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Pro-gay Democrats win run-offs

Kirk to face Cornyn for Senate seat in fall; Bell wins place on ballot opposite Reiser for Congress

By PENNY WEAVER

Texans this week voted to send two gay-friendly Democrats into a pair of closely watched political campaigns for fall elections.

In Tuesday's Democratic primary runoff, candidate Chris Bell defeated opponent Carroll Robinson to earn the party's nomination for U.S. Congress in District 25, which encompasses most of Houston and Harris County.

Bell earned 54.3 percent of the vote, according to unofficial results from the Texas Secretary of State's office. He faces Republican Tom Reiser in November elections.

Reiser, an insurance company executive, was unopposed in his party's primary.

In the statewide Democratic primary



Gay-friendly Democrat Ron Kirk (left) will face Republican John Cornyn (right), Texas attorney general, in fall elections after winning this week's Democratic primary runoff. The two are vying to replace retiring conservative Sen. Phil Gramm.

for U.S. Senate, gay-friendly former Dallas Mayor Ron Kirk defeated opponent Victor Morales, a teacher and previous political candidate. Kirk garnered 59.7 percent of the vote statewide, and a solid 77 percent of the vote in Harris County.

Kirk, former Dallas mayor, has said he actively seeks support from gay voters.

He supports domestic partner benefits and the Employment Non-Discrimination Act (ENDA).

Kirk will face Republican John Cornyn, current Texas Attorney General, who received an overwhelming 77.2 percent of the GOP primary vote in March.

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Ephhebophilia

It's not pedophilia and it's not homosexuality, but it's wreaking havoc in the Catholic priesthood and raising issues for the gay rights movement

By LAURA DOUGLAS-BROWN

Daniel Troppy was 10 or 11 when a family friend, a Catholic seminary student, sexually molested him while he spent the night at the San Antonio cathedral where the priest-hood candidate lived.

Today, as a gay man, the Atlanta resident remembers the experience as deeply traumatic, and says he is considering legal action against the church.

Mark King was 14, a self-described

"Lolito," when he sought out adult men, mostly in his local community theater, for sexual activity. King, an Atlanta public relations professional, views his personal experience as part of his coming out, not abusive at all.

Many in the general public would say both men were victims of pedophilia. But their vastly different perspectives on what happened to them highlight complicated issues of age, consent, power, maturity and sexual orientation.

Pedophilia. Ephhebophilia. Homosexuality. Homophobia. The current sexual abuse scandal in the Catholic Church raises all of these potentially controversial larger issues, and begs critical questions both for the church and the gay rights movement.

Media accounts of the Catholic Church controversy repeatedly cast the issue as a problem of "pedophile priests." But while some cases clearly fit the medical definition of pedophilia, psychologists and gay scholars alike say that many others don't.

These cases — where the "victim" lies somewhere in between childhood and adulthood, and the "abuser" may or may not also have a gay adult sexual life — prove far murkier than either the Catholic Church or many

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Boston priest John Geoghan, convicted of fondling a 10-year-old boy in one of the highest profile cases in the Catholic sexual abuse scandal, fits the medical definition of pedophilia. But many other cases in the Catholic Church actually involved older teens, placing them in the category of ephhebophilia instead. (Photo by Matt Stone/AP)

local news

Jury deadlocks on sexual assault case

Attorneys on both sides said defendant's cross-dressing was no factor at the trial

By PENNY WEAVER

A Houston jury failed to reach a verdict last week in the trial of a male-to-female transgender accused of sexual assault, and a new court date in the case has yet to be scheduled.

Marcus Alexander, 25, requested and was given permission by a judge to dress in female attire in court. Born male, Alexander is in the midst of the transition to become female.

Alexander denies the allegations against her. She is charged with sexually assaulting a 4-year-old girl on July 28, 2000, as her mother slept in another room, according to press reports.

Prosecutor Cary Hart, Harris County assistant district attorney, said a hearing is set for Tuesday to determine the next steps in the case.

Hart does not believe the jury was distracted by the fact that Alexander is transgender.

"Half of them believed he was guilty and the other half seemed to think that there

was a possibility that what he said was true," Hart said. "People don't give juries enough credit. I don't think that they looked at whether he was wearing a dress or not.

"[One expert during the trial] testified that sexual orientation doesn't have anything to do with someone who is a pedophile or someone who assaults children," she added. "It doesn't make any difference. I don't know if men dressing as women would be a deviance or not, but either way it's not the same [as pedophilia]."

State District Judge Denise Collins declared a mistrial last Friday in the case after the jury told her they were evenly split on a verdict, the Houston Chronicle reported. The jury of seven women and five men deliberated about 10 hours over two days late last week.

Hart said Alexander now is free on bond.

Attorney Tyrone Moncriffe, who represented Alexander in court, agreed with Hart that Alexander's transgender status was not a factor for the jury.

"They ignored it," he said. "I personally think we discarded a lot of that. I think it became a nonentity after a while.

"It didn't play as big of a role as it would have had I not exposed it," Moncriffe added. "I think it was a secondary role. I don't think it played a major role at all. I made sure that it did not."

The defense attorney said he doubts



Transgender Houstonian Marcus Alexander is accused of sexual assault, but a judge declared a mistrial in the case last week when a jury split on a verdict. A new trial has yet to be scheduled.

Alexander would consider a plea bargain if offered one by prosecutors.

"I don't see Marcus accepting anything," Moncriffe said. "I thought we'd win [the case, but] the next time we go back, I feel very comfortable."

In March, Collins ruled that Alexander could dress as a woman at the trial. She

People don't give juries enough credit. I don't think that they looked at whether he was wearing a dress or not.

said the court could not infringe on Alexander's constitutional right to dress as she wants to.

But transgender activists, Collins and Moncriffe expressed concern that Alexander's choice to wear women's clothes might affect the jury, since she is charged and being tried as a male.

Alexander has testified in court that she often has dressed as a woman while in public over the last several years. Moncriffe has said Alexander plans to have a sex-change operation to complete the transition.

The alleged victim's mother criticized media coverage of the case, according to the Chronicle. She said reports focused on the defendant's appearance instead of the accusations against him.

"He's not going to go before God in a dress," the mother told the Chronicle. "Everybody turned their focus on him putting dresses on and acting like a woman, but you didn't ever stop and look at how this was making my child feel."

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Teen accuses fellow student of sexual assault; no charges filed

A student at Northbrook High School in Houston accused another teen of sexual assault, but prosecutors will not pursue charges, authorities said this week. Officials said a 15-year-old male student, a freshman at the school in northwest Houston, was accused of sexually assaulting a 17-year-old male student, according to a report on Click2Houston.com. The younger teen told school district police that the sexual contact was consensual, but the 17-year-old said it wasn't, police said. This week, Chuck Brawner, police chief for Spring Branch Independent School District, which includes Northbrook High School, said no charges will be pursued in the alleged April 3 incident. "The case and all the evidence and statements were taken and presented to the district attorney's office," Brawner said. "There were conflicting statements by the complainant that caused some concern. His original statement didn't correspond with the physical evidence in the medical examiner's report. So with those [discrepancies], the district attorney's office refused to file charges." Brawner said the teens know each other and attend classes together. The 17-year-old was treated at Memorial City Hospital and tested for rape.

DIFFA doles out funds to assist AIDS service organizations

Eight Houston-area HIV/AIDS service providers recently were awarded a total of \$50,500 in grants by the Design Industries Foundation Fighting AIDS (DIFFA). The funds will be used to assist programs for orphaned and abandoned children, meals for homebound persons, educational outreach, legal assistance and programs dedicated to slowing HIV infection among women, minorities and adolescents, according to a DIFFA press release. Groups eligible to apply for the grants were not-for-profit community-based HIV/AIDS organizations that provide direct service, preventative education and/or outreach to HIV-positive and at-risk populations. The awardees are Casa de Esperanza, Center for AIDS, Christian Community Service Center, Covenant House Texas, Families Under Urban & Social Attach, HATCH (Houston Area Teen Coalition of Homosexuals), The Life Center and the Texas Human Rights Foundation. DIFFA/Houston raises money for the fight against AIDS through special events and a number of fund-raising activities. The group has granted more than \$2.7 million to local HIV/AIDS service organizations since its inception in 1987.



Long-time Houston Ballet Artistic Director Ben Stevenson has announced plans to retire at the end of the 2002-03 season.

ment and achievement as artistic director over the past 26 years at Houston Ballet," said Mrs. Barry J. Galt, president of Houston Ballet Foundation, and John H. Smither, chair of the foundation. "We are also fortunate that he has agreed to serve on the search committee that will select his successor. With his help, we will be able to select a leader who will carry on the tradition of excellence he has established." Stevenson took over leadership at Houston Ballet in 1975. He has helped develop the troupe from 28 dancers then to 54 artists today, and transformed the group into one of America's leading ballet companies.

— PENNY WEAVER

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Stevenson to step back from Houston Ballet duties next year

Houston Ballet Artistic Director Ben Stevenson has announced plans to retire when his current contract ends at the conclusion of the company's 2002-03 season. He will take the title of artistic director emeritus and will teach in Houston Ballet Academy; work with the ballet's second company, Houston Ballet Youth Dancers; and stage his ballets for companies nationally and internationally. "We honor Ben Stevenson's extraordinary commit-

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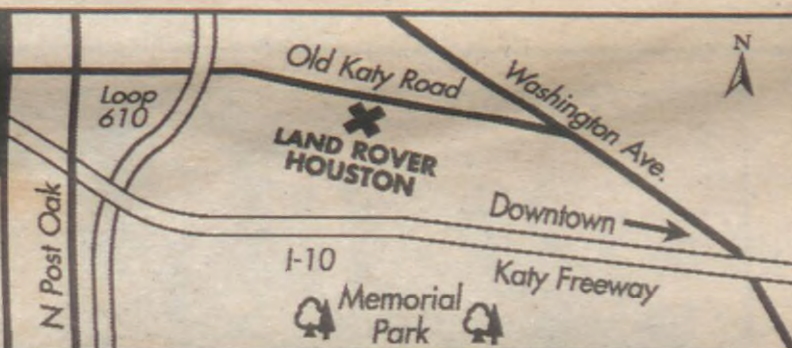
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Calif. gov. aims to help partner of gay Sept. 11 victim

SACRAMENTO (AP) — California Gov. Gray Davis issued an executive order April 4 designed to assist the domestic partner of a victim of the Sept. 11 terrorist attacks. The congressionally appointed special master administering the federal Sept. 11 Victim Compensation Fund should consider California law, which includes rights for gay partners, in its wrongful death and victim compensation program regulations, Davis said. California resident Jeff Collman, a flight attendant for American Airlines, died on American Airlines Flight 11, which hit the World Trade Center. Collman did not have a will and his parents contend that money from the federal compensation program that is likely to go to the deceased man's estate belongs to them, not to Keith Bradkowski, Collman's partner. The two men had registered with California officials in late 2000 as domestic partners, and had been together 11 years. Federal regulations leave it up to state probate laws to decide which survivors are eligible for a federal compensation payment that could exceed \$1 million or more.



An executive order by California Gov. Gray Davis last week was designed to help the domestic partner of **Jeff Collman**, a flight attendant for American Airlines killed in the Sept. 11 terrorist attacks.

YMCA facilities in three states struggle with policies on gays

DES MOINES, Iowa (AP) — City officials are threatening to block city money from the YMCA of Greater Des Moines because it charges homosexual couples more to join than heterosexual married couples. Legally married couples who live together may join the YMCA for \$57.50 a month. Gay couples living together are not eligible for the family package and must join at single adult rates which are \$38.50 each, \$13 more for each couple. The Fargo-Moorhead Family YMCA in Fargo, N.D., faces similar complaints, and the agency's board has now voted to study its membership policy after facing pickets from gays last month. Each YMCA group sets its own membership policy. And in Oregon, another YMCA chapter is under fire for policies related to renting space at YMCA camps to gay groups. When Seattle-based Gay City sought to rent the YMCA's Camp Dudley, the agency agreed only on the condition that the gay group doesn't mention the YMCA in its promotional materials. The YMCA "does not promote sexual activity of any kind," according to Director Terry Raspberry.

Lesbian couples receive majority of Vt. civil unions

MONTPELIER, Vt. — An activist group opposed to Vermont's civil unions law, the first in the country to grant full state recognition to gay couples, has sent letters to Republican lawmakers saying they will be targeted for defeat if they do not work to repeal the law, the Rutland Herald reported. "Civil union was a moral 9/11 for both major parties," Rev. David Stertzbach, leader of the Vermont Defense of Marriage Committee, wrote in a letter that was copied to all state legislators. Lawmakers in both parties expressed frustration at Stertzbach's tactic. "He doesn't represent Republicans," said Rep. Patricia O'Donnell (R-Vernon). "Somebody like that is dangerous." About two-thirds of civil unions have been between women, the Associated Press reported. From July 1, 2000, the first day that civil union licenses were granted to same-sex couples,

through Jan. 4, 2002, some 3,471 licenses for civil unions were issued. Of those, 1,180 were given to male couples and 2,291 were to female couples.

Former news anchor speaks out against gay Scout ban

SYRACUSE, N.Y. (AP) — Former CBS news anchor Walter Cronkite said April 2 that he doesn't see eye-to-eye with a ban on gays by the Boy Scouts of America. "I disagree with much of the national council's attitude on this matter," Cronkite said at a press conference. "On the other hand, I don't think this is the occasion to debate it." Cronkite was the featured speaker at the 33rd annual BoyPower Dinner of the Hiawatha Seaway Council of the Boy Scouts of America, which represents Scouts in five upstate New York counties. A former Boy Scout himself, Cronkite said he hopes the controversy does not negatively impact scouting. But Carrier Corp. declined to buy or sell tickets for the annual dinner this year because of the national organization's ban on gay leaders. Last year, the company was responsible for combined donations and corporate dinner ticket sales of \$42,025.

