

THE NEW VOICE

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▼▼▼ DATELINE: HOUSTON

Spring trial dates likely for defendants in anti-gay murder case

By SHERI COHEN DARBONNE
TNV Editor

Dates for the trial or trials of ten defendants in the Paul Broussard murder case were expected to be set by Judge Brian Rains this Friday, Jan. 10, according to Assistant District Attorney Mike Anderson, who is prosecuting the case.

However, it will probably be at least March before any of the defendants are tried, he noted. It is still not known whether the cases will be tried together, or whether each defendant will get a separate trial.

"I personally would like to take care of them all together ... I think it would be



Prosecutor Mike Anderson: Friday "fish or cut bait day" for defendants' attorneys

more efficient and better (from the standpoint of) the victims in this case," said Anderson. He noted, however, that it is likely the attorneys will request separate trials. "I haven't seen anything so far ... so I don't know what they'll do," he said, adding that the final decision on the trial or trials would be made by the judge.

Anderson said Monday that Friday would be "fish or cut bait day" for attorneys representing the defendants, meaning they will have to file all relevant motions—including requests for separate trials—by that deadline.

All ten defendants are charged with first degree murder in the July 4 beating and

knifing death of Broussard, 27. Broussard was attacked and killed, and two companions were beaten, as the men walked to their cars from a Montrose gay bar. The assailants were all residents of The Woodlands, a suburb north of Houston, in their teens or early 20's.

The defendants are Gayland Earl Randle, 17; Leandro Ramirez, 17; Jeffrey Valentine, 17; Jaime R. Aguirre, 19 and Javier R. Aguirre, 17; Paul Chance Dillion, 22; Brian D. Spake, 17; Derrick Jan Attard, 17; Ralph Gonzales, 18 and Jon C. Buice, 17.

The court hearing was set for 9:00 a.m. Friday, Jan. 10.

▼▼▼ NEW VOICE FEATURE REPORT

Controversial San Antonio multi-media production to be staged in Austin

By CHRIS LUTHER
TNV Austin

The changes in our relationships, both societal and interpersonal, that have occurred due to the Acquired Immune Deficiency Syndrome pandemic will likely be fodder to artists in all media for many years. One of the most moving and intensely personal discussions of these changes, and how they drastically affected gay male relationships, will be presented this weekend in Austin. "Out of a Time of Plague," a movement/theater piece that examines "the nobility of relationships during a time of adversity" will be performed at the Vortex Theater on Friday and Saturday nights, Jan. 10 and 11.

The controversial work, developed over the last two years by San Antonio's Jump Start Theater's artistic director Steve Bailey, is about gay men confronting their fears of AIDS and intimacy. "It is a movement piece, more metaphorical than realistic," Bailey said in a recent interview with The New Voice. "It is not a depiction of AIDS, but rather a depiction of how relationships have changed because of AIDS."

The multi-media presentation explores both the erotic and emotional aspects of gay couplings as the five men pair up in a series of dances. The work opens as the men wake up and perform a grotesque ritual of grooming, now seasoned with the mechanical gestures of probing their bodies for signs of disease. They feel their neck for enlarged lymph glands, they check under their arms, look at the back of their tongues.

The muscular performers then a sometimes violent, sometimes playful dance around and in a large moving bed, a clear allegory to male sexual relations. As the original music of ethereal chanting

weaves with syncopated rhythms the men roll and intertwine, creating images of both dependent love and emotional support.

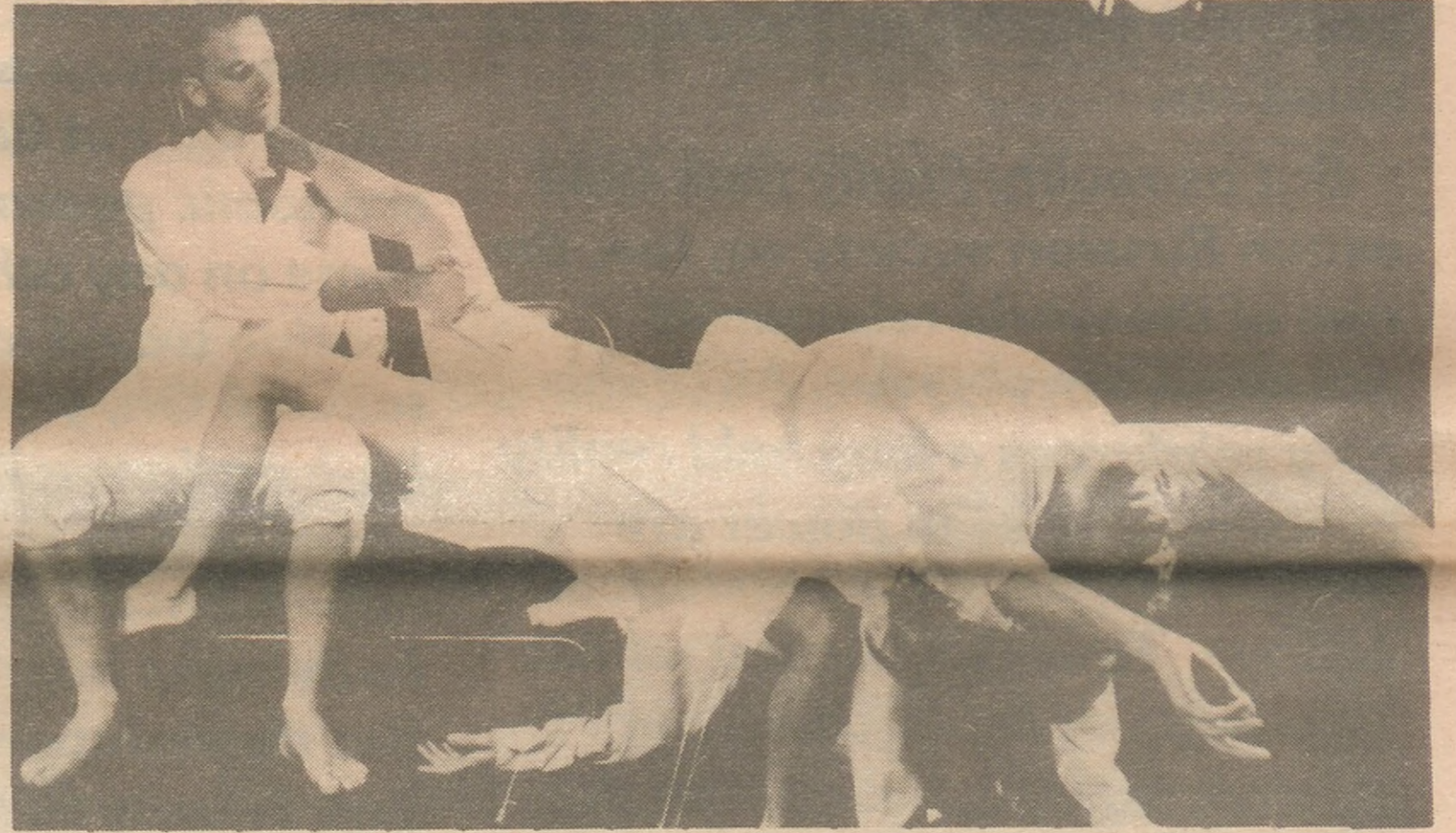
The piece ends with the performers slowly removing their white medical coats, t-shirts and skirts for a ritual bath. "The bath is both physical and figurative," Bailey pointed out. "The medical coats suggest both religious robes and the constant threat of medical emergency. The layers of clothing are removed until the performers are nude, symbolizing the stripping away of the cultural deceptions that accompany AIDS."

The piece, as a work in progress, was originally performed in Austin in late 1990 and premiered in San Antonio last spring amidst critical acclaim and right-wing protests.

The premiere was scheduled to be held at the Carver Community Cultural Center, a city funded institution, during a heated mayoral race. Right wing fundamentalists became aware of the production and its content and began to protest its showing.

A mayoral candidate who was doing poorly in the polls, Carl Haslocker, seized the production for a political football. Over 500 calls protesting the piece, as yet still unseen in the city, were received by the mayor's office. Feeling the political heat, then-Mayor Lila Cockrell sought to have the production canceled.

"We said from the start that there was full nudity in the piece, so (the mayor's office) could not take issue with that. They then began to call the work pornographic and obscene, which it is not. They were equating gay content with being pornographic, (a concept) which I find offensive," Bailey said.



"Out of a Time of Plague" will perform two shows, Friday and Saturday night, at Austin's Vortex Theater. (Photo by Linda Schlect)

Community organizers rallied gays, lesbians and supporters to call the city. A meeting was arranged between the city manager, fundamentalist and Carver representatives, but excluding Bailey and Jump Start representatives (purposely, according to Bailey). Although upset about the politics, Bailey praised the Carver Theater for never forsaking the production. Carver advised the city that it had entered an "iron clad" agreement to stage the show.

"Time of Plague" opened to picketers and a full house, which Bailey gleefully shares credit for with the fundamentalists who sought to block the production.

Haslocker received 2.7 percent at the ballot box.

bailey admits that the work has taught him a lot over the past two years. "I entered into this thinking it was going to be an AIDS piece. What I've learned is about love and men together. It's a reaffirmation of physicality, our rights to touch and be together. Women (who have seen the work) have said that (prior) they did not really understand intimacy between gay men—the fear of intimacy that men often have. This was the first time that someone let them into this world to understand the feelings that gay men are going through."

"Out of a Time of Plague" will be performed Friday and Saturday night (Jan. 10-11) at 8:00 p.m. at the Vortex Theater, 1921 East Ben White. For tickets and further information call 448-2299.

▼▼▼ DATELINE: HOUSTON

Gays welcome new mayor with mixed reactions, 'wait and see' attitude

Houston stepped into a new era on Thursday, Jan. 2, with an unconventional inauguration day marked by extravagance and errors. During his address at the ceremony, Houston's new Mayor Bob Lanier surprised a few gay and lesbian supporters in the audience by declaring, while noting Houston's unique personality and rich diversity, that the city was "not David Duke's (preferred kind of) city ... or that senator's up in North Carolina"—a reference to the U.S. Senate's most notorious anti-gay crusader, Jesse Helms.

However, some others were disturbed by yet another reference to restoring "traditional family values" and the jubilant presence of former Mayor Louie Welch, whose unsuccessful bid for reelection in 1985 was typified by vehemently anti-gay campaign material and homophobic statements.

Kathy Barton, an openly gay member of the mayor's transitional staff, has said the "family values" statements referred to Lanier's goals of improving education and upgrading inner city neighborhoods, and should not be interpreted as condemning diversity. "He really does support our issues, even though he may not be that (well) schooled in them ... he really wants to be the mayor for all of Houston, and I'd hope the community will give him a chance to show it," she said.

During an elaborate and expensive inaugural ceremony planned by his wife Elyse—featuring multi-ethnic musical performances, a police color guard, balloon release, and other pomp—Lanier seemed nervous and made several gaffes. While swearing in city council members, Lanier first introduced one separately; then, after being informed that all the members could be sworn in

together, did so but forgot to introduce the members individually, and forgot to swear in City Controller George Greanias separately. When festivities continued at a lavish Museum District dinner party for 700—some supporters were miffed at not being allowed inside, and even some of those who did get in didn't get to eat. The millionaire mayor—previously convinced that a few hundred people who receive invitations to such an affair wouldn't show—had invited over 900.

Gay and lesbian activists are taking a wait-and-see attitude in evaluating the new city leader's potential. Many say they are waiting to see how or whether campaign promises of accessibility and changes in city departments are put into practice.

The Houston Gay and Lesbian Political Caucus had supported State Rep. Sylvester Turner, Lanier's opponent, in

the runoff for Houston mayor. After the election, however, several activists expressed optimism about the new administration, noting that a plus mark in this election was that all three candidates had sought the gay vote.

Noted one (Annis Parker, a candidate for city council in the election, quoted in the Dallas Voice shortly after the runoff): "I think either candidate would have been decent. Neither has been an enemy to the community. The problem with Lanier is I don't think he'd ever even thought about gay issues."

Another activist noted after the inauguration that Lanier probably had also never heard of the arch-conservative organization Traditional Values Coalition: "He isn't really what I would call a conservative...he supports (the agency) Planned Parenthood, gives them money...and after all, he's not exactly traditional himself."

Without a doubt the biggest news story of 1991 was the final collapse of the Soviet Union, before that it was the change in Eastern Europe and before that the crumbling Berlin Wall. Somehow history moved with a rapidity unknown since the postwar days of 1918 when monarchies toppled like dominoes.

What is fascinating is that few if any observers predicted the end of World Communism, but once fallen, the analysts all concluded that it had been inevitable. Even as Eastern Europe shrugged off Moscow's dominance of the United States, and Western Europe rallied to the face saving efforts of Gorbachev, concluding or hoping that the Soviet Union could not possibly go the way of its satellites.

But as reality finally took hold within Russian society so, too, the rest of the world reluctantly accepted the obvious. All of this only reinforces a long held reality in history: those in power are always the last to see historical change. Thus Gorbachev, whose foresight accepted change in Eastern Europe, believed to the end that he could reconcile communism with capitalism. This was not a possibility, the fruits of more than 70 years of Red mismanagement and entrenched bureaucrats could not and would not be the instruments for radical surgery.

The next startling discovery of historical perspective may well occur in this country. The United States, like the Soviet Union, is the master of all it surveys—militarily. The United States, unlike the Soviet Union, can claim to be the

birthplace of the democratic ideas flooding Eastern Europe and Russia. But like the Soviet Union, the United States in many ways is also out of step with the new realities of a post-Cold War world.

President Butch goes to Japan, and elsewhere, with a gaggle of business executives, trying to persuade the growing economic powers of the mystical East to, please, play fair. Unfortunately, Butch knows only to treat these issues in a purely American tradition of capitalism—based on an adversarial relationship between management and labor. In other words, he asks Japan to play by American rules when they have invented a whole new game—a Japanese game that works for them. Why play by the rules of a nation in deep economic trouble? Japan did not become a world economic power by playing the game on any other terms. Butch's mission was doomed before takeoff. Oh, yes, the leaders of both nations will issue a communique giving the appearance of give and take—they both know how to play that game. But those Japanese smiles flashing Butch's way as he boards Air force One will only barely mask the condescension and amusement felt by Japanese leaders and businessmen (usually one and the same) toward their wayward Western allies.

American democratic politics, like Soviet communists, are too close to the basic problems to address drastic solutions. In a nation that once prided itself on basic justice, economic opportunities and human rights, we now have a country in which the middle class is shrinking into a

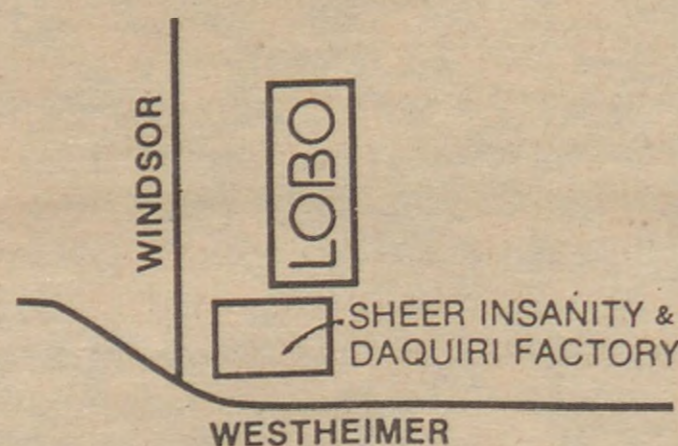
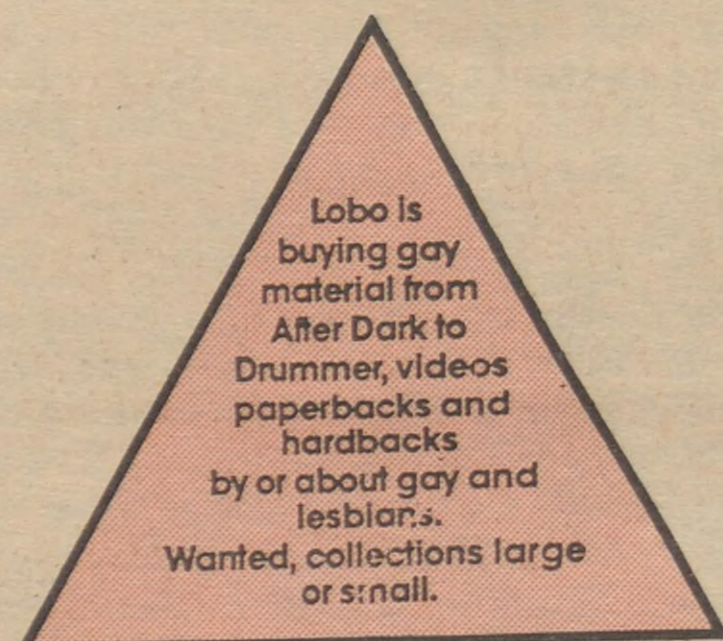
growing underclass balanced with wealth rising to the top small upperclass.

We are the only industrialized nation in the world without a national health plan and, at the same time, what health system we have is facing collapse while private hospitals and institutions reap ever increasing profits for that small upperclass.

After years of social progress to address the wrongs of the past, now our nation faces a rising tide of hopes unfulfilled coupled with ever more obvious forms of open racism. George Wallace has been replaced with David Duke; subtle segregation with open appeals to class warfare.

Butch can fight a brilliant war in the desert but is unable to fight the drug war at home, primarily because the root of that drug war is the very social disintegration festering in the neglect of Reagan-Butch politics. In the absence of solutions, Butch would have us distracted by his furthering of Reagan's anti-porn family values crusade. As a nation our only answer to rising crime is to build more prisons so that one day we will all be locked within a decaying social structure.

We might wish for our Gorbachev who would recognize the underlying weaknesses of the system. But, then, who would be our Yeltsin? Are we destined to become a confederation of independent states? What was unthinkable only months ago is now reality in Russia. What will be our reality tomorrow? It is perhaps now time to consider the possibilities while, perchance, there is time to affect the outcome.



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The Most Honored Gay/Lesbian Bookstore in Texas

▼▼▼ HOUSTON QUICK NOTES

Lesbian and Gay Journalists Association organizing Texas-Louisiana chapter

The National Lesbian and Gay Journalists Association was organized last year in California and now has chapters in Los Angeles, San Francisco, New York, Washington, Philadelphia and other cities. An effort is now being made to organize a Texas/Louisiana chapter, several Texas chapters, and a meeting is planned in Houston on Saturday, Feb. 8 to determine if the amount of regional interest in the group. If enough interest is demonstrated, a date and place will be selected for an organizational meeting.

NLGJA is headed by Roy Aarons, former executive editor of the Oakland Tribune who authored the landmark study on lesbian and gay journalists in American news rooms. Membership is open to any person involved in mainstream journalism (newspapers, magazines, radio and television geared to the general public). Its role is to link these professionals, provide a forum and devise strategies. Journalism students are also encouraged to join. Interested people who fit this description in any Texas or Louisiana city are invited to the Feb. 8 meeting in Houston.

The Houston session will be hosted by Houston Post columnist Juan Palomo, who was recently named to the organization's board. Persons interested in attending are encouraged to arrive Friday to attend a get-acquainted party at a private residence. The meeting will be held at a downtown Houston hotel, which will offer special rates, but Houston organizers are prepared to offer accommodations to anyone not wishing to stay at the hotel.

"Also, we will be happy to offer a matching service to anyone wishing to share the cost of a room," said Palomo, noting that

the gay-friendly hotel offers free rides to and from Montrose area bars and restaurants.

Persons interested in attending or wanting more information are asked to call Juan Palomo at 1-800-877-1887, ext. 6948; call direct or in Houston at (713) 840-6948; or at home, (713) 666-1918. Those who cannot attend but are interested in joining or working with the organization are also urged to call to be posted on the group's planned activities, including a national convention in San Francisco in June.

—MCCR classes

Is the "ghost of families past" haunting present relationships with friends, lovers, or family members? Growing up in families where chemical dependency, sexual, physical and emotional abuse existed often interferes with our ability to experience and maintain healthy relationships.

Metropolitan Community Church of the Resurrection is offering a six week education series titled "Beyond Survival." It is designed to help resolve the pain of childhood and teach that anger, fear, control, shame and abandonment issues do not have to be carried into relationships. Participants will work on discovering new coping skills to develop healthier relationships, facilitators said.

The series is open to gay and lesbian single people and couples. Registration is required and participants are asked to commit to all six two hour sessions. The instructors are local therapists in private practice in Houston with several years of experience. Lacey Lewis, MSSW and CSW, works in conjunction with local hospitals and is director of an HIV Intensive program. Shawn McVey, MA and LPC candi-

date, is co-facilitator of the HIV program.

Cost is \$20 per participant for the series, which runs each Thursday, 7:00-9:00 p.m., from Jan. 16 through Feb. 20 at the church, located at 1919 Decatur. For information call (713) 861-9149.

Another course in MCCR's Continuing Education Series is a safety awareness course titled "Home Alone." It is being offered on Saturday, Jan 18 in the Fellowship Hall. Instructor for the course is Jill Black, Home Alone consultant. She will be speaking on various safety awareness methods and selling safety products. The seminar is free, and products range in price from \$25 to \$40. Everyone is welcome to attend and learn.

—Prime Timers

The next monthly meeting of Prime Timers—Houston will be at 900 Lovett, Suite 201, Room 15 (in the Montrose Counseling Center facilities) at 2:00 p.m. Saturday, Jan. 18. The speaker, a stress management/biofeedback therapist, will explain his work. He will also answer questions about treatment which might help problems like chronic pain or chemical dependency, and give a short demonstration of relaxation techniques. Non-members are welcome—bring your stressed out friends.

Prime Timers is a support and social group for mature gay and bisexual men and their friends. For more information, write to Prime Timers/Houston, Box 30381, Houston, Tx. 77249-0381, or call (713) 981-8440.

—Self-Hypnosis class

In January, AIDS Foundation Houston will offer a free mini-course, "The Art of Self Hypnosis," for people infected with

HIV. Hypnotherapist T.C. LeNormand will present the course from 7:30-9:00 p.m. at the AFH office, 3202 Wesleyan. The class discusses definitions of hypnosis (myths vs. facts), highlights the strengths and limitations of the technique, overviews the processes involved and offers some simple exercises that can help begin the process of self hypnosis. The course also explores the benefits of self hypnosis for stress management and behavior modification. For information on date(s) or to register for the course, contact LeNormand at (713) 789-0713.

