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Police focus on hate crimes

by MATTHEW A. HENNIE

Making gays and lesbians more comfortable in reporting hate crimes is a top priority for the veteran Houston police officer who will lead Mayor Lee Brown's new fight against crimes motivated by prejudice.

Lt. Mark Eisenman, appointed April 13 as hate crimes coordinator for the Houston Police Department, wants to work with the leaders of communities across Houston — including gays and lesbians — to improve the reporting of crimes motivated by race, religion,

disability, ethnicity or sexual orientation.

Better reporting will lead to improved protection and help police complete criminal investigations and make arrests, he said.

"There may be some barriers to the reporting," said Eisenman, a 14-year HPD veteran who has worked the last three years in the department's Criminal Intelligence Division (CID).

"We can't do our job if we don't have a report. The numbers are minimal, but it impacts the community and

people are afraid to go out. We don't want that to happen."

Police recorded a slim 31 hate crimes last year, including eight against gays and lesbians. But leaders in the gay community say those numbers are too low because hate crime victims are sometimes afraid to file a police report or officers don't understand what constitutes a hate crime.

Eisenman agrees.

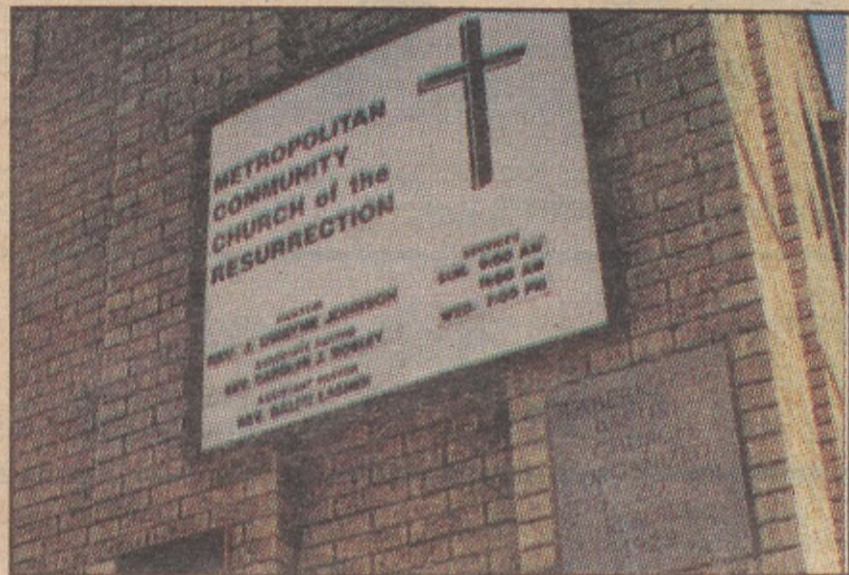
To help, police officers will undergo briefings before their shifts begin as

See **POLICE**/ page 18

Tracking Hate

On April 13, Mayor Lee Brown announced a three-pronged effort to halt hate crimes in Houston:

- Opening a 24-hour Hate Crime Hotline, 713-308-8737, at the police department to report possible hate crimes.
- Naming Lt. Mark Eisenman of the Criminal Intelligence Division as hate crimes coordinator for the city.
- More training for the city's 5,300 police officers to increase awareness about hate crimes.



Finding faith in **GAYS**

For 25 years, local church has catered to gays, lesbians

by MATTHEW A. HENNIE

Ralph Lasher navigates a short flight of stairs from his cramped office into a basement library packed with filing cabinets and books on shelves that stretch from floor to ceiling.

Surrounded by hundreds — if not thousands — of books, he can effortlessly flip the pages of biographies, anthologies and fiction focused on gays and lesbians.

"Nobody really knows for certain what's in some of this," he says of the library, opened four years ago.

Housed in the historic home of the Metropolitan Community Church of the Resurrection on Decatur Street in the Heights, the library is a dingy and cramped reminder of what church officials are coping with: What to do with a religious jewel that hasn't been discovered by many gays and lesbians, the primary audience for the nearly 500-member church.

Besides the library, traditional Sunday worship services and classes, and a staff of 12, the church has outreach and support groups for gays and lesbians, a community often shunned by traditional religious fixtures.

Lasher's story is typical of what's brought people to the church.

Ordained as an Episcopal priest in 1953, Lasher was later asked to resign when he announced he was gay. He didn't want to shroud a relationship with his partner, which has stretched into its fifth decade, in secrecy.

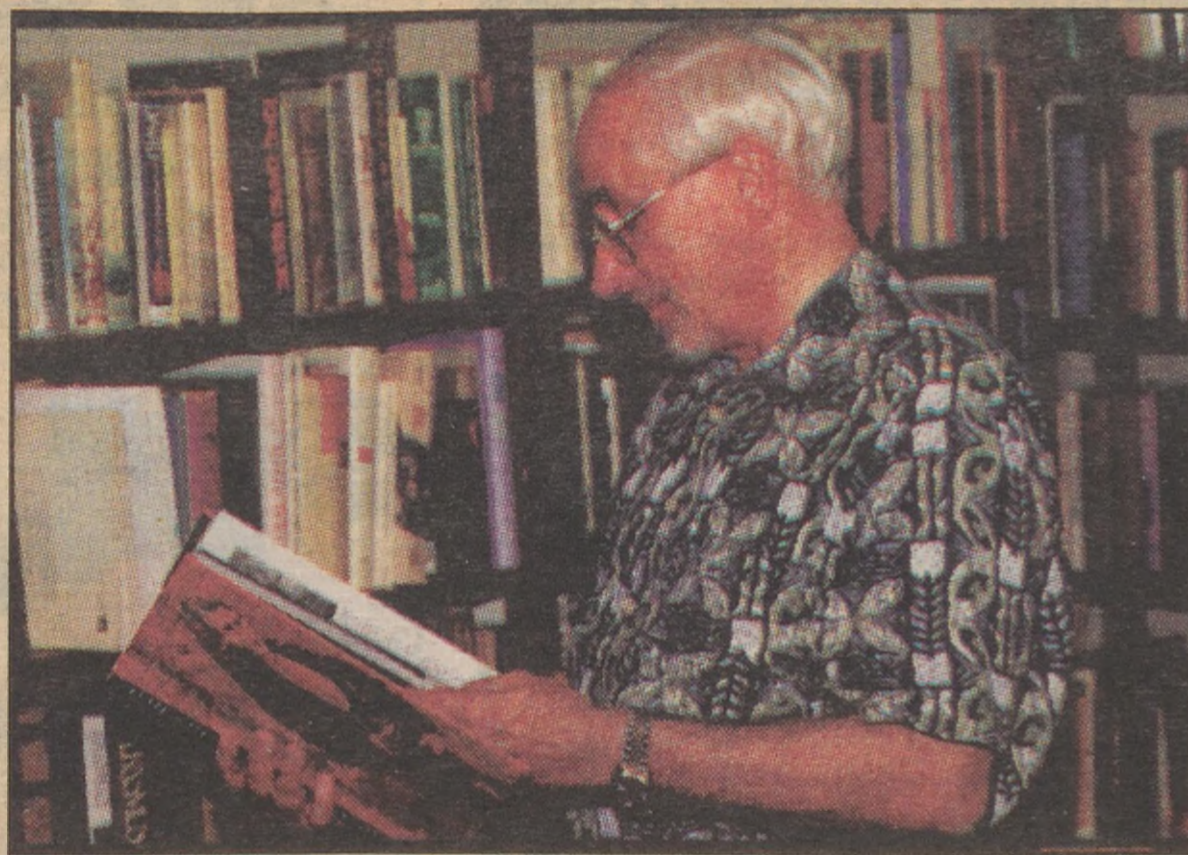
Nearly a decade ago, he found a

home at MCCR teaching classes on scripture and sexuality. Last October, he was hired as an assistant pastor at the church, which boasts a \$600,000 annual budget and an audience of 1,500. Average weekly attendance numbered 590 at the church last year.

The books tucked into a few shelves in his office hint at the variety of church offerings, from "The Grass Roots Fundraising Book" and "Christianity, Social Tolerance and Homosexuality" to "A Priest's Handbook" and "Prayers for Pastor & People."

"I've been seeking to overcome the internalized homophobia people have developed because of their own religious experiences. A lot of what we have done has been quiet and effective," Lasher said.

And now the church is turning a corner. Former pastors and members will join the staff and the Rev. Troy Perry, founder of the Universal Fellowship of Metropolitan Community Churches, in celebrating



Little Space: The Rev. Ralph Lasher in the cramped library quarters of the Metropolitan Community Church of the Resurrection on Decatur Street. The church, bursting at the seams, is searching for a new home on the eve of its 25th anniversary of serving gays and lesbians in Houston. —Photos by Dalton DeHart

MCCR's 25th anniversary this weekend.

The Los Angeles-based UFMCC has more than 42,000 members and 300 congregations in 15 countries, including the MCCR in Houston. It's the world's largest religious denomination for gays and lesbians and is one of a handful of national organizations sponsoring a controversial Millennium March on Washington in the spring of 2000.

As MCCR celebrates its silver anniversary, it does so grappling with weighty issues: Attendance is outstripping space at the facility, the former home of Tabernacle Baptist

See **FAITH**/ page 3

• On Saturday, the Rev. Troy Perry, founder of the Universal Fellowship of Metropolitan Community Churches, will speak to Crossroads at 9:30 a.m. The group is for gay and lesbian church workers. Call 713-681-9082 for more information.

• Also Saturday, Perry will deliver the keynote address for the 25th anniversary banquet of the Metropolitan Community Church of the Resurrection at 8:30 p.m. Awards will be handed out at 7 p.m. during the event at the Red Lion Hotel.

• On Sunday, Perry will join current and former church leaders in worship services at 9 a.m. and 11 a.m. at the church at 1919 Decatur St.

Feds: HIV infection rate remains steady

by CHELSEA J. CARTER

ATLANTA — Despite a historic drop in AIDS cases and deaths in the U.S. in the last few years, the rate at which people are becoming infected with HIV has held relatively steady, the government said Thursday.

The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention said that many people are not heeding warnings about unsafe sex and drug use.

"It shows the need for sustained prevention. What we have seen is that with every generation, you have to start at the beginning," said Terry Hammond, a CDC spokeswoman.

Using statistics from the 25 states that report infection rates, the CDC estimated a 2 percent decline from 1995 to 1996 in the number of new HIV cases diagnosed among people 13 or older.

AIDS deaths dropped 21 percent in 1996, while the number of people with AIDS dropped 6 percent, the CDC said. AIDS deaths were down an additional 44 percent in the first half of 1997.

"People are living longer. That's great. But with a steady infection rate, it means the epidemic isn't going away," said Cornelius Baker of the National Association of People with AIDS.

People diagnosed with HIV are not considered AIDS cases until they actually develop symptoms of the disease. So delaying the onset of AIDS and prolonging the lives of AIDS patients can reduce the number of AIDS deaths even while there's little change in the rate of new HIV cases.

"We're not seeing good news in the fact that we are not seeing a substantial decline," in the HIV infection rate, said Dr. Patricia Fleming, a CDC researcher.

The CDC estimated that HIV cases between 1994 and mid-1997 dropped slightly among men but increased among women.

The study also showed HIV infections among young people overall had leveled off, but minorities now make up a greater portion of that group.

Clinton balks at needles, page 5.

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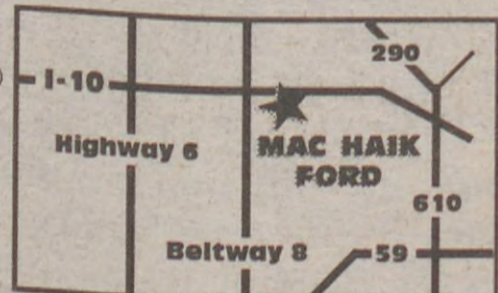
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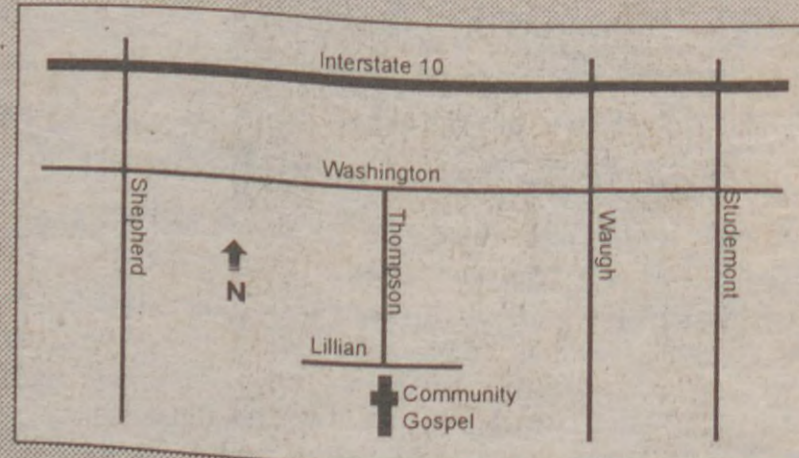
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In This Issue

Local News
page 3

National News
pages 5-8

Voices & Echos
pages 10-11

Church Calendar
page 9

Arts & Entertainment
pages 12-13

**Community Calendar/
Horoscope**
page 17

Community Directory
page 18

Classifieds
page 19

Out in Houston
page 20

Scene & Heard
page 21

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Will the real Westheimer Street Festival please stand up?

by ELLA TYLER

Has the Westheimer Street Festival moved Downtown?

"No way," said John Florez of the Westheimer Street Festival Corp. A festival has been held along lower Westheimer each spring and fall for 24 years, and according to Florez, will stay put.

"We will keep our festival on the east end of Westheimer 'til the cows come home," he said.

The festival will be held in the 100 to 1000 blocks of Westheimer from 9 a.m. to 7 p.m. on May 2 and 3 — the 49th festival to be held here.

But the Houston Downtown Street Festival is being marketed as the successor to the Bi-Annual Westheimer fest and will be held on Old Market Square (at Milam and Prairie) the same weekend. Don Schwarzkopf, the promoter of the downtown event, was

an organizer of the Westheimer Street Festival three years ago, but has not been involved since. "There is no money to be made with a festival on Westheimer," he said.

The Westheimer fest has been run by a variety of groups over the years and started as an art festival. Proceeds from the sale of booth space fund Montrose charities and daily litter pick-up along Westheimer. The clean-up and topping of vacant lots in the 500 block of Westheimer was paid for from the proceeds of the festival.

Florez said current organizers of the Westheimer festival met with a lawyer over Schwarzkopf's use of the name Bi-Annual Westheimer Street Festival, but decided to take no action.

"We're too busy getting ready for the Westheimer Street Festival," Florez said.

There will be seven stages featuring

music from classical to hard rock and country western music. Seven radio stations will cover the event. Admission is free.

Schwarzkopf denies there is any controversy with the dueling festivals. But after answering questions about the confusion, he issued a press release that said the Houston Downtown Street Festival, formerly known as the Bi-Annual Westheimer Street Festival "will not be held along lower Westheimer as it has been in the past."

Schwarzkopf said his festival celebrates the reemergence of downtown as a recreation area and does not create problems for nearby residential areas. The Downtown Street Festival is free but is asking for donations of \$5 or food to benefit the JASA House Domestic Violence Center. It will be open from noon to 10 p.m.

FAITH/ from page 1

Church, which was rebuilt on the site in 1929. The church is listed on the National Registry of Historic Places.

Offices for pastors and other church officials are next door in a renovated home. Parking is scarce. When 1,200 people arrived for services on Easter Sunday, cars filled nearby streets and 50 people had to watch on closed circuit television in a basement fellowship hall.

About \$300,000 is in church coffers for buying or building a new facility, which could cost from \$900,000 to \$3.5 million. A committee is looking into possible sites and needed fundraising, and church officials say they want space for 2,000 worshippers.

"We've been trying to determine our needs and go from there," Lasher said.

Lasher and Perry, who will deliver the keynote address at MCCR's banquet Saturday and join worship services on Sunday, share similar stories.

Perry's church started as a fledgling service in his Los Angeles living room when 12 people gathered in October 1968. Thirty years ago, Perry was a Pentacostal minister banished from



Perry: To deliver keynote address Saturday

his church and left by his wife and children after coming out.

His movement holds a minority view: that the Bible does not condemn homosexuality or find it a sin.

"There's still a lot of homophobic religion out there, pushing people into our arms," Perry told the *Los Angeles Times* last month. "A friend once said he thought we'd become a living room (operation) in West Hollywood and maybe one in San Francisco. But we never dreamed of this."

For more than 30 years, Perry has worked as a gay rights activist. Twice last year he was invited to the White House for meetings and visited South Africa to meet with Archbishop Desmond Tutu to discuss treatment of gays there.

His critics are as vocal as his supporters.

"Troy Perry is a very confused and

unhappy man concerning his sexual identity," the Rev. Lou Sheldon, chairman of the Traditional Values Coalition, told the *Times*. "He's chosen to be gay, but he doesn't have to use the Bible to justify it. Somebody please tell him God didn't intend for us to be homosexual. There's no room for them in God's church."

Some 24 of Perry's churches have been vandalized or burned since 1972 and members of his clergy have been attacked.

The author of four books on homosexuality and religion, including "The Lord Is My Shepherd, and He Knows I'm Gay," Perry is well-versed in scripture and a speaker who mixes passion and storytelling.

For Lasher, attracting Perry to the anniversary weekend demonstrates how far the church has progressed in 25 years, from its early start in an apartment and a former television repair shop with 14 attendees to becoming the second-largest church in the UFMCC.

"You can worship here and don't have to worry about the people next to you," Lasher said. "I did not want to live in the closet. It's sad when somebody has to."

Houston AIDS Walk Set for May 17

Organizers are hoping to bolster the ranks of the more than 3,000 people that joined the Southwestern Bell Houston AIDS Walk last year and increase the \$200,000 raised for local HIV/AIDS agencies, officials said.

"We would like to see the entire Houston community come together for this event," said Harold Shultz, walk chairman. "AIDS is a disease that affects individuals from all walks of life."

An estimated 1 in 90 Houstonians is HIV positive and Houston ranks second in the nation in reported AIDS cases, organizers said. Money raised at the walk — set for May 17 — will go to 18 local service organizations which provide education, health care, food, shelter and other services.

Participants can pick up pledge sheets at area Fiesta, Kroger, Mervyn's California, Southwestern Bell-The Store, Starbucks, Supercuts and Walgreens locations. Call 713-629-WALK or go online at www.aids-help.org for more information.

