



INSIDE



Among the projects of Progressive Voters in Action is re-electing Annise Parker to Houston City Council. PVA will meet April 28 to discuss strategies for fighting anti-gay ballot measures.

Page 2



Bunnies with Jungle lust and a variety of other gay- and not-so-gay-related events mark this holiday weekend.

Page 15



Houstonian, Rick Kammerer talks about his recent appointment to the national board of the Gay and Lesbian Victory Fund and local efforts to promote openly gay elected officials.

Page 2

Sodomy case goes to highest Texas court



Houston attorney Mitchell Katine said he plans to file a petition today requesting the Texas Court of Criminal Appeals review a March ruling from the 14th Court of Appeals which upheld the state's homosexual conduct law. The Texas Court of Criminal Appeals is the highest court in the state, along side the Texas Supreme Court, which handles only civil cases.

Petition for discretionary review to be filed today asking state Court of Criminal Appeals to analyze homosexual conduct case

by WENDY K. MOHON

A petition is expected to be filed today asking the Texas Court of Criminal Appeals to reexamine the homosexual conduct law case involving two Houston men.

Houston attorney, Mitchell Katine, told the Houston Voice he will file the petition for discretionary review before noon today in an effort to get the court to effectively strike down Section 21.06 of the Texas Penal Code, also known as the homosexual conduct law.

The case stems from the 1998 arrests of Katine's clients John Lawrence and Tyron Garner, whom sheriff's deputies charged with sodomy after finding the men engaged in sex in Lawrence's home. The officers were responding to a false third-party report of an armed intruder. Police arrested both men and held them in jail for more than 24 hours before releasing each on \$200 bond. The two men pleaded "no contest" to the charges in criminal court.

On March 15, the full 14th Court of Appeals issued a ruling

> Continued on Page 9

Bush names gay AIDS czar

First-ever openly gay appointment by a Republican president wins praise from activists, who criticize Bush's trimmed AIDS budget

by ERIN O'BRIANT

WASHINGTON—In a historic move, President Bush on Monday announced the appointment of an openly gay man to head his administration's AIDS policy office.

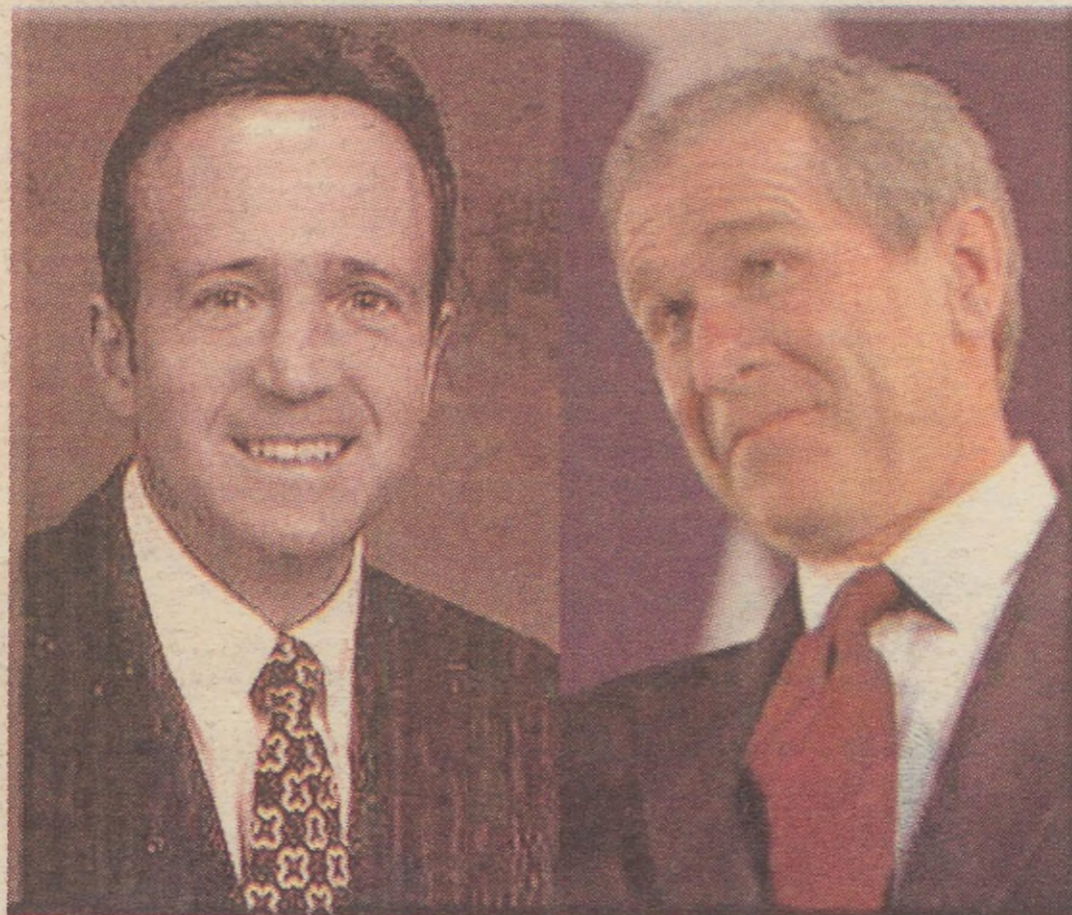
The naming of gay Republican Scott Evertz marks the first time any GOP White House has named an openly gay person to an executive branch position, according to the Human Rights Campaign, a national gay rights organization.

Evertz, who will sit on the president's Domestic Policy Council, insisted his sexual orientation played no role in his appointment.

"What I appreciate is that the president has said he is appointing people who are qualified and share his philosophy," he told the *New York Times*. "I haven't been treated like a token."

White House Press Secretary Ari Fleischer joined Tuesday in insisting that Evertz's sexual orientation was not an issue, and resisted questions from a reporter who asked if the president was pleased the new AIDS czar was in a long-term relationship

> Continued on Page 9



Scott Evertz, president of the Wisconsin Log Cabin Republicans, was named the new director of the Office of National AIDS Policy, making him not only President Bush's first openly gay appointee, but the first ever by a GOP administration.

INSIDE

NEWS

Health news	11
National News	5
World news	10
Quote/unquote	19
Time Out: V'ball tourney starts today	13

VOICES & ECHOES

Crain: Bush outdoes Clinton	6
Alvear: Aging disgracefully	7
Ron Williams cartoon	6
'Ethan Green'	7

OUT ON THE BAYOU

WorldFest serves up gay films	15
Easter 'hoppings' in H-town	15
Eating Out at Goode	18
On Screen: Friendly fags on film	21
Out in Music: Digeridoo magic	20
Bayou Calendar	17
Community Calendar	22-23
Occasions	26
My Stars!	27

CLASSIFIEDS	24-25
-------------------	-------

Issue 1068

**houston
voice**

All material in Houston Voice is protected by federal copyright law and may not be reproduced without the written consent of Houston Voice. The sexual orientation of advertisers, photographers, writers and cartoonists published herein is neither inferred or implied. The appearance of names or pictorial representation does not necessarily indicate the sexual orientation of that person or persons.

Houston Voice accepts unsolicited editorial material but cannot take responsibility for its return. The editor reserves the right to accept, reject or edit any submission.

All rights revert to authors upon publication. Guidelines for freelance contributors are available upon request.

Houston Voice
500 Lovett Blvd., Suite 200
Houston, TX 77006
713-529-8490

PVA organizing campaign

April 28 reception designed to discuss defeating anti-gay ballot measures

by ELLA TYLER

Representatives of Progressive Voters in Action will talk about the campaign to defeat the anti-gay ballot measure threatened by Houstonians for Family Values at a reception on Saturday, April 28 from 4 to 6 p.m.

James Doyle and Fred Howard are hosting the event at their home at 2415 Lazybrook Dr.

"If the measure proposed by Houstonians for Family Values passes, it would prevent City Council from ever passing domestic partner health benefits or any other pro-gay legislation," Doyle explained.

PVA is managing the field campaign for the election which is expected to be in November. PVA is a nonpartisan, year-round campaign to build a community of voters to support progressive candidates and issues, including candidates and issues important to Houston's lesbian, gay bisexual and transgender community,

Doyle said. PVA was founded in 1999.

"We hope lots of people will come by to hear about PVA's progress and ask questions," Doyle said. "There is no minimum contribution to attend, but we want people to bring their checkbooks. I hope they will be as impressed with PVA as we are, and will want to both donate and volunteer."

In February, Dave Wilson's special purpose political action committee, Houstonians for Family Values, was founded to counter Houston City Council's consideration of same-sex health insurance benefits for city employees. The group wrote, mailed, and is now receiving boxes of responses to their "Call To Action" letter and petition drive to change the city charter.

Their Web site links to the Harris County Tax Office with its voter records database, which easily facilitates the signer's ability to obtain the required registration number for the petition.

The group needs 20,000 signatures from registered Houston voters to place their amendment on the November ballot.

Wilson's charter amendment reads:

"A City of Houston Charter

> Continued on Page 12



In addition to taking the lead in the anti-gay ballot measure, Progressive Voters in Action is working to re-elect Houston City Councilwoman Annise Parker, seen here at her recent campaign kick-off party. PVA will hold a reception April 28 to discuss strategies for defeating anti-gay ballot measures.

Houstonian named to Victory Fund board



Rick Kammerer, speaking at the campaign kick-off party for Houston City Councilwoman Annise Parker, was recently named to the national board of directors of the Gay and Lesbian Victory Fund, an organization that works to promote openly gay and lesbian public officials.

Rick Kammerer elected to help lead national group that supports gay and lesbian public officials

by MARIA MINICUCCI

Rick Kammerer, a Houston resident since 1982, has been elected to the national board of directors of the Gay and Lesbian Victory Fund.

The Victory Fund remains the only national organization whose primary mission is to "increase the number of outstanding openly gay and lesbian public officials." The organization originated 10 years ago and within that time has amassed more than \$2.5 million in support of qualified and openly gay and lesbian candidates at all levels of government.

Based in Washington, D.C., the Victory Fund currently has a 35-member board of directors. Kammerer is one of four board members representing Houston.

Kammerer's involvement with the Victory Fund began in 1998 and according to him, was based on his growing

> Continued on Page 12

Because where I go
from here is up to me.

**Think Ahead.
Plan Your Future With VIRACEPT®.**

Because it's strong and effective. Keep your viral load down with the #1 prescribed HIV medication of its kind.* VIRACEPT works with you to keep your life on track.

Because it's easy to live with. VIRACEPT's easy dosing schedule and manageable side effects have been helping all kinds of people continue to lead their lives on their own terms.

Because it saves future options. When choosing a treatment plan, it's important to consider what options you will have in the future. Studies show taking VIRACEPT early on leaves you with choices in treatment for later. Ask your doctor about your future with VIRACEPT.

VIRACEPT®
nelfinavir mesylate
tablets and oral powder

VIRACEPT is indicated in combination with other antiretroviral agents for the treatment of HIV infection. The most common side effect of VIRACEPT is diarrhea, which can usually be controlled with over-the-counter treatments. Some prescription and non-prescription drugs and supplements should not be taken with VIRACEPT, so talk to your doctor first. For some people, protease inhibitors have been associated with the onset or worsening of diabetes mellitus and hyperglycemia, changes in body fat, and increased bleeding in hemophiliacs.

Refer to the important information on the next page. For more information, call toll free 1-888-VIRACEPT or visit www.viracept.com.

Agouron®
Pharmaceuticals, Inc.
A Bristol-Myers Squibb Company

*IMS HEALTH National Prescription Audit™ data for Protease Inhibitors, 1/99-12/99. VIRACEPT and Agouron are registered trademarks of Agouron Pharmaceuticals, Inc. Copyright © 2001, Agouron Pharmaceuticals, Inc. All rights reserved. 1-V01176-CC



VIRACEPT®

(nelfinavir mesylate)

Tablets and Oral Powder

Information for Patients

about VIRACEPT® (VI-ra-cept)

Generic Name: nelfinavir (nel-FIN-na-veer) mesylate

For the Treatment of Human Immunodeficiency Virus (HIV) Infection

Please read this information carefully before taking VIRACEPT. Also, please read this leaflet each time you renew the prescription, just in case anything has changed. This is a summary and not a replacement for a careful discussion with your doctor. You and your doctor should discuss VIRACEPT when you start taking this medication and at regular checkups. You should remain under a doctor's care when taking VIRACEPT and should not change or stop treatment without first talking with your doctor.

WHAT IS VIRACEPT AND HOW DOES IT WORK?

VIRACEPT is used in combination with other antiretroviral drugs in the treatment of people with human immunodeficiency virus (HIV) infection. Infection with HIV leads to the destruction of CD4 T cells, which are important to the immune system. After a large number of CD4 cells have been destroyed, the infected person develops acquired immune deficiency syndrome (AIDS).

VIRACEPT works by blocking HIV protease (a protein-cutting enzyme), which is required for HIV to multiply. VIRACEPT has been shown to significantly reduce the amount of HIV in the blood. Although VIRACEPT is not a cure for HIV or AIDS, VIRACEPT can help reduce your risk for death and illness associated with HIV. Patients who took VIRACEPT also had significant increases in the number of CD4 cell count.

VIRACEPT is usually taken together with other antiretroviral drugs such as Retrovir® (zidovudine, AZT), Epivir® (lamivudine, 3TC), or Zerit® (stavudine, d4T). Taking VIRACEPT in combination with other antiretroviral drugs reduces the amount of HIV in the body (viral load) and raises CD4 counts.

VIRACEPT may be taken by adults, adolescents, and children 2 years of age or older. Studies in infants younger than 2 years of age are now taking place.

DOES VIRACEPT CURE HIV OR AIDS?

VIRACEPT is not a cure for HIV infection or AIDS. People taking VIRACEPT may still develop opportunistic infections or other conditions associated with HIV infection. Some of these conditions are pneumonia, herpes virus infections, Mycobacterium avium complex (MAC) infections, and Kaposi's sarcoma.

There is no proof that VIRACEPT can reduce the risk of transmitting HIV to others through sexual contact or blood contamination.

WHO SHOULD OR SHOULD NOT TAKE VIRACEPT?

Together with your doctor, you need to decide whether VIRACEPT is appropriate for you. In making your decision, the following should be considered:

Allergies: If you have had a serious allergic reaction to VIRACEPT, you must not take VIRACEPT. You should also inform your doctor, nurse, or pharmacist of any known allergies to substances such as other medicines, foods, preservatives, or dyes.

If you are pregnant: The effects of VIRACEPT on pregnant women or their unborn babies are not known. If you are pregnant or plan to become pregnant, you should tell your doctor before taking VIRACEPT.

If you are breast-feeding: You should discuss with your doctor the best way to feed your baby. You should be aware that if your baby does not already have HIV, there is a chance that it can be transmitted through breast-feeding. **Women should not breast-feed if they have HIV.**

Children: VIRACEPT is available for the treatment of children 2 through 13 years of age with HIV. There is a powder form of VIRACEPT that can be mixed with milk, baby formula, or foods like pudding. Instructions on how to take VIRACEPT powder can be found in a later section that discusses how VIRACEPT Oral Powder should be prepared.

If you have liver disease: VIRACEPT has not been studied in people with liver disease. If you have liver disease, you should tell your doctor before taking VIRACEPT.

Other medical problems: Certain medical problems may affect the use of VIRACEPT. Some people taking protease inhibitors have developed new or more serious diabetes or high blood sugar. Some people with hemophilia have had increased bleeding. It is not known whether the protease inhibitors caused these problems. Be sure to tell your doctor if you have hemophilia types A and B, diabetes mellitus, or an increase in thirst and/or frequent urination.

Changes in body fat have been seen in some patients taking protease inhibitors. These changes may include increased amount of fat in the upper back and neck ("buffalo hump"), breast, and around the trunk. Loss of fat from the face, legs and arms may also happen. The cause and long-term health effects of these conditions are not known at this time.

CAN VIRACEPT BE TAKEN WITH OTHER MEDICATIONS?

VIRACEPT may interact with other drugs, including those you take without a prescription. You must discuss with your doctor any drugs that you are taking or are planning to take before you take VIRACEPT.

Drugs you should not take with VIRACEPT:

Hismanal® (astemizole, for allergies)
Propulsid® (cisapride, for heartburn)
Cordarone® (amiodarone, for irregular heartbeat)
Quinidine (for irregular heartbeat), also known as Quinaglute®, Cardioquin®, Quinidex, and others
Ergot derivatives (Cafergot® and others, for migraine headache)
Halcion® (triazolam)
Versed® (midazolam)
Mevacor® (lovastatin, for cholesterol lowering)
Zocor® (simvastatin, for cholesterol lowering)

Taking the above drugs with VIRACEPT may cause serious and/or life-threatening adverse events.

Rifampin (for tuberculosis), also known as Rimactane®, Rifadin®, Rifater®, or Rifamate®
This drug reduces blood levels of VIRACEPT.

Dose reduction required if you take VIRACEPT with: Mycobutin® (rifabutin, for MAC); you will need to take a lower dose of Mycobutin.

A change of therapy should be considered if you are taking VIRACEPT with:

Phenobarbital
Phenytoin (Dilantin® and others)
Carbamazepine (Tegretol® and others)

These agents may reduce the amount of VIRACEPT in your blood and make it less effective.

Oral contraceptives ("the pill")

If you are taking the pill to prevent pregnancy, you should use a different type of contraception since VIRACEPT may reduce the effectiveness of oral contraceptives.

Special considerations

Before you take Viagra® (sildenafil) with VIRACEPT, talk to your doctor about possible drug interactions and side effects. If you take Viagra and VIRACEPT together, you may be at increased risk of side effects of Viagra such as low blood pressure, visual changes, and penile erection lasting more than 4 hours. If an erection lasts longer than 4 hours, you should seek immediate medical assistance to avoid permanent damage to your penis. Your doctor can explain these symptoms to you.

It is not recommended to take VIRACEPT with the cholesterol-lowering drugs Mevacor® (lovastatin) or Zocor® (simvastatin) because of possible drug interactions. There is also an increased risk of drug interactions between VIRACEPT and Lipitor® (atorvastatin) and Baycol® (cerivastatin); talk to your doctor before you take either of these cholesterol reducing drugs with VIRACEPT.

Taking St. John's wort (hypericum perforatum), an herbal product sold as a dietary supplement, or products containing St. John's wort with VIRACEPT is not recommended. Talk with your doctor if you are taking or are planning to take St. John's wort. Taking St. John's wort may decrease VIRACEPT levels and lead to increased viral load and possible resistance to VIRACEPT or cross resistance to other antiretroviral drugs.

HOW SHOULD VIRACEPT BE TAKEN WITH OTHER ANTI-HIV DRUGS?

Taking VIRACEPT together with other anti-HIV drugs increases their ability to fight the virus. It also reduces the opportunity for resistant viruses to grow. Based on your history of taking other anti-HIV medicine, your doctor will direct you on how to take VIRACEPT and other anti-HIV medicines. These drugs should be taken in a certain order or at specific times. This will depend on how many times a day each medicine should be taken. It will also depend on whether it should be taken with or without food.

Nucleoside analogues: No drug interaction problems were seen when VIRACEPT was given with:

Retrprvir® (zidovudine, AZT)
Epivir® (lamivudine, 3TC®)
Zerit® (stavudine, d4T)
Videx® (didanosine, ddl)

If you are taking both Videx (ddl) and VIRACEPT:

Videx should be taken without food, on an empty stomach. Therefore, you should take VIRACEPT with food one hour after or more than two hours before you take Videx.

Nonnucleoside reverse transcriptase inhibitors (NNRTIs):

When VIRACEPT is taken together with Viramune® (nevirapine) The amount of VIRACEPT in your blood may be reduced. Studies are now taking place to learn about the safety of combining VIRACEPT with Viramune.

Sustiva™ (efavirenz)

The amount of VIRACEPT in your blood may be increased. A dose adjustment is not needed when VIRACEPT is used with Sustiva.

Other NNRTIs

VIRACEPT has not been studied with other NNRTIs.

Other protease inhibitors:

When VIRACEPT is taken together with:

Crixivan® (indinavir)

The amount of both drugs in your blood may be increased. Currently, there are no safety and efficacy data available from the use of this combination.

Norvir® (ritonavir)

The amount of VIRACEPT in your blood may be increased. Currently, there are no safety and efficacy data available from the use of this combination.

Invirase® (saquinavir)

The amount of saquinavir in your blood may be increased. Currently, there are no safety and efficacy data available from the use of this combination.

WHAT ARE THE SIDE EFFECTS OF VIRACEPT?

Like all medicines, VIRACEPT can cause side effects. Most of the side effects experienced with VIRACEPT have been mild to moderate. Diarrhea is the most common side effect in people taking VIRACEPT, and most adult patients had at least mild diarrhea at some point during treatment. In clinical studies, about 15-20% of patients receiving VIRACEPT 750 mg (three tablets) three times daily or 1250 mg (five tablets) two times daily had four or more loose stools a day. In most cases, diarrhea can be controlled using antidiarrheal medicines, such as Imodium® A-D (loperamide) and others, which are available without a prescription.

Other side effects that occurred in 2% or more of patients receiving VIRACEPT include nausea, gas and rash.

