

HOUSTON VOICE

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Anti-Gay group forces vote on Austin's domestic partner policy

By SHERI COHEN DARBONNE
Houston Voice Editor

An anti-Gay Austin group—with ties to the national right-wing network led by Colorado for Family Values—has succeeded in its petition drive to force a ballot initiative on the City of Austin's progressive employee benefits policy. The group, "Concerned Citizens of Austin," gathered 17,000 signatures on petitions which were turned in this week, enough to put the fate of the policy in the hands of the city's voters in May, said Dianne Hardy-Garcia, executive director of the Lesbian/Gay Rights Lobby of Texas.

The number of signatures "provides a good indication of the number of votes we're going to have to get out" to defeat the measure and save the policy, she said. "There's a real threat that we could lose it."

"Citizens" objected to the city's recent extension of employee benefits to include the domestic partners of employees, including Gay and Lesbian employees. Their effort has received support from fundamentalist groups that have been pushing anti-Gay initiatives in other cities and states, including the Colorado group.

The urgent attention, time and money needed for the ballot battle will impact other projects that LGRL has been working on, a frustrated Hardy-Garcia said Monday,

after learning that the petitions had been filed. "There are so many things that (LGRL) could be doing with the time and money we'll now have to use just to defend our basic human rights," she said.

But Hardy-Garcia said the lobby would not let the issue disrupt efforts to continue organizing Gay men and lesbians in areas (such as rural east and west Texas) where there so far have been few or no coalitions. Establishing a statewide network of Gay rights groups is one of the lobby's stated priorities for this year.

"It's a real shame, and rather ironic, actually... (Concerned Citizens') main argument has been a fiscal one, but each side will end up spending about \$100,000 on this issue," Hardy-Garcia said. The costs of the battle will surpass the estimated cost of the partner protections in the policy, she said.

On the defensive end, a broad based coalition of Austin organizations is forming a steering committee, said Hardy-Garcia, who said she will represent both LGRL and the Austin Lesbian/Gay Political Caucus on that committee. "There will be a concerted, joint effort by these broad-based groups," including Democratic, women's and minority advocacy organizations as well as those concerned with Gay and Lesbian rights, to defend the policy, she said.

DIFFA-Houston to auction art jackets March 12 at George R. Brown

What do Nolan Ryan, Liza Minelli, Donna Karan, Carolyn Farb and MTV have in common?

They'll all have the blues (though not necessarily in that hue), on the auction block next week to raise money for the Design Industries Foundation for AIDS in Houston.

DIFFA/Houston will host "The DIFFA Collection" in the Grand Ballroom of the George R.

Brown Convention Center, beginning at 7:00 p.m. Saturday, March 12. The Collection is a national tour and fundraising auction of Levi's denim jackets that have been transformed into wearable works of art by international, national and local celebrities, designers and artists.

Approximately 100 embellished jackets will be featured in an elaborate runway fashion show, and then will be sold to



This jacket designed by Charles Lambert, Terry Pierce and Mark Brown is among those to be viewed and sold as part of The DIFFA Collection in Houston

the public during live and silent auctions. All funds raised in Houston will benefit local AIDS patient care programs.

Designers of nationally sponsored jackets that will be up for sale in Houston include Karan, Paloma Picasso, Hugo Boss, Bill Robinson, Andrew Fezza and Gabrielle Sanchez. Listed among Houston-sponsored jacket designers are Minelli, Rusty Arena, The Art Guys,

Ariella Ascher, Mary Beth Aspromonte, Hakeem Olajuwon, Bill Balleza and many more.

The national tour opened in Dallas Jan. 29. Houston is the second stop on the eight-city tour, which will make stops in Phoenix March 30; Detroit, April 12; Atlanta, April 24; Boston on May 6; Seattle on May 20, and Los Angeles on June 3.

Long-time DIFFA supporters Neiman Marcus and Levi

Strauss & Co. are National Presenting Sponsors of the tour. Delta Air Lines, Bombay Sapphire Gin/Carillon Importers Inc. and the Curtis Group are Tour Sponsors.

Chairs of the DIFFA Collection in Houston are Susan and Jack Mayfield and Bobbie and John Nau. Individual ticket prices are \$250, 150 and \$50. Advance tickets may be purchased by calling 523-5350.

Long-term AIDS survivor Rev. Steve Pieters is guest speaker at MCCR

QUICK NOTES

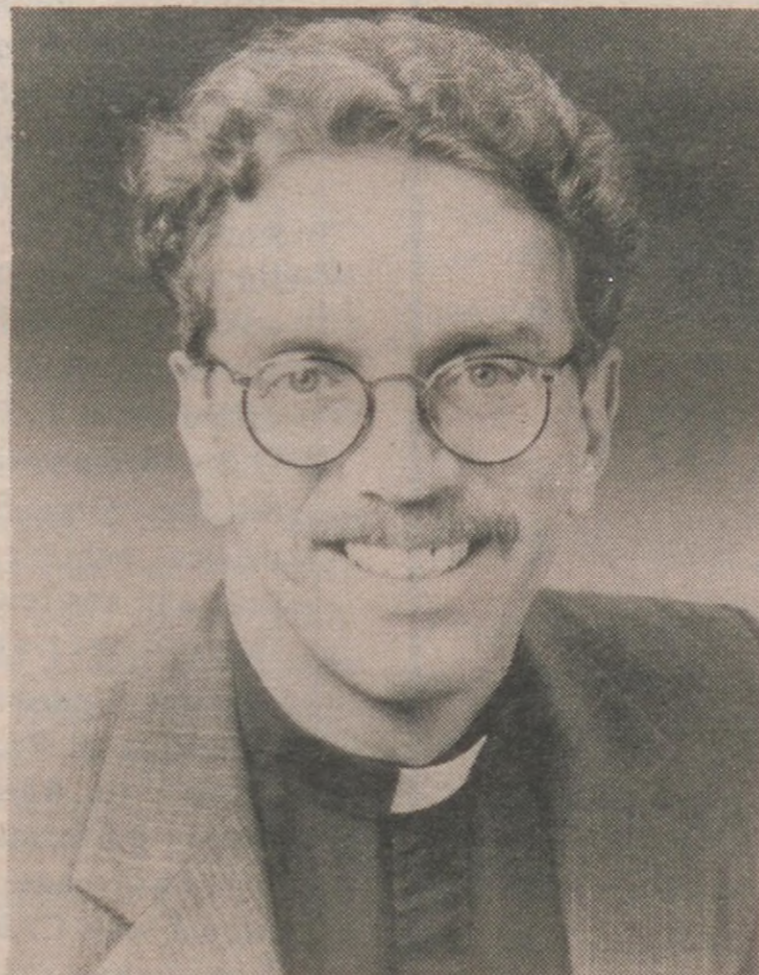
Metropolitan Community Church of the Resurrection (MCCR) and its Empowerment for Living AIDS Ministry is hosting the Reverend Doctor A. Stephen Pieters on Sunday, March 6th for the 8:30 and 10:45 a.m. services. Additionally, Rev. Pieters will make a special presentation at the Empowerment For Living meeting on Tuesday, March 8th at 7:00 p.m.

The Rev. Dr. A. Stephen Pieters is a long-term survivor of AIDS. Diagnosed with AIDS-related complex (ARC) in 1982 and AIDS/Kaposi's Sarcoma and Lymphoma in 1984, his remarkable story of full recovery serves as an inspiring example of healing and hope.

Rev. Pieters has served as Field Director for the AIDS Ministry of the Universal Fellowship of Metropolitan Community Churches (UFMCC) since October, 1987. In that position, he edits ALERT, UFMCC's monthly newsletter on AIDS, provides pastoral care for UFMCC Clergy and lay lead-

ers with AIDS, and travels throughout the world, facilitating and encouraging AIDS Ministry and sharing his story through sermons, lectures and workshops.

In April 1984, he was diagnosed with AIDS/Kaposi's Sarcoma and stage four lymphoma, and he was told by one health professional that he would not live to see 1985. Not only did he live to see 1985, but during that year he became "patient number 1" on the first antiviral drug trial, taking suramin for a total of 39 weeks. While on suramin, both cancers



Rev. A. Stephen (Steve) Pieters

went into complete remission. Due to toxic side effects, the drug was discontinued for use against AIDS. However, Rev. Pieters continues to enjoy a complete remission of his cancers, according to his physician.

Since his diagnosis, Rev. Pieters has served on several Boards of Directors, including the AIDS National Interfaith Network (USA) and the Los Angeles City/County AIDS Task Force. He has written a series of articles for "Journey" magazine about his experiences with AIDS, which have been collected with other writings of Rev. Pieters in the book,

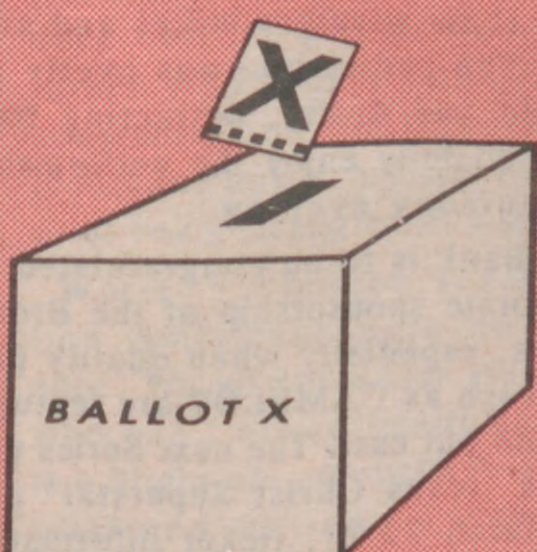
"I'm Still Dancing."

Rev. Pieters was one of twelve invited guests at a Prayer Breakfast at the White House with President Bill Clinton, Vice President Al Gore prior to World AIDS Day 1993. The President talked about Rev. Pieters in his World AIDS Day speech on Dec. 1, 1993.

He has been interviewed by Time magazine, Omni Magazine, Life magazine and numerous television talk and news shows including CNN, Headline News, Tommy's House Party (starring Tammy Baker), CBS This Morning, the Tom Snyder Show, America Talks Back and Real Life with Jane Pauley.

Throughout the UFMCC and around the world, he has spoken of sharing his belief in God's healing and sustaining power while living with HIV/AIDS.

Metropolitan Community Church of the Resurrection is located at 1919 Decatur St. For more information or directions call the MCCR at (713) 861-9149.



VOTE TUESDAY, MARCH 8TH

Houston Ballet presents classic 'Swan Lake' through this weekend

ENTERTAINMENT REVIEW

By JOHN REED

Houston Voice/Houston

Tchaikovsky's greatest ballet, "Swan Lake," is the current production of the Houston Ballet at the Wortham Center, being offered to local audiences through March 6. Voice readers have a wonderful opportunity to enjoy a true masterpiece of the theater with this production.

Ballet is the special art form that combines the sensual pleasure of glorious music, human form in lithe dance rhythm, and decorated with sets of beautiful scenery. One does not have to be concerned about subtitles, foreign language skills, or an unduly complex story line. Swan Lake is Ballet as good as it gets, and joins "Sleeping Beauty," "The Nutcracker," "Coppelia," "Sylvia" and "Giselle" as true classics of this art form.

With the skilled choreography of Artistic Director Ben Stevenson, the appreciative audience last Friday evening enjoyed this timeless love story of Prince Siegfried (danced by Phillip Broomhead or Li Cunxin depending upon which day the performance is attended) swear his eternal love to a beautiful woman who has been transformed into a white swan (Odette) danced by Janie Parker or Rachel Beard, by an evil sorcerer (Von Rothbart). The spell may only be broken by a



Janie Parker, Li Cunxin and other artists of the Houston Ballet in current production of "Swan Lake" (Photo by Geoff Winningham)

man who will love and marry her, and will never love another woman. The Prince's Mother plans an elaborate ball where six of the realm most attractive young women vie for the hand of the eligible Prince. The sorcerer appears with a black swan who resembles Odette and the lonesome Prince swears faithfulness to her, not realizing the trick that the sorcerer has played in mistaken identity. The Prince is allowed to see Odette and sadly understands the plot to keep their love apart. The only

way to reconcile the true love between Odette and the Prince is for death to unite their souls and love. The Prince follows his true love, flinging themselves into the lake to drown. As the closing melody begins, the audience sees Odette and the Prince sailing across the water in a jeweled ship.

One wonderful melody follows another in this two and one half hour performance. The excellent music is reason enough to see "Swan Lake," or at least to obtain a recording of the score.

It is amazing to recognize the genius in Tchaikovsky that each one of the dance melodies is at least very good, and most are in a superb musical form.

Of special note are the villagers' waltz in the first act, entrance of the swans and the duet upon the meeting of Siegfried and Odette in act two, the score for the six dancing women and the duet of the Prince and Odile (Pas de Deux) in act three, and the act four lakeside meeting and swearing of eternal love between Siegfried and Odette.

I was impressed with the attention to fine detail of arm and leg movement by the dancers, the depth of quality of all members of the cast, and the varied facial expressions used to convey the emotions of the story line. Mr. Stevenson and Christopher Bruce, the resident choreographer, have been very skilled in their training of the artists and there must have been many hours of rehearsal to have achieved the degree of perfection last Friday evening.

The music was well conducted by Ermanno Florio, in using a greater variety of tempo and intensity than one usually hears with this score. The sets and costumes by David Walker are very well done and provide a grand background to enjoy the music and dance. This performance is strongly recommended for all Voice readers.

Tickets may be ordered by telephoning 227-ARTS. The next presentation begins March 10 and offers LA BAYADERE, THE MIRACULOUS MANDARIN, and Haydn's Symphony in D.

TUTS-Nationsbank Broadway Series 'Camelot' well sung, acted and staged

THIS SAYS IT
ALL!!

CRAIG WASHINGTON:

Publicly endorsed a white gay HIV positive man for City Council.

SHEILA JACKSON LEE:

Used this issue for racist gay bashing during this campaign.

Polical Advertisement paid for personally by Gene Harrington

THEATER REVIEW

By JOHN REED

Houston Voice/Houston

The current Broadway Series' musical production of CAMELOT reminds us of how quickly 30 years have passed since the musical opened on Broadway in December, 1960. The original production starred Richard Burton and Julie Andrews, and

was adapted from a book by Alan Jay Lerner and with music by Frederick Loewe. This gifted team had earlier produced My Fair Lady, Brigadoon, Paint Your Wagon, and the film, Gigi. So it is no wonder that the musical achieved success from the beginning and has remained a staple of American theater ever since.

Robert Goulet sang the King Arthur role in the original Broadway cast, but was less known to American audiences due to mainly performing in Canada at that time, but has since become intimately connected with CAMELOT. And of the original Broadway casting, Mr. Goulet alone remains to thrill Houston audiences in the current production at the Music Hall.

This production is very well sung, acted and staged. For those who have a limited experience with American musicals of the '50s and '60s, you need to enjoy CAMELOT to place current musicals into a proper perspective. Each of the songs is at the very least very good, if not excellent. You will be humming the melodies for years to come, "I Wonder What the King Is Doing Tonight," "The Simple Joys of Maidenhood," "Then You May Take Me To the Fair," and "If I Ever Would Leave You" are good examples. We are currently accustomed to musicals where perhaps two or three songs are pleasant or interesting, or the songs are actually words spoken



Robert Goulet thrills Houston audiences in "Camelot"

over music, and the story line has little interest. Not so in Camelot, where one original melody follows another in an excellent form. Mr. Goulet's warm baritone voice is well presented in "How To Handle a Woman," the title song, "Camelot," and "What Do the Simple Folk Do." He has a casual style that maybe in part do the hundreds of similar performances. Patricia Kies performs well as Lady

Guenevere, and Richard White enjoys the role of Sir Lancelot. Houston audiences enjoyed Mr. White as Gaston in the TUTS performance of Beauty and the Beast. All of the performers conveyed a wonderful happiness about their roles, and acted and sang with an upbeat spirit and enthusiasm. It is great to see performers enjoying their stage tasks. The supporting cast and members of the ensemble were talented in their individual roles and presented considerable depth to the production. The staging was elaborate, especially for a touring company, and lighting, sound and costumes were done well. The sound system at the Music Hall has been a major problem in the past, but difficulties with sound delay to audience and a general lack of fidelity seem to have been improved. I sat off to one side, and was able to clearly hear the dialogue via their wireless mikes and side speakers. The auditorium was overly air conditioned and drafty, detracting from the ability to fully enjoy the performance on the Thursday evening.

Nations Bank is to be congratulated on their corporate sponsorship of the Broadway Series, especially when quality productions such as CAMELOT are featured with a stand out cast. The next Series production is 'Jesus Christ Superstar' performed March 22-27, ticket information via 629-3700.

Election official wants investigation of 'Colorado for Family Values'

CINCINNATI, Thursday, Feb. 24 (AP)—An election official wants an investigation of an out-of-state group which gave \$390,000 to support an amendment that voters approved to nullify a Cincinnati gay-rights provision.

Tim Burke, chairperson of the Hamilton County Board of Elections, wants an investigation of Colorado for Family Values.

The organization provided the money to the Equal Rights, Not Special Rights coalition which backed the amendment voters approved Nov. 2 to forbid the city from enacting or enforcing laws banning discrimination on the basis of sexual orientation.

Burke said he thinks Colorado for Family Values would fall under Ohio's definition of a political action committee and

should be required to disclose funding sources.

"They're clearly not in conformity with the intent of Ohio's election reform laws," he said.

Burke wrote Ohio Secretary of State Bob Taft in January, asking him to examine the matter for possible violations of law. Taft wrote back saying that the Hamilton County board has the same investigatory authority that he does.

The elections board then wrote Hamilton County Prosecutor Joseph Deters asking him to define the board's authority. Deters said he referred the request to his civil division and expects an answer within a week.

Ralph Kohnen, a Republican who serves on the four-member elections board with Burke, said he supports the argument of

Burke, a Democrat.

"I don't think any of us want to see a lot out-of-state money coming in on a local issue that affects how we treat one another," Kohnen said.

The Ohio Elections Commission will discuss the issue at a meeting Monday. A Columbus newspaper, *Gaybeat*, has complained to the elections commission. The commission is to consider whether to schedule a full hearing with both sides.

Will Perkins, chairperson of Colorado for Family Values, said his organization has complied with the law.

"No, we weren't functioning as a PAC in Ohio or even in Colorado," Perkins said.

Phil Burress, chairperson of Equal Rights, Not Special Rights, said he was unaware of Monday's commission meet-

ing.

"It sounds so ludicrous—why even show up?" Burress said. "Are we saying that no one should accept money from out of state?"

Colorado For Family Values backed a measure that Colorado voters approved in 1992 to prohibit laws or rules that protect the civil rights of homosexuals. That is being challenged in Colorado state courts.

A federal judge has blocked the Cincinnati amendment pending arguments June 20 on a lawsuit by homosexual-rights activists. They argued that the amendment could illegally infringe on the right of homosexual-rights activists to lobby Cincinnati officials for passage of legislation.

Gay rights and equality: flaws of the 'No Special Rights' banner

GUEST COMMENTARY

By RICHARD D. MOHR

This year, referendum initiatives directed against Gay civil rights protections are slated in eight states—Washington, Oregon, Idaho, Arizona, Missouri, Michigan, Maine and Florida. Last year, 19 cities and counties across the nation had such referendums. Gays lost them all. The organization which launched Cincinnati's referendum named itself "Equal Rights, Not Special Rights," while the Gay side called its organization "Equality Cincinnati." Both opposed sides claimed equality as their principle. Clearly America is confused about what equality is.

The "no special rights" side seems to take equality to mean equal opportunity or identical access to whatever government is offering by way of privileges and possessions. In consequence, these people suppose that any legislation that gives something to a specified group violates equality. And, indeed, equality understood as equal opportunity is quite entrenched in America's folk rhetoric of justice. For example, the chief federal agency for the enforcement of the 1964 Civil Rights Act is called the Equal Employment Opportunity Commission.

Still, this sense of equality does not capture all or even the core of what equality

is. Equality is at heart a principle of non-degradation. It asserts that people are not to be held in lesser regard, as morally lesser beings, independently of their actions. Consider the 16 state anti-miscegenation laws which the Supreme Court struck down in 1967. Formally they treated blacks and whites the same, for they denied each group identical access—to each other. Blacks couldn't marry whites; whites couldn't marry blacks. What then was the inequality in anti-miscegenation laws? They were inequitable not because they denied equality of opportunity to blacks, but because they were part of a system that holds blacks in morally lesser regard independently of what they individually do; such laws viewed blacks as dirty, loathsome, abject.

Or again, consider the nation's paradigmatically racist joke: "What do you call a black millionaire physicist who's just won the Nobel Prize?" The answer is the spondee, usually shouted, "nigger." Notice that the person in the joke has availed himself of opportunity as fully as anyone could. The joke's butt could not launch a suit against someone claiming that he has been denied access to some freedom, opportunity, or possession—for he has it all. Rather the joke's benefiting fun presumes that the physicist's disesteem is entirely a matter of a perceived status having nothing to do with his

actions. In the joke's moral system, which is to say America's popular morality, this person could never be equal no matter what he did. Equality, then, in the first instance, is a principle of non-degradation, and only secondarily, if at all, a principle about similarity of access.

People marching under the banner "no special rights" are then understandably but profoundly confused about equality. It is true that equality is a right which everyone has, for everyone has a right not to be treated as a morally lesser being. Yet, given this understanding of equality, both assertions and violations of it will always make reference to the specific treatment of some group's members, will turn on whether they are socially viewed as degraded independently of any action that makes them members of the group. Justice then requires looking to the specifics of history and social custom, not to generic human nature, in order to determine whether some law, policy, or practice promotes or violates equality.

Have Gays as a group historically been treated as less than full human beings, as loathsome, abject beings? Yes is the answer offered by society's record of slang, jokes, family policy, religious teachings, medical history, and symbolic legislation (like military policy and unenforced sodomy laws). Therefore constitutional equal protections should guard Gays from degrading treat-

ments by governments. Similarly, Gay civil rights legislation promotes rather than destroys equality since it works to end the humiliation, degradation, and insult caused by discrimination in housing, employment, and public accommodations. Such laws then are not special treatments in any way that is morally objectionable. To the contrary, they are the historical and socially specific treatments which equality as a general principle of non-degradation requires.

Though now targeted just as Gays, the rhetoric of "no special rights" is a ploy to attack all civil rights legislation which specifies any group as protected. It masks a mentality of "us versus them" and succeeds only by a stratagem of "divide and conquer." Therefore, other minorities currently protected by law—blacks, hispanics, women, Baptists, Catholics, Mormons, Jews, the disabled—all need to be particularly mindful that Gay rights do not steal anything from them, but rather help solidify the very principle of equality in virtue of which they have these rights in the first place.

(Editor's Note: Richard D. Mohr, Professor of Philosophy at the University of Illinois-Urbana, is the author of "A More Perfect Union: Why Straight America Must Stand Up For Gay Rights" (Beacon Press, March 1994).

Reader opinions: Mattox has guts to take unpopular stands, Washington's independence is admirable

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

From THOM PRENTICE

Austin, Texas

I would like to see Jim Mattox in the U.S. Senate, mostly because I want to see him take on Jesse Helms, Bob Dole, Phil Gramm and the health insurance special interests. If you agree, please vote for Mattox on March 8.

Health care is our nation's number one issue. Anyone who has any familiarity with the plight of people with AIDS or with the absence of attention to women's health care issues knows the dysfunction of our health care system.

People who have insurance are forever seeing costs rise and benefits drop. Pre-existing condition restrictions prevent access to health care. Preventative health care is discouraged. Prescriptions are astronomically priced to produce obscene profits for drug manufacturers. And people with health insurance constantly run the risk of losing health insurance due to layoffs or job change—or of being strangled in a web of red tape.

Worse, 3.7 million Texans and 40 million Americans have no health insurance. We all know Gay men and Lesbians who can't afford health insurance. This is a blight on our society—the only industrialized nation, except for South Africa—which does not guarantee

health care for all.

And now the health industry and insurance lobbyists ads on television attacking the Clinton health care plan, you should know that the main Mattox opponent in the Democratic Primary, opposes President Clinton's health care plan.

A study by Ralph Nader's Citizen Action show that Andrews has received the third highest amount (\$297,269) of contributions from health PACs and Insurance PACs of anyone in the House of Representatives during the last two and a half years. (Interestingly enough, Kay Bailey Hutchinson has received more than any other Senator—\$377,069 in only ten months.)

So the health and insurance special interest PACs have their favorite candidates in both the Democratic and Republican primaries—and their favorite candidate is not Jim Mattox. He believes universal health care should be a matter of right—not a matter of privilege.

The Texas U.S. Senate seat should not for sale to the insurance and health care corporate special interests. And Mattox is ready to fight those corporate special interests—in this campaign and the U.S. Senate.

The Mattox record on Gay and Lesbian issues has been forceful. From the time he tried to repeal the sodomy law in the early 1970's with then-State Rep., now Con-

gressman Craig Washington to last year when he forcefully advocated lifting the ban on Gays in the military, Jim Mattox has demonstrated the guts to take lonely and courageous stands on our issues.

Vote for Jim Mattox for U.S. Senate in the Democratic primary on March 8.

Keep Craig In Washington

From BOB RYAN

Houston, Texas

It's just my opinion, but...

I never thought the number of children that Craig Washington had, or by whom he had them, impaired his ability as a member of Congress.

Scathing articles and editorials have been printed in both of the major dailies—it's obvious that Craig's been a bit too independent for the big boys downtown. People have touted the fact that term limitation would keep our politicians from being beholden to the big money crowd. Now that we've got somebody like Craig who's beholden to no one, the big money crowd is attempting to turn him out on his ear. Yes, folks, Craig's pissed off the entire downtown crowd.

Some of the votes that Craig cast (NAFTA, space station, et al) infuriated me but didn't change the outcome of the vote. They did, however, make his political statement. He thinks more about the

welfare of his constituents than about being politically correct.

What many folks seem to have forgotten is that Craig was a wildly successful defense lawyer prior to his running for Congress. He earned more money each year than most of his constituents would see in a lifetime. He ran for Congress so that he could make a difference in their everyday lives. Sure, Craig hasn't tended to his personal business like he should have, and he's had trouble adjusting to living on a fraction of his former income, but give the devil his due: he's totally dedicated to the residents of the 18th District. No, Craig isn't in an airplane seat every week coming back to Houston, he's staying in Washington doing what he was elected to do—working for the voters.

I don't agree with many of Craig's votes, but then I'm a conservative republican and not expected to do so. I can't vote for Craig because I don't live in the 18th District, but I certainly hope that the voters of the 18th remember how good he's been for them and how responsive his office always is—even to those of us who didn't vote for him. The voters have a unique opportunity to keep a Congressman who seems to have alienated all of the big money groups and is the puppet of no man.

Focus on Midland: reform is needed in 'City of Denial,' but don't expect a welcome mat

COMMENTARY

By GLENN STEHLE

Midland's AIDS czar refers to Midland as the "City of Denial." Isolated here on the expansive plains of West Texas, Midland is a city where the conservative right has been given almost free reign to impose its vision of patriarchal social order.

The results have been disastrous. Midland ranks #1 in the state in per capita rapes. Divorce, alcoholism, drug abuse, family violence and HIV infection go unchecked and run amok.

Midland is most famous for the heroic rescue a few years ago of a little girl who fell down a well. But what few people outside Midland know is that Jessica McClure's uncle, Rod McClure, recently died after a long struggle with HIV.

On April 9, gays and lesbians from around the state of Texas will gather in the "City of Denial" to protest the lenient sentencing of Ramsey Harrell for the capital murder of Tommy Musick, a gay man. Gays and lesbians, however, may be attacking a much broader array of problems than just inequities for Gays and Lesbians in the criminal justice system.

Midland is the Texas mecca of right-wing extremism. It spawned the likes of George Bush, his son George Bush and Clayton Williams, Jr. It is a symbol of what these people stand for, of what they hold dear and what they consider to be right and good.

These men, and like-minded men, have enjoyed a virtual monopoly of political power in Midland. The town is therefore a microcosm of right-wing theories put into practice, and what these right-wing theories put into practice, and what these right-wing theories have produced is a social disaster. So by gathering in Midland, gays and lesbians threaten to call attention to "the big lie." It is for this reason that we should go to Midland prepared for harassment.

I was born in Midland and lived most of my 42 years there. Coming from there, it is easy for me to understand how such a travesty as the trial of Ramsey Harrell could occur.

The saying in this immensely wealthy, white collar community goes, "Raise children in Midland, raise hell in

Odessa." So on weekends, Midland's gays and lesbians make the 20 mile trek west to the neighboring blue-collar community of Odessa for a cold beer and a little "socializing."

There are also no topless bars, no pornographic book stores—there is no red light district in Midland.

You see, this is the land of law and order—Clayton Williams country, George Bush country. (Daddy George settled here when he first came down to Texas from the northeast, and little George lived here until the late 80's.) The people of Midland believe in family values, goodness and righteousness, and, as Clayton Williams so eloquently put it in his gubernatorial campaign "busting rocks."

So it comes as no surprise that, when the sodomy statute was deleted from Texas' new penal code, it was Midland's Sheriff Gary Painter, and Midland's State Representative Tom Cradick, who rallied on Midland's courthouse steps to expose the homosexual conspiracy going on in Austin.

And it comes as no surprise the Williamson County Commissioner's Court for denying Apple Computer Corporation tax abatements, it was Midland's former mayor, Ernest Angelo, Jr., who acted as spokesperson for the Republicans.

Angelo evidently believed that, if Apple's policy awarding domestic benefits to same-sex partners allowed to stand, it would lead to the downfall of America. This was evidenced in a statement Angelo made to the Austin American Statesman. In this statement, sounding entirely too much like something David Koresh would say from Mount Carmel, Angelo remarked, "The people of Williamson County may feel like the last line of defense."

And it comes as no surprise to hear little George Bush say he would veto any legislation that eliminates the sodomy statute if he's elected governor.

So the denizens of west Texas municipality have created an enclave. Using the fabulous wealth that derived from the largest known concentration of petroleum deposits in the United States and capitalizing on Midland's geographic remoteness, they have created a desert oasis here on the eastern edge of the Chihuahuan badlands. Far from the influence of urban depravity and corruption, a self-proclaimed bas-

tion of probity and morality has flourished.

So what happens when a gay man is robbed and murdered here in this "stronghold of rectitude?"

This presents a conundrum—the exigency to punish a sexual reprobate versus the obligation to punish a capital murderer. The question becomes: What's worse—homosexuality or capital murder?

In a recent tribunal in Midland, the jury evidently felt that homosexuality was the greater offense. The jury found Ramsey Harrell, who shot Tommy Musick four times in the back of the head and robbed him, guilty of the lesser charge of murder. The jury subsequently sentenced Harrell to 12 years in prison. This means Harrell will go free in two years for a charge that normally would carry the death penalty—quite an incongruity in a land where "busting rocks" is espoused for the much more minor offense of drug possession.

So we see what motivates the denizens of this desert wasteland turned "paradise."

But the problem of this desert "paradise" are far more extensive than the inequitable treatment of gays and lesbians in the courts. Midland has long had one of the highest divorce rates of any city in Texas. The immense wealth, typically thought to be a ticket to happiness, evidently brings little happiness to these desert dwellers. Alcoholism and family violence are rampant.

The people of this city of sprawling mansions think of Midland as a model city. They would like to see all of America remade in its likeness.

Dianne Hardy-Garcia, executive director of LGRL, related that Midland's district attorney, Al Schorre, is very comfortable about the upcoming demonstration in Midland. When I go to Midland on April 9, however, I will go there with the intent of doing a whole lot more than just making Midland's district attorney feel uncomfortable.

I will go there with the intent of showing just how bankrupt the principles of right-wing conservatism are.

(Editor's Note: Glenn Stehle is a Texas Gay activist and political researcher/reporter who currently serves as chair of the Political Action Committee of the San Antonio Lesbian/Gay Political Caucus).

Activist and scientist Bruce Voeller who coined AIDS term dies at 59

LOS ANGELES, Tuesday, Feb. 22 (AP)—Bruce Voeller, a scientist and gay rights activist who campaigned widely for condom use to prevent AIDS, died of complications from the disease, it was announced Tuesday. He was 59.

Voeller died Feb. 13 of Acquired Immune Deficiency Syndrome at his home in the Topanga Canyon area, said Richard Lucik, his companion of 15 years.

"He was a humanitarian," Lucik said. "His life was about doing what was right."

Voeller, who held a doctorate in developmental biology, biochemistry and developmental genetics at New York's Rockefeller University, was considered an authority on human sexuality and the gay movement.

Voeller was married with three children when, at 29, he proclaimed his homosexuality, leading to a divorce and child visitation battle that resulted in his winning visitation rights, Lucik said.

In 1980 he founded the Mariposa Education & Research Foundation to conduct research in human sexuality and find ways

to reduce the risk of sexually transmitted diseases, said Lucik, the group's secretary-treasurer.

"The foundation was based on the principle that a lot of the damage we do to each other and ourselves is due to our misunderstanding of our sexuality," Lucik said.

Voeller was diagnosed with the AIDS virus before researchers learned that it could be spread through sexual contact. Once that discovery was made, Voeller became an activist for the use of condoms, Lucik said.

He published several papers on condom and spermicide use in the late 1980s.

In a 1989 study, he and others tested 31 brands of condoms and ranked them for reliability.

Voeller frequently testified before Congress on AIDS-related issues and served on many federal, state and local councils, commissions and advisory bodies on AIDS.

Voeller is survived by three children and two sisters.

No services were held.

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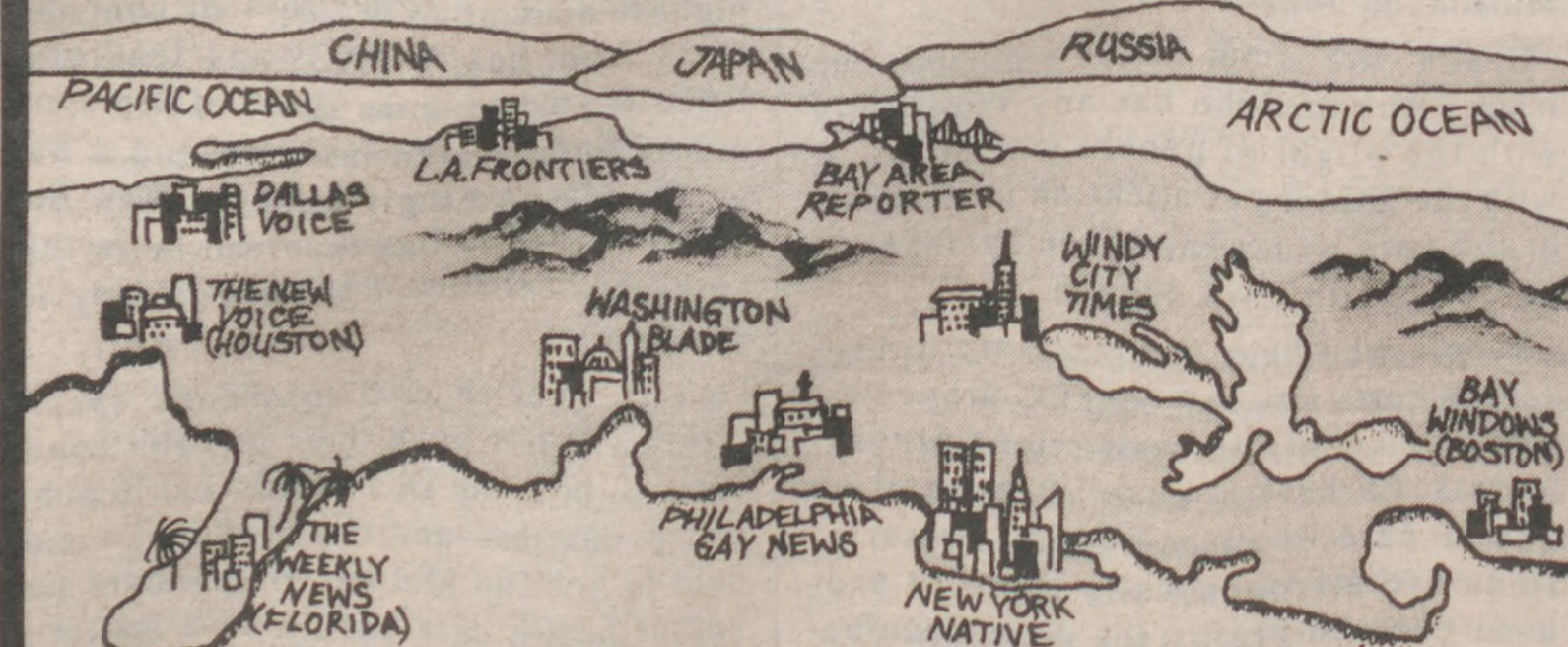
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get it raw

Companies in fighting spirit over Gay long distance dollars

By SHERI COHEN DARBONNE
Houston Voice Editor

It was, from all angles, not a congenial split.

