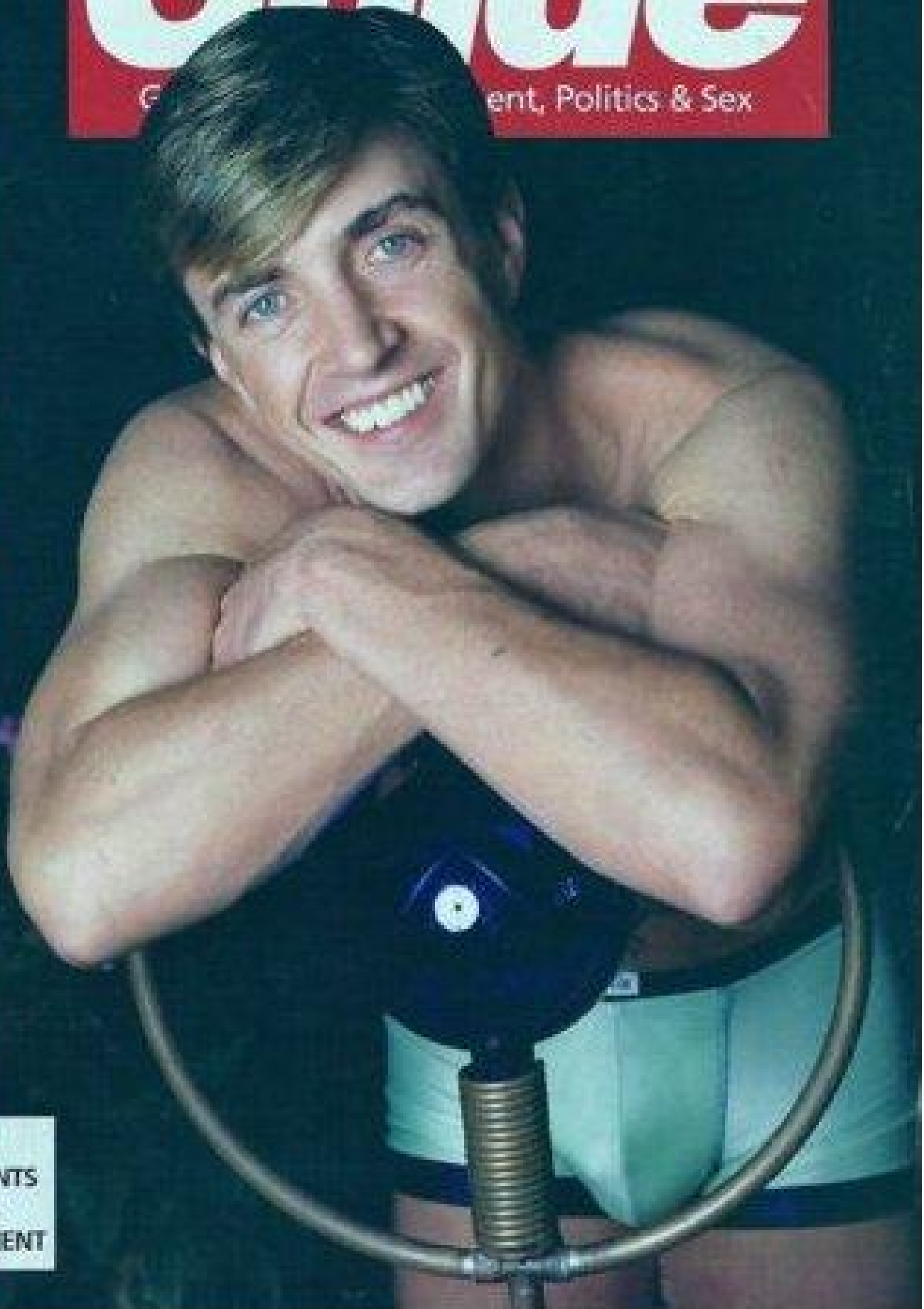


Houston • Dallas • Austin • San Antonio  
Provincetown • Sitges • plus Why Dr. Laura Makes Us Gag

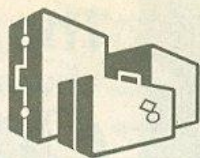
# The Guide

ent, Politics & Sex



MAY 2000

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# Texas

Houston • Dallas • Austin • San Antonio

**B**ig associates well with Texas, be it giant margaritas, swash-buckling alligator boots, ten-gallon cowboy hats, huge entertainment venues, or simply the size of the Lone Star State itself. The number of gay people here is no mean statistic either. Texas pockets three of the 10 largest cities in the union (Houston, Dallas, and San Antonio), and the close relation between sprawling urban areas and spawning gay communities needs little corroboration.

## Houston

Houston supports a large, variegated gay community concentrated in the megalopolis's Montrose area.

### Bars, clubs, and more

**JR's Bar and Grill** (804 Pacific) and **Santa Fe Bar and Patio** (808 Pacific) boast dual atmospheres in one big facility. These supremely party bars tout the latest in videos music, karaoke, and colon-bruising strippers. **Montrose Mining Company** (805 Pacific), across the street, is for cowboys, leathermen, and their friends. The tropical patio with a full service bar is the life of the party. And watch out for **South Beach**

(810 Pacific Street) a high-tech, state of the art dance club with a South Beach flair, slated to open this summer.

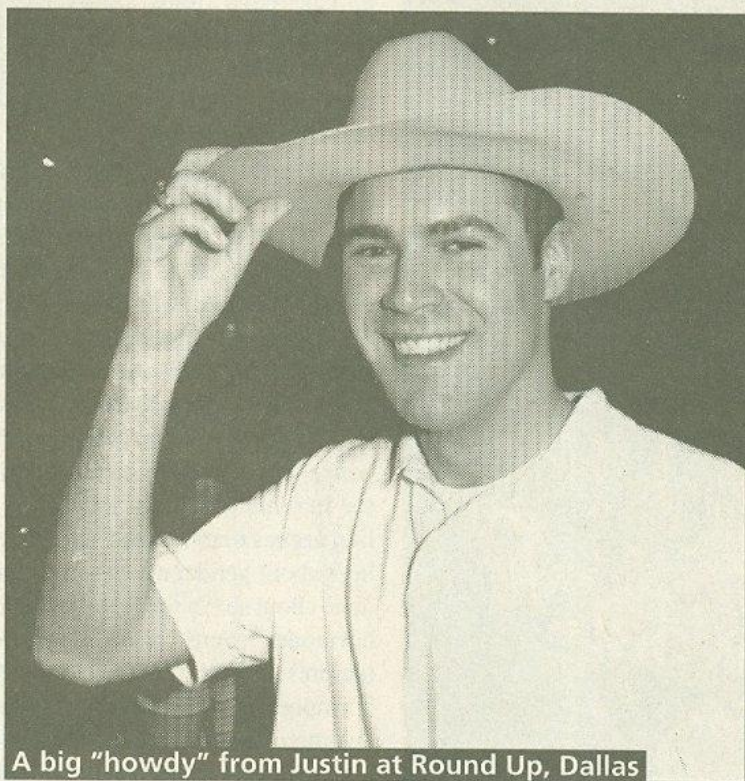
It's avowedly a Levi-and-leather club, but **Pacific Street** (710 Pacific Street) has attractions in store for ev-

(2715 Ralph Street, at Westheimer), but the place fills up with almost every pretty face in town, lending it a local endorsement. The twice-weekly strip shows, drink specials, slot machines, pool, outdoor patio, friendly bartenders, and plenty of free parking explain the bar's continued popularity. On weekends, EJ's dance floor gets rowdy.

Step in at **Mary's** (1022 Westheimer), a seemingly cozy watering hole from the outside, and you'll discover a surprisingly large bar including a large patio and outdoors in the rear. Now in its 30th year—a party's earmarked on May 29th—it is the oldest gay bar in Houston and home to Sundance Cattle Company, Lancers MC (Houston), Wolfpack, Texas Leather and Lace, plus Texas Renegades. Open 7am through 2am, happy hour runs from 7am to 9pm Monday through Friday, with varying dai-

ly specials. At their Sunday Brunch from 10am to 2pm, avail of made to order omelets with hash browns, fruit, and more, not to mention \$1 mimosas.

