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FATHER'S DAY

Volume 16
June 12-25, 1998
Issue 12



PROUDLY PRESENTS...

NEON PARTY VVO

SATURDAY, JUNE 27TH, 1998



FREE
GLOW STICKS

for the first 500 people!

FREE

CHAMPAGNE

& HORS D'OEUVRES

THURSDAYS ARE
TOTALLY RETRO
Dance Till You Drop With DJ Bret Scott

Friday
June 12th
KARAOKE
with
Kathy Cane

Friday
June 19th
"Another
Cheap Nite
Out"

Domestic Beer ~ \$1.25
Well Drinks ~ \$1.50
Schnapps ~ \$1.00
Cocksuckers ~ \$1.75

Saturday
June 13th
*Show To Be
Announced*
at 11pm. Don't
miss this one!

Saturday
June 20th



PROFILES

Showtime 11pm E.S.D.T.

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Dance & Show Bar**

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42357 Veterans • Hammond, LA
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Tuesday
June 16th
Sauza Tequila
Special
\$2.75

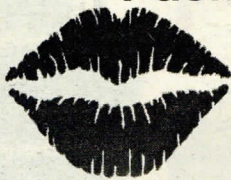
Saturday, June 20th
**Crawfish
Boil**

6:30pm til
they're gone!

Sunday, June 21st
Daddy's Day Specials

Tuesday, June 23rd
Pucker Special

\$1.00



Friday, June 26th
**Summer Splash
Wet Boxer Contest**



Midnight

MGR: J.R. STANSBERRY

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**SPECIAL
EVENTS**

WEEKLY

Sunday, June 21st
5pm
(every other Sunday)
Karaoke
with Mary

Mondays
Free Pool

Tuesdays
Happy Hour
All Day All Night

Retro - Wednesdays
10pm
w/ DJ Brett Scott

Thursdays
10pm
Karaoke w/ Roger & Els

Fridays
10pm
DJ

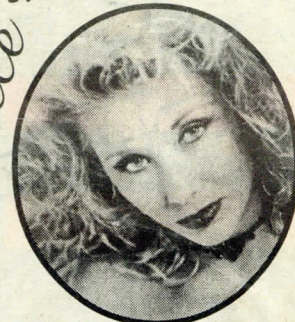
Saturday, June 13th
10pm
Issac's Gun

Sunday, June 14th
6pm
Becky
Eymard



Saturday, June 20th
10pm

Sherreece



Wednesday, June 24th
7pm
High Heel Pool Tournament
9pm
Disco Party

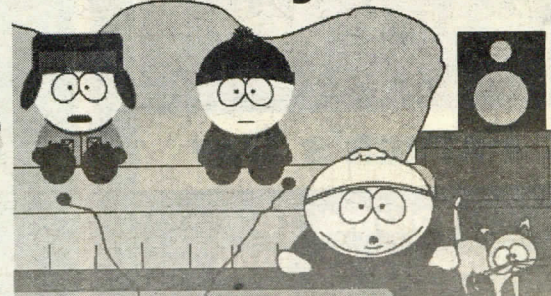


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Tuesday, June 30th
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Party**



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Parade

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heaven

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saturday, june 20th

DJ Darren Thomas

ILLUMINATIONS BY

Rob Guenther

WITH PUB DJs

Chuck Boudreaux

AND **Wayne Mancuso**

Heavenly

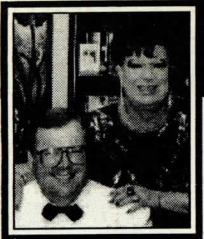
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WHAT'S HOT

by Rip & Marsha Naquin-Delain
E-mail: ripna@ambushmag.com
www.ambushmag.com/is1298

1st Miss High Heel Drag Show June 13

The 1st Miss High Heel Drag Show & Contest will kick off the 7th Annual Charity High Heel Pool Tournament. Benefiting New Orleans Sports For AIDS, the contest is scheduled at The Mint, Decatur @ Esplanade, in the French Quarter, Sat., June 13, 9pm. For contest info, contact Billy at 4 Seasons, 504.832.0659.

The actual tournament, sponsored for the seventh year by *Ambush Mag 2000* and Miller Brands, raising over \$25,000 thus far, begins on Wed., June 17 at the Friendly Bar, 2301 Chartres. Each team in the tourney plays for a different charity. At the end of tourney play in August, the tournament pot is split between the charities according to team rank.

This year's 7pm Wednesday tournament dates, team/bars and charities include June 17-Friendly Bar-Buzzy's Boys & Girls, June 24-Angles-Food For Friends,

cd hits

by Sonny C. Cleveland

I must open up with a CD that was dropped off at my office by a wonderful man named Fred Held. If any of you are fans of the ever popular *X-Files* then you would definitely appreciate the brand new remixes from SCI-FI Records.

The talents of Tony Bongiovi's Collective Noyze with guest DJ "Infiniti" proves truly magical. Tracks 1 & 2 are pretty cool but 3 & 4 are HOT HOT HOT! If you are a fan of the movie hit sensation *The Titanic*, tracks 5 & 6 are for you.

On my trip to Austin, TX, for the Meltdown '98 Party, I just happened to bring it to each club we played in. Well, the response from the DJs as well as the dancing revelers was overwhelming. When I first laid ears on the song, my hair stood up as it did each time we got the DJs to play it.

With only 12 promo copies sent out, I was lucky enough to get it and share it with others. One Mighty Party at Disney will be the next shared site.

The next CD, *The Man I Love* (Love Songs For Alternative Lifestyles), is by Jason Steele. For those IN LOVE and dreamy-eyed about their mate this CD would be for you and your loved one. Every song is geared for a man-to-man relationship and the feelings that are involved. Truly for the romantics' hearts and ears.

For more information concerning these CDs, contact Fred Held at 423.339.1477 or 423.339.3177 fax.

More CDs for next issue!

July 8-Footloose-AIDS Hotline, July 15-Big Daddy's-University Hospital Hospice, July 22-Another Corner-Belle Reve, July 29-Lance's Pub-The Living Room, and Aug. 5-4 Seasons-Project Lazarus. Tournament finals are set for Body & Soul, 2300 Chartres, Sun., Aug. 16, 5pm.

25th Anniversary of Upstairs Lounge Fire

The Rev. Dexter Brecht and Toni J.P. Pizanie of the Vieux Carre Metropolitan Community Church and Mayor's Advisory Committee Chairperson, respectively, have announced the final plans for the Wed., June 24 memorial for the 32 Upstairs Lounge victims of New Orleans' deadliest fire. The service will begin promptly at 7:30pm at the Royal Sonesta Hotel Ball Room, 300 Bourbon. Following the service, a processional will walk the three blocks to the fire site to place flowers at the corner of Iberville and Chartres. Attendees are asked to bring flowers to place at the site.

A "second line" will return to the hotel for cocktails and the opportunity to visit with The Rev. Troy D. Perry. Survivors and friends of victims will be on hand to share the history of this 16 minutes of hell endured by the 1973 Gay Community.

The Bienville Foundation has withdrawn involvement in the planning and financing of this event. Community members and businesses are asked to donate to the Memorial Fund through the Vieux Carre MCC to pay the cost of the service and the plaque which will be placed at the site. Checks should be made payable to VCMCC and marked for Fire Memorial Fund. All donors will be acknowledged in the Program as follows: Patrons \$100+, Hosts \$50, Sponsors \$25. The program and web site have been donated by *Ambush Mag 2000* and *AMBUSHonLINE*.

Mayor Marc Morial and Councilman Troy Carter have agreed that the plaque is a suitable and necessary historic monument and will take part in the service. For additional information, please call Dexter at 504.945.5390 or Toni at 504.522.8049 (Mon., Wed., or Fri.,) or log on to www.gayworld.net/memorial.

July 4th Laz Fest Gets \$27,210 AMgrant

Laz Fest '98, a benefit for Project Lazarus, has received a \$27,210 *Ambush Advertising Grant [AMgrant]* donation. The *AMgrant* includes *Ambush Mag 2000* print ads, plus an *AMBUSHonLINE* web page @ www.crescentcity.com/lazfest, A-List and Triple C premiere banner links, and banner ads on 18 *AMBUSHonLINE* web sites. *Ambush* is Laz Fest's exclusive major local media sponsor for New Orleans, Louisiana and the Gulf South.

The annual event raises tens of thousands of dollars on July 4th for the popular AIDS residence. Hosted at Cabrini Park, corner of Dauphine & Barracks in the French Quarter, 11am-6pm, fest goers enjoy unlimited food, soft drinks and beer included in the \$10 gate admission. The festival also boasts games, music, a dunk tank, silent auction and raffle.

Other sponsors include Absolut, Bourbon Pub/Parade, Budweiser, Bell South, Kentwood, Radiofone, Pepsi and Wood Enterprises.

AMgrants are distributed to various charities, organizations and events throughout communities that have supported *Ambush Mag 2000* and *AMBUSHonLINE*.

Westbank Cocktail Run

The lovely and talented Toni Pizanie joined us for a Friday night bar run to the Westbank. Heading across the Crescent City Connection, our first stop was Freedom's, 1030 Westbank Expressway, Gretna. This club has special entertainment on occasion and features the karaoke talents of Roger & Elsie, every Saturday.

Next we headed over to the all new Cheers, 1711 Hancock, Gretna, "where old and new friends meet." Bartenders Suzie and Kay were a camp, keeping our glasses full to the brim. We got to meet owner Pat who filled us in on the 411 of Cheers. This down-home pub is large and really set up for entertainment which begins June 12 with Mike Barnes one man band. June 13 will bring Lady Magic Necha and her popular Viva Las Vamps revue to the Cheers stage. On June 19, Elsie & Roger will begin their weekly Friday karaoke fest at Cheers.

Then it was off to Lance's Pub, 3714 Westbank Expressway, Suite 2, in Harvey. Lance himself was at the door greeting bar patrons as they entered. Handsome bartender Nash served up the cocktails, while host Carl made sure we met the party goers here. These guys were having a festive time getting ready for their big Prom Night extravaganza on June 20. Lance and company will even crown a Prom King and Queen. This club is simply too much with all the antiques and fufu, giving you a little taste of the Memphis Peabody.

Last stop was The Full Moon, 424 Destrehan, Harvey. Both Billy and Barry were manning the bar. Popular with the leather/western crowd, this bar is noted for its late night special events. Billy and Barry can fill you in.

Huge Crowds Descend On Pensacola

Memorial Day Weekend saw record crowds descend on Pensacola. The bars, circuit parties and beaches were packed with revelers for the annual weekend extravaganza.

Jeffrey Sanker's Beach Maneuvers V: The Red, White and Blue Ball was unbelievable with Deborah Cox singing her hit, "Things Just Ain't The Same."

Abracadabra 4: A Magical Dance Party was not to be outdone. Oz and Miller

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pulled out all the stops bringing Sunscreen to the stage. The gigantic cloth dancers stole the show as fans from below forced the dancers into moves no human could produce.

And let's not forget all of the hot women and men in town. It was heaven on earth seeing some of the hottest bods this side of the Mississippi.

Miss Tri-States Crowned

Nicole DuBois was crowned Miss Tri-States America in Alexandria. The regional preliminary was hosted by Unique Bar & Lounge, 1919 N. MacArthur.

Show stopper Sweet Savage emceed the pageant and was joined with the talents of Miss Gay America Maya Montana, former Miss Gay America Patty La Play Safe and Miss Central Louisiana America Jessica Daniels.

Unique will also host the Miss Gay Louisiana America Pageant, a prelim to Miss Gay America on Sept. 11, 12, 13 & 14.

Marsha Undergoes 8th Surgery

A compound fracture occurring on July 22, 1997 has led to Marsha Naquin-Delain's eighth surgery. Due to a persistent infection around the break, Tulane University Hospital doctors decided to remove the rod from the center of the tibia on June 4. Doctors had hoped to wait until August to do this surgery, giving the bone time to strengthen.

Marsha, now at home, is undergoing her third, and hopefully final, 6-week IV-antibiotic treatment. In addition, doctors are requiring Marsha to walk with the assistance of a splint and crutches as a precautionary measure to insure the strengthening of the tibia for 6 weeks.

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HIV—Positive

The Living Room

Shirley Van Damme, Director

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The *Living Room* is a drop in center for people infected with HIV Open Tuesday-Saturday with a home cooked meal served at noon

All events are **FREE** to adults who are financially eligible

SPECIAL EVENTS

Self Esteem Workshops

Saenger Theatre

Movie Nights

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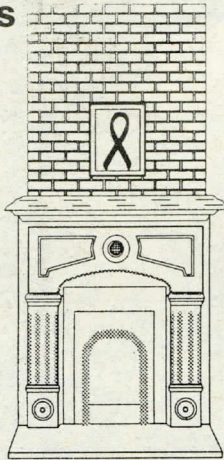
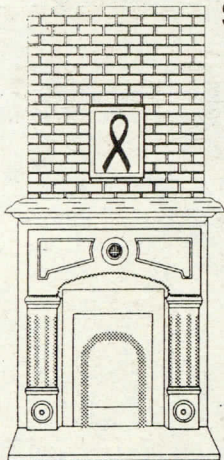
Festivals

Concerts

IMAX

Tours

Zoo



The *Living Room* at Vieux Carre' Metropolitan Community Church is a non-profit organization, funded 85% with a Ryan White Title I grant. The remaining donations are from individuals and organizations.



sappho psalm

by Toni J.P. Pizanie

E-mail: info@ambushmag.com

www.ambushmag.com/is1298

Lesbian American Composers

CRI has released a collection of compositions by eleven Lesbian Americans. The work is a follow-up to the two-volume series "Gay American Composers" released in 1996.

Seven of the eleven self-identified Gay women are from New York. They are Pauline Oliveros, Nurit Tilles, Paula Kimper, Eve Beglarian, Annea Lockwood, Madelyn Byrne, and Ruth Anderson. Jennifer Higdon is from Philadelphia with Linda Montano of Austin, TX and the improvisation duo of Marilyn Lerner and Lori Freedman of Winnipeg, Manitoba, Canada.

Being a dedicated listener of CDs by Suede, Robyn E, Tina Benez and many more out Lesbian singers/composers, I could hardly wait to set the mood with glowing candles, a cooling breeze created by A/C & ceiling fan, a glass of wine set next to my comfy over-stuffed chair. I popped in the CD, curled up with eyes closed and listened.

Clang, bang, bump. I sat upright, eyes bulging. I couldn't believe my ears. I was transported back to the LSU School of Music auditorium. Suddenly it was 1967 and John Cage, Gay composer of the time, was ripping at everything I held sacred in music.

Determined to like and enjoy everything Lesbian composers have worked for the last thirty years, I gritted my teeth and listened. Thump, thump—a heart beat started the third selection then a voice stated, "I am Sappho of Lesbos." Ah! A song, a tone poem about our beloved heroine, Sappho. "Once, I had 33 vertebra, thump, thump, once, I had 22 feet of intestines, thump, thump, I had..." PLEASE! Girl friend, give me a break.

There were other one-line poems set to "interesting" musical tones. And two

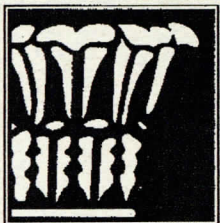
lovely soprano voices a bit off-key on purpose. All this has been done before and just as badly.

Years before Alice Cooper and Ozzie started biting the heads off snakes or "whatever" and every other hard rock band started beating their instruments to death, there was John Cage, Gay American composer, with an axe destroying a Baby Grand piano on the stage of Carnegie Hall. Avant-garde treatment of music didn't start in the 60s with Ives and Cage; although, they did per-

fect the dissident noise considered to be the new age classical scene. Before them, some believed that the exquisite melodies of Aaron Copeland, also a Gay American composer, were unorthodox. Humph!

Now, I am not telling you that the works of all eleven serious composers are the heterodox creations of bangs and

[continued on 8]



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Most people tolerate ZERIT quite well. You take just one capsule twice a day, with or without food. And you can combine ZERIT with most other medicines you might be taking.

ZERIT is approved for the treatment of HIV-infected persons who have already received prolonged AZT therapy. However, there is no cure for HIV infection. People taking ZERIT may still develop infections or other conditions associated with HIV. Please note that all HIV drugs cause side effects. ZERIT has been shown to cause tingling or pain in the hands or feet in 13% to 24% of people.

ASK YOUR DOCTOR ABOUT

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ALSO KNOWN AS d4T

Please see brief summary of prescribing information on following page.
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OUT ON A Limb

by Pam Young
E-mail: PJOLANO@aol.com
www.ambushmag.com/is1298

Summer Time And The Living Ain't Easy In The Big Easy

So, it's June, and the heat is starting to shimmer in the city. You can tell how hot it is by the wet,

sticky shirt backs of the people on the street... and everyone just seems to get more and more naked.

And there's nothing much going on, either. Ellen did her final episode without much fanfare, El Nino has been a bad boy, President Clinton has been a bad boy (but

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ZERIT® (stavudine) Capsules

ZERIT® (stavudine) for Oral Solution

Brief Summary of Prescribing Information, 10/96. For complete prescribing information, please consult official package circular.

INDICATIONS AND USAGE

ZERIT (stavudine) is indicated for the treatment of HIV-infected patients who have received prolonged prior zidovudine therapy. The duration of clinical benefit from antiretroviral therapy may be limited. Alteration in antiretroviral therapy should be considered if disease progression occurs while receiving ZERIT.

CLINICAL STUDIES

Study A1455-019 was a multi-center, randomized, double-blind trial of ZERIT Capsules vs zidovudine for the treatment of HIV-infected adults with CD4 counts of 50 to 500 cells/mm³ who had received at least six months prior zidovudine treatment. ZERIT was administered in dosages of 40 mg BID for patients weighing ≥60 kg, and 30 mg BID for those weighing <60 kg. The zidovudine dosage was 200 mg TID.

The study enrolled 822 patients with a median baseline CD4 count of 235 cells/mm³ (range: 10 to 735 cells/mm³), and a median duration of prior zidovudine treatment of 88 weeks (range 11 to 356 weeks). Fourteen percent of subjects had AIDS at baseline, 50% had HIV-related symptoms and 36% were asymptomatic.

Table 1 gives the Kaplan-Meier estimates for the time to disease progression.

	First AIDS - Defining Event or Death*	
	ZERIT	zidovudine
6 months	4.4%	5.7%
12 months	10.4%	14.1%
18 months	18.5%	23.3%
24 months	26.6%	31.8%

* Kaplan-Meier estimates; the overall difference between stavudine and zidovudine was not significant.

CONTRAINDICATIONS

ZERIT is contraindicated in patients with clinically significant hypersensitivity to stavudine or to any of the components contained in the formulation.

WARNINGS

The major clinical toxicity of ZERIT is peripheral neuropathy. This complication occurred in 19 and 24 percent of the 11,784 patients with advanced HIV disease who received the two dose levels of stavudine in the Parallel Track Program¹. In patients with less advanced HIV infection in the zidovudine comparative trial, peripheral neuropathy occurred in 13 percent of ZERIT-treated patients as compared to 4 percent of zidovudine-treated patients.

Patients should be monitored for the development of neuropathy that is usually characterized by numbness, tingling, or pain in the feet or hands. Stavudine-related peripheral neuropathy may resolve if therapy is withdrawn promptly. In some cases, symptoms may worsen temporarily following discontinuation of therapy. If symptoms resolve completely, resumption of treatment may be considered at a reduced dose.

Patients with a history of peripheral neuropathy are at increased risk for the development of neuropathy. If stavudine must be administered in this clinical setting, careful monitoring is essential.

PRECAUTIONS

Information for Patients

Patients should be informed that ZERIT is not a cure for HIV infection, and that they may continue to acquire illnesses associated with HIV infection, including opportunistic infections. Patients should be advised to remain under the care of a physician when using ZERIT.

Patients should be informed that the most common toxicity of ZERIT is peripheral neuropathy. Symptoms of peripheral neuropathy usually include tingling, burning, pain, or numbness in the hands or feet. Patients should be counseled that this toxicity occurs with greater frequency in patients with a history of peripheral neuropathy. They should be advised that these symptoms should be reported to their physicians and that dose changes may be necessary. They should also be cautioned about the use of other medications that may exacerbate peripheral neuropathy.

Caregivers of young children receiving ZERIT therapy should be instructed regarding detection and reporting of peripheral neuropathy. Patients should be informed that the long-term effects of ZERIT are unknown at this time. They should be advised that ZERIT therapy has not been shown to reduce the risk of transmission of HIV to others through sexual contact or blood contamination.

Patients should be informed that the Center for Disease Control (CDC) recommends that HIV-infected mothers not nurse newborn infants to reduce the risk of postnatal transmission of HIV infection.

