

Happy New Year

HOUSTON

VOICE

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ISSUE 792

A Weekly Community News Publication

Trends of the year that was

News Analysis

By SHERI COHEN DARBONNE
Houston Voice Editor

As 1995 draws to a close, the gay and lesbian community, in Houston and across the country, looks back on a turbulent period of changes and challenges. The past year has been one in which positive trends which began at the turn of the decade—increased gay and lesbian visibility, a heyday for the “out” role model, an unprecedented level of mainstream inclusion and support on cultural fronts and a slow-but-steady creep

forward for important legal struggles—have continued, but in the glaring shadow of a menace so foreboding many have chosen simply to ignore it.

Like nothing else, 1995 was colored and shaped by the rise to prominence and power of the extremist right wing. The prevalence and alarming acceptability of the most extreme views into society, under protection of a misleading cloak of religion, affected our community at every level and on every issue this past year—although in some cases, the threat created some positives by forcing a response, and winning us new allies as the vitriolic “backlash” of the so-called religious right has spawned a counter-backlash of its own.

Overall, 1995 was a year of conflicts and contradictions, of unexpected progress and unexpected setbacks. In Houston, it was also a year in which a very diverse gay and lesbian community faced tests of common boundaries and questions of agenda loyalties...and came through all of these with flying colors, bound and buoyed by a renewed sense and revised definition of community unity.

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Top business schools gay-friendly

FROM WIRE REPORTS

(STANFORD, Calif., Dec. 26, 1995)—Over this holiday break, gay men, lesbians and bisexuals can start their New Year's Resolutions early by coming out of the closet...on their applications to business school.

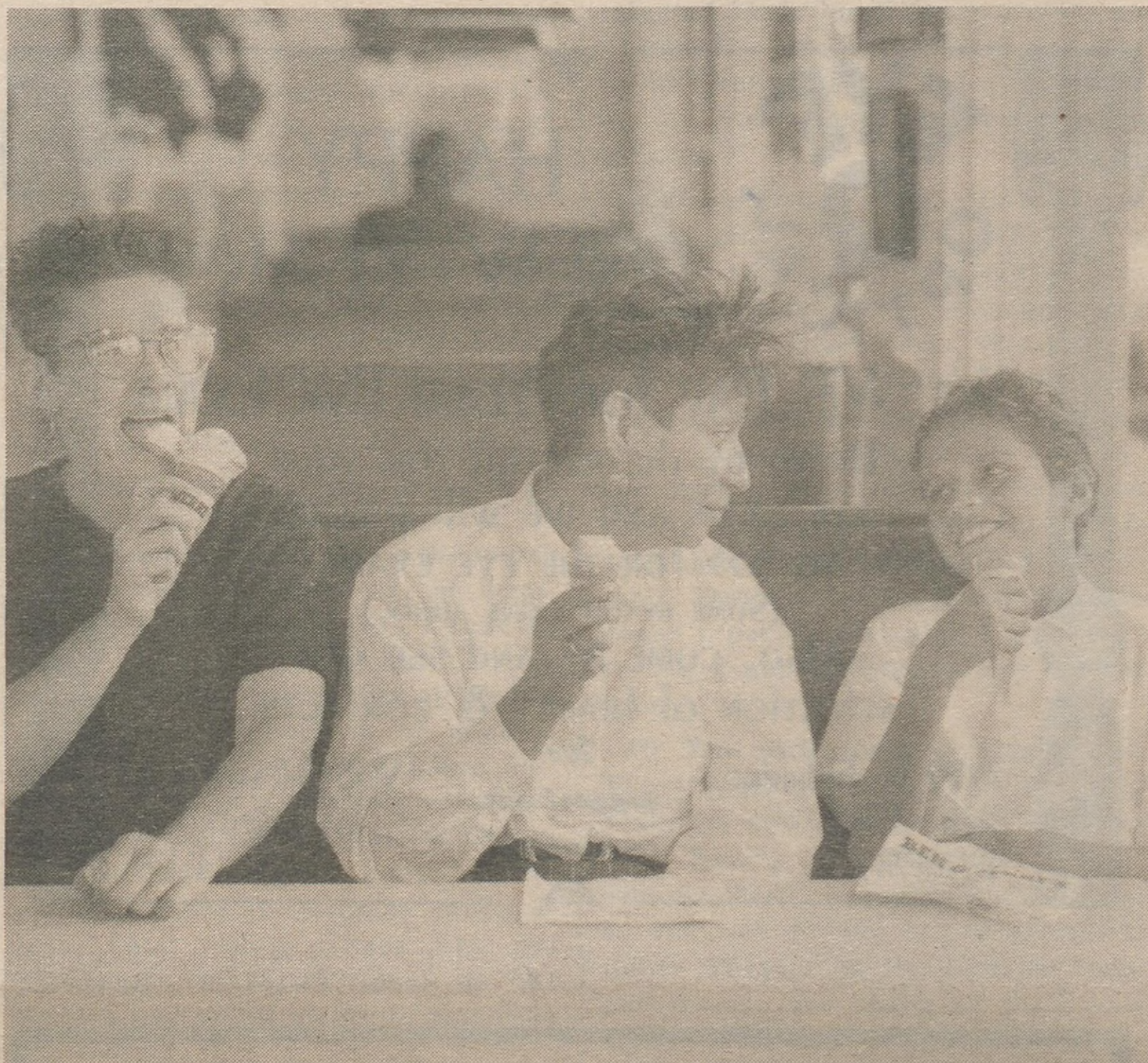
That's according to Jason P. Lorber, a Stanford MBA who conducted a study which discovered that the nation's top business schools were the most gay-friendly.

“Since the report was published on the world Wide Web, I've been contacted by business school applicants, asking if it's okay to be openly gay,” said Lorber. “My answer, for the most part, is ‘Yes.’ By and large, the data indicates that the better the business school, the more gay-friendly it is.”

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Award winning photographer Geoff Manasse and the late author/anthologist Jean Swallow collaborated to produce a moving new book that documents, in words and pictures, the lives of gay and lesbian families...Story, Page 8

The Best and Worst of '95

This'n'That: New Year Special

By JON ANTHONY

Houston Voice/Houston

As a critic, this is my favorite time of the year. It allows me to review the best and worst that the entertainment industry bestowed upon us. As in any given year, there is the breakout star, the comeback story, the change in trends and those who have left us but remain in our hearts.

In 1995, every network on television tried to capitalize on the *Friends* phenomenon to no avail; John Travolta dominated the big-screen; Hootie and the Blowfish dominated the music charts and the Beatles reunited. Through it all, we were entertained, enthralled and, in some cases, bored beyond comprehension (yawn!). So sit back and enjoy my New Year's gift to each and every one of you—a compilation of the best and worst of 1995.

Entertainers

1. **John Travolta** —Travolta is the comeback story of the decade. The former star of TV's *Welcome Back Kotter* drew critical raves and an Oscar nomination for his portrayal of a hoodlum in the box-office smash *Pulp Fiction*. Travolta who has had tremendous success in the past (*Saturday Night Fever*, *Urban Cowboy*, *Look Who's Talking*) had seen his star status wane in recent years and Hollywood was not beckoning. That all changed with his brilliant and impeccable performance in *Pulp Fiction* that was deserving of the coveted

Best Actor Statue at the Academy Awards. Travolta proved that his comeback was not a one flick fluke when he received some of the best reviews of his career in the box-office smash *Get Shorty*. He was reportedly paid a paltry sum of \$150,000 for his stint in *Pulp* and \$3.5 million for *Shorty*. His next film, *Broken Arrow*, due in February, garnered him a \$7 million paycheck. Travolta's current price tag is a hefty \$21 million and there is no shortage of studios willing to pony up.

2. **Sandra Bullock** —Ms. Bullock has joined the ranks of Julia Roberts and Demi Moore in the female box-office sweepstakes. Bullock, who rose to instant fame playing opposite Keanu Reeves in last year's sleeper hit *Speed*, drew the attention of Hollywood and ticket buyers as well. She followed with the romantic comedy *While You Were Sleeping*, which grossed an impressive \$81 million and *The Net*, which earned a respectable \$50 million. Bullock will appear in *A Time to Kill*, based on the best-selling John Grisham tome and star in *Two if by Sea*, a romantic comedy, slated for release in January.

3. **Jim Carrey** —*The Mask*, *Ace Ventura 1 & 2*, *Dumb and Dumber*, *Batman Forever*. Need I say more. Carrey, the Jerry Lewis of our generation, is also in the \$20 million per picture realm and deservedly so. A film with Carrey at the helm can recoup his salary for the studio on opening weekend. *Cable Guy* and *Liar, Liar* are his next projects, and Carrey plans to follow up with his first drama film. Whether Carrey can survive the transition from comedy to drama with the same success quotient remains to be seen.

(Continued on Page 3)

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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.

NOTE: Some events may be canceled due to the holidays. Please call your event to make sure it is as scheduled.

Friday, Dec. 29

- * 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.
- * 12 step program at Montrose Counseling Center. 6:00 p.m. Call 529-0037.
- * Aftercare Group Treatment at Montrose Counseling Center. 6:00 p.m. Call 529-0037.
- * Free Buffet at the Brazos River Bottom. 4:00 p.m.

Saturday, Dec. 30

- * 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.
- * Montrose Ice Picks skate at the Downtown Skating Rink. Noon to 5:00 p.m. Call 629-1432.

Sunday, Dec. 31

- * 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. 5:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m.
- * Pool Tournament at Chances. 6:00 p.m.
- * Montrose Ice Picks skate at the Downtown Skating Rink. Noon to 5:00 p.m. Call 629-1432.
- * Parents, Families & Friends of Lesbian & Gays support group meets at 2:00 p.m. Call 867-9020.
- * The Women's Group meets at 10:45 a.m. Call 529-8571.
- * Houston Gay and Lesbian Parents New Year's Eve Party. Call 980-7995.

Monday, Jan. 1

- * 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.
- * Agora meets at 7:30 p.m. Call 623-6796.
- * Positive Living Group at Montrose Counseling Center. 2:15 p.m. Call 539-0037.
- * Outpatient Group Treatment at Montrose Counseling Center. 6:00 p.m. Call 529-0037.
- * Women and HIV/AIDS Group at Montrose Counseling Center. 6:15 p.m. Call 529-0037.
- * Men Survivors of Sexual Abuse Group at Montrose Counseling

Center. 6:15 p.m. Call 529-0037.

- * Lesbian Survivors of Cancer and their care givers at Montrose Counseling Center. 6:30 p.m. Call 529-0037.
- * Men's HIV Group at Montrose Counseling Center. 7:00 p.m. Call 529-0037.
- * Montrose Ice Picks skate at 1100 Main. Noon. Call 629-1492.

Tuesday, Jan. 2

- * Front Runners meet at Memorial Park. 6:30 p.m. Call 522-8021.
- * Helping Cross Dressers Anonymous meets at 239 Westheimer. 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.
- * Gay Men HIV + Psychotherapy at Montrose Counseling Center. 4:30 p.m. Call 529-0037.

- * Outpatient Group Treatment at Montrose Counseling Center. 6:00 p.m. Call 529-0037.

- * Aftercare Group Treatment at Montrose Counseling Center. 6:00 p.m. Call 529-0037.

- * Bereaved Partners/Spouses at Montrose Counseling Center. 6:15 p.m. Call 529-0037.

- * Women Survivors of Childhood Abuse at Montrose Counseling Center. 6:30 p.m. Call 529-0037.

- * Free Dance Lessons at the Brazos River Bottom. 9:30 p.m. Call 528-9192.

- * Live Jazz at Borders Book Shop. Call 782-6066.

Wednesday, Jan. 3

- * 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 8:00 p.m. Call 522-7662.

- * HIV survivor Support Group meets at 2929 Unity Drive. 7:00 p.m. Call 782-4050.

- * Men's Network at Montrose Counseling Center. 7:00 p.m. Call 529-0037.

- * Lambda Rollerskating Club skates at 8:00 p.m. Call 933-5818.

- * Women's Network at Montrose Counseling Center. 7:00 p.m. Call 529-0037.

- * Ongoing Mixed Living in Process Group for men and women. Call 622-7250 for more info.

- * Living with Chronic Pain at Montrose Counseling Center. 9:30 p.m. Call 529-0037.

- * Aftercare Group Treatment at Montrose Counseling Center. 6:00 p.m. Call 529-0037.

- * Women's Issues Process Group at Montrose Counseling Center. 6:30 p.m. Call 529-0037.

- * Lesbian/Bisexual Survivors at Montrose Counseling Center. 6:30 p.m. Call 529-0037.

- * Men's Network at Montrose Counseling Center. 7:00 p.m. Call 529-0037.

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Community Organizations Bulletin Board

HPMA To Visit Taj Mahal

The Houston Professional Men's Association will hold its monthly dinner meeting at the Taj Mahal restaurant Friday, Jan. 5 from 7:00 until 9:00 p.m.

Reservations are required, as the group has a continually growing attendance and the restaurant would like to avoid the logistics of adding extra tables, etc. Please telephone Steve A. at 520-9083 before Wednesday to join this group of men meeting for social interaction and good eating. The restaurant charges \$10 for its special buffet and HPMA gets an additional \$5.

The restaurant is located at 8328 Gulf Freeway. Take the Bellfort Exit off I-45 (going north or south), the restaurant is obvious.

Kolbe Potluck To Discuss Sodom

The Kolbe House Potluck and Community Concerns Program is planned for Thursday (Jan. 4) at 7:00 p.m. Kolbe House is located at 1509 Fairview.

The program following dinner will be "What really happened at Sodom? Is the Sodom story a condemnation of homosexuals?" The discussion could lead to note-taking, but that is a personal option.

Attendance at the December meeting was one of the smallest, due in part to unfriendly weather, but the discussion resulted in some exciting upcoming discussion topics, including: "Getting rid of pests in your home"; "Being Gay/Lesbian and Jewish"; "Gay businesses serving straight customers."

For more information please contact the Kolbe House at 522-8182.

Addictions and Resolutions

The Men's Network, a discussion group for social and educational development of gay and bisexual men will meet Wednesday Jan. 3 for a discussion "Mental Health, Addictions and Resolutions" from 7:00 until 9:00 p.m. at the Montrose Counseling Center (MCC), 701 Richmond.

Staff therapists of the MCC will discuss the major mental health concerns presented by gay men including the role of addiction to sex, clothes, chemicals, caffeine, chocolate and more.

For more information please telephone 529-0037. A donation between \$3 and \$5 is requested.

Ranglers Recruiting

The Rainbow Ranglers Dance Club is recruiting new members for the C&W (Country and Western) performing dance team for the 1996 performance season.

No experience is required and the Rainbow Ranglers will train new dancers with free private lessons. Team rehearsals are each Wednesday evening and two Monday nights each month in a studio setting with a top professional dance instructor/choreographer.

The Rainbow Ranglers is one of the top gay dance teams in the country and will have national road trips and exhibitions. Please contact 880-0670 for more information.

Clinic Seeking Peer-Based Volunteers

Montrose Clinic's Community Services department continues enrolling male volunteers in a peer-based education and prevention program targeting at risk populations, with the next training session planned for Jan. 8 and 10 from 5:00 until 8:00 p.m.

Coordinated by Wiley Walters, the program focuses on educating men within different communities who in turn become peer HIV counselors. Those interested in volunteering for this program can do so by calling Montrose Clinic Community Services at 520-2075.

Another arm of the outreach program is a one week workshop centered on lifestyle issues, assertiveness training and self-management training. These workshops are designed to increase self-esteem, self-worth, promote healthier attitudes and decrease high risk behaviors.

Bilingual AIDS Infoline

Amigos, Volunteers in Education and Services (AVES), a Houston based non-profit agency providing a variety of services to the HIV/AIDS infected and affected community, is pleased to announce the addition of its newest service: a bilingual infoline to answer the public's question regarding HIV and AIDS.

The line will be staffed by fully bilingual (Spanish and English) volunteers trained to provide the latest information and referrals to services in the Houston area.

Calls to the infoline are completely confidential and free of charge. The telephone number is 892-5454. Anyone interested in becoming a volunteer is urged to contact Michael Gurnas, volunteer coordinator, by telephoning 626-2837.

Arts & Entertainment year in review

Best/Worst Entertainers

(Continued from Page 1)

4. **Jay Leno** —Oh what a difference a year makes. Leno, whose succession to the *Tonight Show* throne was legendary fodder in itself, made a comeback of astronomical proportions. After taking a beating in the press and in the ratings, Leno rebounded and for the first time beat David Letterman in the lucrative late-night talk show wars. Buoyed by the success of NBC's successful prime-time lineup and crisp writing, Leno proved that he is not one to be underestimated.

5. **Garth Brooks** —The Garth man returned to the charts after a two year hiatus to tremendous success. His new album, *Fresh Horses*, entered at #2 on the charts and has remained a top ten staple since. Radio stations are playing so many songs off of the album that at one point Brooks had seven songs on the charts. His album, *The Hits*, is the third biggest selling album of the year and sold more than 10 million copies. He is the fourth biggest selling artist of all time. Like him or not, he's hot.

6. **Alanis Morissette** —Her album *Jagged Little Pill*, which has sold 3.5 million copies to date and is the fourth biggest selling album of the year, propelled this young (21) Canadian singer to superstardom, much to the chagrin of most critics. The album has the dubious distinction of appearing on most critics' worst albums list. While the album is certainly not one of the best I've heard this year—in fact, at times it's annoying—it is also not the worst I've had to listen to. Regardless, this young singer has put Madonna's Maverick label on the horizon and added plenty of money to her coffers.

7. **Christine Baranski** —This veteran Tony Award winning Broadway actress has become the toast of Hollywood, and an Emmy Winner to boot, for her magnificently hysterical portrayal of Mary Anne in the CBS sitcom *Cybill*. Christine is the consummate comedienne and the shenanigans on the CBS comedy series are nothing short of brilliant. At 43, Baranski has begun what will more than likely be a long and prosperous

career in television.

8. **Mary Tyler Moore** —With a brilliantly written best-selling autobiography (*After All*) that offers more than the usual shameless self promotion you come to expect from celebrity tell-alls and her stint in the now canceled CBS drama *New York News*, Moore has proven that she is worthy of her status as a television icon. Her portrayal of the steely editor of the fictional newspaper, which was used as a backdrop for the drama, was awe-inspiring. Unfortunately, the writing and other talent on the ill-fated series, with the exception of the multi-talented Madeline Kahn, were not up to par. The legendary Moore will star in the Lifetime movie *Stolen Moments: Secrets from the Rose Garden* slated to air Jan. 7.

9. **David Hyde Pierce** —His excellent portrayal of Niles Crane, Frasier's brother on NBC's hit comedy series garnered him the best supporting actor Emmy statue. Pierce, who is also a veteran of the theater and Tony Award winner has created one of the most delightful characters in sitcom land in recent memory. His unique timing and brilliant flair for physical comedy is astounding and memorable. Don't be too surprised if Pierce doesn't parlay his talents into big-screen success in the not to distant future.

10. **The entire cast of 'Friends'** — They're everywhere! From hawking T-shirts, coffee mugs and Windows 95 to having their theme song dominate the charts, no matter where you go or what you do, the cast of *Friends* is there. They're on the Internet, men and women are changing their hair styles to emulate their favorite character. Its virtually impossible to pick up a magazine that does not have one of the cast members on the cover or at least mentioning their name on the pages. It's overkill already, OK! Stop! With *Friends* like these, who needs enemies? The show's not bad, but it's not groundbreaking television by any stretch of the imagination. Give it a rest, before the public does.

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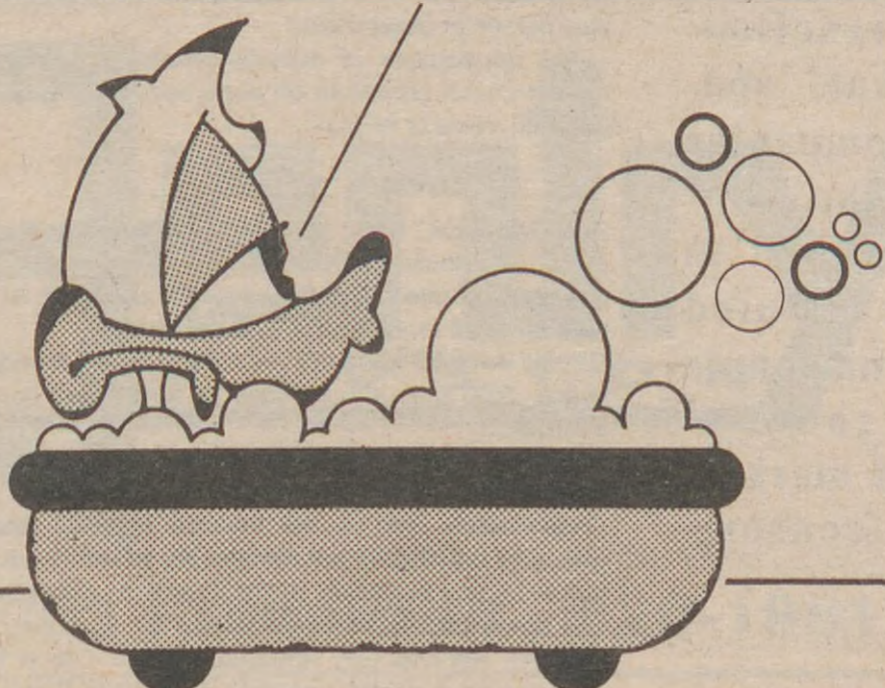
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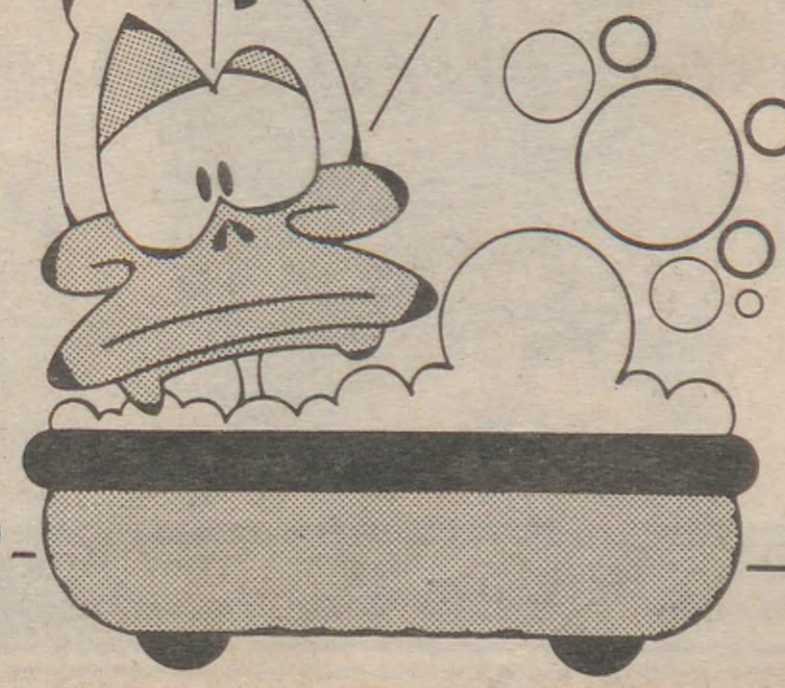
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LIES AHEAD!



NEEDLESS TO SAY---
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STONEWALL!



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In Loving Memory



ROCKY COLLIER

Born:
November 28, 1958
Died:
December 15, 1995

Rocky is survived by Doris May Collier of Norfolk, Virginia, three

brothers and one sister. Rocky's family of friends in Houston are invited to celebrate his life at Gentry, 2303 Richmond on Sunday, January 7th at 4:00 p.m. "Yesterday we know as the past, tomorrow is known as the future, today we call the present, because it is a gift. The gift of life." -Mark Collier "When you think of me, think of the ocean, the mountains, the wind, and know I am free." -Rocky Collier

LYNN L. (RED) BARRY

Born: October 13, 1948
Died: November 26, 1995

A popular figure for many years as bartender in several clubs in the Montrose community, Red Barry died on Sunday, November 26th, 1995 at Park Plaza Hospital in Houston, Texas. Red will be greatly missed by countless friends and patrons. He will be remembered for his bright red hair and his even brighter personality and smile which he readily shared with all.