**The Ripcord** (715 Fairview) is dark and mysterious, and caters to leather, Levi, and uniform aficiona-

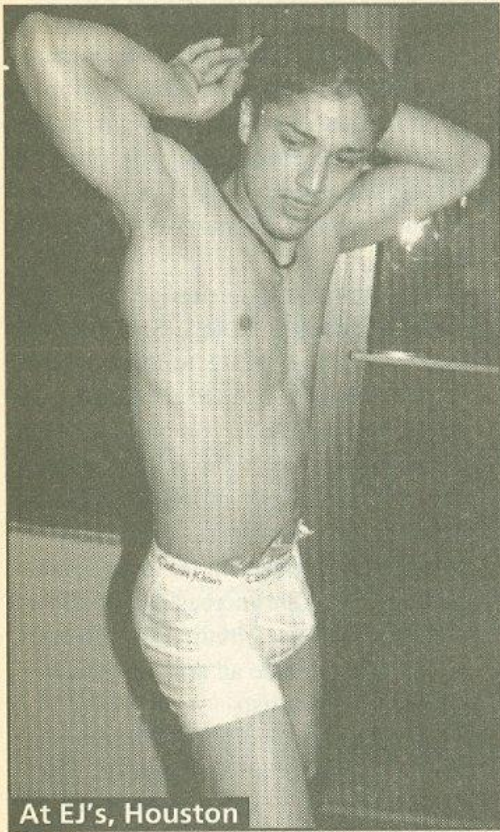


A big "howdy" from Justin at Round Up, Dallas

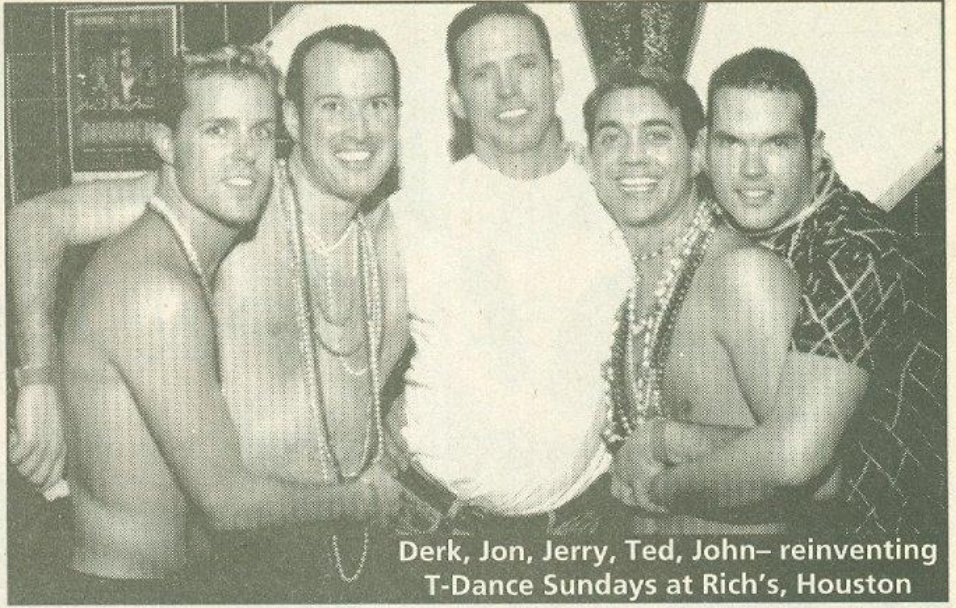
eryone, every night—starting with the caged strippers! Drinks are the cheapest around, and the laser show can be best described as groovy. An outdoor patio is a plus, as is the resounding bass music.

There's nothing fancy about **EJ's**

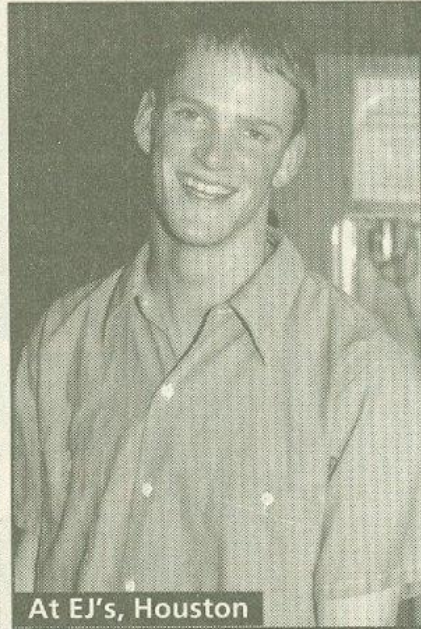
TEXAS



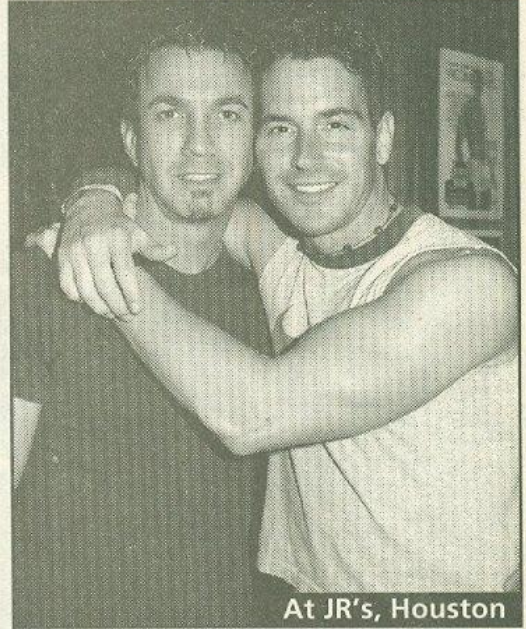
At EJ's, Houston



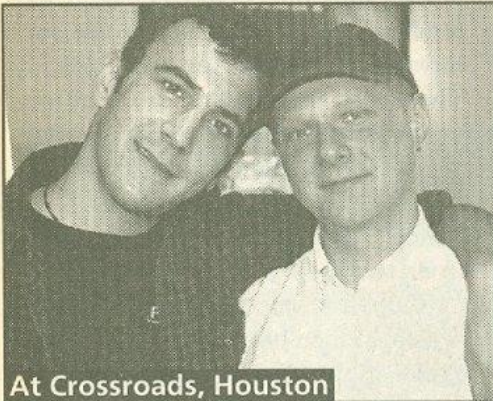
Derk, Jon, Jerry, Ted, John- reinventing T-Dance Sundays at Rich's, Houston



At EJ's, Houston



At JR's, Houston



At Crossroads, Houston



At Club Houston



At Venture-N, Houston

dos. After-hours on weekends are regular treats. Mondays here mean martinis and lava lamps. A leather shop on premises is open till 2am— an added convenience. Impending attractions at Ripcord include: “Bare As You Dare Night” around Memorial Day weekend.

A community-oriented management at **Rich’s** (2401 San Jacinto) makes for a sterling temple of club cruise. This is Houston’s largest entertainment club, open Thursday through Sunday. The well-thronged dance floor is gay-mobbed on Saturdays, with varying ratios of gay-to-straight-to-curious on the other nights. Sunday nights are increasingly well trod thanks to groovy circuit DJs. Upstairs, the lounges include an area featuring exhibits by local artists.

Three bars and a patio contribute to the sexiness at **Venture-N** (2923 Main Street), a leather-and-Levi cruise spot that employs butch bartenders. Drink specials from noon through 7pm make for undiluted joy. There’s even a leather store on premises, open weekends.

**Brazos River Bottom** (2400 Brazos) has a large dance floor, upon which its country-and-western patrons two-step and square-dance.

**Guava Lamp** (2159 Portsmouth) is a chic video bar with a 21-ish crowd every night. Wednesdays and Sundays nights are Karaoke nights but there are nightly drink specials to bait the young ’uns. Their annex next door is an upscale dance bar.

**Briar Patch** (2294 West Holcombe, at Greenbriar) is one of the oldest bars in town and caters to mature men and those seeking them out. Daily piano entertainment (save Mondays), pool tables, and card games contribute to the festivities.

Then there’s **Privé** (910 Westheimer) to contend with on Sundays. This classy rooftop lounge is cocktail heaven, the many couches affording an exercise in droopy, erotic languor.

**Chowing down**

Dining out on American cuisine is best at **Sonoma** (1415 California). Upscale yet casual, the restaurant is



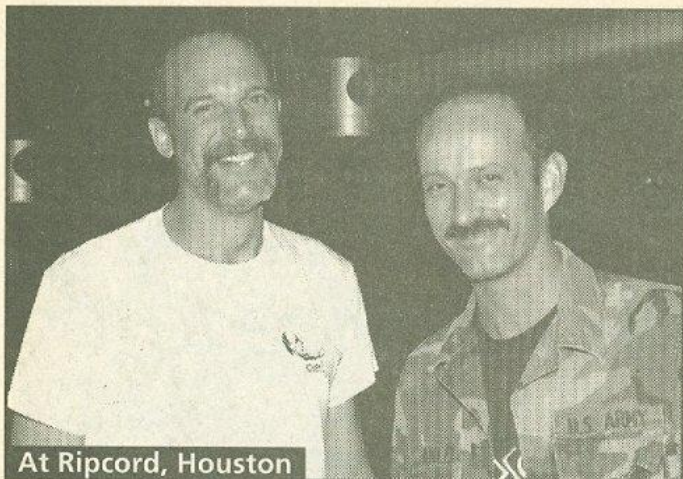
At JR’s, Houston



At Lobo Books, Houston



At Mary’s, Houston




At Ripcord, Houston



At Basic Brothers, Houston

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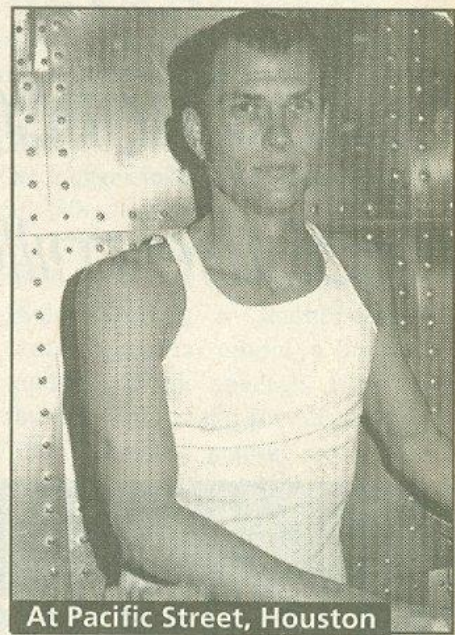
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TEXAS  
75241**  
214.821.8989

**3100\*  
FANNIN  
HOUSTON  
TEXAS  
77004**  
713.522.2379

**315  
S. WATER  
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perched on the second floor of an elegant structure tucked on a discreet street within the gay Montrose area. Sonoma can feast up to 400 guests at a time, and serenade them, too, with their live piano entertainment. Their Sunday T-Dance on the terrace is becoming the thing to do on the Sabbath day.