There were other side effects noted in clinical studies that occurred in less than 2% of patients receiving VIRACEPT. However, these side effects may have been due to other drugs that patients were taking or to the illness itself. Except for diarrhea, there were not many differences in side effects in patients who took VIRACEPT along with other drugs compared with those who took only the other drugs. For a complete list of side effects, ask your doctor, nurse, or pharmacist.

HOW SHOULD I TAKE VIRACEPT?

VIRACEPT is available only with your doctor's prescription. Your doctor may prescribe the light blue VIRACEPT Tablets either as 1250 mg (five tablets) taken two times a day or as 750 mg (three tablets) taken three times a day. VIRACEPT should always be taken with a meal or a light snack. VIRACEPT tablets are film-coated to help make the tablets easier to swallow.

Take VIRACEPT exactly as directed by your doctor. Do not increase or decrease any dose or the number of doses per day. Also, take this medicine for the exact period of time that your doctor has instructed. **Do not stop taking VIRACEPT without first consulting with your doctor, even if you are feeling better.**

Only take medicine that has been prescribed specifically for you. Do not give VIRACEPT to others or take medicine prescribed for someone else.

The dosing of VIRACEPT may be different for you than for other patients. **Follow the directions from your doctor, exactly as written on the label.** The amount of VIRACEPT in the blood should remain somewhat consistent over time. Missing doses will cause the concentration of VIRACEPT to decrease; therefore, **you should not miss any doses.** However, if you miss a dose, you should take the dose as soon as possible and then take your next scheduled dose and future doses as originally scheduled.

Dosing in adults (including children 14 years of age and older)

The recommended adult dose of VIRACEPT is 1250 mg (five tablets) taken two times a day or 750 mg (three tablets) taken three times a day. Each dose should be taken with a meal or light snack.

Dosing in children 2 to 13 years of age

The VIRACEPT dose in children depends on their weight. The recommended dose is 20 to 30 mg/kg (or 9 to 14 mg/pound) per dose, taken three times daily with a meal or light snack. This can be administered either in tablet form or, in children unable to take tablets, as VIRACEPT Oral Powder.

Dose instructions will be provided by the child's doctor. The dose will be given three times daily using the measuring scoop provided, a measuring teaspoon, or one or more tablets depending on the weight and age of the child. The amount of oral powder or tablets to be given to a child is described in the chart below.

Pediatric Dose to Be Administered Three Times Daily				
Body Weight		Number of Level Scoops*	Number of Level Teaspoons†	Number of Tablets
Kg	Lb			
7 to <8.5	15.5 to <18.5	4	1	—
8.5 to <10.5	18.5 to <23	5	1 1/4	—
10.5 to <12	23 to <26.5	6	1 1/2	—
12 to <14	26.5 to <31	7	1 3/4	—
14 to <16	31 to <35	8	2	—
16 to <18	35 to <39.5	9	2 1/4	—
18 to <23	39.5 to <50.5	10	2 1/2	2
≥23	≥50.5	15	3 3/4	3

In measuring oral powder, the scoop or teaspoon should be level.

* 1 level scoop contains 50 mg of VIRACEPT. Use only the scoop provided with your VIRACEPT bottle.

† 1 level teaspoon contains 200 mg of VIRACEPT. Note: **A measuring teaspoon used for dispensing medication should be used for measuring VIRACEPT Oral Powder.** Ask your pharmacist to make sure you have a medication dispensing teaspoon.

How should VIRACEPT Oral Powder be prepared?

The oral powder may be mixed with a small amount of water, milk, formula, soy formula, soy milk, dietary supplements, or dairy foods such as pudding or ice cream. Once mixed, the entire amount must be taken to obtain the full dose.

Do not mix the powder with any acidic food or juice, such as orange or grapefruit juice, apple juice, or apple sauce, because this may create a bitter taste.

Once the powder is mixed, it may be stored at room temperature or refrigerated for up to 6 hours. Do not heat the mixed dose once it has been prepared.

Do not add water to bottles of oral powder.

VIRACEPT powder is supplied with a scoop for measuring. For help in determining the exact dose of powder for your child, please ask your doctor, nurse, or pharmacist.

VIRACEPT Oral Powder contains aspartame, a low-calorie sweetener, and therefore should not be taken by children with phenylketonuria (PKU).

HOW SHOULD VIRACEPT BE STORED?

Keep VIRACEPT and all other medicines out of the reach of children. Keep bottle closed and store at room temperature (between 59°F and 86°F) away from sources of moisture such as a sink or other damp place. Heat and moisture may reduce the effectiveness of VIRACEPT.

Do not keep medicine that is out of date or that you no longer need. Be sure that if you throw any medicine away, it is out of the reach of children.

Discuss all questions about your health with your doctor. If you have questions about VIRACEPT or any other medication you are taking, ask your doctor, nurse, or pharmacist. You can also call 1.888.VIRACEPT (1.888.847.2237) toll free.

Call 1.888.VIRACEPT

VIRACEPT and Agouron are registered trademarks of Agouron Pharmaceuticals, Inc.

Copyright ©2000, Agouron Pharmaceuticals, Inc. All rights reserved.



Agouron Pharmaceuticals Inc.
La Jolla, California, 92037, USA

L203-0000 PPI

Rev. 05/18/00

around the nation

UT school dumps student from election ballot after fake gay kiss

SALT LAKE CITY—After a fake kiss during a stage skit, a high school student running for student body president saw his name stricken from the ballot, according to the *Salt Lake Tribune*. Layton High School junior Talmage Garn was one of six students vying for the office in a primary election this week. The student contestants put on skits for an election assembly April 2. But when Garn, dressed in a dinosaur costume, faked a kiss to another male student, who was wearing an ace-of-hearts get-up, some students and administrators took offense. "I was told my skit had homosexual innuendoes," said Garn, who said he is not gay. The American Civil Liberties Union of Utah said the school discriminated against Garn, 17, by disqualifying him from the April 3 election. "It strains the credulity that a humorous air kiss between a 'dinosaur' and an 'ace of hearts' could reasonably be deemed either vulgar or offensive," said ALCU attorney Stephen Clark. The school said the disqualification occurred because of a rip in Garn's costume that allowed his plaid gym shorts to be seen.

IL judge apologizes after directing AIDS slur from bench to defendant

BELLEVILLE, Ill. (AP)—A traffic court judge who used AIDS as a joke in court April 6 has apologized for his remark. Associate Judge Richard Aguirre said he was only trying to "make light humor and keep the crowd moving" when he warned Terry Jones, 36, not to come too close because he "might catch AIDS" from him. "I would like to completely apologize to the gentleman. It was not intended as a personal remark against him, and it was completely in bad taste," Aguirre said. Jones said later he was deeply offended by the judge's comment and immediately filed a complaint and notified the Illinois Judicial Inquiry Board in Springfield. "The man was wrong, he was wrong. There was no reason for him to treat me that way," Jones said.

Cellucci gets Senate okay as successor comes out against gay unions

WASHINGTON—The Senate approved Massachusetts Gov. Paul Cellucci to be ambassador to Canada without debate and by voice vote April 5, despite opposition from Senate Foreign Relations Committee Chair Jesse Helms, according to the Associated Press. In committee, Helms had voted against Cellucci's appointment, but did not block Cellucci's nomination as he did when President Clinton appointed Mass. Gov. William Weld as ambassador to Mexico. Conservative groups have lobbied against Cellucci, saying his support of gay rights is "anti-family." Meanwhile, Cellucci's successor as governor, Republican Lt. Gov. Jane M. Swift, said she did not support a civil union bill similar to one passed last year in Vermont, the *Boston Herald* reported. "I don't believe in extending marriage benefits to same-sex couples. I'm not even sure there are any civil union bills floating around. There won't be one coming from me," Swift said. Some of Swift's aides, the *Herald* reported, had hoped she would take a stance in favor of the bill.



Former Massachusetts Gov. Paul Cellucci gained Senate approval last week to become ambassador to Canada, despite conservative opposition over his support of gay rights.

Conservative groups have lobbied against Cellucci, saying his support of gay rights is "anti-family." Meanwhile, Cellucci's successor as governor, Republican Lt. Gov. Jane M. Swift, said she did not support a civil union bill similar to one passed last year in Vermont, the *Boston Herald* reported. "I don't believe in extending marriage benefits to same-sex couples. I'm not even sure there are any civil union bills floating around. There won't be one coming from me," Swift said. Some of Swift's aides, the *Herald* reported, had hoped she would take a stance in favor of the bill.

NM school chief suspends anti-bias curriculum she recently supported

SANTA FE (AP)—Santa Fe school district Superintendent Veronica Garcia suspended a new anti-homophobia curriculum April 6, just days after she called it a "win-win" situation for both its supporters and dissenters. Garcia said she was grateful to the Santa Fe Rape Crisis Center, which developed the curriculum, but a team of teachers instead would be enlisted this summer to develop a new tolerance curriculum for the district. Garcia said the controversy had gotten in the way of the real issue—teaching tolerance. The curriculum covered sexual orientation and gender identity, homophobia and how to stop violence based on bias. Dozens of parents have attended the last three school board meetings to express their disapproval of the curriculum. "It's a shame. We really feel, from a rape-crisis perspective, that there's a need to talk about hate crimes," said Sandra Wechsler, who developed the curriculum for the Santa Fe Rape Crisis Center.

Kramer, Yale come to terms on creating gay studies program at school

NEW HAVEN, Conn.—After four years of negotiations, gay writer Larry Kramer and Yale University have reached an agreement that will allow Kramer to donate \$1 million to the school to start a gay studies initiative, the *New York Times* reported. In 1997 Yale rejected Kramer's plan to leave his estate to the school to create an endowed chair in gay and lesbian studies because the school did not consider gay studies to be respected enough as an academic discipline. Under the agreement, Kramer's brother Arthur will donate \$1 million to the school to create the Larry Kramer Initiative for Lesbian & Gay Studies, which will contain all of Kramer's papers. "We're off and running at last. I was trying to cram stuff down their throat. I'd rather they fashion their own stuff. It may allow for a much more expandable notion of what lesbian and gay studies really is," said Kramer, who wrote the novel "Faggots" and the play "The Normal Heart."

—From staff and wire reports

PHILADELPHIA ▼ DENVER
HOUSTON ▼ LOS ANGELES

ALTERNATIVES

DEPRESSION, ANXIETY,
ALCOHOL, DRUGS

NOW, THERE'S
LIGHT AT THE
END OF THE
TUNNEL!

ALTERNATIVES is the nation's only GAY OWNED AND OPERATED alcohol, drug and mental health program whose leadership has provided over 25 years of pride and service to the Gay, Lesbian, Bi-Sexual and Transgender Community.

ALTERNATIVES specializes in treating HIV/AIDS-related grief and loss. Our HIV specialists are available to address all medical concerns. Medicare & most insurance accepted. JCAHO Accredited

ALTERNATIVES Tips on Choosing Gay Treatment

Ask:

- ▼ Are you in a safe & secure Gay Owned and Operated facility?
- ▼ Will you be treated in a Dedicated Gay Unit?
- ▼ Will you be cared for by experienced Gay Professionals and Gay Support Staff?
- ▼ Is your Treatment Center dedicated to the Gay Community and supportive of our causes?

Beware of:

- ☉ Treatment centers and programs that exploit the gay community.

Call Today:
1-800-DIAL-GAY
(1-800-342-5429)

www.alternativesinc.com



houston VOICE

STAFF

Editor

Wendy K. Mohon
editor@houstonvoice.com

Production

Senior Graphic Designer-Natasha Marquez
Graphic Designer-Deborah Duplant

Contributors

Rich Arenschioldt, Kay Y. Dayus,
Trayce Diskin, Earl Dittman, D.L. Groover,
Robert B. Henderson, Kathreen Lee,
Maria E. Minicucci, D.L. Murphy,
Gip Plaster, Ella Tyler

Photographers

Dalton DeHart, Kimberly Thompson

Advertising Sales

Tom Robbins
Wanda Faulkner

Administration & Sales Support

Carolyn A. Roberts

National Advertising Representative

Rivendell Marketing Company, Inc.
212-242-6863

A WindowMedia Publication

President- William Waybourn

Editorial Director- Chris Crain

Financial Director- Kelly Smink

Internet Director- Joel Lawson

**National
Gay
Newspaper
Guild**
MEMBER

CHARTER MEMBER
GREATER HOUSTON
GAY & LESBIAN
CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

Established 1974 as the *Montrose Star*.

500 Lovett Blvd., Suite 200
Houston, Texas 77006
(713) 529-8490
Fax: (713) 529-9531
Contents copyright 2000
Office hours: 9 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. weekdays

To submit a letter

Letters should be fewer than 400 words. We reserve the right to edit for content and length. We will withhold names upon request, but you must include your name and phone number for verification. Please send mail to Houston Voice, 500 Lovett Blvd., Suite 200, Houston, Texas 77006; fax (713) 529-9531 or e-mail to editor@houstonvoice.com. Opinions expressed therein do not reflect those of the *Houston Voice*.

EDITORIAL

Bush outdoes Clinton with gay pick

by CHRIS CRAIN

It's the kind of question you would expect to hear someone from the Fox News Network shout at Bill Clinton's press secretary, when the president who made some 150 openly gay appointments was still in office:

"Does the president want [his openly gay AIDS czar] to speak out against man-to-man promiscuity that the CDC reported is, by far, the leading cause of HIV and AIDS in the United States?"

Only it was Ari Fleischer, President Bush's press flak, who took the pointed barb on Tuesday—and he deflected it deftly.

"The president hires people for jobs based on the skills that they bring to the job," Fleischer shot back. "And that is the case in this hiring."

Clinton never named someone openly gay to be AIDS czar, and many of his 150 gay appointees took low-profile, non-policy posts or jobs with no impact on our lives.

The reporter, undaunted, asked a follow up: "He's happy [his openly gay appointee] is monogamous, isn't he?"

Again, Fleischer was unmoved.

"The president does not ask people questions about their private lives of that nature," repeated Fleischer. "The president hires people because they're well-qualified to do the job, and that's what he's done."

That extraordinary exchange came less than 24 hours after the White House announced that President Bush had appointed an openly gay man, Wisconsin Log Cabin Republican President Scott Evertz, to head up the Office of National AIDS Policy.

The appointment made history on several fronts: It was not only Bush's first openly gay appointment, but by all accounts the first time any Republican president had tapped an openly gay job candidate.

On the one hand, it's remarkable that it took until 2001 for such a "first," but on the other, Bush's appointment sends promising signals about his administration's position on AIDS activism and gay rights.

The appointment is most remarkable for its political significance. The AIDS czar post is among the most visible in the White House, especially to gays.

President Clinton never named someone openly gay to head up national AIDS policy, and many of his 150 openly gay appointments—including some that were technically of higher rank than AIDS czar—were low-profile, non-policy posts or jobs that had little or no impact on gays.

Not so with Bush's man in the Office of National AIDS Policy, who made a point in his very first interview with the *Washington Post* to emphasize the need to de-stigmatize homosexuality in the black community to fight the spread of HIV.

Addressing homophobia among African Americans was a subject virtually untouchable in the previous administration, even

under Evertz's predecessor Sandy Thurman, who was popular with many AIDS activists.

It's encouraging that Evertz chose to tackle such a hot-button issue before he even took office. It's even more encouraging that the White House made no apparent attempt to muzzle him.

Some gay activists, especially at the National Center for Lesbian Rights, are wary about Evertz because he has been active in the anti-abortion movement.

Their position is understandable, but akin to concerns raised by gay activists over Gale Norton, the president's pick as Interior Secretary. Her anti-gay past was cause for concern, but ultimately unrelated to her White House job portfolio. The same is true for Evertz, and the larger national gay groups were right not to knock him for it.

much harder it is to appoint a diverse set of advisors when your supporters are so homogenous, especially true for openly gay Bush supporters.

Along those lines, Evertz has crowed about how he "shares the president's philosophy," but that surely isn't the case on gay civil rights. Even the most conservative gay Republican backs some form of civil rights—whether gay marriage or workplace protection or hate crime laws or something. Bush doesn't. Perhaps Evertz meant they are simpatico on issues relevant to his new position, a much more understandable—and less threatening—proposition.

The non-issue made of sexual orientation is also the latest salvo in the gay/straight version of the "colorblind" vs. "affirmative action" debate that has divided the nation on race for decades.

Bush has rejected Clinton's vow to make his administration "look like America," a promise that implicitly included gay appointees, along with women, blacks and other people of color.

The new president's emphasis on merit does represent tremendous progress. We're being treated to the nation's most influential conservative using his bully pulpit to preach that being openly gay has no negative bearing on job readiness.

Being gay won't get you a job, the White House is saying, but it won't cost you a job either.

Time will tell whether the Bush White House will live up to that bargain and the promise of this appointment, placing openly gay men and lesbians in other administration positions where their merit, and not their sexual orientation, so justifies.

In an interview with the *New York Times*, Evertz said he was pleased that he hadn't been "treated like a token." But if weeks from now, sitting alone in his office, he can command full attendance at a meeting of openly gay White House employees, then there's no better word to describe him.





SLOUCHING THROUGH SODOM

Aging disgracefully: confessions of an older gay man

by MICHAEL ALVEAR

Older gay men and younger gay men rarely talk to each other. We're like Italian salad dressing in the fridge. You can shake us all you want but eventually we'll lift, separate and retreat to separate halves of the bottle.

There's a reason for this, and it's one of the most contentious, hurtful and polarizing issues in gay culture.

I always hated older gay men when I first came out. They made me nervous. In my early 20s, whenever I was introduced to an older man I always got the sense it wasn't my hand he wanted to shake.

When I was 24 I played in an out-of-town volleyball tournament. I stayed at the house of a man who volunteered his home to visiting players. He was 42. He was kind, generous and wise. On the flight home I realized he was the only "older" guy I had ever made friends with. Someone had finally broken through my belief that sex was the only thing older guys wanted.

A couple of weeks later my friend called to tell me he was coming into town on business. He sent me his itinerary, which hinted at unscheduled stops into my bedroom.

Thinking I was reading too much

into it, I wrote him a quick note, decorously hinting at my own expectations of his visit. It went something like this: "I can't wait to spend some time with you. You're the first older guy I've

that's not the only thing he brings out. One day he called and asked if he could come over. The guy he'd been dating dumped him and he needed to talk.

I recently became friends with a 23-year-old. He brings out the paternal in me. The problem is that's not the only thing he brings out.

become friends with that didn't have a hidden sexual agenda. I just want you to know how much I appreciate that."

I never heard from him again. No response, no visit, no nothing.

I went through my entire 20s without a single friendship with an older man. I felt manipulated by them.

There were only two kinds of older men, as far as I was concerned: Those who made a pass at you and those who didn't, because they were more interested in your friends.

I couldn't even come close to charity on the subject. Now that I'm over 40, I've had to come face to face with my own questionable behavior with younger guys.

I recently became friends with a 23-year-old. We meet for coffee and talk on the phone a lot. He's sweet and playful, and lost and confused. He brings out the paternal in me. The problem is

We were sitting on my living room couch when he suddenly started crying. I held him, my higher angels trying to shield him from the most familiar hurt in romantic life.

But as he cried on my shoulder I could feel the heat of his skin on mine, and soon my higher angels were being crowded out by their darker twins. The sorrow in his heart and the comfort that he sought could not wake me from the softness of his hair and the smoothness of his skin.

I am not famous for restraint when I'm presented with an opportunity for sex. But even I could see it was fourth and one at the scrimmage line between decency and deficiency.

I slowly raised his chin with my hand. He looked up at me, blinking his tears away, trying to make sense of what was happening.

The hurt in his eyes didn't stop our

lips from inching closer. I had created the kind of aching ambiguity that one man's desire can make of another man's pain.

Slowly our lips came closer, and slowly a thought echoed through me: "Don't do it"

I wanted him, but I also wanted something else: To be better than this.

Deep down I knew this kid wanted a friendship, not a romance. I was trying to do to him what all those older guys tried to do to me when I was his age. In that space between his vulnerability and my desire I had an awful realization: I had become in my 40s what I feared in my 20s.

But that didn't matter. The fuse was lit and there didn't seem to be a way of stopping it. Our lips were about to meet.

There is a moment in life, a moment between breaths, a rest between words, a pause between actions when character is either built up or torn down. I had reached that moment. I knew that whatever I chose next would follow me for the rest of my life.

Editor's note: This column is the first of a two-part series and will conclude in two weeks.

Michael Alvear can be reached at mikealvear@aol.com

The Mostly Unfabulous Social Life of Ethan Green

by eric orner

GAY BARS ON MARS

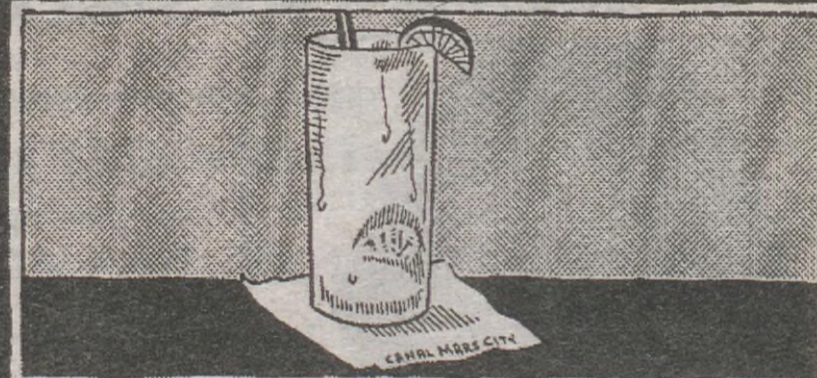
On Mars, no one uses cell phones. Their Antennae screw up The signal.