National Tour Stops in Houston

Over 40 exhibitors will join HIV/AIDS experts today to present a day of workshops and seminars about the disease during the first stop in a multi-city, national tour.

Over 1,000 people are expected during the POZ Life Expo, which includes temporary tattooing, back and body massages, product samples and an array of HIV-specific educational workshops. The expo runs from 11 a.m. to 7 p.m. at the Stephen F. Austin Ballroom at the Sheraton Astrodome Hotel.

"The message of the POZ Life Expo is that information about healthy living, new treatment options and positive attitudes can save and extend lives," said Sean Strub, POZ executive editor and founder, which produces the tour.

Other cities included on the tour include New York, Atlanta, Los Angeles, Chicago and Boston.

Rummage Sale to Help AIDS Housing Coalition

Emergency housing for HIV/AIDS patients will benefit from a May 2 rummage sale organized by the

AIDS Housing Coalition. Anything from old autos to furniture, appliances, plants, artwork, baby junk and clothes can be donated to the coalition for sale at Rummage-A-Rama '98, organizers said. Items can be donated by appointment at the coalition office at 117 Tuam Ave. Call 713-521-1613 for more information.

Local Benefits Raise \$45,000 for Agencies

Several local groups have received \$45,000, thanks to three recent benefits, organizers said.

More than \$30,000 will be split among the Assistance Fund, AVES and the Body Positive Wellness Center after successful ticket sales to the Bayou City Boys Club's annual spring fund-raiser, Jungle Lust VI, held April 11.

An April 5 show by the Lean on Me Foundation raised more than \$15,000 for the Bering Care Center, said Barry Petree, development council chairman for Bering. The funds, raised during a show at the Brazos River Bottom, surpassed last year's total of \$10,790.

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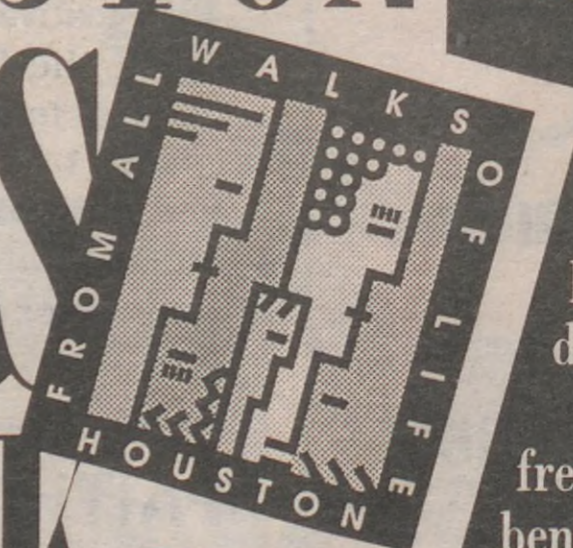
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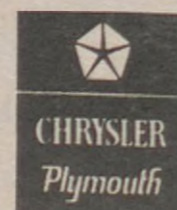
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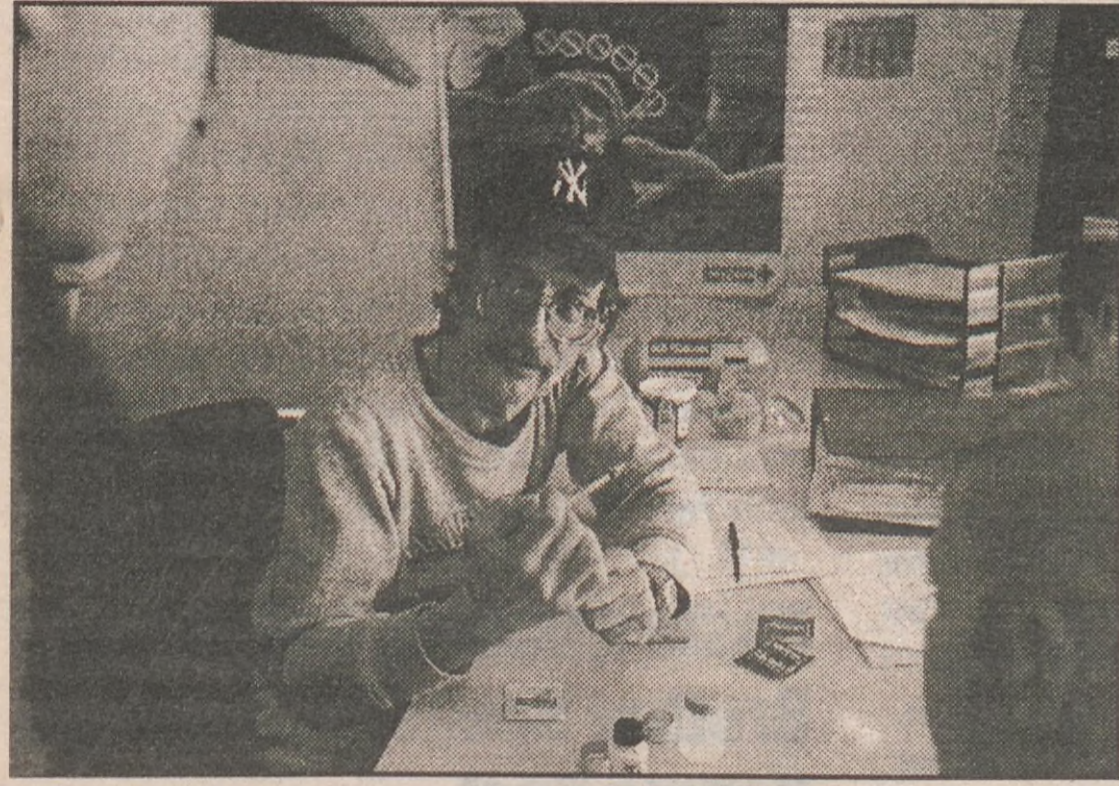
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Feds still won't fund needle exchange

AIDS advocates call Clinton's refusal to release federal money 'immoral'



Exchanging Needles: John Abrams, center, instructs two new clients in the procedure for cleansing hypodermic needles with water and bleach recently at the Lower East Side Harm Reduction Center in New York. The center is one of nine needle exchange locations in New York. —Photo by Suzanne Plunkett.

by LAURA BROWN

AIDS advocates around the country condemned President Clinton's decision last Monday to endorse needle exchange programs as an effective way to reduce the spread of HIV through injection drug use, but to continue the ban on federal funding for them.

Bob Hattoy, an openly gay political appointee in the Clinton administration's Interior Department, expressed even more forcefully his displeasure at the "immoral decision."

"It's like telling starving people that out of a lot of study, you've determined food can save them, but we won't give you any, so good luck scav-

enging," said Hattoy, who is also a member of the Presidential Advisory Council on HIV/AIDS.

"This is worse than 'Don't Ask, Don't Tell' because instead of just ruining lives, it can actually kill people. The president was either ill-advised or he decided certain Americans with HIV can just die. This is a very sad day for a president who wanted to have any kind of moral authority."

Congress had placed a one-year moratorium on funding for programs that let addicts

swap dirty needles for clean ones, allowing time for Health and Human Services Secretary Donna Shalala to determine whether needle exchange reduces the spread of HIV while not increasing injection drug use.

In making that determination, Shalala said her approval should encourage more communities to start their own needle exchanges. But reportedly under orders from the White House, she still refused to approve federal money to fund them.

Half of all people who are currently being infected by HIV are infected by needles or by sex with injecting drug users, or are children of infected addicts, researchers said, at a rate of

as many as 33 people per day.

Organizations including the American Medical Association, National Academy of Science and the American Bar Association have endorsed needle exchange programs as part of comprehensive AIDS prevention plans, but Republicans and conservative religious groups still argue against needle exchange.

Sen. Paul Coverdell (R-Ga.) and Rep. Gerald Solomon (R-NY) both vowed to introduce legislation in Congress to ban federal funding altogether.

"Perhaps most troubling is the morally suspect signal we are sending to our nation's children," Coverdell said in a letter to the president that anticipated that Clinton would permit federal funding of needle exchange. "By allowing taxpayer dollars to subsidize these programs, we are de facto decriminalizing intravenous drug use."

A senior policy analyst for the conservative Family Research Council said approving needle exchange is "a national disgrace." FRC's Robert Maginnis said "HIV prevention among addicts should focus on drug treatment, not on sustaining deadly lifestyles."

The president's AIDS Czar Sandy Thurman said the decision against federal funding was pragmatic, not scientific.

"Obviously, as we have all read, the right-wing is very opposed to funding for needle exchange, and they were very disappointed that Secretary Shalala even chose to certify the science, so there will always be the conservative backlash to needle exchange, and that's part of what we have to take

into consideration," Thurman said.

As it stands, the administration still has the option to authorize federal funding for needle exchange in the future, although discussing under what circumstances that might take place would be "putting the cart before the horse," since it hasn't been determined with Shalala's office, Thurman said.

From ACT UP to presidential AIDS advisers to even Elizabeth Taylor, AIDS advocates reacted to the decision against funding needle exchange programs with universal disappointment.

Bob Fogel, the member of the Presidential HIV/AIDS Advisory Council who first called for the group's mass resignation last year, echoed Thurman's fear that funding needle exchange now could make things "even worse" in the future.

"I personally believe if the federal government were sending federal money to state or municipalities (for needle exchange), they would have tied terrible strings to it or created such self-defeating guidelines that we may be better off in many respects for local groups to have the control," Fogel said.

Still, both Fogel and Advisory Council Chairman R. Scott Hitt said they would not resign in the wake of the needle exchange decision.

"I really welcome the fact that they said the science is there and this saves lives, but on the other hand, it's hard to understand how they can say they know this saves lives but they won't fund programs to do it," Hitt said.

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Senate Faces Decision on Ambassadorial Choice

WASHINGTON — The Senate faces a decision soon on whether America will have its first openly gay ambassador. Supporters of James Hormel are demanding he at least get a vote while conservative opponents insist that Republicans take a stand on a key lifestyle issue.

Hormel, President Clinton's choice to be envoy to Luxembourg, was the only foreign relations nominee not acted upon at the end of last year's session. Three Republican senators, expressing concern that he would use the post to promote a gay agenda, put "holds" on the nomination, effectively freezing it.

Democrats now are demanding action. Democrats also took to the Senate floor to express concern that confirmation was being held up only because Hormel is homosexual. "Prejudice based on sexual orientation should have no place in this debate, no place in the Senate and no place in America," said Sen. Barbara Boxer (D-Calif.).

Hormel, a 64-year-old San Francisco businessman, philanthropist, Democratic Party contributor and heir to the Hormel Meat Co. fortune, received unanimous Senate confirmation last May for another post, as an alternate to the U.S. delegation to the U.N. General Assembly. He sailed through the Senate Foreign Relations Committee, winning approval on a 16-2 vote last November, after Secretary of State Madeleine Albright assured Chairman Jesse Helms, R-N.C., that Hormel was highly qualified and would not promote his personal interests. Helms voted against Hormel but let the nomination advance to the

Senate floor.

In a letter to Sen. Gordon Smith, R-Ore., a committee member, in February, Hormel said: "I will not use, nor do I think it is appropriate to use, the office of the ambassador to advocate any personal views I may hold."

He pledged to resign from most of his board seats, limit his charitable giving and prohibit use of his name in fund raising. But that has not satisfied Republican Sens. Tim Hutchinson of Arkansas, Jim Inhofe of Oklahoma and Bob Smith of New Hampshire, who put holds on the nomination. Conservative groups also continue to oppose Hormel as a radical gay activist.

Rosie's Openly Gay Brother Seeks N.Y. State Senate Seat

ALBANY, N.Y. — Is there a state Senate seat in the future for the openly gay brother of entertainer Rosie O'Donnell? Daniel O'Donnell, a former public defender, said Monday he intended to seek the seat being vacated by Franz Lichter, a Democrat who is retiring after 24 years in the New York Senate. O'Donnell, 37, is one of about six Democrats interested in the seat, which encompasses nearly all of Manhattan's West Side. Should he win, O'Donnell would become the first openly homosexual man in the New York Legislature. Lichter said he will stay neutral in the battle to succeed him, but he said O'Donnell is more than just a famous name. "Everybody refers to him as Rosie's brother, but he's somebody in his own right," Lichter said Monday.

—From staff and wire reports



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Operation Rescue to Have Weeklong Protest in Orlando

ORLANDO, Fla. — Hundreds of Christian activists plan to protest at Walt Disney World the first weekend in June when thousands of gay men and lesbians are in town for annual Gay Days celebrations.

Operation Rescue announced plans to protest at the theme park, Orlando-area abortion clinics and Barnes & Noble Booksellers during a week-long demonstration beginning May 31. "Every year we go to a city and we go there to... bring down abortion and

bring the gospel," said Rick Reynolds, a spokesman for the Dallas-based group.

Orlando was chosen this year because it has abortion clinics, Barnes & Nobles bookstores and is home to Walt Disney World, Reynolds said. Operation Rescue, traditionally an anti-abortion group, opposes Disney's policy of giving health benefits to same-sex partners, permitting the star of the ABC show "Ellen" to come out as a homosexual and allowing "Gay Days" at its theme parks. The Operation Rescue announcement came as the anti-abortion lost a 12-year-old lawsuit filed by women's rights groups, alleging that Operation Rescue engaged in federal racketeer-

ing in an effort to harass abortion clinics and their female clients.

Lesbian Group Says IRS Cheated It Out of Tax-Exempt Status

PROVIDENCE, R.I. — A group in South Kingstown that helps lesbians with cancer says it is being unfairly denied tax-exempt status by the IRS. Kathys' Group says it was told by the Internal Revenue Service that it had to extend its service to all women, not just lesbians. "What they are suggesting is that lesbians aren't worthy enough," said David Buckel, a lawyer


for the Lambda Legal Defense and Education Fund in New York City.

Lambda sent a letter of complaint on April 14 to the Internal Revenue Service on behalf of Kathys' Group. Buckel said plenty of other groups, including the American Association of Retired People and the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People, have been given tax-exempt status despite serving a distinct segment of the population.

Kathys' Group provides free counseling to lesbians, their partners and families. The group was founded in 1995 after one member of a lesbian couple, both named Kathy, became sick with breast cancer.


—From staff and wire reports

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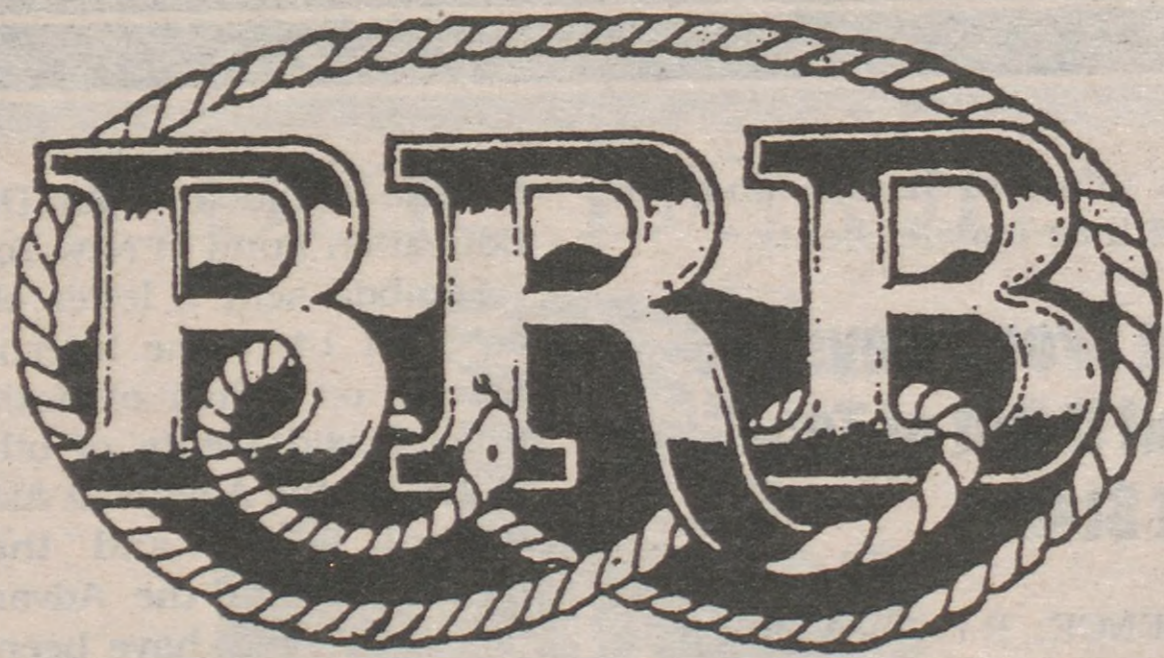
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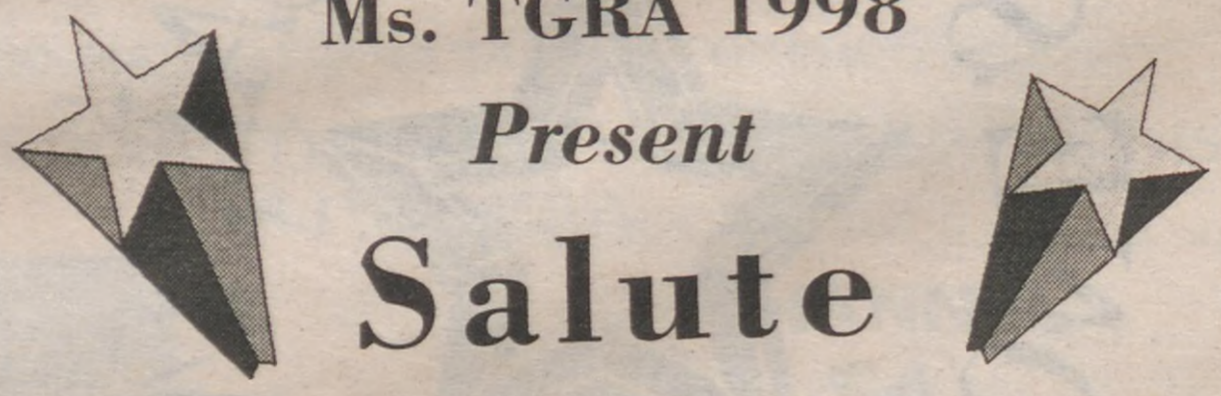
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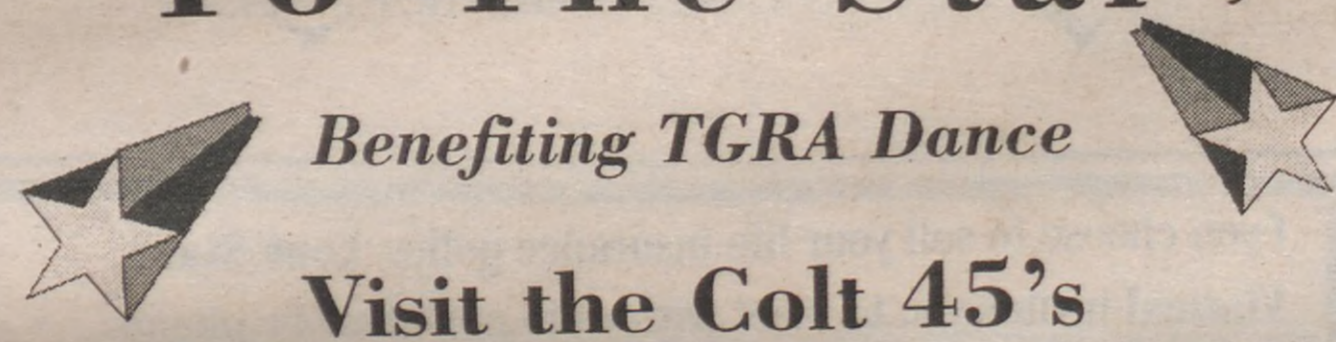
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Woman Seeks Custody of Child Born to Lover

PALM BAY, Fla. — A woman has filed for custody of the 4-year-old girl her former lesbian lover gave birth to during their relationship.