The Vietnamese restaurant **Mo Mong** (1201 Westheimer) is, for some reason, decidedly mobbed on Wednesdays by Friends of Dorothy.

**Barnaby's Cafe** (604 Fairview and 1701 South Shepard) is a casual gay diner open for breakfast, lunch, and dinner. The fare is surprisingly good at prices unbelievably modest.

Sunday Brunch at **La Strada** (322 Westheimer) is also poofster trammelled.

**House of Pies** (3112 Kirby Drive) is a quite akin to the International

House of Pancakes with a rather intense gay following.

**Shopping**

At large **Lobo Books** (3939 South Montrose) more than just books are vended. Shoppers can rent gay videos, get the latest greeting cards, and purchase gay accessories, back issues of gay mags, and autographs of famous gay personae. The cafe tucked within is happy meeting ground for several gay cliques and a great place to bring

(or find) one's date.

**Crossroads Market and Bookstore** (1111 Westheimer) sells hard-to-find journals, a variety of gay (and other) books, and much queer paraphernalia. A coffee shop with street-side tables makes for intense cruising, since this is the crossroads of gay Montrose and Westheimer.

Leather apparel may be tailored at **Leather by Boots** (715 Fairview within Ripcord, and 1403 Fairview) or bought off-the-racks. Custom-

made leather wear has a quick turnaround, a boon to out-of-town visitors. On sale also are lubes, condoms, bondage wear and equipment, piercing jewelry, motorcycle apparel, magazines, and cards. **Leather Forever** (711 Fairview) has its distinct loyal following. Here they carry gear for the serious leather buff. A wide range of BDSM accouterments such as restraints, flogs, slings plus an array of lubes, body jewelry and Carolina Boots are at hand.

**Basic Brothers** (1232 Westheimer), a men's clothing store, carries the largest selection of swim wear in Houston, athletic sportswear, club wear, and a wide range of undergear. Their cyber outlet **eroticattire.com** has a good clutch of underwear, swim wear, thongs, floppers, and pouches. Fashionable clothing, gym gear plus leather items, shoes, watches, belts and many other accessories are also available on line.

**Jove** (1424 Westheimer) is good for party and club wear—especially the funky, rebellious clothing most parents dislike! Don't be put off by the store being closed most of the time, persistence does eventually prevail here.

**Getting physical**

**Fitness Exchange** (4040 Milam, at Bute), **Houston Gym** (233 Bird-sall), and the modern **Downtown YMCA** (1600 Louisiana) are gyms that thrive on a gay clientele.

The no-nonsense **24 Hour Fitness** (5080 Richmond Avenue, by the 610 loop) honors IHRSA memberships from all over the world. And if your health club at home is a member of IHRSA, consider yourself blessed, for the workouts here are a deeply discounted \$5.

Contained within **Club Houston** (2205 Fannin) is a tiny but functional gym. But it is the alluring outdoor pool, Jacuzzi, sun deck, and summer cookouts that make this a prime social retreat. The steam room, sauna, and private cabins get chocker around midnight during the week, and all throughout the weekend. Expect a marvelous 16,000 square feet facility

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# Houston

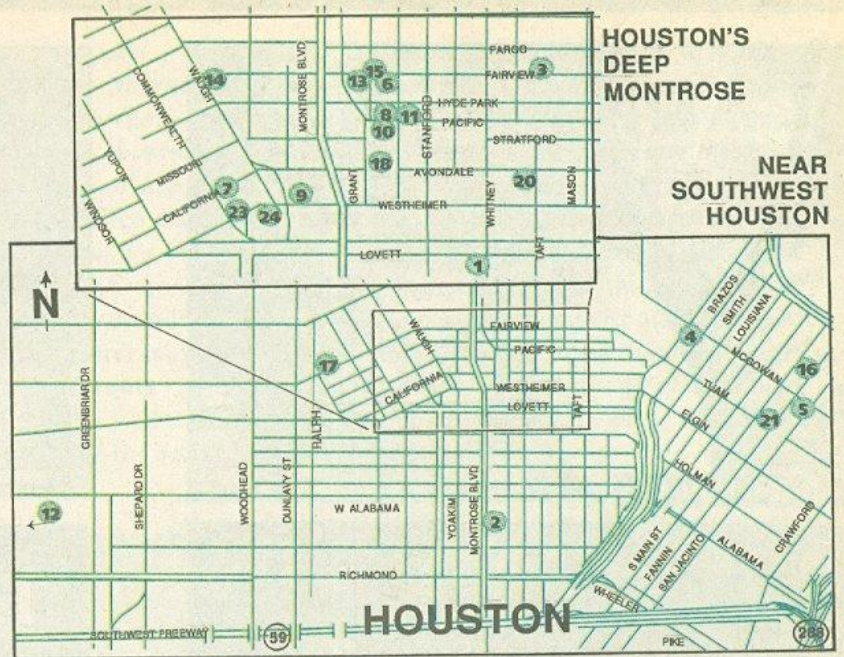
## CLUBS & RESTAURANTS

- 18) **Baba Yega**  
2607 Grant  
(713) 522-0042
- 3) **Barnaby's Cafe**  
604 Fairview  
(713) 522-0106
- 4) **Brazos River Bottom**  
2400 Brazos  
(713) 528-9192
- 24) **Crossroads**  
1111 Westheimer  
(713) 942-0147
- 17) **EJ's**  
2517 Ralph  
(713) 527-9071
- 19) **Guava Lamp**  
2159 Portsmouth  
(713) 524-3359
- 12) **House of Pies**  
3112 Kirby Dr  
(713) 528-3816
- 8) **JR's**  
808 Pacific  
(713) 521-2519
- 9) **Mary's**  
1022 Westheimer  
(713) 527-9669

- 10) **Montrose Mining Co.**  
805 Pacific  
(713) 529-7488
- 11) **Pacific Street**  
710 Pacific  
(713) 523-0213
- 5) **Rich's**  
2401 San Jacinto  
(713) 759-9606
- 13) **Ripcord**  
715 Fairview  
(713) 521-2792
- 7) **Sonoma**  
1415 California  
(713) 522-7066
- 21) **Venture N**  
2923 Main  
(713) 522-0000

## ACCOMMODATIONS

- 1) **Lovett Inn**  
501 Lovett  
(800) 779-5224
- 20) **Montrose Inn**  
408 Avondale  
(800) 357-1228



## OTHER

- 23) **Basic Brothers**  
1232 Westheimer  
(713) 522-1626
- 16) **Club Houston**  
2205 Fannin  
(713) 659-4998

- 15) **Leather by Boots**  
715 Fairview and  
(713) 526-2668
- 13) **Leather Forever**  
1403 Fairview  
(713) 526-2668
- 6) **Leather Forever**  
711 Fairview  
(713) 526-6940

- 2) **Lobo**  
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(713) 522-5156
- 14) **Midtowne Spa**  
3100 Fannin  
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(with a hip 3,000 square feet gym alone!) to open sometime later this year.

**Midtowne Spa** (3100 Fannin) offers a cavernous steam room, Olympic-size pool, hot tub, revitalized private outdoor garden patio, myriad rooms (including special fantasy and theme units), a private party space, a maze, a gym that includes a Nautilus Time Machine, and a common lounge and TV areas. The aroma therapy and massage machine are unique treats.

**Lodgings**

The **Lovett Inn** (501 Lovett; 800-779-5224) draws a mixed clientele to its beautifully restored mansion, located minutes from most of the night life. A delightful library overlooks the outdoor Jacuzzi, pool, and small garden area. Free continental breakfast comes with the bed. Most rooms have their own bath, phone, and cable TV.

**Montrose Inn** (408 Avondale; 800-357-1228) is even deeper into the Montrose area's bars and clubs. This is a no-frills, dorm type place with a self-serve continental breakfast. Each room has a phone, TV, and attached bath.

**Dallas**

The US's eighth largest city shines with an urban patina attributable largely to a thriving oil industry. The sheen is well reflected in Dallas's gay life, concentrated mainly in the Oak Lawn area. Bars and clubs catering to varied gay kinks, apparel, and accessory stores, restaurants and more, permeate what locals call Boystown.

**Bars and clubs**

Under the aegis of Caven Enterprises, the giant **Village Station**, **Throckmorton Mining Company**, **JR's**, and **Sue Ellen's** collectively draw the bulk of visitors— both men and women— to the area. **JR's Bar and Grill** (3923 Cedar Springs Road) the most trafficked of them all, comprises three levels, 10 service wells, a balcony that dares any weather and affords a saliva-inducing view of Dallas' gay crossroads. Over 13,000

watts of sound feed 38 speakers around a video system with 61 monitors. **Village Station** (3911 Cedar Springs Road) is a dance club with a decidedly young thrust (18-plus). **Throckmorton Mining Company** (3014 Throckmorton) originally meant to attract those into leather/Levi, seems to draw people of all ilk. **Sue Ellen's** (3903 Cedar Springs Road) is geared for the distaff side of the family.

At **Moby Dick** (4011 Cedar Springs) there is a two-tiered video bar with a tropical flair. Tuesdays are well received here with "Show Tunes," whilst Thursdays regale with drag impersonations.

