

HOUSTON

# VOICE

OCT. 6, 1995  
ISSUE 780

A Weekly Community News Publication

## National Coming Out Day at UH

Once again, the University of Houston will be the site of Houston's most visible celebration of National Coming Out Day. For the fourth year in a row, GLOBAL, the Gay, Lesbian and Bisexual Alliance at UH, will sponsor the only National Coming Out Day Rally in the city on Wednesday, Oct. 11. In addition, GLOBAL is sponsoring a week-long series of "Coming Out Activities," geared toward those who are in all stages of coming out and involvement.

According to NCOD's national headquarters, UH ranks among the five most active campuses in the country for related observances. Last year, Coming Out Day activities at the university received news coverage from local television Channels 11, 13, 26 and 51, and was covered nationally on the Cable News Network (CNN).

(Continued on Page 3)



Come Out, Come Out...wherever you are! (Photo by Steven David)

## A 'Next Step' for everyone

*The Social Significance of National Coming Out Day*

By D. KILLIAN

*Special to the Houston Voice*

Once again it's National Coming Out Day, the lesbian and gay answer to the National Smoke Out. While Pride Week (so far held in the summer) feels like Christmas and Halloween put together, October 11th is more like Lent and Good Friday. Even if you're more closeted than an old pair of shoes, you still feel some D-day pressure. The gay press goes full gear with personal testimonies and tips and your friends—who aren't any more out than you but THINK they are—apply a vice grip to your conscience.

Many of us still prefer, of course, the closet. Coming out involves risks: the possibility of losing your job, your kids—and even, in some places, your life. But no one disputes its political importance. It has only been through mass coming out, from the Stonewall riots in New York to the more recent marches on Washington, and group coming out, via political and social action, that the issue of gay and lesbian rights has achieved any progress. And individual coming out, while not as fun, safe, or popular, is probably the most crucial. Studies show that if straight people know someone who is gay, they're more likely to be gay-friendly. Stereotypes break down, and a domino effect is created.

(Continued on Page 5)

## Marriage coalition says organizing crucial

### Hawaii Case Likened to Oncoming Train

By SHERI COHEN DARBONNE

*Houston Voice Editor*

Because of a case pending in Hawaii, same gender couples may be on the verge of winning the freedom to marry, says Evan Wolfson, director of the Lambda Legal Defense and Education Fund's marriage project and co-counsel in the Hawaii case, *Baehr v. Lewin*. And because of that case, Wolfson and three other members of the newly organized Freedom to Marry Coalition asserted in a national press teleconference Monday, gay and lesbian activists across the country—regardless of their personal stance on the issue of marriage—rights face an urgent choice: organize and address the issue from the offensive now, or be buried unprepared in a pre-organized backlash later.

The Coalition hopes to encourage legal, political and activist groups in every state to organize their own projects aimed at supporting the legal recognition of gay and lesbian marriages and families, and dealing with the negative response generated by the issue. Already, such efforts are underway in several states, including Texas (see related story).

Comparing the *Baehr* case to a "train coming down a track," the Coalition members reported in the conference call that a massive grassroots effort was needed, and is being organized, both to defend a marriage rights victory and to fend off a right wing backlash that could affect even unrelated gay rights gains. "It will take much more than Lambda and lawyers, more than just one organization and more than a coalition of national organizations," said Wolfson in opening the conference. "It will take a massive collaboration, at every level."

The coalition, which includes virtually every national organization responding to gay and lesbian issues as well as a long list of state and city-based groups and community centers, was formed to promote political organizing and public education to help win and keep the freedom to marry for same-gender couples.

(Continued on Page 15)

## THRF launches Family Project

The Texas Human Rights Foundation has received a grant of \$1,000 from the John Steven Kellett Foundation to initiate its Family Project. The project's mission is to educate the gay and lesbian community on the legal aspects of gay/lesbian partnerships and families.

Through the Family Project, Texas Human Rights Foundation (THRF) will produce an educational booklet for anyone interested in same-sex partnerships and other family issues, like adoption, custody, separation, and divorce. The booklet, *Family Album*, is scheduled for completion in November.

"This program is pre-hype damage control," says THRF Executive Director Michael Garbarino. "Once the Hawaii case comes down in our favor, same-sex marriages

will be legal. We can't underestimate the public reaction, so we need to educate the gay and lesbian community about it now."

(Continued on Page 15)

## Gay rights case reaches Supreme Court

DENVER (AP)—U.S. Supreme Court justices will hear arguments this Tuesday, Oct. 10, on Colorado's "Amendment 2," an amendment to the state's constitution which says gays cannot be protected from discrimination. At issue is whether Colorado voters acted legally when in 1992 they approved a constitutional amendment barring local and state government from passing laws protecting gays against bias in housing, employment and public accommodation.

The issue, pushed by Colorado for Family Values, a right-wing lobby, won approval from 53 percent of voters, with 47 percent casting ballots against it, but the measure was never implemented. Colorado judges, including the state Supreme Court, held that the amendment was fundamentally unfair and blocked it. Amendment 2 struck down laws protecting gays from bias in Denver, Aspen and Boulder.

A former state Supreme Court justice,

Jean Dubofsky of Boulder, will address the high court on behalf of Amendment 2 opponents.

Attorney General Gale Norton and Solicitor General Tim Tymnkovich will carry Colorado state government's argument in support of Amendment 2.

The Colorado Supreme Court's 6-1 decision against the amendment was written by one of its most conservative members, Chief Justice Luis Rovira. He and most of his colleagues said Amendment 2 violated the U.S. Constitution by "fencing out" gays from the political process.

Now, the U.S. Supreme Court will decide if that Oct. 1994 ruling will stand.

### IN THIS WEEK'S ISSUE

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**IT'S A  
HOUSTON THING**

**Westheimer Street Festival**  
Sat. Oct. 14 th. and Sun. Oct. 15 th.

<p style="text-align: center;"><b>SATURDAY</b></p> <p style="text-align: center;"><b>On The BUZZ Stage</b></p> <p style="text-align: center;">811 Westheimer</p> <p style="text-align: center;">1 - 2 The Jinkies 2:30 - 3:30 Beat Temple 4 - 5 Under the Sun 5:30 - 7 To Be Announced</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><b>On The Budweiser Stage</b></p> <p style="text-align: center;">516 Westheimer</p> <p style="text-align: center;">1 - 2 Godfrey's Rangers 2:30 - 3:30 Irie Eyes 4-5 Ground Turkey 5:30 - 7 Tammy Taylor w/ The Ricky Jackson Band</p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>SUNDAY</b></p> <p style="text-align: center;"><b>On the BUZZ Stage</b></p> <p style="text-align: center;">811 Westheimer</p> <p style="text-align: center;">1 - 2 To Be Announced 2:30 - 3:30 Hi-Rize 4 - 5 Sandy Hicky 6 The Soul Providers 5:30 - 7 Pierre &amp; Zydeco Dots</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><b>On The Budweiser Stage</b></p> <p style="text-align: center;">516 Westheimer</p> <p style="text-align: center;">1 - 2 Catfish 2:30 - 3:30 Perfect Timing 4 - 5 Tammy Taylor &amp; Ricky Jackson Band 5:30 - 7 Kevin Black</p>
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For the first time, the Westheimer Street Festival is proud to  
present authentic Native-American entertainment,  
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Come and explore the Native-American village, surrounded by  
handicrafts while live authentic Indian dancers perform hourly.





The Fine Arts Foundation

# Community Calendar

by Carolyn Roberts

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

**Friday, Oct. 6**

- \* Borders Book Store Gay/Lesbian Book Club meets at the Espresso Bar at 9634 Westheimer. Call 782-6066.
- \* HIV Art Classes at the Art League. Call 523-8817
- \* HATCH meets. Call 942-7002.
- \* Free Buffet at the Brazos River Bottom. 4:00 p.m.
- \* Art Opening at the Art League. Metal sculptural work by Elizabeth Akamatsu, paintings by Ruben Salinas and Gail Siptak, Sculpture Court by Paul Kittelson. 6:00 p.m. Call 523-9530.
- \* Texas Fiddle Fete—Celebrating the legacy of traditional Texas Country Music. Presented by Texas Folklife Resources. Miller Outdoor. 8:00 p.m. Call 520-3290.

**Saturday, Oct. 7**

- \* Houston Chain Gang Bicycle Club rides. Call 863-1860.
- \* After Hours on KPFT 12:00 a.m. to 3:00 a.m. 90.1 FM. Call 526-5738.
- \* The Freds perform at the Lone Star Women's Festival.
- \* KIKK Free Country Concert 15th season. Miller Outdoor. 4:00 p.m. Call 520-3290.
- \* Koi Show at Houston Garden Center. 10:00 a.m. Free. Call 297-9540.

**Sunday, Oct. 8**

- \* Houston Chain Gang Bicycle Club meets. Call 863-1860.
- \* Front Runners meet at 9:00 a.m. at the Tennis center in Memorial Park. Call 522-8021.
- \* HATCH meets. Call 942-7002.
- \* Inner Loop Sunday Bowling League. Call 522-9612.
- \* Out in Ft. Bend meets. Call 344-0638.
- \* Brunch at the 611 12:30 p.m. \$3
- \* Steak Night at the Brazos River Bottom. 6:00 p.m. to 10:00 p.m.
- \* Pool Tournament at Chances. 6:00 p.m.
- \* "4X4 Recreational Vehicle" fundraising party sponsored by the Houston Women's Caucus for Art. Free. Rock Bottom Brewery at 6111 Richmond. 3:00 p.m. Call 520-7840.
- \* Dia De La Raza Festival Folklorico 12th season. Sponsored by Institute of Hispanic Culture. 6:00 p.m. Miller Outdoor. Call 520-3290.
- \* Film at MFA "The Asian American International Film Festival. 6:00 p.m. Call 639-7300.

**Monday, Oct. 9**

- \* AFH Creative Writing Class. 3:00 p.m. Call 623-6796.
- \* Gay Fathers/Fathers First support group. 8:00 p.m. Call 861-6181.
- \* HeartSong open rehearsal at the Community Room in Sharpstown Center. 7:00 p.m. Call 526-9095.
- \* Calendar/Computer workshop for Pride Week. 7:00 p.m. Call 529-1223.
- \* Gay and Lesbian Readers Group meets at 3003 W. Holcombe. 7:00 p.m. Call 349-0050.

\* Agora meets at 7:30 p.m. Call 623-6796.

\* Lecture at MFA "Behind the Scenes at the Vatican Museums" 7:30 p.m. Call 639-7300.

**Tuesday, Oct. 10**

- \* Front Runners meet at Memorial Park. 6:30 p.m. Call 522-8021.
- \* Helping Cross Dressers Anonymous meets at 1509 Fairview. 8:00 p.m. Call 495-8009.
- \* Basic Computer Skills Class at the Kolbe Project. Call 522-8182.
- \* Southern Country gives dance lesson at the Ranch. 9200 Buffalo Speedway. 8:00 p.m.
- \* A Critic's guide to dining in Houston. Montesano's, 6009 Beverly Hill. Call 468-3913.
- \* Lecture at MFA "Behind the Scenes at the Vatican Museums" 7:30 p.m. Call 639-7300.

**Wednesday, Oct. 11**

- \* Shiela Lennon performs at Chances. 9:00 p.m. Call 523-7217.
- \* Houston Pride Band practices at Dignity Houston. Call 524-0218.
- \* GLOBAL meets at 4:00 p.m. Call 743-7539.
- \* Toopee's Coffee Bar has "Activity Night" with a complimentary buffet. 5:00 p.m. to 8:00p .m. Call 522-7662.
- \* HIV survivor Support Group meets at 2929 Unity Drive. 7:00 p.m. Call 782-4050.
- \* Rainbow Ranglers give free dance lessons at the Brazos River Bottom. 7:00 p.m. Call 880-0670.
- \* Men's Network meets at 7:00 p.m. Call 529-0037.
- \* Lambda Rollerskating Club skates at 8:00 p.m. Call 933-5818.
- \* Women's Network meets at 7:00 p.m. Call 529-0037.
- \* Ongoing Mixed Living in Process Group for men and women. Call 622-7250 for more info.

**Thursday, Oct. 12**

- \* Montrose Ice Picks skate at the Galleria. 8:00 P.M. Call 629-1432.
- \* Broadway Showtunes at J.R.'s. 9:00 p.m. Call 521-2519.
- \* HIV Art Classes at The Art League. 1:00 P.M. Call 523-8817
- \* Front Runners meet at Memorial Park. 6:30 p.m. Call 522-8021.
- \* Gay Men's Chorus of Houston open rehearsal at 7:00 p.m. Call 521-7464.
- \* En\*Light\*en Up meets at 7:30 p.m. Call 528-6174.
- \* Twentysomething meets at 7:30 p.m. Call 531-9396.
- \* KPFT Lesbian and Gay Voices airs at 9:00 p.m. to 11:00 p.m. Call 866-6505.
- \* Burger and Chili night at the Brazos River Bottom. 6:30 p.m. to 9:00 p.m.
- \* Steak Night at the 611 Pub. 6:30 p.m.
- \* Rainbow Ranglers give dance lessons at the Brazos River Bottom. 8:30 p.m. free. Call 880-0670.
- \* Safer Sex for Lesbians at Ms. B's 9:30 p.m. Call 666-3464.
- \* Ongoing gay men's Living in Process Group. Call 622-7250.
- \* Open Mike Night at Cafe Artiste. 1601 W. Main. 8:00 p.m. Call 528-3704.



# RECYCLE



## GLOBAL schedules full week of NCOD activities

(Continued from Page 1)

Coming Out Week at the University of Houston begins Monday night. From 8:00-9:30 p.m., counselors from the Houston Independent School District will come out to the Parliament Room in the University Center at UH. The speakers will address the topic of gay youth in public schools: the issues and challenges they face, the difficulties involved in even addressing this issue, and what the community can do to help these gay kids. The University Center (UC) is located near parking lot 1A. (Take UH entrance #1 off Calhoun and look for a large building on the right).

Tuesday, Oct. 10 sees the return of the Beatnik Cafe. "Beatnik Cafe II" will happen in the athletic side of the Oberholtzer Hall Cafeteria from 8:00-10:00 p.m. The event features an open-mic poetry and prose reading, with free gourmet coffee donated by Toopee's coffee shop. The first Beatnik Cafe attracted over 75 poets and listeners from UH, Rice and the Houston community. Oberholtzer Hall is located behind UH entrance #7, which is directly across Wheeler Street from UH Entrance #10. Park in lot #10.

On Wednesday, Oct. 11—National Coming Out Day—GLOBAL is launching its fourth annual Coming Out Day Rally at 11:30 a.m. at the UC Satellite Hill. The rally, which will run until 1:00 p.m., offers speakers from the Houston business, political, youth and college communities, who will give their perspectives on the coming out experience. Scheduled speakers include Suzanne Anderson, Lesbians in Business; Clarence Bagby, from the office of Sheila Jackson Lee; Barbara Winston, Parents and Friends of Lesbians and Gays (P-FLAG) Houston; LuJack Tyler, Houston Gay and Lesbian Political Caucus; Marion Coleman, Log Cabin Republicans; Quincy Fisher, 20-Something; Annise Parker, former candidate for Houston City Council; Michael Crawford, HGLPC; Terri Richardson, president, HGLPC; Brandy Merritt, GLOBAL, and Dianne Hardy-Garcia, Lesbian and Gay Rights Lobby of Texas (LGRL). For the rally, park in either UH lot #15 or #16, both located on Cullen Street. Satel-

lite Hill is in front of the University Center Satellite, located between Science & Research Building 2, the Wortham Theater Complex, the Social Work Building and the Technology College Building.

Wednesday night, Diane Hardy-Garcia will be speaking on youth political activism. The speech is co-sponsored by HGLPC and GLOBAL. Contact Brandy Merritt at 904-1202 (pager) or Michael Crawford at HGLPC, 521-1000 for more information.

Thursday, Oct. 12, a Coming Out Workshop will be held from 8:30—9:30 p.m. in the University Center Embassy Room. Counselors from the Montrose Counseling Center and the Counseling and Testing Center at UH will lead a workshop on these topics and more.

On Friday, Oct. 13, from 9:00 p.m. to midnight, the Oberholtzer Hall Ballroom will be the scene of GLOBAL's second annual Triangle Ball, described by organizers as "a semi-formal celebration of coming out, being proud, and having fun!" Last year's Triangle Ball had over 300 party-goers, and with cover set at only \$3 per person (or \$5 for two), "you can't have fun any cheaper!" This year's event promises to be even more festive, with decorations by Delta Lambda Phi fraternity, organizers noted.

GLOBAL is a support, social, educational and political group for the University of Houston's gay, lesbian, bisexual and transgendered community and its allies. The group, one of the largest and most active gay campus organizations in the south, strives also to educate and serve as a resource to the broader UH community, and to provide a welcoming atmosphere for all UH students. GLOBAL also welcomes students from other area colleges and junior colleges (which often do have the support and resources the university and GLOBAL have access to). Interested persons are invited to drop by the organization's office, located in the Department of Campus Activities in the University Center Underground, or contact GLOBAL by phone (743-7690) or e-mail (ST7WA@JETSON.UH.EDU).