Pa., Ohio cities weigh pro-gay employment policies

ALLENTOWN, Pa. — Allentown became the first city in Pennsylvania to ban discrimination on the basis of gender identity — and the 230th in the country to ban discrimination on the basis of sexual orientation — when the City Council voted April 3 to expand the town's human relations law, the Morning Call newspaper reported. In neighboring Ohio, Cleveland Heights could become the first city in the state to offer domestic partner benefits if the City Council approves an ordinance introduced on April 1, according to the Associated Press. Benefits would not extend to unmarried heterosexual couples who live together. A vote is expected when the City Council meets again in two weeks.

From staff and wire reports

police beat

Court allows serial killer to clear way for death sentence

TALLAHASSEE, Fla. (AP) — Aileen Wuornos, a lesbian and one of the nation's first known female serial killers, is competent to fire her attorneys, stop her appeals and accept her death sentence, the Florida Supreme Court ruled. Wuornos received multiple death sentences for fatally shooting six middle-aged men along the highways of central Florida in 1989 and 1990. There was no immediate word from the office of Gov. Jeb Bush as to when he might sign a death warrant. Writing to the court, Wuornos said, "I've come clean. All were in flat murder to rob." Wuornos, 45, had previously claimed in requests for a new trial that the victims had tried to rape or kill her. She was working as a prostitute at the time of the murders. About to lose her lover, Wuornos said she had decided to rob a customer to raise \$200 they needed and then kill the customer. That was the first of the six murders for which she is on death row.



The Florida Supreme Court cleared the way last week for **Aileen Wuornos**, a lesbian serial killer, to speed up her death sentence. (Photo by Peter Cosgrove/AP)

Teen attack victim says police aren't taking her seriously

DENVER (AP) — A teen-age girl who reported she was attacked by three men because she is gay said last week police were not taking the report seriously. April Mora, 17, told police two men cut the words "dyke" and "RIP" into her flesh with razors on March 26 while they held her down in an alley behind her house. She said a third man gave them instructions from a car Mora had stopped to admire. The men threatened to rape her if they saw her again, Mora said. Mora and her girlfriend's mother, Roberta Quintana, said detectives have treated them badly and assumed the attack was self-inflicted. "They treated the whole situation as if it was a waste of their time," Quintana said. Police Detective John White would not comment on the accusations and would not say if anyone has been arrested. Quintana told the Denver Post that detectives asked Mora if her wounds were self-inflicted and if she would take a polygraph test. Police said they treat all crime reports seriously.

Execution blocked for Ala. man who killed gay acquaintance

MOBILE, Ala. (AP) — The U.S. Supreme Court blocked the execution of Gary Leon Brown April 5, about eight hours before he was to die for killing and nearly decapitating a man who was robbed of \$67. Attorneys for Brown, sentenced in the 1986 stabbing death of Jack David McGraw in suburban Birmingham, contend electrocution is impermissibly cruel and unusual punishment. His defense argues the execution should be halted until the high court rules in an Arizona case involving the way sentences are imposed. The Supreme Court halted Brown's execution until the justices have time to consider his appeal. McGraw was killed on Memorial Day 1986 when he declined to party with Brown and two companions, according to testimony. The three killers told investigators that McGraw, described in court as gay, some-

times paid them for sex, authorities said. Prosecutors have said the savageness of the crime indicated it was motivated by more than simple robbery.

Ore. woman wants quick sentencing after killing domestic partner

BEND, Ore. (AP) — A woman charged with aggravated murder in the shooting deaths of her domestic partner and her partner's son told a judge she wants to plead guilty to the deaths and be sentenced to end publicity over the case. Randy Joseph Stewart, 62, was indicted last week by a Deschutes County grand jury in the March 23 slayings of Helen Rodriguez, 56, and Felipe "J.R." Rodriguez, 31. "I know what I did," Stewart said at her arraignment hearing. "I'm not afraid for anything that's going to happen by pleading guilty to this terrible thing." Her attorney, David Glenn of Madras, asked for a combined plea hearing and sentencing, which the judge scheduled for April 23.

Activists want Ind. attack labeled a hate crime

FORT WAYNE, Ind. — Police are not investigating the March 29 physical torture of a 34-year-old man as a hate crime, but that's what three groups are now calling it, according to the Fort Wayne Journal Gazette. The League for the Blind & Disabled, United Voice and the Stop the Hate Coalition publicly condemned the attack on John Runner, a disabled man who was found at his home severely beaten and burned. Part of his brain had to be removed during emergency surgery. Police allege Runner's cousin and roommate, Maurice A. Ellis, 35, found Runner in bed with a man last month and an argument ensued. Runner remained in critical condition last week. "Right now we're simply investigating it as an aggravated battery," Assistant Police Chief John Grannan said. John Guingrich, assistant director of the League, said he was shocked that police are not viewing the incident as a hate crime since it seemed to be prompted by the victim's sexual orientation.

From staff and wire reports

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Ephebophilia sees light in Church scandal

➤ Continued from Page 1

gay rights advocates seem willing to admit.

Faced with an extensive sexual abuse problem in the priesthood, some in the Catholic Church and on the religious right argue that the solution is a black and white issue of banning gay priests.

On the other hand, faced with the damaging equation of homosexuality and sex with minors, some gay rights activists are quick to say that the two have nothing to do with each other.

But such a quick dismissal may be too simple in the current situation, other activists and scholars acknowledge.

"It's obvious when you have a man and a teenage boy that there is a same-sex element there," said Sean Cahill, director of the National Gay & Lesbian Task Force Policy Institute and a gay Catholic. "But it's one thing to acknowledge that, and it is very different to say this means all gay people are pedophiles and gay rights laws lead to increases in pedophilic action."

Still, the Task Force — like other national gay groups including the Human Rights Campaign and the Gay & Lesbian Alliance Against Defamation — has for the most part been publicly silent in the polarizing debate over "pedophilia" and gay priests.

What's at stake, for the church and for gay activists, to acknowledge and examine the gray areas in between?

Pedophilia vs. ephebophilia

Pedophilia is a term frequently used, by the media and society at large, to describe any sexual activity or attraction between an adult and someone under the age of consent.

But as defined in the Diagnostic & Statistical Manual of Mental Disorders, the American Psychiatric Association publication viewed as authoritative in the field, the medical criteria for pedophilia is much more precise. The term refers to sexual fantasies, urges or behaviors "involving sexual activity with a prepubescent child or children (generally age 13 or younger)."

Cases like Troppy's, then, would technically constitute pedophilia, as would the high-profile prosecution of Boston priest



The Catholic Church's historic refusal to discuss sexual issues may attract closeted gay men to the priesthood, as well as pedophiles and ephebophiles who hope either to bury their sexual desires or at least avoid being held responsible for their actions, said Professor **Mark Jordan**, a scholar on sexual issues in the Church. (Photo by R.O. Youngblood)

John Geoghan, convicted of fondling a 10-year-old boy and accused of abusing more than 100 children.

Still, many cases in the Catholic Church — the majority, according to some estimates — involved youth older than 13 or past puberty.

"Our respective diocesan experience revealed that roughly 90 percent of priest abusers targeted teenage boys as their victims. Most priest abusers, we concluded, were not pedophiles in the strict sense of the term," wrote Rev. Donald B. Cozzens in his controversial book, "The Changing Face of the Priesthood."

Cozzens and some mental health professionals and scholars use another term, ephebophilia, to refer to sexual attraction to young people who are not pre-pubescent, but who also are not adults.

The term remains relatively unknown, even to experts on sexual issues, although it is gaining familiarity due to debates about the Catholic crisis.

"Until it came out in this controversy, I had never heard of it, so I would say it is very rare," said Dr. Jim Fitzgerald, a psychologist in private practice in Marietta, Ga., and president-elect of the American Psychological Association's Society for the Psychological Study of Gays, Lesbians & Bisexuals.

The DSM does not include a specific definition for ephebophilia, and mental health professionals say it would be diagnosed under the heading for "paraphilias not otherwise specified."

Sex with children is always pedophilia, but sexual desire for an older adolescent doesn't necessarily mean someone has the mental disorder of ephebophilia, according to Dr. Frederick Berlin, founder of the Sexual Disorders Clinic at the Johns Hopkins Hospital in Baltimore.

"Ephebophilia is a more difficult diagnostic issue sometimes," he said. "Most people are not sexually attracted to pre-pubescent children, so that is a very clear difference, but many do find adolescents appealing. It only becomes an issue of abnormality if they are inordinately attracted."

There's no "blanket diagnosis" based on the young person's age, especially if the attraction involves an older teen, Fitzgerald agreed.

"Some 15-year-olds look 25, and some look 12," he said. "With a pedophile, they are looking for young children, and many teenagers don't look like young children."

"I think clearly a gay man might see some teen they think is quite hot, but they are seeing that person not as a child, but as a young man," said Fitzgerald, who is gay. "I'm less concerned about someone with that fantasy than someone interested in a child."

Indeed, a pedophile's primary attraction lies with age, and the majority of cases outside of the Catholic Church involve adult men with young girls, psychologists said.

Some pedophiles abuse children of both sexes, while others abuse children of one gender only, but "pedophilia is independent of whether a person's adult orientation is either heterosexual or homosexual," said Berlin, who has served as a consultant to the National Conference of Catholic Bishops' Ad Hoc Committee on Sexual Abuse.



Mark King says he was sexually active with adult men when he was 14, but he doesn't consider himself a victim of pedophilia or ephebophilia because he sought out the experiences and the men did not hold positions of power over him.

An ephebophile's attraction to youth, on the other hand, may be more closely linked to his or her adult sexual orientation — both in the desire for a particular gender and in the stigma attached to it, Berlin said.

"I do think [some of the Catholic cases] are gay men having sex with older male adolescents, but that said, we need to look at the big picture," he said. "In society at large, there is just as much evidence that heterosexual men are having sex with older adolescent girls."

"But biases [against gays] are there, and there is much more tendency to prosecute a man who has sex with a 15-year-old boy than a 15-year-old girl," Berlin said.

Debating 'sexual orientations'

Berlin, a clinician who treats people with sexual disorders, advocated compassion for pedophiles and ephebophiles as individuals with an illness, while disagreeing with their actions. But the language he used to do so could raise other red flags for gay rights advocates and their opponents.

"Anyone's sexual orientation is not due to voluntary choice," Berlin said. "Pedophiles don't choose their sexual orientation any more than heterosexuals or homosexuals [do]."

That language, of course, is the same as gay advocates use to argue against anti-gay prejudice, and could be used as fodder by right-wing reactionaries who already like to compare being gay to pedophilia and other sexual disorders when arguing against efforts to ban "sexual orientation" discrimination.

"To suggest that homosexuality is equal or on par to pedophilia as a sexual orientation is something I strongly and vehemently reject," said David Smith, communications director and senior strategist for the Human Rights Campaign. "The right wing too often uses pedophilia as a scare tactic to fight basic civil rights for gay people."

An official with the Gay & Lesbian Alliance Against Defamation, a national media watchdog group, said the organization is monitoring coverage of the Catholic con-

trovery, although GLAAD hasn't issued any official statements on the subject.

The group did put out a "news pop" calling attention to a Boston prayer service "to remember sex abuse victims."

Glenda Testone, GLAAD regional media director, said the gay group doesn't have a specific strategy to align itself with victims of the attacks.

Gays to blame?

While the majority of Catholic abuse cases involve same-sex ephebophilia, and most of the others involve pedophilia, more potentially problematic to gay rights groups is the possibility that some cases involve gay men without mental disorders who are simply making bad sexual choices.

The Vatican appears to have seized on the issue of gay priests as a way to shift focus from the widespread allegations of sexual abuse incidents and a conspiracy to cover them up.

"People with these [homosexual] inclinations just cannot be ordained," the spokesperson for Pope John Paul II, Joaquin Navarro-Walls, said earlier this month. "That does not imply a final judgement on people with homosexuality. But you cannot be in this field."

But whether or not it is the cause of the sex abuse cases, gays in the priesthood remain a major issue for the Catholic Church.

In a conversation on NBC's "Meet the Press" on March 31, Cozzens said he believes 30 to 50 percent of priests are gay, while Father John McCloskey of the Catholic Information Center said that only "2 percent to 4 percent at a maximum" are gay.

McCloskey's estimate seems ridiculously low, said Mark Jordan, a religion professor at Emory University and a nationally-renowned scholar on sexual issues, including sodomy, in the Catholic Church.

"I think the percent [of gays] in the priesthood and religious orders has always been higher than the general population, at least for the last 1,500 years or so," said Jordan, putting the current percent of gay priests in the U.S. at "between 35 and 40 percent, at least."

The Catholic Church's reluctance to discuss sexual issues, and subsequent reluctance to acknowledge sexual abuse until recently, may also have attracted pedophiles and ephebophiles, Jordan said. "They are not so much attracted to the priesthood per se, but they are attracted to an all male structure for keeping secrets," he said.

Still, some aspects of gay male culture do place a high value on youth, complete with terms like "chicken" and "twink" to describe desirable young men.

"But it's no more or less than the straight community places an emphasis on youth," said Fitzgerald, the gay psychologist.

And even when the young person involved is a teen, a sexual experience may not be abusive based on the teen's maturity and the older person's relationship to him, according to King.

"I had a strong sense of who I was and my sexuality and I didn't want to mess with kids who couldn't handle it or would freak out or tell their parents, so I sought out older partners who had their act together," he said.

