

AUGUST 30, 1996 • ISSUE 827



Lady Bunny

World o' Drag

By Deborah Bell

Labor Day weekend is noted as a time of that one last summer splash, cookouts, picnics, and parties, and what may be the most renowned event of the Holiday weekend, **Wigstock**. A group of drag queens took over the crumbling concrete band shell in New York's Tompkins Square Park in late August of 1984 for two days of performance before a ragtag assemblage, the annual event has grown into one of New York's most intensely anticipated, highly attended and, well-covered annual events.

Along with **Wigstock**, the premier of the movie **Stonewall** and two new books has brought the matter of "Drag" into current consciousness as never before. **Stonewall** of course, is described as a love story that is set against the backdrop of that famous event of 1969 when the modern day gay and lesbian civil rights movement was born. The drag queen performers and customers of the bars on Christopher Street were part of what happened that night.

The **Drag Queens of New York: An Illustrated Field Guide** by Julian Fleisher

(Continued on page 7)

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Gay and Lesbian Caucus Impacts Democratic Convention

By Dennis Hatch

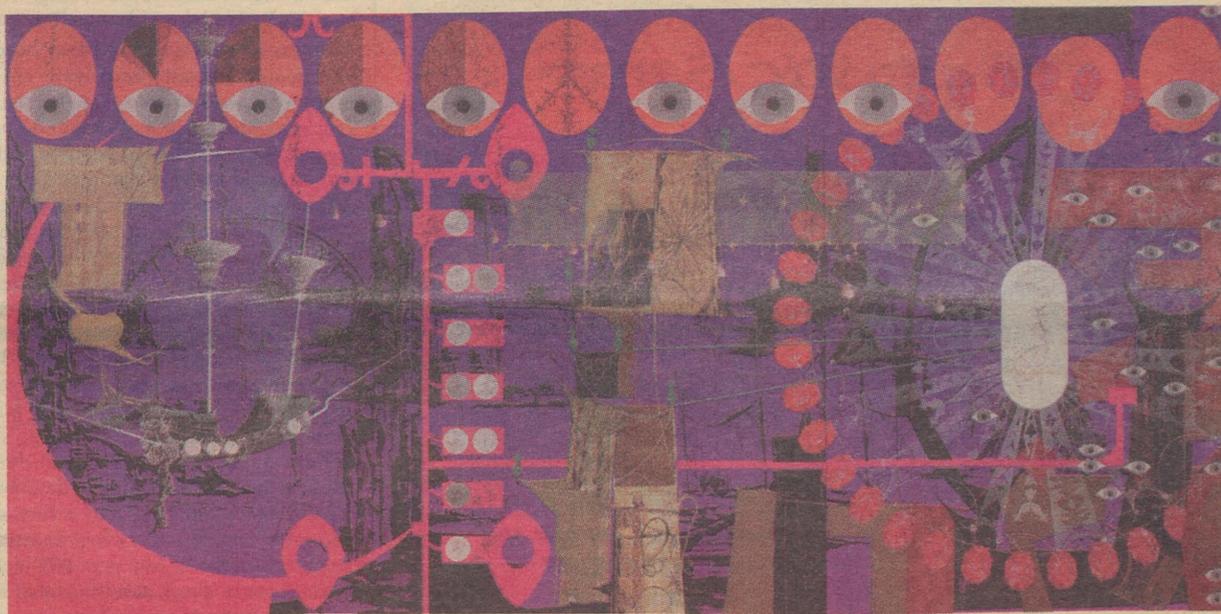
One hundred fifty openly Lesbian and Gay delegates descended into the Windy City in the past few days, greeted by a sea of Red, White, Blue, and Pink. They came to celebrate party that is generally united--in spite of differences over issues like DOMA (the Defense of Marriage Act) and welfare reform--and is almost gleeful with the prospect of the re-election of President Bill Clinton and Vice President Al Gore. The Gay and Lesbian delegation is, by far, the

largest ever for any major party convention (a 34% increase over 1992 for the Democrats), and their influence is evident everywhere in the United Center (the convention headquarters) and throughout the city of Chicago. The Texas delegation is the second largest (second only to California), and 9 of the 19 Texas delegates are from Houston. Awaiting the delegates are a swirl of receptions, parties, and caucuses, all designed to give the Clinton/Gore ticket a rousing send-off to the fall election.

Tuesday's Gay and Lesbian Caucus was

highlighted by the appearance of Tipper Gore, wife of Vice President Al Gore. Introduced by Congressman Barney Frank of Massachusetts, Mrs. Gore began her remarks by recognizing over a dozen people with whom she personally has worked. She went on to inform the Caucus that President Clinton has made over 100 Gay/Lesbian appointments in the Executive Branch. Mrs. Gore emphasized that the President had made history, in his abolishing any restrictions on security clearances for Gays

(Continued on page 18)



Where the Soul Intact Will Shed its Scabs (8424 AD - 1987-88, acrylic on panel, 96 x 192")
by Lari Pittman at the Contemporary Arts Museum

Anti-Gay Cross Burning

From LGRL Release

On Monday, August 27 at 3am, the Schemmel family awoke to the burning of a 6-foot cross on their front lawn. Accompanying the burning cross was a hand-written note which read "faggot" and "DOA". The family is unaware of the reason they were targeted for this type of hate-related violence. The Ft. Worth police are investigating the cross-burning as an anti-gay hate crime.

"The symbol of cross-burning should cause alarm for all people who stand against hate-related violence in our state. Although we would like to slam the door shut on the days of the KKK and the Aryan Nation, unfortunately their horrible legacy continues to haunt and terrorize us," stated Dianne Hardy-Garcia, Executive director of the Lesbian/Gay Rights Lobby of Texas (LGRL).

"This anti-gay cross burning is a clear indication that we must continue our work to end hate crimes. Texas needs strong, clear and enforceable hate crime laws which will serve as real deterrents. We must continue to take a united stand against this violence."

According to the Texas Department of Public Safety in Texas, "over 60% of reported hate crimes are committed on the basis of race. For the last two years nearly 16% of hate crimes have been anti-gay in nature," explained Hardy-Garcia. "Many hate crimes continue to go unreported and therefore unrecorded due to a reluctance on the part of victims to report hate crimes and a lack of training for law enforcement officials. Ft. Worth is an exception however. The Ft. Worth Police Department continues to have a stellar reputation for handling and reporting hate crimes," she concluded.

Voice to Sponsor Pittman at CAM

Publications are often asked to sponsor certain events in the community or to provide free advertising for non-profits groups of various sorts. In order to support the various causes that request our assistance The Houston Voice has started a policy of limiting this type of support to three organizations per every three months. Since we are supported only through advertising sales, we can not offer the amount of support we would like to, so this is our way of covering as many requests as we can. Our current projects include The Names Project; Gay, Lesbian and Straight Teachers Network (GLSTN) "Back to School" Program, and the showing of the work of artist Lari Pittman starting September 21 at the Contemporary Arts Museum.

Lari Pittman is a Los Angeles-based painter whose work pulses with exuberant energy, rich color and dynamic lines. Blurring the distinction between abstraction and figuration and between decoration and fine art, Pittman's monumental tableaux often address political, sexual and identity issues in America. This mid-career survey brings together for the first time twenty-five paintings, including a 26 ft. long painting **Like You**, his largest and most ambitious work to date. With their baroquely decorated surfaces, cartoon-like pictures and vocabulary of images rooted in popular culture yet personalized in meaning, his paintings have evolved as a spiritual odyssey and a running commentary on his own life and on American society at large. The exhibition is accompanied by a 88-page catalogue containing color reproductions.

The Voice has been running articles and supporting the efforts of the Names Project as it prepares for the national Display in Washington in October. At the close of that event, the Voice will start with October which is Breast Cancer Awareness Month to run articles and PSAs concerning that issue. The Houston Voice feels it provides a vital service to the community in its sponsorships.

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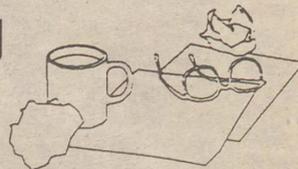
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In My Own Voice

by Deborah Bell



Confessions Of A Drag Queen Wannabe

I am terribly jealous of Vanna White. She gets to wear fabulous clothes and gets paid tons of money. And so little is required of her but to smile, clap, and turn letters on "Wheel of Fortune." Wow, what a great gig! Well, since that job is already taken, perhaps I had to have other aspirations. I have you know, it is true, wished that I could be a drag queen.

Some people who know me probably will find this shocking, because they have heard me rant and rave about the inherently sexist and misogynist thing drag is. That it is often true, where a man dressed as a woman exaggerates in dress and mannerisms qualities are less than flattering to the female gender. But my thoughts on this subject have changed over the years for a number of reasons. Mostly through seeing professionals who give their interpretations style, grace, and dignity and who are truly talented either as singers or dancers in their own right, thus being able to bring that element to the performance. Two people that bring this to mind are RuPaul and Houston's own Dyan Michaels. Michaels dances as well as Paula Abdul and does a Reba McEntire that could make the star think she has an identical twin sister.

Performers who do drag often do celebrity impersonations, usually in an effort to honor a woman who is a star that they respect. Most often portrayed include legends such as Marilyn Monroe and Judy Garland and currently popular stars Bette Midler, Barbra Streisand, Tina Turner, Liza Minnelli and Cher. Many drag queens have preferred to create their own persona or character. As Julian Fleisher explains in *The Drag Queens of New York*, "To the extent that these women are already avatars of beauty, heaping bowls full of glamour and fame, for a drag queen to impersonate them would be, very simply, redundant." Others who do drag, usually are not doing it as professional performers. It is done as what might be described as a hobby. These folks fall into a very special category, because they are donning the gowns and make-up and even five inch high heels to raise funds for charitable organizations. Lady Victoria Lust, one of the most glamorous of the Houston drag queens, and one of the most generous, devotes hours to arranging shows and events that raise funds for people living with AIDS. Also known as Marvin Davis, in character as Lady Victoria, is a totally different look and personality than his "normal" everyday self.

Drag also appears in the form of pageants,

conducted like a Miss America style contest. Thus, the "dragsters" really can be a "queen," as in beauty queen. Rather ironically, the annual Miss Camp America Show (the name says it all) is a spoof of the real Miss America Pageant. This annual charity fundraiser takes place the same night as the actual Miss America contest and is one of the best done shows you will ever see and one of the most enjoyable (see ad on page 5). Another reason I have a different view of drag is due to finding out about its history and connection to the Gay and Lesbian community. Judy Grahn's *Another Mother Tongue, Gay Words, Gay Worlds* explains it this way: Drag as a Gay term means cross-dressing, whether by a man or by a woman, and in tribal/pagan realms cross-dressing often meant entering a magical state involving taking on the persona or spirit of a god-being for ceremonial purposes. In these festivals women might dress in animal skins disguised as stags, calves, or goat, in other words "leather" (honoring the animal food source). Likewise, men might dress in the robes and rainments of "goddesses." These festival participants would be pulled through the village in processions in small carts called "drags." Grahn describes a picture she once saw of a sculpture of Dike, a rain-maiden of Greece being pulled in a cart.

While I may always be put off by men who call each other names such as "bitch" or "Mary" or refer to themselves as "girls," and certainly when they act in negative, cat-fighting stereotypes, my view of drag has changed over the years. I have to once again confess to my envy. Why? Because drag queens get to dress in fabulous clothes, smile and perform and get money for it. They don't even have to turn letters. And because if I could do anything at all as a living, to have a dream come true, it would be to be able to go on stage and sing. There is one small problem. I can't. Sing that is. So for a while I thought maybe I could do a Victor/Victoria type thing where I would be a woman, pretending to be a man, pretending to be a woman. Since drag queens mostly lipsync and I am a reasonably good dancer, I thought maybe I could pull it off. I noticed that many of the queens are of generous proportions, and since I am of the voluptuous body type, I just might be able to pull it off. Unfortunately, most drag shows take place in bars and since I'm deathly allergic to tobacco smoke, and you can forget the high heels, so my career was nixed before it could even begin.

Oh, well, maybe it is just an attempt to get in touch with my inner femme.

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A view from the top

DENNIS HATCH

Bruce Lehman, the highest ranking openly gay official in the Clinton Administration, is the Assistant Secretary of Commerce and Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks. In exclusive comments to The Houston Voice, Lehman explained what it means to him and the lesbian/gay community for an openly gay official to hold such a high ranking office. "It's a place at the table," explained Lehman. "Bill Clinton pledged that his administration would be a reflection of America, and that includes lesbian and gay Americans, as well." A further reflection of the President's commitment to equality for gay and lesbian America is the fact that "he has, by executive order, banned discrimination against Gays and Lesbians in all hiring and employment practices," explained Lehman. As an assistant secretary, Lehman is responsible for ensuring that all 5,500 employees in his agency have undergone extensive diversity training, and that they reflect America, too. The diversity training that Lehman developed for the Patent and Trademark Commission has been adopted by most Cabinet level agencies.

Lehman also explained that his agency, hardly one of the more glamorous agencies in public policy, has responsibility over the patenting of new researches and discoveries in the fight against AIDS and HIV. Lehman has been instrumental in expediting the patent on AIDS and HIV-related issues due to the life



Bruce Lehman (left) greets Jim Owens, alternate delegate at the Gay & Lesbian Brunch sponsored by the Democratic National Committee

and death nature of their need. The Commission of Patents and Trademarks has gone on-line on the Internet for such HIV-related patents, the first area of patents and trademarks to go on-line. "Having a gay man in my position has undoubtedly made the agency more sensitive to the need to get such new discoveries rushed to the market," Lehman added.

Lehman ended the interview by exhorting the gay and lesbian community to vigorously support President Clinton's re-election. "Bill Clinton is fundamentally committed to equality for Gays and Lesbians and a government that includes a place of leadership for our community. While there are issues of disagreement in the President's handling of some issues, he has done more for our community than any President has in the history of our Republic, and that will continue to be so in the next four years."

Dennis Hatch is on special assignment at the Democratic National Convention. Next week he will have a post convention report.

Senate to debate DOMA Sept.5

The Employment Non-Discrimination Act, (ENDA), as an amendment to the Defense of Marriage Act, (DOMA), will be debated in the U.S. Senate Sept. 5, marking the first time gay-rights have been openly debated on the floor of the Senate.

According to an agreement reached before Congress recessed for the month of August, DOMA will come to the Senate floor at 10am with debate scheduled for two hours. During that time, Sens. Edward M. Kennedy, D-Mass, Joseph Lieberman, D-Conn., and James Jeffords, R-Vt., will introduce ENDA as an amendment. The amendment would outlaw job discrimination based on sexual orientation.

This strategy has benefited the community by forcing a debate on employment discrimination against gay people," said Daniel Zingale, HRC political director. "Nonetheless, the Human Rights Campaign continues to vigor-

ously oppose the DOMA."

Supporters of DOMA will also have an opportunity to offer amendments to the bill. "We expect any amendments from our opponents to be as noxious as the overall bill," Zingale said. All amendments must be submitted to the Senate leadership by close of business Sept. 3. The anti-marriage bill passed the House July 12 by a vote of 342-67. No amendments were attached to the bill in the House.

The Human Rights Campaign is encouraging readers to urge their U.S. senators to support ENDA (S.932) as an amendment to DOMA (S.1740) and to oppose DOMA itself. Senators can be called through the Capitol Switchboard at 202-224-3121; written by sending a letter to The Honorable (Name), U.S. Senate, Washington, DC 20510; or sent an electronic message through HRC's Action Center on the WWW at <http://www.hrcusa.org>.

Gay Beat Icon Herbert Huncke Dies

Herbert Huncke, credited as the source of the term "Beat Generation," inspiration to generations of writers and artists, openly and flamboyantly out long before it was 'fashionable,' ex-hustler, ex-drug addict, died August 15 in New York City. An inspiration to William S. Burroughs (Huncke provided his first fix), an acknowledged influence on Jack Kerouac, a guide to the likes of Alan Ginsberg and John Clellon Holmes, and an influence on sex-researcher Alfred Kinsey. Huncke has credit for a long list of never very financially successful books and his

acknowledged lack of talent for regular work. (Rumor has it that Jerry Garcia of the Grateful Dead 'helped' with his rent.)

Huncke, (name rhymes with junkie), was the inspiration (sometimes with the actual use of his name) for characters in literary works that have become classics. His notorious drug use, frequent stealing and occasional prostitution were captured in his 1992 statement, "I always followed the road of least resistance. I just continued to do what I wanted. I didn't weigh or balance things. I started out this way, and I never really changed."

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They can't return,
They can only look
Behind from when they
came

And go round and round and round
In the circle game.

**RUBEN (BEN)
AGUILAR**

Born: March 8, 1951
Died: August 28, 1991



Ben, all of your friends
love and miss you very
much. There isn't a day
that passes, that one of us speaks of you.
We know you hear us and speak to us in
your own special way. At times we wish
you were here, but we know you are truly
free and would not take you away from
that FREEDOM.

I am free in Christ. Because I am free in
Christ, I am truly free. I am free from the
past, I am free from resentments. I am
free from fear. Through the Christ spirit
within me, I am free from negative
thoughts, feelings, and emotions.

I am free to face this day with an uplifted
heart, an open mind, and a bold spirit. I
am free to grow and unfold as the Christ
reveals the way and the timing to me.

I am free in Christ. I am not bound by
what others think I should be or do. I am
not bound by circumstances, time or
space. I am free in Christ to live, and I
accept the freedom to live fully and
completely.

I am free! I rise to higher realms of
thinking. I am uplifted to new levels of
prayer. I move forward to even greater
success and fulfillment.

I am alive and free in Christ.

We all love you Ben,

J.R., Mary and Friends



**TRIXIE LARUE,
GONE**

It was 1970 when I
happened into a show bar
in Indianapolis, Indiana.
Just a kid in college out
looking for a weekend
adventure. Alone in the city without a
friend. That was the night I met Trixie
LaRue. A bigger than life showgirl.

Thus began my friendship with the lady.

After leaving college I went on with my
life, parting company with her for many
years. Trixie on the other hand went on to

perform in many states including Alaska.
I moved to Houston 23 years ago and
found myself alone again. When, like a
beacon in the night, who should appear
to help me get my bearings again, but
Trixie LaRue.

Most people know little of Trixie's
background, including myself. I only
know that she seemed to live through
other peoples experiences. I know that
everything she said was not true to life,
but it was true to her life. We all take bits
and pieces of those who touch our lives
and try to apply those best qualities to
our own. Like an old sea captain spinning
tales of different lands, she could draw
us to her side for hours.

She never turned away a soul in need.
She was always willing to add more
water to the soup, so another could eat.
She didn't hesitate, when she could, to
take someone from the streets into her
home and with whatever means she had
to feed and shelter them from life's
storms. And many times was taken
advantage of because of this. But this
was Trixie.

As a member of the Royal, Sovereign
and Imperial Court of the Single Star, she
hosted shows to raise money for many
worthwhile causes in this community.
She held the title of Spiritual Advisor to
the Court. She had been a past
candidate for Empress. When her health
permitted, she never turned down an
opportunity to help anywhere it was
needed. She even helped to start a
Church here in Houston. However, of the
many wonderful things that she did with
her life, one of the best things she ever
did for me, was to introduce me to my
lifemate, Guy Cowden.

I only wish that during her hour of need,
she could have received the love and
care that she had so often given and
richly deserved.

On August 25th, alone, the lady was
finally rewarded and made her transition
into what we pray is a much better life.
Her suffering is over.

She touched many lives and left her
mark on many of us. The lights of the
Court will burn a little dimmer in her
absence. Her legacy is not one of wealth
and material gain, but of love and
friendship. You'll always be royalty in my
eyes. We will miss you.

Til' we meet again,

Skip Willet



MATTHEW R. VIDAL
Born: October 26, 1965
Died: August 21, 1996

Every yesterday with my
gift of inner sight, I look
upon things of yesterday.

Faeries, nymphs, and
unicorns are never very far away.
Mermaids sit and comb their golden
tresses in crystal blue lagoons.

Dragons capture sweet damsels in
distress, and witches still fly on
brooms. Fawns chase nymphs from glen
to glen, reveling in their way. With my
inner sight, I still look back, from every
yesterday (Matthew R. Vidal, Published in
"Dusting off Dreams," Vol 7, 1994).