*"Shoot the queers"*

— former Houston Mayor Louie Welch,  
on the campaign trail

*"disgusting, revolting conduct"*

— U. S. Sen. Jesse Helms,  
in debates on AIDS funding

*"Barney Fag..."*

— U. S. Rep. Dick Armey,  
referring to fellow Rep. Barney Frank

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7**

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**IN MEMORY OF**

**I LOVE YOU**  
ONE DAY NOT SO LONG AGO  
MY FAMILY I LEFT  
I WAS CAREFREE  
WHILE MY FAMILY WEPT

THEY DIDN'T KNOW  
IF I WAS ALIVE OR DEAD  
STARVING TO DEATH  
OR WHETHER I WAS WELL FED

I WASN'T CONCERNED  
I WAS FREE TO ROMP AND PLAY  
IN THE CITY OF ANGELS  
I EXISTED DAY TO DAY

THEN IT HAPPENED  
I GOT INTO THE INFAMOUS SCENE ONE  
OF DRUGS AND ALCOHOL  
NO LONGER INNOCENT OR CLEAN

OH I LIVED IT ALL  
WHILE MY FAMILY WENT THROUGH HELL  
BUT MY DAYS WERE NUMBERED  
FOR I WAS TOUCHED BY A DEADLY CELL

SOMEONE PASSED ME  
A DISEASE THAT HAS NO CURE  
WHO WAS IT, I DON'T KNOW  
OF THAT I'M SURE

I WAS SIXTEEN THEN  
SIX YEARS LATER (THAT'S TODAY)  
I AM STILL NOT HOME  
THIS CHRISTMAS DAY

I'VE SEEN MY FAMILY  
THAT I HAVE RAN FROM  
THEY WELCOMED ME BACK  
BUT THE DAMAGE WAS DONE

MY PARENTS ARE GREAT  
I DEARLY LOVE THEM BUT  
EVEN IF AT TIMES  
WE WEREN'T EXACTLY CLOSE

THEIR UNDYING LOVE  
HAS TOUCHED ME WITH SHAMEFUL  
TEARS  
HOW COULD I PUT THEM THROUGH HELL  
FOR ALL THOSE YEARS

I'M DYING NOW  
BUT MY FAMILY IS WITH ME  
THEY HAVE BEEN HERE ALWAYS  
I JUST DIDN'T SEE

NOW THAT I DO  
IT'S ALMOST TOO DAMN LATE  
TO START OVER AGAIN  
TO CLEAN THAT SLATE

TO MY FAMILY I SAY I'M SORRY  
FOR WHAT WRONG I'VE DONE  
THOUGH THEY ALL HAVE LOVED ME  
THEY HAVE REASON TO DISOWN, TO  
SHUN

FOR SO MANY YEARS, I NEVER KNEW  
WHAT I HAD AT HOME  
IT'S NOT UNTIL RECENTLY  
LOOKING BACK, I SHOULD HAVE KNOWN

MAYBE IT'S NOT TOO LATE  
THAT, I DON'T KNOW, HAVEN'T A CLUE  
BUT HERE IT GOES ANYWAY  
MY FAMILY, I LOVE YOU.  
MICHAEL ANTHONY SMITH - 1991 -  
BORN: APRIL 24, 1970  
DIED: AUGUST 11, 1995  
PARENTS: LOUIS AND DIANE SMITH,




**PAUL NORRIS**

Paul Norris, 66, died October 1, 1995. He served in Korea as a Captain in the U.S. Army. In recent years he has volunteered his time and efforts to the Pride Committee and Stone Soup among others. Paul opened his house and his heart to many people over the years. A number of those he sheltered and fed have since died of AIDS. His last roommate took Paul's life. Paul will be sorely missed by all who knew his kindness in the Montrose community. Interment was October 3, 1995 at Forest Park Lawndale.

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Body Positive  
offers several free, confidential programs:*

- ▲ **Positive Friend** is a program designed for individuals who have recently tested HIV+. You are matched with another HIV+ person for a series of three, on-on-one meetings. The goal of this program is to provide you with information, support, and a safe place to share your feelings.
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- ▲ **Women's HIV Coalition** offers several programs that address the unique needs of women living with HIV.

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## All of society benefits when gays and lesbians come out

(Continued from Page 1)

Lesbians and gay men represent only ten percent of the population, but if you include (potentially) sympathetic parents, friends, siblings, and children, (plus the larger than ten percent bi population), gay rights is no longer a fringe concern.

What many don't realize, even in the gay and lesbian community, is how much coming out advances society as a whole.

Well past the Pilgrim fathers and *The Scarlet Letter*, Americans like to think of themselves as sexually sophisticated. The dominance of Freud, the naked '60s, body piercing and S&M—plus Hollywood and Madison Avenue's fetish for all things sexual—confirms how okay we are with sex. Yet the culture protests too much. Americans may be comfortable with sex as concept and commodity—as object—but how at ease are we with sexuality, with sex as part of who we are? The acid test is lesbian and gay rights.

As lesbians, gays, bis, and trans-genders we challenge society because, implicitly, we make people think about their sexuality—and not as isolated acts in the secrecy of their bedrooms or on the pages of *PLAYBOY* but as integral and intrinsic to who they ARE. In contrast, the far right (cut off from the waist down) focuses on sexual ACTS. In Catholic/Christian speak, you can forgive the sinner but not the sin. In military policy, you can be gay but don't tell—or show it. By standing up without shame and admitting we're sexual beings, by insisting our sexuality is not an act, behavior, or choice but integral to our identity and experience, we invite everyone to own—and celebrate—their sexuality. More, by extension, we make it easier for people to "come out" in other ways. Just as "black is beautiful," and *ROOTS* caused ALL Americans to further claim and celebrate their history and ethnicity, so, too, is

gay pride causing people to name parts of themselves previously unnameable. It's no coincidence that "the closet" and "coming out" have entered mainstream, and people coming out in a variety of ways, even as conservatives and Christians. And coming out is recognized as good. At basis, it involves vulnerability and trust and leads usually to increased acceptance and understanding. No wonder the far right is scared.

For the far right and its organizing tactics, the "gay agenda" is the best nasty since Communism and abortion. Despite gay pride, gays are still the ultimate minority, the minority that everyone can agree to hate. Even if you cling to the lowest rung of the lowest ladder, at least you're not queer. But this is why coming out is so powerful. While other minorities don't have a choice, they're designated from birth into minority status, most of us as lesbians, bis, and gays could pass for straight, if we wanted. That we choose not to, willingly giving up privilege and risking censure, is a profound act. Again, it shows society how primary human sexuality is, that we are willing to risk everything to be true to our nature. More, it challenges values and assumptions at the very core of our culture: that macho might makes right, that status is everything, that the majority, in true democratic fashion, can keep you down. Ironically close to our best loved national self myths, the message of gay rights is that integrity counts. Being true to who you are, against all odds and at the loss of money and power, is the best hard currency of all. Someday the anniversary of Stonewall will be a national holiday, streets will be named after Harvey Milk and Audre Lorde, and National Coming Out Day won't be needed. There will be no more closets. But until then, National Coming Out Day is well worth celebrating—for Jesse Helms, the Pope, and for all of us, straight and gay.

## Chastity is OUT for the Texas State Fair

The Texas State Fair, in conjunction with National Coming Out Days' (NCOD) 'A Family Outing' will host Chastity Bono and Candace Gingrich in a day-long event Sunday Oct. 8.

Scheduled to appear at 2:00 p.m. at the NCOD tent, adjacent to the Dallas Civic Garden Center in Fair Park, the two are becoming nationally recognized spokespersons for the gay community. Chastity's recognition comes from her famous parents, Sonny and Cher, while Candace is sister of House Speaker Newt Gingrich.

Ms. Bono has current associations with *The Advocate* as a writer at large and Ms. Gingrich is associated with the Human Rights Campaign Fund.

"The purpose of National Coming Out Day is for lesbians, gay men and

bisexuals to be open and honest about who they are with their families, friends and co-workers," said Susan Gore, co-chair for NCOD in Dallas. "This year, both Chastity and Candace courageously stepped forward and set an example for gay people everywhere. We are delighted to have these two prominent women celebrating with us in Dallas."

More than 5000 people are expected to attend "A Family Outing" Oct. 8, the main event marking NCOD in Dallas. The event will include a barbecue buffet, a performance by Cheer Dallas, speeches by members of Parents, families and Friends of Lesbians and Gays (P-FLAG) and local dignitaries, and other activities. The events is scheduled from noon until 8:00 p.m.

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## Don't hide our history

### Why Lesbian, Gay And Bisexual History Month Is Important

By ALLISON HOLZER

For the Houston Voice

(Editor's note: Allison Holzer, a 17-year old senior at Westtown High School in Westtown, Pennsylvania, is the winner of the first annual History Month Essay Contest sponsored by the Gay, Lesbian and Straight Teachers Network (GLSTN). Lesbian, Gay and Bisexual History Month, observed in October, focuses on the contributions of lesbian, gay and bisexual people to world history).

When I was very young, my parents began to teach me the history of my family. They started with the easy parts: the number of brothers and sisters and parents I had, and where they lived when they were growing up. Gradually, they built up to my third cousins and their children, and then went back to my great-grandparents and where they had lived. Also, through the various history courses I have taken, I have learned the history of my particular ethnic group—that is, Anglo Saxon. None of these educational experiences seemed especially important at the time this information was passed on to me. However, as I look back, the knowledge of my past has given me many indispensable resources: first, it has given me roots—connections to others who shared the same past and the same kind of experiences, and a sort of pride in being who I am. Second, it gave me the comfort of knowing that someone had been there before me, and a direction in which my past was pointing that I could either follow or ignore. Finally, it taught me to choose my direction carefully, for though I am learning my history today, I will be part of it tomorrow.

When I came out to myself a year and a half ago, I knew almost nothing of gay and lesbian history. I had never heard of the lesbian bar culture of the 40's and 50's or the Stonewall riots, and I had never paid attention to the marches that had been making history right before my eyes. Because I didn't have this knowledge, I also did not have the support that I poorly needed. I had no direction—I didn't know where I had come from, so how could I know where I was headed? I also did not occur

to me that the confusion I was experiencing had been experienced before by hundreds of thousands of people, and that I, like countless before me, would pull through.

I see my friends walk through the halls at school. They have their rich family and cultural histories, as do I, but most of them also have the history of their heterosexuality. Maybe it wasn't taught to them as formally as the other parts, but it was taught nonetheless, from the brief descriptions in history texts about how men courted women in the 'old days,' to every movie made in which a boy and girl fall in love. Through this they learn their roles as men and women, the ways they are expected to behave and the ways they fit into society. But a big part of me and many other young people in this world is not taught to us in this manner. When we discover that we are gay, lesbian, or bisexual, we have no concept of how we are supposed to behave, or what our place is. We have no assurance that there are those who came before us, and therefore some of us think of ourselves as abnormal or awful people. Knowing our history would not automatically make us happy, healthy human beings, whether we be gay, straight or bisexual, but it gives us a source of strength: something to fall back on when we falter.

It is important for me to know gay, lesbian, and bisexual history for many of the same reasons it is important for me to know the history of my family and my culture. First, if I know where I come from, I can better determine where I want to go. I can see what has been done in the past, and either accept it or reject it, with the knowledge that I too will soon be part of that history. Second, knowing my history gives me pride in who I am. I can be proud in what my predecessors have accomplished, which makes me proud of who I am and what I am a part of, which is an extremely important part of self—acceptance. Finally, the knowledge of my past gives me roots, and a connection with others who have the same roots. These connections foster contact with people who I might otherwise have nothing in common with, and also give me a chance to support and be supported by people who have had the same kinds of experiences as I have. In short, gay, lesbian, and bisexual history is important to me because it is a part of who I am and who I wish to become.

## Man found dead; roommate charged

(HOUSTON)—A man known to his friends in Montrose for his kindness to strangers and his volunteer efforts was found dead in his southwest Houston home on Sunday, and a man described as an on again, off again housemate has been charged with his murder.

Paul W. Norris, 66, was found inside the house in the 10400 block of Woodwind on Sunday, Oct. 1, after Houston Police Department investigators went there to check out a report from the Southside Place Police Department that a man arrested earlier on a traffic violation had admitted killing him.

Authorities believe Norris was smothered to death by Jody Lee Robinson, who had been staying at the home, owned by Norris, for about two months.

According to the Southside Place Police, Robinson was arrested

shortly after 1:00 a.m. Sunday for a traffic offense. While being held on the traffic charge, Robinson first said he needed to contact his roommate. After calling the house and getting no answer, police said, Robinson told authorities he believed he may have smothered Norris. He later recanted the story. However, HPD had already been alerted, and Norris's body was found with no visible wounds. Robinson was charged with murder and was being held without bond.

Houston Police said the suspect and victim had been living together on and off for the last ten years.

Norris' friends and acquaintances described him as a polite, generous man who often opened home and hearth to those in need of help, including people with AIDS, and who frequently volunteered to help various charity and community projects.

# Gay Today

by Glen Webber



## Out: The Affirmative Lifestyle

Hi. My name is Glen Webber. I am gay. I accept my being gay without question. I don't feel I should have to explain or defend my sexual orientation to anyone for any reason. I refuse to compromise who I am because someone doesn't like homosexuals. I don't feel my sexual orientation is an "alternative lifestyle." I feel that my life is legitimate and my "lifestyle" on par with any other lifestyle being lived today. I feel that I have every opportunity for a better life through hard work and dedication to the principles I was raised with, and I don't blame being gay for anything I have or don't have.

I also accept my status has an HIV-positive gay man. I don't blame the fact that I am gay for my being HIV+. While my health is in a state of decline, the opportunities I now have to see the world in a different light are opportunities I am grateful for. I am glad to be given a chance to appreciate the things in life that make life worthwhile. My greatest pleasure is sitting under the big shade tree in my backyard and watching my dog, Miss Lady, play. The fresh air and beauty of the greenery is relaxing. I'm grateful to have my nice little house, which is my piece of the world. It is where I can run and hide, and be left alone with my thoughts.

I knew I was gay when I was five years old. I was attracted to the neighbor boy, who was 16. He wore a leather jacket and rode a motorcycle. But it turned out that he was a very bad person. He took my interest in him and turned it into sexual abuse. He forced me to have sex with him and threatened me with harm if I told anyone. The burden of this stayed with me for years. It ruined my ability to trust people and form lasting relationships. I was in my twenties before I could even talk about it.

I believe sexual abuse is the most horrible thing an adult can do to a child. I also believe that the gay community should take a strong stand against adult-child sex and speak out against organizations that want to make it legal.

However, let me clarify this stance in light of the fact that state law says those under 18 years of age are considered minors, and that it is illegal to have relationships with those boys and girls under 18.

What I consider my first adult sexual affair took place when I was 16 years

old. I met a young man stationed at Ft. Sam Houston. He was 24. We saw each other several times. It was a breakthrough for me, as I had such low self esteem. Having to hold in the child abuse, having to keep my being gay a secret, and having no outlet to express myself except for my writing, which I did under wraps, this affair was important to me. I am grateful he saw me as a desirable young man.

I was 21 when I came out to my parents. I spent a couple of days out, and when I came home that Sunday afternoon, I joined my mother out by the pool. My mysterious friendships, and my evasive answers as to where I was going, had given my parents reason to be suspicious. When my mother asked me that day if I was gay, I first said no. Then I said yes. She asked me about the neighbor boy we were told to stay away from, and I told her about the abuse. But I also told her that he wasn't the reason I was gay.

My parents accepted it that day without hesitation. Their concern was not that I was gay, but how the world would treat me as a gay man. They were concerned I would be judged for the wrong things, and be discriminated against.

They were right, of course. The last 21 years of being openly gay have been tough. But I think the world is tough anyway. I just have to keep the right attitude. I can't blame my personal successes or failures on anything but my hard work and sometimes good luck, sometimes bad luck.

I don't regret anything in my life. I could, you know. I could find blame for everything. But I refuse to. I am the main person responsible for my life. I am glad I'm gay. I have met the most exciting, beautiful people in the world. I am proud to have won some leather contests, such as Mr. Venture-N, and to have placed in the top ten at Mr. International Leather in 1986. I am proud to have done magazine layouts in *Drummer*, *Mach 13*, *The Advocate* and other magazines. I am proud that I was an openly gay car salesman at Galleria Ford, and had the backing of the dealership. I am proud that now I can write a weekly column and share my thoughts with you about the gay community. I hope all of you realize that life is what you make it. It's a cliché, but it is true. If you are having trouble accepting your sexual orientation, please, do it now. Resolve to be proud of who you are, and take a stand. You are your own best friend and you deserve the best in life. I believe being gay is part of that.

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**Multi-Lingualism: Good Intentions Gone Awry**

The multi-lingualism trend in this country is alarming, and threatens the cultural heritage and fiber this country was founded on. In the past, legal immigrants learned English with a dogged determination, because they wanted to be American and all that it stood for. In addition, they realized it would benefit them economically. These past immigrants had a sense of pride at becoming Americans and wanted to be a part of the fabric that constitutes such.

Unfortunately, the multi-lingual movement permeating our country has torn down this nation's unity, and it has done nothing to assist immigrants' integration into society to their benefit. This country was founded on basic principles, all of which were on the path of erosion until recently. Rugged individualism, capitalism, self-reliance, personal responsibility and a common language have been the foundation of our country's successes.

Senator Bob Dole stirred up debate on the subject of English as an official language during a campaign stump two weeks ago, and although I am no fan of the vacillating Senator, he is correct in pursuing this line of legislation. Consider for a moment some of the current laws that exist on the subject.

According to the American Immigration Control Foundation, the multi-lingual lobby has thus far been successful in their efforts to force schools to teach children in dozens of foreign languages, providing foreigners ballots in their native tongue and manipulating the IRS into printing federal income tax forms in Spanish. In addition, Driver's license exams are given in foreign languages in several states. What really perturbs me, however, is that they have gone so far as to have the INS provide the citizenship tests and conduct the swearing-in ceremonies in foreign languages.

All of this is enforced at taxpayers expense, of course. So what dividend do we get in return? As usual, not much. This is yet another liberal program with good intentions that has gone awry. From their inception 27 years ago to assist Mexican-Americans, bilingual education programs have catapulted into a \$10 billion-a-year government bureaucracy, that has failed to deliver on its promise that students would be more inclined to learn English if it was transitional. In fact the program has done more harm than good.

The premise for this program was designed to allow students to learn math, history and science among other subjects in their own language for the bulk of the day and learn English in small increments throughout a three or four year period, at which time they would switch to English-only classes. Presumably they wouldn't lag in their other lessons while learning English and in the process become proficient

in several languages. Sounds great? Sure, if it were true. As so often happens with government programs, the end doesn't justify the means.

According to a New York study published in U.S. News and World Report, 80% of all LEP (Limited English Proficient) students who attended classes taught in English graduated to "mainstream English" in three years. Meanwhile, only 50% of the students in the bilingual classes achieved the same results. Similarly, California initiated a study after an independent investigation conducted in 1993 found that native language instruction is "divisive, wasteful and unproductive." The study concluded that students were spending too much time in "native-language" instruction.

The question is where does it stop. Are we going to have street signs, election ballots and income tax forms in German, French, Italian, Spanish, etc.? As it stands, it is difficult to obtain a job in parts of Florida and Texas if you are not fluent in Spanish. Not to mention the economic burden it places on the rest of society. Recent Census Bureau statistics show that 20% of this country's foreign born population arrived in the last five years. In the last 12 years alone, the number of legal immigrants seeking supplemental income from the taxpayers has increased a whopping 580%. This can all be attributed to the multi-lingual movement.