At **The Brick** (4117 Maple Avenue) "Twirl" on Thursdays entices those 18-plus, whereas on Saturday nights comely men continue to dance with their shirts off to DJ Rick Harrington and other guest spinners. Intense cruising incites passion in the truly dim interiors.

Housed in a strip mall, **Fraternity House** (2525 Wycliff #120) is con-

tinuing to hold its own under a new management. Oodles of drag acts through the week and boxer shorts contest on Thursdays are the highlights.

**Dallas Eagle** (2515 Inwood #107) is a hard-core Levi-and-leather hang-out busy after 11pm. The dark, dark main bar leads on to a back bar with a pool table. A balcony overlooking the main bar heightens cruise potential. Bears, big men, and their admirers feel much at home here. A leather shop on premises is open daily.

**Round Up Saloon and Parlor** (3912 Cedar Springs Road) is dubbed the home of good times and good people. This huge establishment contains many bars tucked within. There's country dancing (free lessons on Tuesdays and Thursdays), country cruising, not to mention music videos to regale visitors. A game room with pool tables, video games, pinball machines, and photo booths makes for much fun. Entertainment also includes karaoke on Sundays and Mondays. An ATM machine on premises



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makes things easier. Credit cards are accepted as well at select bars within the Saloon.

**The Hideaway** (4144 Buena Vista) is a piano bar— heaven for mature men and their admirers.

**After Dark on Cedar Springs** (4026 Cedar Springs), a piano bar in Oaklawn, has only just opened shop as we go to press.

Neighborhood watering holes also include **The Zone** (3810 Congress Avenue # 109), **Crews Inn** (3215 N. Fitzhugh), and **Zippers** (3333 North Fitzhugh), all rife with plenty of strip-

per action.

**Shopping and chowing down**

Remarkable piercing, wearable art, tattooing, and scarring are at their best at **Obscurities** (4000B Cedar Springs Road), where safety is the prime concern. Body jewelry is vended here, and custom tattoos to suit any quirk are etched.

**Crossroads Market** (3930 Cedar Springs Road) touts literary treats and gay knickknacks, the latter also available at several other of the queer stores in the vicinity. A cruisy coffee

shop tucked within makes for tasty drinks and merry moments.

**Outlines** (4020 Cedar Springs and 3926 Cedar Springs Road) is a premier gay men's clothing store with two outlets. Club wear, casual wear, swim wear, jeans, athletic wear, shoes, as well as an array of raiment by gay designers from the world over are just a few dollars away! Their 3926 location is also known as **Tape-lenders**, and tapes are available for rent and sale as well at this "most unusual video store in the world".

Owned by Leather Network Inc., **Leather By Boots-Dallas** (2525 Wy-cliff #124) carries the largest, exclusive selection of men's erotic wear in Dallas. Whether it's jock straps, harnesses, or lace-up "wicked" boots that tickle your fancy, you will find them here. They also carry unique leather pride wear and goodies such as flags, patches, t-shirts, cards, and more.

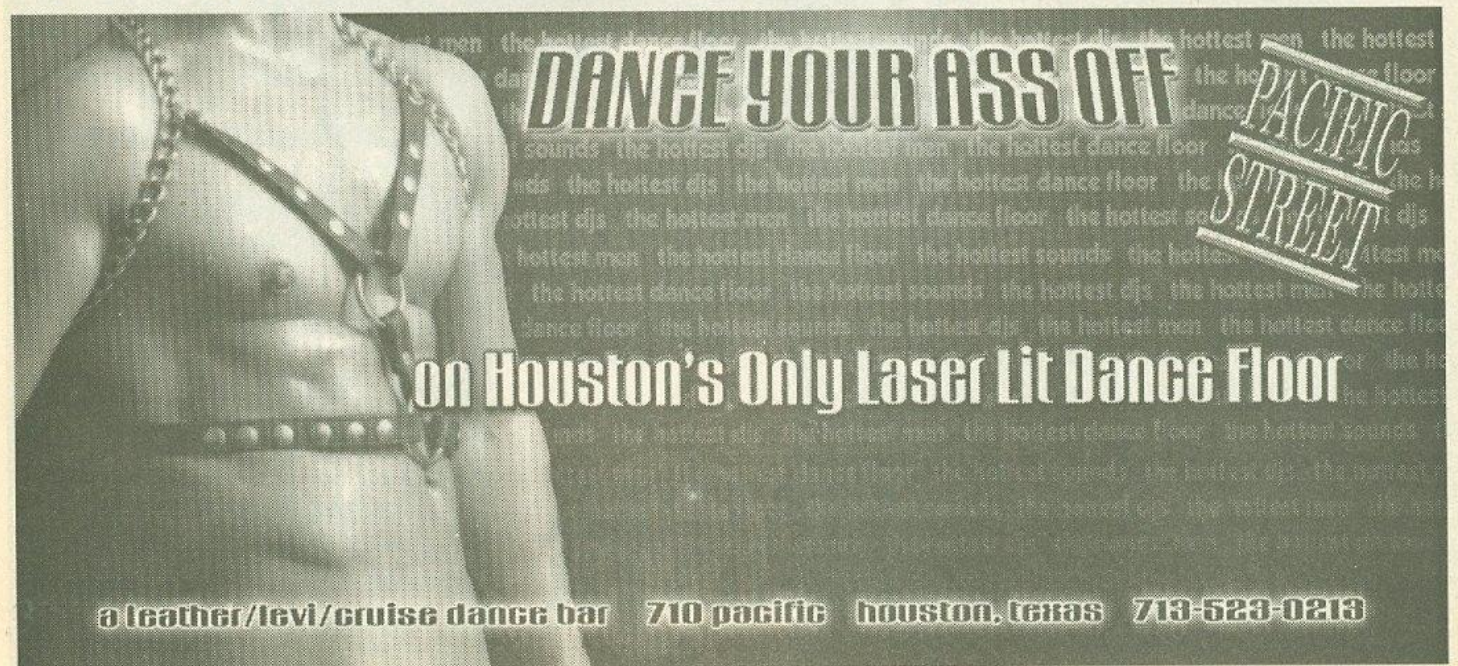
**Hunky's** (4000 Cedar Springs Road) is notable not just for their famous cheeseburgers but for two legged eye-candy that is compellingly abundant. Other than Crossroads, this is the one place that affords great cruising potential in a breeder free gayborhood.

Across the street, **Buster's Burritos** (4001-A Cedar Springs Road) offers Texas style burritos and other mostly carnivore treats.

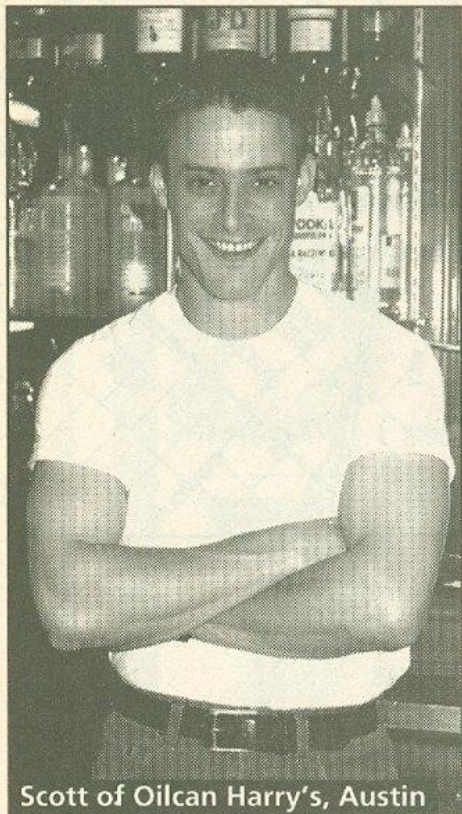


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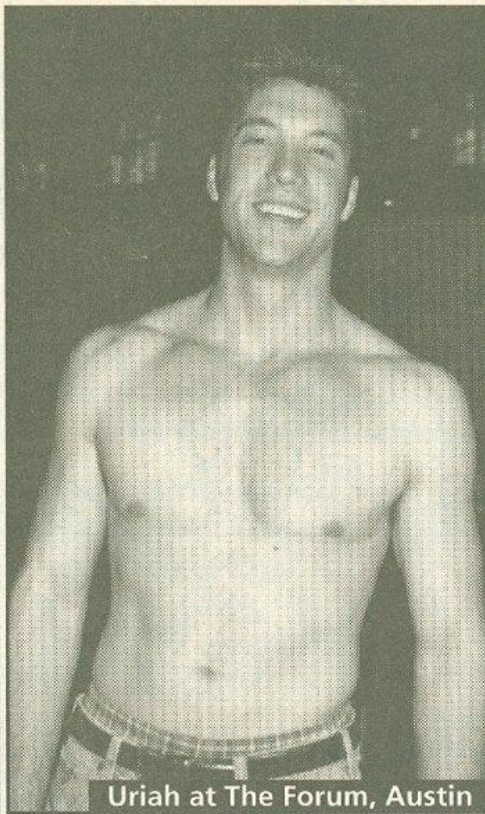
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Scott of Oilcan Harry's, Austin



Uriah at The Forum, Austin

Attain pure gastronomic nirvana at **Cosmic Cafe** (2912 Oak Lawn Avenue). This vegetarian, inexpensive restaurant offers meals that will most assuredly transport you to the stars.

**Accommodations**

**Melrose Hotel** (3015 Oak Lawn Avenue at Cedar Springs Road; 214-521-5151) is a ritzy hotel right in the thick of it all. The landmark luxury hotel also contains a restaurant and bar on premises.

