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The Trocks
Tip into Town
page 17

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Gay cowboy seeks three-peat at Houston Livestock Show

Star of coming-out documentary competes at the highest level on straight rodeo circuit

by STEPHEN R. UNDERWOOD

When the documentary film "American Cowboy" premiered recently before a packed house at Houston's Museum of Fine Arts, it's star Gene Mikulenka had no idea at the time how that event would change his life.

horses.

On top of having that difficult personal and professional crisis documented for all the world to see, the film also was catalyst for this championship professional rodeo cowboy to



Restless and unsure before the evening began, Gene recalled that night as one full of life and love. Family, friends and strangers alike readily connected to this remarkable

Gene Mikulenka in an August '96 rodeo (above) and today, with Sassy

become more fully identified as a member of the gay community.

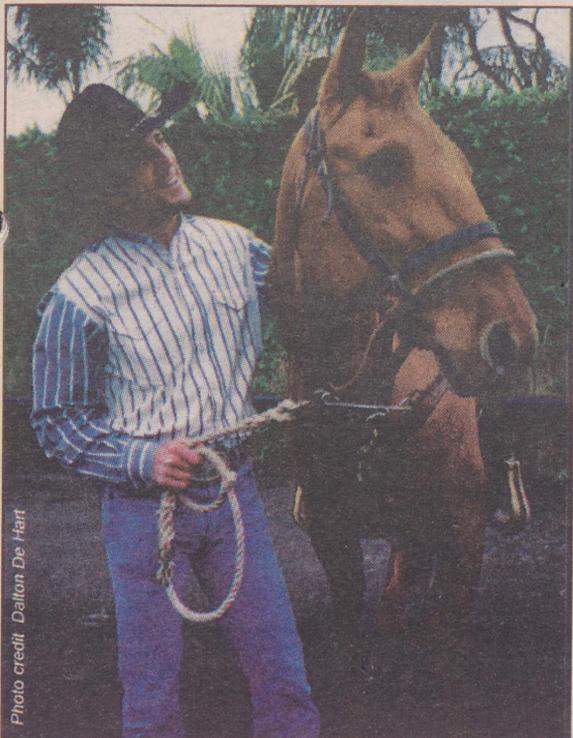
Having kept his orientation a secret all his life, Gene had elected to come out after his mother died. The film, he says, gave him no option but to come completely out—and he feels all the better for it, he says. The process for him has been slow and sometimes painful, but ultimately rewarding in the end. Perhaps, in a sense, Gene Mikulenka has been reborn.

As documented in the film, Gene's ability to rebound from hardship makes remarkable. Gene lost his ace mare Marta and suffered a major leg injury during a bull riding competition. That injury retired him from rough stock competition.

That he also competes and wins at the very top ranks of a demanding professional sport as an openly gay man, makes him all the more remarkable.

Gene has twice won the world

See COWBOY/ page 12



cowboy as they watched on film as his faith, perseverance and determination carried him through one of the hardest parts of his life—a painful injury and the death of one of his prized

Brown signs order

Gay city workers now protected; right wing council protest fizzles

by TERRY MURPHY

HOUSTON—Last week Mayor Lee Brown followed through on his promise to issue an executive order protecting the employment rights of gay and lesbian city workers, and a much-anticipated right-wing protest of the event failed to materialize.

On Monday, Feb. 16, Mayor Brown signed an executive order "prohibiting discrimination or retaliation on the basis of sexual orientation. The policy, effective immediately, applies to all City of Houston activities, including all aspects of employment, economic opportunity, availability of city facilities, the provision of city services and all city interactions with the public," according to a summary provided by the mayor's staff.

"I have issued this order because I truly believe that the city of Houston should not discriminate against anyone," Brown said in a written statement issued along with copies of the signed order. "This is the right thing to do."

Brown's move required no approval by the city council.

Nonetheless, anti-gay talk radio personalities and three Republican city council members had been encouraging anti-gay activists to call

the mayor's office late last week to oppose him signing the order.

The issue gained momentum as a hot item in local public opinion after the *Houston Chronicle* published a front page story Feb. 11. The article was based on a Jan. 16 exclusive in the *Houston Voice*, in which Brown promised to follow through on his campaign promise to gay supporters



Photo credit: Dalton De Hart

"I come before you this afternoon to applaud enthusiastically the executive order..." U.S. Rep. Sheila Jackson Lee told Tuesday's Houston City Council meeting.

regarding the employment non-discrimination executive order.

In response to last week's mounting anti-gay rhetoric from city council and on talk radio, gay activists put out a call to the Houston community to contact the mayor's office with support for the order. The *Voice* reported that effort in a front page story last week that was later cited by a variety of Houston and national media, including reports by CNN, Associated Press and two more stories in the Metropolitan section of the *Chronicle*.

In last week's *Voice* article and See MAYOR/ page 18

Gay leaders 'pause' plans for Millennium March on D.C.

by LISA KEEN and LOU CHIBBARO, JR.

Leaders of several national gay organizations agreed Feb. 12 to put on "pause" plans for the Millennium



HRC's Elizabeth Birch

March on Washington in the year 2000 so that they can discuss concerns around its timing, purpose and message.

During a one-hour conference call Feb. 12 with Elizabeth Birch, executive director of the Human Rights Campaign, leaders of

at least six other national gay organizations shared grievances about the way HRC and the Universal Fellowship of Metropolitan Community Churches announced march plans in a press release Feb. 4.

"We decided a much larger group of gay people will come together to talk about both a national march and a 50-state march," Birch said Feb. 12, explaining the "pause" in march planning. "We will begin that process next week."

Lorri Jean, executive director of the Los Angeles Gay and Lesbian Center and a leader of a group representing gay community centers across the country, said the people on the Feb. 12 conference call

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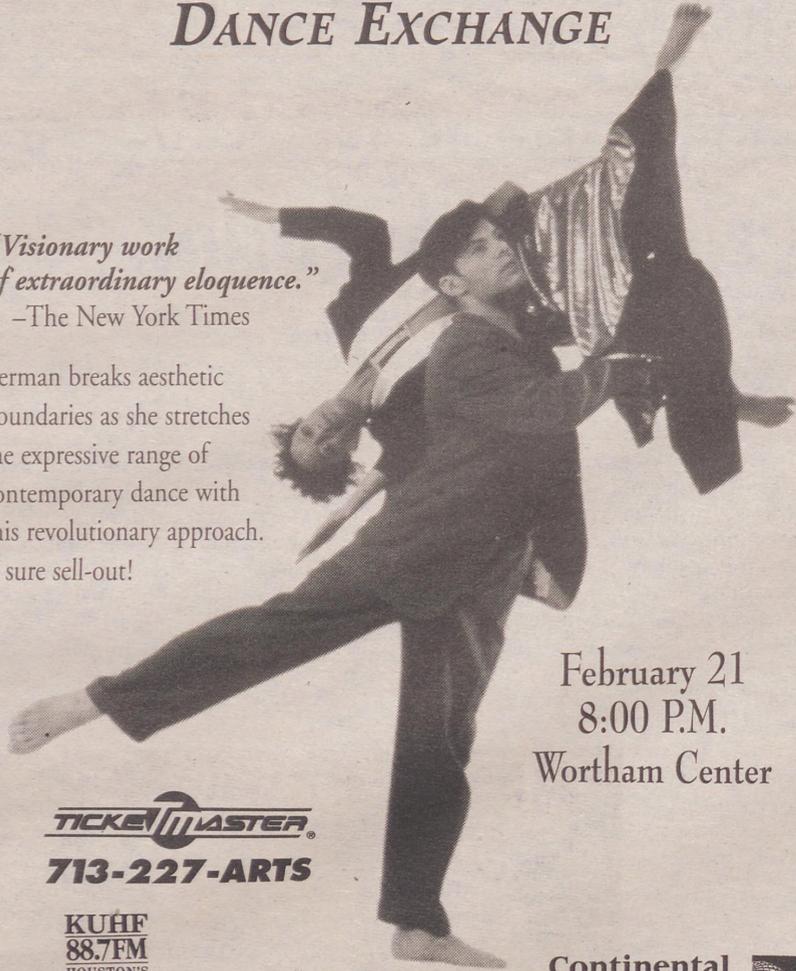
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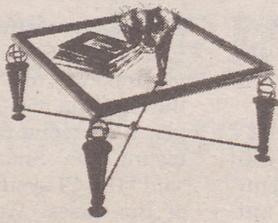
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THEATRE UNDER THE STARS

LOCAL

LOCAL/ from page 3

Fair. She was also in the Board of Directors of the Amigos Volunteers in Education and Services in 1994-1995.

Barbara Winston has been an active member of Parent, Families, Friends of Lesbians and Gays (PFLAG), for more than five years. Barbara was the driving force to get those great PFLAG billboards up here in Houston.

The Texas Gay Rodeo, which will hold its 14th Annual rodeo here in Houston, is approaching the \$2 million mark in charitable donations.

There will be a "How to Build a Float" seminar on March 17. For more information, please call 713/529-6979.

UH professor seeks volunteers for study of causes of homosexuality

The University of Houston Central Campus is conducting research on the complexities of subjective and cultural factors which influence the sexuality of gay men. The study is the post-doctoral project of David Knapp Whittier, Ph.D., a gay man, and he is seeking volunteers from the Houston area to participate.

Dr. Whittier's research is intended to document why gay men are attracted to other men. Another purpose of the study is to examine the emotional factors which drive the attraction. The research data will be extracted from weekly interviews of men's fantasies and the emotional feelings experienced during sexual encounters and masturbation sessions.

"Everyone's desire is in some way different than another person's," Dr. Whittier told the Voice. "Those subjec-

tivities and what it means to each individual and how it fits in hasn't received much attention in the past."

Participants are asked to attend a minimum of three and a maximum of 11 one-hour interviews to discuss their personal sexual fantasies and opinions. The interviews are confidential and the information will be compiled with the intent of understanding sexual scripting.

In addition, the University of Houston Central Campus will host a free lecture by renowned gay sociologist Barry Adams, Ph.D., entitled "Accounting for Unsafe Sex" on Friday, February 20 at the Architecture Theater at 2:30pm. Dr. Adams, a professor at the University of Windsor, will discuss his findings about the sexual habits of gay men in the Toronto area.

Gay men wanting more information about the study can contact Dr. Whittier at (713) 743-9831.

GOP candidates to seek gay support

As many as 10 Republican candidates running in the upcoming primary election are expected to seek gay support at a Log Cabin Republicans of Houston meeting Feb. 23.

"For many of these candidates, it will be the first time they have addressed a gay or gay-friendly audience," said Log Cabin-Houston President Gary Van Ooteghem. "It's a great chance for them to learn about us and for us to learn about them." The group will not issue endorsements, he said.

The meeting, which is open to the public, will begin at 7 p.m., Mon., Feb. 23, at Renata's Restaurant, 2007 Lexington. Call (713) 529-9100 for more information.

HRC dinner raises \$80,000-plus

About 400 gay and lesbian Houstonians gathered for the second annual Human Rights Campaign fund-raising dinner Sat., Feb. 14, and raised more than \$80,000 for the Washington, D.C.-based gay rights organization.

The attendees, resplendent in formal attire, gathered for dinner, speeches, dancing and a silent auction at the Wyndham Warwick Hotel for the 1998 WinterGala. Dinner tickets ranged from \$150 to \$2,000, and many of the costs of the event were underwritten by community members, thus more than doubling the net proceeds from this year affair.

Activist, author, artist and mother of two, Mary Fisher was one keynote speaker. Founder of the Family AIDS Network, she may best be remembered for speaking of her own battle with HIV before the 1992 GOP convention.

HRC's national field director Donna Red Wing also spoke enthusiastically of her mission to build up the grass roots efforts of the gay civil rights movement.

Shell Oil Corp. was given this year's Corporate Equality award in recognition of its recent addition of sexual orientation to its non-discrimination employment policy, and its policy of granting domestic partner health benefits to its gay and lesbian employees.

Clair Koepsel, a tireless volunteer worker in the Houston PWA community, was honored with the Community Service Award for her work at John Sealy Hospital in Galveston and the Thomas Street Medical Clinic in Houston, and her long service as a member of the Houston Gay and Lesbian Political Caucus Board of Trustees, and her service on the Steven's House board, AIDS

Foundation Houston, AIDS Coalition of Coastal Texas and the Thomas Street Clinic Advisory Council.

Houston City Councilmember Chris Bell was given the Political Equality award for his long-standing support of gay and lesbian causes, particularly his courageous public stand in favor granting domestic partner benefits to city employees.



WinterGala co-chairs Shana Ross, left, and Brad Smith.



Community Service honoree Clair Koepsel and Caucus president Clarence Bagby

AUSTIN AREA UPDATE

by STEVE LABINSKI

UT Men's Crew and Row Team Austin Compete for Funds

On Sun., Feb. 22, rowers will be pulling for power and support in a 10-mile rowathon aimed at raising funds for both UT Men's Crew and Row Team Austin. Rowers will prepare for launch starting at 1:30 PM at Austin Rowing Club near the Four Seasons Hotel and will complete their dam-to-dam rows by 5 p.m.

Row Team Austin (RTA) is a group of 40-plus men and women who will be representing Austin in Amsterdam for the Gay Games in August. "Rowing is one of Austin's best kept secrets," says Steve Onken. "I think the size of our team reflects the capacity for Austin to return again to an internationally recognized rowing center. We certainly hope that our presence in Amsterdam will promote that image."

Unlike the UT Women's Crew, which recently gained varsity status, the UT Men's Crew only receives about 10 percent of its funding from the University. Nevertheless, the UT Men compete against fully funded college teams across the nation.

Both teams are seeking per mile pledges to support their efforts. However to make the event more interesting a challenge pool is being

sought. "We're looking for a person or business to put up a sizable sum that will go to the team that brings in the most pledges per rower. That will tweak up the momentum we have going already," says Onken.

To make a pledge or for information about UT Men's Crew call: (512) 474-4721 To make a pledge or for information about RTA call: (512) 708-9303

Events this week:

Club Skirt, a dance party for women, will be on Friday, Feb. 20th, 7PM to Midnight at Fiesta Dardens, 2101 Bergman St. (East of IH-35 on Town Lake). Suggested donation is \$10, and proceeds benefit the Cornerstone Gay & Lesbian Center. For info call 708-1515.

A Seminar For Planning for the Families for Lesbians & Gay Men will be at the Cornerstone Gay & Lesbian Center on Saturday, Feb. 21 from 9AM to 1PM. Learn how to save money on tax returns, legally protect relationships, negotiate and resolve money issues, and jointly qualify for and purchase a home. Registration for singles is \$35, or \$60 for couples. Register by calling (512) 708-1515.

Lesbian/Gay Singles Soiree at the Alamo Drafthouse Cinema, Tuesday, Feb. 24 from 6PM to 9PM at 409 Colorado St., between 4th and 5th Streets. There will be free food, drink specials, and door prizes, plus, a special screening of "Jackie Brown." Admission is \$5. Call (512) 454-5768.



Fire rips through P-Town: Provincetown, Mass., firefighters try to control a fire on Commercial Street Tuesday evening, Feb. 10. A five-alarm fire destroyed two commercial buildings in the heart of this historic seacoast town, causing up to \$5 million in damage. More than 200 firefighters battled the blaze, which broke out at about 6:30 p.m. Tuesday in this town at the tip of Cape Cod and destroyed the Whaler's Wharf building and the three-story Crown and Anchor Motor Inn and nightclub. The cause of the fire was not immediately known, authorities said. (AP Photo/Cape Cod Times, Vincent Guadagno)

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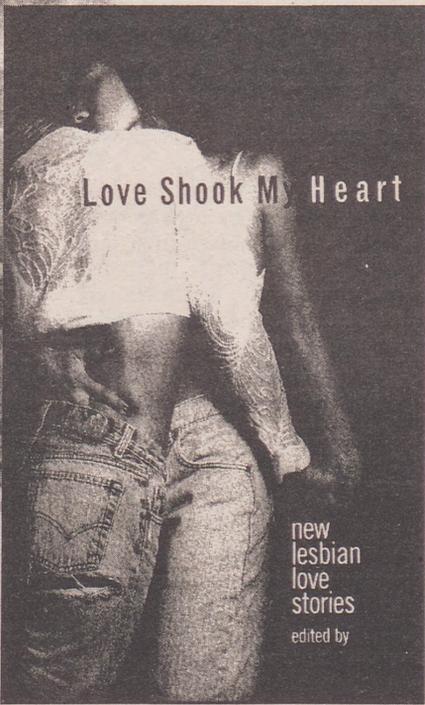
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Maine gay groups analyze their defeat

AUGUSTA, Maine (AP) — Gay-rights activists outspent their opponents 3 to 1, put Maine's popular governor on television to stump for them, and even had a poll saying 62 percent of voters were on their side.

But they still narrowly lost last week's referendum that repealed the state's law protecting homosexuals and lesbians from certain forms of discrimination. What happened is an instructive lesson on the power of grassroots activism and how not to run a campaign, experts say.

"It was always going to be close, and it was going to go to whichever group was able to mobilize their supporters, get their people to the polls," said Oliver Woshinsky, a political science professor at the University of Southern Maine.

The 51-49 percent victory, he says, "is a tribute to the organization-

al talents" of the forces that fought to repeal the law passed last spring by the Legislature and signed with much fanfare by Gov. Angus King.

Those forces largely consisted of conservative Christian groups that focused all their energy on convincing their sympathizers to turn out and vote. Although most of the low-key effort during the storm-shortened campaign was in the rural areas that carried the vote, work also was done marshalling the faithful in urban Cumberland and York counties.

Television ads against the gay rights statute did not start appearing on television until the weekend before the vote, about a week after the other side led by Maine Won't Discriminate had hit the airwaves.

However, despite spending more than \$150,000 on television in the month leading up to the referendum, Maine Won't Discriminate lost what should have been a decisive edge, one expert says.

"They squandered their TV bud-

get," said Bowdoin College professor Christian Potholm, a pollster who worked with the media firm that helped Maine Won't Discriminate during a 1995 referendum against gay rights. The firm was not rehired for this year's battle.

Because the gay rights groups won in 1995, they might have been lulled into a sense of complacency this time around, said Ken Hayes, a University of Maine political scientist and former Democratic state senator.

"I really think there was a belief among many of the supporters of the so-called gay rights movement that the issue had been resolved," Hayes said, describing the repeal effort as "the stealth campaign."

Commercials featuring King telling the public how he intended to vote but not overtly urging viewers to vote the same way lacked the sense of urgency needed to convince voters to turn out for a midwinter, single-issue referendum, Potholm said.

Karen Geraghty, campaign man-

ager for Maine Won't Discriminate, defended her group's efforts, pointing out the vote was decided by "a very, very, very small group of the electorate."

"Given the fact that this campaign was run during the holidays and during one of the worst storms we've ever had, where two-thirds of the state was without power, I think we did a really great job," Geraghty said.

Paul Volle, executive director of the Christian Coalition of Maine and one of the repeal effort's principal leaders, acknowledged the churches were a "cornerstone," but he emphasized the campaign did not stop there.

Volle and his "ground troops," as he calls them, put a special emphasis on Cumberland and York counties because those two areas had solidly rejected an anti-gay rights referendum proposal in 1995. "We had to minimize those losses so the rest of the state could carry us through," he said.

Although the two counties voted against repeal this time, Volle believes the margin could have been much higher.

The Christian Coalition also will examine the lists of people who voted to look for duplicate votes and "questionable registrations," especially in southern Maine, Volle said.

Fundies plan to recruit 100K anti-gay activists

WASHINGTON (AP) — Emboldened by the defeat of a gay-rights law in Maine, the Christian Coalition plans to recruit 100,000 "church liaisons" to help push the group's anti-gay agenda in all 50 states.

The new plan, part of a "Families 2000" strategy being unveiled Wednesday, borrows from the coalition's success last week in Maine. The coalition said it worked with 900 churches to pass the ballot initiative, adding 77,000 new households to its mailing list.

Under the new strategy, volunteer activists would be tapped by the coalition to coordinate activities between churches and local coalition chapters.

The coalition will publish a menu of issues around which these newly constituted local entities could rally. The list includes state bans on certain late-term abortions, pornography restrictions, opposition to legalized gambling initiatives and any measures that give special rights based on sexual behavior.

The last item is a reference to the Maine referendum, when voters decided, 51 percent to 49 percent, to repeal a new law that would have barred discrimination against gays and lesbians in employment, housing, public accommodations and credit.

