

HOUSTON VOICE

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IN THIS WEEK'S ISSUE

Guest Commentary:
Shalala's Snake Oil

Imperial Court holds
Saturday elections

One on probation in Broussard murder sent back to boot camp

From STAFF AND WIRE
REPORTS

Jeffrey Valentine, 19, will spend this Valentine's Day at Harris County's boot camp for young adult or first-time offenders after returning there voluntarily last week after failing to attend a court-ordered therapy meeting.

Valentine is one of the five defendants in the 1991 gay-bashing murder of Gay Houston banker Paul Broussard who received probated sentences and who recently completed 90-day stints at the camp. He failed to show up at a special meeting Wednesday, Jan. 10 of the group Parents of Murdered Children, attended by Broussard's mother, Nancy Rodriguez and the other four probationers.

Attendance at the meeting, and other victims' advocacy meetings, was a condition of the probationary sentences, along with yet unserved community service and the original boot camp stay. Attendance at the monthly meetings was included in the terms at the request of the Parents of Murdered Children group.

State District Judge Brian Rains, who could have revoked Valentine's probation for the infraction, agreed to instead to send him back to the camp, whose regimen consists of strict discipline and military-style physical conditioning.

At the Wednesday night meeting in Rains' courtroom, Rodriguez got to face four of the 10 men convicted of killing her son expressly because he was gay. The probationers were seated in a row, facing the group's members. Their parole officers, and local media were also in the room. Andy Kahan of Mayor Bob Lanier's Victims Assistance Office helped coordinate the meeting, during which members of the group and others involved with the case were allowed to speak.

One of the youths, Raphael Gonzales, cried while recalling Broussard's pleading and his terrified look before he was beaten with boards embedded with nails, then stabbed. But Rodriguez said the four were silent when she asked if thought of her son as a human being.

Gay and Lesbian rights leaders react to Supreme Court decision

By JIM LANDON
Houston Voice/Austin

A decision last week by the Texas Supreme Court to not render a ruling on the state's sodomy law was met by many in the gay and lesbian community with some confusion and anger. But in the wake of the 5-4 decision last Wednesday, those involved in the forefront of the controversy insisted that the decision was in fact a victory.

The Supreme Court, on Jan. 12, ordered the Texas Human Rights Foundation's nearly five year old challenge to Section 21.06 of the state penal code dismissed. The single vote majority held that the Supreme Court, a civil court, did not have jurisdiction because 21.06 is a criminal statute.

The decision reversed a lower court ruling that Texas' law against homosexual conduct between consenting adults is unconstitutional.

However, at a press conference following the high court's announcement, leaders of two state wide Gay and Lesbian groups hinged their interpretation on the fact that by declining to rule in this case, the Supreme Court left standing a 3rd Court of Appeals ruling against the law in a separate case.

"The eyes of Texas will no longer be in our bedrooms," asserted Diane Hardy-Garcia, executive director of the Lesbian/Gay Rights Lobby of Texas.

Suzy Wagers, executive director of THRF, stressed, "The bottom line is that this statute has been declared unconstitutional by the Third District Court of Appeals. The effect of that ruling is state wide.

"This statute should no longer be pointed to as a basis for discrimination," Wagers said.

Because the Supreme Court had earlier refused on technical grounds to hear an appeal of the latter civil case, in which a lesbian applicant challenged the Dallas Police Department's policy against hiring gay and lesbian police officers, it cannot be appealed further, according to



Rep. Glen Maxey: decision
"reprehensible," but irrelevant

THRF.

On Friday, Jan. 14, the National Gay and Lesbian Task Force announced that it was removing Texas from its list of states with homosexual conduct laws.

Still, gay rights advocates blasted the Supreme Court majority sidestepping the politically controversial issue by failing to rule directly on constitutional objections to the sodomy law.

The first reaction from state Rep. Glen Maxey (D-Austin), the state's only openly gay legislator, was one of anger. "I find it reprehensible that the gutless majority of the Supreme Court has yet again found a way to sidestep an issue that is vital to a large number of Texans," he said.

(Continued on Page 5)



THRF's Suzy Wagers: Supreme Court
dodge was actually a victory

Author, educator says the lesson of AIDS can be mastery of life

By SHERI COHEN DARBONNE
Houston Voice Editor

Sally Fisher wants the rest of the world to learn what people dealing with AIDS have already mastered: placing more importance on the quality and texture of life than on its duration.

So Fisher—creator of the AIDS Mastery Workshops and co-founder of the alternative service organization, Northern Lights Alternatives—is translating her purposely self-defined view of the world for a broader audience in a new book, aptly titled "Life Mastery: Challenging Your Impositor, Embracing Your Genuine Self."

The book, which Fisher denies is a self-help book with the same vehemence that she personally rejects the convenient label of New Age

philosopher, reflects basically the same principles as the workshops, now done in at least 30 cities world wide. But for fans who know her only through the descriptions of the diverse band of AMW leaders—who are taught, as a necessity of interpreting the nature of the course, to use their own style and mind, not Fisher's—"Life Mastery" offers additional insight into the human being who is calling on others to reclaim their human individual-



Sally Fisher, AIDS educator and author of "Life Mastery"

ity, and explore their spiritual side, at the same time.

Fisher, in various periods of a life fueled by methodical, and sometimes maniacal, self-exploration, has been a civil rights advocate, anti-war activist, painter, conceptual artist, performance artist, drama instructor, spiritualist, writer and AIDS activist. She has also, by her own admission, been an addicted to drugs, obsessive sexual experimentation (Fisher is bisexual)...and finally, recovery and the so-called "self-help" phenomenon.

In an interview prior to her guest author appearance last Monday at Houston's Crossroads Market, Fisher admitted that while on the book tour, she is "taking a little sabbatical from the political aspects of HIV."

"I really needed a little break, to sort of get a little perspective," she said.

She is not, however, turning away from her work with the community she says "has been my whole life for over a decade." While in Houston, Fisher said she will be attending a national meeting with leaders of her workshop, and in between stops on her book tour, she is taking time out with personal friends. "There is another aspect, and that is being with people," she said.

(Continued on Page 6)

Frank says Clinton making progress on gay rights

FALL RIVER, Mass., Tuesday, Jan. 18 (AP)—The Clinton administration is making progress on gay rights, U.S. Rep. Barney Frank, D-Mass., says.

Frank, one of two openly gay congressmen, says he expects the administration to ban discrimination on the basis of sexual orientation for people seeking security clearances.

The new policy would cover the Central Intelligence Agency and the National Security Agency, which have previously rejected gay applicants on the theory that they're security risks.

Attorney General Janet Reno has already drafted similar anti-bias policies for the Justice Department, including the FBI.

"There is going to be some progress on gay and lesbian (issues)," Frank said told The Herald News of Fall River. "What the president is doing is making it very clear that being gay or lesbian will be irrelevant for working for the federal government anywhere outside of the uniform military services, and it will also be irrelevant to getting a security clearance."

Frank said the new rules for the two spy agencies mean that employees will be judged on their job performance and behavior, and not on their sexual orientation.

"Now, that doesn't mean that your sexual behavior couldn't get you in trouble," he said. "It could get you in trouble if you're really stupid, whether you're gay or straight. If you're having an affair

with a Libyan terrorist, that's probably not good for your security clearance."

Frank, however, said "the notion that if you're gay you're much more likely to be a security risk is not statistically valid at all and that's going to be discarded."

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Interview with Gay romance author Blaise Bulot, a.k.a. R.A. Horne

YOURS TRULY IN A SWAMP

By LEONARD EARL JOHNSON

Houston Voice/New Orleans

Contemporary Authors, Volume 106 has a nearly full page listing for "Horne, R(alph)" A(lbert). Horne is also known as Gothic/Gay-romance author Blaise Bulot.

According to Contemporary Authors, Horn/Bulot is the consummate New Englander, born and educated. His first novel, *Dark Waters* is an interracial love story set in a steamy Louisiana of disadvantage, privilege, and Mardi Gras.

Mardi Gras is a time when anyone can gain equality through the sacrament of debauchery. A time when the chaste, the not so chaste, and the nowhere near chaste mix it up without regard for much other than the mixing. Some times even Louisiana's ubiquitous racists achieve equality on this level—albeit semi-consciousness—playing field. (Incidentally, if you wish to mark your debaucher's calendar, Mardi Gras is Feb. 15 this year.)

No shrinking violet, Horne/Bulot set upon the task of writing about all this from his perspective, as he puts it, "The outsider understanding New Orleans."

Speaking in a clipped New England accent Horne/Bulot said "I have an unusual hobby, I collect houses. I have one in Vermont, one in Boston and one in New Orleans. I knew the South before integration, and I know it now. Listen to my accent, I often have to re-fight the Civil War, let alone latter-day integration.

For Contemporary Authors, Horne/Bulot wrote of himself "My interests are science, law (constitutional and civil rights), art (I am a painter who studied at Boston's Museum of Fine Arts School, San Francisco Art Institute, and in Florence, Italy), architecture (I design and build Victorian follies), antiques and decoration, history (ancient and nine-

teenth-century American), and philosophy (ancient Greek)."

H/B: "My house in New Orleans is a mid-1800's double shotgun in Faubourg Marigny. New Orleans is the strangest place I have ever been by far. It is very different from the rest of the United States. The people think differently, they are different."

"It is a writers delight and trap. It is easy to lose eight of what is real and what is uniquely New Orleans."

LEJ: "We are not your garden variety city. We are, for one thing, in a swamp."

H/B: "It's more than that. Lets face it, the United States is basically English. New Orleans is not."

LEJ: "Well, I can tell you what that exact difference is, we lack the Puritan and work ethics."

H/B: (Laughing in a way that says he has heard a joke) "I am the consummate Puritan and believer in the work ethic. The houses I collect take an effort to restore. An effort of love!"

"It takes that and commitment—stick-to-it-ness—to gather the rejection notices a book author gathers, and continue. In the beginning, I hoped Grove Press would publish *Dark Waters*. Grove published Jean Genet; William Burroughs, who once lived on New Orleans' West Bank; and Allan Ginsberg. I want to be part of that cutting-edge tradition."

H/B: "Really. Publishers! Sadly, many gay publishers seem to be in trouble. However, the lesbian press is thriving."

LEJ: "AID?"

H/B: "Possibly."

LEJ: "It's clear you are not marching to a New Orleans drummer, what makes you thin you can write about Louisiana and New Orleans?"

H/B: "It takes an outsider to see the king's garment clearly."

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LIPSTICK AND LEVIS '94

University of Georgia researchers discover way to isolate pneumonia-causing organism

ATHENS, Ga., Friday, Jan. 14 (AP)—Researchers at the University of Georgia have discovered a method of isolating an immature form of a pneumonia-causing organism that has killed thousands of AIDS patients.

The research could lead to more effective treatments of the pneumonia.

An AIDS researcher at the National Institutes of Health, however, said the development could be helpful but didn't appear to be a major advance.

Dr. Jamie De Stefano, a researcher at the university's Complex Carbohydrate Research Center, said the team had found a quicker way to separate the drug-resistant mature form of pneumocystis carinii from its immature forms.

She said the latest method also provides a virtually pure form of the organism, making it easier to study its life cycle.

Effective treatments have already been developed for pneumocystis, said Dr. Carl Dieffenbach, chief of the Developmental Therapeutics Branch at the National Institute of Allergies and Infectious Diseases.

He said it is no longer the most common killer of AIDS patients and now is responsible for a small percentage of AIDS deaths.

"It's one of the victories of AIDS research," he said.

He said the illness can still be deadly. Tennis player Arthur Ashe was one of its victims.

Pneumocystis is a common organism, but causes illness only in people whose immune systems have been damaged by acquired immune deficiency syndrome or other causes.

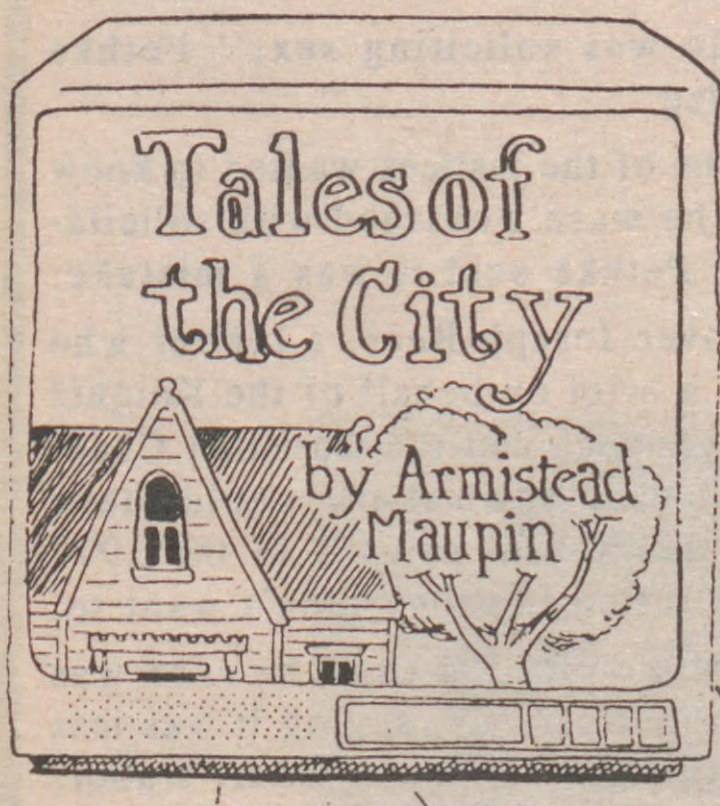
The Georgia researchers said the stages of pneumocystis have different weights, causing them to separate when spun from a centrifugal device. Further purification is carried out through filtration.

Dieffenbach said similar techniques are in use at other labs. "They have probably tweaked and fine-tuned the technology," he said. "At best, it's an incremental improvement."

The researchers said they have obtained enough of the mature cyst form of pneumocystis to carry out chemical analysis of the cyst wall.

Brady's Corner

Tale of Two "Cities."



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WHO says more money needed as AIDS toll increases

By CLARE NULLIS
FOR THE HOUSTON VOICE

GENEVA, Monday, Jan. 17 (AP)—The head of the World Health Organization on Monday said more money must be spent to research and prevent AIDS, a terminal illness that has claimed hundreds of thousands of lives worldwide.

WHO said that during 1993 an estimated half-million people developed AIDS and another 1 million contracted HIV, the virus that leads to full-blown acquired immune deficiency syndrome.

About 14 million adults and 1 million children now carry the human immunodeficiency virus, the organization said in a report.

In a speech to WHO's annual executive board meeting, Director-General Dr. Hiroshi Nakajima appealed for an end to squabbling among organizations trying to fight the disease.

"I would like to make a plea that we do not let the discussion on structures overshadow the fact that global resources devoted to AIDS research, prevention and care are just plainly inadequate," Nakajima told the 31-

member board.

WHO's 10-day meeting, which began Monday, is expected to focus on an overhaul of international AIDS programs, which are divided among U.N. agencies and groups like the World Bank. One proposal calls for WHO to play the leading role in coordinating the various efforts.

The U.N. health agency spent about \$ 78 million last year on its anti-AIDS campaigns, more than other U.N. agencies.

But WHO estimated it needs about \$ 2.9 billion a year for prevention programs in Third World countries where the majority of AIDS cases are occurring.

The organization estimates there have been more than 3 million cases of AIDS worldwide since reporting began in 1980. Officials say everyone who contracts AIDS eventually dies from the ailment.

WHO said 67 percent of the estimated AIDS cases were in Africa. It said about 13 percent were in the United States, 12 percent in Canada and South America and 8 percent in Europe and Asia.

Shalala is prescribing snake oil for the Gay-AIDS Community

GUEST COMMENTARY

By STEVE MICHAEL and WAYNE TURNER

ACT UP/Washington

(Editor's note: The following is a response to a guest commentary by Donna Shalala, Secretary of Health and Human Services. Michael and Turner identify themselves as "ACT UP Washington's Couple from Hell.")

In one Gay and Lesbian newspaper after another, Secretary of Health and Human Services Donna Shalala has been fraudulently promoting President Clinton's Insurance Company Preservation Act as real health care reform.

Shalala reminds us of a snake oil salesman, peddling her wares to a community devastated by AIDS and Lesbian specific breast cancer much like her predecessors did in the old West.

The charade must stop.

In promoting the Clinton plan, Shalala talks of a man with AIDS who lost his health care because of the disease. She creates an illusion that Clinton's plan would change that. Nothing could be further from the truth.

As members of numerous

groups and coalitions we are promoting real health care reform under the Single payer bill 5491 (Introduced by Senator Paul Wellstone) and HR 1200 (introduced by Representative Jim McDermott).

A few moments to compare the plans is needed.

Clinton would preserve the power and profit of the insurance industry by allowing them to create monolithic health alliances, in many cases using existing HMO's (Health Maintenance Organizations). 47% of HMO's are owned by insurance companies. This is a prescription disaster.

Wellstone's 5491 and McDermott's HR 1200 are tailor made for our community. McDermott/Wellstone deserve our support.

100 percent coverage. McDermott Wellstone guarantees that all members of our community would have access to the highest quality health care. All people living in the United States would be afforded the same health care. The Clinton Plan continues the same multi-tiered system that benefits suburban, whit, yuppie, heterosexual, non birth control using Volvo drivers at the expense of Gays, Lesbians, the working poor, people of color and others who live in the

nations urban centers.

A particularly chilling clause in the plan touted and drafted by Clinton & Clinton states; "A health professional or a health facility may not be required to provide an item or service in the comprehensive benefit package if the professional facility objects to do so on the basis of religious belief or moral conviction."

The Clinton Plan maintains the status quo, permitting insurance companies and right wing extremist Christian bigots to continue to choose who gets quality health care and who doesn't. The premise behind the Clinton Plan is flawed. It assumes that the government can somehow manage competition and that insurance companies would fight tooth and nail to get all our business. Insurance carriers will flock to the suburbs offering primarily upper middle class (people that have been able to maintain their health) quality health care at low rates but will avoid areas that have high crime rates, high rates of HIV infection, areas in close proximity to polluting chemical plants, areas of high drug use.

The McDermott and Wellstone bills will guarantee us complete physician choice. If you want a Gay doctor that is HIV+ who you can trust with

your life you have that choice. The Clinton plan will put us all into a plan that takes away our democratic right of choice. Some bureaucrat will choose your doctor. A health board will choose your plan and you still will have to pay from 20 to 40 percent after a deductible of over \$1500 for health care. The Clinton plan could see Lesbian and Gay specific health facilities like Whitman Walker in Washington and the Gay Men's Health Crisis in New York go the way of the dinosaur.

Lesbians that face breast cancer (in numbers three times greater than heterosexual women) and Gay men that are losing T cells daily need the comfort of going to a doctor and a hospital that will treat them with compassion, not judgment.

It makes good political sense to unite behind a health care plan that will help so many segments of oppressed American society. The opportunity to build a coalition with others is tremendous. This is political capital that we can use at a later date.

The battle for single payer health care is truly the most important political issue facing the Lesbian and Gay community. Not since 1947 has the opportunity for real health care reform been possible,

when President Harry Truman first proposed a single payer, single tier system. The time is long overdue for the United State to join every other industrialized democracy in the world by guaranteeing the basic health of its citizens.

We must move the debate away from the Republican Plans sponsored by Iowa congressman Gopher of Love Boat fame and the Clinton and Clinton insurance Company Preservation Act, and toward single payer.

Shalala has stated that the single payer plan, which has over ninety co sponsors in the House of Representatives, would result in a government-run health care system This is simply not true. The McDermott/Wellstone proposal eliminates the single biggest obstacle to health care—ability to pay, by creating public financing.

The Lesbian and Gay community has been at the epicenter of the health care crisis; Pre-existing condition clauses, high deductibles, job loss, and inflated drug prices. The Clinton plan is merely a band-aid approach, requiring people to have health insurance. We must continue to be on the forefront of health care reform and not be duped by Secretary Shalala's tonic.

Former executive director of Colorado AIDS council files lawsuit

DENVER, Tuesday, Jan. 18 (AP)—A former executive director of the Governor's AIDS Council, has filed a lawsuit against the Colorado Department of Health and its director, claiming he was singled out "for voicing opposition to corrupt government practices" and subsequently was fired.

In the lawsuit, Lance C. Clem alleges he protested the "questionable use" of thousands of dollars distributed to Denver Health and Hospitals.

Clem claims in the lawsuit that health officials used the money to supplement the salaries of at least 10 doctors, some of whom spent minimal amounts of time

working with AIDS-related patients or issues.

Clem, who recently filed the lawsuit in Denver District Court, alleges that Patricia Nolan, executive director of the state health department, exceeded her authority last July when she released him from the council.

On Monday, neither Nolan nor health department officials could be reached for comment, according to the Denver Post.

Under the 1990 Ryan White Act, the AIDS Council has received grants for the past two years.

Before last July, dozens of agencies that provide treatment, home care and other services to AIDS patients received funds from the council.

The council, formed by Gov. Roy Romer in Dec. 1990, was transferred last July to the Colorado Department of Health, which is now responsible for budgeting and distributing grant money.

According to the lawsuit, a tense relationship between Clem and Nolan culminated in Clem's termination. Clem claims Nolan did not follow council bylaws for the termination of an executive officer.

The bylaws require all members of the council to vote on such an ouster.

In the lawsuit, Clem alleges Nolan acted unilaterally to fire him.

According to the lawsuit, Nolan phoned Clem last July, saying, "With you being an enemy of the health department, there is no place for you at the state health department—consider this your 30-day notice."

Clem says he was told he would get another position in another state agency, but in December he was told no such position was available.

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Louisiana Supreme Court hears sodomy case

By **JIMMY GOLEN**
 FOR THE HOUSTON VOICE

BATON ROUGE, La., Friday, Jan. 14 (AP)—A lawyer told the Louisiana Supreme Court on Friday that it should overturn the state's Crimes Against Nature Act because it discriminates against homosexuals.

"The real purpose of the sodomy law is to brand us lesbian and gay citizens as inferior," New Orleans attorney John Rawls said.

"It makes every gay and lesbian in this state an unindicted felon and brands us as second-class citizens. It puts us in a terrible, terrible hole and we will never get out of it until the law is thrown away."

John Baxley was accused of offering an undercover policeman \$20 for oral sex. Rather than charge him with solicitation, a misdemeanor, authorities charged him under the Crimes Against Nature Act, which makes sodomy a felony.

Mark Pethke, an attorney for the Orleans Parish District Attorney, said Baxley's right to privacy did not include such actions.

"He's not in a bedroom, he's on a street corner soliciting sex," he said. "... On a public street, no privacy interest is involved."

But Chief Justice Pascal Calogero said: "He wasn't attempting to have

sex on the street corner, was he?" "He was soliciting sex," Pethke replied.

Some of the justices wanted to know why he wasn't charged with solicitation. Pethke said it was a mistake.

Grover Joseph Rees, a lawyer who filed a brief on behalf of the Knights of Columbus and the Christian Coalition, said lawmakers could have included sexual privacy in the 1974 constitution but they didn't want to.

Rawls conceded that the case was not about privacy, saying it was less like the U.S. Supreme Court's abortion ruling in Roe vs. Wade than racial discrimination cases like the one in Virginia that banned interracial marriages.

"This is a civil rights case. Make no doubt about it," Rawls said. "And it's my obligation on behalf of 100,000 gay and lesbian citizens of this state to make you aware of that. ... I will go anywhere you tell me to get this abominable law thrown out to get some measure of citizenship for gays and lesbians."

Pethke said statistics show the law was not used to discriminate against homosexuals.

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Wilkes-Barre, Pa. councilman renews anti-gay commentary

By **KELLY P. KISSEL**
 FOR THE HOUSTON VOICE

WILKES-BARRE, Pa., Friday, Jan. 14 (AP)—The mood was perfect for a city councilman to retract his anti-gay remarks.

Three hours of lectures about homophobia and pleas for peace, understanding and healing.

Then Al Boris apologized for the second time for saying gay men who have sex in city parks should be shot.

He questioned why no one believed him the first time. As he kept talking, it became clear.

"It seems the park has been monopolized by the homosexuals," Boris said at Thursday night's council meeting. He referred to "semen all over the place."

Boris repeated suggestions that Wilkes-Barre's gay men recruit retarded people for sex and said the media hides homosexuals' "deadly activities" behind the cloak of civil rights.

The feel-good mood was gone, destroyed less than two minutes into Boris' speech. The crowd of 125 shouted him down twice.

In the end, even Boris' colleagues abandoned him, voting to adjourn before he finished speaking.

If voters want to abandon Boris, they'll have to wait until 1995, when his term expires.

Speaking for her husband, Lucy Ann Boris said he doesn't plan to resign. No mechanism exists for city voters to recall elected officials.

Hard feelings first surfaced at a Dec. 21 council meeting. Boris was upset over complaints about gay men having sex in two parks. "You should shoot half of them anyway," he said.

Gays were upset the council didn't censure him and became more agitated when Boris decried federal spending for AIDS research because he said homosexuals "are getting what they deserve."

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State officials, gay leaders unsure of 21.06 decision's impact

(Continued from Page 1)

Rep. Maxey later labeled the decision "irrelevant" because he believes the true victory will be the removal of the sodomy law from the penal code, a goal which he has vowed to continue working for. "Even if the high court had ruled 21.06 unconstitutional, I would still have a very hard time convincing others in the Legislature to vote for its repeal." Maxey said that while 21.06 carries little real threat of criminal prosecution, it has historically been used as the basis for discrimination against homosexuals.

Even state legislators, however, admit to some confusion over what the decision actually means to Gay and Lesbian Texas. Rep. Debra Danburg (D-Houston) said that even though she is an attorney, she is "a little perplexed" about the combined implications of the recent decision and the 3rd District ruling in the Dallas challenge.

"It's just not clear enough...I'm an attorney, and I still can't say definitively whether this is a positive or a negative thing. It's hard to say."

Throughout the week, confusion has seemed the only constant various sources' interpretation of the court's announcement.

Ron Dusek of the state Attorney General's office, which defended the law, said the 3rd District ruling in the Dallas police case does stand. But he said that doesn't mean a future case couldn't be decided in another appellate court and go to the Supreme Court.

In Houston, Gay activist old timer Ray Hill, who once successfully challenged a Houston ordinance all the way to the U.S. Supreme Court, said he believed channeling the 21.06 case through the civil courts was a mistake. "From the inception of this case, I felt there was a jurisdictional problem as big as a mule in a Baptist church," Hill said. "First of all, 21.06 is a criminal statute. Secondly, though, how can you sue for damages where no actual harm to defendants can be shown?" If another challenge is mounted, Hill said, it should be done through the criminal courts.

Politically, Rep. Danburg said, "I agree with Glen (Maxey)...I think it was just a (cowardly) thing for the court to do." The justices, she noted, waited until after the primary election filing deadline to announce their decision.

Two of those who joined in the majority opinion—Justices Nathan Hecht and Raul Gonzales—are up for election this year.

Unlike Maxey, Danburg said she believes the courts still hold better hope than the legislative process for overturning the oppressive law. "Realistically, I would say that the courts are the more productive way to go," she said. "I don't think we'll ever get a majority (in the state Legislature) to vote to repeal 21.06."

THRF Town Meeting

In an effort to clarify the effect of the Supreme Court decision, the Texas Human Rights Foundation put together a Town Meeting on Sunday, Jan. 16 in Austin. Panelists included THRF leaders, legal experts from the American Civil Liberties Union and the University of Texas, Rep. Maxey and Tom Doyal, attorney and one of the plaintiffs in the lawsuit which led to last week's ruling.

After a brief history of the 21.06 fight and a discussion of the high court decision, the lawyers on the panel again stressed the fact that the decisions by the State District Court and the Third Court of Appeals still stand.

Jay Jacobson, executive director and attorney of the ACLU, said 21.06 "has been declared unconstitutional by every court and every judge that has reviewed its merits. They have said that

the right to privacy overcomes this statute. That is fact, and that stands as-law." Jacobson and University of Texas law professor Jordan Streiker agreed that any legal action taken on the basis of the sodomy law would now be almost impossible to support or justify, and Gays and Lesbians who might suffer discrimination because of 21.06 could have a firm basis for lawsuits. Jacobson also stated that the Supreme Court's action may have been for the best since a decision favorable to the plaintiffs could have initiated a move to amend the Texas Constitution.

