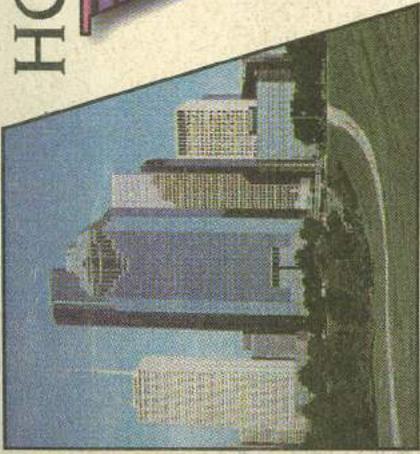


HOUSTON



VOICE

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JULY 3, 1998 • www.houstonvoice.com • ISSUE 923

IT'S ALL ABOUT PRIDE!





Crowded: Tens of thousands of gays and lesbians and their supporters filled 10 blocks of Westheimer on June 27 to watch as 112 entries moved by in Houston's 20th annual Pride

Parade. Police reported no serious problems, but vandals struck one parade float sometime after the two-hour procession ended. —Photo by Matthew A. Hennie

Parade draws thousands for celebration of pride

by MATTHEW A. HENNIE and STEPHEN R. UNDERWOOD

Houston residents Debra Stanger and Shannon Youngs had parade watching down to a science.

They backed a red pickup truck toward Westheimer, nestled in the bed and sat atop \$100 folding lawn chairs bought especially for the 1998 Pride Parade on June 27.

They arrived about 45 minutes before the 9 p.m. kick off, just in time to be doused by a moderate rain along with thousands of other parade-goers who packed Westheimer for nearly 10 blocks in Montrose.

What they viewed was beyond imagine.

For nearly two hours, dozens of floats, vibrantly decorated vehicles, groups of gays and lesbians and their friends passed by — some dancing, some hooting and some just proud to be involved — in Houston's 20th annual parade.

"We came to support gay pride," Youngs said.

Organizers hoped for 70,000 to attend and estimate at least 50,000 showed for the procession, though the figures could not be independent-

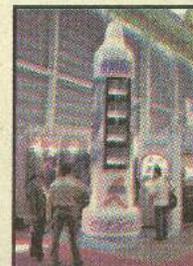
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**'I'm Not the
Only One'**
Upstart poet
makes a splash.
Page 1B



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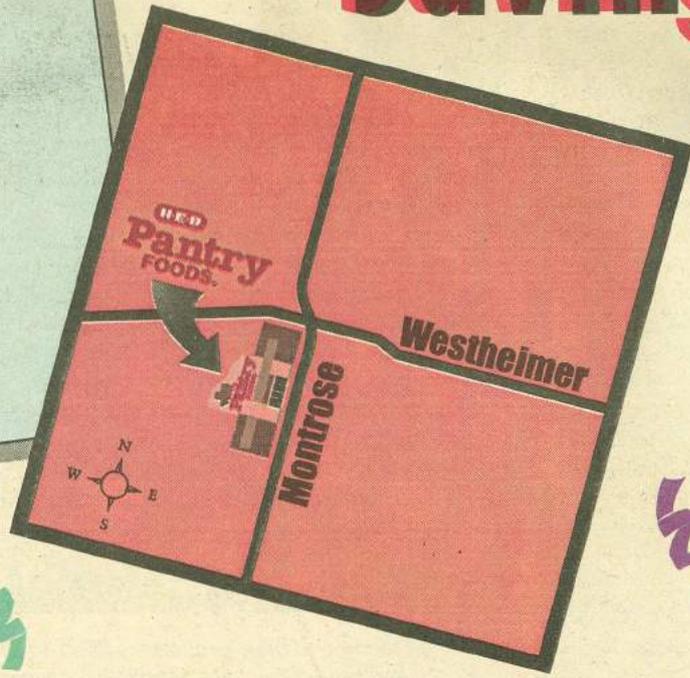
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FORBIDDEN SEX

Police arrest prostitutes, gays on sex charges

by MATTHEW A. HENNIE

More than 20 alleged prostitutes and nine men have been arrested on sex charges in the last several weeks in separate police stings in greater Montrose, authorities said.

The latest arrests — eight for alleged indecent exposure and one for public lewdness — came after undercover Houston police officers targeted a wooded area next to Beth Yeshurun Cemetery in the 3400 block of Allen Parkway at Dunlavy for three days last month.

Complaints to authorities prompted both undercover operations, police said.

"(The cemetery) is a well-known area for these particular types of activity," said Officer George Guerrero, one of five city police officers who patrolled the woods for about two hours a day for three days, beginning June 25.

"As soon as we got out there, maybe within 30 minutes we had our first case," he said.

the operation started — after allegedly grabbing the groin of an undercover officer as the pair walked along a narrow path into the woods, police said.

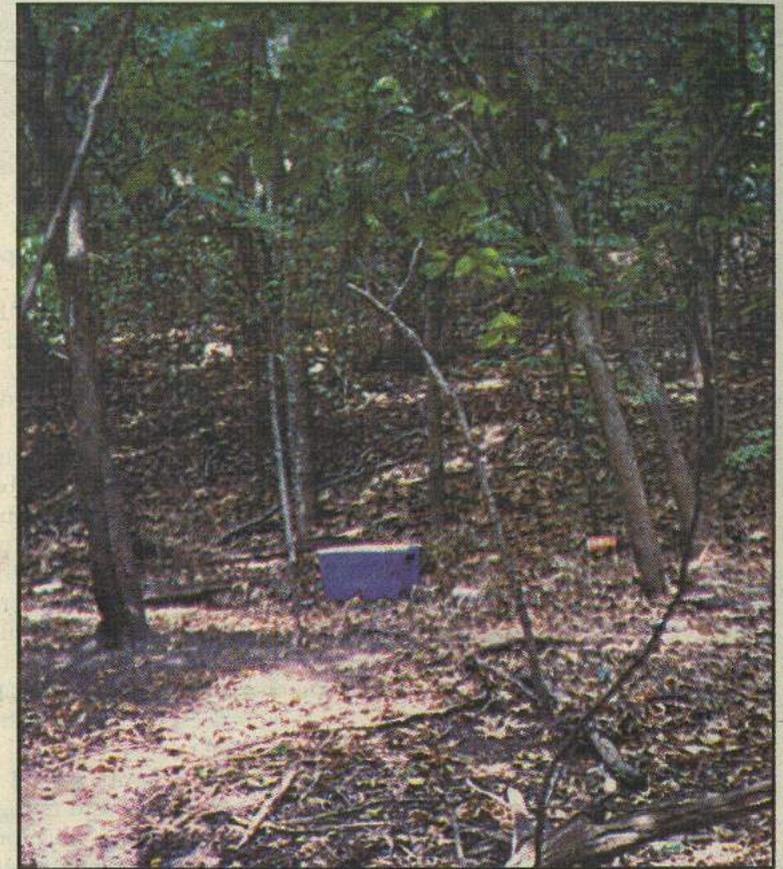
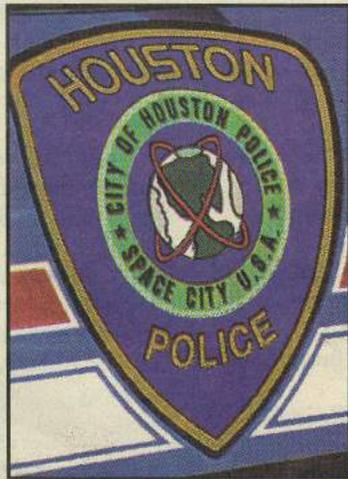
On June 25 and 26, officers patrolled the area from about 7:30 p.m. to 9 p.m. A few arrests were made each day, authorities said. On June 27 — a Saturday — uniformed officers were spotted monitoring the area about 2:30 p.m.

Dunlavy's northern tip ends at Allen Parkway. Though barricades block a portion of a road that circles the cemetery north of the six-lane parkway, visitors park their vehicles there and walk into the trails.

The area police targeted is easily accessible from biking and jogging trails that run along a nearby bayou. It is also one of several Houston locales listed on a web site for gay men seeking pickup spots or public sex.

"It is a well-know area for this and they (men) expect that's what they are going to

Cruising: An undercover sting by the Houston Police Department resulted in nine arrests of men on sex charges as they allegedly cruised for sex in a wooded area at Allen Parkway and Dunlavy last month. An estimated 20 prostitutes were charged in a second sting along Westheimer Street. — Photos by Matthew A. Hennie



days, beginning June 25.
 "As soon as we got out there, maybe within 30 minutes we had our first case," he said.

Officers dressed in plain clothes walked in the woods or along trails near a stream and entered into conversations with other men in the area, police said. Most often, the men would allegedly expose themselves to the officers after striking up a conversation and then were arrested, Guerrero said.

The suspects, who mostly range in age from 20 to 40, face misdemeanor charges of indecent exposure or public lewdness, authorities said.

On June 25, a 24-year-old man was arrested about 7:45 p.m. — about 15 minutes after

gay men seeking pickup spots or public sex.
 "It is a well-know area for this and they (men) expect that's what they are going to do when they are in this area," Guerrero said.

The operation ended on June 27, but police plan to return if complaints continue, he said.

"As long as people keep seeing us out there, it will make a difference," Guerrero said.

Also last month, police arrested more than 20 alleged prostitutes during a weeks-long undercover sting along Westheimer Street in Montrose.

Complaints from civic groups and neighborhood organizations promoted the arrests, said Sgt. Victor Garza.



"We didn't go after the customers, we went after the prostitutes — male or female," said Sgt. Victor Garza. "People are always complaining about it. They have been out there for years."

Officers swept through the area four times during a four-week span that started in May, arresting up to five

alleged prostitutes each week, he said.

Plain clothes officers would approach alleged prostitutes, talk and later make arrests after being propositioned, police said.

Most of the arrests were on misdemeanor charges for street-level prostitution, though officers discovered drugs on some suspects, Garza said.

The operation targeted Montrose after sunset, but the police tactical unit holds similar strikes in other areas of the city known for prostitution, he said.

"We're only out there for a couple of hours and people realize that we're there and everything stops. People trying to pick up (prostitutes) don't stick around," Garza said.

At least 20 TV stations stake-out men's bathrooms

by KATIE SZYMANSKI

NEW YORK — "Sexual deviants are roaming our local stores and malls," a man's voice warns, as shadowy figures creep across the television screen. "Could you or your child be an innocent victim?"

The commercial was advertising "Cruising for Sex," a six-minute investigative report that aired May 11 during New York City's "Fox Ten O'Clock News." The report used videotape from hidden cameras to film men in restrooms in a Staten Island Sears, a Long Island Bloomingdale's and

Rockefeller Center.

The report, which warned parents that their children were in danger from "perverts" in public restrooms, did not present any footage to support the veracity of its warning about interaction between children and adults. The lack of any evidence to support the claim, activists said, proved that the broadcast was an effort to drum up ratings during sweeps week.

In Washington, D.C., *The Washington Post* reported in May that at least 20 stations across the country had aired such stories in recent weeks, during

times when those stations were being reviewed by an independent "ratings" company to measure the number of viewers who tune into the stations.

A *Washington Blade* survey of Washington, D.C.'s local television news programs found that none of D.C.'s five local stations that air daily news reports chose to run stories on the topic of gay male sex in public bathrooms during the past month.

"We heard about this and we were appalled," said a reporter for one of D.C.'s TV news programs. "There would have been a rebellion in the newsroom if someone tried to do that here," said the reporter, who spoke on condition of anonymity.

Jeff Hertrick, senior producer for News Channel 8, the D.C. area's all-news cable station, said his station doesn't believe such stories are appropriate for the D.C. television market.

"That's so far off our focus," he said. Stations in other cities, including

New York and Houston, apparently had no such qualms about airing sex-in-bathroom reports that *Washington Post* media critic Howard Kurtz said had the effect of literally pulling journalism "into the toilet."

Most of the stories included scenes in public restrooms taken with hidden cameras. The reports warned that sexual activity in bathrooms had the potential to expose children to public sex.

"There has never been any evidence to show that children have walked in on this activity," said Don Romesburg, a spokesperson for the Gay and Lesbian Alliance Against Defamation. "Which is why it's hard to believe this is more than just sleaze."

The Fox network issued a general statement defending the piece aired in New York.

"We stand behind the report as we felt it would be of great interest to parents and children," the statement said.

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Media experts say this kind of report is becoming more and more common. The stations defend the reports, according to GLAAD, by citing concerns about the safety of children.

But media analyst Larry Gross said stations are broadcasting sensational news stories in a quest for higher ratings. And if one kind of report gets high ratings at one station, other stations are likely to do similar reports.

"It sets up a kind of pattern, where incidents like this encourage other stations to do the same stories," said Gross, a professor at the Annenberg School of Communication in Philadelphia. "A lot of the local affiliates are sharing these kinds of stories through their syndicated networks, saying, 'Hey, it works for us. Why don't you try it?'"

Gross said it isn't an accident that these reports air most often during the so-called sweeps weeks when stations compete for higher ratings. The frequency of such stories prompted GLAAD to work with the Fox network for two weeks prior to the broadcast in an effort to help keep gays from being portrayed inaccurately.

"As part of where we're trying to head as an organization, we wanted to take a proactive role," GLAAD's Romesburg said.

But after Fox's broadcast, Romesburg said he was disappointed.

"We had gained several assurances from them about which messages from us they would convey. They chose not to abide by the agreement they had made," he said.

Romesburg, who appeared in the report, said the station agreed to include his comments that criticized the media for airing such programs.

"What you didn't see was my saying that if news outlets are so concerned about children seeing graphic content,

then they shouldn't film it and broadcast it through people's living rooms," he said.

What viewers who watched "Cruising for Sex" did see were fuzzy images of two men exchanging discreet glances.

"But watch what happens when I pretend to be interested," announces reporter Craig Treadway in the video report.

Treadway expresses his interest — off-camera — and the men gesture to Treadway to join them by the urinal. In another clip, two men wait for a father and his son to leave the restroom, then strike up a conversation. Never once do the hidden cameras show children interacting with adults who are apparently in the restrooms to cruise.

Those angered by the broadcast said the scenes revealed more than Fox had intended. They said the report showed that the men posed no public threat.

"If in fact what they are trying to show is sexual exhibitions exposed to an unsuspecting public, why does the reporter admit that he has to pretend to have a sexual interest in people in the restroom before anyone paid attention to him?" said Chris Farrell, a member of the activist group Sex Panic! "In every case, it was the reporter who was the sexual aggressor."

The report raised other issues as well. Gross said using hidden cameras was ethically questionable.

"From a journalistic point of view, it's real regression," he said. "Any time reporters are engaging in that kind of surveillance, there had better be a very serious public threat that is being uncovered."

Romesburg agreed.

"It's illegal, for good reason, to film a person's private activities," said Romesburg. "These laws were made to

prevent creeps from taking these videos home and watching them."

"Does it make it less creepy," he asked, "because there's a news sticker on the side of the camera?"

A new angle

Romesburg said the fact that Fox found no evidence of interaction between adults and children in public restrooms did not matter. He said Fox and other stations have found a new angle. He said most stations who aired similar segments reported that there are Web sites that direct men to cruising spots in parks, malls, train stations and other places.

"They use it as their spin so they can say, 'This is news,'" he said.

It is not news, according to San Francisco resident Keith Griffith, who created the Web site cruisingforsex.com three years ago. The Fox report said that the site, which lists all the spots highlighted in the report, was popular among gay men.

Griffith, who said the site gets about 14,000 hits a day, has received e-mail messages asking him to remove the site from the Internet in light of all the media attention.

"I've told all of them that is not an option," said Griffith. "I can't imagine allowing the news media, of all institutions, to silence what is, in fact, another form of the news media."

Instead, Griffith has created a media primer on his site that suggests ways for reporters to put together a more balanced story.

Griffith said one reason he added the primer was to let reporters know that sensationalized reports have resulted in arrests and, in some cases, deaths. Griffith pointed out that after a Jan. 30 *Arkansas Democrat Gazette* story ran that included the names and addresses of men arrested in a public

See TV SEX/ page 8A

The web site cruisingforsex.com lists several pick up spots for gay men in Houston, including some recently targeted by police during undercover stings:

- Bank of the Southwest building, 1100 Louisiana
- Bally's on North Shepherd
- Doubletree Hotel at Allen Center, 400 Dallas St.
- Dunlavy Park along Allen Parkway (from Shepherd to downtown)
- Wells Fargo Plaza Building at Louisiana and McKinney
- Greenway/Stouffer Hotel
- Houston Public Library, downtown
- Hyatt downtown
- Marriott Hotel Downtown
- Marriott Greenspoint
- Marriott Medical Center Hotel
- Memorial Park
- Methodist Hospital
- Milby Park, Hwy. 225 at Central Street
- Park near Allen Parkway at Dunlavy near the cemetery
- Sears at Main Street and Wheeler
- Rice University library
- University of Houston Agnes Arnold Hall building, central campus library, Fine Arts Building

CORRECTION

An advertisement featuring CenterCity Medical in the June 19, 1998 edition of *Houston Voice* included an incorrect opening date. The business opening will be announced soon. We regret the error.

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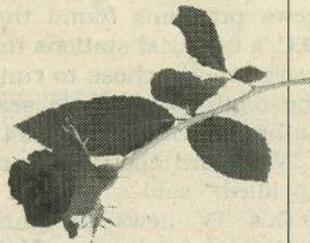
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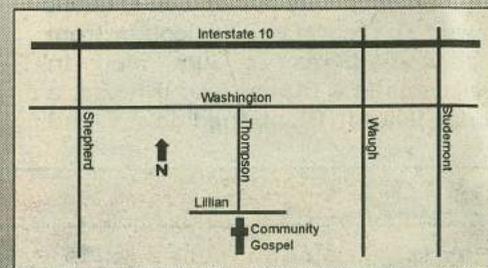
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Cammermeyer: Give gay teenagers a 'lifeline' for survival

by MATTHEW A. HENNIE

Margarethe Cammermeyer is tired of being labeled a lesbian.

The 56-year-old grandmother, nurse and Vietnam veteran, in a heated race to capture Washington state's Second Congressional District, can't seem to get past the label in media accounts of her campaign.

She stood up to the government when they booted her out of the military in 1992 and fought successfully for her reinstatement. Her campaign centers on health care, education and Social Security.

But Cammermeyer — one of four openly lesbians running for Congress this year — can't move everyone's attention past a single label.

"I am so tired of being gay," Cammermeyer told *An Uncommon Legacy* Foundation during a stop in Houston on June 28.

"As long as there is a first to anything, we have not accepted diversity as part of our culture. We are striving to get past the firsts to take part in society," she said.

But the campaign can provide an opportunity to relate her story and present positive images of gays and lesbians in the context of her other accomplishments, Cammermeyer told dozens of guests during a 15-

become to know who we are."

Since gaining national acclaim after a television movie relayed her career and battle against her dismissal from the military, Cammermeyer said she meets teens troubled with their sexuality. All they need is a role model, she said.

"They need to feel that their only option is not suicide. You hope that you can give them a hand to hold them up. My focus has really become to reach out to gay youth and society as a whole," she said.

Younger gays need something to grasp, Cammermeyer said.

"A rainbow flag anywhere would give them a lifeline. That's our responsibility. Build that history for the youth," she said.

Cammermeyer has made a career of service: the native of Norway moved to Washington, D.C. as a child, and became a citizen in 1960. As a college student, she enlisted in the Army student nurse program and eventually served as a head nurse during the Vietnam War and was awarded a Bronze Star for Meritorious Service.

Discharged from the Army after the birth of her first son, Cammermeyer returned to join the Army reserves in 1972 when a ban on women soldiers with young depen-



Sights on Washington: Retired Army Col. Margarethe Cammermeyer said during a recent stop in Houston that it's time gays and lesbians to their rightful place in Congress. The 56-year-old grandmother is one of four openly lesbian candidates campaigning for Congress this year. —Photo by Matthew A. Hennie



Sovermye

award winner and presented its "Extra Mile" honor to local businesswoman Marion Coleman.

"Use the lesbian youth of today to build the leadership of tomorrow," said Legacy executive director Karen Sovernye.

Torrie Justus, a former longtime employee of Exxon, received a scholarship to defray costs of attending the University of Houston



But the campaign can provide an opportunity for her story and present positive accomplishments. Cammermeyer told dozens of guests during a 15-minute address at the annual brunch. She also challenged her audience to reach out to younger gays who may need guidance.

"Many of us have an opportunity to tell a story, to tell about a struggle to be who we are," she said. "Make explicit our stories, our journey to

Sovernye

1972 when a ban on women soldiers with young dependents was lifted. She went on to become Chief Nurse of the Washington State National Guard, but her career came to a quick end in 1989 when she uttered four words: "I am a lesbian."

Also during the brunch, the group named Cammermeyer its "Uncommon Woman"

son, Cammermeyer returned to join the Army reserves in

Torrie Justus, a former longtime employee of Exxon, received a scholarship to defray costs of attending the University of Houston-Clearlake. Legacy also awarded grants to gay and lesbian organizations, including Old Lesbians Organizing for Change.

An Uncommon Legacy Foundation is a non-profit national group dedicated to supporting lesbians.



'Extra Mile': Janine Brunjes of An Uncommon Legacy Foundation awarded the group's Extra Mile award to businesswoman Marion Coleman, a printer and board member of Body Positive. "To me, this award is symbolic of dedication to this community and unity in the community," Coleman said during the award ceremony June 28. — Photo by Dalton DeHart

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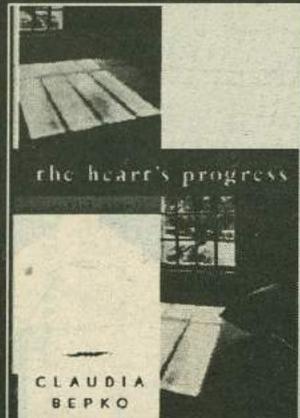
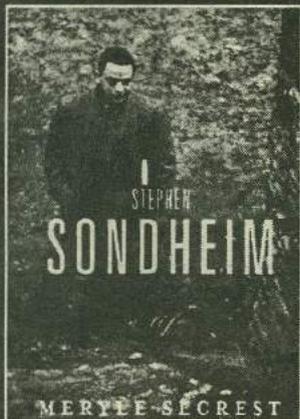


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LOCAL

City Council doles out \$2.1 million to AIDS groups

From staff reports

Some \$2.1 million in grants to fund AIDS-related housing programs were approved earlier this week by City Council, according to *The Houston Chronicle*.

