



Loud & Proud

Author James Earl Hardy releases next book, talks about black gay life.

Page 15

Texas bishops opposed election of gay Episcopalian



Don A. Wimberly, bishop coadjutor of Texas, led other Episcopal bishops across the state in voting against the recent confirmation of Bishop-elect Gene Robinson, who is gay. The group later released a statement to its membership denouncing the decision.

Lead bishop seeks guidance by requesting meeting with Anglican leader

By LAUREL FAUST

As the Episcopal Church grappled with the controversial issues of confirming an openly gay bishop and authorizing a national liturgy for same-sex blessings earlier this month, five Texas bishops voted against the blessings and the confirmation.

Don A. Wimberly, bishop coadjutor of Texas, led James E. Folts, C. Wallis Ohl, James M. Stanton and Philip M. Duncan in voting against Rev. Gene Robinson's nomination.

The group released a statement immediately following the Aug. 5 vote to make Robinson bishop-elect of New Hampshire.

"We believe that the New Hampshire election is unfortunate for everyone in

the church, because it forces a political rather than a pastoral resolution to our disagreements," the statement said. "It simultaneously funnels the creative energy of the faithful away from mission into internal conflict.

"In terms of our position in this matter, we have consistently opposed the ordination of non-celibate homosexuals, and we oppose the confirmation of the New Hampshire election," the statement concluded. "We ask your continuing prayers for the church."

Wimberly also signed a mailing Aug. 13 to the statewide membership of 160 parishes and missions denouncing the election and the decision to officially condone blessing same-sex unions.

In the letter, Wimberly said he wants to meet with the Archbishop of Canterbury to seek "guidance and wisdom" in dealing with the election of the nation's first gay bishop.

"Our church is facing a significant challenge to our common life," the letter said. "In light of this challenge, I am in

conversation with other American bishops who are requesting a meeting with Archbishop (Rowan) Williams to seek his guidance and wisdom."

Public opinion polls show that many people in the U.S. are uncomfortable with the idea of legalizing same-sex marriages.

A Washington Post poll released last week found that 47 percent of regular-church-attending Americans would leave their places of worship if their ministers blessed same-sex couples.

The same poll also found support for civil unions is falling, with only 37 percent supporting gay couples receiving many of the same benefits married couples enjoy. That number had been above 50 percent in a Gallup survey last spring.

Many within the Episcopal church were disappointed by the decision to confirm Robinson and to approve the same-sex blessing resolution. Protesters conducted silent prayers and mourned. Some

Please see TEXAS BISHOPS on Page 5

Navy expels sailor who appeared on Bravo show

Gay contestant on 'Boy Meets Boy' came out to supervisors before show aired

By BILL ROUNDY

SAN DIEGO — The television gay dating game "Boy Meets Boy" may be counting on a dramatic conclusion in next week's final episode, but one of its most intriguing developments already took place, off-camera.

One contestant, a gay combat systems instructor for the Navy, was discharged from the military for violating the "Don't Ask, Don't Tell" policy.

"I was fully aware of what would happen," Michael Jason Tiner said in an interview from his San Diego home. Tiner was identified on the show by his middle name Jason. "I was ready for it."

The show features 15 men competing for the heart of James, the "leading man," as well as a trip with him to New Zealand. But seven of the contestants are straight men who will win a cash prize if James chooses them, though he doesn't know their sexual orientation.

There are still three suitors remaining; two of them are gay and one is straight.

Many viewers assumed that Tiner, as an active member of the military, must be one of the straight contestants. But when the Southern-accented sailor was eliminated during the first episode, his gay

identity was revealed.

The results were predictable: The first episode aired July 29, and Tiner's discharge from the Navy became effective Aug. 19.

Tiner, 26, was with the military for eight years and taught at the Navy's Submarine Learning Center in San Diego. He was open about his sexual orientation to family members, but said that coming out on national TV was just a matter of fairness.

"The reason I did the show is that I felt if anyone had a right to go on the show, then I did," Tiner said. "I should have all the rights that the other 14 guys have. I was comfortable enough with who I am and with my sexuality that I was ready to face the consequences."

Please see 'BOY' OUTS BOY on Page 5

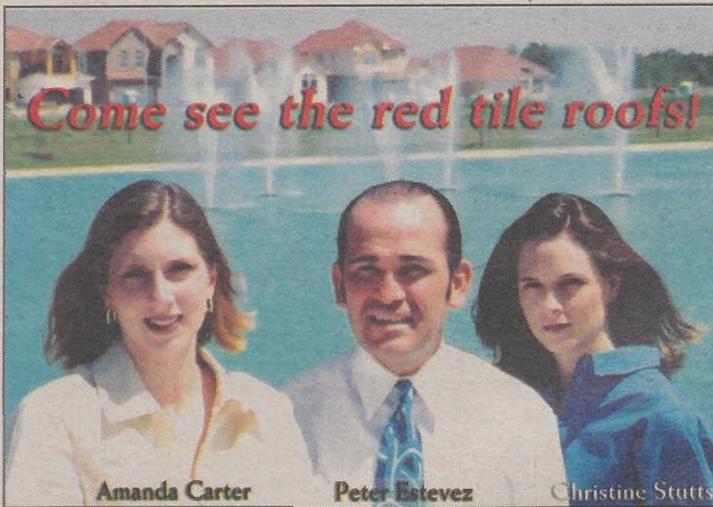


Michael Jason Tiner was one of the first contestants eliminated on Bravo's 'Boy Meets Boy' dating show. The appearance cost him a job as a teacher at the Navy's Submarine Learning Center.

VOTE YES: Gay PAC releases endorsements in city's top November races. Page 4

'BROWN' OUT: Gay employee Daniel Kline sues UPS over bias allegations. Page 9





*The New
Lakes of Jersey Village*

(281) 469-1661
(713) 542-5324

New Sales Team! • New Prices! • New Floor Plans!

100%
Financing Available

Location! Location!! Location!!!
Off of Northwest Freeway at Jones Road.
Red tile roofs, Stucco front elevations, Sprinkler systems, Energy Star package, lake, and much more!

Peter Estevez
D•R•Horton Homes
20 Cherry Hills
Jersey Village, TX 77065



Affordable Luxury Living Just a Step Away!

SCHMERLER AGENCY



Great
Car
Insurance!

713.661.7700

For Auto, Home, Renters
Life, Health, Business Insurance
and much more.

6575 W. Loop South, Ste. 185
Bellaire, TX 77401

www.SchmerlerAgency.com

The Montrose Clinic Invites You To Attend

WHAT'S UP DOC?

The Next Generation of HIV Treatment

Presented by Dr. Shannon Schrader
The Schrader Clinic

Tuesday, September 2, 2003

The 1415 Bar and Grille
(Formerly Sonoma)
713-522-7066

Reception 6:00 pm - 6:30 pm
Presentation: 6:30 pm

Following the presentation
StatScript Pharmacists will be
available to answer your questions.

Sponsored by:
Gilead Sciences, Roche Pharmaceuticals, Serono Inc.,
The Schrader Clinic, and StatScript Pharmacy

FIRST MONTH FREE!

\$27.95
PER MONTH

HOUSTON GYM
WWW.HOUSTONGYM.COM
713.880.9191
1501 DURHAM
M.F 5.10 SAT.SUN 8.6
*TOUR CLUB FOR DETAILS



Because I live
for today,

but think
for tomorrow.



Agouron/Pfizer Global Pharmaceuticals. VIRACEPT and Agouron are registered trademarks of Agouron Pharmaceuticals, Inc. Pfizer is a registered trademark of Pfizer, Inc. Copyright © 2003. All rights reserved. 1-V03178-CC

Ask your doctor about
VIRACEPT[®]
nelfinavir mesylate
tablets and oral powder

local news

White, Parker top caucus endorsements

Gay political group now shifts attention to get out the vote

By MIKE FLEMING

The Houston Gay & Lesbian Political Caucus' Political Action Committee voted on its endorsements Aug. 6 for upcoming elections in the mayoral, city council and Houston Independent School District races.

Endorsements included former U.S. Deputy Secretary of Energy Bill White for mayor and City Council member Annise Parker, a lesbian, for city controller.

"About 100 people came together to decide the endorsements," said Kenneth Jones, president of the HGLPC Board of Trustees.

"People don't have the time to investigate each candidate in every race," Jones said. "Our screening committees visited with and evaluated people so that in races where voters have no idea, they can look at our endorsement card and can be assured if you vote for somebody we endorse, those candidates are not going to stab us in the back in the next year."

PAC committees screen candidates and make recommendations, then the group campaigns for the endorsed hopefuls, according to the group's Web site. Candidates complete written questionnaires and interview before the membership vote.

The group did not make endorsements where candidates declined an interview or did not complete HGLPC-PAC questionnaires.

The Nov. 4 elections are important because gay rights may likely be on the city council agenda immediately following the election, Jones said.

"There are thoughts in some Republican circles that the city's non-discrimination policy can be eliminated," he said. "Of course, we'd actually like to see it broadened to require city contractors to have non-discrimination policies as well to get the city's business."

The two-year-old non-discrimination



City Council member Annise Parker, a lesbian, garnered an endorsement from the South's oldest gay political group in her race to become city controller. (Photo by Dalton DeHart)

policy bans discrimination based on sexual orientation among other protected categories. In November 2001, Houston voters approved a change to the City Charter that banned domestic partner benefits for municipal employees.

White got the nod from HGLPC-PAC members after "probably the most heated discussion of the evening," Jones said. White served in the Clinton administration as deputy energy secretary and managed an \$18 billion annual budget.

Sylvester Turner, White's opponent who rode in the annual Gay Pride parade in June and pushed for more AIDS funding in the state legislature, had several supporters during the debate, Jones said. Both candidates were "virtually perfect" on gay issues, he said.

Turner received the group's endorsement in his 1991 bid for mayor against ultimate winner Bob Lanier.

"It was a really tough decision, because everybody liked both [White and Turner] a lot," he said. "But White's proven administrative abilities ultimately gave him the leg up in the race."

Houston's "strong mayoral form of government" necessitates a proven administrator, said Clarence Burton Bagby, HGLPC-PAC trustee and former group president.

"Bill White is the only candidate with a record of sound fiscal management of literally billions of dollars," Bagby said. "Houston's next mayor will be in the position to use their elected office as a bully pulpit to promote equality for gay, lesbian, bisexual and transgendered people — or conversely, to use the position to advocate for discrimination and intolerance."

White was not immediately available at press time.

Parker is an accountant first elected to the city council in 1997 with strong support from gay voters. She pushed the city's 2001 non-discrimination ordinance along with Mayor Lee Brown, served three terms as an at-large council member and is considered "one of the three most effective Council people in years and years," according to Jones.

"She has been a member of and a friend to the gay community," Jones said. "But she's not just the 'the gay rep' on city council. Even in her less popular decisions, she always looked at what's best for the city."

Parker praised the caucus endorsement as a nod to "coalition politics."

"Both HGLPC and I have grown and matured, and I am very honored to have the support of the people and the community that gave me my start in elective office," Parker said.

She called the 2003 HGLPC-PAC endorsement process a sign of how politics are changing in the face of gay rights issues.

"For the first time in years, Republicans actively sought the HGLPC endorsement during this summer's endorsement process," she said. "HGLPC provides a clear benefit to all of Houston by educating candidates across the political spectrum about our issues."

Jones called the at-large council positions "pivotal" because they represent such a large portion of Houstonians.

"Jolanda Jones, the former Olympic track star, is very gay friendly and just great on our issues for Position 3," Kenneth Jones said. "And of course Sue Lovell is a past HGLPC president for Position 4."

Lesbian candidate Lovell — who garnered a score in the "high 90s" from HGLPC-PAC in the screening process — faces Republican Bert Keller, who has the endorsement of the local gay Log Cabin Republicans.

Keller rated in the "low 70s" in the HGLPC-PAC interviews, Jones said.

Brian Woxniak, Gordon Quan and Dwight Boykins received nods in the other at-large races.

Now that the endorsements are complete, getting gays out to vote is the group's main concern, Jones said.

"There are enough gay, lesbian, bisexual and transgendered people in Houston to swing an election," he said. "Our city is too closely divided on too many issues to not exercise your right to vote and make a difference."

In an effort to persuade gays to vote, HGLPC-PAC is working now with gay businesses to offer Election Day discounts with proof of voting in the November elections, Jones said.

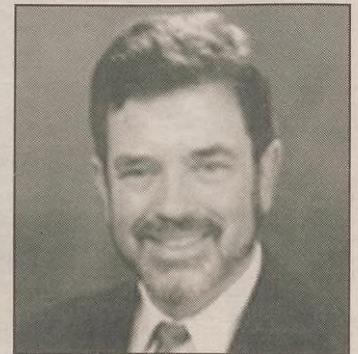
HGLPC-PAC 2003 election endorsements

Mayor: Bill White
 Controller: Annise Parker
 At-Large Position 1: Brian Wozniak
 At-Large Position 2: Gordon Quan
 At-Large Position 3: Jolanda Jones
 At-Large Position 4: Sue Lovell
 At-Large Position 5: Dwight Boykins
 City Council District C: Malaki Sims
 City Council District D: Ada Edwards
 City Council District E: Vickie Keller
 City Council District F: Derrick Wesley
 HISD Position 3: Michael Gomez
 HISD Position 4: G. San Miguel
 HISD Position 8: Joseph Rodriguez

inside

ISSUE 1191

LOCAL NEWS	4
NATIONAL NEWS	5
FORUM	10
OUT ON THE BAYOU	15
COMMUNITY CALENDAR	20
APPOINTMENTS	20
CLASSIFIEDS	22
Q PUZZLE	23
HOROSCOPES	26



AIDS OFFICE: President Bush last week named Dr. Joseph O'Neill, the gay director of the White House Office of National AIDS Policy, as head of the Office of the Global AIDS Coordinator. Page 9



SHIP-SHAPE: Lawsuit prompts closer look at UPS policies that are unfriendly to gays. Page 9



ONE MAN SHOW: Talented actor Steve Bullitt gives a tour de force performance in 'The Only Thing Worse You Could Have Told Me.' Page 18

POSTMASTER: Send address changes to Houston Voice, 500 Lovett Blvd., Suite 200, Houston, TX 77006. Houston Voice is published weekly, on Friday, by Window Media LLC. Subscriptions are \$92/year for 52 issues (only \$1.77 per issue).



After heated debate, former Clinton aide and Houston mayoral candidate Bill White received the Houston Gay & Lesbian Political Caucus Political Action Committee endorsement over another high-profile, gay-friendly candidate, Sylvester Turner. (Photo courtesy White For Houston)

national news

Texas bishop seeks guidance on vote

TEXAS BISHOPS, continued from Page 1

walked off the floor of the convention or collectively stayed away. Others put ashes on their foreheads.

Episcopal ministers from the small Texas towns of Plano and Pasadena joined the fray denouncing Robinson's confirmation, saying they are concerned for their flocks and the apparent ignoring of church doctrine.

Rev. David Roseberry of Christ Church Episcopal in Plano quit his post at the annual General Convention in Minneapolis to demonstrate his disapproval, according to the Plano Star-Courier.

"I believe that this convention has done something that is outside the revealed will of God as found in the scriptures and historic teaching of the church," Roseberry said.

Rev. Heber Papini of Pasadena's St. Peter's Episcopal Church told the Pasadena Citizen that he is not concerned about homosexuality as sin and welcomes all gays to his church. But Papini said Robinson's confirmation holds a clear disregard for Christian doctrine.

"One of the conditions for someone to follow Jesus Christ is to deny himself," Papini told the paper. "I do not see that here. It seems like here we sacrificed a whole for the sake of a group or individual."

A larger question is what will happen to the church on an international level. The U.S. Episcopal Church has 2.3 million adher-

"One of the conditions for someone to follow Jesus Christ is to deny himself. I do not see that here. It seems like here we sacrificed a whole for the sake of a group or individual."
—Rev. Herber Papini

ents. It is part of the worldwide Anglican Communion, which has 77 million members, most of them in Africa and Asia.

Williams, who leads the Anglican Communion, called for a meeting in October to address the issue of a possible schism within the church. A similar threat was made in 1976 after the church voted to accept women as priests.

MORE INFO

Episcopal Diocese of Texas
3203 W. Alabama Blvd.
713-520-6444

Ousted sailor expected dismissal

'BOY' OUTS BOY, continued from Page 1

According to Lt. Commander Gary Kirchner of the Navy Information Office, another sailor recognized Tiner on a commercial for "Boy Meets Boy" several days before the first episode aired.

Shortly thereafter, Tiner "informed his command that he was participating in the show and that he was a homosexual," Kirchner said. The administrative process to remove him from the Navy for violating the "Don't Ask, Don't Tell" policy began immediately.

Kirchner said Tiner cooperated with the process and received an honorable discharge.

Steve Ralls, director of communications for the Servicemembers Legal Defense Network, a group that advocates for gay members of the military, said that the discharge was predictable but regrettable.

"I think it's another example of the 'Don't Ask, Don't Tell' policy costing the military a valuable service member," Ralls said. "Had this been a heterosexual service member on a heterosexual dating show, nothing would have happened. It clearly shows the discrimination faced by gay and lesbian service members every day."

Some critics criticize "Boy Meets Boy," which airs on NBC sibling Bravo, for being mean-spirited by tricking its

leading man into believing all of his suitors are gay.

But Tiner said that there was no deception in his case, and that producers treated him well.

"They all knew, and I told them what the consequences would be," Tiner said. "They said, 'Are you sure you want to do this? Are you sure?' And I was."

Tiner was recruited for the show at a gay bar. After an interview, he also went through a medical, personality and IQ test. Contestants also spoke with a psychiatrist.

"I'm sure that they wanted to make sure everyone was mentally stable, so when they found out there were straight people there nobody went postal on them," Tiner said.

Now that he's been discharged, Tiner plans to work at a local gym and attend college full-time.

"It was a great experience," Tiner said. "I met some great, great people, and we still keep in touch. ... I gained a couple of really great friends from the show. And it was fun."

MORE INFO

'Boy Meets Boy'
BRAVO
Tuesdays, 8 p.m.

Study: Gay couples likely to try non-monogamy

Separate research shows lack of 'gay-boy talk' hampers safe-sex

By RYAN LEE

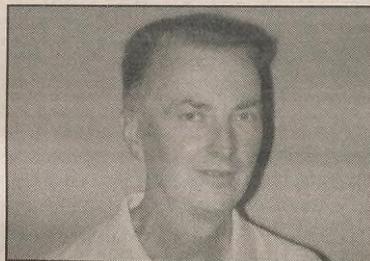
ATLANTA — Three-quarters of Canadian gay men in relationships lasting longer than one year are not monogamous, according to a limited study presented during the American Sociological Association conference held this week in Atlanta.

Barry Adam, a gay professor at the University of Windsor in Canada, last year interviewed 70 gay men that were part of 60 couples for his study, "Relationship Innovation in Male Couples."

A slim 25 percent of those interviewed reported being monogamous, with age and experience playing a major factor, Adam said.

"Those that were monogamous were more likely to be younger, more likely to be in newer, shorter relationships — that is, under three years — and more likely to come from Latino or Asian immigrant groups who said a more romantic approach is what they were used to," Adam said.

Adam's study was one of several on gay topics presented during the conference, held Aug. 16-19 at the Hilton Atlanta. Some 4,100 researchers attended the annual event.