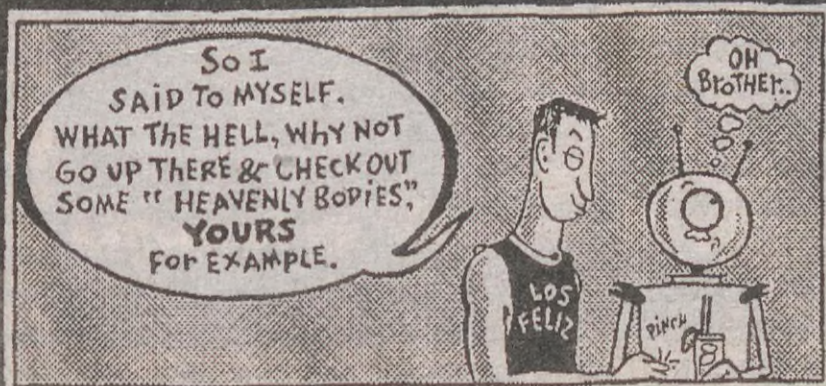
Ethan Green always says: "When your social life hits rock bottom, change rocks". Which is why he's here on Mars. At a cruise bar.



Everyone's drinking Fresca & gin & Grapefruit juice. It's the drink up here, apparently.



Eeth's had a few cocktails, and has developed some pretty awful come-on lines:



To be honest, these Martians aren't the bomb when it comes to looks. Still, it's a pleasant neighborhood spot. Guys gossiping with their friends.



Then Queelix shows up:



Conservatives say gays 'responsible' for AR rape

Gays shouldn't take the rap for violent rape and murder of young boy in Arkansas by gay couple, others say

by ERIN O'BRIANT

Last year, according to police in Bentonville, Ark., a gay male couple raped and murdered 13-year-old Jesse Dirkhising.

Today, conservatives partly blame the gay community—especially gay practitioners of sadomasochism—for his death and say the media's pro-gay bias is at fault for the limited press coverage the crime has received. Gay rights activists and commentators have disagreed on whether that assessment is fair.

According to police accounts, the two gay men who would later rape Dirkhising and then let him suffocate on his own dirty underwear first befriended the 13-year-old and his family. But the men soon began having sex with the young boy, who police say worked in a hair salon with one of them.

Davis Carpenter, the older of the gay couple, allegedly created a blueprint of a child rape for his partner, 22-year-old Joshua Brown, who was convicted of Dirkhising's rape and murder last month.

While Carpenter allegedly watched, Brown tied Dirkhising up with duct tape, gagged him with his own underwear, and raped him for hours with a variety of objects, including food.

Brown only ceased the rape when he and Carpenter realized Dirkhising wasn't breathing. The boy died soon thereafter.

Brown's attorneys argued that the youth was a willing participant in a sexual bondage game that went horribly awry. Jurors nonetheless convicted Brown of rape and first-degree murder; he was sentenced to life in prison. Carpenter's trial is expected to begin next month.



The vicious rape and murder of Jesse Dirkhising, allegedly by two Arkansas gay men who planned a violent sex game with the 13-year-old, has sparked accusations that gays generally share blame for his death.

Who cries for Jesse?

Anti-gay conservatives have been quick to tie the rape and murder to deviant sexuality, and have tagged the mainstream media for ignoring the story.

"[Dirkhising] was bound, gagged and raped in a sadistic manner commonly found in homosexual erotica," according to a press release issued by the anti-gay Family Research Council.

The FRC release also said that "gay-related advertising routinely promotes adolescent images" and that "sadistic, 'leather' practices evidenced in the Dirkhising murder are commonly linked to mainstream homosexual Web sites." Family Research Council officials refused to answer questions about their views.

Peter LaBarbera, president of Americans for Truth About Homosexuality, also linked gay S&M sex to Dirkhising's death.

"All across America, gay newspapers and bars and organizations not only tolerate sadistic sex but promote it," LaBarbera said in a press release last year.

"In fact, on the very day of Dirkhising's death, two leading homosexual groups, the Human Rights Campaign and the National Gay & Lesbian Task Force, were manning booths at [the Folsom Street Fair], a sadistic sex fair in San Francisco that celebrated bondage, human floggings, and the same 'S&M' techniques that led to the death of young Jesse."

Anti-gay conservatives compare Dirkhising's murder to that of Matthew Shepard. They believe a pro-gay media bias is to blame for the relatively scant coverage Dirkhising's murder received in the mainstream and gay press and for the extensive media interest in Shepard's murder in 1998.

Gay writer Andrew Sullivan called efforts to paint gays as pedophiles and rapists "ugly nonsense," but took issue in an essay published in the *New Republic* with the media's bypass of the Dirkhising case.

"The Shepard case was hyped for political reasons to build support for inclusion of homosexuals in a federal hate-crimes law," he wrote. "The Dirkhising case was ignored for political reasons: squeamishness about reporting a story that could feed anti-gay prejudice, and the lack of any pending interest-group legislation to hang a story on."

Many mainstream journalists and gay rights activists have countered that the Shepard murder received more press coverage because it tapped into a larger social problem, homophobia, and that the Dirkhising case did not.

Activists, leather groups reject any gay tie-in

Leading gay rights groups, as well as S&M practitioners, summarily rejected the suggestion that gay culture and S&M are implicated in Dirkhising's rape and murder.

"When you have sexual cultures that are about kinky sex—consensual kinky sex—and even when they play with non-consensual fantasies, it's hard to understand how



Davis Carpenter, now 37, drew diagrams of violent sex acted out by his boyfriend, Joshua Brown, now 22, against an Arkansas teenager. On 911 tapes, Carpenter is heard exclaiming that the youth had been killed in some kind of 'sick game.'

that's implicated in actual rapes and violence," said Eric Rofes, an activist and the author of "Reviving the Tribe: Regenerating Gay Men's Sexuality and Culture in the Ongoing Epidemic."

Rofes pointed to feminist arguments that straight men's sadomasochistic pornography is the cause of violence against women, saying those claims were similarly off base.

"Yet well before we had S&M porn or violent porn we had centuries of violence against women," Rofes said. Implicating gays in Dirkhising's death is essentially "blaming organized sex culture for acts that took place before in other forms or similar forms well before those subcultures... existed," he said.

Other observers argued that violence is not specific to gay male culture.

"Certainly culture can and does influence people's behavior, but while gay sexual culture—like the larger American culture—might promote having a lot of hot sex and having a late teens/early 20s body, nowhere in the mainstream gay sexual culture is there a promotion of brutality, murder and pedophilia," wrote gay essayist Michelangelo Signorile on Gay.com.

"There is not, within gay culture, a history of violence or murder against children by gay men."

Rape and violence are part of our country's broader culture, agreed David Smith, communication director for the Human Rights Campaign, the nation's largest gay political group. "I think there are things in our culture that create this type of behavior—objectification of women, sex in advertising," he observed.

Feminist scholar Janet Jakobsen pointed out that heterosexual men are far more likely to sexually abuse children than are gay men.

But "male domination is the overarch-

ing problem of child sexual abuse," argued Jakobsen, who directs the Center for Research on Women at Barnard College.

"Gay men are men and can participate in male dominance, but because the public perception is so dedicated to the myth that 'gay men abuse children,'... it becomes very difficult to talk about any of the ways gay men might participate in forms of male dominance that contribute to sexual abuse without playing into those myths."

Leaders of the gay leather community said consensual sadomasochism between adults doesn't translate into sexual abuse and torture of children.

"One of the unfortunate things that happens with stories about people who engage in clearly non-consensual and criminal behavior is that if it has any kind of overtone of behavior that also is exhibited by people who are adults engaging in consensual S&M play it becomes a condemnation of everyone," said Spencer Bergstedt, a lawyer and the president of the National Leather Association.

"The reality is that one of the primary tenets of the leather community today is that activity that people engage in is done safely, sanely and consensually and that it be done between adults."

David Elliot, communications director at the National Lesbian & Gay Task Force, a gay rights organization, argued that heterosexual culture would never be fingered for a similar crime.

"Every day in the United States children are sexually molested, abused, sometimes killed, and yet the institution of heterosexuality is never put on trial," he argued. "How many children are killed at the hands of heterosexuals and how often is it blown into a major story?"

Gay groups welcome AIDS czar appointment

> Continued from Page 1

and not "promiscuous."

"The president does not ask people questions about their private lives of that nature," Fleischer responded. "The president hires people because they're well-qualified to do the job, and that's what he's done."

Some lesbian and gay advocacy groups expressed eagerness to work with Evertz and hailed his appointment as a gay rights victory. But others called his history of opposition to abortion rights "disappointing."

Evertz, 38, is the president of Wisconsin's chapter of the Log Cabin Republicans, and has been a fund-raiser for the Wisconsin Right to Life anti-abortion group and a Roman Catholic AIDS ministry. He was among a dozen gay Republicans who met with Bush after he had sealed his GOP primary win, calling the candidate that his partner's 18-year-old daughter had proudly cast a ballot in his favor.

Human Rights Campaign Policy Director Winnie Stachelberg said Bush's decision to appoint a gay man "says what we've all said all along, that sexual orientation should play no more of a role than anything else and one should appoint qualified people to positions. Scott certainly is qualified and happens to be a gay man.

"I think that's an important sign," she continued. "I think it's exactly what the gay and lesbian

community has been looking for as a whole from this administration. ... We want to be judged in exactly the same way as everyone else, and this appointment suggests that that's the way President Bush wants to run his administration."

Evertz's fellow gay Republicans said they are proud of his appointment.

"We're extremely pleased," said Log Cabin Republican Director of Public Affairs Kevin Ivers. "It reaffirms what the president has been saying all along, that AIDS is a very important issue to him and to the nation and that people from all walks of life are not only welcome but valuable to his administration."

Ivers expressed confidence in Evertz's abilities.

"We can count on Scott to bring many different points of view together and to put before the president the most sensible alternative solutions," he said. "One of his greatest talents is building consensus around having to solve a serious problem and not duck it but actually come up with a solution."

Evertz is, so far, Bush's only openly gay appointee.

Former President Bill Clinton boasted more than 150 openly gay appointments over two four-year terms. Stachelberg said a few gays on Clinton's staff "technically" outranked Evertz, because they reported directly to the president, but she acknowledged the high profile nature of the AIDS czar position.

Sodomy bill outcome won't affect pursuit of appeal

> Continued from Page 1

upholding the homosexual conduct law. The decision overturned a June 2000 ruling by a three-judge panel of the same court that said the law violated the Texas Constitution because it discriminates based on sex.

Texas has had a sodomy law since 1860, but the state decriminalized sodomy by opposite-sex partners in 1974.

The Texas Court of Criminal Appeals is the highest court in the state, along side the Texas Supreme Court, which handles only civil appeals. Cases denied review, as well as rulings by either branch may then be appealed to the United States Supreme Court.

Katine said should the court accept the case for review, the process for the nearly 3-year-old case could take another two years to resolve.

State Rep. Debra Danburg, D-Houston, has filed a bill in this session's legislature to repeal the state's sodomy law. While Danburg files the bill each session, the legislation typically dies in committee. However, Katine says even if Danburg's bill were to pass and the law

be abolished by the legislature, his fight on the case will continue.

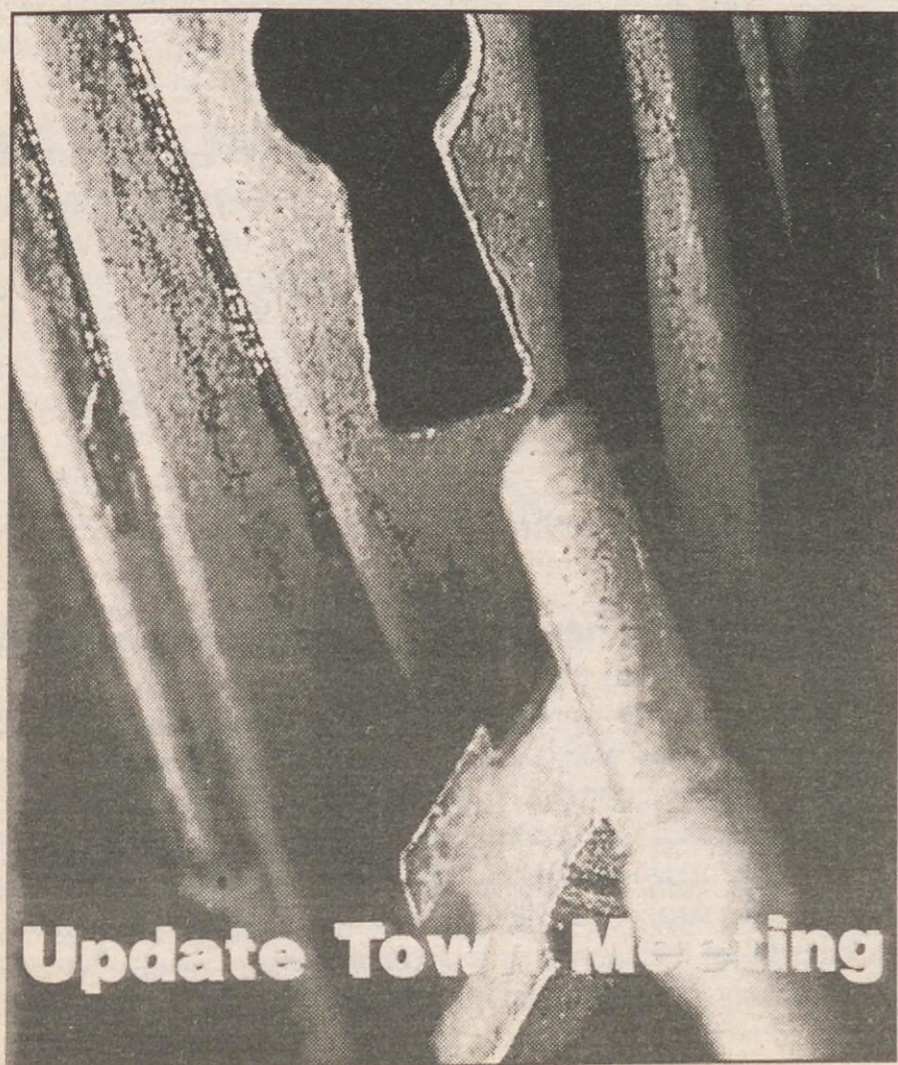
"If the legislature were to decide to repeal the statute, that's good for everybody else in the state, but it doesn't help my clients," Katine said. "They would still be convicted. The repeal of the law would not be retroactive, so I would still work to vindicate Mr. Lawrence and Mr. Garner."

Bill Delmore, the assistant prosecutor who has handled the case for the Harris County District Attorney's office said he wasn't surprised that Katine is filing the petition for a review from the Texas Court of Criminal Appeals.

Once the petition is filed, the District Attorney's office has 30 days to file a response, which will also be considered by the court. Delmore said until he reads the petition, he won't know if his office will file a response.

"I haven't really decided," he said. "Typically, I do not respond [to discretionary review petitions]. We receive so many that we can't respond to all of them and if you do respond to one, you're typically calling attention to the case."

Unlock Your QUESTIONS



Reportback from the 2001 HUMAN RETROVIRUS CONFERENCE

GUEST PRESENTER

Martin Delaney, Founding Director, Project Inform

Hear the latest on HIV care and treatment.

Topics include new and emerging therapy strategies and side effects.


Wednesday, April 18, 2001

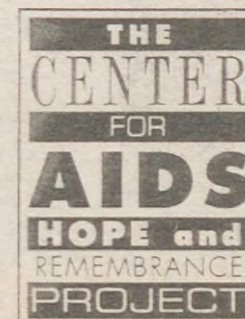
7:00 - 8:30pm (light buffet 6:00)

Museum of Health and Medical Science • 1515 Hermann Drive, Houston TX

For more information contact

The Center for AIDS, 713.527.8219

Continental Airlines 



Visit or call any of
our 52 convenient branches
in the Greater Houston area.

Chase • Downtown
712 Main St.
713/216-4865

Chase • Kirby
3201 Kirby Dr.
713/525-2287

Chase • Reagan (Heights)
545 W. 19th St.
713/868-6791



THE RIGHT RELATIONSHIP IS EVERYTHING.®

around the world

Alberta inheritance law must grant gays same rights, judge says

EDMONTON, Alberta—A justice has declared the province's inheritance law unconstitutional because it does not give gay couples the same rights it gives heterosexuals, the *Edmonton Journal* reported. The case was brought by Brent Johnson, who challenged the law for cutting him out of the estate of his partner, Larry Douglas Sand, who died after they had been together for six years. Sand died without a will, causing his entire \$169,000 estate to go to his former wife and two daughters. Justice Del Perras called the province's inheritance statute unfair and gave the government nine months to change it to include same-sex couples. The government can side-step the decision through the country's Constitution, but Alberta Premier Ralph Klein has said he doesn't want to use it to deny rights to gays. The ruling will have implications for about 50 other pieces of provincial legislation that define couples as exclusively heterosexual, attorney Julia Lloyd said. "Clearly, the writing is on the wall for the other statutes in Alberta," said Lloyd, who represents Johnson.

Gays may soon be able to marry in Belgium as proposal moves forward



BRUSSELS—Belgium is considering whether to allow gay couples to marry, a move that comes shortly after neighboring Holland became the first country to legalize same-sex marriages, Reuters reported. Health Minister Magda Alvoet, a member of the leftist Green Agalev party, said legalizing same-sex marriages was an important step in eliminating discrimination against gays. "The government considers the right to marry a constitutional right, and the chance to marry the sole true opportunity to see that gay and heterosexual couples are treated in the same way," Alvoet said. The proposal is expected to be presented later this month to the cabinet, which is expected to offer its okay.

Magda Alvoet, Belgium's health minister, is supporting a move to legalize same-sex marriages.

Survey paints picture of gay male sex in South Africa hit hard by AIDS

CAPE TOWN—The first survey of the sexual habits of South African gay men has found that anonymous, unprotected sex is not uncommon, the *Johannesburg Mail & Guardian* reported. The Triangle Project, an outreach organization funded by the Elton John Aids Foundation, asked men at venues across the city, including bars, clubs, baths and gay cruising areas, to complete a questionnaire on their sexual activities. The survey has helped establish an understanding of the sexual activities of gay men in what is widely known as the "gay capital of South Africa." Of the respondents questioned, 47 percent indicated that they were currently in a relationship, but 60 percent admitted to having sex with people other than their partners in the past year. More than half said they had up to 10 sex partners in the past 12 months, with 12.7 percent reporting having had between 20 and 90 sexual partners in the past year. Researchers hope the findings will help address the growing spread of HIV in this country. Some 4.7 million South Africans are living with AIDS, more than any other country in the world.

Two British couples ready to sign up for London's new gay registry

LONDON—Two gay couples are scheduled to make history in Great Britain in July when they become the first to sign up for London's same-sex partnership register, the *London Times* reported. Mike Ross, 30, and Simon Robson, 37, agreed to take the plunge and they will be joined by Andrew Halliday, 35, who works with Ross, and Kevin Ede, 28. London Mayor Ken Livingstone, who set aside public money to finance the registry to give formal recognition to same-sex relationships, has even offered to officiate at the ceremony. Prime Minister Tony Blair, his wife Cherie, and Liberal Democrat leader Charles Kennedy have written to both couples to wish them well. "There will definitely be no Abba. We don't want it to be camp; we want it to be traditional," Ross said of the ceremony.

Gay teacher in New Zealand takes harassment complaint to arbitrator

AUCKLAND, New Zealand—A gay deputy principal who says he was driven out of his job because of his sexual orientation has taken his claim to an employment arbiter, the *Sunday Star Times* reported. Linstead Allen turned down a \$5,000 exit package for stress and humiliation and went to mediation April 7 to resolve his complaint against Hillcrest School. Allen was the subject of at least eight letters of complaint from parents last August. He eventually resigned and claimed the letters were the work of people who didn't like him because of his sexual orientation. Meanwhile, two parents who supported Allen, and subsequently quit as members of Hillcrest's board of trustees, have taken their concerns to an ombudsman. Sharyn Boness and Liesje Harrison are seeking an apology from the board for "mucking-up" the complaint procedure, Boness said. They claim an independent officer was never called in to investigate the letters and that they were personal attacks not based on facts.

—From staff and wire reports



For more news, visit
www.houstonvoice.com

health news

Gay San Fran supervisor wants HIV drug ads to be less glamorous

SAN FRANCISCO—The openly gay president of the city's Board of Supervisors scheduled a public hearing for Thursday to investigate allegations that ads for HIV medications are encouraging unsafe sex through their images of health and vitality, according to *USA Today*. "What [the ads] do is paint a very pretty picture, a very glamorized picture of men with gym-toned bodies looking very healthy. It's a simplistic message," Ammiano said. Preliminary results of a survey released last month by the San Francisco Health Department found that gay men who had seen the ads frequently were more likely to engage in unsafe sex, which prompted health officials to ask drug companies to change them. When the companies refused, Ammiano said he'd move to pull such ads from city property. He wants drug companies to include HIV-prevention information and make warnings about side effects more prominent in their ad copy. The companies said the ads are designed to show that HIV therapy can change lives dramatically. Some activists say the ad flap drains energy from bigger prevention issues. "Drinking Miller does not make you a babe magnet, and most of us are not buff mountain climbers. There's got to be a reality check there," said Terje Anderson, executive director of the National Association of People with AIDS.