"There's never been a case like this before in Florida," said Vero Beach attorney Elizabeth Brooker. She represents Penny Kazmierazak in her custody petition against Pam Query, Zoey's biological mother. Kazmierazak contends she is Zoey's psychological mother, has acted as her mother for much of the child's life and is best suited to care for her.

Legal experts say Kazmierazak faces a tough battle. In Florida, gays are forbidden by law to adopt children. "It's going to be unlikely that the court will take the child away from her biological mother," said Sharon Rush, a law professor at the University of Florida. She likened the custody dispute to that of a step-parent seeking custody after his or her heterosexual relationship ends.

Brooker said Query, in February 1995, signed a legal document giving Kazmierazak full parental rights. That was done in part, so Kazmierazak could take Zoey to the doctor, enroll her in day care and make other decisions for the child. Kazmierazak and Query had been together for 10 years when Query agreed to bear a child for Kazmierazak, who cannot have children, Brooker said.

The two women, who had split and reconciled to have the child, were together until about nine months ago, Brooker said. They had a friendly break-up, and Query moved with Zoey from Palm Bay to Sebastian. Kazmierazak wants Circuit Judge Ben Bryan to grant an emergency injunc-

tion forbidding Query from leaving the area with Zoey, grant her custody and allow Query visitation under the supervision of a neutral third party.

United Air Employee Group Pushes for Partner Benefits

SAN FRANCISCO — Despite a federal court ruling that the San Francisco "domestic partners" ordinance did not apply to airlines, United Airlines' gay employee network has urged the airline's management to extend equal benefits to all its employees.

The group, United With Pride, has begun a campaign to influence the airline industry's actions in the post-trial environment.

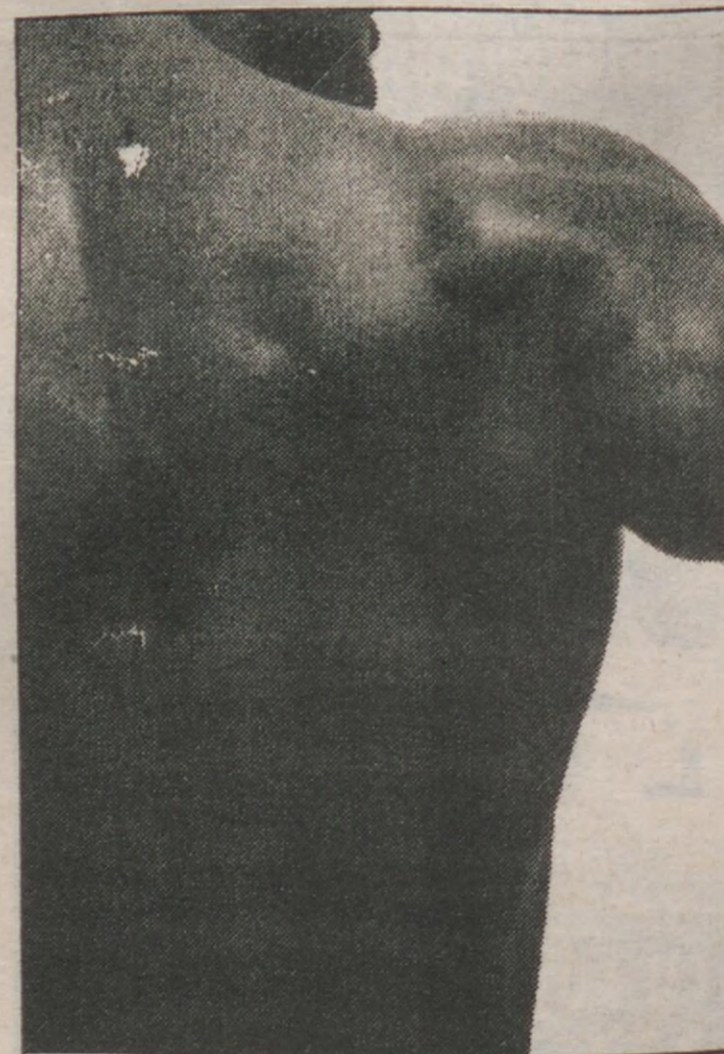
"United has been a leader in establishing inclusive non-discrimination policies," said UWP's executive director, Nick Morse. "Now it is time for the company to put those policies into practice."

Morse said benefits constitute a significant percentage of an employee's total compensation at United.

"In effect, employees with domestic partners are receiving far less compensation than employees who are married," he said. "United should take the lead among airlines and correct these discriminatory practices for all its employees, not just those who live in San Francisco."

City leaders say United agreed to introduce partner benefits within the next 18 months, but the airline has since maintained that it has agreed only to study the extension of health insurance benefits.

—From staff and wire reports



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Friday-April 24

- Low impact aerobics at Community Gospel done to Christian music for body, soul, and spirit. 6:30 pm. \$2. Certified instructor. 713-880-9235 or www.communitygospel.org.
- Communion and Prayer Service at 10:00 am; at the Kolbe Project. 522-8182.
- The Church of Good Life on the Internet; http://www.syncretist.org/church.htm.

Saturday-April 25

- The Church of Good Life on the Internet; http://www.syncretist.org/church.htm.
- Faith and Hope Fellowship 5th Annual Charter Awards Banquet at 6 pm. 72106 Waugh Dr.

Sunday, April 26

- Church of the XII Apostles Anglican Rite Old Catholic Church; Holy Communion 10:30 am at 239 Westheimer. 713/665-7903.
- Holy Rite Eucharist I 8:00 am; Holy Rite Eucharist II 9:00 am; Choral Eucharist 11:00 am at St. Stephen's Episcopal Church, 1805 W. Alabama. 528-6665.
- Maranatha Fellowship Metropolitan Church Service "Preaching the Gospel" at 11 am. 713-528-6756.
- MCCR Worship services 9:00 & 11:00 am 861-9149.
- Grace Lutheran Church Sunday school for all ages at 9:30 am Worship Service at 10:30 am 528-3269.
- First Unitarian Universalist Church Sunday Services at 9:30 am and 11:30 am 526-5200.
- Services at 5:30 pm Dignity Church 880-2872.
- Community Gospel Praise and Worship service at 11:00 am Sunday School for children. Evening Service at 7 pm. (A Study in the Book of Exodus.) 4305 Lillian 880-9235. Catch them at www.communitygospel.org.
- Houston Mission Church Worship service at 10:30 am 529-8225.
- Covenant Baptist Church Worship service 1:30 pm and education hour at 3:00 pm. 668-8830.
- Bering Memorial United Methodist Church Worship service 10:50 am. Seekers class 9:15 am 526-1017.
- MCCR Handbell Choir Rehearsal at 7:00 pm 861-9149.
- Unitarian Fellowship of Galveston County, 402 Church St. in Galveston. Sunday Services at 10:30 am weekly. 409-765-8330.

- The Church of Good Life on the Internet; http://www.syncretist.org/church.htm.
- Faith and Hope Fellowship Service at 11:00 am. 713-520-7847.

Monday-April 27

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

Tuesday-April 28

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

Wednesday-April 29

- Holy Eucharist Rite II 12 Noon at St. Stephen's Episcopal Church, 1805 W. Alabama. 528-6665.
- MCCR Bible Study 7:30 pm 861-9149.
- Worship Service 7:30 pm at Faith and Hope Fellowship 713-520-7847
- The Church of Good Life on the Internet; http://www.syncretist.org/church.htm.
- Healing Service at 8 pm. the Kolbe Project. 713-861-7212.

Thursday-April 30

- Bible Study 7:00 pm at Faith and Hope Fellowship 713-520-7847.
- Choir Practice at Community Gospel 6:30 pm 880-9235 or www.communitygospel.org.
- Choir Practice at 6:30 pm. Midweek Service at Community Gospel 7:30 pm 880-9235 or www.communitygospel.org.
- The Church of Good Life on the Internet; http://www.syncretist.org/church.htm

If you want an event listed in this section, please call Carolyn Roberts at 529-8490 by 12 Noon Mondays.

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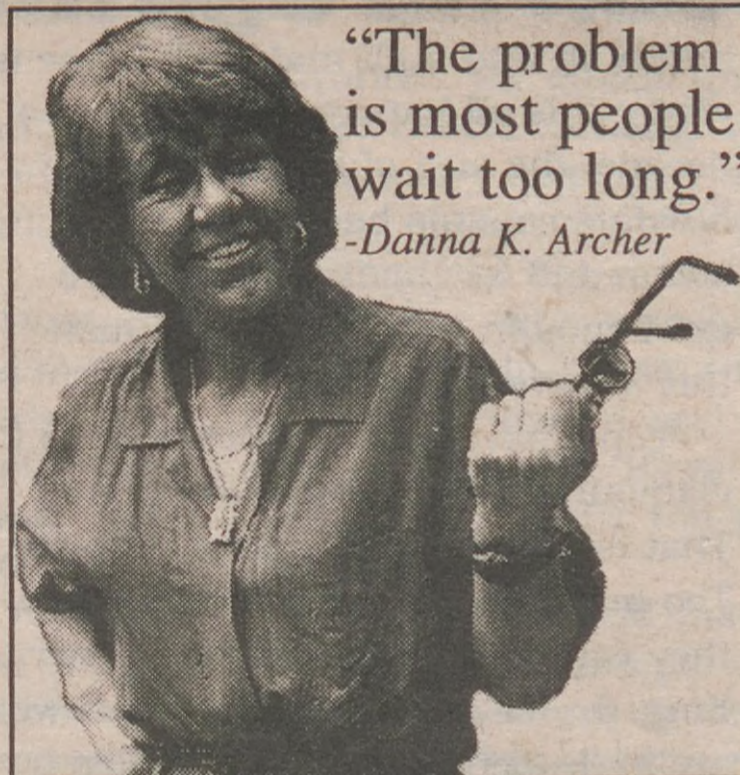
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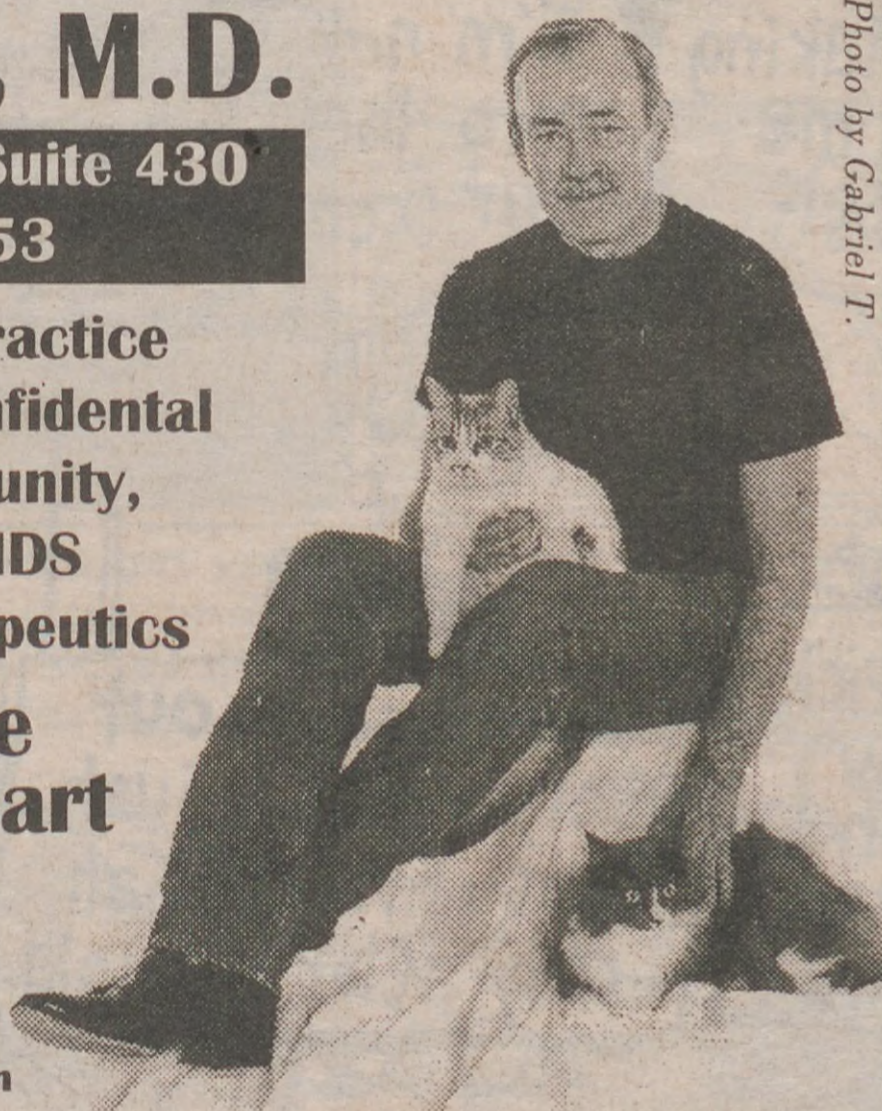


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Stop the Millennium March Madness



by NADINE SMITH

I've spent a great deal of time pondering the recent turn of events that now has us grappling

with what to do about the proposed Millennium March on Washington.

Because I was a national co-chair of the 1993 March, people have asked for my opinion. I've taken time before responding publicly because I understand how casually critical some people can be, and I have worked hard not to be one of those who would rather attack our own than focus on our enemies.

But now I've come to realize that there is much more at stake here than hammering out the logistics of a march. In fact, what is at stake here is the very heart of our movement. A huge number of grassroots community leaders and many national groups believe that this march is ill-timed, strategically weak and coordinated by people out of touch with the important work happening outside of Washington D.C.

Even Rep Barney Frank (D-Mass.), the most politically prominent openly gay elected official in the country, called the proposed march "a diversion of resources" and "not a good idea." And yet, rather than set up a structure for meaningful dialogue to balance pros and cons and evaluate the strategy of such a march, edicts are delivered via press release.

The Human Rights Campaign, the largest group involved in advocating for the march, has publicly apologized for the ham-fisted manner in which it has approached the issue, and that is good. But it is not enough to say "sorry" and continue to move forward on the same misguided course.

In the past, a critical mass of support has been established before committing the enormous resources that marches require. Now, it

appears, instead of doing the work of building broad-based support for such an effort, the movement is being hijacked and strategy and coalition-building have been thrown out the window.

We must decide whether this is a movement for social and political change that will continue to build and grow and grapple with the tough issues. Or will we be a product to be packaged and shaped according to the dictates of the latest focus group. We can't replace courage with marketing.

There is without a doubt tremendous power in marching on Washington. My first march in 1987 was a significant turning point in my

priority.

As I think back on the 1993 March, I am proud of the diversity displayed throughout the organizing and the March itself. But I agree with those who criticize the presence of Lea Delaria and a few other performers who lost sight of the March as a political act. It is however, astounding that having launched that criticism, HRC would then turn to Robin Tyler, the person responsible for putting that part of the March stage together, to produce the next one.

Over the years, HRC has developed a reputation for pulling money out of local communities without giving back, for swooping into town, treating the local organizers like rubes and setting up parallel organizing structures without respect to the wishes, knowledge or insights of the people who must live with the fallout.

Now HRC has an opportunity to demonstrate a

new attitude that supports those who work outside the D.C. beltway. While HRC provides an important and powerful voice in the national media, I think too many of its leaders are woefully out of touch with the pulse of this movement and the shifting political ground.

I fear we are headed for a massive, strategically foolish, financially draining march simply because a handful of people like the alliteration in the phrase "Millennium March" and their eyes flash dollar signs when they say it.

I have yet to hear a cogent, persuasive argument for a national march in 2000. I'm open to it. If I'm convinced, no one would work harder to bring folks to it. But right now, I believe our priority is back home.

Nadine Smith, one of four national co-chairs for the 1993 March on Washington, is Executive Director for the Human Rights Task Force of Florida and lobbies the state legislature on behalf of 17 Florida-based lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgendered and allied organizations.

People have called marches on D.C. glamorous and media sexy events. That is perhaps our biggest problem. Too many people are wondering how they can become the Martin Luther King, Jr. for our movement when we are in desperate need of a million Rosa Parks.

life. But this debate is not about the value of marches. It is about whether we best serve this movement by going to Washington in 2000, a major election year, and how we decide when and if the time is right.

Three times in the past two decades, we've come to Washington D.C., and the community was told to go home and build. Well, we've built and built and built and back home is where it is all happening. For over a decade, the idea of a march on the 50 state capitals has been gaining steam and for the first time, there exist enough organizations to make this a powerful event.

People have called marches on D.C. glamorous and media sexy events. That is perhaps our biggest problem. Too many people are wondering how they can become the Martin Luther King, Jr. for our movement when we are in desperate need of a million Rosa Parks.

We must have strong local groups, that form strong statewide groups, that support a strong national effort. Now is a great time to establish that

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Bookstore blues

Safety, complacency threaten choices for lesbians



by KAREN SHOFFNER

The friendly neighborhood lesbian bookstore I worked for a few years ago is in trouble.

