15.

The Wednesday Night Mixers reports 1st place is taken by 1 Gal & 3 Guys, 2nd by Rump Rangers and 3rd by We Come When You Call. Richard Dauchy bowled high scratch game of 233 and Roy Rainwater series of 577 for the men. For the women Pat Decarlo bowled high scratch game of 186 and Lynn Kelley series of 494. For more info call Tom at 522-9612. Bowling is at AMF Southway at 6:30 p.m. Wednesday. Fall league begins Sept. 18.

The Monday Night Women's League reports first place team is Walking Wounded, followed by Half and Half and M Power. Fourth place is taken by Don't Go There. For more information call Pat at 437-6218. Bowling is at AMF Southway at 6:15 on Monday. Fall league begins Sept. 16.

IBL Standings

The 1996 Summer Season for the Independent Billiard League finds the teams Yo Mama's and Si Como No leading the league with perfect won match records. Yo Mama's has the better won game average.

The teams Pool Party, Underdogs, and Hot Pockets are next in order with identical won match averages, .750. Individually, Carlos Romero leads the pack with a won game average of .917 followed by Robert Guenther and Joel Reyes, both at .833.

The IBL plays Thursday evenings and each team has three players.

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REPORT YOUR SPORTS!

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PLAY SAFE

Community Calendar by Carolyn Roberts

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

Friday, Aug. 16

- * Borders Book Store Gay/Lesbian Book Club meets at the Espresso Bar at 9634 Westheimer. 782-6066.
- * HIV+ Art classes at the Art League. 523-8817
- * HATCH meets. 942-7002.
- * 12 step program at Montrose Counseling Center. 6:00 p.m. 529-0037.
- * Aftercare Group Treatment at Montrose Counseling Center. 6:00 p.m. 529-0037.
- * Art Classes at AIDS Foundation Houston at 1:00 p.m. 526-1118.
- * Houston Tennis Club meets at 7:15 p.m. 527-1348.
- * Q-Patrol meets to walk the streets at 10:30 p.m. 528-SAFE.
- * Free and confidential HIV testing and counseling by the Montrose Clinic at Rich's. 10:00 pm to 2:00 a.m.
- * Lesbians in Business meets at 7:00 pm at Innova.
- * Free Spaying and Neutering Program. 522-2337.

Saturday, Aug. 17

- * Houston Chain Gang Bicycle Club rides. 863-1860.
- * After Hours on KPFT 12:00 a.m. to 3:00 a.m. 90.1 FM. 526-5738.
- * Gulf Coast Transgender support group meets. 780-4282.
- * Q-Patrol meets to walk the streets at 10:30 p.m. 528-SAFE.
- * Visual Art Alliance meets at 10:00 a.m. 583-8408.
- * 22nd Annual Festival of Glass show and sale. 342-4876.

Sunday, Aug. 18

- * Houston Chain Gang Bicycle Club meets. 863-1860.
- * The Women's Group meets at 10:45 a.m. 529-8571.
- * FrontRunners meet at 9:00 a.m. at the Tennis center in Memorial Park. 522-8021.
- * HATCH meets. 942-7002.
- * Inner Loop Sunday Bowling League. 522-9612.
- * 22nd Annual Festival of Glass show and sale. 342-4876.

