



HOUSTON

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Sex
in the
Military?
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AUGUST 8TH 1997 • www.houstonvoice.com • ISSUE 876

Parker Receives HGLPC PAC, Victory Fund Endorsements



Annise Parker

HOUSTON — The Houston Gay and Lesbian Political Caucus Political Action Committee unanimously voted to endorse Houston City Council Candidate Annise Parker at a standing room only membership meeting Wednesday.

The Gay and Lesbian Victory Fund, the nation's largest gay and lesbian political action committee that contributes to candidates in local races, also announced this week that the Fund is endorsing Parker's candidacy. Parker is a candidate for the at-large position one seat on the council.

"The strategic plan that Ms. Parker has put together makes her an incredibly viable candidate for this position," said Victory

Fund Executive Director Brian Bond. "She is putting together an excellent campaign team. She is the quality candidate that can bring our community to the political table in Houston government."

"A seat on City Council for an openly gay person is within our grasp," said HGLPC President Lane Lewis. "We have had a fantastic outpouring of volunteers for, and interest in Annise Parker's campaign."

"Nothing is more important for our community; if you only work on one thing in the area of human rights in Houston this year, this is the torch to carry," Lewis continued.

Immediately following the endorsement, HGLPC PAC members voted to make a \$1000 contribution to the Parker Campaign.

"This is not just rhetoric, we are spending our money and our time to elect Houston's first openly gay City Councilmember," said HGLPC PAC Board Chair Clarence Bagby.

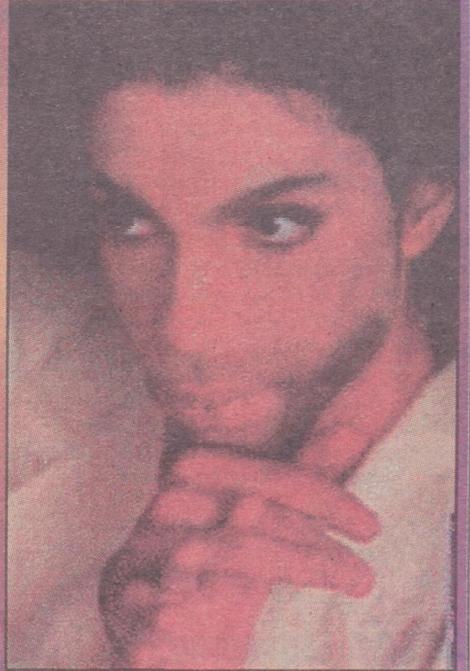
"I am honored to have the endorsement," Parker said after the meeting. "It is the first

See PARKER page 15

0(+> Hits Houston



The Jam of the Year World Tour hits Houston Sunday, August 10 at the Summit. Although the show is sold out, rumor has it that the first twelve rows are going on sale the night of the show.



Activists Push for Resolution to Unsolved Gay Serial Killings

by Martha Irvine

(California) - Andrew Cunanan's suicide halted one of the nation's most lurid cases of serial murder. But from New Jersey to Virginia to Texas, the slayings of as many as 30 gay men or transvestites, which activists believe are the work of five serial killers, remain unsolved. In some cases, investigators have been hindered by lack of resources and, some allege, lack of interest.

"What's the difference between my son and Versace? Money and notoriety. If you've got money and fame, it's going to get solved," says Donna Smith, whose 18-year-old son's strangled body was found 10 years ago in Chesapeake, Va. Smith, who now lives in Cocoa, Fla., does not believe her son, Charles, was homosexual, although he

frequented the gay scene, as did most of the 11 victims who followed him in death.

She watched the Cunanan chase in south Florida with fascination and with anger that the Virginia serial killer has not been sought with the same fervor as the man suspected in the murders of fashion designer Gianni Versace and four other men. "All the victims were seen as expendable," Smith says of the murders linked to her son's slaying. "They labeled them as gays and druggies, so nobody cared."

Activists who track violent crimes against gay men and lesbians acknowledge some police departments, even the FBI, are beginning to reach out to the gay community to build trust and understanding.

"On the local level, many of us have seen day-and-night changes in the last five to 10

years," says Jeffrey Montgomery, a spokesman for the Michigan Anti-Violence Project. "In Detroit, for example, there's been a 180-degree change in the way they handle cases, from very, very, very badly to extremely efficient and good."

Other activists, however, remain frustrated and say it still takes pushing to get many officers to take seriously any crimes involving homosexual victims, even homicides. "Gay-related cases aren't popular cases. And whether it's ignorance or homophobia, it's a big problem," asserts Bea Hanson, director of client services for the Anti-Violence Project in New York.

The possible serial killings include the 1994 stabbing deaths of three homosexual men in Irving, Texas; the shooting deaths, from 1987 to 1992, of six Atlanta men

dressed in women's clothing; and the 1992 stabbing deaths of four men who were last seen in Denver gay bars, according to Anti-Violence Project statistics and newspaper accounts.

Hanson has also helped police link at least three murders in the New York metropolitan area, although she thinks as many as five may have been killed from 1991 through 1994. Four of the victims were last seen in Manhattan gay bars. Their bodies, hacked to pieces, were dumped in New Jersey, Connecticut, Pennsylvania and Rockland County, just north of New York City. The killer stuffed one man's body into a trash barrel and left his hands and head in plain sight on top of the lid.

To date, police have no suspects. But See KILLINGS page 15

Aetna to Offer Benefits to Partners of Gay Employees

(Connecticut) - Aetna Inc. will begin offering health care benefits to domestic partners of its gay employees, making it one of the largest insurance companies in the country to offer such benefits. About 30,000 employees will be eligible for the benefits when the package begins in January, said Patricia Seif, company spokeswoman. Details of the offer will be ready in September.

"We decided to do it because our employees wanted it and to remain competitive in recruiting," Seif said.

The benefits do not extend to unmarried heterosexual couples. Gay and lesbian employees approved of the offer, but few are likely to

take them, said Marybeth Shay, a member of the Aetna Network of Gay and Lesbian Employees. These health care benefits will be treated as income for the employee, meaning they are subject to federal taxes, Shay said.

Also, Aetna will require applicants for the benefits to sign an affidavit swearing they are committed to their partners. Shay said some gay workers might forego the benefits, since they will have to come out of the closet to their bosses.

Aetna joins The Hartford Financial Services Group Inc., Xerox and the city of Hartford as some of the major Connecticut employers to offer same-sex benefits.

Aetna

FBI: Cunanan Was Nursing a Stomach Wound Prior To His Suicide

(Florida) - Before he killed himself, Andrew Cunanan was nursing an abdominal wound possibly inflicted during one of the five murders authorities believe he committed, the FBI said today. Bloody bandages, cotton swabs, gauze pads and penicillin pills were among the items found on the houseboat in Miami Beach where Cunanan ended his life with a gunshot to the head on July 23.

"I believe he did have a wound on his stomach, and he was treating himself with the medical supplies found on board," said Anne Figueiras, spokeswoman for the Miami office of the FBI. She said she did not know when, where or how Cunanan suffered the injury.

The wound, near Cunanan's navel, appeared to have troubled him for a while, possibly before he allegedly killed Gianni Versace on July 15, the Sun-Sentinel of Fort Lauderdale reported today, quoting sources. "We think he suffered it at one of the murder scenes," said the source. "It might have been before Versace."

Besides the slaying of Versace in Miami

Beach, Cunanan, 27, was the prime suspect in the murders of four men in Minnesota, Illinois and New Jersey in late April and early May. Chicago police said Tuesday that they finally had found a fingerprint match between Cunanan and the May killing of one of the men, real estate developer Lee Miglin. Miglin, 72, was found dead May 4 in the garage next to his townhouse. He had been stabbed repeatedly.

Police said Cunanan stole Miglin's Lexus, several thousand dollars worth of the developer's clothing and a gold coin. Cunanan left a thumb print when he pawned the coin July 7 in Miami Beach during the nationwide manhunt for him.

A list of items found on the houseboat after Cunanan killed himself was released Tuesday by the U.S. attorney's office in Miami. Among the items were business cards, photographs, a prepaid long distance phone card, video tapes, clothing and a white bag containing an unknown white powder.

Miami Beach police, who are in charge of See CUNANAN page 15.

by Lee Davis

Christmas Success

The PWA Holiday Charities Christmas in July was indeed a great success!

A total of \$843 was raised from the sale of "Thinking of You" cards displayed at various bars and at Basic Brothers. Congratulations to Bricks II's staff, management and patrons as they headed the sale at a whopping \$300. In second was the 611 Hyde Park Pub with \$128, Mary's with \$91 and the Brazos River Bottom at \$87.

Another weekend of fund raising started with Mr. Larry Arbo of Dallas working the Patio Bar at Mary's last Sunday. Thanks to Larry's efforts, \$91.90 was raised. At the Venture-N later that night, John Benavides (Happy Birthday) and Don Woods raised \$151 tending bar. A show later netted \$234. At the Brazos River Bottom that same evening, Byron & Shawna hosted a show called "Texas" and raised \$237. Best of luck to Byron who travels to Dallas soon to compete for the Mr. Texas title!

G.A.N.G.

The Gay Alumni Noon Group (G.A.N.G.) is a group of gay men and women who are 40 or older and their friends. The group's goal is to identify and confront needs and concerns that older gay men and women face in a youth oriented community.

The next meeting is scheduled for Saturday, August 9 at 1pm at the Montrose Library, 4100 Montrose. Psychotherapist, Robert Scott LMSW/ACP will speak on the topic "Owning Your Own Self Esteem".

There is no fee. G.A.N.G. will continue monthly speakers series. Call for more info, to Jim at 713.622.6918, Phoebe at 713.802.1514, or Robert at 713.665.6446.

H.A.T.C.H. Expanding

Additional volunteers, facilitators, and program personnel are needed for The Houston Area Teen Coalition of Homosexuals to expand their program and outreach this Fall.

H.A.T.C.H. provides safe social environments for gay, lesbian, bi-sexual, and questioning youth, offers role models and peer support, and sponsors educational and community outreach opportunities to empower sexual minority youth to become positive contributors to society.

Any adult (24 years or older) wishing to work with the youth or facilitate, must attend a Facilitator's Screening to be held in the middle of August. Please call the H.A.T.C.H. Line at 713.942.7002 and leave a message to sign up or for additional information.

New Group Forming

Confidential telephone support group now forming for lesbians and gays with Fibromyalgia and Chronic Fatigue Syndrome. If you need help coping and would like to become a part of this group, please contact Rody at 281.725.5939. Listen carefully and leave a voice message.

New Title Holder!

Last Sunday, CRASH Productions & Inergy hosted the 3rd Annual Miss Gay Space City USofA Pageant. Pictured are



Miss Space Center Contestants.

Kelexis Davenport (Miss Texas Continental Plus), Erica Andrews (Miss Texas USofA), Jame Perry (Miss Space City 96), Monique Johnson (Miss Houston), Lyndsey Shea (1st Alternate), Vanessa Casti (Miss Space City At-Large) and Kourtney Van Wales (Center), the new Miss Space City USofA '97. Both Kourtney and Lyndsey will be competing for the Miss Texas USofA Pageant. Congratulations to all participants!

AWARE

AWARE's next meeting will be on Sunday, August 17 at 6pm at The Hobbit Hole (1715 S. Shepherd). AWARE is an employee group open to both management and non-management lesbian and gay personnel with the goal to establish domestic partnership benefits and equal compensation within Southwestern Bell Corp. The group is open to current and retired SBC employees and their partners as well as those lesbian and gay employees who are not partnered.

Future meetings of AWARE will be the third Sunday of the month at 6pm, location to be announced. For info call 713.235.7929. Callers interested in being on the mailing list to receive the newsletter should leave their name and address. Houston AWARE has established annual membership dues of \$15.

Dance Contest

The Houston Preliminary Dance Contest will be held August 16 at 4pm at the Brazos River Bottom. Contestant Registration is in progress now. For info call Devon De Vasquez, Miss BRB '97 at 713.327.0787 or e-mail at BRB97Devon@aol.com.

All winners will advance to the TGRA State Finals in November. Better start rehearsing now!

Parade Winners

The Pride Committee released the 1997 Winners of Pride Parade Awards.

Glowing with Pride, submitted by OutSmart won the Best Interpretation of Slogan—any type. The Garden Party won the best overall with "Spirit of Montrose". PFLAG won the Best Unit to Commemorate Pride with "Stonewall". "Gypsy Rose" won the best out of town category sponsored by Cheer Dallas. AVES won the best non-professional lighted unit with "Edison". Community Gospel Church won the best professional lighted unit with "Rainbow Lights". Texas Commerce Bank, a welcomed addition to the parade this year, won best walking unit with "Ruby Slipper". Astro Rainbow Alliance of the Deaf won the best non-professional motorized float category with "Houston" and Outrage won the best professional motorized float with "Texas". Congratulations to all participants on a wonderful parade!!

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Krewe of Olympus Selects Recipient Charities, Premieres Video of Ball

The Krewe of Olympus has selected the charities that will be the recipients of funds from fundraising events held this year and the 1998 Krewe Ball in February.



King and Queen Olympus XXVII.

Four charities were selected of the many fine organizations that made their presentations at a recent Krewe meeting. They are: Q Patrol, Pet patrol, the PWA Holiday Fund and Steven's House.

The group will also premiere the video, *Pride and Prejudice*, of this years Krewe of Olympus Ball at 7 p.m., Saturday, August 9 at the Santa Fe Patio Bar (adjacent to J.R.'s Bar and Grill). The premiere is open to the general public and will include a membership drive, introduction of *Fais Do Do*, raffle

tickets and colorful Mardi-Gras beads.

Whitmire Decides Not to Run for mayor

After months of speculation, State Sen. John Whitmire has decided that he will not enter the hotly contested Mayoral race. Whitmire had been encouraged to run for the position from many of his constituents and family members but decided to forego the run claiming he can be more useful as a state legislator.

"I don't have to be mayor to continue making a difference," said Whitmire, a Democrat. Whitmire indicated that he rather enjoys the ability to use his seniority in the legislature and feels that it will enable him to assist a new lieutenant governor to help the city and Harris County.

Polls showed that Whitmire had about 5% support in the Houston area prior to making any decision about running. Former mayor Kathy Whitmire is the widow of Whitmire's brother James. Kathy Whitmire was mayor from 1982 to 1991.

Main Street Theater to Present Montrose Confidential

The summer is winding down, but Main Street Theater promises to keep the heat up in *Montrose Confidential*, a thoroughly satirical examination of the wackier side of arts, politics, and life in Houston.

Written and performed by various anonymous, pseudonymous and otherwise incognito members of the Main Street Company, the first installment of *Montrose Confidential*, entitled *Chapter 1: Attack of the Village People*, will debut Saturday, August 23, benefiting MST's upcoming season.

The satirical revue will present ongoing and continually updated commentary on everything from mayoral politics to society issues to arts criticism. Main Street Theater is located at Chelsea Market, 4617 Montrose. A reception will be held at 7:30 p.m. The performance begins at 8 p.m. For more information, call (713) 524-6706.

Pride Committee Accepting Self-Nominations for 1998 Co-Chairs

by Brian Keever

The 1998 Houston Gay and Lesbian Pride Committee is accepting nominations for 1998 male and female co-chairs, and for Secretary. Interested individuals who would like to nominate themselves should be at the groups general meeting 7 p.m., August 19, 1997 at Metropolitan Multi-Service Center, located at 1475 W. Gray.

Anyone is eligible to vote, however, you must attend two meetings to be able to vote on any matter before the body. The Committee is responsible for organizing the annual Pride Parades. For more information call (713) 529-6979 or e-mail the group at info@pridehouston.org.

Briefs...

Annise Parker will read her poetry, 8 p.m. Thursday, August 21 at 8 p.m. at Coffee Oasis, located in the River Oaks Plaza, 1528 West Gray. Parker is currently running for an at-large position on City Council and is a former president of the Houston Gay and Lesbian Political Caucus. For more information, call (713) 521-3519....



Sunday, August 10, KUHT-Channel 8 will air the five year anniversary episode of *In the Life*. The show will air in the Midnight time slot. The show will last one hour. Lily Tomlin, Kate Clinton, The Lady Chablis, Charles Busch, Dick Sargent and Bill T. Jones will all be part of this special episode. The show will chronicle the past five years of stops and starts of *In the Life* as well as the progress it has made in becoming the high quality news magazine that it is today.

Worth recording artist and country and western chart-topper Howard Alexander is slated to appear at Midtowne Spa, Inc. - Houston, Friday, August 15 at 9 p.m. USA Today has called Alexander "the next Charlie Pride." Midtowne Spa is located at 3100 Fannin. For more information, call (713) 522-2379....

Monica Pope, co-owner/executive chef of Boulevard Bistrot Restaurant, and Caroline Burum, owner of Toopees are the featured speakers at LiB's next meeting, 6:30 p.m., Friday, August 15 at their new location: Bering Memorial United Methodist Church. For more information, call the LiB Hot Line at (713) 529-0077....

A seminar of special information for individuals impacted with AIDS will be held Friday, August 15 from 6 to 8 p.m. at OnCol Medical Associates, 4140 Southwest Freeway on the Fourth Floor. The seminar, presented by Mitchell Katine, an attorney, and Roseann Houseman, a social worker,

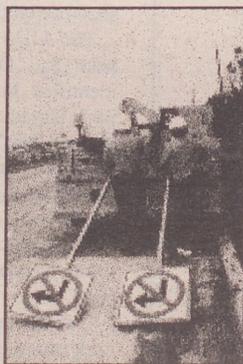
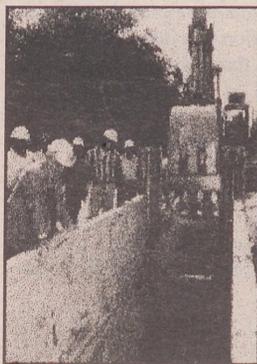
See REGION page 4

BOND ELECTION COMMUNITY MEETING

Come to this informational meeting in your neighborhood to learn about the upcoming bond election and help create a plan to build Houston into a stronger city.

Many public improvements - such as street replacement, storm sewer upgrades and construction of new fire and police stations, libraries and multi-service centers - will benefit your community. These projects require funding that can only be obtained through voter approval.

Your opinion matters to city leaders. Come tell them what the priorities are in your neighborhood.



Call 713-754-0149 for more information.

Sign language interpreters will be available at the meetings. Please call one week in advance of the meeting to request a Spanish language interpreter.

August 12, 7-9 p.m.
Michael Yarbrough
Forest Brook High School
7525 Tidwell Road

August 18, 7-9 p.m.
Ray Driscoll
Sharpstown Recreation
Center
6600 Harbor Town

August 19, 7-9 p.m.
Rob Todd
Dobie High School
11111 Beamer

August 20, 7-9 p.m.
Jew Don Boney, Jr.
Sunnyside Multi-Service
Center
4605 Wilmington

August 21,
6:30-8:30 p.m.
John Castillo
Magnolia Multi-Service
Center
7037 Capitol

August 25, 7-9 p.m.
Rob Todd
Creekwood Middle School
3603 W. Lake Houston Pkwy.

August 26, 7-9 p.m.
Martha Wong
Willow Meadows
Baptist Church
4300 West Belfort

August 27, 7-9 p.m.
Felix Fraga
Jefferson Davis
High School
1101 Quitman

August 28, 7-9 p.m.
Helen Huey
Spring Shadows Pavilion
2500 Gessner

September 4,
6:30-8:30 p.m.
John Kelley
Frostwood
Elementary School
12214 Memorial Drive

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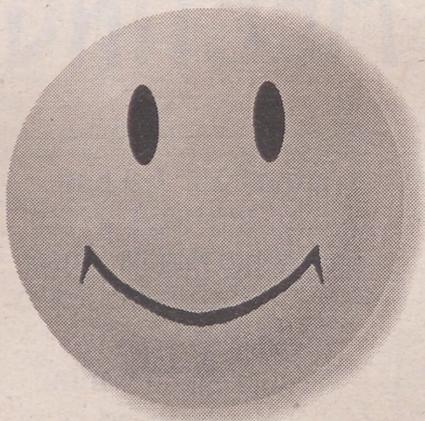
Friday, August 15th @ 8 P.M. All Tickets \$20 (Open Seating)

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REGIONAL NEWS

REGION/

from page 3
will provide information on the rights and responsibilities of HIV-positive employees. Subjects include: Federal and State-law protections; When and how to disclose HIV status; Reasonable accommodations; Interviewing and applying for a new job; Changing jobs without disclosing HIV status; and Employment decision's impact on insurance. For more information and reser-

ervations (seating is limited), call (713) 961-7100....

Finally, Bi-lingual English and Spanish speaking volunteers are needed at the Houston Area Women's Center, a nonprofit organization which provides shelter and support services to survivors of family violence and sexual assault. If interested, please call the volunteer information line at (713) 528-6798 and ask for extension 272.

NATIONAL NEWS

Mystery Deepens With Report that Cunanan Did Not Have HIV

by Will Lester

(Florida) - A report that Andrew Cunanan did not have the HIV virus has not resolved questions about what might have pushed the man suspected of killing Gianni Versace and four others over the edge.

Rumors that Cunanan was HIV positive spurred the theory that the slayings were motivated by "AIDS rage" - a compulsion to lash out and seek revenge because he thought he had been infected. But tests performed during an autopsy showed the 27-year-old Cunanan did not have the virus, the *Miami Herald* reported last week, citing three unidentified law enforcement sources.

The rationale behind Cunanan's actions may never be known. He did not leave a suicide note when he shot himself July 23 aboard a Miami Beach houseboat. "That must be what he intended," said Vernon Geberth, a former New York City homicide commander and the author of *Practical Homicide Investigation*.

"He could have laid the whole thing out and it would have been a best-seller," Geberth said in a phone interview. "He was not going to give the authorities the pleasure of having him in custody and questioning him. He took control and left everybody hanging."

"Many of the questions are unanswerable," agreed Coleen Rowley, an FBI spokeswoman in Minneapolis. Two of the victims were killed in Minnesota.

According to local television reports, the autopsy also found that Cunanan shot himself at 3:46 p.m., just before police got a call saying a caretaker had discovered a man on the houseboat. The caretaker, Fernando Carreira, told police he heard a shot before calling for help.

Miami Beach Assistant City Manager Jose Pinon said Friday that the investigation into Carreira's role has been completed and he expects that Carreira will get a \$45,000 reward from police. He has already received a \$10,000 reward from the Gay and Lesbian Anti-Violence Project in New York.

Cunanan's HIV test results are not being disclosed by the medical examiner's office because Florida law prohibits disclosure in most cases unless a court order is obtained. Weeks of talk show speculation by everyone from serial killer profilers to psychics have shed no light on what prompted the killings.

The AIDS question was fueled by a report from San Diego that Mike Dudley, who identified himself as an AIDS counselor, said Cunanan became agitated after he warned him to be more cautious sexually. He never told Dudley he was infected.

Dudley told *The San Diego Union-Tribune*: "I'd be very glad if he wasn't (infected), but I'd be kind of sad at the same time because in my opinion, he thought he was HIV-positive."

Geberth said Cunanan is difficult to understand because the murders were so different and he followed few clear-cut patterns. The first two killings in Minnesota appeared to be interpersonal disputes, the motives for the third in Chicago is unclear and the fourth murder in New Jersey was a crime of convenience to steal a truck.

When Cunanan got to South Florida, he took a new tack by stalking a famous man who could make him infamous, Geberth said.

"With the killing of Versace, Andrew Cunanan became an international celebrity, in his mind," Geberth said. "If his intent

was to make the record books, he did it." The end of the story remains unwritten. "If they try to put him in a neat category," said Geberth, "it won't work."

Cummings Asks Congress To Lift Ban On Needle Exchange Funding

by Mary Boyle

(Maryland) - U.S. Rep. Elijah Cummings wants the federal government to help fund controversial needle exchange programs that he says are reducing the spread of AIDS through intravenous drug use and putting users into treatment.

"We can not close our eyes any longer and pretend if we 'just say no' people are going to do the right thing," Cummings, a Democrat, said Monday. "We know it is not happening. People are dying all around us."

Congress in 1988 banned federal funds for programs in which drug users exchange used needles for clean ones, instead of using or sharing dirty needles that can spread the virus that causes AIDS. Lawmakers at that time attached two provisions to lifting the ban: needle exchanges must be shown to reduce the spread of the AIDS virus and not increase illegal drug use.

Cummings says programs in his Baltimore district and 54 other cities have met those criteria. "It is now time to lift the ban," he said. Cummings cited Baltimore's success in swapping more than 1 million needles for 6,000 clients since 1995.

The program has reduced the spread of AIDS through intravenous transmission by nearly 40 percent, said Dr. Peter Beilenson, city health commissioner. A study by Johns Hopkins University has shown drug use among needle exchange clients has dropped 20 percent and more than 700 people are in treatment, Beilenson said.

Major medical groups agree. The American Medical Association in June voted in favor of revoking the federal funding ban, joining the federal Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, the National Institutes of Health and the National Academy of Sciences. Those organizations agree the programs reduce AIDS transmission and do not increase drug use.