Nowadays, it's not an unfamiliar story. A small, independent bookstore in danger of closing, especially one of the lesbian kind. A measure of its difficulties can be seen in the fact that when I worked there, I was paid. Even then, the store wasn't on sure footing financially. My girlfriend works there now as a volunteer. Every one who works there is now a volunteer.

The bookstore's predicament might surprise some because the store is in Northampton, widely known as Lesbianville, U.S.A. While location is an important ingredient in a business' success, it isn't the only thing that makes a concern thrive. People have to actually patronize it, something the lesbians of Lesbianville have failed to do with enough frequency and in great enough numbers. There are probably a variety of reasons why this has happened, but the ones that make the most sense have to do with safety, choice and complacency.

Northampton is a relatively easy place in which to be gay. It's no difficult thing to walk up and down Main Street holding one's girlfriend's hand. In the not-so-distant past, say 20 years ago, Northampton wasn't all that gay friendly, I'm told. But Americans

being notorious amnesiacs, the memory of pre-Lesbianville Northampton is faint. Also helping to obscure that recent past is the transient nature of the Northampton area, which is home to five colleges.

The town's merchants are gay-friendly. Whether they own a bookstore, boutique or café, they know they must cater to both gays and straights to survive in Northampton. They understand the power of gay dollars. As a consequence, one needn't be frightened of crossing the threshold into a straight-owned business to buy a frock, a book

stores in the lesbian community. But one can feel safe and be oneself on Northampton street corners. Where does this leave a lesbian bookstore?

A newspaper I grew up reading is in a similar situation. *The Chicago Defender* has catered to the Windy City's black community for decades. Its purpose wasn't simply to deliver the news, but to deliver news about blacks that never made it into mainstream dailies unless it had to do with sports and crime. Blacks could look to it for a more well rounded, if not more positive portrayal of themselves and their community at a

needs of a city readership has changed as well. To survive, the *Defender* has to make itself as necessary to the black community as it once was. Only now, the rules have changed.

The rules have changed in Northampton, too, and in any other place where the environment is no longer as hostile to lesbians and gays as it once was. My friendly neighborhood bookstore or any lesbian bookstore that finds itself in similar circumstances has to make itself as necessary to lesbians as it used to be.

Yes, there's something to be said for patronizing a business on principle. Doing so has a delightful way of making one feel virtuous, for starters. But a lesbian bookstore can't count on lesbians to act on principle. No business can count on any of its customers doing so.

Are lesbians falling down on the job if they don't patronize lesbian bookstores? In a sense, yes. For if they don't, who will? On the other hand, if a lesbian feels her literary needs are met better elsewhere, I see no reason why she shouldn't go elsewhere.

My friendly neighborhood lesbian bookstore will either close or pull up stakes and head for pastures in another town. Will Lesbianville, U.S.A. be a little less lesbian without it? That depends on whether one feels that a large number of lesbians is enough to make a vibrant community or that a dynamic culture, of which books and bookstores are a part, is what is needed along with lots of lesbians.

Karen Shoffner is a freelance writer based in Chicago.

Are lesbians falling down on the job if they don't patronize lesbian bookstores? In a sense, yes. For if they don't, who will? On the other hand, if a lesbian feels her literary needs are met better elsewhere, I see no reason why she shouldn't go elsewhere.

or latte. Furthermore, bookstores both large and small that aren't exclusively gay carry some lesbian and gay titles. They don't have the range and variety of a store devoted only to gay or lesbian titles, to be sure, but it's clear that the store I once worked at is no longer the only game in town.

This makes me wonder if lesbian bookstores do better in hostile environments. In less-than-welcoming environments, people will gather in places where they can feel safe and be themselves. That has traditionally been the function of bars and book-

time when hostile and indifferent, white mainstream newspapers wouldn't allow them the depth of their humanity.

Now the *Defender* is in danger of extinction. Certainly, newspaper readership is down across the board, but the *Defender's* problem, I think, can also be explained by the flight of blacks from Chicago to its myriad suburbs and to the efforts at inclusion by the city's mainstream papers.

The Defender hasn't followed blacks to the suburbs. It can't deliver news suburban blacks need, so it isn't providing a service for a large portion of its customers. I would imagine that the

Clinton lacks courage on needle exchange

by CHRIS CRAIN

President Clinton's just-announced position on needle exchange is the latest and greatest expression of the absence of political and moral leadership from the White House.

After months of delay, Health and Human Services Secretary Donna Shalala was finally prepared to certify that the scientific evidence points clearly and unequivocally to needle exchange being an effective means of reducing HIV transmission, while not adding to the tragic intravenous drug addiction.

Loath as always to expend political capital, President Clinton declared before-the-fact defeat on the tough political battle over federal funding, and ordered Shalala not to release any money for needle exchange programs. Instead, the political buck was passed to state and local governments, leaving HIV-infection rates to the whim of small-time politicians of wildly varying sophistication.

Granted, the ethical question underlying federally funded needle exchange might appear tricky, but an easy analogy helps sort through it.

Many of the arguments marshaled against needle exchange are not-so-distant cousins to the refrain from those who oppose condom distribution in schools. IV drug use and teen pregnancy (not to mention premarital sex) are social ills and, in the case of drug use, illegal, and will be encouraged, even facilitated, by the provision of clean needles and condoms.

But as a practical matter, the claims don't ring true and seem more punitive than compassionate.

Human nature suggests that teenagers who want to have sex will anyway, regardless of condom availability, and add drug addiction to the equation, and the question seems even easier when applied to intravenous drug use. And Clinton is admitting that

the scientific evidence backs up this intuition.

But, as with the fight over "Don't Ask Don't Tell," Clinton would rather quit than fight on needle exchange. Rather than follow the lead of his own Advisory Council, or his own AIDS Czar, the eloquent Sandy Thurman, the president never even makes the effort to use his bully pulpit to fight for what he knows to be right. That sort of political courage and leadership is especially called for when the lives at stake lack the political power to fight effectively on their own behalf, whether it be gay service members or inner-city IV drug users and their unwitting sex partners and innocent children.

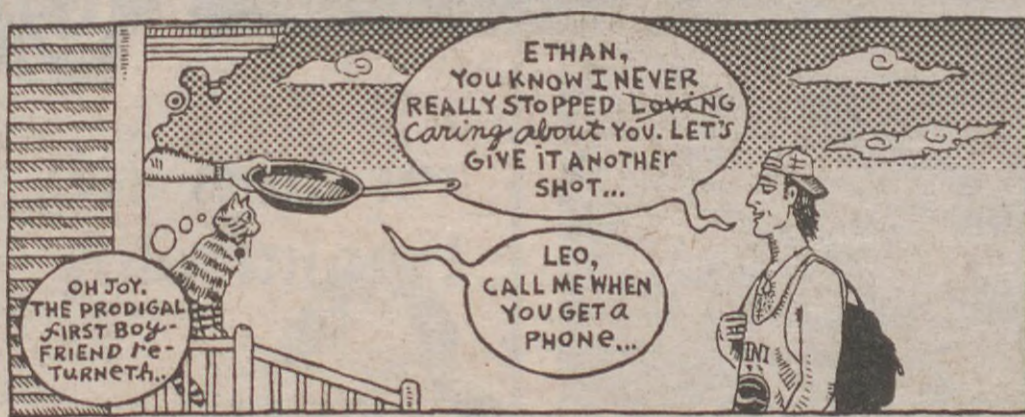
This nation has never looked to the White House for moral or political leadership on AIDS or gay issues. And Bill Clinton, who fancies himself more Top Nielson Pollster or Head Political Wind Vane than President of the United States, doesn't appear likely to start now.

The Mostly Unfabulous Social Life of Ethan Green

by Eric Orner

The Gay Man's Guide to ALL YOUR RELATIONSHIPS (Part 2)

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ericorner@aol.com

A decade later, Hollywood replays an endearing story

'Object' opens with 'self-effacing' gay main character



Odd Couple: Jennifer Aniston and Paul Rudd star in "The Object of My Affection," the story of a gay school teacher and a roommate who cross the lines of friendship.

By ROBERT DiGIACOMO

When it was published in 1987, Stephen McCauley's "The Object of My Affection," proved the stuff of a first-time novelist's dreams: The endearing story of George, a 26-year old gay kindergarten teacher and ballroom dancing aficionado, and his relationship with his straight and pregnant roommate, Nina, a graduate student in psychology who can't quite finish her thesis, won rave reviews from the gay

and straight press and readers alike. "Object" was one of those rare and favorite books that made you laugh so much that you couldn't put it down; and it also moved you. The book's positive reception apparently moved Hollywood, too. But why did it take a decade for the movie to come out?

From the outset, it seemed that "Object" would have had great cross-over appeal — George and Nina's relationship, while ultimately platonic, is

See OBJECT page 15

Odd-couple sterile in 'Object'

by STEPHEN R. UNDERWOOD

Why would a pregnant woman fall in love with a gay man? That's the question that "The Object of My Affection" attempts to answer — without much success.

Disappointingly, "The Object of My Affection" is like Cinderella-through-the-a-lavender-looking-glass: it's the story of a reluctant prince who shows up at a pregnant girl's doorstep with his own set of glass pumps.

It doesn't take us long to figure out that Nina (Jennifer Aniston) is in deep trouble. Impregnated by her irascible boyfriend Vince (John Pankow), Nina breaks off the relationship in hopes of snaring the handsome, boyish gay guy George (Paul Rudd). Certainly, she can't be blamed for trying, but any conscious homosexual knows intuitively where this is going.

This homo/hetero odd couple attempts to have their cake, eat it, and have a piece of everybody else's. George nixes his self-absorbed ex-lover (Tim Daly) during a university lecture retreat, and winds up meeting a snackish, promising young actor named Paul (Amo Gulinello) who shacks up with an aged theater critic (Nigel Hawthorne).

When Paul stays over after Thanksgiving dinner, Nina explodes with emotional labor. As if George were the only man left on the planet, we get an ear full of Nina's selfishness. The next day, when Nina goes with George to his broth-

er's wedding, she attempts a pathetic ultimatum. Staying true to nature over nurture, George chooses Paul.

Unfortunately, "The Object of My Affection" is a veiled attempt to sterilize a gay man with some sense of "traditional family values." First of all, George is a hardworking, tax-paying first-grade schoolteacher, he's the one who gets unceremoniously dumped, and in spite of his queer sexuality, he wants a kid all his own after watching a father and son practice baseball.

What is this movie saying about straight girls and gay boys that we don't already know? Nothing at all, really. Everybody knows that a non-sexual union is problematic at best. If your hubby isn't getting sex from you, he'll certainly be getting it from someone else. As hard as it tries to be trendy, 'Object' only confirms what gay men know about their sexuality: that you have to understand it from a male point of view.

HOUSTON VOICE RATING: ***

MPAA Rating: R

Run Time: 110 Minutes

Genre: Romantic Comedy

Director: Nicholas Hytner

Screenplay: Wendy Wasserstein

Cast: Paul Rudd, Jennifer Aniston, Alan

Alda, Allison Janney, Tim Daly,

John Pankow, Nigel Hawthorne,

Amo Gulinello, and Steve Zahn

Theaters: Angelika Film Center

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THE ROAD TO SUCCESS SHROUDED IN LEATHER

Mr. Texas Leather tells *Houston Voice* that HIV, limited hearing don't slow him

by STEPHEN R. UNDERWOOD

Who is Ronnie Fanshier? For a little more than a month, the Dallas resident has been the newly frocked, first-ever Mr. Texas Leather. But the title just might be a stepping stone to wider fame, he said, if he wins the International Mr. Leather Contest in Chicago over Memorial Day weekend.

"Sometimes I think you have to prove yourself to the leather community, especially the movers and shakers," the 37-year-old charmer explained during a recent visit to Houston. "But once you prove that you're not a powder puff, they become a little friendlier."

Initiation rites aside, Fanshier is thrilled to become actively involved in the gay leather scene. Last Sunday, he was a judge for the Mr. Texas Drummer contest at Pacific Street, and he hopes to visit more Texas cities while he holds his title.

It's not always been an easy ride for Fanshier, though.

Two years ago after testing positive for HIV, he "crashed and burned" at the startling news. Like most people, Fanshier never thought it could happen to him. And like most people, he needed time to face his new realities.

"I went home and cried, and, you know, I was like I'm not gonna be alive forever," he said. "But then I got to thinking, hell, you're not gonna be alive forever anyway."

The disease hasn't slowed Fanshier. With romantic blue eyes and sandy blonde hair, the muscled maverick is truly a work of art. Adhering to a

structured diet and vigorous exercise program, he says his health hasn't been better. Fortunately, the first wave of protease inhibitors hit the market right after his diagnosis, and he soon felt that HIV was "no reason for (him) to fade into the background."

With his pretty boy looks and outgoing personality, some Dallas residents find it odd he's in the leather scene at all.

"I've had people come up to me and say, 'What's a nice looking guy like you doing in the leather scene?' I'm in it because it's a very hot scene and creative. It's almost like having a fantasy come alive," Fanshier said. Then, with a sexy smile and a sensual laugh, Fanshier exposed the real motive: "I think I look damn good in it."

Point taken.

But Fanshier was quick to clarify. "I probably shouldn't have said that, but I do know what I look good in, and leather is one way. I'm comfortable in it, and I think if you're comfortable in what you're wearing, you're gonna look good and feel good."

After a nasty breakup last year, Fanshier met his lover at Positive Personals, an organization for HIV positive people that meets at a Dallas bar. Eyeing the

handsome suitor across the room, Fanshier grabbed a Hershey Kiss from a bowl, took one over, and said, "I just wanted to give you a kiss." Three months later, they met again and have been together since.

It wasn't too long before Fanshier took his partner to visit relatives in Oklahoma. His parents and grandparents love him like a part of the family,

but the issue of being gay gets treated in different ways, Fanshier said.

"It's funny, because I can talk about being gay with my parents, yet they're not comfortable with (the two of us) sleeping together in their house.

But (we) can sleep together at my grandparents, but we don't talk openly about being gay."

His grandparents, Fanshier said, just "read between the lines without saying anything, and that's their way of dealing with it."

Even though he's the older of two brothers, Fanshier is still the

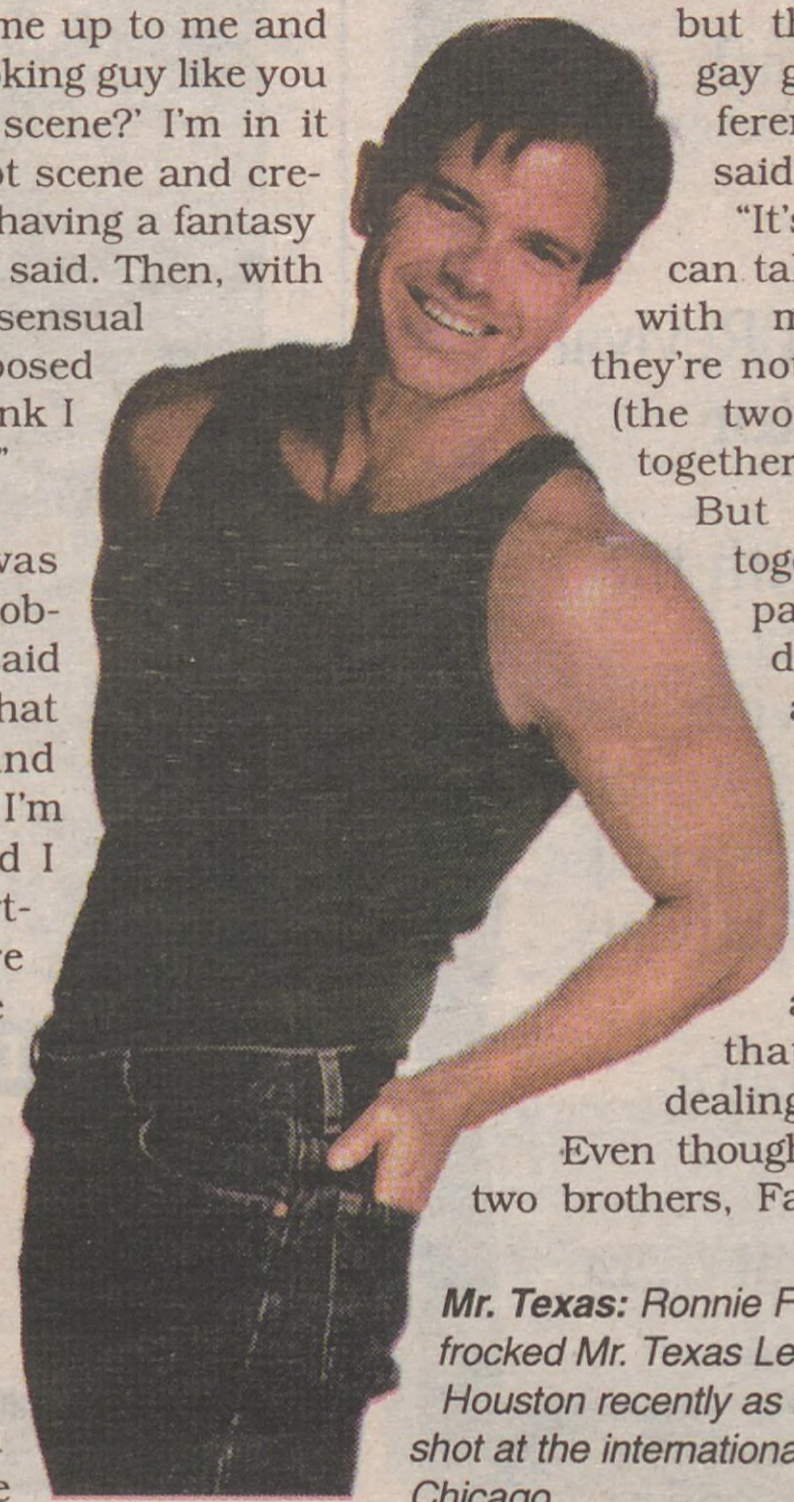
baby of the family. His folks became a bit more protective when doctors discovered a severe hearing problem at age 3. Fanshier can't hear himself speak too well, but he has refused to allow the handicap a chance to overcome him. It's important to show the gay community that "if you're handicapped and positive, that's no reason not to get out and get involved," he said.

For Fanshier, the leather lifestyle permeates not only his nightlife and relationship — it's a part of his business life as well. "My brother and I have a custom welding business in Oklahoma. We even make shackles and cages for this one account of ours. What's really funny is when my whole family found out what that stuff was for, they were like, OK, if it puts money in our boys' pockets, that's fine."