Kirk or Cornyn to replace conservative Gramm

➤ Continued from Page 1

Bell a pro-gay politician

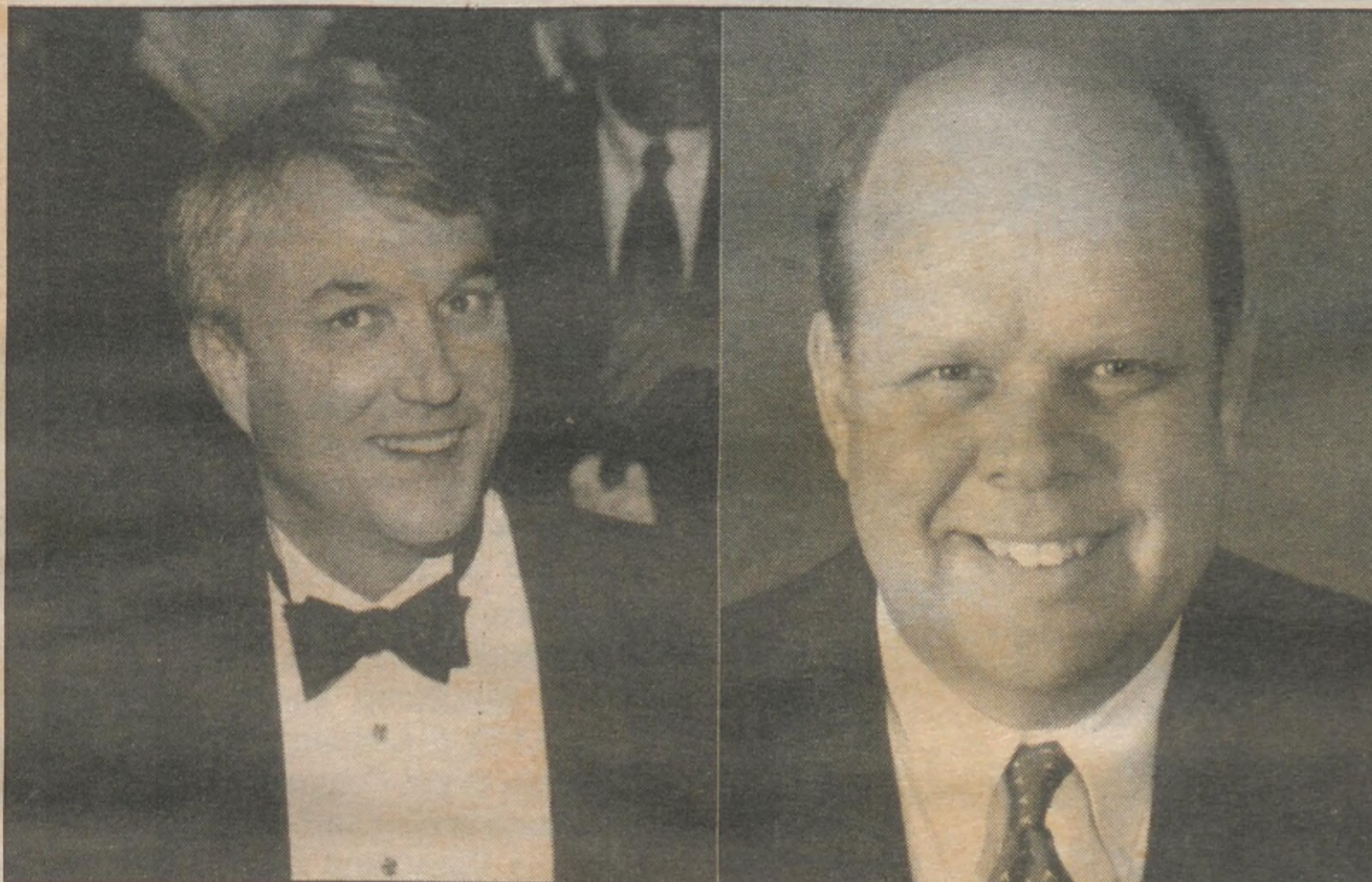
Bell is a former two-term Houston City Council member. He is known for several pro-gay stances while he served on that panel. He supported the city's anti-bias bill, approved last year, which prohibits discrimination based on factors including sexual orientation.

Bell was pushed out of the city's mayoral race last fall in the initial election, failing to earn enough votes to proceed to the runoff, in which pro-gay Mayor Lee Brown won re-election.

Bell's supporters include Brown, who, along with Annise Parker, the only openly gay member of the City Council, vocally opposed the anti-gay City Prop. 2, which prevents the City of Houston from offering health insurance and other benefits to same-sex domestic partners of city employees.

Bell also opposed City Prop. 2, which was narrowly approved by Houston voters in November.

The District 25 seat came open when incumbent Democrat Ken Bentsen decided to run for U.S. Senate. But Bentsen, known as generally favorable in votes related to gay issues, lost in the primary, garnering only 26.6 percent of the vote.



In competition for the U.S. Congress District 25 seat in the fall will be Democrat Chris Bell (left) and Republican Tom Reiser.

Kirk, Cornyn vie to replace Gramm

When Texas Sen. Phil Gramm, a staunch Republican conservative, announced that he would not seek re-election this year, the field of candidates to fill that slot was crowded.

Now Ron Kirk is the Democrat set to

compete against the GOP's John Cornyn for Gramm's post. Cornyn easily won his party's primary election, while Kirk was forced into this week's runoff.

Kirk announced his candidacy last fall as he resigned from his mayoral post to begin campaigning.

Kirk is backed by a number of gay and

gay-friendly Houstonians, including Annise Parker, the only openly gay Houston City Council member; Janine Brunjes, Mayor Lee Brown's liaison to gay Houstonians; and gay political consultant Grant Martin.

"I want to be a senator for everyone," Kirk said during an early campaign stop in Houston. "I want the support of everyone, and that includes the gay community."

Republican Cornyn took office as attorney general in Texas in January 1999. He previously served six years as a District Court judge in San Antonio, and was elected to the Texas Supreme Court in 1990. He was re-elected to that post in 1996, but resigned in 1997 to run for his current slot.

A Houston native, Cornyn's record includes at least one anti-gay move. As state attorney general, he ruled in late 1999 that county clerks are not required to accept registrations of same-sex domestic partnerships.

According to Cornyn, state law does not require or permit county clerks to accept domestic partner registries. The case came before Cornyn after a gay San Antonio resident sought to legally register his relationship through the Bexar County clerk.

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national news

Va. man indicted for 1996 murder of lesbian hikers

Ashcroft: Prosecutors will use federal sentencing enhancing law in case

By LOU CHIBBARO JR.

A federal grand jury on April 9 indicted a Maryland man on four counts of capital murder for the 1996 throat slashing deaths of a lesbian couple at a secluded campsite in the Shenandoah National Park near Luray, Va.

The indictment, handed down in Charlottesville, Va., charges that Darrell David Rice, 34, of Columbia, Md., targeted Julianne M. Williams, 24, and her partner, Laura S. "Lollie" Winans, 26, because of his hatred of women and homosexuals.

Rice has been in prison since 1998, when he pleaded guilty to an unrelated charge that he attempted to abduct a woman in a section of Shenandoah National Park near where Williams and Winans' bodies were found.

The case of Williams and Winans' murders received widespread attention in the gay community and among hiking and camping enthusiasts because of fears that the person or persons responsible for the slayings might be targeting gays, as well as hikers in parks and recreational areas.

In a press conference in Washington,



Lesbian couple Julianne Williams (left) and Laura Winans were found murdered in the Shenandoah National Park in 1996. This week, a federal grand jury has indicted a Maryland man for the couple's deaths, though officials will not release the evidence that links the man to Williams and Winans.

D.C., on April 10, U.S. Attorney General John Ashcroft said prosecutors would consider seeking the death penalty for Rice. Ashcroft said prosecutors classified the murders as hate crimes and have invoked an existing federal law that allows the government to ask for a stricter sentence based on evidence that Rice targeted the women because of their sexual orientation and gender.

"Our message this morning is unambiguous and clear," Ashcroft said at the press conference. "The volatile, poisonous mixture of hatred and violence will not go unchallenged in the American system of justice."

Ashcroft said that by utilizing a 1994 federal sentencing enhancement law — which includes a provision recognizing anti-gay hate crimes — "today's murder indictment makes clear our commitment to seek every prosecutorial advantage and to use every available statute to secure justice for victims like Julianne Marie Williams and Lollie Winans."

Gay activists noted that the sexual orientation provision in the law referred to by Ashcroft is limited to crimes committed on federal lands, such as national parks. The Human Rights Campaign, a national gay group, and the National Gay & Lesbian Task Force have urged Congress to pass a hate crimes bill pending in the House and Senate that would give the Justice Department authority to prosecute anti-gay hate crimes in all parts of the country.

Both groups released statements this week praising the Justice Department for invoking the sentencing enhancement law to classify the murders as hate crime. HRC political director Winnie Stachelberg said the case marks the first time federal authorities have used the law to prosecute an anti-gay hate crime.

Law enforcement officials continue an approach they have adopted in the case from the day a federal park employee discovered Williams and Winans' bodies on June 1, 1996, and provided few details this week about the circumstances surrounding the slayings or how they linked Rice to the case.

In his press conference, Ashcroft said investigators identified Rice as a suspect in July 1997, after he was arrested for assaulting and attempting to abduct a woman in Shenandoah Park near the location where he allegedly murdered Williams and Winans. But Ashcroft declined to disclose any evidence linking Rice to Williams and Winans, saying he was not at liberty to release such information at this time.

The FBI and the National Park Service, which jointly investigated the case for more than five years, said the two women were found with their throats slashed and their wrists bound. Investigators with the two agencies declined to release any additional information, such as whether the women were sexually assaulted or how Rice, acting alone, could have bound the two young women, who were robust and athletic.



Darrell David Rice has been charged with the murder of a lesbian couple vacationing in a Virginia national park. According to officials, Rice has a history of assaulting women and is known to harbor anti-gay hatred.

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Issue 1120

Forum

HOUSTON VOICE

APRIL 12, 2002

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viewpoint

Last stop on the marriage train

Massachusetts looks like the next best hope of taking the love train to Marriage Town, but many may decide that Civil Unionville is a better relationship destination.

By LISA KEEN

SITTING ON THE floor of a packed courtroom last month (latecomers were not allowed to stand), I listened for the third time in six years

to an attorney representing a state explain why that government should be allowed to deny marriage licenses to same-sex couples.

The state this time was Massachusetts, but the arguments were essentially the same as those proffered in Hawaii (in 1996) and Vermont (in 1998). Massachusetts argued that (and I ask that you please refrain from rolling your eyes, laughing, or pulling out your hair) by limiting the issuance of marriage licenses to heterosexual couples, the state is:

- "protecting the integrity of the institution of marriage as traditionally understood,"
- "fostering an optimal setting for child-rearing," and
- "conserving its limited financial resources."

As a layperson, it is hard to believe the degree of seriousness that lawyers for gay couples must muster to refute such arguments, but they did in Hawaii and Vermont and they did in Massachusetts.

Speaking on behalf of seven Massachusetts same-sex couples, attorney Jennifer Levi of Gay & Lesbian Advocates & Defenders told Superior Court Judge Thomas J. Connolly, in the necessary legal-speak, that the idea that gay couples marrying might threaten the institution of marriage is a "boogeyman"-type argument — the type raised whenever a person doesn't have a legitimate reason; that gays have children, too, and that married households are less likely to need government financial assistance than unmarried households with children.

Judge Connolly will be making his ruling soon, perhaps during the wedding month of June, and my money is on a favorable decision. Early in the hour-long proceeding, the judge said to Levi, "Marriage doesn't mean anything unless you can marry the person that you love."

But, regardless of how he rules, the case will have to wind its way through the entire state court system and face its final verdict at the state supreme court.

THERE ARE OTHER positive signs for the marriage battle in Massachusetts, too. First of all, an anti-gay marriage group collected enough signatures to call for a ballot initiative in 2004 barring same-sex marriage, but reports recently emerged indicating that they did so by telling citizens they were signing a petition to ban the slaughter of horses for people to eat. The state's attorney general approved the measure to proceed to the legislature, where it must get approval in two successive years before it can be put onto the ballot. But GLAD is challenging the AG's decision before the state supreme court in May.

The ballot measure got its first hearing before a legislative committee this week, but support seems wobbly. Just last month, State Rep. John Rogers, a Democrat and a key supporter of banning gay marriages, withdrew his bill to ban recognition of same-sex marriages. Publicly, he said he had introduced the bill just to get some discussion started, but privately, the speculation is that aligning with the anti-gay folks doesn't carry the same cache in Massachusetts as it does in Mississippi.

As a result, Massachusetts stands as our next best chance anywhere in the country of getting legal recognition of our relationships. The train is on the track and moving, albeit slowly. And chances are, because none of the current gubernatorial candidates is willing to fight all the way for us on this issue — not even the most liberal — we can expect the train to stop just short of Marriage Town, in Civil Unionville.

MANY OF US will have to get off the love train at that point and start pushing it to Marriage Town, but many of us might well want to hang out instead in Civil Unionville. We have to push for marriage because anything other than marriage is second-class citizenship. And we have to push for marriage because federal

recognition of our relationships is vital to our ability to secure the same pension and Social Security benefits as our heterosexually coupled counterparts.

But, at the state level, civil union recognition, at least as it was developed in Vermont, is not just other than marriage, it's better. It provides essentially all of the benefits and remedies of marriage without all the baggage of marriage. What baggage am I talking about?

While politicians talk about the "institution of marriage" as if it's a good thing, I'm not so convinced. If "institution" refers to its long and glorious history, I'm repelled. As the Catholic Encyclopedia explains, the institution of marriage evolved out of a primitive practice in which a man literally captured a woman, usually stealing her away from another tribe. As time went by, the practice became one in which the man purchased his wife, and eventually into the symbolic act of merely "taking" a wife or in receiving a woman who was being "given away" by her father. That's not a tradition or institution that I care to "protect the integrity" of.

