



HOUSTON

# VOICE

One Community! One Voice!



Faye Dunaway  
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## Crystal Gayle: Funny, likable and talented

'One of a kind' legend shares her thoughts in interview

by Jon Anthony

Crystal Gayle's way with music is hardly surprising considering her life story. With almost three dozen hit records, she has come a long way from her roots in the Appalachian coal mining town of Paintsville, Kentucky.

The youngest of eight children, Crystal was influenced by a wide variety of music growing up. She listened to folk, pop, rock and roll, Broadway show tunes, gospel and country with equal fascination. As a small child, she sang along with Leslie Gore, Brenda Lee and Patsy Cline on the radio.

Later, the Beatles and Peter, Paul and Mary exerted powerful creative influences. Loretta Lynn, Crystal's older sister, also encouraged her. While growing up Crystal traveled and sang with Loretta for a few weeks each summer.

While still in school, crystal signed her first recording contract. Her debut single, *I've Cried (The Blue Right Out Of My Eyes)*, was written by Loretta and reached the Top 25 on the national country music charts. Three more singles were released during the next three years, and each found a place on the charts.

In 1974, *Wrong Road Again* became her first Top Ten hit and marked the beginning of a highly productive and rewarding phase in her career. One that has stood the test of time.

Gayle will demonstrate her immeasurable talents when she performs with the Houston Symphony Orchestra this weekend, January 2 through 4, 1998 at Jones Hall.

"I have worked with a lot of symphonies around the country," Gayle said in an interview with the *Houston Voice* earlier this week. "It's just wonderful ... it's a rush, with all the beautiful strings (laughs). A lot of my songs, the production lends well to the arrangements."

Gayle was one of the first country singers who had major success with "crossover songs," i.e. songs that became pop hits. Gayle catapulted her brand of country into the big leagues with other crossover artists before her (Dolly Parton, Olivia Newton-John) and paved the way for those who followed (Garth Brooks, LeAnn Rimes).

"Well you know, not tooting my own horn, yes, I have to think I have been one of the people that have definitely paved the way for other artists." See **GAYLE** page 12

## Gay rights dispute awaits Supreme Court action

by Richard Carelli  
Associated Press

WASHINGTON - Robin Shahar believes that being a lesbian is why she's not working for Georgia's attorney general, but the state's lawyers say bias against homosexuals played no role. She lost the job, they say, only after deciding to "marry" another woman.

The legal dispute, carried to the Supreme Court by gay-rights groups, has historic potential. And it already may have complicated the political aspirations of the man Shahar sued - would-be governor Mike Bowers.

He was the state's attorney general when, in "1996," he withdrew Shahar's job offer to become a staff attorney in the Georgia Department of Law. Bowers said her impending marriage would affect public perception of his office's dedication to enforcing the state's anti-sodomy law.

Shahar and her partner were planning to celebrate a lifelong commitment to each other in a religious ceremony, even though Shahar, who later got work as a lawyer for the city of Atlanta, says she knew the ceremony carried no legal significance. Her lawsuit said Bowers violated her constitutional rights of association and equal protection.

Bowers' name already is attached to the Supreme Court's most important gay-rights ruling, a 1986 decision called *Bowers vs. Hardwick* in which he successfully defended Georgia's anti-sodomy law. Consenting adults have no constitutional right to engage in homosexual conduct, the nation's highest court ruled by a 5-4 vote then.

Bowers, who this year resigned to pursue the Republican nomination for governor in 1998, has since had to admit he was involved in an extramarital affair that lasted more than a decade. Adultery, like sodomy, is a crime in Georgia.

Asked if he had been hypocritical in Shahar's case, Bowers said, "In a moral sense, yes. But legally, I do not believe there was any choice with the Shahar case but to do that. Did that make me a moral hypocrite? Yes." Nevertheless, Bowers' decision to withdraw Shahar's job offer has been upheld in court.

A federal trial judge ruled that Shahar's relationship with her partner was a "constitutionally protected intimate association" but concluded that Bowers had not acted unlawfully. The entire 11th U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals agreed last May, voting 8-4 that Bowers had not violated any of Shahar's rights.

The appeals court judged Bowers' action after assuming - only for the sake of argument - that Shahar had some constitutional right to be intimately associated with another woman. The appeals court went on to say, however, it was reasonable to believe that lesbians who profess to be married to each other engage in illegal homosexual relations.

Its decision added: "We cannot say that Georgia's attorney general is clearly wrong to worry that reasonable people - inside and outside the Law Department - in Georgia could think along these same lines."

Such assumptions, the appeals court said, could affect public confidence in the attorney general's office. But three dissenting judges said that should not matter. "It is important to note that catering to private prejudice is not a legitimate government interest," they said.

In her Supreme Court appeal, Shahar's lawyers contend that Bowers' action "rests on irrational prejudice toward gay people." But Georgia's lawyers say his action was based on Shahar's "holding herself out as married to another woman, and was not precipitated by some generalized animus against homosexuals." If the Supreme Court agrees to study Shahar's appeal, it will decide who's right.

## Martin Scorsese: Calm and Confident at 55

by Hillel Italie

NEW YORK - Martin Scorsese smooths a large scroll across a conference table and stands back in awe. "Ooh." It's a beauty, a vintage poster of the old Powell-Pressburger movie *A Matter of Life and Death*.

You'll find more, dozens more, along the walls of his Park Avenue offices, everything from "La Dolce Vita" to *The 7th Victim*. Should you get tired of looking at those, you can check out his decades-long collection of film magazines or the bound volumes of scrapbooks from *Raging Bull* and other Scorsese films.

There's history here, great history. Along with Steven Spielberg, Francis Coppola and a few others, Scorsese defines a generation of filmmakers who emerged in the 1970s who were madly in love with movies and madly determined to make them better.

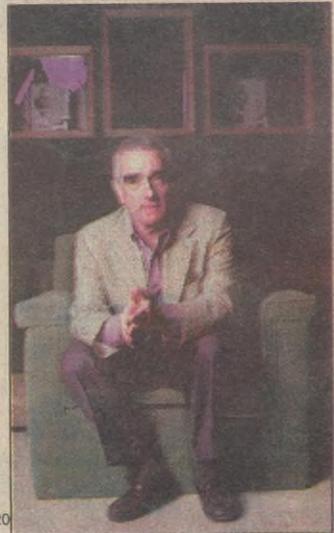
"We were crazy kids, we were wild," Scorsese says as he settles into a small chair in his spacious private office, where still more posters hang, not to mention personal photos and a group shot from the Frank Sinatra-Rat Pack vehicle *Ocean's Eleven*.

"Spielberg was out there. Bigger and wilder. More, put more of that in there." How many police cars? Look at (Spielberg's) *Sugarland Express*. It's a way of pushing the envelope. And it had an enthusiasm, of a bunch of young kids trying to make a mark. Not just trying to make a mark; we wanted to change movies."

At age 55, Scorsese hardly resembles the long-haired rebel behind *Mean Streets* and *Taxi Driver*. In fact, you might mistake him for the world's classiest used car salesman. Dressed in a plaid sports coat and plain brown trousers, Scorsese is a short, dark-eyed man with thick eyebrows, slicked-back gray hair and slightly hunched shoulders. His smile is quick and his nasally voice hurries along, as if to manage the revival house of images in his head.

Life hasn't always turned out the way he wanted (four marriages, no Academy Awards), but the once wildly insecure Scorsese now can say he's come through safely. He may be the most admired film-

See **SCORSESE**/ page 20



State Rep. Debra Danburg (L) and former State Rep. Sue Schechter (R) filing for their respective candidacies at the Democrat headquarters. Schechter is running for Harris County Democrat Chair.

## Packed hospitals turning away patients

HOUSTON - More than a dozen Houston area hospitals recently turned away patients because of a dramatic increase in demand for psychiatric and trauma care.

Fourteen hospitals were on temporary "driveby" or diversion schedules last Friday, meaning they were requesting that paramedics and rescue personnel not bring in more patients. Six hospitals were on "driveby" last Wednesday. Hospital officials say it is not uncommon for a hospital to go on "driveby," but it is unusual, and problematic, to have 14 of the area's 65 hospitals on standby at the same time.

Dr. David Perse, the director of Houston's emergency medical services, said the situation doesn't appear to be

improving much.

"We just have an unusually large number of people who are sick at the same time right now," Perse said. "This is getting bad. I was kind of hoping it would settle down, but it looks like we're past that point. There is somewhat of a crisis going on."

Perse said he is finding his department running low on available ambulances. On a couple of recent occasions, he said, as many as 80 percent of his 55 ambulances were in use at one time - leaving fewer than a dozen to respond to all remaining calls throughout the city. "This is the worst I've ever heard of," he said.

While hospital officials and rescue per-

See **HOSPITALS** page 24

## Eye on Equality

by Kerry Lobel  
Executive Director, NGLTF

December 1 marked my first anniversary as NGLTF's executive director. In twelve months I visited forty cities, many of them more than once. I traveled to small towns and some of the country's most urban areas. I spoke at statewide conferences, pride events, town meetings and community dinners. I visited community centers, anti-violence projects, youth programs, and offices of local and statewide organizations. I met local, state and national elected and appointed officials. I learned from gay, lesbian, bisexual and transgendered activists and our allies.

In short, like most executive directors of national organizations, I ran and I ran and I ran. Here's a snapshot of my life: My Sunday night is spent packing (I'm very grateful for the decision to purchase good luggage in my tenure). Monday morning six a.m., I kiss my partner, Mary, goodbye and catch the Washington Flyer shuttle to the airport. By noon, barely off the plane, I attend the first event at my selected destination. Monday night, eleven o'clock and still with my suitcase, I attend the last event at my selected destination. I spend the night with very gracious hosts who have agreed to house me, sight unseen. I repeat this schedule for a few days. I return home, kiss Mary, greet our three dogs and two cats, meet with my colleagues. And start all over.

With all of this running came great visibility and privileges. In every town, people showed me tremendous kindness. For a day or a weekend, or even a week, strangers became new friends, tour guides and fashion consultants. I was introduced to parents and pastors, pets and partners. Town after town, event organizers trustingly turned me loose with their donors, their board members, local media, local elected officials and participants in their events.

During the year, I became an expert on a variety of subjects. Would Ellen come out? What fueled Andrew Cunanan's murder spree? Would same-gender marriage spell the end of western civilization? Could the Southern Baptist Boycott bring Disney to its knees? In a world of complexities, I learned the joys of sound bites.

I also learned the joys of collaboration and convening. Every month, I ate lunch with other national colleagues. In the short space of one year, NGLTF convened 45 graduates of our youth leadership institute; sponsored two gatherings of the federation of statewide lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgendered political organizations in Knoxville, TN, and Washington, DC; and hosted our 10th Creating Change, attended by over 1500 people in San Diego, CA.

So exactly what have I gotten for my hundred thousand plus mile of travel? My adventures have taught me an important lesson. Its the one I learned a long time ago that has been reinforced over and over again. The center of gravity for gay, lesbian, bisexual and transgendered communities is right where we are. Its in the cities and towns, the states and communities that we call home.

We are impacted more by what happens in our own city council or county commission every day than we are by what happens in Washington, DC. The path to our freedom begins at our front door and intersects with tens of thousands of others who travel the same journey for civil rights for all people.

## Thanks and Happy New Year

by Lynn Pannill  
Executive Director, PWAC.

Dear friends on behalf of the Clients, Board of Directors, and Staff of the People With AIDS Coalition, Houston, Inc., I would like to express our sincere thanks to the Board of Directors, Hosts, and everyone who attended the Houston Black Tie Dinner.

Through your generosity, PWAC received \$5,843, which will go a long way to assist our 1,915 clients in Houston and the surrounding counties. We are extremely honored to have been chosen a beneficiary by the Houston Black Tie Dinner, and thank everyone who participated in this year's event.

We would like to wish a Happy New Year to all our friends in the community who have supported us this year, and for the eleven years that PWAC has served People With AIDS.

## An Exciting Time

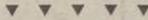
by Community Gospel Church

1997 has been an exciting time of blessings for Community Gospel Church. We began the year preparing our new building for its dedication in March. During the dedication services the first week of March, we had special guest from all over the country here to praise the Lord for all the work He is doing in Houston.

Each year for Pride Week, we host an evening of praise featuring groups from churches in the community, this year proved to be a great one as well over 100 people gathered to celebrate Jesus during Make A Joyful Noise. We ended the week by participating in the parade with our float depicting a lighthouse. We were blessed to win the best professionally built float for 1997.

At various times during the year, we were fortunate enough to assist the Omega House with food and supplies. It seemed only fitting we made this a part of our Christmas celebration. As part of our Christmas party, we loaded two busses and went caroling at the Omega and Milam Houses. As we came in with our baskets of goodies, we were blessed to share Jesus with the residents.

God has taken a tiny group of 35 members, gave us one of the most beautiful facilities in the country, doubled our numbers, poured out His Spirit and love, and is continuing to make us the church He wants us to be. We look forward to 1998 with great anticipation as to what He will do!



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### Democratic speaker undaunted by key departures, Republican targeting

by Jaun B. Elizondo, Jr.  
Associated Press

AUSTIN - House Speaker Pete Laney is facing the departure of several key Democratic lawmakers and another Republican run for control of the House of Representatives. But Laney, a 24-year veteran lawmaker elected speaker three times by fellow House members, remains undaunted.

In an interview with The Associated Press, Laney said the House, controlled 82-68 by Democrats, is unlikely to be taken over by Republicans next year and would change little even if it did.

Laney said he has collected enough pledges from current members Democrats and Republicans - to remain speaker even if Republicans manage to retain all their current seats and pick off eight others for a 76-74 majority.

"They predicted last time it was going to turn and it didn't, and I don't think anything has changed," Laney said.

Republicans controlled the Texas Senate this year for the first time since Reconstruction. There, Democratic Lt. Gov. Bob Bullock retained much of his power, but has opted not to seek another term. The next lieutenant governor, whether a Republican or Democrat, is not expected to wield nearly as much control as Bullock.

Laney said while Republicans have targeted several incumbent members and the seats of some retiring lawmakers, he believes the chamber will remain in Democratic control. The speaker, a Republican target in 1996, is likely to draw at least a token GOP challenger next year.

"The targeting is coming from political consultants and the people that make money off of political races rather than dissatisfaction of individuals from within their districts," Laney said. "I think the electorate from these members' districts are the best judge."

Among the targets, Laney added, are conservative Democratic Reps. Bob Turner and

David Counts. Laney, a moderate, said both men are social conservatives and the fact that they're being targeted demonstrates that Republicans are more concerned with partisanship than philosophy.

Texas Republican Party Chairman Susan Weddington said philosophy is the key. "If you look at all the indicators through conservative organizations, the highest-ranked Democrat in conservative terms is still far below the lowest-ranked Republican," she said. Mrs. Weddington added that it would be unlikely that a Republican majority would elect a Democratic speaker.

Key House members who have announced their departure include Reps. Mark Stiles, D-Beaumont, chairman of the House Calendars Committee; Allen Place, D-Gatesville, chairman of the Criminal Jurisprudence Committee; Allen Hightower, D-Huntsville, chairman of the House Corrections Committee; Hugo Berlanga, D-Corpus Christi, chairman of the Public Health Committee; and Keith Oakley, D-Terrell, chairman of the Public Safety Committee. Rep. Steve Holzhauser, R-Victoria, chairman of the Energy Resources, is leaving to run for the Railroad Commission.

Stiles, Place, Hightower and Berlanga have been among Laney's top supporters and helped keep other members on board with the speaker's priorities. Laney said the process of getting bills through the House will miss those lawmakers as much as he will.

"You always hate to see the expertise and the institutional memory leave because you have to have someone to take their place," Laney said. "That's got a learning curve. You're not going to immediately have someone who has the institutional memory. There is going to be some rehashing of things."

Laney said he doesn't believe top Democrats are leaving because they fear a Republican takeover. "All of these individuals would play a prominent role under anyone," he said.

Mrs. Weddington would not speculate on the reason top Democrats are leaving. "Clearly the state is trending Republican," she said. "If you look at the districts where you have Democratic incumbents leaving, it's only a matter of time before a Republican is going to win those districts."

"We have city councilmen in Houston in trouble. We have a school official in Dallas. We have the favorite Hispanic son from Texas in San Antonio. Morales in Austin. The others," Martinez said. "We don't have a lot of people on point out there and, all of a sudden, we're looking at this wasteland of fallen leaders."

Among the high profile Hispanics who ran into trouble this year:

•Henry Cisneros, the former housing secretary and San Antonio mayor, was indicted recently on multiple counts of misleading FBI agents about funneling money to his former mistress.

•Ms. Maldonado was indicted this summer by a federal grand jury after an FBI sting operation at Houston City Hall. Also caught in the sting were Ben T. Reyes, the city's first Hispanic councilman, and his successor, John Castillo. The three face trial in March on bribery and conspiracy charges stemming from the city's convention center hotel deal.

•In October, former Dallas Independent School District superintendent Yvonne Gonzalez pleaded guilty to federal charges of misapplying public money to buy furniture. She was also accused of sexual harassment by a subordinate.

Add to that list Dan Morales, the state's highest elected Hispanic, who announced this month that he would not seek a third term next year. Although his departure was not forced by scandal, it still meant one less Hispanic leader in Texas.

"If we had six Dan Moraleses, that would be different, or six Yvonne Gonzaleses," said University of Houston sociologist Nestor Rodriguez. "But we don't. Each one of our political leaders is precious to us because we have so few."

University of Texas government professor Rodolfo de la Garza said many Hispanics take each scandal so personally because of the community's political immaturity and uncertain status in greater society. "We overload our officials, both positively and negatively," he said.

Still, those feelings are not unique to Hispanics, said Tatcho Mindiola, chairman of the University of Houston's Mexican-American Studies department. "It has to do with minority status, cultural identity and proving ourselves, so that when someone comes along who instills a great deal of pride in us, like a Lena Guerrero or a Henry Cisneros, we take it personally," he said.

Ms. Guerrero, the state's first Hispanic railroad commissioner resigned in 1992 after it was revealed that she lied about having a college degree.

The cultural stigma might go away somewhat when more Hispanics make the suc-

cessful rise to the top and the Latino community matures politically. "It's very important to separate the individual's achievements and failures from the group's achievements and failures. They are related, but not the same thing," de la Garza said.

"The community should be happy for the individual who succeeds, but it is inappropriate to take credit. Conversely, if the individual fails, it is not the community's failure. That distinction comes with maturity."

### Symphony seeking new music director, easing financial woes

HOUSTON - The Houston Symphony is trying to find a new music director who can keep up the group's high standards, but hopefully one who will come cheap consid-



H.S.O. Music Director Christoph Eschenbach

ering the organization is \$7.1 million in debt.

"We're at an important crossroads," symphony executive director David Wax told the *Houston Chronicle*. "If we meet the challenge, we can see the future." See REGION page 4

### REGIONAL

### Scandals of Hispanic officials felt deeply by Hispanic community

HOUSTON - This year, as high-profile Hispanics in Texas have been tainted by scandal, many have been taking those disgraces as a blow to the entire community.