Laboratory Tests

Mild to moderate increases in AST (SGOT) and ALT (SGPT) occurred commonly in clinical trials; these did not interfere with continued therapy.

Carcinogenesis, Mutagenesis, Impairment of Fertility

Long-term carcinogenicity studies of stavudine in animals have not been completed. Stavudine was not mutagenic in the Ames, *E. coli* reverse mutation, or the CHO/HGPRT mammalian cell forward gene mutation assays, with and without metabolic activation. Stavudine produced positive results in the *in vitro* human lymphocyte clastogenesis and mouse fibroblast assays, and in the *in vivo* mouse micronucleus test. In the *in vitro* assays, stavudine elevated the frequency of chromosome aberrations in human lymphocytes (concentrations of 25 to 250 µg/mL, without metabolic activation) and increased the frequency of transformed foci in mouse fibroblast cells (concentrations of 25 to 2500 µg/mL, with and without metabolic activation).

¹ The parallel track program (STUDY A1455-900) treated 12,551 HIV-infected patients with CD4 counts <300/mm³ who had failed, were intolerant of, or had contraindications to other therapies.

In the *in vivo* micronucleus assay, stavudine was clastogenic in bone marrow cells following oral stavudine administration to mice at dosages of 600 to 2000 mg/kg/day for 3 days.

No evidence of impaired fertility was seen in rats with exposures (based on C_{max}) up to 216 times that observed following a clinical dosage of 1 mg/kg/day.

Pregnancy

Pregnancy "Category C". Reproduction studies have been performed in rats and rabbits with exposures (based on C_{max}) up to 399 and 183 times, respectively, of that seen at a clinical dosage of 1 mg/kg/day and have revealed no evidence of teratogenicity. The incidence in fetuses of a common skeletal variation, unossified or incomplete ossification of sternbra, was increased in rats at 399 times human exposure, while no effect was observed at 216 times human exposure. A slight post-implantation loss was noted at 216 times the human exposure with no effect noted at approximately 135 times the human exposure. An increase in early rat neonatal mortality (birth to 4 days of age) occurred at 399 times the human exposure, while survival of neonates was unaffected at approximately 135 times the human exposure. A study in rats showed that stavudine is transferred to the fetus through the placenta. The concentration in fetal tissue was approximately one-half the concentration in maternal plasma. There are no adequate and well-controlled studies in pregnant women. Because animal reproduction studies are not always predictive of human response, stavudine should be used during pregnancy only if clearly needed.

Nursing Mothers

Studies in lactating rats demonstrated that stavudine is excreted in milk. Although it is not known whether stavudine is excreted in human milk, there exists the potential for adverse effects from stavudine in nursing infants. Mothers should be instructed to discontinue nursing if they are receiving stavudine. This is consistent with the recommendation by the U.S. Public Health Service Centers for Disease Control and Prevention that HIV-infected mothers not breast-feed their infants to avoid risking postnatal transmission of HIV.

Pediatric Use

Use of stavudine in pediatric patients is supported by evidence from adequate and well-controlled studies of stavudine in adults with additional safety data in 115 pediatric patients and pharmacokinetic data in 25 of these patients.

Stavudine pharmacokinetics have been evaluated in 25 HIV-infected pediatric patients (age range: 5 weeks to 15 years, weight range: 2 to 43 kg) after IV and oral administration of 0.125, 0.5, 1, and 2 mg/kg as single doses and as BID regimens. The mean ± SD absolute bioavailability was 76.9 ± 31.7% (n=20). Peak plasma concentration (C_{max}) and area under the plasma concentration-time curve (AUC) increased in proportion to dose after both single and multiple doses.

Following intravenous infusions (n=21), the mean ± SD volume of distribution was 18.5 ± 9.17 L/m². The distribution of stavudine into cerebrospinal fluid (CSF) was assessed in 8 pediatric patients after 12 weeks of multiple oral dosing. The concentration of stavudine in CSF samples ranged from 0.008 to 0.105 µg/mL at times ranging from 2 to 3 hours post-dose (dose ranging from 0.125 to 1 mg/kg). CSF concentrations ranged from 16% to 125% (mean ± SD of 59% ± 35%) of the concentration in simultaneous plasma samples.

The terminal elimination half-life after oral or intravenous administration of stavudine was approximately one hour. The mean ± SD total body clearance after intravenous infusion was 247 ± 94 mL/min/m². The mean ± SD apparent oral clearance was 333 ± 87 mL/min/m². The percent of the dose excreted unchanged in the urine was 34.5% after oral administration.

The clearance of stavudine is related to both body surface area and body weight. When dosing according to body weight, the recommended dosage for pediatric patients weighing less than 30 kg is 2 mg/kg/day in divided doses. Pediatric patients weighing 30 kg or greater should receive the recommended adult dose.

ADVERSE REACTIONS

The major clinical toxicity of ZERIT (stavudine) is peripheral neuropathy (see "WARNINGS" section).

Adults: Peripheral neuropathy is dose related (see Table 2). Modest elevation of hepatic transaminases was also observed commonly in controlled trials.

	%			
	Study A1455-019		Parallel Track Program	
	ZERIT (40 mg BID) (n=412)	zidovudine (200 mg TID) (n=402)	ZERIT (40 mg BID) (n=5905)	ZERIT (20 mg BID) (n=5879)
Peripheral Neuropathy				
Grade 1-2	11	3	20	17
Grade 3-4	2	1	4	2
Total	13	4	24	19

Selected adverse events that occurred in adult patients receiving ZERIT in the Phase 3 controlled comparative trial (Study A1455-019) are provided in Table 3.

Adverse Events	%	
	ZERIT (40 mg BID) (n=412)	zidovudine (200 mg TID) (n=402)
Headache	54	49
Chills/Fever	50	51
Diarrhea	50	43
Rash	40	35
Nausea and Vomiting	38	44
Abdominal Pain	34	27
Myalgia	32	35
Insomnia	29	31
Anorexia	19	22
Allergic Reaction	9	8
Pancreatitis	9	8

¹ This event was reported in fewer than 1% of patients.
² Includes all clinical complaints.
³ Median duration of stavudine therapy = 79 weeks; median duration of zidovudine therapy = 53 weeks.

who cares), and there's a plethora of new books about Gays and Lesbians in the bookstores.

It's too soon to start thinking about Iron Mike and the Saints: The Sequel (not too soon for praying, however). So, how can we pass these lazy, hazy days of summer?

There's the beach...but that's three hours away. There's the Bahamas...but who has the extra cash? And you can hardly even get a free boat ride on any of the Casino Riverboats anymore. Here we sit, wishing for Mr. Bingle and Celebration in the Oaks...while we watch the tree sur-

geons take down the stately old trees along St. Charles Ave. that are infested with Formosan termites. Ah, summer in New Orleans. Let's crack open a few fire hydrants and hit the Slip 'n' Slide.

I remember summers in the city from my childhood. Our favorite spot was the Audubon Park swimming pool. Oh how the water glistened in the sun, blue and inviting. I learned to swim in that pool, and I had my first serious crush on my swimming instructor, Miss Thibodeaux. She was tall and tan and young and lovely. Her hair was close-cropped into a short bob.

She drove a Ford convertible and she'd come up the street with its top down each Tuesday afternoon. We'd pile into the

[continued on 12]

sappho ...from 6

clangs, of sounds of machine guns and skipping radio channels, I am telling you that this new CD is not easy listening in the most literal terms. This isn't the CD I'd give as a gift to my mom. Yet, I might give it to one of my old music major friends as a reminder of how far we haven't come.

November Elections

It is not too early to look toward the Nov. elections with fear in our hearts and determination to overturn the advances of the Christian Coalition. Pat Robertson, founder and funder of the Christian Coalition, states openly that the Coalition is "dominant" in the Republican Party in eighteen states and has "substantial" influence in thirteen other states. Robertson demands, "We must complete the job in all fifty states." This means the elimination of what little is left of the "moderate" wing of the Republican Party. This is a GOP that would NOT like Ike.

Those states where the Coalition claims dominance are LA, TX, OK, AL, GA, FL, SC, NC, VA, MN, IA, WA, OR, ID, CA, CO, AZ, and AK. Maine, which was considered substantial, is quickly becoming more controlled after the failure of equal right legislation earlier this year. Other states considered substantially controlled are MT, NV, UT, NE, KS, AR, MS, KY, IN, MI, OH, & PA.

The GOP has been very clear that tax breaks are for the rich. They have also shown their anti "big government" stand is really anti Medicare, Social Security, school loans and environmental protection. If this affects you, you may want to join the Democratic Senatorial Campaign Committee. These Democratic Senate candidates across the Nation need your help.

In James Carville's book **We're Right, They're Wrong**, he said of the Republican right-wing, "If progressivism folds we will not have any right to go pointing fingers at the Republican Party.... We will have only ourselves to blame. It will be our fault, and ours alone. It will mean that we were mute when we should have been defending what we believe."

He makes an excellent point which is as true today as it was when written. It is time to act.

Laboratory abnormalities reported in the Phase 3 controlled comparative trial (Study A1455-019) are shown in Table 4.

Lab Tests (units)	%	
	ZERIT (40 mg BID) (n=412)	zidovudine (200 mg TID) (n=402)
AST (SGOT) (<5.0 x ULN ^b)	11	10
ALT (SGPT) (<5.0 x ULN)	13	11
Bilirubin (>5.0 x ULN)	2	2
Anemia (<8.0 g/dL)	-	3
Neutropenia (neutrophils <750/mm ³)	5	9
Thrombocytopenia (platelets <50,000/mm ³)	3	3
Amylase (>1.4 x ULN)	14	13

^a This abnormality was reported in fewer than 1% of patients.
^b Data presented for patients for whom laboratory evaluations were performed.
^c Median duration of stavudine therapy = 79 weeks; median duration of zidovudine therapy = 53 weeks.
^d ULN = upper limit of normal.

Pediatric Patients: Adverse reactions and serious laboratory abnormalities in pediatric patients were similar in type and frequency to those seen in adult patients.

OVERDOSAGE

Experience with adults treated with 12 to 24 times the recommended daily dosage revealed no acute toxicity. Complications of chronic overdosage include peripheral neuropathy and hepatic toxicity. It is not known whether stavudine is eliminated by peritoneal dialysis or hemodialysis.

HOW SUPPLIED

ZERIT® (stavudine) Capsules are available in the following strengths and configurations of plastic bottles with child-resistant closures:

Product Strength	Capsule Shell Color	Markings on Capsule (in Black Ink)	Capsules per Bottle	NDC No.
15 mg	Light yellow & dark red	BMS 1964 15	60	0003-1964-01
20 mg	Light brown	BMS 1965 20	60	0003-1965-01
30 mg	Light orange & dark orange	BMS 1966 30	60	0003-1966-01
40 mg	Dark orange	BMS 1967 40	60	0003-1967-01

ZERIT for Oral Solution is a dye-free, fruit flavored powder that provides 1 mg of stavudine per mL of solution upon constitution with water. Directions for solution preparation are included on the product label. ZERIT for Oral Solution is available in child-resistant containers that provide 200 mL of solution after constitution with water (NDC No. 0003-1968-01). US Patent No.: 4,978,655

Storage: ZERIT Capsules should be stored in tightly closed containers at controlled room temperature, 59° to 86°F (15° to 30°C).

ZERIT for Oral Solution should be protected from excessive moisture and stored in tightly closed containers at controlled room temperature, 59° to 86°F (15° to 30°C). After constitution, store tightly closed containers of ZERIT for Oral Solution in a refrigerator, 36° to 46°F (2° to 8°C). Discard any unused portion after 30 days.

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Revised October 1996

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Damon & Vinnie do "Gypsy"



Billy & Marti slinging cocktails for Pollack's memorial at Big Daddy's



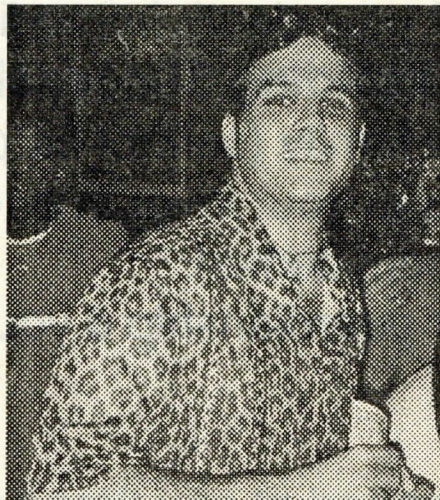
Manager Harold cookin' it up at Mother Bob's



Lucille & Miss Verona celebrate Ben & Bill's 20th anniv. at Golden Lantern



Rubyfruit bartender & manager take a moment for a hug & a smile



MRB 's Rabid Child (aka Eddie) at Footloose



Paul celebrates Pollack's life with memorial at Big Daddy's



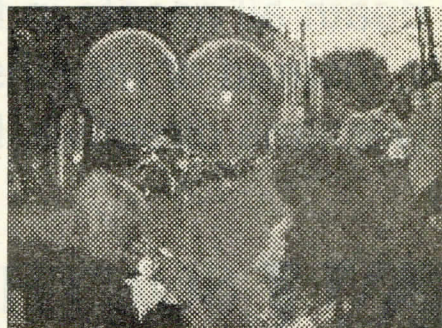
Jerce, Lanny & Koo celebrating Pollack's life



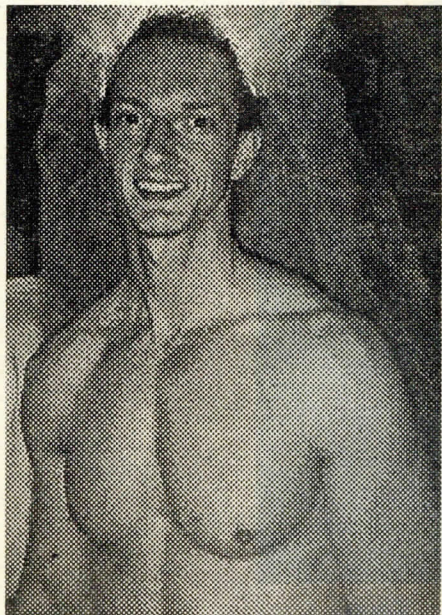
Chester & Lucille at Clorox's birthday at Mother Bob's



Kevin & Nise at Clorox's birthday at Mother Bob's



Balloon release at Pollack's memorial



Jamie "Love" does the Has Been Ball at Oz



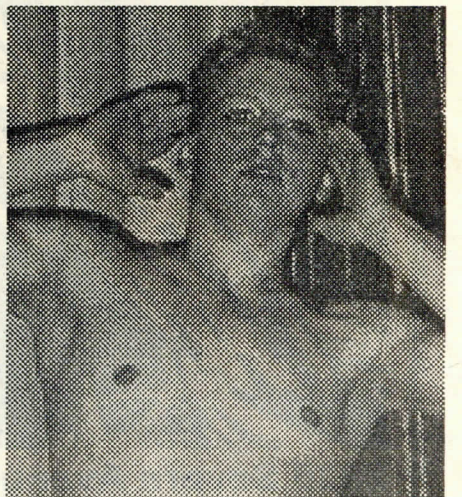
Manager Bob & Oliver at Pride's Rawhide "Bet Uranus" Party



The king & his queen Rusty & Glenn



Footloose owner Todd celebrates Clorox's "umpteenth" birthday



Dancer Chris at Footloose

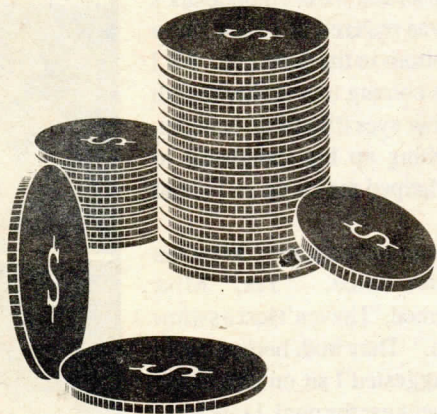
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with DJ's Dan & Alex



FRIDAYS & SATURDAYS

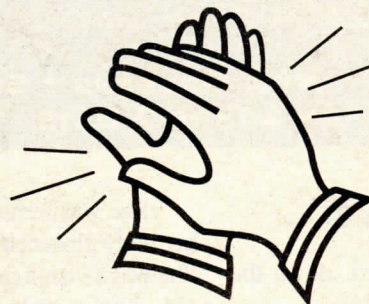
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limb ...from 8

back seat and away we'd go...down the river road to Audubon Park.

You could actually see the pool behind the fence as you drove into the parking lot. The lifeguard chairs were the silent sentinels just peeking over the top. The parking lot was gravel—a mixture of clam shells and oyster shells which were hell on bare feet.

When we got to the poolhouse, we'd split up into male and female-type persons and enter our respective doors. The floors were cool tile and smelled like bleach. The lockers were peeling their layers of paint. Miss Thibodeaux would instruct us to pin the key on the inside of our swimsuits because there was always the chance of losing it to the pool suction. Out we'd go into the eye-squinting summer sun after sloshing through some unnamed green liquid that was supposed to kill germs. It smelled like Listerine or Dr. Tichners.

Miss Thibodeaux always started our lessons in the wading pool. There we would practice "floating" in the shallow water. When she was sure none of us was in danger of sinking straight to the bottom that particular day, she'd point to the big pool. "3 Feet," she'd command, and we'd jump in like obedient little fishes. She'd put us through our paces: dog paddle, threading water, American crawl. Eagerly we would swim to and fro in the pool, always squinting up at Miss Thibodeaux looking for her approval.

She was beautiful in the full sun and her body glistened with droplets of water. She was a vision for the eyes of an 11 year old. I believed her to be the model from which all mermaids were formed.

One afternoon, as I was chugging back and forth in the pool during mandatory lap time, I noticed that Miss Thibodeaux was not alone. There was another woman standing next to her, overseeing our progress. At first I thought she was a lifeguard, but she had no whistle. She, too, was darkly tanned and sleek.

Every Tuesday from then on, Miss Thibodeaux was visited by the lady she told us to call her Miss Jan. When Miss Jan arrived at pool side, Miss Thibodeaux always gave us something to do...one day she even gave us 100 laps, but stopped us at 20 out of fear that we would in fact sink to the pool bottom.

The summer wore on with Tuesdays marking the high point of the week. All too soon, swimming lessons were over and Miss Thibodeaux was ready to "check us out." The check-out included a dive from either the low board or the high tower and a safe return to the side of the pool.

One by one, we climbed the stairs leading to the tower. No one wanted to disappoint Miss Thibodeaux with a belly-flop off the low board. When my turn came, I was nervous. Miss Thibodeaux and her, by now, constant companion, Miss Jan, waved encouragement. I took a deep breath and dove.

Unfortunately, another diver chose just

that moment to swim across the path directly under the tower. I didn't even see him because my eyes were tightly closed.

We collided with great force and I was knocked unconscious. Miss Thibodeaux's greatest fear was realized as I sank like a stone to the bottom in the deep end. All I remember was coming to with her mouth over mine and her eyes filled with concern. I started coughing up big mouthfuls of water and she helped me sit up so I could breath better.

"You gave us quite a scare," Miss Jan said in a quiet voice. "Yes," Miss Thibodeaux agreed, "I haven't lost a swimmer yet though." They both helped me to my feet and suggested I sit on one of the concrete benches near the pool. I saw Miss Jan trying to comfort Miss Thibodeaux. She took her hand and held it for a long moment, then she slid her arm around Miss Thibodeaux's shoulders and gave her a hug. At age 11, I thought this was the greatest thing I'd ever seen...two women touching and holding hands.

On the way home that afternoon, the long shadows criss-crossed St. Charles and then Carrollton Ave. Miss Jan proposed a snowball stop before heading home and we kids rapidly agreed. Everyone piled out of the car at the snowball stand, but I stayed behind, still feeling shaken by the pool collision. Miss Thibodeaux and Miss Jan had also exited the convertible and had moved over to one of the picnic shelters close by. I watched them intently

[continued on 14]

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GOLDEN LANTERN

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LANTERN FRIDAYS

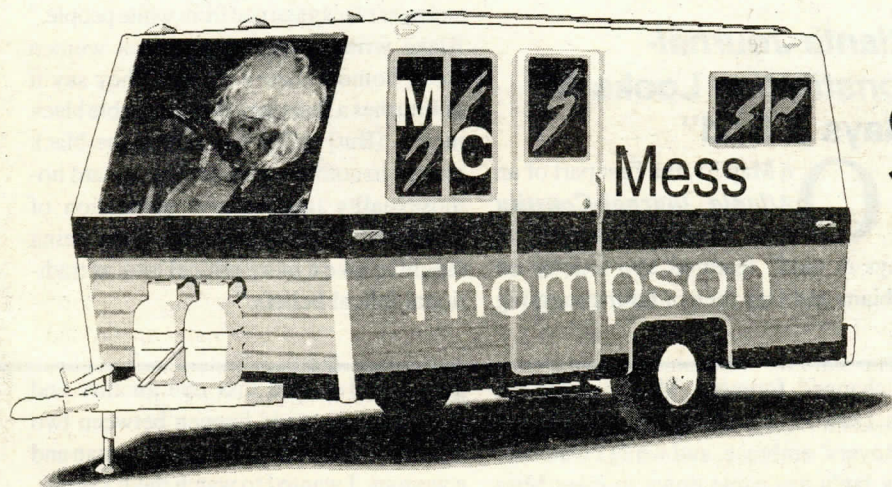
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IN THE NEWS

www.ambushmag.com/is1298

"Spike It" Fund Raiser For Volleyball New Orleans

MRB's Goddess and Krewe of Petronius' Green Goddess (aka Captain Mickey) are organizing a fund raiser for Volley Ball New Orleans at the MRB, 515 St. Philip St., Sun., June 14, 5pm.