—Ice skating

Houston will have two ice skating parties in January. The first get-together is Sunday, Jan 12 from noon to 5:00 p.m. at the Galleria Ice Skating Rink, 5015 Westheimer. Admission is \$5 and skate rental \$2. The 82 Westheimer bus provides easy transportation for those without cars, organizers noted. Those who wish to have lunch will meet at noon at El Fenix Mexican Restaurant, at the tables next to the ice rink entrance.

On Saturday, Jan. 25, a skate will be held from 2:00-4:00 p.m. at the Sharpstown Ice Center, 7300 Bellerive and Bonhomme Road, 1 block from the Sharpstown Shopping Center. (Bus riders should take the 82-Sharpstown). Admission is \$4.75, skates \$1.75.

The ice skate parties are sponsored by Houston gay/lesbian sports groups, the Lambda Rollerskating Club, the Houston Outdoor Group and the Chain Gang Bicycle Club. Red shirts and Lambda buttons, pink triangles or Silence (equals) Death buttons are encouraged (buttons are available at Lobo and Inklings book shops).

▼▼▼ AUSTIN LIVE

Capital City's 'Street Theater' offers a humorous look at Stonewall

REVIEW By CHRIS LUTHER
TNV Austin

"Street Theater," a comedy chronicling the beginning of the modern gay rights movement has opened at Austin's Capitol City Playhouse. The play depicts the evening of June 27, 1969, the wrong night for the fuzz to hold a raid against Greenwich Village's Stonewall Inn. Judy Garland was dead and the drag queens were upset. But for the corrupt officers, a group not generally known for their sensitivity, it was business as usual. This bust, however, turned out to be different.

The drag queens, street people, leathermen and dykes fought back against the harassment and barricaded several police officers inside a burning Christopher Street bar. That night in New York is celebrated every summer by gay and lesbian communities around the country with "Pride Celebrations" and "Gay Day Parades;" it was the night of the Stonewall Riots.

Riots, almost by definition, are spontaneous event. And while the play, a coproduction of Cap City and Friends of Dorothy Productions, does a great job in delivering the laughs, it seems sometimes a bit too "staged" for a riot. I kept on hoping that the actors, most of them veterans in local theater, would loosen up a bit and not act like they knew what was going to happen next.

Outside of this stiffness the cast gave a

solid performance. Cassie Vizard was fantastic as the truck driving butch dyke "CB"; from the third row I could almost smell the axle grease under her fingernails. Richard Craig, as the closet-in-the-crossroads Sidney, gave the indecision of his character just the right touch. And Frankie Woodruff and Kenneth Justice-Alford do a wonderful queer send-up of Laurel and Hardy as the drag queens Ceil and Boom Boom bemoaning the death of St. Judy.

Should you go see the show? Certainly. First off, it's live theater with some good laughs at a bargain price. But perhaps more importantly, I think "Street Theater" should be required "reading" of anybody enjoying the relative peace and tolerance we have today in our community. Today you can drink a cocktail in gay bar without fear of a police raid, not because the bribe has been paid, but because some drag queen, leatherman or bull dyke fought back.

"Street Theater" will run every Friday and Saturday night at 11:00 p.m. through Jan. 24. A benefit performance for AIDS Services of Austin will be held at 7:00 p.m. on Sunday, Jan. 12 and an additional Sunday performance will be held at 7:00 p.m. on Sunday, Jan. 19. Capitol City Playhouse is located across from Oil Can Harry's (one of the show's sponsors) at 214 W. 4th Street. Tickets for all shows are \$7. Call (512) 472-2966 for information and reservations.



Richard Craig, Cassie Vizard, Felix Garcia and Andrew Criss are in Capitol City Playhouse's "Street Theater," a lighthearted look at the Stonewall Riots. (Photo by N. Sarrbekian)

▼▼▼ DATELINE: HOUSTON

Story on anti-gay hate crimes in Houston is featured on national news show

By SHERI COHEN DARBONNE
TNV Editor

A long-awaited CBS news production spotlighting the story of the Paul Broussard murder and its aftermath in Houston and Texas was scheduled to air Thursday night (Jan. 9) on the premiere of the news program "Street Stories," an off-shoot of the CBS magazine show "48 Hours."

Maria Patric, the reporter who spent several weeks in Houston researching the piece, which examines anti-gay hate crimes in Houston and the response of the gay and lesbian community, con-

firmed Monday the story would be among four chosen for the "Street Stories" introduction this week. It would probably be the final segment on Thursday's show, she said.

Patric said the piece focuses solely on Houston, where the issue of hate-motivated crimes against gays not only galvanized the lesbian and gay community but caused changes in Houston Police Department policy and, ultimately, influenced state wide legislation.

Research in Houston for the program took a curious turn, when—while investigations were already underway—a

second murder was labeled a hate crime under HPD's new definition including sexual orientation. Patric was in town to follow the developments after the murder of Phillip W. Smith in early November from a much closer perspective.

Most of the footage was shot in and around the Montrose area. The filming included "on the spot" street scenes showing Q-Patrol—a new Montrose citizen's patrol group formed after the second anti-gay murder—in action. "Q," an unarmed and philosophically non-violent foot patrol operating in the Westheimer-Montrose-Pacific bar dis-

trict from 11:30 p.m. to 3:00 a.m. weekend nights, is actually an affinity group of Queer Nation/Houston.

CBS News worked closely with that activist organization, credited with organizing most of the protest actions which called attention to the problem of anti-gay violence over a six-month period in 1991. Several other local organizations, activists and businesses (including The New Voice) also assisted with the research for the piece.

In Houston, "Street Stories" was scheduled to air at 8:00 p.m. Thursday on KHOU-TV, Channel 11.

▼▼▼ DATELINE: HOUSTON

NGLTF leader to address several groups during Houston visit

Urvashi Vaid, executive director of the National Gay and Lesbian Task Force, has scheduled numerous appearances during her "Martin Luther King Week-end" visit to Houston next week. The schedule includes a speech and reception for the lesbian community at Inklings Bookshop on Saturday, Jan. 18 and a major "all-community" event titled "Together We Can" on Sunday evening, Jan. 19.

At Inklings, Vaid will be giving a talk concerning the future of lesbian and gay civil rights, after which a reception will

be given in her honor. Donations may be made to NGLTF at this event, 6:30-8:00 p.m. at the book shop, located at 1846 richmond. Local lesbian activists Deborah Bell, Pokey Anderson, Linda Morales, Sue Lovell and Annise Parker are hosting the event.

"Together We Can," co-sponsored by Queer Nation Houston and the Houston Gay and Lesbian Political Caucus, is described as a "Martin Luther King Touch Event" featuring Vaid. Gay performance artist Tim Miller will make a guest appearance. The event takes place at

the Heights Theater, 339 West 19th Street, from 7:00-9:30 p.m.

Other appearances on Vaid's schedule include: (Saturday)—2:00 p.m., National Leather Association: Houston Anniversary conference; 9:00-11:00 p.m., Body Positive/Houston fundraiser at the Lovett Inn, 501 Lovett; 12:30 p.m. to 1:00 a.m., "After Hours" gay radio show on KPFT. (Sunday)—10:00 a.m., The Women's Group (feminist organization), First Unitarian Church, 5200 Fannin. The group will be discussing the book "Backlash" by Susan Faludi and

the topic of violence against women.

Vaid will also meet informally with local lesbian and gay leaders and attend a private fundraiser sponsored by several local supporters (invitation only).

For more information on specific events, contact the organization or business sponsoring the event. (Note: this Monday, Jan. 13, Urvashi Vaid will be the featured guest on the KPFT radio program "Wilde-n-Stein," 9:00-10:00 p.m. In a telephone interview, she is scheduled to discuss her planned visit to Houston and other topics.)

▼▼▼ DATELINE: NEW ORLEANS

New Orleans writers, photographer included in current Lambda Book Report

By HANS HELMUT STAUDAAGER
TNV New Orleans

The Washington, D.C. based lesbian/gay literary magazine Lambda Book Report contains two book reviews by New Orleans based writer and The New Voice New Orleans correspondent, Leonard Earl Johnson. The two book reports are in the January/February, 1992 issue. New Orleans authors, photographers and reviewers are well represented throughout this issue (Vol. 3, No. 2), which is currently on bookstore shelves.

One book report is on 1960's Andy Warhol "superstar" Holly Woodlawn's biography "A Low Life in High Heels" (Saint Martin's Press). The other is Ben Davis's "Strange Angel" (Corona Publishing Co. of San Antonio), which spins a yarn about the author's days studying

for the fundamentalist ministry until he "learns" he is gay and charts himself a new course.

Johnson wrote extensively about Woodlawn in last year in The New Voice when she spent several months in New Orleans working on the play "Women Behind Bars" (Toulouse Cabaret Theatre). Davis, Texas born and educated, lived in Monroe, La. for a spell after quitting divinity school and returned to the Bayou State recently for a book signing at Frenchmen Street's Faubourg Marigny Books. (Davis also has done book signings in Austin, Houston and San Antonio).

—George Dureau, Anne Rice

Along with Johnson's two book reviews

there is a review by Bob Summer of "The Male Nude in Contemporary Photography" (Temple University Press) by Melody B. Davis. The well known photograph "Wing Ding at the Mantel" by new Orleans photographer George Dureau graces the book's cover. Inside this academic study are additional images by Dureau as well as Robert Mapplethorpe, Herb Ritts, Joel-Peter Witkin and more.

Also in the current issue of Lambda Book Report is a review by Doug Mendini of New Orleans vampire author Anne Rice's new biography "Prism of the Light" (Dutton) by Katherine Ramsland.

The Lambda Book Report is published every two months. The current issue sells for \$3.95.



Leonard Earl Johnson is among New Orleansians featured in the current issue of Lambda Book Report, a Washington, D.C. based lesbian/gay literary magazine

▼▼▼ YOURS TRULY IN A SWAMP

Part Two: An interview with Nadine Strossen, president, ACLU

By LEONARD EARL JOHNSON
TNV New Orleans

Continued from last week

LEJ: "The Catholic Church is a great, enormous force in south Louisiana; it is nothing much in the north. They have in their hiring rules for the Archdiocese of New Orleans a non-discrimination clause that includes sexual orientation."

NS: "They opposed the (city civil rights) extension to include lesbians and gay men?"

LEJ: "Yes, they were the ones who championed its defeat in 1984 and 1986. This time, however, they were in the curious position of opposing a piece of legislation that matched their internal hiring rules."

NS: "I'm surprised they had that rule for themselves."

LEJ: "They apparently did it because they feared losing grants, private as well as public, earmarked as non-discriminatory."

NS: "One of the reason the Guam (anti-abortion) statute passed is they are totally Catholic. Do you know the Archbishop in that area actually went to the legislature when they were debating and said he would ex-communicate any member of the legislature who voted against this law (outlawing all abortions)? Of course, it passed unanimously."

LEJ: "Now, isn't that a violation of sepa-

ration of church and state? Isn't it one thing to say these are our religious rules to live by and quite another to say, now, these are our rules that everyone has to live by?"

NS: "It's a complicated question, on the one hand I think that as an aspect of free exercising of religion and, indeed, freedom of thought, a public official has a right to base their decisions on religious beliefs. One the other hand, I think that if public policy is based primarily on religious beliefs without an independent secular justification it does violate separation of church and state."

"In Justice Stevens dissenting opinion in the Webster case he raised the establishment clause. I personally am not persuaded by that. After all, many of our laws reflect religious beliefs. I want government officials to base their actions on some kind of morally grounded belief."

LEJ: "The court is moving away from accepting right to privacy arguments." NS: "And has been for some time. In the Medicaid funding cases, how can you possibly have a constitutional right if you can't exercise it? If the state is discriminatorially financing child bearing and pregnancy but not abortion, that, in itself, is inconsistent with a notion of a right to me (to privacy) and that happened quite soon after Roe v. Wade."

"The next major setback was the Bowers abomination where they (U.S. Su-

preme Court) held the constitutional right to privacy does not encompass consensual sodomy." LEJ: "In the Atlanta Bowers v. Hardwick case, the police violated his privacy and entered Hardwick's home illegally. Incomprehensible ruling!"

NS: "You've heard, I suppose, that Justice Powell, who was the swing vote, has recanted." LEJ: "Yes, that he was really a believer in privacy but thought this case was being brought up for frivolous reasons. Now, Powell says he was wrong. But too late, he has retired from the court. Thanks a lot, Justice Powell, for such beltway arrogance!"

The Bill of Rights is a document that demands an activist population, and an activist population requires education to hone understanding and activities. The day Nadine Strossen and talked was the 200th anniversary of the Bill of Rights' ratification (Dec. 15, 1991). Also that week, an Associated Press poll showed 80 percent as not knowing what the Bill of Rights is or what it does.

NS: "Some of our most famous, or notorious (supporters of the Bill of Rights) are people who, fairly late in their careers and in their maturity have become the victims of violations and they go through what I call a 'conviction conversion.'"

"Oliver North and others who have found themselves on the other side of criminal law suddenly have a very different

view, both on the provisions in the Bill of Rights that protect those accused of crime and the organizations that champion it."

LEJ: "Like the ACLU?" NS: "Yes."

Nadine Strossen was elected president of the American Civil Liberties Union in January, 1991. She is the youngest person an first woman to be elected president of the ACLU. She is a professor of law at Manhattan's New York Law School. The National Law Journal recently included her in its list of "The 100 most influential lawyers in America." She lives in New York with her husband Eli M. Noam.

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▼▼▼ DATELINE: GAY AMERICA

Alabamians tuning out safer-sex message, health official says

MONTGOMERY, Ala., Tuesday, Dec. 31 (AP)—A state health official said Alabamians "are not heeding the message about safer sex," with penicillin-resistant gonorrhea cases almost doubling this year and the syphilis rate at its highest level since the 1940s.

The figures indicate that a jump in het-

erosexual AIDS cases is on the horizon.

Dr. Don Williamson, director of the Bureau of Preventive Health Services, said the Department of Public Health would ask the Legislature for \$5.8 million next year to treat and track sexually transmitted diseases.

"Heterosexuals are not heeding the

message about safer sex," he said Monday. "Clearly, syphilis is a heterosexually transmitted disease."

A total of 2967 cases of penicillin-resistant gonorrhea were reported in Alabama in 1991, compared with 1587 the previous year.

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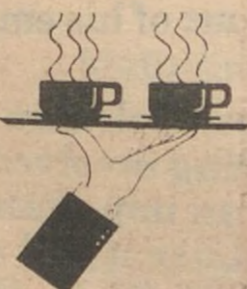
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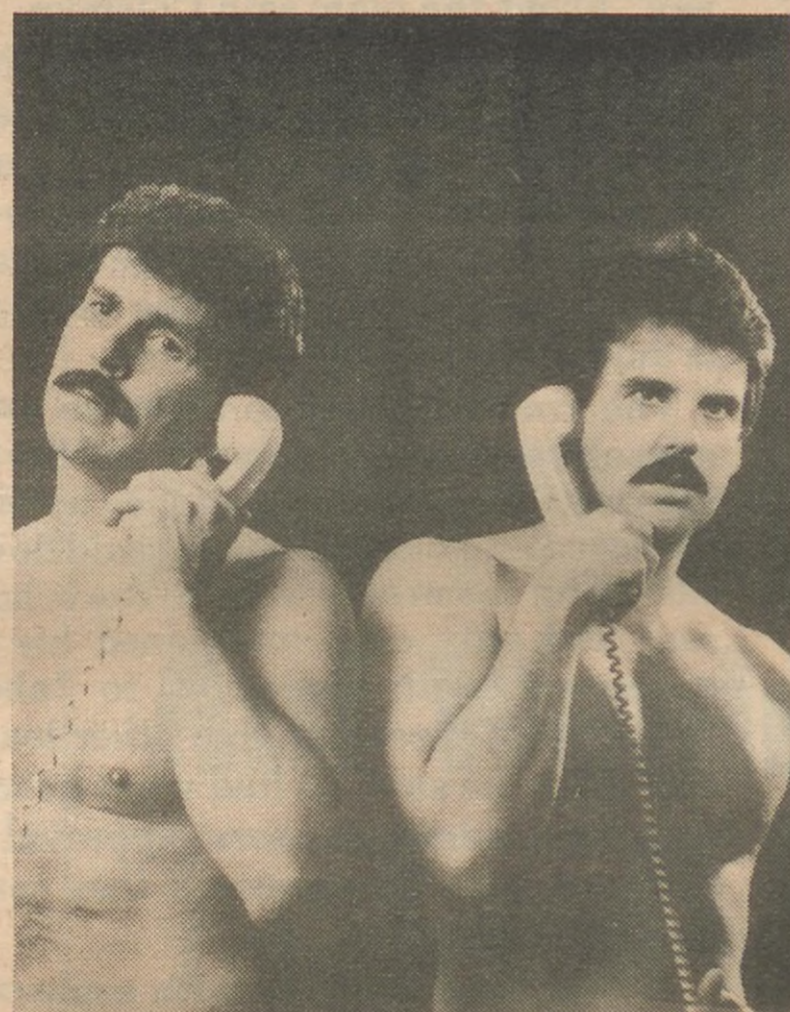
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▼▼▼ DATELINE: GAY AMERICA

Marty James, who assisted AIDS victims to die, takes his own life

WEST HOLLYWOOD, Calif., Sunday, Jan. 5 (AP)—Marty James, a counselor who said on national television that he helped people with AIDS commit suicide, took his own life after battling the disease. He was 38.

James died Dec. 25 at his West Hollywood home after taking sleeping pills, his companion, Steven Kanengiser, said over the weekend.

"He wanted to just fall asleep, but in the end the pain became unmanageable," Kanengiser said. "The doctor said he would only have lasted another week

and that it would have been agony."

On March 31, 1988, on ABC's "Nightline," James described how he helped a friend with AIDS-related complex end his life by mixing a lethal dose of barbiturates in a glass of grape juice.

"He had lived a very good life and he wanted a very good death," James said on the news show, noting he, too, had the disease. "It was quiet. It was peaceful."

James said he hoped someone would help him end his life when the pain grew unbearable.

James was profiled on the CBS program "60 Minutes" and later said he helped at least eight men with AIDS commit suicide over five years.

Survivors accused him of murder, but prosecutors declined to file criminal charges, saying their investigations turned up no evidence beyond James' statements.

Born Martin Cardoza in Santa Maria on Nov. 14, 1953, James grew up in San Bernardino and moved to Los Angeles in 1971.

In 1983, he co-founded the Los Angeles chapter of the San Francisco-based Shanti Foundation, which trains volunteer counselors to work with AIDS patients. James left the organization in 1985 and worked as a private counselor on terminal illness. The Shanti group disavowed his views on assisted suicide.

A private memorial service was scheduled for Jan. 12.

Kanengiser asked that memorial contributions be made to Project Angel Food, which assists AIDS victims.

▼▼▼ LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Body Positive thanks those who participated in Holiday Stocking project

From KEN HAUGHT

Administrative Director, Body Positive
Houston

We want to thank all of the volunteers who helped us on Dec. 21 with our annual Holi-

day Stocking Stuffing and care center visits. Each year we take stockings filled with food and personal items to patients with AIDS in various care centers around Houston.

This year for the first time we took food, clothing and toys to children at Cornerstone House, a day care center for children and families affected by HIV/AIDS.

Special thanks to all who donated food,

clothing, toys, etc. that we "stuffed" into stockings. This year, due to the generosity of Houstonians, including businesses, we had to use tote bags in addition to stockings so that everything could be delivered to patients.

▼▼▼ HOUSTON LIVE

Director who lost teaching job says play 'Jerker' was worth the risk

By SHERI COHEN DARBONNE

TNV Editor

Dallas director Bruce Coleman expected some controversy when he took on the project last spring. But at the time, he had no idea how much this particular theatrical production would ultimately affect his life.

About a month after the play "Jerker" opened in Dallas in April, 1991, Coleman made national headlines when he was fired from his teaching job at Bishop Lynch High School, a private Catholic school. Coleman lost his job even though he did not discuss the work at the school and even though he used his initial—B.R. Coleman—in all press relating to his work as director. Today, he insists administrators had given him no reason to believe his involvement with controversial theater would cause any problem with his employment.

But a phone call from "someone out in the world" lost him not only the job he had taken six five months earlier but his life as a teacher in Dallas. Ironically, what happened to him was virtually the only negative local fallout from the show.

Coleman, now a full time director and theater free-lancer, with the Dallas based Moonstruck Theatre Company and managing director Jack Presley, are bringing their production to Houston for a five day run, Jan. 22-26, at Curtains Theatre.

"Jerker" is the late Robert Chesley's innovative, award-winning play which chronicles the development and progression of an anonymous relationship between two gay men—through phone sex, which later evolves into conversation and shared emotions. Written and first presented in 1986, the show sparked a controversy when the Los Angeles Pacifica radio station KPFK broadcast excerpts. The sexually suggestive content resulted in Federal Communications Commission sanctions against the radio station. The KPFK scandal ushered in a long wave of government meddlings with art, leading up to the Robert Mapplethorpe/National Endowment for the Arts controversy and continuing to this day. Chesley died of AIDS last year.

The play tells the story of two gay men who meet in a bar, exchange phone numbers and then forget it, in 1985...at the height of gay community's forced confrontation with the developing AIDS epidemic. Later, one makes a call, and "Bert" and "J.R." develop an erotic relationship, which deepens and transforms over a series of 20 phone calls. The

stage production includes nudity and simulation of masturbation—hence the potential for conservative backlash.

The Dallas production became one of the longest running shows in the city's stage history, played to capacity houses for over four months and won the designation of "Best Dramatic Production of 1991" in the Dallas Observer's annual "Best of Dallas" readers poll.

Audience and public reaction during the run was overwhelmingly positive, the director said. "I received about 317 phone calls...almost all (the letter writers) had nothing but positive things to say" about the play, said Coleman.

"I did get one letter from a lady in Fort Worth (who) said she was going to take me to Jesus and save my soul," he continued. He wrote back, attempting to explain the play and the message beneath its raw surface. "Whether she heard me or not, I don't know."

The events leading to Coleman's dismissal from his teaching job, and the firing itself, happened so fast they left him confused and bitter. Coleman said he did not bring his others work to the school, and had only even mentioned his involvement with the show to "about three out of three hundred other teachers." Also, he said, he had what he took as school administrators' approval to continue both his careers if they could be kept separate.