But did Overlooked Opinions, a Chicago based market research company and the operators of the long distance affinity program "CommunitySpirit" overlook \$80,000 in promised payments to charity beneficiaries last year, or did a couple of naive and ambitious entrepreneurs venture into shark-infested waters when they entered the communications business, and wind up bailing out of a bad contract?

The answer depends on who you talk to.

This much is known: the agreement between Overlooked Opinions and Trans National Communications, which had been the long distance carrier for CommunitySpirit, fell through on Feb. 17. Immediately afterward, Trans National, which carries the membership calling programs for Sprint, began calling CommunitySpirit customers and informing them that they were taking over administration of the program geared to the Gay and Lesbian community.

Both sides, however, claim they terminated the agreement because of problems with the other company.

Doug Sow, a Trans National Communications representative, said the marketing company was dropped from participation because the company received com-

plaints, which were investigated, that payments were not being made to charities in accordance with the terms of the program. "Some of (CommunitySpirit's) customers who called us to inquire about the percentage that was to go to charity...sit on the boards of these charity organizations that were designated to receive the funds...that's how they know," said Sow. "We paid them, but (the charities) never got a penny. We're a big company (and) we don't work that way," Sow said.

The charity contribution feature is one of the most saleable aspects of the so-called affinity calling programs, and was played up heavily by CommunitySpirit in the company's big marketing push during the 1993 March on Washington. CommunitySpirit signed up the vast bulk of its present members—about 25,000, at the march.

Trans National claims the organizations were promised quarterly royalties, and the company's president, Douglas Furbush, issued a statement Feb. 25 saying that Overlooked Opinions had already been sent more than \$250,000 in payments from the program. Nearly one third of that amount was supposed to be for royalty payments to the charities, Furbush said. "We became alarmed when we learned that the contributions have not made their way to the organizations that were supposed to receive them."

Furbush said Trans National works with over 250 organizations nationwide and has paid those organizations in excess of \$1,000,000 over the past three years. The company makes quarterly payments to its members, including payments equal to two percent of the long distance charges of each subscriber for charity.

However, in an interview this week, CommunitySpirit President Jeffrey Vitale said it was Overlooked Opinions that terminated the arrangement with Trans National because of "breach of contract" by the parent company. Vitale said the breaches included shoddy reporting procedures that complicated accounting for the program.

Vitale acknowledged receiving a few inquiries from customers but said they were "confused" about how the charities were to be paid.

"We donate funds at the close of the calendar year. As soon as the books can be closed for 1993 approximately \$80,000 will be distributed to approximately 600 different Gay and Lesbian supportive organizations," he said.

He called Trans National's story "a complete falsehood."

Regarding the royalties, Vitale claimed his company never promised quarterly payments and said it would be "physically impossible" to calculate the contributions quarterly. He said the donations are calculated after the close of the

calendar year and that 1993 checks would be mailed to the charity beneficiaries in May. "It takes a little while (after the year ends) because of the way people pay their phone bills," he said. "Because long distance customers typically take from 30 to 90 days to pay their phone bill, we won't have exact figures until April 1," he said.

Vitale went on to charge that Trans National was deliberately conducting a "slanderous...smear campaign" against to the CommunitySpirit in an attempt to lure its customers away.

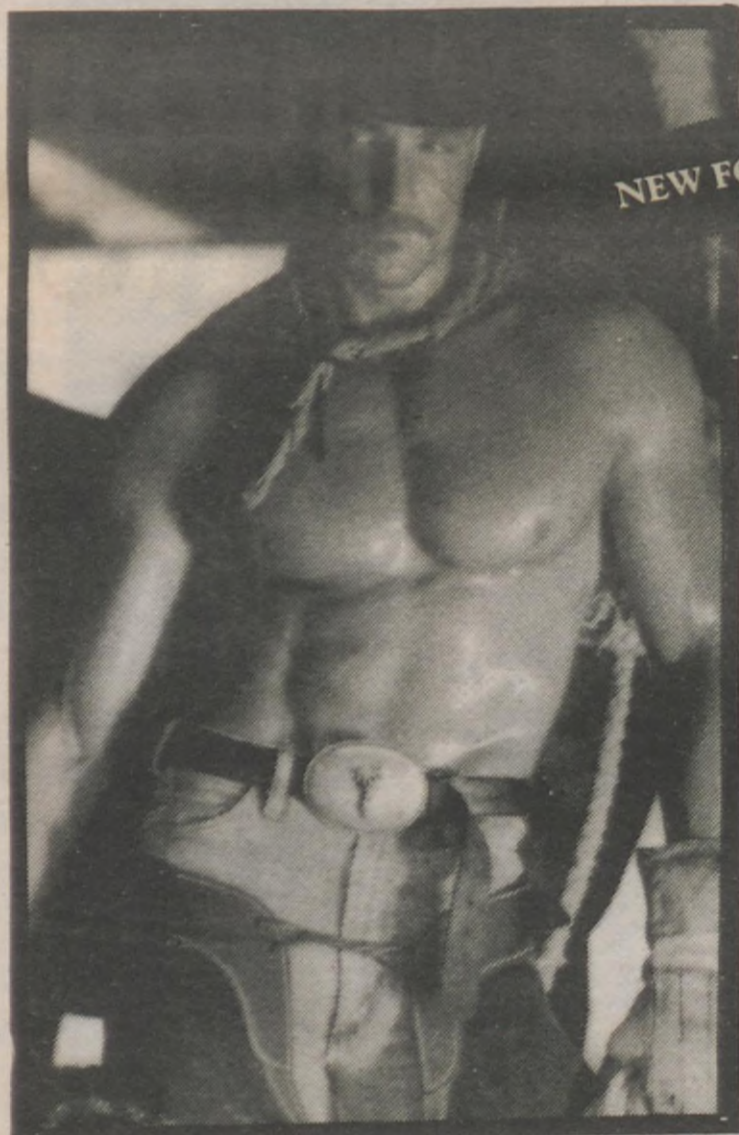
Vitale said CommunitySpirit has already signed on with another long distance affinity company, affiliated with MCI, and that the program and service would continue intact.

Meanwhile, Trans National has begun marketing its own Gay and Lesbian calling program, the "Pride Network" and is telemarketing to the original CommunitySpirit customers.

Confusion aside, the drama—dubbed "World War Three" by Vitale—has had some positive fallout.

Both companies are offering new incentives to those Gay and Lesbian customers who stay on (Spirit) or switch (Pride), including a drop in rates and a promise to provide an itemized list of customer contributions to Gay and Lesbian organizations.

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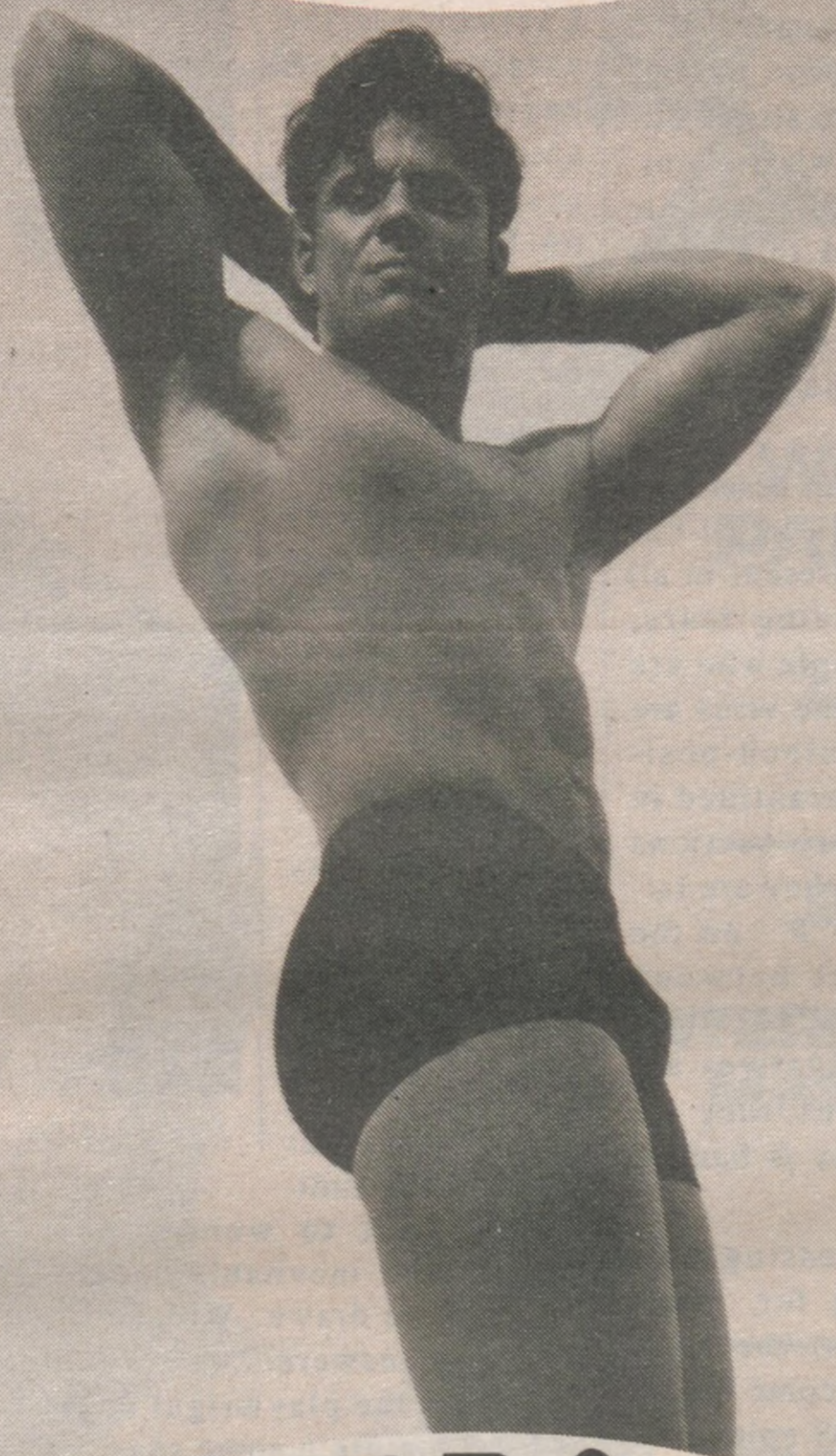
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Government moving to allow foreigners with HIV to attend gay games

WASHINGTON, Thursday, Feb. 24 (AP)—The Immigration and Naturalization Service is drawing up plans to allow foreigners with the AIDS virus to obtain visas to attend the Gay Games in New York in June.

"We're developing the options and they will be sent to the attorney general to determine exactly what course of action will be taken," said INS spokesperson Duke Austin.

"The State Department has asked us to develop some options on how we would admit these people on some sort of broad waiver of their inadmissibility."

U.S. policy is to deny visas to anyone with a "communicable disease of public health significance," which includes HIV, Austin said.

But the State Department jumped the gun Wednesday by sending a cable to all U.S. diplomatic and consular posts saying that Attorney General Janet Reno had granted "a blanket waiver for HIV-afflicted visa applicants seeking to visit the United States for 30 days or less to attend or participate in this event." A copy of the cable was obtained by The Associated Press.

On Thursday, Reno said that cable was issued prematurely, adding, "I'm not even aware of the issue."

A State Department official conceded that the cable was sent in error. The Justice Department authorizes waivers, he said.

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'Beirut' is a bad production of a bad play

HOUSTON LIVE

By JAVIER TAMEZ
Houston Voice/Houston

Imagine the madness to which we would be witness if AIDS were transmitted more easily. Children are asked to attend different schools and whole families are ostracized in their neighborhoods, and this when we know the extreme carelessness that must take place for transmission of the virus to occur.

But in another world, beset by a plague that is AIDS in all but name, the virus is present in all body fluids, including tears, sweat and spit. People who are discovered to have the virus are referred to as "blood-positive." They are quarantined in ghettos in unsavory sections of urban areas, and they are tattooed with a neon "P" on the buttocks. Contact between blood-positives and negatives is prohibited. If negatives are caught with positives, they are publicly hanged. Sex is banned outright.

This bleak, depressing picture is the setting for "Beirut," easily one of the most egregious plays to come out of the 80s and the AIDS epidemic.

Torch (Lynn Miller, Jr.) is a young man condemned to spend

the rest of his life in enforced isolation because he is blood-positive.

Blue (Celeste Cheramie) is the paramour he left behind. She has snuck into the restricted area on Manhattan's lower east side where Torch is confined.

Torch is amazed and angry that Blue would risk her life to see him. Even more so when he realizes that Blue wants to have sex with him. And thus the question is posed: Will they do it?

With that far-from-interesting dramatic dilemma forming the substance of the plot, the audience is left to wonder how quickly the inevitable conclusion will be drawn. With so little to be answered, one would hope that the playwright could at least maintain some sense of drama with character development and interchange.



Lynn Miller, Jr. and Celeste Cheramie in "Beirut"

Not so in this case. The dialogue and the characters are absurdly unrevealing, and it gives this one-hour show the burdensome movement of a mini-series. The dialogue is rife with nauseating tripe like, "You can't live without love," and exchanges such as:

Torch—"I'm a loaded gun."
Blue—"Shoot me."
Torch—"I have poisoned fangs"
Blue—"Bite me."

Playwright Alan Bowne's Orwellian vision is drab and engenders little sympathy for the once and would-be-again lovers. So little is in fact revealed of the two principles, that they remain painfully two-dimensional.

He is a numbing moron whose only multi-syllabic words are spouted verbatim from medical/bureaucratic proclamations.

His one saving grace—his moral fiber—is ripped to shreds when he agrees to have sex with Blue as long as he is exonerated beforehand for the consequences.

She is a desperate, if somewhat nobler, character, who is prepared to risk her very life to make love to Torch, but only if it means a commitment to face the

future together. Nevertheless, the tragic poignancy that is her love does not sustain her as a character. Perhaps some revelation into the traumatizing events that surely must have led to her present resolve would have been beneficial, but as presented here, her actions are cause for curiosity not concern.

The problems with the text are exacerbated by a mediocre presentation. Miller plays his part like a flat-footed boxer going from round to round without the slightest hint of finesse. Cheramie does no better with every spoken word seeming forced and every gesture, stiff. Add to this director Ron Jones' gratuitous use of nudity and remarkably uninspired staging and you have a bad production of a bad play.

Theater LaB's efforts have been highly laudable in the past. But even if this production were of a higher caliber, it would still be a bad play. Nothing, the best acting nor the sharpest directing, could salvage this literary wreckage. "Beirut" is a dismal, depressing, dreary play. I hated it.

What: "Beirut"
Where: Theater LaB
When: Feb. 17—March 12

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- ▶ co-authored "hates crime" bill (enhanced penalties)
- ▶ co-authored anti-stalking bill
- ▶ co-authored safe access to health clinics (abortion clinics)
- ▶ offered amendment to Insurance Bill defining families to include "non-traditional" families
- ▶ co-author gay/lesbian equal rights bill
- ▶ supported increased funding AIDS programs
- ▶ took aggressive stand in Sue Cooper - Ryan White AIDS Funding Issue
- ▶ co-sponsored bill to require mammography devices be certified and regulated

As State Senator, YOLANDA pledges to support and work hard to:

- ▶ increase funding for mammographies
- ▶ increase funding for domestic violence prevention programs
- ▶ eliminate and finally repeal 21.06
- ▶ offer and support legislation that is sensitive to gay/lesbian issues
- ▶ increase funding for AIDS programs

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Landmark to reopen Greenway 3 Theatres; MCCR group plans tour of Holy Land; Switchboard seeks trainees

QUICK NOTES

Landmark Theater Corporation and Senterria Development have announced that Houston's Greenway 3 Theatres will reopen on March 11. The theater, located in Greenway Plaza, was a noted alternative and specialty film venue; in the Gay community, its is probably best remembered as the site of the premiere of the original (French) camp classic, "La Cage Aux Folles."

Landmark, which also operates the River Oaks Theatre and Saks Center Cinema, is the leading exhibitor of Houston of so-called "specialized" films.

The Greenway will feature a first-run policy focusing on specialized film product, highlighting American independent cinema and foreign language films, said Landmark representatives. Premiering under the new policy will be "Sirens," a new and controversial film from Australia and "Highway Patrolman," the newest release from Alex Cox, director of "Repo Man" and "Sid and Nancy."

"The growing popularity of specialized films in Houston has led us to find additional outlets to satisfy the needs of the local community," said Steve Giulla, president of Landmark theatres. "The expansion will enable us to broaden the range of sophisticated films we can show, and bring these films to Houston more quickly than we've been able to in the past."

Additionally, Landmark has agreed to continue the Greenway 3's relationship with the WorldFest Houston film festival.

Holy Land Tour Planned

Metropolitan Community Church of the Resurrection (MCCR) has announced an informational meeting for a planned tour to the Holy Land for this fall. The tentative tour date is Nov. 1-10, 1994 and the cost is expected to be below \$1,800 (double occupancy).

Those who are interested in finding out more about the trip and the tour package are invited to attend a meeting at MCCR at 7:30 p.m. on Thursday, March 10. At the meeting, the travel agency will give a presentation "to show this exciting and inspiring trip," said MCCR publicity director Ron Sparks. "Come and listen...perhaps you will be traveling with us."

The church is located at 1919 Decatur Street (off Washington and Silver, between Studemont/Montrose and Houston Ave.). For more information, call the church office at 861-9149.

Switchboard Training

Want to do something that really makes a difference? You can, according to the coordinators of the Gay and Lesbian Switchboard, Houston. The Switchboard has scheduled its next training class beginning on March 11.

As a Switchboard volunteer, you will have a chance to "meet new people, learn more about your community, (and) touch the lives of others." The intensive classes teach volunteers such skills as listening and focus techniques, communication skills and how to get more out of conversations.

For more information, call (713) 529-3211 between 6:00 p.m. and midnight, any day of the week.

Pro-gay rights Catholics offer another view of Washington initiative

By DAVID AMMONS
FOR THE HOUSTON VOICE

OLYMPIA, Saturday, Feb. 26 (AP)—Pro-gay rights Roman Catholics, lobbying for passage of a gay rights bill, said Senate Majority Leader Marcus Gaspard has promised not to bottle up the bill if backers can find 25 Senate votes.

A group of priests, nuns and lay members of the church are countering the official opposition registered against HB1443 earlier this week by the state's three Catholic bishops.

A sizeable number of Catholics support gay civil rights measures such as HB1443, the Rev. David Jaeger said Friday. Jaeger, who works for the Archdiocese of Seattle's AIDS ministry, cited a 1992 Gallup poll that showed over three-fourths of the nation's Catholics favor anti-discrimination rights for gays and lesbians.

Bishops in Florida, Hawaii and Minnesota have endorsed similar bills, Jaeger said. The South Seattle Deanery, representing 26 parishes, has endorsed the Washington bill.

A new coalition, Catholics for Civil Rights, released a statement to senators saying: "This issue is not about morals, but about social justice. It is simply wrong to deny people jobs, housing and credit based on their sexual orientation, no matter what one believes about the morality of homosexual behavior."

Jaeger said Catholics and other faiths are divided over homosexuality, but the bishops are out of step with most Roman Catholics on this bill.

"People have a right to their opinions about homosexuality, but shouldn't be

allowed to discriminate," he said in an interview. "Catholics can, and do, have differences of opinions. The controversy is fine, but not at the expense of civil rights."

Mark Richards of the Archdiocesan Catholic Gay & Lesbian Ministry said if there is a question of morality in this debate, it is about whether public officials can deny basic civil rights protections to all citizens.

"Having a roof over your head, having a job, is far from a special right," he said.

Former House Speaker Wayne Ehlers, lobbyist for the pro-gay rights Privacy Fund, said he's guardedly optimistic the bill, already approved by the House, will pass the Senate by the deadline next Friday.

The measure has advanced to the top of the list of bills in the Rules Committee, needing only a final vote to be placed on the Senate calendar. The lobbyists said Gaspard guaranteed a Senate vote if backers can produce a list of 25 senators committed to backing the bill.

Democrats, generally supportive of the measure, have 28 Senate seats, but Democratic Sens. Jim Hargrove of Hoquiam, Dean Sutherland of Vancouver and Brad Owen of Shelton all are listed as opposed and several others are on the fence, backers said. Several liberal Republicans are being courted.

On Thursday, seven Protestant denominations endorsed the bill. A number of fundamentalist churches are opposed and sent ministers to a recent Senate hearing to register their protest.

New York gay man fights two lesbians for visitation with daughter

By SAMUEL MAULL
FOR THE HOUSTON VOICE

NEW YORK, Friday, Feb. 25 (AP)—A gay lawyer fighting for visitation rights with his biological daughter told a court he wants to have a "warm and loving relationship" with the girl, who lives with her lesbian mothers.

But a lawyer for the child's two mothers argued Thursday that the father is trying to change the ground rules he agreed to when he donated his sperm.

The father, Thomas Steel of San Francisco, asked the state Supreme Court's Appellate Division to reverse a Family Court judge and give him visitation rights with Ry, 12, and limited custody.

Steel is arguing his own case in court.

Arguing for the mothers, lawyer Peter Bienstock said Steel's relationship with Ry could have continued if he had not tried to disrupt the family by, in effect, becoming part of it.

Steel, 43, said he became a father after Robin Young of Manhattan asked him in 1981 to donate his sperm to impregnate her. Steel began seeing his daughter when she was 3.

"For 6 1/2 years, Ry acknowledged me warmly as her father," Steel told the court. He said the girl sent him a card saying, "You are the best dad I have ever loved," and she wrote a song for him for his 40th birthday.

During those years, Steel said, he visited with his daughter; Young and her life companion, Sandra Russo; and the women's other daughter Cade, 14, an average of 23 days a year, sometimes in California and sometimes in New York.

Steel said the women barred him from

seeing Ry two years ago after he asked to visit the child without them. He said they ended the relationship because they feared he and Ry were getting too close.

Steel said even "the most dastardly" fathers are allowed to visit their biological children.

"My intentions are to have a warm and loving relationship with my daughter as I have for the past 6 1/2 years," he said.

But Marcia Egger, a lawyer appointed to represent Ry's interests, said there was no evidence that the child wants to visit her father.

Egger said a child psychiatrist who talked with the girl, Dr. Miles Schneider, concluded that "visitation would be unbearably painful for Ry and ultimately self-defeating."

The five-judge appeals panel noted that Steel had made no attempt to establish a formal tie with the child until recently. Steel replied that he made no attempt to assert paternity legally until the relationship was ruptured.

On April 13, 1993, Family Court Judge Edward Kaufman rejected Steel's request for visitation rights.

Bienstock, the mothers' attorney, said Kaufman ruled that the women would not have accepted Steel as a sperm donor if they had known he would assert parental rights.

"They accepted him because he made them feel comfortable that he was accepting their family," said Bienstock. "This lawsuit is an attack on that family and an attempt to change the ground rules."

The appeals court did not indicate when it would rule.

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COMMERCIAL MEMBER



Spring has sprung and shows and specials are sprouting all over S.A.

SAN ANTONIO SOAP

By LEFTY TAYLOR

Houston Voice/San Antonio

Spring has sprung into our time zone and all the bars are preparing pretty heavy for the warm weather. Its time to get out those shorts and tank tops and look good. I've always thought that a man is sexy with boots and a pair of shorts, but flip flops turn me off.

Preparing for the warm weather in a heavy way is the Wild Country. The Wild Country is one of the newest and hottest bars in San Antonio. Not only was it the place to be this Friday, Saturday and Sunday, but it was really happening with hot and horny people. On Sunday there is a .50 liquor bust from 6:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m. and \$1.75 longnecks after that. Sunday also has all you can eat for free, hot dogs and dick dancers. It was really packed all night long.

Next door at the Wild Club, the Sunday show included Victoria West and Aaron Davis along with special guest China Blue, Poison and LaWanda Jackson. The show was hot. The Wild Club is also going to continue the special .50 cent drinks at their bar until 11:00 p.m. Between the two bars, there is always something new

and exciting going on. The Country is going to be a nice place to lay out during the summer. Hey, Randy, how about a cocktail waiter in a g-string during the day. That would really make me lay out more.

The El Jardin is really gearing up for Fiesta. But before that is the Academy Awards party. There will be a special prize for the person guessing the most correct winners to the Academy Awards. The El Jardin also has \$1 bloodyds and screws from opening until 3:00 p.m. every day.

This Sunday, Debbie Carris along with Musket and Wave will be performing live at Nexus. Coming up in the month of March the Nexus have great plans. On the 13th, there is a benefit show with Miss Ricki as M.C. at 8:00 p.m. Also volley ball is coming up on the 20th. That's the date of the first tournament so its time to get your teams together. That Sunday there will be a fajita cook off with prizes and Dena Kaye will put on a special concert. These girls at Nexus sure have fun and they are lucky. Congratulations! Your always winning something.

The 2015 hosts steak night by SAPWAC on Tuesday nights from 6:30 p.m. to 9:30 p.m. For only \$5 you can get a meal that

would choke a horse ad have a great drink as long as you don't drink water. On Wednesdays it \$1.25 margarita night and its one of my favorite times to go.

Out at Sparks, the good looking guys and the fun times never stop. Karaoke is one of the their most fun nights in town (as my friend Jimmy keeps telling me). You can also get your ear red by listening to all the gossip that goes on. Its the best in town. Hot oil wrestling is on Tuesday night and its the only one left in town. On Tuesday night, you can grease them up and down. Maybe even talk your favorite bartender into wrestling.

Hall Express Pageantry presents the official Miss Gay San Antonio USA '94 Pageant at the Paper Moon on Saturday, March 24th. Special guests will include Aaron Davis as Miss San Antonio USA '93, Coco, Victoria West and Shady Lady. Over \$1000 in cash and prizes will be given away. Good luck to all you people trying out. I'm sure its going to be another popular show. Something new at the Paper Moon is the Mural. Its all your Sunday night regular cast members. You can sure tell that's Pauletta and Tandi. I like that. Its innovative and interesting. On Sunday, March 6th, Tandi will begin a special show to help

send her to Miss Gay National in Atlanta, Georgia. Among the members will be all her friends such Victoria West, Aaron Davis, Ariel Andrews, Erica Andrews, Sassy St. James, Denise Michaels and many more. Good luck, Tandi! I really hope you get it. Actually I wish that I could go and watch.

Memories has one of the best shows in town. On Thursday night, Sassy still hosts the best strip show in town with the hottest male and female dancers. On Wednesday night, Jessica Wells hosts Talent night with cash prizes. Memories also has pool tournaments on Sunday, Mondays and Tuesdays. The Sunday show with special guests every week is quickly becoming one of the most popular shows in town. Don't worry girls, those people up the street can scramble all they want, but they will never match you.

Spring has not only brought my snakes out of hibernation, but has also brought great feelings of lust and passion in my mind, so if you see me coming, I'm probably not going to be shy any more. Look out! Miffy is gonna get ya! Thanks and chow!

California attorney: law discrimination case isn't 'Philadelphia'

By SALLY STREFF BUZBEE

FOR THE HOUSTON VOICE

SAN DIEGO, Tuesday, Feb. 22 (AP)—Two law partners sued for firing a gay attorney with AIDS are "fine gentlemen," not cold and unfeeling like a character played by Jason Robards in the film "Philadelphia," their attorney said Tuesday.

Newspapers and TV have reported the similarity between Martin Caprow's case and the popular film, in which Robards plays a law partner.

But Gerald McMahon, attorney for the real-life firm of Frank & Freedus, reacted angrily to that comparison during closing arguments.

"Neither of these persons (defendants) is a character portrayed by Jason Robards. Mr. Caprow is not Tom Hanks," McMahon said. "And I don't see Denzel Washington anywhere in the courtroom."

"What I see is two fine gentlemen who have done their best within the law," McMahon said. "And they have been pilloried and exploited."

Caprow's attorney has never compared the attorney's case to the film. But like the Hanks' character, a visibly weak Caprow, 37, contends he was fired

because he has AIDS.

The firm denies that. It laid Caprow off in April 1992 because business was slumping and he was not working up to expectations, McMahon said. The decision was made in January, months before partner Eric Freedus learned Caprow had the AIDS virus, McMahon said.

But Caprow's attorney, Ann Smith, said Caprow was laid off because Freedus wanted to get a cheaper health insurance plan. She disputed testimony by Freedus and partner James Lieberman that they had decided to fire Caprow in Jan. 1992 and held off so he could finish a case.

Caprow was laid off just weeks after he confided to an office manager, Karen Tessier, that he had the AIDS virus, Smith noted.

"Was it just a coincidence that within weeks of that disclosure he found himself the first attorney from that firm ever to be laid-off for business-reduction reasons?" Smith asked.

Superior Court Judge Vincent DiFiglia, who heard the case instead of a jury, said he would rule within two to four weeks.

There was no direct evidence the firm's

partners ever spoke disparagingly of Caprow's sexual orientation, Smith acknowledged, under questioning by DiFiglia.

But Freedus spoke contemptuously of Caprow to Tessier, Tessier said. Freedus testified the contemptuous tone was meant for Ms. Tessier, who he disliked and planned to fire, and not for Caprow.

Freedus and Lieberman testified that Caprow was a good employee hard working, loyal, trustworthy, Smith noted. The only complaint was that he could be more efficient. "That is a very subjective complaint," she said.

But McMahon said employers have the right to make business decisions as long as those are not based on discrimination.

Freedus and Lieberman faced a difficult decision, McMahon said.

"There is not enough work and too many lawyers," McMahon said. "So what to do?"

In the end, they picked the person they felt least indispensable, he said.

Instead of discriminating against Caprow, they were very aware of the "thicket" of anti-discrimination

laws, McMahon said. But they had made their decision to fire Caprow months before learning he had AIDS, believed they were OK legally and went ahead, he said.

Tessier testified last week that, after Caprow told her he was HIV-positive, she told Freedus the firm would not be able to get a new health insurance carrier because an unnamed employee had a serious illness.

After Caprow was fired, Tessier told Freedus morale was low. Freedus blurted out Caprow "was probably gay and might even have AIDS," Tessier testified.

Freedus acknowledges he made the comment but says it was taken out of context.

When Tessier first told him someone was sick, he told her not to tell him the name, because he already had decided to fire Caprow, Freedus testified.

When Tessier told him morale was low and asked him to explain to other workers why Caprow had been fired, Freedus refused, he said.

Freedus said he told Tessier that Caprow's privacy was important, and mentioned he was "probably gay and might even have AIDS."

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Homosexual Expression: or, why we sometimes still don't feel complete

THE WHOLE PERSPECTIVE

By BRIAN READ

You are whole, complete, and lacking nothing.

There. That's all I needed to say. Thank you for reading my column.

Except, perhaps, well, maybe you don't exactly feel that way. You get a sense that there is something more to be experienced in life, that something is missing. Or, perchance life hasn't been fair and has treated you wrongly. You, after all, would not have chosen to be a homosexual. Or if you would have, it certainly would have been during the time of AIDS, the regime of the religious right, or when hate crimes are on the rise.

You are whole. You are complete. There is nothing with you.

Owning up to your being whole is no small task. If you were to start with the premise of being whole, versus having wholeness as a virtual goal you may or may not obtain in this life, you would probably find this premise going against everything you thought possible for yourself. For to see yourself as whole, you would actually need to confront all the petty ways you have reacted to and interacted with life thus far.

To see yourself as whole would also require you to embrace your own humanity, to take responsibility for your own nastiness. People are basically great, but we are also basically malicious. The Inquiry of your being whole is not pretty, but it is a powerful way to conduct your life. For you see, along with the unfolding of your wholeness, you also reveal your magnificence. Chances are you have not even begun to get a glimpse of that for yourself.

Many homosexuals still react as if they have to prove that it is alright to be gay. They try to correct themselves, society, other people's perception of them, but always come away feeling as if something is missing. Yet, nothing is.

Could it be that life is really meant to be lived by some of us as a homosexual? Obviously yes, we have been around since the first recorded history. And while it may not be our choice, there is a design none-the-less. It is from wholeness that we will begin to understand the design homosexual.

"The Whole Perspective" is an inquiry into what being whole is about.

It takes not only a holistic approach (our body as it relates to our mind, as it relates to our emotions and so on), it also takes a "wholistic" approach—you have an important contribution to make to the whole perspective around you, a contribution which is more fully realized in the realization of your wholeness.

You grew up in a society where homosexuality (read same sex attraction: gay, lesbian, bisexual, transgender) was deemed deviant, unrighteous and aberrant. This paradigm, however is faulty. We were never any of the about, those accusations were made up about us. We were always whole and complete.

Trouble is, during all these years of misinterpretation, what has not been discovered or acknowledged is the full splendor homosexual expression has brought to our global community. We have brought a needed perspective to this earth in areas such as the arts, sciences, healing practices and other fields which has for the most part gone unnoticed. Due to fear and shame, many of our accomplishments have gone under heterosexual alias.

It is not only lost history which should concern us. What also could have disappeared long ago is the discrimination; hate crimes, name calling and bigotry. AIDS may never had gotten to epidemic proportions had the truth about homosexuals been known. Our contribution is not more special than anyone else's, all contribution is great, but it is important none-the-less.

A paradigm shift of who homosexuals are will occur, but only as we take responsibility for our lives being whole. You have arrived, unpack your bags and begin to inhabit your wholeness. As for all that excess baggage you have been carrying around about being homosexual, you won't need it as you discover your magnificence and the magnificence of the others around you.

(Brian Read is a nationally syndicated columnist living in Seattle, Washington. He works as a trainer and consultant for Impact Productions, specializing in communication and diversity workshops for corporate, business and organizational settings. He has written for Seattle Gay News, The Northwest Reader, Diversity Business News, and Community Northwest Magazine).

Denver PTA to vote on resolution condemning discrimination against gays

DENVER, Thursday, Feb. 24 (AP)—A resolution before the Colorado Parent-Teachers Association meeting in April condemns discrimination against gays and asks schools to provide students with information on sexual orientation to students.

The purpose of the resolution, says state PTA president Jan Haley of Colorado Springs, is to open up debate on the issue. A committee began researching the issue after members said they did not know how to deal with issues of homosexuality.

"It's just that kids are getting hurt while we are trying to decide whether we want to tolerate people," she said. "We don't want them to get lost in the meantime."

She said she expects to be criticized for her position but said public discussion

will help resolve the issue.

"That's what PTA resolutions usually do," she said. "Among people who are willing to listen to diverse perspectives ... you will be able to find those answers."

The resolution proposes that schools offer information, with parental consent, about homosexuality, bisexuality and transsexuality.

The leader of Colorado for Family Values, the Colorado Springs group that wrote and promoted the anti-gay rights Amendment 2, said such information programs "are always indoctrination programs." Will Perkins said the information would advocate the homosexual lifestyle.

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A Conversation with William of the Gay and Lesbian Victory Fund

YOURS TRULY IN A SWAMP

By LEONARD EARL JOHNSON
Houston Voice/New Orleans

William Waybourn came to Washington, D.C. in 1991, from the little west Texas town of Matador. "I came to town with the idea of starting the Gay and Lesbian Victory Fund."

The G/L Victory Fund is a candidate-assistance network similar to Emily's List, the organization widely associated with 'the year women in politics.' Both interview candidates standing for election throughout the United States, with an eye to an endorsement.

Unlike Emily's List, a Victory Fund endorsement does not mean immediate financial backing. "We don't have any money," Waybourn says. What the Victory Fund does is link candidates to a network of individuals committed to financially aiding pro-L/G candidates.

Washington is a company town; government is the company. Waybourn clearly understands this. He drafted a letter to President Clinton, signed by the directors of six national lesbian and gay organizations, asking Clinton to oppose the rash of state legislation designed to prejudice the law—and ultimately the courts—against equal rights for gays and lesbians.

Spearheaded by radical rightist and trans-national religions, this unholy alliance with American conservatives saw its greatest success in Colorado last year. As many as eleven states have since been targeted.

Signing the letter with Waybourn were: Tim McFeeley, Human Rights Campaign Fund; Peri Jude Radecic, National G/

L Task Force; Ellen Carton, G/L Alliance Against Defamation; Phill Wilson, Black G/L Leadership Forum; and Sandra Gillis, Parents, Families & Friends of L/G (P-FLAG).