Even if "institution" refers to some widely accepted scheme of behavior — the man asks the woman to marry, the man is the "head" of the household, the woman is responsible for cooking the meals and bathing the kids — I don't fancy that sort of role-playing either. Not surprisingly, about half of all marriages today end in divorce, some with "deadbeat dads" who refuse to own up even to the financial responsibility they owe their children.

What I do like about civil unions is the more modern-day notion that committed relationships do not have to be about the need to procreate or to fulfill societal expectations. They can be about love and true companionship.

We cannot stop this train until it reaches a point where marriage is an option for all loving couples, whether they are heterosexual or same-sex. That is a fight not just for same-sex marriage, but a fight for the principle of equality in our Constitution. But civil unions may be the better means of securing our relationships.

@ Lisa Keen is senior political correspondent for Houston Voice and can be reached at lkeen@washblade.com.



viewpoint ELLA TYLER



Candidates chosen for November races need ongoing support from gay voters

Post-primary a perfect time to get into politics

The primary elections are over, and most of the candidates for the November general election are chosen. It may be a relief to get a recorded phone call from someone besides a politician asking for your vote, but this is not the time for gay, lesbian, bisexual and transgendered voters to take a vacation from politics.

Now is the time to begin learning about the candidates for more than 50 offices on the ballot, especially the judicial races. There are lots and lots of judge candidates and they are not well funded and do not have an easy message.

This is the time to renew your membership in the GLPC, Stonewall Democrats, Log Cabin Republicans or Outright Libertarians. Join your neighborhood political group, too. Be sure you are registered to vote at your current address and also be sure that all your friends and relatives are properly registered. Decide whom you want to support with time and with money. The foundation for any victorious political campaign is being built now.

The range of gay political issues has gotten broader as the diversity of the community has become visible. Who would have thought, 20 years ago, that anything concerning gay teens would be an issue? Last week, the Houston Independent School District began to train school principals

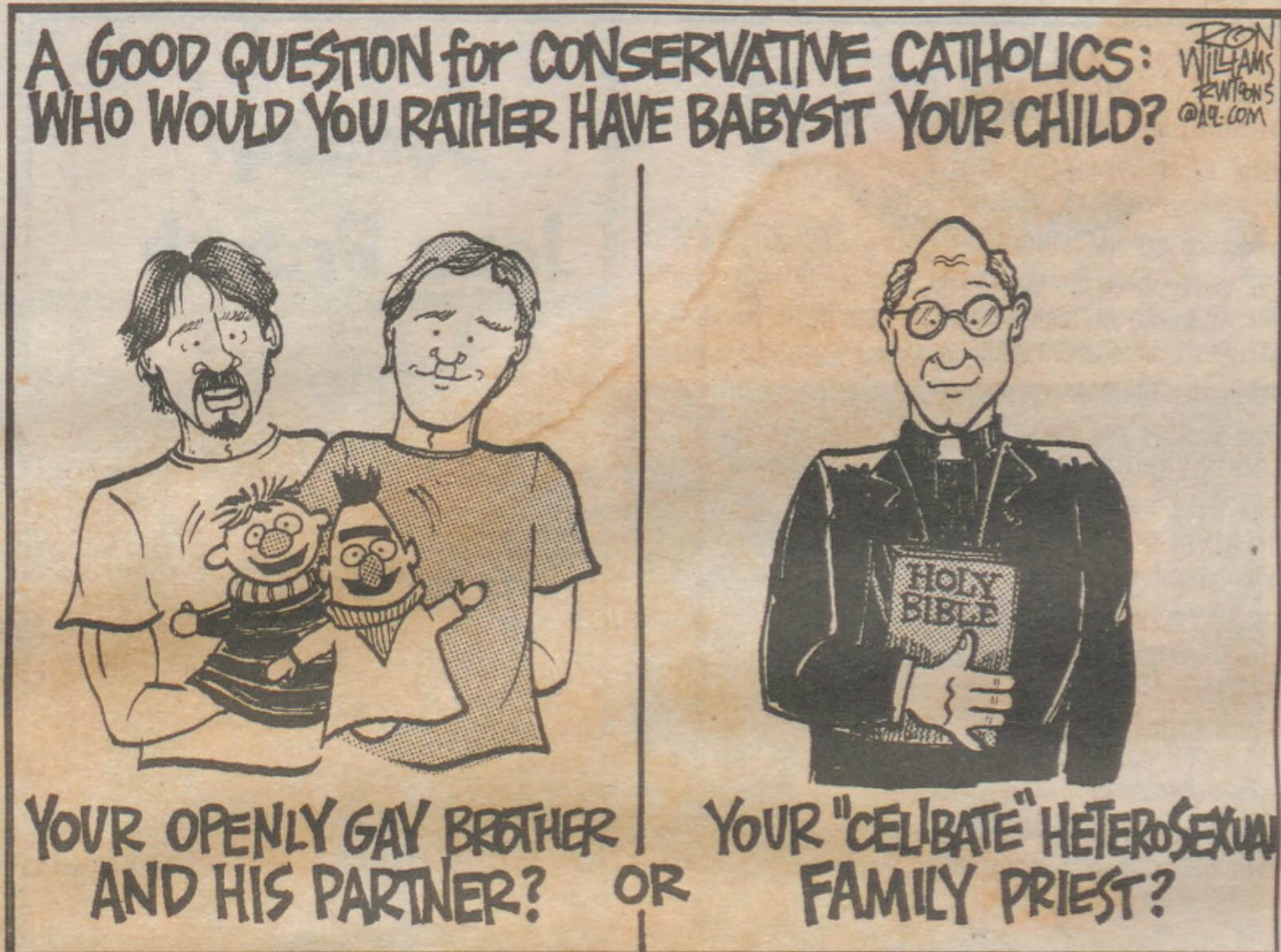
how to mitigate harassment of gay students, something that would not have been possible with a homophobic school board.

Unfortunately, every action by a Republican elected official that might be seen as "promoting the homosexual lifestyle" provides fodder for the Republican far right to use against the candidate in the next primary. However, the Democrats have put together a "Dream Team," and that is good for gay voters, whether they are Democrats, Republicans, Independents, Greens, Libertarians or something else. Only when the Democrats are competitive will the Republican far right lose its grip on the party.

In Harris County, Donna Detamore, a candidate for a GOP nomination for a family district bench, attacked her primary opponent, Jim York, as unfit to be judge because, during his seven years as an associate judge, he has approved two co-parent adoptions by same-sex couples. Tuesday, Detamore lost and York won, a victory for Log Cabin Republican types like Jeffrey L. Dorrell and Jack Adams who publicized this gay baiting.

However, as long as the Republicans hold the courthouse in an iron grip, these threats make hostages of every judge who wants to remain a judge, even if he or she is not personally anti-gay.

These issues come up at the courthouse



more often than one would think. Last week, Judge Denise Collins ruled that a male-to-female transgender would be allowed to dress as a woman during her trial. Also, teen-ager Jon Marsh was convicted of the murder of friend Nathan Mayoral, whom Marsh told police he killed over guilt due to their alleged gay relationship. This case originated in juvenile court, where Marsh was certified to stand trial as an adult. Probate courts hear issues about gay relationships regularly.

Until the Democrats hold at least a few judgeships, the Harris County and Texas courts will be unfriendly places for gays, lesbians, bisexuals and transgenders. The Democrats have worked hard to recruit good judicial candidates for many races, and there are Libertarian and Green Party candidates in some of those races too.

It is not difficult to become politically active and to find something to do that uses whatever

talents you may have. Call your favorite candidate or the headquarters of the party that you support. Tell a politically active friend that you want to help. You will be put to work.

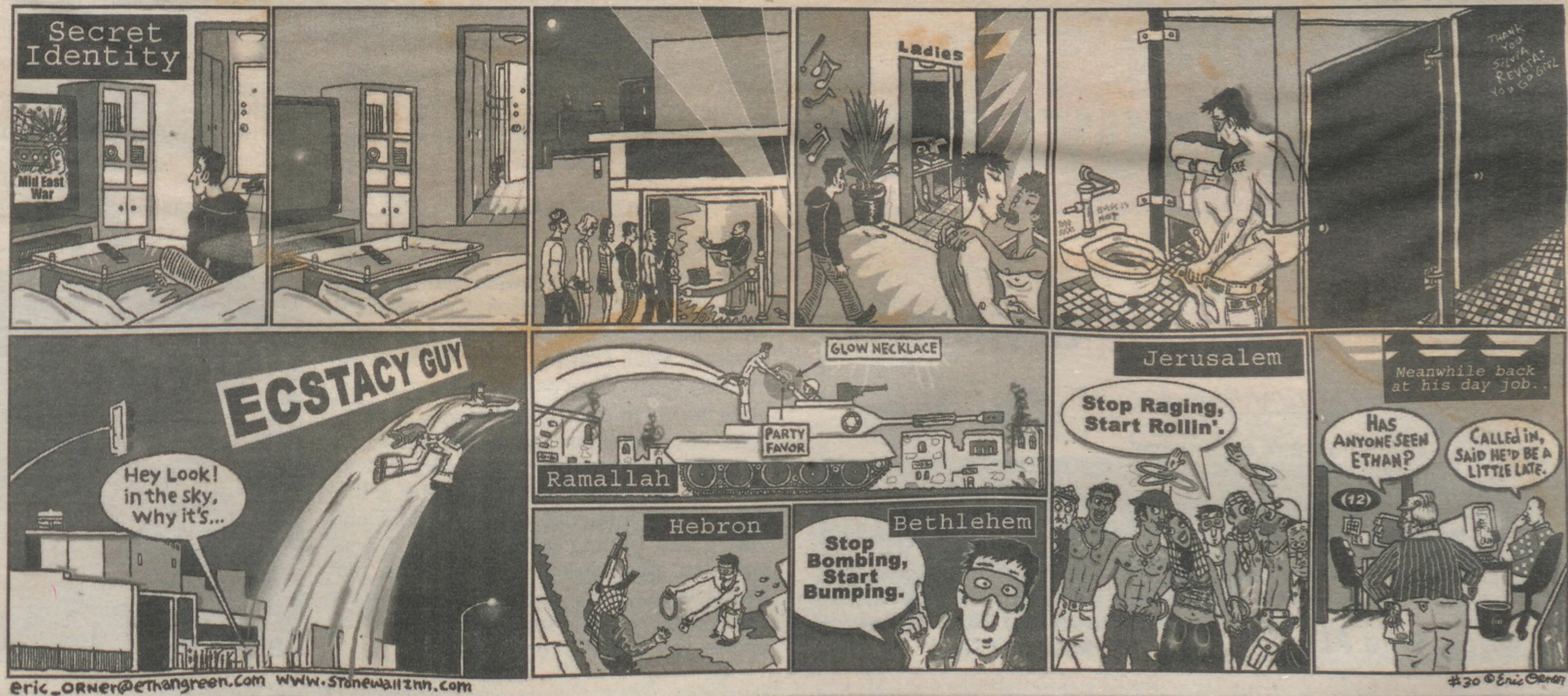
Candidates are often very accessible. They want to meet you. Go to your civic club meetings. When a friend has a "coffee" for a candidate, show up. Introduce yourself as gay and ask what the candidate thinks about a gay rights issue you care about.

On a national level, the Human Rights Campaign's Web site (www.hrc.org) rates members of Congress and has an upcoming Youth College for Campaign Training for young people ages 18-24. The deadline to sign up is May 1.

@ Ella Tyler is a freelance writer for Houston Voice and a longtime political activist in Houston. She may be reached via editor@houstonvoice.com.

The Mostly Unfabulous Social Life of Ethan Green

by Eric Orner



eric_orner@ethangreen.com www.stonewall13th.com

#30 © Eric Orner

on the record

"You might want not want to give me this until you see what I just played on 'Will & Grace.' I said, 'Oh it's me — I don't know if I can do it.' It's a bisexual, substance-abusing, out of control international photographer. I get to kiss both Will and Grace on the mouth. Oh, I get to dry hump both of them, too. That might not end up on network television. I didn't even know what it was, but I did it."



Actress **Glenn Close**, accepting a media achievement award from the Gay & Lesbian Alliance Against Defamation (New York, April 1)

"It is, I contend, a measure of the lack of achievement in the Queen Mother's life that such obsequious capital is made from her smallest contributions. Over the last few days, it has been suggested that by mentioning in South Africa that it had been nice to meet people of all races, she helped to usher in the end of apartheid. It has been mooted, too, that she was something of a [gay activist] on the quiet because she found Noël Coward charming company at parties."

Syndicated columnist **Deborah Orr** (London Independent, April 3)

"I think I've just been knighted. Or queened."

Jimmy Fallon, of NBC's "Saturday Night Live," after an unexpected lip-lock from Sir Ian McKellen (in drag as Dame Maggie Smith) during a "Weekend Update" segment



"I like boys, but I like girls better. It's just that we can't see the women to see if they are beautiful. But we can see the boys, and so we can tell which of them is beautiful."

Mohammed Daud, an unmarried 29-year-old in Kandahar, Afghanistan, about why the restrictions on the physical appearance and interaction with women has led him and many other men to have sex only with men and boys (Los Angeles Times, April 3)

"Ninety percent of men have the desire to commit this sin. But most are right with God and exercise control. Only 20 to 50 percent of those who want to do this actually do it."

Mullah Mohammed Ibrahim, a cleric in Kandahar, on the percentage of men who engage in homosexual sex (Los Angeles Times, April 3)

"Playgirl magazine is now offering the men of Enron a chance to pose nude. Coincidentally, the men of Enron will be getting the same offer from their cellmates."