Several panel members, including Nancy Molleda, THRF board president, found the close vote encouraging. Molleda also commented, "We have changed political thinking in Texas enough so that the court was willing to look at and discuss the issue even though they were afraid to make a decision."

With an eye to the future, executives of THRF stated that the Foundation would seek continue sponsorship of legal cases which challenge the sodomy law while Rep. Maxey and LGRL work for its repeal.

(Houston Voice Editor Sheri Cohen Darbonne and the Associated Press also contributed to this report).

New evidence found that HIV protein damages brain

NEW YORK, Wednesday, Jan. 12 (AP)—Scientists have found new evidence that a single protein of the AIDS virus may damage brain cells and lead to the impaired thinking and movement seen in some infected people.

Strains of mice made to produce the protein in their brains showed brain abnormalities

like those in infected humans, researchers said.

The mice should be useful in assessing drugs to ward off such damage from HIV, the AIDS virus, the researchers suggested in Thursday's issue of the journal *Nature*.

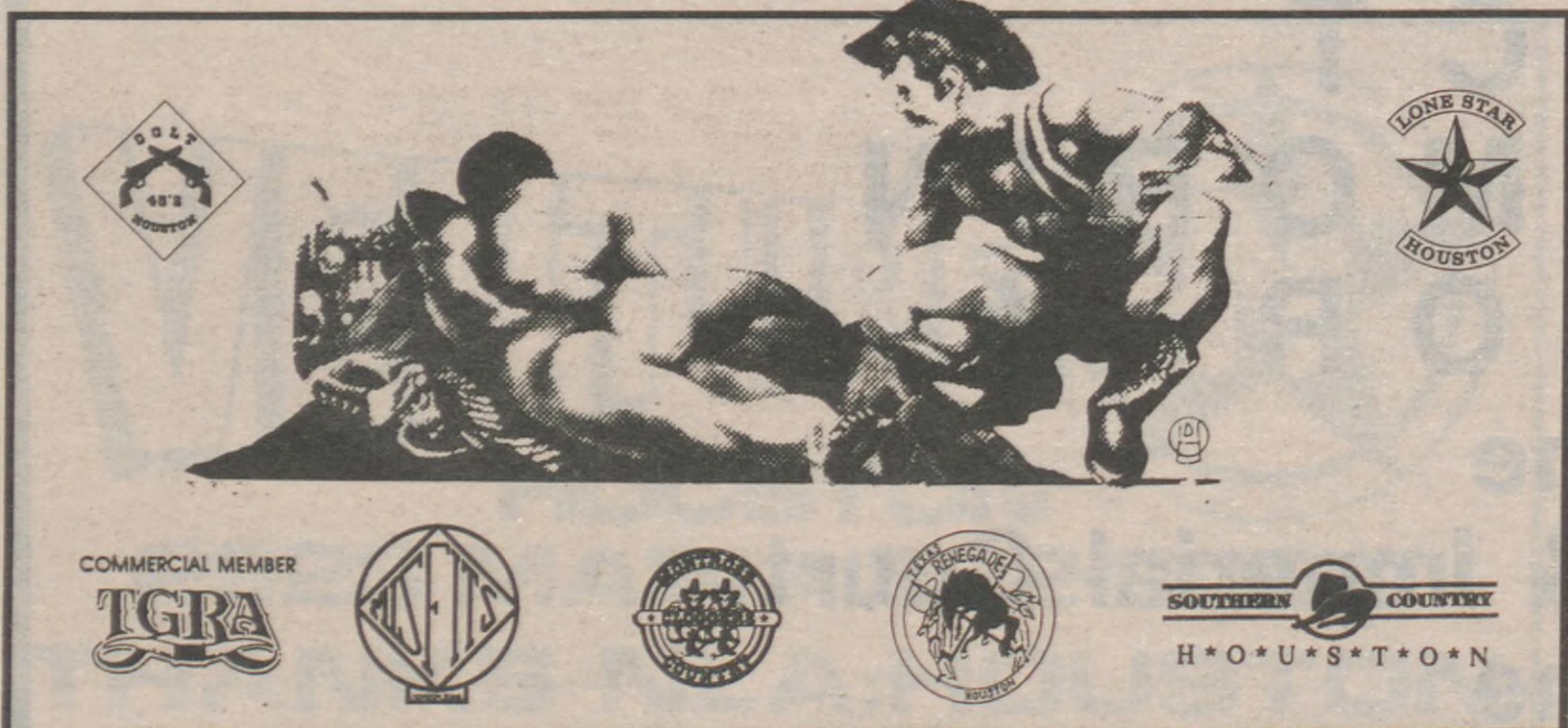
The protein, called gp120, is shed from

HIV-infected cells in people, researchers said. For the experiment, mice were given a gene to make them produce the protein without HIV infection.

The work was done by scientists at the Scripps Research Institute in La Jolla, Calif., the University of California, San

Diego, and the Boston University School of Medicine.

In a *Nature* commentary, Dr. Stuart Lipton of Children's Hospital and Harvard Medical School said several drugs have been claimed to reduce cell damage from gp120, and that tests in humans are in progress.



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Interview with author and AIDS Mastery spiritual guru Sally Fisher

(Continued from Page 1)

The book, she says, gives credit where credit is due. Fisher said she notes throughout the contributions of her friends who are living with HIV/AIDS and what she has learned from her years as counselor, friend and student to countless individuals who have had to come to terms quickly with their lives as they deal with the threat of death.

The lesson they have learned, and are teaching others, is that the circumstances of life don't necessarily dictate its quality, Fisher said.

Each section of the book opens with a quote from a person with HIV, she said.

"The first thing you notice in working with people with AIDS is that it doesn't take them forever to (re-assess) their lives. I started thinking there had to be a way to bring that message, that immediacy to a broader context, without (the threat of death) being there," she said.

The book makes no promises, she says. "It doesn't assume that you're going to turn out a certain way, the right way," she said. "It asks questions, asks people to try to discover themselves."

In Fisher's view, the label stolen by the "self-help" gurus is a misnomer, because they urge others to follow their advice, not identify their own core beliefs. "Life Mastery" concentrates on finding the "true self," and the book leads the reader through Fisher's own often ludicrous journey to self-discovery, not as the path, but as an example of the pitfalls and the rewards.

The difference between "Mastery" and New Age thinking, the witty and flamboyantly theatrical author claims, is that what she teaches, "is

grounded in the self. New Agers are anxious to tell you how to be, but many times that just throws people back to the same dysfunctional patterns," Fisher said.

New Agers, Fisher said, often have approached the issue of AIDS with the same "spiritual arrogance" as fundamentalists. "In both ways of thinking, there is someone saying, 'you created it. You created AIDS,'" Fisher said.

The difference, and the answer, she said, is in re-connecting to one's "Genuine Self," and in determining what one wants to do with life, and doing it.

Sally Fisher was born in Chicago, married at the age of 20 and divorced at 33. She has three children, including actor Fisher Stevens. Her work in the theater included producing, directing, and coaching and counseling people from the entertainment industry; she was founding director of the Actor's Institute in New York.

Besides AIDS Mastery, Fisher, with two Gay male partners, Victor Phillips and Chuck Byer, created the organization Northern Lights Alternatives, which brings an approach similar to that of the workshop and book to service delivery. "I was in Europe when Victor came up with the name," she said. "The essence is that, like the aurora borealis is a natural phenomenon that works as if it were a miracle...that was what we wanted to be."

"It's sort of the same basis of the book: we know who we are, but we forget." There is a light within the self and the spirit that guides us back, she said.

"The journey is not to become something different, but to return to what we really are."

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1994 AIDS benefit calendar contributions pass \$100,000 mark

By TAD NELSON
Houston Voice/Houston

Agencies across the country received more than \$5,000 during the holidays in the second round of contributions from the proceeds of the sale of the 1994 AIDS Benefit Calendar. Donations ranging from \$500 to \$1,000 were made to AIDS and HIV agencies in San Francisco, Los Angeles, Tampa, Palm Springs, Philadelphia, Boston and San Diego. Additionally, Test Positive Aware in Chicago, Inland AIDS Project, Southern Louisiana AIDS Council and Lambda Community Center (Portland, Oregon) are selling the Calendars and will raise an additional \$15,000 to benefit their own programs.

These contributions bring the total donations to organizations that provide direct services to people with AIDS and

HIV since the first edition of the Calendar to more than \$120,000. "And we can do more!" said Joe Pascale, marketing coordinator. "We still have about 1000 calendars available and we can make additional contributions as they sell."

The award winning AIDS Benefit Calendar features 14 new black and white male nude figure studies by photographer Jeff Palmer, including images of male couples in erotic but non-sexual poses.

The calendar may be purchased by mail by sending a check or money order for \$10.95 per Calendar plus \$2.25 shipping/handling (in US Funds only please) to AIDS Benefit Calendar, PO Box 34012, San Diego, CA 92163.

(See page 1 of the Houston Voice Blue Pages to see Jeff Palmer's work, available in the AIDS Benefit Calendar.)

Ryan White's mother hopes to ban condom-equipped trading cards

By MIKE SMITH
FOR THE HOUSTON VOICE

INDIANAPOLIS, Friday, Jan. 14 (AP)—The mother of child AIDS victim Ryan White wants state lawmakers to ban trading cards with her son's picture that include condoms in the packages.

"He should be known more for what he taught us about living and to respect those with diseases," Jeanne White-Ginder said.

Eclipse Enterprises of Forestville, Calif., began selling its AIDS Awareness cards last February.

White-Ginder is supporting a bill in Indiana that would prohibit the use of celebrities' likenesses without written consent from them or from their estate. The bill passed a Senate committee Thursday.

Ryan was diagnosed with AIDS at 13 from blood products used to treat hemophilia.

He sued for and won the right to attend school with other children. He took part in AIDS education efforts until his April 1990 death.

A painted image of him is included in the set of 110 trading cards, which also include images of Magic Johnson, Rock Hudson and Arthur Ashe. The cards include facts about their lives and information and myths about AIDS.

Each foil-wrapped, 12-card pack contains a condom.

Catherine Yronwode, editor in chief at Eclipse, said the series is an attempt to educate the public about a deadly illness. Fifteen percent of profits go to a group helping HIV-infected people, she said.

Eclipse also produced the controversial True Crime trading card series featuring crime-fighters and criminals, including Charles Manson and Jeffrey Dahmer.

Florida court stops county's fingerprint policy

WEST PALM BEACH, Fla., Friday, Jan. 14 (AP)—The Palm Beach County court clerk's office has stopped a practice of putting the fingerprint sheets of HIV-infected defendants in plastic sleeves.

There is no medical rationale for covering fingerprints with plastic as a protection against the AIDS virus or any other infectious disease, doctors say.

"While this practice may—or may not—have had a value at one time, I do not see a purpose in continuing with a procedure that has become antediluvian," criminal division manager Joe Monaco said Thursday in a memo.

He said clerks told him the practice began early in the AIDS epidemic at the suggestion of a judge. The sleeves were used by some clerks when evidence or testimony in a case indicated HIV infection.

Dr. David Dodson, an infectious disease specialist and chief of medicine at St. Mary's Hospital called the plastic protection idea "paranoid."

"I would hope the general public would be more educated about AIDS than this," said Shauna Dunn, director of the Comprehensive AIDS Program.

Eli Lilly and Co. cutting AIDS research

INDIANAPOLIS, Saturday, Jan. 15 (AP)—Eli Lilly and Co. has halted in-house research on HIV treatments as part of the pharmaceutical company's continuing restructuring plans, officials said.

The company's AIDS and HIV research was limited, with just one potential drug in the first phase of human tests. That study won't be abandoned, but Lilly will search for a partner to continue work.

"There are other studies that are in the process of being ... closed down in order for us to focus those resources in areas where we feel we have a competitive advantage," said Carlos Lopez, executive director of infectious diseases research for Lilly.

Lopez acknowledged some Lilly scientists were unhappy about the decision.

"As you would expect, scientists who have put their heart and soul into trying to discover therapies for what they know is a very, very important medical need are disappointed that the company has to do this," Lopez said. "But they understand why and support it."

The move comes as the Indianapolis-based company tries to shrink its operations and staff to save money.

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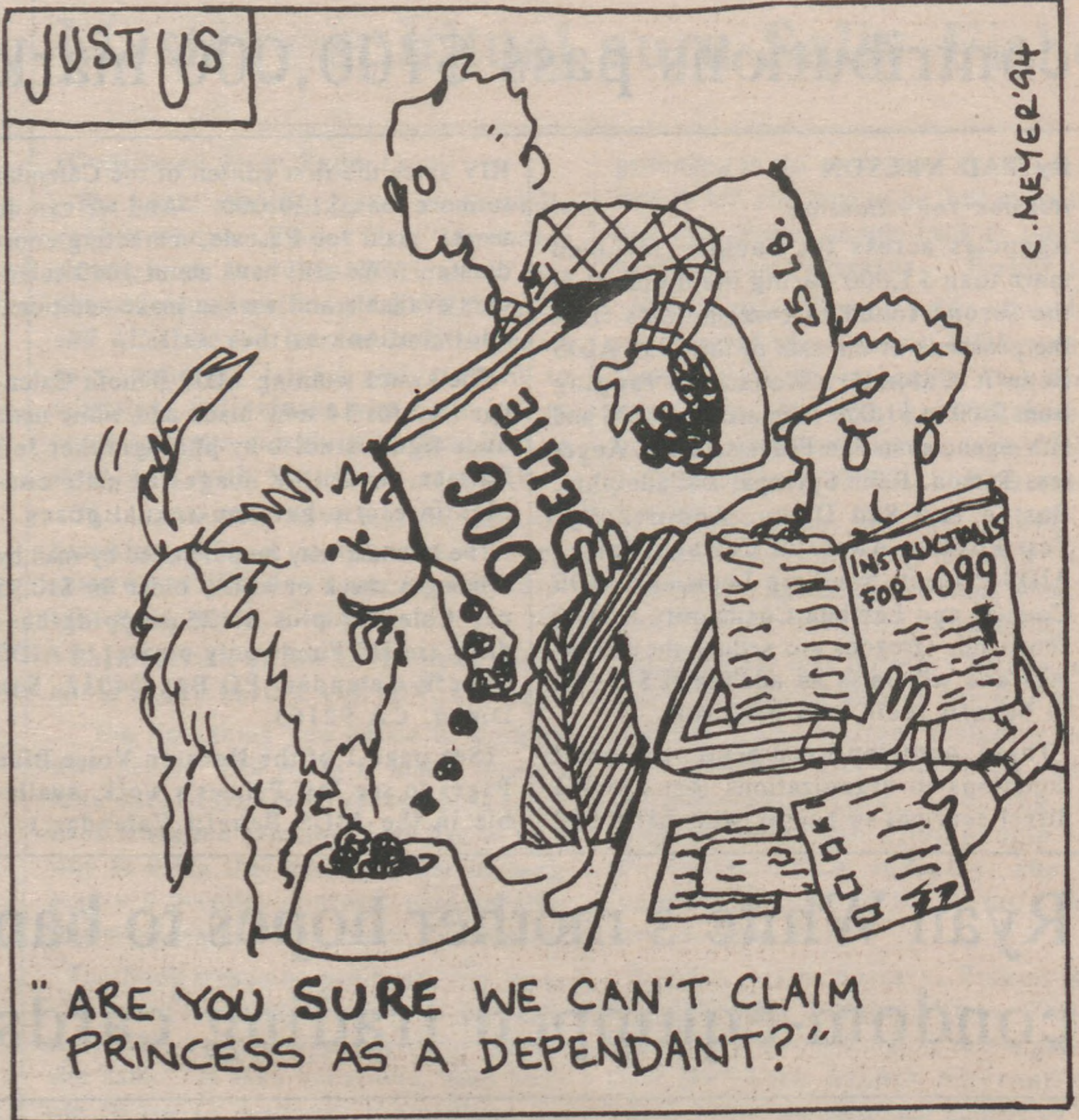
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Imperial Court of the Single Star holding annual Royalty elections

QUICK NOTES

The Royal, Sovereign and Imperial Court of the Single Star this weekend continues a proud tradition as the only local Gay/Lesbian social organization to hold community-wide elections of its top representatives. Court Royalty will be determined in balloting to be held Saturday, Jan. 22, from 10:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m. at the offices of Houston Institute for Protection of Youth (HIPY) at 811 Westheimer. Anyone with a valid driver's license or other state ID showing residence in Harris or adjacent county is eligible to vote.

Community organizational and business leaders (including Houston Voice Publisher Tad Nelson) have volunteered to staff the voting room and will oversee the "purity" of the election, court representatives said. Results of the vote will be sealed until announcement at the court's coronation ceremony the following Saturday evening, Jan. 29, at the Holiday Inn Medical Center.

The candidates for Emperor of the RSICSS are Bill O'Rourke, John Szewczyk, Jerry Morin and Deb Dellehay. Candidates for Empress: Laura Lee Love, Damita Jo, Crystal Rae Lee Love, and Tonya Seville.

Lawyers offer will workshop

Think you don't need a will because you don't own anything? If you can answer yes to any of these questions, you need a will: Do you own a car? Do you rent an apartment? Do you own your own home? Are you concerned about your significant other being over run by your family in the event of your death? If you answered yes to any of the above questions, please join us for a free seminar offered by the law firm of Moore & Hunt and the ACACIA group. Learn why estate planning is so important to you and those you love Thursday, Feb. 17, 1994 at 7:00 p.m.—9:00 p.m. at the ACACIA Financial Center, Coastal Tower, Suite 3000, 9 Greenway Plaza, Houston, Texas 77046. Please call (713) 522-4282 extension 14 for reservations or information.

HRA endorses Red Ribbon Project

The Houston Restaurant Association, at its monthly board meeting Tuesday, voted overwhelmingly to endorse the R.R.R.P. The move was spearheaded by Larry Forhand, past HRR president, currently Texas Restaurant Association secretary/treasurer and owner of Casa Ole' Restaurants.

The HRA, with 1200 plus members, is the largest chapter in the state and one of the largest in the nation. The H.R.R.P., which began Oct. 26, currently has over 60 restaurants participating with pro-

ceeds benefiting local AIDS Outreach Programs, (Casa de Esperanza, Pet Patrol, Montrose Clinic, Assistance Fund) and National AIDS Research Network).

The move Tuesday by the HRA is believed to be the first in this country making Houston, its restaurateurs and the HRA a pioneer in the effort to educate and fight the war on AIDS.

Jail Task Force meetings

The Harris County Jail Citizens Medical Advisory Task Force will meet Thursday, Jan. 27 at 7:00 p.m. at the Montrose Public Library, 4100 Montrose, to continue its series of dialogues on public health situations in the county health system.

According to its leaders, past actions taken by the Task Force have led to the awarding \$1.8 million in federal funds by federal courts. Members also claim the group has successfully advocated for numerous inmates who were denied access to proper medical treatment as well as identifying and documenting widespread "cracks" in the system. Focus subjects for 1993 included HIV/AIDS, TB and mental health/mental retardation issues, they said.

The public is invited to participate in the free monthly meetings. Persons wishing to testify on jail health related issues and individuals interested in becoming a vol-

unteer member of the Task Force may contact Matt Locklin at 942-7600 or Ray Hill at 523-6969 for more information.

Houston Lutherans concerned

The Houston chapter of Lutherans Concerned is now forming. Meetings take place on the 4th Sunday of each month at 4:00 p.m. at Grace Lutheran Church, 2515 Waugh Drive. Lutherans Concerned is a society of gay, lesbian and non-gay Christians that are working to foster a climate of understanding, justice and reconciliation among all women and men, regardless of affectional preference.

Gay veterans to meet

Texas Gay Veterans if Houston will hold its regular, biweekly meeting on Friday, Jan. 21, 7:00 p.m. at the Stone Soup building, 608 Westheimer. Headlining the topics for discussion is preparation for the upcoming national convention of Gay, Lesbian and Bisexual Veterans of America, of which the Houston group is a chapter.

The national conference is scheduled to be held in Texas this year, Feb. 11-14 in San Antonio. For more information on either the local or national veteran's organization, call (713) 650-6503 or 359-3720.



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Former Marine convicted of murdering gay man in Hawaii

HONOLULU, Wednesday, Jan. 12 (AP)—A former Kaneohe Marine was convicted Tuesday of killing a gay man in his Waikiki apartment 2 1/2 years ago.

John Knight, 23, faces life in prison with the possibility of parole when he's sentenced March 2. He remains in police custody.

A Circuit Court jury deliberated for two days before convicting Knight of second-degree murder in the August 1991 death of William Rowe, 43.

Knight and Rowe met in a Waikiki bar,

and the two went back to Rowe's home. Knight testified that he "freaked out" and slashed Rowe's throat after Rowe made sexual advances toward him.

Prosecutors said Knight hated gays and had concocted a plan where he would befriend them and then rob them. Before he killed Rowe, prosecutors said Knight took his bank card and made Rowe give him the access number.

They also said he bragged about the killing, asking one friend if he wanted to see the body.



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Yves Saint Laurent to send out valentine condoms

By SUZY PATTERSON
 FOR THE HOUSTON VOICE

PARIS, Friday, Jan. 14 (AP)—Some 200,000 Parisians are scheduled to receive a distinctive valentine from couturier Yves Saint Laurent—a condom.

Unadorned by lace, hearts or flowers, the condom will arrive in an aluminum packet inside a discreet white folder.

The valentine is Saint Laurent's latest contribution to the fight against AIDS, according to Christophe Girard, secretary-general of the fashion house.

The valentine packet is printed with an artistic photograph of a nude male covering his private parts, a silhouette of a woman in the foreground.

Girard said the fashion house was inspired by the government's decision Dec. 1 to make condoms available for one franc (about 17 U.S. cents) apiece, one-fifth the standard price.

Early this month, Parisians were confronted by YSL posters across the city displaying the nude photo, and announcing the Valentine's Day condoms.

Copies of the poster can be obtained by contributing to organizations assisting AIDS sufferers.

Girard said the 200,000 YSL condom recipients would be chosen at random from a mailing list, "irrespective of age or sex."

"The message will get around," he said. "Anybody, of any age, may be at risk, and none of us can be protected or warned enough."

Saint Laurent and his company have long been supportive of efforts to combat AIDS, and eye-catching publicity is nothing new for the fashion house.

In 1971 Saint Laurent himself posed Buddha-style in the nude to promote his new perfume Pour Homme.

A 1993 biography by Laurence Benaim chronicled Saint Laurent's drug problems and homosexuality. But his bouts of ill health in recent years are related to depression and drugs, not AIDS, according to colleagues.

He will present his couture collection for next summer Wednesday.

IN MEMORY OF

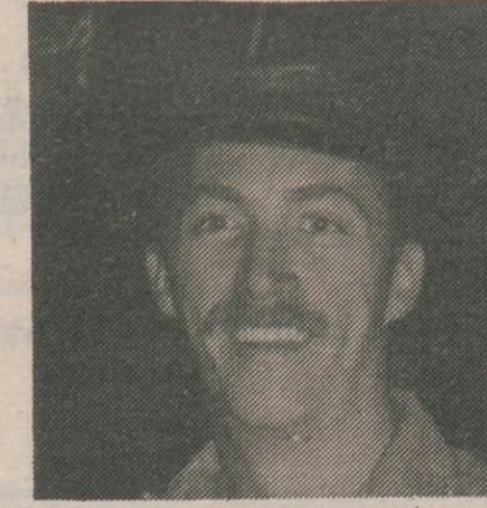


ERNIE FARIAS
 Born: February 27, 1954
 Died: December 7, 1993

Unable to face one more Pearl Harbor Day and refusing to be sustained by the Oiler's victories, Ernie died in a hospital surrounded by his family and good friend Pat. Ernie was an active musician and passive (but passionate) sportsman and a graduate of U.T. in architecture.

After a Funeral Mass in Laredo where his own music was played and sung he was laid to rest with his ancestors. He will be remembered by all who knew him. In Laredo he is survived by his mother, sister, brother, nieces and nephews. In Houston by his dear friend Pat, The Joy Luck Club and the crowd at the Ripcord.

A celebration of Ernie's life will be held in conjunction with that of Jim Meyers, Sunday, January 23, 1994 at 1:00 p.m. at the Ripcord.



RICK LYNN KIPP
 Born: August 8, 1960
 Died: January 10, 1994

Rick, a popular figure at The Ripcord for 9 years will be remembered for his never faltering positive attitude and his never ceasing smile.

Rick is survived by his father, brother and two loving sisters and all of us from Leather By Boots and The Ripcord.



JAMES M. MEYERS
 Born: February 5, 1942
 Died: December 23, 1993

Jim passed away unexpectedly after surgery and was laid to rest at the National Cemetery in Houston after honorably serving in the U.S. Air Force.

His is survived by his sisters, Frances Barbara and Dorothy of Cleveland, Ohio and his long time friend and companion Tom Sawyer plus many friends at the Ripcord.

A celebration of his life will be held in conjunction with Ernie Farias Sunday, January 23 at 1:00 p.m. at the Ripcord.

Till we meet again, Have a drink with Scott, Love Tom

The Houston Voice welcomes well-written, insightful and to-the-point opinion pieces for our editorial page. We also welcome "counterpoint" articles that represent a different view on the issues approached in commentaries that we have run. We reserve the right to edit for length, format and readability, and we will run only one full-length counterpoint to an opinion piece. Shorter responses may run as "letters to the editor" at our discretion.

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Nina Rena' and Lawanda Jackson
GALVESTON SOAP

By **JERRY STUART**
Houston Voice/Galveston

Well, I finally found out what the Mardi Gras theme is going to be this year. So for those of you who haven't heard: its Greek Gods and Goddesses. We've seen so many goddesses here on the island lately, or rather queens who think they look like goddesses, the theme for this year's Mardi Gras seems appropriate. What this island needs, though, is some more gods.

Muscles in Action have sent us a few who look like Greek gods and occasionally we get a few from Austin and Dallas that stay for the weekend to party with us, but what we need is a few bus loads of hot men to move here. You girls know what I mean, husband material. Men with bodies that dreams are made of. Well, if this year's Mardi Gras theme and festival doesn't get them down here by the hundreds I don't what will. So



Calvin and friend at Evolution

you girls better dig out your finest beads and pearls and get those toga sheets pressed and ironed because I think we're in for one hell of a party.

...And while I'm on the subject of goddesses, our very own island goddess Miss Shawna Brooks was in town this past Friday night at the Kon Tiki Club, serving lots of drama in her latest one-of-a-kind fashions. Now this is one girl who works for a crowd. On behalf of Galveston I would like to say farewell and you better come back soon to visit us. I'm sure they'll love you in Georgia as we have grown to love you here in Texas. Poison Alexander was also on stage Friday evening along with our island Diva, Misty Valdez. I was unable to catch the show because I had to go out of town to photograph my sister's wedding, but sources told me that I missed a fabulous show.