The President responded five days later, on Feb. 14, Valentine's Day. He wrote: "Those who would legalize discrimination on the basis of sexual orientation or any other grounds are gravely mistaken about the values that make our nation strong. The essential right to equality must not be denied by a ballot initiative... This is not an issue of 'special rights' for any one group. This is a battle to protect the human rights of every individual..."

WW: "It's the strongest statement a sitting president has ever made about gay and lesbian issues."

LEJ: "It doesn't necessarily mean we are going to win, does it? Ollie North may win election and you Beltway queers may end up in concentration camps."

WW: "It has happened before."

LEJ: "The fight brewing is with people self-ordained by their sense of god. They feel nothing should be denied them, no matter how evil, because they have heard god sitting on their shoulder telling them they are righteous."

WW: "I think the importance of Clinton's letter is that it is the highest elected official in the country coming out in a very strong statement against them. That will draw fire but it will also provide cover. There are other friends, who frankly should have already said what the President has said. We realize there are those who would oppress us, who will use it (the letter) as further means by which to fill their coffers."



The Victory Fund's William Waybourn

LEJ: "Who do you mean by 'other friends'?"

WW: "There are a lot of elected officials around the country who certainly enjoy the gay vote but do nothing to get it. After they get into office our friends often disappear when tough times affect our community."

"I don't think there is any evidence anywhere that suggest that being gay or lesbian, or good on lesbian and gay issues will cost you the vote, as a single issue. The media frequently makes our candidates into single issue candidates, or it attempts to. That is one of the things that we're dealing with in our candidate training sessions, helping to overcome that stigma. We point out there are important reasons to run as openly gay or lesbian, for integrity reasons."

"This country has never shown any interest in wanting to put up civil rights or human rights to a vote at the ballot box. Now, suddenly, you have the radical right promoting this agenda on a foundation of 'family values.' Behind that is the prejudice and hate and greed and violence."

"Unfortunately we really don't have an easy way of defeating that. They're smart to do it the way they are doing it, and it

complicates our strategy because we don't have the means yet to go into those communities and fight them."

LEJ: "It sounds like psychotherapy is needed."

WW: "There is another weapon, one that was very much revealed in the military issue. That is, any time you able to turn the light on this issue you can educate. Education is a powerful weapon."

"I had a call from a reporter the other day, saying 'Does this mean the military issue is dead?' No, the way it was handled almost guarantees it won't be dead."

LEJ: "It's not a favorite issue of mine, I wish we hadn't gone to the mat with it."

WW: "I don't know that we had any choice. Let me take you back to those days. Clinton was inaugurated on Jan. 20. He already had agreed to sign several executive orders that would do about ten different things, one which was the military. Another was the abortion issue and fetal tissue research. On Thursday, in Washington, D.C. there was a demonstration of 70,000 people against abortion. The President signed that executive order that day. Those people were in Washington and they were very angry."

"They knew on the President's agenda was the military issue. They then turned from the abortion battle immediately—with their broadcast abilities—to the military. All weekend long they encouraged people on the '700 Club' and other television and radio shows around the country and in the pulpit to the President signing the (military) executive order."

"If you remember, on Monday, the first full week of his administration, Clinton was scheduled to sit down with the

Joint Chiefs to get their input to what was happening and how to implement those plans."

"What happened was Sam Nunn and other individuals made it very clear they were going to seize this opportunity to basically complicate this new administration for their purposes. It was a way for them to seize power and they did it."

"On Monday, there were 85,000 phone calls to The Hill. By the following Friday, five days away, there had been a total of over 400,000. Most of them in opposition."

"What we learned from that was the far right has the capability of what is called patch-through phones. They use their database. They call you up and say, 'Mr. Johnson, are you aware the President is about to sign an executive order on lesbians and gays in the military?' They ask if you are opposed and if you have let your Senator know. They ask you to hold a moment and they will connect you to someone in your Senator's office."

"As soon as you hang up, your phone rings again and the same organization thanks you for your support and asks if you would like to be connected to your other Senator's office. And so on, till you have called everyone. Thus, they were able to mobilize a lot of phone calls very quickly."

"By the time we figured out what they were doing, we too implemented that kind of strategy."

LEJ: "Do you have that kind of computer?"

WW: "We do not, but they were made available to us. You go out and hire them, they are called patch-through phone banks. We were out-drawn, out-gunned on this one. Never again!"

Prince William County, Virginia libraries to stock gay publication

MANASSAS, Va., Friday, Feb. 25 (AP)—A weekly gay newspaper that has aroused the opposition of some parents can be stocked among other free publications at Prince William County libraries, the library board has decided.

After a two-hour public hearing Thursday night, the county's library board of trustees withdrew for a lengthy private session, then emerged to vote without further discussion.

Opponents, including members of the Christian Coalition, told the board The Washington Blade newspaper advocates homosexuality and attracts young people to a deviant and deadly lifestyle.

"I was brought up in a lesbian household. It was very painful for me," said James Athey, 33. "Don't get me wrong, I love my mother to death, but it is wrong."

He said he didn't want his 5-year-old daughter to be as aware of homosexuality as he was during his childhood.

But other speakers told the board the First Amendment right to free speech was at stake. Some also said the homosexual themes and advertisements in the Blade to are widely available.

"What can you find in the Blade that you cannot find elsewhere?" said Lee Stinnett of the northern Virginia chapter of the American Civil Liberties Union.

After the board's 8-2 vote in favor of accepting the paper, supporters applauded and critics called out, "Absolutely unbelievable," and, "Lawbreakers."

The newspaper's harshest critics say it promotes sodomy, which is illegal in Virginia.

The county's 10 libraries do not currently stock the Washington Blade among the free-distribution papers, and Blade publisher Don Michaels said there are no immediate plans to include Prince William in the circulation area.

The same issue arose in Dec. 1992 in Fairfax County. The Fairfax library board decided to keep the paper availa-

ble, but met with opposition from the Board of Supervisors.

After the library board refused the supervisors' request to remove all free publications, the Board of Supervisors asked the county attorney if the paper could be banned.

County Attorney David Bobzien said it would be illegal to ban the newspaper, but he has sent an opinion to the library system director that the Washington Blade and other free publications that "may be harmful to children" can be placed out of children's reach.

The library board will review Bobzien's opinion at its March 9 meeting.

Man with AIDS sues restaurant; says salmonella made him worse

BURLINGTON, Vt., Wednesday, Feb. 23 (AP)—A 30-year-old AIDS patient has filed suit against a restaurant, saying salmonella poisoning he suffered after eating there decreased his life expectancy.

The plaintiff, identifying himself only as "John Doe," filed suit in Chittenden Superior Court saying he ate a house salad at Perry's Restaurant in South Burlington on Sept. 16 that was tainted with salmonella bacteria.

Burlington lawyer Jerome O'Neill, who represents the plaintiff, asked that the trial be held by June 1 because his client has a terminal illness.

The suit is the first stemming from a salmonella poisoning outbreak last September at Perry's and the Sirloin Saloon in Shelburne. Both are owned by the Perry Restaurant Group.

The suit said the goal of AIDS patients is to try to maintain their weight "so when the most

debilitating effects of the disease manifest themselves, the patient will have sufficient body weight to fight the disease longer."

The suit said the bout of salmonella poisoning harmed the plaintiff's effort at "maintaining or increasing his weight, thereby decreasing his life expectancy."

The plaintiff's doctor supports that contention, O'Neill said.

Woodstock lawyer Harold Eaton Jr., who

represents the restaurant's insurance company, said he would not comment until he prepared a formal response for the court.

The suit maintains that after getting acute salmonella food poisoning, the plaintiff "suffered acute gastrointestinal distress," required medical treatment, incurred additional expenses and was prevented from carrying out his daily routine.

Gay rights groups to meet with Hawaii Tourist Bureau president

HONOLULU, Friday, Feb. 25 (AP)—Members of citizens groups promoting gay rights in Hawaii planned to meet with Hawaii Visitors Bureau President Thomas Sakata on Friday.

The Hawaii Equal Rights Marriage Project and the Alliance for Equal Rights said they hope Sakata will help them resolve a conflict with the agency's chairperson Dieter Huckestein.

The groups claim Huckestein abused his position as Hilton Hotels' regional vice president here to lobby state Legislatures against allowing same-sex marriages in the state.

Huckestein had a Hilton aide deliver a packet of letters opposing same-sex marriages to legislators earlier this month.

Meanwhile, the groups continue to put pressure on Hilton Hotels to publicly denounce Huckestein's actions.

Members said they picketed the Hilton Hawaiian Village in Waikiki again Thursday.

IN MEMORY OF

MALCOLM L. TREADAWAY

Malcolm L. Treadaway, 50, of Houston, Tx., owner of Aurora Resource Group passed away suddenly on Monday, February 28 at 12:45 p.m. at Rosewood Hospital. Survived by his mother, May Doris Treadaway of Gretna, La.; brother, Glenn Treadaway of Gretna, La.; daughters, Janet Treadaway of NYC, Chrissy Treadaway of Asheville, NC and partner Tony DeQuinzio of Houston, Tx. Interment will be held in Houston on Saturday, March 5 at 10:00 a.m. in the chapel of the Unity Church of Christianity.

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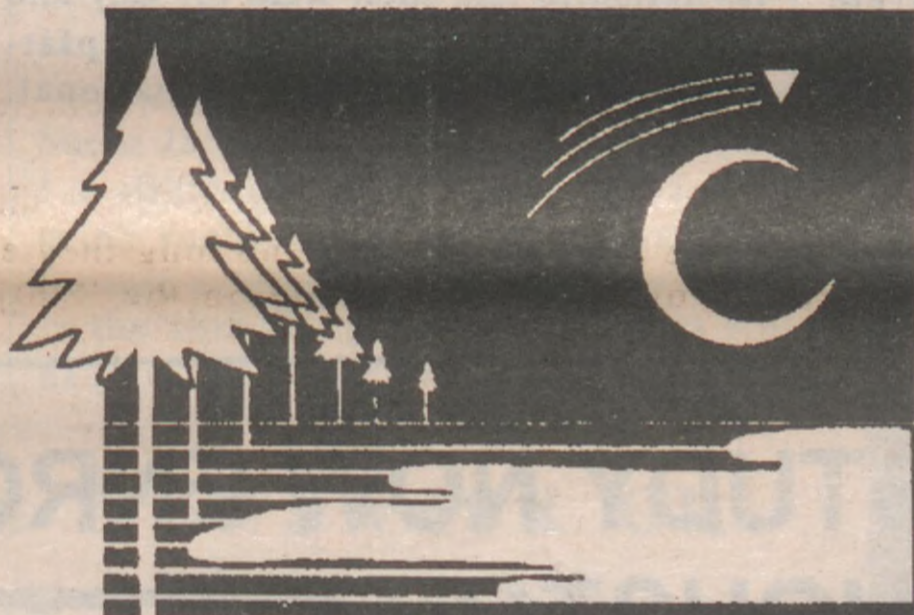
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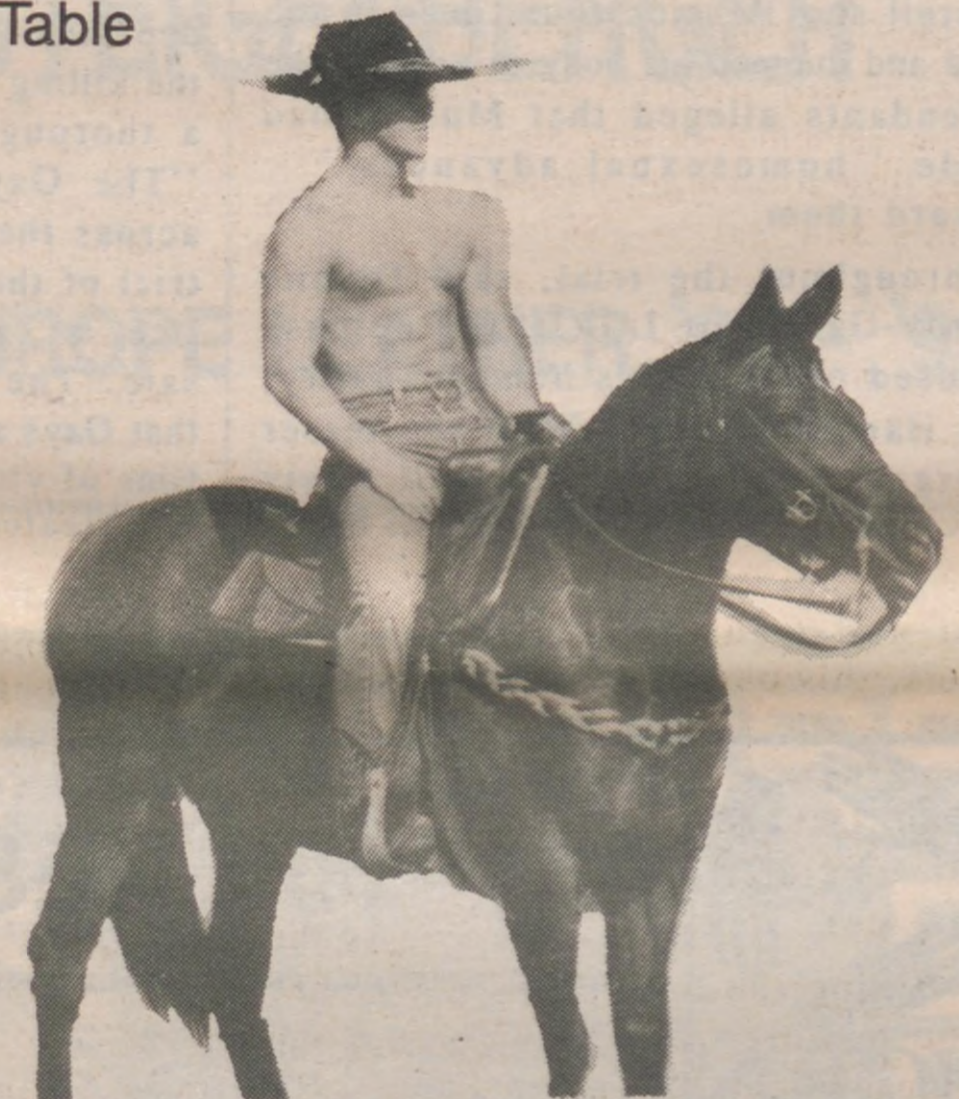
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Gay and lesbian group planning boycott over orange juice pitchman

By **WALTER BERRY**
FOR THE HOUSTON VOICE

PHOENIX, Thursday, Feb. 24 (AP)—A gay-rights group is calling for a one-week boycott of Florida orange juice after the Florida Citrus Commission hired conservative commentator Rush Limbaugh as the product's pitchman.

Gays are frequent targets of Limbaugh's rhetoric, along with environmentalists, animal-rights activists and Hillary Clinton.

Sixty gay bars from Oregon to Massachusetts have already agreed to stop serving orange juice to protest Limbaugh's \$1 million, six-month deal with the citrus commission, according to the new national group, Gay and Lesbian Americans.

"While the commission may find it easy to swallow Limbaugh, we as consumers find Florida orange juice leaves a bitter, homophobic, un-American taste in our mouths," Jonathan Bauer, who heads the group's Arizona chapter and who came up with the idea, said Wednesday.

The March 12-19 boycott recalls a

national protest that forced the commission to drop Anita Bryant as spokesperson in 1980 after she took a public stance against homosexuality.

But the new boycott has a distinctly '90s twist: It's being promoted through electronic bulletin boards at the computer address "queernet."

Limbaugh is pitching Florida citrus during commercial breaks on his syndicated radio show which reaches about 20 million people a day.

Gay and Lesbian Americans, which started this year, has a mailing list of 1000, said founder Michael Petrelis in Washington.

Petrelis said the group staged a Valentine's Day "Kiss-In" on the steps of the U.S. Capitol to demand passage of a federal gay rights bill.

GLA's goal now is to get the citrus commission to drop Limbaugh when it's time to renew his contract in mid-August.

"In choosing to spend \$1 million to advertise on Rush's show, the Florida Citrus Commission explicitly endorses Limbaugh's anti-gay politi-

cal views," Bauer said.

Limbaugh's New York studio staff did not immediately return calls Wednesday seeking comment on the planned boycott.

"We regret that anybody is upset by our decision to purchase advertising time," said Ivy Leventhal, a spokesperson for the Tallahassee-based Citrus Commission. "I have not been able to speak to the commission members on their reaction to this (boycott), but I know they are continuing to monitor the situation."

Leventhal said from Feb. 10 until Tuesday, the commission had received 4669 letters and calls about using Limbaugh's show for advertisements—2482 opposed to it, 2185 for it and two undecided.

Last week, citrus commission Chairperson George Truitt said the contract should be considered an advertising buy, not an endorsement of Limbaugh's views. He said there were no plans to drop the deal because of complaints about Limbaugh.

Bauer, a 39-year-old professional

chef, said the boycott "likely won't hurt the commission's wallet, but it will at least make them aware of how we feel."

He said he came up with the boycott plan while talking with other members of the Arizona chapter in Phoenix and Tucson, and it had little to do with being a resident of a citrus-growing state.

"It's time to stand up and say 'No more.' We had Anita Bryant. Now we have another one just like her except he wears men's pants," said Bauer. "It's time for the commission to wake up. They have to realize that gay and lesbians drink orange juice. So why pick someone as a spokesperson who consistently bad-mouths these types of people?"

Bauer said some gay bar operators who have agreed to join the boycott plan to pour orange juice down the drain to dramatize the protest.

In addition, Bauer said GLA members plan to distribute "Flush Rush and the Florida Citrus Commission" bumper stickers and posters in supermarket parking lots across the country during the boycott week.

Statewide rally in the planning; GLA-Texas announces 1994 focus issues

INFORMATION AND ACTION FORUM

(Editor's note: This column is intended to alert our readers to opportunities to participate in planned or ongoing activities of local, state and national activist organizations, and to obtain newly released reports or educational materials pertaining to Gay and Lesbian issues. Organizations are asked to please include all applicable contact numbers and charges when providing a listing for the Forum).

The Lesbian/Gay Rights Lobby of Texas (LGRL) is helping to organize a rally scheduled for April 9, 1994, in Midland, Texas to bring attention to the case of Tommy Musick and related hate crimes.

Musick, a 48-year-old, Gay Midland man who worked as a hairdresser, was shot to death on April 14, 1993 by Ramsey Harrell, 17, as Harrell and Scott Thomas, also 17, attempted to rob him. The two teenagers were charged with capital murder on April 16 1993. This month however, a jury convicted Harrell of the lesser charge of murder. While no one disputed the facts—that Harrell shot Musick four times in the head and dumped his body in a field—the defendants alleged that Musick had made "homosexual advances" toward them.

Throughout the trial, said Dianne Hardy-Garcia of LGRL, the defense focused on Musick's homosexuality, not Harrell's crime. With the lesser charge, she said, Harrell will likely serve approximately two years of his 12

year sentence for this brutal murder.

The Midland murder is not an isolated instance of the courts in Texas sending out the message that "it's okay to kill a Gay person," said Hardy-Garcia.

—Paul Broussard, a Gay resident of Houston, was brutally beaten, then killed on July 4, 1991 by a group of 10 youths who had driven to Montrose to "beat up some queers" (in their words). Two companions of Broussard were also beaten. Jon Buice, who fatally stabbed Broussard, is serving a 45 year sentence; three convicted accomplices who received 15-year sentences are reportedly being considered for parole, and five others are on probation.

—In San Antonio, Charlie Resendez, a Gay man, was murdered on Jan. 1, 1990 by Nicolo Giangrasso. The charge was dropped from murder to voluntary manslaughter and due to a plea bargain, the murderer walked free with a sentence of deferred adjudication and 10 years probation.

—Currently in Tyler, three men are being held in on capital murder charges in the hate-motivated slaying a 23-year-old Gay man named Nicholas West this past November. The sheriff's department has been quick to classify the killing as a hate crime and facilitate a thorough investigation. However, "The Gay and Lesbian community across the state will be watching the trial of those three men to ensure justice is carried out," Hardy-Garcia said. The cases, she said, illustrate that Gays and Lesbians are not only victims of violence in Texas, but also are not treated fairly by the judicial system.

tem.

The rally is set for 4:00 p.m. in Centennial Plaza in Midland; for more information, call (512) 474-5475. (Source: LGRL)

'Express' Yourself

Major advertisers continue to reach out to queer America! American Express has become the latest corporate giant to buy advertising space in the pages of the slick new Gay magazine OUT. The April and May issues of OUT will feature the "American Express Travelers Cheques for Two" campaign. For the spread, Am-Ex will significantly alter the well-known campaign, changing the names on the checks from a male-female to a same-sex couple.

Encourage American Express to continue advertising in OUT and to seriously consider supporting the many other weekly and monthly publications that enrich the Lesbian/Gay community. Send comments to Stephen Smith, director, TRS Media, American Express TRS Company Inc., 200 Versey Street, 37th Floor, New York, NY 10285. (Source: GLAAD Media Watch)

GLA Action Alert

Gay and Lesbian Americans of Texas, "a coalition of grassroots advocates committed to civil rights for gay, lesbian, bisexual and transgendered people and to a cure for AIDS," extends an invitation to join their fight for Gay and Lesbian civil rights. GLA's '94 platform includes the following national, state and local issues:

—Federal Gay and Lesbian Civil Rights Bill (HR 431). GLA will advocate introduction of legislation in Congress, solicit co-sponsors, press for hearing and plan, coordinate and execute political and informational rallies and draw public attention to the issue.

—"McClintock AIDS Cure Act" (HR 3310). GLA will press for hearings on the bill, solicit co-sponsors and coordinate with other AIDS activists to plan and stage informational and political rallies to inform the public about this bill.

—Sodomy Law Repeal. Currently, 23 states, including Texas, and the U.S. Military, criminalize the sexual choices of consenting adults. GLA chapters will work to repeal these laws through locally coordinated efforts.

—Gay and Lesbian Civil Rights bills (state and local). GLA Chapters including the Houston chapter will work for legislation to establish legal protection for all people, regardless of sexual orientation, in employment, housing, public accommodations and education.

Contact the Texas chapter for more information about upcoming advocacy opportunities: Gay and Lesbian Americans of Texas, 3516 Reagan Street, Houston, TX 77009-6212; (713) 802-0717 (voice and fax).

Contact the national headquarters for membership information: Gay and Lesbian Americans, P.O. Box 77533, Washington, D.C. 20013-7533; (800) 889-5111. (Source: GLA-Texas)

(Continued on following page)



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Response: letter writer Prentice's criticism of Richards disturbing

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

From PAT GANDY

Re: Thom Prentice letter (Issue 695, Feb. 18, 1992)

I would like to take the opportunity to respond to Thom Prentice's letter concerning Governor Ann Richards and her record on Gay and Lesbian issues. For Mr. Prentice to imply that her appointments are not central to our lives is outrageous. Martha Fitzwater's appointment to the Funeral Services Board was of extreme importance and very central, I believe, to our lives. If Mr. Prentice does not think having a say over who controls his body after he is dead is, then I wonder just what is central to his life. Perhaps he is a paid Republican operative and that is all he has time to worry about in an election year.

In his letter, he criticizes the governor for being "helpful behind the scenes" during the effort to repeal the sodomy law. As a former co-chair of LGRL, I can tell you, that effort was intentionally kept behind the scenes in an attempt to prevent the opposition from organizing early. Or perhaps I'm just "out of the loop" and didn't know that our movement can afford the luxury of criticizing the governor of a conservative state for only working "behind the scenes." And perhaps, had the Governor addressed the March on Austin, the entire homophobic conservative establishment in Texas would simply have rolled over and played dead!

Mr. Prentice needs to face up to the fact that Ann Richards is the Governor of all the people of this state. She was not elected to be our cheerleader. Do not expect her or any other political leader to do that—certainly not until a greater percent of the Gay and Lesbian community in Texas becomes involved and takes a stand. It is naive to expect someone to do our work for us.

And by the way, it comes off as more than a little sexist that Mr. Prentice decides to attack a woman, who has been more than

just sympathetic to Lesbian and Gay issues, when there are plenty of men currently presiding over our courts who are openly hostile to us.

Shocked At Sheila

From SALLIE DAUGHERTY

Houston, Texas

I attended the debate between Congressman Craig Washington and City Council Member Sheila Jackson Lee at the Shrine of the Black Madonna Cultural Center on Sunday, Feb. 27. I went into the debate as a supporter and volunteer campaign worker for Craig Washington, but with an open mind toward Sheila Jackson Lee, who I thought was a smart politician worthy of attention and consideration.

I was shocked by racist statements made by Sheila Jackson Lee, a seasoned professional politician. In her closing remarks, she said, "I can assure you that black folk are running my campaign, black folk are working in mat campaign." These words were spoken in a denigrating and elitist tone that said to me that Sheila Jackson Lee believes her segregated campaign is superior to Craig Washington's, which is composed of a good cross section of the district he represents. I have worked many hours for many different politicians in Houston, and I have never felt that my roots or race made any difference to the person I was supporting.

The 18th Congressional District, like the City of Houston, is made up of all kinds of people. Sheila Jackson Lee apparently only cares about one part of that constituency and anyone who is Mexican-American, Asian-American, Anglo-American, not to mention Gay or Lesbian, has to look elsewhere for representation.

By her own remarks, I must conclude that Sheila Jackson Lee is a bigot and a racist. I'm afraid of people like her, and I don't think she deserves to go to Congress, because at least half of the people who live in the 18th Congressional District will have no representative.

GLAAD disputes Newsweek on homophobia; new list of Gay publications

INFORMATION AND ACTION FORUM

(Continued from previous page)

In a series of articles, the Feb. 14 issue of NEWSWEEK magazine asks, "Just what is homophobia? In an era of increased tolerance and acceptance, the word has kept its bite but lost some of its definition." In the lead article, John Leland uses Lewiston, Maine as the backdrop for exploring homophobia. The small town was the site of a struggle over anti-discrimination legislation last year. To his credit, Leland manages to make a crucial point: many citizens who claim they are neither anti-democratic nor homophobic are, upon closer examination, intolerant bigots. However, this is hardly an "in-depth" examination of homophobia, and many questions remain unasked and unanswered.

A related article by Michele Ingrassia takes a look at Lesbian/Gay adoption, focusing on the case of Megan Lucas. Lucas, who has been convicted of arson, larceny and kidnapping, abandoned her son when he was five months old. Now she is suing to get him back from the Gay couple who adopted him. Unfortunately, this important article is headlined "The Limits of Tolerance?" and the reporter writes that "perhaps more than any other issue on the landscape, Gay adoption pushes the limits of tolerance." This rhetoric

echoes the question that appeared, in regard to Lesbian visibility, on Newsweek's June 21, 1993 cover: "What are the limits of tolerance?" Such questions pander to the notion that there is a finite point at which Lesbian and Gay existence can become "intolerable." The Gay and Lesbian Alliance Against Defamation wants the Gay and Lesbian community to remind NEWSWEEK that homophobia has less to do with the limits of tolerance than with the boundaries of hatred and ignorance.

Send your comments to (along with your name, address and daytime phone) to Letters to the Editor, NEWSWEEK, 444 Madison Avenue, New York, NY 10022-6999, fax (212) 350-4120. you can also call Bill Christotherson, Letters director at (212) 350-4000. (Source: GLAAD Media Watch)

Hot Off the Press

The "Directory of Gay, Lesbian and Bisexual Community Publications" is a loose leaf guide to newspapers and magazines in the United States and Canada/For ordering information, contact Jim Sorrells, P.O. Box 1946, Guerneville, CA 95446.

—The premiere issue of "Doi Dien," a national Vietnamese Gay/Lesbian quarterly, has just been published. For more information, contact DOI DIEN, P.O. Box 730305, San Jose, CA 95173. (Source: GLAAD Media Watch)

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Rev. Janet Parker

Q: "What do you know about a psychotherapy program called "A COURSE IN MIRACLES" recently popularized by Marianne Williamson's book, *A Return To Love*? Is this part of "New Age" theology? And what exactly is "New Age" anyway? Should Christians be involved in it?"

A: Rather than answer the multiple questions at one time, I would like to take only one of your questions, "What exactly is "New Age" anyway?" and build upon this so as to answer your first question. One of the best sources to answer this question, especially from a Christian perspective, is Elliot Miller's book, *A Crash Course on the New Age Movement*. The reason why it is so good, is that Elliot Miller converted from New Age spirituality to

Christ. He has devoted years to research and observation of the New Age movement. He speaks from experience and I believe sheds light on the truth. Miller defines The New Age movement as an extremely large metanetwork ("network of networks) composed of people and groups who share common values and a common vision. These values are based on Eastern/occult mysticism and pantheistic monism (the world view that all is One, and this One is God), and the vision is of a coming era of peace and enlightenment, the "Age of Aquarius." New Agers come from a wide variety of independent traditions and persuasions, and may differ on a number of more peripheral matters. But their agreement as to their basic values and visions is sufficient for them to "network" with one another to help influence society in the direction of their values and vision.

Miller also says that because New Agers are actively seeking to shape our cultural future, it has become a third major social force vying with traditional Judeo-Christian religion and secular humanism for cultural dominance. New Age has become a major cultural trend. It represents a historical movement that can be traced over a period of more than two centuries in the West from orthodox Christianity back to paganism.

Miller states that the New Age movement is a resurgence of paganism. It is the occult going public or "coming out of the closet" after centuries of hiding itself (in fact, "occult" means "that which is hidden") at the cultural periphery because of the dominance of Judeo-Christian beliefs and values.

A New Ager is one who (1) believes in pantheism and many or all of its attendant doctrines (for example, salvation by "gnosis" which is self-realization or the realization that one's true Self is God, "karma" which is the belief that whatever a person does—good or bad—will return to them experientially in an exact proportion of good or bad, reincarnation, spiritual evolution, ascended masters; (2) engages in mystical or occult practices and/or has had such experiences (for example, astrology, psychic healing, magic, various methods of inducing trancelike states of consciousness, use of crystals or pyramids for psychic reasons, out-of-body experiences list "astral projection"); (3) believes in the coming New Age (that is, an age of peace and mystical enlightenment); and (4) seeks to hasten this New Age by participating at some level in the New Age networking process.

I would like to address next week, "Should Christians be involved in New Age?" Stay tuned for more

IF YOU HAVE ANY QUESTIONS AND WOULD LIKE TO HAVE THEM ADDRESSED BY REV. JANET PARKER, PLEASE WRITE TO: MARANATHA FELLOWSHIP MCC, P.O. BOX 667032, HOUSTON, TX 77266-7032

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Vermont churches weigh issue of gay membership

RUTLAND, Vt., Friday, Feb. 25 (AP)—The largest Protestant parish in Rutland has dropped plans to vote on a formal policy regarding gay and lesbian members.

The Grace Congregational United Church of Christ sponsored public forums and an opinion survey last year on the subject of its welcome toward gay and lesbian members.

Its associate minister, Mark Pitton, said the church had dropped plans to vote on a written policy at the church's annual meeting this month. Pitton said the church was not ready to vote on an "open and affirming" policy toward gay and lesbian members because of divided internal opinions.

Many church members' questions had focused on the word "affirming" in the written belief statement.

"We are unclear if this is something the congregation wants to do or not," Pitton

said. "Clearly some do not. Clearly some do."

Grace church, which has 1200 members, hosted a gay Congregational minister last fall who told members "prejudice just doesn't belong in God's house." But plans to formally adopt a written statement triggered several negative letters to newspapers.

Last year, Grace church leaders told members that gays and lesbians always had been welcome, but that the congregation needed to "clarify their welcome" in writing.

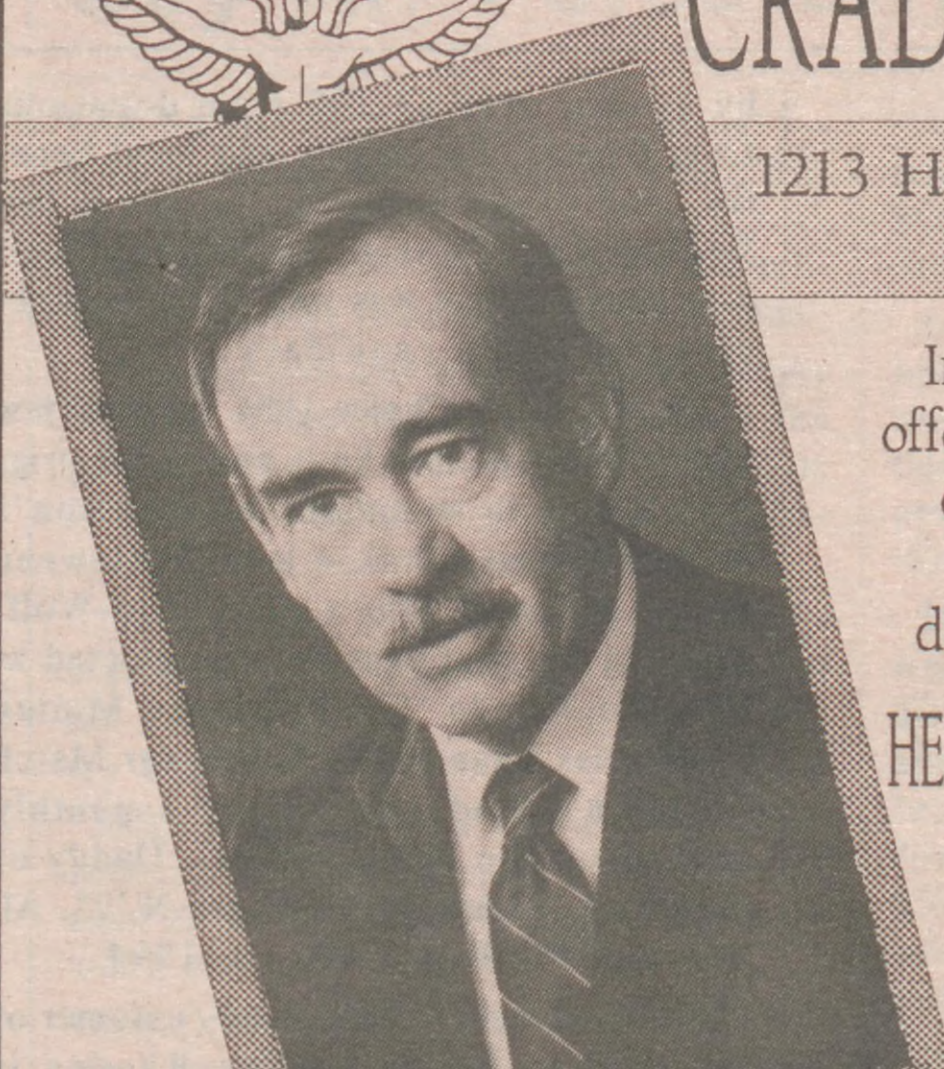
The forums and survey were intended to determine what belief statement members would support.

"In the end, I don't know if anything will come to a vote or not," Pitton said. "Much of the value of the question itself has been in the congregation's ability to search and gain a broader education of the issue."