America cannot afford to continue down this destructive path. The public outcry over this travesty has become monstrous as demonstrated in the electorates overwhelming support, nearly 80% in some polls, towards adopting an English Only law. It has already been enacted in twenty two states and hundreds of other municipal and city legislative sessions. As the multi-lingual movement starts integrating into suburbia the English only movement will gain even more steam, suggests Linda Chavez, former director of the Commission on Civil Rights. "Everybody's appalled when they find out about the problems," Chavez says, "but the fact is, it doesn't affect their kids." That is about to change and so is the public debate.

Immigrants are an important part of this country's heritage and future immigrants will be productive members of society as well. To ensure that this occurs, we must encourage legal immigrants to accomplish what their ancestors did with a dogged determination and allow them the opportunity to realize the American dream and see it parlay to fruition.

Newt Gingrich has affirmed his unwavering support of an English only law and I certainly hope Senator Dole does not reverse his position as he so often does. If anyone needs more convincing of the upheaval that multi-lingualism can bestow upon society, one only needs to pick up a newspaper and look at what the ethnic strife and cultural hostilities has created in the Middle East and Bosnia.

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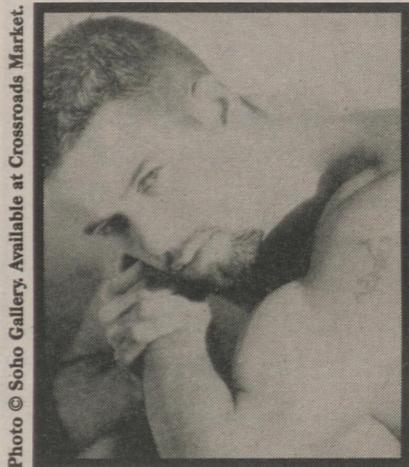


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## Montrose Clinic announces two new programs

### Services For Women and African-Americans

In its continuing effort to provide low-to-no-cost health, social, educational and research services to the Houston community, the Montrose Clinic has introduced two additional specialized programs. One is directed at women's needs and the other will serve the HIV-infected African-American community.

The new women's health specialty clinic had its first appointments Wednesday, Oct. 4. It includes a complete OB/GYN screening by OB/GYN specialist, Scott Freathy, M.D., diagnosis, laboratory work, medication and referrals, as needed. A \$40 fee is requested but no one will be turned away. The clinic is open to all women including, but not limited to, those who are HIV+. Wednesday appointments from 4:00 until 8:00 p.m. are necessary and can be made by telephoning the clinic at 520-2000.

For the African-American community, the Clinic is offering targeted case management to individuals. Case management assists HIV+ persons to obtain services such as rent, food and financial assistance, transportation, physician referral, government paperwork assistance and many other practical services. Any African-American HIV+ individual can qualify for this program by calling for an appointment at 520-2075.

"The mission of the Montrose Clinic is to create client-centered programs to fill unmet health and social needs," said Eileen Hegar, Clinic president. "There is a great need for affordable women's health care and that is why Montrose Clinic is offering this service," she added. Remarking on the new African-American directed program, she continued, "For all the emotional and physical, not to mention the cultural, hardships that accompany HIV infection, I know this is a much needed program."

"The African-American background has always been one of strong family values, morals and religion. However, because of the stigma associated with HIV, not much is said or done. Individuals can find themselves cut-off, isolated and left with feelings of despair when their traditional support system is unavailable or inadequate," said new African American case manager, Charles Jackson. According to statistics, 60% of all reported female AIDS cases are African American and 25% of all reported AIDS cases in Houston are African American.

Two new case managers will handle case loads up to 40 clients each. "Our goal is to empower our clients to take control of their life and give them the support they need to live with HIV," said case manager David Lee.

The Montrose Clinic is a not-for-profit, community-based agency established to serve people in the Houston area by providing low or no cost health, social, educational and research services. The Clinic specializes in identifying unmet needs and developing client-centered programs to address those needs. The professional staff and volunteers of the Clinic are dedicated to preventing the spread of disease, providing early diagnosis and promoting appropriate intervention.

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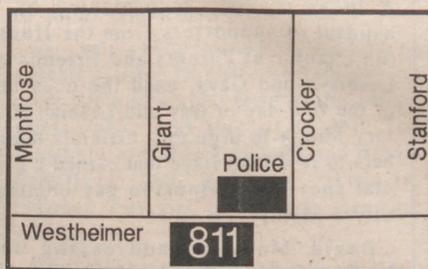
#### WHO IS ELIGIBLE FOR A VIATICAL SETTLEMENT?

Generally, to be eligible for a viatical settlement you must have a documentable terminal illness, and life insurance coverage in either an individual term, whole life, or a group policy.

#### HOW MUCH IS MY POLICY WORTH?

The value of your life insurance policy in a viatical settlement is determined by the specifics of your policy and your unique medical situation. Not every policy is suitable for viatication, but settlement offers typically range from 60 percent to 90 percent of a policy's face value, depending on the specifics of your policy and medical history.

#### HOW DOES A SETTLEMENT WORK?



With your written permission, we gather medical and insurance records with which to determine your policy's value. Then, a settlement offer is presented to you. You may always decline the offer with no obligation whatsoever. Should you accept the offer, payment is made directly to you. You pay nothing else on your policy, and you owe us nothing.

#### IS VIATICATING MY POLICY THE RIGHT CHOICE FOR ME?

Many factors influence whether viaticating your life insurance policy is the best financial alternative available to you. Linked Benefits can discuss all of the factors with you and your family in person, in detail, and can recommend an experienced Certified Financial Planner to assist you in planning the best outcome for your unique financial situation.

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# SPORTS NOTES

### Lambda Skaters

The Lambda Rollerskating Club will hold its next Skate Night Wednesday, Oct. 11 from 8:30 to 10:30 p.m. at the Starlight Roller Rink.

The rink is located at 8075 Cook Road at the corner of Cook and Beechnut. The skating session costs \$5 and skates can be rented for an additional \$1. You can reach the rink by taking 59 south to the Sam Houston Tollway (S) to Beechnut (a free exit!), turn left onto Cook.

Everyone is welcome and a variety of games will be scheduled and door prizes will be given out. For more information about the Skate Night or the Lambda Rollerskating club call 933-5818.

### Rolling Bowlers

The Inner Loop Sunday Evening Mixed League reports first place position is currently taken by Team #5, second place by Monostat 4 and third place by Sweet Spirits. Brian Elley bowled scratch game of 233 and series of 646 for the men. For the women, Diann Thomason bowled game of 258 and series of 577. Bowling is at Palace Lanes on Bel-

laire Blvd. at 7:00 p.m. For more information, telephone Tom at 522-9612.

The Montrose Monday Night Men's League reports the first 3 places in division A are taken by Tasomp, Gio-Gio!, Junior Leaguers and Clueless. division B is headed by Team #27, Toys-R-U's and Team #21. High scratch game of 244 and series of 641 was bowled by Bob Robert. Bowling is at 9:00 p.m. at Palace Lanes. For more information telephone Gardy at 641-5424.

The Monday Night Women's League bowling at AMF Southway (HY59 at Gessner) reports that Legal Insanity is in 1st, Festive Foursome is 2nd, TAZ Club is 3rd and Maybe, Maybe Not is 4th. Bowling begins at 6:15. For more information telephone Pat at 437-6218.

The Wednesday Nite Mixers report 3 Tops and a Bottom in 1st Place, Bitches with Balls in 2nd and Team #4 in 3rd. High scratch game of 219 and series of 628 was bowled by Chris Bennett for the men while Terry Shannon bowled high scratch game of 205 and series of 557 for the women. To join or for more information call Tom at 522-9612. Bowling begins at 6:30 p.m. at AMF Southway.

## City council asked to revisit issue of anti-discrimination ordinance

By SHERI COHEN DARBONNE  
*Houston Voice Editor*

A local activist, accompanied by a handful of supporters from the Houston chapter of Parents and Friends of Lesbians and Gays, used the occasion of the first day of Gay and Lesbian History Month to urge city officials members to revisit an issue that earned a pivotal spot in the Houston gay community's history.

David Morales, addressing the Houston City Council during its weekly public comment session, called for a "serious dialogue" to begin regarding the passage of a non-discrimination ordinance that will protect all citizens of Houston from discrimination in employment and housing (read: including gay men and lesbians). In the speech, Morales provided some historical context for the now heavily short-termer council:

"Twenty years ago, on Oct. 1, 1975, Hugh Crell made this request, and Houston still doesn't have an ordinance," Morales said. "Austin unanimously passed its non-discrimination ordinance in August of 1975, and Dallas has since adopted an ordinance of its own effective January, 1995. These ordinances specifically mention sexual orientation in their wording.

"Many minority groups still suffer from various forms of under-the-table discrimination, and they have legislation to protect them from the discrimination they experience. The gay and lesbian community is the only minority group that does not have

legislation with which they can legally confront the discrimination they experience...everyone deserves the right to protect themselves from the ugly realities of discrimination," he continued.

Morales said he became interested in the ordinance issue after finding a copy of Crell's 1975 speech while doing volunteer work at the Metropolitan Community Church of the Resurrection's archives.

Such an ordinance has not been proposed in Houston since 1984, when an extension of the city's employment anti-discrimination protections to include sexual orientation erupted in a backlash that included the infamous referendum in which it was overturned, and unsuccessful election challenges to several officials that strained relations with the community. "A lot of people are still licking their wounds from that fiasco," said Morales, "and we basically have a relatively comfortable life right now, so people are getting lethargic in their level of comfort. They forget that right now, if you're fired or evicted for being gay or lesbian, there is no legal recourse."

Morales is also the coordinator of the educational outreach group Anti-Homophobia Alliance (AHA!), which seeks to educate non-gays to the presence and contributions of the gay and lesbian community. But he is careful to point out that his efforts around the anti-discrimination issue are undertaken as an individual. "AHA! is an educational organization...it isn't political," he said.

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## Community Organizations Bulletin Board

### Ray West Elected President

The Board of Directors of the People with AIDS Coalition-Houston elected Ray West as President of the Executive Board, succeeding Karl Kabus, who resigned due to poor health.

A long-time volunteer with the Coalition, West has served as Vice-President of the Coalition Board of directors, and as an Advisory and Executive board Member. In 1994, along with Holly Patterson and Escler Pruitt, he was awarded the Bill Napoli Award, which goes to an outstanding volunteer.

Active in many community organizations, West served as pageant director of the Miss Camp America Foundation this year. He is also associated with Outrage.

### Burn The Mortgage

The boards of the Montrose Counseling Center and the Montrose Counseling Center Permanent Endowment would like to invite friends and supporters to a "Burn the Mortgage" celebration at the Counseling Center (701 Richmond Ave.) this Sunday, Oct. 8, from 4:00 until 6:00 p.m.

Marking the retirement of the mortgage and independent ownership of the building, the Boards will be recognizing Darrell F. Butler, Rob Falletti, Robert A. Miller and Dwayne Wells as former board member who donated greatly to the building. Representatives from Houston Endowment and Swalm Foundation will also be on hand.

The building at 701 Richmond houses all the programs and services of the Montrose Counseling Center and is second only to MCCR for completely owning a building in the name of the Gay and Lesbian communities. The Counseling Center was founded in 1978 by and for the Gay, Lesbian, Bisexual and Transgender communities.

### 1995 Smock Art Party

The 1995 Smock Art Party will be hosted at the R.E.F. Galleries (1305 Fairview) Saturday (7th) beginning at 6:00 p.m. and benefiting homeless AIDS patients through the AIDS Housing Coalition Houston (AHCH).

People are asked to dress formally—or to theme—and bring a smock to paint art in, for this gala event and silent auction. The party theme will be "paint your dreams."

The evening will feature the cater-

ing of Carter and Cooley delicatessen, and wine and soft drinks will be available. Those attending will be asked to make a donation to AHCH. To be included on the private guest list please RSVP at 521-1613.

### Spectrum '95 To Release Survey Info

Town Meeting, Inc. will be holding a press conference Oct. 26 at the Montrose Library to release information obtained from a survey collected June 18 at the Spectrum '95 event held in the AstroArena.

The survey asked people about politics, religion, economic, personal and political concerns. Indications are the results are not typical of other surveys. The press conference will last about one hour and refreshments will be served. For more information please telephone 526-2853.

Town Meeting, Inc. will also kick off their sales drive for the next Business Expo, Art Expo and Speakers Program, scheduled for Spectrum '96 in October of 1996.

### Campers Needed By Camp Foundation

The Miss Camp America Foundation needs some "stout hearted men" to join the organization as new associate members.

If you are interested in bumping and grinding on stage, toting that barge, sewing a stitch or working the books, it is time to join the force, The Miss Camp America Foundation. This year the foundation donated \$60,000 to local charities.

The current members would like to spread a little laughter and cheer into your life and maybe some rhinestones, studs, glitz and lots of CAMP. The members are dream makers and dream fulfillers and promise 'recruits' endless curtain calls and standing ovations.

For more information please contact Scott Thompson, vice president of membership, at 496-7899.

### HGLP October Doings

The Houston Gay and Lesbian Parents have announced their October schedule beginning with the Support Group meeting Tuesday, (10th) from 7:00 to 8:30 p.m. in the MCCR library downstairs at 1919 Decatur.

The October Family Activity Day is planned for Saturday (21st) at 4:00 p.m. as "A Day in the Park." Please telephone either Pam or Ellen or additional information at 980-7995.

## Former Oregon governor joins HRCF board

WASHINGTON, Monday, Sept. 25 (AP)—Former Oregon Gov. Barbara Roberts on Sunday joined the board of directors of the Human Rights Campaign Fund, the nation's largest lesbian and gay political organization.

"We must enlist the support of more and more non-gay citizens to join this effort to ensure that all Americans without exception may live free from discrimination," Roberts said.

Elizabeth Birch, the fund's executive director, said Roberts worked to defeat anti-gay initiatives in Oregon in 1992 and 1994. The former Democratic governor also appointed lesbians and gay men as judges during her term from 1991-95.

"She brings her wealth of experience and stature to a gifted and talented group of volunteers that guide the politics and financial health of HRCF," Birch said.

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Quincy Fisher, 20something  
Annise Parker, City Councilwoman  
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Terry Richardson, HGLPC  
Brandy Merritt, GLOBAL  
Diane Hardy-Garcia, LGRL

Wednesday, October 11  
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Tacheles, an alternative arts center in Oranienburger Strasse, is housed in the ruins of an old department store that was bombed during the second World War. The facility houses a bar, theatrical and film performances and artists' studios, and it has become a center of the thriving "alternative" scene in Eastern Berlin (Photo by Andrew Edmonson)

## In the new Europe, Berlin retains its position as Gay Capitol

By ANDREW EDMONSON

For the Houston Voice

(Editor's Note: This is the first in a series of three articles examining cities in Central Europe of interest to gay and lesbian travelers: Berlin, Prague and Vienna.)

(BERLIN, Germany)—Berlin has long been one of the world's great gay cities.

Home of the pioneering gay rights leader Magnus Hirschfeld, the inspiration for Christopher Isherwood's celebrated Berlin Stories (which was later transformed into the musical "Cabaret"), and the launching pad for Marlene Dietrich's international career, Berlin is a treasure trove of gay and lesbian history and culture.

Six years after the fall of the Berlin Wall, the pace of change in the city is dizzying. The skyline of Berlin is dominated by building cranes as new skyscrapers and shopping centers shoot up every where. Scaffolding surrounds historical landmarks, once left to languish in disrepair, that are now being renovated and readied for public display. Streets in the Eastern Berlin that were once lifeless, dimly lit, and deserted are now bustling with bright new shops, fast food restaurants and all night video stores.

As the millennium approaches, Berlin is positioning itself not only to regain its place as the capital of Germany, but to become the heart of united Europe.

And the Eastern section of the city, once derided as sleepy and provincial, is the happening place to be. A perfect way for the gay or lesbian tourist to experience the exhilarating sense of change that characterizes Berlin today is to stroll through the Scheuenviertel, particularly the streets Oranienburger Strasse and Auguststrasse (S-bahn: Oranienburger Strasse). This area of the city is the headquarters of Berlin's "alternative" scene. Small art galleries, bustling bars and cafes, and clubs are housed in crumbling buildings that still bear the scars of the Second World War.

Hip young Berlin meets here for a drink and a night on the town. Students, artists, punks, intellectuals, the prosperous middle class, gays and stra-

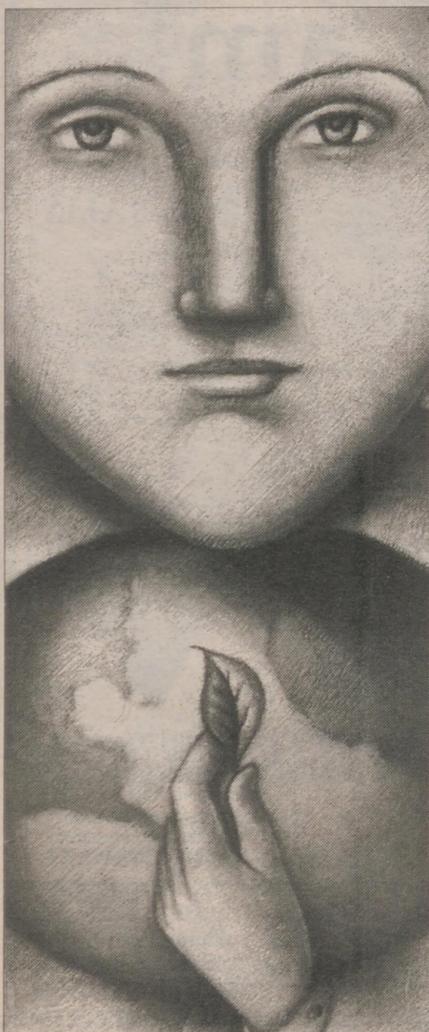
ights alike all come together on Oranienburger Strasse.

Above it all towers the golden dome of the Oranienburger Strasse Synagogue. Ransacked during the 1938 Nazi pogrom Kristallnacht and bombed during World War II, the synagogue has been renovated over the past five years, and stands as a glorious symbol of the new Berlin.

At the center of Oranienburger Strasse is Tacheles, an alternative arts center that has become the hub of nightlife in this section of town. An old department store that was bombed during the Second World War, the building has been taken over by artists, and today it is home to studios, a bar, and theatrical and film performances.