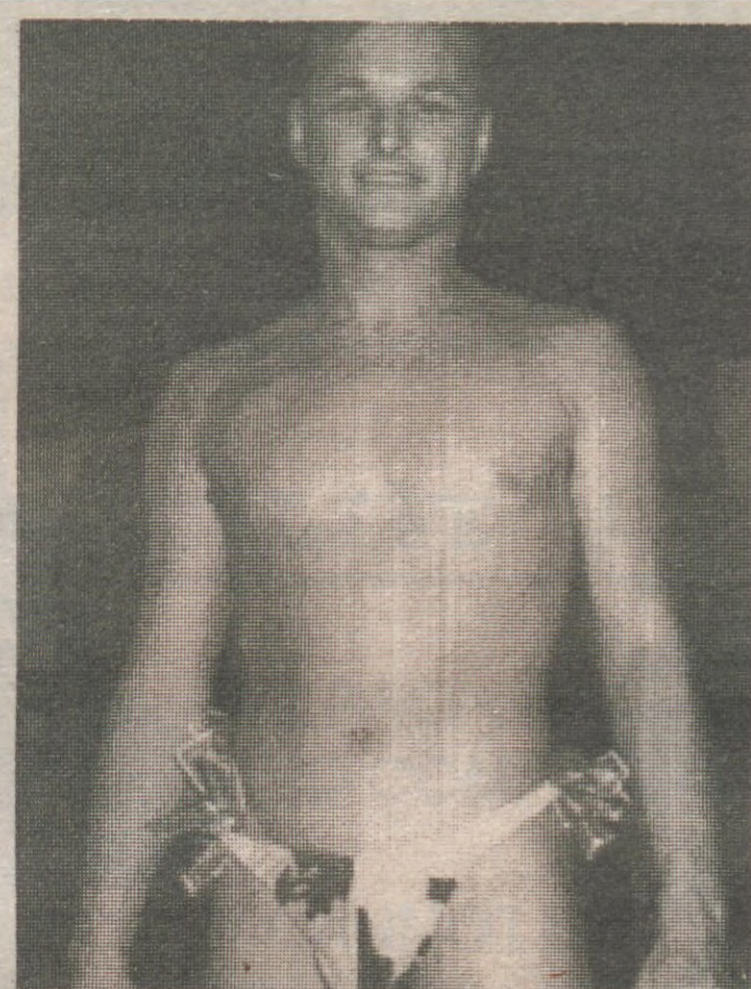
Then Saturday evening Garza Productions was proud to present Miss Mallisa

Crawford, who took to the stage at the Kon Tiki to perform with Poison, Misty and one of those hot guys from Muscles in Action I spoke of earlier. This was another good show that I truly hated to miss.

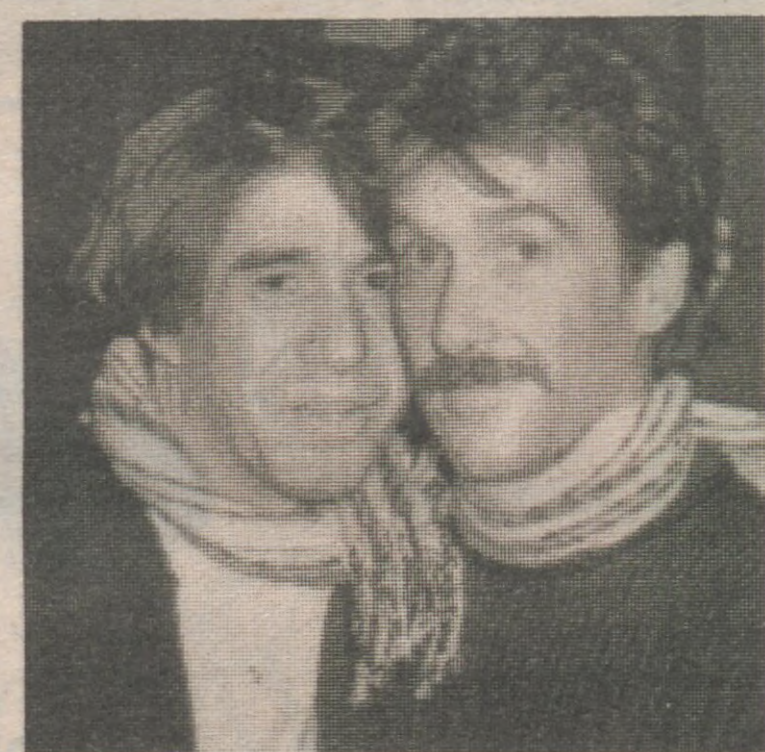
Club Evolution has really been packing them in for after hours. People from all over town are coming in to dance the night away to the great tunes that Calvin plays on Evolution's incredible sound system. Don't forget to ask about their non-alcoholic drinks. Papa Vigi keeps a well stocked bar with all kinds of flavored sodas and juice drinks so when you work up a thirst on the dance floor just ask the bartender or bar back on duty about them. I'm sure they'll be happy to serve you.

Evolution also has weekly shows and on Fridays, and Saturday night they have male (and occasionally female) dancers for your entertainment.

As most of you may have noticed the Galveston Soap section was not in last week's issue of the Houston Voice. It was due to a lack of communication and an error on my part. The Houston Voice has moved to a new location and I delivered my column the old address. Sorry folks, I'll try not to let this kind of thing happen in the future. Be sure to call me with any information on upcoming events such as parties, announcements, special occasions or anything pertaining to Galveston and our Gay and Lesbian community. The number to reach me is (409) 740-7403. This has been your friendly Island reporter, now signing off.



Jammie at Evolution



David and Robert

Despite high AIDS rate, few Brazilians use condoms

RIO DE JANEIRO, Brazil, Sunday, Jan. 16 (AP)—Despite a high number of AIDS cases in Brazil, 40 percent of sexually active Brazilians have never bought a condom, according to a

poll published Sunday.

The survey, conducted by the polling firm Brasmarket for the newsweekly Istoe, involved interviews with 2631 people in 16 cities. A margin of error was

not released.

Less than 50 million condoms were sold last year in Brazil, which has 100 million sexually active inhabitants, Istoe reported. The total population

is 150 million.

"People just don't feel threatened by the virus," World Health Organization psychiatrist Arletty Pinel told Istoe. She said 700,000 Brazilians are

believed to have the virus that causes AIDS.

There have been 18,500 deaths in Brazil from AIDS and another 45,000 people who show symptoms of the disease.

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Houston Front Runners participate in Tenneco Marathon

SPORTS NOTES

Sunday, Jan. 16th was a cold and blustery day in Houston, but three dauntless Houston Front Runners braved the chill to triumphantly complete the grueling 26.2 mile Houston Tenneco Marathon. Larry "the Speeder" Teeter crossed the finish line of his 28th marathon in just 3:04:21. That's fast enough to place him 249th in a field of 5648. Hot on his trail were Don Saint at 3:41 and Gere Gentry at 5:06. Gere is to be commended on completing his first marathon ever. In addition to Front Runners Houston, at least one Dallas Front Runner was seen passing the Front Runners' cheering squad at the 23 mile marker on Allen Parkway.

The marathon wasn't the only thing on the club's agenda in January. The group combined its annual elections with a carb-loading pasta party the night before the marathon and held its monthly dinner at the Old Spaghetti Warehouse in downtown Houston on Thursday the 6th.

The Front Runners say they are planning

great things for the coming year, including out-of-town trips to regional fun runs and their annual Bar-To-Bar Fun Run in conjunction with Pride Week '94. The group welcomes all men and women interested in walking or running for fitness.

The Front Runners meet at the mile marker directly in front of Memorial Park's Tennis Center three times a week: Sundays at 9:00 a.m. and Thursdays at 6:30 p.m. Call 522-0899 for more information.

HMBL sets elections

The Houston Metropolitan Billiards League is scheduled to hold its officer election on Feb. 6 at the Red Room. Everyone in the league has a vote. The nominees for various positions are: President, Joe Dyson



and Dan Tucker; Vice President, Alan Gillespie; Secretary, John Adams; Treasurer, Steven Kerr; and Sgt. at Arms, Al Geoffrey.

Current team standings in the league are as follows: (1) Oui Cousins; (2) Coalition; (3) Outpost Men; (4) The Flying "None"; (5) Jackson 5; (6) Crazy 8's; (7) BP "Ate" Ballers; (8) Soft Balls; (9) E/J's Mess; (10) Ripcord Rebels; (11) King's X; (12) Scandalous Reds I; (13) Past Time Parrots; (14) Suicide Squad; (15) Miner 69'ers; and (16) Cousins Dudes.

Bowling league standings

Following are the Gay Bowling Association league standings. (Editor's note: Women's League standings are reported by team name only at the league's request).

Monday Nite Women's League: (1st) Can't Bowl Straight; (2nd) Not Your Husbands; (3rd) We Try Harder. High Scratch Game and Series bowled by Girlfriends. For more information call Pat DeCarlo, 437-6218.

Houston Thursday Night Mixers: (1st) Luci's Loosies; (2nd) Members Only—Not; (3rd) Tops & Bottoms. Men's High Scratch Game—251—Rick Fancy; Men's High Scratch Series—633—Mace Adams. Women's High Scratch Game—190—Pat DeCarlo; Women's High Scratch Series—528—Carol Clark. For information call Mace Adams at 432-7239.

Montrose Monday Nite Men's League: Division A—(1st) Miss Marks Alot; (2) Hard as a Rock & Easy to Nail; (3rd) You Just Go Girl. Division B—(1st) I Can't Believe It's Not Gutter; (2nd) R U Being Served?; (3rd) Here Kitty, Kitty!! High Scratch Game—240—Pat Charlton; High Scratch Series—618—Mace Adams. For information call Chris Bennett, 655-7327.

New Hampshire rally backs extending human rights law to gays

HANOVER, N.H., Friday, Jan. 14 (AP)—New Hampshire lawmakers backing a measure outlawing discrimination based on sexual preference say the proposal doesn't give anyone any special rights.

They spoke Thursday night at a rally sponsored by a gay rights group at Dartmouth College.

Rep. Thomas Houlahan, R-New London, described the proposal as a moderate measure. It expands the New Hampshire Human Rights law to ensure equal rights for homosexuals as well as heterosexuals.

The House Judiciary Committee holds

a public hearing on the bill Jan. 27.

The current law forbids discrimination on the basis of race, sex, national origin, age, marital status and physical or mental handicaps. It forbids discrimination in the areas of employment, housing and public accommodation.

Rep. William McCann, D-Dover, said homosexuals would not get special privileges under the extension.

In Portsmouth, a gay rights proposal was rejected late last year, but the new City Council is expected to go on record Jan. 18 supporting a gay rights law at the state level.

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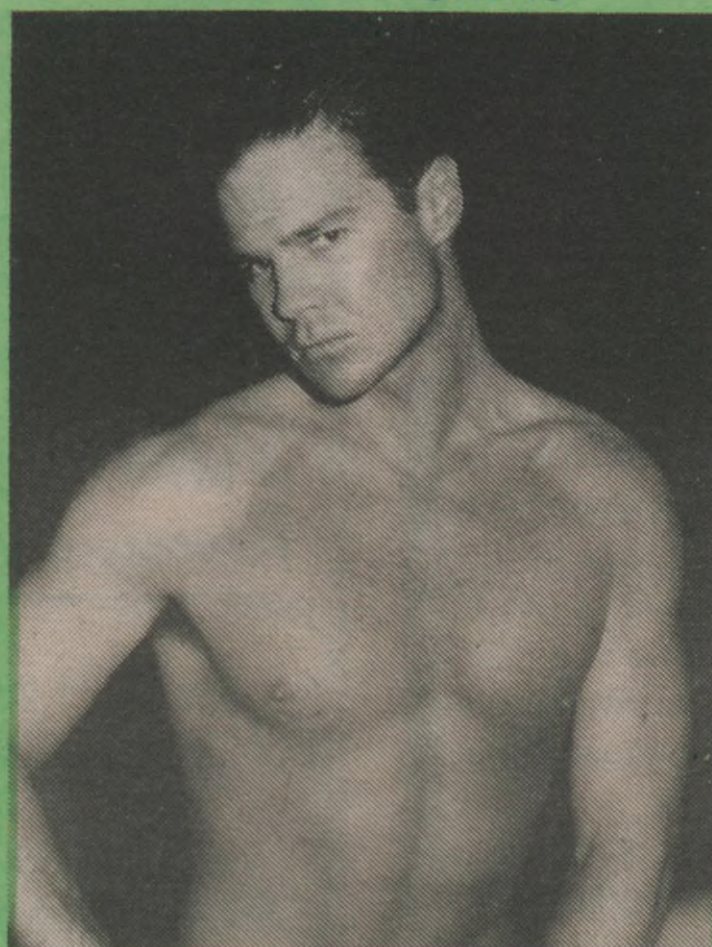
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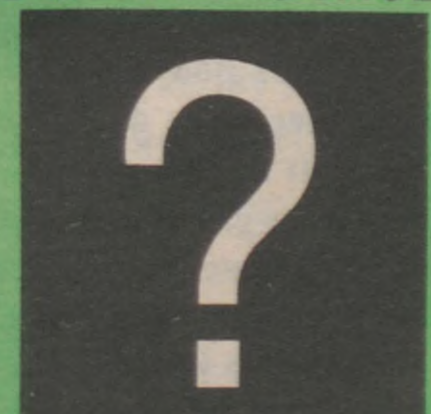
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Houston Symphony interprets 18th, early 20th century selections

REVIEW

By JOHN REED

Houston Voice/Houston

Returning to the Jones Hall stage for the January, 1994, Houston Symphony Classical Season, Conductor Christoph Eschenbach selected a program of 18th and 20th Century music to warm the chill of a winter's evening.

The featured event was Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart's Piano Concerto No. 22. The fine classical interweaving of piano and orchestra that was written in 1785 sounds timeless and is certainly part of anyone's basic repertoire. The noted concert pianist, Emanuel Ax provided a splendid interpretation with detailed phrasing, subtle shading of loud and softness, and a sensitivity that could have inferred that Mr. Ax had written the concerto himself. Woodwinds rather than the strings provided most of the orchestra theme. The pace Mr. Ax and Maestro Eschenbach chose for the

three movements was rapid and sprightly. The Allegro first movement features clarinets interacting with the piano. A dozen or so melodies are briefly played during this opening, a richness that few composers could equal. The Andante second movement bring forth the flute and bassoon and play the fine duet in this middle portion of the piece. The Allegro finale is written in 6/8 meter and reestablishes the lilting tonality that would encourage one to set words to the music.

The 18th century focus continued with the Houston Orchestra playing Mozart's Symphony No. 35, also known as the Haffner



Symphony. This name is in reference to a Salzburg, Austria, family that had been an important benefactor for Mozart. The first movement is one of happiness and a sense of festiveness. Perhaps the emotions surrounding the marriage of Mozart to Constanze Weber could be inferred from the up lifting melodies. The beautiful timpani background gives a

warm base to the music. Classical music does not get any better that these two selections. As I have recommended to friends, why take mood elevators when there is music of this character to listen to.

The Prokofiev Symphony No. 1 is one of the more pleasant symphonies to come from the

early portion of the 20th century, being written during the second decade among the turmoil of the 1917 Russian Revolution. Sergei Prokofiev is well known for his ballets, Romeo and Juliet and Cinderella, the orchestration of Peter and the Wolf, and the dramatic opera, War and Peace. The Symphony No. 1 is a surprisingly warm and friendly composition with little discord or imbalance. If a reader is interested in being introduced to Prokofiev's music, this selection would be a pleasant beginning.

As the fourth selection, an unusual 20th century composition by William Bolcom was offered by the Houston Symphony. The program notes made mention of the absence of a current recording of his Commedia. The appeal of western audiences for this degree of dissonance and waiver from conventional musical scoring is limited. The best that I might say is that at least the audience heard this selection as it may be the last time it is performed locally.

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The Texas Puzzle solution

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ASK THE PASTOR

Q: "The Bible mentions 'the spilling of a man's seed' as bad or wrong. Does this mean that masturbation is a sin? Today, is it considered sinful or lustful?"

A: You are actually asking two separate questions. First of all, the 'spilling of a man's seed' refers to the story in the Old Testament of Onan. It is found in Genesis 38. Onan was the second son of Judah. Judah was one of the twelve (sons) tribes of Israel. He had chosen to leave his brothers to find his fortune in Canaan on his own. He had separated himself from the family unit known to Israel. Judah married and had several sons. He found a wife for his first son, Er. Er was wicked in God's sight and God put him to death. He had not had any children at the time of his death. In this case, it was the custom of Israel to have the brother-in-law marry the brother's wife for two purposes: 1) to protect the widow, and 2) to carry on the name of the descendant. Onan was appointed to marry Er's wife, Tamar. Onan knew that the offspring would not be his and so 'spilled his seed' so that Tamar could not get pregnant. The scriptures tell us that what Onan did was wicked in God's sight. Onan was put to death. The reference we have to this incident takes us to the book of Deuteronomy 25:5-9. The 'Levirate Marriage' was a law of the people of Israel. It was Latin for "brother-in-law marriage." What Onan did was to break the law that stated that he was to carry on his brother's name and protect his brother's widow. Onan refused to do this. A greater principle is being demonstrated here in the story that has nothing to do with masturbation. The only immortality the Hebrews hoped for was to grow old and, after their death, to live on in the life of their descendants. There was a very strong group solidarity in the life of Israel. A person did not live for themselves, but for the good of the whole "family." Like its parent Judaism, Christianity originated as a community. We were not made to live in isolation. Jesus is the Head of the Church which is Christ's Body. We belong to Christ and are not our own. When we act in selfishness and decide to do our own thing for our own convenience, we become an "island," and not a team player. This calls for discipline. Today we are blessed to live in the age of God's grace which keeps us all from being slain through selfishness and disobedience. This is not to say that we are to live only "communally," but that we have a responsibility to the Body of Christ. We not only respond to Christ individually, but also to the Body to which we are joined.

Next week I would like to address your question regarding masturbation. Since it was not really the issue of the Biblical reference given in your question, I would like to address it separately.

IF YOU HAVE ANY QUESTIONS AND WOULD LIKE TO HAVE THEM ADDRESSED BY REV. JANET PARKER, PLEASE WRITE TO: MARANATHA FELLOWSHIP MCC, P.O. BOX 667032, HOUSTON, TX



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Muscles in Action at 10th Ave; Zipper's re-opens; Miss Laredo at Large

RIO GRANDE VALLEY SOAP

By TOOTSIE WOMELDORF

Houston Voice/Rio Grande Valley

Tonight is a big night for the Valley's own Lady Laura and Caprice Devereaux as they travel to Laredo to compete for the Miss Laredo At Large Pageant which is being held at the Discover Club. This pageant is a preliminary to the Miss Texas At Large competition. We would like to wish them both the best of luck.

Last Friday night Just Tery's sponsored a benefit for Lady Laura to help raise funds for her to compete. They had a terrific show featuring some of the best entertainers in the Valley. Among the performers were Miss Gay Rio

Grande Valley, Paulina Mercedes Lane, Miss Cameron County, Katherine York, Julissa, Mr. Butch, Joshua St. Michael, Andrea Milany, Velma and Esmer, Jacqui Fabiane and many more. On Sunday Just Tery's held another great show and also the Capricorn birthday bash with special honoree Jacqui. They had mariachis and lots of munchies.

I would like to apologize for last weeks mistake about Kofi and A Touch of Cream. I incorrectly wrote that they would be appearing this Friday instead. Don't miss this great show.!

10th Avenue also held a benefit show for Lady Laura this last Wednesday which turned out to a great success. This Thursday 10th will have complimentary cubas and draft until 11:00 p.m. with only \$1 cover and \$1 well and draft after 11:00 p.m.

Tonight at 10th Avenue be sure and check out Muscles In Action as they do their stuff for you guys. But ladies, please don't fret! On Sunday 10th Avenue will have some lovely female dancers. So come on girls, start saving those dollar bills for tits, oops I mean tips!

Over at P.B.D.'s be sure to

check out their special show tomorrow (Saturday 22nd) with special entertainers, Lady Laura, Paulina Mercedes Lane, and Caprice Devereaux. Be sure and mark you calendars for Feb. 19 when P.B.D.'s will have the party of '94 as their 10th Anniversary. It will be a night to remember. Be there!

trip. Last Sunday night they held their first amateur drag contest. The winner of this months contest was Roxanne who won \$75. Other competitors were Sweet & Luscious and Mike Knight. Special entertainer for the show was Miss Caprice Devereaux.

If you missed this show don't worry! The Planet will hold amateur drag night the third Sunday of every month. At the beginning of 1995 these winners will get top compete for the Miss Planet Newcomer of the Year. For more information speak to David at the club.

After sitting at home watching the game on TV all day Sunday, come out and party! Kofi and A Touch of Cream will be live at The Planet Sunday night. They put on a terrific show, so don't miss them.

At this week's Valley Voice meeting plans got underway for this year's Gay Pride Week activities. This year will be the 25th anniversary of Stonewall so they are planning an even bigger celebration than before. If you or your bar owner or organization would like to participate in the planning please contact Valley Voice at 428-6800.



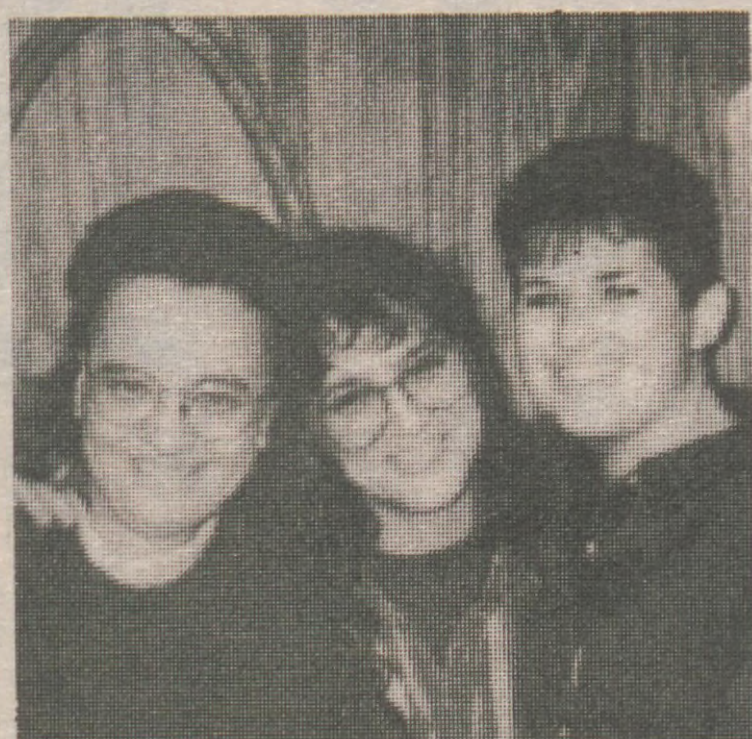
Andrea Milany

This week Valley Voice will bowl at Creasey's in Harlingen on Tuesday at 8:00 p.m. I'd like to welcome new comer Letty to the game. Well, that 'bout wraps it up for this week. I just wanted to add that if you haven't seen "Philadelphia" you need to check it out. It is a fantastic movie and its playing across the Valley. Don't miss it.

Do you have a special little Valentine message for your honey this year? Send it to me at P.O. Box 3027, Harlingen, Tx 78551-3027 and I'll be happy to include it in my Valentine issue. All letters must be received by Feb. 5th.



Luis at Just Tery's



Dee, Mary and Chris on the town

If you drove down Harrison Street in Harlingen last weekend you probably noticed that Zipper's bar was closed. Not to worry, they were feeling a bit under the weather but they're back, so stop by and say hello to Max and Carlos. Also be sure to get all the details on the upcoming Monterrey Special Collection Dancers show.

Over at The Planet, John and Kim are back from their Las Vegas



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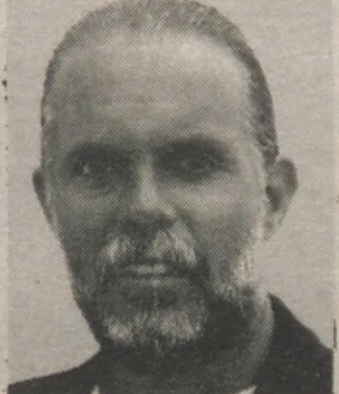
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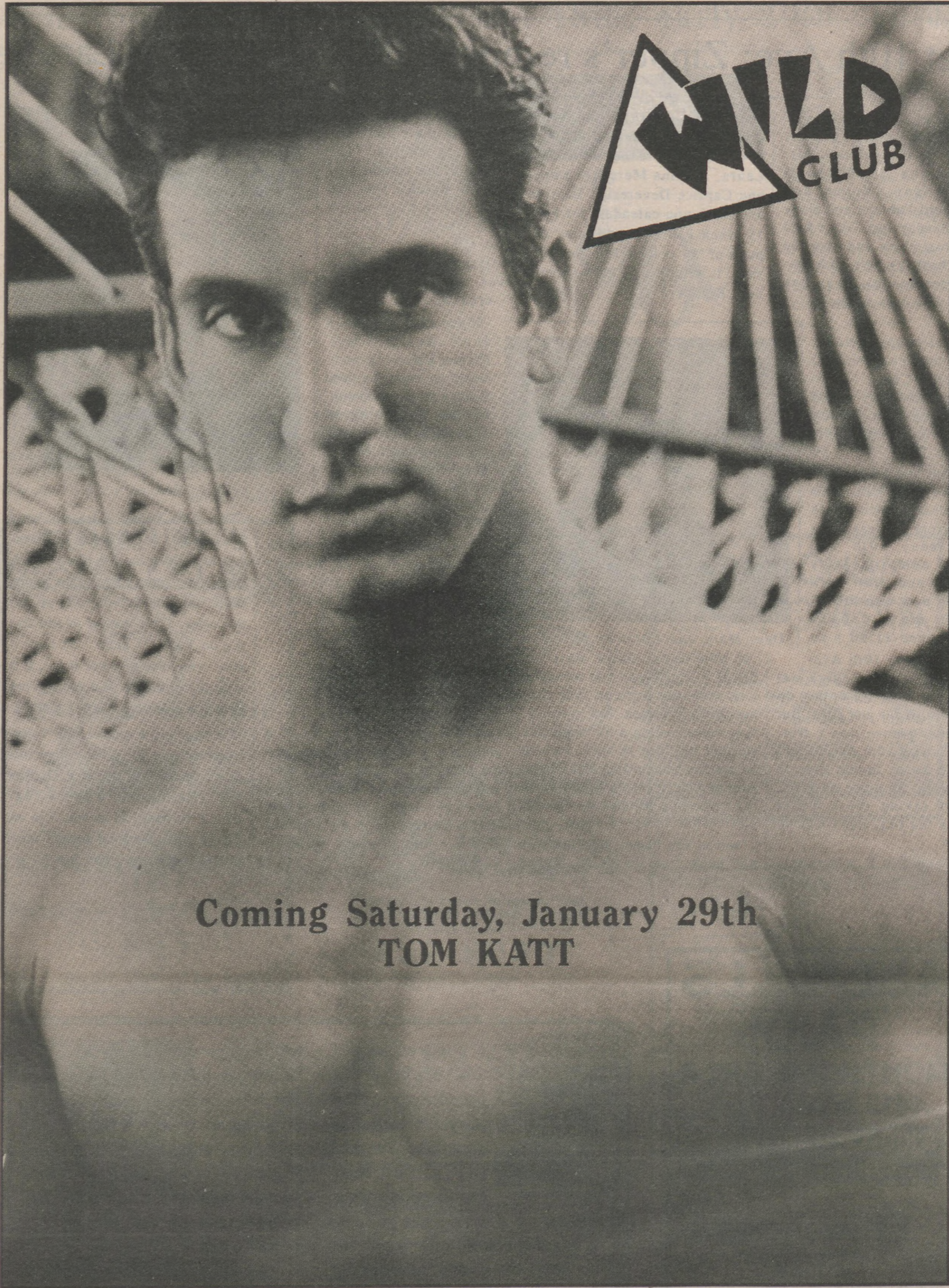
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| Club Houston | 2205 Fannin | 659-4998 |
| Cousins | 817 Fairview | 528-9204 |
| E/J's | 2517 Ralph | 527-9071 |
| Gentry | 2303 Richmond | 520-1861 |
| Heaven | 812 Pacific | 521-9123 |
| JR's | 808 Pacific | 521-2519 |
| Lazy J | 312 Tuam | 528-9394 |
| Mary's | 1022 Westheimer | 527-9669 |
| Midtown Spa | 3100 Fannin | 522-2379 |
| Montrose Mining Co. | 805 Pacific | 529-7488 |
| Ms. B's | 9200 Buffalo Spdwy | 666-3356 |
| Outpost | 2818 Richmond | 520-8446 |
| Pacific Street | 710 Pacific | 523-0213 |
| Ranch | 9200 Buffalo Spdwy | 666-3464 |
| Red Room | 1419 Richmond | 529-3367 |
| Rich's | 2401 San Jacinto | 759-9606 |
| Ripcord | 715 Fairview | 521-2791 |
| Venture-N | 2923 Main | 522-0000 |
| XTC | 9200 Buffalo Spdwy | 666-3464 |
| SAN ANTONIO (A/C 210) | | |
| 2015 Place | 2015 San Pedro | 733-3365 |
| Captain's Crew | 309 W Market | 223-0333 |
| El Jardin | 106 Navarro | 223-7177 |
| Industria | 450 Soledad | 227-0484 |
| Miriam's | 115 General Krueger | 308-7354 |
| Nexus | 8021 Pine Brook | 341-2818 |
| Paper Moon | 1430 N. Main | 225-7330 |
| Silver Dollar Saloon | 1418 N. Main | 227-2623 |
| Sparks | 8011 Webbles | 653-9941 |
| Wild Club | 820 San Pedro | 226-2620 |
| Wild Country | 414 W. Laurel | 228-9378 |
| RIO GRANDE VALLEY | | |
| Harlingen (A/C 210) | | |
| Planet | 117 W. Jackson Harlingen | (210)425-4652 |
| McAllen(A/C 210) | | |
| 10th Avenue | 1820 10th Avenue | 682-7131 |
| P.B.D.'s Lounge | Ware Rd.@Daffodil | 682-8019 |

Correction

In the December 24 (Issue 687) Houston Voice, the name of The Agora's Access Cable program was incorrectly identified as "Out in America." The correct title of the show is "Out in Houston." The locally created, produced and focused news/documentary program will feature the topic "Politics in Houston" in February and "Coming Out" in March. We regret the error.