"I had been involved with some controversial works before...they (the school's administrators) were aware of this," said Coleman, noting that the first show on his resume—which he presented to school officials before being hired—was "Bent."

The resume also included several less risky and traditional productions.

"I asked them, 'do I need to stop doing this (directing)?'—And they said, no, as long as I upheld Christian values in the classroom and was a good citizen in my private life, and those things I had no problem with."

Coleman said he was discreet about his involvement with the Chesley play, and was encouraged by the positive general reaction. "We had anticipated some conservative backlash in Dallas. Basically, that never happened," he said. Then, he said, someone called the principal of the school to protest the teacher's involvement with the production.

"This person got on the phone and said (the play) was part of a plot by 'those' people to overthrow the government and tear down the Catholic Church," he said. The call was followed by a long meeting with the principal, described by Coleman "a nice, easy hour



Sam Niles and John Reneau in Moonstruck Theatre's production of Robert Chesley's "Jerker." The award-winning production, which became one of Dallas longest running stage shows, will play Houston's Curtains Theatre Jan. 22-26

long discussion." Then came the abrupt dismissal. Coleman said that because Bishop Lynch is a private, church-run school, he has no legal recourse against the firing; he does, however, now have the firing as part of his employment history.

Nevertheless, Coleman said he does not regret getting involved with the production. "It's an important piece...I still feel it is. I feel like it will also be important (to present it) in Houston, even though it will only be a short run."

Both Coleman and Presley said they have no clue how the play will be received here. A previous attempt to bring the play to Houston audiences fell through, according to Presley, in part because no actors were found in time who were both daring enough to take on the graphic material and serious enough to handle the other aspects.

"Jerker" indeed represents a challenge in presentation: just as the title jumbles an obvious sexual reference with a traditional theatrical term for a heavily emotional work, the script itself jumbles the images and inverts the course of a stereotypical sexual "conquest" into an unsettling reverse. The

actors and director must deliver and transfer this challenge to the audience—they must feel the irony of a relationship that begins with anonymous sexual stimulation and ends with deep discussions of dying friends, personal anxieties and uncertainty of the future. And now, those mounting the production must also bring—to a work that was powerful enough in 1986—an understanding not prevalent then of other issues foreseen by the playwright (for example, the role of the telephone sex industry in the promotion of safer sex among gay men).

The Houston production includes one major cast change, since Paul Taylor, who played J.R. in Dallas, is currently involved with another show. The cast of two in Houston: Sam Niles (reprising his role as Bert) and John Reneau (J.R.). The show opens Wednesday, Jan. 22 at 8:00 p.m. at Curtains Theatre, 3722 Washington Avenue, and runs through Sunday, Jan. 26. Show times Wednesday through Sunday, 8:00 p.m., with an additional show at 10:00 p.m. on Friday and Saturday nights, and matinees Saturday and Sunday at 3:00 p.m. Early reservations are advised.



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▼▼▼ AUSTIN QUICK NOTES

SaphFire plans 'pick your prize' lesbian bingo for next meeting

SaphFire, a social and support group for lesbians is holding its bimonthly meeting in a fun and typically unusual way: bingo for lesbians. Winners get to pick their prize. The meeting will be held from 7:00-9:00 p.m. Friday, Jan. 10 at Austin Women's Center, 1700 South

Lamar. For more information, call (512) 447-4197.

—LGRL moving

The house that has been a home to the Lesbian/Gay Rights Lobby of Texas for the past year is up for sale, so LGRL is preparing to move to new office space.

The new space will require some office equipment, representatives noted, and they are looking for donations of equipment such as a FAX machine or copier. Contact Laurie or Bud at LGRL, (512) 474-5475 to help with the move or donate equipment.

—ASA benefit

The Capitol City Playhouse will hold a benefit showing of "Street Theater" at 7:00 p.m. Sunday, Jan. 12. Proceeds will go to AIDS Services of Austin. The theater is located at 214 W. 4th Street. For information, call (512) 472-2966.

▼▼▼ GALVESTON SOAP

The sounds of the Island: Something to suit everyone's taste

By ESHCOL RICHARD WRIGHT

The New Voice

Well known Houston DJ Brian Broussard has been spotted at "Evolution," a bar he helped open in December, spinning his high energy, progressive dance music. Brian still lives in Houston, but plans a big move south in the near future. Hands up to Brian Broussard for bringing his high energy style to Galveston.



Rob and Irv (manager) at Evolution, the newest club on the Island

All you Galvestonians—and others—should drop by Evolution, a new spot to be watched. Say hi to Brian, and ask "Chapa" to serve you a round of his favorite shot "Windey" (Things that make you go "huh"). And the things people do to Blueberry Schnapps! Chase it with a 23 oz. vat of beer for \$2.50. By the way, Evolution always features the gorgeous men of "Hardbodies," an exclusive on Galveston Island, and After Hours every Friday and Saturday with a one dollar cover, excluding special events of course.

If hard bodied high energy isn't your style, there is Floridian DJ Pete McGuire over at the Kon Tiki with his Top 40 High Tech Sounds. This 10 year veteran (three at the Kon Tiki) loves to make Galvestonians dance. This weekend, another good thing about the Kon Tiki will be Jesse Garza's girls. One of which—Tandi Andrews, Miss Tri State USA—is one of Bob Mackie's favorite girls. (Well, anyway, he did tell this reporter at his recent Houston appearance, "Isn't she glamorous?"—when shown a picture of Tandi in one of his gowns). Well, the glamorous Tandi Andrews will be performing at the Kon Tiki



The "gals" of Galveston—Magnolia, Naomi and Kelley—with CJ

Friday, Jan. 10 with Shady Lady and Taylor Kennedy. Saturday, Jan. 11 they will be joined by Oprah De Marro.

Across town, closer to the beach is Galveston's neighborhood bar, Robert Lafitte's, with their happy hour from 10:00 a.m. to 9:00 p.m.: well drinks \$1.50

and cans for 75 cents. Drop by and see Eddie Harsell the bartender and ask for a "Hurricane from Hell." While you are there, say hi to Steve Batcher the DJ and chill out with some of his old time rock and roll.

So long until next week!

▼▼▼ NEW ORLEANS QUICK NOTES

This Week Guide-The Mint puts out 1992 half-year calendar

This Week Guide, a small weekly calendar popular with French Quarter visitors, has brought out its second annual calendar. This year the calendar is for only six months stopping at June, 1992; presumably the last half of 1992 will arrive later.

This first half of the 1992 calendar is a joint production with The Mint. It is the same size as the weekly guide. There are ads printed around the margins of each page with a small weekly calendar in the center of the page. Daily notations are made such as "Monday, Jan. 20, Martin Luther King Day" and "Wednesday, Jan. 29, Artists' Studio Days CAC." Some days also have commercial notations, such as "Saturday, Jan. 25: A Sterling Idea—lunch at the Sterling Club" and "Remember Big Daddy's for the entire gay community."

The format differs slightly from last year's wall-type This Year Guide 1991, a

standard full year calendar.

Calendars are available in bars and shops where newspapers are distributed.

—Arthur Roger Gallery NO/AIDS Benefit

The Arthur Roger Gallery, 432 Julia Street, is sponsoring an exhibition with reception Feb. 1, 1992 from 6:00-8:00 p.m. for the photographs of Tom Bianchi included in his book "Out of the Studio." Twenty percent of the sales of the book will be donated to NO/AIDS Task Force.

Bianchi is a "recovering lawyer" now working in the art of painting, sculpting and photography.

In his book Bianchi writes: "Rarely has our art shown men together ... unself-consciously affectionate toward one another. The absence of honest pictures of affection between people of the same sex is a lie of omission."

"Out of the Studio" can be purchased at the NO/AIDS Task Force offices, 1407 Decatur Street, New Orleans or at Arthur Roger Gallery. The book sells for \$60; Bianchi's photographs sell for \$800 to \$1,500. For more information call the gallery at (504) 522-1999.

—Knights d'Orleans/Lords Of Leather auction

The Knights d'Orleans and the Lords of Leather will co-sponsor a leather auction Jan. 25, 1992 at The Friendly Bar, 2301 Chartres Street. Proceeds will benefit Buzzy's Kids.

Items to be donated for the auction are being sought by the Knights d'Orleans/Lords of Leather. Items of leather, erotic art, bar tabs, meal tabs are especially sought after. For more information, call (504) 456-1064.

—NO/AIDS adds staff

Steve Marchese has been named fund development coordinator for the NO/AIDS Task Force. Marchese trained as a hotline volunteer in 1987 and served on the board of directors from 1988 to 1991, the last two years as co-chair. The annual NO/AIDS Walk has been one of his primary responsibilities.

Damon Rohm Rosensweig has become the health educator-information and referral specialist for NO/AIDS. He will manage and develop the Resource Library and HIV/AIDS hotline. Rosensweig comes to the Task Force from Delta ETC, where he was a student evaluation coordinator. Pamela Holm is the new intake specialist for Early Intervention Services. Holm will be responsible for coordinating services available in New Orleans with the needs of people who come to the Task Force.

Donn Peabody, who served as a volunteer with NO/AIDS for a year and a half has been named administrative assistant.

▼▼▼ DATELINE: NEW ORLEANS

Louisiana figures show more and more heterosexuals diagnosed with AIDS

NEW ORLEANS, Saturday, Jan. 4 (AP)—More and more heterosexuals, particularly women, are being diagnosed with AIDS in Louisiana.

One-fourth of the 204 Louisiana women who have contracted acquired immune deficiency syndrome were diagnosed last year, state figures show.

The surge among women and a slow but continuing drop among gay and bisexual men are harbingers of change, said Sue Troxler, the state's AIDS surveillance coordinator. By the end of the decade, she said, it is expected to be transmitted primarily by heterosexual intercourse.

"My gut feeling is that's what's brewing," she said. "Our figures are 10 years behind the times because it takes that

long to develop AIDS (after infection), but it's coming."

The AIDS virus also can be transmitted through contaminated needles used to inject drugs. That source of infection accounted for 102 cases last year, or 17 percent of the total—a rise of 5 percentage points from 1990.

"That's the population that is hardest to get education to," said Louise McFarland, chief of the epidemiology section in the state Department of Health and Hospitals. "It was relatively easy to get to the gay population, but because of the idea that it's still a gay disease, we just can't get to (addicts) with education."

AIDS continues to rise steadily among drug users, even though Louisiana per-

mits the sale of fresh syringes without a prescription.

And although most AIDS patients are still white, the proportion of black patients has grown from 38 percent to 44 percent, state figures show.

AIDS began as a disease associated with homosexual and bisexual men, and they accounted for most Louisiana cases diagnosed last year—327 of 615, or 53 percent. But that proportion dropped 10 points from 1990 and 29 percentage points from 1986—the result, McFarland said, of successful risk-reduction education.

AIDS, which destroys the immune system and has no cure, is spread by sexual intercourse and contaminated blood. Besides gay and bisexual men and intra-

venous drug users, its principal victims are hemophiliacs and infants infected before or during birth.

The total number of cases diagnosed last year—615—was up slightly more than 7 percent from 1990, state figures show. That amount brought the total cases reported in Louisiana to 3,065; 1,960 of those people have died.

Although most cases continued to be diagnosed in metropolitan areas, McFarland said the number of cases in rural areas rose last year from 29 percent to 38 percent.

"It's not just people in big cities anymore," she said. "The people we're seeing coming down with the disease aren't listening to anything. They have their heads in the sand thinking this is a gay disease."

▼▼▼ DATELINE: GAY AMERICA

Judge rejects suit by homosexual couple seeking marriage license

WASHINGTON, Friday, Jan. 3 (AP)—A D.C. Superior Court judge has rejected a lawsuit filed by a homosexual couple who claimed a law that denied them a marriage license was discriminatory.

Judge Shellie F. Bowers on Monday cited the biblical Book of Genesis in her ruling. She said that since the couple are not man and woman what they wanted to do by definition could not be called a marriage.

The District of Columbia marriage law, although gender-neutral in wording, has gender-based distinctions, Bowers ruled.

The judge said if Craig Robert Dean, 27, and Patrick Gerald Gill, 24, want the city to permit homosexual marriages, they'll have to take it up in the legislature rather than in the courts. The two have been companions for five years.

The couple said that denying them a marriage license was a violation of the

1977 D.C. Human Rights Act, which prohibits discrimination based on sexual orientation.

Assistant Corporation Counsel Gregory Lewis argued that there is nothing in district law that indicates homosexual marriages should be sanctioned.

Judge Bowers agreed.

"What the plaintiffs herein sought a license to enter into, by definition, simply was not a marriage," she wrote. "Any

change in that definition must come from the legislature—and not this court."

Dean, a lawyer, declined comment, saying he had not received a copy of the decision. Both men have called a press conference Monday to discuss the case.

Kevin Berrill, a spokesperson for the National Gay and Lesbian Task Force in the district, called the ruling disappointing. "We're going to continue to seek legal recognition of gay and lesbian relationships," he said.

▼▼▼ HOUSTON QUICK NOTES

New 'Minister Mike Show' video to debut at Venture-N

A preview showing of the second "Minister Mike Show" video by the Montrose-based Little Video Productions, along with the award-winning first M.M. video, will be introduced to the public this Sunday, Jan. 12 at the Venture-N. The screening begins at 7:00 p.m.

Produced by Mike Morrow, the second video is a follow up to the original "Minister Mike Show," created last year as an Access cable rebuttal to an AIDS-phobic tape aired by a religious group. "Minister Mike" is a satire of religious hypocrisy on television.

While the first tape concentrated specifically on religious homophobia, the new show focuses on other progressive issues, mainly censorship and abortions rights, and takes a sharper jab at televangelists, especially Louisiana's Jimmy Swaggart. The new show is also deliberately sillier and more slapstick. This is due in part, no doubt, to first impression problems with the introductory piece—a slick satire that was taken by some to be the genuine homophobic article. (That video won an award in the "Experimental" category at the 1991 Houston International Film Festival).

Morrow also admits that he bent a little in this go-round to gay/lesbian religious groups who expressed some offense to the first video. In fact, both include bits emphasizing the distinction between spirituality and religious hypocrisy, but "Minister Mike Show II" goes a step further by displaying the nutty characters' intolerance even of other religious groups.

Among memorable moments: backstage clips in the second video show what in all likelihood really goes on off camera on the megabuck ministries' sets; do-it-yourself censor stickers are offered "free, for a \$19.99 donation;" Minister Mike's assistant Linda (Tek Wilson) performs "Pro Choice Don't Preach" to the tune and borrowed video intro of Madonna's "Papa Don't Preach;" Linda gets a surprise call from Swaggart; "Saving Center" followers are "healed" with questionable methods.

—MCCR Spiritual Renewal
Metropolitan Community Church of the Resurrection is beginning the new year with many special events to celebrate its January Spiritual Renewal. The dates are Sunday, Jan. 12 and Monday, Jan. 13. The guest speaker is the Rev. Grant Ford, pastor of the Sunshine Cathedral, MCC Fort Lauderdale, Fla.—now the denominations second largest church. Before his MCC affiliation, Rev. Ford was founder and publisher of GayLife, then one of the largest newspapers of its kind in the midwest.

Rev. Ford will speak at the Sunday worship services at 10:45 a.m. and 7:15 p.m. On Monday, after dinner in the Fel-



Rev. Grant Ford of the Sunshine Cathedral—MCC Fort Lauderdale is MCCR's guest for the church's Spiritual Renewal Jan. 12-13

lowship Hall at 6:00, he will preach again at a 7:15 p.m. worship service. The Sunday a.m. service will be signed for the hearing impaired, and outside security will be provided for all events.

—Men's Network

On Jan. 15, 1992, the Montrose Counseling Center Men's Network is having a presentation titled "Shaman's Circle, the Weekend Experience." This is an experience in which gay males can get in touch with their masculinity in a woodland setting, with nature, chanting, story telling, connecting with their fathers, drumming and using the sweat lodge as a group. Past participants of the Shaman's Circle will share their experiences with the group.

The Men's Network discusses issues which impact the gay and bisexual male. Its purpose is to provide a safe place for education, social networking and exchange of information. The group is sponsored by the Montrose Counseling Center and meets there on the first and third Wednesday of each month from 7:00-8:30 p.m. A donation of \$3-\$5 is requested; however, anyone is welcome regardless of ability to pay.

—Stop smoking class

Because smoking is an immune suppressive behavior, AIDS Foundation Houston will offer an eight week Stop Smoking Course on Tuesday evenings, starting Jan. 14, at the AFH office, 3202 Wesleyan from 6:30-8:00 p.m. Charles Domingues, MSW-CSW of the Critical Care America home infusion company will conduct the course.

The class is based on the highly successful Methodist Hospital Institute for Preventive Medicine's stop smoking program. It focuses on behavioral modification techniques, emphasizing the importance of certain homework as-



The Venture-N will preview the latest "Minister Mike Show" video Sunday at 7:00 p.m.; the first film in the series will also be shown

signments and regular attendance throughout the eight weeks. There is no charge for this for this course, which is open to an HIV-positive people and their significant others.

"Stopping the smoking habit can be one of the most important things an HIV-positive person can do to improve health," said Bart Loeser, education coordinator.

Space is limited to 15 people; to register for the free class, call Loeser at (713) 623-6796.

—Skate Club parade unit

The Lambda Rollerskating Club will be participating at least two parades this year, the Lesbian and Gay Pride Parade in June and the Artists' Parade in May, the club has announced. In the May event, members will be competing with the Urban Animals for the first place trophy and \$250 prize for best roller skating parade entry.

The Artists Parade is a featured event of the Houston International Festival. It spotlights art cars, decorated bicycles and roller skaters in costume. The 1991 parade had about 1000 participants and was witnessed by over 250,000 spectators.

The LRC is also considering entry in

the St. Patrick's Day parade in March and the Foley's Thanksgiving Parade in November.

Anyone interested in helping to decorate or participate in 1992 parades should express their interest to Jiggers The Clown, LRC parade chair, at (713) 682-7422 (daytime only). Bicycle enthusiasts are also welcome.

—Correction: GLPC meeting is Jan. 15

The Houston Gay and Lesbian Political Caucus will hold its first meeting this month on Jan. 15, not Jan. 8 as previously announced. The New Voice and the Lesbian/Gay Pride Week Community Calendar both incorrectly reported initially that the January meetings had been changed to Jan. 8 and Jan. 15.

The caucus has revised this month's meeting schedule to Jan. 15 and Jan. 29, the third and fifth Wednesday. Normally, the group meets on the first and third Wednesday of each month, but the schedule was changed for January due to the New Year's holiday. Nominations for officers of GLPC will be taken at the Jan. 15 meeting, with the election tentatively scheduled for Jan. 29. The meetings will be back on the normal schedule in February.

▼▼▼ DATELINE: GAY AMERICA

Hospital head calls AIDS testing a 'hysterical response'

FORT COLLINS, Colo., Thursday, Jan. 2 (AP)—Aspen Valley Hospital's recent decision to require physicians to be tested for the AIDS virus is a "hysterical response" to the problem, the head of Poudre Valley Hospital's medical staff says.

Dr. James Bush this week said Poudre Valley Hospital has no plans to require

physicians to be tested for the AIDS virus.

It would be too expensive and it wouldn't mean anything anyway, Bush said.

"An HIV test won't prevent anything because you can contract the disease at any time. This is an hysterical response by people who don't understand the science," he said.

No national medical organization has come out in favor of mandatory testing of physicians, he said, and there is no scientific evidence to suggest that there would be any benefit to such a move.

There have been reports elsewhere in the nation of HIV-positive surgeons, whose diagnoses were revealed after death, but

there has never been a case where they transmitted the disease to a patient, Bush said.

News reports of a Florida dentist who infected several patients with the AIDS virus go back to the need for strict sterile procedures and other precautions that are standard procedure at PVH and all hospitals.

▼▼▼ HOUSTON SOAP

Double dirt from Vera and Dee, chili at Gentry and 'Roots' at 800 Pacific

By TAD NELSON
TNV Houston

Hello, Houston! Well, as promised, Vera's back this week and pushier than ever. You know, she tried to get me loaded, then give me two pages of lies. Then for Miss Dee's first run, she gave me her permission to edit her lies. Pushy witches! Well here goes.

Who to put first is something to talk about, girls; after all, I would put the older or wiser first. But really, I'm not gonna chance the age question and wiser, well, to be older than a dinosaur and still tending bar—smart or not is yet to be determined. And I could go by prettiest, but that's a scary matter too! Let's just run Dee first since she's new. Yeah—that's the ticket!

Miss Dee (E/J's), Miss Alabama (PS and BC) and Keoki (PastTime) had a wonderful time at PastTime Saturday night. (No one else did—but did they care?) Miss Dee's bell went off, but Miss A and Keoki bar hopped 'till when?

Tetra—new car yet, or just one more wash job? Teal color yet? Oh well, overtime Saturday, thanks. Dee, Matthew, Bob, Steve and Ray will have a good time for a change.

Beau (PastTime), hear you had a good time at BRB Monday.

TC and Killer were to check out Miss Jones' roof Monday, but it seems a bottle of vodka got in the way. Better luck next time.

Now Vera ... says little Joe got upset New Year's Eve. Seems no one would let him be the New Year's baby. He forgot his Serenity leak-proof pants.

Kenn's branching out to the park now. What, new linoleum in the office not good enough? Watch out for those cherries.

It was nice to see Terry and Larry (611) having drinks with Vera last week.

Hear there's a new social club coming to town (a break away) in the next few weeks. Can't say who told, on "threat of



BRB Cowboy of the Month, center, is Terry Berringer. Runners up are Anthony Weever (left) and Larry Garrett

harm to Vera's fat ass."

And congratulations to Vera on being back at BRB for four years now Jan. 1.

It seems Major Dad has a major hole in his muffler (truck that is). I don't need an alarm clock anymore, I just wait for him to start up. Heaven forbid he should sleep in one morning.

Hey Jeff, wake up in any trailer parks lately?

Enough dirt!

Over at Gentry, don't forget the Chili Taste Off Party which benefits the Gentry softball teams, this Saturday 3:00-7:00 p.m. The male strip contest Monday nights at Gentry is really catching fire. Last Monday the contest featured seven gorgeous contestants and the club was packed as Miss Maude put the cuties through their paces.

Coming up at Heaven on Sunday, Feb. 2 is CeCe in concert, and A&M Records is going to be doing a promotional give away, too!

J.R.'s is having a fashion show Sunday, Jan. 26 at 8:00 p.m. with fashions by Basic Brothers. More info to come

on this one.