Monday, Aug. 19

- * Free HIV Testing and counseling by the Montrose Clinic at the Brazos River Bottom. 4:00 pm to 8:00 p.m.
- * Gay Fathers/Fathers First support group. 8:00 p.m. 861-6181.
- * HeartSong open rehearsal at the First Unitarian Church at 7:00 p.m. 947-1488.
- * Calendar/Computer workshop for Pride Week. 7:00 p.m. 529-1223.
- * Positive Living Group at Montrose Counseling Center. 2:15 p.m. 539-0037.
- * Outpatient Group Treatment at Montrose Counseling Center. 6:00 p.m. 529-0037.
- * Women and HIV/AIDS Group at Montrose Counseling Center. 6:15 p.m. 529-0037.
- * Men Survivors of Sexual Abuse Group at Montrose Counseling Center. 6:15 p.m. 529-0037.
- * Lesbian Survivors of Cancer and their care givers at Montrose Counseling Center. 6:30 p.m. 529-0037.
- * Men's HIV Group at Montrose Counseling Center. 7:00 p.m. 529-0037.
- * AVES sponsored free HIV testing from 10:00 a.m. to 5:00 pm at 4125 SW Freeway, Suite 1717.
- * AIDS Foundation Houston's Creative Writing Class meets at 3:00 p.m. 623-6796.
- * Scott Kennedy and Kevin Maye perform at the Laff Stop. 524-2333.
- * Exxon Gay and Lesbian Employees meet at 7:00 p.m. 522-6212.

Tuesday, Aug. 20

- * Helping Cross Dressers Anonymous meets at 239 Westheimer. 8:00 p.m. 495-8009.
- * Basic Computer Skills Class at the Kolbe Project. 522-8182.
- * Gay Men HIV+ Psychotherapy at Montrose Counseling Center. 4:30 p.m. 529-0037.
- * Outpatient Group Treatment at Montrose Counseling Center. 6:00 p.m. 529-0037.
- * Aftercare Group Treatment at Montrose Counseling Center. 6:00 p.m. 529-0037.
- * AIDS Alliance of the Bay Area meets at 7:00 p.m. 488-4492.
- * Empowerment for Living meets for pot luck. 861-9149.

- * PROTECT: an HIV negative support group meets at 7:00 p.m. 520-7870.
- * Free HIV testing by the Montrose Clinic at Club Body Center. 8:00 p.m. 520-2083.
- * Women Survivors of Childhood Abuse at Montrose Counseling Center. 6:30 p.m. 529-0037.
- * Survivors of loss support group meets at 8:30 p.m. 778-2677.
- * FrontRunners meet at 6:30 p.m. 522-8021.
- * Live Jazz at Borders Book Shop. 782-6066.
- * Scott Kennedy and Kevin Maye perform at the Laff Stop. 524-2333.
- * Free Spaying and Neutering Program. 522-2337.
- * Book signing by Will McCarthy at Murder by the Book at noon. 524-8597.

Wednesday, Aug. 21

- * Free HIV testing and counseling by the Montrose Clinic at Mary's. 4:00 pm to 8:00 p.m.
- * Houston Tennis Club meets at 10:30 p.m. 537-1348.
- * Houston Pride Band practices at Dignity Houston. 524-0218.
- * GLOBAL meets at 4:00 p.m. 743-7539.
- * Women's Action Coalition meets at Toopees. 7:00 p.m. 867-9581.
- * Men's Network at Montrose Counseling Center. 7:00 p.m. 529-0037.
- * Houston Tennis Club meets at 7:15 p.m. 537-1348.
- * Lambda Rollerskating Club skates at 8:00 p.m. 933-5818.
- * Women's Network at Montrose Counseling Center. 7:00 p.m. 529-0037.
- * Ongoing Mixed Living in Process Group for men and women. 622-7250 for more info.
- * Living with Chronic Pain at Montrose Counseling Center. 9:30 p.m. 529-0037.
- * Aftercare Group Treatment at Montrose Counseling Center. 6:00 p.m. 529-0037.
- * Women's Issues Process Group at Montrose Counseling Center. 6:30 p.m. 529-0037.
- * Women's Action Coalition (WAC) meets at 7:00 p.m. 867-9581.
- * HIV Survivor Support Group meets at 7:00 p.m. 782-4050.
- * Women's Clinic at the Montrose Clinic.

- 5:00 pm to 8:00 p.m. Call 520-2000.
- * AVES offers free HIV testing at 10:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. At 4125 SW Freeway, Suite 1717.
- * Lesbian/Bisexual Survivors at Montrose Counseling Center. 6:30 p.m. 529-0037.
- * Houston Council of Clubs LUEY meeting at 8:00 pm at the Venture-N.
- * Roundtable—The Houston Philosophy Forum meets at 7:00 p.m. 728-5590.
- * Free Spaying and Neutering Program. 522-2337.