Just before dawn that Wednesday in
Houston, suddenly a severe allergic
reaction to an antibiotic took the sweetist,
creative, talented most generous friend
God gave us. Hundreds of you are
wearing his handmade "Miss Woodstock
Original" necklaces and other trinkets. He
never took money, these were gifts, all he
wanted was a smile. Survived by a huge
loving family and tons of friends, his ever-
present laughter and humor is comforting
us as his ashes are returned to his
birthplace and favorite spot in Falmouth,
Massachusetts.

We will always miss you. Thanks for
everything.

RUNNING DEER SASQUITCH

Born: May 4, 1931
Died: August 25, 1996

Retired, U.S. Army Captain, is survived
by his mother Little Dove and his father
Crazy Horse Sasquitch, his life-mate
Charles Running Deer and his daughter
Little Fawn Sasquitch.

His only philosophy was "We pass
through life in many episodes, and each
one is an opportunity to learn."

In Loving Memory of Little Bear
Sasquitch, (Joshua Lynn), born May 4,
1952, who served in the 5th Special
Forces of the U.S. Marine Corps, in Viet
Nam from September 1970 until
September 1976.

He is survived by his life-mate Leon Jay
Lightfoot; twin sister Jerrie Lynne (Little
Fawn) Sasquitch; grandfather, Crazy
Horse Sasquitch; grandmother, Little
Dove Sasquitch.

A memorial service was held for Running
Deer and Little Bear at the Veteran's
Memorial Cemetery, Monday, August 26
at 5 pm.

Panel recommends benefits for partners of Gay workers

DENVER (AP)—The panel that sets
wages, benefits and work rules for Den-
ver city employees says insurance cov-
erage should be extended to employees'
homosexual partners. The Career
Service Authority Wednesday voted
5-0 to include gay partners and their
children in the recommended bene-
fits package for 1997. Heterosexual
couples who live together, however,
would not be included. The city council is
expected to vote on the benefits pack-
age in coming weeks. Gay-rights advo-
cates see the panel's recommendation
as a groundbreaking victory for equal
treatment of homosexuals in Colo-
rado.

"It's part of a growing trend to equalize
the workplace for Gays and Lesbians,"

said Mary Celeste, a lesbian attorney.
But opponents attacked the decision as
an example of the "special rights" they
have warned that homosexuals would
seek. Winning the benefits for gay cou-
ples was a goal set by advocates after the
U.S. Supreme Court in May struck down
Colorado's Amendment 2, approved by
voters but never carried out because of
legal challenges. The measure would
have prohibited any laws banning dis-
crimination against Gays. Will Per-
kins is chairperson of Colorado for
Family Values, which sponsored
Amendment 2. "We should be doing eve-
rything we can to encourage stable, tra-
ditional marital relations. I think it's a
travesty," Perkins said of the Denver
panel's action.

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528-SAFE

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Family Values

by Esperanza Lavender Jazz Paz



"... Calls not accepted or returned after 10pm or ever on Tuesday evenings."

Outgoing messages on our phone answering machine vary day-by-day. Reminders to grown children who call asking when they can come visit (anytime, but don't call so late you wake us up!), changes in schedules for friends we try to coordinate events with, "alerts" left to each other by which ever one will be delayed getting home from work to remind the first home-comer what to start for supper. Or suggesting where we'd like to order in from. Our messages are acutely applicable. Only the last phrase never changes.

One of our kids believes his father routinely rings up to "spy" on our broadcasts and "uses the information against us." There is a rumor that strangers call and listen, living vicariously through our exchanges. While we do broadcast some uncommon details, most of it is intended-audience-specific. ("You have reached ... If you are calling about the saxophone, please leave a message. If this is Sharon, got your message, don't let her get you down. Kick her out! If this is Mom, it's not that Sharon." Recently, it's been the loving voice of motherly authority: "If this is Jose, marry her! She can become a citizen!" We know that message has not reached the son it was directed to yet, but his brother made us delete the part that said, "You've

never dated such a captivating, smart, thoroughly lucid woman!" (There is a rumor that the stranger who calls to listen is this son's ex.)

It's not that we don't answer our phone. We do. When we're home. But with exhilarating careers, (I'm "in business"; Jan sells rocks,) glittering social obligations (like picking up a tin of cookies at Kroger's on the way to a potluck civic association meeting to discuss the deleterious effects that the tortilla factory on the corner—that was there before any of the civic-minded homeowners were—is having on our "property values"—like we live in R.O!) and with kids who might better accept free advice about love life from a recorder than a real mother, the machine satisfies an urgency.

We need it. We love it. We want you to call it. But not after 10pm. Or ever on Tuesday evening.

Tuesday's our Date Night. The one evening we honor sacrosanct. Just the two of us. Alone. Quiet and amorous. Recently we've felt so romantic that we're planning a wedding.

For Jose.

We hope he says "Yes."

Call Jazz at 713-868-5153, extension *2, and leave lots of unsolicited compliments, invitations and praise on her answering machine. If her wife, Jan, answers, hang up!

National Women's Vote Day

DEBORAH BELL

The Women's Vote Project is a nonpartisan voter outreach coalition of a record 110 Women's organizations. In an effort to target Women's Voters through sophisticated voter outreach, grassroots activities, and public education, the group will take part in voter registration, education and get out the vote activities through Election Day on Nov. 5. The goal is to make the women's vote the deciding vote from local to national elections in 1996 and in every year thereafter.

On Saturday, Sept. 7 organizations will have individual events to raise funds and awareness. They are focusing on women because after 76 years of having the vote (August 26 was the anniversary of the right for women to vote being recognized by Congress), voting is not yet a habit for women.

"As a non-partisan effort, the groups efforts will ultimately benefit whichever candidate or party most effectively addresses women's concerns,"



Houston Area NOW celebrated "Women's Equality Day" August 26 at Toohee's Coffees. Bruce Marquis, Democratic candidate for Harris County Sheriff visited with the group

says the group's Houston Director, Sueann Lorig. She further explained that women are so disaffected by and unhappy with the current Congress, the group plans to let women know they have more control in their lives by voting and if they are unhappy they can effect change by voting. Lorig emphasized that, "Women candidates must address women's issues just as men candidates must. Women do not vote a ticket just because there is a woman on it."

To get involved in the Houston coalition of the Women's Vote Project '96 call the YWCA at 868-9922.

Houston Voice Help Wanted

Advertising Professional with proven record of success wanted to carve out new territory in Greater Houston Market for weekly Gay publication. Commission basis. Must be aggressive and have a positive attitude. Call Deborah Bell at 529-8490.

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GLAADlines

Windy City Suburb Blows Off Antigay Hate Crime

As Chicago authorities spit-polish the city for the Democratic National Convention, officials in a northern suburb have swept a gritty hate crime under the rug. Two Fox Lake teenagers were recently charged with criminal damage to property, criminal trespass and violation of curfew for a series of acts of harassment and intimidation culminating in the August 18 smearing of human excrement on the door of a gay male couple's home. The couple, Mark Manczko and his partner, feel they are being forced to move and many are questioning why police did not immediately pursue hate-crime charges against the 14-year-old suspects. After pressure from gay rights activists, the state attorney's office asked that police investigate further to determine whether enough evidence existed to prosecute under the hate-crime statute. For more information contact Rick Garcia, Executive Director of the Illinois Federation for Human Rights at (312) 477-7173.

Marriage Miscarriage In Mississippi

Lesbian and gay rights activists are outraged by Mississippi Governor Kirk Fordice's executive order, issued on August 22, which bans same-sex marriages in the state. Gov. Fordice claimed the purpose of the order was to strengthen the state's existing sodomy law while preventing county clerks from issuing marriage licenses to lesbians and gay men and recognizing such unions from other states. Mississippi is the first state in the nation to try to bar same-sex marriage by executive order. According to David Ingebretsen, the Executive Director of the Mississippi chapter of the American Civil Liberties Union (ACLU), the state's constitution makes it clear that it is the legislature, not the governor, who defines the duties and authorities of county clerks, and accused the governor of pandering to the religious right. Such a measure died in committee during the last session of the state's legislature. For more information contact Alan Klein, GLAAD's Communication Director, at (212) 807-1700, ext. 11 or e-mail at klein@glaad.org.

Cincinnati Trial Settled

Follow up: Cincinnati gay bookstore The Pink Pyramid was recently put on trial on obscenity charges for renting world-renowned filmmaker Pier Paolo Pasolini's critically acclaimed *Salò: 120 Days of Sodom*. Citing heavy legal costs and time, defendants in the case pleaded to a lesser charge of attempted pandering of obscenity and a \$500 fine. By doing so, The Pink Pyramid can continue to rent and sell the film and will have all criminal charges dropped against its employees. Leanne Katz, Executive Director of the National Coalition Against Censorship (NCAC) called the move, "an imperfect victory, but a victory nonetheless." For more information contact Leanne Katz (NCAC) at (212) 807-6222 or e-mail at ncac@netcom.com.

VISIT THE GLAAD WEB SITE AT <http://www.glaad.org/>

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HOUSTON

Houston (713) 528-9192

Sunday, September 1st, 8pm
Jamie Roberts, candidate for Miss TGRA '97 presents
Working Man Blues
benefiting AVES

Monday, September 2, 3-6pm
BRB's Labor Day Buffet

Saturday, September 21, 3-6 pm
Houston Gay BBS Get Together

Sunday, September 22
Shelby St. John presents
"Hands Across the State"

Hope everyone has a safe & happy Labor Day Weekend

Come On Down & Party with Vera May
"If You Dare" Tuesday-Friday, 7-Noon then
Stay with the rest of the gang

Drag continued...

(Continued from page 1)

takes a look and offers interesting insights to the world of drag. Fun and readable, the book examines the lives of some of the most well known drag queens in their natural habitat. Much of it is tongue in cheek, but most of it is truly a guide for the lay person to be introduced to what "drag" is all about. The book essentially has three parts. The first part is the history and examination, including definitions which helps one to understand these exotic creatures. A group interview runs along the bottom of the pages in this first half and is somewhat distracting. I found myself reading both parts at the same time, so had to force myself to just read the first section and then the interview. The other part of the book profiles individual queens in two to three pages each. Lady Bunny as the sole proprietress of the enormously successful **Wigstock**, is described as the most powerful drag queen in New York. Also featured in the book, from the clowns to the most glamorous are Flloyd, Hapi Phace, Chicklet, Hedda Lettuce, Miss Understood, Lypsinka, The Misstress Formika, Linda Simpson, and Joey Arias. The latter, it is noted, is known for her sultry evocations of Billie Holiday.

The book offers explanations and many intriguing ideas, some which were very surprising to this reader, but it has no apologies. One thing I did not expect from this book was feminist theory discussions, yet it was there along with all the camp. As writer Fleisher states, "The silliest of pranksters turn out to be a keen observer and refined thinker." The reader is warned to be prepared for either eventuality.

The success of several drag performers has also opened drag to the more mainstream world. Harvey Fierstein and Charles Busch, are among the "Gay" identified drag performers, who usually do their drag in acting roles.

RuPaul has of course, given new dimensions to the meaning of drag queen. The movies, **Priscilla, Queen of the Desert** and **To Wong Foo**, also introduced drag to the general population as never before. The days of men dressing up in women's clothing, such as Milton Berle, Flip Wilson, Dustin Hoffman and Robin Williams--clearly show these performers as being far beneath the status of "queen".

Another book, called **Drag Dolls** is now available. This is a book of "eight cut-out drag queens and their fabulous, over the top ensembles." The photographs and illustrations by David Croland gives all of us a chance to bring some glamour into our lives. Each queen comes with her own collection of garments, makeup, shoes, and more. Lady Bunny, Joey Arias, Hedda Lettuce and Raven-O are among the queens featured. A former paper doll player and sometime fashion designer myself, I think this book provides a delightful opportunity to play. The dolls could have been done on stiffer paper stock (instructions advise you to affix the dolls to lightweight cardboard) and the cartoonish style works OK for the garments, but I would have liked more realistic looking "dolls." This book is from Giftworks Chronicle Books through Roundtable Press.

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Church Calendar of Events

Friday-8/30

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

* Catholic Mass at 10:00 am at and Musicals Friday Nite at 7 pm at Kolbe Project 522-8182

Saturday-8/31

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

Sunday-9/1

* 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 am & 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 Church worship service at 11:00 am & 7:00 pm 1ST SERVICE IN NEW

LOCATION, 4305 LILLIAN 880-9235

* Houston Mission Church worship service at 10:30 am 529-8225

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

* Ecumenical Catholic Church Mass at 10:15 am 526-8095

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

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

Monday-9/2

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

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

Tuesday-9/3

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

* PROTECT meets at Bering Church. 520-7870.

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

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

Wednesday 9/4

* MCCR Bible Study 7:30 pm 861-9149

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

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

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

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

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

Thursday-9/5

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

* Community Gospel Church worship service 7:30 pm 880-9325

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

* Bible Study at MCCR. 7:30 pm. 861-9149.

* Pot Luck dinner at the Kolbe Project. 7:00 pm. 522-8182.

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

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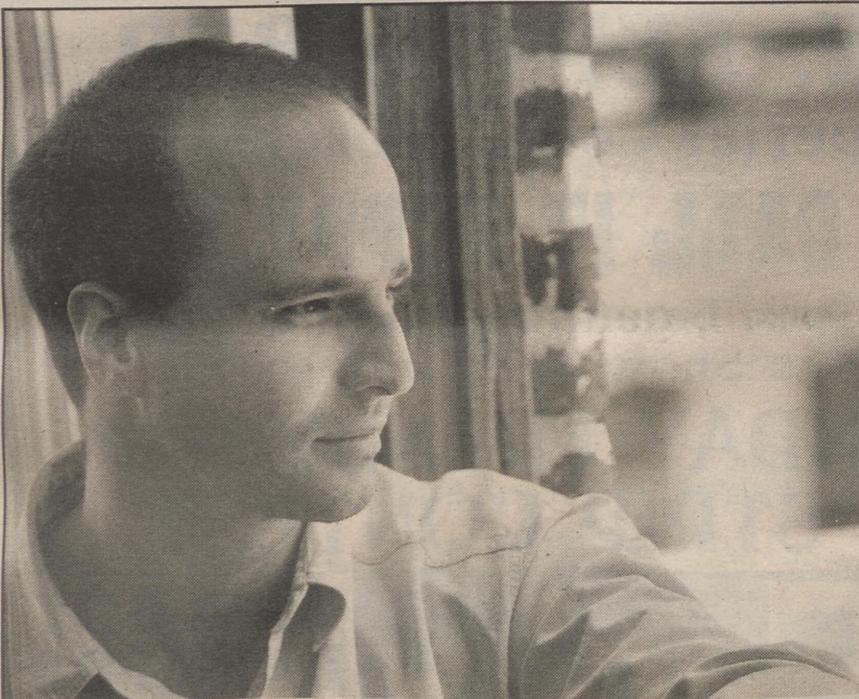
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Gay Today
by Glen Webber

Stress Relief

Thank you for your many inquiries on my health. The last three weeks I have felt great. I don't know what it is, it could be the new medicine I'm on. But whatever it is, I'm grateful for it. I can't tell you how good it feels to wake up every morning and be ready to start my day. I'm actually getting out of the apartment every day for a while to do things. I feel like I am accomplishing things and that is giving me confidence. I have also decided to go to the gym. The City of Houston's Multi-Purpose Service Center on West Gray has a very nice gym. It is time to do something, I figured. Of course, no heavy lifting, but I do stretching exercises. That will get me ready to do weights. Working out will take away a lot of my stress. I tend to stress myself out over everything, and that is something I need to learn to control.

One thing that has caught my attention lately is the news about Protease Inhibitors. If you are not familiar with them, they are drugs that are designed to stop the growth of the HIV virus in the body. In studies being done across America, men have shown remarkable growth in their T-cell count. They report feeling better and having more energy. Stopping the growth of the virus is a great idea. While it is not a cure, it gives new hope to people like myself. With my T-cells under 100, any-

thing to raise them would be great. Of course, for every person who does well on the drug, you can find one who does poorly. Not all inhibitors are alike. There are three different types. Two can be purchased through prescriptions, and one must be purchased through the manufacturer in Pennsylvania. And keep in mind, the cost of these wonder drugs is very expensive. You might spend \$400 a month on the pills.

Is it worth it? For me it is, if I can use my insurance. Otherwise, I can't afford \$400 a month, so my only choice would be not to use these drugs. I hope that doesn't happen.

The research material on Protease Inhibitors is very technical. I apologize for not being able to give you more information on them. Most doctors feel these pills are the best hope for persons with AIDS. The two main concerns about them are the resistance to the virus and failure of long-term success. Many of those in the test studies find their T-cells reverting back to the level they were at the start of the studies.

But I'm sure these are temporary problems. As time goes on, there will be ways of dealing with these problems. I am willing to take any risk necessary if they will help me. Like all of you, I want to get better.

Glen Webber is a person living with AIDS and working to improve his life everyday.

Bayou City Boys Club Raises \$22,000



Member hosts of the Bayou City Boys Club collect their thoughts outside the Garden in the Heights party location prior to the Hurricane '96 party

Party Hardy, Give Generously

The Houston Community has weathered another turbulent event, as Hurricane Dolly threatened Texas and the Gulf of Mexico, the Bayou City Boys Club (BCBC) Hurricane '96 came ashore in Houston Saturday August 24 at the Garden in the Heights.

A benefit fundraiser for the American Red Cross HIV/AIDS Education Project, Omega House and The Assistance Fund, this torrential extravaganza produced cataclysmic donations in excess of

\$22,000.

More than 950 braved the elements to help the temperature rise! In the eye of the storm, direct from Los Angeles, was DJ Mike Mitchell. Also assisting the BCBC in the disaster relief was Bud Light, After Shock and WET.

On behalf of the beneficiaries of Hurricane '96, BCBC would like to thank all those who made this party possible, including Houstonians and all of their out-of-town friends for making this event so successful.

If you would like to make sure you are on the BCBC mailing list, please call 520-5253.

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

THE OUTsider

by Curt Morrison

United We Stand?

It is commonplace to receive resistance from individuals whose beliefs contradict yours entirely. Suffice it to say that being a gay Republican does not bode well with all Republicans, especially the religious right faction, nor does it bode well with many in our community. Unfortunately, gay Republicans receive just as much resistance and ridicule from their own community as they do from their adversaries.

Contrary to popular opinion, it is not a contradiction in terms to be Gay and conservative. The notion that all homosexuals are liberal is an axiom whose origins derive from society's desire to categorize all individuals into a class. It is a nebulous concept, which fosters an inaccurate perception of a group as individuals who are unable to think for themselves. The net effect of such categorization is that it can have serious consequences, if not redressed.

Similarly, the generalization of assuming that all Republicans are right wing radicals and all Democrats are left wing fanatics is equally ludicrous. These elements are fringe groups who happen to be the most organized, outspoken and well-financed, hence their prominence within their respective party apparatus and the public sector. Most people do not fit into either category. They are called moderates or centrists. Unfortunately, they do not get as involved in the grassroots of politics because they are not as passionate about their politics as their extremist counterparts.

The truth of the matter is that the majority of minorities in America do not belong to the organizations which purport to represent them. Does this mean that they do not care about their heritage or issues that have a direct bearing on their day to day lives? Of course not. It simply means that they do not agree with all of the political positions that these organizations espouse.

It is not anti-gay to have conservative views and all conservatives do not hate homosexuals. Granted most Lesbians and Gays identify themselves as Democrats, but the fact of the matter is that there are also many in our community who want major government reform. They want less taxation. They want less government regulation. They support capital punishment. They believe in individual responsibility. They want welfare and medicare reform. These issues have nothing to do with one's sexual proclivities and therefore should not be coalesced with the likes.

Like it or not, the pendulum of public opinion has been tilting towards conservatism for several years now and does not appear to be reverting back to liberalism. If that were the case, President Clinton would not be campaigning on conservative themes in order to win elections. The public is fed up with crime, high taxes, government interference, rampant rises in drug usage (78% during the last four years according to a government report released this week) and a legal system that favors criminals rights over those of the victims. We, as a community, are part of that American public and it is incumbent upon us to make sure that we address all issues.

It is imperative for our community to have a voice that resonates across the political spectrum, Democrat and Republican. Our minority status is based upon the premise that we all share the same sexual orientation. We should insist that both parties address our civil liberties and quest for equality. That is currently being accomplished by Gays and Lesbians in both major parties, and

in several of the smaller, some newly formed parties. Our sexual orientation should not automatically transcend us into other issues that place us into a specific political affiliation unless we concur with the organizations entire dictum.