Tom Ammiano, the openly gay president of San Francisco's Board of Supervisors, is taking on drug companies over allegations that HIV drug ads don't accurately portray people with AIDS.

Three cancers may be indicators of full-blown AIDS, research says

CHICAGO (AP)—Hodgkin's disease and possibly two other types of cancer should be added to the list of illnesses used to determine whether HIV-infected patients have full-blown AIDS, according to new research. The study examined more than 300,000 AIDS patients and their rates of several types of malignancies other than cancers currently linked to the disease. AIDS patients were more than 11 times more likely to have Hodgkin's disease, three times more likely to have lip cancer and about twice as likely to have a form of testicular cancer, the researchers reported in the *Journal of the American Medical Association*. Cervical cancer, non-Hodgkin's lymphoma and Kaposi's sarcoma are already used to determine whether HIV has progressed to full-blown AIDS.

CA city launches study of marijuana's effect on people with AIDS

SAN MATEO, Calif. (AP)—The first federally approved study to determine whether medical marijuana helps control the pain associated with AIDS was launched April 3 by San Mateo County Health Center officials. Participants must be suffering from HIV-related neuropathy, have used marijuana before and be willing to keep a detailed log of their drug use for the duration of the study. Participants will receive 15 marijuana cigarettes over a prescribed time from the hospital pharmacy. Last month, the U.S. Supreme Court heard arguments in a California case over whether states can enact laws that legalize the use of marijuana for medicinal purposes. In Minnesota, Gov. Jesse Ventura said last week that he supports legalizing marijuana for medical use. "Medical marijuana? I fully support it, absolutely. Who is government to tell someone if they have AIDS or cancer, what they should be taking?" Ventura said. A bill before the Minnesota legislature would appropriate \$100,000 to study potential medicinal uses of marijuana.

Experimental AIDS vaccine causes cold, but stymies disease in monkeys

WASHINGTON—An experimental AIDS vaccine created from the virus that causes the common cold did not prevent HIV infection, but did keep lab monkeys from developing a full-blown case of the disease, Reuters reported. The findings pointed toward a possible future human AIDS vaccine, said John Shiver, director of vaccine research at Merck Research Laboratories. "Given how dangerous an epidemic this is and the threat it poses to people in general, if our only vaccine is one that controls the infection but does not prevent it, then certainly that's a worthy goal until something comes along that's better," Shiver said. During the study, the three monkeys given the vaccine were healthy eight months after their infection with an AIDS-like virus. Of six other monkeys who did not receive the vaccine, five of them developed a full-blown case of the disease, and four of them have been euthanized. Shiver pointed out that a human AIDS vaccine was still years away from being ready.

Health coalition seeks better access, medical research for gays

WASHINGTON—The National Coalition for LGBT Health formalized its leadership structure, filled board positions and established goals during a recent meeting in Los Angeles. The meeting continued the momentum from the coalition's first meeting in Washington, D.C. last fall. "We... are very proud to help build the coalition and to act as the convening agency for the coalition for the next two years," A. Cornelius Baker, co-chair of the coalition's organizing committee, told a meeting of more than 100 activists from around the country. The coalition identified three areas to concentrate its efforts—access to primary health care, gay-inclusive medical research, and influencing public policy to support gay-specific health needs. The coalition was founded in October 2000.



For more news, visit
www.houstonvoice.com

—From staff and wire reports

ONLY \$29*
PER MONTH-NO CONTRACT

**FITNESS
EXCHANGE**

4040 MILAM 77006

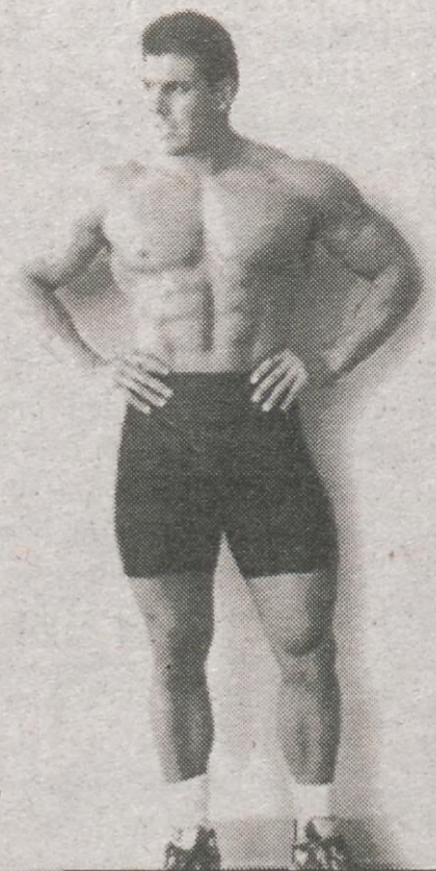
- **AWESOME NEW EQUIPMENT**
- **IMMACULATELY CLEAN**
- **IMPECCABLE SERVICE**
- **3500 AFFILIATE CLUBS!**

CALL NOW 713-524-9932

Mon-Fri 5am-10pm

Sat-Sun 8am-8pm

*For basic morning membership,
after one time activation fee.



MEMBER
ANTHONY RAMOS,
BODYBUILDING
CHAMPION

Limited

Seating.

Register

Soon!

Tony Carroll,
LMSW-ACP

Psychotherapist
Counseling
Consultation

713-527-0000

1006 Missouri St.

Houston, TX 77006

Imagine Love

WORKSHOPS
Now Available!

**A Workshop for
Single Gay Men**
\$120 per person

In this workshop learn about:

- ◆ Being attracted to more appropriate partners
- ◆ Eliminating incompatible people faster
- ◆ Identifying and overcoming what has kept you single
- ◆ Using the natural progression of relationships to predict the outcome
- ◆ Exploring new places and ways for meeting people
- ◆ Getting over going after the difficult ones
- ◆ Improving your dating skills
- ◆ Finding and maintaining lasting, loving, relationships

April 7/8 or Sept. 8/9

**A Workshop for
Gay Couples**
\$155 per couple

Understanding and Improving
Love Relationships

Most couples leave this workshop with:

- ◆ Better communication skills
- ◆ Reduced frustration and blame
- ◆ Specific plans for increasing happiness
- ◆ Greater compassion for themselves and their partners
- ◆ Increased certainty about their relationship
- ◆ Tools for shaping a happier future
- ◆ Improved ways for working through the hot spots

April 28/29 or Sept. 22/23

TONY CARROLL, LMSW-ACP

Counseling, Psychotherapy, Workshops for Individuals and Couples

For more information or a free brochure, call or visit our web site:

713-527-0000
www.HoustonTherapist.com

**houston
Therapist.com**



PVA working to retain Parker, elect Edwards to Council

> Continued from Page 2

Amendment to prohibit same-sex domestic partner benefits for City of Houston employees and other privileges based on sexual preference.

"To the Mayor and City Council of the City of Houston ("City"), we, the undersigned registered voters of the City of Houston, Texas, under Section 9.004 of the Local Government Code, hereby petition for an election to amend the Charter of the City of Houston to add the following as a separate section to our Charter to read as follows:

"Except as required by State or Federal law, the City of Houston shall not provide employment benefits, including health care, to persons other than employees, their legal spouses and dependent children; nor shall the City provide any privilege in promotion, hiring, or contracting to a person or group on the basis of sexual preference, either by a vote of the city council or an executive order by the Mayor.

"Further, the City of Houston shall not require entities doing business with the city to have any of the above benefits or policies.

"If any portion of this proposed Charter amendment is declared unlawful, then such portion shall be removed and the remainder of the Charter amendment will remain in effect. Any ordinance in conflict with this section of the Charter is hereby repealed and declared invalid."

Members of PVA say the battle against HFFV isn't just about equal rights, but also is about fighting hatred.

"This ballot measure is supported by people who truly hate us," Doyle said. "One of Wilson's supporters was on the news in February, and ranted 'What should be done with the sodomites? Well, I think they ought to have 'em an island. They got plenty of money—they ought to buy them an island and every sodomite ought to go out there to that island and just stay there... We'll drop a little food down there from time to time, and they'll all be dead of AIDS in two years.'"

"When you hear people like this," Doyle said, "our calling is clear. We must shut them down now."

Some conservatives in town may even agree with Doyle, if not about the issues, but on principles.

On Feb. 28, a letter signed by 14 opponents to Wilson's petition, singled out the timing, the content and the context of HFFV's petition, saying that the precipitous action of the proposal "could inadvertently do considerable damage to the pro-family cause in Houston."

Although citing the legal flaws in having three subjects included in one amendment when the Local Government Code, section 9.004, specifies only one subject per amendment, the letter stresses, however, the concern over perceived "careless words or actions that facilitate our oppo-

We hope lots of people will come by to hear about PVA's progress and ask questions. There is no minimum contribution to attend, but we want people to bring their checkbooks.

—James Doyle,

PVA reception co-host

nents' efforts to discredit our cause."

This refers to Pastor Aubrey Vaughn of Grace Baptist Church and his placard-bearing supporters during the City Council debate, whose homemade signs spewed such eye-catching slogans as "All Fags Must Die" and "Faggots For the Fire."

"Such rhetoric," the letter explained, "has no place in civil discourse over matters of public policy. It is self-defeating. We have reluctantly concluded that we cannot support the signing of this petition... and will succeed in uniting the people of our city to affirm Houston's commitment to the family as the keystone of our community."

Among the conservative voices who

signed the letter were Pastor Laurence White, Greater Houston Area Pastors Roundtable chairman; Gary M. Polland, Harris County Republican Party chairman; Steven Hotze, Conservative Republicans of Harris County chairman; Paul Bettencourt, Harris County Tax Assessor-Collector; and City Councilman Robb Todd—all friends and associates of Dave Wilson.

Wilson was blindsided by this concerted action, surprised by this "sucker punch" from a coalition of activists who shared his views and stood with him.

"Yes, I was flabbergasted," Wilson said at the time, "because half of those people who signed that letter were working with me. If I'm going to punch somebody, I'm gonna look them in the eye and tell them I'm gonna punch them. I'm not into sucker punches."

In addition to taking the lead in the anti-gay ballot measure, PVA is working to re-elect Houston City Councilwoman Annise Parker and to elect District D Council candidate Ada Edwards. Edwards is running for the seat that will be left open by the term limiting of Jew Don Boney. Edwards is an African-American Community activist with a strong history of grassroots

To RSVP or get more information about the event, call James Doyle at 713-864-6411. Progressive Voters In Action can be reached at 713-521-7161.

Victory Fund to work on Parker's re-election campaign

> Continued from Page 2

concern that gays and lesbians were not equally represented in all levels of government.

"I began by raising money and raising awareness of this lack of representation," Kammerer said. "And, you know how it goes, eventually, they tapped into my interest and commitment to this and offered me a board position."

Kammerer says he thinks the Victory

I definitely am impressed with the growth and effectiveness of this organization over the past 10 years. During this time, we have quadrupled the number of gays and lesbian elected to office across the country.

Fund has come a long way in accomplishing its primary objective over the past decade.

"I definitely am impressed with the growth and effectiveness of this organization over the past 10 years," he said. "During this time, we have quadrupled the number of gays and lesbian elected to office across the country."

"We also need to keep in mind that across the country, there are 500,000 elected officials and gays and lesbians represent 200 out of the half million."

As a board member, Kammerer plans to solidify the Victory Fund's connections with Houston's Progressive Voters in Action. Founded in 1999, PVA is a non-partisan, year-round campaign to build a

community of voters to support progressive candidates and issues, including candidates and issues important to Houston's lesbian, gay bisexual and transgender community.

Kammerer has a similar agenda which is to insure gay representation at the city level of government. He also says the Victory Fund's work with the Human Rights Campaign is vital, yet clarifies that the groups work on different levels of government.

"Although the Victory Fund extends its mission to local, city, county, state and federal levels of government, HRC focuses on the federal level."

Kammerer points out that a local success for the Victory Fund was assisting in

the election of Annise Parker to City Council. He states that the organization will also participate in Parker's re-election campaign this time as well.

He added that Parker's fight to have a more inclusive non-discrimination policy in place for city employees is another important issue.

"We may or may not be aware of this, but discrimination based on sexual orientation remains legal across the country, including major cities," Kammerer said. "In fact, it is true in Houston and across Texas."

"The GLBT communities throughout the United States lack any real legal protection. My efforts and the goals of the Victory Fund are to secure legal rights and the rights for straight and gay elected officials to champion our cause."

Kammerer relocated to Houston in 1982 from Cincinnati. He is currently the director of development at the University of Texas Health and Science Center, a branch of the University of Texas School of nursing and medicine.



Annise Parker

Time Out

SPORTS COLUMN

Bump, set, spike!

Volleyball tourney set at St. Thomas

by D.L. MURPHY

Remember the sheer joy of playing volleyball? The controlled force of the serve, the strategic bump, the skill of the set, the slam of the spike?

When's the last time you played volleyball? High school gym class? The company picnic? At the beach? Surely it's been too long.

Well, a marvelous opportunity to enjoy volleyball is as close as the Jerabeck Center at St. Thomas University. Here, the Lone Star Volleyball Association, part of the North American Gay Volleyball Association, offers play at four different levels. And unlike high school, you will play in air-conditioned comfort.

The Lone Star Volleyball Association, part of the North American Gay Volleyball Association, offers play at four different levels. And unlike high school, you will play in air-conditioned comfort.

The league is divided into four different skill levels. This ensures everyone has the opportunity to play with others with similar skills. This should help avoid the injuries caused by less experienced players lack of skill (or by more experienced players desire to show off).

For the neophytes among us, the Recreational Level offers opportunities for players new to the game. Players at this level concentrate on learning game fundamentals. New teams are chosen each week so that all of the players get the opportunity to meet one another. Remember, there are plenty of bleachers if you decide this is not for you.

For players who have mastered the fundamentals of ball handling, the Intermediate Division offers the opportunity to further develop one's skills. It is at this level that players learn the techniques involved in blocking and spiking. Teams are formed via a draft at the second week of play.

The Competitive Division is for serious players with several years' experience. Players in this division play at the North American Gay Volleyball Association (NAGVA) "B" level. These teams are formed by groups of like-minded and similarly skilled players and often play together for several seasons.

The most skilled players are part of the Power Division. These teams compete at NAGVA "BB" and "A" levels. Team spots are

by invitation, and these teams may play together for several years.

Houston-based teams regularly participate in tournaments around the country. So, not only do you get to play ball, you get to travel to interesting venues. Players are responsible for their own travel and lodging costs.

Players range in age from their mid-20s to the mid 40s, although most of the players are 25- to 35-years-old.

Cost is moderate. There is no charge for newcomers attending their first session. After that, players must pay annual membership dues of \$25 (for liability insurance) and season league fees of \$25. And, you can get a \$5 discount by bringing someone who has never played with this league before.

There are three 12-week seasons each year. The summer season runs from May to August, the fall season from September to early December, and the winter season from January to early May.

Players can opt for men's, co-ed, or women's teams. Women's games are played with a women's height net, allowing for the excitement of spiking.

LSVA teams are eligible for NAGVA sanctioned tournament play. The 12th Annual Lone Star Volleyball Classic tournament will be held April 13th and 14th. Thirty-eight teams, from as far away as San Diego and Minneapolis, will participate.

The annual tournament raises funds for community charities. This year's beneficiary will be the Spirit Wellness Center, a program of the AIDS Foundation Houston. Tournament organizers expect to raise \$1,000 to \$2,000 for the center.

For those of you not familiar with the Spirit Wellness Center, the center offers three primary programs. The Employment Resources Program teaches clients computer-based skills.

Nutritional counseling educates clients about healthier and safer eating habits. Paw Prints provides foster care for the pets of hospitalized clients. The center focuses on serving all areas of the HIV-positive community.

INFO

Lone Star Volleyball Classic Tournament
 April 13-14
 Willowbrook Sports Complex, 12539 Perry Road
 713.529.2534
 www.lsva.org

Lone Star Volleyball Association
 Sundays (during the season)
 Recreational and Intermediate: 4:30-7 p.m.
 Competitive and Power: 7-9:30 p.m.
 Jerabeck Center
 713.529.2534
 www.lsva.org

BE A NAME, NOT A NUMBER!

At Capital Bank, we know our customers by name, not a number. We don't even have an 800 number. And when you call, you'll get a person, not a menu.

If you want a small bank atmosphere with big bank capabilities, visit us on Shepherd at Alabama. We take banking personally.

CAPITAL BANK

YOUR FULL-SERVICE COMMUNITY BANK

Member FDIC

3007 S. Shepherd @ W. Alabama
 713/529-0001

EQUAL HOUSING LENDER

Same Sex Couples and their entire household

Now qualifying for great health benefits for **ONE LOW MONTHLY FEE!**

Save up to **80%** on:
 • Dental • Prescription • Vision • Chiropractic care

☉ Pre-existing conditions okay ☉
 ☉ No waiting ☉

www.HPhorizons.com • 281.610.4417 • career opportunities available

Dignity HOUSTON

Celebrating 25 Years in the Community

Come Worship with PRIDE!

Catholic Mass Celebrated Saturdays at 7:30pm

1307-H Yale • 713-880-2872



THE FUSION OF DESIGN & TECHNOLOGY.

Don Massey Cadillac



2001 CATERA

\$ **389** /mo+tt&l*

OR

\$ **25,690** **

*2001 Catera, \$32,940 MSRP, \$999dn plus tt+l, 8.75%apr, 35 payments of \$389, 1 final payment of \$16,470 or pay \$250 disposal fee, w.a.c.
**\$32,940 MSRP-\$5000 dealer cash, \$2250 dmc discount, tt&l extra

Come see the new exciting
2002 ESCALADE IN STOCK
 Ready for delivery!



THE FUSION OF DESIGN & TECHNOLOGY.

Don Massey Cadillac
 2520 Main, Houston • 713-874-0900
Your caring, servicing, selling master dealer

SALES HOURS:
 7:30am-6:00pm Monday-Friday
 9:00am-6:00pm Saturday

SERVICE HOURS:
 7:30am-6:00pm Monday-Friday

(photos for illustration purposes only)



HOUSTON VOICE • APRIL 13, 2001

GAYS BUT NO GAYMAN THIS YEAR'S WORLD FEST HOUSTON

Five new queer-themed films on a long list of potential discoveries

by STEVE WARREN

Flash! Julia Roberts and Russell Crowe will not be at the 34th annual WorldFest-Houston International Film Festival, which runs Friday, April 20 through Sunday, April 29. Unless they happen to be in town and want to see some interesting films.

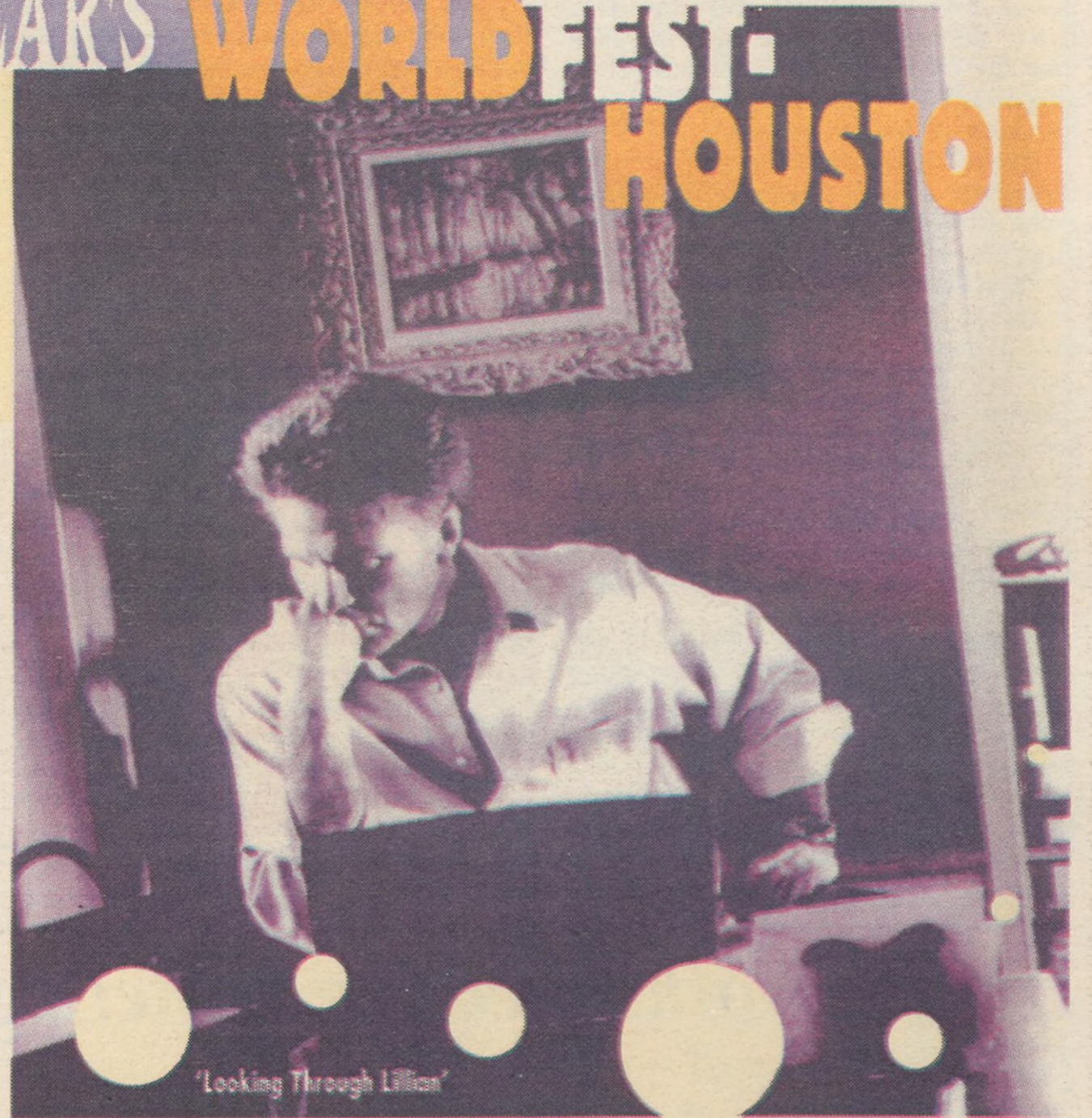
That's because WorldFest, as Houstonians should know, is not one of the glitzy festivals used by studios and stars to promote films about to go into commercial release. These events have their place and can be fun, but people who truly care about the medium prefer film festivals to those movie festivals.