Thursday, Aug. 22

- * Free HIV testing and counseling by the Montrose Clinic at the Venture-N. 4:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m.
- * Art Labs at The Art League. 1:00 p.m. 225-9411
- * Front Runners meet at Memorial Park. 6:30 p.m. 522-8021.
- * Gay Men's Chorus of Houston open rehearsal at 7:00 p.m. 521-7464.
- * Twentysomething meets at 7:30 p.m. 531-9396.
- * KPFT Lesbian and Gay Voices airs at 8:00 p.m. to 10:00 p.m. 866-6505.
- * Ongoing gay men's Living in Process Group. 622-7250.
- * Open Mike Night at Cafe Artiste. 1601 W. Main. 8:00 p.m. 528-3704.
- * HIV+ Men Psychotherapy at Montrose Counseling Center. 1:15 p.m. 529-0037.
- * Relapse Prevention at Montrose Counseling Center. 2:00 p.m. 529-0037.
- * Outpatient Group Treatment at Montrose Counseling Center. 6:00 p.m. 529-0037.
- * Aftercare Group Treatment at Montrose Counseling Center. 6:00 p.m. 529-0037.
- * Meditation and Chanting Group meets at 7:00 p.m. 942-0923.
- * HIV Affected at CASA. 7:00 p.m. 796-2272.
- * Men's Therapy Group at Montrose Counseling Center. 7:00 p.m. 529-0037.
- * HIV survivor Support Group meets at 2929 Unity Drive. 7:00 p.m. 782-4050
- * Center for the Healing of Racism. 7:30 p.m. 738-RACE.
- * Houston Symphony at C.W. Mitchell Pavilion. 363-3300.

Survey: 'religious right' wants U.S. be 'christian nation'

NEW YORK, Monday, Aug. 5 (AP)—Americans who say they're part of the religious right love Israel, but many support a Constitutional amendment declaring the United States a Christian nation, according to a survey released Monday by the American Jewish Committee.

Sixty-one percent of those who identify themselves as part of the religious right are supportive of Israel, compared with 52 percent of other Americans, the survey found.

Seventy-two percent agree that "Jews have a right to the land of Israel, since it was promised to them by God," compared with 43 percent of other Americans.

Those who call themselves part of the religious right are more critical of Democrats than they are of Republicans. Just 19 percent don't admire Bob Dole, and 18 percent don't like Pat Buchanan.

Thirty-nine percent don't admire President Clinton; 47 percent feel the same way about Sen. Edward Kennedy and 48 percent about Hillary Rodham Clinton.

The survey found that 48 percent of the religious right supports a Constitutional amendment "declaring the United States a Christian nation."

Twenty-three percent of other Americans support such an amendment.

More than 40 percent of the religious

right believe religious views are relevant in determining a politician's fitness for office.

Seventy-nine percent of the religious right say gay rights groups have too much influence in America; 64 percent believe atheists are too influential, and 43 percent say feminists carry too much weight.

Similarly, 82 percent of the religious right say they feel "distant or very distant" from gay rights groups; 84 percent feel that distance from atheists and 58 percent feel the same about Moslems.

The survey found that those aligned with the religious right constitute 14 percent of the U.S. population.

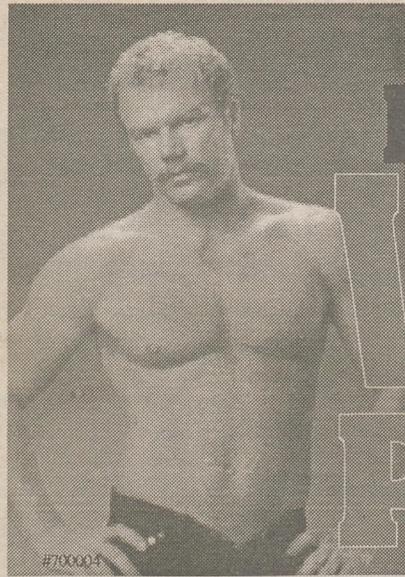
AJC president Robert S. Rifkind said the survey contradicts claims by religious right leaders that their views reflect "the mainstream of opinion in America."