Those on a budget might consider **Red Roof Inn** (4500 Harry Hines Boulevard; 214-522-6650), located a five minute drive from all the action.

**Getting physical**

**Club Dallas** (2616 Swiss) is a physical fitness center with a regular gym and trainer on premises, along with all the other amenities that vouchsafe physical joys. Weekly specials pull in pretty pleasure-seekers, and the Saturday and Sunday barbecues by the outdoor pool and sun deck make for much frolic during summer. Two VIP rooms are available for more exclusive liaisons.

**Midtowne Spa** (2509 Pacific) offers innumerable rooms and se-

cret caches throughout the facility, which includes a gym featuring a Nautilus Time Machine, a two-tiered hot tub, and fantasy/theme rooms. At the top is a superb rooftop view of downtown Dallas.

**Austin**

Thanks to the University of Texas, the atmosphere in this high-tech capital city is cultural, liberal, and youthfully vibrant to boot. The temperate weather and 12,000 acres of greenbelts invite much outdoors recreation and even the wilderness preservations in Austin boast wheelchair facilities!

Though there is really no "one" gay section, many establishments catering

music\*vids\*music\*videos

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**Dallas**

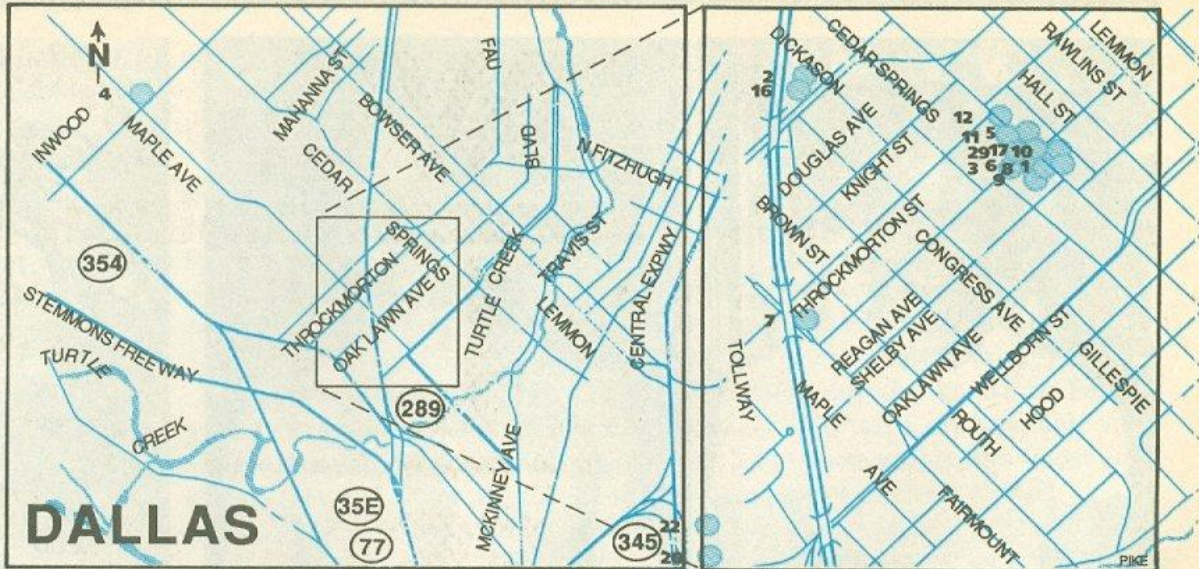
3930 Cedar Springs Rd. (214) 521-8919

[www.eclikt.com/crossroads](http://www.eclikt.com/crossroads)

# Dallas

## BARS & RESTAURANTS

- 7) **The Brick**  
4117 Maple Ave  
(214) 521-3154
- 4) **Eagle Dallas**  
2515 Inwood  
(214) 357-4375
- 2) **Fraternity House**  
2525 Wycliff #214  
(214) 520-1415
- 5) **Hunky's**  
4000 Cedar Springs Rd  
(214) 522-1212
- 6) **JR's Bar and Grill**  
3923 Cedar Springs  
(214) 559-0650
- 11) **Moby Dick**  
4011 Cedar Springs  
(214) 520-MOBY
- 1) **Round Up Saloon**  
3912 Cedar Springs  
(214) 522-9611
- 9) **Sue Ellen's**  
3903 Cedar Springs  
(214) 559-0650
- 3) **Throckmorton Mining Company**  
3014 Throckmorton  
(214) 559-0650
- 8) **Village Station/ Rose Room**  
3911 Cedar Springs  
(214) 559-0650



## RETAIL

- 17) **Crossroads Market**  
3930 Cedar Springs Rd  
(214) 521-8919
- 16) **Leather by Boots/ Dallas**  
2525 Wycliff #124  
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# DALLAS




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ALL NIGHT**

**DANCING AND  
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# CAVEN ENTERPRISES INC

to gay needs exist within sight of the capitol building's dome.

**Splash Day** is an annual mega occurrence in this delightfully hip city, hosted on the first Sunday in May. Slated for May 7th this year, expect Lake Travis and its rocky shores of Hippie Hollow to be a pleasure realm. Semi-clad men and potent weed seem to merge well here. Most bars will host gala events through the weekend preceding Splash, and celebrated DJs will pulsate the circuits with renewed vim.

**Night life**

It's promoted as the place to be, and **Oilcan Harry's** (211 West 4th) is truly the most successful of bars. This upscale men's dance bar showcases a large, square bar area, a well-tram-meled dance floor, outdoor patio, and side bar with pool tables and video machines. Current specials include a Sunday Tea Dance, kick-ass parties, super after-hours, and the most personable bartenders in town. Their cyber-presence (www.oilcanharrys.com)

warrants a peek. Next door, **Boyz Corner** (213 West 4th) shines in their neighbor's reflecting glory and attracts a decidedly young crowd. Their sister venue, the intimate **Dick's Deja Disco** (103 San Jacinto) draws an older local clientele and is known for karaoke and mud wrestling jousts.

**The Forum** (408 Congress Avenue) offers 5000 square feet of chic bar bliss. The front island bar flows into a dance floor which leads one to Jupiter Lounge in the rear. The latter is a cozy upscale hangout with new digital flat screen TVs. There's even a rooftop bar which affords splendid views of the trendy warehouse district. Cookouts on the roof during summer are quite the thing.

Within ambling distance of the majestic capitol building, **1920's Club** (918 Congress Avenue) is a martini bar often featuring live jazz. Music from the 1920s is played to particular advantage.

**Little City** (916 Congress Avenue), a coffee shop not intended to be

a gay hangout per se, draws hordes of gay men.

**Splash** (406 Brazos), a video cruise and chat bar with an outdoor patio, is now thriving in its third year. Here, Thursdays translate into show tunes night, Wednesdays equal a game show called Family Feud played on the 46 TV monitors, while Video Mail Box is earmarked for Sundays— to undercurrents of retro music.

**Rainbow Cattle Company** (305 West 5th Street) is home to the Texas Gay Rodeo Association, Austin Baptist Women, and United Court of Austin. Open 2pm through 2am, this is Austin's only "country cruisin'" bar. Come Tuesdays, free dance lessons are the rule at 8pm. Open pool tables and karaoke mark Wednesdays. On Thursdays and Sundays, enjoy their barbecue.

**Chain Drive** (504 Willow) is the only leather-and-Levi bar with a smoke-free main bar. Happy hour is from 2-8pm Monday through Saturday, and from 2-6pm on Sundays. The cookout on the bar's patio, Sundays 4-9pm, heightens local camaraderie.

**Get into the circuit**

Ben Parsley and Splash Productions present Meltdown 2000 over Memorial Day weekend. The hot boys of the Southwest Splash their way into summer with three days of parties. This year's event is called "Military Heat" with everything centered around Saturday at the lake for "Shore Leave," a floating dance floor on Lake Travis with food, drink and hot boys! On Sunday, spend all day around the Hyatt starting at the pool for "Naval Maneuvers" tea dance and closing with "Tailhook" in the ballroom. For information, special hotel rates and tickets call 888-558-1791 or go to www.partyaustin.com

**Shopping**

**Lobo Books** (3204-A Guadalupe) stocks videos, books, a wide spectrum of rainbow goodies, and more. Should you have any, the cheerful staff will scare your blues away.