Dee Mosbacher, Garrett Glaser to keynote Texas NLGJA Convention

QUICK NOTES

Nationally noted psychologist Dr. Dee Mosbacher and Entertainment Tonight correspondent Garrett Glaser will keynote the second annual convention of the Texas Chapter of the National Lesbian/Gay Journalist Association.

The conference, titled, "Lesbians, Gays and Texas Journalism: Out and About," will be Feb. 11-14 at the Southland Center Hotel.

Dr. Mel White, a best selling author and former ghost writer for religious right leaders including Jerry Falwell, Pat Robertson and Billy Graham, will be master of ceremonies at the awards presentation, hosted Saturday night by the Dallas press Club. White now is a minister for the Metropolitan Community Church.

The event is co-sponsored by the Dallas Morning News and underwritten in part by the Fort Worth Star-Telegram, Dallas Chapter of the Society of Professional Journalists and

Crossroads Bookstore.

Mosbacher, an open lesbian and daughter of former Commerce Secretary Rob Mosbacher Sr., will speak at noon Saturday. She is active in national politics and currently is producing a film on homophobia in America.

Glaser, a member of the NLGJA board, will speak Saturday morning on issues facing lesbian and gay journalists in broadcast media.

NLGJA was formed three years ago to foster a better working environment for lesbian and gay journalists, to serve as a professional and social network, to stimulate dialogue on professional and ethical issues, and to promote fair and accurate coverage of the lesbian and gay community.

The Texas NLGJA chapter was organized in 1991.

The conference program also will include panel discussions on: Workplace and Personnel Issues, Lesbian/Gay Journalists and the Lesbian/Gay Civil

Rights Movement, Racism in the Lesbian/Gay community and Homophobia among Racial Minorities. Top editors from Metroplex-area newspapers will take part Saturday in a good-natured, audience driven discussion titled "Editors on the Hot Seat."

Registration deadline for the convention is Jan. 31. The fee is \$30 for college students, \$45 for NLGJA members and their partners and \$75 for non-members.

Working journalists who wish to cover any of the speeches or events may obtain convention credentials in advance with a DPS press ID or letter on company letterhead.

Stonewall 25 meeting

Stonewall 25 Houston committee will hold its next meeting Thursday, Jan. 27, at 7:00 p.m. at the Montrose Library (upstairs). The group is now forming; anyone planning on going to New York or wanting to

help with the local mobilization effort is invited to attend.

Atheist forum

In its weekly message, Dial-A-Gay Atheist, the telephone commentary service of American Gay and Lesbian Atheists, brings back the "Open Forum" segment of its program. The forum features the opinions and comments of callers to the line who have left messages in response to previous commentaries. This week, callers are expressing their opinions about the release of new public service announcements for radio and television prepared and distributed by the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services. The ads promote the use of condoms to prevent the spread of AIDS.

Sanders also confronts callers' bigotry head on with his own responses to their provocative comments. To a caller's accusation that Sanders "murdered" his deceased partner by infecting him with AIDS as a result of irresponsible sexual

activity, Sanders notes that the caller's attitude "epitomizes the thoughts of those who are responsible for the squashing of information," specifically information which promotes responsible sexual activity. "This is precisely the kind of prattle which the white Christian heterosexual establishment loves to disseminate," he says.

This week's message runs from Sunday evening, Jan. 16 through Sunday evening, Jan. 23. The recorded service can be accessed 24 hours a day by dialing (713) 880-4242. Dial-A-Gay-Atheist is part of the educational outreach of American Gay and Lesbian Atheists, a national non-profit educational foundation based in Houston. The organization promotes the premise that separation between state and church is the lesbian and gay community's most important constitutional ally. Further questions should be directed to Don Sanders at (713) 862-3283.

Market index of gay-friendly companies rises; BWMT sets national convention; Gay and Lesbian groups announce openings

NATIONAL NOTES

The Stonewall Index, which consists of stocks of 36 companies with gay and lesbian-friendly policies and practices, rose 23.31 percent during 1993. It was the second consecutive year in which Stonewall has grown more than any other broad-based market index.

The 1993 Stonewall Index performance compares favorably with closely followed market indices: 69.9 percent greater increase than the Dow Jones Industrial Average; 230 percent greater increase than the S & P 500; 57.9 percent greater increase than the NASDAQ composite, and so on.

"The success of the stocks in the Stonewall Index is no accident," said James Dean, the Atlanta investment adviser who founded the index in 1991 and monitors its performance. "The companies represented in the Stonewall Index tend to be highly innovative. They realize that in an extremely competitive business environment, attracting and keeping quality people is more important than perpetuating homophobic stereotypes that are irrelevant to job performance. Recognizing the talents and contributions of gay and lesbian employees is an integral part of the success these companies are enjoying."

Many companies represented in the index aggressively seek business from gay and lesbian consumers, who have proved to be a large, affluent and loyal market. Some have had success advertising in local or national gay and lesbian publications, Dean said, and indications are that others will follow suit.

"The bottom line," he said, is that these companies have found that being gay and lesbian-friendly is good busi-

ness. Dean noted that investment in the 36 index stocks is not necessarily appropriate for everyone, and that inclusion in the index does not imply a recommendation for purchase. Like other market indices, the Stonewall Index is unmanaged. Stocks are removed from the index only because of acquisition, change in corporate policy that makes continued inclusion unwarranted, or de-listing.

BWMT convention

The National Association of Black and White Men Together will be hosting its 14th annual convention from July 16-24 in Washington, D.C. The event will take place at the Sheraton National Hotel in Arlington, Va.

The '94 Convention theme "Breaking the Chains of—isms" will be addressed throughout the week via workshops, guest speakers, and cultural/social events. Attendees will include representatives from over 30 NABWMT-affiliated chapters from across the country, who will come together to share a common bond.

NABWMT, formed in 1980, is a Gay "multi-racial, multi-cultural organization committed to fostering supportive environments wherein racial and cultural barriers can be overcome and the goal of human equality realized." Convention '94 will explore the many ways that the gay and lesbian community can work to overcome racism, ageism, sexism and homophobia. In addition, participants will to guest speakers and workshops, participants will be able to take part in cultural and social activities designed to allow them to sample the varied offerings of the Washington, D.C. area. For more information, call (202) 462-3599 or (800) NA4-BWMT or

Connecticut Ave. N.W. 3rd Floor, Washington, D.C. 20009-1108.

National groups hiring

Two national Gay and Lesbian organizations have announced that they are seeking individuals to fill temporary jobs in organizing and outreach.

—The executive committee of Stonewall 25 is seeking to hire a domestic outreach person. The organization is encouraging all interested people to apply, including women and people of color.

The person who is ultimately hired will be responsible for planning, guiding and implementing the outreach effort in the U.S. for the International March on the United Nations to Affirm the Human Rights of Lesbian and Gay People.

Specifically, the individual will work through established organizations for gay men and lesbians, transsexuals, bisexuals, transgender people and supportive organizations to gain their support, their endorsement and their participation in the March.

Stonewall 25 has a written commitment to racial and gender parity which calls for a minimum of 50 percent women and 25 percent people of color, with a goal of 50 percent. Candidates for the position should mail their resume to: Susan Jester, Stonewall 25, 208 West 13th Street, New York, NY 10011.

—The Human Rights Campaign Fund will be hiring an experienced campaign coordinator to head its 1994 Ballot Measures Campaign. The campaign is an effort to defeat anti-gay and lesbian ballot measures which will be voted on in several state elections in November, 1994.

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THE PLANET



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'Ma Rainey's Black Bottom' powerfully depicts pre-civil rights struggles

HOUSTON LIVE

By JAVIER TAMEZ

Houston Voice/Houston

Playwright August Wilson and director Claude Purdy have twice before proven to be a winning combination for the Alley Theatre, and I have every reason to believe that the combination of Wilson's masterful studies of the black experience and Purdy's interpretive insight will score big again.

'Ma Rainey's Black Bottom' is a strong dramatic work that seeks to demonstrate the trials of African-Americans in a time before civil rights. Set in a Chicago recording studio in 1927, the play's action occurs on one cold winter afternoon. Ma Rainey (Theresa Merritt) and her band and entourage are due at the studio to record some songs.

Sturdyvant (Charles Krohn) the owner of the studio emphatically states that he will not tolerate any temperamental behavior from Ma Rainey. He wants the songs recorded, and he wants to get out. Irvin (James Black), Ma Rainey's manager, unconvincingly reassures Sturdyvant that he has taken care of everything; the session will go smoothly. Both Irvin and the audience know, however, that this simply won't be the case.

The greater part of the first act is spent with the musicians who will be providing the instrumental backup on Ma Rainey's recording. They are Cutler (Thomas Martell Brimm), Toledo (Alex Allen Morris), Slow Drag (Byron Wesley Jaquet) and Levee (Russell Andrews), and they provide a range of personalities that seem typical to

black Americans.

Slow Drag, the bassist, and Cutler, the trombonist, are the two older members of the band. Both men are possessed of an ambient pacing that marks every aspect of their respective characters. Toledo, the pianist, is the most educated of the group. He talks of equal rights and the lost culture of African-Americans and rails at the inability of his fellow musicians to recognize the racism from which they collectively and individually suffer. Levee, the trumpeter, is young and brash. A hot-blooded powder keg, he brags that blues is giving way to jazz. The record company owner has expressed interest in using some of Levee's songs, and Levee says confidently that he will soon be forming his own band.

Their arguments and banter provide some riotously funny moments as well as remarks engendering contemplation. In them, the story of blacks is drawn with strident clarity. In many respects, the personas pictured here are still representative of the diversity of blacks and their view of their place in society.

Ma Rainey's arrival at the studio pro-



Theresa Merritt as Ma Rainey in 'Ma Rainey's Black Bottom'

vides further testament to the black experience, except here the terms are much starker. The character of Ma Rainey is reminiscent of another stereotype—the large black woman, loud and blustery and unintentionally comic. In Ma Rainey, though, the difference between then and now is acute.

Ma Rainey has arrived at the recording studio late. Her nephew, Sylvester (Michael

Ballard) a stuttering simpleton who was driving her car, was involved in an accident, and the police officer on hand at the scene refuses to believe that the car could belong to Ma Rainey.

Her flight to the studio is then completely understandable. For in the studio, she rules with an imperious hand. She dictates the rules of the recording session, refusing to start until she has a Coke and insisting that Sylvester, despite his stuttering, be allowed to record the spoken introduction to her lead song.

The message is clear. In the studio, where she is needed, Ma Rainey can enforce her wishes. But outside she is just another black woman deprived of simple human trust and decency.

The biggest drawback to this play is

easily the length. At almost three hours, it trudges on much longer than necessary. The play's impact would not have been diminished a single iota had less attention been given to 90 minutes of dialogue between the musicians or perhaps to the shenanigans by Levee as he tries to seduce Dussie Mae (Renee Elise Goldsberry) described by the other musicians as 'Ma's gal.'

These are small complaints indeed though. This play works and works well. The acting is sensational. Theresa Merritt is great. She has a dominating stage presence that makes her the focal point on stage, even when she's not speaking. She's a superlative talent.

Thomas Martell Brimm as the soft-talking Cutler and Russell Andrews as the cantankerous Levee also give grand performances. Brimm has a captivating, almost angelic quality that lends credence to his character's easy demeanor, while Andrews seethes with ambition and rage.

The set by David Potts is ingenious. He uses four different levels and smartly conveys the essence of a recording studio. Costumes by Kay Kurta were handsome period reproductions. Derek Duarte's lighting and C.E. Slisky's sound were both effective.

'Ma Rainey's Black Bottom' is a turbulent drama that sings the praises of the blues and the plight of African-Americans.

What: 'Ma Rainey's Black Bottom'
Where: The Alley Theatre Large Stage
When: Jan. 6—Feb. 13



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Strong characters, weak plot mark Stages' 'Substance of Fire'

HOUSTON LIVE

By JAVIER TAMEZ

Houston Voice/Houston

Isaac Geldhart (Jerome Kilty), the principal character in "The Substance of Fire," by Jon Robin Baitz, currently being presented at Stages Repertory Theatre, is a strong-willed but troubled man. As a child he escaped the ravages of the Holocaust that destroyed the rest of his family, and there is no doubt that he suffers from varying degrees of survivor's guilt. But that alone does not adequately explain the myopic obstinacy which has gripped him in his later years, and which now threatens the family publishing company which he helped to found.

Isaac is an aging patriarch who insists on publishing brooding reference and historical tomes of dubious academic interest such as a dictionary of Anglo-Saxon/American Indian colloquialisms and the work he plans as the firm's major spring release, a history of Nazi medical experiments. His three children, Aaron, Martin and Sarah recognize the financial ruin that awaits the firm if the father continues in the same fashion.

The youngest son, Aaron (Brian Broome), a Wharton School MBA, owns 20% of the company and, backed by Japanese investors, is anxious to publish a commercially appealing novel that he feels certain will revive moribund sales for the company and move the ledger's bottom line back into the black. Having persuaded his two siblings to read the novel beforehand, and having agreed to drop the notion if they did not like the work, Aaron is now inclined to seek the support of his brother and sister in an attempt to secure control of the company.

The older son, Martin (Rutherford Cravens) owns 25% of the company, but he has very little interest in publishing; Martin is a landscape architect and professor in that field at Vassar. In the interests of the company, however, he is prepared to sign control over his stock to Aaron. The daughter, Sarah (Gage Tarrant), owns 15% of the company and is beyond question the intellectual lightweight of the family. Sarah is an actress on a children's show and is not as committed to the sur-



Jerome Kilty as Isaac Geldhart and Carolyn Houston Boone as Marge Hackett in "The Substance of Fire" (Photo by Richard Cunningham)

vival of the company as she is concerned for the survival of the family.

Isaac is adamantly opposed to even the slightest hint of raciness in any of his published works, sarcastically bristling when he reads an excerpt from the book describing (in words that would make Bill Buckley proud) a blow-job, and referring to the work of pulp as "slick, hipster fiction." He continually argues his point in a haughtily superior fashion, referring to Aaron as a bookkeeper, Martin as a gardener and Sarah a clown.

Ultimately his highbrow profundities work against him, and he loses control of the company to his children. End Act I.

Act II begins three and one half years later. Isaac is now living with Martin (the other two children are not seen again and how Isaac came to be living with Martin is

never really explained). What is known, relatively soon, is that a psychiatric social worker will be speaking to Isaac to determine if a competency hearing is in order.

The social worker, Marge Hackett (Carolyn Houston Boone) is a seemingly kind-hearted woman with genuine interest in her work and a good deal of patience with her charges. During the interview, Isaac's acerbic wit slashes at Marge many times as he mocks her questions, deliberately giving ridiculous answers. But in just as many instances, his mind runs completely askew, and he imagines himself speaking to an assessor from Sotheby's interested in purchasing one of his many first editions.

When Marge leaves, nothing appears to be resolved. And therein lies the problem with the play as a whole. There is no plot to

speak of; this work is more of a character study. And that's fine, but the observations made of Isaac offer little in the way of revelation.

In the first act, Isaac's character is clearly drawn from the onset (as are his children) and while the repartee is without question enjoyable, it lacks anything of substance, save a few well-placed lines.

Moreover, in the second act, we are witness to two versions of Isaac. The first is part and parcel of Isaac from Act I. He is arrogant and bombastic and seems seriously bothered by the conventions of life around him. The other is a forlorn man, who neglects to pay his phone bill but still insists on dressing in tailor-made suits.

In a play such as this, it is easy to excuse the two-dimensional nature of the other characters. It doesn't really matter that Sarah, for instance, has dreadful "California" mannerisms; and it's no big deal that the viewer is provided no details of a homosexual affair Aaron had with the author of the book he wants to publish.

When it comes to Isaac, though, the playwright's intent should be far more apparent. Is Isaac left ambiguous because the playwright himself was unsure how to view his character, or was Baitz perhaps stating that findings one's way through the cultural trash disposal that surrounds us is futile—Isaac is doomed to be adrift as a living anachronism.

Whatever Baitz' intentions, what really makes this play work is strong acting. Jerome Kilty is as wonderfully effective in the role as his program bio suggests he would be. Rutherford Cravens again delivers a strong performance with characteristic intensity. Brian Broome, Gage Tarrant and Carolyn Houston Boone are also all effective and confident.

"The Substance of Fire" is a thought-provoking and intelligent piece with delightfully sharp humor and first-rate acting. The play could use some smoothing on the edges, but this production is as good as they come.

What: "The Substance of Fire"

Where: Stages Repertory Theatre

When: Jan. 12—Feb. 6

L.A. Lesbian and Gay Community Center, AIDS clinic damaged in quake

By SHERI COHEN DARBONNE

Houston Voice Editor

The Los Angeles Gay and Lesbian Community Services Center was forced to close its doors on Tuesday in the wake of the devastating Northridge earthquake that hit with sudden fury Monday afternoon, killing at least 40 people. However, Lorri L. Jean, executive director of the center which provides a wide range of social, health, counseling and support services, said damages to the building

were not debilitating and the center was expected to re-open Wednesday or Thursday.

The quake's tremors knocked over shelves and file cabinets, and a pipe that burst on the roof of the building caused water damage to an AIDS clinic on the third floor, Jean said. Staff members spent most of the day Tuesday cleaning up the place and re-organizing files left in disarray, she said. No estimate of the damages was available Tuesday. "We don't

really know anything yet, this was really sudden," Jean said.

The center left its phone lines open for emergency counseling, but by late Tuesday, Jean said she had received no calls from Gay residents displaced by the quake. A message was also left on the line noting that center staff would be available for drop-in counseling, she said.

No one dropped in, Jean said.

Jean noted, however, that the home of a member of the center's staff had been devastated.

"Obviously, there were (Gay-owned) homes affected," although West Hollywood and other heavily gay residential districts were not hard hit, Jean said. Major pockets of Lesbian and Gay business, she said, "...are not in the areas closest to the epicenter...where (the earthquake) did such massive destruction."

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The cast of *Bouncers*, a Theater LaB production.

HOUSTON SOAP

By TAD NELSON

Houston Voice Publisher

HELLO HOUSTON!

The Royal bitches are at it again this Friday. It's okay, I can call them that. I know most of them and they have called me worse. And deservedly so! That's right, we have the ROYAL SOVEREIGN and IMPERIAL COURT of the SINGLE STAR right here in town with us and you can meet the candidates running for Emperor and Empress this year this Friday night at E/J's at 7:00 p.m. There will be refreshments and a show presented by Barbara Morin during the scheduled ice breaker. Good luck gurlhs. See you at the polls on Saturday.

And speaking of polls. This Saturday, Jan. 22, the Houston community will be given the chance to vote for Emperor and Empress X of the Royal, Sovereign and Imperial Court of the Single Star. As most of you know, the Court is a non-profit organization comprised of individuals who devote their time and energy to raise funds for charitable organizations. They participate in



Bill O'Rourke is E/J's Emperor candidate

many events to help promote unity throughout our community. It is the only organization whose co-presidents (Monarchs) are elected by the community. This years elections will be held at the administrative offices of H.I.P.Y. located at 811 Westheimer, Suite 102 from 10:00 a.m. until 6:00 p.m. Any resident of Harris or adjacent counties is eligible to vote. You must, however, present a valid Texas drivers license, state issued ID or a voter registration card or passport with an official document addressed to you. Please take the time to go by 811 Westheimer, Suite 102 and vote for this years monarchs of this worthy group. Thanks, Crystal for the info!

Now on with Soap. ...

IMPORTANT NEWS FLASH! HOUSTON VOICE has new office space at 811

that does seem a little bit redundant. But more power to the gurlhs at E/J's on their new look. And leather is much easier to clean than lace any day.

CLUB HEDONISM brings Houston great entertainment with several upcoming events. "PINQUE" will be featured at her new CD release party on Jan. 27 for "Hush...The Drama." This Friday "The Powder Room" is coming. This T-room party will be fierce and fun with special surprise and costumed guests. Coming up in February will be "Uncanny Alliance" and then many more groups will be coming throughout February and March. You can pick up on these exclusives by calling the Hedo Line.

RICH'S is still serving it up on Saturdays with the newest and best in High Energy Dance Music, plus No Cover until 10:00 p.m. Enjoy the \$1.75 well



Bruce & Ken party at Rich's

Sunday at the RANCH. The event will include dance lessons and a Tex-Mex Buffet and will go from 3 to 8:00 p.m.

Sundays...enjoy the MONTROSE MINING COMPANY'S "MINE SHAFT BEER BUST" on the patio gets EVEN better. New in 1994 is \$1.00 buy in and a .25 cent refill of Miller Lite Draft Beer with extended hours from 4:00 p.m. until 2:00 a.m. The patio will surely get hotter as the men enjoy Houston's biggest beer bust.

GENTRY is having JOCK DAY this Sunday at the bar beginning with the AFC and NFC Championship games at noon. The men of the MONTROSE SOFTBALL LEAGUE will gather at 3 pm for their monthly party. At 6 pm the young hunks of the LONESTAR VOLLEYBALL ASSOCIATION take over the club for a party culminating with DINNER WITH A JOCK auction at 9:00 p.m. sharp.

WOLFPACK BRUNCH at MARY's continues to be a big hit so be sure to get there on time to get a seat and some of the great food catered by CARTER & COOLEY DELI.

(Continued on following page)

Bye for now!

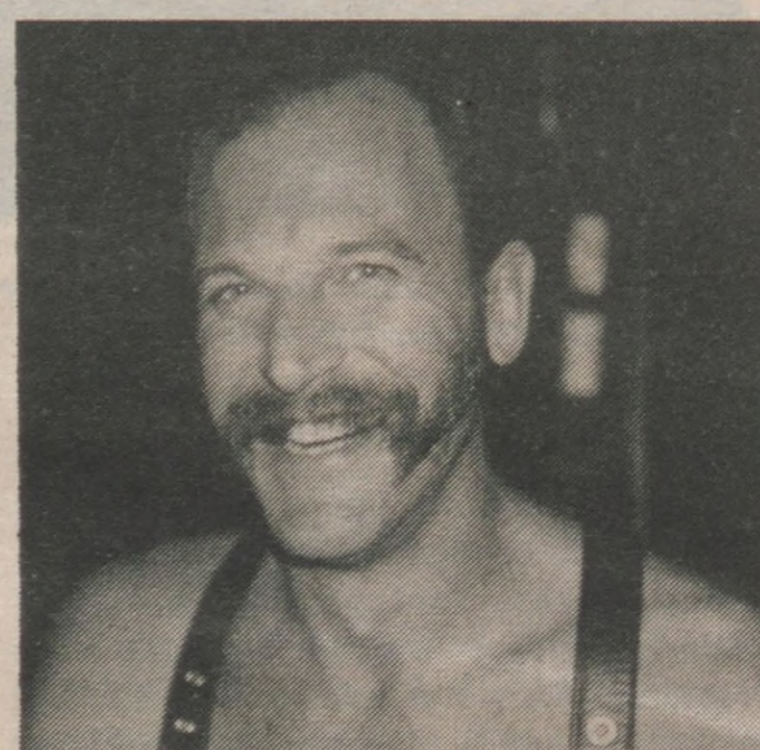


Sheri, Rich's newest barback & veteran bartender Stacy ham it up for our camera

Westheimer. You're probably familiar with the building across from the Plant House and the Police Sub Station. Our phone number and FAX numbers are still the same and can be found listed in this issue. We are excited about our changes—I hope you are, too! We invite you to come in and see us and our new surroundings.

Pacific Street's Loading Dock Party was a huge success this past weekend. Hot men in leather were everywhere. As always, things were hoppin' on the dance floor and poppin' out of warm leather or not. The guys really like to use the clothes check at Pacific Street. Woof!

Did you see that the elephants at E/J's are getting butch? It says right there in the ad that they are dumping the lace and putting on leather. Since they make leather out of elephant hides for certain pairs of very expensive boots and such,



Gary of Ripcord won a recent "Best Buns" contest in Dallas

and beer till 11 pm while you enjoy the great sounds and dance floor.

Don't miss the spectacular evening performances at E/J's. It's the SUPER SATURDAY SHOW starring Miss Mid Texas, BRITTANY PAIGE along with special guests BLACK VELVET, MISS JEFFERSON COUNTY, U.S.A., ALICIA AND Puppet Master, ALLAN GIBSON. Show time is 11 pm so don't be late.

The WINTER CARNIVAL is going to take place this Sunday, Jan. 23 at the VENTURE-N with games, booths, prizes and more. This is the 2nd annual Winter Carnival benefiting Omega House, Milam House, and McAdory House programs. The fun begins at 1 pm along with a silent auction. Chris Severson of Chris' Boot Black has worked very hard to put this event together and deserves a hand for his efforts.

WESTERN FIESTA is taking place this



Brittany Paige carries a big lollipop in her 50's Frenzy show

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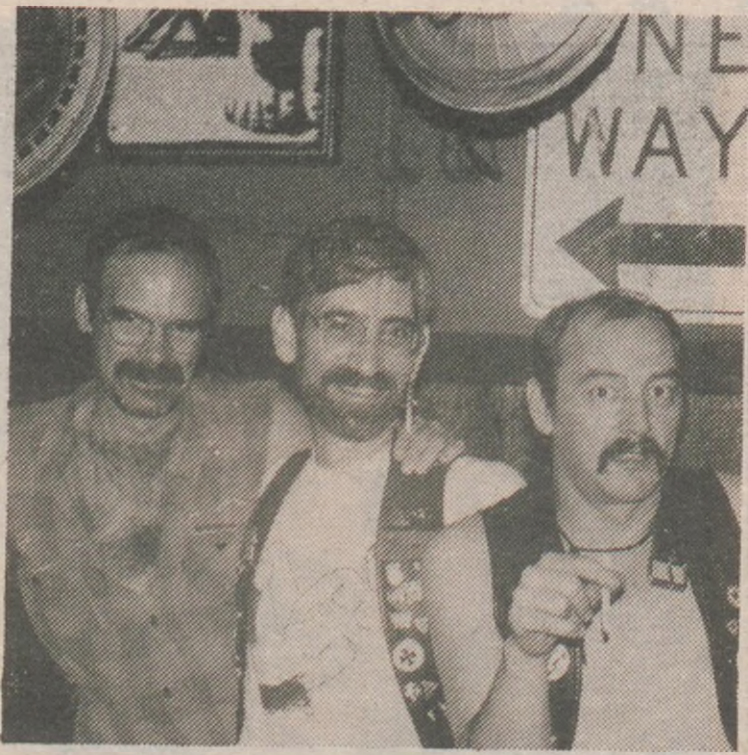
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Special party nights on weeknights at J.R.'s and Pacific Street



Do you know these scary VN bartenders?

HOUSTON SOAP

(Continued from previous page)

The MIDTOWNE SPA is having a STUDENT SPECIAL. Each Tuesday night you can get 1/2 price rooms and lockers with you student I.D. MARK and the staff invite you to come down for a free tour of the facilities at 100 Fannin in Houston.