The event, sponsored by the krewe and MRB, will include entertainment by the creme de la creme of the drag community. A silent auction and raffle are also on

the agenda.

All proceeds go toward helping to defray travel expenses for Volley Ball New Orleans' participation in the Gay Games Amsterdam where they will be representing the Crescent City.

For more information, call Mickey (504.525.4498) or Goddess (504.525.2558).

Atlanta Journal- Constitution Looks At "Gays & God"

On May 31, the first part of an *Atlanta Journal-Constitution* three-part series on "Gays & God" featured two articles on Lesbians and Gay men of faith struggling

to reconcile their beliefs with religious institutions. The first story, by *Journal-Constitution* staff writer Gayle White, begins, "Across the country, Gay and Lesbian Christians are searching for a way to worship.... Some hide their sexual orientation and stay in churches that claim to love the sinner while hating the sin. Some go to congregations founded specifically by and for homosexuals. Some stay home. And some find acceptance in the pews of some traditional churches." White looks at various churches and their stances, from acceptance to "don't ask, don't tell," to complete denunciation, and writes, "Churches that have intentionally opened themselves to Gays and Lesbians have lost some members because of their stand.... [But] open Gays and Lesbians worship alongside their heterosexual brethren in some Atlanta churches. They serve on committees, lead liturgies [and] volunteer in children's nurseries. Their names are listed in church directories with those of the same-sex partners with whom they sit comfortable in services, sharing hymnals and occasionally holding hands."

The second article, by staff writer John Blake, focuses on the unique struggle of black churches regarding the issue of homosexuality. Blake begins by profiling Rev. Antonio Jones, a preacher who used to condemn homosexuality and "unmask Gay people from the pulpit," but is now openly Gay, leading "a predominantly black congregation open to the Gay community." Blake continues, "While predominantly white denominations vigorously debate the inclusion of homosexuals, black churches refuse even to talk about the issue. Not one major black denomination in Atlanta or the nation has formally considered the inclusion of homosexuals." He also interviews a number of African-American religious leaders and openly Gay black Christians. "Many in the black church are reluctant to discuss homosexuality because there is a widespread belief that it is a sickness blacks learned from white people," Blake writes. "And many black women scorn homosexuality because they say it diminishes a short supply of desirable black men.... [But] AIDS has forced the black church to confront its hostility toward homosexuality [and] a new generation of pastors is becoming better educated, being taught to take a more critical look at traditional biblical beliefs."

TX Methodists Won't Split

The Central Texas Conference of the United Methodist Church at its annual meeting June 2 rejected an attempt to separate itself from supporters of same-gender weddings and Gay and Lesbian ordinations. About 1,000 people meeting in Ft. Worth, representing the churches of a 28-county area, voted down a resolution which would have urged members to "have no more union" with Gay-affirming leaders, and adopted instead one which called for unity despite diverse interpretations of the Bible. Both measures covered a variety of topics under the heading of "Authority of Scripture," with the resolution adopted by the conference essentially affirming the church's current statement under that title. That resolution also called for dialogue in the coming year among those whose Biblical interpretations differ.

The sponsor of the rejected resolution, First United Methodist Church of Bedford pastor Dean Posey, while not one of those threatening to leave the church over the Gay issues, told the *Fort Worth Star Telegram* that he felt a need "to stand up for the orthodox Christian faith." He was in fact responding to the church trial earlier this year of Reverend Jimmy Creech, then pastor of Omaha, Nebraska's First United Methodist Church, who presided at a ritual celebrating the relationship of a Lesbian couple. (Creech's contract is now ending without being renewed.) That trial fell one vote short of convicting Creech of disobedience because some of the jury of Nebraska pastors believed the rule he violated was not actually the law of the church. To Posey, this represented the way the church's vague statements on "Authority of Scripture" have allowed non-Biblical practices. His rejected resolution included the statement, "We call one last time for repentance by those who continue to practice these errors, and if no repentance, then we recommend that the General Conference... take immediate steps to have no more union with them."

No Indictment Against Schwacke

A grand jury declined on June 2 to indict open Gay David Schwacke, the Solicitor for
[continued on 18]

limb ...from 12

from my backseat vantage point, wondering if they were talking about me and the accident. The rest of the kids had run to the swings with their snowballs and were celebrating by slurping the sticky syrups thru their straws. The heat was melting the ice so quickly that soon the race to drink the juice was lost to the overflowing mess. Hands turned red or green or chocolate, but no one seemed to mind.

It was at that moment that I turned my attention back to the two figures standing in the shadows of the pavilion. And it was at that moment that the possibilities for my

life changed forever. There, under the oaks, I saw Miss Thibodeaux and Miss Jan in a lovers' embrace, and while I watched, Miss Jan's lips came down to meet Miss Thibodeaux's. They kissed in what appeared to me to be slow-motion. Miss Thibodeaux leaned into Miss Jan's body and the two swayed slightly to some unheard music moving through the trees.

I, myself, was breathless. I knew that girls weren't supposed to kiss one another like that, but the kiss was so exciting, so thrilling, so intense. My 11, almost 12 year old heart almost burst.

I'll never forget that stolen kiss there under the oaks. It confirmed for me that

girls could indeed kiss one another and that romance could happen between two women just as easily as between a man and a woman. I wanted to watch them forever.

But the kids were getting restless in their damp bathing suits and Miss Thibodeaux and Miss Jan quickly sauntered back to the car. I think Miss Thibodeaux knew that I had seen her with Miss Jan, but she just smiled at me as she slid behind the wheel.

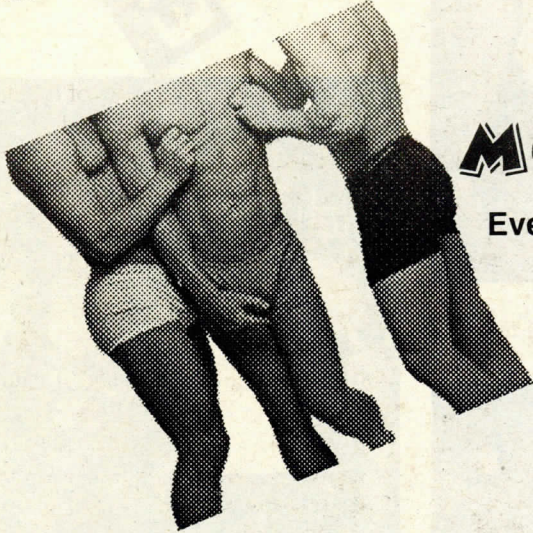
When we pulled up out front of my mother's house, we all sadly said goodbye to both Miss Thibodeaux and Miss Jan. I would never see them again. I was slowly walking away from the car when I heard

my name being called. I turned to see Miss Thibodeaux beckoning me back. "How are you feeling?" she asked. "Fine," I replied...and I did feel fine—for more reasons than one.

Miss Thibodeaux waved goodbye to me and Miss Jan did likewise. I waved back from the curb as they started to drive away. In that final moment, Miss Thibodeaux turned back toward me and with a smile and called out words I have followed 'til this very day. "Follow your heart, Pam." I do, Miss Thibodeaux...oh yes, I do. And I don't sink to the bottom of the pool either.

★ POOL! ★ DARTS! ★ DANCING! ★ CFM'S! ★

Footloose
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'Infinity' & special guests
Special guest stars June 12th
Slutpuppy's own Donnie Jay & Regina

Every Saturday at 11pm

Tiffany's
Diamond
Review

w/ Dominique,
Felicia & TT
A dynamic
warm-up to the
2am Open Mic Show
Come share your talents!



Dominique DeLorean



Sunday, June 28th 9pm
Benefit Show for
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en route to *Miss Gay*
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Sunday, July 12th 8pm
Footloose Exclusive

"Queen of Rampart
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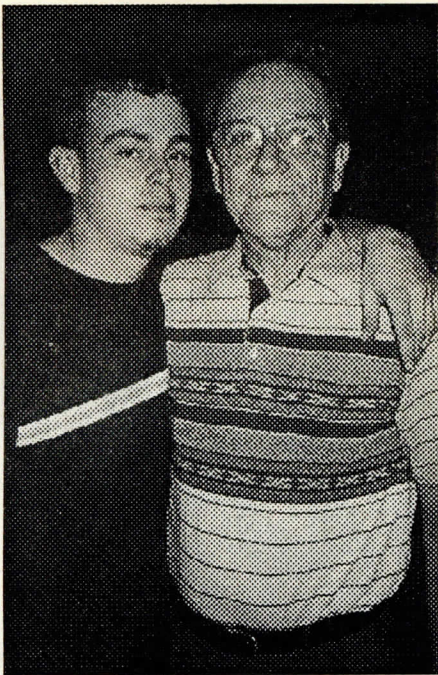
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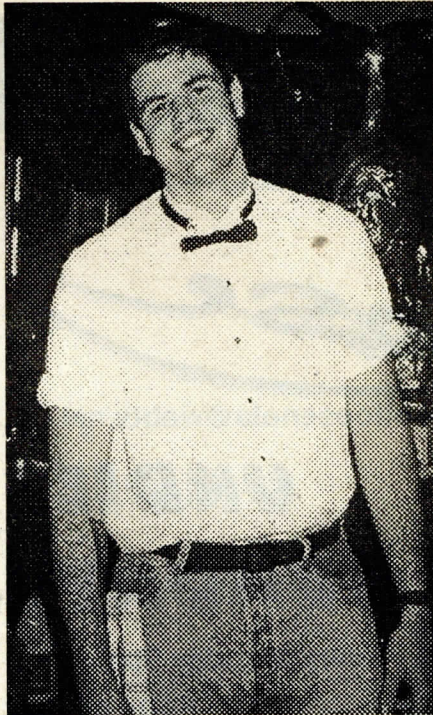
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**Cheers bartender Marlett
& girlfriend, Friday**



**Lance's Pub
bartender Nash**



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**1st Mr. Full Moon Nathan &
Sammy @ Lance's Pub**



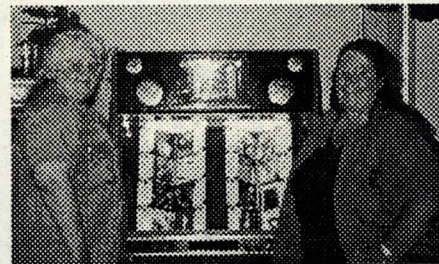
**Cheers bartenders (from back)
Kay, Pat, Big Mary
Marlett, Kelly & Suzie**



Cheers pool room



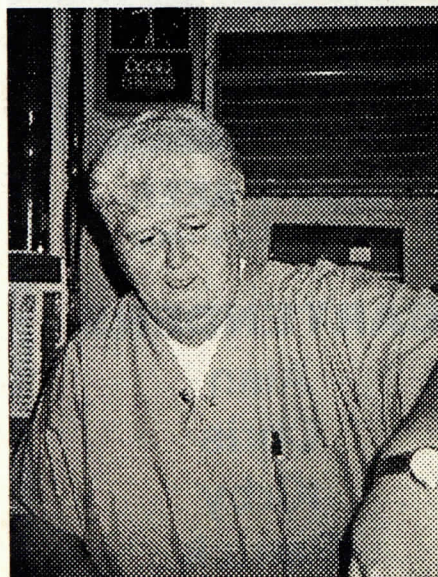
Welcome to Cheers



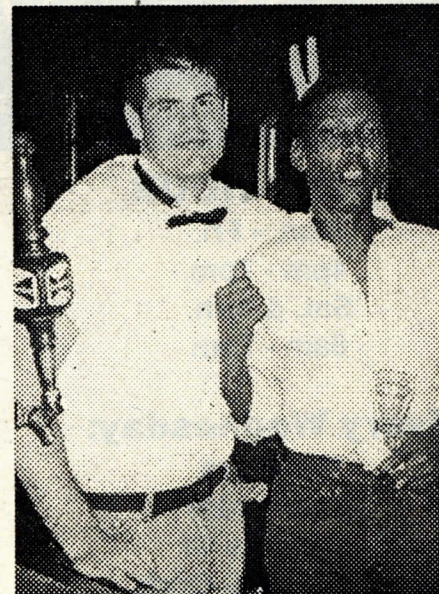
**Pat & Jeanie
Cheers in Gretna**



**Lance's Pub --
Clarence & bartender Cleve**



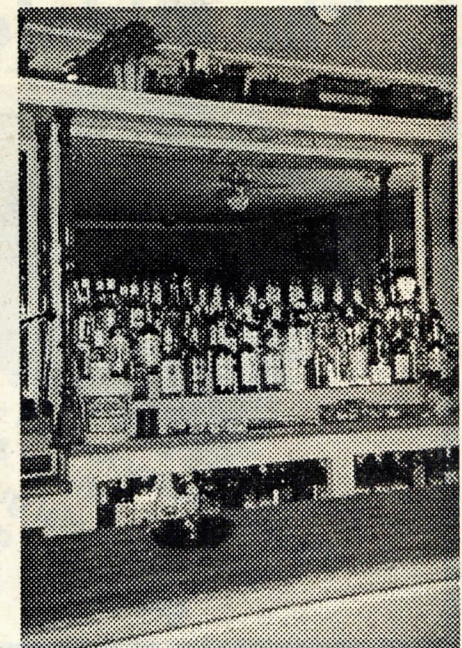
**Cheers bartender Kay
pours a perfect shot
for Toni P.**



**Lance's Pub bartender Nash
& owner, Lance**



**Freedom's bartender
Keni & owner, Celia**



Cheers bar & train collection

1998 Seventh Annual

High Heel

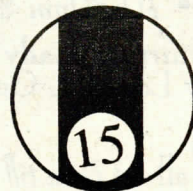
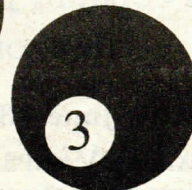
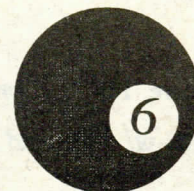
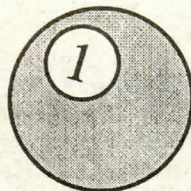
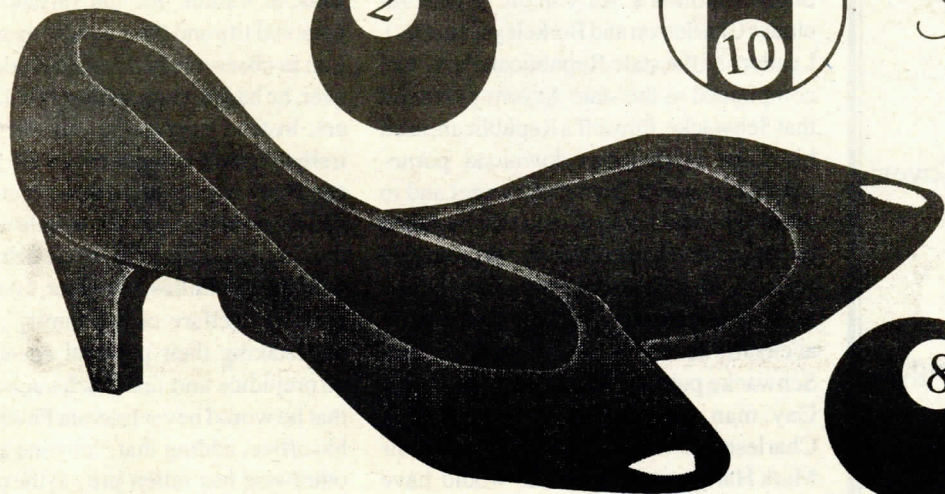
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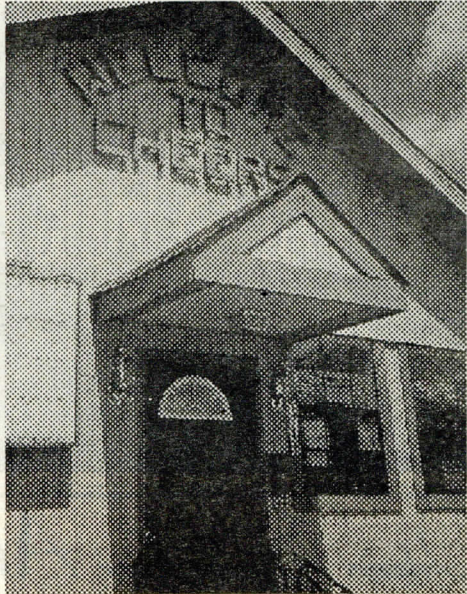


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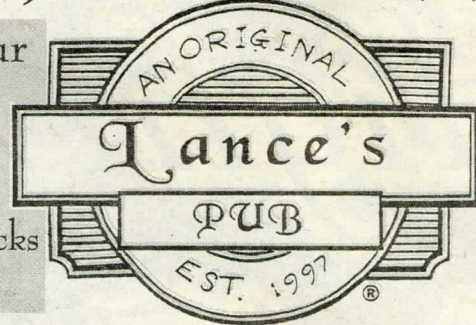
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in the news ...from 14

South Carolina's 9th Circuit (which includes Charleston and Berkeley Counties). Leaders of the state Republican Party had complained to the state Attorney General that Schwacke, himself a Republican, used his office computer to download pornographic material from the Internet and to arrange sexual liaisons, and that he failed to move out of his office the prosecution for sex with male teenage minors against a male acquaintance. In the wake of those accusations some seven months ago, Schwacke publicly identified himself as a Gay man for the first time, although Charleston County Republican Party chair Mark Hartley insists that he would have made the complaint regardless of Schwacke's sexual orientation. Barney Giese, the Solicitor for the Columbia area who made the presentation against Schwacke to the grand jury, said, "I think the grand jury felt, by not going forward with it [the indictment], that it [Schwacke's actions] was not a criminal act."

Schwacke never doubted that he had acted within the law, but expressed relief at the grand jury's decision. He said, "Having sought the forgiveness of the Lord, I

now apologize to the citizens of the 9th Judicial Circuit for the mistakes in my personal life and their unwitting participation as observers in this sordid tale." However, he had no such apology for his accusers, instead expressing pity for "the extremely small component of the Republican Party who brought these accusations" and denouncing them as "people who claim the singular right to speak on behalf of the welfare of families, yet never, ever considered the welfare of my family ... before undertaking their political agenda based on prejudice and fear." Schwacke insisted that he would never tolerate Favoritism in his office, adding that, "anyone assuming otherwise has fallen prey to the prejudice and hate prodding the narrow-minded persons who were intent on driving me from office."

To his constituency, Schwacke said, "I am what I am: a human being born of the many imperfections God has given me and, indeed, to all of us. I just happen to be Gay. I have worked very hard at doing a great job for the citizens of the 9th Circuit. Now that this is all said and done, aren't those really the only things that should have ever mattered?"

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PENSACOLA

EXPRESS

[photos: loriL]
Memorial Wknd. Highlights



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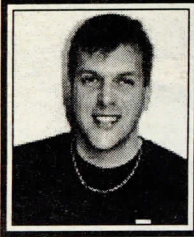
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STEERS & QUEERS FROM TEXAS

by Eric A. Crabtree
E-mail: OZParade@aol.com
www.ambushmag.com/is1298

Lauren Taylor Wins Miss Gay U.S. of A. Crown

Austin's and now Houston's own drag diva extraordinaire, Miss Lauren Taylor, was crowned Miss Gay U.S. of A. recently in Dallas. Lauren is no newcomer to pageants, since she had just won Miss Southwest Gay U.S. of A. in Houston this past Mar., qualifying her for the Dallas Pageant. She was crowned Miss Gay America back in Oct., 1997. Other crowns held are Miss Gay Texas America 1996, Miss Gay Austin America 1990 and Miss Gay Houston U.S. of A. Recently, Lauren attended the Miss Gay Austin Pageant where she watched Aspen Taylor crowned as the new Miss Gay Austin 1998. Lauren was honored that night with the Nicole Living Legend Award.

