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## Straight Talk with Kevin Kline and Tom Selleck

### Exclusive Interviews with the Stars of 'In & Out'

by Tim Nasson  
Special for the *Houston Voice*

#### Kevin Kline

I first caught a glimpse of Kevin Kline the day before I interviewed him. Standing on Park Avenue, in front of the Regency Hotel, (which is where most of the cast of the film "In & Out" - and the throngs of press in the city from around the world convened to interview them - were bunkered down), waiting for a friend to go to dinner with, Kline walked out, only to be besieged by a half-dozen or so full time celebrity-autograph-chasing-dimwits who looked as if they had just crawled out of a sewer from the middle of the street.

Instead of ignoring them, like most civilized people would have done or at least would have wanted to do, Kline graciously

signed his name on whatever they threw into his hands. A notebook. A black and white glossy from his Academy Award winning performance in "A Fish Called Wanda", even a napkin from someone who was not as quite prepared.

When done, he was dragged into his limousine and shuttled back to his condominium on the upper West Side - only a few blocks away from the hotel. All part of a day's work.

The next day's work for Kline was not as



KLINE

SELLECK

PHOTO BY ANDY SCHWARTZ

easy as just signing autographs. For nearly half the day, he answered questions about his new film that has audiences who have seen it, rolling in the aisles.

It is Kline as Mr. Brackett, a high-school English/Drama teacher, in a small Indiana town, who has the toughest role in the film, and he who has the biggest role in the ensemble that includes Joan Cusack as his fiance, Matt Dillon as the former student who outs him, Tom Selleck as his gay confi-

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## Court Affirms Dunn Conviction

AUSTIN - The Texas Court of Criminal Appeals today affirmed the conviction and death sentence of Henry Earl Dunn Jr. in the 1993 slaying of a Tyler medical records clerk, who was targeted because he was gay.

Dunn was sentenced to death along with Donald Loren Aldrich in the kidnapping, robbery and murder of 23-year-old Nicolas West. They had said the crime resulted at least in part from their hatred of homosexuals.

They confessed to abducting West from a Tyler city park and driving him to a clay pit in a rural area outside the East Texas city, where West was robbed of his vehicle and shot at least nine times. Among his arguments on appeal, Dunn said the trial court erred by denying a motion to suppress his videotaped confession. He contended that his confession wasn't voluntarily given.

The appeals court said Dunn pointed to no facts to support his claim and said the trial court didn't abuse its discretion.

See DUNN page 15

## AIDS Epidemic Worsens Among Women; Most Cases Traced to Sex

by Paul A. Driscoll

CHICAGO - The AIDS infection rate is rising among American women, especially those living in the South, and transmission through sex with infected men has outpaced intravenous drug use, federal researchers say.

"Prevention efforts remain critical," the researchers said, particularly since those women who are most at risk can be difficult to educate because of their poverty, substance abuse, alcoholism and other problems.

From 1991 through 1995, the number of women diagnosed with AIDS increased by

63 percent versus 12.8 percent for men. By the end of 1995, 67,400 women throughout the country had been diagnosed as having AIDS since the epidemic began, with 11,500 of them being diagnosed in 1995. At press time, the researchers did not immediately have figures on the total number of men infected.

Throughout the 1980s and early 1990s, the disease was spread in women primarily through sharing injection drug needles. But by 1993, sex with infected men had become the main culprit and two years later had risen to 52 percent of the cases nationwide. In the

South, it was even worse - 58 percent. More up-to-date data to be released later this week will show the trend continuing, according to the federal Centers for Disease Control and Prevention.

The trend toward infection through sex is particularly evident for women under 25, who are 2 1/2 times more likely to have been infected through heterosexual contact than by injecting drugs, said CDC epidemiologist Dr. Pascale M. Wortley, chief researcher of the study.

"So it's critical to reach young people before they reach the age of having sex and

injecting drugs," she said. "The key is to get them before they even start."

The findings highlight the continuing spread of the disease despite the success of new drugs in prolonging life, said Daniel Zingale, executive director of AIDS Action, an advocacy group. "There has been a lot of attention on the declining death rate ... this is the rest of the story," Zingale said.

The study also found evidence suggesting that many adolescent women become infected by older men and that in cases of a large age gap the women are less likely to insist on using condoms.



## Ballet Season Opener A Wonderful Melange of Modernity

by Rich Arenschieldt

Boing! Boing! Boing! goes the ballet! This past weekend's offering by our resident company was an exceptionally bouncy visual and aural treat. While most of Houston seems to be stuck in the storybook syndrome, this boy wonder

See BALLET page 15

## Law Maker - Law Breaker

### Texas Senator Faces Jail Sentence

by Steve Labinski  
Houston Voice Austin Bureau Chief

AUSTIN - Sen. Drew Nixon (R, Carthage) left a Travis County courtroom in stunned silence last Wednesday where a jury returned a surprisingly strong sentence on charges of soliciting prostitution and carrying an unregistered firearm.

The Austin jury recommended a 180-day jail sentence and a \$6,000 fine. The East Texas Republican was ensnared in a police

undercover sting operation last February when he solicited an undercover policeman for sex. At that point, police also discovered an unregistered 9 mm pistol under the seat of his car.

Travis County Court-at-Law judge David Puryear is scheduled to sentence Nixon on October 1.

Members of the jury explained afterwards that Nixon's previous violation of the same gun law in 1993 played a significant role in

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## Prisons Fight Growing AIDS Epidemic

SAN ANTONIO - Behind the bars of Texas prisons lies a culture of rampant sex and unchecked drug use that has created a fertile AIDS breeding ground, extending beyond prison walls and into the cities, the *San Antonio Express-News* reported.

In a copyright story in its early Sunday editions, the *Express-News* reported that the disease now ranks as the leading killer in the Texas prison system, killing 475 inmates since 1992. In 1990, AIDS deaths started to surpass those from cancer and heart disease, prompting the state to open separate prison wards to treat infected men and women.

Nationally, the spread of AIDS in prisons also is a growing problem, the *Express-News*

reported. At least 24,200 of the 1.02 million inmates in the United States carry the virus and 5,100 suffer from AIDS - more than six times the AIDS rate outside prison, the newspaper reported.

And attempting to halt the spread of AIDS in prison is far from the grasp of Texas and other states. Only 16 states and Washington, D.C., require all inmates to be tested for the human immunodeficiency virus that causes AIDS. Texas doesn't, leaving corrections officials in the country's second-largest prison system guessing how far the virus has spread.

Voluntary screening shows 1,979 of the

See PRISONS page 15

## The Board



PWA Holiday Charities Board of Directors: (Back left to right) David Sawyer, Don Gil, Bob Bouton; (seated left to right) Jerry Morin, Ken Parker.

See related story on page 4.

**Mother Teresa**

by Patrick C. via the internet

In the wake of coverage of the death of Princess Diana, I was pleased to see front page coverage of the death of Mother Teresa in your September 12th issue. At a time when Cardinal O'Connor of New York was saying that AIDS victims deserve what they get, she simply opened up AIDS hospices as a natural extension of her work.

**Nominations, please!**

by William P. Comeaux, Senior Community Liaison, Bureau of HIV/ STD Prevention

The Bureau of HIV/STD Prevention of the Houston Department of Health and Human Services is requesting nominations for nine(9) vacancies on the Houston HIV Prevention Community Planning Group (HHPCPG). The creation of this group is a result of the HIV prevention community planning process as mandated in November 1993 by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC). HIV prevention community planning is an ongoing process whereby volunteer representatives from the various communities share responsibilities with local health department staff for devel-

oping a comprehensive HIV prevention plan.

Nominations are currently being solicited to fill the following positions: **Youth, Mental Health, Incarcerated/Criminal Justice, HIV Prevention Worker, Persons with Physical Disabilities, Substance Abuse, Sex Workers, Spiritual Issues and Representing Female HIV Infected/PWA's.** The nomination process is open; therefore, anyone can nominate him/herself or another person. Persons who fill the vacant positions must have specific expertise and be able to articulate and address the HIV prevention needs of the population they represent.

The purpose of HHPCPG and the planning process is to set priorities and establish a comprehensive HIV Prevention Plan which reflects high priority community needs. Recruitment is designed to be proactive to assure a diverse strata of community groups, including socio-economically marginalized groups and groups that are underserved by existing HIV prevention programs. We need community involvement! If you or someone you know is interested in filling one of the vacancies, application packets are available at the Bureau of HIV/STD Prevention, Houston Department of Health and Human Services, 8000 N. Stadium Drive, 5th Floor, Houston, TX or call 713-794-9092 for more information.

MONTROSE AREA UPDATE

by Carolyn Roberts

**Ribbon Cutting**

StatScript Pharmacy celebrated the grand opening last Thursday, September 11, of their newest location in Houston, StatScript is located in the new shopping center at 3407 Montrose. Members of the Greater Houston Gay and Lesbian Chamber of Commerce, StatScript entertained over 100



Ribbon cutting at Statscript Pharmacy.

community members. Joy Clayton Catering presented a beautiful and tasty selection of hors d'oeuvres. The newest location is open Monday thru Friday, 9:00 am to 5:30 pm. If you would like more information about this new pharmacy, call 713/522-7373.

**Here She Comes, Miss Camp America**

Miss Camp America, Inc. hosted the 29th annual pageant "Under the Big Top" this past Saturday night marking the end of the foundation's 1997 fundraising campaign. As a result of overwhelming support, 80,000 was distributed among the Bering Dental



The New Miss Camp America, Ted Roundtree.

Clinic, The Assistance Fund, People with AIDS Coalition-Houston, Montrose Clinic-Frost Eye Clinic, and the Colt 45's Trouble Fund. This brings the total amount of funds awarded since 1992 to nearly \$290,000. If you would like more info on Miss Camp America, call 713/940-STAR. And just a reminder, the higher the hair, the closer to Heaven!

**Loving Community Supports Loving Arms**

The Royal, Sovereign and Imperial Court of the Single Star held a fundraiser at Gentry on Sunday night. \$210 was donated to benefit Coronation XIV and the Loving Arms Foundation.

**Fais Do Do**

The Krew of Olympus is getting ready for their October 4 Cajun festival. Proceeds will benefit Steven's House, Q Patrol, Pet Patrol, PWA Holiday Charities, and the Krew. Food, fun, raffle, and more. For more info, call 713/867-3431.



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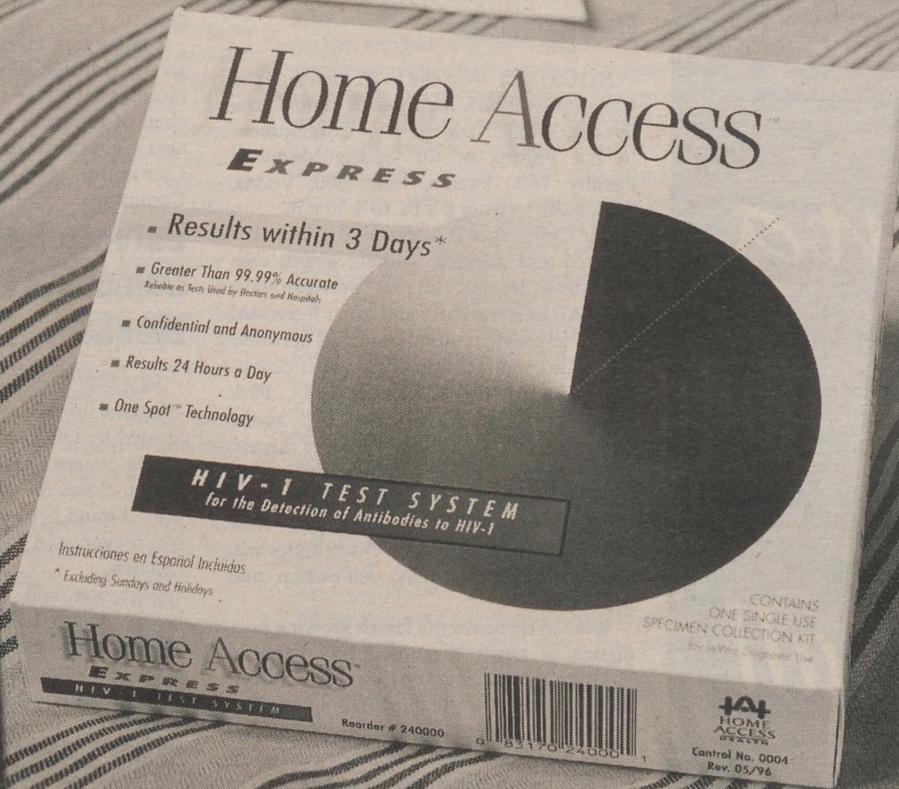
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### Lady Victoria Lust's Dream Becomes Reality

HOUSTON - The Lady Victoria Lust PWA Holiday Fund, a perennial holiday event designed to raise money for People With AIDS founded by the late Marvin Davis (a.k.a. Lady Victoria Lust), has officially become a designated 501(c)(3) organization, now known as PWA Holiday Charities.

The PWA Fund was founded by Davis in late 1987 when he organized a PWA Christmas Show during his candidacy for Empress IV of the Imperial Court of the Single Star. Proceeds were given to PWA's to spend however they wished. The event became a community staple due to its overwhelming popularity. As a result, Davis joined forces with the Colt 45's, who offered the event shelter in their organization as a separate account under their 501(c)(3) status.

In 1994, in need for assistance in handling the many aspects of operating this account, Davis established THE LVL PWA Holiday Fund Board. Each year he picked the following year's board and presented them to the community at the Christmas show. At the 1995 show, the last one at which he would officiate, he presented the fifteen people he had selected for that year with Don Gill and Richard Bank, a.k.a. Regina Dane, serving as Co-Directors and Jerry Morin serving as Secretary. Thereafter, the Board met about every six weeks to plan the next event and prepare for those who would follow.

At a June meeting in 1996, the Board was presented with a proposal to consider becoming a 501(c)(3) organization on its own. After careful consideration and legal consultation, the steering committee formed to review the matter suggested that the Board proceed with the idea. Hence, an application for a state charter was submitted and approved. Consequently, name of the organization became PWA Holiday Charities. Unfortunately, Davis is not alive to see his dream come true. He passed away November 3, 1996.

### Fourth Annual Women's HIV Coalition Conference to Convene

HOUSTON - The Women's HIV Coalition will host their fourth annual conference, Women and HIV — Commitment to the Future, at the Sports Medicine Facility, 7400 Fannin, Suite 600, Friday, September 19 from 8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m..

The Conference is designed to gather HIV infected and affected women, health care providers, human service professionals, HIV/AIDS researchers and other interested parties to provide information and networking. The event will include a panel discussion with Joseph C. Gathe, M.D., Park Plaza Hospital, Nancy Erikson, M.D., University of Texas and Dorothy Lewis, Ph.D., Baylor College of Medicine regarding the clinical Management of HIV in Women, HIV and Pregnancy, and New Developments in research. Other topics will include health, sexuality, self-esteem and legal issues.

Women represent the fastest growing population of newly diagnosed HIV cases in Houston and the country. (See Cover Story). AIDS has become the third leading cause of death among American women. This fact forces a re-examination of many psychosocial and health issues related to gender, sex and social and economic roles. For information or registration, call (713) 935-8530. HIV-positive women will be admitted free of charge.

### MCC's Men's and Women's Networks to Host Introspective Discussions

HOUSTON - What are the dilemmas of dating as a gay man? How does it work? How do you meet? In other words, what is proper dating etiquette? The Montrose

Counseling Center's (MCC) Men's Network believes they have the answers to those questions and more.

Open to all gay or bisexual men, the newly launched Men's Network, will discuss the aforementioned topic at their next meeting, Tuesday, September 23 from 7:15 p.m. to 9 p.m. The network is designed to provide a safe and supportive alternative environment for men to meet others, learn and share issues. For more information, contact Michael Migura at (713) 529-0037.

Also, MCC's Women's Network will present a forum on self-care for lesbian and bisexual women. The Women's Network is a support group established to serve the lesbian and bisexual women's community of Houston; any woman who is sensitive to and comfortable with lesbians is welcome. The forum, How to Comfort and Nurture Ourselves, will take place September 27 from 7 to 9 p.m. For more information, contact Sue Long, LMSW-ACP, at the aforementioned number.

### Speaker Re-Appoints Representative Danburg to Elections Advisory Committee

AUSTIN - Texas House Speaker Pete Laney re-appointed Representative Debra Danburg, D-Houston, to the Elections Advisory Committee, which makes recommendations to ensure that election returns reach the public in a timely manner. Danburg, who also is chair of the House Elections Committee, was appointed for a term extending to Feb. 1, 1999.

"I appreciate Representative Danburg's willingness to give her time and attention to the Elections Advisory Committee. I know she will continue to do a good job for the state as a member of this panel," said Speaker Laney.

The 23-member committee evaluates and makes recommendations regarding the secretary of state's reporting and tabulation of unofficial returns for each primary and general election. Other members include five ex-officio members representing press organizations, six appointees of the lieutenant governor, six appointees of the secretary of state and five other appointees of the speaker.

Danburg, a House member since 1981, serves Houston House District 137 which includes Montrose. In addition to serving as chair of the House Elections Committee, she also is a member of the House State Affairs Committee and the House Calendars Committee.

### OutVote 'Register to Win' Campaign Ends in Two Weeks

HOUSTON - Only two weeks remain to "Register to Win." The campaign headed by OutVote will end its first phase of the contest October 5 when voter registration closes for the November 4 city election. Grand Prize could be a new, supportive mayor and a newer, friendlier City Council.

"Mayoral and City Council candidates haven't courted the gay/lesbian vote this heavily since the Kathy Whitmire days," says OutVote President Cicely Wynne. "They're expecting a record turnout from our community. If we don't turn out in big numbers, we'll lose the clout we seem to be gaining back."

According to Wynne, most people assume they are registered, an assumption that is often incorrect. If you've moved in the past year and have not filled out a new voter registration card, you may have been purged from the voter rolls. If you haven't voted in more than a year or two, you may also have been dropped from the rolls, explains Wynne.

To find out whether you are registered or not, you can call (713) 224-1919 to check your status. And, the group urges, if you're not sure, fill out one of their registration cards located in numerous bars and area businesses.

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**REGION/**from page 4

The group, a non-profit organization dedicated to registering, educating and motivating gays and lesbians to vote, is currently amidst its fall voter registration campaign which began Labor Day weekend at Kroger's and Crossroads. OutVote will have booths this weekend at Lobo's from Noon to 6 p.m. this weekend and at JR's, September 27 from 8 p.m. to midnight and September 28 from 6 to 10 p.m.

**Rock and Roll's  
Legendary Fleetwood  
Mac Brings Reunion Tour  
to Summit**

HOUSTON - After a lengthy hiatus, nearly a decade, Fleetwood Mac returned to the airwaves and concert stages this year with great fanfare. Last month the legendary rock group released their first new album since 1987 titled *The Dance*. The album debuted in the top spot of the *Billboard* album chart and has remained in top five to date.

*The Dance*, a live album featuring the quintet performing their roster of classic hits interspersed with four new original songs, is vintage Fleetwood Mac. The concert featured on the album was taped and ran on MTV last month to coincide with the album's release. The MTV special was one of the cable networks highest rated. A video of the concert will hit retail outlets later this month.

The group is subsequently embarking on a North American tour that will bring them to The Summit November 2. To date, the tour comprises 26 performances throughout the US, with additional venues expected to be announced as available.

After the groups breakup in 1987, several members of the group attempted solo careers to no avail with the exception of Stevie Nicks. Nicks amassed several platinum selling albums and sold-out concerts during the last decade, however, a tour of the group sans Nicks and Christie McVie failed to muster impressive ticket sales.

The new tour will include the classic lineup - Mick Fleetwood, John McVie, Christine McVie, Lindsey Buckingham and Stevie Nicks. As a result it is one of the most highly anticipated reunion tours in the history of rock & roll. Furthermore, the tour and the release of the new album coincides with the 20th anniversary of *Rumours*, the album which defined for all time the concept of a *Supergroup* and has sold in excess of 26 million copies worldwide, and counting. *Rumours* is the second biggest selling album of all time behind Michael Jackson's *Thriller*.

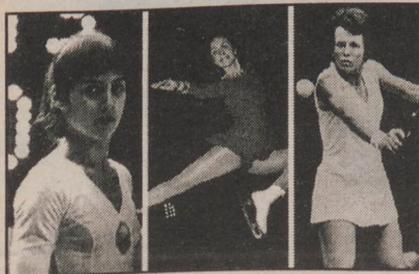
"1997 also marks the 30th anniversary of the founding of Fleetwood Mac," commented John McVie. "We realized that we had created this tremendous body of work and that we wanted to celebrate the accomplishment on this auspicious occasion."

"This is all very exciting," added Stevie Nicks. "When we get together something amazing happens. It takes on a life of its own."

Tickets go on sale Monday, September 22 at 10 a.m. at all Ticketmaster outlets including Blockbuster Music and Foley's. To charge by phone, call (713) 629-7300.

**Billie Jean-King Profiled  
on Lifetime**

Lifetime Television for Women is profiling Billie Jean King, Peggy Fleming, and Nadia Comaneci in their "Breaking Through: The First Superstars" series September 25th at 7pm ET/PT. This hour long special chronicles their incredible



careers with actual footage from their phenomenal performances. Billy Jean King is the first to be profiled. Her Astrodome tennis match against Bobby Riggs is very prominent in the report.

**Briefs...**

A full day of multi-media entertainment is planned for the Third Annual Houston Women's Festival, Saturday, September 20 at the historic Garden in the Heights. The all day long festival will include local talent including Linda Lou, Lesli Wood and Therapy Sisters. The festival will also include an art show curated by Laura Kellner and a community marketplace featuring jewelry, woodcrafts, batik, stained glass, pottery, community information and other items. The festival is open to all. For more information, call (713) 868-1910....

Mayor candidate Jean-Claude Lanau unveiled his webpage this week. Lanau, who courted gay endorsements, said the website - <http://www.lanau.com> - is linked through Houston On Line in coordination with the League of Women voters' program. Lanau also announced this week that he would vote against the Civil Rights Initiative on the upcoming November ballot. Lanau said that while the program offered by the city is not really working, he would prefer to revamp it rather than accept the initiative proposed by Ed Blum's group, "because the writing is deceptive."....

The University of Houston School of Theater is now accepting submissions from writers interested in taking playwriting classes from Edward Albee, the Pulitzer prize winning author of such works as *A Delicate Balance*, *Three Tall Women*, and *Who's Afraid of Virginia Woolf* and Kennedy Center Honoree. Those interested should submit any written work (plays, short stories, poetry, scripts, etc.) to: Albee Submissions, School of Theatre, University of Houston, Houston, TX 77204. All submissions are due by 5 p.m. September 30, 1997. For more information, contact Sandy at (713) 743-3003....

An HIV and insurance seminar, Insurance Laws that Effect People Who Are HIV-Positive, will convene today at OnCol Medical Associates, 4140 Southwest Freeway, 4th Floor from 6 to 8 p.m. Presented by Mitchell Katine, an attorney at Law and Roseann Houseman, a social worker, the seminar will cover federal and state insurance laws, when and how to apply for insurance, when and how to get private insurance, the Texas Health Insurance Risk Pool, the Health Insurance Portability & Accountability Act of 1996 and insurance under the new Small Employer Health Insurance Act. The workshop is free. For more information, call (713) 961-7100....

Toopee's Coffee is hosting an open mike/poetry reading for any and all Houston area poets/writers, Monday, September 22 from 8 to 10 p.m. Presented by QuAc (The Queer Artists Collective), this fundraising event encourages everyone from beginners to professionals to "share their work in a queer positive atmosphere." For more information, call (713) 630-0141....

Stages Repertory Theatre opened their nineteenth season with the Houston premiere of the American Theatre Critics Association 1997 Best New Play, *Jack and Jill*, by Pulitzer prize-nominated playwright, Jane Martin. The play, about two people who meet, fall in love and tumble out of love, only to realize their shared history is an unbreakable bond, is "like *Mad About You* with no-holds barred, Jack and Jill say what they really think. The show opened September 18 and runs through October 12. For more information, call (713) 52-STAGE....

Finally, music lovers of the hip-hop scene beware. Mary J. Blige, Bone Thugs-N-Harmony and Dru Hill, three of the hottest artists on the hip-hop scene, will perform in concert at the 18th annual Budweiser Superfest next Friday, September 26, at the Summit. The show, which will also include performances by Ginuwine, with a cameo appearance by Aaliyah, begins at 7 p.m. Tickets are available at all Ticketmaster locations.

**Out Front: Journal  
Questions Ethics Of Study  
to Stop Infant AIDS**

by Daniel Q. Haney.

BOSTON (AP) - Urgent experiments intended to stop the tragic spread of AIDS from mothers to children in some of the world's poorest places are under attack from the *New England Journal of Medicine*. An editorial in Thursday's issue of the influential journal compares the research efforts to the notorious Tuskegee study in which penicillin was denied to black men infected with syphilis.

It argues that withholding proven AZT treatment from pregnant women with AIDS, even in places where the drug will never be widely available, clearly violates World Health Organization guidelines

intended to keep researchers from conducting unethical experiments.

Every day around the world, at least 1,000 babies catch HIV from their mothers. Sixteen research projects, mostly in Africa, are trying to find affordable alternatives to weeks of AZT treatment, now the standard approach in prosperous countries to prevent infected mothers from passing on the AIDS virus in childbirth.

The proven AZT regimen costs \$1,000 per pregnant woman and is simply out of the question in countries where total per capita spending on health care is less than \$10 a year. As a result, most of such AIDS-infected women get no preventive treatment at all. The goal is to find some level of treatment that will work with as little as two or three pills and cost a few dollars.

To prove that simple approaches work better than nothing, researchers have set up comparison studies in which some women

See NAT'L page 6



**BOOK-SIGNING EVENT!**

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as he reads from and signs copies of

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get low doses of drugs and some get dummy pills. The researchers contend this is the only practical way to quickly solve this health crisis, but their use of placebos raises one of the touchiest issues in international medical research - whether experiments that would never be considered in the United States or Europe should be done on the poor abroad.

The landmark U.S. study proving AZT's power to reduce AIDS transmission gave placebos to a comparison group of HIV-infected women because the drug was then unproven. Now, AZT is given to all comparison groups in U.S. studies looking for even better treatments.

Dr. Jack Killen, head of the National Institutes of Health's Division of AIDS, acknowledges that ethical principles in research sometimes conflict. And in this case, he said, it is most important to find information that will eventually help the people being studied.

"What we need to know is whether a medical intervention is better than nothing," Killen said. "Any other experimental design would not answer that question and would be an even more unethical thing to do."

The editorial was written by Dr. Marcia Angell, the journal's executive editor. It accompanied a detailed critique of this kind of research written by two members of the Public Citizen Health Research Group, a Washington-based advocacy organization.

Angell notes that international rules require comparison groups to receive the best treatment available, not simply the standard in use where the study is being conducted. In her view - and those of Drs. Peter Lurie and Sidney M. Wolfe of the Health Research Group - this means everyone treated in these studies should get AZT.

"The standard of care in the developing world is nothing, because these countries are poor and the drug is overpriced," Lurie said. "To use those social conditions to justify this

research is exploitive and unethical."

Lurie first complained about the studies in a letter to Health and Human Services Secretary Donna Shalala in April. In his journal article, he contended that researchers can ethically compare shorter doses of AZT to the full treatment but should not withhold the drug entirely.

According to Lurie, 14,215 women are enrolled in ethically questionable studies in Burkino Faso, Ethiopia, Ivory Coast, Kenya, Malawi, South Africa, Tanzania, Uganda, Zimbabwe, the Dominican Republic and Thailand. Less than a third of the women are getting AZT.

Lurie targeted 15 of the 16 current studies for ethical breaches, nine of them funded by the U.S. National Institutes of Health or the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. Five are financed by other national governments, and one is backed by the United Nations AIDS Program. "The justifications are reminiscent of those for the Tuskegee study," Angell wrote.

That experiment, begun in 1932, studied the natural history of syphilis by following poor black men at a time when no good treatment was available. The study continued after the discovery of penicillin made syphilis curable, but the subjects weren't offered the antibiotic on grounds such patients wouldn't have been treated anyway. Defenders of the AIDS studies dismiss the Tuskegee comparison.