Thursday, Jan. 16 begins the Back to the Roots Deee-Drage Show with Donna Day, Naomi Sims and special guest Trixie Galore. They're promising new



Donna Day had her birthday party with many friends at Heaven last week

sights, new sounds and more fun good times!

It's Full Moon Madness at the Mining Company on Sunday, Jan. 19, and those are always howling successes. They also now have 92 cent Margaritas and don't forget Torn Levi's coming up on the 25th of January.

Happy belated birthday to Donna Day!

E/J's is having a busy week. Thursday is Brittany's "New in '92" show at 10:30—that's tonight as most of you read this!

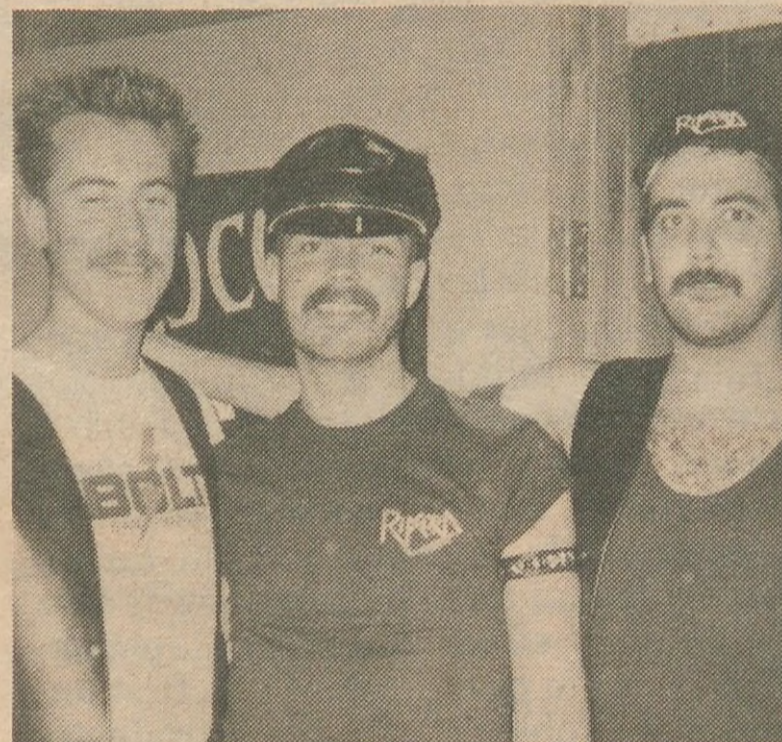
Rainbo has his dancers on Friday at 11:00 p.m. Saturday the ICSS presents a special show "Wassies," which is a show of past monarchs at 10:30. And on Sunday, Texas Renegades and ICSS candidates present a Gumbo Cookoff/Auction and Show beginning at 5:00. It's all to benefit the Bering Care Center. Finally, Tuesday night at 10:30 it's Talent Night with Giovanni.

For those of you feeling pale—Club Houston has tanning on sale for half price! Go by and see Damian and the boys.

For you men who believed my mistake in the BRB ad last week—sorry. The Cowboy of the Month will be on Sunday nights, not Saturdays. And Sunday, Jan. 12 at 7:00 p.m. is the Mr BRB '92 contest, so polish your boots and dust off your chaps and enter. Tuesday is dance lessons at 10:00 p.m., and beginner dance lessons are at 7:30 p.m. on Thursdays. Hamburgers are also available on Thursdays. Coming up on Jan. 24 is Little Bit of Texas.

At Venture-N this Sunday, Jan. 12 is the Houston Metropolitan Billiard League banquet and awards ceremony at 2:00 p.m., followed by the World Premiere of the new Minister Mike Show II.

Go by and support this local director and video artist, Michael Morrow.



Some new faces at the Ripcord are Brian, Lee and Armand



Don, Mary's butch bartender—Oooh, Mary!



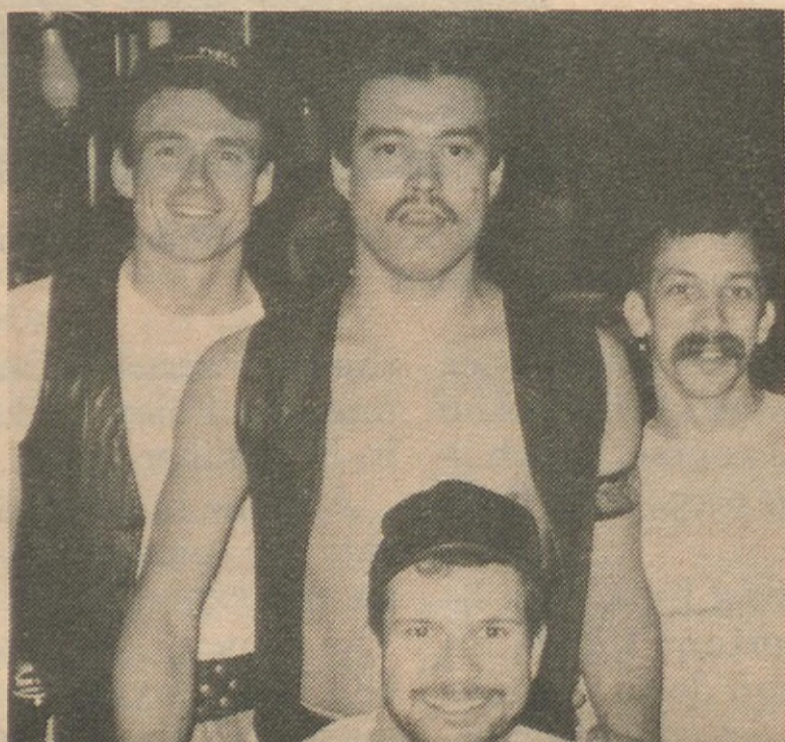
Church Lady, etc. at Missouri Street

And finally, there's a great play coming to town—did I say controversial? (Full nudity, graphic language and sexual themes.) Yes, "Jerker" is coming to Curtains Theater and all performances are expected to sell out. For tickets and info, call 862-4548.

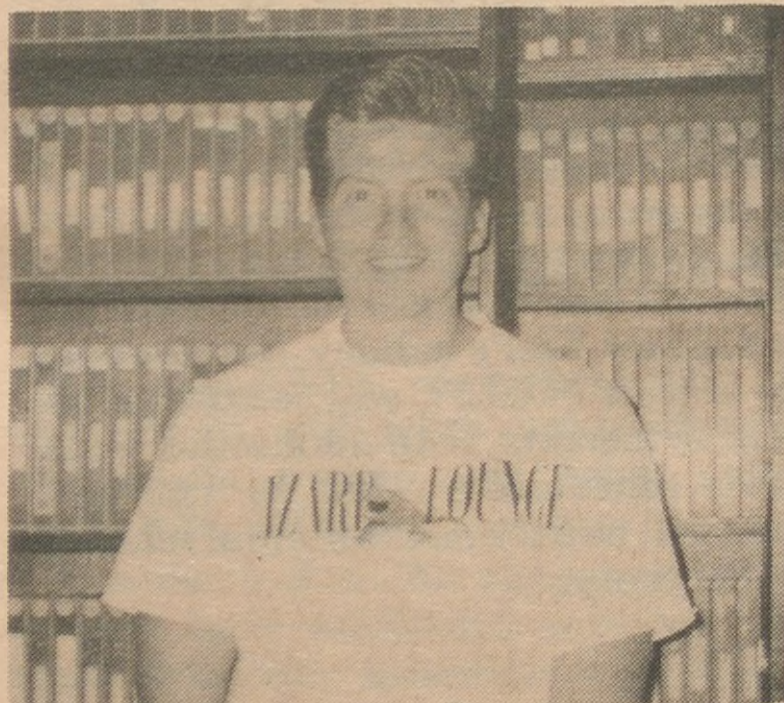
Bye for now!



Burt, Joe and Tommy of Leather by Boots were seen partying at PS (the club)



Seen at the Mining Company are Scott, Charlie, Cliff and Buck—who?



Go by and say hi to Mike at Richmond News (he's the nice looking guy behind the counter). Woof!



Miss Montrose, with bar managers of Missouri Street: Soryl, Lisa and Mike (bottom)



Joe (Heaven) with lover Ron—looks like Jan worked wonders on your looks this week

▼▼▼ DATELINE: NEW ORLEANS

Here are latest official statistics on AIDS in Louisiana

NEW ORLEANS, Saturday, Jan. 4 (AP)—Some of Louisiana's AIDS numbers:

TOTALS: 3065 cases reported in Louisiana; 1960 deaths. Of the total patients,

2861 are men and 204 women. One-quarter of the women were diagnosed in 1991.

1991 CASES: 615, up 7 percent from 1990.

SOURCES OF INFECTION: —327 cases, or 53 percent, homosexual or bisexual men. The percentage is down 10 percent from 1990 and 29 percent from 1986. —102

cases, or 17 percent, intravenous drug users. —8 percent, gay or bisexual men who use intravenous drugs. —4 percent, heterosexual contact. —18 percent, other.

▼▼▼ AUSTIN SOAP

Some ideas and sites to help Austinites keep their resolutions

By CHRIS LUTHER
TNV Austin

OK, we made it through the New Year's madness in, almost, one piece. New Year's was busy everywhere, packed in, smiling faces, lovers kissing at midnight, too much to drink, caught a cab home, blah blah blah, that sort of thing.

So everyone's making changes in their life. Maybe a new hobby, or a new hairstyle, or a new sweetie, or a sweetie who's a hairstylist as a hobby. Need any ideas? Well, you know I have a few.

Made a resolution to exercise more but don't like to sweat? Got just the thing. The Austin Gamblers Bowling League is accepting new members and teams for the second half of their Fall/Winter bowling season. This can be a lot of fun, a great way to make new friends and sweeties (see above) AND you get to wear those nifty bowling shoes that remind me so much of the fifties. On Sunday I caught Steve Trolinger of the Gamblers outside Marilyn's showing off his flaming pink ball (singular). Just because I asked he was willing to roll a ball down the alley (that's bowling talk). Oooh, what great form that man has. The way he kicks that heel up as he lets go of the ball is sooo cute!

"We have over 16 teams, around 60 men and women who get together weekly to bowl...we have a blast! At the end of the season we have a party where we hand out trophies to the best bowlers," Steve said. The season runs for 16 weeks. You can join by showing up at the Capitol Bowl next Tuesday, Jan. 14 at 7:30 p.m. "Everybody is welcome to just show up for the next couple of weeks...especially the women," Steve added, stressing that they are trying to balance out the organization.



Kendall sports some new clothes



Steven "Hot Rod" Pin begged Richard not to leave the Crossing

New hobby? How about learning a new dance step. Several clubs around town have free country and western dance lessons during the week and they are all starting up new sessions now that the holidays are over with. On Mondays at 9:00 p.m. Buckles and San Francisco's have a C&W lesson showdown. At Buckles, Dorey is teaching the two step and next door at Cisco's it's the Colton and Ralph Show. (Colton and Ralph, now there's real poetry on your lips). Over at Nexus, they have the beautiful and wonderfully talented Dana teaching her class at 7:30 on Wednesdays. I haven't made it over to the Monday night classes but on Wednesdays you can faithfully find moi in some

cowboy's arms waltzing circles around Dana. She's so patient with my poor crippled feet. And her dead pan drier-than-a-martini humor will help you keep a smile on your face should I step on your toes (I have a bad habit of doing that in this column). Have you decided you need a new wardrobe? If so you might want to check with Charlie's new fashion consultant



Chain Drive customers Jeff Wise and David Davila try to look representative

Kendal. I caught him last week strutting around Charlie's in some chillin' new duds, looked kind of like a 90's rad version of Superfly (you do remember Superfly, don't you?)

I think my grandmother would like Kendal nearly as much as I do; she has always had this thing about me always wearing clean white underwear. Kendal has that one down right. The Super K has so much style. I think my favorite look of his was what he was wearing 'round the UT gym a couple of weeks past. The look of surprise. At least now I understand why you see those funny little red and white flags out at Lake Travis during the summer. They're where a diver is going down.

Speaking of new looks...

The guys over at Charlie's have their hearts in the right place and their pocketbooks in all the wrong stores. Next Thursday, the 16th, they will be having a turnabout show to benefit the Project Transitions hospice. This means you can expect to see Cory, David, Freeman, Daddy Wayne and yes, maybe even Ray himself behind the bar.



Sam, Lynn, Daniel, Marty and Blake after the show at the Capitol City Playhouse

On the stage, for your evening's entertainment, will be some of your favorite bartenders, stretching not only their six inch heels but also the definition of the word "talent." Want a preview? Imagine David Green's Special Rodent Singers—Offelia Balls, Ginger Snap and Ineda Goodwin (Carl, Arnie and Mark respectively)—with their rendition of "Muskrat Love." Looks promising.

With the new year, we often reflect on our past friendships. That's what auld lang syne means, after all. These words

take heart as the Crossing's general manager Richard will soon be moving to Seattle with his lover Ted. Dick, as all his friends call him, has been working at the Crossing for the past eight years. There was so much weeping and nashing of teeth last week as he broke the news to the troops. A few, like Steven



Chances' Darby and Helen

"Hot Rod" Pin begged the big man to reconsider. "Why, why, why?" he wailed.

He says it's a career move, lover got a better job and he wants to be there for him—but I know better. Dick just hasn't been the same since that Drummer contest. But we wish him well all the same. I certainly respect the need people have to sometimes just move, reestablish themselves, challenge themselves. But we have at least one chance to make Austin unforgettable for him.

Got a story to share? An embarrassing tender moment that Dick would prefer to have been forgotten? This coming Wednesday, Jan. 15, Crossing will say goodbye to both of them by throwing a tremendous farewell party. There will be an open mike. Drop by and say farewell in style to a really swell guy.

Does anybody know where I can buy a black leather umbrella for a gift?



Austin Gamblers' Steve Trolinger shows off his bowling form



Charlie's Happy Hour bartenderettes Carl and Mark



San Fran Cisco's Ralph Reed and Audrey Haley

▼▼▼ DATELINE: GAY AMERICA

Club chef charges he was fired because he is HIV positive

SAN JOSE, Calif., Tuesday, Jan. 7 (AP)—A former chef at the exclusive Sainte Claire Club has filed a suit against the all-male club charging he was illegally fired after disclosing that he had contracted the virus that causes AIDS.

According to the suit, the man, identified only as "Stan Chef," was fired because club members believed his health condition posed a threat to others.

The suit also charges that Chef, left with \$20,000 in medical bills, was illegally cut off from the club's insurance carrier after disclosing he was HIV-positive.

Club manager Jules Thiebaut had pledged to support Chef and promised to keep Chef's condition private, but Thiebaut later told the club's board of directors of Chef's condition, the suit said.

After some board members threatened to cancel their membership if Chef wasn't fired, Chef was forced to resign, the suit said.

"This is the worst case I've ever seen involving ... AIDS hysteria," said Chef's attorney Alice Philipson. "The fact that other people are fearful is not grounds for discrimination."

The AIDS virus cannot be spread through casual contact such as food preparation or sharing towels, according to Martin Fenstersheib of the Santa Clara County communicable disease control.

"A food handler, routinely, in their everyday activity is not going to transmit the virus," he said.

Chef, now unemployed after cooking at the club for six years, "can't use Sainte Claire as a reference and can't explain why," Philipson said. "He's lost his health insurance and has a health condition that could be fatal and needs to be

monitored."

The suit, filed last month in Santa Clara Superior Court, asks for unspecified damages.

Club attorney Mary Scharrenberg said it was club policy not to comment on pending litigation.

According to the suit, Chef was offered \$30,000 to help pay his outstanding medical bills if he would resign. If he refused the offer, he would be fired, the suit said.

Chef agreed to the offer, but after consulting a lawyer he returned the money and rescinded the agreement, Philipson said.

▼▼▼ DATELINE: GAY AMERICA

Vandals cause \$20,000 in damage to home in possible hate crime

TAMPA, Fla., Tuesday, Dec. 31 (AP)—Vandals broke into the home of two women on Christmas Eve, took a hatchet to the house, poured paint on their dog and carved the words "lesbian" and "queer" on the furniture, police said.

"This was done by some very sick people," said Sharon, who did not want to reveal her last name for fear she might attract more attacks.

Sharon and her lover, Carolyn, both 41, were packing Monday to move out, fearing the vandals would return.

The two women were renting half the house. They returned home from a weeklong vacation Sunday to find the mess.

"I feel raped, angry, defiled," said Carolyn, as she waded through broken glass and furniture. "We work, we pay taxes, we've never bothered anybody."

The women have contacted a gay-rights advocate and asked him to review the case.

"This incident demonstrates how serious the consequences of homophobia are and how ugly anti-gay attitudes can be," said Keith Roberts, who is monitoring the police investigation in hope it will be classified a hate crime.

According to police, vandals broke into the home between 3:00 p.m. and 11:00 p.m. Christmas Eve. The owner of the house, who also did not want to be identified, said he arrived home to find his two-bedroom, \$100,000 house in shambles.

He has been trying to sell it for several months.

The vandals stole \$410 found in one of Sharon's drawers.

Damage to the furniture and house is estimated at more than \$20,000, police Capt. Ed Fryrear said. He said the case had been referred to the detective division and likely will be labeled a hate crime.

Florida's hate crime law lets police move felonies or misdemeanors into more serious categories if they appear to have been committed with prejudice based on race or sexual orientation.

Police told the owner the vandalism was done by more than three people who forced their way through a side door.

They went from room to room, axing furniture, breaking mirrors and pulling down ceiling fans. They dumped paint over the carpet and spray-painted the curtains black.

Houdini, the homeowner's mixed-breed dog, was covered with blue and beige paint. The dog was cowering in a corner when the owner got home after he had been out of the house for several hours Christmas Eve.

The vandals also took a hard object, possibly a sledgehammer, and damaged the two bathrooms, chipping porcelain sinks, tubs and toilets into pieces. Damage to the pipes caused water damage throughout the house, warping the wooden floors in the hallways.

Activists distribute condoms, question candidates in New Hampshire primary

By DOINA CHIACU

FOR THE NEW VOICE

MANCHESTER, N.H., Tuesday, Jan. 7 (AP)—AIDS activists distributed condoms at a high school before taking their concerns to candidates' headquarters.

A dozen members of the New Hampshire chapter of Act Up handed out condoms in an information leaflet on AIDS to students leaving Manchester Central High School on Monday.

"I haven't seen the candidates discussing their proposals if they have any on how to end the AIDS crisis and I think that's because they don't want to deal with serious issues," group spokesperson Mike Petrelis said.

Among students, embarrassment and nervousness outweighed curiosity, but more than 100 condoms were distributed in a half-hour after school let out. The group chose the school because it had been the scheduled site of the next Democratic presidential debate Jan. 19, but the state party on Monday changed the location to WMUR-TV studios.

Such condom distribution would be il-

legal in New Hampshire under a bill to be introduced this week by state Sen. Gordon Humphrey.

"Even if you don't distribute them, people are going to have sex, and this way at least you're going to be safe," said student Marie Dixon, 17.

She and others acknowledged that while students are aware of the AIDS threat, most don't think it can affect them.

Likewise, Petrelis and other members of the group said the major presidential candidates haven't been giving AIDS issues a voice.

The only candidate at a health care forum in Nashua last month to mention AIDS was one who wasn't officially invited—New York psychologist and Democratic hopeful Lenora Fulani, said Act Up member Karen Starr of Concord.

"I was appalled that it was not discussed at all," she said.

The group passed out more condoms at the campaign offices of Sen. Tom Harkin of Iowa, former Massachusetts Sen. Paul

Tsongas, and Arkansas Gov. Bill Clinton, all Democrats, before moving on to Republican Patrick Buchanan's office and the Bush-Quayle '92 headquarters.

Only Tsongas had an AIDS position paper prepared.

Clinton's campaign handed out his record on AIDS issues and Harkin's office later provided a statement saying Harkin was committed to increased funding for AIDS research.

Act Up was most disappointed by Bush's office, where they were told politely that the president's position paper on "AIDS" was unavailable.

"This epidemic is now in its second decade," Petrelis said. Bush has been in and around the White House for more than 10 years. If not yet, when? he asked.

Uncomfortable staffers at Buchanan's offices told the group no one was available to answer their questions.

Petrelis, who was forcibly removed after interrupting the conservative commentator's speech announcing his candidacy in New Hampshire last month,

said he already knows Buchanan cares little about the issue.

Buchanan said later he opposes condom distributions at high schools.

But none of the major candidates, even if they favor putting more money into AIDS research or distributing condoms and safe sex lectures at high schools, has taken the issue by the horns, Act Up members said.

"I mean, you can have a position paper, but how many people are going to walk into these offices and ask for a position paper," Starr said. "They need to talk about it."

Petrelis acknowledged that AIDS is a controversial issue and "candidates want to avoid controversy at all costs," but said his group hopes to spur Democratic candidates into challenging Bush on AIDS.

"I think that the Democrats are missing a golden opportunity to attack Bush on AIDS because it's a domestic health care issue that Bush has ignored," Petrelis said.

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▼▼▼ DATELINE: GAY AMERICA

Writer Larry Joseph, who described his struggle in print, dies

NEW YORK, Tuesday, Dec. 31 (AP)— Larry Josephs, who described his struggle with AIDS in two articles in The New York Times Magazine, has died of complications from the disease at age 34.

Josephs died Sunday at his brother's Freeport, Long Island, home, his mother

said. A graduate of Brown University, Josephs began his journalism career as a news assistant at the Times in 1980. He later took a job at The Miami Herald before returning to the Times in 1985.

He learned he had AIDS in 1987 after

he agreed to take an HIV test as part of a psychological study at Columbia University on the reaction of gay men to the AIDS epidemic.

Joseph's second Times magazine piece, published in November of 1990, ended with a statement about the feeling

of powerlessness he felt after learning he had the disease.

"But if there is one lesson I have learned over the past six months, it is the lesson of powerlessness. You see, there is nothing I can do about it. Except hope, and dream, and wait."

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We Sell P.O.S. Terminals, Credit Card Processing and Check Guaranty Services To Retail Merchants. If You Can Call On Small Store Owners, We Have A Stable Career Opportunity Where You Should Be Able to Earn \$25,000 to \$75,000 Per Year, On Straight Commission.

For the First 30 Days, You Won't Be Expected to Sell Anything. We Will Give You Daily Leads. You Will Visit the Merchants, Collect Information, and Set Appointments for A Second Visit.