**Forbidden Fruit** (512 Neches Street) provides "useful items for a di-

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**- BY BOOTS -**

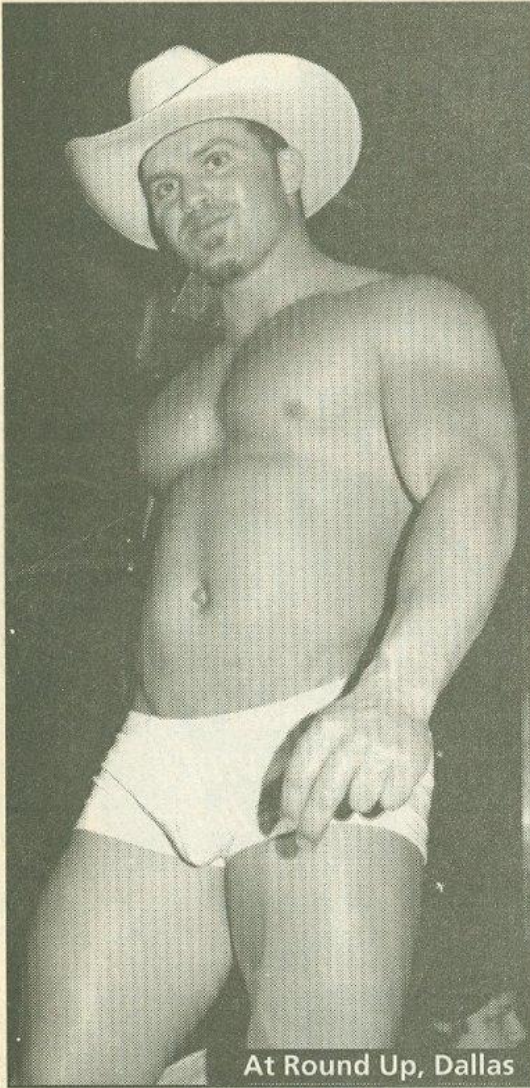
**- DALLAS -**

JOCKS HARNESSES JACKETS PANTS CHAPS

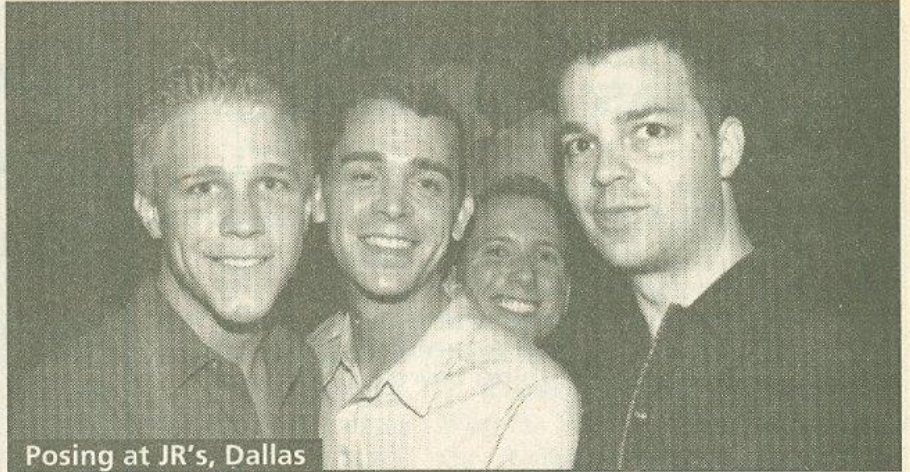
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TEXAS



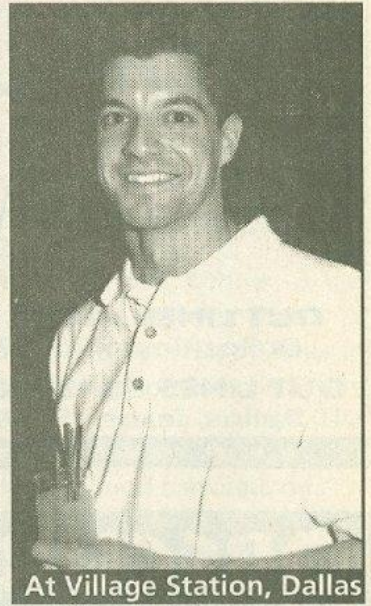
At Round Up, Dallas



Posing at JR's, Dallas



Tim and Kelly at Round Up, Dallas



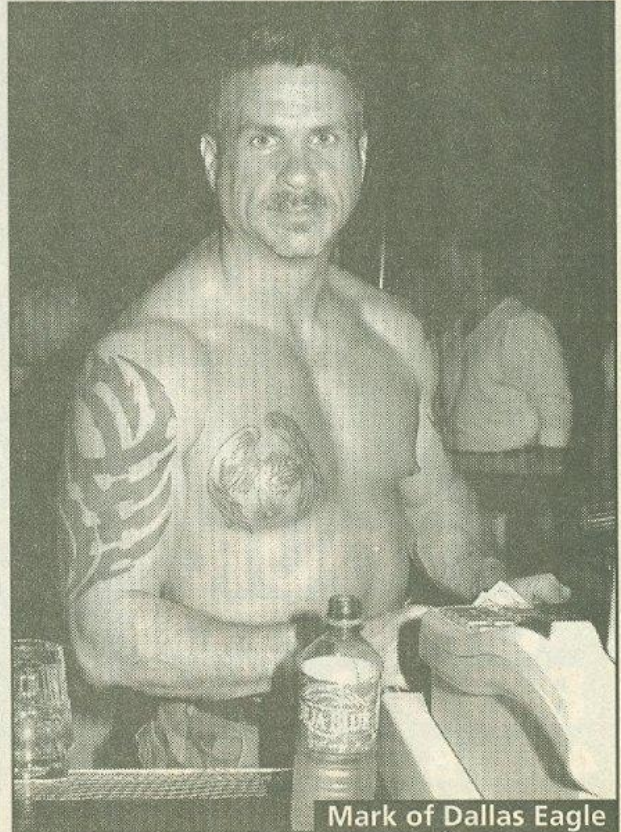
At Village Station, Dallas



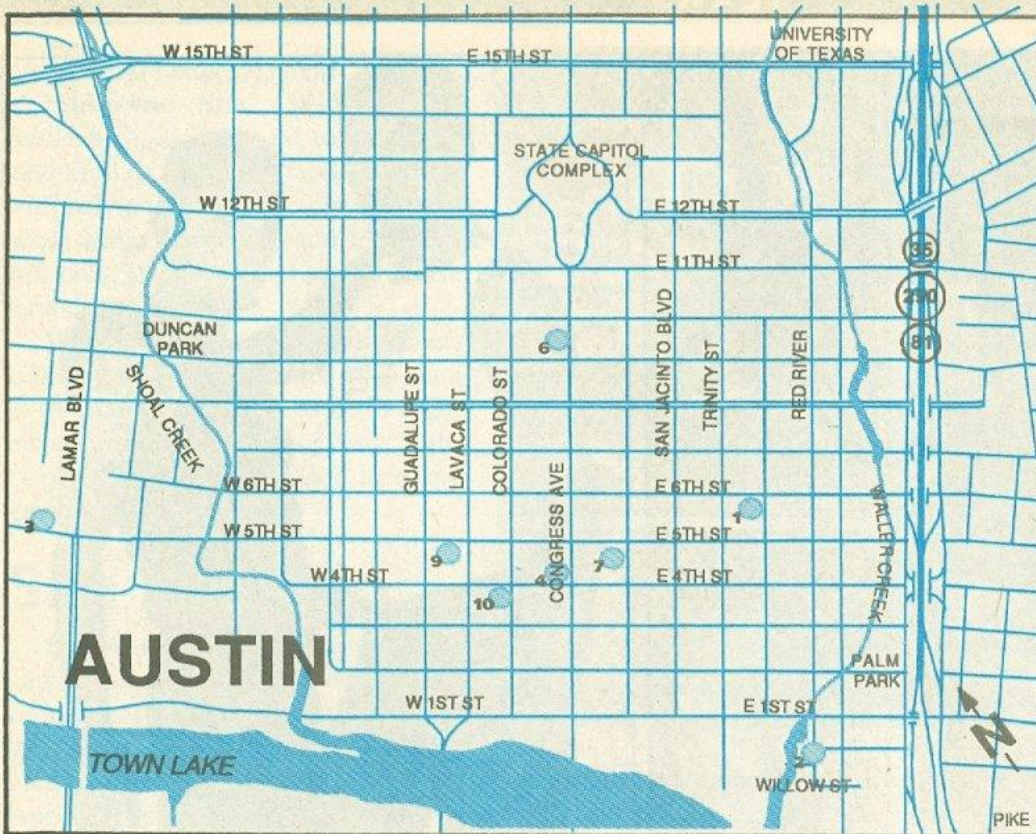
At Leather by Boots- Dallas



At Obscurities, Dallas



Mark of Dallas Eagle



# Austin

## 2) Chain Drive

504 Willow, (512) 480-9017

## 4) The Forum

408 Congress, (512) 476-2900

## 1) Forbidden Fruit

512 Neches, (512) 478-8358

## 2) Leather Chest

504 Willow (at Chain Drive),

(512) 478-2261

## 6) 1920s Club

918 Congress, (512) 479-7979

## 10) Oilcan Harry's

211 W. 4th St, (512) 320-8823

## 9) Rainbow Cattle Company

305 W. 5th St (512) 472-5288

## 7) Splash

406 Brazos, (512) 477-6969

## 3) Tapelenders

1114 W 5th St, (512) 472-0844


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**Kickass Parties Fri & Sat**

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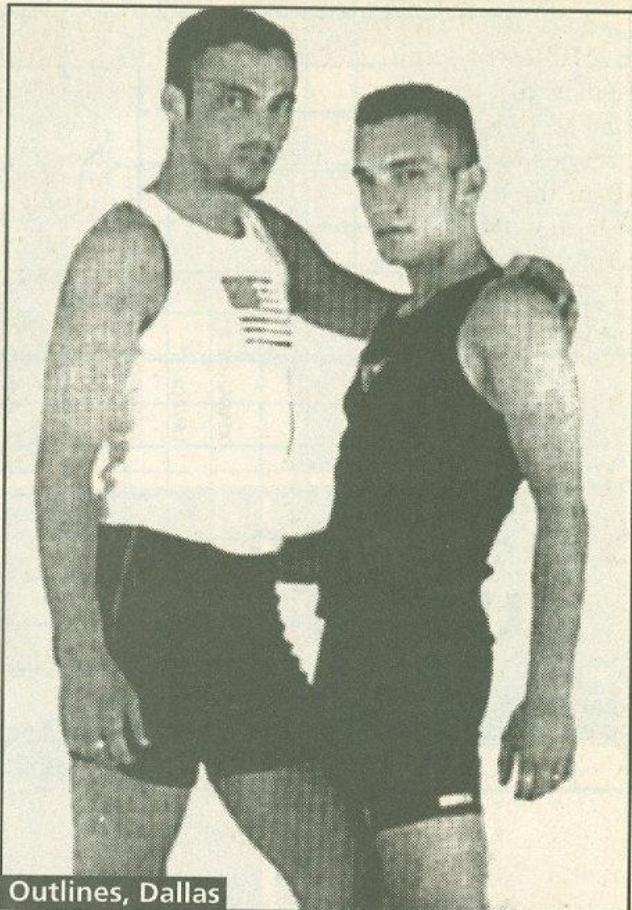
  
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At JR's, Dallas



Outlines, Dallas

verse world." The items traded include jewelry, fresh flowers, erotic literature, and myriad intimate accessories.