Dr. Catherine Wilfert, medical director of the Pediatric AIDS Foundation, said the editorial was "calling on people's emotions rather than dealing with the facts in the case." Cost is only one barrier to standard AZT therapy for pregnant women in much of the world, Wilfert said. Another is the almost complete absence of prenatal care, which means there is no way to administer the drug throughout pregnancy.

"The decision to go ahead with a placebo-controlled trial, although not an easy one, was a consensus among research institutions and people from developing countries," said

Dr. Joseph Saba, who directs a U.N. AIDS study in Africa of the drugs AZT and 3TC. Without an untreated comparison group, he said, it would be impossible to know whether low doses of a drug are truly better than nothing at all.

Saba and others also question whether the results of the original U.S. study on AZT even apply in Africa.

HIV spreads through breast milk. Infected U.S. women are routinely told not to breast feed, but this advice is not practical in poor countries, where women have no alternative. The researchers said any beneficial effects of AZT given during pregnancy could be wiped out by subsequent breast feeding

**Gore Pledges to Fight on Behalf of Gays, Lesbians**

by Jennifer Rothacker

WASHINGTON - Gays and lesbians "certainly have my commitment to work as hard as I can" to stop anti-gay hate crimes, find a cure for AIDS and end workplace discrimination, Vice President Al Gore promised last week.

"It is time for all Americans to recognize that the issues that face gays and lesbians in this country are not narrow, special interests, they are matters of basic human and civil rights," Gore told the National Gay and Lesbian Task Force at its annual awards ceremony.

The task force honored Coretta Scott King, widow of slain civil rights leader Martin Luther King; AFL-CIO President John Sweeney; and the Mautner Project, a service organization for lesbians with cancer.

Speaking before about 200 people who enthusiastically cheered his comments, the vice president - a likely contender for president in 2000 - vowed to ensure that gay and lesbian issues "always have a place on our agenda."

"There's a lot said about having a seat at the table, and you have a seat at the table, but it's not enough for you to have a seat at the table," Gore said. "Everybody's got to realize that as full members of the American family it's your table too."

Among those areas Gore vowed to fight for was passage of an employment nondiscrimination act and increased funding for AIDS research. He said a White House conference in November would focus attention on hate crimes and attempt to find ways to prevent them.

"Some of the greatest challenges we face are not challenges of law, but challenges of the heart," Gore said. "Please be assured, you certainly have my commitment to work as hard as I can until the day we do reach those goals."

**ACLU Sues Police for Withholding Records on Gay Arrests**

by JoAnn Loviglio

PROVIDENCE, R.I. - A lawsuit was filed Tuesday against the city that claims the police department has refused to release

year-old public records related to arrests of homosexual men at a city park. The lawsuit was filed in Providence Superior Court by the state chapter of the American Civil Liberties Union and Boston-based group Gay & Lesbian Advocates & Defenders.

"Our requests for basic public information have been stonewalled by Providence police at every turn," said GLAD lawyer Mary Bonauto, who initiated the public records requests last fall. The records being sought are related to arrests in the city's Blackstone Park and River Road section, an area police say is frequented by men seeking sexual encounters.

On behalf of the Rhode Island Alliance for Lesbian and Gay Civil Rights, GLAD first requested arrest records on Sept. 16, 1996, to investigate complaints that police were "fabricating reports of sexual activity as an excuse to go to the park to drive away gay people who use the park," GLAD said in a statement.

"They have not provided us with a single document for over a year now," Bonauto said. "The public has a right to know about arrest patterns in particular areas, but the police simply won't respond to inquiries."

Rhode Island's open records law classifies arrest records as public documents.

GLAD and ACLU lawyers want the records to "review the number and types of arrests that have been made at the area," ACLU executive director Steven Brown said. "Our office has received a number of complaints about police entrapment at River Road and we're interested in finding out what has going on," Brown said. "It's their policy to stall and ignore the open records law."

Several people complained that police decoys have approached men at the park, engaged them in sexual conversations and then arrested them for prostitution, Bonauto said. City solicitor Charles Mansolillo declined to comment on the lawsuit, saying he had not yet seen it.

**Pentagon Boosts, Then Undermines Officer in 'Don't Ask' Case**

by Bob Egelko

SAN FRANCISCO - The Navy, in presuming from a lieutenant's declaration of his homosexuality that he would engage in prohibited homosexual conduct, is not guilty of discrimination or violating the officer's free speech rights, a federal court says.

The 9th U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals turned down an appeal by Lt. Richard Watson, who lost a challenge to a discharge for homosexuality four days after being nominated for a promotion. Before Watson was discharged, a judge ordered the government to take no adverse action based on his homosexuality.

The Defense Department nominated him for a promotion, based solely on his service record - then promptly undermined him by reminding senators of his homosexuality

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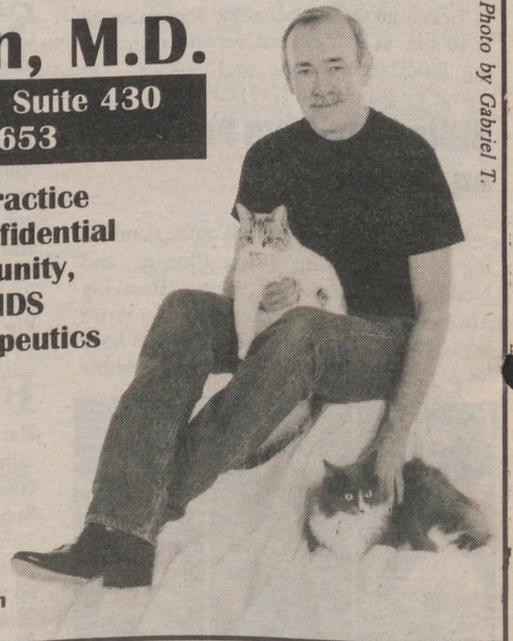


Photo by Gabriel T.

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and court case. On the same day, Sept. 2, that President Clinton formally recommended Watson to the Senate for promotion to lieutenant commander, an assistant defense secretary sent a letter to Sen. Strom Thurmond, chairman of the Armed Services Committee, calling attention to Watson's status.

The letter from Frederick Pang, assistant secretary for force management policy, noted that a Navy board had approved Watson's discharge in 1995 based on the department's "policy on homosexual conduct." A court order prohibits the department from taking "adverse action" against Watson while his lawsuit continues, Pang wrote.

A similar but more elaborate letter from Pang last year prompted Thurmond's committee to shelve Watson's promotion without a hearing. Maj. Monica Aloisio, a Pentagon spokeswoman, said Tuesday that last week's letter was required by law, a statement disputed by Watson's lawyer.

The letter was "dirty pool" that "impugned a good officer," said attorney Christopher Bakes. He said the Clinton administration, still barred by court order from taking actions against Watson, "passed the buck to Sen. Thurmond to do what it could not do."

John DeCrosa, spokesman for Thurmond's committee, said it would be busy with the Defense Department budget for two weeks and then would consider Watson's nomination, among many others. Watson's only known "homosexual conduct" during a decorated 15-year career was a letter to his commanding officer in 1994 disclosing his homosexuality.

Last Friday, the federal appeals court ruled 2-1 that the Navy was entitled to presume from Watson's statement that he would engage in prohibited homosexual conduct. The court said Watson, of Bremerton, Wash., could have remained in the service by convincing the Navy he would not engage in homosexual conduct.

Bakes said Tuesday he would seek a rehearing before an 11-judge appellate panel. For the time being, the appeal blocks Watson's discharge. An appeal is also likely from Andrew Holmes, a California Army National Guard officer whose case was consolidated with Watson's.

Promotion to lieutenant commander would increase Watson's pay by 5 to 7 percent and make him eligible for command at sea, Bakes said. Watson's ambition is to command a nuclear submarine. Before ruling on Watson's discharge, U.S. District Judge Thomas Zilly ordered the government to take no adverse action based on his homosexuality.

Based on that order, which remains in effect during Watson's appeal, a Navy board and the Pentagon first approved Watson's promotion last year based solely on his service record, and Clinton sent his name to the Senate last September.

Four days later, Pang sent his first unsolicited letter to Thurmond, detailing the history of Watson's case and noting that his homosexuality was not disclosed to the promotional board. In response, the committee took Watson's nomination off calendar and returned it to the Navy without a vote, Bakes said.

Watson then returned to Zilly's court, arguing that Pang's letter had violated the judge's ban on adverse actions. Zilly refused to hold the government in contempt of court but found the letter improper and banned any such letters while his order remained in effect, Bakes said.

The administration appealed, and the same 9th Circuit panel that later upheld the "don't ask, don't tell" policy ruled that the Defense Department had the constitutional authority to communicate to the Senate about appointments. The ruling did not specify the contents of the communication, Bakes said.

Aloisio, the Pentagon spokeswoman, said Tuesday that Pang's letter to Thurmond last week was "information that the Senate has to know by law. Any adverse actions in an officer's file have to be sent to the Senate Armed Services Committee" when the officer is nominated for promotion, she said.

"We had to do it with all officers involved in Tailhook."

Bakes countered that Congress had asked the Pentagon to identify all promotional candidates who had been involved in the Tailhook scandal, but had made no such request about Watson. Negative information about an officer must normally be revealed to the Senate, Bakes said.

But he said the government, in its court papers in Watson's case, had never referred to the disclosure of the officer's homosexuality as "adverse action" - which would be barred by Zilly's order - and was playing a double game by doing so now.

**New Miss America Has Platform of AIDS Awareness**

by John Curran

ATLANTIC CITY - Now that Kate Shindle has been crowned Miss America 1998, the tough part begins. Competing as Miss Illinois, Shindle won on a platform of AIDS awareness promotion and she said she wants to focus on prevention and education during a yearlong reign that began last Sunday.

She favors giving out condoms in high schools but opposes providing needles to addicts to stem the spread of the disease. And while Shindle said abstinence is the only foolproof method of prevention, she acknowledged that it may not be realistic for teen-agers.

"We need to recognize that and not to try to convince ourselves that we can talk kids out of having sex, but rather meet them where they are and talk to them about the best ways they can make their behavior safer," she said.

Six months ago, the Northwestern University theater major was working as a janitor at Gus Giordano's Dance Center in Evanston, Ill., in exchange for free dance lessons. "It's a little bit overwhelming," she said. "Just a short while ago I was just another college student."

Shindle, 20, captured the title in Saturday night's pageant which featured two-piece suits for the first time since 1947. The suits were more popular with the judges than they were with the contestants: Only 13 of the 51 contestants chose to wear them, but five made the top 10 and three were in the top five.

Shindle, a 5-foot-11 brunette, wore a black two-piece trimmed in red and sang "Don't Rain On My Parade" from the movie "Funny Girl" for her talent offering. A New Jersey native whose parents live in nearby Moorestown, Shindle went to high school with Miss New Jersey Kathy Nejat. She moved to Illinois to go to college and competed in the Miss Chicago Pageant three times - losing each time - before winning Miss Lake-Cook and then Miss Illinois.

"I can't (ever) remember not wanting to be Miss America, since I was very young," she said. Shindle said she lost 10 to 12 pounds after winning the local pageant and shed five more after winning the state crown, dropping to 145. "The way I lost weight was very slowly, over a long period of time and with a lot of hard work. I did not starve myself," she said.

In winning the pageant, she earned a \$40,000 college scholarship and the prospect of more than \$100,000 in appearance fees.

The national telecast, which moved to ABC this year after 30 years at NBC, featured changes big and small - and a few glitches. In addition to two-piece suits, the pageant brought in new hosts, scrapped its unsuccessful viewer call-ins and hired TV journalist Nancy Glass to interview the finalists.

The on-screen graphics identifying the contestants as they introduced themselves on stage did not work and were eliminated almost immediately. The narrator also identified Miss Arizona Stacey Momeyer as Miss Oregon Tamara Ann Finch and vice versa. The hosts corrected the mistake after a commercial break and said the judges had been told.

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**Political Musings**

by Larry Lingel

Here we are more than three years away from the next presidential election and the candidates - although undeclared - are busting out all over. William Weld, who so managed a trip to Mexico City, gave up the ghost in the face of the implacable Jesse Helms (old bigots don't die they just continue to represent the Carolinas - that's with a nod to the oldest bigot of all, Strum (if you know your German) Thurmond) but still managed to make political hay, at least with that small band of moderates still holding out within the ranks of the Grand Old Party.

And how about that Christian Coalition love-in which was also a recruiting tool for outgoing Ralph Reed. The potential candidates bowed and scraped before the Religious Right as if kissing the Pope's ring, in this case the pants cuff of Pat Robertson. Steve Forbes, who reminds us of several slavish character actors of the '30s, bowed so low on abortion you would have thought he was in labor. His conception to death slogan had the attendees stomping their boots, steel tips and all.

Even Newt was there trying to cover his ample rear (I must sacrifice alliteration for restraint) while all the other potential candidates gored everything Capitol. The poor Speaker could only wave the banner of tax cut to mollify the malcontents.

Just as the wanabees stroked the Christians, they also paid homage to Reed, all wanting to be on his charmed list of new clients as he attempts to be Lee Atwater's successor, or at least the GOP answer to James Carville. How can anyone look so young and be so serious? Most political hacks beat the bushes (no pun here) for clients. Reed has them lined up and interviewing for his services. Apparently he has already narrowed the presidential field.

And high on his list is our own Governor George W. Bush, or as he is know to Reed, just plain "W", so as to not to confuse him with Big Daddy. Just as I could never under-

stand the Ronald Reagan phenomenon, I am completely in the dark on the mass appeal of our chief executive, statewide that is. "W" had no history other than the Texas Rangers, as in baseball, before he defeated a popular governor. And despite failing to achieve his most touted goal in the last legislative session he is on every Republican lip as presidential material.

Obviously "W" is taking all this seriously,

thing get lost in the translation? That is the very point, the man did not commit the crime. Would perhaps twelve years of being wrongfully incarcerated not be punishment enough for not committing a crime?

Unfortunately, "W" is so worried that Byrd, while innocent, might get out and commit a crime, like jaywalking, and the Democrats would plant him around "W"'s neck like a Willie Horton. Hey guv, that

*Even Newt was there trying to cover his ample rear (I must sacrifice alliteration for restraint) while all the other potential candidates gored everything Capitol. The poor Speaker could only wave the banner of tax cut to mollify the malcontents.*

witness his recent performance in the case of Kevin James Byrd. Byrd has spent twelve years in prison for rape, until a DNA test proved that he could not have done the deed. So convincing is the evidence that the judge in the case and the Texas Board of Pardons and Paroles all recommended a pardon. Even our prosecuting attorney, Johnnie Holmes, no shrinking violet when it come to convictions, supports a full pardon.

But not "W". In the words of the guv's spokesperson, "The governor is very leery of granting pardons. His basic philosophy is, if you commit a crime, you should be prepared to live with the consequences." Did some-

political genius is already working for you. So an innocent man must wait his day for justice while "W" plays cautious on the road to nowhere. Granted George Sr. was harmless enough, and is even likable in his way, such as jumping out of planes, but is that what this nation needs to begin the next century?

And while I am not speaking of closets, let's peek into one, in this case that of Tommy Tune. Surely not even the denizens of social Houston are unaware that the Tune is gay. Yet a recent glossy magazine featured Tune's home, including a distant shot of Tune and a woman seated in his living room.

That probably still plays as straight in Omaha but probably didn't go down well at the services for Michel Stuart who died in an automobile accident in California last week. You see, Stuart was identified as Tune's longtime companion in the *New York Times* and we all know that the *Times* isn't in the game of outing the closeted. So Tommy, tune up that old song and dance for the sticks but spare us cosmopolitans here in Houston.

And speaking of Houston, I had to go to the *New York Times* to read all about a potentially costly law suit going on in the Bayou City. Some eight years ago a blast at a Phillips Petroleum plant killed 23 people and injured hundreds. The union directed its members to the firm of Umphrey Burrows who settled a class-action suit against Phillips for \$190 million, for which the lawyers took \$65 million.

But 46 of the plaintiffs felt they were cheated and wanted to sue Umphrey Burrows. No Houston attorney would take their case and they had to travel all the way to Kansas to find one. At this point they have won a decision to allow the case to go to a jury trial. At stake for Umphrey Burrows, under Texas law, is the possible forfeiture of all the \$65 million in fees they collected. And for Phillips, the cost could be even greater. One plaintiff not a part of the original suit, received a separate \$40 million settlement, while the 126 class-action plaintiffs divided the remaining \$125 million after their attorneys' cut. Ah Texas justice, in spite of Texas lawyers.

Don't misunderstand me, there are good lawyers out there, somewhere. But they seem to populate these large firms. Almost monthly I find some buried story about some injured party trying to achieve justice from the big boys. Where is Jimmy Stewart when you need him?

And, dear fans, take note that I breached the subject of politics without an endearing word about the Log Cabineers. Maybe they are too silent themselves. I know they're out there and I know their "voice" will not remain silent for long. Until next week, boys and girls, so long for a while.

NATIONAL NEWS

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**Lesbians File Lawsuit for Harassment**

SOUTH DAKOTA - Two former workers at the state Human Services Center have filed a lawsuit claiming that co-workers and bosses harassed them because they are lesbians.

Yvonne Nuzum and Carol Reining, now both living in Colorado, said they quit their jobs at what is now the George S. Mickelson Center for Neurosciences because employees tried to make them declare their sexual orientation. The pair lived together in 1996 when they worked at the center.

Attorney Timothy James of Yankton, who is representing the women, said the decision to file a lawsuit in U.S. District Court in Sioux Falls was a tough one for the pair because it forces them to publicly discuss their private lives.

"This is no way an attempt to condone or condemn a lifestyle," James said. "These women have a strong belief that just because they live a lifestyle different than other people, they are still deserving of the courtesy and common decency shown to others."

The lawsuit claims that employees made references and jokes about the pair's sexual orientation, spread rumors, fabricated stories about the women's relationship and taped shut Nuzum's locker so she couldn't get her work clothes.

In one case, the lawsuit claims employees tried to touch and kiss Nuzum and then called her names. The lawsuit says the women complained about the harassment several times to supervisors and were assured that it would stop. However, it continued and prompted Reining to attempt suicide, the lawsuit claims. James said both women quit their jobs before the end of the

year.

Also named in the lawsuit are center supervisors Steven B. Lindquist, Sharon Miller and Pat Seiner and center employee Sharon Hausman. Officials at the center could not be reached for comment Tuesday. The pair are asking a jury to determine damages in the case. No trial date has been set.

**Male UPS Driver Sues Over Sexual Harassment**

SALT LAKE CITY - In what his attorney says is a new twist on an old theory, a male truck driver is suing United Parcel Service for sexual discrimination for allowing other men to sexually harass him. Von J. Hubbard contends that UPS discriminated against him on the basis of gender, which violates the federal 1964 and 1991 Civil Rights Acts and the Utah Anti-Discrimination Act.

A UPS spokeswoman in Atlanta said company officials have not seen the suit and could not comment. The suit filed in federal court Friday said that UPS created a hostile work environment at its West Valley City facility, failed to stop the harassment and retaliated against Hubbard when he complained.

The suit alleges male co-workers and supervisors harassed Hubbard by talking about bestiality, human anatomy and sex acts, as well as taping condoms and suggestive cartoons and pictures to his locker.

"It's frankly an old theory, that of a hostile work environment, applied to a new configuration where you have male employees and supervisors doing certain things to Mr. Hubbard," said attorney David Holdsworth. "That typically crops up in a male-against-female sexually harassment context. Here it's a male vs. male situation," Holdsworth said.

The 11 federal circuit courts in the nation See NAT'L page 9

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have been divided in their opinions about whether discrimination laws can apply to same-gender cases, he said.

"The U.S. Supreme Court has decided to hear a case presenting this kind of issue and that case is going to be decided this upcoming term," Holdsworth said. "It will certainly have a bearing on whether we'll be able to stay in court."

Hubbard is seeking unspecified damages including lost wages due in part to his allegation that the company ignored his seniority in bidding on better truck routes and cutting his work hours, attorneys fees and other costs.

**AIDS Riders Complete 250-Mile Boston-to-New York Journey**

NEW YORK - Mile by mile, they rode to raise money for the fight against AIDS. About 3,200 men and women put muscle to pedal, cycling 250 miles from Boston to New York in the third annual Ride for AIDS. The three-day, three-state ride ended Sunday in New York. It was expected to raise more than \$7.5 million in pledges for AIDS programs in Boston and New York.

"It was absolutely spectacular," said Dr. Stephen Boswell, executive director of the Fenway Community Health Center in Boston, one of the pledge recipients. "In the last two years when I've ridden down, it's poured down rain. This is the one year I don't do the ride and it was just beautiful."

Boswell drove the route with a volunteer, one of the hundreds who assisted with the event. The riders lined up blocks away from an outdoor stage on Manhattan's West Side so they could cycle the final leg of the journey en masse down Eighth Avenue Sunday afternoon.

Boswell said a few riders had fallen off their bicycles during the ride and suffered abrasions, but there were no serious injuries. Each of the riders had to raise a minimum of \$1,500. Some bicycles sported red flags to show their owners have AIDS or have tested positive for HIV, the virus that causes the disease.

The ride has been criticized as a costly way to raise money. The organizer, Pallotta TeamWorks, paid Philadelphia AIDS groups \$110,000 last year to settle claims after only 20 percent of the proceeds from a ride there went to the charities. Costs include the medical teams, food and tents that follow the riders along the route.

Richard Burns, executive director of the New York Lesbian and Gay Community Service Center, said the money raised for charities will be divided between treatment, mental health care and public awareness programs. Burns said while strides have been made in AIDS treatment, more needs to be done to warn the public, especially young people, about the dangers of the disease.

Last year, about half of the money raised for the Boston-to-New York ride went to charities, Boswell said. This year, he estimates 60 percent of the money will go to charities. He said the ride's importance goes beyond fund-raising.

"It's become a tremendously important event in terms of bringing new resources to the fight against HIV," he said. "It does a wonderful job raising awareness. You ride through small towns, you see kids behind fences in schoolyards cheering them on. The riders stopped and talked to the kids. In terms of raising consciousness, it has a tremendous positive effect."

**Infected Couple Marries in HIV Shelter**

NEW YORK - Not long ago, Waldemar Ruiz was shackled to the heroin needle. Carmen Price was smoking crack. They both became infected with HIV during their time on the street. But that life seemed far away when the couple exchanged vows last week inside New York state's only licensed

adult home for people infected with the virus linked to AIDS.

Ahana House, 10 miles north of Albany in Waterford, opened last year and has eight residents in various stages of the disease. Surrounded by pink and white balloons and crepe paper, the Rev. John Lysogorski, of Catholic Charities, married the couple in a short ceremony. He promised they would "feel no rain, no pain, no loneliness."

Price wore a white gown she bought on sale for \$109 from WalMart. Ruiz, who said he couldn't afford a tuxedo, wore a jacket and tie. More than 60 well-wishers gathered, and took up a honeymoon collection to send the newlyweds out for a night at the Holiday Inn. Ruiz, 48, and Price, 38, both of Brooklyn, met at the shelter six months ago.

"I don't feel that it's a death sentence" to have HIV, Ruiz said. "I feel I've been given a second chance on life."

The quiet village first fought against Ahana House when plans were drawn up to convert the Victorian mansion, once a seminary and convent, into a shelter. The battle went as far as a federal lawsuit before the village lost in court, paying \$100,000 to settle with the Support Ministries for Persons with AIDS.

"This house saved my life," said Price as she shared a post-ceremony meal with her

new husband. "We don't know which one of us will go first, but this is a chance to go on and not feel sorry for ourselves."

**Boy With HIV Kicked Out of Karate Class**

VIRGINIA - Luciano Montalvo saw his first wife and his 8-year-old daughter die of AIDS. Montalvo himself is infected with the AIDS virus and knows the bias that any association with the disease creates.

But when his 12-year-old son, Michael, who also carries the human immunodeficiency virus, was kicked out of karate classes because of the infection, Montalvo sued the martial arts school under the Americans with Disabilities Act.

"We've let a lot of things go by as far as discrimination. But I couldn't take it any more when they started messing with Michael," Montalvo said. "All he wants to do is have a normal life."

Montalvo said that a week after he enrolled Michael at U.S.A. Bushidokan in Colonial Heights, the karate school's owner, James P. Radcliffe II, called him and said Michael would have to drop out. Montalvo said he was told Radcliffe had heard Michael had AIDS.

Montalvo said he told Radcliffe that Michael had the virus but had not developed AIDS. He also provided a letter from his son's doctor affirming that the boy was "fit to begin karate classes." Montalvo said he was told that was not sufficient.

A telephone message was left at the school on last week, but the call was not returned. Radcliffe has a private home number. Radcliffe's attorney, Nathaniel M. Collier III, said Radcliffe acted prudently to avoid exposing other children in the school to the virus.

"This is not a knee-jerk reaction. This is an individual who is, in my opinion, a very thoughtful and caring individual who genuinely feels there is a risk to other participants if he allows this child into the program." HIV is transmitted through blood and other body fluids, and blood is often drawn during sparring matches.

"Given the fact blood could be exchanged in one of those matches, he (Radcliffe) has a real fear that one of the children involved in one of those matches could become infected." Collier said Radcliffe offered to give Michael private lessons, but the family refused.

When the case goes to trial Oct. 9 in U.S. District Court in Richmond, it is likely to

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draw a narrow distinction between HIV and AIDS, said Kent Willis, director of the American Civil Liberties Union of Virginia.

Willis said the ADA offers legal protection to people who are disabled or are perceived to be disabled. People who are fired or denied services because they are HIV-positive or have AIDS are protected under the act, he said. A person who is denied a service is entitled under ADA to be accommodated in some other way, Willis said.

The full 4th U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals in Richmond ruled 7-5 on Aug. 15, however, that having the HIV virus alone did not qualify a fired bank employee for protection under ADA. The Supreme Court has not ruled on the case.

Montalvo's lawyer, Terry W. Raney, said many people with HIV or AIDS don't have the finances or energy to pursue a claim. "A youngster with HIV is no different than a child with any other health problem," Raney said. "The question is accommodating the child's health problem so they can have as close to a normal life as possible, and getting away from the irrational fear that people bring to dealing with people who have HIV. You wouldn't ostracize an asthmatic. Why in the world would you want to ostracize someone with HIV?"

Montalvo, 35, said he contracted HIV from his first wife. The couple had two children, Michael and Crystal, who were born with the virus. Crystal died of AIDS in 1995. Montalvo is retired from the Army on disability. He and his second wife, Judith, who married in 1992, live in Prince George County.

**Former Prisoner Sues  
After Allegedly  
Contracting AIDS Virus in  
Jail**

**SOUTH CAROLINA** - A former female prisoner has sued Laurens County authorities, claiming she contracted the AIDS virus after a guard arranged for her to have sex with a fellow inmate last fall.

Nancy Arsi's federal lawsuit says two jailers and the sheriff knew or should have known the male inmate was HIV-positive. The man also is named as a defendant. The suit also alleges jailers openly condoned inmates having sex and frequently arranged encounters.

Sheriff Jim Moore called the lawsuit ridiculous. Jail policy strictly prohibits sex between inmates and conjugal visits, chief jailer Paul Mode said. "It's just common sense," he said.

Arsi's suit seeks compensatory and punitive damages, attorneys fees and a jury trial.

**Woman Beaten to Death  
in Lesbian Romance**

**VIRGINIA** - A young woman was bludgeoned to death by her three lesbian roommates and another woman, apparently for disrupting the household by starting a romance with one of them, investigators say.

The body of Stacey Hanna, 19, was found face down in the mud July 27 in the woods. She had been beaten beyond recognition, her throat slashed and her skull fractured. The other women were involved romantically with one another, and Ms. Hanna, who had moved to Lynchburg from Richmond only three weeks earlier, may have become intimate with at least one of them, investigators said.

The women believed Ms. Hanna "was interfering in their relationships and had told lies to them," Chesterfield County Detective Dave Zeheb testified at a pretrial hearing Monday. Ms. Hanna's roommates - Domicia Winkler, 18, Tracy Bitner, 19, and Kelly Tibbs, 18 - were indicted Monday on charges of capital murder, abduction and robbery. Stephanie Cull, 18, was charged with murder and abduction.