Coalition officials, speaking on condition of anonymity, said the new strategy reflects the fact that churches are becoming an efficient way to reach voters in an age of suburban sprawl.

The coalition is fighting a perception of weakness after the departure of political operative Ralph Reed and during an investigation of its tax-exempt status by the Internal Revenue Service. Contributions to the group are down.

Group urges Me. boycott

AUGUSTA, Maine (AP) — A Florida-based organization known as the Oral Majority is launching a boycott of Maine in response to the last week's vote to repeal the state's gay-rights law.

The gay advocacy group is urging its followers not to visit Maine, shun its lobsters and avoid buying antiques from the state. "I know Maine is going

See NAT'L page 8



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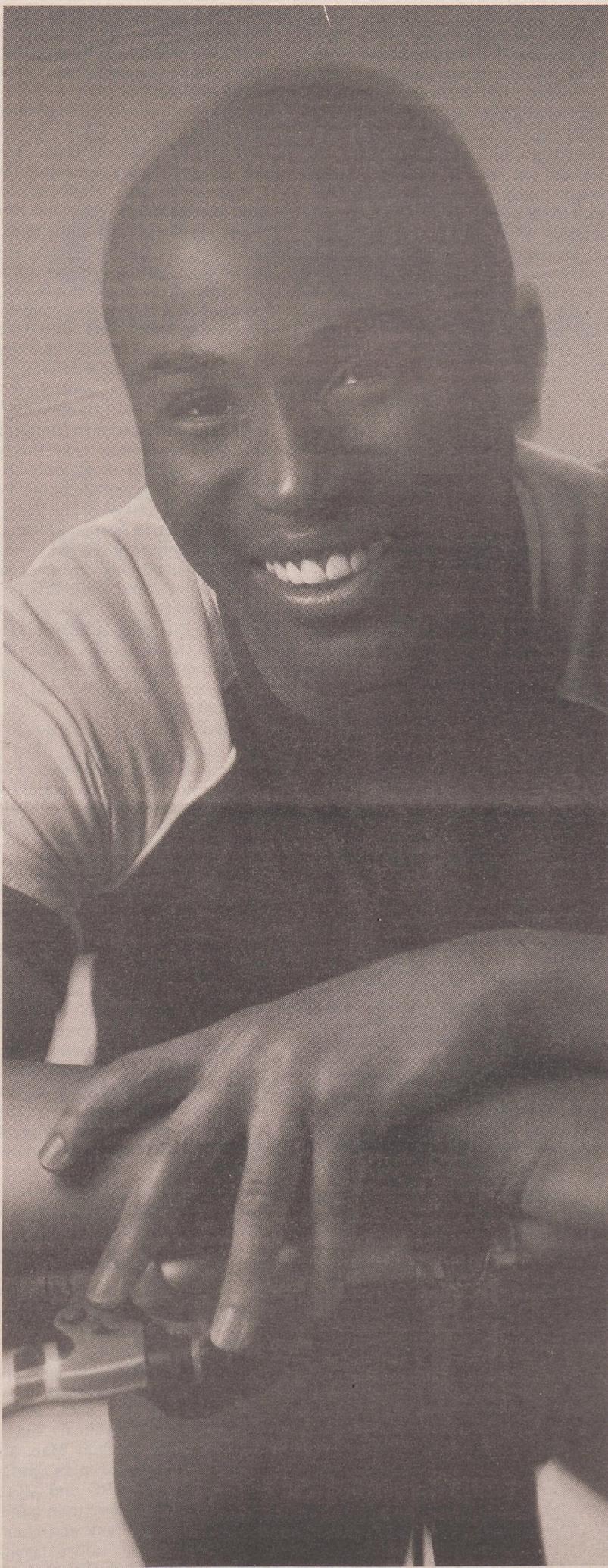
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NAT'L/from page 6

to get hit on the head with this," the group's president, Bob Kunst, said Tuesday.

The Maine Lesbian-Gay Political Alliance opposes any boycott to punish Maine for the vote and dismissed the Miami group's threat. Maine voters repealed the state's newly enacted gay rights law by a vote of 51 percent to 49 percent last week.

"I never heard of the group," said Dave Garrity, spokesman for the Maine alliance. "They're certainly not national in their scope."

Kunst disagreed, saying he helped organize a boycott of Florida orange juice two decades ago that resulted in a "privacy" law in that state that homosexuals favored.

Kunst, who did not say how many members Oral Majority has, said his group is targeting Maine as part of its ongoing boycott of the Cayman Islands, which last year refused to let a ship of gay tourists dock.

As of Tuesday, he said, the group had collected signatures of 4,000 people supporting the Maine boycott.

Tenn. Catholics shun parents' group

NASHVILLE, Tenn. (AP) — An organization for Roman Catholic parents with gay children cannot use a Diocese of Nashville church for a seminar run by a Maryland priest and nun, Bishop Edward Kmiec says.

Catholic Parents Network has shifted next week's meeting from Holy Name Catholic Church in East Nashville to St. Ann's Episcopal Church because of Kmiec's decision, which he said was reached after prayerful consideration.

In a statement, Kmiec said he didn't sanction the meeting because he was concerned it might deviate from church teachings about homosexuals.

The seminar is one of four stops in a regional swing by Catholic Parents Network and the only one not being held in a Catholic building.

MARCH/from page 1

agreed to put plans for the Millennium March on "pause." The conference call participants also agreed to put on "pause" an idea that had been circulated by the National Gay and Lesbian Task Force to hold a march on the 50 state capitals in 1999.

"We all collectively talked about the process—that happened too quickly for an appropriate amount of consideration and discussion with an appropriately broad group, and everybody agrees with that," said Jean, referring to planning for the Millennium March. "In the excitement, things just happened too fast, and there needs to be some more discussion. We're all pausing to discuss, to assess where support is, and to make some decisions about both the 50-state march and the national march. We want to make sure that whatever happens is in the best interest of our movement."

"Is the Millennium March on or off?" asked a reporter.

"Both marches are on the table for discussion," said Jean.

"Are both marches happening?" asked a reporter.

"That remains to be seen," said Jean. "We had a collective expression of a desire to have everybody moving forward in good faith with the best interests of our movement at heart. And I am personally inspired by the effort people seemed to want to put in to accomplish that."

The controversy surrounding the Millennium March began soon after HRC and MCC issued a press release Feb. 4, announcing the march for the spring of the year 2000 and listing eight organizations that had already signed on as supporting the plan. But by Feb. 9, officials with several national gay groups—including many of those that had endorsed the march—were expressing anger and concern that HRC and MCC failed to adequately consult other gay leaders before publicizing their efforts.

The prevailing sentiment that HRC and MCC had jumped the gun with their announcement prompted at least two conference calls this week involving officials of at least six gay civil rights groups, including Birch, Jean, Joan Garry of the Gay and Lesbian Alliance Against Defamation; Kerry Lobel of NGLTF; Mandy Carter of the National Black Gay and Lesbian Leadership Forum; Paula Eitelbrick of the Federation of Statewide Gay, Lesbian, Bisexual, and Transgender Political Organizations; and Martin Ornelas-Quintero of the National Latino/a Lesbian and Gay Organization.

"Everyone says we've got to have more conversation about this," said Carter of the Leadership Forum. "They're not saying [the march] won't happen. It's like saying, 'Let's put this on hold while we think about it and talk about it.'"

The controversy around the Millennium March is reminiscent of heated discussions that took place in the early stages of planning the 1993 March on Washington. In May 1991, a group of about 90 activists from around the country met to debate whether to have the 1993 march. That group also disagreed over timing—some felt it would detract from the 25th anniversary of the Stonewall Rebellion, others worried about the march taking place in an off-election year. Still others urged support for separate marches on all 50 state capitals.

HRC's Birch also disclosed this week that Millennium March organizers had already decided not to include an actual march along the streets of the nation's capital, which had been the focal point of the three previous national gay marches on Washington, in 1979, 1987, and 1993.

Instead, said Birch, the Millennium March will consist of a mass rally of gay people and their supporters on the mall, similar to recent massive political "marches," including the "Million Man March" and the "Promise Keepers" gathering. Birch said that HRC and MCC had determined that more than half of the crowds at past gay marches had missed the stage rallies because it took as long as six hours for many marchers to proceed from the starting point to the finishing point in the mall.

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ZERIT® (stavudine)

ZERIT® (stavudine) Capsules

ZERIT® (stavudine) for Oral Solution

Brief Summary of Prescribing Information, 10/96. For complete prescribing information, please consult official package circular.

INDICATIONS AND USAGE

ZERIT (stavudine) is indicated for the treatment of HIV-infected patients who have received prolonged prior zidovudine therapy. The duration of clinical benefit from antiretroviral therapy may be limited. Alteration in antiretroviral therapy should be considered if disease progression occurs while receiving ZERIT.

CLINICAL STUDIES

Study AI455-019 was a multi-center, randomized, double-blind trial of ZERIT Capsules vs zidovudine for the treatment of HIV-infected adults with CD4 counts of 50 to 500 cells/mm³ who had received at least six months prior zidovudine treatment. ZERIT was administered in dosages of 40 mg BID for patients weighing ≥ 60 kg, and 30 mg BID for those weighing < 60 kg. The zidovudine dosage was 200 mg TID. The study enrolled 822 patients with a median baseline CD4 count of 235 cells/mm³ (range: 10 to 735 cells/mm³), and a median duration of prior zidovudine treatment of 88 weeks (range 11 to 356 weeks). Fourteen percent of subjects had AIDS at baseline, 50% had HIV-related symptoms and 36% were asymptomatic.

Table 1 gives the Kaplan-Meier estimates for the time to disease progression.

	First AIDS - Defining Event or Death*	
	ZERIT	zidovudine
6 months	4.4%	5.7%
12 months	10.4%	14.1%
18 months	18.5%	23.3%
24 months	26.6%	31.8%

* Kaplan-Meier estimates; the overall difference between stavudine and zidovudine was not significant.

CONTRAINDICATIONS

ZERIT is contraindicated in patients with clinically significant hypersensitivity to stavudine or to any of the components contained in the formulation.

WARNINGS

The major clinical toxicity of ZERIT is peripheral neuropathy. This complication occurred in 19 and 24 percent of the 11,784 patients with advanced HIV disease who received the two dose levels of stavudine in the Parallel Track Program¹. In patients with less advanced HIV infection in the zidovudine comparative trial, peripheral neuropathy occurred in 13 percent of ZERIT-treated patients as compared to 4 percent of zidovudine-treated patients.

Patients should be monitored for the development of neuropathy that is usually characterized by numbness, tingling, or pain in the feet or hands. Stavudine-related peripheral neuropathy may resolve if therapy is withdrawn promptly. In some cases, symptoms may worsen temporarily following discontinuation of therapy. If symptoms resolve completely, resumption of treatment may be considered at a reduced dose.

Patients with a history of peripheral neuropathy are at increased risk for the development of neuropathy. If stavudine must be administered in this clinical setting, careful monitoring is essential.

PRECAUTIONS

Information for Patients

Patients should be informed that ZERIT is not a cure for HIV infection, and that they may continue to acquire illnesses associated with HIV infection, including opportunistic infections. Patients should be advised to remain under the care of a physician when using ZERIT.

Patients should be informed that the most common toxicity of ZERIT is peripheral neuropathy. Symptoms of peripheral neuropathy usually include tingling, burning, pain, or numbness in the hands or feet. Patients should be counseled that this toxicity occurs with greater frequency in patients with a history of peripheral neuropathy. They should be advised that these symptoms should be reported to their physicians and that dose changes may be necessary. They should also be cautioned about the use of other medications that may exacerbate peripheral neuropathy.

Caregivers of young children receiving ZERIT therapy should be instructed regarding detection and reporting of peripheral neuropathy. Patients should be informed that the long-term effects of ZERIT are unknown at this time. They should be advised that ZERIT therapy has not been shown to reduce the risk of transmission of HIV to others through sexual contact or blood contamination.

Patients should be informed that the Center for Disease Control (CDC) recommends that HIV-infected mothers not nurse newborn infants to reduce the risk of postnatal transmission of HIV infection.

Laboratory Tests

Mild to moderate increases in AST (SGOT) and ALT (SGPT) occurred commonly in clinical trials; these did not interfere with continued therapy.

Carcinogenesis, Mutagenesis, Impairment of Fertility

Long-term carcinogenicity studies of stavudine in animals have not been completed. Stavudine was not mutagenic in the Ames, *E. coli* reverse mutation, or the CHO/HGPRT mammalian cell forward gene mutation assays, with and without metabolic activation. Stavudine produced positive results in the *in vitro* human lymphocyte clastogenesis and mouse fibroblast assays, and in the *in vivo* mouse micronucleus test. In the *in vitro* assays, stavudine elevated the frequency of chromosome aberrations in human lymphocytes (concentrations of 25 to 250 μ g/mL, without metabolic activation) and increased the frequency of transformed foci in mouse fibroblast cells (concentrations of 25 to 2500 μ g/mL, with and without metabolic activation).

¹ The parallel track program (STUDY AI455-900) treated 12,551 HIV-infected patients with CD4 counts < 300 /mm³ who had failed, were intolerant of, or had contraindications to other therapies.

In the *in vivo* micronucleus assay, stavudine was clastogenic in bone marrow cells following oral stavudine administration to mice at dosages of 600 to 2000 mg/kg/day for 3 days.

No evidence of impaired fertility was seen in rats with exposures (based on C_{max}) up to 216 times that observed following a clinical dosage of 1 mg/kg/day.

Pregnancy

Pregnancy "Category C." Reproduction studies have been performed in rats and rabbits with exposures (based on C_{max}) up to 399 and 183 times, respectively, of that seen at a clinical dosage of 1 mg/kg/day and have revealed no evidence of teratogenicity. The incidence in fetuses of a common skeletal variation, unfused or incomplete ossification of sternebra, was increased in rats at 399 times human exposure, while no effect was observed at 216 times human exposure. A slight post-implantation loss was noted at 216 times the human exposure with no effect noted at approximately 135 times the human exposure. An increase in early rat neonatal mortality (birth to 4 days of age) occurred at 399 times the human exposure, while survival of neonates was unaffected at approximately 135 times the human exposure. A study in rats showed that stavudine is transferred to the fetus through the placenta. The concentration in fetal tissue was approximately one-half the concentration in maternal plasma. There are no adequate and well-controlled studies in pregnant women. Because animal reproduction studies are not always predictive of human response, stavudine should be used during pregnancy only if clearly needed.

Nursing Mothers

Studies in lactating rats demonstrated that stavudine is excreted in milk. Although it is not known whether stavudine is excreted in human milk, there exists the potential for adverse effects from stavudine in nursing infants. Mothers should be instructed to discontinue nursing if they are receiving stavudine. This is consistent with the recommendation by the U.S. Public Health Service Centers for Disease Control and Prevention that HIV-infected mothers not breast-feed their infants to avoid risking postnatal transmission of HIV.

Pediatric Use

Use of stavudine in pediatric patients is supported by evidence from adequate and well-controlled studies of stavudine in adults with additional safety data in 115 pediatric patients and pharmacokinetic data in 25 of these patients.

Stavudine pharmacokinetics have been evaluated in 25 HIV-infected pediatric patients (age range: 5 weeks to 15 years, weight range: 2 to 43 kg) after IV and oral administration of 0.125, 0.5, 1, and 2 mg/kg as single doses and as BID regimens. The mean \pm SD absolute bioavailability was 76.9 \pm 31.7% (n=20). Peak plasma concentration (C_{max}) and area under the plasma concentration-time curve (AUC) increased in proportion to dose after both single and multiple doses.

Following intravenous infusions (n=21), the mean \pm SD volume of distribution was 10.5 \pm 9.17 L/m². The distribution of stavudine into cerebrospinal fluid (CSF) was assessed in 8 pediatric patients after 12 weeks of multiple oral dosing. The concentration of stavudine in CSF samples ranged from 0.008 to 0.105 μ g/mL at times ranging from 2 to 3 hours post-dose (dose ranging from 0.125 to 1 mg/kg). CSF concentrations ranged from 16% to 125% (mean \pm SD of 59% \pm 35%) of the concentration in simultaneous plasma samples.

The terminal elimination half-life after oral or intravenous administration of stavudine was approximately one hour. The mean \pm SD total body clearance after intravenous infusion was 247 \pm 94 mL/min/m². The mean \pm SD apparent oral clearance was 333 \pm 87 mL/min/m². The percent of the dose excreted unchanged in the urine was 34.5% after oral administration.

The clearance of stavudine is related to both body surface area and body weight. When dosing according to body weight, the recommended dosage for pediatric patients weighing less than 30 kg is 2 mg/kg/day in divided doses. Pediatric patients weighing 30 kg or greater should receive the recommended adult dose.

ADVERSE REACTIONS

The major clinical toxicity of ZERIT (stavudine) is peripheral neuropathy (see "WARNINGS" section).

Adults: Peripheral neuropathy is dose related (see Table 2). Modest elevation of hepatic transaminases was also observed commonly in controlled trials.

	%			
	Study AI455-019 ZERIT (40 mg BID) (n=412)	Study AI455-019 zidovudine (200 mg TID) (n=402)	Parallel Track Program ZERIT (40 mg BID) (n=5905)	Parallel Track Program zidovudine (20 mg BID) (n=5879)
Peripheral Neuropathy				
Grade 1-2	11	3	20	17
Grade 3-4	2	1	4	2
Total	13	4	24	19

Selected adverse events that occurred in adult patients receiving ZERIT in the Phase 3 controlled comparative trial (Study AI455-019) are provided in Table 3.

Adverse Events	%	
	ZERIT (40 mg BID) (n=412)	zidovudine (200 mg TID) (n=402)
Headache	54	49
Chills/Fever	50	51
Diarrhea	50	43
Rash	40	35
Nausea and Vomiting	38	44
Abdominal Pain	34	27
Myalgia	32	35
Insomnia	29	31
Anorexia	19	22
Allergic Reaction	9	8
Pancreatitis	*	*

* This event was reported in fewer than 1% of patients.
¹ Includes all clinical complaints.
² Median duration of stavudine therapy = 79 weeks; median duration of zidovudine therapy = 53 weeks.

Laboratory abnormalities reported in the Phase 3 controlled comparative trial (Study AI455-019) are shown in Table 4.

Lab Tests (units)	%	
	ZERIT (40 mg BID) (n=412)	zidovudine (200 mg TID) (n=402)
AST (SGOT) ($\leq 5.0 \times$ ULN ^a)	11	10
ALT (SGPT) ($\leq 5.0 \times$ ULN)	13	11
Bilirubin ($> 5.0 \times$ ULN)	2	2
Anemia (< 8.0 g/dL)	*	3
Neutropenia (neutrophils < 750 /mm ³)	5	9
Thrombocytopenia (platelets $< 50,000$ /mm ³)	3	3
Amylase ($> 1.4 \times$ ULN)	14	13

* This abnormality was reported in fewer than 1% of patients.
^a Data presented for patients for whom laboratory evaluations were performed.
^b Median duration of stavudine therapy = 79 weeks; median duration of zidovudine therapy = 53 weeks.
^c ULN = upper limit of normal.

Pediatric Patients: Adverse reactions and serious laboratory abnormalities in pediatric patients were similar in type and frequency to those seen in adult patients.

OVERDOSAGE

Experience with adults treated with 12 to 24 times the recommended daily dosage revealed no acute toxicity. Complications of chronic overdosage include peripheral neuropathy and hepatic toxicity. It is not known whether stavudine is eliminated by peritoneal dialysis or hemodialysis.

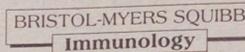
HOW SUPPLIED

ZERIT® (stavudine) Capsules are available in the following strengths and configurations of plastic bottles with child-resistant closures:

Product Strength	Capsule Shell Color	Markings on Capsule (in Black Ink)	Capsules per Bottle	NDC No.
15 mg	Light yellow & dark red	BMS 1964 15	60	0003-1964-01
20 mg	Light brown	BMS 1965 20	60	0003-1965-01
30 mg	Light orange & dark orange	BMS 1966 30	60	0003-1966-01
40 mg	Dark orange	BMS 1967 40	60	0003-1967-01

ZERIT for Oral Solution is a dye-free, fruit flavored powder that provides 1 mg of stavudine per mL of solution upon constitution with water. Directions for solution preparation are included on the product label. ZERIT for Oral Solution is available in child-resistant containers that provide 200 mL of solution after constitution with water (NDC No. 0003-1968-01). US Patent No.: 4,978,655

Storage: ZERIT Capsules should be stored in tightly closed containers at controlled room temperature, 59° to 86°F (15° to 30°C). ZERIT for Oral Solution should be protected from excessive moisture and stored in tightly closed containers at controlled room temperature, 59° to 86°F (15° to 30°C). After constitution, store tightly closed containers of ZERIT for Oral Solution in a refrigerator, 36° to 46°F (2° to 8°C). Discard any unused portion after 30 days.