The Clinton administration has also indicated a willingness to negotiate the issue. Health and Human Services Secretary Donna Shalala told Congress in February that scientific studies conclude needle exchanges can be effective in reducing AIDS transmission and can help bring hard-to-reach populations into treatment.

But Cummings knows it will not be easy to pass the bill he introduced last week that would lift the nine-year ban on federal funding for needle exchange programs. Opponents argue that supplying junkies with needles only encourages drug use and sends a contradictory message.

Needle exchange programs make "some of my colleagues in Washington uncomfortable," Cummings said. Cummings plans to try to sway lawmakers by bringing needle exchange clients to Capitol Hill to testify, likely before the end of the year.

Initiatives on Marijuana, Gay Rights Certified for Fall Ballot

by Hunter T. George

(Washington) - It's supposed to be an off-year for elections, but the November ballot just got a little more crowded. Secretary of

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State Ralph Munro announced Tuesday that initiatives dealing with marijuana and gay rights contained enough valid signatures from voters to be placed on the Nov. 4 ballot, joining six other measures previously certified.

The other measures deal with issues as varied as gun control, health care and a property tax cut. Initiative 685, certified Tuesday, would allow regulated medical use of marijuana and other illegal drugs, including LSD and heroin.

The proposal also would deny early prison release to anyone convicted of a violent crime while under the influence of drugs. But it would allow judges to release those serving prison time for nonviolent drug possession crimes and to defer sentences for those convicted after the measure was passed.

The measure, sponsored by Dr. Rob Killian, a Tacoma physician, faces stiff opposition from such anti-drug crusaders as Lt. Gov. Brad Owen, who views it simply as a way to legalize drugs. Supporters of the initiative say last week's decision by the state Supreme Court to uphold a ban against the medical use of marijuana will generate more support from a compassionate public.

The other measure certified Tuesday, Initiative 677, would bar employment discrimination against gays and lesbians. That proposal would give standing in court to sue for damages to people who believed they had been discriminated against, based on sexual orientation or perceived sexual orientation.

In conformance with existing laws barring other forms of job discrimination, the measure would exempt workplaces with eight or fewer employees. Tacoma lawyer Laurie Jenkins, president of Hands Off Washington, has estimated the campaign will cost at least \$1 million.

A list of the measures, including ballot titles, explanatory statements and full text, is available on the Secretary of State's on-line voters' guide on the Internet. The Web address is www.wa.gov/sec/vote97.htm.

Bill Creates Suit-Filing Window for AIDS-Tainted Blood Victims

by Joel Stashenko

New York - The state Legislature voted last week to allow some hemophiliacs or their survivors to sue over becoming infected with AIDS through tainted blood transfusions.

The bill, which goes to Gov. George Pataki, would create a two-year window for the filing of suits against four drug companies which manufactured blood-clotting agents. Those plasma products are needed by hemophiliacs because their disease prevents their bodies from naturally stopping the flow of blood when they are injured.

The measure would affect about 75 AIDS-infected hemophiliacs in New York state or their survivors, according to Rhonda Smith of Staten Island, whose hemophiliac brother, Marc Greenblatt, died in 1994. Smith was at the Capitol to watch the Legislature approve the bill just before it adjourned its 1997 session Monday.

She said she feels her brother wanted her to pursue a case against what she calls his "murderers." Smith added: "He suffered as a hemophiliac all 31 years of his life. He suffered as an HIV patient for six years, then he suffered with AIDS for the last three years of his life." Hemophiliacs who got AIDS through blood-product transfusions and their loved ones suffered a "horrific catastrophe," she said.

Tests showed that Greenblatt contracted HIV during the early 1980s, and his sister said there was no other possible means of infection in his case except tainted blood products. She said she declined a \$100,000 settlement over her brother's infection because the blood-product manufacturer would not accept any responsibility for her brother's fatal illness.

Nationally, hundreds of others have

accepted the companies' settlement offers and they would be barred from now bringing suit in New York state if the bill becomes law.

The blood products in question were manufactured by the Bayer Corp.'s Cutter Laboratories, Alpha Therapeutic Corp., Baxter International Inc. and Rhone-Poulenc Rorer. A handful of other states, including New Jersey, has enacted similar waivers to the filing of suits as the one approved Monday in New York.

The hemophiliacs are alleging that the companies did not take possible precautionary steps - including the heating of plasma to kill the HIV - until thousands of people had been infected. "These companies chose not to conduct simple, lifesaving screening or prevention measures in the interest of profitable gains," state Sen. Nicholas Spano, a Republican from Westchester County, said.

The companies have denied they intentionally put people at risk, and say that given the knowledge available at the time, they did everything possible to keep their products safe. The window for filing suits under the legislation would open as soon as Pataki signs it into law.

New Insurance Company First to Aid Gay Couples

by Meki Cox

(Hawaii) - If Dr. Robert Jenkins just mentioned the words gay and lesbian, doors slammed shut. Few would take his pink business card. Few would return his phone calls. Claims of non-discrimination were not reality, he said.

As head of the first insurance agency to help same-sex couples obtain benefits under Hawaii's new reciprocal benefits law, he's seen discrimination firsthand. With a colorful rainbow as its logo, Hawaii-based Pride Insurance & Financial Services Inc. opened for business this summer, just as the new law - the nation's first - came into effect, giving couples who can't legally marry a taste of the married life. A major provision grants insurance benefits to same-gender couples.

All summer, Jenkins and his nine employees have been on the hunt for companies that will help gays and lesbians who want to sign up for joint life, health and homeowners' insurance. So far, they've found 16 in the entire nation. The number is small, but it's enough of a start, Jenkins said.

"A lot of insurance companies won't even touch gays and lesbians. Let's just be honest about this. It's a capitalist society. They don't have to do anything they don't want to do," Jenkins said. "But, we've found some insurance agencies that are sympathetic and willing to truly not discriminate."

But the quest for business has been tough. The first company that Pride Insurance asked to cover homosexual couples, located in Montgomery, Ala., gave it a cold, hard slap in the face, said agent Steven Tseu.

"Their response was we're Southern rednecks and we frown on that kind of behavior. The next day they called and cancelled their contract with us," Tseu said. "When they turned us down like that it was very discouraging."

For the last 10 years, Jenkins, who is a gay, was the primary physician for AIDS patients in Los Angeles and saw for the first time how insurance companies discriminate. His days were filled with finding ways to sneak AIDS patients on some kind of health insurance. "We can still do that (for gays and lesbians), but let's not go that way. Let's just be up front and give the business to companies that truly don't discriminate," said Jenkins.

About two clients a day come in to inquire about insurance or how to sign up as beneficiaries under the new law, he said. The law grants any adult couple who can't legally marry - gays and lesbians, parent and adult child, siblings and roommates - about 45 of the 400 legal benefits of marriage.

One Pride Insurance client, Daniel Peralta, a 35-year-old contractor employed part-time with the state, said he couldn't wait to sign up after the law passed. He had no medical insurance and was desperate to

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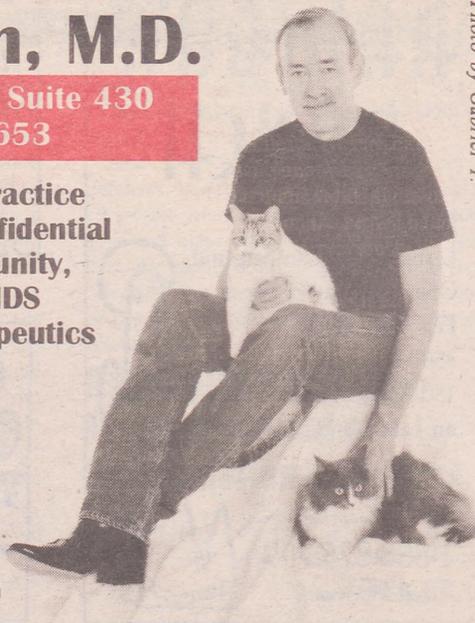


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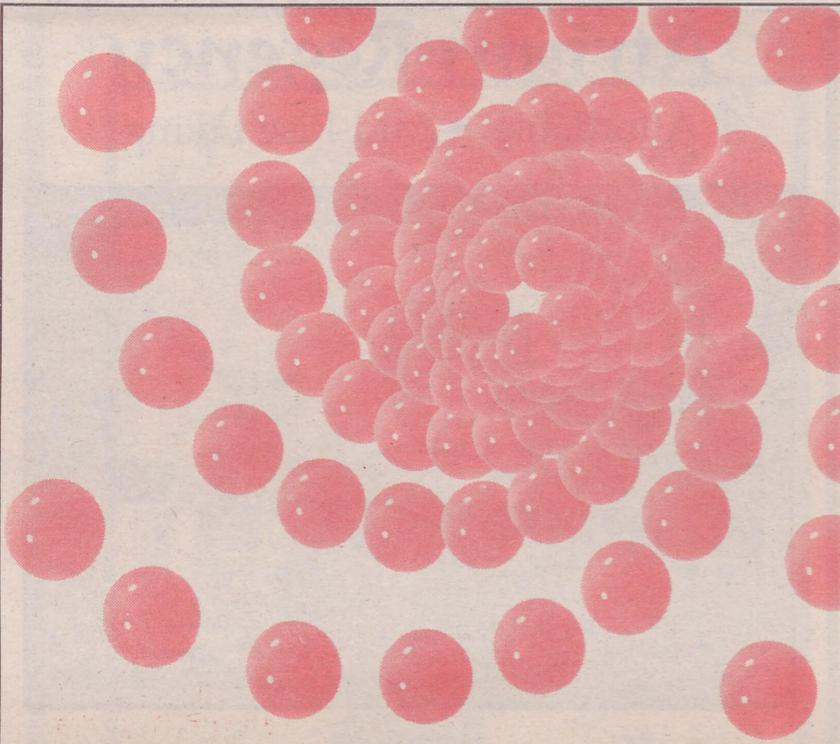
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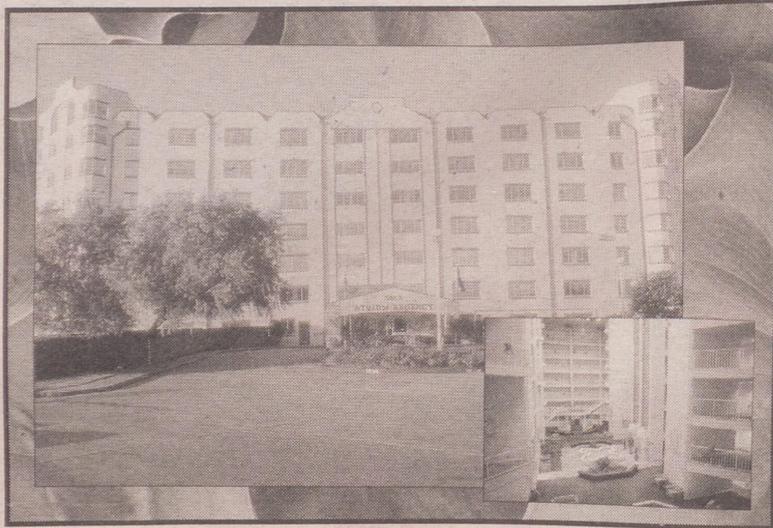
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NATIONAL NEWS

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be covered under his partner, Michael Graves.

However, he hit a wall because he had no idea how to go about doing it. "I tried to look into it on my own. But I thought where do you go? Who do you call?" Peralta said. Once he was referred to Pride Insurance, everything went smoothly. "They outlined everything in simple terms, thank God," he said.

Pride Insurance also helps same-sex couples in other states and countries apply to become reciprocal beneficiaries under the Hawaii law, which has no residency requirement. Having that document can help couples get domestic partnership benefits at work, get hospital visitation rights when a partner is sick, and other benefits, Jenkins said.

The company has begun advertising its services in several gay and lesbian publications across the country. "It's sad to need a separate agency for gays and lesbians, but some people are uncomfortable going into an agency where someone says, 'What about your wife and kids?,' and you have to say, 'Well, it's my boyfriend and my dog.' Who knows how an agent is going to respond," Jenkins said.

"Here they know they're going to be totally accepted," said Jenkins, who moved from California back to his hometown in Hawaii in April. "It feels good to come home and be out. And to make no apologies."

Book for Gay Teens to Stay in Library

by Anthony Breznican

(Pennsylvania) - A book about teen homosexuality and safe sex is still safe to read in one southwestern Pennsylvania high school library.

A committee of educators and parents at Brownsville Area High School said Monday it will keep the 56-page book, *Understanding Sexuality - A Book for Gay Teens and Their Friends* in the school library. But parents can notify the librarian if they do not want their child to read it, school Superintendent Dexton Reed said.

The committee reviewed the book after a parent, Gina Wellington, asked in May that the book be removed. Among passages she and other parents found objectionable are descriptions of how to use a condom and a vignette describing a fictional 7-year-old boy's fascination with an altar boy.

After listening to students, parents and the American Civil Liberties Union, the committee allowed the book to remain in general circulation. Ms. Wellington did not return phone calls for comment, but Reed said he thought she was "satisfied."

Walter "Spinner" Trynock, senior class president at the school, said keeping the book indicates that the school values students' First Amendment rights. "When they start restricting books like this the next step is taking out encyclopedias and almanacs," Trynock said. "We're very lucky to have the school board we do have. I hope they continue to make righteous decisions like this."

Trynock, 17, said he also was glad students do not have to ask permission to read the book, and said it could be useful to every student - gay or straight. "If you want to read it you should be able to. I think we are old enough to decide for ourselves," he said.

Peggy Gursky, an incoming member of the school board, opposed banning the book, but said she was glad the committee allowed parents a role in deciding whether their children should read it. "It was a wise decision, but how do parents know the book is there?" she said. "There should be some way parents are advised about objectionable books ... (because) there are probably other books that should be looked at."

Stephanie Birnberg, the president of the ACLU's Pittsburgh chapter, said she was happy with all of the committee's decisions. "The most important thing is that it stays on the shelf and students don't have to ask to use it," Ms. Birnberg said. "We also stand behind (an individual) parent's decision that this is something their child ought not to see."

Gay State Insurance Issue Simmers

by Charles E. Beggs

(Oregon) - Legal sparring is brewing over whether workers represented by the largest state employee union are entitled to obtain health insurance for gay domestic partners. The Oregon Public Employees Union negotiated a new two-year contract with the state this spring and says it planned that domestic partner coverage be part of the pact covering about 17,000 state workers.

"We basically have zero tolerance for discrimination for any purpose. We also feel health care is something every one has a legal right to," OPEU spokesman Dave Mazza said Thursday. But a state agency responsible for obtaining health care coverage for workers said there is legal uncertainty around the issue and that an attorney general's opinion might be sought.

Domestic partner benefits already are available to city employees in several places, including Portland and Eugene. During talks between the state and OPEU, bargainers added language to an anti-discrimination section in the pact that the contract will be equally applied to all workers "without regard to their status in any of the categories specified above." One of those categories is sexual orientation.

The union now argues that the language supports its position that partners of gay employees are entitled to be covered under state employee health insurance. Cheryl Willcoxon, administrator of the state Bargaining Unit Benefits Board, said the domestic partner issue first came up last year when a group of workers asked if insurance coverage could be extended to gays' partners.

Board members discussed whether they had the authority to expand coverage that way but took no final action, she said. Willcoxon said the OPEU matter likely will result in Attorney General Hardy Myers' office being asked for an opinion on whether the board under current law can extend insurance to domestic partners.

A case pending in the Oregon Court of Appeals could have some bearing on the OPEU contract issue. In that case, the state is appealing a 1996 ruling by Multnomah County Circuit Judge Stephen Gallagher that health and life insurance benefits must be offered to the gay domestic partners of state employees.

Gallagher's decision came on a lawsuit brought by two nursing professors and a pharmacy supervisor at Oregon Health Sciences University in Portland. The judge said each of the three couples had "conducted themselves as members of a family" and that each "has enjoyed a long-term and committed relationship identical to marriage."

State laws dealing with employee insurance generally refer to family members as spouses and children.

Rep. DeGette Accuses Republicans of 'Dirty Tricks'

(Colorado) - First-term congresswoman Diana DeGette is accusing state Republicans of "dirty tricks" for sending out a letter accusing her of opposing AIDS tests for accused rapists.

The Colorado Republican Party issued a statement earlier this week criticizing DeGette for what they called the 1st District representative's "opposition to rape victim's rights."

"This is dirty tricks," the Denver Democrat said. She said she does support such testing, just not the version the Republicans support. "The letter is a lie," DeGette said she chose to cosponsor a bill introduced by Reps. Nancy Pelosi, D-Calif., and Connie Morella, R-Md., over that of colleague Rep. Tom Coburn, R-Okla., because Coburn's bill didn't protect the confidentiality of rape victims.

DeGette said she also was concerned that

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the Coburn bill would interfere with the state's existing testing program and jeopardize federal funding for some state programs. "Confidential AIDS reporting is so successful (in Colorado) that we expanded it a couple of years ago. The Coburn bill would supersede state law, and potentially wipe out all the good effects that we've had in Colorado.

"If we don't handle the testing in the way proscribed by the bill," she said, "we would potentially lose our Medicaid."

In the letter, the Republicans say DeGette "has inexplicably opposed the HIV Prevention Act of 1997, which calls for mandatory HIV testing of alleged sex offenders." The letter urged constituents to call DeGette and protest.

Steve Curtis, chairman of the Colorado Republican Party, said Friday that his office hadn't seen a copy of the Pelosi-Morella bill. "We've only seen the copy of one bill," Curtis said.

Leslie Wolfe of the Center for Women's Policy Studies agreed that Coburn's bill did not help women. "The Coburn bill is not a pro-woman bill; it is masquerading as being concerned about so-called victims, but it's in fact violating victim's right to privacy," Wolfe said.

Curtis said the Republicans were merely responding to a letter they were sent from rape victim Deidre Raver, executive director of Women Against Violence, a Washington advocacy group.

Pension Funds Push for Availability of AIDS Drug

(North Carolina) - Glaxo Wellcome shareholders and AIDS activists have pressed the drug maker to make its experimental AIDS drug more widely available. The state comptroller of New York, H. Carl McCall, who controls a state employee retirement fund that owns nearly \$12 million in Glaxo Wellcome stock, wrote the drug company urging it to do more to make the drug known as 1592 more available.

McCall, who acted after meeting with AIDS activists, said he planned to urge other pension funds to put additional pressure on Glaxo Wellcome, which has its U.S. headquarters in Research Triangle Park.

McCall was joined in urging the company to make the drug more widely available by George M. Philip, executive director of the New York State Teachers Retirement System, which owns nearly \$35 million in Glaxo stock; and Ann Kurth, executive director of Mothers' Voices, a national organization of parents of children with AIDS.

Glaxo Wellcome says it is doing all it can to make the drug available in a responsible manner. That includes launching new programs this month that will make the drug available for free to 2,400 children and adults who are not responding to available AIDS drugs.

AIDS activists have speculated that Glaxo Wellcome does not want to undercut sales of its other two AIDS drugs, Retrovir, also known as AZT, and Epivir, or 3TC. A Glaxo Wellcome spokeswoman said the criticism baffled the company.

"We are on the same side as they are," Ramona Jones said. "We want to make more effective ... treatments available as quickly as we can. It doesn't make any sense, either financially or medically, not to make (1592) available as soon as possible."

AIDS groups are excited about 1592 because tests indicate it could be more potent than existing drugs. Glaxo Wellcome began the final phase of 1592 testing on human volunteers this spring and expects to seek approval from the Food and Drug Administration next year.

Gingrich: Panel Should Look at Sex in Military

(Capitol) - Controversy over gays in the military and recent sex scandals have demoralized troops, and a commission should be created to look at sex in the armed services, House Speaker Newt Gingrich said last Sunday.

"I think we have to look at the entire issue

of sexuality in the military," Gingrich said on *Fox News Sunday*, a weekly roundtable helmed by syndicated columnist Tony Snow.

The *Dallas Morning News* reported in its Sunday edition that the Pentagon began reviewing how its "don't ask, don't tell" policy is applied after discharges for homosexuality reached a five-year high of 850 in 1996.

"We're reviewing the enforcement of the policy, not the policy itself," Pentagon spokeswoman Monica Aloisio told the newspaper. "We think the policy works fine. We have no intention of changing it." The Pentagon had no further comment Sunday.

Recent events have turned the military into a "social laboratory," said Gingrich, R-Ga. "You don't hire a military as a social laboratory." All this scrutiny is "very, very demoralizing to active personnel," Gingrich said.

The Army's top enlisted man is undergoing hearings to determine if he should be court-martialed for sexual misconduct after six women accused him of using his position of authority to intimidate them sexually. And the Army is reviewing training for drill instructors after allegations that male drill sergeants at its Aberdeen Proving Ground in Maryland were preying on female trainees.

The "don't ask, don't tell" policy, implemented in 1994, essentially permits homosexuals to stay in the military as long as they do not disclose their sexual orientation or engage in homosexual activity. The military is prohibited from asking service members about their orientation or actively seeking to identify suspected gay members.

Many homosexuals say military commanders continue to ask people about their sexual orientation and have instigated "witch hunts" against gays. "They've institutionalized an anti-gay bias," said Steve Loomis of Killeen, Texas, a former lieutenant colonel who was kicked out of the Army last month for homosexual activity. At the time, Loomis was just days short of qualifying for a full retirement.

Military officials suggest that one explanation for the increase in discharges may be the policy itself. Before the policy, enlistees were asked about their sexual orientation when they joined up. If they lied, they could be discharged for "fraudulent enlistment."

Now, such questions are forbidden. Instead of being discharged for lying when they enlisted, many gay service members now are discharged specifically for homosexuality.

Homosexuals Question Impact of State's Anti-Bias Law

(New Hampshire) - Though they were quick to celebrate the passage of a law prohibiting discrimination based on sexual orientation, some homosexuals in New Hampshire are questioning its impact. Starting on Jan. 1, 1998, it will be illegal to use homosexuality as a reason for firing or refusing service to a person. Though many think the law just needs time before its effects are felt, some activists fear it may backfire.

"It's monumental in the sense that heinous things have been done and now they're against the law. I just don't want us to become complacent in this victory," said Brandy Leonard, a Concord writer who fears tolerance cannot be legislated. "If people are that bigoted, they'll find a way to fire you."

Vermont passed similar legislation in 1992, but few claims of discrimination have been made under that law.

"I think the main reason, in talking to people in the gay community, is that when you file a complaint with an administrative agency, you're really coming out," said Seth Steinzor, the assistant attorney general for civil rights in Vermont. "It's not the same as having a couple friends know you're gay. This is really taking a public stand," Steinzor said.

New Hampshire joined eighteen other states and the District of Columbia when it passed the anti-bias law. Those states include: Arizona, California, Connecticut, Delaware, Florida, Illinois, Iowa, Maine, Massachusetts, Minnesota, Nebraska, Nevada, New Jersey, Oregon, Utah,

Vermont, Washington and Wisconsin.

Another concern of some activists is the Commission of Human Rights, the group responsible for evaluating sexual orientation discrimination claims in New Hampshire. Under the new law, cases are heard by a rotating panel of three to seven commissioners, each of whom is appointed to a five year term by the governor.

To date, Gov. Jeanne Shaheen has made no appointments to the commission. And current members include Loren Jean and Beverly Rodeschin, former legislators who voted against including sexual orientation in anti-discrimination bills.

But some think the bill's very existence will make a big difference. Randy Kottwitz, a public relations consultant from Merrimack, thinks that as people learn of the law and its punitive measures they will

think before discriminating. "A bill can't change the attitude of society, but it does set a tone," Kottwitz said.

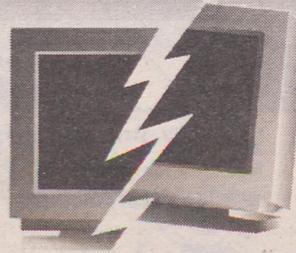
And Don Bisson, a 41-year-old public defender, said the law will allow members of all sexual orientations to be more comfortable and open about homosexuality. And that, he said, is an important first step. "Because I'm allowed to be out at my job, people get used to being around gay people," Bisson said.

Gay Group Upset Over Mayor's Refusal of Proclamation

(Nebraska) - A local gay and lesbian group is upset over Mayor Mike Johann's

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Debate Strikes Again

by Larry Lingle

The Teamsters' strike against the United Parcel Service poses a personal dilemma: I grew up in a union family, from my grandfather who lost his railroad job in the great strike of 1916 to a succession of relatives whose lives were immeasurably improved by the successes of organized labor during and after the Great Depression. On the other hand, as a business owner I have been immediately impacted by the stoppage.

In many ways the saga of UPS reflects the good and evil of big business. As the men in brown shirts captured the majority of the parcel market they also provided the cheapest rates. For those who, favoring the side of management, fall back on the theme that higher wages cause high costs here is UPS with mostly union workers - and higher pay - offering the cheapest fares for parcels in the country. Federal Express, where only its pilots are unionized, has among the highest delivery rates.