Talk show host **Conan O'Brien** (CBS' "Late Night with Conan O'Brien," April 9)

"Cracklin' Rosie O'Donnell's at it again, railing against the supposed gay Nazis who were onto her sexual subterfuge all those years. ... Well, I didn't expect Rosie to like me after years of my pestering her to be sexually honest in public, but to say she didn't come out sooner because of the likes of me is just bad chronology. The reason I had to write all that critical stuff about her is that she wasn't coming out — she was lying and hiding and putting forth that Tom Cruise bull day after closety day. ... Does that sound like a woman about to bust down the closet door, but who was driven back in by openly gay people's complaints?"



Gay gossip columnist **Michael Musto** (Village Voice, April 5)



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Out on the Bayou

Houston VOICE • April 12, 2002



QUEER APRIL

Month is packed with film offerings of gay interest before summer mega-releases bombard Houston

By STEVE WARREN

BEFORE THE SUMMER blockbusters take over all movie screens in mid-spring, a brief window allows some gay films and some mainstream pictures of more-than-usual interest to be screened in Houston.

Here's a preview of this year's queer, queer April:

'The Fluffer'

Set in the world of gay porn, "The Fluffer" is neither fluffy nor overtly pornographic. Sean (Michael Cunio) has a crush on pornstar Johnny Rebel (Scott Gurney) and takes a job as a cameraman with his production company.

Johnny is only gay-for-pay, but sometimes needs a man's mouth to get him ready for a scene, and Sean's works better than Viagra. The story heads in totally unexpected directions as the cameo-laden film almost does for gay porn what "Zoolander" did for the fashion industry.

Despite its subject matter, the only thing hard about "The Fluffer" is forgetting it.

'Chop Suey'

Photographer Bruce Weber walks us through his scrapbook, paying tribute to other photographers and some of his favorite subjects.

Peter Johnson became a top model after Weber picked him from 1200 teenage wrestlers in 1996 and taught him to be comfortable posing nude.

Frances Faye was a lesbian jazz singer whose career spanned the late '30s through the '70s, and Teri Shepherd

> Continued on Page 14

'The Fluffer'

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'Chop Suey'

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www.zeitgeistfilm.com

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'New Best Friend'

Opens April 12
Official Web site
www.newbestfriend-themovie.com

'Southern Comfort'

April 14
HBO

'Burnt Money'

Opens June 14
Angelika Film Center
Bayou Place
510 Texas Ave.
Houston, TX 77002
713-225-5232
www.angelikafilmcenter.com/houston

appts.

friday, april 12

The Texas Tap Ensemble, Houston's leading not-for-profit dance company for area youth, opens its 2002 season with "Dancin'." Paula Sloan, Broadway choreographer, is the artist director for the ensemble. The performance will be a retrospective of the group's signature pieces, including "Go into Your Dance," "Varsity Drag," "Sing, Sing, Sing" and "Les Taleaux." 8 p.m. Heinen Theatre, 1763 West 34th. 713-686-9184. Also to be performed Saturday, April 13, at 2 and 8 p.m.

saturday, april 13

Houston Symphony presents "Mozart and Prokofiev" as part of its classical season. Conductor Roberto Abbado and symphony members introduce Houston audiences to Italian piano sensation Gianluca Cascioli. The young artist already is gaining much notice in the music world. The performance includes Rouse's "Rapture," Mozart's "Piano Concerto No. 26," and Prokofiev's "Symphony No. 5." 8 p.m. Saturday; also, 2:30 p.m. Sunday, April 14, and 8 p.m. Monday, April 15. Jones Hall for the Performing Arts, 615 Louisiana ST. 713-224-7575. www.houstonsymphony.org.

saturday, april 13

The Houston Metropolitan Dance Center presents its **spring concert** with new works by several choreographers. Those featured include choreographer Randy Duncan of Chicago; new works by Artistic Director Dorrell Martin; and a repeat of Trisha Owens' piece that premiered at Choreographers X6 in January. 8 p.m., plus a 2 p.m. performance April 14. Tickets: \$18-35. Houston Met, Wortham Center's Cullen Theater, 500 Texas St. The Met: 713-522-6375. www.houstonmet.com.

upcoming

Houston's PFLAG (Parents & Friends of Lesbians & Gays) and HATCH (Houston Area Teen Coalition of Homosexuals) Youth Scholarship Foundation presents **Spring Fling 2002**, a fund-raising dinner event to support scholarships for qualified gay, lesbian, bisexual and transgender youth. Tickets: \$100 or \$150 each. 6:30 p.m. cash bar, 7:30 p.m. dinner. Friday, April 19. The Warwick Hotel, 5701 Main St., Versailles Room. For reservations, call George Nevers at 713-526-0471 or Kevin Davidson at 713-661-2195.

upcoming

The Houston area transgender Unity Committee presents the 10th annual **Houston Transgender Unity Banquet**. Groups that are part of the committee are Community Awareness for Transgender Support (CATS), Gulf Coast Transgender Community (GCTC), Helping Trans-Genders Anonymous (HTGA), Tau-Chi Chapter of Tri-Ess, Texas Association for Transsexual Support (TATS) and Some Transgenders Are Guys (STAG). Tickets: \$35. 7 p.m. Saturday, April 20. Hilton Southwest, Regency Ballroom, 6780 Southwest Freeway. For more information, e-mail: Brandi at bindi-an@lcc.net; Brenda at Brenda@brendat.com; or Lilly at lillycath@aol.com.

Plethora of gay films to choose from in April

> Continued from Page 13
— her longtime partner and personal manager — talks about Faye's career and their relationship.

Other subjects include Robert Mitchum, Jan-Michael Vincent, Elizabeth Taylor and Diana Vreeland. As a filmmaker, Weber gets better all the time.

'Y Tu Mama Tambien' ('And Your Mother Too')

The Big Gay Moment in this Mexican masterpiece must be saved for a surprise, but there's plenty of eye candy for gay men while you're waiting, as teen stars Diego Luna and Gael Garcia Bernal have a hard time staying clothed.

As the boys go on a road trip with a married woman they crave, it's "Mexican Pie" with intelligence, insight and social comment. And the young protagonists have the energy of real teenagers, not Gap models.

This Alfonso Cuaron film set box office records in its home country, and deserves to do the same in the U.S.

'New Best Friend'

This collegiate drama is like "Waiting to Exhale" at a North Carolina university for younger women of all colors. It takes the "Rashomon" multiple-viewpoint

approach to show how poor Alicia (Mia Kirshner) wound up in a coma from an overdose after she started hanging with rich girls Hadley (Meredith Monroe), Sidney (Dominique Swain) and Julianne (Rachel True).

Alicia is shown as all things to all people, including a lover to Sidney. There's almost as much girl-girl as boy-girl action in this well-written, ostensibly mainstream effort.

The movie is a pleasant surprise, even if compromised by commercial demands and a budget that didn't always permit retakes or attention to detail.

'Southern Comfort'

People who watch this touching true-life documentary will come away with a deeper understanding of the plight of transgenders.

Robert Eads of Toccoa, Ga., is introduced as a 52-year-old female-to-male transsexual who is dying of ovarian cancer. Filmmaker Kate Davis shows him with his biological and chosen families during his final year.

Robert met his girlfriend Lola at Southern Comfort, an annual Atlanta convention for the transgender community, and their relationship deepens in the course of the year, as Robert tries to hold on for one more SoCo.

Robert and his friends are candid about their personal histories. There are laments

and complaints about the quality and expense of surgery available to transsexuals and the sadness of losing jobs, friends and families when they elect to live as their true gender.

Davis' well-made documentary offers comfort — Southern or otherwise — to other transgenders, perhaps empowering some to fight for better treatment from the medical establishment and society at large.

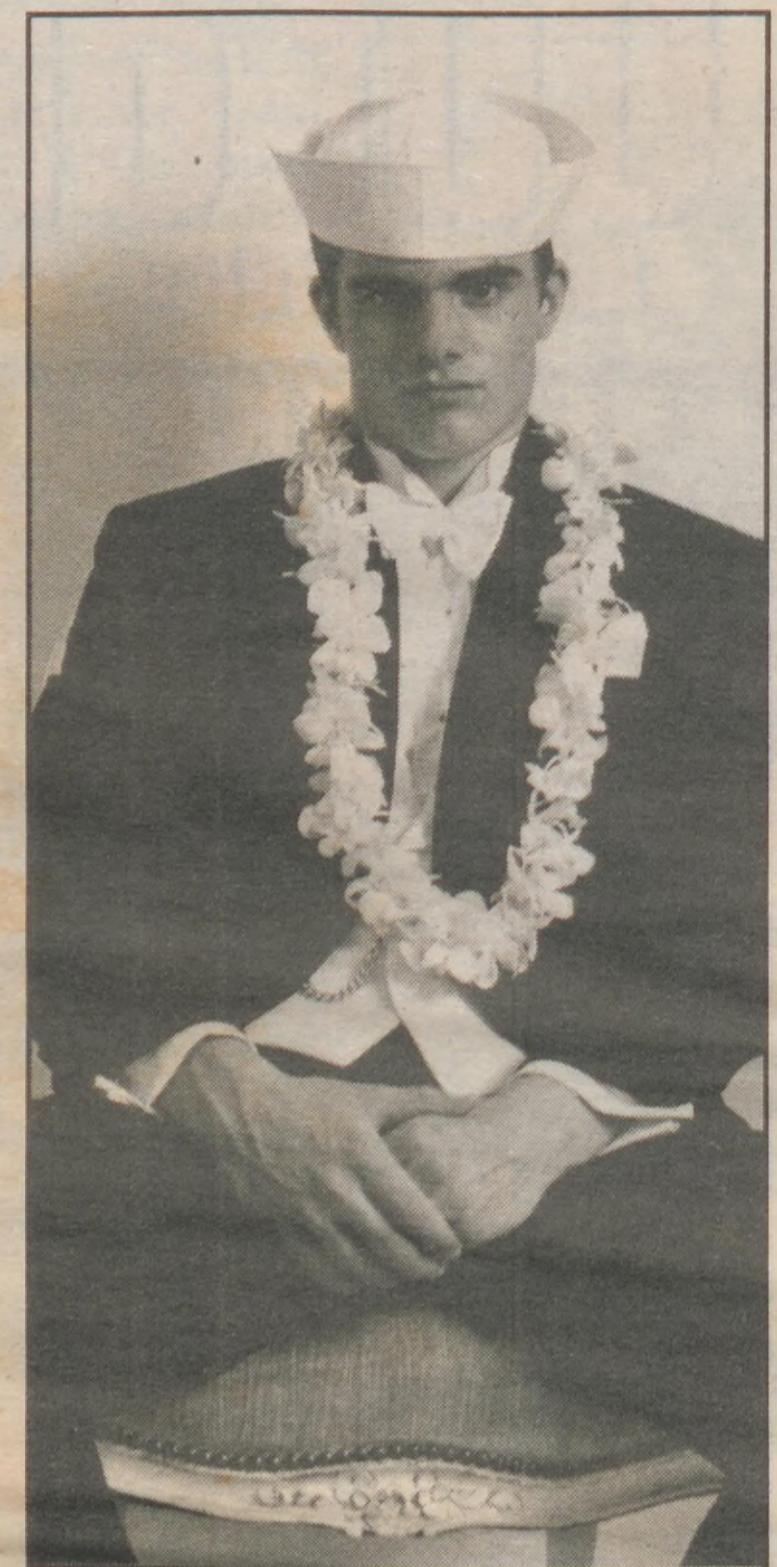
'Burnt Money'

Argentina's answer to "Dog Day Afternoon" is the wrong answer. But considered on its own merits, "Burnt Money" is a pretty good, very gay thriller about the aftermath of a real 1965 Buenos Aires bank robbery.

Between the opening and closing shootouts, the movie is more about sex than crime, and director Marcelo Pineyro doesn't miss every opportunity to get his young male leads out of at least their shirts.

Lovers Nene (Leonardo Sbaraglia) and Angel (Eduardo Noriega), called the "Twins" because they're inseparable, are both hyper-masculine, though tender with each other. Forget Butch and Sundance. Nene and Angle are Butch and Butch!

"Burnt Money" is well filmed and acted, but the gay romance and the caper plot don't mix well, and some kinks in the love story won't be to everyone's liking.



In 'Chop Suey,' photographer-turned-filmmaker Bruce Weber turns his best-selling photo book into an interesting story of his work and his subjects, from just-hot models to some more-famous faces.

★★★★ The First Great Date Movie of the Century...
 Lou Lumenick, NEW YORK POST

EBERT & ROEPER
 Richard Roeper
 "I loved this film!"

VOICELeslie Caimli
 "Heartfelt performances, and sparkling, bittersweet dialogue."

NEW YORK POST
 Lou Lumenick
 "Smart, utterly delightful, fresh and original... extremely funny and actingly romantic."

Rolling Stone
 Peter Travers
 "A smashing romantic comedy... It's a winner!"

kissing jessica stein

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 ANNE HUNTER-DE THAMARA
 Los Angeles Film Festival

YOUNG AND RUBEN
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YOUNG AND RUBEN
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 HEATHER JUERGENSEN SCOTT CAHLEN JAMIE McPHAIL
 and JAMES FELLSHAW
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 Music by DANIEL ZWISLOCK
 Hair by MATTHEW AMOTT
 JIM BLACK
 Produced by HEATHER JUERGENSEN & JENNIFER WESTFELDT
 Executive Producers STEVEN FRESTONE MARK PINCUS
 ANNE POPOVSKY
 Edited by KIRSTY JACOBS
 WINSLOW
 GREGG TULLMAN
 Produced by CHARLOTTE BOUNCE
 Based on the play by LAWRENCE SHAW
 Produced by CEDRIC H. WURFEL
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houston voice

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dining KATHREEN LEE

Café Lili serves up fresh cooked delicacies, treats patrons like family

Lebanese food excels

Although it may seem that Middle Eastern cuisine varies little from country to country, Lebanese food distinguishes itself by incorporating the passion of Eastern spices with the staples of the Mediterranean.