Open relationships are common between gay men, according to Barry Adam, a professor at the University of Windsor in Canada who presented a study on the topic during a sociological conference in Atlanta this week. (Photo by Ryan Lee)

Adam recruited the men for his study through ads in gay publications and leaflets distributed at gay organizations and bars in Ontario. In order to qualify for the study, the men had to be in a relationship for at least a year. The relationship of one couple spanned 23 years.

The sample of 70 men — including both members of 10 couples and 50 other men — included 41 Caucasians, 16 Asians, five men from African and Caribbean descent, seven Latinos and one Canadian Aboriginal.

Adam said gay culture allows men to explore different, more successful, forms of relationships besides the monogamy coveted by heterosexuals.

The men ranged between the ages of 20-60, and their annual income levels varied greatly, with some making less than \$10,000 and others making more than \$60,000. Some 26 of the men were HIV-positive, 42 were not and two did not disclose their sero-status.

"One of the reasons I think younger men tend to start with the vision of monogamy is because they are coming with a heterosexual script in their head and are applying it to relationships with men," Adam said. "What they don't see is that the gay community has their own order and own ways that seem to work better."

Adam's research team did not calculate the average length of non-monogamous relationships. It was not clear if partners became non-monogamous over time, or if they agreed to be in an open relationship from the beginning, Adam said.

The study sample was diverse but may not be representative of gay men as a whole, because "genuinely random samples of gay and bisexual men are virtually unachievable," Adam said.

Matt Mutchler, a research and evaluation specialist for the AIDS Project Los Angeles, presented a study on communication between gay men.

In interviews with 40 white and Latino gay men between the ages of 18-24, Mutchler discovered that many wanted to practice safe sex, but lacked the knowledge or fortitude to ensure they were protecting themselves.

"What they said runs contrary to the notion that gay men are totally irresponsible or are behaving recklessly," Mutchler said.

One of the primary problems the men in Mutchler's study faced was a lack of sex education that specifically addressed gay sex. Instead, the men received what Mutchler called "safer education" — abstinence-until-marriage messages that don't consider that marriage remains unattainable for same-sex couples.

"Public school teachers tend talk about safe topics like abstinence, to avoid any discussion about homosexuality and to neglect talking about the fact that gay men do have relationships," Mutchler said.

To counter this silence, Mutchler developed "gay-boy talk," a program mirrored after traditional "girl talk" that allows young females to discuss topics like pregnancy, marriage and rape.

"This piece is built on the idea that if you can effect discourse, you can effect behavior," Mutchler said.

MORE INFO

American Sociological Association
1307 New York Ave. NW
Suite 700
Washington, DC 20005
202-383-9005
www.asanet.org

August 24 •

"The Magnificat of
the Old Testament"

Rev. Janet Parker

Maranatha Fellowship

Metropolitan
Community Church



"Building Community Through Compassion"

Visit Our New Improved & Larger Nursery/Children's area

Church Service
begins at 10am and
nursery is available
for small children.
Mid-week "Home
Group" services on
Tuesdays and
Wednesdays.

Please Join Us For
Praise and Worship at our
Sunday Morning Service
And Experience The Love
That Maranatha Fellowship
MCC Has To Offer!

3333 Fannin, Suite 106, at 10AM

Church office 713-528-6756 • E-mail maranatha@ev1.net
www.maranathamcc.com

Make the right choice for your business.

Advertise in the



houston voice

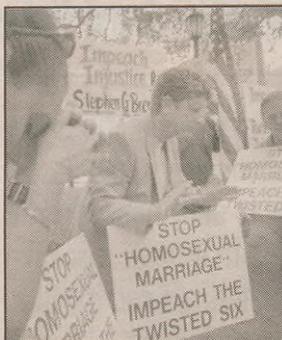
To reserve ad space
in the Houston Voice,
call Brian
at 713.529.8490



Call me to start a positive trend
and increase your customers!

national news

Abortion activist seeks comeback opposing gay marriage



Known as one of the nation's most extreme abortion opponents, activist **Randall Terry** now is taking up the cause of opposing gay marriage. (Photo by Stephen Morton/AP)

SAVANNAH, Ga. (AP) — He emerged as one of America's most militant abortion opponents of the 1980s and early 1990s, jailed dozens of times for blocking clinics and for having a human fetus delivered to Bill Clinton. But Randall Terry, the founder of Operation Rescue, was largely quiet for the past five years — until now. With a rally last week in Jacksonville, Fla., and another in Savannah, the 44-year-old activist hopes to stage a comeback by speaking out against gay marriage. Terry is calling for Congress to impeach six Supreme Court justices who formed the majority in a June decision throwing out a Texas law banning private, consensual sodomy among homosexuals. Terry believes the 6-3 ruling opens the door for the high court to legalize gay marriage. "Overnight, you'll have the court saying ... homosexual marriage is a protected right," Terry said in a phone interview. "I would call it a blitzkrieg of the homosexual juggernaut. It's not an erosion. It's a frontal assault on decency and morality."

Scouts' charter pulled over anti-bias policy in Calif.

SANTA ROSA, Calif. — The Boy Scouts of America pulled the charter from a Sebastopol troop after it refused to drop an anti-discrimination statement that Scouting officials say conflicts with the organization's national policy banning gays, the Press Democrat reported. Bev Buswell, leader of the 16-member Venture Crew 488, said her application for charter renewal included a statement she wrote pledging the crew would not discriminate on the basis of race, religion, sexual orientation and other factors. The U.S. Supreme Court ruled in June 2000 that the 3.3 million-youth-member Boy Scouts, as a private organization, have a right to ban gay members and leaders. "I actually felt it was my Scout duty," Buswell said regarding including the statement in the local group's charter. "I feel strongly that a terrible injustice is being done with this policy." Mariana Thorn, a former Crew 488 member, said she agrees with Buswell's protest. "A gay person can be a perfectly good role model," said Thorn, now a junior at U.C. Santa Cruz.

Judge lets case against gay Marine objector stand

NEW ORLEANS (AP) — A judge declined last week to throw out the Marine Corps' case against a conscientious objector who claims he is being court-martialed because he publicly criticized the war in Iraq. Navy Judge John A. Maksym also denied Lance Cpl. Stephen Funk's lawyer access to Marine files on who else may have been absent without leave, or AWOL, and how they were punished. Funk's lawyer, Stephen Collier, said the judge's decision leaves open to doubt whether Funk was treated differently from other Marines who missed training in the months before the Iraq war. When Funk turned himself in to the Marines, he applied for discharge as a conscientious objector. Funk also made public that he was gay, although he said that was not his reason for wanting to leave the Marines. Funk was then transferred to New Orleans with other conscientious objectors for processing. But unlike the others, Funk now faces a court-martial in September on the charge of shirking important duty.

Festival leaders resign after Idaho mayor bans gay groups

IDAHO FALLS, Idaho (AP) — Two coordinators of the Idaho Falls Annual Heritage Festival resigned last week after the mayor requested that the festival no longer include gay, religious or political booths. In a letter to the mayor, Festival Chair Glenn Rodgers and Principal Coordinator LaDonna Foster said they could not serve in the volunteer positions as long as the mayor tried to restrict participation. "From our perspective, your decision to discriminate is reprehensible, un-American, and totally unacceptable," Rodgers and Foster wrote. Mayor Linda Milam objected to participation by the PFLAG, the Southeast Idaho AIDS Coalition and the Gays & Lesbians Alliance. But Milam said she was not discriminating, only trying to return the festival to its original focus on ethnic heritage. Asked if she opposes civil rights for gays, Milam said, "No, absolutely not. I'm not against anybody."

From staff and wire reports

ACLU pursues ban on trans bias in Hawaii

HONOLULU — In filing a brief with the Hawaii Supreme Court, the American Civil Liberties Union asked that justices take notice of decisions rendered in courts elsewhere that gender identity discrimination has been found to be illegal, the Honolulu Advertiser reported. "Discriminating against someone for failing to conform to stereotypes about how a man or woman should look or act is sex discrimination under the law," said Ken Choe, staff attorney with ACLU's Lesbian & Gay Rights Project. The case involves a decision by the Hawaii Civil Rights Commission that prohibitions against sex discrimination protect transgender people, the Advertiser reported. Brent White, legal director for the ACLU of Hawaii, said the issue needs to be settled. "It's far too common for transgender people to lose their jobs, their homes, and even their lives," White said. "We hope this lawsuit will be a step forward in correcting the injustices that transgender people face every day."

national news

White House AIDS official moves to global post

Gay HHS official
rumored for deputy
AIDS czar job

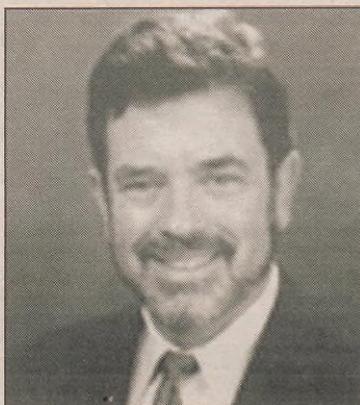
By LOU CHIBBARO JR.

WASHINGTON — President Bush last week named Dr. Joseph O'Neill, the gay director of the White House Office of National AIDS Policy, as deputy coordinator and chief medical officer of the newly created Office of the Global AIDS Coordinator at the State Department.

Sources familiar with the Bush administration said O'Neill is expected to retain his title as head of the White House AIDS office for an initial phase-in period. The sources said Christopher Bates, the gay acting director of the Office of HIV/AIDS Policy at the Department of Health & Human Services, is emerging as the leading candidate for the post of deputy director of the White House AIDS office.

With O'Neill preoccupied with getting the global AIDS program up and running, Bates was expected to assume many of O'Neill's duties at the White House AIDS office, the sources said.

Bates worked in various positions at HHS for the past five years. He served as O'Neill's deputy when O'Neill was acting director of the HHS HIV/AIDS Policy office. Bates became acting direc-



President Bush named Dr. Joseph O'Neill the deputy coordinator and chief medical officer for the new Office of Global AIDS Coordinator at the State Department.

tor of the office in July 2002, when Bush named O'Neill as head of the White House AIDS office.

Two sources familiar with the White House said the administration is reluctant to name a replacement for O'Neill at the White House AIDS office, known as ONAP, out of concern over offending competing constituencies on the eve of the 2004 presidential election.

AIDS advocacy groups along with Democrats and moderate Republicans in Congress favor someone like O'Neill or his predecessor, gay Republican activist Scott

Evertz, who have close ties to AIDS groups. Conservative activists and religious right groups call on Bush to name a conservative to the position who favors abstinence-only-until-marriage programs as the nation's chief means of preventing the spread of AIDS.

O'Neill, who began his government service at HHS under the Clinton administration, takes a cautious approach. He worked closely with conservative and moderate factions within the administration and Congress, drawing praise from Bush and Congress members from both political parties.

"It's unclear whether they would find an appointee to replace O'Neill who would not offend one group or faction or another," said one of the sources. "No names are circulating now of someone to replace him."

Bates declined comment. White House spokesperson Allen Abney said the White House never comments on personnel action until a decision on an appointment is made and announced.

Mark Mead, a spokesperson for Log Cabin Republicans, a national gay GOP group, and Charles Francis, president of the Republican Unity Coalition, which bills itself as a gay-straight alliance of Republican activists, said they were unaware of who, if anyone, would replace O'Neill.

"We're pleased with Joe O'Neill's new job," Mead said. Mead added that Log Cabin would "weigh in" with its own suggestions on who should be picked to

replace O'Neill at the White House post.

Bates has longtime ties to gay activists in Washington, D.C., but he is not involved in leadership positions with gay advocacy groups since beginning work with the federal government.

Terje Anderson, executive director of the National Association of People with AIDS, said Bates has earned the respect of AIDS advocacy groups throughout the nation.

"He would come to ONAP as a bureaucrat, but a bureaucrat in the best sense of that word," said Anderson, who added that Bates helped the AIDS community wend its way through HHS's vast bureaucracy.

O'Neill's appointment to the global AIDS office at the State Department comes one month after Bush named Randall Tobias, a pharmaceutical industry executive, to head that office as the Global AIDS Coordinator.

The office is charged with carrying out Bush's five-year, \$15 billion global AIDS initiative aimed at helping African and Caribbean countries cope with the disease.

Some activists praise Bush for pledging AIDS help for other countries, but not at the expense of domestic AIDS programs. O'Neill appeared to respond to that criticism earlier this month when he spoke before the Presidential Advisory Council on HIV/AIDS.

He outlined the Bush administration's plans for domestic AIDS programs over the next year, saying the president was committed to innovative approaches to domestic AIDS treatment and prevention programs.

Critics say Bush choice for panel advocates abstinence

Minority disease
expert also appointed
to AIDS board

By LOU CHIBBARO JR.

WASHINGTON — An advocate for fighting AIDS through promoting sexual abstinence and fidelity along with an expert on AIDS programs for minority groups were named by President Bush in July as new members of the Presidential Advisory Council on HIV/AIDS.

The president appointed another new member to the AIDS advisory panel who is known for his strong advocacy of "traditional" public health methods for preventing AIDS, including mandatory contact tracing and partner notification.

Edward C. Green, one of the three new appointees, is a senior research scientist at the Harvard University School of Public Health and a medical anthropologist. Green, a recognized expert on global AIDS issues who specializes in AIDS in African nations, told a Congressional committee earlier this year that he supports the so-called "ABC" approach to AIDS prevention in Africa. The approach calls on people

considered at risk for HIV infection to "abstain, be faithful, or use condoms."

But Green recently called condom promotion "a waste of time and money" and has backed abstinence-only and "fidelity-only" programs for Africa, said Douglas Feldman, an anthropology professor from the State University of New York who knows Green through anthropology circles.

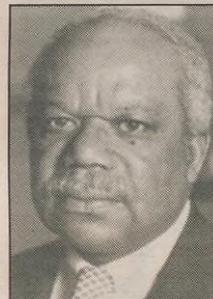
"It is likely that he will use his position on the Advisory Council to support abstinence/fidelity-only programs and oppose condom promotion in the United States as well," Feldman said.

Green could not be reached by press time.

Carl Schmid, a gay Republican activist, disputed claims that Green opposes condom-related programs. Schmid pointed to Green's March 20 testimony before a House subcommittee on health, in which he acknowledged that condom programs should be a part of AIDS prevention strategies, along with the encouragement of sexual abstinence and fidelity.

Primm appointment praised

In addition to Green, Bush selected Benny Primm, a New York City physician and chair of the National Minority AIDS Council, to PACHA. NMAC advocates on behalf of HIV prevention and treatment pro-



Benny Primm, a New York City physician and chair of the National Minority AIDS Council, was one of three recent appointments by President Bush to the Presidential Advisory Council on HIV/AIDS.

grams for gays of color, among other groups.

AIDS and gay rights activists praise Primm, who also specializes in substance-abuse treatment programs as a means of preventing the spread of HIV, for his sensitivity to the gay issues.

Bush's third appointee to PACHA, Franklyn Judson, a Denver, Colo., physician and chief of infectious disease services for the Denver Health Medical Center, is an advocate for using traditional public health methods for curtailing the spread of HIV.

Similar to Tom Coburn, the physician and former Republican congressman from Oklahoma, Judson favors mandatory contact tracing and partner notification for people who test positive for HIV. Judson,

Coburn and other public health "traditionalists" say AIDS is improperly exempted from disease management used to fight other diseases, such as tuberculosis and syphilis.

AIDS activists say the stigma and discrimination associated with AIDS makes it difficult to employ such methods for HIV prevention. Critics say such methods would likely drive people with HIV underground and discourage them from getting tested.

Coburn and Joe McIlhaney, an Austin, Texas physician and PACHA member, called on PACHA to adopt a strongly worded resolution urging the Bush administration to push traditional methods to curtail HIV.

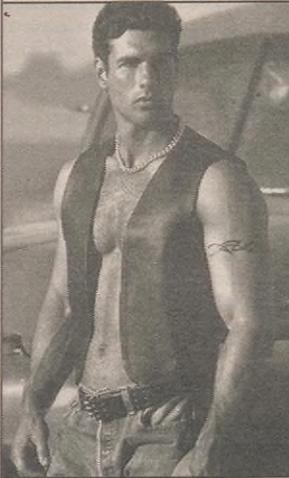
But sources familiar with PACHA said the majority of PACHA members balked at Coburn and McIlhaney's proposal during closed-door PACHA subcommittee meetings in July.

The full membership is expected to vote on a watered down version of the resolution at a future meeting.

MORE INFO

Presidential Advisory Council on HIV/AIDS
www.pacha.gov

**"Been Rear-Ended?
We Can Assist You!"**



**Highline Body Repair
& Collision Service**

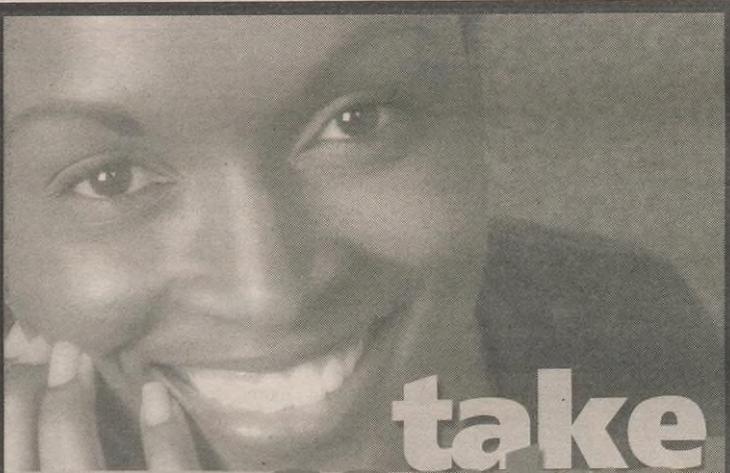
State of the Art Technology

FREE ESTIMATES

**We support the Gay &
Lesbian Community**

Sudden Impact
COLLISION CENTERS

Call us at 713.520.9696 or visit us at 106 W. Gray in Houston
www.suddenimpactcollision.net



**take
control**

**GET THE ATTENTION YOU DESERVE!
AND DO IT FOR A LOT LESS THAN YOU THINK!**

Run any ad in Houston Voice Classifieds for only \$12.50 per week
for the first 25 words, and each additional word is only 50¢ more.

HOUSTONVOICE**classifieds**

**HOUSTON
VOICE**

PLACE YOUR **CLASSIFIED** AD NOW! CALL 877 863 1885
OR PLACE YOUR AD ONLINE AT WWW.HOUSTONVOICE.COM

international news

Same-sex union proposal is a tough sell in Poland

WARSAW — When hospital authorities in Warsaw refused to allow a terminally ill gay man to receive visits from his longtime partner, Maria Szyszkowska decided to act, the Chicago Tribune reported. Szyszkowska, a prominent philosopher and member of the Polish Senate, introduced a bill that would legalize same-sex unions and grant gay partners many of the rights and privileges enjoyed by married couples. Such legislation might seem a tough sell in Poland, a strongly Roman Catholic nation, but Szyszkowska's bill received support from leaders of the ruling party, the Tribune reported. It also stirred debate about the role of the church in Polish politics and Poland's identity in an expanding European Union. "Even representatives of the gay community told me to slow down, but I decided to go for it," Szyszkowska told the Tribune. "If we are going to be part of Europe, we have to learn to accept some things that we may not personally agree with. Tolerance is what a democratic society is all about."