The Democratic party has traditionally supported gay rights and the Republican party for the most part has ignored the subject (with the exception of the right wing fanatics, whose views most registered Republicans do not agree with). This should not be construed as a means for only aligning ourselves with the Democrat party. Rather, it should reinforce the following: 1) We need to make sure that the Democratic party does not take our support for granted, as has been the case recently; and 2) We need to make sure that we continue to make inroads into the Republican party to negate the propaganda that the religious right is hurling towards. Regardless of your political affiliation, the Republican party may be the majority party in future elections and it is sheer folly not to attempt to gain proper representation in one of the two major political forces of our country.

Laying all of our eggs in one basket is an ill-fated paradigm that will reign pejorative repercussions. The Democrats have had control of the Congress for the last 40 years prior to 1994. During that time what significant piece of legislation have they passed for our community? They lead us to believe that they can tell us what we want to hear and lo-and-behold they think we will be good little soldiers. Unfortunately, they are correct. What possible incentive do the Democrats have to fight for our rights when we have made it perfectly clear that we will unconditionally support them. If the Democrats put as much effort into our issues as they do those of the African-American community to retain our votes, we would have already had our equal rights. The African American community would not tolerate their neglect and the party knows it. If we truly want to gain politically, we are going to have to clearly demonstrate that our votes cannot, nor will they be, taken for granted.

If our community wants to continue with the status quo, then we are on the right course. Keep in mind, however, there is a reason we have not made as many inroads as we would like to have obtained since Stonewall. There is also a reason we do not have the influence at the polls we would like to think we have. The reason is simple. We are not united for a common cause. You cannot exclude individuals with a common ground whose views are different on other issues from participating in the process. Either we are fighting for gay and lesbian civil rights or we are fighting ideology. We need to work together to advance the former and leave the latter to other organizations.

If we want to be a powerful minority with an impact on national policy, then we need to create alliances with all the players. We already have representation in the Democratic party and it is important that we maintain that affiliation. It is equally as important that we attempt to do the same with the Republican party regardless of how difficult the task may be. Nothing worth having is easily obtained. In order to do so, we must dismantle the postulate conjecture of equating homosexuality with liberalism. This is not to say that all Gay and Lesbians should be conservative, rather, we should merely be more open and inclusive of disparity. After all, isn't that what we seek from our adversaries?

Curt Morrison is the pseudonym for an active member of the Log Cabin Republicans. Next week: Deborah Bell's "In My Own Voice" offers a counterpoint to issues raised in this column.

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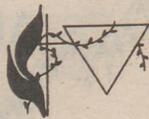
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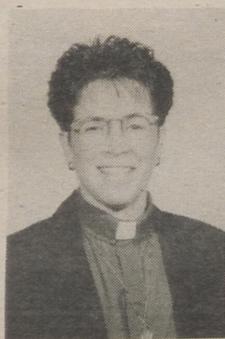
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Defining one's sexual orientation simply defines the choices for relationships that will bring you fulfillment. As a bisexual, consider yourself blessed. As you go through life, you will have the option of falling in love with a person. For you, it will not matter whether they are male or female. The movie, "Yentl" revealed that people fall in love with people, not a gender. It is difficult if you fall in love with a man a woman at the same time. This is where responsibility comes in. No matter what a person's sexual orientation, each person must guard their heart. Knowing that you have the option to fall in love with anyone leaves you in a place of great responsibility. A good recommendation would be for you to sit down and determine your value system. Determine what is most important to you. Establish priorities and decide to live by them. Be a person of integrity. Decide to love one person at a time. This will help to eliminate confusion. Learn to be focused. Confusion comes when we try to have more, enjoy more and be more than what we were created for. Take things one step at a time. Be patient with yourself. Ask God to show you how to live your life so that you can find the most fulfillment and satisfaction. I believe that you will find the peace you are looking for. God desires for you to understand who you are and how God made you. It really is possible!!

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Church Calendar on Page 7

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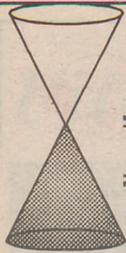
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PLAIN SPEAKING

by Larry Lingle

Repeatedly these days I come across an admonition to businesses in these competitive consumer times that "Customer Service" is the key to survival. If that is true then I have met the enemy and it is called "Customer Service."

Being one of those pre-TV, pre-baby boomers, I was raised with a newspaper in my hand every morning. These days that actually means three papers—one with breakfast, one with coffee and the last for contemplation. And, yes, each paper has its place. And recently all three have committed that unpardonable sin of failing to arrive.

Now in some cases you might suspect that someone made off with the offending newsprint. However, my yard is totally fenced—the first perimeter of self defense, followed by an alarm system supplemented with four dogs. And if you think perhaps this is overkill consider that next door to me is a "coffee shop" which is only open at night, all night, and is patronized by individuals whose seemingly mellow demeanor belies the intake of caffeine.

Naturally, with each failure of a newspaper to appear, I called "customer service" which, after satisfying a couple of recorded requests to punch something, a disinterested voice asked for my last name, to which they then responded with my address and phone number, both already well known to me. Only after this point did "customer service" ask the problem. Well, short of complaining about the previous day's editorials or the abundance of ads, I informed this disemboweled voice that I had not received my paper that morning.

I would think at this point these "customer service" folks could be programmed to say "sorry." Instead comes the mechanical assurance that a paper would be delivered between 10am and 2pm. Fine, but even I am usually at work by that time (okay, LOBO employees, so I'm fudging a bit). Now, "customer service" does usually offer to extend my credit instead of a late paper. How about both and call it "customer service."

But it's not just newspapers. Competition among long-distance providers has wrought intrusiveness. If you hold a credit card you are bound to have received a call starting off by thanking you for using (fill in the blank with your favorite card) and noting "how happy we are to offer you (fill in the blank with your least favorite long-distance carrier).

And how about these new telephone voice directories? My favorite is the company that, after offering me about umpteen choices from which I pick one, then switches me back to the beginning message. Talk about a run-around.

As long as a company's "customer service" has you isolated on the phone your response is limited. There is always the ploy of asking for a supervisor—they all

have supervisors. However, this is rarely satisfying. I recently found such a supervisor who was only slightly more informative than his underling, so I asked for his supervisor. Being my business's credit card clearing house, he actually worked for a bank (the clearing house is in Memphis, the bank in Chicago—you figure). He informed me that above him there was only the bank president. I asked for him. I'm still waiting to hear back.

I would hazard a guess that the only time that "customer service" truly works, at least with large companies, is when consumers can gang up on the big boys, like class-action suits over breast implants or tobacco related ailments.

An interesting example of consumer power occurred recently when Serono-Laboratories sought approval from the Federal Drug Administration for Serostim, a form of human-growth hormone, which curbs the wasting effect of AIDS. Serono, by the way, is but a subsidiary of Ares-Serono of Switzerland—amazing how many drug companies are European owned.

Originally Serono planned to seek the standard approval route which is more time consuming than the newer accelerated program urged for most AIDS-related drugs. So ACT UP Golden Gate—yes, Virginia, there are still activists out there—presented Serono with its "Golden Urn" award at the recent Vancouver AIDS conference. The award is a funeral urn filled with kitty litter. In any event, Serono agreed to the accelerated procedure.

Next ACT UP Golden Gate discovered that Serono's plan for treatment carried a yearly price tag of \$72,000. That for one drug among many did not make for happy campers. So ACT UP Golden Gate, led by Jeff Getty—remember the baboon marrow fame—forced Serono President, Hisham Samra, to sit down and talk turkey. Samra realized he needed ACT UP support before FDA approval (thanks to years of ACT UP activism and a Democratic appointee helming FDA) and ACT UP wanted a cap on the price. Serono got its approval and ACT UP got the price whacked in half. Now that's "customer service."

Granted, I have yet to figure out how to apply this lesson to my troubles with newspaper delivery. Perhaps I can unite other paper patrons to form an ACT UP group to passionately protest passive paper throwers. Or maybe "customer service" is as passe' as a human voice on the telephone. But behind every computer-generated message somewhere lurks a programmer. The question then becomes have you ever known a programmer with human qualities. Not.

Larry Lingle is the owner of LOBO Bookshop on Montrose Blvd. He contemplates life and forms opinions as he reads his papers, when he gets them.

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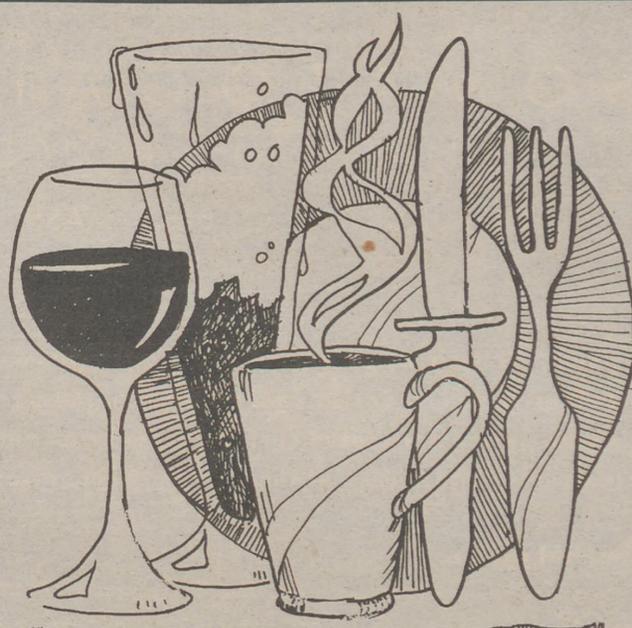
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This & That!



by Jon Anthony

Arsenio Hall returns to network television next season in a romantic comedy produced by DreamWorks that set off an intense bidding war between ABC and Fox. ABC won. The as yet untitled sitcom will star Hall as a newly wed sportscaster. **Vivica Fox** (*Independence Day*) will portray his wife and the sitcom will primarily focus on their home life. ABC has committed to a 13 episode order for the series and has agreed to cover the entire cost at a whopping \$900,000 per episode. Fox had offered an unprecedented 35 episode commitment. The show is slated as a midseason replacement.... **Barbara Walters** taped her exclusive interview with **Margot Kidder** last week for the season premiere of 20/20 slated to air Sept. 6. Kidder will discuss in detail the circumstances surrounding her disappearance last April which culminated with her being found disoriented in a yard in Glendale, CA. Things are looking up for Kidder, after taping a guest appearance on NBC's **Boston Common**, playing an eccentric drama teacher, she's been asked to be in four more episodes.... Not to be outdone, **Walter's** ABC News colleague, **Diane Sawyer** announced last week that she has also snared an exclusive interview for her series, *PrimeTime Live*, season debut. Sawyer will chat with the **Duchess of York**.... Don't fret. If you're one of the many fans of novelist/columnist **Carl Hiaasen** and you've just purchased the paperback version of his latest bestseller, *Stormy Weather*, you may have bought a copy that is missing the epilogue. Apparently the initial printing of the book omitted the epilogue due to a typesetting error. If you happened to purchase an incomplete copy, you can contact Warner Books at 800-759-0190 and they will gladly send you a complimentary copy free of charge. Incidentally, Hiaasen will visit with **Lauren Hutton** on her latenight talk show, *Lauren Hutton and...* Tuesday evening/Wednesday morning at 1am on UPN affiliate Channel 20.... Prior to superstardom.



Sandra Bullock, made a film titled *Lost Paradise* co-starring **Graig Sheffer**. Paradise marked Bullock's debut as a lead in a film role. The producer, **Roger Corman**, held back the release of the film to see how the careers of the two then-unknown actors would pan out. Needless to say with Bullock's recent successes, Corman has decided to release the film and plans to do so this year in specialized theaters as a cinema art film. Paradise, shot on location in Peru, is about the destruction of the Amazon rain forest.... **Andrew Lloyd Webber's** latest musical production will debut in the U.S. rather than Britain, as is custom with the legendary composer. *Whistle Down the Wind*, based on the 1961 British film starring **Hayley Mills** will open at the national Theater in Washington, DC, for a nine-week engagement Dec. 6. The musical makes its Broadway debut next April. Webber collaborated on the project with producer/director **Harold Prince** and lyricist **Jim Steinman**, who has penned hits for **Bonnie Tyler**, **Meat Loaf** and **Celine Dion**.... *All My Children* heartthrob **Keith Hamilton Cobb** has announced he'll be leaving the top rated ABC soap. Cobb describes his character, Noah, as being a "wallpaper, milquetoast guy with no depth," and indicated that he could no longer portray him convincingly and maintain acting credibility.... The latest television classic to receive the big-screen treatment is *Lost in Space*. New Line Cinema is developing the project based on the 1965 to 1968 CBS series about a family that was adrift in Alpha Centauri co-starring **Guy Williams** and **June Lockhart**. The film is in pre-production and is expected to have the latest in high-tech effects. No word yet on casting.... **R.E.M.** has re-signed with Warner Bros. Records for five more albums that will purportedly add \$80 million to the groups coffers. The sixth and final album under their old contract with the label, *New Adventures in Hi-Fi*, is slated for release later this year.... **Steven Bocho** has relented and succumbed to critical pressure concerning his upcoming CBS fall sitcom *Public Morals* and is toning down the language content. As we reported in TNT several months ago, the sitcom contained language that was deemed offensive and sexist.

The most randy phrase - pussyposse - which caused the most controversy was cut from the pilot episode among others because it was offensive to most women who objected to the slang reference to the female anatomy.... Pop music superstar **Sting** will be featured on *Storytellers*, VH-1's acclaimed series featuring intimate live performances. Sting's appearance on the show will air Sept. 1 at 9pm, during the networks 'Best of VH-1' Labor Day weekend. Future *Storytellers* will spotlight **Melissa Etheridge** and the **Black Crowes**.... The sixth and final installment of **Stephen King's** *The Green Mile* series titled *Coffey on the Mile* (Signet, \$3.99), has just been released and is available where books are sold, preferably at Crossroads Market or Lobo Bookstores.... **Tom Hanks** hosts and **Tom Petty** performs on the season premiere of NBC's *Saturday Night Live* Sept. 28. Hanks will plug his new film, *That Thing You Do* and Petty will sing selections from the *She's The One* film Soundtrack, his latest release. One was just released in theater's nationwide and was produced by **Robert Redford**.... **Marshall Crenshaw** (*Miracle of Science*), **Trisha Yearwood** (*Everybody Knows*) and the cast of Broadway's smash musical *Rent* (Original Cast Album featuring guest vocalist **Stevie Wonder**) released new CD's last week, currently available at most music outlets... **Christopher Darden** taped an episode of CBS' *Touched by an Angel*, marking his acting debut. Darden portrays a preacher in the episode which is tentatively set to air in October.... **Making the Rounds: La Toya Jackson** visits **Rolanda** Monday Sept. 2 at 9am on CBS affiliate Channel 11. A&E's *Biography* series profiles some of TV's funniest comedians this week: **Tim Allen**, **Jack Benny**, **Roseanne**, **Danny Thomas** and **Mary Tyler Moore**. *Biography* airs Monday through Friday at 7pm and encores at 11pm.... **John F. Kennedy Jr.** talks with **Oprah** Tuesday Sept. 3 at 4pm on



Channel 11. Bestselling author **Elmore Leonard** (*Get Shorty*) talks about his latest book on CBS' *This Morning* Sept. 4 at 8am. **Wynona** guest on *Regis & Kathie Lee* Sept. 4 at 8am on Fox affiliate Channel 26. **Whoopi Goldberg** guests on **David Letterman** Sept. 4 at 10:35pm on Channel 11 and chats with **Rosie O'Donnell** the next morning, Sept. 5 at 9am on Channel 13. **Patti LaPone** appears on O'Donnell's show Sept. 6. Author/Humorist extraordinaire **Art Buchwald** makes a rare television appearance on CNN's *Larry King Live* Sept. 6 at 8pm.... **Milestones:** Publicist **Chen Sam** died Sunday. Sam, a longtime spokeswoman and personal confidante of **Elizabeth Taylor**, died in her home after a long bout with cancer. Through the years, she had many Hollywood clients including **Joan Collins**, **Raquel Welch**, **Vendela** and **Donald Trump**. O.V. "Mooney" **Lynn** died last week due to a long battle with diabetes. Mooney was legendary country western singer **Loretta Lynn's** husband. The Oscar-winning film, *Coal Miner's Daughter*, starring **Sissy Spacek** as Loretta and **Tommy Lee Jones** as Mooney, depicted the couple's life. He was 69.... **Top of the Charts:** *The Island of Dr. Moreau*, starring **Marlon Brando** and **Val Kilmer** floated to the top of the box-office taking in \$9.1 million over the weekend. *Tin Cup* was second and *A Very Brady Sequel* debuted at No. 3. NBC's *Seinfeld* again topped the weekly A.C. Nielsens ratings. **Los Del Rio's** *Macarena* (*Bayside Boys Mix*) and **Alanis Morissette's** *Jagged Little Pill* respectively remain at the top of the singles and album charts according to Billboard magazine. **Anne Rice's** new tome, *Servant of the Bones* (Knopf) is the #1 fiction title in the country (see review soon in the Houston Voice) and **Scott Adams' The Dilbert Principle** re-claims the #1 position on the non-fiction list, according to the New York Times best-seller list. **Quote of the Week:** "I thought I loved him. Now I know I do."--**Oprah** after interview with the younger **JFK**.



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Film Review



Duane Boutte (center) as Bostonia with The Divas in *Stonewall*

Stonewall

By K. DAVID COCHRAN

No film in recent queer cinema has been so widely anticipated as the Strand Releasing/BBC Films production of "Stonewall." Not the amusing, yet lacking "Jeffery." Not the cute, yet troubled "To Wong Foo..." Not even the mega-money making "Birdcage." These films will undoubtedly take their places in queer history, but "Stonewall" takes queer history and makes it live with a truth lacking in these other films.

"Stonewall" is a semi-fictional account of a pivotal moment in the history of the modern day Gay Rights Movement: the drag queen-led riots outside the Stonewall Inn in New York's Greenwich Village in 1969. It was these riots that gave birth to gay rights today, and this moment in history is commemorated every June around the world as Gay and Lesbian Pride Day. "Stonewall" follows the lives of a half-dozen gay New Yorkers in the weeks leading up to the riots. It examines the police harassment, the mafia control of gay bars, and the general oppression faced by gay men and women before the Gay Rights Movement began in earnest.

As the film begins, young Matty Dean arrives at the Port Authority, ready to begin an incredible adventure in the big city that not even he can anticipate. He soon finds his way to the Stonewall Inn—not exactly a "gay" bar, but a bar where drag queens and other homosexuals can gather without excessive fear of the police. Still, that night the police stage a raid on the bar, and Matty soon learns his first lesson in tyranny, as the cops shake down the clientele, arresting some (including Matty, who stuck up for the queens) and sending others to the washroom to clean the make-up off their faces.

While in jail, Matty befriends the young Puerto Rican drag queen La Miranda. The two are bailed out by the grande dame of them all, Bostonia, who is secretly involved with the bar's Mafia manager, Skinny Vinnie.

Matty Dean and La Miranda hit it off and become lovers, of sorts. Later, Matty attends a meeting of the Mattachine Society, a group of older, slightly more conservative homosexuals who want to change society, but in a gradual, non-threatening way. It is here that Matty meets Ethan, a slightly confused activist who is not nearly as radical as the younger, angrier Matty.

Over the next few days, we meet the other characters, including La Miranda's friends Mizz Moxie and Helen Wheels. La Miranda has been called up for service in Vietnam, and Matty accompanies her to a military induction center where, needless to say, she is rejected when her papers are stamped "Sexual Deviant."

Matty becomes more and more politically involved. He visits a half-dozen bars one night with his friends and a Village Voice reporter, trying NOT to get served alcohol (serving gays at the time was against the law,) and he attends a gay rights demonstration at Philadelphia's Independence Hall.

Finally, all of this leads up to that fateful warm June night in 1969—the night of the day they buried Judy Garland—when the police carried out just one too many raids on the Stonewall Inn. After seeing the repression and violence that surrounded the gay life in the late 60's, we can feel the rage in these young men's blood as they move to resist the cops. As Bostonia says to one of the arresting officers: "Don't push me, Mary. I'm not in the mood." And the rest—the fighting, the bottle throwing, the smashed windows, fires and arrests—is (gay) history.

"Stonewall" had its beginnings in 1993, as Nigel Finch, the award-winning British director of "The Lost Language of the Cranes," brought an interesting proposition to American independent film powerhouse Christine Vachon (producer of

"Swoon," "Poison," "Safe," "I SHOT ANDY WARHOL;" to name just a few.) His idea: to transform Martin Duberman's social history Stonewall into the first film about the historic riot which kicked off the modern day Gay Rights Movement. In the stories of Stonewall, Finch saw the potential for both riveting drama and moving history; in Vachon, the skill of an experienced producer who has an incredible ability to bring projects from paper to the big screen.