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

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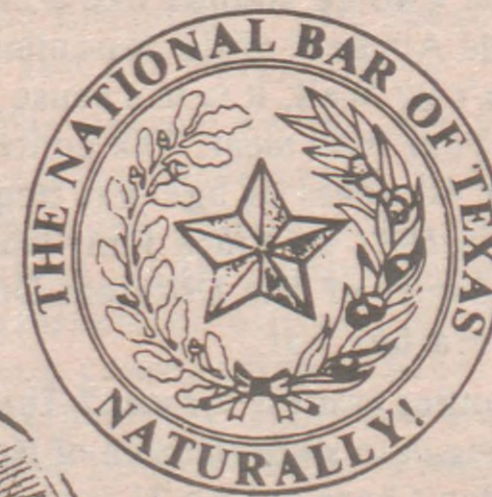
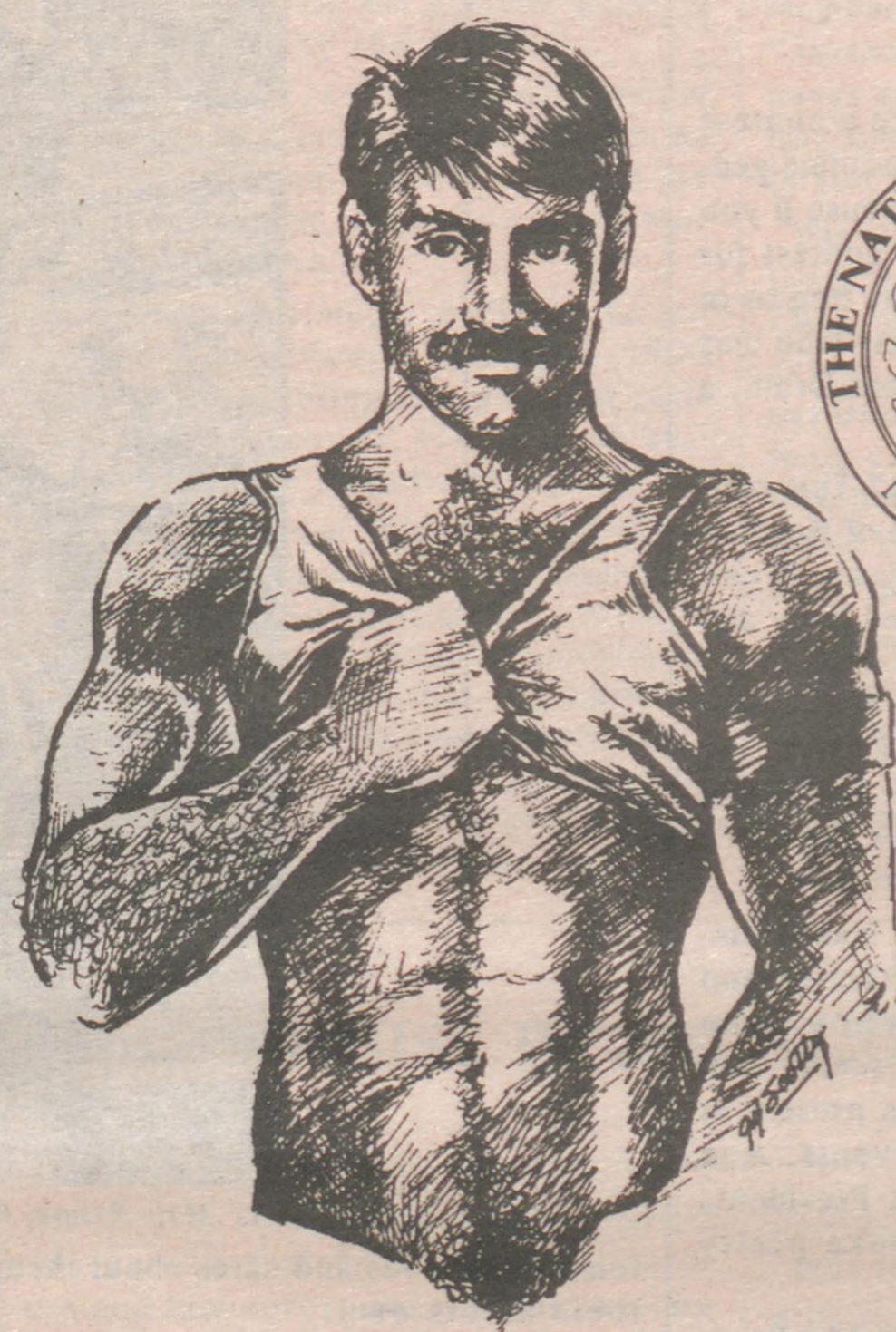
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Elizabeth Taylor feted at birthday AIDS benefit in California

BEVERLY HILLS, Calif., Sunday, Feb. 27 (AP)—Elizabeth Taylor's 62nd birthday was celebrated in a big way with a celebrity-soaked country music benefit to raise money for the AIDS research foundation she established.

Country singer Clint Black sang "Happy Birthday" to the Oscar-winning actress during Saturday night's Beverly Hilton Hotel birthday bash.

The American Foundation for AIDS Research honored a variety of people for their work in the fight against AIDS.

"Each of the people we're recognizing has really given above and beyond the

call of duty in the cause of AIDS," said AmFAR president Merv Silverman.

Among the crowd at the "Two-Steppin' for the Cure" benefit were Penny Marshall, Justine Bateman, Angela Bassett, Sidney Poitier and Lisa Hartman.

Miss Taylor, who will have hip replacement surgery next month, sat in a chair on the dais as she posed for a photo session with the honorees.

She won two Academy Awards as best actress in "Butterfield 8" (1960) and "Who's Afraid of Virginia Wolf?" (1966).

225 house members promise not to discriminate against gays

WASHINGTON, Friday, Feb. 25 (AP)—A majority of House members have promised not to discriminate against homosexuals in hiring and promotion, a gay rights group said Friday.

A total of 225 of the 435 members of the House signed and returned statements to the Human Rights Campaign Fund reading: "The sexual orientation of an individual is not a consideration in the hiring, promoting or terminating of an employee in my congressional office."

The statements had been distributed to the lawmakers by the campaign fund, which says it is the largest national gay lobbying group.

"A majority of members of the House of Representatives feel, like a majority of Americans, that discrimination is wrong," Tim McFeeley, executive director of the campaign fund, said at a news conference. But it is still legal to discriminate against gays and lesbians in most states, he said.

The campaign fund sought anti-discrimination pledges from House members after a furor last year when three Oklahoma congressmen—Republicans Ernest J. Istook Jr. and James M. Inhofe and Democrat Bill Brewster—told the Tulsa World newspaper they would not hire gay people for their congressional staffs.

Cook County, Illinois offers 'how-to' on prosecuting hate crimes

By **BRENDA C. COLEMAN**
 FOR THE HOUSTON VOICE

CHICAGO, Friday, Feb. 25 (AP)—Cook County's top prosecutor is throwing the book at hate criminals, and on Friday he offered other prosecutors a guidebook on how to do the same.

State's Attorney Jack O'Malley hopes "A Prosecutor's Guide to Hate Crime" will be a model used in all 102 Illinois counties, plus by authorities in other states.

He and others said they believe the 136-page guide is the first of its type in the nation.

The guide, supported by a grant from the U.S. Justice Department and the Illinois Criminal Justice Information Authority,

is being distributed to all Illinois state's attorneys and big-city prosecutors in other states.

Hate crime law is designed to take what otherwise would be a misdemeanor and elevate it into a felony, O'Malley said at a news conference.

Offenses that otherwise would be considered minor—simple battery, disorderly conduct, vandalism—are much more serious when motivated by bigotry and used "to intimidate an entire community," he said.

Simple property damage is easy to fix, but "terror that strikes into the heart of men and women is not so easy to repair," he said.

Beginning last year, misdemeanors motivated by hatred

based on race, religion, gender, sexual orientation or disability became Class 4 felonies in Illinois, punishable by one to three years in prison, and-or probation.

"We have only begun to see the potential of this powerful new law," O'Malley said. His office last year charged 41 defendants with felony hate crimes. By Dec. 31, four adults and three juveniles had pleaded guilty and been sentenced, while 33 cases were pending and one defendant had died.

Nailing hate criminals can be tricky—victims often feel intimidated and reluctant to testify, hate-crime laws are relatively new and constantly changing and about 10 percent of accusa-

tions are leveled at police, the guide says.

It outlines the history of hate crimes, case law, pre-trial procedures, and suggestions for reaching out to the community, among other things.

Michael A. Sandberg, Midwest civil rights director of the Anti-Defamation League of B'nai B'rith, said the guidelines will be valuable because hate crime is a new legal area for most prosecutors.

"There is a learning curve, a period of time in which police departments, prosecutors and judges have their initial exposure to an area of the law," he said. "Law enforcement needs the ammunition to deal with

these crimes with the seriousness they deserve."

Although laws vary from state to state, many of the concepts and recommendations about evidence and arguments will be broadly applicable, he said. Thirty other states have hate-crime laws similar to the one in Illinois, and an additional 15 states have at least some kind of statute dealing with the problem, he said.

Robert S. Peck, legislative counsel with the American Civil Liberties Union in Washington, D.C., said most jurisdictions "have some sort of informal guidelines" for prosecuting hate crimes, but Cook County's sound like the most extensive.

Don Gill wins Prime Choice contest for men over 40

COMMUNITY INTEREST FEATURE

By TAD NELSON
Houston Voice Publisher

Mr. Prime Choice sounds like a contest for "Grade A" Beef of the masculine gender doesn't it? Well, it is in a sense if you consider your men meat. The contest for men over 40 years of age was begun in Houston in 1981 by Vince Janis who was then the owner of The Different Drum, a popular leather bar.

Why another contest for men? This contest was begun to show the men of Houston that you don't have to be a 21 year old college co-ed with a smooth tanned body and a full lions mane of blonde hair to be found attractive. And since a man's 40th birthday is approached with such stigma, the contest would also prove once and for all that a man is not truly "over the hill" when the big 4-0 rolls around.

The first Mr. Prime Choice was Houston's Ben Moore, a very attractive and personable Houston cowboy who crossed over into the leather scene. Ben who still lives in the area was present at some of this years Choice events. And I've seen Ben on occasion at Presidents Health Club and he still looks pretty prime.

This year's winner of the 1994 Mr. Prime Choice Contest was another settler to Houston, Don Gill. Mr. Gill reports proudly that he was born on August 25 in the year 1951. If you can do the math you'll figure out that he is 42 years old.

Don was originally from Shreveport, Louisiana but grew up in Leesville. He was the youngest of nine children and considers this a contributing factor as to his ability to love more than one person at the same time. His family were simple people who lived in the country on a farm. His father was illiterate, but Don considers his dad to be one of the smartest men he knew. He was a gentleman who believed in hard work and loved his family deeply. A little of this has to have rubbed off on his youngest son, Don, because Don is a gentleman himself. Don also has a very extended family of friends here in Hous-



Don Gill is Mr. Prime Choice 1994

ton and he loves and cares about them as them as his own.

This brings me to Don's latest role as that of caregiver. Don has loved and lost not one, but two lovers to AIDS; Jim Nichols and Mark Blackshear as well as a cousin, Leo Perkins. Gill said that the loss of Jim gave him the strength and basic knowledge to help subsequent PWAs. And you can sense from Don that there is still great compassion and love welled up deep inside him waiting for his thoughtful distribution. Someone will be very fortunate to have Don Gill as a caregiver in the future. He seems to be destined to help other for as long as it is possible for him to do so.

But what did Don want to be when he grew up? When he first moved to Houston in May of 1970, Gill immediately began the career so many young gay men do, as that of a hair dresser. For a brief 5 year period

he stopped burning hair and took a job in the "real corporate world" with Stewart & Stevenson Oil Tool Equipment. (FYI it was during this time our Mr. Prime Choice was lovers with another one of Houston's Mr. Prime Choices, Don Dowden.)

Then in 1982 Don ventured back into hair dressing to open his own salon on Westheimer called Hair Plus by Don. The location is now part of the Randall's parking lot. Don sold Hair Plus at it's current West Gray location in June of 1991 and opened a salon in his home at 911 Welch called Studio 911, where he is still in business of making other people look good.

The Mr. Prime Choice contest for men over 40 was judged on many facets of personality and appearance as well as the contestant's fantasy and amount of money raised for area charities. Don swamped all others in the final category

by raising over \$3,700 from donations from friends, businesses and local benefits. And an interesting fact to note is that Redkin Laboratories, a national hair care conglomerate was one of the contributors to Don's candidacy.

Our Mr. Prime Choice 1994 has very few club affiliations, but he is one of the original founding members of Houston's Annual Fantasy Ball, a local Halloween event, and he is also a member of Wolf-pack. In the past year he was selected as Mr. Pre Parade '93, Montrose Mining Companies Bear of the Month for March '93 (Don's Studio 911 is now a monthly sponsor of the Bear Contest), Daddy of Montrose '93 and Mr. Venture-N '93. All this and Mr Prime Choice 1994.

One local writer, friend and customer of Mr. Gill's, Peggy McCue Rhodes is inspired by Don's dedication to his friends in spite of their serious illnesses. So much so that she has written a series of 4 poems: AIDS and the Working Man—The Caregiver; AIDS and the Working Man—A Farewell; and AIDS and the Working Man—Best Friends. Her latest literary entry is AIDS and the Working Man—A Day in the Sun. Peggy has also written a short story that has been accepted for consideration by HBO.

After all is said and done and his year as Mr. Prime Choice 1994 is over and life settles into a normal routine again, Mr. Gill wants one thing remembered about himself. Remember that he was a southern gentleman. Sounds nice but what the heck are we talking about here, another Rhett Butler? Don himself defines a southern gentleman as someone who is not only kind to others, but also has the ability to recognize the needs of another human being and has the wisdom and grace to try and meet those needs. Well my friend, that being the definition, you truly are a southern gentleman and a worthy addition to the history of the Mr. Prime Choice contest. Congratulations Don.

(Note: Mr. Prime Choice is a registered trademark owned by Gary Batchelor, who is also the owner of The Ripcord in Houston, Texas.)



Gay Air Force officer's suit against military police barred

SAN FRANCISCO, Friday, Feb. 25 (AP)—A longstanding ban on suits by armed forces members over military incidents means an Air Force officer cannot sue military police who searched his private home.

That decision was reached Friday by the 9th U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals in the case of former Lt. Col. Kenneth L. Jackson Jr., now of Los Gatos, who was later discharged for homosexual conduct.

The court said he was barred from suing—regardless of the grounds for the search or the constitutionality of the military's policy against homosexuals.

Jackson was a 17-year veteran with a high-security ballistic missile office assignment at Norton AFB in Southern California when the case began in Feb. 1988.

Local police had information that a civilian with whom Jackson lived outside the base had molested two boys at the house, the court said. Police got a warrant to search the house and asked the Air Force to

send along its own agents and Jackson. Norton's commanding officer told Jackson to accompany the agents to the house, an order whose terms remain in dispute.

At the house, according to Jackson, police asked him if he had a sexual relationship with the civilian and turned information over to the four Air Force agents, who proceeded to detain Jackson and conduct their own search.

That started an investigation that ended with Jackson's honorable but involuntary discharge in Sept. 1989, said Jackson's appellate lawyer, Richard Gayer. He said Jackson was 11 months short of eligibility for his pension, worth more than \$500,000, and has asked a military board to overrule the discharge so he can collect his pension.

Jackson did not seek reinstatement, but sued the four Air Force officers for damages, claiming an illegal search.

In explaining the officers' presence at the

home, the court said there was "understandable concern" about Jackson's possible involvement in alleged law-breaking, and about the possible threat to security posed by the search.

But Gayer said the military officers did not suspect Jackson of wrongdoing, had no right to accompany civilian police in the search of a civilian, and had no search warrant of their own.

The government sought to dismiss the suit against the officers, citing a 1950 Supreme Court ruling that prohibits suits by military personnel for damages suffered "incident to military service."

U.S. District Judge William Ingram of San Jose refused to dismiss the suit, saying the Air Force had no legitimate interest in Jackson's sexual orientation or off-base sexual conduct, and that the harm he claimed was therefore not "incident to military service." But the appeals court said Ingram had read the military's immunity from suit too narrowly.

The 1950 ruling has been interpreted broadly to prohibit any suit by a member of the armed forces against a fellow service member or the government that might "intrude in military affairs, second-guess military decisions or impair military discipline," said Judge Procter Hug in the 3-0 ruling.

The search by the Air Force agents involves those types of military decisions, Hug said, because the agents were acting under their authority as law enforcement officers, at the orders of their commanding officer. To examine whether they exceeded their authority would involve the courts improperly in military matters, he said.

Although the constitutionality of Pentagon policies on homosexuality is still under court scrutiny, Hug said, even a victim of unconstitutional actions cannot sue for damages "incident to military service."

Administration says North Idaho students must grant status to alliance

COEUR D'ALENE, Idaho, Thursday, Feb. 24 (AP)—The North Idaho College Board of Trustees has passed a resolution granting campus status to the Lesbian, Gay and Bisexual Alliance, overruling the student senate's previous refusal to sanction the Alliance.

Three student senators and Associated Students of North Idaho College President Christa Manis asked trustees to support the student senate's decision, but trustees went into a 20-minute closed session on Wednesday and came out with the resolution drafted Tuesday by their attorney.

The resolution becomes effective if the student government takes any official action to continue its position, or

on March 1. The student senate was scheduled to meet Friday to consider reaffirming its denial of club status for the Alliance.

Associated Students of North Idaho College attorney Peter Erbland said the student senate would respect the board of trustee's decision.

Senators Pat Carnie, Kris Stein, Jay Lopes and Manis had asked the board to not make a hasty decision and to work with them, not around them.

"I question the board's right to decide what is considered a student issue," Manis said. "Please, please, please . . . talk to the students. We all have."

But Linda Payne, president of the Human Equality Club, spoke against

the student senate, saying she found it frightening that future political leaders and law enforcement would violate the Constitution.

After the meeting, student senator Jessica Walter said she was "extremely" happy with the outcome.

Last month, the senate, in a 5-2 vote, defeated her motion to recognize the club.

Gissel told senators the trustees support the role of student government but must be guardians of the college's assets. Legal recourse had been threatened if the Alliance was not recognized.

The board's resolution did not specifically address the issue of student funds for the club. Traditionally, student

government has given \$200 in start-up funds to any club that is not religious or political in nature.

Erbland later indicated students who object to their money supporting the club may have legal grounds to seek reimbursement.

Money for clubs comes from the \$20 in fees each student pays each semester. It amounts to about 15 cents per club from each student.

The Alliance's attorney, Harvey Richman, said the trustees' action removes the board from a lawsuit, but potential liability still exists for the student senators.

Florida women say they were harassed by lesbian boss

LARGO, Fla., Thursday, Feb. 24 (AP)—Three women have accused their lesbian boss of making remarks about their breasts, keeping photos of nude women and making loud and lewd phone calls to a girlfriend.

"We've all had experiences dealing with male leches, but none of us knew exactly how to handle this twist," Dusty Furlong said of her job at Gates/FA Distributing, a computer sales company in Largo. "It was like working for a lech, only a female lech."

The three have filed discrimination complaints—Furlong and Mary Ann Snoddy with the Equal Employment Opportunity Commission, Melanie Jentoft with the St. Petersburg Human Relations Department saying they were forced from their jobs nine months ago because they complained about harassment from office manager Isabel Arango.

The three women say they were subjected to nonstop lewd behavior from late 1992 to their departures in May 1993. They said it was impossible to escape the offensive behavior because their office of six was small. And they said they made it clear to Arango that it bothered them, but the activity continued.

Arango, 32, said she has done nothing

improper. She said they wanted to have her fired because she is homosexual.

She said she is sensitive to sexual harassment issues and believes sex should not be the subject of office chatter. She acknowledged she complimented them when they looked or smelled nice but said there was nothing sexual about it. "I say that to anybody. I'm just a nice person."

Philip Ellett, president and chief executive officer, said Gates/FA has investigated the claims and considers them groundless.

The three deny they are prejudiced toward homosexuals. "This is not a gay issue here. If she had been a man, it would have been the same thing," said Snoddy.

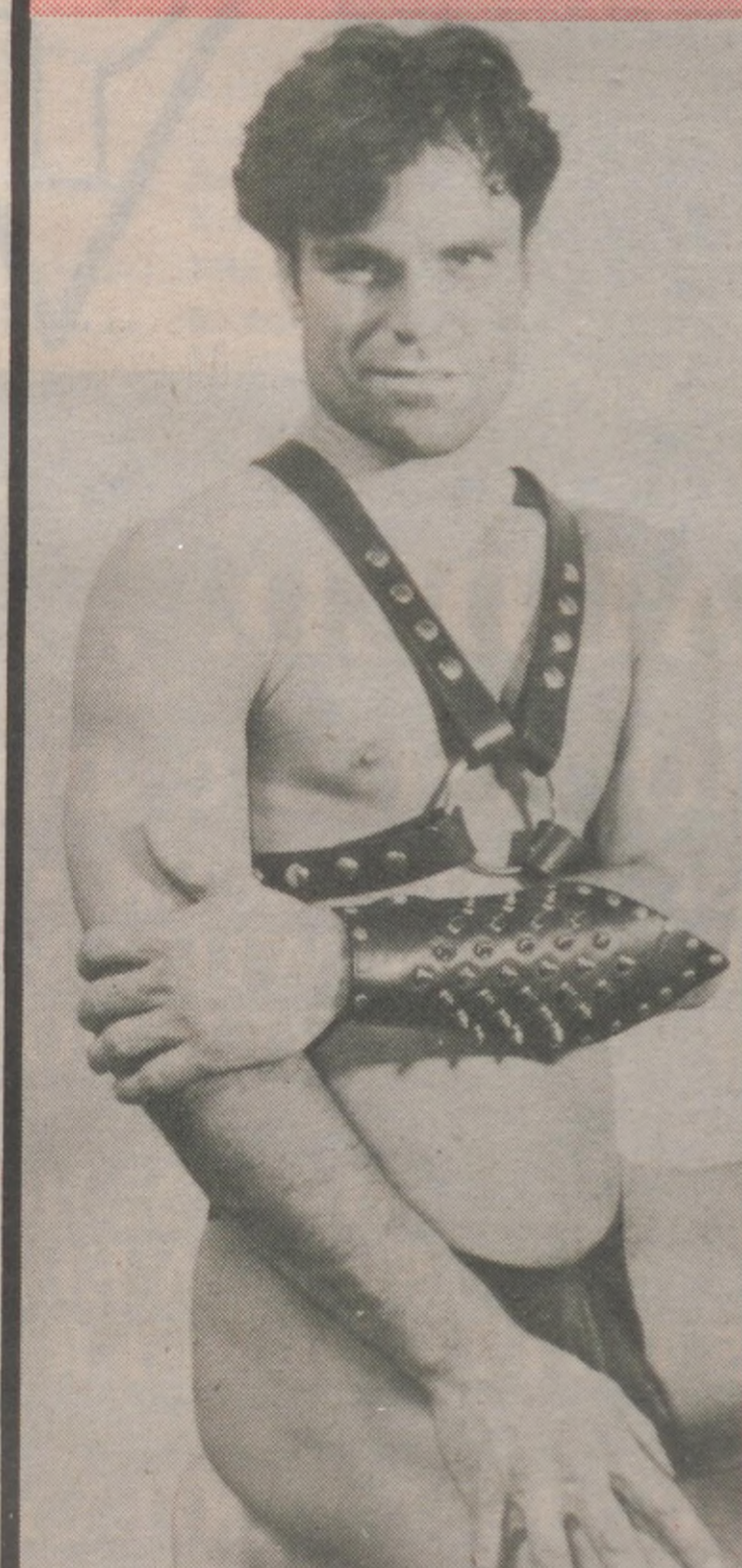
Jentoft, 19, was a receptionist; Snoddy, 39, and Furlong, 43, were sales representatives.

The three women said they all decided to quit when the company failed to satisfy their complaints.

"We know these things happen," Furlong said, "but you just expect—especially in this day and age—for someone to take it seriously."

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Thai AIDS patients protest closing of treatment center by police

BANGKOK, Thailand, Friday, Feb. 25 (AP)—About 100 AIDS patients demonstrated after police closed an AIDS treatment center and arrested its owner for producing and distributing medicine without a license, a local newspaper reported Friday.

The Living with Nature Club in

the northern city of Chiang Mai provided herbal remedies and was also a support center for AIDS patients before it was shut Thursday, the Bangkok Post reported.

Protesters claimed that Wichai Witchunilubol, the center's owner, was innocent because the medicine was made and distrib-

uted by the patients themselves, said the Post.

AIDS—Acquired Immune Deficiency Syndrome—is spread through sexual contact and the sharing of drug needles.

Official statistics show that 600,000 Thais are infected with

HIV, the virus that causes AIDS. Northern Thailand has been particularly hard hit by the disease.

In the northern province of Chiang Rai, a shortage of hospital beds for the dramatically increasing number of AIDS patients has prompted the government to build a new AIDS treatment center.

But "most AIDS victims don't trust the treatment available in government hospitals and look for alternative treatments," said Chumpon Apisuk of Empower, a non-governmental organization dealing with AIDS in Thailand.

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SIXTH HUMANITARIAN AWARD DINNER

Sixth Annual Organization Humanitarian Award: Over the Hill, Inc.

Lifetime Achievement Award: Dr. Paul Volberding

Director AIDS Program San Francisco General Hospital San Francisco, CA.

Guest Speaker: H. Clifford Lane, M.D. (See Program)

Place: Ramada Hotel Astrodome
Time: 7:30 p.m. **Date:** March 25, 1994

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In lieu of registration fee we request that you make a donation to Over The Hill, Inc.



SPEAKERS

Mary Ann Bobinski, BA, J.D., LL.M.
Assistant Professor of Law
University of Houston Law Center
Houston, TX

Susan Buchbinder, M.D.
Branch Chief of Research on AIDS
Dept. of Public Health
San Francisco, CA

Lisa Bunce, MS, RD
Private Practice
Ridgefield, CT

Martin Delaney
Founder-Director
Project Inform
San Francisco, CA

Francisco Fernandez, M.D.
Chief of Psychiatric Consultation Services
St. Luke's Episcopal Hospital
Houston, TX

Fred Gordin, M.D.
Associate Professor of Medicine
Georgetown University
Washington, DC

Celine Hanson, M.D.
Associate Professor of Pediatrics
Baylor College of Medicine
Houston, TX

Jacqueline Hart, M.D.
Summit Medical Group
Chief of Staff
Twelve Oaks Hospital
Associate Clinical Professor
Baylor College of Medicine
Houston, TX

Keith Hoots, M.D.
Associate Professor of Pediatrics and Internal Medicine
Director Gulf State Hemophilia Center
U.T.H.S.C. at Houston
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Houston, TX

Mitchell Katine, Attorney at Law
Assistant Professor
South Texas College of Law
Chair of the Houston Bar Association Subcommittee on AIDS
President of the Bar Association for Human Rights

H. Clifford Lane, M.D.
Clinical Director
National Institute of Allergies and Infectious Diseases
National Institute of Health
Bethesda, Maryland

Richard Lewis, M.D.
Professor, Department of Ophthalmology and HIV Infection
Baylor College of Medicine
Houston, TX

Daniel Lucey, M.D.
Medical Staff
Experimental Immunology Branch
National Cancer Institute
National Institutes of Health
Bethesda, Maryland

Susan Miller, M.D.
Chief of Staff
Thomas Street Clinic
Houston, TX

Janet Mitchell, M.D.
Chief of Perinatology
Harlem Hospital Center
Department of OB/GYN
New York, NY

Joanne Rodriguez
Guest Speaker
Houston, TX

Patsy Salvato, M.D.
Medical Director of Houston Immunological Institute
HCA Medical Center Hospital
Houston, TX

Tobias Samo, M.D.
Clinical Assistant Professor
Section of Infectious Disease
Department of Internal Medicine
Baylor College of Medicine
Houston, TX

Edward D. Stach, D. Min., LCDC
Charter Hospital of Sugarland
Behavioral Counsel Group
Executive Dir. of Journey Program

Keynote Speaker

Paul Volberding, M.D.
Director of AIDS Program
San Francisco General Hospital
San Francisco, CA
Friday, March 25, 1994

This year, The Sixth Annual Houston Conference on AIDS in America is pleased to announce the selection of Over The Hill, Inc. as the community organization to receive the 1994 Annual Humanitarian Award. Over The Hill, Inc., founded in 1979 by Mateen Baaith, is a non-for-profit organization devoted to improve the quality of life for the ex-offender, inmate, indigent and minority populations in Houston and throughout the state of Texas.



Since 1987, Over The Hill, Inc. expanded its efforts to educate and provide community outreach programs in the specific areas of AIDS and substance abuse. Through grant awards from the city, county, state, and other organizations like the Center for Disease Control, Over The Hill, Inc. has been able to offer HIV counseling/testing of minorities and I.V. Drug Users, a jail rehabilitation program and a juvenile education and outreach program.

It is for these significant humanitarian activities, performed over the years on a consistent basis, that Over The Hill, Inc. has been awarded the Sixth Annual Humanitarian Award.

PROGRAM

FRIDAY, MARCH 25

- 7:00 a.m.: Registration and Continental Breakfast
- 8:00-8:30 a.m.: Understanding the Human Immune Response to HIV Infections
Daniel Lucey, M.D.
- 8:30-9:00 a.m.: Practical Aspects of Nutrition in HIV Infection
Lisa Bunce, MS, RD
- 9:00-9:30 a.m.: HIV and Hemophilia
Keith Hoots, M.D.
- 9:30-9:45 a.m.: BREAK
- 9:45-10:15 a.m.: Recent Advances in the Management of Infectious Complications in HIV Patients
Tobias Samo, M.D.
- 10:15-11:30 a.m.: Substance Abuse and HIV Infection
Edward D. Stach, D. Min., LCDC
- 11:30-12:15 p.m.: Speakers Panel for Q&A
- 12:15-1:30 p.m.: LUNCH BREAK
- 1:30-2:00 p.m.: Insurance Law and Your Benefits
Mitchell Katine, Attorney at Law
- 2:00-2:30 p.m.: The Psychiatrist and HIV Infection
Frank Fernandez, M.D.
- 2:30-2:45 p.m.: BREAK
- 2:45-3:30 p.m.: Mycobacteriosis and HIV Infection
Fred Gordin, M.D.
- 3:30-4:30 p.m.: KEYNOTE LECTURE, PAUL VOLBERDING, M.D., The Management and Treatment of HIV Infection
- 4:30-5:15 p.m.: Speakers Panel, Q&A
- 5:15 p.m.: ADJOURNMENT

SATURDAY, MARCH 26

- 7:30-8:00 a.m.: Introduction: A Special Morning Program
Women and HIV Disease
- 8:00-8:30 a.m.: The Treatment of Sexually Transmitted Diseases in HIV Infected Women
Patsy Salvato, M.D.
- 8:30-9:15 a.m.: Management and Treatment of HIV Infection at the Thomas Street Clinic
Susan Miller, M.D.
- 9:15-9:30 a.m.: BREAK
- 9:30-10:00 a.m.: HIV Infected Women and the Law
Mary Anne Bobinski, Attorney at Law
- 10:00-10:45 a.m.: Long-Term Survival and HIV Infection
Susan Buchbinder, M.D.
- 10:45-11:15 a.m.: AIDS Related Malignancies
Jacqueline Hart, M.D.
- 11:30-12:30 p.m.: Pregnancy and HIV Infection
Janet Mitchell, M.D.
- 12:30-1:00 p.m.: Speakers Panel, Q&A Session
- 1:00-1:45 p.m.: LUNCH
- 1:45-2:15 p.m.: The Ophthalmologist and HIV Infection
Richard Lewis, M.D.
- 2:15-2:30 p.m.: BREAK
- 2:30-3:00 p.m.: Recent Advances in the Management of HIV Infection in Children
Celine Hanson, M.D.
- 3:00-3:45 p.m.: GUEST SPEAKER, JOANNE RODRIGUEZ "LIVING WITH AIDS"
- 3:45-4:00 p.m.: BREAK
- 4:00-5:00 p.m.: AIDS Update: 1994
Martin Delaney, Founder/Director of Project Inform
- 5:00 p.m.: ADJOURNMENT

7:30 p.m.: Sixth Annual Humanitarian Award Dinner
Guest Speaker: H. Clifford Lane, M.D.
New Approaches to the Treatment of HIV Disease

1994 AWARD RECIPIENTS
MITCHELL KATINE, ATTORNEY AT LAW, HUMANITARIAN AWARD
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Theme of trip back in 'Consider this Home' may ring familiar to many

BOOK REVIEWS

By JUDITH MEYER

Families, of birth and of choice, are at the heart of Greg Bill's impressive first novel, "Consider This Home." The story is driven by that rite of passage, the trip back home. Kath and her son Daron have lived for six years in Las Vegas in the solitude of self-imposed exile. When her mother leaves her father, Kath is pulled home to Sterling, a small Mormon town in southern Utah. There she faces her family, increasingly estranged from one another, and increasingly strange, and her past.

Kath runs into Tom, Daron's father. Kath had a high school crush on Tom, who sought her friendship but dropped her abruptly after one kiss. After Tom's missionary service in Mexico was suddenly cut short the next year, he reappeared in Sterling, hanging out, drinking beer and smoking dope. Tom and Kath began an affair that awakened her strength and passion. Raised by stoic parents who never touched or revealed any softness, Kath was refreshed by the tears Tom shed after they made love. When Kath became pregnant, Tom confessed of his homosexuality, and the next day disappeared from town. Shunned and shamed, Kath eventually married Merrill, a righteous Mormon whose protection restored her to family and faith, but whose increasing religious zeal frightened her enough to flee home for Las Vegas. Now, instead of recriminations or a plea for reconciliation, Merrill asks for a divorce—so that he can marry Kath's younger sister, who is

already pregnant.

Bills is poetically accurate in evoking parent-child relationships: the small, casual cruelties, the pathos of distance, the wonder at unknown lives, the iron bonds. The greetings Kath and her mother exchange when they first see each other are familiar to any grown child: "Kath." She smiles but furrows her forehead. "You've cut your hair so short. It looks pasted to your head." "Nice to see you too, Mom..."

In a fascinating chapter, Kath tries to reconcile her mother and father with the family legends of their courtship, The Apple Story and The Outhouse Story. The man who bragged about stealing a kiss from his sweetheart before going to war is most worried about who will do the grocery shopping and pay the utility bills, now that she has left him after decades of marriage. Looking at her father as he eats his bedtime snack of milk and coconut macaroons, Kath can't imagine him ever kissing with comfort or desire: "If there was ever passion inside him, it was liquid metal in a thick mold, looking for cracks to spurt from, but finding none and cooling, hardening into a gray bar of duty that would never flash or bend or throb with a wild keening ring for the sheer hunger and want of love." Circumstances have opened up her parents to her like oysters, and Kath "sees them now as puny things clinging helplessly inside the shells they have presented to the world."

Bills provides a multi-generational picture of the parent-child dance. Eleven-year-old Daron is most often

"bored and uneasy" around his mother and grandparents. He loves Kath, but doesn't really know her. "He can observe the woman who lives with him in an apartment in Las Vegas and pays for his clothes and food, but his mom also surrounds him with a vast invisible field of force, in which love, anger and need cluster and vibrate." On her part, Kath "hates herself for not knowing which truths to protect him from and which truths to disclose." She wonders how Daron will look at her in 20 years: "A woman who has shut herself off like a light switch? Acrid smoke sealed in a dark bottle?"

Bills' female protagonist rings true. He gives Kath a true sexual passion, presented as the natural gift of female adolescence and maturity. And in Kath's impoverished life with Merrill, he describes the withdrawal from life, the price paid all-too-often for such bargains: There were too many pleasures she did not expect to meet again: the joy of freedom, of sex, of limitless choices. But marriage would put things right for her in the world...She would even love him—love would come or she would force it. But she couldn't imagine how she would fill the days. Instead, she began to realize, she would need to find some means to escape them...mind and—incrementally, so that he would not notice her vacancy—began to shut the door and commence her absentee life.

The portrait of Tom is equally convincing. The story of his growing awareness of and struggle with his sexuality in a hostile religious environment—complete with psychiatric treatment and

electroshock aversion therapy—is moving. Tom's feeling for his young missionary partner and Kath both ring true. The first is freighted with the weight of inexperience and seeming impossibility: "Tom ached at the silence between them. He thought he might be in love, but he knew love could not exist in their situation." And with Kath, Tom "didn't expect to be saved, but he thought he might be happy. And he was happy. He surrendered himself to the precision of pleasure and never considered whether, below the surface of sensation, he felt anything real." In explaining his life after he ran from Kath's pregnancy, the life he assumed he must lead as a homosexual, Tom describes thousands of gays and lesbians who have left home: "For years I thought I would have to be alone, I thought that was the price of it. It was about giving things up...It was like I was an exile on an island. I'd chosen to leave, but I felt like I'd been banished."

Bills sets his family drama in a small religious town familiar even for those of us ignorant of Mormonism. Small details serve well. Women are named KathLeen, JuLee, PearLean and RaNae. The food the neighbors bring Kath's father in his hour of need sounds like any church pot luck dinner: a potato dish made with Tater Tots, peas and cheese sauce; frozen green beans covered with a layer of bread crumbs; a chicken casserole "eerie in its blandness—soft and white with even the chow mein noodles creamed into homogeneous texture..."

(Continued on following page)

Jennifer Fulton's 'True Love' one of Naiad's best recent releases

(Continued from previous page)

Bills' talent in evoking the familiar is matched by his gift for fresh imagery. Aunt Pearl has large breasts, but her "lower extremities slim down to nothing like a genie from a bottle." Driving at night, the desert seemed to pile up against the sides of the road "like fabric bunching up behind a sewing machine needle." Young missionaries on their bicycles, "their hearts and mouths stuffed full of truth," have "the impermeable sheen of true belief." Bills' tone throughout the novel is detached in the extreme, an almost clinical observation of events and emotions. This tends to forestall sympathy for or connection with the characters, but Bill's plumbing of feelings and motives, human cause and effect, is perceptive and accurate. The sheer pleasure of his prose carries you

through much of the book without wondering where the plot is going.