When You Have A Qualified Prospect Ready for A Second Meeting, An Experienced Field Sales Manager Will Go with You and Do the Selling While You Watch, Listen and Learn.

Bancard Sales Managers

If You Have at Least Six Months Experience Selling P.O.S. Terminals, Credit Card Processing or Check Guaranty, with Pay Stubs to Prove Your Success, We Will Make You A Field Sales Manager in Charge of 5 to 6 Trainees.

For A Professional Approach to the Bancard Business, Call:

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<p>\$7.50 Per Room (3 Room Minimum) Includes: Pre-Spot, Steam Clean and Deodorize with Coupon Only</p>	<p>Sofa & Love Seat \$29.95 Includes: Pre-Spot, Steam Clean and Deodorize with Coupon Only</p>
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▼▼▼ DATELINE: GAY AMERICA

Cincinnati activists want commission to supervise county jail

By TERRY KINNEY
FOR THE NEW VOICE

CINCINNATI, Thursday, Jan. 2 (AP)—Gay activists hoping to find an ally on the Hamilton County commission have been told they must tell the sheriff of their allegations that homosexual inmates are being mistreated.

"That's his jail to run," Commissioner John Dowlin said Thursday.

He said the FBI investigated an alleged beating incident involving an AIDS victim, although its report has not been released.

But Carol Lippmann, project director for ACT UP/Cincinnati, a chapter of AIDS Coalition to Unleash Power, said Sheriff Simon Leis Jr. has not responded to the group's complaints.

"It doesn't seem right that one person

should have complete control over the Justice Center," she said. "Historically speaking, he hasn't had such a good record."

Ms. Lippmann urged commissioners to take over supervision of the jail.

"We are monitoring what happens at the Hamilton County Justice Center and are working with attorneys in monitoring what is happening," she said.

The National Organization for Women, the American Civil Liberties Union, Justice Watch and the Gay/Lesbian March Activists joined ACT UP in alleging that homosexuals and women are verbally and sometimes physically abused by county corrections officers, Ms. Lippmann said.

She told commissioners that HIV-positive prisoners sometimes are denied adequate medical care, even though they are susceptible to diseases such as tuberculo-

sis.

"I personally agree, and I'm sure the commission agrees, that every person regardless of race, sexual orientation or gender has the right to fair and equal treatment in the Justice Center," Commission President Steven Chabot said.

"The sheriff is in charge of the jail, statutorily. Although we fund the jail, we have very little control over it. We can forward your concerns to the sheriff."

The Rev. Maurice McCracken, a human rights activist, said the commission could not wash its hands of the matter.

"If the rights of prisoners are violated, the county commissioners are responsible," he said.

Fear over transmission of the HIV virus that causes acquired immune deficiency syndrome became an issue when AIDS vic-

tim Steven O'Banion accused city police and county corrections officers of beating him after arresting him in September.

O'Banion, 40, of Cincinnati, was charged with attempted murder for allegedly spitting blood and saliva at officers. The attempted murder charge was dropped, but O'Banion was convicted of assault. He is to be sentenced Feb. 12.

"We stand on the conviction in court of Mr. O'Banion and will have no other comment to make until the FBI report is released," Leis said. "Our officers acted properly and within the guidelines of self-defense."

Ms. Lippmann also asked commissioners to step up training for jail personnel and create a commission to resolve complaints of human rights violations.

Cracker Barrel demonstrators seek dismissal of criminal charges

DECATUR, Ga., Saturday, Jan. 4 (AP)—Ten demonstrators arrested last June at a Cracker Barrel restaurant have asked a DeKalb County State Court judge to dismiss criminal trespass charges against them.

Judge Gail C. Flake said Friday she will rule on the dismissal request before a

scheduled March trial date.

The demonstration at the Union City restaurant was one of several in Georgia protesting a Cracker Barrel policy against employing homosexuals.

"My clients were protesting the homophobic and racial policies of the corporate pig, Cracker Barrel, which was their

basic right," defense attorney Michael Hauptman said during a hearing Friday.

Jody Waller, a district manager for the Tennessee-based restaurant chain, testified that disruptions by the protesters prompted the arrests.

"It was almost a pep-rally-like atmosphere, with them singing and shouting,"

Waller said. "There was no way we could operate the business."

Cracker Barrel enacted a policy last year declaring that it would no longer hire homosexuals because of the restaurant's "concept of traditional American values."

The company subsequently decided that enforcement of the policy would be left to individual restaurants.

▼▼▼ DATELINE: LOUISIANA

State offering eight new AIDS drugs as part of new program

BATON ROUGE, La., Sunday, Jan. 5 (AP)—Eight new drugs have been made available to people with the AIDS virus as part of an \$18 million program the state has set up in response to the epidemic.

The Louisiana Health Care Authority, which took control of the state's nine charity hospitals on Dec. 31, announced in a news release that it would offer the drugs through the hospitals beginning Monday.

Prices for the drugs are set according to a sliding scale, said Donna Williams, quality assurance manager for the state health department's AIDS outpatient program in New Orleans.

Previously, the state Department of Health and Hospitals offered one of the drugs, known commonly as AZT, to people infected with AIDS or the AIDS virus who have income that is less than twice the federal poverty level.

Under the new program, the health care authority has taken over responsibility for distribution of AZT and added seven other drugs to the list it is making available to people across Louisiana who have AIDS or the AIDS virus.

There is no known cure for AIDS, which destroys the immune system that protects the body from viruses and infections. The drugs to be offered include AZT and two others—Videx and Zovirax that fight the spread within the body of the virus that causes the disease, Williams said.

Another drug, Interferon Alpha, strengthens the immune system, Williams said.

The other drugs to be offered help the body fight illnesses that strike the body after it is weakened by the AIDS virus, Williams said. Three of the drugs prevent a form of pneumonia that often strikes people with AIDS, while another

fights yeast infections that occur in the mouths of people with the disease, she said.

People with AIDS need help acquiring such drugs because the federal health insurance program Medicaid provides for drugs only if the patient is checked into a hospital, said Sara Sims, executive director of Friends for Life-Capitol Area HIVIDS Services, a group that provides services to people with AIDS.

There have been 3065 cases of AIDS reported in Louisiana, and nearly 2000 of those people have died, health department data show.

A state task force estimated last January that 22,000 Louisianans were infected with the AIDS virus, although officials caution that figure is a rough estimate since there is no mandatory reporting of AIDS virus test results. More than 99 percent of people infected will eventually come down with full-blown AIDS

and die, said Mark Dal Corso, medical director of the health department's AIDS Service Program in New Orleans.

But with the help of such drugs as AZT, Dal Corso said, people who get the disease are now expected to live about 16 months, considerably longer than the approximately seven months they were expected to live in the mid-1980s.

The drugs will be available at all nine of the Louisiana Health Care Authority medical centers. The state also is moving toward the creation of outpatient clinics at four hospitals for people with AIDS, who have often had to travel across the state to a New Orleans clinic for treatment.

The clinics will be at Earl K. Long Medical Center in Baton Rouge, University Medical Center in Lafayette, LSU Shreveport and Medical Center of Louisiana at New Orleans, according to a state plan.

▼▼▼ DATELINE: TEXAS

Once-censured district judge running for Dallas appeals court

DALLAS, Friday, Jan. 3 (AP)—State District Judge Jack Hampton, censured in 1989 for a remark about homosexuals, is running for the Dallas Court of Appeals.

Hampton is unopposed in the March GOP primary for the appeals court, and

is expected to face Democrat Barbara Rosenberg in the November election.

Rosenberg was appointed to the appeals court this week by Gov. Ann Richards.

The State Commission on Judicial Conduct publicly censured Hampton for

remarks he made during a 1988 newspaper interview. In the interview, Hampton was quoted as saying he sentenced a convicted killer to 30 years in prison, partly because the killer's two victims were homosexuals.

After the censure, Hampton apolo-

gized for the remark.

Also after the censure, Hampton was re-elected to the state district court in 1990.

The 13-member appeals court hears cases from a seven-county area. Six seats are up for election.

THE NEW VOICE

Your Good Fortune

Friday, Jan. 10
thru Thursday,
Jan. 16, 1992

Aries: You're into solving the unknown this week—and don't be too surprised if you find out that the truth is not even close to what you had in mind. Then you've always liked surprises.

Taurus: Now's the time for you to concentrate on your wardrobe. Get rid of the old, and buy something new and

tastefully sensational. And once you've changed into your new look, get ready for the changes in your life, which may be thrown a bit off balance, but what fun!

Gemini: Take advantage of the sun this week and just watch people react to you. All you have to do is *get out and be seen!* What you're looking for will come to you. Relax and enjoy.

Cancer: Get over that spell of moodiness that's gripped you lately and become once again the charming host that you are. Even if you have to dig into the kitty, light those candles and entertain someone special. Your romantic fantasies can become realities.

Leo: This is a week to spend around the house with close friends. Try a nice dinner one night this week. Also start concentrating on what you really want in the future.

Virgo: Cash in. Slow down. You're pushing too hard and too fast. You'll finally get what you want, but it might take just a little more time than you had planned.

Libra: Although you are caught up in the erotic side of your nature, don't forget those dreams you've always cherished. With the right timing, you might be closer to your goals than you think.

Scorpio: This weather is making you an impossible dreamer, but you, above anyone, know that dreams can come true. Concentrate on that special star this week. It might not be *that* out of reach. Go for it!

Sagittarius: Okay, it's time to dance till you're wringing wet or go into a private room and scream—or make wild love—anything to get control of this excess energy you've been feeling. You're popping with vitality and people are attracted to you like a magnet. Enjoy.

Capricorn: Of course, you can settle down, but not this week. Jump in that hot tub with someone hot and forget about tomorrow. You're so controlled most of the time that a little wildness will be good for you. And don't worry about your partner having stars in his eyes. They're there, or he wouldn't be with you.

Aquarius: Moody? Why? Get out and get over it. Surround yourself with people this week and forget about staying at home. Put your phone on answering and have a marvelous time. The season's right for you to meet some new and interesting people.

Pisces: This may be one of those weeks when you will have another fit of genius. Capitalize on it! Put those wild ideas into action and you'll have new friends and possibly more coins to throw around in that lavish way you have. Stop analyzing the world and seduce it instead.

THE NEW VOICE personals

One of the **LARGEST** gay personal sections in the U.S.

Our very own! All are REAL! All are CURRENT! All are from readers of The New Voice.



► **To PLACE a Personal Ad by Phone:**

First, before you call, write out your ad. Use up to 6 words in a bold headline and up to 50 words in regular type. Then call our local number in your city: Austin 478-4245 Houston 529-8490
New Orleans 524-3279 San Antonio 226-1833 Elsewhere (713) 529-8490
After you've read your ad to us, and we prepare it to go into print, we will give you an 800 toll-free telephone number, your personal 5-digit ad number and your secret 4-letter PIN. Call the 800 number using a touch-tone phone and follow the verbal instructions to record, in your actual voice, your ad. (Somewhere in your verbal ad, mention what city you live in.)
Cost: \$19 for up to a year. We will mail you a bill.
You can change your ad as often as desired during the year. You must call us every 4 weeks to keep the ad running.

► **To PLACE a Personal Ad by Mail:**

Write out your ad using up to 6 words in a bold headline and up to 50 words in regular type. Then, mail it with your check for \$19 to New Voice Personals, 408 Avondale, Houston, TX 77006.
We will mail back to you an 800 toll-free telephone number, your personal 5-digit ad number and your secret 4-letter PIN. Call the 800 number and follow the verbal instructions to record, in your actual voice, your ad.
You can change your ad as often as desired during the year. But you must call us or mail us a note every 4 weeks to keep the ad running.

► **To RESPOND to a Personal Ad by Phone:**

Call 1-900-454-4242. Listen to the verbal instructions and enter access code 25. A charge of \$1.49 per minute will appear on your telephone bill from "Micro Voice."
You can respond verbally, leaving your name and phone number, to as many personal advertisers as you wish. You can also browse through all the personal advertisers until you hear someone that interests you. As the individual advertisers periodically check their incoming verbal mailboxes, they will retrieve your response. Additionally, you can, if desired, listen to verbal ads placed through other gay newspapers in major U.S. cities. This can be valuable if you're planning a trip.

► **To RESPOND to a Personal Ad by Mail:**

Mail each response separately to New Voice Personals, 408 Avondale, Houston, TX 77006. Write the 5-digit ad number on the outside of the envelope. Your response will be forwarded unopened to the advertiser. (Do not

mail multiple responses in a single envelope.)

► **To RECEIVE Responses to Your Personal Ad:**

We will forward to you daily, unopened, at no charge, all responses received by mail.

To see if you have any verbal messages waiting to be retrieved, call the 800 toll-free number we gave you when you placed your ad. Follow the verbal instructions. If the recording there says you have verbal responses waiting, have your 5-digit code and secret 4-digit PIN handy and call 1-900-454-4242 to retrieve your verbal responses. A charge of \$1.49 per minute will appear on your telephone bill from "Micro Voice."

► **RULES of Etiquette:**

All personal ads, and all responses to personal ads, should be in good taste. An advertiser may not describe sexual activity or anatomy. All advertising should be "positive." That is, describing only those people or traits desired. (People or traits not desired must not be listed.)

► **Additional REQUIREMENT:**

As of Sept. 1, 1991, to take advantage of this \$19-per-year extraordinary offer, we require that you participate in the "live voice" aspect of our Voice Phone Personals by calling a special 1-800 number we will give you at the time you place your ad. There, by following the verbal instructions, you will record, in your own actual voice, your personal ad.

If you do NOT participate in this "live voice" aspect of our Voice Phone Personals, you will not be eligible for the \$19 per year unlimited rate but may instead purchase a personal ad at our regular rate of 40 cents per word per week.

Gay and Lesbian Catholics & Friends
Mass each Saturday 7:30pm
1505 Nevada (near Commonwealth)
(Todos bien venidos)
528-0111
B.B.F. 988-8217

Kingdom Community Church
COME EXPLORE HIS KINGDOM
Sunday Worship Service 11am
614 E. 19th Houston 862-7533
748-6251

Houston Mission Church
One In The Bond Of Love
1505 Nevada AT COMMONWEALTH 529-8225
Worship Services Sunday 10:30am
Rev. Robert Carter

Alethela Praise & Worship Center
Service Times Sunday 11am, Thursday 7:30pm
501 East 18th, Houston, TX 77008
(713) 880-9234
Chris Chiles, pastor

Leonard Earl Johnson
Photography World Wide
In Time for Mardi Gras
"Bourbon Street, #13"
14"x11" black & white poster from world famous Bourbon Street Series. This disdainful youth draped against New Orleans' lowered shutters graced by "New Orleans" in the left corner image title "Bourbon Street, #13" and the artist's name at the bottom for only \$20.
Mail order to: Leonard Earl Johnson, PO Box 72002, New Orleans, LA 70172
Print clearly. Quantity ordered () Amount enclosed (\$)
Name _____
Address _____
City, state, zip _____

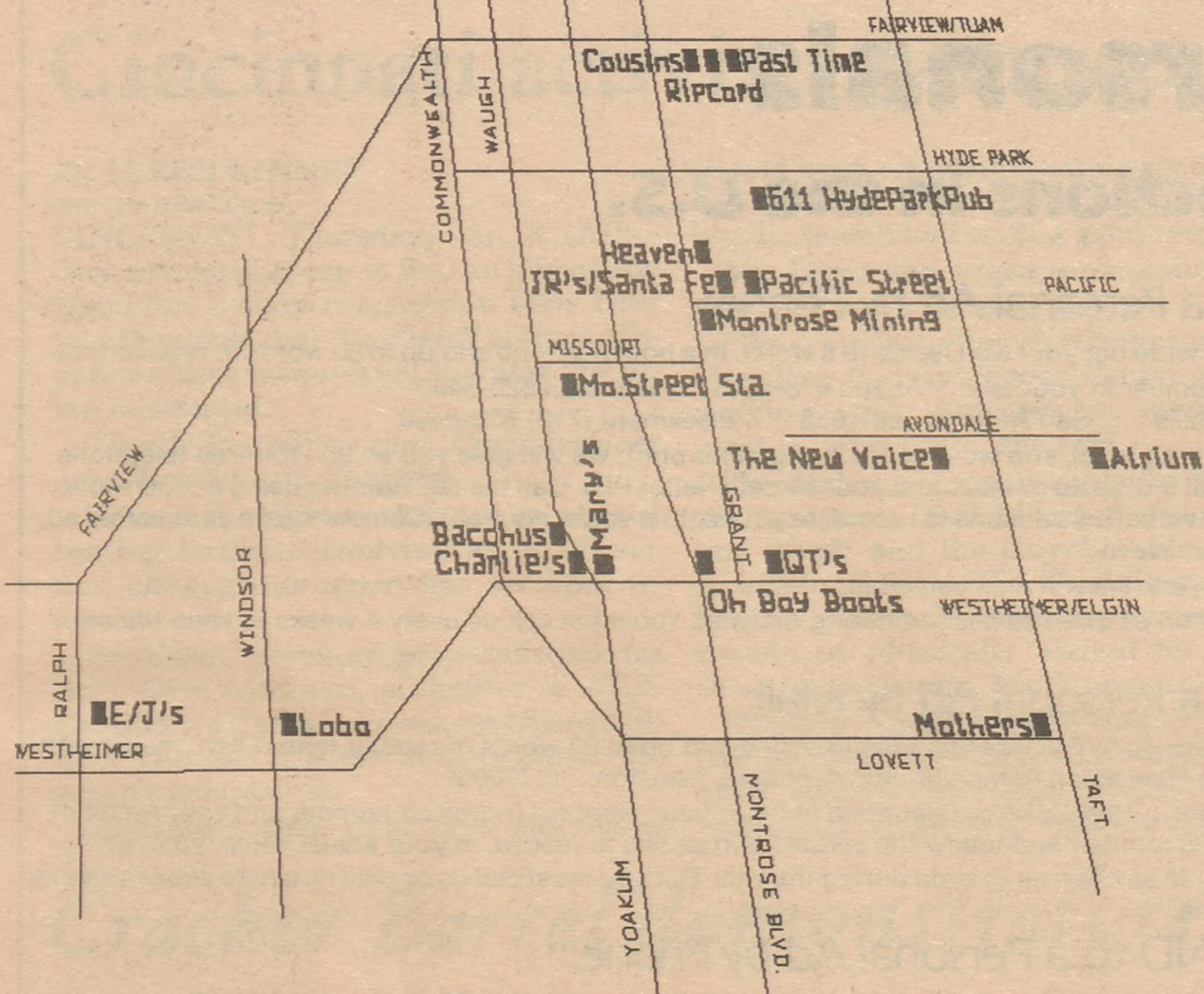
PRIVATE AND DIRECT CREMATION \$500
Private Memorial Services Available
Design Your Own Services at
CRISTO-REY FUNERAL HOME
HOUSTON (713) 237-1777

METROPOLITAN COMMUNITY CHURCH OF THE RESURRECTION
Rev. Elder John Gill, Pastor
Ms. Carolyn Mobley, Asst. to the Pastor
1919 Decatur, 861-9149
OFF WASHINGTON & SILVER
Fri., Jan. 10, 6pm Couple's Club
Sun., Jan. 12, 10:45am & 7:15pm
Spiritual Renewal with Rev. Grant Ford
Worship Services: Sunday, 10:45am & 7:15pm; Wednesday: 6:45pm

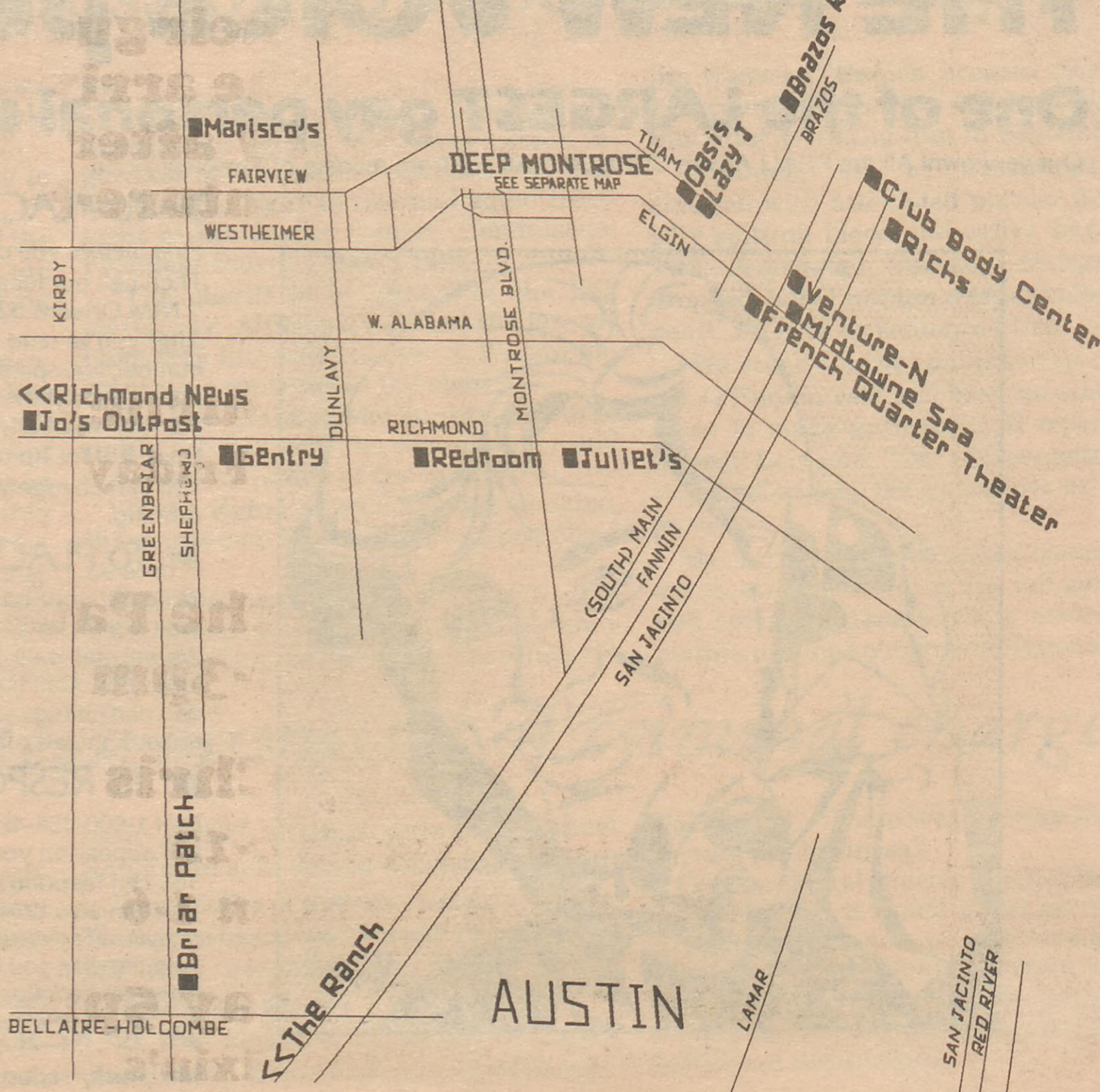
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Texas Income Tax Service
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P.O. Box 66588 • Houston, TX 77266