CLUB HOUSTON is sponsoring a SAFE SEX SEMINAR beginning at 9 pm on Tuesday Jan. 25. There will be a free confidential HIV TESTING at 10 pm also. Do yourself and the one you love a favor and if you have not been tested take this opportunity to do so and get in on this informative discussion on Safe Sex. If



Bud poses with Aunt Cassandra at Mary's

you're not being safe it's about time to learn.

Tuesdays don't miss "Houston's Largest Weeknight Party" at JR'S with Men In Skirts, four of the hottest male dancers that will work up a sweat for you in and out of Kilt Fashions by Basic Brothers. There's also a CK Strip Contest and a Grab For Cash at Midnight. You can win a Kilt from Basic Brothers if you're the lucky winner of the Midnight drawing.

PACIFIC STREET (the bar) still has MONDAY CLUBBER'S NIGHT. That means is you have a current pay stub from one of Houston's restaurants, bars or other night spots you can have free admission to one of the hottest Monday night parties in town. Doors open at 9:00 p.m.

Tuesdays and Thursdays are 1/2 price room and locker nights at the CLUB HOUSTON. Have fun for 1/2 the money at the Club that brings you Nautilus, Free Weights, Tanning Beds, Dry Saunas, Steam Baths, Private Dressing Rooms, a Large Sundeck, Massage Therapy, Swimming Pool, Jacuzzi, Showers, and Video Rooms. Club Houston is your complete entertainment and physical fitness complex.

This Wednesday Jan. 26 at the Montrose Mining Company don't forget to attend the monthly Bear Club For Men's Bear Contest. Emcee Dean Walradt tells me the show will begin promptly at 10:30 p.m. And I hear that cute Daddy Bear Mark of Ripcord will be there to judge. Guys this may be the night to watch the bears come out. If it is as cold Wednesday as it is today and they still show a box...he's a wiener. ...I mean winner! Woof!

COMING UP IN HOUSTON. ...

at the RANCH on Jan. 28 is COWBOY'S NIGHTMARE an all female band that will play for your boot scootin' pleasure.

at MCCR on Jan. 28 is FELLOWSHIP FRIDAY at 7:00 p.m. Bring a covered dish and a car full of friends and enjoy the fellowship and good clean fun.

at the BRIARPATCH on Jan. 30 is AN EVENING OF LAUGHTER with comedians KEVIN MAY and SCOTT KENNEDY of Comedy Central fame.

at GENTRY on Jan. 30 is SOIREE AUBERGINE'S 1994 SUPERBOWL PARTY and barbecue followed by a show called LIPSTICK AND LEVIS '94 at 9:00 p.m.

at the CLUB HOUSTON in February is the 2nd Annual "HONEY I LOVE YOU BUT I'VE GONE TO THE CLUB VAL-ENTINE'S PARTY.

from the RIPCORD on Saturday Feb. 12th will be AN EXCURSION TO MARDI GRAS (GALVESTON). Advance sale tickets are \$25 and they go really fast so don't wait. The bus will depart Ripcord at 11:00

a.m. and return from Galveston after the parade. Call the bar for more details or ticket reservations. GAY MEN'S CHORUS OF HOUSTON have begun their 15th season and open rehearsals resume are resuming Thursdays from 7 to 10 pm at GRACE LUTHERAN CHURCH at 2515 Waugh Drive. No experience is necessary, but you must be able to carry a tune. (And read music) For more information call (713) 522-7626 or (713) 984-9683. My friends over at RICHMOND NEWS AND VIDEO want you to know that business is boomin' on the other side of the tracks. They are carrying the latest video releases available and there is never a membership fee at their store for sales or rentals. Go by and check over the



Clubs represented at NLA anniversary show their colors



Say hi, to friendly Scott of Richmond News & Video

titles—Straight, Bi and All Male selections. And while you're there enjoy a preview in one of the 10 arcades available for your viewing pleasure. They also carry a huge selection of magazines and toys. For great videos at great prices go by Richmond News and Video. Ask them about their video and magazine trade-in specials, too.

A few quick happy birthdays to some of my friends at Ripcord—David's was Jan. 14th; Tony's was Jan. 19th; and Mark has a happy birthday on Jan. 20th. They are probably all under 30! That's disgusting!

Bye for now!



Woof! Clay from NLA Austin enjoyed NLA's anniversary?

Chicago man's AIDS suit a test of disabilities act

CHICAGO, Monday, Jan. 17 (AP)—A Chicago man is putting the Americans with Disabilities Act to the test in his lawsuit against a suburban mortgage company he says fired him when it learned he had AIDS.

Shawn Smith says he worked his way up from a clerk for Dovenmuehle Mortgage Co. in Schaumburg in 1985 to a vice president before he was fired in Oct. 1992.

Smith, 36, filed his lawsuit against the company in U.S. District Court last week.

Dovenmuehle, in a statement, called Smith's lawsuit "baseless" and said it fired him for legitimate business reasons.

Smith notified the U.S. Equal Employment Opportunity Commission after he was fired. After an investigation, it found reasonable cause to believe that the company had violated the Americans with Disabilities Act by firing Smith because he has AIDS.

Just months before he was fired, Smith said, he received an employee recognition award for outstanding achievement. He said he was

never warned about performance problems or that his job was in danger.

"I didn't have any clue that my job was in jeopardy because I didn't do anything wrong," Smith said.

Smith, who has been HIV-positive since 1990, said his firing was even harder to deal with considering the uphill path he took to get the job. He is one of seven children who grew up in a Rockford housing project.

Christine Cooper, a professor at Loyola Uni-

versity School of Law who specializes in employee rights and AIDS issues, said the Americans with Disabilities Act promises to become a powerful tool in the fight against AIDS discrimination.

The law allows victims to file suit in federal court, where the plaintiffs often get faster results and bigger awards, she said.

Smith said he's struggling paying medical bills and his mortgage and is having trouble getting another job because Dovenmuehle fired him.

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| <p>VOLLEYBALL COMING IN MARCH</p> | |

Anti-bias group cancels Monroe, Michigan appearance

MONROE, Mich., Thursday, Jan. 13 (AP)—A sensitivity-training team canceled anti-bias workshops at Monroe Public Schools after it was asked to skip the section on gays and lesbians.

"We were told that the board objects to the gay and lesbian issues workshop, so we decided as a group we would not come," said Dr. Ivy Goduka, a professor who leads the team from Central Michigan University.

Goduka said the group would have been condoning discrimination of gays if it agreed to delete the section from the workshop.

The workshop and a video were to be part of a series presented to teachers and

staff as part of a district "Diversity Day" on Monday. The 10 CMU staff members also were to cover sensitivity to ethnic groups such as blacks, Mexican-Americans and Japanese-Americans and to gender issues.

Some teachers and parents objected to the gay and lesbian workshop.

Monroe Schools Superintendent David J. Taylor said the CMU team's response seems "an idealistic approach."

"What we have here is a meeting of intolerance and idealism," he said. "This is not the doing of our kids nor our staff nor anyone else. It's a showing of intolerance on the part of our community."

Miss Gay Southwest at Papermoon; line dance contest at Silver Dollar

SAN ANTONIO SOAP

By LEFTY TAYLOR

Houston Voice/San Antonio

A couple more (hopefully short) spells and this bleary, snot-infested season should be over! This last weekend I made several tours through all the bars (well, most of them) and found some real surprises that I've been missing lately.

Miriam's. What more is there to say. The place is hot and hopping. Every night there is something different going on and always something to entertain you. I know to poor Brenda its been a blessing that Miriam and Barbara have both been unable to speak this week. Brenda is one of the newest, cutest bartenders in town. Just don't ask her for a draw, she'll whip out a pen and paper. For you gambling souls, there are pool tournaments Sunday, Monday and Tuesday with cash prizes. On Wednesday night its talent night with Jessica Wells. In the great tradition of Memories, Thursday night is the hottest strip show in town with Sassy St. James. New to Sunday nights, Sassy has her own Sunday show at 10:00 p.m.

At the Papermoon, Friday, Jan. 21 the Miss Gay Southwest USA pageant will be held with special guests such as Coco, Victoria West, Sweet Savage and Amanda Hall. On Thursday the 27th, Tandi Andrews hosts a benefit fund raiser for Nina Monroe with special guests such as coco, Dyan Michaels, Victoria West, Shady Lady and many more. All proceeds will go to funeral expenses. On Tuesday the 25th, it's the Newcomer of the Year 94 pageant hosted by Pauletta

Leigh, Kourtney Devereux (who is if I'm not mistaken last year's winner) and Coco.

One of the largest promotion to come to this area will be at the Silver Dollar Saloon on Thursday, Jan. 27. A line dance contest to Mike Henderson's "Hillbilly Jitters" will be held and T-shirts, cassettes, posters and CD's will be given away. If this contest raises enough money, the Silver Dollar could be graced with a free concert by Mike



Tommy Manhattan

Henderson in the near future.

The Silver Dollar will be one of 20 country nightclubs in the nation to host a video/CD premiere party for the RCA recording artist. The nightclubs with the most successful promotion will win a concert performance by Henderson in their club.

Henderson has written songs for Randy Travis, Patty Loveless, Highway 101, The Fabulous Thunderbirds, Holly Dunn, Neal McCoy and Joy White to name a few. His songs have also appeared in the movies "Cocktail," "Major League" and Paradise."

Known for his high energy playing, which includes under the leg guitar work, Henderson has carved a style which he described as "half Bill Monroe and half Muddy Waters." Says Henderson, "I guess if you have to describe my style it's traditional with an attitude."

The Silver Dollar Saloon invites everyone to come to this one of a kind event which is part of DJ Frank Benges Thursday "New Music Night" series.

The Hardly Girls are up and traveling again. This time they are doing a benefit series for the MCC Church and the money will go to help bring the Flirtations to town which in turn will raise money for the church. The Flirtations are a widely recognized gay cappella group and have been on many talk shows. This will be their first concert here in San Antonio so go to the El Jardin on Feb. 5th and the 106 on the 19th and help support the church. The Girls and many guests like Tommy Manhattan will appear in their funniest numbers to amuse and titillate you.

Steak Night at the 2015 is on Tuesday and it was one of the best in town. Last week I got to go by for the first time and I was stuffed by the time I left. I would gladly mention the bartender's name, but he charged me a dollar for a water I don't feel too tolerant today. The 2015 has strippers on Thursday, Friday and Sunday and if you tired of the same old regular stuff they've got something new for you. On Tuesday the 14th of next month, its the 2015's 11th anniversary. Congratulations. We've seen many bars good and bad come and go over the last few years and I'm glad to see you still hanging in there.



Red Head Maxee, "Miss Hippity Hop"

At the Wild Club, Saturday the 29th, adult porn stars Marco Rossi and Tom Katt will be appearing with transy director Chi Chi Larue. They are going to put an all points bulletin show for everyone to enjoy. I can't wait to see Chi Chi, if you into porn, you might have seen her in the "mannequin" movie as the porno owner. Its not often you get to laugh at a "fuck movie. Victoria is always flawless in her Wednesday and Sunday night appearances in her own show. This week she told us about getting to walk in full drag out at the Cajun Dome in Louisiana. I don't know if the Alamo dome is ready for that yet, but why not? You're prettier than Paul McCartney and Don King, go for it!

The Wild Club Country is going to have pool and dart tournaments beginning the first of February and their will be cash prizes. They will be held on Wednesday night which also happens that

happy hour is all night long. Happy hour is all day and night Monday through Wednesday. Steak night is on Monday and is hosted by SAFWAC with all money going to PWA's. Five bucks will get you everything. On Sunday its the Wild Weenie show and tell. You can roast them and tip them at the same time (the hot dogs are free you know) and draft is only 25 cents all night long. On Sundays there will be an eclectic mix of music to please everyone. On Thursdays, the Wild Country dancers are there to stimulate and tease you.

Heading on farther south, Industria really has some exciting things happen it. I heard that recently Billy (Wild Club fame) was dancing naked on an upside down bar stool and Jander was free lance dancing on the bar. I Don't know if this is true or not, but I wouldn't be surprised. One of the newest, best looking bartenders works there by the name of Mike. He's really a nice guy. I guess, its hard to tell when he won't stop screaming at me. Industria is the newest club in town and the upstairs will hopefully be open by Fiesta. I'm not going to put a date on that again.

Getting gossip from the latest dart meeting, I heard that Sparks has the best looking team on the league and you know me, I had to find out. I had never met these guys before, even though they work there. Not only good looking, Rodney and Jay play a great set of darts. Watch out, there could be a new first place win-



Bambi at El Jardin

ner this season.

It's spring special with Ken Bradshaw. Again when you by your own snake proof and burglar proof home, you can get a washer and dryer for free. I

really hate to go to the laundry mat so if you call and talk to him mention my name and maybe he'll give me one of his extras. Value Housing. Ken Bradshaw (210) 653-7711.

One of the best concerts in town recently was Dena Kaye at Nexus. That place was packed to the gills (no pun intended) with admirers. The first time I saw here was at the TGRA rodeo concert at the Wild Country and I think she even outdid herself from there. On Sunday the 23rd, Garris and Musket will be singing live. The best steak night in town is held on Thursday and its a spread you wouldn't believe with \$1 well, \$1.75 longnecks and .50 cent draft all night long. Congratulations to Jennifer for winning one of the bicycles at the Karaoke finals. That girls has one of best set of vocal cords in town. Coming soon will be the Volley ball tournaments and leagues. It's time to start thinking about getting your team together and for more information you call Nexus and speak to Mary.

Gossip time: I believe now that Sassy will have one of the hottest Sunday night talent in town even competing with bigger bars. Who knows, she runs a great and funny show. The dart league has gotten off to a great start and things are starting to run a little bumpy but I have no fear that it won't be run right, with Miriam in charge. She also pays her queens well, just ask Sassy. I've also heard that another bar might be opening soon near downtown. This one is supposed to be a quiet bar. It's left to be seen. The Papermoon might soon be doing some changes and remodeling. The Wild Club might be expanding and moving into bigger places. Things just keep skippity hopping around town. Thanks and chow!

'Dark Waters' explores Gay interracial love in more restrictive times

BOOK REVIEW

By SCOOT LEE HOURCADE

Houston Voice/New Orleans

In his recently published novel, *Dark Waters*, Ralph A. Horne, who published the work under the pseudonym Blaise Bulot, explores the trials and joys of same-sex interracial love and lust in early 1960 New Orleans.

The "love and lust" is between Philippe de Lalaurie de Tasserand, prosperous heir of his ancestry's old money; and Ulysses, who sprang from the loins of Mother Night, the ubiquitous Louisiana Voo Doo priestess.

Fate brings the two together. Their initial meeting is outside Philippe's New Orleans town house on Rue Royal, during Mardi Gras. A fragile and culturally divided relationship begins.

Horne/Bulot exposed the external as well as the internal racism the two encounter along their journey. As the relationship converges and diverges, we learn about Philippe and Ulysses, as well as how Philippe's deranged sister Aurora fits into the picture.

Another character, Sam-Sam, the Voo Doo Man, is imperative

not only because of his knowledge of the religion, but because of his un-volunteered involvement in bringing the story to climax—which literally extends beyond the grave and into the realm of the harrowing.

Perhaps an unfair comparison, but no gothic fiction I've read has equated with Anne Rice's better works. Do not expect vivid powers of description and character development Rice possesses. I found myself wanting greater detail about *Dark Waters'* characters, more of their inner thoughts and philos-

ophies.

Overall, however, I found *Dark Waters* both enjoyable and unique in its own light. Unlike some other gothic novels set in the Crescent City, the scenes travel quickly yet capture some essence of the haunted city of New Orleans, terminally soaked in debauchery.

Dark Shadows is a short, light read; something for the train ride down to Mardi Gras. Interestingly, the cover sports a detail from "The Enigma" (1941), a photograph by the late Clarence John Laughlin, New Orleans' most famous photog-

rapher. It is used with permission from The Historic New Orleans Collection, the staid museum on Rue Royal that holds copyright. Laughlin is well known to many fans of New Orleans for his book *Ghosts Along The Mississippi*.

Horne/Bulot is a renaissance-man, he is a scientist, lawyer and an artist. He is currently developing works about ancient Greek philosophy about the environment, and working with the Free Speech Foundation, Incorporated, an organization he founded dedicated to protecting first amendment rights.

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Photo by Jeff Palmer
for

AIDS BENEFIT CALENDAR

See related story on page 7.

Award winning 'Naked' by Mike Leigh to open at River Oaks 3 on West Gray

FILM REVIEW

By VADA CARROLL

Houston Voice/Houston

I was recently invited to attend the screening of a new movie from Fine Line Features titled "Naked." When I saw that the movie was British and filmed in England, I began to realize that the movie was probably going to go one of two ways. It was either going to be one of those really arty movies with stuffy Elizabethan characterizations. Or it was going to be an incredibly dark and dismal segment of life as it really is in Great Britain. This movie was the latter.

My immediate reaction was "Why did I sit through this movie?," but I had taken a guest and felt obligated to bear with it as it were. By the way, my friend really enjoyed the movie, saying that he had been to Scotland and that this movie is an authentic representation of life without the sugar candy coating some of us have become accustomed to. Especially movie critics like myself who enjoy comedy roles by actors like Robin Williams and Whoopi Goldberg. Fluff! I know, but entertaining, none the less.

Naked is a film directed by Mike Leigh, one of Britain's most original and unusual talents, said to be equally adept at writing and directing for film, television or the stage. Mr. Leigh works very closely with the talented actors he casts, creating dramas that are both painfully funny and deeply moving. Some of his acclaimed features include "Bleak Moments," "High Hopes" and "Life Is Sweet."

His films start with an extensive period of rehearsal during which the characters, their relationships and dramatic tensions are developed with the active involvement of the actors. In shooting the final film, though, nothing is improvised in front of the



Jeremy (Greg Crutwell) and Sophie (Katrin Cartlidge) in "Naked," directed by Mike Leigh. A Fine Line Features release. Photo: Simon Mein/Fine Line Features

camera; a carefully written and structured shooting script has been created over several months of rehearsal and preparation. "Fundamentally my work is about character acting—in the best sense—and social observation," Leigh has explained. Mike Leigh won the Best Director award at the 1993 Cannes Film Festival for "Naked."

"Naked" centers around the performance of David Thewlis as Johnny, an explosive and complex drifter making a pilgrim's progress through a London netherworld of emotionally starved outsiders whose characterizations are raw, savagely funny and shot through with sudden and unexpected mood shifts. One moment in the film, Johnny can be seemingly innocent. The next he is sadistically brutalizing the object of his considerable sexual frustration.

After his quick exit from Manchester to London, Johnny arrives at the apartment of his ex-girlfriend, Louise (Lesley Sharp). Finding that she is at work, he manipulates his way into the graces of her drugged out roommate, Sophie (Katrin Cartlidge). Johnny can never seem to stay in one place long enough to finish an argument with an adversary and finding places he can stay out of the cold becomes a problem. Johnny is briefly involved with a plethora of lonely Londoners who allow him into the desolation of their lives. The level of truth achieved in "Naked" is a testimony to Leigh's sensitive writing and direction and the superb performances shaped and developed out of the fine cast. David Thewlis who played Johnny won the Best Actor Award at the 1993 Cannes Film Festival for his dramatic portrayal of the main character of "Naked."

Katrin Cartlidge as Sophie was a convincing study of a manic-depressive character who uses sexual gratification for approval from those she admires. But her past relationships or not come into question as she describes her luck with men to her roommate Louise in a local pub. She tells her that the men in her life, "Don't know what they like. If you're strong, they will eventually hate you for it. If you're weak, they hate you for it. If you're too bright, they hate you for it. And if you're ignorant, they'll hate you for it." Sophie's whiny character is easy to find disagreeable in the movie and it's no wonder the men in her life are looking for any excuse to end their relationships.

Lesley Sharp's character, Louise seems to be the only character in the movie in touch with reality as we know it. Bleak as her life and surrounding may be, she longs for a sense of normality and has therefore run away from her home in Manchester to the bustling city of London to start life in the corporate jungle. She is the Gibraltar that Johnny and Sophie gravitate towards. Although her performance is not outstanding, it is respectable.

Claire Skinner's brief part as Sandra, the roommate you only hear about for a good 3/4 of the film, is all too brief. Her lines are comic and take the desperate edge off the lives and situations of the other characters in her household. She was definitely a beacon in the darkness.

If you are into character studies and enjoy those Brit movies, this movie is for you. But don't say I didn't warn you that you will walk out feeling severely depressed. Thanks to Pamela from Reinhart for the opportunity to view another quality film. "Naked" will be showing at the Landmark/River Oaks 3 Theatre on West Gray and opens on Jan. 28. Running time is 132 minutes.

Corpus Christi Club Events

Corpus Christi, Friday, Jan. 21

Happy hour 11am-7pm, Hidden Door; Happy hour 2-11pm, Choices; Happy hour 3-7pm, Desert Hearts; \$1.00 shot specials 3pm-2am, Desert Hearts; Fish Fry - \$2.00 5:50-9pm, Choices; Happy hour, \$1 beer, \$1.75 Coronas 7-9pm, Babalov's; \$2.00 margaritas 8-9pm, Desert Hearts; 25¢ draft, 75¢ well 8-11pm, U.B.U.; \$1.00 well drinks 9-10pm, Desert Hearts; \$1.50 domestic longnecks 10-11pm, Desert Hearts; DJ 10pm-2am, Desert Hearts; Show midnight, U.B.U.

Corpus Christi, Saturday, Jan. 22

25¢ draft beer 11am-7pm, Hidden Door; Happy hour 11am-7pm, Hidden Door; Happy hour noon-7pm, Desert Hearts; Happy hour 2-11pm, Choices; \$1.00 shot specials 3pm-2am, Desert Hearts; Steak Night - \$4.00 4-9pm, Choices; Happy hour, \$1 beer, \$1.75 Coronas 7-9pm, Babalov's; \$2.00 Crown Royal 8-9pm, Desert Hearts; 25¢ draft, 75¢ well 8-11pm, U.B.U.; \$1.00 well drinks 9-10pm, Desert Hearts; \$2.00 Colorado Bulldogs 10-11pm, Desert Hearts; DJ 10pm-2am, Desert Hearts

Corpus Christi, Sunday, Jan. 23

25¢ draft beer noon-7pm, Hidden Door; Happy hour noon-7pm, Desert Hearts; Happy hour noon-7pm, Hidden Door; Crown Royal & bloody marys \$2.00 noon-2am, Desert Hearts; Happy hour 2-11pm, Choices; Male strippers 6-9pm, U.B.U.; Happy hour, \$1 beer, \$1.75 Coronas All night long, Babalov's; 25¢ draft, 75¢ well 8-11pm, U.B.U.; Show Midnight, U.B.U.

Corpus Christi, Monday, Jan. 24

Happy hour 11am-7pm, Hidden Door; Happy hour, Choice's Male Express 2-11pm, Choices; \$1.00 well drinks, Male Strippers 2pm-2am, Choices; \$2.00 drink special 3pm-2am, Desert Hearts; Happy hour 3pm-closing, Desert Hearts

Corpus Christi, Tuesday, Jan. 25

Happy hour 11am-7pm, Hidden Door; Happy hour 2-11pm, Choices; \$2.00 Margaritas & Colorado Bulldogs 3pm-2am, Desert Hearts; Volleyball 6-8pm, Hidden Door; Steak Night 7-10pm, Hidden Door; 25¢ draft beer 7-11pm, Hidden Door; Pool tournament, \$20 prize, no entry fee 9pm, Hidden Door

Corpus Christi, Wednesday, Jan. 26

Happy hour 11am-7pm, Hidden Door; \$1.00 well drinks 11am-2am, Hidden Door; Happy hour 2-11pm, Choices; Happy hour 3-7pm, Desert Hearts; \$2.00 Absolute 3pm-2am, Desert Hearts; \$4 steaks & real tators 6-10pm, Desert Hearts; Happy hour, \$1 beer, \$1.75 Coronas 7-9pm, Babalov's; 25¢ draft, 75¢ well 8-11pm, U.B.U.

Corpus Christi, Thursday, Jan. 27

Happy hour 11am-7pm, Hidden Door; Happy hour 2-11pm, Choices; Happy hour 3-7pm, Desert Hearts; \$1 well drinks 3pm til closing, Desert Hearts; Happy hour, \$1 beer, \$1.75 Coronas 7-9pm, Babalov's; 25¢ draft beer 7-11pm, Hidden Door; 25¢ draft, 75¢ well 8-11pm, U.B.U.; Pool Tourney, no entry fee, \$50 cash prize 9pm, Desert Hearts; Variety show Midnight, U.B.U.

Corpus Christi, Friday, Jan. 28

Happy hour 11am-7pm, Hidden Door; Happy hour 2-11pm, Choices; Happy hour 3-7pm, Desert Hearts; \$1.00 shot specials 3pm-2am, Desert Hearts; Fish Fry - \$2.00 5:50-9pm, Choices; Happy hour, \$1 beer, \$1.75 Coronas 7-9pm, Babalov's; \$2.00 margaritas 8-9pm, Desert Hearts; 25¢ draft, 75¢ well 8-11pm, U.B.U.; \$1.00 well drinks 9-10pm, Desert Hearts; \$1.50 domestic longnecks 10-11pm, Desert Hearts; DJ 10pm-2am, Desert Hearts; Show midnight, U.B.U.