"God gave the Gay Community an angel, and that angel is Lauren Taylor," proclaimed Miss Gay Austin, 1996 & 1997, Scarlett Leigh, a diva friend of her own right and pageant attendee. According to Scarlett, Lauren competed in high fashion with her talent, interviews and evening gown competition during the Miss Gay U.S. of A. Pageant. Lauren also was awarded the highest score in talent in the preliminary performing as Mama Rose from the movie *Gypsy* (Bette Midler) and her final talent from *For the Boys* also from the divine Miss M. Lauren scored top in the interview portion of the pageant and scored high in her evening gown category in both the preliminary and finals.

Miss Taylor continues to perform many shows and charity events throughout the nation, and may be found almost weekly in Austin at Charlie's Austin during their Super Sunday Show at 11:30pm. Lauren can also be found at Top of the Marc performing Mon. nights for charity. Come out and congratulate our new queen, Miss Gay U.S. of A., Lauren Taylor. As Lauren has stated while in Austin, "It's nice to be back home."

Top Music Hits As Spun by Austin DJ's

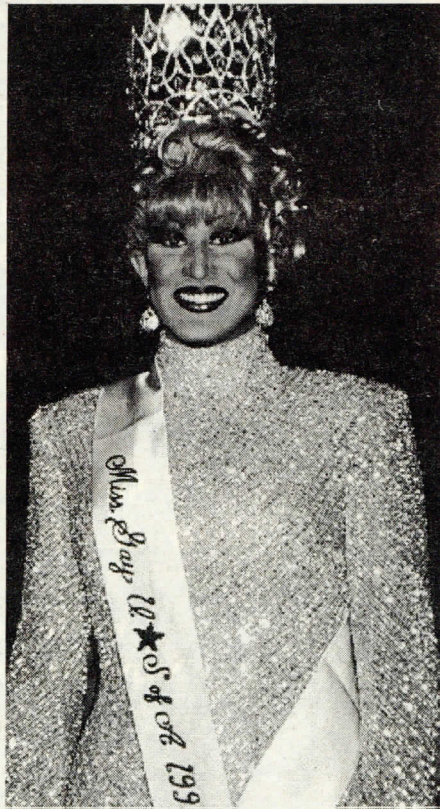
The top ten music countdown spun in the Austin Clubs today has been compiled for your entertainment by DJ Michael Tank of Chain Drive and other club DJs. All of the top hits are compiled via a point rating system according to all the Austin DJs. For every chart each song made, it gets 5 points. Then it gets points for its position on each chart. (i.e. #1=10 points, #2=9 points, #10=1 point) This system gives the scores that one sees in the listing below and is quite accurate. Here are the top ten-rock/pop/roll/rave hits starting with the #1 hit: 1) *Ray of Light*, Madonna, score: 66; 2) *Midnight*, Robin S., score: 58; 3) *I Don't Know What I'd Do*, Indigo, score: 44; 4) *History Repeating*, Propellerheads, score: 34; 5) *Heaven's What I Feel*, Gloria Estefan; score: 33; 6) *How Soon Is Now*; Inner Sanctum, score: 27; 7) *Carnaval De Paris*, Dario G, score: 25; 8) *Get Into The Rhythm*, Jocelyn Enriquez, score: 24; 9) *Beautiful Day*, Hypertrophy, score: 21; and, 10) *Sweet Freedom*, Shawn Christopher, score: 20.

The top ten Circuit Party music hits as compiled by Julian Marsh from NYC is as follows: 1) *To The World* by O.R.G.A.N.; 2) *You're Beautiful* by Madagascar; 3) *Joy* by Deni Hines; 4) *Breathe* by Vick Moore; 5) *Love On And On* (Theme from Studio 54) by Donna Summer (Demo Version); 6) *Rainfall* by Sunshine State; 7) *Paradise* by Miro; 8) *Dreamweaver* by Erin Hamilton; 9) *Imagination* by Sequential One; and, 10) *I Wanna Be A Space Girl* by Spacegirl.


Meltdown '98/Memorial Wknd. Sonny & Festive

It was a festive and Sonny magical event during Austin's past Memorial Day/Meltdown '98. *Ambush's* own Sonny Cleveland hit town from New Orleans and the city of Austin will never be the same again from his sizzling charm and delights.

Sonny Cleveland landed that Fri. weekend and friends, Michael, Michael and myself hit the road via A Family Limousine (Bill Ankenbauer - 512.926.6040) traveling from the airport up to 'Bout Time. There we discovered an impromptu drag show, sponsored by the United Court of Austin benefiting the Breast Cancer Research Center. After a small speech from Sonny, proclaiming how he loves our community's pride, *Ambush* donated



Lauren Taylor as Miss Gay U.S. of A.



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Hair Styles & Cuts with Pride

\$50 in matching funds raising over \$500 that night. Sonny met with manager Corey Duckett, head bartender Chaz and bartenders Monte and Austin's oldest Lesbian, Ms. Paula, DJ Raul and Wayne Marion - TGRA. Others that swarmed were doorman Marshall, customer Peter, drag divas, Bibi Gunn, Mary K., Topaz, Augusta Blush and Miss Alix Courtne, United Court Empress IV.

After many farewells, it was off to Dick's Deja Disco where Sonny encountered the hot shower dancers from Momma's Boyz, Dale Jordan. Pulling Sonny away from soaping up those dancers was not easy. I managed for him to meet manager Warren Mills, bartender Carl, DJ Kevin and owner Warren Dronebarger. Next stop was Charlie's Austin. Amongst the decorations of tiny boats, American flags and hot cruising men, Sonny met with manager/owner, David Green and partner Mac. Our bartender was Carl at the back bar serving us shots with the *Ambush* banner on display from behind. Sonny also met bartender Millsey and drag diva, Miss Nacha Type, a.k.a., bartender Jesse. We ended our visit with each of us taking a souvenir boat. Thank you David and Charlie's.

Our next stop was pouncing on The Edge where we met up with owner Warren again, and praised the talents of DJ Don Engle whose cassette tape of great mixes we listened to throughout the night. We partied with bartenders Carl, Kevin and Kristie, and DJ Bang. By this time, we stumbled over next door to Oilcan Harry's, past doorman Steve and drank down with head bartender Steve Higgenbotham, and bartenders Matthews, Bill, Scotty, Josh, Matt and the many customers such as Dave Cody and partner David. Last, but not least, Sonny ran into dancer Karl Thomas with whom he used to dance years ago at MRB's in New Orleans.

We could not forget, since we were in Guytown, to two-step over to Rainbow, but

somehow, by this time it was more of a wobble. There at Rainbow, we met owners Bill Bailey and Mike Strope, bartenders Gary, Doug, Sammy, Michael, Austin's oldest bartender Larry Medders, Anthony and Matt. We wanted to dance, but we admit it, we were full and could not. By the way, congratulations, Sonny, on your new Atlanta man who can CW Dance.

Our last stop for the night that we barely remembered was over to the Forum where we stumbled through the door, kissing doormen Jessie and Chris. We next ran into party master and owner Mark Haworth, manager Greg Butler, and bartenders Garold, Gil, Chris and Scott at the front bar. Ryan and Noah were at the back bar; and upstairs on the patio were Bobby and Clayton. Somewhere throughout the club, we met DJs Roland, Zach, Filthy and drag diva Paris Chanel. We finally made it home that morning via the limousine. Thanks, Bill, for the safe ride home to start another day in Austin.

Sat. morning came way too early. It was the day for Ben Parsley and Splash Production's Margarita's Lake Lounge Party. We arrived at Lake Travis and boarded a bargeful of hot men shirtless and already dancing. Wahoo! What a wake up. The barge pulled away to Hippie Hollow. There we met up with photographer, Scotty Elzner, some guy we named Whoopi, and a host of others, including the Nellie Sheriff Tim from Kentucky. We arrived at the cove and next thing we knew all three barges full of food, drink and hot men came together as one big party island. Picture it all on the water, 6 decks, 3 below and 3 above, all full of Circuit and Hollow queens dancing to the beats with Chain Drive's DJ Michael Tank spinning the hits.

We partied with Meow King, Craig Edwards and his crew of Rueben, Bobby, David, Oilcan's Terrance, and also with partners Doug and Jeff, Row Team Austin's

[continued on EX-7]

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ANOTHER ONE COMING OUT.

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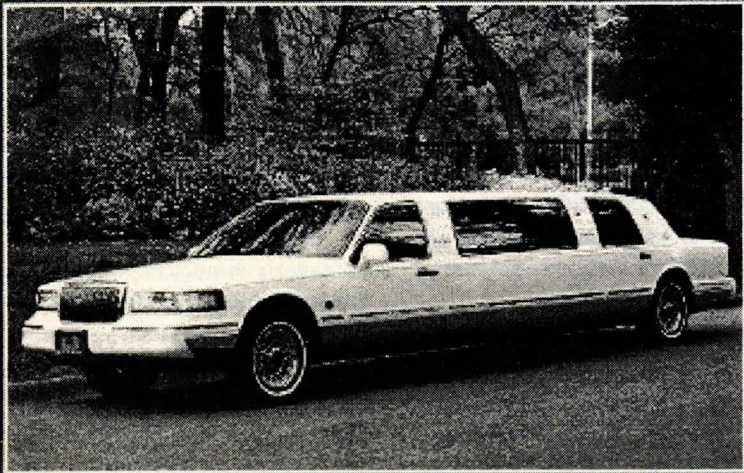


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**steers & queers
 ...from EX-4**

Dan Lyons and others. Somewhere around 4:30pm, we left and cruised back to the dock dancing and drinking and then boarded a bus back to Austin. After arriving, we walked over that afternoon to the elegant 1920's Martini and Jazz Club where we had some great quesadillas, and rapped with cutie bartender, Christopher. We finally headed home to take our catnap before the night began but not before Sonny marveled as he saw our great state capital.

That Sat. night it was the Meltdown Circuit Party with music by DJ Buc from Atlanta hosted at the La Zona Rosa. There we met thousands of yummy hot men! Throughout dancing the night away, Sonny met Randy Cunniff, owner of the upcoming Splash Video Bar and new Austin Tavern Guild President as well as his bar manager Eddie, Benjamin and partner Jason from Ben Parsley and Splash productions, as well as Cody and partner, Alzimar from N8. We even ran into that drag diva, Scarlett Leigh, who informed us that Lauren Taylor had just won Miss Gay U.S. of A.

We decided to hit it after being at the lake all day and now this circuit party. We drove down 4th St. between the Forum and Old Spaghetti Warehouse and there they were—messy drag queens! There were about 15 of them, looking for trouble with straight men coming from Poly Esthers. The mob ended up that evening in bottle fights outside the parking lots where we

had stopped to talk with Forum's Bobby. It was rumored that the whole event ended up with 3 police cars and an ambulance. Needless to state, when those bottles came flying, Bobby ran away and I screeched my truck home faster than those Indy Cars racing up north that weekend.

Sun. afternoon, we drove up to the Rhythm House where we had the most delightful brunch with our sister hosts, Candice and Katie. Next we drove over to a friend of mine, Mark Lynch from Latent Images Photography. Check out his great web site full of hot men at: <http://www.latentimages.com/privatecollection/>

It was back down to Guytown to see Oilcan Harry's manager, Freeman Hart where we ran into owners Fred Fine and Roy Ikeda who kept us both in stitches with their great jokes. We met up with DJ Miss H. and bartenders Tom, Terrance and JD. From there we went back to The Edge and socialized with bartender Kevin and then over to the Forum to cheer with bartender Kendall, (now serving at Dick's Happy Hours) manager Greg and owner, Mark. Then it was off to Charlie's. We feasted on some great chicken breasts that doorman/chef Richard made for us and met up with bartenders Garold of Team Austin at back bar, Mike on Patio and cutie Rob Leaf.

We went home to re-group and melt-down before that Sun. night. Finally, we made it over to the Chain Drive where we met up with DJ Michael (Tank) where he

[continued on EX-8]

unified diversified electrified
 HOUSTON LESBIAN & GAY PRIDE 1998

Houston Lesbian & Gay Pride 1998 Kick-Off Party

Friday, June 12th, 7pm
Riva's Italian Restaurant
(1117 Missouri Street)

This is it! This social mixer is the start of it all. The Pride Committee of Houston invites you to attend the Pride 1998 Kick-Off Party. Come dance to the music of Apollo, drink from the casks of Dionysus, and feel the magic of Hecate! Oh, and don't forget your toga!

Pride Jamboree

Saturday, June 13th, 10am
Memorial Park

Come one, come all! Family fun for everyone! Join us for softball, football, volleyball, kickball, frisbee golf, skating, picnics, bake-offs, and more. This day in the park is brought to you by The Pride Committee of Houston and many local organizations. *Vendor and organization booth space available!*

Pride Day In The Park At AstroWorld

Sunday, June 14th, 10am

Is that family or *family*? Join us at AstroWorld to find out! Waiting in those lines has never been so much fun! Tickets are \$20 in advance through the Pride Committee or \$34.58 at the gate.

The Construction Party '98: Building Pride

Saturday, June 20th, 9:30pm
The Hangar (Polk at Roberts, Warehouse District)

This year's official Pride Party is based on a construction theme, so put on your tool belt, grab a hammer, and start banging to the beat! Come help us build a foundation of pride that we can all proudly stand (and dance) upon! Tickets are \$20 in advance through Outrage or \$30 at the door.

1998 Pride Parade

Saturday, June 27th, 9pm
Westheimer & Montrose

Be here to light up the night with electrifying Pride! Houston made history last year with North America's first nighttime Pride Parade, and this year's will be even bigger and brighter!

Pride Committee of Houston

This ad sponsored by:



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HOUSTON LIGHTS

by China Doll
E-mail: Mschinadol@aol.com
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So much has happened in the last two weeks. Let me just go right on to it and tell you everything. We promised you that we would cover the White Party for you. Well, if you were not here for the White Party at Rich's, you missed a real good one. So please enjoy the pictures for, after all, a picture is worth a thousand words....

The past weekend was a wild one with two major pageants: at Inergy, Miss Gay Southeast Texas America and, at EJ's, Miss EJ's. The results are as follows: Miss Gay Southeast Texas America (Ashley Houston), First runner-up (China Doll); these two are heading to Miss Texas America, and I have heard that it might be held here in Houston); Miss EJ's (Christina Ross) and first runner-up (Alicia Houston). Also, a week before, Mr. EJ's was held and the winner is Steven Baker. Congratulations to all the winners and everyone who took the time to enter these Pageants. It takes alot of guts!!

Speaking of EJ, let me introduce to you a little club where most drag queens begin. I think of it as a house of entertainment or LaCage of Houston. This club is where I began my drag life a few years ago. It was a real thrill for me. Before becoming a professional entertainer, I started as an amateur. EJ's is located in the Montrose area at 2517 Ralph. At EJ, you can find more than just drag shows and male strip contests. They also do lots of good things to help out the Gay community, like doing benefit shows to raise money for the AIDS Foundation. Here are some of things going on at EJ: Mon. and Fri. there is a strip contest hosted by Paivi Lee Love. Tues. and Thurs. it's Talent Night hosted by Roxanne (you want to see Tina Turner? Come out and see this girl!!! And let me tell you, she is HOT!). If you can sing, dance, hop or can do anything unusual, try out. You may be the next star of the evening. Last but not least is their Saturday Night Show—the biggest night of the week. The show cast includes Dyan Michael, Roxanne, Paivi Le Love, and the one and only Lana Blake. So drop by and say hello to everyone.

I would like to take this opportunity to personally thank *Ambush* for sponsoring me for the Miss Gay Southeast Texas America.

If you are interested in advertising in our magazine, please give me a call at 713.919.6030 or 713.942.2379 for more information. And if you like what you read here at *Ambush*, please let others know.

Until then, have a wonderful day. Please email me at: Mschinadol@aol.com.

IN THE NEWS

www.ambushmag.com/is1298/

Corpus Christi Pride

About 100 Lesbians marched in Corpus Christi, TX's first pride event May 30, two hours after more than 1,200 people had participated in a "March for Jesus." The pride march reportedly drew more spectators on a day that was breezy, sunny and pleasantly warm. Although "March for Jesus" organizer Jerry Vestal insisted that, "Our march is not in retaliation to the Gay march...it's not an anti-Gay thing," he admitted that it was hearing about the pride plans that spurred him to revive the years-dormant Christian event. The Roman Catholic Bishop of Corpus Christi, Roberto Gonzalez, had previously been among those protesting the idea of a Gay and Lesbian march as "promoting" homosexuality. The coastal Bend Gay Pride Alliance chose "Unified, Diversified and Electrified" as the theme for their march, which included about a dozen floats. Invitations to appear as grand marshals were turned down by the city's mayor, police chief and state senator, but one was finally accepted by openly Lesbian transgender Houston attorney Phyllis Randall Frye. Organizers' rules for participation in the pride event included no nudity or revealing clothing,

no simulated or actual sex acts, no alcohol or controlled substances and drag costumes only "in good taste."

Dallas' First Gay Teen Prom About 50 young Gays and Lesbians turned out for Dallas, TX's first Gay teen prom May 30, while some 20 protesters outside held up signs to tell the youth they were bound for hell. Even inside the Dallas Grand Hotel at the Over the Rainbow GAYla dance, sponsors and chaperones (including City Councilmember John Loza) were said to outnumber teen participants. Nonetheless, all concerned with the event enjoyed the evening and intend to do it again next year—and that probably includes the protesters as well. [NewsPlanet]

Coronation V

Coronation V, "A Night of Mythical Dreams and Legendary Futures," will be presented by the United Court of Austin Aug. 14-16 at the Austin North Hilton & Towers. This fundraiser is an annual event which raises a large block of money to be distributed among several local charities. Last year's event, "A Starlight Express," raised \$6,000 which was turned back by the reigning Monarchs Emperor III, Bobby Barnett, and Empress III, Loni Thomas.

This year's Monarchs, Emperor IV, John Cummings, and Empress IV, Alix Courtne, promise this to be another enter-

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www.ambushonline.com

www.gayamerica.com

www.gaybars.com

www.gayeuro.com

www.gaymardigras.com

www.southerndecadence.com

*hits per month

steers & queers ...from EX-7

played Sonny's/Ambush latest unreleased copy of the X Files theme song never before played in Austin. The crowd really "leathered" it. Before we left, we met up with bartender/manhandler Mike and doorman Glen. We also met David of a Leather Chest inside the Chain Drive who opened it up for us for some quick window-shopping. Traveling back into Guytown, Sonny had the chance to see the UT Tower glow orange because we won some sport at UT! Alrighty then!

Next stop was back to Oilcan's where we caught Terrance hosting the Absolutely Fabulous Abs Contest. We envied some great chests and abs. Because of the popularity of the X Files theme music, we offered DJ Dig'M to play it for the crowd. He cued up the music and the crowd went wild dancing to the new beat. We met several other great customers and yes, cute bartenders Josh, Bill, Scotty again and Aaron and Scott at back patio bar. Tip these babies, they are great.

Finally it was time to catch the Dolly Country Ho Down Show hosted at Rainbow Cattle Company. There we saw a fabulous show, hosted by DeeDee Davis as

Dolly Parton and met again with owner Bill. The show benefited Pediatric Aids League (PAL) raising over \$626 that night. Way to go guys! Before we left, we ran into Jim Tennesen, TGRA Candidate 1999 from Austin. Good luck and good health Jim! Hope you are feeling better and we miss you.

Our last stop for the weekend was the AURORA Party hosted at Austin's own Circuit Party headquarters at the Forum and sponsored by Ben Parsley and Splash Productions. There, DJ Julian Marsh from NYC was spinning the hits before a packed crowd. We danced with all our new and old friends. Sonny was finally introduced to Jerry Florez, Austin's youngest bartender. All he could say was "yummy!" As a matter of fact, yummy was the word of the weekend as well as the word, OK! Ask Michael Tank about this one. Sonny even met up with Heather Thomas a.k.a. James of TWIT. (*This Week in Texas*) The night ended when Sonny had to melt. I took him back to my apt. and then I went back out dancing to close down the Forum. I would like to state that I did ace my finals, ok Sonny!

Monday came and it was time for Sonny to leave us. A quick breakfast was prepared by yours truly and then it was off to the airport in a mad dash by Sonny like OJ Simpson. I cried a tear as Sonny took off. The rays of sunshine he brought was very moving and I miss my dear friend already, my managing editor and my boss, Sonny Cleveland. I will now have to wait until Southern Decadence so that I can do the same to him in N'awlins. Thanks Austin and Ben Parsley for Memorial Day Weekend and Meltdown '98. Thank you Sonny Cleveland, and yes, *Ambush* Editors Rip and Marsha Naquin-Delain. Come back soon Sonny or we will all come visit you at once in NOLA.