He said the survey also shows that "the religious right is much more diffuse and, viewed as a political movement, much less cohesive than might have been supposed."

The telephone survey was conducted by the Gallup International Institute of 507 people who say they're part of the religious right and 503 other Americans. It has a margin of error of plus or minus 5 percentage points.

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Women Seeking Women

SWF My hobbies are playing pool, shooting darts, dancing & clubbing. Looking for a female in the age group of 25-40. I'm 190 lbs., 5'11" & a security guard. Call Ext. 5173

SBF I'm a 21-year-old, horny, Black female. If you want to know more, call & leave me a message. Call Ext. 5164

SWF 33, 5'3", 135 lbs. Looking for a single White female, soft butch or fem to hang out with or date. I like to dancing, theaters & going to antique stores. Call Ext. 5169

SWF Late 40's, 160 lbs., 5'8", green eyes, gray & brown hair. Seeking a relationship with a single gay female who is height/weight proportionate. Race is not important for companionship, friendship & possible romance. I'd like to meet a non-smoker. I'm considered soft butch. I'd like to meet a very feminine female. Call Ext. 5162

SF If you like to be wined & dined, I'm the one. I'm cute, with a wonderful personality. Check me out. Desiring a sincere, honest & intelligent female. Call Ext. 5161

SWF 5'8", long blonde hair, deep-blue eyes. I'm straight-looking, but a soft butch inside. I'm a professional in the environmental field. I have an outgoing personality, with a compassionate soul. I'd like to meet a woman, 35-45, who is a professional, with feminine traits. Call Ext. 5148

SF 44, 5'11", 120 lbs. I love animals, gardening, reading & trying new things. I'd like to meet some women, 30-45, in the Houston area, for friendship, hanging out & a possible long-term relationship. No smokers, drugs or heavy drinkers. Call Ext. 5138

SWF I'm 5'3", with blonde hair & brown eyes. I'm a professional in the health care field. I enjoy the beach, the woods, the theater, movies & different restaurants. I'm a soft butch. I'd like to meet some new friends. I enjoy the company of a feminine woman. I'm drug-free, alcohol-free & smoke-free. Please call and leave a message. Call Ext. 5119

SF I'm sexy, 21, 5'6" & 152 lbs. I'm bi curious & in search of a sexy, bisexual female of any race. She should be 120-170 lbs, big-breasted & very elegant. Call Ext. 5117

SWF I'm 40. I'm looking for someone who is butch & romantic. I'd like to make a friend or more. Call Ext. 5114

SF Do you like dumpster diving, junking, camping or biking? I'm gainfully employed & looking for the same. She should be 35-50 & a non-smoker. No drugs, please. Call Ext. 5108

SBF I'm bi curious & I've had all of the satisfaction I can get from a man. I'm 5'7" & 162 lbs. I have big lips & a small waist. I'm looking for a woman of the same build who has blonde or brunette hair, for a night of fun. Call Ext. 5105

SBF I'm lonely, 34 & 5'4". I have short, black, curly hair. I enjoy outdoor sports, biking, swimming & fishing. I play the drums. I'm looking for a single, feminine Black female who is serious about life. She should have career goals. Call Ext. 5092

SF I'm from England. I'm 5'2" & 32. I'm new to Houston. I'm looking for friends to hang out & spend time with. I enjoy the theater, films & more. I'm open-minded. If I'm lucky, if you're looking for someone who is more than a friend. Call Ext. 5062

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

SBF Kidnap me. Take me on a hot air balloon ride. Seeking a female. Race & age are not important. Please call and leave a message, if you are interested. Call Ext. 5037