Polish Senate member **Maria Szyszkowska** introduced a bill to legalize same-sex unions and give gay partners many of the rights and privileges that married couples enjoy.

Canadian same-sex marriage bill faces defeat, survey shows

OTTAWA — The Liberal Canadian government's draft legislation to legalize same-sex marriage likely will be defeated when it comes to a free vote in the House of Commons, according to a Globe & Mail report. The paper surveyed Liberal MPs and found that at least 126 plan to vote against the bill, while 60 MPs have still not said or decided how they will vote, CTV reported. A total of 151 votes are needed to reject the bill. In addition, most Progressive Conservative MPs added their names to the list of opponents last week. The news comes as a blow to proponents of same-sex marriage because the Tory caucus was believed more evenly split on the issue, CTV reported. Most of the Tory opponents come from rural areas and say they cannot accept a change in the legal definition of marriage. Last week, Prime Minister Jean Chretien said he will pursue the legislation in spite of opposition.

Australian gay men go abroad for surrogate babies

SYDNEY, Australia — Gay male couples in Australia are paying overseas women to have babies for them to bypass strict state laws against commercial surrogacy, the Sydney Morning Herald reported. Gay rights activist and GP Ruth McNair the phenomenon of "reproductive tourism" is an emerging trend in gay communities around the country. A Melbourne man, Lee Matthews, acknowledged in the gay newspaper MCV that he is the co-father of an 8-month-old born to a surrogate mother in the United States, the Herald reported. Matthews has a long-term relationship with his partner. In the report, Matthews identified several other cases of gay men — singles and couples — who conceived children with U.S. surrogates. The Australian Family Association decries the trend. "Some people have said it's a form of child abuse to bring a child deliberately into the world without a mother and father," AFA spokesperson Bill Muehlenberg told the Herald. "Every child has a right to its own mother and father, not two dads, not two mothers and not a committee."

Police suspect prostitutes in string of Czech slayings

PRAGUE, Czech Republic — New Zealander Grant Russell was found dead in May in a Vinohrady apartment in the Czech Republic, apparently the victim of one of the young prostitutes — or "rent boys" — he hired, the Prague Post reported. Russell was suffocated and robbed, the Post stated. Four months later, the police have yet to arrest anyone, although several people have been questioned. In the past few years, several gay tourists slain in Prague, apparently at the hands of young men who sell themselves for sex at Hlavni nadrazi (the main train station) and at nearby gay clubs, according to police. Nine months ago, a tourist from the United Kingdom was found dead near the train station. "It is a danger for everybody," said a gay expatriate who spoke to the Post on the condition of anonymity. "It is very bad. Foreigners are very nervous."

Judge: U.K. landlord right to treat trans customers as men

LONDON — A judge ruled last week that a landlord who threw five transsexuals out of a pub after one used the women's restroom was right to treat them as men, the Daily Telegraph reported. He dismissed a claim brought by the male-to-female transsexuals that they were victims of discrimination. John Gawthorp asked the group to leave because they upset other drinkers in the Red Lion pub, according to the Telegraph. But the transsexuals, who were backed in the civil action by the Equal Opportunities Commission, took the 53-year-old publican to court. Judge Charles Harris, ruled that the claimants, only one of whom had undergone a sex change at the time, were viewed as men by the law and thus Gawthorp was within his rights to treat them as such. The landlord told the Telegraph that the verdict was a "brilliant day for women," adding: "You shouldn't have male genitalia in the ladies' lavatories. It's as simple as that."

From staff and wire reports

national news

UPS sued by gay man alleging bias in transfers

Shipping giant reverses decision, allows employee to move with longtime partner

By CHRISTOPHER SEELY

ATLANTA — Despite a last-minute reversal, Atlanta-based United Parcel Service was still stung by a lawsuit Tuesday from a longtime gay employee who alleged discrimination in the company's refusal to grant him an out-of-state job transfer.

"I just want to live with the man whom I've spent that last 27 years of my life with," Daniel Kline, a 20-year UPS employee, said in a prepared statement. "Even though it's been eight months since we lived under the same roof, I'm still surprised and disappointed every day that I come home from work and he isn't there."

Kline filed a lawsuit Tuesday in Alameda County, Calif., alleging UPS' employee transfer policy is unlawfully discriminatory.

The lawsuit alleges that UPS denied Kline's transfer request to Chicago last January because he is in a domestic partnership with a man and not married to a woman.

On Monday, UPS reversed its decision to block Kline's transfer, saying its change in policy wasn't "broadly communicated" to employees.

"UPS is still reviewing the lawsuit," Peggy Gardner, a UPS spokesperson, said in a prepared statement. "However, Mr. Kline's specific transfer request had been approved."

UPS notified Jon Davidson, an attorney with the Lambda Legal Defense & Education Fund and Kline's lead attorney, of the policy late Monday. But Davidson did not receive the message until after filing the lawsuit and publicly announcing it, he said.

"We are happy that they are indicating publicly that the request for transfer has been accepted though they have not notified Kline of that, nor what job they would provide for him in Chicago," Davidson said.

Davidson and his client did not receive written confirmation of the UPS decision that day, he said.

Gardner said UPS provides for relocation of domestic partners under a new policy put into place earlier this year. The company made "several unsuccessful attempts" to reach Davidson, she said.

"The practice went into effect earlier this year but had not been broadly communicated to all UPS employees," Gardner said. "That happens in the fall with sign up procedures for the annual benefit enrollment process."



Daniel Kline (left) and his attorneys Jon Davidson and Alexander van Broek gather for a news conference in San Francisco Tuesday. Hours before they filed a lawsuit against United Parcel Service, the shipping company reversed a decision that forced Kline to remain in California while his partner worked in Chicago. (Photo by Marcio Jose Sanchez/AP)

Lawsuit stands

The lawsuit remains in place so that Kline and his partner, Frank Sories, 51, can pursue damages for the financial and emotional turmoil they suffered, Davidson said.

"He's been financially and emotionally injured by having his request denied," Davidson said. "It has cost the couple significant money in travel expenses and phone expenses — and they've been put through hell."

The couple is registered as a domestic partnership in California, and the men are designated as the beneficiaries of each other's wills as well as hold health care and general powers of attorney for one another, according to their attorneys.

Kline, 47, applied for a transfer last year after Sories discovered that he had to move to Chicago to complete more than three additional years of employment to be eligible for pension from his employer, United Airlines. UPS refused to grant the transfer request in January.

After UPS denied the transfer request, Kline attempted through his attorney to have the company reconsider. But Kline's supervisor threatened to fire Kline if he did not accept UPS' decision that transfers were not intended for gay couples, the suit alleges.

The lawsuit charges that UPS violated California's Fair Employment & Housing Act, breached its contract with Kline, negligently inflicted distress on Kline and Sories and practiced unfair business.

Lambda Legal is continuing the lawsuit, despite the change in position by UPS, in case the company's new domestic partner transfer policy isn't in compliance with California law, Davidson said.

"They say that domestic partners have relocation benefits, but we've never seen

that or what they are," he said. "We don't know if it is the same as married employees or not."

Brown won't go pink

UPS, with its trademark brown delivery trucks and uniforms, is familiar with lobbying efforts to make its corporate policies more gay-friendly. Georgia Equality, a statewide gay advocacy group, and the Human Rights Campaign, the nation's largest gay civil rights organization, have lobbied the company in the past.

"Domestic partner benefits have been something that the company has looked at every year and obviously there are a whole lot of benefits that employees are looking for the company to provide," Gardner said in an interview Wednesday. "Right now we already provide some significant health care and pension benefits for employees."

Even with the new transfer policy for domestic partners, the company announced no plans to alter other policies, Gardner said.

And gay UPS employees shouldn't assume that the company will offer domestic partner benefits any time soon, said Kim Mills, education director for HRC.

"I've seen instances where companies do these individual negotiations where they extend certain benefits to employees, but [Kline's lawsuit] should serve as a message that it is a lot smarter to have a clear, articulated policy written down for all to see so that these scenarios can be avoided," Mills said.

UPS scored a 29 out of a possible 100 on HRC's corporate equality index last year. The measure rates large corporations on whether gays are included in non-discrimi-

nation policies, if health insurance coverage is offered for same-sex partners, if there is a recognized gay employee group, and if marketing efforts reach out to gays or provide monetary support to gay organizations.

Of those criteria, UPS meets one: including sexual orientation in its non-discrimination policy.

Rival FedEx also scored a 29 on the HRC survey; it also includes gays in its anti-bias policy.

"We've been working with people inside FedEx and UPS to try to help them make some changes, but it has been more rank and file," Mills said. "As a general rule, having some kind of organized group is more effective because it indicates that there are GLBT people inside the company, not just one gadfly."

UPS, the self-proclaimed largest global transportation company that employs 340,000 people in the U.S., does not have any gay employee groups, Gardner said.

In June 2000, Georgia Equality announced a campaign to lobby 10 large Georgia-based companies to offer domestic partner benefits. UPS, with corporate headquarters in Atlanta, was included. But the company has made no policy change to date.

Other companies included AGL Resources, parent company for Atlanta Gas Light, Coca-Cola, Delta Air Lines, Home Depot, Bell South, Georgia Pacific, Wachovia, Shaw Industries and Gulfstream Aerospace.

Several of the companies, including AGL, Coca-Cola, Delta and Bell South, later began offering domestic partner benefits. Home Depot added sexual orientation to its non-discrimination policies.

Officials with Georgia Equality could not be reached by press time for comment.

MORE INFO

UPS Corporate Headquarters
55 Glenlake Parkway, NE
1-888-967-5877
www.ups.com

EDITORIAL & PRODUCTION

Executive Editor CHRIS CRAIN

Interim Editor MIKE FLEMING
editor@houstonvoice.com

Production JOEY CAROLINO

Correspondents: LOU CHITBARO JR., JOE CREA, LAURA DOUGLAS-BROWN, LAUREL FAUST, MIKE FLEMING, MATTHEW HENNIE, RYAN LEE, BRIAN MOYLAN, KEVIN NAFF, KEN SAIN, CHRISTOPHER SEELY, STEVE WEINSTEIN

Contributors: J.B. BLACK, JOHNNY HOOKS, JILL DEARMAN, PAULA MARTINAC, ARJAN TIMMERMANS, STEVE WARREN

Photographers DALTON DEHART, KIMBERLY THOMPSON

Webmaster ARAM VARTIAN

SALES & ADMINISTRATION

General Manager DANIEL EMERICH
demerich@houstonvoice.com

Account Executives
BRETT CULLUM - bcullum@houstonvoice.com
BRIAN MARTIN - bmartin@houstonvoice.com

Administrative Assistant
LISA GALLARDO - lgallardo@houstonvoice.com

National Advertising Representative
Rivendell Media
212-242-6863

A WindowMedia Publication

Publisher- WINDOW MEDIA LLC
President- WILLIAM WAYBOURN
Editorial Director- CHRIS CRAIN
Corporate Controller- BARNETTE HOLSTON
Art Director- ROB BOEGER
Operations Manager- MICHAEL KITCHENS
Marketing Manager- DAN GARRIOTT



the chamber
the greater houston gbt chamber of commerce

CHARTER MEMBER

Established 1974 as the *Montrose Star*.

500 Lovett Blvd., Suite 200
Houston, Texas 77006
(713) 529-8490

Fax: (713) 529-9531

www.houstonvoice.com

Contents copyright 2003

Office hours: 9 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. weekdays

To submit a letter

Letters should be fewer than 400 words. We reserve the right to edit for content and length. We will withhold names upon request, but you must include your name and phone number for verification. Please send mail to Houston Voice, 500 Lovett Blvd., Suite 200, Houston, Texas 77006; fax (713) 529-9531 or e-mail to editor@houstonvoice.com. Opinions expressed therein do not reflect those of the *Houston Voice*.

All material in *Houston Voice* is protected by federal copyright law and may not be reproduced without the written consent of *Houston Voice*. The sexual orientation of advertisers, photographers, writers and cartoonists published herein is neither inferred or implied. The appearance of names or pictorial representation does not necessarily indicate the sexual orientation of that person or persons.

Houston Voice accepts unsolicited editorial material but cannot take responsibility for its return. The editor reserves the right to accept, reject or edit any submission. All rights revert to authors upon publication. Guidelines for freelance contributors are available upon request.

Issue 1191

Forum

HOUSTON VOICE

AUGUST 22, 2003

PAGE 10

editorial

It's all about marriage

Like it or not, our movement needs all efforts focused on winning freedom to marry, and our leaders and their 'friendly' politicians are either with us or against us.

By CHRIS CRAIN



HOA! SLOW DOWN THERE, homosexuals!

Yeah we're enjoying a great gay run. For the first time ever, it's now legal everywhere in America for us to

have sex with each other, and our relationships even got some validation from the U.S. Supreme Court. Canada is poised to open up marriage to same-sex couples, and the stuffy Episcopal Church just confirmed its first openly gay bishop.

Even pop culture is going gay: "Queer Eye for the Straight Guy" is the surprise summer TV hit. ABC's "20/20" declared "it's in to be out" and the cultural arbiters at VH1 last week debuted "Totally Gay!" celebrating all things homosexual.

But let's get real. Gay marriage? In this country? Now? You better think twice about that.

America isn't ready for it. The polls show a backlash from the big pink wave that splashed over the country this summer. In fact, if you don't watch it, conservatives may succeed in amending the Constitution to ban gay marriages once and for all. Remember that's what happened in Hawaii and Alaska a few years ago.

You're better off winning victories incrementally. Focus on employment discrimination and hate crimes. The polling numbers are better and the visceral hostility from the public is not nearly so great.

THAT'S THE ADVICE GAY RIGHTS activists are getting these days from many gay-friendly public officials, and from gay contributors and activists as well.

Well it's hogwash. And any leader of any gay rights organization who is not prepared to throw the bulk of their efforts *right now* into the fight for marriage is squandering resources and doesn't deserve the position. That's right; if they're not ready to make their *top priority* the freedom to marry, then they ought to resign today.

Impractical?

Consider for a moment how many gay Americans you know who have actually suffered from discrimination in the workplace? How many gay couples do you know who have been turned down from buying a house or renting an apartment because of their sexual orientation? How many were ever denied a room at a hotel or a seat in a restaurant because of homophobia?

How many people do you know who've been the victim of a hate crime where the perpetrator has gone unpunished? Those people are out there, of course, and their stories are tragic.

Now multiply that number by 10 — or even 100, depending upon how broad your social circle is — and you've probably still not counted the number of gay people you know who've been discriminated against by this country's heterosexual-only marriage laws.

Between 90 and 95 percent of Americans get married at some point during their lives. If you carve out the homosexuals who can't get married (acknowledging that some of them were in heterosexual marriages before coming out of the closet) and that means that something approaching 100 percent of the people in this country who can legally say, "I do," in fact do.

The point is that no form of discrimination is more pervasive, or strikes more at the heart of being gay, than denying us the freedom to marry.

STILL SEEM IMPRACTICAL? CONSIDER this.

We are owed no right to work or buy homes free of anti-gay prejudice, and if we are bashed by homophobes, we have no inalienable right to demand that our perpetrators be given extra jail time because their crime was motivated by anti-gay animus.

These "civil rights" laws are add-ons; protections that make sense as good social policy and will no doubt dramatically

impact people's lives.

But as social policy, they are often opposed on grounds that have nothing to do with homophobia. Employment and housing protections come at the cost of law-suits, some of which will be frivolous. Hate crime laws do, at some level, punish thoughts, and pile on to an already Draconian criminal justice system.

None of these arguments wins the day, but they're reasonable and fair-minded; the same can't be said for those who oppose the freedom to marry. This isn't about protecting us from discrimination that might happen in the private sector: This is discrimination, perpetrated by our own government.

Once the government got into the business of issuing civil marriage certificates, and doling out (at last count) some 1,049 benefits and rights as a result of that piece of paper, there is no justification for slamming the door on committed same-sex couples.

As a result, the polls and politicians won't decide marriage, at least not initially. The courts will, and soon — not only in Canada but very soon in Massachusetts and New Jersey.

SHOULD WE FORGET ABOUT ENDA AND hate crime laws? Of course not.

Introduce them both, hold hearings even, and watch them sit there, like the hapless "Bill" on the "Schoolhouse Rock" cartoon. That's been their sad fate for a decade now, no matter which party has controlled the Congress or the White House.

In fact, the best chance these two bills have for passage is a bruising fight over marriage. "Compassionate conservatives" and "moderate Democrats," looking for some way out of the emotional tussle on gay marriage, are far more likely to vote for these baby-step measures.

But the real battle will be over marriage, and whether to amend the U.S. Constitution to ban them. It's a political fight we should win, if our organizations can work together, and our people will mobilize.

Early signs of that happening are mixed. Various gay groups are meeting in semi-secret "summits" to plan strategy, and hopefully from that will adopt highly visible and courageous campaigns to rally the people to accept civil marriage for gays.

Cutesy focus group strategies won't work here. Neither will the type of in-fighting and turf battles that all too often plague our movement. Expect any such small-mindedness to be exposed on these pages.

We need rallies; we need marches; we need TV advertisements; we need speeches; we need pressure on "gay-friendly" politicians.

This is the big one: The fight we can and should win, and the one that really matters.

@ Chris Crain is executive editor of the *Houston Voice* and can be reached at editor@houstonvoice.com.



viewpoint PAULA MARTINAC



Putting gay kids in Harvey Milk High won't help closeted teens or those who aren't queer. That can set stage for Columbine-style retribution.

Separation is no solution

THE FIRST PUBLIC HIGH SCHOOL in the country for gay and transgender youth will soon be opening its doors in New York City, and many gay leaders nationwide have widely applauded this as a positive step.

But if our movement wants to eradicate society's homophobia, establishing segregated schools is not a good way to proceed. What we really need are public school officials who understand prejudice in its many different forms and actively work to defuse it.

On the surface, Harvey Milk High looks like a good plan. After all, two-thirds of gay and trans students told a 2001 survey from the Gay, Lesbian and Straight Education Network that they felt unsafe at school because of their sexual orientation or gender expression. And we've all heard — or experienced — horror stories about gay youth tormented by classmates and facing the daily fear of verbal violence that could escalate into physical abuse.

I suspect that New York City officials are finally responding to the problem of antigay harassment out of a very real fear of litigation. Last year, the U.S. Supreme Court ruled that school districts could be

held responsible if they ignored sexual harassment (which, according to an earlier decision, includes same-sex offenses).

BUT MAKING THE HARVEY MILK School, a 19-year-old private educational program, into a public school is an inadequate and purely short-term fix to a huge dilemma facing schools: how to ensure the safety of all kids, gay and straight.

After all, once you separate out the openly gay kids, there's still no solution for the many teens who either aren't out or are branded as "faggots" and "dykes" but don't identify as queer.

The Harvey Milk School situation reminds me of the U.S. military's assertion that because gay soldiers are at such risk of violence from their straight counterparts, the only answer is to ban openly gay service members.

The assumption is that being gay — or being seen as gay — is the root of the problem. The institution is conveniently let off the hook and doesn't have to address the real problems of ignorance and antigay prejudice.

It also reminds me of the many



instances in which we choose to segregate ourselves because it seems easier and safer. We create gay ghettos, gay religious organizations, and lesbian cruises.

In distancing ourselves from straight people and communities, we, too, are saying that societal homophobia is so overwhelming we prefer to pretend it doesn't exist.