Many traditional Lebanese dishes are comprised of the same ingredients, such as chick peas, nuts, yogurt, cucumbers, cheese, tomatoes and sesame jumbled repeatedly in different ways to create a medley of different fares. The primary spices of parsley, mint, garlic, onions and lemons often accent these simple vegetable, grain, fruit and pulse dishes.

Eating is a social occasion in Lebanon, and a typical Lebanese meal always starts with mezze, an elaborate spread of appetizers used to initiate the gathered family and friends into a festive celebration of food and conversation. Café Lili, one of the few Lebanese restaurants in Houston, keeps with that tradition and offers its patrons a panoply of appetizers which number more than the sum of its entrees.

Choices of Laban (yogurt) (\$1.95), Lima Bean Salad (\$2.75), Moujadara (lentil pilaf) (\$2.75), and Feta cheese salad (\$3.25) abound. If you cannot make a decision, Café Lili offers a Sampler Plate (\$7.95) which includes a representative assembly of hummus, tabouli, Baba Ghanouj, meat pie, spinach pie and fried kibbie — all familiar Middle Eastern fares.

The owners boast that all their food, except for the pita bread, are home-cooked fresh daily, and one dip of the soft pita into Café Lili's spicy, rich and textured Baba Ghanouj is enough to verify that claim. The soft flavors of the grilled eggplant serve as a smooth pureed backdrop to the more biting lemon juice, tahini and garlic.

The grape leaves (\$3.25 for half a dozen), stuffed with a spicy mix of rice and ground chuck, are saturated in a sharp mix of lemon juice and sesame oil, and this acrid seasoning tenderizes the meat inside to create a succulent, yet raw, flavor. Anyone not in the mood for a heavy appetizer and looking for something lighter might try the Yogurt and Cucumber Salad (\$2.95). This cool mix of crisp cucumber slices and tangy yogurt is an incredibly refreshing dish that simultaneously coats and cleanses your palate with each bite.

Every evening, Café Lili offers dinner specials for two (usually \$21.95) which include a Kabob plate of beef, chicken or kafta — a flame broiled and seasoned mix of chopped beef, parsley and onions — and two or three of the many appetizers. I would particularly recommend the Chicken Kabob Sandwich (\$3.95). Served like a typical gyro, the soft broiled chunks of chicken breast ooze with marinade. The onions, garlic sauce and crisp pickles provide the perfect piquant contrast to the tender flavors of the chicken and the soft pita.

A typical Lebanese meal always starts with mezze ... Café Lili, one of the few Lebanese restaurants in Houston, keeps with that tradition.

Unlike many Mediterranean and Middle Eastern restaurants, Café Lili does not offer lamb as an optional meat choice, which was a slight disappointment. However, the preparation style and choice of lean beef used for the Shawerma and the Kafta plates adequately mimic the tender and succulent flavors usually found in lamb and help to cover that void.

No matter what your preference for meat, Café Lili's offers its patrons a wide variety of entrees and especially appetizers to choose from in a style and atmosphere that is more family-like than business. At the end of your feast, the owner stops by your table, asks about your meal, and pours you a complementary cup of their potent Lebanese coffee.

When not interacting with customers, Lili, the mastermind and chef, can often be found sitting in her "office" in the corner of the restaurant smoking her traditional hookah and welcoming incoming diners.

Large color pictures of Lebanon and the prominent display of the national symbol, the Cedar of Lebanon, adorn the walls. Pride in their heritage is evident in Café Lili's meticulous preparation of the cuisine, and as a patron, you will always know that you are being served as if you were family.



Café Lili
5757 Westheimer Plaza, Suite 112
713-952-6969

Food: ●●●●●●●●
Service: ●●●●●●●●
Value: ●●●●●●●●●●
Scene: ●●●●●●●●

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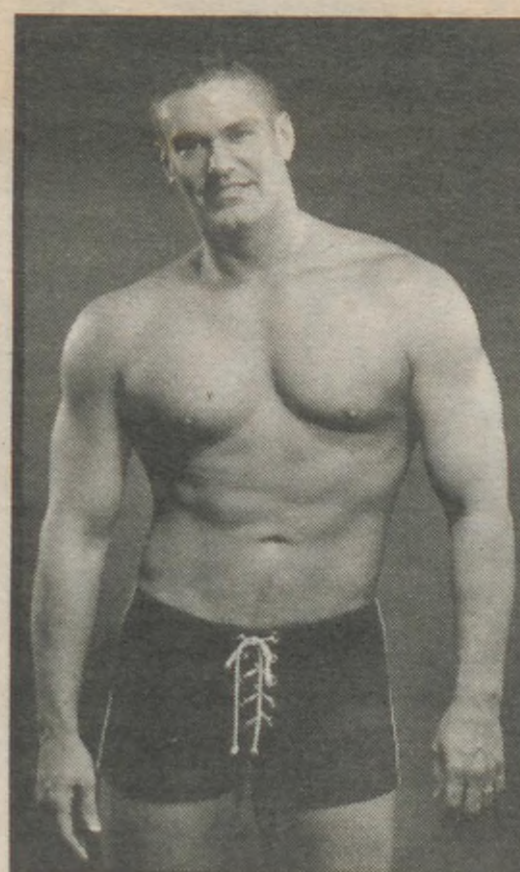
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res·o·lu·tion (rez'ō-lōō'shən)

The meaning according to Webster: n. 1. The act of resolving or reducing to a simpler form. 2. The purpose or course resolved upon. Law: A judgement or decision of a court.

sat·is·fac·tion (sat'is-fak'shən)

The meaning according to Webster: n. 1. The act of satisfying or the state of being satisfied; gratification. 2. That which satisfies; atonement; compensation. Law: Compensation for a loss or injury; vindication.

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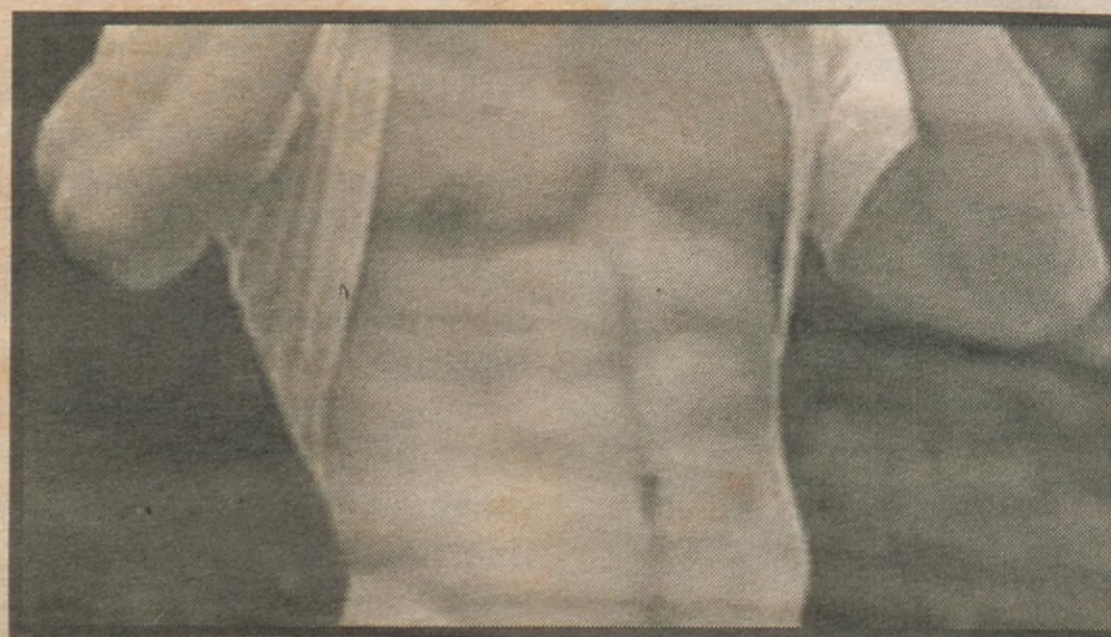
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Production of 'Misanthrope' hits all the right marks, from direction to acting

Moliere a la Main Street ... Oui!

I know what you're thinking: "A 17th century play — in verse? Au contraire, mon ami, not me!" "The Misanthrope," currently up at Main Street Theater, may change your mind. This wry comedy of courtly (and not so courtly) manners springs to life through April 21.

This kaleidoscope of French society and its hypocrisy could have been set at a ladies' lunch in The Houstonian's Grand Salon. Instead, scenic designer Boris Kaplun has given a stylish monochromatic coffee house, kind of like what Starbucks would have looked like in the era of French tragic comedy. The intimate space works well for this small casted work.

As with everything in the year 1622, everybody in art was representing something happening at the royal court. "The Misanthrope" is no exception. While such a person is typically defined as one who hates mankind, Moliere's misanthrope is styled as a character that just can't tolerate other men.

Alceste (Jef Johnson) is the frank crank and ultimate cynic, brutally honest and in love with Celimene (Kristina Short). She possesses all the traits that Alceste despises, yet he loves her nonetheless. Alceste's confidant, Philinte (Jerry Miller), is the antithesis of Alceste: diplomatic, moderate and inoffensive. ~~Completely put, almost~~ everyone in this show is paired with their dramatic opposite.

Though "The Misanthrope" is as wordy as any of its ilk, the lead quartet of actors rattles off the text with aplomb alacrity.

Main Street founding Artistic Director Rebecca Greene Udden has chosen Richard Wilbur's sparky translation of the original French text. This is where it gets tricky. Moliere composed the work in couplets of six beats, known as "alexandrines." This has been translated into something you might remember from freshman English class called "iambic pentameter" — rhyming couplets.

The danger here is that many works performed in this fashion have a seesaw effect resulting in phrases that cadence hither and yon like ships lost at sea. Blissfully, that is not the case in this production. Udden's directorial touch focuses primarily on the text itself, not on the way in which the words rhyme with one another. As a result, Moliere's original cleverness and convention surprises and delights, even in translation.

Though "The Misanthrope" is as wordy as any of its ilk, the lead quartet of actors rattles off the text with aplomb alacrity. Jef Johnson's lovesick, intolerant and curmudgeonly portrayal of Alceste runs the gamut of comedic expression. His subtle mimicry of



Houston's Main Street Theater presents 'The Misanthrope' through April 21.

others gives way to rage worthy of man demonically possessed, literally someone at their "wit's" end. His moral superiority and intolerance stew internally during the first part of the show only to eventually rupture during the last scene.

As Alceste's sidekick, Philinte, Jerry Miller delivers his text with absolute surety and crispness. In a part that could be easily overplayed, he never crosses into territory that would make his character appear persnickety.

Moliere has provided the female members of the cast with some choice repartee. In a masterful exchange, Alceste's dueling rivals, Celimene (Kristina Short) and Arsinoe (Michelle Britton) face each other in a catfight cloaked with politeness worthy of a scene from an old "Dynasty" rerun. Both ladies verbally guillotine one another with equal prowess, the coquette and the dowager each drawing sufficient amounts of blood. Britton's "down home" accent is well executed, something that has been a challenge for Main Street actors in the past.

Aside from one blaringly affected character, and some unnecessary slapstick elements (a directorial misstep in this otherwise well conceived production), the cast successfully walks the tightrope between seriousness and foppery.

Moliere's "Misanthrope" is by no means one-dimensional and neither is this production. In spite of the age of this work and its unique structure, we are offered a refreshing piece of theater where prose is converted to poetry and delivered by cast of solid actors.

i 'The Misanthrope'

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community calendar

saturday, april 13

Kolbe Breakfast. Held the second Saturday of each month. 9:30 a.m. Kolbe Project, 1030 Heights Blvd. 713-861-1800. www.kolbeproject.org.

every saturday

All-Spanish Worship Service/Culto en español. 6 p.m. Resurrection Metropolitan Community Church, 2026 W. 11th. 713-303-9403 or 713-861-9149.

After Hours. KPFT 90.1 FM. 12 a.m. to 3 a.m. 713-526-5738.

Dignity mass. 7:30 p.m. for gay Catholics. 713-880-2872.

Gay & Lesbian Breakfast Club. 9:30 a.m. 281-437-0636.

Houston Outdoor Group. Memorial Park walk. 9:30 a.m., meet in front of tennis center. Jimmy, 713-864-7299.

Houston Wrestling Club. Practice. 1:30 p.m. 713-453-7406.

Resurrection MCC. Noche Espiritual, Spanish language worship, 6 p.m. 713-861-9149.

Q-Patrol. Volunteers walk the streets to help prevent hate crimes. 9:30 p.m. Convene at community center. 713-528-SAFE. E-mail: qpatrolinc@aol.com

St. Stephen's Episcopal Church. Rosary 8 a.m. 1805 W. Alabama. 713-528-6665.

Houston Gay & Lesbian Community Center. Drop-in noon-4 p.m. • CATS (Community Awareness for Transgender Support) Board of Directors meeting, 1-4 p.m. • 803 Hawthorne. 713-524-3818.

sunday, april 14

PFLAG-Galveston. Meeting. 2 p.m. 713-867-9020.

SISTERS of Houston. SISTERS (Sharing Inner Strength Encouragement & Realistic Support) is a support group for African-American lesbians. Regular meeting at 3:30 p.m. at Houston Gay & Lesbian Community Center, 803 Hawthorne. 713-524-3818. SISTERS voice mail: 713-695-8089.

every sunday

Anarchist Black Cross Federation/Anarchist Reading Group. 1 p.m. www.houstonabc.org. 713-595-2103

Bering Memorial United Methodist Church. Services at 8:30 & 10:50 a.m. Sunday school 9:45 a.m. 713-526-1017.