Men Seeking Men

SWM Attractive, 38, HIV+, long brown hair, brown eyes, mustache & beard. I'm straight-acting & appearing. I like to enjoy life, concerts, movies, traveling & good friends. I'm retired, healthy & financially secure. Looking for that special friend who is also straight-acting & appearing, with similar interests. Looking for someone who wants to get out & enjoy life. Call Ext. 5178

SM 6'1", 200 lbs., brown hair, brown eyes, Cuban/French. Interested in guys who are versatil & 20-30. Race is not important. Looking for someone to really have a good time with. Sex would be great! Let's get good & nasty. Call Ext. 5177

SWM Attractive, well-built man in my 30's. Enjoy being a bottom. Looking for a man who is very well-built, good-looking & enjoys being a top. Preferably someone who is between 20-40. I'd like to hear from you. Call Ext. 5175

SWM I'm 5'9", 130 lbs. & masculine. Looking for a Black brother who is the same. Someone who is 18-28 years old, self-assured, masculine & not into games. Call Ext. 5094

SM 35, 5'10", 175 lbs., blue-gray eyes, dark brown hair, goatee. Considered very attractive & well-endowed, with an athletic build. Gentleman, I'm only looking for this & the description must be precise. You're handsome, under 35, muscular, with a small waist & 10" or more. Call Ext. 5172

SM Looking for someone for drinks & walks on the beach. Someone who is single, Black & manly to hang out & have a good time with. Call Ext. 5171

SWM 5'7", 195 lbs., 45, furry, Italian, brown hair, attractive, easygoing, romantic. Enjoy the quiet life, movies, dining, entertaining & being a homebody. Looking for someone to develop a special friendship & long-term relationship with. If you're my ideal guy you'll be 35-40, able to support yourself & enjoy being a bottom. Blonde hair & blue eyes are a huge plus! Give me a call. Call Ext. 5170

SWM 40 & a lively 270 lbs. I have a goatee & love to disco down. Looking for a dance partner for disco night. No strings attached. Why sit & watch others dance, when you can boogie-down? Call Ext. 5168

SHM Looking for a 30-something White or Hispanic male to explore possibilities with. Call Ext. 5166

SWM 41, 6', 190 lbs. Looking for a top daddy who is 40-50, to take care of. Also looking for a top cowboy to ride me all night & then hold me. Must be open-minded, with above-average equipment. Willing to wear collar for the right daddy. Call Ext. 5163

SHM 32, thin. Seeking a gay White or Hispanic male who is 32 or older. Seeking a lifemate. Serious replies only. No games. I don't drink or smoke. I need sincerity & stability. Call Ext. 5160

SBM 27. Seeking other males who want to have fun. Give me a call. Call Ext. 5159

SBM 27. Seeking other Black males. I'd like to meet a top. I enjoy swimming, bowling, reading & having fun. I'd prefer to meet someone 20-30. Call Ext. 5158

SWM I'm a chubby nudist in search of other chubby nudists. I'm 38, 5'7" & 228 lbs., with strawberry-blonde hair & blue eyes. Race is not important. Call Ext. 5157

SWM 37, 5'7", 155 lbs., well-built, muscular. I have a really good tan. I'm HIV+. I'm healthy & I feel fabulous. I'm interested in meeting a guy who is good-looking & well-built. I'm turned on by guys who have beards, mustaches & body hair. Call Ext. 5156

SWM 5'11", 155 lbs., blonde hair, bluish-green eyes. Looking for Hispanic males 18-35. I enjoy going to the beach, the gym & hanging out with friends. Call Ext. 5155

SBM In search of other masculine Black males who are 19-45. Seeking someone who is well-endowed & masculine. Call Ext. 5154

SWM I'm a certified sailing skipper. I lost my captain to the North Carolina waters. Looking for a captain with a crew. I'm also interested in forming a gay sailing club. Call Ext. 5149