Even when WorldFest was competing for major-studio premieres, festival founder and chairman J. Hunter Todd was proudest when he could introduce a young filmmaker whose debut short held promise of great things to come. I remember being blown away by Steven Spielberg's "Amblin" in the festival's early days in Atlanta, and Todd says Spielberg remembered the festival in his biography for having given him his first award.

Who will be the next Spielberg? Speaking off the top of his head Todd is high on Agnieszka Wojtowicz-Vosloo, a New York-based French-Polish woman, whose post-apocalyptic fantasy "Pate" is one of some 100 shorts in this year's WorldFest.

"The shorts," Todd reminds us, "are often where you see the best work" because, especially in the Internet age, wannabe filmmakers use them as calling cards to get hired to

> Continued on Page 16



HOUSTON HOPPING WITH EASTER ACTIVITIES

From Bunnies and Jungle IX to egg hunts and Gospel, there's something for all tastes this weekend

by ELLA TYLER

It doesn't matter how fabulous the Mardi Gras celebrations were, 40 days is a long time without a party. Three major parties this weekend—Jungle IX, Bunnies on the Bayou and Rain Dance at Rich's—will compensate for your Lenten deprivations.

If you prefer more sedate celebrations, community churches will be hosting special services and gatherings all weekend, and the spring weather and long weekend are inspiring a variety of other events.

Lent ends Saturday night, Easter eve, just in time for JUNGLE IX. This wild, wild party, for the over 21 crowd, raises funds for local charities. It begins at 10 on Saturday night and closes down at 2 a.m. Sunday, just in time to take a shower and head straight to a sunrise service.

The DJ will be Warren Gluck from the Pavilion on Fire Island. There will be other entertainment, an open bar, and costumes are encouraged.

> Continued on Page 16



WorldFest features 48 films total, five with gay themes

> Continued from Page 15

make feature films or to raise money to make their own.

Of this year's 48 features, most (retrospectives are the principal exceptions) come from people doing it the hard way: their films still don't have distribution. Some may be picked up for theatrical or video release at WorldFest, others will drop off the face of the earth and never be seen again. Probably the majority will continue plugging away on the festival circuit until one of the above ultimately happens.

Five of the 48 features have major queer characters and/or themes. We almost exceeded our ten percent but a sixth dropped out when its sound mix couldn't be completed in time.

The queer characters in these films range from heterosexual transvestites to gay mobsters to queer rockers to a good ol' North Carolina boy. There's also a brief but classic lesbian portrayal from the 1950s. It's interesting that in a festival with many heavy political documentaries, the queer films have no such agenda. Comedies, dramas and musicals, they're all pure entertainment.

Of course every time a lesbian or gay character appears on screen in something that reaches beyond a queer audience they're furthering our agenda of acceptance, just as you and I do when we're out in our daily lives, by forcing people to see homosexuals as individuals, rather than members of a group they can despise en masse.

But let's get to the films, which will be

screened at the Meyerland Plaza Theater, Loop 610 West South and Beechnut. We'll preview some from the festival's first few days this week and others, plus festival seminars and festivities, next week.

'Touch Of Evil'

April 21, 7 p.m.

Only the reputation of Orson Welles' final Hollywood movie (as writer and director) improves as new generations discover it with each re-release. In 1958 Welles took



film noir, a seedy genre that had fallen on hard times, and turned it back into an art form. Recut in 1998 in line with Welles' original intent, the film looks more modern today than many new releases.

Welles plays good-cop-gone-bad Hank Quinlan, who's had things his way for 30 years in a border town. His life unravels over 24 hours under the prying eyes of Mexican supercop Charlton Heston while Heston's new bride (Janet Leigh) is terrorized by relatives of a drug lord her hubby busted.

The cast includes Marlene Dietrich as a madam, Dennis Weaver as a weird motel clerk (Leigh sure could pick 'em!), and Mercedes McCambridge as a leather-dyke gang leader who makes her "Johnny Guitar" character look femme!

The show-offy camera angles Welles introduced to America in "Citizen Kane" (screening April 29 at 5 p.m.) are applied to a more accessible plot, and Brian De Palma is still trying to top the opening sequence. "Touch of Evil" is so damn entertaining it took years to be recognized as the work of art it is.

*** (out of 4).

'Looking Through Lillian'

April 22, 3 p.m.; April 27, 9 p.m.

I hate to pan a movie someone, somewhere may find poignant and meaningful, but the only opinion I can be certain of is my own: "Looking through Lillian" bored me shitless.

A story about a prostitute trying to get out of "the life," it's a "woman's picture" directed by a man (Jake Torem) who co-wrote it with his star, Jade Henham. The actress, a less attractive Mariah Carey, lacks the charisma to carry a movie.

Lillian says she's asexual ("I'm into drugs. That's the only lover I'll ever need") until she meets a potential Mr. Right. Luke (Robert Glen Keith) is sensitive, poetic and doesn't try to jump her bones on the first date. I know what you're thinking, but he's not queer either.

Lillian's sole customer, wealthy, powerful Gene (Sam Bottoms) takes a couple of afternoons a week off from running the world to cavort with her. Midway through the picture we learn this cavorting involves dressing in women's clothing, and near the end (sorry about the spoiler) he whips out a strap-on and has her use it on him in a scene that's enough to turn you off to anal sex. Well, almost.

Lillian calls Los Angeles "the most superficial city in the world." In that respect "Looking Through Lillian," paced like a European film in slow-motion, is a perfect L.A. movie.

* 1/2

WorldFest-Houston

April 20-29

Meyerland Plaza Theater, Loop 610 West, South and Beechnut

www.worldfest.org

worldfest@aol.com

713-965-9955

INFO

DiverseWorks creating Easter egg art at Whole Foods Saturday

> Continued from Page 15

Tickets are \$40 if bought in advance (at Lobo or Basic Brothers) and \$50 at the door. The door is at 3001 Polk, at Roberts, which is east of downtown near Scott Street.

The next major party of the weekend, **BUNNIES ON THE BAYOU**, begins at 2 on Sunday afternoon. Bunnies is a traditional event which began 22 years ago when a few friends invited a few friends over. Now, as many as 2,000 good friends dance, drink and celebrate spring on the shores of Buffalo Bayou. The party moved to the park beside Wortham Center, 501 Texas, soon after Wortham opened. Admission is \$25 and all funds benefit local charities, including AssistHers, the group's attempt to encourage women to join the fun.

A highlight of the event is the Easter Bonnet contest. The "best" bonnet wins \$1,000 for the maker's designated charity. This is also an "over 21" event.

Bunnies ends at 7, but devout partygoers still have a place to go. **RAIN DANCE**, with D.J. Michael Tank, will be at Rich's, 2401 San Jacinto from 6 p.m. to 11 p.m. Admission is \$10 or \$5 with a Bunnies armband.

By the way, both Bunnies on the Bayou and Jungle IX might still need volunteers to help. You can save the admission fee and, if

you're shy, it gives you something to do. See www.bunnies.org or for Jungle IX, go to www.bayoucityboysclub.org.

RESURRECTION METROPOLITAN COMMUNITY CHURCH is celebrating its first Easter in its new church with a weekend full of activities. On Friday at 7 p.m., there will be a Tenebrae, a solemn musical program, commemorating Christ's suffering. There will be a Seder on Saturday at 5 p.m.

RMCC will hold a sunrise service at 6:30 a.m. Sunday, followed by breakfast. There will also be services at 9 and 11, both of which will feature the Hallelujah Chorus. The gospel for the 9 o'clock service will be read in Spanish and the 11 o'clock service will feature the Children's Chorus performing a specially written piece, "Three Trees." The church is at 2025 West 11th St at TC Jester. For more information, call 713-861-9149.

COMMUNITY GOSPEL CHURCH, 4305 Lillian, promises a "musical program which should be spectacular," at its Sunday morning service at 11 a.m. There also will be a service at 7 Sunday evening.

ST STEPHEN'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH, 1805 West Alabama, will do the Stations of the Cross on Friday at 7 a.m., noon, and 7:30 p.m. The Easter vigil begins Saturday at 8 p.m.. On Sunday, a series of services begins at 7:45 a.m. At 10, there will

be hot cross buns, followed by an Easter egg hunt and a family photo. For more information call 713-528-6665 or go to www.ststephenshouston.org.

BERING UNITED METHODIST CHURCH, 1440 Harold St, will have services at noon and 7 p.m. on Good Friday and at 7 p.m. on Saturday. The sunrise service on Sunday morning at 6:30 will be followed by breakfast. The other Sunday morning services will be at 8:30 and 10:50. For more information, call 713-526-1017 or go to www.beringumc.org.

If the church events sound too spiritual, and the parties sound too secular, try these events.

THE LONE STAR VOLLEYBALL ASSOCIATION's tournament is today and Saturday, hosting teams from around the country. See their Web site, www.lsva.org, for details or read our Time Out sports column on page 13 of this newspaper.

THE HOUSTON OUTDOOR GROUP is taking a trip to Gulf Greyhound Park Saturday evening from 7:30 to 11. Call 713-522-7809 for details.

Rick Hurt, a.k.a. **RAINBODEKLOWN**, has temporarily traded his clown garb for a Mr. Easter Rabbit suit, and is holding court through Saturday night at Galleria III outside Macy's. If you know (or can borrow) a child who needs to have a picture taken with the Easter Bunny, this is the place to go.

DIVERSEWORKS will be at the Whole Foods Market on Kirby and West Alabama from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Saturday to help take part in CommUNITY Giving Day. Local artists Mitch Pengra, Paul Arensmeyer, Jama Shelton, Tracye Wear, Jane Weiner, Dennis Ramos, Vicky Perez and Ayanna McCloud will be on hand to help kids create that "perfect" Easter egg. **BOBBINDOCTRIN PUPPET THEATER** will also be there from 12-1 p.m. with puppets for the kids.

THE HOUSTON LESBIAN AND GAY COMMUNITY CENTER, 803 Hawthorne, will be the setting for the Gender Jam Invitational on Saturday evening at 6:30 until 8, hosted by The Texas Association for Transsexual Support. Gender Jam is an informal group of transgenders who get together occasionally to play musical instruments together. Other musicians (experienced or beginning) are invited to come make beautiful music.

The Community Center's monthly potluck dinner will be Sunday at 6 p.m.

And last, but not least, you do not need to spend the weekend trying to figure out your income taxes alone. **THE MONTROSE/FREED BRANCH LIBRARY** at 4100 Montrose and the **CENTRAL LIBRARY** at 500 McKinney will have volunteers to help you prepare your tax returns from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m.

Bayou Calendar

'Seamus Heaney'

To close Inprint's impressive 20th anniversary season of the Margaret Root Brown Houston Reading Series, the programmers have come up with an extremely impressive closer: Nobel Prize winning Irish poet Seamus Heaney. He will read from his universally praised works, which undoubtedly will include his masterwork, the translation of "Beowulf" and "Opened Ground: Selected Poems, 1966-1996." A Q&A with the author will follow the reading.

April 17, 8 p.m.

Tatham Fine Arts Center St. John's School, Westheimer @ Buffalo Speedway
713-521-2026

'Dinner With Friends'

With his play about marriage and friendship, lightened with many fine rifts on food, Donald Margulies won the 2000 Pulitzer Prize for drama. Gabe and Karen, two married baby boomers, much to their chagrin must re-examine their life together when their best friends separate. The realities of life, the simple things, are dissected with comic, yet disturbing, proportions. Life's not a cabaret, but a

soufflé; enjoy every mouthful before it deflates.

Through May 5

Alley Theatre, 615 Texas
713-228-8421

'Chesapeake'

Take one bi-sexual performance artist, with problems of his own, lock him in a room with a hard rightwing Senator who's out to slash his arts funding, and you've got a dandy little cocktail that defines the term strange bedfellows. Lee Blessing's stinging contemporary fantasy hits all the right notes: the Bible, sex,



parents, comic books, and Lassie. In the Houston premiere, Todd Porter plays all the above.

Weekends through April 21

Theater LaB Houston, 1706 Alamo
713-868-7516

'Eating Crow'

The father of farce, French playwright Eugene Labiche wrote some 175 plays, mostly boulevard comedies with lots of vaudeville slapstick. Light and airy, his theatrical meringues, even today, land smack in the face of bourgeoisie pretension. His most famous comedy, "The Italian Straw Hat," was immortalized in Rene Clair's heavenly hilarious silent film version of 1927. Never before translated into English, this Labiche confection, adapted by James Magruder, deals with all sorts of excess: dandies, dowagers, lawyers, greedy geezers. Timeless.

April 19 through May 19

Main Street Theater, 2540 Times Blvd.
713-524-6706

'The Mauist'

In this commissioned work for the wondrously imaginative Bobbinodoctrin Puppet Theatre, we

are on a Pacific island where its inhabitants, the god Maui, an active volcano, and a handful of Protestants collide and erupt in terribly funny and adult ways. The romantic idyllic South Seas explode into nightmare as western civilization gets a drubbing from the natives; while we get an eye-opening evening in the theater.

April 19 through May 5

DiverseWorks, 1117 East Freeway (N. Main @ Naylor)
713-223-8346

'Bed, Boys, & Beyond'

The clones of NYC's Greenwich Village have packed their designer gym clothes and muscle tans and moved ever so slightly north into the Chelsea area above 14th Street and 8th Avenue. Alfredo Alvarez and Jeff Dobbins have fashioned a gay musical revue detailing the life and current times of these fabulous new bunnies. See the bodies, hear the songs, join a gym.

Through May 26

Theatre New West, 1415 California
713-394-0464

THEATRE NEW WEST

Presents

BED, BOYS & BEYOND

A Musical Revue about being Gay...Today!

Music by Alfredo Alvarez

Book & Lyrics by Jeff Dobbins

Directed by Joe Watts

Music Direction by Michael Harren

Starring:

Jeff Dawson, Basil Anderson,
David Barron, Ronnie Boyd, & Laurence Edwards

April 6th thru May 26th
(Fridays & Saturdays only)

Curtains: 8:00 P.M.

Tickets \$20.00

Reservations:
713-394-0464

1415 California St.
Houston, Texas 77006

(Located on the ground floor of the
Sonoma Restaurant Bldg.)



Spring/Easter Sale

April 15-22

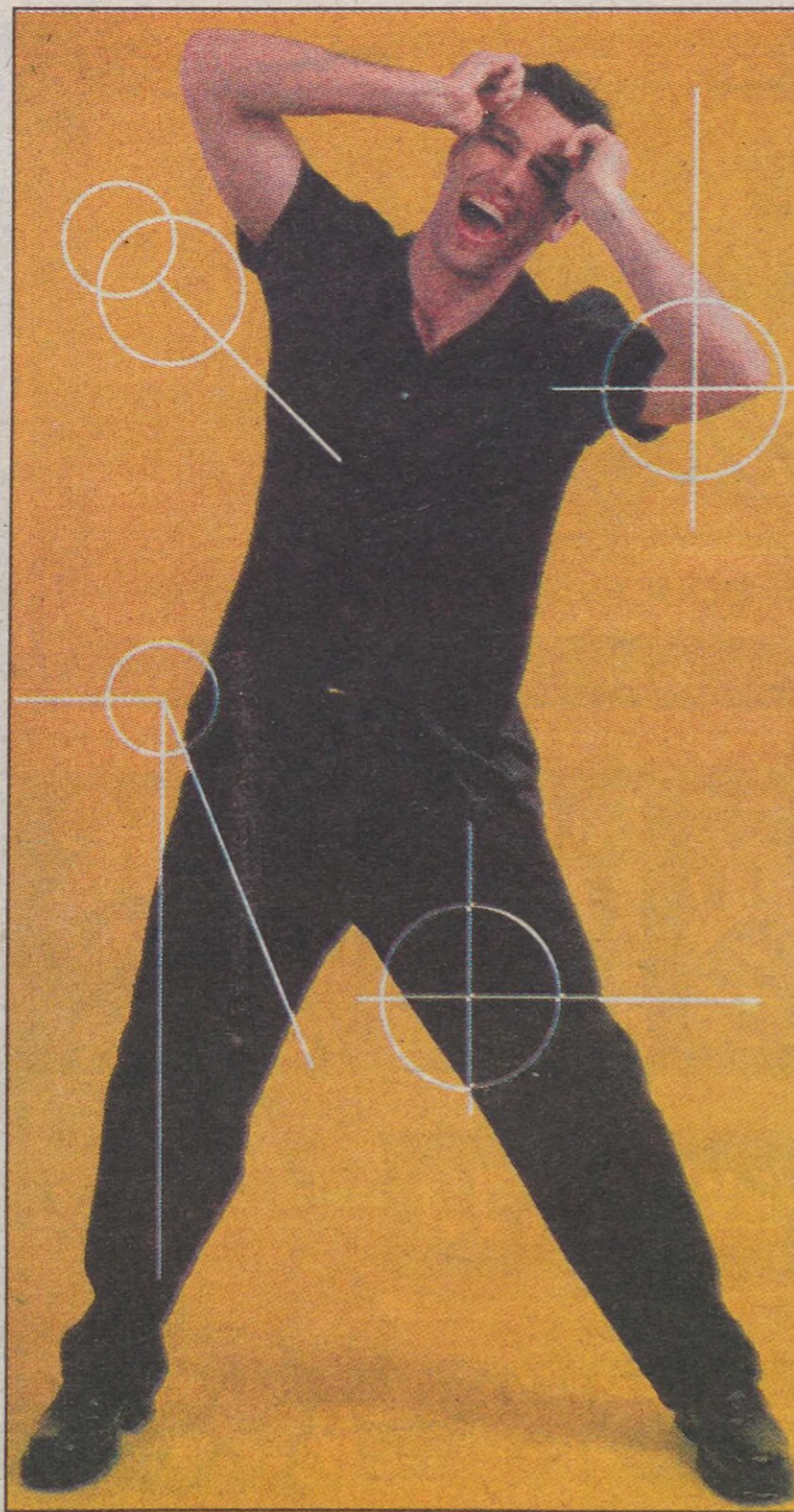
Take 15-70% off on:

- M2M
- DKNY
- Roar
- Andrew Christian
- Navigator
- Michael Malik
- Pasitano
- John Barnette
- Olaf Benz
- Reaction
- CK
- Kenneth Cole
- Diesel Shoes

M2M

it's not a secret any more
contemporary european
style clothing for men

phone 713.521.0804
3400 montrose
(2 blocks south of westheimer)



You're invited to:
**MARANATHA MCC'S
 FIESTA BALL EXTRAVAGANZA 2001**

When: April 27 at 7:30pm
 Where: Kim Son Grand Ballroom, 1503 St. Emanuel

Let's come together as a community and have the time of your life!

Dinner, Dancing, Silent Auction and Raffle

Attire: Dressy Casual

Cost: \$30.00 per person, contact the church office for details on purchasing tickets at 713.528.6756

Proceeds benefit the ministry of Maranatha Fellowship MCC!

Catering provided by Don Carlos • Music provided by Andra Haviland • Cash bar



Maranatha Fellowship MCC

1311 Holman (across from HCC-Downtown Campus)

meets in the home of Central Congregational Church

6:30pm Sunday Evenings

April 8th "God Turns Tragedy Into Triumph" Rev. Janet Parker

Please Join Us For Evening Services And Experience
 The Love That Maranatha Fellowship MCC Has To Offer!

Church Service begins at 6:30pm and nursery is available for small children. Mid-week "Home Group" services on Tuesdays and Wednesdays

For more info...
 713-528-6756 or email
 maranatha@ev1.net

**Maranatha
 Fellowship**

Metropolitan
 Community Church

"A liberating church serving a liberating God."



Our Church Can Become Your Home! Give Us A Try! We Would Love To Have You Visit Anytime!