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ISSUE 904
FEBRUARY 20, 1998

EDITORIAL

'The Homosexual Exception' and what we can do about it

by CHRIS CRAIN

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The culture war is over, and the progressives have won. Middle-class Americans no longer view their fellow citizens through the prejudicial prisms of race, religion, or ethnic background. Suburbia may be boring, but it's not biased.

With one exception, that is. There's little tolerance for homosexuals.

These were the conclusions reached by Boston University sociologist Alan Wolfe, who conducted in-depth interviews with 200 people in suburban Atlanta, Tulsa, San Diego and Boston. His findings, reported in the Feb. 8 *New York Times Magazine*, are enough to make big city gays feel surrounded by a sea of suburban homophobes with TVs that don't get "Ellen."

First, the good news. While most middle-class Americans have an abiding faith in God and country, and a strong personal sense of right and wrong, they have learned over the last two decades not to expect that the same principles will govern the rest of us.

"People who tell others the right way to behave have stopped preaching and gone on to meddling," he quotes a retired piano teacher from Broken Arrow, Okla., as saying during her interview. "Where their nose starts is where my fist should end."

Professor Wolfe warns that middle America's newfound tolerance isn't a triumph for moral relativism. For the most part, his interview subjects have tried to adhere in their own lives to a moral code informed by deeply-held religious beliefs. But at the same time, they were almost uniformly reluctant to impose those values on others.

With one exception, that is.

"There is one exception to America's persistent and ubiquitous nonjudgmentalism," reports Wolfe. "However much they are willing to accept almost anything, most of the middle-class Americans I spoke to were not prepared to accept homosexuality."

By Wolfe's count, four times as many respondents condemned homosexuality as were tolerant.

"Some simply refused to discuss the subject, as if the mere mention of the word would violate their religious beliefs," he recounted. Those willing to broach the topic of homosexuality used surprisingly ugly words like "abnormal," "immoral," "sinful," "unacceptable," "sick," "unhealthy," "untrustworthy," "mentally ill," "wrong," "perverted" and "mentally deficient."

Wolfe concluded that these Americans hadn't bought into the gay civil rights movement because they don't view homosexuality as an innate characteristic like gender or race, but rather see it as a conscious choice.

"I just don't think that people are born that way," he quotes a 30-something Jehovah's Witness from Georgia as saying. "So I wouldn't want that taught to my child."

Professor Wolfe's findings may be somewhat skewed. Among Atlanta suburbs, he chose notoriously anti-gay Cobb County. African Americans, Hispanics and other ethnic minorities might also quarrel with his rosy conclusions that they've been fully embraced by middle-class whites.

Nonetheless, his findings confirm what many lesbians and gay men (not to mention transgendered folks) know

to be true: We represent the final frontier of civil rights battles—the last remaining group that it's OK to belittle, to ridicule and to deprive of basic human rights.

Eliminating the "homosexual exception" will be no easy task. Getting there will involve reaching and educating a suburban population all too willing to ignore our plight.

At the national level, this requires a clearer vision from gay rights leadership, and a more eloquent voice to speak our truths, and to connect our civil rights battle with the founding principles of the Republic: equal protection under the law and the right to pursue happiness and the American dream. Most Americans still see gays as "those people," and can't imagine that we want the same things out of life as they do—that we want the freedom to marry not to undermine the institution, but simply to partake in it.

Too often, our movement has concentrated its energy into raising money to give to politicians, rather than speaking to the average Americans they represent.

Elections are important, and laws are very important; but by themselves, they won't change hearts and minds. And many of us can't afford to wait for bigoted generations to die off before change finally comes.

In the meantime, while we wait for our visionary leaders to emerge, each of us has a responsibility to tell our straight families, friends and co-workers about our hopes and our dreams. We know these people, we are a part of their lives. They just need to learn more about ours.

Reverse discrimination in the battle against anti-HIV bias

by MUBARAK DAHIR

Sitting in the waiting room of a well-respected Chicago AIDS organization, I shift restlessly in my chair, pretending to read the magazine unfolded in my hands. I catch myself feeling just a little nervous at the prospect of the afternoon before me.

No, I am not waiting for the results of an HIV test. I am here for a job interview.

I give up on the magazine, and instead find myself reviewing the mental list of questions in my head, carefully going over my answers to the kinds of things I anticipate I might be asked as a candidate interviewing for the position of director of publications for a big-city AIDS agency.

But neither the worrying nor the self-coaching could have prepared me for one question I would be asked repeatedly that day during my interview.

Several hours later, I am seated in the office of the organization's executive director. He is telling me about his tenure at the association, as well as its governing philosophies.

He volunteers he is HIV-positive. No big surprise, since the leaders of many AIDS organizations are similarly personally affected by the virus.

He also tells me that this particular AIDS agency likes at least 51 percent of its employees to be people with HIV and AIDS. Again, no surprise. Through the years, people with HIV and AIDS have demanded a bigger and bigger role in managing their lives, from the treatment they get at

the doctor's office to the policies that come out of the Oval Office. It makes perfect sense to me that organizations which represent people with HIV and AIDS should be largely comprised of people with HIV and AIDS.

What I couldn't understand was how this agency could so nonchalantly violate a hard-won federal law that was crafted specifically to include protection for people with HIV and AIDS, just to meet its quota of HIV-positive employees.

As my interview unfolded in the executive director's office, I was asked questions that, in no uncertain terms, were aimed at discovering my HIV-status.

Caught off guard, I divulged that I was not HIV-positive (as far as I know), and then proceeded to launch into a somewhat feeble, somewhat self-conscious defense about why I didn't need to be HIV-positive to edit a magazine and newsletter for people with the virus.

Later on in the day, an assistant director raises the issue of my HIV-status again, and I go into an instant replay of my previous defense. (I am assured that being HIV-negative is not a "strike" against me as a candidate for the job, but that being HIV-positive would have been a "plus.") When I leave the offices of the AIDS agency that afternoon, I can't help feeling even more uncomfortable than I had been while twitching in my seat in the waiting room before the interview.

I have been on a serious job hunt in the past several months, and have

been on at least a dozen interviews. I couldn't help but wonder how I might have reacted had any other prospective employer dared inquire about my HIV-status.

"It's not legal for any employer to illicit information [during a job interview] on a disability, including HIV," Ronda Goldfein, a staff attorney at the AIDS Law Project of Pennsylvania told me, pointing to the Americans with Disabilities Act and confirming my worst suspicions about my experience in Chicago.

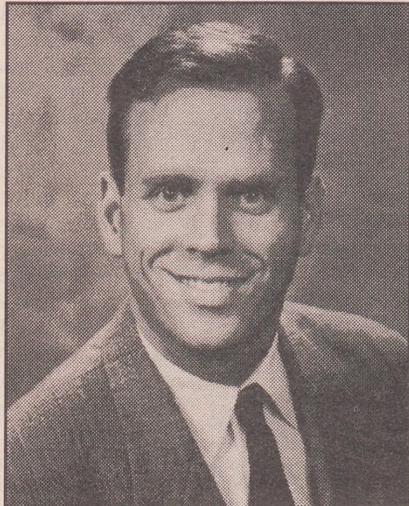
I have no reason to believe the Chicago AIDS agency where I interviewed does anything but good work, and just in case you think this is about sour grapes, let me say that I have not received either a job offer or a rejection from the organization. (I have since accepted a different job offer.) What bothers me about the incident is the double standard behind it. If we really want anti-discrimination laws to protect people—including people with HIV, who continue to run an extremely high risk of being discriminated against—then we can't follow the rules when they suit us, and disregard them when they are inconvenient.

As Goldfein put it: "If this was happening anywhere else, people would be screaming from the mountain tops. An AIDS organization doesn't get any exemption just because it is allegedly doing good work. That doesn't make it OK."

Mubarak S. Dahir is a columnist for the Philadelphia Daily News and is a reporter for Time magazine

The real conservatives on Houston City Council

by DALE CARPENTER



From the recent public comments of some members of the Houston City Council, you'd think conservative political opinion is united in opposition to Mayor Lee Brown's decision to issue an executive order banning discrimination based on sexual orientation in city employment. Councilman Rob Todd, who represents Clear Lake and Kingwood, told the *Houston Chronicle* in anguished syntax that he opposes the order because "the city remains firmly in favor of being opposed to special treatment for any group." Councilman Orlando Sanchez, an at-large representative, played Chicken Little, warning darkly that "we are beginning to open the door in our community to dramatically change the traditional family unit."

On the other hand, at least two conservatives on city council publicly supported the anti-discrimination order. Councilman Ray Driscoll, for one, said he had "no problem" with the mayor's order since he doesn't believe the city should discriminate against anyone. Freshman Councilman Bruce Tatro, who represents the heavily Republican district formerly represented by anti-porn crusader Helen Huey, came out strongly and unequivocally to "support the proposal by the mayor to not discriminate."

Where should principled conservatives stand? The council "conservatives" who oppose the ban on anti-gay bias seem to be making two points. First, they make the shop-worn argument that the policy gives "special treatment" to gays and that, as a general matter, government should not confer protected status on more groups. Second, they hint ominously at dire consequences for good, old-fashioned families if gays are protected from discrimination on the job. Both arguments are wrong-headed—and they're wrong for good conservative reasons.

First, a ban on discrimination against a group promises equal treatment, not "special treatment," to the members of that group. A similar federal ban on discrimination protects blacks, women, Jews and others from discrimination. Yet we rarely hear these anti-gay "conservatives" claim that the federal civil rights laws give "special treatment" to these other groups, let alone call for the repeal of those laws.

In fact, the executive order signed by Mayor Brown and similar federal anti-discrimination measures protecting blacks and women from discrimination enshrine the conservative principal

that no one should be given "special treatment." Right now, gays are treated "special" by our government and by the broader culture: gays are treated especially badly through discrimination. Anyone who opposes "special treatment" for groups of citizens should support anti-discrimination measures that remove consideration of a person's group status as a factor in employment and other areas of life, such as housing and public accommodations. Thus, the "no special treatment" conservatives have it exactly backward.

Moreover, although it is regrettable that government must "classify" citizens by specifying protected groups, those classifications arise because discrimination is itself a group-based phenomenon. Our society decided to classify citizens based on their group status long before government got in that business. If racists did not discriminate against African-Americans because of race, there would be no need for race-based classifications. If sexists did not discriminate against women because of gender, there would be no need for gender-based classifications. And if homophobes did not hate gay people, there would be no need for a protected classification called "sexual orientation."

Conservatives are right to complain when government goes the additional step of discriminating in favor of certain people because of race or gender through hiring quotas. But simple non-discrimination laws help promote the conservative ideal that people should be treated as individuals and not as members of some group. Conservatives should fight first and foremost for the principle that individuals must be judged on their merits.

Second, it is truly a mystery for the ages how a gay person's ability to earn a living poses a threat to the American family. In fact, the opposite is true. Every gay person comes from a family and is connected to families through a complex web of blood relations and friendships. Family stability is enhanced when people hold steady, secure jobs. Arbitrary discrimination threatens family stability because it threatens an individual's economic security. When a gay person suffers discrimination a whole network of family members related to that person also suffers indirectly. Anti-discrimination laws do not undermine family stability; discrimination does.

By all means, let's defend the nation's families against the real prob-

lems of drugs, crime, spouse abuse and host of other social ills. But defend our families against the "danger" created by assuring gays they won't be targeted on the job? Do our council conservatives really think spouses will leave each other en masse because the city won't discriminate anymore? Give us a break. Will the real conservative defenders of the American family please stand up?

Finally, any fiscal conservative realizes that discrimination results in a huge waste of talent and time—and therefore taxpayer money. According to the recent study "Sex in America," about 9 percent of the people in the nation's 12 largest cities (including Houston) are gay. The city employs approximately 23,000 people. So about 2,000 of those city employees are probably gay. If they each earn an average of just \$20,000 per year, the city pays them collectively some \$40 million annually (not including benefits). I want good, satisfied, loyal, productive, happy workers for my portion of that \$40 million. Todd and Sanchez had better explain to us fiscal conservatives why they favor wasting our money.

Back in the '50s and '60s, we conservatives were ill-served by our early opposition to equal civil rights for blacks and women. Some of us, it seems, are headed down that same shameful road with respect to gay men and women. I don't think Rob Todd or Orlando Sanchez care a bit about true conservative ideals when they denounce measures to protect gays from discrimination. Their opposition only prolongs the very group-based thinking they say they abhor. Their desire to protect the family by permitting discrimination against gays hurts families. And, if generally accepted, their views would waste our tax money by squandering our city's human resources.

A real conservative, standing in the shadows of Abraham Lincoln (who freed the slaves) and Barry Goldwater (who supports a proposed federal law protecting gays from employment discrimination), would laugh out loud at these impostors. And she would tip her hat to Messrs. Tatro and Driscoll.

Dale Carpenter, a Houston attorney, is a Republican precinct chairman and a National Regional Director of Log Cabin Republicans. The views expressed in this column are his own and do not necessarily reflect the views of Log Cabin or its members.

CARBON COPY

Feb. 16, 1998

The Honorable Rob Todd
Office of City Council
Houston City Hall

Dear Council Member Todd:

The Mayor's announcement of an Executive Order banning city government employment and hiring discrimination on the basis of sexual orientation is an admirable and courageous decision.

I clearly remember the hue and cry of the radical religious community during the Civil Rights Movement of the '50s and '60s when Biblical and moral justifications were presented for the cruelty of racial discrimination and terror that swept our country. Do you remember when they said blacks were inferior, cursed by God with Mark of Cain, loved to rape white women? It was the much less noisy voice of reason in the country—and the courage of

the political figures who responded to that quieter, more humane voice—which gave birth to our country's long and difficult move toward equality and justice for all people. Then, as now, it was the fear and ignorance of a vocal minority which promoted cruelty heaped upon the heads of millions of Americans simply because they were different or because they were female.

When I was a young child during World War II, my family traveled frequently cross-country via automobile following my father, a Naval Officer. Celestine—the kindest, gentlest, most loving woman I've ever known—traveled with us. I clearly remember my childhood tears of hurt and sadness when on those long drives Celestine waited in the car while we stopped at restaurants and rest rooms. You see, she was a woman of color and her husband was away fighting to end the horrible treatment of minorities in Nazi Germany. My painful memory of the mistreatment of Celestine remains fresh more than 50 years later. As the young son of a privileged

Southern family, and later a champion of equality mindless of race or gender, little did I expect that eventually, I, too, would feel a similar cruelty—similar to the irrational hatred that caused such pain and humiliation for my beloved Celestine.

It is unthinkable that a country founded in part to end religious persecution, now uses religion as a justification for persecution. Please know tens of thousands of fair-minded Houstonians, champions of justice and equality, hope and pray you will support the courageous position taken by the Mayor with his Executive Order banning city government employment and hiring discrimination on the basis of sexual orientation—a quality as inherent as skin color and gender.

Tony Carroll, LMSW-ACP
Houston, Texas

Tony Carroll
Houston, Texas

Dear-Mr. Carroll:

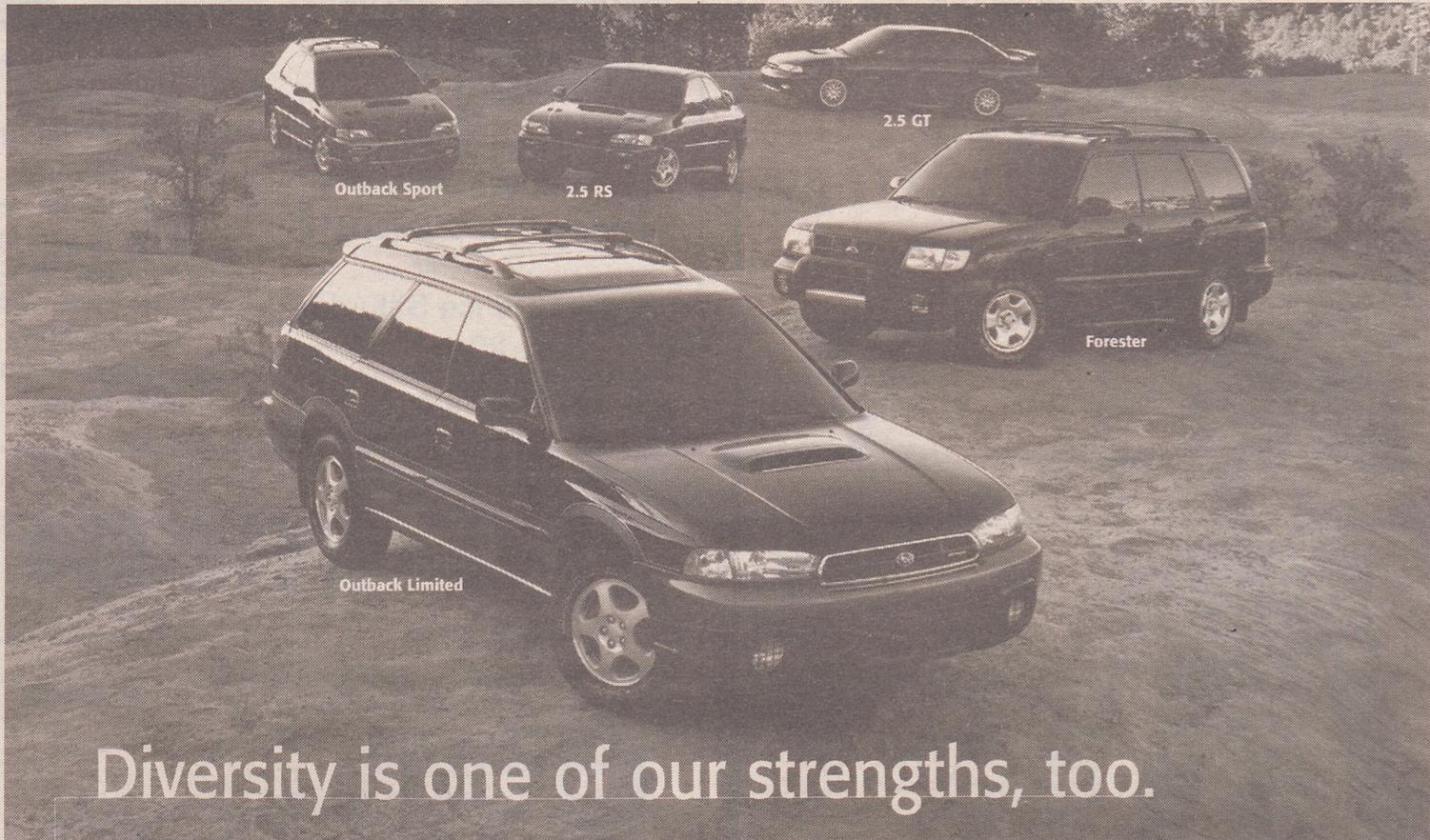
Thank you for your letter regarding the mayor's executive order. I am writing to respond to your letter.

Predictably, the mayor's executive order conferring special treatment for homosexuals is one that is sure to create strong sentiments. Attached you will find a copy of the vote analysis from a ballot vote in 1985 which pertained to a substantially similar matter. As you can see, the public opposed that matter by a clear and distinct majority (over 80 percent opposed). When the public votes on a matter, the outcome should be regarded as a sacred covenant between the government and the governed.

I hope this answers your question about my position.

Cordially,
Rob Todd
Councilmember—Dist. E

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The Montrose Singers, DBA Gay Men's Chorus of Houston, is a 501 (c)(3) non-profit organization.

COWBOY/from page 12

heart, there's not use in pushing it any further. Sassy tore her leg and they said she would never run again. But she came back and I knew she wasn't going to let me down. When Sassy won poles at the San Antonio Stock Show I didn't know she was in the beginning stages of colic before I make my run. She won in spite of that.

HV: Since you came out publicly through the film, do you feel like your masculinity has been put on trial in the straight rodeo circuit?