But the UPS squabble is not solely about wages. The union is attacking the use of part-time workers, a company practice used to hold down rising costs. A part-timer gets about \$9 an hour while a union man or woman starts at \$19.95 an hour (my employees are instructed not to read anything into these figures). The union also wants an end to the use of outside contractors - other trucking companies for cross-country deliveries - and continued contributions to the Teamsters pension fund - a fund historically used, or misused, for a variety of purposes.

UPS has successfully forestalled a strike throughout its 90 year history, until now. There are apparently other considerations driving both sides in this dispute. The Teamsters are led by Ron Carey, the supposedly reform president of the once corrupt union with more ties to organized crime

Democratic National Committee. With all the other publicity surrounding the DNC and foreign contributions this inquiry is receiving little attention. But the recent resignation of William Hamilton, the union's chief Washington lobbyist, is a signal that he and others expect to be indicted. This only raises the stakes for Carey in the likely case of a new Teamsters election. After all, he rode to power as the untouchable, putting an end to corruption.

As of the beginning of this week the two sides were not even talking, least of all reaching a settlement. But lightning has struck before, and strikes have a way of ending suddenly. In this case, however, President Clinton has indicated that there is no reason for federal intervention. According to government spokesmen, Clinton would act only in cases where the nation's health and safety are at risk, such as when he intervened to end the baseball strike and the dispute at American Airlines. We are fortunate to have such clear-cut guidelines.

Returning once again to one of my favorite subjects, the ongoing saga of the Log Cabineers, the saviors of the Republican Big Tent. Last week I noted that the Texas GOP was about to elect as its new head honcho an anti-gay activist. So it came to pass. But wait, that was only the tip of the right-wing iceberg.

Elected as vice chairman was David Barton of Aledo. Barton graduated from that bastion of learning, the Oral Roberts University (you remember, the one with the now abandoned medical tower, a testament to Oral's reach, if not his grasp). Barton went on to receive a doctorate, albeit honorary, from Pensacola Christian College. He is now president of Wall Builders, an organization dedicated "to historical research to show that the nation's government was founded on biblical principles that have eroded".

And Barton announced after his election

"In [the Teamster Strike] case ... President Clinton has indicated that there is no reason for federal intervention. According to government spokesmen, Clinton would act only in cases where the nation's health and safety are at risk, such as when he intervened to end the baseball strike and the dispute at American Airlines. We are fortunate to have such clear-cut guidelines."

than the waste industry.

Carey recently won a close re-election over James P. Hoffa, son of the legendary and still missing James R. Hoffa. Even that election is still in dispute and the federal mediator has still to certify the results. In a likely scenario of a new election, the 185,000 teamsters at UPS are crucial. In the last election Carey had the bulk of their votes, after all he is a former UPS driver. So the stakes in this strike are greater than the announced bargaining issues. Hoffa is already out visiting the picketing lines while his spokesman innocently proclaim that internal Teamsters' differences end at that picket line.

If more than wages are at issue in this strike, money is still the driving force. UPS is losing millions a day while suppliers divert shipments to other carriers. Fortunately for UPS, no other carrier, not even the U.S. Postal Service is equipped to handle the traffic. Likewise the Teamsters, with an already depleted strike fund, must pay the strikers from their general fund in which the supply will barely last a week.

And while UPS must silently watch is customers flock to other carriers, Carey and his chief associates are equally preoccupied with a grand jury in New York relating to financial ties between the Teamsters and the

that "we can pass popularly supported legislation, such as parental consent for teen-age minor abortion (either he is being redundant or considered abortion minor) and the banning of same-sex marriage." Way to go, Texas Republicans. And all the time our local erstwhile Log Cabineers were in Washington, patting each other on the backs for having created such a fine social club back in Texas. So tell it to Susan Weddington and Barton. I am sure they would love to hear from you.

Actually, I am sympathetic with the Log Cabineers. They must, on one hand, convince themselves that they are not alone in a sea of queers (the silence which greeted their appearance along the parade route at the Pride parade notwithstanding) and, on the other hand, persuade their fellow Republicans that they are the progenitors of a new, more family-oriented gay community is an daunting task.

The Log Cabineers can point with pride to the brace of openly gay lawyers at Vince and Elkins, although granted one of them is a Democrat. But also forgetting that there was an openly gay legal secretary at that firm long before these good ole boys, and she is a lesbian. But there we go again, forgetting our history.

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Tis the Age of the Throwaways...

by Leslie Ramsay

I was in Jason's Deli picking up a sandwich on Wednesday, when I picked up this weeks *Houston Press*. I pick it up out of habit every week. I wasn't really paying much attention to it other than to glance at the Tim Fleck column until I sat it down on the to-go counter while I reached for my change. Right on the cover is a photo of Rodney Hulin, laying on a hospital bed with a air tube sticking out of his throat. The photo is extremely disturbing at best and morbid at the worst.

The photo goes along with the Michael

I have had the unique experience in growing up in a home where foster children and street kids found safety. My single parent household was able to give the throwaway kids the love, discipline and understanding that their sometimes two parent households could not or would not.

All hours of the day or night the front door bell would ring. A parent, social worker or even sometimes, the police would be standing on the porch with a teenager in a crisis situation. My mother would take them all in and give them a place to stay. In the morning she would sort it out. Her calendar was filled with doctor appointments, counseling sessions, court appearances, and juvenile hall visits. She cared for them when their own parents did not.

This experience has given me something

"The problem is the majority of people who are having children shouldn't and the people who should don't."

Berryhill article inside. Berryhill tries to explain the facts behind the 1996 suicide of Rodney Hulin, a 17 year old TDCJ inmate, based on interviews with all of the pertinent players involved. He even gave Ray Hill a plug and pat on the back for pushing his prison reform agenda on the radio and with the ACLU. All in all he did a pretty fair job in his attempt.

The picture Michael Berryhill paints of Rodney Hulin's short life is pretty dismal. Rodney's divorced parents were basically AWOL during his childhood. He spent two weeks with his father when he was thirteen. His mother was on a quest to find someone to support her and her kids with a couple of marriages and long distance moves across Texas.

The Hulin family had been referred to Child Protective Services for alleged physical and emotional abuse. The kids ended up in foster care for awhile. The family straightened up their act and the kid's were returned by CPS in Louisiana. The family seemed to deal Rodney's self-esteem issues, teen angst and violent behavior by rejecting him and abandoning him even more. He was in institutional facilities for a good amount of his life.

Rodney had gotten into trouble a few times before he finally ended up in TDCJ. He was sentenced to eight years in prison for throwing Molotov cocktails into the backyards of his neighbors. Hardly a crime that would normally result in an eight year prison sentence. He was seeking attention and causing mischief not intentionally harming or destroying property as he was charged. Parental control and supervision would have squelched it...but Rodney did not have that luxury.

Unfortunately, the Rodney Hulin's case is only an example of a national trend in our society. This is the age of throwaway teens.

On the streets of any large city you see them sitting on curbs, hanging out in the malls, and walking the streets at night. They have no place in society. They are often not old enough to work. They have been thrown out of public school. They are completely bored out of their minds. The family unit fails them, the inner city community abuses them, and the prison system finishes them off- one way or another.

that most other people I meet do not have. I hear a case like Rodney Hulin and I remember Joe and Calvin, two brothers from Mississippi that are exactly like Rodney. They too had come from an abusive home. They both were damaged by society. They both had small frames and victim written all over them. They would have ended up as victim's of rape and suicide in prison if they hadn't been dropped on my mother's doorstep. I know from experience that children do not need to end up dying in prison.

The parent's of these children are squarely to blame. They fail to give them their time, love and attention. So many of the parents are addicted to something and couldn't care less for their children. The primary focus for the parents are their own selfish desires. Many do not even consider their actions and how they will effect their children before they do it.

Our government is running around creating services and laws to supposedly fix all of this. The problem is the majority of people who are having children shouldn't and the people who should don't. My mother "raised" over 100 kids...she only gave birth to two. My brother and I both would have benefited from having her all to ourselves, but the realization of what other kid's had to deal with persuaded us to share her.

The majority of the kid's that found their way to our home in California have gone on to work in jobs they thought they would never qualify for, earned their G.E.D.'s, are attending college or are currently serving in the military. The few that did not make it are still far better off than when they arrived: beaten, battered and abused. They know at least that someone once cared for them.

The family of Rodney Hulin will never be able to make-up for how they failed him. I hope that they will at least try to care for the other two living children they have the privilege of having in their care.

If you are aware of a child that is in need of help - physically or mentally, please contact the Child Protective Services Department at 800/252-5400. The call is free. You may remain anonymous. The earlier you call in a child's life the chances of them surviving an abusive home is greater.



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refusal to sign a proclamation for a recent gay pride rally and his lack of response to follow-up letters.

"My concern is that the city is not responsive to the gay and lesbian community which makes up part of the city," said Karl Olson, public affairs coordinator for the Lincoln Pride Network. Olson said the group's concerns stem from a June 21 rally and picnic that coincided with national Gay Pride Day.

Before the rally, organizers sent a letter to Johanns in mid May inviting him to appear at the rally or to issue a proclamation for the event. The only response from Johanns' office was a short letter saying that the mayor would be unable to participate, Olson said. The letter did not address the lack of a proclamation, he said.

Johanns' office also failed to respond to a July 7 letter from the group asking for an explanation and a July 17 letter asking for clarification of city policy concerning the event. Johanns has said that he vetoed a decision by the Lincoln-Lancaster Commission on Women to co-sponsor the event because the commission could not act contrary to "city policy."

"I didn't realize there was a policy," Olson said.

Johanns, who is running for the GOP nomination for governor in 1998, said Friday that the policy in question is one that bars advisory groups such as the women's commission from endorsing events without city approval.

He acknowledged that, by signing proclamations, he endorses a number of other events and groups but he would not sign a proclamation recognizing the Pride Rally because it was sponsored by a gay and lesbian organization.

"I don't know a whole lot more about that they stand for," Johanns said. "I did not want the city backing this event or Mike Johanns as an individual." After being told more about the group, Johanns said he could not endorse its call for "special rights" for gay and lesbian people.

Johanns' stand was in contrast to that of New York City Mayor Rudolph Giuliani, who gave a statement of welcome at that city's Gay Pride Day parade. Olson said Giuliani spoke at the event despite his political differences on many gay and lesbian issues. "I don't think you have to give up your religion or your political party to say, 'Welcome, you're a part of our community,'" Olson said.

State Prison Denies
Lesbian Couple's Bid for
Wedding

(Nebraska) - Cheryl O'Dell wants to get married again. After enduring years of abuse at the hands of her former husband, the 30-year-old woman says she has found true love. "I've found my soul mate," O'Dell said. "People tell us when they see us together it's like they can see a halo over us."

The couple wants to exchange vows in a simple religious ceremony. But it is not that simple - both are incarcerated in a state prison and both are women. "What is the problem? We're not trying to do anything illegal," says O'Dell's companion, Tammy Stearns, 35, of Alliance. "It's not about sex at all. I've found my soul mate and she's found hers."

Larry Wayne, warden at the Nebraska Center for Women in York where O'Dell and Stearns are imprisoned, has denied their request to hold a "handfasting" ceremony in the prison chapel. Wayne, backed by legal counsel for the state Department of Correctional Services, said such a ceremony would violate Nebraska's ban on same-sex marriages.

"If we were on the outside, we could do this," O'Dell said. "I think they're homophobic." But Wayne said personal bias played no part in the decision. "Same-sex marriages, either symbolic or legal, are not recognized in Nebraska law," he said. "Our personal feelings, one way or the other, are of no consequence."

Prison attorney Jane Grabenstein-

Chandler acknowledged the women could do the ceremony if they were not behind bars. "But this doesn't change our explanation," she said. "There are things you can't do when you're in prison that you can do when you're not."

She added the couple probably could exchange vows now, as long as the exchange did not require special prison arrangements. "As long as they're not violating any rules, they could make a verbal commitment between themselves," Grabenstein-Chandler said. Grabenstein-Chandler said she could not recall the department ever facing such a request.

"I just think it's our right to do this," O'Dell said. "It's a spiritual thing. How can they say no?" The ceremony would have been presided over by Jason and Cynthia Blodgett-McDeavitt, high priest and priestess in the Lincoln Wiccan church, the Order of the Red Grail.

Cynthia Blodgett-McDeavitt said the department was mistakenly blurring the division between the spiritual and legal spheres. "It's strictly a spiritual ceremony..." Blodgett-McDeavitt said. "It's a pledge to love, honor and respect."

O'Dell and Stearns both have been involved in violent relationships with men and women. "I've been raped, I've had past abusive relationships with men. But with Tammy, I feel completely safe," said O'Dell, who is serving time on a drug-related charge.

Stearns began serving six to eight years in June 1996 for assaulting her lesbian partner in Alliance at the time. According to prosecutors, Stearns held the woman against her will, beat her and burned her with a cigarette. Police said Stearns then drove to the woman's home in Minatare, broke in and killed the family dog.

"That is the mistake I made," Stearns said about the crime. O'Dell said she does not worry about her companion's criminal history. Stearns' mandatory release date is May 1999, although she could receive a parole hearing next year. O'Dell expects to be paroled into a drug treatment program this month.

"If we don't get to have the ceremony, it really won't change anything," O'Dell said. "But I wanted to have it before I leave because it's still important to us."

Police Read Anti-Gay
Defendant's Diaries,
Manuscript, Seeking
Motive

(New Mexico) - A woman accused of harassing seven people on a purported homosexual "hit list" is believed to have acted partly out of an obsession with an Eastern New Mexico University professor, police said.

Miranda Prather, 23, was arrested July 23. She was booked on charges including making a false report and seven counts of harassment - one for each person on the so-called hit list. Police Capt. Lonnie Berry said this week he has been reading Ms. Prather's diaries and the manuscript of a novel she was writing.

The diaries revealed the fixation on the professor, whose name is on the hit list, Berry said. "We do not think the professor knew anything about this infatuation," Berry said. He said the infatuation apparently had gone on for about three years. Berry did not release the professor's name. Berry said police believe the infatuation was part of the motivation for Ms. Prather's alleged actions.

Ms. Prather was a graduate student in the ENMU English department. She was arrested after allegedly staging an attack on herself and placing her own name atop the anti-gay "hit list." Police accused her of distributing posters around town urging people to "beat up a queer," "harass a queer" and "kill a queer."

One flier listed eight people, including herself, whom it identified as homosexuals. It threatened to "begin executing one queer a week." Berry said Ms. Prather initially told investigators she was beaten by two men but changed her story to accuse a woman who

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was a former friend - but whom police concluded was Ms. Prather herself.

Former Chairman of Gay-Rights Group Acquitted of Sex Charge

(South Carolina) - A former regional chairman of the Gay and Lesbian Pride Movement has been acquitted of soliciting sex from an undercover officer in a city park. The jury deliberated about 15 minutes before clearing 29-year-old Derrick Kevin Gunter, attorney Randy Hiller said last week.

The Fountain Inn man was charged with soliciting for immoral purposes last March, a month before a downtown gay-rights march. Gunter says he was sitting in the park before work when the undercover officer started up a conversation. The talk soon turned to sex, but Gunter said he repeatedly told the man he wasn't interested.

Police alleged Gunter proposed a location where they could have sex. Hiller said he tried to show that the officer entrapped Gunter. The trial this week came down to Gunter's word against the policeman's, Hiller said.

"We regret there was no conviction, but we're standing by our officer," Maj. W.L. Johnson said. "Our officer was acting in good faith." Gunter said he has no plans to return to a leadership role with GLPM.

ISU Professor Asks Judge to Order Grant for Research

(Idaho) - An Idaho State University professor asked a federal judge last week to order the state Board of Education to approve a \$30,000 grant for researching the turn-of-the-century development of gay communities in the Northwest.

The board was not commenting on the lawsuit until after it has seen it. But Peter Boag claimed that in denying his grant request, board members ignored the criteria it applied in approving other research grants because it feared the political fallout from a project involving homosexuality.

He maintained that violated his First Amendment constitutional right to freedom of expression and the board's constitutional requirement to disburse public money without discriminating against individuals because of their viewpoints.

At the time of its 5-3 decision in mid-April and in dealing with the controversy since then, the board has said it rejected Boag's grant request over the recommendation of its Higher Education Research Council because the project had no commercial application.

The lawsuit was filed in U.S. District Court after the board declined to respond to the American Civil Liberties Union request on Boag's behalf that it reconsider the decision. In addition to asking for court-ordered approval of the grant, the suit seeks unspecified financial compensation and penalties against the board for the expenses and lost opportunity Boag has suffered.

The ACLU, which is representing Boag, pointed out that commercial application was not a stated criteria for approval in the application guidelines and that the board has underwritten other projects very similar, if not identical, to Boag's except for the controversial subject matter.

Among the 15 grants approved at the time Boag's was denied were projected entitled "Marching as to War: Presbyterian Missionaries and the Origins of American Relations with Iran" and "Editing the Clarendon Edition of George Eliot's 'Adam Bede.'"

Boag also maintained that the research project into the development of the region's gay communities between 1870 and 1920 and the reaction of "boarder society to these groups help us understand what happened to our political system ... at the turn of the century when much of our political system was formed.

"It's important to everybody - conservatives, liberals, whatever you call yourself," he said.

Plaintiff Alleged Abuse While Under Treatment of Psychologist

(New Mexico) - A judge has dismissed a lawsuit filed against the federal government by a man who alleged his psychologist gave him liquor, smoked marijuana with him and used therapy sessions to convince the patient to choose a homosexual lifestyle.

The lawsuit was filed in 1995 against the federal government by Mario Benavidez. Benavidez, 24, alleged he was sexually abused by Indian Health Service psychologist David Bullis while Benavidez was under the doctor's care from 1992 to 1994 at the Laguna Acoma hospital.

U.S. District Judge C. Leroy Hansen dismissed the lawsuit. The judge said assaults - in this case sexual assaults - are not among the categories in which the government opens itself to lawsuits. Hansen also said he lacked jurisdiction in the case.

Benavidez's attorney, Bruce Pasternack, said Hansen's decision would be appealed. Pasternack said there's a federal law that specifically covers U.S. Public Health Service employees that Hansen failed to address in issuing his decision. "We think it was promulgated for situations like this," Pasternack said. "There will be many more chapters to this case."

According to the lawsuit, Benavidez was 14 when he began seeing Bullis, after Benavidez's grandfather died, his brother committed suicide and Benavidez also attempted to commit suicide by putting his head on a railroad track. The lawsuit alleges the assaults began after Benavidez was over age 18.

Briefs...

A federal judge ordered Supercuts to provide employee training on the Americans with Disabilities Act after a hair stylist said the company discriminated against him for having AIDS. U.S. District Judge C. LeRoy Hansen on Friday ordered the training and also barred the chain from discriminating against any employee who participates in an investigation under the act. The decision stems from a complaint filed against the company, MTS Corp., in September 1996...

Seventeen Miami Beach police officers planned to resign from a fugitive search team, saying they were humiliated when a SWAT team from another department was called in last week to rush the houseboat where Andrew Cunanan had holed up. The team members' request was the latest fallout from Miami Beach's highest profile investigation ever - the search for the suspected killer of fashion designer Gianni Versace.

ment will have no impact on the 13-year-old girl at the center of the dispute. But it means that trial judges around the state won't have to abide by the original appellate ruling.

The decision by the 1st District Court of Appeal to withdraw its August 1996 ruling came six months after Mary Ward, the Pensacola woman who lost custody of her daughter in August 1995, died of a heart attack. Last August, the 1st DCA upheld a See **COURT** page 12

COURT WATCH

Appeals Court Takes Back Custody Ruling

by Jackie Hallifax

Florida (AP) - Nearly a year after a state appeals court upheld a trial judge in a custody battle between a lesbian mother and a father who killed his first wife, the court has withdrawn its decision. The latest develop-

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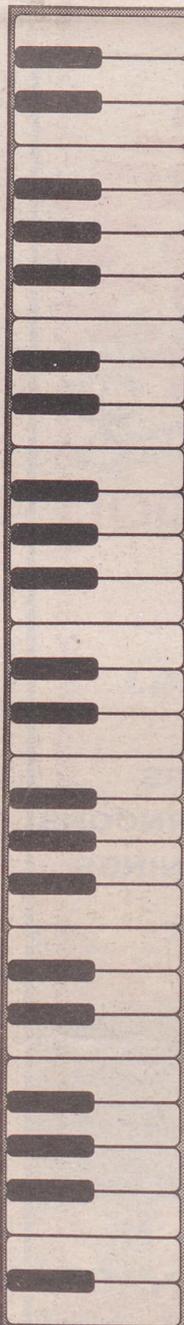
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trial court decision giving John Ward of Milton custody of his daughter, who lived with her mother in nearby Pensacola.

The Pensacola judge who revoked Mary Ward's custody in August 1995 said he wanted to give her daughter a chance to live in "a non-lesbian world." The child went to live with her father, who pleaded guilty to second-degree murder of his first wife in 1974 and served eight years in prison.

After losing her first appeal last year, Ms. Ward immediately asked the appellate court to reconsider. But before the court acted on that request, she suffered a fatal heart attack. In a one-paragraph order Friday, the 1st DCA dismissed Ms. Ward's appeal and withdrew its 1996 decision.

"We definitely consider this a victory because the decision which upheld the trial court's order is a very bad precedent, a very bad example for trial courts to follow," Charlene Carres, a Tallahassee lawyer who represented Ms. Ward, said Monday.

Edward Fleming, a Pensacola lawyer for John Ward, said he was disappointed the 1st DCA didn't let its 1996 decision stand. "Regardless of where you may personally come down on this particular issue, it's something that ... trial court judges need guidance on," he said.

And regardless of the wider legal fight, the Wards' daughter is doing extremely well with her father, Fleming said. "She's making the best grades that she ever made," he said. "She's a well-adjusted young adolescent girl who's thriving in the environment that she's now in."

Fleming and Carres don't agree on the issue in the case. It was clear that the trial judge - by saying the daughter should have an opportunity to live in a non-lesbian world - believed that the mother's sexual orientation ... made her a less moral parent," Carres said.

Fleming said the issue was sexual activity, not orientation. "The issue was whether a trial court judge could consider evidence of homosexual activity in the home as a negative or potentially negative factor in a child custody dispute," he said.

In its 1996 ruling, the 1st DCA wrote that its decision was not based on Ms. Ward's sexual orientation but on the best interests of the child. Although state law makes it harder for people convicted of serious domestic violence to keep their parental rights, Ms. Ward didn't cite the statute at the trial level so the matter can't be reached at the appellate level, the DCA wrote.

But the judges went on to note that Ward's clean record since his imprisonment and his current situation - his marriage, stable employment and ownership of property - would probably enable him to keep his parental rights if the law was cited.

That part of the decision appalled groups fighting domestic violence, Carres said. "Statistics clearly show that many perpetrators of domestic violence are married, are stable employees and own property," she said. "These factors have no correlation with a reduced tendency to commit domestic violence."

Carres said she was pleased that the 1st DCA also issued a second one-paragraph order Friday saying it had considered the friend-of-the court brief filed by the Florida Coalition Against Domestic Violence and 13 other groups.

Fleming said the domestic violence issue

was a red herring because Mary Ward never accused John Ward of domestic violence. "The act of violence occurred before this young girl was conceived," he said. "Not in this marriage, not in this household."

Court Says Lesbian Adoption Can Be Considered

Ledyard, Conn. (AP) - The state Adoption Review Board can consider a lesbian's petition to adopt the 5-year-old son of her partner, a Superior Court referee has ruled. The ruling overturns a Probate Court decision, which denied the petition on the grounds that current law did not allow for it.

The adoption is in the best interest of the child, Superior Court Referee Hadley W. Austin ruled this week. Austin ordered the Probate Court to send the adoption petition to the state Adoption Review Board, which will consider a waiver of the statutory parental requirements.

This is the first case of its kind to go before the review board, said attorney Linda Dow, chief counsel for the state's probate courts. The Ledyard couple, referred to in court documents as Anne and Malinda, have lived together as a couple for more than 10 years, according to court papers. Together they planned for the birth of the child, referred to as Baby Z, the court said.

The baby was conceived by artificial insemination and born to Anne in May 1992. The adoption would allow Malinda full parental rights. The boy calls Malinda "Mama" and Anne "Mommy," Malinda testified. The natural father's parental rights were terminated by the Groton Probate Court in April 1993.

Should the waiver be approved, the Superior Court directed the Probate Court to "grant adoption in keeping with the statutes on stepparent adoption so as not to disturb the parental rights of the biological mother, Anne."

High Court Rejects Request To Rule Quickly on Same-Sex

(Hawaii) - The state Supreme Court has rejected a request to issue a ruling on the same-sex marriage case. Three gays couples who successfully sued the state for the right to legally marry want the high court to act quickly and rule on the state's appeal of the Circuit Court decision in favor of the couples.

The state wants the five justices to wait until after voters go to the polls in November 1998 to vote on a constitutional amendment that would ban same-sex marriages.

Attorney General Margery Bronster says the state may have to issue marriage licenses to same-sex couples if the court uphold's the lower court verdict before voters can decide the amendment question.