**Tape Lenders Video** (1114 West 5th Street) professes to carry the most complete gay and lesbian library in the world, plus gifts, cards, magazines and decorator items, plus some swim wear, tank tops, and underwear.

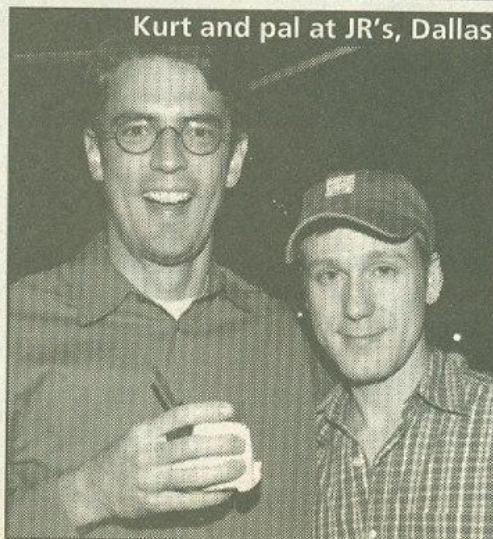
**Lodgings**

**Summit House** (1204 Summit Street; 512-445-5304), located on an Indian campground, is a private home with two spare rooms for rent. The one bathroom is shared. A nude sunbathing area and outdoor shower reinforce the country ambiance. Bears and big men are especially welcome here.

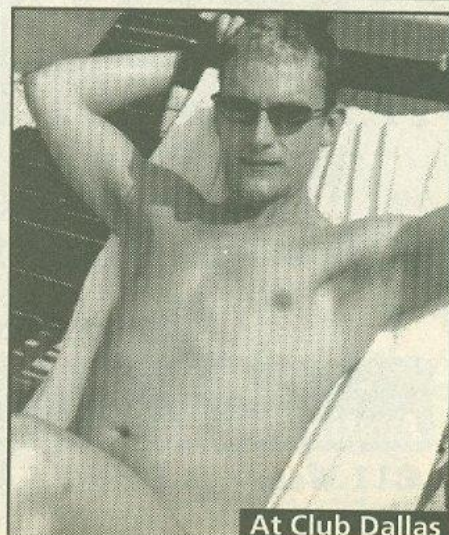
Several motels and hotels, priced from modestly to beyond, are interspersed around Interstate 35, the main freeway in Austin. It's best to aim for lodgings closer to 4th and 6th Streets, where most of the action lies. Web sites <http://austinlinks.com> and [www.travelnow.com/hotels](http://www.travelnow.com/hotels) are good places to start looking.



At Moby Dick, Dallas



Kurt and pal at JR's, Dallas



At Club Dallas

**Getting physical**

**Midtowne Spa** (5815 Airport Boulevard), located next to the Highland Mall, is a premier facility oozing with pelvic tourism. The place is only about three years old, and therefore still quite the newcomer in bathhouse terms.

**World Gym** (115 East 6th Street) is the gym to work muscles other than in the immediate groin area. Straight owned and operated, this gym is highly gay trafficked and close to many gay establishments.

**San Antonio**

San Antonio— with its boat taxis and scenic promenades— encourages romance. Though a tourist retreat all year long, San Antonio's draw includes Fiesta in the earlier part of April, every year.

Partying in the downtown Riverwalk area is best at the **Bonham Exchange** (411 Bonham), a large multi-leveled club in a sterling building, open daily except Tuesdays and Sun-



Mykil and Calvin at Crossroads, Dallas

days. Male and female dancers set an equal-opportunity mood. A good place to bring your straight brother, queer cousin, dyke friend, and the hermaphrodite-next-door.

On the 1400 block of Main Street, there are three different environments

to pick from.

**The Saint** (1430 North Main) for almost 23 years has been a favorite among locals and those from afar. Boasting a serious dance floor, it is usually chocker on Saturdays through 4am. Female impersonators account

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Chicken, Steak or Rack of Ribs Night  
6-9pm • \$5 With All The Fixin's

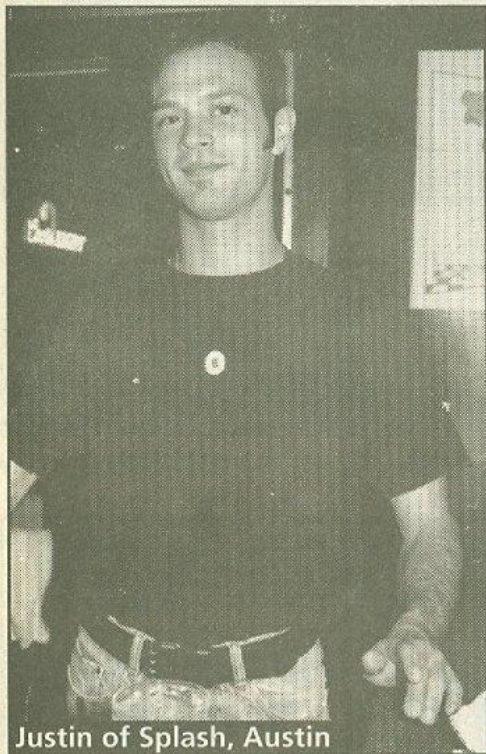
**FRIDAYS**  
HAPPY HOUR BUFFET

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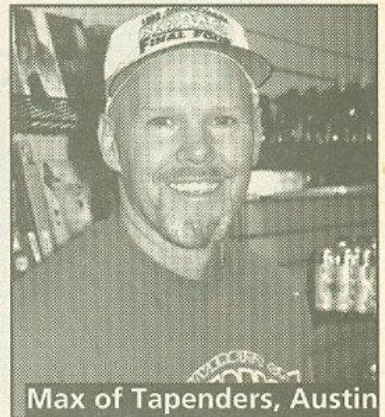
At Oilcan Harry's, Austin



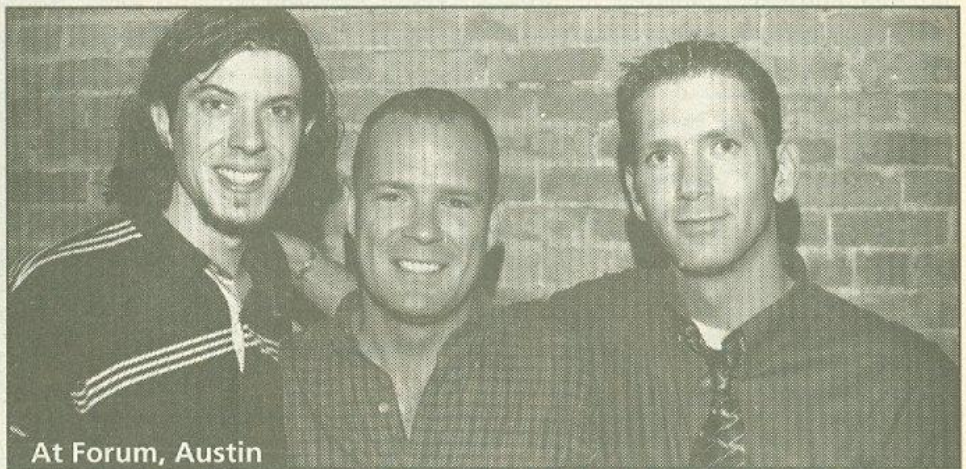
Justin of Splash, Austin



Norbert and Adam of Rainbow Cattle Company, Austin



Max of Tapenders, Austin



At Forum, Austin

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for a lot of the devilish revelry here, and drag shows are common—the ones on Sunday are a riot.

There's nary a cover at **Silver Dollar** (1418 North Main), a country-western bar with a large patio. Daily drink specials and gyrating strippers draw gay men of all leanings.

**Pegasus** (1402 North Main), a cruise bar, gets going after 9pm. Strip entertainment and the small beach area and pool in the bar's rear render it especially well-thronged in summer.