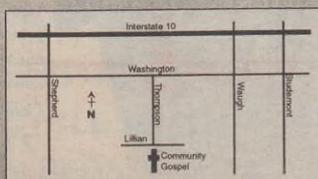
"This has not been a good year for Hispanics in this state," Houston Port Commissioner Vidal Martinez, who assumed a post left vacant by an indicted Betti Maldonado, told the *Houston Chronicle* published last Sunday.

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## REGION/ from page 3

lenges, I see the orchestra building ... moving further forward. I think the problems are solvable."

It's a tough way for the symphony to go into 1998 after such a promising start to 1997. Music director Christoph Eschenbach had extended his extending his contract by a year, then in February there was a successful second concert tour of Europe that included debuts in London and Amsterdam and an acclaimed return to Vienna.

Back home, the symphony board was implementing a five-year plan designed to end decades of annual deficits. The plan included unpopular ideas such as a cut in expenses. Eschenbach and the musicians needed more money for salaries, touring and recording, not less. So negotiations for a new contract foundered once the old one expired May 31.

In July, the Houston Symphony Society, a nonprofit organization that funds and manages the orchestra, cut musicians' annual salaries by 7.7 percent. A threatened strike was averted when enough money was raised for a one-year contract at the same basic annual salary as last season, \$62,400.

In September, the symphony and Houston Grand Opera announced that the orchestra would stop playing for HGO's productions at the end of the 2001-2002 season, ending a relationship that dates to the HGO's 1956 debut. That decision will cost the symphony about 750,000 this season.

Then came Eschenbach resigned, saying he wanted to strengthen his career in Europe. The native German will assume two leadership positions in Hamburg, where he received his early musical training, in the fall.

"People were too comfortable with the status the orchestra has (achieved), and didn't take care of the deficit, didn't raise enough money," Eschenbach said.

Eschenbach will return to Houston in January 2000 to conduct the orchestra for Houston Grand Opera's long-planned pro-

duction of Richard Wagner's *Tristan und Isolde*. He also said he would like to retain a titled position with the Houston Symphony.

Chicago Symphony President Henry Fogel is supervising the search for a way to handle the orchestra's recurring money problems, while a separate committee has begun searching for Eschenbach's successor. Musicians took the initiative in negotiations by inviting Fogel to mediate and by seeking interim funding for the one-year contract.

## Downtown center for arts approved

HOUSTON - A \$75 million performing arts center has been approved by the City Council, with a scheduled opening date in late 2002.

The Sam Houston Coliseum and Music Hall will be demolished in June to make way for the new Hobby Center for the Performing Arts, city officials said. The center will be built with funds primarily provided by the Music Hall Foundation, a civic organization that supports the arts.

"It's a good Christmas present for the foundation, all of the people on the city side who have worked so hard for this thing, and all the citizens of this community for whom this facility is going to be built," said Bud Franks, executive director of the Music Hall Foundation.

For years city officials have tried and failed to successfully redevelop the aging music facilities. Plans for a casino, an outdoor amphitheater and a remodeled Music Hall were all scrapped in favor of the current plan, which has been in the works for more than a year.

To date, the foundation has secured about \$58 million in financial commitments for the facility, according to Franks. The goal is to raise \$78 million, which would pay for the facility plus an endowment. While no design plans have been formalized, the facility will house two performance spaces,

including a large theater with seating for up to 2,400, and a smaller venue for audiences up to 400.

## Astrodome sues promoter over canceled Three Tenors show

HOUSTON - The Astrodome has filed a lawsuit against the Florida-based promoters



of the Three Tenors World Tour concert that was canceled earlier this year.

The lawsuit by Astrodome U.S.A. alleges the promoters failed to make good on a \$350,000 cancellation fee. It accuses West Palm Beach, Fla.-based Dur United Entertainment Inc. of civil fraud and conspiracy by failing to honor the guaranteed

vacancy fee provision in a lease agreement for the canceled March 16 concert.

The lease obligated Dur United to pay \$350,000 if it canceled or rescheduled the concert within two weeks of the planned performance, according to Astrodome attorney Jeffrey Meyer. According to the lawsuit, Dur United insisted on the vacancy fee clause rather than pay the \$1 million rental fee if the concert did not go off as planned.

"Defendants now have the audacity to claim the clause, which they proposed to keep the deal alive, is unenforceable," said the suit filed in state District Judge Caroline Baker's court.

In addition to the promoters, the lawsuit names Nicole Durr of West Palm Beach and Robert Aston of San Antonio as defendants. The defendants promised the show would be financially successful, enhance the Dome's reputation and, as the tour's grand finale, attract the largest attendance of any stop, the suit said.

The tour was started by famed tenors Jose Carreras, Placido Domingo and Luciano Pavarotti in July 1996; the Houston concert was announced in November of 1996.

Sound system problems were blamed for the cancellation, but only an estimated 20,000 to 25,000 of the 67,000 tickets, ranging from \$50 to \$2,500, had been sold at the time the concert was cancelled. Promoters said they planned to hold the show between August and November, but it was never a rescheduled.

## NATIONAL NEWS

## State's expanded discrimination law takes effect

by Holly Ramer

CONCORD, N.H. - A new law that grew out of years of contentious debate is expected to generate only a trickle of action. Starting Jan. 1, New Hampshire's civil rights law will protect homosexuals in jobs, housing and public places like restaurants and hotels. But the state Human Rights Commission, which will handle complaints under the law, does not expect to be bombarded with calls.

"I don't expect there are going to be high number of complaints filed," commission Director Raymond Perry said. "It's still going to be very difficult to be gay in New Hampshire. It was clear from the hearings that many people remain prejudiced."

Perry predicts his office will handle three to five complaints in 1998 from people who believe they have been discriminated against on the basis of sexual orientation. That is a drop in the bucket compared to the 250 to 300 complaints filed by people charging discrimination based on race, religion and other protected statuses.

That doesn't mean the law won't make a difference. It will, but by producing peace of mind rather than complaints, said Marcus Hurn, a law professor at Franklin Pierce Law School who is gay.

"It's not so much that there is such a great

number of landlords and bosses who are on a witch hunt, it's that any time you hear a story about that you think, 'Next time it could be me,'" he said. "Now, the law is clear, and we've got a pretty conservative but fair state organization - the Human Rights Commission - that conscientiously does its job."

The law will have a significant impact among public school teachers and state employees, he said. "It's never been real clear in the past whether you were safe in your teacher tenure or state employee status if you were gay or lesbian," he said. "Now they can rest easy because it's very plain in the law. A lot of worry hanging over people will lessen. I suspect that will be the biggest effect."

Gov. Jeanne Shaheen signed the bill in June. Earlier attempts to include homosexuals in the civil rights law failed due to pressure from then-Gov. Steve Merrill, who said it wasn't needed, and the Catholic Church.

This time, the Roman Catholic Diocese of Manchester helped shape the language, which includes a statement that "New Hampshire does not intend to promote or endorse any sexual lifestyle other than the traditional marriage-based family."

Once the church endorsed the bill, "that started the ball rolling down hill at a pretty good clip," said Rep. Bill McCann, the bill's main sponsor. He said Bishop Leo O'Neil, who died last month, was concerned about the bill's effect on schoolchildren.

McCann, a Democrat from Dover, said

See NAT'L page 6

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by Ella Tyler

You can take your Christmas tree to be recycled to Memorial Park Ballfields 4 and 5, from December 30 to January 11, except New Year's Day. The site will be open from 9 to 5 weekdays and Saturday and one to 5 on Sunday. For other sites, call the City of Houston Recycling Hotline, 713/865-4201.

Unfortunately, flocked trees can't be recycled here, but we wouldn't have a flocked tree anyway, would we? Take the ornaments, lights and tinsel off. This is not a solution for that pesky storage problem.

In exchange, you will get a bag of mulch or a tree seedling. I don't know if it's a big or small bag, but mulch is useful stuff. It helps hold moisture in soil, regulates soil temperature, and keeps down weeds. Organic mulches gradually decompose adding valuable nutrients to the soil. Some people think that a cedar mulch helps repel insects. I can't tell. I don't have a big insect problem, probably because I have lots of birds.

Your existing beds and pots will benefit from a two to three inch layer of mulch, which can be put down now. It will keep your plants' roots from freezing in January and February. Some

experts suggest that new trees and shrubs should have only an inch

seeds. The mulch will keep them from coming up.



layer of mulch to encourage the roots to grow more deeply in the soil. Do not mulch newly planted

I think it's a bit too early to start planting anything, but the time is coming soon. Arbor Day here is in

late January. Think about what plants you want to add to your garden. I've decided to add some Bradford Pears by the curb because the pine trees that have been there for 40 years are beginning to decline. This is one of my favorite trees, but it has such a rigid shape I couldn't figure out where to put it. However, it looks good in a row. It has white flowers very early in the spring and great fall color.

If you feel like doing real work, rather than thinking and planning, you could build raised flower beds now. This will give the soil time to mellow before you plant. Any plant that requires good drainage to thrive must be grown in a raised bed here. They are so important to roses that the Rose Society's January meeting is always about bed building. It will be Thursday, January 8th at the Garden Center at 1500 Herman Drive. The meeting begins at 8 and you do not need to me a member to attend.

You could do a soil test now. I'd always ignored that advice but finally did my own with a kit I bought at the nursery. It revealed why I was having problems growing things in some places. The soil was too alkaline. If you don't want to play a mad chemist, A & M does soil testing, but so does Wharon Co. Jr. College. I think they might be faster. Call (409) 932-6311.

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**NAT'L** from page 4

he was able to persuade O'Neil that school boards would still be able to discipline teachers who act inappropriately regardless of their sexual orientation. "If you have a heterosexual teacher who is openly carrying on with two or three different people, that's something a school board would look at. The same is true of gay people," McCann said.

Opponents say the law sanctions sin and asks people to embrace homosexuality as socially acceptable. "I don't believe in adding a new classification outside of the realm of things you have no control over," said Rep. Gary Daniels, R-Milford. "In cases of race, color or creed, you don't have control over that, and those are constitutional. It wasn't right in my mind to raise sexual orientation to a constitutional level."

New Hampshire is among 11 states that have enacted similar laws. Maine voters will decide on Feb. 10 whether to keep their gay rights law. The law was enacted in June and signed by the governor, but opponents collected signatures to force the referendum.

The revised civil rights law adds sexual orientation to existing classifications of age, gender, race, color, ethnic background, physical or mental disability, marital status, religious or political beliefs. The law bars discrimination in employment, housing and public accommodations. It does not protect illegal acts.

The law exempts:

- People hiring domestic workers, such as maids and babysitters.
- Nonprofit organizations, including fraternal, social, charitable, educational or religious associations and groups like the Boy Scouts.
- Businesses with fewer than six employees.
- Landlords renting rooms in buildings with three or fewer units and rooming houses with five or fewer units if the owner or a family member lives in the building.
- The private sale or rental of a single-family home as long as the owner does not own another home and does not get a real estate agent's help with the sale or rental.
- Non-commercial rental housing at religious and private clubs.

Complaints arising from the new law will be handled by the state Human Rights Commission in the same way other discrimination allegations are heard. The commission often talks with employers and others

named in complaints to try to solve them before a formal complaint is filed, according to the commission's director, Raymond Perry.

"A call to an employer ensuring they know what the law is and its consequences might be enough in some cases," he said.

Once a formal complaint is filed, the commission tries to bring the sides together for negotiations. If the commission finds discrimination has occurred, there is a public hearing, followed by a ruling. The commission can award lost wages and other expenses to those who file complaints.

"You have reinstatement, back pay, orders to change discriminatory practices," said Franklin Pierce Law School professor Marcus Hurn. "It's directed entirely to fixing the problem. That's the end of it. You can't go to court. Nobody gets rich off the New Hampshire anti-discrimination law."

**Governor's campaign chairman unapologetic for 'queer' remark on TV**

MONTGOMERY, Ala. - The chairman of Gov. Fob James' re-election campaign is unapologetic about using an offensive term for homosexuals during a television appearance. Montgomery Mayor Emory Folmar, himself the 1982 Republican nominee for governor, used the slur during the *Good Morning, Montgomery* television show aired last Thursday.

"I used the word 'queer' and I'll use it again. I'm not going to call them gay. I don't approve of their lifestyle one bit," Folmar told *The Montgomery Advertiser* in a story published Tuesday.

Administration spokesman Alfred Sawyer said James was vacationing in Montana and was unaware of Folmar's remarks, which were criticized by gay support groups and an organization that opposes hate groups. "I have never heard the governor use that expression in reference to homosexuals," Sawyer said Tuesday.

The governor earlier this year called for the impeachment of Supreme Court justices and judges who have issued rulings that he calls fraudulent and illegal, including a Supreme Court ruling that he said gave special rights to homosexuals in Colorado. In that case, the justices threw out a constitutional amendment in Colorado banning laws that protect homosexuals from discrimination.

Folmar's remark came in response to a phone caller's broadcast comment about being harassed outside a downtown night-

club.

"I said something to the effect 'If you didn't all hang out together, there wouldn't be a problem,'" Folmar said Monday. "The first thing, I asked him if he called the police, and he said 'no,'" Folmar said. "That's why he got the short answer. They all get equal police protection, from the closest friend to the biggest enemy."

Lynn Shaw, president of the Montgomery chapter of Parents, Family, Friends of Lesbians and Gays, called Folmar's use of the word "mean-spirited." And a spokesman for the Gay and Lesbian Alliance of Alabama said Folmar seemed to be trying to offend homosexuals. "He has a huge disdain for gay and lesbian people and he has for years," GALAA's David White said Tuesday.

State Sen. Larry Dixon, R-Montgomery, said he and Folmar and others in the "1940s generation" grew up using such words and phrases that might seem offensive "in today's age of political correctness. ...When I was growing up, we used 'homo' as a short description of homosexuals," said Dixon.

Mark Potok, who monitors hate crime for the Southern Poverty Law Center in Montgomery, said such terms, when used by politicians, foster a climate where hate crimes could thrive. "When the elected leader of a city holds people up to ridicule, it can be difficult to stop the many violent people out there who are willing to take that further," said Potok.

Not everybody was offended by the mayor's word choice, however. The owner of Area 51, a downtown bar that attracts both a gay and straight crowd, told the *Advertiser* that Folmar's comment was humorous. "I think the mayor handled himself well in that situation," said the owner, who asked that his name not be used because of his day job. "For once, I found the mayor to have a sense of humor."

**Cats and lice spread germs harmful to people with AIDS**

BOSTON (AP) - Germs spread by cats and lice are health threats to people whose immune defenses are weakened by AIDS.

The bacteria are the same ones responsible for cat scratch fever and trench fever. In those whose immune systems are wrecked by HIV, these microbes can cause serious skin sores and life-threatening complications. While curable with common antibiotics, the disease often goes undiagnosed.

A study in today's issue of the *New England Journal of Medicine* examined 49 people with this condition, known as bacillary angiomatosis, and found that their problems were caused by two related microbes.

One, called *Bartonella henselae*, ordinarily causes cat scratch fever, an infection that afflicts more than 40,000 people in the United States each year. The other is *Bartonella quintana*, the microbe that sickened more than 1 million soldiers with trench fever during World War I, killing many. Trench fever had not been seen in the

United States until several cases were discovered among the homeless in Seattle five years ago.

In their study, Dr. Jane E. Koehler and others from University of California at San Francisco found that 26 of their patients were infected with *B. henselae* and 23 with *B. quintana*. Those who got *B. henselae* often had exposure to cats, while those who got *B. quintana* were more likely to be homeless. *B. henselae* spreads from cat to cat by fleas and then to people through cat scratches. *B. quintana* lives in human body lice.

**More money allocated for AIDS drug program**

RALEIGH (AP) - A program designed to pay for so-called drug "cocktails" for low-income AIDS patients is receiving \$500,000 in additional state funds to keep it going into the new year.

The Department of Health and Human Services on Monday announced the allocation for the program, which has been hamstrung in recent months by the high price of the drugs, which can cost as much as \$1,500 a month per person. The effectiveness of the drug "cocktail" also has meant more of the hundreds of patients in the program use the drugs longer.

The state had set aside \$3.4 million to pay for the program through next June, but funds were estimated to run out for the AIDS medication program on Dec. 31. The additional funds will carry the program through the end of January.

"This \$500,000 is only a stop-gap measure to get us through the start of the year," said James Edgerton, the department assistant secretary for budget, management and planning.

State health officials said last week the state budget office had refused a request to free up additional money for the program. State health director Dr. Ron Levine said Monday night the new money came from a department fund set aside for children's health initiatives running under budget this year. Many of those initiatives already are being paid with Medicaid funds, he said.

The department will ask legislative leaders next month to transfer an additional \$1.1 million from the children's health fund to pay for the AIDS drugs for the rest of the fiscal year, Levine said.

**Ohio's sexual-orientation ordinance goes into effect**

ATHENS, Ohio - A new sexual-orientation ordinance that prohibits discrimination of homosexuals has been signed into law in this southeastern Ohio city.

Athens Mayor Ric Abel announced at a news conference Tuesday that he had signed the ordinance. It prohibits discrimination against homosexuals in the areas of housing, employment and public accommodations.

See NAT'L page 7

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**NAT'L** from page 6

The City Council earlier passed the ordinance by a 6-1 vote. But Abel waited to hear from Athens Law Director Garry Hunter before signing the legislation into law. The measure provides an exemption for churches and those that rent out rooms in private homes.

Opponents to the sexual-orientation ordinance have discussed a possible voter referendum. That would require a petition drive to place the issue on the ballot.

**Gay Pride group will not boycott Broadway on the Beach**

MYRTLE BEACH, S.C. - The South Carolina Gay and Lesbian Pride Movement says it will not boycott the Broadway at the Beach entertainment complex because of the developer's opposition to this spring's Gay Pride Festival.

Developer Burroughs & Chapin Co. Inc. told some Broadway at the Beach tenants they could not sponsor a Village People concert in conjunction with the ninth annual festival because it would conflict with family values. Burroughs & Chapin also discouraged other tenants, including Hard Rock Cafe and All Star Cafe, from supporting festival activities.

The gay group considered a business boycott in retaliation, but voted against that at a meeting in Columbia on Sunday. "We realize that we can't hold them accountable for their landlord's prejudice," co-chairman Tony Snell said.

Snell would not say what his organization planned to do instead. Festival organizers have threatened to sue. "No point in letting the cat out of the bag too early," he said.

The group hopes to bring as many as 40,000 people to the festival from April 30-May 3, backed by commitments from other homosexual groups in cities like New York and Washington, D.C., to send people, Snell said.

Last year the festival was held in Greenville after the county council passed a resolution condemning homosexuality. It was in Columbia in previous years. Some Myrtle Beach-area ministers have talked about holding a counter-rally or march during the festival and say they support Burroughs & Chapin's opposition.

**Hutchinson says he'll continue to oppose Hormel nomination**

LITTLE ROCK - Sen. Tim Hutchinson, R-Ark., says he will continue to oppose the nomination of James Hormel to become ambassador of Luxembourg after meeting with the nominee in Hutchinson's Washington office. Hutchinson said he is opposed to the nomination because of what he says is Hormel's opposition to several U.S. policies.