Have a great and safe summer, Eric

taining evening. Tickets are available from any UCA member or by contacting Emperor I & Absolute Emperor II, Garry Holley, at 512.442.6415 or Crown Prince Royale, Bob Hemby, at 512.257.0560 or by E-mail at capcitycpr@aol.com. Tickets are \$25.

This event marks the stepping down of the current reigning Monarchs and the announcement of the new Monarchs for Reign V. The Monarchs are elected by general vote of the community at large. Voting will be held this year on Aug. 8 at the Cornerstone Gay and Lesbian Community Center.

Candidates announcing their intent to campaign will be presented at the annual Candidate Announcement show honoring the current reigning Monarchs. This show will be held July 8 at the Rainbow Cattle Company. The show will begin at 9pm.

Coronation weekend hosts a series of events beginning with the In Town Show which will be held at the Rainbow Cattle Company, 305 W. 5th St. at 8pm. The kick-off to Coronation V begins as Hospitality opens at noon, Fri., Aug. 14 in Room 141 of the North Hilton & Towers. Also Fri. is the Out Of Town Show at the hotel beginning

at 7pm. Deadline for music is 6:30 and preference is given to reigning monarchs, then past monarchs and line members as time permits.

Coronation V will be held Sat., Aug. 15, in the ballroom of the Austin North Hilton & Towers. Doors open at 5pm and Coronation begins promptly at 6pm.

The V Victory Brunch and Awards Ceremony will be in the same ballroom Sun., Aug. 16. Doors open at 10:30am and brunch begins at 11am. Brunch is priced at \$17. Sun. afternoon at 3pm California will host a party at Charlies at 1301 Lavaca. There will be a victory show Sun. evening at the Rainbow Cattle Company at 9pm.

Deadline for room reservations is July 24.

Dobson's Army Loses Across Nation

Tuesday, June 5, was another day of reckoning for candidates across the country endorsed and supported by the political empire of far right activist James Dobson,

[continued on EX-11]

RED WHITE & YOU

JULY 3-5, 1998 • Houston, TX

July 3: Rich's Houston, DJ Ric Herrington, The Brick - Dallas: \$10 Door • July 4: Rooftop - 3400 Montrose Blvd., DJ Rafael M. Page

& Brian Norwood; \$10 Door • July 5: Spy Nightclub & Lounge, DJ's Ric Herrington, Danny M & Rafael M. \$25 Advance/\$30 Door
Photography by: Dexter Browne 713.974.8026

Benefitting



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SATURDAY, JULY 4, 1998

BIG BANG!

Rooftop-3400 Montrose Blvd.
7 p.m.-11 p.m., Rooftop Fireworks,
DJ Rafael M (L.A.), Open Bar

RED WHITE & YOU

Hornberger Center, 2151 W. Holcombe
10 p.m.-3 a.m., Main Event, Open Bar
DJ Brian Norwood (Philadelphia)
Surprise Guest Performance

LOST IN SPACE!

Rich's Houston, 2401 San Jacinto
3 a.m.-10 a.m.

FRIDAY, JULY 3, 1998

BLAST - OFF!

Rich's Houston, 2401 San Jacinto
9 p.m. - ??
DJ's Chris Sill (Houston) &
Ric Herrington (Dallas)

SUNDAY, JULY 5, 1998

MISSION ACCOMPLISHED!

Spy Club and Lounge, 112 Travis
Noon-2 a.m., Brunch/Tea Dance,
Hosted by Kitty Meow (South Beach),
DJ's Ric Herrington (Dallas), Danny M
(Miami) & Rafael M (L.A.)

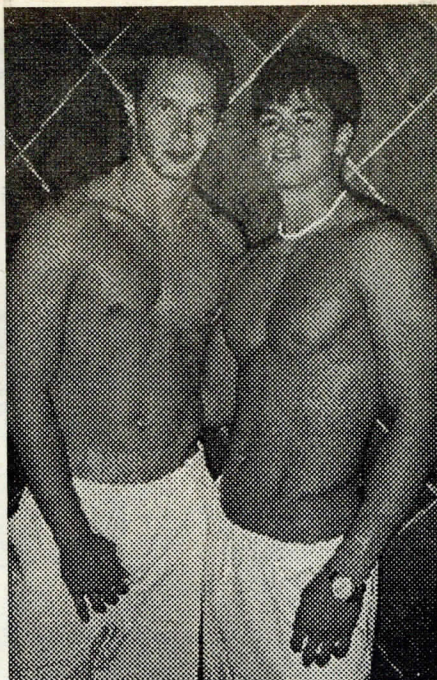
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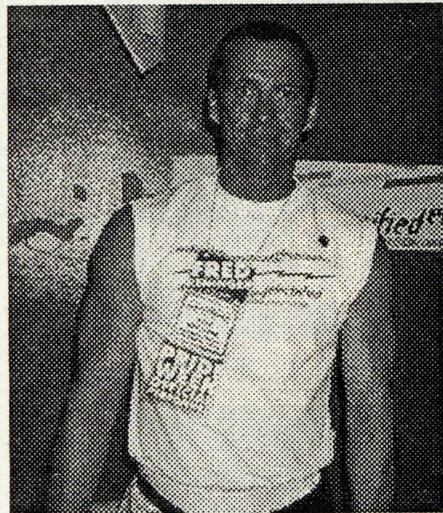
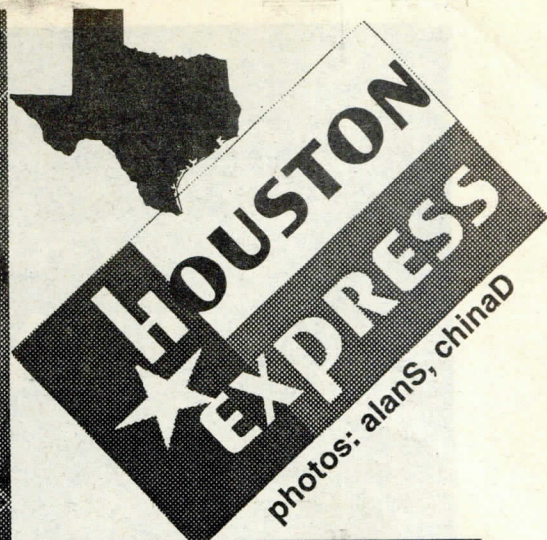
Shake them drinks! James, Howie, David & Kelly



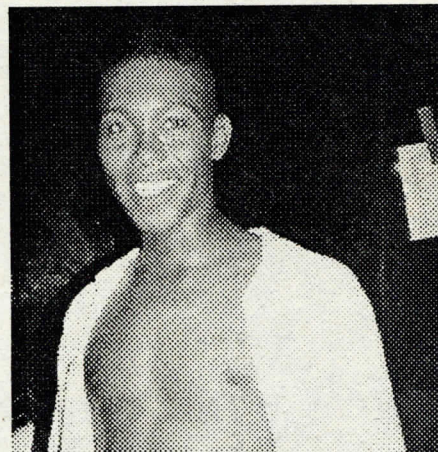
Alright then girlfriend! Work that crown. Miss Gay Southeast Texas America, Ashley Houston



Ryan & EK are go-go Gods who make you want to worship them



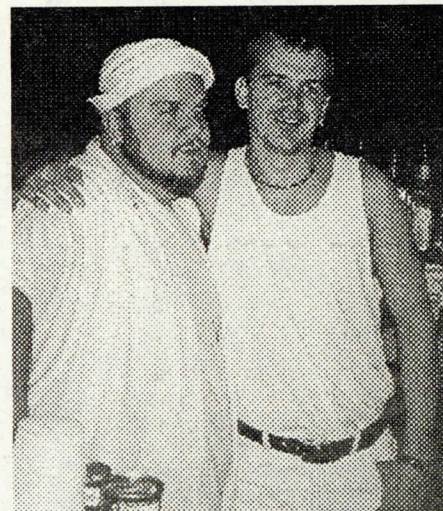
Are you single? Fred is helping out with the Gay Pride Committee



Before talent kick-off, Ashley Houston, China Doll & Selena pose for picture

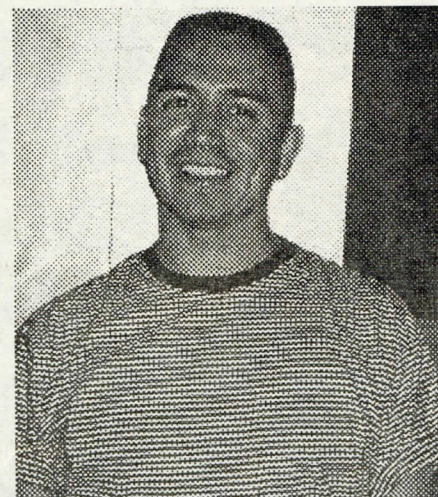


Don't let the sun go down on me... you go girl, work them shades



Friendly staffers Stacey & Donnie working side by side at Rich's

Cameron can dance & makes you sweat just watching him



Johnny wants to get first pick of the studs



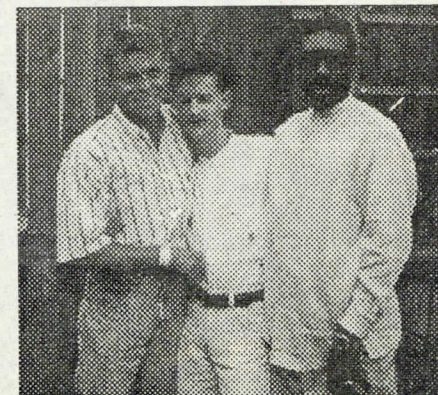
Check out "Hot Stud" Taylor's tan line



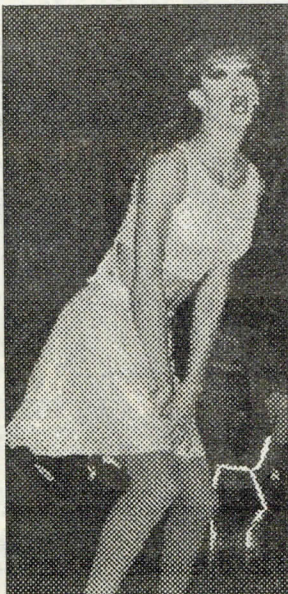
Nancy Taylor knows how to work the crowd



1st runner-up, Miss Texas Gay America, Ambush's China Doll



Are you guys having fun? Robert, Charles & Bill (Grandma) at Rich's during the White Party



Kara Dion emcees the Miss Gay Southeast Texas America Pageant, is that beauty or what?



Feeding time at Inergy for Lady Shamu



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in the news...from EX-8

leader of the Colorado-based Focus on the Family, and his political allies.

In California, millionaire Darrell Issa, endorsed by Dobson's PAC, resorted to Gay-bashing late in his campaign and went down to defeat against Log Cabin-endorsed Matt Fong in the GOP Senate primary. Congresswoman Marge Roukema (R-NJ), a moderate on social issues, fought off an aggressive challenge by New Jersey Assemblyman Scott Garrett (R), who won backing from social conservatives allied with Dobson.

Most stunning were the results in Alabama, where incumbent Governor Fob James (R) failed to gain a majority of the vote and was forced into a run-off against GOP challenger Roy Blount. Dobson and his allies had said the election was a test of their political strength. The AP reported that James' reelection campaign had become "a national crusade for religious conservatives, who view the outcome as a pivotal moment" for their movement. Eagle Forum Chair Phyllis Schlafly: "He's a recognized-national leader and it would be a setback to our cause if he were defeated." Moral Majority founder Jerry Falwell said a James loss in the GOP primary would be "a devastating blow to our pro-family causes."

The primary results followed a series of disastrous losses previously in California, Oregon, Pennsylvania and Nebraska for Dobson's multi-million dollar campaign

to dominate the 1998 Republican primaries. Most notable were the defeats of Tom Bordanaro in the special election for California's 22nd Congressional District, far right activist Perry Atkinson's crushing defeat in the GOP primary in Oregon's 2nd Congressional District, and the third-place finish of Rep. Jon Christensen in the Nebraska GOP gubernatorial primary. In each defeat, Dobson's candidates were outpolled by social moderates.

"How many elections does James Dobson and his army have to lose before the Republican Party gets it?" asked Richard Tafel, executive director of Log Cabin Republicans. "Entering into a Faustian bargain with someone who has a rule-or-ruin strategy will mean the end of a Republican majority. Defeat after defeat only drives the message home—the extreme right's social agenda does not pay politically, and it does not pay morally. The American people reject it for the right reasons."

"There is a message in this for any Republican out there who is thinking of sucking up to Dobson and his army for the rest of this election cycle—you do so at your own risk," Tafel said. "The far right has become the kiss of death."

Dobson has led a national movement this year to force the Republican Party to adopt his far right social agenda, which includes attacking Gays and Lesbians on a number of legislative and political fronts. Dobson's strategy has included pouring millions of dollars into the campaigns of

far-right candidates in Republican primaries, targeting moderate Republicans for defeat. His political arm, the Campaign for Working Families PAC, is run by activist Gary Bauer, who also runs the anti-Gay Family Research Council, and has threatened to mount his own presidential campaign in 2000 if the party does not adopt their agenda. Dobson also has warned the GOP Congressional leadership he will "go nuclear" on the party if they don't advance his legislative agenda.

Dornan Wins Rematch With Sanchez

Former Orange County, Calif., Republican representative Robert Dornan earned a rematch in the state's recent primary election with Democrat Loretta Sanchez, who ousted the anti-Gay firebrand two years ago in a narrow upset. A second general election matchup of Dornan and Sanchez renews one of the most contentious and hard fought campaigns of 1996. Dornan contested the loss—by fewer than 1,000 votes—by demanding a recount and a U.S. House investigation of alleged voting fraud. A congressional investigation didn't turn up enough illegal votes to change the outcome. "She and I, Loretta Sanchez and Bob Dornan, are going right down to the wire just like we did before, but this time there is no cheating, and she knows it," Dornan said. "Bob Dornan has the ability to run a very nasty campaign," said Sanchez. "Last

time, I saw it for 15 months after I won."

Lesbian Kehoe Moves To General Election

Christine Kehoe, the openly Lesbian candidate for Congress from San Diego, eased through the Democratic primary recently; she was unopposed in the party. She now faces incumbent Republican Brian Bilbray. If successful, Kehoe could become the first out Lesbian on Capitol Hill. Four other women are vying for that title as well. [*The Advocate*]

Phelps In San Francisco

Less than 12 members of the clan of Topeka, KS's professional homophobe Fred Phelps observed the anniversary of San Francisco's domestic partnership requirement for city contractors recently by picketing outside the Castro district's Gay-affirming Metropolitan Community Church of San Francisco. In announcing his pending visit, Phelps had asked Mayor Willie Brown for "adequate police presence and protection," and he surely got it: more than 30 police officers were present for the half-hour protest, and they arrested one man who tried to throw paint-filled balloons at the Kansans (one hit their van). A more

[continued on EX-12]

COMMUNITY RESOURCES

www.gayneworleans.org

ACADIANA CARES [Concern for AIDS Relief, Education, and Support], PO Box 51366, Lafayette, LA 70505-1366; 318.233.2437, FAX: 318.235.4178; 800.354.2437

ACADIANA RAINBOW SOCIETY OF THE DEAF PO Box 57166, New Orleans, LA 70157; 504.889.0138

AIDS HOTLINE 944-AIDS[2437] in New Orleans - 1.800.99.AIDS[2437]-9 toll free statewide

ALCOHOLICS ANONYMOUS, Lambda Center 2106 Decatur, New Orleans, LA, 504.947.0548

BELLE REVE/BELLE ESPRIT AIDS Residences for Families, PO Box 3305, New Orleans, LA 70177, 504.945.9455

CELEBRATION, PO Box 51877 - New Orleans, 70151, 504.586.1006

CLASS [Central Louisiana AIDS Support Services], 824 16th St., Alexandria, LA 71301, 1.800.444.7993, 318.442.1010, FAX: 318.443.5216

COMING OUT SUPPORT GROUP, meets 1st Wed. of each month, 7:30-9pm, Info: Liz - 504.866.6024, Terry 504.524.5973, Lesbian & Gay Community Center, 816 N. Rampart, New Orleans

FIRST UNITARIAN CHURCH FOR THE GAY & LESBIAN TASK FORCE 2903 Jefferson Ave. [Church entrance @5212 S. Claiborne Ave., New Orleans, LA 70115-7015; Men 504.895.8105, Women, 504.361.3332, C.U.U.P.S. Chapter 504.866.9010

FOOD FOR FRIENDS New Orleans, 504.944.6028

FOUNDATION FOR MACROBIOTIC WAY New Orleans, 504.552.9434

FRIENDS FOR LIFE/CAPITAL AREA HIV/AIDS SERVICES 4521 Jamestown Ave., Suite 12, Baton Rouge, LA 70808, 504.923.2277

FRONTRUNNERS A Gay & Lesbian Running & Walking Club, New Orleans, 504.947.1081

GAY APPRECIATION AWARDS, 828-A Bourbon St., New Orleans, LA 70116-3137; 504.522.8049; www.ambushmag.com/gaa/

GALA/UNO [Gay and Lesbian Alliance/ University of New Orleans], Office of Campus Activities, New Orleans, LA 70148, 504.280.6349; FAX: 504.280.7393

GBLSU [Gays, Bisexuals, Lesbians & Supporters United], glsapres@unix1.sncc.lsu.edu, Kristy Price, President, 1.504.388.5160

GLSA [LSU Gay & Lesbian Student Assn.], PO Box 16031, Baton Rouge, LA 70893, 1.504.344.5752

GO CARE 2121 Justice, Monroe, LA 71201, 318.325.1092

GRACE FELLOWSHIP IN CHRIST New Orleans, 504.944.9836, 504.949.2325

GREATER NEW ORLEANS PRIME TIMERS PO Box 7161 I, New Orleans, LA 70172-1611, 504.525.3299; Meets 2nd Friday of each month, 7:30pm, Vieux Carre MCC

GULF GENDER ALLIANCE [GGA] Non-Profit Support Group for transgender persons. Monthly meetings, socials and political activism. Privacy respected and expected. Interview required. Nondiscriminatory. Call 504.833.3046 or write PO Box 56836, New Orleans, LA 70156-6836; e-mail: crystgaa@aol.com

HALLOWEEN IN NEW ORLEANS, INC. PO Box 52171, New Orleans, LA 70152-2171

HOMOSEXUAL INFORMATION

CENTER[HIC] 115 Monroe St., Bossier City, LA 71111, 318.742.4709

INTEGRITY GAY/LESBIAN SPIRITUAL SUPPORT GROUP New Orleans, 504.944.5346

JEWISH GAY & LESBIAN ALLIANCE New Orleans, 504.525.8286

JOIE DE VIVRE METROPOLITAN COMMUNITY CHURCH PO Box 64996, Baton Rouge, LA 70896, 504.383.0450

KOCKTAIL BUNCH BOWLING LEAGUE New Orleans, Contact Glenn Culp, 504.861.0233

KREWE OF APOLLO / BATON ROUGE PO Box 3591, Baton Rouge, LA 70821
KREWE OF APOLLO/LAFAYETTE PO Box 53251, Lafayette, LA 70505

KREWE OF APOLLO/SHREVEPORT PO Box 4918, Shreveport, LA 71134

KREWE OF PETRONIUS 1021 Gov. Nicholls, New Orleans, LA 70116, 504.525.4498

LaCARP [Louisiana Community AIDS Research Program] New Orleans, 504.584.1971

LAGPAC [Louisiana Lesbian & Gay Political Action Caucus] PO Box 53075, New Orleans, LA 70153, 504.836.9086

LAKE CHARLES METROPOLITAN COMMUNITY CHURCH PO Box 384, Lake Charles, LA 70602, 318.439.9869

LAMBDA GROUP PO Box 1911, Baton Rouge, LA 70821-1911

LEGAL [Louisiana Electorate of Gays and Lesbians] PO Box 70344, New Orleans, LA 70172, 504.365.3105

LEGAL ALEXANDRIA - PINEVILLE, PO Box 3036, Pineville, LA 71361;

LEGAL BATON ROUGE, PO Box 44370, Baton Rouge, LA 70804;

LEGAL LAFAYETTE, PO Box 90501, Lafayette, LA 70509

LEAGUE FOR EQUALITY PO Box 53425, Lafayette, LA 70505

LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS OF NEW ORLEANS 234 Loyola, Suite 421, New Orleans, 70112, 504.581.9106

LESBIAN & GAY COMMUNITY CENTER OF NEW ORLEANS 816 N. Rampart, New Orleans, LA 70116, 504.522.1103

LESBIAN-GAY SPIRITUAL DISCUSSION GROUPS, women: 504.949.8876, men: 504.940.8452.