DRAGO'S FLORIST
CITY WIDE—WORLD WIDE
MONTROSE MEDICAL CENTER DOWNTOWN
468-7717
1825 Bingle Road

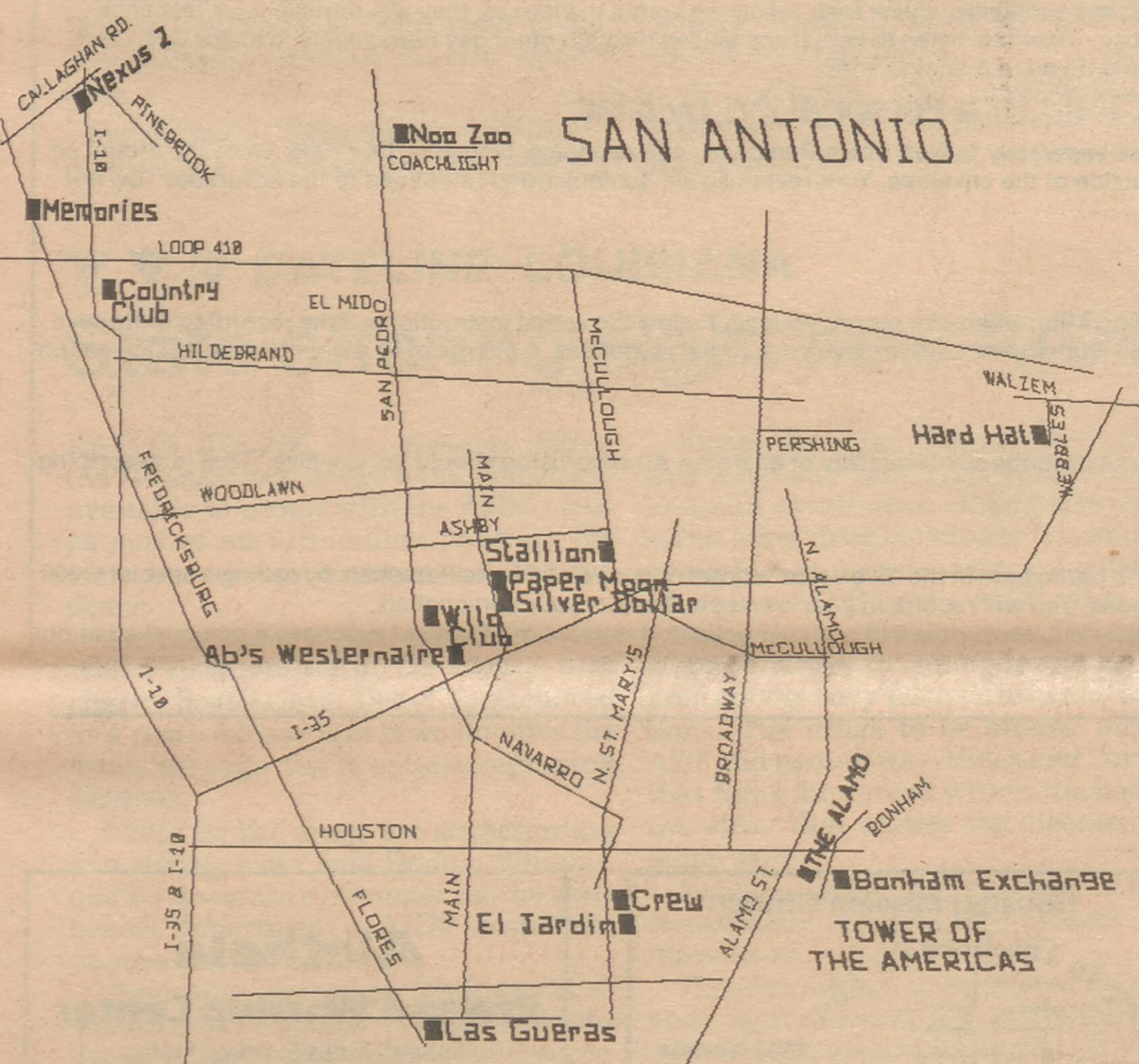
HOUSTON'S DEEP MONTROSE



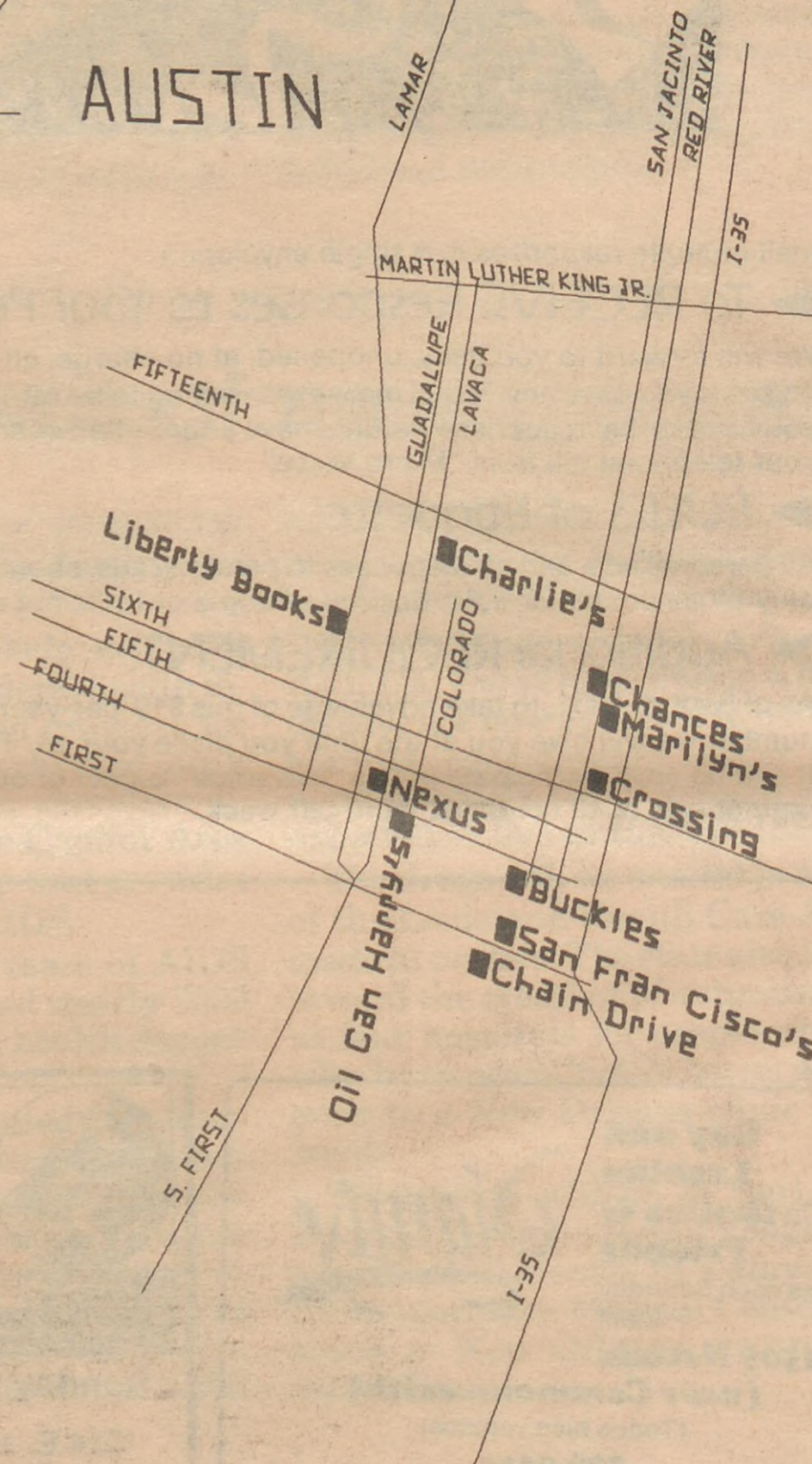
NEAR SOUTHWEST HOUSTON



SAN ANTONIO

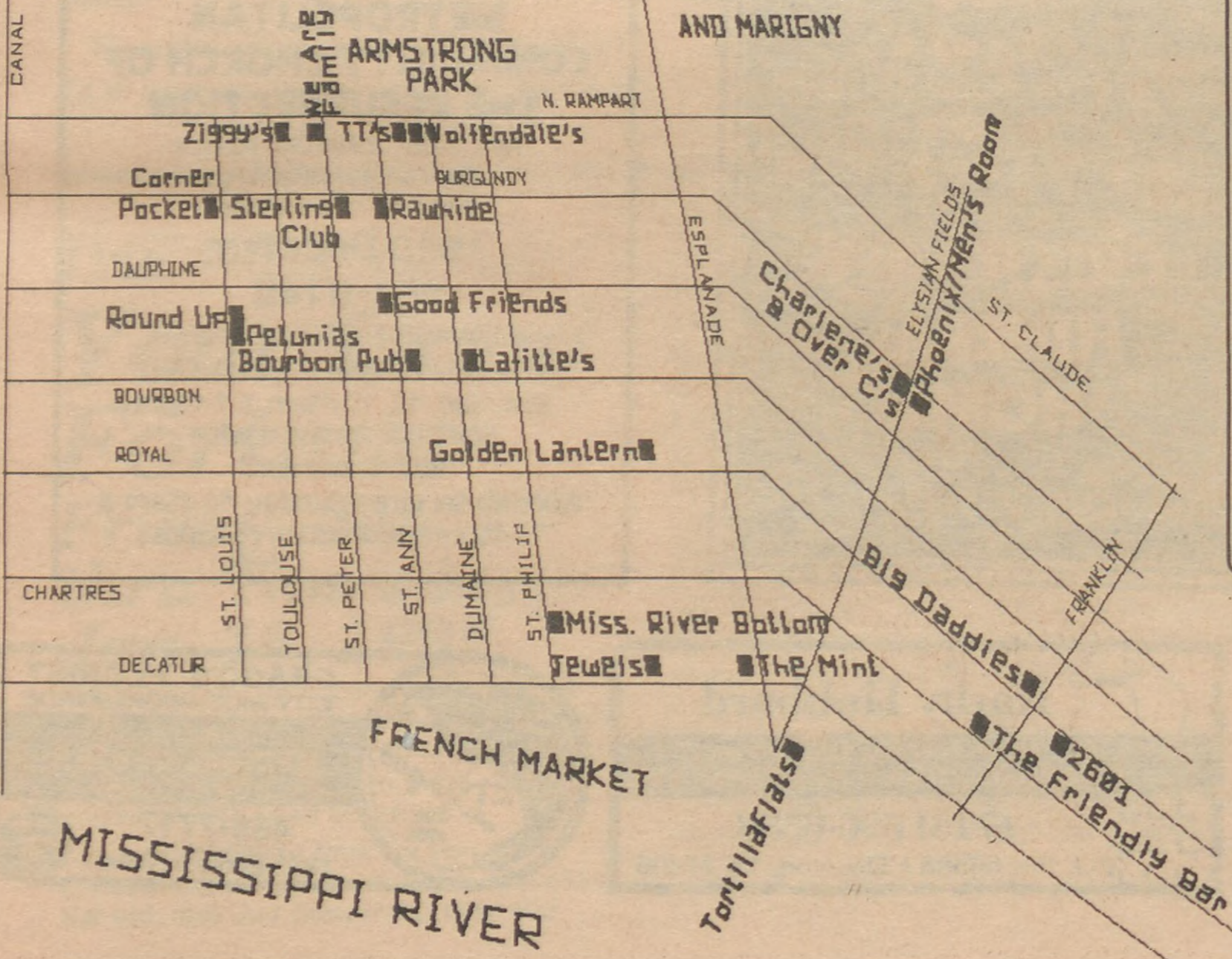


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NEW ORLEANS FRENCH QUARTER
 Fully Furnished Condo
 w/pool, sleeps 4.
 Minutes to all bars & tourist attractions
 (504) 529-4663

NEW ORLEANS' FRENCH QUARTER AND MARIGNY

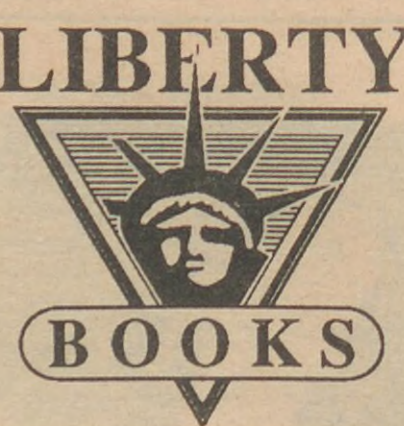




Californian Mexican Soul Food

Tuesdays-Saturdays 11:30am-10pm
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A quality bookstore for lesbians & gay men

"If you haven't discovered lesbian & gay literature & culture, you're missing the best part..."

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 in Castle Hill Plaza behind Sound Warehouse
 Austin, TX 78703
 512 495 9737
 Mail order desk
 800 828 1279

Sunday, Jan 12, 7pm till ?
HMBL members and their guests—
join us to celebrate the arrival of
the 1st Place Trophy after the
banquet at the Venture-N

WEEKLY EVENTS:

Slop Shot Pool Tourney
 Monday, Wednesday, Friday
 11:30am

Burgers & BBQ on the Patio
 Thursdays noon-3pm

Boot Black by Chris
 Friday Nights 6-12
 Sunday Afternoon 1-6

Steak Night Sunday 5pm
 Steak and all the Fixin's

HAPPY HOURS
 Morning:
 7am-Noon
 Afternoon: 5-9pm

POOL TOURNAMENTS
11:30AM
 MONDAYS
 WEDNESDAYS, FRIDAYS

Food
 Tuesdays Burgers
 Thursdays
 Bar-b-que

AFTER HOURS
 Friday & Saturday
 2am-? with coffee,
 juices, sodas



COMMERCIAL MEMBER



1022 WESTHEIMER HOUSTON 527-9669

WESTHEIMER



CLUB BODY CENTER

HOUSTON

2205 FANNIN • (713) 659-4998

1/2 Price Specials

Noon till Midnight
 Monday-Tuesday-Thursday
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January Tan Special

1/2 Price Tanning Sessions
 \$3 for 30 minutes
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Houston's #1 Gay Fitness Center
 24 hours a day — 365 days a year





JULIET'S PLACE

903
Richmond
Houston
528-9110

Jan. 10, 10pm
Frank Pierce,
Candidate for
Emperor VIII, RSICSS,
Sponsors A Benefit for
Bering Care Center

with Guests Including:
Pitty Pat Magnolia Sugarbaker,
Papa Bear, Regina Dane, Jerry
Morin, Toni (The Bartender)
Wessel, Diane Williams (Queer
Nation) & Many More Surprises!



DUNLAVY
WESTHEIMER
RALPH ST.
E.J.'s
MANDELL

2517 Ralph at Westheimer 527-9071

THURSDAY

New in '92, 10:30pm
Brittany Paige & Co.
Welcoming Back—Santana
with Romana Simms & Surprise Guest

FRIDAY

All Male Revue 11pm
Rainbo De Klown, MC
with Steven G. "Dallas," Dave
"Midnight," Nester & Mr. E.J.'s BJ
Williams

SATURDAY

Imperial Court of the
Single Star
PRESENTS
"WASSIES"
(Past Monarchs of Houston)
Including Edie Mae Sugarbaker,
Janee Johnson and Jerisa
Showtime 10:30pm

SUNDAY

Texas Renegade Along with Pitty Pat
Magnolia Sugarbaker, Candidate for
Empress VIII, & Frank Pierce, Candidate
for Emperor VIII of the RSICSS, Present
the 1st Annual
Gumbo Cookoff
Auction & Show

Awards for 1st and 2nd Places
Gumbo 5pm, Auction 7pm, Benefiting
Bering Care Center

TUESDAY

Talent Night with
Giovanni
10:30pm. Prizes & Show Booking
CUED TAPES OR CDS ONLY

- Happy Hour 7am-9pm weekdays
- \$1.50 Well 4-7pm Saturday
- \$1.50 Vodka 7am-6pm
- Mug Club 7am-10pm
-



COMMERCIAL MEMBER



Attention All Cowboys!
Sunday, Jan. 12,
7pm

Mr. BRB 92 Contest

See Any Bartender for An Application

Every Monday—Happy Hour
All Day, All Night

Every Tuesday—Dance
Lessons 10pm

Every Thursday—Beginner
Dance Lessons 7:30pm.

Hamburger Nite 6-9, \$1.50

Longnecks All Day, All Night

Every Sunday—Steak Nite 5-9

Scoot in and Check Out Our
Daily Blue Light Specials

COMING UP:

Jan. 24: Little Joe's Birthday,
Little Bit of Texas

Jan. 25: David Chapman's
Birthday

2400 Brazos,

Get Hot or Get
Out



528-9192

Full Moon



MADNESS

SUNDAY, JANUARY 19TH

92¢ Frozen Margaritas

Come party with the men at the Mine and get lucky with 92¢ Frozen Margaritas all day/all night.

Plus Saturday, January 25th
TORN LEVI PARTY
\$2.00 Longnecks . . . All Night Long.



MONTROSE



MINING COMPANY

805 Pacific • Houston

WEDNESDAYS . . . Come join
THE BEAR CLUB FOR MEN
\$1.75 Well Drinks and Longnecks



TANDI ANDREWS



SHADY LADY



Shady Lady
Miss Texas
at Large 1990

KON TIKI

315 Tremont • (409) 763-6264

and

Garza Productions

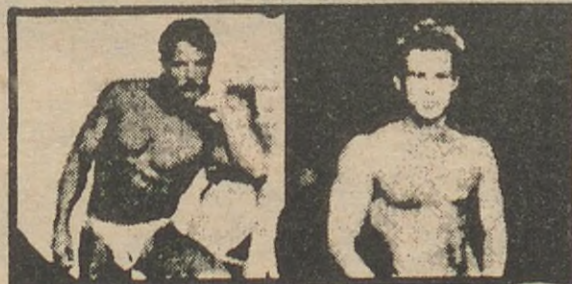
presents

FRIDAY

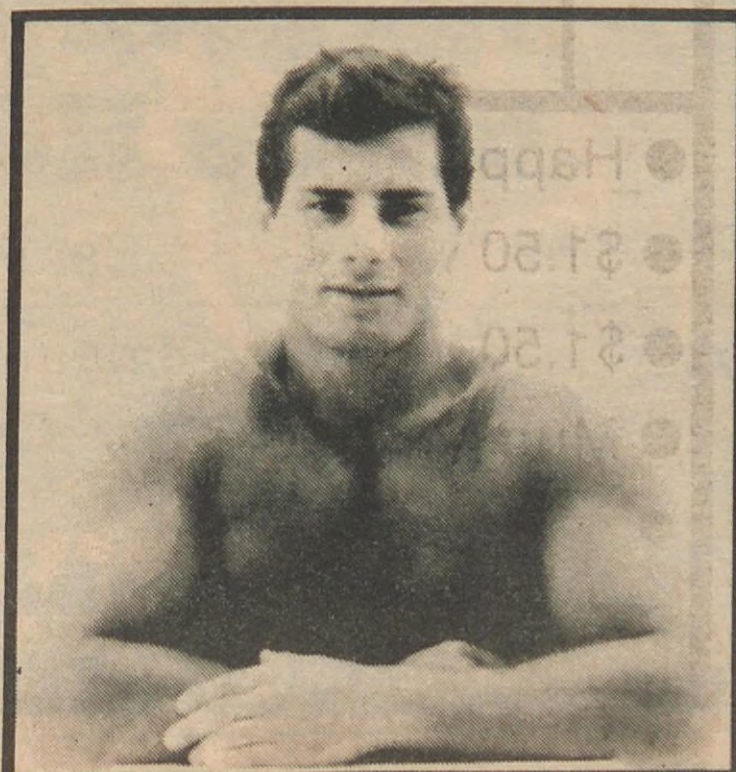
and

SATURDAY

A Spectacular Extravaganza



Friday
SATURDAY
MUSCLES
IN
ACTION



315 TREMONT
(409) 763-6264
GALVESTON



WELCOME AWARDS BANQUET

SUNDAY, JAN. 12,
7PM

THE NEW MINISTER MIKE SHOW

THE PREMIERE SHOWING

COMING UP:

JAN. 17-18-19: NLA:H
ANNIVERSARY WEEKEND
JAN. 25: TCC ANNUAL
MEETING

YEA! PARTY!

VENTURE-N-HOUSTON



HOME OF LANCERS M.C., TEXAS RIDERS,
NATIONAL LEATHER ASSOCIATION
HOUSTON, AND THE WOLF PACK

SAN ANTONIO

WELCOMES YOU



2 for 1
Good Monday-Thursday
after 2 p.m.
Buy One Dinner, Get the Next One
of Equal or Lesser Value
FREE!
Entree only. 15% gratuity will be added.

Authentic Mexican Cuisine
1014 South Alamo, 223-1806
In the heart of downtown,
4 blocks south of the Hilton Hotel
New Hors d'oeuvres menu 10-2
Wed.-Sat.;
Open til 2am Wed.-Sat.

**\$1.50 well drinks,
wine and margaritas
Free Buffets Fridays
4-7pm**



Mary's Maid Service
General Housekeeping
Honest & Dependable!