"There may be a period of time in which the Department of Health may have to issue same-sex couples marriage licenses," she said.

Dan Foley, attorney for the same-sex couples, said he's not surprised by the court's decision. He said justices have given no indication when they will issue a ruling.

GLOBAL NEWS

Nigerian Pop Music Superstar and Dissident Fela Dead at 58

by Frank Aigbogun

Lagos, Nigeria (AP) - Fela Anikulapo-Kuti, a pop superstar who fused rock with African rhythms into a blend known as "Afrobeat" and was a persistent critic of Nigeria's military regime, has died of AIDS, his family said Sunday. He was 58.

The flamboyant singer's death Saturday was announced by his brother, Olikoye

Ransome-Kuti, in a statement broadcast on national television. No cause of death was given at the time. Throngs of stunned, tearful fans gathered outside Fela's nightclub, the Shrine, after hearing the news.

Ransome-Kuti, a doctor and former health minister, joined other family members at a news conference Sunday and confirmed that Fela had died of heart failure caused by AIDS. That immediately raised questions about whether any of Fela's 27 wives had contracted the disease.

Fela, known across the continent by his first name, was one of the dominant superstars of African music in the 1970s and

See GLOBAL page 13

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GLOBAL/from page 12

1980s and had recorded more than 50 albums. He also became famous for his songs criticizing the military junta of Gen. Sani Abacha, as well as earlier military regimes in Nigeria, West Africa's most populous nation.

"Fela was a great legend who used his music tirelessly to bring about social justice," said Rasheed Gbadamosi, a prominent businessman and writer.

Fela, a saxophone player, was born in 1938 in Abeokuta, about 50 miles north of the capital, Lagos. He started out as a jazz musician but shifted toward pop and reggae while studying at Trinity College of Music in Oxford, England, from 1959 to 1962.

He also spent time in Ghana and the United States, where he developed a strong interest in politics and civil rights. Returning to Nigeria for good in 1973, he swiftly became a big star. His top albums included *Zombie*, *Army Arrangement* and *Vagabond in Power*.

"For us, he was a monument, a reference point," prize-winning singer Lokua Kanza of Congo told The Associated Press in Paris. "To hear him was like a blast of fresh air, a shock."

He became enmeshed in a long-running confrontation with military authorities because of his urging that young Nigerians become more politically active. Troops burned down Fela's house in 1977. In 1979, Fela and his entourage of wives and girlfriends went to the ruling junta's headquarters and placed the coffin of his recently deceased mother on the steps. Fela said he wanted to demonstrate that the power of the state was impotent compared to the power of the human spirit.

Fela was convicted of illegally exporting foreign currency in 1984 and was sentenced to 10 years in prison. A year later, the military government of Gen. Muhammed Buhari was overthrown by Gen. Ibrahim Babangida, who freed Fela.

In March 1996, Fela's home was attacked by gunmen. His most recent arrest came April 9. He and about 100 others - including several of his wives - were detained for marijuana use by police drug agents who raided his nightclub north of Lagos. Fela's fans had known for weeks that he was ill, but few details about his condition were made public before his death.

Ransome-Kuti, who once worked as deputy director-general of the World Health Organization, used Sunday's news conference to accuse the Nigerian government of failing to implement effective AIDS programs. He said AIDS cases at Lagos University Hospital had risen from less than 10 annually to more than 300 since 1992.

Another brother of Fela's - Beko Ransome-Kuti - is an outspoken political dissident who was sentenced to 15 years in prison last year for alleged participation in a coup plot.

Vancouver Police Chief Will March In Annual Gay Pride Parade

British Columbia (AP) - It's a first for homosexual politics in Canada: The city's police chief marched in the annual gay pride parade last Sunday.

"I am committed to providing fair, equitable police service to all the people in the city of Vancouver, regardless of race, country of origin, color, religion and sexual orientation," said newly sworn-in Chief Bruce Chambers. "As an employer I also want to send a strong message to our employees that they'll be treated fairly and equitably by the same standards."

Mayor Philip Owen also walked in the annual event. Chambers said he walked in the parade to demonstrate that he backs his words with action. "People have often said, 'Don't tell me that, chief, show me,'" he said.

Police Constable Anne Drennan said Chambers is the first police chief in Canada to march in a gay pride parade. Officers, including the chief, were in full uniform, presenting a professional presence in the parade

and there was no involvement in lewd or risqué behavior.

The parade included everyone from gay and lesbian parents with their kids to gay sports teams and, of course, wildly attired drag queens.

Experts Question Reliability of Government AIDS Estimates

Bangkok, Thailand (AP) - AIDS statistics recently released by the Laotian government paint an unrealistic picture of the spread of the disease in Laos, a U.N. official said Wednesday. Laos has announced that 157 cases of HIV, the virus that causes the deadly acquired immune deficiency syndrome, were reported in the country between 1989 through 1996.

Of these, 33 patients developed AIDS and 23 have died, according to figures released in official media. But Tony Lisle, country program administrator for the United Nations AIDS program, said the figures were incomplete because they didn't come from a comprehensive survey.

Lisle said that it was impossible to determine whether more accurate figures, to be estimated after the government finishes a study over the next year, would be higher or lower. AIDS in Laos is found mostly in urban areas and transmission is greatest through heterosexual sex, Lisle said. Most of the largely rural, landlocked nation of 4.7 million people is inaccessible due to poor roads and rugged mountains.

Cunanan Wanted to Be Somebody, Father Says

Manila, Philippines (AP) - Andrew Cunanan had a peaceful childhood and his goal was to "be somebody" when he grew up, his father said in an interview last week. "He never saw violence in our household," Modesto Cunanan told ABS-CBN television. "That was never part of his growing up years."

Andrew Cunanan, who killed himself on July 23, was suspected in the July 15 slaying of fashion designer Gianni Versace in Miami Beach. He was also the prime suspect in four killings in Minnesota, Illinois and New Jersey.

"Even to this day I'm very very doubtful whether I could really believe that the son I raised from the cradle is actually capable of that kind of violence," said Modesto Cunanan, who fled to his native Philippines in 1988 amid allegations he had embezzled funds from his stock-brokerage company.

He said his marriage to his American wife broke down when his son was a young boy, but he waited until his son was 18 to get a divorce. He said he tried to maintain harmony and peace before then. "What happened to Andrew after that, whether he was overwhelmed by disappointments and so forth, I wouldn't discount the possibility that it did happen," he added.

Modesto Cunanan said when he would ask his son about his ambitions, Andrew would reply, "I wanna be somebody." He also addressed reports attributed to his former wife Maryann Cunanan who said their son was a male prostitute. "I cannot deny or confirm that that became his job," he said. "Maybe that was the effect of the environment. Maybe he saw in his difficulties that that was where he could make money."

Ancient Trade Route Brings Modern Virus to Remote China

by Charles Hutzler

Linxia, China (AP) - Coral from Taiwan, rugs from Xinjiang, knives from Inner Mongolia - the trade goods of centuries - line the tidy, brimming shops in Linxia's bazaar. Behind the far-flung traffic in exotic wares that long kept this Muslim trading town in western China prosperous now slinks a more

See GLOBAL page 14

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GLOBAL from page 13

modern commodity, heroin, and with it, AIDS.

On the back of a flourishing drug trade, AIDS has crept up an ancient caravan route linking China's Southeast Asian border to its remote frontier with Central Asia. Along the way, the virus has hit tens of thousands of China's most vulnerable, disaffected people: poor minorities on the fringes of Chinese-dominated society.

The epidemic is a silent one, officially. Its scope and the identity of its victims have shocked Chinese health policy makers and confounded communist leaders nervous about social decay and ethnic rebellion. Little has been said in the state-run media about the outbreak. Western AIDS experts working with the government fear little is being done, even though Chinese officials had time to prepare.

"Government leaders think it's not a thing to be proud of - people having that kind of habit or behavior are bad. Good people don't get this," said Zhang Konglai, a professor of epidemiology at Beijing Union Medical College and an AIDS education campaigner.

AIDS incubated on China's border with Burma for five years starting in 1990. The confined epidemic ravaged hill tribes in four counties in Yunnan province as members turned to the heroin pouring across the border and, out of poverty and ignorance, shared needles.

In 1995, the virus went north with the drugs. Within a year, HIV, the virus that causes AIDS, began tearing through heroin users in Xinjiang, China's northwesternmost region 1,500 miles north of Burma. "It's an epidemic," said Zheng Xiwen, the Chinese Academy of Preventive Medicine professor who runs the government's AIDS monitoring program.

No one in Xinjiang tested positive for HIV in 1995. By the end of last year, nearly one

in four drug addicts out of a sample of 400 did, Zheng said. He refused to estimate how many people in Xinjiang may be infected. But a Western specialist familiar with the testing data said they may number as many as 50,000 - a third of all addicts in Xinjiang and the largest number in the country. Many are Uighurs, a Muslim minority grown restive under Chinese rule.

The source of the virus is not in doubt. Zheng said the strain of the virus, known as HIV-C, matches that found along the Burma border and is distinct from varieties detected in Xinjiang's Central Asian neighbors. An AIDS epidemic also has struck the Yi, another desperately poor minority living in hilly Sichuan province, according to a U.N. agency report, a draft of which was obtained by The Associated Press.

The Yi straddle the trade route that for centuries brought tea and gems up from Yunnan and Southeast Asia and horses and knives down from north China and Central Asia. That route goes through Linxia, a legendary commercial hub in a fertile valley in Gansu province 500 miles north of the Yi and 750 miles west of Beijing. It now is a notorious drug trafficking center that AIDS experts fear will be the virus' next target.

"Linxia is one of China's heroin hot spots," said Ma Weimin, a grain trader working out of one of Linxia's bustling markets. "It's in all the villages. It's everywhere." Linxia's dominant Muslim community, from the Hui minority, is as famous for skill in trade as for the Islamic ferment that earned the town the nickname "Little Mecca."

Dozens of mosques - some with the curved roofs of Chinese temples, others with the onion domes of Arabia and many newly built make the low skyline stand out against brown, arid hills. All attest to the wealth trade has brought Linxia.

Shops along the clean main bazaar burst with trade trinkets: coral beads from

Taiwan, incense from India, turquoise from East China, carpets from Pakistan and fox furs from Tibetan lands. Saddles, swords and holsters give off a frontier atmosphere.

Everyone is involved in trade, according to merchants, truck drivers, restaurant owners and retired officials. Everyone knows the drugs come from Yunnan, although no one interviewed admitted to being involved. No one has heard about AIDS.

"Outsiders, people from Linxia too, are all bringing it in because they can't make money," said one resident who identified himself only as "Ma," the most common Hui surname. Migrants from Xinjiang living in Linxia were cagey about their knowledge of the drug trafficking. When pressed, one said they trade everything; they have to to make a living.

"The illegal trade follows the legal trade," said Dru Gladney, an expert on China's Muslim communities at the University of Hawaii. "It's all kinds of trade, not just drugs."

Police plastered Linxia with notices of a drug crackdown in March, part of a nationwide crusade. New posters were put up in mid-June warning drug offenders of stiffer penalties and that family members and businesses could be considered accomplices.

"Police have set up checkpoints around Linxia," said one driver, also surnamed Ma. "No matter how many people they catch, there's no end."

Linxia has so far avoided an AIDS epidemic, because heroin is so cheap that users smoke rather than inject it. But if the police succeed in making supplies scarce, addicts will turn to needles, said Zhang Konglai, the Beijing Union epidemiologist.

China's AIDS epidemic so far fits the pattern of the outbreak in Thailand, said Emile Fox, director of the China office for UNAIDS, the U.N. agency coordinating AIDS eradication. AIDS first struck Thailand's drug users and then spread to

prostitutes, their clients, women and finally babies, Fox said.

Thailand has an estimated 750,000 HIV cases. Officially, China has 5,157 people infected with HIV, 133 with full-blown AIDS, but officials guess HIV infections may be nearer to 100,000. Fox believes the real figure may be three times higher.

Fox and other experts suspect a growing sex trade, not needle sharing, will cause China's worst and most widespread epidemic, although testing has so far failed to confirm their fears. Even though China's first AIDS case was discovered 12 years ago, the government is still reluctant to discuss its AIDS problems in detail publicly.

Ministry of Health officials refused to discuss the epidemic in Xinjiang. Likewise the Xinjiang government could not provide specifics on the epidemic and efforts to fight it. Officials with Xinjiang's government and its state-run television said, on condition of anonymity, that almost nothing has been reported.

An outbreak among the Uighurs is an especially frightening and sensitive prospect for Chinese leaders. The Uighurs, one of many Turkic-speaking, Muslim groups that are a majority in Xinjiang, have never fully submitted to Chinese rule. They are also highly mobile, with large communities in Beijing, Shanghai, Guangzhou and other major cities.

In the absence of information about the epidemic, rumors have spread of government plots and fanned concerns about domination by the Han Chinese. Uighurs fear that Han Chinese, migrating in large numbers, are taking the best jobs and that strict government control is wrecking the practice of Islam. As a result, they feel marginal.

"They have become a natural population to be involved in that (the drug trade)," said Gladney, the expert on Chinese Muslims. "Chinese officials ... are creating an underclass that's not participating in the system."



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KILLINGS/from page 1

investigators reject the suggestion they treat homosexual murders differently. "That would be a real cheap shot," says Detective Sgt. Glenn Miller of the New Jersey State Police. "That's like saying an agency wouldn't investigate the death of a black person as much as they'd investigate the death of a white person."

Miller, who has worked on the killings with police in New York, Pennsylvania and Connecticut, says he has 300 unsolved homicides in his files and all carry the same weight. "It's a dead person," Miller says. "I don't care what their lifestyle was."

In the Virginia cases, one man was acquitted for Charles Smith's murder and another is in custody for the slaying of the 12th victim in 1994. Law enforcement officials in Virginia defend their investigation as vehemently as Miller does his. "We have thousands of hours logged on this," says Officer Dave Hughes, a spokesman for the Chesapeake Police Department. "It's been an all-out effort. It's just a difficult case."

Community activists are wary. When Shirley Lesser, executive director of Virginians for Justice, a gay advocacy organization, was asked if she thought police response had improved over time, she replied, "In the incidents that we have had, whether it involves murder or harassment or property damage against gay people, I don't know of any case that has been solved through police effort."

Some homosexuals think the FBI should get involved in the murders, but federal law limits FBI jurisdiction. They could pursue Cunanan, for example, because he fled across state lines. They worked on the bombing of an Atlanta lesbian bar this year because explosives were used.

In June, President Clinton devoted one of his weekly radio talks to hate crimes and specifically cited violence against homosexuals. The White House has scheduled a conference on hate crimes for November.

Activists expect Sen. Edward Kennedy, D-Mass., and other members of Congress to introduce an amendment to the federal hate crimes law after the August recess. It would include sexual orientation, disability and gender - all classifications now unprotected by that law.

Nineteen states and the District of Columbia have sexual orientation protections: Arizona, California, Connecticut, Delaware, Florida, Illinois, Iowa, Maine, Massachusetts, Minnesota, Nebraska, Nevada, New Hampshire, New Jersey, Oregon, Utah, Vermont, Washington and Wisconsin.

"People may disagree or agree about homosexuality," says Winnie Stachelberg, legislative director for the Human Rights Campaign, a Washington-based gay political group. "But they certainly agree that there's no place for violence against anyone."

PARKER/from page 1

citywide endorsement by any group to be made this year. It is the second organizational endorsement I have received and that makes me very proud. I trust that this will be the first of many other endorsements."

"I'm also very proud and appreciative that the HGLPC PAC members decided to give our campaign \$1000," Parker continued. "I will be screening with Log Cabin Republicans of Houston soon and my goal is to have all of the gay endorsements and a united community behind me."

"We are really excited about endorsing Annise," said HGLPC PAC Co-Chair Jay Seegers. "She is imminently qualified to serve on City Council. She is probably the most qualified of all of the candidates on the ballot."

"Her experience in solving neighborhood and community issues in the numerous positions in which she has served and her work with equality issues with the Police Department make her the best candidate," Seegers added. "She will serve the city well when she is elected."

Also at the Wednesday HGLPC meeting,

State Representative Debra Danburg and Dianne Hardy-Garcia, executive director of the Lesbian/Gay Rights Lobby of Texas, both gave updates on the recent session of the Texas Legislature. Hardy-Garcia urged support for gay and gay-friendly candidates.

The HGLPC PAC is the sister organization to the Houston Gay and Lesbian Political Caucus, the South's oldest gay civil rights organization. The HGLPC PAC is a non-partisan organization that endorses candidates based upon their level of support for equal rights for gay Americans and provides campaign

support. In addition to its social welfare activities, the HGLPC lobbies local, state and federal officials in its efforts to educate the public to ensure that gay Americans can be open, honest and safe at home, at work and in the community. For more information call 713-521-1000 or visit the HGLPC website at www.hglpc.org.

Parker's campaign phone number is 713-521-7338 and the campaign headquarters is located at 2615 Montrose Boulevard at the offices of Hubbard Financial Services.

CUNANAN/from page 1

the investigations of Versace's slaying and Cunanan's suicide, did not return a phone call seeking comment on the list. Ms. Figueiras confirmed that one of two handguns found on the houseboat belonged to caretaker Fernando Carreira, who stumbled on the suspected serial killer and apparently prompted him to kill himself.

"I think it was there already, left aboard from a previous visit," she said. The other gun, stolen from an earlier victim, was used by Cunanan to kill himself.

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Paranoid, Me? Never!

by Leslie Ramsay

Warner Brothers Studios releases the second Julia Roberts movie of the summer this weekend. This time they have cast Ms. Roberts opposite Mel Gibson. This is not a good thing.

Mel Gibson (*Braveheart*) plays Jerry Fletcher, a New York cab driver who rambles constantly about conspiracies. Everything, to Jerry, has a hidden meaning.

Only on occasion is he lucid. Sounds like a typical NYC cabbie to me so far...

In the press release information, Mr. Gibson explained his take on the character, Jerry Fletcher, "Jerry's the victim of an experiment he can't remember. He's this incomplete person who could, under normal circumstances, be quite intelligent. But now he's operating at a high level of anxiety and fear and paranoia and he's in what we call a 'red alert' — always urgent.

"I find him heartrending because he struggles with this terrible obstacle and it's himself, his own shortcomings, the fact that he's missing a link someplace and can't remember his past. Yet he manages to overcome it in the oddest way; it's kind of a funny little game I have to play with this character. It's different."

Julia Roberts (*My Best Friend's Wedding*)



Julia Roberts and Mel Gibson star in *Conspiracy Theory*.

plays a "dedicated" Justice Department lawyer, Alice Sutton. Alice is a little kooky herself. Maybe that is why they get along so well. Julia does her usual fine job on the "girl in trouble" part.

Patrick Stewart (*Star Trek: The Next Generation*, *Jeffrey*) is the evil government psychiatrist, Dr. Jonas. Dr. Jonas holds the keys to both Jerry and Alice's attic doors.

Only Dr. Jonas can switch on the light of clarity and truth for these two sad sacks. Patrick Stewart plays the sadistic psychiatrist part so well that he had me wondering what he does in his spare time away from Hollywood.

The screenwriter, Brian Helgeland, is familiar with the theory behind complicated and tension filled plots. He is the author of *Nightmare on Elm Street IV: The Dream Master*, *976 EVIL*, and my personal favorite *Assassins*. Unfortunately, the story in *Conspiracy Theory* is too complicated. The sad love story line between Alice and Jerry is just too unbelievable.

The director/producer, Richard Donner, is quite prolific. His résumé of suspense-action films and television is a mile long. He directed Mel Gibson in the very successful *Lethal Weapon* series and *Maverick*.

If you are trying to avoid cleaning out your closets this weekend, give this complicated, twisty, melodramatic flick a look. Or you could just go to the zoo.

PHOTO: ANDREW COOPER

Fighting For Justice

by Leslie Ramsay

Lifetime Television: Television for Women is premiering an original movie, *Any Mother's Son*, Monday, August 11 at 8PM CT. *Any Mother's Son* is based on the true story of the gay bashing murder and the Navy cover-up of Allen Schindler.

The story is also about the family coming to terms with the knowledge that Allen was a homosexual. Allen was completely closeted to his family.

Only days after he came-out to his commanding officer, he was beaten to death by two of his shipmates in a public bathroom in Japan. Terry Helvey and Charles Vins were eventually charged in the murder. Vins received 78 days for participating in the crime. Helvey received a life sentence with his first parole hearing in 2002.

The mother, Dorothy Hajdys, is played by Bonnie Bedelia (*Die Hard*, *Fallen Angels*). Bonnie Bedelia has been nominated for an Emmy before and her performance in *Any Mother's Son* should catch the fickle eye of Hollywood again. The character's growth and understanding of her son's secret life was very moving. Her determination to seek out the truth was also motivating.

Sada Thompson (*Family*) plays the grandmother. She has a few good lines that of course cause the character, Dorothy, to reflect on some of her own prejudices.

The brief role of Allen Schindler was played by Paul Popowich. His face is one that Hollywood should capitalize on. In fact, all of the actors cast as the Navy shipmates were very attractive. I wonder if their was some conscience effort by the production company to fill the cast with beauties...

If you do not have access to the Lifetime Television network, I suggest that you find someone that does. This is a story that



Lifetime premieres "Any Mother's Son" August 11 at 9 pm.

needs to be seen. The more people see what is really going on in the Don't Ask, Don't Tell military, the better off we all will be. The lying and cover-ups only lead to this-murder and hatred based on ignorance.

PHOTO: LIFETIME TELEVISION

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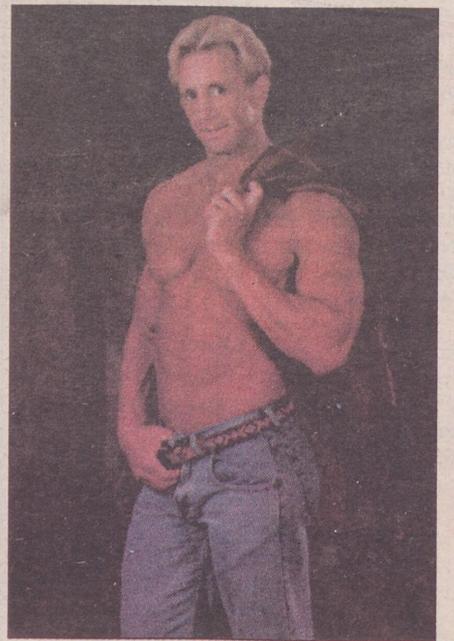
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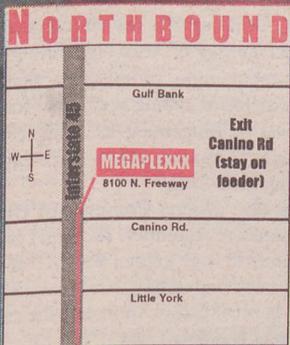


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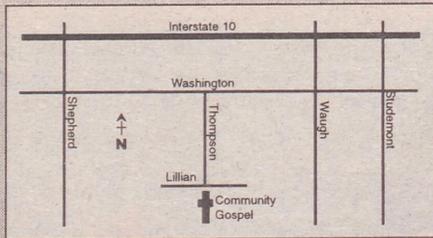
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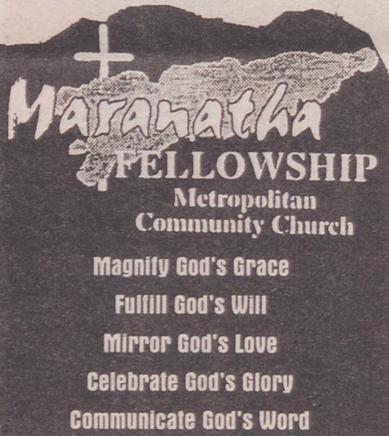
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CHURCH CALENDAR

Friday-8/8

- Low impact aerobics at Community Gospel; 6:15 pm, 880-9235 or www.communitygospel.org.
- Catholic Mass at 10:00 am; Movie Night at 7:00 pm at the Kolbe Project. 522-8182.
- The Church of Good Life on the Internet; <http://www.syncretist.org/church.htm>.

Saturday-8/9

- Mass at Dignity Houston at 7:30 pm. 880-2872.
- Church of the XII Apostles Anglican Rite Old Catholic Church; Holy Communion 7:30 pm at Suzanne Anderson Realty, 239 Westheimer.
- The Church of Good Life on the Internet; <http://www.syncretist.org/church.htm>.