In 1966 Red graduated from Cooper High School in Abilene, Texas and later received a degree in Mortuary Science from Commonwealth College in Houston. Red was a mainstay behind the bar

at the Montrose Mining Company for over six years where many of his patrons became his friends. He worked for five years at Mary's where he is fondly remembered. Red is survived by an older brother, Lester Barry, Jr. of Oklahoma City; and two younger brothers, James M. Barry of Flower Mound, Texas and Layn Barry of Odessa, Texas. A service for Red was held by his family on Friday, December 1, 1995 in Abilene, Texas. A celebration of Red's life was held on the patio of the Montrose Mining Company on Saturday, December 16th, 1995. Donations and tips totaling \$145.00 were donated to 800 Pacific Employee Emergency Fund in memory of Red.

Another way to reach us!

You can now send your letters, news leads, and other correspondence to the HOUSTON VOICE by e-mail. Address to: HouVoice@aol.com.

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Report says leading business schools are most gay-friendly

(Continued from Page 1)

"One woman from South Africa said she planned to come out on her application," said Lorber. "I've also heard from business school professors, students, administrators and applicants in Australia, Canada, France—China even—and they all want to find ways to make business school a gay-positive experience."

The study, based on ten objective criteria, is the first to quantify the extent to which business schools have gay-friendly programs and policies, and openly

lesbian, gay and bisexual students and faculty.

Harvard, Stanford and Yale topped the list as the most gay-friendly, each earning an "All A grade. Purdue, in last place, got an "F."

Surprising Gay-Friendly Findings:

Professors at five of the top business schools are openly lesbian or gay.

—13 of the top 22 MBA programs have lesbian, gay and bisexual

student organizations. They comprise up to 6 percent of the student population.

—More than half of the top MBA schools offer domestic partner benefits.

—All of the top business schools (except Purdue) adhere to policies specifically banning discrimination based on sexual orientation.

—Two business schools profile openly lesbian or gay students in their admissions brochures.

Ranked from most to least gay-friendly: Harvard, Stanford, Yale, Michigan, NYU, Pennsylvania, Columbia, Northwestern, UCLA, Berkeley, Cornell, Dartmouth, Virginia, Chicago, Carnegie-Mellon, Indiana, MIT, Duke, North Carolina, Texas at Austin, USC and Purdue.

The study focused on "Top 20" business schools as determined by Business Week or U.S. News & World Report in 1994. Research stemmed from information provided by 100 administrators, faculty, students and alumni.

The entire report is on the web at <http://www-land.stanford.edu/group/QR/lorber>.

Highlights of Lorber's report are published in *Straight Jobs, Gay Lives* (Simon & Schuster), an in-depth book about gay workplace issues.

Lorber, 29, is a San Francisco-based business consultant, specializing in helping companies market to gay and lesbian consumers. He has been profiled in the New York Times and featured on Public Radio Internationals "Marketplace" radio show, commenting on trends in marketing to gay and lesbian consumers.

VESTS
TUX SHIRTS
BOLOS
BOWTIES
JEWELRY
CUMMERBUNDS
CUFF LINKS
SHIRT STUDS



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New Year
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PHOTO BY ROB MILLER

On gay issues, 1995 offered mixed bag

(Continued from Page 1)

Hate Crimes

The year began and ended with a media spotlight focused sharply on an issue that brought infamy to Texas: anti-gay violence. As 1995 opened, national media, including *Vanity Fair* magazine and several television news programs, prominently featured the story of a string of murders of gay men in Texas the previous year. The murders of eight gay men in 1994 occasioned renewed memories, for gay men and lesbians in Texas and across the country, to previous anti-gay hate crimes here, including the brutal 1991 beating—stabbing death of Houstonian Paul Broussard. The media attention also introduced much of mainstream America to these crimes, and the issue of violence against gays, for the first time.

The publicity created a promising backdrop for the efforts of Dianne Hardy-Garcia and the Lesbian/Gay Lobby of Texas, at the time pushing for the passage of a stronger hate crimes bill that would specify protected groups and enhance penalties for violent crimes motivated by hatred and prejudice. The bill failed to pass in the Texas legislature. However, in 1995, two young men were con-

victed of capital murder in connection with two of the 1994 Texas slayings and were sentenced to death.

In the most recent case, Demarco McCullum, a former high school football star, was sentenced to death in December for abducting and killing Houstonian Michael Burzinski. Reacting with restrained approval to the verdict, the victim's mother, Kay Burzinski, vowed to be back to monitor the upcoming trials of McCullum's co-defendants—a vow eerily reminiscent of Paul Broussard's mother, Nancy Rodriguez, in the 1991 case.

Kay Burzinski also seemed puzzled and distraught over media characterizations of McCullum and her son. Despite evidence, presented in court, of McCullum's involvement in other violent crimes, he was depicted as a high school hero who blew a promising future; little, meanwhile, was said about Burzinski's life and work, she said.

"Michael was in the forefront of his area of expertise, photo imaging," notes Kay Burzinski. "He was scheduled to leave the Houston area to go to St. Louis, where he would have been working on the cutting edge of technology in his field. Why wasn't there anything written about

him?"

The Dec. 7 *Houston Chronicle* article reporting the sentencing of Demarco McCullum opened: "A former quarterback elected 'Mr. Aldine' at his high school was sentenced Wednesday to death by injection for killing an intoxicated gay man kidnapped from outside a Montrose nightclub."

Mom-and-Pop Activism

In 1995, a new wave of activism devoted to addressing the issues of unfair portrayals of gay men and lesbians began to unfold in Houston, led by an energetic crop of non-gay supporters. Parents and Friends of Lesbians and Gays (P-FLAG) moving toward a decidedly higher profile in the fight for gay and lesbian equal rights, took their sons and daughters' message to the mainstream media, with more bite—and ultimately, more results—than local gay and lesbian media advocacy groups' efforts of years past.

This year, the local chapter and supporters outside Houston blitzed the media with advance publicity for its second annual Conference Against Homophobia, resulting in a crop of gay-positive human interest stories.

More recently, when the heavy-hitting Project Open

Mind advertising campaign hit the expected wall of resistance, P-FLAG, obviously prepared and impressively organized, used the controversy itself to attract attention to the issues that were the focus of the campaign.

Extremism and Education

In early December, a taxpayer-funded, twice-postponed congressional hearing on "Parents, Schools and Values," finally took place. Nothing happened. The hearing, however, was significant for what it represented: a capsule of approval for the extreme right wing viewpoint that had already been entrenching itself in the nation's schools throughout the year.

In 1995, the tightly organized, formidably funded "Radical Right" predictably gained a stronghold on school boards and education commissions throughout the country. It was the culmination of a tactic they have long propagated and never denied; still, the extent of their success and the offensiveness of their requests seemed to come as a shock to some national gay and lesbian leaders. While gay youth groups, counseling service providers, teachers and organizations like P-FLAG

fought the erupting battles and put out fires in the halls of various administrations, gay leaders sent out righteously indignant press releases. With the hearings looming, the organizations poured their efforts into a pressure campaign aimed at keeping them from ever taking place, while the right wingers filled up much of the docket with speakers from their side and the chair, Rep. Peter Hoekstra (R—Michigan) pretended not to know the difference.

Meanwhile, individual school districts in New Hampshire had already succeeded in passing policies that effectively make uttering anything positive about gay and lesbian people, anything they have done or contributed, or any organization or agency that serves them off-limits for teachers and counselors, and clones of these policies were being drafted all over the country.

Here in Texas, the big surprise (so far) on the public education front came from state Education Commissioner Michael Moses, who turned down a \$1.35 million dollar federal grant for AIDS education because he interpreted it to contradict the abstinence-based sex education curriculum adopted in the '95 state legislature.

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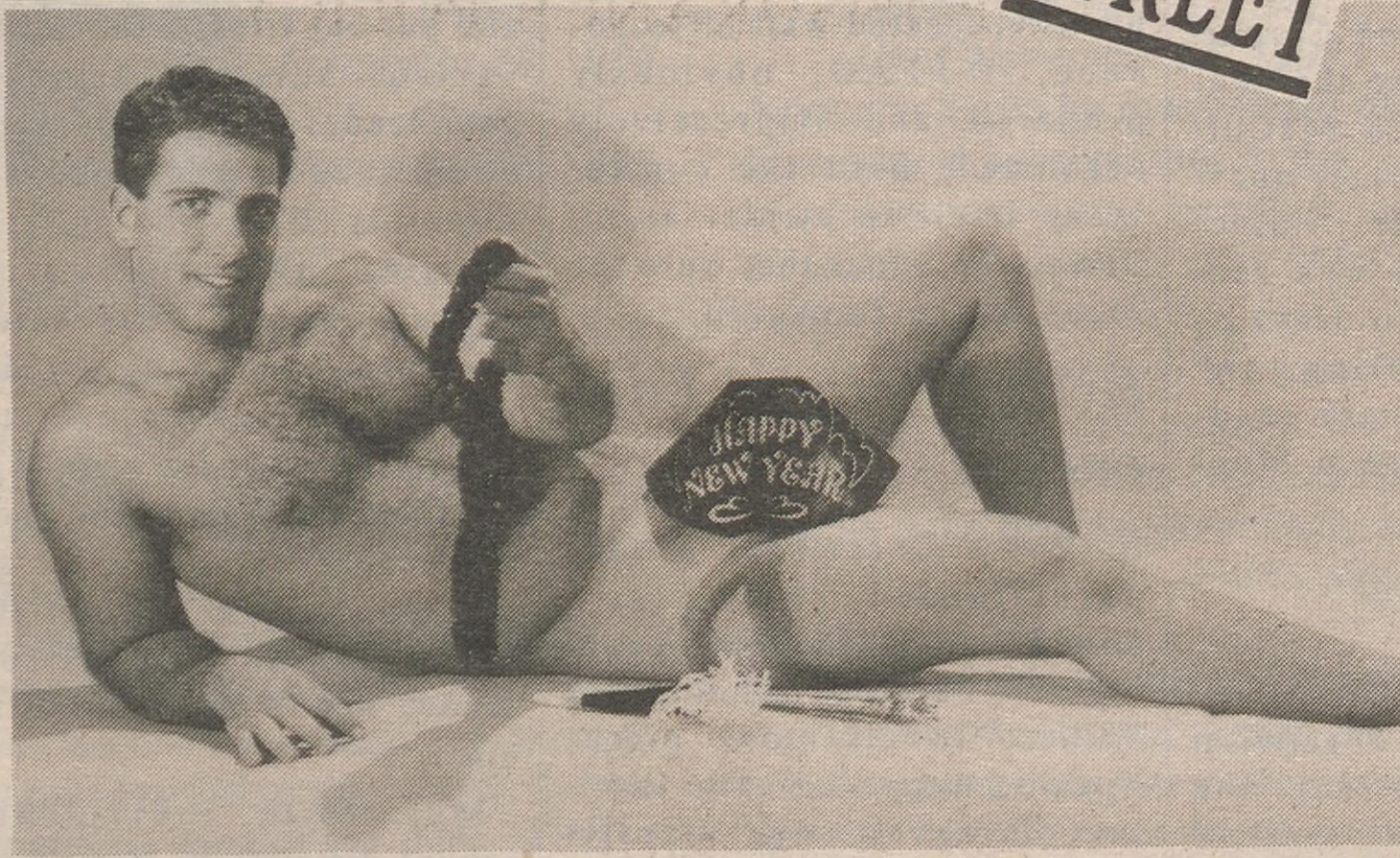
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HOUSTON VOICE MAIL

Letters to the Editor

Pity Party Propaganda

FROM PAT GANDY

Houston, Texas

Pity Party, Pity Party...The drum roll of Republican propaganda rears its ugly face again. I guess this is just the first salvo in the soon to be engaged Election Campaign of 1996.

I am referring, of course, to the "feigned" equal criticism of all politicians, with the most copious and the most biting comments being reserved for Democrats Bill Clinton, Al Gore, Hazel O'Leary and Pat Schroeder (*The Outsider* by Curt Morrison, *Houston Voice* Issue #791, Dec. 22, 1995).

The attack on Pat Schroeder was for no reason other than that Congresswoman Schroeder (D-CO), on the floor of the House, asked Edith Waldholtz to resign and accept responsibility for her actions, and not hide behind her husband. Mr. Morrison, the columnist, could not pass up the opportunity to castigate Pat Schroeder for her liberal philosophy—which includes, I would guess, votes for WIC (food for women and children), AIDS funding and Social Security Disability for Persons with AIDS, as well as other handicapping diseases. His parting shot says, "Schroeder apparently has no problem spending taxpayer money on every social program the government espouses, most of which enable people to continue on a path of irresponsible behavior." My dear Mr. Morrison, members of Congress espouse programs, usually, at the behest of their constituents. The government, for which Mr. Morrison obviously has much contempt, merely enforces the law; that is, puts it into effect! And we all know the contempt the right wingers have for humanitarian programs! I mean, really. These people should pull themselves up by their bootstraps, right! Tell that to a PWA who has had to go on disability because he can no longer work!

The special counsel in the Whitewater business would have brought the President to trial already if he had a shred of evidence suggesting criminal activity. Don't hold your breath waiting for that to happen. Those hearings in the U.S. senate are being orchestrated by Sen. Al D'Amato, R-NY, for political purposes, whose own ethical standards are hardly beyond reproach! Remember how his brother and friends profited from HUD, back in the heyday of the Republican years of the Reagan Republican administration of HUD?

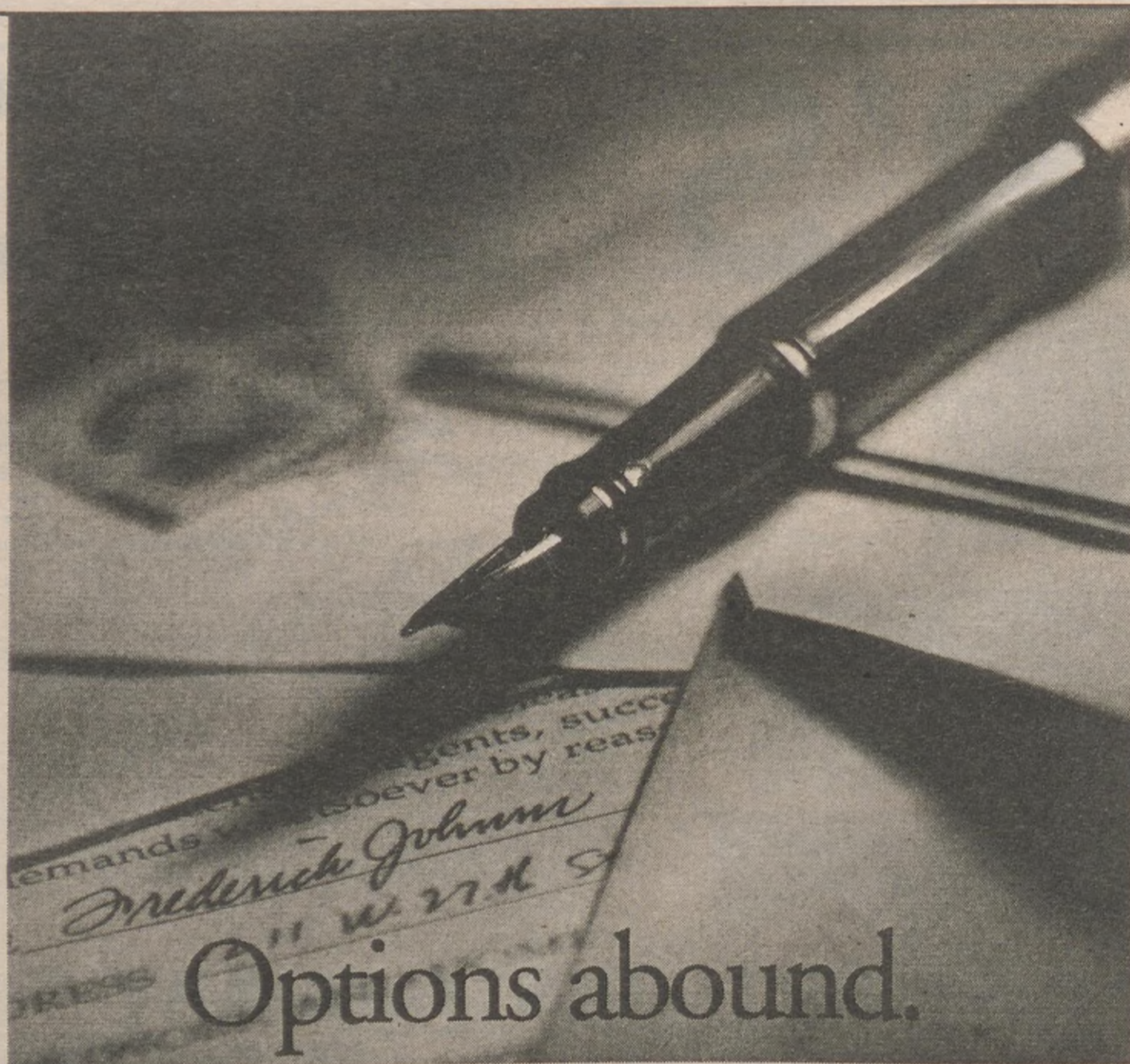
Then there is the unfair and ill-informed swipe at Vice President Al Gore, trying to equate his book, *Earth in the Balance*, and his \$400,000 advance from Houghton-Mifflin with the Republican Speaker of the House, Newt Gingrich's \$4.5 million advance from Rupert Murdoch. PLEEASSSE, Gimme a break! Al Gore was a U.S. senator from Tennessee at the time of the book's publication, and Houghton Mifflin did not have issues before the U.S. Congress to the tune of billions of dollars. No one has

problems with a person making money off a book they write (or have ghost written). I have a book Jim Wright wrote back in the 50's. That has caused no furor at all, because it was just a book about what a Congressman does. Hardly any conflict of interest there, or possible ethics violations! And of course, Sen. Gore's book dealt with the need for us to be more careful with our environment and what we need to accomplish that. A lot of special interests—such as major polluters—did not like that book, because it expressed concern for the earthly environment and health and safety of all of us earthlings. But then, we ordinary folk don't hire powerful lobbyists to look after our interests, so I guess Sen. Gore could be guilty of looking after all of our interests. If so, I am glad!! Newt took money from Murdoch, who had issues coming up in the U.S. Congress regarding regulation of the communications industry, the basis of his huge corporate empire. Al Gore did not have that sort of conflict. That, Mr. Morrison, is the difference, and a world of difference it is!

Mr. Morrison paints himself immediately as a Republican-oriented person when he uses the broad brush "liberal" to try and tarnish Congresswoman Pat Schroeder. That is a bug-aboo word loaded with negative meaning. Most republican partisans try to paint all Democrats with that brush, with no attention to what is actually meant by "liberal." I submit that "liberal" means persons who support Social Security and all of its programs, appropriations for AIDS research and care, food programs for women and children, aid loans to college students, Medicare and Medicaid. If this is what liberals support, then I'm glad there are some liberals! The "bootstrap" philosophy of Newt and Rush is a disgrace to thinking and humanitarian Americans.

I can agree with Mr. Morrison on one thing. There are serious ethical problems in Congress and in the Executive Branch of the federal government. BUT, people are not so tired of it that they demand their Congresspersons vote to seriously limit the amount of money that can be spent on their campaigns. No limits are the very cause of the problem! Instead, they have voted into power the Republican party, which immediately elected Newt Gingrich as Speaker of the House, where he has—and the record is clear on this—sucked up money from every special interest, every interest that is an antithesis to gay and lesbian people, and has funneled that money into local campaigns in clear violation of the law. That is why the Ethics Committee, dominated by Republicans, finally had to vote against him. The heat was too great on them, and they could not, as we say, "stonewall" the issue any more. Clearly, he has violated the law more grievously than anything Jim Wright of Bill Clinton or Pat Schroeder has ever done!

(Continued on following page)



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Letters to the editor

(Continued from preceding page)

The clear pro-Republican content of articles by Mr. Morrison will not go unnoticed. We fair-minded individuals in the community will not be fooled by the weak "Republican straw dogs" that this columnist sets up so he can take inaccurate and vitriolic swipes at Democrats. Please, more fairness of a chance by a raging Democrat to write each week also!

(Editor's note: Mr. Morrison doesn't have to "paint himself" as a Republican. He is one, and a decidedly conservative one at that...a real "party" animal. His weekly opinion column reflects his own perspective—admittedly that of a political "Outsider" within this community—and his views; if this column has ever even "feigned" being impartial, I missed it. We welcome, and often publish, input and commentary from "raging Democrats," including some of us on the staff. Interestingly, until Mr. Morrison joined us, we were often criticized for having a "relentlessly radical, liberal" editorial bent. Overall, actually, we at the *Houston Voice* strive to present a wide-ranging, well-rounded forum of voices, to represent and reflect the whole of our very diverse Houston gay and lesbian community).

Community Calendar

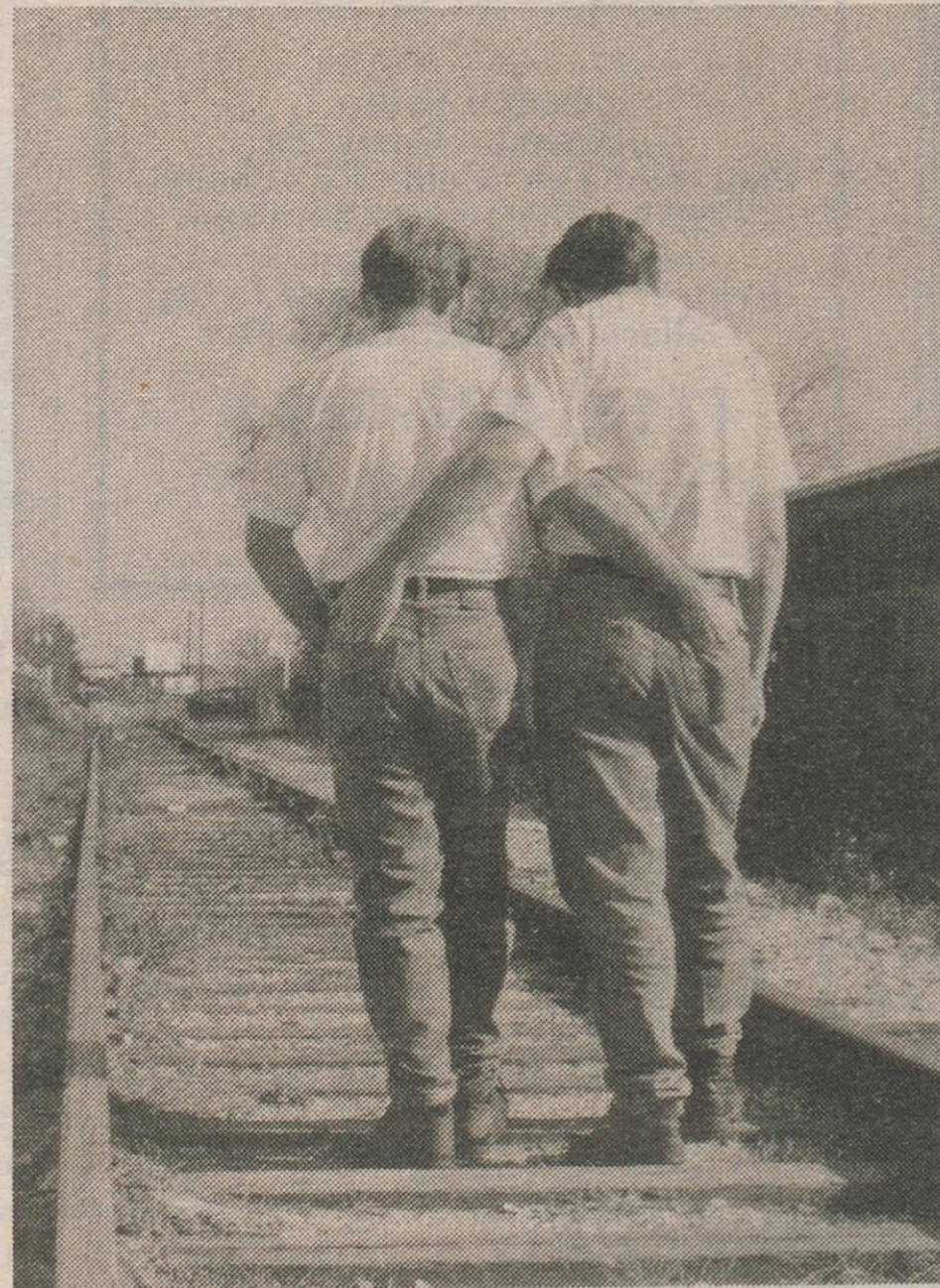
(Continued from Page 2)

Thursday, Jan. 4

- * 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.
- * 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.
- * 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.
- * Dance lessons at the Brazos River Bottom. 9:30 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.
- * HIV+ Men Psychotherapy at Montrose Counseling Center. 1:15 p.m. Call 529-0037.
- * Relapse Prevention at Montrose Counseling Center. 2:00 p.m. Call 529-0037.
- * Outpatient Group Treatment at Montrose Counseling Center. 6:00 p.m. Call 529-0037.
- * Aftercare Group Treatment at Montrose Counseling Center. 6:00 p.m. Call 529-0037.
- * HIV Affected at CASA. 7:00 p.m. Call 796-2272.
- * Men's Therapy Group at Montrose Counseling Center. 7:00 p.m. Call 529-0037.