(Continued on following page)

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## Europe's 'gay capitol' has points of interest east and west

(Continued from preceding page)

Two venues on Auguststrasse in particular are worth a special visit. At #84 is Valentino, a sleek gay and lesbian cafe/bar with interesting art displays and a delicious Sunday brunch served between 10:00 a.m. and 3 pm for about \$8.

Further down the street at #61 is Cafe Ici. With its mismatched chairs, comfortable sofas, and atmosphere of artistic disarray, Ici is the quintessential European student cafe. Look for the proprietress of the establishment. A striking woman with white-face makeup, a cigarette in her hand, and a dramatic

manner, she is truly a gay icon. Her portrait is given pride of place in the back of the cafe. The traditional heart of gay life is located in Nollendorfplatz in the West, home to a cluster of queer bars, clubs, and cafes (U-bahn: Nollendorfplatz). Mann-0-Meter, located at 5 Motzstrasse, is the city's gay and lesbian center, and provides visitors to the city with a wealth of information on Berlin, safe sex, and gay/lesbian friendly accommodation.

At #19 Motzstrasse is Hafen, a red plush, faintly psychedelic bar where Berlin's trendy boys hang out. Next door is a Berlin institution, Tom's Bar, a dark leather and jeans hang-out that gets hot after midnight. Porn films are broadcast on big screens in the rear of the bar, and the dark room downstairs



The Oranienburger Strasse synagogue, ransacked and gutted during the Nazi anti-Semitic program Krystallnacht on Nov. 8, 1938 and bombed during WWII, was left in shambles for almost 40 years. Today, the golden dome of the newly restored synagogue dominates the skyline in the eastern part of Berlin. (Photo by Andrew Edmonson)

is one of Europe's busiest back rooms.

Two gay historical landmarks dot this area. At the entrance to the Nollendorfplatz U-bahn station is a pink triangle plaque commemorating homosexual victims of the Nazi Holocaust. Just down the street at Nollendorfstrasse 17 is the apartment building where Christopher Isherwood lived in the early 1930s. He later went on to record his experiences during this time in Berlin stories.

For those tourists wishing to take a walk on Berlin's wild side, the Dandy Club (Urbanstrasse 64; U-Bahn Hermannplatz) hosts weekly safer sex/underwear parties each Friday. The parties are very German and extremely

organized: you check your clothes with the bouncer, who stores them in an office in the back of the bar. After you have mingled and socialized, you retrieve your clothes and pay off your running bar tab.

Two invaluable resources for anyone traveling to Berlin are Siegessaule, a monthly magazine in German with articles and day-by-day listings and a community services guide; and Metropole, a monthly English language magazine, with a guide for tourists, as well as a number of fascinating articles on trends in city life. Metropole may be purchased at the Bahnhof Zoo train station or any kiosk carrying international publications for about \$5. Siegessaule is free and available at most bars.

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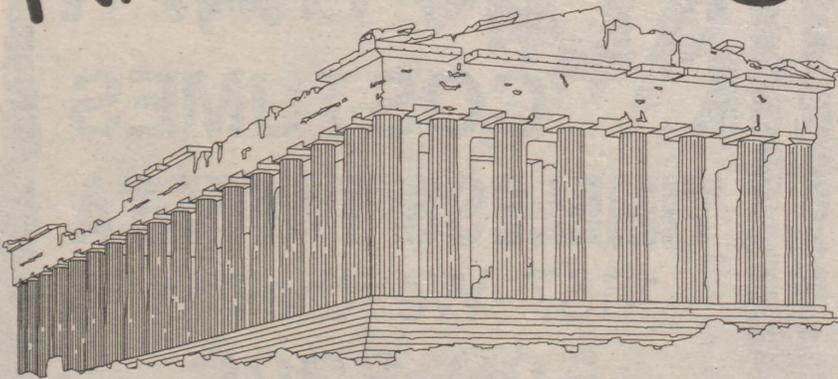
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# HOUSTON VOICE MAIL

Letters to the Editor

## In Response To 'DFZ' Project

FROM PETE RODRIGUEZ  
 Houston, Texas

In 1989 I moved to Houston from Fort Worth. One of the first places my friends took me was La Mexicana Restaurant in the Montrose area. I was amazed and pleased with the diversity of the patrons—young, old, River Oaks matron, Act-Up members, Hispanic, Black and White. I have returned many times with my male spouse, my family, gay and non-gay friends. Without exception, from the busboy to the stern-appearing, yet gracious older cashier, I and other patrons have been treated with a smile, kindness, dignity and great respect.

When reports surfaced they were the first business in the Montrose area targeted for being discriminatory and were to be boycotted by the gay community in order to "transform the rhetoric of non-discrimination into the reality of equality." I went to La Mexicana to see if I had missed something. I witnessed patrons appearing relaxed and comfortable and being served with the same respect.

But now the Houston Gay and Lesbian Political Caucus, in coalition with the African American Lesbian and Gay Alliance of Houston after "weeks of negotiation" have deemed Mr. Trevino and La Mexicana a politically and socially acceptable place where I can be assured of non-discrimination as both a Hispanic and gay male. He was "allowed" to sign a pledge ending the boycott and blessing him with HGLPC and AALGA endorsement.

I remembered "buzzing" kisses on the faces of my male and female friends in the past with nary a glance from the staff. I wasn't there during the "kissing incident," but from my few years of experience at La Mexicana, I trust Mr. Eduardo "Ed" Trevino's viewpoint of what is considered inappropriate behavior. I consider myself liberal and open-minded, but quite frankly I don't like watching people kissing in public, gay or non-gay.

I also remember the quiet dignity of the female cashier, the silent, almost shy wait staff and couldn't help compare them with my Hispanic family. I feel Mr. Trevino allowed his Hispanic culture of modesty and public discretion (to prompt his) preventing the other patrons from viewing two persons kissing in his restaurant.

HGLPC and AALGA, I think your idea of focusing on discrimination is worthwhile and needed. However, I feel you have targeted the wrong business in this case. After all these years, Mr. Trevino and the staff at La Mexicana have met head-on with two groups that cast Mr. Trevino as bigoted and discriminatory. You have gone after an old friend and institution of Montrose and left them with a new viewpoint of the gay community.

Mr. Trevino, if you read this, know the gay community is as diverse as the patrons of your restaurant—young, old, rich, poor, brown, black, white etc. We are many voices and do not necessarily agree on everything.

For the ladies behind the counter and in the kitchen, muchas gracias, senoras por tan sabrosa comida. And for the rest of the staff, thank you for making a newcomer feel welcome and at home these many years.

## AFH Thanks Follies Group

FROM RICHARD M. BOLYARD  
 Chair, Board of Directors

On behalf of the clients, volunteers and staff of AIDS Foundation Houston, Inc. I would like to take this opportunity to express my personal gratitude to the organizers of the 6th Annual Lake Livingston Follies. They once again outdid themselves.

On Saturday, Sept. 2, 1995 this small group provided a fun filled evening which resulted in a \$14,000 donation to Stone Soup Food Assistance Program, a project of AIDS Foundation Houston.

Year after year, the generous efforts of groups such as this one make it possible for AFH to continue to meet the growing demand for services to the HIV community.

## Overdue Thanks

FROM JACKIE AGUILERA  
 Colt 45's Inc., Houston, Texas

A legitimate point was recently made known to me by Miss Camp America Foundation members. That point is that, too often organizations and performers are thanked for donations connected with special events or shows when those occasions occur and not during all the work that's done to get to the celebration. Even a football team has a pep rally to support the team's hopeful victory. In other words, those persons who work all yearlong for the accumulation of monies to disperse at one event need to know while they are raising funds that they are appreciated and supported.

I totally agree with this criticism and apologize for not thanking the year-long efforts of some of our greatest supporters. They are not thanked nearly as often as they should be, and it is vital that we thank our long-standing supporters who consistently promote and raise money all year long for our clients. So to Miss Camp America and all of our constant sponsors and contributors, we thank you for the years of caring, commitment and charity you have generously shared with the Colt 45's. Rest assured that your charity is not taken for granted, and though we do say thank you when the big events are done, we do owe you a thank you for all the fundraising you do that builds us up to the zenith of your efforts. Overall, the Colt 45's know your contributions can be invested anywhere. We just want you to know that your choosing to help those less fortunate through the Colt 45's is sincerely and most humbly appreciated and that we make a commitment to letting you know how much we do appreciate all your efforts more often in the future.

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# Group outlines strategy for supporting marriage rights

(Continued from Page 1)

However, coalition members who spoke at the conference added a more pressing concern: the backlash that is already making its presence felt in state legislatures as right wing activists try to stop gay marriages before they start...and, the scenario that this foreshadows in the case that Hawaii does become, in 1996, the first state to legally recognize same-sex marriages.

"People will go to Hawaii and then they will return to their own states, married," noted Donald Suggs of the Gay and Lesbian Alliance Against Defamation (GLAAD). "And the wealthy and well-organized radical right will challenge these marriages, state by state."

Moreover, the speakers predicted, as anti-gay sentiments are stirred around the marriage issue, a broader to block—or turn back—gay and lesbian rights in other areas will emerge.

The solution, according to Suggs, Wolfson, California lobbyist Laurie McBride, and Lorrie L. Jean of the Los Angeles Gay and Lesbian Community Service Center, is to tackle

the issue head on from a position of strength, educating people to the fact that marriage is one of our society's basic human rights.

"We realized," said Jean, "that if we do not prepare, we will do so at our own peril."

"Ignorance will be one of our greatest enemies in this fight...the extreme right will try to exploit this. (But) the truth will be our greatest weapon," offered Suggs.

## History of Hawaii Court Case

(Compiled by the Lambda Legal Defense and Education Fund)

The Hawaii Supreme Court, in a landmark decision in May, 1993, set the stage for the possibility of legal marriage between same-sex couples. Ruling on a revived 1991 lawsuit brought by three couples—two lesbian, one gay—the court decided that the state's refusal to issue marriage licenses to couples of the same sex appears to violate the equal protection guarantee of the state constitution prohibiting discrimination based on gen-

der. The court held that the "different sex" restriction on marriage may amount to unconstitutional sex discrimination, much as the "same race" restriction on marriage was racially discriminatory. (Laws barring interracial marriages were finally struck down in 1967).

Sending the case back to the trial court, the Hawaii Supreme Court directed that the government would have to demonstrate a "compelling state interest" advanced by the restriction, or stop discriminating. If the state cannot show such a compelling interest, it must permit same sex couples to exercise their constitutional freedom to marry.

In June, 1994, reacting to the court's decision, the state legislature passed a law reaffirming its desire to discriminate, asserting that marriage is "intended for the propagation of the human race by man-woman units." Most legal experts agree, however, that this is not a "compelling,"



Genora Dancel and Ninia Baehr are two of the six plaintiffs in 'Baehr v. Lewin'

let alone logical, reason for refusing to allow same sex couples to marry.

Currently, the case is fully on track in the lower court. Wolfson and Honolulu attorney Dan Foley, co-counsel for the couples, expect a trial in July, 1996, with a final decision from the state Supreme Court likely by 1997.

## Marriage test case a possibility in Texas

(Continued from Page 1)

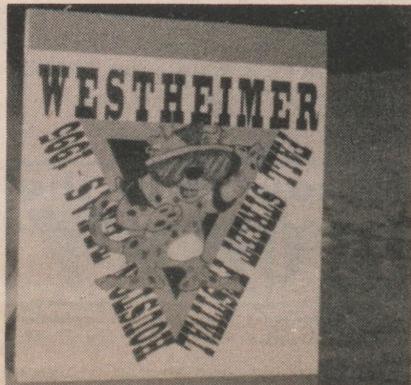
The Hawaii case is Baehr v. Lewin, a monumental lawsuit that could legalize same-sex marriages in Hawaii. Since states generally recognize other states' licenses, it may be possible to be married in Hawaii and have that relationship officially recognized in

Texas. THRF is also vigorously researching the possibility of bringing a test case here in Texas.

Besides the booklet, THRF will also present seminars for same-sex couples and families. The first seminar will be presented in early January.

"We are extremely grateful to the Kel-

lett Foundation for approving the grant. Without the support of foundations like the Kellett and our monthly sustaining members, THRF could not operate." THRF's mission is to end discrimination based on sexual orientation or HIV status through litigation, education and legal services.



## It's a Montrose Thing

"It just keeps getting bigger and better," boast the organizers of Houston's largest free festival, the Westheimer Street Festival. The fall Street Fest, which takes place next Saturday and Sunday, Oct. 14-15, along the 100 to 1000 blocks of Westheimer, promises to be brimming with artists, musicians, handicrafts...and the most bizarre crowds you're likely to see at any local event.

Bud Light and Buzz Radio 107.5 will be cranking out lively sounds from their stages with bands like Kevin Black, Tammy Taylor, Ricky Jackson, Pierre and the Zydeco Dots, Beat Temple, Ground Turkey, Under the Sun, and the list goes on. The "Team Buzz" skateboard team will entertain with gravity-defying performances on the "Half-Pipe." The "Dineh Indian Village," a new addition to the street fest, will present authentic Native American entertainment—come and shop for handicrafts while authentic Indian dancers perform hourly in the Tee-Pee village (no rain dances permitted).

As always, fall festival patrons can get a jump on the approaching holiday crunch by shopping the wares of the many artists lining the street for gifts and souvenirs. But people-watching is probably the most popular activity at this festival, with the varied, "eclectic" sights that have made it unique. Festival hours are 11:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m. both days; admission is free and all are welcome.

### Poster Winner

Art work by Jim Martino was recently selected as the winning design in the Westheimer Street Festival Poster Competition. Martino received the \$250 purchase award recently at the Hyde Park Gallery. The winning art will be reproduced as both posters and T-shirts by the W.S.F. board of directors, and will be on sale during the fair.



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## ARTS/ENTERTAINMENT

## Houston Ballet brings rock and romance to the Woodlands

## Entertainment Notes

The Cynthia Woods Mitchell Pavilion will end its cultural arts season at 8:00 p.m. Friday, Oct. 20 with an eclectic program by Houston Ballet. Returning for its second Houston run is Christopher Bruce's *Rooster*, a work set to eight classics by The Rolling Stones. Also on the program are Jiri Kylian's *Sinfonietta* and the Houston premieres of the pas de deux *Evening and Diana and Actaeon*. Tickets for Houston Ballet's performance at the Pavilion are \$7 for lawn and \$8.50 and \$10 for reserved. Tickets can be purchased at the Pavilion's new, on-site ticket office, open Monday through Friday from 10:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m.; Saturday from 10:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. and performance days through intermission. Tickets may also be purchased at all TicketMaster Ticket Centers, including

Blockbuster Music, Foley's, Fiesta and Randall's, or by calling 629-3700. Children under five will be admitted FREE to the concert. Picnics are welcome at all cultural and family events, but no beverages are allowed. For more information, call the Cynthia Woods Mitchell Pavilion at 363-3300.

## Opera Meets Film in Unique SPA Production

Society for the Performing Arts will kick off its New Now Series with the Houston premiere of American composer Philip Glass's opera for ensemble and film *La Belle et la Bête* (Beauty and the Beast) on Saturday, Oct. 14 at 8:00 p.m. and Sunday, Oct. 15 at 2:00 p.m. in the Cullen Theater of the Wortham Theater Center. *La Belle et la Bête* features the screening of Jean Cocteau's



Renowned composer Philip Glass will perform during the Houston premiere of his opera for ensemble and film, *La Belle et La Bete*, presented by the Society of Performing Arts

film of the same name with operatic singers and The Philip Glass Ensemble (with Mr. Glass) performing on stage.

The opera/film presentation of *La Belle et la Bête* is the

second part of Glass's trilogy of theater works based on the films of Jean Cocteau, the great French artist and film maker. For *Orphee*, the first of this trilogy of works, Philip Glass used the screenplay of Cocteau's 1949 film as the libretto for a chamber opera with entirely new music, sets and staging. He is currently working on the third part, *Les Enfants Terribles*, a dance-theater work based on the scenario of the film. For *La Belle* Mr. Glass commingles film (Cocteau's timeless masterpiece *La Belle et la Bête*) with opera and concert. "Glass's is the best version of the story yet—even surpassing Disney's animated movie musical" (Time Magazine).

The whole 1946 film, starring Jean Marais and Josette Day, is projected on a screen. The film's majesty is augmented by Mr. Glass's score, which is performed live on stage beneath the screen by The Philip Glass Ensemble (a

seven-piece band of winds and synthesizers—one played by Mr. Glass himself with Michael Riesman conducting and four operatic singers: soprano Kate Egan (Felicie, Adelaide), mezzo-soprano Alexandra Montano (*La Belle*), baritone Gregory Pumphagen (*La Bête*, the Prince, Avenant) and bass Zheng Zhou (*Le Pere*, Ludovic, Usurier). This daring form strikes all sound from the original film, and the vocalists sing precisely the same words the original actors spoke with subtitles in English superimposed on the film.

Tickets are \$22, \$32 and \$37 and are available at the Houston Ticket Center in Jones Hall and the Wortham Theater Center as well as all Ticketmaster locations including Foley's, Fiesta, Randall's and Blockbuster Music Plus. To charge by phone, call 227-ARTS in Houston or 800/828-ARTS if out of town.

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## CHURCH CALENDAR OF EVENTS

### SUNDAY

\* Metropolitan Community Church of the Resurrection(MCCR) worship services. 9:00 a.m. and 11:00 a.m. 1919 Decatur. Call 861-9149.

\* Maranatha Fellowship Metropolitan Church Services at 10:00 a.m. New Location 3400 Montrose Suite 600. Call 528-6756.

\* Community Gospel Church worship service at 11:00 a.m. and 7:00 p.m. 501 E. 18th. Call 880-9235.

\* Houston Mission Church worship service at 11:00 a.m. 1505 Nevada. Call 529-8225.

\* Kingdom Community Church worship service at 11:00 a.m., Sunday School at 10:00 a.m. Call 862-7533.

\* Dignity Houston Communion Service at 5:30 p.m. 1307 H Yale. Call 880-2872.

\* Ecumenical Catholic Church Mass at 10:15. 1121 Welch. Call 526-8095.

### MONDAY

\* MCCR Handbell Choir Rehearsal at 7:00 p.m. 1919 Decatur. Call 861-9149.