Community Gospel. Service at 11 a.m. & 7 p.m. Sunday School for children 10 a.m. 713-880-9235 or www.communitygospel.org.

Covenant Church, Ecumenical, Liberal Baptist. Service 9:30 a.m. & education hour 11 a.m. 713-668-8830.

Emerson Unitarian Church. Adult education, 10 a.m. Service, 11 a.m. Lunch available at noon. www.emersonhou.org.

First Congregational Church (Memorial). Service at 10 a.m. Christian Education, 11:30 p.m. 713-468-9543 or fcc-houston.org.

First Unitarian Universalist Church. Services at 9:30 & 11:30 a.m. Brunch available, 10:30 a.m. 713-526-5200. church@firstuu.org.

Gay Catholics of St. Anne's-Houston. 5 p.m. worship service. Dinner and social. alexcam@wt.net. 713-623-0930.

Grace Lutheran Church. Sunday school for all ages 9 a.m. Service 10:30 a.m. 713-528-3269.

Houston Mission Church. Service 10:30 a.m. 713-529-8225.

Houston Tennis Club. 9 a.m. to noon. Memorial Park at the Tennis Center. houstontennisclub@aol.com

Maranatha Fellowship Metropolitan Church. 10 a.m. service. 3333 Fannin, Suite 106. 713-528-6756.

Rainbow Riders. A bicycle club for women. 713-869-1686.

Resurrection MCC. Services, 9 and 11 a.m. Children and Youth Sunday School, 10 a.m. Children's service, 11 a.m. 713-861-9149.

St. Stephen's Episcopal Church. Holy Eucharist, Rite I, 7:45 a.m.; Holy Eucharist, Rite II, 8:55 a.m.; Education hour, 10 a.m.; Choral Eucharist, 11 a.m. 713-528-6665.

Sunday Brunch. For HIV-positive men. Price-fixed buffet. 11 a.m. Riva's, 1117 Missouri St. Paul, 713-880-0690. e-mail: PoznFubb@aol.com.

The Women's Group. Meeting and discussion. 10:45 a.m. 713-529-8571.

Thoreau Unitarian Universalist Congregation. Adult discussion, 9:45 a.m. Service, 11 a.m. 281-277-8882. www.tuuc.org.

Unitarian Fellowship of Galveston County. 502 Church St. Service, 10:30 a.m. 409-765-8330.

Unitarian Fellowship of Houston. Adult forum, 10 a.m. Service, 11 a.m. 713-686-5876.

Houston Gay & Lesbian Community Center. Drop-in 2-5 p.m. • STAG (Some Transgenders Are Guys) meeting, 7 p.m. • 803 Hawthorne. 713-524-3818.

monday, april 15

every monday

AIDS Mastery. 7 p.m. Montrose Counseling Center. 713-529-0037.

Frost Eye Clinic. Free eye exams for people with HIV. 713-830-3000.

gayDAR. Wellness Community. Support Group. 7 p.m. 713-526-1017, Ext. 211.

Gay Fathers/Fathers First. Support group. 8-9:30 p.m. Grace Lutheran Church. Tom, 713-726-8736.

www.geocities.com/gaydadshouston/
Gay Men's Chorus of Houston. Open rehearsals, 7 p.m. 713-521-7464.

Grief & Divorce Support Groups. 7 p.m. Bering. 713-526-1017, ext. 208.

Houston Tennis Club. 9 a.m. Memorial Park at the Tennis Center. 713-692-2703.

Kolbe Project. Eucharist 7:30 p.m. 713-861-1800.

Lesbian & Gay Voices Radio Show. 8-10 p.m. KPFT 90.1. 713-529-1223.

Northwoods AIDS Coalition Food Pantry. Open 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. 936-441-1614.

Houston Lesbian & Gay Community Center. Drop-in 6-9 p.m. • 803 Hawthorne. 713-524-3818.

tuesday, april 16

Center for AIDS. Men's mixer, 7 p.m. 713-527-8210.

every tuesday

Bering Support Network. Lunch Bunch Gang, 11 a.m. 713-526-1017.

CPR Classes. 3 p.m. 713-607-7700.

For Mature Audiences Only. Support group. 7 p.m. Bering Memorial UMC. 713-526-1017.

Free HIV Testing. Montrose Clinic. 8 p.m. to midnight. Club Houston. 713-830-3000.

Gay Men's Process Group. 7 p.m. 3316 Mt. Vernon. 713-526-8390.

Gay youth. New program for young gay males, ages 18-29. 7 p.m. 614 Avondale. 713-533-9786.

Helping Cross Dressers Anonymous. Support group. 7 p.m. 713-524-0439.

Houston Women's Rugby Team. No experience necessary. Practice, 6:30-8:30. Westland YMCA. Kay, 713-208-1529.

HTGA. Support group. 7 p.m. 713-520-0439.

Northwoods AIDS Coalition Food Pantry. Open 10 a.m.-6 p.m. 281-633-2555.

Rainbow Ranglers. Free C&W dance lessons. Brazos River Bottom. Two-hour free dance workshops. No partner needed. Beginner. 2 Step, Waltz, Shuffle & Swing. Drop in anytime. 8:30 p.m. 713-528-9192.

Houston Lesbian & Gay Community Center. Drop-in 6-9 p.m. • 803 Hawthorne. 713-524-3818.

wednesday, april 17

every wednesday

Bering Memorial United Methodist Church. Dinner, 6:30 p.m. Various support groups, 7 p.m. 713-526-1017.

Bible Study. Noon & 6:30 p.m. St. Stephen's Episcopal. 713-526-6665.

Free HIV Testing. Thomas Street Clinic. 9 a.m.-1 p.m. 2015 Thomas St. OraSure method. Call for appointment. Sharon, 713-873-4157.

Houston Pride Band. Open rehearsal. 1307 Yale. 713-524-0218.

Houston Tennis Club. 7:30-9 p.m. Park at the Tennis Center. houstontennisclub@aol.com

Lesbian Literature Discussion Group. 7 p.m. Meets every other Wednesday. 713-383-6738.

Northwoods AIDS Coalition Food Pantry. 10 a.m.-6 p.m. 936-441-1614.

Spiritual Uplift service. 7 p.m. Bible Study 7:30 p.m. Resurrection MCC. 713-861-9149.

Houston Lesbian & Gay Community Center. Drop-in 6-9 p.m. • Free HIV testing, counseling, 6-9 p.m. • Houston Committee for People's Radio, 6:30 p.m. • Bi-Net Houston, 7:30 p.m. • 713-524-3818.

thursday, april 18

Bi-Net Houston. Mixed gender meeting. 7 p.m. 713-524-3818

Gulf Coast Archives & Museum. Meeting. 713-227-5973.

Mayoral Liaison's Roundtable. Meet with Janine Brunjes, Mayor Lee Brown's liaison to gays, at the community center, 803 Hawthorne. 7 p.m. Center phone: 713-524-3818.

every thursday

Community Gospel. Service. 7:30 p.m. 713-880-9235. www.communitygospel.org.

Free HIV Testing. By the Montrose Clinic. 8 p.m. to midnight. Toyz Disco. 713-830-3000.

Freelance Art Classes. By Kermit Eisenhut for HIV+ individuals. 1-4 p.m. Lunch provided. 713-523-9530.

FrontRunners. Running club. 6:30 p.m. 713-522-8021.

GLOBAL. Gay, Lesbian or Bisexual Alliance at the University of Houston-Central Campus. Weekly meeting, 6 p.m. e-mail: nguyen0023@hotmail.com.

Hep C Recovery. Support group. 6:30 p.m. Bering. 713-526-1017, Ext. 211.

HIV Art Therapy Program. 1-4 p.m. Kermit Eisenhut. 713-523-9530.

Houston Women's Rugby Team. No experience necessary. Practice, 6:30-8:30. Westland YMCA. Kay, 713-208-1529.

Lambda Skating Club. 8 p.m. Tradewinds. Skating Rink. www.lambdaroll.org. 713-410-7215.

Northwoods AIDS Coalition Food Pantry. 10 a.m.-6 p.m. 281-633-2555.

Rainbow Ranglers. Free C&W dance lessons. Two hours free line dance instruction. No partner required. Drop in anytime. Brazos River Bottom. 8:30 p.m. 713-528-9192.

STD exams & treatment. Free. AVES. 713-626-2837.

Spanish Charla Conversation Group. Agora, 7 p.m. E-mail charlahouston@msn.com. 713-416-7203.

Women's Clinic. Montrose Clinic. 713-830-3000.

Houston Lesbian & Gay Community Center. Drop in 6-9 p.m. • 803 Hawthorne. 713-524-3818.

friday, april 19

every friday

Free HIV Testing. Thomas Street Clinic. 9 a.m.-1 p.m. 2015 Thomas St. OraSure method. Call for appointment. Sharon, 713-873-4157.

Freelance Art Classes. By Kermit Eisenhut for HIV+ individuals. 9:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. Light breakfast provided. 713-523-9530.

Frost Eye Clinic. Free eye exams for people with HIV. 713-830-3000.

Govinda Yoga Club. Free yoga classes at 3115 West Loop South, No. 21. 713-439-0455.

Houston Area Teen Coalition of Homosexuals (H.A.T.C.H.) Meeting. 713-942-7002.

Houston Tennis Club. 7:30-9 p.m. Memorial Park at the Tennis Center. houstontennisclub@aol.com

Kolbe Project. Morning prayer, 10 a.m. 713-861-1800.

Lesbian & Gay Voices. KPFT 90.1 FM. 7 p.m. 713-526-5738.

Q-Patrol. Volunteers walk the streets to help prevent hate crimes. 9:30 p.m. Convene at community center. 713-528-SAFE. E-mail: qpatrolinc@aol.com

Houston Lesbian & Gay Community Center. Drop-in 6-9 p.m. • 803 Hawthorne. 713-524-3818.

volunteer/self-help

Gay & Lesbian Help Line. For gay, lesbian, bisexual, transgender and questioning youth. Staffed by volunteers of all ages. 6-11 p.m. Monday-Friday, 5-10 p.m. Saturday and Sunday. 888-340-GLBT.

Gay & Lesbian Switchboard Houston. Volunteers offer a friendly ear to callers in need of information, nonjudgmental support, crisis intervention and referral services, emergency shelter and advocacy services to crime survivors who may need someone to accompany them to a hospital for medical attention or assistance in filing a police report. 713-529-3211

Montrose Counseling Center Permanent Endowment, Inc., a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization, is looking for an attorney who wants to give back to the community by providing pro bono legal counsel to its Board of Directors. Attorneys with estate planning or real estate experience are encouraged to respond. Please send a letter of inquiry with your resume/CV to: Montrose Counseling Center Endowment — LC, Attn: Executive Director, 701 Richmond Avenue, Houston, TX 77006, or fax to 713.526.4367. No phone calls.

Peer Listening Line. Youth only. Staffed by GLBT youth for gay, lesbian, bisexual, transgender and questioning youth. 5-10 p.m. Monday-Friday. 800-399-PEER.

Scholarship foundation. The Amethyst Scholarship Foundation, a 501(c)(3) not-for-profit organization, seeks two executive board members and ASF Community Event volunteers. The group provides college scholarships to gay, lesbian, bisexual and transgender students. 210-372-2020. www.amethystscholarship.org.

To list an event, call 713-529-8490, fax at 713-529-9531, or e-mail editor@houstonvoice.com. Deadline is Monday at 5 p.m.

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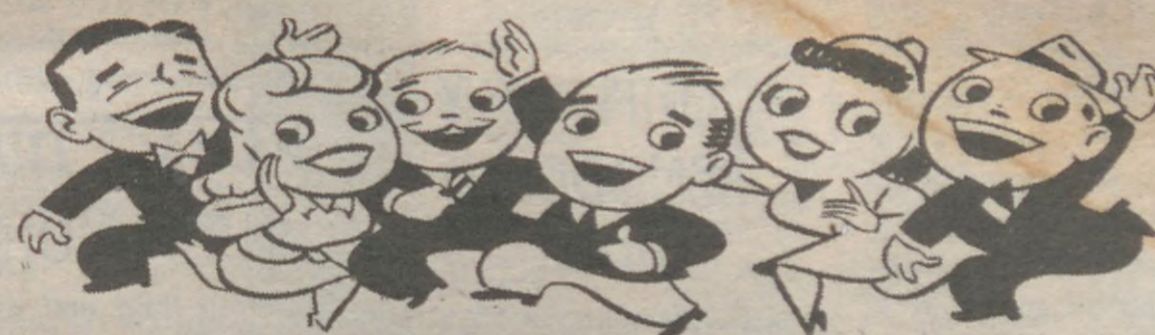

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houston classifieds

Houston Classifieds deadline is Monday at 11 a.m.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

NEW SOCIAL GROUP

Looking for former Jehovah Witnesses for a social group • 713-941-1682 • gayjwhouston@aol.com.

BOY OF MONTROSE

Pick up your application at the Ripcord for this June 30 fund-raiser.

DAY SHELTER

Needs new or used clothing and shoes in good condition • Contact Etalia or Ruth at 713-528-5667 • 402 Pacific

MR. PRIME CHOICE

We are looking for "Prime Choice" vest of our former and deceased winners. Vests are to be placed in the archives. If you have one or know where any of the vests are, please call Don Gill at 713-521-0911

AUDITIONS

BIENVENUE THEATRE

The Theatre in Touch will be holding auditions for two upcoming shows • "Me Star ... You Chorus" and "Naked Boys Singing 02" • Needs male singers who dance and move well • 18-35 yrs. • Call Christian @713-426-2626 or 713-875-9244.

AUTOS FOR SALE

1996 BMW Z3 TAKE A TEST SPIN!

Black exterior/Black leather interior • New black soft top • Chameleon CD • 5 speed • 52k miles • \$15k • 713-524-5414

EMPLOYMENT

ARE YOU THAT SPECIAL NURSE?