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The Voice Reader 



family and combine Manasse's slice-of-life photographs with interviews and text by Swallow. Many of the photos are memorable; some are searing. In a San Diego suburban household of six adults, two-year-old Nathan Love, held firmly by one of his uncles, happily walks wheelbarrow-style on his hands... while around the corner, Scott Morton, in the stark final those of

Visible Family Values

Making Love Visible: In Celebration of Gay and Lesbian Families; The Crossing Press, 1995; 176 pp.

REVIEWED By **BARRY HEREM**

For the Houston Voice

When Seattle photographer Geoff Manasse crept upstairs into the bedroom of his friends' home early one Saturday morning in 1991, he didn't imagine that they were the first steps in the creation of a luminous book on the family lives of gay and lesbian people. But the photograph that resulted from that visit is one of the more memorable included in *Making Love Visible: In Celebration of Gay and Lesbian Families*, a collaboration between Manasse and the late author/editor Jean Swallow.

The photo shows a yawning child, Matiah, contentedly cuddled in a coverlet bracket of two bearded men. His father, Lyle Rudensy, is reading *The Three Little Pigs* as his partner of 12 years, Bob Allen, turns a kiss to the boy while holding a baby bottle. For Manasse it was an iconoclastic, cutting-edge image of family life among same-sex couples. It set him to thinking how many more like it he might be able to take—meaningful work; immeasurably more so than he was used to as a moderately successful photo-journalist with bylines in *National Geographic* and *Newsweek*, among others.

While the concept for the book didn't materialize right away, Manasse's career had reached a turning point. In the next two years, he took some risks. In essence, he says, they expressed his personal joy in being a gay man. A black-and-white photo calendar of nude men in 1992 was followed by three similar projects the next year: another of gay nudes; a second portraying the 1993 March on Washington and a third—his favorite—featuring gay and lesbian couples.

Manasse was in debt, but certain of his focus when, in December of 1993, he met Swallow. The author/anthologist had published one novel (*Leave a Light On For Me*, Alyson, 1991) and two collections of interviews with and for lesbians in drug and alcohol recovery. She had won four awards for her interviews, and Manasse envisioned a book which could use just such skills. He wanted to make gay and lesbian love visible; Swallow quickly decided to help give it a voice as well.

In fashioning their project, Manasse and Swallow developed a complex grid that matched categories of gender, age and race with geographical areas to assure diversity. They took to the road, for ten long weeks, visiting sites that ranged from rural Vermont and small towns in Georgia and Pennsylvania to San Diego, Portland and New York City. They picked their subjects from people they knew, wanted to know, or had heard about. Some were referred from gay and lesbian organizations; others, notably a group of senior lesbians added with joy over shared adventures in an RV club, they stumbled across as they went. Altogether, over 150 people were photographed.

Making Love Visible contains 24 chapters, each focusing on a different

AIDS, is tended by a friend. (Morton, 26, died four days after Manasse's photograph).

Swallow's moving interviews with the photo subjects complement the pictorials, giving life to the stories of each of the unique family groups. "Jean turned every story into a soulful exchange," said Manasse. "She wanted the be a healing document." The interviewer's compassion and understanding of the book's subjects comes through in the human passion and poignancy of the quoted text. For the audience, as well, the formula seems to work like an elixir.

We listen...as Donna Shaman, the mother of Lyle and Bob's Matiah, speaks the surprises of motherhood: "The aloneness, the intensity—so extraordinary, how the whole sense of yourself turns inside out."

We relish...as Champagne, a drag queen from Portland, confronts Christian fundamentalists: "They came up and told me I was going to burn in hell...I asked them how they knew I wasn't here just to test them, to see how willing they were to love and to see how non-judgmental they were."

For many gay and lesbian readers, a few of the family histories recounted in *Making Love Visible* will recall familiar news as well as human interest stories. We are outraged anew by the plight of Sharon Kowalski, injured and forced to languish into irreversible damage in nursing homes until, after eight years, the Minnesota courts let her return to her life—partner, Karen Thompson.

True to the book's content, the making of *Making Love Visible* was itself a drama. Manasse and Swallow reportedly had spirited arguments over artistic issues relating to the book, which sometimes seemed to get very personal.



"The most wonderful thing about (working on the book)," reflects Manasse, "was working with Jean. It was also the hardest thing."


For Swallow, the story ends sadly. With her work on the book nearly completed, she committed suicide by taking an overdose of aspirin. A eulogy, written by a close friend and published at the end of the book, describes her as gifted, well-loved and tormented.

For Manasse, his collaborator's spirit lives on in the stirring text of her final project. "It's quite a legacy to the gay community." Readers are likely to agree.



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Theater in Houston: the best of '95

By JAVIER TAMEZ

Houston Voice/Houston

A New Year looms and scores of columnists and critics will offer their musings on the year gone by. Here-with are mine.

The Alley Theatre continued its history of dynamic production, reaffirming its status as one of the finest regional theaters in the country. Theater LaB Houston again showed the effectiveness of bold selection and innovative staging, and Main Street Theater re-energized its position with a string of outstanding productions.

And there were losses. Most notably Curtains Theater, which, after several years of providing effective, sometimes daring, theater, succumbed to financial realities. Largely ignored by the *Chronicle*, Curtains' demise underscores the importance of publicity, particularly for small theaters.

Touring productions were led by the spectacle of *Miss Saigon*, which combined thunderous scenic effects, sweeping music, a profoundly affecting story and a historically perceptive metaphor into a vastly entertaining production; and *The Sisters Rosensweig*, which examined the subtleties underlying sibling relationships and the varied nuances of interaction therein.

Three Tall Women was a mesmerizing production, which rekindled the somewhat fading fires of Edward Albee's torch. And Theatre Under the Stars brought the musical theater to exceptional levels (albeit with casts of imports) in *Follies* and *Man of La Mancha*. And the effectiveness of collaboration was highlighted with the Alley/TUTS production of *Jekyll & Hyde*.

Local productions (defined here as having a majority of the principal characters portrayed by local thespians) were vibrant and robust. Here for your perusal are my choices of the ten best productions in Houston theater for 1995:

(1) *Angels In America*
(Alley Theatre)

Could there be any doubt? The most thought-provoking American work in half a century dramatized the tremendous struggle of life with AIDS and set it against a backdrop of contemporary hypocrisy. An unequivocally brilliant play made all the more electrifying by its staging in the round—a bold and confident decision by director Michael Wilson that paid off handsomely.

(2) *Dark Rapture*
(Theater Lab)

A dark, unsettling piece filled with nefarious characters and shocking revelations. Theater LaB's crisply presented production provided a steady pace which kept the audience guessing for all the right moments. Director Ed Muth understood well the malicious nature of the work's characters and he responded accordingly with a chilling and captivating production.

(3) *Assassins* (Theater Lab)

Though musically and lyrically this may not be the best effort from Stephen Sondheim, when combined with the book by John Weidman, the result is a provocative, enthralling

musical that looks into the mental machinations of a gallery of presidential assassins. Ed Muth provides superlative directing, marking him as one of the premier directors in the city.

(4) *Waiting for a Kiss*
(Main Street Theater)

Playwright Tim Powers died of AIDS before he could complete his work; several years later, his twin sister, Kim, completed the piece for him as a way of channeling and coming to terms with her own grief. Their completed work is a truly poignant cry for love and a search for escape from the ravages of AIDS in a dream world called "Tammyland." Under the hand of director, Patti Bean, the play is an evocative, funny and touching work.

(5) *Search and Destroy*
(Theater Lab Houston)

Seething with duplicitous evildoers, Howard Korder's dark comedy is about as noir as a play can get. Robin Robinson's direction was

slightly over dramatic diminishing the intended comic element, but the distraction was minimal in this disturbing, captivating work.

(6) *Flyin' West* (The Ensemble Theatre)

Pearl Cleage's outstanding historical reflection of the struggle by newly-freed black slaves striving to build a homestead and a life on the endless stretches of Kansas prairie. An enlightening and revealing drama, directed with flair and passion by Ntozake Shange.

(7) *A Kind of Alaska*
(Stages Repertory Theater)

Artistic Director Sidney Berger helmed this production of three one-acts by Harold Pinter. An invigorating evening of theater with an excellent selection and a sterling presentation.

(8) *Sunday In The Park With George* (Main Street

Theater)

Sondheim's seminal work was the highlight of MST's 20th season, and it was a sensational production. The power and vision of a bold 19th century artist was captured by one of the bolder 20th century ones.

(9) *The Real Inspector Hound* (Main Street Theater)

An off-beat, convoluted and perplexing comedy that gave critics their just comeuppance. A delightfully mischievous work that both inspires and tickles and a first-rate production from MST.

(10) *California Suite*
(Actors Theater of Houston)

A well-established work from Neil Simon gets a fresh coat of paint in this production from ATH. Chris Wilson's steady directing and a cast bursting with talent made this production a pleasing winner.



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SPORTS NOTES

New Year's Bowling

Regular league bowling was canceled due to the holidays and a special New Year's Day tournament is planned.

A New Year's Day No-tap bowling tournament will begin at 4:00 p.m. as a fundraiser for the Texas Invitational Tournament and selected charities. Entry fee is \$12

and will be distributed: \$5 prize fund, \$1 Milam House and \$6 to the Texas Invitational.

All bowlers are invited whether currently bowling in a league or not. Handicap will be based on highest current average, summer average, 94-95 book average or 160, in that order. Telephone Tom at 522-9612 to make arrangements to start the year with friends and fun.

Church Calendar on Page 16

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ASK THE PASTOR



Rev. Janet Parker

Q: "The Bible instructs us to sing psalms, and hymns and spiritual songs. Does this mean that we are to sing these kinds of songs in our churches? If so, why do some churches only sing hymns while others sing only "scripture songs" and yet others sing gospel songs? What is appropriate?"

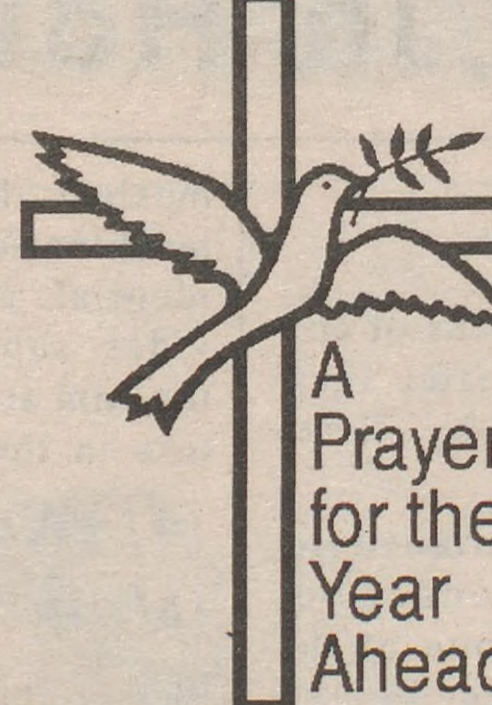
A: Styles of music vary from church to church. Music is a very powerful tool to connect us to God and one another. One thing is for certain---we all have different tastes in music. What can lift one person into the heavenlies does not necessarily effect another person the same way. Variety in music is probably the best approach to fulfilling everyone's needs. I believe that this is why the Scripture in Ephesians 5:19 was given, "sing psalms, and hymns and spiritual songs." The Psalms were written to help us emotionally, mentally and "soulfully" connect to God. A psalm can cry out to God, call upon the name of the Lord, shout for joy and pray for deliverance. The style of music in singing the Psalms can be done in a variety of ways. Hymns are great testimony songs that tell us about what God has done in people's lives. Rather than singing to God, hymns are a way of singing about God. It is a great way to build faith and encourage one another. Spiritual songs can be those songs that are taken right out of the word of God. For instance, "God is my strength and my power. God makes my way perfect." We sing to God about what God has done for us. We can sing and declare who we are in Christ.

Music offered up to God is called "Praise." There are basically two kinds of praise: Vertical praise and Horizontal praise. Vertical praise is when we sing directly to God such as "I love you Lord, and I lift my voice to worship You, O my soul rejoice...." We sing this song TO God and personalize it so that it becomes an intimate way of relating to God. Something very special happens when we sing to God. Scripture tells us that God inhabits the praises of God's people when we offer it up TO God. The presence and power of God come down upon God's people very strongly. It is an awesome experience. Hymns can be personalized to God to accomplish the same thing. An example would be: "Have Your own way, Lord, Have Your own way. You are the Potter, I am the clay." During these times when God's presence and power is witnessed, the lives of the people are changed. Hearts are stirred, conviction is felt, healing takes place and we don't want to leave. Sometimes the gifts of the spirit such as a word of prophecy is given to the people. God may choose to speak to the body of Christ.

Horizontal praise is singing to one another with words of encouragement and testimony ABOUT God. It is possible to minister compassion, mercy, faith, and inspiration. It makes you feel good to hear what God has done. It is a way to build relationships with one another. This is a necessary aspect of music, serving its own purpose of edification.

I believe Scripture encourages us to sing all kinds of music and to utilize both horizontal and vertical praise in our services to accomplish God's purpose. Try it---you'll never be the same again!

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




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Best and Worst of '95 Entertainment

(Continued from Page 3)

Television (best)

1. **Frasier (NBC)** —This is without a doubt the most sophisticated, intelligently written and funniest show on television. Its hilarity at its best. The entire cast is phenomenal. The addition of Mercedes Ruehl was not necessary and the producers were wise to rid of her character. Nothing on television compares to the originality and talent of this brilliant gem. It is the thinking persons TV show.

2. **Seinfeld (NBC)** —Just when I thought they had lost their magical touch, a miracle happened. Seinfeld became stale last year and it was clearly evident when the show lost a few ratings points. This season, however, the long-running sitcom went back to their roots and have had some of their most uproarious moments. Seinfeld has indicated this may be the shows last season. For our sakes, lets hope not.

3. **E.R. (NBC)** —This fast paced heart pounding medical drama has dominated the Nielsen charts all season and is an addictive and compelling drama. *E.R.* is the best drama to hit the small screen since *Hill Street Blues*. Its stories are believable and the show never gets tedious. The show, created by Michael Cri-

hton (*Jurassic Park*) should have dominated the Emmys this year. Rest assured, it will certainly accomplish that feat in 1996. There is no better drama on television and not likely to be one in the near future.

4. **Mad About You (NBC)** —This show is the most underrated, both critically and commercially, on television. The chemistry between Paul Reiser and Helen Hunt is incredible, and the realism in their portrayal of how relationships really are shines through. Even when the writing pales in certain episodes, the talented cast overcomes the inequities and provides the show with class. Reiser and Hunt are the Tracy and Hepburn of television.

5. **Murder One (ABC)** —Steven Bochco's new drama had all the makings of a hit series, with a respected creator, innovative concept and first rate cast. What went wrong? ABC decided to place this wonderful drama opposite NBC's smash hit *E.R.* Not familiar with *Murder One*, viewers decided to go with the tried and true. ABC, in all their wisdom, pulled the drama for retooling, which it did not need, and plans to move it to Monday beginning Jan. 8. It may be too late to save this sophisticated drama, and that's too bad, because, like *E.R.*, this is groundbreaking television that's worth an hour of

your time.

6. **NewsRadio (NBC)** —Why this show has not caught on with viewers is truly amazing. It is crisp, funny and well written. *NewsRadio* is one of the best ensemble workplace comedies to hit the airwaves since *Barney Miller* and *Taxi*. It is *Cheers* in a radio station. Dave Foley (*Kids in the Hall*) heads the cast as the news director of an eclectic group of egocentric staff members at a fictional news radio station. Phil Hartman is brilliant in his sardonic banter and the rest of the cast is first rate as well.

7. **Dateline, NBC** —Dateline has defied the odds of conventional wisdom. It airs three nights a week and keeps its stars, the effervescent Jane Pauley and Stone Phillips busy indeed. The show's ratings have seen a 33% increase over last year and the competition is reeling. In fact, NBC is contemplating a fourth outing for the series, opposite *60 Minutes*. What makes *Dateline* successful, besides Pauley, is that they are always ready to have an in-depth analysis of late breaking news stories because they air three times a week, while the competition has to wait for their weekly time period to air their stories, which could be stale by that time.

8. **Cybill (CBS)** —Cybill Sheppard's comedy series in one of the few bright spots on

CBS. This is a truly funny series and the chemistry between Sheppard and Christine Baranski (Mary Ann) is reminiscent of Lucy and Ethel. The show is uproarious when the two of them are in scenes together. It tends to wane a little when it focuses on Cybill's ex-husbands. The mother-daughter relationship has become more realistic lately and provides a realism to the comedy. Overall this is one funny show and CBS shouldn't kill its only hit by airing it opposite ABC's *Lois and Clark*.

9. **Murphy Brown (CBS)** —Murphy Brown has resurrected itself this season from a steady decline towards stupidity for the last several seasons. The show is almost as brilliant as it was during its first three seasons. The addition of Paul Reubens (Pee Wee Herman) to the cast has provided this show with renewed energy. Candace Bergen has recreated the character's ascerbic wit that made the show a success initially. It is still one of the best comedies on television and should still have a season or two of life in it.

10. **X-Files (FOX)** —The adventures of Scully and Mulder are riveting on a weekly basis and although they are not realistic for the most part, it is a tour-de-force in adventure that is worth embarking upon. As sci-fi genre's go, this is one

of the best in recent years and is frequently the topic of conversation at water coolers across the country. The chemistry between the two leads is believable and the show is as exciting as any.

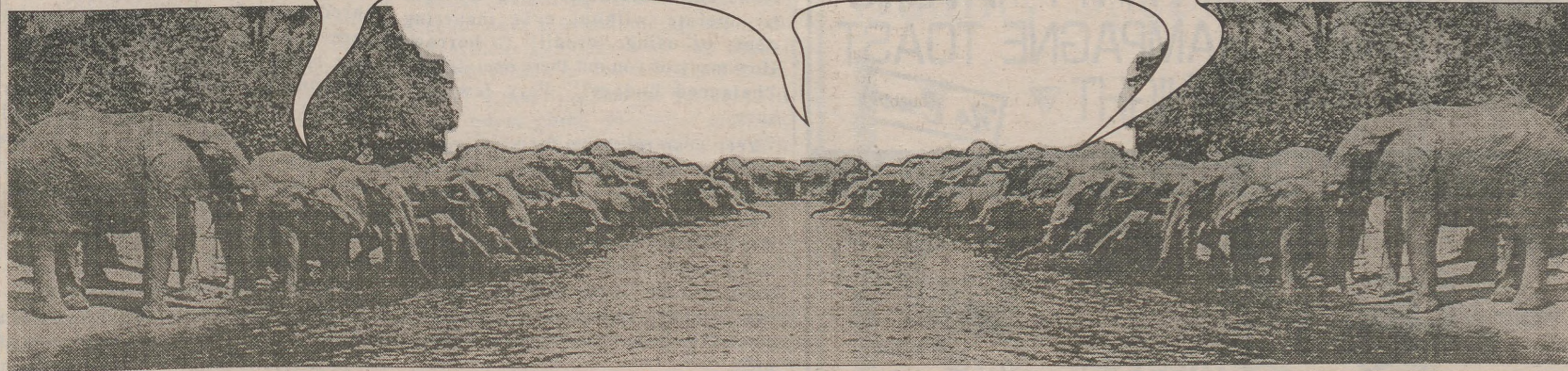
Television (worst)

1. **The John Larroquette Show (NBC)** —This has to be the most boring show on television. It's not funny, the writing is insipid and the acting, well, its just there. NBC canceled *The Pursuit of Happiness*, not exactly award winning material itself, for this? At least *The Pursuit of Happiness* didn't put you to sleep. They ought to air this show late at night for people suffering from insomnia.

2. **Coach (ABC)** —Coach has always had the benefit of following a bona-fide hit series on ABC's schedule. Airing after *Home Improvement* and *Grace Under Fire* all these years has enabled the show to be a ratings success. When ABC scheduled the show to anchor its Monday nights two years ago, ratings took a dive and deservedly so. Not even the addition of veteran TV star Katherine Helmond can save this show. It is one of the most annoying comedies to inundate the airwaves in some time. It's not now, nor has it ever been funny.

(Continued on Page 14)

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Gay Today

by Glen Webber



The Wrong Man

Words can hardly describe my shock when I saw Newt Gingrich, the Speaker of the House who brought hate speech into vogue in the halls of the U.S. Congress, dominating the cover of *TIME* Magazine's end-of-year edition as "Man of the Year." Yes, I know the powers-that-be at *TIME* note yearly that publication bases its selection on influence, not popularity. Nevertheless, I see it as a great insult to the American public to call this man "Man of the Year."

Since Gingrich entered the national spotlight following the "Republican Revolution" election of 1994, all he has done is insult the American populace. Under the guise of a phony "mandate from the American people" in the form of the so-called Contract With America, Gingrich and his minions have worked to destroy or discredit all of the hard work President Clinton has put into getting the country back on course. By distracting the gullible with a promise of a "balanced budget," he has managed to derail real efforts by Clinton that may have had an actual impact on the country's economy and the greater public good. Gingrich knew that to the unwary, his plan might come across as a way of reducing the national debt.

Let's face facts. Even if it were possible to achieve a balanced budget for the federal government, we will never be rid of the deficit. Neither the GOP "balanced budget" bills nor the strong-arming that forced the President to accept the Republicans' peculiar seven-year-at-all-costs deadline will make a dent in the balance of that debt.

It should be noted, however, that there are no countries on this earth (except maybe some oil-rich countries)—and precious few corporations and individuals—who are able to operate without ever incurring debt, or using "credit" to borrow. How many of you out there operate on a "balanced budget?" Very few, I'm sure.

Yet, despite these facts, Gingrich and his carefully plotted "revolution" managed to convince many Americans that, not only can the Republicans balance the budget in seven years, they can do it without pain, and by taking aim at programs that actually represent a very small part of the budget (but help a lot of people).

If you are an elderly person or an AIDS patient dependent on Medicare or Medicaid for quality health care, or if you depend on food stamps to stretch your disability income to make ends meet each month, you could lose what little you have...in large part because of this "Man of the Year." Gingrich is so arrogant and so far removed from the world of the everyday American, he doesn't care that the impact of what he has been doing, say-

ing and forcing into policy may be to hurt a lot of people who are already hurting.

Over the past year, with the resounding approval of Gingrich and his "revolution," the Republican Party has become a party of hateful people. Republicans no longer view intelligent political discussion and negotiation as a means to find solutions that all Americans can live with. They now use their influence with right wing television, radio and newspaper commentators to spread misinformation that confuses the public. Their continued trashing of President Clinton is dangerous and hurtful. Whether you agree with Clinton or not, trashing a sitting president to the point of fanning the flames of anti-government hysteria sets a frightening precedent.