But Fanshier said his dad is now an impromptu dungeon master advisor. "Now it's to the point where my father says stuff like, 'The hand in this cage here might be a little better if you did it this way.' So, my father is coming over and giving advice on S&M equipment."

Fanshier's leather circuit gamble might pay off big in Chicago, but there's a deeper reason for his renewed involvement.

"I know that it sounds cliché, but I want to give something back to the community. For the last two years, the AIDS Resource Center in Dallas has been invaluable in helping me realize my life wasn't over because I'm positive. And I want everyone to know that your life is not over if you have HIV. We've all got a lot to live for," he said.

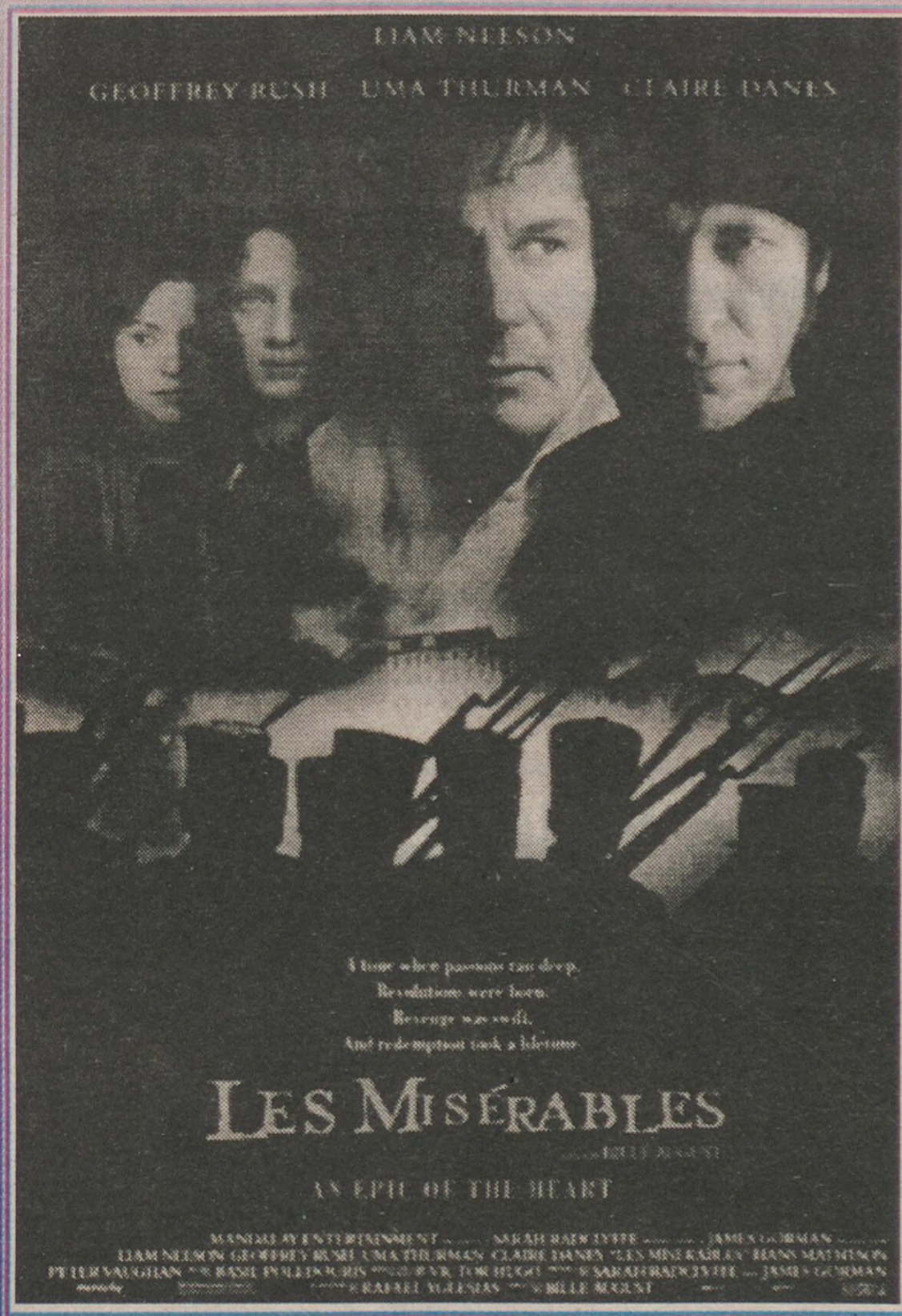


Mr. Texas: Ronnie Fanshier, the newly frocked Mr. Texas Leather, stopped in Houston recently as he prepares for a shot at the international title next month in Chicago.

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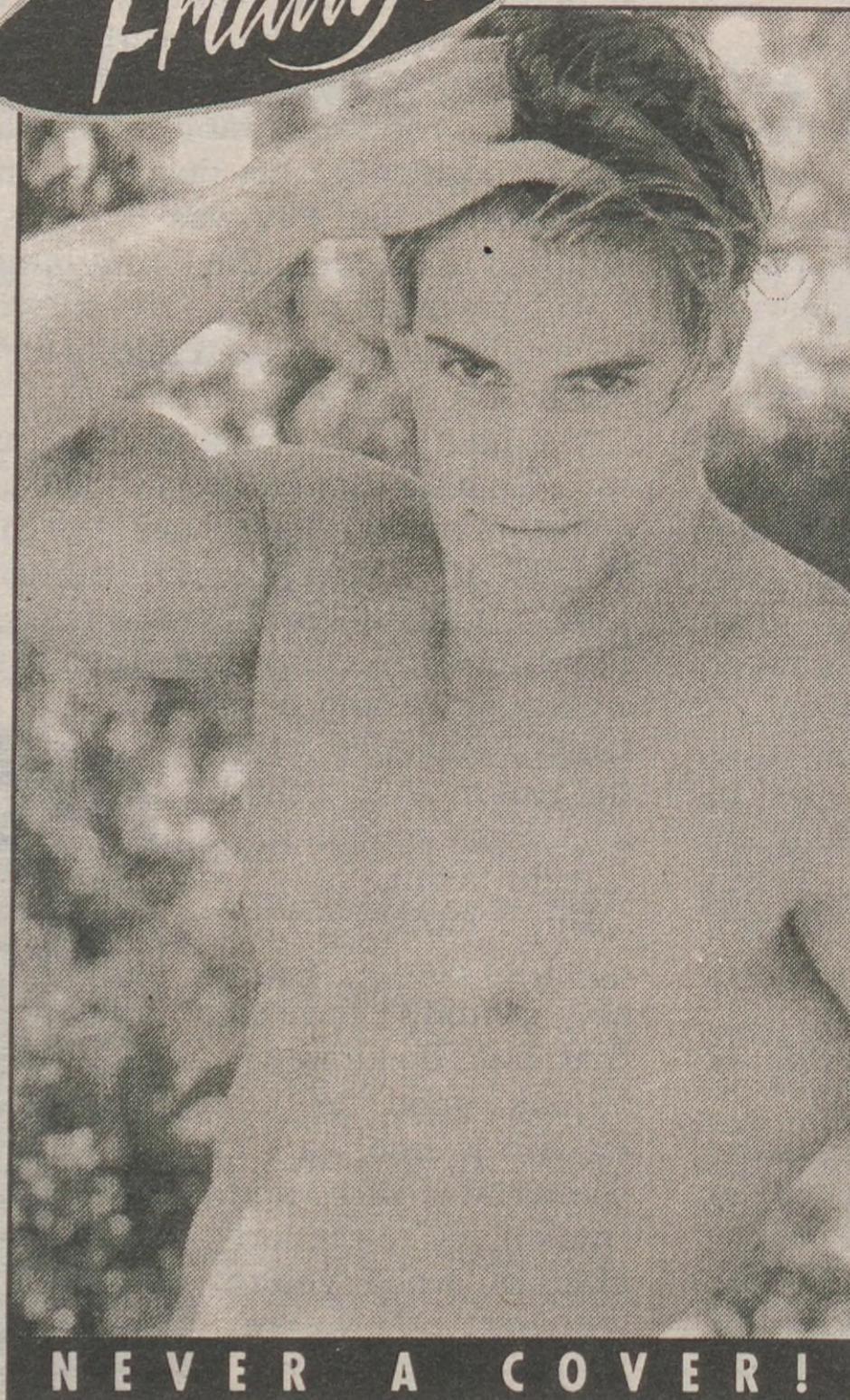


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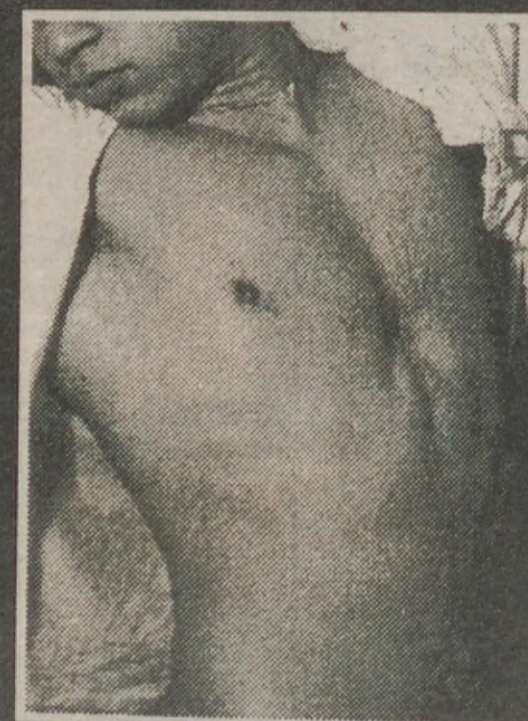
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OBJECT from page 12

central to the story — and should have meant a speedy transition to the big screen. Early in the process, however, it became clear that Hollywood didn't know what to do with the book.

And who would portray George?

"I suspect that a lot had to do with, in the book, the main character was a gay man, and it didn't fall into a category or story of a gay man that was comfortable," McCauley said recently during an interview from his home in Cambridge, Mass. "The character's sexuality was a given. There was no cross-dressing, no easy stereotypes to hide behind. Until fairly recently, the

idea of there being a major gay character whose sexuality is part of the story was not the norm by any means."

Over the next decade, as mainstream attitudes caught up to the book's sensibility — and gay-themed movies like "The Birdcage" proved to be boffo at the box office — the project began to finally take shape, especially after the respected director Nicholas ("The Madness of King George") Hytner, who is also gay, became interested.

The part of Nina was rumored to be going to a dizzying list of actresses, from Winona Ryder and Kyra Sedgwick to Uma Thurman and Nicole Kidman. But it was Aniston and Rudd, who made a splash as Alicia Silverstone's cute — and smart — step-brother in

"Clueless," who were tapped for the leads by Hytner. Despite the "Friends" co-star's greater fame, her role doesn't dominate the movie; the gay character gets his fair-share of screen time.

"I expected the male character to be put off in the background, but he's not. (Rudd's) very convincingly self-effacing in the movie — despite the disadvantages of his looks," said McCauley, who visited the set in New York City last summer.

Rudd's character has been singled out by the Gay and Lesbian Alliance Against Defamation for its sensitivity and realism, and McCauley says he much prefers Rudd's

interpretation of a gay man to Greg Kinnear's recent role as a more traditional homosexual victim in "As Good As It Gets."

Beyond having a gay director, it may be the times themselves that influenced not just the final product, but a big studio's ability to make a gay-themed movie that's not about AIDS, coming out or cross-dressing.

"In this movie, the way Paul Rudd plays the character, he's a very believable flesh and blood person, who doesn't have any affectations one way or another, and does have emotional and sexual needs that revolve around other men, that are not played for laughs. It will be interesting to see how audiences react to that," McCauley said.

'Object' was one of those rare and favorite books that made you laugh so much that you couldn't put it down; and it also moved you.



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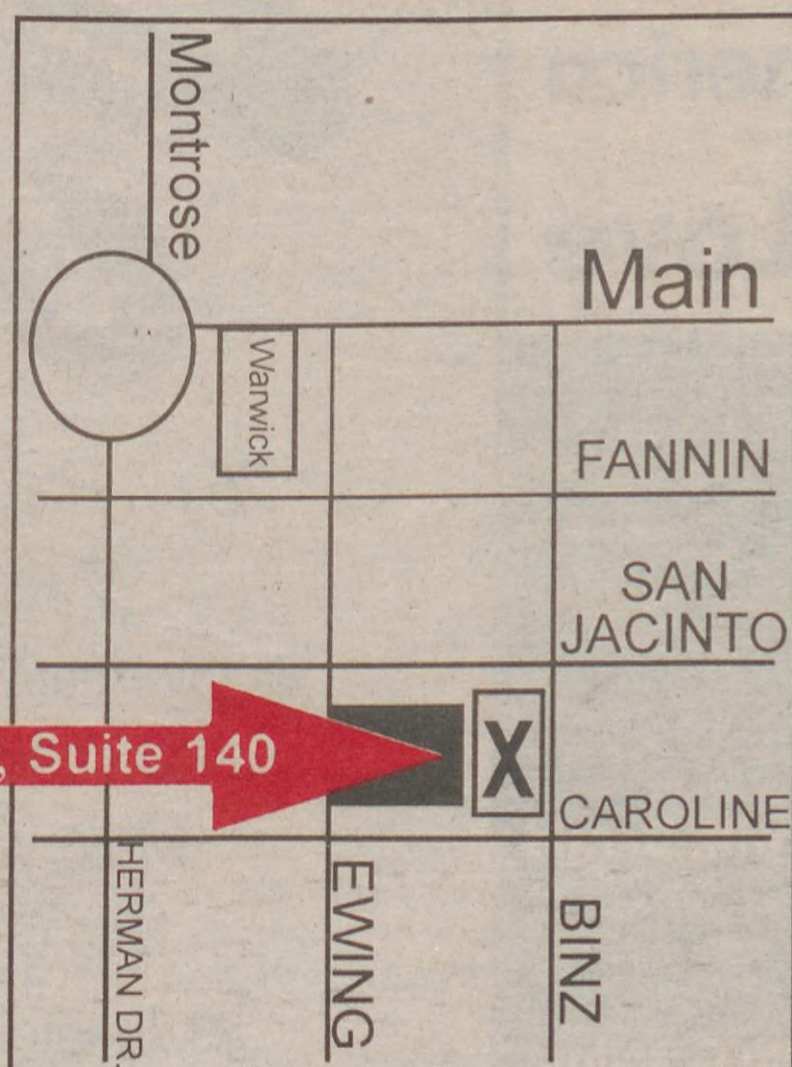


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THUR 4/30	Amateur/Talent Night, 11 pm with Roxanne Lee Love. Burger night with Grandma

Friday, April 24

- Free HIV testing by the Montrose Clinic at E/J's 6-10 pm and at the Midtowne Spa 10 pm to 1 am, Inergy at 8:30 pm to midnight.
- AIDS Mastery Workshop. 861-6453.
- HIV+ Art classes at the Art League. 523-8817.
- HATCH meets. 942-7002.
- Houston Tennis Club meets at 7:30 pm. 713/864-8468
- Aftercare Group Treatment at Montrose Counseling Center. 6pm. 529-0037.
- Frost Eye Clinic: Free eye exams for HIV+ people. 520-2000.
- Lesbian Avengers meet at Toffee's. 1830 W. Alabama @ 7pm.
- Free Yoga classes at 6 pm. 713-965-9642.
- Recovery and Beyond-relationship group meets at 8 pm. 713-333-9092.
- HIV Art Course Program: 1-4pm. Patrick Palmer at 526-1118.
- SNAP (Spay and Neuter Assistance Program) . 713/522-2337.
- POZ Life Expo at 11 am. 713-830-3000.
- Houston International Festival begins.(Runs thru 4/26.) 10 am to 11 pm. Hermann Square. Tranquility Park and Sam Houston Park.

Saturday, April 25

- Free HIV Testing by the Montrose Clinic at Brick's II 4 to 8 pm and the 611 Hyde Park Pub 8 pm to midnight, Toyz 8:30 pm to midnight.
- AIDS Housing Coalition Houston, 10am to 12pm, 713-521-1613.
- After Hours on KPFT 12am to 3am. 90.1 FM. 526-5738.
- Q-Patrol meets to walk the streets at 10:30pm. 528-SAFE.
- Visual Art Alliance meets at 10am. 583-8408.
- Rainbow Fishing Club meets. 713-526-7070.
- Houston Chain Gang Bicycle Club meets. 713-863-1860.
- Houston Outdoor Group meets for Breakfast/ 713-864-0082.
- Community Rummage sale at 202 Tuam. 9 am to 6 pm. Benefits StreetWise.

Sunday, April 26

- The Women's Group meets 10:45am, FYI Iris at 713-529-8571.
- HATCH meets. 942-7002.
- Houston Chain Gang Bicycle Club meets. 713-863-1860
- Rainbow Riders; A bicycle club for women. 713-869-1686.
- FrontRunners meet at 9:00 am. 713-522-8021.
- Houston Tennis Club meets at 10:30 am. 713-864-8468.
- Montrose Ice Picks skate at the Galleria at 5:00 pm. 713-629-1432.

Monday, April 27

- Gay Fathers/Fathers First support group. 8pm. 713-861-6181.
- Calendar/Computer workshop for Pride Week. 7pm. 529-1223.
- Outpatient Group Treatment at Montrose Counseling Center. 6pm. 529-0037.
- Men Survivors of Sexual Abuse Group at Montrose Counseling Center. 6:15pm. 529-0037.
- Frost Eye Clinic: Free eye exams for HIV+ people. 520-2000.
- AIDS Caregiver's Support Group meets at 6pm. 732-4300.
- AVES sponsored free HIV testing from 10am to 5pm at 4125 SW Freeway, Ste 1717.
- Houston Area Women's Center's Volunteer training. 535-6363.
- Texas Medical Center Lambda Group meets. 523-5539.
- Free HIV testing by the Montrose Clinic: Mary's 9 am to 1 pm; and Cousin's 8:30 pm to midnight.
- AIDS Foundation Houston offers free creative writing class. 3:00 pm. 713-623-6796.
- FrontRunners meets at 6:30 pm. 713-522-8021.
- TV Montrose airs on Warner Cable Channel 54 at 8 pm. 713-523-6302.
- Cancer Support Group meets at 6:30 pm. 713-681-1309
- Gay and Lesbian Readers night at Barnes and Noble. 713-349-0050.