\* Catholic Mass at 7:30 p.m. Kolbe House. 1509 Fairview. Call 522-8182.

### TUESDAY

\* MCCR: CODA Support group meets at 7:00 p.m., Empowerment for Living support group and pot luck dinner at 6:00 p.m., Gloryland Singers at 8:00 p.m., The Gospel Ensemble at 6:00 p.m. Call 861-9149.

\* PROTECT meets at Bering Church. Call 520-7870.

\* Basic Computer Skills Class at the Kolbe Project. Call 522-8182.

### WEDNESDAY

\* MCCR: Bi-net Support Group meets at 7:00 p.m., Jubilation Mixed Ensemble meets at 6:30 p.m., Midweek uplift service at 7:00 p.m., Bible Study, Lecture Series and Choir Rehearsal 7:30 p.m. 1919 Decatur. 861-9149.

\* "A Course in Miracles" at Kingdom Community Church 7:30 p.m. Call 862-7533.

\* Ecumenical Catholic Church Mass at 7:00 p.m. 1121 Welch. Call 526-8095.

\* Catholic Mass at 8:30 a.m. Kolbe House 1509 Fairview. Call 522-8182.

### THURSDAY

\* Community Gospel Church worship service. 7:30 p.m. 501 E. 18th. Call 880-9325.

### FRIDAY

\* CODA meets at MCCR at 7:00 p.m. Call 861-9149.

\* "Your Sacred Self" - study group using the best seller by Wayne Dyer. COME learn more about your sacred self, sacred sisters and brothers, and the sacred, loving Creator God who made it so. Kingdom Community Church. 4404 Blossom. Call 862-7533.

\* Catholic Mass at 10:00 a.m. Kolbe House. 1509 Fairview. Call 522-8182

\* Pot Luck Supper at the Kolbe House. 1509 Fairview. 7:00 p.m. Call 522-8182.

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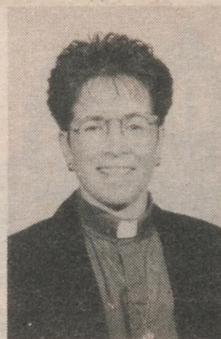
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Rev. Janet Parker

## ASK THE PASTOR

Q: "I am a Christian and I have Mormon friends. I'm not sure if I should be their friend. They're off and on friends, if you know what I mean. If you would give me some advise on what to do. What is a Mormon to you? Are they Christians? How would I find out more about them?" (Asked by a ten year old boy)

A: Many of us have friends of all kinds. We may have friends that we make at school, at work, in our neighborhoods, through recreational sports, at church, etc. Friends can be those that we talk to about what is most important to us. Friends can be those that we just "chit-chat" with about everyday things. We never know in the making of friends what will happen in a conversation. For instance, a friend might observe

your life and ask you why you seem to always be in a good mood (or full of joy). Being a friend with this person will give you an opportunity to share with them about your source of joy. Friends are in our life so that we can share with them our life's experiences. If a friend can enjoy what you enjoy, they are a good friend. If a friend can respect what you believe even if it's different from what they believe, then they are a good friend. You may have friends that you see everyday and talk to everyday. You may have friends that you only see once a week, or once a month.

In choosing friends for you life, it is important that you find a friend that you can: 1. Be yourself with; 2. Be able to share your beliefs with and be supported in your beliefs; 3. Be honest with; 4. Enjoy as people; and 5. Love unconditionally (not just if they meet certain standards).

If in choosing a friend you find that your different beliefs (you being a Christian, and they being a Mormon) cause a problem such as: 1. You or they can't handle someone thinking or believing differently than you; or, 2. They can't respect you for being who you are and believing as you do, then you may not want them to be your friend.

God has called us to share God's love with everyone we meet. We are not passing on a set of beliefs, but we are sharing how knowing the person of Jesus Christ has changed our life. One way to find out if a Mormon is a Christian is to ask them. A Christian is one who has established a personal relationship with Jesus Christ and has acknowledged that He died for you, forgave your sins, and has risen to give you eternal life. As a Christian you have become a disciple of Jesus. This means that you are attached to Christ by the Spirit of God and that you will attach yourself to others as they receive you in order to share this relationship experience with them.

If this friend of yours who happens to be Mormon is not a Christian, there is no better way of them finding out about Jesus than through knowing you. What I have come to understand is that it is difficult for any of us to decide what another person who says they are "Mormon," "Christian Scientist," "Jehovah Witness," or "Jew," etc. believes about Jesus Christ unless we ask them. It is not up to us to make assumptions about what others believe. We simply need to ask them. Once we know what their relationship with Christ is, then we will know where to go from there. It may be to continue our friendship to let them see more of Jesus in us. I believe that God will tell you what to do.

To find out about what Mormons believe, why don't you ask them yourself? It will be good for them to tell you and then for you to compare it to what you know and believe as a Christian.

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

## Mood Music and Background Brilliance

By SAM DAWSTER  
For the Houston Voice

### Music Review: Canadian Brass, 'Fireworks!' And 'Swingtime'

CANADIAN BRASS??? Canadian Brass?? Wait, wait...before passing judgment and sentencing it to everlasting torment under the "big band" name...hear this one out.

Canadian Brass, under BMG Classics, has introduced two new recordings of their work. The Brass may be Canadian, but binding the beat on these two discs is a decidedly European influence.

The first is *Fireworks!* under the RCA Victor Red Seal label. This CD (or tape) is very classical, with most pieces by Henry Purcell and George Frederic Handel whose lives spanned the century between 1659 and 1759. In case you're interested, these two European composers wrote in the English baroque style presented here...and you can tell. Starting the CD (or tape) off is "Trumpet Tune" (and Air "Bell Interlude"). Immediate recognition of the English influence is there, and the Canadian Brass company presents it with the heart and soul that Purcell (had we known him personally) would be proud of. Immediately fol-

lowing is Handel's "Suite from Music for the Royal Fireworks," including a three part follow-up of Largo (from Xerxes), Allegro, and Bourree.

These first two sections (taking us all the way to song number 8) are extremely 'English' and you can't help but wanting to salute the royal family...at least the royal family of the 1700's. Again song 9-14 (yes one song) is back to Purcell with the "Suite From The Fairy Queen." Yes, more English baroque. And the rest of the CD is just like that...except under different names..."The Arrival of the Queen of Sheba" (from Solomon), "Fantasia Upon One Note" (kind of subdued), and "Let the Bright Seraphim" (from Samson). Oh yeah, there's also works from Jeremiah Clark (1674-1707) and Thomas Tallis (1505-1585) which are outside the "century" presented, but included anyway.

*Fireworks!* is an excellent CD to have around as background music for small social functions. It will pick up the mood while the style of the sound imparts an underlying theme of royalty, which might not be good if you have pompous friends, but oh well...it's 66 minutes and 2 seconds of pleasant accompaniment for the next time you have crumpets and truffles after caviar at your 'humble villa.'

However, suppose that you are hos-

ting a party for those who are not into English baroque, and also are not into heavy, thrash and death metal, and who tend to stay away from the likes of the political proclamations of rap and hiphop? Or, perhaps your looking for interlude music for between scenes in your next musical? Either way, The Canadian Brass' *Swingtime!* is the CD (or tape) for you. Under the RCA Victor label (no "Red Seal" this time), *Swingtime!* proves itself to be a delightful collection of "swing" music.

Starting off with "Artistry in Rhythm," an upbeat introduction to the CD designed to put you in the swinging mood, this collection begins melting out with song number 5, "Round About Midnight," where the mood slows and a romantic scent fills the air. The tune picks up gradually with "At the Woodchopper's Ball," starting out with a classic big band "up-beat" and progressing to full-fledged band swinging, only to drop back down going into "The Lady Is a Tramp." Picking back up with the next two songs, it 'swings' down to the song "Whatever Happened to the Dream," an enchanting piece which screams slow dancing, low lights, and sequins (don't ask about the sequins). The number 12 song, "I Found Love," is quite charming and so cute you'd swear that you've heard it on a 70's sitcom. But try as I may, I could never place it. ...

Ending the tract is "One O'Clock Jump," which is an excellent example of classic big band mixed with jazz and a hint of funk. The song makes you move and subliminally gets you to play the entire CD over again. Overall, if you're a big band lover, then this is a must on your list; if you're not, then you might wait till you have some extra money to splurge. In either case, *Swingtime!* is an excellent addition to your collection, especially if you're a music lover. It was the best attempt by "white Britons" trying to play "black jazz" I've ever heard...and their heartfelt effort shows.

(FYI: Canadian Brass has been around for a while now, since about 1970. They consist of 2 trumpets (Frederic Mills/Ronald Romm), 1 French horn (David Ohanian), 1 trombone (Eugene Watts), and 1 tuba (Charles Daellenbach). They have traveled to world over tooting their horns to a variety of audiences. They were guests on the *Tonight Show* with Johnny Carson, as well as *Entertainment Tonight* and, as with many musicians, *Sesame Street*. They have played with and for the likes of the Boston Pops, Victor Borge, the New York Philharmonic, the Baltimore Symphony, Utah Symphony, and the San Jose Symphony. They plan to again tour in the summer of 1996).

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## ARTS/ENTERTAINMENT

## Alley Theatre goes Wilde

## 'The Importance Of Being Earnest' Opens Season On Large Stage

The Alley Theatre will celebrate the genius of Oscar Wilde when it presents *The Importance of Being Earnest* in an 100th Anniversary Production that begins previews on Oct. 20 and opens the 1995-96 season on the Large Stage Oct. 25 through Nov. 18, 1995. Perhaps one of the funniest plays ever written, *The Importance of Being Earnest* set the standard for all modern comedy that followed, from Noël Coward to Monty Python to *Absolutely Fabulous*. Known for its brilliant dialogue and clever situations, *The Importance of Being Earnest* illustrates Wilde's masterful blending of comic technique, artistic credo and subtle, social commentary. Even Wilde himself thought "the first act is ingenious, the second beautiful, the third abominably clever." Company members James Black and Jeffrey Bean and guest artist Gordana Rashovich head the cast of this Alley production directed by Artistic Director Gregory Boyd and designed by Tony Straiges (Sets), Susan Tsu (Costumes), Rui Rita (Lighting) and Joe Pino (Sound).

*The Importance of Being Earnest, A Trivial Comedy for Serious People*, opened in London at the St. James Theatre on the evening of Feb. 14, 1895 and was a complete triumph. Everyone praised the play except George Bernard Shaw who thought it "all froth and no pith." Even *The New York Times* announced "Oscar Wilde may be said to have at last, and by a single stroke, put his enemies under his feet." Filled with such stock devices as intercepted letters, inopportune appearances, mistaken identities, quid pro quos, changing fortunes and secrets from the past, the complex plot of Wilde's fourth comedy follows Algernon Moncrieff and Jack Worthing, two bachelors of a certain age, as they set about to marry their beloved Cecily Cardew and Gwendolen Fairfax.

Oscar Wilde's piercing wit made his mark on turn of the century London, and on stage comedy forever after. His other plays include *Lady Windermere's Fan*, *An Ideal Husband*, *A Woman of No Importance* and *Salome*. Few subsequent writers can claim the position that Wilde still maintains as the "bad boy" of the stage, a grand master of merciless, side-splitting social comedy. Many,

including such brilliant playwrights as Noel Coward and Joe Orton, the outrageous Monty Python and the even more current *Absolutely Fabulous*, can trace their literary influences directly to Wilde's revolutionary style. For it was Wilde, an enchanting self-promoter and persecuted "decadent," who brought to the dull, moralistic Victorian stage a sorely needed sense of the dramatic as well as a new spirit of fun that reflected the assertion by one of his own characters that "life is too important a thing ever to talk seriously about it." His theatre surrendered to apparently frivolous hilarity and verbal play, yet managed, in the process, to allow class and propriety conscious society to damn itself with its own words.

Ironically, the society who embraced him as he anatomized their hypocrisies so brilliantly in *The Importance of Being Earnest* quickly turned against him. A month after the opening of the play, his infamous trial for sodomy began, which brought about his total disgrace, imprisonment and exile. Richard Ellmann in his acclaimed 1988 Oscar Wilde biography said "Wilde is not only the 1880's and 1890's Victorian era incarnate, but is able even today to challenge our assumptions with his provocative intelligence. His will is an agent of renewal, as pertinent now as a hundred years ago. He is one of us."

*The Importance of Being Earnest* marks Artistic Director Gregory Boyd's seventh season since assuming leadership of the theater in 1989. During his tenure at the Alley, Boyd has directed *Jekyll & Hyde* (now on national tour), *The Crucible*, *One Flew Over the Cuckoo's Nest*, *Measure for Measure*, *A Flea in Her Ear*, *Macbeth* and *Cyrano de Bergerac*. Boyd comments, "Our production of *The Importance of Being Earnest* is our way of celebrating Wilde's particular genius in life and art. Alongside it, the company will also perform readings of his fairy tales, poems, and the beautiful and painful *De Profundis* later in this centenary year."

(Tickets for *The Importance of Being Earnest* and the season's other productions are currently available at the Alley Theatre Box Office, 615 Texas Avenue or by calling 228-8421 or 800-259-ALLE. For information on group rates, contact the Alley's group sales department at 228-9341, ext. 350 or 346.)

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# Patchwork echoes of magnolias and tomatoes

## Film Review: How To Make An American Quilt

By JON ANTHONY  
For the Houston Voice

Don't let the title of this autumn's gem *How to Make an American Quilt* fool you; it is not a documentary in the true sense of the word, rather, it's one of the best female buddy movies since *Steel Magnolias* and *Fried Green Tomatoes*.

Winona Ryder stars as Finn, a graduate student who decides to spend the summer with her grandmother Hy and great aunt Glady Joe portrayed by Academy Award Winning Actresses Ellen Burstyn and Anne Bancroft, respectively. Finn's decision is based on her desire to mull over a marriage proposal from her boyfriend Sam (Dermot Mulroney). In addition, she wants to write and actually complete her latest thesis on women's handiwork in tribal cultures, hence, the art of making a quilt.

Her grandmother's house is the haven for the Grasse Quilting Bee, consisting of a group of women who get together to make quilts. The women are currently making Finn her wed-

ding quilt, and as the movie unfolds you realize that these remarkable women are really Finn's extended family. During the summer these women share their lives experiences concerning love, betrayal, joy and heart-break through flashbaeks spanning an era from 1860 to present. Each story is as compelling and realistic as the portrayals of the women themselves.

Maya Angelou, Kate Nelligan, Jean Simmons, Lois Smith and Alfre Woodard portray these women with a refreshing demeanor. Rarely are such characters depicted in so rich, genuine and realistic in todays films. This films stellar cast is impressive indeed and is any director's dream. Kate Capshaw, Rip Torn, Claire Danes and Esther Rolle have cameos befitting their respective talents.

The quilt is the threshold that brings these women together. Each pattern has historical significance to these women and although the patterns at times contrast, when you realize their significance, they resonate a dazzling brilliance if not innate beauty and splendor.

Through each woman's reminiscence Finn discovers some truths about herself. Finn's transforma-



Finn (Winona Ryder) is surrounded by some of the women who share eye-opening stories (Anne Bancroft, Ellen Burstyn, Alfre Woodard and Kate Nelligan) in 'How to Make an American Quilt'

tion from a confused and often disillusioned young woman into a woman who has determined her role in life is visually and intellectually entertaining. This insightful, whimsical, touchingly funny and heartfelt film is a delight. This four star Uni-

versal Pictures release is based on the novel by Whitney Otto is sure to garner numerous Oscar nominations, and deservedly so.



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**The Return of Catia Lee Love**  
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FRI  
MON  
TUE  
WED

# Glow in the Dark Party!

**Saturday,  
October 7**

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come off,  
the black lights  
go on and  
everything  
takes on a  
shining new  
personality*

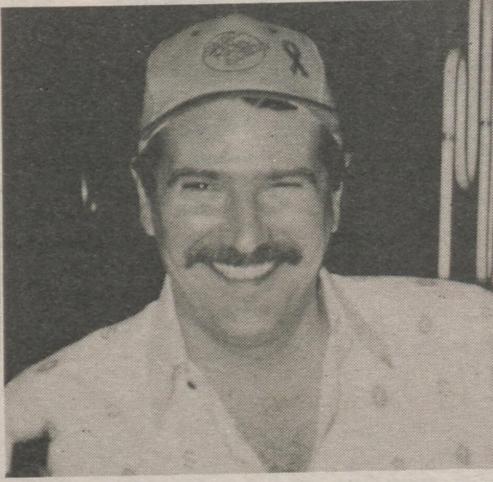


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# Fierce Fridays-Sultry Saturdays-Sinful Sundays!



Finally, a decent photo of Tommie Sue!

## Houston Soap

By CAROLYN ROBERTS

Houston Voice/Houston

### Friday, Oct. 6

The Venture-N is a great place to kick off your weekend party. They offer a super power hour special of \$1.50 well drinks, domestic longnecks, and wine from 5:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m. Such a deal!

Hot, horny, handsome, hung, hunks herald harmony at Gentry tonight starting at 6:00 p.m.

Fierce Fridays at Heaven continue to bring you the newest music and videos. The gates of Heaven open at 7:00 p.m. to offer you 75¢ well drinks all night on Fridays.

Chances will be hosting a fundraiser for the Montrose Clinic. Good luck and bring in lots of money! Ruby Stone will be the Hostess.

Trash Disco Fridays continue at Rich's!

### Saturday, Oct. 7

Saturday afternoons at Mary's offer a good movie, great steaks-n-stuff, 50¢ beer-in-a-cup, and delightful conversation on the patio.

Brittany Paige takes the stage of E/J's tonight as she presents: Black Velvet-Miss Gay Houston-USA, Chevelle Brooks-Miss Gay Houston at

Large, and Jessica Blair. This should prove to be quite a show!

The Venture-N's Saturday nights are getting to be one of the hottest nights around! Stop in and find out what I'm talking about!

Full moon madness takes over the Montrose Mining Company this entire weekend! Shoot the moon with 9 flavors of schnapps for only \$1.25!

The men and women of TGRA will be guest bartending at the Brazos River Bottom tonight. Scoot out to the patio at 9:30 p.m. and give 'em a howdy!

"Lust in Las Vegas" kicks off tonight at Gentry. There will be gaming, prizes, and fun. This is the kick off for Lady Victoria Lust's PWA Holiday Fund drive. Plus, an all star Las Vegas Review starts at 11:00 p.m.