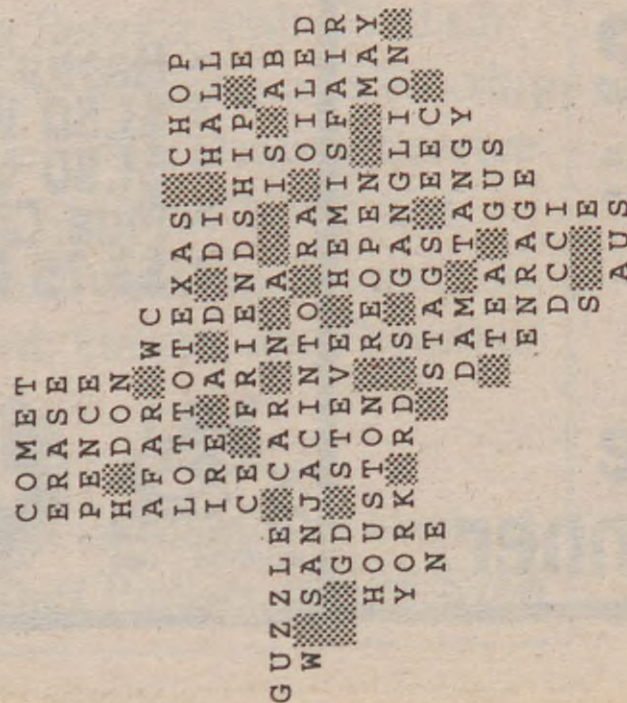
This "new era" may be drawing to a close, however. With all of the infighting going on in the Republican Party, I believe they may be on a course of self-destruction. The constant posturing of Republicans to grab the spotlight is making them look bad. I think many people are beginning to see what snakes they really are. And, to see Gingrich and dual-role Dole on every talk show, sounding like they are already running the country, makes one wonder what kind of deals have been struck, that we will see unfold if Dole is elected president.

Our country does have a lot of problems that need to be solved. We also have a lot of people out there with good ideas, who are willing to work hard and solve these problems. But no one is willing to work together to solve these problems. And bad ideas may become bad laws because no one is paying attention due to all the confusion. There is nothing like confusing the public to slip something past them.

There are no easy solutions. But the shredding of the country's health care and social support infrastructure being proposed by the Republican congressional majority is no way to solve problems. Sure, there is a lot of abuse. But these proposals contain no effective suggestions for going after abusers of the system; instead, they seem geared to altering the system to exclude certain groups of recipients, worthy or not.

If *TIME* really wanted to honor someone from the headlines of 1995 as "Man of the Year," they could have picked from a myriad more worthy than Newt Gingrich. My personal preference? Christopher Reeves, the actor (*Superman*) who survived a near-fatal accident, and was left paralyzed from the neck down. Reeves, who was able to go home for the holidays, in his post-accident interviews radiated courage and strength, and a dedication to life that is inspiring and beautiful. It's too bad that *Time* chose to support a loser like Gingrich over winners like Reeves.

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THE OUTsider

by Curt Morrison

The Right Time

Every year, *TIME* magazine selects its choice for "Man of the Year" to grace the cover of the magazine's year-end double issue...and every year, without fail, controversy abounds. So it should come as no surprise that this year's recipient, House Speaker Newt Gingrich, has stirred the usual amount of debate concerning his selection. Since *TIME* admittedly bases its selection on who has had the greatest impact on our society, nation and culture—for better or worse—it is only befitting that this year's honors were bestowed upon Newt Gingrich.

Like him or not—and I vehemently do—Newt Gingrich has had the biggest impact on our country and its future direction than anyone else in recent history. He has single-handedly changed the debate in Washington and created an agenda that will drastically change the course this country will embark upon for, at the very least, the next decade. He is the man who masterminded the 1994 Republican revolution that handed control of the U.S. House of Representatives to the Republican party for the first time in 40 years.

The Republicans, at the behest of Gingrich, campaigned on a platform (The Contract with America) of radically changing the scope of politics as usual. The Contract was a meticulously laid out plan that the Republicans promised to implement if elected. It promoted fiscal and personal responsibility, tough crime laws, strong defense provisions, welfare reform and serious reduction of government dependency and bureaucracy. In short, the Republican party, with Gingrich at the helm, vowed to dismantle the Great Society programs of yesteryear that have not produced any shred of success.

Under the auspices of Democrat control for 40 years, our government has thrown money at every social program imaginable to no avail. Illegitimacy is at an all time high, poverty and crime have increased tremendously, educational standards are dismal at best and society is suffering from poor morale. The Democrats have perpetuated a cycle of government dependence. They have enabled and encouraged individuals to continue on a path of destructive and irresponsible behavior by rewarding those individuals with a monthly stipend. Newt Gingrich has set back the growth of these programs indefinitely for the betterment of society as a whole.

Newt Gingrich is the perfect example of a definitive leader. He has the conviction, self-confidence and intellect necessary to follow through with the itinerary the Republican party has set forth and ensure its implementation. Without Gingrich, the Republican party would not have catapulted from minority status to majority status in the 1994 elections. For years, Gingrich dreamed of becoming Speaker of the House and set out to accomplish that feat with a fervor that is unsurpassed. He succeeded beyond anyone's expectations and much to the chagrin of many. James R. Gaines, managing editor of *TIME*, says it best when he intones that Gingrich has "changed the language and substance of American politics like no other politician in

recent history."

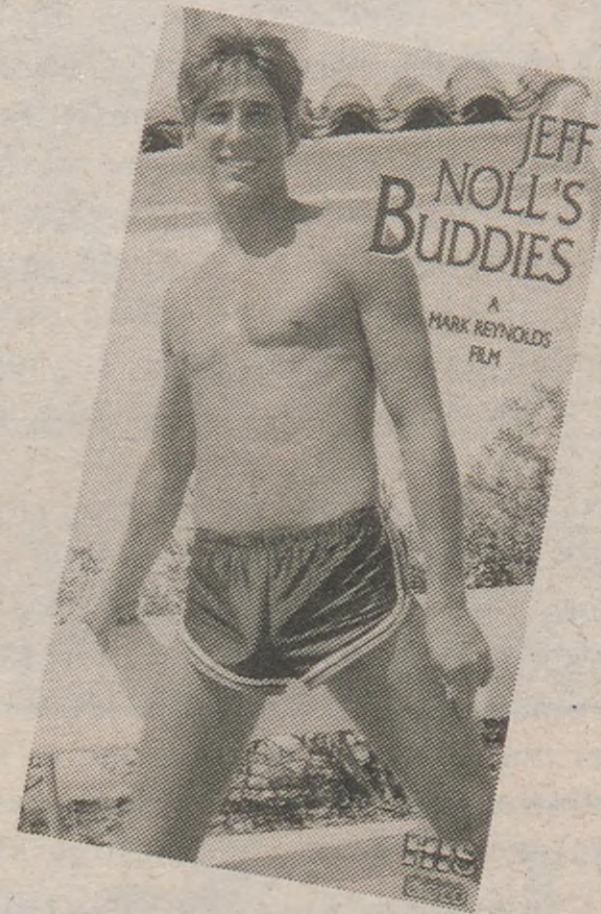
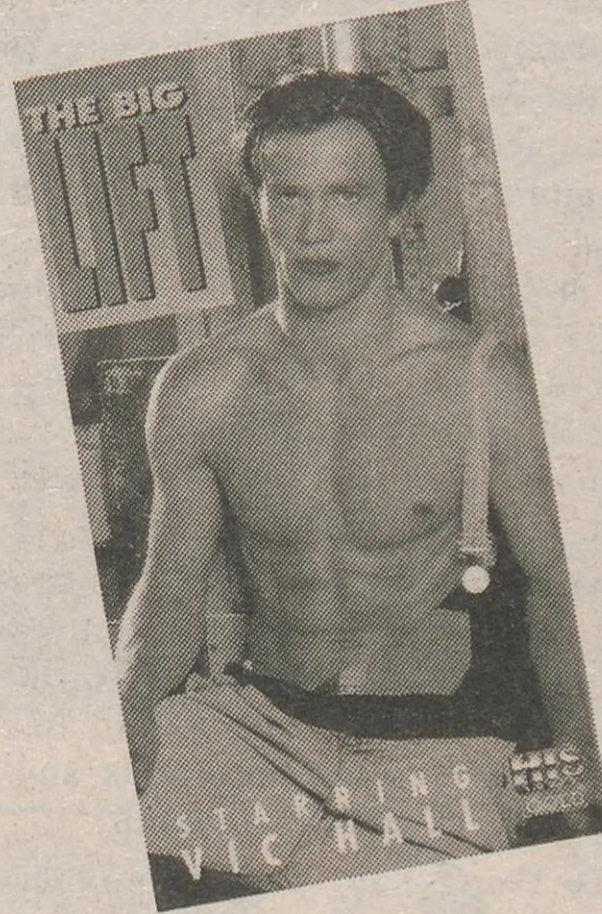
Gingrich's success lies in his steadfast belief in the principles he espouses. He is passionate about his commitment to "renewing America." In his #1 best-seller, *To Renew America*, Gingrich writes in detail how he believes we can overcome the adversity that confronts us and move into the next millennium with our World Superpower status intact. It is a fascinating book that everyone, regardless of political ideology, should read and subsequently draw their own conclusions from. I am a firm believer that you should not criticize something or someone until you have educated yourself on the subject matter you are criticizing. As a devout conservative, I make sure that I read liberal periodicals and books that are written by liberal intellectuals. I do not believe that I could debate the merits of conservatism if I was not familiar with the ideology of liberalism.

The Republican congress, under the leadership of Newt Gingrich, has demonstrated a willingness to actually implement into law the conservative agenda that began with former President Ronald Reagan but was thwarted by the then-Democrat controlled congress. Newt Gingrich, as did Reagan, believes wholeheartedly that this country, as a whole, can overcome any obstacle that crosses its path with tenacious dedication to principle and an unfettered willingness to combat the problems that face us. A perfect example of this dedication to principle is the budget impasse currently ongoing in the Beltway. The Republicans have delivered, as promised, a budget that is fiscally balanced by the year 2002. The President, Bill Clinton, has vetoed the budget for reasons of his own, mostly political. If the Republicans were not serious about balancing the budget, they could have relented and agreed to the President's concessions and used it against him in the 1996 elections. They would have had the perfect political cover going into those elections simply by proclaiming that they procured a balanced budget and were struck down by the President and since they did not have the votes to override his veto, were forced to relent. Instead, Newt Gingrich and the Republican congress have steadfastly refused to waver on a balanced budget in a seven-year time frame despite polls that show their popularity waning. That is astonishing in itself. For the first time that I can remember, politicians in Washington are actually doing what they promised and are governing by conviction rather than the latest opinion polls.

Newt Gingrich deserves to be Man of the Year for his phenomenal accomplishments that are historical in nature. He is a man who believes in what he stands for and cannot be bought. He is a genuine leader of a revolution that has been long overdue. His milestones in Congress, and his legacy, will be remembered for centuries to come. And we are lucky enough to be a part of this historical shift in our society that we will all be better for in the future. For a liberal bastion such as *TIME* magazine to select this great man as its Man of the Year in itself is a paradigm of his remarkable contributions to America and all it stands for.

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Best and Worst: TV and movies

(Continued from page 11)

3. **48 Hours (CBS)**—Someone needs to tell CBS that times have changed. *48 Hours* is a tired concept that moves to slow and covers stories that no one wants to watch for an hour. CBS news needs to watch their competitors, newsmagazine shows and get with the program. The public wants cutting edge entertainment and news, not drawn-out analysis and narration from Dan Rather for an hour. If you can make it through an hour of this, you need a life.

4. **Maybe This Time (ABC)**—Poor Betty White. Why she is starring in this inane sitcom with Marie Osmond is beyond me. White is a veteran of several classic comedy series that were deserving of her multi-talents. It pains me to see a television star of her caliber waste her talents on such a ridiculous show.

5. **Can't Hurry Love (CBS)**—This ill-fated attempt at a *Friends* rip-off is CBS's most successful new series, which isn't saying much considering that *60 Minutes* is the network's highest rated show and its been on for 28 years. Nancy McKeon (*Facts of Life*) is the star of this sitcom which is a complete waste of time.

Film (best)

1. **Heat**—Al Pacino and Robert De Niro sizzle in this suspenseful action thriller and ignite the screen with their intensity. It is a riveting roller coaster ride of tantamount proportions that will entertain you through its entirety. A great film with a great cast. Jon Voight and Val Kilmer co-star. The Academy is sure to take notice.

2. **Get Shorty**—This is one of the funniest dark comedies in years. It is a fantastic film with some of the years best performance. Cameos by Penny Mar-

shall and Bette Midler are uproarious and John Travolta proved his comeback was not short term. Danny Devito and Gene Hackman give some of the best performances of their careers.

3. **Grumpier Old Men**—This film which was just recently released is by far the best comedy of the year. Walter Matthau and Jack Lemmon reprise their roles as John and Max, also referred to as Putz and Moron. Ann-Margret and Sophia Loren magnificently portray the love interests of these Grumpy Old Men. Burgess Meredith co-stars and has some of the funniest scenes to hit movie theaters in years.

4. **Apollo 13**—One of the year's most compelling movies based on historical fact. Directed by Ron Howard and starring Tom Hanks and Kevin Bacon, the movie delivered the goods and the box-office receipts to match.

5. **To Wong Foo, Thanks For Everything, Julie Newmar**—Patrick Swayze, John Leguizamo and Wesley Snipes prove that drag is far from boring. This funny movie proved to Hollywood that gay-themed movies can be big box-office. Stockard Channing deserves an Oscar nod for her convincing portrayal of a battered wife.

6. **While You Were Sleeping**—Okay, so the film was not original in concept. A woman thinks she's in love with a man, until she meets his brother and falls in love with him. It's been done before and better I might add. *Sabrina* and *Moonstruck*, for example. So why did I like this film? Simple. Sandra Bullock. Her portrayal of the lovesick woman was the threshold that held this film together.

7. **Priest**—Critics of this film were not being fair at all. This film may be controversial but it is not sacrilegious as some would have you believe. The whole movie is based on faith in God. The movie

focuses on the anguish that the priest suffers on a daily basis due to his homosexuality and its confliction with the doctrine of the Catholic Church. Forget the rhetoric and watch the movie.

8. **Sabrina**—Harrison Ford and Julia Ormond pay homage to Humphrey Bogart and Audrey Hepburn with their updated spin on the classic original. Greg Kinnear steals the movie and promises to be one of film's fastest rising stars, he is a comedic genius and is wasting his time doing television. Angie Dickinson, Richard Crenna and Nancy Merchand co-star.

9. **GoldenEye**—Pierce Brosnan proved he is capable of taking over the franchise of the Ian Fleming hero. Bond films are not supposed to be cinematic masterpieces, they are supposed to entertain and thrill you. This film accomplishes that with ease and has been the highest grossing Bond film to date. Brosnan has agreed to do two more. Hopefully, they'll be as good or better than this one.

10. **Nixon**—Anthony Hopkins is absolutely remarkable in this Oliver Stone film. The film, although it takes liberty with history, is compelling and entertaining. Oliver Stone has a way of grabbing an audience and taking them on a tour-de-force of his imagination. Regardless, his films are engrossing and tend to enthrall you with their sheer forcefulness.

Film: Worst

1. **Cutthroat Island**—What a mess! Gena Davis is not the least bit convincing as Morgan Adams, the brave and beautiful daughter of pirate Black Harry. When her father is murdered, by his brother nevertheless, he gives Morgan his portion of a coveted treasure map and places her in command of his

ship. Morgan sets out to find the remaining pieces of the map which will allow her to lay claim to the legendary fortune of Cutthroat Island. This is two hours of unbelievable absurdity. Don't waste your time.

2. **Seven**—Sure it was a box-office hit. People would pony up the price of a ticket to see Brad Pitt sing Happy Birthday for two hours. *Seven* managed to use every cliché imaginable in attempting to frighten and thrill us. Morgan Freeman and Gwyneth Paltrow co-starred in this horrible film that wasn't worth the seven dollars you had to spend to see it.

3. **Showgirls**—This was the film that was suppose to break the NC-17 rating stigma of bad box-office. Guess again. The movie opened to an impressive box-office take and took a dive immediately thereafter. The plot was thin, the acting was horrifying and the showgirls weren't even good looking.

4. **The American President**—This Rob Reiner film was suppose to be one of the year's biggest hits. It had all of the right ingredients. It starred Michael Douglas, Annette Benning and Michael J. Fox. What happened? The film fared poorly at the box-office because it was boring and far from funny. The premise of the President of the United States dating could have been clever comic fodder. Instead, Reiner used the concept as a background for the principles to get on a soap box of political messages. Didn't work. People go to movies to be entertained, not lectured.

5. **Congo**—One of the few Michael Crichton novels that did not transfer well to the big-screen. Probably because the producers didn't follow the book. The movie fared okay at the box-office, but left critics, this one included, teetering on the edge of sheer boredom. A genuine non-event snoozer.

RING IN THE NEW YEAR AT THE

KIPCOCK

COMPLIMENTARY CHAMPAGNE & CASH BALLOON DROP AT MIDNIGHT

NEWS NOTES

Compiled by Mark Henry

Top Media Moments of 1995

The year 1995 was truly monumental with respect to news and the impact of stories that arose during the last 12 months. The public's fascination for the sublime and controversial elements of newsworthy material was never in short supply. It was truly a banner year for news and those who report it. Since 1995 is drawing to a close, I have recapped the top ten news stories of 1995 to refresh your memory. Happy New Year!

(1)—The O.J. Simpson Trial

It was billed as the 'Trial of the Century,' and it probably was, considering the vast amount of media attention this trial received. More than 150 million people tuned in when the jury delivered its verdict via live television. The trial was a cross between entertainment and news; however, it had a tremendous impact on racial relations in this country that are reverberating to this day. Post-trial interviews, analyses and talk show banter indicates most whites believed that Simpson was guilty, while most blacks believed him to be innocent. We will never know for sure whether Simpson committed this heinous crime or not. What is certain, however, is that Nicole Simpson and Ronald Goldman are dead, and the killer remains free.

(2)—Oklahoma Tragedy

The bombing of a federal building in Oklahoma City was tragedy at its worst. It united the citizenry of our country more than any recent happening in modern history. The site of children being brought out in body bags enraged us as Americans. The organization that took place as the nation rallied to respond in the aftermath of this tragedy, however, was a prime example of what we can accomplish if there is a common thread. People from all walks of life volunteered their time in assisting with rescue efforts and banded together to combine their resources to assist those in need. Donations and support relief came flowing into Oklahoma City from all across the nation. A total of 169 people, including 19 children, died as a result of this terrorist act. The suspects are awaiting trial.

(3)—Republican Revolution

For the first time in 40 years, the Republican Party regained control of both chambers of Congress, the U.S. House of Representatives and the U.S. Senate. The Republicans were swept into office on the fuel of their now-infamous "Contract with America" and changed the path of power in Washington. Congressman Newt Gingrich was sworn in as Speaker of the House and promised to "change government as we knew it." The so-called revolution also created a whirlwind of defections. More than 140 Democrats nationwide from local to national levels jumped ship and became Republicans. Whether or not the momentum will continue remains to be seen. The Republicans seem to have a stronghold on the South and it is anyone's guess what will happen in 1996. Most analyst agree, however, that although the Democrats could possibly regain the Senate, it appears virtually impossible for them to regain the House.

(4)—Bosnia Conflict

Virtually ignored by the media since its inception in 1992, the Bosnian crisis has catapulted to front page news. The war-torn former Yugoslavia is a historical battle of wits between the Serbs, Croats and Muslims over land mass that has been going on for centuries. At the behest of the United States, namely Secretary of State Warren Christopher and Under-secretary of State Richard Holbrooke, the warring factions came to the peace table, albeit hesitantly and reluctantly, and endorsed a peace initiative. As a result, the United States has sent 20,000 U.S. troops as part of a 60,000 troop NATO peacekeeping force to ensure the peace initiatives implementation.

(5)—Colin Powell

The will he or won't he run suspense thriller of the year. Colin Powell's taciturnity with respect to his desire to seek the presidency provided fodder for every newspaper columnist in the country. His reluctance to indicate his position on the subject buoyed sales of his book throughout the summer and transformed him in the public eye from respected general to symbolic national hero. He was the most popular non-candidate in history and more popular than any of the candidates officially in the race, according to every poll released. Powell held a press conference to announce his decision with much fanfare. He declined to run, citing the wishes of his family.


(6)—Million Man March

African-American men numbering 400,000 to 800,000, depending on whose estimates you use, marched in Washington, D.C. in an event that was masterminded by the controversial Rev. Louis Farrakhan, leader of the Nation of Islam, and Benjamin Chavis, the equally controversial former leader of the NAACP. The march was billed as a march for personal responsibility, its message encouraging young black men to take care of their wife and children, and not resort to criminal activity as a tonic for poverty. Many people who attended the gathering said they did so because of the message espoused, distancing themselves from the more controversial and hate-inspiring rhetoric that Farrakhan is known for. The march was a huge success, and there were no serious crimes reported throughout. Farrakhan and Chavis plan to conduct the march as an annual event.

(7)—Budget Impasse

The Republicans delivered a seven-year balanced budget to the President for his signature. Clinton vetoed the budget, reasoning that he could not in good faith go along with the proposed growth reductions in the Medicare budget appropriations. The Republicans and Clinton shut down the government and sent home non-essential government employees on a paid leave, while they attempted to negotiate a settlement. In this first chapter of the continuing standoff, they did not reach agreement on specifics; however, both sides agreed to a seven year time frame for balancing the budget and therefore re-opened the government until an agreement on how to reach that goal could be achieved. Since then, there has been no agreement, and a portion of the government has been furloughed again. The markets sent a resounding message to both sides that failure to reach agreement would have devastating effects on Wall Street and the economy.

(Continued on following page)



B.Y.O.B. **FLY OFF.**
(Have Your Own Fun!)

| | |
|---|---|
| <p>MONDAY Dart tourney - 8pm \$4 entry / bar matches pot Give darts a shot!</p> <p>THURSDAY BOYS NIGHT OUT MC-Paivi Lee Love with guests Alan Gibson, George Michael & Tara Dion</p> <p>FRIDAY JUKEBOX JAMBOREE MC-Jessica Van Shelton with special guest Katrina LaShawn - Miss EJ's Sweetheart</p> | <p>SATURDAY COME PARTY with the Gang at Club 403 SUNDAY - 10:30 pm My Sister's Closet & Mr. Club 403 - Adam present A NEW YEAR'S EVE Celebration to remember. Featuring: Sister Mary Pitaful, Adam, Randy, Amy, Frankie, Peaches and MANY MANY MORE! Balloon Drop & Champagne at Midnight. For a prosperous 1996, Come eat black eyed peas and cornbread.</p> |
|---|---|

Door Prizes throughout the course of the evening~

| | | |
|---|--|---|
| Beer, Wine, Set-ups 523-0030 New Hours 10am - 2am | Pitchers \$2.75 10am - 1 pm Domestic Beer \$1.50 5 - 7pm Other Specials Daily! | 403 Westheimer @ Taft Houston, TX 77006 |
|---|--|---|

WARRYS




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WARRYS

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for many more,
... naturally!!

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Open for after-hours!!






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3 months at \$10.00
6 months at \$17.50
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Call 529-8490 for details!

SNOWBIRDS & LOCALS

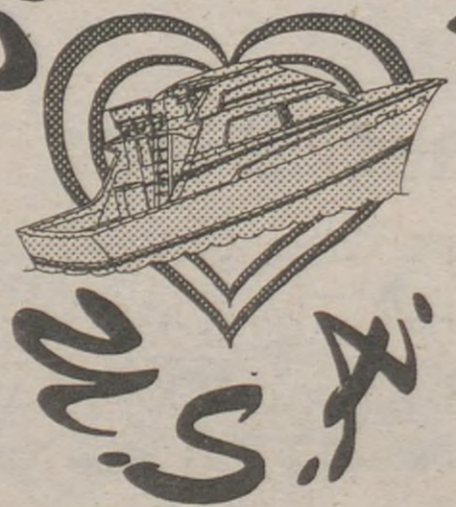
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A nautical alternative to the high cost of buying & maintaining a boat without the high cost of renting a boat.