Ms. Winkler, accused of throwing a cinderblock at Ms. Hanna, told investigators that "there are times when people need to

die, and this is one of those times," Detective Rick Mormando testified. Ms. Hanna was taken out for what she thought would be some beer-drinking in the woods. The women planned just to beat her but began to worry she would go to police, so they killed her, Zeheb said.

**Ranger Wins \$415,000 in  
Same Sex Harassment  
Suit**

**CALIFORNIA** - A former city park ranger won \$415,000 in a same-sex harassment suit that claimed his former boss watched him undress and flooded his computer with unwanted messages. Stephen Kelly, now a substitute teacher, said he went to his superiors to complain about Sgt. Ken McNab and was told to take him behind the ranger station and beat him up.

A federal jury on Monday ordered the city to pay Kelly \$380,000 and for McNab to pay \$35,000 in punitive damages. According to Kelly, the harassment started in 1989 after he separated from his wife. He accused McNab, who is still a ranger, of "persistent, unwanted attention."

McNab would stare at Kelly when he was undressing, said Norman Lustig, the plaintiff's attorney. The attorney also said electronic messages were sent so frequently Kelly's computer froze. McNab left a house key in Kelly's locker with a note to "use it," the attorney said.

The police department, which oversees park rangers, has not yet completed its investigation. The city said in court records that McNab simply wanted to befriend Kelly.

**Fedex Battles City Over  
Domestic Partners Law**

**SAN FRANCISCO** - Overnight delivery giant Federal Express must comply with the city's domestic partners ordinance or move out of San Francisco International Airport, city officials said. The company will not confirm reports it has already solved the problem by planning an \$18 million move to nearby Oakland International Airport.

"If they decide to (move to Oakland), that's fine," Airport Director John Martin said Monday. "We are not going to back down. The airport is going to hold FedEx to the law. There are plenty of other tenants that would love to have that cargo space."

FedEx and the city are in the midst of negotiating a \$2.1 million-a-year contract to move the package carrier into a new, larger cargo facility at San Francisco's airport. But FedEx has made its opposition to the city's domestic partners ordinance very clear. It's a party to the Air Transport Association's suit against the law and in public statements has argued it is subject only to federal regulations. The ATA represents 22 airlines.

The domestic partners ordinance, which took effect June 1, requires all companies doing business with the city to offer the same benefits to domestic partner relationships as they do to married couples. In a meeting with Martin and others last Thursday, Mayor Willie Brown insisted FedEx comply with the law.

"The mayor has been pretty vehement about enforcing this ordinance all around," said Brown spokeswoman Kandace Bender.

FedEx spokesman Jess Bunn would not confirm the Fedex-to-Oakland report. But, he added, "When faced with the situation we are in in San Francisco, it puts us in the position of having to evaluate our long-term commitment there. We would certainly like to remain at SFO. We do have to evaluate that desire based on the outcome of the suit the ATA has filed against the city."

A U.S. District Court hearing on the ATA suit is scheduled for Oct. 3.

**Civil Rights Group  
Protests Radio Host's  
Comments on Gays**

**CALIFORNIA** - A civil rights group voted to formally protest a radio talk show  
See NAT'L page 11

**NAT'L** from page 10

host's call for Biblical punishment - meaning death - for homosexuals.

The Orange County Human Relations Commission voted Thursday to send a letter to KBRT-AM protesting comments made by Rich Agozino, host of "Crosstalk." The nonprofit commission previously had condemned Agozino's remarks during an Aug. 29 show in which he urged callers to write legislators and request laws that punish those who perform homosexual acts in accordance with Biblical law.

"Lesbian love, sodomy are viewed by God as being detestable and abominable. ... Civil magistrates are to put people to death who practice these things," Agozino said, according to a transcript of the show.

A letter will be sent to station officials and the Federal Communications Commission, arguing that Agozino is "promoting violence against gays and lesbians," said Eli Reyna, senior human relations specialist for the commission.

Don Crawford, the station's executive director, said Agozino was merely quoting the Bible and his remarks have been taken out of context. "Rich didn't urge anyone to go out and have these people executed," Crawford said.

KBRT's signal reaches from Santa Barbara to San Diego.

**ABC Program Chief Says 'Ellen' Will Not Back Down From Gay Issues**

BEVERLY HILLS - The sitcom "Ellen" will continue to explore gay issues during the fall season despite the skittishness of some advertisers, ABC programming chief Jamie Tarses said last week.

If some advertisers don't like it, there are others willing to take their place, Tarses told television executives and other members of the Hollywood Radio and TV Society. "We're not having trouble selling the show," she said.

The show's title character, played by Ellen DeGeneres, came out as a lesbian last season in an hour-long special that drew criticism from conservative groups. "It's given the show a point of view and we're going to address that," Tarses said.

Several companies, worried about the coming-out episode, pulled ads that had been scheduled to run during the hour. Some of them "begged to get back in" afterward, Tarses said. Tarses and other network executives taking part in a panel discussion also said a new expanded television ratings system would not affect program content.

Bowing to pressure, the industry agreed in July to strengthen ratings that took effect in January. Under the new system, scheduled to begin Oct. 1, letters will appear on the screen indicting whether a program includes violence, language or sexual material that may offend some viewers.

"We do not want the viewer to walk into a program and be surprised by the content," said NBC programming chief Warren Littlefield. NBC has refused to use the new system adopted by the rest of the TV community but uses the initial advisory system and sometimes includes further information about shows.

Littlefield said he was not happy with the political pressure that was brought to bear on the networks, questioning whether viewers really wanted the ratings system. "What we're concerned about is the government telling us what to do with our programs," he said.

**Gay Group Ordered to Let Hostile Man in Meetings**

SEATTLE (AP) - Civil rights investigators have ruled that employee clubs of gay Seattle city workers should open their meetings to heterosexual workers, even if they are against the groups' goals. The investigators were looking into a complaint from an anti-homosexual City Light engineer, Phillip Irvin, against a lunchtime group of about 50 gay and lesbian city employees.

"They were saying I was excluded because my very presence was disruptive," Irvin said. "That's like saying that a black person is being disruptive if he goes into a restaurant that says 'Whites Only.'"

Irvin, who believes that city government improperly supports gays and suppresses those who oppose homosexuality, attended one of the meetings to confront the group with his views. Jim Sampson, current president of Seattle Employees Association for Gays and Lesbians, denied his group discriminates against anyone. He said SEAGL has straight members who are wholeheartedly welcome; it's Irvin who's the problem.

"His whole thing is to attempt to harass and intimidate gays and lesbians any way he can," said Sampson, a Seattle Public Utilities accountant. The conflict began in 1990, when SEAGL first assembled with guidance from staffers in the city Office for Women's Rights.

Employees from the office refused to tell Irvin when the next meeting was going to be. Irvin said he complained to the city Human Rights Department about being excluded from the meeting on city property, and encountered a hostile response.

For years, Irvin's complaint went back and forth between the Human Rights Department, which ruled his accusations were without merit, and the advisory Human Rights Commission, which kept sending it back to the department with more questions.

Germaine Covington, director of the city's Office for Civil Rights, who issued the ruling, will order all the city's special-interest employee groups - including ethnic minorities and employees with disabilities - not to exclude any of their fellow workers. In Irvin's case, Covington said it was hard to sort out "who was intimidating whom." She ruled that Irvin's civil rights had been violated. He is asking for \$10,000 in attorney's fees, an apology and diversity training that "people like me have rights, too."

SEAGL's history is not unblemished. According to its newsletter, the group last spring invited a speaker to inform the club how members could help pass an anti-discrimination measure on the fall ballot. But city and state laws bar public facilities from being used to assist a ballot proposition once it's registered with the secretary of state, which Initiative 677 was on Feb. 18. The state Public Disclosure Commission can fine those who politick in public facilities up to \$1,000.

**Doctor Claims Indian Hermaphrodite Was Pregnant**

PATNA, India (AP) - In a rare case, an Indian with both male and female sexual characteristics was found to be pregnant, his doctor said Wednesday.

Ganesh Kumar Yadav, 16, a resident of the eastern Indian town of Darbhanga, 850 kilometers (530 miles) east of New Delhi, sought medical help when he suffered acute pain in the lower abdomen and began to bleed profusely.

Dr. Kumudni Jha, a gynecologist, did an ultrasound test and discovered a dead 17-

week-old fetus in Yadav's uterus. The bleeding was a result of a miscarriage, Jha said. Jha removed the fetus in an operation Monday.

Yadav, who considers himself male, has a well developed penis, one testicle - the other was surgically removed a few years ago - and an underdeveloped scrotum. He also has a vagina, well-developed breasts, a uterus and monthly menstrual periods.

"Ganesh is a true hermaphrodite with characteristics of both sexes," Jha told The Associated Press in a telephone interview. "There have been cases of true hermaphrodites but a pregnancy is extremely rare," she said. According to Jha, Yadav denied having had any sexual contact, but the doctor

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by **Edmund White**

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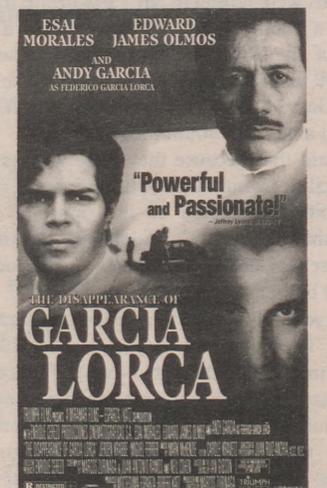


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was skeptical he had impregnated himself. "Auto fertilization is too far-fetched a possibility," Jha said.

Jha and other doctors attending to Yadav have suggested he undergo an operation to become wholly female, saying the pregnancy indicates he could lead a normal life as a woman. But Yadav has refused, Jha said.

**Court Rules Against Banning Gay Group From Public Facility**

TOKYO (AP) - In a victory for gay rights in Japan, Tokyo's highest court Tuesday upheld a lower court ruling that said city officials were wrong to bar a gay group from using a public facility. The education division of the Tokyo-city government refused in 1990 to let the Association for the Lesbian and Gay Movement, known as OCCUR, stay in a city-run youth lodge.

It said that because they were gay, using the facilities would violate the spirit of a rule prohibiting members of the opposite sex from sharing rooms. It said the prospect of a homosexual group having sex in the lodge would bother other guests.

Tokyo High Court Judge Hideichi Yazaki, ruling Tuesday on an appeal by the Tokyo government, said that what they did was discriminatory and illegal, and that they cannot continue to be indifferent toward or ignorant about homosexuals and other minority groups. The ruling basically upheld one by the Tokyo District Court in 1994, though the high court more clearly prohibited Tokyo from discriminating against gays.

"It was a huge victory for us," said Masaki Inaba a spokesperson for OCCUR. "It's great that we won but more needs to be done to end discrimination against homosexuals."

The high court ordered the city to pay OCCUR 160,000 yen (\$1,333), less than the

260,000 yen (\$2,167) awarded by the lower court. Inaba said the reduction was regrettable but that money was a secondary issue. OCCUR had originally asked for dlr 6.5 million yen (\$54,000) to compensate for defamatory remarks allegedly made by city officials and youth center workers.

Most Japanese gays hide their sexual preference, fearing the prejudices of employers and others in a society where pressure to conform is intense. OCCUR, formed in 1986, has about 350 members; 60 percent are gay men and 40 percent are lesbians.

**Russian Tabloid's Formula For Success: Sex, Glamour And AIDS**

by Mitchell Landsberg

MOSCOW (AP) - If Russia had more supermarkets, SPEED-Info might be called a supermarket tabloid. It has all the elements: sex, celebrities, tales of the bizarre, strangely doctored photographs and a readership in the millions.

It has something else, though, that sets it apart. SPEED-Info's name means "AIDS-Info" in Russian. Each issue of the slick monthly newspaper carries at least one page of advice about safe sex and how to cope with the AIDS epidemic, which came late to Russia but is making up for lost time.

How this came to be, and how SPEED-Info became one of the biggest publishing success stories in post-Soviet Russia, is a uniquely Russian tale that reflects this society's sometimes fascinated, sometimes ambivalent attitude toward AIDS.

"It is very useful," said one regular reader, Nina Zaretskaya, who shares each issue with her 11-year-old daughter. "I guess the articles are disclosing a subject that we didn't discuss before."

Depending on whose figures you believe, its circulation - it claims just under 4 million

- makes it either the most popular or second-most popular newspaper in the country. A recent issue showcases its strange mix. On the front cover, a woman climbing scaffolding stares seductively at the reader. She's naked except for a welder's helmet, a harness and thick canvas gloves. Smaller photos and garish headlines lure the reader inside.

There, SPEED-Info delivers pages of sex stories (many strangely tame), a page of jokes, a crossword, articles about cloning and fratricide, and numerous columns of advice about love, sex and AIDS. It is in these AIDS and sex advice columns that SPEED-Info makes its mark, guiding the reader gently through the shoals of a once-forbidden subject.

Russian society, which shunned public mention of sex as recently as a decade ago, has opened its eyes wide - a bit too wide for most people. Soft-core pornography is shown on television; hard-core porn is available at corner newsstands; prostitution flourishes on city streets.

In this environment, SPEED-Info seems almost mild and responsible. It markets itself as a newspaper the entire family can enjoy and even some conservative Russians look beyond its garish pictures and seem to read it for its information.

SPEED-Info is properly translated "SPID-Info," SPID being the Russian acronym for AIDS. But the editors, who started the newspaper in 1989 when AIDS was new here, wanted a cross-cultural double entendre.

"The word SPID didn't look so terrible at the time of the start-up of the newspaper," explained its editor-in-chief, Andrei Mann. "At that time, we only had about 50 people with the virus in Moscow. At the same time, it was a play on words, because we actually used an English translation of 'speed,' to mean 'fast info.'"

For a recent interview, Mann sat behind a very large, modern conference table in his very large, sleek and fashionable office in an

otherwise scruffy building just outside central Moscow. The 39-year-old editor, dressed in a blue pin-striped suit, his sandy hair neatly combed over a balding pate, was a crisp picture of new Russian success.

In 1989, he was among a half-dozen young editors of Meditsinskaya Gazeta, the official newspaper of the Soviet Health Ministry, who decided to take advantage of the freer economic climate to start a new popular newspaper.

They found their niche early on, with a crude publication that combined racy black-and-white graphics with the odd amalgam of sex tips, AIDS information and general interest news. For the medical and sexual advice, Mann and his colleagues relied on mainstream authorities. There was one ironclad rule: no politics.

"One of the hidden policies we have in this newspaper is to say to people between the lines, 'Don't pay attention to the government, don't pay attention to these guys in the Duma (parliament). Pay attention to your family, your home, your culture,'" Mann said.

In time, the black-and-white graphics were replaced by color, the crude newspaper stock by slicker paper. The range of articles was expanded, but at its core, SPEED-Info remained the same.

Narina Tumanova, a 17-year-old student who reads every issue, said she doesn't like the whole paper but reads the articles about sex and AIDS avidly. Can't she learn about them elsewhere? "In principle, yes," she said. "But it's convenient for me to read such information in a popular newspaper that I can buy on any street corner. And it's written in such understandable language."

Even Yekaterina Lakhova, the influential and buttoned-down chairwoman of the Presidential Commission on Women, Family and Demography, admits to reading SPEED-Info. "It's very informative. I like this newspaper," she said. "They raise the questions that every individual has but sometimes are too shy to ask out loud."

HEALTH

**Invulnerability to AIDS Linked to Chemokines**

by Alex Dominguez

BALTIMORE (AP) - The body's own self-defenses may hold the key to stopping the AIDS virus, researchers say.

Fourteen of 128 hemophiliacs who were repeatedly exposed to blood products tainted with the AIDS virus did not become infected with HIV, more proof that an anti-inflammatory agent naturally produced by the body can ward off the fatal illness, researchers said.

Those 14 people shared one thing in common - naturally occurring substances called chemokines that appear at a level at least twice as high as most people have, researcher Alessandro Gringeri said Tuesday at a conference sponsored by the

University of Maryland's Institute for Human Virology.

As further evidence that chemokines may offer built-in protection against AIDS, blood cells taken from the 14 hemophiliacs became infected in laboratory tests after the chemokines' action was blocked, Gringeri said. "For this reason, we are quite sure chemokines inhibited the infections," said Gringeri of the Maggiore Hospital and University of Milan.

The 128 hemophiliacs, all from Italy, received the tainted blood products between 1980 and 1985. All but 14 became progressively ill between 1981 and 1986. If scientists can find a way to mimic chemokines' effects, it may be possible to find a way to block pathways of HIV's docking sites in the body, called receptors.

"We cannot induce our body to produce more chemokines, and as far as I know we

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**HEALTH/**from page 12

cannot administer chemokines, but we can find out if there are agents we can use to block the receptors," Gringeri said.

Dr. Paolo Lusso, head of the human virology department at the San Rafael Institute in Milan, agreed that chemokines are emerging as a key to fighting AIDS. "It's one of the first lines of evidence in a human that chemokines are associated with protection and confirms what has been seen in monkeys and in the laboratory," said Lusso, who was not involved in Gringeri's research.

"These data are starting to put all the pieces of the puzzle together," Lusso said. "It's starting to emerge that chemokines are probably the key correlate for protection that we have been hunting for."

In August, scientists at the National Cancer Institute reported that people with mutated chemokine receptors did not become infected despite repeated HIV exposure. Gringeri said all 14 hemophiliacs he studied had normal receptors, but twice the average amount of chemokines in their blood.

Gringeri said he plans to present the research, which has been submitted to the journal *Natural Medicine*, at the weeklong conference Friday.

Dr. Robert Gallo, co-discoverer of the AIDS virus and director of the Institute for Human Virology, also participated in Gringeri's research. Gallo said chemokines may be the body's first line of defense. "People who overproduce chemokines are more protected than the average Joe," Gallo said.

**AIDS No Longer Top Killer of Adults**

by Tara Meyer

ATLANTA (AP) - AIDS has lost its place as the No. 1 killer of the nation's young and middle-age adults, bolstering the government's optimism that the deadly epidemic is slowing down.

The disease is now the second leading cause of death for people between 25 and 44, driven by a 26 percent drop overall in the rate of AIDS deaths between 1995 and 1996, the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention said Thursday.

Accidents, such as falls and car crashes, are the leading cause of death for the group that accounts for more than half the nation's workforce. Cancer is No. 3, the CDC said. The drop, included in the CDC's 1996 report on births and deaths, adds to encouraging earlier reports. Last year, the actual number of AIDS deaths declined for the first time since the epidemic began in 1981.

"It's reassuring," said Dr. John Ward, the CDC's chief of AIDS surveillance. "You like to have multiple studies saying the same thing before you begin to consider what you're seeing is indeed the truth."

The AIDS death rate in 1996 fell to 11.6 deaths per 100,000 people, down 26 percent from a rate of 15.6 the previous year, the CDC said. For adults between 25 and 44, the rate fell to 27.2 deaths from a rate of 36.9 in 1995. In 1994, when AIDS took over the top spot, the rate was 36.7 in that age group.

Ward tempered the news by noting that thousands of people are still living with AIDS and taking drugs that take a huge toll

on the body.

Among other findings:

- Life expectancy in the United States reached 76.1 years in 1996, up slightly from 75.8 years in 1995.
- The nation's homicide rate dropped 11 percent to 8.4 homicides per 100,000 people in 1996, down from 9.4 in 1995.

The CDC's report was based on information from birth and death certificates filed in each state.

**Researcher Says AIDS Remains Dormant in Patients, Despite Drugs**

BALTIMORE (AP) - AIDS drugs that lower the virus to undetectable levels leave a silent infection in patients' immune systems that can rebound dangerously if the expensive treatment is ever stopped, new research shows.

Though combining protease inhibitors into a drug cocktail has produced dramatic improvements for thousands of AIDS patients, the new study dims hope that the "latent reservoir" of infection can be eradicated, Dr. Anthony Fauci, director of the National Institute of Allergy and Infectious Diseases, said Monday.

"I'm quite skeptical about how long it's going to be before we can actually stop the drugs," Fauci said. "I'm not sure we can ever stop." He opened a weeklong conference by the University of Maryland's Institute for Human Virology in Baltimore that drew 1,000 researchers. The institute is headed by Dr. Robert Gallo, co-discoverer of the AIDS virus.

Evidence of a silent infection comes from a study of 13 patients who had been taking drugs for a year. Nine patients had undetectable levels of human immunodeficiency virus in their blood, which is common for thousands of other patients on the regimen. But in all nine, Fauci found that evidence of the virus hiding in "resting cells" of the immune system - white blood cells known as CD4 T-cells.

The idea that drugs could cure AIDS has been championed by Dr. David Ho, a prominent researcher in New York. Based on a mathematical model, Ho said the virus could be eradicated in three years. Ho plans to take several patients off their drugs and monitor them for a resurgence of virus. The patients have been on the drugs two years. But Fauci said the projection of a three-year cure was based on the mistaken assumption that "you can completely shut off viral replication."

The anti-viral drugs are capable of suppressing HIV in cells producing the virus, but not inactive ones. One approach would be to create a drug to turn on the dormant cells. "We're not in the mode of being able to eradicate those cells," Fauci said.

In other AIDS research, tests with an experimental drug has produced preliminary evidence that the drug can help patients resistant to other treatments. Researchers found that a single dose of the drug, Sustiva, when combined with the protease AIDS drug Crixivan, performed about as well as existing treatments that require the combined use of three or four drugs, *The Wall Street Journal* reported Tuesday.

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**SPORTS CAPSULE**

by John Toups

**IBL Registration**

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**Lone Star Volleyball Registration**

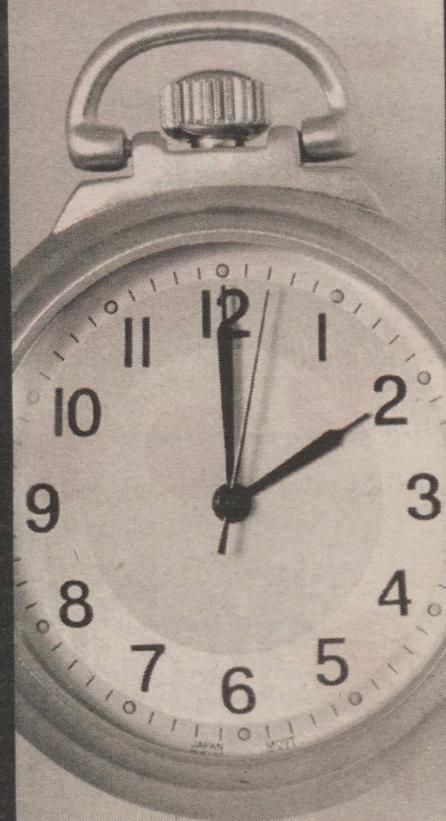
Lone Star Volleyball Association recently celebrated the season-end at an

exclusive beachside condo on Galveston Island. Over 50 half-naked men frolicked in the sunny weather during the two-day celebration. The party awards ceremony honored the competitive division champs, Spike Girls and the runner-up team, Ole.

LSVA is currently conducting the Fall season registration through September 21st. Over 75 interested players participated in the recent Open Play session with an expected Fall membership around 100 members in See SPORTS page 23

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## INTERVIEW/from page 1

dant of sorts, Debbie Reynolds as his mother, and Bob Newhart as his boss.

"Of course it was fun playing a shy teacher who is harboring a secret and who is in love with Barbra Streisand," says Kline, outfitted in khaki pants and a blue long sleeved shirt, rolled up to the elbows.

Of course, the secret that Brackett is harboring is that he is gay. For some time though, it is completely believable to the audience that Brackett does not even have a clue as to what his real sexuality is, or that he has battled with it for so long that he denies the feelings altogether.

Kline who is straight and married to actress Phoebe Cates, had no trouble playing the part. "The part was so well written, as are all of the roles in the film, that it would have been foolish to pass up. I was truly surprised that Barbra Streisand has such a huge gay following," he admits.

Streisand's music and films are featured prominently in the movie and she is the butt of not a few jokes. The biggest one being when Joan Cusack finally has had it and is left at the altar by Brackett. "(Expletive) Barbra Streisand," she says, thinking that Streisand played some part in Brackett's sexuality.

"The film only got one (expletive) in order to keep it PG-13, and we saved it for Barbra," Kline says with a grin. "Of course the line gets a big laugh, but everyone in the movie gets it at one time or another. People with weight issues, celebrities, models, small town folk, everyone."

Sometimes, actors bring something with them to a certain role. For Kline it certainly was not dancing. During one of the film's extended comedy scenes - the 'masculinity tape' scene - Brackett is forced to break into dance to the tune of Diana Ross' "I Will Survive" in the privacy of his own home. "I don't dance like that," Kline says. "I am very shy."

Shy he really seems. After having interviewed him, some other writers felt that he seemed affected. What his somewhat reticent attitude may be attributed to is that fact that he is a family man, a man far removed from Hollywood. He loves living in New York City and would never think of giving up on theater.

Why would he want to? He went to Julliard's School of Drama and became a founding member of John Houseman's The Acting Company.

When asked of his career choices - the hits and misses - he humbly answers, "John Houseman once said to me, 'There are two types of actors. The actor who works all the time, and the actor who is very picky. At the end of their careers the number of successes are the same. It is how much you can live-with failure.'"

Kline's career thus far, has not been ridden with too much failure. His first role in a feature film was "Sophie's Choice" opposite Meryl Streep. Other highlights include "Cry Freedom," "Dave," "The Big Chill," "Silverado," and "Grand Canyon."

He will next be seen in what many are saying is the best movie of 1997. Ang ("Sense and Sensibility") Lee's "The Ice Storm" opposite Sigourney Weaver and Christina Ricci. Another "Big Chill" kind of movie.

Next to the 'masculinity tape' scene in "In & Out", one of the funniest and certainly most surprising scenes involves the kiss between Kline and Selleck. "I added a lot to that scene," Kline says.

I was curious as to who thought up the added effect of Kline wrapping his leg around Selleck in mid kiss. "Driving home after the first day of shooting that two day scene, it just occurred to me out of the blue that if I wrapped my leg around Tom while we were kissing it would seem so much more natural. This was going to be the first time that Brackett got to explore his true feelings. I'm glad Frank Oz [the director]

felt the same way."

It is that scene in which the audience watching elicits the loudest decibels. While most who go to "In & Out" will know that Selleck and Kline's characters kiss, none know where the scene takes place. Beginning? Middle? End?

"That is what will give it a kind of "Crying Game" tone to it. I knew from the minute I sat down in "The Crying Game" that Jaye Davison was a man. It didn't fool me. I was just wondering when the audience was going to be let in on it. It is the same in "In & Out". It will be fun for the audience to guess when the two men will finally get together," says Kline.

With that, he was off to another interview and then presumably captured on the way out of the hotel by some psychopathic fans who had camped out front all morning in hope of getting the John Hancock of one of tinsletown's finest.

## Tom Selleck

He played "Magnum PI" for eight years on CBS. He is a conservative-Republican who still defends and talks glowingly of Ronald Reagan. He even starred as one of the fathers in Disney's two "Three Men and A Baby" films. And most recently played Courtney Cox's love interest on "Friends."

Tom Selleck would be one of the last people most would consider ideal for the part in a film playing an openly gay tabloid-news television reporter. He certainly gets the opportunity to prove himself in the new comedy "In & Out".

"I had some concerns about the role," says Selleck. "Not like, 'Oh my God! Can I kiss a guy?' concerns, but 'Can I kiss a guy on screen in a way so that it will look nothing like a studio stunt?' You have to realize that kissing scenes in general are never easy."

Dressed in a denim shirt and blue jeans, sporting a goatee not seen in the film, his trademark moustache) Selleck talked openly about his role in the film over a cup of coffee at the Regency Hotel a couple of weeks ago.

Selleck's role in the film requires him to more or less get Kevin Kline's character to find out for himself that he is gay. Kline plays a small town high-school English teacher (Mr. Brackett) who is outed on television by a former classmate (Matt Dillon) during a telecast of the Academy Awards.

For days, Brackett insists that the outing is a mistake and that he is not gay. How could he be? He is engaged to be married (to Joan Cusack) and has been engaged for three years. Into town pops Peter Malloy (Selleck), desperate to get an exclusive story to boost his sagging ratings.

"At one point in the film, it is apparent that Kevin Kline's character needs a wake-up call. It is during that point that I just grab him and plant my lips on his. The actual scene took two days to film.