That destination is series of events reminiscent of Flannery O'Connor. Merrill's religious zealotry leads to ends foreshadowed by his obsession with the story of Abraham and Isaac. But out of the chaos of faith and the emptiness of blood ties, Kath and Daron, Tom and his lover Artie, build a family that makes the effort to love. And Daron, while disturbed at life's impermanence, appreciates the unseen that always accompanies understanding.

True Love

Jennifer Fulton's "True Love" is one of Naiad's recent best. Part of the reason is that—in spite of the title—this is not a predictable love story that ends with the characters making love for the first time, looking forward to a blissful and passionate life, monogamously

together, all the difference and difficulties that kept them apart in the preceding 200 pages conveniently forgotten. True Love is about six women, friends who meet for dinner every Wednesday night to discuss their love lives. The club has only two rules: the women must tell the truth, and they must not become romantically involved with each other.

They break the rules, of course. Just because this isn't a "love story" doesn't mean there isn't any sex. There a lot, all kinds—from companionable cuddling to a fierce role-playing that escalates into rape. And with sex comes lies: "What is it about sexual intimacy that engenders this elastic relationship with truth?" wonders Rosie, the narrator.

But the web of sexual involvement and deflected desire becomes so tangled that the truth eventually outs. And in the end, the friends truly loved

one another—or so Rosie writes in her diary a year later, perhaps too easily. Stating something doesn't make it so.

Fulton is the Australian author of two previous Naiad bestsellers set in the South Pacific, "Passion Bay" and "Saving Grace." She writes smoothly, but her description of Nicole's efforts to attract Julia—"big hair, Lycra hot-pants, an exotic nipple piercing displayed by means of a see-through blouse"—left me feeling as though I had slipped down the rabbit hole into a geographic, historic and cultural time warp. And the final chapter about an emotionally-harrowing event in Rosie's childhood seems intrusive, a gratuitous effort to throw in references to child abuse and recovery.

New: "Modern Nature," By Derek Jarman; "Shattered Rhythms," by Phyllis Knight; "Just As I Am," by E. Lynn Har-

ris; "Gardenias Where There Were None," by Molleen Zanger; "Testimonies: Lesbian Coming Out Stories," by Karen Barber and Sarah Holmes; "Revelations: Gay Coming Out Stories," Adrien Saks and Wayne Curtis; "Queering the Pitch: The New Gay and Lesbian Musicology," by Phillip Brett, Elizabeth Wood and Gary C. Thomas; "Homographies: Essays in Gay Literary and Cultural Theory," by Lee Edelman; "High Camp: A Gay Guide to Camp and Cult Films, Vol. I," by Paul Roden.

New in Paperback: "Boots of Leather, Slippers of Gold," by Elizabeth Lapovsky Kennedy and Madeline B. Davis; "800 Years of Women's Letters," by Olga Kenyon; "Pagan Babies," by Greg Johnson; "Invisible Life," by E. Lynn Harris.

(Judith Meyer is the manager of Crossroads Market Bookstore, 610 W. Alabama).

Milwaukee university planning gay and lesbian studies program

MILWAUKEE, Wednesday, Feb. 23 (AP)—Plans call for starting an undergraduate gay and lesbian studies program at the University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee in the fall semester if UW administrators give final approval.

The UWM Academic Program and Curriculum Committee unanimously approved the plan last week, but it still requires approval of Vice Chancellor of Academic Affairs Kenneth L. Watters and the UW System administration in Madison.

Christopher Lane, coordinator of the program and an assistant professor in the English

and Comparative Literature Department, said he expected the program to win final approval with little difficulty.

The program, he said, would be developed out of existing courses that deal with gay and lesbian issues.

It "also is symbolic in the sense that it validates the presence of gays on campus," he said.

But David Mulroy, chairperson of the Classic Department at UWM, said he considered the development of the program to be a political power play by a special interest group.

"I find it hard to believe that the gay angle on different subjects really adds up to an academic discipline," he said. "It is obviously based on the interests of a political interest group."

Mulroy, however, said he wasn't suggesting that gay and lesbian issues aren't important, only that they do not constitute an academic discipline.

For example, he said he teaches the ancient Greek poetry of Sappho, a lesbian who addressed her love poems to other women, and her sexual orientation is clearly an important

part of her story.

"In the classics, for years before it was fashionable, we were teaching that it was not taboo in ancient Greece and Rome to be homosexual," he said.

Lane said the program would award students a certificate after completing 18 credits, or the classes could be taken as electives.

Only a handful of universities in the nation have a concentrated field of study on gay and lesbian issues, he said.

FRI

STRIP CONTEST
at 11:00 PM with
PAIVI

SAT

BRITTANY PAIGE
Presents
SUPER SATURDAY SHOW
at 11:00 SHARP
with Guest Host • **CATIA LEELOVE**
Miss E/J's Sweetheart
and guests
CINNAMON • ALICIA
& **CHEVELLE BROOKS**
Miss Bayou City Houston

MON

MALE STRIP CONTEST
11:00 PM with
B.J. WILLIAMS

TUE

TALENT NIGHT
at 10:30 PM with
BRITTANY PAIGE

WED

KARAOKE NIGHT
at 8:00 PM with Bill Sansom
STEAK NIGHT ON THE PATIO
Our New Year-A-Around Heat & Air Patio
6:00 PM til — With **LUCY**

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- \$1.50 Vodka 7am-6pm
- Mug Club 7am-10pm
- \$3.75 Pitchers & \$1.25 Mugs



COMMERCIAL MEMBER



Houston Benefits Raise Big Bucks; This is the PANTHEON OF LEATHER Weekend



DEBORAH HARRY gave a SRO concert at Rich's last Sunday. She is shown here with production manager, DAVE HEMMER



CHRISTOPHER will make your reservations and greet you at Henry McClurg's MONTROSE INN—a new "basic & butch" Bed & Breakfast

MAL. Hamburgers are .75 cents and cheeseburgers are only \$1.00.

J.R.'s GRILL is gone. But in it's place you will find frozen drinks like Belinni's and Russian Qualudes. You will also find the smiling face of MISS CAROL there to serve you five days a week and through Happy Hour on Fridays.

Next up at RICH'S is MISS GAY HOUSTON 94 on Friday. See the tops in



PRIME CHOICE contestants Dean Walradt, DON GILL (MR. PRIME CHOICE 94-95), Dan Kalin, and Dale Harsey

HOUSTON SOAP, PART ONE

By TAD NELSON

Houston Voice Publisher

HELLO HOUSTON!

LAST WEEK in Houston. ... Results from the past weeks SOIREE AUBERGINE events at GENTRY are not to be released until March 11. There was so much raised that the board is still counting at press time. Sounds pretty encouraging. Rumor has it that over \$20,000 was raised in this years events which would be a new record for the Eggplant Evening.

The ROYAL, SOVEREIGN AND IMPERIAL COURT OF THE SINGLE STAR held its investiture this past Saturday evening at the Brazos River Bottom. Empress IX REGINA DANE and Emperor IX GIOVANNI LAMOND were there to among other duties present checks to area charities. The pair presented \$2760 to COLT 45's, \$920 to the GAY & LESBIAN SWITCHBOARD and \$920 to STONEWALL 25, bringing the grand total to \$4600.

Being arrested has never been as much fun as it was at last Saturdays Q-PATROL LOCK UP PARTY at PACIFIC STREET. The crowded cell was a man's fantasy. These men helped raise over \$500.00 for Q-PATROL's neighborhood safety effort.

PATTI LE PLAYS SAFE, Miss Gay Dallas Metroplex 94 was in town this past Sunday for a special benefit at BRB for EXCEL OF THE ARMADILLO. Excel is a group from MCCR that has weekend retreats for time to escape from society and for persons to reflect and obtain direction in their lives during these scheduled escapes. Also included in the entertainment were AMY-O FULTON, ALAN MASTERS and JODY TRAVIS. DAMITA JO, EMPRESS X of the Imperial Court, SHELBY ST. JOHN, Miss BRB 94, EDDIE TAYLOR, Mr. BRB 94, CHRISTOPHER GRA-

HAM, Mr. Gulf Coast 94 All American, BEA MARQUEZ and the GLORYLAND SINGERS and BRB's own CHABLIS LEE LOVE. A great time was had by all.

DEBORAH HARRY played to an excited SRO crowd Sunday at RICH'S. Not only is Deborah funny and down to Earth, she put on a show that was so dynamic—the people that attended will remember this for a long time.

The Monday night GAY COMEDY JAM at the LAFF STOP was evidently well attended. If not by many of you out there, at least by my employees. Carolyn and Don had a great time and Carolyn said, "I laughed so hard my face hurt!" The staff of the Houston Voice wish to thank Laff Stop for a great evening of Gay entertainment.

The SWEET PUSSY PAULINE SHOW at HEAVEN brought the crowd to their knees on this clubs new Wednesday night extravaganza, MoNdO bIzArRo!! MISS CANDY J sizzled on stage for almost an hour and then returned to sign autographs and give away recording. In March Mondo Bizarro proudly welcomes Adult Video Director and Drag Queen extraordinaire CHI CHI LARUE back to Heaven with two of America's hottest new male erotic stars MARCO ROSSI and DEREK CRUISE for a midnight show on March 23.

VENTURE-N was awarded 1st place from the COLT 45's for having the most donations to their collection box for donations to COLT 45's TROUBLE FUND. There were 35 boxes monitored in this competition for 1993. Thanks to DAVID, his staff and customers for helping with contributions to this charitable organization.

THIS WEEK in Houston. ...

You can park once and party all night at 800 PACIFIC STREET. With the Mine at 805, J.R.'s and Santa Fe at 804 and 808, and Heaven at 810—good times are never far away. Plus... visit all of our friends at the other neighborhood bars that are in walking distance from 800 Pacific including 611, Bacchus, Cousin's, Mary's, Missouri Street Station, Pacific Street, Past Time, and Ripcord. With all of this entertainment in one place. ...

Thursdays over at the BRB the have Happy Hours till 11 pm and if you get hungry around dinner time they have HAMBURGER NIGHT out on the patio with ANI-

Female Impersonation compete for the title of Miss Houston.

This weekend, MARCH 4—6 is the PANTHEON OF LEATHER WEEKEND 1994 as presented by the LEATHER JOURNAL. Featured will be the Leather Community Service Awards and the International Masters and Slaves Contest. Wyndham Warwick is the host hotel and NLA-H is the host club. PANTHEON OF LEATHER that long awaited leather weekend is happening in Houston beginning this Friday. Registration begins at noon at the WYNDHAM WARWICK



CAROLYN LARSON has joined the staff of HOUSTON VOICE as our newest Houston area sales representative

HOTEL and will continue until 8:00 p.m. There is also a Cocktail Reception at the hotel from 7 pm until 10 pm followed by a Bar Run to area bars beginning at 10 om and continuing until the wee hour of 2:00 a.m. Then on Saturday, registration will continue again at noon and run until 6 pm at the hotel with seminars at 11:30 a.m. and 1:00 p.m. Then from 3 to 7 pm there will be a barbecue at the Brazos River Bottom followed by the big INTERNATIONAL MASTER and SLAVE CONTEST at the VENTURE-N from 8 to 11:00 p.m. (This event is to be held in the Far Side and requires a ticket for admission. The Far Side will not be open to the general public, but tickets will be available at the door if you are not registered for the weekends events.) Finally on Sunday from noon to 4 pm there will be a Vendor area set up at the hotel with a seminar at 1:00 p.m. From noon to 3 pm there will be a photo shoot at the RIPCORD by CUIR magazine called Cuir Next Door. An awards

presentation will be featured as the final event at the hotel from 5 to 8 pm and at 9 pm, PACIFIC STREET will be holding a Leather Ball. For information call DEAN WALRADT at (713) 528-2850.

The E/J's SATURDAY SUPER SHOW starts at 11 pm with a great star studded cast and that wonderful emcee, BRITTANY PAIGE, Miss Mid Texas. This weeks guest host is CATIA LEE LOVE, MISS E/J'S SWEETHEART '94. And her special guests are CINNAMON, ALICIA AND CHEVELLE BROOKS, MISS BAYOU CITY-HOUSTON.

MCCR will hold a spiritual renewal on Sunday March 6 with REVEREND STEVE PIETERS. Pieters is a long time survivor of AIDS having been diagnosed in 1982. He has been the field director of the AIDS Ministry for the Universal Fellowship of MCC's since 1987 and has written the HIV support group manual entitled "The Spiritual Strength for Survival." His motto is "finding hope to be fully alive with HIV." See MCCR's ads on this and be sure not to miss it. His message may help you or someone you love.

CLUB TARTARE opens it's doors Sunday March 6th. Raw men, music and action are the theme for this new Sunday Club Spot. The 1st guest to be booked on the list is "King of Meat" KRIS LORD. Kris will perform along with erotic BUTCHER BOY DANCERS and there will be special 8 pm and 10 pm drag shows in the meat locker with special guest KELLY LAUREN, LAUREN BRACH, LAWANDA JACKSON and YOLANDA. All this plus Butchered Drink prices. Get it RAW at TARTARE!

The MONTROSE MINING COMPANY'S "MINE SHAFT BEER BUST" on the patio gets EVEN better on Sundays. With a \$1.00 buy in and a .25 cent refill of

Miller Lite Draft Beer and extended hours from 4:00 p.m. until 2:00 a.m., the patio will surely get hotter as the men enjoy Houston's biggest beer bust. It's the place to be for men and decadence. Be a part of a Houston tradition.

Sunday at PACIFIC STREET is MANDANCE, Monster-T-Dance with the doors opening at 7 pm and no cover from 7 to 9. When the weather is nice outside the crowd overflows onto the patio so there's always room for more.

The gang at the BRAZOS RIVER BOTTOM is offering HAPPY HOUR all day each Monday. That's from 7:00 a.m. till 2:00 a.m. WOW! With \$1.50 cocktails and \$1.75 longnecks.

Have you been by GENTRY to see the BOY TOY DANCERS? Lots of beef to be found there for sure—7 days a week. These guys are a must see.

Did you hear that the VENTURE-N is putting in SURROUND SOUND? Go by and listen to the all new—exciting sounds. A feast for the ears to be sure!

SOLOFLEX TUESDAY'S at JR'S are Houston's biggest weeknight party. And every Tuesday at JR'S you can register to GRAB FOR CASH at Midnight with emcee, KOFI. your entry to grab the cash also registers you for the big Soloflex giveaway set for Tuesday, April 26. You can register every Tuesday for your choice of a Soloflex weight lifting machine or \$500.00 in cash.

The management of MID-TOWNE SPA is inviting you down to purchase 1/2 price Workout Passes for a limited time only. They also have FREE lockers on Tuesdays for young men between 18 to 22 years of age.

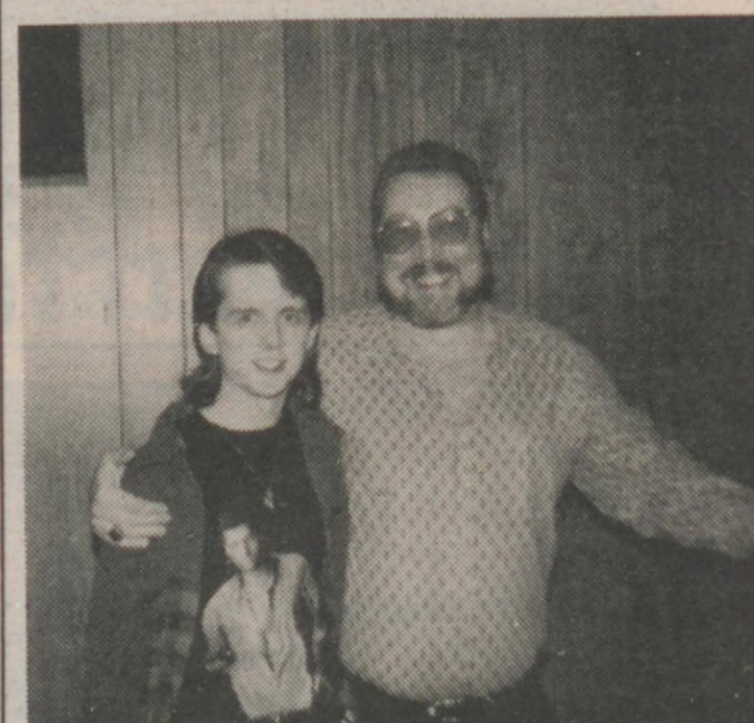
Tuesday at PACIFIC STREET is EXECUTIVE NIGHT. Doors open at 9 pm for Houston's only midweek office party where you pay no cover with your own personalized business card or a Pacific Street free pass.



BRITTANY PAIGE, Miss Mid Texas '93, puts on a Super Saturday Show each week at E/J's



SHEKI is one of PACIFIC STREET's friendly bartenders



JOHN (secretary) & CHOPS (treasurer) with HMBL POOL LEAGUE

C.O.D.A. at MCCR; Calling all Robin's; MONTROSE INN--new B & B in Houston



DYAN MICHAELS, Miss Gay Texas '93 hosts a great Male Strip Nights a GEN-TRY

HOUSTON SOAP, PART TWO

By TAD NELSON
Houston Voice Publisher

Tuesdays and Fridays promptly at 7 pm C.O.D.A. (CO-DEPENDENTS ANONYMOUS) A 12 step recovery program for persons ready to admit they are powerless over people, places and things and that their lives have become unmanageable. CODA meets twice a week in Room A at MCCR at 1919 Decatur Street. Topics vary and all are welcome. Contact PHYLLIS at 861-2808 or BOB at 681-7747.

The MONTROSE MINING COMPANY opens every day at 1:00 p.m. Most days you will find RED BARRY there to serve up a drink and a smile. And the party continues into the night with AFTER HOURS until 4:00 a.m. on Friday and Saturday, with HARDCORE DANCERS...all night long.

Wednesdays at HEAVEN are MoNdO bIz-ZaRo! Every Wednesday there are new twist and turns in store for you. One thing for sure you will always get 50 cent well drinks.

Don't miss KARAOKE NIGHT at E/J's beginning at 8 pm each Wednesday night. The evening is hosted by Bill Sansom and is in conjunction with STEAK NIGHT ON THE PATIO at 6 pm with LUCY. E/J's does have one of the best steak nights in town for a very reasonable price. Try it and get the Karaoke entertainment for free!

Wednesday is HOT HUMP NIGHT at PACIFIC STREET with the doors opening at 9:00 p.m. Victor Toledo plays this weeks current Billboard Hit Videos. And there's no cover if you been in previously and received a free admission from you favorite bartender.

Incredible crowds and lots of hunky flesh can be found at GENTRY every Wednesday for their MALE STRIP CONTEST hosted by MISS GAY TEXAS, DYAN MICHAELS.

COMING UP In Houston. ...

METROPOLITAN COMMUNITY CHURCH of the RESURRECTION (MCCR) is having membership classes for anyone interested in learning about membership in the church or in joining at the next available time. These classes will be held on Wednesday March 9 beginning at 6 pm at MCCR at 1919 Decatur. Please call RICHARD in the church office for class reservations at 861-9149.

CLUB HEDONISM is still providing the best in entertainment and fun on Thursdays. CULTURE BEAT will perform their hits "Mr. Vain" and "Got to Get It" along with lots more singles. See them on Thursday March 10th at HEDONISM, the pleas-



Empress X, DAMITA JO with Emperor X, DEB DILLEHAY of RSICSS were officially invested Saturday night at BRB

ure place.

WARNER BROTHERS is having an open casting call for the role of ROBIN in BATMAN III. Auditions will be held on Saturday March 12 from 10:00 a.m. to 4 pm at the High School for the Performing and Visual Arts located at 4001 Stanford. No experience necessary, but the candidates should bring a snapshot of themselves and meet the following description, "Streetwise, sexy, aged 14 to 20 (to look 16). Great, athletic, tough body, 5'9" or under. Knowledge of martial arts a plus. If you fit these qualifications, now's your chance for a big time screen career. Just do it!

MIDTOWNE SPA is now taking reservations for their ST. PATRICK'S DAY PARTY coming on March 19 from 9 pm till? Call 522-2379 for info.

proceeds from the sale of these shirts go directly to the respective organizations.

TNT SHIRTS is selling their special AIDS T-shirts, a black shirt with the Red Ribbon on it. \$5.00 of the price of each shirt sold will go directly to benefit the PET PATROL.

VENTURE-N is also making donations to the PET PATROL by way of a new poster on sale at the bar. Artist JOHN DUBS of the VENTURE-N TUCSON has designed a hot new poster for both bars and they are on sale for \$5.00 here in Houston with 100 percent of the money raised going to PET PATROL. See the Houston Voice Blue Pages for the erotic artwork on the poster and then get over to the Venture N and pick one up today!

...and hey, speaking of erotic artwork. Did you know that DRAMATIKA, yes, that poster and framing shop on Yoakum along side the Tower Theater also has a great line of greeting cards? Well they do! If you are looking for those sexually explicit cards of the beautiful men with rather large equipment usually in three fold—they have them. Not only do they have the Rock-Shots type cards, but they also have a great selection of beautiful art cards and standard greeting cards. I just happened to need some glass replaced in a frame rather quickly recently and stumbled upon these racks of cards. Go by and check them out as an alternative to the politically high brow, non "bar-rag" liking shops in our area.

Don't miss our monthly book review in this publication by CROSSROADS MARKET bookstore manager, JUDITH MEYER. She will keep you abreast of the latest selections. Judith also has a talk show segment on KPFT Radio—tune in! FLASH! NEW! GAY OWNED! SAVE \$! FLASH! NEW! GAY OWNED! SAVE \$! FLASH! NEW! Have you heard of the MONTROSE INN yet? If you haven't, get ready. Henry McClurg, previous owner and founder of the Montrose Voice has opened a new BED & BREAKFAST in the Montrose area at 408 AVONDALE. I was just there yesterday to take a look around at the changes to our old location. Henry and his crew have worked wonders and the house has never looked better. Mr. McClurg calls the decor, "Basic and Butch" but let me tell you it is truly clean and convenient. Each private room is large with comfortable bedding, color television and telephones. Some rooms include a private bath while other use a common bathroom. Did I say convenient? Yes! Thirteen of Houston's gay bars



Board members of Bering Foundation receive proclamations from the City of Houston at Soiree Aubergine

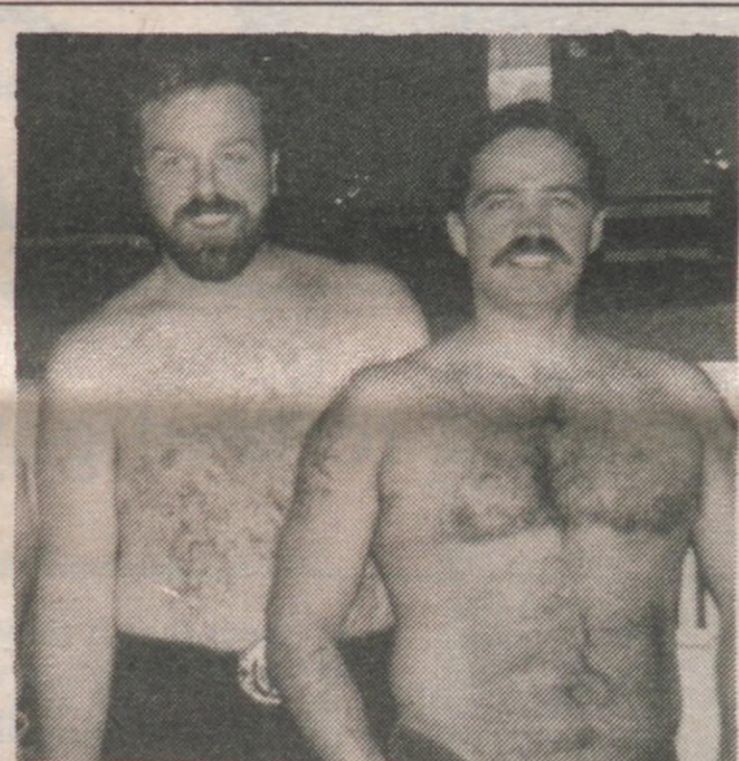
including Mary's, Mining Company, Ripcord and Pacific Street are within easy walking distance. While you can quickly taxi to E/J's, Venture-N, Brazos River Bottom and other favorite are haunts. The area is abundant in good eating establishments, too, like Barnaby's, Baba Yega's, Michaelango's, La Strada, Ruggles, and Felix to name only a very few. And the downtown theater district as well as Houston's Medical Center are only a skip and a jump away. Planing a trip to Houston in the near future or have some friends coming in for Pantheon of Leather or other party weekends? Tell everybody about Henry McClurg's MONTROSE INN. Your host at Montrose Inn, Christopher tells me that they accept major credit cards and have INTRODUCTORY SPRING RATES of \$45 to \$55 dollars per evening. Call (713) 520-0206 or (800) 357-1228 for reservations and information about this new Montrose tradition.

In closing, I would once again like to thank my TRUCKER who I love very much, for another #10 weekend. Woof Wooooooooooooooooooo! Knock my socks off anytime you sexy stud. Tell Mike McKay in New York I approve of the new axle grease. And Trucker, my grandfather clock is simply the best. It really completed the office decor. Can we get one for the Peterbilt now? Looking forward to our South Sea escape. Hey Trucker Mom, enjoy the emu ranch this weekend.

Enough for this week. I'll get off my Soap Box. ...

BYE FOR NOW!

(HEY SOAP READERS! If your organization or business would like a mention for an upcoming sale or event or you have some really good non-slanderous type dirt on a friend, call Tad's voice mail box and leave a SHORT message at (713) 529-8490 or Fax info to (713) 529-9531 or drop a line to Houston Voice Soap Column, 811 Westheimer, Suite 105, Houston, Texas 77006. Pictures of events or individuals are also accepted by mail, but will not be returned without including a self addressed stamped envelope. Deadline is Monday noon for same weeks publication. Let me help you clean up your dirt with a little Soap!)



Steve Waugh of Boston (winner) and Stephen Byrd of Australia (1st runner up) at the Montrose Mining Company's Bear of the Month Contest last Wednesday

HEAVEN is proud to announce that coming up on Saturday March 19, dance legend MARTHA WASH will take the stage at midnight. This diva known for such smash hits as "It's Raining Men" (The Weather Girls), "Everybody, Everybody," "Strike It Up," "I Don't Know Anybody Else" (Black Box), Sweat—Everybody Dance Now (C + C Music Factory) and of course the mega hit "Give It To You" off her self titled smash solo debut. Martha will return to Houston for one night only as part of her Texas tour so don't miss this one.

April 9th the DIANA FOUNDATION will present the 41ST ANNUAL DIANA AWARDS SHOW. Stay tuned for more info on this event.

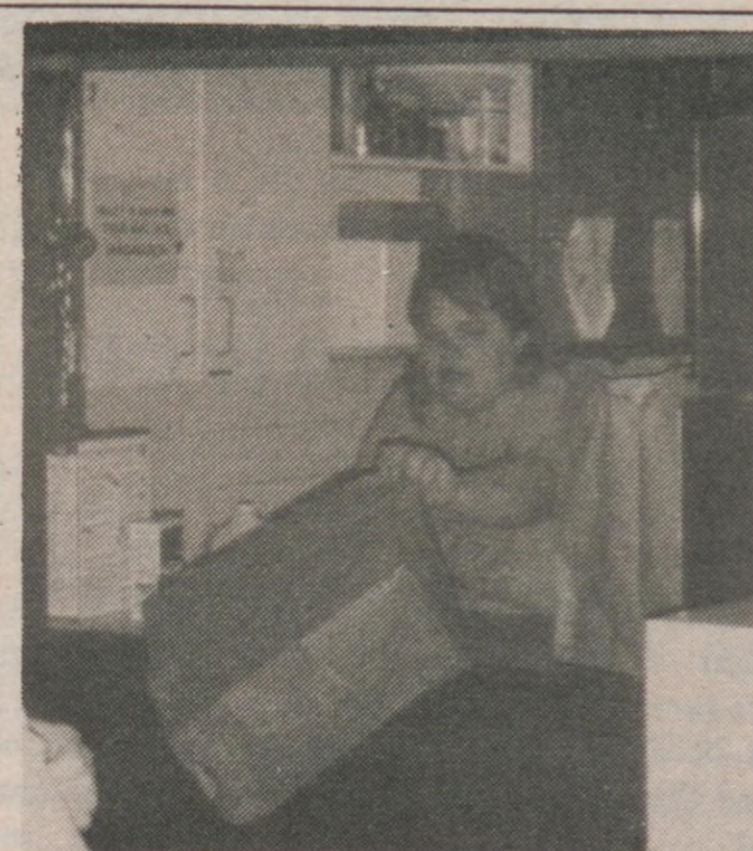
OTHER HOUSTON NOTES. ...

ANGELS, Women's Softball begins March 12 and anyone interested needs to contact MARY BETH at 864-0871 or ASHLEY at 721-6854. Practice has already begun on Saturdays at Love Field located at the corner of 13th and Shepherd.

BASIC BROTHERS has had quite a workout this past week, so you can look great for your workout this summer. Shipments have been arriving daily, and if you are ready for summer, Basic Brothers is ready for you. BILL, CODY, and OSCAR will be happy to show you what's hot for this coming season, not only in workout wear and or course swimwear. But also in their expanded selection of casual and not-so-casual fashions. Did I mention club clothes? There numbers are hotter than the temperature predicted for the 1994 Houston Summer. Also when you stop by the 1232 temperature predicted for the 1994 Houston Summer. Also when you stop by the 1232 Westheimer shop be sure to pick up your t-shirts from TEAM HOUSTON and COMMUNITY ENDOWMENT FOUNDATION. All



Rick Ruble and Don Gentilcore look like "prime" candidates themselves (photo by Rick)



Happy Birthday (Feb. 28) Jewel of Bering Care Center



Rick Carter and Scott Clark are the King & Queen of Olympus XXIV



KON TIKI CLUB GALVESTON ISLAND

FRIDAY NIGHT
MARCH 11th

KONTIKI PRODUCTIONS
and GARZA PRODUCTIONS
PRESENT

FALCON VIDEO STAR AARON AUSTIN

SHOWTIME 11:00 PM

Booking by Peter W. Scott
Southwest Management

Coming
March 25th
MISS
JEFFERSON
COUNTY
PAGEANT



Gay mayor of Melbourne, Iowa ready to lead gay community, continue in office

By MARY NEUBAUER
FOR THE HOUSTON VOICE

DES MOINES, Iowa, Thursday, Feb. 17 (AP)—Graffiti coating his house that told him to "Get out," told him "No Faggots" and "Melbourne hates gays" were a wake-up call to Melbourne Mayor Bill Crews. It was time to quit procrastinating—time to stop the discrimination.

"Our oppression comes from people that oppress us in the name of Jesus and that to me is so alien to what Jesus is all about that I just won't let them do that," Crews said. "They say the Bible says you're an abomination. I turned that.

"You know, one of the beatitudes is, 'Blessed are those who are persecuted for righteousness' sake, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.'"

Ten months ago, Crews didn't talk in public about being gay. Today, he's president of the board of the Gay and Lesbian Resource Center in Des Moines. He hopes that group will become the foundation for a statewide gay rights organization.

Still mayor of tiny Melbourne in central Iowa, population 730, Crews is considering another campaign for the state Legislature.

He is out to change Iowa law.

"It is a matter of justice that homosexuals should not be discriminated against in any manner," Crews said.

His activism began when he decided to go

public.

On April 25, Crews and his partner, Steve, were in the national gay rights march in Washington D.C. They returned home on April 27, to find their house coated with profane graffiti and a fire extinguisher set off in the basement.

While they were in Washington, a guest column by Crews about gay life was published in The Des Moines Register. It was the first time he publicly discussed being gay, although most Melbourne citizens already knew it.

The vandals scrawled their hatred across three sides of Crews' white, split-level home. Insurance paid to have the siding replaced and the house cleaned.

Melbourne marshal Jim Perin investigated the incident but has no suspects. He says he's still hoping for a break in the case.

"Usually when something happens in a small town, within a few weeks you hear something about it," Perin said. "But it's been quiet this time."

Crews' longtime friend Rich Eychaner of Des Moines is still offering a \$2,500 reward for a tip that will solve the case.

Eychaner, owner of the Movies to Go video stores, hopes he gets to spend his money.

"If the person who did it never told anybody, it's going to continue to weigh on

them that if they ever slip, somebody can turn them in for money," he said. "Maybe they'll crawl back in the hole they came from."

Crews, 41, was appointed mayor of Melbourne in Sept. 1984, shortly after Steve and he moved to the community and local people found out he had worked as a staff member for former Iowa Gov. Robert D. Ray. He has won re-election three times and also serves as zoning administrator, sanitarian and weed commissioner in Marshall County.

He doesn't know if he'll run for re-election when his term ends in 1995.

"Hopefully, we can build a new library and get recycling started and somebody else can do it," he said.

Crews is proud of his new involvement in the United Methodist Church in Melbourne and says he's amazed by the strengthening of his faith.

"My ministers have been supportive and the majority of the people in the church have been supportive. I think it helps our cause to be able to answer those on the radical religious right," he said.

That faith gives him strength in his fight for gay rights, even when taking on tough projects like the Gay and Lesbian Resource Center.

Financial and membership problems forced the center to all but shut down by the end of 1993. It lost its downtown

office space and now just has a telephone answering service where people can leave messages.

Crews and other new board members took over in January and are working to build a membership list for the center while redeveloping the programs it provides, including a youth support group and community newsletter.

They're planning five community forums in February and March to invite everyone—gay and straight—to become center members. And maybe one day the center can expand outside Des Moines, Crews said.

"What I really want to do is establish a statewide advocacy group," he said. "But that has to be anchored by a good organization in the largest community, the largest metropolitan area."

All those projects aren't keeping Crews from looking at his political future, and a spot in the Iowa Senate in 1996. He ran in 1992, but lost in primary.

"I actually think that I'm stronger now than I was two years ago, because we weren't 'out' then, and that weighed on me a lot," he said.

And where does a mayor-activist-church leader-politician get balance in his life?

"I've got a very understanding partner."

U.S. Supreme Court rejects appeal of foreign service officer

WASHINGTON, Tuesday, Feb. 22 (AP)—The Supreme Court turned down on Tuesday the appeal of a former U.S. Information Agency Foreign Service officer who says he lost his job because he is homosexual.

The court, without comment, let

stand rulings that threw out Jan Krc's lawsuit against the USIA.

Krc contends the agency violated his right to equal protection under the federal constitution exclusively because of his homosexuality, and that he wrongly was denied a trial.

He entered the Foreign Service in 1982, and in 1983 was sent to Belgrade, Yugoslavia.

Upon returning to this country in 1984, Krc admitted that while overseas he had engaged in homosexual conduct with a number of people, including a military attache

from a non-NATO European country and two nationals of a Communist country.

As a result, the USIA ended Krc's appointment to the Foreign Service and gave him a job in its domestic civil service.

Krc remained a civil service employee of the USIA until last

October, when he was enrolled as a Foreign Service officer candidate by the State Department.