A BETTER SOLUTION TO THE SAFETY problems facing queer or queer-seeming kids would be for public schools to make the abolition of prejudice, including homophobia, one of their major goals. That doesn't mean they'd have to use heavy-handed tactics, like running oppressive "gay is good" indoctrinations.

But teachers could very easily discuss — or even simply mention — that many figures in history, literature and the arts whom the students learn about were queer.

Added to curricular change would be training for teachers and administrators: how to institute "zero tolerance" policies for words like "faggot" (just like "nigger" and other epithets); and how to confront

kids who use "gay" as slang for "weird."

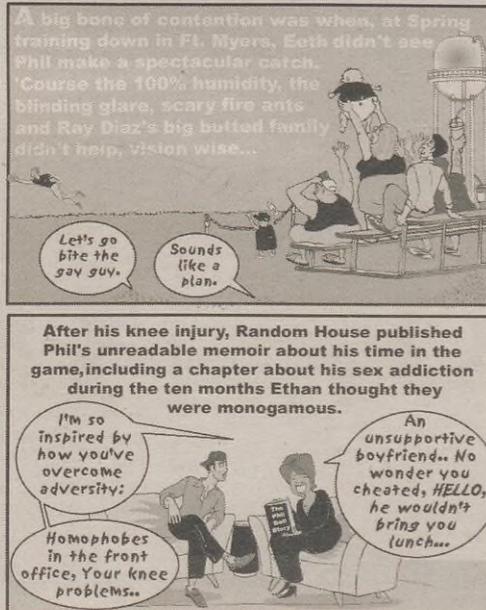
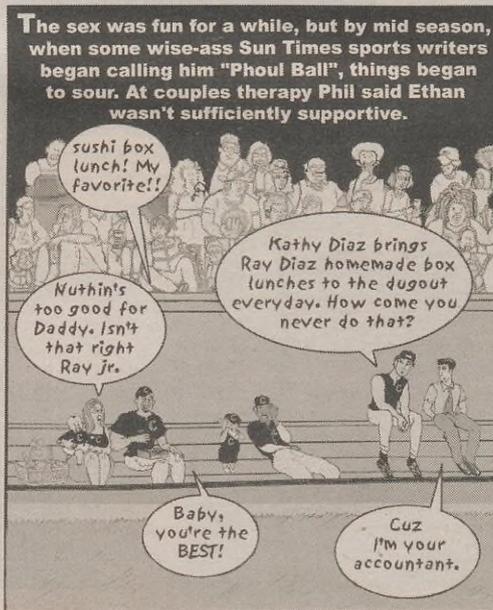
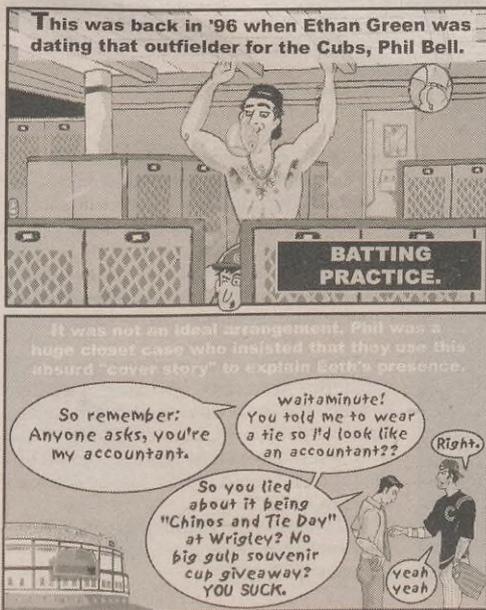
Shockingly, in its 2001 survey, GLSEN found that almost 40 percent of gay students felt there were no supportive personnel at their schools to whom they could turn when they encountered antigay verbal or physical harassment. The establishment of "Safe Zone" programs — indicating which adults and places gay and trans students can go to for help when harassed — is vital to the physical safety of queer kids.

As hard as it may be for some of us to admit, the visible presence of straight allies is crucial to giving queer youth the strength, courage, and voice they need to deal with homophobia themselves. The real solution to antigay prejudice in schools is for gay kids to be able to become a part of the fabric of school life, not to be separated from it.

@ Paula Martinac is an author and syndicated writer and can be reached at PMcolumn@aol.com.

The Mostly Unfabulous Social Life of ETHAN GREEN

by Eric Orner



on the record

You're Invited To
Roundup Sunday!

September 14, 2003

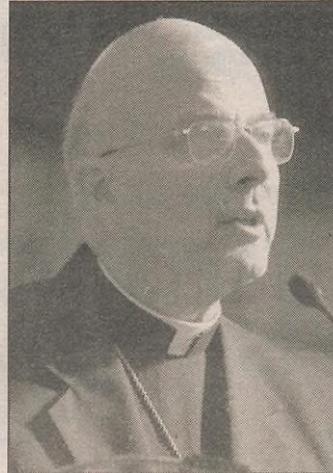
9 a.m. & 11 a.m.

(Western attire encouraged)

**And stay after the services for:
A Chili Cook-off, Music and Fun!**

RESURRECTION
METROPOLITAN COMMUNITY CHURCH

2025 W. 11th St. @ T.C. Jester • 713-861-9149
www.resurrectionmcc.org



"As experience has shown, the absence of sexual complementarity in these unions creates obstacles in the normal development of children who would be in the care of such persons. They would be deprived of the experience of either fatherhood or motherhood. Allowing children to be adopted by persons living in such unions would actually mean doing violence to these children."

Vatican document opposing legalized gay marriage and adoption
("Considerations Regarding Proposals to Give Legal Recognition to Unions Between Homosexual Persons," July 31)

"My feeling is that I have a right as a Catholic politician to uphold the values that I believe are important to me, and important, that I believe, for this country."

Sen. Rick Santorum (R-Pa.) on his support for the Vatican document instructing Catholic public officials to oppose legalized gay marriage; Santorum has not followed Vatican directives against the war in Iraq and the death penalty (Fox News Network, Aug. 1)

"What does the printing of a false accusation against the Holy Father in a major Chicago daily say about anti-Catholicism here?"

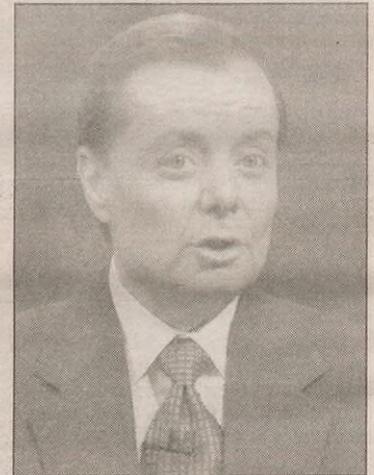
Cardinal Francis George, reacting angrily from the pulpit to a headline in the Chicago Sun-Times about the Vatican document opposing gay marriage: "Pope launches global campaign against gays" (WLS-TV, Chicago, Aug. 3)

"I do believe marriage should remain uniquely a union as it has traditionally been of a man and a woman."

Sen. Joe Lieberman (D-Conn.), a presidential candidate (Associated Press, Aug. 1)

"I can't imagine the White House being AWOL on that debate and just repeating, 'We believe marriage is between a man and a woman.' You've got to put a policy on the table to implement the values of your supporters. Otherwise, why would your supporters continue to be engaged in your coalition?"

Gary Bauer of American Values, a conservative group, and 2000 candidate for the GOP presidential nomination, on reaction by the president to the prospect of legalized gay marriage (July 29)



"Will it mean that if a man wants to marry his dog, he can legally? If a grandmother wants to marry her cute little grandson, can she? If a sister wants to marry her brother, is that OK? Polygamy? If one can happen with the stroke of a pen, so can all the others."

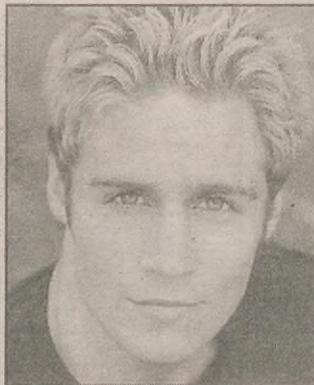
Tim Dooling, organizer of Canadians Against Same-Sex Marriage, on the dangers of legalizing gay marriage (Toronto Globe & Mail, July 25)

"Is there a different way to teach homosexuals? Is there gay math? This is wrong. This makes absolutely no sense. There's no reason these children should be treated separately."

Mike Long, chair of the New York State Conservative Party, on the decision to take public Harvey Milk High School, a previously private school for gay, lesbian, bisexual, transgendered and questioning students (July 29)

"The truth is, no matter how you feel about 'Boy Meets Boy,' you will not be able to watch the show without divining which team each guy is on. If you're straight, that is. If you're gay, you do this sort of shit all the time, and you'll mostly just be checking out Dan's abs."

Television critic Heather Havrilesky on the Bravo show "Boy Meets Boy" (Salon.com, July 29)



reasons? **WHY?**

I appreciate being a part of this community! I want to see Fitness Exchange as more than a health club. It is a community center! So I use the Houston Voice to show my appreciation, and as my invitation to its readers.

—Mary Ann McBee
Fitness Exchange



Houston Voice ALL THE NEWS FOR YOUR LIFE AND YOUR STYLE



Still undetectable

The virus is under control. My HIV therapy is still working.
And KALETRA is helping to make a difference.

Individual results may vary.

KALETRA is indicated for the treatment of HIV infection in combination with other antiretroviral agents.

Safety Information

Taking KALETRA with certain drugs could create potential for serious and/or life-threatening effects. KALETRA should not be taken with Halcion[®], Hlamanal[®], Orap[®], Propulsid[®], Rythmol[®], Seldane[®], Tambocor[™], Versed[®], Rimactane[®], Rifadin[®], Rifater[®], Rlramate[®], Mevacor[®], Zocor[®], ergot derivatives or products containing St. John's wort (*Hypericum perforatum*). Discuss all medicines, including those without a

prescription, and herbal preparations you are taking or plan to take with your doctor or pharmacist. KALETRA should not be taken if you have had an allergic reaction to KALETRA or any of its ingredients.

Pancreatitis and liver problems, which can be fatal, have been reported. Tell your doctor if you have or have had liver disease such as hepatitis. In patients taking protease inhibitors, increased bleeding (in patients with hemophilia) and diabetes/high blood sugar have occurred. Changes in body fat have been seen in some patients receiving antiretroviral

therapy. Some patients receiving KALETRA have had large increases in triglycerides and cholesterol.

In clinical trials, the most commonly reported side effects of moderate or severe intensity were: abdominal pain, abnormal bowel movements, diarrhea, feeling weak or tired, headache and nausea. This is not a complete list of reported side effects.

KALETRA oral solution contains alcohol.

KALETRA does not cure HIV infection or AIDS and does not reduce the risk of passing of HIV to others.

Please see adjacent page for Patient Information.

*Based on IMS HEALTH National Prescription Audit Plus for Protease Inhibitor Class, July 2002-April 2003



©2003 Abbott Laboratories

1-866-KALETRA (525-3872)

KALETRA.com

June 2003

03E-036-8281-1



Printed in USA

KALETRA®(lopinavir/ritonavir) capsules
(lopinavir/ritonavir) oral solution**ALERT: Find out about medicines that should NOT be taken with KALETRA.** Please also read the section

"MEDICINES YOU SHOULD NOT TAKE WITH KALETRA."

Patient Information**KALETRA®**

(kuh-LEE-tra)

Generic Name: lopinavir/ritonavir
(lop-IN-uh-veer/rit-ON-uh-veer)

Read this leaflet carefully before you start taking KALETRA. Also, read it each time you get your KALETRA prescription refilled, in case something has changed. This information does not take the place of talking with your doctor when you start this medicine and at check ups. Ask your doctor if you have any questions about KALETRA.

What is KALETRA and how does it work?

KALETRA is a combination of two medicines. They are lopinavir and ritonavir. KALETRA is a type of medicine called an HIV (human immunodeficiency virus) protease (PRO-tee-ase) inhibitor. KALETRA is always used in combination with other anti-HIV medicines to treat people with human immunodeficiency virus (HIV) infection. KALETRA is for adults and for children age 6 months and older.

HIV infection destroys CD4 (T) cells, which are important to the immune system. After a large number of T cells are destroyed, acquired immune deficiency syndrome (AIDS) develops.

KALETRA blocks HIV protease, a chemical which is needed for HIV to multiply. KALETRA reduces the amount of HIV in your blood and increases the number of T cells. Reducing the amount of HIV in the blood reduces the chance of death or infections that happen when your immune system is weak (opportunistic infections).

Does KALETRA cure HIV or AIDS?

KALETRA does not cure HIV infection or AIDS. The long-term effects of KALETRA are not known at this time. People taking KALETRA may still get opportunistic infections or other conditions that happen with HIV infection. Some of these conditions are pneumonia, herpes virus infections, and *Mycobacterium avium* complex (MAC) infections.

Does KALETRA reduce the risk of passing HIV to others?

KALETRA does not reduce the risk of passing HIV to others through sexual contact or blood contamination. Continue to practice safe sex and do not use or share dirty needles.

How should I take KALETRA?

- You should stay under a doctor's care when taking KALETRA. Do not change your treatment or stop treatment without first talking with your doctor.
- You must take KALETRA every day exactly as your doctor prescribed it. The dose of KALETRA may be different for you than for other patients. Follow the directions from your doctor, exactly as written on the label.
- Dosing in adults (including children 12 years of age and older): The usual dose for adults is 3 capsules (400/100 mg) or 5.0 mL of the oral solution twice a day (morning and night), in combination with other anti-HIV medicines.
- Dosing in children from 6 months to 12 years of age: Children from 6 months to 12 years of age can also take KALETRA. The child's doctor will decide the right dose based on the child's weight.
- Take KALETRA with food to help it work better.
- Do not change your dose or stop taking KALETRA without first talking with your doctor.
- When your KALETRA supply starts to run low, get more from your doctor or pharmacy. This is very important because the amount of virus in your blood may increase if the medicine is stopped for even a short time. The virus may develop resistance to KALETRA and become harder to treat.
- Be sure to set up a schedule and follow it carefully.
- Only take medicine that has been prescribed specifically for you. Do not give KALETRA to others or take medicine prescribed for someone else.

What should I do if I miss a dose of KALETRA?

It is important that you do not miss any doses. If you miss a dose of KALETRA, take it as soon as possible and then take your next scheduled dose at its regular time. If it is almost time for your next dose, do not take the missed dose. Wait and take the next dose at the regular time. Do not double the next dose.

What happens if I take too much KALETRA?

If you suspect that you took more than the prescribed dose of this medicine, contact your local poison control center or emergency room immediately. As with all prescription medicines, KALETRA should be kept out of the reach of young children. KALETRA liquid contains a large amount of alcohol. If a toddler or young child accidentally drinks more than the recommended dose of KALETRA, it could make him/her sick from too much alcohol. Contact your local poison control center or emergency room immediately if this happens.

Who should not take KALETRA?

Together with your doctor, you need to decide whether KALETRA is right for you.

- Do not take KALETRA if you are taking certain medicines. These could cause serious side effects that could cause death. Before you take KALETRA, you must tell your doctor about all the medicines you are taking or are planning to take. These include other prescription and non-prescription medicines and herbal supplements.

For more information about medicines you should not take with KALETRA, please read the section titled "MEDICINES YOU SHOULD NOT TAKE WITH KALETRA."

- Do not take KALETRA if you have an allergy to KALETRA or any of its ingredients, including ritonavir or lopinavir.

Can I take KALETRA with other medications?*

KALETRA may interact with other medicines, including those you take without a prescription. You must tell your doctor about all the medicines you are taking or planning to take before you take KALETRA.

MEDICINES YOU SHOULD NOT TAKE WITH KALETRA:

- Do not take the following medicines with KALETRA because they can cause serious problems or death if taken with KALETRA.
 - Dihydroergotamine, ergonovine, ergotamine and methyletergonovine such as Cafergot®, Migranal®, D.H.E. 45®, Ergotrate Maleate, Methergine, and others
 - Halcion® (triazolam)
 - Hismanal® (astemizole)
 - Orap® (pimozide)
 - Propulsid® (cisapride)
 - Rythmol® (propafenone)
 - Seldane® (terfenadine)
 - Tambocor™ (flecainide)
 - Versed® (midazolam)

- Do not take KALETRA with rifampin, also known as Rimactane®, Rifadin®, Rifater®, or Rifamate®. Rifampin may lower the amount of KALETRA in your blood and make it less effective.

- Do not take KALETRA with St. John's wort (hypericum perforatum), an herbal product sold as a dietary supplement, or products containing St. John's wort. Talk with your doctor if you are taking or planning to take St. John's wort. Taking St. John's wort may decrease KALETRA levels and lead to increased viral load and possible resistance to KALETRA or cross-resistance to other anti-HIV medicines.

- Do not take KALETRA with the cholesterol-lowering medicines Mevacor® (lovastatin) or Zocor® (simvastatin) because of possible serious reactions. There is also an increased risk of drug interactions between KALETRA and Lipitor® (atorvastatin); talk to your doctor before you take any of these cholesterol-reducing medicines with KALETRA.

Medicines that require dosage adjustments:

It is possible that your doctor may need to increase or decrease the dose of other medicines when you are also taking KALETRA. Remember to tell your doctor all medicines you are taking or plan to take.

Before you take Viagra® (sildenafil) with KALETRA, talk to your doctor about problems these two medicines can cause when taken together. You may get increased side effects of VIAGRA, such as low blood pressure, vision changes, and penis erection lasting more than 4 hours. If an erection lasts longer than 4 hours, get medical help right away to avoid permanent damage to your penis. Your doctor can explain these symptoms to you.

- If you are taking oral contraceptives ("the pill") to prevent pregnancy, you should use an additional or different type of contraception since KALETRA may reduce the effectiveness of oral contraceptives.
- Efavirenz (Sustiva™) or nevirapine (Viramune®) may lower the amount of KALETRA in your blood. Your doctor may increase your dose of KALETRA if you are also taking efavirenz or nevirapine.
- If you are taking Mycobutin® (rifabutin), your doctor will lower the dose of Mycobutin.

A change in therapy should be considered if you are taking KALETRA with:

Phenobarbital
Phenytoin (Dilantin® and others)
Carbamazepine (Tegretol® and others)

These medicines may lower the amount of KALETRA in your blood and make it less effective.

Other Special Considerations:

KALETRA oral solution contains alcohol. Talk with your doctor if you are taking or planning to take metronidazole or disulfiram. Severe nausea and vomiting can occur.

- If you are taking both didanosine (Videx®) and KALETRA: Didanosine (Videx®) should be taken one hour before or two hours after KALETRA.

What are the possible side effects of KALETRA?

- This list of side effects is not complete. If you have questions about side effects, ask your doctor, nurse, or pharmacist. You should report any new or continuing symptoms to your doctor right away. Your doctor may be able to help you manage these side effects.

- The most commonly reported side effects of moderate severity that are thought to be drug related are: abdominal pain, abnormal stools (bowel movements), diarrhea, feeling weak/tired, headache, and nausea. Children taking KALETRA may sometimes get a skin rash.

- Blood tests in patients taking KALETRA may show possible liver problems. People with liver disease such as Hepatitis B and Hepatitis C who take KALETRA may have worsening liver disease. Liver problems including death have occurred in patients taking KALETRA. In studies, it is unclear if KALETRA caused these liver problems because some patients had other illnesses or were taking other medicines.