GM: Being a gay competitor means you have to work a little harder in the straight circuit to gain people's respect. It's made a better person out of me because I work at being a better sport and nicer person. But since the film has come out, it's still a coming out process for me. The word is out in my hometown. A girl I graduated with came up to me in a grocery store, gave me a big hug and said, 'I just found out that you were gay, but it makes no difference to me.' If I had known my friends would have reacted that way, I would have come out a long time ago cause it would have saved me a lot of pain, stress and wasted energy. But what surprised me more than their reaction was my reaction to their reaction. Some people I've come out to say, 'No big deal, I've know for years.' Then I'd say, 'So, how did you know? What ever lead you to believe I was gay? How could you have known that!' One the other hand, other people would say, 'I had no idea, Gene—totally surprised.' Then I would say, 'How could you not have known? Give me a break!' I wonder how the people in my hometown would react if the film came to our little theater in the town square.

HV: So, fortunately for you, coming out has been a positive experience?

GM: Oh yeah, I wish I would have done it years ago. It's that fear of rejection [that keeps you in the closet]—that's the worse fear.

HV: You're defending your title at the Houston Live Stock show for a third time. How do you feel about your chances for winning again?

GM: The pressure is gonna be on me this year. They say, 'Third times a charm.' But I never count my chickens before they hatch. If I never win the Houston LiveStock Show again, I'm just blessed to have won it twice. Most people don't get the opportunity to place once.

HV: It's quite an honor that you've won.

GM: Oh yeah, the first time I won I had no idea I would win. I was competing against other world champions and it was the biggest surprise to me. Then I went back the next year and it was just as much a surprise. I've won every major horse show in Texas at least twice and I've been very, very lucky.

HV: How do you feel about your championship-defending ride on Wednesday?

As the days get closer, I'll get focused and start tuning things out. I visualize the perfect ride in my mind over and over. I took a course with Anthony Robbins on neuro-linguistic programming—it was a very intense seminar. The first day was fire walking, walking on hot coals. I walked on a bed of coals 20 feet and didn't get burned. I psyched myself up that I was walking on cool moss. I feel like if I can do that, I can do anything. And much of it is changing negative thoughts into positive thoughts.

HV: Since you're a world champion, do you have kids inspired by what you do?

GM: I have kids come up to me all the time wanting help. I would rather

go to a rodeo and spend time helping the kids than anything. They really listen cause they want to be better their times and they want to win. I have young people who want me to help train them to be a bareback

bronc rider, but I had a problem with that: it's dangerous and if something happened to them I would feel horrible. I don't encourage them to do it. I have always wanted to have children, a son or daughter I could groom and train and teach them everything I know.

HV: Is rough stock the sexiest event in rodeo?

GM: Oh yeah! I have girls hitting on me all the time. But I'm becoming much more involved with the gay community. It wasn't until after the film started. I am proud to be a part of Houston's gay community. I couldn't have said that 20 years ago. After the MFA premier, I realized how lucky I am.

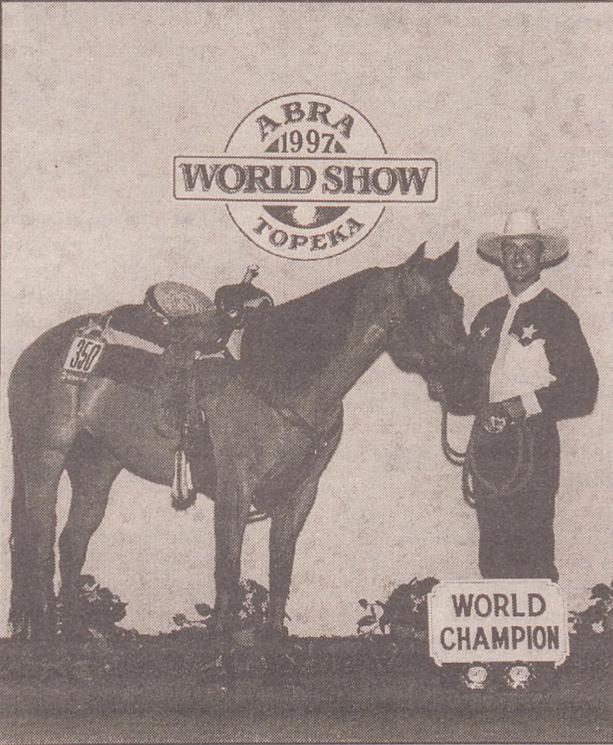
HV: How is gay rodeo different from straight rodeo?

GM: Gay rodeo has people from pro to novice, it caters to everyone. We really have some of the best ropers in the United States. But one thing I can say about gay rodeo is you will never find that kind of camaraderie in straight-rodeo. I don't do that many gay rodeos anymore, but I'm still stereotyped as a gay rodeo cowboy and I don't really like that. I'm not trying to take anything away from TGRA, but I ride almost every weekend of the year and gay rodeo is a small part of what I do. But straight rodeo is not as straight as you think—and I'll leave it at that.

HV: When you go to that big rodeo up in the sky, how do you want to be remembered?

GM: I've never really thought about that, but I don't want anybody crying. But I hope I will be known as someone who made a difference for the better in people's lives.

Special thanks to Dalton DeHart and his friend Randy Whitmore for their contributions to this interview.



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THEATER PREVIEW



Ellen Burstyn, icon of stage and screen, debuts in Alley's latest O'Neil production

"Long day's Journey into Night" runs February 20 through March 29.

by J.C. MICHELAK and STEPHEN R. UNDERWOOD

Ellen Burstyn stars as Mary Tyrone in The Alley Theater's production of Eugene O'Neil's "Long Day's Journey into Night." The production, which opens tonight and runs through March 29, marks Burstyn's debut at the Alley.

Burstyn, who won an Academy Award for her role in "Alice Doesn't Live Here Anymore" and a Tony Award for "Same Time, Next Year", is a constant on stage and on film and was the first woman elected president of the Actor's Equity Association. Her film credits include "The Last Picture Show," "The Exorcist," "Resurrection," and "How to Make an American Quilt" among others.

Actor David Shelby joins Burstyn as James Tyrone, an actor who refuses to retire his star. Shelby is fondly remembered for his roles in the hit TV series "Dark Shadows" and "Falcon Crest," as well as numerous films including "Intersection" and "Dying Young."

"Long Day's Journey into Night" traces 12 tragic hours in the lives of the Tyrone family. Written in 1912, the play chronicles the Tyrone's struggle to understand the disastrous effects of alcoholism and drug dependency. But the impending doom is eventually transcended into an experience which creates meaning.

Burstyn talked to the *Houston Voice* last week about her fascinating acting career.

HV: When "The Exorcist" was being filmed, reports circulated in

the press that strange things were happening on the set. Is that true?

EB: Well, it was going on right from the beginning. We had an enormous number of spooky things happen. We all had to really fight to keep centered about it. But we had a lot of priests on the set (audience laughs) and it was really no joke. We really felt we needed it.

HV: Would you care to share a few incidents?

EB: The set caught on fire on the weekend when it was empty. Nine people connected with production died. One of actors died right after the film. In the film, when he dies, the assistant director [of my character] comes and tells me he's died. And in real life, when he died, the assistant director [of "The Exorcist"] comes and tells me he died. The overlap was too strange and bizarre.

HV: You have starred in many inspiring movies. How do you manage to get along with stellar casts like the one in "How to Make an American Quilt?"

EB: We have such a good time, we were so glad to be working with each other. I was so excited about being there with Maya Angelo. I used to go into her trailer between shots and she would recite poetry to me or sings songs. She was making a CD of her poetry put to music and she would sing songs to me. It almost broke my heart. I had a wonderful time.

HV: What was it like working with

Wynona Ryder? She's really not in your league.

EB: She was adorable. She was like a little fan. She was interviewing every one of us and asking us questions about our careers. She was very excited about being with us; very sweet and very smart and very unspoiled. She is a very centered girl.

HV: What actors inspired you?

EB: Probably Kim Stanley, I thought she was great. She only made one film, called "The Goddess," and she was great. But I saw her on stage and she was a real inspiration. She was just so real.

HV: For many gay men 35 and above, there is an idolization of people like you. And gay actors have been discriminated against in terms of employment in Hollywood. But why do you think gay men have an easier time in employment behind the scenes.

EB: Because of the creativity. So many of my friends who are gay are really creative. And I think that's the main group of creative people. Supposedly, creativity comes from your other sex, from your female side for a man or your male side for a woman. So, I think there's more of a balance in the gender of creative people, or so it seems to me.

HV: Ms. Burstyn, thank you and good luck.

EB: Thank you, can come see the play.



FILM REVIEW

Leaden 'Sphere' sinks

Mega-star casting and super director fail to gel in would-be thriller by Crichton

by STEPHEN R. UNDERWOOD

It is unfortunate that in the course of Hollywood's attempt to entertain us, we, the public, are manipulated more times than not to spend our money on a film whose hype, at first, seems irrefutable. Throw in big name stars, a big name director, and a best selling author and the public will show up en masse on opening weekend. Of course, that lesson from Marketing 101 will only go so far until word gets out that a film is lousy. So, you can say you read it here: "Sphere" is lousy.

I have to admit my expectations for this film may have been a bit too high. But why not? With Dustin Hoffman, Sharon Stone, and Samuel L. Jackson starring, how could you go wrong? And with super-director Barry Levinson and "Jurassic Park" author Michael Crichton collaborating, how could this underwater adventure be anything less than spectacular? Thus I gave "Sphere" every chance, but I almost walked out after the first 45 minutes of the film.

"Sphere" has a potentially promising plot from the get-go: a massive spaceship from Earth's future crashes in the Pacific Ocean 300 years ago

due to a time warping phenomenon in space. U.S. Navy ships corral the area and set up a Habitat 1,000 feet below in order to explore the alien craft. A top secret government agency assembles a four-person reaction team based on the recommendations of a bogus report prepared by Dr. Norman Goodman (Dustin Hoffman), a psychologist who drafted a policy on extraterrestrial encounters for the Bush administration. Dr. Goodman creeps down to the Habitat with the three other scientists and the uneasy squad hopes for an amicable close encounter.

The team splits up once it makes its way into the haunting space ship. Beth (Sharon Stone) accidentally triggers an elevator which stops on the bridge of the craft. The music shrieks, the cameras pan, and what do we see? A fried human corpse holding a bag of Blue Diamond smoked almonds in its putrefied hand. Huh? Smoked almonds in the hands of a dead alien—for 300 years? This was my first clue that the movie was in trouble.

The team reassembles on another deck where a buoyant, gold sphere spins effortlessly. The sphere repre-

sents some type of unknown power, which once touched by humans, manifests the worst fears their imaginations can produce. Harry (Samuel L. Jackson), an overtly curious mathematician, enters the sphere and is endowed with its power. Through his fears, the Habitat's computer system is taken over and contact is made with a bipolar alien force named Jerry. The joke is Jerry is Harry, but Harry doesn't know it.

One by one, members of the team enter the golden orb and the encounter incarnates their nightmares. Harry causes a giant squid to attack the Habitat after he reads "Twenty Thousand Leagues Under the Sea." Beth relapses into a psychotic state and Dr. Goodman is attacked by sea snakes inside the Habitat. Oh, and lest I forget, a government drone (Queen Latifah) suffers a comical attack of killer jellyfish. These fears become unbelievable and irrational, especially when Dr. Goodman attempts "therapy" with Jerry (who is Harry) through the computer system.

But the "fears" aren't nearly as frightful as the acting. Hoffman, to me, seems disinterested and uncon-

vincing, like he could care less if he's there or not. Sharon Stone acts stoned throughout the latter half of the movie and her lackluster performance is extremely disappointing. Samuel Jackson's performance is perhaps the most convincing of all, but the actors, despite their respective competencies, never seem to mesh.

Moreover, I have to say I'm equally annoyed with Barry Levinson. This man knows what it takes to make a hit film, but Levinson's underwater adventure is a bigger wreck than the sinking of the real "Titanic."

HOUSTON VOICE RATING: ★

Rated: PG-13

Run Time: 120 minutes

Genre: Science Fiction

Director: Barry Levinson

Screenplay: Stephen Hauser and Paul Attanasio

Cast: Dustin Hoffman, Sharon Stone, Samuel L. Jackson and Liev Schreiber

Theaters: multiple venues throughout the city

Trockin' on in to Houston

Riotous Les Ballets Trockadero slated Feb. 24

by RICH ARENSCHIEDT

Universally acclaimed choreographer George Balanchine said it best when he defined classical dance by stating "Ballet is woman." Obviously he never laid eyes on the masculine chests, armpits and legs of the "en travesti" troupe, Les Ballets Trockadero de Monte Carlo. A truly unusual company committed (and they should be) to the presentation of classical repertoire presented in a hormonally challenged manner.

Society For the Performing Arts drags these guys to town for one performance only, Tuesday, February 24th at 8:00 p.m. in Jones Hall to offer what appears, on paper, to be a rather traditional program. The 12

members perform both feminine and masculine roles in a staple of the dance world, "Swan Lake." This is the Trock's signature piece and it slightly resembles the one originally presented by Moscow's Bolshoi Ballet in 1887. At its premiere, the work was said to be "treated unsuccessfully" — knowing this, the Trocks took the show to Denmark, performed a little

"surgery" (you know, a snip here, a tuck there) and VOILA! A kinder gentler version of a formerly tundra-laden balletic adventure was born.

You probably know the "Swan Lake" story — punitive people turning princesses into poultry and then being rescued by some guy proclaiming to be a prince, who's really a queen. Suffice it to say that the Trocks adhere to the "mysterious and pathetic qualities of the tragic heroine juxtaposed with the canonized glamour ever prevalent in the Russian ballet of the 19th century" oh brother, get me a shovel!

Aside from interpretations of classic works that have fallen off the cutting edge, there are other subtle clues that all is not right with the 'boys in the band'. 'Noms de Plummage' listed in the program make famous personages of the ballet world tremble in their toeshoes. I feel compelled to list just a few: Mikhail Mypansarov (you have to say it outloud) Margeaux Mundeyn, Adam Baum, Magaret Lowen-Octeyn, Andrei Verikose and last but not least, the Legupski brothers, Dimitri and

Vladimir. Descriptions of the artists are varied to say the least. One dancer is honored as a "Pillar of the Stonehenge Ballet." One supposed EmigrÉ has defected to America three times only to be returned for "artistic reasons." Mr. Mypansarov's bio states that he has been paired with some of the greatest ballerinas of our time (and has even danced with some of them).

Even with all this gender juxtaposed

jocularity, these guys can dance at a level well beyond that expected of males in major companies. Their real life bios spout training from such stalwarts of movement as 'The Joffrey Ballet', 'Dance Theater of Harlem', 'The Alvin

Ailey American Dance Company', 'Columbia National Ballet' and (much to Ben Stevenson's chagrin or delight) the Houston Ballet Academy. 'Ballet Trockadero de Monte Carlo' has been around for 23 years, touring North and South America, Europe and Asia. The Trock's recent visit to Indonesia is rumored to be partly responsi-

ble for the virtual disintegration of that country's financial, political and moral fabric.

The Trocks dance so well that you may temporarily forget they are male (an easy task for some of us). Their familiarity with these war-horses of dance makes the exposed foibles, falls and errors even funnier. While these gentlemen are tilting off pointe, you'll be falling out of your chair with laughter.

This group spins and spoofs with the most honorable intentions, though nothing is sacred or spared. They poke fun at dramatic divas, the story ballet and even the Godlike Mr. Balanchine (perhaps in retaliation for his well known and sexist comment regarding their artform). As a matter of fact, Princess Grace of Monaco's last words were reported to be "They're NOT from Monte Carlo!"

They haven't (dis)graced our city in thirteen years, skip the rodeo, let's welcome 'Trocks in Frocks' back with a hoot.

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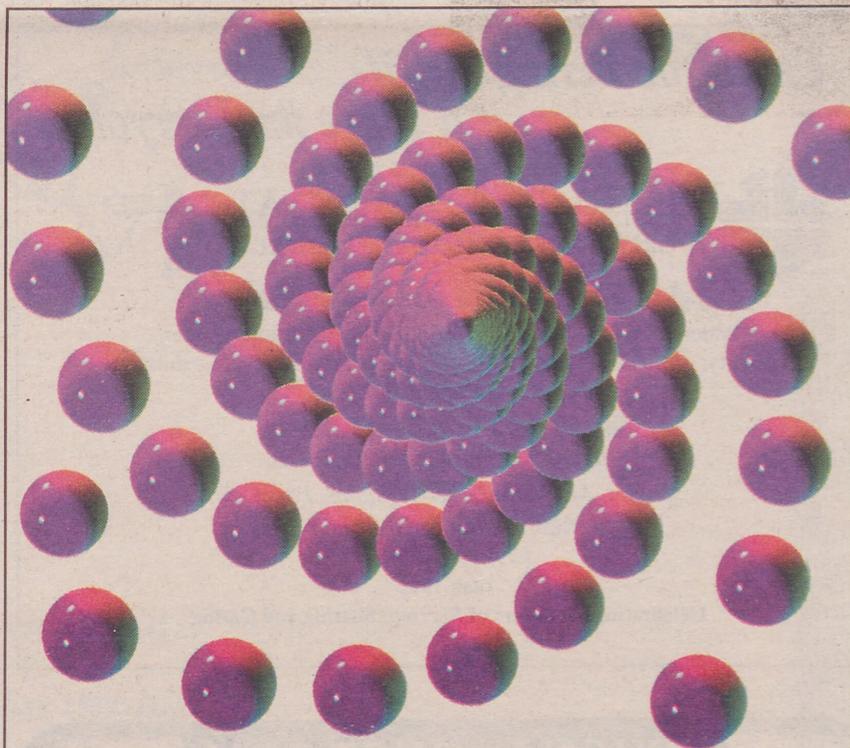
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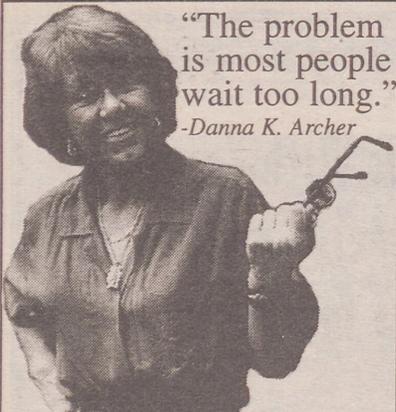
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· The Church of Good Life on the Internet: http://www.syncretist.org/church.htm.

Saturday-February 21

· Mass at Dignity Houston at 7:30 pm. 880-2872.
· The Church of Good Life on the Internet: http://www.syncretist.org/church.htm.

Sunday-February 22

· Church of the XII Apostles Anglican Rite Old Catholic Church; Holy Communion 10:30 am at 239 Westheimer. 713/665-7903.
· Holy Rite Eucharist I 8:00 am; Holy Rite Eucharist II 9:00 am; Choral Eucharist 11:00 am at St. Stephen's Episcopal Church, 1805 W. Alabama. 528-6665.
· Maranatha Fellowship Metropolitan Church Service at 11 am.
· MCCR Worship services 9:00 & 11:00 am 861-9149.
· Grace Lutheran Church Sunday school for all ages at 9:30 am Worship Service at 10:30 am 528-3269.
· First Unitarian Universalist Church Sunday Services at 9:30 am and 11:30 am 526-5200.
· Services at 5:30 pm Dignity Church 880-2872.
· Community Gospel Praise and Worship service at 11:00 am Sunday School for children. Evening Service at 7 pm. (A Study in the Book of Genesis.) 4305 Lillian 880-9235. Catch them at www.communitygospel.org.
· Houston Mission Church Worship service at 10:30 am 529-8225.
· Covenant Baptist Church Worship service 1:30 pm and education hour at 3:00 pm 668-8830.
· Bering Memorial United Methodist Church Worship service 10:50 am. Seekers class 9:15 am 526-1017.
· MCCR Handbell Choir Rehearsal at 7:00 pm Black Heritage Concert @ 6 pm; 861-9149.
· Unitarian Fellowship of Galveston County, 402 Church St. in Galveston. Sunday

Services at 10:30 am weekly. 409-765-8330.
· The Church of Good Life on the Internet: http://www.syncretist.org/church.htm.

Monday-February 23

· Low impact aerobics done to Christian Music for body, soul, and spirit at Community Gospel; 6:30 pm, \$2. Certified instructor. 880-9235 or www.communitygospel.org.
· Catholic Mass at 7:30 pm at the Kolbe Project. 861-1800

Tuesday-February 24

· MCCR: Empowerment for Living support group & pot luck dinner at 6:00 pm. Gloryland Ensemble at 6:00 pm Orchestra rehearsal at 7:30 pm. 861-9149.
· PROTECT meets at Bering Church. 520-7870.
· Maranatha Fellowship MCC has groups that meet in each others home for a time of fellowship, sharing God's word, and prayer. Call for the location in your area 528-6756.
· The Church of Good Life on the Internet: http://www.syncretist.org/church.htm.