The LONE STAR **HOUSTON VOICE**
 A Community News Publication

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in Houston's Gay and Lesbian News

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SATURDAY
 Happy Hour Prices
 Extended To 10pm
 Boy Toy Dancers 10pm - 2am

SUNDAY
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 Boy Toy Dancers 5pm - 1am

MONDAY & TUESDAY
 Boy Toy Dancers 5pm - 1am

WEDNESDAY
 Male Strip Contest With
 Miss Gay Texas Dyan Michaels
 10:30pm

THURSDAY
 Boy Toy Dancers 5pm - 1am

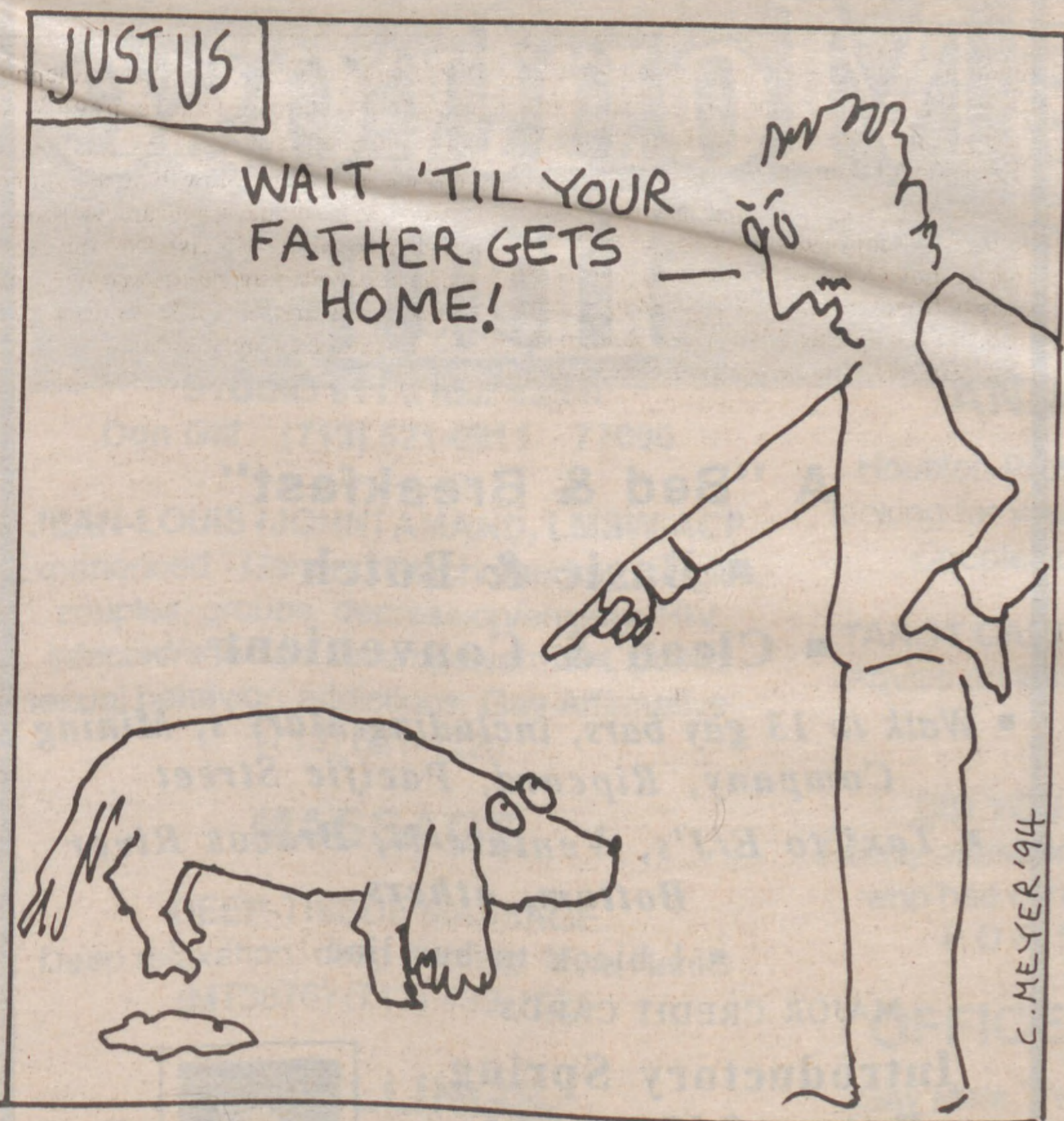
**MICHAEL BOLIN
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by Alan Bowne

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RESERVATIONS 868-7516

Boston bank offers credit card for gays, lesbians

BOSTON, Thursday, Feb. 24 (AP)—A Boston bank will issue a credit card for gays and lesbians, one of the first in the country to do so.

Wainright Bank and Trust Co. said Thursday it will contribute 1 percent of everything charged to non-profit groups that benefit homosexuals.

"What we are doing here is saying, 'We welcome your business,'" said Steven Young, vice president of marketing. "The card is a way to help the gay community and give it an entry to the bank."

The new MasterCard will be called the "Community Card" and it will be available in May throughout New England.

Wainright is a small bank with \$250 million in assets and a branch in Boston and two in Cambridge.

There are an estimated 400,000 homosexuals in greater Boston, Young told the Patriot-Ledger of Quincy.

According to Overlooked Opinions, a Chicago-based consulting firm, there are at

least 18 million gay men and women nationwide, and their incomes far exceed the national average.

Wainright's card will be the fourth in the country that targets the gay and lesbian market. Others are offered regionally by a Seattle bank and a Dallas credit union, and nationally by a Los Angeles marketing group.

VOTE Tuesday, March 8 for candidates who support your equal rights

ELECTION '94

By SHERI COHEN DARBONNE
Houston Voice Editor

This might sound familiar from our Election '94 stories over the last several weeks, but the importance of the primary races for positions on the Texas Supreme Court and Court of Criminal Appeals cannot be emphasized enough. Some of you may have been shocked, as I was, at the ease with which the Houston Chronicle's editorial writers on Wednesday morning turned a closely watched race inside out and on its ear, portraying flip-flopping Justice Raul Gonzales as even-handed and Constitutionally grounded and challenger Rene Haas as a renegade favored only by trial attorneys.

The Supreme Court primary races offer the first chance for our community to answer the sitting court for its refusal to hear (and thus decimation of) the twice-successful challenge to Texas "Sod-

omy" statute, 21.06. Among the Democratic primary candidates is Jimmy Carroll, the Chief Justice of the Court of Appeals in Austin who authored the opinion when that court ruled to overturn the statute last year. Two other candidates, Haas and Alice Oliver Parrot, have made statements indicating their belief in the privacy protections of the constitution and equal rights for all.

Charles Baird, a member of the Texas Court of Criminal Appeals who is seeking the position of Presiding Judge of the criminal high court, has stated: "I will work hard for equality and opportunity for ALL Texans." He has been criticized by his primary opponent, another member of the court, for being "a liberal." And anyone who doesn't already know Ms. Frances "Poppy" Northcutt, a candidate for Court of Criminal Appeals, Place 2, from her tireless years of work for Gay/Lesbian and feminist causes, is "criminally" uninformed.

There is a reason for this long-running "overkill" regarding these races. So far, of the debate in our community has focused heavily on the U.S. Senate and races. There has also been (somewhat puzzlingly to more politically centered members of the community) a spattering

of discussion of whether we should give our support now to candidates we know we'll be voting for in November. While these discussions are also important, the real difference that our community has a chance to make in the crucial races further down the ballot should not be overlooked. So, for those who you who keep asking "Who are these people, anyway?...here's a refresher.

Battle In The 18th

Two candidates no one has had a shortage of information on in either the Gay and mainstream media are U.S. Rep. Craig Washington and his challenger in the 18th Congressional District, Houston City Council Member Sheila Jackson Lee. Regarding Gay issues, both claim their records speak for themselves.

Incumbent Washington has the support of both the Houston Gay and Lesbian Political Caucus and the national Human Rights Campaign Fund, which gave his Congressional voting record a 100 percent score in a recent survey. He has identified AIDS, along with homelessness, as his key platform issues.

Lee touts her efforts to bring anti-Gay hate crimes to the attention of the local and state governments after the murder of Paul Broussard, and her role as chair of



Carroll



Haas



Washington

Endorsements

Following are my "Voice Choices" in the Democratic primary (select races). Where these differ from the endorsements of the Houston Gay and Lesbian Political Caucus, the caucus endorsement is also noted. The full list of HGLPC's endorsements was published in the Feb. 11 (694) edition of the Houston Voice; other Texas groups' endorsements were listed last week.

U.S. Senate, Jim Mattox. U.S. Representative, Dist. 18; Dist. 25, Ken Bentsen; District 29, Ben Reyes. (HGLPC did not endorse in District 29).

Texas Governor, Ann Richards.

Texas Supreme Court, Place 1, Rene Haas; Place 2, Alice Oliver Parrot; Place 3, Jimmy Carroll. Criminal Appeals Court, Place 2, Poppy Northcutt.

Texas State Senate, District 6, Roman Martinez (HGLPC endorsed Yolanda Flores in this race.)



Mattox



Martinez

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Khaled Jabboury, M.D.
at (713) 558-1171 for inquiries.

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**Dutch gays get
own business
telephone
directory**

AMSTERDAM, Netherlands, Friday, Feb. 25 (AP)—If you want to do business with gay-friendly companies, let your fingers do the walking through the Rainbow Guide.

The new listing is being published by the Gay Paper, the Netherlands' largest newspaper aimed at gay and lesbian readers.

"If you want to call a doctor, a plumber or a moving man, you're going to let him into your home, you need to know that they understand your lifestyle," Gay Paper editor Henk Krol said Friday.

"It's not our goal to always have something separate for gays. Ideally, if discrimination did not exist, we wouldn't need it."

Rainbow Guides will be distributed free in May to all 30,000 Gay Paper subscribers and will go on sale in bookshops in the Netherlands and Flemish-speaking northern Belgium.

The guide, with more than 5000 entries, was compiled through responses to a letter sent out to subscribers.

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TUE DAVID'S BUFFET 2:00 P.M.
THU LATINA LIVE REVUE 8:00 P.M.
FRI LAURA LEE LOVE & MALE STRIPPERS 9 P.M.
SAT BURGANDY WOODS PRESENTS PETER HOUSTON, LAWANDA JACKSON, DOLLIE, CYNTHIA 10 P.M.
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Community Improvement Meetings

Each year, the city updates its long-range plans for installing new sewer lines, streets, police and fire stations, libraries and other projects in the community. Please help identify project needs in your area for the city's next Capital Improvement Plan (CIP), the 5-year schedule for constructing and financing projects.

City councilmembers are holding a series of meetings on the CIP, the annual operating budget and Community Development Block Grants. Come learn about city programs and funding and tell us your ideas for improving your community.

Comment forms will be available at all meetings, the Mayor's Citizens Assistance Office and Councilmember offices. Call the city's Planning and Development Department at 754-0149 to request a form by mail.

Michael Yarbrough March 7, 1994 7:00 p.m. Kashmere Multi-Service Ctr. 4802 Lockwood	John Kelley March 21, 1994 7:00 p.m. Judson W. Robinson, Jr. Westchase Library 3223 Wilcrest
Al Calloway March 9, 1994 7:00 p.m. Sunnyside Multi-Service Ctr. 4605 Wilmington	Helen Huey March 22, 1994 7:00 p.m. Scarborough H.S. 4141 Costa Rica
Martha Wong March 10, 1994 7:00 p.m. Westbury Baptist Church 10425 Hillcroft	Joe Roach March 23, 1994 7:00 p.m. Dobie H.S. 1111 Beamer
Ben Reyes March 14, 1994 7:00 p.m. Magnolia Multi-Service Ctr. 7037 Capitol	Felix Fraga March 29, 1994 7:00 p.m. Davis H.S. 1101 Quitman
Ray Driscoll March 17, 1994 7:00 p.m. Sharpstown Rec. Ctr. 6600 Harbor Town	

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March 20th • 8:00 pm

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Sunday March 13th
BENEFIT SHOW
With M.C. MISS RICKI

VOLLEYBALL COMING IN MARCH

Farrakhan aide to speak in Connecticut

By LARRY ROSENTHAL
FOR THE HOUSTON VOICE

NEW HAVEN, Conn., Tuesday, Feb. 22 (AP)—The health minister for the Nation of Islam said Tuesday that the AIDS epidemic is the result of a conspiracy aimed at non-white people, and accused a Jewish group of "wickedness" for criticizing his visit and the Nation of Islam.

Dr. Alim Abdul Muhammad, who was invited to speak on AIDS in the black community, told an audience of more than 400 that he wanted to stick to the subject matter but couldn't let criticism from the Anti-Defamation League go unanswered.

Muhammad's visit to New Haven prompted a local newspaper advertisement Friday headlined "Don't Let Hate Divide Us." It was signed by 16 community leaders of different races and religions, including representatives from the ADL and NAACP.

The ad said that Muhammad and the Nation of Islam spread "messages of hate, anti-Semitism and racism" intended to sow discord in the community.

"You leave our leaders alone. You quit harassing them," Muhammad said in words directed at the ADL. "Quit going to them in private and threatening them and twisting their arms."

"You've got some bought-and-paid-for Negroes that you can trot out on command and make them repudiate anyone you tell them to repudiate. But they got to come back home to us. So we are waiting for you," Muhammad said.

On the topic of AIDS, Muhammad suggested that the disease is a man-made

virus created with the purpose of committing genocide on non-whites.

"AIDS is a plot to destroy God's people," he said.

He said he and other Nation of Islam doctors were working with a drug from Kenya that he said has been more successful at keeping AIDS in check than the drugs being prescribed by most doctors.

All the medical establishment has offered is "three drugs that don't work, a clean needle, a condom and a pamphlet on safe sex," he said.

Muhammad said President Clinton was continuing a policy of his two predecessors of "basically giving the green light to letting the virus spread among an unsuspecting population."

Muhammad also used the speech to defend Nation of Islam leader Louis Farrakhan from what he said has been a "flood of propaganda," including an article on Farrakhan in Time magazine that he said was full of lies.

In November, another Farrakhan aide made an anti-Semitic speech at Kean College in New Jersey in which he called Jews "bloodsuckers" and the pope "a cracker."

Farrakhan later condemned his aide's comments as "repugnant" and removed him from his job as national assistant. But Farrakhan declined to denounce the "truths" he said his assistant spoke about the Jewish role in the slave trade.

"Look at the wickedness of the Anti-Defamation League. Attacking the Nation of Islam. For what? Why are you so angry with us that we are trying to save our people and improve the quality of our lives?" Muhammad said.

THE PLANET

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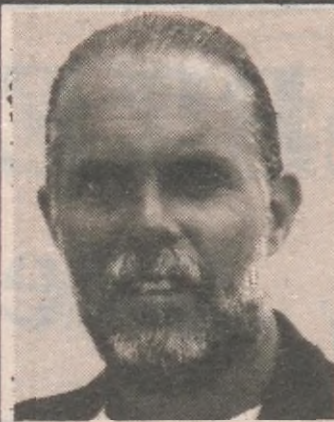
8:30 AM, Holy Eucharist Worship
10:45 AM, Traditional Worship (Service Signed)
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Losing job was devastating to gay California attorney

By SALLY STREFF BUZBEE

FOR THE HOUSTON VOICE

SAN DIEGO, Thursday, Feb. 17 (AP)—A psychologist treating an attorney with AIDS says that sometimes all Martin Caprow wanted to talk about was losing his job.

Caprow, 37, is suing the law firm that laid him off in 1992, in a civil case with similarities to the movie "Philadelphia." Caprow contends he was fired because he has AIDS.

Officials with the firm deny discrimination. Caprow was fired because he was not doing his job well enough and because the firm Frank & Freedus was having financial troubles, they say. And they had planned to fire him months before learning he had AIDS, they contend.

Richard Owen, a psychologist who began treating Caprow a year ago, testified Wednesday that his patient feels "betrayed and insulted" by the firm.

That feeling contributed to a major depression, which, in turn, may have hurt Caprow's overall physical condition, Owen said.

"I believe the mind and body are inextricably linked," Owen said.

At times during therapy sessions, Caprow appeared much more upset about losing his job than anything else, even the disease, the psychologist said.

"At times, that was all he wanted to talk about," Owen said.

Attorneys for the firm, on cross-examination, asked Owen whether he agreed with a previous psychologist's notes, after a therapy session, that Caprow believed himself "entitled to anything he wants."

Owen said he did not, although he acknowledged he generally agreed with the previous psychologist's conclusions.

Owen also was questioned about notes

he wrote, while Caprow was hospitalized, advising a nurse that Caprow might have tendencies toward hysteria or hypochondria, and that the nurse should not be intimidated by Caprow's mother.

Owen said he wrote the notes at a time when Caprow had severe anxiety about upcoming exploratory surgery.

Caprow, who was told in October he had six months to live, has support from a former office administrator who says the firm's owner did discriminate.

Karen Tessier testified earlier this week that, after Caprow told her he was HIV-positive, she told owner Eric Freedus that the firm would not be able to get a new health insurance carrier because an unnamed employee had a serious illness.

Freedus acknowledges that he replied that he knew Caprow "was probably gay and might even have AIDS," but says the comment was taken out of context.

Caprow was fired from the firm in April 1992 after working there 3 1/2 years.

Although details differ, the case echoes the theme of "Philadelphia," in which a gay attorney played by Tom Hanks files a lawsuit alleging he was fired because he had AIDS.

Caprow's nonjury trial, being held before Superior Court Judge Vincent DiFiglia, began Monday and is expected to last about a week. Caprow was allowed to testify in December because of concern over his declining health.

Caprow began working at Frank & Freedus in August 1988.

Soon after he was hired, he learned he had the AIDS virus but continued working and receiving regular raises, said his attorney, Ann Smith. He told no one at the firm that he was gay.

In early 1992, as part of a plan to switch to another health insurance carrier, employees were asked to fill out health questionnaires. Caprow then confided in Tessier that he had the AIDS virus.

Classified Order Form

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Protestant leaders praise gay-rights bill in Washington state

OLYMPIA, Friday, Feb. 25 (AP)—Countering a Roman Catholic bishops' stance against a gay civil-rights bill, Protestant leaders have told state lawmakers that discrimination, not the morality of homosexuality, is the central issue.

Leaders from seven mainline denominations weighed in with a letter Thursday to all state senators in support of HB1443, which would include gays and lesbians under the protections of the state's anti-discrimination laws.

The bill has passed the House and cleared the Senate Law and Justice Committee. It remains in the Senate

Rules Committee while sponsors seek the 25 votes needed for approval by the full Senate.

Earlier in the week, the Washington State Catholic Conference, which represents the state's three Catholic bishops, moved from a neutral stand to opposition to HB1443.

"This issue is not only about discrimination, but about societal acceptance and public endorsement of homosexuality," the Catholic Conference said in a letter.

The Protestant leaders took the opposite tack, saying the bill doesn't endorse homosexuality in any way.

"In our state, we have protection against discrimination based on religion and yet no one accuses the law of endorsing a particular religion," the clerics said. "Let us acknowledge that there is a wide variety of opinion among Christians about the morality of the practice of homosexuality."

"The morality of homosexuality is not the issue here. Discrimination is the central issue."

The Protestant leaders added: "This anti-discrimination bill is vitally important to our state. The Senate must pass this bill and make it clear that discrimination based on sexual orien-

tation is unacceptable in our state."

The letter was signed by leaders of the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ), Evangelical Lutheran Church, and the United Methodists, Presbyterians, Baptists, African Methodist Episcopal, and Episcopal churches.

The stand by the Catholic bishops also was criticized Thursday by Catholics for Civil Rights, which describes itself as a coalition of Catholic groups and individuals that support civil rights for gays and lesbians.

Study: AZT reduces transmission of HIV from mothers to newborns

ATLANTA, Monday, Feb. 21 (AP)—Pregnant women infected with the AIDS virus can take medicine to help protect their fetuses from the disease, a study found.

"It doesn't save their lives, but it does save their children," said James W. Curran, coordinator of all HIV activities at the federal Centers for Disease Control and Pre-

vention. A National Institutes of Health study found that 26 percent of babies born to infected mothers who took a placebo were themselves infected, but only 8 percent of those born to mothers who took AZT were infected.

"It has the potential to cut in half the number of infants with the AIDS

virus within the next year or so," Curran told The Associated Press on Sunday.

The study's results were so significant that the study was stopped Friday, The New York Times reported today.

Officials spent the weekend telling the 59 medical centers participating in the study to offer AZT to

the women who had been receiving the placebo, the newspaper said.

AZT is made by Burroughs Wellcome in Research Triangle Park, N.C.

Researchers found that AZT offers no significant hazard to the fetus, but they will follow the infants to see if problems arise, the Times said.

The study began in 1991. It involved 477 women infected with the human immunodeficiency virus, which causes AIDS.

AZT has been shown to delay the progression from HIV infection to AIDS, although its effect often wanes after a year or so.

One homosexual reported killed every four days in Brazil

RIO DE JANEIRO, Brazil, Sunday, Feb. 20 (AP)—One homosexual is slain in Brazil every four days on average, with many of the killings committed by male prostitutes, according to a study reported Sunday in the *Folha de Sao Paulo* newspaper.

The study, conducted by anthro-

pologist Luis Mott, examined 1,200 gay deaths that were reported in Brazilian newspapers between 1980 and 1993. Mott is president of the Gay Group of Bahia, 1702 km (1,021 miles) north of Rio.

Seventy-one percent of those murdered were male, Mott told the

Sao Paulo daily, while transvestites accounted for 23 percent and lesbians 6 percent.

Mott told the daily that only 10 percent of the murderers were caught and punished.

"To kill a homosexual in Brazil is like killing a dog; nobody cares,"

he said.

But he said of the killers caught, 84 percent were male prostitutes who preyed upon their customers. Forty-six percent of the victims were killed in their homes.

Police Chief Marco Antonio Desgualdo of Sao Paulo's 1st Precinct

told the newspaper that the prostitutes set out to rob their victims but subsequently killed them to protect their identities.

Mott plans to present his study to the International Commission of Gay and Lesbian Rights in California, the daily reported.

Valley gearing up for spring break, St. Paddy's and heavy duty parties



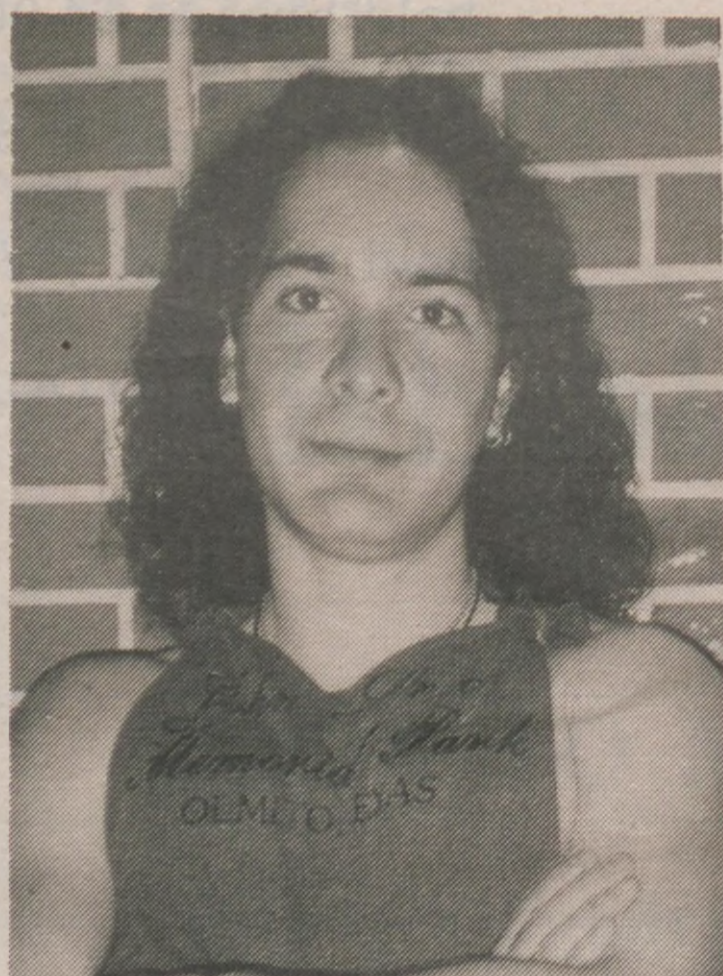
Mark and Terry

RIO GRANDE VALLEY SOAP

By JOSHUA ST. MICHAEL & TOOTSIE WOMELDORF

Houston Voice/Rio Grande Valley Well, the Ides of March are upon us. It seems that only yesterday we were getting ready for Christmas, and now here we are already into the third month of the year. But what the heck, I'm ready for it! I've already hung the shamrocks on my door and I plan to start my spring cleaning soon (sometime before next winter). My other half is busy shuttling thousands of spring breakers to the Island from the airports. So I guess there's no disputing it, regardless of what that sill groundhog said, it's spring! Everybody has had enough time to recover from the holiday parties and now it's time to get back into party mode for spring break. I can think of at least six hot spots in the Valley that are ready to take on all you spring break party animals.

What better place to get into spring break than on the island? But don't rough it, stay there in



Dennis the Menace at The Planet

style at the Upper Deck, the Valley's only gay resort. The Upper Deck features its very own pool, hot tub, pool table, and T.V. room. They have several suites and a bunk house as well. The Upper Deck is just walking distance from Padre's sandy shores, and only minutes away from Matamoros. So get on the phone now and make your reservation at (210) 761-5953. and don't forget you can also buy a membership at the Upper Deck. Make sure you let them know you read about them in the Houston Voice. For transportation to and from the Island call Laurie at Surftran at 1-800-962-8497.

And just a hop and a skip away, you can find some heavy duty party zones starting with The Planet in Harlingen. The Planet will have a Spring Break starter party (invitation only) on March 10th. What, no invitation, you say? Well, I suggest you drop by The Planet this weekend and tell

John you want to be part of one of the hottest events of the month. And stick around after the party because on March 13th you'll be able to catch all the action as the Men of Caged Heat perform at The Planet. Don't forget that every Friday night you enjoy the strippers from Body Parts. On Thursdays at The Planet you can enjoy \$6.25

Bucket-O-Beer all night long as they feature Thunderground with the best Trance, Acid and Techno music. I hear that for the last couple of Wednesdays things have been kicking up with the addition of country and latino sets. On Sunday, March 20th The Planet will hold a Valley Voice fundraiser along with the amateur drag contest of the month with a \$75 cash prize going to the winner.

With spring break in mind, the Valley AIDS Council and The Planet are bringing Project Padre '94 to South Padre Island. The Valley AIDS Council will provide free HIV testing and condoms for spring

breakers along with a coupon for no cover at The Planet. Project Padre will be located at Fiesta Plaza, just off the Causeway on South Padre Island.

Just a couple of blocks away at Club Zippers Max and Carlos are ready and waiting for you to stop by and enjoy a brew (or two). While you're there be sure and say hello to my two friends visiting from Nebraska.

How many of you caught the fantastic show at Just Tery's last Friday night? It was great welcoming Victoria West back after a long absence from the Valley. And of course, the Terry de la Douche show featuring Tuna Helper was flawless as well. If you missed Ms. de la Douche last week, not to worry. She'll be back again on March 11th, together with Lady Laura, Miss Gay Laredo At Large.

Over at P.B.D.'s they're getting ready for another pool tour-

nament on Wednesday March 9th. The tournament will begin at 9:30 p.m. Drop by and get all the details from Chuck or Don.

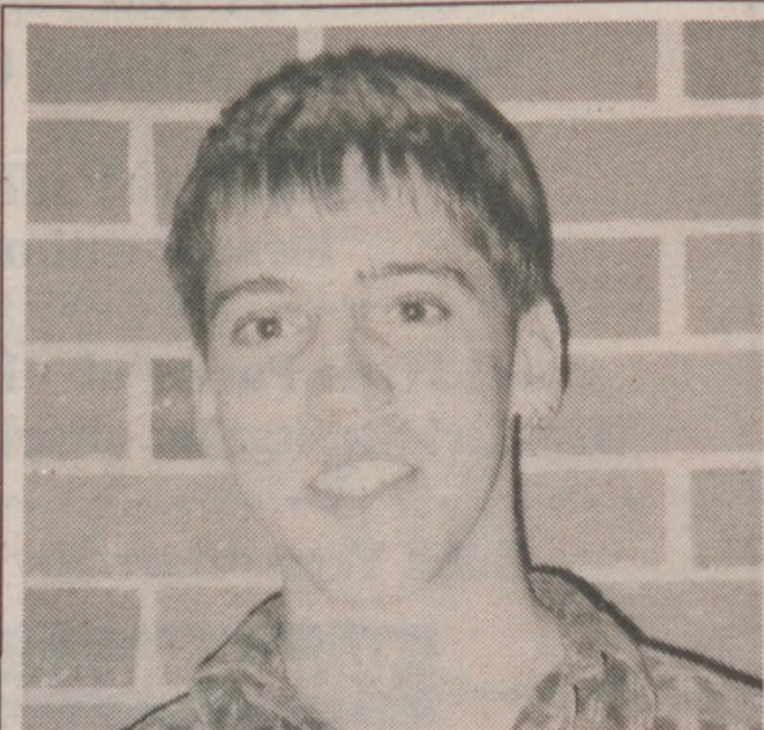
At 10th Avenue they're still recovering from that fantastic wedding a couple of weeks ago. I had the opportunity to talk to the blushing bride this week and she said the honeymoon is still going strong. Here's wishing them lots and lots of happy years together. 10th Avenue now features new drink specials from Wednesday through Sunday. You can enjoy .75 cent Cubas—and free draft beer till 11:00 p.m.

Tonight, March 4th, Muscles in Action will be appearing for your viewing satisfaction. Mark your calendars for next week, March 11th, for the return of LaWanda Jackson and Poison Alexander.

Well folks, that wraps it up for this week. Before closing though, I would just like to congratulate my old friend David for receiving his Associate Degree in Applied Science this week. Way to go, kid!



Victoria West



Johnny

... AND THE U.S. TEAM HAS SWEEPED THE HATEFUL ACTS MEDAL ROUNDED BY REV. FRED PHELPS' CROWD-MOVING DISRUPTION OF RANDY SHILTS' FUNERAL!

... TOO BAD THAT CROWD DIDN'T MOVE A LITTLE FASTER... THEY ALMOST CAUGHT HIM.

... HIS TEAM WILL BE LOOKING FOR GOLD IN NEXT YEAR'S POL POT HUMANITARIAN GAMES, SCOTT...



ABC schedules 'Roseanne' episode with gay-bar kiss

NEW YORK, Thursday, Feb. 17 (AP)—There may not be a kiss-off for "Roseanne" after all.

ABC said Thursday it will air an episode of the popular comedy March 1 that features Roseanne Arnold exchanging a kiss with Mariel Hemingway in a gay bar.

Exactly how that encounter will play remains to be seen, according to ABC spokesperson Steve Battaglio, who said the segment had been shot but post-production was not complete.

"There have been discussions concerning how the kiss will be depicted," Battaglio said. "Those talks are continuing."

He said the episode will also carry a parental discretion advisory.

In the episode, titled "Don't Ask, Don't Tell," Arnold's character, Roseanne Conner, goes to a bar with bisexual friend Nancy, played by Sandra Bernhard. After dancing with Hemingway, Roseanne makes a wisecrack that is misinterpreted. The kiss results.

Earlier this month, Tom Arnold, husband of the star and the series' co-executive producer, charged that ABC was refusing to air the episode because of the kiss. He called the network's decision misguided and "homophobic," adding, "Roseanne is shocked."

"We've always been supportive of the episode," Battaglio said. "The network is working with the Arnolds to bring this to a conclusion that both parties will be satisfied with."

HOUSTON VOICE — OSCAR CONTEST

Name _____ Phone _____
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Best Picture

- The Fugitive
- In the Name of the Father
- The Piano
- The Remains of the Day
- Schindler's List

Best Actress

- Angela Bassett (What's Love Got to Do With It)
- Stockard Channing (Six Degrees of Separation)
- Holly Hunter (The Piano)
- Emma Thompson (The Remains of the Day)
- Debra Winger (Shadowlands)

Best Actor

- Daniel Day-Lewis (In the Name of the Father)
- Laurence Fishburne (What's Love Got to Do With It)
- Tom Hanks (Philadelphia)
- Anthony Hopkins (The Remains of the Day)
- Liam Neeson (Schindler's List)

Best Director

- Robert Altman (Short Cuts)
- Jane Campion (The Piano)
- James Ivory (The Remains of the Day)
- Jim Sheridan (In the Name of the Father)
- Steven Spielberg (Schindler's List)

Best Supporting Actress

- Holly Hunter (The Firm)
- Anna Paquin (The Piano)
- Rosie Perez (Fearless)
- Winona Ryder (The Age of Innocence)
- Emma Thompson (In the Name of the Father)

Best Supporting Actor

- Leonardo DiCaprio (What's Eating Gilbert Grape)
- Ralph Fiennes (Schindler's List)
- Tommy Lee Jones (The Fugitive)
- John Malkovich (In the Line of Fire)
- Pete Postlethwaite (In the Name of the Father)

Best Original Screenplay

- Gary Ross (Dave)
- Jeff Maguire (In the Line of Fire)
- Ron Nyswaner (Philadelphia)
- Jane Campion (The Piano)
- Nora Ephron, David S. Ward & Jeff Arch (Sleepless in Seattle)

Best Adapted Screenplay

- Jay Cocks & Martin Scorsese (The Age of Innocence)
- Terry George & Jim Sheridan (In the Name of the Father)
- Ruth Praver Jhabvala (The Remains of the Day)
- Steven Zaillian (Schindler's List)
- William Nicholson (Shadowlands)

Best Foreign Language Film

- Belle Epoque (Spain)
- Farewell My Concubine (Hong Kong)
- Hedd Wyn (United Kingdom)
- The Scent of Green Papaya (Vietnam)
- The Wedding Banquet (Taiwan)

Best Art Direction

- Addams Family Values
- The Age of Innocence
- Orlando
- The Remains of the Day
- Schindler's List

Best Cinematography

- Farewell My Concubine
- The Fugitive
- The Piano
- Schindler's List
- Searching for Bobby Fischer

Best Costume Design

- The Age of Innocence
- Orlando
- The Piano
- The Remains of the Day
- Schindler's List

Best Film Editing

- The Fugitive
- In the Line of Fire
- In the Name of the Father
- The Piano
- Schindler's List

Best Original Score

- Elmer Bernstein (The Age of Innocence)
- Dave Grusin (The Firm)
- James Newton Howard (The Fugitive)
- Richard Robbins (The Remains of the Day)
- John Williams (Schindler's List)

Best Original Song

- "Again" (Poetic Justice)
- "The Day I Fall in Love" (Beethoven's 2nd)
- "Philadelphia" (Philadelphia)
- "Streets of Philadelphia" (Philadelphia)
- "A Wink and a Smile" (Sleepless in Seattle)

Best Sound

- Cliffhanger
- The Fugitive
- Geronimo: An American Legend
- Jurassic Park
- Schindler's List

Best Sound Effects Editing

- Cliffhanger
- The Fugitive
- Jurassic Park

Best Visual Effects

- Cliffhanger
- Jurassic Park
- The Nightmare Before Christmas

Best Makeup

- Mrs. Doubtfire
- Philadelphia
- Schindler's List

Rules:

1. Only one entry per person.
2. Indicate who you think the winner will be in each category by placing an "x" in the appropriate box.
3. All entries must be mailed or hand delivered to: The Houston Voice, Oscar Contest, 811 Westheimer, Suite 105, Houston, TX 77006. Entries must be received (or be postmarked if mailed) by 12:00 p.m. on Wednesday, March 17 to be eligible.
4. The person who correctly guesses the largest number of winners will receive \$100.00.
5. If the person correctly guessing the largest number of winners also guesses more winners correctly than Houston Voice Critic Javier Tamez, then the winner will be awarded an additional \$50.00. Tamez's picks will be published in the March 19th issue. Maximum prize is \$150.00.
6. In the event of a tie, a winner will be selected by random drawing from among those tied.
7. This contest is not open to employees of the Houston Voice or their family members.
8. In all cases the decision of the judges will be final.

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Sheila:

Friends Don't Gay Bait!

Since the first day of her campaign, Sheila Jackson Lee has accepted blatantly homophobic endorsements, utilized racist gay bashing in campaign solicitation and publicly bragged that in contrast to Craig Washington "my campaign is run by black people."

After publicly embracing the endorsement of the Baptist Ministers Association, who abandoned Craig for endorsing a white gay HIV positive man, she has refused to disclaim this bigotry. A fundraising appeal for Sheila was accompanied by a news story which highlighted Craig's endorsement of AIDS activist Gene Harrington. She has consistently refused invitations to debate Craig in Montrose and uses implicit code words ("the importance of family") in non-Montrose mailings.

And in the district with one of the highest HIV rates in the nation, her non-Montrose literature limits health care to "women, children and families."

To contrast Craig Washington's consistent eloquent courageous history of commitment to our community is to compare conscience and conviction to expediency and recent hypocrisy.

Craig has never let us down, has never allowed homophobia to go unchallenged, has never ignored our issues and would never be fearful of debating and/or learning within our own community.

Sheila Jackson Lee cynically brags of "representation we can be proud of."

Sheila: we already have representation we are proud of!!

But more importantly, Sheila, we have representation that is proud of us!!

If we allow downtown money to replace Craig Washington, we will reward expediency, hypocrisy and homophobia.

FIGHT BACK ON TUESDAY! VOTE CRAIG WASHINGTON!!!