The curvy Catia Lee Love takes the stage at the Lazy J tonight as the special guest MC. Catia presents the talents of Jade Mykles, Jamie Lennox, and Misty Valdez. The show starts at 10:30.

Ean's Cabaret is a place where women can go to see women nearly naked on stage. Saturday nights are for ladies only. Ean's Cabaret is located at 112 Travis.

Do you glow in the dark? You can find out by visiting the Club Houston tonight. Damion is throwing a "Glow in the Dark" party tonight. The clothes come off, the black lights go on and everything takes on a shining new personality. The Club Houston will close from 9:00 p.m. to 11:00 p.m. to prepare for this effervescent party!

### Sunday, Oct. 8

Sundays are overloaded at Pacific Street. No shirt, no cover, no kidding! The doors open at 7:00 p.m. Don't forget that Pacific Street has the lowest regular drink prices in town!

Mary's is having a full moon madness party tonight from 8:00 p.m. until 11:00 p.m. There will be \$1.75 longnecks,

well drinks, and \$1 schnapps. Come out and howl at the moon!

Walter shows football on the patio of Mary's every Sunday. The 50¢-a-cup draft beer starts flowing at noon!

Northwoods Presbyterian Church is having a "Wind Expressions" concert tonight to benefit the Bering Community Service Foundation. The Concert starts at 7:00 p.m. For more info or directions, call 444-8861.

The BriarPatch Folies hits the stage tonight with "La Cage A Patch" benefiting Bering Care Center. It's live, it's bawdy, and everyone in town is sure to see the feathers and hear the latest re-written show tunes! Show time is 8:00 p.m.

Sunday's at the Venture-N are a great

place to meet up with friends! The beer bust offers an optional \$1 buy-in and 50¢ refills of draft beer and really draws in a crowd.

Sundays are sensational at J.R.'s with 99¢ well Vodka juice drinks until 11:00 p.m. Don't forget that Kofi hosts the amateur strip contest at 11:00

p.m.

The crowd at Gentry keeps getting bigger and better each Sunday! It is because of the delicious BBQ they offer starting at 5:00 p.m. The Boy Toy dancers take the stage at 7:00 p.m., and then at 11:00 p.m., the Sunday Male Strip Frenzy starts. A full day of food, fun, and frolicking this and every Sunday at Gentry.

Shelby St. John and Eddie Taylor present their last show in Houston (for their candidacy) at the Brazos River Bottom. "United We Stand" will benefit TGRA.

The Krewe of Olympus, Inc. is presenting "Fais-Do-Do IV" this afternoon at 4:00 p.m. at the Lovett Inn. There is a \$10 donation at the door which gets you into a fabu



Texas' own Jimmy James meets Debbie Harry!

Cajun festival. This is a fundraiser to benefit Stone Soup. If you would like more info, call 627-7626.

### Monday, Oct. 9

Mary's, naturally, has \$1 domestic longnecks tonight from 8:00 p.m. to 11:00 p.m.

The ToyBox starts off happy hour at 2:00 p.m. today and every day (except Sunday) and the drink specials run until 8:00 p.m.

News Flash! The Miller Lite product prices changed at Gentry. They are only \$1.50 tonight and tomorrow night!

Paivi makes 'em strip tonight at E/J's. Buns are bare starting at 11:00 p.m.

### Tuesday, Oct. 10

Cuervo, Cuervo, Cuervo! Mary's, Mary's, Mary's! \$2, \$2, \$2! Tuesdays, Tuesdays, Tuesdays!

Terrific TWOsdays at J.R.'s puts Kofi and Lindsay Love on stage TWOgether TWO host the wet amateur strip contest that starts at 11:00 p.m. Plus, a grab for cash at midnight with your chance for up to \$500 in cash and prizes!

The Brazos River Bottom is the place to learn C&W dancing! Free dance lessons start at 9:00 p.m.

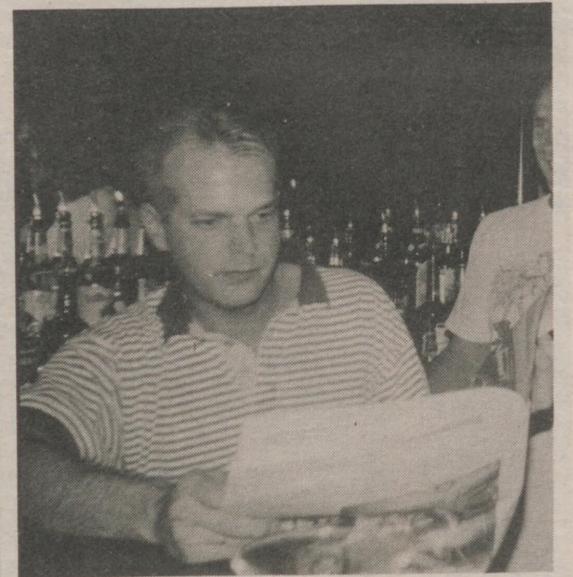
It is week #4 in the search for talent at E/J's.



Buddy Thompson is running for Emperor



Cameron and Tara Dion perform at E/J's



Even Woody at Gentry reads the Houston Voice!

Sealed With  
A Kiss



# Wicked Wednesdays-Trashy Thursdays & Rodent Droppings



Nancy Ford bites rubber chickens too!



This is as close to hot meat that Brian gets as the BRB on Thursdays!

(Houston Soap, continued from preceding page)

## Wednesday, Oct. 11

Happy National Coming Out Day!!!

Tonight at Pacific Street, the Houston Lesbian/Gay Pride Week committee will host the National Coming Out Day celebration. The doors open at 9:00 p.m. Come on, come out!

Cy Brinson tickles the ivories tonight at the BriarPatch. Cy plays like she just got out a buzz saw! This gal has had Houston at her feet for years.

The Brazos River Bottom is the place to be tonight for the HIV positive social. This is a nationwide night of partying! Be there by 8:00 p.m.

Do you want to hear hot, cool, country sounds tonight? Check out the sounds of Sheila Lennon on stage at Chances! She can put the hump back in hump day!

Wednesday nights at the Mine are full of men, music and \$1 domestic longnecks. Such a deal!

He may be OUT, but he is going away! Long time employee of the Brazos River Bottom David Chapman is leaving our fair city. Please join him and the cast of friends at the Brazos River Bottom for his going away party tonight. Party time is 6:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m. We are going to miss you, honey!

TQ Hot wet jockey shorts contest hits the stage of E/J's tonight at 9:00 p.m. Stop in and find out what TQ Hot is!

Catia will be OUT! tonight at Gentry! She will bring all those boys OUT! during the Wednesday Male Strip contest. The wienies start waiving at 11:00 p.m.

## Thursday, Oct. 12

There is something special going on at Gentry tonight! In cooperation with Leather By Boots, Gentry will be the place to see a night of shocking fantasy! I can't

tell you more, or I might shock you! Stop in at Gentry tonight to see what I'm talking about.

Boy Bar... Thursdays... Heaven! Kofi and Lindsay host one of Houston's hottest amateur strip contests. \$200 in prize money to the winners! The boys bump and grind starting at 11:00 p.m.

You too can learn to C&W dance! Tonight at the Brazos River Bottom, learn to boot, scoot and boogie starting at 10:00 p.m.

## Other Important Stuff

The Westheimer Street Festival is next weekend. There will be shopping galore, more food than you can shake a sausage-on-a-stick at, music on 2 stages by more than 17 bands and an authentic Native American "Dineh" Village featuring hourly performances and handicrafts. See ya there!

Those fabulous Sambuca Sisters will be doing a fundraiser next Sunday (10/15) at the ToyBox. So after your long day at the street festival, head down Richmond and help these "girls" raise some money for the Montrose Clinic. This will also be the last show for Thumper; he is moving to Puerto Rico in a week or two!

Also next weekend, there is a fundraiser at Gentry for Soiree Aubergine. This event is hosted by Buddy Thompson, candidate for Emperor of the Royal, Sovereign and Imperial Court of the Single Star. Show time is 9:00p.m.

Bistro 224 has an inexpensive new lunch special! You get a choice of soup or salad, an entree and dessert for only \$6.95! This special runs during the week, so you can't use the coupon for the lunch special, but you can use it for the regular menu. Stop in and check it out!

The Montrose Soft-

ball League is looking for players. If you are interested, call 867-3913 to get all the info.

Timeless Taffeta has some of the best Halloween costumes in town. Timeless Taffeta is located at 1657 Westheimer.

Niko Niko's has a delightful selection of Mediterranean foods. You can clip the coupon in this week's issue and save some money!

Clip the coupon for the Haunted Hotel and get your wits scared out of you.

## Birthday Corner

Happy Birthday to a very old, old, old, old friend of mine Pec!

## Rodent Droppings

I am a bad mother! I let Rattrat play in his dirt filled playpen the other night! He was digging and playing for over an hour! After a while, I noticed there was no noise coming from the playpen! He was curled up in a ball, sound asleep! How could I let him sleep in the dirt! He was cold! I put him back in his bed, blankets covering him and he was all better! I looked under his blanket and found:

I wish I could remember who told me that "Sex is like a bridge game...you better trust your partner!"

David R. (Baton Rouge): I hope you like your "temp" job!

Black Velvett: Have you seen any good movies lately? Last week the French Quarter was showing "Tight Places" and "Freshman Forever." Which one did you like... or did you stay for a double feature?

Buffy (Sojourns): I hear you might need a new pair of glasses! You were cruising several cute male buns in jeans when they turned around and were real females!

Tommie Sue (BRB): I should have printed the photo I saw of you relieving yourself!

Nick (Cashier at Charlie's): Just how many roses did you get?

Thumper (ToyBox): We are certainly going to miss you! Your move to Puerto Rico gives me a reason to take another vacation! Good Luck!

Rodd Lindsey: Next time you go camping, remember to bring some TP; I hear you tried to use a dollar bill, and well, it was kinda messy! Also, I understand that you like sloppy seconds!

Walter (Outpost): A word of caution, Ken (Druid) gets real messy on Sambuca! But, I'm sure you found this out already! And tell David HI!

John Dalton: Had any champagne lately?

I have a special message to "Blue Shorts" from "Red LongJohns": Thanks.. and the crowd around the campfire thanks you too!

A.J. Keller: It was delightful seeing you last week! You look great, considering the nasty back surgery you had months ago! You do know that I credit you for giving me the name "Cuervolyn!" Boys, those days were fun!

Eric Bush: So, I hear you really like being in a dress!

Toddy (Colt 45's): I am soo-ooo glad that you did not fall off the stage at the camp-out last weekend! Thanks to whoever caught you!

Bart (Hangs at Mary's): Sorry honey, YOU made it into Rodent Droppings after all!

Devin (Mary's): Glossie Payge?

Wilma (Mary's): Gimme

More?

Meg (Mary's): Roxanne Pebbles?

Rex (Mary's): Hara Spray?

JT (PS): Are you still racking up frequent flyer miles?

Ruby Stone : Lovely new dress you were wearing last week! A birthday present?

Barry (LBB): How come you came home with several pairs of panties, one with a BIG cigarette burn in the crotch and one pair with a gnawed out crotch?

Clint (BriarPatch): So you still play topless on Mondays, but what is this I hear about you being a "floor whore" on Friday nights? Just what do you do with those long legs of yours?

Rob (VN): Did you loose your cockring again? Where did it fall off this time?

Billy Bailey (RSICSS): Who were you naked with? Could it be Vanna? Could it be Michael Jones? Could it be Cuervolyn? Inquiring minds want to know?

Lee Denning (Mary's): Did you loose a wig, honey?

Wayne (BriarPatch): What is this I hear about Charlotta and Auntie Richard? Why do they make you worry? Just because they carry on like bar trash.. and put "kick me" signs on each other's backs? Go Fig!

Suzanne Anderson: So, that really was you I saw on the Oprah Winfrey show this past Tuesday. I wish I had heard what you were saying, but the entire office staff of the Houston Voice was trying to decide if that was really you! You go girl!

Jennifer (Rich's): What were you and Scott (Rich's) doing the other night in bed together? I hear you looked pretty cozy!

Mark (VN): Rumors? Your boss is dreaming about you being a top!

Ed (Binky) Bicknell: Thanks for the shot!

Tom Sawyer (Ripcord): That bride wasn't big enough!

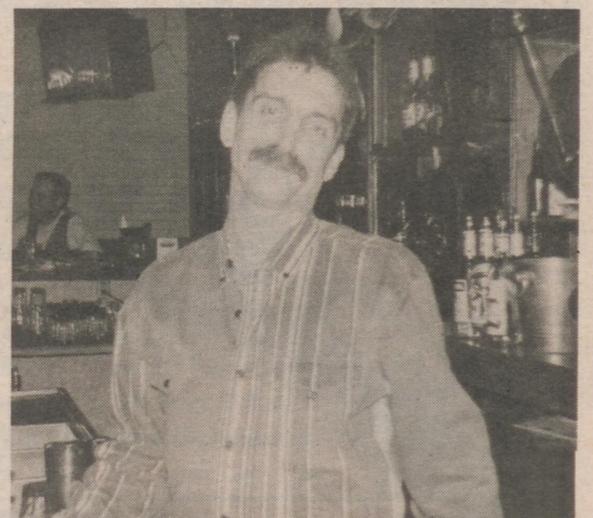
Well kids, have a great week!

Huggs

**Cuervolyn**



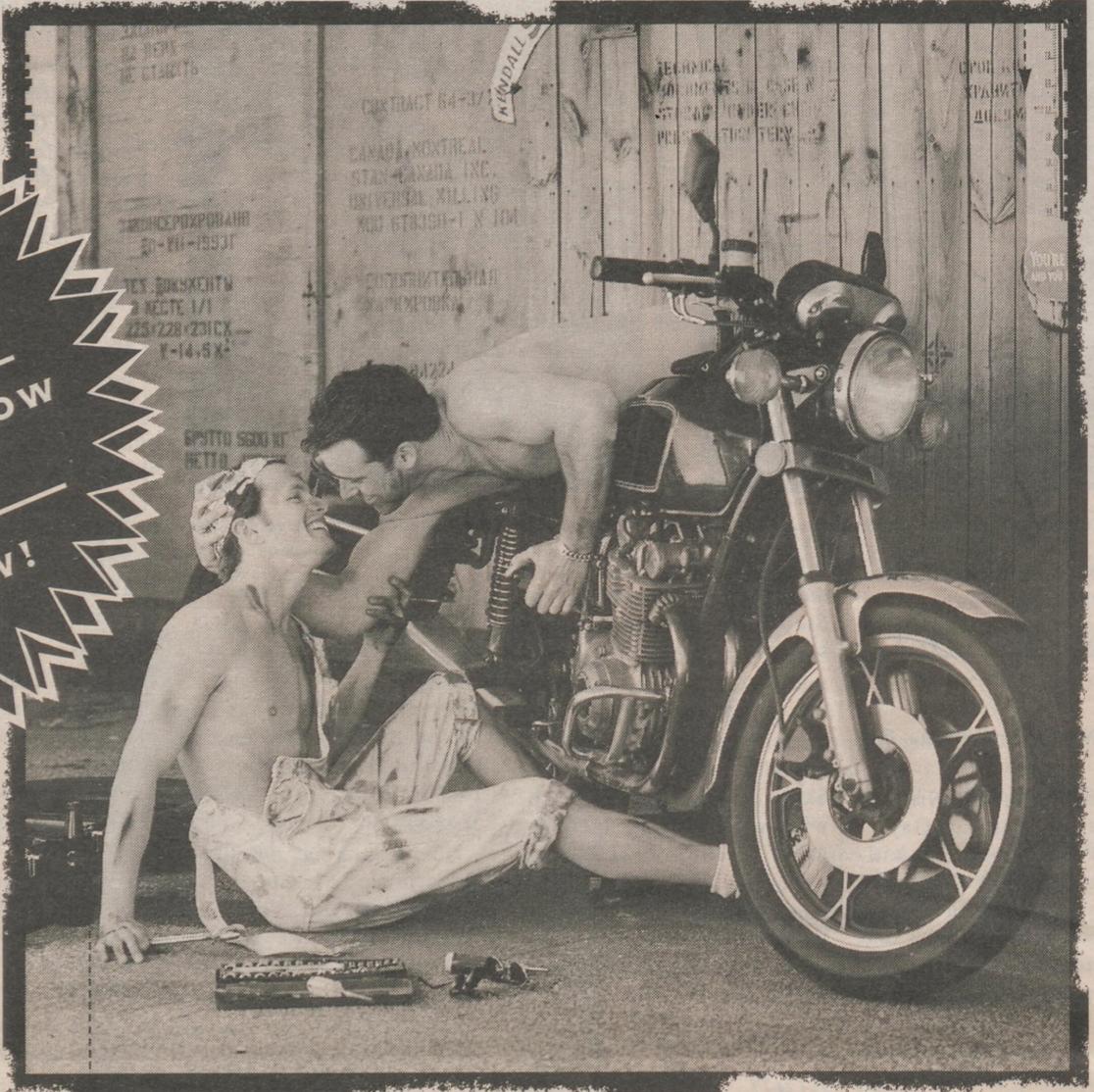
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### Who's On Trial?

A "Special Report" in "TV Guide's" Sept. 23-29 issue previews litigation surrounding the murder of a gay talk-show guest, who was killed shortly after his appearance on "Jenny Jones" last March ("A Daytime Talk Show Goes On Trial," Mike Hammer and Ileana Rudolph). As part of the talk show's "secret admirers" segment, Scott Amedure had revealed his attraction for another guest (John Schmitz, a heterosexual); three days later, Amedure was shot and killed by the "embarrassed" Schmitz.

A \$25 million civil suit has been brought by Amedure's family, which accuses the "Jenny Jones" show of negligence. That case will be heard sometime next year. The criminal trial of John Schmitz is scheduled to begin this year, on Oct. 30, in Oakland County, Michigan.

"TV Guide" also previews (unwittingly) the flawed reporting likely to surround these trials. Though Amedure's murder was widely-reported in March, virtually none of the initial coverage mentioned the word "homophobia." Remarkably, the hate motivation behind the crime went unreported. The press focused instead on the issue of whether or not TV talks shows have become "too trashy."

The mainstream media seem poised to flop again. According to "TV Guide," Court TV "is not planning to cover the criminal case and will instead focus on the civil suit."