President Clinton nominated Hormel, a

homosexual from San Francisco who is heir to the Hormel meat fortune and a major Democratic donor, for the post in October. The nomination has been put on a Senate hold by Hutchinson and Sen. James Inhofe, R-Okla., and some other senators.

Hutchinson and Inhofe blocked Hormel's confirmation last month because of concerns he would push a gay-rights agenda they oppose. The action drew criticism from the White House and gay-rights groups that called it discriminatory.

"It's been unfairly characterized that way," Hutchinson said. "At the outset, I made it clear that my concerns were policy issues. I didn't think it was a discrimination issue." Hutchinson said he questions if Hormel could represent the United States while "opposing the policies of the country and certainly the American people."

Hormel has declined to comment on the controversy. Hutchinson said Friday's meeting was candid, polite and broad-ranging, touching on topics including education, military policy, same-sex marriages and religion.

**Taxpayers doling out less to environmental issues, more to politics**

BOSTON - Bad news for the endangered turtle, organ transplant recipient or AIDS victim. Good news for cash-strapped political candidates. That's the message from Massachusetts taxpayers in the voluntary checkoffs they fill out come tax time.

Since 1990, fewer taxpayers are willing to make contributions to state funds created to protect endangered species and habitats, defray the cost of organ transplants, and pay for AIDS research, education and treatment.

The endangered species fund saw its contributions from checkoffs plunge from a total of \$346,000 in 1990 to \$202,000 in 1995, according to the state Department of Revenue, which released the latest figures. The organ transplant fund saw donations drop from \$206,300 in 1990 to \$156,400 in 1995, the department said.

And the AIDS fund saw its checkoff donations decline from \$351,700 in 1990 to \$216,800 in 1995.

At the same time, taxpayer checkoffs soared for the fund to provide public matching funds for eligible state election campaigns. In 1990, taxpayers elected to give a total of \$69,400 to the fund. Five years later, taxpayers gave a total of \$339,600.

Robert Russell, an attorney with the Conservation Law Foundation, says the shift is partly because support for conservation issues changes. "Public opinion on environmental issues does tend to fluctuate," Russell told *The Boston Globe*. "Wildlife doesn't have a constituency so it may be harder for it to stay in the news."

Another reason why many of the checkoffs have slipped is because of changes to the checkoff system itself. In 1994, the Department of Revenue put the checkoff for the election campaign fund at the top of the income tax form, while checkoffs for the other funds remained at the bottom.

Another reason for the drop-off could be

that taxpayers are more likely to give directly to their favorite charity. By giving directly, donations are often tax deductible. Donating through checkoffs is not.

**State commission looking at same-sex rights**

DENVER - A state commission looking at the rights and responsibilities of same-sex couples won't meet a March 1 deadline to issue its findings.

The Commission on Rights and Responsibilities of Same-Sex Relations has met twice since Gov. Roy Romer appointed its 16 members in September. More meetings are set for January and February, but public hearings won't be held until March 4. The commission is charged with compiling a report comparing the legal and economic rights, responsibilities and benefits of same-sex couples and married couples. "We're only just a little bit beyond the beginning organization in trying to identify tasks and processes," said state Rep. Gloria Leyba, D-Denver, a committee member.

The commission is headed by Bishop William J. Winterrowd of the Episcopal Diocese of Colorado. Other members include Catholic Archbishop Charles J. Chaput; Rabbi Steven Foster of Denver; Wade Buchanan, director of the Colorado Office of Energy Conservation; Shirley O. Harris, former state personnel director; and Paul Klinge of U S West Media Groups.

Sen. Ken Arnold, R-Westminster, and state Rep. Marilyn Musgrave, R-Fort Morgan, sponsored a bill earlier this year that sought to strengthen Colorado's ban on same-sex marriages. The measure passed the legislature but was vetoed by Romer, who appointed the commission without naming Arnold or Musgrave.

"You can dictate the outcome of a committee's decision by the people you appoint to the committee, and it looks like that's a predetermined outcome," Arnold said.

"It's an important commission," said Sue Anderson, executive director of Equality Colorado, a gay rights organization in Denver. "It's the first time there's been a formal government-sanctioned body looking at gay issues at all."

"The nature of families is changing," Anderson added. "It's important to examine what does that mean, for individuals in the relationships, the children, for property issues, inheritance, survivorship rights."

Leyba said the commission will look at "what barriers may be created by existing law" to same-sex partnerships. While the commission is unlikely to propose a law for the legislative session that begins Jan. 7, she said, "If we determine there are statutory barriers, legislation could be something down the road."

**Poll finds that most Utahns back district's decision**

PROVO, Utah - Most Utah residents support the Nebo School District's decision to order a lesbian teacher to refrain from discussing her sexual orientation, a new public opinion survey reveals.

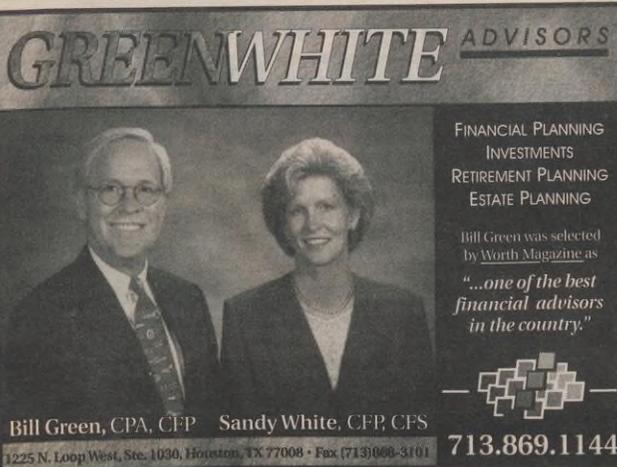
The copyright *Deseret News* Poll, published Saturday, found that 61 percent of the respondents in general, 70 percent of those living in Utah County and 72 percent of those in the district - agreed with the gag order.

Wendy Weaver, a psychology teacher who lost her job as a girls volleyball coach at Spanish Fork High after school officials learned she is a lesbian, has sued the district in federal court alleging the gag order violates her civil rights.

The poll, which questioned 606 people, has a margin for error of 4 percent overall. Respondents were interviewed Dec. 18-20. The results did not surprise those on either side of the Weaver debate.

See NAT'L page 8

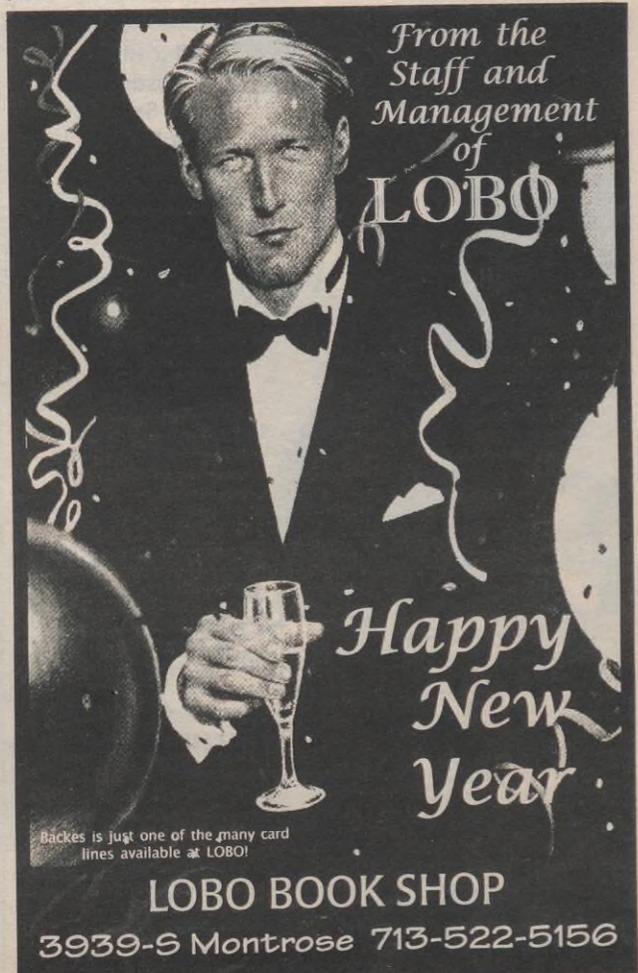
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**NAT'L** from page 7

"The majority of people here in the area are very much in support of the action taken against (Weaver)," said Roxann Barney, president of the grassroots Citizens of Nebo School District for Moral and Legal Values. "The other side is very vocal, so sometimes it doesn't seem that way."

Brent Kidman, whose three daughters played on Weaver's volleyball teams over the years, was angry that so many people are so quick to judge the Weaver situation and Weaver herself. "It comes back to ignorance," he said.

"When fear and hatred are combined, they're dangerous. I hate to think what would have happened if some of these people would have lived in Massachusetts in the 1600s when they burned witches. They would be lighting the first match." Kidman contends that Weaver never discussed her lifestyle with his daughters or other students. (See related story in Court Watch)

**Tree theft deals another blow to family**

DAYTON, Ohio - Every year since 1994, when their son Michael died of AIDS, the Cortina family has left a live, decorated Christmas tree in front of his grave. After the holiday, the family replants the tree in the yard of their suburban Centerville home in memory of their late son.

Several weeks ago when Fay Cortina went to her son's grave at David's Cemetery in suburban Kettering, she discovered the tree stolen. "Whoever took it interrupted a tradition in our family, something that was meaningful to us," said Mrs. Cortina, who is battling cancer and went to her son's grave for comfort.

Michael, who graduated from Ohio State University in 1988, died of AIDS at age 29. Mrs. Cortina said she visits her son's grave frequently to talk.

"What they have is a nice \$65 tree, but what they've taken away is a tradition," Mrs. Cortina said of the thieves. "What they have to live with is a value system where they take things at the expense of heartache to others."

Jeff Caldwell, spokesman for the Kettering police department, said reports of criminal offenses at the cemetery are few. Caldwell said police received a report of an angel stolen off a monument in April. And three or four years ago a bronze statue was taken from the cemetery, he said.

Mrs. Cortina said she is still in shock. "I feel another sense of loss," she said. Cortina said her family will no longer place a Christmas tree in the cemetery. "I will not go through the tree thing anymore," she said. "It's too painful."

**Houseboat where Cunanan committed suicide sinks**

MIAMI BEACH, Florida - The two-story houseboat where suspected serial killer Andrew Cunanan shot himself was submerged in Indian Creek, sunk by what workers said was a leak.

Water lapped halfway up to the front door of the houseboat, named The New Year, and nearly reached the second level in the back. Salvage workers tried to refloat the houseboat Monday.

Cunanan, 27, wanted for the slayings of Italian fashion designer Gianni Versace and four other men, used the houseboat as a hideout until caretaker Fernando Carreira stumbled upon him in July and called police. When police arrived, Cunanan was dead.

Carreira said he had contacted owner Frank Matthias Ruehl in Germany to advise him of the sinking. In the months since Cunanan fatally shot himself, the houseboat has been a movie set and an obligatory stop for sightseers.

**'Seinfeld' to move out, leaving its fans and NBC with the vacancy**

by Frazier Moore

NEW YORK (AP) - As the Soup Nazi might put it: No more *Seinfeld* for you! And no more soup-er *Seinfeld* ratings for NBC, which will lose the show at the center of TV's most profitable night ever.

Jerry Seinfeld rejected NBC's offer to raise his pay from \$1 million to an estimated \$5 million per episode next season, which would have been a record payday for a series.

"I wanted to end the show on the same kind of peak we've been doing it on for years," Seinfeld said in Friday's *New York Times*. "I wanted the end to be from a point of strength. I wanted the end to be graceful."

But now NBC could pay a much heavier price: the network's prime-time ratings supremacy. Viewers, of course, will pay, too. They will be deprived of laugh-filled new adventures for *Seinfeld*'s self-involved, urbane bumbling New Yorkers: Jerry, a stand-up comic (played by stand-up comic Seinfeld), along with neurotic George (Jason Alexander), bizarre Kramer (Michael Richards), and Jerry's high-strung ex-girlfriend, Elaine (Julia Louis-Dreyfus).

As the hateful mailman Newman, Wayne Knight has had an ideal opportunity to observe the group dynamics. "They continue to stick around with each other because each of them is someone they've stuck with for years, even though they can't quite justify it," Knight said in a recent interview.

And so the ninth season will be the last for the sitcom that made catch phrases out of "not that there's anything wrong with that" (being gay, that is), "master of your domain" (a sly euphemism for resisting the urge to masturbate), "yada, yada, yada" (blah-blah-blah), and chip "double dippers" (germ spreaders).

The show claimed to be about nothing, and nothing was too trivial to inspire a half-hour of humor. One episode had the cast repeatedly trying to buy soup from an authoritarian chef.

The show became a major profit-maker for NBC (an estimated \$200 million a year) and came to represent the 1990s just as surely as *The Cosby Show* marked the 1980s and *All in the Family* the tumultuous '70s.

It was the ultimate water-cooler show, a topic of conversation at work on Friday mornings. (In fact, a Milwaukee jury awarded \$26 million to a Miller Brewing Co. executive in June who was fired after telling a female colleague about an episode in which Jerry forgets his girlfriend's name and remembers only that it rhymes with a part of the female anatomy.)

The *Seinfeld* foursome has won 10 Emmys and is currently No. 2 in the ratings, behind NBC's *ER*. Though filmed in Los Angeles, *Seinfeld* has done the Big Apple proud, as Mayor Rudolph Giuliani noted Friday. Calling it "the show of the decade," the mayor, who made a cameo appearance in a 1993 episode, said *Seinfeld* promotes the city "with grace and humor."

Asked outside NBC headquarters Friday to recall one of her favorite *Seinfeld* moments, Sarah Ellis of New York grinned at the thought of the nails episode: "Elaine gets her nails done from Korean women and she can't understand anything they say, so she brings George's father to translate, and he gets in a fight with them."

Elisabeth Gladston, another New Yorker, recalled the time Elaine put her foot down over her boyfriend's habit of painting his face. And James Shanahan, visiting from Los Angeles, cited the episode in which Kramer hit on a money-making scheme: the man's brasserie.

Oddly enough for a series that celebrates greed, selfishness and yada, yada, yada, the choice for its creator-star

was one of love vs. money - and love won. Seinfeld called his sitcom "the greatest love affair of my life," telling the *Times*: "We all felt we wanted to leave in love."

His reasoning warmed the heart of Syracuse University professor Robert J. Thompson, who has singled out *Seinfeld* as the only TV series of the 1990s included in his History of TV course.

"One of the disadvantages of American series television is this obligation to keep going as long as someone will continue to pay," said Thompson, director of the Center for the Study of Popular Television. "You look at *L.A. Law*, which would have gone down as one of the great series of all time, yet completely compromised its reputation in the last couple of years it was on the air."

Some viewers have grouched that this season's *Seinfeld* hasn't been up to snuff. But it is certainly near, if not still at, its peak, and it bids farewell in the grand tradition of such leave-'em-wanting-more favorites as *Mary Tyler Moore*, *M.A.S.H.*, *Cosby* and *Cheers*.

But when it goes, *Seinfeld* won't leave NBC laughing. The network is reeling from its poorest showing in the November ratings sweeps since 1994, and is seeing a 10 percent erosion in its audience from a year ago.

Its prospects seem bleak for finding a *Seinfeld* - worthy replacement on its all-important "Must See TV" Thursday night lineup. NBC offered a fall slate of no fewer than 18 comedies, but none of its newcomers has emerged as a hit.

Adding to its headaches, NBC will be fighting (and almost certainly paying more) to keep *ER* from jumping to a rival network after this season. At NBC, there's no serenity now.



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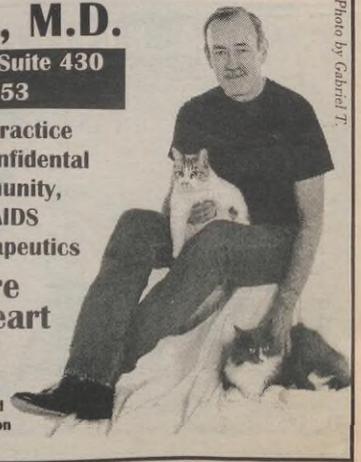


Photo by Gabriel T.

## Attorneys ask dismissal of lesbian teacher's suit over gag order

by Bob Mims

SALT LAKE CITY (AP) - State attorneys late Friday asked a federal judge to dismiss a lesbian teacher's lawsuit challenging a school gag order banning her from discussing her sexual orientation.

Among other things, the Utah Attorney General's Office argued in briefs filed with U.S. District Court here that Wendy Weaver's comments regarding her homosexuality do not "rise to the level protected by the First Amendment."

Assistant Attorneys General Martha Stonebrook and Robert Morton also contended that Ms. Weaver's October lawsuit against the Nebo School District and 14 individuals was barred by the Constitution's provisions protecting government entities and state employees.

In July, after learning Ms. Weaver was gay, Spanish Fork High School officials took away her job coaching the girls' volleyball team. Ms. Weaver also was ordered her not to talk about her sexual orientation at school or on her own time.

Ms. Weaver does not have a listed telephone number in Spanish Fork and could not be reached for comment. However, her Salt Lake attorney, David Watkiss, saw a glimmer of hope in the state's response.

"It is what I would have expected," he said. "Although they (the state's attorneys) do point out that the district wrote Ms. Weaver a second memo in which they tried to narrow the scope of the gag order that they gave to her in July."

That second memo, on Oct. 29, came nine days after Ms. Weaver and the Utah chapter of the American Civil Liberties Union had filed suit alleging the district's gag order violated her rights to free speech and privacy.

"(The second memo) was a step in the right direction," Watkiss said. "I'm hopeful that with a little dialogue, we will be able to solve this without protracted litigation."

Palmer DePaulis, spokesman for the Utah Attorney General's Office, was noncommittal about prospects for a settlement. "The state will probably want to mull that over and appropriately respond, but I have no idea right now what the response would be," he said.

The Salt Lake ACLU office was closed Friday, and a call to the organization's Gay and Lesbian Rights office in New York was not immediately returned. In Friday's briefs, state attorneys argued that, "The right to privacy has not been extended to matters involving homosexual relationships" and that there exists no "fundamental right to engage" in same-sex behavior.

Further, Ms. Stonebrook and Morton wrote that the school district's decisions regarding Ms. Weaver fell within its "legitimate interest in maintaining the morale, integrity and public acceptance of the school system and in minimizing substantial disruption or interference in the normal activities of the schools within its boundaries."

Ms. Weaver's suit seeks a declaration that the ban is unconstitutional and an order that school administrators remove it from her personnel file. The case has generated a storm of controversy in Spanish Fork, a predominantly Mormon community of roughly 12,000 in Utah County, 45 miles south of here.

In early November, about 100 residents rallied, threatening to pull their children from Ms. Weaver's classes. Nebo School District board members have repeatedly been pressured to fire Weaver, and last Tuesday, a grassroots morality group filed suit in 4th District Court.