With the backing of Arena, the BBC's premiere music and arts series, Vachon and Finch commissioned the award winning British playwright Rikki Beadle Blair to write the script; a fictionalization of some of the themes of Ouberman's text. A natural choice to conceptualize the difficult and highly specific period sets was Therese DePerez, the skilled designer who created the sets for Tom Kalin's stylized "Swoon" and Steve McLean's haunting "Postcards from America." To shoot the script, Nigel brought from London experienced cinematographer Chris Seger, who worked with Finch on "The Vampyr: A Soap Opera (now on video.)" which won the prestigious Prix Italiain 1993.

Once the principal crew was secured, it was

time to begin the difficult process of casting. Given that two key roles and numerous support ones called for men in full drag, not yet a fashionable theme in the commercial film world, the job was certainly a challenge. Given the excellent script and clearly compelling subject matter, "Stonewall" drew interest from the film community all over New York City. Guillermo Diaz ("Party Girl") captured the leading role of La Miranda. Playing opposite him is Julliard graduate Frederick Weller, in his first leading film role. Supporting cast members were drawn from some of the most talented actors in New York, including Duane Boutte of Broadway's "Carousel."

As pre-production progressed, some seemingly insurmountable obstacles presented themselves. Most notably, the owner of the actual Stonewall Inn would not allow the crew to use the bar as a location for shooting. This required the art department to pull off an incredible feat—to recreate not only the bar, but Sheridan Square of the late 60's in a remote corner of the Meat Packing District of Lower Manhattan. In addition, leafless trees and icy wind threatened to betray the crew's effort to duplicate the steamy late June season when the riots actually happened.

As the shooting drew to a close, Finch was becoming unable to work without showing signs of exhaustion and illness dues to AIDS-related complications. In post-production, which took place in London, the editing equipment was moved to Nigel's home, where he was only able to focus on the progress of his

film for a couple of hours each day. He saw the film through to a final cut, but on Feb. 14, 1995, he succumbed to AIDS. Before he died, he assigned his long-time colleague, executive producer Anthony Wall, and Vachon to see the film through completion. With the dedication of John Richards, the film editor, Nigel's work carried on without him, his vision continuing to guide the project.

Vachon commented later on the project, "Shooting the film was a delight. Nigel was seeing the fulfillment of a lifelong dream. He brought a palpable ebullience to the set every day that was contagious. Nigel was open about his HIV positive status, but he was not directing 'Stonewall' as if it was going to be his final work. Both Nigel and I thought 'Stonewall' would be the first of many features we would do together."

'Stonewall' is about so many things—sexual identity, gender politics, the political dialectic of change. But most of all it is a wonderful, stylish and enthralling story. 'Stonewall' is the legacy of a tremendously talented, vital man. I am grateful it is such an enduring one."

"Stonewall" had its American premiere June 30, 1996 at the 20th Annual San Francisco International Lesbian & Gay Film Festival. It opens Sept. 6th at the Landmark River Oaks Theatre.

Next Week: an interview with Guillermo Diaz, Stonewall's La Miranda

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\$1.25

**WELL
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**DOMESTIC
BEER**

WEDNESDAY

\$1.50

**DOMESTIC
LONGNECKS
ALL NIGHT!**

THURSDAY

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**SCREWS
ALL NIGHT!**

FRIDAY

\$1.00

**SCHNAPPS
ALL NIGHT!**

SUNDAY

OPEN 2 PM

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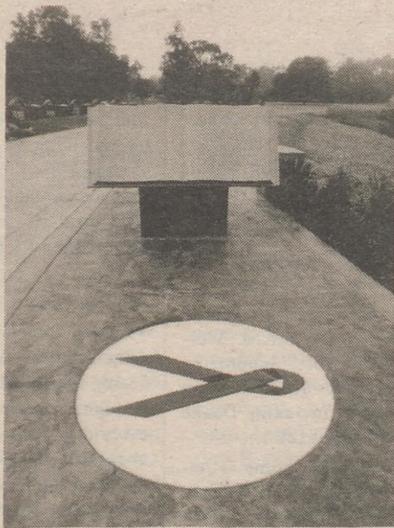
**MIMOSAS
ALL DAY!**



RASCALS



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**ETCHED IN MEMORY.
PRESERVED IN GRANITE.**

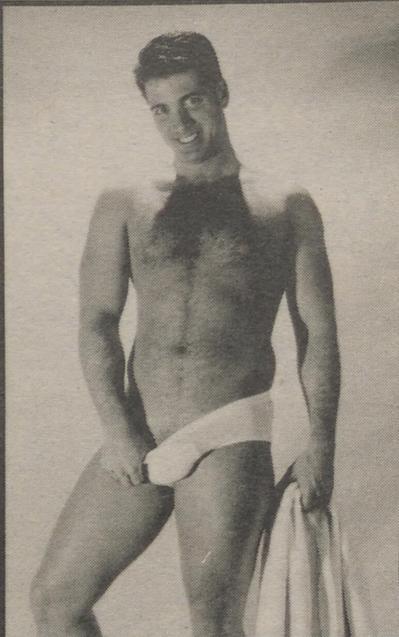
**THE AIDS MEMORIAL
BOOK.**

It's made of solid granite and bordered "panels" in which you can inscribe the name and date of your departed family member or friend. Proceeds are donated to AIDS charities through an advisory board composed of local leaders in AIDS-related services. To make an appointment to see the terrace, call a Forest Park Lawndale representative at 921-6623.

**The Foundation for Interfaith
Research & Ministry and
Forest Park Lawndale**

**ENJOY THE FRUITS
OF YOUR LABOR ...**

**PACIFIC
STREET**



FRIDAY FOREPLAY!
Start the Holiday Weekend off
right with **NO Cover** from 7-9!

**SATURDAY: LEATHER &
FLESH FANTASY NIGHT!**
THE Erotic Party Continues!
NO Cover in Erotic Leather!

SUNDAY OVERLOAD!
Take It Off and Slip Inside!
NO SHIRT! NO COVER!
NO KIDDING!

MONDAY: EXPOSED
Bartenders Party! NO Cover
with passes available all
weekend at the door!

Please Drink Responsibly!

**Caged Heat:
Men Behind Bars**
Our Shameless Male Dancers
Strip & Strut in Our Cages of
Decadance!

**Houston's Lowest
Regular Drink Prices!**
\$1.25 Well / \$1.75 Beer
\$3.00 Call / \$3.50 Premium
& \$1.25 Schnapps!

First in Texas!
Check Out Our Home Pages:
<http://www.insync.net/~almnahal/pacific.htm/> OR
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Hot Music!
Our DJ/VJ's Play the Best of
Today's Music & Video mixed
with Old Favorites!
Houston's Only Lazer-Lit
Dance Floor

710 Pacific Street

Houston, Tx.

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HOUSTON

VOICE MAIL

Letters to the Editor

Voice Not Deserving

FROM MARK LEWIS

Your self-serving "article" about the Montrose Walgreens (August 23) was off-base. It was absolutely ridiculous for you to print that your Constitutional rights of free speech are violated because Walgreens makes *OutSmart* available in their store and not the *Houston Voice*. Huh? Since when does free speech equate with forcing a private business to carry your publication?

The *Houston Voice* may not be willing to recognize that publications like *OutSmart* and *The Texas Triangle* are a notch above. I certainly would not distribute it in my business. Why? Because you devote two pages every week to Carolyn Robert's column which actively reinforces every negative gay stereotype in the book. Because a majority of your advertising is for strip shows, porn flicks, phone sex, prostitutes, bath houses, adult book stores and penis enlargements. These ads do not represent the interests of the majority of Gay and Lesbian people in Houston.

At least TWT does not claim to be anything but a bar rag, and they limit their distribution to appropriate locations. The *Houston Voice*, on the other hand, presents itself as a professional newspaper. It is not. Then you have the nerve to ask the community to pressure Walgreens to carry a publication which degrades us. Our efforts would be better spent on actively supporting quality publications that treat our community with respect. *OutSmart* and the *Triangle* deserve the community's backing. The *Houston Voice* has a long way to go.

EDITOR'S NOTE: *Mark, sorry you feel that way. Our advertisers last week include: a car wash; a computer co., AC Repair; a clothing store; a printer; traffic dismissal class; a loan management co., a therapist; 8 churches; a doctor; 11 bars; 3 pharmaceutical companies; a viatical co.; a restaurant; 3 liquor ads, 2 bookstores; a college of cosmetology; 2 tire stores/car repair; a mortuary; apartments; a car dealership; a financial consultant; 6 phonelines; a bed and breakfast; one porno theater and one bath house; and 3 charity organizations. These may not represent the interests of the majority but I bet they do represent many in our diverse community. Other "ads" are actually Public Service announcements that are run free of charge. -db*

A Different View

FROM JOHN B. FEUER

Attention: Mr. Abdowaise, Store Manager

Dear Sir:

I am writing you regarding the judgment call you made relative to the publications available in your location pertinent to the clientele which is the cornerstone of your store's financial success. Your insensitive, intolerant idea to censor the distribution of the magazine "*OutSmart*" can only be deemed as indicating that you have contempt for a major segment of your customer base.

I understand you are backpedaling regarding "*OutSmart*" but continue your insensitivity toward our other Community publication: The *Houston Voice*, *OutSmart*, *This Week In Texas*, *The Observer*, et al. offer a wide variety of services to our Community. Lest your insensitive thought process take over, let me list some of these: political information, cutting edge medical information, financial information and programs for our chronically ill who may be at their wit's end for a place to turn for help.

Mr. Abdowaise, I have been in a position similar to yours running a four million dollar a year facility belonging to a chain. If you were quoted correctly that you cannot allow space for our community's vital informational publications because you would then be obligated to allow space for "anything," you have failed miserably

as a public relations representative for Walgreens. One would have a leg to stand on disallowing space for "*Sixteen*" magazine in the convenience store of a geriatric retirement facility, but you, sir, are walking on the edge of an abyss. When I called for your corporate office, your Mr. Hector Cantu was extremely rude. If I not had my copy of *The Houston Voice*, I would not have known you were the store manager as Mr. Cantu gave me some other name. He would not oblige me with your corporate office's complete address, nor the name of your President or CEO. He would not advise me whether being insolent, rude and giving out false information to former customers was corporate policy or his individual initiative.

I had to pass several pharmacies to get to your store. Previously this was irrelevant to me as you were "part of the Community." We are your market share. Because of your bigoted outlook and actions I am not your only "former customer." If you realize who provides the positive figures on the bottom line of your profit and loss statement, you will find room for other Community publications, over and above your tap dance with regard to "*OutSmart*."

Publications at Walgreens

FROM SUE NULL

Dear Walgreens: It is my understanding that the Walgreens on Montrose Blvd., Houston, Texas, has forgotten that it is located in, and serves, the heart of the gay community. For the past several months, I have tried to find in Walgreens the free publications of *OutSmart*, *The Texas Triangle*, and *The Houston Voice*, all to no avail. Now I learn that *OutSmart* will be admitted, but the *Voice*, no. What about the *Triangle*? What's going on here? Is Walgreens trying to bite the hand that feeds it? Does Walgreens not realize that much of its pharmacy income and other income as well comes from this gay community which it disdains to serve?

I am the mother of gay children and try to stay up to date with important events in their lives by reading these "freebie" publications. Must I take my business to other stores that are more progressive and more aware of where their business comes from?

EDITOR'S NOTE: *Dear John and Sue, Thank you for your support -db.*

Is This Right?

FROM TIM

Re: *Houston Voice* issue of August 23, 1996 "Gay Today by Glen Webber". After reading Glen's column this week, I have several questions concerning the accuracy of the information. Two items in particular: 1. only \$600/mo. benefit, max., 2. only \$2,000 in the bank.

To my knowledge these are not absolute amounts for everyone. Circumstances and employment history play a major part in the benefits received.

Now what is written in Glen's column may be correct under certain circumstances such as attempting to get into a nursing facility with SSA benefits, but not necessarily an individual living on his own in his own apartment or home.

Would you please check with a social worker or the Social Security Administration for correct information and reprint your findings. I would hate to have people already down about their situation to become more depressed because of misleading information. His information may be correct for a particular situation, but tell all the details for that case so it does not imply that regardless of your situation this will be everyone's benefits.

If this is the information Glen is going on, perhaps he should revisit the Social Security Administration to be sure he is indeed receiving the best possible benefits.

EDITOR'S NOTE: *Thank you for bringing this matter to our attention. We will soon have a regular feature regarding matters such as this and will bring these questions up to our expert. -db*

Being sure of your HIV status— for your own peace of mind— offers you the opportunity to make better personal choices, lead a healthier life and protect yourself and your loved ones from the virus that causes AIDS.

THE POWER OF



HIV testing is more important now than ever

Testing negative can be a great relief, and allows you to modify behavior to protect yourself from the virus. If the test is positive, there are now better treatments to help slow the progression of AIDS and improve the quality of life.

Now there is a new HIV test that provides highly accurate results without blood or needles

The new, painless system—ORASURE®—tests for the presence of HIV antibodies in an oral sample. ORASURE® is available now at your doctor's office and healthcare clinics.

AIDS cannot be transmitted through kissing. There have been no recorded cases of HIV linked with kissing or other casual contact.

Remember, there is proof that casual contact with an HIV-infected person is not enough to transmit the virus. In fact, it has become clear that HIV is relatively hard to contract, and can be avoided.

HIV TESTING

The three major ways HIV can be spread are:

① Through unprotected sex—

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

② Through blood—

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

③ Mother to Infant—

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

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

OraSure®

HIV-1 Antibody Testing System

No Needles. No Blood. Just Accurate Results.

SB

SmithKline Beecham
Consumer Healthcare

PLAZA 9200

Calendar

- ▶ Every TUESDAY in the Ranch
Learn to Dance with Southern Country
Two-step, Swing & Line Dancing
for Singles and Couples
- ▶ Every WEDNESDAY
NEW! Boys' Night Out
Enjoy Special Drink Prices
All Night Long!
- ▶ Every THURSDAY in Ms. B's
Nancy Ford's Comedic Bizarro: 8:30-10pm
Open Mic & Karaoke: 10:30pm-1am
- ▶ Every FRIDAY & SATURDAY
in The Ranch & XTC
SHUT UP & DANCE!
In the Ranch September 13
Shiela Lennon
In Ms. B's September 27
42nd Street

Mark Your Calendars SUNDAY

September 8
Benefit for
Cheryl Fernandez
2pm □ Pool & Dart
Tournament
Raffle
BBQ

7:00pm
Talent Show
Special MC

- Dart Tournaments • Pool Leagues •
- C&W Dance Lessons • Retro Disco Music •

Four Bars • Four Moods • For You!



9200 Buffalo Speedway • (713) 666-3464 • 666-3356
• FREE, Patrolled, Well-lit Parking for 300+ Cars •

The Crew
at

Chances

An All-People's Bar Dedicated to Community Unity!

Lee Love Reunion

Friday, August 30, 9pm
"THE GREATEST LOVE OF ALL" SHOW
HOSTED BY: LAURA LEE LOVE, CRYSTAL RAE
LEE LOVE & VANNA WHITE LEE LOVE
(R.S.I.C.S.S. FUNDRAISER)

SATURDAY, August 31, 9pm
"THE POWER OF LOVE" SHOW
HOSTED BY: LAURA LEE LOVE, BOB
BOUTON LEE LOVE, RUBY STONE LEE LOVE
(R.S.I.C.S.S. FUNDRAISER)

SUNDAY - CHOCOLATE COVERED CHERRIES BAND 6-10:30pm

LABOR BOARD GAMES - NOON TO 6pm LABOR DAY
POWER HOUR DRINK SPECIALS DAY
MONDAY COME COMPETE WITH FRIENDS.... MONDAY
* SPADES * DOMINOES * SCRABBLE *

TUESDAY
BOARD GAMES Play Off
6 to 10pm

WEDNESDAY 9pm
Karaoke SHIELA LENNON Karaoke

Thursday, September 5th
Donna & Charlene performing on stage for
Betty Meyer's Over The Hill Party at 8:30pm
Come help us celebrate her birthday and enjoy
the entertainment of two lovely ladies!

* 1100 Westheimer * 523-7217 *



What a World, What a World...

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

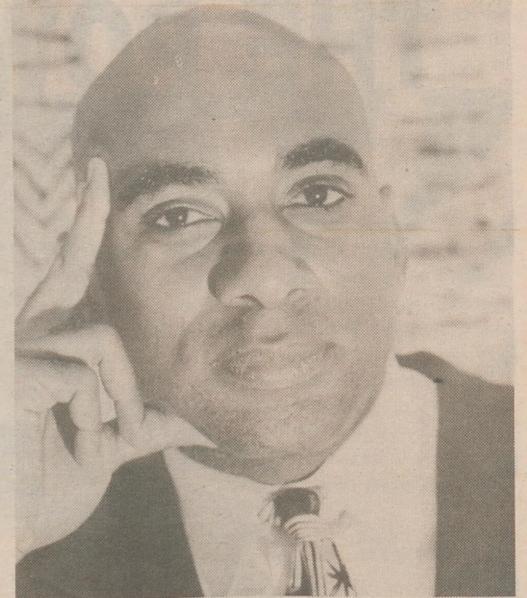
Gay Men of African Descent name New Executive Director

NEW YORK—Cary Alan Johnson was recently named Executive Director of Gay Men of African Descent (GMAD), an advocacy, support and HIV service organization in its tenth anniversary year. One of the original founders of GMAD, Cary Alan Johnson is accomplished author and activist.

"I'm very excited that Cary has accepted this position and think that he'll bring strong leadership, a clear vision, and a plan for achieving ambitious goals to GMAD," is how Keith Boykin, the head of the National Black Gay and Lesbian Leadership Forum described Mr. Johnson's appointment by the organization's Board.

Johnson has served successfully in numerous national and international leadership positions, especially in the area of human rights, over the last ten years. In 1994 and 1995, he was the Country Representative with the international aid organization African in Kigali, Rwanda, where he developed and administered an array of crucial emergency relief programs during that nation's period of civil strife. He has also worked with the United Nations High Commission for Refugees, in Bukavu, Zaire. Johnson served as a Regional Director for Amnesty International (AI) in Washington, DC and as a Country Resource Coordinator at AI's New York headquarters. In 1992-1993, he served as Amnesty International's spokesperson on gay and lesbian affairs and HIV/AIDS issues, and co-authored the first AI report on human rights violations based on sexual orientation. He was also the first male to be invited to speak at the Take Back the Night Rally against sexual violence in Washington, DC.

Johnson, 35, has been active at the grassroots organizing level for many years. He is a founding member of the New York based Black Gay literary arts organization, Other Countries. He also helped establish the Committee of Black Gay



Cary Alan Johnson, Exec. Director of GMAD

Men. In 1982, he was instrumental in organizing a major demonstration against police brutality in the wake of the raid on the gay and transgendered "Blues" bar near 42nd Street in the Times Square district of Manhattan.

"It is good to be back where I began," Johnson asserts. "I am very proud to have been selected to lead GMAD into its next decade of service to our community. There is an incredible vitality in this organization and its membership."

Cary Alan Johnson is a member of the Association of Black Professionals in International Affairs, the African Studies Association, and the advisory board of the International Gay and Lesbian Human Rights Commission. A native of Brooklyn, NY, he received his B.A. from Sarah Lawrence College and a Master of International Affairs, Certificate in African Studies, from Columbia University's School of International and Public Affairs. He has also studied at the University of Nairobi in Kenya, and attended workshops sponsored by the Peace Corps, Amnesty International and the United Nations' Human Rights Campaign.

Judy Wieder named Editor of The Advocate

Los Angeles, CA—Judy Wieder, Executive Editor of *The Advocate* was promoted to Editor-in-Chief of the nation's oldest and most well known gay and lesbian newsmagazine. Wieder is the first woman in the magazine's 30-year history to hold this position. The announcement was made by Advocate Publisher Sam Watters, who is also President of Liberation Publications Inc., *The Advocate's* parent company.

"I am thrilled to be the Editor-in-Chief of the nation's most influential gay and lesbian newsmagazine. For nearly 30 years, *The Advocate* has provided timely news and political features on the critical issues that affect the gay and lesbian community," says Wieder. "I am looking forward to keeping the magazine's mission thought-provoking and vital."