A 16-apartment complex for women and children, a contract with Bering Community Service Foundation for emergency housing assistance for people with AIDS, and funds to provide transitional and permanent housing for 70 people will be provided through the funds.

"We see our tenants are discriminated against as to where they can't lease if they should disclose their HIV status," Sara Selber, executive director of AIDS Foundation Houston, told *the Chronicle* on Thursday. "I think there's a tremendous need for the housing."

The foundation opened its own 30-unit residential facility last year.

Some \$475,000 of the grant funds are earmarked for Bering to provide emergency housing to AIDS sufferers and their families through next June. Bering and Omega House, a residential hospice, recently announced plans to merge by year's end.

Additional funding may be on the way for local AIDS service providers: The U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development is expected to boost the city's share of funding from its Housing Opportunities for Persons with AIDS programs by \$1 million, to \$5.1 million next year, according to *the Chronicle*.

Last year, Housing Opportunities money funded through the city paid for transitional housing for 150 people and rental assistance and support services for another 700 or so.

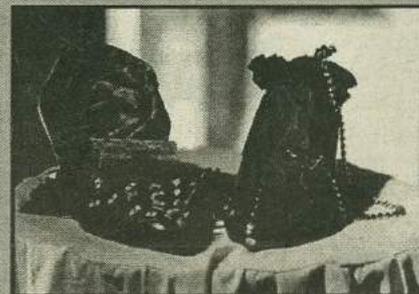
Volunteers of America, Texas Inc., plans to use its \$1.5 million to build

the 16-apartment New Visions community residence at the intersection of Werner and East Rogers Boulevard, adjacent to a substance abuse treatment facility it runs, officials said.

"We really know that with the population we serve with substance abuse, we already serve clients affected with HIV and AIDS," Janet Dumas, regional director for the non-profit organization, told *the Chronicle*. "So, it's really just an expansion of that."

Groundbreaking is planned within two weeks; move-in is anticipated for March.

Star-Studded Shoes



Footwear of the rich and famous, including the pumps of City Councilwoman Annise Parker, came out of the closet on June 26 to raise funds for Pride Committee of Houston at 711 William Street Gallery. Local artists volunteered their time and talents to spruce up the shoes for a silent auction. Final figures were not available late Thursday, but organizers said preliminary estimates show Pumped Up in Art raised about \$4,000. —Photo by Dalton DeHart

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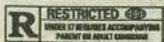
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Hearing set to toughen hate crimes laws

by MATTHEW A. HENNIE

Some city and state officials want their colleagues to take a hard look at improving hate crimes legislation in Texas and will use a July 9 hearing to develop recommendations on how to do it.

City Councilman Jew Don Boney, whose district includes Montrose, joined state Sen. Rodney Ellis at City Hall on Monday to announce the hearing and make a plea for strengthening laws against crimes motivated by race, religion, disability, ethnicity or sexual orientation.

"Hate crimes are obviously something that affect all of us," Boney said. "We hope with Jasper as a background, we will be able to go back in and clean up the vagueness (of current laws). I want it to be easy for prosecutors to prosecute."

Three white men with suspected ties to white supremacist groups are charged in last month's gruesome slaying of James Byrd Jr., a black man who lived in Jasper.

The councilman said he wants Texas to have a tougher hate crimes law with stiff penalties so potential criminals think twice before striking.

"I want the law to be clear enough so we can upgrade the punishment," he said. "We must now work together to pass laws that clearly define what constitutes a hate crime to ensure that law enforcement has an effective tool to fight the forces of hate and bigotry," Ellis said.

Boney said tougher laws and penalties should also include crimes targeting gays and lesbians, a large block of constituents in his Council District D.



Targeting hate: City Councilman Jew Don Boney joined state Sen. Rodney Ellis on Monday in announcing a July 9 hearing to review the state's hate crimes laws and to develop recommendations to strengthen protection for African-Americans and gays in the wake of the brutal slaying last month of a black man in Jasper allegedly by three white men tied to white supremacist groups. —Photo by Matthew A. Hennie

"To not do that means open season on gays and lesbians," Boney said. "It is wrong to pass legislation that does not include all Texans."

Boney and Ellis want the hearing to provide a comprehensive review of hate crime legislation as well as ideas on how to reform current laws when

state lawmakers return to session in January.

What: Hate crimes hearing

When: July 9 at 7 p.m.

Where: City Council Annex Chambers, 900 Bagby at Walker

Contact: 713-247-2001

CRIME VIGIL: Q-Patrol will hold a candlelight vigil on July 4 at 11 p.m. to commemorate victims of hate crimes. The vigil begins on Montrose at West Drew, moves south along Montrose to Hyde Park to Grant and ends at Pacific Street.

The Houston Police Department recorded 31 hate crimes in 1997. Of those, 11 were motivated by race, six by religion, six by ethnicity and eight by sexual orientation.

For more information, call 713-528-7233.

IN APPRECIATION: Local businessman Charles Armstrong donated \$1,000 recently to The 100 Club, a group that provides police officers with equipment and scholarships and support to the families of officers who die in the line of duty.

Armstrong presented the donation during brief ceremonies at the police storefront on Westheimer June 15. The funds, he said, are in appreciation of the hard work involved in providing a safe Montrose.

Employees of the company also raised \$3,500 for two charities during "Dragzilla" on June 15, officials said.

Performers and bartenders for the event donated tips and contributions to The 800 Pacific Employee Emergency Fund and The Texas AIDS Ride.

Past recipients of donations from the business include AFH Walk, Case de Esperanza, Q-Patrol and the Gay and Lesbian Switchboard Houston.

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Undercover sting: Houston police arrested nine men on sex charges in a wooded area next to Beth Yeshurun Cemetery in the 3400 block of Allen Parkway last month. Authorities said the men allegedly exposed themselves.

TV SEX/ from page 4

sex raid, one man committed suicide.

The paper continued to list the names of men arrested for public sex, Griffith pointed out, but did not do the same for men arrested for soliciting female prostitutes.

Gay organizations have issued

men are not "sad, closeted individuals who are unable to come to terms with their sexuality."

Griffith said that if gay organizations continue to deny that men who engage in public sex are part of the gay community, then media coverage of gay issues will never get better.

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same for men arrested for soliciting female prostitutes.

Gay organizations have issued statements blasting sensationalistic reports such as the one aired on Fox.

"As an organization that represents lesbian and gay professionals concerned with responsible portrayal, we deplore this kind of voyeuristic broadcast journalism," said a statement released by the National Lesbian and Gay Journalists Association.

It was only the second statement NLGJA has issued in the past two years, according to Mike Frederickson, the group's executive director.

"This is unusual for us," Frederickson said. "But our leadership decided to take a stand on this, because we noticed a strong pattern around the country of local television stations using this topic during sweeps week."

But some activists said that they were dismayed that the NLGJA statement, issued May 11, included what they consider to be inaccurate information.

"Public sex is as foreign to the lives of most gay people as it is to most straight people," the NLGJA statement said. "Males who engage in this practice with other males are usually those whose fear of societal condemnation makes them afraid to frequent clubs and bars where they risk being identified."

Griffith said NLGJA had engaged in some misrepresentation of its own.

"The parks and toilets are crawling with self-identified, happily gay, dare I say it — normal — men," he said. "To try to claim that most of these men are not well-adjusted gay men is an outright misrepresentation of the facts."

A study published last month in London's *Independent* seems to agree.

In a survey of 200 men who frequented bathrooms for sex, more than 75 percent said they also regularly visit gay social venues and groups. The *Independent* concluded that these

gay issues will never get better.

"The reason I feel this is so important is that when we're dealing with the media, we're dealing with a group of fairly liberal-thinking straight people who do not want to be accused of gay-bashing. But they have convinced themselves that these men are not us, which for them justifies doing the story," he said.

Griffith said that, for this reason, gay organizations should stand up for closeted men just as much as they claim self-identified gays.

"They're all engaging in homosexual sex," said Griffith. "And if homosexual sex is not something they can stand up for, then for god's sake, what can they stand up for?"

Tracey Conaty, spokesperson for the National Gay and Lesbian Task Force, agreed that whether a man identifies as gay should not be an issue.

"Whether or not these men are gay or gay-identified is not the point," said Conaty. "The issue here is entrapment, and the violation of what we consider private spaces."

But NLGJA President Karen Boothe said that the organization stands by its statement that public sex is not representative of the gay community.

"This conversation already excludes the other half of the gay community, which is female," said Boothe. "From a non-journalistic standpoint, as a lesbian, these stories have nothing to do with my life."

But Boothe said the discussion should stay focused on journalistic standards.

"Rather than having a discussion about the NLGJA statement, let's all join together to say our stories are being misrepresented," said Boothe. "That's what people should be concerned about. We should not be having an internal community debate, because we're getting nowhere."

Lou Chibbaro Jr. contributed to this report.

HIV procedure may not work in non-Hispanic whites

SAN ANTONIO — A new study on AIDS research suggests developing treatments around the relatively new science of genetic resistance to AIDS may be more difficult than many had hoped, according to a researcher at the University of Texas Health Science Center.

The journal *Nature Medicine* reported that a gene mutation previously found to extend the life and health of HIV-infected people appears only to work in African-Americans and perhaps Hispanics, but not non-Hispanic whites.

The study, which examined 1,090 HIV-infected Air Force personnel, also found that another gene mutation earlier believed to delay disease progression actually caused patients to sicken and die faster.

"Even though non-Hispanic whites and African-Americans have the same gene mutation, it's only protective in one group," Dr. Sunil Ahuja said. The findings suggest other, yet-undiscovered gene mutations also are at work in one group but not the other, he said.

SCHOOL SHOOTING: The 15-year-old youth accused of shooting up a before-school prayer session in West Paducah, Ky. told a psychologist the incident was triggered by taunts, including a school newspaper gossip column implying he was gay. In a report compiled for the case against Michael Carneal, a psychologist says the youth suffers from chronic depression, feelings of worthlessness and low self-esteem.



Carneal

Carneal is accused of opening fire on a before-school prayer meeting at Heath High School last December, killing three students and wounding five others. He is scheduled to go to trial Oct. 5. Carneal told Schetky and Dr. Dewey Cornell he was the subject

ors and religious leaders to declare days of fasting and prayer.

NEUTRALIZE ORDER: U.S. Rep. Joel Hefley (R-Colo.) wants to "neutralize" President Clinton's executive order protecting lesbian and gay federal workers from job discrimination. The order, signed last month, gives gays and lesbians "special" status as a protected class throughout the federal government, Hefley said recently. He said he has proposed an amendment to the 1999 Treasury-Postal Appropriations bill that would prevent any of the funds appropriated in the bill from being used "to implement, administer, or enforce" the order.

"Bill Clinton has added a new category to the nation's civil rights laws," the Colorado Springs congressman said. "With this action, the president effectively established institutional quotas for homosexual employees." Nanda Chitre, a White House spokeswoman, said the issue is one of dis-

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killing three students and wounding five others. He is scheduled to go to trial Oct. 5. Carneal told Schetky and Dr. Dewey Cornell he was the subject of constant teasing but did not believe he exhibited any gay tendencies. "Mike detailed extensive harassment at school in recent years in which he was called gay, faggot, nerd, geek" and other epithets, according to the psychologist's report. "He stated that he was also spat upon, hit, put in headlocks and threatened with violence."

GAY DAYS: The Downtown Development Board of Orlando proposed June 17 that no flags should fly from light posts unless the event is sponsored by the city, according to the *Orlando Sentinel*. If the City Council agrees in an upcoming vote, there will be no more displays of gay-pride flags, or any others, without an official stamp of approval. The controversy



Robertson

about the light poles erupted after the council's decision to fly rainbow flags during June, National Gay Pride Month. "Orlando is just like any other city. We've got some deep-seated problems here on issues of sexuality," said City Councilman Ernest Page.

Also, televangelist Pat Robertson has expanded on his recent warnings to Orlando, suggesting that fires raging in central Florida fulfill his earlier warning of divine punishment for allowing the flags to fly and for welcoming gay tourists to "Gay Days" in Orlando. Quoting from a passage in the Bible, Robertson said on the June 8 edition of his "700 Club" show that people must "turn from their wicked ways" and pray to bring rain and stop the fires. He urged city councils, may-

effectively established institutional quotas for homosexual employees." Nanda Chitre, a White House spokeswoman, said the issue is one of discrimination.

HOUSING BAN: Yeshiva University in New York discriminates against gay and lesbian couples by barring them from living together on campus, according to a lawsuit. The American Civil Liberties Union called the lawsuit



Curse: Rabbi Yehuda Levin (left) and Rabbi William Handler put a Biblical curse on NY City Council members supporting domestic partner benefits for gay couples. —Photo by Leo Sorel

filed last June 24 in State Supreme Court in Manhattan a unique national case. ACLU lawyer Michael Adams said the suit seeks to force the school to change its housing policy, seeking unspecified damages for emotional distress, plus extra housing and commuting costs. Yeshiva University is the country's oldest and largest institution of higher education under Jewish auspices.

Two of the alleged victims of housing discrimination told reporters it was painful to be barred from campus housing. Sarah Levin, 26, a third-year medical student at Yeshiva University's Albert Einstein College of Medicine, said she was surprised when the school denied housing because she was not married to her partner of six years, Carla Richmond.

—From staff and wire reports

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Damaged: Scott Harbers cleaned up the Lutherans Concerned float after vandals apparently damaged it after the Pride Parade on June 27. Bales of hay on the float were set ablaze and strewn across the front lawn of Grace Lutheran Church at Waugh and Missouri. —Photos by Matthew A. Hennie

PARADE/ from page 1

ly confirmed. The Houston Police Department did not issue a crowd estimate.

But people were lined shoulder-to-shoulder and packed six or more deep along Westheimer near Montrose Boulevard. The brief rain before the event didn't dampen the spirits of parade-goers, who yelled in support as floats passed by.

Kim Ward, a self-described leather dyke who marched in the event last year, said standing on a curb watching provided a new view.

"So far, so good," she said as vehicles crawled by. "Since I marched last year, this is a whole different perspective. I like it wherever I am — in the parade or on the sidewalk."

The annual parade capped some 60 activities that spanned much of last month to commemorate the June 27, 1969 Stonewall riots in Greenwich Village. New York City police raided the Stonewall Tavern on Christopher Street, setting off days of riots by lesbians and gays.

The riots marked the start of modern lesbian and gay activism

More parade photos, page 8B

were investigating the case as arson.

Harbers said the church's outreach to gays and lesbians could have sparked the damage.

"I know we are doing a fairly controversial ministry here. It really does aggravate me to have to go through this," he said.

Corporations and mainstream businesses — such as Chase Bank of Texas, H-E-B Pantry Foods and Budweiser — are becoming increasingly visible in the gay pride parade. A handful of religious organizations or congregations also joined in the 112 entries.

"There is a broader range of interest in the parade by businesses," said Julie Siska, executive director of Pride Committee of Houston.

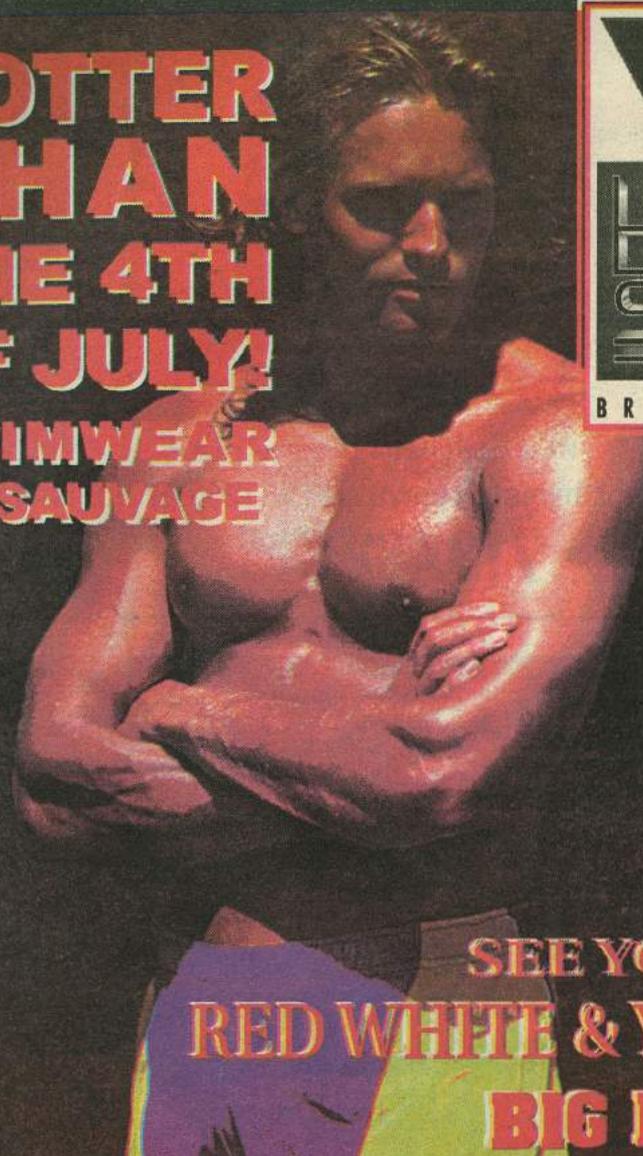
But Houston's event still attracts the flamboyant, including drag queens, men in leather and strippers that perform in nearby gay bars.

Cean Taylor, who watched the parade along with 9-year-old Robert Romero near a convenience store at Westheimer and Montrose, has attended for at least five years.

"What brings me out to the parade?"

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The riots marked the start of modern lesbian and gay activism.

A heavy police presence, including more than one dozen officers on horses, encountered few problems during the Houston event, organizers said.

Only one arrest was recorded, organizers said. Protesters and hecklers never materialized.

"From our standpoint, it was very successful," said Carol Clark, chairwoman of the Pride executive committee. "I think the weather might have kept a few people home, but it didn't dampen the enthusiasm of the participants."

Clean up efforts were hampered, though, when someone tried to set fire to the Lutherans Concerned float parked at Grace Lutheran Church at Missouri and Waugh.

A few bales of hay on the trailer were burned and scattered near the street sometime after Scott Harbers parked the float late Saturday, he said. Police

parade along with the parade float. Romero near a convenience store at Westheimer and Montrose has attended for at least five years.

"What brings me out to the parade? Pride. Pride. Pride. And being me," Taylor said. "It's the first year I've stayed for the whole time."

Maria Todd, a morning drive-time personality for KRBE 104.1, moved from riding in the parade to emceeing the event from a reviewing stand. "Everyone gets along," Todd said between autographs after the procession. "I like the ideals that are represented here. Everyone should be accepted for who they are."

Siska said plans are already underway for next year's event. Organizers also awarded several entries: Chase Bank of Texas (Unified, Diversified, Electrified), Outrage (Spirit of Montrose), KREW of Olympus (Stonewall), Overland trail Riders (Gypsy Rose), BRB (Edison), Supercuts (Rainbow Lights), KOLBE Project (Ruby Slipper), Bering Church (Houston) and Community Gospel



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AIDS vaccine suffers big setback

New work shows that over time a weakened HIV virus — considered the best hope for an AIDS vaccine — can mutate into a lethal form, providing what could be a serious setback for eliminating AIDS, scientists said Thursday during the 12th World AIDS Conference in Geneva.

The approach — what scientists call a live, attenuated vaccine — initially protects monkeys from getting infected with the simian version of HIV. However, the new work shows that over time, the weakened virus can mutate into a lethal form that causes the disease it was meant to prevent.

Dr. Robert Gallo of the University of Maryland said that if the live attenuated approach fails, it means AIDS vaccine development is no further ahead than it was in 1984, when little was known about the epidemic's cause. "We have no guarantee that we will ever have a vaccine," he said.

Creating an AIDS vaccine is a top priority of researchers but also an extraordinarily difficult task because the AIDS virus attacks parts of the immune system that are ordinarily called into action by effective vaccines.

FACING BIAS: Fear of being branded an outcast keeps many HIV-positive people from mounting legal challenges to discrimination or from getting testes, even though ending bias is the key to stemming the spread of the AIDS virus, speakers at the conference said Thursday.

"People won't come forward if they face being killed in the streets," said Susan Paxton of APN-plus, a human rights group for people with HIV/AIDS. HIV-positive people face



Talking AIDS: The giant official condom of the 12th World AIDS Conference welcomed participants to the conference at Geneva, Switzerland last Monday. — Photo by Donald Stampfli

single biggest problem in treating AIDS.

At this week's 12th World AIDS Conference in Switzerland, the euphoria over AIDS treatments and incredibly powerful combinations of pills has been deflated by another realization: Many are failing therapy because their medicines are just too hard to take without an occasional

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Table B. Percent of Patients With Marked Laboratory Abnormalities*

Biochemistry/Hematology	Limit	NV15182 (48 weeks)	NV15355 (16 weeks) Naive Patients	
		FORTOVASE + TOC† N=442	INVIRASE + 2 RTIs‡ N=81	FORTOVASE + 2 RTIs‡ N=80
Alk Phos	>5 x ULN§	0.5	0.0	0.0
Calcium (high)	>12.5 mg/dL	0.2	0.0	0.0
Creatine Kinase	>4 x ULN§	7.8	0.0	4.8
Gamma GT	>5 x ULN§	5.7	2.6	7.1
Glucose (low)	<40 mg/dL	6.4	2.5	3.5
Glucose (high)	>250 mg/dL	1.4	1.3	1.2
Phosphate	<1.5 mg/dL	0.5	0.0	0.0
Potassium (high)	>6.5 mEq/L	2.7	0.0	1.2
Serum Amylase	>2 x ULN§	1.9	Not Done	Not Done
SGOT (AST)	>5 x ULN§	4.1	0.0	1.2
SGPT (ALT)	>5 x ULN§	5.7	1.3	2.3
Sodium (high)	>157 mEq/L	0.7	0.0	0.0
Total Bilirubin	>2.5 x ULN§	1.6	0.0	0.0
Hemoglobin	<7.0 gm/dL	0.7	0.0	1.2
ANC	<750 mm³	2.9	2.9	1.2
Platelets	<50,000 mm³	0.9	2.5	0.0

*ACTG Grade 3 or above. †Antiretroviral Treatment of Choice. ‡Reverse-Transcriptase Inhibitor. §ULN = Upper limit of normal range.