Wednesday-February 25

· Holy Eucharist Rite II 12 Noon at St. Stephen's Episcopal Church, 1805 W. Alabama. 528-6665.
· MCCR Bible Study 7:30 pm 861-9149.
· Worship Service 7:30 pm at Faith and Hope Fellowship 773-4429.
· The Church of Good Life on the Internet: http://www.syncretist.org/church.htm.
· Ash Wednesday Service at Maranatha. 528-6756.

Thursday-February 26

· Bible Study 7:00 pm at Faith and Hope Fellowship 773-4429.
· Choir Practice at Community Gospel 6:30 pm 880-9235 or www.communitygospel.org.
· Choir Practice at 6:30 pm. Midweek Service at Community Gospel 7:30 pm 880-9235 or www.communitygospel.org.
· The Church of Good Life on the Internet: http://www.syncretist.org/church.htm.
If you want an event listed in this section, please call Carolyn Roberts at 529-8490 by 12 Noon Mondays.

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MAYOR/from page 1

through phone tree and internet efforts, gay activists warned that they expected a large turn-out of anti-gay speakers at the public session of the city council on Tuesday, Feb. 17, and urged gay and lesbian citizens to come to the meeting and speak in favor of the mayor's initiative.

Mayor Brown, however, took both sides by surprise when his office issued the signed executive order to the press Monday morning.

City Councilmember Annise Parker's staff, for instance, learned of the mayor's action in a phone call from a *Houston Voice* reporter.

Thus, while the stage was set for a public opinion showdown Tuesday, Brown's action on Monday seemed to take the wind out of the right-wing's sails.

According to mayoral spokesman Don Payne, as of the time that the mayor signed the order, phone calls and e-mails to his office regarding the executive order were 466 in favor and 458 against.

By the time Tuesday's council meeting convened, anti-gay opposition to the executive order (by then already in effect) seemed to have evaporated. About 25 citizens spoke in favor of the mayor's executive order; and just one spoke against it.

Among the pro-order speakers were several PFLAG parents, two openly gay city employees and a variety of political activists and average citizens.

The most prominent pro-order speaker was U.S. Rep. Sheila Jackson Lee. "I come before you this afternoon to applaud enthusiastically the executive order of this mayor," Rep. Lee said. "I believe that this is not only the right thing to do for Houston...but we are looking to implement this type of legislation on the federal level."

As the first speaker to the podium to address the executive order in a meeting that had been, to that point, preoccupied with issues of disc golf fund raising, billboard zoning, police department office furniture and a neighborhood battle over a proposed

park, Rep. Lee delivered a ringing endorsement of the executive order that provoked a thunderous standing ovation from the predominantly pro-gay crowd.

Such outbursts violate the rules of conduct of a city council meeting, and it was followed by a firm rebuke on the part the council's agenda manager. All subsequent comments by the members of the public, each of whom was limited to one minute at the podium, were received with polite thank yous from the mayor and various council members.

Decorum was broken only one other time during the session, when Councilmember Parker got a huge laugh from the audience.

One of the openly gay city employees who spoke was questioned afterward at the podium by District F Councilmember Ray Driscoll. He asked if the man had ever personally experienced discrimination on the job, and the speaker replied that he had not.

Driscoll, who is generally rated as supportive on most gay issues by community activists, then asked the man if he didn't think, in light of this executive order, that the city might not also be required to issue job protection for smokers. "Well, you could do the same thing for redheads if you wanted to," the man replied. "But I don't think it's a parallel situation."

As he was leaving the podium, Councilmember Parker called him back for another question. "Do you think it is possible to quit smoking," she asked, producing peals of laughter from the audience.

The three most prominent critics of the policy on city council missed that moment. They had left the room earlier in the proceedings as the bulk of the pro-gay speakers came up on the agenda. Several other council members, including one vocal supporter, also left.

City hall observers said it is not unusual for a portion of council to have to leave to attend to other appointments during portions of the public session.

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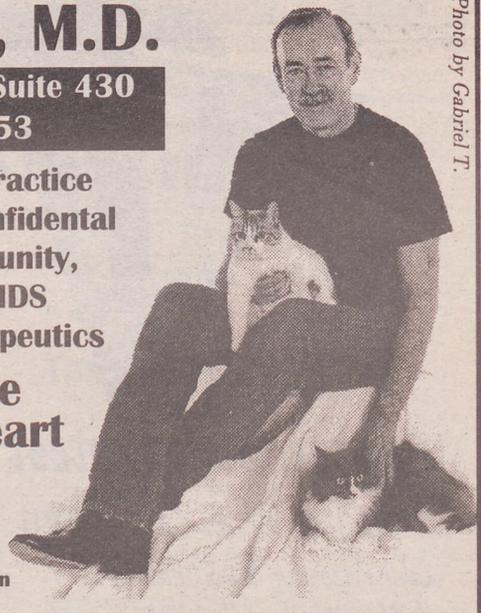


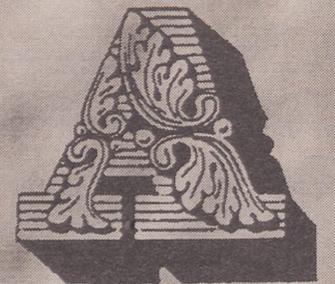
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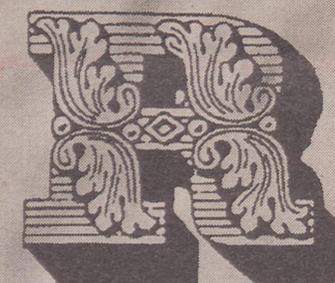
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Heavy Metal Rocker Comes Out On MTV

First appearing on MTV's Web site on Feb. 5, and then on the cable channel's "MTV News" program a day later, former "beast from Judas Priest" Rob Halford came out as gay. "I think that most people know that I've been a gay man all my life, and that it's only been in recent times that it's an issue that I feel comfortable to address," Halford told MTV. "It's something that I've been comfortable with forever...and this is the moment to discuss it and to go into the reasons, and the whys and the wherefores as to the statement, the so-called coming out phase," he added.



Rob Halford

In March, Halford's new band Two will release their first album, *Voyeurs*. "A lot of homophobia still exists in the music world," Halford said. "I wouldn't say it's any more phobic in metal or rap...but just something...we all have to address in our own lives. If we have a problem with it, I think we should seek help and find out why we do have a problem with it." MTV said Halford hopes his openness will inspire others. "I think it's difficult for everybody...especially if you're a teenager," he said. "Maybe people like myself...that do step in front of a camera and let the world know, maybe it's of some help, where there's an individual that's been successful...and not let the issue of sexuality be something to hold them back."

Contact: Rob Halford, c/o Nothing Records, 225 Lafayette St., New York, NY 10012; Judy McGrath, President, MTV, 1515 Broadway, 23rd Floor, New York, NY 10036-8901, fax: 212.846.1942, www.mtv.com

Intersex-o-Rama

Two outstanding stories about intersex issues have been recently featured in unlikely places: the March issue of *Mademoiselle* and the Feb. 9 broadcast of Chicago's FOX affiliate's 9 o'clock news. The Fox story, "Born Both Sexes," interviews both the Intersex Society of North America (ISNA) Executive Director Cheryl Chase and intersex activist Angela Moreno. "Intersex," reporter Laura Jones says, "challenges the conventional definition of gender."

In addition to Chase, Moreno and her parents discuss their frustration with a medical community intolerant of ambiguous genitalia. For Moreno, doctors recommended that at age 12, she be subjected to a clitoradectomy. "Surgery performed without their consent," Jones says, which "amounts to cosmetic surgery." Finally, ethicist Alice Dreger is also interviewed, stating that the current medical practice is unethical, and that the focus should be on helping children to accept who they are. Jones asks Angela's parents if "they would do things different" knowing what they do today. "I think I would just leave them [intersex people] alone until they could make up their own mind," said the father.

Meanwhile, the *Mademoiselle* article, "Am I A Woman or Am I A Man?"

is an in-depth narrative by Angela as told to Jan Goodwin. She says, "I'd been told by my doctor that I had ovarian cancer and needed a hysterectomy." In reality, she says, at the age of 12, she was cosmetically made female and her enlarged clitoris was removed after doctors discovered she was externally female but internally and chromosomally male.

"No one at the hospital ever said what was really wrong with me. No one gave me any answers. For 12 years after that, I suffered in ignorance, afraid that I was some freak of nature," she says. She spent her adolescence hating her body, though prior to surgery she'd seen nothing wrong with it. Now she says she's taking control again by being an activist, speaking out against the medical practices she and thousands of other intersex people endure.

Contact: Stacey Marks-Bronner, General Manager, WFLD-TV, 205 N. Michigan, 2nd Fl., Chicago, IL 60601-5916, fax: 312.819.0820; Faye Haun, Managing Editor, *Mademoiselle*, 350 Madison Ave., New York, NY 10017-3704, fax: 212.880.8248

Straight Talk on Gay Dress

Columnist Matt Obmascik's article in the Feb. 5 *Denver Post* skewers the absurd rule at a local high school against dressing gay. "At a time when most schools are begging students to stay, Lutheran [High School] booted a teenager for coming to school dressed like a homosexual, whatever that means," he writes. "In the words of [the] school director, 'Our dress code states that students can't wear clothes in such a way to be in opposition to the Bible. He was asked to leave because of the gay clothing, the gay jewelry.'" Obmascik notes that 18-year-old Jeremy Garza "dressed gay" by wearing black leather pants, or buttoned-up green polyester shirts and "Ward Cleaver" pants. "Some fabrics," he adds, "even were a little shimmery." He concedes that even though Garza wore no clothes with gay messages, he did wear a rainbow bracelet and necklace. "With a 3.3 grade-point average and an impressive 1,250 score on his SAT, Garza wasn't considered a troublemaker in school," he writes. Garza told a teacher he was gay when asked, but the school director told Obmascik, "We don't want to remove a student just because he's sinful. If we did that, we'd all be gone. But we do have a dress code." Ah yes," the columnist continues, "That dress code. It bans students from wearing anything that brings undue attention, though covered tattoos and even Green Bay Packers jerseys are OK, as are male students with earrings. While visiting the school, I asked if my clothes conformed to code. The director looked at my soft, swishy corduroys and my plush, velvety sweater and said: 'You're wonderful.' In the hallways, I saw kids in heterosexual jeans, heterosexual shirts and heterosexual sneakers. To be perfectly straight, I thought they dressed a lot like Ellen DeGeneres." Please thank the *Denver Post* for this biting and insightful column highlighting the absurdity of generalizations about gay people and identity. Contact: Jeanette Chavez, Managing Editor, *Denver Post*, 1560 Broadway, Denver, CO 80202-5177, fax: 303.820.1369, e-mail: letters@denverpost.com

Contact: Gay & Lesbian Alliance Against Defamation (GLAAD) at 1.800.GAY.MEDIA or www.glaad.org.

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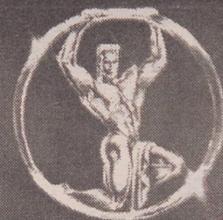
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Spacious Westbury Gardens 2 Bedroom-2 1/2 Bath Condo/Townhouse. Being refurbished with new GE stove, dishwasher, side-by-side refrigerator, full-size washer/dryer, French doors to patio, brass light fixtures & accessories, and Berber carpet. In a quiet courtyard with European ambiance. Only 15 minutes from Montrose. \$33,500 Call 713.729.9316 for appointment. Agent.

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WebSites

www.houstonvoice.com
KWhite-www.HoustonGay
http://www.dupontmerck.co
www.basicbrothers.com
www.communitygospel.org
http://ticketmaster.com
www.agouron.com
www.the/clubs.com
http://www.Roxane.com
www.pacificstreet.com
http://www.midtowne.spa.com/spa
www.dudejack.com
www.confidentialconnection.com
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Single White GM looking for play buddies. Blue & Red hankie, versatile, enjoys fantasies, long sessions. Masculine, party favors O.K. 50's, 5'11", 160#. Paul 713.721.0091, leave message.

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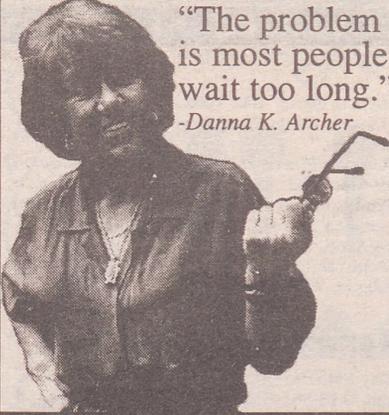
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"The problem is most people wait too long."
-Danna K. Archer



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Friday, February 20

- Free HIV testing by the Montrose Clinic at E/J's 6-10 pm and at the Midtowne Spa 10 pm to 1 am.
- AIDS Mastery Workshop. 861-6453.
- HIV+ Art classes at the Art League. 523-8817.
- HATCH meets. 942-7002.
- Houston Tennis Club meets at 7:30 pm. 713/864-8468
- Aftercare Group Treatment at Montrose Counseling Center. 6pm. 529-0037.
- Frost Eye Clinic: Free eye exams for HIV+ people. 520-2000.
- Lesbian Avengers meet at Toffee's, 1830 W. Alabama @ 7pm.
- Q-Patrol Meets to walk the streets at 10:30pm. 528-SAFE.
- Recovery and Beyond-relationship group meets at 8 pm. 713-333-9092.
- Kolbe Projects' Park Plaza Hospital Visitation. 713-861-1800.
- HIV Art Course Program; 1-4pm. Patrick Palmer at 526-1118.
- Houston Chain Gang Cycling Club meets for dinner. 768-8793.
- SNAP (Spay and Neuter Assistance Program) 713/522-2337.
- Accounting for Unsafe Sex at U of H. 2:30 at Architecture Theatre.
- Lesbians in Business general meeting. 6:30 pm. 526-1-17.
- Silk Stocking Ball in Galveston. 409/986-6100.

Saturday, February 21

- Free HIV Testing by the Montrose Clinic at Brick's II 4 to 8 pm and the 611 Hyde Park Pub 8 pm to midnight.
- AIDS Housing Coalition Houston: A 90 day gay positive emergency house for PWA's in transition. 10am to 12pm. 117 Tuam Ave. @ Helena. FYI 713-521-1613.
- After Hours on KPFT 12am to 3am. 90.1 FM. 526-5738.
- Q-Patrol meets to walk the streets at 10:30pm. 528-SAFE.
- Visual Art Alliance meets at 10am. 583-8408.
- Rainbow Fishing Club meets. 713-526-7070.
- Houston Chain Gang Bicycle Club meets. 713-863-1860.
- Houston Outdoor Group meets for breakfast. 713/721-9151.

Sunday, February 22

- The Women's Group meets 10:45am. FYI Iris at 713-529-8571.

- HATCH meets. 942-7002.
- Houston Chain Gang Bicycle Club meets. 713-863-1860
- Rainbow Riders; A bicycle club for women. 713-869-1686.
- FrontRunners meet at 9:00 am. 713-522-8021.
- Houston Tennis Club meets at 10:30 am. 713-864-8468.
- Montrose Ice Picks skate at the Galleria at 5:00 pm. 713-629-1432.

Monday, February 23

- Gay Fathers/Fathers First support group. 8pm. 713-861-6181.
- Calendar/Computer workshop for Pride Week. 7pm. 529-1223.
- Outpatient Group Treatment at Montrose Counseling Center. 6pm. 529-0037.
- Men Survivors of Sexual Abuse Group at Montrose Counseling Center. 6:15pm. 529-0037.
- Frost Eye Clinic: Free eye exams for HIV+ people. 520-2000.
- AIDS Caregiver's Support Group meets at 6pm. 732-4300.
- AVES sponsored free HIV testing from 10am to 5pm at 4125 SW Freeway, Ste 1717.
- HeartSong meets. 541-3495.
- Houston Area Women's Center's Volunteer training. 535-6363.
- Texas Medical Center Lambda Group meets. 523-5539.
- Free HIV testing by the Montrose Clinic; Mary's 9 am to 1 pm; Brazos River Bottom 4 to 8pm; QT's 8pm-12am.
- Kolbe Project's Park Plaza Visitation; 713-861-1800.
- AIDS Foundation Houston offers free creative writing class. 3:00 pm. 713-623-6796.
- FrontRunners meets at 6:30 pm. 713-522-8021.
- Cancer Support Group meets at 6:30 pm. 713-681-1309.
- Log Cabin Republicans meets at 7:00 pm. 713/529-9100.
- Gay and Lesbian Readers Group meets at 7 pm. 713/349-0050.
- Houston Outdoor Group meets at 7:30 pm. 713/KAMPOUT.

Tuesday, February 24

- Sex, Lies & Video Tapes workshop by AIDS Foundation Houston 7-9pm 623-6796.
- Helping Cross Dressers Anonymous meets at 239 Westheimer. 7pm. 495-8009.
- Gay Men HIV+ Psychotherapy at Montrose Counseling Center. 4:30pm. 529-0037.

- Youth-Rap at 6:30pm. 822-8511.
- Aftercare Group Treatment at Montrose Counseling Center. 6pm. 529-0037
- AIDS Alliance of the Bay Area meets at 7pm. 488-4492.
- Empowerment for Living meets for pot luck. 861-9149.
- PROTECT: an HIV negative support group meets at 7pm. 520-7870.
- Free HIV testing by Montrose Clinic; Career Recovery/Resources Center 4 to 8 pm and Club Body Center 8pm to Midnight.
- Women Survivors of Childhood Abuse at Montrose Counseling Center. 6:30pm. 529-0037.
- Live Jazz at Borders Book Shop. 782-6066.
- Free Spay & Neuter Assistance (SNAP) 713-522-2337.
- Kolbe Projects' Park Plaza Visitation; 713-861-1800.
- Project Ceaser at AFH. 713-623-6796.
- HIV + Support group for men over 50 meets at 7:30 pm. 713/527-9106.
- AIDS Equity League meets at noon. 713/910-2900.
- HIV/AIDS Treatment Mixer at 7 pm. 713/527-8219.
- Love, Lust, and Intimacy discussion group meets at 7 pm. 713/524-2374.
- Houston Outdoor Group's monthly business meeting at 7:30 pm. 713/KAMPOUT.
- Buto-sha Tenkei Japanese Dance at Diverseworks at 8 pm. 713/228-0914.

Wednesday, February 25

- Free HIV testing by the Montrose Clinic; Mary's 4-8pm; Chances 6 to 10 pm. Nighthawks/Venture-N 8 pm to midnight.
- Frost Eye Clinic: Free eye exams to HIV+ people. 520-2000.
- Houston Pride Band practices at Dignity Houston. 524-0218.
- Houston Tennis Club meets at 7:30 pm. 713/864-8468.
- GLOBAL (Gay, Lesbian & Bisexual Alliance at the U of H) meets at 4:30pm. 713/791-1412.
- Women's Action Coalition meets at Toffee's at 7pm. 867-9581.
- Women's Network at Montrose Counseling Center. 7pm. 529-0037.
- Ongoing Mixed Living in Process Group for men and women. 622-7250.
- Aftercare Group Treatment at Montrose Counseling Center. 6pm. 529-0037/
- HIV Survivor Support Group meets at 7pm. 782-4050.
- Women's Clinic at the Montrose Clinic. 5 to 8pm. Call 520-2000.

- BiNet of Houston meets at 7pm. 861-9149.
- AVES offers free HIV testing from 10am to 5pm at 4125 SW Freeway, Suite 1717.
- Cancer Dialogue Support Group meets at noon at Park Plaza Hospital. 1/800-611-CARE.
- Free Spay & Neuter Assistance (SNAP) 713-522-2337.
- Kolbe Project's Hospital Visitation; 713-861-1800.
- Houston Harpies Ice Hockey Team recruits. 713-802-1248.
- Thomas Street Health Center Council meets at 2 pm. 713-902-2231.
- Rainbow Rantlers at 8 pm at the BRB.
- Lambda Rollerskating Club skates at 8 pm. 281-933-5818.
- Thomas Street Health Center Council meets at 2 pm. 902-2231.
- Healing and Happiness Through Wellness at 7 pm. 623-6796.