Galveston Club Events

Galveston, Friday, Jan. 21

Happy hour 10am-9pm, Robert's LaFitte; Corona Party, \$1.50 margaritas & Corona all day, Kon-Tiki; Happy Hour, well \$1.50, longnecks, \$1.50, mega mugs \$1.25 4-8pm, Kon-Tiki; Happy hour 8-10pm, Evolution; Recession Busters, well \$1.75, longnecks, \$1.75, mega mugs \$1.25 8-10pm, Kon-Tiki; Pretty Boys 9pm, Evolution; Muscles in Action 10pm, Kon-Tiki; After hours 2-4am, Evolution

Galveston, Saturday, Jan. 22

Happy hour 10am-9pm, Robert's LaFitte; Happy Hour, well \$1.50, longnecks, \$1.50, mega mugs \$1.25 2-8pm, Kon-Tiki; Happy hour 8-10pm, Evolution; Recession Busters, well \$1.75, longnecks, \$1.75, mega mugs \$1.25 8-10pm, Kon-Tiki; Pretty Boys 9pm, Evolution; Muscles in Action 10pm, Kon-Tiki; Show with Buffie Galore & Muffin 10pm, Robert's LaFitte; After hours 2-4am, Evolution

Galveston, Sunday, Jan. 23

Happy hour noon-9pm, Robert's LaFitte; Happy Hour, well \$1.50, longnecks, \$1.50, mega mugs \$1.25 2-8pm, Kon-Tiki; \$1.00 well drinks, draft & Schnapps 4pm-2am, Evolution; Beer Bonanza, 1st draft \$1 - refills 10¢ 5-10pm, Kon-Tiki; Show with Buffie Galore & Muffin 8pm, Robert's LaFitte; Happy hour 4-10pm, Evolution; Recession Busters, well \$1.75, longnecks, \$1.75, mega mugs \$1.25 8-10pm, Kon-Tiki; Cabaret 10:30pm sharp, Kon-Tiki

Galveston, Monday, Jan. 24

Happy hour 10am-9pm, Robert's LaFitte; Happy Hour, well \$1.50, longnecks, \$1.50, mega mugs \$1.25 4-8pm, Kon-Tiki; Happy hour 8-

10pm, Evolution; Recession Busters, well \$1.75, longnecks, \$1.75, mega mugs \$1.25 8-10pm, Kon-Tiki; 75¢ well 10-11pm, Kon-Tiki

Galveston, Tuesday, Jan. 25

Happy hour 10am-9pm, Robert's LaFitte; Happy Hour, well \$1.50, longnecks, \$1.50, mega mugs \$1.25 4-8pm, Kon-Tiki; Happy hour 8-10pm, Evolution; Recession Busters, well \$1.75, longnecks, \$1.75, mega mugs \$1.25 8-10pm, Kon-Tiki; \$1.00 well drinks, draft & Schnapps 8pm-2am, Evolution; Shear Madness, \$1.25 well, \$1.25 dom. longnecks, 75¢ Schnapps, \$2 Harvey Wallbangers 8pm-2am, Kon-Tiki

Galveston, Wednesday, Jan. 26

Happy hour 10am-9pm, Robert's LaFitte; Happy Hour, well \$1.50, longnecks, \$1.50, mega mugs \$1.25 4-8pm, Kon-Tiki; Happy hour 8-10pm, Evolution; Recession Busters, well \$1.75, longnecks, \$1.75, mega mugs \$1.25 8-10pm, Kon-Tiki; \$1.00 well drinks, draft & Schnapps 8pm-2am, Evolution; Shear Madness, \$1.25 well, \$1.25 dom. longnecks, 75¢ Schnapps, \$2 Harvey Wallbangers 8pm-2am, Kon-Tiki

Galveston, Thursday, Jan. 27

Happy hour 10am-9pm, Robert's LaFitte; Happy Hour, well \$1.50, longnecks, \$1.50, mega mugs \$1.25 4-8pm, Kon-Tiki; Happy hour 8-10pm, Evolution; Recession Busters, well \$1.75, longnecks, \$1.75, mega mugs \$1.25 8-10pm, Kon-Tiki; Lottery drawing 10:30pm, 11:30pm, 12:30am & 1:30am, Kon-Tiki

Galveston, Friday, Jan. 28

Happy hour 10am-9pm, Robert's LaFitte; Corona Party, \$1.50 margaritas & Corona all day, Kon-Tiki; Happy Hour, well \$1.50, longnecks, \$1.50, mega mugs \$1.25 4-8pm, Kon-Tiki; Happy hour 8-10pm, Evolution; Recession Busters, well \$1.75, longnecks, \$1.75, mega mugs \$1.25 8-10pm, Kon-Tiki; Pretty Boys 9pm, Evolution; Muscles in Action 10pm, Kon-Tiki; After hours 2-4am, Evolution

Rio Grande Valley Club Events

Rio Grande Valley, Friday, Jan. 21

Happy hour 6-9pm, Zippers; Happy hour 8-10pm, The Planet; Drink Specials 8-11pm, 10th Avenue; Happy hour 9-11pm, Just Tery's; Show midnight, 10th Avenue

Rio Grande Valley, Saturday, Jan. 22

Happy hour 6-9pm, Zippers; Happy hour 8-10pm, The Planet; Drink Specials 8-11pm, 10th Avenue; Happy hour 9-11pm, Just Tery's; Show midnight, 10th Avenue; After hours til 3am, The Planet

Rio Grande Valley, Sunday, Jan. 23

Beer Bust, 50¢ draft/glass, \$1.50 qt. mug, \$3 pitcher 6-11pm, Zippers; Complimentary Bar-B-Q, 10th Avenue; Happy hour 8-10pm, The Planet; Drink Specials 8-11pm, 10th Avenue; \$1 off all sex drinks all night, The Planet; Happy hour 9-11pm, Just Tery's

Rio Grande Valley, Monday, Jan. 24

Happy hour 6-9pm, Zippers

Rio Grande Valley, Tuesday, Jan. 25

Beer Bust, 50¢ draft/glass, \$1.50 qt. mug, \$3 pitcher 6-11pm, Zippers; Two Steppin' Country Tejano with \$2 beer & bar drinks all night long, The Planet

Rio Grande Valley, Wednesday, Jan. 26

Happy hour 6-9pm, Zippers; Happy hour 8-10pm, The Planet; Drink Specials 8-11pm, 10th Avenue; \$4 planet punch all night, The Planet; Happy hour 9-11pm, Just Tery's

Rio Grande Valley, Thursday, Jan. 27

Beer Bust, 50¢ draft/glass, \$1.50 qt. mug, \$3 pitcher 6-11pm, Zippers; Happy hour 8-10pm, The Planet; Drink Specials 8-11pm, 10th Avenue; Thunderground \$1.75 longnecks all night, The Planet; Happy hour 9-11pm, Just Tery's

Rio Grande Valley, Friday, Jan. 28

Happy hour 6-9pm, Zippers; Happy hour 8-10pm, The Planet; Drink Specials 8-11pm, 10th Avenue; Happy hour 9-11pm, Just Tery's; Show midnight, 10th Avenue

San Antonio Club Events

San Antonio, Friday, Jan. 21

\$1.00 bloody marys & screws 10am-3pm, El Jardin; Happy hour, \$1.75 well drinks 10am-10pm, El Jardin; Happy hour 2-8pm, 2015; Happy hour 2-8pm, Country Club; Happy hour 2-8pm, Silver Dollar Saloon; \$1.75 longnecks, \$2.00 Cuervo & \$1.75 well drinks 2pm-2am, Country Club; Fiesta hours 4-9pm, Bamboleo's; \$1.25 well drinks & longnecks 6-8pm, 2015; 75¢ draft & \$2 frozen drinks, Wild Club; Male & female strippers, Bonham Exchange; Male Dancers, Wild Club; Male dancers 6:30-11pm, 2015; No cover til 10pm, 75¢ well & draft, Bonham Exchange; 75¢ draft & \$2 frozen drinks 9pm-2am, Paper Moon; Dancers 11pm, Sparks; Shady Lady hosts Muscles-in-Action midnight, Paper Moon;

■After hours 2-4am, Paper Moon; ■After-hours 2am, Wild Club; ■After-hours 2-4am, Bonham Exchange

San Antonio, Saturday, Jan. 22

■\$1.00 bloody marys & screws 10am-3pm, El Jardin; ■Happy hour, \$1.75 well drinks 10am-10pm, El Jardin; ■Happy hour 2-8pm, 2015; ■Happy hour 2-8pm, Country Club; ■Happy hour 2-8pm, Silver Dollar Saloon; ■Drink specials all night, Country Club; ■Fiesta hours 4-9pm, Bamboleo's; ■\$2 drinks, Memories; ■75¢ draft & \$2 frozen drinks, Wild Club; ■Shady Lady hosts The Wild Club Dancers, Wild Club; ■Adults no cover to 10pm, Bonham Exchange; ■\$1.75 drinks 8-11pm, Bonham Exchange; ■75¢ draft & \$2 frozen drinks 9pm-2am, Paper Moon; ■Dancers 11pm, Sparks; ■Sweet Savage hosts Muscles-in-Action midnight, Paper Moon; ■After hours 2-4am, Paper Moon; ■After hours, Wild Club; ■After-hours 2-4am, Bonham Exchange

San Antonio, Sunday, Jan. 23

■Sunday Tea Dance with early male dancers, Sparks; ■\$1.00 bloody marys & screws noon-3pm, El Jardin; ■Happy hour, \$1.75 well drinks noon-10pm, El Jardin; ■Happy hour 2-8pm, 2015; ■Happy hour 2-8pm, Country Club; ■\$1.50 well & longnecks, 50¢ draft 2-11pm, Silver Dollar Saloon; ■50¢ draft 2pm-2am, Country Club; ■Fiesta hours 4-9pm, Bamboleo's; ■Tea Dance 4-9pm, Silver Dollar Saloon; ■\$1.75 Cuervo Ole, Memories; ■\$3.00 cover, 50¢ well & draft, Bonham Exchange; ■The Wild & Wicked Sunday Show, Wild Club; ■\$1 well drinks 9-11pm, Wild Club; ■\$1.50 well & 50¢ draft 9-11pm, Paper Moon; ■Sassy's Variety Show 9:30pm, Memories; ■Dancers at 10:30pm, 2015; ■Dancers 11pm, Sparks; ■Super Show, no cover 11:30pm, Bamboleo's; ■Male & Female strippers 11:30pm, Bonham Exchange; ■Super Sunday Show midnight, Paper Moon; ■After-hours 2am, Wild Club; ■After hours 2-4am, Paper Moon

San Antonio, Monday, Jan. 24

■\$1.00 bloody marys & screws 10am-3pm, El Jardin; ■Happy hour, \$1.75 well drinks 10am-10pm, El Jardin; ■Happy hour 2-8pm, 2015; ■\$1.75 well & longnecks 2pm-2am, 2015; ■Happy hour 2pm-2am, Country Club; ■Fiesta Hour All day, all night, Bamboleo's; ■\$1.75 frozen margaritas, Memories; ■Pool tourney, Memories; ■Talent contest & square dancing & no cover, Bonham Exchange; ■\$1.50 well, 50¢ draft & \$2 longnecks 9pm-2am, Paper Moon; ■\$1.75 well drinks, \$1.75 longnecks & 50¢ draft all night, Wild Club; ■The Shady Lady Show, Wild Club; ■Dancers 11pm, Sparks; ■Chanel White with Musical Chairs 11:30pm, Paper Moon

San Antonio, Tuesday, Jan. 25

■\$1.00 bloody marys & screws 10am-3pm, El Jardin; ■Happy hour, \$1.75 well drinks 10am-10pm, El Jardin; ■Happy hour 2-8pm, 2015; ■Happy hour 2-8pm, Country Club; ■\$1.75 well & longnecks 2pm-2am, 2015; ■\$1.75 well drinks 2pm-2am, Country Club; ■Fiesta hours 4-9pm, Bamboleo's; ■Happy hour to 9pm, Memories; ■\$1.75 well drinks, 75¢ draft & \$2 frozen drinks, Wild Club; ■Dance all night, Wild Club; ■No cover, Bonham Exchange; ■\$1.50 Well drinks, \$1.75 dom. beer, 75¢ Schnaaps 9pm-2am, Bamboleo's; ■\$2 well & longnecks 9pm-2am, Paper Moon; ■Dancers 11pm, Sparks; ■Hot oil wrestling 11pm, Sparks; ■Pauletta's Talent Night Schnaaps 9pm-2am, Bamboleo's; ■\$2 well & longnecks 9pm-2am, Paper Moon; ■Dancers 11pm, Sparks; ■Hot oil wrestling 11pm, Sparks; ■Pauletta's Talent Night 11:30pm, Paper Moon

San Antonio, Wednesday, Jan. 26

■\$1.00 bloody marys & screws 10am-3pm, El Jardin; ■Happy hour, \$1.75 well drinks 10am-10pm, El Jardin; ■\$1.25 longnecks to 7pm, Memories; ■Happy hour 2-8pm, 2015; ■Happy hour 2-8pm, Country Club; ■\$1.25 frozen margaritas 2pm-2am, 2015; ■\$1.75 frozen margaritas, 50¢ draft & \$3.00 pitchers 2pm-2am, Country Club; ■Fiesta hours 4-9pm, Bamboleo's; ■Steak night, \$4 steak, salad & bread 5:30-9:30pm, Silver Dollar Saloon; ■Adults \$3.00 cover, 50¢ well & draft, Bonham Exchange; ■Hot chest contest, Bonham Exchange; ■\$1.50 well & longnecks & 50¢ draft all night long, Silver Dollar Saloon; ■Jennifer St. John hosts 5x5 Specials, 75¢ draft, \$1.25 longnecks & 50¢ well drinks all night, Wild Club; ■\$1.25 well drinks, \$1.50 dom. beer, 75¢ Schnaaps 9pm-2am, Bamboleo's; ■25¢ well & \$1.75 longnecks 9pm-2am, Paper Moon; ■Live Show with Waylon Payne 10:30pm & midnight, Silver Dollar Saloon; ■Dancers 11pm, Sparks; ■Shady Lady & her Boys midnight, Paper Moon

San Antonio, Thursday, Jan. 27

■\$1.00 bloody marys & screws 10am-3pm, El Jardin; ■Happy hour, \$1.75 well drinks 10am-10pm, El Jardin; ■Happy hour 2-8pm, 2015; ■Happy hour 2-8pm, Country Club; ■Happy hour 2-8pm, Silver Dollar Saloon; ■\$1.50 longnecks & 6 ponies \$4.00 2pm-2am, Country Club; ■Fiesta hours 4-9pm, Bamboleo's; ■\$1.75 well, 75¢ draft & \$2 frozen drinks, Wild Club; ■Tandi's Talent Nite, Wild Club; ■50¢ well drinks & draft, Bonham Exchange; ■Karaoke Sing Along 9-11pm, Sparks; ■Male dancers 9pm-1am, 2015; ■\$1.75 well & 50¢ draft 9pm-2am, Paper Moon; ■Sassy St. James host strippers 9:30pm, Memories; ■Amateur Contest 10:30pm, Bamboleo's; ■Dancers 11pm, Sparks; ■Strippers midnight, Bonham Exchange; ■Tandi's T.E.A. Party midnight, Paper Moon

San Antonio, Friday, Jan. 28

■\$1.00 bloody marys & screws 10am-3pm, El Jardin; ■Happy hour, \$1.75 well drinks 10am-10pm, El Jardin; ■Happy hour 2-8pm, 2015; ■Happy hour 2-8pm, Country Club; ■Happy hour 2-8pm, Silver Dollar Saloon; ■\$1.75 longnecks, \$2.00 Cuervo & \$1.75 well drinks 2pm-2am, Country Club; ■Fiesta hours 4-9pm, Bamboleo's; ■\$1.25 well drinks & longnecks 6-8pm, 2015; ■75¢ draft & \$2 frozen drinks, Wild Club; ■Male & female strippers, Bonham Exchange; ■Male Dancers, Wild Club; ■Male dancers 8:30-11pm, 2015; ■No cover till 10pm, 75¢ well & draft, Bonham Exchange; ■75¢ draft & \$2 frozen drinks 9pm-2am, Paper Moon; ■Dancers 11pm, Sparks; ■Shady Lady hosts Muscles-in-Action midnight, Paper Moon; ■After hours 2-4am, Paper Moon; ■After-hours 2am, Wild Club; ■After hours 2-4am, Bonham Exchange

Houston Club Events

Houston, Friday, Jan. 21

■Happy hour \$1.75 well drinks 7am-1pm, Mary's; ■Bluelight specials 7am-6pm, Brazos River Bottom; ■Well \$1.75 opening-8pm, Past Time; ■Happy hour 7am-9pm, Brazos River Bottom; ■Happy hour 7am-9pm, E/J's; ■Happy hour till 10pm, Mother's; ■Happy hour \$1.75 well, beer & wine noon-5pm, Venture-N; ■Happy hour, longnecks and well drinks \$1.50 Noon-6pm, The 611 Hyde Park Pub; ■Buffet 4-8pm, Brazos River Bottom; ■Power hour \$1.00 well, beer & wine 5-7pm, Venture-N; ■Happy hour \$1.75 well drinks and beer 5-9pm, Mary's; ■Longnecks & well drinks \$2.00 6-9pm, The 611 Hyde Park Pub; ■TGI Friday party, no cover 7-9pm, Pacific Street; ■90¢ well all night, Pacific Street; ■8 Ball Pool Tournament 8pm, Past Time; ■Pool tournament with cash prizes 8pm, E/J's; ■Lee Denning, D.J., Venture-N; ■Strip contest with Paivi 11pm, E/J's; ■After-hours 2-4am, Ripcord; ■Open all night, Club Houston; ■Open all night, Midtowne Spa

Houston, Saturday, Jan. 22

■Bluelight specials 7am-6pm, Brazos River Bottom; ■Happy hour 7am-7pm, Mary's; ■Happy hour 7am-8pm, Ripcord; ■Happy hour 7am-9pm, Brazos River Bottom; ■Mug club 9am-noon, E/J's; ■Happy Hour \$1.75 well, beer & wine noon-5pm, Venture-N; ■Happy hour, longnecks and well drinks \$1.50 Noon-6pm, The 611 Hyde Park Pub; ■Beer blast on the patio 2pm till, Mary's; ■Well drinks \$1.50 4-7pm, E/J's; ■Mug Club 4-10pm, E/J's; ■Power hour \$1.00 well, beer & wine 5-7pm, Venture-N; ■Longnecks & well drinks \$2.00 6-9pm, The 611 Hyde Park Pub; ■\$1.25 well vodka 6-11pm, Mother's; ■Dart tournament 7pm, E/J's; ■90¢ well all night, Pacific Street; ■9 Ball Pool Tournament 8pm, Past Time; ■9-ball tourney 8pm, Past Time; ■Lee Denning, D.J., Venture-N;

■Leather & Flesh, no cover for men in leather 9pm-2am, Pacific Street; ■Pretty Boys 10pm, Mother's; ■Super Saturday Show starring Brittany Paige 11pm, E/J's; ■After-hours 2-4am, Ripcord; ■Open all night, Club Houston; ■Open all night, Midtowne Spa

Houston, Sunday, Jan. 23

■Bloody Bulls, \$1.25 Noon-5pm, Venture-N; ■Bluelight specials noon-5pm, Brazos River Bottom; ■Happy Hour \$1.75 well, beer & wine noon-5pm, Venture-N; ■Happy hour noon-5pm, Brazos River Bottom; ■Happy hour noon-5pm, Ripcord; ■Beer blast on patio Noon-6pm, Mary's; ■Happy hour, longnecks and well drinks \$1.50 Noon-6pm, The 611 Hyde Park Pub; ■\$1.50 vodka noon-8pm, Mother's; ■\$3.75 pitchers & \$1.25 mugs all day, E/J's; ■Trash Disco 4-7pm, Brazos River Bottom; ■Happy hour noon-11pm, Past Time; ■Blue light specials 5pm till, Venture-N; ■Beach Party, no cover 5-7pm, Pacific Street; ■Power hour \$1.00 well, beer & wine 5-7pm, Venture-N; ■Free buffet 5pm-7pm, Venture-N; ■Steak night 5-9pm, Brazos River Bottom; ■Dart tournament 6pm, Venture-N; ■Longnecks & well drinks \$2.00 6-9pm, The 611 Hyde Park Pub; ■Man Dance/T Dance 7pm, Pacific Street; ■90¢ well all night, Pacific Street; ■\$3.75 pitchers & \$1.25 mugs all night, E/J's; ■Pretty Boys 10pm, Mother's; ■Open all night, Club Houston; ■Open all night, Midtowne Spa

Houston, Monday, Jan. 24

■Happy hour \$1.75 well drinks 7am-1pm, Mary's; ■Bluelight specials 7am-6pm, Brazos River Bottom; ■Well \$1.75 opening-8pm, Past Time; ■Happy hour 7am-9pm, E/J's; ■\$2.50 pitchers, 75¢ mug Miller Lite 7am-2am, Mother's; ■Happy hour all day & night, Brazos River Bottom; ■Happy Hour \$1.75 well, beer & wine noon-5pm, Venture-N; ■Happy hour, longnecks and well drinks \$1.50 Noon-6pm, The 611 Hyde Park Pub; ■Lockers 1/2 price noon-midnight, Club Houston; ■Happy hour 4-8pm, Ripcord; ■Power hour \$1.00 well, beer & wine 5-7pm, Venture-N; ■Spagggggggetti nights, \$2.00 5pm-7pm, Venture-N; ■Happy hour \$1.75 well drinks and beer 5-9pm, Mary's; ■1/2-price rooms & lockers with food donation to Stone Soup, Midtowne Spa; ■Longnecks & well drinks \$2.00 6-9pm, The 611 Hyde Park Pub; ■90¢ well all night, Pacific Street; ■8 ball slopshot pool tournament 8pm, Brazos River Bottom; ■"Clubbers Night", no cover for men wearing colors 9pm-2am, Pacific Street; ■Male Strippers with B.J. Williams, M.C. 10:30pm, E/J's; ■Open all night, Club Houston; ■Open all night, Midtowne Spa

Houston, Tuesday, Jan. 25

■Happy hour \$1.75 well drinks 7am-1pm, Mary's; ■Bluelight specials 7am-6pm, Brazos River Bottom; ■Well \$1.75 opening-8pm, Past Time; ■Happy hour 7am-9pm, Brazos River Bottom; ■Happy hour 7am-9pm, E/J's; ■Happy Hour \$1.75 well, beer & wine noon-5pm, Venture-N; ■Happy hour, longnecks and well drinks \$1.50 Noon-6pm, The 611 Hyde Park Pub; ■6 month membership special (1/2 price locker) noon-11:45pm, Midtowne Spa; ■Lockers & rooms 1/2 price noon-midnight, Club Houston; ■Happy hour 4-8pm, Ripcord; ■Hot Dog night 5pm till, Past Time; ■Power hour \$1.00 well, beer & wine 5-7pm, Venture-N; ■Happy hour \$1.75 well drinks and beer 5-9pm, Mary's; ■1/2-price rooms & lockers with food donation to Stone Soup, Midtowne Spa; ■Longnecks & well drinks \$2.00 6-9pm, The 611 Hyde Park Pub; ■90¢ well all night, Pacific Street; ■Southern Country C&W Dance Lessons 8-10pm, The Ranch; ■Young executive night, no cover with personalized business card 9pm-2am, Pacific Street; ■C&W dance lessons 10pm, Brazos River Bottom; ■Talent night with Giovanni 10:30pm, E/J's

Houston, Wednesday, Jan. 26

■Happy hour \$1.75 well drinks 7am-1pm, Mary's; ■Bluelight specials 7am-6pm, Brazos River Bottom; ■Well \$1.75 opening-8pm, Past Time; ■Happy hour 7am-9pm, E/J's; ■Happy hour, \$1.00 Margaritas 7am-11pm, Brazos River Bottom; ■Happy Hour \$1.75 well, beer & wine noon-5pm, Venture-N; ■Happy hour, longnecks and well drinks \$1.50 Noon-6pm, The 611 Hyde Park Pub; ■6 month membership special ((1/2 price room) noon-11:45pm, Midtowne Spa; ■Happy hour 1pm-2am, Ripcord; ■Tex-Mex Buffet 5pm, Brazos River Bottom; ■Power hour \$1.00 well, beer & wine 5-7pm, Venture-N; ■Happy hour \$1.75 well drinks and beer 5-9pm, Mary's; ■1/2-price rooms & lockers with food donation to Stone Soup, Midtowne Spa; ■Longnecks & well drinks \$2.00 6-9pm, The 611 Hyde Park Pub; ■Bare chest/harness night-Extended Happy Hour till 11pm, Venture-N; ■90¢ well all night, Pacific Street; ■Karaoke night with Bill Sansom 8:00pm, E/J's; ■Southern Country Group C&W Dance Lessons 8:30pm-10pm, Brazos River Bottom; ■White Hot Wednesday, DJ/VJ Victor Toledo plays top hits 9pm-2am, Pacific Street; ■Pretty Boys 10pm, Mother's; ■Open all night, Club Houston; ■Open all night, Midtowne Spa

Houston, Thursday, Jan. 27

■Happy hour \$1.75 well drinks 7am-1pm, Mary's; ■Bluelight specials 7am-6pm, Brazos River Bottom; ■Longnecks \$1.75 opening-8pm, Past Time; ■Happy hour 7am-9pm, Brazos River Bottom; ■Happy hour 7am-9pm, E/J's; ■\$1 Schnapps shots 7am-2am, Mother's; ■\$1.50 longnecks all day & all night, Brazos River Bottom; ■Happy Hour \$1.75 well, beer & wine noon-5pm, Venture-N; ■Happy hour, longnecks and well drinks \$1.50 Noon-6pm, The 611 Hyde Park Pub; ■Rooms & lockers half price noon-midnight, Club Houston; ■Slop shot pool tourney 1pm, Mary's; ■Happy hour 4-8pm, Ripcord; ■Power hour \$1.00 well, beer & wine 5-7pm, Venture-N; ■Happy hour \$1.75 well drinks and beer 5-9pm, Mary's; ■Burger's at Animal's House 6-9pm, Brazos River Bottom; ■Longnecks & well drinks \$2.00 6-9pm, The 611 Hyde Park Pub; ■Club night, Colors gets you happy hour prices till 11pm, Venture-N; ■Dance lessons 8:30pm, Brazos River Bottom; ■Tan Line Night, \$3 cover, 90¢ well, \$1.50 longnecks, \$1 Schnapps 9pm-2am, Pacific Street; ■Pretty Boys 10pm, Mother's; ■Open all night, Club Houston; ■Open all night, Midtowne Spa

Houston, Friday, Jan. 28

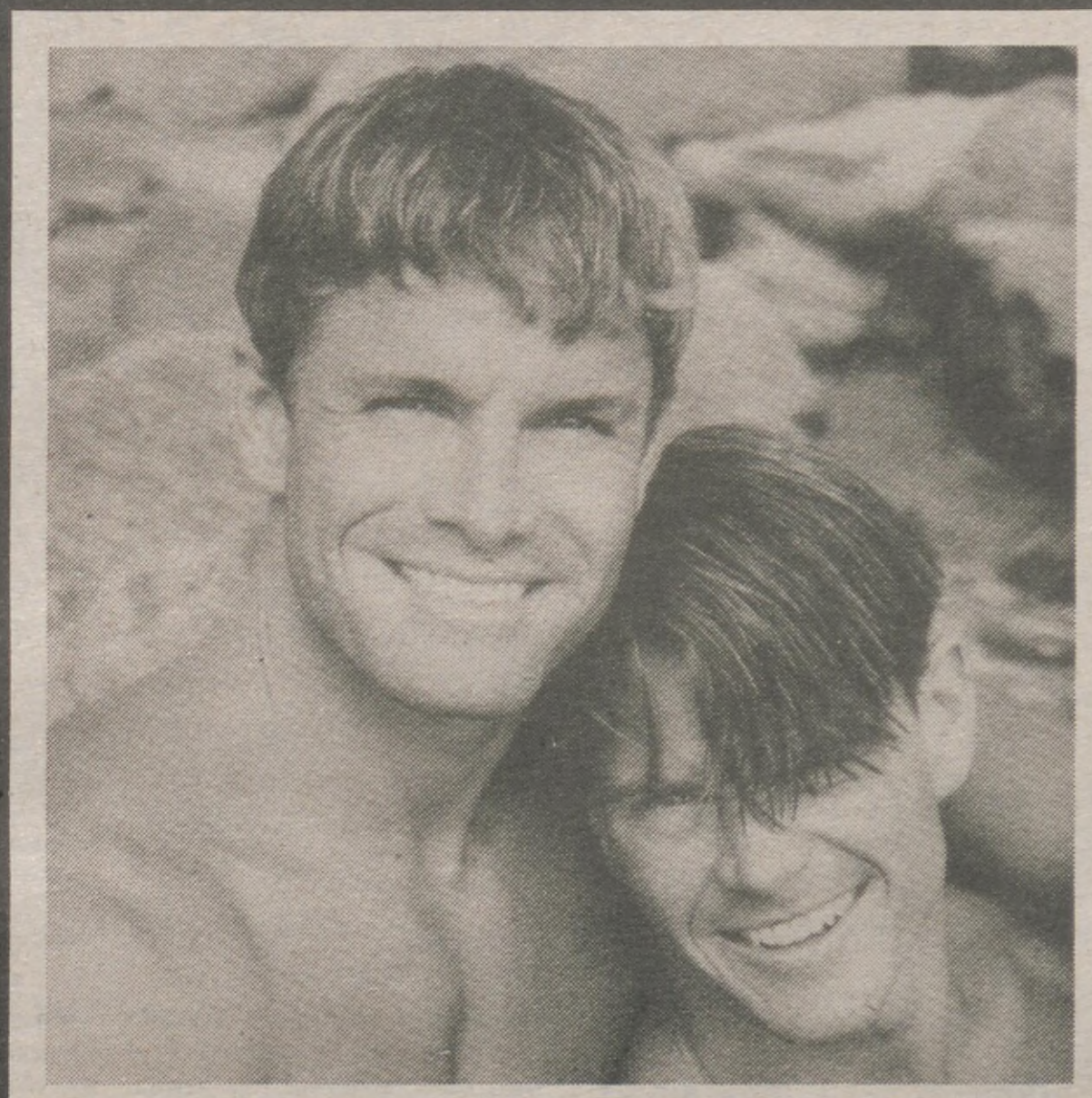
■Happy hour \$1.75 well drinks 7am-1pm, Mary's; ■Bluelight specials 7am-6pm, Brazos River Bottom; ■Well \$1.75 opening-8pm, Past Time; ■Happy hour 7am-9pm, Brazos River Bottom; ■Happy hour 7am-9pm, E/J's; ■Happy hour till 10pm, Mother's; ■Happy Hour \$1.75 well, beer & wine noon-5pm, Venture-N; ■Happy hour, longnecks and well drinks \$1.50 Noon-6pm, The 611 Hyde Park Pub; ■Buffet 4-8pm, Brazos River Bottom; ■Power hour \$1.00 well, beer & wine 5-7pm, Venture-N; ■Happy hour \$1.75 well drinks and beer 5-9pm, Mary's; ■Longnecks & well drinks \$2.00 6-9pm, The 611 Hyde Park Pub; ■TGI Friday party, no cover 7-9pm, Pacific Street; ■90¢ well all night, Pacific Street; ■8 Ball Pool Tournament 8pm, Past Time; ■Pool tournament with cash prizes 8pm, E/J's; ■Lee Denning, D.J., Venture-N; ■Strip contest with Paivi 11pm, E/J's; ■After-hours 2-4am, Ripcord; ■Open all night, Club Houston; ■Open all night, Midtowne Spa

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Roommate needed! Discreet student preferred. \$250 a month. Small 3 bedroom house. Must like dogs. (713) 850-9418

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GALVESTON: LOOKING FOR BUDDIES

I'm 43, married, 160, 5'10, Haz/bl, discreet, no drugs, HIV-, Friday nights free. Clean, looking for buddies & friendship. Ad 25598

LOOKING FOR A FEW MASCULINE FRIENDS

I'm a 35 yr. old attractive WM, 6', long br/br eyes, moustache and beard, HIV+. Like working on my own car, camping, four wheeling, rafting, rock-n-roll and safe fun times. Not necessarily in that order. I'm looking for friends with similar interests. Ad 25719

Cincinnati loses conventions over gay rights issue

By SONJA BARISIC FOR THE HOUSTON VOICE

CINCINNATI, Saturday, Jan. 15 (AP)—The two conventions the city lost because voters decided against anti-discrimination laws for homosexuals are just the beginning of an economic backlash, says a gay-rights group.