Additional marked lab abnormalities have been observed with INVIRASE (saquinavir mesylate). These include: calcium (low), phosphate (low), potassium (low), sodium (low).

Monotherapy and Combination Studies: Other clinical adverse experiences of any intensity, at least remotely related to FORTOVASE and INVIRASE, including those in <2% of patients, are listed below by body system.

Autonomic Nervous System: Mouth dry, night sweats, sweating increased

Body as a Whole: Allergic reaction, anorexia, appetite decreased, appetite disturbances, asthenia, chest pain, edema, fever, intoxication, malaise, olfactory disorder, pain body, pain pelvic, retrosternal pain, shivering, trauma, wasting syndrome, weakness generalized, weight decrease

Cardiovascular/Cerebrovascular: Cyanosis, heart murmur, heart rate disorder, heart valve disorder, hypertension, hypotension, stroke, syncope, vein distended

Central and Peripheral Nervous System: Ataxia, cerebral hemorrhage, confusion, convulsions, dizziness, dysarthria, dysesthesia, hyperesthesia, hyperreflexia, hyporeflexia, light-headed feeling, myelopolyradiculoneuritis, neuropathy, numbness extremities, numbness face, paresis, paresthesia, peripheral neuropathy, poliomyelitis, prickly sensation, progressive multifocal leukoencephalopathy, spasms, tremor, unconsciousness

Dermatological: Acne, alopecia, chalazion, dermatitis, dermatitis seborrheic, erythema, folliculitis, furunculosis, hair changes, hot flushes, nail disorder, papillomatosis, papular rash, photosensitivity reaction, pigment changes skin, parasites external, pruritus, psoriasis, rash maculopapular, rash pruritic, red face, skin disorder, skin nodule, skin syndrome, skin ulceration, urticaria, verruca, xeroderma

Endocrine/Metabolic: Dehydration, diabetes mellitus, hyperglycemia, hypoglycemia, hypothyroidism, thirst, triglyceride increase, weight increase

Gastrointestinal: Abdominal distention, bowel movements frequent, buccal mucosa ulceration, canker sores oral, cheilitis, colic abdominal, dysphagia, esophageal ulceration, esophagitis, eructation, fecal incontinence, feces bloodstained, feces discolored, gastralgia, gastritis, gastroesophageal reflux, gastrointestinal inflammation, gingivitis, glossitis, hemorrhage rectum, hemorrhoids, infectious diarrhea, melena, painful defecation, parotid disorder, pruritus ani, pyrosis, salivary glands disorder, stomach upset, stomatitis, taste unpleasant, toothache, tooth disorder, ulcer gastrointestinal

Hematologic: Anemia, neutropenia, pancytopenia, splenomegaly

oral, cheilitis, colic abdominal, dysphagia, esophageal ulceration, esophagitis, eructation, fecal incontinence, feces bloodstained, feces discolored, gastralgia, gastritis, gastroesophageal reflux, gastrointestinal inflammation, gingivitis, glossitis, hemorrhage rectum, hemorrhoids, infectious diarrhea, melena, painful defecation, parotid disorder, pruritus ani, pyrosis, salivary glands disorder, stomach upset, stomatitis, taste unpleasant, toothache, tooth disorder, ulcer gastrointestinal

Hematologic: Anemia, neutropenia, pancytopenia, splenomegaly

Liver and Biliary: Cholangitis sclerosing, cholelithiasis, hepatitis, hepatomegaly, hepatosplenomegaly, jaundice, liver enzyme disorder, pancreatitis

Musculoskeletal: Arthralgia, arthritis, back pain, cramps leg, cramps muscle, lumbago, musculoskeletal disorders, myalgia, myopathy, pain facial, pain jaw, pain leg, pain musculoskeletal, stiffness, tissue changes

Neoplasm: Kaposi's sarcoma, tumor

Platelet, Bleeding, Clotting: Bleeding dermal, hemorrhage, microhemorrhages, thrombocytopenia

Psychiatric: Agitation, amnesia, anxiety attack, behavior disturbances, dreaming excessive, euphoria, hallucination, intellectual ability reduced, irritability, lethargy, overdose effect, psychic disorder, psychosis, somnolence, speech disorder

Reproductive System: Epididymitis, erectile impotence, impotence, menstrual disorder, menstrual irregularity, penis disorder, prostate enlarged, vaginal discharge

Resistance Mechanism: Abscess, angina tonsillaris, candidiasis, cellulitis, herpes simplex, herpes zoster, infection bacterial, infection mycotic, infection staphylococcal, infestation parasitic, influenza, lymphadenopathy, molluscum contagiosum, moniliasis

Respiratory: Asthma bronchial, bronchitis, cough, dyspnea, epistaxis, hemoptysis, laryngitis, pharyngitis, pneumonia, pulmonary disease, respiratory disorder, rhinitis, rhinitis allergic atopic, sinusitis, upper respiratory tract infection

Special Senses: Blepharitis, conjunctivitis, cytomegalovirus retinitis, dry eye syndrome, earache, ear pressure, eye irritation, hearing decreased, otitis, taste unpleasant, tinnitus, visual disturbance, xerophthalmia

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FOR0080

face being killed in the streets," said Susan Paxton of APN-plus, a human rights group for people with HIV/AIDS. HIV-positive people face bias throughout the world, including denial of the right to marry, refusal of medication and other treatment and job discrimination, the delegates said.

In a study of 100 people who complained of HIV-linked discrimination in Mexico's Jalisco state, only 21 went to court with their complaints, said Armando Diaz Camarena of the AIDS Prevention Council. The U.N. AIDS agency says more than 30 million people worldwide are infected with HIV, yet only one in 10 knows it.

RESISTANT STRAIN: People are beginning to catch viruses that are resistant to protease inhibitors, indicating the spread of a strain of AIDS virus that will almost certainly be difficult and perhaps impossible to treat—at least with the medicines now on the market, doctors said at the AIDS conference Wednesday.

Some believe that the availability of AIDS treatment with protease inhibitors has made some people less diligent about safe-sex practices to prevent infection. "This is a wake-up call to people who assume that since we have adequate therapy, if they get infected they will be easily treated," said Dr. Anthony Fauci, head of the National Institute of Allergy and Infectious Diseases.

At the Geneva conference, San Francisco doctors reported one new infection with a highly resistant virus, while a Swiss team said they had seen several more. No one knows yet how common these untreatable strains are.

'PILL BURDEN': The regimen of swallowing 15 to 20 pills every day and night to fight AIDS is nearly impossible and is emerging as the

increasingly powerful combination of pills has been deflated by another realization: Many are failing therapy because their medicines are just too hard to take without an occasional lapse.

A study presented at the conference by Dr. Allyn Nakashima of the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention surveyed 1,274 patients in 12 states. Two-thirds said they "always" take their medicines as prescribed. But this fell off over time. After two years of treatment, just over half were still taking them as ordered. In another study of 248 patients in five U.S. cities, only 21 percent had not missed a dose.

But the conference also brought reports of the successful testing of two AIDS drugs that would reduce the total number of pills people must take. Drug companies are also working to make medicines less sensitive to eating habits and to reduce the frequency of doses.

SEX HAPPENS: The nation's top doctor scolded the U.S. for not being more straightforward about AIDS with its young people, and called for televised condom commercials and the release of federal funds for needle exchange programs.

"In a country where sex is happening everywhere — movies, TV, everywhere you can imagine — when it comes to addressing it, frankly we have some way to go," Surgeon General David Satcher told a session on youth prevention programs at the AIDS conference this week.

Satcher said an estimated 40,000-80,000 people in the United States, mostly adolescents, become infected each year with HIV, the virus that causes AIDS. One in four sexually active U.S. teen-agers contracts a sexually transmitted disease each year, according to the Centers for Disease Control in Atlanta.

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P A S T O U T

Dainty dresses, golden curls army boots and gay soldiers

This week in gay and lesbian history: 1942

by DAVID BIANCO

What were the army drag shows during World War II?

Entertainment for the armed forces during World War II was much more than Bob Hope and the Andrews Sisters touring with the United Services Organization (USO). In 1942, to complement the USO, the Army Special Services Branch set up an all-soldier theatrical program to help boost troop morale. These shows almost invariably included drag numbers and female impersonators, which helped to foster an underground gay soldier community during the war years.

The Special Services Branch took the production of soldier shows seriously, turning its personnel into "talent scouts" who searched army bases for likely performers among the enlisted men — the barracks' cut-ups or clowns — and also those who might be able to write and direct the productions. Special Services also published handbooks nicknamed "Blueprint Specials," which offered scripts, music and lyrics, and costume design instructions (including dress and evening gown

sounds today (and must have sounded to gay soldiers then) like obvious gay subtext, alluding to the rules against homosexuality in the military:

We could do more for the boys
And greatly add to their joys. But we
don't get very far. The rules and regulations
are We mustn't be seen
Outside the canteen
With a soldier.

In the final verse, the hostesses swore "to never be found / Canoodling around / With a soldier."

The canteen segment also incorporated female impersonation, a feature of gay male culture for years. Moreso than the broad comedy of chorus-line drag, female impersonation was and is a highly refined of art projecting the illusion

of becoming the other gender. The mistress of ceremonies of the canteen was "Jane Cowl," a disciplinarian who warned her hostesses that their guests should have fun, "but don't be fools. / It must be done according to the rules."

Miss Cowl introduced to the audience various "celebrities," who were in fact soldiers impersonating some of the stars of the day. One private appeared as



stripper Gypsy Rose Lee, and, as one reviewer noted, he "studied (her)

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offered scripts, music and lyrics, and costume design instructions (including dress and evening gown patterns) to the soldiers.

But one early soldier revue provided the clearest template for many subsequent army shows. Irving Berlin, who himself had served in World War I, wrote an all-soldier musical, "This Is the Army," which debuted on July 4, 1942 at the Broadway Theater in New York City to raise money for the production of other shows. "TITA," as it was known, later toured other cities and was so successful that it was expanded into a Hollywood musical in 1943, starring Lt. Ronald Reagan. The revue featured all the basic elements that would become popular in G.I. shows, including plenty of men in drag.

At first, drag was incorporated because there were no women in the armed forces, but it remained popular even after the founding of the Women's Auxiliary Army Corps (WAAC). Many drag routines had few queer undertones and featured bumbling chorus lines of hairy-chested soldiers dressed in tutus or frills. In "TITA," for example, the spoof "Ladies of the Chorus" involved deep-voiced soldiers in dainty dresses, golden curls, and army boots singing and dancing with men in suits and straw boaters. In a ballet sequence, the men proved unable to lift some of the burly "ladies."

These burlesque-style skits carefully distanced the performers from any suggestion of homosexuality. In the movie version of "TITA," one soldier forced to play a chorus girl whines, "Grown-up guys in dames' clothes. What a sad sack of bananas."

Other musical numbers in "TITA," however, involved comedy drawn more directly from gay male culture. In "Stage Door Canteen," a chorus of "hostesses," again in dresses and army boots, sang lyrics with what

the day. One private appeared as stripper Gypsy Rose Lee, and, as one reviewer noted, he "studied (her) striptease technique carefully. He is charmingly literary about it." Another private impersonated stage actress Lynn Fontanne, who issued orders to her stereotypically milquetoast husband, actor Alfred Lunt. Many gay soldiers had undoubtedly heard the rumors about Lunt and Fontanne's lavender marriage, so the skit provided them with a private joke that straight soldiers missed.

The "TITA" canteen segment, "I Left My Heart at the Stage Door Canteen," must have been poignant for many gay soldiers. In this sequence, a uniformed soldier sang a love song to his "girl," another soldier in drag. Unlike other drag numbers, the song was unabashedly romantic and not for comic relief.

The gay men in the audience weren't the only ones who benefited from these drag numbers. A number of gay soldiers had been involved in the theater in their civilian days and were recruited to perform in the army shows. Often, being thrown together in these revues instilled a sense of camaraderie among gay enlisted men by affording them an underground social network and a public way to camp it up. On the other hand, fear of exposure as gay and dishonorable discharge were sometimes so great that many gay soldiers in these shows were too scared to let down their guard, even with one another.

Ironically, while the U.S. military was for the first time discharging large numbers of gay soldiers, their own theatrical program inadvertently gave many gay soldiers, whether they were audience members or participants, a way to connect with each other.

David Bianco, M.A. is the author of "Modern Jewish History for Everyone." He can be reached care of this publication or at AriBianco@aol.com.

hearing the stars of the day. One private appeared as stripper Gypsy Rose Lee, and, as one reviewer noted, he "studied (her) striptease technique carefully. He is charmingly literary about it." Another private impersonated stage actress Lynn Fontanne, who issued orders to her stereotypically milquetoast husband, actor Alfred Lunt. Many gay soldiers had undoubtedly heard the rumors about Lunt and Fontanne's lavender marriage, so the skit provided them with a private joke that straight soldiers missed.

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Q U O T E U N Q U O T E



"The gay scene is embarrassing to me now. ... It's all about Docle & Gabanna and Prada. Everybody looks the same and dresses the same—they're all label queens. ... When I came to New York in the early '70s, I had deep contact, deep relationships and deep compassion for the homosexual community. There were sexualized relationships with men who were attracted to me and platonic ones with men who just liked me.

"Now, 20 years later, ... gay men don't flirt with me or come on to me in any way, ever. ... If I'm not dressed on a clone-like way, I am ignored by gay men. Chicks like it now. You know, I couldn't get laid by a girl in the '70s. Now, they dig me! What does it mean!? I'm the same guy who was a gay magnet in the '70s and now I'm a chick magnet."

— Actor, filmmaker and self-described fag hag Vincent Gallo (left), promoting his summer flick "Buffalo '66" in the July issue of *Genre* magazine.

"We're calling our cover star, John Bartlett (right), an American hero — yes, we believe fashion designers can indeed be heroes."

— British editor James Collard, newly-installed at *Out* magazine, July issue.



"Unsuspecting tourists, particularly families here to see the monuments, have no way of knowing that they will be sharing that experience with bearded transvestites wearing nun costumes and a lesbian motorcycle gang dressed up like Xena."

— Traditional Values Coalition Executive Director Andrea Sheldon in a June 5 press release about D.C.'s gay-pride celebration.

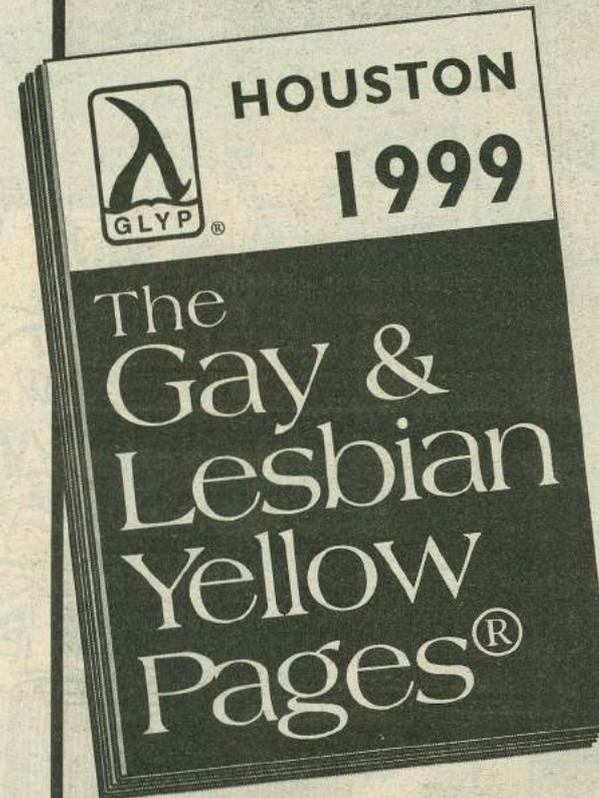


"He (Harrison Ford) called me about these stories that he didn't want to play opposite me anymore [after I came out as Ellen DeGeneres' girlfriend] and said, 'That's all malarkey.' He was wonderful about it. In fact, we added a story line as we went along that we realize he's too old for me, but in the end, it's the love inside that matters."

— Actress Anne Heche (left) about the film "Six Days, Seven Nights" to *Parade* magazine, May 31.

"Many homosexuals are hugely talented artists and executives ... also dear friends. I don't despise their lifestyle, though I don't share it. As long as gay and lesbian Americans are as productive, law-abiding and private as the rest of us, I think America owes them absolute tolerance. It's the right thing to do.

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Who Said You

"Many homosexuals are hugely talented artists and executives ... also dear friends. I don't despise their lifestyle, though I don't share it. As long as gay and lesbian Americans are as productive, law-abiding and private as the rest of us, I think America owes them absolute tolerance. It's the right thing to do.

"But on the other hand, I find my blood pressure rising when Clinton's cultural shock troops participate in homosexual-rights fund-raisers but boycott gun-rights fund-raisers ... and then claim it's time to place homosexual men in tents with Boy Scouts, and suggest that sperm donor babies born into lesbian relationships are somehow better served and more loved."

— Actor Charlton Heston (right) in a recent speech to the Free Congress Foundation's 20th Anniversary Gala. The full speech is online at www.vpc.org/nrainfo/speech.html.



"Mr. Clinton, sir, America did not trust you with our health-care system. America did not trust you with gays in the military. We did not trust you with our 21-year-old daughters, and we sure, Lord, don't trust you with our guns."

— Heston addressing the National Rifle Association's 127th convention June 6 in Philadelphia.

"There is easily no other issue that makes me crazier than the issue of bathroom sex and the so-called 'rights' of this tiny minority of men to do what they do. For 10 years, I've listened to their whining; fielded their angry, pointless telephone calls; and generally marveled at how they have convinced themselves that their proclivities rank in the pantheon of political priorities somewhere between the right to vote and the right to breathe. Lots of these guys—many of whom no doubt also whine about how 'shallow' gay life is—truly expect the gay political agenda to grind to a halt so that they can indulge their own base shallowness."

— Jeff Epperly, editor of Boston's *Bay Windows*, in a May 21 editorial.



"In a country where sex is happening everywhere — movies, TV, everywhere you can imagine — when it comes to addressing it, frankly we have some way to go."

— Surgeon General David Satcher (left) to a session on youth prevention programs at the 12th World AIDS Congress in Geneva last Monday.

"Cure of HIV infection is not a myth. I think this is a problem that can be solved."

— Dr. Robert Siliciano of John Hopkins University last Tuesday during the 12th World AIDS Congress.

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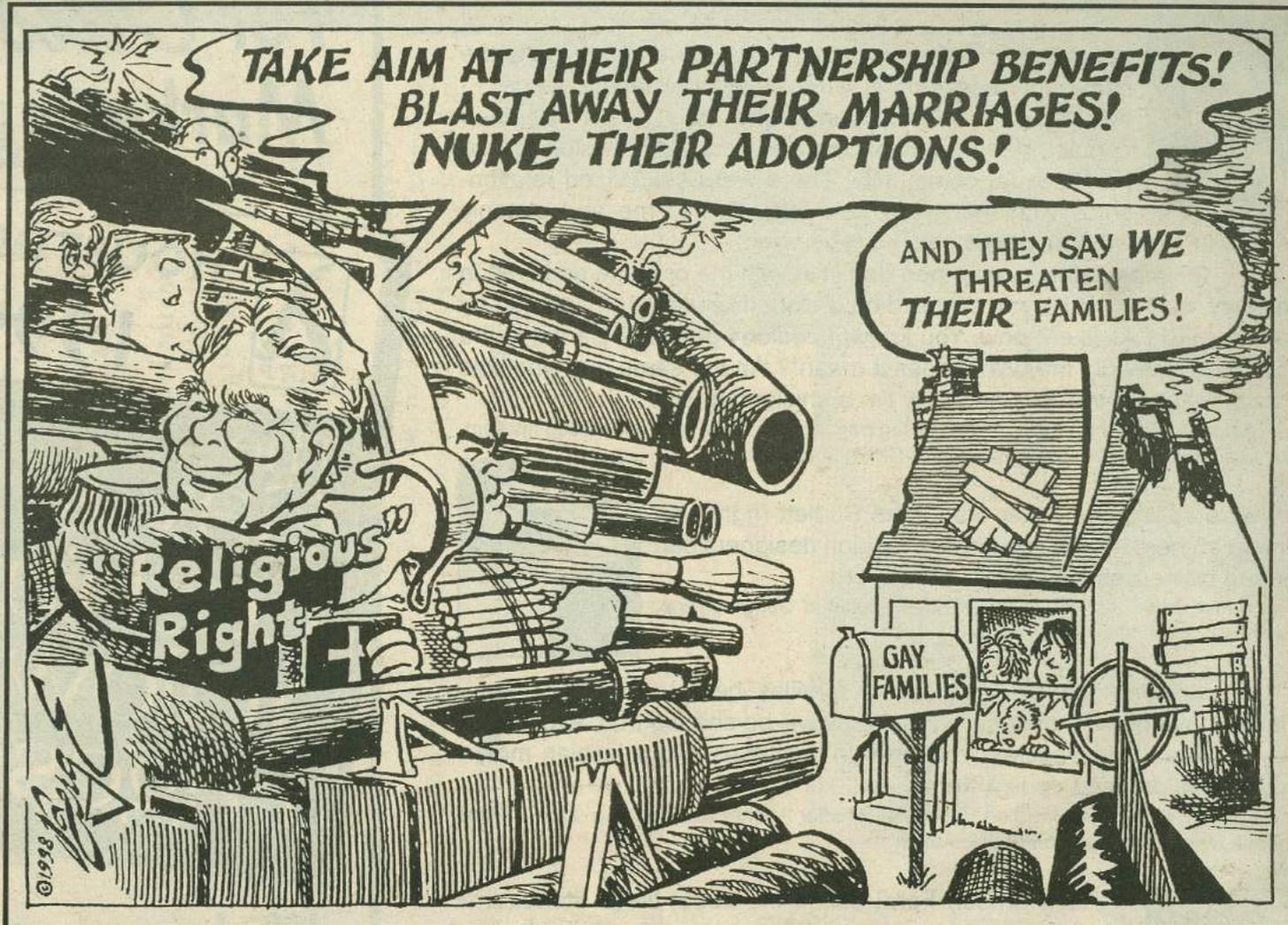
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Sexual Differences

Community tension builds between freedom, orientation



by JAY VANASCO

Recently, CNN's web page ran a story about a little girl who drowned in a swimming pool.

but along lines of sexual preference as well. Bisexual vs. gay or lesbian. Leathersex vs. vanilla sex. The North American Man-Boy Love Association vs. those who turn their eyes away when they see any nude pictures of minors. Those who like and use porn

when advancing our cause. We say that we want America to accept "different kinds of families." We say that we want hets to approve "any relationship based on love."