"With any scene that requires an actor to emit any kind of emotion, there is always a little tension or anxiety. I'm sure I was thinking about the 'kissing scene' the most. I just hope everyone thinks it looks believable," Selleck says.

At times, when making a film, actors have no say at all when it comes to adapting the script to their liking. With "In & Out" director Frank Oz ("What About Bob?" and "Little Shop of Horrors") allowed the cast to fine tune the film in ways that they each thought their character would best be suited.

The most recognizable instance of ad-libbing was during the kissing scene. Kline got so into it that he went as far as wrapping one of his legs around Selleck during the scene.

"When I first took a look at the script, I thought, 'This character is written to obviously be gay' which would be fine, but not in this instance. I felt that Peter Malloy was a character who was comfortable with his sexuality but desperate about his career."

Keeping Malloy's sexuality something

less than obvious also allows for a certain degree of shock to be rendered onto the screen when he finally does grab Kline and give him a big wet one.

"Originally there was even a strong sexual attraction between the two men," says Selleck, "But as time went on, it became apparent that the strongest attraction Kline had was to the town."

In addition to working with Kline, Selleck's Malloy was the one character that played opposite Whoopi Goldberg and a few other A-List stars during the filming of the Academy Award scene.

It was kind of ironic that Selleck got to play a member of that particular medium that so often times is way out of control and loses reality with reason especially with celebrities.

"It was somewhat therapeutic getting to poke a little fun at the tabloid television reporters," he says. However, in the film everyone and everything is a target for mockery. All with the help of openly gay screenwriter Paul Rudnick. No one was spared the wrath of the venomous pen which Rudnick so cleverly knows how to use. Supermodels, actors, small-town folk, high-school principals, Hollywood, tabloid television reporters, brides, and even Barbara Streisand are shown no mercy at times.

Will there be a "Magnum" reunion? Will Selleck go back to television in a different show? More theatrical movies?

"I love doing television," he says, "After "Three Men and A Baby" was the number one film in the world when it was released, people asked me why I would want to go back to television? They are much more civilized hours than movies," he says with a laugh.

"With movies, you sometimes have to work sixteen hour days, six days a week for six months. When I did "Friends" I went into the studio one day a week and didn't spend the whole day there. You tell me which sounds easier. As for "Magnum". Tom Clancy wrote a great script for a movie, but it involves so many locations and would take up so much time that it just may not happen any time soon. If the movie could be made on a back lot, it would have been made a long time ago."

"I think I will be doing a television sitcom next spring. It is in the works and I am involved behind the scenes as well. So whether it bombs big time or succeeds beyond anyone's wildest expectations will all be up to me. I am taking full responsibility."

"What I am waiting for at the moment is what the country's reaction to "In & Out" will be. There are still a lot of people who do not know any gay people. They were raised prejudicially and hopefully this can open their eyes."

Seeing that it is a much more subtle film than "The Birdcage", which went on to make over \$100 million, "In & Out's" chances of making it are pretty good.

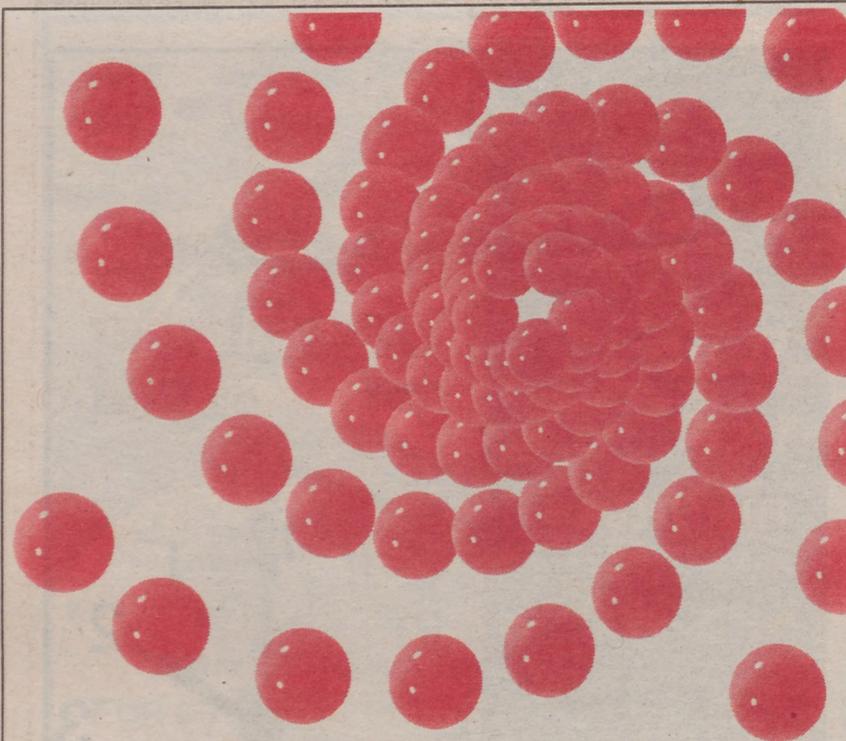
"In & Out" doesn't preach or have a political agenda. What it does is entertain and is a very human film. That is what I think people will like most about it. In addition to it's ability to make you laugh all the way through."

"Speaking of funny. The funniest thing that happened while we were shooting the movie was during the kissing scene. Seeing that it takes place outdoors, by the side of a road, there was a cop directing traffic. And of course the scene took two days to do. The first time Kevin and Tom kissed, the cop made a face that seemed to say, "What the hell kind of movie is this?," says director Frank Oz, a little later on in the morning.

My ninety-year old grandmother may say the same thing at first, when seeing "Magnum" kiss "Wanda" but after a second or two she would certainly let the laughter kick in and not stop until the movie ended.

It seems doubtful that many will find "In & Out" anything less than spectacular.

*"... The first time  
Kevin and Tom kissed,  
the cop made a face  
that seemed to say,  
"What the hell kind  
of movie is this?"*



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## BALLET/from page 1

craves dance from the "Holy akimbo! Batman" school of movement.

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The centerpiece of the afternoon was George Balanchine's *The Four Temperaments*. I had in the forefront of my mind Principal Dancer Lauren Anderson's comment that "Here in Houston we do Balanchine almost better than anyone." Well, she's right. Balanchine understood completely the relationship of music to movement. He commissioned the accompanying musical score from fellow modernist Paul Hindemith for \$500. It was money well spent. Though some shudder at Hindemith's dissonances and unusual rhythmic patterns, they fit hand in glove with Mr. B's choreography.

The way the dancers interpret Balanchine's famous 'architecture' building style has a lot to do with their *attitude* about the master. Their crisp, almost diffident postures enhance movement without distraction and maintain audience focus on the 'lines' within a piece. Execution was technically terrific — the addition of some new (and slightly taller) men to the corps gives badly need height to the company and increases its overall impact.

Though Russian by birth, George Balanchine is the universal well-spring from which many other movement makers have come. The collection of pieces from other choreographers exhibited strong evidence of his influence — throughout the entire program the other works wore bits of clothing taken from Balanchine's choreographic

closet.

Jiri Killians expansive *Sinfionetta* was the work providing proof that dancers can and do fly. A wonderful mix of modern and classical dance vocabulary, Killian's overwhelming message of liberation is ever present in the fast-moving, almost windy piece. Loose costuming and a seemingly borderless backdrop reinforce a work which depicts unencumbered freedom.

Houston Ballet Artistic Director Ben Stevenson's new work *Eclipse* was a classically oriented portrayal of celestial reverence. A simple icon-like set and diaphanous attire focuses our attention to the dancers and their movement. There are some interesting new moves, notably, a gracefully difficult 'on the floor' shoulder roll within the *pax de deux*. Principals Sean Kelly and Lauren Anderson looked lovely together. They, and the whole company, continue to become not only better dancers, but better communicators as well. The Ballet orchestra did a marvelous job with a program that would rival any symphonic offering. Their reading of the intensely romantic Chopin Piano Concerto which accompanies *Eclipse*, however, was a bit too muted for me. Any time you create dance over an existing musical work that constriction can diminish musical impact. Musical romantic freedom can be difficult to accomplish within somewhat strict the boundaries of dance.

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lar cell blocks. Some arrive in their cells already infected. Others contract the virus behind bars through illicit sex, intravenous drug use and sharing tainted tattoo needles.

But the risky practices remain little discussed by most prison wardens. Nationwide,

See PRISONS page 16

## NIXON/from page 1

determining jail time. In the trial, Nixon asked for probation, and used his right to request a jury trial.

Many are asking whether Nixon will resign, or hold his seat until his term ends in 2000. Nixon will not comment. The third district covers much of East Texas and includes towns like Conroe, Nacadoches and Lufkin. The area is still strong Democrat territory.

According to testimony, Nixon stopped beside undercover Officer Christine Shelton and asked if she was looking for a ride. "I told him I was looking for a date," she said.

Nixon was interested, and attempted to persuade the red-haired, green-eyed officer into the car. Shelton refused, and haggled briefly with Nixon over the price. Nixon agreed to pay \$35 for both sexual intercourse and oral sex.

Within 15 seconds, a team of officers swarmed around his car. Officers found a loaded 9 mm pistol under his seat. Nixon had \$3 in his pockets and \$480 in his wallet, which was stuffed in the car's visor, police testified.

The prostitution offense is a Class B misdemeanor, punishable by a fine up to \$2,000 and term of up to 6 months in jail. The weapons charge is a Class A misdemeanor, punishable by a fine of up to \$4,000 and a year in jail. Judge David Peryear told the jury that the two sentences could not be stacked, meaning Nixon would potentially face a maximum of one year in jail.

During the trial, Lt. Gov. Bob Bullock took to the stand to ask the jury to accept Nixon's request for no jail time. "I'm frankly proud to be here today," said Bullock, who asked the jury to give the sen-

ator a "second chance."

Cheryl Nixon, who married the Senator just ten months before the arrest testified that she considered divorce, but decided against it because he agreed to counseling. "It's made a world of difference in our marriage," she said.

"I want him at home, with me. I don't want him in jail," she said.

The harsh sentencing is only embarrassing to the social conservatives in the Texas Republican Party, with whom he was a rising star. In the last legislature, Nixon polled many senators, asking them to not support modifying Texas's hate crimes laws to include increased penalties for hate crimes against gays and lesbians. Nixon also voted against that bill in the 1995 legislature. Nixon was a co-author of last session's bill to require minors' parental notification before receiving an abortion.

Still others find Nixon's behavior to be unpredictable. Shortly before last November's election, Nixon and his wife took a vacation in Greece. His Democrat opponent soon learned this, and printed it in advertisements in the district's local papers. Nixon ended-up barely winning the election by less than 600 votes, or 50.1% to 49.9%.

Previous Texas Republican Party chairman Tom Pauken explained to a Republican activist meeting last Spring that he persuaded Nixon to stay in his seat at least through the 1997 legislature. Pauken explained that Nixon had initially offered to resign. The seat is also important if Republicans intend to maintain their majority in the Texas Senate. Nixon, a Certified Public Accountant, is the vice-chair of the powerful Senate State Affairs Committee, which handles many of the legislature's major bills every session.

## DUNN/from page 1

The West slaying attracted national attention when homosexual rights groups staged

protests. A third man involved in the case, David Ray McMillan, was sentenced to life in prison after being convicted of aggravated robbery and kidnapping.

## PRISONS/from page 1

132,400 Texas inmates carry HIV. Experts say the number of infections could be three times higher. The Texas AIDS prison wards hold more than 500 inmates, but other infected prisoners remain integrated in regu-

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## A Boy Named Phyllis

by Jone Devlin

When I first received the book *Boy Named Phyllis* by Frank DeCaro, I was a little intimidated. After all, this was the story of an Italian American who grew up gay in the seventies, while living in the closed knit (and close minded) confines of a New Jersey suburb. In other words, the story of my life.

Well, I wasn't apprehensive without cause. Barely two chapters into the book I was transported back into my life as a gay youth. As DeCaro recounted the non stop, brutal and unceasing torture heaped on him by the other kids in school, and the resultant total and complete loss of self esteem on his part, culminating in an eating disorder (among other things) I was suddenly back there.

In fact, I would venture to say, much like last year's film "Welcome to the Dollhouse", *A Boy Named Phyllis* will be very uncomfortable for those of us who spent the majority of our formative years being punished for being different. That said, I will also add that it is a must read.

DeCaro has a flair not only for experience but also for time and place. His descriptions of his relatives with all their many vagaries are so vivid you can picture these people both as they were then and as they are now. Whether the author is discussing the brutalities of gym class or punk rock your a part of it and a part of the culture that was the seventies and eighties.

The book starts out with DeCaro describing his birth. His mother went into the hospital to have a tumor removed, and there he was. From there we learn all about his life in suburban New Jersey, from his grandmother, a four foot tall Italian woman who used to croon off color sayings to her little grandson (in Italian of course) instead of nursery rhymes, to his parents, a typical New Jersey family that felt sitting in their den watching TV night after night was the height of entertainment.

In fact the family is so TV oriented, Frankie (as he was called) compares them in his own mind to the Munsters. He, however, sees himself not as Eddie, but as Marilyn....the "different" one. Once Frankie starts school, all hell breaks loose. First, his father has a near fatal heart attack, something which changes the lives of the whole family forever, and Frankie begins to experience the first, brutal results of being different.

No sooner does he start school then one kid, a kid named, of all things Chooch, begins picking on him unmercifully. From that moment on, Frankie tells us, he was called "fag, faggot, homo or queer" every single day. He was also hit, spit on, kicked, and had any type of convenient object, from food to books, thrown at him. Teachers, if they noticed it at all, did nothing to stop it. Frankie's only revenge was to get straight A's and hang out with the school's other misfit, a kid named Ralph.

This unceasing torment went on for years, until, in high school, with a to die for impression of Paul Lynde, Frankie wowed them all in his school's production of *Bye Bye Birdie* and became an overnight sensation. It was then that he met his first boyfriend, another local named Kenneth. Together they explored young love and escaped from the horror of the narrow world they lived in.

The book ends with Frank, now an adult, living in New York, inviting his parents to a party with some of his friends. They handle it extremely well, all things considered (he and his father barely spoke for years after he came out) and so life goes on.

Touching, funny and sometimes all too close to home, *A Boy Named Phyllis* talks about growing up gay in the New Jersey suburbs and living to tell about it.

## The Disappearance of Garcia Lorca

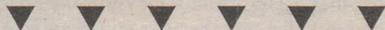
by Ella Tyler

It takes the prospect of something very special to lure me into a movie theatre, and *The Disappearance of Garcia Lorca* did not disappoint. Federico Garcia Lorca (Andy Garcia) was a gay poet who was executed by anti-republican forces during the Spanish Civil War. His last hours were shrouded in mystery for years after the war.

The story, set in 1956, is the search for an account of Lorca's last days by a young writer who's family fled from Spain during the war. He had met Lorca and fallen under his spell. This thin premise is made plausible by the movie's use of fragments of Lorca's poetry and scenes from his life. As they show, Lorca was a brilliant and highly acclaimed writer and a charismatic personality.

It is the flashbacks to scenes of Lorca's life and the hypnotic recitation of Lorca's poem *Lament for Ignacio Sanchez Mejias* (a bullfighter) by schoolchildren that reveals why Lorca was executed, not the literal text of the film. How could the right wing allow a popular gay, atheist, to survive? A book about Lorca's death was banned until after Franco's death.

The film, like Lorca's poetry, is strikingly visual and includes a (too) brief scene of flamenco dancers and flashes of a bullfight as a counterpoint to the climax of the film. The film succeeds admirably as an introduction to Lorca's work and the times in which he died.



## A Thousand Yawns

by Leslie Ramsay

Michelle Pfeiffer and Jessica Lange star in the Touchstone Pictures release "*A Thousand Acres*". This film has been touted as the women's film of the fall movie season. I found it to be the biggest waste of time and emotion since *The Bridges of Madison County*.

"*A Thousand Acres*" is the film adaptation of the Pulitzer Prize-winning novel by Jane Smiley. The story was really hard to get into. I hope that the book was better than the movie. Books about dysfunctional fami-



lies who cover-up/ ignore physical and sexual abuse are not on my nightstand to read. The film is very melodramatic. Jason Robards (*All the President's Men*) plays the pillar of the community that secretly does horrible things to his two older daughters. Jessica Lange (*Tootsie*) plays the simple, good-natured older sister, Ginny. Michelle Pfeiffer (*One Fine Day*) plays the hard as nails middle daughter, Rose. Jennifer Jason Leigh (*The Hudsucker Proxy*) plays the youngest daughter, Caroline.



The story begins with Larry Cook (Jason

Robards) giving his farm to his daughters in an attempt to avoid the Internal Revenue Service. His youngest daughter refuses the gift and he disowns her. Over the next two hours we find out how this family arrived at this place in time. It is not a pretty picture. The stars will be nominated for Academy Awards because they were "brave" enough to play these roles without the aid of hair and make-up stylists. I do not understand why Hollywood demands that an actress must look horrible to be performing at her best. Jason Robards did a fine job of playing evil.

Go see this film only if you are a well-adjusted person without any abuse issues in your purse. The memories Rose flashes on are not so graphic as they are disturbing. Icky all the same.

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# Fabulous, just fabulous! Good Cop, Bad Cop...

by Leslie Ramsay

Paramount is releasing the much anticipated "In & Out" this weekend in theaters everywhere. This is a classic comedy in the tradition of "Cold Turkey". I have seen this film two times by press date and I plan on seeing it again. I loved this movie.

Kevin Kline (*The Big Chill*, *Soapdish*) plays Howard, a high school English teacher. He is "outed" at the Academy Awards ceremony by a former student played by Matt Dillon (*The Outsiders*). This public outing is a complete surprise to the small town community that is in the middle of preparing for Howard's upcoming nuptias to the lovely and gracious, Emily played by Joan Cusack (*Working Girl*).

The national media circus swoops down on the small town and follows Howard's every move. Tom Selleck plays Peter Malloy



(*Magnum, P.I.*) an openly gay tabloid news journalist who follows Howard around all week long, looking for a story. Will Howard marry Emily?

Bob Newhart and Debbie

Renoys return to the big screen with great performances. The whole cast of secondary actors is hysterically funny. The casting is absolutely superb. Big laughs and spontaneous applause throughout the film should be expected.



PHOTOS: ANDY SCHWARTZ

By Leslie Ramsay

"L.A. Confidential" starring Kevin Spacey, Russell Crowe, Guy Pearce, James Cromwell, David Strathairn, Kim Bassinger and Danny DeVito will open this weekend to very crowded theatres. The film has already received kudos from movie critics nationwide. The preview audiences are buzzing. I thought it was really good.

The film is pure crime noir. The good guys are the bad guys. The hooker is gorgeous. The DA is a closet homosexual. The journalist is slime. The cops are both corrupt and heroic.

The story is really tight. From beginning to end the action is top notch. The investigation into a mysterious mass murder at the Night Owl Café is so twisty that the usual Hollywood director would lose their audience midway through. Curtis Hanson is not the usual Hollywood director. He does an incredible job of keeping the audience happily on this roller coaster-esque film.

The ensemble cast is just terrific. Kevin Spacey (*Seven*) is the cop with questionable motives. Guy Pearce (*The Adventures of Priscilla, Queen of the Desert*) plays the political cop who is really good at heart. Russell Crowe (*Virtuosity*) plays the hero cop. Kim Bassinger (*9 ½ Weeks*) plays the hooker who looks like Veronica Lake. Danny DeVito (*Taxi*) plays the journalist who has the goods on every-



one in town. The scenery of 1950's Los Angeles is enough to make you want to move back in time. Overall, this film was a treat to see.



# Texas Health

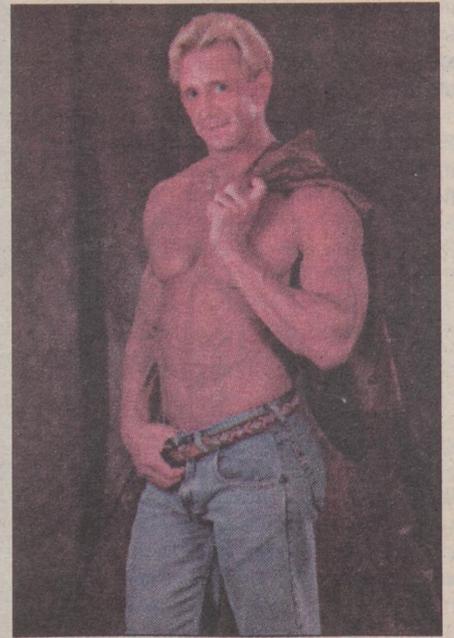
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VISIONS PHOTOGRAPHY BY ALEX DIPRIMA

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Ella's Greenhouse

Houston's serious and well-organized gardeners have only one item on their agenda for September 25, 26 and 27—the Bulb and Plant Mart. This is the 55th year for this event, sponsored by the Garden Club of Houston. It features a wide selection of bulbs that do well in Houston, and unusual perennials, vines, trees, and shrubs. Many gardeners make two trips, one on Thursday for the best selection of bulbs and then again on Saturday morning for the "Plants That Merit Attention" booth, a Saturday morning special. There will be more the half a million bulbs sold, including both spring and summer flowering bulbs. The selection is far more extensive than even the best retail nursery.

There is always a nice selection of unusual ginger. A small pot of yellow ginger that I bought two years ago has multiplied into a small thicket. I got a Night-Blooming Cereus plants there several years ago, and it lives on, though neglected, but blooms only when not mistreated.

This year, special emphasis will be given to anemones and my runner-up favorite bulb, ranunculus (they're technically tubers,



Garden Club's planting at M.F.A

but who's counting). The Mart will have plenty of freesias, my favorite bulb. These intensely fragrant flowers used to grow wild at our house in Bermuda when I was a child and my father was in the Navy. Talk about an idyllic childhood—four acres, on the water; an Easter Lily field in the back; a Fig tree big enough to hide in; and we ate fresh swordfish and tuna steaks at Girl Scout camp (on it's own little island, borrowed from the Girl Guides). But I digress. Freesias will not naturalize here, but one season of bloom is worth it.

One of the best features of the Mart is that visitors receive a free booklet describing all the items on sale and planting and culture information. This is particularly important. Some bulbs, like tulips, must be chilled before they are planted here. Some varieties of narcissi will naturalize here but others will not. Everything has a different time to be planted, even the spring bulbs.

The funds raised benefit projects including the grounds at the Museum of Fine Arts and the gardens at the Hospice at the Medical Center and the Medical Center Park.

The Mart will be at Westminster United Methodist Church, 5801 San Felipe. It is open from 9:30 a.m. to 5 p.m. on Thursday

and Friday and 9:30 a.m. to 2 p.m. on Saturday. If you want to prepare yourself, pick up a copy of "The Complete Guide to Growing Bulbs in Houston" by Sally McQueen Squires at many bookstores and nurseries. Otherwise, the selection will be overwhelming.

There is a really neat event this Sunday for eaters and gardeners alike.

The Houston Chapter of Chefs Collaborative 2000 is sponsoring "A Plethora of Peppers for Purposes Practical and Peculiar" at Rainbow Lodge on September 21 from 3p.m. to 6p.m. Four celebrity chefs will chose from a variety of locally-grown bell or hot peppers to prepare dishes. Dr. Bob Randall, of Urban Harvest, the beneficiary event, says that even people who are used to the quality and flavor of garden fresh vegetables are amazed at how much better they taste in hands of really good chefs. Tickets are \$25.00 and are available only at the door. There will be a cash bar. Urban Harvest gardeners will be selling fresh produce, chutneys and herbal vinegars. Rainbow Lodge is at #1 Birdsall, off Memorial just east of Westcott. For more information call Urban Harvest at (713) 880-5540.



Ranunculus

If your fantasies include having a market garden (we only discuss gardening fantasies in this column) there is a seminar about this subject on Saturday, October 18, 1997. The registration deadline is October 3. It will be at the Harris County Extension Service. For

registration information call (281) 855-5600. The day long seminar is \$50 per person or \$85 for couples, which they define as two people arriving together who get along well enough to share one book.

I promised an explanation of my snit about "Garden Line". They had a long and detailed discussion about how to kill bumble bees one morning and it was just too much for me. I think there is very little excuse

for killing bees, and if it must be done, you shouldn't sound so enthusiastic about it. I miss listening, but the one day I backslid, they talked about using insecticide to kill aphids and then using a soapy water spray a few days later. A strong spray of soapy or even plain water is the first defense, not the second. I made my mother go buy ladybugs to eat the aphids on her roses. Although I use pesticides, they're not my first choice. I'm not in the mood to talk about "Good Bugs" now. Later for them.

Thursday Night Follies!



Paivi Lee Love



Dyan Michaels



Roxanne Lee Love



Lana Blake



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Cool your thirst at EJs after the Fireworks

Watch out for Firework Fallout

Thursday Night Follies Surprise Special Guest

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SAT	9/20	TALENT NIGHT at 11 pm with Roxanne
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MON	9/22	MALE STRIP CONTEST at 11 pm with Paivi
TUE	9/23	Amateur/Talent Night at 11 pm with Dyan Michaels
WED	9/24	Granny's Burgers!



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# Special Report: The Christian Coalition in Atlanta

## Gays Take Low Profile in Conference Rhetoric

by Laura Brown  
Southern Voice

"We want to see x an America where families are valued and children are cared for by two married, heterosexual parents."

Christian Coalition founder Pat Robertson's jab at gay families and refusal to "stand idly by while the abominable is made acceptable" drew thunderous applause from the 1,000-plus guests at the "Ralph Reed Appreciation Dinner," the first major event of the Coalition's national conference held in Atlanta Sept. 12-13.

More than 2,000 of the Christian Coalition's 1.9 million members flocked to Atlanta's Marriott Marquis hotel for the "Road to Victory '97" Conference, the Coalition's annual meeting.

Conservative superstars on-hand, including Robertson, former Coalition executive director Reed, Steve Forbes, Jack Kemp, Oliver North and Georgia's own Newt Gingrich, Paul Coverdell, Bob Barr, John Linder and Ron Crews, praised the Coalition's achievements from a stage festooned in swirling spotlights and presidential red, white and blue.

Most speeches at the "national conference and strategy briefing" fell short on concrete strategies and long on biblical fervor and self-congratulatory emotional appeal, eliciting whistles, shouts of "Amen!" and often several standing ovations per speaker.

High on the Coalition's priority list was legislation that would allow prayer in schools and ban "partial birth" and eventually all abortions, while references to gays and lesbians were mostly veiled in a more subtle language of "family values" and "defense of marriage."

Arkansas Gov. Mike Huckabee, rumored to be a possible presidential candidate, credited the Coalition for the "partial birth abortion ban and ban on same-sex marriages," while Bob Barr, primary sponsor of last year's Defense of Marriage Act, spoke of the need to "protect traditional marriages."

"If you can have 'Heather Has Two Mommies' and the rainbow curriculum, you're not going to do much damage with the Ten Commandments," said Oklahoma Rep. Ernest Istook, sponsor to the "Religious Freedom" amendment.

Martin Luther King Jr.'s niece Alveda King, known for her recent public condemnation of gays rights as "destroying" civil rights, spoke on a panel for the Samaritan Project, the Coalition's outreach program to

inner city families—a project that critics call a blatant attempt to lure African-Americans away from the Democratic party.

"We need to take the boxes for race off every document in America," she said, "and certainly not elevate certain behaviors to the status of civil rights."

Materials in the Christian Coalition's exhibit booths were more directly anti-gay. Among the popular bumper stickers for sale were "AIDS, Abortion, Euthanasia: Don't liberals just kill ya?" and "Republican Women x Like Men," alongside patriotic and Republican party memorabilia.

By Saturday afternoon, the Family Research Council had run out of copies of their pamphlet, "The Other Side of Tolerance: Victims of Homosexual Activism." "The advancement of 'gay rights' depends on intimidation and coercion," the booklet states before recounting anecdotal tales of victims of "politically-charged homosexual activism" in the workplace, academia and "through the suppression of truth."

The FRC pamphlet contains dire warnings about the Employment Non-Discrimination Act, a bill to forbid job discrimination on the basis of sexual orientation that failed passage by one vote last year.