Thursday, February 26

- Art Labs at The Art League at 1pm. 713-225-9411.
- Gay Men's Chorus of Houston open rehearsal at 7pm. 521-7464.
- Twentysomething meets at 7:30pm. 315-6786.
- KPFT Lesbian & Gay Voices airs from 8 to 10pm. 866-6505.
- Ongoing gay men's Living in Process Groups. 622-7250.
- Open Mike Night at Cafe Artiste. 1601 W. Main. 8pm. 528-3704.
- HIV+ Men Psychotherapy at Montrose Counseling Center. 1:15pm. 529-0037.
- Relapse Prevention at Montrose Counseling Center. 2pm. 529-0037.
- Outpatient Group Treatment at Montrose Counseling Center. 6pm. 529-0037.
- Aftercare Group Treatment at Montrose Counseling Center. 6pm. 529-0037.
- Women's Therapy Group at Montrose Counseling Center. 5:30pm. 529-0037.
- Meditation and Chanting Group meets at 7pm. 942-0923.
- HIV Affected at CASA. 7pm. 796-2272.
- HIV Survivor Support Group meets at 2929 Unity Drive. 7pm. 782-4050.
- Center for the Healing of Racism. 7:30pm. 738-RACE.
- Free Spay/Neuter Assistance Program (SNAP) Frontrunners run at 6:30 pm. 713-522-8021.
- HIV Art Course Program; 1-4pm. Patrick Palmer at 526-1118.
- HIV Prevention Community Planning Group meets at 9 am. 713-794-9251.
- Montrose Ice Picks skate at 8 pm. 713-629-1432.

GALAXY GAYZER A Houston Voice Exclusive
Your Horoscope for the week of February 22 thru 28

ARIES: (March 21-April 20) You both look and feel good; your high energy and upbeat attitude is catching on with others. Take advantage of your appeal to make gains in your personal and professional life. It's a great time to improve relationships.

TAURUS: (April 21 - May 21) Make it a point of accomplishing those things that have been on your to-do list. There will be great personal power for you. A certain amount of stress will no doubt accompany your busy schedule; lashing out at family members will get you nowhere.

GEMINI: (May 22 - June 21) Romance is in the air, and that warm glow from you and your lover will get you through any unpleasant situations in the workplace. Get chores and errands out of the way, creating extra quality time to spend with family and friends.

CANCER: (June 22 - July 23) You might fall in love, so take extra care with who you shower your affections on. It's time to consult a financial planner on any longterm investments you've been considering. Your intuition about money is right on target. Avoid criticism.

LEO: (July 24-August 23) This entire month will be quite busy for you, both at home and at work. You are getting closer and closer to personal and career goals, so remember those who have helped you achieve what you want. Be supportive of family members, especially children.

VIRGO: (August 24 - September 23) Help out wherever you can this week, but make sure to avoid any manipulators, all those efforts should go to a worthwhile cause. There may be an extra cash flow just in time for weekend fun you have planned. Enjoy any break from your usual routine and have fun.

LIBRA: (September 24 - October 23) You are ready to conquer all obstacles in your way, just make sure not to hurt anyone. You're likely to find kindred spirits to further career and social plans. Major home repairs may be

very necessary. It isn't such a bad idea to spend some time alone.

SCORPIO: (October 24 - November 22) This week will both begin and end on a high note. You are in tune with your sweetheart and everything seems to be running smoothly. You can move closer to your goals, with a possible new business partnership in the offing. Sign that new contract.

SAGITTARIUS: (November 23 - December 21) You may need to get away from your hectic routine and be alone with your thoughts. It's a great time to travel. Be confident of successes in any business dealings. Avoid unpleasant financial surprises by going over bank statements for any discrepancies.

CAPRICORN: (December 22 - January 20) A friend challenges you to break out of your shell and promote yourself for advancement. You've nothing to lose, and will be happier in the long run. Time spent with someone close can make your day. The world is filled with dreamers and doers, be a doer.

AQUARIUS: (January 21 - February 19) Very prominent people will want your opinion, so be very careful how you word any responses. It is hard to avoid confrontation with those around you, so it's better to remain silent than drawn into unnecessary arguments. Someone close may turn on you.

PISCES: (February 20 - March 20) Career advancement is effortless, so pursue your cherished goals. Co-workers will welcome your ideas. Keep your cool in family situations which may be getting out of hand. There may be a difference of opinion, causing distance between you and someone close to you. Be fair.

IF YOUR BIRTHDAY IS THIS WEEK: Let the lessons of your past experiences guide you to any practical applications of your ideas for the future. It's time to review your job, relationships and financial commitments, to see how they match up with your future life goals. Make plans to change whatever isn't working.

Wild Oscar's Happy Puzzle
"The one person who has more illusions than the dreamer is the man of action."—19th century Irish wit Oscar Wilde

- ACROSS**
- 1 cut (past tense) with a saw
 - 6 national gay mag turned 30 years in 1997
 - 13 serious outbreak, as in AIDS
 - 15 earthenware pot with wide mouth
 - 16 Evergreen State, abbr.
 - 17 16th century German monk Luther, initials ("The fewer the words, the better the prayer.")
 - 18 gay Episcopal group
 - 21 small island
 - 24 1000 watts, abbr.
 - 26 group for alcoholics, abbr.
 - 27 rock legend wears a dress in movie 'Bent,' 2 words
 - 31 Harvey, S.F. gay supervisor (councilman), assassinated 1978
 - 33 Central Intelligence Agency
 - 34 informal British for 'thank you,' usually said twice
 - 35 Centennial State, abbr.
 - 36 equally; for instance
 - 37 under the junction of arm & shoulder
 - 40 gay Republican group, 2 words
 - 44 Canadian province with capital Regina, abbr.
 - 45 made amends
 - 47 not down
 - 48 roads (as a postal address) abbr.
 - 50 Muslim holy war
 - 51 do away with
 - 53 Ralph, departed director of the Chris-

(sexy to-sexy) past participles a mirror winner, initials ed, remunerated

2 U.S.-based int'l news service 5 Clinton's bloc, abbr. 9 free from clouds 16 sounds like 'double you tee'

3 Burroughs, was Beat Generation's elder statesman 6 1st & 3rd vowels of the alphabet 10 a lower plant such as seaweed 19 henpeck 20 Roman numeral 3 22 conceited smile 23 South American country with Quito as capital, abbr. 25 Buddhist temple in Cambodia or Thailand 28 Haring, late gay graffiti artist 29 strong wind 30 ... on, urge to action 31 crowd 32 countries 33 S.F. gay area 35 Truman, author of 'Breakfast at Tiffany's' 38 compensat-

4 verb suffix used to form 7 Roman numeral 601 8 TOO in 11 besmear 12 Eskimo canoes 14 Rev. King, 1964 Noble Prize

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
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		50					51		52		
53	54				55						
56				57			58				

55 Daughters of, 1st lesbian rights group in U.S., formed 1955

56 the killer whale

57 MOSS upside down

58 songwriter Foster or composer Sondheim

DOWN

1 prefix for partial

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Cyber.Spirits :)**

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The Lazy J

312 Team Houston
713-528-9343

Saturday Super Show

February 21 10:30pm

M.C. Michelle

Special Guest

**Charlie
Dynasty
C.G.**



Friday Night 8-Ball
League Members Only • Cash Prizes



**FAT TUESDAY
Madness**

CUERVO SHOTS
\$2.00
TUESDAY-ALL DAY

BLUE JELLO SHOTS
\$1.00
TUESDAY-ALL DAY

Come let the friendliest bartenders
in town Read Your Beads on
Fat Tuesday

**The
OUTPOST**
1419 Richmond
713-520-8446

Shuffleboard Tournament
Tuesday · 7pm

Talent Night

Tuesdays & Thursdays

Week #4 Preliminary

Winners of the Tuesday & Thursday will
return on March 8 for finals.

\$500 Cash - Winner Take All

Saturday February 21 · 2pm

Richard

Pinson

Celebration of Life

**Super Saturday
Night Fever**



Roxanne Lee Love



Lana Blake



Paivi Lee Love



Dyan Michaels

Super Saturday Show
Alexis Van Derhurst



2517 Ralph St. at Westheimer
(713) 527-9071

Happy Hour 7am - 9pm Weekdays

\$1.50 Well 4-7 Saturday

\$1.50 Vodka 7am - 6pm

Mug Club 7am - 10pm

\$3.75 Pitchers & \$1.75 Mugs

Sunday, Feb. 22 · 10pm

**EJ's
Turnabout
Show**

FRI 2/20

MALE STRIP CONTEST at 11 pm with Paivi

SAT 2/21

SATURDAY NIGHT FEVER at 11 pm

SUN 2/22

\$1 Budweiser & Bud Light All Day and All Night

MON 2/23

MALE STRIP CONTEST at 11 pm with Paivi

TUE 2/24

Amateur/Talent Night at 11 pm with Dyan Michaels

WED 2/25

Granny's Burgers!

THUR 2/26

Amateur/Talent Night at 11 pm with Roxanne Lee Love & Granny's Tacos

Friday, February 20

- Brazos River Bottom: \$1.75 well & domestic longnecks, \$1.25 regular schnapps 7am til 11pm Buffet at 4:00 pm.
- BriarPatch: Wayne Gray plays tonight! Blackjack tables with Bunny open at 9:30pm.
- Bricks II: Happy Hour 7am to noon \$1.25 well; \$1.25 Domestic Longnecks; \$1.75 well and domestic beer from noon to 9:00 pm
- Chances: Power Hours with \$1.75 domestic beer & well 10am to 3pm; Happy Hour 3 to 8pm with \$2.25 domestic beer & \$2.75 well cocktails; \$2 Jose Cuervo. Blues Broad Susan Masar sings at 9 pm.
- Club Incognito: Ladies night.
- Club Triangle: Doors open at 11:00 am. BYOB
- Cousin's: Super Friday Night Drag show with fabulous performers at 11pm.
- E/J's: Happy Hours 7am to 9pm; \$1.50 Well 4 to 7pm; \$1.50 vodka 7am to 6pm; Mug Club 7am to 10pm; Male Strip Contest at 11pm.
- Gentry: Happy Hour 2 to 8pm; Boy Toys dance at 6pm; \$2.25 Kamikazes open to close.
- Lazy J: Pool tournament
- Incognito: Ladies night!
- J.R.'s: Texas Pride Happy Hour 4 to 7pm \$2.25 well, \$1.75 domestic longnecks, \$3.50 Absolut Martinis & \$4.50 doubles, \$3.75 Skyy & Stoli: hard body male dancers.
- Lazy J: 8-ball tournament.
- Mary's: \$1.75 well drinks & longnecks 7am to 9pm; \$1.50 Vodka drinks 7am to 2pm.
- Montrose Mining Company: \$3.75 premium vodkas; Happy hour until 10pm; male dancers 8pm to 2:30am; After hours until 4am. \$1 well Vodka Juice Drinks.
- Mela's Tejano: Dance! Dance!
- Ms. B's: Open at 4 pm.
- OutPost: Happy Hour 11am to 8pm; Shuffleboard Tournament 6pm.
- Pacific Street: Foreplay! No Cover till 9pm. \$1.25 well; \$1.75 beer; \$3 call; \$3.50 premium; \$1.25 Schnapps; Doors open at 7pm.
- Paradise: Open 11 am; \$3.75 Call Martinis, \$2.25 well Martini All day all night!
- QT's: Open at 8 am; Jello Shots \$1 all day and all night! Jagermeister and Spearmint \$2.
- Ranch: Open at 7 pm.
- Rascals: Hot Bodies Night. No Cover Before 11pm.
- Rich's: "Fuel" 19 and up. DJ Chris Sill and Fusion.
- Ripcord: Happy Hour 1 to 8pm; After Hours until 4am.
- 611 Hyde Park Pub: Pizza Buffet at 5:30 pm; dancers at 9pm.
- The New Barn: Happy Hour 3 to 8pm with \$2.25 domestic beer & \$2.75 well cocktails, \$2 Cuervo. 9:00
- Venture-N: \$2 well, beer, & wine noon until 7pm; Guest Bartenders 9:00 pm. \$2.50 Cuervo!
- Vintage Bar has nightly wine tasting. 355-3093.
- XTC: Open at 9 pm.

Saturday, February 21

- Brazos River Bottom: \$1.75 domestic longnecks & well, \$1.25 regular schnapps 7am til 9pm. Joanne in the afternoons!
- BriarPatch: Wayne Gray tickles the ivories; Bunny deals Blackjack at 9:30pm
- Bricks II: Happy Hour 7am to 9pm; \$1.75 well; \$1.75 Domestic Longnecks.
- Chances: Power Hours with \$1.75 domestic beer & well 10am to 3pm; Happy Hour 3 to 8pm with \$2.25 domestic beer & \$2.75 well cocktails; \$2 Jose Cuervo.
- Club Incognito: Ladies' Night.
- Club Triangle: Doors open at 11:00 am. BYOB.
- Cousin's: Super Saturday night Drag show with top Houston talent at 11pm.
- E/J's: \$1.50 well 4 to 7pm; Mug Club 7am to 10pm; \$1.50 vodka 7am to 6pm. Super Show at 11pm.
- Gentry: Boy Toys at 9pm; \$3.75 Absolut cocktails open to close.
- Incognito: Alternative night. The Orbit Room!
- J.R.'s: Texas Pride Happy Hour 4 to 7pm \$2.25 well, \$1.75 domestic longnecks, \$3.50 Absolut Martinis & \$4.50 doubles; \$2.75 premium frozen drinks & premium draft beer, \$3.25 super premium draft beer.
- Lazy J: Drag show at 10:30pm.
- Mary's: Happy Hour 7:00 am to 2:00 pm. 50¢ draft on the patio.
- Mela's Tejano: Dance! Dance!
- Montrose Mining Company: \$3.75 Bacardi Limonade; male dancers 9pm to 2:30am; happy hour until 10pm; After hours until 4am.
- Ms. B's: Open at 6 pm.
- OutPost: Happy Hour 11am to 8pm.
- Pacific Street: Leather & Flesh Fantasy Night 9pm; no cover in erotic leather.
- Paradise: Doors open at 11 am. Happy

- House 11 am to 8 pm \$1.50 well and domestic longnecks.
- QT's: Open at 8 am.; Jagermeister and Spearmint \$2. \$1 jello shots all day and all night!
- Rascals: "Everybody Dance Night". No Cover before 11pm.
- Ranch: Open at 7 pm.
- Rich's: Doors open at 9pm, 21 and up, no cover 9-10pm. See Gorgeous Men from All Over Texas Dancing to the Grooves of the Billboard., D.J. J.D. Arnold.
- Ripcord: After hours until 4am.
- 611 Hyde Park Pub: Dancers @ 9pm; free munchies all the time.
- The New Barn: Power Hours with \$1.75 domestic beer & well 12 to 3pm; Happy Hour 3 to 8pm with \$2.25 domestic beer & \$2.75 well cocktails.
- Venture-N: \$2 well, beer, & wine noon until 7pm. Cuervo \$2.50!
- Vintage Bar has nightly wine tasting, 355-3093.
- XTC: Open at 9 pm.

Sunday, February 22

- Brazos River Bottom: \$1.75 domestic longnecks & well, \$1.25 regular schnapps Noon to 7pm; Steak night 5 to 9pm \$6 14oz t-bone & fixins.
- BriarPatch: Wayne plays your favorites.
- Bricks II: Happy Hour 12 Noon to 9pm; \$1.75 well; \$1.75 Domestic Longnecks; Sign Language Classes 3-4pm.
- Chances: Power Hours with \$1.75 domestic beer & well noon to 3pm; Happy Hour 3 to 8pm with \$2.25 domestic beer & \$2.75 well cocktails; \$2 Jose Cuervo.
- Club Triangle: Doors open at 11:00 am. BYOB. Pool Tournament at 2 pm.
- Cousin's: Sinful Sunday Drag Show at 11pm.
- E/J's: \$1 Bud & Bud Light All Day & Night.
- Gentry: Happy Hour 2 to 8pm; Boy Toy Dancers 7 to 11pm; Pool tournament at 6pm; Male Strip Contest at 11pm; \$2.25 Kool Aid shots open to close; Male Strip Frenzy Hosted by Black Velvet.
- J.R.'s: 99¢ well vodka juice drinks noon until 11pm, \$2.75 Shiner Bock; SRO Karaoke at 6pm; Male Swim wear strip contest at 11pm.
- Mary's: \$1.75 Well drinks & longnecks 10am to 2pm. 50¢ draft on the patio starting at 2:00 pm.
- Mela's Tejano: Bring your own BBQ.
- Montrose Mining Company: \$2 domestic longnecks; \$1.75 well drinks, \$1 vodka well drinks; Beer Bust \$2 (optional) with 25¢ refills; male dancers 9pm to 2am.
- OutPost: Happy Hour Noon to 8pm; Shuffleboard Tourney @ 1:30pm.
- Pacific Street: Doors open at 7:00 pm \$1.25 well, \$1.75 beer, \$3 call, \$3.50 premium, \$1.25 schnapps. No cover 7-9 pm.
- Paradise: Doors open at noon; Happy hours noon to 8 pm \$1.75 well drinks and domestic longnecks.; \$1.75 Bloody Mary all day and all night.
- QT's: Doors open at noon.
- Rascals: Super Sunday Show, 11:00pm - "Rascal's Untouchables". No Cover Before 11pm.
- Rich's: Trash Disco T-Dance. Doors open at 7 pm. DJ Chris Sill. Super cheap drinks!
- Ripcord: \$1.50 well & domestic beer all day/all night.
- 611 Hyde Park Pub: Brunch at noon.
- The New Barn: Power Hours with \$1.75 domestic beer & well noon to 3pm; Happy Hour 3 to 8pm with \$2.25 domestic beer & \$2.75 well cocktails. \$2 Cuervo.
- Venture-N: \$2 well, beer, & wine noon until 7pm; \$2.50 Cuervo; guest bartenders 6pm till???
- Vintage Bar has nightly wine tasting, 355-3093.

Monday, February 23

- Brazos River Bottom: \$1.75 well & domestic beer, \$1.25 regular schnapps all day, all night 7am-2pm. Football on the big screen; snacks.
- BriarPatch: Auntie Richard's at the MIXOLOGIST Table. Open Pool Table.
- Bricks II: \$1.25 well & domestic Longnecks; 7:00 am to noon, \$1.75 well & domestic noon to 9:00 pm.
- Chances: Power Hours with \$1.75 domestic beer & well 10am to 3pm; Happy Hour 3 to 8pm with \$2.25 domestic beer & \$2.75 well cocktails; \$2 Jose Cuervo.
- Club Houston: Half price lockers noon to midnight.
- Club Triangle: Doors open at 11:00 am. BYOB.
- E/J's: Happy Hour 7am to 9pm; \$1.50 Well 4 to 7pm; \$1.50 vodka 7am to 6pm; Mug Club 7am to 10pm; Male Strip 11pm.
- Gentry: Happy Hour 2 to 8pm; Boy Toy Dancers 9pm to 1am; \$3.25 Cuervo Gold open to close; Free Pool Table.
- Incognito: Male Strip night!

- J.R.'s: Texas Pride Happy Hour 4 to 7pm \$2.25 well, \$1.75 domestic longnecks, \$3.50 Absolut Martinis & \$4.50 doubles; Martinis & Muscles! \$3.75 top shelf Martinis, \$2.25 domestic longnecks, frozen Margaritas \$1.75; "Pump" male dance contest at 11pm.
- Mary's: \$1 Longnecks 8-11pm; \$1.75 well drinks & longnecks 7am to 9pm; \$1.50 Well vodka drinks 7am to 2pm.
- Midtowne Spa: Half-Price night room/video rooms Noon to Midnight.
- Metroplex: Doors open at 8 pm. \$2 well drinks and domestic longnecks. Music by Alex C.
- Montrose Mining Company: \$3.50 double well drinks, \$1.75 well, \$2 domestic longnecks; Pool tournament at 8:30pm; male dancers 9pm; Happy hour until 10pm.
- Outpost: Happy Hour 11am to 8pm.
- Pacific Street: Doors open at 9pm. No cover with pass. Lowest regular drink prices in town.
- Paradise: Doors open at 11am. All top shelf \$3.50 all day and all night!
- QT's: Killer Bee Shots \$2. Well vodka \$1.50 8 am to 2 pm.
- Ripcord: Boxer Shorts Night Boxer Shots \$1.25.
- 611 Hyde Park Pub: Open Pool Table.
- The New Barn: Happy Hour 3 to 8pm with \$2.25 domestic beer & \$2.75 well cocktails; Shuffleboard Tourney at 7pm. \$2 Cuervo.
- Venture-N: \$2 well, beer, & wine noon until 7pm. \$2.50 Cuervo!