Court TV's decision appears indefensible, and suggests a general disinterest in the killing of queers. The trial of "Jenny Jones" cannot be more vital than the trial John Schmitz, unless murdering gay men is only newsworthy when the entertainment media are implicated. Unfortunately, the themes of the civil and criminal trials ARE expected to overlap.

James Burdick, Schmitz's attorney, will argue that the "Jenny Jones" show—and NOT his client—is to blame for the murder of Scott Amedure. According to Burdick: "The shows are on trial, as far as we're concerned...I'm hoping that if people watch the proceedings they'll stop participating in these ambush shows and the producers will stop doing them."

"TV Guide" also reports that "the tabloid shows and such network news magazines as ABC's "PrimeTime Live" and "Dateline NBC" are already seeking interviews with the attorneys, Schmitz, and Jones." Schmitz's lawyer has been quick to respond that his client "has no money" and "somebody would have to offer a lot of money for an interview."

It would be unconscionable for these shows to offer "a lot of money" to any hate criminal. It would also be inexcusable if, this time around, the media fail once more to tell the REAL story.

\*\*\* ACTION ALERT: Insist that the media get it right (or at least much-less wrong) this time around. Send preemptive feedback to local and national news outlets, including Rita Quinn, "PrimeTime Live," 147 Columbus Avenue, New York, NY 10023, tel. 212-456-7777, fax 212-456-1297; ABC Audience Information, 77 W. 66th Street, New York, NY 10023, e-mail

abcaudr@ccabc.com; Mark Rosenwasser, "Dateline," 30 Rockefeller Plaza, Room 410, New York, NY 10112, tel. 212-664-3880, fax 212-664-7073, e-mail date-line@nbc.aol.com or date-line@news.nbc.com; Steven Brill, President, Courtroom Television Network, 600 Third Avenue, 2nd Floor, New York, NY 10016, tel. 212-973-2800; Mark Walberg, "The Mark Walberg Show," 510 W. 57th Street, New York, NY 10019, tel. 212-265-3760, fax 212-246-5099, e-mail mark-showny@aol.com; Steven Redcliffe, Editor-In-Chief, "TV Guide," Radnor, PA 19088, e-mail tvgeditor@delphi.com.

### Biblical Essence

"Before I came out in print, I had never had someone tell me that I was going to hell. Now people say it to me regularly." So begins Linda Villarosa's biographical essay in the Sept. 1995 issue of "Essence" magazine. The essay is one in which—as the magazine's cover indicates—"A Lesbian Takes on the Bible."

Villarosa, who is also the executive editor of "Essence," utilizes a mixture of personal experience and social critique as she strikes at the hypocritical heart of the "Religious" Right. Villarosa undermines the conservative obsession with homosexuality, revealing the Religious Right's inconsistent and irrational use of biblical texts. The hecklers who regularly quote the Bible when condemning her lesbianism, Villarosa observes, have precious little to say about other scriptural taboos.

"It didn't take a biblical scholar to figure out that people who shout me down in lecture halls and write me letters are not sending hate mail to people who are divorced," Villarosa says. "The man who lashed out at me in Oregon is not condemning people who eat pork (Leviticus 11:7-8). Neither is he carrying on about cattle breeders, farmers who grow two different crops, or anyone who wears a poly-cotton blend of clothing (Leviticus 19:19)."

As an African-American, Villarosa notes the particular pain she has experienced within the community, when "Black people are using the Bible against their lesbian and gay sisters and brothers just as Whites used the Scriptures against our ancestors when they interpreted passages...to mean that our people should remain enslaved."

Targeting a readership of African American women, "Essence" ranks favorably among the nation's popular periodicals. Celebrating 25 years in publication, the magazine represents a significant venue for honest and affirmative reporting by and about the lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender communities.

\*\*\* ACTION ALERT: Ensure supportive feedback, to ensure supportive journalism. Send comments to Susan L. Taylor, Editor-In-Chief, and Linda Villarosa, Executive Editor, "Essence," 1500 Broadway, New York, NY 10036, tel. 212-642-0600, fax 212-921-5173, e-mail ESSENCEonline@nyo.com.

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c.1995 GULF FEATURES, Puzzle TXS146  
initial names: Harry Belafonte, Humphrey Bogart, Albert Einstein, Sir Walter Raleigh, Ronald W. Reagan

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R N A A  
E M A R  
E H B  
N O A T H S  
B L U S H U N A B O M B E R  
A S S E R U M F A A E O  
C A T I V E S A R A J E V O  
R A N S A C K O F F R W R N O A M  
R A C E R S N A T O R M A R I L Y N  
G U R U L K K T S R S S E I  
B A C T E R I O L O G I S T R A N  
A T E L I E R A X I S E N I K E  
E S C H I N C E A S E  
H O N G K O N G  
I M R O W S  
A N I B Y  
E C H O  
H A Y  
T S

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

The **BRB** is accepting applications for doorman, floor & barback positions and security. Applications accepted daily until 4:00pm at 2400 Brazos. Photo required. No phone calls.

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Bi/W/M, 34, non-smoker seeks roommate to share 3BR/ 2BA contemporary home in League City, convenient to Clear Lake. \$300/ mo + 1/ 2 utilities. Call (713) 334-3940. Leave message/ #.

Still available: Hwy 290 & Antoine: Share 3/2/2 home w/pool. \$300/mo. Bills paid. Near Metro. (713) 681-8288

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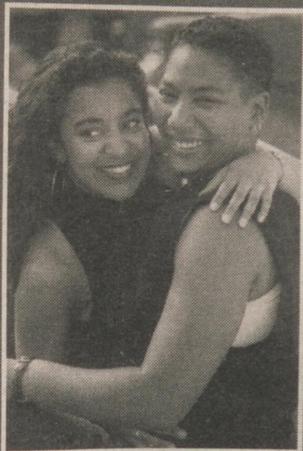
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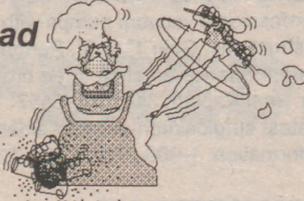
**PLAY SAFE**

## RECIPES BY KUNTRY KIDD

This is the last recipe I used over the Labor Day weekend, and I had soooo much food here, I forgot I had even prepared it. I picked this recipe up in Sioux City, IA a year ago July. My niece brought it to a picnic we had, and I ate my share of it. I always hate myself when I turn into a pig! It is different and so easy to make. It's been quite awhile since I gave you a recipe for an appetizer, so here goes!

### Dried Beef Spread

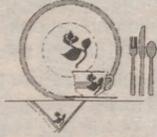
- 1 8-ounce cream cheese (I used low-fat)
- 1/2 tsp. Worcestershire
- 1-1/2 tsp. Accent
- 4 green onions chopped (use the greens also)
- 2 pkgs chopped dried beef



Let the cream cheese come to room temperature and combine all the ingredients together. Try to make a day in advance so the flavors have time to mix. Spread on any of your favorite crackers. Personally, I like the Cracked Pepper made by Snack Well, they are also fat-free. Pretty easy, huh?

UNTIL NEXT WE EAT!

KUNTRY KIDD



## The Great American Puzzle

### TEXAS EDITION

By Henry McClurg

#### ACROSS

- 1 taste
- 5 body acid
- 6 damage
- 8 entertainers Belafonte or Bogart, initials
- 9 solemn appeals
- 12 to turn red in the face
- 13 N.Y. Times & Washington Post published his manifesto Sept. 19
- 19 watery part of blood
- 21 musical syllable, 4th tone

- Islands Sept. 16
- 45 Hindu religious teacher
- 47 in chess, abbrev. for the piece that moves 2 one way,

- for I am
- 68 paddles as in a boat
- 69 New World cuckoo
- 71 near

- 14 from a great distance
- 15 shut out
- 16 main fields of academic study
- 17 Texas county with Beeville as seat
- 18 spacious
- 20 ultraviolet abbrev.
- 25 15th-16th century English colonizer Raleigh, initials ("The difference between a rich man and a

- 33 crucial moments
- 35 wandering beggar of India
- 41 state that won Miss America Pageant Sept. 16
- 42 title for a married woman
- 43 exists
- 44 3/4ths of a dozen
- 46 necklace of flowers
- 48 organically-produced poison
- 49 female kin
- 52 in the shipping business, abbrev. for truckload

- 22 German-born American theoretical physicist Einstein, initials ("The distinctions separating the social classes are false; in the last analysis they rest on force.")
- 23 in cartoons, a dog's nemesis
- 24 Roman numeral for 4
- 25 Bosnia-Herzegovina capital
- 28 search and rob
- 34 away
- 36 actor & 40th U.S. President, initials
- 37 nay
- 38 exist
- 39 drivers at the Indy 500
- 40 alliance that conducted Sept. attacks on Bosnian Serbs
- 42 storm that devastated U.S. Virgin

- 1 another way
- 49 senior, abbrev.
- 50 direction Abilene to Corpus Christi, abbrev.
- 51 microscopic plant scientist
- 56 dashed
- 58 artist's studio
- 59 center of rotation
- 60 athletic shoes worn by tennis' Pete Sampras & basketball's Michael Jordan
- 61 suffix to make some nouns plural
- 62 pull oneself up on a bar
- 63 stop
- 65 Britain to hand this over to China in 1997
- 67 contraction

- ics, abbrev. for tensile strength
- DOWN
- 1 getting face-lift after 66 years
- 2 prefix for 'not'
- 3 Houston horse race track
- 4 row
- 7 lower in dignity
- 10 careful management of money
- 11 amount

- poor man is this—the former eats when he pleases, and the latter when he can get it.")
- 26 collection of misc. info on a subject
- 27 real name for someone called Val
- 29 Land of Opportunity state, abbrev.
- 30 henpeck
- 31 equipment for breathing underwater
- 32 supply with air

- 53 prefix for again or anew
- 54 U.S. House Speaker Newt
- 55 tiny
- 57 Last Frontier state, abbrev.
- 60 Canadian province that was part of French Acadia, abbrev.
- 62 22nd letter of Greek alphabet, after phi
- 63 NFL team sued by NFL Properties for its independent marketing
- 64 U.S. gov't top lawyer, initials
- 66 boxing conclusion
- 70 direction Austin to Longview, abbrev.
- 73 head covering Solution elsewhere this issue c.1995 GULF FEATURES, HOUSTON, PUZZLE TXS146

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## GALAXY GAYZER

A HOUSTON VOICE EXCLUSIVE

### HOROSCOPE FOR THE WEEK OF OCTOBER 6 - 12, 1995



**IF THIS WEEK IS YOUR BIRTHDAY:** True wisdom for you will only be achieved once you have learned how to blend your emotions with your intellect. Once able to do just that, you can bring out the best from within yourself, and use such a valuable tool in all aspects of your life. If changes are needed to be made in your life, now is the time.

**ARIES:** (March 21-April 20) Family issues are on your mind. Older people depend on you for specific feedback.

Your thinking maybe just a bit fuzzy, and you may be inclined to go off on flights of fancy - it's okay. Your jealousy of a mate is tacky, keep your cool.

**TAURUS:** (April 21 - May 21) Spend time working on routine matters, and you will be surprised at how well it goes. It's possible that you may be under pressure in the workplace, but that never seems to slow you down; continue at your own pace. Ask a friend for financial advice.

**GEMINI:** (May 22 - June 21) There will be plenty of variety in your week, so there's little chance of being bored. Both friendship and group endeavors will be predominant - your ability to cooperate will come in handy. Any goals you set for yourself will be easily achieved.

**CANCER:** (June 22 - July 23) Finish up old projects in the workplace, before starting new ones - or everything will catch up with you. You will accomplish a lot and people around you will be caught up in your enthusiasm. If you've been quarreling with family, set things straight.

**LEO:** (July 24- August 23) However hard it may be, be charitable to those who are giving you a hard time. Your warm personality will shine, and those around you will respond favorably. You have a flow of creative energy that needs to be channeled into a worthwhile project.

**VIRGO:** (August 24 - September 23) Keep yourself busy and don't think about things which depress you. A change is coming in the very near future. Concentrate on maintaining harmonious relations with those you love - spend more quality time with them. Your sense of humor is infectious.

**LIBRA:** (September 24 - October 23) Disappointments in your love life are painful, but realize that you aren't at fault for what happened. Don't drive yourself too hard at work, because you will not receive the credit due. You are indecisive by nature, and tend to go along with plans already made.

**SCORPIO:** (October 24 - November 22) Your ability to be objective will help you to resolve a fairly sticky situation between two co-workers. Romance is in the air and your love life couldn't be better. Guard against feelings of jealousy, there really is no cause for such strong reactions.

**SAGITTARIUS:** (November 23 - December 21) You need to get things done, but nobody else seems to want to go along with the program - looks like you are on your own. Pay attention to a friend who will give you some truly constructive suggestions on how to handle your finances. Home is your refuge.

**CAPRICORN:** (December 22 - January 20) You tend to worry too much about money and would be better off just being careful how you spend discretionary income. Think big this week. Your usually charming self will open new doors - everyone wants to have you around, because they like to feel good. You'll accomplish a lot.

**AQUARIUS:** (January 21 - February 19) Follow your hunches regarding money matters, especially those situations you have no real experience with. Be candid in your closest relationship, it looks as if the lines of communication are snagged. It's time to discuss your plans for the future with a loved one.

**PISCES:** (February 20 - March 20) Your manner is quite pleasing and others see you as being accepting and trusting - don't let them down. This week will probably showcase your determined spirit; when you have something to fight for you tend to win. A close friend needs advice without criticism. Your spiritual side is growing.

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Adults over 18 only

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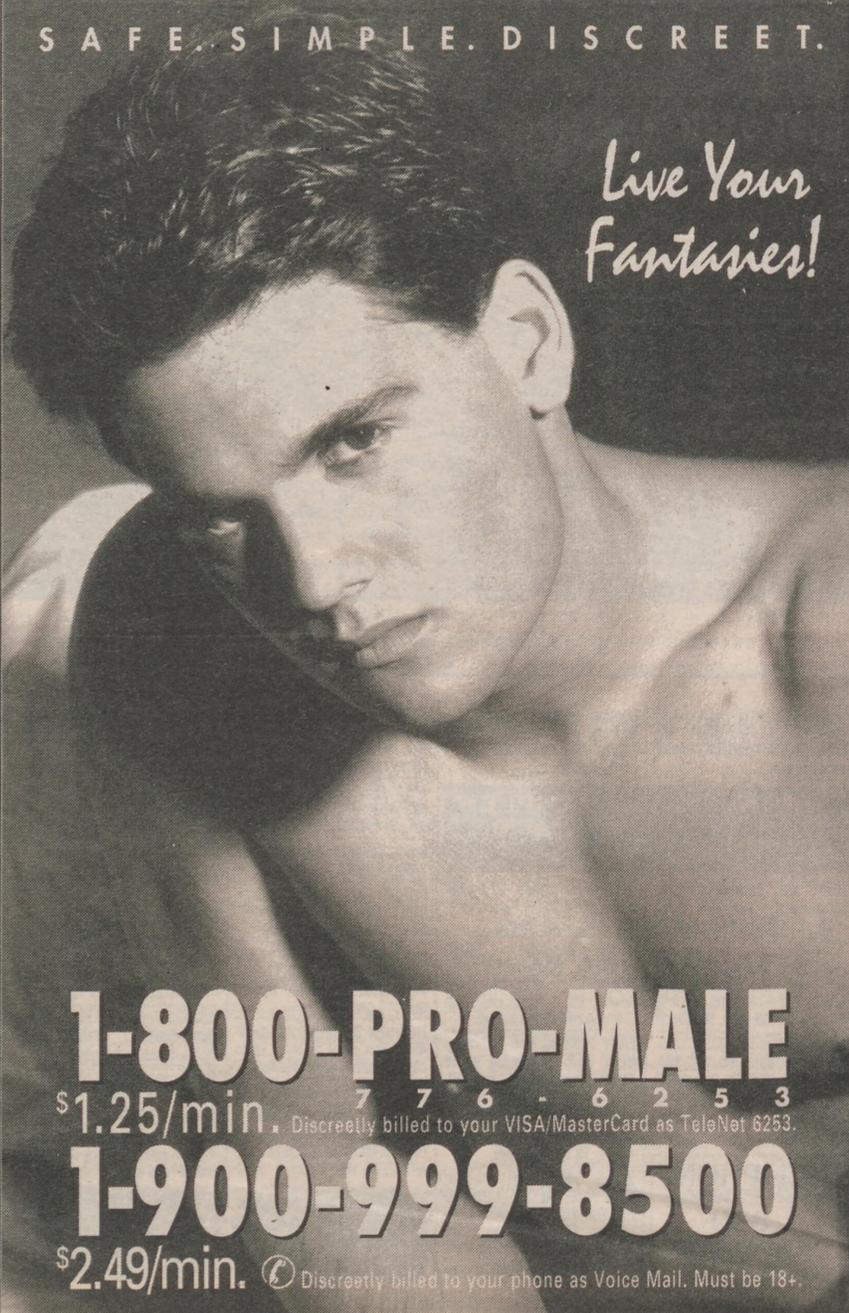
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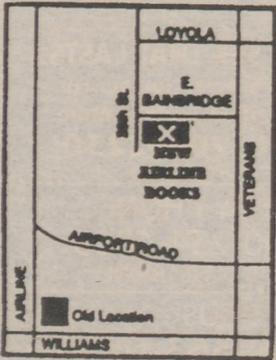
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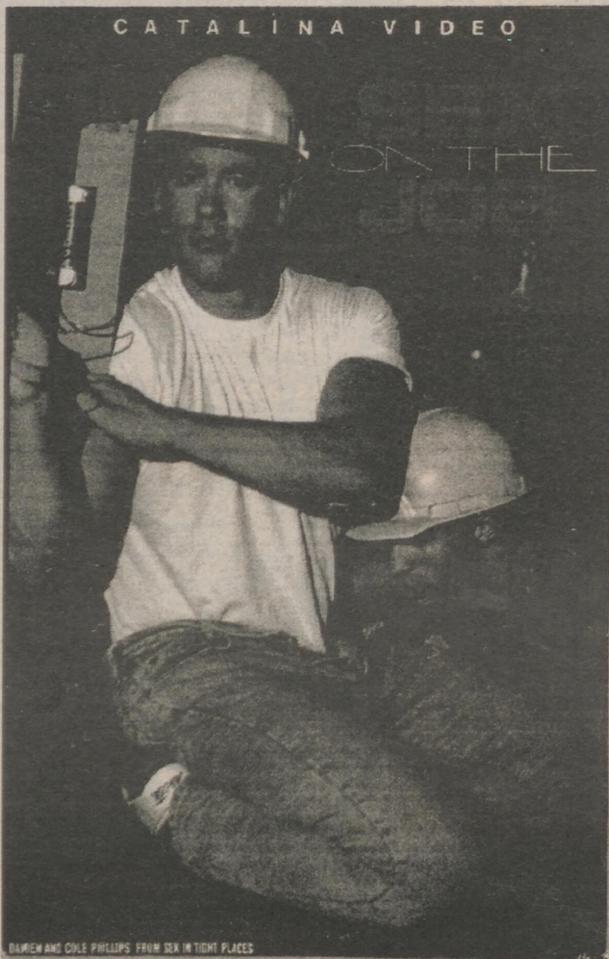
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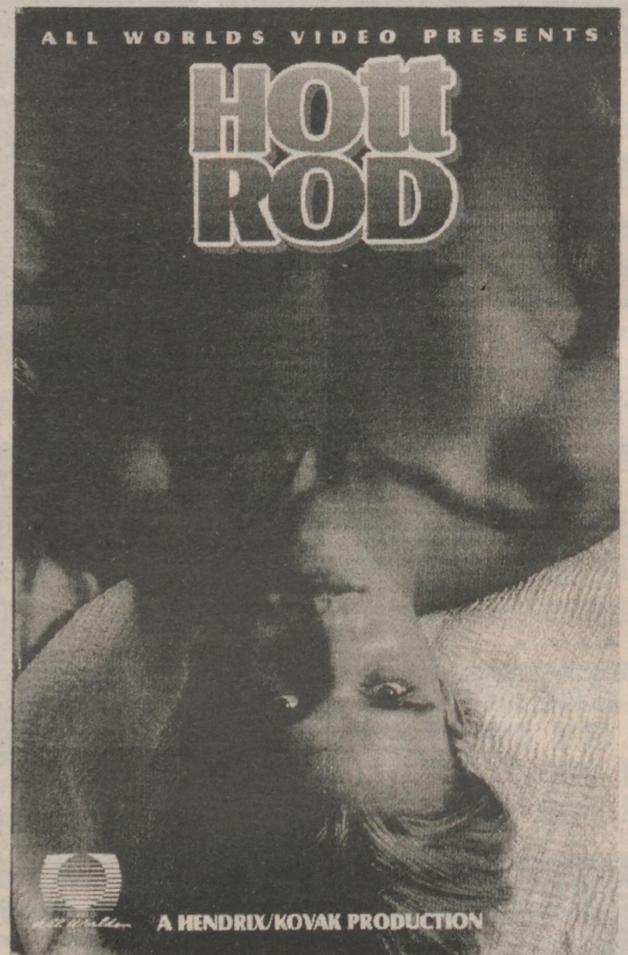