"If enacted, ENDA would place outside of the law those citizens who view homosexuality as wrong and harmful," it concluded. "In effect, ENDA turns common citizens into outlaws for their beliefs about a profound moral issue."

"We're involved in public policy, not ministry, but we support ministries that would help heal the homosexual community," FRC representative Craig Smith told *Southern Voice*.

The 1997 Christian Coalition national conference came as the organization struggles to define itself after the surprise departure of Ralph Reed, the baby-faced shrewd political strategist who led the group since its founding in the wake of Pat Robertson's failed 1988 presidential bid. Reed, a graduate of Emory University, has returned to Atlanta to form Century Strategies, a political consulting firm, and is being courted by a number of potential presidential candidates.

New Coalition president Don Hodel and executive director Randy Tate said they will continue distributing "voter guides" through churches and ranking candidates on a scorecard of hot-button conservative issues.



# "Unwelcoming" the Christian Coalition:

Critics respond with prayers, pickets and press conferences

by Laura Brown  
Southern Voice

While Christian Coalition members met at the Atlanta Marriott Marquis to plan their "Road to Victory," individuals and organizations disturbed by the group's "extremist right-wing agenda" voiced their opposition through prayer vigils, press conferences and picketing.

More than 100 representatives of different religious faiths gathered in Hardy Ivy Park on Sept. 12 to form a "Quiet Congregation" protesting the Christian Coalition's suppression of religious diversity.

During the hour-long ceremony, representatives of churches, synagogues, Buddhist temples and community organizations ranging from the Georgia Equality Project to the YWCA read prayers and statements of faith.

"May we find the understanding that comes from unity with other religious people

to eliminate hatred and bigotry," prayed Rabbi Avram D. Friedman of Congregation Ahavath Achim.

Rev. Glenna Shepherd, pastor of Christ Covenant Metropolitan Community Church, prayed for the group the vigil opposed: "We pray this day for the members of the Christian Coalition," she said, "xcall them x to seek dialogue that leads to understanding and unity."

Shepherd also thanked God for Focus on the Family founder-turned-critic Gil Alexander-Moegerle and others "who have been transformed by your presence x and now speak for your justice and immeasurable love."

Moegerle prayed at the vigil and also spoke earlier Friday at a press conference organized by the Georgia Equality Project. He criticized the "political machines" of Focus on the Family and the Christian Coalition, and

See COALITION page 22

# Gay Market Muscle

6.2 times more likely to buy 10-15 hard cover books per year.

10-12 times more likely to buy 13 or more compact discs per year.

9.1 times more likely to use their Platinum American Express Card.

5.5 times more likely to have travelled to Europe in the past 3 years.

6.9 times more likely to engage in regular exercise at a private club.

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## COALITION/ from page 21

reiterated his apologies to women, lesbians and gays, people of color and religious faiths for the organizations' "embarrassing" doctrines and attacks.

At a book-signing that drew about 75 people to Outwrite Bookstore on Sept. 12, Moegerle defended the rank and file of the Coalition and similar evangelical Christian groups.

"The problem is not the people in the movement but the leadership," he said. "There are some really troublesome leaders in the movement who are genuinely bigoted, genuinely mean-spirited and who are making sure that your voice isn't heard."

Preaching tolerance in a four-hour appearance on a local Christian talk-radio show, Moegerle presented homosexuality as morally neutral and the equivalent to heterosexuality.

"Promiscuity and faithfulness are character issues; homosexuality is not," he said. Moegerle said he hoped that conservative Christians would "get our rhetoric under control" and be more "theologically humble" considering that "we were wrong about slavery, wrong about women, wrong about divorce and remarriage."

Recalling his days with FOF, Moegerle told the Outwrite audience that he first became seriously concerned when he learned that response mailings to women were always labeled "Mrs." and her husband's first and last name, even when the letter writer was complaining about spousal abuse or infidelity.

Moegerle said he views the Coalition's transition from Ralph Reed to new President Don Hodell and Executive Director Randy Tate as perhaps "a step backwards" for any hope that the organization will move toward the political center.

"Many groups are mischaracterized by the Christian Coalition, and at a time when communities are being torn apart, we cannot allow fear and false information to divide us," said GEP executive director Cindy Abel, who was joined at the press conference by representatives of the American Jewish Committee, St. Mark's United Methodist Church and the Gwinnett Interfaith Alliance.

Sean Sasser, manager of the Gay and Lesbian Alliance Against Defamation's Atlanta media resource center, read a joint statement signed by 37 Georgia gay and lesbian, feminist, pro-choice, AIDS, religious freedom and religious organizations.

"While the Christian Coalition publicly denounce violence," the statement read, "the inflammatory rhetoric of some of their leaders has contributed to a climate x [where] violence is directed at women's health clinics at an alarming rate, gay people are the victims of vicious hate crimes, predominately gay nightclubs are bombed and churches are burned."

The Christian Coalition's partisan politics and outreach to African-Americans through their Samaritan Project were also critiqued at a joint press conference by People for the American Way and Americans United for Separation of Church and State. Rev. Timothy McDonald, president of Concerned Black Clergy and a board member of PFAW, called the Samaritan Project a "farce" designed to "infiltrate the African-American community." Matthew Freeman, also of PFAW, called the Coalition "the far-right auxiliary of the Republican party."

Other critics of the Christian Coalition took their protest to the streets. About 20 to 30 picketers marched, carried signs, chanted and sung outside of the Marriott Marquis throughout most of the conference's Friday and Saturday sessions. The protests grew heated Friday night, as the demonstrators confronted guests arriving for the swank Ralph Reed Appreciation Dinner.

"Is that his wife or his mistress?" quipped one protester as Republican gubernatorial candidate and admitted adulterer Michael Bowers and his date hurried down the sidewalk to the hotel entrance.

"I'm here as a symbol," said one man dressed as Jesus and carrying a sign reading "The WHAT Coalition?" "I'm a symbol being ignored by the people inside that building, and I hope they see it and think about it in their hearts and minds."

"Knowing what they're saying inside there," said Tamara Haywood, "there's no way I could stay at home."

(Chris Crain contributor to this story.)

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## Wild Oscar's Happy Puzzle

"Imagination is a quality given a man to compensate him for what he is not, and a sense of humor was provided to console him for what he is."—19th century Irish wit Oscar Wilde

**Gone With the Wind puzzle ACROSS**

1 Calif. studio that produces 'Ellen'  
7 GWTW: Butterfly McQueen  
11 last 2 letters of the alphabet backwards  
12 rough calculation  
14 musical piece played as a practice  
16 center abbr.  
17 GWTW: producer David O .....  
20 citizen of Israel  
23 60's Soviet leader  
39 GWTW: the twins  
40 GWTW: Olivia de Havilland  
42 to bond  
43 chemical symbol for tin  
44 full-bodied like Dolly Parton  
45 lines abbr.

26 GWTW: the aunt  
30 singer  
31 substances added to another  
34 abbr. for an entity  
35 your butt  
37 chilled  
38 insect relat-

46 GWTW: Clark Gable  
48 footwear for snow  
50 little  
51 settle snugly in a nest  
52 GWTW: Leslie Howard  
**DOWN**  
1 ship's floor  
2 noun suffix, one who does

7 remove skin  
8 Japanese money, a hundredth of a yen  
9 tasks  
10 thoroughly unappetizing  
11 the letter Z phonetically  
13 American-born English critic & author Eliot, in-

ian Leigh  
22 examines financial records  
24 head scarf of Hispanic women  
25 clad  
27 Roman numeral 4  
28 message sent by a teleprinter  
29 a subatomic particle in the meson family (contraction of pi meson)  
30 common Internet acronym for 'With Respect To'  
32 religious images  
33 more than 9, fewer than 11  
36 1st sign of the zodiac  
38 GWTW: Hattie McDaniel  
40 boiled corn meal  
41 to rid  
44 in music, again or encore  
46 sounds like 'are in'  
47 in the shipping business, truckload abbr.  
49 abbr. for cathode, a negatively charged electrode  
Solution elsewhere this issue  
c.1997 GULF FEATURES, PUZZLE GAY19

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12						13			14	15
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51						52				

ed to a butterfly  
39 GWTW: the twins  
40 GWTW: Olivia de Havilland  
42 to bond  
43 chemical symbol for tin  
44 full-bodied like Dolly Parton  
45 lines abbr.

(machine to machin..., novel to novel...)  
3 what the dancing boys do on stage  
4 sounds like 'in eye'  
5 native ruler in the Middle East  
6 AY in a mirror

itals ("Complete equality means universal irresponsibility.")  
15 abbr. for dark, deck & dock  
18 organic fat or wax  
19 GWTW: author Margaret .....  
21 GWTW: Viv-

**SPORTS/**frompage 13

the recreational and competitive divisions.

LSVA is played each Sunday at the University of St. Thomas Jerebek Center. Recreational play is 4:30 - 6:30 pm and 9:30pm. to be part of the fun and excitement, call the LSVA Hotline at 281-878-4629 for more details.

**MSL fall Fun League**

The fall fun league of the Montrose Softball League is scheduled to begin Sunday, September 28. Anyone who is interested in playing in the fall league please phone the league voicemail at 713-867-3913 and request an application. Registration dues are \$20.00. The fall league is open to players of all skill levels and rosters will be weighted so teams will be balanced. The league will consist of doubleheaders over six Sunday afternoons and we encourage everyone to sign up and come on out and have a ball this fall. The playing site is yet to be determined. Deadline for registering is Sunday, September 14.

**Two-Wheelers!**

A motorcycle club is being formed in Houston for Gays and Lesbians who own motorcycles and are interested in going on organized motorcycle rides with other family members.

Those interested in helping to organize the club or who wish to be on the club mailing list, call John Krimm at 713.528.4350.

**Women's Flag Football:**

Houston Women's Flag Football

League begins its fall season this year with Exhibition Games on October 4th and Season Opener on October 18th. The HWFFL is a non-profit sports organization open to all women ages 18 and over. We have two divisions - competitive and recreational. You can join by bringing in your own team. Or, if you do not have a team, we will be holding two drafts to place individuals - September 13, and September 28. For individual registration forms, Team Captain forms and/or more information, call the HWFFL hotline at (713)981-6753.

**Deep Sea Fishing**

The Rainbow Fishing Club will be going out on the 85 foot catamaran, the New Buccaneer, on Sunday, October 26. The club has 20 reservations. The total cost is \$60 with a \$20 deposit needed to reserve your fishing spot by September 20. The boat catches lots of Red Snapper as well as King Mackerel, Sharks, Amberjack and Groupers. The Sunday September 14 trip on the New Buccaneer is totally sold out.

On Wednesday, October 8, the club will go out on the Cavalier, the 70 foot catamaran, sister boat of the New Buccaneer. The cost will be \$55 with a \$20 deposit due by September 20. These deposits must be received by the club by the due date in order to hold the reservations.

Both boats are the largest and finest deep sea fishing boats in Galveston. They supply all fishing tackle and bait. The 12 hour trips start at 7:30am. Both boats have a sundeck and food and drink at reasonable cost. Call 713-523-6381 for more information or send

deposits to the club at P.O.Box 66450, Houston, TX 77266.

**Ice Play!**

The **Houston Harpies** Women's Ice Hockey Team is actively recruiting women of all levels interested in playing organized women's ice hockey. The Harpies practice every Wednesday evening from 6:30 to 8pm at the Sharpstown Ice Center, and drop-ins are welcome. For more info call 713.802.1248 or 713.864.1650.

**Singles/Doubles?**

The **Houston Tennis Club** is constantly seeking new members, both male and female, of all playing levels. Meet at Memorial Park Tennis Center on Wednesdays from 7-9:30pm, Fridays from 7:30-9pm, and two sessions on Sunday mornings, from 9-10:30am and 10am to 12 Noon.

**Lost Maples**

The **Houston Outdoor Group** invites all to join them for a return trip to Lost Maples November 7-8th. This is their annual primitive camping trip. Mark your calendars now and call Michael at 942.9077 for details.

**More Club Info**

A Gay sky diving club called **Houston Triangle Divers** hosts outings for those brave of heart throughout the year. For info call 530.7822.

A Bicycling Club for Womyn, **Rainbow Riders** meet every Sunday morning for easy, long off-road rides. All womyn are welcome regardless of

ability and experience. For info call Cookie Davenport at 869.1686 or email her at guusje@aol.com.

If you like running, then go with the **FrontRunners** who meet at 9am at the Memorial Park Tennis Center on Sundays. If Sundays are not good for you, meet them at 6:30pm on Tuesday or Thursday nights. For info call 713.522.8021.

Think dancing isn't a sport? Try to argue with these two organizations! The **Southern Country Dance Group** provides dance lessons at the Ranch, 8-10pm on Fridays. The Ranch is located at 9200 Buffalo Speedway.

The **Rainbow Ranglers** promote Texas Style couple dancing, including the beginning level. Classes are free and open to the public from 8:30-10pm on Thursdays at the Brazos River Bottom, 2400 Brazos. For more info call 713.880.0670.

The **Houston Force**, a local basketball team, is forming a league in Houston. If interested in joining, please call Mike or Lyle at 880.4765.

**Had A Good Puck Lately?**

The Greater Houston Gay and Lesbian Shuffleboard League is now forming for the winter season. an organizational meeting will be held at Jo's Outpost on Sunday Sept. 28th at 12 noon. For more information contact Mike at 713.524.4001 or Scott at 713.863.9121. Information can only be obtained by calling Jo's Outpost at 713.520.8446.



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Join our Home Groups each week to discuss and give feedback from the sermons and learn God's truth about YOU!

3400 Montrose, Suite 600, Sunday Service at 11 am  
**713-528-6756**  
Weekly Home Groups on Tuesday/Wednesday

CHURCH CALENDAR

**Friday-9/19**

- Low impact aerobics at Community Gospel; 6:30 pm, \$2. 880-9235 or www.communitygospel.org.
- Catholic Mass at 10:00 am; Movie Night at 7:00 pm at the Kolbe Project. 522-8182.
- The Church of Good Life on the Internet; <http://www.syncretist.org/church.htm>.

**Saturday-8/20**

- Mass at Dignity Houston at 7:30 pm. 880-2872.
- The Church of Good Life on the Internet; <http://www.syncretist.org/church.htm>.

**Sunday-8/21**

- Church of the XII Apostles Anglican Rite Old Catholic Church; Holy Communion 11am at Suzanne Anderson Realty, 239 Westheimer.
- Holy Rite Eucharist I 8:00 am; Holy Rite Eucharist II 9:00 am; Choral Eucharist 11:00 am at St. Stephen's Episcopal Church, 1805 W. Alabama. 528-6665.
- Maranatha Fellowship Metropolitan Church Services "A Study in the Gospel of Mark" and "The T Factor" (How to be a positive influence on others as a witness for Christ) at 10:00 am Praise and Worship, Ministry of the Word, Drama and Personal Ministry. 11:00 am at Maranatha Fellowship 528-6756.
- MCCR Worship services 9:00 & 11:00 am 861-9149.
- Worship Service 11:00 am at Faith and Hope Fellowship 773-4429.
- Grace Lutheran Church Sunday school for all ages at 9:30 am Worship Service at 10:30 am 528-3269.
- First Unitarian Universalist Church Sunday Services at 9:30 am and 11:30 am 526-5200.
- Services at 5:30 pm Dignity Church 880-2872.
- Community Gospel Worship service at 11:00 am & 7:00 pm. 4305 Lillian 880-9235. Catch them at [www.communitygospel.org](http://www.communitygospel.org). Study Series on Heaven—or Life after Death..
- Houston Mission Church Worship service at 10:30 am 529-8225.
- Covenant Baptist Church Worship service 1:30 pm and education hour at 3:00 pm 668-8830.
- Bering Memorial United Methodist Church Worship service 10:50 am. Seekers

class 9:15 am 526-1017.

- Catholic Mass at 7:30 pm Kolbe Project 522-8182.
- MCCR Handbell Choir Rehearsal at 7:00 pm 861-9149.
- Unitarian Fellowship of Galveston County, 402 Church St. in Galveston. Sunday Services at 10:30 am weekly. 409-765-8330.
- The Church of Good Life on the Internet; <http://www.syncretist.org/church.htm>.

**Monday-9/22**

- Low impact aerobics at Community Gospel; 6:30 pm, \$2. 880-9235 or [www.communitygospel.org](http://www.communitygospel.org).

**Tuesday-9/23**

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

**Wednesday-9/24**

- Holy Eucharist Rite II 12 Noon at St. Stephen's Episcopal Church, 1805 W. Alabama. 528-6665.
- MCCR Bible Study 7:30 pm 861-9149.
- Worship Service 7:30 pm at Faith and Hope Fellowship 773-4429.
- The Church of Good Life on the Internet; <http://www.syncretist.org/church.htm>.

**Thursday-9/25**

- Bible Study 7:00 pm at Faith and Hope Fellowship 773-4429.
- Choir Practice at Community Gospel 6:30 pm 880-9235 or [www.communitygospel.org](http://www.communitygospel.org).
- Midweek Service at Community Gospel 7:30 pm 880-9235 or [www.communitygospel.org](http://www.communitygospel.org).
- The Church of Good Life on the Internet; <http://www.syncretist.org/church.htm>.

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

RELIGION

**Mother Teresa's Funeral Causes Difficulties for Networks**

by David Bauder

NEW YORK (AP) - It was the second straight week TV networks carried the funeral of a prominent woman at hours when most Americans slept. The parallels ended there.

Audio and video problems and the inherent difficulties in portraying a multilingual ceremony made Mother Teresa's funeral Saturday a challenging experience for television. The solemn event undoubtedly captured a fraction of the audience that tuned in to Princess Diana's funeral in England a week ago.

Some believe guilt over excessive Diana

coverage was one of the factors in networks carrying Mother Teresa's funeral live. It was certainly a unique moment for American TV: the three top anchormen presenting post-midnight coverage of a three-hour Catholic mass to honor a humanitarian nun in her hometown of Calcutta, India.

"It was a day that will be burned in memory for so many of us here," CBS's Dan Rather said after the ceremony.

Mother Teresa, considered by many of the poor to be an angel, died Sept. 5 at age 87. Her body, in an open casket that showed her clutching rosary beads in her folded hands, was laid before an altar with a banner reading, "Works of love are works of

peace."

Networks were left largely to rely on video and audio feeds from Indian television, and that caused difficulties. Microphones could barely pick up the words of the funeral's first speaker, prompting apologies from Rather, NBC's Tom Brokaw and CNN's Christiane Amanpour. A buzzing sound seeped into the audio throughout.

There was interference with Indian TV's pictures 80 minutes into the funeral and, in general, the camera work wasn't up to standards most American viewers were used to. ABC had a marked advantage in sight and sound. Its audio quality was superior to its rivals and it had access to better pictures. Several times during the ceremony, ABC cameras caught the speaker while other networks showed an awkward, faraway shot from directly above the body.

Correspondent Deborah Wong and her crew stationed inside Netaji Indoor Stadium helped ABC gain this edge, a spokesman said. Much of the ceremony was in English, but it also included Latin and two Indian languages. CBS occasionally tried a translator, while other networks cut to interviews or religious experts who could explain the funeral to non-Catholics.

"This is a service that mixed much of India in it," ABC's Peter Jennings said.

Although the ceremony had its touching moments - particularly a gospel reading that all but defined how Mother Teresa lived her life - it clearly lacked the television drama of

Diana's funeral.

**Bishop Bars Religious Retreat for Parents of Gays, Lesbians**

CONNECTICUT - A religious retreat for Catholic parents of gay and lesbian children has been canceled by Bishop Edward M. Egan of the Roman Catholic Diocese of Bridgeport. The session had been scheduled for next month in Stamford at a diocesan facility.

"This is going to bring additional confusion and pain to parents who feel some of the alienation of their children from the church when things like this happen," the Rev. Robert Nugent, retreat leader, said Tuesday.

According to diocese spokesman Tom Drohan, Bishop Egan was concerned about a nine-year-old investigation of Nugent's ministry by Cardinal Adam Maida of the archdiocese of Detroit. "Because the investigation is ongoing, the bishop spoke to the sisters of Villa Marie (in Stamford) and to the religious community at that location and they agreed that because of the investigation it would not be appropriate to host a retreat," Drohan said.

Nugent and Sister Jeannine Gramick have run the Maryland-based Catholic Parents Network for the last 25 years. He said more than 50 parents of gay and lesbian children from Connecticut and around the Northeast had planned to attend the retreat in early October.



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# Five for Five: The Backstreet Boys Got It Goin' On

by Steve Underwood

Of all the boy groups to surface over the last few years, none come close to the quintet of beauties known as the **Backstreet Boys**, an *American* group, whose success is yet to emerge in the United States.

The Backstreet Boys' story has humble beginnings. Kevin Richardson, Nick Carter, Howie D. Dorough, A.J. McLean, and Brian Littrell played everything from high school gymnasiums, Grad Night at Sea World, to an opening slot for Brandy while working around Orlando, Florida.

To get label attention, manager Donna Wright cell-phoned David McPherson of Jive Records during one of their performances to let him hear the pandemonium BSB generated. Jive Records signed the group shortly after that.

Backstreet Boys' performances are packed with energy reminiscent of *Flashdance*, where synchronized dance steps enhance perfect five-part harmonies. Their videos toy with the viewer, with chiseled chest and six-pack abdomen shots aimed to stimulate sexually erotic thoughts by *anyone*, not just teenage girls.

*"but since we were Americans, we were a fresh new sound for Europe. We had more of an edge, and unlike a lot of those other boy groups, we were more than just a bunch of pretty guys. We could sing."*

BSB's international success is impressive. Their self-titled debut CD *Backstreet Boys* sold over 8.5 million copies worldwide. In North America, BSB's strongest market is Canada, where *Backstreet Boys* remained a top seller for twelve weeks. And in Europe, more than 1 million viewers chose BSB to win MTV Europe's Viewers Choice Award in 1996.

"Over there they had a bunch of what's called 'boy groups,' so we had a ready-made market," explains Brian, "but since we were Americans, we were a fresh new sound for Europe. We had more of an edge, and unlike a lot of those other boy groups, we were more than just a bunch of pretty guys. We could sing."

But Jive Records hopes to translate BSB's international success home bound. *Backstreet Boys* contains all the hits from the European debut plus new songs which finds the group collaborating with some of the music's biggest names: PM Dawn, (in a startling remake of *Set Adrift On Memory Bliss*) and Robert Mutt Lange (*If You Want It To Be Good (Get Yourself A Bad Boy)*).

Many times customers at JR's come to the DJ booth after I've played a BSB *Rockamerica* dance remix video and the question is quite predictable: "who are those gorgeous guys?" Of course, it appears BSB is quite straight—but one can only hope!

The debut CD is a collection of funk/R&B pop tunes and ballads. *We've Got It Goin' On* is a favorite. The song did exceptionally well in England and the continent. A fun-filled mid-tempo stomper, this song is just fun: "Everybody groove to the music/Everybody Jam." Sound familiar? It does. But if the *Spice Girls* can make funk fun, the *Backstreet Boys* make it fun—with faces worth looking at, again and again and again!

The current release, *Quit Playing Games (With My Heart)*, laments the loss of a lover's bond, and how feelings change when love loses its shine: "Even in my heart I see/You're not bein' true to me/Deep within my soul I feel/Nothing's like it used to be." But even with love changes it's hard to let go sometimes: "Quit playin' games with my heart/Before you tear us apart/I should've known from the start/Before you got in my heart."



One interesting difference with the *Backstreet Boys* CD is the additional features. The CD is enhanced with QuickTime Software and America OnLine access software. Just pop the CD into your CD-ROM drive and you can be on AOL in no time. Once you're on line, you can use the CD to access BSB web sites.

Perhaps it's time for America to get online with the *Backstreet Boys*. They're more than just the new kids on the block—they'll soon be the new *men* on the block. "We've always wanted to bring it back home," say Nick. "But we wanted to make sure we brought it back strong."

The *Backstreet Boys* do just that. So, go buy the CD today. Don't wait any longer to find out what the rest of the world already knows.

*Backstreet Boys*, the debut CD, is available in stores now. Visit Backstreet Boys online at [www.backstreetboys.com](http://www.backstreetboys.com). Steve Underwood, a DJ at Heaven and JR's, is the Music Editor for the *Houston Voice*.

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Sept. 21 • 8pm  
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*A Parade  
of Stars*

Hosted by Jennifer Ellsworth  
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Photo by Steven David

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**Gentry** is interviewing for a full time barback. Please apply at 2303 Richmond Avenue between 2pm and 6pm. No phone calls please.

**Venture-N** is now accepting applications at 2923 Main. Best time = Tuesday, Wednesday & Thursday afternoons.

The Gay Information Network (888-GAYINFO) is seeking Sales Representatives in the Houston area. Successful applicant will have previous sales experience, some computer knowledge, a professional appearance and excellent local contacts within the Gay/Lesbian community. Excellent opportunity for highly motivated professionals. fax resume to 760/778-7750 or mail to: The Gay Information Network, 100 South Sunrise Way, Suite 299, Palm Springs, CA 92262.

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**Rich's** is now taking applications. If you are a fun, energetic, creative individual, apply in person at Rich's-2401 San Jacinto. (Just south of downtown). Fridays, 2-4pm.

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 surgical enlargement information: 1-900-  
 976-PUMP (\$2.95/min).

### Moving Service

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**Rotweiler Rescue** Has rottis for adoption.  
 Foster parents also urgently needed. You can  
 make a difference! Call Mary-713-645-2773.

### Personals

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**Free!! Meet Hot Studs!!**  
 Man to Man Action  
**1-615-525-5056**  
**1-704-319-2062**  
 LD Rates Only  
**1-268-404-7791**  
**1-809-446-9198**  
 Int. LD Rates Only

**Lonely? Call Tonight!**  
**1-900-336-8162**  
**EXT. 5609**  
 \$2.99 per min.  
 Must be 18 yrs.  
 Serv-U (619)645-8434

**Single White GM** looking for play bud-  
 dies. Blue & Red hankie, versatile,  
 enjoys fantasies, long sessions.  
 Masculine, party favors O.K. 50's,  
 5'11", 160#. Paul. 713-721-0091,  
 leave message.

Curious? Meet someone new. Record and lis-  
 ten to ads FREE. Use code 7070. Must be  
 18+ years. (713)526-9393.

**Houston's Newest Hottest Gay**  
**Dateline.** Meet local men and women  
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 Must be 18+ \$2.99 per minute.

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Listen, record & respond to ads from hot  
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 onnection! Use FREE code 7126.  
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 boys on Club VoiceMale! Try it FREE! FREE  
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Montrose - Looking for professional  
 roommate to share 3/3/2 victorian  
 house. References needed. Non-  
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Close - in Heights Nieghborhood.  
 Responsible Gay Individual to share  
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 dible lagoon, pool and waterfall in tropi-  
 cal setting. \$400/mo. + 1/2 bills.  
 Available now. 713-880-4473.

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 713-862-3989.

Bedroom to rent in Timber Grove  
 House. 3/2/2, Non-Smoker, \$425/mo  
 + 1/2 utilities. 713-868-2750.

Professional 40yo seeking mature,  
 responsible roommate to share 4/2/2  
 home w/outside hot tub in Spring Area.  
 Non-Smoker. References Req'd.  
 Deposit Negotiable. \$325/mo + bills.  
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 355-9542.

### Wanted to Buy

**Fast Cash. Highest Prices Paid. We buy**  
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**elry etc. We come to you. 281-391-7515 or**  
**713-994-5986(pgr).**  
**If You Have to Ask...**

### Wanted-Apartment

Inner Loop: Hardwoods, storage.  
 Single male. Terrific tenant. Garden  
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 housesitting 5yrs. 3 properties. Able to  
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 (pager)

### WebSites

<http://www.dupontmerck.com>

[www.basicbrothers.com](http://www.basicbrothers.com)

<http://members.aol.com/creADtive>

[www.communitygospel.org](http://www.communitygospel.org)

<http://ticketmaster.com>

[www.agouron.com](http://www.agouron.com)

[www.usagaynet.com](http://www.usagaynet.com) - Click "The  
 Guide"

[www.the/clubs.com](http://www.the/clubs.com)

<http://www.Roxane.com>

[www.pacificstreet.com](http://www.pacificstreet.com)

<http://www.midtowne-spa.com/spa>

[www.dudejack.com](http://www.dudejack.com)

<http://www.bureaucom.com/houstonv>

[www.confidentialconnection.com](http://www.confidentialconnection.com)

[www.movo.com](http://www.movo.com)

[www.lanaau.com](http://www.lanaau.com)

### Models/Escorts

**Ryan** - Young, Cute and ready! 281-  
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 category of any such ads which might suggest  
 solicitation. The Houston Voice will not knowingly  
 accept any ads of this type.*

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If you would like an event listed in this section, please feel free to call John at 529-8490 or fax at 529-9531 by Monday Noon.