NEW SERVICE SPECIAL
\$35.00
for 3 bed, 2 bath
Call NOW, (512) 626-1416
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VAC
DUST
BATH RMs
MOP &
WAX
KITCHEN
LAUNDRY

The Wild & Wicked Sunday Show

Amanda



Tandi



Obsession



Miss Gay Dallas

And Special Local Talent Paige Adamms
**Liquor Rush!!! \$5 One Time Buy in
25¢ Well 8-11pm**

**Tonight, Thursday, Jan. 9th
Tandi's Talent Night Finals**
FOR NOVEMBER AND DECEMBER
\$1.75 Well, 75¢ Draft All Night
Special Guest Erica Horton

**Saturday, Jan. 18th
The First Ever
Pajamas Party!**
Wear Your Favorite Jammies & Join Us
On Our Welcome to the New Year!
Male Dancers & 75¢ Draft All
Night, \$2 Frozen Kazees




Memories

**6402 Callaghan Rd.
San Antonio, TX
(512) 340-1241**

**FRIDAYS and SATURDAYS
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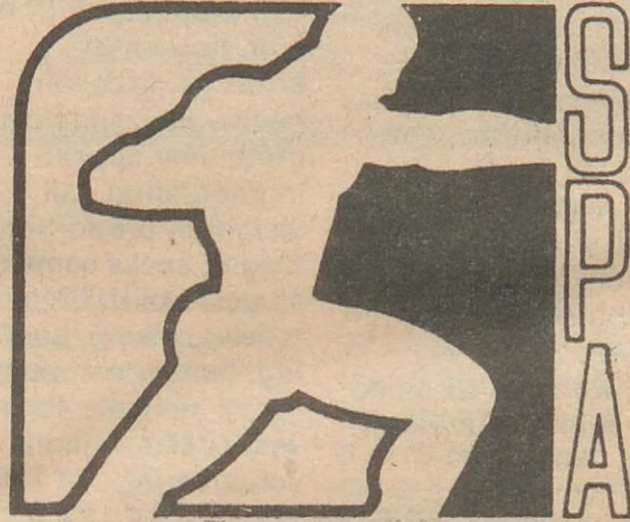
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SUNDAY STEAK-N-TATER WITH SALAD BAR CHOICE MEAT ON THE PATIO AT 5:00
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O	10:30	U	6:30
N		E	
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Houston RENTALS 1440 TOWNHOMES & CONDOS

Free locating service, Apartments, Homes & Townhomes. Call Rick 523-0915 - Everitt-Eckmann & Associates.

Houston RENTALS 1460 ROOM-MATES WANTED

Houston - Channelview - Share House. Rent negotiable for Handyman, 30-45 Country Boy smoker, no booze or drugs. - 457-1700

I need a roommate to share 3brdm, 2 bath home in Montrose. \$220.00 + 1/2 utilities. Smokers ok, absolutely no drugs. 522-2478.

Houston SERVICES 2124 COUNSELING

Unhappy with the Gay Life? CALL CCR - 465-7045

Houston SERVICES 2140 LAWN CARE, LANDSCAPING

BETTER LAWNS & GARDENS

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Houston SERVICES 2145 MASSAGE (LICENSED)

Ads in this category (massage) are intended to be from licensed masseurs & masseuses. Advertisers: please include your license number in the ad

In-Home Therapeutic Massage - Michael (MT#3876) 439-1825

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Houston SERVICES 2189.4 REFINISHING & RESTORATIONS

Traveling to Sacramento Calif. need Driving Companion & Share Gas. References 527-9071 - Victor

Houston THE PERSONALS 2220 (INDIVIDUAL) PERSONALS

ATTRACTIVE HEAVY HAIR BEAR GWM

Very young acting & appearing 49 stable, health prof, HIV-, seeks GWM 30+ build & looks not important, enjoys good music singing dancing movies & quiet times Biggest Liability is I am too honest. Looking for friendship or possible Lifemate. Ad 25375

All ads in this category should be strictly individual to individual. No commercial offerings. Nothing for sale. No promotions.

Attractive, college educated 29-yr old male, 5'9, 145lbs, seeking monogamy friendship with someone who is quiet, family-oriented & down to earth. I'm looking for a man who is reasonably attractive & slender. My interests are museum, theater, movies, camping & dining out. I'm open trying new things in life. Ad 25349

Attractive, tall, professional, 40 GWF seeks non-stereotypical, single, responsible, caring woman. I like a little taste of everything (except drugs, alcohol or cigarettes), from movies to sports, music, theater, books, travel, even kids. I believe in loyalty & love & am ready & looking for a monogamous lifetime relationship. Ad 25353.

Creative Pisces, attractive GWM, 5'11", 165 lbs., forty-something, in good shape, mentally & physically. My interests run the gamut. Fantasy/security, independence/support, laughter/ tears. Desires attractive GWM, 28-45, mature, but capable of boyish charm, to explore & cherish the wonders of living & loving. Ad 25093

For the best in laid-back, hassle-free French service, contact this 6'1", 173#, br/ br, gdlkg, 39 y.o. GWM. Ad 25133

GM couple, early 30s, for hot & wild safe sex 3 ways. Looking for GM 18 to early 30s, masculine looks & manners, weight in proportion to height. Ad 25109

GWF, Sensuous caring person, romantic times like going to the beach, movies & concerts. No role playing necessary Ad 25374

GWM, 35, 6'1, 165#, HIV+, Brn/Blu, moustache, nice looking, good sense of humor, non-smoker/ drinker. Interests include; friends, singing, reading, sci-fi, C & W dancing, romance. Desire meeting attractive, stable, non-smoking GWM, 30-40, trim, masculine guy who may share my interests, but who also has his own interests to share with me. Ad 25981

GWM, early 60's look early 50's, 160, 5'10, thinning light br hair, hazel eyes, professional, discreet loves outdoors, travel, music, & movies. HIV-, non-smoker, non druggie, light drinker. Love cuddling, some cooking. Tired of bar scenes. Looking for GWM or GHM approx 40, HIV- of small frame. Must have stable work & honesty. Let's get together, talk & see what comes of it. Ad 25354

GWM, soft romantic looking for a considerate sensitive individual who is a good communicator, able to listen & understand. Aware of

obstacles in life & able to give life a challenge to make a difference with life partner. Looking for friendship, possible relationship with person 25-35. I am a 29 year old Latin with well proportioned body, HIV pos., & physically attractive. Answer with phone #. Ad 25961

Hot & Handsome 43yr GWM professional HIV-, 5'7 143lbs seeks GWM or GHM 26-36. I do not drink, smoke or do drugs. Social drinker or smoker ok. My interests are Theater, movies, travel & outdoor activities. Lets explore our wild side together. Ad 25888

Moody Bitch seeks kind considerate guy of love/ hate relationship. GWM 26, 6' 160lb, attractive professional. I like dancing, working, sleeping late on Saturdays & making love on the beach. Looking for someone to spend time with. Ad 25370

Professional GWM, 40, 6', 150 lb., brn, grn, good looking, HIV-, stable, educated, non-smoker, no drugs, affectionate, plays safe. Likes massage, leather, denim, uniforms, cowboys, tall boots, boot play. Also likes movies, travel, working out, being active. Seeks good looking slim or muscular man, 30-55, any race, with similar adjectives & interests. Reply to Ad 25081

Warm, sensitive, attractive, professional, stable GWM seeks similar qualities in a 25-40 year old man. I'm 34, 6'2 175lb brown, green health HIV+ Ad 25371

2 FOR 1 SPECIAL
 Rural GWM couple, HIV neg., mid 30's, looking for safe GWM bottom for fun in the country. Must be masculine, mature, energetic & stable, between the ages of 21 & 40. Call now, don't let this opportunity slip by. Ad 25967

ARE YOU A STUD?

Aggressive, masculine, Bruce Willis/ Tony Danza type? 20-30 year old? Who would like to meet me, a good looking blue eyed 25 year old with boyish charm, who's happy, fun, energetic, honest, open minded & level headed, sexy, sensual & a great kisser. Into living the moment & keeping things light & spontaneous. Ad 25366

ASIAN MALE

21, HIV neg., college student, looking for males for friendships & possible relationship. Must be fun loving, HIV neg. Ad 25969

ATTENTION ADVERTISERS

A Reminder that your ad must be "positive." That is, you should only describe the traits that a potential partner might have that you desire. There is no need to describe the type of people you do NOT want to meet. We try to catch this when you place an ad, but sometimes miss. In that case, we'll edit your ad at the time it is typeset. Thank you

ATTENTION ADVERTISERS

Thank you for the large number of personal ads. Many of you have taken us up on our \$19/year special. However, you must call us every 4 weeks to keep your ad running. (There is no charge.) We must do this to keep the personals accurate & timely. Thank you

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Have you recorded your personal ad? There's NO CHARGE to

get your personal ad recorded in your actual voice. Call The New Voice at 529-8490 & get your password. Even if you don't record your personal, you may still have verbal responses waiting to be retrieved. But you'll need your 4-digit password to get them

ATTRAC. GWM 21 SEEKS GWM 30-45 FOR TRUE RELATIONSHIP

5'8 HIV- BR/ BR Nice Slim Build. I am shy sincere Sensitive & Drug & Alcohol free. I am looking for a very, very special monogamous relationship. Love movies long talks kissing & cuddling. If you would be interested in meeting an honest & affectionate person that is full of love to give to the right person then please tell me about yourself. Ad 25372

ATTRACTIVE, EDUCATED, CLEAN CUT, PROFESSIONAL,

well-endowed, outgoing, great sense of humor, non-smoker/drugs, excellent health, HIV-negative, masculine appearing/sounding, tall, weight in proportion to height, seeks same (20-45 years old). Enjoy movies, hiking, cooking, computers, photography, animals, long walks/talks, children, volunteering. Ad 25011

BEAUMONT

Professional GWM, 38, 5'9, 165, masculine, good body, drug & tobacco free, HIV-, wants to meet similar MEN 30-40 who are intelligent, masculine, well-built, & healthy for friendship & possible relationship. My interests include classical music, working out, cooking, travel, outdoor activities. Ad 25066

BI/ BM SEEKS TV

BiBM 31, seeks versatile TV or TS 20-35 for midnight rendezvous or exciting nooner in cheap motels. Spandex or a mini a real turn on, short hair a plus. Send a hot descriptive note. No transactions involved. Ad 25932

BIG DADDY SEEKS DADDY'S BOY

To qualify, you must be trim, strong, determined to please, non-smoker/drinker & have a stable job & pleasant personality. I prefer blonde to med. brown hair. I am big, tall, 40, bearded & I require domestic service as well. Ad 25928

BIG STUD WANTED

GWM, 29, 5'11, 210#, bodybuilder. Workout intensely 5-6 times a week. I'm also very masculine, college educated, & ambitious & enjoy reading, sports, conversation & trying new things. Looking for similar type male who enjoys body building, etc., f or friendship, workouts, plus possibly more! Seek ages 21 - 45. Non-smokers please. Ad 25356


CHRISTIAN

GWM, 32 seeks stable same or older, good looking? Don't remember when I tied a bone around my neck to get the dog to play with me. Well equipped? Compared to what? Happy, self-supporting, enjoy theater, church, dinner in or out, free of smoke, drugs, alcohol. No pictures. I need more than a face to talk to. Ad 25085

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DATE
26 yrs. Want a friendship not a cage. Enjoy sports, C&W dancing, quiet evenings, kids & camping. Are you 23-29 with same interests as mine. Answer this if you want to feel needed. We'll treat each other like we want to be treated. Ad 25988

GWM, 32, 6'5, 285
mostly bottom, but can be versatile. Enjoy camping, canoeing, politics, movies, theater. Non-smoker, occasional glass of wine. Know what & who I am - hope you do too. Looking for friendship/companionship - worry about the rest later. If this sounds interesting, let's have lunch/ dinner & see where things go. Ad 25919

GWM, 36
185, brown (salt & pepper) hair, brown eyes, mustache, med built. Fun-loving romantic who enjoys dancing (c/w to disco), all music, jogging, parks, movies, cooking & cuddling in front of TV. An aggressive bottom partial to Hispanics but won't overlook anyone. Will discuss anything from dating to mating. Let's see what happens. Ad 25136

GWM, 40, 5'9, 145, br/ br
slim but very firm. Big mustache, big heart, take charge, semi-dominant attitude helpful! Be drug & disease free Ad 25088

GHM, 32, 5'6, 125#, SELF-MOTIVATED PROFESSIONAL
brn hair/ eyes, smooth, athletic, cute, boyish looks, masculine, intelligent, witty & upbeat just fun to be around. I enjoy working out, swimming, tennis, bicycling, the fine arts & specifically traveling. Seeking GWM, 25-40, masculine, slim/ muscular build, intelligent with good sense of humor & superb human quality for monogamous relationship. Ad 25360

HANDSOME GWM PROFESSIONAL:
42/ 5'11/ 170 lbs/ salt & pepper hair/ blue eyes/ degree/ professional/ masculine. Interests: travel, working out, collecting antiques, writing, self-improvement, dining out. Good Listener. Great conversationalist! Seeking significant relationship with good-looking GM of similar or intriguing qualities. Could this be THE one for you? Let's get together & find out! Ad 25237

HOT GM COUPLE
GWM couple, early & mid 30s, would like to meet other couples & singles for hot, safe fun. We are looking for similar men who are uninhibited & who enjoy B&D within limits. Ad 25210

GWF 5'8, NEWLY SINGLE, WANNA

HOT HUNG STUD SEEKS HORN Y HISPANICS
GWM 29 5'10 160Lbs Handsome endowed top. dark hair, hazel eyes, humorous, responsible, professional, sincere, masculine Taurus. Enjoy traveling, dancing, movies & cuddling. If your Hispanic average looks & build seeking fun, hot times, friendship or possible relationship. Also seeking same in other cities for fun times. Ad 25378

I DON'T WANT TO LIVE WITH YOU
I just want to love you, share hearts, occasions & some nights. I'm middle-aged, fat & exciting. Also hard-working, honest, sane & sincere. What've you got to lose? Ad 25154

LEATHER DADDY
Professional, versatile, GWM 45, 5'11 170lbs, VIRGO, br/ bl, trimmed beard & moustache seeks new friends for new horizons in Beaumont area. Likes leather, levis, uniforms & kink. Also like movies, musical 1, travel & new scenes. Ad 25889

LET'S GET TOGETHER
For friendship & hopefully more. If you are handsome, GWM, 21-30, masculine, slim build & enjoys sports & is looking for attractive GHM, look no further. I am 30, 142, 5'8, slim build, well-equipped & smooth. So call. Cause you never know. Ad 25925

LET'S START THE NEW YEAR TOGETHER
GWM, 6', 185, former East Coast model, br/br, well educated & travelled, enjoying the "arts," non-smoker & drug-free but fun-loving. In search of a sincere, sensitive, responsible intelligent attractive & discreet GWM 25-45 for very, very special long-term relationship. Ad 25373

LOOKING FOR COUNTRY GWF-F 40-50 YEARS
who knows that pines whisper & gossip. Likes to hear the "critters" sing the sun to sleep each night. Likes to see "dawn" flirting across the sky & thru the trees. Knows that showers wash away soil & fatigue but not the love of soul-mates or nature. Ad 25804

MAN LOCKED BEHIND BARS
Lonely 37 yr. old

brown/ brown, 5'8, 185#, incarcerated man seeks correspondence with mature warm 45 plus person. Me, very athletic - ex bodybuilder. No family or friends. I will respond. Ad 25938

ME: GM, ORIENTAL ...
30's, 5'6, 180lbs, smooth, passive, grad student, down to earth, free of smoke, alcohol, drugs. Safe sex, enjoy classical music, reading, conversation. You: GWM, 40-50, educated, active, for friendship & possible relationship. Ad 25103

NEED DADDY YOU NEVER REALLY HAD?
Mature professional, very hairy body/ hairy chest, Edwardian beard, (sign of Cancer). You mentally mature, non-smoker, large equipment a plus, bottom - into safe sex. Ad 25916

NO MORE LONELY NIGHTS
GWM, 19, br/green, 6', 175, currently a model in Page Parkes. Hobbies include reading, working out & collecting music. Looking for GWM 21-28, masculine. Ad 25116

NO STRINGS ATTACHED
Looking for healthy mind & body, fun loving, versatile man. You - blue/ green/ hazel eyes - prefer body hair - safe sex a must - over 21. Me - 30's, stocky Hispanic - HIV +, on occasions called handsome. Looking for butt buddy. Ad 25346

NOT MARRIED WITH CHILDREN
GWM 37, 5'6, 130 lbs br/hz Italian, mustache, nice looking, firm build, HIV pos. Raising two young teen boys alone. This dad needs companions & distractions, like to party on weekends. Into old cars, dancing & raising hell. Would like to make friends & meet others in similar situation. Ad 25362

OLD FASHIONED VALUES, NEW AGE THOUGHT
this attractive, slender, healthy, mid-50's, GWM has an abundance of affection, energy, talents & wit to share. Insist on replies from dependable, stable, happy men of any age with no alcohol, drug or weight problems. Defined tastes, sensitivity, fun loving, spiritual awareness combine to promise a rewarding friendship/ relationship. Ad 25358

COLLEGE STUDENT
Well equipped bottom seeks top, young, well-equipped dude into dildo play. Safe, hot fun. Third available. Ad 25131

CONSTRUCTION GOOD OL' BOY TYPE
Needed by GWM, 36, 5'11, 165, br/ gr. I prefer GWM/ GHM, humpy, hairy (a plus) beer belly type. A real macho man who's not afraid to show his tender side. If you're over 38 & looking for more than a casual relationship, let's talk. Looks not important. Ad 25348

COUNTRY BOY
Mid 20s, ex military, living north of the Loop, is looking for someone who isn't perfect in appearance or manner. I want a country guy who is unassuming & between 25-35. Hairy bears a plus. Am kind of a bottom but want someone versatile. Ad

25240
COUNTRY LIVING EXPERT
30 miles north of Houston, GWM HIV-, established professional, 45, 6', 170lbs, Blond, Green, interested in meeting others who enjoy music, dancing, good friends & have a sincere mature attitude toward their life. Big house, big yard, big heart, all need attention. Ad 25377

DID SANTA FORGET YOU?
This tall slender long haired toothless fairy delivers French all year round. Even with morning coffee before you go to work or afternoons. Elfs well equipped a plus. Ad 25950

DISTINGUISHED BUSINESS MAN SEEKING BOY FRIDAY
Well, even Sundays & Mondays ok, I have a very public face - you

must be extremely attractive & masculine (boy next door) 18-29. I live in Austin but have fabulous Houston home for our assignation. Ad 25804

FINALLY SETTLING DOWN
GWM, 37, 5'9, healthy HIV pos., slim, attractive, masculine, educated, traveled, sober professional, still a touch wild, sexually versatile, adventurous, leather oriented. Love outdoors, cultural pursuits, new experiences. Seeking GWM, 30's with similar qualities, also capable of passion, intimacy & affection, mature, stable & looking for a meaningful relationship. Ad 25960

FRENCH SERVICE
GWM 18-40, if you like to sit back & watch movies while being serviced, this is the ad to respond to. Looking for men who are quiet & enjoy slow, long, sensual evenings. No re-

ciprocation needed. I'm 150, 40, 6', average looking & hairy chested. Ad 25241

GBM
30, tall, professional, masculine, seeks compatible gay male (30-45) who has a good sense of humor, an adventurous spirit, versatility & the willingness to work towards a good friendship first. The rest will follow. Ad 25814

GBM'S
GWM, 46, very tall, thin, very hairy, HIV-, seeks GBM'S. You: 25-40, smooth chest, weight in 1 to height, healthy, HIV-, non-smoker, non-drug user, interested in safe fun or something more. Ad 25380.

GENEROUS ATTRACTIVE PROFESSIONAL W/M SEEKS TV
If exceptionally attractive, shapely, curvy (chubby ok if very firm) with ultra smooth body, affectionate, romantic personality (loves


French kissing, body worship). Long legs, big bust are positives. Any race especially Hispanics, own place, take charge, semi-dominant attitude helpful! Be drug & disease free Ad 25088

GHM, 32, 5'6, 125#, SELF-MOTIVATED PROFESSIONAL
brn hair/ eyes, smooth, athletic, cute, boyish looks, masculine, intelligent, witty & upbeat just fun to be around. I enjoy working out, swimming, tennis, bicycling, the fine arts & specifically traveling. Seeking GWM, 25-40, masculine, slim/ muscular build, intelligent with good sense of humor & superb human quality for monogamous relationship. Ad 25360

GHM, 6', MEDIUM BUILD
Br/Br prof. romantic at heart with many interests, seeking GM 20-35 for a special friendship or possible relationship. You should be sincere, honest, humorous & with direction in life. Communication is number 1 priority. Let's get together & see what happens. Ad 25971

GWF 5'8, NEWLY SINGLE, WANNA

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ONE IN A MILLION?
Are you the one in the million for me? If you are a quality young person, healthy, sincere, decent, not into drugs or alcohol, & would enjoy a friendship or more with a sensitive, caring,

decent middle-aged professional who loves touching, quiet times, eating out, movies & other fun times, & you would enjoy spending quality time with a quality mature person, you may be the one in a million. Ad 25105

POSITIVELY ABSOLUTELY POSITIVE ABOUT BEING POSITIVE
GWM HIV+, 38, 6'1, 185, brown/ hazel. Looking for GWM with warm heart for friendship & help with fighting the

wicked witch. Prefer tall (6'4 +) muscular, heavy (220 +) with big heart from the Victoria, Bay City, Houston area. Will certainly consider all. Ad 25943

I WANT YOU!

CALL NOW! Try Both Numbers!