But do we mean it? In theory, we should be free as birds; in practice, we

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ran a story about a little girl who drowned in a swimming pool. The owners of the house, the reporter was quick to note, were a master and dominatrix. They and the girl's father were being held for suspicion of child neglect because the girl had been unsupervised when she drowned.

The story implied, but didn't say, that one should expect no less than a murdered child from these kind of fiends.

Several months before the CNN story, an article in *Newsweek* noted that convicted bomber Theodore Kaczynsky once went to a Michigan hospital and asked for a sex change. Again, the implication was that Kaczynsky's unstable sexuality was an early sign that he was sick in the head.

This reminds me of a story that was in *The Onion*, a weekly parody of mainstream newspapers. The headline read, "Area Homosexual Saves Four From Fire" and the story went on to detail the rescue of a suburban family by Kevin Lassally, "a homosexual," who prefers "the company of men to women."

The Onion, of course, was mocking just the kind of reporting CNN was guilty of: using extraneous details to force-feed a moral lesson.

These kinds of irrelevant facts in the media point to a significant cultural defect — we don't just acknowledge people with different sexual practices than our own. We despise them. We think they are morally inferior. We are sure that sexual difference means sexual deviancy, and that sexual deviancy is a prime destroyer of civil society.

Gays and lesbians are not immune to this and may be, in fact, among the worst offenders.

Think of how we divide not just along gender, racial or ethnic lines,

American Man-Boy Love Association vs. those who turn their eyes away when they see any nude pictures of minors. Those who like and use porn vs. Dworkinites. Those who practice public sex vs. those who battle it.

In fact, besides the obviously divisive gender wall, the sexual lines we draw in the sand may be more divisive than the racial, ethnic or religious ones. In the straight world there are two sides, more or less-straight and non-straight. In the queer world, we are each in our own boxes.

I have several gay friends who, upon setting eyes on a male-to-female transgendered person dating a woman, shuddered in unison. "Why didn't she just stay a he if she was going to date a woman," one said. As if the gender of the date was the issue, instead of the gender of person the transgendered woman felt herself to be.

Clearly, one of the difficulties queers are struggling with in forming a cohesive community is the tension between sexual freedom as a cornerstone of the gay and lesbian movement on the one hand and a narrowly defined sexual orientation that serves as the basis for our minority community status on the other.

We are a community because of our sexual orientation, not despite it. We have a bond because we have each defined ourselves as being solely attracted to members of the same sex.

Therefore, if a member of our community practices sex that goes beyond our narrowly defined boundaries — if a woman has sex with a man, for instance, or if a man has sex with another man while wearing a dress — then the rest of us feel defensive. How can we keep a community together if individuals keep doing their own thing? How can we tell the straight world, "this is what it means to be gay, this is how we're different from you," if we are so different from each other?

Members of the gay and lesbian community often use code words

we want hats to approve "any relationship based on love."

But do we mean it? In theory, we should be free as birds; in practice, we are pigeonholed.

Kevin Cwynna, International Mr. Leather 1997, said in a *Chicago Reader* article "there's a lot of embarrassment and shame in the mainstream community about the gay community. They don't like leather folk the way they don't like drag folk. They're worried that we're going to shake up their image, or we may mess up their plan to achieve rights because we're too much of a lightning rod for right-wing criticism.

"And it's true, we might be that lightning rod, but no one looks at what's wonderful about the leather community," he said. "They don't say the leather community has such an interesting sense of family. The mainstream gay community is locked into achieving legalized marriage based on a heterosexual model. But there are so many family arrangements and freedoms in the leather community. ... We present no specific model of family but offer the freedom to pursue what you want. ... If you want a daddy-boy relationship, go for it. If you want to have a threesome family, build it."

For myself, I'm pretty comfortable with a lesbian variation on the heterosexual model. But what does it mean for us as a community that we are unwilling to accept a broader range of families? What does it signify if the sexual lines we draw are designed to keep others out instead of ourselves in?

I know there are some who think that it is only by sharply defining the boundaries of our community that we will be able to survive intact. Perhaps that's so. Or maybe we will only survive if we capitalize on the strengths of all those who we are brave enough to let in.

Jay Vanasco is a freelance writer in Chicago and can be reached at jvanasco@uchicago.edu.

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Reassigning Sex

The 'trans' movement is not what Gay Pride's all about



by BEREN deMOTIER

We were over visiting friends recently, sitting languidly in the sun (well, in the shade actually but it sounds less voluptuous), while our children alternately played with and fought over every toy on the lawn.

We'd just reached that delightful post-brunch mellowness known especially to lesbians,

when someone broke the peace by saying, "Look at them, playing so innocently. I wonder what's next? What will be the next big thing after piercing and tattooing when our kids are grown?"

Her partner laughed wickedly. "Amputation," she said. "They'll start whacking off their fingers."

To which I replied, that's old news, only it isn't fingers that are being whacked. And a lively conversation about transgender and sex change operations was had by all.

Which was fortunate for me because I've been pestering people on this subject a lot lately, and here I actually had willing participants. It's good to have a sounding board, especially when you suspect that you're turning into an irrational right-wing fanatic in your approaching middle age.

It's this merging of "trans" with "lesbian, gay and bisexual." I hate it with greater fervor every year. And now that Pride Month has happened all around us, I have tons of reminders everywhere I look that we are being linked, like it or not, ideologically, and legally.

I can deal with the legal. I don't think transgender people should be oppressed or discriminated against, whether being "trans" means that a man or a woman has undergone sexual reassignment surgery, or because they're a woman who wants to dress completely like a "man" and could pass if she wanted to.

And even if you are a transgender warrior, attempting to break down the barriers of gender roles and sexual identities as specifically dual, you shouldn't have to lose your job over it.

Sure, as a mother of both a boy and a girl, I know in the pit of my soul that gender is more than a social

T-shirt and poster for the entire month of June.

It's not like I don't have some sympathy for the movement, or want to sweep it under the rug. I don't want to be like the St. Patrick's Day Parade organizers and disallow anyone to march under whatever personal banner they please.

Gay and lesbian transgender warriors please attend, along with Queers with Corgis and the full congregational membership of the Metropolitan Community Church.

Non-gay and non-lesbian transsexuals marching in support of Gay Pride, please do, carry your signs and cheer. It's not that I want exclusion, oppression or a transgender-free parade, it's just that when the announcer begins and starts shouting about what we're all there to celebrate, it's not the obliteration of a dual-gender system that comes to mind.

My friends were equally baffled by the rise in "transgender" among young people, where it seems to have become a replacement for ACT-UP in its intensity and attractiveness for the young and politically motivated.

No more the simple Renee Richards complete change we all grew up with, transgender has become a multi-faceted octopus of transsexualism,



topic, and ever nearer to home, the idea of taking your body for granted in this way is a bit hard to take.

As is the narcissism. To spend all that time and energy in switching identities from male to female or female to male, in order to make a social statement, is staggering. As one of the women said, if you have enough time on your hands to alter gender, get a hobby, volunteer, go to Temple. Give till it hurts.

Frankly, as a dyed-in-the-wool femme, I enjoy a little dichotomy in life, so

I'm no fan of the seemingly utopian goal of transgender proposed by some. And as for assigning gender by behavior, another tenet of the movement, even though my wife brings home the bacon and I fry it up in a pan, we both know we're women, and isn't that the whole point of being lesbians?

My skeptical side says that this is yet another attempt by extremists (identified primarily as gay or lesbian before this whole "trans" deal became the latest thing) to shoot our movement in the foot for who knows what reason.

This is also the same side of me that often mutters "idle hands make the devil's work," even though I am nothing close to a Christian. But then just call me an "integrationist."

I don't want to be different, "queer" or outside the norm. I don't want to fell the patriarchy, join a socialist revolution (despite the medical benefits potential), or abolish the need for two bathrooms in your local McDonalds.

And even if you are a transgender warrior, attempting to break down the barriers of gender roles and sexual identities as specifically dual, you shouldn't have to lose your job over it.

Sure, as a mother of both a boy and a girl, I know in the pit of my soul that gender is more than a social construct, despite my feminist education, but hey, to each their own.

It's just that I don't think either transsexualism (changing hormonally and/or physically from one sex to another) or transgender (transgressing gender, among the many definitions floating around the cosmos at the moment) are what Gay Pride is all about.

And I wish I didn't have to see it on every banner,

sity and attractiveness for the young and politically motivated.

No more the simple Renee Richards complete change we all grew up with, transgender has become a multi-faceted octopus of transsexualism, cross-dressing, packing and indefinable levels of androgyny created synthetically.

We were talking about this last one, including the fad to "change at will" using black market hormones. For a group of women entering the age where cancer becomes a common



just call me an "integrationist."

I don't want to be different, "queer" or outside the norm. I don't want to fell the patriarchy, join a socialist revolution (despite the medical benefits potential), or abolish the need for two bathrooms in your local McDonalds.

I just want to be free to live my life, love who I love, and raise my kids (who will doubtless change their gender just to annoy me). For me, that's what Gay Pride is all about.

Beren deMotier is a freelance writer and self-identified lesbian housewife who lives in Portland, Ore. with her spouse, two children and a rabbit named William.

Roberts' Rules

Hot off the presses: 30 tips for better lesbian dating



by SHELLY ROBERTS

Naturally, you don't need these rules, because you, like just about every other lesbian on the discovered continents, are already in a long-term, committed, ever-and-ever, off-into-the-sunset relationship that is going to last until Jesse Helms dates boys.

But, just in case the Southern gentleman has a change of heart, or your current does, maybe you ought to clip this and put it in the safety deposit box for reviewing at a time when you're waiting for someone to ask you to dance.

(If, however, you're not currently serially entangled, contact me through this paper. Maybe we could go catch a flick some time? See rule No. 8.)

Since just assuming that the old boy-girl rules actually will translate to lesbian is a sure, straight course to a Saturday night TV dinner and reruns of "The Highlander" and "Xena, Warrior Princess," I thought these might help.

Our Rules. The ones you've been waiting for since just after you broke up with your very first girlfriend and had to face the age-old lesbian question: "Omigod! Whadda I do now?"

Lesbian dating is difficult. But it doesn't have to be a complete contradiction in terms. By the way, the following rules are excerpted from (where else?) "Roberts' Rules of Lesbian Dating," (Spinsters Ink),

available at your nearest rainbow-friendly bookstore.

1. It is never a good idea to ask someone to marry you before the first date.
2. On the first date, don't get anything tatoed. Or pierced.
3. It is better to break up with your current lover before sleeping with your date. It isn't statistically likely, but it is better.
4. It's a numbers game. Kiss a lot of frogs.
5. Dating services are a wonderful way to meet women you wouldn't want to date.
6. Many lesbians would date more than one available lesbian at a time — if there were that many.
7. It isn't fair to keep dating someone just because there isn't someone else.
8. If you don't ask, the answer is always "No."
9. In the new reality, getting AIDS tested together is considered a date.
10. The purpose of lesbian dating is never to have to do it again.
11. While searching for Ms. Right, you will also end up eating dinner with Ms. Self-Righteous and Ms. Always Right.
12. Dating a woman who is unhappier than you are will not make either of you happier.
13. Like puppies, lesbian dates tend to follow you home.
14. Your mother only warned you about calling boys first.
15. If it is not — at some level — about sex, it is not — at any level — a date.

16. Never loan a date more money than she is old.
17. You should try to come out of the bedroom at least with the changing of the seasons.

18. Date the same woman more than three times, and all your friends will presume you are married. So will the woman you are dating.

19. A new date should not be considered "revenge" your ex.

20. Date more than five different women a year, and your reputation will exceed you.

21. It's a good idea to remember that dating is supposed to be fun.

22. If you meet her in a bar, don't be surprised if she drinks.

23. Monogamist and polyamorists will never convince one another.

24. "I love you" and "The sex is great" are not the same things.

25. You can't meet Ms. Right by sitting at home unless Ms. Right is the Fed Ex driver.

26. It is much easier to ask the woman next to the woman you want to dance with, to dance.

27. Seeing each other every day, sleeping together and not going out with anyone else is lesbian dating.

28. If you believe you'll never find anyone, you and you alone will be absolutely right.

29. Dating is that brief period between long stretches of talking to yourself.

30. Lesbians are the only ones who find it necessary to break up with a date.

Shelly Roberts lives in Atlanta and is an internationally syndicated columnist, journalist and author.

CLASSIFIEDS

To advertise in the Classifieds call (713)529-8490 or (800)729-8490 if not in Houston. Our office hours are 9:00 am-5:30 pm Monday through Friday. Classified deadline is Monday at noon for the following Friday publication. Most major credit cards and personal checks accepted. **Houston Voice is not responsible for misprints appearing after first week. Check ads promptly.**

Announcements

Give...
Donate your car to the American Lung Association of Texas, and receive a tax deduction toward your itemized tax return!

...and receive!
Call 1-800-252-LUNG.

AMERICAN LUNG ASSOCIATION of Texas

PWA Coalition needs Volunteers
Volunteers are needed at the Coalition's main offices, serving clients in the Warehouse Program, Ticket Program, and assisting with Administrative functions. The Coalition also needs assistance in its Volunteer Program at Thomas Street Clinic, which serves thousands of clients each month at the Clinic in a variety of departments and functions. To find out more about volunteer opportunities, please call Jackie Wear, Volunteer Coordinator, at 713.938.1533 or Michael Miller, Administrative Manager, at 713.522.5428.

FREE HIV/AIDS ART WORKSHOP
The Glassell School of Art located at 5101 Montrose Blvd. will be offering

"WANTED"
Artist with Disabilities
To display, perform or sell
their work at the
Metropolitan Multi-Service
Center's
**DISABILITIES
ART FESTIVAL**

Painters, sculptors, entertainers, ceramists, dancers, singers, photographers, comedians, poets and musicians are all welcome to participate in the festival to be held on Saturday, July 25, 1998 @ the Metropolitan Multi-Service Center, 1475 West Gray (across from River Oaks Plaza). Featuring displays, door prizes, entertainment, face painting, cookie decorating, clowns, live music, and tours of this unique facility. **FREE: admission, hot dogs, popcorn and drinks to the public.** The event will be promoted by the City of Houston Department of Health and Human Services. **Registration is FREE and artists may keep 100% of their sales.** For more information, or to register, call Nick Cavallaro or Lois Miller at 713.284.1973.

HOPWA Funds Available for Rural Counties. The PWA Coalition has housing assistance funds for People with HIV or AIDS residing in Austin, Colorado, Walker and Wharton Counties. These funds are provided by a contract with the Texas Department of Health. Individuals or families residing in these counties in need of rental or utility assistance should contact the Coalition directly at 1.800.999.0325.

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Help Wanted

Position available, Gay Men's Chorus of Houston has opening for an accompanist. GMCH, now in its 20th Year, is one of the oldest gay chorus in the US and is committed to excellence in men's music. Responsibilities of the accompanist include but are not limited to accompany rehearsals and concerts, coordinating rehearsals with other instrumentalists as necessary, and carry out other duties as assigned by the Artistic Director or as defined within the job description. For a complete job description and or more information, send cover letter and resume by July 17th, 1998 to: Accompanist Search Committee, GMCH, P.O. Box 541004, Houston, Texas 77254-1004 or telephone 713.521.SING.

CYCLE SPECTRUM with 7 locations in the Greater Houston Area has immediate opening for Managers & Manager-

The Houston Pride Band, a volunteer, non-profit organization is looking for a conductor/artistic director. Duties will include: providing artistic direction, conducting at weekly rehearsals, and participating at bi-weekly board meetings. For more information, please contact Russell Williams at 713.524.0218, or send email to HousTxBand@aol.com .
The Fitness Exchange is now hiring for receptionist/trainer. Must be people oriented and willing to work on some weekends. We are also looking for a detail oriented housekeeper. Please come by 4040 Milam to apply.

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Manager, at 713.522.5428.

FREE HIV/AIDS ART WORKSHOP

The Glassell School of Art located at 5101 Montrose Blvd. will be offering FREE Art Courses to those with HIV/AIDS! Classes are offered every Friday until August 1st, from 1:00 to 4:00p.m. All instruction, materials, and even lunch are provided free. Come explore the healing power behind your creativity! Call either 713.639.7500 or 713.526.1118 for information.

The PWA Coalition

Desperately needs the following:

Dishes, Silverware, Pots/Pans, Sheets, Towels, Dressers, Dinettes, Coffee Tables, Sofas, Love seats, and Small Appliances. We are available for pick-ups. Call Wilson or Kerry at 713.522.5428.

Tanqueray's® Texas AIDS Ride® -

seven days from Austin through Houston to Dallas October 5-11 benefiting 44 AIDS service organizations throughout the Lone Star State - is looking for enthusiastic volunteers to help spread the word about the Ride. Call 713.521.RIDE for more information.

GLSH

Gay & Lesbian

Switchboard of Houston

The GLSH will be conducting training for new phone staff volunteers on the following date, July 10-12, 1998. The GLSH is a non-profit, information and referral service providing information on organizations, services, events and matters of interest to and about the gay and lesbian community in the Houston area. GLSH also provides information on AIDS, peer/active listening and when necessary crisis intervention. The Hate Crimes/Incidents Hotline is also maintained by the GLSH. To volunteer or for more information please call 713.529.3211 or leave a message @ 713.529.9615.

Houston Pride Band: The Houston Pride Band has a new mailing address. Effective June 12, 1998, the new address is 1412 Richmond Ave., #389, Houston, TX 77006.

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CYCLE SPECTRUM with 7 locations in the Greater Houston Area has immediate opening for Managers & Manager-trainees. Will train. Non-smoking. 281.587.6808 or fax 281.579.1603 or email employment@cyclespectrum.com

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The Houston/Harris County Title I Ryan White Planning Council seeks a **Planning Council Manager** to provide oversight of all Planning Council support activities. Graduate degree in Public Health/Administration or related field preferred. Experience in staff/volunteer/budget management, excellent communication skills and computer literacy required. Knowledge of HIV/AIDS epidemiology and services, Spanish language fluency a plus. Send resume to Roy Delasbore, Texas Dept. of Health, 5425 Polk Ave., Suite J, Houston, Texas 77023-1497. Or fax resume to him at 713.767.3435.

LOBO is accepting applications for evening manager. Apply in person 3939 Montrose between 9am-5pm Mon.-Fri.

Bill O'Rourke (MT0431)

713.864.2233

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The Homeless Pet Placement League will be holding pet adoptions at the following locations: • PETsMART, located

C L A S S I F I E D S

@ 12914 Willow Chase Drive off FM 1960, every Saturday from 11am to 5pm. • Petco, located @ 2110 S. Shepherd at Avalon, second and fourth Saturday of every month from 11am to 5pm. • Petco, located @ 6883 Hwy. 6 at FM 529, second and fourth Saturday of every month 11am to 5pm. • Cats Pajamas, located @ 12572 Westheimer at Dairy Ashford in the Moore Shopping Center, first and third Saturday of every month from 11am to 5pm. • Adoption costs are \$65 and all animals are spayed/neutered and have received their first set of shots. For additional adoption sites or for more information please call 713.862.7387(PETS) or look for us on our web site at www.HPPL.org.

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Kirby/San Felipe area

AIDS Emergency Housing - Montrose
Bed Space available at TLC House for HIV infected males. Weekly rental, no deposit, bill paid, free laundry/phone. No drugs/alcohol - Social Service vouchers welcome! AIDS Housing Coalition Houston. 713.521.1613.

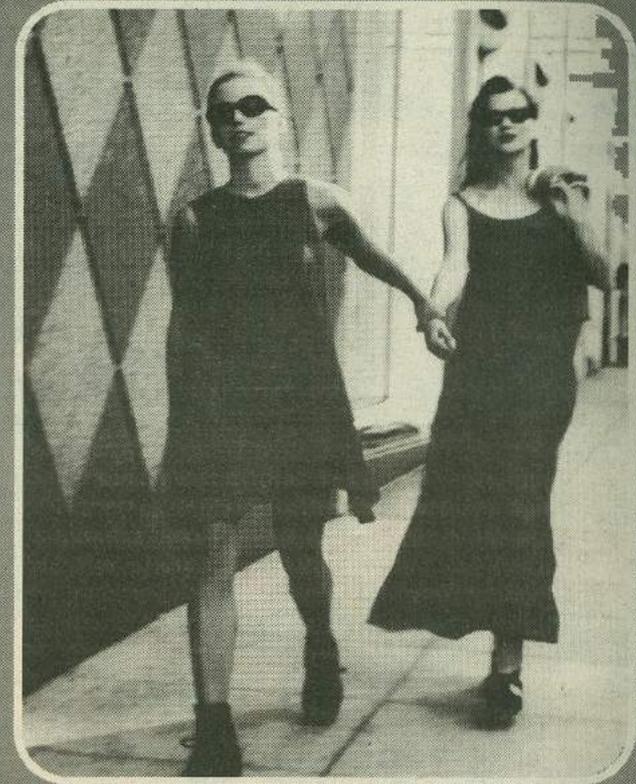
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Montrose - 4411 Greeley: 2/1/2 near Hwy. 59 • Only \$139,900 • Call Bill Baldwin-Agent 281.731.8314.
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WebSites

www.HoustonGayWeb.com

www.basicbrothers.com

www.communitygospel.org

www.houstonvoice.com

Additional services on page 13
in section B. Help Wanted
Bars/Clubs, Personals and
Models/Escorts.