**Friday, September 19**

- False Prophets or Just Dang Good Guessers: An eclectic mix of composed and improvised music, vibrant visual art and Southern style storytelling; sponsored by Diverseworks, runs until September 13, 12:00 pm to 11:59pm, The Orange Show, 2401 Munger, FYI 713-228-0914.
- Ken Claude Fundraiser: Fundraiser to raise money to represent Houston in the International Mr. Drummer Contest, 5:30pm to 10:00pm, Ripcord, 715 Fairview.
- The Gardening and Yard Society: Lesbian and Gay Gardening Club, 7:00pm to 10:00pm, 2415 McClendon, Houston, FYI 713-661-6378.
- Astro Rainbow alliance for the Deaf: general meeting, 7:00pm to 9:30pm, Montrose Clinic, 215 Westheimer, FYI 713-869-2287.
- Movie Time: Free Les/bi/gay film showing at Kolbe House, 7:30pm to 9:30pm, 1509 Fairview, FYI 713-522-8182.
- AIDS Mastery Workshop. 861-6453.
- Borders Book Store Gay /Lesbian Book Club meets at the Espresso Bar at 9634 Westheimer. 786-6066.
- HIV+ Art classes at the Art League. 523-8817.
- HATCH meets. 942-7002.
- Aftercare Group Treatment at Montrose Counseling Center. 6pm. 529-0037.
- "Out of the Closet: Cinema" group meets 822-8511.
- Frost Eye Clinic: Free eye exams for HIV+ people. 520-2000.
- Lesbian Avengers meet at Toopee's, 1830 W. Alabama @ 7pm.
- Q-Patrol Meets to walk the streets at 10:30pm. 528-SAFE.
- Free Spay & Neutering (SNAP) 522-2337 at Acres Home Multi Service Center.
- Gulf Coast Transgender Community meets. 780-4282.
- Lesbian Love Letters at Diverse Works. 228-0914.
- Kolbe Project's Night at the Movies 7pm. 522-8182.
- Kolbe Projects' Park Plaza Hospital Visitation. 522-8182.
- HIV Art Course Program; 1-4pm. Patrick Palmer at 526-1118.
- The Montrose Clinic is offering free HIV testing at The Barn from 4pm - 8pm.

**Saturday, September 20**

- Gulf Coast Transgender community: is a non-sexual support group for all transgendered individuals and their partners. Montly socials are held, FYI 713-780-4282.
- AIDS Housing Coalition Houston: A 90 day gay posi-

- tive emergency house for PWA's in transition, 10am to 12pm, 117 Tuam Ave. @ Helena, FYI 713-521-1613.
- After Hours on KPFT 12am to 3am. 90.1 FM. 526-5738.
- Gulf Coast Transgender Support Group meets. 780-4282.
- Q-Patrol meets to walk the streets at 10:30pm. 528-SAFE.
- Visual Art Alliance meets at 10am. 583-8408.
- Free HIV testing by the Montrose Clinic at Rich's from 10pm - 2am.

**Sunday, September 21**

- Happy Birthday Cuervolvyn!! How old are you -- again??
- Rainbow Fishing Club: New Buccaneer 12 Hour Trip, \$60, 7:30am to 7:30pm, 611 Hyde Park Pub, 611 Hyde Park, FYI 713-5232-6381.
- Golf Tourney Fundraiser for Annise Parker: Golf Tournament Fundraiser for Annise Parker, \$100, 8am to 5pm, Pinecrest Golf Club, Houston, TX, FYI 713-688-3888.
- The Women's Group: The Women's Group is a feminist groups for all women; each woman defines feminism by her experience, 10:45am, First Unitarian Church, 5200 Fannin, FYI Iris at 713-529-8571.
- Houston Area Bears: General Meeting, 2pm to 4pm, varies, FYI 713-867-9123.
- Texas Gay Rodeo Association: Regular monthly meeting of the TGRA, 2pm to 5pm, The New Barn
- The Women's Group meets at 10:45 am. 529-8571.
- HATCH meets. 942-7002.

**Monday, September 22**

- Gay Fathers/Fathers First support group. 8pm. 861-6181.
- Calendar/Computer workshop for Pride Week. 7pm. 529-1223.
- Outpatient Group Treatment at Montrose Counseling Center. 6pm. 529-0037.
- Men Survivors of Sexual Abuse Group at Montrose Counseling Center. 6:15pm. 529-0037.
- Frost Eye Clinic: Free eye exams for HIV+ people. 520-2000.
- AIDS Caregiver's Support Group meets at 6pm. 732-4300.
- AVES sponsored free HIV testing from 10am to 5pm at 4125 SW Freeway, Ste 1717.
- HeartSong meets. 541-3495.
- Miss Camp America meets. 520-STAR.
- Houston Area Women's Center's Volunteer training. 535-6363.
- Texas Medical Center Lambda Group meets. 523-5539.
- Free HIV testing by the Montrose Clinic; Brazos River

Bottom 4 to 8pm; QT's 8pm-12am.

- Kolbe Project's Park Plaza Visitation; 522-8182.

**Tuesday, September 23**

- Sex, Lies & Video Tapes workshop by AIDS Foundation Houston 7-9pm 623-6796.
- Helping Cross Dressers Anonymous meets at 239 Westheimer. 8pm. 495-8009.
- Basic Computer Skills Class at the Kolbe Project. 522-8182.
- Gay Men HIV+ Psychotherapy at Montrose Counseling Center. 4:30pm. 529-0037.
- Youth-Rap at 6:30pm. 822-8511.
- Aftercare Group Treatment at Montrose Counseling Center. 6pm. 529-0037.
- AIDS Alliance of the Bay Area meets at 7pm. 488-4492.
- Empowerment for Living meets for pot luck. 861-9149.
- PROTECT: an HIV negative support group meets at 7pm. 520-7870.
- Free HIV testing by Montrose Clinic; Club Body Center 8pm to Midnite.
- Women Survivors of Childhood Abuse at Montrose Counseling Center. 6:30pm. 529-0037.
- Survivors of Loss support group meets at 8:30pm. 778-2677.
- Live Jazz at Borders Book Shop. 782-6066.
- Free Spay & Neuter Assistance (SNAP) at West End Multi Service Center.
- Kolbe Projects' Park Plaza Visitation; 522-8182.
- Women for Sobriety Meeting; 7-8pm; 701 Richmond; 281-855-8616.
- Lesbian Health Initiatives meet at 7pm. 526-7828.

**Wednesday, September 24**

- Free HIV testing by the Montrose Clinic; Mary's 4-8pm; Bricks II 8pm - 12am.
- Frost Eye Clinic: Free eye exams to HIV+ people. 520-2000.
- Houston Pride Band practices at Dignity Houston. 524-0218.
- GLOBAL meets at 4pm. 473-7539.
- Women's Action Coalition meets at Toopees at 7pm. 867-9581.
- Women's Network at Montrose Counseling Center. 7pm. 529-0037.
- Ongoing Mixed Living in Process Group for men and women. 622-7250.
- Aftercare Group Treatment at Montrose Counseling Center. 6pm. 529-0037/
- HIV Survivor Support Group meets at 7pm. 782-4050.
- Women's Clinic at the Montrose Clinic. 5 to 8pm. Call 520-2000.

- BiNet of Houston meets at 7pm. 861-9149.
- AVES offers free HIV testing from 10am to 5pm at 4125 SW Freeway, Suite 1717.
- Cancer Dialogue Support Group meets at noon at Park Plaza Hospital. 1/800-611-CARE.
- Free Spay & Neuter Assistance (SNAP) at 5th Ward Multi Service Center.
- Kolbe Project's Hospital Visitation; 522-8182.
- Houston Gay & Lesbian Political Caucus monthly meeting, 7pm, 501 Lovett Blvd.
- Free HIV testing by the Montrose Clinic: Mary's 4-8pm, Midtowne Spa 9pm-1am, and The Ripcord 8pm-12am.

**Thursday, September 25**

- Art Labs at The Art League at 1pm. 225-9411.
- Gay Men's Chorus of Houston open rehearsal at 7pm. 521-7464.
- Twentysomething meets at 7:30pm. 315-6786.
- KPFT Lesbian & Gay Voices airs from 8 to 10pm. 866-6505.
- Ongoing gay men's Living in Process Groups. 622-7250.
- Open Mike Night at Cafe Artiste. 1601 W. Main . 8pm. 528-3704.
- HIV+ Men Psychotherapy at Montrose Counseling Center. 1:15pm. 529-0037.
- Relapse Prevention at Montrose Counseling Center. 2pm. 529-0037.
- Outpatient Group Treatment at Montrose Counseling Center. 6pm. 529-0037.
- Aftercare Group Treatment at Montrose Counseling Center. 6pm. 529-0037.
- Women's Therapy Group at Montrose Counseling Center, 5:30pm. 529-0037.
- Meditation and Chanting Group meets at 7pm. 942-0923.
- HIV Affected at CASA. 7pm. 796-2272.
- HIV Survivor Support Group meets at 2929 Unity Drive. 7pm. 782-4050.
- Women's Social Group meets at 7:30pm. 822-8511.
- Center for the Healing of Racism. 7:30pm. 738-RACE.
- Gay Men's Chorus of Houston meets at 7pm. 521-SING.
- The Center for AIDS forum meets. 527-8219.
- Free Spay/Neuter Assistance Program (SNAP) at Sunnyside Multi Service Center.
- Houston Pride Band practices at Dignity Houston. 524-0218.
- Free HIV Testing by Montrose Clinic; VentureN 4-8pm, and The 611 8pm-12am.
- HIV Art Course Program; 1-4pm. Patrick Palmer at 526-1118.

**GALAXY GAYZER A Houston Voice Exclusive**  
Your Horoscope for the week of September 21 - September 27

**IF THIS WEEK IS YOUR BIRTHDAY:** Being naturally detail minded, you tend to have few money troubles - this is your conservative and sensible side that comes out when handling financial matters. Try not to be picky and judgemental with potential partners; remember there is no such thing as perfect.

**ARIES:** (March 21-April 20) Creative opportunities during the week may be just the opening you need in order to explore a career-related idea you have been toying with for some time now. Give your mind and nerves a rest, you will need to be 100% on the home-front. Romance is highlighted at night.

**TAURUS:** (April 21 - May 21) You seem to be overly concerned with your financial base. You and a mate haggle over joint funds and finally agree on a better approach to handling your money. Relationships with coworkers are positive and beneficial. Someone will do you a big favor soon.

**GEMINI:** (May 22 - June 21) A powerful mutual attraction may arise between you and someone you meet during the week. The other person will take the lead in bolstering the relationship. Your emotions are downbeat, and probably affecting your work or health - make sure to conserve your energies.

**CANCER:** (June 22 - July 23) Be skeptical of promises given to you by a close friend or business partner. Your financial prospects are slowly improving. Be extra cautious in dealing with other people's money. The key is to focus on positive emotions and diffuse tensions as they arise.

**LEO:** (July 24 - August 23) Although you may be in the mood to have things your own way, it's not a good time to insist on that. Back off with your loved ones, they are no doubt distressed by your efforts. You seem to be busier than ever with friends and neighbors showering you with invitations.

**VIRGO:** (August 24 - September 23) You have a lot of personal and family obligations this week. Despite all this commotion, you feel surprisingly calm and more serene than usual. Old emotional issues now make sense and you are free to deal with them and then

let them go and get on with your life.

**LIBRA:** (September 24 - October 23) The week begins confusingly and doesn't seem to improve much at all. Money news may be iffy at best, and cooperation is definitely lacking. Try to bypass and form of speculation. Dreams of traveling are a pleasant diversion from the daily grind, what are you escaping from?

**SCORPIO:** (October 24 - November 22) You are feeling overly burdened by family responsibilities. Being a strong and stable person, people naturally tend to count on you; maybe its time to be a little selfish and work on your own interests. It's up to you to decide how much you will give to those around you.

**SAGITTARIUS:** (November 23 - December 21) Being ambivalent about a home problem will not help matters at all. This could be one of those matters that must be approached head on. Those around you may be somewhat touchy, so take that into account when dealing with all. Realign your priorities - the future is bright.

**CAPRICORN:** (December 22 - January 20) Follow through on a project that is money, family or property related. This could have potential well beyond the immediate benefits. Distractions at work have a negative effect on your concentration. You will connect with a like-minded individual who wants to help you.

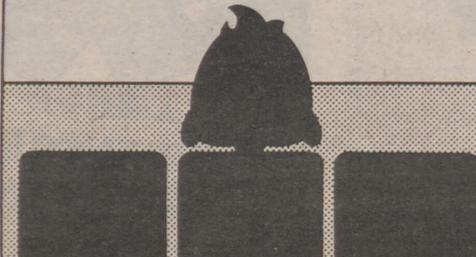
**AQUARIUS:** (January 21 - February 19) Working harder than ever, it seems as if every task requires twice the time and effort to finish. You may be a little rundown and that is why everything seems to be such a big chore. Start taking better care of yourself, and your outlook will be much brighter.

**PISCES:** (February 20 - March 20) A financial matter requires your attention. Old debts must be cleared away as soon as possible - it will take some effort to get your cash flow situation to a comfortable point. You are busier than usual and have less time for fun and games. A new lover is patiently waiting.

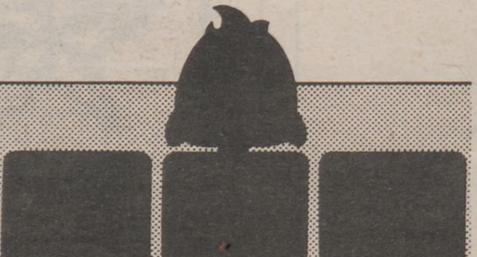
such is LIFE!

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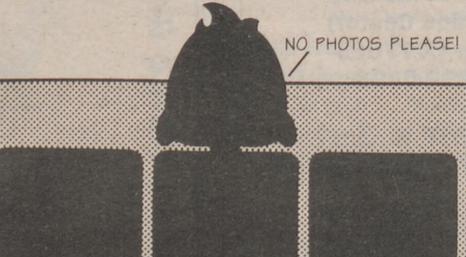
PRINCESS DIANA



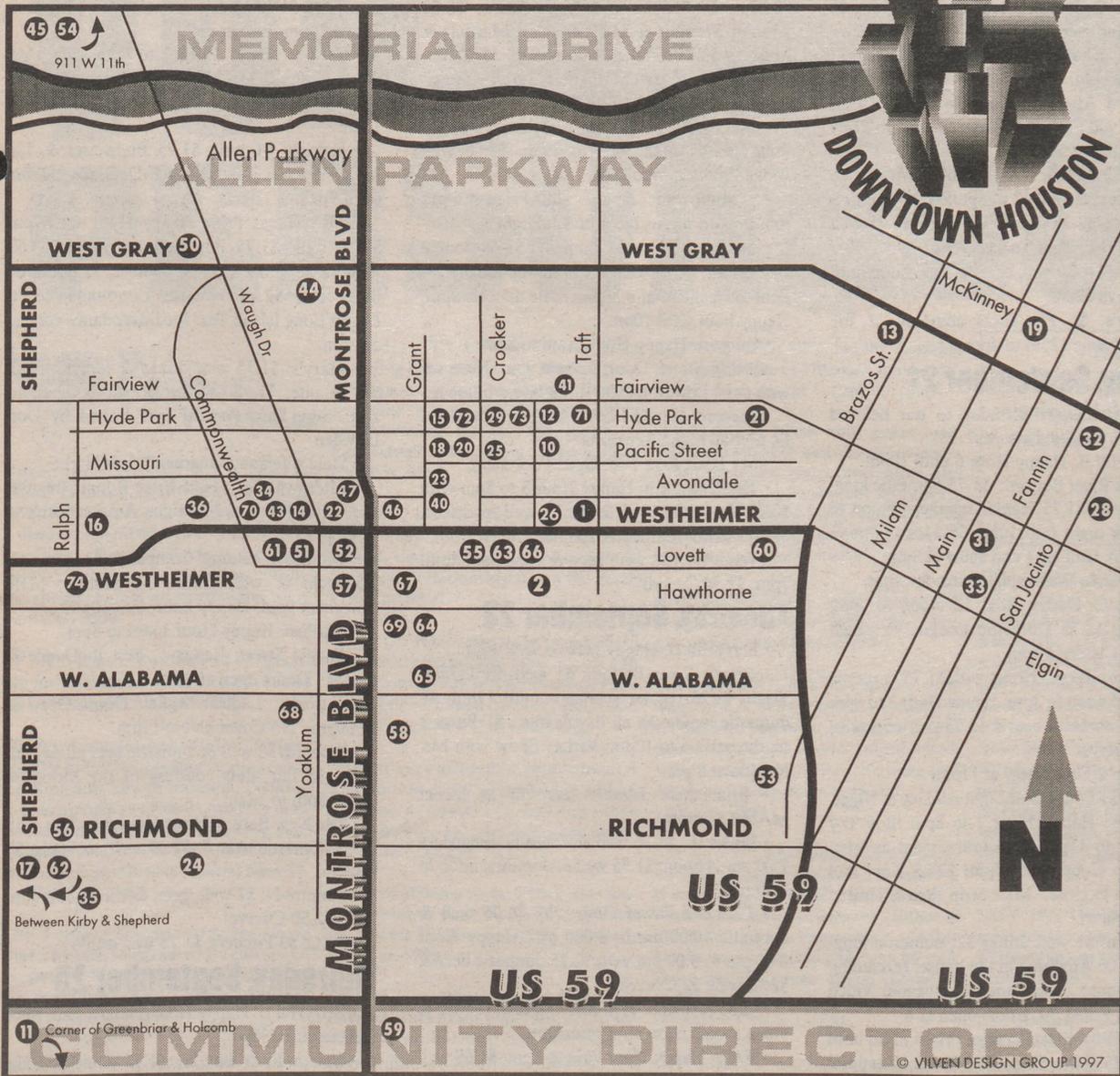
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ACCOMMODATIONS			
1	Montrose Inn	408 Avondale	713/520-0206
2	The Lovett Inn	501 Lovett Blvd	713/522-5224
BARS & CLUBS			
10	611 Hyde Park	611 Hyde Park	713/526-7070
11	The Briar Patch	2294 Holcombe	713/665-9678
12	Bricks II	617 Fairview	713/528-8102
13	Brazos River Bottom	2400 Brazos	713/528-9192
14	Chances	1100 Westheimer	713/523-7217
15	Cousins	817 Fairview	713/528-9204
16	EJs	2517 Ralph	713/527-9071
17	Gentry	2303 Richmond	713/520-1861
18	Heaven	812 Pacific	713/521-9123
19	Incognito	2524 McKinney	713/237-9431
20	JR's	808 Pacific	713/521-2519
21	Lazy J	312 Tuam	713/528-9343
22	Mary's	1022 Westheimer	713/527-9669
23	Montrose Mining Co.	805 Pacific	713/529-7488
24	Outpost	1419 Richmond	713/520-8446
25	Pacific Street	710 Pacific	713/523-0213
26	QT's	534 Westheimer	713/529-8813
28	Rich's	2401 San Jacinto	713/759-9606
29	Ripcord	715 Fairview	713/521-2792
31	Venture N	2923 Main	713/522-0000
32	The Club Houston	2205 Fannin	713/659-4998
33	Midtowne Spa	3100 Fannin	713/522-2379
34	The New Barn	1100 Westheimer	713/521-9533
35	VoDoo Lounge	2151 Richmond	713/520-8636
36	Racials	1318 Westheimer	713/942-CLUB
RESTAURANTS			
40	Baba Vega	2607 Grant	713/522-0042
41	Barnaby's Cafe	604 Fairview	713/522-0106
43	Charlie's Coffee Shop	1100 Westheimer	713/522-3332
44	Christy Donuts	1103 W Gray	713/524-4005
45	Java Java Cafe	911 W 11th	713/862-2683
46	Ming's Cafe	2703 Montrose	713/529-7888
47	Riva's Italian Restaurant	1117 Missouri St.	713/529-3450
BUSINESSES & SERVICES			
50	Cineplex-Odeon	1450 W Gray	713/524-8781
51	Crossroads Market	1111 Westheimer	713/942-0147
52	Eckerd Drugs	1007 Westheimer	713/524-9229
53	Fitness Exchange	4040 Milam	713/524-9332
54	Heights Above Florist	911 W 11th	713/862-2683
55	Houston Voice	811 Westheimer	713/529-8490
56	Inklings Bookstore	1846 Richmond	713/521-3369
57	Kroger Grocery	3300 Montrose	713/526-7865
58	Lobo Books & Video	3939-S Montrose	713/522-5156
59	Main St. Theatre	4617 Montrose	713/524-6706
60	Montrose Clinic	215 Westheimer	713/520-2000
61	Four Star Hair Productions	1201 Westheimer	713/524-7785
62	CreADive Unlimited	2219 Richmond	713/526-5190
63	Preferred Graphics	811 Westheimer	713/528-7654
64	Vilven Design Group	807 Hawthorne	713/526-3212
65	House of Coleman	901 W Alabama	713/523-2521
66	Synchronized Chiropractic	811 Westheimer	713/521-7741
67	Walgreens	3317 Montrose	713/520-8000
68	KAD Computer, Inc.	1437 W. Alabama	713/522-7813
69	STAT Script Pharmacy	3407 Montrose (A5)	713/522-7373
CLOTHING SHOPS			
70	Basic Brothers	1232 Westheimer	713/522-1626
71	Jewel's Boutique	2404 Taft	713/523-3557
72	Leather By Boots	807 Fairview	713/526-2668
73	Leather Forever	711 Fairview	713/526-6940
74	Timeless Taffeta	1657 Westheimer	713/529-6299

## On Your Next Visit to Houston...

What you get at the motel on the highway & what you get at the Montrose Inn

Motel: Heterosexuals with kids fighting next door.  
Montrose Inn: Gay men next door. Only gay men. Nothing but gay men.

Motel: Several miles to the gay bars.  
Montrose Inn: 5 tiny blocks to the gay bars.

Motel: Drive to the gay bars & pay \$5 to park. Or take a \$15 cab.  
Montrose Inn: Walk to the gay bars. Or take a \$3 cab.

Motel: Drive back from the gay bars and risk the cops making you walk the straight line. Or take a \$15 cab.  
Montrose Inn: Walk back from the gay bars. Or take a \$3 cab.

Motel: Rooms start at around \$50.  
Montrose Inn: Rooms start at around \$50.

Motel: Eat in their restaurant. Food for the masses. Pay plenty. \$1 soft drink machine.  
Montrose Inn: Complimentary late night sandwiches & full breakfast the next day. Free soft drinks, juices, coffee 24 hours.

Motel: Cruise the parking lot? Whoa! You're taking chances.  
Montrose Inn: Meet our other guests. Please!

Motel: The receptionist sneers at you.  
Montrose Inn: The receptionist winks at you.

Motel: Washing machine? Ironing board? Hair dryer? Refrigerator? Stove? Microwave? VCR & gay movies? Are you kidding?  
Montrose Inn: All of the above. Free to use.

Motel: Full size bed, plastic flowers.  
Montrose Inn: Queen size bed, fresh flowers.

Motel: Maid knocking 8 a.m., you moan but she's coming in anyway. Checkout 11 a.m.  
Montrose Inn: Handsome man next door knocking 11 a.m. to join him for breakfast. Checkout 1 p.m.

Reservations requested. 1-800-357-1228. The house at 408 Avondale.

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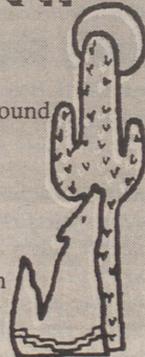
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**Friday, September 19**

- BerryHill II: Happy Hour 6 until 10pm.
- Brazos River Bottom: \$1.75 well & domestic longnecks, \$1.25 regular schnapps 7am til 11pm
- BriarPatch: Wayne Gray plays tonight! Blackjack tables with Bunny open at 9:30pm.
- Bricks II: Happy Hour 7am to noon \$1.25 well; \$1.25 Domestic Longnecks; \$1.75 well and domestic beer from noon to 9:00 pm. Fundraiser for Ken Claude at 5:00 pm.
- Chances: Power Hours with \$1.75 domestic beer & well 10am to 3pm; Happy Hour 3 to 8pm with \$2.25 domestic beer & \$2.75 well cocktails; \$2 Jose Cuervo.
- Club Incognito: Ladies night.
- Cousin's: Drag show at 11pm.
- E/J's: Happy Hours 7am to 9pm; \$1.50 Well 4 to 7pm; \$1.50 vodka 7am to 6pm: Mug Club 7am to 10pm: Male Strip Contest at 11pm.
- Gentry: Happy Hour 2 to 8pm; Boy Toys dance at 6pm: \$2.25 Kamikazes open to close.
- Heaven: \$1 well & \$1.75 Miller. Doors open at 9pm.
- Incognito: Ladies night!
- J.R.'s: Texas Pride Happy Hour 4 to 7pm \$2.25 well, \$1.75 domestic longnecks, \$3.50 Absolut Martinis & \$4.50 doubles. \$3.75 Skyy & Stoli: hard body male dancers.
- Lazy J: 8-ball tournament.
- Mary's: \$1.75 well drinks & longnecks 7am to 9pm; \$1.50 Vodka drinks 7am to 2pm.
- Montrose Mining Company: \$3.75 premium vodkas; Happy hour until 10pm: male dancers 8pm to 2:30am; After hours until 4am.
- Mela's Tejano: Dance! Dance!
- Midtowne Spa: Anniversary Party. Guest entertainers TBA. 10pm.
- OutPost: Happy Hour 11am to 8pm; Shuffleboard Tournament 6pm.
- Pacific Street: Foreplay! No Cover till 9pm. \$1.25 well; \$1.75 beer; \$3 call; \$3.50 premium; \$1.25 Schnapps; Doors open at 7pm.
- Rascals: Hot Bodies Night. No Cover Before 11pm.
- Rich's: Klub Kamp..a comedy drag review 9pm doors open, 11:30pm show—Retro Modern Hits by D.J. Chris Sill, \$1, \$2, \$3 drinks..
- Ripcord: Happy Hour 1 to 8pm; After Hours until 4am.
- 611 Hyde Park Pub: Pizza Buffet at 5:30 pm; dancers at 9pm.
- The New Barn: Happy Hour 3 to 8pm with \$2.25 domestic beer & \$2.75 well cocktails, \$2 Cuervo. 9:00 live band.
- Venture-N: \$2 well, beer, & wine noon until 7pm; Guest Bartenders 9:00 pm. \$2.50 Cuervo!

**Saturday, September 20**

- BerryHill II: Happy Hour 6 until 10pm.
- Brazos River Bottom: \$1.75 domestic longnecks & well, \$1.25 regular schnapps 7am til 9pm.
- BriarPatch: Wayne Gray tickles the ivories; Bunny deals Blackjack at 9:30pm
- Bricks II: Happy Hour 7am to 9pm; \$1.75 well; \$1.75 Domestic Longnecks. Brunch with the Lone Stars at 10:00 am.
- Chances: Power Hours with \$1.75 domestic beer & well 10am to 3pm; Happy Hour 3 to 8pm with \$2.25 domestic beer & \$2.75 well cocktails; \$2 Jose Cuervo.
- Club Incognito: Ladies' Night.
- Cousin's: Drag show at 11pm.
- E/J's: \$1.50 well 4 to 7pm; Mug Club 7am to 10pm; \$1.50 vodka 7am to 6pm.
- 800 Pacific block party: \$1 well & \$1.75 domestic longnecks! 9 to 9:30pm at Santa Fe Bar & Patio, 9:30 to 10pm at the Montrose Mining Company, 10 to 10:30pm at J.R.'s Bar & Grill, & 10:30 to 11pm at Heaven.
- Gentry: Boy Toys at 9pm; \$3.75 Absolut cocktails open to close.
- Heaven: \$1 well 9 to 11pm; \$1.25 Schnapps; Doors open at 9pm.
- Incognito: Alternative night. The Orbit Room!
- J.R.'s: Texas Pride Happy Hour 4 to 7pm \$2.25 well, \$1.75 domestic longnecks, \$3.50 Absolut Martinis & \$4.50 doubles; \$2.75 premium frozen drinks & premium draft beer, \$3.25 super premium draft beer.
- Lazy J: Drag show at 10:30pm.
- Mary's: Happy Hour 7:00 am to 2:00 pm.
- Mela's Tejano: Dance! Dance!
- Montrose Mining Company: \$3.75 Bacardi Limonade; male dancers 9pm to 2:30am; happy hour until 10pm; After hours until 4am.
- OutPost: Happy Hour 11am to 8pm.
- Pacific Street: Leather & Flesh Fantasy

Night 9pm; no cover in erotic leather.