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"WE TAKE THE HASSLES OUT OF BOATING"

"DON'T MISS THE BOAT"

News notables of '95

(Continued from preceding page)

(8)—Rabin's Assassination

The assassination of Israeli Prime Minister Yitzhak Rabin was a devastating blow to the fragile Middle East peace process. Rabin was instrumental in the coordination and implementation of the peace initiative. His death sent shock waves throughout the world and world leaders from practically every corner of the world came to bestow their grievance at such a tragedy. Rabin's assassin, Yigal Amir is awaiting trial. The future of the Middle East peace process, already precarious, rests on the shoulder of Rabin's successor Shimon Peres, who has vowed to continue Rabin's legacy of peace in the region.

(9)—Whitewater

The issue of the Clintons' involvement in a real estate investment fiasco just won't die. The Whitewater committee, headed by Senator Alfonse D'Amato (R-NY), is investigating allegations of a cover-up. The independent counsel Kenneth Starr is still investigating whether or not the Clintons were heavily involved with the development of Whitewater

and if any monies were transferred to campaign coffers has yet to be resolved. The Clintons refused to release documents pertaining to a meeting they had at the White House with several attorneys on the basis of attorney-client privilege prompting the committee to seek a vote on the Senate floor to subpoena the documents. The Senate, along party lines, voted to take the President to court. A settlement is expected, since neither side wants to drag this investigation on for another year.

(10)—Bill Gates

The chairperson and co-founder of Microsoft made headlines on three-fronts in 1995. His unprecedented media whirlwind surrounding the release of Window's 95 was the marketing success story of the decade. He manipulated the press into covering the launch of Windows 95 as a news story, merged with NBC into news ventures, penned a best-selling tome, The Road Ahead (Viking \$29.95) and to date has escaped the wrath of a government probe by the Justice Department into his company's business practices concerning anti-trust laws. His acumen of the computer industry is legendary and his every move is heavily touted. He is the man to watch in 1996.

CHURCH CALENDAR OF EVENTS

FRIDAY - 12/29

- * 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 & brothers, & 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

SATURDAY - 12/30

- * Traditional Mass at 7:30 p.m. Dignity Church, 1307 Yale. Call 880-2872

SUNDAY - 12/31

- * Metropolitan Community Church of the Resurrection (MCCR) worship services. 9:00 a.m. & 11:00 a.m. 1919 Decatur. Call 861-9149.
- * Maranatha Fellowship Metropolitan Church Services "Looking at Relationships from a Godly Perspective" & "Homosexuality & the Bible/Spirituality & Sexuality Integration" at 10:00 a.m. New Location 3400 Montrose Suite 600. Call 528-6756.
- * Community Gospel Church worship service at 11:00 a.m. & 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. "The Celestine Prophecy. An Experiential Guide" at 10:00 a.m.
- * Ecumenical Catholic Church Mass at 10:15. 1405 palm. Call 526-8095.
- * Covenant Baptist Church. Worship service - 1:30 p.m. 6610 Alder. Call 668-8830.
- * Bering Memorial United Methodist Church Worship service. 10:50 a.m. Seekers class 9:15 a.m. 1440 Harold. Call 526-1017.

TUESDAY - 1/2

- * MCCR: CODA Support group meets at 7:00 p.m., Empowerment for Living support group & 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.
- * Over Eaters Anonymous support group meets at MCCR - 6:00pm. Call 861-9149.
- * Advent Scriptures for Gay/Lesbian Christians: 7:30 pm at Kolbe House. 1509 Fairview 522-8182
- * "Shepherd Group" meets at 7:30 p.m. for Praise, Prayer & Bible study. Call Maranatha Fellowship at 528-6756.

WEDNESDAY - 1/3

- * 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 & Choir Rehearsal 7:30 p.m. 1919 Decatur. 861-9149.
- * "A Course in Miracles"- Study Group using the book, published by the Foundation for Inner Peace, which is aimed at removing the blocks to our awareness of one's presence. Kingdom Community Church 7:30 p.m. Call 862-7533.
- * Ecumenical Catholic Church Mass at 7:00 p.m. 1405 palm. Call 526-8095.
- * "Shepherd Group" meets at 7:30 p.m. for Praise, Prayer & Bible study. Call Maranatha Fellowship at 528-6756.

THURSDAY - 1/4

- * Community Gospel Church worship service. 7:30 p.m. 501 E. 18th. Call 880-9325.
- * Pot Luck Supper 7:00 p.m. Kolbe House, 1509 Fairview. Call 522-8182

If you want an event listed in this section, please call (713) 529-8490.

KEEP US POSTED!

Send your organization's news and meeting information to the HOUSTON VOICE for our Community Calendar and Bulletin Board. 811 Westheimer, Suite 105/Houston, TX. 77006; Fax 529-9531; Phone 529-8490.

A NEW MEDICINE

3TC

IS NOW AVAILABLE

AND IT'S CALLED

EPIVIRTM
(LAMIVUDINE)

EPIVIR is recommended for use in combination with RETROVIR® (zidovudine) for the treatment of HIV when antiretroviral therapy is indicated based on disease progression. This indication is based on analyses of surrogate markers of HIV, such as CD4 cell counts. The effect of the EPIVIR + RETROVIR combination on disease progression and survival has not yet been established.

To learn more about EPIVIR (3TC), please see your doctor or other healthcare professional. EPIVIR and RETROVIR (AZT) are available by prescription only.

Please see important information about EPIVIR and RETROVIR on adjacent page.

GlaxoWellcome

Glaxo Wellcome Inc.
Research Triangle Park, NC 27709
Printed in USA RTV037 December 1995

Epiriv™ Tablets (lamivudine tablets)

BRIEF SUMMARY

Epiriv™ Oral Solution (lamivudine oral solution)

The following is a brief summary only. Before prescribing, see complete prescribing information in Epiriv™ Tablets and Epiriv™ Oral Solution product labeling.

WARNING: Epiriv™ (lamivudine) is indicated for use in combination with Retrovir® (zidovudine) for the treatment of human immunodeficiency virus (HIV) infection when antiretroviral therapy is warranted based on clinical and/or immunological evidence of disease progression. This indication is based on analyses of surrogate endpoints. At present, there are no results from controlled clinical trials evaluating the effect of therapy with Epiriv plus Retrovir on the clinical progression of HIV infection, such as the incidence of opportunistic infections or survival.

Patients receiving Epiriv plus Retrovir may continue to develop opportunistic infections and other complications of HIV infection, and therefore should remain under close observation by physicians experienced in the treatment of patients with HIV-associated diseases.

CONTRAINDICATIONS: Epiriv™ Tablets and Oral Solution are contraindicated in patients with previously demonstrated clinically significant hypersensitivity to any of the components of the products.

WARNINGS: PANCREATITIS IN PEDIATRIC PATIENTS: IN PEDIATRIC PATIENTS WITH A HISTORY OF PANCREATITIS OR OTHER SIGNIFICANT RISK FACTORS FOR THE DEVELOPMENT OF PANCREATITIS, THE COMBINATION OF EPIDRIV™ AND RETROVIR™ (ZIDOVUDINE) SHOULD BE USED WITH EXTREME CAUTION AND ONLY IF THERE IS NO SATISFACTORY ALTERNATIVE THERAPY. TREATMENT WITH EPIDRIV™ SHOULD BE STOPPED IMMEDIATELY IF CLINICAL SIGNS, SYMPTOMS, OR LABORATORY ABNORMALITIES SUGGESTIVE OF PANCREATITIS OCCUR (SEE ADVERSE REACTIONS).

The complete prescribing information for Retrovir should be consulted before combination therapy with Epiriv and Retrovir is initiated.

PRECAUTIONS:

Patients With Impaired Renal Function: Reduction of the dosage of Epiriv™ is recommended for patients with impaired renal function (see CLINICAL PHARMACOLOGY section of complete prescribing information and DOSAGE AND ADMINISTRATION).

Information for Patients: Epiriv is not a cure for HIV infection and patients may continue to experience illnesses associated with HIV infection, including opportunistic infections. Treatment with Epiriv has not been shown to reduce the frequency of such illnesses and patients should remain under the care of a physician when using Epiriv. Patients should be advised that the use of Epiriv has not been shown to reduce the risk of transmission of HIV to others through sexual contact or blood contamination.

Patients should be advised that the long-term effects of Epiriv are unknown at this time. Epiriv Tablets and Oral Solution are for oral ingestion only.

Patients should be advised of the importance of taking Epiriv exactly as it is prescribed.

Parents or guardians should be advised to monitor pediatric patients for signs and symptoms of pancreatitis.

Drug Interaction: Trimethoprim (TMP) 160 mg/sulfamethoxazole (SMX) 800 mg once daily has been shown to increase lamivudine exposure (AUC). The effect of higher doses of TMP/SMX on lamivudine pharmacokinetics has not been investigated (see CLINICAL PHARMACOLOGY section of complete prescribing information).

Carcinogenesis, Mutagenesis, and Impairment of Fertility: Long-term carcinogenicity studies of lamivudine in animals have not yet been completed. Lamivudine was not active in a microbial mutagenicity screen or an *in vitro* cell transformation assay, but showed weak *in vitro* mutagenic activity in a cytogenetic assay using cultured human lymphocytes and in the mouse lymphoma assay. However, lamivudine showed no evidence of *in vivo* genotoxic activity in the rat at oral doses of up to 2,000 mg/kg (approximately 65 times the recommended human dose based on body surface area comparisons). In a study of reproductive performance, lamivudine, administered to rats at doses up to 130 times the usual adult dose based on body surface area comparisons, revealed no evidence of impaired fertility and no effect on the survival, growth, and development to weaning of the offspring.

Pregnancy: Pregnancy Category C: Reproduction studies have been performed in rats and rabbits at orally administered doses up to approximately 130 and 60 times, respectively, the usual adult dose and have revealed no evidence of harm to the fetus due to lamivudine. Some evidence of early embryonic lethality was seen in the rabbit at doses similar to those produced by the usual adult dose and higher, but there was no indication of this effect in the rat at orally administered doses up to 130 times the usual adult dose. Studies in pregnant rats and rabbits showed that lamivudine is transferred to the fetus through the placenta. There are no adequate and well-controlled studies in pregnant women. Because animal reproductive toxicity studies are not always predictive of human response, lamivudine should be used during pregnancy only if the potential benefits outweigh the risks.

Antiretroviral Pregnancy Registry: To monitor maternal-fetal outcomes of pregnant women exposed to Epiriv, an Antiretroviral Pregnancy Registry has been established. Physicians are encouraged to register patients by calling (800) 722-9292, ext.58465.

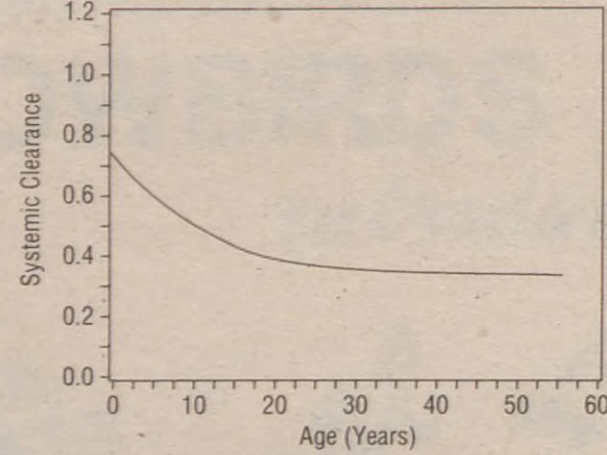
Nursing Mothers: A study in which lactating rats were administered 45 mg/kg of lamivudine showed that lamivudine concentrations in milk were slightly greater than those in plasma. Although it is not known if lamivudine is excreted in human milk, there is the potential for adverse effects from lamivudine in nursing infants. Mothers should be instructed to discontinue nursing if they are receiving lamivudine. This instruction is consistent with the Centers for Disease Control recommendation that HIV-infected mothers not breast feed their infants to avoid risking postnatal transmission of HIV infection.

Pediatric Use: THERE ARE NO DATA ON THE USE OF EPIDRIV IN COMBINATION WITH RETROVIR IN PEDIATRIC PATIENTS.

Lamivudine monotherapy was studied in one open-label, uncontrolled trial (study A2002) in 97 pediatric patients with the following demographics: male (56%), Caucasian (57%), median age of 7.7 years (range: 0.4 to 17.3 years), symptomatic HIV (84%), median duration of prior antiretroviral therapy (148 weeks), and median baseline CD4 of 132 cells/mm³. Pharmacokinetic properties of lamivudine were assessed in a subset of 57 patients (age range: 4.8 months to 16 years, weight range: 5 to 66 kg) after oral and IV administration of 1, 2, 4, 8, 12, and 20 mg/kg per day. In the 9 infants and children receiving 8 mg/kg per day (the usual recommended pediatric dose) absolute bioavailability was 66% ± 26% (mean ± S.D.), which is less than the 86% ± 16% (mean ± S.D.) observed in adolescents and adults. The mechanism for the diminished absolute bioavailability of lamivudine in infants and children is unknown.

Systemic clearance decreased with increasing age in pediatric patients, as shown in the following figure.

Systemic Clearance (L/hr·kg) of Lamivudine in Relation to Age



After oral administration of 8 mg/kg per day of lamivudine to 11 pediatric patients ranging from 4 months to 14 years of age, C_{max} was 11 ± 0.6 µg/mL and half-life was 2.0 ± 0.6 hours. (In adults with similar blood sampling, the half-life was 3.7 ± 1.0 hours.) Total exposure to lamivudine, as reflected by mean AUC values, was comparable between pediatric patients receiving an 8 mg/kg/day dose and adults receiving a 4 mg/kg/day dose.

Distribution of lamivudine into cerebrospinal fluid (CSF) was assessed in 38 pediatric patients after multiple oral dosing with lamivudine. CSF samples were collected between 2 and 4 hours post-dose. At the dose of 8 mg/kg/day, CSF lamivudine concentrations in eight patients ranged from 5.6% to 30.9% (mean ± S.D. of 14.2% ± 7.9%) of the concentration in a simultaneous serum sample, with CSF lamivudine concentrations ranging from 0.04 to 0.3 µg/mL.

See INDICATIONS AND USAGE, Description of Clinical Studies section of complete prescribing information and WARNINGS, ADVERSE REACTIONS, and DOSAGE AND ADMINISTRATION sections.

ADVERSE REACTIONS:

Adults: Selected clinical adverse events with a ≥5% frequency during therapy with Epiriv™ 150 mg b.i.d. plus Retrovir™ (zidovudine) 200 mg t.i.d. compared with zidovudine are listed in Table 1.

| Adverse Event | Epiriv 150 mg b.i.d. plus Retrovir (n=251) | Retrovir (n=230) |
|------------------------------------|--|------------------|
| Body as a whole | | |
| Headache | 35% | 27% |
| Malaise and fatigue | 27% | 23% |
| Fever or chills | 10% | 12% |
| Digestive | | |
| Nausea | 33% | 29% |
| Diarrhea | 18% | 22% |
| Nausea and vomiting | 13% | 12% |
| Anorexia and/or decreased appetite | 10% | 7% |
| Abdominal pain | 9% | 11% |
| Abdominal cramps | 6% | 3% |
| Dyspepsia | 5% | 5% |
| Nervous | | |
| Neuropathy | 12% | 10% |
| Dizziness | 10% | 4% |
| Insomnia & other sleep disorders | 11% | 7% |
| Depressive disorders | 9% | 4% |
| Respiratory | | |
| Nasal signs & symptoms | 20% | 11% |
| Cough | 18% | 13% |
| Skin & appendages | | |
| Skin rashes | 9% | 6% |
| Musculoskeletal | | |
| Musculoskeletal pain | 12% | 10% |
| Myalgia | 8% | 6% |
| Arthralgia | 5% | 5% |

**Epiriv™ Tablets (lamivudine tablets)
Epiriv™ Oral Solution (lamivudine oral solution)**

Pancreatitis was observed in 3 of the 656 adult patients (<0.5%) who received Epiriv in controlled clinical trials.

Selected laboratory abnormalities observed during therapy are listed in Table 2.

| Test (Abnormal Level) | Epiriv 150 mg b.i.d. plus Retrovir % (n) | Retrovir % (n) |
|--|--|----------------|
| Neutropenia (ANC<750/mm ³) | 7.2% (237) | 5.4% (222) |
| Anemia (Hgb<8.0 g/dL) | 2.9% (241) | 1.8% (218) |
| Thrombocytopenia (platelets<50,000/mm ³) | 0.4% (240) | 1.3% (223) |
| ALT (>5.0 x ULN) | 3.7% (241) | 3.6% (224) |
| AST (>5.0 x ULN) | 1.7% (241) | 1.8% (223) |
| Bilirubin (>2.5 ULN) | 0.8% (241) | 0.4% (220) |
| Amylase (>2.0 ULN) | 4.2% (72) | 1.5% (133) |

ULN=Upper limit of normal ANC=absolute neutrophil count n=Number of patients assessed *Frequencies of these laboratory abnormalities were higher in patients with mild laboratory abnormalities at baseline.

Pediatric Patients: Limited information on the incidence of adverse events in children receiving lamivudine monotherapy is available from one open-label, uncontrolled study (see PRECAUTIONS: Pediatric Use section for description of study A2002). Of 97 pediatric patients, 14 patients (14%) developed pancreatitis while receiving monotherapy with Epiriv. In a second ongoing study in 47 pediatric patients (age range: 3 months to 18 years) enrolled in an open-label evaluation of Epiriv/didanosine, Epiriv/Retrovir, and Epiriv/Retrovir/didanosine, 7 patients (15%) developed pancreatitis (see WARNINGS).

Paresthesias and peripheral neuropathies were reported in 13 patients (13%) in study A2002 and resulted in treatment discontinuation in 3 patients.

Selected laboratory abnormalities during lamivudine therapy in children are listed in Table 3.

| Test (Abnormal Level) | Patients With Normal Baselines % (n) | Patients With Abnormal Baselines % (n) |
|--|--------------------------------------|--|
| Neutropenia (ANC<750/mm ³) | 22% (55) | 45% (33) |
| Anemia (Hgb<8.0 g/dL) | 2% (50) | 24% (46) |
| Thrombocytopenia (platelets<40,000/mm ³) | 0% (68) | 25% (12) |
| ALT (>5.0 x ULN) | 4% (51) | 29% (42) |
| AST (>5.0 x ULN) | 0% (29) | 19% (57) |
| Amylase (>2.0 ULN) | 3% (69) | 23% (13) |

ULN=Upper limit of normal ANC=absolute neutrophil count n=Number of patients assessed

OVERDOSAGE: There is no known antidote for Epiriv™. One case of an adult ingesting 6 g of Epiriv was reported; there were no clinical signs or symptoms noted and hematologic tests remained normal. It is not known whether lamivudine can be removed by peritoneal dialysis or hemodialysis.

DOSAGE AND ADMINISTRATION: (See complete prescribing information in Epiriv™ product labeling.)

Dose Adjustment: It is recommended that doses of Epiriv be adjusted in accordance with renal function in patients older than age 16 years (see Table 4). (See CLINICAL PHARMACOLOGY section.)

| Creatinine Clearance (mL/min) | Recommended Dosage of Epiriv |
|-------------------------------|---|
| >50 | 150 mg twice daily |
| 30-49 | 150 mg once daily |
| 15-29 | 150 mg first dose, then 100 mg once daily |
| 5-14 | 150 mg first dose, then 50 mg once daily |
| <5 | 50 mg first dose, then 25 mg once daily |

Insufficient data are available to recommend a dosage of Epiriv™ in patients undergoing dialysis. Manufactured under agreement from BioChem Pharma Inc.

275 Armand Frappier Blvd.
Laval, Quebec, Canada H7V 4A7
Epiriv™ Oral Solution Manufactured in England
U.S. Patent 5,047,407
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November 1995/RL-224



**RETROVIR® (zidovudine) Capsules
RETROVIR® (zidovudine) Syrup**

BRIEF SUMMARY

The following is a brief summary only. Before prescribing, see complete prescribing information in RETROVIR™ Capsules and Syrup product labeling.

WARNING: RETROVIR (ZIDOVUDINE) MAY BE ASSOCIATED WITH HEMATOLOGIC TOXICITY INCLUDING GRANULOCYTOPENIA AND SEVERE ANEMIA PARTICULARLY IN PATIENTS WITH ADVANCED HUMAN IMMUNODEFICIENCY VIRUS (HIV) DISEASE (SEE WARNINGS). PROLONGED USE OF RETROVIR HAS BEEN ASSOCIATED WITH SYMPTOMATIC MYOPATHY SIMILAR TO THAT PRODUCED BY HUMAN IMMUNODEFICIENCY VIRUS.

RARE OCCURRENCES OF LACTIC ACIDOSIS IN THE ABSENCE OF HYPOXEMIA, AND SEVERE HEPATOMEGALY WITH STEATOSIS HAVE BEEN REPORTED WITH THE USE OF ANTIRETROVIRAL NUCLEOSIDE ANALOGUES, INCLUDING RETROVIR AND ZALCITABINE, AND ARE POTENTIALLY FATAL (SEE WARNINGS).

CONTRAINDICATIONS: RETROVIR Capsules and Syrup are contraindicated for patients who have potentially life-threatening allergic reactions to any of the components of the formulations.

WARNINGS: Note: The safety and efficacy profile of RETROVIR has not been defined, particularly in regard to prolonged use in HIV-infected individuals who have less advanced disease (see INDICATIONS AND USAGE AND CLINICAL PHARMACOLOGY: Microbiology sections of full prescribing information and PRECAUTIONS: Carcinogenesis, Mutagenesis, Impairment of Fertility). The incidence of adverse reactions appears to increase with disease progression, and patients should be monitored carefully, especially as disease progression occurs.

The safety profile of combination therapy with RETROVIR and zalcitabine reflects the individual safety profiles of each component. The complete prescribing information for zalcitabine should be consulted before combination therapy with RETROVIR and zalcitabine is initiated.

Bone Marrow Suppression: RETROVIR should be used with extreme caution in patients who have bone marrow compromise evidenced by granulocyte count <1000 cells/mm³ or hemoglobin <9.5 g/dL. In all of the placebo-controlled studies, but most frequently in patients with advanced symptomatic HIV disease, anemia and granulocytopenia were the most significant adverse events observed (see ADVERSE REACTIONS). There have been reports of pancytopenia associated with the use of RETROVIR, which was reversible in most instances after discontinuance of the drug.

Significant anemia most commonly occurred after 4 to 6 weeks of therapy and in many cases required dose adjustment, discontinuation of RETROVIR, and/or blood transfusions. Frequent blood counts are strongly recommended in patients with advanced HIV disease taking RETROVIR. For asymptomatic HIV-infected individuals and patients with early HIV disease, most of whom have better marrow reserve, blood counts may be obtained less frequently, depending upon the patient's overall status. If anemia or granulocytopenia develops, dosage adjustments may be necessary (see DOSAGE AND ADMINISTRATION).

Myopathy: Myopathy and myositis with pathological changes, similar to that produced by HIV disease, have been associated with prolonged use of RETROVIR.

Lactic Acidosis/Severe Hepatomegaly with Steatosis: Rare occurrences of lactic acidosis in the absence of hypoxemia, and severe hepatomegaly with steatosis have been reported with the use of antiretroviral nucleoside analogues, including RETROVIR and zalcitabine, and are potentially fatal; it is not known whether these events are causally related to the use of these drugs. Lactic acidosis should be considered whenever a patient receiving therapy with RETROVIR develops unexplained tachypnea, dyspnea, or fall in serum bicarbonate level. Under these circumstances, therapy with RETROVIR should be suspended until the diagnosis of lactic acidosis has been excluded. Caution should be exercised when administering RETROVIR to any patient, particularly obese women, with hepatomegaly, hepatitis, or other known risk factor for liver disease. These patients should be followed closely while on therapy with RETROVIR. The significance of elevated aminotransferase levels suggesting hepatic injury in HIV-infected patients prior to starting RETROVIR or while on RETROVIR is unclear. Treatment with RETROVIR should be suspended in the setting of rapidly elevating aminotransferase levels, progressive hepatomegaly, or metabolic/lactic acidosis of unknown etiology.

Other Serious Adverse Reactions: Several serious adverse events have been reported with use of RETROVIR in clinical practice. Reports of pancreatitis, sensitization reactions (including anaphylaxis in one patient), vasculitis, and seizures have been seen. These adverse events, except for sensitization, have also been associated with HIV disease. Changes in skin and nail pigmentation have been associated with the use of RETROVIR.