The complaint by Citizens of Nebo School District for Moral and Legal Values asked a judge to determine whether school and law enforcement officials failed to protect Ms. Weaver's students and team members. Allegations in the suit involve purported incidents the group contends amounted to child abuse or contributed to the delinquency of minors.

Specifically, the suit alleges that the 40-year-old mother of two hosted hot-tub parties at her house with team members, had them play touch football clad only in shorts and bras, discouraged and punished team members involved with boys, and set up a mentoring network.

The group's lawsuit maintains some of those involved, in the network later announced they were lesbians.

Watkiss said those charges were baseless, springing from activities that in any other scenario would be considered harmless and common to athletes and their coaches.

## Supreme Court rules in AIDS insurance case.

HONOLULU (AP) - The Hawaii Supreme Court has overturned a Circuit Court order that allowed an insurance company to deny disability payments to an AIDS patient. The high court sent the case back to Circuit Court for a jury trial.

The ruling came in the case of an unnamed dentist, who was identified only as John Doe. He died on Sept. 27, almost 12 years after Paul Revere Insurance Co. issued him a disability income insurance policy. The man later filed a claim for benefits, saying he was totally disabled with an HIV infection.

The company stopped making payments after three months and demanded that the man repay the \$4,500 he already had received. The company said his disability was not covered because his HIV infection was a preexisting condition.

The Circuit Court in September 1995 issued a summary judgment in favor of the insurance company.

David Brustein, an attorney for the man's estate, said it was "a sweeping, unanimous decision."

The man's other attorney, Kirk Cashmere, said the Supreme Court was appalled that the insurance company denied the benefit even though the man paid his premiums and was entitled to receive his benefits.

Attorneys for the insurance company were not available for comment.

## Couple indicted for not paying taxes on "Miracle" machines

WEST PALM BEACH, Fla. (AP) - An Idaho couple were indicted Tuesday on 11 federal charges in connection with selling so-called "ozone generators" they claimed cured cancer and AIDS.

The indictment charges Kenneth Thiefaul, 57, and his wife, Mardel Barber, 50, of Kooski, Idaho, sold the machines for about \$4,800 each to consumers throughout the United States.

Their marketing of the machines included a videotape, *The Miracle of Ozone*, which was hosted by Thiefaul and "provided false, deceitful and misleading information

about the benefit of ozone in curing diseases," according to the U.S. Attorney's Office in West Palm Beach.

The couple, formerly of Jupiter, Fla., recommended the ozone be administered rectally, vaginally, through the ear or to be absorbed through the skin by using a body bag, the indictment said. The two conspired to prevent the Internal Revenue Service from discovering their \$1 million in gross receipts from the sale of the generators, and Thiefaul failed to file a tax return, the indictment said.

The indictment charges each defendant with conspiracy to defraud the IRS. Thiefaul also is charged with wire fraud, mail fraud, distribution of ozone generators, distribution of ozone and mislabeling of an ozone generator.

Thiefaul faces up to 41 years in prison and a \$1.75 million fine. His wife faces up to five years in prison and a \$250,000 fine.

## GLOBAL NEWS

### Thai doctor to open first sex change surgery center in Asia

by Robert Horn  
Associated Press

BANGKOK, Thailand - A top Thai doctor is hoping to help cure the country's economic ills by opening Asia's first sex change surgery center in Bangkok.

Dr. Preecha Tiewtranon, a plastic surgeon at Chulalongkorn Memorial Hospital in Bangkok, said that his center, set to open in March, will bring in badly needed foreign exchange for Thailand, which is battling its worst economic crisis in modern times.

Preecha said he was approached with the sex-change-for-foreign-exchange concept by the Department of Export Promotion, which is planning to tout Thailand's mod-

ern but low-cost medical services to overseas patients.

"I didn't plan the center with that idea," Preecha said. "But when they came to me and said it could bring the country more foreign exchange, I realized they were right. So why not help the country?"

Thailand depleted its foreign exchange reserves in a futile defense of the baht last spring. The country was forced to seek a bailout led by the International Monetary Fund, triggering a wider economic crisis throughout Asia.

Preecha said his patients won't spend money only on hospital bills. "They'll want some new clothes and jewelry to go with their new anatomy, and they'll probably buy them in Thailand," said Preecha, who in his 20-year career has performed more than 600 sex change operations.

The doctor isn't completely comfortable

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**GLOBAL**/from page 9

with the government's publicity drive, because many colleagues in the medical community disapprove of advertising in general. And despite Thailand's numerous transvestite and transsexual cabaret shows, and its reputation as a country with an "anything goes" attitude toward sex, Preecha says some of his colleagues also oppose the surgery, saying it's morally wrong.

Even Preecha wanted no part of what is officially called "sexual reassignment surgery" when he began his career. "But people just kept coming and coming, asking me to help them," he said. "They were really suffering, and some committed suicide. So I could no longer refuse."

Why would foreign patients decide to come to a developing country such as Thailand for such drastic surgery? "Because it's cheaper here and the results are comparable to those in the West," Preecha said, who is president of The Society of Aesthetic Plastic Surgeons of Thailand.

Thailand boasts some of the best hospitals in Southeast Asia. Visitors, particularly Americans, sometimes go through a full battery of medical exams here because they are more affordable than at home.

The male-to-female sexual reassignment surgery costs the equivalent of \$5,000 (nearly 250,000 baht) in Thailand but can run more than three times that much in Western countries, Preecha said. The doctor won't perform female-to-male surgery for visitors because it requires several operations and has a higher incidence of complications.

The planned center at Chulalongkorn will be the first in Asia solely devoted to sexual reassignment surgery and will have a staff of surgeons, psychiatrists, endocrinologists, urologists and social workers.

"Right now, we have a waiting list of 60 patients but can only do one surgery a week," Preecha said. "But after the center

opens we will be able to do one a day, or perhaps more."

Studies done in Europe indicate one in every 30,000 men wants the surgery, Preecha claimed, leading him to believe Asia is one big untapped market. "That means if Thailand has 60 million people, there are 2,000 who are right for the surgery," Preecha said. "Think how many there must be in Japan and China."

When he started, his patients were all lower-class Thais, Preecha said. Today, about half are foreigners who learned about his services through word of mouth. Many of the Thai patients are now more upper crust. They include bankers, medical students, professors, engineers and architects, he said. Preecha only performs surgery on foreigners who provide documentation from a psychiatrist approving them for the operation.

**Australia to look into developing aids vaccine from HIV strain**

MELBOURNE, Australia (AP) — Researchers will use a grant from a U.S. AIDS group to study a crippled strain of the AIDS virus in hopes of developing a vaccine for the fatal illness, officials said Friday.

Professor John Mills, head of Melbourne's Macfarlane Burnet Center for Medical Research, said the research on HIV, the virus that causes AIDS, will take an approach similar to the methods used to produce vaccines for measles and polio.

The center was awarded \$415,500 for research by the nonprofit International AIDS Vaccine Initiative of New York. Mills said the center will use the money to let five of its scientists spend three years researching the potential of the crippled strain of HIV, discovered in Australia in 1995.

"This is something which has worked in other contexts," Mills said. Polio and measles vaccines were developed from crippled strains of the main virus, strains that did not grow and did not cause full-blown symptoms.

The Macfarlane Burnet team will be looking to form the vaccine from HIV's genetic material, rather than from the whole virus. Drugs have been found that appear to suppress HIV but researchers still don't know how to make a vaccine that will keep people from getting infected after being exposed to HIV.

**Canadian doctor convicted of helping AIDS patient die**

TORONTO (AP) — A doctor pleaded guilty Monday to assisting the suicide of a man with AIDS, becoming the first Canadian physician convicted of helping a patient to kill himself.

Dr. Maurice Genereux, 50, was released on bail and will be allowed to continue treating patients pending his sentencing. Genereux administered potentially lethal doses of sleeping pills to two HIV-positive men.

Aaron McGinn, 31, died in April 1996. The second patient, Mark Jewitt, survived an overdose in July 1995 after a friend found him and called for help. McGinn "didn't want to suffer any more. He wanted to die with dignity," said his companion Steven Minuk, according to court documents.

Jewitt testified against Genereux at his preliminary inquiry. "I don't think he should write another prescription for as long as he lives," he told CTV News.

Thanks to advances in AIDS drugs, Jewitt's condition has dramatically improved and he said he's now glad to be alive. But he still believes assisted suicide should be available to people suffering from fatal diseases.

"If you've seen AIDS or looked in the face of AIDS you can see that the end should come when the dying person wants it, not when some other person decides."

Genereux is scheduled to be sentenced in March. The maximum prison sentence in Canada for assisted suicide is 14 years. Proponents of assisted suicide hope the case will provoke the federal government to regulate euthanasia.

"Everyone knows doctors do this all the time. But there's a furtiveness about helping people to die," said Ruth Von Fuchs, of the Ontario chapter of the Right To Die Society. "We're just not comfortable dealing with the fact that some people might feel that death might be the best alternative."

Jakki Jeffs of the Alliance for Life, the umbrella group that represents Ontario groups opposed to abortion and assisted suicide, said Genereux should be given the maximum sentence, although she conceded that was unlikely given public opinion.

"You just have to look at the (Robert) Latimer case to know that people are confused about death and dying," Jeffs said. "They think euthanasia is somehow appro-

priate."

Opponents of assisted suicide were appalled earlier this month after Saskatchewan farmer Robert Latimer was sentenced to a jail term of only two years less a day for killing his disabled daughter Tracy, saying he could not bear to further her suffering.

The Supreme Court of Canada narrowly upheld a ban against assisted suicide after a 1993 challenge led by euthanasia campaigner Sue Rodriguez, who died in 1994 in an assisted suicide. In December 1995, a Nova Scotia woman became the first Canadian convicted of aiding and abetting a suicide after helping her friend kill herself. She was given a suspended sentence.

**Mounties to launch probe of Canada's tainted-blood scandal**

OTTAWA (AP) — The Royal Canadian Mounted Police said Monday it will form an eight-member squad to determine whether criminal wrongdoing occurred in a tainted-blood scandal that infected thousands of Canadians with the AIDS virus and hepatitis C.

Corp. Gilles Moreau, a spokesman for the national police force, said the squad will take three months to assess whether there is sufficient evidence to launch a full-scale criminal investigation. It could be many more months before criminal charges, if any, would be laid because of the complexity of the case, Moreau said.

About 2,000 recipients of blood and blood products were infected with the AIDS virus between 1980 and 1985. An additional 60,000 Canadians who received blood transfusions contracted hepatitis C.

Last month, a judge completed a lengthy inquiry into the scandal with a report concluding that many of the infections could have been prevented. Judge Horace Krever said failures among various blood agencies and officials contributed to the tragedy.

**Princess Diana movie to be filmed on Spanish island**

PALMA DE MALLORCA, Spain (AP) — A television movie about Princess Diana's final year of life will be filmed on the Mediterranean island of Mallorca, news reports said Tuesday.

The London-based production company Artemis will start filming *The People's Princess - A Tribute* in February with a script written and directed by British movie maker Gabrielle Beaumont, the state news agency EFE reported.

Calls to Artemis in Spain and London to confirm the report were unanswered. According to EFE, the movie is expected to cost about three million dollars and will deal with Diana's relationship with her children and her boyfriend Dodi Al Fayed.

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## Special Report: Child born of an AIDS-infected mother is now free of the disease

by Gracie Bonds Staples  
Fort Worth Star-Telegram

ARLINGTON, Texas - There is this child in the middle of the floor, in the middle of crayons and construction paper and scissors, in the middle of creating a book. When he is finished, you are just as amazed by Devin Butt's meticulous creation as you are by his very existence. You know his brief life is nothing short of a miracle, because Devin was born HIV-positive.

Six years ago, by divine intervention or simple good fortune, Devin became one of the first in the womb to receive AZT, now a widely used drug to prevent perinatal transmission of AIDS. Today, the virus he was born with can no longer be detected in his body.

"There seems to be two patterns of illness," said Dr. R.J. Simonds, medical epidemiologist with the national Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. "A small group of the children who are infected seem to progress quite rapidly and get sick and often die the first year of life. The others seem to do OK in the first few years and seem to live quite a long time.

"In the middle are children whose immune system will slowly break down and at about school age get sicker and sicker. It looks like from data at least from a few years ago that the average period from birth to developing AIDS was about five years. The average life span is closer to nine or 10 years, but half of the children will be dead by that point."

Devin's mother, who died from AIDS complications, was an intravenous drug user. Twice before conceiving him, she had opted to abort the fetuses in her womb for fear they'd face the same fate as her own.

No one can say for certain why Shari Butts decided to carry Devin to term. No one can say why, for the sake of this child, she made an effort to kick her drug habit or how it happened that Butts would be among the first HIV-infected pregnant women to participate in the National Institutes of Health's AIDS clinical trials.

Although AZT therapy is not 100 percent effective, the rate of HIV transmission has been reduced dramatically since the use of the drug was approved by the Food and Drug Administration in 1994.

Devin's grandparents, Ed and Linda Barrier, credit the medical regimen with saving their grandson's life. "He still has some problems because of the drugs his mother used," Ed Barrier said. "But he is HIV-negative, and he's healthy."

### A desire to change

Even without the heavy burden of AIDS hanging over them, the Barriers said it seemed drugs would surely destroy their daughter, rendering her incapable of bearing them a grandchild, much less raising him.

As Devin moves amid his crayons and construction paper, the Barriers take turns describing the events that led them to this place, without their daughter, but with the grandson they were sure wouldn't make it.

It was January 1988 when doctors diagnosed Shari Butts as HIV-positive during a routine checkup at a medical clinic in Dallas. In February 1991, Linda Barrier said her daughter discovered she was pregnant. "She was out running around doing drugs up to the fifth month," she remembered. "At the end of the fourth month, she said she'd had enough. Lo and behold, they started this testing on women. Shari said, 'I don't know which one I'm taking, but I'm going to do what they ask.'"

In the AZT trial Shari Butts was enrolled in, half of the women received AZT orally, starting between the 14th and 34th weeks of pregnancy and continuing until they went into labor. The drug was given to the women intravenously during labor and delivery and orally to their infants for six weeks after birth. The other half received a placebo. Neither the pregnant women nor their doctors knew which therapy the women received.

About 25 percent of HIV-infected women who received the placebo passed HIV to their babies, but only 8.3 percent of the women treated with AZT transmitted the virus. Devin, who like other infants received AZT for six weeks after birth, was born with HIV antibodies in his blood and tested positive for the virus until he was 18 months old.

"We laughed. We cried. We all hugged and jumped up and down," Linda Barrier said, recalling the day her family received the test results that declared him negative. "It was wonderful. Shari was ecstatic. She was so happy to know her little boy didn't have AIDS."

### Putting AZT to the test

In 1993, the most recent year for which complete data are available, an estimated 7,000 HIV-infected women gave birth in the United States, according to the CDC in Atlanta. An estimated 1,000 to 2,000 infants were born HIV-infected in the United States that year.

As health-care providers across the country have incorporated the use of AZT into their clinical practices, perinatal HIV transmission has dropped dramatically. Nationally, the number of children reported to the CDC with perinatally acquired AIDS declined 47 percent between 1992 and 1996.

"AZT changes the probability of infection from one in four to one in 12," Simonds said. "The key message here is," he said, "we do have ways of preventing infection in babies, but it requires that mothers get tested in time the first trimester to be able to take advantage of the AZT, that they get prenatal care and avoid breast-feeding."

Parkland Memorial Hospital was one of about a dozen sites selected from across the country to participate in what was called AIDS Clinical Trials Group Protocol 076. It was the first study funded by the National Institutes of Health to try and interrupt transmission of the virus from the mother to their babies.

"This was a very intensive trial," said Dr. Philip Keiser, who heads Parkland's AIDS clinic and referred Butts for the study. "It covered every potential base you could think of. Did the babies get the virus during the birthing process or later during the breast feeding, for instance? How little AZT can you give? What was the right dosage and timing and do you have to give it to the baby afterwards?"

In the end, mothers and babies who were given AZT, which keeps the virus from replicating, were two-thirds less likely to develop HIV infection. But doctors still aren't sure how AZT works.

"Part of its effect is due to reducing the mother's viral load the fetus would be exposed to at the time of delivery," said Dr. George Wendel, professor of obstetrics and gynecology at Parkland. "The rest of the effect is unclear. It may be that it acts as a prophylactic to the baby."

Doctors believe that most mothers who pass HIV on to their babies do so during delivery, when the infant is exposed to the mother's blood and other fluids.

"The good news," Wendel said, "is we haven't had an infected baby from a mother who took AZT throughout her pregnancy in the last year. When you work in a system as big as ours, that really strikes home that it's effective."

### Sadness remains

Although healthy, Devin is still a part of that system and will be for a long time. Because there are still many unanswered questions about AZT's long-term effects, doctors will monitor the offspring of women who participated in the study until the children reach 21.

For now, the Barriers simply marvel at the miracle before them. And although grateful, they feel a kind of sadness for other women and children in the study.

"I was very grateful that Shari was given AZT, but what about the women given the placebo?" Linda Barrier asked. "It didn't

quite seem fair. While we thank God for him, we feel for the other mothers who've probably lost their babies."

And they still feel their own loss. At 4:15 a.m., Sept. 15, 1995, less than four years after giving birth to Devin, Shari Butts died with her family at the side of her hospital bed. She was 26.

Linda Barrier said that her daughter never overcame her drug addiction. Shari's longest period of sobriety, she said, was about five months. Even when she thought she would die of AIDS, she said, Shari couldn't control her cravings for another high, not when she was suffering from pneumonia, not when repeated seizures landed her in the hospital.

But there are yet more pressing problems for the couple to deal with. Because of Shari's drug use, the Barriers said, Devin suffers from attention deficit hyperactive disorder, and he has nightmares. Unable to pay attention in school, to complete his class work, Devin was recently put on Ritalin and is doing much better now.

"It's been a tumultuous road," Linda Barrier said. "Shari is gone, but we have her son. We think that's a miracle."

At that moment, Devin completes his book. He holds it up for his grandparents' approval. Pride washes over his faces and over Devin's, too. And so in the middle of the floor, out of the midst of tragedy and confusion, is this living miracle. Devin Butts.

### Health Officials: AIDS deaths among inmates down while cases are up

BOSTON (AP) - Despite a reported increase of prisoners infected with the virus that causes AIDS, fewer inmates are dying from the disease, according to the state Department of Public Health.

Inmate deaths from AIDS have declined in recent years, from 29 in 1990, to just one

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**Gayle/** from page 1

way for what they call crossover," says Gayle. "I've received letters through the years of people telling me that my music made them listen to country music. And they loved it. They never would have before, but because of my music it turned them on to country. It always made me feel real good."

Gayle believes country has changed since she was a top-selling act. She says country music, like any other, goes in cycles. "To me country music, right now, is sort of like pop music in the 70's," says Gayle.

"There's some good artists out there, some bad artists, some one hit artists. It's nice to hear a really good song. That's been the way its been for years."