- Rascals: "Everybody Dance Night". No Cover before 11pm.
- Rich's: Doors open at 9pm, 21 and up, no cover 9-10pm, See Gorgeous Men from All Over Texas Dancing to the Grooves of the Billboard.; D.J. J.D. Arnold.
- Ripcord: After hours until 4am.
- 611 Hyde Park Pub: Dancers @ 9pm; free munchies all the time.
- The New Barn: Power Hours with \$1.75 domestic beer & well 12 to 3pm; Happy Hour 3 to 8pm with \$2.25 domestic beer & \$2.75 well cocktails. DJ Bridgett Tucker spins.
- Venture-N: \$2 well, beer, & wine noon until 7pm. Cuervo \$2.50!
- Mary's: \$5 Flu shots courtesy of the Montrose Clinic 12pm to 4pm

**Sunday, September 21**

- A Very Happy Birthday to our beloved Cuervolyn! How old are you? 21?
- BerryHill II: Happy Hour 6 until 10pm.
- Brazos River Bottom: \$1.75 domestic longnecks & well, \$1.25 regular schnapps Noon to 7pm; Steak night 6 to 10pm \$6 14oz t-bone & fixins. PWA Holiday Fund show at 8pm.
- BriarPatch: Wayne plays your favorites.
- Bricks II: Happy Hour 12 Noon to 9pm; \$1.75 well; \$1.75 Domestic Longnecks; Sign Language Classes 3-4pm.
- Chances: Power Hours with \$1.75 domestic beer & well noon to 3pm; Happy Hour 3 to 8pm with \$2.25 domestic beer & \$2.75 well cocktails; \$2 Jose Cuervo.
- Cousin's: Drag Show at 11pm.
- E/J's: \$1 Bud & Bud Light All Day & Night.
- Gentry: Happy Hour 2 to 8pm: Boy Toy Dancers 7 to 11pm; Pool tournament at 6pm; Male Strip Contest at 11pm; \$2.25 Kool Aid shots open to close; Male Strip Frenzy Hosted by Black Velvet.
- Heaven: \$1 well drinks \$2. domestic longnecks; \$3.00 Anything in the house; (excluding multiple liquor drinks and champagne) Video Classifieds 9:30-1:30. Doors open at 8.
- J.R.'s: 99¢ well vodka juice drinks noon until 11pm, \$2.75 Shiner Bock: SRO Karaoke at 6pm: Male Swim wear strip contest at 11pm.
- Mary's: \$1.75 Well drinks & longnecks 10am to 2pm.
- Mela's Tejano: Bring your own BBQ.
- Montrose Mining Company: \$2 domestic longnecks: \$2.25 well drinks; Beer Bust \$2 (optional) with 25¢ refills; male dancers 9pm to 2am.
- OutPost: Happy Hour Noon to 8pm; Shuffleboard Tourney @ 1:30pm.
- Pacific Street: Doors open at 7:00 pm \$1.25 well, \$1.75 beer. \$3 call, \$3.50 premium, \$1.25 schnapps.No shirt, no cover, no kidding!
- Rascals: Super Sunday Show, 11:00pm - "Rascal's Untouchables". No Cover Before 11pm.
- Rich's: 18 & up welcome; \$1 well, \$2 beer, \$3 call, Deja Vu "Phat Grooves & Cheap Drinks", doors open at 9pm, 90's Retro House Disco with D.J. Chris Sill.
- Ripcord: \$1.50 well & domestic beer all day/all night.
- 611 Hyde Park Pub: Brunch at noon.
- The New Barn: Power Hours with \$1.75 domestic beer & well noon to 3pm; Happy Hour 3 to 8pm with \$2.25 domestic beer & \$2.75 well cocktails. \$2 Cuervo.
- Venture-N: \$2 well, beer, & wine noon until 7pm; \$2.50 Cuervo. Snacks on the "Far Side" & guest Bartenders bartend 6pm till???. Grin N Bear it contest at 9:00 pm.

**Monday, September 22**

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

to close; Free Pool Table.

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

**Tuesday, September 23**

- BerryHill II: Happy Hour 6 until 10pm.
- Brazos River Bottom: \$1 well drinks 7am-11pm, \$1.25 regular schnapps until 11pm; \$1 domestic longnecks all day & nite. \$1 Burgers on the patio 6 to 10pm; Variety Show with Ms. Nevada at 8 pm.
- BriarPatch: Marcie has em as Sweet MAMA Cotton.
- Bricks II: \$1.25 well & domestic longnecks 7:00 am to noon; \$1.75 well & domestic noon to 9:00 pm.
- Chances: Power Hour with \$1.75 well & domestic 10:00 am to 3:00 pm; Happy Hour 3:00 pm to 8:00 pm with \$2.25 domestic beer & \$2.75 well; \$2 Cuervo.
- Club Houston: Half-price lockers, rooms, & video rooms noon until midnight.
- E/J's: Happy Hour 7am to 9pm; \$1.50 well 4 to 7pm; \$1.50 Vodka 7am to 6pm; Mug Club 7am to 10pm; Amateur/Talent Night at 11pm.
- Gentry: Happy Hour 2 to 8pm: Boy Toys dance at 9pm; \$3.75 Finlandia; Free Pool Table.
- J.R.'s: 2 for Tuesdays! \$2 domestic longnecks, well drinks, frozen Ritas & wine; Jockey short contest at 11pm; grab for cash at midnight.
- Mary's: \$1.75 well drinks & longnecks 7am to 9pm; \$1.50 Well vodka drinks 7am to 2pm; \$2 Cuervo.
- Mela's Tejano: Free Hot dogs and \$1.75 beer.
- Midtowne Spa: 1/2 price lockers Noon to Midnight. 18-22 year olds get free locker!
- Montrose Mining Company: \$1.75 domestic longnecks; \$2.50 well drinks; \$3 any other drink in the house! Happy hour until 10pm; male dancers 9pm to 2am.
- OutPost: Happy Hour 11am to 8pm.
- Pacific Street: Executive Night. No cover with your personalized business card. \$1.25 well, \$1.75 beer, \$3 call, \$3.50 premium, \$1.25 schnapps. Doors open at 9pm. No cover for Club Members in Club Colors.
- Ripcord: Happy Hour 1 to 8pm.
- The New Barn: Happy Hour 3 to 8pm with \$2.25 domestic beer & \$2.75 well cocktails. \$2 Cuervo."A night of food, fun, and games! See ad on page 32!
- Venture-N: \$2 well, beer, & wine noon to 7pm.\$2.50 Cuervo!
- VooDoo Lounge: Doors open 9:00 pm. No cover with ad from the Houston Voice. \$2 well, domestic, and special drinks 9:00 pm to 11:00 pm.

**Wednesday, September 24**

- 611 Hyde Park Pub (upstairs): Open Bridge Game 7-11pm
- BerryHill II: Happy Hour 6 until 10pm; Free Pool Tables. FACES plays at 9pm.
- Brazos River Bottom: \$1.75 well, \$1.25 regular schnapps til 9pm; \$1.75 domestic longnecks all day & nite 7am-2pm Country Music Awards party at 7 pm..
- BriarPatch: Wayne & Beverly play together.
- Bricks II: \$1.25 well & domestic longnecks 7:00 am to noon; \$1.75 well & domestic longnecks noon to 9:00 pm. Cash Pool tournament at 7:00 pm.
- Chances: Power Hours with \$1.75 domestic beer & well 10am to 3pm; Happy Hour 3 to 8pm with \$2.25 domestic beer & \$2.75 well cocktails;

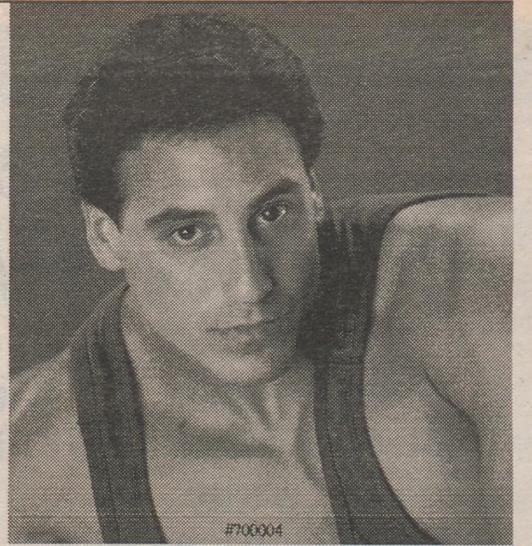
\$2 Jose Cuervo; Sheila Lennon's Karaoke night at 9pm.

- E/J's: Happy Hour 7am to 9pm; \$1.40 well 4 to 7pm; \$1.50 Vodka 7am to 6pm. Mug club 7am to 10pm; Burger night.
- Gentry: Happy Hour 2 to 8pm: Boy Toys dance at 7pm; \$1.25 Schnapps open to close; Male Strip contest hosted by Dyan Michaels at 11pm.
- Heaven: \$1 well, \$1.75 Budweiser & 75¢ Miller on tap; DJ Michael DeGrace: Doors open 9pm.
- J.R.'s: Texas Pride Happy Hour 4 to 7pm \$2.25 well, \$1.75 domestic longnecks, \$3.50 Absolut Martinis & \$4.50 doubles; \$2 domestic longnecks, \$2.75 Bacardi Limonade, \$2.75 Desert Long Island Tea: Joe Boxer dance contest at 11pm.
- Mary's: \$1.75 well drinks & longnecks all day & nite; \$1.50 Well vodka drinks 7am to 2pm; Slop Shot Pool at 1pm hosted by Don Dowden.
- Mela's Tejano: Amateur Talent Night.
- Midtowne Spa: Half Price Rooms (regular and video) Noon to Midnight: Amateur Strip at 10:00 pm.
- Montrose Mining Company: \$2 domestic longnecks & well drinks, \$4 doubles; Male dancers at 9pm; Happy hour until 10pm.
- OutPost: Happy Hour 11am to 8pm.
- Pacific Street: Ecstasy! Best in Dance & Videos. Doors open at 9pm.
- Rascals: Ladies' Night. Doors Open at 10:00pm. No Cover before 11pm.
- Ripcord: \$2 well & domestic beer all day/all night. \$5 Flu shots courtesy of the Montrose Clinic 8pm to 12am
- The New Barn: Happy Hour 3 to 8pm with \$2.25 domestic beer & \$2.75 well cocktails; \$2 Cuervo.
- Venture-N: \$2 well, beer, & wine noon until 7pm. \$2.50 Cuervo!
- XTC: \$3 Pitchers, \$1.75 well drinks.

**Thursday, September 25**

- BerryHill II: Happy Hour 6 until 10pm; Male Dancers at 10:30pm.
- Brazos River Bottom: \$1.75 domestic longnecks, \$1.75 well, \$1.25 schnapps until 11pm.
- BriarPatch: Edith Head plays in a number of disguises.
- Bricks II: \$1.25 well & domestic longnecks 7:00 am to noon; \$1.75 well & domestic noon to 9:00 pm.
- Chances: Power Hours with \$1.75 domestic beer & well 10am to 3pm; Happy Hour 3 to 8pm with \$2.25 domestic beer & \$2.75 well cocktails; \$2 Jose Cuervo.
- Club Houston: Half-price lockers, rooms, & video rooms noon to midnight.
- Cousin's: Show at 11pm.
- E/J's: Happy Hour 7am to 9pm; \$1.50 well 4pm to 7pm; \$1.50 vodka 7am to 6pm. Mug club 7am to 10pm; Tacos on the patio; Thursday Night Follies @ 11pm.
- Gentry: Happy Hour 2 to 8pm: Boy Toys dance at 9pm; \$3.25 Skyy Vodka open to close.
- Heaven: \$1.25 Frozen Ritas, \$1.00 well drinks. Amateur Strip Contest at 11pm hosted by Kofi. \$200 in Cash Prizes.
- J.R.'s: Texas Pride Happy Hour 4 to 7pm \$2.25 well, \$1.75 domestic longnecks, \$3.50 Absolut Martinis & \$4.50 doubles; \$3.75 top shelf liquor, \$2.25 Imported, Saint Arnold & Micro brewed beer: Star Search Gold Karaoke at 9pm.
- Mary's: \$1.75 well drinks & longnecks 7am to 9pm; \$1.50 well vodka drinks 7am to 2pm; 75¢ Schnapps.
- Mela's Tejano: Happy hour all day and all night
- Midtowne Spa: 1/2 price lockers Noon to Midnight.
- Montrose Mining Company: \$2.25 domestic longnecks, well, & wine; Male dancers at 9pm; Happy hour until 10pm.
- OutPost: Happy Hour 11am to 8pm.
- Pacific Street: Sexx Thursdays; \$1.25 well, \$1.75 beer, \$3 call, \$3.50 premium, \$1.25 Schnapps. No cover with current gym card.
- Rascals: Talent Night. No Cover Before 11pm.
- Ripcord: Happy Hour 1 to 8pm; StarTrek on the big screen at 8 & 9pm; Classic Rock night.
- 611 Hyde Park Pub: \$1 Burger Night 6-9pm.
- The New Barn: Happy Hour 3 to 8pm with \$2.25 domestic beer & \$2.75 well cocktails; \$2 Cuervo.
- Venture-N: \$2 well, beer, & wine noon until 7pm. \$2.50 Cuervo!

# HOUSTON VOICE PERSONALS



## Women SEEKING Women

I'm an attractive SBF, 38, 5'6", professional. Seeking an attractive bisexual SBF, 30-39 to explore the possibility of a discreet friendship. She must be professional, financially independent, healthy, light smoker ok, in good shape, weight and height proportionate. Call Ext. 5609

SF 5'7", light brown hair & 18. Looking for a feminine female 18-22. Leave me a message. Call Ext. 5603

SBF Professional, gay, 40, 5'4" with an athletic build. I enjoy sports, running & working out. New to Houston. Looking to date a single gay female, who is a non-smoker, non-drinker & a non-drug user. Should be soft butched or butched, professional & preferably around ages 37-50. Call Ext. 5602

SBF Looking for an attractive single Black female, someone who I can spend my time with. Should be very caring, loving & willing to share different things with. Call Ext. 5579

SBF 5'10", attractive. I love the outdoors, sports & exercise. Would like to get know someone who is pretty much the same as me. Should be height/weight proportionate & seeking a deep, loving, caring friendship. Call Ext. 5578

SBF 5'7", 162 lbs., big breast. Looking for a female with similar qualities for a night of fun. Call Ext. 5105

SWF 45, nice person. Seeking a single female who is honest, sincere and willing to treat me like a lady. Call Ext. 5517

SBF Tall, height/weight proportionate, attractive, mysterious & fun. Interested in a bisexual or gay female, should be tall, for friendship & possibly for things to develop later. Call Ext. 5577

SF 23, 5'7", full figured & reddish hair. Bi sexual or gay females that is in the Southwest part of Houston, who is open-minded and outgoing. Must not be in a relationship at this time. Call Ext. 5574

SF 47, brown eye & shoulder length black hair. I enjoy dining out, going to the movies, staying home and watching TV. Interested in meeting someone that is honest, caring, very stable & know what you want out of life. Call Ext. 5312

SWF 24, 5'2", 120 lbs., short blonde hair. I'm in good shape. Looking to meet educated, professional woman to go out dancing with, have coffee, go to movies & basically just hang out. Call Ext. 5569

SF 31, 5", 110 lbs., brown hair, blue eyes, athletic. Seeking females who are interested in sports, swimming and non-smoker, and a light drinker. Call Ext. 5566

SF 27, Professional, Adventuresome. I enjoy the outdoors and just about anything with a good company. Seeking a positive friend to enjoy life. I'm down-to-earth. Call Ext. 5556

SBF Gay, sincere, love God. Interested in meeting other gay Black females for friendship & possibly more. Should enjoy life and have the same qualities. Leave a message. Call Ext. 5536

SWF 22, 5'7", 125 lbs. Interested in spending time with a cute single White or Hispanic male, who doesn't mind me working in a sexually oriented business. Should enjoy nature & intellectually stimulating conversations. Call Ext. 5559

SF 5'9", brown eyes. I'm down-to-earth, easy going & a great sense of humor. Looking for friendship first & possibly a relationship down the road. Call Ext. 5560

Seeking a White female between 35-45 to have a relationship with. I'd like to have an involvement with someone right away. I don't have a car. Very interested in having a lover. Call Ext. 5498

SBF 36, very attractive, professional, I love life and god. I'm fun loving and intelligent. Interested in meeting other Black females for friendship and possibly more. Call Ext. 5535

SF Tired of being alone. I'll be your special friend, if your woman enough for me call me I'll give you what you need. Call Ext. 5529

SF blue eyes. I love life and females. I have 42 years of life experience. I'm intelligent, professional and articulate. I have a quick mind. Do I sound like the type of person you would like to meet? Call me. Call Ext. 5526

SF 31, 5', brown hair, 115 lbs. I enjoy sports, outdoors and having fun. Looking for a friendship with a female between ages 28-35 with similar interests. Call Ext. 5525

## Men SEEKING Men

GHM 21, 5'6", light complexion & hazel eyes. I like to go out a lot. I'm outgoing & a nice person. Looking for anybody, any race & 18-30. Call Ext. 5613

SWM 6'1", 165 lbs., slender build, 39, salt 'n' pepper hair, green eyes, mustache & goatee. I'm down-to-earth. Looking for a Latin or a Latino male, 25-45 & I'll respond to anybody. Call Ext. 5612

GWM 41, 5'7", 147 lbs., hairy chest & masculine. I'm versatile, good looking, nice guy & a nice body. Searching for other gay White or gay Hispanic males 30-45, who are interested enjoying a safe, fun & affectionate time together. Call Ext. 5611

SWM Mature, 5'10", 175 lbs. I'm greek active, french passive, well-endowed, a non-smoker, non-drug user & HIV-. If you are HIV-, a non-smoker, 5'10" or shorter, call me. Call Ext. 5610

GHM 33, 167 lbs., 30". Looking for a good time & someone to spend some time with. Call Ext. 5607

GWM 5'10", 185 lbs., 44, HIV+. Have dark hair, blue eyes, a mustache. Looking for a tall, husky or muscular cowboy, Levis, leather top man, age 35-45, who is financially stable and interested in home repair and improvement, landscaping, movies, long weekends at home and Sundays by the pool. Call Ext. 5596

SWM 190 lbs., 6'. Seeking a top black man HIV+. Like the outdoors, movies, sports. Just looking to get together. Seeking a friend or a relationship. Let's see what happens. Call Ext. 5600

GHM 33, HIV-, 5'7", 135 lbs. Looking for a gay White or Hispanic male, preferably 33 years old +. Call Ext. 5604

GWM 26, 6', black hair, green eyes. Seeking a GBM 26 and older, 6' or more. Wanting a dominant, masculine guy who's HIV+. I enjoy the outdoors, sports, movies, getting together with friends and having a good time. If interested, leave me a number. Call Ext. 5601

Professional White male looking for male Hispanic top. If you're out there, give me a call. Call Ext. 5598

GBM 29, 5'4", 128 lbs., brown eyes, mustache & well endowed. Looking for friendship, you must be height/weight proportion, open-minded, uninhibited, with a healthy appetite for giving and receiving cream, from both ends. Call Ext. 5592

SM 36, 6'2", masculine with a muscular build. I'm sincere, down-to-earth & if my life would have been different, I would have been a cowboy in a different life. Looking to meet men for a possibly long term relationship if we hit it off well. I'm a non-drug user & you should be to. Must be able to carry on a good conversation. Call Ext. 5591

GWM 45, HIV+, A symptomatic for 11 years, 5'7", 145 lbs. I'm attractive & affectionate. My interests are classic autos, theater & board games. Looking for other HIV+, gay males, 30-45 young, for friendship. Call Ext. 5590

GWC Handsome, versatile, HIV+. In search of another gay third man 25-45, for long term relationship. We take pride in being very down-to-earth, open-minded, open hearted & honest. We are romantic and extremely passionate. We have a wide variety of interests indoors and outdoors. Should be versatile, financially, emotionally secure & handsome. One stands 6', 190 lbs., 34" waist, short brown hair, hazel eyes, mustache and goatee. The other stands 5'10", 175 lbs., 33" waist, short blonde hair, blue eyes, mustache & goatee. Call Ext. 5555

SM Bi sexual. In search of feminine bi men, into transvestites and cross-dressing. Discretion is assured. Must be height/weight proportionate, almost pacifiable and very versatile. Call Ext. 5528

SWM 47, 6', dark blonde hair, hazel eyes & very hairy. Looking for a White or Hispanic male, 35-50, to go to garage sales, movies & out to eat. Must be clean, honest, outgoing & height/weight proportionate. Call Ext. 5568

SWM 50, HIV+, 5'11", 160 lbs. & I'm extremely healthy. Leave your number & we can get together. Call Ext. 5573

SWM 44, HIV+, 5'7", 147 lbs., dark beard & mustache. I'm handsome, masculine, educated & considerate of others. Seeking other males who are also HIV+, who are in need of attention, affection & romance in their lives. Call Ext. 5575

SM Responding to ad #5417, you are a bottom and non-drinker. I'm very much interested in you. Please call again and leave your number. Call Ext. 5557

SWM Gray and brown hair, 6'1", 150 lbs. I'm in good shape & average-sized. In search of Black, Hispanic or Native American male who is dominant. I can be versatile. Call Ext. 5340

**WE'D LOVE TO HEAR FROM YOU!**  
We'd like to hear from you with comments, personal testimonials. How are the personals working for you? Any true testimonials will be printed right here! Write to:  
BureauCom Corporation ATTN: SHERI  
921 14th Ave.,  
Longview, WA 98632

GWM 38, short dark brown hair & hazel-green eyes. I have a muscular, smooth body & I'm HIV+. Looking for a man who is 5'8" or taller, who enjoys being on the top, has a rugged look with body and facial hair. Should be mature, 32-45 & good looking. Call Ext. 5524

SM I like gray haired men, in their late 40's & up. I like to go to movies, dining out & go to comedy clubs. Interested in meeting mature, wealthy gay White men. Should be willing to show me the finer points of gay life in Houston. Call Ext. 5586

SM 5'10", 175 lbs. Looking for a tall male who is a top. I'm financially stable. I like going out and having fun. Call Ext. 5563

SM Would like to meet other masculine guys, for friendship or more. Should be handsome, over 22, height/weight proportionate & med. - dark brown plus. Must enjoy reading, writing, music & dancing. Call Ext. 5584

GHM 35, 5'11", 195 lbs. & financially stable. In search of a gay White male between ages 30-45, country boy, that likes the beach, movies or just hanging out. Call Ext. 5581

SAM Mid-30's, attractive, intelligent & successful. Looking for very submissive, 60+ older, White male for fun, friendship and more. Must be very clean, discreet & HIV-. Call Ext. 5576

SWM 37, 5'10", 160 lbs., brown hair & blue eyes. I'm country, versatile & love to cuddle. Looking for a hairy, handsome White male 35-45, height/weight proportionate. Should have no personal baggage. Call Ext. 5589

SM 42, good looking, little bit of money. Looking for a couple of young guys, maybe one live in to have a good time. Call Ext. 5551

GWM 44, HIV+, 5'7", 147 lbs., dark beard & mustache. I'm handsome, masculine, educated & considerate of others. Seeking other males who are also HIV+, who are in need of attention, affection & romance in their lives. Call Ext. 5575

SM Responding to ad #5417, you are a bottom and non-drinker. I'm very much interested in you. Please call again and leave your number. Call Ext. 5557

SWM Gray and brown hair, 6'1", 150 lbs. I'm in good shape & average-sized. In search of Black, Hispanic or Native American male who is dominant. I can be versatile. Call Ext. 5340

GHM 35, 5'11", 190 lbs., financially stable & in good shape. In search of a gay White male 30-45, country boy, that likes the beach, movies or just hanging out with each other. Must be HIV-. Call Ext. 5580

GWM Brown hair, blue eyes, 5'8", 140 lbs. Loving and caring relationship oriented. I enjoy outdoor activities, tennis and traveling. Seeking GM 35-50 for friendship and possibly more. Must be healthy and responsible. Call Ext. 5553

SHM 43, HIV positive, healthy, attractive. Seeking a male race is not important. Call Ext. 5562

SHM 35, HIV+, 5'11", 195 lbs., black hair, brown eyes. Looking for a down-to-earth, good-looking, muscular, straight-acting gay White male who is also HIV+ & 35-40. He should be 5'9"-6', height/weight proportionate. Looking for a non-smoker & someone who doesn't mind being a bottom. Looking for friendship or more. Call Ext. 5345

SM Professional. Working on getting in better shape. Want a tennis player who can be out there with me. Call Ext. 5521

SWM HIV+, 190 lbs., 6'2", healthy. I would like to meet another White male who is also HIV+ and good-looking. I'm financially secure and looking for the same. Seeking someone to join life with me. Call Ext. 5464

SWM HIV positive seeking the same. I'm good looking and very healthy. Would like to meet a single White male HIV+, who is willing to share life with me and live it to the fullest. Must be honest, sincere, considerate and deserving person. Call Ext. 5554

SWM 61, caring, assertive 5'10", 175 lbs. I'm a non-smoker, non-drinker, non-drug user & HIV negative. I'm a hot top seeking a submissive bottom, any age, any race & 5'10" or shorter. Must be a non-smoker, non-drug user & HIV negative. Call Ext. 5550

GWM 38, 5'8", 170 lbs., brown hair & hazel eyes. Masculine, nice body. Seeking males who is between the ages of 35-45, HIV positive, who are fun, good-looking and enjoy being on the top. Call Ext. 5522

GWM 38, 5'8", 170 lbs., non-drinker, non-drug user. I'm handsome, husky, masculine, smooth physique & professional. I like cars, cooking, computers & going outside up in the mountains. Looking for a male 35-45, with a similar description, body & facial hair would be a plus. Call Ext. 5539

**HOW TO USE THIS SYSTEM** - Dear Reader: Enjoy reading the ads in the category of your choice, highlighting the ones you'd like to respond to. Then call 1-900-772-3085 (\$1.69/min. \*) and follow the instructions. Ads are kept 8 weeks, replies kept 7 days and then erased. If you need help using the system, call Customer Service at 1-360-636-9267 (Longview, WA). What you see here is only a small portion of the ads currently on our Voice Personals system, so you might wish to call and browse through the newest ads. To record your own FREE voice personal, call 1-800-461-5930. You'll automatically be assigned a voice box number. Remember, we screen our ads daily, but we are not responsible for the advertisers. We urge you to screen people yourself. Talk by phone, and meet first in a public place. Publisher reserves the right to review, revise or refuse any ads. Must be 18 or older to use this system. Touchtone phone required. \*Average length of call is 3 minutes, total cost determined by caller. Have fun and good luck! (Houston Voice, Houston, TX)

*Love is on the web!*

Place your free ad today and also get your ad on the Internet for FREE!  
Call... 1-800-461-5930  
To view ads on the WEB page, use this Internet address from your browser:  
<http://www.bureaucom.com/houston>

# The NEW BARN

Sunday • 2pm  
IBL Fall/Winter  
Pool League  
Registration

Saturday • 9pm  
DJ Bridgett Tucker  
Spins

Tuesday  
September 23 • 7pm

 R.S.I.C.S.S. and Friends

*A Night of Fun, Food & Games!*  
Pool • Shuffleboard • Darts • Washer Tossing  
Trophies to the Winners  
\$10 Entry-All \$3 Spaghetti Social

Happy Birthday to Cora...Cuervolyn...Betsy...Marilla

Thank you Jay Allen for you know what!