SHM 5'8", 175 lbs. I have dimples & a pretty smile. Looking for someone who has a good personality. Looks are not important. Call Ext. 5141

SWM Late 30's, cute. Looking to meet an athletic Black guy who knows what he wants. Call me for more information. Call Ext. 5145

SHM 34, attractive, bottom. Looking for masculine guys for friendship, romance or simple encounters. I like guys who are taller than 5'7". Race is not important. Positive attitude is a plus. I'm discreet & friendly. Please be over the age of 25 & confident of your own needs. Call Ext. 5143

SAM 21, 5'6", 135 lbs. I'm very cute. I enjoy movies, dinner & occasionally going to bars. Looking for a gay White male, who is 22-28, who is handsome. Call Ext. 5140

SWM 39, dark hair, blue eyes, 5'6", 170 lbs., hairy chest. I'm romantic, loyal, sincere & gentle, yet strong. I'm outgoing, with a quiet side. I love music, art & life in general. I'm HIV- & seeking a younger gay male who is Asian, Hispanic or White. Looking for fun & a relationship. Call Ext. 5137

SWM 38, 6'2", 180 lbs., salt-and-pepper hair, mustache, goatee. I have a smooth body & I'm in good shape. I'm HIV+. Looking for a Hispanic top who is HIV+ & interested in trying to develop a relationship. Call Ext. 5135

SM 31, blonde hair, blue eyes. Looking for a good time. Call me. Call Ext. 5133

SWM 29, 6'2", nice-looking. I have long hair. I enjoy alternative music. In search of a Hispanic male, who is between the ages of 18-29 who likes the same things. Call Ext. 5131

SWM 36, 5'9", 148 lbs. Looking for a drug-free, slender, gay White male. He should not be into the bar scene. Call Ext. 5128

SWM 40, red hair, blue eyes. I'm a gay transvestite looking for some young transsexuals to have get-togethers with, dressing & undressing. If you need a place to dress or you need clothes & make-up, give me a call. I love to get all dressed up. Looking for a playmate. Call Ext. 5126

SM 5'8", 150 lbs., smooth, muscular, tan, light-brown hair, hazel eyes. Looking for a masculine man who would like to get-together for casual encounters & good times. Possible dating. I prefer men who have a larger, stockier build. I prefer men who enjoy being tops. Call Ext. 5123

SBM I'm a professional. I'm 36, 5'11" & 165 lbs. I'm looking for someone to spend some time with. I enjoy movies, listening to music, cooking & quiet nights at home. Call Ext. 5124

SM I'm 5'9" & 160 lbs. I have dark hair & blue eyes. I'm a physical education teacher. I enjoy all sports. I'm looking for a masculine man who enjoys sports. Call Ext. 5118

SM I'm 25 & straight-acting. I'm ready to experiment with the bottom since I have been on the top. Give me a call. I'm looking for well-endowed Black men to have a good time with. Call Ext. 5116

SM I'm 6'2" & 210 lbs. I'm looking for a hairy-chested top who would be interested in a lot of anal intercourse. Call Ext. 5115

SM I'm 27, 5'7", 155 lbs. & from Spain. I have brown hair & brown eyes. I'm looking for friends. I'd like to meet a blonde guy who is under 30. I'd prefer to meet a bottom. Must be straight-acting. Call Ext. 5113

SM I'm 5'6". I have blue eyes & blonde hair. I'm looking for a guy who is a jock. I like to give blow jobs. I enjoy anal sex, kissing & hugging. Call soon. Call Ext. 5104

SM I'm 28, 5'6" & 128 lbs. I have brown hair & brown eyes. I enjoy music, cooking, wine tasting, walking on the beach & quiet nights at home. I'm an accounting professional seeking someone 30-40. A beard & a mustache are a plus. I'm hairless. I have a slight mustache. Call Ext. 5110

SBM I'm 26. Race is not important to me if it is not a problem to you. Give me a call if you are interested. Call Ext. 5087