Gayle cited LeAnn Rimes as an example of an artist who has talent. "LeAnn is a really good singer," Gayle said. Gayle said she can relate to Rimes meteoric rise as a teen, since she began her career at an early age. Gayle cautions that it can be overwhelming at times and its important not to miss out on the joys of youth.

"It really is hard to gauge," Gayle said. "You don't want to out wear your welcome. ... You see I was in the studio doing demos around LeAnn's age and Owen Bradley, who was my sisters producer, wouldn't let me record until I graduated. He worked with Brenda Lee who started out real young. And, he didn't want to do that to someone else. He saw that she missed out on her childhood."

Gayle says she has seen what the business

can do to a young performer. "It is tough," says Gayle. "I mean look at Tanya (Tucker). She has survived, she is a very strong girl. I really like Tanya. She went through her really rough years. We saw her in her teenage years. A lot of kids go through that hard time without being in the business. You're out there and everybody hears what you do."



Gayle's unique creative personality was transpired through her love of music, which reflected her personal. Her repertoire is filled with a bumper crop of smash singles including: *Beyond You, This is My Year for Mexico, I'll Get Over You* (her first #1 hit), *Don't it Make My Brown Eyes Blue* and *Talking In Your Sleep*.

While all of Gayle's music became country staples and in some cases classics, the song that brought her international fame and recognition was a song called *Half the Way*, which climbed the pop charts and was a huge success. As a result, Gayle became an internationally known recording artist known to millions in such countries as England, Japan, Canada, Germany, Sweden, Finland, Holland, Australia, Hong Kong and the Philippines.

Her list of hits is endless. The Grammy-award winning singer has had more than 30 chart topping singles. One wonders how she will fit them all in an evenings performance at the symphony. Gayle has also amassed numerous awards from her musical material and television specials. In fact the Academy of Country Music voted her Female Vocalist of the Year three times, the Country Music Association twice and the American Music Awards selected her in the same category three times as well.

Someday, Crystal's latest release, contains

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this year. There were 14 in 1995 and five last year. The precise number of cases can't be determined because inmates aren't required to be tested, and many who know they're infected keep quiet. But the data is "very impressive," the director of communicable disease control for the DPH, Dr. Alfred DeMaria, told *The Boston Globe*.

"Things are not perfect, but they're improving with monitoring and funding," said DeMaria, who added that the death rate began dropping after prisons began treating inmates with new combinations of drugs.

Numbers for the state's general population reflect a 35 percent drop in AIDS deaths between 1995 and 1996. Prisoners make up 4 percent of the population. Correctional Medical Services, the correction department's medical provider, is making available combinations of two, three or even four drugs.

The Correctional Medical Service's contract with the state is \$44.3 million per year. AIDS drugs alone account for more than 5 percent of the budget. "There are benefits here that don't exist outside prisons," said John Noonan, the correction department's director of medical services. "In some ways, we're beyond community standards."

Critics of the care say the inmates still face long lines, logistical snags, and a rigid schedule that can conflict with schedules for medication, which are very strict.

**LA county reorganizing AIDS services**

LOS ANGELES (AP) - The county is reorganizing its AIDS services following internal audits critical of the lack of a permanent director and the loss of \$26 million in unreimbursed expenditures.

Disjointed management has diverted the attention of administrators from important developments in Los Angeles County's AIDS services, and the loss of funds has impeded cash flow at the Office of AIDS Programs and Policy, causing other services to suffer, one auditor said.

"They need to settle down and have one person who is in charge of that place," said Assistant Auditor-Controller J. Tyler McCauley, who worked on internal audits.

Director Mark Finucane this week notified county supervisors about a series of moves that shift power from the agency's interim chief, Nancy Delgado, in the key areas of oversight and finance. He promised to speed up the search for a permanent director.

Recent audits questioned the office's management, saying administrators' applications for state reimbursement of \$26 million for prescription drugs were either faulty or not submitted at all.

The county has also lost other potential revenue - the interest that might have been earned on that money, McCauley said.

While piloted by interim directors, the office has failed to prepare properly for the vast changes in AIDS services brought on by potent new drug cocktails for AIDS and HIV sufferers, McCauley said. Auditors said the

department had problems managing contracts with private health care providers, overpaying one of them \$654,000.

Under Finucane's reorganization plan, top health officials will take over functions previously handled by the AIDS office. Delgado will now report to John Schunhoff, the county's acting director of public health, instead of Finucane. Finucane also proposed formulating a plan by Jan. 9 to settle outstanding issues with AIDS Healthcare Foundation, which overbilled the county for pharmaceuticals.

**Millions needed to continue drug treatment program**

RALEIGH (AP) - The rising cost of drug treatment for AIDS patients could more than triple the amount the state currently spends on an AIDS drug program for the poor. State health officials say they plan to ask lawmakers for \$2.75 million in 1998, and they admit the requests may only increase in the future as the costs of new treatments rises.

The Legislature has spent about \$750,000 annually over the past couple years on AIDS Drug Assistance. But this year, that amount resulted in a shortfall after new expensive medications, especially a triple-drug "cocktail," led to increases in the amount spent on each patient.

Some doctors now report that four-and five-drug therapies are more successful with patients who have a history of resistance to the three-drug therapy, said Arthur Okrent, who administers the drug program and heads the state's AIDS Care Branch.

Care for those with HIV or AIDS also will be more expensive because people infected with the virus are living longer. This year the state program was saved with a \$500,000 bailout from the Department of Health and Human Resources' overall budget.

But there is still only enough money for those already in the program. New patients - estimated at about 120 a month - won't be accepted for the second half of this fiscal year. They will have to find drugs through "compassionate-care" programs sponsored by drug companies.

State Health Director Ron Levine hopes a legislative committee will approve another \$1.1 million at its January meeting to carry the program to the end of March, when a new cycle of federal money begins. Levine said keeping the AIDS program going is good news. But some health workers are not so sure and worry about the future.

"Basically, the crisis has not been averted. The state has said it will not close the program to current enrollees, but it certainly has not come up with where these millions of dollars are going to come from," said Susan Sachs, director of Piedmont HIV Healthcare Consortium.

The \$2.75 million figure represents something of an educated guess on what current and possible new drug therapies will cost in the next budget cycle. Durham Sen. Jeanne Lucas - who has supported needle-exchange programs and chairs the Senate Children

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## HEALTH/ from page 12

and Human Resources Committee - said she would present a bill in the next legislative session to give the program more money.

But she doesn't expect her fellow lawmakers to come through with all the money that is requested. "Of course it won't be funded at \$2.75 million. Nobody who comes through the General Assembly receives total support of any effort unless the Democratic Senate Caucus (leadership) supports it," she said.

"Let's hope we can lobby the Legislature to support. We never know until we present the research data and present the facts and bring people along with us as we communicate the news." Lucas and others say spending the money now may save money in the future by preventing the spread of the disease.

"Whatever we do as a state to support those who have AIDS - we must, we just must do it, and in the long run it will benefit everyone," she said.

## Doctor's license suspended

FAYETTEVILLE (AP) - A local doctor who was director of HIV clinical services at three prisons has been ordered to surrender his license after violating terms of two consent orders with the state Medical Board.

Dr. Charles Willy Stewart-Carballo must give up his license to practice medicine and surgery by Saturday, according to a new consent order signed Dec. 17 in Raleigh. Stewart-Carballo worked at prisons in Lumberton, Raleigh and McCain in Hoke County.

He agreed to the action after a meeting with the medical board in which he admitted violating the previous consent orders, according to the latest order.

The order said the doctor "consumed alcohol on numerous occasions" and failed to meet deadlines for required neuropsychological evaluations. Stewart-Carballo was not available for comment. The order also said he failed to disclose information regarding two driving while impaired charges.

Stewart-Carballo, 40, received his medical degree in 1985 from the University of Minnesota and was licensed to practice medicine and surgery in North Carolina in 1989.

Dale Breden, director of public affairs for the medical board, said the order would not necessarily determine the status of the doctor's prison job. Only those activities that required him to perform medical or surgical services are prohibited. The agreement allows Stewart-Carballo to reapply for his license.



## RELIGION

## Gay, lesbian clergy challenging policies on homosexuality

by Martha Irvine

SAN FRANCISCO (AP) - He hardly looks the part of a renegade, this clean-cut pastor who hums to himself as he walks through the sanctuary of his tiny church with his black lab Murphy trotting at his side.

But there is something about the Rev. Jeff Johnson that many church leaders would rather you didn't know - something that led them to reject Johnson and the 55 members at San Francisco's First United Lutheran Church.

Johnson is openly gay. He also refuses to take a vow of celibacy. And that is unacceptable in the eyes of the leaders of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America - and the majority of faiths in this country and many others.

"As far as they're concerned, I no longer exist," says Johnson, one of a growing number of pastors who are challenging their churches' stances on homosexuality. Leaders in many faiths are struggling with this question: What does it mean to be gay or lesbian and a person of faith? The question seems particularly difficult when applied to pastors and rabbis.

"Twenty or 30 years ago the bold move would have been for a white church to hire a black pastor," says Rita Nakashima Brock, a religious expert and director of the Bunting Institute at Radcliffe College in Massachusetts. "These days, it's the church that hires an openly gay or lesbian pastor that is scrutinized."

Until recently, it was the norm for lesbians and gay men, both pastors and parishioners, to hide their sexuality or to leave their faiths altogether.

These days, a very few lesbian and gay pastors - in the United Church of Christ, Metropolitan Community Church and some Reform Jewish synagogues - have their denominations' blessing to be openly gay without requiring celibacy.

Other pastors and rabbis are willing to come out to their congregations. But the majority maintain a "don't-ask-don't-tell" policy with the higher ups, knowing that divulging too much would have swift and costly consequences.

The matter has been so tumultuous for Lutherans that church leaders withdrew a

1993 draft statement on human sexuality that argued that "responsible biblical interpretation" supported the blessing of committed same-sex unions.

"The Sunday following (the statement's release), I sure heard it in my congregation," says the Rev. Ronald Bagnall, pastor at Grace Lutheran Church of Trenton, N.J., and editor of Lutheran Forum, an independent publication for Lutherans. "Folks across the country from a variety of backgrounds in the church said, 'Wait a minute. What are we doing here?'"

Since then, the church - like many others - has shied away from making any statements regarding homosexuality. The ELCA is currently holding town hall meetings on the subject, while maintaining its biblically based policy that sex is not acceptable outside of marriage and that marriage is only for heterosexuals.

Meanwhile, Johnson's openness has not always been easy for the 35-year-old pastor and his church. They receive financial support from a Washington-based nonprofit that supports gay and lesbian Lutheran pastors. But, if they have any regrets over supporting him, his parishioners don't say so.

"He is who he is, and we love him for it," 75-year-old May Vignola says of "Pastor Jeff." Vignola, a member of First United Lutheran Church for more than 45 years, was one of several members who stood behind Johnson when the ELCA ordered the church to fire Johnson or be thrown out. "The few people in the church who didn't agree, well ... they left," Vignola says.

That was in 1995. But Johnson's troubles began long before in 1987 when he and two lesbians decided to come out to their bishops while in seminary at Berkeley. "It was gut-wrenching," Johnson says. "As far as we knew, no one had ever come out and survived."

His bishop at the time was the Rev. Lyle Miller, a man Johnson had known since his childhood days in Simi Valley, Calif., and who was a close personal friend of Johnson's parents. "Part of the reason I became a pastor was because of him," Johnson says.

That made it all the more painful when, in 1988, Miller called Johnson into his office to ask him to sign a lifelong vow of celibacy. "What about unconditional love, unconditional grace?" Johnson asked.

Discussing the matter is still difficult for Miller, now a Lutheran pastor in Tacoma, Wash. He has recently rekindled his friendship with Johnson's parents but not Johnson. "It was very painful and Jeff is a fine person.... He has good gifts and is a dedicated

person," Miller says. "But if a person is gay, he or she is not to be sexually active as a gay person. Sexual activity belongs in the commitment of marriage."

Sex outside of marriage has, in fact, been the focus for many faiths when it comes to gay clergy, making for often contentious church conventions and disciplinary hearings as a growing number of pastors - both gay and straight - break their silence.

There also are a growing number of straight pastors who are speaking on behalf of their gay and lesbian counterparts. In 1990, a small group of San Francisco pastors went against the church's wishes and ordained Johnson and the two lesbian pastors. The church still considers the ordinations illegal.

In another move of defiance, Lutheran pastors in San Francisco have continually elected Johnson as their dean to represent them in the Sierra-Pacific Synod - 218 Lutheran congregations in Northern

California and Nevada.

"There's a very clear intention to send a message to the church," says Bishop Robert Mattheis, who now oversees the Sierra-Pacific Synod. Mattheis - who calls Johnson "very gifted and capable" - says the synod has not challenged Johnson's election, though he cannot participate in official church business, such as ordinations.

But, beyond that, some sense a shifting in the synod's views on the matter. Unlike his predecessor, for example, Mattheis opted not to punish St. Paul Lutheran Church, a large congregation in Oakland whose pastor is openly gay and in a long-term relationship.

"I chose to say I'm just going to not deal with that and let it take care of itself," Mattheis says. "My sympathies lie more on the open and accepting side. The issue is not settled for me, but my sympathies are there."

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RELIGION/*from page 13*

In the meantime, Johnson is happy to continue to challenge the system by serving as dean. But his most important work, he says, remains in the day-to-day workings of his own parish.

"I perceived erroneously that the church was one of the greatest agents of social change," Johnson says of larger Lutheran church. "I still believe that to a point. ... But my goal is not institutional change because that will happen long, long, long after real change has already taken place."

## Kansas pastor plans protest in Indiana

CHESTERTON, Ind. (AP) - A Kansas minister known for his crusade against homosexuals plans a protest next week against a gay-tolerance poster at an Indiana high school.

The Rev. Fred Phelps of the Westboro Baptist Church of Topeka, Kan., says he will lead about 22 people in the protest Friday at Chesterton High School. Phelps and his congregation cite Scripture to back their claims that homosexuals are condemned to hell. They also believe that AIDS is God's punishment against homosexuals.

Phelps' involvement in the poster issue was prompted "through newspaper accounts," not by anyone's request from this area, he said. But the parent who originally objected to the display of the poster, which promotes tolerances of homosexuals, said she wants no part of Phelps' protest.

"I am appalled and amazed by his stance," said Cathy Podguski. "We don't condone this behavior at all, and this entire issue has gotten off course."

Earlier this month, the Duneland School Board voted 4-1 to uphold a district committee's unanimous decision that the poster promoting tolerance for homosexuals meets curriculum standards and may remain in an English teacher's classroom.

Podguski plans to ask the Indiana State Board of Education to overturn the decision and also is considering a civil lawsuit. The black-and-white poster in Bonney Leckie's classroom for six years has images of 10 historical figures, including Cole Porter, Walt Whitman, Michelangelo and Eleanor Roosevelt.

Underneath in small lettering is the message: "Sexual orientation has nothing to do with the ability to make a mark, let alone make history."

## Gay deacon preparing for entry into the priesthood

KALAMAZOO, Mich. - When gay divinity school student Thomas Brown was ordained a deacon during a ceremony last June, two Episcopal priests rose to object. But Brown was undaunted. The 27-year-old recently graduated from divinity school and plans to return to Episcopal Church of Christ the King in January to be ordained as a priest.

Brown, formerly of Kalamazoo, says people in his hometown parish have been less openly critical of him as time has passed. Brown now lives in California but frequently returns to the Kalamazoo area.

"Of course, in the wake of my ordination, people knew who I was. If they didn't already know me, they were able to figure out, 'That is the homosexual,'" Brown told the *Kalamazoo Gazette* in a recent story. "But I was touched by how welcoming many people were. ... I think that's a tribute to the Episcopal Church in Western Michigan and Bishop Edward Lee for helping us maintain that type of unity."

After Brown is ordained a priest, he will be eligible to lead a parish of his own. Right now, he is the director of alumni and church relations at the Church Divinity School of the Pacific in Berkeley, Calif., and a part-time clergy associate at the Church of St.

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## Friday-January 2

- Low impact aerobics, certified instructor, dune to christian music at Community Gospel; 6:30 pm, \$2. 880-9235 or [www.community-gospel.org](http://www.community-gospel.org).
- Kolbe Project Communion Service at 10:00 am. 522-8182.
- The Church of Good Life on the Internet; <http://www.syncretist.org/church.htm>.

## Saturday-January 3

- 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-January 4

- Church of the XII Apostles Anglican Rite Old Catholic Church; Holy Communion 11am at Suzanne Anderson Realty, 239 Westheimer.
- 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. Join us for the coming of The Advent Season and the celebration of Love. 528-6756. 12/24 Special Christmas Eve Celebration.

- 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, 11am and 7pm worship services, bible in book of Genesis 4305 Lilian 880-9235. [www.communitygospel.org](http://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 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-January 5

• Low impact aerobics, certified instructor, dune to christian music at Community Gospel; 6:30 pm, \$2. 880-9235 or [www.communitygospel.org](http://www.communitygospel.org).

## Tuesday-January 6

• MCCR: Empowerment for Living support group & pot luck dinner at 6:00 pm, Gloryland Ensemble at 6:00 pm 861-9149.

• PROTECT meets at Bering Church. 520-7870.

• Maranatha Fellowship MCC has groups that meet in each others home for a time of fellowship, sharing God's word, and prayer. Call for the location in your area 528-6756. 12/24 Special Christmas Eve Celebration

• The Church of Good Life on the Internet; <http://www.syncretist.org/church.htm>.

## Wednesday-January 7

• 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>.

• Catholic Mass at 8:30 am the Kolbe Project.

## Thursday-January 8

• 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](http://www.communitygospel.org).

• Midweek Service at Community Gospel 7:30 pm 880-9235 or [www.communitygospel.org](http://www.communitygospel.org).

• The Church of Good Life on the Internet; <http://www.syncretist.org/church.htm>.