LESBIAN INCEST/SEXUAL ABUSE SUPPORT GROUP 504.827.5924, 504.486.9577

LEWIS HUMPHREY'S FOOD FOR FRIENDS Baton Rouge, 504.387.9798

METROPOLITAN COMMUNITY CHURCH OF LAFAYETTE PO Box 92682, Lafayette, LA 70509, 318.232.0546

MOC/NO [Men of Color/New Orleans] PO Box 57694, New Orleans, 504.482.5341

NEW ORLEANS GAY MEN'S CHOIR 504.245.8884

NEW ORLEANS ALLIANCE OF PRIDE, INC. [NOAP] PO Box 52343, New Orleans, LA 70152; 504.949.9555

NEW ORLEANS WOMEN'S MUSIC COLLECTIVE 2903 Jefferson Ave., New Orleans, LA 70115; Ann 504.838.7918, Sydney 504.833.2834

NO/AIDS TASK FORCE 1407 Decatur, New Orleans, 504.945.4000

NORTHLAKE AIDS NETWORK [NoLAN] PO Box 2397, Slidell, LA 70459, 504/641-6750, 1.800.264.4241 FAX: 504.641.4241

PFLAG/LAFAYETTE PO Box 31078, Lafayette, LA 70503

PFLAG/NO [Parents & Friends of Lesbians & Gays/ New Orleans] PO Box 15515, New Orleans, LA 70175, 504.895.3936, 504.392.0001

PHILADELPHIA CENTER PO Box 44454, Shreveport, LA 71134-4454, 318.222.6633

POSITIVE FEEDBACK 1407 Decatur, New Orleans, 504.944.AIDS [2437]

POSTIVELY SOCIAL PO Box 72225, New Orleans, LA 70172-2225, 504.365.3027; is a loosely organized social club for people who are HIV+ or HIV friendly

PROJECT LAZARUS A Residence for PWAs, PO Box 3906, New Orleans, LA 70177-3906, 504.949.3609

REGIONAL AIDS INTERFAITH NETWORK [RAIN], 504.523.3755

ROYAL ORDER OF UNICORN PO Box 3985, Lafayette, LA 70502

SOUTHWEST LOUISIANA AIDS COUNCIL 435 10th St., Lake Charles, LA 70601; 318.439.5145; FAX: 318.436.8713; e-

mail: aidsounc@aol.com

ST. AMBROSE ECUMENICAL CATHOLIC CHURCH New Orleans, Mass. held at Vieux Carre MCC, 1128 St. Roch Ave., Saturdays at 5pm, Call Fr. Martel at 504.341.1880 for info.

ST. TAMMANY PARISH NETWORK PO Box 2453, Slidell, LA 70458, 504.649.7043

UNIVERSITY HOSPITAL HOSPICE 2021, Perdido St., New Orleans, 504.588.3138

WOMEN'S GOLF LEAGUE [all levels to play for fun and companionship] 816 N. Rampart St., New Orleans, LA 70116; 504.862.9262

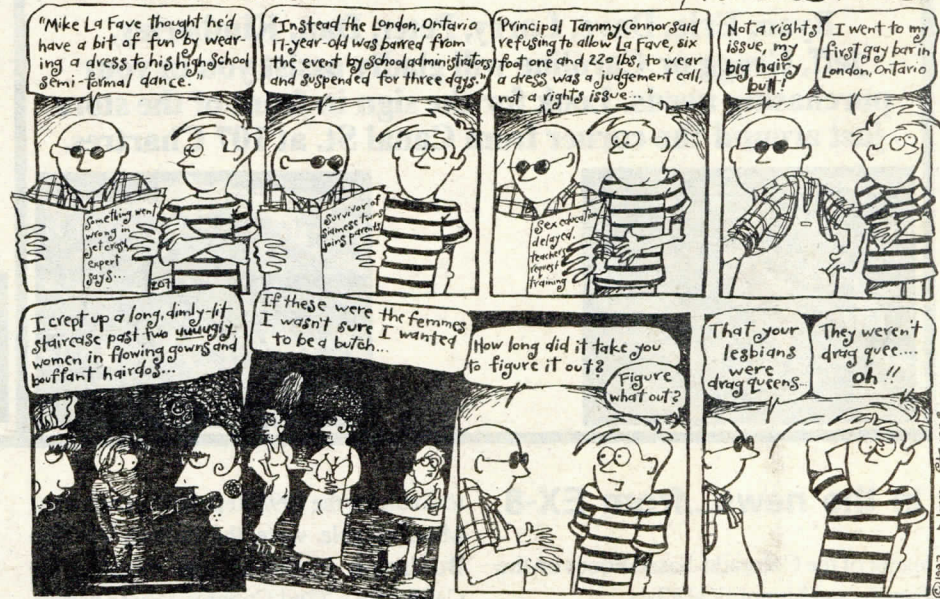
WILLIAM J. FANNING FOUNDATION [Buzzy's Boys & Girls] 2301 Chartres, New Orleans, LA 70117, 504.943.8929

VIEUX CARRE METROPOLITAN COMMUNITY CHURCH 1128 St. Roch, New Orleans, LA 70117, 504.945.5390

YWCA AIDS MINORITY COMMUNITY OUTREACH 700 Pierre Ave., Shreveport, LA 71103, 318.226.8717

THE CHOSEN FAMILY

by Norman Stevens



in the news ...from EX-11

effective counter demonstration was staged by some three dozen Gays and Lesbians who were able to drown out the Phelps from the other end of the street with chants of "Bigots go home." [NewsPlanet]

Genius Grant for Historian

Among 29 winners of five-year, six-figure, no-strings "genius" grants announced June 1 by the John D. and Catherine T. MacArthur Foundation is open lesbian Bernadette Brooten of Brandeis University in Massachusetts, whose scholarly readings of the Bible and other texts from the same time period challenge popular understandings of what they have to say about gender roles and sexuality.

"I want to persuade the Christian churches to rechannel their energies away from opposing Lesbians, Gay men, and Bisexuals and toward preventing the sexual abuse of children and adults," said Myra and Robert Kraft and Jacob Hiatt Professor of Christian Studies. "We need new theologies and church policies and a better understanding of history and of the Bible.

In this effort, I wish to cooperate with Jewish and Muslim feminist scholars and religious leaders in creating humane sexual ethics."

Brooten described anti-Lesbian feelings among early Christians in "Love Between Women," arguing that the hate of that time should not be carried forward into current religious practices. Her other best-known work is "Women Leaders in the Ancient Synagogue."

Brooten is already scheduled to spend this year at the University of Oslo on a Fulbright grant. She'll be receiving \$290,000 from the MacArthur Foundation, which establishes the dollar amounts of its so-called "genius" grants based on the recipient's age. The grants are intended to allow talented and productive people in a wide range of fields to explore their particular interests without hindrance.

Sixth Annual Day Of Compassion

1998-Media outlets across the country will call attention to the continuing crisis of HIV/AIDS on Fri., June 19. On this sixth annual Day of Compassion, network and cable television, print media, Internet providers and

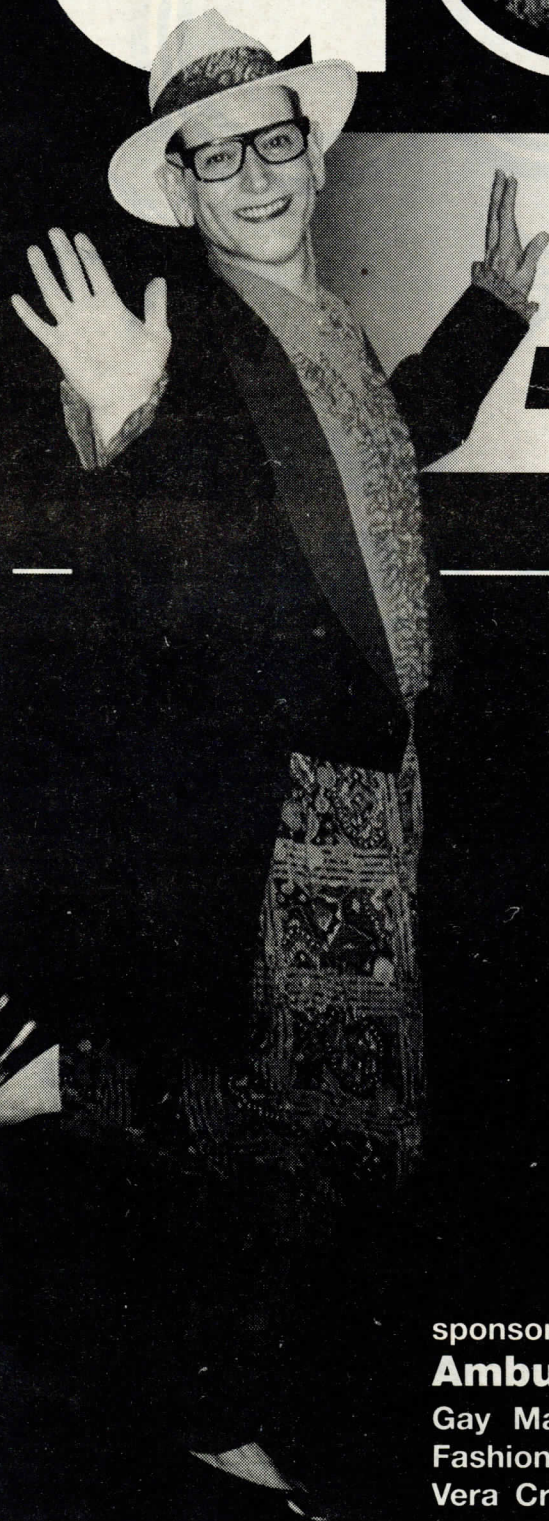
[continued on EX-26]

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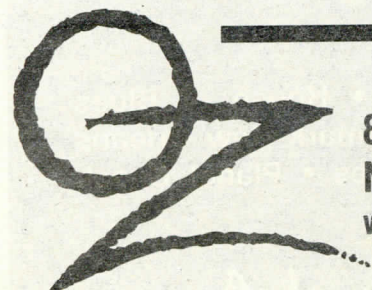


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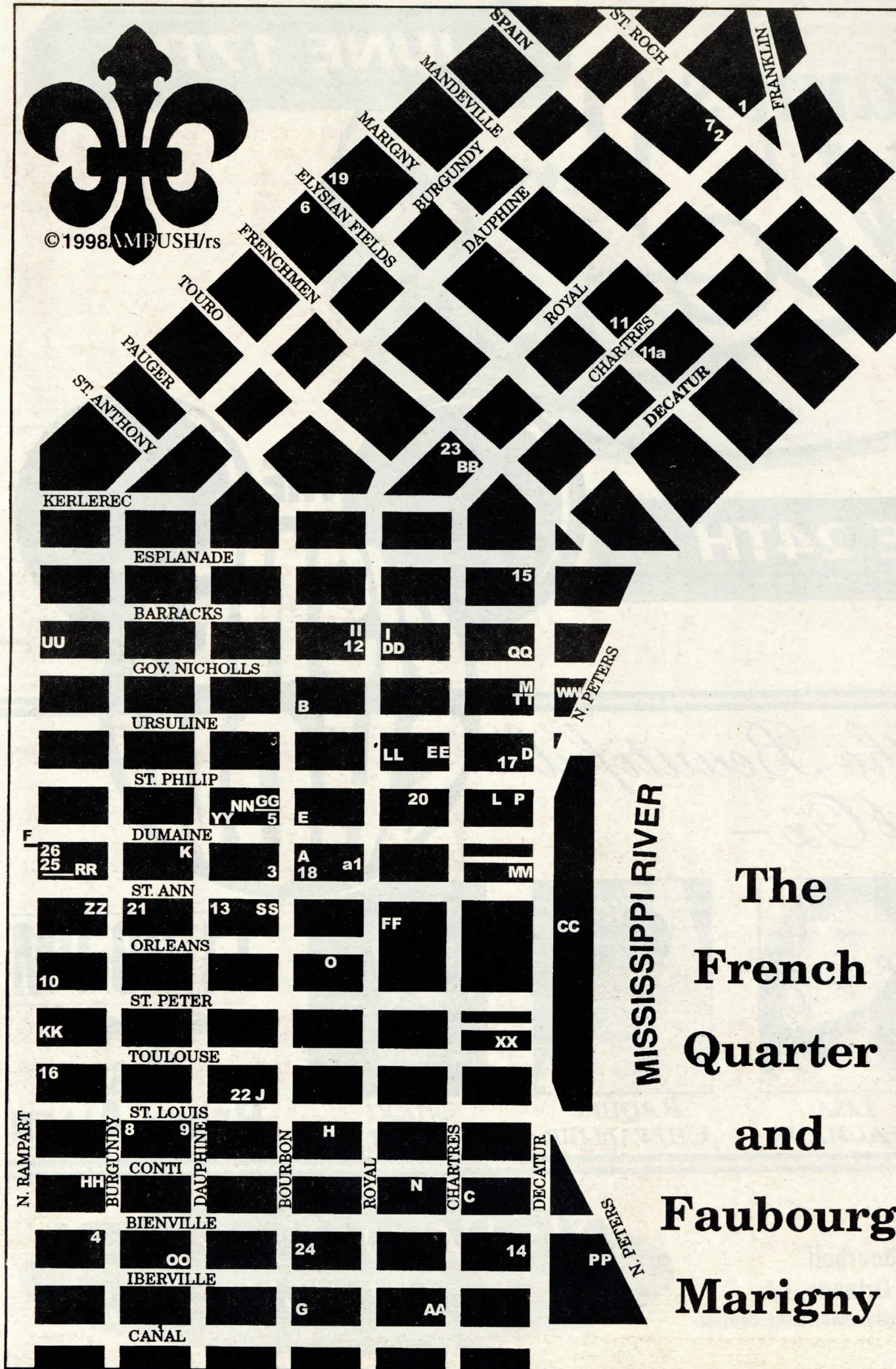
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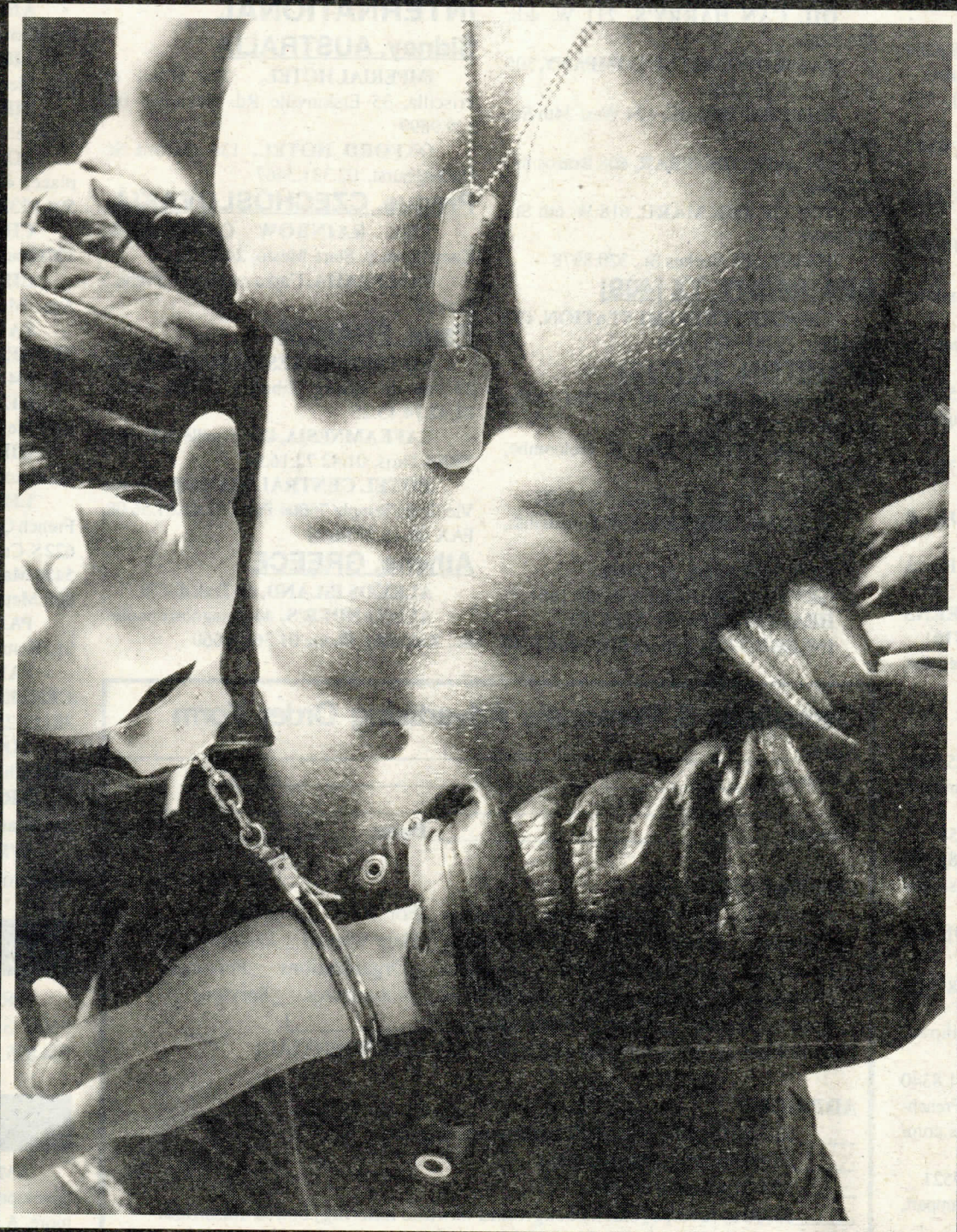
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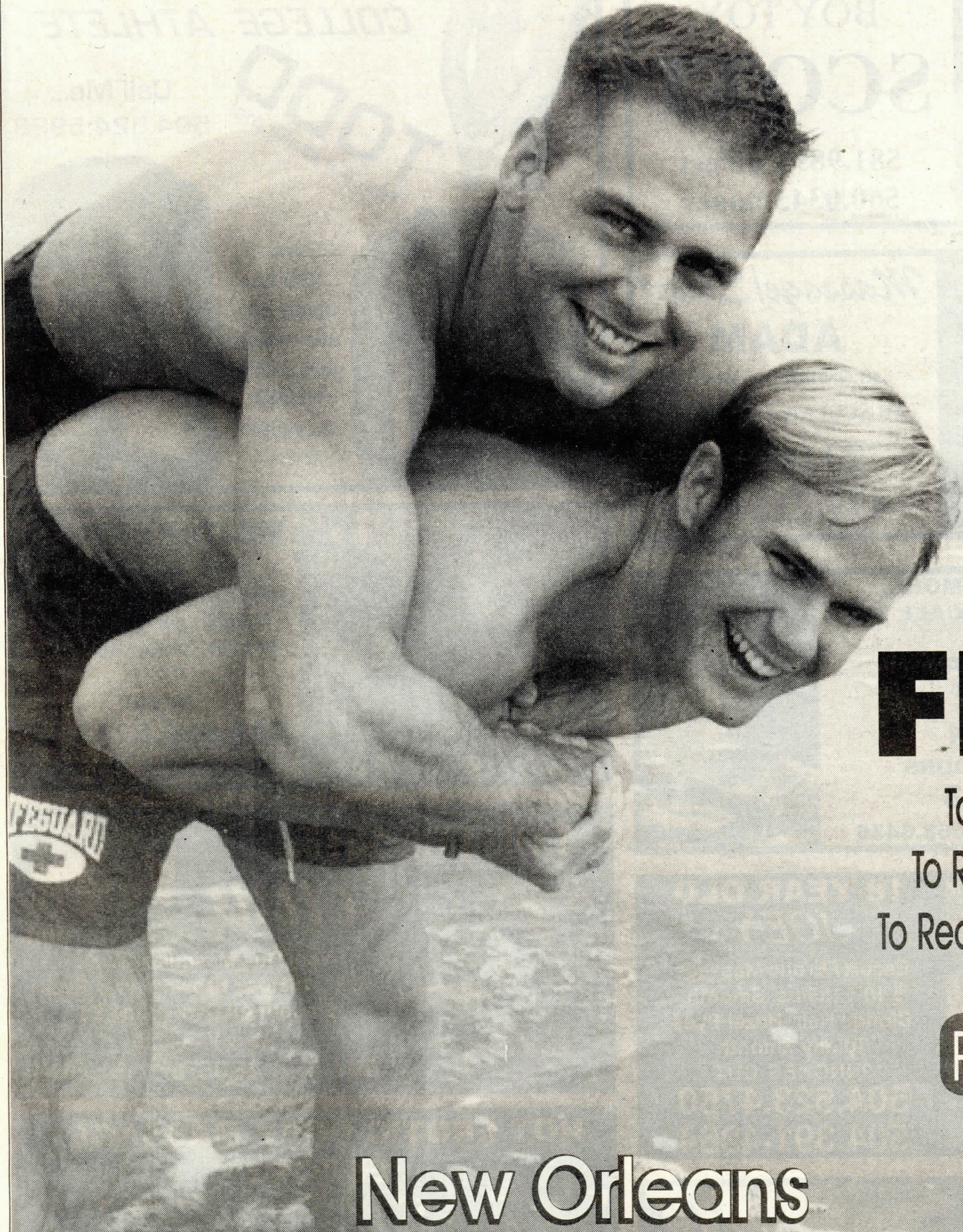
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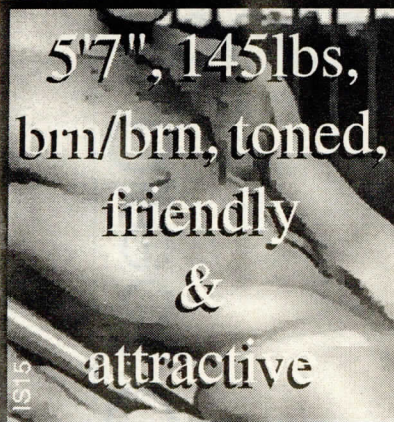
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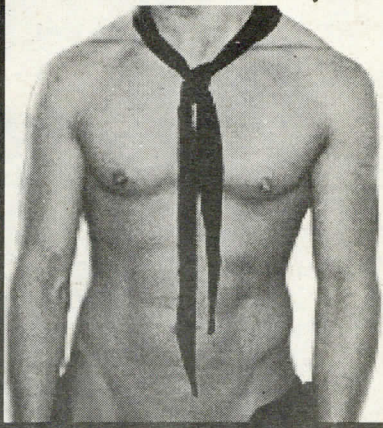
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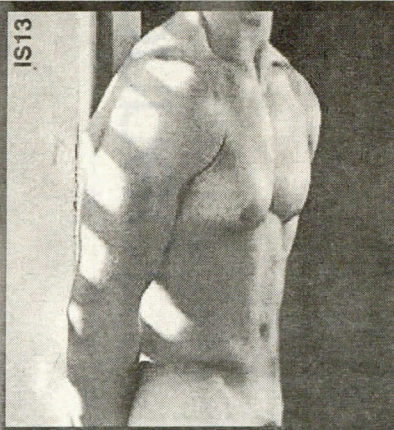
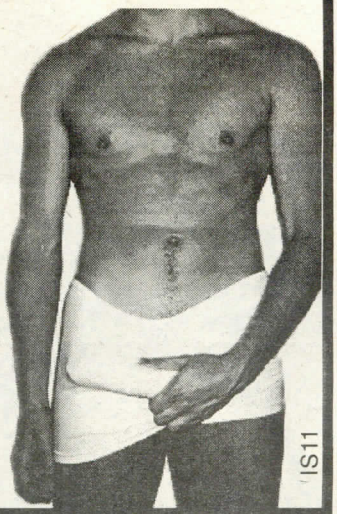
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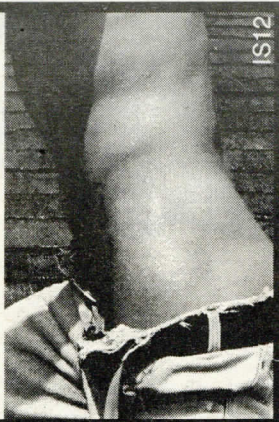
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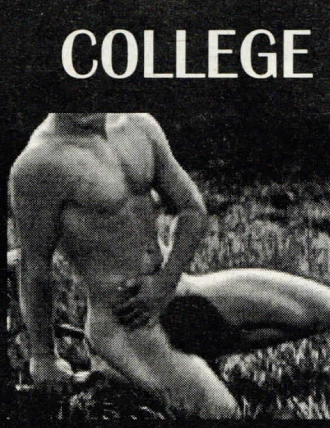
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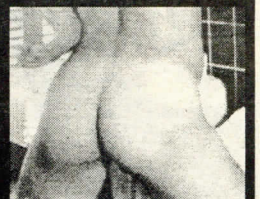