Tuesday, April 28

- Project Caesar workshop by AIDS Foundation Houston 7-9pm 623-6796.
- Helping Cross Dressers Anonymous meets at 239 Westheimer. 7pm. 495-8009.
- Gay Men HIV+ Psychotherapy at Montrose Counseling Center. 4:30pm. 529-0037.
- Youth-Rap at 6:30pm. 822-8511.
- Aftercare Group Treatment at Montrose Counseling Center. 6pm. 529-0037
- AIDS Alliance of the Bay Area meets at 7pm. 488-4492.
- Empowerment for Living meets for pot luck. 861-9149.
- PROTECT: an HIV negative support group

- meets at 7pm. 520-7870.
- Free HIV testing by Montrose Clinic Club Body Center and Mela's 8pm to Midnight.
- Women Survivors of Childhood Abuse at Montrose Counseling Center. 6:30pm. 529-0037.
- Free Spay & Neuter Assistance (SNAP) 713-522-2337.
- Bering Support Network-Lunch Bunch Gang meets at 7 pm. 713-526-1017.
- HIV + Support group for men over 50 meets at 7:30 pm. 713/527-9106.
- HIV/AIDS Treatment Mixer at 7 pm. 713/527-8219.
- Love, Lust, and Intimacy discussion group meets at 7 pm. 713/524-2374.
- TV Montrose airs on Warner Cable Channel 54 at 8 pm. 713-523-6302.
- AIDS Equity League meets at noon. 713-910-2900.
- HIV/AIDS Treatment Mixer at 7 pm. 713-527-8219.
- Houston Outdoor Group meets at 7:30 pm. 713-KAMPOUT.

Wednesday, April 29

- Free HIV testing by the Montrose Clinic: Mary's 4-8pm; Chances 6 to 10 pm, Nighthawks 8 pm to midnight and the Ripcord 10 pm to 1 am.
- Frost Eye Clinic: Free eye exams to HIV+ people. 520-2000.
- Houston Pride Band practices at Dignity Houston. 524-0218.
- Houston Tennis Club meets at 7:30 pm. 713/864-8468.
- GLOBAL (Gay, Lesbian & Bisexual Alliance at the U of H) meets at 4:30pm . 713/791-1412.
- Women's Action Coalition meets at Toopees at 7pm. 867-9581.
- Women's Network at Montrose Counseling Center. 7pm. 529-0037.
- Ongoing Mixed Living in Process Group for men and women. 622-7250.
- Aftercare Group Treatment at Montrose Counseling Center. 6pm. 529-0037/
- HIV Survivor Support Group meets at 7pm. 782-4050.
- Houston Harpies Ice Hockey team recruits at 6:30 pm. 713-802-1248.
- Free Yoga classes at 7 pm. 713-965-9642.
- Women's Clinic at the Montrose Clinic. 5 to 8pm. Call 520-2000.
- BiNet of Houston meets at 7pm. 861-9149;
- AVES offers free HIV testing from 10am to 5pm at 4125 SW Freeway, Suite 1717.
- Cancer Dialogue Support Group meets at noon at Park Plaza Hospital. 1/800-611-CARE.
- Free Spay & Neuter Assistance (SNAP) 713-522-2337.
- Houston Harpies Ice Hockey Team recruits. 713-802-1248.
- Thomas Street Health Center Council meets at 2 pm. 713-902-2231.
- Lambda Rollerskating Club skates at 8 pm. 281-933-5818.
- Healing and Happiness Through Wellness at 7 pm. 623-6796.
- TV Montrose airs on Warner Cable Channel 54 at 8 pm. 713-523-6302.

Thursday, April 30

- Free HIV Testing by the Montrose Clinic at the BRB from 4 to 8 pm and QT's 8 pm to midnight.
- Art Labs at The Art League at 1pm. 713-225-9411.
- Gay Men's Chorus of Houston open rehearsal at 7pm. 521-7464.
- Twentysomething meets at 7:30pm. 315-6786.
- KPFT Lesbian & Gay Voices airs from 8 to 10pm. 866-6505.
- Ongoing gay men's Living in Process Groups. 622-7250.
- HIV+ Men Psychotherapy at Montrose Counseling Center. 1:15pm. 529-0037.
- Relapse Prevention at Montrose Counseling Center. 2pm. 529-0037.
- Outpatient Group Treatment at Montrose Counseling Center. 6pm. 529-0037.
- Aftercare Group Treatment at Montrose Counseling Center. 6pm. 529-0037.
- Women's Therapy Group at Montrose Counseling Center. 5:30pm. 529-0037.
- Meditation and Chanting Group meets at 7pm. 942-0923.
- HIV Affected at CASA. 7pm. 796-2272.
- HIV Survivor Support Group meets at 2929 Unity Drive. 7pm. 782-4050.
- Center for the Healing of Racism. 7:30pm. 738-RACE.
- Free Spay/Neuter Assistance Program (SNAP)
- FrontRunners run at 6:30 pm. 713-522-8021.
- HIV Art Course Program: 1-4pm. Patrick Palmer at 526-1118.
- HIV Prevention Community Planning Group meets at 9 am. 713-794-9251.
- Montrose Ice Picks skate at 8 pm. 713-629-1432.
- The Return of Social Space at DiverseWorks. 713-223-8346.

GALAXY GAYZER

by Joseph Molina

April 24 — 30, 1998



Taurus (APRIL 21 — May 20)

Mars settling into your natural sign produces a noticeable jolt. At first, this could manifest as stress; no outfit you try on is going to work. Twenty costume changes and you still searching for something right. Get ready, I see you cleaning out your closets and rearranging your shoes. Throughout this, you must beware of individuals who would rather use you than be your friend. There is an indication of a cunning mischievous manipulator. The question: Is this you or another?



Gemini (MAY 21 — JUNE 21)

Pluto and Jupiter team forces with Mercury and Venus to stimulate a growth oriented cycle. Stop for a moment and turn inward. Please be very careful of sidetracking individuals and situations. If you find yourself in tempting romantic situations, beware of being misled. You may find yourself in a funky mood or just not getting along with anyone. Wrong comments at the wrong time could be the culprit of your misery. Just accept it, Miss Gemini, or is it Mr.?



Cancer (JUNE 22 — July 23)

Time for a little reevaluation. Stop and review where you find yourself. Are you comfortable? Or are you looking for something more? You may find that what you are searching for cannot be found. Perhaps a new career directive or stronger turns toward the life of Spirit. Hold your horses honey, no need to rush. You still have tomorrow and for a period, the universe will wait.



Leo (JULY 24 — AUGUST 23)

This week under the influence of Pluto and Saturn, triggered by the movement of Mercury, changing cycles are coming to a close. Take advantage. Learn from these experiences. If you have had situations you have had a problem bringing to a close, the universe encourages transformation. A new you is in the process of becoming sleek, prissy and perfect. You have an opportunity to be Diva. Remember, Homosexual Vanity would never let us go out into the world, unless our hair was perfect, our clothes were pressed, and our shoes matched.



Virgo (AUGUST 24 — September 23)

The hardest thing you will find is coming to terms with clinging attitudes and ties to the past. An old lover is finally released and emotional wounds heal. The black widow has released her claws. You need to stop for a moment and acknowledge this. Otherwise, you could find yourself in the same situation. Some of you will be motivated to initiate associations that will inevitably not be long lived. Trade, trick or treat? For the most part, a haze will be undeniable all week long.



Libra (SEPTEMBER 24 — OCTOBER 23)

In the menagerie of stress permeating your life, you need to learn to appreciate the little things. What does all the responsibility you have taken on offer you? All the time you have chosen to give up? All the commitments you have made? Prepare to have friction manifest as a sense of uncertainty, a slight feeling of futility. I see you making an appointment with your massage therapist, checking out a new hair color, or buying yourself a new outfit.



Scorpio (OCTOBER 24 — NOVEMBER 22)

Mars and the Sun team join forces to jump-start you into action. A new profitable opportunity could manifest, thrusting you into a learning environment. You could take on the role of a teacher or become a student. Class is in Scorpio, its all about crossing your tees and dotting your I's. You must be careful how critical you are of yourself or others. You will be more of a perfectionist than usual, demanding more out of yourself and others. Evil only hints at your attitude, so make sure you have your morning coffee.



Sagittarius (NOVEMBER 23 — DECEMBER 22)

This week you will need to sit and evaluate if the occurrences taking place are the ones you want. You could experience a loss or some sorrow associated with an old lover or associate. Subconsciously, you may desire to reject or be rejected. Take time out to evaluate this. Are you Blanch or are you Baby Jane? You are laying a foundation in a process of purging; a purging so that you can achieve your desires. Easy or rough, the choice is yours.



Capricorn (DECEMBER 23 — JANUARY 20)

Following dreams means allowing yourself to become excited and letting your lower passions bubble over. Freedom comes from tuning into ideas that could lead to the potential formulation of wealth. Let your hair down and try your hand at being spontaneous. Following your instinct will help to break down walls and barriers. Go on a shopping spree of leather, latex and lycra. Allow yourself to become your wildest fantasy. Form one extreme to the other, structures come down and you're raising eyebrows everywhere.



Aquarius (JANUARY 21 — FEBRUARY 19)

How do know when all of your hard work begins to pay off? When you are on the path to fulfillment? This week, some inner insecurity could limit you from making any solid decisions. It is timely that you play your cards right. You are no longer the Golden Fairy. You have blown your silver dust and must reap the consequences. Take the time to validate opportunities. Not all that come your way will be truthful, so keep a watch full eye.



Pisces (FEBRUARY 20 — MARCH 20)

Jupiter and Venus combine, over the course of this week, to produce a strong air of romance. A cosmic love spell will place you into a daze. Events will occur that will shock you. An aroma of love will exude from every pore of your body. If you are single, you will have an undeniable urge to play, although you would be smarter to enjoy the moment, instead of trying to establish long term commitments. If you are married, you will need to work at prioritizing, so that you can give your lover some attention. All must beware of tension-forming situations, which lead to the development of stress between you and another. Setbacks could be the manifestation of being scattered and relying on individuals that let you down.



Aries (MARCH 21 — April 20)

This week, the planet Mercury encourages some healthy communication. Choosing your words, you will revert to patterns that have gotten you into trouble. Miss I-Know-You-Did-Not is spilling family secrets left and right. All that style and grace the universe has been encouraging, just thrown out the window. One slip, your best friend is shedding tears and two, some Queer is shedding yours. Be Aware.

Joseph Molina, a student of the psychic sciences for over 15 years can be reached at 713-524-4411 for private appointments or e-mailed at joemo@swbell.net. Look for his upcoming website at www.AstralWind.com and watch for him on Montrose TV at the beginning of the month.

"Hound Dog" meets ballet in Presley-inspired "Blue Suede Shoes"



The King: Ramon Thielen (left to right), Raymond Rodriguez and Matthew Gasper dance to "Guitar Man" in "Blue Suede Shoes," which opens Wednesday at Jones Hall. —Photo by Larry Merkle

by RICH ARENSCHIEDT

Society for the Performing Arts brings the Broadway style dance spectacular "Blue Suede Shoes" to Jones Hall on Wednesday for six performances through May 3.

The music from the "King of Rock and Roll" is the inspiration and guiding soul behind this nostalgic romp through 36 of Elvis Presley's greatest hits. Original master recordings, a dozen sets, 280 costumes and forty eight members of the Cleveland/San Jose Ballet combine for an evening of music, movement and bee-bop ballet.

With choreography by Dennis Nahat and costumes by the arbiter of Hollywood fashion, Bob Mackie, this entertainment has something for everyone.

"Blue Suede Shoes" reflects a movement in the field of dance — gone are the days when ballet companies can exist on presenting the same ancient "mummy-dusted" story ballets every two or three

seasons. Survival relies on innovation.

One of the most interesting aspects of "Blue Suede Shoes" is that it recounts a part of American history when the "American Dream" was thought to still be obtainable.

"Blue Suede Shoes" spans two decades encompassing carefree youth, young men at war and the subsequent passage into maturity. There is humor, melancholy, sex (with some very revealing costumes worn by men and women) and blatant exuberance.

On it's United States tour, "Blue Suede Shoes" has garnered praise from all sides of the dance community. In an effort to get a more diverse audience to experience dance, this creative team and company of dancers have stretched the limits of ballet like a string on a blues guitar, with incredible results.

The three young men who serve as principals in this show move with absolute aplomb — they have the technical facility of the best trained classical "danseur" with a swivel of the hips that won't quit. Their finale is a toeshoe shake rattle and roll that combines the impossible — rock and roll, classical ballet and furiously fast footwork.

Lavish pop-style sets, sexy costumes, wickedly difficult dance and music that moves itself all contribute to a cool new kind of "story ballet" — one that recounts a story we can actually remember.

Who: Society For the Performing Arts
What: Blue Suede Shoes
Where: Jones Hall
When: April 29th - May 2nd
Tickets: \$15 - \$50, 713-227-ARTS

POLICE/ from page 1

well as other training, he said. Police cadets already receive sensitivity training.

Also opened was a 24-hour hotline (713-308-8737) to report hate crimes or tips to police. On weekdays from 7:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m., officers will answer. After hours or on the weekend, a recorded message greets callers, who then can leave information or contact the department's command center to talk with an officer.

Victims and witnesses to hate crimes can use the hotline, which has already received several calls since it opened earlier this month. Calls to the hotline can remain anonymous, Eisenman said.

Information from the hotline, as well as all police reports of hate crimes, goes to Eisenman and a squad of 10 officers in CID, who will oversee and aid investigations by other divisions in the department to ensure hate crime cases receive attention, Eisenman said.

"We want to be proactive and break down the reporting barriers," he said. "If we can get information from the community, that really makes our job much better. We need that information to put the whole picture together. It's sometimes difficult to put the puzzle together."

If reports of hate crimes jump, which police and experts agree will happen, authorities aren't concerned.

"The more people that come to us and relay information, the more cases we can solve," Eisenman said.

The three-pronged initiative — appointing a hate crimes coordinator, opening a hotline and improving police training — were part of a push by Brown announced earlier this month.

"If we can get information from the community, that really makes our job much better. We need that information to put the whole picture together. It's sometimes difficult to put the puzzle together."

—Mark Eisenman

"Hate crimes terrorize an entire community, so one hate crime is one too many, and we cannot lower our guard," the mayor said April 13.

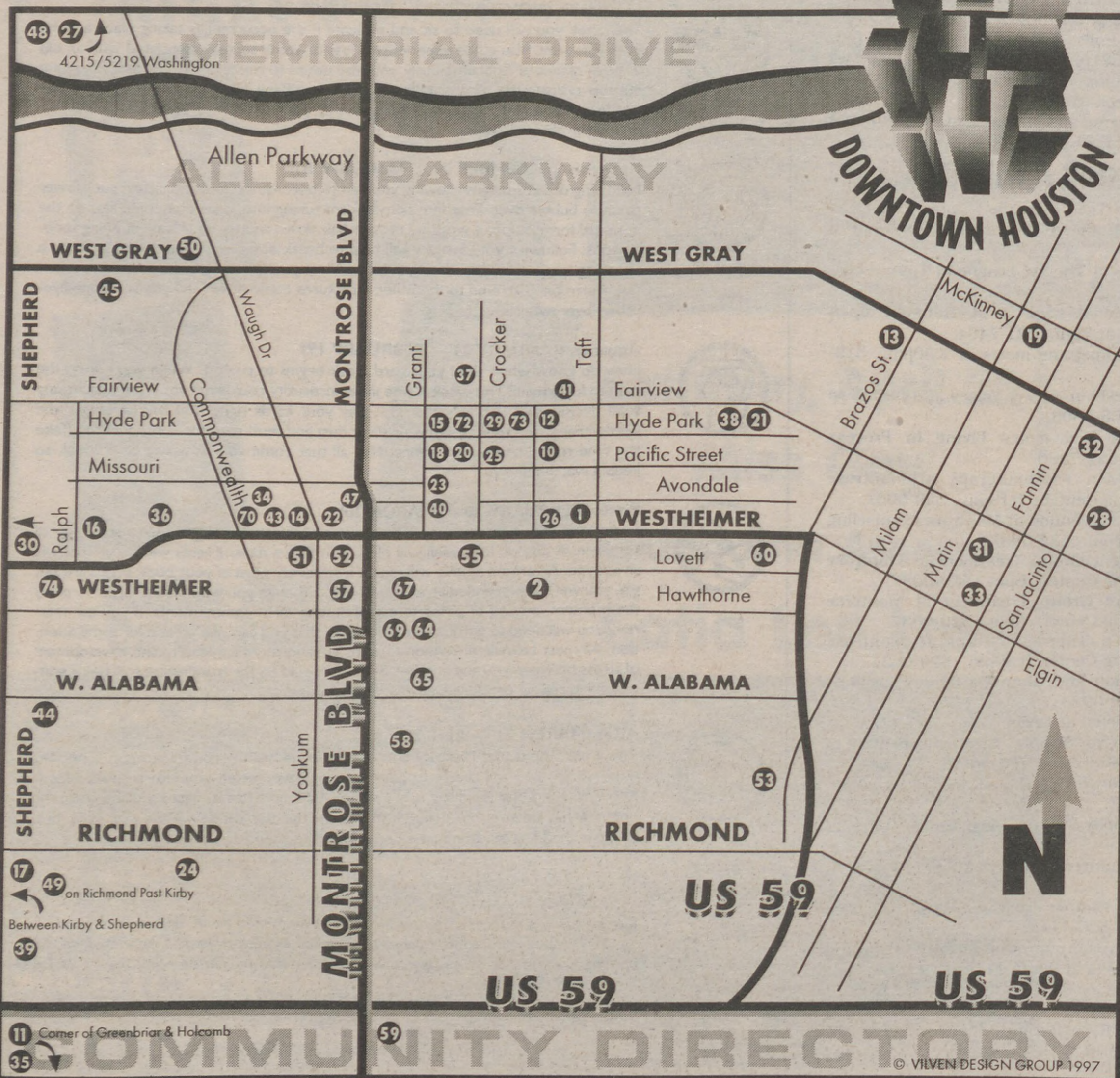
Moving aggressively against hate crimes meets a pledge Brown made to the gay and lesbian community during his campaign for mayor last fall, said Clarence Bagby, president of the Houston Gay & Lesbian Political Caucus.

"Hate crimes and the reporting of hate crimes continue to be a serious issue for all communities," Bagby said. "The caucus is thrilled to see Mayor Brown take a step in the direction of addressing these serious safety concerns."