Sunday-8/10

- 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 am Praise and Worship, Ministry of the Word, Drama and Personal Ministry. 11:00 am at Maranatha Fellowship 528-6756.
- MCCR Worship services 9:00 & 11:00 am 861-9149.
- Worship Service 11:00 am at Faith and Hope Fellowship 773-4429.
- Grace Lutheran Church Sunday school for all ages at 9:30 am Worship Service at 10:30 am 528-3269.
- First Unitarian Universalist Church Sunday Services at 9:30 am and 11:30 am 526-5200.
- Services at 5:30 pm Dignity Church 880-2872.
- Community Gospel Worship service at 11:00 am & 7:00 pm. 4305 Lillian 880-9235. Catch them at www.communitygospel.org. Study Series on Heaven—or Life after Death..
- Houston Mission Church Worship service at 10:30 am 529-8225.
- 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 am. Seekers class 9:15 am 526-1017.
- Catholic Mass at 7:30 pm Kolbe Project 522-8182.
- MCCR Handbell Choir Rehearsal at 7:00 pm 861-9149.
- Unitarian Fellowship of Galveston County, 402 Church St. in Galveston. Sunday Services at 10:30 am weekly. 409-765-8330.
- The Church of Good Life on the Internet; <http://www.syncretist.org/church.htm>.

Monday-8/11

- Low impact aerobics at Community Gospel; 6:15 pm, 880-9235 or www.communitygospel.org.

Tuesday-8/12

- MCCR: Empowerment for Living support group & pot luck dinner at 6:00 pm, Gloryland Ensemble at 6:00 pm 861-9149.
- PROTECT meets at Bering Church. 520-7870.
- Maranatha Fellowship MCC has groups that meet in each others home for a time of fellowship, sharing God's word, and prayer. Call for the location in your area 528-6756.
- The Church of Good Life on the Internet; <http://www.syncretist.org/church.htm>.

Wednesday-8/13

- MCCR Bible Study 7:30 pm 861-9149.
- Worship Service 7:30 pm at Faith and Hope Fellowship 773-4429.
- The Church of Good Life on the Internet; <http://www.syncretist.org/church.htm>.

Thursday-8/14

- Bible Study 7:00 pm at Faith and Hope Fellowship 773-4429.
- Choir Practice at Community Gospel 6:30 pm 880-9235 or www.communitygospel.org.
- Midweek Service at Community Gospel 7:30 pm 880-9235 or www.communitygospel.org.
- The Church of Good Life on the Internet; <http://www.syncretist.org/church.htm>.

If you want an event listed in this section, please call Lee at 529-8490 by 12 Noon Mondays.

RELIGION

Burlington Church Endorses Same-Sex Marriage

(Vermont) - The First Unitarian Universalist Society of Burlington has voted to endorse the denomination's call for recognition of same-sex marriages.

The 500-member congregation voted at its recent annual meeting to support a 1996 resolution by the Unitarian Universalist Association general assembly in calling for legalization of marriages between gay couples and lesbian couples.

The Burlington congregation noted that the first principle of its faith "affirms the inherent worth and dignity of every person" and states that marriage is held in honor among the blessings of life.

Gay marriage has become one of the more contentious social issues facing American society. Vermont was thrust into the center of that debate earlier in July when two lesbian couples and a gay couple sued the state and three town clerks for refusing to issue them marriage licenses.

Christian Church Convention Calls for Study on Gay Participation, Endorses Increase in Sex Education

Denver (AP) - The Christian Church (Disciples of Christ) endorsed more sex education in churches and an end to police brutality during its national convention. The

4,444 registered delegates also called for more study on the participation of gays in its church last week.

The resolutions do not bind the 4,000 local congregations. But they are considered the "sense of the General Assembly," and are recommended to the nearly one million members. More than 8,400 Disciples attended the five-day meeting at the Colorado Convention Center. Almost half were non-voting.

The sex education resolution called sex a gift of God but said the church and society "reflect abuses of sexuality through sexual harassment, rape, promiscuity, rigidity and many forms of selling sex." The Rev. Kevin Robbins of Mackinaw, Ill., said it was past the time for church action. "We have sat on our duffs too long."

The Rev. Donna Compton of Oklahoma City said the resolution shouldn't have been restricted to high school youth. "If we pretend junior high kids are asexual it's like pretending meat grows on trees," she said. The vote was 1,298 to 1,061.

Gay and lesbian participation in the church will be discussed and studied for at least two years, under terms of the resolution delegates passed. The church has no national policy on ordination of practicing homosexuals, but leaves it up to individual regions. Three regions of the church have voted not to prohibit gay ordinations and the other 33 regions either prohibit such ordinations or have no policy.

Police brutality garnered the most intense debate, including speeches by law enforcement officers who said they are abused by the public and a mother who said police shot her son in New York City. Larry Ross of Traverse City, Mich., said he once served on a police review board and "naively thought policemen were our friends and nice guys. Guess what. They're not always right."

Meet the Cast of MTV's *The Real World*

by Tim Nasson

Boston - In its sixth season now, MTV's "The Real World" offers not much surprise in plot - by now all must know that a half dozen or so college-age somethings, who have never seen each other before, come together in a commune like setting, with cameras watching every move, and I mean every move, and microphones picking up every sound that they utter.

The most interesting thing about each new season is watching how each person deals with a camera and microphone being constantly in their face, the sometimes gorgeous creatures that are picked to flaunt their good sides and even, believe it or not, the locales.

This season's episodes take place in The Bay State from January 1997 through mid-June. Just as the characters are getting to know each other for better or worse, so the seasons also change from worse to better.

As in the previous five incarnations, "The Real World" sets its sights on confrontation and also includes a token gay character.

I spent the afternoon of June 16 (the day after completion of the Boston season) with the cast of the show at the place they called their digs for six months - an old Beacon Hill Fire Station which was converted into a funky abode for the wannabe stars.

This year's lucky winners? Twenty-year old, lipstick lesbian Genesis, who grew up in Gulfport, Mississippi. Twenty-five year old Syrus, one of two black characters, who grew up in Santa Monica, CA. Sean, the twenty-five year old, testosterone-charged lumberjack from Wisconsin. Elka, a nineteen year old Mexican who grew up in a border town in Texas. The most gorgeous of the bunch, Jason, (Is he gay I wonder? He did say his best friends were women while growing up), a twenty-four year old Arkansan. There is also Montana, the most confrontational and bitchy of the brood, a twenty-one year old from Manhattan, whose name comes from a Kurt Vonnegut novel. And Kameelah, the other black character, a nineteen year old from San Diego. In addition to these seven main characters, one will find a plethora of others walking in and out of the firehouse and of each of the character's lives, including friends, hangers on, romantic interests and relatives, among others.

"Being able to do the "Real World" was very educational," says blond haired Genesis, who has been out as a lesbian since the age of eighteen and in a relationship for over two years. Nonetheless, it wasn't all peaches and cream for the girl that some of the guys on the show and many she came into contact with in the city would have loved to go out with. "At first, when none of the other members of the "Real World" knew I was gay, it was a little uncomfortable, but after a few days, everyone kind of got over it. The first night I thought I was going to have to sleep alone because one of the girls was too afraid to sleep in the same room as me." Hello Kameelah, get over yourself.

"One of the best things about being in Boston was the freedom I had with my sexuality," Genesis continues. "There is no freedom at all in the deep south where I grew up. As far as I can recall there seems to be only one gay bar on the entire Gulf coast. And here in Boston the bars aren't afraid to advertise that they are gay bars either. I was

shocked at that. I mean, I got to Boston and said to myself, 'And nobody has burned these places down?' It really rocks."

"The whole attitude in general in this city is one of tolerance and was a certainly one of the pluses of being in the city. The worst thing was the horrible winter weather. I would never want to spend another winter here again."

Most of the other kids echoed her sentiments. However, they each had other observations to make about each other and the city itself and also of what they got out of being chosen to participate in the television show. Among the more interesting?

Walking around the two-story firehouse that had everything but the firepole in tact, amidst a few other reporters that were patiently taking turns with each cast member, Jason and I decided to take a walk out onto the tree-lined street in front of the fire station to get some peace and quiet and so that he could smoke a cigarette. Nosing in one nostril, his hair cut short and wearing jeans and a blue button-up short sleeved shirt, we sat on the steps of a brownstone a few doors down and talked about his life.

"I never really wanted to get into acting," he began, "I did do some high school theater, but never thought I would be on a television show. It was really easy though. I walked into a coffee shop where they were holding open auditions for the show and filled out an application. Ten minutes after I left, I was called back for an interview and that is how the ball got rolling. I still didn't think I was going to be picked and quite honestly still am in awe over the whole thing."

How serious is Jason about getting into acting now that the whole MTV thing is behind him? "For the next four weeks or so, I am going to go back down to Arkansas to help my father on his farm that has been in the family for over a hundred years. It's hay season down there and he can use some help."

Jason's girlfriend whom he met in Colorado at college has a few turns in the show. Do they stay together? Hmmmm.

When asked if they exaggerated their lives for the camera, most members are quick to say 'No'. Jason's perspective on the whole thing is a little more grounded. "Cameras suck. Plain and simple," he says. "It took a while to get used to them being on you everywhere you went, but without them constantly on you, you wouldn't be yourself. If they were on you just a few hours a day, then you could say 'Oh, he's acting for the camera. But these things are in bed with you. Everywhere but the bathroom. And you don't even

get complete privacy in the bathroom, because the microphone is attached to you at all times. If you take a shower, unless you left your clothes in the bedroom, the microphone was with you then too. Who knows if the control room was listening at every actual moment? But every minute was being recorded. How can someone fake six months of their life?"

Sean, who has won lumberjack competitions throughout the world, comes from the biggest family and is next to the youngest with five brothers and five sisters. Eager to start raising his own family, but still sans a companion, the hunk de tuti turned not a few heads as a bouncer at a restaurant/bar in one of the city's most glamorous neighborhoods, the Back Bay. "I like getting wild and

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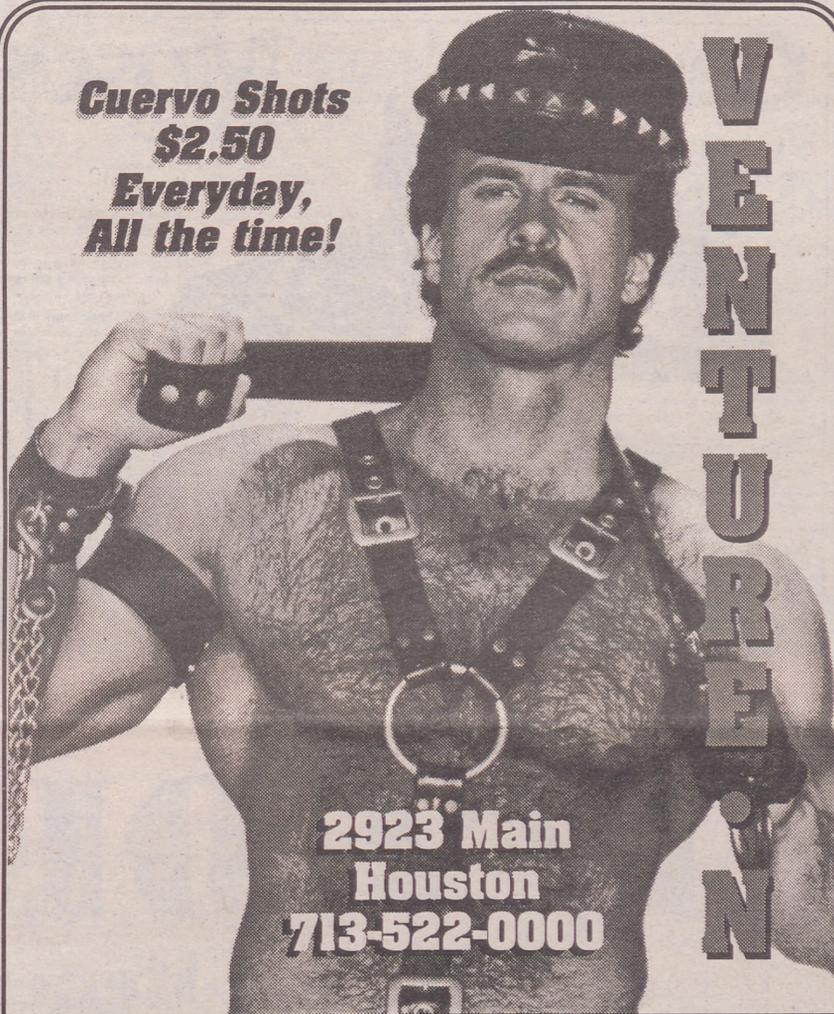
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crazy and working at the bar was a lot of fun. I am always up for that." What else he was up for we will let you see for yourself.

In addition to part time independent jobs such as Sean's and Genesis' as a door woman at a Boston's preeminent Sunday night gay club Avalon, the whole bunch of kids had to devote four afternoons a week to working with kids at an afterschool program. While it didn't start off too well, it got easier as time went on. "We made our mistakes," said all members of the show, "But all in all, we learned a lot from the experience at the afterschool program as well as from being cooped up together here at the firehouse for six months."

What seemed to have been the most annoying thing for each of the cast, next to having to be videotaped 24 hours a day, was

not being able to tell anyone that they were from "The Real World." "We had to tell people that we were shooting a documentary," said Jason. "After a few weeks though, most people in the neighborhood and city got a clue. But we still had to try and bullshit them. As it was, we had people shrieking on the sidewalk under our windows everynight, 'We know you guys are from the 'Real World.' Why don't you come out and play?' It was something we learned to put up with."

Not a stiff price to pay, considering that they had the opportunity to live in an art-deco, funky furnished (fish in beakers instead of fishbowls), converted firehouse, in what is one of the most expensive neighborhoods in the world. They were even close neighbors of Senator John Kerry and wife Teresa Heinz who are worth nearly three quarters of a billion dollars.

by Lee Davis

Eating Disorders

Dramatic weight loss, excessive exercising, binge eating, vomiting and use of laxatives are all symptoms of eating disorders. Left unchecked, these disorders can kill.

A free eating disorders screening for adolescents and adults will be offered August 27 at Baylor College of Medicine. The screening session will be held from 1-4pm in the Baylor Psychiatry Clinic and is sponsored by the Eating Disorders Program. Appointments are required.

Participants will hear a brief talk on the causes, symptoms and treatments of anorexia, bulimia and compulsive overeating. Individuals also will complete a written screening test of symptoms and confidentially discuss the results with a mental health professional.

Registration is limited, and there is no charge, except for parking. For more info or to schedule an appointment, call 713.798.4896.

GLMA symposium at 459 Fulton St., Ste 107 in San Francisco, 94102.

Volunteers Needed

The Bastyr University AIDS Research Center is recruiting eligible volunteers to participate in the first nationwide study on alternative medicine and HIV/AIDS. If you are HIV positive (any stage), using alternative medicine or treatments, able and willing to give informed consent and complete questionnaires and are at least 18 years old...be a part of the solution. For information please call 1.800.475.0135.

Women's Health Summit

Women are living longer than ever before, creating new challenges and choices concerning their health.

To help educate women about maintaining their quality of life in the later years, Baylor College of Medicine's Huffington Center on Aging and the Center for Women's Health are hosting the 1997 Women's Health Summit: Lifelong Strategies for Healthy Living.

The summit is scheduled for 8:30 am to 5 pm, October 9, at the River Oaks Country Club. A \$25 registration fee includes lunch and informational materials.

Presentation topics will include hormone replacement therapy, exercise, osteoporosis, nutrition, mental health and legal issues.

For more information or to register, call the Huffington Center on Aging at 713.798.6470.

Final Chance

A Final Announcement has recently been issued for the 15th Annual Symposium of the Gay & Lesbian Medical Association, August 21-23 at the Parc Fifty Five Hotel in San Francisco.

Addressing the professional and personal challenges faced by lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgendered physicians and medical students, you may fax your registration information to 415.255.4784, or write to the

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The Surgeon General has determined that lack of physical activity is detrimental to your health.

by Lee Davis

Stick 'Em!

The **Houston Harpies** Women's Ice Hockey Team is actively recruiting women of all levels interested in playing organized women's ice hockey. The Harpies practice every Wednesday evening from 6:30 to 8pm at the Sharpstown Ice Center, and drop-ins are welcome. For more info call 713.802.1248 or 713.864.1650.

Serve It Up!

The **Houston Tennis Club** is constantly seeking new members, both male and female, of all playing levels. Meet at Memorial Park Tennis Center on Wednesdays from 7-9:30pm, Fridays from 7:30-9pm, and two sessions on Sunday mornings, from 9-10:30am and 10am to 12 Noon.

Watch The Birdie?

Get fit at **The Cossaboom Family YMCA** at 7903 South Loop East, near Gulfgate Mall. The Adult Open Badminton League is offered every Monday & Wednesday evening from 9pm until midnight. Bring your racquet and join the fun. The fee is only \$7 per visit for non-members. For info, stop by their front service desk or call them at 713.643.4396.

All Skate!

The **Lambda Roller Skating Club** hosts their Weekly Skate Night on Wednesday, August 13 at Zenith (formerly Starlite) Skating Rink, 8075 Cook Road (corner of Cook and Beechnut). Skate time is 8-10pm with a nominal admission fee of \$5 plus \$1.50 if you need skates. The theme for this week's event is "Bare Chest Night"! The first 50 skaters to show up (men without shirts or women in sports tops) will receive a free skate T-shirt. You may bring your own skates or blades. Everyone and all ages are welcome! For more info call 281.933.5818 or visit their website at <http://www.neosoft.com/~lrsc>.

Let's Gang Up!

The **Houston Chain Gang Cycling Club** invites you to join them for a 15-mile ride through River Oaks. See where the shakers and movers live. Meet at the front of Heaven on Sunday, August 17 at 9am. For information regarding the ride, call John at 768.8793.

H.O.G. Activities

The **Houston Outdoor Group** invites all to join them for a Breakfast Meeting at the Spanish Flower at 4701 N. Main in the Heights. Food is supposed to be yummy and the company is terrific! They generally have 12-25 people at their breakfasts. So go on down and meet new people. For info call K-A-M-P-O-U-T.

Sticky Wickets

The **Montrose Monday Night Men's League** reports in 1st We Go There Again, Spice Boys in 2nd and Passion Fruits in 3rd. David Furlong bowled High Scratch Game of 255 and Series of 669. Jim Farrier had High Handicapped Game and Series. For more info call 522.9612. Bowling is at Palace Lanes, 4191 Bellaire Blvd. at 9pm Monday.

Inner Loop Alternatives reports in 1st Don't Eat Him Again, in 2nd Four On The Floor and in 3rd, Sticky Wickets. For the men Brian Bergeron bowled High Scratch Game of 235 and High Handicapped Game. Luis Garcia had High Scratch Series of 617 and Handicapped Series. For the women Terry Shannon had High Scratch Game of 202 and Series of 564 while Dana Howard had High Handicapped Game and Series. Call Tom at 522.9612 for further info. Bowling is at Palace Lanes, 4191 Bellaire Blvd. at 7pm Sundays.

The **Wednesday Night Mixers** reports in 1st Big Balls & A Sissy, in 2nd White Trash Lady for Pick Up & J.R.'s in 3rd. High Scratch Game of 245 and Handicapped Game was bowled by George Konar for the men. Don Burken had High Scratch Series of 649. For the women Terry Shannon bowled High Scratch Game of 235 and Series of 626 and Handicapped Games & Series. Bowling is at Palace Lanes at 6:30 on Wednesday. For more info call 522.9612.

The **Monday Night Women's League** reports Four Girls with Balls in 1st, M-Power in 2nd, Sappho Strikers in 3rd and The Bowled and the Beautiful in 4th. Bowling is



Steven's House receives \$5,000 from MSL. at 6:30pm at AMF Southway. For more info call Pat at 281.437.6218.

The **I Luv Luci Thursday Trios** reports Having Fun in 1st, Sabrina, Kelly & Jill in 2nd, Gutter Girls in 3rd and Three's Company in 4th. Bowling is at Dynamic Lanes at 6:30 on Thursday. Call 522.9612 for info.

Golf Tourney

On September 14, Pinecrest Golf Club will host the Annise Parker for City Council Golf Tournament Fundraiser. At only \$100 per player, there is a two-person scramble with both men & women welcome. There will be lots of prizes and contests to win! For info call 713.688.3888.

Boat Change

The **Rainbow Fishing Club** has changed all trips to the New Buccaneer of Galveston, a 85-foot catamaran that carries 100 people. It is the largest party boat in Galveston.

Next trips are Sunday, September 14, Wednesday, October 8 and Sunday, October 26. Total costs are \$60 on Sunday and \$55 for Wednesday trips with a \$20 deposit due now to hold your reservations.

The 12-hour trips start at 7:30 am and the boat furnishes all fishing equipment and bait and has food and drink on board at reasonable prices. No fishing license is needed. The New Buccaneer also sports a sundeck for relaxation after the fishing is over.

For more info, call the club at 713.523.6831 or mail deposit checks to P.O. Box 66450, Houston, TX, 77266. Club dues are \$10 a year.

Season Ending!

The **Lone Star Volleyball Association** is completing the Summer '97 league play on August 10th. Tournament play for the Summer season will be August 24th and 31st with one of seven teams competing for the competitive division title.

The LSVB Fall '97 season will begin on September 7th as an open play date. League play is open to all interested individuals. Individuals seeking to join a team and formed competitive teams are welcome.

Meet them at the Jerabeck Center on the University of St. Thomas campus at 4:30pm. All are welcome and please note that their league consists of a variety of different (male/female) players from all walks of life. For info call 281.878.4629.

More Club Info

A Gay sky diving club called **Houston Triangle Divers** hosts outings for those brave of heart throughout the year. For info call 530.7822.

A Bicycling Club for Womyn, **Rainbow Riders** meet every Sunday morning for easy, long off-road rides. All womyn are welcome regardless of ability and experience. For info call Cookie Davenport at 869.1686 or email her at guusje@aol.com.

If you like running, then go with the **FrontRunners** who meet at 9am at the Memorial Park Tennis Center on Sundays. If Sundays are not good for you, meet them at 6:30pm on Tuesday or Thursday nights. For info call 713.522.8021.

Think dancing isn't a sport? Try to argue with these two organizations! The **Southern Country Dance Group** provides dance lessons at the Ranch, 8-10pm on Fridays. The Ranch is located at 9200 Buffalo Speedway.

The **Rainbow Ranglers** promote Texas Style couple dancing, including the beginning level. Classes are free and open to the public from 8:30-10pm on Thursdays at the Brazos River Bottom, 2400 Brazos. For more info call 713.880.0670.

The **Houston Force**, a local basketball team, is forming a league in Houston. If interested in joining, please call Mike or Lyle at 880.4765.

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Houston's most popular family of clubs is now accepting applications for management and management trainees. Offering Houston's best benefits package, including group health insurance, the clubs at 800 Pacific - **Heaven, JR's Bar and Grill** and the **Montrose Mining Company** - are looking for self starters who believe teamwork is essential to success. If you live in another city, we are open to assist with your relocation expenses if you are found suitable. Fax Resumes to **Charles Armstrong Investments, Inc.** at (713) 521-3926 or contact our promotions Director at (713)521-0193.

Rich's is now taking applications. If you are a fun, energetic, creative individual, apply in person at Rich's - 2401 San Jacinto. (Just south of downtown). Fridays, 2-4pm.

Photography

Steve David

photographic art

713.787.0625
email:photo@stevendavid.com

HOUSTON'S #1 LEVI-LEATHER CRUISE BAR - THE MONTROSE MINING COMPANY - is accepting applications for honest, hard-working 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.**

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 and male dancers. Apply in person only. No phone calls. **MIDTOWNE SPA, 3100 Fannin.**

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Rotweiler Rescue Has rottis for adoption. Foster parents also urgently needed. You can make a difference! Call Mary-713-645-2773.

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GWM · ISO trim, GM, 30-45, to exchange shaving and massage weekly. Not looking to date. Just want to make personal grooming a gentle, nurturing, pleasurable treat. Your personal hygiene is a very important prerequisite. Dean, 2620-B S. Shepherd Drive, Houston TX, 77098-1534.

Lonely? Call Tonight!
 1-900-336-8162
 EXT. 5609
 \$2.99 per min.
 Must be 18 yrs.
 Serv-U (619)645-8434

Lonely GWM Prisoner, 33years old. Blue eyes, Brown hair. 5'9", 160#. "No Games", Serious, Fun-loving, Sincere, Financially secure upon release. No Family or Friends to speak of. Looking for something real in life toward release. Love Outdoors, Music, Reading, Movies, Body Building, Romance. Please Write... Harold Sturdivant #17522 Rt 2, Box 1 N,R,J,C,F Moundsville, West VA 26041

New in Houston: GWM · seeks same for attending symphony, opera, ballet and plays. Also looking for walking buddy. Also roommate for Mardi Gras. Call Tom at 713-869-0635.

Single White GM looking for play buddies. Blue & Red hankie, versatile, enjoys fantasies, long sessions. Masculine, party favors O.K. 50's, 5'11", 160#. Paul. 713-721-0091, leave message.

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Houston's Newest Hottest Gay Dateline. Meet local men and women

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Real Estate

PROVINCETOWN GUEST HOUSE for sale. Handsome, established Victorian guest house in major gay & lesbian resort town. Quiet location steps from the Harbor, galleries, shops and nightlife. Parking, licensed for 11rms, 2 apts, good "numbers". Harborside exclusive @ \$575,000. 1-508-487-4005/1-800-838-4005.

5.5 + acres 33 miles from Austin. Panoramic view. Private Lakefront. \$4,500 per acre. Owner carry possible. 512-273-2278.