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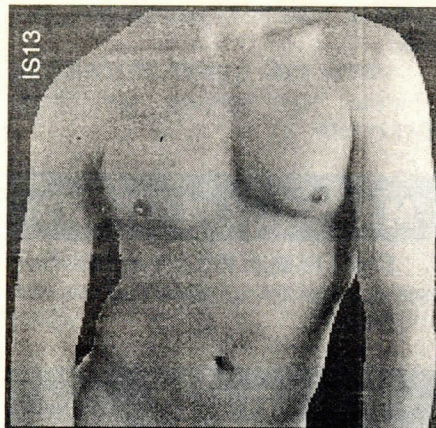
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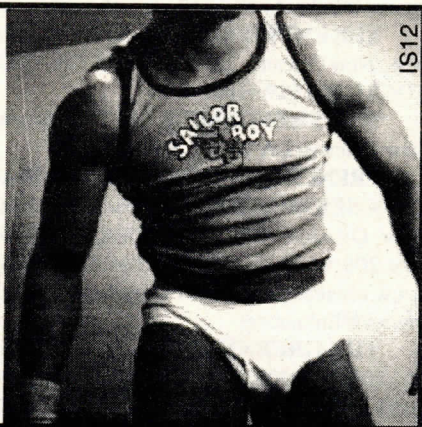
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WANT A SANDWICH Hello. We're a Gay Married Couple going on 13 years. I'm a 34 year old White Male, my lover is a 33 year old Indian/Hispanic Male. We enjoy 3-ways and quiet nights at home, we are both very healthy and safe. (Lake Charles) ☎18086

LETS RELAX This is Mike. I'm a 30 Gay White Male, 6'2", 1180 lbs, blonde hair and blue eyes. I want a Gay Asian Male who is between the ages of 20-35. I like working-out, going to the mall, movies, friends, the beach and anything outdoors. If you want someone to talk to just give me a call. (Lake Charles) ☎17804

WHY NOT ME Hey, Michael here. I'm a 31 year old Gay White, 6'2", 182 lbs, masculine Man. I like the outdoors, fishing, going to the mall, clubs, traveling, hockey games and just hanging out with my friends. I'm looking for a Gay Hispanic Male who is between 20-35 years of age, we don't need the same interest, because we can make our own, we just need to be friends. If you want to learn more, leave a message. (Lake Charles) ☎17865

WILD THING I'm a 31 year old, 5'11", 180 lbs, outgoing, good looking Man who is looking for someone for a wild time. (Baton Rouge) ☎19181

TAKE MY PICTURE I'm interested in a Man who would like to take pictures of me in bondage. I want you to tie me up, if this gives you pleasure, call me asap. (Baton Rouge) ☎17730

ROPE 'EM AND RIDE 'EM I'm a 48-year-old Male in search of a dominant older Male who knows how to hog-tie me. (Baton Rouge) ☎14740

STRONG HANDS, SOFT HEART This attractive White Male, 30, 5'10", with blond hair and blue eyes seeks a young, attractive White Male, 25-36, for days of romance and evenings of pleasure. (New Orleans) ☎15670

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MATURE MAN NEEDED I'm a 46-year-old Male, 6', 215 lbs., attractive and submissive, seeking an older Male for friendship and fun, someone with more experience than I have. I like going to movies and spending quiet times at home. ☎15440

PUT OUT THE FIRE This muscular, fit, very rugged, White male, 34, 6'2, 180lbs, seeks good times with other hot men in the area. (New Orleans) ☎14214

THE FINER THINGS This young-looking Gay male, 36, would like to meet guys under 40 for friendship and a possible relationship. I'm 5'3", with a 28" waist and red hair and blue eyes. My interests outside the bedroom include the fine arts, dining out, and movies. If this sounds like you, and you're disease, drug, and alcohol free, then call me. (New Orleans) ☎1468

THE HOTTEST BOY I'm a good looking, light complected, Black male, 18, 6ft, 175lbs, with Brown hair, Brown eyes, and a medium build. I'm looking for another African American guy for friendship and a possible relationship. (New Orleans) ☎13789

THE RIGHT PLACE I'm searching for a nice guy, 25 to 35, who has a good head on his shoulders and is serious about finding a relationship. I'm an attractive, White male, 5'6, 135lbs, with Blond hair and Blue eyes. I enjoy movies, dining out, clubs, and sharing special moments with you. (La Place) ☎4930

WAYS OF THE SOUTH Good looking, White male, 38, from Tucson, Arizona, will be visiting Baton Rouge from December 20 to 29. While there, I'd like to hook up, and have great times, with Black men of all ages. (Baton Rouge) ☎10651

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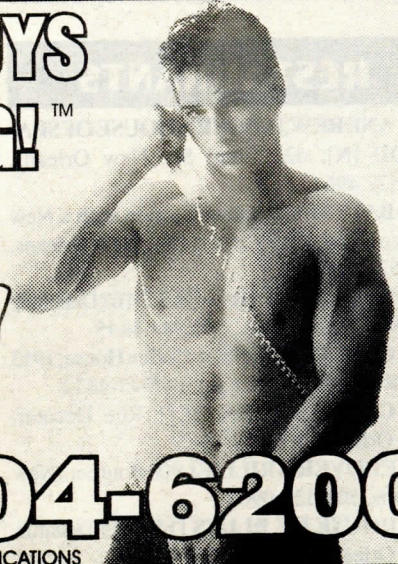
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in the news ...from EX-12

radio stations will air special programming specifically geared toward educating and raising awareness about those living with the disease, those working on research and advocacy fronts, and friends and families who have—on a multitude of levels—been touched by HIV/AIDS.

Among those scheduled to appear on morning news programs are Jeanne White (mother of the late Ryan White) on Good Morning America and reigning Miss America Kate Schindle on CNN. Talk shows scheduled to participate on June 19 include: Leeza, Sally Jesse Raphael, Jenny Jones, Cristina and Maury Povich. Daytime dramas include *Days of Our Lives*, *All My Children*, *General Hospital* and *The Young and the Restless*. Over 300 cable networks and systems will be telecasting AIDS-related PSAs and programming, including E! Entertainment Television and MTV.

"Over the past five years, Day of Compassion has demonstrated the unparalleled ability of the media to call attention to compelling social issues such as HIV/AIDS," said Joan M. Garry, GLAAD Executive Director. "While it is important to highlight the remarkable progress being made in the medical arena, it is critical to remind the public that this is not a time to be complacent. Now—more than ever before—education and accessible information are essential elements in the prevention of this disease."

Day of Compassion is an annual project of the Gay & Lesbian Alliance Against Defamation (GLAAD) and is co-sponsored by Until There's a Cure Foundation, the Names Project Foundation and Cable Positive, the cable industry's AIDS action organization. Day of Compassion began in 1993, when Los Angeles-based actor Neil Patrick Harris viewed an AIDS-themed episode of *One Life to Live*. Inspired by that candid portrayal of the AIDS crisis, he contacted other daytime drama producers, many of whom agreed to air episodes devoted to people affected by HIV/AIDS.

The Day of Compassion Web site can be accessed via GLAAD Online, located at <http://www.glaad.org>. Those who wish to participate in "Show Compassion On Your Site" by displaying a button linking to the Day of Compassion site may download their button from that same site. [GLAAD]

Cannes Festival AIDS Benefit

Hailed as "the Cannes Film Festival's most opulent party"—and there's some serious competition for that title—the annual Cinema Against AIDS benefit for the American Foundation for AIDS Research (AmFAR) raised over \$1.2 million on May 21. The \$2,500/person dinner was hosted ably by film star Sharon Stone (who first made a large splash with *Basic Instinct*, a movie intensely protested by Gays and Lesbians during its making). At a press

conference before the event, she cried as she recalled the death from AIDS of her acting teacher, Ray London, five years ago, and said of her work for AmFAR that, "I can't think of a better thing to do with the ridiculousness of fame."

Open Gay Elton John joined with former Beatle Ringo Starr to pound out "Great Balls Of Fire" and "Twist And Shout"—to the tune of \$20,000 per minute in contributions. Among the other items up for charitable auction were a week on the world's biggest private yacht; jewelry, including amulets by Stuart Devlin, jeweler to Queen Elizabeth; and, front-row tickets to the Holyfield-Akiwonda fight including dinner with Don King. Glitterati in attendance included openly Gay film star Rupert Everett, Chiara Mastroianni, Jeanne Moreau, Lena Olin, Miami Heat coach Pat Riley, Winona Ryder, openly Gay REM member Michael Stipe and Sigourney Weaver.

From S & M To B & B?

The Provence, France chateau where Donatien Alphonse Francois, Marquis de Sade, lived through some life-shaping experiences from ages 5 through 11 in the 1740's, is being made over into a bed-and-breakfast guesthouse following its sale Mar. 25. Some local officials, including Saumane Mayor Christian Challet, tried to block the move because of the historic significance of the writer whose name became the root of the term "sadism."

The Vacluse council has owned the 12th century palace since 1980, but could no longer keep up with the high cost of maintaining it, while the current buyer, entrepreneur Jerome Casalis, has contracted to keep the building open to the public. The Chateau de Saumane is believed to have been the model for the Chateau de Durcet in de Sade's *The 120 Days of Sodom*.

Update From Gay Games Amsterdam 1998

by Faye Jenkins & Paul Yperen

The Amsterdam Dockland, in Northern Amsterdam, will be the gigantic location for the official opening party and grand final party of Gay Games Amsterdam 1998. Organizers Mega Swingpaleis De Danssalon and Turnkey Events will present international artists such as Jimmy Somerville, Right Said Fred and Grace Jones. The huge halls of the Amsterdam Docklands will be turned into a Palace of Swing with large stages, an indoor luna park and even a complete indoor street of entertainment. International top DJs will spin the discs. The organizers expect thousands of visitors, among whom will be many VIPs and organizers of Gay Games Amsterdam 1998. Special boats and busses will transport the party goers. Tickets are available through the Gay Games Ticketcenter. There are special discounts for people buying tickets to both parties.

In addition to the sensational Eurovision Song Contest winner Dana International and Dutch star Matilde Santing, three new attractions have been added to the program of the Opening Ceremony of Gay Games Amsterdam 1998. Bjorn Again will perform everybody's favorite ABBA songs to kick off the program. The Weather Girls will sing their legendary hit song "It's Raining Men" in a sequence involving hundreds of dancing sailors. As director Jan-Eric Hulsman announced recently, the Italian star Riccardo Cocciante is the newest attraction signed.

Another surprise will be the stage: a catwalk of 130 metres in the middle of the Amsterdam Arena Stadium.

Tickets for parties and ceremonies are available through the Gay Games Ticket Center, +31 20 4200200.

Texas Paper Blasts Book Ban

Thou shalt not steal? In the midst of a small-town battle over library books, the Wichita Falls, Texas *Times Record News* featured an editorial on May 16 criticizing those who seek to censor available books to suit their own narrow moral agenda.

Robert Jeffress, pastor of the First Baptist Church, and his board have taken **Heather Has Two Mommies** and **Daddy's Roommate** from the public library and refuse to return them. Jeffress and the board are also going to the City Council to demand that the books not be replaced.

"Who should decide what is available in the public library?" the editorial asks. "Clearly, Jeffress and the deacons believe they should decide.... Can a relatively small group, even acting on what its members believe to be moral principles and in what they believe to be the best interests of the community, be allowed to dictate what the rest of the community will find on library shelves that have been paid for by all within this community? No, that cannot be allowed.... City government represents all of us. It must protect the rights of minority groups [and] act out of the best interests of the majority, preserving and protecting our freedoms and assuring public order." The *Times Record* explains that a policy for selecting books in light of this balance is already in place, and asks, "Once the banning of books starts, where does it stop? The demand that is apparently going to the City Council is a demand that a certain moral code be institutionalized.... That's not the business of government. In the end, the banning of books deals with symptoms, not causes. Banning books does not right any wrongs or overcome evil and, in the long run, may do more harm than good."

Please commend the *Times Record News* for this thoughtful and articulate defense of liberty and free access to knowledge in America. Contact: Sonny Bohanan, Managing Editor, *Times Record News*, 1301 Larar St., Wichita Falls, TX 76301-7091, fax: 940.767.1741, E-mail: wilsonc@wtr.com.

[from GLAAD]

CLASS ...from EX-24

TRAVEL

ALIST, www.gayamerica.com/alist/
AMBUSH MAG 2000, www.ambushmag.com

AMBUSHonLINE, www.ambushonline.com

CRESCENT CITY - New Orleans Tourist Info, www.crescentcity.com

GAY AMERICA - www.gayamerica.com

GAY BARS - www.gaybars.com

GAY EUROPE - www.gayeuro.com

GAY MARDI GRAS - www.gaymardigras.com

GAY NEW ORLEANS - www.gayneworleans.com

GAY NET - gay.net

GAY PENSACOLA - www.gaypensacola.com

GAY TEXAS - www.gaytexas.net

GAY WORLD - www.gayworld.net

PLANETOUT - www.planetout.com

SOUTHERN DECADENCE - www.southerndecadence.com

TRIPLE "C", www.crescentcity.com/ccc

VACATION info

DAYTONA BEACH-1998 Directory and Beachfest '98-Aug. 21-23-information. Write PO Box 263148, Daytona Beach, FL 32126-3148; 904.322.8003; or www.daytonabeachfest.com [is16]

weddings

WEDDING CEREMONY-Holy Union Certificate provided, Rev. Russell, Baton Rouge, 504.924.9839 [is12]

PBS Specials

WYES, Channel 12 in New Orleans will be airing two outstanding programs in June. On June 10, the first scheduled Broadway preview of British choreographer Matthew Bourne's innovative staging of Tchaikovsky's *Swan Lake* will air as part of its "Great Performances" series.

The flamboyant dance/theatre features men dancing the swan roles usually assigned to ballerinas. Bourne has reset *Swan Lake* in a fantasy 1950s London of libidinous royals. The television production will be directed and edited by Peter Mumford. Check local listing for air times.

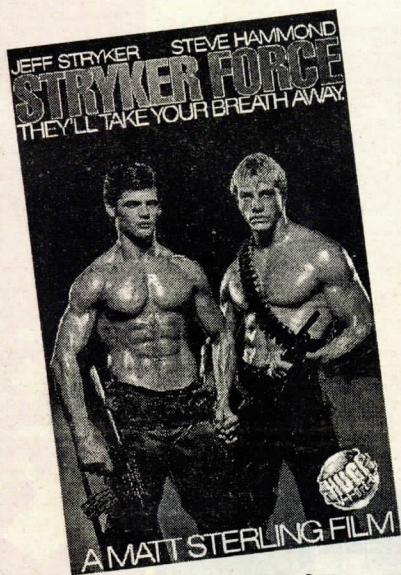
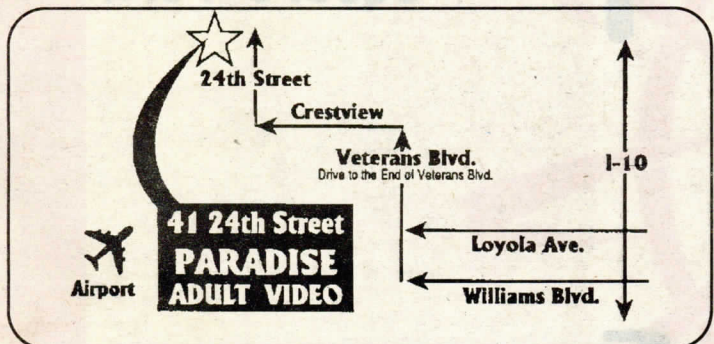
Licensed to Kill will air on June 23 at 9pm. This chilling film covers Homophobia to Homicide: The Anatomy of Hate. The film is the winner of two top awards at the 1997 Sundance Film Festival by Arthur Dong. This provocative and disturbing look at the motivations behind a plague of violence is a rare and riveting exploration of the harassment to murder of gay men.

As a victim of a hate crime in 1977, Dong confront murderers of gay men face to face, to ask "why did you do it?" The FBI reports that although the national crime rate is dropping, hate crimes are on the rise. *Licensed To Kill* goes beyond these statistics to give a close-up look at some of the people responsible for these brutal acts of violence.