Use in Infancy: A positive test for HIV-antibody in children under 15 months of age may represent passively acquired maternal antibodies, rather than an active antibody response to infection in the infant. Thus, the presence of HIV-antibody in a child less than 15 months of age must be interpreted with caution, especially in the asymptomatic infant. Confirmatory tests such as serum p24 antigen or viral culture should be pursued in such children.

PRECAUTIONS:

General: Zidovudine is eliminated from the body primarily by renal excretion following metabolism in the liver (glucuronidation). In patients with severely impaired renal function, dosage reduction is recommended (see CLINICAL PHARMACOLOGY: Pharmacokinetics section of full prescribing information and DOSAGE AND ADMINISTRATION). Although very little data are available, patients with severely impaired hepatic function may be at greater risk of toxicity.

Information for Patients: RETROVIR is not a cure for HIV infections, and patients may continue to acquire illnesses associated with HIV infection, including opportunistic infections. Therefore, patients should be advised to seek medical care for any significant change in their health status.

The safety and efficacy of RETROVIR in women, intravenous drug users, and racial minorities^{1,2} is not significantly different than that observed in white males.

Patients should be informed that the major toxicities of RETROVIR are granulocytopenia and/or anemia. The frequency and severity of these toxicities are greater in patients with more advanced disease and in those who initiate therapy later in the course of their infection. They should be told that if toxicity develops, they may require transfusions or dose modifications including possible discontinuation. They should be told of the extreme importance of having their blood counts followed closely while on therapy, especially for patients with advanced symptomatic HIV disease. They should be cautioned about

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the use of other medications, including ganciclovir and interferon-alpha, that may exacerbate the toxicity of RETROVIR (see PRECAUTIONS: Drug Interactions). Patients should be informed that other adverse effects of RETROVIR include nausea and vomiting. Patients should also be encouraged to contact their physician if they experience muscle weakness, shortness of breath, symptoms of hepatitis or pancreatitis, or any other unexpected adverse events while being treated with RETROVIR.

RETROVIR Capsules and Syrup are for oral ingestion only. Patients should be told of the importance of taking RETROVIR exactly as prescribed. They should be told that the long-term effects of RETROVIR are unknown at this time.

Pregnant women considering the use of RETROVIR during pregnancy for prevention of HIV-transmission to their infants should be advised that transmission may still occur in some cases despite therapy. The long-term consequences of *in utero* and infant exposure to RETROVIR are unknown.

HIV-infected pregnant women should be advised not to breast-feed to avoid postnatal transmission of HIV to a child who may not yet be infected.

Patients should be advised that therapy with RETROVIR has not been shown to reduce the risk of transmission of HIV to others through sexual contact or blood contamination.

Drug Interactions: Ganciclovir: Use of RETROVIR in combination with ganciclovir increases the risk of hematologic toxicities in some patients with advanced HIV disease. Should the use of this combination become necessary in the treatment of patients with HIV disease, dose reduction or interruption of one or both agents may be necessary to minimize hematologic toxicity. Hematologic parameters, including hemoglobin, hematocrit, and white blood cell count with differential, should be monitored frequently in all patients receiving this combination.

Interferon-alpha: Hematologic toxicities have also been seen when RETROVIR is used concomitantly with interferon-alpha. As with the concomitant use of RETROVIR and ganciclovir, dose reduction or interruption of one or both agents may be necessary, and hematologic parameters should be monitored frequently.

Bone Marrow Suppressive Agents/Cytotoxic Agents: Coadministration of RETROVIR with drugs that are cytotoxic or which interfere with RBC/WBC number or function (e.g., dapsone, flucytosine, vincristine, vinblastine, or adria-mycin) may increase the risk of hematologic toxicity.

Probencid: Limited data suggest that probencid may increase zidovudine levels by inhibiting glucuronidation and/or by reducing renal excretion of zidovudine. Some patients who have used RETROVIR concomitantly with probencid have developed flu-like symptoms consisting of myalgia, malaise, and/or fever and maculopapular rash.

Phenytoin: Phenytoin plasma levels have been reported to be low in some patients receiving RETROVIR, while in one case a high level was documented. However, in a pharmacokinetic interaction study in which 12 HIV-positive volunteers received a single 300 mg phenytoin dose alone and during steady-state zidovudine conditions (200 mg every 4 hours), no change in phenytoin kinetics was observed. Although not designed to optimally assess the effect of phenytoin on zidovudine kinetics, a 30% decrease in oral zidovudine clearance was observed with phenytoin.

Methadone: In a pharmacokinetic study of nine HIV-positive patients receiving methadone-maintenance (30 to 90 mg daily) concurrent with 200 mg of RETROVIR every 4 hours, no changes were observed in the pharmacokinetics of methadone upon initiation of therapy with RETROVIR and after 14 days of treatment with RETROVIR. No adjustments in methadone-maintenance requirements were reported. For four patients, the mean zidovudine AUC was elevated two-fold, while for five patients, the value was equal to that of control patients. The exact mechanism and clinical significance of these data are unknown.

Fluconazole: The coadministration of fluconazole with RETROVIR has been reported to interfere with the oral clearance and metabolism of RETROVIR. In a pharmacokinetic interaction study in which 12 HIV-positive men received RETROVIR 200 mg every 8 hours alone and in combination with fluconazole 400 mg daily, fluconazole increased the zidovudine AUC (74%; range 28% to 173%) and the zidovudine half-life (128%; range 4% to 189%) at steady state. The clinical significance of this interaction is unknown.

Azidothymidine: Data from 14 HIV-infected volunteers who were given azidothymidine tablets 750 mg every 12 hours with zidovudine 200 mg every 8 hours showed a 24% ± 12% decrease in zidovudine oral clearance, leading to a 35% ± 23% increase in plasma zidovudine AUC. The glucuronide metabolite:parent ratio decreased from a mean of 4.5 when zidovudine was administered alone to 3.1 when zidovudine was administered with azidothymidine tablets. This effect is minor and would not be expected to produce clinically significant events. Zidovudine had no effect on azidothymidine pharmacokinetics.

Valproic Acid: The concomitant administration of valproic acid 250 mg (n = 5) or 500 mg (n = 1) every 8 hours and zidovudine 100 mg orally every 8 hours for 4 days to six HIV-infected, asymptomatic male volunteers resulted in a 79% ± 61% (mean ± SD) increase in the plasma zidovudine AUC and a 22% ± 10% decrease in the plasma GZDV/zidovudine urinary excretion ratio decreased 58% ± 12%. Because no change in the zidovudine plasma half-life occurred, these results suggest that valproic acid may increase the oral bioavailability of zidovudine through inhibition of first-pass metabolism. Although the clinical significance of this interaction is unknown, patients should be monitored more closely for a possible increase in zidovudine-related adverse effects. The effect of zidovudine on the pharmacokinetics of valproic acid was not evaluated.

Other Nucleoside Analogues: Some experimental nucleoside analogues which are being evaluated in HIV-infected patients may affect RBC/WBC number or function and may increase the potential for hematologic toxicity of RETROVIR. Some experimental nucleoside analogues affecting DNA replication, such as ribavirin, antagonize the *in vitro* antiviral activity of RETROVIR against HIV and thus, concomitant use of such drugs should be avoided.

Other Agents: Some drugs such as trimethoprim-sulfamethoxazole, pyrimethamine, and acyclovir may be necessary for the management or prevention of opportunistic infections. In the placebo-controlled trial in patients with advanced HIV disease, increased toxicity was not detected with limited exposure to these drugs. However, there is one published report of neurotoxicity (profound lethargy) associated with concomitant use of RETROVIR and acyclovir. Preliminary data from a drug interaction study (n=10) suggest that coadministration of 200 mg RETROVIR and 600 mg rifampin decreases the area under the plasma concentration curve by an average of 48% ± 34%. However, the effect of once daily dosing of rifampin on multiple daily doses of RETROVIR is unknown.

Carcinogenesis, Mutagenesis, Impairment of Fertility: Zidovudine was administered orally at three dose levels to separate groups of mice and rats (60 females and 60 males in each group). Initial single daily doses were 30, 60, and 120 mg/kg/day in mice and 80, 220, and 600 mg/kg/day in rats. The doses in mice were reduced to 20, 30, and 40 mg/kg/day after day 90 because of treatment-related anemia, whereas in rats only the high dose was reduced to 450 mg/kg/day on day 91 and then to 300 mg/kg/day on day 279.

In mice, seven late-appearing (after 19 months) vaginal neoplasms (five non-metastasizing squamous cell carcinomas, one squamous cell papilloma, and one squamous polyp) occurred in animals given the highest dose. One late-appearing squamous cell papilloma occurred in the vagina of a middle dose animal. No vaginal tumors were found at the lowest dose.

In rats, two late-appearing (after 20 months), non-metastasizing vaginal squamous cell carcinomas occurred in animals given the highest dose. No vaginal tumors occurred at the low or middle dose in rats. No other drug-related tumors were observed in either sex of either species.

It is not known how predictive the results of rodent carcinogenicity studies may be for humans. At doses that produced tumors in mice and rats, the estimated drug exposure (as measured by AUC) was approximately 3 times (mouse) and 24 times (rat) the estimated human exposure at the recommended therapeutic dose of 100 mg every 4 hours.

No evidence of mutagenicity (with or without metabolic activation) was observed in the Ames *Salmonella* mutagenicity assay at concentrations up to 10 µg per plate, which was the maximum concentration that could be tested because of the antimicrobial activity of zidovudine against the *Salmonella* species. In a mutagenicity assay conducted in L5178Y/TK⁺ mouse lymphoma cells, zidovudine was weakly mutagenic in the absence of metabolic activation only at the highest concentrations tested (4000 and 5000 µg/mL). In the presence of metabolic activation, the drug was weakly mutagenic at concentrations of 1000 µg/mL and higher. In an *in vitro* mammalian cell transformation assay, zidovudine was positive at concentrations of 0.5 µg/mL and higher. In an *in vitro* cytogenetic study performed in cultured human lymphocytes, zidovudine induced dose-related structural chromosomal abnormalities at concentrations of 3 µg/mL and higher. No such effects were noted at the two lowest concentrations tested, 0.3 and 1 µg/mL. In an *in vivo* cytogenetic study in rats given a single intravenous injection of zidovudine at doses of 375 to 3000 mg/kg, there were no treatment-related structural or numerical chromosomal alterations in spite of plasma levels that were as high as 453 µg/mL 5 minutes after dosing.

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Pediatric Use: See INDICATIONS, ADVERSE REACTIONS, and DOSAGE AND ADMINISTRATION sections.

ADVERSE REACTIONS:

Monotherapy, Adults: The frequency and severity of adverse events associated with the use of RETROVIR in adults are greater in patients with more advanced infection at the time of initiation of therapy. The following table summarizes the relative incidence of hematologic adverse events observed in clinical studies by severity of HIV disease present at the start of treatment.

| Stage of Disease | RETROVIR Daily Dose* (mg) | Granulocytopenia (<750 cells/mm ³) | Anemia (Hgb <8.0 g/dL) |
|---|---------------------------|--|------------------------|
| Asymptomatic ACTG 019 ^b | 500 | 1.8% | 11% ^c |
| Early HIV Disease (CD4 >200 cells/mm ³) ACTG 016 ^b | 1200 | 4% | 4% |
| Advanced HIV Disease (CD4 >200 cells/mm ³) BW 02 ^c | 1500 | 10% ^d | 3% ^d |
| (CD4 <200 cells/mm ³) ACTG 002 ^e | 600 | 37% | 29% |
| BW 02 ^c | 1500 | 47% | 29% ^f |

* The currently recommended dose is 500 to 600 mg daily.

^b Not statistically significant compared to placebo.

^c Anemia = Hgb <7.5 g/dL.

The anemia reported in patients with advanced HIV disease receiving RETROVIR appeared to be the result of impaired erythrocyte maturation as evidenced by macrocytosis while on drug. Although mean platelet counts in patients receiving RETROVIR were significantly increased compared to mean baseline values, thrombocytopenia did occur in some of these patients with advanced disease.⁴ Twelve percent of patients receiving RETROVIR compared to 5% of patients receiving placebo had >50% decreases from baseline platelet count. Mild drug-associated elevations in total bilirubin levels have been reported as an uncommon occurrence in patients treated for asymptomatic HIV infection.

The HIV-infected adults participating in these clinical trials often had baseline symptoms and signs of HIV disease and/or experienced adverse events at some time during study. It was often difficult to distinguish adverse events possibly associated with administration of RETROVIR from underlying signs of HIV disease or intercurrent illnesses. The following table summarizes clinical adverse events or symptoms which occurred in at least 5% of all patients with advanced HIV disease treated with 1500 mg/day of RETROVIR in the original placebo-controlled study.⁵ Of the items listed in the table, only severe headache, nausea, insomnia, and myalgia were reported at a significantly greater rate in patients receiving Retrovir.

| Adverse Event | RETROVIR 1500 mg/day* (n=144) % | Placebo (n=137) % |
|-------------------------|---------------------------------|-------------------|
| BODY AS A WHOLE | | |
| Asthenia | 19 | 18 |
| Diaphoresis | 5 | 4 |
| Fever | 16 | 12 |
| Headache | 42 | 37 |
| Malaise | 8 | 7 |
| GASTROINTESTINAL | | |
| Anorexia | 11 | 8 |
| Diarrhea | 12 | 18 |
| Dyspepsia | 5 | 4 |
| GI Pain | 20 | 19 |
| Nausea | 46 | 18 |
| Vomiting | 6 | 3 |
| MUSCULOSKELETAL | | |
| Myalgia | 8 | 2 |
| NERVOUS | | |
| Dizziness | 6 | 4 |
| Insomnia | 5 | 1 |
| Paresthesia | 6 | 3 |
| Somnolence | 8 | 9 |
| RESPIRATORY | | |
| Dyspnea | 5 | 3 |
| SKIN | | |
| Rash | 17 | 15 |
| SPECIAL SENSES | | |
| Taste Perversion | 5 | 8 |

* The currently recommended dose is 500 to 600 mg daily.

All events of a severe or life-threatening nature were monitored for adults in the placebo-controlled studies in early HIV disease and asymptomatic HIV infection. Data concerning the occurrence of additional signs or symptoms were also collected. No distinction was made in reporting events between those possibly associated with the administration of the study medication and those due to the underlying disease. The following tables summarize all those events reported at a statistically significant greater incidence for patients receiving RETROVIR in these studies:

| Adverse Event | RETROVIR 1200 mg/day* (n=361) % | Placebo (n=352) % |
|-------------------------|---------------------------------|-------------------|
| BODY AS A WHOLE | | |
| Asthenia | 69 | 62 |
| GASTROINTESTINAL | | |
| Dyspepsia | 6 | 1 |
| Nausea | 61 | 41 |
| Vomiting | 25 | 13 |

* The currently recommended dose is 500 to 600 mg daily.

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Table 4
Percentage (%) of Patients with Adverse Events* in Asymptomatic HIV Infection (ACTG 019)

| Adverse Event | RETROVIR 500 mg/day* (n=453) % | Placebo (n=428) % |
|-------------------------|--------------------------------|-------------------|
| BODY AS A WHOLE | | |
| Asthenia | 8.6 ^b | 5.8 |
| Headache | 62.5 | 52.6 |
| Malaise | 53.2 | 44.9 |
| GASTROINTESTINAL | | |
| Anorexia | 20.1 | 10.5 |
| Constipation | 6.4 ^b | 3.5 |
| Nausea | 51.4 | 29.9 |
| Vomiting | 17.2 | 9.8 |
| NERVOUS | | |
| Dizziness | 17.9 ^b | 15.2 |

* Reported in ≥5% of study population.

^b Not statistically significant versus placebo.

Several serious adverse events have been reported with the use of RETROVIR in clinical practice. Myopathy and myositis with pathological changes, similar to that produced by HIV disease, have been associated with prolonged use of RETROVIR. Reports of hepatomegaly with steatosis, hepatitis, pancreatitis, lactic acidosis, sensitization reactions (including anaphylaxis in one patient), hyperbilirubinemia, vasculitis, and seizures have been rare. These adverse events, except for sensitization, have also been associated with HIV disease. A single case of macular edema has been reported with the use of RETROVIR.

Additional adverse events reported in clinical trials at a rate not significantly different from placebo are listed below. Selected events from post-marketing clinical experience with RETROVIR are also included. Many of these events may also occur as part of HIV disease. The clinical significance of the association between treatment with RETROVIR and these events is unknown.

Body as a Whole: abdominal pain, back pain, body odor, chest pain, chills, edema of the lip, fever, flu syndrome, hyperalgesia.

Cardiovascular: syncope, vasodilation.

Gastrointestinal: bleeding gums, constipation, diarrhea, dysphagia, edema of the tongue, eructation, flatulence, mouth ulcer, rectal hemorrhage.

Hemic and Lymphatic: lymphadenopathy.

Musculoskeletal: arthralgia, muscle spasm, tremor, twitch.

Nervous: anxiety, confusion, depression, dizziness, emotional lability, loss of mental acuity, nervousness, paresthesia, somnolence, vertigo.

Respiratory: cough, dyspnea, epistaxis, hoarseness, pharyngitis, rhinitis, sinusitis.

Skin: acne, changes in skin and nail pigmentation, pruritus, rash, sweat, urticaria.

Special senses: amblyopia, hearing loss, photophobia, taste perversion.

Urogenital: dysuria, polyuria, urinary frequency, urinary hesitancy.

Pediatrics: Anemia and granulocytopenia among children with advanced HIV disease receiving RETROVIR occurred with similar incidence to that reported for adults with AIDS or advanced ARC (see above). Management of neutropenia and anemia included, in some cases, dose modification and/or blood product transfusions. In the open-label studies, 17% had their dose modified (generally a reduction in dose by 30%) due to anemia and 25% had their dose modified (temporary discontinuation or dose reduction by 30%) for neutropenia. Four children had RETROVIR permanently discontinued for neutropenia. The following table summarizes the occurrence of anemia (Hgb <7.5 g/dL) and granulocytopenia (<750 cells/mm³) among 124 children receiving RETROVIR for a mean of 267 days (range 3 to 855 days):

| Advanced Pediatric HIV Disease (n=124) | Granulocytopenia (<750 cells/mm ³) | | Anemia (Hgb <7.5 g/dL) | |
|--|--|----|------------------------|----|
| | n | % | n | % |
| | 48 | 39 | 28* | 23 |

* Twenty-two children received one or more transfusions due to a decline in hemoglobin to <7.5 g/dL; an additional 15 children were transfused for hemoglobin levels >7.5 g/dL. Fifty-nine percent of the patients transfused had a pre-study history of anemia or transfusion requirement.

Macrocytosis was observed among the majority of children enrolled in the studies.

In the open-label studies involving 124 children, 16 clinical adverse events were reported by 24 children. No event was reported by more than 5.6% of the study populations. Due to the open-label design of the studies, it was difficult to determine possible events related to the use of RETROVIR versus disease-related events. Therefore, all clinical events reported as associated with therapy with RETROVIR or of unknown relationship to therapy with RETROVIR are presented in the following table:

| Adverse Event | n | % |
|---------------------------|---|-----|
| BODY AS A WHOLE | | |
| Fever | 4 | 3.2 |
| Phlebitis*/Bacteremia | 2 | 1.6 |
| Headache | 2 | 1.6 |
| GASTROINTESTINAL | | |
| Nausea | 1 | 0.8 |
| Vomiting | 6 | 4.8 |
| Abdominal Pain | 4 | 3.2 |
| Diarrhea | 1 | 0.8 |
| Weight Loss | 1 | 0.8 |
| NERVOUS | | |
| Insomnia | 3 | 2.4 |
| Nervousness/Irritability | 2 | 1.6 |
| Decreased Reflexes | 7 | 5.6 |
| Seizure | 1 | 0.8 |
| CARDIOVASCULAR | | |
| Left Ventricular Dilation | 1 | 0.8 |
| Phlebitis*/Bacteremia | 1 | 0.8 |
| Cardiomyopathy | 1 | 0.8 |
| S ₃ Gallop | 1 | 0.8 |
| Congestive Heart Failure | 1 | 0.8 |
| Generalized Edema | 1 | 0.8 |
| ECG Abnormality | 3 | 2.4 |
| UROGENITAL | | |
| Hematuria/Viral Cystitis | 1 | 0.8 |

* Peripheral vein IV catheter site.

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The clinical adverse events reported among adult recipients of RETROVIR may also occur in children.

Use for the Prevention of Maternal-Fetal Transmission of HIV: In a randomized, double-blind, placebo-controlled trial in HIV-infected women and their infants conducted to determine the utility of RETROVIR for the prevention of maternal-fetal HIV transmission, RETROVIR Syrup at 2 mg/kg was administered every 6 hours for 6 weeks to infants beginning within 12 hours after birth. The most commonly reported adverse experiences were anemia (hemoglobin <9.0 g/dL) and neutropenia (<1000 cells/mm³). Anemia occurred in 22% of the infants who received RETROVIR and in 12% of the infants who received placebo. The mean difference in hemoglobin values was less than 1.0 g/dL for infants receiving RETROVIR compared to infants receiving placebo. No infants with anemia required transfusion and all hemoglobin values spontaneously returned to normal within 6 weeks after completion of therapy with RETROVIR. Neutropenia was reported with similar frequency in the group that received RETROVIR (21%) and in the group that received placebo (27%). The long-term consequences of *in utero* and infant exposure to RETROVIR are unknown.

Combination Therapy with RETROVIR and Zalcitabine: The safety profile of combination therapy with RETROVIR and zalcitabine reflects the individual safety profile of each component. The complete prescribing information for zalcitabine should be consulted before combination therapy with RETROVIR and zalcitabine is initiated.

OVERDOSAGE: Cases of acute overdoses in both children and adults have been reported with doses up to 50 grams. None were fatal. The only consistent finding in these cases of overdose was spontaneous or induced nausea and vomiting. Hematologic changes were transient and not severe. Some patients experienced nonspecific CNS symptoms such as headache, dizziness, drowsiness, lethargy, and confusion. One report of a grand mal seizure possibly attributable to RETROVIR occurred in a 35-year-old male 3 hours after ingesting 36 grams of RETROVIR. No other cause could be identified. All patients recovered without permanent sequelae. Hemodialysis and peritoneal dialysis appear to have a negligible effect on the removal of zidovudine while elimination of its primary metabolite, GZDV, is enhanced.

DOSAGE AND ADMINISTRATION:

Monotherapy, Adults: For adults with symptomatic HIV infection, including AIDS, the recommended oral dose is 100 mg (one 100 mg capsule or 2 teaspoonsful [10 mL] syrup) every 4 hours (600 mg total daily dose). The effectiveness of this dose compared to higher dosing regimens in improving the neurologic dysfunction associated with HIV disease is unknown. A small randomized study found a greater effect of higher doses of RETROVIR on improvement of neurological symptoms in patients with pre-existing neurological disease.

For asymptomatic HIV infection, the recommended dose for adults is 100 mg administered orally every 4 hours while awake (500 mg/day).

Pediatrics: The recommended dose in children 3 months to 12 years of age is 180 mg/m² every 6 hours (720 mg/m² per day), not to exceed 200 mg every 6 hours.

Maternal-Fetal HIV Transmission: The recommended dosing regimen for administration to pregnant women (>14 weeks of pregnancy) and their newborn infants is:

Maternal Dosing: 100 mg orally five times per day until the start of labor. During labor and delivery, intravenous RETROVIR should be administered at 2 mg/kg (total body weight) over 1 hour followed by a continuous intravenous infusion of 1 mg/kg/h (total body weight) until clamping of the umbilical cord.

Infant Dosing: 2 mg/kg orally every 6 hours starting within 12 hours after birth and continuing through 6 weeks of age. Infants unable to receive oral dosing may be administered RETROVIR intravenously at 15 mg/kg, infused over 30 minutes, every 6 hours. (See PRECAUTIONS if hepatic disease or renal insufficiency is present.)

Combination Therapy with RETROVIR and Zalcitabine: The recommended dosage regimen consists of RETROVIR 200 mg taken orally with zalcitabine 0.75 mg every 8 hours.