LOOK WHO JOINED THE LIST!

The Houston Voice is pleased to announce that you may now pick up your copy at these locations.

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Community Center**
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Walgreens
3405 Montrose

Kroger
3300 Montrose

Crossroads Market
1111 Westheimer

Blockbuster Video
1001 Westheimer

Scholtsky's Deli
1005 Westheimer

Baba Yega
2607 Grant

Leather by Boots
807 Fairview

Leather Forever
711 Fairview

Barnaby's
604 Fairview

**Alternative Health & Wellness
Clinic**
404 Westheimer

Stone Soup
608 Westheimer

Legends Hair Design
906 Westheimer

Charlies
1100 Westheimer

Basic Brothers
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Ming's
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Hollywood Grocery
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Studio 911
911 Welch

Montrose Veterinary
1701 Montrose

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Seven Men and Women. One Stage.
You do the math.
Reality is subjective.



Off the Map: QuAC, Texas pop. 7

Directed by Elia Arce

July 9-11 • 8pm

Diversworks

For reservations: 713-228-0914

QuAC: The Queer Artist Collective is generously supported by:

DiverseWorks
Artspace



CHURCH CALENDAR

Friday, July 3

- Communion and Prayer Service at 10:00 am; at the Kolbe Project. 713-522-8182.
- The Church of Good Life on the Internet; <http://www.syncretist.org/church.htm>.

Saturday, July 4

- The Church of Good Life on the Internet; <http://www.syncretist.org/church.htm>.

Sunday, July 5

- Church of the XII Apostles Anglican Rite Old Catholic Church; Holy Communion 10:30 am at 239 Westheimer. 713/665-7903.
- Holy Rite Eucharist I 8:00 am; Holy Rite Eucharist II 9:00 am; Choral Eucharist 11:00 am at St. Stephen's Episcopal Church, 1805 W. Alabama. 713-528-6665.
- Maranatha Fellowship Metropolitan Church Service "Preaching the Gospel" at 11 am. 713-528-6756.
- MCCR Worship services 9:00 & 11:00 am. 713-861-9149.
- Grace Lutheran Church Sunday school for all ages at 9:30 am Worship Service at 10:30 am 713-528-3269.
- First Unitarian Universalist Church Sunday Services at 9:30 am and 11:30 am 713-526-5200.
- Services at 5:30 pm Dignity Church 713-880-2872.
- Community Gospel Praise and Worship service at 11:00 am Sunday School for children. Evening Service at 7 pm. 4305 Lillian 713-880-9235. Catch them at www.communitygospel.org.
- Houston Mission Church Worship service at 10:30 am 713-529-8225.
- Covenant Baptist Church Worship service 1:30 pm and education hour at 3:00 pm. 713-668-8830.
- Bering Memorial United Methodist Church Worship service 10:50 am. Seekers class 9:15 am 713-526-1017.
- MCCR Handbell Choir Rehearsal at 7:00 pm 713-861-9149.
- Unitarian Fellowship of Galveston County, 402 Church St. in Galveston. Sunday Services at 10:30 am weekly. 409-765-8330.
- The Church of Good Life on the Internet; <http://www.syncretist.org/church.htm>.

- Faith and Hope Fellowship Service at 11:00 am. 713-520-7847.

Monday, July 6

- Catholic Mass at 7:00 pm at the Kolbe Project. 713-861-1800

Tuesday, July 7

- MCCR: Empowerment for Living support group & pot luck dinner at 6:00 pm, Gloryland Ensemble at 6:00 pm Orchestra rehearsal at 7:30 pm. 713-861-9149.
- PROTECT meets at Bering Church. 713-520-7870.
- Maranatha Fellowship MCC has groups that meet in each others home for a time of fellowship, sharing God's word, and prayer. Call for the location in your area 713-528-6756.
- The Church of Good Life on the Internet; <http://www.syncretist.org/church.htm>.
- Bishop's Homosexuality Document-discussion group @7 pm. At the Kolbe Project. 713-861-1800.

Wednesday, July 8

- Holy Eucharist Rite II 12 Noon at St. Stephen's Episcopal Church, 1805 W. Alabama. 713-528-6665.
- MCCR Bible Study 7:30 pm 713-861-9149.
- Worship Service 7:30 pm at Faith and Hope Fellowship 713-520-7847
- The Church of Good Life on the Internet; <http://www.syncretist.org/church.htm>.
- Healing Service at 8 pm. the Kolbe Project. 713-861-7212.

Thursday, July 9

- Bible Study 7:00 pm at Faith and Hope Fellowship 713-520-7847.
- Choir Practice at Community Gospel 6:30 pm 713-880-9235 or www.communitygospel.org.
- Choir Practice at 6:30 pm. Midweek Service at Community Gospel 7:30 pm 713-880-9235 or www.communitygospel.org.
- The Church of Good Life on the Internet; <http://www.syncretist.org/church.htm>

If you want an event listed in this section, please call Carolyn Roberts at 713-529-8490 by 12 Noon Mondays.

Metropolitan Community Church of the Resurrection

"IS THIS A CAUSE OF HOMOPHOBIA?"

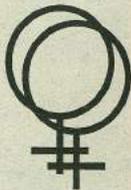
(This Program is Free and Open to the Community)

Presented by **Dr. Jim Hollis,**
Director of the Jung Educational Center,

Tuesday, July 7, 1998!
7:30pm

Dr. Hollis will discuss the prohibition against self-awareness under which men labor and the secrets they keep from themselves. He says, "As wounded as women have been in society, it can be argued that men, who are emotionally denied the companionship of other men, and are split-off from their emotional realities, are even more grievously wounded."

Does this offer an explanation for homophobia and internalized homophobia? This program is for men and women who would like to understand the answer to that question.



Houston's Inclusive Community of Believers!

Spiritual Uplift Service: Wednesdays 7 PM

Decatur St. H.O.M.E. Group: Wednesdays 7:30 PM

Worship Services: Sundays 9 AM & 11 AM

Visit our web page at www.mccr-hou.com for the most current schedule of upcoming events!

713-861-9149 1919 Decatur, Houston, Texas 77007
Washington @ White St. (between Studemont and Houston Ave.)



KOLBE PROJECT

Monday, July 6
Eucharist - 7:30pm

Tuesday, July 7
Discussion Group - 7:00pm
Racism

Friday, July 10
Morning Pray - 10:00am
Movie Night - 7:00pm
"For a Lost Soldier"

Kolbe Prayer Line 713-861-1844

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1030 Heights Blvd. • Houston, TX 77008

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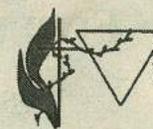


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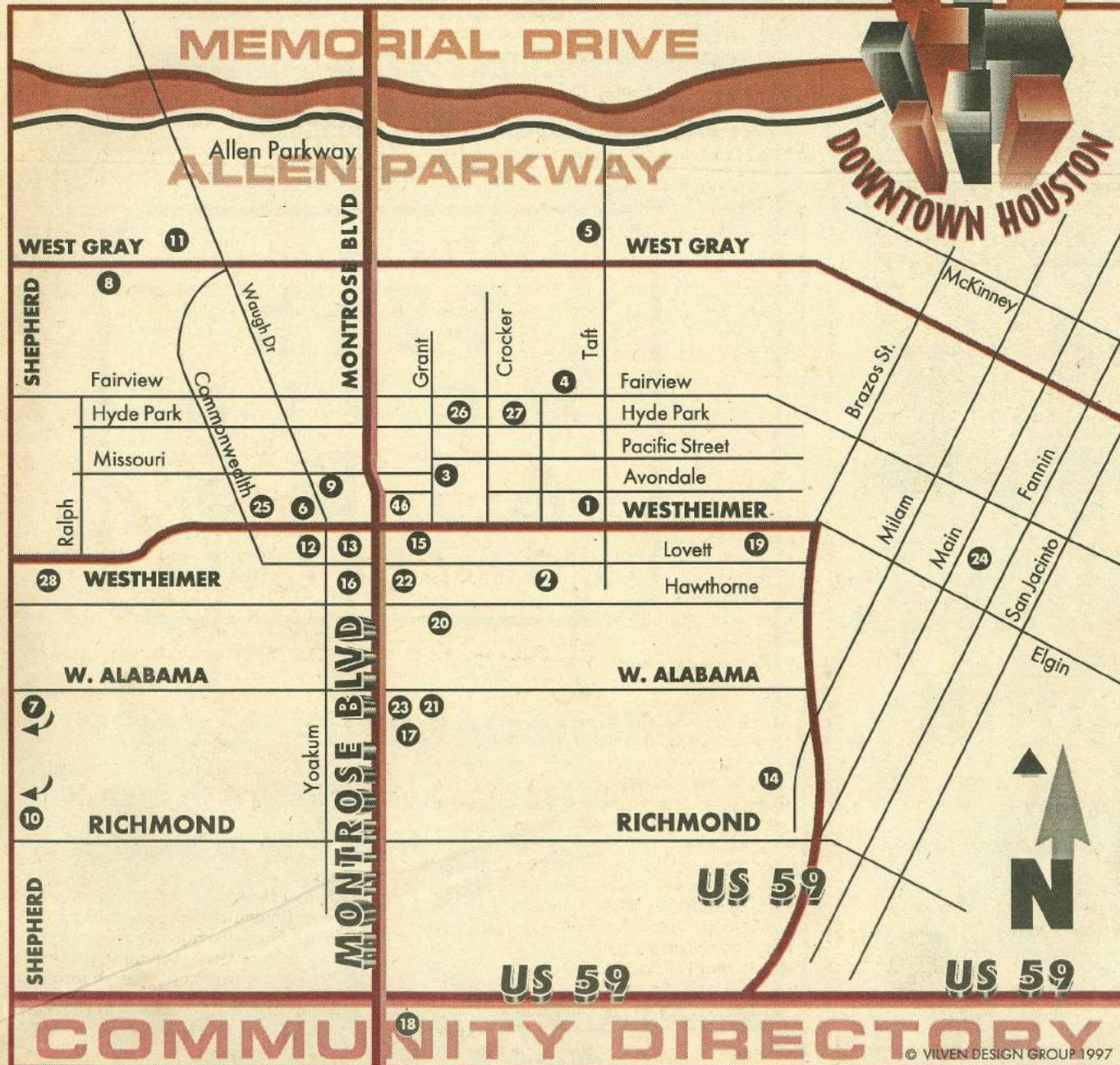
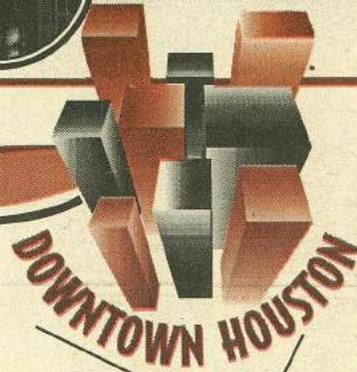
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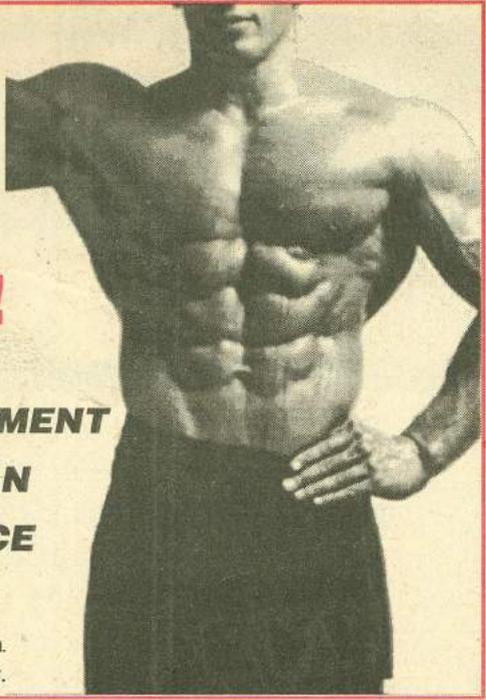
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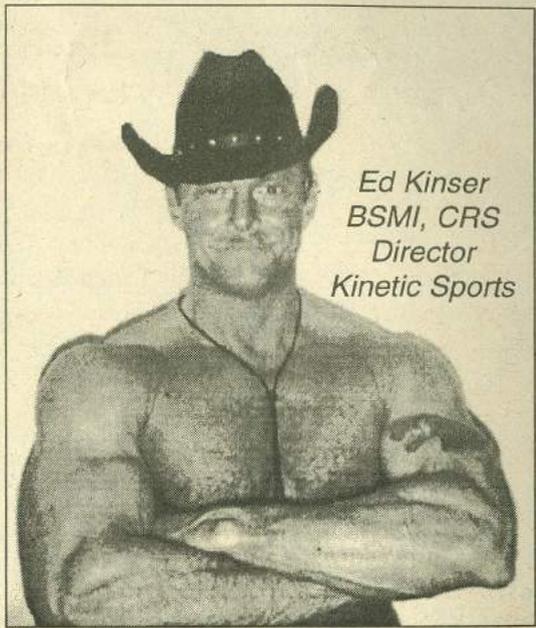
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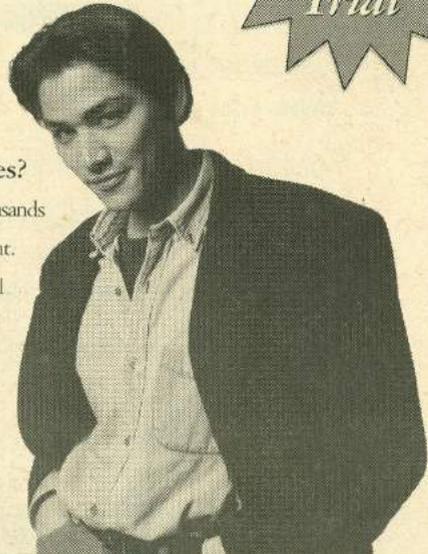
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PURPOSE

The purpose of this program is to provide an update on the 12th World AIDS Conference in Geneva to medical providers, allied healthcare professionals, and people affected by HIV. This program will include information on recent developments in the understanding of HIV pathogenesis; current strategies for the use of anti-retroviral therapy; new data on viral dynamics, drug resistance, and immune reconstitution; and current concepts in the prophylaxis and treatment of opportunistic infections.

INFORMATION

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July 3

FROM 'PHANTOM' TO 'DREAMCOAT': Andrew Lloyd Webber productions have taken the theater district hostage. First, it was "The Phantom of the Opera," now TUTS has landed Lloyd Webber's "Joseph and the Amazing Technicolor Dreamcoat" at the Wortham Center. And get this: it stars Donny Osmond's nephew, David, in a story about the Biblical account of Joseph, who was sold into slavery by his brothers, yet rose to prominence and power in Egypt.

It won't be quite as extravagant as, say, "Phantom" or "Cats," but early Lloyd Webber has an attraction all its own. In short, you can't go wrong. Wortham Center, 500 Texas Ave., (Texas at Smith). Tuesdays — Fridays, 8 p.m.; Saturdays, 2 p.m. and 8 p.m.; Sundays, 2 p.m. and 7:30 p.m. Tickets: (800) 678-5440, or (713) 237-1439 \$28 — \$150. Runs through July 12.

July 3 — 5

FIREWORKS AND PARTIES:

The parties have landed in Houston for the 4th of July weekend to benefit City of Hope. On Friday: "Blast Off!" With Dallas DJ Ric Herrington at Rich's for the official welcome party. Rich's, 2401 San Jacinto. 9 p.m. — 4 a.m. \$10.

On Saturday from 7 p.m. to 9 p.m.: Warm up with a rooftop party at the old Cody's, 3400 Montrose. It's the best view in town for the downtown fireworks show \$30 advance. \$35

OUT ON THE BAYOU



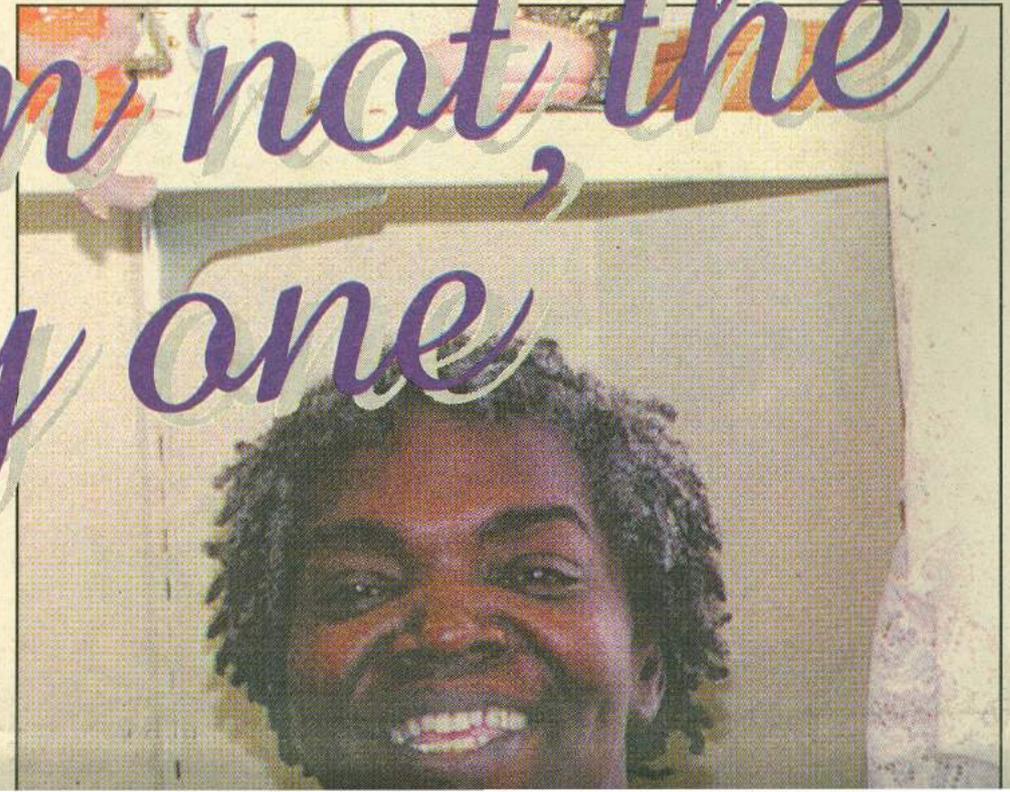
HOUSTON VOICE • JULY 3, 1998

A GUIDE FOR YOUR LEISURE TIME

INTERVIEW: DONNA GARRETT

*"I'm not, the
only one"*

**COLLEGE
AWAKENED
BOET WHO**



party at the old Cody's, 340 Montrose. It's the best view in town for the downtown fireworks show. \$30 advance, \$35 door. That's followed by the main event at the Homberger Center, 2151 W. Holcombe, with DJ Brian Norwood. \$35 advance, \$40 at the door.

Afterward, Rich's has "Lost in Space" with DJs Ric Herrington and Brian Norwood from 3 a.m. to 10 a.m. \$10. Finally, if you've still got steam for it, slither over to Spy, 112 Travis for brunch and a tea dance, if you dare, at noon. \$25 advance, \$30 at the door.

Tickets available at Basic Brothers and Lobo.

July 5

'SPIDER'S WEB': It's messy, it's sticky, and you can't get it off you. What is it? "Spider's Web" at the Alley. The story is about Clarissa, a diplomat's wife, who finds a corpse in her quarters. Dismayed, she lies about everything possible to subvert an international scandal. Sounds like Halloween in July. 615 Texas Ave. (713) 228-9341. Tuesdays — Thursdays, 7:30 p.m.; Fridays, 8 p.m.; Saturdays, 2:30 p.m. and 8:30 p.m.; Sundays, 2:30 p.m. and 7:30 p.m. Runs through July 12.

AWAKENED POET WHO WITNESSED CIVIL RIGHTS UNREST

by STEPHEN R. UNDERWOOD

Who is Donna Garrett?

For starters, she is the daughter of an African-American Baptist minister. She is a poet and an ex-construction worker. And more times than not, people mistake her for a man.

Yet it's not hard to figure out why. She's six feet tall, framed with broad shoulders. Trumpeting softly with a delightful alto voice, a bright smile and big brown eyes highlight her smooth, round face. Clothed in her trademark long sleeve shirt and comfortable jeans, Garrett looks androgynous, like a tall gentleman from a distance.

She moved to Houston 15 years ago after leaving her hometown of Birmingham, Ala., growing up there in a family of six — five girls and a boy. Her father kept the family sheltered from the city's civil rights protests, which erupted in the early 60s. It was just school and church, she says; that's all her parents allowed her to do.

"The actual demonstrations happened in high school," remembered Garrett, 47. "My parents forbade me to participate because they were afraid I would get hurt. My mom would say, 'No, don't you get down on the bus (that goes to the demonstrations).' But I snooped out and got on it anyway."

In the early 60s, she understood that Birmingham was

See GARRETT/ page 3B



Unalienable Rights

Thirteen colonies shouted to Britain
We want to be free, independent of thee.
Out of this dream the Declaration of Independence
Was born.
It declared they were endowed by their creator,
Certain unalienable rights.
And on July 4th, 1776 the entire world was informed.

Among these rights are life, liberty, and the pursuit
Of happiness,
But not for everyone you see.
Not for the homosexual who was considered insane,
Not for the women who were rated the same,
and Blacks were considered to be property.

Like those men who fought for their freedom,
We too over the years have put up a fight.
There is a lesson to learn from their perseverance,
Never give up on you rights.

Through relentless pursuit a nation was born
And I suppose that's a cause for celebration.
If everyone enjoyed those unalienable rights,
It would truly be a joyous occasion.

—Donna Garrett

INSIDE:

"More
Tuna"
Duo opens
brief run
in Galveston.
Page 2B



Best Selling
Books
Look at what
your neighbors
are reading.
Page 5B



"QuAC"
Different stories
but they're
all queer.
Page 16B



Fresh catch

Comic duo returns 'Tuna' for short stay in Galveston

by STEPHEN R. UNDERWOOD

"For the 4th of July, fireworks make a pop, but a good firearm makes a point."