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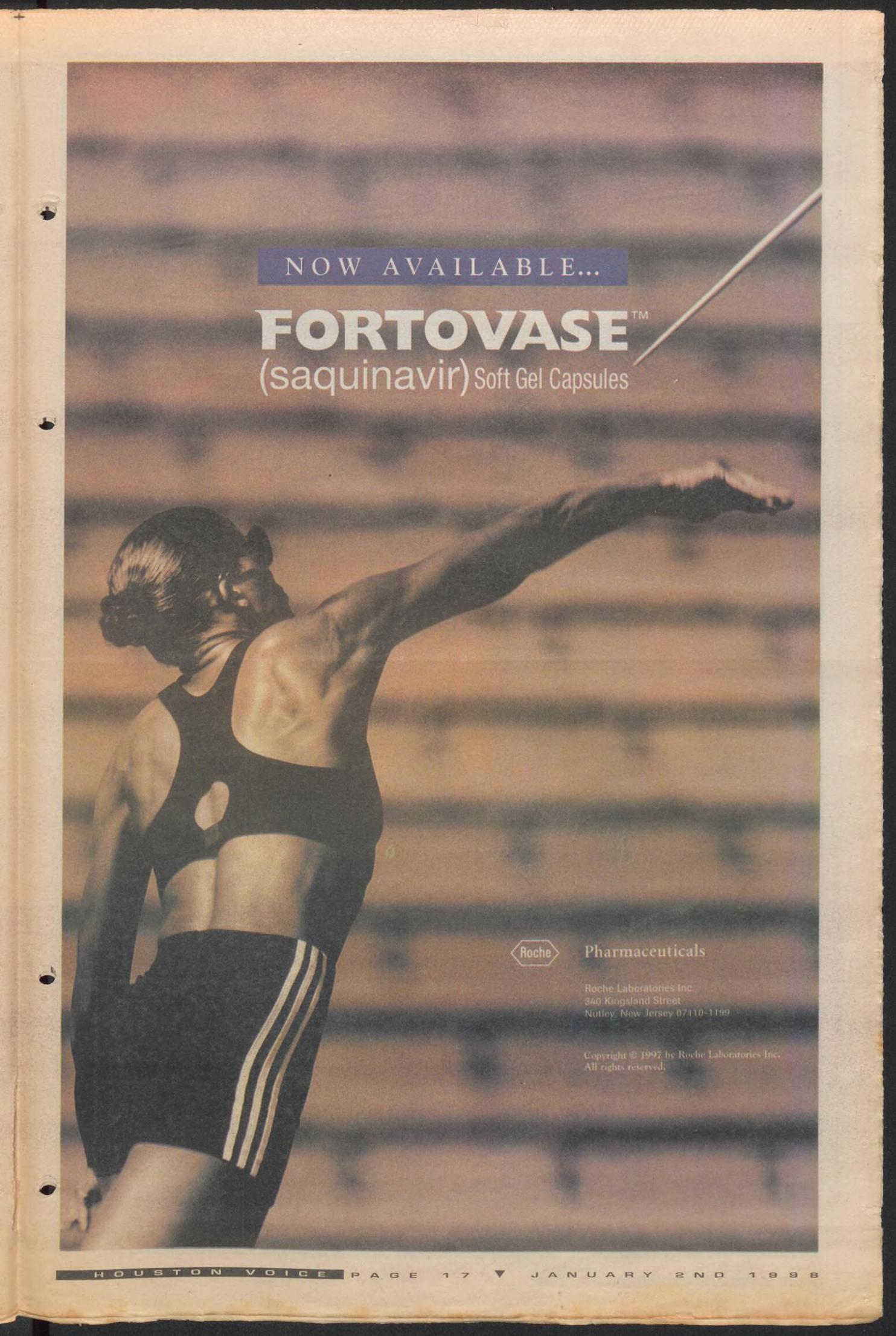


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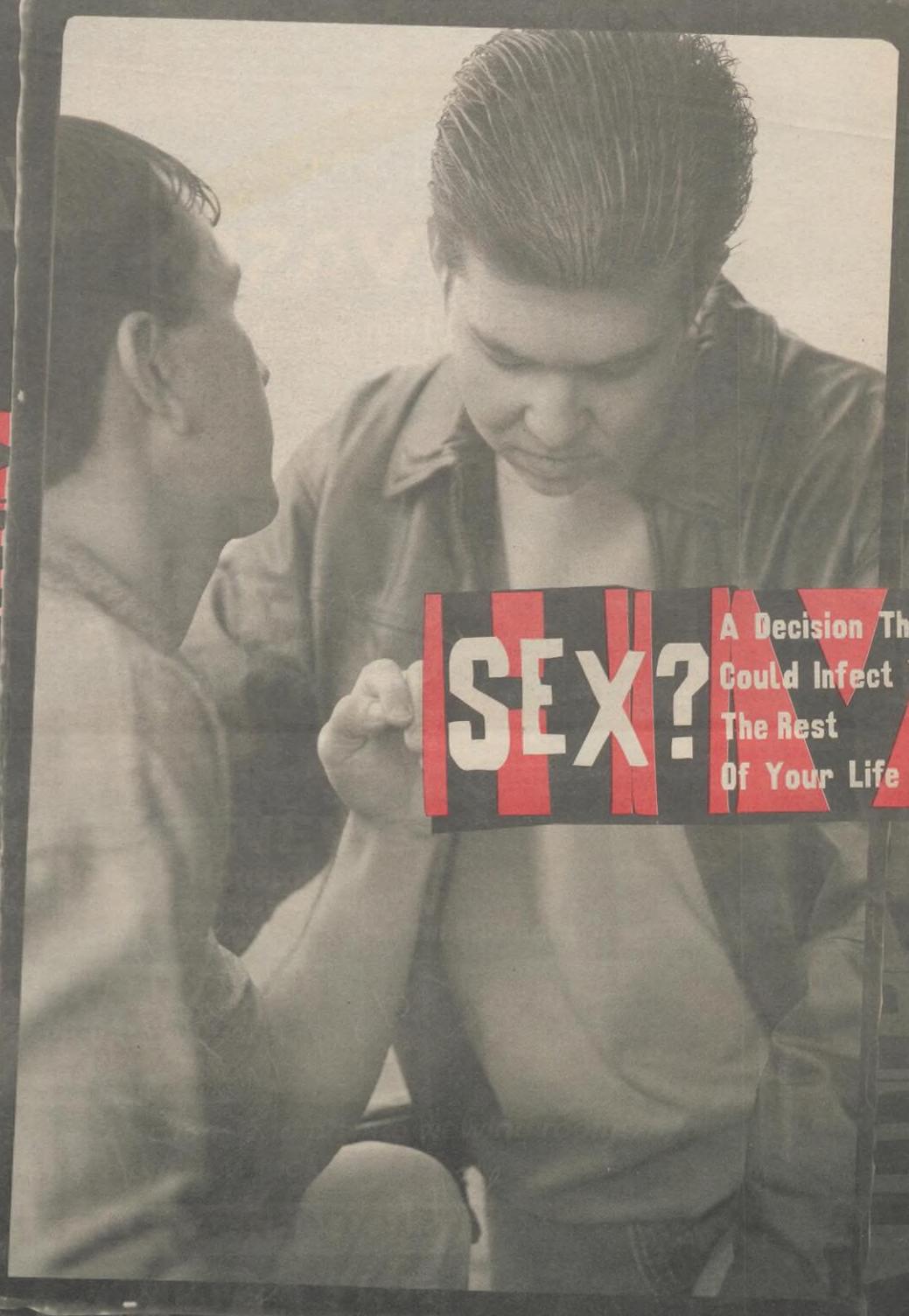
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## Have A Hairy, Scary Christmas

Bring a short attention span because you won't need much of one with *An American Werewolf in Paris*

By Steve Underwood  
Entertainment Editor

Christmas is no longer safe for the happy, go-lucky movie buff because we are now socialized to expect a good dose of horror to make the season jolly. Remember that creepy-tribe *The Adams Family* haunting the silver-bell screen? And remember Tim Burton tweaking our Yuletide imaginations with the Pumpkin King's eerie and murderous metamorphosis into Santa Jack in *The Nightmare Before Christmas*?

The metamorphoses in *An American Werewolf in Paris* are quite spectacular, with humans transforming into the vicious, hairy beasts with the aid of the digital domain. But this film begs for a different type of metamorphosis—like a total rewriting of the script—to mutate the plot from a story line that can best be described as *Cinderella*, *The Three Stooges*, and *The Golden Ass Escape From The Temple Of Doom*.

The frivolity begins with the obvious. Three college jocks, Andy (Tom Everett Scott), Brad (Vince Vieluf) and Chris (Phil Buckman) trot around Europe with their super-charged testosterone on a "Daredevil Tour of Europe" (please, I hope you get it) and their escapade lands them in Paris. As soon as our heroes



arrive, they sneak up the Eiffel Tower — not to see the breathtaking skyline of the City of Light — but so Andy can bungee jump off the observation deck. Thriller.

But a serious problem arises to their mischief. Serafine (Julie Delpy), a lovely, suicidal damsel plans on jumping off the tower — without a bungee — because her boyfriend Claude (Pierre Cosso) gave her his werewolf bite. She jumps and Andy plunges after her, except his bungee cord is not secured. Chris and Brad notice the error and grab the loose end. As the two free-fall down the Tower's facade, Andy latches on to Serafine just in time to gently release her on a grassy knoll. The bungee snaps Andy back up the Tower with one of Serafine's pumps in hand. He has been bitten — not by the she-werewolf — but by Cupid, for he is instantly in love and must find her at all costs.



The film is choked full of the slap-stick stoic ventures of the trio, like banging heads on window panes, inflating a condom which lands in someone's soup, and making bets who will get laid first. These comedic episodes become so predictable the film gets boring. And the film would stay boring had not the plot livened up with the transformation scenes.

The lycanthropy hits high gear when Claude, the renegade, skinhead werewolf chieftain throws a full-moon party at the traveling Club De La Lune, a rave party that caters to the "scum" of the earth. The scum, in Claude's mind, must be cleansed to make the world "pure." Claude and his neo-fascist werewolf cohort block all the escapes and the pack transforms into the iniquitous beasts right before their guest's eyes.

One of the guests is Andy who is tricked by Claude into attending the party on the promise Serafine will be there. Serafine

arrives during the metamorphosis but how can she rescue her wayward Prince? The werewolves begin their bloody hunt and Serafine can only help Andy so much before she becomes a werewolf herself. Andy manages to escape but he is fatally wounded — the hideous wound turns him into a werewolf.

Unlike those scary horror films of yesteryear where werewolves seemed invincible, Andy is much less than that — in fact, he makes a good ass of himself. For one thing, his wild hallucinations and disassociations are interrupted by the craziest things — like a dog humping his leg. Pending his maiden metamorphosis, Andy craves rare, bloody meat and he begins to act more like a pie-eyed canine than a werewolf.

For another, Andy finally gets the chance to get laid but he picks a really bad night and a really bad place: it's a full moon and this lycanthropic Romeo wants to get down in a graveyard — on top of a grave with candles everywhere. Things get just a little bit too hot when the full moon hits full force and Andy's transformation kicks in before he can get all his clothes off. He morphs into a werewolf — and he kills his intoxicated mistress. Wow, what a guy!

Later, Claude issues an ultimatum to Andy — either join the werewolf pack and help cleanse the world or die. Andy's options are limited, for the pack will kill Chris if he declines.

The conflict between Claude and Andy reveals a permanent dilemma in the human situation: at one time or another in our lives, each of us have known people we would like to get rid of, to just have them disappear somehow. But the people we wish would disappear gain a mysterious power over us, perhaps because we fear them. Claude fears Andy despite the fact that he is an idiot, for Andy can become as powerful and menacing as Claude when the moon is full.

The myth of the werewolf reveals another dilemma within the human situation: how different is the metamorphosis into a savage, murderous werewolf from the ethnic cleansing of Bosnia or Nazi Germany? And how

can one regain humanity when the lower realms of the human spirit, the darkside of man, possess and incarnate within the human body? The answer for Andy is to eat the heart of the beast that infected him. That lesson, perhaps, might have some significance to us all.

If I gave you two guesses, you'd probably figure out how the movie ended. Take a guess about Andy and take a guess about Serafine. Yeah, throw in a little *Romeo and Juliet* — without the suicide pact — and you're home free. Since this is the first time the metamorphosis



of the werewolf has been created in the digital domain, the film, quite frankly, deserves kudos for all the special effects. And you might enjoy Phil Buckman's beefcake — his abs and pecs look really great when he's tied to a cross. Unfortunately, the predictable plot remains unimproved. But if you can tolerate the irritating music and the hetero-comedic interludes of the actors, you might glean a valuable truth about life from the film — and have a good time laughing about it in the process.

**HOUSTON VOICE RATING:** ★★ for the cheesy plot, ★★★★★ for the special effects  
**Rated:** R, Nudity, Profanity, Adult Situations and lots of Gore  
**Time:** 140 minutes  
**Genre:** Horror  
**Director:** Anthony Waller  
**Cast:** Everett Scott, Julie Delpy, Vince Vieluf, Phil Buckman, Pierre Cosso, Julie Bowen, Thierry Lhermitte, Tom Novembre, Anthony Waller

## Love Thy Neighbor

Jack Nicholson's Portrayal Of The Tyrannous Melvin Udall Proves He's As Good As It Gets

By Steve Underwood  
Entertainment Editor

If you've ever had one of those neighbors you wish would just move, then you know what it's like to live next to



Carol (Helen Hunt) puts Melvin (Jack Nicholson) in his place during one of his daily visits.

Melvin Udall (Jack Nicholson), an obsessive-compulsive, self-sufficient, upper-class romance novelist who hates everybody except Carol Connelly (Helen Hunt), a working class waitress from Brooklyn. Melvin visits her diner daily and Carol tolerates him to a point before she puts him in his place. A dormant, unconscious attraction exists between the two but events soon force the pair together.

Melvin's world falls to pieces when he learns Carol left the diner to care for her son Spencer (Jesse James) who is tormented and crippled with chronic asthma. Melvin leaves his posh West Village apartment to visit Carol in her working

class Brooklyn enclave. Melvin informs Carol she is needed back at work — primarily because she has interrupted his compulsive routine. After realizing the extent of her troubles, Carol kicks Melvin out when he tries to correct Spencer.

Spencer's illness gives Melvin the chance to discover his humanity. Melvin arranges for his publisher's husband, a pricey New York doctor, to care for Spencer at his expense. The doctor diagnoses the problem and Spencer recovers quickly after multiple trips to the emergency room prove ineffective. Carol returns to work, Melvin's life returns to normal — but Carol declares she will not sleep with him because he helped Spencer.

Co-writers James L. Brooks and



Frank (Cuba Gooding, Jr.) and Simon (Greg Kinnear) plot what to do with Melvin.

Mark Andrus created a perfect but complex protagonist in Melvin Udall. On the one hand, Melvin despises universally and he is universally despised. An immediate conflict develops between Melvin and his gay neighbor Simon

(Greg Kinnear), a trendy New York artist, when Simon realizes Melvin injected his pet dog Verdell down the apartment building's trash incinerator chute. Simon's sexuality is not as much as issue as it is a source for Melvin's jokes. Frank (Cuba Gooding, Jr.), Simon's friend and art dealer, gets a double dose because he is gay and black. No one and nothing is safe when Melvin's path is crossed.

On the other hand, while Melvin creates love fantasies for millions to relish, he craves one for himself. Carol is his connection to love and the fact that Carol refutes his wisecracks serves a therapeutic purpose. This therapy proves more effective than his Manhattan psychologist who refuses to see him on demand. Strangely enough, love is born between this unique pair of opposites, this upper class scrooge and working class mother. Love dissolves the class differences, for each possesses what the other desires.

I don't think anyone could have pulled off the part of Melvin Udall like Jack Nicholson. Nicholson expertly and realistically executes Melvin's arrogant and acidic disposition. Paradoxically, Melvin is undeniably real because he says what many of us have thought or heard. Despite his intention-



Is Jack in line for his next Oscar? And is he really worried?

al snafus, his situation is pathetic — but highly entertaining. This is, perhaps, Nicholson's best performance ever. Of course, Jack is a natural smart-ass. But it's always hard to tell if he is acting or being himself when he gets a choice role like this.

**HOUSTON VOICE RATING:** ★★★★★ should we say "Oscar" for Nicholson?  
**Rated:** PG-13, Some Nudity, Profanity, Limited Violence, Racism, and Sexism  
**Time:** 138 minutes  
**Genre:** Romantic Comedy  
**Director:** James L. Brooks  
**Cast:** Jack Nicholson, Helen Hunt, Greg Kinnear, Cuba Gooding, Jr., Skeet Ulrich, Shirley Knight, Yearley Smith, Lupe Ontiveros, Jesse James

## At the movies: 'Mr. Magoo'

by Malcolm Ritter

Can a live-action film match the outlandish plot and stunts of a cartoon? Disney's new *Mr. Magoo* dares viewers to make the comparison, and the answer is clearly yes.

The movie starts and ends with the animated version of the famous nearsighted character, and the live action in between

stays right in tune. Subtle it ain't: The movie lives from gag to gag with only the barest of plot in between.

This can get a little old at spots, at least for grown-ups. But there are jewels of inspired scenes here, too, including a closing chase and rescue that's a lot funnier when done with real people than an animator's pen.

Quincy Magoo is played by Leslie Nielsen, best known as clueless cop Frank

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REVIEWS/ from page 19

Drebin in the *Police Squad!* TV show and the *Naked Gun* movie series. Nielsen makes Magoo an appealing combination of heartiness and amiability. You gotta root for this guy as he stumbles into a high-stakes jewel theft and joins in pursuit of the criminals.

Along the way are plenty of Magoo gags like mistaking the moving paddles of stern-wheeler riverboat for an escalator. But the character's best scenes have little or nothing to do with his eyesight, as when he impersonates a Colombian mobster to infiltrate a crowd of high-level bad guys, or when he snatches the jewel from the real mobster during the mobster's wedding.

Lots of guns are brandished, and jewel thief Luanne Leseur (Kelly Lynch) karate-kicks an excessive number of people. But nobody gets shot or even injured to any disturbing degree in this live-action cartoon, a plus for parents who want to take the kids. Another bonus: no long mushy love scenes to make the little ones squirm.

Mr. Magoo also features Ernie Hudson of *Ghostbusters* fame as an ambitious CIA agent and a positively luminous Jennifer Garner as the love interest for Magoo's son, played by Matt Keeslar. The movie was directed by Stanley Tong, who guided Jackie Chan through *Rumble in the Bronx* and *Supercop*. The film was produced by Ben Myron.



Scorsese/ from page 1

maker of his time and he's made every movie he wanted to make, plus a few he never counted on.

"For example," he says, "can I make a movie with movie stars like Paul Newman and Tom Cruise (*The Color of Money*)? Can I make a low-budget movie again (*After Hours*)? Can I make a thriller, like *Cape Fear*, which has a '90s roller-coaster ride action sequence at the end?"

"And I've been pretty lucky, because every time I wanted to make films like *Last Temptation of Christ* and this film, *Kundun*, I found people who believed in the project and allowed us to make it."

Yes, *Kundun*, the latest from the Walt Disney Co., the movie about Tibet and the Dalai Lama, the movie praised by *New York Times* columnist A.M. Rosenthal and condemned by Chinese officials, the one even Scorsese says you'd have a hard time guessing he made it if you didn't know in advance.

Instead of Harvey Keitel or Robert De Niro, the stars of *Kundun* are Tibetans. Instead of the nonstop rock music of *Casino*, there's a somber score by Philip Glass.

But Scorsese, an admittedly apolitical, New York-obsessed filmmaker, doesn't think this condemnation of the Chinese treatment of Tibet is really a departure. Different place. Same story. With a little imagination, the Dalai Lama's struggle to reconcile Buddhist restraint with Chinese oppression becomes just another version, say, of what a Catholic might go through in downtown Manhattan.

"You have a human being who believes in certain religious convictions, has certain religious feelings and has to live out those convictions in the worst possible circumstances in the secular world," Scorsese said.

"You just switch the Chinese invasion to *Mean Streets*, where (Harvey) Keitel's character is a person who can't get out of his neighborhood. He has to find a way to live honorably within it, without becoming a

killer, without becoming a thief, without becoming a thug in the hierarchy of organized crime."