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Florida gay group announces nationwide campaign to thwart initiatives

FORT LAUDERDALE, Fla., Monday, Feb. 21 (AP)—Characterizing proposed anti-gay initiatives as "attempts to institutionalize discrimination," a national gay group meeting here vowed Monday to fight the proposed measures in Florida and several other states. "Our opponents are very well financed and are very powerful and they win by misleading voters," said Tim McFeeley, executive director of Human Rights Campaign Fund, which reports 80,000 members.

Initiatives designed to strip gays' civil rights have been proposed in Florida, Michigan, Washington, Oregon, Arizona and Idaho, McFeeley said.

"Our work is really cut out for us in terms of educating people in the level of discrimination that gay people face," McFeeley said, adding the group plans to provide political expertise, conduct polls and raise funds.

The American Family Association has collected 84,000 of the necessary 429,000 sig-

natures to include a proposal in November ballot in Florida, said David Caton, chairperson for the Tampa-based group. The proposal seeks to exclude the category of sexual orientation from anti-discrimination laws.

"First they said they are going to raise \$2 million, and then \$5 million," Caton said of the Human Rights Fund's announcement to battle the ballot measure. "But we really haven't seen anything yet. After you see smoke enough times you tend to see only

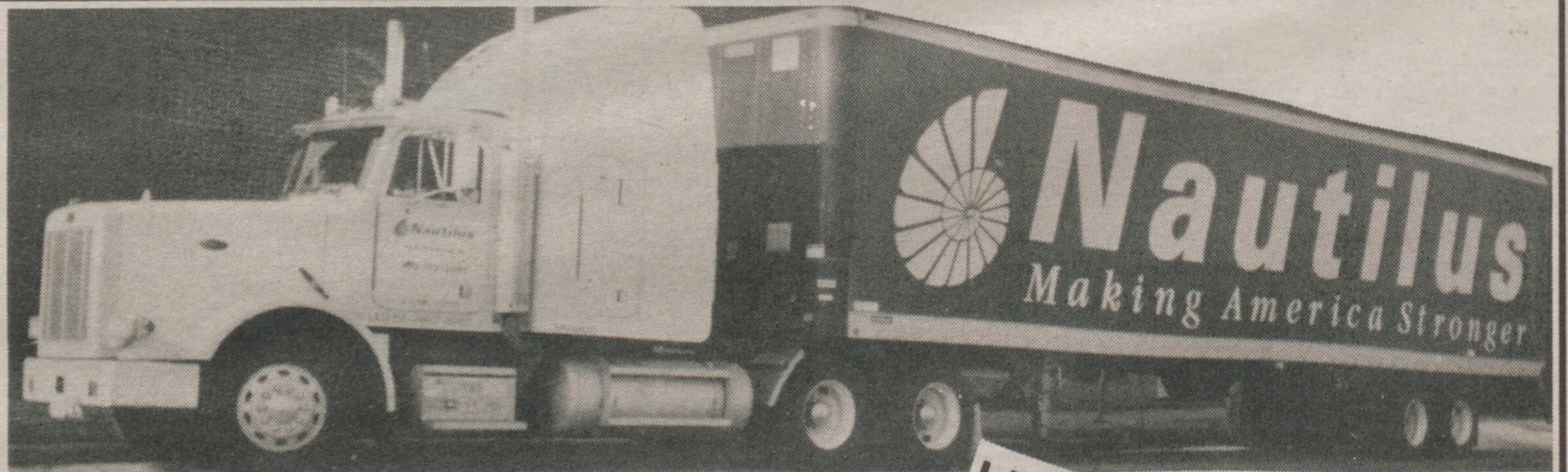
smoke. I don't see any fire on what they are planning to do."

The Human Rights Fund has an \$8 million budget. The group refused to disclose how much it plans to spend on its fight.

"It won't be the same in every state," McFeeley said.

A judge in December ruled unconstitutional a Colorado measure that bans laws designed to protect homosexuals against discrimination.

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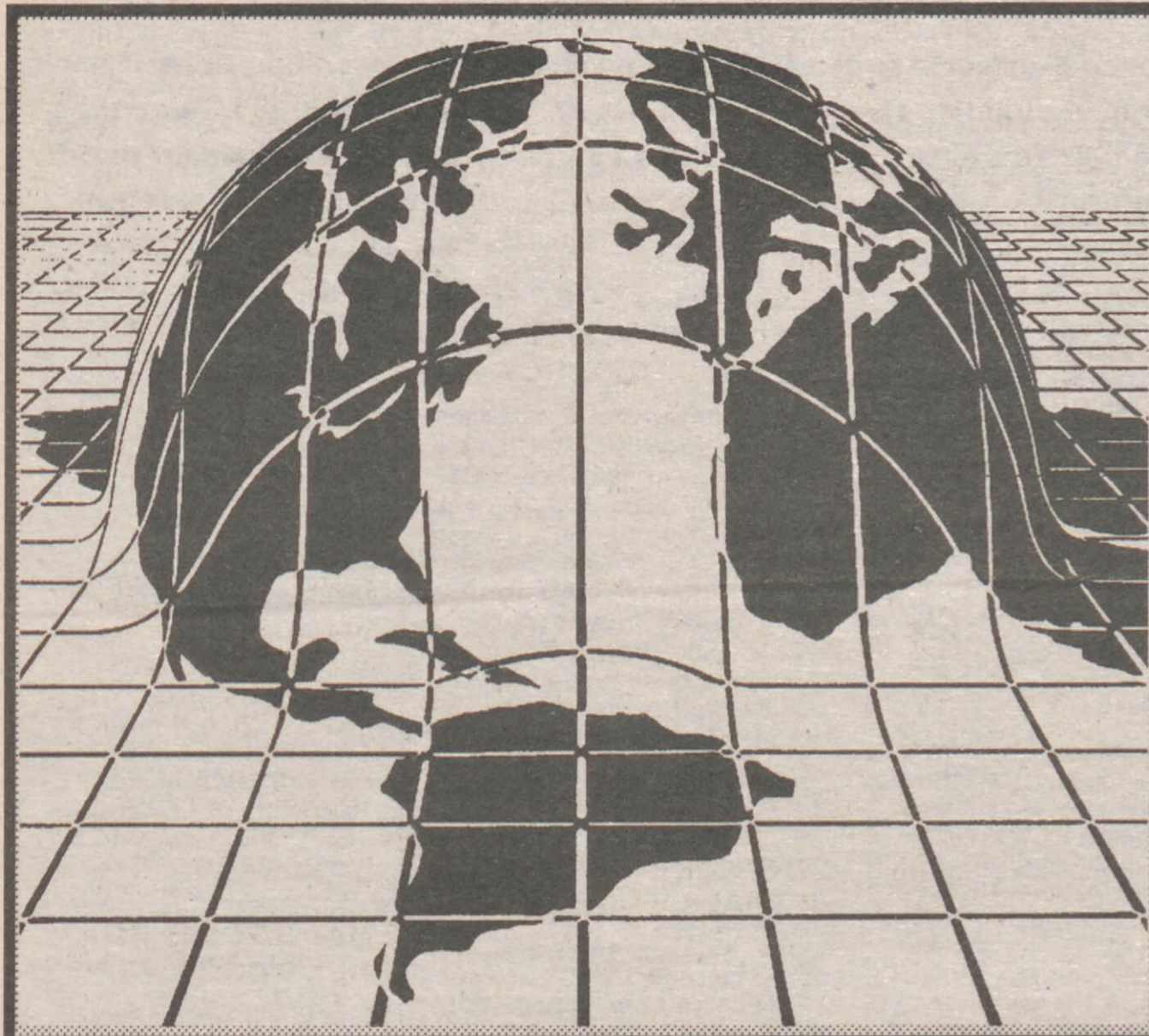
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HOUSTON VOICE

Alabama governor candidate: fire any homosexual teacher who discusses sex

BIRMINGHAM, Ala., Tuesday, Feb. 15 (AP)—Democratic gubernatorial candidate Paul Hubbert doesn't want to be stung a second time by any claims about him supporting homosexual teachers.

Hubbert said a homosexual teacher who discusses his sexuality in the classroom ought to be fired. He also said Monday that any prospective teachers who identify themselves as homosexual in a job interview probably should not be hired.

"That would raise a red flag with me ... I would not hire one, on that basis, because that is an indication it is likely to come up again," he said. "It would suggest it was something (an applicant)

was proud of—something (he or she) was pushing."

Hubbert tried to clarify his position on the subject when asked if he feared there might be a repeat of the "homosexual teacher" commercial that then-Gov. Guy Hunt used against him in the 1990 governor's race.

The executive secretary of the Alabama Education Association is Gov. Jim Folsom's main rival for the Democratic gubernatorial nomination.

Hubbert as the Democratic nominee in 1990 was running neck-and-neck in the polls with Hunt when the television commercial began appearing about 10 days before the election.

The commercial featured a conservatively dressed young woman who looked into the camera and said: "For 20 years, Mr. Hubbert has strongly supported the national teachers union."

"This union endorses letting homosexual teachers stay in the classrooms ... This union gave \$100,000 to Paul Hubbert's campaign for governor. My question to you, Mr. Hubbert, is 'Why did you take it?'"

Political observers suggested Hubbert campaign officials underestimated the conservative values of many Alabamians and dragged their feet in responding to the commercial.

On Monday, Hubbert said he doesn't

think that's going to be much of an issue this time.

When pressed to explain his position on the matter, Hubbert said:—Any teacher discussing his or her own sexuality, whether homosexual or heterosexual, should be fired.—The jobs of any teachers found to be homosexuals, in cases where their sexuality "does not manifest itself in the school setting," are protected by anti-discrimination laws, thus leaving room for "no discussion."

If a political opponent suggests that he supports homosexuals in the classroom, Hubbert said, "I'll ask them to show me one."

Indiana Senate panel removes homosexuals from hate crime bill

By MIKE SMITH

FOR THE HOUSTON VOICE

INDIANAPOLIS, Monday, Feb. 21 (AP)—Gays and lesbians said Monday that lawmakers declared "open season" for attack on them by removing homosexuals from a bill designed to crack down on hate crimes.

The bill approved by the Senate Committee on Corrections, Criminal and Civil Procedure would still authorize longer jail terms for people who commit crimes because of a victim's race, color, religion or national origin.

"It's as if you are saying our lives aren't worth as much," said Marla Stevens with the activist group Lesbian Gay Bisexual Transgendered Fairness Indi-

ana.

Sexual orientation, which was included in the bill passed by the Democratic House, was cut in hopes of getting the measure moving in the Republican-controlled Senate.

Sen. Lonnie Randolph said he did not want to remove homosexuals from the bill, but said it was necessary to keep the bill alive. He would not single out anyone who told him to remove the language.

"If you're in a class and everyone is saying it's going to be a tough exam, you get a feel for that. That's the feeling I got," said Randolph, D-East Chicago.

The bill would allow judges to impose up to five years of additional prison time for crimes committed because of hate or preju-

dice. It would also require a permit for cross burnings on someone else's property.

The bill, which passed 5-3, now goes to the full Senate and will be eligible for floor amendments on Wednesday.

Stevens told Randolph after the meeting that for years to come, gays and lesbians would not have enough political power to gain protections afforded other minorities. If the bill does not include gays, it should be defeated, she said.

"What you're saying is all or nothing, and this is a conservative state, ma'am," replied Randolph. "You've got to start somewhere."

Proponents said the bill did not create new crimes, only addi-

tional penalties if those crimes were based on hate. They said it was similar to a Wisconsin law that was upheld by the U.S. Supreme Court.

"This guarantees you the right to hate anyone you want, but says you can't act on that hate," said Rep. William Crawford, D-Indianapolis, the bill's original author.

Several people testified against the bill, saying it singled out certain groups and would lead to a flood of litigation trying to determine what constituted "hate."

"A crime is a crime," said Darrell Perry of Indianapolis, who identified himself as an average homeowner. "If I hurt you I'm guilty, if you hurt me you're guilty."

"This is punishing thought. There is no way to determine what's in a person's head."

Other opponents said the law could actually cause more conflict by naming specific groups for added protection.

Kathy Sarris of Indianapolis said she felt the revised bill sent a clear message that it was OK to single out gays and lesbians for persecution.

She told the committee she was raped at gunpoint 12 years ago after she appeared on a television show to discuss homosexual issues. She said such crimes were increasing as the gay community became more vocal.

"It's an effort to silence you—'We don't care if you're gay, just stay in the closet,'" she said.

California researcher pledges to prevent gene from being misused

By PAUL RECER

FOR THE HOUSTON VOICE

SAN FRANCISCO, Monday, Feb. 21 (AP)—A researcher who found a genetic pattern that predisposes toward homosexuality said Monday he would do all in his power to prevent that discovery from ever being misused.

"There will never be a test to tell if someone is gay," pledged Dr. Dean Hamer, a National Cancer Institute researcher.

He said he would act through patent rights to block commercialization of any test that would detect the presence of the homosexual gene pattern that he identified last July.

"This is not an issue that just affects gays," Hamer told a symposium of sexual orientation researchers at the national meeting of the American Asso-

ciation for the Advancement of Science.

"There will be genes found for other characteristics. I'm worried about the possibilities," he said.

Hamer and his research team isolated a pattern on the X chromosome that was linked to homosexuality in a study of 40 pairs of homosexual brothers.

A male with that gene marker, Hamer said, has a 50 percent chance of being gay.

Members of the gay community have expressed fears that a test for the gene marker could be used to identify unborn babies that had a higher-than-normal probability of becoming gay. There was concern that a positive test would lead some mothers to abort their babies. Some also worried that society would use the knowledge to eradicate the gay

predisposition through genetic engineering.

Because he is author of the study that linked the gene marker to homosexuality, Hamer said he could patent the test used to detect the marker and then control use of that test. He said he would block any commercial development of the test by denying permission for its use.

Hamer said that he is now doing new research, with a different group of brothers, to try to replicate, and thus, prove, the earlier finding. He said his group also is searching for a gene pattern related to female homosexuality.

Another researcher, Pepper Schwartz of the University of Washington, said that despite Hamer's discovery, there is still no proof that biological destiny

locks a person into homosexuality. Science is still uncertain of the roles that environment and biology play in sexual orientation, she said.

"Sexual orientation is highly variable, ranging from very early interest in the same sex to that tendency developing later," she said.

In sexual orientation studies of more than 20 years, Schwartz said, she has found people who were "strongly homosexual for three or four years of their life and then never went back to it."

Homosexual acts may stem from factors such as proximity and opportunity at a young age, to tendencies that only find expression later in life, she said.

"There is more than one way to get to be homosexual," said Schwartz.

Houston Gay Personals

To advertise call Houston local number (713) 529-8490 Mon.-Fri. 9-5.

To respond to an advertiser and to hear his actual voice describing himself and the people he would like to meet, call 24 hours 1-900-454-3576. (\$1.49/min. on your phone bill. You must be 18+) OR you can call (713) 529-8490 Mon.-Fri. 9-5 for more information or to establish a pre-paid toll-free answering account.

BABY WANTED BY GWM!!

Me: Handsome, stable, self-employed. You: attractive GHF/GWF who desires no contact with infant. I would agree to having two children -1 for each if you also desire parenthood. Also if you have or know of anyone unable to care for an infant (preferably male) please contact me. Ad 25766

BRAZORIA COUNTY

GWM, mid 30's, late 40's, business or country type, discreet adventure, could involve part time bar scene. All replies answered. Ad 9060

LOOKING FOR MASCULINE ROOMMATE - POOL OUT-BACK!

Looking for GWM or GHM to share rent at house in Sharpstown. Nice in ground swimming pool in backyard. Private surroundings. House has living room, sun room, large kitchen, two baths, 3 bedrooms. Also looking for masculine friends. Reference please. Men need only. Sharpstown Home. Ad 25770

SEEKING SAFE FUN!

GWM, independent, fun-loving person, romantic yet can straight forward, 40, HIV+. Looking for a man (30 to a young 40) who wants to share fun and intimacy. I'll make the time if you will. Ad 25780

Intensely handsome, intriguing, articulate professional, masculine, successful, young, dark hair and blue eyes, 5'10", 175, in great shape, secure, romantic, intense yet relaxed ... Ad 25762

TICKLISH?

Attention: Kinky men with a taste for the unusual who crave excitement and adventure. Sleeping endorphins awake! Unwind as you never have before. Attractive WM, born day before yesterday, seeks ticklish men for ticklish times. Comfortable bondage, no sex required, satisfaction guaranteed. Ad 25768

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

HEY, I KNOW YOU!

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

"If you know the wonder of being joining in you heart to a man and share commitment, devotion and fun, let's talk. I'm 43, 5'10", 185, HIV+ and always searching in life. Ad 25571

GBM WHO DARES TO BE DIFFERENT!

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

WANTED: HAIRY CHESTED YOUNG STUD FOR COMPANIONSHIP

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

IN THE ARMS OF LOVE, FRIENDS ...

Professional, GBM, 40ish, height/weight proportionate, HIV+ with a positive attitude and good health. No mind games, just honesty. Enjoy walks, music, movies and quiet times at home. You: GSM, GHM or GWM, honest first, sensitive, warm and emotionally strong. Let's see what happens! Ad 25758

YOU MUST BE SINCERE FOR ...

consideration by this attractive, 43 y.o., hirsute, GWM, 6'2", 185lbs, br/hzl. I'm educated, professionally employed, good sense of humor. Enjoy home life, good friends, music, dinner in/out and occasional travel. You are 30-45 y.o., handsome, masculine, GWM, HWP, NS, DDF, employed, affectionate, relationship oriented, sense of humor, kind heart and sincere! Ad 25769

LOOKING FOR COMPANIONSHIP!

I am a White Hispanic, DDF, 32 yr. old bottom, looking for a dark Hispanic or an African American top under 36 yrs. old able to work it out as a friend all the way into a special relationship. I love independence, social events, joyful moments and honest individuals. Ad 25765

AFFAIR PARTNER WANTED

BiWM, (in the closet), 38, 6'5", blonde, blue, workout regularly, healthy, professional, self employed, married (to a woman), seeks discreet, private, passionate, intimate affair partner for encounters during the day, you should be capable of handling an affair with a married man, healthy, nice looking, weight and height proportionate. Ad 25779

SCORPIO LOVERS ARE WONDERFUL MAGIC MAKERS

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

I'M THE GIN... ARE YOU THE TONIC??

Man to man, let's connect!! Well adjusted, high-spirited, good-looking, masculine, "well built", GM, 36, 6', 170lbs., gr/br, DDF, non-smoker/medium drinker looking for same to date/sleep with/be in a relationship with. I'm through with bars and attitude; Let's treat ourselves to a little intimacy, honesty, and adventure. I have multi-various interests...we have a lot to talk about... Please respond for more details. Ad 25759

HANDSOME GWM SEEKING SAME

I'm 31, 6'3", 210lbs, HIV+, short brown hair, hazel eyes, hairy chest and moustache. I own my home and am financially secure. Seeking a relationship with a man who is also HIV+ or able to deal with the situation on a mature and informed level, about my age, sexually secure and versatile, non-smoker, weight in proportion to height, comfortable in jeans or a tuxedo, and financially secure. I'm a very romantic person and seek out those qualities in others. We'll have to start out as friends first and let nature take its course. Ad-25962

EPITOME OF FEMININITY!

Looking for an extremely ultra-feminine woman, slim/medium build, a warm, gentle, calm, stable, positive personality who'll be the center of my attention, who loves being pampered. Me: GWF, soft butch, small build, blonde/blue. I like doing unto a woman as I would have her do unto me. Ad 25553.

KNOW YOUR-SELF?

You are a GM 30-45, h/w proportionate, sense of humor, prefer spiritual values, know from experience you like your age in spirit but 10-20 years older chronologically. 6', 180#. Physically attractive. Let's talk. Ad 25775

WE NEED SOME FRIENDS!!!!

Young, attractive lesbian couple looking for a few creative, loving, attractive, funny and intelligent ladies for sharing times at out best. We've been together for a while and need to meet new and exciting people. If you think you could add to this already dynamic couple please respond. Ad 25777

MARRIED MEN

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

ENDOWED HEALTHY, ATTRACTIVE OUTGOING PROFESSIONAL

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

WANTED: SOMEONE TO KEEP MY TOES WARM!

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

SMALL TOWN GUY/HAIRY, FRENCH, SAFE

Attractive Latin guy 32, 5'9", 165lbs, muscular, travels to San Antonio/Houston. Like to meet healthy GHM/GWM for friendship and safe times. Prefer in shape hairy blonde with similar attributes. Above average endowment/circumference - DDF. Ad 25760

SUBMISSIVE MEN!

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

DOMINANT GWM

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

LONELY BIWM SEEKING SAFE FUN

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

SLEEPLESS IN BRENHAM! (ONE HOUR TO HOUSTON)

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

RU BETTER THAN PU**Y?

Super attractive, muscular, bearded, DDF, sex starved Bi-WM tired of begging girl friend for once-a-month dry shallow plow privileges. Seeking Fractive male who offers, slow, moist, skillful, patient attention. Hot lava flows for the man who can go the distance. Ad 25781

BLACK ATTACK!

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

RESCUE ME FROM LIMBO!

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

FRIENDSHIP AND FUN

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

GWM 32 NEEDS LITTLE BROTHER TYPE!

Me: 6', 180#, brown hair/eyes, masculine, well built, smooth body, very healthy, HIV+, stable, professional, live in Montrose, non-smoker. You: 18-early 20's, hairy, well built, masculine, very healthy, non-smoker, sincere, stable, employed. You should be looking for big brother type and hours of intense and passionate kissing.

LOOKING FOR SINGLES AND COUPLES

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

GHM, mid 40's seeking GWM for one on one relationship. Sugar Daddy type. Race unimportant. Ad 9073

I'M TIRED OF BEING SINGLE!

GWM 27, 5'8", 150lbs, blonde/bl, NS, masculine, attractive, romantic, funny, and caring. Looking for a sincere GW-HM (25-35) who is attractive, exercises regularly, and is not afraid of intimacy. If a relationship is not in the cards, friendship is also nice. Prefer someone who doesn't mind a 30 minute driving distance. (I'm near NASA). Ad#25155

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

OUTGOING, ATTRACTIVE, MASCULINE, PROFESSIONAL

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

SPANKINGS NEEDED

W/M, 33, needs older white gentleman (mid 50's late 60's) to help me correct my behavior by administering spankings. Must be safe, sane and want to help me grow as a person via meaningful discipline. Ad 25734

LOOKING FOR 20-60LBS OVER-WEIGHT GWF

who's bubbly, fun and down to earth, romantic, loyal and honest. No rules, games, not afraid of commitment, not butch. Likes to be wined, dined and romanced. I'm 31, 5'2", br/br, medium build, 20lbs overweight with high libido, very romantic. Likes jet skiing, movies, weekend travel. Friends first. If you from out of town let's hear from you too! Mature only ages 25-39. Ad 25753

ATTENTION -NUDIST

GWM, 45, 5'6", 142#, br/hazel with salt and pepper beard, DDF, smoker and a nudist. This nudist would like to get together for social non-sexual encounters. Just the enjoyment of viewing each other's bodies. Ad 25772

LARGE TOOL WANTED!

GWM, 29, above average looks and tool. Work out often. Looking for fun or a serious companion for long term. You must be masculine GW or GH top preferred. You need to know how to use your tool. You won't be disappointed. Good looking strong tools need only reply. Ad 25270

NEED DADDY YOU NEVER REALLY HAD?

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

MALE COUPLE SEEKING HOT PLAY-MATE!

GWM couple, mid 50's and 20's, both bearded (5'8", 250 -6", 185). Seeking young hung, hot, hard, hairy, multi-orgasmic, GWM/GBM/GHM for a top position and french action. Bare upper torso/swimsuit photo or any photo appreciated. Ideal for a young top seeking fun times. Voice box 25911 detailing your interest.

FRIENDSHIP IS WORTH THE EFFORT

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

SEEKING AFFECTIONATE GENEROUS GENTLEMAN SUGAR DADDY

Tall, healthy, sensual, affectionate, fun, friendly, athletic, stable, ambitious, sincere, outgoing, handsome, blond, varied interests. You: fit, height/weight proportionate, affluent, very generous gentleman. Able to give: affection, fun, friskiness, contributions, gifts, travel, etc. Casual to serious relationship. Privacy, discretion, friendship, companionship assured. Let's fulfill each other's needs, wants, desires. Ad 25978

DOES THE OUTDOORS, ANIMALS AND PLANTS

appeal to you? Are you a slim, warm, considerate, GM between 30-45? I am br/br, 5'10", 160lbs, 40, handsome, trim, and smooth, NS, DDF. Likes long walks, swimming, and intelligent conversation. Enjoy spiritual topics (a Course in Miracles), new age thought and astrology. Want intimate buddy for companionship possibly more. Ad 25745

SAN ANTONIO: LOOKING FOR MR. RIGHT!

34 yr. old effeminate female impersonator seeks masculine, neat in appearance male of any race between 30-45. If you are masculine looking for someone to date and perhaps develop a relationship, let me hear from you. Ad 25761

HARLINGEN, MC ALLEN, BROWNSVILLE

24 yr. old college educated GWM seeks emotional wants and closeness in a marriage of convenience situation with a female. Will consider efforts in having a child. Female must be 20-25, intelligent, attractive and most of all have a friendly personality. Will consider some sort of living arrangement with lesbian couple or open minded straight female. Only non-smokers and non-drug users considered. Prefer to stay in the Harlingen, McAllen, Brownsville area but will consider relocating. Ad 25774

LET'S START '94 OUT RIGHT TOGETHER!

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

SAGITTARIUS

GWM, youthful 50 y.o., bld/green, moustache, 175#, 6', DDF, nice looking, low key, professional, interest in the Arts, all music, dancing, old movies and quiet evenings with you. Like to find that true, healthy man ready to settle down and committed to a monogamous and growing relationship. Ad 25767

SEEKING A GHM

Latino, 20-35, masculine a must, LD, DDF, interested in long term relationship. More Hispanic, Latino the better. I'm a WM, 31, 6'1", 200lbs, seek a long term relationship. Ad 25764

THREE R'S -REAL, ROMANCE, RELATIONSHIP

GHM, 30, HIV+ but healthy seeks HIV+ GM for friendship, fun, possible relationship. Enjoy old-fashioned romance (quiet dinners, walks, movies, especially cuddling). Let's enjoy the sunshine, moon and stars together. Sounds mushy but have lots -o-love to give. Ad 25776

LOOKING FOR THE RIGHT MAN

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

INTRIGUE! SUSPENSE! ROMANCE! TERROR!

All in the comfort of one's living room. Montrose gaming group being assembled. Experience with role playing games not necessary. Just a sense of whimsy, a flair for style and a thirst for adventure required. Who knows what evil lurks in the hearts of men ... Find out! Ad 25773

GALVESTON: LOOKING FOR SEXUAL BUDDIES

I'm 43, married, 5'10, 160lbs., average looks, DDF, clean, no drugs, married-top-cut-discreet. Ad 25598

GWF SEEKS GWF 25-35!

AND MUST BE CLEAN, NO STEREOTYPING, WILLING TO PUT MY HEART AWAY FOR SAFE KEEPING - MONOGAMOUS RELATIONSHIP -ONLY SERIOUS RESPONSES WILL GET MY REPLY. Ad 25967

HANDSOME BOY NEXT DOOR TYPE

Straight acting GWM, 6', 175lbs, clean shaven, well endowed, mostly smooth, good looking body. Looking for handsome in shape to well built, endowed, definitely straight/looking/acting WM for fun and maybe even more. I'm a very young looking 38 and DDF. Interest include Caribbean, Florida, sailing, cool music, partying and bicycling. Ad 25763.

ATTENTION: WHITE CALVIN WEARERS

GWM, Daddy bear, 43, 5'6", moustache, balding, hunky, HIV-. Successful professional with a dry sense of humor and a lot of energy. Not looking for love, relationship, or anything serious--just someone who wants to play and who likes to cuddle after. If you are 23-35, straight, bi, or gay, athletic, and look hot in white Calvins, why not give it a try? Attorneys, architects, doctors a plus. Ad 25387

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

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

DO YOU WANT WHAT I WANT?

I want someone who, like me, is good looking, fit, muscular, intelligent and is a good conversationalist. If that is what you want too, then you have found it. (P.S. I am 42, GWM). Box 25298

RESTLESS IN MONTROSE, SEEKS PLAY-MATE

Playmate should be a GWM, 35-45 who is a "top" only for this GWM, 41, HIV+, 5'9", 140#, br/br with moustache playmate. I am of small endowment, "bottom" only, but active/passive in all other areas of play. Cuddling, exploring each other's bodies and having a mutually hot time is what I desire. I smoke and occasionally drink, if you think I could be your plaything then please respond to Ad#25904

STABLE PROFESSIONAL WITH HIDDEN WILD STREAK!

Me: GWM, 32, brown hair/eyes, smooth, 6', 185#, masculine, very healthy, HIV+, Montrose homeowner. You: 20's to 30's, very hairy, masculine, very healthy. You and I: Very financially secure yet very down to earth, looking for an intensely passionate emotional/sexual relationship without financial entanglements or required cohabitation. Ad 25746

WE WANT MORE!

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

British lawmakers lower consent age to 18 but angry gays wanted 16

By MICHAEL WEST
FOR THE HOUSTON VOICE

LONDON, Tuesday, Feb. 22 (AP)—Gay rights supporters shouted "Burn the place down!" outside Parliament after lawmakers refused to lower the age of consent for sex between men to 16—the age of consent for heterosexuals and lesbians.

The House of Commons voted late Monday to lower the age of consent for homosexual men from 21 to 18 but rejected an amendment that would have lowered it to 16.

Parliament "voted to deny us human rights," said Peter Tatchell, a spokesperson for the gay rights organization Outrage. "Eighteen is not a compromise. It's discrimination."

When the vote was announced, about 1000 demonstrators outside Parliament began blowing whistles and shouting "Scum, scum," "Shame on you" and "Burn the place down."

Some protesters climbed over police barriers and tried to force their way through the heavy wooden doors, while others threw bottles. Riot police dispersed the crowd. Three people were arrested and an officer was knocked unconscious.

Prime Minister John Major, seeking

compromise on a divisive issue, had backed the proposal to lower the age to 18.

The amendment to lower it to 16 was sponsored by Conservative lawmaker Edwina Currie and backed by the opposition Labor Party and the British Medical Association.

"I am not for gay rights. I am for equal rights for all," Currie told the crowded chamber before the vote.

But many lawmakers felt 16 was too young, saying 16-year-old boys are too impressionable to know their sexual orientation and could easily be influenced by older men.

Sex between men of any age was outlawed in Britain until 1967. Sex between women has never been illegal, supposedly because officials lacked the nerve to explain to Queen Victoria what lesbians did.

Men convicted of violating the age of homosexual consent can be sentenced to up to five years' imprisonment, but the law is not strictly enforced.

At 21, Britain had the highest age of consent for gay sex in the 12-nation European Union. The age of consent for both heterosexual and homosexual activity is 15 in France, 12 in Spain, and 17 in Ireland.

Physicians groups urge wider AIDS testing

PHILADELPHIA, Tuesday, Feb. 15 (AP)—Doctors should offer HIV tests to all patients and obtain more information about their sexual histories, two medical groups said in today's edition of the Annals of Internal Medicine.

The American College of Physicians and the Infectious Diseases Society of America updated a 1988 policy paper on AIDS infection, saying medical advances are delaying the onset of AIDS and more early detection is needed.

"Voluntary testing is particularly important to diagnose current illness and identify asymptomatic infected people who could benefit from treatment," said the paper's author, Dr. Theodore C. Eickhoff of the University of Colorado in Denver.

New treatments "will improve the quality of life and will prolong life" in people who are diagnosed early, Eickhoff said Monday.

Drugs like AZT have been able to prolong the period between infection with the human immunodeficiency virus (HIV) that leads to AIDS and AIDS symptoms, according to the paper. Once patients are diagnosed with AIDS, their survival time has increased from less than a year to 20 months, Eickhoff wrote.

The two groups recommended that doctors offer HIV tests to all patients, saying patients may forget or deny high-risk behavior that could lead to the HIV virus. Patients must receive counseling and be assured that their results will be confidential, the paper said.

"Physicians are often reluctant to discuss sexual preferences and practices with their patients. However, HIV infection is predominantly a sexually transmitted disease, and this fact emphasizes the importance of learning the sexual history of all, particularly new patients," Eickhoff wrote.

"The infectious nature of the disease, its causes, and the steps to be taken to pre-

vent transmission must be discussed candidly with each patient known or suspected to be at risk regardless of how the physicians personally views the subject."

Homosexual and bisexual men and intravenous drug users have accounted for most AIDS cases in the United States, the medical groups say. But the growth rate of new cases among those groups has slowed, while the number of AIDS cases contracted by heterosexual activity continues to increase.

The paper also recommended that doctors and others in medicine follow precautions to prevent infection between themselves and patients, while urging that a doctor's HIV status be kept confidential.

The medical groups recommended against mandatory HIV testing for health care providers, saying competent physicians with the virus should not be banned from practice.

The paper's recommendations concerning doctors and HIV are in keeping with the Centers for Disease Control guidelines, Eickhoff said.

Nan Feyler, executive director of the AIDS Law Project of Pennsylvania, praised the paper's policies concerning patient confidentiality, broader testing, public education and anti-discrimination.

"We have an almost weekly call from people who are denied medical care," Feyler said. "There's this crisis that we don't really have a handle on." She said her group also hears from people whose doctors disclosed the patient's HIV status.

Feyler said she had mixed feelings about discussing patients' sexual histories, but isn't opposed as long as it's confidential. She said the talks also should cover the patient's intravenous drug use history, the backgrounds of sexual partners, and AIDS education.