- Some patients taking KALETRA can develop serious problems with their pancreas (pancreatitis), which may cause death. You have a higher chance of having pancreatitis if you have had it before. Tell your doctor if you have nausea, vomiting, or abdominal pain. These may be signs of pancreatitis.

- Some patients have large increases in triglycerides and cholesterol. The long-term chance of getting complications such as heart attacks or stroke due to increases in triglycerides and cholesterol caused by protease inhibitors is not known at this time.

- Diabetes and high blood sugar (hyperglycemia) occur in patients taking protease inhibitors such as KALETRA. Some patients had diabetes before starting protease inhibitors, others did not. Some patients need changes in their diabetes medicine. Others needed new diabetes medicine.

- Changes in body fat have been seen in some patients taking antiretroviral therapy. These changes may include increased amount of fat in the upper back and neck ("buffalo hump"), breast, and around the trunk. Loss of fat from the legs, arms and face may also happen. The cause and long term health effects of these conditions are not known at this time.

- Some patients with hemophilia have increased bleeding with protease inhibitors.

- There have been other side effects in patients taking KALETRA. However, these side effects may have been due to other medicines that patients were taking or to the illness itself. Some of these side effects can be serious.

What should I tell my doctor before taking KALETRA?

- If you are pregnant or planning to become pregnant: The effects of KALETRA on pregnant women or their unborn babies are not known.
- If you are breast-feeding: Do not breast-feed if you are taking KALETRA. You should not breast-feed if you have HIV. If you are a woman who has or will have a baby, talk with your doctor about the best way to feed your baby. You should be aware that if your baby does not already have HIV, there is a chance that HIV can be transmitted through breast-feeding.
- If you have liver problems: If you have liver problems or are infected with Hepatitis B or Hepatitis C, you should tell your doctor before taking KALETRA.
- If you have diabetes: Some people taking protease inhibitors develop new or more serious diabetes or high blood sugar. Tell your doctor if you have diabetes or an increase in thirst or frequent urination.
- If you have hemophilia: Patients taking KALETRA may have increased bleeding.

How do I store KALETRA?

- Keep KALETRA and all other medicines out of the reach of children.
- Refrigerated KALETRA capsules and oral solution remain stable until the expiration date printed on the label. If stored at room temperature up to 77°F (25°C), KALETRA capsules and oral solution should be used within 2 months.
- Avoid exposure to excessive heat.

Do not keep medicine that is out of date or that you no longer need. Be sure that if you throw any medicine away, it is out of the reach of children.

General advice about prescription medicines:

Talk to your doctor or other health care provider if you have any questions about this medicine or your condition. Medicines are sometimes prescribed for purposes other than those listed in a Patient Information Leaflet. If you have any concerns about this medicine, ask your doctor. Your doctor or pharmacist can give you information about this medicine that was written for health care professionals. Do not use this medicine for a condition for which it was not prescribed. Do not share this medicine with other people.

* The brands listed are trademarks of their respective owners and are not trademarks of Abbott Laboratories. The makers of these brands are not affiliated with and do not endorse Abbott Laboratories or its products.

Ref.: 03-5239-R8

Revised: January, 2003

03A-036-6510-1 MASTER

ABBOTT LABORATORIES
NORTH CHICAGO, IL 60064, U.S.A.

03E-036-8281-1
PRINTED IN U.S.A.



Out on the Bayou

HOUSTON VOICE
AUGUST 22, 2003
PAGE 15

Getting back to 'jood'

Author's latest work continues successful 'B-Boy' series

By JIM FARMER

FOR AUTHOR JAMES EARL Hardy, all is "jood" these days.

Since the success of his "B-Boy Blues" back in 1994, Hardy has penned four more in the acclaimed series — "2nd Time Around," "If Only for One Nite," "The Day Eazy-E Died" and the new "Love The One You're With."

In the series, he introduced characters including Mitchell "Little Bit" Crawford and Raheim "Pooquie" Rivers and expressions such as "jood" (meaning better than good).

In "Love The One You're With," the central character considers the question of monogamy.

In a recent telephone interview from New York, the author says the newest installment in the series is similar to the first book.

"It's sort of a return



to 'B-Boy Blues.' It has the same kind of sassy flavor and feel, and the sex is back in full effect," Hardy says. "The issue explored - infidelity - is something all of us can relate to on one level or another."

Ironically, Hardy admits he never imagined there would be a half dozen of these books.

"I didn't intend to write a series," Hardy says. "B-Boy Blues' was to be my first and only foray into the world of fiction. It took on a life of its own, though, and I've been following it ever since."

Seeing a void in the publishing world for stories about black gay men, Hardy created the characters. Numerous publishers rejected the proposal before it caught the eye of an editor at Alyson.

"The moment [the Alyson editor] read it, he knew that, just because characters like Mitchell and Raheim hadn't been presented in fiction before didn't mean they didn't exist or that there wasn't an audience that would read about them," Hardy

Please see J.E. HARDY on Page 21

James Earl Hardy makes his living writing about the black gay male experience, a genre he says was overlooked until he and a few other writers took initiative.

Randall Reed People...
Really Make the Difference!

Introducing
Will & Linda Boze
Fleet Sales
Randall Reed Ford
Humble, Texas

"You Have Friends in the Business!!"
Extending Fleet Prices to Houston Voice Readers



All New 2003 Thunderbird
\$469/mo.,
\$3694 down, 12,000k/year
Residual value \$15,772
63 months W.A.C.



2003 Explorer 4-door
\$299/mo.,
\$3556 down, 12,000k/year
Residual value \$10,134
47 months W.A.C.

Rebates up to \$4000. 0% APR available up to 60 months

For Sales or Service. Call Will or Linda
at 281.548-6152 for an appointment!

Randall Reed Ford
1900 Eastex Freeway
Humble, Texas 77338



Watch for Us at Empower 2003!

find

**A FACE ONLY YOU
COULD LOVE!**

Tell them you saw their ad in the PETS
section of the HOUSTON VOICE Classifieds



HOUSTONVOICEclassifieds

**houston
voice**

PLACE YOUR CLASSIFIED AD NOW! CALL 877 863 1885
OR PLACE YOUR AD ONLINE AT WWW.HOUSTONVOICE.COM

music ARJAN TIMMERMANS



Soundtrack to surprise hit film hits
mark with original cast recording,
rock tunes that help set the mood.

Extraordinary 'Camp'

THE MOVIE "CAMP" IS DESTINED TO be this year's summer sleeper hit.

The musical flick was nominated for the Grand Jury Prize at the Sundance Film Festival earlier this year and more recently, it was the "Best Feature" at the Provincetown International Film Festival.

Movie musicals enjoy cyclical popularity among mainstream audiences, including the recent hits "Chicago" and "Moulin Rouge."

Now the original soundtrack from "Camp" features music written by Academy Award nominee Lynn Ahrens ("Ragtime") and Academy Award winner Michael Gore ("Fame"), as well as tracks from Oasis, The Replacements, The Rolling Stones, Todd Rundgren and Burt Bacharach.

The album also includes the track "The Ladies Who Lunch," by Broadway's legendary composer Stephen Sondheim, whose many credits include the original lyrics for "West Side Story" in 1957 and Madonna's "Dick Tracey" in 1990.

In the album's liner notes, film director Todd Graff carefully explains the relevance of the music in "Camp."

"The film is filled with dialogue scenes of first love, first hate and everything in between, but whether dealing with body issues, sexual confusion, or the simple exhilaration of getting up on stage performing, the deepest emotion experienced by the characters in 'Camp' find their most vital expression in song," Graff writes.

THE SONGS ON THE ALBUM FALL IN two categories. The first seven songs appear in the movie and are performed by cast members. The remaining six tracks are atmospheric rock and pop tunes by Oasis, The Wonder Stuff and others.

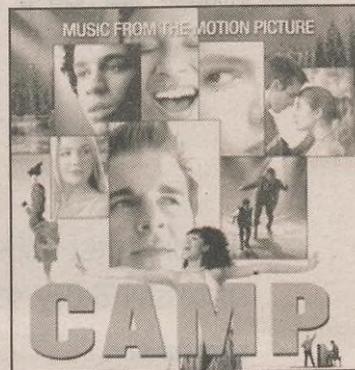
Impressive is the ensemble's raw vocal talent. All of the inexperienced singers and actors are in their late teens and early 20s, but they demonstrate incredible fervor with their polished performances on this soundtrack.

A good example is Alana Allen's performance of Sondheim's "The Ladies Who Lunch" in which she showcases an incredible sense of theatrical timing.

Pretty-boy Daniel Letterle has a knack for emotional delivery that is unusual for a singer his age. He showcases his talent on the tear-jerking love ballad "I Sing For You" and the soul-stirring cover of the Rolling Stones' "Wild Horses."

No wonder Lou Perlman, founder of the Backstreet Boys and NSYNC, already approached Letterle about a career as a recording artist.

Songbird Tiffany Taylor graciously



The soundtrack for 'Camp' includes cast recordings from the film as well as atmospheric riffs from established rock bands, a winning combination that does justice to the sleeper hit of the summer.

croons the gospel ballad "Here's Where I Stand" with its inspiring message of acceptance and tolerance.

The film's grand finale "The Want of A Nail" captures the movie's overall theme. The song is an outburst of positive vibes and celebration of hard-won self esteem that is performed gloriously by the entire cast.

THE RECORD ALSO FEATURES MIDDLE-of-the-road rock tunes by British rock band Oasis, Snow Patrol, The Replacements and a Chicago-esque ballad by Warren Wiebe. These songs are sharp contrast to the playful cheer of the earlier singers.

Linda Cohen, musical producer for "Camp," should have considered including more original songs by the movie's breakout artists. This would have done more justice to their talent and surely satisfy new fans.

As a bonus, the soundtrack comes as an enhanced CD package that includes the film trailer, cast photos and bios as well as behind-the-scenes footage.

"Camp" is ultimately about overcoming adversity and finding acceptance regardless of your sexuality or passion in life. Like recent television hits "American Idol" and "Fame," "Camp" and its music demonstrate that ordinary people can achieve extraordinary things if they put their heart, mind — but most of all their voice — to it.

MORE INFO

'Camp - Music From The Motion Picture'
Universal Classics, 2003

<http://www.ifcfilms.com/camp/>

film STEVE WARREN

Talented group of young performers go to 'Fame'-like camp where being gay, performing musical numbers are normal.

'Camp'-ing at Angelika

"AMERICAN IDOL" SHOULD SKIP ITS nationwide search, which came to Atlanta earlier this week, and pull next season's finalists from the cast of "Camp," a feel good movie about a performing arts camp.

Think "Fame" on summer vacation. Not only can they sing and dance, but their acting is way above the level of "From Justin to Kelly."

Actor-turned-filmmaker Todd Graff gave these talented youngsters a serviceable script based on his own teen experiences. Full of romance, comedy and enough musical showcasing to make it slightly long, it should please crowds of all persuasions.

In the world of "Camp," it's normal for boys to be gay. The straight guy is odd man out — or in-and-out, depending how the summer goes.

Vlad (Daniel Letterle) rooms with three gay boys: Shaun (Steven Cutts), Spitzer (Vince Rimoldi) and the flirtatious Michael (Robin de Jesus), who got beaten up for going to his prom in drag. The hag to these three fags is Ellen (Joanna Chilcoat), who paid her brother to escort her to her prom.

Other characters include Jenna (Tiffany Taylor), whose father had her jaw wired shut as a compromise because he wanted her to go to Weight Watchers camp, and rich bitch Jill (Alana Allen), who turns doting Fritz (Anna Kendrick) into her servant.

THE CAMPERS PUT ON A SHOW — usually a full-scale Broadway musical — every two weeks and a benefit at the end of the summer. The superstar of the staff is Bert Hanley (Don Dixon), an alcoholic songwriter who had a hit show in 1989 and has been going downhill ever since.

A complicated romance develops between Ellen and Vlad, who seems to give everyone what they want. Well, maybe not everyone, although we're never sure if the strong bond he forms with Michael will remain platonic.

It's not clear what Vlad is doing with these people who would be considered misfits in any other milieu, except that every teenager, however mainstream, feels like a misfit.

We see auditions and at least one number from each of the camp musicals: "Follies," "Promises, Promises" and "Company." But late in the film, there's a shift toward mediocre original songs, supposedly written by Hanley, that sound like rejects from "Fame."

"Camp" is dedicated to gay playwright Arthur Laurents and features a



Robin de Jesus and Joanna Chilcoat play a gay boy and his fag hag in 'Camp,' now playing at the downtown Angelika Film Center.

cameo by a legendary gay composer and an original score by another gay composer, Stephen Trask ("Hedwig and the Angry Inch").

Depending on his degree of drunkenness, Bert offers advice that may or may not be helpful and positive. On a bad day, he delivers a tirade, including negative comments about fag hags and gay boys who hope to convert straights.

On a better day, he counsels, "It's better to regret something you have done than something you haven't done."

Graff and the others who did "Camp" should have no regrets.

FOR TWO DAYS ONLY, THE LEFONT Plaza celebrates its anniversary by bringing "The Women" back to the big screen Aug. 26-27 for only 50 cents a ticket.

Directed by gay George Cukor, this is still the movie drag queens in training watch to learn basic and advanced bitchiness. Among other items of interest, the movie shows Joan Crawford wasn't cruel only to her children.

This was the film that opened the Plaza in 1939 and reopened it as a Lefont in 1983. If you've only seen it at home with a few friends, imagine how much more fun it is in a theater with a few hundred.

i MORE INFO

'Camp'

 Angelika Film Center
 510 Texas Ave.
 713-225-5232

YOU DECIDE!

FIND EVERYTHING YOU ARE LOOKING FOR IN THE HOUSTON VOICE CLASSIFIEDS

HOUSTONVOICEclassifieds

HOUSTON VOICE PLACE YOUR CLASSIFIED AD NOW! CALL 877 863 1885 OR PLACE YOUR AD ONLINE AT WWW.HOUSTONVOICE.COM

Dig In!

HoVo Dining Column

HOUSTON VOICE

You can still sell your life insurance policy for cash.

The opportunity for selling your life insurance policy has reopened. All stages of HIV/AIDS may qualify and any type of policy (individual, group, FEGLI, VGLI) is considered. Please call us today for a free consultation.

LOCAL
FACE-TO-FACE
GAY OWNED & OPERATED

LINKED VIATICAL BENEFITS
1.800.275.3090

**Tan where
the sun
don't shine**

**UV FREE TANNING!
60-SECOND SESSIONS!**

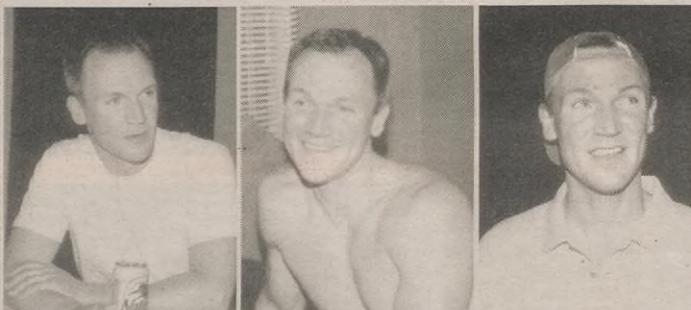


Eclipse
Sunless Tanning

415 Westheimer, Suite 103
713-520-6611
www.eclipsesunlesstanning.com

THEATRE NEW WEST
PRESENTS ON OUR STAGE... TOO

**THE ONLY THING
WORSE**
YOU COULD HAVE TOLD ME...



"A WHIRLWIND TOUR OF THE GAY AMERICAN LANDSCAPE."
STARRING: STEVE BULLITT

August 8th - October 4th
Fridays & Saturdays only - no shows on August 29th & 30th
Curtain: 8pm • Tickets: \$20, Students & Seniors: \$15
Reservations: 713.522.2204

1415 California St. • Houston, TX 77006

Written by Dan Butler
(Bulldog from TV's FRASIER)

Directed by Joe Watts

theater J.B. BLACK

Theatre New West ... too delivers

hilarious one-man show that soars

across great gay American landscape.

'Thing' not to be missed

JOE WATTS STAGES A TRULY GRAND opening that should not be missed.

The artistic director of Theatre New West opened a second theater space at 1415 California St., appropriately named Theatre New West ... too, located adjacent to TNW's main auditorium. As its inaugural production, Watts directed a wildly entertaining romp with "The Only Thing Worse You Could Have Told Me," an irreverent series of sketches about contemporary gay American life.

The one-man show features up to 13 predominantly gay characters in 15 narratives. The characters tackle such issues as coming out, first love, the gay rights movement and stereotypes.

"The Only Thing Worse" was written and originally performed by out actor Dan Butler, popularly known as Bulldog on TV's "Frasier." Butler has created a funny and completely believable universe of characters. His script rings with honesty and incredible humor.

Ultimately, the "make or break" credit rests with the man taking center stage for this entire production. Aided by skilled direction and a superb script, the action lies squarely on the solid shoulders of actor Steve Bullitt, who carries the production beautifully.

Bullitt delivers each of the 15 characterizations with a talent and craft that makes each one lively and hilarious. This is without a doubt one of the most entertaining performances to hit any Houston stage this year.

HOUSTON AUDIENCES MAY BE familiar with Bullitt's prior performances in such shows as "The Most Fabulous Story Ever Told," "Boy Meets Boy" and "Naked Boys Singing."

In "The Only Thing Worse," Bullitt has a masterful grasp of its richly-drawn material. He ricochets from character to character in sketch after sketch, including a straight New Yorker; a catty ACT-UP protestor; a disenchanted critic of the gay rights movement; a man grappling with coming out and a gay jock whose closeted boyfriend is coming to terms with his own sexuality.

An audience favorite — there were many — seemed to be Bullitt's second-act portrayal of Derek, a mincing bon vivant who is taken aback to learn that a friend considers him to be excessive, flamboyant and effeminate. Preening about in a full-length fur coat and a red scarf, Bullitt throws himself full-force into the character with wild artistic abandon.

Each line receives a sharply honed delivery that enthusiastically builds in comic momentum. One line in particular



Talented actor Steve Bullitt gives a tour de force performance in "The Only Thing Worse You Could Have Told Me," bringing to life each of the show's 15 characters.

was delivered with such incredible wit, timing and precision that many in the audience were literally doubled over with laughter.

Bullitt has to be an energetic quick change artist as well, switching characters and occasionally shifting stage props during the brief blackouts between sketches. His wardrobe usually consists of jeans and a T-shirt, sometimes less.

This further highlights Bullitt's remarkable skills. A talented actor has a wealth of tools at his disposal — body language, voice inflection and mannerisms — so that he doesn't have to rely on make-up or wardrobe to bring a character to life. Bullitt winningly accomplishes this time after time. He is utterly believable and comfortable in every character he ably slips into.

AT THIS SHOWING, BULLITT RECEIVED a well-deserved standing ovation. It was also a nice touch that after the show, Bullitt and Watts stood outside the auditorium to greet the audience.

This is a show with direction, writing and acting that could not be more perfectly in tune. It leaves the audience eager for more.

"The Only Thing Worse You Could Have Told Me" is "don't-miss-it" entertainment. It deserves a long and well-attended Houston run.

i MORE INFO

The Only Thing Worse You Could Have Told Me!
Fridays and Saturdays through Oct. 4
No performances Aug. 29 and Aug. 30
Theatre New West ... too
1415 California St. • 713-522-2204

out on the town JOHNNY HOOKS



Summer arts stops in Houston range from sublime architecture and theater to e-mail eye candy.