Roommates

Dairy Ashford/Westheimer Beautiful 3/2/2. Non-Smoking male seeking same. \$325/month. 281-589-7824.

Pet Lover needed to share my spacious home near Bellair & Gessner. Furnished private room non-smoker only. Male or Female. \$500.00/month. All Bills Paid. Leave Message For Max @ 713-664-8878.

Wanted to Buy

Fast Cash. Highest Prices Paid. We buy antiques, estates, furniture, collectibles, jewelry etc. We come to you. 281-391-7515 or 713-994-5986(pgr).

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 Two College Boys, Very Good looking, Nice Bods. (713) 526-5077.

Ross, 21, 6ft, 165lbs, Athletic, Goodlooking (713) 526-5077

Mark. - 24 hrs. (713) 697-2178.

Houston Voice Policy. Prostitution is illegal in Texas. State law prohibits the placement in this category of any such ads which might suggest solicitation. The Houston Voice will not knowingly accept any ads of this type.

Wild Oscar's Happy Puzzle

"A thing is not necessarily true because a man dies for it."—19th century Irish wit Oscar Wilde

abbr.
 31 very old
 33 the conclusion

ACROSS

1 something that is like another
 8 Burroughs, Beat Generation elder statesman
 13 massive rounded clouds
 14 abbr. for saint
 16 interjection for attention
 17 one .. the other

18 Burroughs (8 across) most famous novel, 2 words
 21 makes fresh again
 23 noun suffix for character or condition (jewel to jewel., i.e.)
 25 risks money
 26 strike someone on the head with an object
 29 7-footer calls herself 'America's sweetheart drag queen'
 32 4th & 3rd vowels
 33 ex-Mass. gov. taking on Jesse

Helms over ambassador's job
 34 halfway between 2 and 12
 35 custard-filled cream puff
 37 ancient Egyptian goddess of fertility
 39 TV network that Jesse Helms wanted right-wingers to buy so they could

49 to move toward the axis of a body
 52 departed sitcom host will become new talk-show host
 55 Sen. Fred (R-Tenn.), fund-raising probe chairman
 56 put one's stake in the poker game

7 Eskimo abbr.
 9 Land of Lincoln state, abbr.
 10 fictional TV newscaster Grant
 11 abbr. for an entity formed into a legal body
 12 Pa's wife
 15 small sea gull
 19 dysprosium symbol

34 HIS upside down
 35 time zone of Christopher St. not during daylight savings, abbr.
 36 1st & 3rd vowels of the alphabet
 38 celestial body
 40 actress Davis, singer Darin, initials
 43 wife of Cronus in Greek mythology
 44 common Irish male name
 46 HAW in a mirror
 47 judge at O.J. Simpson criminal trial
 50 decimeter abbr.

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
13						14	15	16			
		17			18			19		20	
21	22						23				24
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45	46					47			48		
		49		50	51		52	53			54
55									56		

DOWN

1 acidulous or sour
 2 13th letter of Greek alphabet
 3 kind of sherry
 4 artificial fish baits
 5 a version of 'ole'
 6 Allen Beat Generation poet

20 back of the neck
 22 Equal Employment Opportunity Commission
 24 in the closet
 27 Spanish for the
 28 Spanish for good-bye
 29 initializes
 30 ultraviolet

51 20th century American poet Sandburg, initials ("Sometime they'll give a war and nobody will come.")
 53 '.. say can you see' (singing)
 54 Cornhusker State, abbr. Solution elsewhere this issue c.1997 GULF FEATURES, PUZZLE GAY13

Classified Humor

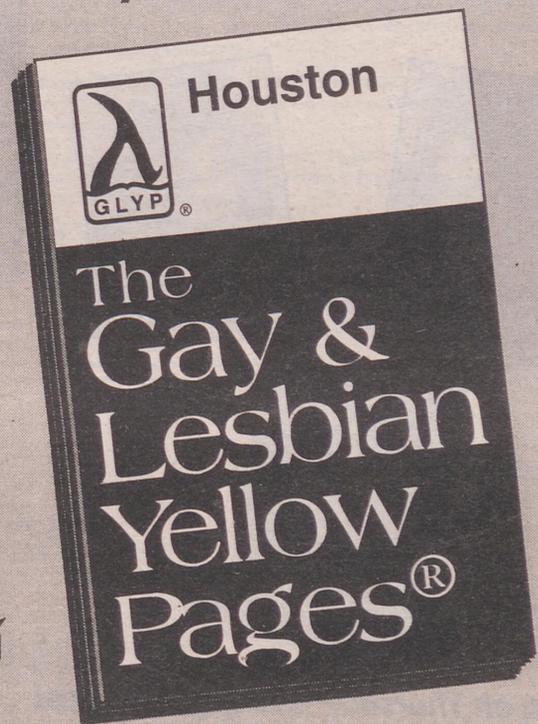
*Note: This is NOT a real ad!

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by Ella Tyler

We tend to think that bulbs only flower in the spring, but there are a number of summer-flowering plants that are bulbs such as gladioli and caladiums. Many people say that these do not naturalize here, but I have a clump of gladioli in the rose garden that comes up year after year. I don't know when or why they were planted there and don't want them. I have tried to dig them out, but must have left little bulbets behind, because they keep coming back. One friend got tired in the middle of digging up his caladium bulbs for winter storage and left some in the ground, and they returned this year.

I am sure that these bulbs have returned because they were in well drained areas. Bulbs that are in a soggy spot rot over the winter. If your gladioli and caladiums are in a well drained spot and you want to try to keep them for next year, fertilize them with a bulb food or anything with a higher middle number (phosphorus) and let the foliage dry back naturally. Remember where they are so you don't dig them up by accident.



Sprengerii

Phosphorus aids root growth and the leaves produce the food which is stored in the bulb for next year's plant.

I sorting through a stack of magazines to decide which ones to get rid of, and, as a reward, found an article about easy plants for dim rooms in "Indoor and Patio Gardening".

The list includes three plants that survive really dark areas: *Aglaonema* a.k.a. Chinese Evergreen, *Aspidistra*, and Snake Plant. These do not need more than 150 foot candles of light. Don't use real candles, that would burn the house down. I've written about Chinese Evergreen several times; it is one of my favorite plants. The pretty plant with white stems in the lobby of our building at 811 Westheimer is a Chinese Evergreen and I think the variety is Manila. It survives over watering but does not tolerate temperatures of less than 50. *Aspidistra* is often grown outside and is frequently unattractive there because it gets too much sun. Any direct sun will burn or bleach the leaves, but in deep shade, the leaves are a beautiful deep green. It survives over and under watering, heat and cold, but not freezing. Snake Plant is also called Mother-in-Law's-Tongue, but there is a form of *Sansevieria* that is a dwarf rosette shape. It will tolerate lots of light but does not tolerate over watering.

All the varieties of *Ficus* do well in low light but not in the dark. These include *F. benjamina* (weeping fig), *F. elastica* (rubber plant) and *F. lyrata* (fiddle-leaved fig). I like the trunk of the fiddle leaf, it has an interesting texture. They should be placed a few feet away from a sunny window or next to a north window. A sheer curtain or slightly opened mini blind, depending on your decor, will provide the proper conditions. They should be allowed to dry out somewhat between waterings. Weeping fig is fussy about being moved and will react to changed conditions by losing its leaves.

They will grow back. When buying them, look for very dark green leaves, that means they have already been adapted to lower light levels.

Plants for hanging baskets in low light areas include Spider Plant and Wandering Jew, either *Tradescantia fluminensis*, which is green and white, or *Zebrina pendula*, which is green and purple. If the plant begins to lose its color or variegation, give it more light. Wandering Jew is often handed down from person to person because a stem will easily root in water, which is supposedly why they are called wandering Jew. Once they are planted, they prefer to be kept barely moist. The purple plant that you see growing in outside is likely *Setcreasea pallida*, or purple heart. It, too, can be grown in hanging baskets but probably only outside because it requires lots of light, although not midday sun. Wandering Jew can be planted outside, but it may freeze and is invasive.

Real Ivy (*Hedra* spp.) and Asparagus Fern can be grown either inside or outside. The smaller kinds of ivy make nice hanging baskets or topiaries and need bright or direct light inside. They like moist soil. Outside, ivy makes a nice ground cover for shady areas, but it can be invasive. English ivy will climb, but its roots can damage wood and are hard to remove from brick. Asparagus fern likes bright light inside and shade outside. If it gets too much sun it will turn yellow.



Wandering Jew

low.

Many plants have some ability to adapt themselves to higher or lower levels of light, given time. A plant that gets too much sun may show burned places and may be a pale green or yellow. If the plant is not getting enough sun, it will keep trying to stretch itself toward the sun and becomes leggy and spindly. Eventually, a plant that does not get enough light will die because it can't make food fast

enough. It will however, have big dark green leaves, but not many of them. Chlorophyll will spread itself thinly across the leaf to capture all the available light and leaves that shade other leaves will be lost.

What this means to you, is that you should allow your plants to adjust to gradually to greater or lower levels of light. When the plant is nicely green or has the proper coloring but isn't spindly or weak looking, you have the proper light level.

Lots of places are having sales on plants now. If you see a plant that you want and it looks healthy you may buy it, but don't plant it until the weather gets cooler. I would avoid a plant that has lots of roots coming out of the bottom because that plant is already stressed. Put it in a shady place, mulch it, and keep it well watered. Do not fertilize it, prune it or do anything else that might stress it. This weather is stress enough, but planting it right now would be even more stress.

Thursday Night Follies!



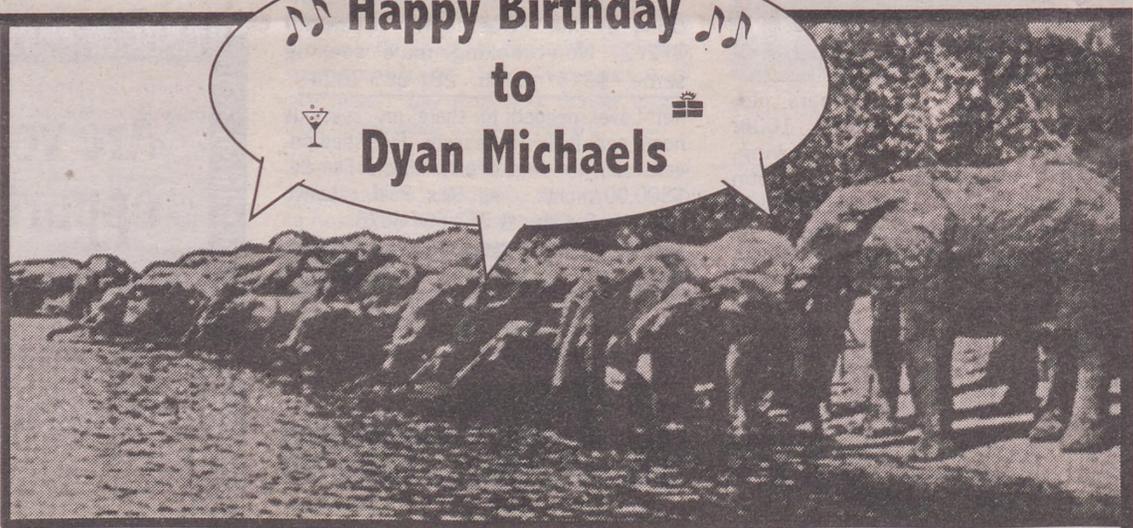
Paivi Lee Love



Dyan Michaels



Roxanne Lee Love



Happy Birthday to Dyan Michaels

Thursday, August 14
Special Guest

Lana Blake

also on Thursday Granny's Tacos!

FRI	8/8	MALE STRIP CONTEST at 11 pm with Paivi
SAT	8/9	TALENT NIGHT at 11 pm with Roxanne
SUN	8/10	\$1 Budweiser & Bud Light All Day and All Night
MON	8/11	MALE STRIP CONTEST at 11 pm with Paivi
TUE	8/12	Amateur/Talent Night at 11 pm with Dyan Michaels
WED	8/13	Granny's Burgers!

ET's

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- Happy Hour 7am - 9pm Weekdays
- \$1.50 Well 4-7 Saturday
- \$1.50 Vodka 7am - 6pm
- Mug Club 7am - 10pm
- \$3.75 Pitchers & \$1.75 Mugs

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

Friday, August 8

- AIDS Mastery Workshop. 861-6453.
- Borders Book Store Gay /Lesbian Book Club meets at the Espresso Bar at 9634 Westheimer. 786-6066.
- HIV+ Art classes at the Art League. 523-8817.
- HATCH meets. 942-7002.
- Aftercare Group Treatment at Montrose Counseling Center. 6pm. 529-0037.
- "Out of the Closet: Cinema" group meets 822-8511.
- Frost Eye Clinic: Free eye exams for HIV+ people. 520-2000.
- Lesbian Avengers meet at Toopee's, 1830 W. Alabama @ 7pm.
- Q-Patrol Meets to walk the streets at 10:30pm. 528-SAFE.
- Free Spay & Neutering (SNAP) 522-2337 at Harris County Animal Control.
- Gulf Coast Transgender Community meets. 780-4282.
- Lesbian Love Letters at DiverseWorks. 228-0914.
- Kolbe Project's Night at the Movies 7pm. 522-8182.
- Kolbe Projects' Park Plaza Hospital Visitation. 522-8182.
- HIV Art Course Program; 1-4pm. Patrick Palmer at 526-1118.
- Free HIV testing by the Montrose Clinic; The New Barn 4-8pm.
- Garden & Yard Society (G.A.Y.S.) Meeting 7pm. 713-520-1066 or 713 661-6378 or 713-869-8245.

Saturday, August 9

- After Hours on KPFT 12am to 3am. 90.1 FM. 526-5738.
- Gulf Coast Transgender Support Group meets. 780-4282.
- Q-Patrol meets to walk the streets at 10:30pm. 528-SAFE.
- Visual Art Alliance meets at 10am. 583-8408.
- Free HIV testing by the Montrose Clinic;

- Rich's 10pm-2am.
- AssistHers Meeting. 552-9445.

Sunday, August 10

- The Women's Group meets at 10:45 am. 529-8571.
- HATCH meets. 942-7002.
- Sisters Meet 5-8pm. 713.801.4254.

Monday, August 11

- Gay Fathers/Fathers First support group. 8pm. 861-6181.
- Calendar/Computer workshop for Pride Week. 7pm. 529-1223.
- Outpatient Group Treatment at Montrose Counseling Center. 6pm. 529-0037.
- Men Survivors of Sexual Abuse Group at Montrose Counseling Center. 6:15pm. 529-0037.
- Frost Eye Clinic: Free eye exams for HIV+ people. 520-2000.
- AIDS Caregiver's Support Group meets at 6pm. 732-4300.
- AVES sponsored free HIV testing from 10am to 5pm at 4125 SW Freeway, Ste 1717.
- HeartSong meets. 541-3495.
- Miss Camp America meets. 520-STAR.
- Houston Area Women's Center's Volunteer training. 535-6363.
- Texas Medical Center Lambda Group meets. 523-5539.
- Free HIV testing by the Montrose Clinic; Brazos River Bottom 4 to 8pm; QT's 8pm-12am.
- Kolbe Project's Park Plaza Visitation; 522-8182.

Tuesday, August 12

- Sex, Lies & Video Tapes workshop by AIDS Foundation Houston 7-9pm 623-6796.
- Helping Cross Dressers Anonymous meets at 239 Westheimer. 8pm. 495-8009.
- Basic Computer Skills Class at the Kolbe Project. 522-8182.
- Gay Men HIV+ Psychotherapy at Montrose Counseling Center. 4:30pm. 529-0037.
- Youth-Rap at 6:30pm. 822-8511.

- Aftercare Group Treatment at Montrose Counseling Center. 6pm. 529-0037.
- AIDS Alliance of the Bay Area meets at 7pm. 488-4492.
- Empowerment for Living meets for pot luck. 861-9149.
- PROTECT: an HIV negative support group meets at 7pm. 520-7870.
- Free HIV testing by Montrose Clinic; Club Body Center 8pm to Midnite.
- Women Survivors of Childhood Abuse at Montrose Counseling Center. 6:30pm. 529-0037.
- Survivors of Loss support group meets at 8:30pm. 778-2677.
- Live Jazz at Borders Book Shop. 782-6066.
- Free Spay & Neuter Assistance (SNAP) at West End Multi Service Center.
- Kolbe Projects' Park Plaza Visitation; 522-8182.
- Women for Sobriety Meeting 7-8pm; 701 Richmond. 281-855-8616.
- Colt 45's Meeting at BRB; 8pm.
- Houston Gay & Lesbian Parents Support Group; 7-9pm; 2515 Waugh. 713-284-4939.

Wednesday, August 13

- Free HIV testing by the Montrose Clinic; Mary's 4-8pm; Midtowne Spa 9pm-1am; Ripcord 8pm-12am.
- Frost Eye Clinic: Free eye exams to HIV+ people. 520-2000.
- Houston Pride Band practices at Dignity Houston. 524-0218.
- GLOBAL meets at 4pm. 473-7539.
- Women's Action Coalition meets at Toopees at 7pm. 867-9581.
- Women's Network at Montrose Counseling Center. 7pm. 529-0037.
- Ongoing Mixed Living in Process Group for men and women. 622-7250.
- Aftercare Group Treatment at Montrose Counseling Center. 6pm. 529-0037/
- HIV Survivor Support Group meets at 7pm. 782-4050.
- Women's Clinic at the Montrose Clinic. 5 to 8pm. Call 520-2000.
- BiNet of Houston meets at 7pm. 861-9149.
- AVES offers free HIV testing from 10am to

- 5pm at 4125 SW Freeway, Suite 1717.
- Cancer Dialogue Support Group meets at noon at Park Plaza Hospital. 1/800-611-CARE.
- Free Spay & Neuter Assistance (SNAP) at Sunnyside Multi Service Center.
- Kolbe Project's Hospital Visitation; 522-8182.

Thursday, August 14

- Art Labs at The Art League at 1pm. 225-9411.
- Gay Men's Chorus of Houston open rehearsal at 7pm. 521-7464.
- Twentysomething meets at 7:30pm. 315-6786.
- KPFT Lesbian & Gay Voices airs from 8 to 10pm. 866-6505.
- Ongoing gay men's Living in Process Groups. 622-7250.
- Open Mike Night at Cafe Artiste. 1601 W. Main. 8pm. 528-3704.
- HIV+ Men Psychotherapy at Montrose Counseling Center. 1:15pm. 529-0037.
- Relapse Prevention at Montrose Counseling Center. 2pm. 529-0037.
- Outpatient Group Treatment at Montrose Counseling Center. 6pm. 529-0037.
- Aftercare Group Treatment at Montrose Counseling Center. 6pm. 529-0037.
- Women's Therapy Group at Montrose Counseling Center, 5:30pm. 529-0037.
- Meditation and Chanting Group meets at 7pm. 942-0923.
- HIV Affected at CASA. 7pm. 796-2272.
- HIV Survivor Support Group meets at 2929 Unity Drive. 7pm. 782-4050.
- Women's Social Group meets at 7:30pm. 822-8511.
- Center for the Healing of Racism. 7:30pm. 738-RACE.
- Gay Men's Chorus of Houston meets at 7pm. 521-SING.
- The Center for AIDS forum meets. 527-8219.
- Free Spay/Neuter Assistance Program (SNAP) at Wesley Community Center.
- Houston Pride Band practices at Dignity Houston. 524-0218.
- Free HIV Testing by Montrose Clinic; VentureN 4-8pm; 611 8pm - 12am.
- HIV Art Course Program; 1-4pm. Patrick Palmer at 526-1118.

GALAXY GAZZER A Houston Voice Exclusive
Your Horoscope for the week of August 10 - August 16

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.

such is LIFE!

IF YOU REMEMBER THE SIXTIES....
YOU WEREN'T THERE!!!

-GEORGE CARLIN -

©EARL STORM

KINDA REMINDS OF
REAGAN IN THE EIGHTIES!!!

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

Friday, August 8

- BerryHill II: Happy Hour 6 until 10pm.
- Brazos River Bottom: \$1.75 well, \$1.75 domestic longnecks, \$1.25 regular schnapps 7am til 11pm.
- BriarPatch: Steve plays for Happy Hour: Wayne Gray plays the rest of the night! Blackjack tables with Dave open at 9:30pm.
- Bricks II: Happy Hour 7am to 9pm; \$1.75 well; \$1.75 Domestic Longnecks; \$1.50 shots & \$1 mug draft all day. Doors open at 7am!
- Chances: Power Hours with \$1.75 domestic beer & well 10am to 3pm; Happy Hour 3 to 8pm with \$2.25 domestic beer & \$2.75 well cocktails; \$2 Jose Cuervo.
- Club Incognito: Boyz night out.
- Cousin's: Drag show at 11pm.
- E/J's: Happy Hours 7am to 9pm; \$1.50 Well 4 to 7pm; \$1.50 vodka 7am to 6pm; Mug Club 7am to 10pm: Male Strip Contest at 11pm.
- Gentry: Happy Hour 2 to 8pm; Boy Toys dance at 6pm: \$2 Kamikazes open to close.
- Heaven: \$1 well & \$1.75 Miller. Doors open at 9pm.
- J.R.'s: Texas Pride Happy Hour 4 to 7pm \$2.25 well, \$1.75 domestic longnecks, \$3.50 Absolut Martinis & \$4.50 doubles. \$3.75 Skyy & Stoli: hard body male dancers.
- Lazy J: 8-ball tournament.
- Mary's: \$1.75 well drinks & longnecks 7am to 9pm; \$1.50 Vodka drinks 7am to 2pm.
- Montrose Mining Company: \$3.75 premium vodkas; Happy hour until 10pm: male dancers 8pm to 2:30am; After hours until 4am.
- 19th Hole: 75¢ Kamikazis all day & nite.
- OutPost: Happy Hour 11am to 8pm; Shuffleboard Tournament 6pm.
- Pacific Street: Exclusive Screening Party 8-9pm; Foreplay! No Cover till 9pm. \$1.25 well, \$1.75 beer; \$3 call; \$3.50 premium; \$1.25 Schnapps; Doors open at 7pm. No Cover for Club Members in Club Colors!
- Rich's: Klub Kamp..a comedy drag review 9pm doors open, 11:30pm show—Retro Modern Hits by D.J. Chris Sill, \$1, \$2, \$3 drinks..
- Ripcord: Happy Hour 1 to 8pm; After Hours until 4am.
- Rosie & Candy's: 2020 Studewood; 863-1918; 10am to 2am.
- 611 Hyde Park Pub: Pizza Buffet at 5:30 pm; dancers at 9pm.
- The New Barn: Power Hours with \$1.75 domestic beer & well 12 to 3pm; Happy Hour 3 to 8pm with \$2.25 domestic beer & \$2.75 well cocktails.
- Venture-N: \$2 well, beer, & wine noon until 7pm; NLA: Houston guest bartenders on the top 9pm till ???

Saturday, August 9

- BerryHill II: Happy Hour 6 until 10pm.
- Brazos River Bottom: \$1.75 domestic longnecks, \$1.75 well, \$1.25 regular schnapps 7am til 9pm.
- BriarPatch: Wayne Gray tickles the ivories; Bunny deals Blackjack at 9:30pm
- Bricks II: Happy Hour 7am to 9pm; \$1.75 well; \$1.75 Domestic Longnecks; \$1.50 shots & \$1 mug draft all day. Doors open at 7am!
- Chances: Power Hours with \$1.75 domestic beer & well 10am to 3pm; Happy Hour 3 to 8pm with \$2.25 domestic beer & \$2.75 well cocktails; \$2 Jose Cuervo.
- Club Incognito: Ladies' Night.
- Cousin's: Drag show at 11pm.
- E/J's: \$1.50 well 4 to 7pm; Mug Club 7am to 10pm; \$1.50 vodka 7am to 6pm.
- 800 Pacific block party: \$1 well & \$1.75 domestic longnecks! 9 to 9:30pm at Santa Fe Bar & Patio, 9:30 to 10pm at the Montrose Mining Company, 10 to 10:30pm at J.R.'s Bar & Grill, & 11 to 11:30pm at Heaven.
- Gentry: Boy Toys at 9pm; \$3.50 Absolut cocktails open to close.
- Heaven: \$1 well 9 to 11pm; \$1.25 Schnapps; Doors open at 9pm.
- J.R.'s: Texas Pride Happy Hour 4 to 7pm \$2.25 well, \$1.75 domestic longnecks, \$3.50 Absolut Martinis & \$4.50 doubles; \$2.75 premium frozen drinks & premium draft beer, \$3.25 super premium draft beer.
- Lazy J: Drag show at 10:30pm.
- Montrose Mining Company: \$3.75 Bacardi Limonade; male dancers 9pm to 2:30am; happy hour until 10pm; After hours until 4am.
- 19th Hole: \$1.50 Gold Ritas all day & nite.
- OutPost: Happy Hour 11am to 8pm.
- Pacific Street: Leather & Flesh Fantasy

Night 9pm; no cover in erotic leather.