Adult day care for non-critical HIV patients seeks full-time nurse weekdays, occasional hospice work, nights/weekends • Pleasant work place in Montrose • Competitive salary and good benefits • Psych/rehab experience • Spanish speaking • RN preferred, but will consider all applicants • Pick up application at Bering Care Center, 1427 Hawthorne.

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Looking for cashiers and floor managers
• Houston 3100 Fannin
• Dallas 2509 Pacific
• Austin 5815 Airport
No phone calls please!

STREET OUTREACH EDUCATOR • PT

Educate the Houston GLBT community • Bilingual a plus • Experience in HIV/AIDS education preferred • TDH grant funded position • 10-20 hours per week • Great job for student or recent grad • Mail or fax: Director of Education • AIDS Foundation Houston • 3202 Wesleyan Annex • Houston, TX 77027 • Fax 713-623-4029 • No phone calls, please.

Earn what you are worth • Experienced grant research and development agent needed to target private foundation funding • AIDS Housing • % commission position • 713-521-1613.

SONOMA

Now hiring all positions • Apply in person • 1415 California • Mon-Fri • 1-4 pm.

FREE EMPLOYMENT ASSISTANCE

Offering free employment assistance to HIV+ individuals. Including job preparedness, training, resume development, and job searching assistance. For more info call 713-981-1543

FOR SALE/RENT

SPACIOUS 1B/1BA

Private balcony with beautiful view of Downtown • All bills paid • \$950/mo. • No pets • 281-705-7277.

OPEN HOUSE APRIL 21, 2-5pm

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HEIGHTS

1B Garage apartment • 900 SF • New construction • Granite countertops • W/D • Hardwoods • For viewing, call 713-822-7482.

PRIDEREALTY.COM SALES/RELOCATION

1B • Small patio • Dishwasher • Located in Heights • \$600 +\$50 deposit • Call for apartment after 11am • 713-863-1349

MONTROSE COTTAGES

1/1 Garden Cottage • \$300 and up • Reserved for People Living with AIDS • 90 day MAX • Phone, furnished, AC • Maid paid • No deposit • Sliding scale fee • No drugs or Alcohol on property • AIDS Housing Coalition AHCH • 713-521-1613

OFFICE FOR RENT

Second floor office available at Houston Lesbian & Gay Community Center • 803 Hawthorne • 14' X 12'6" • Nonprofit GLBT organizations preferred as tenant partners, but all inquiries welcomed. Call Tim Brookover @ 713-524-3818

Furnished rooms in Montrose from \$295/week • For single, quiet person • Free cable tv, breakfast, parking, maid service • With queen bed, kitchen, & laundry access • Montrose Inn • 408 Avondale • 713-520-0206

HOME IMPROVEMENT

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Sports • relaxation • Deep tissue • Stress reducing • MT# 4397 • Tom • 713-520-6018.

Q Puzzle

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	
14				15					16				
17			18						19				
20			21				22		23				
24			25			26							
			27		28	29			30		31	32	
33	34	35							36				
37				38			39	40			41		
42			43	44			45		46	47			
48						49							
			50			51			52		53	54	55
56	57						58	59			60		
61						62		63			64		
65						66					67		
68						69					70		

"EVEN STEPHEN"


Across

- James Beard Foundation concern
- Coming soon
- "Look ____, I'm Sandra Dee"
- Sometime Capote associate
Chaplin
- Australian similar to 31-Down
- Rosie's frequent fill-in Caroline
- Stephen Fry series
- HIV exam, e.g.
- Concern of Rev. Troy Perry
- Oral affirmations
- Almodovar's dough
- Improvise, like Amanda Bearse
- Trim on Liberace's limo
- Trunks of Mapplethorpe's photos
- "The Lion King" protagonist
- Kopay's field
- "The Other Side of ____"
- ____Kosh B'Gosh (kids' clothing line)
- Virginia Stephen's married name
- Caesar's lang.
- Analyze for gold
- Cocks
- Nathan Lane's " ____ Hunt"
- Porn star Ryan
- Like one's nuts, perhaps
- City loved in song by Cole Porter
- Sheds for those hung like a horse

Down

- Snake with loose skin around the head
- ____ out (put it in the cup like Spencer-Devlin)
- With "fours," doggy-style
- Forerunner of Col. Cammermeyer
- Give consent to carry out ____
- Moves the head
- Stud Adams
- First letters at Beth Chayim Chadashim
- Fruit peeler
- Diana, to the Greeks
- Stephen Spender novel
- High place with a flat top
- Avoids family cooking, with "out"
- Meat that gets stuck
- He knows how to swing his bat
- Addams family cousin
- In pink, for example
- Hard-core
- ____mo sexual (decelerated porn)?
- Hairy one in the den
- They crawl all over your mound
- Head given in a bar
- ____ buco (trattoria dish)
- Four-posters for foreplay, for some
- Mauna ____
- Cloud in the tree tops
- How to enjoy sex?
- "Lesbians ignite!" e.g.
- Tone of many Gertrude Stein photos
- Singing syllable
- Album of Etheridge
- Lions and Tigers and Bears
- Witherspoon of "Legally Blonde"
- Story of Greeks that busted some Trojans
- Fore attachments?
- Russian River deposit
- Peter the Great
- Picks out, with "for"
- Vanilla
- Gene material
- Snatch

Answers on Page 21



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MASSAGE BY KEN

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M2M

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SWEDISH MASSAGE BY PATRICK

• Relaxation • Myotherapy • Deep tissue • (RMT#024589) 713-807-7109 • 713-501-9852. • 1 1/2 hours for \$50. 1 Hr. \$40.

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ROOMMATES

Available June 1 • 2/2 furnished (except 2nd bedroom) apartment @ Chimney Rock and Bellfort • W/D • Water • Cable • Gated • \$385/mo. • \$250 deposit • Call Addison • 713-723-0377.

Vacancy • Male • \$350/mo. • Includes utilities • 2 bedroom furnished apartment • Montrose & Westheimer • Open July 15 • 713-521-1712.

GWM seeks roommates to share lovely 4B home in SW Houston • Includes private in-ground pool/spa • Fully-equipped kitchen • Laundry • Convenient to bus stop • \$500/mo. 1B • \$950/mo. 2B • 713-270-0657 • e-mail for more info Richard@domani.net.

1 roommate to share 3B home in Southwest Houston • Smoking OK • No pets • All bills paid • \$395/mo. • 713-773-9029.

VOLUNTEERS

STEVEN'S HOUSE

Seeking caregivers for transitional housing program for HIV+ adults • Must have high school diploma and experience as a caregiver • Contact Ms. Straham @ 713-522-5757 or fax resume to 713-522-1910

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Answers to Q puzzle on page 20

S	D	E	B		H	S	V	M	S		Y	V	R	T		
N	V	A	S	V		V	T	N	V	M		D	N	V	L	
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K	L	E		B	O		S	E			T	A	B	S		
S				P	A	R		D	E	T	V	S				
				R	E	R		Y	E	A	S	E		M		
S				S	T	E	R	S	O	O	R		Y	S	S	V
T	V	L	A			F	L	O	L	W			H	S	O	
N				A	S	P	A		L	L	V	B	O	T	F	O
A				M	S		S	O	S		R	O				
				E		M	O	R	O			B	I	T	A	V
S				T	E	S		P	E	S	Y	A		L	R	E
T								R	E	R	A	D	D	E	R	B
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E								P	A	N	T	A	O	N	A	O
																C

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3/11/02

astrology JILL DEARMAN



My Stars!

April 12-18



ARIES (March 21 to April 20)

Mars and Saturn transit the communication sector of your chart this week, which suggests that you can get what you want if you ask for it directly. A Libra is looking out for and listening to you.



TAURUS (April 21 to May 20)

Mercury and Venus transit your sign in mid-April and help you to be a better communicator in love. Remember, it's not just your words that count, dear, it's your tone of voice. Another Taurus speaks your language.



GEMINI (May 21 to June 21)

Friends take precedence over work during mid-April, so make sure you're there for them during their dramas and crises. You are the one with the cool head, believe it or not! A Capricorn needs your objectivity.



CANCER (June 22 to July 22)

Mercury and Venus are shedding some light into your dark corners, so do what you need to do to lighten up some of your more bizarre emotional connections. Another Cancer wants to understand you better.



LEO (July 23 to Aug. 22)

You are getting closer to finding what you need in your career. But you may have to sacrifice something you thought you needed. A Pisces can teach you about letting go and moving on.



VIRGO (Aug. 23 to Sept. 22)

You know what to do about a troublesome relationship — now you just need to act on it. An Aquarius can help you to figure out the structure you need in your life.



LIBRA (Sept. 23 to Oct. 22)

The Sun finishes up a stint in your house of love this week; make the most of it. When you are open and vulnerable, you receive so much more affection than when you wear your manipulative hat. A Taurus doesn't want to play games.



SCORPIO (Oct. 23 to Nov. 21)

Collaborations are favored now thanks to the combined influence of Venus and Mars. You have a chance to learn the art of compromise. Don't blow it, honey! A Gemini teaches you diplomacy ... and discretion.



SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22 to Dec. 21)

This is a key time for you to put energy into creative pursuits. Don't just think outside the box. Throw the damn box out, doll! A Gemini wants to break a few rules with you.



CAPRICORN (Dec. 22 to Jan. 19)

You are ready to change your shady ways, sweetie. Just when you thought your ethics were gone, they miraculously return! A Sag helps you to see the error of your ways.



AQUARIUS (Jan. 20 to Feb. 18)

It's easy for you to discover your true self, if you avoid distractions, darling! A Cancer can help you to find what you need, on a deeper level (you superficial slut).



PISCES (Feb. 19 to March 20)

The Sun in your money sector brings you a bit of luck in the material world. Take this as a sign that you can get what you need during the rest of the year.

Jill Dearman is the author of the best-selling "Queer Astrology for Men" and "Queer Astrology for Women" (both from St. Martin's Griffin). For information on charts and consultations, call 212-841-0177 or e-mail QScopes@aol.com.

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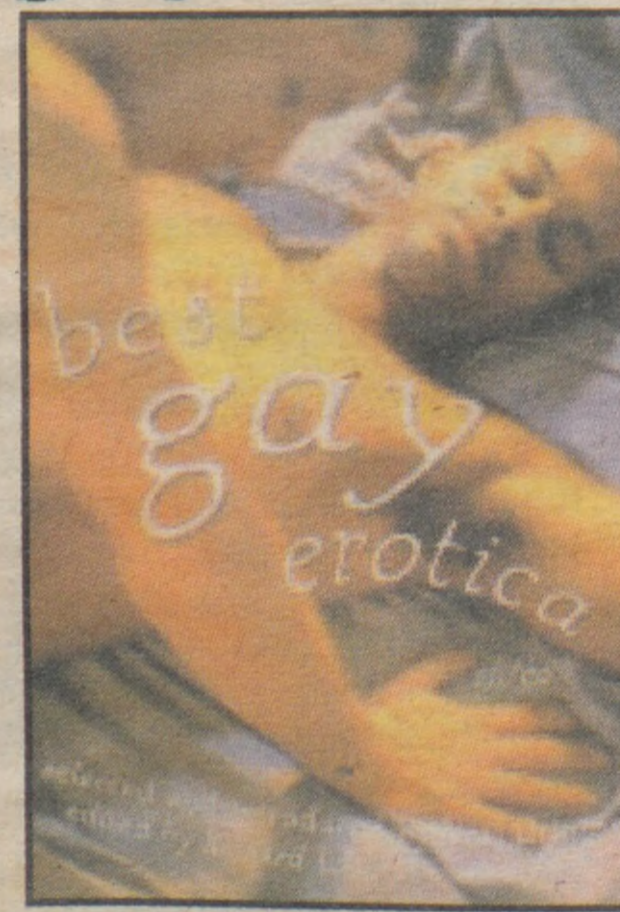
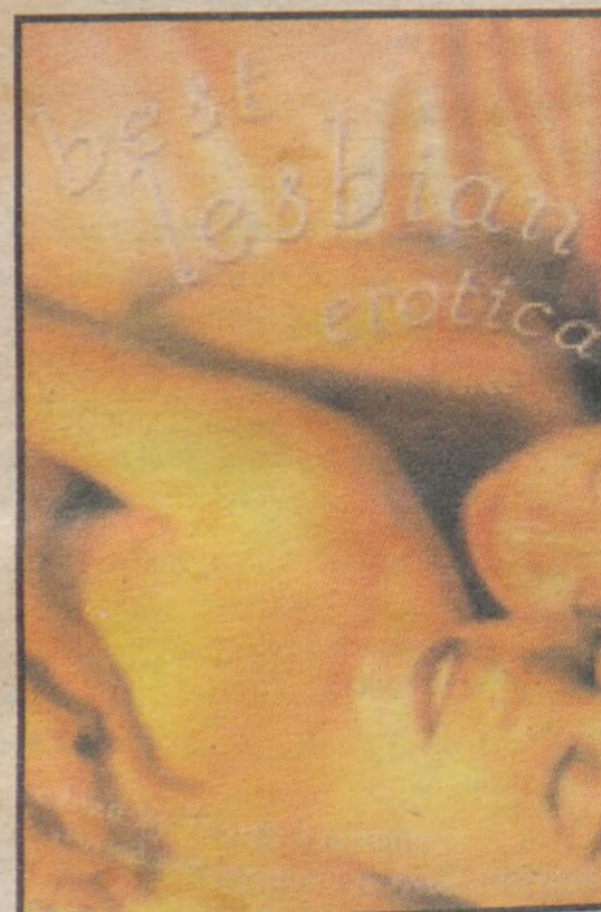
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