Tuesday, February 24

- Brazos River Bottom: \$1 well drinks 7am-11pm, \$1.25 regular schnapps until 11pm; \$1 domestic longnecks all day & nite. \$1 Burgers on the patio 5 to 9pm; Variety Show with Ms. Nevada at 8 pm.
- BriarPatch: Marcie as Sweet MAMA Cotton.
- Bricks II: \$1.25 well & domestic longnecks 7:00 am to noon; \$1.75 well & domestic noon to 9:00 pm.
- Chances: Power Hour with \$1.75 well & domestic 10:00 am to 3:00 pm; Happy Hour 3:00 pm to 8:00 pm with \$2.25 domestic beer & \$2.75 well; \$2 Cuervo.
- Club Houston: Half-price lockers, rooms, & video rooms noon until midnight.
- Club Triangle: Doors open at 11:00 am. BYOB.
- E/J's: Happy Hour 7am to 9pm; \$1.50 well 4 to 7pm; \$1.50 Vodka 7am to 6pm; Mug Club 7am to 10pm; Amateur/Talent Night at 11pm.
- Gentry: Happy Hour 2 to 8pm; Boy Toys dance at 9pm; \$3.75 Finlandia; Free Pool Table.
- J.R.'s: 2 for Tuesdays! \$2 domestic longnecks, well drinks, frozen Ritas & wine; Jockey short contest at 11pm; grab for cash at midnight.
- Mary's: \$1.75 well drinks & longnecks 7am to 9pm; \$1.50 Well vodka drinks 7am to 2pm; \$1 off all call liquor.
- Mela's Tejano: Free Hot dogs and \$1.75 beer.
- Midtowne Spa: 1/2 price lockers Noon to Midnight. 18-22 year olds get free locker!
- Montrose Mining Company: \$1.75 domestic longnecks; \$2.50 well drinks; \$3 any other drink in the house! Happy hour until 10pm; male dancers 9pm to 2am.
- Ms. B's: Open at 4 pm.
- OutPost: Happy Hour 11am to 8pm.
- Pacific Street: Executive Night. No cover with your personalized business card. \$1.25 well, \$1.75 beer, \$3 call, \$3.50 premium, \$1.25 schnapps. Doors open at 9pm. No cover for Club Members in Club Colors.
- Paradise: Doors open at 11am; \$1.50 well and \$2 domestic longnecks all day and all night!
- QT's: Open at 8 am. Colorado Bulldogs (Kamora) \$3.
- Ripcord: Happy Hour 1 to 8pm.
- The New Barn: Happy Hour 3 to 8pm with \$2.25 domestic beer & \$2.75 well cocktails. \$2 Cuervo. Dart Tournament at 7 pm.
- Venture-N: \$2 well, beer, & wine noon to 7pm. \$2.50 Cuervo!

Wednesday, February 25

- 611 Hyde Park Pub (upstairs): Open Bridge Game 7-11pm
- Brazos River Bottom: \$1.75 well, \$1.25 regular schnapps til 9pm; \$1.75 domestic longnecks all day & nite 7am-2pm
- BriarPatch: Wayne & Beverly play together.
- Bricks II: \$1.25 well & domestic longnecks 7:00 am to noon; \$1.75 well & domestic longnecks noon to 9:00 pm. Cash Pool tournament at 7:00 pm.
- Chances: Power Hours with \$1.75 domestic beer & well 10am to 3pm; Happy Hour 3 to 8pm with \$2.25 domestic beer & \$2.75 well cocktails; \$2 Jose Cuervo; Sheila Lennon's Karaoke night at 9pm.
- Club Triangle: Doors open at 11:00 am. BYOB.
- E/J's: Happy Hour 7am to 9pm; \$1.40 well

- 4 to 7pm; \$1.50 Vodka 7am to 6pm. Mug club 7am to 10pm; Burger night.
- Gentry: Happy Hour 2 to 8pm; Boy Toys dance at 7pm; \$1.25 Schnapps open to close; Male Strip contest hosted by Dyan Michaels at 11pm.
- J.R.'s: Texas Pride Happy Hour 4 to 7pm \$2.25 well, \$1.75 domestic longnecks, \$3.50 Absolut Martinis & \$4.50 doubles; \$2 domestic longnecks, \$2.75 Bacardi Limonade, \$2.75 Desert Long Island Tea; Joe Boxer dance contest at 11pm.
- Mary's: \$1.75 well drinks & longnecks all day & nite; \$1.50 Well vodka drinks 7am to 2pm; Slop Shot Pool at 1pm hosted by Don Dowden.
- Mela's Tejano: Amateur Talent Night.
- Metroplex: Doors open at 7:30 pm; Male Strip contest at 10:00 pm. \$2 well and domestic beer all night long.
- Midtowne Spa: Half Price Rooms (regular and video) Noon to Midnight; Amateur Strip at 10 pm.
- Montrose Mining Company: \$2 domestic longnecks & well drinks, \$4 doubles; Male dancers at 9pm; Happy hour until 10pm.
- Ms. B's: Open at 4 pm.
- OutPost: Happy Hour 11am to 8pm.
- Pacific Street: Ecstasy! Best in Dance & Videos. Doors open at 9pm.
- Paradise: Doors open at 11 am; \$1 well vodka and \$1.50 domestic longnecks all day and all night!
- QT's: Open at 8 am; Honey Dew Me \$2.
- Rascals: Ladies' Night. Doors Open at 10:00pm. No Cover before 11pm.
- Rich's doors open at 9 pm. 18 and up.
- Ripcord: \$2 well & domestic beer all day/all night.
- The New Barn: Happy Hour 3 to 8pm with \$2.25 domestic beer & \$2.75 well cocktails; \$2 Cuervo.
- Venture-N: \$2 well, beer, & wine noon until 7pm. \$2.50 Cuervo!
- Vintage Bar has nightly wine tasting, 355-3093.
- XTC: \$3 Pitchers, \$1.75 well drinks.

Thursday, February 26

- Brazos River Bottom: \$1.75 domestic longnecks, \$1.75 well, \$1.25 schnapps until 11pm.
- BriarPatch: Edith Head plays in a number of disguises.
- Bricks II: \$1.25 well & domestic longnecks 7:00 am to noon; \$1.75 well & domestic noon to 9:00 pm.
- Chances: Power Hours with \$1.75 domestic beer & well 10am to 3pm; Happy Hour 3 to 8pm with \$2.25 domestic beer & \$2.75 well cocktails; \$2 Jose Cuervo.
- Club Houston: Half-price lockers, rooms, & video rooms noon to midnight.
- Club Triangle: Doors open at 11:00 am. BYOB.
- Cousin's: Show at 11pm.
- E/J's: Happy Hour 7am to 9pm; \$1.50 well 4pm to 7pm; \$1.50 vodka 7am to 6pm. Mug club 7am to 10pm; Tacos on the patio; Amateur Talent contest @ 11pm.
- Gentry: Happy Hour 2 to 8pm; Boy Toys dance at 9pm; \$3.25 Skyy Vodka open to close.
- J.R.'s: Texas Pride Happy Hour 4 to 7pm \$2.25 well, \$1.75 domestic longnecks, \$3.50 Absolut Martinis & \$4.50 doubles; \$3.75 top shelf liquor, \$2.25 imported, Saint Arnold & Micro brewed beer; Star Search Gold Karaoke at 9pm.
- Mary's: \$1.75 well drinks & longnecks 7am to 9pm; \$1.50 well vodka drinks 7am to 2pm; \$3 all call vodka.
- Mela's Tejano: Happy hour all day and all night
- Midtowne Spa: 1/2 price lockers Noon to Midnight.
- Montrose Mining Company: \$2.25 domestic longnecks, well, & wine; Male dancers at 9pm; Happy hour until 10pm.
- Ms. B's: Open at 4 pm, Linda Lou with open mike 9-10:30 pm, 10:30 pm to 1 am Karokee
- OutPost: Happy Hour 11am to 8pm.
- Pacific Street: Sexx Thursdays; \$1.25 well, \$1.75 beer, \$3 call, \$3.50 premium, \$1.25 Schnapps. No cover with current gym card.
- Paradise: Doors open at 11 am, \$3 anything in the house.
- QT's: Open at 8 am; Classic Martini (Tanqueray or Absolut) \$3.75
- Ranch: Open at 7 pm, Pool tournament.
- Rascals: Talent Night. No Cover Before 11pm.
- Rich's Club Hedo.
- Ripcord: Happy Hour 1 to 8pm; StarTrek on the big screen at 8 & 9pm; Classic Rock night.
- 611 Hyde Park Pub: \$1 Burger Night 6-9pm.
- The New Barn: Happy Hour 3 to 8pm with \$2.25 domestic beer & \$2.75 well cocktails; \$2 Cuervo.
- Venture-N: \$2 well, beer, & wine noon until 7pm. \$2.50 Cuervo!
- Vintage Bar nightly wine tasting, 355-3093

Important Stuff

Wow! Check out Nighthawks the hot new leather, Levi, cruise bar! Formerly the Venture-N, Nighthawks' grand opening is Saturday, February 28! The bar has been totally transformed (well, they are almost finished with it at press time) and is going to look way cool! Nighthawks will be focused (as the Venture-N is) in continuing community based fund raising and providing a great party place.

The Lesbian Angels are at it still! Linda Owens and Franki Feranto would like to thank Einstein's Bagels (on Montrose) and Robert Wilson (Distr. Mgr. for the Montrose Burger King) for their kind donations of food to help feed the homeless!

The "Dead Diva" show at Chances on Feb. 14 raised \$2,470 to benefit the Lesbian Health Fair, which is on March 7.



At EJ's.

"Catch a Rising Star" at Gentry on Sunday, Feb. 22. Join Miss Gentry Kara Dion and help her raise money to send her to Miss Highland Park America.

Midtowne Spa is having a fundraiser for the Montrose Clinic on Friday, February 20 @ 10 pm. The "Male Dancer of the Year" contest boasts \$500 in cash and prizes!

You can surf the net for \$5 per hour, sip on reasonably priced cocktails, and listen to the state of the art digital sound only at Paradise!

Congratulations to the New Miss Rich's US of A ... Shaphire! She was awarded this crown on Sunday, at Rich's. Paivi Lee Love was the 1st runner up! Don't forget Rich's amateur strip contest on Wednesdays.



Wayne at the Briar Patch.

Club Triangle's grand opening was Friday, Feb. 13. Mike, Mark and a bunch others toasted the ribbon cutting around 7:30 pm. Club Triangle offers a (very old, but unfamiliar) way to consume your cocktails or beer. You bring your own! They sell set-ups (like coke, 7up, Pina Coloda mix, etc.) and buckets of ice. You do the math. You can spend less and mix your own cocktail. Club Triangle also has "Liqueur Lockers" so you can leave your bottle on the premises under your lock and key! I already have MY bottle of Cuervo there!

Susan Masar belts out the songs you want to hear every Friday at Chances! She graces the stage with her sultry sounds starting at 9 pm.

Fat Tuesday at JR's features the wildest underwear strip contest in town. There is \$200 in cash prizes as well as \$2 domestic longnecks, well drinks, wine and frozen Ritas.

The Outpost is celebrating with \$2 Cuervo shots and \$1 blue Jello shots all day on Fat Tuesday. They also have a shuffleboard tournament on Tuesday, too!

The "Love is in the Air" benefit hosted by Mr. Prime Choice candidate Dennis Cooney raised \$1225 to be donated to Steven's House and the PWA Holiday Charities. I understand that even Channel 13 news

covered this well coordinated balloon release.

Do you want to Ed (owner of E/J's) in a dress? Well, E/J's annual Turn-About Show is on February 22 @ 10 pm.



Alex C. of Metroplex & Jeff R. of Pacific Street.

LUEY! LUEY! LUEY! LUEY! LUEY! LUEY! Get you application in NOW! The run starts Friday, Feb. 27. We have some applications in the Houston Voice office! Hurry!

Are you ready for "Diamonds and Studs?" Pacific Street is ready for you! This annual ball is on Saturday, Feb. 28. Clothes check will be available.

As part of his fundraising efforts for Mr. Prime Choice, Randy Ingram will be hosting a Daddy Auction at the Ripcord on Friday, March 6 @ 10 pm. This benefits Stone Soup. Daddy Bucks will be available on Feb. 21 & 28, or any time you purchase a refreshing beverage of your choice at the Ripcord.



Ron won 1st place at Mary's Valentine's Day party.

Shelby St. John is hosting the "BRB Royalty in Review" on Sunday, Feb. 22. This will benefit the Stone Soup Canopy Fund. Also, the BRB has had to discontinue their world famous Steak Night and Burger Night.

Mondays is for shuffleboard, Tuesdays is for darts, and Bridgett spins on Fridays! Where? The New Barn!

The Lazy J has their Saturday Super Show. This week's guests are Charlie, Dynasty, and CG. MC Michelle starts the show off at 10:30 pm.

Mary's, naturally has extended their Sunday happy hour from 10 am to 4 pm. The Wolf Pack will be guest bartending on the patio this Sunday! AHHHHHHHH!

The Ms. Gulf Coast Leather Contest will be on March 6, 7, and 8. Sign up at the 611 Hyde Park Pub. For more info, call 713/229-8970.

Lee Denning is hanging his art at Mary's on Friday, Feb. 27! Check it out!



Barbara & Elvis at Chances.

Milestones

Happy birthday to Leon at the 611 Hyde Park Pub. Vince W. of CCCC, Papa George, Pooh Bear, and my dear friend Clifford Edwards.

Rodent Droppings

Another week's worth of droppings have been scooped from the bottom of Harvey and Rascal's cages. Did I tell you about almost loosing Rascal? I had her on my shoulder as I was walking thru the living room. Every door in the house was open. Pepper (the wonder dog) jumped on me, which tossed Rascal on to the sofa. With in a blink on my eye, she had disappeared. Keep in mind that Pepper has not met the ferrets outside of their cages and probably thinks of them as fast running furry chew toys. I scooped up the dog and threw her into the guest room. Then frantically closing all the doors, and covering the cat door I started my search. We have about 3000 square feet of house with a ga-zillion hiding places for ferrets. After about an hour, flash light in hand I spied my little Houdini hiding behind the basket of towels in the master bathroom. I was really scared that she had left the house before I got all the doors closed. I thanked my lucky stars.



Vanna and cousin Bob.

On with the droppings:

My usual disclaimer is in force! Lies, gossip, and trash. I verify no facts, just go with what I hear. If you want real news, written by professionals, please turn to page one and start reading there.

Vera (BRB): What is this about the cross coming between you and Mario? And why don't you get Miss A to serve you some more grits, just the way you like them?

Rogers (Montrose Clinic): Who is sleeping on your sofa?

Boots (Chances): When was the last time you sold Girl Scout cookies? I thought you preferred Meow Mix!

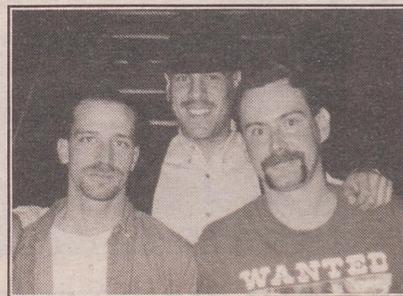
Barry /Vanna (New Barn): Did you really cross the line with your cousin?

Mike (Club Triangle): So you think you are butch? But you can't even break a bottle of champagne against brick wall!

Woody (BRB): Why won't you sit next to Oscar anymore? I guess the light of love has gone out.

Gary (611): \$50... I don't think so!

Theresa and Andy (hangs at Chances): Why were they calling you "Tree Monkeys" last Saturday?



Men of the Venture-N.

TR (hangs at the BRB): And I quote: "I don't want to gamble on my batteries going out during sex, so I throw away the old ones and start with new ones!"

Cristina (GLYP): Do you really sleep with Fleebee?

Denise (hangs at Chances): And I quote: "Insanity became my reality!"

Dwayne (hangs at the 611) wants to send a big "Thank you" to the "A" team and his husband Ralph!

Lee (BRB): Is it true your new name is "Tequila Rose" not "Bubblin' Betty"?

Steve Underwood (Houston Voice): And I quote: "I have never had a sexual disease that stayed around!"

Michael G. (Outpost): I've got an extra \$2 if you want to borrow it to buy a Soiree Aubergine raffle ticket!

Darrell S. (hangs at Gentry): Was it you or Bill that was found in the "Lost and Found" at the Crowne Plaza?

Zack (Half-price books): I'm still thinking about your offer! Tempting!

Steve/ Hazel (hangs at Rich's): Did hell freeze over? I hear you were not to be found in your usual hangout this past weekend!

Carol (Pride Committee of Houston): This past PCOH meeting was, how did you

say it, "most memorable!"

Papa Del (Gentry): I hear you had to be pushed on the stage at the Venture-N. And, have you got your "LUEY" knee pads ready?



Mike cuts the ribbon at Club Triangle.

Ray M. (hangs everywhere): There must be a new man in your life... you sure are stepping high.

Jade (hangs at Gentry): What do you have to clean up before Woody gets home?

CoCo (hangs at PS): I got you message! Thanks!

Val (Gentry): Do you now have a date for the Rocket's games?



Lovely Ladies at the Ranch.

Ricky (hangs at the BRB): Is it true since you got your leg fixed you don't break dance anymore?

Darla K. (Gentry): What is this I hear about you and a toilet brush?

Cowboy Marshall (hangs everywhere): Vera says phone sex talk early in the morning with you is like a bad trick you can't get rid of it.

Kip (Gentry): How was Cancun?

Tom (Chinchilla/BRB): What goes with frisking customers for cell phones?

Tom (Cafe Edi): I love your French Onion soup! Thanks!

Alex C. (Metroplex): I love the sounds you spin!

Felix (hangs at Gentry): I have a message for you: "I Love You." It is from Chad!

Dante (PS): Crack Baby or Baby Crack?

Shane (Venture-N): Who found your G spot?

Overheard at PS: "My hair might incinerate!"

Chester (Niblett): How is it you are like Kip? A: Travel to Europe or B: leave Reno stranded?

Jim (JR's): Did you really call in sick the day before you were leaving for Mardi Gras? Did you need to "rest up" ?

Terry (Paradise): I hear you are having a little problem with your shift stick!

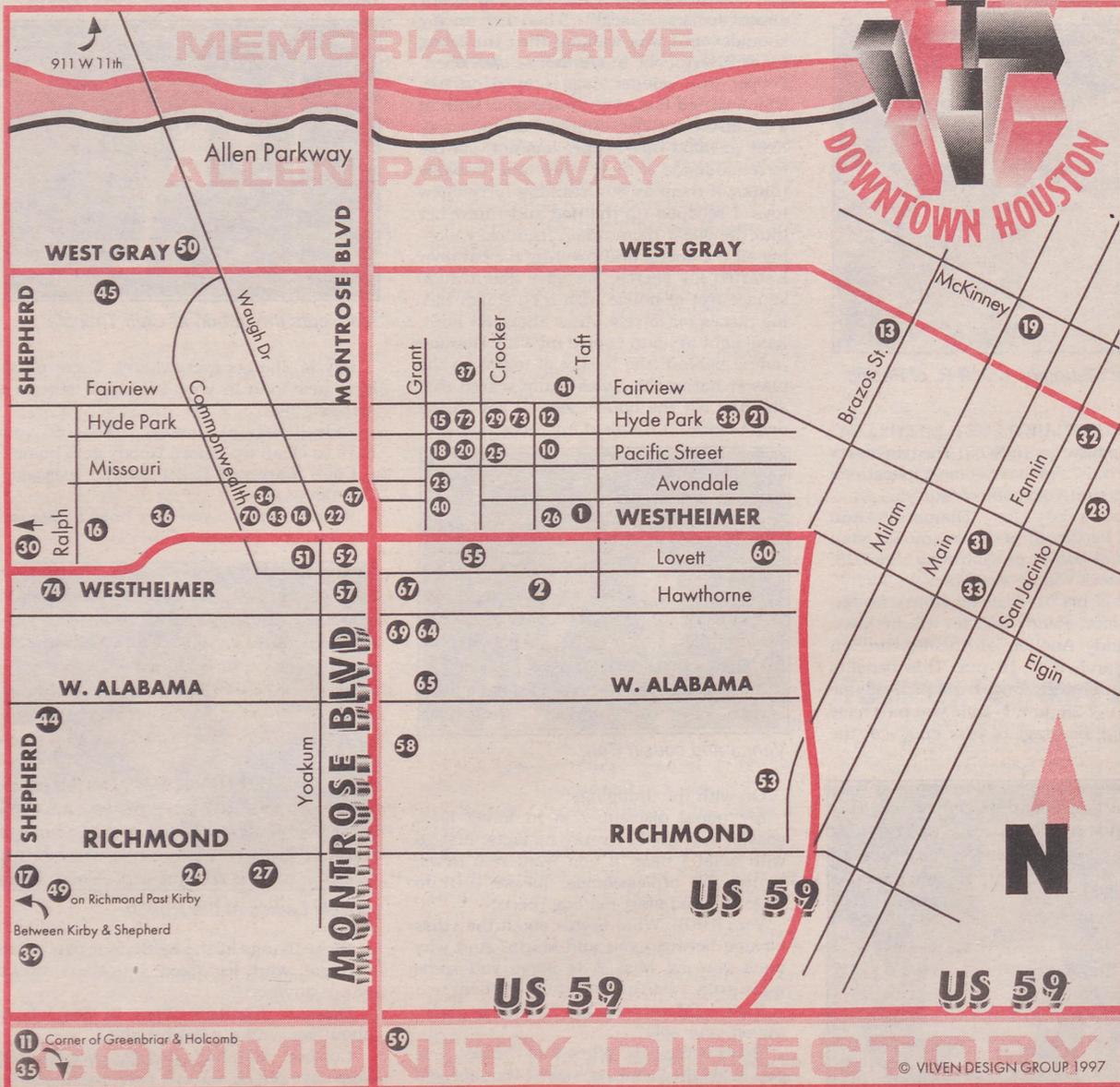


Pet of the week Scarlett Holmes aka Tinkie just flew in from Paris. Owner Ron Baker

I am still taking photos of your pets for pet of the week!