Monitoring of Patients: Hematologic toxicities appear to be related to pretreatment bone marrow reserve and to dose and duration of therapy. In patients with poor bone marrow reserve, particularly in patients with advanced symptomatic HIV disease, frequent monitoring of hematologic indices is recommended to detect serious anemia or granulocytopenia (see WARNINGS). In patients who experience hematologic toxicity, reduction in hemoglobin may occur as early as 2 to 4 weeks, and granulocytopenia usually occurs after 6 to 8 weeks.

Dose Adjustment: Significant anemia (hemoglobin of <7.5 g/dL or reduction of >25% of baseline) and/or significant granulocytopenia (granulocyte count of <750 cells/mm³ or reduction of >50% from baseline) may require a dose interruption until evidence of marrow recovery is observed (see WARNINGS). For less severe anemia or granulocytopenia, a reduction in daily dose may be adequate. In patients who develop significant anemia, dose modification does not necessarily eliminate the need for transfusion. If marrow recovery occurs following dose modification, gradual increases in dose may be appropriate depending on hematologic indices and patient tolerance.

In end-stage renal disease patients maintained on hemodialysis or peritoneal dialysis, recommended dosing is 100 mg every 6 to 8 hours (see CLINICAL PHARMACOLOGY: Pharmacokinetics section of full prescribing information).

There are insufficient data to recommend dose adjustment of RETROVIR in patients with impaired hepatic function.

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U.S. Patent Nos. 4818538 and 4828838 (Product Patents); 4724232, 4833130, and 4837208 (Use Patents)

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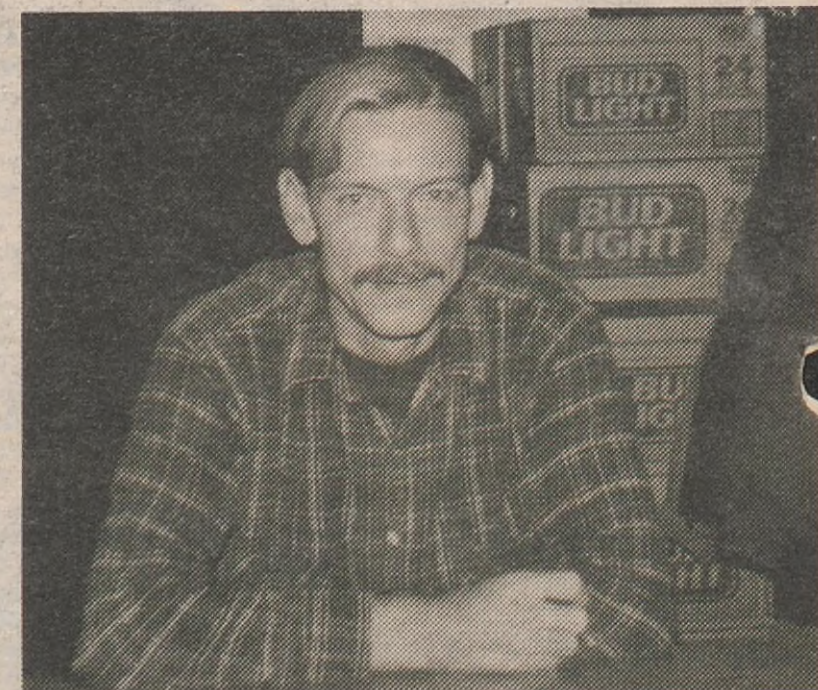
Happy New Year!



Wilma of Mary's gets the bird for Christmas, well 50 of them!



Oh, la la!



Help, they have locked me in the coat closet!

Houston Soap

By CAROLYN ROBERTS

Houston Soap is short this week! With all the parties, I ran out of time!

Friday, Dec. 29

The Boy Toys warm up your weekend tonight at Gentry. The bump starts grinding at 6:00 p.m. and revs all night!

Start your weekend off right with a Cuervo shot at Chances! Well, have a couple, they are only \$2 a shot!

Saturday, Dec. 30

Headlining tonight at the Lazy J, Miss Gina Malone presents Adam-Mr. Club 403, Jerisa, Tricia Blake, and a very special guest! Stop in by 10:30 p.m. for the main event!

Where do hot leathermen gather on Saturday nights? The Ripcord, of course!

This and every Saturday night, the 611 Hyde Park Pub offers hunky male dancers for your pleasure. The dancers start at 9:00 p.m.

Sunday, Dec. 31

Every bar in town will be having a big party, drink specials, buffets, champagne at midnight, or a special show tonight! Some will up their cover charge, some won't. My best advice is to peruse the ads and make your decision on where to party! The phone number for United Cab is 699-0000. Be sure to designate a driver or take a cab. The life you save could be you own! The drunk tank at 61 Riesner Street is not the most festive place to wake up!

If you want dinner and good music tonight, make your reservation

for Kad's Piano Bar and Grille. A 5-course dinner as Clay Howell and Marsha Carlton serenade you is only \$37.50. Kad's number is 529-3870.

Lesbians in Business is holding their annual New Year's Eve party! Call 529-0077 for more info and tickets!

Monday, Jan. 1

Club Houston will be hosting a recovery party this afternoon starting at 3:00 p.m. with complimentary beverages and a buffet! After a long night of partying, a hot tub sure sounds inviting!

The Brazos River Bottom is having a New Year's Day buffet today from 3:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m. It is free!

\$2 Margaritas and \$3.50 Absolut martinis at Gentry help you recover all day and all night!

Martini Madness hits J.R.'s today. This special features \$3.50 martinis all day and all night as well as happy hour from 11:00 a.m. to 10:00 p.m. and 96¢ well vodka juice drinks from noon until 8:00 p.m.

"Left Over and Broke" party hits Heaven tonight. There is no cover with your party pass. Don't miss your chance to get in bed with adult video god Brad Stone and have a photo taken! Heaven offers 75¢ well cocktails from 9:00 p.m. to 11:00 p.m. and \$1.50 Red Wolf longnecks all night long!

The Montrose Mining Company is having a recovery party today starting at 4:00 p.m. featuring 96¢ well vodka juice drinks and a beer bust with a \$2 optional buy-in and 25¢ refills of Miller Lite Draft!

Tuesday, Jan. 2

The Tuesday Super Show at E/J's features the talents of Lana Blake, Vanessa Raye, Kara Dion, and the winner from the Saturday night talent contest. Show time is 11:00 p.m. with that bouncy Catia Lee Love as the MC.

It is Young Executive night at Pacific Street! Show your personalized business card to the doorman and get in free! The doors open at 9:00 p.m.

Wednesday, Jan. 3

The Venture-N offers \$1 longnecks all day and all night! Be sure to check out their hot bartenders as you sip on a cold one!

Spend your hump day happily at Mary's! Happy hour goes on all day and all night!

Thursday, Jan. 4

Stop by Cousin's today! Happy hour starts at 8:00 a.m., yes A.M., and goes until 9:00 p.m. Well cocktails, beer, and wine are only \$2.

Check out the BriarPatch tonight. Be sure to try one their Texas sized martinis!

Other Important Stuff

This is the last week for Larry's Place. 40% off the entire inventory! The store is located at 3917 Main.

This week's features at the French Quarter are "Hot Spring Orgy" and "Alley Beat!"

Switch in Galveston is expanding and remodeling! Stop in and check it out!

Eye Q Optical will pay for your eye exam! Call 529-ISEE for more details!

Birthday Corner

A Happy (Oh, I need Grecian Formula) Birthday to Mark of the Colt 45's!

Rodent Droppings

Several people have asked me if Ratrat and Harvey were going to pick their "Rodent Dropping of the Year," but with so much feces to choose from, they could not decide! Maybe next year! Ratrat and Harvey would like to wish you a happy and prosperous New Year! On with the droppings!

Scott (Charlie's): Do blonds have more fun, or are blonds more fun?

Jerry (Hangs at every bar stool!): I can't believe you had your phone cut off! I thought you had an "in" with Ma Bell!

Big Gary (Ripcord): Why did your hubby get you a new VCR for Christmas? Did you wear out the old one, or did you need an additional viewing screen to help you in the bedroom?

Leon (Mine): Did Santa slide down your chimney or did you slide up his chute?

Jim (LBB): The last time that much leather was left behind, they hung the alligators out to dry!

Bill K. (Mine): Some advice to you: After surgery, put it in water!

Les (Bunny Buns): I'm very glad you got the Taz back!

Tom (Ripcord): I heard you had a nightmare about Taz running out the door! When you woke up you were grabbing "what" under the sheets!

Crystal Ray Lee Love: How many Christmas decorations had to die for your holiday crown?

Kip (PS): Sucked any bottles of Cuervo on a stage lately? You Bar Whore, you!

Jack (PS): I have a message for you: "Hang on to Tony!"

Patty Duke (Hangs everywhere): Keep your paws off the ruby!

Michael (Heaven): Only 2 boy-friends this week! What's wrong?

Charlie D. (Mine): Yes, my nails are flammable!

Andre (Hangs at PS): What a dancin' fool you are!

Mark (Bacchus II): How did you get Russia on the phone when you were trying to call Oprah?

JT (PS): Mama needs a new pair of shoes! More like Debbie needs a new pair of pumps!

Chris (Mine): Is it true your bedroom has a revolving door and a ticket booth?

Greg Killips: So, you wanna be a dick dancer?

Cousin It (Hangs at the Ripcord): What was that written about you on the wall in the Ripcord's restroom? Is it true?

Norm (Colt 45's): So, you thought you could go a whole year without being in rodent droppings! Well, scoop this, baby!

Is it true that Randy and Adam (Club 403) are going to wear the T-backs that are hanging in the window of My Sister's Closet?

Have a safe and prosperous new year!

Cuervolyn



I'll keep your jacket for you!



Smiling faces behind the bar at the Mine!



THE CLUB HOUSTON

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December 31st * 11:00 pm

New Year's Eve Party

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Complimentary
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Buffet & Beverages

* Door Prizes * Giveaways *

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Gay Market Muscle

6.2 times more likely to buy 10-15 hard cover books per year.

10-12 times more likely to buy 13 or more compact discs per year.

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5.5 times more likely to have travelled to Europe in the past 3 years


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According to the Simmons Market Research Bureau, our 600,000 Gay and Lesbian readers earn an annual average income of \$41,300; a 24 billion dollar market. Advertising in mainstream media is not enough to reach this loyal consumer group. Simmons discovered that 91.8% of our readers are likely to purchase a product or service advertised in our publications. For greater impact, target this dream market directly by advertising in the National Gay Newspaper Guild.

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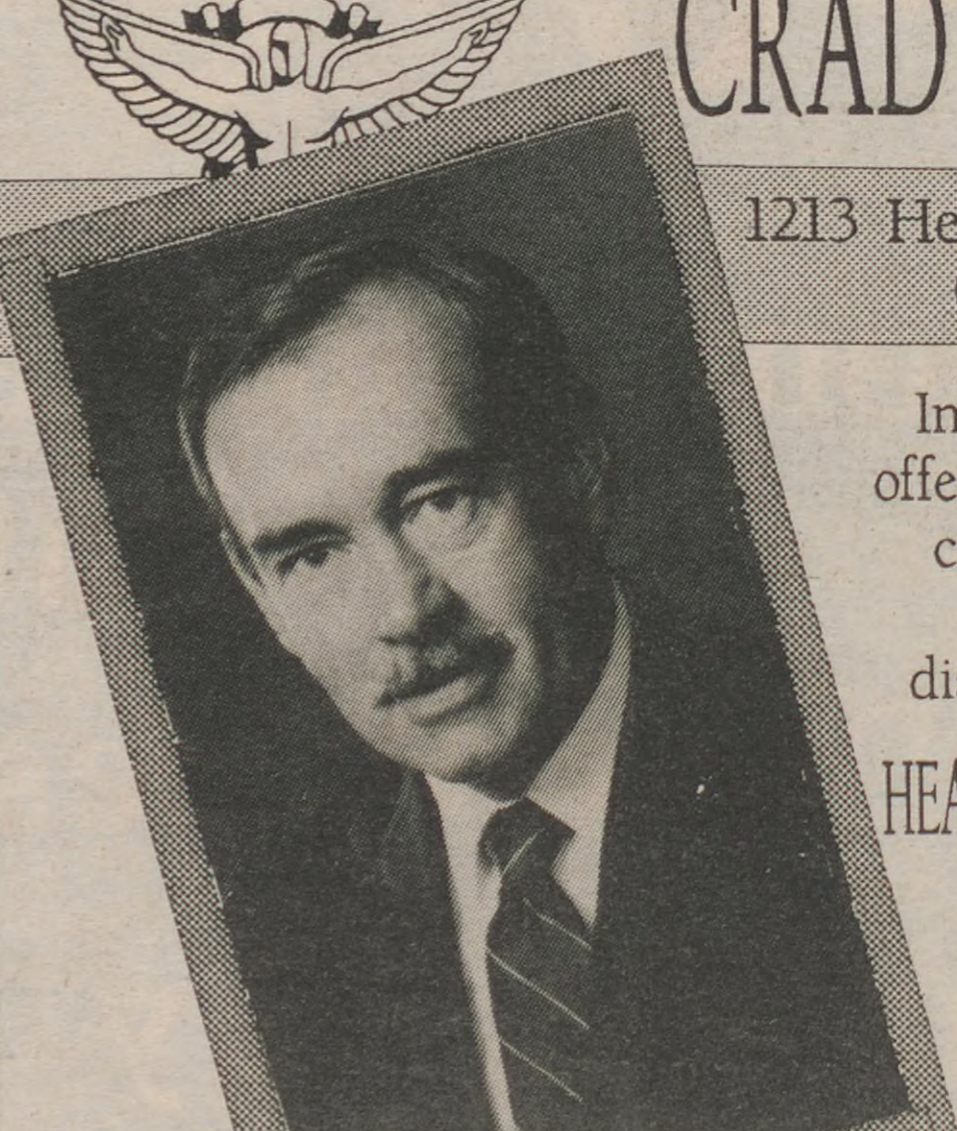
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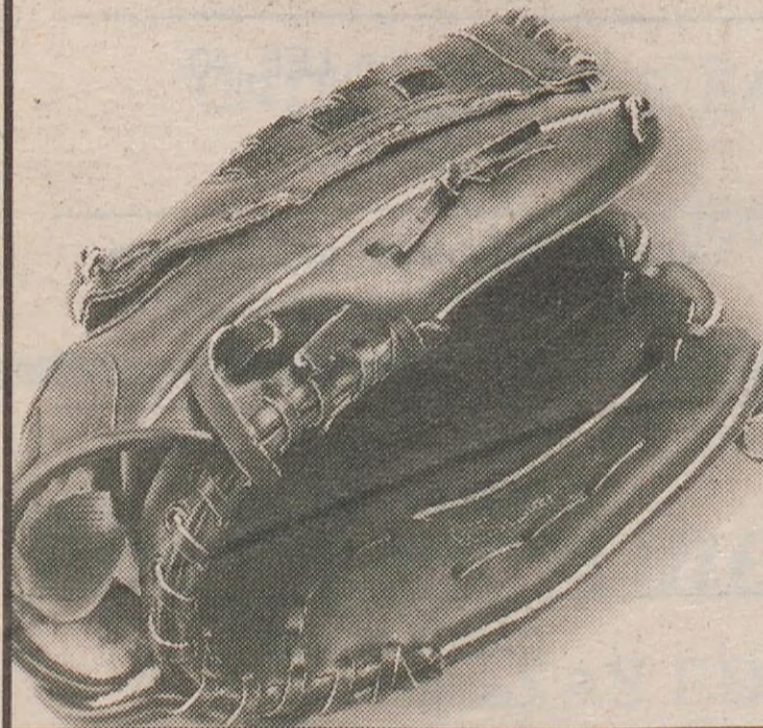
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*No purchase necessary. To enter, send hand printed name, telephone number (including area code) and address on a 3" x 5" card to: IMG Manline Mardi Gras Madness, 181 Carlaw Avenue, Toronto, ON M4M 2S1 Canada. All entries must be received by IMG no later than January 31, 1996 Void where prohibited by law.

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INCOGNITO The Club is now accepting applications for doorman, barback and bartenders. Please call for an appointment. (713) 237-9431

The **VENTURE-N** is looking for bartenders and doormen. Applications accepted daily from 2 p.m. - 4 p.m. at 2923 Main St. No phone calls, please.

Take a chance! **CHANCES** is looking for bartenders, barback & waitstaff. Call 523-7217 after 2pm. Ask for Marlene.

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

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

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

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Now that the holidays are soon to be over, here comes the clean up. For professional house and yard work call Ray (713) 846-3339. (pgr)

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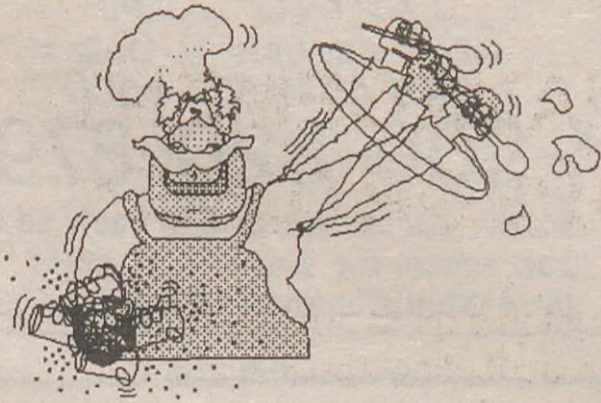
on
NEW YEAR'S DAY
NOON to MIDNIGHT
(to recuperate)

RECIPES BY KUNTRY KIDD

Hey y'all! Once again we are about to close another year, so I thought I would give you my Bloody Mary recipe I have been using since 1979. The recipe was given to me by one of the Montrose Mining Company's bartenders, Don Walley. Unfortunately he is no longer with us, but he did turn me on to one of the best Bloody Marys I have ever drank. One of the best? Nah!! It is undoubtedly the best I've had. Thank you Don! So for any of you that knew Don, like who didn't, make the mix and give a toast to him over the holidays. He was always available to help out for a worthy cause.

Bloody Mary Mix (1 Gallon)

- 2 46-oz. cans tomato juice (I use V-8)
- 1 can beef bouillon
- 1 5-oz. bottle A-1 Steak Sauce (1/2 bottle)
- 1 5-oz. bottle Worcestershire sauce (1/2 bottle)
- 1/2 bottle small ketchup
- 2 Tbs. celery salt
- 1 Tbs. salt
- 1 Tbs. pepper



Isn't that easy? For those of you that think you are real "butch" and that the ingredients won't have much kick, try it before adding anything. The mix really is plenty hot!

Make the mix a couple days prior to consuming if possible. If you want it the same day, mix ingredients, bring to a boil, and then let cool.

Y'all have a great new year, and be careful and play safe!!!

UNTIL NEXT WE EAT!

KUNTRY KIDD



The Great American Puzzle

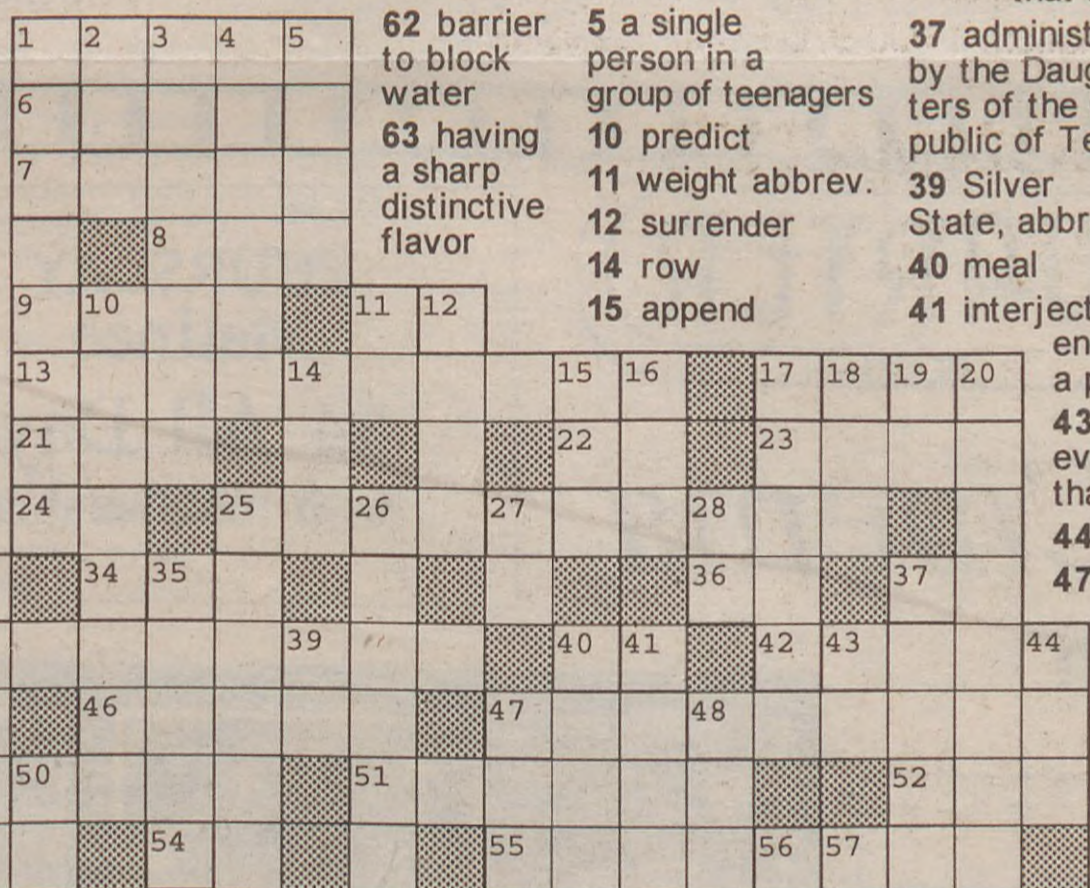
TEXAS EDITION

By Henry McClurg

ACROSS

- 1 not a planet, not an asteroid
- 6 rub out
- 7 British coin
- 8 put on clothes
- 9 from a great distance
- 11 British WWII leader Churchill, ini-

- 13 official name for the Texas lottery, 2 words
- 17 cut by repeated blows
- 21 anger
- 22 Princess of Wales
- 23 Texas county with Memphis as seat; also TV host Monty
- 24 abbrev. for chemical engineer or common era
- 25 state motto of Texas
- 29 devour liquid
- 34 auto
- 36 exists
- 37 a human blood type
- 38 Texas river running near Cleveland & Conroe, 2 words
- 40 symbol for chemical element



- 42 coat-
ed with petroleum
- 45 5th and 3rd consonants of the alphabet
- 46 short for Stephen
- 47 San Antonio hosted this in '68 to celebrate 250th birthday
- 49 Sam, twice served as president of the Republic of Texas
- 51 open again
- 52 have permission
- 53 15th century English ruling house
- 54 rural street, abbrev.
- 55 nerve cell mass
- 58 direction Bryan to Texarkana, abbrev.
- 59 many male deer
- 61 20th century American poet 'cumings,' initials

- 62 barrier to block water
- 63 having a sharp distinctive flavor

- 65 drink made from cured leaves
- 67 Don't cuss, call ???, he'll cuss for both of us
- 68 to make angry
- 70 Roman numeral 701
- 71 airport designator for Austin's main field

- 5 a single person in a group of teenagers
- 10 predict
- 11 weight abbrev.
- 12 surrender
- 14 row
- 15 append

- 18 chance
- 19 a version of 'ole'
- 20 ordinary
- 25 good acquaintance
- 26 type of highway in Texas that is 3000 miles
- 27 slang for no
- 28 Aloha State, abbrev.
- 30 underwriter abbrev.
- 31 2 or more of the last letter of the alphabet

- 37 administered by the Daughters of the Republic of Texas
- 39 Silver State, abbrev.
- 40 meal
- 41 interjection at end of a prayer
- 43 in the event that
- 44 arid
- 47

- 16 female kin
- 17 mountain range in Big Bend
- James, first native Texan to be elected governor
- 48 naive young woman
- 49 abbrev. for henry, a unit of electrical inductance
- 50 Canadian province with capital Regina, abbrev.
- 56 animal limbs
- 57 arctic
- 59 Coyote State, abbrev.
- 60 adds to
- 64 they have the first publicly supported school of higher learning in Texas
- 66 part of a circle
- 69 type of electric current, abbrev. Solution elsewhere this issue c.1995 GULF FEATURES, PUZZLE TX158

- 32 shallow pond near a larger body of water
- 33 tolerate
- 35 one that acts



GALAXY GAYZER

A HOUSTON VOICE EXCLUSIVE

HOROSCOPE FOR THE WEEK OF DEC. 29 1995 - JAN. 4, 1996



IF THIS WEEK IS YOUR BIRTHDAY: To make your relationships better, avoid pettiness in all its forms when interacting with those close to you. Make sure all communications are crystal clear to avoid blowups and confusion. Take note of any exceptional dreams and try to analyze anything symbolic. Interweave practicality with philosophy.