Since Wieder joined the magazine as Arts and Entertainment Editor in 1993, the magazine has won three Folio Awards for Editorial Excellence in the news category—competing against *Time* and *Newsweek*. She became a Senior Editor shortly after and in January of 1996 was promoted to Executive Editor. As Senior Arts

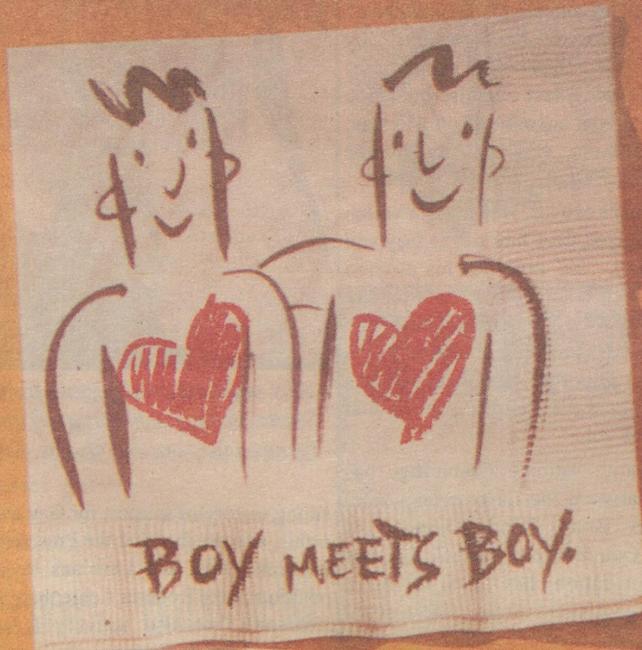
and Entertainment Editor, she increased the magazine's entertainment coverage profiling such important public figures as Melissa Etheridge, Bruce Springsteen, Catherine Deneuve and Gore Vidal, among others.

Wieder, a graduate of the University of California, Berkeley, has a rich literary background both as a writer and editor. Prior to *The Advocate*, she was editor of *Genre*, a gay lifestyle magazine. An accomplished songwriter, she has had 39 songs published and recorded from 1977 to 1992, capturing one Grammy award, two Grammy nominations, three Gold Albums, and one Platinum Album.

"With Judy's experience and vision, she will continue the magazine's commitment to our readers and continue to expand our news and features coverage. We're very excited to have her at the helm," said publisher Sam Watters.

Founded in 1967, *The Advocate* is the award-winning gay and lesbian magazine of record, reporting bi-weekly on news, politics, business, medical issues, the arts and entertainment.

IT'S A STORY WE'VE HEARD
 MANY TIMES BEFORE. GAY MEN
 ENGAGING IN WHAT THEY
 THOUGHT WAS SAFE SEX,
 ONLY TO CATCH HEPATITIS A
 THROUGH ORAL/ANAL
 CONTACT OR HANDLING
 A CONDOM. THE VIRUS
 RARELY KILLS, BUT IF YOU
 GET HEPATITIS A, VOMITING,
 ABDOMINAL PAIN, JAUNDICE
 AND DIARRHEA CAN
 DEBILITATE YOU FOR WEEKS.
 FORTUNATELY, THERE'S HAVRIX,
 THE WORLD'S FIRST VACCINE
 AGAINST HEPATITIS A.
 A SINGLE DOSE WILL PROTECT



YOU FOR UP TO ONE YEAR,
 AND A BOOSTER DOSE SIX TO
 12 MONTHS LATER WILL
 PROLONG PROTECTION.
 THE MOST COMMON SIDE
 EFFECTS AFTER RECEIVING
 HAVRIX ARE HEADACHE OR A
 LITTLE SORENESS IN YOUR ARM*.
 ASK YOUR DOCTOR OR
 CALL **1.800.200.HEPA**
 FOR MORE INFORMATION.
 AND MAKE SURE YOUR STORY
 HAS A HAPPY ENDING.

*PLEASE SEE
 IMPORTANT

Havrix
 Hepatitis A Vaccine,
 Inactivated

PATIENT INFORMATION
 ADJACENT TO THIS AD.

Manufactured by
SmithKline Beecham Biologicals
 Rixensart, Belgium

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Distributed by
SmithKline Beecham Pharmaceuticals
 Philadelphia, PA 19101

HA8153

Havrix is a registered trademark
 of SmithKline Beecham.

Hepatitis A Vaccine, Inactivated Havrix[®]

See complete prescribing information in SmithKline Beecham Pharmaceuticals literature. The following is a brief summary.

INDICATIONS AND USAGE: Havrix is indicated for active immunization of persons ≥ 2 years of age against disease caused by hepatitis A virus (HAV).

CONTRAINDICATIONS: Havrix is contraindicated in people with known hypersensitivity to any component of the vaccine.

WARNINGS: Do not give additional injections to patients experiencing hypersensitivity reactions after a Havrix injection. (See CONTRAINDICATIONS.)

Hepatitis A has a relatively long incubation period. Hepatitis A vaccine may not prevent hepatitis A infection in those who have an unrecognized hepatitis A infection at the time of vaccination. Additionally, it may not prevent infection in those who do not achieve protective antibody titers (although the lowest titer needed to confer protection has not been determined).

PRECAUTIONS: As with any parenteral vaccine (1) keep epinephrine available for use in case of anaphylaxis or anaphylactoid reaction; (2) delay administration, if possible, in people with any febrile illness or active infection, except when the physician believes withholding vaccine entails the greater risk; (3) take all known precautions to prevent adverse reactions, including reviewing patients' history for hypersensitivity to this or similar vaccines.

Administer with caution to people with thrombocytopenia or a bleeding disorder, or people taking anticoagulants. Do not inject into a blood vessel. Use a separate, sterile needle or prefilled syringe for every patient. When giving concomitantly with other vaccines or IG, use separate needles and different injection sites.

As with any vaccine, if administered to immunosuppressed persons or persons receiving immunosuppressive therapy, the expected immune response may not be obtained.

Carcinogenesis, Mutagenesis, Impairment of Fertility: Havrix has not been evaluated for its carcinogenic potential, mutagenic potential or potential for impairment of fertility.

Pregnancy Category C: Animal reproduction studies have not been conducted with Havrix. It is also not known whether Havrix can cause fetal harm when administered to a pregnant woman or can affect reproduction capacity. Give Havrix to a pregnant woman only if clearly needed. It is not known whether Havrix is excreted in human milk. Because many drugs are excreted in human milk, use caution when administering Havrix to a nursing woman.

Havrix is well tolerated and highly immunogenic and effective in children.

Fully inform patients, parents or guardians of the benefits and risks of immunization with Havrix. For persons traveling to endemic or epidemic areas, consult current CDC advisories regarding specific locales. Travelers should take all necessary precautions to avoid contact with, or ingestion of, contaminated food or water. Duration of immunity following a complete vaccination schedule has not been established.

ADVERSE REACTIONS: Havrix has been generally well tolerated. As with all pharmaceuticals, however, it is possible that expanded commercial use of the vaccine could reveal rare adverse events.

The most frequently reported by volunteers in clinical trials was injection-site soreness (56% of adults; 21% of children); headache (14% of adults; less than 9% of children). Other solicited and unsolicited events are listed below.

Incidence 1% to 10% of injections: Induration, redness, swelling, fatigue, fever (>37.5°C), malaise, anorexia, nausea.

Incidence <1% of injections: Hematoma; pruritus, rash, urticaria; pharyngitis, other upper respiratory tract infections; abdominal pain, diarrhea, dysgeusia, vomiting; arthralgia, elevation of creatine phosphokinase, myalgia; lymphadenopathy, hypertonic episode, insomnia, photophobia, vertigo.

Additional safety data

Safety data were obtained from two additional sources in which large populations were vaccinated. In an outbreak setting in which 4,930 individuals were immunized with a single dose of either 720 ELU or 1440 ELU of Havrix, the vaccine was well-tolerated and no serious adverse events due to vaccination were reported. Overall, less than 10% of vaccinees reported solicited general adverse events following the vaccine. The most common solicited local adverse event was pain at the injection site, reported in 22.3% of subjects at 24 hours and decreasing to 2.4% by 72 hours.

In a field efficacy trial, 19,037 children received the 360 ELU dose of Havrix. The most commonly reported adverse events were injection-site pain (9.5%) and tenderness (8.1%), reported following first doses of Havrix. Other adverse events were infrequent and comparable to the control vaccine Engerix-B[®] (Hepatitis B Vaccine, Recombinant).

Postmarketing Reports: Rare voluntary reports of adverse events in people receiving Havrix since market introduction include the following: localized edema, anaphylaxis/anaphylactoid reactions, somnolence, syncope, jaundice, hepatitis, erythema multiforme, hyperhidrosis, angioedema, dyspnea, lymphadenopathy, convulsions, encephalopathy, dizziness, neuropathy, myelitis, paresis, Guillain-Barré syndrome, multiple sclerosis; congenital abnormality.

The U.S. Department of Health and Human Services has established the Vaccine Adverse Events Reporting System (VAERS) to accept reports of suspected adverse events after the administration of any vaccine, including, but not limited to, the reporting of events required by the National Childhood Vaccine Injury Act of 1986. The toll-free number for VAERS forms and information is 1-800-822-7967.

HOW SUPPLIED: 360 ELU/0.5 mL NDC 58160-836-01 Package of 1 single-dose vial; 720 ELU/0.5 mL NDC 58160-837-01 Package of 1 single-dose vial; NDC 58160-837-02 Package of 1 prefilled syringe.

1440 ELU/mL NDC 58160-835-01 Package of 1 single-dose vial; NDC 58160-835-02 Package of 1 prefilled syringe.

Manufactured by **SmithKline Beecham Biologicals**, Rixensart, Belgium. Distributed by **SmithKline Beecham Pharmaceuticals**, Philadelphia, PA 19101. BRS-HA-LSA

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Democrats continued...

(Continued from page 1)

and Lesbians, and that for the first time a President has extended civil rights protection to Gay and Lesbian federal employees. Tipper said, "President Clinton and Vice President Gore would like to thank you for your support in 1992. We could not have been here seeking a second term without the support of the Gay and Lesbian community." Mrs. Gore closed her remarks by emphasizing the President's support for ENDA (the Employment Nondiscrimination Act), which, it was announced on Monday, the Administration was pushing to be attached to DOMA.

Also at Tuesday's caucus, Houston's own Joe Garcia was elected Co-Chair of the Gay and Lesbian Caucus. Joe attributed his election to his outspoken comments at the Monday caucus session where he had reminded the caucus of Clinton's proactive stance on AIDS issues and the importance of each person's vote. Garcia noted that "Hitler won his first election by one vote."

The Democratic National Committee has specifically targeted the Lesbian/Gay vote, according to Brian Bond, Director of Lesbian/Gay Outreach for the DNC. The fact that the convention has such a large Gay/Lesbian contingent (from almost every state in the Union) is evidence of the growing strength of the community in the Democratic Party. It is a far cry from 1972, the first time an openly Gay person addressed a National Convention. Even though the 1972 Miami Beach Democratic Convention is when the McGovernites took control of the party, reaction to an openly Gay man making such an address was far from positive. Twenty four years later, the Lesbian/Gay community is so much a part of the Democratic Party that it would be hard to imagine a National



Gay and Lesbian delegates from Texas joined by California State Assembly Member, Sheila James Kuehl (attorney and former TV star - as Zelda of the Dobie Gillis Show). Pictured (l-r) are Jim Owens, Kuehl, Eleanor Henley, Pat Gandy, and Margo Fraiser.

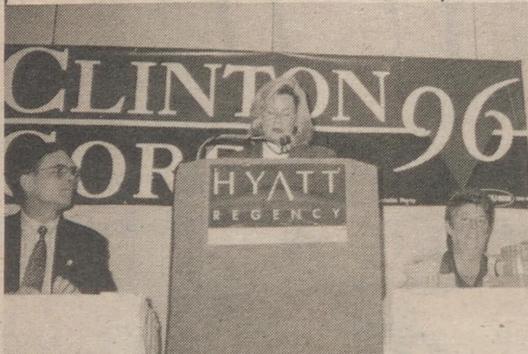
strong history of support for Gay and Lesbian rights, and the fact that the President not only appoints Gays and Lesbians to significant positions (like Roberta Achtenberg and Bruce Lehman), but also actively is supporting ENDA (the legislation designed to end discrimination against Gays and Lesbians in the workplace). Frank further went on to state that while the community may not have 100% support from the Clinton Administration, it would have 0% support from a Dole Administration.

Emcee of the HRC brunch Bob Hattoy, White House aide and speaker at the 1992 Democratic Convention, introduced many other members of the audience who either now hold elective office or are running for office, including Austin Representative Glen Maxey and Travis County Sheriff candidate Margo Fraiser. Hattoy was asked if he was upset that he was not addressing the Convention again this year (his speech last time as a person with AIDS was quite memorable), especially since Republican Mary Fisher repeated her appearance at the Republican Convention in Houston again in San Diego this year. Hattoy remarked that he wasn't concerned since two other persons with AIDS (Debbie Runyon and Phil Wilson) will be addressing the convention,

Henry Cisneros, Secretary of HUD), Bruce Lehman (Assistant Secretary of Commerce), Karen Roscoe (Senior Advisor to the President), and Alexis Hertnan (Senior Assistant to the President) all addressed the caucus. Achtenberg, who recently ran unsuccessfully for Mayor of San Francisco, acknowledged the anger that is present in the community over such issues as DOMA, but reminded delegates that their job is to tell the whole story of the progress the Clinton Administration has made and get Lesbian/Gay voters to the polls in November. It was also announced by Caucus Chair O'Leary that the Administration has thrown its support to attaching ENDA to DOMA when it comes to a vote in the Senate on September 5.

The first night of the convention was about as choreographed as the Republican gathering was in San Diego. Delegates will be listening to a multitude of speeches and rallies between press time and the end of the convention on Thursday. Big money is also on display here in Chicago as many major corporations are throwing big bucks around to get the Democrats' attention. One such bash, sponsored by Houston's own Vinson and Elkins and Enron on Monday night honoring the Texas delegation, had an interesting locale. The party was held at the Chicago Children's Museum, a lively, inventive space designed to engage both children's interests and their imaginations. A thought-provoking exhibit on discrimination included several references to discrimination against Gays and Lesbians. Another exhibit on grandparents was notable for its inclusion in its portrait gallery of various types of grandparents of a Lesbian grandmother. Houston Gay and Lesbian Political Caucus President Pat Gandy was heard to remark, "What a wonderful reminder that the work we do to bring about equal rights for our community does make a difference! You know it when you see it on display in a Children's Museum."

At press time, First Lady Hillary Clinton will be the highlight of Tuesday's convention activities. While there may be no big news coming out of this convention (after all, we know who's going to get the nomination), there will be plenty to keep the Texas delegations busy in the meantime. Dennis Hatch and Jim Owens are providing coverage of the Democratic National Convention exclusively for The Houston Voice. Look for a wrap-up next week.



Tipper Gore, wife of Vice President Al Gore and mental health advocate, addresses the Gay and Lesbian Caucus.

Convention without its active participation. It was at the brunch hosted by the Human Rights Campaign (HRC) on Monday morning that the issues of DOMA and "Don't Ask, Don't Tell" (the President's compromise on Gays in the military) took centerstage. Those in attendance were treated to a pantheon of Lesbian/Gay luminaries and officials of the Democratic Party, including Don Fowler, Chairman of the Party. Barney Frank (something of a rising star, particularly as a voice of the loyal opposition during the Republican take-over of Congress) gave a history lesson to the delegates. He reminded them that thirty years ago, both political parties were terrible on Gay/Lesbian issues. In 1965, both parties (including some of the leading liberals of the day), voted overwhelmingly to stiffen bans on the immigration of Gays and Lesbians from other countries. Frank reminded his audience to contrast where the Democrats were then with where the Party is now--echoing Mrs. Gore's remarks of the Party's

and, he said, "Mary Fisher is the only person with AIDS that the Republicans know!" Monday's Gay and Lesbian Caucus was attended by most of the 150 Lesbian and Gay delegates and standing committee members. Long-time Lesbian activist Jean O'Leary was elected Caucus Chair, although a minor controversy broke out regarding a perceived lack of diversity regarding geographic area. Several delegates from the Midwest noted that national leadership has virtually always been from California, New York, or Washington. A committee was formed that would nominate four co-chairs that would reflect diversity in geographic area, gender, and ethnicity. A member of the Human Rights Campaign noted that while the Democrats were adding four co-chairs to reflect their diversity, the Republicans in San Diego barely had four delegates in the whole convention. The result of this discussion was the election of Houston's Joe Garcia to Co-Chair, Clinton Administration officials Roberta Achtenberg (Senior Advisor to

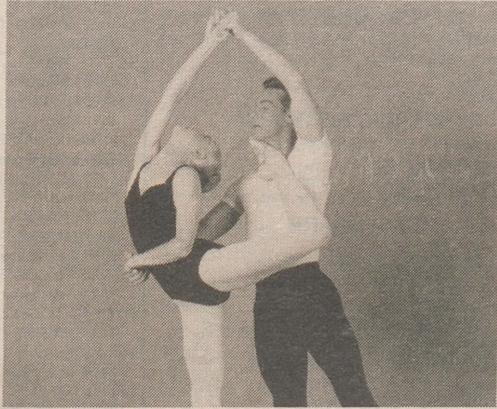


Tell EVERYONE you saw it in the HOUSTON VOICE



A Balanchine Celebration at the Ballet

The Houston Ballet pays tribute to George Balanchine, one of the most legendary figures in 20th Century dance, with performances of three of his most celebrated one-act ballets from Sept. 5-15 at the Wortham Theater Center in downtown Houston.



The Balanchine celebration features **La Valse**, a starkly dramatic work set to nine waltzes by Maurice Ravel; **Agon**, a Houston Ballet premiere, an abstract, plotless, neoclassical work for 12 dances in simple black and white practice clothes; and **Theme and Variations**, Balanchine's tribute to the grandeur of the Imperial Russian Ballet.

Houston Ballet kick-offs the 1996-97 season with "A Balanchine Celebration." Barbara Bears and Phillip Broomehead will star in **Agon**, a Houston Ballet premiere for this abstract piece.

Performances are 7:30pm Sept. 5,7,13,

and 14 and 2pm on Sept 8 and 15, at the Brown Theater, Wortham Center, (Texas at Smith Streets). Tickets cost between \$10 and \$80 and are available by phoning 227-ARTS; 1-800-828-ARTS, at the Ticket Center in Jones Hall and all Ticketmaster outlets.

Hello Again is darkly comic musical

Hello Again Time Trips Through The Century

The New Heights Theatre, 339 West 19th St., will be presenting Michael John LaChiusa's darkly comic musical, **Hello Again**, with previews beginning Sept. 2 and final show Oct. 12. This is the Houston premiere of a work based on a turn of the century portrait of sexual indiscretion, featuring 10 scenes of dalliance and seduction set to music.



The Cast of Hello Again in New Heights Theater latest production

Maintaining a musical tone reminiscent of Stephen Sondheim, the eclectic score touches upon the musical styles of each decade with song and a bit of spoken dialogue as the characters time travel through the decades to tell a bittersweet story of hetero and homosexual intrigue and betrayal. One character from each scene is catapulted into the next decade and new relationship with another character.

Previews are Sept. 2 and 3 at 7pm and tickets are two for \$18. A gala champagne opening is set for Sept. 4 at 8pm, tickets, \$20. Hello Again will be performed every Friday and Saturday evening at 8pm until Oct. 12. There will also be Sunday performances Sept. 29 and Oct. 12 at 7 pm. Tickets for Friday and Saturday are \$18, Sundays, \$15. The show is 90 minutes and has no intermission.

For more information phone Claire at 869-8927.

Sassy, Sensuous, Salome'

Oscar Wilde's poetic marriage of spirituality and sensuality in the oft told story of the be-heading of John the Baptist will be presented at the Main Street Theater (Times Blvd.) by The Free Range Arts Foundation, Fridays and Saturdays at 8pm, Aug. 30 through Sept. 14.

Salome', princess daughter of Herod, lusting for John the Baptist, grants her father's request by performing the Dance of the Seven Veils. The Dance is a story in movement of the passage from innocent girl to empowered woman. Presented with costumes and sets based on those of Biblical times contemporized with post-modern fetish aesthetics, the play reminds us that the feminine and mysterious is just as powerful as the masculine and brutal.