Scorsese says he didn't set out to advocate any causes and he doesn't want special sympathy because of the subject. Given the limited response to two recent films critical of China, *Red Corner* and *Seven Years in Tibet*, he's not expecting it.

"What can I say?" he offers with a shrug sounding like a guy out of *GoodFellas*. "You don't like it, you don't like it. I would be very disappointed, certainly hurt. But, hey, we're on the firing line. What can I do? Every time I go out on a picture like this - *The Last Temptation of Christ*, *The Age of Innocence* - it's like walking a tightrope and you get shot at. And sometimes you go down."

Whatever Scorsese has learned from the East he is a true citizen of the West. He's a famously nervous, energetic man and director who takes a sensual pleasure from life and the movies that a devout Buddhist, not to mention Catholic, would be unlikely to advocate.

Scorsese was born and raised in New York City, primarily Little Italy. He was an asthmatic kid whose endurance tests were the movies he watched one after the other, an altar boy who thought of becoming a priest but turned instead to the big screen.

In the '60s, he made award-winning short films, the feature length *Who's That Knocking at My Door?* and helped edit the *Woodstock* documentary. In 1973, with *Mean Streets*, he began making films that have influenced Spike Lee, Quentin Tarantino and countless others.

"I thought *Mean Streets* was obviously a new voice," said director Peter Bogdanovich, who also emerged in the '70s, with films such as *The Last Picture Show* and *Paper Moon*. The great thing about Marty is you know you're in the presence of a filmmaker, of a storyteller, somebody who has a sense of the history of movies and his place in it, who has his eye on the big ball."

See SCORSESE page 24

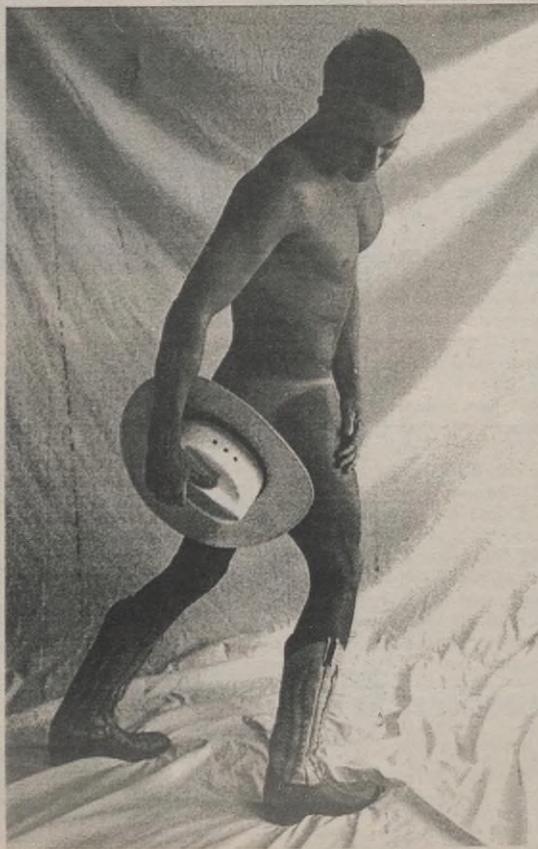


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## A Diva's Retrospective

Looking For Gatsby: My Life by Faye Dunaway with Betsy Sharkey Pocket Books \$14.00

by Ella Tyler

Faye Dunaway is an incredibly talented actress and nearly as good a story teller. For many years, her work was her life, and "Looking for Gatsby" spends most of its time talking about her work.

Her most vivid, engaged writing is when she is talking about the early movies that made her a star. Her films include *The Thomas Crown Affair* (68), *Little Big Man* (70), *Chinatown* (74), *Eyes of Laura Mars* (78) and *Network* (76), for which she won an Oscar.

The book is not just for movie fans, I enjoyed it even though I am not, and never have been, a movie goer. In fact, I was tempted to check out a few of these movies on video.

Dunaway's third movie, *Bonnie and Clyde*, made her a star. She devotes a chapter to the film, detailing the technical and artistic aspects of much of the filming. These revelations make it clear that Dunaway is a serious student of the art and craft of acting.

The film was made in Texas, and Dunaway says "In many of the little towns that we shot in, the set would become a sort of Bonnie and Clyde reunion... Many who came to watch

the filming, Dunaway says, "... had not just read about the Barrow gang, they knew the flesh-and-blood members of it."

Beatty wanted fresh peaches for one scene, but it was November, and they couldn't be found, so pears were used instead. This reminded me of all the little ways things have changed since 1967. Now, peaches could have been found.

Dunaway had grown up a poor Army brat, mostly in the South, and credits her desperate need to get out and have a better life with her ability to play characters like Bonnie Parker so well. She credits her understanding of Southern women with her ability to play Blanche in a stage production of *Streetcar Named Desire* in 1973 that Tennessee Williams praised.

Dunaway wanted to be an actress so badly that she gave up a scholarship to University of Florida to go to Boston University because of its acclaimed drama program. When she graduat-

ed, she gave up a Fulbright to study drama in London, to go to the Repertory Theater of Lincoln Center's training program.

Even before she began the program, she was offered a part on Broadway in

*A Man For All Seasons*. After four years of theater work, her work in Hogan's Goat caught the eye of an agent and was soon signed to a movie contract with Columbia, in 1967. Her first movie was *The Happening*, today remembered, if at all, for Supremes song of the

same name. Her second movie was *Hurry Down*, directed by Otto Preminger.

Dunaway also had a six picture contract with him, but found him so abusive that she sued to be released from the contract. I am amazed by the nerve that took. This no doubt contributed to Dunaway's reputation for being difficult.

One of only funny notes in the book is about the contract for 1974 movie, *The Three Musketeers*. Dunaway says she read it herself, but neither she, nor the other actors in the movie, nor their multiple agents and attorneys noticed that the contract obligated them to make two movies for the price of one.

Dunaway may or may not be difficult, but when she writes, the only two people she is at all critical of are Preminger and Roman Polanski. She speaks admiringly and fondly of everyone she has worked with. Not much spice, but rather pleasant to read.

Dunaway is even nice to her former lovers. The least kind thing she says about anyone of them is about Lenny Bruce: "That began a romance between the two of us, though the drugs he used had taken a toll and it wasn't a torrid romance as it might have been".

Faye carefully avoided romantic entanglements with most actors, except for Marcello Mastroianni, with whom she co starred in the 1969 film *A Place For Lovers*. That three-year relationship ended because Mastroianni would not divorce his wife and Faye, now in her '30s, wanted children.

Finally, in 1980, Faye had a child and then spent the next several years in London, returning to the States in 1987 to work on *Barfly*. She is continuing to work and won an Emmy in 1994 for a *Columbo* episode.



## RELIGION

### RELIGION/ from page 14

John the Evangelist in San Francisco. "I feel called to my work at the seminary and my work at St. John the Evangelist," Brown said. "I aspire to serve a parish full-time in the next one to two years."

Still, there are some in the church who hope that doesn't happen. The Rev. Raymond Bierlin, one of two priests who stood to object when Brown became a deacon in June, said he plans to attend Brown's ordination into the priesthood. "There will be an objection to his ordination," Bierlin said.

Brown said he feels people like Bierlin are the exception. "I feel like I have been received really well," he said.

Brown grew up in the Upper Peninsula and graduated from Western Michigan University in 1992. After his graduation, he worked in the Kalamazoo area for two years as a teacher at Plainwell High School and as an educator and trainer for Planned Parenthood of South Central Michigan. The Episcopal Church of Christ the King sponsored Brown when he entered the Church Divinity School of the Pacific in 1994.

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- [www.basicbrothers.com](http://www.basicbrothers.com)
- <http://members.aol.com/creADtve>
- [www.communitygospel.org](http://www.communitygospel.org)
- <http://ticketmaster.com>

- [www.agouron.com](http://www.agouron.com)
- [www.usagaynet.com](http://www.usagaynet.com) - Click "The Guide"
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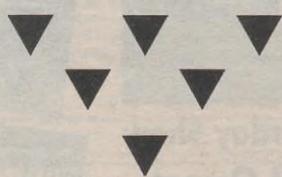
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**Gayle/** from page 12

thirteen songs and hymns which highlight her faith by sharing a hopeful message and abundant spiritual life. Fans have been asking Crystal Gayle for a Christian recording for many years; however, Crystal decided it was time to make her first Christian album for more personal reasons.

"It truly is music that springs from deep within my heart and soul ... I believe very strongly that our audience will embrace (the album's) music and spiritual message," Gayle said. "We enjoyed every part of making this album."

Gayle said she plans to go in the studio to record a new album of country music after a lengthy hiatus. "You know, it's so hard right now to do a commercial album," says Gayle. "The radio stations aren't playing artists that have had hits in the past. They're really just playing the new artists. And there not last as long as a lot of (established stars).

"So, you know it's difficult," she maintains. "But I'm not upset with them. I know that things have changed. I can't be upset. I've had 18 number one songs. So, it is difficult because radio is not open to it - (playing the new songs from stellar artists)"

Gayle said that she has also been talking with her sister, country legend Loretta Lynn, about a possible duet project. The two have never recorded together. "I hope we do," says Gayle. "She's excited about

doing it. We've been talking about for the last few months about getting our schedules together and getting in the studio. We have so much fun together."

So, those tabloid rumors aren't true? "Oh, that we're fighting all the time," laughs Gayle. "Who knows maybe we'll stage something out in front of somebody (still laughing)."

Gayle said she is looking forward to visiting Houston again, one of her favorite cities. "I use to do the livestock shows. I loved it. It's a great place to be. It's like another home, it's like another country (laughs). I have a lot of friends in Houston" says Gayle. "I just love Houston. Ninfa's is one of my favorite restaurants. The one on Navigation."

Gayle is a legend. Her silky voice is known to millions of music listeners internationally. She is funny, likable, and yes, she still has that beautiful floor length long brown hair. Houstonians will get a chance to see one of music's brightest stars shine with the backing of Houston's renowned symphony.

Gayle, one of the most diverse individuals in the entertainment industry, spends much of her personal time raising her two children, Catherine and Chris. Another aspect of her life is her business, Crystal's For fine Gifts and Jewelry," which is located in Nashville, of course. Gayle is truly one of a kind. Find out for yourself. For tickets, call (713) 227-ARTS.

minor for healthy people, they can be dangerous for those with other problems, such as asthma or emphysema.

Other officials at Ben Taub also blame the increasing reliance on health-maintenance organizations and the growing number of uninsured employees of small businesses. Many of those patients try to avoid the costs of a doctor's visit by leaving ailments untreated longer. Those patients later become so sick they require treatment at a hospital, clogging an already crowded system.

**Scorsese/** from page 20

Scorsese absorbed everything - Hollywood, foreign films, classical music, rock, art, literature. *Mean Streets* and *Taxi Driver* combined the violence and speed of crime movies with the self-consciousness of Truffaut and Fellini.

Young hoods might carry on to the rhythms of the Rolling Stones or a mobster might get worked over to the music of Mascagni.

A camera shot could remind you of a Renaissance painting or of an old John Garfield movie.

The classic Scorsese character - Charlie in *Mean Streets*, Travis Bickle in *Taxi Driver* - is a self-divided loner capable of being his own worst enemy. These were personal films and they threatened to become too personal.

In the late '70s, after the disastrous experience of *New York, New York* (the movie bombed, another marriage was ending), Scorsese fell apart. A Los Angeles resident at the time, he hung out with Robbie Robertson of the Band among others and he lived it up like a rock star. "Thank God we all got through," he said.

Despite praise for such films as *Raging Bull* and *The Last Waltz*, only after 1990, and the release of *GoodFellas*, did Scorsese come to believe his movies would be remembered. The Oscars aside, he has

received countless awards in the '90s, including a lifetime achievement tribute from the American Film Institute and an honorary citation from the Film Society of Lincoln Center, which will have a ceremony in the spring.

"That was the one, *GoodFellas*. A lot of people turned around and said, 'Hey, he's still alive. He's still there,'" Scorsese said with a laugh.

"I was feeling unappreciated and forgotten. The recognition that has come in the past several years really helped me get past the devils that were driving me. Insecurities. The picture.



I made in the '70s, was I right? Was I right in doing that camera move - leaving that scene in, that scene out? I know I shot my mouth off in a lot in interviews. Was I right in dealing with the studio in such a manner?"

If insecurity doesn't drive him anymore, curiosity does. He has told the stories he wanted to tell but he's looking for new ways to tell them. Thus *Kundun*, and *The Age of Innocence*, which he has likened to gangster movies without the blood.

Confidently, if not calmly, Scorsese moves on. He says every film is political so you'll have to accept his word for his next project, which takes on a subject unlikely to inspire newspaper columnists or to offend foreign powers: the life and times of Dean Martin.

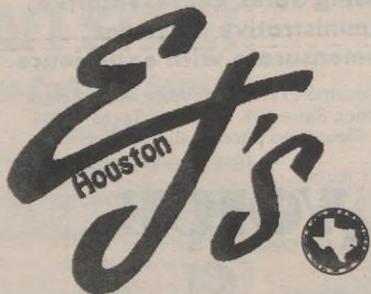
**Hospitals/** from page 1

sonnel might disagree about the causes of the recent backups, they are agreed on the results. The most seriously sick will continue to be given top priority for treatment and those with lesser ailments may have extended waits before being seen.

Diane Mangrum, a nursing director at Ben Taub Hospital, said part of the problem is caused by the increase in respiratory illnesses that occurs every winter. And while many of those illnesses would be relatively

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TUE	1/6	Amateur/Talent Night at 11 pm with Dyan Michaels
WED	1/7	Granny's Burgers!
THUR	1/8	Amateur/Talent Night at 11 pm with Roxanne Lee Love & Granny's Tacos

**Friday, January 2**

- AIDS Mastery Workshop. 861-6453.
- HIV+ Art classes at the Art League. 523-8817.
- HATCH meets. 942-7002.
- 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 Toopee's, 1830 W. Alabama @ 7pm.
- Q-Patrol Meets to walk the streets at 10:30pm. 528-SAFE.
- Free Spay & Neutering (SNAP) 522-2337.
- Kolbe Projects' Park Plaza Hospital Visitation. 522-8182.
- HIV Art Course Program; 1-4pm. Patrick Palmer at 526-1118.

**Saturday, January 3**

- 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.

**Sunday, January 4**

- 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 9:00 am. 713-868-5039
- Montrose Ice Picks skate at the Galleria at 5:00pm. 713-629-1432.

**Monday, January 5**

- 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; Brazos River Bottom 4 to 8pm; QT's 8pm-12am.
  - Kolbe Project's Park Plaza Visitation; 522-8182.
  - AIDS Foundation Houston offers free creative writing class. 3:00 pm. 713-623-6796.
  - FrontRunners meets at 6:30 pm. 713-522-8021.
- Tuesday, January 6**
- Sex, Lies & Video Tapes workshop by AIDS Foundation Houston 7-9pm 623-6796.
  - Helping Cross Dressers Anonymous meets at 239 Westheimer. 8pm+ 495-8009.
  - Basic Computer Skills Class at the Kolbe Project. 522-8182.
  - Gay Men HIV+ Psychotherapy at Montrose Counseling Center. 4:30pm. 529-0037.
  - Youth-Rap at 6:30pm. 822-8511.
  - Aftercare Group Treatment at Montrose Counseling Center. 6pm. 529-0037.
  - AIDS Alliance of the Bay Area meets at 7pm. 488-4492.
  - Empowerment for Living meets for pot luck. 861-9149.
  - PROTECT: an HIV negative support group meets at 7pm. 520-7870.
  - Free HIV testing by Montrose Clinic; Club

- Body Center 8pm to Midnite.
- Women Survivors of Childhood Abuse at Montrose Counseling Center. 6:30pm. 529-0037.
- Survivors of Loss support group meets at 8:30pm. 778-2677.
- Live Jazz at Borders Book Shop. 782-6066.
- Free Spay & Neuter Assistance (SNAP) 713-522-2337.
- Kolbe Projects' Park Plaza Visitation; 522-8182.
- Project Ceaser at AFH. 713-623-6796.

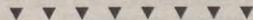
**Wednesday, January 7**

- Free HIV testing by the Montrose Clinic; Mary's 4-8pm; Bricks II 9 pm to midnight.
- Frost Eye Clinic: Free eye exams to HIV+ people. 520-2000.
- Houston Pride Band practices at Dignity Houston. 524-0218.
- GLOBAL (Gay, Lesbian & Bisexual Alliance at the U of H) meets at 4pm. 473-7539.
- Women's Action Coalition meets at Toopees at 7pm. 867-9581.
- Women's Network at Montrose Counseling Center. 7pm. 529-0037.
- Ongoing Mixed Living in Process Group for men and women. 622-7250.
- Aftercare Group Treatment at Montrose Counseling Center. 6pm. 529-0037/
- HIV Survivor Support Group meets at 7pm. 782-4050.
- Women's Clinic at the Montrose Clinic. 5 to 8pm. Call 520-2000.
- BiNet of Houston meets at 7pm. 861-9149.
- AVES offers free HIV testing from 10am to 5pm at 4125 SW Freeway, Suite 1717.
- Cancer Dialogue Support Group meets at noon at Park Plaza Hospital. 1/800-611-CARE.
- Free Spay & Neuter Assistance (SNAP) 713-522-2337.
- Kolbe Project's Hospital Visitation; 522-8182.
- Houston Harpies Ice Hockey Team recruits. 713-802-1248.
- Thomas Street Health Center Council meets at 2 pm. 713-902-2231.
- Healing and Happiness Through Wellness by AFH. 713-623-6796.

- Gay, Lesbian, and Straight Teachers Network meets at 7:30 pm. 713-942-7002.

**Thursday, January 8**

- 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.
- The Center for AIDS forum meets. 527-8219.
- Free Spay/Neuter Assistance Program (SNAP)
- HIV Art Course Program; 1-4pm. Patrick Palmer at 526-1118.
- HIV Prevention Community Planning Group meets at 9 am. 713-794-9251.
- Kolbe Project outreach at 7 pm. 713-522-8182.
- Montrose Ice Picks skate at 8 pm. 713-629-1432.
- Independent Billiard League of Houston holds their last meeting of the Fall season. 713-928-6344



**GALAXY GAZZER A Houston Voice Exclusive**  
Your Horoscope for the week of December 14 thru 20

**ARIES:**(March 21-April 20)Patience on the homefront will eventually turn any sticky situation in your favor. A little self-sacrifice for family members will do more good for you than them. Try not to insist on perfection - you will be in for considerable frustration.

**TAURUS:**(April 21 - May 21)Avoid playing the victim. If you are feeling left out in the cold, it is probably because you have not made your needs known to others. Speak up, and you will see an immediate difference. Some of your suggestions, especially at home, may be met with resistance.

**GEMINI:**(May 22 - June 21)Be sure to take care of your own needs - which may mean taking a little time out for yourself. Usual routines have to be altered, so nip your ego in the bud and behave with courtesy towards others. The combo of acting from the heart while using your head is unbeatable.