ARIES (March 21-April 20) Learn to recognize when you are finished with a particular venture and move on... resolve to try and do better next time. Plan a family event where everyone participates, your efforts will be appreciated by all. Taking time for yourself this week will be important.

TAURUS (April 21 - May 21) Love is overflowing. Either a current mate will rekindle your flame, or you may be introduced to a new and exciting love. Whichever occurs, you are now essentially in a new relationship - for the rules have changed. A positive attitude will lift your spirits.

GEMINI (May 22 - June 21) Opportunities abound for you. If the attitudes of those around you are holding you back, it's time to be a little bit more self-centered in order to move yourself closer to your goals. A new financial circumstance is very likely to present itself soon.

CANCER (June 22 - July 23) Don't try so hard to keep everyone in your small circle happy. Any attempts to patch up an old relationship which is on the rocks will be met with frustration. Work may be a welcome relief from the worries you can't seem to leave behind. Use your tact and charm.

LEO (July 24- August 23) It's time to act on the plan you have been formulating for improving your surroundings at home. Money will be tight, but cutting corners in other areas will make the project possible. You and your lifemate are on the exact same track.

VIRGO (August 24 - September 23) Life is not without flaws, and the sooner you convince the perfectionist attitude in yourself, the happier you are going to be. There are some situations which will always be changing, and never perfect. Keep track of the difference between truth and illusion.

LIBRA (September 24 - October 23) Your plans may go completely awry this week. Make the best of the situation and some good may come of it. Something very promising may come from a missed opportunity. It's hard for you to show your feelings, since they've been hurt so many times.

SCORPIO (October 24 - November 22) Your hard work may not be noticed by others during the week. Make sure to satisfy yourself first, for you will never be able to count on others for your happiness. Be cautious about spending too much money. Try not to make hasty choices until you've thought further.

SAGITTARIUS (November 23 - December 21) Get help with money matters - possibly bank statements and transactions. Your financial footing may be much more stable than even you expected. Investigate all financial tips before taking any actions. If it seems too good to be true, it probably is.

CAPRICORN (December 22 - January 20) Learn from a friend this week - sometimes spontaneity is the best course of action. Don't be so quick to judge others, you truly do not know what motivates and influences others to do what they do. Take on the leadership role where money is concerned and use a firm hand.

AQUARIUS (January 21 - February 19) Pay attention to your intuition, particularly where love and romance is concerned. You may feel yourself being drawn into a very unusual relationship, but one that will keep your interest for many years to come. Focus your energies on diffusing any anxieties you may feel.

PISCES (February 20 - March 20) If you keep your feelings under wrap, it will create emotional upheavals, even though there is an illusion of control. It's OK to share your feelings with someone you care for. The feminine side of your nature is strongly present and it may make you feel a bit uncomfortable.

Personal Instructions

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



SAFE. SIMPLE. DISCREET.

Live Your Fantasies!

1-800-PRO-MALE
 \$1.25/min. Discreetly billed to your VISA/MasterCard as TeleNet 6253.

1-900-999-8500
 \$2.49/min. Discreetly billed to your phone as Voice Mail. Must be 18+.

CONNECT WITH HOUSTON
MAN TO MAN!

LOCAL HOUSTON TALK LINE
 2 Hours for \$4
 make friends or relationships
FREE Voice Mail Boxes
 713-778-6689

\$50 monthly subscriptions
 (Visa, MC, Checks or M.O.)
FREE subscription line
 713-778-6666

NOW On-Line in Dallas
 BBS (214) 653-2000
1-900-820-8799

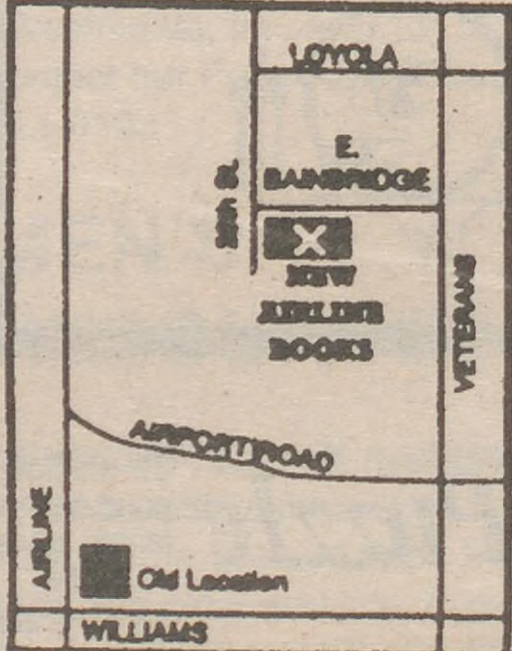
\$4 the 1st minute & 65¢ each addl.
 2hr. access for 1 min. cost press "8"
 18+ • MultiChannel • (214) 761-6066

Looking good?

Are you model material?
 Have studio/lab, will photograph & process.
 Result: Professional slides.
 (Suitable for submission to national publications.)
 (713) 529-2325



★ **Airline** ★
Adult Books



1404 26th St.
 Kenner, Louisiana
 Just around the corner

CALL:
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FRENCH QUARTER
 (713) 527-0782 3201 LOUISIANA HOUSTON

All Male Cinema
 presents

MIDNIGHT MATINEE SPECIAL
 Sunday thru Thursday
 Midnight til Closing
 Admission \$4 with membership


THURSDAY Matinee
 \$4 All Day with membership

catalina video presents
Hot Springs Orgy



HOT SPRINGS ORGY
and
ALLEY BEAT

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



STARRING: STEVE RAMBO SAM BARSON RICK DRAKE MAX GRANDE
 JOHN SEXTON ROD MAJORS CHAZ CARLTON ANTHONY DILLEN
 DINO PHILLIPS PATRICK IVES WAYNE MONTGOMERY
 DIRECTED BY: JOSH ELIOT and CHI CHI LARUE
 MODELS: RICK DRAKE, SAM BARSON, MAX GRANDE, ANTHONY DILLEN, PHILLIPS, DINO PHILLIPS

Houston VOICE Personals

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

LOOKING FOR THAT SPECIAL PERSON

GWF, early 30's, non-smoker, looking for GWF, 30-45. I enjoy movies, intimate dinners & the outdoors. Ad 25730

PARENTING, ANYONE?

Sincere, mature, responsible, stable, attractive, professional GWM desires to be apart of the parenting process. Lesbian couple, or lesbian single preferred to participate in one of life's greatest treasures. Joint-custody or custody to the couple with visitation for male frequently. With so much to give to a child, why waste it when gay couples and singles have proven that we are unbeatable as parents with more depth and love to give. Ad 25723

ABANDONED EXPECTING FEMALE SEEKS LIFE PARTNER

I am an attractive, feminine, 25 y.o., GWF w/long hair I am 4 months pregnant, 5'7", normal weight of 135#. Taking time off from erotic dancing and college to have baby. I am ready for a long term love. Prefer mail responses w/ photo. Ad 25738

GENTLE LEATHER "DAD", SEEKS NOVICE "BOY"

Attractive GWM physician, 35, 5'10", 160, new in town, seeks boy 18-24 with interest in light S/M, B/D. Very understanding and patient. If you ever thought of getting into "leather" with a gentle but firm master, give me a call. Ad 25744

PARENTING IS A WONDERFUL EXPERIENCE

In search of a GWF, single or couple, to fulfill one of life's greatest enjoyments, having a baby. I'm a GWM, 38, 5'8", in very good health, college degree professional, who is considered good looking, mature, responsible and very sincere. I'm flexible pertaining to support, visitation and custody and am willing to discuss wide arrangement both during and after birth. Let's face it. Gay people make great parents and offer more love and support than many straight couples. Ad 25747

POSITIVE MIND, BODY & SOUL

Extremely handsome Gay Latin Male, 34, 5'6", 165#, bk/brw, mustache is currently seeking special friend. Me: Financially stable, very healthy, swimmers build, smooth body, versatile bottom, romantic, honest, passionate with high pos. attitude & self esteem, easy going man with great sense of humor & sensitivity. You: GWM 28-45, 5'8" plus, HWP, good looking, financially stable & healthy versatile top. If you've been searching for a man above average, with similar values & sincerity, here's your chance! No feds or druggies. Letters preferred, photo requested. Ad 25748

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

LOOKING FOR MASCULINE MALES

I'm a W.M., single, clean cut, 59 y.o., 205 lbs. I'm a loving, caring, trusting, person. My interests are movies, good food & cozy home life. I'm looking for single W.M., that's masculine, clean cut, loving, caring, trusting, 30-50, for friendships & long term relationships. If interested contact me so we can meet and get to know each other. No dope/smoking/alcohol. Prefer mail responses. Ad 25725

SWEET AND SPICY LOOKING FOR YOU!

SBF seeking healthy happy woman. I am looking for a loving friendship. Enjoy dancing, candle-light, music, laughing and a Southern Lady. Put a little spice in your life! I do want truth in all correspondence. Ad 25731

SOUL/LIFE MATE WANTED

GWM, 51, 5'10", 205 lbs. stocky weightlifter, HIV-, professional demeanor, active Christian, conservative straight lifestyle, seeks brawny, bear, linebacker, beefy hunk/chunk with similar attributes. Physically challenged encouraged to reply. Thanks! Ad 25727

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

TWICE THE FUN!

Two good looking masculine guys, 25 & 30, interested in meeting business professional (25-45) for occasional hot, safe, discreet fun. Must be successful, masculine and in shape. Prefer mail responses, letter/photo. Ad 25721

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.

SEARCHING FOR KEN!

Met you in Club Dallas Texas O-U weekend. Cannot get you off of my mind. You expressed interest in seeing each other again. Call & leave a message. Bruce. Ad 25728

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

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

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 me! HWP & DDF. Ad 25702

EAT WELL

Cute Asian chef, educated, 25, 5'7", 130#, desires hamburger, tortilla, or egg rolls in my cooking pot with cooking time up to 40. Likes cooking, movies, and wild dessert for two. Will eat more if one has the right ingredients and well-flavored. Would you mold my dough? Mail responses preferred. Ad 25746

HOMEBOY

GWM, 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

CHRISTIAN SEEKS LIFEMATE

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

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

D ... D ...

GWM, 6', 150#, beard, mustache, very healthy HIV+, non-smoker-drinker-drugs, straight appearance seeks same in bottom. For a great time anytime let's get together. Prefer mail responses. Ad 25729

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.

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

GALVESTON: LOOKING FOR SEXUAL BUDDIES

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

FEMALES IN SEARCH OF TROUBLE ...

are searching for you. All female SM/BD/Fetish social group. We might have the answers to your questions. Ad 25736

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

YOUNG FEMINE GWF INTELLIGENT LIFE FORM

of higher caliber with dignified and desirable classy carnal assemblage currently completing education ISO great friends and a stable lover DDF to enjoy and have fun going anywhere but the bars! No more insane children tolerated! Expect the very best! Please write or call if you like healthy, positive people. Ad 25735

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

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

"NOT ONLY ON WEEKENDS"

Single, black, female romantic seeks friend for possible relationship. Seeks woman who is certain of herself, her wants and desires. Interests include: movies, parks, special getaways, moonlit nights. Quality time very important; also hand-holding, good conversation, and a sense of humor. Must be stable, sincere and spiritually motivated. Ad 25740

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

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 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

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

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

Attractive male, 32, 5'9", 145#, sincere professional. Seeking monogamous relationship with someone who is sincere, HWP, non-smoker, and values family life. Interests: museums, traveling, dining out, and quiet conversation. Prefer mail responses. Ad 25722

OPPORTUNITY FOR

GWM (masculine) to meet GWM for mutually satisfying friendship/more. Me: DDF, straightforward, masculine, educated, amorous top. You: HWP, genuine, employed, erotic, versatile, bottom-addiction free! Initiative important. Call/write, let's talk, schedule date for weight training (my home), bicycling, dancing (leather), cuddling, enjoying each other. Serious only! Ad 25694

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 hangups. Photo w/letter for response. Ad 25724

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!

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

LOOKING FOR NEW GOOD MEN

GWM, 43, mature, wise, intelligent, honest, happy, healthy, educated, fit, employed, professional, astrologically Leo, spiritual, political, 5'8", 165, brown/blue, stocky build, smooth, short salt/pepper beard, conversant, serious, cruising for new great men for companionship, dinner, theatre, park walks, happy hours, beach trips, and more. Call now! Ad 25653

SEEK SUBMISSIVE OLDER WHITE MEN

Oriental male looking for submissive older white men. Possible long term. I'm 34, 5'6", 160#, clean, discreet and HIV-, aggressive and demanding. Letters preferred. Phone and photos a plus. Let's fulfill both of our fantasies. Ad 25737

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

WANTED: BOY

For long-term monogamous relationship with "gifted" GWM in early 40s. I am 6', 170#, auburn/hazel, w/ moustache. A true "daddy". I am healthy and HIV-. You should be younger, attractive, masculine and DDF. Letter only w/photo and phone #. Ad 25719

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

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

SNOW SKIER WANTED

GWF seeks GF, 35 to 55. Due to the discriminating nature of the travel industry towards singles, I need someone to do the "Double Occupancy" thing to Santa Fe or Lake Tahoe in February. Can you keep up with me on the slopes? Ad 25734

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

LOOKING FOR DEAN

Met you at the Phoenix in New Orleans Friday, Sept. 29. Lost your number. Gave you my Knights d'Orleans card. Call me collect evens or 5-8 a.m. Got a Nawlins place for you -IN MY HEART Take the chance. Joe. Ad 25743

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

AFFECTIONATE TEDDY BEAR WANTS CUDDLY CUB

GWM, 56, 6'2", 285, big bear, professional, clean cut seeks loving cub for companion, fun, and a devoted monogamous relationship. I want what I am: sincere, loyal, sense of humor, honest, masculine, caring, sensitive, trusting, lots of T.L.C., respect, genuine and unlimited passion. Interests: Movies, art galleries/museums, dining out, quiet evenings at home, and lots of candlelight conversation and sharing. Discreet, NS, and DDF U B 2. If you can relate, please respond. Prefer mail responses. Ad 25745

TURNED-ON BY INDIGENOUS CULTURES

Middle-aged GWM, intelligent, well-endowed, comfortably situated, seeking GM warrior/prince, 2 years, descended from a culture native to the Americas. Photos appreciated; native attire a plus. Iti-bapisilli, ayokpuli, polooma; apaxonado se por, entusiasmada; en amor y compania. Ad 25733

For Instructions See Page 25.



Photos by Rick Brundis

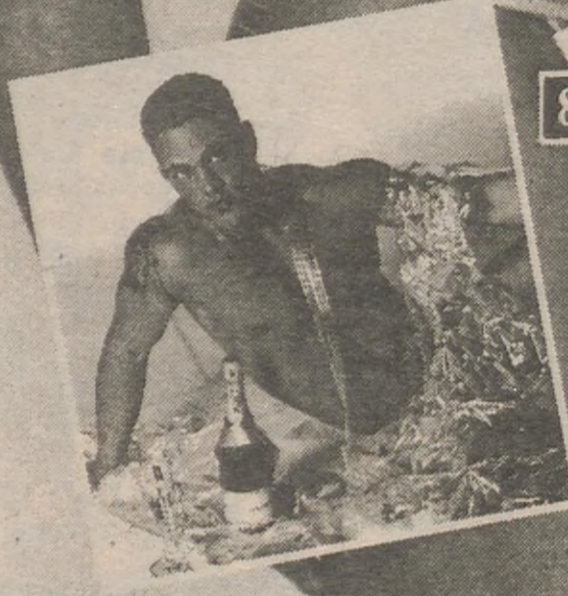
**NEW YEAR'S EVE
SUNDAY, DECEMBER 31ST
HAPPY NEW YEAR!**

Ring In The New Year with
Falcon Video Superstar
BRAD STONE
Dancing Sidestage for
Your Visual Enjoyment

- Everyone Receives a Bottle/Split of Champagne (Over 21 Only)
- 1995's Top 10 Videos at 11pm
- Ring In The New Year Live On Tape from NYC's Times Square
- MOËT French Champagne Available
- Eighteen & Up Welcome
- Major Credit Cards Accepted plus ATM 24 Hour Cash
- Money-Filled Balloon Drop with Cash and Lottery Tickets Inside
- Always Houston's Biggest Selection of Party Favors

HEAVEN

810 PACIFIC ▼ HOUSTON ▼ 713.521.9123



**MONDAY, JANUARY 1ST
NEW YEAR'S DAY
RECOVERY PARTY
LEFT OVER & BROKE**
It was so much fun last year,
we're doing it again.
Pick Up A NO COVER Pass from
Your Favorite Bartender.

**HAPPY NEW YEAR!
SUNDAY, DECEMBER 31ST
Ring in the New Year with Your Friends
at Houston's #1 Video Bar.**

NEVER A COVER!

Traditional
Champagne Toast

1995 Top Ten Video
Countdown on Our
Giant Video Walls

Gorgeous Male Dancers

MOËT French
Champagne Available

Balloon Drop at
Midnight
Filled with Prizes

Hats, Horns, Leis,
Party Favors & More!



with the
HOUSTON
Santa Fe Bar & Patio
804 & 808 Pacific • (713)521-2519

**MONDAY, JANUARY 1ST
NEW YEAR'S DAY RECOVERY PARTY**

Martini Madness

\$3.50 Martinis All Day, All Night

HAPPY HOUR 11am until 10pm

96¢ ALL WELL VODKA JUICE DRINKS

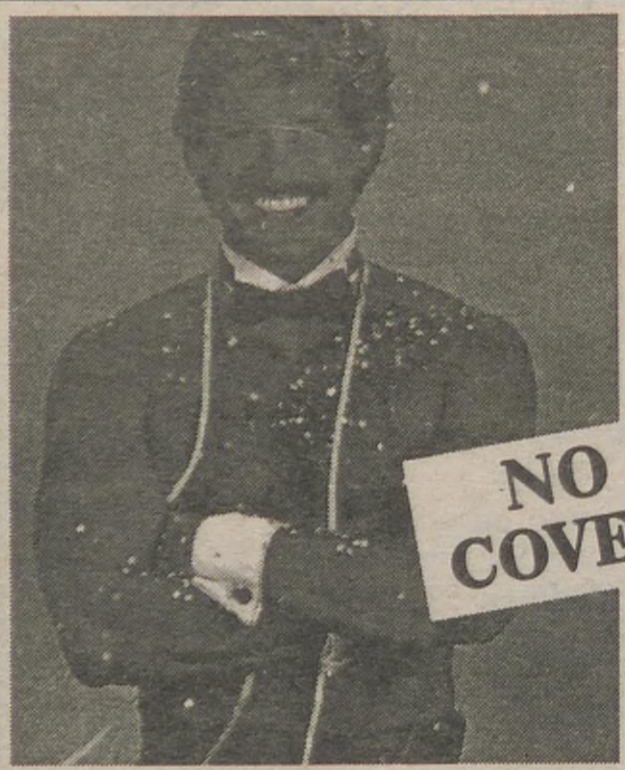
Noon until 8pm

SPEND NEW YEAR'S EVE WEEKEND AT 800 PACIFIC STREET

The Men of the Mine invite you to their

**NEW YEAR'S EVE
BLOWOUT
SUNDAY, DECEMBER 31ST**

Photo © Chippendales. Available at Crossroads Market.



Ring In The
New Year with Your
Friends at Houston's
#1 Cruise Bar

Traditional
Champagne Toast
and Balloon Drop
at Midnight

Horns, Hats, Leis
and Party Favors
for Everyone

**NO
COVER**

"Still The Best Damn Sound in Town"

**MONTROSE
MINING COMPANY**

805 Pacific • Houston • 529-7488

MONDAY • NEW YEAR'S DAY RECOVERY PARTY

96c All Well Vodka Juice Drinks

4pm until 8pm

Texas' Largest Beer Bust • \$2.00 (Optional) Buy-In
25c a Cup Refills • 4pm until 2am

Ring In The New Year With Falcon Video Superstar

**BRAD STONE
2 Nights of Live Performances!**

**NEW YEAR'S EVE
SUNDAY, DECEMBER 31ST**

Adult Video Superstar
BRAD STONE
Go-Go Dancing for
Your Viewing Pleasure
plus Autographs, Photos
and Your Chance to Win
A Brad Stone Video.

**NEW YEAR'S DAY
MONDAY, JANUARY 1ST**

**LEFT
& OVER
& BROKE**

Get in Bed with Video God
BRAD STONE
and Have the Pictures
to Prove It.

11PM SHOW

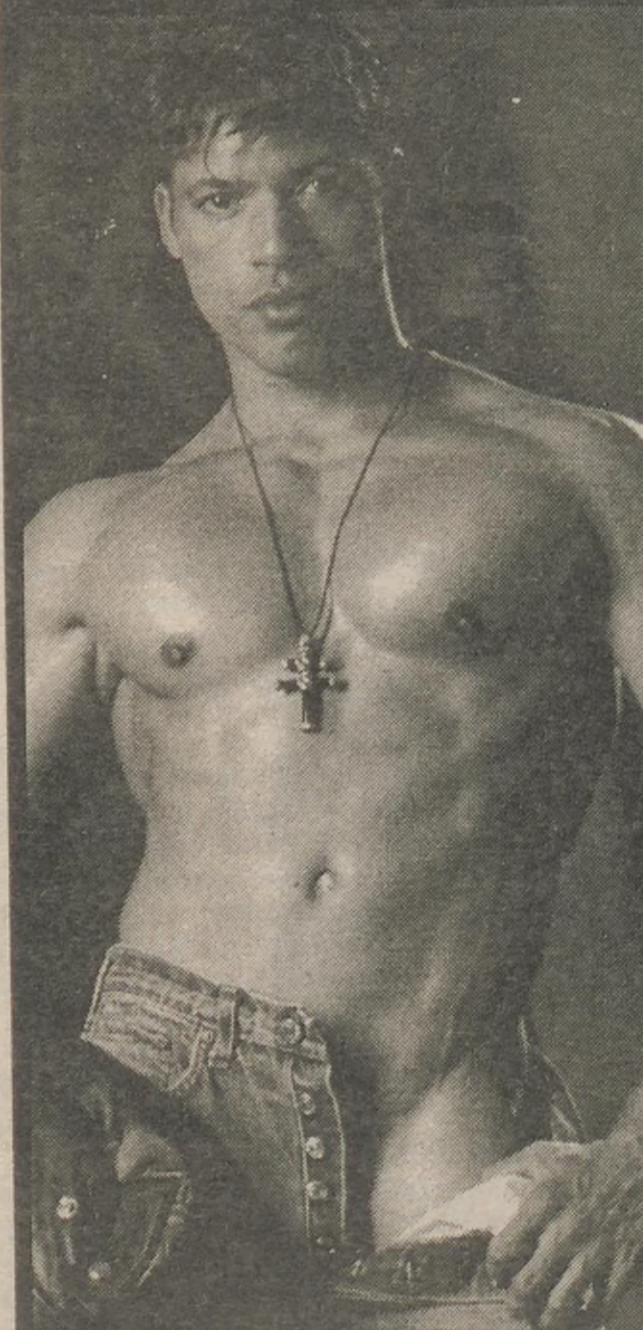
Autograph Party and
Photo Shoot in Bed!

NO COVER
with Your Party Pass

75¢ WELL DRINKS

9pm until 11pm

\$1.50 Red Wolf Longnecks
...All Night Long.



HEAVEN

810 PACIFIC ▼ HOUSTON ▼ 713.521.9123