*SEX ON THE JOB*

*and*

*HOT ROD*

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



# Houston VOICE Personals

## TOP SEEKS BOTTOM

Top needs to satisfy/eliminate basic urges and seeks bottom to use for this purpose. I'm HWP, mature, good looking, HIV+, generally nice and I enjoy doing it especially when the bottom gets happy. Mail responses, please. Ad 25706.

## FREE TO LOVE

Professional, mature, masculine, successful, fun loving gay white male, 40, 5'11", 180#, well built and very attractive, dark hair and deep grey blue eyes, and interested in a very long term monogamous relationship based on loyalty, honesty and most importantly, passion. True love runs deep, and there is nothing else quite like it... to be devoted and committed to that one special person who is as equally into you as you are into him. Ad 25718

## NOT A SOCIAL BUTTERFLY

GM, 53, own home SW, college degree. Hobbies: gardening, genealogy, roses. Interests: cinema, dining out, cooking, travel. Seeking a few good friends to share activities. Discreet, n/s. Age/gender/race not a barrier. Ad 25703

## AFTERNOON DELIGHT

Professional GWM, 49, blonde-blue, clean shaven, 6', 165, swimmers body. I.S.O. part-time play buddy. You are good-looking, 30 to 50, HWP, drug free, without hangups. CALLS ONLY. Ad 25704

## SUBMISSIVE MEN

I seek submissive men 21-45 years old, HWP, any race. While I am interested primarily in Houston-area men, I travel on business frequently, and men outside of Houston and Texas are also welcome to respond. I am 45, 5'9", 190, hairy, aggressive and demanding. Ad 25673

## SERIOUS & SINCERE ONLY

Tall/Handsome/GWM. Loves to look, dance, & shop. Former LSU student turned paraprofessional. I.S.O. spontaneous, intellectual, politically incorrect friends. You must keep up w/ fashion, latest dance music, and mel HWP & DDF. Ad 25702

## TALL TRANSSEXUAL I.S.O. QUALITY LASTING RELATIONSHIP

Looking for a Man who is not intimidated by an assertive ambitious person. Experience a must! No virgins please! I am an extremely creative person w/a good sense of humor. A responsible goal oriented professional in my mid 20's, I have a wide variety of interests. You should be a professional with positive goals. Looks aren't that important, but your personality definitely is. Ad 25713

## ATTENTION -NUDIST

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

## KIDNAP ME

Take me to your playroom. Bind me, use me, then release me in a couple of days. My captor(s): attractive, HWP, HIV-, serious master(s) and/or mistress(es). I am a successful intelligent WBiM, handsome, nice body & highly sensual, HIV-, HWP, with a weakness for the smell of leather who desires to be totally dominated. Ad 25711

## FIRST TIME

5'6" medium build middle aged straight black male beginning to find myself attracted to other straight appearing males, black or white, small to medium build. Not macho. Wish to talk or meet with others experiencing or those who have experienced the same. Never had an affair. Would like to hear from you. Ad 25714

## NEED DADDY YOU NEVER REALLY HAD?

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

## THE FOREVER MAN

Professional, mature, masculine, successful, fun-loving GWM, youthful, 40, 5'11", 180#, well built and very attractive w/dark hair and blue eyes. Interested in a long term monogamous relationship based on loyalty, trust, and most importantly, passion. True love runs deep, and there is nothing quite like it. Ad 25717

## GO FOR IT!

GWM seeks man of color to make my dreams come true. Looking for love. Tired of games and one night stands. You can't lose what you don't have. Ad 25692

## CHRISTIAN SEEKS LIFE-MATE

GWM, 33, 6'1", 285, christian, professional with big heart. I'm nice looking, short brown hair and mustache. Seeking that special someone with lots of love to give for monogamous relationship. Interests include movies, intimate evenings, helping people in need, yard sales, flea markets, and my church. Ad 25708

## FRIENDLY YOUNG MAN WANTED

Affectionate older GWM seeks a young man for discreet and safe fun. I like to please young men, especially if they are slender, boyish and smooth. DDF please. Ad 25693

## GWM PROFESSIONAL

40's, 5'11", 165 lbs, good looks, nice tanned body (HIV-). Enjoy movies, sports, cars, the beach, music & dining in & out. ISO younger HWP hispanic for dating. Desire monogamous relationship. Be DDF. I've a lot to offer. You will be pleased you answered. Ad 25705

## IMPOTENT?

Me too, but with Prostag Landin E1 I'm ready to go again! I'm open, loving, monogamous. Seeking another impotent GM or potent top who needs love. Personal growth important. What's inside more important than outside. Hairy a plus. I have a lot to give. Let's find love! Ad 25707

## VERY WELL ENDOWED

Attractive GWM, 39, 6'1", 175 and HIV-. Dominant top/daddy type. Seeking the intimacy lacking in a world of casual encounters. I.S.O. younger masculine bottom "boy" that's muscular and attractive. Interests include movies, clubs, intimate evenings, and camping. Respond by letters only; with phone and photo please. Ad 25700

## WHO KNOWS...

Seeking conversationally stimulating, visually appealing, physically active, socially acceptable person to first take-a walk with, then whatever comes next. I'm mature, the aforementioned and HIV+. Mail responses, please. Ad 25710

## READY FOR A STEADY

Interesting GWM looking for a special gentleman. I'm 38, 6'2", 175, brown/blue, professionally employed, healthy, happy, emotionally & financially stable, warm, caring & relationship oriented. I enjoy travel, Nautilus, family, friends & more. I'm seeking a compatible GWM, 30s to 40s, height/weight proportional, who is single, smart, funny, charming, HIV-, clean-cut & happy. Respond today -I'm ready! Ad 25720

## EUROPEAN GUY

I am 27 years old, 5'7", 132, brown hair and brown eyes, healthy (HIV-), warm and caring. I enjoy movies (foreign), music, animals, cars, etc. I'm looking for a compatible, masculine, professional man who is single, smart, funny and charming. Ad 25715

Attractive male, 5'9", 145#, sincere professional.

Seeking monogamous relationship with someone who is attractive, HWP, honest and willing to make a commitment. Interests include museums, dining out, the outdoors, travel and good conversation. Prefer mail responses. Ad 25722

## PASADENA: 3 CAN BE GOOD COMPANY

And lot's of fun! GWC, barely 30's, one's versatile, one's top only. Both well endowed, HWP, DDF, tired of bars. You: GWM, 18-30, HWP, DDF, versatile or bottom. For: Safe 3-Way Fun, Friendship and Companionship. Ad 25695

## SEEKING HIV+ HISPANIC MALE

I am in my early 30's, healthy, HWP and am interested in developing a relationship with a sincere, honest and caring man. You must be professional/business-like, able to speak spanish and have proper documents to travel out of the country. Ad 25712

## LOOKING FOR BILL:

Your name is Bill, a GBM I met in the Ripcord. You said you were taking a friend home, but you were late in returning to the bar. I would like to get in touch with you. Ron Ad 25134

## GWF COUPLE LOOKING FOR NEW FRIENDS

Lesbian couple in our mid-30's looking for a single person, or couple, for a non-sexual friendship. We enjoy movies, music, the Rockets, Reba and Melissa. Ad 25641

## SEEKING TO MAKE NEW FRIENDS

New to the gay scene. Recently divorced. Looking to make new friends/acquaintances. I am a WM early 50's but people say I look 40, DDF, non-smoker, permanently employed. I am average looking, tall and slim, hazel eyes, blond hair. I like quiet evenings, enjoy cooking, gardening, country and western music, the beach, and the outdoors. If interested, respond to Ad 25674.

## LOOKING FOR LIKE/ PROF FOR LONG-TERM RELATIONSHIP

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

## BOTTOM SEEKS TOP

I.S.O.: Masculine, hairy, H.W.P, HIV-, well endowed GWM for safe fun. No strings. Pure indulgence. ME: 40 yr., HIV-, 5'7", 160 lbs, brown hair, brown eyes, w/S & P beard. Average guy. No hang-ups. Photo w/letter for response. Ad 25724

## GALVESTON: LOOKING FOR SEXUAL BUDDIES

I'm 43, married, 5'10", 160lbs., average looks, DDF, clean, top-cut-discreet. Ad 25598.

## FOR \$29.95 PER YEAR YOU CAN HAVE AN AD IN THIS SECTION

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

## SPECIAL BOTTOMS WITH SPECIAL SKILLS

Submit! Provide service and do it right! Take instructions and behave exactly! You're a boy/slave in need of bindings and discipline! Take it all and say thank you! Know your place with a demanding top! If GM, 25-40, fit, clean, easy going, nice guy, then call now! Ad 25653

## MATURE MASCULINE TOP

Seeking meaningful relationship with masculine bottom. Me: GWM; good looks; lean, firm body; professional; HIV-. You: sensuous; good shape; employed; no addictions. Latin, Mediterranean a plus. I want what I can deliver: honesty, trust, respect, love, monogamy, intimacy, commitment. Letters preferred; include phone. Photo optional. I'll respond. Ad 25694

## HIV+ HISPANIC MALE

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

## BLACK MALE SEEKS WHITE MALE

37 year old black male, HIV+, 30 waist, 6', 155, healthy and active. Seeking GWM HIV+ age 25-40 for monogamous relationship. Must be sincere. No one nighters please. Ad 25681

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

## HOMEBODY

GHM, 41, 5'9", 145, looking for a younger man that's always wanted to be that devoted "housewife" type. Someone a little happy go lucky to offset my seriousness. Looking for that man that wants to make a long-lasting home life together. Bedroom eyes a plus. Ad 25709

## TO PLACE a Houston Voice Personal Ad --

Come to our offices at 811 Westheimer, Suite 105. It's a good idea to write out (up to fifty words) what you want to say. The annual cost is only \$29.95 -- less than one dollar per week. (6months-\$17.50 and 3 months-\$10) At the office you will be given the functioning details. Ads can also be placed by mail, with payment enclosed, phone 713-529-8490, for details.

**TO RECEIVE RESPONSES TO YOUR AD:** A toll-free 800 number will let you know if you have recorded telephone responses. You can then listen to these responses on a 900 number using your personal code and pin (personal identification number). Responses can also be received by mail, see below.

**TO ANSWER AN AD BY PHONE** - Call 1-900-454-3576. Listen to the instructions. You will then actually be listening to the advertisers recorded message and can leave a voice message with your name and number. You can respond to more than one personal during the phone call. As individuals check their messages, they can respond to yours. OR you can pre-pay a special 800 account, listen and respond without the cost appearing on your phone bill. Call 529-8490 for more information.

**TO ANSWER AN AD BY MAIL:** Each ad has a five digit code. Write your response and seal it in a stamped envelope with the five digit code in the address place. Place your sealed response and \$2.00 in an envelope and mail it to us, we will affix a mailing label and the intended person will receive your response. This service costs \$2.00 plus postage per numbered envelope, and is available only with the Houston Voice Personals.

**ADDITIONAL REQUIREMENTS:** To place a Houston Voice personal ad you are required to participate in the "live voice" aspect of our Personals by calling the special 800 toll-free number. You must record, in your voice, your Ad. If you do not participate in the voice aspect, your ad may be discontinued without reimbursement. The voice message can be as simple as "You read the ad, leave a message" to complex and informative. The ads, both print and voice, can not contain references to sexual acts or organs (FCC et al. regulations). If you are having difficulty recording your message, phone 1-800-780-4947, for assistance. Ads should be positive, describe what you want, undesirable qualities/characteristics need not be listed.

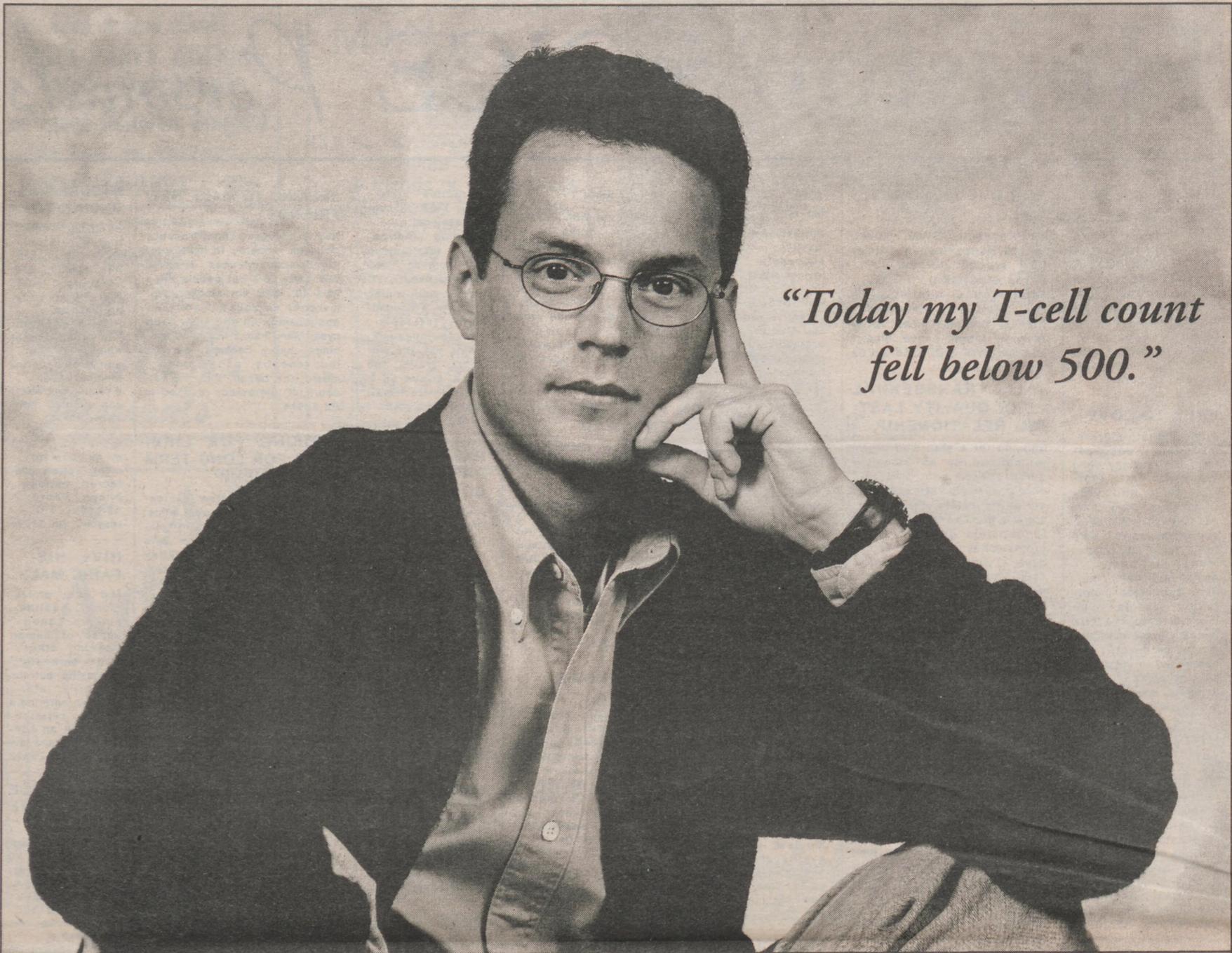
G - Gay, M - male; F - female; W - white; B - black; H - hispanic, A - asian, HWP - height, weight, proportionate, DDF - disease, drug free

HOUSTON

VOICE

Personals

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