Tickets are \$10 in advance, \$12 at the door, additional charges may be added. For more



No, it's not B&D or S&M; it's Oscar Wilde's **Salome'**, currently at the Main Street Theater

information, call The Free Range Arts Foundation at 867-9350. **Salome'** is intended for mature audiences only.

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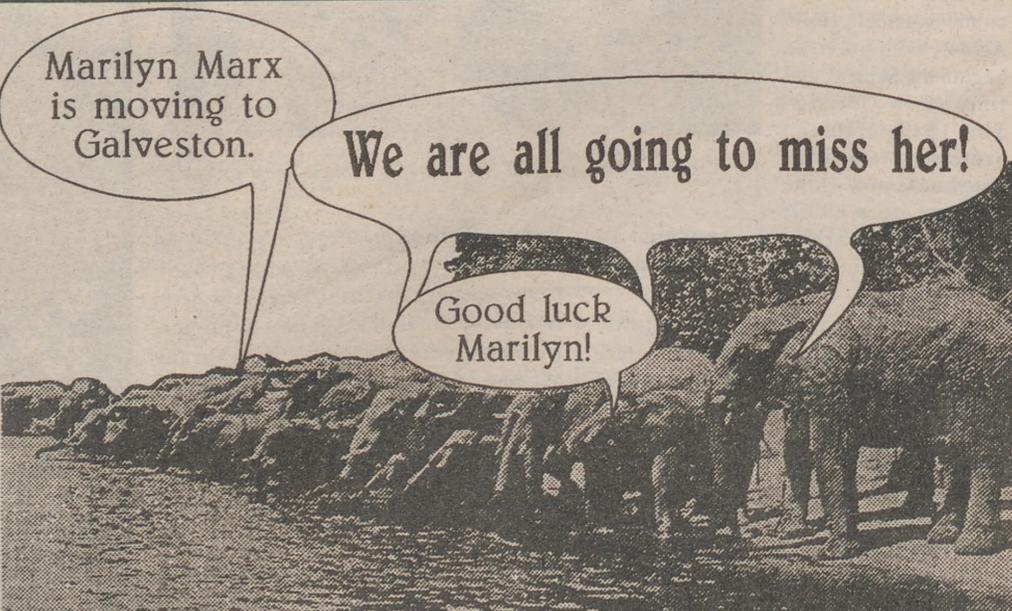
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11:00pm
Hostess
Special Guests
Chevelle Brooks
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Jessica Van Shelton
Tara Dion and talent night winner



Marilyn Marx is moving to Galveston.
We are all going to miss her!
Good luck Marilyn!



FRI	8/30	MALE STRIP CONTEST at 11:00pm with Tara
SAT	8/31	SATURDAY SHOW at 11:00pm with Tara
MON	9/1	\$1 Budweiser & Bud Light All Day All Night
TUE	9/2	MALE STRIP CONTEST at 11:00pm with Paivi
WED	9/3	Amateur/Talent Night at 11:00pm with Paivi
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South of the Border Night
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"con chili" Marx
Thursday, Sept. 5, 11:00pm
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ALSO Granny's Tacos!

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All Day All Night

Community Bulletin Board

Pride Week Needs You!

The 1997 Gay and Lesbian Pride Week Committee has named its co-chairs for the coming celebrations. Darren Armstrong and Susan Guerrero have been named.

Secretary and Treasurer have not yet been selected. For more information call the Pride line at 529-6979. Meetings are held the third Tuesday of each month at 7pm at 2700 Albany, 3rd Floor. Volunteers are needed in all areas.

The Pride Committee of Houston is looking for slogans to take to the IALGPC (International Alliance of Lesbian and Gay Pride Committees) convention in Kansas City in October. This is the time for all the Gay and Lesbian pride chairs and crew to decide what to use as an international slogan for the coming year.

Slogans selected in the past include "Pride knows no borders"; "Silence to Celebration"; "Unity through Diversity"; "Take Pride"; "Unity and More in '84."

Please send all entries to the Pride Committee of Houston, PO Box 66071; Houston, TX 77266-6071. The deadline is Oct. 1. Telephone 529-6979.

HPMA Meeting

The Houston Professional Men's Association monthly dinner meeting will be held Friday, Sept. 6 at 'Bibas,' 607 W. Gray (at Stanford) at 7pm and will feature a Greek buffet with complimentary ice tea, coffee and sodas. The \$20 per person charge includes the meal, tax, tip and a contribution to the HPMA treasury. Alcohol will be available at a cash bar.

A speaker will talk to the Association on an issue of concern to our community after the meal. Those wishing to attend should RSVP to Steve by Wednesday, Sept. 4, at 520-9083.

Men of Color Gather For AIDS Confab

The National Task Force on AIDS Prevention will host their annual Gay Men of Color AIDS Institute in Miami Beach August 30-Sept. 2. Beginning with a pre-institute conference for youth, the Institutes sessions will also include HIV prevention strategies, organizational development and program evaluation for Native American, Latino, Asian-Pacific Islander and African American gay and bisexual men. For more information contact Willis Johnson at (415) 356-8134 or e-mail at ntfap@aol.com.

Community Gospel

A warm and open invitation is extended by the Community Gospel Church to the community to visit and worship in the newly purchased facility at 4305 Lillian (one block south of Washington on Thompson) for the first service, Sunday, Sept. 1 at 11am.

Formerly located at 501 E. 18th Street, the Community Gospel Church has been ministering to the Lesbian and Gay community of Houston for years, and looks forward to many more years of service.

Hypnosis Class

AIDS Foundation Houston (AFH) and Body Positive will co-sponsor a 2-part course entitled "Self-Hypnosis for Health and Happiness on Thursday Sept. 5 and 12. Hypnotherapist T.C. LeNormand will challenge the myths and fears commonly held about hypnosis and present relaxation techniques that can be practiced and adopted for stress management, sleep disorders, and breaking unwanted behavioral habits.

The two evening course is scheduled from 7 to 8:30pm at the Metropolitan Multi-service Center, 1475 West Gray. This course is free to all persons infected or affected with HIV disease. *Registration is required.* Please call T.C. LeNormand at 789-0713 for information.

Peace Picnic

Sunday, Sept. 8, rain or shine, a coming together of the various groups working for Peace and Justice will be held at the First Congregational Church, U.C.C., 10840 Beinhorn, for a time to net-work and get to know the people working for common goals. The pot-luck picnic is intended as a fun-filled social outing at which friends can meet and information be exchanged.

A number of organizations have committed to being there including (partial list): Houston Peace News; Houston Peace Forum; Pax Christi; Houston Chapter of Peace Action; Houston Baha'i Community; Results; and Texas Coalition to abolish the Death Penalty.

Directions: Exit I-10 at Voss, go south. Right onto Beinhorn, at the first traffic light, church is on the right. Telephone 526-1556, 524-2682, 643-9802 or 741-5850.

HIV Support Group

Body Positive/Houston is starting a new cycle of Peer Counseling Support Groups for HIV positive individuals. This service is free of charge. All interested individuals are invited to attend an informational meeting to be held at the Multi-Service Center, Tuesday, Sept. 10 from 7 to 8:30pm.

Body Positive/Houston has success-

fully operated a Peer Counseling program for HIV/AIDS clients since 1988. Each group lasts 9 weeks with meetings facilitated by trained leaders who are HIV positive, under the supervision of a licensed psychotherapist. There are 10 to 12 clients in each group. Based on a training manual developed through experience, the actual course content is ultimately decided by the group itself, and the group sessions are closed and confidential, with no new members being added after the start. Meetings are casual and all materials necessary will be provided.

Facilitators serve only to keep the group on-track, adhere to certain courtesies, and act as a referral source for further information. For more information contact the Body Positive/Houston office at 524-2374.

LVL PWA Campout

The Lady Victoria Lust People With AIDS Holiday Fund is planning its third campout at Buzzards' Peak to provide PWAs an opportunity to get out of town and into the fresh clean air of rural Texas the weekend of Sept. 20-22.

All food and drink (beer, soda and meal beverages) are provided. Campers need tents, sleeping bag, mattress, pillows, linens, towels, personal supplies.

Application deadline is Sept. 6 and applications should be submitted to Don Gill, 911 Welch, Houston, TX 77006. Information, 521-0911.

Feline Fantasy

Miss Kitty Litter III, a Feline Fantasy will benefit The Pet Patrol when it is held at E/J's Sunday, Sept. 8, beginning with registration at 8pm and pageant beginning at 9pm. Entrants may bring a donation of 50 pounds of either cat litter or cat food and will be judged in three CATEGORIES: presentation, evening wear and talent.

For more information and to enter the pageant you may contact The Pet Patrol at 522-1954 or Don Welsh at 520-1258.

Voter Registration and Fund-Raiser

Cameron is hosting a benefit show at E/J's on Sunday, Sept. 8 to benefit the Berling Care Activity Center. To be eligible for door prizes, just show your voter's registration card or register to vote.

There will food for a \$2 donation, fantastic entertainment (a cast of dozens!), and loads of fun. It all starts at 9pm. E/J's is located at 2517 Ralph St. (just off Westheimer). For more information or to volunteer your services call 520-0118.

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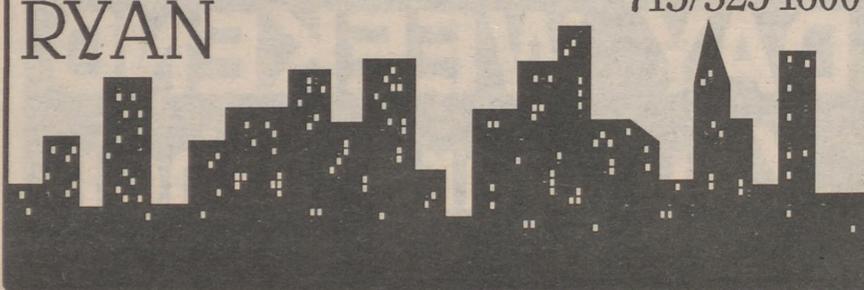
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Friday, Sept. 6th Miss Zack Paivi Lee Love Naomi Warwick Erica Lane	Saturday, Sept. 7th Miss Zack Brandi Houston Ashlee Houston Leah Halston	Sunday, Sept. 8th Miss Zack Tara Dion Sivi Ross Victoria Nicole

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★ SATURDAY SUPER SHOW ★
 10:30 PM

SATURDAY, AUGUST 31
 FORMER MISS LAZY J SHOW!!
 SPECIAL GUEST MC: ERICA LANE
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FRIDAY NIGHT
 8-BALL
 LEAGUE MEMBERS ONLY

Stick AROUND & DANCE
 WITH OUR DJ
 Bill GONZALEZ

Lee takes a look at...

Mary's, Naturally

By LEE DAVIS

Mary's Lounge, formerly called Tommy's Lounge and located at 1022 Westheimer, was purchased by Joe Anthony in 1970. Jim "Fanny" Farmer purchased the bar from Joe in 1972. At the same time that Mary's was starting out, Jim also opened Mary's II in Galveston and the Levi Club (now the BRB). In 1978, Cliff Owens, from Tyler, Texas (not at all evident by his strong southern drawl) joined forces with Fanny as a partner in Mary's. In 1991, Fanny sold his interest to Terry Smith, who died in 1992, and to Gaye Yancey, of Magnolia, Texas. Gaye's story was very interesting as she was the first female bartender at Mary's beginning in 1986! Mary's advertised with The Houston Voice on Jan. 23, 1981, Issue #13, and still advertises with us weekly!



Gaye Yancey and Cliff Owens greet you at Mary's, Naturally

Cliff's bar business experience started with the Bayou Landing in Dallas & Houston in 1972. He moved to Houston in 1976. Gaye's former work experience included UPS and the Post Office, before deciding to slam drinks at Mary's. Cliff will be 54 this October and Gaye recently celebrated her 50th! Gaye still lives in Magnolia with her wife and three cats. Mary's is currently the Home Bar to the Sundance Cattle Company, the Texas Riders, and Wolfpack. Now defunct, the Houston Motorcycle Club once called Mary's home. Mary's community involvement goes much, much further! They actually have been disqualified from the Mardi Gras parade in New Orleans because Mary's won year, after year, after year!

Mary's was an integral part in the founding of the Gay Political Caucus, the Montrose Singers, and the Montrose Symphonic Band. They started the lighting of the Community Christmas Tree on their rooftop in the early '80s. If you haven't attended the lighting, it's a must see! Mary's always has an entry into Houston's Gay and Lesbian Pride Parade. Because of the rooftop popularity, they can only accommodate 100 people during the parade (cost of these tickets is nominal, but hurry—they go quick!). Mary's community involvement continues with the "Rooftop Revue" during the Art Fest where people can enjoy a drag show while shopping for the latest in artwork. Space in front of the bar is donated to various organizations during the Art Fest. They sponsor billiards teams in both the HMBL and the IBL.

In the past, bowling and softball teams were sponsored by Mary's. University of Houston's GLOBAL (the Gay and Lesbian Students Association) has enjoyed Mary's as a great location for car washes.

The interior of Mary's main bar (recently renovated) is unique. The decor includes numerous pictures laminated on the bar top which was started by Fanny and on the walls old license plates, antique signs and such. The Patio Bar also has pictures laminated on the bar top. On Wednesdays, Mary's hosts a Slop Shot Pool Tournament at 1pm. On Sundays at 10am, a Sunday Brunch is held serving delicacies like kolaches and homemade quiches! The Patio Bar is open only on the weekends. Mary's hours are 7am til' 2am Monday through Saturday, and from 10am til' 2am on Sundays.

Numerous "Celebrations of Life" are requested to be held at Mary's Outback. Upon request, Mary's has planted trees, shrubs and flowers in honor of those no longer with us. "Contrary to rumor," Gaye added, "the Outback is not a cemetery!! It's just a nice, usually quiet area where people can join together to remember others."

No renovations are planned for the immediate future. After all, "If it ain't broke...don't fix it!" If you haven't experienced Mary's yet—what are you waiting for? You'll find out quickly enough why folks always say the word naturally after they say Mary's.

"Lee takes a look" is an occasional feature of the Houston Voice highlighting our loyal advertisers. We checked the archives and started with the oldest advertiser that is still advertising with us and will continue the series in chronological order.

Math Teacher Comes out as Transvestite

SANTA ROSA, California (AP)—Mathematics instructor Dick Giles finally decided to stop pretending to his students, so he came to class this week dressed as Diane. Giles, a father of 10 who teaches at Santa Rosa Junior College, revealed this week that he is a transvestite.

"I accept what I am," Giles told The Press Democrat of Santa Rosa. I just decided I needed to quit living a lie." Giles, 58, who admitted that few people knew his secret, said he has identified with the opposite gender for as long as he can remember. This summer, with the support of his wife, Giles decided to come out—and began dressing full-time in women's clothes. He even visited his family in Quincy, Illinois, and attended his 40th high school reunion in a dress. "I've known about it all

the time we have been together," said wife Anne Giles. "I'm glad the hiding, the worrying and the concern for the mental health of Diane is over. This is the person she is." Administrators at the school 50 miles (80 kilometers) northeast of San Francisco said Giles can continue to teach as long as his lifestyle does not interfere with his duties. The biggest challenge has been which bathroom Diane Giles should use, said Ed Buckley, vice president of academic affairs. The problem was solved by putting an interior sliding bolt on the faculty men's bathroom, he said.

EDITOR'S NOTE: A more appropriate word for someone who is "living full-time as the other gender" would be Transgender. -db

Twin Cities host Softball World Series

By LEE DAVIS

The 1996 Gay Softball World Series (GSWS) was hosted by the Twin Cities of Minneapolis/St. Paul, Minnesota August 20-24. The red carpet treatment was given to all participants as over 1300 athletes, fans, lovers and softball supporters converged on this delightful town. The weather was absolutely fantastic to us Southerners, but residents of the Twin Cities called their 82-85 degree weather a heat wave. It was great seeing others sweat and us taking a sun bath, basking in the low humidity and swatting an occasional mosquito.

Houston was well-represented in the tournament, as two teams from the Montrose Softball League (MSL) and two teams from the Women's Softball League (WSL) were there ready to bring home their respective trophies. From the MSL, Briar Patch and the Packers were present, the latter always waving the Texas Flag and the Gay Flag wherever they went. From the WSL, the Houston Texans and the Renegades were proud participants.

The GSWS kicked off with 7am games on Tuesday morning (no, we weren't well for the early starts either). Opening Ceremonies were held at the Dred Scott Field Complex on Tuesday afternoon. Gay activist Candace Gingrich was the featured speaker. One of the most compelling moments came with the singing of the Canadian and American national anthems. The microphone stopped working on the last few words of the Canadian anthem, with the American singer to follow. The volunteers from Minnesota were scurrying about trying to find a replacement microphone. Unable to do so in an adequate amount of time, the packed bleachers started singing "Oh say can you see..." With only those few

words sung, everyone joined in and sang accapella. It was so stirring hearing Gays and Lesbians showing their patriotism by singing the anthem. It really made you proud to be an American, even in these political times.

On Tuesday evening, the GSWS pulled out all of the stops as Camp Snoopy (located in the Mall of the Americas) was closed to the public. The usually packed amusement park was besieged with nothing but Gays and Lesbians, as they opened with some portable dancing floors, a lot of good food and adult refreshing beverages. I don't think the mall employees had or will ever see a sight like that again! As a matter of

fact, the entire GSWS experienced only one demonstration from the Minnesota Family Council (the conservative wing of the North). They could not believe that Camp Snoopy would endorse such an event, therefore they were and are still boycotting the park. The Council were quoted to say "For Camp Snoopy to denigrate a wholesome, family-oriented amusement park goes against everything we stand for!" Sorry about that folks, but contrary to popular belief, there was not a mass orgy taking place—

just a bunch of nice people enjoying themselves.

On Wednesday evening, the host hotel (Radisson South) opened their grand ballroom for the yearly event known as Talent Night. Jim Marks, Commissioner of NAAGA from Atlanta, emceed the show in her character known as Bubblelicious. Various entertainers from several teams entered the show, as all moneys raised went to selected charities in the Twin Cities area.



Softball World Series in Minnesota

Thursday and Friday evenings were spent at everyone's discretion. Some people went to St. Paul (predominantly bars catering to women) and others went to Minneapolis (predominantly male bars). We could all

take a lesson from the Twin Cities. Even though there were bars that predominantly serve one sex or another, everyone was made to feel welcome wherever they went, whether male or female. Saturday saw the closing event of the 1996 GSWS. A city block was barricaded in Minneapolis to host the ceremonies. Tents with beverages and food and shoulder to shoulder people stormed into the downtown area to say farewell and hopefully see you soon to friends,

new and old.

For the Briar Patch, their games did not start well, as they lost to Atlanta's AEN. They rallied to defeat Ft. Lauderdale's team 11-8, but then lost to Tampa. The boys rebounded in the double elimination portion of the tournament by defeating Seattle's Cuff, but eventually were eliminated from the tournament with losses to Boston Fritz and San Diego Rich's.

The Packers, experiencing their first World Series, lost to Twin Cities Storm, Washington DC, LA's Mayan Warriors, San Francisco's Murderer's Row and the Atlanta Bad Boys. They were quite well known in the Twin Cities area by Tuesday evening. Seems the players did not have to pay for any beverages the rest of the week wherever they went. That's one way to show them the Houston Spirit. From the WSL, the Houston Texans played well all week, and walked away from the GSWS with the 4th place trophy. Congratulations to all of the women who represented Houston so well. The Renegades fared better, beating teams like Philadelphia and Long Beach to secure the 2nd place trophy in their division.

In the end, LA's Stray Cats won the "A" Division title, New York's Sunny Day Knights won the "B" Division, and San Francisco's Murderers Row captured the "C" Division. Congratulations to all of the teams who participated in the GSWS. Next year, the GSWS will be hosted by San Diego, with Atlanta winning the bid for the 1998 Series. If you get a chance to visit the Twin Cities area, trust me—you will have a great time.

Interested in playing? see sports listings.

Street Festival Poster Contest

The Westheimer Street Festival Inc., invites entries to the poster competition for this year's fall festival. The winning artist will receive a cash prize (purchase award) of \$250. The design will be reproduced on posters and T-Shirts. This year's Fall Festival will be held Oct. 19 and 20 in the 100 thru 1000 blocks of Westheimer.

Poster contest rules and regulations are: no entry fee required; must be the artist's original; not exceed 24 inches wide or high; either framed or shrink wrapped ready to hang; and camera ready.

Entries should be delivered to Bistro 224, 224 Westheimer, by Sept. 20. The Westheimer Street Festival committee will jury the entries Sept. 21 and the winner will be notified. Entries will be on exhibit at Bistro 224 through Oct. 20.