LIVE JAZZ • TUESDAY NIGHT & SUNDAY BRUNCH

**ALWAYS YOUR BEST
 WEEKEND BRUNCH**

The River Cafe

3615 MONTROSE BOULEVARD • 713-529-0088

LIVE JAZZ • TUESDAY NIGHT & SUNDAY BRUNCH

PRIVATE PARTY ROOMS

**houston
 voice** **DELIVERS**
 direct to your door

6 months: \$45⁵⁰
 1 year: \$91

For just the price of postage!

To subscribe, call 713.529.8490
 or fax 713.529.9531

VISA MASTERCARD AMERICAN EXPRESS

Eating Out

RESTAURANT REVIEW

Really Goode

Goode Company breaks the stigma of cookie-cutter chain restaurants

by TRAYCE DISKIN

In a city so replete with innovative and edgy restaurants, it's easy to become fervently anti-chain. Why settle for Pappasito's when you have the delicious El Pueblito or Red Onion? Or why spend your dollars at Macaroni Grill when places like Riva's or Da Marco, or Nino's dot your neighborhood streets? The truth is, there's nothing that kills anti-chain snobbery better than impeccably cooked food.

GOODE SEAFOOD COMPANY is indeed a testament to this. Located in spacious diner digs, with a railroad car attached to the front, Goode offers some of the most consistently fresh and expertly seasoned seafood in town.

Although even the most stylish will feel at home in the eclectic mix of customers, Goode perfectly caters to those of us who want to throw on a pair of jeans and enjoy a great meal with our friends, our kids, or our friends' kids.

When it comes to Goode's fried fish, one can't really complain about greasiness.

The coating is light and spicy and the fish retains its flavor with Cajun and Latin seasonings.

It's a not-cooking-on-Sunday-night kind of place and so when we went one Sunday, the waiting area was packed. After a little wait, a beer and a little longer wait, the host escorted us into the dining room swirling with swordfish on its sea-colored walls. Our server was cheery and happy to answer questions and give recommendations.

We started with the Shucked Oysters (\$6.95/dozen), which were icy and slurpy and fresh. The Campechana de Mariscos (\$6.95) seafood cocktails are also a good choice. Although listed as an unassuming side, the Fried Green Tomatoes (\$2.25) sizzle in the crispy coating and make a perfect fried companion dish to those steering away from an entire dinner of fried fish.

However, when it comes to Goode's fried fish, one can't really complain



HOUSTON

Goode Company Texas Seafood
 2621 Westpark
 713-523-7154

FOOD FILE

Food:

Service:

Value:

Scene:

Opt for bread, water at home

OK, if you really must

Fine for most

Worth the drive, so live a little

As good as it gets

about greasiness. The coating is light and spicy and the fish retains its flavor with Cajun and Latin seasonings. You really can't go wrong with the Catfish (\$10.95) or the Redfish (\$17.95), but the Flounder and Shrimp Combination (\$14.95) was my favorite for the silkiness of the fish and the succulent, hulking shrimp.

The Stuffed Crab (\$15.95) includes a heavy dose of parsley, garlic, chives and scallions mixed with crabmeat and covering in with a thin coating of mozzarella. The cheese doesn't overwhelm, but keeps the moist stuffing and flavors locked inside.

For those who favor the grill above the pan, the authentic mesquite grilling transforms ordinary fillets into wood-smoked, hearty feasts. The Yellow Fin Tuna (market price), Swordfish (\$19.95) and Snapper (Market Price) are all good bets, but the less expensive Rainbow Trout (\$12.95) is especially tender and fresh.

All dinners are served with an array of yummy sides and the more you eat, the more you feel as if you are pigging out at your next door neighbor's barbecue. The Empanadas are a bit doughy, but filling and the seafood rice is well-peppered and sprinkled with a generous helping of shrimp, crab and other fish. Other options include fruit, vegetables and beans.

Emphasizing the scrumptious fusion of Creole, Cajun and Mexican flavors, Goode offers Catfish con Salsa (\$12.95), Shrimp and Catfish Etouffee (\$12.95) and broiled crab, trout and flounder.

Desserts tend to be more pedestrian, such as ice cream and a rather floury chocolate pie. Such dessert foibles only underscore the happy fact that Goode Co. is a seafood place, worthy of glory many of us wouldn't dare bestow on lesser chains.

"quote/unquote"

compiled by REX WOCKNER

"Real fidelity has nothing to do with monogamy. Real fidelity is something else, something in your soul, something that attaches you to each other. Monogamy can be a sort of contract if you choose it. But if you marry, you don't have to choose monogamy. You have to choose fidelity."

—Gay groom Peter Wittebrood-Lemke just before his marriage to Frank Wittebrood April 1 in Amsterdam. The Netherlands is the first nation to let gay people marry under ordinary marriage laws.



"I'm very angry that Warner Brothers won't make an official announcement because I look like an idiot. I constantly say, 'No, I'm not doing [my show anymore],' and no one believes me. It's final. It's been final for two years, but that's not the way Warner Brothers would like it, and I understand. They've made a lot of money."

—Rosie O'Donnell (left), March 31

"I have mixed feelings about the show ending after one season. ... We set out to create a program that offered daytime audiences a true alternative and we succeeded. I believe it could have earned a substantial audience in time, but the television advertiser boycott [organized by gay activists] precluded that."

—Dr. Laura Schlessinger as her television program was cancelled March 29

"In law enforcement, it's our job to uphold the law. The law allows him to do this, and we will support this like we support any other law. ... Currently, he is letting his hair grow. The second year of this process involves him living as a woman, and in the third year of the process he undergoes surgery, and applies for legal feminine status."

—Bexar County, Texas, Sheriff Ralph Lopez on the sex-change operation of one of his deputies, Lt. Brian Lunan, to Reuters, March 5

"I hesitate to say that [everyone is basically bisexual] because I'll get 4 billion letters from people on both ends. But it is my belief, yes, that everyone has the potential, but it is fueled or expressed by different things in your life. I feel the capacity is there. ... I'm proud of the ability I have to fall in love with both men and women."

—Actress Kathy Najimy (right) to the *Advocate*, March 13



"A sensitive mama's boy with a permanent hard-on, [Bill Clinton] stunningly embodied the homosexual stereotype at both of its contradictory extremes."

—Jesse Green writing in *New York* magazine, March 5

"Among the others who live in the house [on NBC's new TV series 'First Years'] and struggle for recognition at the law firm is—hold on to your remotes now—a gay guy! Good heavens, what originality, what boldness, what daring! Naturally, he's a gay guy without a boyfriend, without any apparent interest in sex, perhaps without genitalia. There's something insulting—to everybody—about such lazy mechanical calculation."

—*Washington Post* TV critic Tom Shales on NBC's "First Years," which has since been canceled, March 19



"For all that it shows you pictures of things you've never seen pictured before on TV, 'Queer as Folk' reminds me of nothing so much as a National Geographic special—or perhaps one of those Mutual of Omaha Wild Kingdom shows. ('I'll go straighten the tent while Jim observes how the male mounts from the rear.')

—Daniel Mendelsohn (left) writing in *New York* magazine, March 5

★ HOUSTON GYM

START TODAY!
\$0 DOWN
\$27⁹⁵ /MO.

713-880-9191
233 BIRDSALL
(BETWEEN MEMORIAL PARK & DOWNTOWN)
M-F 6-10 • Sat 8-6 • Sun 10-6

Federal health officials estimate that 300,000 Americans are HIV-positive and don't know it.

Be the smartest bunny in town.

GET TESTED.
FREE ANONYMOUS HIV TESTING

M MONTROSE CLINIC
bodypositive WELLNESS CENTER

713-830-3000
215 Westheimer • Houston, TX 77006



Join us for our

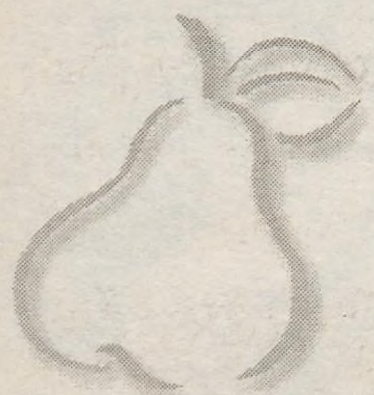
Easter Sunrise Service

Sunday, April 15th • 6:30am

Easter Services

Sunday, April 15th • 9am & 11am

2025 W. 11th St. @ T.C. Jester
713-861-9149 ♦ www.resurrectionmcc.org



Is this...

the shape you're in?
Is it the shape you want?

MUSCLE MECHANICSSM

PERSONAL TRAINING STUDIO

713.523.5330

BY APPOINTMENT. CALL NOW.

617 Richmond Avenue in Montrose

Selling your life insurance is a major decision.

When you're gay, living with HIV and thinking of selling your life insurance, shouldn't you be given a face-to-face consultation in a no-pressure, no-obligation environment? Linked Viatical Benefits is proud to be the only gay owned



3701 Kirby Drive
Suite 1036
Houston, TX 77098
(713) 528 6777

Shouldn't this option be discussed face-to-face?

LOCAL OFFICE

and operated viatical broker with a local office in Houston.

After all, we believe in providing you the personal attention you deserve and getting you the most money in the shortest time!

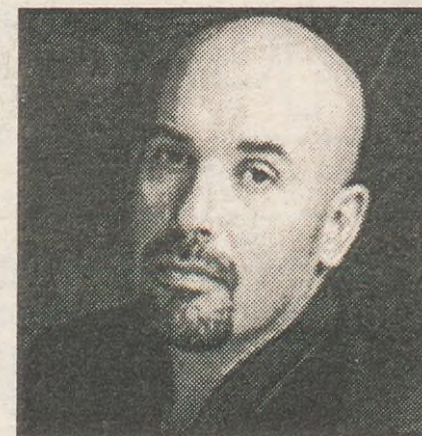


Call 1-800-275-3090

LINKED VIATICAL BENEFITS

out in music

by PATRICK ARENA



Digeridoo magic

Soma Mestizo's new CD channels Mother Nature

If the Rain Forest were music it would be **SOMA MESTIZO**. On their latest CD **PEEPSHOW**, Soma Mestizo weaves enduring magic from an unlikely combination of drums, guitar, conga, vocals and the secret ingredient of the didgeridoo.

Their cauldron simmers with trance inducing rhythms and erotic, stretched out arrangements.

The didgeridoo works as an exotic sound and as the bass figure underpinning of the music. The music draws from diverse world cultures; mostly from the hot zone. There is nothing cold or blue here. This is where heat emanates from the sternum.

Drummer Ping Ting (David Pohl) gets an incredible musical variety of sounds out of his percussion setup. He uses drums and cymbals of different pitches as compositional elements.

No mere time keeper, he uses a full palette of rhythms, accents and colors. His hands are relaxed and loose but he grabs your tailbone.

He accompanies the vocal on 'Mountain Over Mountain' with sensitivity while the conga playing by band member Soy Sos (Herman Pearl) flutters above like the butterfly in the lyric.

Credit must also go to Sos for his tender mixing talent. He allows you inside the tracks rather than hitting you in the ears with them.

Sos also cuts through with an emotional electric guitar riff at prime moments throughout the proceedings. On 'Ritual' he creates a crackly television static sounding background for the angry need of the text (I'll go out on a limb here and say that I found the rap "Klan" by Sos to be the most illuminating rap ever recorded.)

The aboriginal instrument the didgeridoo is played by Boo Boo (Eric Mason). The didgeridoo is a hollowed out branch that is blown through to produce a deep vibrating tone.

Boo Boo has one that has a sliding section that acts like a trombone to produce different pitched tone pads.

He doubles the vocal line with singer/poetess Christiane D (Christiane Leach) as she chants the title to "Trans-Europe Express." The mixing of their vibrations produces a sound that would be impossible to get even with the most sophisticated synthesizer equipment.

MARY DOLAN blows away all the other lesbian rock contenders. In spite of the inevitable comparisons to J. Joplin, Dolan has the chops and the repertoire to topple some sacred cows in queer rock and roll.



Mary Dolan has the talent to topple some sacred cows in queer rock.

She has collaborated with Rod Stewart, ex-Aerosmith guitarist, Jimmy Crespo on this album. The teaming of Crespo and Dolan pushes her through the roof.

They complement each other perfectly. Stand out cuts on **LONG WAY FROM HOME** (Earth Music/Cargo Music) include "Time Goes Bye," "76 Miles" and "Girl Who Falls In Love." "76 Miles" is one of those old, dirty, funky sex blues numbers that raises the temperature and melts guitars.

CLARK CARLTON has the warm, rich type of baritone that Elvis Presley and the Righteous Brothers had going for them. He's also an intelligent and emotional songwriter.

Masculine and sensitive, he delves into issues of gay male disillusion. That's not to say that his album **SALTWATER** is a downer.

There's a joy in hearing an out gay musician tackling the universal issues of the heart. His opening track on "Saltwater" "Matthew" is a stunner.

It's a simple and eloquent assessment of the Matthew Shepard murder. He subtly brings out the idea that this kind of hate can be about the refusal to see what is inside yourself.

"Never Be Hurt" is a weapon of defense against a cruel ex-lover and "Most of All" reveals that secret longing for the one who hurt you most of all. Carlton also shows his humorous side with his wonderfully executed parody of the California surfer sound "Boys in the Sand."

This cut is memorable for its authenticity of harmonies and instrumentation. The real fun is the lyric—it's an affectionate homage to those old Beach Boy numbers but with the queer slant.

Soma Mestizo
www.somamestizo.com
Mary Dolan
www.cargomusic.com
Clark Carlton
www.CDBaby.com

INFO



on screen

FILM, VIDEO & TV REVIEWS

by STEVE WARREN

The gays next door

Flawed films feature friendly fags in minor roles

The option has been picked up again on our 15 minutes of trendiness. Two new films have queer window dressing—one, a lovable drug dealer, and the other, one of the heroine's best friends.

BLOW tells the true (or true-ish) story of George Jung (Johnny Depp), Colombia's first major U.S. connection for distributing cocaine in the 1970s.

Jung is introduced as a federal prisoner so you'll know this is going to be a "crime does not pay" tale. He's painted as very Republican with family values for days: He loves his father, mother and daughter, and he builds his business with the ingenuity and greed of a Bill Gates.



Johnny Depp stars as drug dealer George Jung in 'Blow,' which also features Paul Reubens (above) as Jung's very queer connection.

The episodic script doesn't develop characters so much as check in with them periodically over the decades. The highs aren't high enough nor the lows low enough. While many individual scenes are good, there's no rhythm to the film—as a whole. It progresses from A to B to C, and by the time it gets to L, you know it's going to go all the way to Z without getting any better.

Penelope Cruz doesn't appear until the second half as Mirtha, who marries Jung and gives him credibility in Latin America. Ray Liotta and Rachel Griffiths age 30-some years as George's Massachusetts parents. Liotta gives it a game try, but Griffiths plays her character as a shrill yenta—and she's not even Jewish.

Paul Reubens appears as Jung's very queer connection Derek Foreal, who "owned the first male hair salon in all of Southern California." Jordi Molla (who might have been a better choice than Javier Bardem for "Before Night Falls"; at least he speaks

English intelligibly) is Colombian Diego Delgado, George's cell mate. They start importing cocaine in 1976 and have a virtual monopoly until Jung's life heads south with health, business, legal and marital problems.

"My ambition far exceeded my talent," he concludes, which could be said for most of those involved in making this film.

Although it's very different from "Traffic," going for breadth instead of depth, "Blow" is destined to be compared unfavorably to the Soderbergh film. The epic scale is too much for director Ted Demme to handle. His filming style changes almost as often as the clothing styles but not as effectively. He could have done a much better "Blow" job.

BRIDGET JONES'S DIARY, based on Helen Fielding's best-selling novel, is two movies in one: the one we are seeing and the one we're supposed to be seeing. That makes for far too much subtext in the equivalent of four sitcom episodes running back-to-back.

Bridget is described as "a verbally incontinent spinster who smokes like a chimney, drinks like a fish and dresses like her mother." Since no one wants to see a movie about an unattractive heroine, they got Renee Zellweger to pack on a few pounds and pretend to be unattractive. I'm so not fooled.

Supposedly desperately lonely, Bridget has two desirable men (Colin Firth, Hugh Grant) competing for her through most of the movie and three close friends (including James Callis as Tom, "total pouf, of course") filling her spare time. They know she can't cook but they let her throw a dinner party.

Bridget puts her foot in her mouth whenever she opens it, but instead of low self-esteem, she exudes totally unwarranted self-confidence, and her company picks her to introduce the guest of honor at an important function.

Zellweger makes a convincing Brit, and if she's not a convincing Bridget it's not her fault. She hits all her emotional marks but can't overcome the fact that the script and direction are at odds with each other.

INFO

'Bridget Jones's Diary'

★★ 1/2

Directed by Sharon Maguire

Starring Renee Zellweger, Colin Firth, Hugh Grant

Queer Quotient: Bridget's a trendy gal so of course one of her best girlfriends is a guy.

'Blow'

★★ 1/2

Directed by Ted Demme

Starring Johnny Depp, Penelope Cruz, Jordi Molla

Queer Quotient: Paul Reubens plays a stereotypical (hey, it's a period piece) gay drug dealer.

It's about you...

Our primary mission is restoring **YOUR** health and well-being. Our concern to every aspect of **YOUR** home health care needs demonstrates our *commitment* to this goal. Our pharmacists and professionals maintain open lines of communication with **YOU**, **YOUR** family, and **YOUR** physician regarding **YOUR** medications and therapy.

It's about us...

SOUTHSIDE PHARMACY-INFUSION provides Pharmaceuticals, Durable Medical Equipment Supplies and Home Health Care Services. **WE** have been providing these quality services since 1992, and **WE** are an approved provider for Texas HIV Medications Program. **WE** accept most major medical insurance assignments for PPO, HMO, Medicare, Medicaid, and most Third Party Plans.

It's about timely care...

SOUTHSIDE PHARMACY-INFUSION

Bellaire Blvd. @ Stella Link
713-660-8888 • fax 713-661-4828
sspharmacy@aol.com

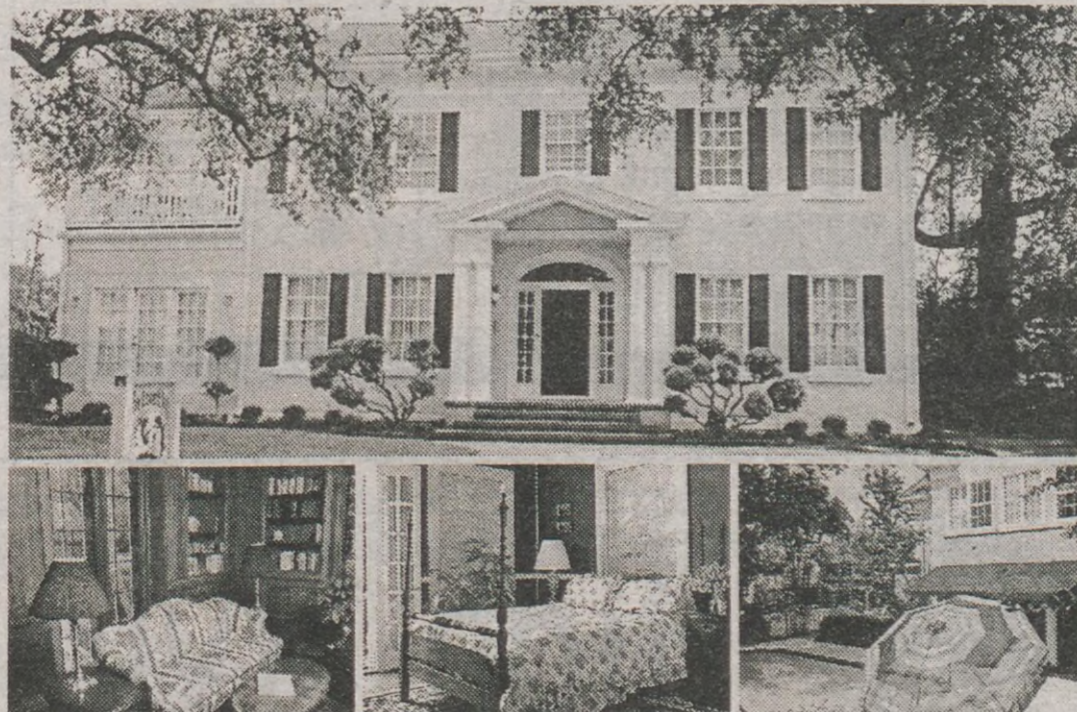
Harish D. Katharani, R.Ph.
Askari Naqvi, R.Ph.

24-HOUR IV THERAPY AVAILABLE
FREE! LOCAL, STATEWIDE,
& NATIONWIDE DELIVERY

THE LOVETT INN

Distinctive Lodging and Catering Accommodations

Call us for your next out-of-town guest!



*Historic Accommodations • Corporate Meeting Rooms
Banquet Facilities • Jacuzzi Suites • Pool/Hot Tub
Near Downtown, Museums and Medical Center*

We do catered events for up to 200 people!