SWM I'm 25, 5'11" & 198 lbs. I have masculine build, brown eyes, a military cut & a goatee. I'm straight-acting, with a good sense of humor. I enjoy working out, movies, reading & self-improvement. I'm in search of a stockily-built man who is masculine, with a goatee. He should enjoy being a top & be 25-35. Call Ext. 5103

SAM I'm 20, 5'6" & 137 lbs. I have black hair & brown eyes. I'm very cute. I like dining out, movies, walking on the beach, jogging & going to the gym. Looking for a gay White male 20-38 who is height/weight proportionate. Call Ext. 5049

SAMI I'm 32, 5'4" & 140 lbs. I'm looking for a single White male for a possible long-term, monogamous relationship. I would prefer to meet someone who is straight-acting. I'm outgoing & looking for the same. I'm organized, flexible, romantic & loving, with a strong personality. Call Ext. 5106

SM I'm 5'8" & height/weight proportionate. I'm in my 40's & relatively new to Houston. I have brown hair & blue eyes. I'm interested in meeting other guys who are my age. Give me a call. Call Ext. 5102

SM I'm 43, 5'10" & 175 lbs. I have blonde hair & blue eyes. I'm a professional man in the administrative field. I enjoy a quiet lifestyle. I enjoy movies & dining out, to name a few things. I'm nice-looking, drug-free & disease-free. I'd like to meet someone 30-45 who is masculine, with dark hair. Call Ext. 5101

SWM I'm a professional in my 40's. I'm 5'10" & 165 lbs. I have dark-brown hair & eyes. I'm darkly tanned & nicely shaped. I enjoy movies, cars, music & dining out. I'm in search of a younger Hispanic, Latin or Asian for dating which could lead to a monogamous relationship. I'm a social drinker & a non-smoker. I prefer the same. I have a lot to offer. Call Ext. 5099

SM Please give me a call. Call Ext. 5097

SWM I'm 35. I'm looking for a bottom. Call me if you are interested. Call Ext. 5096

SM I'm 32 & 200 lbs. I'm a bottom. Call me if you are interested. Call Ext. 5095

SWM I'm 45, 6' & 160 lbs. I'm healthy, down-to-earth & HIV-. I'm seeking an older Black male who is a non-smoker, for friendship. Call Ext. 5089

SM I'm 40, 5'6" & 155 lbs. I have brown hair & brown eyes. I have a mustache & a hairy chest. I'm a loving & caring, but demanding guy. My son must be young, handsome, healthy & masculine. He must be intelligent, self-supporting & willing to satisfy my every need. If you are interested, leave me a message. Call Ext. 5083

SM Where are you? If you are like me, you are getting tired of driving to the bars every Friday night to meet guys. I would like to meet some nice guys from this area. Call Ext. 5082

SHM I'm 31, 5'11" & 240 lbs. I'm seeking an older White male who is 55+, for discreet encounters. I'm disease & drug-free. I have nice legs. I like to kiss. Call Ext. 5085

SM Can a high-grade guy like me, 6' & 182 lbs., find a super guy around here? I would like to find a friend & a top lover. You must be professional, sincere & normal. Must act straight & talk straight. I would prefer to meet someone 38-50. If you are out there, give me a call. Call Ext. 5080

SWM I'm 6' & 150 lbs. I have dark-brown hair & brown eyes. I'm 38. I'm looking for guys who are into bare-bottom spanking. Call Ext. 5079

SM I'm 50, 6' & 180 lbs. I can walk & talk normally. I'm looking for other tops who are normal & who would want to meet me. Please leave me your phone number. Call Ext. 5078

SHM I'm 5'4" & 130 lbs. I have light skin, brown hair & hazel eyes. I have a semi-muscular build. I like playing tennis, movies & working out. I'm looking for a single White male 20-35 who has a semi-muscular build. Call Ext. 5075