For more information contact the Festival office at 522-6548.

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Annual Dog Show / Sept. 8 / 4:00 PM

Happy Birthday "Devin" / "Rex" Happy 3rd Anniversary

Houston Council of Clubs gets ready for L.U.E.Y.!



The new Miss Texas USofA, Erica Andrews.

Houston Soap

By CAROLYN ROBERTS

Friday, Aug. 30

Everyone remembers Let Us Entertain You (LUEY) weekends! Well the members of the Houston Council of Clubs (HCC) is gearing up for this February party already! The members of HCC will be guest bartending tonight at the Venture-N starting at 9:00 pm. I hope to see all my club brothers and sisters there!

Five days of festive fun at J.R.'s Party Bar starts tonight with gorgeous go-go gods dancing starting at 5:00 pm, the all-American happy hour with \$1 all top shelf liquor until 10:00 pm, and tropical hors d'oeuvres after 6:00 pm. You can also enjoy \$3.75 Skyy and Stoli vodka cocktails all night long!

Tonight at Chances is the kick-off for the Lee Love family reunion weekend. The show tonight is "The Greatest Love of All," which will be hosted by Laura Lee Love, Crystal Rae Lee Love, and Vanna White Lee Love. This is a fundraiser for the Court.

Miss Zack, Leah Halston, Victoria Nicole, and Sivi Ross star in tonight's drag show at Cousin's. The spotlight shines starting at 11:00 pm.

The Labor Day "Bare as You Dare" weekend long party starts tonight at the Ripcord with "Ripped to Shreds." Wear your holiest jeans



Ken is the newest face at the door at Pacific Street.

and party all night long!

Start your weekend off with \$1 schnapps all night long at Rascals!

There is no cover tonight at Pacific Street from 7:00 pm to 9:00 pm.

Saturday, Aug. 31

This is a drag show not to be missed! The stars are all former Miss Lazy J's. Erica Lane will MC this show featuring the talents of Gina Malone, Jacqlyn Sterling, Brandi Houston, and Rochelle Ramone. Show time is 10:30 pm.

There is no cover at Pacific Street if you are in or out of erotic leather. The party starts at 9:00 pm.

The Gentry Social Club meets today and every day until 7:00 pm featuring \$1.50 well cocktails, \$1.75 domestic longnecks and \$3.50 Absolut Martinis. The only membership requirement is your presence. The Bad Boy dancers take it off starting at 9:00 pm.

The Club Houston will be having pool parties all weekend long. Check out their cool looking ad on the back page for all the details!

The Lee Love family reunion weekend continues tonight at Chances. "The Power of Love," hosted by Laura Lee Love, Bob Bouton Lee Love, and Ruby Stone Lee Love. This is fundraiser for the Court. Show time is 9:00 pm.

It is Southern Decadence, Ripcord style tonight. Stop in and find out what all the brouhaha is all about!

The party continues at J.R.'s Party Bar tonight with the 800 Pacific block party. 75¢ well cocktails and \$1.50 domestic longnecks at Santa Fe from 9:00 pm to 9:30 pm and at J.R.'s from 10:00 pm to 10:30 pm. Miss Zack, Paivi Lee Love, Sivi Ross, and Frankie Lane star tonight at Cousin's. The show starts at 11:00 pm.

Stop in the BriarPatch tonight and hear the sounds of Wayne on the keyboard. The BP is always live, never karaoke!

Sunday, Sept. 1

Jamie Roberts, candidate for Miss TGRA '97, presents "Working Man Blues" tonight at the Brazos River Bottom. This fundraiser has its dollars marked for AVES. Show time is 8:00 pm, but get there early for steak night!

Rascal's is having a Labor Day Extravaganza tonight starting at 8:00 pm. MC Jill Jordan and her 'Lil Rascals dancers welcome Kelly Lauren, Laura Lee Love, Chevelle Brooks, and Jessica Blair to the stage.

Miss Zack, Burgundy Woods, Ashlee Houston, and Tara Dion are on the headliners tonight at

Cousin's. Show time is 11:00 pm.

Gentry has a full day of fun! At 5:00 pm, the Bad Boy dancers take the stage, and the pool table is racked for an 8-ball tournament. At 9:00 pm, "And They Call It Puppy Love," a fundraiser for the Pet Patrol hosted by the Court, and part of the Lee Love family reunion, takes the stage. Then at 11:00 pm, Black Velvett takes the stage for the male strip contest!

The Ripcord's party continues today with "Almost Bare in Your Underwear" party.

E/J's offers \$1 Bud and Bud Light all day and all night! This special is only on Sundays!

J.R.'s Party Bar continues its five days of fun with 99¢ well vodka juice drinks from noon until 11:00 pm and Sex on the Beach for only \$3. The karaoke contest is from 6:00 pm to 11:00 pm and is followed by the swimsuit male strip contest at 11:00 pm.

Heart pounding music. Hot men. Cheap beer! Sundays! What do all these things have in common? The Montrose Mining Company!

Today and tomorrow, the Venture-N is having special power hour prices all day and all night! That is \$1.75 well cocktails, beer, and wine for the uninformed! They will also be having cook-outs on both days at 5:00 pm.

Monday, Sept. 2

\$1 longnecks are at Mary's, naturally this and every Monday from 8:00 pm to 11:00 pm.

More "Luau Madness Monday" continues at J.R.'s Party Bar with \$1.75 Miller products and \$1.75 frozen Ritas. Pump, a professional male dancers contest is at 11:00 pm.

The Brazos River Bottom is having a Labor Day buffet today from 3:00 pm to 6:00 pm.

The Venture-N is having a cook-out at 5:00 pm.

The Ripcord is having a Cajun buffet today at 3:00 pm.

Pacific Street is the place bartenders party on Monday night! The doors open at 9:00 pm.

Enjoy Gentry Social Club prices until 7:00 pm today, plus \$3. Skyy Martinis all day and all night long. The Bad Boys dance starting at 9:00 pm.

Tuesday, Sept. 3

This and every Tuesday you can learn to C&W dance at the Ranch. Southern Country will teach you the Two-Step, Swing, and Line dancing. Join in the fun starting at 7:30 pm.

Mary's, naturally has \$2 Jose Cuervo shots all day and all night this and every Tuesday!



\$62 in which condom? I guess it was a good birthday!

The lovely Paivi Lee Love hosts the amateur talent contest tonight at E/J's. The contest starts at 11:00 pm.

Wednesday, Sept. 4

The beer is cold and cheap at Mary's naturally today and every Wednesday. \$1.75 all day and all night! That goes for well cocktails as well!

Fall in love with the "Two of Hearts" as they sing their way into your heart tonight at BerryHill III! They take the stage at 8:00 pm.

Professional women meet at Bacchus II this and every Wednesday. Check out the 6:00 pm buffet!

Stop in the Trading Post tonight and play some darts, pool, or just watch the big screen. The Trading Post is located at 11410 S. Post Oak Rd.

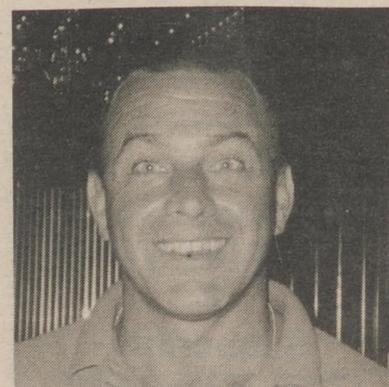
Thursday, Sept. 5

Rascals offers \$1.50 Screwdrivers tonight and every Thursday night! The doors open at 4:00 pm and the party lasts all night!

Our own lady of laughter Nancy (Bite Me!) Ford is on the stage tonight at Ms. B's for "Comedic Bizarro" from 8:30 pm to 10:00 pm. Then at 10:30 pm, you can share the mike for Karaoke and such!

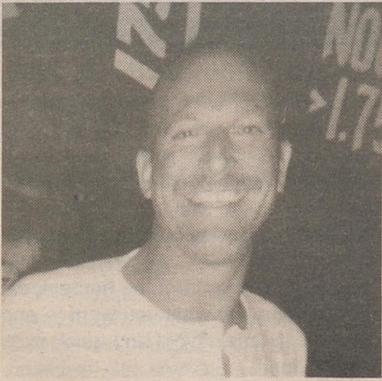
You can get a big ol' burger for a buck tonight at the 611 Hyde Park Pub! The grill glows from 6:00 pm to 9:00 pm.

Marilyn Marx hosts South of the Border night at E/J's. Be sure to try one the E/J's \$2 Margaritas and Tequila Sunrises. The show starts at 11:00 pm.



Steve serves you at Rascals.

Upcoming Events with Rodents



Gary smiling like the cat that ate the canary

Other Important Stuff

The Houston Voice welcomes Fantastic Sams to our family of advertisers. Fantastic Sams has 2 new locations in our area. The Montrose location is at 3939 R Montrose (next to Lobo) and the other is in the Med Center at 2276 W. Holcombe. Be sure to check the ad on page 2 and clip the coupons. Fantastic Sams is offering a shampoo, haircut, and blow dry for only \$7.95 and a perm/body wave for \$27.95. If you would like to make an appointment at the Montrose location call 521-0550 or the Med Center is 661-0668.

Another welcomed addition to the Houston Voice's family of advertisers is Boudreaux of Montrose. Boudreaux will be a cute little coffee shop. They will have coffee, espresso, desserts, snacks, soup, salads, waffles, teas, and a bunch of other tasty treats. Boudreaux of Montrose will be opening soon. They will also be serving beer and wine! They are located at 2312 Crocker (near Fairview) and their phone number is 526-0790.

We also welcome Christy's Donuts into our family of advertisers. Christy's is located at the corner of W. Gray and Montrose. Check out their sunrise special, 99¢ cappuccino, 79¢ espresso, glazed donuts for only \$2.69 per dozen, and sausage croissants or sausage & cheese kolaches for only \$6.25 per dozen.

Minit Man Car Wash is located at 5001 Main. Clip the coupon on page 3 for a complete car wash for \$4.99. Express Lube is located at 4511 Main. Clip the coupon on page 3 to get \$4 off a complete 14-point oil change, which includes a free car wash! For more info, call 523-9198.

Basic Brothers is having a last splash swimwear sale. Buy one suit at regular price and get a second suit for half price. The second suit must be of equal or lesser value. Basic Brothers is your out and proud clothing store located at 1232 Westheimer.

Chapultepec restaurant has a coupon on page 19. Clip it out for a \$1.95 Chilingo Burrito.

The Laff Stop favorite Kathleen Madigan returns this year with the



Sally, is that really you?

coveted American Comedy Awards Female Comedian of the Year Award for 1996. She will be performing August 28 - September 1st. Call 524-2333 for more information.

The annual Dog Show at Mary's will be Sept. 8 @ 4:00 pm.

There will be a gathering of Gay/Lesbian BBSers at the Brazos River Bottom on Sept. 21 @ 3:00 pm.

There will be a benefit for Cheryl Fernandez at Plaza 9200 on Sept. 8. Watch this space for more details in next week's issue of the Houston Voice.

Tickets are available for the 28th annual Miss Camp America Pageant. Call 227-ARTS.

The LVL PWA Campout is approaching. Applications are due by Sept. 6. The campout is on Sept. 20-22. If you want more info, or need an application, call Don (Mr. Wonderful) Gill at 521-0911.

There will be a fundraiser for Don Woods at the Venture-N on Sept. 14 to help his travel fund.

Birthday And Anniversary Corner

Happy belated birthday to Larry Joe of E/J's from the boys of the Ellis Unit!

Happy belated birthday to Shane (hangs at E/J's)! How was your titty dance?

Happy birthday to my old, old, old friend and fellow troublemaker Brian (Damita Jo) Keever!

Happy birthday to Rodd Lindsey!

Happy birthday to Don of the Cat Pack!

Happy birthday to Betty Meyer.

Happy birthday to David, "the bitch in the DJ's booth of E/J's."

Happy birthday to Ted Ayres.

Happy 2nd birthday to Dianna Malloy, the Imperial Princess in waiting.

Happy birthday to Rochelle. Racy loves you!

Happy anniversary to Ted and Salvador!

Rodent Droppings

Check out the photo of Ratrat attacking the Birds of Paradise on my coffee table! I guess he must have smelled them. He ferociously attacked the stem, with his little mouth just barely being able to open wide enough! It was way cute! My disclaimer is in force!

Paige (Glazer): Congrats on your pending nuptials. I understand that you will be having lots of "sisters" at the ceremony! I'm sure that they will all be fighting over that bouquet!

Dennis (611 Hyde Park Pub): I hear you did a little remodeling at the bar! There are easier ways to remove glass. PS, how is your head? No more "early times" for you on Tuesdays!

Chuck, Glen, and a dancer (Rascals): What was it I heard about you three: a bottle of honey and a jar of baby oil in the back room? What kind of lubricant were you making?

Ed (E/J's): You are dizzy enough without spiral staircases!

Andy (J.R.'s): Congrats on Auburn's top 20 (not top 10) preseason ranking. Are you a tiger or a war eagle?

Richard (E/J's): Lucy has extra playtex rubber gloves: see her before clean-up on Sundays!

Helga (J.R.'s): What! No room number carved in your hair? Guess "Hot-Lanta" wasn't so hot!

Glen (PS): I heard that you lost one of

your balls two Monday nights ago!

Sean (Gentry): So you spit out the cookies with an orange tint?

Crystal Rae Lee Love (RSICSS): The hotel was across the street but you still called 1-800-DRAGCAB.

Josephina (Gentry Gaps): So you were full of "whose" testosterone?

Christopher Graham: I know who your secret admirer is!

Charlie (Mela's): I hear that you are "Moonstruck!"

Thumper Knightly: And I quote: "I hate it when I can't swallow!"

Mike G. (NLA.): Is it true that you and Carmen Del Rio have been intimate? But, really, she tied you up and shoved her tits in your face! I wish I could have seen that!

Jeff (Houston Area Bears): And I quote: "I got rid of my nails, but I still bite and chew!"

Michael (Venture-N): It was good for me too! Can I smoke now?

Melvin (hangs at the Venture-N) Right is right!

Regina Dane: How do you get such prompt service at the Eckerd's film center? Enquiring minds want to know!

Dot and Janette (RSICSS): Hope you had a safe and wonderful trip to Memphis!

Cherry Maraschino: Speckled tile on your back?

David (Ripcord): I have a message for you: "I Love You very much." Huggs, Greg.

Don (BRB): Your tire was not the only thing blown in the bookstore parking lot! And why were you shopping at Leather Forever the day before your husband was going out of town?

Vera (BRB): So Missy, you were found on your back, in your recliner, remote (among other things) in hand! Clever girl! Cactus Juice withdrawal perhaps?

Sam (BRB): So, I understand that you blew another tail pipe in the Ripcord parking lot!

Lana Blake: I have a message from Matthew (Houston Voice): "Congrats on placing 3rd alternate on your first try at a major title!"

Bill Havad (BRB): Sorry, honey. "Doing it" in Denver doesn't qualify you for the mile high club!

Judy (BRB): I hear you literally showed your ass at Academy!

Armand (Montrose Inn): Ferrets are not possums!

Gus (Mary's): You were never a little girl with pig tales!

Ken (from Dallas): Your friends in Houston enjoyed your show at Mary's.

Wilma (Mary's): I hear your pussies go nation wide!

Miss Ouisa: And why do they call it a comfort station?

JT/Tequila Rose: My life has been richer knowing a sweet soul like you. Good luck in Utah and be sure to keep in touch! The LW and I always have a place for you to stay when you visit Houston!

Comments On Mr. Illwell



The BriarPatch Softball Team

It has been brought to my attention that some of the victims of Mr. Illwell's columns in the past two weeks have had their feelings hurt. This was not the intent. I quote parts of a letter to the Houston Voice from Crystal Rae Lee Love: "My first reaction to the first column was of thanks; it isn't often that those members of our community who give of themselves to raise much needed dollars for our sisters and brothers are featured so prominently in any of the local publications. My reaction to the second column was completely different. "It would be easy to focus my anger at Mr. Illwell and his remarks, however, I feel the true root of the problem is that a publication such as the Houston Voice would allow such a column to be printed. Another 'local rag' made an attempt at this very thing a few years ago. They quickly realized that people in our community do not condone such trash. It is one thing to have fun with people, i.e. Rodent Droppings, but to be so bold as to name names in such a negative manner is a different matter all together. As far as Mr. Illwell's remarks go, keep in mind that the very people you so boldly criticize are the very people who work week after week after week to help raise money to pay utilities and rent for PWAs as well as put food on their tables and promote and insure breast cancer screenings for those women who cannot otherwise afford it. I suggest you consider these points before your poisoned pen strikes again. Have fun, but have a heart. The people you named certainly do."

Crystal and all other interested parties, I will keep a closer eye on Mr. Illwell's poison pen. Thanks for your input and please feel free to always voice an opinion. After all we are the Houston VOICE!

Mr. Illwell's column will appear in the next issue.

Cuervolyn



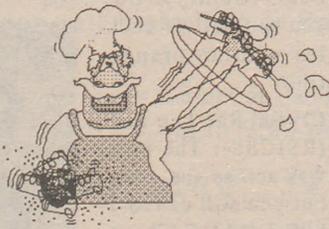
Ratrat attacks Birds of Paradise!

RECIPES BY KUNTRY KIDD

With Labor Day picnics around the corner and our days as warm as they are, this is a refreshing recipe that is very easy to prepare and is usually well received. Have a safe and fun Labor Day Weekend!

Fabulous Fruit Salad

- 3 medium bananas
- 1 large can Mandarin oranges
- 1 large can pineapple chunks
- 1 small or medium jar maraschino cherries
- 1 small package vanilla pudding (not instant)
- 1 small package tapioca pudding (not instant)
- 3 Tbs. minute tapioca
- 1 Tbs. frozen orange juice concentrate



Drain the fruit and save the juice and add water to make 3 cups. Cook puddings, tapioca, liquid and orange concentrate 'til thickened (about 5 minutes over medium heat). Cool slightly and add to fruit. If you wish, coconut flakes can also be added.

Quick & Easy Potato Salad

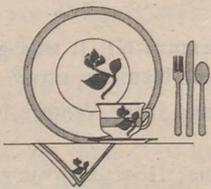
- 1 medium onion, diced
- 1 green bell pepper, diced
- 4 hard boiled eggs
- 6-8 medium sized red potatoes
- 1 C. Hellman's Mayonnaise (approx.)

Scrub potatoes and place into a pot of water. Do not peel potatoes as the skins offer a nice color as well as all the nutrients. Boil potatoes until a fork inserts easily into the potato. Do not over cook the potatoes or you'll have potato casserole. Let spuds cool.

Dice onion and green pepper and place in a large bowl. When potatoes are cool enough to handle cut into approximately 1 inch pieces. Add to bowl. Cut up hard boiled eggs and also add to bowl. Add mayo and mix thoroughly. The secret is to evenly coat the ingredients without everything swimming in mayonnaise. Salt & pepper to taste.

UNTIL NEXT WE EAT!