501 Lovett Blvd. Houston, TX 77006

(713) 522-5224 • (800) 779-5224

Fax (713) 528-6708 • lovettinn.com

YOU'LL LOVE IT!

community

saturday, april 14

After Hours. KPFT 90.1 FM. 12 a.m. to 3 a.m. 713-526-5738.
 Q-Patrol walks the streets 8:45 p.m. 713-528-SAFE.
 Dignity mass. 7:30 p.m. for gay Catholics. 713-880-2872.
 St. Stephen's Episcopal Church. Rosary 8 a.m. 1805 W. Alabama. 713-528-6665.
 Houston Chain Gang Bicycle Club. Call for ride locations. 713-863-1860.
 Gay & Lesbian Breakfast Club. 9:30 a.m. 281-437-0636.
 Houston Wrestling Club. Practice. 1:30 p.m. 713-453-7406.
 Rainbow Fishing Club. Meeting. 713-526-7070. 713-880-9235.
 Houston Gay & Lesbian Community Center Drop-in hours noon to 4 p.m. • Positive Art Workshop Photography exhibition • Texas Association for Transsexual Support. 3 p.m. • 803 Hawthorne. 713-524-3818.
 "Reflections of the Heart & How Do We Live?" Dialogue meeting. 6:30 p.m. The Men's Gathering. Community Gospel Church. 713-880-9235
 Gulf Coast Transgender Community. Meeting. 713-780-4282.
 Asians and Friends. Bar night at Guava Lamp. 713-626-6300.

a.m. 713-686-5876.
 Gay Catholics of St. Anne's-Houston. 5 p.m. worship service. Dinner and social. alexcam@wt.net. 713-623-0930
 Thoreau Unitarian Universalist Congregation: Adult discussion 9:45 a.m. Service 11 a.m. 281-277-8882. www.tuuc.org.
 First Unitarian Universalist Church. Services at 9:30 & 11:30 a.m. Brunch available 10:30 a.m. Panel Discussion: Bisexuality. 1:30 p.m. 713-526-5200. church@firstuu.org.
 Anarchist Black Cross Federation/Anarchist Reading Group. 1 p.m. www.houstonabc.org. 713-595-2103
 Houston Tennis Club. 9 a.m. Memorial Park at the Tennis Center. 713-692-2703.
 Houston Gay & Lesbian Community Center Drop-in hours 2 to 4 p.m. • Positive Art Workshop Photography exhibition. • Pot Luck dinner. 6 p.m. • 803 Hawthorne. 713-524-3818.

monday, april 16

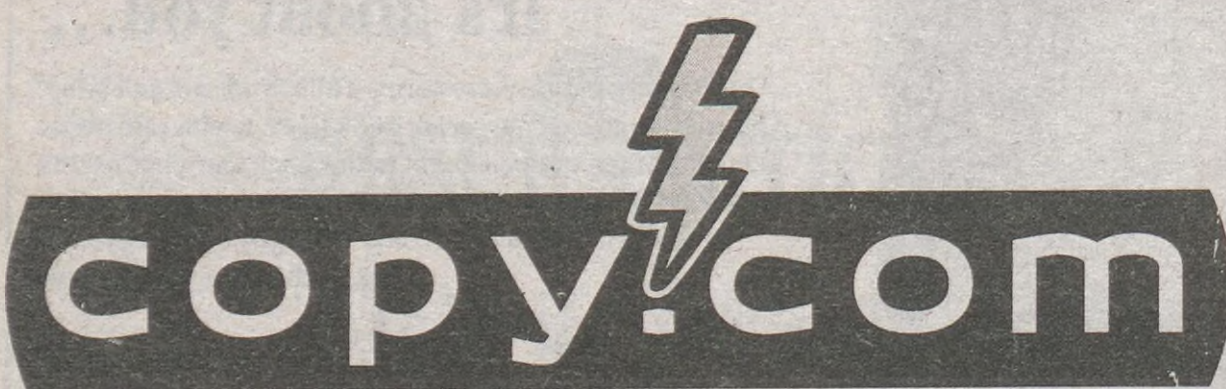
Gay Fathers/Fathers First. Support group. 8 p.m. www.GayFathers-Houston.org or 281-505-1788.
 Frost Eye Clinic. Free eye exams for people with HIV. 713-830-3000.
 HIV testing. STD Exams & treatment. Free. AVES. 1 p.m. to 6:15 p.m. 713-626-2837.
 Kolbe Project. Eucharist 7:30 p.m. 713-861-1800.
 Northwoods AIDS Coalition Food Pantry Open. 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. 936-441-1614.
 Houston Tennis Club. 9 a.m. Memorial Park at the Tennis Center. 713-692-2703.
 Lesbian & Gay Voices Radio Show. 8 to 10 p.m. KPFT 90.1. 713-529-1223.
 AIDS Mastery. 7 p.m. Montrose Counseling Center. 713-529-0107
 Grief & Divorce Support Groups. 7 p.m. Bering. 713-526-1017, Ext. 208.
 gayDAR. Wellness community. Support Group. 7 p.m. 713-526-1017, Ext. 211.
 Houston Lesbian and Gay Community Center drop-in hours from 6 to 9 p.m. • Positive Art Workshop Photography exhibition • 803 Hawthorne. 713-524-3818.

tuesday, april 17

For Mature Audiences Only. Support group. 7 p.m. Bering Memorial UMC. 713-526-1017.
 Free HIV Testing by the Montrose Clinic. 8 p.m. to midnight. Club Houston. 713-830-3000.
 Helping Cross Dressers Anonymous. Support Group. 7 p.m. 713-524-0439.
 Bering Support Network. Lunch Bunch Gang 11 a.m. 713-526-1017.

sunday april 15

Rainbow Riders. A bicycle club for women. 713-869-1686.
 St. Stephen's Episcopal Church. Holy Rite Eucharist I 7:45 a.m.; Holy Rite Eucharist II 8:55 a.m.; Education hour 10 a.m.; Choral Eucharist 11 a.m. 713-528-6665.
 Maranatha Fellowship Metropolitan Church. Service. 6:30 p.m. 713-528-6756.
 Resurrection MCC. Services. 9 a.m. and 11 a.m. Adult Sunday School 10 a.m. Youth Sunday School 11:15 a.m. Handbell Choir rehearsal 1:30 p.m. 713-861-9149.
 Grace Lutheran Church. Sunday school for all ages 9 a.m. Service 10:30 a.m. 713-528-3269.
 Community Gospel. Service at 11 a.m. & 7 p.m. Sunday School for children 10 a.m. 713-880-9235 or www.communitygospel.org.
 Houston Mission Church. Service 10:30 a.m. 713-529-8225.
 Covenant Church, Ecumenical, Liberal Baptist. Service 9:30 a.m. & education hour 11 a.m. 713-668-8830.
 Bering Memorial United Methodist Church. Services at 8:30 a.m. & 10:50 a.m. Sunday school 9:45 a.m. 713-526-1017.
 The Women's Group. Meeting & Discussion. 10:45 a.m. 713-529-8571.
 Unitarian Fellowship of Galveston County. 502 Church St. Service 10:30 a.m. 409-765-8330.
 First Congregational Church (Memorial). Service at 10 a.m. Christian Education. 11:30 p.m. 713-468-9543 or fcc-houston.org.
 Unitarian Fellowship of Houston. Adult forum 10 a.m. Service 11



Bringing you the Versatility of Digital Printing

Things we can do for you...

Make Fabulous Full-Color or B&W Business Cards including your Scanned Image or Digital Photo



Scan Images for your Web-Posting or Printing Needs

Take Your Digital Photo (or scanned traditional photo) and turn it into a wonderful Large Format Poster Display Great for Trade Shows & Conventions..

John's Personal Training
 1201 Westheimer
 555-1212
 cell 555-0000

Personal Training Info Here

WORKOUT WITH JOHN

JOHN'S PERSONAL TRAINING

FISCAL 2000 REPORT

Print Your Powerpoint Files (or other presentation files) to excellent glossy paper or transparencies for your next business presentation.

Make Beautiful Postcards or other Mail Pieces to promote your Business. We offer full color and greyscale printing on a wide variety of coated stocks.

John's Personal Training
 1201 Westheimer

GET IN SHAPE WITH JOHN. see reverse for deals

1201 Westheimer 713/528-1201

Home Sweet Home

Call 713-529-8490 For Directory Ad Sales

PRIDE cleaning

50% OFF First Cleaning
 -New Customers Only-

VISA MasterCard

RESIDENTIAL HOUSECLEANING SERVICE

New to Houston Gay Owned & Operated

- Weekly & BiWeekly
- Bonded & Insured
- Same Housekeeper

713.522.1900
 www.pridecleaning.com
 see url for on-line quote

High Style

One Low Price::

MEN'S HAIRCUT ONLY \$8.95

*SHAMPOO EXTRA

3939 MONTROSE
713-520-0005

B BAR W CONTRACTING

Interior/Exterior Painting
 Power Washing
 Carpentry
 Sheetrock Repairs
 Household Repairs
 Ceramic Tile
 Carpeting
 Vinyl Floors
 Decks
 Patio covers

Sandy Baker
 Owner/Operator
 Ph: 281-352-9252
 Email: bbarw@aol.com
 Rt. 1 Box 625-A
 Hockley, Texas 77447-9771

Detail Cleaning Service

- Residential
- Commercial
- Make Ready
- Since 1994
- Insured
- References

832.251.0723 • Cell 713.851.3425

calendar

Gay Men's Process Group. 7 p.m. 3316 Mt. Vernon. 713-526-8390.
 Men's Network. Discussion group for social, educational development of gay and bisexual men. 7 p.m. Montrose Counseling Center. 713-529-0037.
 Northwoods AIDS Coalition Food Pantry Open. 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. 281-633-2555.
 CPR Classes. 3 p.m. 713-607-7700.
 Houston Lesbian and Gay Community Center drop-in hours 6 to 9 p.m. • Positive Art Workshop Photography exhibition. • Lesbian Coming Out Group. 7 p.m. • 803 Hawthorne. 713-524-3818.

wednesday, april 18

Free HIV Testing. Thomas Street Clinic. 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. 2015 Thomas Street 713-793-4026.
 STD Exams & treatment. HIV Testing. Free. AVES. Free. AVES. 713-626-2837.
 Free HIV Testing by the Montrose Clinic. 4 p.m. to 8 p.m. Mary's, Venture-N & EJ's. 713-830-3000.
 BiNet Houston. 7:30 p.m. Women's Social. 713-467-4380
 Women's Network. Montrose Counseling Center Discussion group for social, educational development of gay and bisexual women. 7 p.m. Montrose Counseling Center. 713-529-0037.
 Northwoods AIDS Coalition Food Pantry open. 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. 936-441-1614.
 Project: Caesar. Workshops. AFH. 3203 Wesleyan. 713-623-6796.
 Out Skate Rollerskating Club. 8 to 10 p.m. 8075 Cook Road. 281-933-5818.
 Rainbow Ranglers free C&W dance lessons. Brazos River Bottom. 7 p.m. 713-880-0670.
 Study. Noon & 6:30 p.m. St. Stephen's Episcopal. 713-526-0899.
 Spiritual Uplift service. 7 p.m. Bible Study 7:30 p.m. Resurrection MCC. 713-861-9149.
 Freelance Art Classes by Kermit Eisenhut for HIV+ individuals. 1 to 4 p.m. Lunch provided. 713-523-9530.
 Houston Tennis Club. 9 a.m. Memorial Park at the Tennis Center. 713-692-2703.
 Lesbian Literature Discussion Group. 7 p.m. 713-523-3037.
 Houston Pride Band. Open rehearsal. 1307 Yale. 713-527-0931. www.houstonprideband.org.
 Bering Memorial United Methodist Church. Dinner at 6:30 p.m. Various Support Groups 7 p.m. 713-526-1017.
 Houston Lesbian and Gay Community Center drop-in hours 6 to 9 p.m. • Positive Art Workshop Photography exhibition • Free HIV testing by the Montrose Clinic 6 to 9 p.m. • 713-524-3818.

thursday, april 19

Gay Men's Chorus of Houston. Open rehearsal. 7 p.m. 4807 San Felipe. 713-521-7464.
 Rainbow Ranglers free C&W dance lessons. Brazos River Bottom. 7 p.m. 713-880-0670.
 Hep C Recovery. Support Group. 6:30 p.m. Bering. 713-526-1017, Ext. 211.
 STD Exams & treatment. Free. AVES. 713-626-2837.
 Free HIV Testing by the Montrose Clinic. 8 p.m. to midnight. Toyz Disco. 713-830-3000.
 Northwoods AIDS Coalition Food Pantry open. 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. 281-633-2555.
 Lambda Skating Club skates. 8 p.m. Tradewinds. Skating Rink. www.lambdaroll.org. 713-410-7215.
 FrontRunners. Running Club. 6:30 p.m. 713-522-8021.
 HIV Art Course Program. 1 to 4 p.m. Kermit Eisenhut. 713-524-9530.
 Women's Clinic. Montrose Clinic. 713-830-3000.
 Community Gospel. Service. 7:30 p.m. 713-880-9235 or www.communitygospel.org.
 HIV Testing. Free. AVES. 713-626-2837.
 Houston Lesbian and Gay Community Center drop-in hours 6 to 9 p.m. • Positive Art Workshop Photography exhibition • PowerDates4Men. • 6:30 p.m. • 803 Hawthorne. 713-524-3818.

friday, april 20

Houston Area Teen Coalition of Homosexuals (H.A.T.C.H.) Meeting. 713-942-7002.
 Free HIV Testing by the Montrose Clinic. 10 p.m. to 1 a.m. Rich's. 713-830-3000.
 STD Exams & treatment. Free. AVES. 713-626-2837.
 Frost Eye Clinic. Free eye exams for people with HIV. 713-830-3000.
 Q-Patrol walks the streets. 9 p.m. 713-528-SAFE.
 Kolbe Project. Morning Prayer. 10 a.m. 713-861-1800.
 Houston Tennis Club. 9 a.m. Memorial Park at the Tennis Center. 713-692-2703.
 Positive Art Workshop. 1 p.m. to 4 p.m. Patrick Palmer. 713-526-1118.
 Lesbian and Gay Voices. KPFT 90.1 FM. 7 p.m. 713-526-5738.
 Houston Lesbian and Gay Community Center drop-in hours 6 p.m. to 9 p.m. • Positive Art Workshop Photography exhibition. • Hawthorne Men's Club • 803 Hawthorne. 713-524-3818.

To list an event, call Carolyn Roberts at 713-529-8490, fax at 713-529-9531, or e-mail editor@houstonvoice.com. Deadline is Friday at 5 p.m.

Professional Services

Call 713-529-8490 for Directory Ad Sales

EMBE Mail Boxes Etc. Rice Village

U.S. Postal Service Retailer
 Crating
 On-Site Packing
 Freight Shipping
 FedEx • U.P.S. • DHL
 Pick Up Service
 International & Domestic Shipping

2476 Bolsover • Houston, TX 77005
 (713)529-4132

Division of Brooks Bullard Industries, Inc.

stansellshomes.com
 Search the entire Houston MLS from one location!

STAN FORD
 713-443-3333

Each office is independently owned and operated.
COLDWELL BANKER
 SWILLEY-HUDSON

LAWRENCE CONSTRUCTION

Carpentry • Repairs
 • Remodeling •

936.563.5180 / 281.948.4189
Lawrence Gilstrap
 Serving Houston's Gay Community for 15 years

FASTCASH

We buy anything of value!
 Antiques, Estates, Furniture, Collectibles,
 Jewelry, Automobiles, and Glassware.

BUY • SELL • CONSIGN
 Highest Prices Paid for anything of value!!

713-994-5986 pgr.
 281-391-7515

CHIROPRACTOR
 Dr. Richard W. Fletcher

- Neck/Back Pain
- Auto/Work Injury
- Medicare/Medicaid

1245 Yale • 713-862-3897
 In The "Heights" at 13th & Yale
(Yale is 1 Block West of and parallel to HEIGHTS BLVD.)

Appointments: Monday-Saturday
 Se Habla Espanol

houston voice

COME TO THE TABLE



A Sanctuary for Soul & Spirit
 Join Us Easter Sunday, April 15th for Services at
 Sunrise - 6:30 a.m., 8:30 a.m. or 10:50 a.m.

BERING MEMORIAL UNITED METHODIST CHURCH
 Rev. Marilyn Mecker-Williams, Senior Pastor
 1440 Harold Street at Mulberry • Houston, TX 77006 • 713.526.1017 • www.beringumc.org

Your Community Insurance Agency!

Experience.
 Professionalism.
 Courteous Service!

For Home, Health & Auto Insurance

Rob Schmerler & Staff
 713.661.7700 6575 W. Loop South Suite 185 Bellaire, Texas 77401
 Business Insurance • Workers Compensation • Group Health • Life Insurance & much more



Classifieds

Announcements

TGRA

Texas Gay Rodeo Associations meeting and BBQ May 6 2 p.m. New members welcome • Call Michael 713.523.7663.

Automotive Services

Houston Auto Spa

Complete auto detail at your home or at our shop • Friendly, professional and dependable service by appointment • Call today 713.922.1999

Employment

800 PACIFIC

Houston's top gay nightclubs are now accepting applications for managers, management trainees, bartenders door and floor staff. Offering Houston's best benefits package, including group health insurance.

JR.'s BAR & GRILL MONTROSE MINING CO.

Is looking for honest, self-motivated and customer service-oriented individuals who want to join a winning team. To join our family of clubs, apply Wednesday through Friday between 1 pm and 5 pm at

804 & 808 Pacific
A recent photo is required.
NO PHONE CALLS, PLEASE.

MILAM HOUSE

Housing assistance needed for transitional living program • Knowledge in the areas of HIV/AIDS, substance abuse (recovery) preferred • Fax resume to 713.522.2674.

ROMAN HAIR SALON

Independent cosmetology Barber stylist to lease space • Montrose area • Frank 713.522.8576 • Very reasonable.

BERING MEMORIAL UMC

Church-based AIDS Spiritual Support Network serving a diverse community including GLBT and minorities seeks Program Director. Qualifications: Creative, dynamic professional with experience in community outreach, GROUP and individual counseling program development and management • LPC or MSW-ACP preferred. Interested individuals should forward resume and qualifications to: Bering Memorial UMC, c/o COSM, 1440 Harold, Houston, Texas 77006. • No phone calls please.

OPERATIONS MANAGER

High Linen Rental company seeks Operations Manager with demonstrated track record, attention to detail, sewing and Spanish knowledge a plus. Fax resume to 713.522.4876.

CLUB NSOMNIA

Now hiring part time floor help • Please cal 713.521.1613

DO YOU BELIEVE WOMEN HAVE NO LIMITS? WE DO!

Looking for part-time sales reps • Call 713.805.6709 • Visit us at www.courageouschicks.com

PACIFIC STREET

Now accepting applications for all positions • Apply in person at 710 Pacific • Monday-Friday, 11am-3pm • Recent photo required • No phone calls please

EJ's

Now accepting applications for Bartenders, Barbacks, Clean-Up and Door Security • Applications accepted Monday through Friday, 2:00-4:00 pm onoly • Recent photo helpful • Absolutely no phone calls, please • Apply in person at 2517 Ralph

MIDTOWN SPA HOUSTON

Apply in person • Start at \$6.50 per hour

CHANCE OF A LIFETIME SOUTH BEACH

Now accepting resumes/applications • Preliminary screening for potential positions as Management Trainees • DJs/VJs • Lighting Technicians • Promotions/Marketing for a multi-million dollar dance club in Houston • Experienced, interested persons call Jim McDermaid at 713.521.0107 M-W-F, 1-5 PM • Additional information 713.529.SOB

Nightingale ADC offers free employment assistance to HIV+ individuals • Including job preparedness training, resume development, job search assistance • For more informations call 713.981.1543

The Club Houston is now accepting applicatins for Certified Personal Trainers • Apply in person at 2205 Fannin or at www.the-clubs.com

FULL TIME RECEPTIONIST

Candidate must be well-organized, detail oriented, computer literate, have a courteous phone demeanor and be able to work in a fast-paced service company • Knowledge of QuickBooks and MSWord is essential • Smoke free environment • Please fax resume to 713.524.2643 • Monday through Friday, 8am to 5pm

RESIDENTIAL CLEANING SERVICE

Looking for bilingual supervisor trainee • Must be honest and hardworking with lots of energy • Good appearance, car and references a must • Perfection Plus Services, since 1989 • 713.895.2766

Licensed Massage

LET YOURSELF GO
Relax to an hour of Swedish massage • RMT #013700 • Dewayne • 713.521.0654.

MANSSAGE

Do your self a favor • Effective, therapeutic, relaxing or deep tissue • Don't settle for the less! • What are you waiting for? RMT # 4397. Tom 713.520.6018.

PATRICK!

Swedish massage by Patrick • Relaxation, Myotherapy, Deep Tissue • (MT#024589) • 713.807.7109 • 1-1/2 hours \$50

ABODYTOUCH.COM

Experienced Man4Man Massage • Sports • Swedish • Deep Tissue • Erotic • Mature, Strong, Tanned (RMT) • Evenings & Incalls Only • Mature Clients Welcome! • 713.914.0833

MASSAGE THERAPY

Therapeutic & Deep Tissue by JASON • (RMT#18436) • 713.863.8888 • PAGER 713.908.8020

MASSAGE THERAPY AT IT'S FINEST!