SM I'm 31, 5'10" & 155 lbs. I'm seeking someone who is interested in having fun. I'm looking for someone who is not a bodybuilder, but who works out on a regular basis. He should be 5'10" or taller. A sense of humor & a sense of adventure would be great. Call Ext. 5072

SM I'm 19, 5'7" & 190 lbs. I'm looking for other guys who are 18-30. I'm a college student. I have brown hair & brown eyes. Leave me a message. Call Ext. 5069

SM I'm looking for a masculine man who is height/weight proportionate & 40-50, for a possible relationship. I'm 34, 5'11" & 145 lbs. I have brown hair & green eyes. I'm easygoing, energetic & new to Houston. I would like to walk on a moonlit beach with someone special. Call Ext. 5067

SHM I'm seeking a 35-50-year-old White male. I would like to share ideas & more. I'm 35, 5'10" & 167 lbs. I have a mustache, black hair & brown eyes. If you are this White man, call me. Call Ext. 5066

SM I'm a hot, hunky bear cub looking for aggressive & demanding men who can satisfy me. If you are looking for a 220 lb. linebacker-type who is 6' & ready to serve you, give me a call. I will worship you. Call Ext. 5063

SHM I'm seeking a one-on-one, monogamous relationship with a male who is older than I am. I'm 5'10" & 165 lbs. I have a swimmer's build. I work out on a weekly basis. I have short brown hair & medium-brown skin. I enjoy dancing, going out, staying home & cuddling. I'm a bottom. I'm seeking a 100% pure top. I'm seeking a 25-35-year-old male who is masculine. He must have a nice body & a nice personality. Call Ext. 5065

SM I'm 25 & 5'6". I have brown hair & brown eyes. I have a gymnast's build. I'm looking for someone who is between the ages of 25-35, for a long-term relationship. Call Ext. 5064

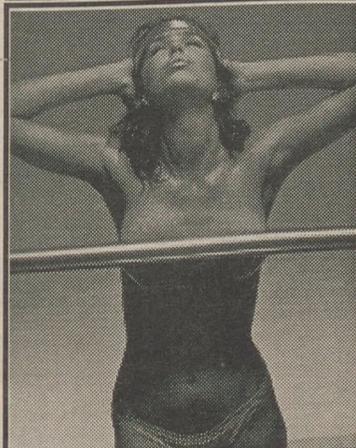
SWM I'm 37, 5'8" & 160 lbs. I have blonde hair & blue eyes. I'm in good shape. I play tennis & golf. I also enjoy watching basketball. I'm looking for a guy 30-45, who enjoys sports, movies, dining out & the theater. He must be employed & have direction in his life. Call Ext. 5060

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

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

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

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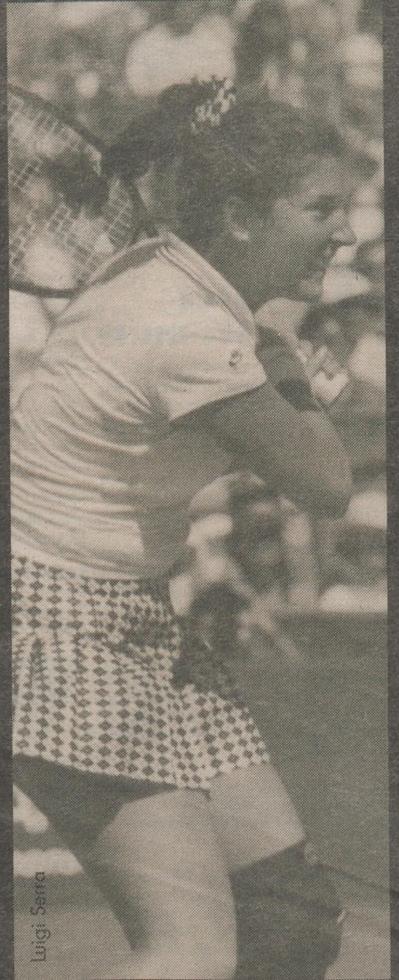
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