Get down there!

I JUST GOT BACK FROM LOS ANGELES. It's crazy out there as usual, but the recall of Governor Gray Davis is wacky even by California standards.

A visit with former Houstonian club king John Beeman and a look at the amazing architecture at the Walt Disney Concert Hall by superstar Frank Gehry (Check out the September issue of Vanity Fair for a look) had my arts engine raring to go. So when I touched down at IAH, I looked around with my "Queer Eye" and found the following events here in Houston.

Art: Architecture ... Art. Space. Light.
Viewing appointments through Aug. 31
1027 East 71/2 Street
Woodland Heights
832.754.1051

www.designconcepts-int.com

In a city that has redevelopment fever, how do designers, architects and developers market their projects to stay ahead of the competition?

Check out the Art and Architecture exhibit to find out. I found this new marketing/PR event/exhibit very refreshing, although I was glistening like a porn star, due to the lack of AC.

Design Concepts International, a Houston-based development team, in conjunction with six Houston artists presented a vision for the integration of art and architecture. Unlike traditional art openings, these works aren't displayed in a gallery or museum but in a 3300 square foot residential space defined by soaring vaulted ceilings, custom glasswork and integrated natural light.

The clean lines of the space coupled with the architectural integrity of the property are complemented by the bold works of the artists. Begona Lopez, Dale Stewart, Frank Anthony Porreco III, Katy Anderson, Lucinda Cobley, and Patrick Medrano all present work ranging from sublime furniture to glasswork, photography to pure geometry, intense self-portraiture and interactive mixed media.

I ALSO FOUND TWO ARTS EVENTS THAT make me proud to be from the Bayou City. These uniquely Houston artists merit attention and patronage.

David Brown/Mind Puddles
2305 Dunlavy
713-529-MIND
Spacetaker.org



Architect Jose Solis, Body Positive's Dianne McAdams, Southwest Bank's Brian Potter and Foley's Lisa Benitez enjoyed the opening of a Houston jewel: the Art & Architecture show. (Photo by Johnny Hooks)

David Brown's Spacetaker.org site sends weekly art valentines. Called "friday foto," it's so nice to get mail where the only purpose is to enlighten.

No Viagra, no spam, just beauty. I love it. Log on to Spacetaker.org to sign up and see David's work in person, get over to Hojpoj, a group show every Wednesday evening in August at Mind Puddles.

'Tamalalia 8: Tamarie Makes it Big'
Through September
Infernal Bridegroom Productions
713-522-8443

Tamarie Cooper and the gang at Infernal Bridegroom Productions definitely have done it again with "Tamalalia 8: Tamarie Makes it Big." Do yourself a favor and see this, the latest chapter in the story of the local diva.

I saw a late night Saturday show recently, and I roared with laughter along with the rest of the sold out house. I was lucky enough to play the Fashion Fairy Godmother in the original production and have seen 'em all since then.

Breakout performance? Kyle Sturdiavant as the Warden in "Everything is Orderly in Cell Block 14." Those brows, that smirk and the boy can sing! Take that Queen Latifah.

Infernal Bridegroom is a true jewel in this city's crown.

FINALLY, I RAN INTO ARTIST WILL Bensen, who gave me a heads up on his recent project, Iloveyoubaby.com. If you fancy yourself an artist, but have no place to express yourself, log on and see if this group experiment is for you.

Surf the site for previous Wednesday night exhibits and get on down to Commerce Street.

BEFORE THE CATEGORY WAS CALLED SUVs, THEY WERE SIMPLY CALLED LAND ROVERS.



2003 Freelander S Service Loaner
\$19,995 or 0% APR*



2003 Discovery S Service Loaner
STARTING AT \$28,995

Right now we have a great selection of Land Rover Service Loaners very attractively priced. All vehicles have never been titled, are low mileage, and have the remaining balance of a 4 year/50,000 mile factory warranty.



LAND ROVER HOUSTON

7019 Old Katy Road • 713-293-6100
www.landroverhouston.com

Mon - Fri 9am-7pm • Sat 9am-6pm

ADVANTAGE AUTOMOTIVE GROUP
The Southwest's Largest Land Rover Centre



*0% APR up to 60 months W.A.C. Limited time offer.

houston voice

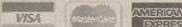
DELIVERS
direct to your door

6 months: \$45⁵⁰
1 year: \$91

For just the price of postage!



To subscribe, call 713.529.8490
or fax 713.529.9531



community calendar

SATURDAY AUG. 23

Texas Association for Transsexual Support. Group meets fourth Saturday of every month from 6 p.m. to 8 p.m. at the Houston LGBT Community Center, 3400 Montrose, Suite 207. 713-524-3818.

All-Spanish Worship Service/Noche Espiritual 7 p.m. Resurrection Metropolitan Community Church, 2026 W. 11th. 713-861-9149.

After Hours. KPFT 90.1 FM. 1-4 a.m.

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

Free HIV Testing. Montrose Clinic. 11 p.m.-2 a.m. at Viviana's. 713-830-3000.

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

Lambda Center. Alcoholics Anonymous. 11:30 a.m. Eye Opener Group. 8 p.m. Saturday Night Live. 9:30 p.m. Willing Ones Group. 1201 W. Clay. 713-521-1243 or 713-528-9772. www.lambdahouston.org.

Montrose Soccer Club. 10 a.m. practice. Woodrow Wilson School, Fairview and Yupon. New players welcome, but beginners not currently being admitted. 713-862-9491. http://geocities.com/montrosoccer. E-mail: montrosoccer@yahoo.com.

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

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

Houston GLBT Community Center. Drop-in, noon-5 p.m. • CATS (Community Awareness for Transgender Support) board meeting, 2 p.m. • TATS (Texas Association for Transsexual Support) meeting, 6 p.m. • 3400 Montrose, Suite 207. 713-524-3818. www.houstonglbtcenter.org.

SUNDAY AUG. 24

No-HATE. Planning meeting of educational program at the Houston GLBT Community Center facilitated by local educator Michael DeVoll. 2 p.m. to 4 p.m. at the center, 3400 Montrose, Suite 207. 713-524-3818.

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

Center for Spiritual Living. Services at 11 a.m., for children at 10:50 a.m. 6610 Harwin. 713-339-1808. The center also has commitment ceremonies, metaphysical bookstore and classes.

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

Community of Kindred Spirits in Beaumont. Worship at 6 p.m. 1575 Spindletop Ave., Beaumont, Texas. 409-813-2055. E-mail: cksev3@netzero.net

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 at noon. www.emersonhou.org.

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

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

Free HIV Testing. Montrose Clinic. 9 p.m.-midnight at Club Inergy. 713-830-3000.

Gay Bowling Leagues. 7 p.m. Palace Lanes, 4191 Bellaire Blvd. 713-861-1187.

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

GLOBAL. Gay Lesbian Or Bisexual Alliance. University of Houston GLBT student group meeting. 2 p.m. at the Houston Lesbian & Gay Community Center, 3400 Montrose, Suite 207. 713-524-3818. www.uh.edu/~global. E-mail: global@bayou.uh.edu.

Grace Assembly Church. Gay/gay-affirming congregation. 11 a.m. service. 567 Cedar Grove, Livingston, Texas, 77351. 936-646-7214. E-mail: leol@easttexas.net.

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

H.A.T.C.H. Houston Area Teen Coalition of Homosexuals meets 6-9 p.m. For meeting information, call 713-529-3590. www.hatchyouth.org.

Houston Roughnecks Rugby Club. Practice from 4-6 p.m. For more information, log on to www.roughnecksrugby.org.

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

Lambda Center. Alcoholics Anonymous. 9:30 a.m. Come to Believe Group. 1201 W. Clay. 713-521-1243 or 713-528-9772. www.lambdahouston.org

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

Northwoods Unitarian Universalist Church. Services at 9:45 & 11:15 a.m. Sunday school 9:45 a.m. 281-298-2780.

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. Patrick's Reformed Catholic Mission. Sunday Mass at noon. Holy Unions available. Group meets at the Hair Express, 3310 Delaware, Beaumont, Texas 77703. 409-781-8152. E-mail: bwatson1@gtRR.com.

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. 11 a.m. Riva's, 1117 Missouri St. Paul, 713-880-0690. E-mail: poznbuif@aol.com

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

Thoreau Unitarian Universalist Congregation. Adult discussion, 9 a.m. Service, 11:15 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 GLBT Community Center. Drop-in. 2-6 p.m. • GLBT Community Church with Rev. Melissa Wood: Bible study, 10-10:45 a.m., worship 11 a.m. www.geocities.com/glbtc • GLOBAL meeting,

6 p.m. • 3400 Montrose, Suite 207. 713-524-3818. www.houstonglbtcenter.org.

MONDAY AUG. 25

Center for Spiritual Living. Meditation (drop-in), 11:30 a.m.-1 p.m. 6610 Harwin. 713-339-1808.

Free HIV Testing. 4-8 p.m. at All Star News, 3415 Katy Freeway. Health clinic with free testing for HIV and syphilis. 713-869-7878.

Free HIV Testing. Houston Area Community Services. 9 a.m.-noon at Joseph-Hines Clinic, 1710 West 25th St. 713-526-0555, ext. 231, 227 or 226.

Free HIV Testing. Montrose Clinic. 4-8 p.m. at Bricks, 617 Fairview. 713-830-3000.

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

Gay Bowling Leagues. Women's league. 6:45 p.m. Dynamic Lanes, 6121 Tarnef Drive. 713-861-1187.

Gay Fathers/Fathers First. Support group. 8-9:30 p.m. Bering Memorial United Methodist Church, Tom, 713-726-8736. www.geocities.com/gaydadsHouston/

Grace Assembly Church. Gay/gay-affirming congregation. 7 p.m. aerobics class. 567 Cedar Grove, Livingston, Texas, 77351. 936-646-7214. E-mail: leol@easttexas.net.

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

Houston Roughnecks Rugby Club. Practice from 6:30-8:30 p.m. For more information, log on to www.roughnecksrugby.org.

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

Lambda Center. Alcoholics Anonymous. 8 p.m. Beginners' Group. 1201 W. Clay. 713-521-1243 or 713-528-9772. www.lambdahouston.org.

Montrose Clinic. Offers weekly peer support groups for gay and bisexual men with HIV. Spanish speaking group meets, 6:30 p.m. 215 Westheimer. 713-830-3050. Grupo de Apoyo para Latinos gay y bisexuales VIH positivos. Lunes 6:30. Para mas informacion llama al 713-830-3025.

Queer Voices Radio Show. 8-10 p.m. KPFT 90.1.

Houston GLBT Community Center. Drop-in. 2-9 p.m. • 3400 Montrose, Suite 207. 713-524-3818. www.houstonglbtcenter.org.

TUESDAY AUG. 26

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

Center for Spiritual Living. Meditation (drop-in), 11:30 a.m.-1 p.m. 6610 Harwin. 713-339-1808.

Free HIV Testing. Houston Area Community Services. 10 a.m.-2 p.m. at Joseph-Hines Clinic, 1710 West 25th St. 713-526-0555, ext. 231, 227 or 226.

Free HIV Testing. Montrose Clinic. 8 p.m.-midnight at Club Houston. Also 4-8 p.m. at 611 Club, 611 Hyde Park. 713-830-3000.

GLBT Pentecostals. Bible study, prayer, 7 p.m. in the Heights. For info: 936-931-3761; e-mail: www.Wgbl1947@cs.com.

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

Introduction to Buddhism. All welcome at 634 W. Temple in the Heights. 7 p.m. Carlton. 713-862-8129.

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

Houston GLBT Community Center. Drop-in. 2-9 p.m. • Lesbian Coming Out Group, 7 p.m. • 3400 Montrose, Suite 207. 713-524-3818. www.houstonglbtcenter.org.

WEDNESDAY AUG. 27

Center for Spiritual Living. Meditation (drop-in), 11:30 a.m.-1 p.m.; SOM Discussion & Exploration, 7 p.m. 6610 Harwin. 713-339-1808.

Crystal Meth Anonymous (CMA). 8:15 p.m. meeting. Montrose Counseling Center, 701 Richmond Ave., Room 15.

Bering Memorial United Methodist Church. Support Network Pot Luck 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. Montrose Clinic. 4-8 p.m. at Mary's, 1100 Westheimer, 9 p.m.-midnight at Ripcord, 715 Fairview, 10 p.m.-1 a.m. at E.J.'s, 2517 Ralph. 10 p.m.-1 a.m. at Midtowne Spa, 3100 Fannin. 713-830-3000.

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

Gay Bowling Leagues. 6:30 p.m. Palace Lanes, 4191 Bellaire Blvd. 713-861-1187.

Grace Assembly Church. Gay/gay-affirming congregation. 7 p.m. aerobics class. 567 Cedar Grove, Livingston, Texas, 77351. 936-646-7214. E-mail: leol@easttexas.net.

Houston Pride Band. Open rehearsal, 7:30-9:30 p.m. 1307 Yale. 713-862-1488.

Houston Roughnecks Rugby Club. Practice from 6:30-8:30 p.m. For more information, log on to www.roughnecksrugby.org.

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

Spiritual Uplift service. 7 p.m. Resurrection MCC. 713-861-9149.

Houston GLBT Community Center. Drop-in. 2-9 p.m. • Free HIV testing, counseling, 7-9 p.m. • Houston Pride Band rehearsal, 7:30 p.m. • 3400 Montrose, Suite 207. 713-524-3818. www.houstonglbtcenter.org.

THURSDAY AUG. 28

Montrose Writers Project. Public meeting on last Thursday of every month from 10 a.m. to 11 a.m. provides support for novice and experienced writers at the Houston GLBT Community Center, 3400 Montrose, Suite 207. 713-524-3818.

Center for Spiritual Living. Meditation (drop-in), 11:30 a.m.-1 p.m. 6610 Harwin. 713-339-1808.

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

Free HIV Testing. Houston Area Community Services. 10 a.m.-2 p.m. at Joseph-Hines Clinic, 1710 West 25th St. Also 11 a.m.-3:30 p.m. at Gallery Medical Clinic, 5900 North Freeway, and Club Toyz from 9 p.m.-midnight. 713-526-0555, ext. 231, 227 or 226.

Free HIV Testing. Montrose Clinic. 8 p.m.-midnight at Brazos River Bottom (BRB), 2400 Brazos, and Cousins, 817 Fairview. 713-830-3000.

Free HIV Testing. 4-8 p.m. at All Star News, 3415 Katy Freeway. Health clinic with free testing for HIV and syphilis. 713-869-7878.

FrontRunners. Running club. 6:30 p.m. 713-522-8021. Web site: http://home.swbell.net/larathon/houfr.htm. E-mail: larathon@swbell.net.

Gay Bowling Leagues. Luci Duos. 9 p.m. Dynamic Lanes, 6121 Tarnef Drive. 713-861-1187.

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.

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

Lake Livingston GLBT Support Group. 7 p.m. dinner and discussion. Grace Assembly Church, 567 Cedar Grove, Livingston, Texas, 77351. 936-646-7214. E-mail: leol@easttexas.net.

Lambda Skating Club. 8 p.m. Tradewinds Skating Rink. www.neosoft.com/~lrsr. 713-523-9620.

Montrose Clinic. Offers weekly peer support groups for gay and bisexual men with HIV. English speaking group meets, 6:30 p.m. 215 Westheimer. 713-830-3050.

Rainbow Ranglers. Free C&W dance lessons. No partner required. Brazos River Bottom. 8:30 p.m. 713-528-9192.

Recovery From Food Addiction (RFA). Meeting for 12-step program open to all. Noon-1 p.m. St. Stephen's Episcopal Church, 1805 W. Alabama St. RFA: 713-673-2848. www.geocities.com/ra77235/. E-mail: rfaworldservice@aol.com.

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

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

Houston GLBT Community Center. Drop-in. 2-9 p.m. • "Mending and Stitching," 2 p.m. • 3400 Montrose, Suite 207. 713-524-3818. www.houstonglbtcenter.org.

FRIDAY AUG. 29

Center for Spiritual Living. Meditation (drop-in), 11:30 a.m.-1 p.m. 6610 Harwin. 713-339-1808.

Free HIV Testing. Montrose Clinic. 10 p.m.-2 a.m. at The Meatrack, 2915 San Jacinto; 10 p.m.-1 a.m. at E.J.'s and at Midtowne Spa. 713-830-3000.

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

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

Grace Assembly Church. Gay/gay-affirming congregation. 7 p.m. aerobics class. 567 Cedar Grove, Livingston, Texas, 77351. 936-646-7214. E-mail: leol@easttexas.net.

H.A.T.C.H. Houston Area Teen Coalition of Homosexuals meets 7-10 p.m. For meeting information, call 713-529-3590. www.hatchyouth.org.

Houston Tennis Club. 7-9 p.m. Memorial Park at the Tennis Center. Houstontennisclub.org

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

Mishpachath Alizim. GLBT Jewish congregation. Sabbath services at 8 p.m. on the second Friday of each month at Baby Barnabys, 602 Fairview. Monthly study groups with Congregation Beth Israel, 5600 North Braeswood. Mishpachath Alizim, P.O. Box 980136, Houston, TX 77098. 866-841-9139, ext. 1834.

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

Houston GLBT Community Center. Drop-in. 2-9 p.m. • 3400 Montrose, Suite 207. 713-524-3818. www.houstonglbtcenter.org.

VOLUNTEER/SELF-HELP

ECHOS. This non-profit ministry of the Episcopal Church of the Epiphany is dedicated to helping people access health and social service systems. Free medical services include HIV, STD and hepatitis testing. Call for dates and times of services. 9610 S. Gessner. 713-270-0369. E-mail: echos-houston@swbell.net.

Gay & Lesbian Switchboard Houston. Volunteers offer a friendly ear to callers in need of information, nonjudgmental support and anonymous counseling to the GLBT community. 713-529-3211. www.gayswitchboardhouston.org.

HOP-ON. Anyone can join this non-profit moderated e-mail announcement list that helps facilitate advocacy work and organizing efforts for gay Houstonians. Quantity of postings is strictly limited. Postings include press releases and action alerts from national, state and local gay and allied organizations. For info or to join, access www.groups.yahoo.com/group/HOP-ON/.

Houston GLBT Community Center. Volunteers perform a variety of critical tasks which include staffing the information desk during drop-in hours; helping with center programming and events; working on community outreach efforts, fund-raising and publicity. Card players, writers and artists in particular are needed. 713-524-3818.

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.

appts

FRIDAY AUG. 22



Stages Repertory Theatre opens its 'Scriptwriters/Houston Ten by Ten,' which features 10, 10 minute plays by local playwrights that range from the Iraq War to the state of the American family. Show runs Fridays through Sundays at Stages, 3201 Allen Parkway. 713-527-0123

SATURDAY AUG. 23

Gay artist and photographer **David Lewis** presents his works at a show, sale and poetry reading from 8 p.m. to midnight at 3400 Montrose, Suite 507. 713-240-5508, davidlewisimages.com

SUNDAY AUG. 24

'A Gospel Jubilee' is the theme of fundraiser Don Gill's 2003 LIVE! show, which benefits gay men's programs at Montrose Clinic at 7 p.m. at Brazos River Bottom, 2400 Brazos St. 713-521-0911.

The Houston chapter of the Human Rights Campaign throws its first **End of Summer Bash**, dubbed 'Disco Bowl 2003.' The event features a live DJ, bowling and food at 2 p.m. at the Palace Lanes in Bellaire, 4191 Bellaire Blvd. Entry fees automatically include a one-year HRC membership. www.hrchoouston.org.