**CANCER:**(June 22 - July 23)There seems to be a sensation of aloneness. Relationships, especially your mate, need extra attention - state your needs carefully and diplomatically. Your skills in the workplace are greatly appreciated and will likely be financially rewarded.

**LEO:**(July 24 - August 23)Don't let your ego get the best of you this week, inducing you into something foolish. This may not be the right time to control the situation. Someone you love presents you with a special gift of time and attention. Show your appreciation for a treasure that is priceless.

**VIRGO:**(August 24 - September 23)You seem to be on top of the world this week. This positive energy could be coming from a number of areas; perhaps your love life is improving, or some unexpected success in business, so enjoy it! A large part of your joy comes from the sense of striving to be best.

**LIBRA:**(September 24 - October 23)Your ideas are good ones, but you must be willing to accept input from others - bend, so you don't break. There are some bitter feelings resulting from betrayal of some sort. Work on building back the trust you've lost. Remember that change is a constant.

**SCORPIO:**(October 24 - November 22)Insist on both quality and honesty in your dealings with others. Keep in mind that the absolute truth is hard to come by, you have access to only your personal truth and perspective. Emotional situations require a decision from you. Your choice may be difficult but for the best.

**SAGITTARIUS:**(November 23 - December 21)Romance is in the air during the week. If you are presently unattached, pay attention to those sexual attractions with someone who is kind and has lots of common sense. You have a tendency to be lazy-recognize the difference between rest and being a couch potato.

**CAPRICORN:**(December 22 - January 20)Do something extravagant. Although money is usually associated with this activity, time is your most precious commodity. Take some for yourself. Family life will be a joy right now, everyone is getting along great. Review joint assets and reconsider long term investing.

**AQUARIUS:**(January 21 - February 19)It would be good to talk about your need for quite a bit of independence in your relationships, so that there is no surprises later on. Listen closely for words of love, for they might be hidden between the lines. Possessive energy may send you in the opposite direction.

**PISCES:**(February 20 - March 20)Your careful attention to loved ones may not evoke an immediate response, but realize that you are greatly appreciated. Remove your walls if you truly want to get through to someone - you have to show your own vulnerability. Take into account everyone is unique.

**IF YOUR BIRTHDAY IS THIS WEEK:** Maintain optimism regarding a raise or a promotion, you are almost sure to receive it. Changes do not come easily to you, but an unexpected one, in your personal life will be more accepted than most. Tend to your spiritual life.



such is LIFE!

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**Friday, January 2**

- Berry Hill II: Happy Hour 6 until 10pm.
- 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.
- Cousins: 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 & Stol: 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 til 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: Klub Kamp. a comedy drag review 9pm doors open, 11:30pm show—Retro Modern Hits by DJ Chris Sill, \$1, \$2, \$3 drinks.
- 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 The Long Shots Band with becky at 9 pm.
- Venture-N: \$2 well, beer, & wine noon until 7pm; Guest Bartenders 9:00 pm. \$2.50 Cuervo!
- XTC: Open at 9 pm.

**Saturday, January 3**

- Berry Hill II: Happy Hour 6 until 10pm.
- 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.
- Cousins: 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.
- 800 Pacific block party: \$1 well & \$1.75 domestic longnecks 9 to 9:30pm at Santa Fe Bar & Patio, 9:30 to 10pm at the Montrose Mining Company, 10 to 10:30pm at J.R.'s Bar & Grill.
- 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.
- Mela's Tejano: Dancel 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 Hour 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!
- XTC: Open at 9 pm.

**Sunday, January 4**

- Berry Hill II: Happy Hour 6 until 10pm.
- 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.
- Cousins: 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 with guest bartending 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 shirt, no cover, no kidding!
- 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: 18 & up welcome; \$1 well, \$2 beer, \$3 call, Deja Vu "Phat Grooves & Cheap Drinks", doors open at 9pm, 90's Retro House Disco with D.J. Chris Sill.
- Ripcord: \$1.50 well & domestic beer all day/all night.
- 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; snacks on the "Par Side" & guest bartenders 6pm till???

**Monday, January 5**

- Berry Hill II: Free pool.
- Brazos River Bottom: \$1.75 well & domestic beer, \$1.25 regular schnapps all day, all nite 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.
- 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 rooms/video rooms Noon to Midnight.
- Montrose Mining Company: \$3.50 double well drinks, \$1.75 well, \$2 domestic longnecks; Pool tournament at 8:30pm; male dancers 9pm; Happy hour until 10pm.
- 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 8am to 2 pm.
- Ripcord: Happy Hour 1 to 8pm; \$2 domestic beer all night; free pizza.
- 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, January 6**

- Berry Hill II: Happy Hour 6 until 10pm.
- 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 has em 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.
- 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; \$2 Cuervo.
- 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.
- Venture-N: \$2 well, beer, & wine noon to 7pm. \$2.50 Cuervo!

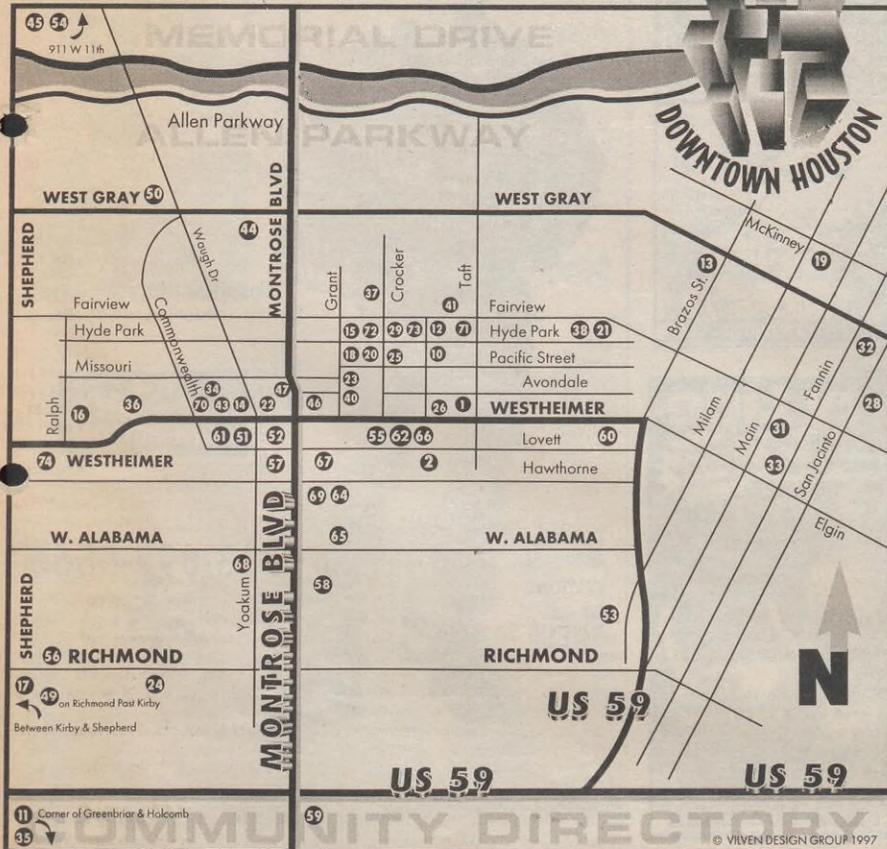
**Wednesday, January 7**

- 611 Hyde Park Pub (upstairs): Open Bridge Game 7-11pm
- Berry Hill II: Happy Hour 6 until 10pm; Free Pool Tables.
- 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.
- E/J's: Happy Hour 7am to 9pm; \$1.40 well 4 to 7pm; \$1.50 Vodka 7am to 6pm. Mug club 7am to 10pm; Burger night.
- Gentry: Happy Hour 2 to 8pm: Boy Toys dance at 7pm; \$1.25 Schnapps open to close; Male Strip contest hosted by Dyan Michaels at 11pm.
- Heaven: \$1 well, \$1.75 Budweiser & 75¢ Miller on tap; DJ Michael DeGrace: Doors open 9pm.
- J.R.'s: Texas Pride Happy Hour 4 to 7pm \$2.25 well, \$1.75 domestic longnecks, \$3.50 Absolut Martinis & \$4.50 doubles; \$2 domestic longnecks, \$2.75 Bacardi Limonade, \$2.75 Desert Long Island Tea: Joe Boxer dance contest at 11pm.
- Mary's: \$1.75 well drinks & longnecks all day & nite; \$1.50 Well vodka drinks 7am to 2pm; Slop Shot Pool at 1pm hosted by Don Dowden.
- Mela's Tejano: Amateur Talent Night.
- 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.
- 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!
- XTC: \$3 Pitchers, \$1.75 well drinks.

**Thursday, January 8**

- Berry Hill II: Happy Hour 6 until 10pm; Male Dancers at 10:30pm.
- 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.
- Cousins: 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; 75¢ Schnapps.
- 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 Karaoke
- 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.
- Ripcord: Happy Hour 1 to 8pm; StarTrek on 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!



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 713/237-9431
20	JR's	808 Pacific 713/521-2519
21	Lazy J	312 Tuom 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
28	Rich's	2401 San Jacinto 713/759-9606
29	Ripcord	715 Fairview 713/527-2792
31	Venture N	2923 Main 713/522-0000
32	The Club Houston	2205 Fannin 713/659-4998
33	Midtowne Spa	3100 Fannin 713/522-2379
34	The New Born	1100 Westheimer 713/521-9533
35	FLAZA 9200:	
	Ms. B's, The Ranch & XTC	9200 Buffalo Spwy 713/666-3436
36	Ratsals	1318 Westheimer 713/942-CLUB
37	Paradise	2312 Crocker 713/522-7366
38	Mela's Tejano Country	302 Tuom 713/523-0747
RESTAURANTS		
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	Christy Donuts	1103 W Gray 713/524-4005
45	Love Java Cafe	911 W 11th 713/524-6762
46	Ming's Cafe	2703 Montrose 713/529-7888
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
54	Heights Above Florist	911 W 11th 713/862-2683
55	Houston Voice	811 Westheimer 713/529-8490
56	Inklings Bookstore	1846 Richmond 713/521-3369
57	Kroger Grocery	3300 Montrose 713/526-7865
58	Lobo Books & Video	3939 S Montrose 713/522-3556
59	Main St. Theatre	4617 Montrose 713/524-6706
60	Montrose Clinic	215 Westheimer 713/520-2000
61	Four Star Hair Productions	1201 Westheimer 713/524-7785
62	CreADrive Unlimited	811 Westheimer(102) 713/526-3190
64	Vilven Design Group	807 Howlhome 713/526-3222
65	House of Colomas	901 W Alabama 713/523-2571
66	Synchronized Chiropractic	811 Westheimer 713/521-7741
67	Walgreens	3317 Montrose 713/520-8000
68	KAD Computer, Inc.	1437 W Alabama 713/522-7813
69	STAT Script Pharmacy	3407 Montrose (AS) 713/522-7373
CLOTHING SHOPS		
70	Basic Brothers	1232 Westheimer 713/522-1626
71	Jewel's Boutique	2404 Taft 713/523-3557
72	Leather By Boots	807 Fairview 713/526-2668
73	Leather Forever	711 Fairview 713/526-6940
74	Timeless Taffeta	1657 Westheimer 713/529-6299

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Motel: Heterosexuals with kids fighting next door.  
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Montrose Inn: 5 tiny blocks to the gay bars.

Motel: Drive to the gay bars & pay \$5 to park. Or take a \$15 cab.  
Montrose Inn: Walk to the gay bars. Or take a \$3 cab.

Motel: Drive back from the gay bars and risk the cops making you walk the straight line. Or take a \$15 cab.  
Montrose Inn: Walk back from the gay bars. Or take a \$3 cab.

Motel: Rooms start at around \$50.  
Montrose Inn: Rooms start at around \$50.

Motel: Eat in their restaurant. Food for the masses. Pay plenty. \$1 soft drink machine.  
Montrose Inn: Complimentary late night sandwiches & full breakfast the next day. Free soft drinks, juices, coffee 24 hours.

Motel: Cruise the parking lot? Whoa! You're taking chances.  
Montrose Inn: Meet our other guests. Please!

Motel: The receptionist sneers at you.  
Montrose Inn: The receptionist winks at you.

Motel: Washing machine? Ironing board? Hair dryer? Refrigerator? Stove? Microwave? VCR & gay movies? Are you kidding?  
Montrose Inn: All of the above. Free to use.

Motel: Full size bed, plastic flowers.  
Montrose Inn: Queen size bed, fresh flowers.

Motel: Maid knocking 8 a.m., you moan but she's coming in anyway. Checkout 11 a.m.  
Montrose Inn: Handsome man next door knocking 11 a.m. to join him for breakfast. Checkout 1 p.m.

Motel: Maid knocking 8 a.m., you moan but she's coming in anyway. Checkout 11 a.m.  
Montrose Inn: Handsome man next door knocking 11 a.m. to join him for breakfast. Checkout 1 p.m.

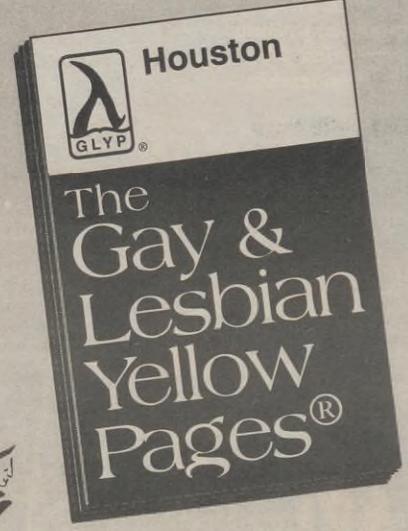
Motel: Maid knocking 8 a.m., you moan but she's coming in anyway. Checkout 11 a.m.  
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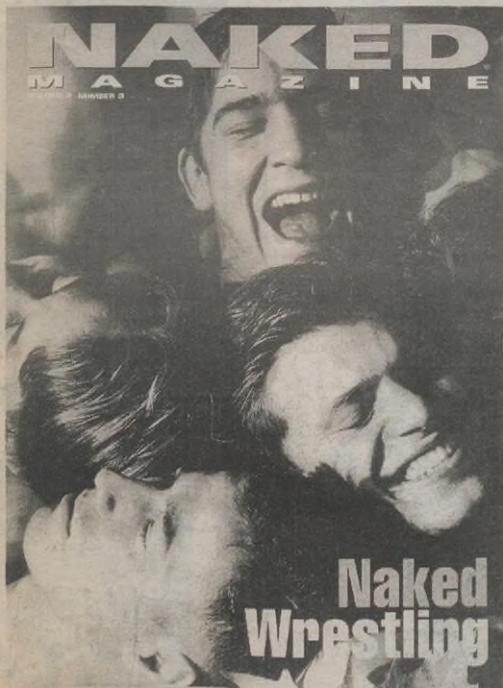
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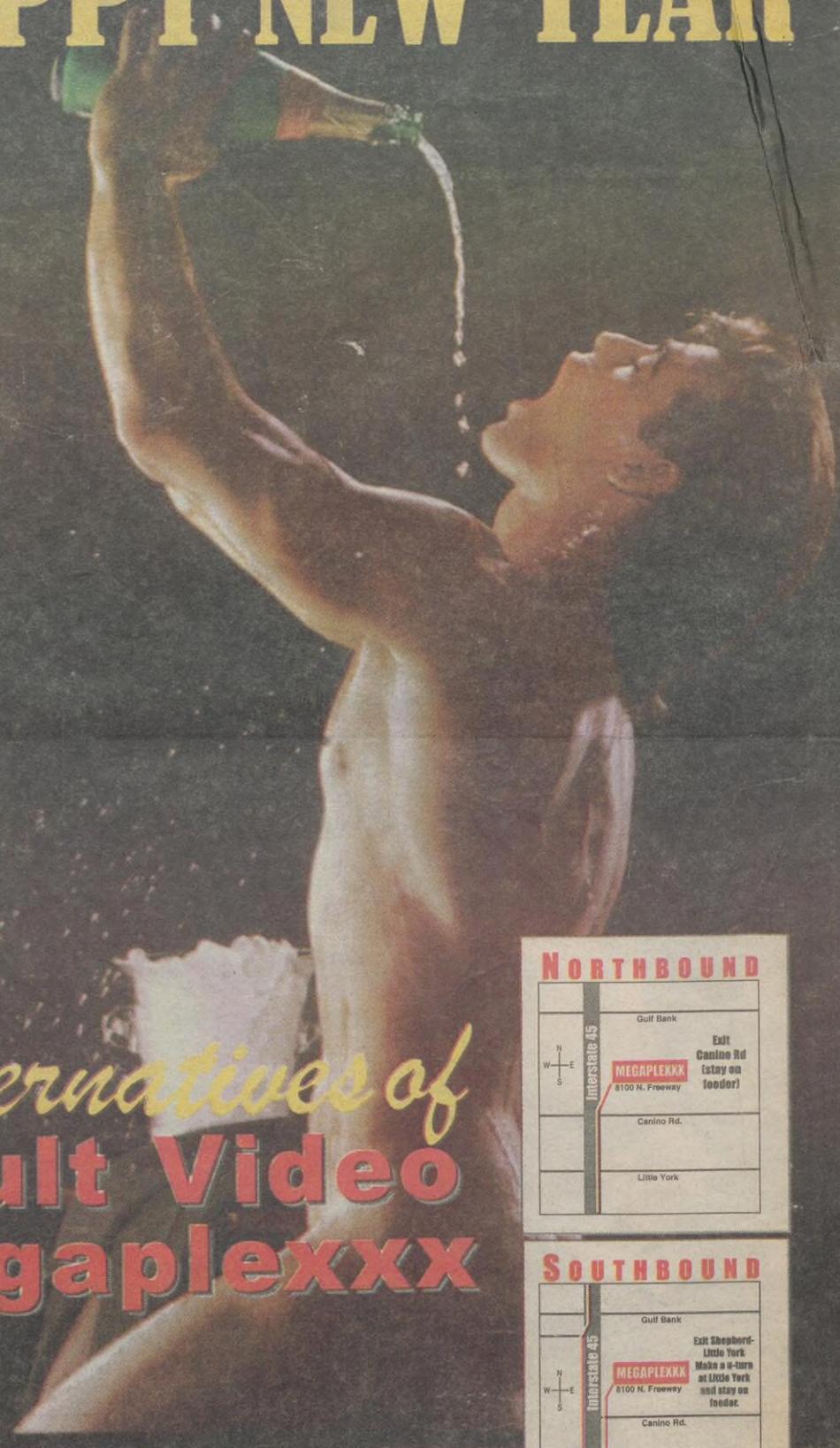
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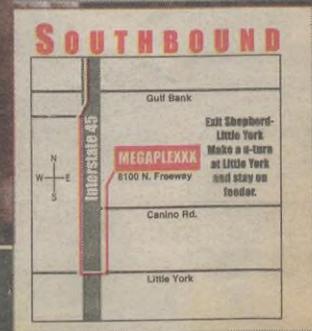
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