That's the outback mentality of Tuna, Texas gun dealer Didi Snavelly, a chain smoking, three-pots-of-coffee-a-day fashion crisis staged in Joe Sears' and Jaston Williams' July 4th salute "Red, White, and Tuna."

"If we can't kill it ... it's immortal," she claims, advertising her arsenal on the mythic West Texas town's sole radio station OKKK.

Premiering last April at Galveston's Grand 1894 Opera House, the play returns July 7 for a six-day run at the Grand. It is the latest addition to the Tuna trilogy inaugurated in Austin in 1981, with 24 co-ed characters in "Greater Tuna" performed solely by Sears and Williams.

After the critical and commercial success of the original, Sears and Williams created "A Tuna Christmas," with the popular characters hopping from one disaster to another in a town where "the Lion's Club is too liberal and Patsy Cline never dies."

The comic duo has hinted that a fourth installment might be in the works, possibly based on a Halloween theme.

Although the series is popular, Sears said that "Greater Tuna's" success was a surprise. He never planned on playing Tuna's women until two female leads skipped out on their parts.

Williams came up with the idea that both he and Sears should play the female roles, but it initially didn't seem like a good idea.

"I really had to be talked into it," he said. "I had never played women before. So, I said, 'Well, all right. I'll do it. It's a cabaret.'"

The gamble really paid off when fans

garnered a Tony nomination for leading actor in a play. The nomination surprised many critics of the Great White Way, who wondered how the Texan got nominated over actors like Nathan Lane. Yet the nomination reflected a professional pinnacle which was like the American Dream come true for Sears, he said.

"That's the great American story, isn't it? This was happening to (me), a boy from Oklahoma, and my God, it can happen for anybody."

In large part, the trilogy's popularity is energized by its extraordinarily well-acted female roles. For instance, Williams is outrageous as Vera Carp, Tuna's richest Baptist, who heads a religious club called the Smut Snatchers. She rewrites church hymns that have any hint of multiculturalism. One of Vera's favorite rewrites is "Jesus Loves the Little Anglos."

Likewise, you can't help but like Sears' Bertha Bumiller, an extra-large lovable dressed for the 4th in lime green polyester pants, a red vest with white stars, and enormous bouffant hair.

Bertha exhibits all the patience of a saint till she tells her misguided artist son Stanley "if you don't start acting like a Christian, I'm gonna knock you upside your head."

"We've become so successful" at playing women, said Sears. "I've been asked to play women in other movies, which I don't do. It's not that I have anything against playing women; it's just that I'm saving myself for films to be a Wilford Brimely type someday. I don't want to necessarily be a Jonathan Winters; I still take myself seriously as an actor."

In Act II of "Red, White and Tuna," two new psychedelic outcasts Amber

because before I can make fun of these fools. They say something that is so much more ridiculous than anything I would come up with."

Sears and Williams label themselves "Ann Richards Democrats." Williams has campaigned for Richards in both gubernatorial elections, and both performed for Richard's gubernatorial birthday bash in 1994.

"I like her because she is a dedicated Democrat, which is basically what I am," Sears said. "She uses humor in politics like we use humor in theater, to get across a message. And she'll have satirical puns that people remember. So, I think there's a common bond there with our humor and how we use it in our careers."

Yet their politics didn't keep President Bush from inviting the pair to the White House twice for performances. Even though the feds don't keep records on who dons drag in the White House, Sears said that it's safe to assume that he and Williams were the first to change underwear in the Green Room.

"It was a fascinating experience to realize that even when you disagree with someone's politics, you can find them delightful people," said Williams of the former president and Mrs. Bush. "They were just incredibly giving and kind to us, and they knew our politics."

While on hiatus from touring, Williams escapes to his Bourbon



More Tuna: Joe Sears as Aunt Pearl in "Red, White, and Tuna," which returns to Galveston on July 7.

cess. But it's no surprise that each wants to be remembered as actors who made the masses laugh.

"It's a gift from God first of all that you're given the ability to make people laugh," Sears said. "Acknowledging that gift is the key to the rest of the success. I think that I've always acknowledged that gift, and I've always asked for Divine guidance for using it properly, and I think I do."

temate roles, but it initially didn't seem like a good idea.

"I really had to be talked into it," he said. "I had never played women before. So, I said, 'Well, all right. I'll do it. It's a cabaret.'"

The gamble really paid off when fans told Variety magazine critic Dick Humber about the show. While visiting Austin in 1981 for its country music, he crafted a rave review, which caught the attention of the William Morris Agency in New York.

One year later, "Greater Tuna" rocketed from Austin to digs off-Broadway, and before long, Sears and Williams had their own special on HBO.

"When it happened, I was elated and overjoyed," Williams said. "I didn't realize how unique an experience it was, comparable to how many people out there who were trying to make something happen. I didn't think 'Tuna' would be the show that would do it, and that surprised me at first."

Sears and Williams took "A Tuna Christmas" to New York in December 1994. It delighted critics, and Sears

just as I'm saving myself for him to be a Wilford Brimely type someday. I don't want to necessarily be a Jonathan Winters; I still take myself seriously as an actor."

In Act II of "Red, White and Tuna," two new psychedelic outcasts, Amber Wind-Chime and Star Bird-Feather, debut to attend Tuna's high school reunion. Sears said he enjoys the new peace loving pair, and he's ordering new hair for Star, his "hippie girl."

One common element wedding the trilogy is a heavy dose of political satire. For example, Williams' Vera Carp is a clear stab at the religious right, and the town's radio station OKKK airs commercials for a local Anglo-only militia group called Free White Texas.

"It is so funny to watch the country club set have to dance with Aaron Flick from Pumpkin Creek," Williams said, referring to the religious right.

"(Republicans) wouldn't let these people wash their cars, but they've got to sit on the convention floor with them. It's frightening for a satirist

you're given the ability to make people laugh," Sears said. "Acknowledging that gift is the key to the rest of the success. I think that I've always acknowledged that gift, and I've always asked for Divine guidance for using it properly, and I think I do."

Williams agreed. "I want to be remembered as someone who made people laugh, and maybe made them think. You've got to look at life with a bit of a forgiving spirit because all healing comes from forgiveness. But then, you know, I think you've got to hang on to a few just for flavor; so, I'll hang on to (Sen.) Phil Gramm," he said.

While on hiatus from touring, Williams escapes to his Bourbon Street home in New Orleans. He likes the idea that he can write until 4 a.m., then go get a drink and talk about politics at a bar.

"I came home one time, and I forget it was Decadence Weekend. I had to get out of the cab two blocks away and drag my bags with all these guys in the Quarter standing around with their underwear on. I thought, what the hell is going on? Did Calvin Klein die?"

Every now and then, Sears goes to drag shows with friends, but seeing a man in a dress with a mustache makes him want to get up and leave. "I've never really cared for that. Either you go all the way or not," he said.

For sure, Sears and Williams have secured their legacy with the home-grown fun and laughs that makes the "Tuna" trilogy a solid six-figure suc-

What: "Red, White, and Tuna"
When: Runs July 7 — 12
Performances Tuesday through Friday at 8 p.m.; 2 p.m. and 8 p.m. on Saturday, and 2 p.m. and 7 p.m. Sunday.
Where: The Grand 1894 Opera House, 2020 Postoffice St., Galveston
Tickets: \$10 to \$39, (409) 765-1894 or (800) 821-1894

Dykes To Watch Out For by Alison Bechdel



GARRETT/ from page 1

highly segregated. She heard about the sit-ins at lunch counters and kneel-ins at white churches.

Yet little did Garrett know that her first protest would be the famous SLCS march in 1963, the one where Bull Connor's police force turned dogs and fire hoses on a crowd of young, non-violent demonstrators. The televised incident shocked the nation, and strengthened the public's call for civil rights reform.

"I was so scared, because my mom said 'Don't you dare go.' So, we got back on the bus and made it back to school. By the time my mom came and picked me up, I was in some kind of shock. I couldn't believe what I had witnessed, and how I almost got caught. I cannot forget what I saw," Garrett said.

Another civil rights incident she can't forget is the 16th Street Baptist Church bombing. Garrett remembers sitting in church and hearing the explosion, but it wasn't an uncommon noise because it sounded like something had erupted at the nearby U. S. Steel plant.

But events turned abnormal quickly. A man entered the church, tiptoed up to the pulpit, and told the minister what had happened.

"When he made the announcement, everybody froze, and started crying," Garrett said.

During the civil unrest, Garrett's father was her hero. He even kept his cool when people threatened violence against the family after the local newspaper published an essay by Garrett's sister criticizing the police.

After graduating from high school, she attended Miles College, a private, historically black college in Fairfax,

five miles from Birmingham. For her, college meant liberation from family life in a sheltered cocoon.

It was 1971 when Garrett met Frederick Carter, an effeminate, gay black man studying at Miles. Not sure what side his bread was buttered on, Garrett took a chance and spilt her secret: "I really like girls as strange as that might sound," she told him.

Unfazed, Carter responded, "Honey, you gay."

Garrett replied she didn't know what that meant, so Carter decided to clear things up.

That night, he took her to a local gay bar in Birmingham. They joined hundreds of gays and lesbians, dancing, partying and drinking. It was like a baptism and a release of stress for Garrett who said she felt like a new person.

"For once in my life I felt, my God, I'm not the only one. My parents had never ever spoken to me about gays. I never had any idea that there were other people who had feelings as I felt. That was my coming out period, and I've been on a jubilation path ever since. I got a chance to know me," she said.

But everyone seemed to know Garrett was gay except her. One day, she overheard her mother telling her father, "Charlie, you know, this is hard for me to accept." Her father responded, "Joan, you've known about this all along. We've known about this all along. Donna has not changed at all. She has been consistent all her life."

"They knew all along, but they wouldn't tell me," she said.

With her secret out, Garrett dated a young girl in 1972 who lived at home with her parents, raising a little girl. She was 21 and the girl said she was

18. One day, she planned to pick the girl up for a date, but the girl's mother cut her off before she got near the house.

"What are you doing," the girl's mother asked. "Are you having a relationship with my daughter?"

With a cocky attitude, Garrett responded affirmatively.

Furious, the mother flared, "I'll have you put in jail. She's 16 years old, and I'll have you locked up."

That abruptly ended the date, Garrett said. "I was very selective with my next partner."

On a rainy day in 1975, Donna hunted for a job, soaked by the afternoon showers. A help wanted sign rested in the window of a store nearby, seeking a poster board packer. Garrett applied.

"You must really need a job to be out here in this weather," the store manager said. "Yeah, I do," she replied.

Needing to fill the position, the manager hired her on the spot. But he mistook her for a man, thinking he heard Garrett say her name was Donnis. She didn't correct him as she needed the job. Cloaked as a man, Garrett worked for a year on the store's loading dock, packing poster board in boxes and loading them on pallets.

A man named Jerry was hired at the store. Garrett didn't know he was gay until she saw him drinking in a queer bar.

"Donnis. Donnis," Jerry called across the room.

They kept each other's sexuality a secret — as well Garrett's gender — until the day after she quit.

Later, Garrett asked about the reaction of her former co-workers.

"You know what their main concern was?" her friend asked. "They were

trying to figure out how many times they were in the restroom with you."

Garrett laughed.

"You'd be surprised how men dog a woman in the restroom," she said. "They sit around and talk and tell it out. If they have sex with a woman, they'll tell some dog gone body else. It was bizarre."

Today, Donna writes poetry for a living, composing clear messages with rhythmic verse from a tattered word processor in her second floor apartment on San Jacinto. She loves to write about romance, and reads quite frequently at Toopees Coffee Company on West Alabama, and for LiB, a business group for lesbians.

About two months ago, Garrett read at the Women's Festival in Bandera. It was a hot, sweltering day, and she rapped her prose for an hour on an open mike that Sunday, with a bandanna around her head to hold back sweat. About 30 people listened at the start of the reading, growing to a crowd of 70 before she finished.

Garrett's work was also recently selected for a soon-to-be-published anthology entitled "Cherished Poems of the Western World."

"I want to put a new twist on poetry. I want you to hear me read my work, and not have to try to figure out what I meant. I want it to be glaring and apparent what I mean. I don't want my work to be a secret to just me. I want you to understand what I'm saying to you," Garrett said.

What: Poetry reading by Donna Garrett
When: July 26 at 7pm
Where: Toopees Coffee Bar, 1830 W. Alabama
Contact: 713-522-7662

she attended Miles College, a private, historically black college in Fairfax,

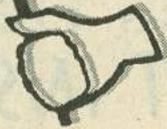
with her parents, raising a little girl. She was 21 and the girl said she was

"You know what their main concern was?" her friend asked. "They were

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"GOODBYE YELLOW ROSE" • 3PM

a benefit for DAVID BERRY hosted by DEVON DEVASQUES, ARMAND POSAS



**SUNDAY, JULY 5
WOMAN TO THE THIRD POWER**



Hosted By

DEVON DEVASQUEZ

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Hosted By DEVON DEVASQUEZ

Candidate for Miss TGRA '99

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Bianca Welch & Samoa Jackson

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BE LOOKING FOR OUR...

15TH ANNUAL DENIM PARTY COMING JULY 26

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\$1.00 WELL 7AM - 11PM \$1.00

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BOOK REVIEW

Painful reexamination needed to stop spread of HIV/AIDS

Sexual Ecology: AIDS and the Destiny of Gay Men, by Gabriel Rotello; NAL/Dutton, 352 pages, \$19.95.

by HARRY LIVESAY

Gabriel Rotello's "Sexual Ecology: AIDS and the Destiny of Gay Men" is the latest offensive in a mounting cultural war within the gay community on the role of sexual behavior and the continuation of AIDS into the next century.

Rotello, former editor of the now-defunct *Outweek Magazine*, together with gay cultural icons Larry Kramer and Michelangelo Signorile argue that AIDS will not end until gay men "accept the fact that the unlimited, unstructured pursuit of absolute sexual freedom was" (and is) biologically disastrous for gay men."

Rotello presents the development of HIV in gay males in the 1980's as the natural result of an "ecosystem" that encouraged the spread of all kinds of sexually transmitted diseases. Rotello uses the example of sexual ecology as simply "the process, the condition, that allows this particular virus entree into our lives." The author goes on to state that the condition for HIV to spread was the creation of an ecological niche of multiple sex partners participating in active and passive anal sex.

Rotello also condemns the safer sex messages developed and used by gay men in the fight against AIDS. Rotello argues that the emphasis on condom use and distribution simply created

common" and concludes that the growing number of African-American and Latina women infected by IDU or sex with IDU partners "have tended not to spread infection outside themselves and their children."

The author calls on gay men to make a sustainable and transformative change in their behavior and within gay culture. Rotello argues gay men should reject that idea put forth by the religious right and by some gay sociologists that enjoying multiple sexual partners is an intrinsic part of the gay male culture.

Rotello also sees the homophobia or heterosexism of our greater society as a major contributor to the problem, stating that it "has contributed to the fact that AIDS prevention remains critically under-funded and that "by constantly attacking the very legitimacy of gay identity, homophobes place gay men in a defensive posture from which it becomes exceeding difficult to engage in honest discussion of the very problems that are destroying all of us."

What is the solution in Rotello's view, to change the ecology of gay male culture?

Rotello says that incentives need to be built to integrate gay sexuality, "into a whole life. A life that respects sex, but does not make it the central point of existence." Some of these incentives include: respecting relationships and fidelity, developing alternate spaces outside of bars and circuit parties for socialization and

What your neighbors are reading ...

- | | |
|--|--|
| <p>1 <i>The Naked Eye</i>
by Catherine Ennis (Naiad, \$11.95)</p> <p>2 <i>California Screaming</i>
by Doug Guinan (Simon & Schuster, \$24)</p> <p>3 <i>Stranger at the Gate</i>
by Mel White (Penguin, \$13.95)</p> <p>4 <i>Cybersocket: Gay Net Dictionary</i>
(Cybersocket, \$12.95)</p> <p>5 <i>Naked</i>
by David Sedaris (Little, Brown, \$12.95)</p> <p>6 <i>Buddy Babylon</i>
by Scott Thompson (Dell, \$12.95)</p> <p>7 <i>What the Bible Really Says About Homosexuality</i>
by Daniel Helminiak (Alamo Square, \$9.95)</p> <p>8 <i>Gonna Take a Homicidal Journey</i>
by Sandra Scoppettone (Little, Brown \$22.95)</p> <p>9 <i>Getting Off Clean</i>
by Timothy Murphy (St. Martin's, \$13.95)</p> <p>10 <i>Fallen From Grace</i>
by Pat Welch (Naiad, \$11.95)</p> | <p>1 <i>Buddy Babylon</i>
by Scott Thompson (Dell, \$12.95)</p> <p>2 <i>Shirts & Skins</i>
by Tim Miller (Alyson Press, \$12.95)</p> <p>3 <i>Klaus Gerhart</i>
Edition Euros (Bruno Gmunder, \$16.95)</p> <p>4 <i>Exposed Postcard Book</i>
by Dean Keefer (Bruno Gmunder, \$9.95)</p> <p>5 <i>501 Great Things About Being Gay</i>
by Edward Taussig (Andrews McMeel, \$7.95)</p> <p>6 <i>Men From the Boys</i>
by William J. Mann (Plume/NAL, \$12.95)</p> <p>7 <i>Handjobs Anthology 3</i>
(Avenue Services, \$20)</p> <p>8 <i>Don't Get Me Started</i>
by Kate Clinton (Ballantine Books, \$22)</p> <p>9 <i>Life Outside</i>
by Michelangelo Signorile (Harper Collins, \$13)</p> <p>10 <i>Husband Hunting Made Easy</i>
by Patrick Prie (St. Martin's, \$12.95)</p> |
|--|--|

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Rotello also condemns the later sex messages developed and used by gay men in the fight against AIDS. Rotello argues that the emphasis on condom use and distribution simply created an ineffectual and inconsistent "condom code," at a time when AIDS advocates should have been "working to create and shore-up institutions that supported long-term, monogamous gay relationships and attacking the ethic of multipaternalism."

The author also presents the case that HIV, at least in the U.S. and Western Europe, was and will continue to be predominantly a homosexual disease. Simply stated, Rotello writes that heterosexuals, because they have less sex partners than gay men and are statistically more monogamous, are not as at-risk for infection. Rotello does argue that "the real engine of epidemic transmission" in the heterosexual community is needle sharing."

The author cites the growth of HIV on the East Coast and in southern cities "where shooting galleries are

point of existence. Some of these incentives include: respecting relationships and fidelity; developing alternate spaces outside of bars and circuit parties for socialization and interaction, embracing gay religious organizations and replacing sexual outpouring with spiritual connection, validating both youth and age, and minimizing sex, looks and body culture.

Rotello writes that unless gay men make these changes within our culture, we are pointed towards political disaster. Rotello states our defenses are unraveling and that public sympathy and public support will continue to decline if HIV continues to increase in our community, past the "age of safe sex and condoms."

Without reexamination and change, Rotello predicts a new era of political "backlash" against persons with AIDS, and against homosexuality itself. Perhaps most disturbing is Rotello's prediction of a house divided within

See **BOOK/** page 16B

The Lazy J

312 Tuam • Houston • 713-528-9343

Saturday, July 4 • 10:30pm

A MATUER NIGHT
Frankie Lane MC
Cash Prizes

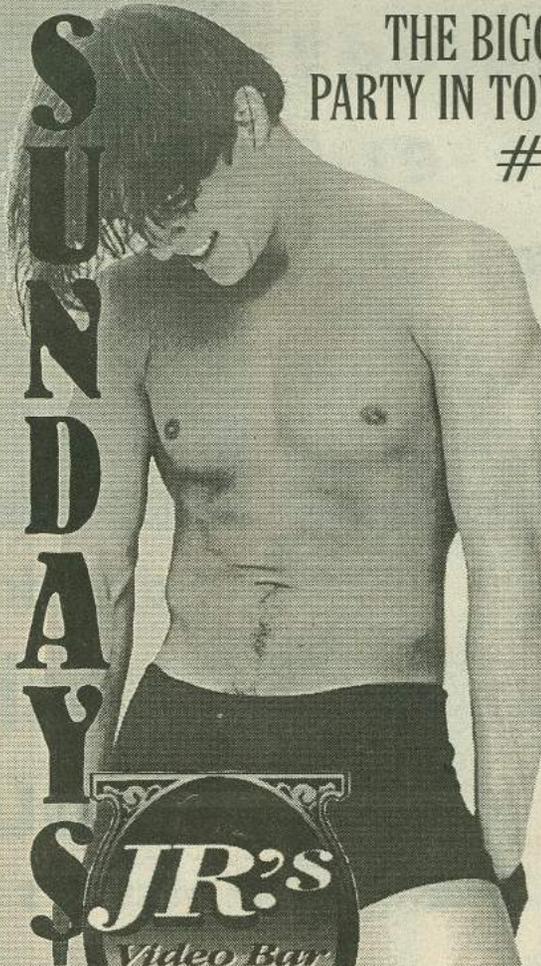


Saturday, July 11 • 10:30pm

SUPER SHOW

Friday Night 8-Ball
League Members Only • Cash Prizes

8



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PARTY IN TOWN IS AT HOUSTON'S
#1 VIDEO/PARTY BAR!

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Noon until 11pm

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KARAOKE**
6pm - 11pm

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AT 11PM

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Come Join Us in Celebrating the

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You are sure to have a Great Time at Brick's II

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Saturday, July 4 • 3-6pm

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Super Saturday Night Fever

11pm



Roxanne Lee Love



Dyan Michaels



Paivi Lee Love



Lana Blake

Saturday, July 4

Ashley Houston

Miss EJ's Sweetheart

Talent Night

Tuesdays & Thursdays

Week #7 Preliminary

Winners of the Tuesday & Thursday preliminarys return for finals.