Have a great week!

Cuervolyn



ACCOMMODATIONS

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

BARS & CLUBS

- 10 611 Hyde Park 713/526-7070
- 11 The Briar Patch 2294 Holcombe 713/665-9678
- 12 Bricks II 617 Fairview 713/528-8102
- 13 Brazos River Bottom 2400 Brazos 713/528-9192
- 14 Chances 1100 Westheimer 713/523-7217
- 15 Cousins 817 Fairview 713/528-9204
- 16 Els 2517 Ralph 713/527-9071
- 17 Gentry 2303 Richmond 713/520-1861
- 18 Heaven 812 Pacific 713/521-9123
- 19 Incognito 2524 McKinney 713/523-9431
- 20 JR's 808 Pacific 713/521-2519
- 21 Lazy J 312 Tuam 713/528-9343
- 22 Mary's 1022 Westheimer 713/527-9669
- 23 Montrose Mining Co. 805 Pacific 713/529-7488
- 24 Outpost 1419 Richmond 713/520-8446
- 25 Pacific Street 710 Pacific 713/523-0213
- 26 QT's 534 Westheimer 713/529-8813
- 27 Club Triangle 1205 Richmond 713/522-0881
- 28 Rich's 2401 San Jacinto 713/529-9606
- 29 Ripcord 715 Fairview 713/521-2792
- 30 Vintage Bar on Midlane 4356 Westheimer 713/355-3093
- 31 Venture N 2923 Main 713/522-0000
- 32 Nighthawks 2205 Fannin 713/659-4998
- 33 The Club Houston 3100 Fannin 713/522-2379
- 34 Midtown Spa 1100 Westheimer 713/521-9533
- 35 The New Barn

RESTAURANTS

- 40 Ms. B's, The Ranch & XTC 9200 Buffalo Spwy 713/666-3436
- 41 Racals 1318 Westheimer 713/942-CLUB
- 42 Paradise 2312 Crocker 713/522-7366
- 43 Mela's Tejano Country 302 Tuam 713/523-0747
- 44 Metroplex 2165 Portsmouth 713/520-5000
- 40 Baba Yaga 2607 Grant 713/522-0042
- 41 Barnaby's Cafe 604 Fairview 713/522-0106
- 43 Charlie's Coffee Shop 1100 Westheimer 713/522-3332
- 44 Cafe Edi 3102 S. Shepherd 713/520-5221
- 45 Mesa Grill 1971 W. Gray 713/520-8900
- 47 Riva's Italian Restaurant 1117 Missouri St. 713/529-3450

BUSINESSES & SERVICES

- 49 Allstate 3467 Kirby 713/526-5553
- 50 Cineplex-Odeon 1450 W Gray 713/524-8781
- 51 Crossroads Market 1111 Westheimer 713/942-0147
- 52 Eckerd Drugs 1007 Westheimer 713/524-9229
- 53 Fitness Exchange 4040 Milam 713/524-9932
- 55 Houston Voice 811 Westheimer 713/529-8490
- 57 Kroger Grocery 3300 Montrose 713/526-7865
- 58 Lobo Books & Video 3939-S Montrose 713/522-5156
- 59 Main St. Theatre 4617 Montrose 713/524-6706
- 60 Montrose Clinic 215 Westheimer 713/520-2000
- 64 Vilven Design Group 807 Hawthorne 713/526-3212
- 65 House of Coleman 901 W Alabama 713/523-2521
- 67 Walgreens 3317 Montrose 713/520-8000
- 69 STAT Script Pharmacy 3407 Montrose (A5) 713/522-7373

CLOTHING SHOPS

- 70 Basic Brothers 1232 Westheimer 713/522-1626
- 72 Leather By Boots 807 Fairview 713/526-2668
- 73 Leather Forever 711 Fairview 713/526-6940
- 74 Timeless Taffeta 1657 Westheimer 713/529-6299

GAS LIGHT NEWS

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Women SEEKING Women

SF Black hair, hazel eyes, 5'1", 36, a little overweight. I like to go out, socialize, go to parties, camping,



motorcycles, the beach and going out to quiet dinners. I'm looking for someone who is interested in the same thing for friendship or possible relationship. I am a Pisces and cute. Call Ext. 5546

GHF Medium build, attractive, short black hair. I work & live alone. Looking for somebody for a possible relationship. Friendship at first. Someone to talk to, listen to music with, going out & to the beaches. Call Ext. 5666

SBF Attractive. Seeking someone to spend time with. This is my first time that I have gone within this area. If interested in meeting me, give me a call. Call Ext. 5682

SWF Attractive, professional. Seeking someone who is between the ages of 38-45, to explore a discreet relationship. Must be feminine. Call Ext. 5672

GWF 42, non-smoker. I'm sensitive, thoughtful & considerate. I like dining out, traveling, movies, learning how to dance Country Western. You should have similar interests, be fun-loving, spontaneous, enjoy trying new adventures & have a good sense of humor. Call Ext. 5654

Men SEEKING Men

SWM 45, 6'1", 150 lbs. I drink & smoke. My 26 year old White female friend wants to see more than I can just kiss & tell. If you are interested in a little bit of adventure, give us a call. Call Ext. 5355

SWM Tall, slim, 46, brown hair, blue eyes. In search of bi or gay dominate cross dressing men. Call Ext. 5647

GWM 5'11", 150 lbs., grey hair, 50, HIV+, very healthy. Looking for a long term relationship with someone over 40. I'm sensitive, thoughtful & considerate. I enjoy the beach, movies, traveling, entertaining friends at home & quiet evenings at home. Call Ext. 5681

SWM 45, bi. In search of dominate & versatile cross dressers, transvestite or transsexuals. I'm not into pain. I'm willing to serve you in any intimate way. Call Ext. 5528

SM 37, 129 lbs., 5'6", slender. I love sex, but who doesn't. I'm also into music, movies, computers & especially hot, hairy hunks, booze & partying. Let me show you what I'm educated in. Call Ext. 5698

SWM Bi, nice looking, trim, tan. I'm interested in meeting men & even women who love lingerie, frilly things, cross dressing & great indoor fun. I'm looking for you. Call Ext. 5697

GWM 47, sandy blonde hair, 6', 205 lbs., hairy, non-smoker. Looking for that special, gay White male 35-50, who is a non-smoker, caring, sincere & likes garage sales, junking, auctions & having friends over for cookouts or just to visit. Someone who likes going to the show or the beach. I'm not into the bar scenes. Call Ext. 5695

GBM HIV+, 150 lbs., healthy. I enjoy walks on the beach, watching basketball & listening to soft music. I would like to meet other Black guys for friendship & fun. Call soon. Call Ext. 5692

SM 18, 5'8", 165 lbs. Looking for a biracial person, who is mostly Black mixed with White or Black mixed with Hispanic or Black mixed with Asian. They have to be more masculine & versatile. I'm a very easy going person & fun loving. Looking for the same. Call soon. Call Ext. 5691

GHM 35, 150 lbs., dark eyes, dark hair. I have a 29 inch waist. I love working out. Looking for someone 25-40, who is a non-smoker, likes to go out to dinner & the movies. Call Ext. 5686

SM 6'1", 33, Anglo, big guy, 275 lbs., medium brown wavy hair, blue eyes, mustache, goatee, pretty smiles. Most people tell me that I'm pleasant to be around & that I'm cute. I'm masculine, down to earth, grounded & laid back. I would like to meet quality people in the Houston area. I prefer Hispanic or White 25-35. Call Ext. 5690

SM 36, Latin/European, 6', 195 lbs., black hair, brown eyes, very attractive. I would like to meet someone for dating, friendship & possibly more. Someone to go out & have a good time with. I like anything that has to do with water, road trips, good bottles of wine & fine dining. Looking for someone who is single, height/weight proportionate & well hung. Call soon. Call Ext. 5689

SM 55, HIV+, healthy, brown eyes, gray hair, 5'4", 165 lbs. I work out to improve my body. I'm a non-smoker & a non-drinker. Looking for a top, who is well endowed. Call Ext. 5688

SWM 37, 170 lbs., height/weight proportionate, moderately hairy, clean shaven. I'm interested in meeting other hairy, White males late 30's-50, from the woodlands are please. You must be height/weight proportionate as well. I'm easy going with average looks. I don't smoke, but if you do that is OK. Call Ext. 5687

SM I'm a top Greek man. I am a non-smoker, no drugs, HIV-. I'm 5'10", 175 lbs. Seeking a submissive bottom for dating and maybe more. Any age, any race. You must be a non-smoker, no drugs, HIV-, 5'10" or shorter preferred, no mustache. Call Ext. 5685

SM I would like to get in touch with guys preferably with blonde hair, blue eyes, or dark hair, blue eyes, any race is welcome. Call Ext. 5684

We are a gay, White male couple, we are 57 & 44 years of age & we have a long term relationship. We are looking for similar couples for companionship. We like movies, dining out, New Orleans, cooking & lot's more. Call Ext. 5680

GBM 35, 6'1", 240 lbs., brown eyes, brown hair. I'm a competitive body builder. I'm looking for very muscular men, gym rats or athletes, who are interested in extracurricular activities. I do have a partner & I'm looking to hook up with guys for fun. You have to be very muscular, body builder or a major gym rat. I'm only interested in guys like that. Call Ext. 5679

SWM 39, 6'1", 170 lbs., HIV-, mustache, hairy body. I live in the country. I enjoy the simple things in life. I'm honest, trustworthy, considerate, understanding, loving & hardworking. I enjoy country dancing & can either lead or follow. I drink in moderation. Looking for a mature, masculine, romantic bottom with the same characteristics I have. Call Ext. 5677

SWM 40, masculine, 5'10", 185 lbs., brown hair, blue eyes, mustache, nice looking. I'm seeking a girl 21-45, who is really a guy & healthy like myself. I want someone to share both nights out on the town & quiet times at home together. You should be a pre-op transsexual or a feminine looking transvestite or cross dresser. A transgender guy that looks like a girl. Call Ext. 5675

SHM 35, 5'7", 150 lbs. Looking for another Hispanic or White male between the ages of 23-33 years old, who is a top for friendship & possible dating. Someone masculine & straight acting. I have a lot of interests that I would like to share with the right person. Call soon. Call Ext. 5674

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SHM 23, 5'10", 200 lbs., dark brown eyes, black hair, mustache, goatee, earrings, sideburns, hairy bottom. In search of tops, for friendship, dating, sex & possibly more. Age, race, looks are unimportant. Cowboy types & body hair are a plus. I've never had any complaints. Call Ext. 5673

SM 6', brown hair, blue eyes, hairy, uncut. I like to go to the movies, live theater, dancing & the outdoors. Looking for someone who is hairy & has the same interests as me. Should be fun-loving & versatile. Call Ext. 5663

SM 5'6", 170 lbs., brown eyes, brown hair, good looking. Looking for a couple of guys who would be interested in hanging around with a chubby guy. Must have buff bodies, be good looking & interested in giving pleasures as well as receiving. Call Ext. 5493

SM 5'8", brown hair, blue eyes, 155 lbs. Hi guys, please no feds or faties. I'm a bottom looking for a top. I'm very oral & I wish for you to be the same way. I like to dine out, go to movies, take long walks or staying at home having good conversations. Looking for someone 32-40 years old. I'm HIV+, so those that are, need to apply only to my ad. Call soon. Call Ext. 5669

SWM Bi, tall & slender. In search of a passive, feminine, White males 30-45, who are into cross-dressing, role playing & pleasing both men or women. Call Ext. 5366

GWM Mid-40's, 5'9", 145 lbs., blue eyes, light brown hair, smooth skin, mustache, HIV+. I'm very good looking & athletic. I like fishing, mechanics, outdoors & mainly work. I'm honest & lonely. Looking for someone 35-55, who has manly type actions, honest maybe for lifetime. No queens, hairy or overweight people. Call Ext. 5664

SWM 20, bisexual. I'm looking for a first time experience. Looking for guys that maybe it's their first time or looking for their first time. Looking to get to know some people & let it go from there. Call Ext. 5670

GWM 43, 6', brown hair, blue eyes, hairy, HIV-. I like the theater, movies, dining out & good conversations over drinks. Looking for White men, who wants to go out & party. Should have a hairy chest, but not necessary. Call Ext. 5665

GWM 5'10", 190 lbs., 34, dark hair, green eyes, professional. Looking for someone who is older & taller than I am. Should be mature, have a good personality, good disposition & comfortable with yourself. Interested in a good friendship or more. Call Ext. 5651

SBM HIV+, 6'3", 180 lbs., masculine, athletic build, mustache, goatee. I enjoy sports, riding motorcycles, horse back riding & quiet, romantic evenings. I would like to meet masculine, physically active man 28-48, for friendship & possible long term relationship. Call Ext. 5662

GHM 33, 155 lbs., handsome, spiritual, honest, creative, friendly. In search of a Hispanic, masculine top, who is HIV+ or HIV- for quality friendship. I love the company of a younger guy, who is willing to be himself & let me be myself. Race is unimportant, but Hispanic is a plus. Call Ext. 5661

GWM 38, HIV-, 5'11", 170 lbs., green eyes, hairy chest & masculine. I'm deeply spiritual, cherishing honor above all, loyalty, duty & civility. Seeking a petite, gentle, HIV-, bottom, for walks in the parks, conversations in coffee shop's, movies & trips to the museums. Let's court each other & take it slow. Asian, Eurasian, Pakistanis is a plus. Call Ext. 5660

GHM 28, brown eyes, hairy chest, 5'5", 170 lbs. Looking for a White gay male, 30-45 years old, very to medium hairy & weight is not important. Should be versatile but, strictly tops would be considered, for a relationship if the guy is right. Call Ext. 5659

SWM 38, 6'1", 190 lbs., HIV-, blonde hair, blue eyes, smooth body, 30" waist. Seeking a long term relationship with someone with dark hair, olive skin & a hairy chest is a plus. I enjoy cooking, movies, theaters, plays, walks on the beach, quiet evenings with a good man & a fine bottle of wine. Call Ext. 5655

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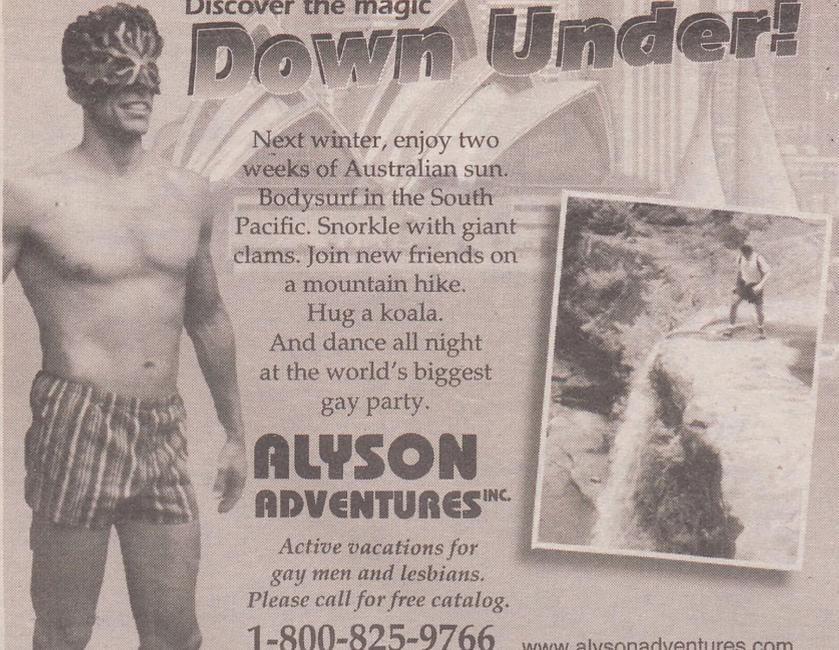
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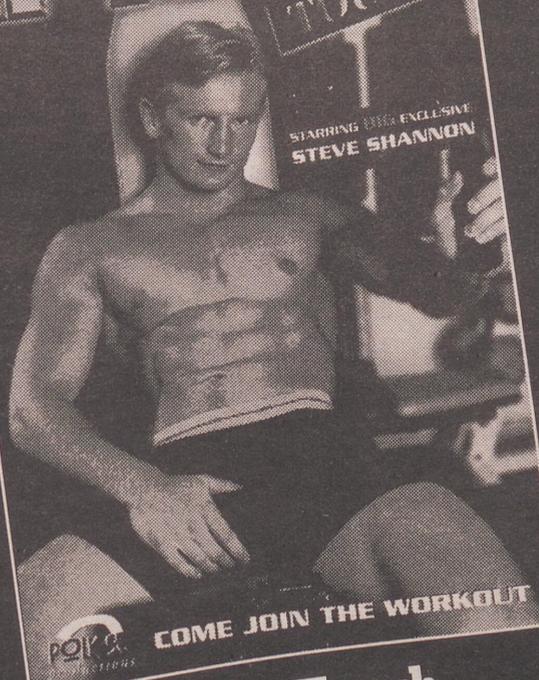

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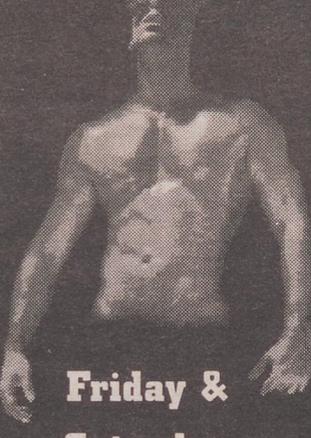


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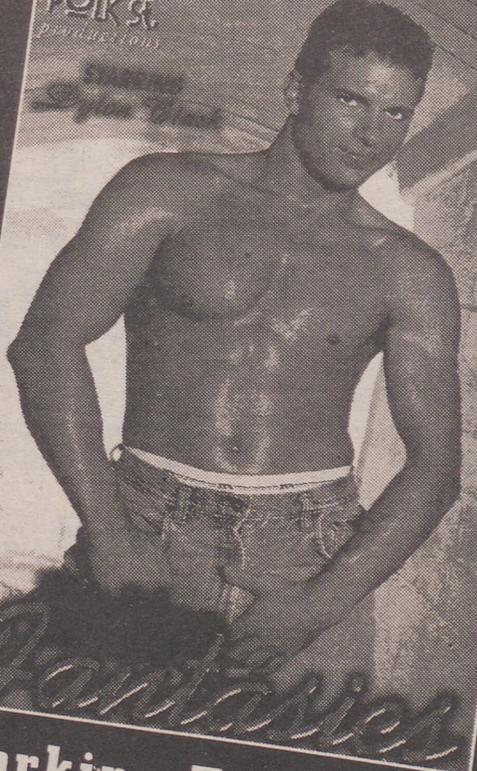
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