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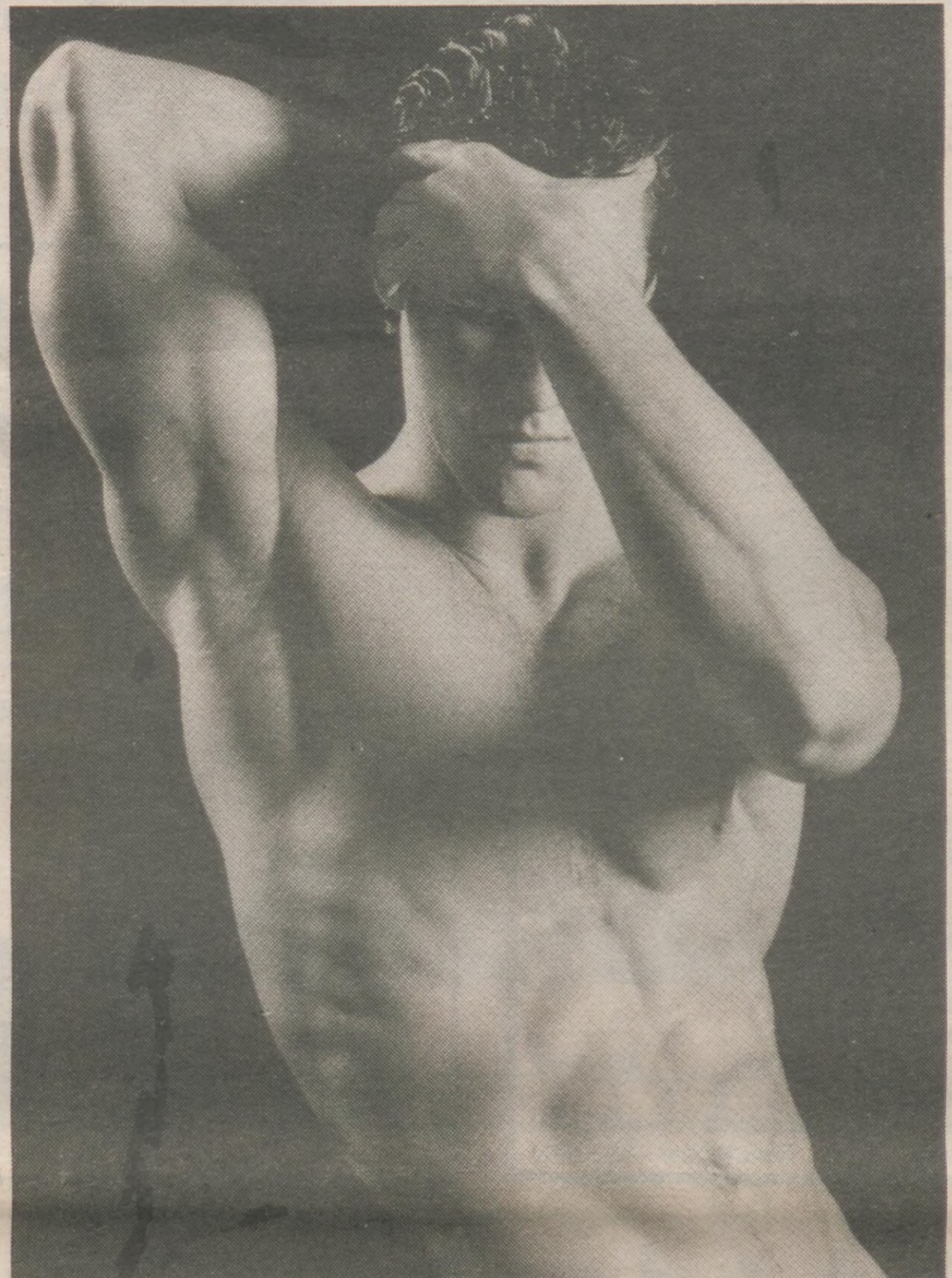


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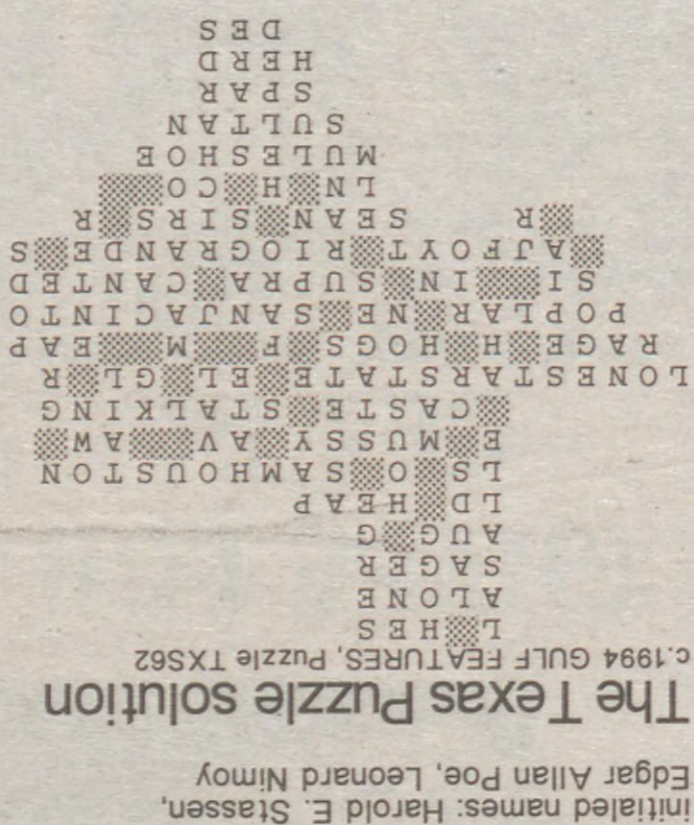
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Ms. B's 9200 Buffalo Spdwy 666-3356
Outpost 2818 Richmond 520-8446
Pacific Street 710 Pacific 523-0213
Ranch 9200 Buffalo Spdwy 666-3464
Red Room 1419 Richmond 529-3367
Rich's 2401 San Jacinto 759-9606
Ripcord 715 Fairview 521-2791
Venture-N 2923 Main 522-0000
XTC 9200 Buffalo Spdwy 666-3464

SAN ANTONIO (A/C 210)
2015 Place 2015 San Pedro 733-3365
Captain's Crew 309 W Market 223-0333
El Jardin 106 Navarro 223-7177
Industria 450 Soledad 227-0484
Miriam's 115 General Krueger 308-7354
Nexus 8021 Pine Brook 341-2818
Paper Moon 1430 N. Main 225-7330
Silver Dollar Saloon 1418 N. Main 227-2623
Sparks 8011 Webbles 653-9941
Wild Club 820 San Pedro 226-2620
Wild Country 414 W. Laurel 228-9378

RIO GRANDE VALLEY
Harlingen (A/C 210)
Planet 117 W. Jackson 425-4652
McAllen (A/C 210)
10th Avenue 1820 10th Avenue 682-7131
P.B.D.'s Lounge Ware Rd.@Daffodil 682-8019



initiated names: Harold E. Stassen, Edgar Allan Poe, Leonard Nimoy

Hey good lookin'. You ought to be in pictures!

Have studio, will photograph.

Traditional and Erotic

Henry

(713) 529-2325



HOUSTON VOICE CONNECT LINE HOT PERSONALS

TAD, 22 yrs. old, black hair/eyes, fair complexion, clean shaven into alternative music and hanging out. Mail Box 1182

MICHAEL, 24 yrs. old, blond hair, blue eyes, clean cut, big dick. Call for fun and fun only. Mail Box 1098

MAVERICK, 24 yrs. old. Wants to meet GM between 20-30 years old. Into clubbing, partying and sex. You will not be disappointed. Mail Box 1198

ROGER, brown hair and eyes. 5'8", 150 lbs. Moderately hairy. Huge cock; 8 and one-half inches long, 5 and three-quarter inches around. Likes to jack-off, suck dick and talk dirty. Mail Box 1176

CHRIS, 5'11" 150 lbs. brown hair/eyes. Looking for older brother type between ages of 37 - 45 to give me the dicipline I need. I want to get spanked, paddled and humiliated. Mail Box 1223

MICHAEL, 23 year old slender blond hair, brown eyes. Recent U of H grad, classical musician who likes reading, music, clubbing, staying at home. Looking for friendship and possibly more. Mail Box 1199

For instructions on how to respond to Houston Voice Hot Personals See our Connect Line ad on page 31.

Keep On Marching!TM



JUNE 26 1994

On June 26th, 1994, the International March on the United Nations to Affirm the Human Rights of Lesbian and Gay People will take place in New York City. It promises to be one of the largest human rights marches in history.

Come celebrate the 25th Anniversary of the Stonewall Riots. Make your plans NOW! You can help make Stonewall 25 a success!

To advertise in Houston Voice Classifieds Call (713) 529-8490 or (800) 729-8490 if not in Houston. Office hours are 9 am to 5:30 pm Monday through Friday.

Tired of the Same Old Thing?

Check Out Houston's High Energy Adult Video Arcade

We Will Pay Cash for Used Adult Magazines, Including Monthly Periodicals, Adult Videos, Paperbacks or Trade 3 for 1

For Those Who Expect the Best, Come Experience the Richmond Difference!

RICHMOND NEWS AND VIDEO

4330 Richmond Avenue

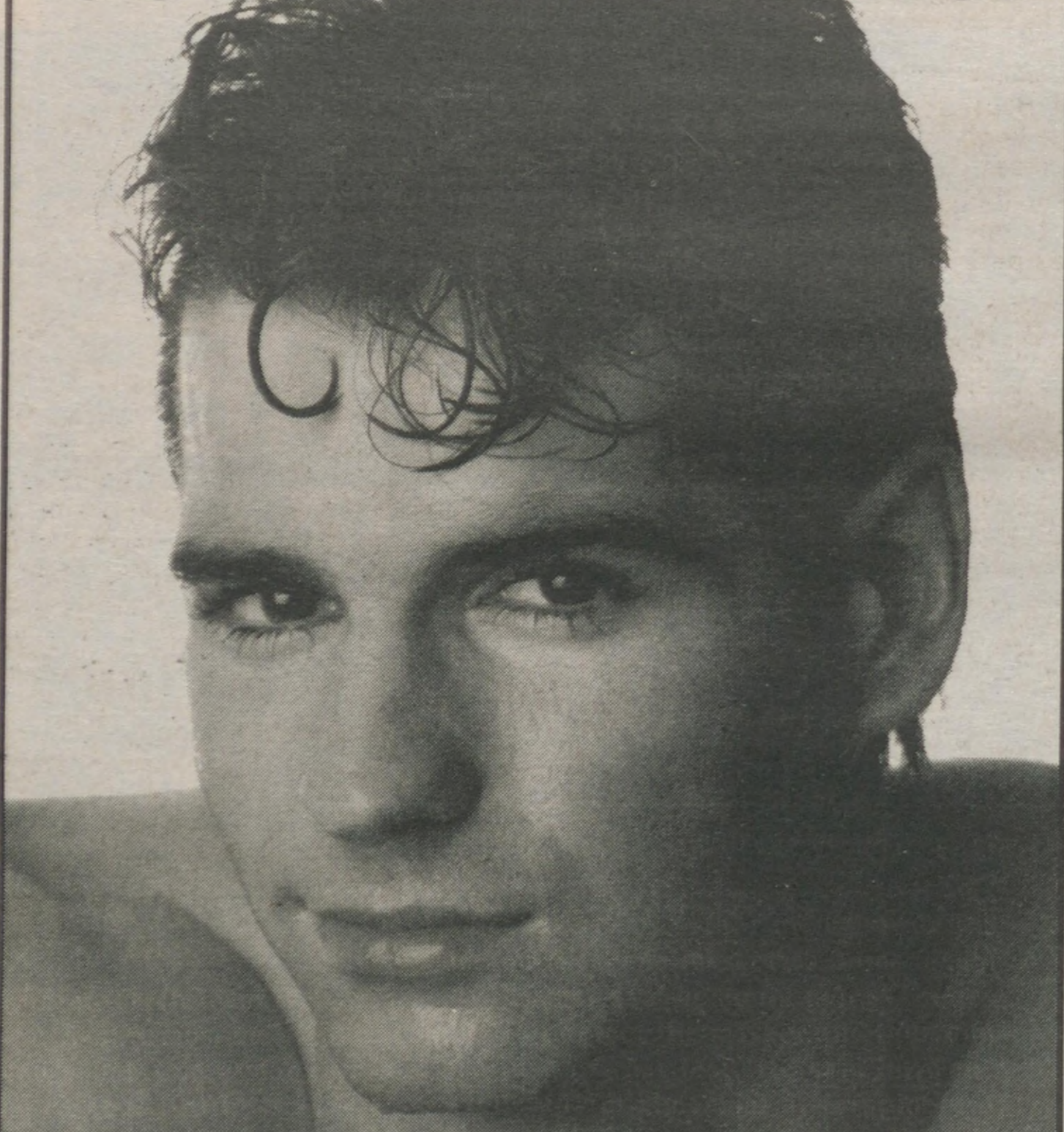
(Inside the loop between Wesleyan and Mid Lane)

(Next Door to Ambassador Chinese Restaurant)

WE ARE OPEN 24 HOURS A DAY, 365 DAYS A YEAR, 7 DAYS A WEEK

All major credit cards and personal checks always accepted

**DIAL NOW
GUYS ARE WAITING!**



**CALL NOW!
TALK LIVE, LOCAL AND NATIONWIDE.
1-900-568-6868**

Must Be 18 Or Over • Prices Subject To Change Without Notice.
FREE INFO: 1-800-676-GUYS

**NOW ONLY
99¢
Per min.**

First min. \$3.99

**MIDNIGHT MATINEE
SPECIAL**
Sunday thru Thursday
Midnight til Closing
Admission \$4
with membership

FRENCH QUARTER
(713) 527-0782 3201 LOUISIANA HOUSTON

**THURSDAY
Matinee**
\$4 All Day
with membership

All Male Cinema

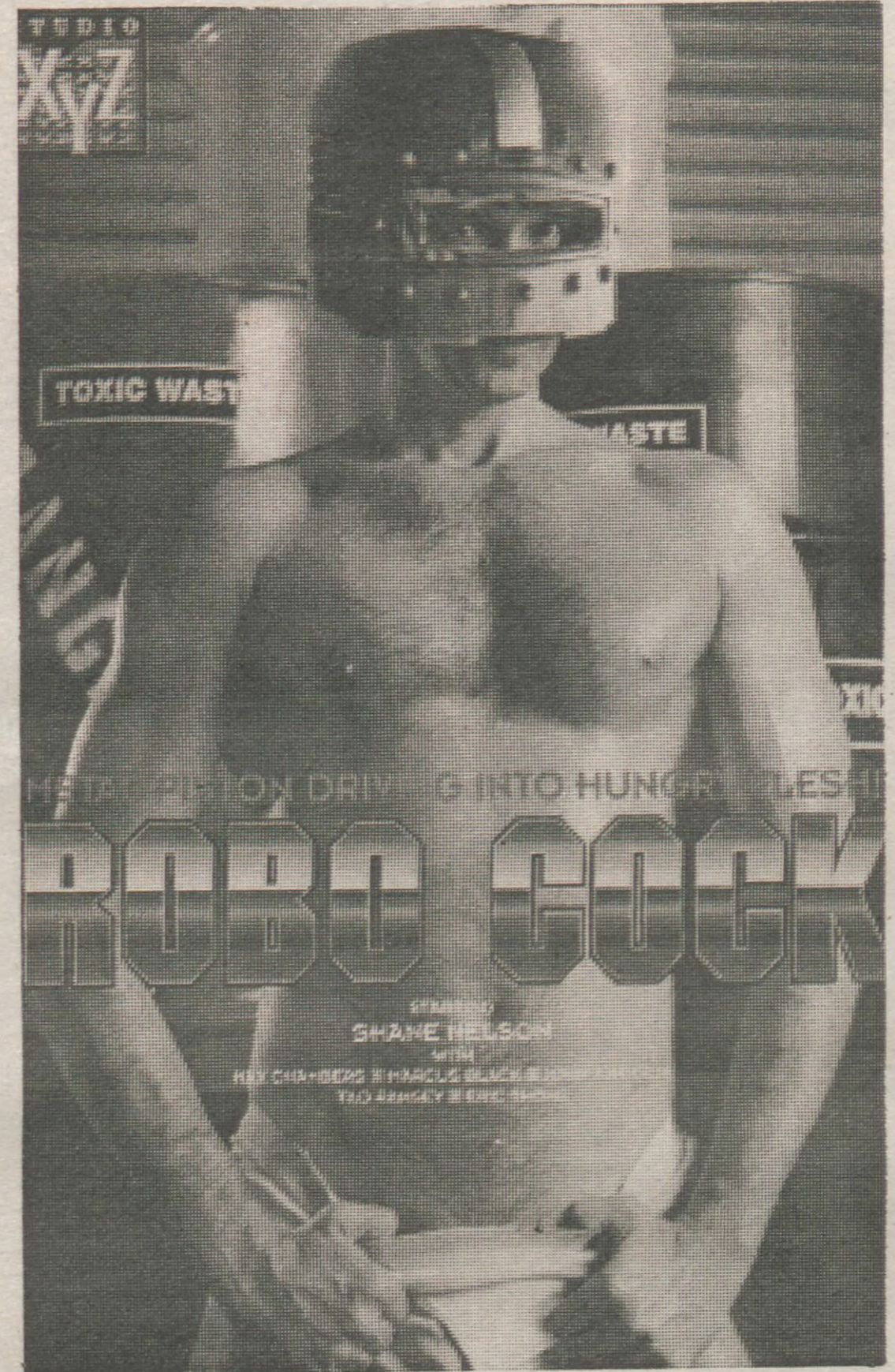
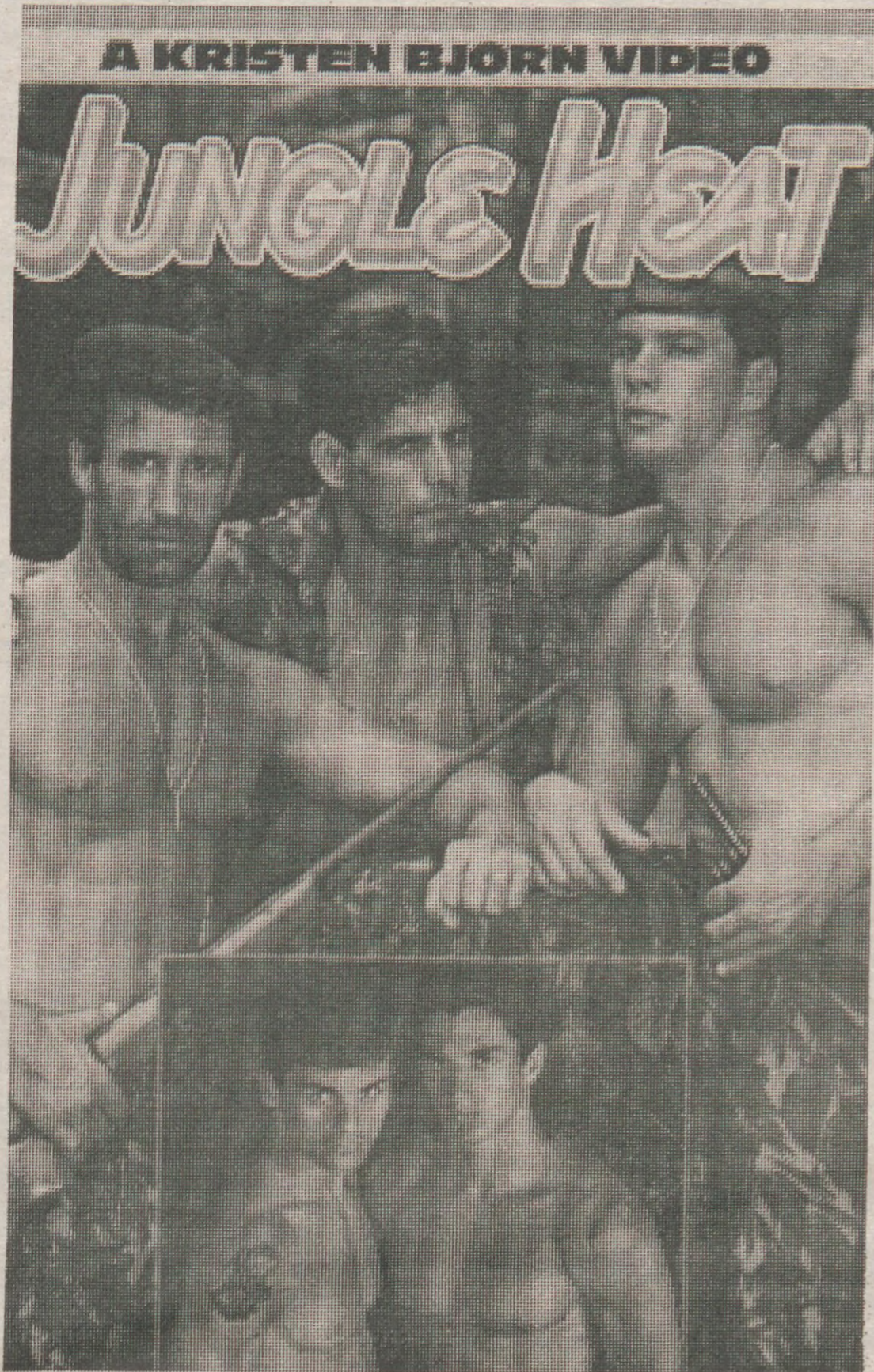
presents

**JUNGLE
HEAT**

and

**ROBO
COCK**

Friday & Saturday
11am - 3am
Monday-Thursday
11am - 1am
Sunday
1pm - 1 am



HOUSTON VOICE PERSONALS

Our very own! All are REAL! All are CURRENT! All are from readers of the HOUSTON VOICE!



• To PLACE a Personal Ad by Phone:

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

• To PLACE a Personal Ad by Mail:

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

• To RESPOND to a Personal Ad by Phone:

Call 1-900-454-3576. Listen to the verbal instructions. A charge of \$1.49 per minute will appear on your telephone bill. You can respond verbally, leaving your name and phone number, to as many personal advertisers as you wish. You can browse through all the personal advertisers until you hear someone that interests you. As the individual advertisers periodically check their incoming verbal mailboxes, they will retrieve your response. Call (713) 529-8490 (Houston) or (800) 729-8490 (Nationwide) for more information about this service or to obtain information about a pre-paid toll-free answering account. You must be 18+ to use this service.

• To RESPOND to a Personal Ad by Mail:

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

• To RECEIVE Responses to Your Personal Ad:

We will forward to you daily, unopened, at no charge, all responses received by mail. To see if you have any verbal messages waiting, call the 800 toll-free number we gave you when you placed your ad. If the recording says you have verbal responses waiting, have your 5-digit code and secret 4-digit PIN handy and call 1-900-454-3576 to retrieve your verbal messages. A charge of \$1.49 a minute will appear on your phone bill. Call (713) 529-8490 in Houston or (800) 729-8490 Nationwide for information about this service or to obtain information about a toll-free answering account. You must be 18+ to use this service.

• ADDITIONAL REQUIREMENTS:

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

THE HOUSTON VOICE SPECIAL PUZZLE

Includes Clues About Montrose, Texas Clues, Standard Crossword Clues

By Henry McClurg
ACROSS

2 one-time perennial U.S. presidential candidate Stassen, initials ("Whoever kindles the flames of intolerance in America is lighting a fire underneath his own home.")

5 separated from others
7 more wise or prudent

8 8th month of the year, abbrev.
9 what late entertainers Linda Darnell and Louise Dresser had in common

10 pile
13 12th letters of the alphabet
14 201st birthday was March 2, 1994; defeated Santa Anna at Battle of San Jacinto

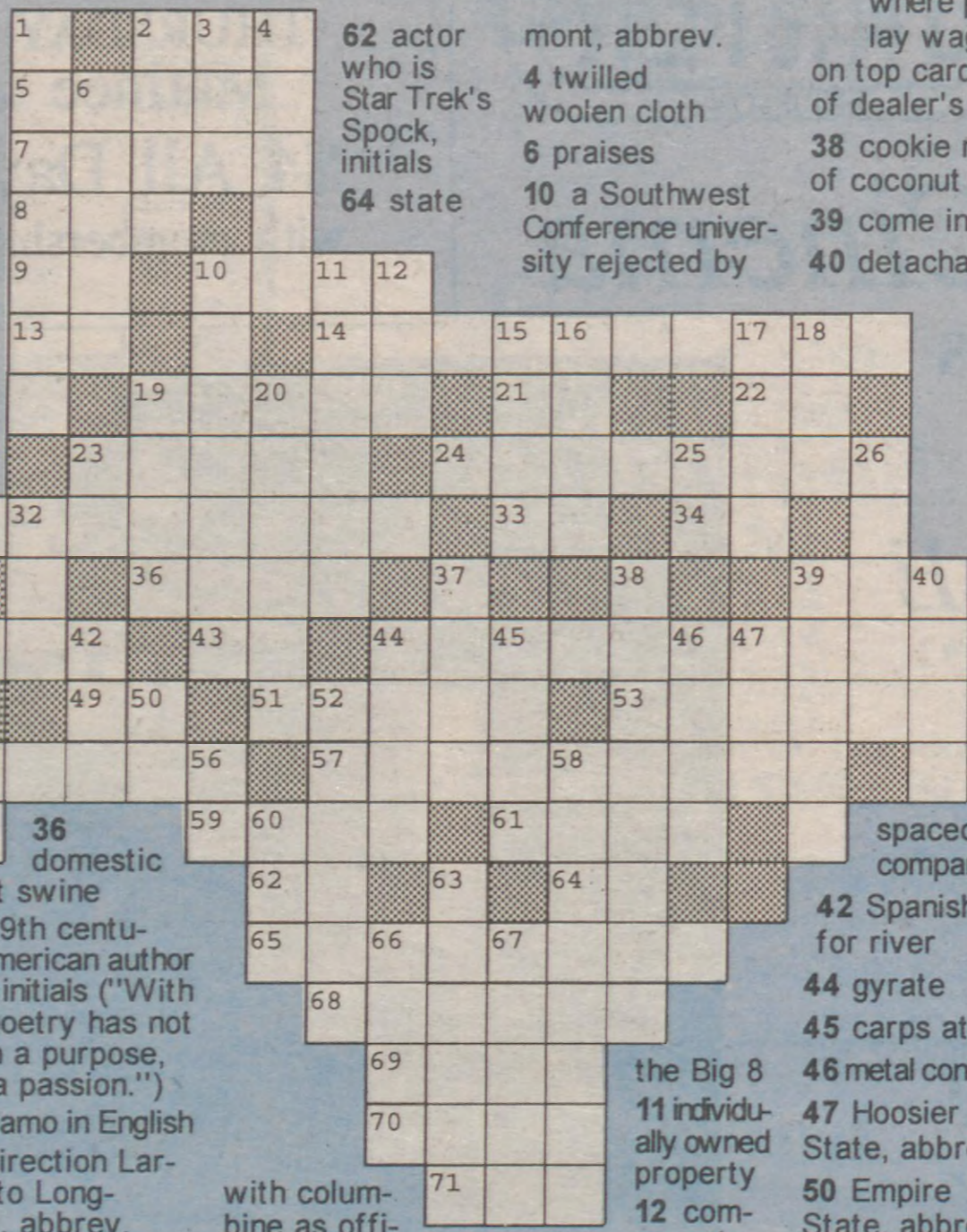
19 slovenly
21 audio-visual, abbrev.

22 interjection used to express sympathy
23 social class
24 Texas law signed March 19, '93, makes this illegal

27 Texas' nickname, 3 words
33 Spanish for 'the'

34 gloss, an explanatory note attached to a text, abbrev.

35 violent anger



36 domestic adult swine
39 19th century American author Poe, initials ("With me poetry has not been a purpose, but a passion.")

41 alamo in English
43 direction Laredo to Longview, abbrev.
44 Texas river running through Cleveland & Conroe, 2 words

48 Spanish for 'yes'

49 state with Indianapolis as capital, abbrev.
51 prefix for above, over
53 slanted

54 Houstonian who was 1st 4-time winner of the Indy 500, 3 words

57 river that forms border with Mexico, 2 words

59 common Irish male first name
61 gentlemen of rank

62 actor who is Star Trek's Spock, initials
64 state

with columbine as official flower, abbrev.

65 Texas town with giant mule statue

68 sovereign of a Muslim state

69 pole or boom

70 group of animals of a single kind

71 Spanish prefix for English 'dis'

DOWN
1 French nobleman-explorer stranded at Matagorda Bay in 1685

2 James, first native Texan to be elected governor

3 direction Laredo to Beau-

mont, abbrev.
4 twilled woolen cloth
6 praises
10 a Southwest Conference university rejected by

15 detestation
16 egg-shaped
17 behind

18 belonging to oneself

19 crush, pulp, squash

20 degrees
23 symbol for chemical element chromium

25 1000 grams, abbrev.

26 irritate
28 conjunction for an alternative

29 forty winks
30 several people's self-esteem
31 brownish gray
32 interjection used

to express surprise
37 card game where players lay wagers on top card of dealer's pack
38 cookie made of coconut
39 come in
40 detachable

spacecraft compartment

42 Spanish for river
44 gyrate

45 carps at
46 metal containers

47 Hoosier State, abbrev.
50 Empire State, abbrev.

52 3rd largest planet, 7th from the sun

55 a younger person, abbrev.

56 a bunch of the 20th letter of the alphabet

58 Ann, our governor
60 tall shade tree

63 assisted
66 a consistent drinker who doesn't handle the booze very well

67 look intently
The solution appears elsewhere this issue

© 1994 GULF FEATURES, PUZZLE TX562

State of Massachusetts: apartment company denied gays housing

QUINCY, Mass., Wednesday, Feb. 16 (AP)—The owners of a Weymouth apartment complex who refused to rent to a gay couple are being sued for discrimination by the state.

Joseph LaRocque, 36, and William Kennedy, 47, filed a complaint with the Massachusetts Commission Against Discrimination in August, saying they were denied a two-bedroom apartment at the Weymouth Commons.

The panel found probable cause to pursue the case. Now, Attorney General Scott Harshbarger is suing Corcoran Management Co. of Braintree, saying it discriminated against the two men.

Corcoran officials said they rejected the two because of credit problems. Carol MacDonald, senior property manager, declined further comment.

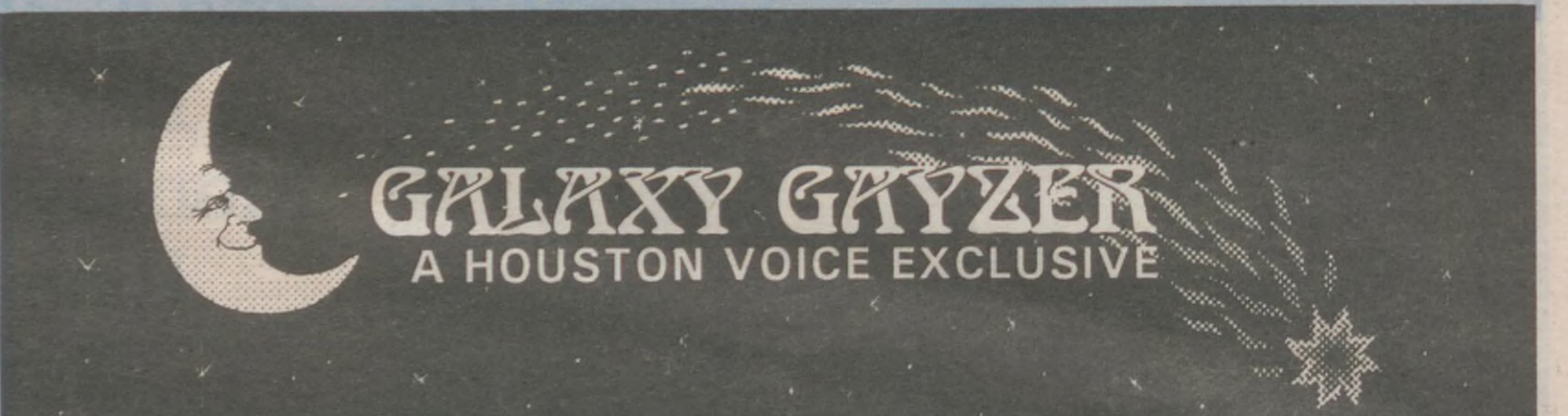
But the men said Corcoran initially approved their application despite a "marginal" credit history.

Apartment complex manager Fran Doherty, who is named in the suit, allegedly told the men they did not meet the criteria for living at Weymouth Commons, LaRocque said.

"I told her this is discrimination and she would be hearing from our lawyer, but she just chuckled and gave a big smirk," said LaRocque. "She told us to leave the office or she was going to call the police."

After attempts to resolve the case through mediation, the state panel found probable cause to charge Corcoran with discrimination on Dec. 10.

Doherty declined comment.



HOROSCOPE FOR THE WEEK OF MAR 5 - MAR 11, 1994

PISCES born during this week share the excitement of life and avant garde quality to their emotional drive with author, John Rechy, b. El Paso, TX, 1934. His classic, 'Cry of Night', was the first well known description of the sexual outlaw. Thanks to Jim B. for introducing the book to me.

PISCES (Feb 20 - Mar 20) Sexual drive and fantasy interest are heightened for the next two weeks. You are especially fun to play with and to help others learn new peaks of excitement. Pantheon Weekend will be of special interest to you. Use this time to meet many persons, rather than to fall in love. Explore as many new avenues of expression as possible.

ARIES (Mar 21 - Apr 20) Balance of diet will give to you the extra amount of energy needed as the moon drives your activity level to new heights. A high sugar diet is to be avoided as excessive amounts of glucose will give a sluggish feeling. Aim for no more than 75 grams in a 24 hour period. Try a new hair style to demonstrate to others you are going personality.

TAURUS (Apr 21 - May 21) Your attention to detail is wonderful, and much appreciated. Like the new mirror of yours, as you are a good looking person. Friends enjoy being around you when in an upbeat mood. Let the little girl/boy come out and play more often. Try to maintain a weekly physical fitness schedule to keep you muscles developing.

GEMINI (May 22 - June 21) Springtime has always been a wonderful season for you, and with the earlier than usual end of winter this year, take advantage to being out side and enjoy the sense of well being that comes from physical activity. Your busy work/social calendar requires extra planning to accomplish all that you wish. I have a good feeling that this will be a wonderful spring for you.

CANCER (June 22 - July 22) This week is a perfect time to be more assertive at home and the office. The gentle side to your personality causes others to miss read your decisiveness. Chose wardrobe colors that are powerful, e.g. red, dark blue, black, and medium or dark grey. Try a shorter length hair style to convey a sense of power, also.

LEO (July 23 - Aug 22) Noticed you working on your tan last week, and you look wonderful. Though I prefer friends without a tan line. As with your Taurus person above, this month is an excellent time to further develop your muscles. Someone very special is waiting for you and likes a taut, disciplined body. Go easy on the steroids and testosterone and instead use an extra hour at the gym.

VIRGO (Aug 23 - Sept 22) Your cautious side to your personality tends to hold you back from exploring and succeeding in new areas of life. Pick one or two challenging things that you would like and go for it. Consider straightened up your quarters for a more orderly appearance, washing you car, especially cleaning the interior, and giving your blouses/shirts an ironed or starched look.

LIBRA (Sept 23 - Oct 22) Balance in you life continues to be an important goal, avoid wide swings in your world, e.g. temperature, sleep schedules, diet as to number and size of meals, and physical demands upon your self. With our warmer weather try for an early evening walk about your neighborhood. Keep your eyes open for someone cruising you. She/he may be a different type than you normally date, be open and try some new adventure.

SCORPIO (Oct 23 - Nov 22) As you make a special effort to be more active socially, as no one is going to discover you sitting alone in your room at night, keep your options open to meet different people than you would usually date. The missionary position has not been all that exciting has it? Try for dark blue, yellow or red handkerchiefs. If in doubt, telephone Mike at the Voice Office to ideas on a personal ad. (529-8490)

SAGITTARIUS (Nov 23 - Dec 20) I sampled two of the new food dishes with a higher and a more interesting level of seasoning of yours, excellent. Stop using only salt and pepper. Seek out a person of a different ethnic background and learn first hand who to learn different spices. I'll be glad to relate stories of my Italian background lover. Set aside a couple of extra dollars into a rainy day fund, as you will be surprised with some upcoming bargains.

CAPRICORN (Dec 21 - Jan 19) Be careful about becoming in love this month, as you are still a bit insecure about the type of person you really want to date. The practical side of your personality is vying with the need to meet someone full of excitement. Actually, the latter is the correct choice if you want a person to meet all of your needs on an ongoing basis. Your romantic side to your personality prefers to have a lover to satisfy all needs.

AQUARIUS (Jan 20 - Feb 19) Take advantage of the increased level of self confidence you are having and meet new friends. Watch out for those that would like to use and to control yourself. Others will respond to a higher level of self esteem in your self. Try wearing bolder colors and patterns to convey this new you. Lowering stress levels without drugs makes sense, by exercise, meditation, and feeling good about your self.

RECIPES BY THE KUNTRY KIDD



Spring is just around the corner, so many of you are probably getting your party dresses out of the mothballs to have cleaned. Ya, I know, some of you are also putting lexol on your leather shorts!! Here's an easy recipe you can do in the oven, and not have to dirty your hands on charcoal or go fill your LP tank.

BARBECUED BRISKET

About 4 pounds for this amount:

I buy super trimmed brisket when cooking in the oven. The cost is a little more per pound, but you aren't throwing away a lot of fat, in other words, money!!

1 package of dry onion soup mix. Sprinkle this over the brisket and cover. Let sit overnight in the frig.
Bake in 400 degree oven 1/2 hour uncovered.

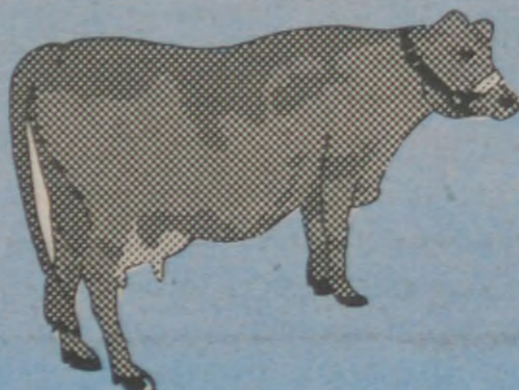
While brisket is cooking, mix:

1 small bottle of catsup
1/2 to 1 cap Liquid Smoke
1 can Coke
Paper and garlic to taste

Pour liquid over brisket and cover. Bake for approximately 2 1/2 hours.

For those of you who like to experiment, and don't always have to follow a recipe, try using a can of beef bouillon, red wine, minced fresh garlic, onion, Tabasco, Worcestershire Sauce, etc. You may even want to add a little brown sugar. Use this instead of the Coke and a full bottle of catsup. The cooking times can remain the same. For a little more tender brisket, you may want to increase the final time to 3 hours or just test for desired doneness. Enjoy!!!

Next week, I'll give a recipe for Texas Barbecue Sauce. It goes very well with the brisket, but it is used on the side, not to baste with while cooking.



UNTIL NEXT WE EAT!

KUNTRY KIDD