\$500 Cash - Winner Take All

★ July 19 Talent Night Finals ★

FRI	7/3	MALE STRIP CONTEST at 11 pm with Paivi
SAT	7/4	SATURDAY NIGHT FEVER at 11 pm
SUN	7/5	\$1 Budweiser & Bud Light All Day and All Night
MON	7/6	MALE STRIP CONTEST at 11 pm with Paivi
TUE	7/7	Amateur/Talent Night, 11 pm with Dyan Michaels.
WED	7/8	Burger night with Grandma
THUR	7/9	Amateur/Talent Night, 11 pm with Roxanne Lee Love. Burger night with Grandma



2517 Ralph St. at Westheimer

(713) 527-9071

Happy Hour 7am - 9pm Weekdays

\$1.50 Well 4-7 Saturday

\$1.50 Vodka 7am - 6pm

Mug Club 7am - 10pm

\$3.75 Pitchers & \$1.75 Mugs

GALAXY GAYZER

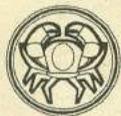
by JOSEPH MOLINA

JULY 3 — 9, 1998

Chatty Mercury teams up against impressionable Neptune, breaking down walls all over the world. Venus settling into the middle of Gemini AND homosexuals are just getting into mood to play. Watch out everyone — lively debates, influential meetings and lifelong friends. It's all On while the Sun rides through the sign of Cancer.

Cancer (JUNE 22 — JULY 23)

Happy birthday Cancer. At the beginning of a New Year, your possibilities are unlimited. You are given an opportunity to start over again. I encourage you to be selfish, to think about what makes you happy, and to set goals which allow you to bask in the glory of the infinite. Focus on cutting ties from the habits and attitudes, which are unhealthy. You run the risk of not learning what you were supposed to and could be forced to repeat the same patterns again.



Leo (JULY 24 — AUGUST 23)

Over the course of this week, you could find yourself in an emotional homosexual funk. There could be domestic influences, which brings this out. These emotions are actually the physical manifestation of a universal current designed to aid in your overall development. You must put your past behind you and look to a glorious future. A fruiting of your life is under way and could manifest as love, a piece of art or wealth.



Virgo (AUGUST 24 — SEPTEMBER 23)

This week you will need to take some time out to think about love, romance and intimacy. Some hoped for relations could fall through and not work out. What do you want out of love? Reminiscing, past relationships could flow through your mind or reenter your life. Decide what you want out of love and relationships and prepare as the universe offers you your desires.



Libra (SEPTEMBER 24 — OCTOBER 23)

With the sun sitting in Cancer, a heavy weight is placed upon you, expect to be critical as you evaluate your life. You must be strong as you confront the emotions stirring in your psyche. Some sobering truths could float to the surface of your consciousness. There are aspects of your life that you are no longer complying with, beginning to make your life fall by the wayside. It is a time of transition to let old masks die and build a new pattern of living.



Scorpio (OCTOBER 24 — NOVEMBER 22)

Fluxing emotions bring out your rebellious side. You're going to want to be bad and to walk on the wild side of life and let your hair down. Girl, you're going to be a fish swimming in a sea of indulgence. One mood swing to another. Toward the end of the week equilibrium will settle in and your emotions will settle into a happy medium.



Chances

AN ALL PEOPLES BAR
DEDICATED TO
COMMUNITY UNITY.

HAPPY 4TH OF JULY!

MARLENE AND THE STAFF
WANT TO THANK YOU ALL
FOR A FABULOUS
PRIDE PARADE

WEDNESDAY, JULY 8, 9PM
JOIN IN THE FUN WITH
SHEILA LENNON'S
KARAOKE NIGHT.

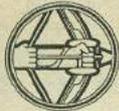


THE NEW

DANNY



Fluxing emotions bring out your rebellious side. You're going to want to be bad and to walk on the wild side of life and let your hair down. Girl, you're going to be a fish swimming in a sea of indulgence. One mood swing to another. Toward the end of the week equilibrium will settle in and your emotions will settle into a happy medium.



Sagittarius (NOVEMBER 23 — DECEMBER 22)

You must be careful in overstepping your homosexual boundaries and desiring an end before it is time. Greed will only serve to blind you to the authenticity of the situations occurring around you. For some, offers of romance will be made. Place no limits and set no standards. You run the risk of being greedy.



Capricorn (DECEMBER 23 — JANUARY 20)

What is this? Just when you thought it was safe to go back in the water, your bathing suit tears. A sense of stagnation from projects uncompleted could put a damper on your plans. You must remember you will get exactly what you put into your goals. Extra effort is called for actually manifesting your desires.



Aquarius (JANUARY 21 — FEBRUARY 19)

Mercury's influence brings about lively debates, sharper communication and urges to hop in your car and go places. You will search for meaning and may require some quite time while you seek fulfillment. Trust the little voice that keeps whispering in your head. No, there is nothing wrong with you. It's just your intuition or your long lost Uncle Jed.



Pisces (FEBRUARY 20 — MARCH 20)

This week, you will experience a loss of personal power and self esteem. Walking up the latter of life, the natural cycle of events puts snags in your plans and a crisis occurs. You could have difficulties with male figures at home or where you work. An offer could be set in front of you and you could decide not to take it. No, it is not too bad. You're just adjusting to a future full of potential.



Aries (MARCH 21 — APRIL 20)

This week, planetary movement encourages solitude by placing a heavy mood over you. With the sun riding high in Cancer, an overwhelming crisis could occur. You must be honest with your gay self and ask yourself if you have you been true to your goals and desires. To achieve what you wish these questions must be answered. Take what the universe offers and learn to manipulate your future.



Taurus (APRIL 21 — MAY 20)

This week will present an array of choices about your homosexual future as you are coming out of deception. The universe will encourage ways to bring more money, establish wealth and initiate power. You will be forced to choose, to leave confusion and find clarity or to continue to bask in uncertainty. Hold onto what you know and prepare. Your life is on its way to blossoming and becoming fertile.



Gemini (MAY 21 — JUNE 21)

Venus and Uranus combine efforts to stir up a little excitement. Thought you had a handle on it all? Romantics. Love puppies. Social butterflies. If you thought you would never be able to be entranced by love, you are wrong. Stop, halt as an irresistible romantic interlude makes you throw everything you thought you learned out the window. Is it love I see in your future or just a good time? This remains to be seen.

Joseph Molina, a practicing psychic for over 15 years, can be reached at 713-524-4411. Check out his web site at www.Astralwind.com or e-mail him at joemo@swbell.net.

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Bridgett

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BETSY AND THE GANG AT THE RANCH:

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We are all going to miss you.

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Asians and Friends of Houston included walkers waving a variety of flags. —Staff photo

Pride



Lloyd Thomas, a member of the Metropolitan Community Church of the Resurrection on Decatur Street, joined a small contingent of the congregation before the parade's 9 p.m. kickoff to help decorate their float. —Staff photo



Jack Jack
(EPAH) i





With colorful costumes and a flare for crowds, the Texas Cowgirlz provided vivid displays along the parade route. —Staff photo



Members of Cheer Dallas practiced along Mandell before the start of the parade — and a burst of rain that dampened parade-goers. —Photo by Dalton DeHart



Tucked near the end of the procession, gays and lesbians marched in support of the Rainbow Room, a bar in north Houston. —Staff photo



Dozens of children of gay and lesbian parents took part in the parade, some riding a make-shift carousel to show their support. —Staff photo

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1998



Jack Jackson joined members of the Executive and Professional Association of Houston (EPAH) in marking the group's first time in the annual parade. —Staff photo



Members of the Houston chapter of the Human Rights Campaign walked in the parade, carrying signs and wearing shirts emblazoned with the well-known logo of the Washington, D.C.-based gay civil rights group. —Staff photo





The NAMES Project-Houston included a portion of the AIDS Memorial Quilt. —Photo by Dalton DeHart



Nine-year-old Robert Romero joins friend Cean Taylor in a prime sidewalk spot at the intersection of Westheimer and Montrose to view nearly two hours of floats, vehicles and groups during the parade. —Staff photo



Kenny MacPherson joined dozens of other gay and lesbian parents marching along several blocks of Westheimer near Montrose. —Photo by Dalton DeHart



A large transgendered group marched in the parade, some waving placards that asked for equal opportunities for employment. —Staff photo

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Poolside Catered Buffet
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Saturday, July 4

- Brazos River Bottom: \$1.75 beer & well, \$1.25 schnapps 7 a.m.-9 p.m. Buffet @ 2 p.m. Benefit show @ 3 p.m.
- BriarPatch: Wayne Gray tickles the ivories; Randy deals Blackjack @ 9:30 p.m.
- Bricks II: Happy hour 7 a.m-9 p.m.\$1.75 well & domestic beer.
- Chances: Power hours with \$1.75 domestic beer & well 10 a.m- 3 p.m.; Happy hour 3-8 p.m. with \$2.25 beer & \$2.75 well; \$2 Cuervo
- Club Extreme: Doors @9 p.m.
- E/J's: \$1.50 well 4-7 p.m.; Mug club 7 a.m.-10 p.m.; \$1.50 vodka 7 a.m-6 p.m.Super Show @11 p.m.
- Gentry: Boy Toys @9 p.m.: \$3.75 Absolut cocktails open-close
- J.R's: Texas pride happy hour 4-7 p.m. \$2.25 well. \$1.75 domestic longnecks, \$3.50 Absolut Martinis & \$4.50 doubles; \$2.75 premium frozen drinks & premium draft beer, \$3.25 super premium draft beer.
- Lazy J: Drag show@10:30 p.m.
- Mary's: Happy hour 7 a.m.-7 p.m.: \$1.75 domestic beer open-close.
- Montrose Mining Company: Male dancers 9 p.m. \$1.50 well. \$2.50 well til 10 p.m.After hours til 4a.m.
- Nighthawks: \$2 well, beer, and wine until 7 p.m. Miss Firecracker Contest @ 10 p.m.
- OutPost: Happy Hour 11 a.m.-7 p.m. Crazy Hour 5-6 p.m. \$1 domestic beer & \$1.25 well. Pool tourney @ 1 p.m.
- Pacific Street: Leather & Flesh Fantasy Night Doors@9pm: no cover in erotic leather.
- Paradise: Doors@ 11 a.m. Happy house 11 a.m.-8 p.m. \$1.50 well & beer.
- Rich's: Doors@ 9 p.m. 21+ no cover 9-10 p.m.: \$1.25 well 9-11 p.m. DJ J.D. Arnold.
- Ripcord: Happy hour 1-8 p.m. After hours until 4a.m.
- The New Barn: Power Hours \$1.75 beer & well 12-3 p.m.; Happy hour 3-8 p.m. \$2.25 beer & \$2.75 well.

Sunday, July 5

- Brazos River Bottom: \$1.75 beer & well, \$1.25 regular schnapps Noon-7 p.m.; 50¢ draft.
- BriarPatch: Happy hour 2-8 p.m. \$2 beer & \$2.25 well.
- Bricks II: Happy hour 12-9 p.m.; \$1.75 well; \$1.75 beer.
- Chances: Power hours \$1.75 beer & well noon-3 p.m.; Happy hour 3-8 p.m. \$2.25 beer & \$2.75 well; \$2 Cuervo.
- Club Extreme: Doors @5 p.m. no cover until 11 p.m., \$2 frozen, \$1 schnapps and Karaoke@ 8 p.m. Drink specials all night long.
- E/J's: \$1 Bud & Bud Light open-close.
- Gentry: Happy hour 2-8pm: Boy Toy Dancers 7-11 p.m.; Pool tournament@ 6 p.m.; Male Strip Contest @11 p.m.; \$2.25 Kool Aid shots open- close.
- J.R's: 99¢ well vodka juice drinks noon-11 p.m., \$2.75 Shiner Bock: SRO Karaoke@6 p.m: Male Swim wear strip contest@ 11 p.m.
- Mary's: \$1.75 Well & beer 10 a.m-4 p.m. 50¢ draft @2 p.m. \$1.50 beer 7-11 p.m.
- Montrose Mining Company: \$2 beer; \$1.75 well drinks,\$1 vodka well drinks; Beer Bust \$2 (optional) with 25¢ refills; male dancers@ 9 p.m.
- Nighthawks:\$2 well, beer, & wine, noon to 7

Variety Show at 8 p.m

- BriarPatch: Marcie as Sweet MAMA Cotton.
- Bricks II: \$1.25 well & beer 7 a.m-noon: \$1.75 well & beer noon-9:00 p.m.
- Chances: Power hour \$1.75 well & beer 10 a.m.-3 p.m.; Happy hour 3 p.m-8 p.m. \$2.25 beer & \$2.75 well; \$2 Cuervo.
- Club Extreme: 97.5 the Box night with \$5 cover, \$2 well & \$1 draft.
- Club Houston: Half-price lockers, rooms, & video rooms noon until midnight.
- E/J's: Happy Hour 7 a.m-9 p.m.; \$1.50 well 4-7 p.m.; \$1.50 Vodka 7 a.m-6 p.m.; Mug Club 7 a.m.-10 p.m.; Burger night. Amateur/Talent Night a@ 11 p.m.
- Gentry: Happy hour 2-8 p.m.: Boy Toys@9 p.m.; \$3.75 Finlandia; Free Pool Table.
- J.R's: 2(x)ist Tuesdays! \$2 domestic longnecks, well drinks, wine, and frozen margaritas. Male strip@11 p.m.
- Mary's: \$1.75 well & beer 7 a.m-9 p.m. \$1.50 well vodka drinks 7 a.m.-2 p.m; \$2 Cuervo.
- Midtowne Spa: 1/2 price lockers Noon to Midnight. 18-22 year olds get free locker!
- Montrose Mining Company: \$1.75beer, \$2.50 well drinks, \$3 any other drink in the house! Happy hour until 10 p.m. Male dancers 9 p.m.-2 a.m.
- OutPost: Happy Hour 11am to 7 p.m. Crazy Hour 5-6 p.m. \$1 beer & \$1.25 well.
- Nighthawks: \$2 well, beer, & wine noon until 7 p.m. \$2.50 Cuervo!
- Pacific Street: Executive Night. No cover with your personalized business card. \$1.25 well, \$1.75 beer, \$3 call, \$3.50 premium, \$1.25 schnapps. Doors@9 p.m.
- Paradise: Doors@11 a.m. Happy hour 11 a.m-8 p.m. \$1.50 well and beer
- Ripcord: Happy Hour 1-8 p.m. 8 p.m.-2 a.m. Martini specials. Classic Rock night
- The New Barn: Happy hour 3-8 p.m. \$2.25 beer & \$2.75 well \$2 Cuervo.

Wednesday, July 8

- 611 Hyde Park Pub (upstairs): Open Bridge Game 7-11p.m.
- Brazos River Bottom: \$1 well 7 a.m.-11 p.m. & \$1 beer 7- 2 a.m.
- BriarPatch: Wayne & Beverly play together.
- Bricks II: \$1.25 well & beer 7 a.m.-to noon; \$1.75 well & beer noon-9 p.m..
- Chances: Power hours \$1.75 beer & well 10 a.m.-3 p.m.; Happy hour 3-8 p.m. \$2.25 beer & \$2.75 well : \$2 Cuervo; Shiela Lennon's Karaoke night@ 9 p.m.
- Club Extreme: \$5 cover with \$2 well & \$1 draft.
- E/J's: Happy Hour 7 a.m-9 p.m.; \$1.50 well 4-7 p.m.; \$1.50 Vodka 7 a.m- 6 p.m.. Mug club 7 a.m.-10 p.m. Burger night.
- Gentry: Happy hour 2-8 p.m.: Boy Toys@7 p.m.; \$1.25 Schnapps open-close; Male Strip contest@11 p.m..
- J.R's: Texas Pride Happy hour 4-7 p.m. \$2.25 well, \$1.75 beer. \$2.75 premium frozen drinks, \$2 beer all day and all night. Joe Boxer dance contest@11 p.m.
- Mary's: \$1.75 well & beer, \$1.50 well vodka drinks 7 a.m. to 2 p.m..
- Midtowne Spa: Half Price Rooms (regular and video) Noon to Midnight; Amateur Strip@ 10 p.m.

**Ohhh... Ahhh...
EVERY NIGHT!**

**PACIFIC
STREET**

FRIDAY FOREPLAY!

No Cover 7-9!

Park Once, Dance All Night!



**Saturday
HOT FLESH
FANTASY NIGHT!
No Cover All Night
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Doors Open at 9!**

**Sunday
MALE OVERLOAD!
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Houston's Only Laser-Lit Dance Floor!

**The Lowest Regular Drink Prices!
\$1.25 Well, \$1.75 Beer & \$1.25 Schnapps!**

**Caged Heat/Men Behind Bars! Our "Gifted"
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713/523-0213

Male Strip wear strip contest @ 11 p.m.
• Mary's: \$1.75 Well & beer 10 a.m.-4 p.m. 50¢ draft @ 2 p.m. \$1.50 beer 7-11 p.m.
• Montrose Mining Company: \$2 beer: \$1.75 well drinks. \$1 vodka well drinks; Beer Bust \$2 (optional) with 25¢ refills; male dancers @ 9 p.m.
• Nighthawks: \$2 well, beer, & wine. noon to 7 p.m. \$2.50 Cuervo!
• OutPost: Happy hour noon-7 p.m. Crazy Hour 5-6 p.m. \$1 domestic beer & \$1.25 well.
• Pacific Street: Doors @ 7 p.m. \$1.25 well. \$1.75 beer. \$3 call. \$3.50 premium. \$1.25 schnapps. No cover 7-9 p.m.
• Paradise: Doors @ noon; Happy hours noon-8 p.m. \$1.50 well drinks & beer; \$1.75 Bloody Mary open-close.
• Rich's: Doors @ 7 p.m.
• Ripcord: \$1.50 well & beer open-close.
• 611 Hyde Park Pub: Brunch @ noon.
• The New Barn: Power hours \$1.75 beer & well noon-3 p.m.; Happy hour 3-8 p.m. \$2.25 beer & \$2.75 well; \$2.50 Cuervo.

Monday, July 6

• Brazos River Bottom: \$1.75 well & beer. \$1.25 regular schnapps open-close.
• BriarPatch: Happy hour 2-8 p.m. Open Pool Table.
• Bricks II: \$1.25 well & beer 7 a.m.-noon. \$1.75 well & beer noon-2 a.m.
• Chances: Power hours \$1.75 beer & well 10 a.m.-3 p.m.; Happy hour 3-8 p.m. \$2.25 beer & \$2.75 well; \$2 Cuervo.
• Club Houston: Half price lockers noon to midnight.
• E/J's: Happy hour 7 a.m.-9 p.m.; \$1.50 well 4-7 p.m.; \$1.50 vodka 7 a.m.-6 p.m.; Mug Club 7 a.m.-10 p.m.; Male Strip @ 11 p.m..
• Gentry: Happy hour 2-8 p.m.; Boy Toy Dancers @ 9 p.m.; \$3.25 Cuervo Gold open-close; Free Pool Table.
• J.R's: Texas Pride Happy Hour 4 to 7 p.m. \$2.25 well. \$1.75 beer. \$3.50 Absolut Martinis & \$4.50 doubles; \$3.75 top shelf Martinis. \$2.25 beer. frozen Ritas \$1.75; "Pump" male dance contest @ 11 p.m..
• Mary's: \$1 beer 8-11 p.m. \$1.75 well & beer 7 a.m.-9 p.m.; \$1.50 well vodka drinks 7 a.m.-2 p.m..
• Midtowne Spa: Half-Price night room/video rooms Noon to Midnight.
• Montrose Mining Company: \$3.50 double well drinks, \$1.75 well, \$2 domestic longnecks; Pool tournament @ 8:30 p.m. male dancers @ 9 p.m. Happy hour until 10 p.m.
• Outpost: Happy Hour 11 a.m.-7 p.m. razy Hour 5-6 p.m. \$1 domestic & \$1.25 well. Shuffleboard Tourney @ 7 p.m.
• Nighthawks: \$2 well, beer, & wine noon until 7 p.m. \$2.50 Cuervo!
• Pacific Street: Doors @ 9 p.m. No cover with pass. Lowest regular drink prices in town.
• Paradise: Doors @ 3 p.m. Happy hours 3 p.m.-8 p.m.
• Ripcord: Happy hour 1-8 p.m.; Boxer Shorts Night :Boxer Shots \$1.25.
• 611 Hyde Park Pub: Free Pool after 6 p.m.
• The New Barn: Happy hour 3-8 p.m. \$2.25 domestic beer & \$2.75 well \$2 Cuervo.

Tuesday, July 7

• Brazos River Bottom: \$1 well 7 a.m.-11 p.m., \$1.25 schnapps til 11pm; \$1 beer open-close.

• J.R's: Texas Pride Happy hour 4-7 p.m. \$2.25 well, \$1.75 beer. \$2.75 premium frozen drinks, \$2 beer all day and all night. Joe Boxer dance contest @ 11 p.m.
• Mary's: \$1.75 well & beer, \$1.50 well vodka drinks 7 a.m. to 2 p.m..
• Midtowne Spa: Half Price Rooms (regular and video) Noon to Midnight; Amateur Strip @ 10 p.m.
• Montrose Mining Company: \$2 beer & well drinks, \$4 doubles; Male dancers @ 9 p.m.; Happy hour til 10 p.m.
• Nighthawks: \$2 well, beer, & wine noon until 7 p.m. \$2.50 Cuervo
• OutPost: Happy hour 11 a.m.-7 p.m. Crazy Hour 5-6 p.m. \$1 beer & \$1.25 well.
• Pacific Street: Ecstasy! Best in Dance & Videos. Doors @ 9 p.m. No cover with a "Pleasure You" pass.
• Paradise: Doors @ 11 a.m. Happy hours open-close \$1.50 well and beer. Fajita night \$5 per plate & 1.50 Ritas.
• Ripcord: \$2 well & beer open-close Star Trek @ 8 p.m.
• The New Barn: Happy hour 3-8 p.m. \$2.25 beer & \$2.75 well; \$2 Cuervo.