Gay & Lesbian March Activists/ACT UP Cincinnati began an economic boycott in November after voters approved a city charter amendment barring the City Council from enacting or enforcing laws that ban discrimination on the basis of sexual orientation.

"Boycotts are a fairly lethargic mechanism for change," boycott coordinator Todd Kamm said.

"Things are moving kind of slowly, but we're happy that in the short time the boycott has been in effect, there have been two major cancellations," he said. "We are hopeful there will be more cancellations."

Tourism officials are not so sure the boycott will hurt the city, although the American Historical Association decided last weekend to cancel its Jan. 1995 conference in Cincinnati. Last month, the city lost the American Library Association's 1995 convention. Both cited the November vote for their cancellations.

Beth Charlton, spokesperson for the Greater Cincinnati Convention & Visitors Bureau said the city made \$236 million from conventions last year.

She estimated the city will lose \$3 million from the AHA convention, which would have attracted 3000 people. The estimated loss from the library convention will be \$5 million. About 8,000 attendants were expected.

It would be impossible to predict whether other groups will decide not to hold their meetings in the city, Charlton

said.

"Organizations have expressed a need for more information, they have expressed concern," Charlton said. "But at this point, we are not awaiting any other cancellations. But we don't know either. Many organizations take time to make such a decision."

A third organization, the Mathematical Association of America, did not cancel its convention but has expressed concern.

The voter-approved amendment "suggested strongly that a climate of intolerance exists in Cincinnati that could affect many of our members who would be attending the professional meeting of our organization in Jan. 1994," Donald Kreider, the group's president, wrote in a letter Tuesday to the City Council.

A federal judge has blocked implementation of the amendment pending the June 20 trial of a lawsuit by gay-rights activists. The boycott will continue until the issue is resolved in court, Kamm said.

If the amendment is allowed to take effect, it would strip the city's human-rights ordinance of equal-rights protections for homosexuals. The ordinance, approved by the council in 1992, bans discrimination in jobs and housing on the basis of race, sex, national origin, physical disability or sexual orientation.

Last week, the City Council rejected an attempt to repeal the entire human-rights ordinance.

The boycott is patterned after one in Colorado. That began in Nov. 1992 after voters approved a state amendment that bars local ordinances offering civil protections to homosexuals. The amendment is on hold while the Colorado Supreme Court decides whether it is constitutional.

HOUSTON VOICE PERSONALS

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• To PLACE a Personal Ad by Phone:

First, before you call, write out your ad. Use up to six (6) words in a bold headline and up to fifty (50) words in regular type. Call us at Houston (713) 529-8490 or Nationwide (800) 729-8490. After you've read your ad to us, and we prepare it to go to print, we will give you an 800 toll-free telephone number, your personal 5-digit ad number and your secret 4-digit personal identification number (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 the verbal ad, say what city you live in.) Cost is \$24.95 for up to a year. We will mail you a bill. You can change your ad as often as desired during the year, but you must call us every four weeks to keep your ad running.

• To PLACE a Personal Ad by Mail:

Write out your ad using up to six (6) words in a bold headline and up to fifty (50) words in regular type. Then mail it with your check for \$24.95 to the Houston Voice, 811 Westheimer, Suite 105, Houston, TX 77006. Please enclose your name, mailing address and telephone number where you can be reached during the daytime. We will mail back to you an 800 toll-free number, your personal 5-digit ad number and your secret 4-digit personal identification number (PIN). Call the 800 number and follow the verbal instructions to record, in your actual voice, your ad. You can change both your voice and written ad as often as desired but you must phone or write us every four (4) weeks to keep your ads running.

• To RESPOND to a Personal Ad by Phone:

Call 1-900-454-3576. Listen to the verbal instructions. A charge of \$1.49 per minute will appear on your telephone bill. You can respond verbally, leaving your name and phone number, to as many personal advertisers as you wish. You can 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. Call (713) 529-8490 (Houston) or (800) 729-8490 (Nationwide) for more information about this service or to obtain information about a pre-paid toll-free answering account. You must be 18+ to use this service.

• To RESPOND to a Personal Ad by Mail:

Place your written response inside a blank sealed envelope and write the 5-digit ad number on the envelope. Place this envelope along with \$2.00 inside another envelope and mail to the Houston Voice Personals, 811 Westheimer, Suite 105, Houston, TX 77006. Your response will be forwarded to the advertiser the same day received by first class mail. You may mail multiple responses in the same envelope, but enclose \$2.00 for each response mailed. Responses received without fees will not be forwarded nor returned. Call (713) 529-8490 in Houston or (800) 729-8490 Nationwide for information about this service or to obtain information about a toll-free answering account. You must be 18+ to use this service.

• 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, call the 800 toll-free number we gave you when you placed your ad. If the recording says you have verbal responses waiting, have your 5-digit code and secret 4-digit PIN handy and call 1-900-454-3576 to retrieve your verbal messages. A charge of \$1.49 a minute will appear on your phone bill. Call (713) 529-8490 in Houston or (800) 729-8490 Nationwide for information about this service or to obtain information about a toll-free answering account. You must be 18+ to use this service.

• ADDITIONAL REQUIREMENTS:

To take advantage of this \$24.95-per-year offer, you are required to participate in the "live voice" aspect of our Personal Ads by calling the special 800 toll-free number you will receive when you place your ad. You must record, in your own voice, your personal ad. If you do not participate in this "live voice aspect" your ad may be discontinued after the first week without reimbursement. If you do not desire to participate, you may instead purchase a personal ad at the rate of 55¢ per word weekly. Additionally all ads, both in print and voice should not contain references to sexual acts or organs. All ads should be "positive", that is describing only those people or traits desired. People or traits not desired should not be listed.

Houston Gay Personals

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

PASSIVE SEEKS ACTIVE

Passive GWM, 41, 5'9", 140#, br/br, HIV+, in a +/- relationship. Seeking active GWM 30-50 for mutual hot times with no commitment just satisfaction. Active must not mind a "small" passive and the possibility of a third person present during activity. Smoking, light drinking environment. Ad#25904

I HAVE A VERY UNSELFISH LOVE...

COME SHARE YOUR LOVE WITH ME...ACCEPT THE WORLD AS IS!!! Don't play games or lie, same difference! Always be true/honest with your God and yourself, same difference once again -and others and the rewards will be plentiful for your life! I've been studying "A Course in Miracles" for the past nine years -GWF -so if there is any curiosity about any of this, respond. But I can't help too much more than what you just learn through life itself! Very true/honest GWF wouldn't be hurt by having too many honest responses!!! Ad 25967

WE WANT MORE!

Couple seeks singles and couples for safe fun. Male number one is a GWM, blonde, green, 5'7", 135lbs. Male number two is a GWM, 5'6", 140lbs. Both are good looking and well-endowed. If interested, please respond now. Ad 25754

GAY SWEEP-STAKES!!! YOU MAY WIN!!!

Me: GWM, 42, 5'11", 175, dark hair, blue eyes, professional, discreet, stable, DDF, non-smoker, handsome, endowed and "natural." You: GWM, 20-30, honest and good looking. To enter: Please respond by describing yourself and why I should choose you to take to dinner. Extra credit awarded for certain attributes!! Ad 25738

LOOKING FOR SINGLES AND COUPLES

We are in our late 30's looking for singles and/or couples for safe fun. We are both DDF. Serious replies only. Ad#25709

LOOKING FOR THAT SPECIAL LADY!

GWF, 29, attractive soft butch who is kind, gentle, sincere, caring and sensitive. I enjoy a wide variety of activities. I am seeking a 25-40 feminine woman who walks and talks, laughs and learn about ourselves and each other. She must be attractive, slim/medium build, honest, confident and playful. Let's meet and talk. Ad 25736

FRONT FOR GAY MALE

Victoria's secrets woman, cross between Jaclyn Smith and Jackie Kennedy Onassis seeks to front for affluent gay male in return for educating my six year old daughter and I. Ad 25742

GWF SEEKS GF/GM FOR ROOMMATE

GWF, 32, looking for GF or GM to share 3/2 house in Meyerland area. Must be neat, responsible, considerate and a non-smoker preferred. \$450 a month plus half utilities. Ad 25756

LONELY BIWM ROOKIE LEANING TOWARDS MALES

I'm 5'6", weight proportionate, DDF/NS/LD, average looks, 44, sincere, discreet, masculine, likes sports, reading, movies, dining out and intimate evenings plus a BIGWMM with same qualities as above. Experienced, average looks, height/weight proportionate 30-50, DDF/NS/LD equals safe fun times -no strings, let's talk. Let's meet and talk. Ad 25378

I WANNA FEEL WHAT LOVE IS,

I know you can show me, I am a professionally employed homeowner, 40's, DDF, bl/bl, hairy chest, moustache, 5'11", weight in proportion, non-smoker, enjoy movies, dining out, bicycling and travel. Quiet evenings around the fireplace also makes me happy. Want sincere, affectionate man for dating and possible relationship. Ad 25988

FRIENDSHIP IS WORTH THE EFFORT

Two GWM's, 35-52, HIV+, healthy, Houston Heights, seeks other couples or singles for friendship. Interest include movies, dinners, games, travel and good companionship. Prefer non-smokers. If your sincerely interested in finding friends we would love to hear from you. We know you are out there. Don't be afraid to reach out. Ad 25934

DOMINANT GWM

40, 145, 5'9 seeks GWMs into S/M -B/D. Limits respected. Ad 25336.

GWF, 31, SOUTH-WEST AREA

Not necessarily looking for romance. In my business its very hard to meet other GF's. I'm interested in companionship. If this happens to open the door for romance and it feels right I'll surely walk through it. My interests are movies, plays, traveling, walking by the water, fishing, trying new restaurants etc. Open to new things. Let's hear from you, bubbly, fun, down to earth people who are mature. I'm 5'2", br/br, medium build. Age group 28-38. Ad 25753

BLACK ATTACK!

Very good-looking GWM, crazy about experiencing black guys. I'm 6 ft. tall, well-muscled, trendy, work out regularly. I'm safe, disease-free and ready to go. Not interested in relationships -just hot fun. You gotta respond to this! Let's go! Ad 25531.

LONDON, PARIS, SYDNEY, NEW YORK CITY

Travel companion wanted for traveling around the USA and the world. Travel agent needs reliable and responsible GM to accompany him to split cost at discounted prices. Must be non-smoker and drug free. Prefer light drinker to non-drinker. Passport required. Possible relationship. Ad 25972

GWM, 24, 5'10", very attractive, seeks good looking in shape man, 5'10" or taller who is under 35. I'm originally from the midwest and live in New York. I want to get to know a sincere, masculine gay man. Ad 25752

OUTGOING, ATTRACTIVE, MASCULINE, PROFESSIONAL

seeks same GWM/BIWM for special friend. I and respondent will have a great sense of humor, weight in proportion to height (or thin), healthy, under 45 years old, clean shaven (moustache okay), non-smoker, non-user of drugs, not into bars or S & M, safe fun only, like movies, entertaining, outdoors, and have time to spend with new friend. Please respond to Ad 25011.

GBM WHO DARES TO BE DIFFERENT!

Independent -thinking Gay Black Male with red convertible sports car, seeks someone completely different than oneself. I have every toy a man could want except that elusive Boy-Toy. All I guarantee is a good time! Ad 25707

LOOKING FOR THE RIGHT MAN

25-45, masculine, neat in appearance and at home, DDF, NS, (light drinker) who wants to share apartment in a peaceful, quiet, very luxurious atmosphere, with a mature person. Must be financially responsible and able to afford \$400 monthly for his part of rent and utilities. Ad 25700

LET'S START '94 OUT RIGHT TOGETHER!

30+ GWF who is mature, outgoing, positive minded, completely unattached, financially secure and is a firm believer that weekends were made for fun and traveling. We'll never know if there is a future for us unless you respond. Ad 25748

SEEKING AFFECTIONATE, FUN, GENEROUS, FRIENDLY GENTLEMAN

I'm tall, athletic, healthy, hairy, handsome, sensual, affectionate, fun, friendly, sincere, blond, 30's, professional, homeowner. You: fit, weight/height proportionate, affluent, generous gentleman, capable of giving time, affection, friskiness, contributions, gifts, travel etc. Relationship: casual to serious. Privacy, discretion, friendship, companionship assured. Let's spoil and pamper one another. Ad 25978

DADDY, SON, BOY, BOOT-BOY, SLAVE!

Do any of these or similar terms interest you? I am 40, fit, attractive and muscular and looking for a muscular GWM for some experimentation (nothing too heavy or serious). Box 25298

CUTE ATTRACTIVE, AFFECTIONATE SEEKING SAME!

GWM, 30, 5'9", medium build, HIV+, attractive, enjoys movies, dining out and dancing. Also passive, seeking GWM 30 and under who is DF, optimistic and would enjoy sharing life with me. Ad#25923

SCORPIO LOVERS ARE WONDERFUL MAGIC MAKERS

GWM, 6', 190, br/br, handsome, distinguished, professional, well-educated, and traveled, socially and financially secure, in search of a drug/smoke free masculine GWM 30+. Healthy, happy, honest, sincere, romantic, fun-loving guy. One who enjoys dining by candlelight, quite evenings at home, "black-tie affairs," old movies, opera, theater. Most important loving and being loved and wanting a long term monogamous relationship. Ad 25275

BABY WANTED!

by attractive, stable, professional, white woman who is racing the biological clock. Seeking attractive, intelligent caucasian male or male couple for cooperative effort in having a child. Full custody for the mother but father (s) can alternatively can have plenty of involvement/visitation alternatively. Would also consider a platonic "marriage of convenience" so that both parents could live with the child. Ad 25740

STABLE PROFESSIONAL WITH HIDDEN WILD STREAK!

Me: GWM, 32, brown hair/eyes, smooth, 6', 185#, masculine, very healthy, HIV+, Montrose homeowner. You: 20's to 30's, very hairy, masculine, very healthy. You and I: Very financially secure yet very down to earth, looking for an intensely passionate,

LOOKING FOR FRIEND

Attractive, well-built 29 yr. old GWM seeks GBM. I am athletic; my favorite sports are biking and running. If you are looking for a warm, sincere person and you are muscular and attractive, please respond to Ad 25979.

FEISTY, FEMININE FEMALE WANTED!

You: very feminine, small/medium build, uninhibited, playful, intimate, conversationalist, positive attitude. Me: GWF, 105lbs, 5'3", long blonde hair, blue eyes, soft butch, assertive, flirtatious, likes having fun. Ad 25553.

FRIENDSHIP, ACCEPTANCE, SUPPORT, NO STRINGS ATTACHED

You're slim, sincere, masculine, 30-40's. You have an exceptionally positive attitude and a great sense of humor. I'm all the above plus caring, gentle and unique. 5'10", 160lbs., br/br, DDF/NS, 40. Enjoy nature, animals and plants. Interested in one fine gentleman for whatever might develop. Ad 25745

ENDOWED HEALTHY, ATTRACTIVE OUTGOING PROFESSIONAL

GWM wants to meet other(s) the same for friendship and safe fun. If you are endowed, attractive, non-smoker/non-substance abuser, under 45 years of age, professional, weight in proportion to height or thin, friendly, outgoing, not into S & M, and want to meet the same please respond to Ad 25749.

GENTLE TOP SEEKS BOTTOM

GWM, 48, 6'2", ht/wt proportionate, balding/blue, hairy body, physically fit, DDF, NS, lite alcohol, professional, educated, mature, masculine, honest, sincere, enjoys arts, movies, gym, outdoors, cuddler, active, sensitive, caring, nice guy. Seeking GM alive, fun, physically fit, smart, masculine, DDF, NS, bottom, smoother the better, employed, career minded for dating maybe monogamous relationship. Ad#25726

RESCUE ME FROM LIMBO!

I'm a GWM, 27, 5'9", average/slim, DDF/NS/LD who's lived without other gay friends or experiences. I'm in need of special friends to help me experience gay life and love. You: GWM/GHM, under 35, DDF, average/attractive, non-kicker. No expectations beyond friendship. Fireworks may follow later for that special person. Ad 25732

SOUTH AMERICAN COUPLE WANTS A BOY!

We 25/34 y.o., white, nice looking. You: 18-22 y.o., white, cute, boyish good looks, slim, DDF who likes an intimate cozy friendship. Social drinking and smoking okay and must like pets. Ad 25747

Committed couple would like to meet other couples who enjoy hiking, camping, movies, children and dogs. We are professional and down to earth with high moral standards. Ad 9026

DPM-ROW

I'm as corny as Kansas in August; High as the flag on the fourth of July; If you'll excuse an expression I use I'm in love, I'm in love, I'm in love with a wonderful guy!!! Ad 25911

LOOKING FOR A FRIEND

Attractive, well built GBM seeks masculine friends. I enjoy sports, working out, movies, electronics and good conversation. I'm stable and professional and DDF/LD. Ad 25739

ARE YOU INTERESTED?

I'm an attractive 39yr. old, 5'9", 150#, well built professional WM that enjoys working out, art, music, outdoors, travel, dinners out, good conversations and hot times with masculine, muscular men of all ages and races. If you are muscular and looking for someone to date and perhaps develop a relationship, let me hear from you! Ad#25935

SLEEPLESS IN BRENHAM! (ONE HOUR TO HOUSTON)

Sooner or later I won't have to remind myself to wake up in the morning or breath in and out. If you feel like this then maybe we can make magic. I'm a GWF looking for someone who is also sleepless. I can't meet you on the Empire State Building but I can meet you anywhere else. Ad 25721.

GHF

GHF, 28, professional, NS, lives for dancing, dining and romancing; cute cuddly and kind; enjoys all sports and honest conversations; divine sense of humor; seeks GHF or GWF under 40 who loves dancing, hates mind games and leans toward the feminine side. Ad#25143

DOWN TO EARTH SPACE MAN

GWM, professional (27, 5'8", 150lbs., dark blonde, blue eyes, NS), regular guy, attractive, looking to meet a caring man who's available for a possible monogamous relationship, or more friends with similar values. I'm attracted to a GW/HM (23-37) who's emotionally stable, physically fit, nice looking (not gorgeous), genuine and sincere. I prefer quiet, romantic times instead of wild parties, but I am out going and have a funny sense of humor. Ad#25155

START YEAR RIGHT! (NO GAMES!)

GWM, 29, 5'10", 163lbs, w/above average looks. HIV+ for 6 years and with perfect health. Looking for GW or GH that is also in great health, masculine in appearance, attitude. I'm very adventurous, spontaneous, fun loving, love animals, nature and would like someone to share my life with and stop being alone. You won't be disappointed. Serious need only reply. Ad 25270

Very attractive, butch Hispanic, body builder in San Antonio, 27, 5'6", looking for an attractive health conscious man up to 45 years of age, under 5'10" with a sense of humor and caring heart. Interests are art, weight lifting, dancing and ghost stories. I gave up looking for Mr. Right in San Antonio. Could you be in Houston? Ad 25733

FIT, FUN, HANDSOME, SEEKS B & D BUDDY!

Healthy, 33, bl/bl, 5'10", 165lbs., HIV+ seeks buddy or dad for imaginative fun. Likes working out, movies, hiking and biking, restaurants, B & D, humiliation, toys and more. Am open minded and fun to be with. Age or race are unimportant. Ad 25750

WANTED: HAIRY CHESTED YOUNG STUPID FOR COMPANIONSHIP

GWM, 35, bl/gr, 5'9", 200lbs, DDF, seeks muscular male 20-39 for companionship. Enjoy movies, leather, evenings at home and dining out. Must be self-employed and own your own transportation, male stripper or swimmer's build and DDF. Nipple rings, black/blonde hairy chested a plus. I live in San Antonio but would like to receive responses from the Houston area. Ad 25744

WANTED: SOMEONE TO KEEP MY TOES WARM!

I'm a passionate, attractive Italian Scorpio. GWF is with long dark brown hair and light brown eyes. Just re-entering the dating scene after 6 years of being corralled. I'm looking for someone who is intelligent, pretty, feminine, affectionate and employed to come out and play. DDF, light drinking okay. Ad 25755

MARRIED MEN

Spend quality time day or night w/semi-retired GWM in Houston. Ad 25328

SUBMISSIVE MEN!

are sought by Houston man (44, 5'9", 180, hairy, aggressive, demanding). Seeking 21-48, masculine, any race. I travel on business so out-of-town replies are welcome. Ad 25134

FRIENDSHIP AND FUN

GBM, 5'10", 195#, healthy, HIV+, affectionate, realistic, spontaneous, honest and sexy. Prefer ages 30-45, w/h proportion. Interest include but not limited to movies, music, theater, and life outside the bars. I'm a heck of a great guy and I know there are more like me somewhere out there with similar interests, feelings, inclinations and aspirations. Oddly, we haven't met. Let's change that! Respond to Ad 25974.

GWF, 36 seeking GWF who is honest and secure herself. There must be somebody out there who wants friendship and romance. I like going to movies, music and dining. Ad#25723

COLLEGE BOUND?

GWM, 37, 5'11", 150, bl/bl, very healthy, athletic, successful businessman, just out, into film, art, kayaking, tennis. Seeks healthy, intelligent, handsome, masculine, Bi/GWM, 18-32. I help you through college, you make me proud of you and we have some great times on the way exploring the world. Serious inquiries only. Ad 25751

NEED DADDY YOU NEVER REALLY HAD?

Mature, professional, very hairy body/hairy chest, Edwardian beard, (sign of Cancer). You, mentally mature, non-smoker, into safe fun. Please respond to Ad 25916.

LET'S HAVE FUN TOGETHER

If you are young, slim, healthy, intelligent, free of alcohol/drugs, decent, sincere, boy next door type, this 52 y.o. educated, decent, sincere professional would love to meet you for discrete safe gay fun times together. Ad 25947.

HEY, I KNOW YOU!

You're a GWM 30's to 40's, smart, stable, secure, masculine and healthy. You have integrity, wit, optimism and charm. This GWM, 36, 6'2", 175, br/bl is all the above plus compassionate, comfortable to be around, upbeat, adventurous and an extrovert. If you're who I think you are, respond today! Ad 25716

GWM PHYSICIAN SEEKS EXCEPTIONAL YOUNG MAN!

GWM physician, 40 but looks 35, feels 21, searching for special young man 21-28 for possibility of long term, committed relationship. Very romantic, believes in monogamy, loves movies, dining out, travel, quiet evenings, cuddling, etc. Prefer non-smoker. I have a lot to offer the right person -don't hesitate if you might be the one! Ad 25743

GAY SWEEP-STAKES!!! YOU MAY WIN!!!

Me: GWM, 42, 5'11", 175, dark hair, blue, professional, discreet, stable, DDF, non-smoker, handsome, endowed and "natural." You: GWM, 20-30, honest good looking. To enter: Respond describing yourself and why I should choose you to take to dinner. Extra credit awarded for certain attributes!! Ad 25738

Hearing set for Utah man who claims his machine treats AIDS

SALT LAKE CITY, Thursday, Jan. 13 (AP)—West Valley City businessperson Tim Themy-Kotronakis, who claims to have invented a treatment for AIDS and other diseases, has been ordered to appear at a March 9 hearing.

The hearing will be on allegations by the

Utah Division of Occupational and Professional Licensing that he is practicing medicine and pharmacy without a license.

Themy-Kotronakis, president of T&T Medical Products, claims to have treated more than 100 people, at no charge, for a variety of illnesses.

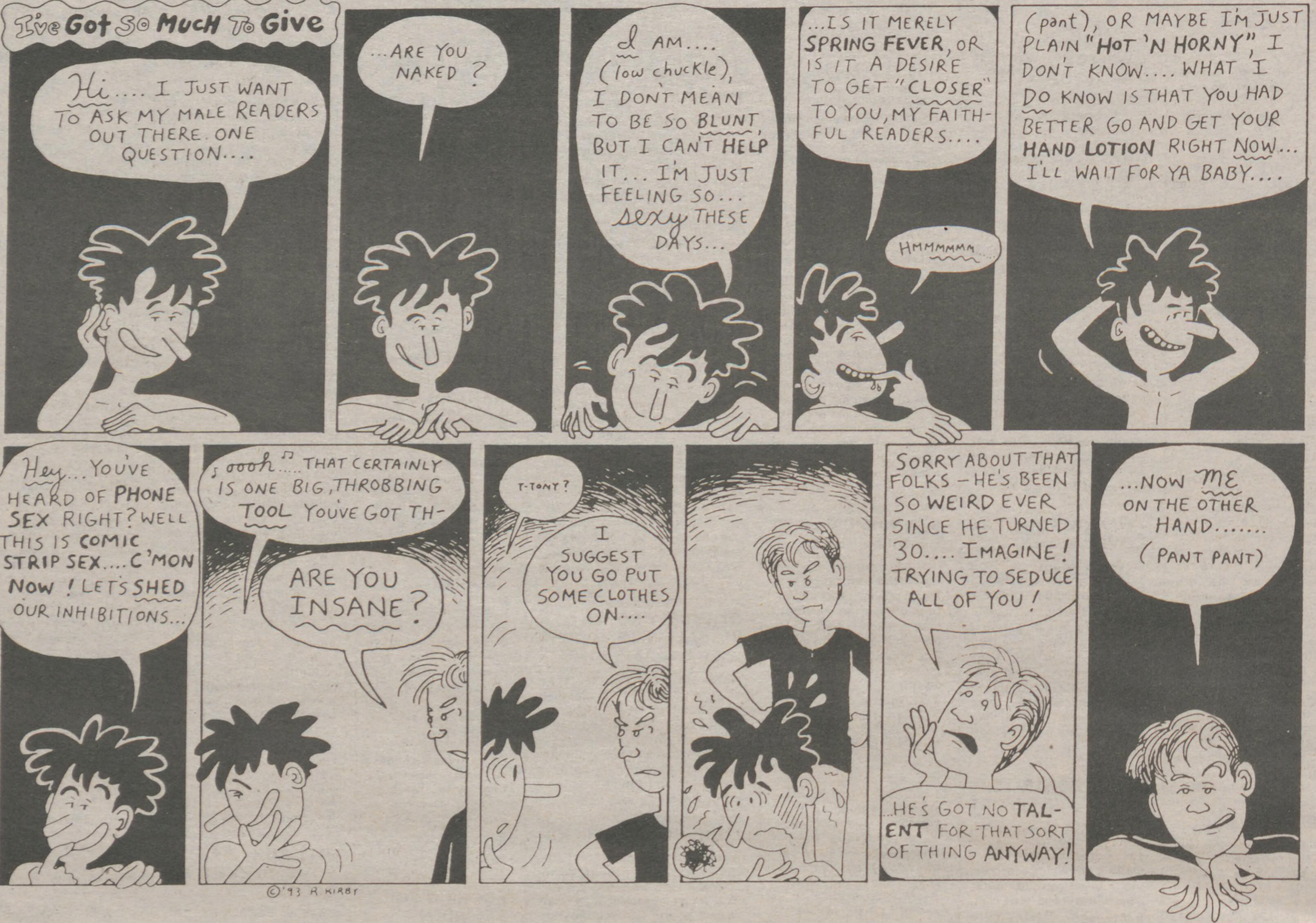
The federal Food and Drug Administration has classified Themy-Kotronakis' machine as a medical device and the "Solution A" it creates a drug.