Since taking office in January, Brown has also fulfilled two other campaign pledges to gays and lesbians — appointing a liaison to the gay community and signing an executive order banning discrimination against gays in the city's work force.

That order was later rendered powerless by a district judge who issued an injunction against it until a November trial.

COMMUNITY DIRECTORY



ACCOMMODATIONS		
1	Montrose Inn	408 Avondale 713/520-0206
2	The Lovett Inn	501 Lovett Blvd 713/522-5224
BARS & CLUBS		
10	611 Hyde Park	611 Hyde Park 713/526-7070
11	The Briar Patch	2294 Holcombe 713/665-9678
12	Bricks II	617 Fairview 713/528-8102
13	Brazos River Bottom	2400 Brazos 713/528-9192
14	Chances	1100 Westheimer 713/523-7217
15	Cousins	817 Fairview 713/528-9204
16	Els	2517 Ralph 713/527-9071
17	Gentry	2303 Richmond 713/520-1861
18	Heaven	812 Pacific 713/521-9123
19	Incognito	2524 McKinney 713/237-9431
20	JR's	808 Pacific 713/521-2519
21	Lazy J	312 Tuam 713/528-9343
22	Mary's	1022 Westheimer 713/527-9669
23	Montrose Mining Co.	805 Pacific 713/529-7488
24	Outpost	1419 Richmond 713/520-8446
25	Pacific Street	710 Pacific 713/523-0213
26	QT's	534 Westheimer 713/529-8813
27	Mail Box	4215 Washington 713/864-2977
28	Rich's	2401 San Jacinto 713/759-9606
29	Ripcord	715 Fairview 713/521-2792
30	Vintage Bar on Midlane	4356 Westheimer 713/355-3093
31	Venture N Nighthawks	2923 Main 713/522-0000
32	The Club Houston	2205 Fannin 713/659-4998
33	Midtowne Spa	3100 Fannin 713/522-2379
34	The New Barn	1100 Westheimer 713/521-9533
35	PLAZA 9200:	
	Ms. B's, The Ranch & XTC	9200 Buffalo Spwy 713/666-3436
36	Racals	1318 Westheimer 713/942-CLUB
37	Paradise	2312 Crocker 713/522-7366
38	Mela's Tejana Country	302 Tuam 713/523-0747
39	Metropolis	2165 Portsmith 713/520-5000
48	Viviana's	5219 Washington 713/862-0203
RESTAURANTS		
40	Baba Yega	2607 Grant 713/522-0042
41	Barnaby's Cafe	604 Fairview 713/522-0106
43	Charlie's Coffee Shop	1100 Westheimer 713/522-3332
44	Cafe Edi	3102 S. Shepherd 713/520-5221
45	Mesa Grill	1971 W. Gray 713/520-8900
47	Riva's Italian Restaurant	1117 Missouri St. 713/529-3450
BUSINESSES & SERVICES		
49	Allstate	3467 Kirby 713/526-5553
50	Cineplex-Odeon	1450 W Gray 713/524-8781
51	Crossroads Market	1111 Westheimer 713/942-0147
52	Eckerd Drugs	1007 Westheimer 713/524-9229
53	Fitness Exchange	4040 Milam 713/524-9932
55	Houston Voice	811 Westheimer 713/529-8490
57	Kroger Grocery	3300 Montrose 713/526-7865
58	Lobo Books & Video	3939-S Montrose 713/522-5156
59	Main St. Theatre	4617 Montrose 713/524-6706
60	Montrose Clinic	215 Westheimer 713/520-2000
64	Vilven Design Group	807 Hawthorne 713/526-3212
65	House of Coleman	901 W Alabama 713/523-2521
67	Walgreens	3317 Montrose 713/520-8000
69	STAT Script Pharmacy	3407 Montrose (A5) 713/522-7373
CLOTHING SHOPS		
31	Black Hawks	2923 Main 713/520-6224
70	Basic Brothers	1232 Westheimer 713/522-1626
72	Leather By Boots	807 Fairview 713/526-2668
73	Leather Forever	711 Fairview 713/526-6940
74	Timeless Taffeta	1657 Westheimer 713/529-6299

To advertise in the Classifieds call (713)529-8490 or (800)729-8490 if not in Houston. Our office hours are 9:00 am-5:30 pm Monday through Friday. Classified deadline is Monday at noon for the following Friday publication. Most major credit cards and personal checks accepted. *Houston Voice is not responsible for misprints appearing after first week. Check ads promptly.*

Announcements

Houston Lesbian & Gay Pride 1998

The official Houston Lesbian & Gay Pride 1998 merchandise is now available. T-shirts, tank tops, sleeveless muscle T's, caps and commemorative pins all feature the 1998 theme of "Unified, Diversified, Electrified." All proceeds help bring you PRIDE 1998. Call Fred, for more information, at 713.522.9752.

Auto Repairs

THE TIRE PLACE, inc.

- Alignment
- Brakes

Cooper TIRES

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

Taft Street Auto Repair & Service

526-3723

Electrical Repair
Complete Brakes
Tune-Up
Major or Minor Repair

Carburetor and Fuel Injection

1411 Taft Houston, Texas 77019

TAFT STREET
Auto Repair & Service
526-3723
1411 Taft Houston, Texas 77019

Autos For Sale

1967 PONTIAC Catalina • 4 Door • Very good condition • Runs great - Much new • Power & Air • \$3000 FIRM • Call for details 713.861.1829.

Business Opportunities

GREAT HOME INCOME with WATKIN'S PRODUCTS. START-UP LESS THAN \$50.00 281.239.0486.

Entertainment

Mr. Gay Pride
All-American 98
Contest

Club Inergy
April 26, 1998
Starring
Antonio Edwards
Mr. All-American 98
For Applications call
Christopher Graham
(713) 522-1726

Help Wanted

The Fitness Exchange is now hiring for receptionist/trainer. Must be people oriented and willing to work on some weekends. We are also looking for a detail oriented housekeeper. Please come by 4040 Milam to apply.

Small but growing cleaning company seeks honest dependable person to fill this full-time position. Salary, paid vacation, available to right person. Must be bondable. Call M-F, 9am to 3pm for information 281.556.8054.

Landscape & Maintenance company - starting at \$6.00 per hr. Must be clean cut & responsible. 713.861.9762.

Brazos River Bottom is now accepting applications for a full-time Country Western DJ. Apply in person Mon-Sat, 8:00am-1:00pm.

CHANCES & The NEW BARN

Taking applications for speed bartenders who can come to work sober and unescorted by current lover. Your pay is commensurate with your professionalism. We need folks who want to work & serve our valued customers! If you are sick & tired of not earning a decent take home pay come work with us & be delightfully surprised! No Jerks need apply!

GENTRY is accepting applications for full time barbacks. Apply from 2pm to 6pm @ 2303 Richmond. No Phone Calls Please.

The Lazy J is auditioning for cast members for their Saturday Night Drag Shows. Call Charlie Taylor @ 713.807.1892 for an appointment.

Help Wanted! Houston-Start the New Year Right! Join the friendly staff at Montrose's favorite men's dance bar: Pacific Street! Applications now being accepted for Bartenders, Door & Floor positions. Recent photo required. Apply Mondays & Fridays, Noon - 4pm. No Phone Inquires, Please.

General Labor: 713.942.8600


Nighthawks is now accepting applications at 2923 Main. Best time is Tuesday, Wednesday & Thursday afternoons.

Items For Sale

Attention DJ's, music lovers and collectors. Extensive collection of records, all music types. Approximately 10,000 Vinyls - \$3000.00 for all. Call Steve between 1pm and 8pm @ 713.526.6940.

Licensed Massage

MONSIEUR MASSAGE



Your Body Friend
Roland Nicolaides
713-942-2399
Weekdays, Weekends & Evenings
Central Location • Gift Certificates

Moving Service

When Quality Counts
Chuck French's Moving Service
20 Years Master Craftsman • Insured
713-942-8600

American Movers
Celebrating our 14th Year
Experienced • Trusted • Insured
Call Frank
713.522.1717
1.800.522.2670

Pets

Rotweiler Rescue has rotties for adoption. Foster parents also urgently needed. You can make a difference! Call Mary 713.645.2773.

Professional Services

Rainbow Maid Co.
Home/Office Cleaning • Organizing
Moving/Pet Care Assistance
Insured & Bonded
Michael pgr. 713.642.4858
713.721.5563

HAIR LOSS PILL

Propecia Available • Imported without prescription • Authentic • Affordable • COD's welcome! • Detail: Clinical, P.O. Box 633085, San Diego, CA 92163.

ACCOUNTING & INCOME TAX SMALL BUSINESS & INDIVIDUALS

Michael H. Carney CPA
1915 Commonwealth # 203
713.529.2011
Reasonable Rates
Evening & Weekend Appts.

Real Estate For Rent

Condo located in Montrose • 2 Bedroom, 2 1/2 Bath, 2 car garage • No smoking • References required • Call for details 713.942.7986.

Heights restored Victorian, 4/2/1, Skylights, fenced, nice area & pets OK! 713.240.6907.

Close to 290/610 • 1-1 Flat, \$390; 1-1 loft Townhouse, \$455; 2-1. \$500 & \$525. On bus line, access gates and pool. 713.956.7463.

1 BR located on tree shaded lot in quiet NW Houston neighborhood. Call 713.529.5047 for more information.

HISTORIC HEIGHTS \$425 & Up

Heights Blvd.: gates, covered parking, jogging trail; 1 BR - \$425, 2 BR - \$595, 1 BR w/study in Victorian 4-plex, hardwoods - \$625. NO APPLICATION FEES for Houston Voice readers. Call 713.863.9496.

AIDS Emergency Housing - Montrose

Bed Space available at TLC House for HIV infected males. Weekly rental, no deposit, bill paid, free laundry/phone. No drugs/alcohol - Social Service vouchers welcome! AIDS Housing Coalition Houston. 713.521.1613.

Real Estate For Sale

GREAT HOUSES
IN MONTROSE & THE HEIGHTS
Call Bill Baldwin - Agent
281.731.8314

Roommate

House mate to share 3 bedroom, 2 bath house in Timbergrove/Heights area with 34yo GWM professional. Non-smoker. \$395 plus 1/2 utilities. 713.880.2004.

Want To Buy

Fast Cash, Highest Price Paid. We buy antiques, estates, furniture, collectibles, jewelry, etc. Pick up available. 281.391.7515 or 713.994.5986 pgr.

WebSites

www.HoustonGayWeb.com

www.dupontmerck.co

www.basicbrothers.com

www.communitygospel.org

http://ticketmaster.com

www.agouron.com

www.the/clubs.com

www.Roxane.com

www.pacificstreet.com

www.midtowne.spa.com/spa

www.dudejack.com

www.confidentialconnection.com

www.movo.com

Personals

ORDER IN TONIGHT!

Discreetly explore your fantasies on The Confidential Connection@! 18+ Record, Listen & Respond FREE!
Call 713.892.5566 use code 7126

Houston's Newest, Hottest Gay Dateline. Meet local men & women NOW. 1.900.285.0074 ext. 8850. Must be 18+ \$2.99 per minute.

FREE LIVE HOT GAY CHAT

PowerCruise, Personals, More!

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1-704-319-2065

1-473-441-1065

1-268-404-7440

1-767-446-9398

18+ Only

LD Rates Apply • INT LD Rates Apply

ALL GAY PARTY!!

On Club Voice-MALE™! 18+ Call 713.850.7900 use code: 7900 TRY IT FREE!

Experiment Orally!

Gay Group Fun on Club Voice-MALE™! Try it FREE! 713.850.7900 18+ code: 2313.

Versatile red hankie expert recruiting trim playmates. 5'9", 140#, GWM, 48yrs. Mike 713.355.4022.

Curious? Meet someone new. Record & Listen to ads FREE. Use code 7070. Must be 18+ years. 713.526.9393.

MEETING GAY & BI LOCALS

FREE to Browse & Respond to

Voice Ads!

713.225.5500

PUB #625 (18+)

HANDSOME HARD BODY

281.520.8921

Models/Escorts

RICK • 24 HOURS • 713.807.7190

Young Fitness Model
281.738.7368

HOT!

Discreet. Outcall only.
Pager: 281.738.9891

NEW Stud in Town
281.626.3677

Hot! Healthy Hands.
Convenient Mid-Town Location
713.659.5266

Mark

24 Hours

713.697.2178

Houston Voice Policy. Prostitution is illegal in Texas. State law prohibits the placement in this category of any such ads which might suggest sollicitaion. The Houston Voice will not knowingly accept any ads of this type.

Friday, April 24

- Brazos River Bottom: \$1.75 well & domestic longnecks, \$1.25 regular schnapps 7am til 11pm Buffet at 4:00 pm.
- BriarPatch: Wayne Gray plays tonight! Blackjack tables with Bunny open at 9:30pm.
- Bricks II: Happy Hour 7am to noon \$1.25 well; \$1.25 Domestic Longnecks; \$1.75 well and domestic beer from noon to 9:00 pm
- Chances: Power Hours with \$1.75 domestic beer & well 10am to 3pm; Happy Hour 3 to 8pm with \$2.25 domestic beer & \$2.75 well cocktails; \$2 Jose Cuervo. Blues Broad Susan Masar sings at 9 pm.
- Club Incognito: Ladies night.
- Cousin's: Super Friday Night Drag show with fabulous performers at 11pm.
- E/J's: Happy Hours 7am to 9pm; \$1.50 Well 4 to 7pm; \$1.50 vodka 7am to 6pm; Mug Club 7am to 10pm; Male Strip Contest at 11pm.
- Gentry: Happy Hour 2 to 8pm; Boy Toys dance at 6pm; \$2.25 Kamikazes open to close.
- Lazy J: Pool tournament
- Incognito: Ladies night!
- J.R.'s: Texas Pride Happy Hour 4 to 8 pm. \$2.25 well \$1.75 domestic longnecks, \$3.50 Absolut Martinis \$4.50 doubles, \$3.75 Stoli and Skyy. Hard Body Male Dancers.
- Lazy J: 8-ball tournament.
- Mailbox Club: 75¢ draft and \$1.50 domestics all night long. Doors open at 8 pm.
- Mary's: \$1.75 well drinks & longnecks 7am to 9pm; \$1.50 Vodka drinks 7am to 2pm.
- Montrose Mining Company: \$3.75 premium vodkas; Happy hour until 10pm; male dancers 8pm to 2:30am; After hours until 4am. \$1 well Vodka Juice Drinks.
- Mela's Tejano: Dance! Dance!
- Metroplex: Hot bartender night. Doors open at 4 pm.
- Ms. B's: Open at 4 pm.
- Nighthawks: \$2 well, beer, and wine until 7pm \$2.50 Cuervo!
- Pacific Street: Foreplay! No Cover till 9pm. \$1.25 well; \$1.75 beer; \$3 call; \$3.50 premium; \$1.25 Schnapps; Doors open at 7pm.
- Paradise: Open 11 am; \$3.75 Call Martinis, \$2.25 well Martini All day all night!
- QT's: Open at 8 am; Jello Shots \$1 all day and all night! Jagermeister and Spearmint \$2.
- Ranch: Open at 7 pm.
- Rascals: Hot Bodies Night. No Cover Before 11pm.
- Rich's: "Fuel" 19 and up. DJ Chris Sill and Fusion.
- Ripcord: Happy Hour 1 to 8pm; After Hours until 4am.
- 611 Hyde Park Pub: Pizza Buffet at 5:30 pm; dancers at 9pm.
- The New Barn: Happy Hour 3 to 8pm with \$2.25 domestic beer & \$2.75 well cocktails, \$2 Cuervo. 9:00
- Viviana's Nite Club: Doors open at 2 pm. Drag Show at Midnight.
- Vintage Bar has nightly wine tasting. 355-3093.
- XTC: Open at 9 pm.

Saturday, April 25

- Brazos River Bottom: \$1.75 domestic longnecks & well, \$1.25 regular schnapps 7am til 9pm. Joanne in the afternoons!
- BriarPatch: Wayne Gray tickles the ivories; Bunny deals Blackjack at 9:30pm
- Bricks II: Happy Hour 7am to 9pm; \$1.75 well; \$1.75 domestic longnecks.
- Chances: Power Hours with \$1.75 domestic beer & well 10am to 3pm; Happy Hour 3 to 8pm with \$2.25 domestic beer & \$2.75 well cocktails; \$2 Jose Cuervo.
- Club Incognito: Ladies' Night.
- Cousin's: Super Saturday night Drag show with top Houston talent at 11pm.
- E/J's: \$1.50 well 4 to 7pm; Mug Club 7am to 10pm; \$1.50 vodka 7am to 6pm. Super Show at 11pm.
- Gentry: Boy Toys at 9pm; \$3.75 Absolut cocktails open to close.
- Incognito: Alternative night. The Orbit Room!
- J.R.'s: Texas Pride Happy Hour 4 to 7pm \$2.25 well, \$1.75 domestic longnecks, \$3.50 Absolut Martinis & \$4.50 doubles; \$2.75 premium frozen drinks & premium draft beer, \$3.25 super premium draft beer.
- Lazy J: Drag show at 10:30pm.
- Mailbox Club: \$2 domestics all night long. Doors open at 8 pm.
- Mary's: Happy Hour 7:00 am to 2:00 pm.
- Mela's Tejano: Dance! Dance!
- Montrose Mining Company: \$3.75 Bacardi Limonade; male dancers 9pm to 2:30am; happy hour until 10pm; After hours until 4am.
- Ms. B's: Open at 6 pm.
- Nighthawks: \$2 well, beer, and wine until 7 pm. \$2.50 Cuervo.
- OutPost: Happy Hour 11am to 8pm.