Swedish • Deep Tissue • Sports • Reflexology • Don't settle for less • In/Out, Hotels, 7 Days • Nationally certified • Jeff (RMT#016074 • 713.825.4062

JOB STRESS?

Tough workouts? • Call now to make your appointment for a relaxing, therapeutic Swedish massage • Bodybuilder & Licensed Massage Therapist • Randal #005930 • 713.529.3348

FOR ACTIVE MEN

Your time for personal attention! • Full Body Swedish Massage • Jose #17316 • 713.397.8286

Moving Services

www.ahoustonmover.com
Chuck French
TXDOT#534438B
713.861.1212 • 281.536.8530

Products & Services

• We Let the Big Dog Out!! • Custom leather by appointment • 713.880.2628 • www.bigdogleather.com •

NO HEALTH INSURANCE?

Save Up To 50% On Prescription Drugs • Save Up To 80% On Dental • www.hp.horizons.com • 281.610.4417.

Rent to Own 50" Big Screen TVs • Staring at \$29.99 a week • 1.800.774.4553.

EROTIC WEAR!

Huge variety of men's sexy wear at Basic Brothers • 1232 Westheimer • 713.522.1626 • www.eroticcattire.com

Professional Services

TOP CHOICE

Town Car service • Airport transfers from \$52. Hourly rates available • Call Frank • 713.494.4023.

RAINBOW COMPUTER SERVICE

Computer Not Performing? Need A Little Help with Set Up? Call Jim • 713.880.0072.

PRESSURE WASHING

Driveways • Walkways • Patios • Brick & More! • Call Jason • 713.863.8888 • Pager 713.908.8020

LANDSCAPING

Spring Beds • Shrubs • Color • Reasonable • 713.861.9949
Intuitive Counseling! • Reiki Master Teacher Bill O'Rourke uses Reiki, Tarot, Role Playing and Guided Meditation (and teaching same) to help you! • 713.864.2233

Residential Cleaning • House Sitting • Pet Sitting - "Pets love their own home, even when you can't be there." • Established 1995 • Call Loyal 713.942.8816

BODY WAXING FOR MEN

Personal grooming by Dale • Waxing specialist & licensed Cosmetologist • Private Location in Montrose • Call for appointment 713.529.5952.

Office Space for Lease

Commercial property with apartment • Corner lot in Montrose • All or part • By owner • 713.882.1913.

Office for rent

Second-floor office available immediately at Houston Lesbian & Gay Community Center, 803 Hawthorne at Stanford. Dimensions are 14' x 12'6". Nonprofit glbt organization preferred as tenant partners but all inquiries are welcomed. Contact Tim Brookover for rate and details. 713.524.3818, brookover@ev1.net
For Lease • 1700 sq.ft. • Great Heights location • Call 713.443.9494

Real Estate for Rent

ALL NEW!

• Near Intercontinental Airport
• Value packed apartment homes for the luxury shopper
• Please call us today for information on our outstanding specials

281-820-9342

www.cityview-apts.com



WESTBURY GARDENS CONDOS

FOR SALE

2/1 condos up & down in European setting • 1) tastefully refurbished w/Spanish floor tile, ceramic kitchen counters and floor tile • New light fixtures, switch plates, kitchen & bath faucets, Bath accessories in Oak, kitchen door disposal, toilet, stackable W/D, blinds • Security doors with screens • Must see to appreciate • 868 Sq. Feet • \$42,000. • 2) 844 Sq. Ft • Inside AC, outside compressor • Refrigerator about 2 years old • Ceramic tile in bath • Similar in floor plan to the above condo, but without the elaborate refurbishing • \$29,000 • Has been a rental, needs owner TLC • 3) 1 downstairs • 868 Sq. Ft • Ceramic tile in kitchen • Side by side refrigerator • Has been a rental unit • \$29,000

FOR LEASE

Small 1b condo in Spanish Courtyard • \$450 Sq. feet. \$400-\$450 per month.

Call Lyn, on-site Agent, for a showing

713-729-9316

CHERRYHURST

Spacious up-dated 2/1 Garage apartment • Hardwood • \$700 plus equal deposit • Water included • No pets • 281.493.1455.

For Rent

2 condos 2/1 • pool area • Westbury Town Homes • Covered parking • Access gates • central ac/heat • gay friendly • available May 1 • 713.721.2011

Heights Duplex

One bedroom • one bath • hardwood floors • carport • central ac/heat • water paid • \$650/mo plus deposit • 713.864.0039

HEIGHTS CONDO

2/2 Heights condo in roommate floorplan w/fireplace, w/d, 2-tone paint & berber carpet • Gated property w/ pool & covered parking • Over 1000 sqft for only \$950/mo • Call Bob at 713-520-8888

FOR RENT

1/1 in European setting with washer/dryer, covered parking, large pool • \$525/mo + deposit & electricity • Call 713.721.0763

MARVELOUS MONTROSE FABULOUS FIFTIES

One or two bedroom apartment in quiet little complex with large closets, on-site laundry, security gate, excellent location • Nice updated interiors • \$525-\$675 + bills, lease & deposit • No dogs • 509 West Main • Call to see 713.919.0462

Roommates

Housemate wanted • \$500/mo, all bills paid • No lease • Nice home near Med Center & universities • References required • 713.303.4238

GWM wants same to share apartment in Montrose • \$450 + 1/2 bills • Laundry room, private pool, deck • 281-831-8291

SPRING

Need roommate to share large 3 bedroom house with many amenities, private backyard, off street parking • \$425/mo + shared utilities • Avail. 4/1/01 • I'm temporarily in Connecticut, please call 860.229.1508, 860.402.8889

HOUSEMATE

\$395/mo w/free utilities, laundry & parking • Montrose/Heights • Private entrance • Furnished bedroom/bathroom • Deck & jacuzzi • (Part time job available) • 713.861.2308

WILLOWBROOK AREA

Share 3/2 home with kitchen and laundry priviledges • \$400/mo + utilities • Call 281.897.9840

Easygoing, responsible, professional male wants same to share 2/2 apartment in Inner Loop • 713.986.8316 leave msg

Travel

Hollywood @ Galveston

The Island's 1st Gay Resort
Clothing Optional • Complimentary Breakfast/Happy Hour • Seawall at 31st • 409.750.8900 • 1.888.899.0899 • www.galveston.com/hollywood

How long has it been since you've been to Paradise Guest House

Accepting Reservations

409-762-6677

TOLL FREE 1-877-919-6677

2317 Ave. P • Galveston

www.galveston.com/paradise

email: paradise@galveston.com

www.lovetinn.com.

Wanted To Buy

FAST CASH

We buy anything of value
713.882.1913

Occasions

Birthdays

Classic Chassis Car Club members Dr. Greg (4/46), John I. (4/17) Charles T. (4/17) and Phil W. (4/20) are living in the fast lane for their birthdays this week.

Houston Area Bear John S. claws away his birthday on April 17.

Asians and Friends member Glen D. will be celebrating his birthday on April 15.

The sinfully sexy Ruby (Kevin) Stone is looking for her birthday gem on April 15.

Bartender Byron toasts his birthday on April 18.

Anniversaries

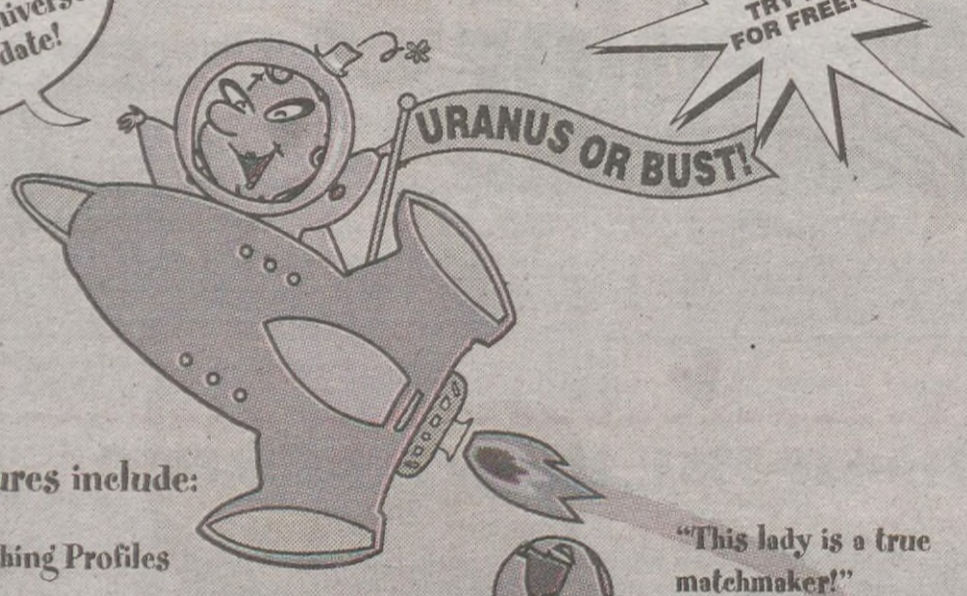
The most delightful couple in our community, Dot Thompson and Jeanette Vaught, smile in another year together on April 17.



Our pet of the week is SamSin, shown here with his owner Houston Voice delivery guy Bubba Tom. SamSin will be celebrating his 4th birthday this week.

A LOVE ODYSSEY

Doll!
You don't have to search the universe to find a date!



TRY IT FOR FREE!

Edwina Features include:

- Multiple Matching Profiles
- Multiple Photos
- Private Photos
- More Matching Control
- Improved Mail Features

"This lady is a true matchmaker!"

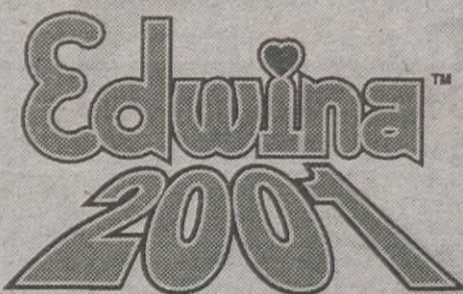
- Southern Voice

"America's favorite dating dowager"

- Next, NYC

"Look out Cupid, Edwina's in charge now!"

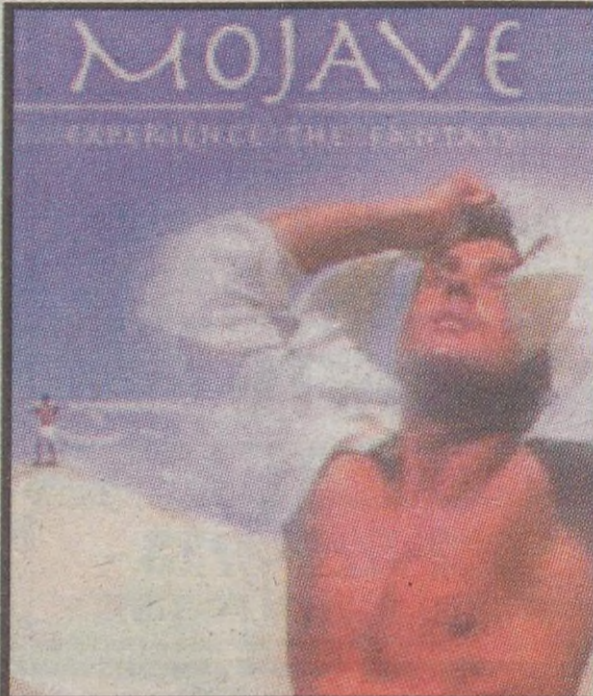
- CyberSocket



www.edwina.com

The Funnest Lesbian and Gay Online Dating Service in the Galaxy!

Edwina and Edwina character are trademarks of Mediapolis, Inc.



We're having a heatwave.

10% Productions is the source for tastefully erotic DVDs and videos - at unbeatable prices.

At Crossroads Market you'll find a wide array of 10% videos as well as greeting cards and photo-magnets for special occasions or just for fun.

Crossroads Market
BOOKSTORE & CAFE

1111 Westheimer Road, Houston
(713) 942-0147

your voice on the web



WWW.

houston VOICE

.COM

River Oaks Chrysler-Plymouth Jeep
www.riveroakschrysler.com

Second Chance Financing Available



For a Hassle-Free Auto Loan Apply by Phone

e-mail: preowned@riveroakschrysler.com

Houston's most conveniently located dealer, serving the community for over 30 years!
— Family Owned & Operated —

713.831.1578 • fax: 713.831.1513
4807 Kirby Dr. @ Southwest Freeway

My Stars!

by JILL DEARMAN



YOUR WEEKLY HOROSCOPE

April 13 - 19



ARIES (MARCH 21—APRIL 20)

This is a great time for you to look someone in the eye and say, "I could be the best thing that ever happened to you," or a more subtle variation on this theme. A Taurus may care for you a little too much, but I think you'll enjoy that sexy brand of obsession.



TAURUS (APRIL 21—MAY 20)

Your ruler, Venus, could be drawing old lovers back home to roost. It's time for you to settle the score—by not settling the score. Play it safe as you enter your solar birthday season. The first present you receive may come in the form of a very generous Virgo. It's okay to be greedy, sweetie.



GEMINI (MAY 21—JUNE 21)

You need to find a balance between fun and responsibility, my darling. Mercury (your ruler) is moving closer to Mars in your house of love, so please open up your heart and your mouth. Say how you feel to that special Cancer.



CANCER (JUNE 22—JULY 22)

The Sun moves into your career house on April 20, which means you could benefit from a few well-connected friends and colleagues. Remember that you are an emotional creature who is allowed to have moods! Let yourself be a little kooky and unpredictable. A Libra will just have to deal!



LEO (JULY 23—AUG. 22)

The moon will conjunct Venus in your fun and adventurous ninth house on April 20. So do something a little daring to grab the attention of the one you dig. Make the most of a freelance opportunity that could change your career. People may not appreciate you where you are, but outsiders seem to know you're hot property. So does an Aquarius.



VIRGO (AUG. 23—SEPT. 22)

Careerwise, you have to decide: Do you want to do one thing or the exact opposite? Forget about balance. It's commitment and perseverance that count now. Think deeply about whom you really want to shack up with for the long haul. Let your eyes wander in a Capricorn's direction.



LIBRA (SEPT. 23—OCT. 22)

Make the most of your excess charm and "do-ability" from the 16th to the 19th. You are sure to catch the eye of someone who wants to take care of you. Take this time to express in words what you want from your primary relationship. An Aries wants to be your number one.



SCORPIO (OCT. 23—NOV. 21)

Finish up tedious work projects before the 19th, when the Sun moves into your love sector. You won't want to take work to bed then, baby! Don't push a Taurus too hard. You have to give other people a little bit of control once in awhile.



SAGITTARIUS (NOV. 22—DEC. 21)

Ask yourself, "Why do I feel so upset?" You are in need of some changes in your home life. Why do you waste time on unreliable, cruel-intentioned folk? This is the time to clean up your act. Hire a Capricorn as your no-nonsense maid/houseboy!



CAPRICORN (DEC. 22—JAN. 19)

Do be cautious when dealing with creative types. You may be looked at as more of an "authority figure" than you want to be. Finish an artistic project that you started a year or two ago. Now's the time to put all your passion into something you feel great love for. A Scorpio feels all of that and more for you.



AQUARIUS (JAN. 20—FEB. 18)

Venus in your social sector makes this a light-hearted, fun time for you if you are willing to maintain your sense of humor and sense of Zen. Don't let a depressed friend or sometime lover drag you down. Be compassionate but keep a few boundaries. A Sag may want more than you can give right now.



PISCES (FEB. 19—MARCH 20)

You are about to make some extra dough if you are willing to put all your energy into something that is frustrating now but can really pay off later. If you are unsure about whether you can trust someone, err on the side of caution. An Aquarius may need time alone to sort out his or her feelings. Give yourself more time, too.

Jill Dearman is the author of "Queer Astrology for Men" and "Queer Astrology for Women." For information on charts and consultations, call 212-841-0177 or e-mail QScopes@aol.com.

ON YOUR NEXT VISIT TO HOUSTON

Stay with us! Montrose Inn

A 7-ROOM ALL-GAY B&B

We're right *IN* the neighborhood.

And priced right!

Queen bed, cable TV, phone. Walk to 15 gay bars.

408 AVONDALE

800-357-1228

713-520-0206

montroseinn.com

Body, Mind and Spirit

Call 713-529-8490 for
Directory Ad Sales



MASSAGE
IT'S A MAN'S TIME

Roland RMT#15213

713-942-2399

Montrose Location
7 Days/Evenings
Visa/MC
Outcalls Welcome

Lounge Wear . Thongs

Novelties . Lubricants . Oils

New DVD'S
Buy 1 get 1 Free

Adult Videos
2 for \$19.90

One Hour XXX
Photo Lab

Σrōs 1207
A Boutique

713-944-6010

1207 Spencer Highway, at the corner
of Allen Genoa, 15 minutes south of
downtown Houston, I-45 so., Exit at
College/Airport, go east three miles

Swim Wear . Club Wear

Enhancement Tools . Leather

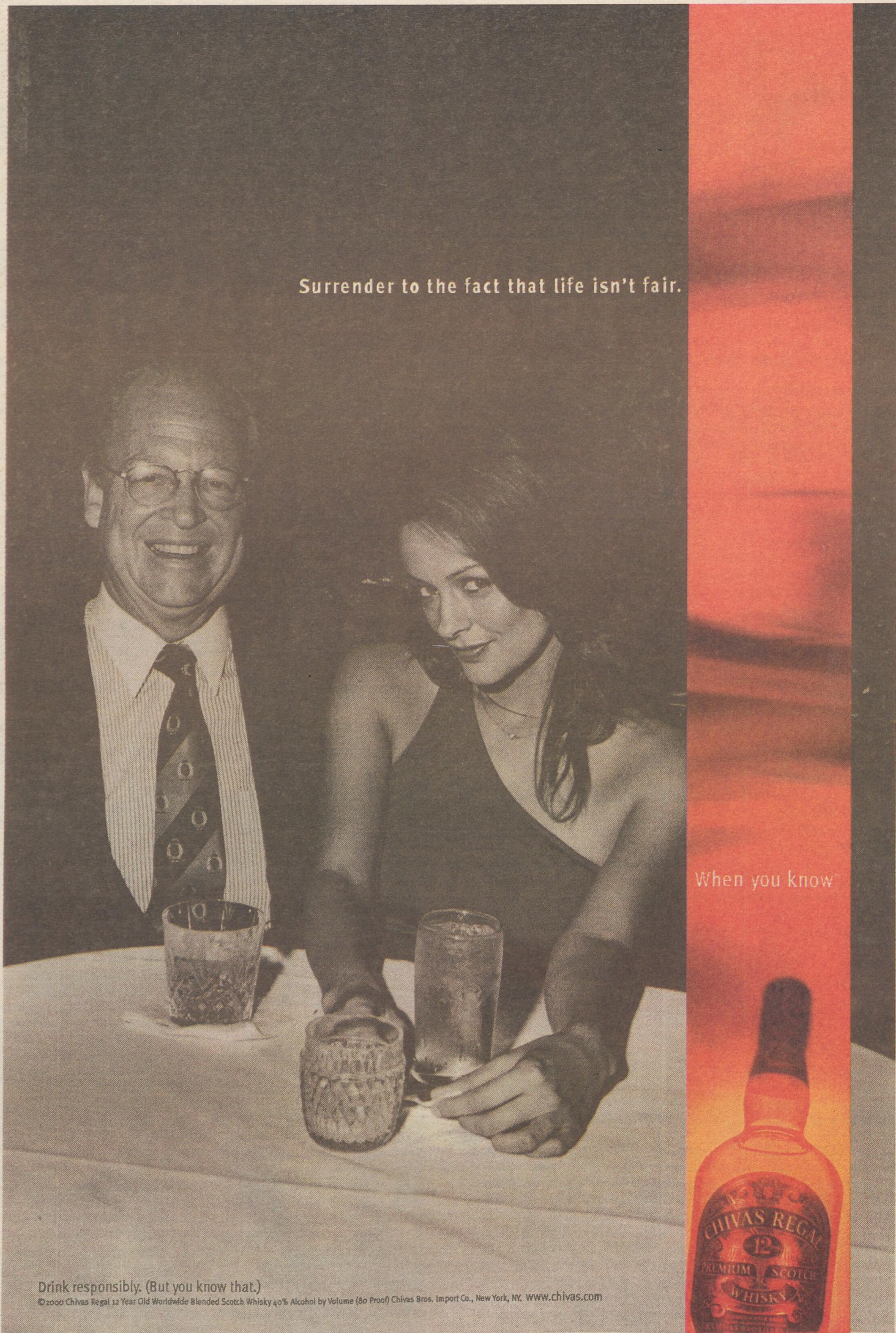
if your hair
isn't **BECOMING** to you,
you should **BE COMING** to

DON GILL
STUDIO 911
713-521-0911
BY APPOINTMENT ONLY

Penis-Enlargement.net

FDA Approved vacuum
pumps/surgical. Gain 1-3".
Permanent & safe. Enhance
erection. FREE Brochures!
Latest enlargement info:
(312)409-9995 or
900-976-PUMP (\$2.95/min.)

Surrender to the fact that life isn't fair.



When you know



Drink responsibly. (But you know that.)

©2000 Chivas Regal 12 Year Old Worldwide Blended Scotch Whisky 40% Alcohol by Volume (80 Proof) Chivas Bros. Import Co., New York, NY. www.chivas.com