The device is an electrolysis apparatus that produces a solution containing sodium, chlorine and ozone that Themy-

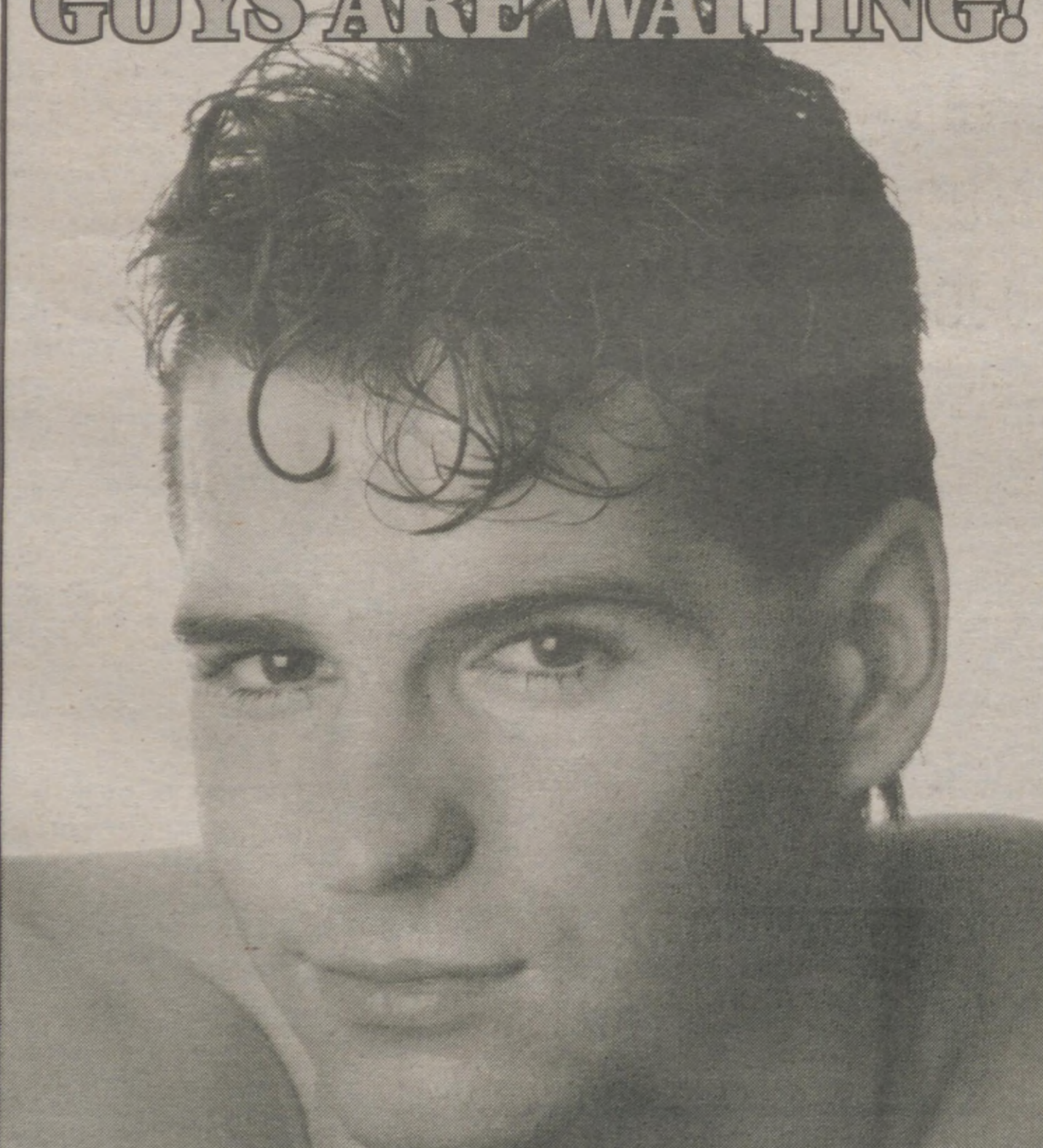
Kotronakis claims kills disease organisms.

Themy-Kotronakis said Tuesday that he is negotiating with some Canadian investors who may continue testing of his machine, possibly outside the United States.

CURBSIDE by Robert Kirby



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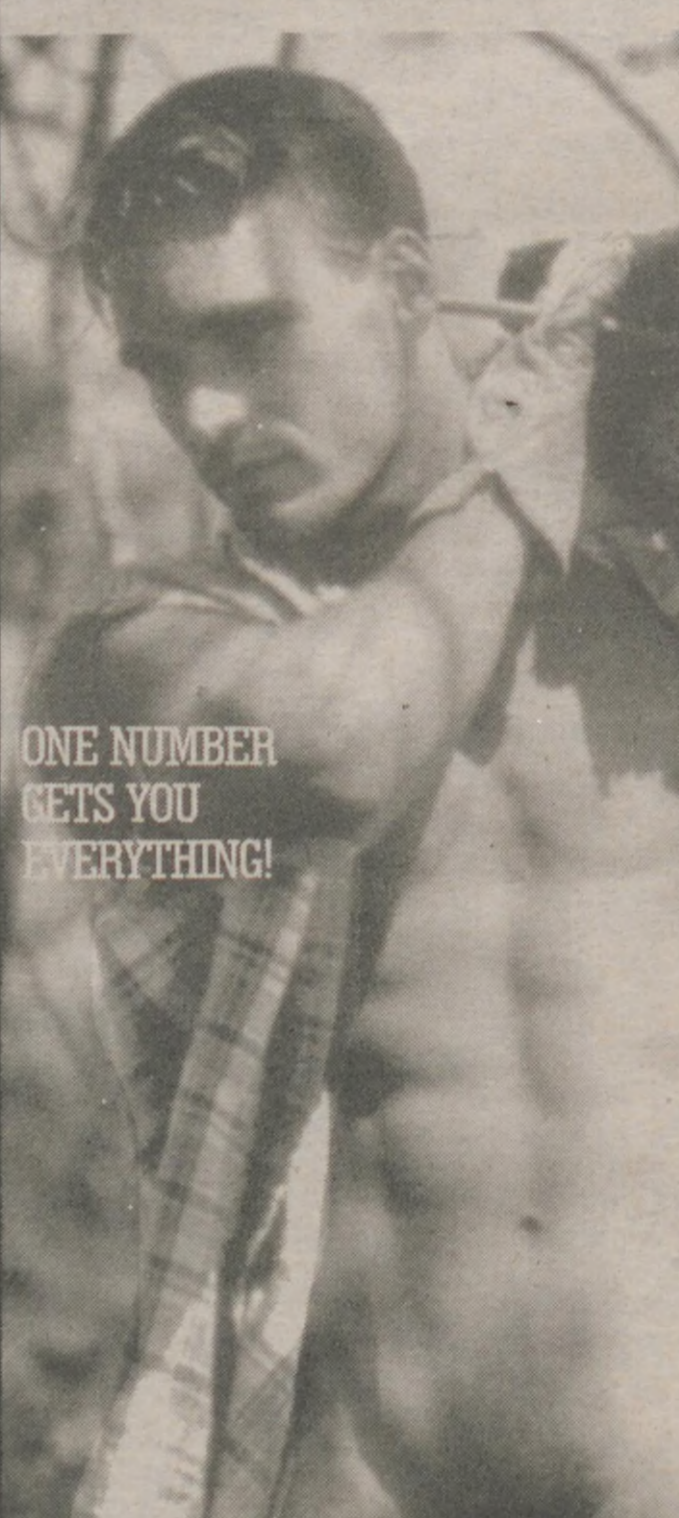
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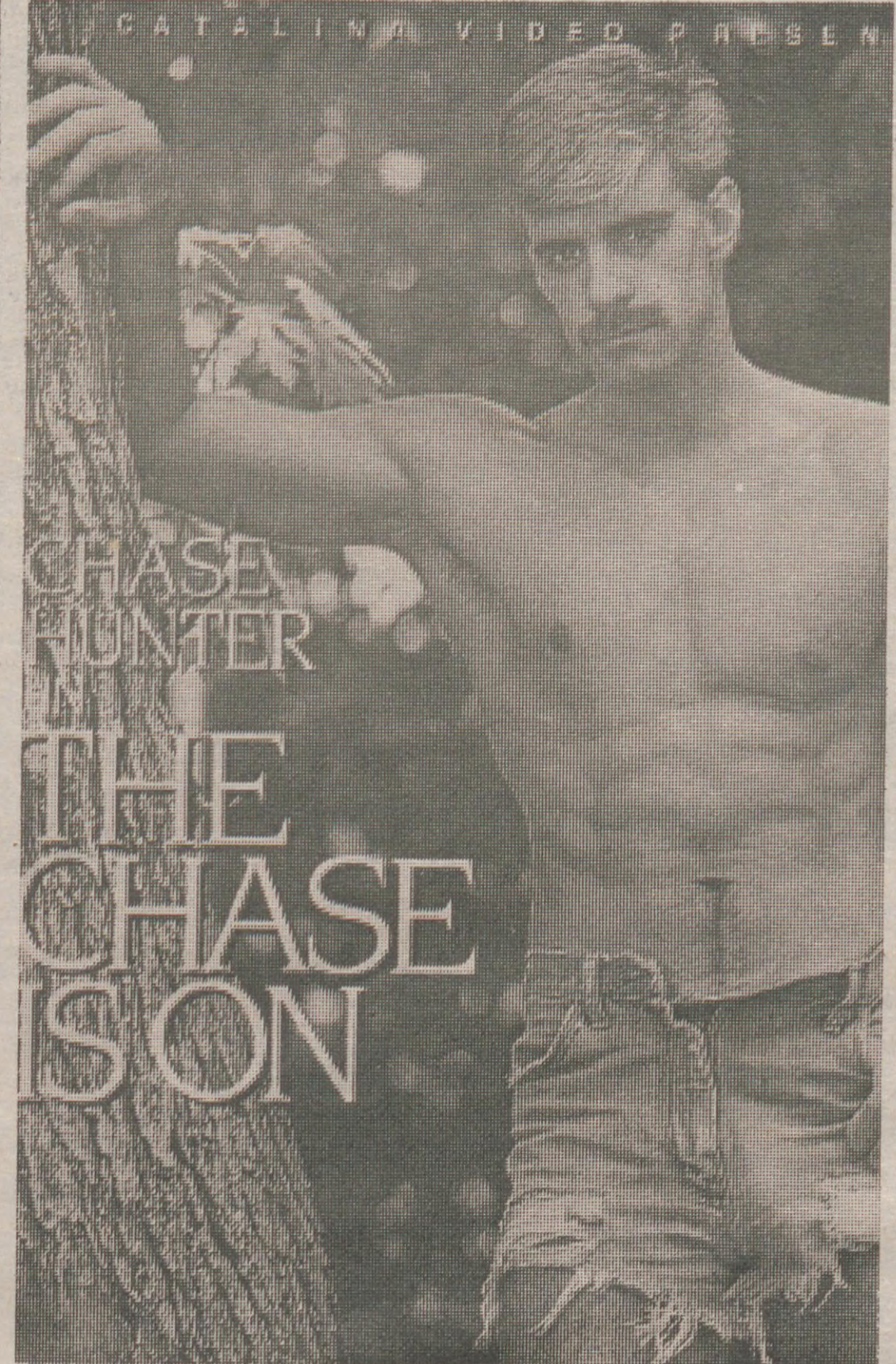
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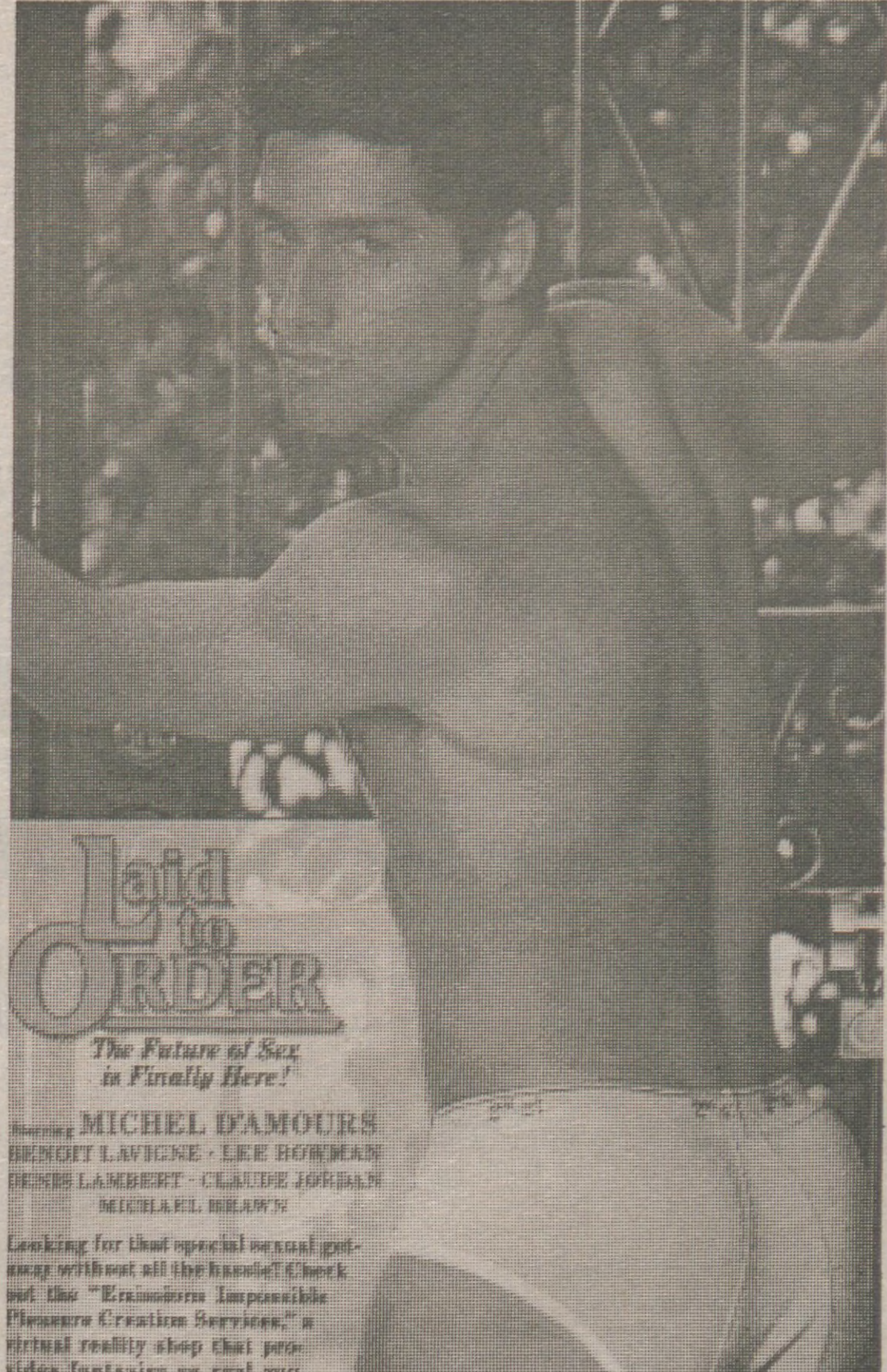


THE CHASE IS ON

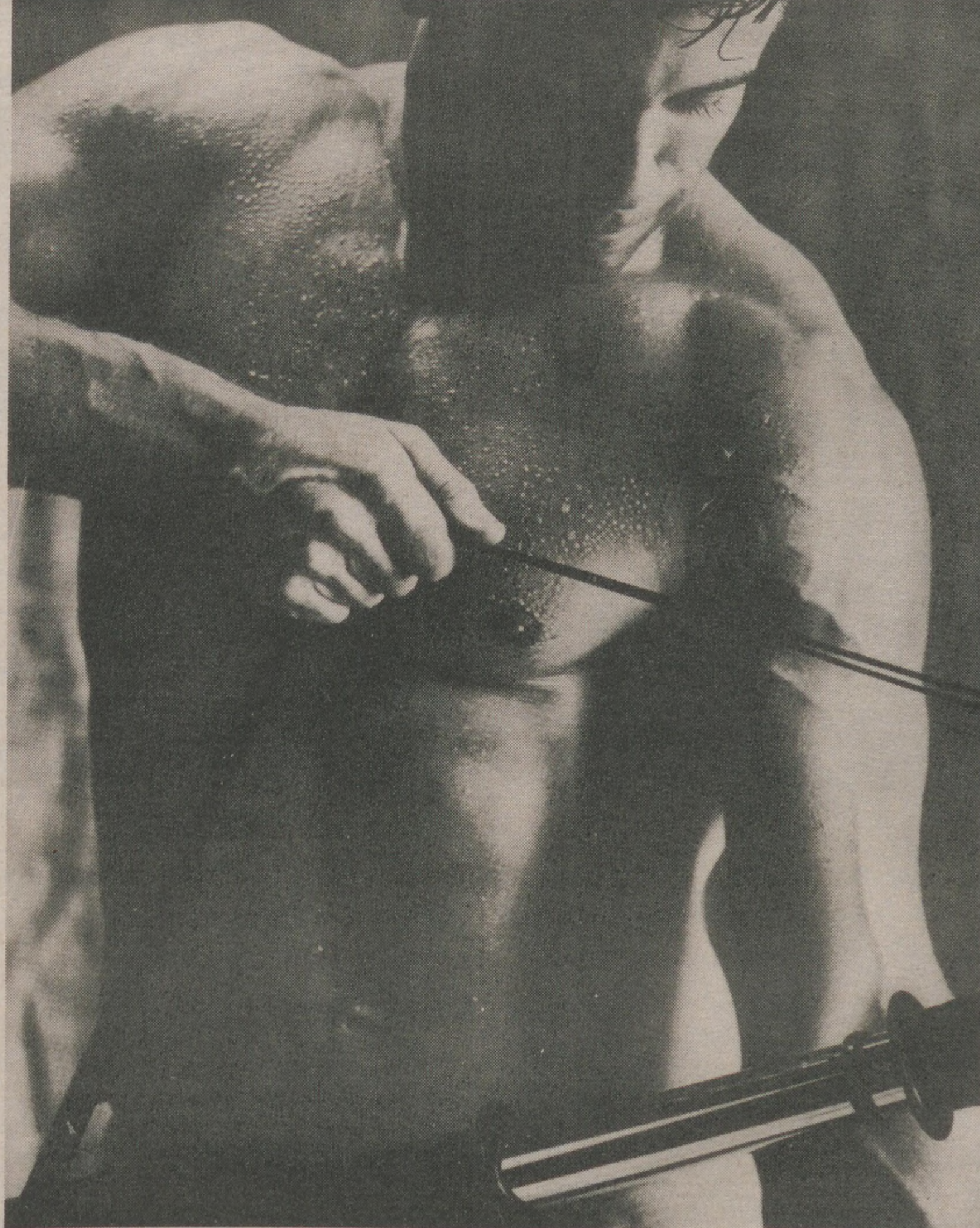
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KUNTRY KIDD'S CHILI

Yo! With all the cold weather we've been having, here's a recipe that's easy and not too spicy. For those of you with hair on your chest, or just a big chest, you can easily spice up the recipe. Just add a little chili powder.

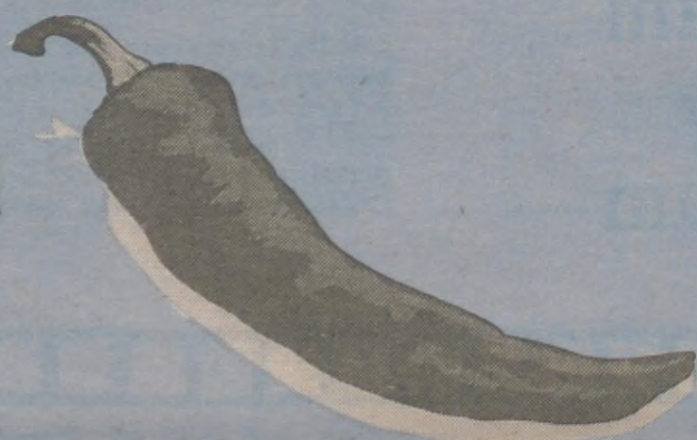
- 1 46 oz can V-8 juice
- 1 can Red Beans
- 1 can Hot Chili Beans
- 1 can Dark Red Kidney Beans
- 1 can Pinto Beans with Jalapenos
- 1 can Stewed Tomatoes-chopped, but not drained
- 1 package McCormick Hot Chili Seasoning
- 1 large Onion
- 2 lbs Ground Beef (Don't use that coarse ground stuff they call chili meat - it's like chewing on one of Imelda Marcos' old shoes)
- Salt, Pepper, and Garlic Salt to taste

Optional: 1 can of your favorite brewskie added added to pot just before serving
In place of half of the ground beef add sirloin steak cut into bite sized pieces (makes for better texture)

Saute the onion in a little butter. Add the beef and brown, then drain fat. Add salt, pepper and garlic salt until desired flavor is reached while simmering over low heat. Then add package of chili mix and stir well. Pour into large pot and add remaining ingredients. Cook over low heat, covered, for a couple of hours. Better flavor if cooked a day or two in advance. Also gives you more time during the day to primp if you're having company for dinner.

Serve with saltines, oyster crackers, fritos, cheddar cheese (grated) or whatever suits your fancy. Big, plump, juicy pickles may add an interesting touch.

Remember: Cold Today, Hot Tamale. Maybe the next day a little Chili?



'TIL NEXT WE EAT!

KUNTRY KIDD



GALAXY GAZER

A HOUSTON VOICE EXCLUSIVE

HOROSCOPE FOR THE WEEK OF JANUARY 22 - 28, 1994

Capricorns born during this week share the birth time with novelist W. Somerset Maugham, and express the gift for elegant expression of idea and word.

CAPRICORN (Dec 21 - Jan 19) Continue to take advantage of the current moon phase to be confident of yourself, being more firm in your likes and dislikes. It is okay to say 'I want to do this', or 'I do not want to follow through with this craziness'. Friends will welcome this assertiveness, controllers in your life will buck and be unhappy, do not listen to the latter.

AQUARIUS (Jan 20 - Feb 19) I saw several of you Aquariums with you new hair styles, I especially likes the shorter hair length, thanks for having confidence and trying the new look. Gives a more forceful and direct look to you. Wearing strong colors, eg. red, black, medium or dark blue will accent this new confident look of yours. Stand more front and center at the Clubs.

PISCES (Feb 20 - Mar 20) This is a great time to begin a diet or control of any substance abuse behavior. I know that you have tried this before, but the balance of the stars is definitely with your will power. You have wanted to increase the balance between enjoying life and not destroying yourself and this is the best time to accomplish these desirable goals for some time.

ARIES (Mar 21 - Apr 20) Being on guard toward dates wanting to be in love with you, still makes sense. You are an attractive person, and a good catch, especially when you seem detached and not interested in dating. Place your date into an unexpected situation and see how she/he responds. You may see a part of the other person not suspected. Not necessarily good or unfavorable, but will give important insight to you.

TAURUS (Apr 21 - May 21) Trusting you intuition will be right on target. Advice from other may be accurate, but represents only part of the picture. Hard work and long hours begin to reap benefits, the future looks very good. As with your Aquarius friends, the wearing of strong colors will assist you in dealing with others. Wearing of a fragrance compliments your wardrobe

GEMINI (May 22 - June 21) An out of the City trip is successful and gives a sense of achievement. Be in touch with your fantasies, for you do have a vivid imagination. Multiple sides to your personality makes you an interesting and a challenging person for others to understand at times. Do not be afraid to plan a special fantasy time with a lover or close friend.

CANCER (June 22 - July 22) Working out at the gym is going well, the social contacts with the work out sessions are pleasurable for you, and a reason why exercising at home never was satisfying. Select clothing to show off your new body. Take advantage of your muscle toning results. Check your posture in the mirror as you tend to stoop upon occasion. Stop at the flower shop and treat yourself to a couple of colorful blooms to reward yourself.

LEO (July 23 - Aug 22) You are entering into a high sexual activity period. Enjoy the people that you will meet, and interact with. I doubt if anything will permanently come from these contacts, but they will add to your memories and be open to try new positions and 'toys'. Look through the personal section and try meeting two or three people. Go easy on any mind altering substances.

VIRGO (Aug 23 - Sept 22) Saw you out and about this past weekend. WOW, you looked wonderful. Wearing the butch styles look great on you. Plan an informal dinner to impress a recent date to demonstrate that you do have other skills besides socializing. Go easy on high sugar foods as they may decrease your energy level. Your complexion will have a youthful glow with the low carbohydrate foods. Try the diet soft drinks again, they do taste better now.

LIBRA (Sept 23 - Oct 22) Be open about your sexual interests and enjoy life, perhaps as you never have before. Try wearing keys and/or handkerchiefs to express your interests. Make sure that you are at the type of Club where you are most likely to meet the person you are now seeking. This is good time for house cleaning and the decorating projects you have thought about. And your quarters will look great to bring someone home to.

SCORPIO (Oct 23 - Nov 22) Make a list of projects at work and home and channel your extra energy level into getting things completed. You will be proud of your accomplishments. Try a brighter color of paint in several rooms at home. Enough of your off white walls. Have a dozen of your favorite cookies on hand, ready for bringing a date home to impress her/him. Answer the Christmas cards and get that project over with.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov 23 - Dec 20) Your supervisor will be impressed with you making yourself indispensable at work. Learn as much as you are able about your business and try to anticipate your boss's needs. Make her/him wonder how the firm ever existed without your efforts. Try to stay above the petty gossip and tacky comments of co-workers. Clean and ironed shirts will be also noticed. Permanent press is only a beginning.

THE TEXAS PUZZLE

Includes Texas Clues, Current U.S. Events & Standard Crossword Clues

- ACROSS**
- 1 radio broadcast band best for music
 - 4 travel over
 - 6 barely

- 7 gained with effort
- 8 fluffy scarf
- 11 infrequent
- 12 crowd
- 14 chance
- 16 unit of electric current
- 18 angry
- 21 Lou Costello's straight man, initials
- 22 dismiss
- 23 versus abbrev.
- 25 Texas Gov. Richards wants federal gov't to reimburse state for expenses on

- 28 this, 2 words
- 29 walk stiffly
- 31 natural dark solid used as fuel
- 33 Hitler's mistress Eva
- 35 cathode-ray tube
- 36 beerlike beverage
- 37 Land of Opportunity state, abbrev.

- 3 these people
- 5 home of Shell Oil Company chemical complex, 2 words
- 8 Texas river running through Bryan, Washington, Hempstead & Richmond
- 9 original equipment manufacturer, abbrev.
- 10 preposition for showing preparation
- 12 Treaty of Guadalupe Hildago ended this war
- 13 slant on

- 15 an edge
- 17 Cain's brother
- 19 associate
- 20 related to the horse
- 24 moral obligation
- 26 senior, abbrev.
- 27 state with mountain laurel as official flower, abbrev.
- 28 Roman numeral for 650
- 30 symbol for element ytterbium, used as an X-ray source & in some lasers
- 31 Texas storm of 1961
- 32 exterior
- 34 conglomerate that sold itself to G.E.

MORE CLUES
If desired, at these numbers fill in these letters: 1 F, 6 E, 8 B, 10 F, 12 M, 17 P, 22 A, 28 S, 31 C, 35 C
The solution appears elsewhere this issue
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