THURSDAY AUG. 28

The **Montrose Writers Project** hosts its meeting to support novice and experienced writers from 10 a.m. to 11 a.m. at the Houston GLBT Community Center, 3400 Montrose, Suite 207. 713-524-3818.

SATURDAY AUG. 30

The **Rainbow Fishing Club** hits the water in Freeport on Captain Elliott's Party Boat, boarding at 5 a.m. for a day of fishing and camaraderie. Galveston and other Freeport trips are planned through October. Call 713-523-6381.

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.

out on the bayou

Author eschews comparisons to other black 'SGL' writers

J.E. HARDY, continued from Page 15

says. "I know [the other editors] are kicking themselves now."

It's been said that the "B-Boy" characters, especially journalist Mitchell, are much like Hardy.

"All the characters are an extension of me, with Mitchell being my alter ego: we have the same outer core and bio," the author says. "I live vicariously through him."

Hardy plans for the sixth "B-boy" book to wrap-up the series.

"This will be the final title," he says. "The action jumps ahead eight years into the 21st century, and we finally get answers to many of the questions people have had."

THE AUTHOR IS PLEASANTLY surprised to find that the series crossed over from a strictly gay audience.

"The series tells a tale that has been told millions of times before — opposites attract and fall in love," Hardy says. "People who are not African-American and/or SGL (same gender loving), especially heterosexual sisters, say they get 50, 60 pages into the books and it slips their mind they're reading

about the relationship between two men."

Hardy may be best known for the "B-Boy" series, but he also wrote "Boyz II Men" and "Spike Lee: Filmmaker." But Hardy often hears comparisons of himself to another African American writer: E Lynn Harris.

"When people mention us in the same breath, they rarely ever compare our work," Hardy says. "Book critics and journalists, particularly Caucasian queers and black heteros, do it only because their knowledge of and about African American SGL writers is very narrow, and they are too lazy to do their homework."

"The only thing we have in common is that we're both black SGL men — and that isn't a jood enough reason to compare us," he adds.

"There are many other black SGL writers, yet they get little mention because folks are so content on playing this JEH vs. ELH game, endorsing this idea that there's room for only one Negro homo writer in the literary universe."

Hardy is proud that his writing addresses issues like homophobia and racism in his writing.

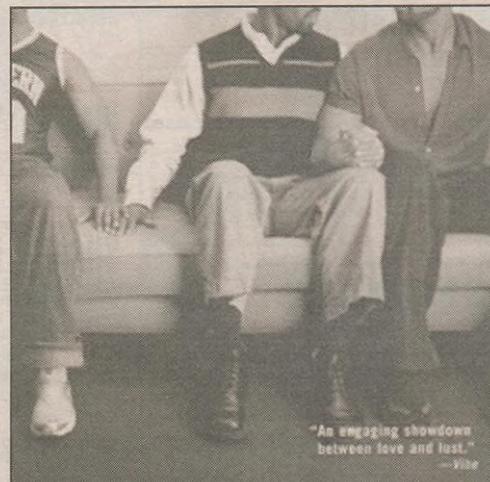
"Having a Negro for a lover or

friend or counting yourself as an 'ally' or 'gay friendly' doesn't mean you aren't and can't be a bigot," Hardy says. "The failure to properly address [racism and homophobia] has allowed entities like the Religious Wrong and all those self-righteous groups with 'family' in their titles to grow in number and stature, and the backlash against the possibility of same-sex marriage becoming legal is proof."

"Black SGL people are the best offense Caucasian queers and black heteros have in the fight," he says. "Yet you'd never know it given how we're tomed — tokenized, objectified, marginalized, exoticized and demonized — by them."

As Hardy plans to attend Black Gay Pride in Atlanta over Labor Day Weekend, he calls the annual event and the issues it raises for gays of color "essential."

"While gay and lesbian people have and continue to make many advances, blacks and other people of color are still relegated to the margins," Hardy says. "So it's important and necessary for us to have forums where we can fellowship, affirm our legacy and celebrate our uniqueness."



James Earl Hardy
LOVE THE ONE YOU'RE WITH
 A B-Boy Blues Novel

'Love the One You're With' is the latest novel by James Earl Hardy, who says the "B-Boy" characters, particularly journalist Mitchell, are an extension of him.

what are you waiting for? it's free!

dream
 TO REALITY

HOUSTONVOICE**personals**

Houston Voice PLACE YOUR **FREE** AD NOW! CALL 877 863 1885 OR PLACE YOUR AD ONLINE AT WWW.HOUSTONVOICE.COM

CLASSIFIEDS

Call toll-free 1.877.863.1885 to place your ad. Up to 25 words only \$12.50 per week. 50¢ each additional word. Fax toll-free 1.888.409.6768, or visit houstonvoice.com.

REAL ESTATE SERVICES

COLDWELL BANKER UNITED REALTORS When you consider selling your home, isn't it nice to find a realtor that's in the family? Call Mark Boline...he's family. Call Mark today! (713) 523-5709.

STAND OUT FROM THE CROWD Is your home special? Tell our readers about it. Guarantee they will see it with our new features. **Bold** or box your ad for added attraction. Contact our customer service reps for more details. (877) 863-1885.

SALE / HOUSTON

WESTBURG 2 BRs, 1.5 BA, TH in landscaped courtyard w/ patio. Decorator colors & touches throughout. \$71,900. Call David @ (713) 283-0843. Agent.

SALE / ELSEWHERE

PENSACOLA / EAST HILL Classic 1940's 3 BR, 2 BA, 1900 sqft classic. Completely restored, arches and wood floors, new roof, windows, paint and master bedroom suite addition. Near beaches. Mayberry type neighborhood. Reduced to \$169,680. Call Lyn at DONOVAN REALTY (800) 228-7603. aera34b@aol.com.

RENT / HOUSTON

610 & SHEPARD (235 West 30th / Garden Oaks, Phase II) 11,00 sq ft, 2 BR, 1 BA + den, formal LR & DR, CAC/heat, hdwd flrs & huge yard w/ Oak tree! Lawn service included. \$1,100/mo. Ref req'd. (281) 324-1880 (w) / (281) 328-3449 (h)

HEIGHTS \$1,000/MO (713) 861-0297 2 BRs lg 7 rm apt. Upstairs. Quiet. Hdwds, WD, gated entry, yard access & water paid.

MONTROSE

✓Renov 2 BR, 1 BA apt. \$800/mo.
✓Renov "Loft" style 1 BR, 1 BA. \$650/mo.
Call David, (713) 283-0843. Agent

RENT IT FAST with our new features. Draw attention to your ad by using our **bold** or box feature. Contact our customer service reps for more details. (877) 863-1885.

SPRING, TX 3 BR, 2 BA, 2 Car garage, Nice yard. Min from Hardy Toll Road, I45 & Woodlands Mall. \$1,250/mo. Call (936) 273-4736.

WEST U Vintage TH style duplex. 2/1/1, CAC/heat & fans, hdwd flrs, new apps & WD. Priv patio, gated, tree lined streets, near shopping, entertainment. Must see! (713) 665-7587.

WESTBURY GARDENS Two 1 BR condos:
✓Upstairs unit - all new ceramic flr, apps & BA. \$500/mo.
✓Downstairs unit - ceramic flr. \$425/mo.

S	N	W	A	H	T	E	D	O	L	A	R	E	P
V	N	L	E	V	V	N	V	M	V	E	G	A	
H	C	V	B	R	O	A	R	E	R	J	E	D	E
			O	O	B	O	B	S	R	S	O	H	
E	S	L	E	B	O	T	B	E	S	O	T	C	
T	V	H	L	E	T	V	D	V	D				
E	I	G	O	D	H	L	O	N	N	E	D		
T	T	I	S	S	L	V	O	G	S	V	R	E	
S	V	T		G	N	O	M	A	N	M	V	T	
		H	C	N	I			E	R	I	V	T	C
A	R	I	E	O	P	A	D	E	D	A	T	F	
S	E	I	R	P	R	I	E	A	T	O	N	A	L
L	D	O		I	N	O	T	E	M	S	I	R	H
N	N		T	V	D	E	W	A	S	I	R	C	
G	U		S	I	D	E		W	A	R	E	C	

Answers to this week's Q puzzle on Page 23

Both have DW, disposal, assigned covered prkg & community pool. (713) 728-8263.

WOODLAND HEIGHTS Home for rent. 2 BR, 1 BA home for rent. Fpl, 2 car garage, WD. 5 mins from Downtown or Montrose. \$1,500.00/mo + deposit & utils (Water paid). (713) 686-2075 x1.

WANTED TO RENT

MONTROSE Need a roommate? Senior GM needs a place to stay. Will pay shr of rent & expenses. I don't smoke or drink. What you do is your own business. Call (713) 498-4478.

SHARE / HOUSTON

CENTRAL MONTROSE Lrg 2 BR, 1 BA partially furn apt to shr w/ GM, smoker. Close to Metro. Bills paid. \$400/mo. \$100 dep w/ references. Employment req'd. David (713) 494-9070.

MONTROSE

GWM to share furn 2 BR, 2 BA liv/den. Catv. No pets, no smoke. Bills paid. \$500/mo + dep + phone for comp, if needed. (713) 522-4995.

NORTHWEST / HOUSTON GF, NS/no drugs. Shr House, priv BR, BA, many amens. \$400/mo + 1/2 utils. (281) 970-7912.

SE 610 LOOP AREA Lrg 3 BR house to shr, lrg swimming pool. \$400/mo. (713) 941-4646.

SPRING / FM1960 Gay couple seeking GM to shr, 4 BR, 2.5 BA home w/ pool & many amens. \$400/mo + 1/4 utils. (713) 385-1851.

WANTED TO SHARE MID-TOWN HOME lower level private BR, BA - Small outside patio. Must love dogs & could reduce rent for care of dogs once a month. \$575/mo incl utils (832) 366-1731 or (713) 927-3858, houmik69@sbcglobal.net.

COMMITMENT CEREMONIES

ANNOUNCE YOUR UNION The Houston Voice is proud to announce the addition of a "Commitment Ceremonies" category to our Classified listings. When making arrangements for your Union, don't forget to include the most important aspect of all...announcing the date. Publishing your union is easy & simple. Call (877) 863-1885 ext 223 to put the finishing touches on your ceremony.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

CONVERGENCE 2003 IS Aug 29 through Sept 1 at the Grand Hyatt Hotel in Washington, DC. A fun weekend for gay chubby men & chasers. For complete information go to: www.chubevents.com.

EMPLOYMENT

\$600 WEEKLY! Process HUD/FHA, MIP refunds from home. No experience needed! (800) 277-1223 ext 199. www.NCISONLINE.COM

6-7 FIGURE INCOME STARTING NOW! Stop looking & start earning. Our system + your real desire = success now! FT/PT. Not MLM. Call (800) 570-2194 for FREE 24 hr message.

BARBER / HAIRSTYLIST in the Montrose Area to lease chair at very reasonable rate. Frank (713) 522-2263. Change for the new year.

FILMGENRE - MOTION PICTURE COMPANY Seeks salesmen for soliciting digital film making workshops. (713) 942-8320 www.filmgenre.com.

FT / PT OUTREACH WORKER NEEDED Must be able to work nights. Will be recruiting participants for an HIV study on the streets of Montrose, (713) 520-8928.

FT / PT SMOKE SHOP / VIDEO STORE Bizarre Times (8261 Richmond Ave @ Dunvale) is now hiring FT/PT. Drug test required. Call Michael (713) 545-5621.

DOMESTIC HELP

PT DOMESTIC JACK OF ALL TRADES (Cleaning, cooking, projects) needed to assist widow in modest Bunker Hill home. (713) 480-2765.

LOCAL ACCOMMODATIONS

MONTROSE INN On your next visit to Houston stay w/ us!

We offer a 7 room B&B incl queen beds, CATV & phone. Convenient to 15 gay bars. (713) 520-0206 or (800) 357-1228. Visit our website @ www.montrose.com.

THE LOVETT INN Distinctive lodging & catering accommodations. Corporate meeting rooms, banquet facilities, jacuzzi suites, pool & hot tubs. Near downtown, museums & medical center. (713) 522-5224 or (800) 779-5224. View our website at www.lovetinn.com.

TRAVEL / INTERNATIONAL

HANS EBENSTEN TRAVEL Great European hikes!!
✓ALPINE ODDYSSEY 8/22-9/6 - See the stunning vistas of the Austrian Alps, then relax in Venice w/ friends!
✓MYKONOS & MONASTERIES 9/4-9/15 (Mykonos extension to 9/18) - Hike through history on Mount Athos along spectacular mountain trails!
✓IRISH IDYLLS 9/20-9/27 - Explore the magic of the Emerald Isle from our cozy gay-friendly B&B!
Also contact us about trips to the Nile, Peru or viewing the polar bears of Canada!! (866) 294-8174. www.Htravel.com or Htravel@aol.com.

TRAVEL / U.S.A.

BEAR HAVEN Hedonistic hideaway secluded on 30 luscious acres in the foothills of the Blue Ridge Mountains. Not a B&B, you have it all to yourselves! Total privacy! Charming cottage is perfect blend or art 7 rustic in nature's most serene setting. With in-ground pool and hot tub. Only 1+ hrs from Beltway. (202) 271-8282.

DC GuestHouse Elegant Victorian mansion built in 1867. Logan/Convention Center location. Blks away from world class dining & diverse entertainment. Gay owned & operated. (202) 332-2502 www.dcguesthouse.com.

FORT LAUDERDALE It's HOTTER THAN EVER down here! www.TheCabanasGuesthouse.com or call (866) 564-7764.

HILTON HEAD, SC Planning to relocate? Need a vacation? Make your plans now to come to beautiful beaches of Hilton Head, South Carolina. Long term rentals-or limited short term rentals. See some of our property listings at <http://homelistsings.tripod.com/>. Feel free to send inquiries to Melroselongterm@aol.com.

LOST RIVER, WEST VIRGINIA The Guest House at Lost River, 2 hrs Beltway. Premium accommodations in a cozy country-style B&B setting. Quietly secluded, private & bordering the million-acre George Washington National Forest, this mini-resort offers a continuous atmosphere of tranquility & absolute peace while in a luxurious setting. Our main lodge, w/ over 4,000 sq ft of common area, is constructed of log & cedar w/ an enormous 19-foot tall stone fireplace. Guest will always find a nook or cranny to enjoy a cozy place to cuddle, relax & enjoy the space to yourself. Amenities incl.: heated pool; outdoor jacuzzi, indoor subterranean stone & tile grotto w/ 10 person spa & 8-person steam room, new fitness center, ACE-Certified Personal Trainer by appt, massage therapy room, licensed therapist on staff, facials & tanning. Dinner-Saturdays. (304) 897-5707. E-mail: guesthse@hardynet.com Web page: www.guesthouseatlostriver.com

MOOSE MEADOW LODGE Vermont log home, Waterbury. Gay-owned, luxurious Adirondack-style B&B on 86 acres. Premier site for civil unions & romantic getaways. (802) 244-5378. www.moosemeadowlodge.com

PROVINCETOWN's largest selection of condo, house & guest house rentals. (800) 677-8696. www.intownreservations.com InTownReservations.

PROVINCETOWN / CAPE COD Rent time in paradise! Condos & homes. Wkly or more. (800) 838-4005 or www.HARBORSIDE-REALTY.com.



REHOBOTH GUEST HOUSE Better than P-Town!! The best location, the best value, the best rates. Now open all year. (800) 564-0493. www.rehobothguesthouse.com.

ROSELAND GUESTHOUSE & CAMPGROUD America's Scenic Resort. Located 32 miles south of Wheeling, WVA. Offering B&B style guest rooms, barracks, cabins, trailer sites & tent camping. Pool, 2 hot tubs, 10 miles of hiking trails, food service, convenience store, recreation hall, deluxe bath facilities, theme weekends, scenic views. /bCatering to Gay Men, Clothing Optional./a Gay owned & operated. www.rcv.net/roseland. (304) 455-3838.

NEARBY GETAWAYS

FORT LAUDERDALE Beach Bungalows tastefully appointed, spacious great room, queen bedded room, fully equipped kit, heated pool. Ideally located near beach & bars. \$500/wk through 12/15. (888) 541-5151 or www.bellegrae.com (Ft. Lauderdale).

FT LAUDERDALE BLUE DOLPHIN Mens Resort. Season specials now in effect. Save Now! Call (800) 893-2583 or visit our website at: www.bluedolphinhotel.com

KEY WEST Call me for best deal on renting a luxury townhouse in gated community in old town. (202) 607-4178.

SOUTH BEACH, FL. ISLAND HOUSE. Be in the middle of the sexiest strip at SoBe's largest gay guesthouse. Rooms/studios. Complimentary breakfast & weekend happy hour! Walk to gay beach, hot nightlife, the finest shopping & dining. 1428 Collins Ave. (800) 382-2422. www.islandhousesouthbeach.com

PLACE YOUR CLASSIFIED AD ON THE WEB!
www.houstonvoice.com
or call
1-877-863-1885

WEST GALVESTON ISLAND Fabulous selection of beachfront, beachside, & bayfront homes. Weekly & weekend rentals. Sand N' Sea Pirates Beach. Call (800) 880-2554 for a free brochure or visit www.sandnsea.com for photos, info & weekend specials.

VEHICLES



1978 YAMAHA CHAPPY'S Matching pair of Yamaha "Chappy's" in unbelievable condition. Each w/ 1.8K mi, fully automatic, street legal. Great fun. Both for only \$2,495. (713) 807-8701.

CLEAR LAKE INFINITI dominates in customer satisfaction. For a personal low pressure evaluation of your automotive needs. Call Robert Russek today! (713) 589-4000.

RUN IT 'TILL YOU SELL IT. Take advantage of our new "Run it 'till you sell it" promotional. Place an ad to sell your car and email a photo of the car and run the ad until it sells. It's only \$39.99. Call our friendly staff toll free today! (877) 863-1885.

PETS / SUPPLIES

PET SITTING BY LOYAL Let your pets relax at home so you can relax on vacation. I provide in-home TLC, daily walks & play for your pets to keep them happy while you are gone. Plan ahead for a stress-free summer vacation! Call (713) 942-8816 or loy318@aol.com.

CLASSIFIEDS

GRETCHEN & IVY'S

PET SITTING & DOGGIE WALKS "Your pet is healthy & happy when you get home." Insured, certified pet first aid & CPR. Call (713) 290-1633.

PHONE SERVICES

CHEAP LONG DISTANCE!

3.5 cents a minute Business and Residential state-to-state long distance! All day, every day! No monthly minimums, fees, or gimmicks! Get a free toll-free number, which also bills at the same rate. Low international and in-state rates. Order online at: www.queertel.com.

FINANCIAL SERVICES

AMERICAN CONSUMER CREDIT COUNSELING ACCC is dedicated to helping consumers regain control of their personal finances. Take the next step in fighting your debt battle. As our partner you can be assured that we will do our best to reduce your interest rates, reduce your monthly payments & reduce the time required to pay off your debt. Call now for a free no obligation consultation. (800) 867-3407 or www.consumercredit.com.

BANKRUPTCY Free initial consultation. Rogena Jan Atkinson, Attorney at Law. Call (713) 862-1700.