- Rich's: Doors open at 9pm, 21 and up, no cover 9-10pm, See Gorgeous Men from All Over Texas Dancing to the Grooves of the Billboard., D.J. J.D. Arnold.
- Ripcord: After hours until 4am.
- Rosie & Candy's: 2020 Studewood; 863-1918; 10am to 2am.
- 611 Hyde Park Pub: Dancers @ 9pm; free munchies all the time.
- The New Barn: Power Hours with \$1.75 domestic beer & well 12 to 3pm; Happy Hour 3 to 8pm with \$2.25 domestic beer & \$2.75 well cocktails.
- Venture-N: \$2 well, beer, & wine noon until 7pm; NLA: Houston guest bartenders on the Top 9pm till ???; Houston Area Bears Social at 8pm.

Sunday, August 10

- BerryHill II: Happy Hour 6 until 10pm.
- Brazos River Bottom: \$1.75 domestic longnecks, \$1.75 well, \$1.25 regular schnapps Noon to 7pm; Steak night 6 to 10pm \$6 14oz t-bone & fixins.
- BriarPatch: Wayne plays piano after the show; Open Pool Table.
- Bricks II: Happy Hour 12 Noon to 9pm; \$1.75 well; \$1.75 Domestic Longnecks; \$1.50 shots & \$1 mug draft all day. Sign Language Classes 3-4pm.
- Chances: Power Hours with \$1.75 domestic beer & well noon to 3pm; Happy Hour 3 to 8pm with \$2.25 domestic beer & \$2.75 well cocktails; \$2 Jose Cuervo.
- Club Incognito: Super Sunday Show at 11pm. No cover before 10pm.
- Cousin's: Drag Show at 11pm.
- E/J's: \$1 Bud & Bud Light All Day & Night.
- Gentry: Happy Hour 2 to 8pm: Boy Toy Dancers 7 to 11pm; Pool tournament at 6pm; Male Strip Contest at 11pm; \$2 Kool Aid shots open to close.
- Heaven: 75¢ well drinks 8 to 10pm; \$2.25 frozen Ritas; \$3.50 Absolut & Bacardi Limonade; 75¢ draft beer; Super Show at 11pm.
- J.R.'s: 99¢ well vodka juice drinks noon until 11pm, \$2.75 Shiner Bock: SRO Karaoke at 6pm: Male Swim wear strip contest at 11pm.
- Mary's: \$1.75 Well drinks & longnecks 10am to 2pm; Lancers M.C. on the patio 2-6pm w/ \$50 draft.
- Montrose Mining Company: \$2 domestic longnecks: \$2.25 well drinks; Beer Bust \$2 (optional) with 25¢ refills; male dancers 9pm to 2am.
- 19th Hole: \$1.50 well 8-11pm; \$4 Pitcher domestic beer all day & nite.
- OutPost: Happy Hour Noon to 8pm.
- Pacific Street: Male Overload! Doors open at 7pm; No shirt, no cover! \$1.25 well, \$1.75 beer. \$3 call, \$3.50 premium, \$1.25 schnapps. No Cover for Club Members in Club Colors.
- Rich's: 18 & up welcome; \$1 well, \$2 beer, \$3 call, Deja Vu "Phat Grooves & Cheap Drinks", doors open at 9pm, 90's Retro House Disco with D.J. Chris Sill.
- Ripcord: \$1.50 well & domestic beer all day/all night.
- Rosie & Candy's: 2020 Studewood; 863-1918; 12pm to 2am.
- 611 Hyde Park Pub: Brunch at noon.
- The New Barn: Power Hours with \$1.75 domestic beer & well noon to 3pm; Happy Hour 3 to 8pm with \$2.25 domestic beer & \$2.75 well cocktails.
- Venture-N: \$2 well, beer, & wine noon until 7pm; Cookout on the "Far Side" & R.S.I.C.S.S. bartend 6pm till???, R.S.I.C.S.S. Show @ 8pm.

Monday, August 11

- BerryHill II: Free pool.
- Brazos River Bottom: \$1.75 well & domestic beer, \$1.25 regular schnapps all day, all nite.
- BriarPatch: Auntie Richard's at the MIXOLOGIST Table. Open Pool Table.
- Bricks II: Happy Hour All Day & Nite; \$1.75 well; \$1.75 Domestic Longnecks; \$1.50 shots & \$1 mug draft all day. Doors open at 7am!
- Chances: Power Hours with \$1.75 domestic beer & well 10am to 3pm; Happy Hour 3 to 8pm with \$2.25 domestic beer & \$2.75 well cocktails; \$2 Jose Cuervo.
- Club Houston: Half price lockers noon to midnight.
- E/J's: Happy Hour 7am to 9pm; \$1.50 Well 4 to 7pm; \$1.50 vodka 7am to 6pm; Mug Club 7am to 10pm: Male Strip 11pm.
- Gentry: Happy Hour 2 to 8pm; Boy Toy

Dancers 9pm to 1am; \$3 Cuervo Gold open to close; Free Pool Table; Hair Hopper's Hazy Hangover Day til 8pm.

- J.R.'s: Texas Pride Happy Hour 4 to 7pm \$2.25 well, \$1.75 domestic longnecks, \$3.50 Absolut Martinis & \$4.50 doubles; Martinis & Muscles! \$3.75 top shelf Martinis, \$2.25 domestic longnecks, frozen Margaritas \$1.75; "Pump" male dance contest at 11pm.
- Mary's: \$1 Longnecks 8-11pm; \$1.75 well drinks & longnecks 7am to 9pm; \$1.50 Well vodka drinks 7am to 2pm.
- Midtowne Spa: Half-Price night room/video rooms Noon to Midnight.
- Montrose Mining Company: \$3.50 double well drinks, \$1.75 well, \$2 domestic longnecks; Pool tournament at 8:30pm; male dancers 9pm; Happy hour until 10pm.
- 19th Hole: \$1.50 longnecks 8-11pm.
- Outpost: Happy Hour 11am to 8pm.
- Pacific Street: \$1.25 Gold Margaritas all nite long; doors open at 9pm. No Cover with a We'll Pleasure You Pass!
- Ripcord: Happy Hour 1 to 8pm; \$2 domestic beer all night; free pizza.
- Rosie & Candy's: 2020 Studewood; 863-1918; 10am to 2am.
- 611 Hyde Park Pub: Open Pool Tables.
- The New Barn: Power Hours with \$1.75 domestic beer & well 12pm to 3pm; Happy Hour 3 to 8pm with \$2.25 domestic beer & \$2.75 well cocktails; Shuffleboard Tourney at 7pm.
- Venture-N: \$2 well, beer, & wine noon until 7pm.

Tuesday, August 12

- BerryHill II: Happy Hour 6 until 10pm.
- Brazos River Bottom: \$1 well drinks, \$1.25 regular schnapps 7am to 11pm; \$1 domestic longnecks all day & nite. Live Band 8pm to Midnite. \$1 Burgers on the patio 6 to 10pm.
- BriarPatch: Marcie has em as Sweet MAMA Cotton.
- Bricks II: Happy Hour All Day & Nite; \$1.75 well; \$1.75 Domestic Longnecks; \$1.50 shots & \$1 mug draft all day. Doors open at 7am!
- Club Houston: Half-price lockers, rooms, & video rooms noon until midnight.
- E/J's: Happy Hour 7am to 9pm; \$1.50 well 4 to 7pm; \$1.50 Vodka 7am to 6pm; Mug Club 7am to 10pm; Amateur/Talent Night at 11pm.
- Gentry: Happy Hour 2 to 8pm: Boy Toys dance at 9pm; \$3.50 Finlandia; Free Pool Table.
- J.R.'s: 2 for Tuesdays! \$2 domestic longnecks, well drinks, frozen Ritas & wine; Jockey short contest at 11pm; grab for cash at midnight.
- Mary's: \$1.75 well drinks & longnecks 7am to 9pm; \$1.50 Well vodka drinks 7am to 2pm; \$2 Cuervo.
- Midtowne Spa: 1/2 price lockers Noon to Midnight. 18-22 year olds get free locker!
- Montrose Mining Company: \$1.75 domestic longnecks; \$2.50 well drinks; \$3 any other drink in the house! Happy hour until 10pm; male dancers 9pm to 2am.
- 19th Hole: \$1.50 well 8-11pm.
- OutPost: Happy Hour 11am to 8pm.
- Pacific Street: Executive Night. No cover with your personalized business card. \$1.25 well, \$1.75 beer, \$3 call, \$3.50 premium, \$1.25 schnapps. Doors open at 9pm. No cover for Club Members in Club Colors.
- Ripcord: Happy Hour 1 to 8pm.
- Rosie & Candy's: 2020 Studewood; 863-1918; 10am to 2am.
- The New Barn: Power Hours with \$1.75 domestic beer & well 12 to 3pm; Happy Hour 3 to 8pm with \$2.25 domestic beer & \$2.75 well cocktails.
- Venture-N: \$2 well, beer, & wine noon to 7pm.

Wednesday, August 13

- BerryHill II: Happy Hour 6 until 10pm; Free Pool Tables. FACES plays at 9pm.
- Brazos River Bottom: \$1.25 well, \$1.25 regular schnapps til 9pm; \$1.75 domestic longnecks all day & nite.
- BriarPatch: Wayne & Beverly play together.
- Bricks II: Happy Hour All Day & Nite; \$1.75 well; \$1.75 Domestic Longnecks; \$1.50 shots & \$1 mug draft. Doors open at 7am!
- Chances: Power Hours with \$1.75 domestic beer & well 10am to 3pm; Happy Hour 3 to 8pm with \$2.25 domestic beer & \$2.75 well cocktails; \$2 Jose Cuervo; Sheila Lennon's Karaoke night at 9pm.
- E/J's: Happy Hour 7am to 9pm; \$1.40 well 4 to 7pm; \$1.50 Vodka 7am to 6pm. Mug club

7am to 10pm; Burger night.

- Gentry: Happy Hour 2 to 8pm: Boy Toys dance at 7pm; \$1.25 Schnapps open to close; Male Strip contest hosted by Dyan Michaels at 11pm.
- Heaven: \$1 well, \$1.75 Budweiser & 75¢ Miller on tap; DJ Michael DeGrace: Doors open 9pm.
- J.R.'s: Texas Pride Happy Hour 4 to 7pm \$2.25 well, \$1.75 domestic longnecks, \$3.50 Absolut Martinis & \$4.50 doubles; \$2 domestic longnecks, \$2.75 Bacardi Limonade, \$2.75 Desert Long Island Tea: Joe Boxer dance contest at 11pm.
- Mary's: \$1.75 well drinks & longnecks all day & nite; \$1.50 Well vodka drinks 7am to 2pm; Slop Shot Pool at 1pm hosted by Don Dowden.
- Midtowne Spa: Half-Price rooms/video rooms Noon to Midnight; Amateur Strip Contest 10pm.
- Montrose Mining Company: \$2 domestic longnecks & well drinks, \$4 doubles; Male dancers at 9pm; Happy hour until 10pm.
- 19th Hole: Happy hour prices all day & nite; \$4 domestic beer pitchers.
- OutPost: Happy Hour 11am to 8pm.
- Pacific Street: Ecstasy! Best in Dance & Videos. Doors open at 9pm.
- Ripcord: \$2 well & domestic beer all day/all night.
- Rosie & Candy's: 2020 Studewood; 863-1918; 10am to 2am.
- The New Barn: Power Hours with \$1.75 domestic beer & well 12 to 3pm; Happy Hour 3 to 8pm with \$2.25 domestic beer & \$2.75 well cocktails.
- The Palace 5351 W. Alabama @ Rice 8pm with \$1 Bar Drinks til 11. 850-7699.
- Venture-N: \$2 well, beer, & wine noon until 7pm.
- XTC: \$3 Pitchers, \$1.75 well drinks.

Thursday, August 14

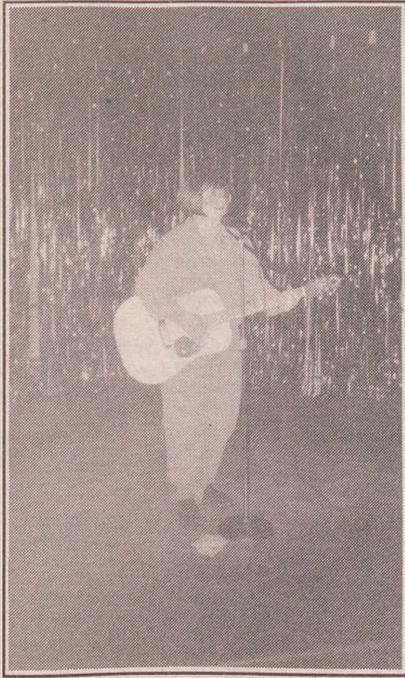
- BerryHill II: Happy Hour 6 until 10pm; Male Dancers at 10:30pm.
- Brazos River Bottom: \$1.75 domestic longnecks, \$1.75 well, \$1.25 schnapps 7am-11pm. Free dance lessons with Scott at 8:30pm.
- BriarPatch: Edith Head plays in a number of disguises.
- Bricks II: Happy Hour 7am to 9pm; \$1.75 well; \$1.75 Domestic Longnecks; \$1.50 shots & \$1 mug draft all day. Doors open at 7am!
- Chances: Power Hours with \$1.75 domestic beer & well 10am to 3pm; Happy Hour 3 to 8pm with \$2.25 domestic beer & \$2.75 well cocktails; \$2 Jose Cuervo.
- Club Houston: Half-price lockers, rooms, & video rooms noon to midnight.
- Cousin's: Show at 11pm.
- E/J's: Happy Hour 7am to 9pm; \$1.50 well 4pm to 7pm; \$1.50 vodka 7am to 6pm. Mug club 7am to 10pm; Tacos on the patio; Thursday Night Follies @ 11pm.
- Gentry: Happy Hour 2 to 8pm: Boy Toys dance at 9pm; \$3 Skyy martinis open to close.
- J.R.'s: Texas Pride Happy Hour 4 to 7pm \$2.25 well, \$1.75 domestic longnecks, \$3.50 Absolut Martinis & \$4.50 doubles; \$3.75 top shelf liquor, \$2.25 Imported, Saint Arnold & Micro brewed beer: Star Search Gold Karaoke at 9pm.
- Mary's: \$1.75 well drinks & longnecks 7am to 9pm; \$1.50 well vodka drinks 7am to 2pm; 75¢ Schnapps. Open Dart Tournament Registration at 6pm, play at 7pm.
- Midtowne Spa: 1/2 price lockers Noon to Midnight.
- Montrose Mining Company: \$2.25 domestic longnecks, well, & wine; Male dancers at 9pm; Happy hour until 10pm.
- Ms. B's: Nancy Ford 8:30 to 10pm, open mike & karaoke 10:30pm to 1am.
- 19th Hole: \$1.50 draft 8-11pm and 10¢ wings.
- OutPost: Happy Hour 11am to 8pm.
- Pacific Street: Sexx Thursdays; \$1.25 well, \$1.75 beer, \$3 call, \$3.50 premium, \$1.25 Schnapps. No cover with current gym card. No cover for Club Members in Club Colors. 9pm.
- Ripcord: Happy Hour 1 to 8pm; StarTrek on the big screen at 8 & 9pm; Classic Rock night.
- Rosie & Candy's: 2020 Studewood; 863-1918; 10am to 2am.
- 611 Hyde Park Pub: \$1 Burger Night 6-9pm.
- The New Barn: Power Hours with \$1.75 domestic beer & well 12 to 3pm; Happy Hour 3 to 8pm with \$2.25 domestic beer & \$2.75 well cocktails.
- Venture-N: \$2 well, beer, & wine noon until 7pm.

Important Stuff

Howard Alexander, the Black Redneck is taking the stage of Gentry on Aug. 17 @ 10:00 pm. I hear this guy is a real hoot!

Did you know if you want a cold one, catch up with friends and surf the Net you can do this all at Mary's, naturally!

There will be a show at Chances on Aug.



Talent Night at EJ's.

22, the "Double Nickel", featuring an all female (yes, real) show to benefit the Loving Arms Foundation.

The contest to end all contest! This Sunday night @ 8:30 pm, Dana and Faye host the "Miss Willow Meadows Pageant" with a line up of beauties that goes all the way out the door! The girls are also hosting a BBQ @ 7 pm with all you can chow down, plus fixing's galore!

Here is a blast from the past! Were you a "Taggott?" Did you hang at the Venture-N on Friday nights upstairs talking to the people face to face that you talked to on the BBSes? (I still have my "Real Girl" Taggott t-shirt!) Well, JR Ewing is trying to get a Taggott reunion together for the later part of June. If you would like more info, call 713-526-2126



Outgoing MSL Board.

The Houston Lesbian and Gay Community Center is a non-profit organization dedicated to serving the needs of Houston's lesbian, gay, bisexual, and transgendered communities. If you would like more info or care to donate, call 713-867-7904 or e-mail hlccc@hotmail.com.

Milestones

Happy belated birthday to Dave, the owner of Bricks II, Daddy Dan, and Stan



A gaggle of men at the Venture-N.



Vernon receives Jerry Award from MSL.

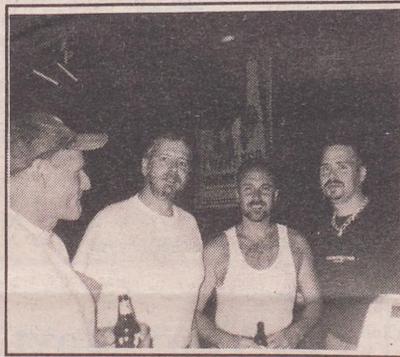
(Bootblack of the Venture-N).

Happy birthdays to LaMarr and Nancy (Bite Me) Ford.

Happy anniversary to Don and John!

Stupid Stuff

Remember last week's story about "Mad Max" and the ATM machine? Well, Mad Max came to visit me at the Voice office this past week! I did not know the real identity of this person. You see, his side of the story is different that what I had heard. Go figure! I only print gossip, lies, and trash. The truth is left to the real journalist of the Houston Voice!



Handsome men.

Rodent Droppings

I have found a great way to "torture" Rascal. Blow up a balloon, just a little bit bigger than the opening on his "Ferret Trail" tubes. She has learned to chomp down on the little part of the balloon that is left at the knot. She backs up into his tube and the balloon won't fit! The balloon goes flying. This is good for tons of laughter! She just keeps trying, over and over. After about ten or so tries, she gives up and runs to bite my toes! What is a mom to do?

The usual disclaimer is in force!

Terry (hangs at PS): So your "boyfriend" doesn't know how to drive out of an impound lot!

Arman (Wolf Pack): "All I tasted that weekend was Skin So Soft and Off!"

Barbara and Kimberly (hangs at Chances): So you are both going fishing? Barbara goes after the "big" fish and



Go see Lane at Gentry.

Kimberly goes after the "little" ones!

Windy Chicago (hangs at Mary's): Are you really going "butch?"

Jody (PS): Why is your voice so horse??

Donald (Wolf Pack): Have you brushed your teeth with "Old Spice" lately?

Ronnie (hangs at the Ripcord): Since when are new white leather shorts to be used as a swimsuit? I hope you did not hurt yourself while falling into the pool!



Party Pals!

Pearl (hangs at the Outpost): And I quote: "I'm going to Southern Decadence to **** some major ****s".

Monty: I understand that you can't hang with the big boys. You seem to have forgotten doing shots with Jeff after he got off work. Your were sore the next day and can't remember why!

Tom (BricksII): How was your \$5 beer?

Twister (BRB): Heavy kissing doesn't mean a yeast infection upon your lips!

Henry (Montrose Inn): And I quote: "I can take an 8 1/2" by 14".

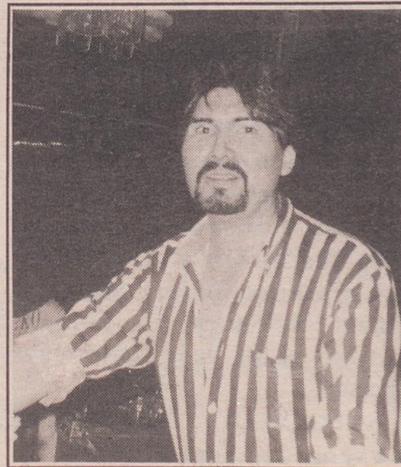
Jan (hangs at the BRB): What or who did it take to "shoot your wad?" And what is the official depth for a carpet burn? Going for a Guinness record?



Come meet me at Gentry.

Larry (hangs everywhere): I hear someone is jealous you are having too much fun!

Ricky (hangs everywhere): Why have you been singing "If I Had a Hammer?"



I serve em up at EJ's.

Thumper (Venture-N): I have a message from CoCo for you! "What and where is for you to find out! By the way, one condom is



Meet me at Rich's.

not enough to last a night with me!"

Vera (BRB): The boy from Brenham looks just like Spanky! How's Alfalfa?

Charlotta (BriarPatch): I hear you went home to Michigan for your All Girls High School class reunion!

Cody (BRB): Who was that sexy bartender you met last Monday on a bar run?

Clint, Mudbug, Kent, Issy, and Joe C. (BriarPatch): Did you guys really go all the way to California to ride a roller coaster? Astroworld is much closer!

Steve (BRB): What does "Hickory Dickory Dock" really mean? Details please!

Victor (CreADtive): I know who you have a crush on! Should I tell?

Scooter (New Barn): On his new sofa? I hope you did not stain it!

Ova Ewe: Are you the new show director of the Texas Cowgurlz?

Paula (hangs at the Venture-N): Honey, I was so sorry to hear about your awful car crash. Did it ruin your latest face-lift?

Daddy Dan: And I quote: "I don't even



Oh Baby!

judge a book by its cover price!"

Thomas (Carter & Cooley): And I quote: "I don't have a stud up by butt, just on my butt!"

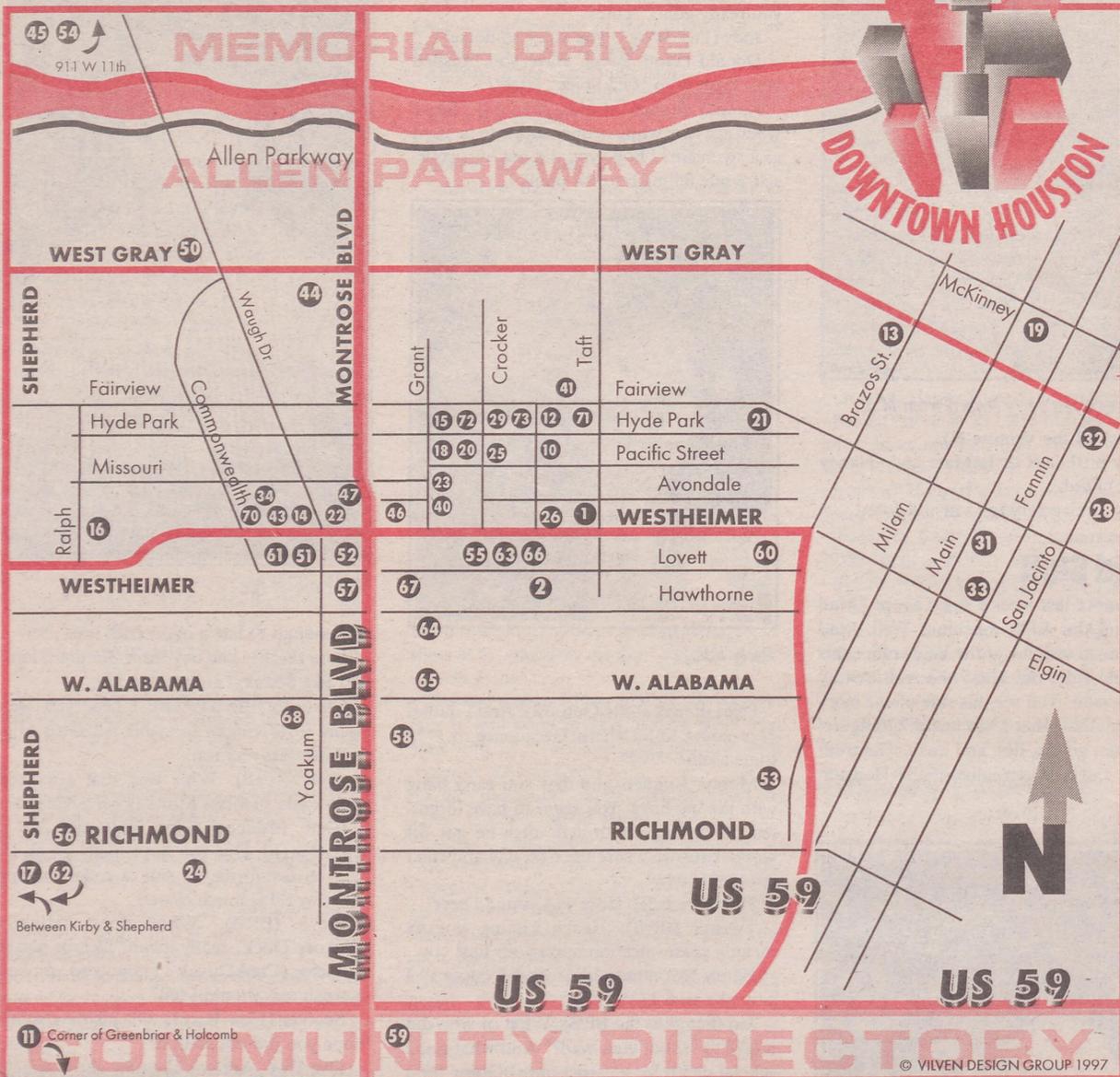
Mike Scott (Mr. Sexy Voice): I hear you got "some" in April and are out looking for more!

d'Artagnon: I am glad to hear you finally got some!