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TALK LIVE! 1-800-766-0123

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PROFESSIONAL MAN

GWM, would like to meet an attractive black male or transvestite, under 34. Have private home in Montrose area. Looking for live-in companion. I'm a bottom looking for top. Ad 25361

SEEKING GF's

2 GWF, early 20s, very attractive, wanting to meet other gay females. We like dining out, movies, concerts, clubs & the arts. If you want to meet & go out sometime, Ad 25149

SEEKING KINKY, ADVENTUROUS MEN

Thin is okay if well-defined. Big is okay if muscular. Large endowment & tallness are pluses but not required. Attitude is important; race is not. Me: GWM, 42, 5'9, 178, hairy, professional, very assertive, outwardly conservative. I will send photo, phone number. Ad 25134

SERIOUS LOVING CHRISTIAN MAN SEEKING SAME

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nonsmoker Drug-free GWM/ GHM must be 35 or younger, HIV-, good looking & weight proportionate to height for friendship romance & possible relationship. Ad 25376

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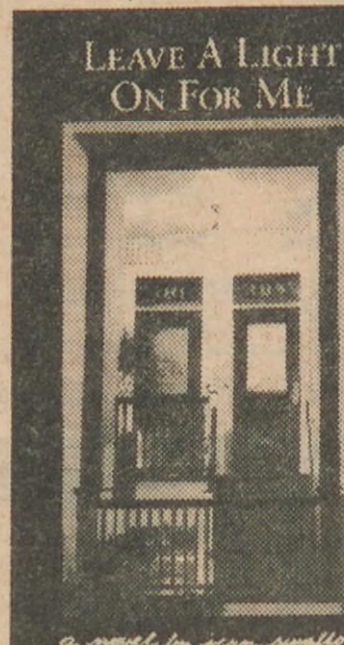
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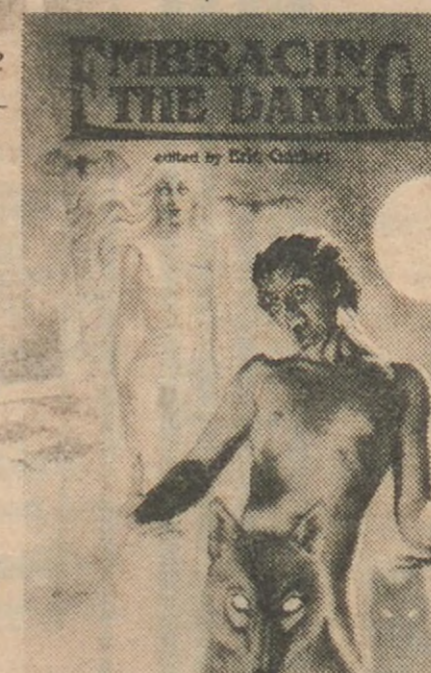
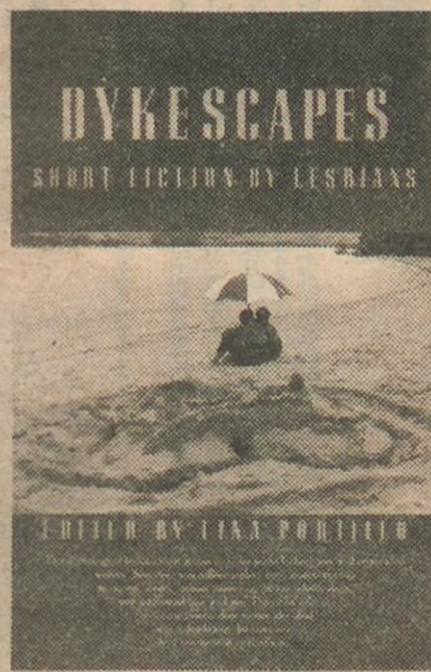


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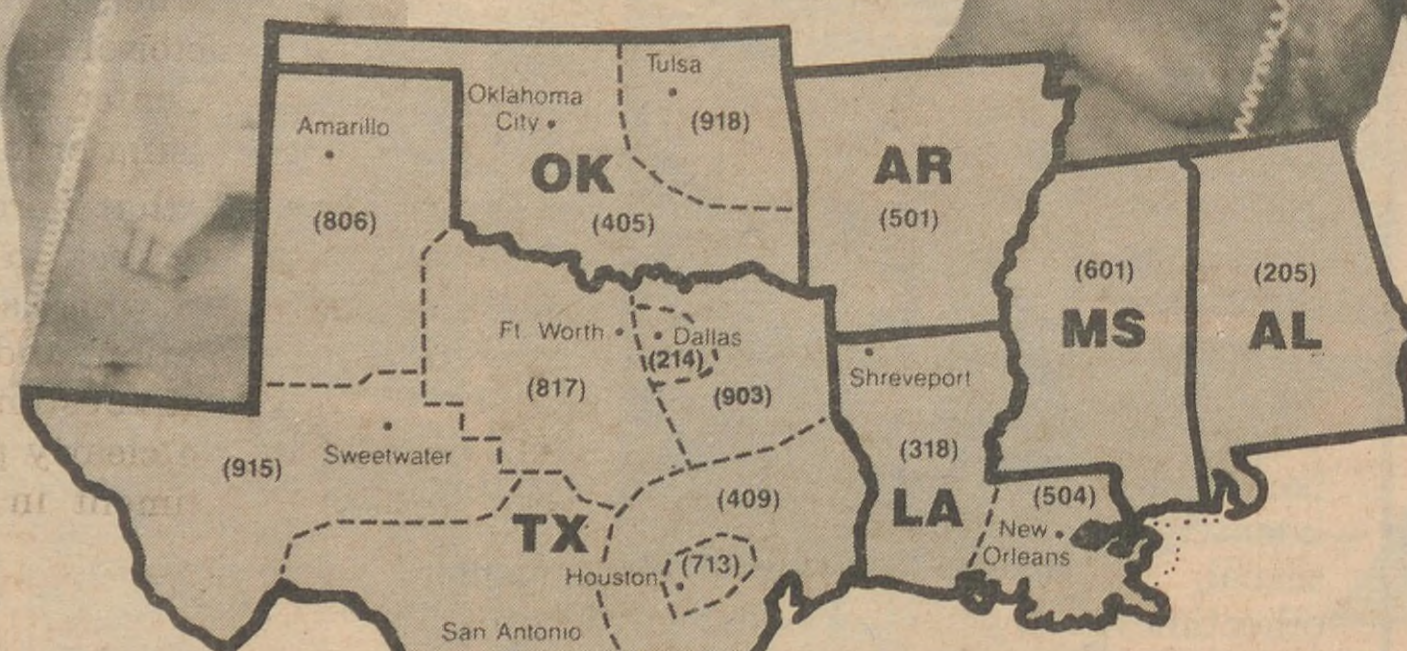
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▼ ▼ ▼ DATELINE: GAY AMERICA

AZT, ddC combination better than either drug alone, study concludes

By A.J. HOSTETLER

FOR THE NEW VOICE

PHILADELPHIA, Tuesday, Dec. 31 (AP)—A combination of the drugs AZT and ddC offers new hope against AIDS, but the chief of the government's AIDS research program advised against trying to cook up too many other mixtures.

The warning came as two studies showed that combination therapy, a cocktail of treatments, promises to fight the deadly virus better than AZT alone. AZT is manufactured by Burroughs Wellcome Co. of Research Triangle Park, N.C.

In an editorial accompanying one of the reports in today's *Annals of Internal Medicine*, Dr. Anthony Fauci of the National Institutes of Health said that the study on AZT and ddC deserves attention.

But, he added, the pilot study's results are "too preliminary to yield either firm

conclusions ... or recommendations for treatment."

The study was originally presented at the Sixth International Conference on AIDS in 1990, but Fauci said the report's message still holds—that combination or alternation therapy may be the best way to combat the complex AIDS virus, HIV.

"Given the nature of HIV, it's likely that combination therapy may be the major therapy for AIDS," Fauci said. "No one therapy will likely be adequate."

The report, by researchers at the University of California at San Diego and the University of Miami, follows Sunday's announcement by British scientists on the combined use of AZT and the herpes drug acyclovir to treat AIDS.

Their unpublished and preliminary work found the death rate for patients treated with acyclovir and AZT was 10

percent, while the death rate for patients treated with AZT alone was 20 percent.

Fauci said he was concerned that some physicians and AIDS patients would hear of the reports and heedlessly combine AZT with other experimental AIDS drugs.

"Be careful. Don't just jump into this," he warned.

The *Annals* study found that the combination treatment boosted the white blood cells that fight infection, called CD4 cells, and lowered the amount of an AIDS virus protein called p24.

Increasing the number of CD4 cells bolsters a patient's immune system and helps the patient survive longer. Lower levels of p24 suggest that the virus' ability to replicate is being suppressed.

The drug ddC, or dideoxycytidine, not only increased the CD4 cell count, but the increase lasted longer than seen in

patients on AZT alone, the researchers said.

Researchers are not certain why the combination therapy works better than either drug alone, but believe the drugs may enhance each other's ability.

"The apparent increased benefit with combination therapy may be related to the additive or synergistic activity of the two drugs that has been seen previously" in test tube studies, said study coauthor Dr. Margaret Fischl of the University of Miami.

Based on the study's results, an experiment with more than 1,000 patients is now under way, supported by the NIH, to compare the combination therapy with either drug alone.

The pharmaceutical firm Hoffman-La Roche in October submitted an application for approval of ddC to the Food and Drug Administration, according to FDA spokesperson Brad Stone.

▼ ▼ ▼ BOOK REVIEWS

'Double Life' by Patrick McGilligan; 'Distant Lands' by Julian Green

By EDWARD LANGDON

The New Voice

"A Double Life: Director George Cukor," by Patrick McGilligan; St. Martin's Press, \$22.95

Anyone enamored with the movies of the Golden Age has to be smitten with the director of *Garbo* in "Camille," "Bergman" in "Gaslight," Judy Holliday in "Born Yesterday," Judy Garland in "A Star Is Born" and Hepburn in "The Philadelphia Story."

Such is George Cukor, the so-called "Woman's director," Cukor the "Fairy," Cukor the reject from "Gone With the Wind." Cukor was very much a part of the studio system of the period. He thrived in the shadow of some of the studio greats. He was also limited by the system, which knew of his homosexuality and everyone knew of the story behind his firing from that great epic of the South.

McGilligan, already the author of sever-

al screen biographies, relates well the Hollywood of the Golden Age and Cukor's role in it. Despite little assistance from Katherine Hepburn he also does justice to the long relationship between Cukor and Hepburn and Tracy.

And in assessing Cukor's place in filmdom, he does an adequate job where few have dared to tread before. McGilligan also wastes little time in establishing Cukor's homosexuality. It would have been hard to do otherwise in view of Cukor's openness within the movie community.

Where McGilligan is less sure is his narrative of this shadow life of Cukor's. Despite telling us of Cukor's extensive gay circle the author fails to penetrate that circle. Granted, many in that circle would not welcome disclosure. Even when he identifies one, Lon McCallister, he fails to really tell us of Cukor's relationship with this one time "star." It is quite apparent that

many of that circle, such as Roddy McDowell, refused to talk with the author.

Even in McGilligan's attempts to relate the gay side of Cukor, the reader is left with the telling impression that the author's familiarity with that scene is limited to clichés and stereotypes.

When one is done with "A Double Life" there is only the sense that Cukor was less than great as a director and little more than a panderer of the young as a homosexual. Hardly a success story. I for one believe there is much more to the man as a director and as a homosexual. To really understand Cukor the director, we must better understand Cukor the homosexual. In other words, understand the man.

("The Distant Lands," by Julian Green; Marion Boyers, \$24.95)

There are two good reasons to read this book. It is the great novel (actually the first of three volumes) of the South, having

been started by Green in 1933, laid aside when he heard of Margaret Mitchell's book, and begun again when the author was well into his eighties. The other reason is that Julian Green is one of the least known great authors who is also gay.

Born in Paris to expatriate Southerners, Green was educated in Virginia but returned to Paris to spend most of his life associating with the greats of literature and gay life: Cocteau, Gide, Stein and the rest.

Of course, little of this is in the book, which—by the by—only gets the reader into the decade of the 1850's. The war and the rest come much later.

Green's style is also French, lingering over descriptions and details in a manner to which most American readers are unaccustomed; after all, he traverses only four years in history with over 900 pages. But strangely, we were left wanting the next volume and hoping the 91-year-old Green holds out to finish his opus.

▼ ▼ ▼ DATELINE: GAY AMERICA

Activists in Iowa: Bashings, violence against gays on rise

By LINDA A. JOHNSON

FOR THE NEW VOICE

DES MOINES, Iowa, Thursday, Jan. 2 (AP)—Robert Eikleberry knew what was coming when he heard: "OK, faggot, it's your turn!"

He was in for a gay bashing.

The 42-year-old homosexual was beaten so severely he has been unable to work since the Oct. 30 attack in downtown Des Moines. A whack from a baseball bat cracked three ribs, and fists and feet bruised the rest of his body. But the attack was not so unusual.

"The gay community is under siege in this country. We are fighting an epidemic of violence," said Robert Bray, spokesperson for the National Gay and Lesbian Task Force in Washington, D.C. "Those incidents range from harassment to homicide."

Bray, Eikleberry and other gay activists in Iowa and around the country see violence escalating against homosexuals as more gays come out of the closet and many heterosexuals blame them for the growing AIDS crisis.

"Gay and lesbian visibility is increasing ... in the media, in politics, in communities and neighborhoods around the country," said Bray. "That increased visibility has garnered us additional power and tolerance in some places. The price we've paid is we've become an easier target for bigots and bashers."

That's been the case in small towns and major cities such as San Francisco

and New York City, where gays had been more accepted, activists said. Some recount attacks so severe that the victims die or are left with permanent brain damage from head injuries.

"The last couple years it's just gone out of this world, and I think particularly this summer there's been a major increase as far as what we've heard about," said Claire Hueholt, director of the Gay and Lesbian Resource Center in Des Moines. "We see it as a rising problem."

"I would estimate easily that there's at least one gay bashing a week in Des Moines of a serious nature where somebody needs medical attention, and I'm sure that that's a conservative estimate," Hueholt said. "There are clearly problems with anti-gay sentiment in this community."

Eikleberry agrees.

The industrial electrician also owns a Des Moines gay bar, Blazing Saddle. He had just closed his bar on Oct. 30 and driven over to a downtown area frequented by gays and lesbians when he was attacked.

As he stopped his car at the "gay loop," another car pulled up beside it and the driver came around to talk. Three other men in the other car then jumped out and dragged Eikleberry from his car.

"They said, 'Ok, faggot, it's your turn,'" knocked him down and began beating him, Eikleberry recalled. He got back up and began fighting back until one of the men—all in their late teens or

early 20s—"snuck up behind me and whopped me with a ball bat in the side."

The men fled when another car pulled up at the intersection, and Eikleberry called a friend to take him to a hospital.

Eikleberry, who several years ago founded the annual All-Iowa AIDS Benefit, reported the crime as a gay-bashing, but police recorded it as an assault. That's one reason Eikleberry and other gay activists believe such attacks occur much more frequently than they are reported.

"I think it's very prevalent, and I don't think we even know how prevalent because ... people are very hesitant to report things as gay bashings" instead of simple assaults, said Charles Bagbey, spokesperson for the recently formed Des Moines chapter of Queer Nation, a militant gay activist group.

"People who are not out of the closet but may have gone to a gay bar (and been attacked outside) are reluctant to report it as a gay bashing," agreed Michael Current, legislative director for Iowa Dignity and Equality Advocates, which lobbies for the rights of gays and other minorities.

Because some newspapers will list the name and address of a gay-bashing victim, such victims fear not only that their employer, landlord and relatives could find out that they are gay, but that they could be attacked again.

"There's just a lot of fear, and once you've been victimized there's even more fear," said Hueholt.

Current, himself a victim of a brutal gay bashing six years ago, has unsuccessfully tried to persuade *The Des Moines Register* to stop printing addresses of such victims.

"I was gay bashed in the Quad Cities just before Christmas in 1985," he said. "I was abducted outside a gay bar, driven to a deserted parking lot and beaten and left for dead."

"They said, 'Why are you queer?' and then they started beating on me."

"It certainly heightened my sensitivity to what victims of rape talk about," he said. "It was not only an act of violence, but when the violence is directed at your identity ... then your feeling of vulnerability is intensified."

Gays say those feelings of vulnerability, and the bashings that cause them, won't stop until society changes enough that harassing and attacking homosexuals—and even calling them terms such as faggot—is no longer acceptable.

"Unless we get away from that kind of attitude and start giving kids accurate information about sex ... I think the problem is just going to get worse," said Hueholt.

Activists say that nearly everyone has decried the recent spate of cross burnings and other racial crimes in Dubuque in northeast Iowa, yet no political, civic, religious or academic leaders are criticizing anti-gay violence.

"That silence sends a very loud message that violence against gays is acceptable," said the task force's Bray.

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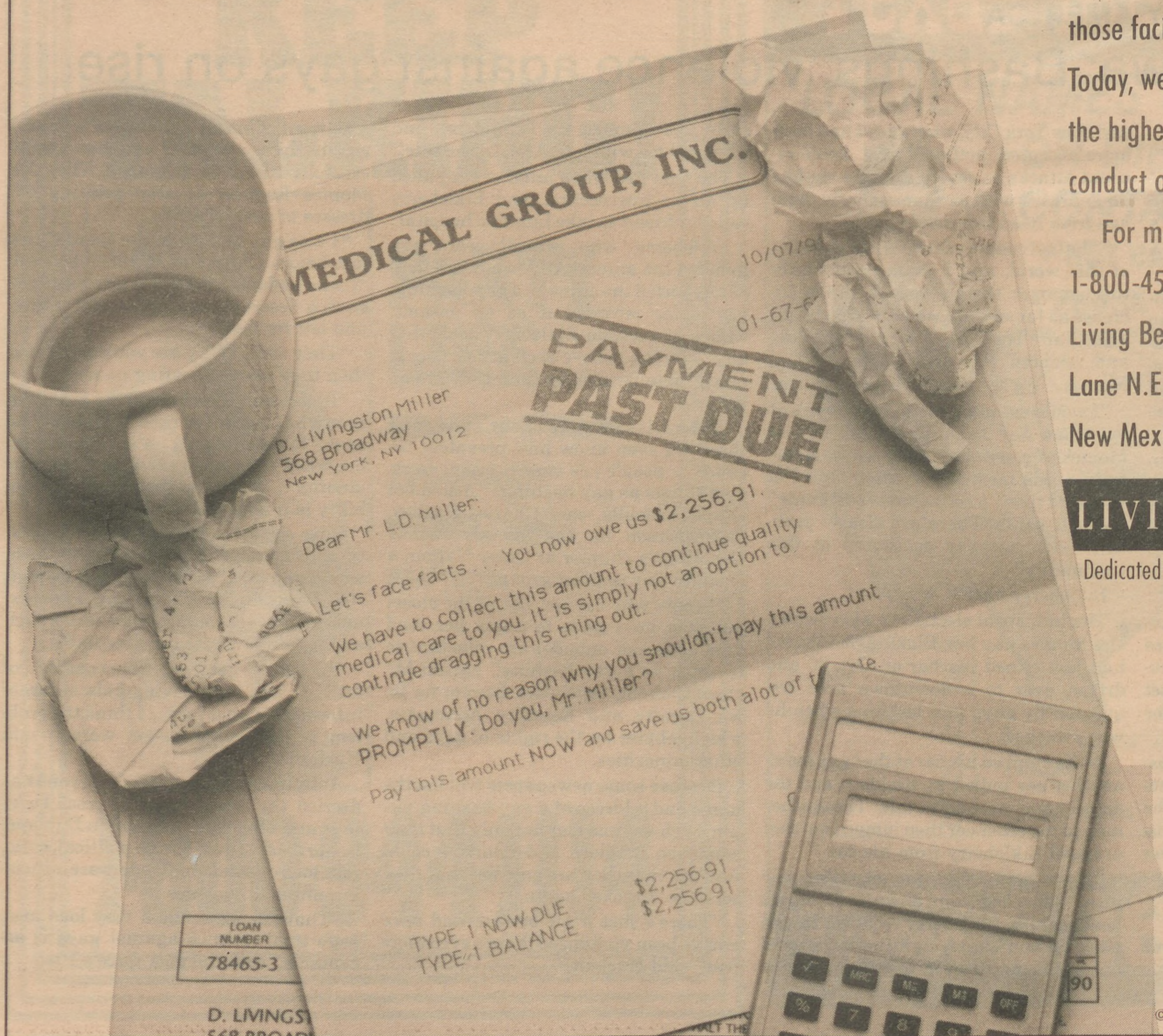
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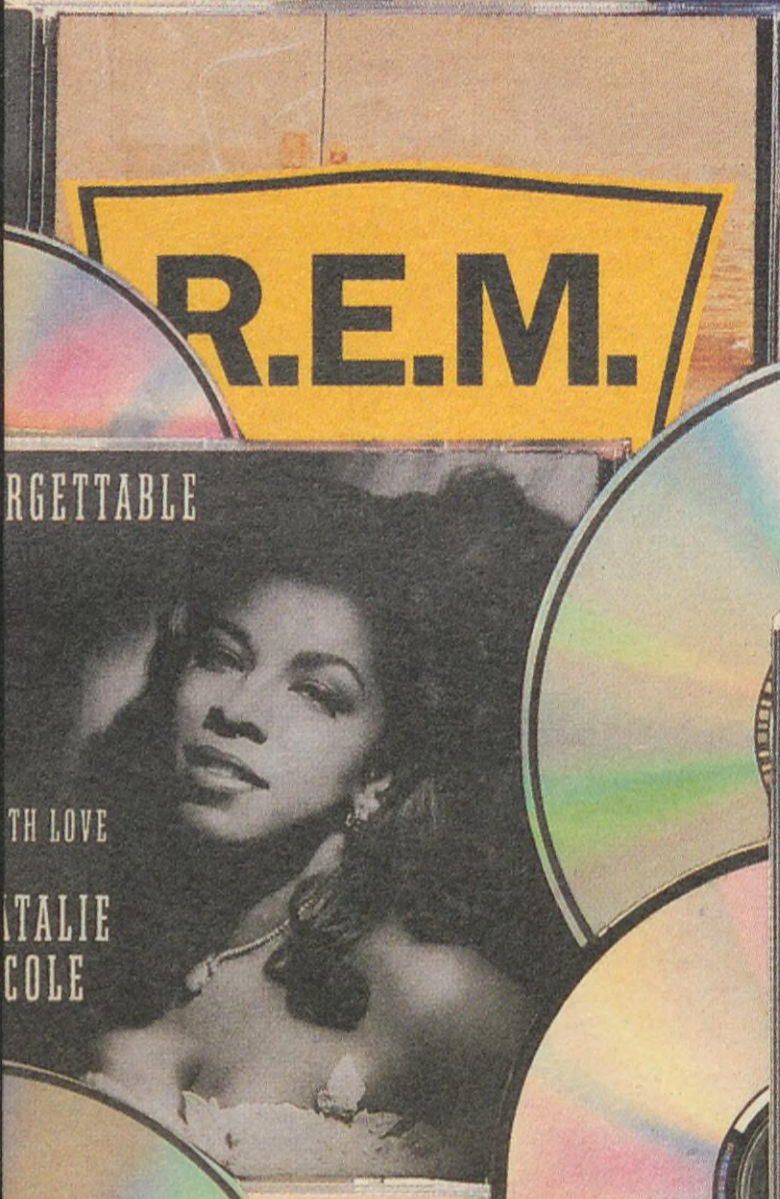
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