Thursday, July 9

• Brazos River Bottom: \$1.75 beer, \$1.75 well, \$1.25 schnapps until 11 p.m.. Free dance lessons.
• BriarPatch: Doors @ 2 p.m.
• Bricks II: \$1.25 well & beer 7 a.m.-noon; \$1.75 well & beer noon-9 p.m.
• Chances: Power hours \$1.75 beer & well 10 a.m.-3 p.m.; Happy hour 3-8 p.m. \$2.25 beer & \$2.75 well. \$2 Cuervo.
• Club Houston: Half-price lockers, rooms, & video rooms noon-midnight.
• Club Extreme: Talent night with \$200 cash prizes. \$5 cover \$2 well & \$1 schnaapps.
• Cousin's: Show @ 11 p.m..
• E/J's: Happy hour 7 a.m.-9 p.m. \$1.50 well 4 p.m.-7 p.m.; \$1.50 vodka 7 a.m.-6 p.m.. Mug club 7 a.m.-10 p.m.; Burger night.; Amateur Talent contest @ 11 p.m..
• Gentry: Happy hour 2-8 p.m.; Boy Toys @ 9 p.m. \$3.25 Skyy open-close.
• J.R's: Texas pride happy hour 4-7 p.m. \$2.25 well, \$1.75 beer \$3.75 all top shelf liquor. \$2.25 Imports and Micro Brews. Star Search Gold Karaoke @ 9 p.m..
• Mary's: \$1.75 well & beer 7 a.m.-9 p.m.; \$1.50 well vodka drinks 7 a.m.-2 p.m.; 75¢ schnapps.
• Midtowne Spa: 1/2 price lockers 12-Midnight.
• Montrose Mining Company: \$2.25 beer, well, & wine; Male dancers at 9 p.m.; Happy hour until 10 p.m..
• Nighthawks: \$2 well, beer, & wine noon until 7 p.m. \$2.50 Cuervo
• OutPost: Happy Hour 11 a.m.-7 p.m. Crazy Hour 5-6 p.m. \$1 beer & \$1.25 well.
• Pacific Street: Sexx Thursdays: \$1.25 well, \$1.75 beer. \$3 call. \$3.50 premium. \$1.25 Schnapps. No cover with current gym card.
• Paradise: Doors @ 11 a.m. \$3 anything in the house.
• Rich's Club Hedo. 18+ college crowd with \$1.75 well.
• Ripcord: Happy hour 1 to 8 p.m.
• 611 Hyde Park Pub: Burger Night 6-9 p.m..
• The New Barn: Happy Hour 3-8 p.m. \$2.25 beer & \$2.75 well; \$2 Cuervo.

Important Stuff

The Red, White and You party is this weekend. It kicks off at Rich's on Friday at 9 p.m. On Saturday the rooftop (of the old Cody's) is the place to be to watch our city's skyline light up with fireworks. The party continues at the Hornberg Center and Rich's until past sunrise. Sunday, the festivities finish at Club Spy. For event info, call 713-521-2910.



I'll keep the parade on the beat.

Milestones

Get well hugs to Shirley, one of the owners of Club Extreme.

Big birthday hugs to Marlene Beago, Rich Arenschioldt, Uncle Jim "Bunko" Lockheart, and William Weybourn of Window Media.

Rodent Droppings

My usual disclaimer is in force.

Lies, gossip and trash. The real news starts on page one.

Harvey was on the "attack feet" warpath this week. As I sat at my desk in the ferret's room, he would sneak up and start licking the top of my foot. He would get 3 or 4 licks done (I guess he was softening up my tough old feet) before he started to nip not hard enough to hurt, but definitely hard enough to get my full attention. Rascal has been playing the "toss my water bottle on the floor because I want attention" game again this week. I out smarted her by buying her a new water bottle. There is no way she can "nose" this one off. It hooks in three places.

I cleaned their cages this week and found the following deposits:



Hanging out at The Outpost.

Overheard at PS: "It was so hot, I wore five pounds of Max Factor down the front of my evening gown."

Jennifer (lives in Waller): Thanks for baptizing my cell phone.

Crystal Rae Lee Love (RSICSS): And I quote: "Who has been wearing my jeans?"

Bob Bouton (too many titles to list on one page): I hear you are quite the stud magnet anytime you and Crystal Rae Lee Love go to a party together.

Barry Petree (Soiree Aubergine): And I quote: "Oh, my god, it is an entire herd."

COMING SOON...

FUEL

presents

THE 5th ANNUAL WHITE TORN T-SHIRT PARTY

JULY 17TH

RICH'S

HOUSTON

Hanging out at The Outpost.

Darla K. (Gentry): And I quote: "He likes me because to him, I'm chicken."
Jeanette V. (RSICSS): Thanks for taking notes for me at the parade.
Tuna Melt: Were you the "old lady" locked in the upstairs bathroom at the BRB?

Ken L. (PS): I hear you now know what poison ivy looks (and itches) like.
Racy (Chances): You better be careful what you wish for.

Laura Lee (RSICSS): Did you really "do it" with Pooh Bear and Miguel? Pooh Bear denies it and Miguel admits it. Details. We want details.



Come see me at Rich's.

Jimmy (hangs at Brick's II): Which house will you be at on the 4th of July?
Papa Del (Gentry): Does it take Viagra to raise the blinds?
George (JR's): I'm sorry you are sleeping single in a queen size bed.

The real Cuervolyn does not use salt when drinking Cuervo.



Pet of the Week Tony - Owner Joseph Molina

you and Crystal Rae Lee Love go to a party together.
Barry Petree (Soiree Aubergine): And I quote: "Oh, my god, it is an entire herd."

Barry (Gentry): And I quote: "If I wanted an old man, all I would have to do is go home to my husband."

Betsy (New Barn/Chances): Why is someone bringing your wife roses?

Scott (Charlie's): Have you now learned the right numbers to push so you don't get a \$308 phone bill?

Keith (Colt 45's): Been walking long?

Jeff (TWT): I know why we all are calling you "Stumpy." Should I tell everyone else?

Eddie Mae (RSICSS): A slap on the wrist?

Keep sending those Pets of the Week.

Cuervolyn

Paradise

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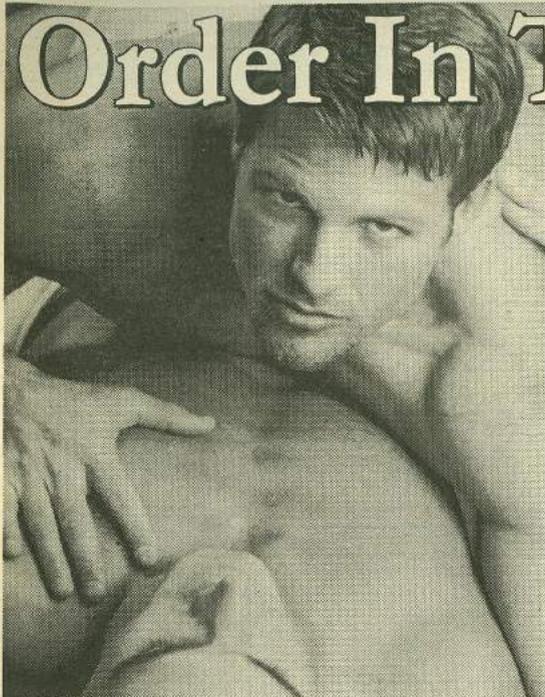


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The 611

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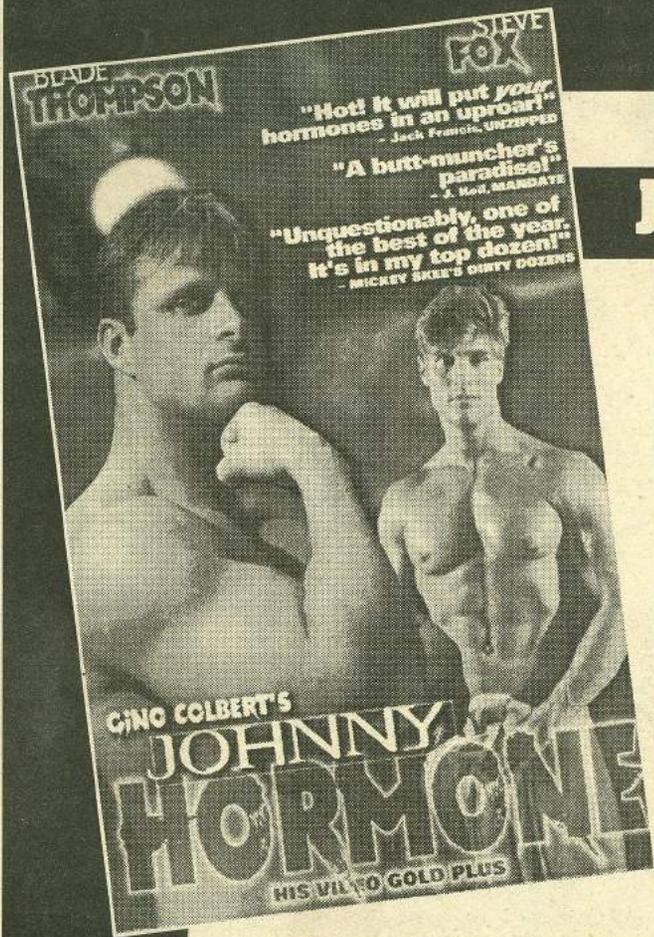
OPEN — CLOSE

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611 Hyde Park
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Texas' Best All Male Cinema

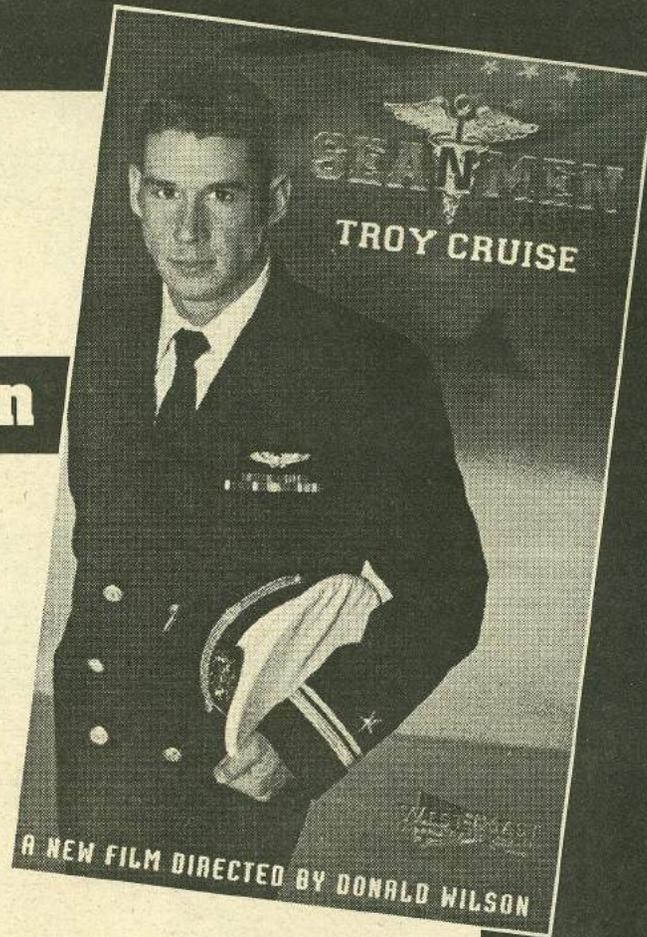
Texas' Best All-Male Cinema

presents



Johnny Hormone

Sea Men



Friday & Saturday
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Monday - Thursday
11am-1am

Sunday
1pm-1am

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BOOK/ from page 5

the global gay community with the danger of lesbians withdrawing their support and solidarity with the gay male community "if new (HIV) infections and continued saturation remain a part of the male landscape."

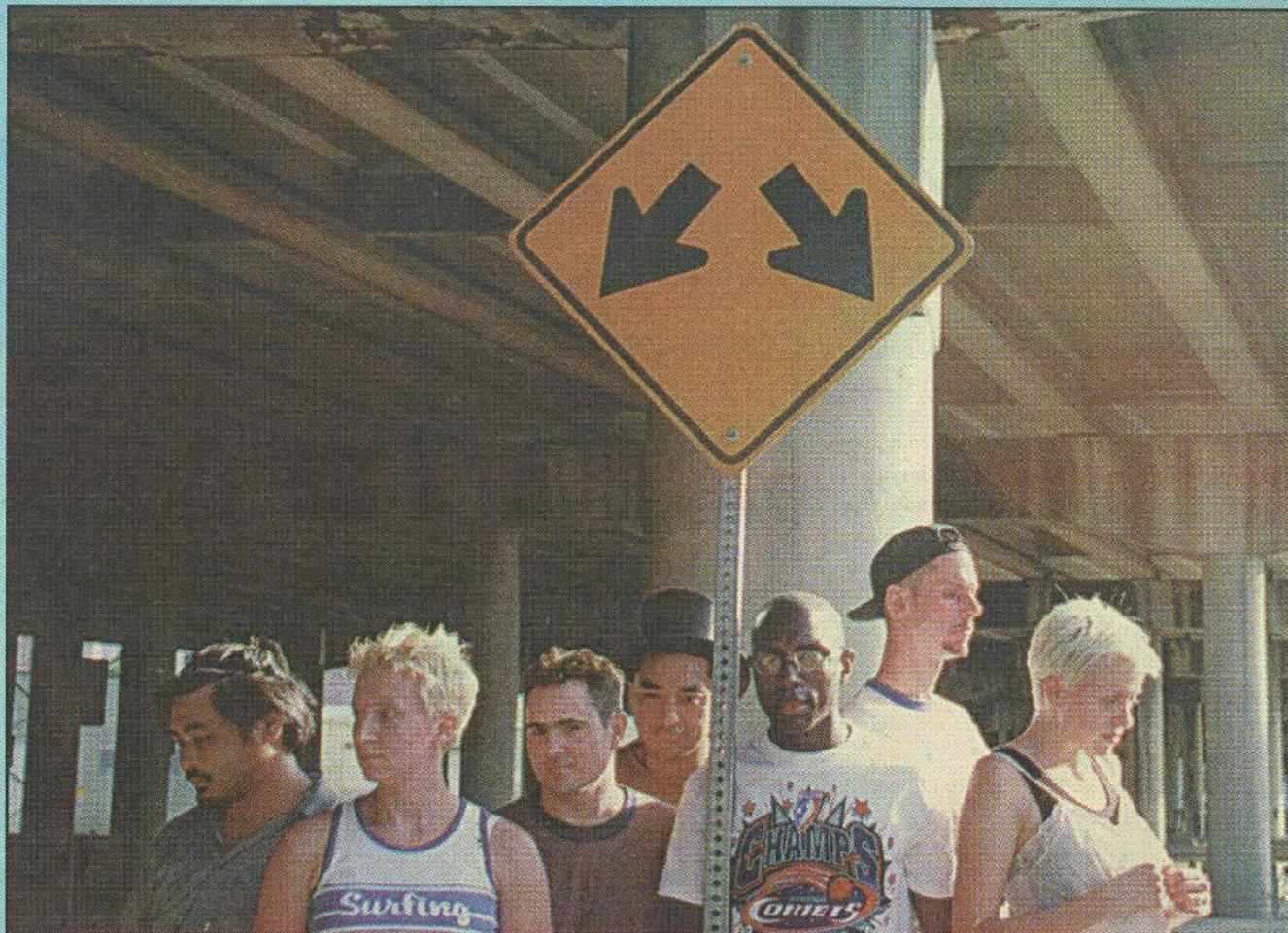
Finally, Rotello makes a plea for integration. The authors calls for an integration of the past history and experience of gay elders with the vibrancy and hope (gay youth) to establish a sense of cultural connection and better understanding. Rotello advocates for the further political and legislative integration of gay male relationships in society. He calls for the integration of monogamy in AIDS prevention messages given to gay men and makes a final plea for the integration of "cultural responsibility" among gay men for their own behavior and the behavior of their peers.

Rotello also calls for much needed and "painful reexamination of the ways in which certain aspects of gay life favor HIV transmission." Rotello presents this reexamination as the key to the "truth" that the gay male community must come to terms with in stopping the spread of HIV. Rotello views this truth as both hidden and absolute, citing the words of Robert Louis Stevenson in the book's dedication: "The truth that is suppressed by friends is the readiest weapon of the enemy."

In trying to determine the destiny of gay men and the future for HIV/AIDS, it is often difficult to distinguish between friends and foe in pages of Rotello's informative and controversial book.

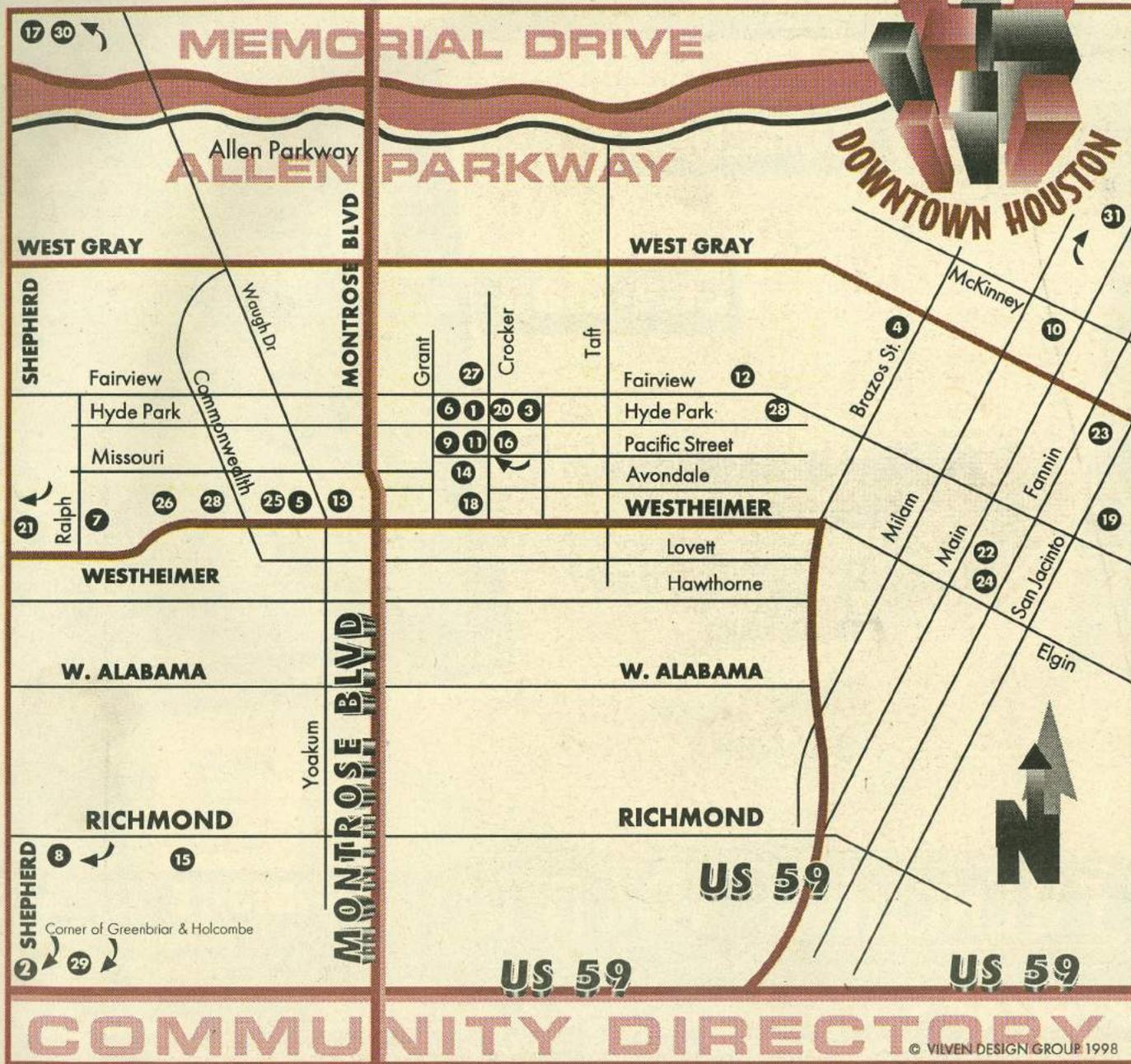
Harry Livesay is advocacy project director with Bering Community Service Foundation.

The making of queer community



The seven-member artist collective QuAC has returned to DiverseWorks Art Space with "Off the Map: QuAC, Texas Pop. 7," which opens July 9. All seven artists perform in one piece, which deals with gender identity and includes video footage of the popular animated series "South Park." "Each of our seven members has very different backgrounds and

cultural experiences, with one commonality, they are gay," said QuAC member Michael Crawford. "Our new production is the combined expression of all seven of us being totally ourselves without leaving anything behind." The show runs through July 11. Tickets are \$10. For more information, call 713-228-0914.



BARS & CLUBS

1	611 Hyde Park	611 Hyde Park	713/526-7070
2	The Briar Patch	2294 Holcombe	713/665-9678
3	Bricks II	617 Fairview	713/528-8102
4	Brazos River Bottom	2400 Brazos	713/528-9192
5	Chances	1100 Westheimer	713/523-7217
6	Cousins	817 Fairview	713/528-9204
7	EJs	2517 Ralph	713/527-9071
8	Gentry	2303 Richmond	713/520-1861
9	Heaven	810 Pacific	713/521-9123
10	Incognito	2524 McKinney	713/237-9431
11	JR's	808 Pacific	713/521-2519
12	Lazy J	312 Tuam	713/528-9343
13	Mary's	1022 Westheimer	713/527-9669
14	Montrose Mining Co.	805 Pacific	713/529-7488
15	Outpost	1419 Richmond	713/520-8446
16	Pacific Street	710 Pacific	713/523-0213
17	Mail Box	4215 Washington	713/864-2977
18	QT's	534 Westheimer	713/529-8813
19	Rich's	2401 San Jacinto	713/759-9606
20	Ripcord	715 Fairview	713/521-2792
21	Vintage Bar on Midlane	4356 Westheimer	713/355-3093
22	Nighthawks	2923 Main	713/522-0000
23	The Club Houston	2205 Fannin	713/659-4998
24	Midtowne Spa	3100 Fannin	713/522-2379
25	The New Barn	1100 Westheimer	713/521-9533
26	Racsals	1318 Westheimer	713/942-CLUB
27	Paradise	2312 Crocker	713/522-7366
28	Mela's Tejano Country	302 Tuam	713/523-0747
29	Metroplex	2165 Portsmouth	713/520-5000
30	Viviana's	5219 Washington	713/862-0203
31	Club Spy	112 Travis	713/228-0007

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