CoCo: If you don't want your "real" name in the paper, Dennis, honey, don't forget your credit card on the counter of the Leather Shop.

Have a great week!

Cuenvolyn



ACCOMMODATIONS

- | | | | |
|---|----------------|-----------------|--------------|
| 1 | Montrose Inn | 408 Avondale | 713/520-0206 |
| 2 | The Lovett Inn | 501 Lovett Blvd | 713/522-5224 |

BARS & CLUBS

- | | | | |
|----|---------------------|------------------|--------------|
| 10 | 611 Hyde Park | 611 Hyde Park | 713/526-7070 |
| 11 | The Briar Patch | 2294 Holcombe | 713/665-9678 |
| 12 | Bricks II | 617 Fairview | 713/528-8102 |
| 13 | Brazos River Bottom | 2400 Brazos | 713/528-9192 |
| 14 | Chances | 1100 Westheimer | 713/523-7217 |
| 15 | Cousins | 817 Fairview | 713/528-9204 |
| 16 | EJs | 2517 Ralph | 713/527-9071 |
| 17 | Gentry | 2303 Richmond | 713/520-1861 |
| 18 | Heaven | 812 Pacific | 713/521-9123 |
| 19 | Incognito | 2524 McKinney | 713/237-9431 |
| 20 | JR's | 808 Pacific | 713/521-2519 |
| 21 | Lazy J | 312 Tuam | 713/529-9343 |
| 22 | Mary's | 1022 Westheimer | 713/527-9669 |
| 23 | Montrose Mining Co. | 805 Pacific | 713/529-7488 |
| 24 | Outpost | 1419 Richmond | 713/520-8446 |
| 25 | Pacific Street | 710 Pacific | 713/523-0213 |
| 26 | QT's | 534 Westheimer | 713/529-8813 |
| 28 | Rich's | 2401 San Jacinto | 713/759-9606 |
| 29 | Ripcord | 715 Fairview | 713/521-2792 |
| 31 | Venture N | 2923 Main | 713/522-0000 |
| 32 | The Club Houston | 2205 Fannin | 713/659-4998 |
| 33 | Midtowne Spa | 3100 Fannin | 713/522-2379 |
| 34 | The New Barn | 1100 Westheimer | 713/521-9533 |

RESTAURANTS

- | | | | |
|----|---------------------------|-------------------|--------------|
| 40 | Baba Yega | 2607 Grant | 713/522-0042 |
| 41 | Barnaby's Cafe | 604 Fairview | 713/522-0106 |
| 43 | Charlie's Coffee Shop | 1100 Westheimer | 713/522-3332 |
| 44 | Christy Donuts | 1103 W Gray | 713/524-4005 |
| 45 | Java Java Cafe | 911 W 11th | 713/862-2683 |
| 46 | Ming's Cafe | 2703 Montrose | 713/529-7888 |
| 47 | Riva's Italian Restaurant | 1117 Missouri St. | 713/529-3450 |

BUSINESSES & SERVICES

- | | | | |
|----|----------------------------|-----------------|--------------|
| 50 | Cineplex-Odeon | 1450 W Gray | 713/524-8781 |
| 51 | Crossroads Market | 1111 Westheimer | 713/942-0147 |
| 52 | Eckerd Drugs | 1007 Westheimer | 713/524-9229 |
| 53 | Fitness Exchange | 4040 Milam | 713/524-9932 |
| 54 | Heights Above Florist | 911 W 11th | 713/862-2683 |
| 55 | Houston Voice | 811 Westheimer | 713/529-8490 |
| 56 | Inklings Bookstore | 1846 Richmond | 713/521-3369 |
| 57 | Kroger Grocery | 3300 Montrose | 713/526-7865 |
| 58 | Lobo Books & Video | 3939-S Montrose | 713/522-5156 |
| 59 | Main St. Theatre | 4617 Montrose | 713/524-6706 |
| 60 | Montrose Clinic | 215 Westheimer | 713/520-2000 |
| 61 | Four Star Hair Productions | 1201 Westheimer | 713/524-7785 |
| 62 | CreADive Unlimited | 2219 Richmond | 713/526-5190 |
| 63 | Preferred Graphics | 811 Westheimer | 713/528-7654 |
| 64 | Vilven Design Group | 807 Hawthorne | 713/526-3212 |
| 65 | House of Coleman | 901 W Alabama | 713/523-2521 |
| 66 | Synchronized Chiropractic | 811 Westheimer | 713/521-7741 |
| 67 | Walgreens | 3317 Montrose | 713/520-8000 |
| 68 | KAD Computer, Inc. | 1437 W. Alabama | 713/522-7813 |

CLOTHING SHOPS

- | | | | |
|----|------------------|-----------------|--------------|
| 70 | Basic Brothers | 1232 Westheimer | 713/522-1626 |
| 71 | Jewel's Boutique | 2404 Taft | 713/523-3557 |
| 72 | Leather By Boots | 807 Fairview | 713/526-2668 |
| 73 | Leather Forever | 711 Fairview | 713/526-6940 |

ANNOUNCING

Last Call

The Montrose Inn's 2nd Annual

San Francisco Folsom Street Fair

Vacation

Sept. 25-29, 1997

8 SEATS LEFT (out of 52) — \$291 EACH
INCLUDES:

- Non-Stop Round Trip Air Fare on Continental
- Airport/City Transportations
- Taxes
- Welcoming Cocktail Party
- "MUNI" pass for unlimited subway, streetcar, cable car & bus rides Fri.-Sat.-Sun.
- Discount coupon package to assorted S.F. clubs, restaurants & shops.

The price does NOT include the hotel, of course. But we can help you find a hotel room in your price range. But hurry! The Folsom Street Fair is S.F.'s 2nd biggest gay event of the year (after Gay Pride weekend).

Leaving Montrose 10am Thursday, Sept. 25
Returning to Montrose 6pm Monday, Sept. 29
Our group is the largest group out of Houston going. (And the one with the best price.) 52 people!

Call Henry, (713) 520-0206, to reserve your seat
WE ACCEPT ALL MAJOR CREDIT CARDS, CHECKS AND CASH

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. 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 \$39 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.

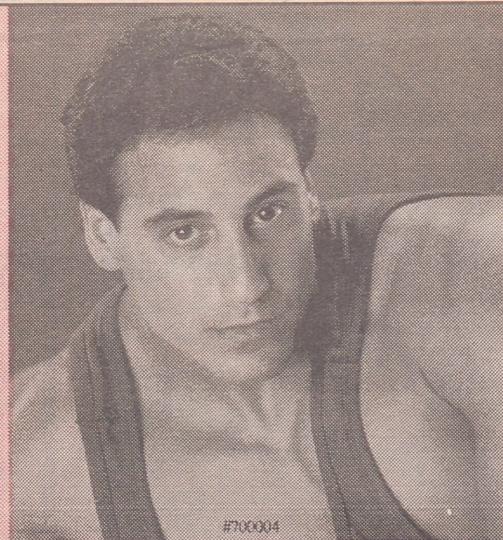
Motel: Maid knocking 8 a.m., you moan but she's coming in anyway. Checkout 11 a.m.

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!

HOUSTON VOICE PERSONALS



GIVE US FEEDBACK!

We'd like to hear from you with comments, personal testimonials. How are the personals working for you? Any true testimonials will be printed right here! Write to: BureauCom Corporation
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Longview, WA 98632

Women SEEKING Women

SF 31, 5', 110 lbs., brown hair, blue eyes, athletic. Seeking females who are interested in sports, swimming and non-smoker, light drinker. Call Ext. 5556

SWF 22, 5'7", 125 lbs. Interested in spending time with a cute single White or Hispanic male, who doesn't mind me working in a sexually oriented business. Should enjoy nature & intellectually stimulating conversations. Call Ext. 5559

SF 27, Professional, adventurer. I enjoy the outdoors and just about anything with a good company. Seeking a positive friend to enjoy life. I'm down-to-earth. Call Ext. 5556

SF 5'9", brown eyes. I'm down-to-earth, easy going & a great sense of humor. Looking for friendship first & possibly a relationship down the road. Call Ext. 5560

SBF Gay, sincere, love God. Interested in meeting other gay Black females for friendship & possibly more. Should enjoy life and have the same qualities. Leave a message. Call Ext. 5536

SBF 36, very attractive, professional, I love life and god. I'm fun loving and intelligent. Interested in meeting other Black females for friendship and passably more. Call Ext. 5535

SF Tired of being alone. I'll be your special friend, if you think your woman enough for me call me & I'll give you what you need. Call Ext. 5529

SF blue eyes. I love life and females. I have 42 years of life experience. I'm intelligent, professional and articulate. I have a quick mind. Do I sound like the type of person you would like to meet? Call me. Call Ext. 5526

SF 31, 5', brown hair, 115 lbs. I enjoy sports, outdoors and having fun. Looking for a friendship with a female between 28-35 with similar interests. Call Ext. 5525

Seeking a White female between 35-45 to have a relationship with. I'd like to have an involvement with someone right away. I don't have a car. I'm very interested in having a lover. Call Ext. 5498

SWF 45, nice person. Seeking a single female who is honest, sincere and willing to treat me like a lady. Call Ext. 5517

SBF 5'7", 162 lbs., big breast. Looking for a female with similar qualities for a night of fun. Call Ext. 5105

SHF 5'2", bisexual. Looking for a bi woman. White or Hispanic. Give me a call if you are interested. Call Ext. 5476

Men SEEKING Men

SWM Gray and brown hair, 6'1", 150 lbs. I'm in good shape & average-sized. In search of Black, Hispanic or Native American male who is dominant. I can be versatile. Call Ext. 5340

SM 5'10", 175 lbs. Looking for a tall male who is a top. I'm financially stable. I like going out and having fun. Call Ext. 5563

SHM 43, HIV positive, healthy, attractive. Seeking a male race is not important. Call Ext. 5562

SHM 35, HIV+, 5'11", 195 lbs., black hair, brown eyes. Looking for a down-to-earth, good-looking, muscular, straight-acting gay White male who is also HIV+ & 35-40. He should be 5'9"-6' and height/weight proportionate. Looking for a non-smoker & someone who doesn't mind being a bottom. Looking for friendship & possibly more. Call Ext. 5345

SM Responding to ad #5417, you are a bottom and non-drinker. I'm very much interested in you. Please call again and leave me your phone number. Call Ext. 5557

SWM HIV+, 190 lbs., 6'2", healthy. I would like to meet another White male who is also HIV+ and good-looking. I'm financially secure and looking for the same. Seeking someone to join life with me. Call Ext. 5464

SWM HIV positive seeking the same. I'm good looking and very healthy. Would like to meet a single White male HIV+, who is willing to share life with me and live it to the fullest. Must be honest, sincere, considerate and deserving person. Call Ext. 5554

GWM Brown hair, blue eyes, 5'8", 140 lbs. Loving and caring relationship oriented. I enjoy outdoor activities, tennis and traveling. Seeking GM 35-50 for friendship and possibly more. Must be healthy and responsible. Call Ext. 5553

SM 42, good looking, little bit of money. Looking for a couple of young guys, maybe one live in to have a good time. Call Ext. 5551

SWM 61, caring, assertive 5'10", 175 lbs. I'm a non-smoker, non-drinker, non-drug user & HIV negative. I'm a hot top seeking a submissive bottom, any age, any race & 5'10" or shorter. Must be a non-smoker, non-drug user & HIV negative. Call Ext. 5550

GWM 38, 5'8", 170 lbs., brown hair & hazel eyes. Masculine, nice body. Seeking males 35-45, HIV positive, who are fun, good-looking and enjoy being on the top. If it is you please give me a call. Call Ext. 5522

GWM 38, 5'8", 170 lbs., non-drinker, non-drug user. I'm handsome, husky, masculine, smooth, physic & professional. I like cars, cooking, computers & going outside up in the mountains. Looking for a male 35-45, with a similar description, body & facial hair would be a plus. Call Ext. 5539

GWM HIV positive, attractive, financially independent. I love doing mostly anything, especially visiting my friends around the world. Looking for a special person who is integrity, fun loving & I can share the rest of my life with. Call Ext. 5538

SWM 6'1", 155 lbs., bi sexual. Looking for bi sexual or gay men, race is not important. Should be in good physical shape. HIV negative. Call Ext. 5528

SWM 36, HIV positive, 6'3", 190 lbs. Interested in meeting other good looking guys who are more than just looks, to do the town, dinner and outdoor activities. Call Ext. 5534

SBM 32, I like dancing, having a great time, dining out. Seeking Hispanic male 25-35. Should be seeking the same, mature attitudes only and looking for a long term relationship. Call Ext. 5530

SM Handsome, 32, muscular, 170 lbs., 5'8", intelligent and mature. Seeking males between 32-48, who is handsome. If you are interested leave me a message. Call Ext. 5524

SM 6', 195 lbs., brown hair, blue eyes. Looking for dominant top. Call Ext. 5523

SM Professional. Working on getting in better shape. Looking for a tennis player who can be out there with me. Call Ext. 5521

SHM 22, Looking for someone to talk and go out with. I like going to the movies and having a good time. I prefer a Hispanic or White male. Willing to go all the way. Call Ext. 5519

SWM 33, 5'8", brown hair and hazel eyes. Looking for someone honest, sincere and likes the outdoors. Call Ext. 5516

SM 35, 5'6", very muscular. I like movies, dancing, dinners and spending time together. Seeking friends between 30-50 who are very hairy. Call Ext. 5515

SM 5'6", 26, blonde hair, blue eyes. Looking for a male between 20-40 who likes to travel and drive around. Call Ext. 5104

SWM Mid-40's. Looking for an affectionate guy in his 30's. If this is you, please give me a call. Call Ext. 5482

SM 5'10", 180 lbs., in really good muscular shape. Looking for a work-out partner who wrestles on a somewhat regular basis & doesn't mind a good work out. Size doesn't matter. Call Ext. 5514

SM 35, 5'6", 145 lbs., brown hair & eyes, mustache, attractive, mid-western transplant. I'm a medical professional. I'm HIV positive but in the best physical condition I've ever been. Seeking friends & possibly more, 30-50, weight proportionate to height. Long lost hopeless romantic. Call Ext. 5513

WM Very healthy, financially secure. Looking for a good-looking single White male. Seeking someone honest, sincere & financially secure who is willing to share our lives together. Call Ext. 5509

SM Responsible Oriental male, aggressive, demanding. Seeking a male for a friendship or possibly more. Should be healthy and very clean. Call Ext. 5502

SHM 5'7", 32. If you are looking for a serious relationship, lets talk. Give me a call. Call Ext. 5497

GWM 47, 6'1", 220 lbs., brown hair, green eyes, professional. I love to dance & being affectionate. I love holding, cuddling & kissing. Looking for shorter men with similar characteristics, primarily for friendship and whatever else may or may not develop. Sincerity is a must. Call Ext. 5350

SM 42, 5'5", 180 lbs. Seeking a White or Hispanic traveling companion for a trip to Niagara Falls. Should be easygoing & humorous. I would like to meet someone who enjoys sightseeing. Call Ext. 5495

SWM 42, brown hair, brown eyes, 5'6". I'm a little overweight, but everyone says I'm cute & cuddly. I'm looking for someone as a lifetime partner and I have been having a hard time meeting people. Looking for someone younger, good-looking & in shape. Call Ext. 5496

SM Smooth, tan bottom boy seeks tall, aggressive top man. Call me. Call Ext. 5123

SHM Very sexy, Latin, 20's, 150 lbs., HIV+. Looking for a top man who is mature & a little on the chunky side. Looking for a serious relationship. Let's go out sometime. Call Ext. 5459

SM 40, 5'7", 220 lbs. I'm a very outgoing person seeking a young man who is 18-40. I'm very versatile & a cross dresser. Call Ext. 5485

SM 42, 5'11", 185 lbs., salt 'n pepper hair, green eyes. Seeking someone older. I like guys around my height, on the heavy side. Looking for masculine men. No femmes please. Call Ext. 5487

SWM 35, 5'9", height/weight proportionate, large endowment. Looking for an oral expert. Call and tell me why you are the expert. Let's see if we can make each other happy. Call Ext. 5488

SHM 35, 5'11", dark hair, dark eyes, 195 lbs. I work out regularly and I'm considered attractive. Looking to meet someone. Give me a call. Call Ext. 5491

SM 23, Jewish, 5'11", 145 lbs., attractive. I'm in search of another Jewish male, 22 or older, who has a good head on his shoulders. Must be able to speak the English language properly. If this sounds like you and you are looking for a friend or relationship, please leave a message. Call Ext. 5229

SM 35, 5'10", 175 lbs., handsome, black hair & eyes. I'm hairy, masculine & muscular. I'm a bottom who can be versatile. Looking for a 25-50-year-old White, Hispanic or Black top man. Give me a call. Call Ext. 5481

SM 41, 6'2", strawberry-blonde hair, hazel eyes. I would like to meet a man for a long-term relationship. If you are interested, give me a call. Call Ext. 5480

SM Very young, 40, 5'11", 160 lbs., good shape, green eyes, blonde hair. Seeking someone younger who enjoys fun & can keep up with me. Age is just a number to me. I'm a hopeless romantic who enjoys nice things. Call Ext. 5478

SWM HIV-, 40's, tall, slender, in good shape. I'm funny, sexy & hairy. Looking for versatile men, 5'10"-6'2", who are 135-170 lbs. Should be 25-35. Looking for a man who wants to bring out the top in me. I have been a bit shy about it, but not any longer. Call Ext. 5366

SWM 6', 190 lbs., early 40's, HIV+, I'm handsome, fit & athletic. I have brown hair & eyes. I'm a definite top and considered masculine & stable. I'm self-employed and I stay busy. I enjoy the outdoors, traveling, sports & taking things one step at a time. Call Ext. 5466

SM 27, 5'7", 155 lbs., medium-built. I recently moved here from the East Coast. Looking to meet some nice guys for friends and hopefully more. I'm kind of preppy with short hair, a mustache and a goatee. Call Ext. 5465

SWM 46, tall, slim, blonde hair, blue eyes. I'm a closet, party boy sissy interested in seeing men with their hair in rollers, perm sets or all stages of getting their hair done. I would really like to have a feminine male hair dresser as a very close friend. Call Ext. 5468

SM Looking for a young male, 18-25, who wants to be a top. Must have at least 8". Looking for a master who will make me do what he wants. Call Ext. 5456

SWM 47, 6', dark blonde hair. I'm not a top or a bottom. Just myself looking for someone 35-50 to become that special person. I love gardening, garage sales and doing special things with that special person. Call Ext. 5455

SWM I'm waiting for you. I'm a masculine professional in my 40's. I'm muscular, 5'8" & 160 lbs., with brown hair & blue eyes. Seeking a Latin man to date & hopefully it will develop into a long-term relationship. Friends call me honest, sensitive, faithful and a good catch. Call Ext. 5454

SM Dominant, mature top Greek male. Non-smoker & disease-free. I'm 5'9" & 175 lbs. Seeks submissive bottom man, 5'10" or shorter. Must be a non-smoker, drug-free & disease-free. We will have fun together. Call Ext. 5460

SM 42, 6', 190 lbs., brown hair, brown eyes. I'm very handsome & masculine. Looking to share my life with a cute, relationship-oriented guy, 30-40, who enjoys romance, cuddling, dinners out & quiet evenings at home. Call Ext. 5461

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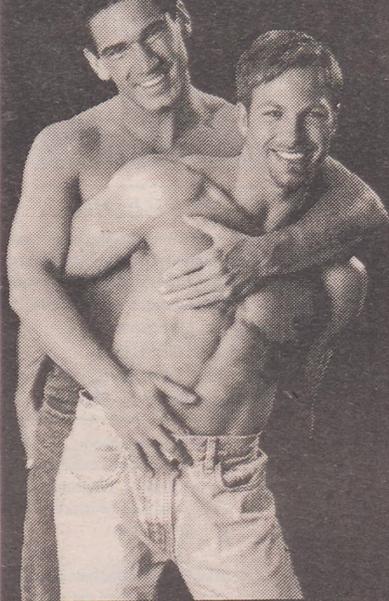
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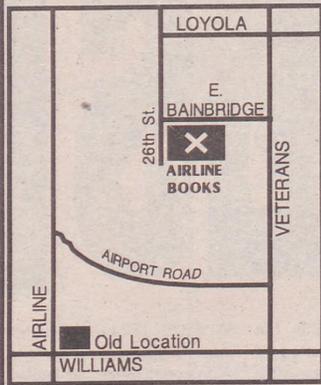


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(713) 526-8300

but you can get prevention.

Education is the first step to preventing the spread of HIV, the virus that causes AIDS. With just one phone call you can have the American Red Cross teach you and your fellow workers how to avoid infection.

To schedule an HIV/AIDS education session for your workplace, or to obtain posters, brochures and other materials, call your Greater Houston Area Red Cross.

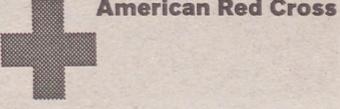
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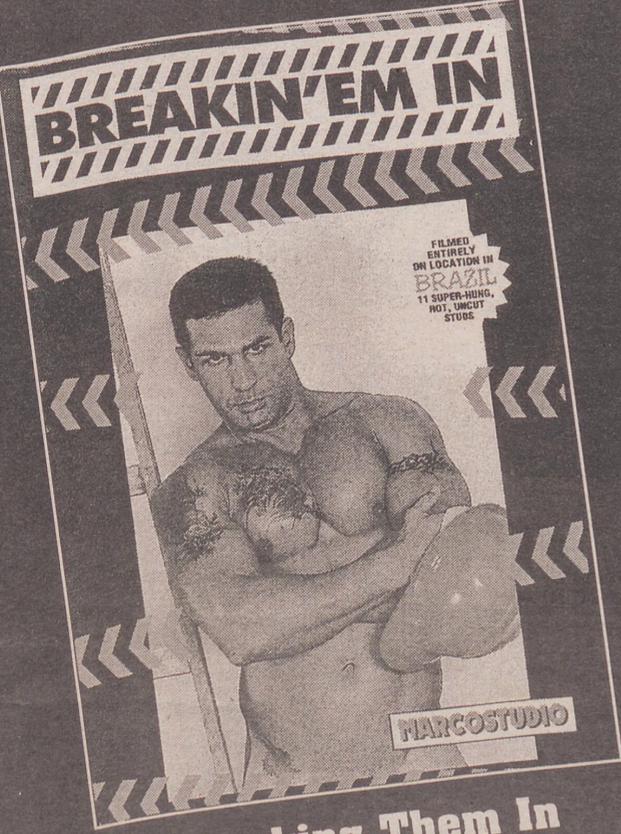
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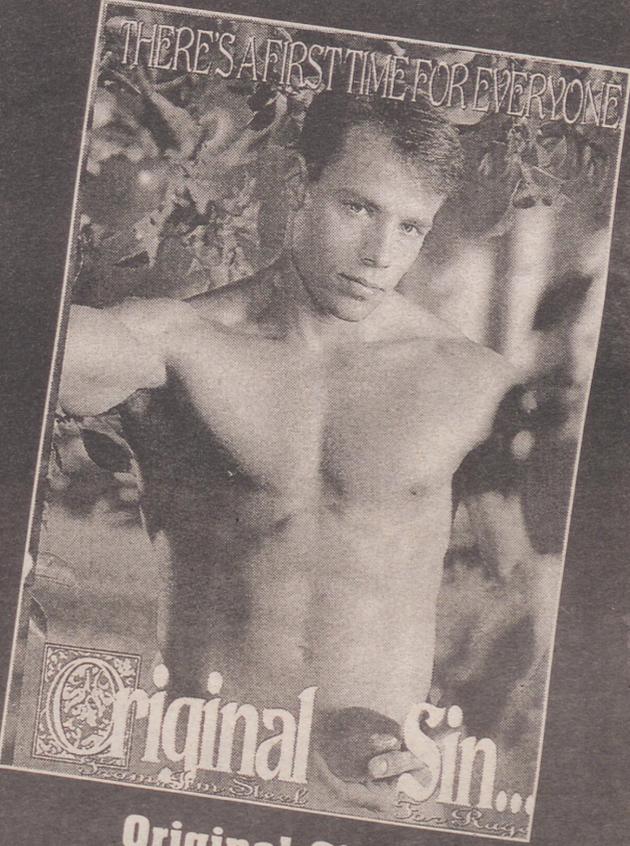
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