KUNTRY KIDD



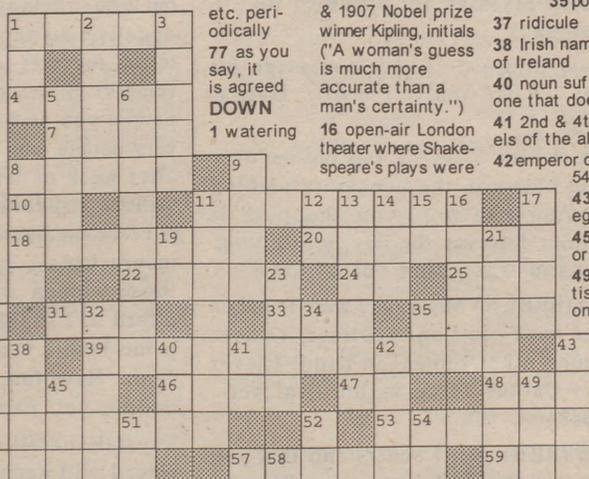
The Great American Puzzle

TEXAS EDITION

By Henry McClurg
ACROSS

- 1 Hebrew word of ten marking end of verses in the Psalms
- 4 broad neck scarf
- 7 white
- 8 president of the Republic of Texas known as father of public education
- 10 Roman numeral 2
- 11 actress Whoopi
- 18 quiz or ask

- (alt. spelling)
- 20 Sir Charles of the NBA, from Phoenix to Houston
- 22 eerie
- 24 sounds like 'eye gee'
- 25 separate
- 26 direction Waco to Shreveport, abbr.
- 29 17th-18th century English satirist Swift, initials ("There's none so blind as they that won't see.")
- 31 cable TV premium network
- 33 a plant's bristlelike appendage
- 35 in the sleeping furniture
- 36 city about halfway between Dallas and San Antonio
- 39 Chicago meeting hall of the Democrats, 2 words
- 44 lettuce variety with long leaves in slender head
- 46 blackthorn fruit
- 47 direction San Antonio to Corpus Christi, abbr.
- 48 long-bodied fish
- 50 Texas river running through Good-



- 53 governing
- 55 protective knee covering
- 57 Texas river running near Bryan, Hempstead, Richmond
- 59 the way Z is pronounced
- 60 about 9-tenths of a meter, abbr.
- 61 grass widely cultivated for its edible seeds
- 64 symbol for chemical element chromium
- 65 adjective suffix for 'that tends toward an action'
- 67 metro area in Texas & Arkansas
- 70 move through the air
- 71 actor Glover or comedian Gregory, initials
- 72 ABC correspondent Sam Donaldson's Texas hometown, 2 words
- 75 river of Europe flowing to the North Sea
- 76 shed hair, skin,

- etc. periodically
- 77 as you say, it is agreed
- DOWN
- 1 watering
- 16 open-air London theater where Shakespeare's plays were
- 19 Latin for 'that is,' abbr.
- 21 give energy to
- 23 Florida county with Miami
- 27 Canada's Northwest Territories abbr., capital Yellowknife
- 28 noun suffix for 'one that is associated with'
- 29 initials of 20th century American financier Morgan (& his son) ("A man always has 2 reasons for doing anything—a good reason and the real reason.")
- 30 designated
- 32 Spanish for good or kind
- 34 American comedian Fields 1st 2 initials
- 35 positioned
- 37 ridicule
- 38 Irish name of Ireland
- 40 noun suffix, one that does
- 41 2nd & 4th vowels of the alphabet
- 42 emperor of Rome 54-68 A.D.
- 43 egg on
- 45 pinch or bite off
- 49 Scottish for one
- 51 2 words spoken in marriage ceremony
- 52 able to be carried
- 54 employing or operating
- 56 Empire State, abbr.
- 58 Radio Corporation of America
- 62 Treasury Dept.'s bureau of law enforcement
- 63 combining form for 'reaching over a distance'
- 66 Old Dominion State, abbr.
- 68 woody plant tissue
- 69 fuss
- 73 clever plan
- 74 groups classed together

- place
- 2 short for 'locum tenens' (temporary substitute)
- 3 one who hates
- 5 country of 1st Europeans to see the beaches of upper Texas coast
- 6 Houston Rocket's center Hakeem, just married
- 8 readily, willingly
- 9 suffix to form word for one who goes
- 11 containing gristle
- 12 late actor Blocker, starred in 'Bonanza,' initials
- 13 LBJ's middle name
- 14 scientific measurement of work
- 15 English author
- 17 gave a new color to
- performed, reopened 1996 after 383 years

- 32 Spanish for good or kind
- 34 American comedian Fields 1st 2 initials
- 35 positioned

GALAXY GAYZER

A HOUSTON VOICE EXCLUSIVE

HOROSCOPE FOR THE WEEK OF AUGUST 30 - SEPT. 5, 1996



IF THIS WEEK IS YOUR BIRTHDAY: Love and money are the themes of the month for you, and you feel right at home on this turf. A passionate relationship is always worth experiencing, even if rediscovering the charms of your mate. Plan ahead with investments.

ARIES (March 21-April 20) Your spirit of independence and adventure is strong this week. Answers to long asked questions may be found far from the homeplace. Broaden your perspective on just what you want to end up accomplishing in this lifetime. Avoid any quick fixes to job matters. Avoid routine.

TAURUS (April 21 - May 21) Avoid taking any foolish risks with your money during the week. Look for opportunities in other areas to expand your horizons. Take some extra time with your mate this week, and no doubt a warm tenderness will encompass you both. Your practical attitude wins approval.

GEMINI (May 22 - June 21) An agreement with a friend may unleash new potential this week, whether a creative or business venture. Be extra careful to not take too much for granted - reality will be a real eye-opener. Try to avoid being caught in the middle of another's quarrels.

CANCER (June 22 - July 23) Stick with routine tasks during the week and get as much accomplished as you can with the minimal fuss. People around you will appreciate it if you just work and don't waste time talking about it. Mind your own business, and don't react to others' flaws.

LEO (July 24- August 23) Your heightened creativity and awareness will add a pleasant new dimension to your work this week. Family members or neighbors may try to get the best of you, so stick to truly important matters and skip the idle chatter. In the weeks ahead, domestic matters will be important.

VIRGO (August 24 - September 23) Money seems to be the issue throughout the entire week. Your financial security should be first and foremost on your mind. A money fund or other conservative type investment may be your best bet. Taking slight risks may turn out best in the long run, if you know all the facts.

LIBRA (September 24 - October 23) Your intuition accelerates this week, just when a new love may be entering the picture. Remember that this is not the time to let your emotions overrule your mind. It seems as if you're on a seesaw, with ups and downs in home life, romance and finances.

SCORPIO (October 24 - November 22) It pays to listen to your inner voice regarding any financial dealings during the week. This is not the time to compromise. Try to tone down any arguments with others, the point will become moot by the end of the day. Accomplish chores at home first, before worrying about elsewhere.

SAGITTARIUS (November 23 - December 21) It's time to forge ahead with your career and gain foothold. Diverse trends will definitely favor your financial activities this week. Don't give in to the temptations to throw away your advantages to gain instant profits. You may be a bit overly optimistic.

CAPRICORN (December 22 - January 20) Try to complete unfinished tasks this week in your usual low-key way. Cooperation at work is scarce, so no matter what you do, there will probably be trouble. Mixed trends may bring good fortune to your career and financial potential, plus rewarding personal relationships.

AQUARIUS (January 21 - February 19) Your attractiveness and pleasing manner can make you quite a social asset this week. Your intuition works well with your logic and much will be accomplished to your satisfaction. Make sure not to hassle with authority, for manipulation will make things worse.

PISCES (February 20 - March 20) Different opportunities will arise this week, so lighten up your mood and take advantage of whatever comes your way. You seem to achieve the greatest success by clearing away debts and balancing your account, plus displaying resourcefulness and being thrifty. Conserve both energy and monies.



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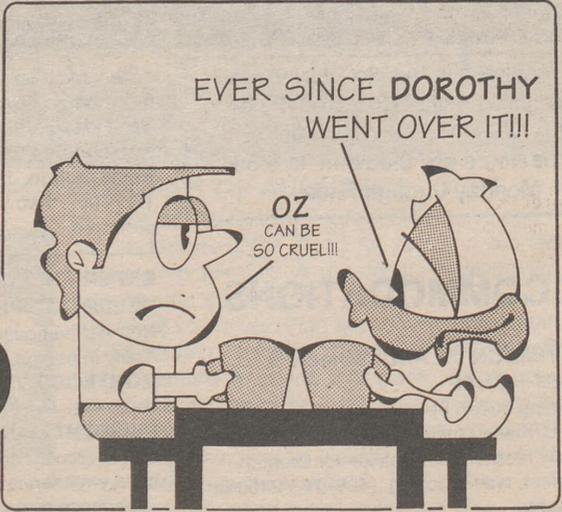
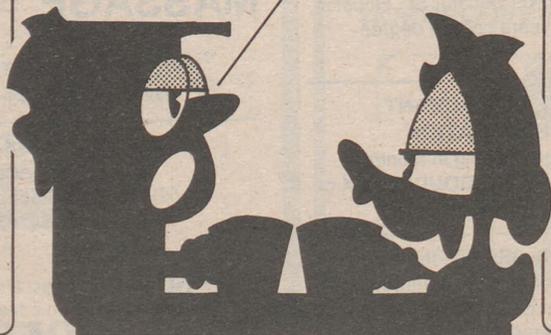


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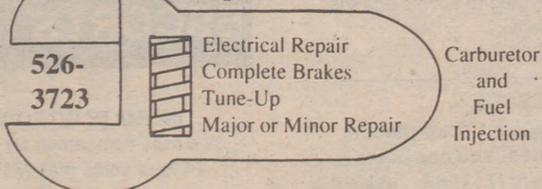
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National Organization for Women

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SPORTS NOTES

Bowling Notes

The Montrose Monday Night Men's League reports the leaders of the Play-offs heading into the last week are Ms. DeeDee & DoDahs, Four Mix Pieces, The Meat to Beat and Eight Balls. Heading up the rolloffs are The Reluctant Virgins, Five Easy Pieces, Sisters of the PBA and Team 21. High scratch game of 235 and series of 654 was bowled by Rodney Seiler. For more info call Gardy at 641-5424. Bowling is at Palace Lanes at 9pm on Monday. Fall league begins Sept. 16. The Inner Loop Alternative Sunday Evening League reports a close battle for 1st between Tough & Tight and Faster Pussycats. Three Pickle Packers & A Fricky, Boyish Looks, Girlish Figures and Sticky Wickets are vying for 3rd, 4th and 5th. For the men Chris Bennett bowled high scratch game of 255 and series of 666. For the women Diann Thomason bowled high scratch game of 244 and series of 658. For more info call Tom at 522-9612. Bowling is at Palace Lanes at 7pm Sunday. Fall league begins Sept. 15. The Wednesday Night Mixers reports with one week to bowl, 1st place is taken by We Come When You Call, 2nd by 1 Gal & 3 Guys, 3rd by Rump Rangers. Tom O'Dell bowled high scratch game of 210 and series of 578 for the men. For the women Carol Clark bowled high scratch game of 200 and Terry Shannon series of 538. For more info call Tom at 522-9612. Bowling is at AMF Southway at 6:30pm Wednesdays. Fall league begins Sept. 18. The Monday Night Women's League reports League Champions are Walking Wounded, followed by Don't Go There in 2nd. Half & Half placed 3rd and in fourth place, M Power. For more info call Pat at 437-6218. Bowling is at AMF Southway at 6:15pm on Monday. Fall league begins Sept. 16.

Houston bowlers continued their busy tournament schedule with the Texas Roll Off tournament in Ft. Worth this past weekend. Mace Adams placed 3rd in the singles and all events categories. He also took 2nd place game and 1st place series and all events in the Optional Scratch A Division. Other singles places went to Tom O'Dell (14th) and Dwayne Pavelka (15th). In the doubles event, John Marr and Brian Elley placed 10th. Don Burken and Jerry Ankenbrandt placed 7th. Dwayne Pavelka and Jody Dunivant placed 6th while 1st place went to Margaret Denison and Tom O'Dell. Margaret also won 2nd place game in Division C. Second Place team went to Dwayne Pavelka, Randy Christ, Mace Adams and Jody Dunivant. Gary Shope placed 1st in series and all events in

Division C. This Labor Day Weekend will find many of Houston's bowlers in New Orleans for a taste of Southern Decadence and maybe some bowling.

Softball Recruiting For Fall

The Montrose Softball League (MSL) is now recruiting for Fall League which begins play on Sunday, Sept. 15. Fall League, consisting of six weeks of games, is recruited differently than the regular Spring season. In the Fall, teams are selected by a lottery, rather than by personal selection. There are typically six different teams, each sporting a different color of the Rainbow flag.

There is never any softball experience needed to play in the MSL. All are welcome! For more information, or to reserve your spot in the lottery, please call our voice mail at 867-3913 and leave your name and phone number. We will return your call ASAP!

Additionally, the Houston Women's Softball League fall season is also beginning Sept. 15. Double headers will be played each Sunday for 5 weeks. The cost is \$10. For further information please call 721-6854.

Lambda Rollers

The Lambda Rollerskating Club holds its next Skate Night Wednesday, Sept. 4th from 8 to 10pm at the Starlight Roller Rink, 8075 Cook Road. Admission is \$5 and skate rental, if needed, adds \$1 to the price. Everyone is welcome to skate and a variety of events will be scheduled along with door prizes.

If your club or organization would like to hold a skate event, please contact Lambda at 787-0625 or gay-skate1@aol.com or the WEB Page site which is <http://members.aol.com/gay-skate1/lambda.htm>.

Aquatics In DC

The Eight Annual International Gay and Lesbian Aquatics (IGLA) World championships will be held in Washington DC the same weekend as the Names Project AIDS Memorial Quilt Display, Oct. 11 to 14.

An estimated 750 swimmers, divers, water polo players and synchronized swimmers from as far away as New Zealand for fun and competition planned for the Fairland Aquatics Center in Laurel, MD and the Montgomery Aquatic Center in Bethesda, MD. IGLA can be reached at 202-544-9278 or e-mail igla96@nicom.com or on the internet at <http://www.nicom.com/igla96>.

Community Calendar

by Carolyn Roberts

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

Friday, Aug. 30

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

Saturday, Aug. 31

- * Houston Chain Gang Bicycle Club rides. 863-1860.
- * After Hours on KPFT 12:00 am. to 3:00 am. 90.1 FM. 526-5738.
- * Gulf Coast Transgender support group meets. 780-4282.
- * Q-Patrol meets to walk the streets at 10:30 pm. 528-SAFE.
- * Visual Art Alliance meets at 10:00 am. 583-8408.
- * Campout with BiNet of Houston at Lake Travis. 467-4380.

Sunday, Sept. 1

- * Houston Chain Gang Bicycle Club meets. 863-1860.
- * The Women's Group meets at 10:45 am. 529-8571.
- * FrontRunners meet at 9:00 am at the Tennis center in Memorial Park. 522-8021.
- * HATCH meets. 942-7002.
- * Inner Loop Sunday Bowling League. 522-9612.

Monday, Sept. 2

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

Tuesday, Sept. 3

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

pm. 488-4492.

- * Empowerment for Living meets for pot luck. 861-9149.
- * PROTECT: an HIV negative support group meets at 7:00 pm. 520-7870.
- * Free HIV testing by the Montrose Clinic at Club Body Center. 8:00 pm. 520-2083.
- * Women Survivors of Childhood Abuse at Montrose Counseling Center. 6:30 pm. 529-0037.
- * Survivors of loss support group meets at 8:30 pm. 778-2677.
- * FrontRunners meet at 6:30 pm. 522-8021.
- * Live Jazz at Borders Book Shop. 782-6066.

Wednesday, Sept. 4

- * Free HIV testing and counseling by the Montrose Clinic at Mary's. 4:00 pm to 8:00 pm.
- * Houston Tennis Club meets at 10:30 pm. 537-1348.
- * Houston Pride Band practices at Dignity Houston. 524-0218.
- * GLOBAL meets at 4:00 pm. 743-7539.
- * Women's Action Coalition meets at Toopees. 7:00 pm. 867-9581.
- * Men's Network at Montrose Counseling Center. 7:00 pm. 529-0037.
- * Houston Tennis Club meets at 7:15 pm. 537-1348.
- * Lambda Rollerskating Club skates at 8:00 pm. 933-5818.
- * Women's Network at Montrose Counseling Center. 7:00 pm. 529-0037.

- * Ongoing Mixed Living in Process Group for men and women. 622-7250 for more info.
- * Living with Chronic Pain at Montrose Counseling Center. 9:30 pm. 529-0037.
- * Aftercare Group Treatment at Montrose Counseling Center. 6:00 pm. 529-0037.
- * Women's Issues Process Group at Montrose Counseling Center. 6:30 pm. 529-0037.
- * HIV Survivor Support Group meets at 7:00 pm. 782-4050.
- * Women's Clinic at the Montrose Clinic. 5:00 pm to 8:00 pm. Call 520-2000.
- * AVES offers free HIV testing at 10:00 am to 5:00 pm. At 4125 SW Freeway, Suite 1717.
- * Lesbian/Bisexual Survivors at Montrose Counseling Center. 6:30 pm. 529-0037.
- * Houston Philosophy Forum roundtable discussion at 7:00 pm. 779-8620.
- * Houston Area Bears Dine Out at Spanish Flowers. 867-9123.

Thursday, Sept. 5

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

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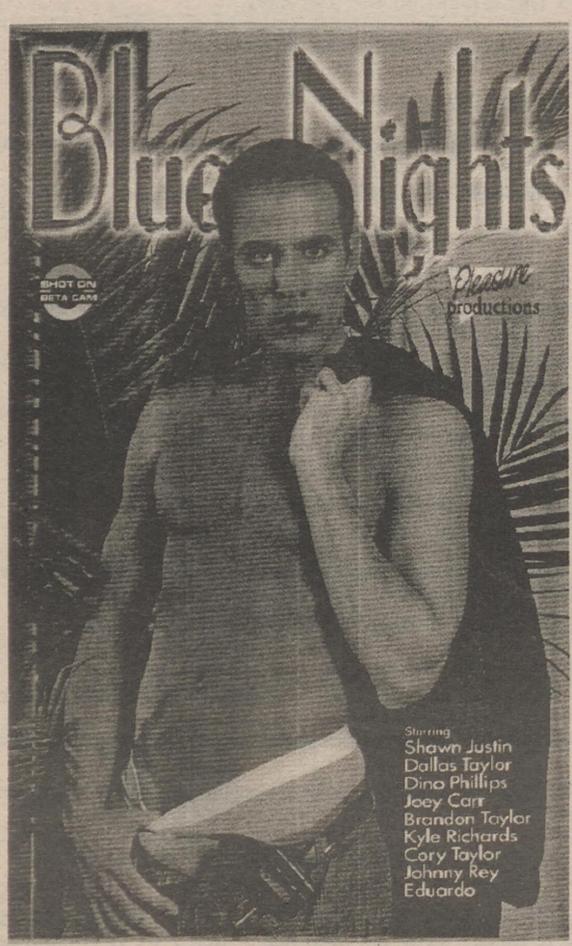
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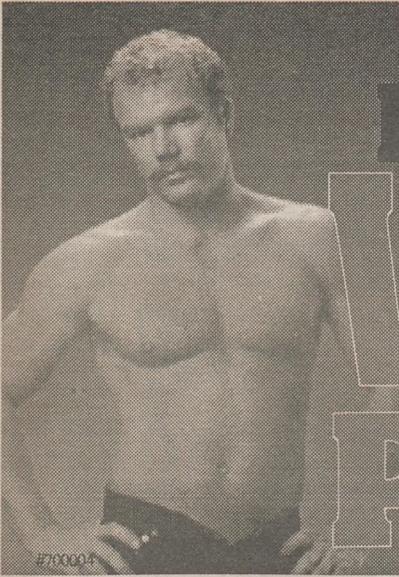
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SBF 45, 6'. Looking for companionship & romance. I like sex. I'd like to meet some interesting people. I like music & I live on the west side of town. Looking for a woman, no butch. Call Ext. 5194

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

Men Seeking Men

SM 6'2", 190 lbs. Looking for football player build type of guys who are under 40. Call Ext. 5196

Gay male, 23, 6'1", 172 lbs., dark hair, dark eyes, well-toned, smooth. Looking for bodybuilders to have good times with. I'll call you back. Call Ext. 5195

SWM 31, muscular, tan, smooth, 156 lbs. Like to meet a man who is stockier than I am. Not looking for a chubby guy. Would like to meet a top. If I sound attractive, leave a message. Call Ext. 5175

SM 46, 6'280 lbs., graying hair. Seeking a gay White, Asian or Hispanic male, 25-50, who is drug & disease-free. He should be slim-to-medium-built, with fuzzy legs. I enjoy friends, music & honesty. I'm compassionate & affectionate. Call Ext. 5192

SWM Very handsome, muscular, smooth complexion. Looking for a dominant, masculine Black, Hispanic or White male. I'd prefer to meet a man who is 5'11" or taller. He should be 30-49. Must enjoy being in control. Willing to follow orders. Let me be your boy. Call Ext. 5190

SM Asian. In search of a Married White cop who needs to relieve the stress of work & family life. If you want some mid-day encounters, give me a call. Call Ext. 5189

SWM 60, 5'8", 290 lbs., brown hair, blue eyes. I'm a bottom. Looking for guys in their 20's or 40's. Race is not important. Honesty & sincerity are prime factors. Let's share respect, love & an active physical relationship. I enjoy quiet times at home, dancing, traveling, the beach, dining in, dining out & the company of an affectionate friend. Call Ext. 5187

SWM 34, 6'1", 275 lbs., brown hair, brown eyes. I own my own business. I enjoy movies, dining in, dining out & intimacy. I have a lot of love to give. Looking for someone to love & get to know. Possible long-term relationship. Call Ext. 5186

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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



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