Centrally located, **The 2015 Place**

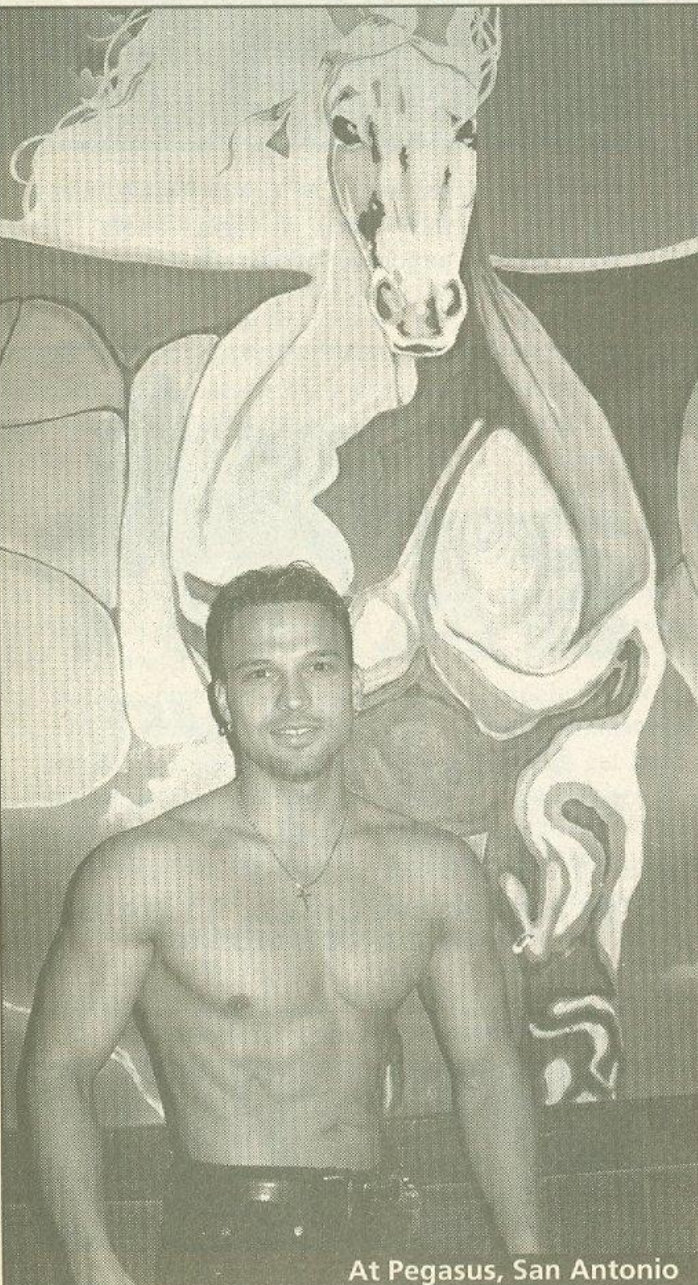
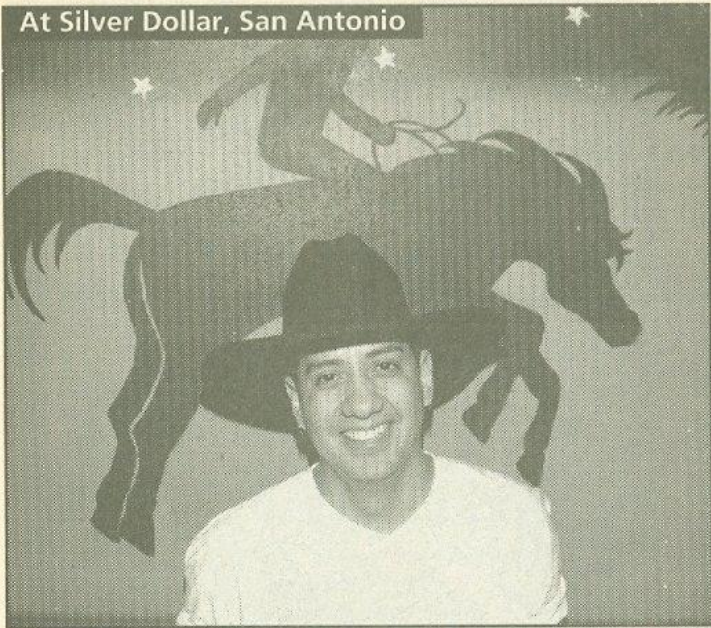
(2015 San Pedro) is the best neighborhood bar around, and it has been voted so for 3 years in a row. The daily happy hour from 4pm-8pm makes for "gay times."

There's some revelry simmering south of San Antonio College, too. At **Woody's** (826 San Pedro), music videos, pool tables, and dart machines make for some frolic.

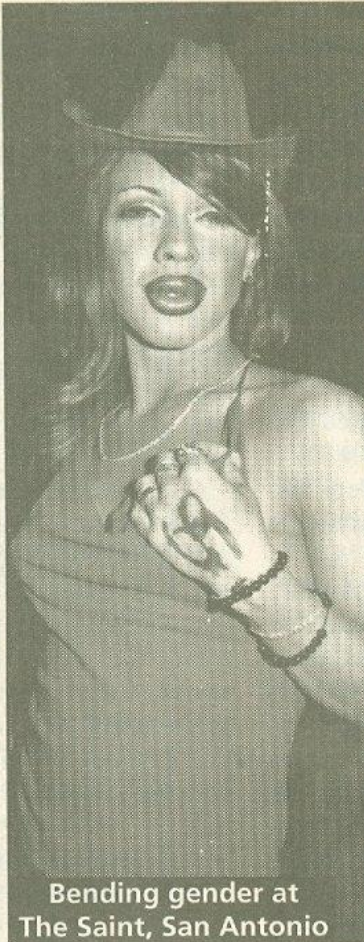
Other bars of note include **Copa SA** (119 El Mio) and **Annex** (330 San Pedro). Though the former is a leather-ish cruise bar, the latter is best defined as a cozy dance club *cum* neighborhood bar.

# TEXAS

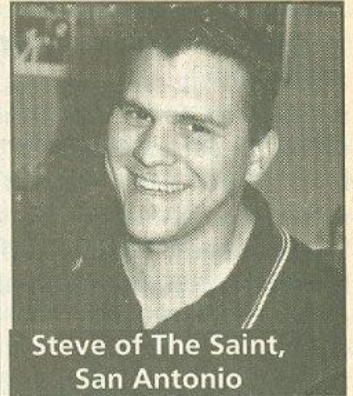
At Silver Dollar, San Antonio



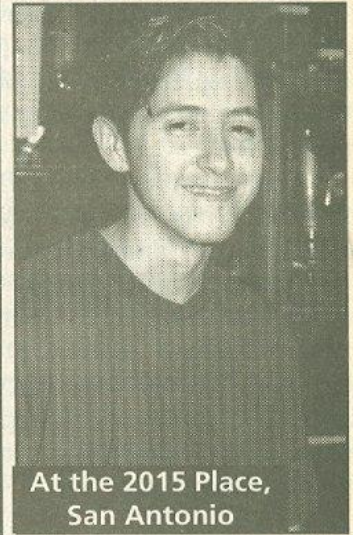
At Pegasus, San Antonio



Bending gender at  
The Saint, San Antonio



Steve of The Saint,  
San Antonio



At the 2015 Place,  
San Antonio

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## TEXAS

### Dining

**Candle Light Coffeehouse** (3011 North St. Mary's), located minutes by foot from Blue Moon, offers "a cup of kindness" besides the cultured cruising that is hallmark of most queer coffee places. The manicured outdoor patio here is heaven, especially during the warm summer months.

### Shopping

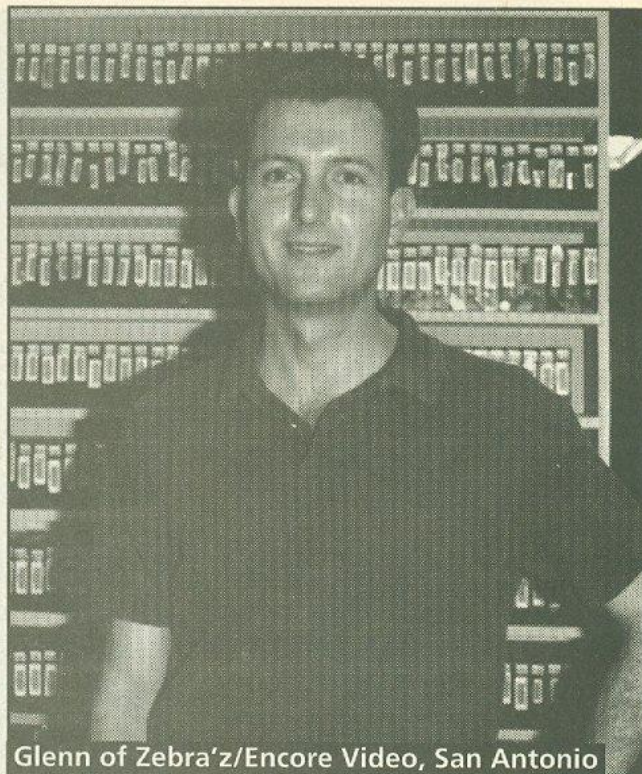
The gay owned and operated **Encore Video** (1031 NE Loop 410) is not just a videosmith but offers daily and weekly rentals of camcorders and VCRs.

Their other establishment, **Zebra'z Gifts** (608 North Main Avenue), carries a large assortment of gay-oriented merchandise. Goodies range from funky club wear to CDs, flavored lubes, and everything in between. Call 800-788-4729 for the Zebra'z mail-order catalog, or visit them on-line on the web at <http://www.zebraz.com>.

### Lodgings

**Inn on Broadway**, also known as the **Painted Lady Guest House** (620 Broadway; 210-220-1092) is located downtown and offers luxurious suites and guest rooms. Free off-street parking is available at this lesbian-owned enterprise.

**Rodeway Inn Downtown-San Antonio** (900 North Main Avenue, 210-223-2951) is perfectly located between the 1400 Main Street bars and the Alamo, with parking to spare.



Glenn of Zebra'z/Encore Video, San Antonio

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known as ACI (827 East Elmira), is the place to get one's ticket punched, indoors. ▼

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