INSURANCE

SCHMERLER AGENCY Great car insurance! Also great for home, renters, life, health, business insurance & much more. Call (713) 661-7700 or www.SchmerlerAgency.com.

LINKED VIATICAL BENEFITS The opportunity for selling your life insurance policy has reopened. All stages of HIV/AIDS may qualify & any type of policy (Individual, Group, FEGLI, VGLI) is considered. Please call us today for a free consultation. Gay owned & operated. Call 1-800-275-3090.

COMPUTERS / SERVICE

COMPUTER REPAIR / UPGRADE in your home or business. I repair, upgrade, network computers at your place. Reasonable rates. In most cases same day service. Call (281) 380-1093. <http://pic.dyndns.org>.

HOME IMPROVEMENT



YOU BUILD HOMES...

I BUILD ADS FOR YOUR SUCCESS! Call me, Rodney, to place your Home Improvement ad with Houston Voice Classifieds (877) 863-1885 ext 247 or rwoodland@washblade.com

MOVING

FRENCH'S MOVING SERVICE Local & State Wide. www.ahoustonmover.com. (713) 861-1212.

PHOTOGRAPHY / VIDEO

DAVID LEWIS IMAGES Events, headshots, portraits. New studio location. (713) 240-5503 or www.davidlewisimages.com.

MASSAGE

MASSAGE BY KEN Experience stress relief. Convenient Montrose location. By appt only. 11am-8pm. RMT #028519. KEN CLAUDE. (713) 240-9598.

DEEP TISSUE / SPORTS MASSAGE David Crawford. RMT located in the Heights, professional only. Pager (281) 262-5191.

SWEDISH MASSAGE BY PATRICK Relaxation, Myotherapy, deep tissue. \$60/1.5hrs; \$50/hr. (RMT #024589) (713) 739-0087. (713) 501-9852, deeptissueman2@aol.com.

RYAN FUGATE Therapeutic Massage & bodywork; RMT,NMT. Gift certificates avail! (713) 269-7926.

BODY MAGIC Swedish, sports, deep tissue. Montrose. In/out. 10am-10pm. Dan (713) 529-8787 or (713) 857-1009.

THERAPEUTIC SWEDISH sports, deep tissue, myotherapy, relaxation therapy. Jason, college guy. Memorial Park & Montrose Studios. (713) 524-5400. www.sizzilingmassage.com.

MASSAGE BY BILL All Knotted Up Massage. Incalls/outcalls. 8am-10pm. 7-days/wk. Excellent rates. Call Bill (281) 530-4751.

MAN-TO-MAN MASSAGE by mature, experienced RMT. Private studio located in the Heights. 9am-9pm M-F. (713) 202-9786, www.classicmassage.com.

RICO Sensual rubdowns by masc latino. In/Out/Hotel calls. 24hrs. 7 days wk. Travels USA. Se habla español. (713) 521-0129.

COUNSELING / SUPPORT

JON-PAUL HAMILTON Board certified Psychiatrist. Specializes in Psychotherapy & medication management for adolescents & adults. New office in Montrose w/ immediate appointments avail. Sliding scale fees to those who qualify. Call (713) 522-7014.

BODY / SOUL

KARAN STONE Professional psychic providing individual consultation, making accurate predictions about your future... Love, career, health, business, transactions. Court cases, family affairs & wealth. Will achieve results in all emergency situations. Nothing is beyond your reach with **Karan Stone!** Toll Free 1-866-491-4877.

MEN'S BODY GROOMING Waxing & clipping. Dale. Priv location in Montrose. Call (713) 529-5952 for appt.

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		

"Sometimes the Cops Are on Our Side"

Across

- It will rise, in a Sophie B. Hawkins' title
- Cuts "Leaves of Grass"?
- Moonshine container, for Gomer
- Act up, with "on"
- Olympic award for Louganis
- Burmese statesman that goes either way?
- Gay prisoner por trayor on "Oz"
- Banned bug killer
- Not like the sound of music, traditionally
- Sticks one's nose into things
- Old org. of tight ends
- Cruising hazard
- What Emily Dickinson put out
- Trisha Todd's "___ of the Moon"
- Chat room measure
- Of the Cowardly Lion's hue
- Gay dad and former M. Butterfly
- "___ Vegas Bugle"
- Stats from "A League of Their Own"
- Whipping boys
- Russian River deposit
- Bear lair
- Mr. Big portrayer on "Sex and the City"
- Gay rodeo "lassooe"
- Style of Marcel Duchamp
- Capable of cold-cocking you

- Many are out of it
- Jiminy Glick, eg.
- Half a fly?
- Hung beast of a simile
- Yogi Bear's partner
- He comes between Ed and Eddy
- Lumiere's voice in "Beauty and the Beast"
- Hawk-chicken difference
- Appliance brand
- Volcano in the home land of Madonna's grandparents
- A pop
- Sing part of "The Lonely Goatherd"
- Songs at Metropolitan Community Church

Down

- Caesar's perfect bowling score?
- Gay Games cry
- Blow it
- "Aida" solo
- Val McDermid genre
- What Roshan and Denny do to text
- Homophobic House Majority Leader
- Ryan of porn
- Provincetown project
- Don, as a nightie
- Actress who is an AIDS fundraiser
- Berube's "Coming Out ___ Fire"
- Like Melissa Etheridge's music

- Major or minor, to Jerry Herman
- YMCA activity
- Emulated Miriam Margolyes
- What a flaming queen designs with?
- TV show of five thespians in this puzzle
- Police at Stonewall, in slang
- Agy. that denies green cards to same-sex partners
- Put the moves on
- Bit of grain for a granola lesbian
- Ordinal for John Nash
- Edgar Box to Gore Vidal
- Ancient erection
- Alice's insect tour guide in Wonderland
- Karen Walker, perhaps
- She played Laura in "Tea and Sympathy"
- It comes after kick or kiss
- Gay bar spinner
- WNBA star Rebecca
- Tight-fisted
- Gay ski weekend shanty
- Transported
- Word in the second Scout law*
- Davis of "Querelle"
- Heed a master
- Oddball comedian Philips
- It swallows plastic
- Anderson Cooper's network
- Responses to a set by Ellen DeGeneres

Answers on Page 22

take control

GET THE ATTENTION YOU DESERVE- WITH A NEW LOW PRICE!

HOUSTONVOICEclassifieds

PLACE YOUR CLASSIFIED AD NOW!
CALL 877 863 1885
OR PLACE YOUR AD ONLINE AT
WWW.HOUSTONVOICE.COM

PROFESSIONAL SERVICES

NOT HAVING ANY LUCK?
Have you been turned down too many times?

SECOND TRY HOME FINANCE can help. We offer Home Mortgage Loans, Consolidation Loans, Personal Loans and Small Business Loans.

SECOND TRY
Home Finance
Call:
1-877-817-3059

SHAWN PENN
AVONDALE HAIR SALON
(713) 521-2444
Tuesday - Saturday • By Appointment Only!
2702 Crocker • Houston, TX 77006
www.shawnpenn.com



WELLER & RYGIEL CONSTRUCTION

415 Fairview St. • Houston, TX 77006
Contact Richard Weller at

832.867.0391

• SERVICES •

Remodeling: Interior and exterior. Additions: Any kind of room added to your home. New Construction: New buildings of any kind, home, garage, etc.

FREE ESTIMATES

Commercial and Residential
No Job Too Small

Jerry W. Simoneaux, Jr.
attorney at law
713-227-1717
Legal Protection for GLBT Families
Houston, Texas
Law.Simoneaux.com
Not Certified, Texas Board of Legal Specialization



Jim's Business & Home Improvement

Serving "The Community" Since 1995!

- Roofing, Painting and Plumbing for Residential & Commercial Clients
- FREE ESTIMATES! BONDED!
- Interior & Exteriors, Rental Property & "For Sale" Preparation
- Pressure Washing
- Sheetrock Repair
- Sewage Problems, Appliance Repairs & Installation

713-498-9921
oscar-t@msn.com

LAWRENCE CONSTRUCTION
Carpentry • Repairs • Remodeling •
936.563.5180 / 936.760.5531
Lawrence Gilstrap
Serving Houston's Gay Community for 15 years

Specializing in relationships, both personal and professional, and in transitions in life.
Helping you find your passion is my purpose...
4040 Milam, Suite 310
713.467.8748 or 832.283.7390
E-mail: donnie@donnieday.com
www.donnieday.com
Donnie Day, Life Coach
Reality Therapy Certified

Board Certified Psychiatrist **Jon-Paul Hamilton, M.D.**
• Treatment for Depression, Anxiety, Relationship Issues.
• New Office in Montrose with Immediate Appointments Available.
• Sliding Scale Fees to those who Qualify.
713.522.7014
4200 Montrose Boulevard • Suite 540
Houston, Texas 77006



Relax... you've got
Rubs by Ron
Full-body Swedish Massage & Reflexology by Licensed Therapist
(713) 524-8692
By appointment only. 24 Hours notice please. Leave full name and phone number. MT03505.

aiki yoga massage
713.529.8490
www.aikiyoga.com



VOTED 2002 **BEST MASSAGE**
IN HOUSTON BY TRIANGLE READERS
MASSAGE by rail
BACK FROM NEW YORK!
NOW SERVING AUSTIN - CALL 512.689.7963
PREFERRED 1.5 HOURS . . . \$75
1 HOUR \$60
NATIONALLY CERTIFIED THERAPIST
Jacuzzi Before and/or After Massage Available in Private Tropical Setting (Houston)
CALL 832.524.7700 OR 713.527.0400

if your hair isn't BECOMING to you, then you should BE COMING to me.
DON GILL STUDIO 911
713-521-0911
BY APPOINTMENT ONLY

FOR MEN ONLY
Professional Full Body Massage For Total Relaxation & Pain Relief
Call **LUIGI**
281 804-8027
7 days a week • Day & Evenings • Outcalls Welcome
MT 027249 • Galleria Area

inkworkx.com/message.htm
estee dan jeff
4 hands TOCAR
713 802 0439

MASSAGE by Ken
713-240-9598
Ken Claude RMT#28519

FREE Bizarre Times
Admission to Video Arcade w/coupon
Body Toxin Remover • Smoke Shop • Club Wear
Adult novelties • Body Jewelry • Dance Wear • Perfumes
Adult Arcade • Couple's Theater • Open 24-Hours
8261 Richmond • Houston, TX 77063 • 713-532-9990

BUY
2 DVD/VHS and get 1 DVD/VHS of equal or lesser value
FREE w/coupon

Get results! Call now at 713.529.8490 to place your ad in the directory!

PROFESSIONAL SERVICES



THE TIRE PLACE
Inc.

- Alignment
- Brakes



1307 Fairview
(3 blocks west of Montrose)
713-529-1414

david lewis images



events
headshots
portraits

new studio location

Art/Photo show & sale
Saturday, August 23, 8 p.m. -12 a.m.
3400 Montrose, No. 507
Art, Music, Poetry Reading

713.240.5503
www.davislewisimages.com

brick
bishop
massage therapy



713-725-9739 mt#061857

DAVID CRAWFORD



Specializing in
Deep Tissue/Sports

Registered Massage
Therapist

Located in the Heights.
By appointment only.
281-262-5191 Professional Only

Ryan Fugate
RMT, NMT, II RMT
Therapeutic Massage
& Bodywork



713-269-7926

rob
morgan
bodyworks



713-899-9526
robermorgan@houston.rr.com

The Tire Man

**Alignments
Brakes**

2314 Washington
713-880-4747

A MAN'S TOUCH

MALE LOPEZ
and associate
KENTON LITTLE

Ultimate Swedish
Massage for Today's
Business Man.
Single & Tandem "4 Hands"
Massage, Body Waxing &
Body Cuts Available!

281-844-7456 • mlopez@wt.net



MASSAGE
FEEL AWESOME
manmassage.net
713.942.2399

- Montrose Location
- 7 days/evenings
- Visa/Mastercard
- Outcalls welcome



Roland

astrology JILL DEARMAN



Mercury goes retrograde on the 28th, Jupiter moves houses and there's a new moon next week. Be prepared.

Carry a toothbrush, Cancer

♈ Aries (March 21 to April 20):
Mercury goes retrograde Aug. 28 in your house of daily work. Make an extra effort to communicate with bosses and colleagues. Unruffle feathers by being as non-defensive as possible. Your good-sport attitude gets you far. An Aquarius into exotic sports takes your mind off the job after hours.

♉ Taurus (April 21 to May 20):
Walk away if the one you love treats you like dirt. When you reclaim your dignity, you get everything you want and more. A Leo is super-sensitive to your every mood and will do everything to please you. This is your time to lie back and wait.

♊ Gemini (May 21 to June 21):
The Aug. 27 new moon falls in your house of home and family and brings new stability to the domestic part of your life. Get rid of what you no longer need materially and emotionally. You and a Virgo may annoy each other when Mercury goes retrograde on Aug. 28, but don't make it into a war when it's just a little battle.

♋ Cancer (June 22 to July 22):
Jupiter moves into your light-hearted and highly social third house Aug. 27 for a whole year. Just in time for a little spontaneous all-night flirting with a Virgo. Your wit has never been sharper. See where the conversational foreplay leads you. This week, carry your toothbrush with you everywhere.

♌ Leo (July 23 to Aug. 22): Take a little time to do what you love to do — nothing! Before lucky Jupiter moves Aug. 27 into your high-rolling house of finances, take a couple days off. Playing hooky helps you get your energy back for more important things — like making money and making out with a Pisces.

♍ Virgo (Aug. 23 to Sept. 22):
Hold the paranoia, Virgo. You are actually entering into an incredibly fortunate cycle. Jupiter is on your side for a whole year. You can make your dreams come true, so don't get thrown off course by some coarse words from a Scorpio. Mercury's Aug. 28 retrograde has you looking at the great things that are beginning to happen in your life.

♎ Libra (Sept. 23 to Oct. 22):
Mercury retrograde Aug. 28 could usher in a few weeks of tedious confusion at work. Don't take it so seriously. Correct errors with a smile and then put your real energy into your relationships. Communication with a Gemini is challenging at first, then pays off in spades.

♏ Scorpio (Oct. 23 to Nov. 21):
Saturn in your house of teaching and learning is encouraging you to learn some new tricks. Self-educate instead of blathering about what you think you know. A Capricorn is interested in substance over style. Aren't you?

♐ Sagittarius (Nov. 22 to Dec. 21): Don't even think about how much work you have to do to accomplish your short-term goals. Just start doing it. Sweat a little on the job, and when you come home a Cancer will be your domestic slave.

♑ Capricorn (Dec. 22 to Jan. 19):
There's no reason to panic over imminent changes in your day-to-day life. You need a break from your tedious routine. A shake-up on the home front is a good thing. A Libra wants to give you a complete life makeover. Accept the offer.

♒ Aquarius (Jan. 20 to Feb. 18):
Don't make your love life more complicated than it has to be. You are closer than you think to achieving domestic bliss. The key is to allow other people to change and grow. A fellow Aquarius has a lot to teach you about your own commitment issues.

♓ Pisces (Feb. 19 to March 20):
This is a dramatic time for you. Just when you thought you could take the rational approach to life, Jupiter forces you to trust in your heart and in lady luck. A Taurus wants you to cash in your pessimism and invest in your own sense of faith.

@ 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.

Get results! Call 713.529.8490 to place your ad in the directory!

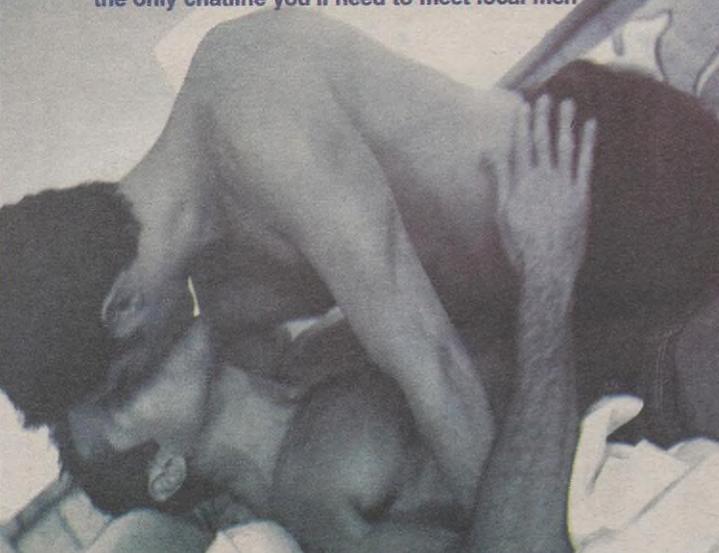


PASSION
give into it

at the worlds largest gay adult entertainment website
WWW.BADPUPPY.COM
THE INNOVATOR! Continuously Online Since 1995



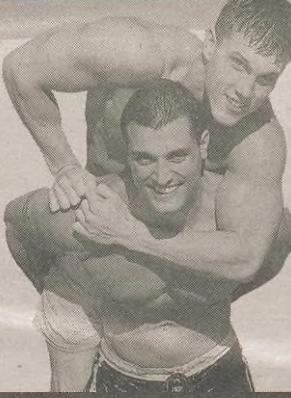
HARDLINE
the only chatline you'll need to meet local men



30min FREE!
hot men all the time! (713) 590-9090 (ext. 6436)

or charge by phone: 1-900-484-1599 30min \$15/call
*Certain restrictions may apply. 18+. FM assumes no liability when using this service. FM 03.

MEN
Local • Live • Now
Houston 713-595-9952
817-289-1234 214-379-7979
210-933-1234 512-735-5002
Call Toll FREE 1-888-399-MALE



FREE TRIAL
Use Code: 1693

interactive male

1-800-988-8586 (79c/min) 18+ 1-900-446-1212 (\$1.99/min) www.InteractiveMale.com



access women
local live chat

713.590.2222
(30min free access: 6437)

or charge by phone: 1-900-484-1599 30min \$15/call
*Certain restrictions may apply. 18+. FM assumes no liability when using this service. FM 03.

WE'RE HERE TO HELP!
WHATEVER YOU
NEED... WHENEVER
YOU NEED...
HOUSTON VOICE
CLASSIFIEDS DELIVER!
FIND THE JOB YOU'VE
BEEN LOOKING FOR!



career change?

HOUSTONVOICEclassifieds

Houston Voice PLACE YOUR CLASSIFIED AD NOW! CALL 877 863 1885
OR PLACE YOUR AD ONLINE AT WWW.HOUSTONVOICE.COM



THE Health Club for Montrose
 4040 Milam St. Houston
 Between Richmond & Alabama in Montrose
 www.FitnessExchange.cc 713.524.9932

**MONEY BACK
 GUARANTEE
 ON ALL MEMBERSHIPS!**

Calendars
*that will
 make you*
wet.

2004 calendars now available @
10percent.com

Find them also at: Hollywood Cafe - 2409 A Grant St. / Lobo - 3939 S. Montrose

the chamber
 the greater houston glbt chamber of commerce



Presents



Empower 2003
 Community Expo
 and Consumer Market

Featuring:

- Live Entertainment
- Health & Wellness
- Business Expo
- Pet Pavilion
- Visual Arts
- Drawings & Give-Aways
- Sports & Outdoors
- Job Fair
- Home & Garden Community Organizations

September 20 & 21, 2003
 George R. Brown
 Convention Center



\$



**Go Straight
 to the Gay Market**

For Vendor information or to participate in any of the venues please contact 713-523-7576 or go to the Web site at www.ghgcc.org.