*Marlene* 

1100 Westheimer • Houston

## Important Stuff

Empower '97, the Gay Business Expo will be on October 11. This event is sponsored by the Greater Houston Gay and Lesbian Chamber of Commerce. For more info, 713/462-1354.

The third annual Houston Women's Festival is Saturday, September 20. For more info, call 713/868-1911.

Who do? You do! VooDoo! The VooDoo Lounge on Tuesdays is bewitching! This Tuesday, Michael Reaper and Kent will be wiggling wildly from 10 pm to 2 am. Host Kara and Tara will help get you into the VooDoo mood! Try your hand at blacklight



*Peaches, is that you?!*



*Jordan has two mommies - Lisa and Cheryl.*

body painting! Doors open at 9 pm and there is NO COVER with you clip out the coupon on this page!

Mela's Tejano Country offers free hot dogs on Tuesday, Happy Hour all day and all night on Thursday, and the hottest Tejano dance tunes on Friday and Saturday. Mela's is located at 302 Tuam.

Midtowne Spa celebrates their 21st birthday starting Friday, September 19! This is going to a partying weekend at Midtowne. Debbie Delicious, Ova Ewe, JT Stone, Rafel Martinez, Rainbo D Klown with hosts Hyron Hall and Barbara Velour start the show at 10 pm. Be sure to enter to win the trip to New Orleans!



*Edward (BRB) Look what the spin of a wheel can do for you.*

Edith Head tickles the ivories at the BriarPatch this and every Thursday! Stop in! She is a delight to listen to!

The Mr. and Ms. Rascal's contest is September 21 and 22 at 10:30 pm. Over \$2000 in cash and prizes will go to the lucky winners. Contestants must call prior to the contest to set up interviews and such. For more info, call 713/942-CLUB!

Saturday night, Ken Claude will be guest bartending at the Ripcord! Stop in and have a cold one with this hot man!

Vampyre House, a haunted house and gift shop will be just 2 doors down from the Venture-N! For more info, call 713/529-7627 or visit their website <http://www.flash.net/~nichols4/vh/>.

The PWA Holiday Charities present "A Parade of Stars," hosted by Jennifer Ellsworth. Sunday is the day, the Brazos

River Bottom is the place. Be there at 8 pm. The members of the TGRA are having a car wash in the parking lot of Gentry on Saturday, from 10 am to 4 pm.

The Court is having a party! Tuesday night at the New Barn. 7 pm kick-off for shuffleboard, pool, darts, and washer tossing contests. \$10 to enter and only \$3 for the spaghetti dinner! Food, fun, and games! The New Barn! Be there!

Party by the pool at Club Houston! Bricks II has brunch this Saturday morning at 10 am, hosted by the Lone Stars! Stop in for a tall Bloody Mary!



*20 years together.*

Basic Brothers is having a summer clearance sale! Save up to 75%!

The Houston Area Bears will be celebrating their 3rd anniversary next weekend. The dedication of their trophies case, awards ceremony, color hanging and lots of fuzzy fun starts at 9 pm.

Hot men! Dazeling lights! Super sounds! Pacific Street!

## Special Notice!

If anyone tell you that he is Wiley Walter's (Montrose Clinic) nephew and is older than 16 years old, he is lying!

## Milestones

Happy birthday to Cuervolyn! Oh, my that is me!

Garrott of Raven's Lair needs a good, long, hard birthday whipping!

Happy birthday to my favorite Cuervo buddy Cora Jean!

Happy birthday to Betsy (owner of the Ranch) and Marilla!

Happy musical birthday to Theresa Monet.

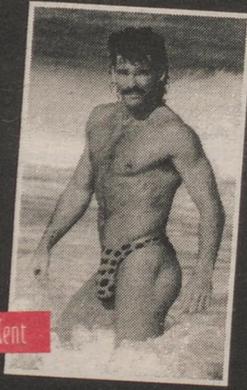
Our hearts and prayers to Jim Cheek. He

free  
blacklight  
body paint



Michael

Pay to  
paint these  
guys!



Kent



Hosted by

Tara & Kara Dion



Tuesdays are strange, Tuesdays are queer, Tuesdays are cool.

\$2 Well and Domestic Beer plus VooDoo Specialty Drinks - 9-11 pm

  
VooDoo Lounge

Dress to Bewitch & Charm



- Blue Voodoo  
- Witches Brew  
- Jungle Juice  
- Love Potion

Doors Open at 9pm - No Cover with this Door Pass

VooDoo Lounge - 2151 Richmond - Shepherd Plaza - 713-520-VODO

Coming October 14 - Houston Press Romance Night

is in the hospital recuperating from by-pass surgery.

Dot Thompson (RSICSS) is back in the hospital again. Get well soon! We love you! Belated birthday hugs to Giovanni of the Court!

**Stupid Stuff**

This is a really stupid person that pulled this prank! One night last week, the door person at a Pacific Street night club denied the prankster admission. This guy, in plain



Tara and Kara at the VooDoo Lounge.

view of the uniformed HPD officers went to the pay phone and called 911 to report a fire! Then, he stayed around to watch! Wrong! Before he knew it, he was wearing the latest fashion accessories issued to HPD! Calling in a false report is against the law! They will catch you and you will be punished!

**Rodent Droppings**

Ferrets will be ferrets! I thinking about renaming Harvey to Monster! He has been very feisty lately! Maybe it is the heat. I don't know!

Warning! Warning! Lies! Trash! Gossip! True! NOT!

Ova Ewe: So, please, tell me your version



Veronica of GLYP and Bob Taylor meet up at the StatScript ribbon cutting.

of the "Burning Bed!"

Miguel (Venture-N): Be careful, honey, if you get Mark pregnant, he will have puppies!

Widow Watson (Mary's): And I quote: "The first time I did "it" in months and it went over my head!"

TR (hangs at Bricks II): The Tirra-antor! Should I call the SPCA?

Jerry Jones (Mary's): I hear you are "wandering" again! Is it time for an alignment?

Who in Houston knows (besides me and my spy) which local mortgage banker likes a smooth butt so much that he has his butt waxed?

Mary (Mary's): I hear that you can blow really big bubbles!

Joanne (BRB): What are you doing to your customers on Saturday afternoons? I hear it takes days to recover!

Hal S. (hangs at E/J's): That 23 year old swimmer wants his body back!

John Paul (hangs everywhere): You can pump the organ on Sunday at Church, but you need Parker to carry you out of Mary's



Dwane celebrates his birthday with Maggie at Mary's, naturally, on Friday night!

Tommie Sue Ellen (BRB): Congrats! You are the employee of the month! And I quote: "I sniff the change, it is the closest I can get to a crotch or butt!"

Anita Mann (RSICSS): Good show! Where were Bill and Hillary?

Russell (hangs at Mary's): Full drag! No lipstick! Shame! Shame!

Stewart (hangs at the Venture-N): What does Ron know about you?

BamBam (Pacific Street) What did you do to that little straight wanna be gay boy?

Vera (BRB): What are you finding to do with the cat (Mario) out of town so much?



Houston Voice's own Kountry Kid.

John B. (PS): And I quote: "Right now I'm just worried about bending!"

Harry (J.R.'s): Honey, just how did you dislocate your shoulder? Kinky sex? Yard work? Bottle pouring?

Matt (PS): What was going on in the shed? A trick from New York?

CoCo: Thanks for the cookies!

John (VooDoo Lounge): Jeff and I had a great time last Tuesday! Thanks!

Max Mixon (Daddy of Montrose): Were



Miss Alabama at the BRB

you doing your laundry again at the BRB?

Dennis and James (hangs at the BRB): Thanks for the rose and the Cuervo!

Dan D.; Rumor has it you are a retired weenie waiver! Your were a Mother's Boy!

Mary (Gay and Lesbian Yellow Pages): Did you eat beans for lunch on Wednesday?

Paivi Lee Love: I hear that you got a new dress! Does it go with your new bright red pick-up truck?

Ms. Nevada (TGRA): Who was that non-lesbian I saw you with on Sunday?

Terry and Larry (The 611 Hyde Park

Pub): How was your vacation?

Robert (Misfits): What did you like best about the food in New Orleans? The Louisiana crab maybe?

Pebbles (hangs at PS): And I quote: "Leave my big hole alone!"

Tom (Bricks II): Sir Thomas?

Kimberly (hangs at Chances): Congrats on your graduation!

Craig (Bricks II): I hear you can really swing a mop!

Gary (Ripcord): Reservations at the Habana Inn in Oklahoma City! I hear that your feet prints are on the ceiling of room 115 and your palm prints are on the walls of



At Heaven's Gate

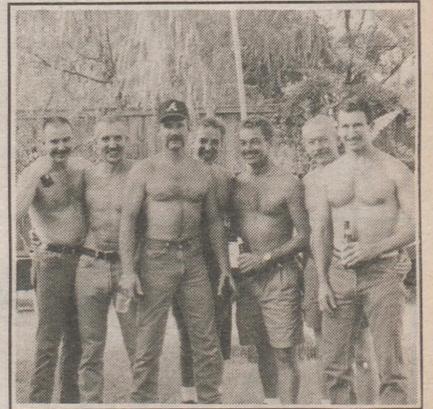
room 118! Sounds like a fun trip:

Armand (hangs everywhere): Wow! I'm impressed on the work you did on that 1985 Eldorado to make it into a convertible! How much do you want for it? I know it is for sale!

Tom and Doug (the Bubbas): So mama did not bring her own sling, but she did bring a pair of handcuffs!

Miss Vacant Lot: And I quote: "I just want to be pollinated!"

Jeff and I are headed to Garner State Park



Chesty men at Mary's on Sunday.

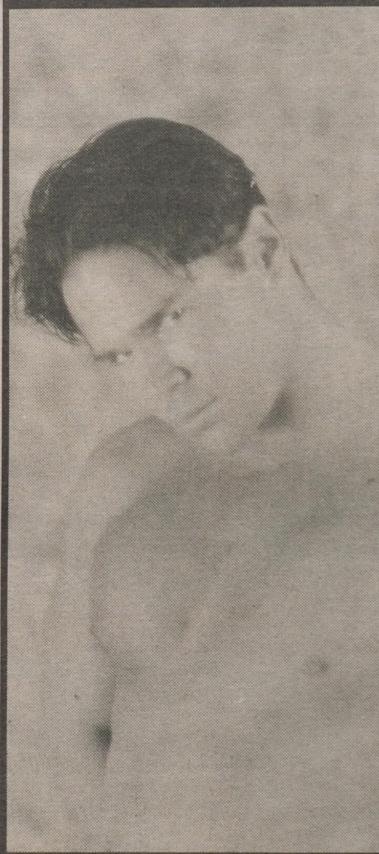


Come see me at Pacific Street.

for the weekend! Camping with out boas can be fun!

Have a great week!  
Cuervolyn

**WHERE REEL MEN STILL DANCE... PACIFIC STREET**



Friday  
Sept. 19  
**FOREPLAY!**  
Cum Early & Party All Night!  
NO COVER 7-9!

Saturday: 9 pm  
Sept. 20  
**LEATHER & FLESH FANTASY NIGHT!**  
No Cover All Night in  
**Erotic Leather!**

Sunday: 7 pm  
Sept 21  
**MALE OVERLOAD!**  
NO SHIRT! NO COVER!  
NO KIDDING!

**Houston's Lowest Regular Drink Prices!**  
\$1.25 Well, \$1.75 Beer  
& \$1.25 Schnapps!

Featured this Weekend  
in our Cages!  
**KARL THOMAS!**  
Please Drink Responsibly!



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710 Pacific Street Houston, Tx. 713/523-0213

You can't get HIV from a telephone,



CALL YOUR GREATER HOUSTON AREA RED CROSS. (713) 526-8300

but you can get prevention.

Education is the first step to preventing the spread of HIV, the virus that causes AIDS. With just one phone call you can have the American Red Cross teach you and your fellow workers how to avoid infection.

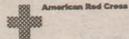
No one has more experience teaching health and safety than the Red Cross. For decades, we've educated workers through CPR training and workplace health and safety courses.

So give us a call. Because without a cure, changing behavior is the only way we can stop the virus.

To schedule an HIV/AIDS education session for your workplace, or to obtain posters, brochures and other materials, call your Greater Houston Area Red Cross.

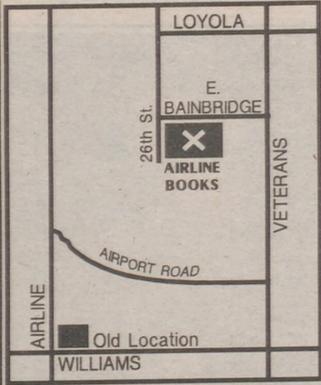
(713) 526-8300

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WORKPLACE HIV/AIDS PROGRAM

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JUST AROUND THE CORNER

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\$2.99 per Minute • Must be 18 yrs  
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HOT GAY COUPLES: 1-900-745-3120  
HORNY BLACK DUDES: 1-900-745-7273

PORN VIDEOS ON OUR WEBSITE!

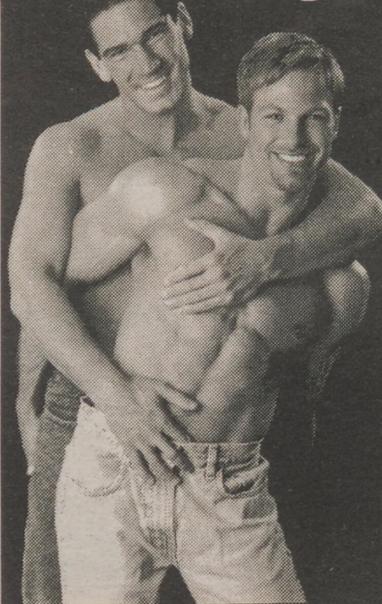
SEX ON-LINE: www.dudejack.com



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18+ Movo Media, Inc. does not prescreen callers and takes no responsibility for personal meetings. 800-825-1598

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Adults Only! Restrictions apply. Optional features \$2.49 per min. 888-604-4287

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GROUP ACTION, BACKROOMS  
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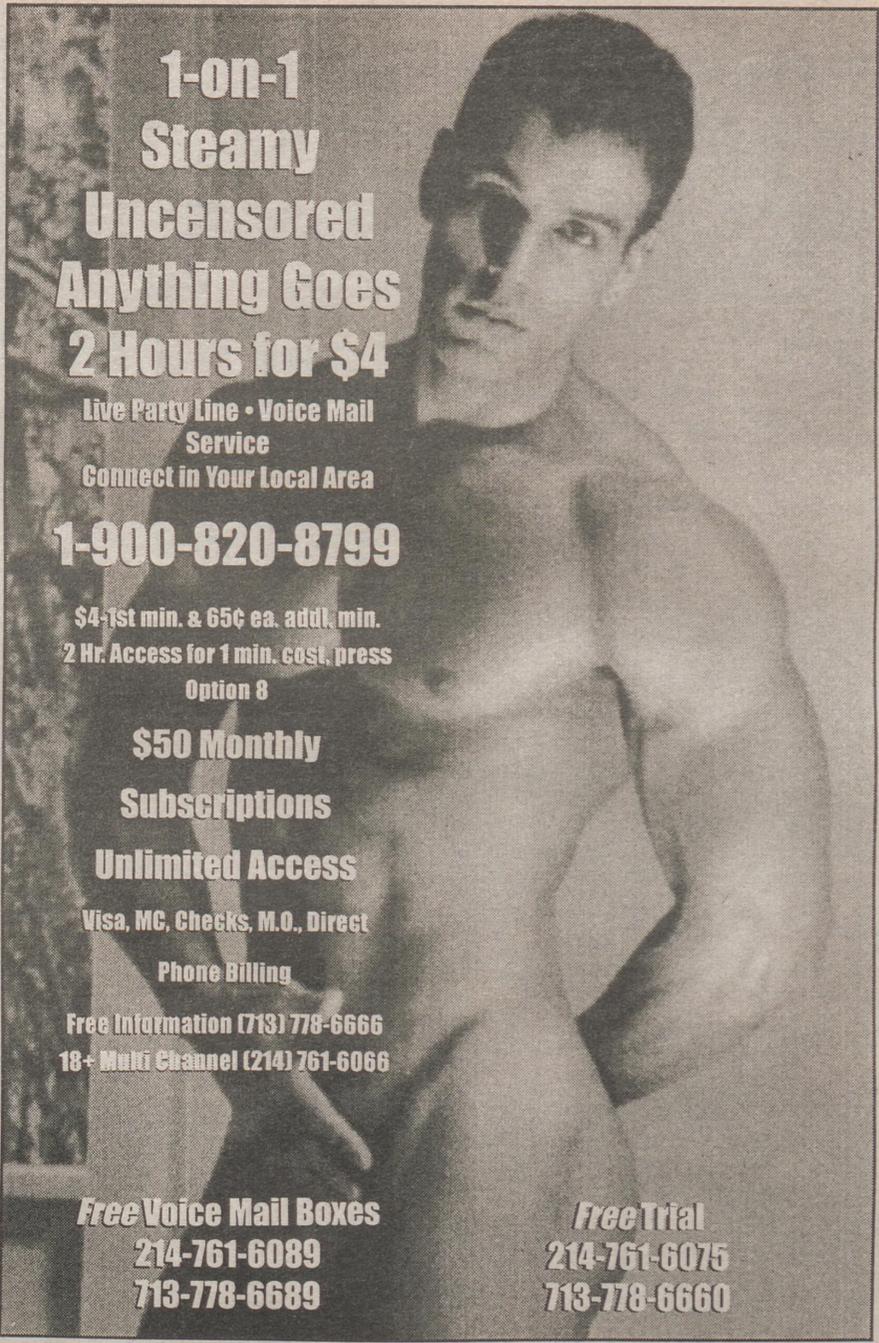
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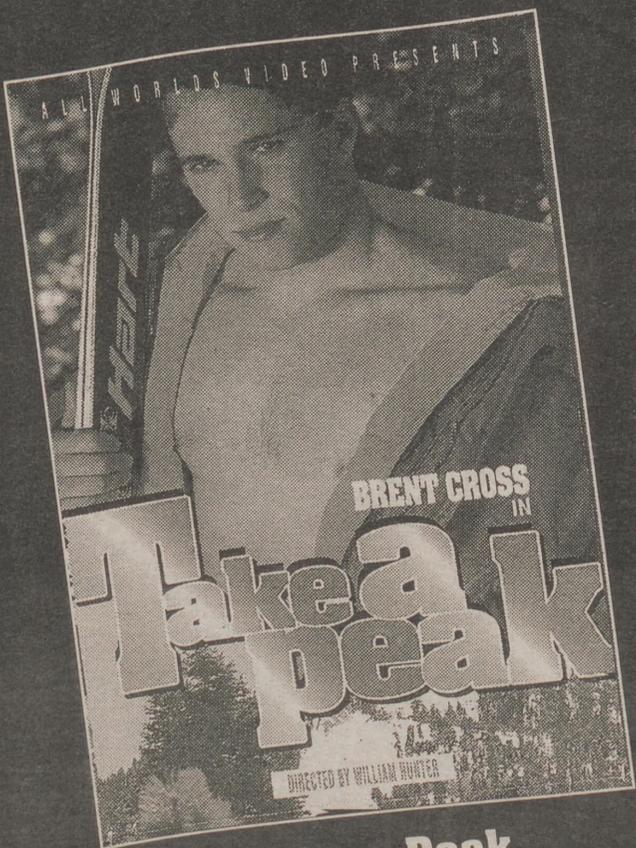
Sunday thru Thursday  
Midnight til Closing  
Admission \$4  
with Membership

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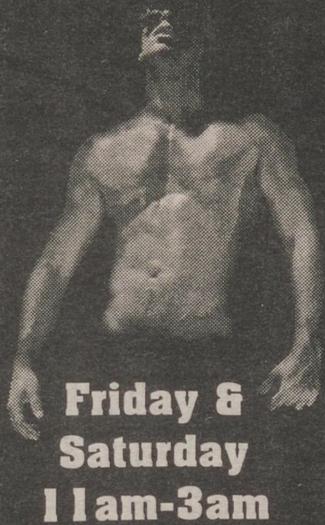
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**All Male Cinema presents**

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with Membership

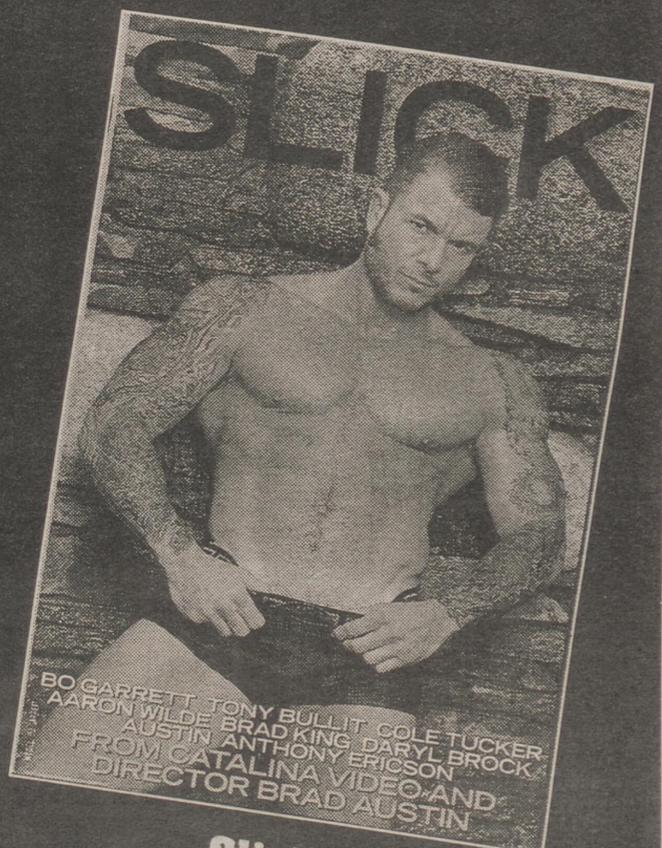


**Take a Peak**



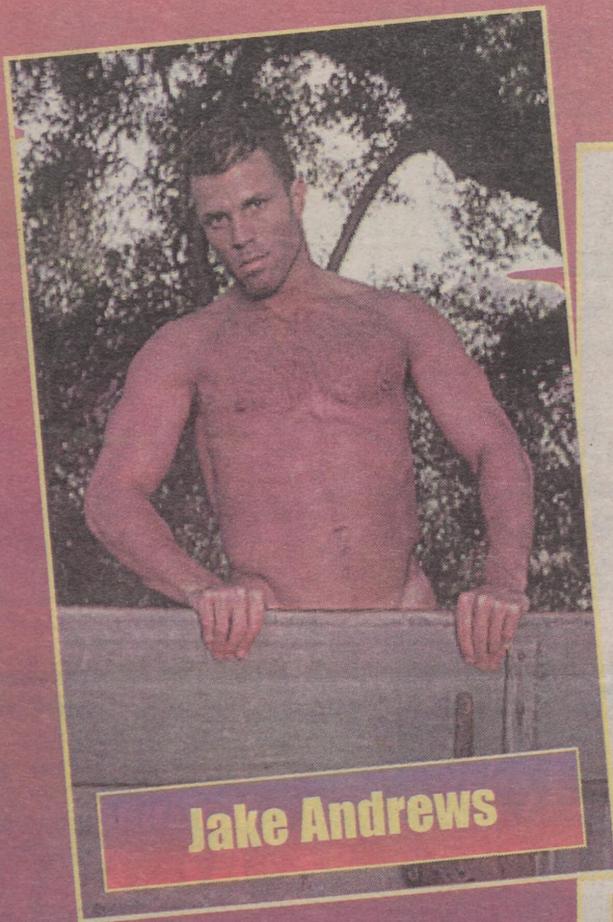
**Monday thru Thursday 11am-1am**

**Sunday 1pm-1am**

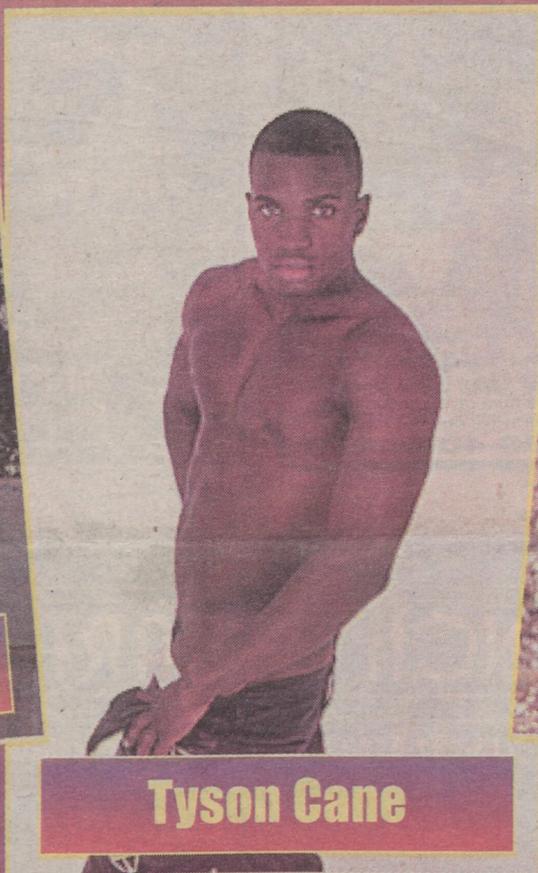


**Slick**

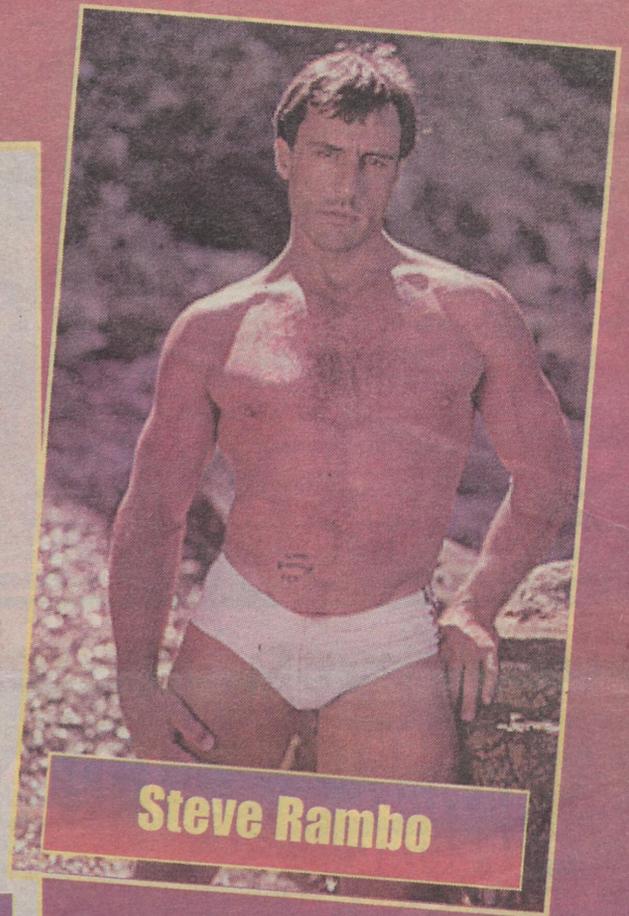
# Only a store this big, can bring you stars this big!



**Jake Andrews**



**Tyson Cane**



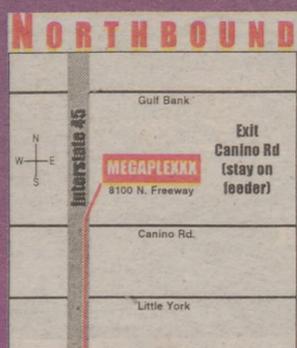
**Steve Rambo**

## Three Stars, Too Hot, All at Once!

Join Alternatives of Adult Video Megaplexxx-Houston on Saturday, September 20, for 3 of the hottest performers in adult gay video!

Jake Andrews, Tyson Cane, and Steve Rambo will be on hand to meet and entertain you between 4 and 8 pm.

*Megaplexxx welcomes The Voodoo Lounge to the community.*



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