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

Sunday, April 26

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

Monday, April 27

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

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

Tuesday, April 28

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

Wednesday, April 29

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

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

Thursday, April 30

- Brazos River Bottom: \$1.75 domestic longnecks, \$1.75 well, \$1.25 schnapps until 11pm.
- BriarPatch: Doors open at 2 pm.
- Bricks II: \$1.25 well & domestic longnecks 7:00 am to noon; \$1.75 well & domestic noon to 9:00 pm.
- Chances: Power Hours with \$1.75 domestic beer & well 10am to 3pm; Happy Hour 3 to 8pm with \$2.25 domestic beer & \$2.75 well cocktails; \$2 Jose Cuervo.
- Club Houston: Half-price lockers, rooms, & video rooms noon to midnight.
- Cousin's: Show at 11pm.
- E/J's: Happy Hour 7am to 9pm; \$1.50 well 4pm to 7pm; \$1.50 vodka 7am to 6pm. Mug club 7am to 10pm; Tacos on the patio; Amateur Talent contest @ 11pm.
- Gentry: Happy Hour 2 to 8pm; Boy Toys dance at 9pm; \$3.25 Skyy Vodka open to close.
- J.R.'s: Texas Pride Happy Hour 4 to 7pm \$2.25 well, \$1.75 domestic longnecks \$3.75 all top shelf liquor. \$2.25 Imports and Micro Brews. Star Search Gold Karaoke at 9pm.
- Mary's: \$1.75 well drinks & longnecks 7am to 9pm; \$1.50 well vodka drinks 7am to 2pm; \$3 all call vodka.
- Mailbox Club: Doors open at 8 pm. 75¢ draft and \$1.50 domestics all nightlong.
- Mela's Tejano: Happy hour all day and all night
- Metroplex: Doors open at 4 pm. Show at 10 pm.
- Midtowne Spa: 1/2 price lockers Noon to Midnight.
- Montrose Mining Company: \$2.25 domestic longnecks, well, & wine; Male dancers at 9pm; Happy hour until 10pm.
- Ms. B's: Open at 4 pm, Linda Lou with open mike 9-10:30 pm, 10:30 pm to 1 am Karokee
- Nighthawks: \$2 well, beer, & wine noon until 7pm. \$2.50 Cuervo
- OutPost: Happy Hour 11am to 8pm.
- Pacific Street: Sexx Thursdays; \$1.25 well, \$1.75 beer, \$3 call, \$3.50 premium, \$1.25 Schnapps. No cover with current gym card.
- Paradise: Doors open at 11 am, \$3 anything in the house.
- QT's: Open at 8 am; Classic Martini (Tanqueray or Absolut) \$3.75
- Ranch: Open at 7 pm. Pool tournament.
- Rascals: Talent Night. No Cover Before 11pm.
- Rich's Club Hedo.
- Ripcord: Happy Hour 1 to 8pm; StarTrek on the big screen at 8 & 9pm; Classic Rock night.
- 611 Hyde Park Pub: \$1 Burger Night 6-9pm.
- The New Barn: Happy Hour 3 to 8pm with \$2.25 domestic beer & \$2.75 well cocktails; \$2 Cuervo.
- Viviana's: Doors open at 2 pm.
- Vintage Bar nightly wine tasting. 355-3093

Important Stuff

We (here at the Voice) are doing some layout and format improvements. If you like them, call us! If you hate them, call us!

Milestones

Happy belated birthday to the Houston Voice's own Associate Publisher Mike Fleming! (Man, I forgot another one again! I'm gonna get it this time for sure!)



At Mr. Texas Drummer. Winner Stan Harrell (lower left)

- Happy heavenly birthday to Tad Nelson.
- Happy (rootin' tootin') birthday to Rickydon.
- Happy (Dog Lips lickin') birthday to Douglas.
- Happy (window painting) birthday to Scottie.
- Happy (debugging) birthday to Lorena.
- Happy birthday to Tom Grey.
- Happy birthday to Bobby H.
- Happy (jeep riding) birthday to Chris.
- Happy (Nighthawking) birthday to Jim Roberts.
- Happy birthday to Mark F.

Rodent Droppings

I have not been playing with the ferrets much this week. I've been too busy trying to watch my Pepper (the wonder dog.) Pepper has been eating everything. She even ate a pair of my eye glasses! There are slivers of glass all thru the living room! Fortunately and mysteriously Pepper has no cuts inside her mouth. If she can eat glass, I'm for damn sure going to keep her away from my delicate chewable little ferrets!

On with the droppings:

If you want real news written by real writers, please don't read this heap of lies, gossip and trash! Turn to page one and start there! My usual disclaimer is in force!



Alan & Juan hanging at Brick's II.

- Nancy (Bite Me!) Ford: Have you picked up your new eye glasses yet? Don't let my Pepper get a hold of them!
- Chester (Niblett): Did you enjoy watching your trick sleep? And how does one get kicked out of France? And I hear someone else ate chocolate in your bed!
- Brain M. (the blonde cutie): You, Matthew and a motorcycle?
- Joseph Molina: I bet you looked great as a UPS man!
- Chris B. (hangs with Uncle Bunko): I hear you have not learned how to put your pants on yet? Just what do you call that dance? Boot, Stuck and Boogie!
- Gimmie Pillsnlicher: And I quote: "I don't need tape. The minute I paint my face, it pulls up all by itself!"

Leon (Nighthawks): Thanks for an interesting Friday night! I'm not gonna tell anyone who... I mean what you did to make it so interesting!

Miss Ova: You?

Zilla (Houston Voice): And I quote: "I re-spunk the sanctity of marriage!"



Party Girl at Rich's.

- Bob Bouton (Parade Marshal and way, way too many other titles to list): You were overheard saying "go back to my place?" Getting married again?
- Jim Vokurn (Colt 45s): Just where did you get the ingredients to make the Colt 45s cocktails?
- Jerel McNeil (NLAH): And I quote: "All I know is my butt hurts!"
- Miss Dee (Cousin's): And I quote: "If you want to catch me sober at 5:30 am, I might have time for one quickie before I go home!"
- Craig (Brick's II): Why do you put your butt in the air when you cough? And your fans loved those sexy hot pants you were wearing!
- Tiffany (NLA:H, etc.): And I quote: "Get that mustache off my muffin!" And how

many extra points did he get to tackle you?

Catia Lee Love (performing at E/J's): Welcome home!

Chuck (hangs at Brick's II): And I quote: "The gut wrench needs another turn!"

Vera (BRB): It was real cute to see you and Mario holding hands while making selections at the juke box!

Ms. Nevada, Devon DeVasquez, and Jody Travis: Good luck with your "Triple Treat" production at the BRB this weekend!



Pet of the week C.J. with owner Rogers Hall.

Keep sending in your "Pet of the Week!"

Have a great week!

Cuervolyn

MARY'S

Mon - Fri • 7am - 2pm

\$1.50 Well Vodka

Sun • 7pm - 11pm

\$1.50 Longnecks

Mon • 8pm - 11pm

\$1.00 Longnecks

Tues • All Day

\$2.00 Cuervo Shots

Wed • All Day

\$1.75 Wells & Longnecks

Thurs • All Day

\$3.00 Call Martini & \$0.75 Schnapps

Fri • 7am - 9pm

\$1.75 Well and Longnecks

Sat • All Day

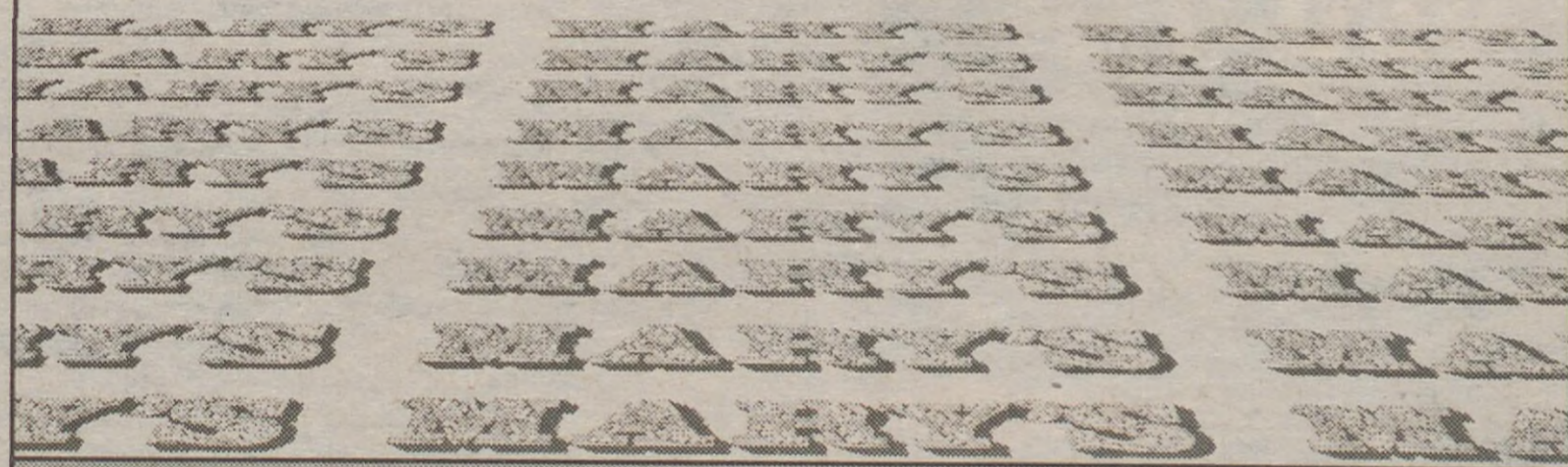
\$1.75 Longnecks

Sunday, April 26

Party on the Patio with Imperial Court Guest Bartenders \$0.50 Draft Beer 2 til ...



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April 25**

2-6pm

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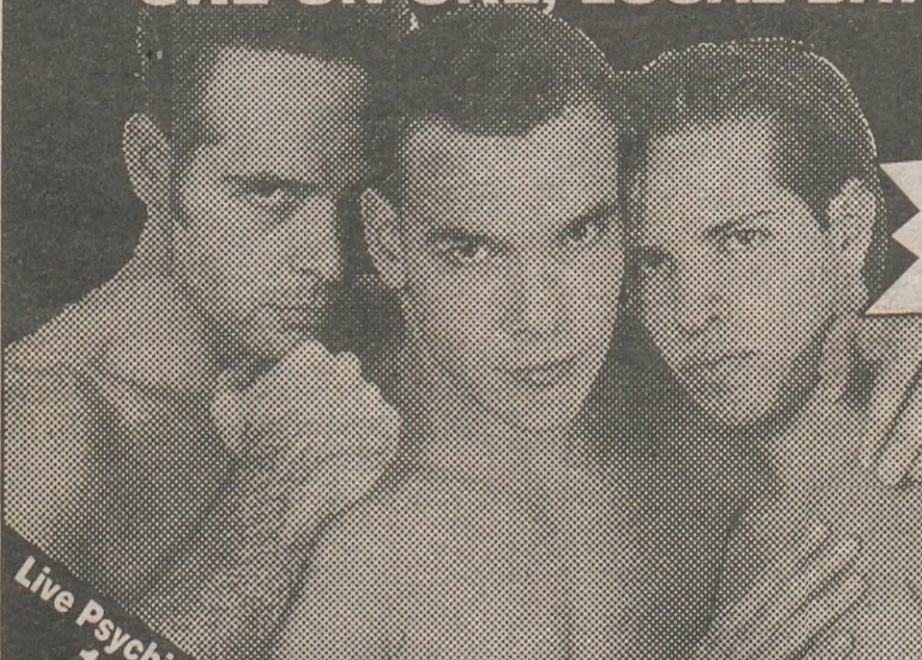
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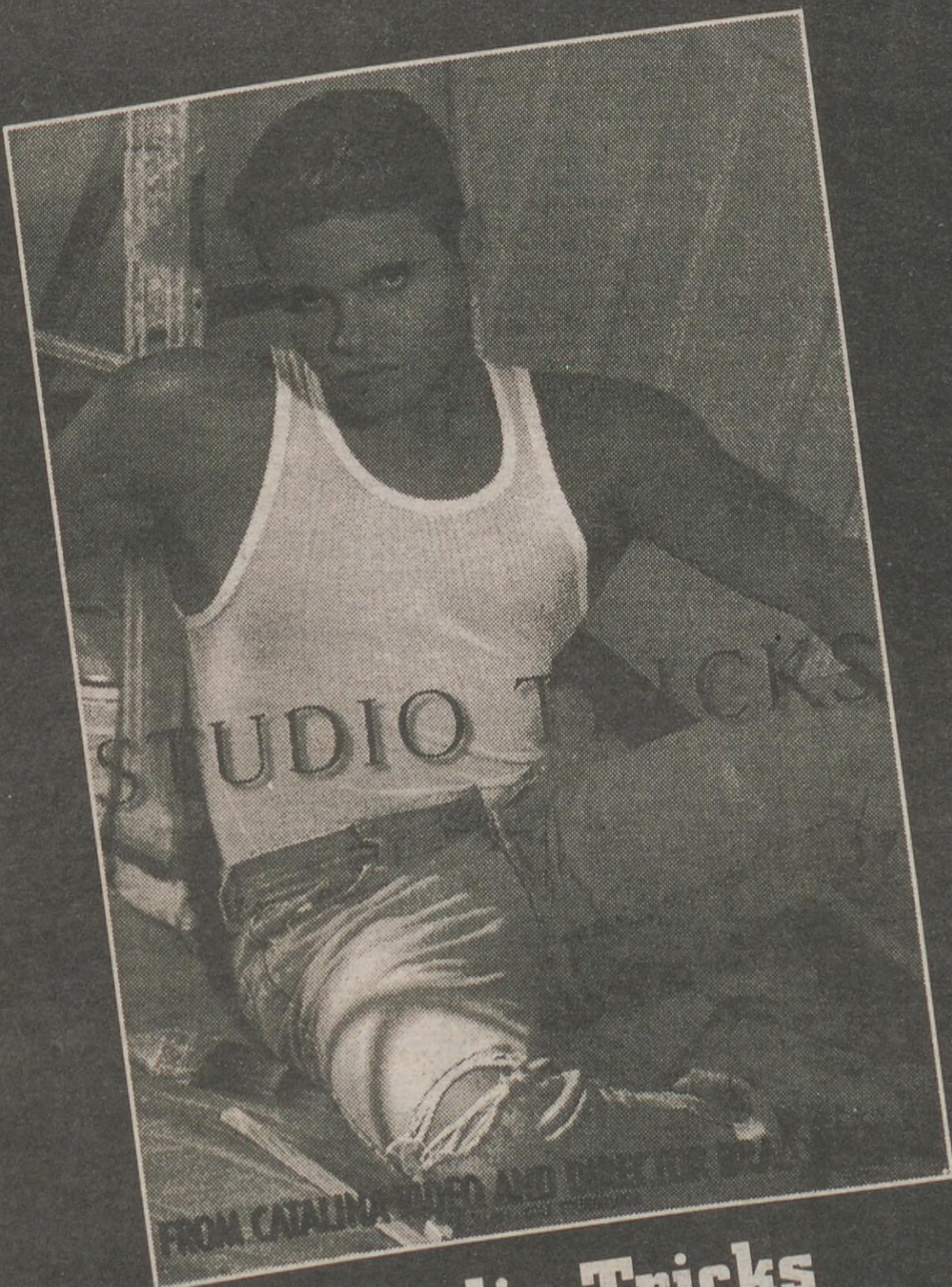
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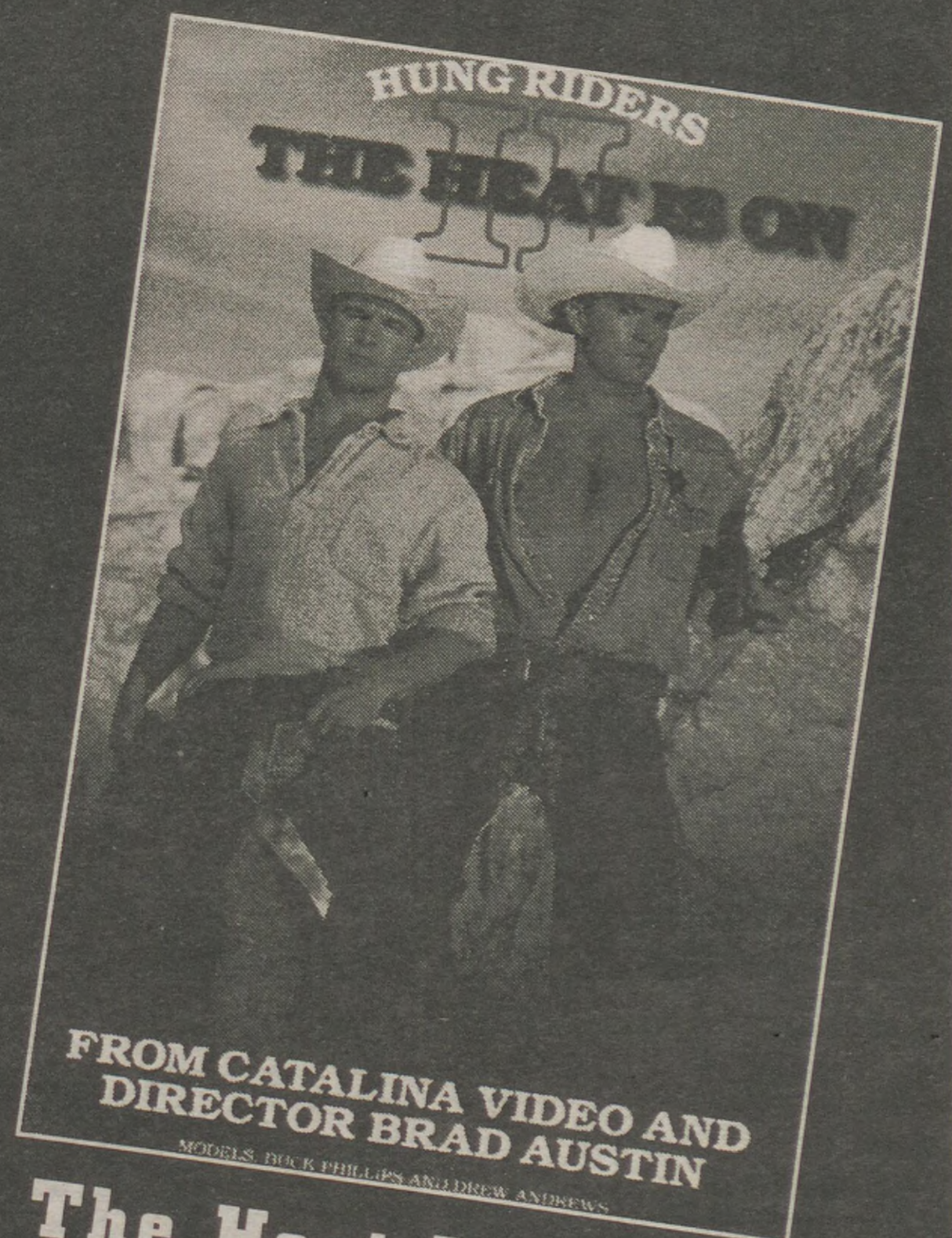


Studio Tricks

Friday & Saturday
11am-3am

Monday thru Thursday
11am-1am

Sunday
1pm-1am



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