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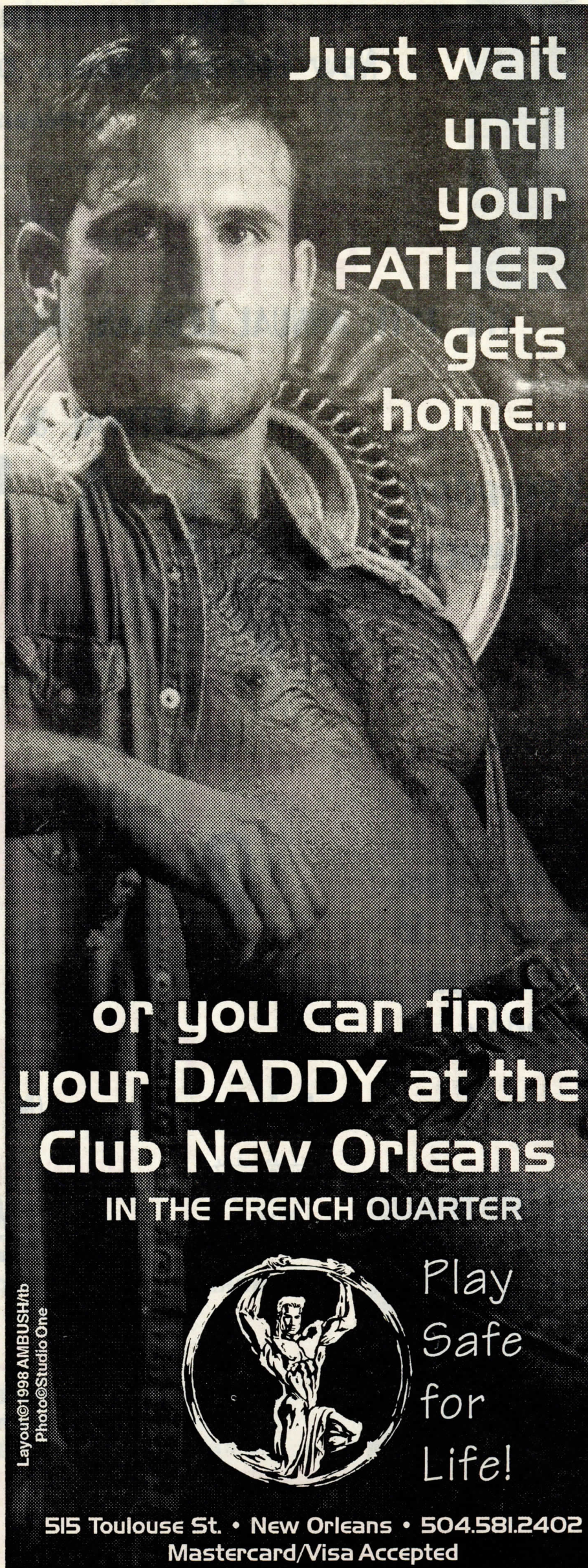
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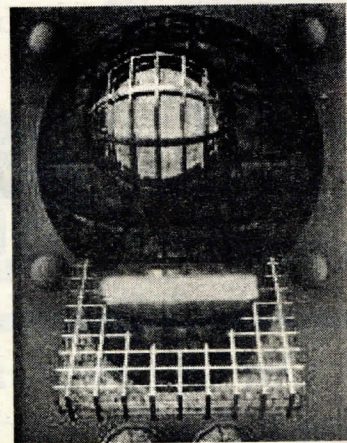
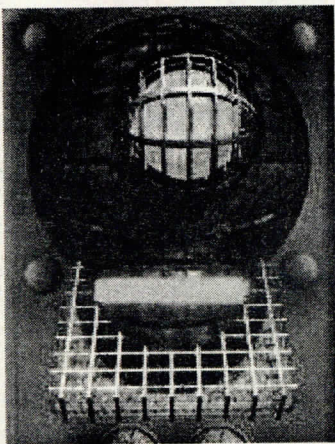
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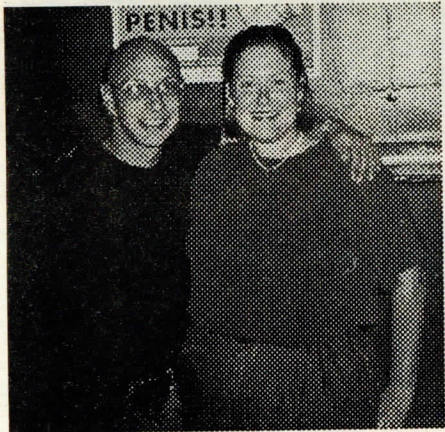


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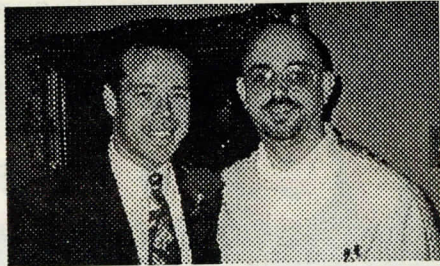
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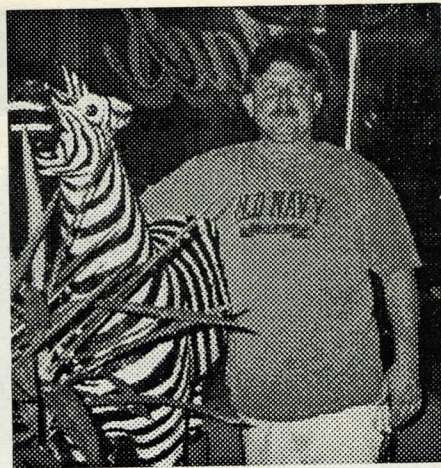
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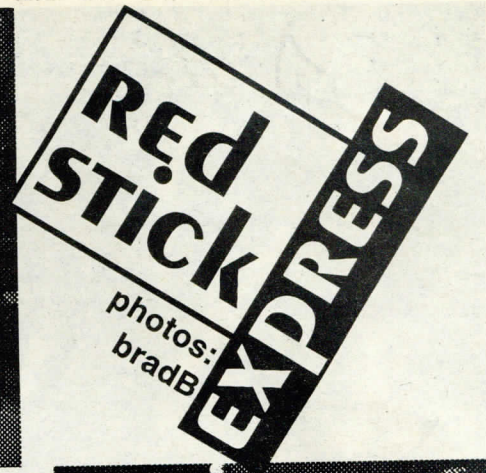
Cody, Rosalind & the penis poster



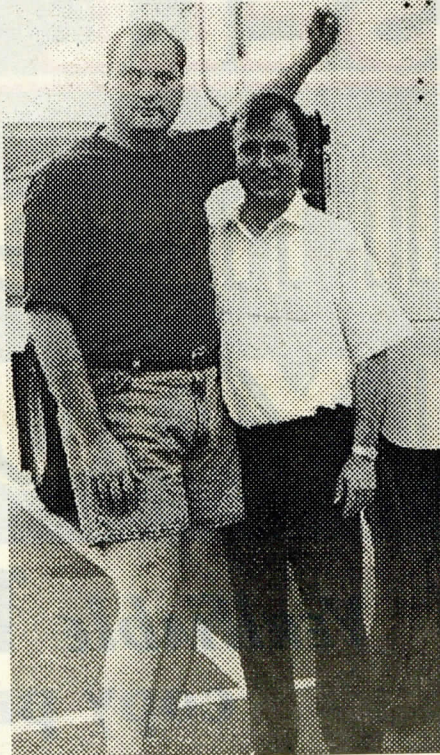
Brian & Kevin at LEGAL Roast



James & his birthday zebra



Marty, just back on the scene, with Charlyn



Jeff & Larry approve of "big rigs."



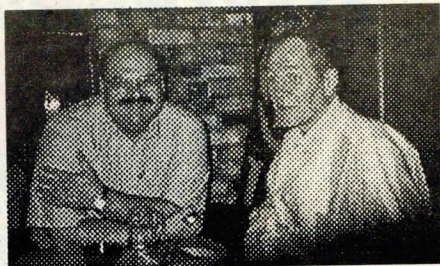
Tony & Gregory in the Blue Parrot patio



Dan, Tom & Roger New bartenders at the Blue Parrot



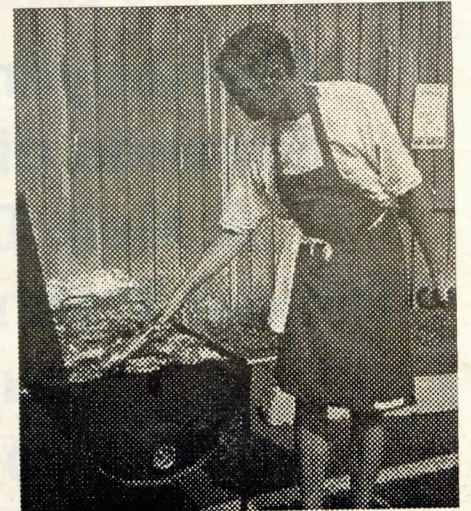
Hubba Bubba sports a new "do."



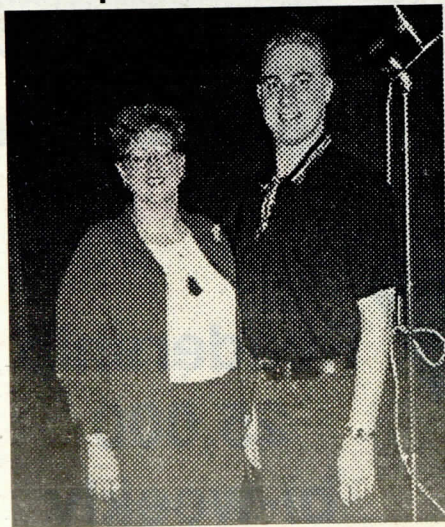
Tommy & Randall at the Blue Parrot



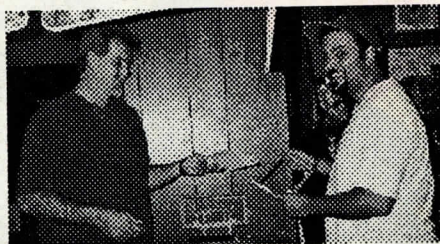
Tom & Dan cook a fabulous meal for Memorial Day.



Bruce cooks for George's Memorial Day Dinner.



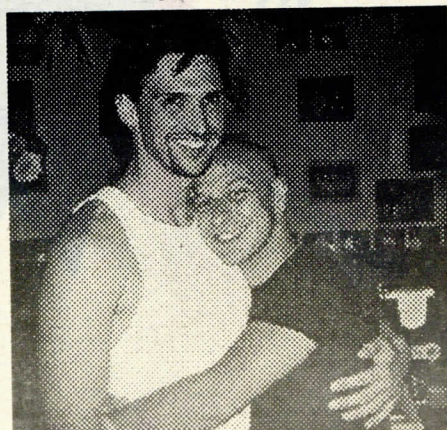
Sharon & Jonathan offer prof. photography at the Hide-A-Way.



Steve from Shreveport, & Burt shopping at Hibiscus



Beautiful Brian takes a break at Georges'.



The fabulous photographer Mark & his cutie Cody



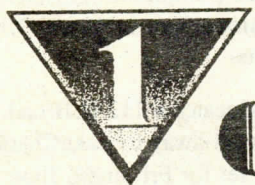
Finis, Richard & Stan under the survival banner.



Billy & Mike rescue the "beached whale" in Biloxi.

The Blue Parrot

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Saturday, June 20th

One Year Anniversary Bash!

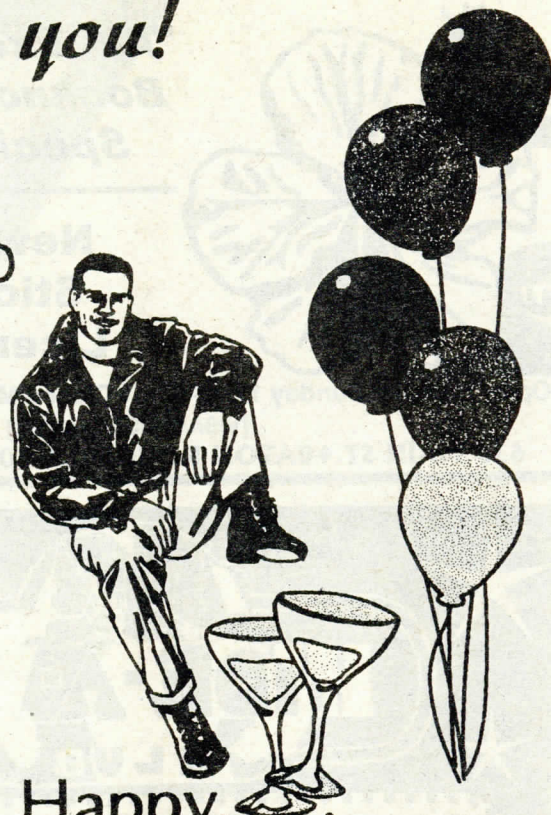
*Please join us as we celebrate our first year ...
we couldn't have done it without you!*

Saturday Afternoon

Malibu Rum Party & Cook-out on the Patio

Saturday Night

Dekuyper Pucker Party
Bartender's Cocktails - "Hot Sex" Party
Dance Party with Sondra & Michelle
Midnight Balloon Drop



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Tuesday: Topsy Tuesday

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Wednesday: Dance Party

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Thursday: Video Karaoke

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Friday: Leather Night

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Saturday: Dance Party

DJ's Sondra & Michelle

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HOT TAILS OF RED STICK

by Brad Benedict
E-mail: bookman@intersurf.com
www.ambushmag.com/is1298

Big 4th Of July Event Scheduled

It's food, fun and entertainment set for the big "Picnic With Friends" on July 4 at 15346 Perkins Rd., the home of Wayne Myers. The Committee of Friends is putting together this one, and it should be a blast. The time is 5pm until 9pm. Bring a blanket or lawn chair and get ready for some special events.

Entertainment will be provided by Allison Collins Band. Karaoke with cutie Cody King is also on tap. Tom Morgan is chairman of this event, and when you have big Tom in the driver's seat, you know it's gonna be a good one. Of course, Tom is noted for being big, but I won't go there in this family newspaper.

He is getting good assistance from William Evans, co-chairman. Don Morgan is president of Committee of Friends. A silent auction is set for 5pm to 8pm.

Admission to this event is \$15 per person. Children under twelve will be admitted for \$5. Food is included in the admission price, but beer and soft drinks will be sold to participants.

Committee of Friends is a non-profit organization committed to raising funds for HIV/AIDS services in the Baton Rouge area, and proceeds for this program will benefit AIDS service programs. For more information, call 504.296.7476 or 504.216.1040. Tickets are available from any committee member or at Hibiscus Bookstore.

Apollo Schedules Summer Extravaganza

The big event for June 13 is being staged by the Baton Rouge Krewe of Apollo. The Baton Rouge Little Theater, Bon Marche Mall, 7155 Florida Blvd., will be the site of "Apollo's Follies," their annual Summer Extravaganza fundraiser. Hors d'oeuvres and a cash bar will be available before the live show with a buffet scheduled to follow the program. Area restaurants and prominent chefs are participating in the event.

Advance tickets are \$20 and available at Hibiscus Bookstore and Four Seasons Flowers and Gifts. They will cost \$25 at the door. Everything begins at 6:30pm, with the show starting promptly at 8pm. A portion of the proceeds goes to the Apollo AIDS Crisis Fund with the remainder going toward expenses of the 1999 Bal Masque set for the LSU Assembly Center. The ball theme is "A Night At The Opera, or It Ain't Over Until the Fat Lady Sings."

Crystal's Site Of Contest

John Gilland has a big event scheduled for Crystal's in Lake Charles. Miss Lake Shores is a preliminary to Miss Gay Louisiana, and it looks like it will be a fabulous show. Of course, John is famous for all the good things happening at the Sound Factory in Lafayette. Crystal's is his sister club way over close to the Texas line.

Crystal's is located at 112 W. Broad, so if you need a nice get-away, try Lake Charles. This contest is set for Fri. night, June 12 and John welcomes everyone to the event.

Just for the record, Crystal's is open Mon. through Sat. Fri. hours are 8pm to 4am. The Sound Factory is open Mon. through Sat. from 6pm to 2am and Sun. from noon to midnight. Tea dances are spectacular here, and John features nightly drink specials.

Crystal's and Sound Factory are two of Louisiana's finest entertainment palaces. Try both of them and see why they are so popular. You'll be glad you did.

Red Stickers Take In Gypsy

King Apollo XVII Sam, the Fab One, entertained three guests, Gene N., Don C., and book baron Damon at the Krewe of Armeinius' Gypsy night at Le Petit Theatre du Vieux Carre in the historic old French Quarter of New Orleans. It was a full day of shopping, dining and taking in the sights and sounds of the Crescent City for this group of Red Stickers.

As usual, the Armeinius studs bought out the dress rehearsal and turned this into another great fundraiser for their krewe. Of course, the stars were all out for this show. The other New Orleans krewes came to support their sister club, and the theater was filled with other supporters of their balls. Oh, my, but that does sound erotic!

I made this event to get pictures for *Ambush* and to enjoy these fine studs, especially that dynamic and fantastic Vinnie. I've told you about him before. He and significant other Greg live in a historic home in old Algiers, and I've been invited to visit them and to take a boat trip with them. Of course, I'll have to wait until they return from Ship Island. They are boating their way over to the island and are always making their way down into the bayou country for dining at out-of-the-way restaurants. They are two of the Crescent City's best movers and shakers, and I think they are such a fine couple.

I also got to talk to Jared C., one of my favorite little leather guys. This is one of the hardest workers I've ever seen and a definite asset to the Lords of Leather. He's a cutie pie, with or without his clothes.

I also had a nice chat with the reigning king and queen of Armeinius, Rusty and Glenn. This is another dynamic couple, and I enjoyed their little on-stage ticket-drawing session almost as much as I did the

[continued on 38]

Committee of Friends & Friends

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Saturday
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with
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Entertainment by:
Allison Collins Band
Karaoke with *Cody King*

Admission: \$15 per person
Children under 12 -\$5
*Advance tickets may be purchased
at Hibiscus Bookstore*

*In the event of rain, Picnic with Friends
will be held Sunday, July 5th.*

SILENT AUCTION: 5 pm - 8 pm

For more information call:
296-7476 or 216-1040

 Committee of Friends is a non-profit organization committed
to raising funds for HIV/AIDS services in the Baton Rouge area.
Proceeds to benefit area AIDS Services

FRIDAY JUNE 12TH
**HOT MALE
STRIPPERS**

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IN THE NEWS

www.ambushmag.com/is1298

Gay GOP Group Barred From Convention

In an unmistakable move to stifle dissent on social issues within the party, Texas GOP leaders have rejected a Gay Republican group's request to have an exhibit booth at the state Republican convention, according to a letter from the state GOP organization released by the group, the Log Cabin Republicans of Texas. Log Cabin was also denied a booth at the state GOP convention in 1996.

"The party's decision to deny a Republican group a display booth at the state convention is an unwarranted act of exclusion," said Log Cabin State President Steve Labinski, noting that even pro-choice groups who disagree with the party's stand on abortion are permitted exhibit booths at the state convention. "We're not asking for 'special rights.' We're Republicans asking for the same opportunity to be heard that other Republicans have. Are party leaders afraid of a debate among Republicans?" Labinski noted that exhibit booth applications have been routinely accepted from other political groups and commercial vendors with no relationship whatsoever to the party.

Labinski said that he and others in the

organization have even been asked to volunteer at the Fort Worth convention. "Many of us helped setup our district conventions two months ago, and have also been asked to help out in Fort Worth."

Log Cabin applied for an exhibit booth at the state GOP convention in May, sending an application along with a check for \$500 to cover the booth fee, said Labinski. State GOP executive director Wayne Hamilton sent a letter to the Log Cabin Republicans informing them that their request for a booth had been rejected, but did not give a reason for the rejection.

Labinski noted that he has made numerous efforts over the past two weeks to discuss the situation with the GOP State Chair and Executive Director and resolve the issue. He also noted that many of his group's members hold leadership positions in the party. In the March primary, more than three dozen Log Cabin members and supporters were elected to GOP precinct chair positions. Subsequently, more than fifty Log Cabin members were elected as delegates or alternates to the state convention.

"I believe the party's decision will not sit well with fair-minded Republicans across this state, including some party officials and delegates and alternates to the state convention," predicted Labinski, himself a Republican precinct chairman and state convention delegate. He added that Log Cabin would consider all appropriate responses to the party's decision, including possible legal action.

ALLONS ACADIANA

by James Scott

Although a drought has been plaguing the Acadiana area, it has definitely been "raining men." Just remember you must wear your raincoats. The hot, toned summertime bodies have been in full display for all to appreciate. Where do all these men go during the winter season? Regardless, it is great to have them out and about!

During the last two weeks, I did get the pleasure of meeting quite a few people from out-of-town. I am glad to see that other areas have noticed that we in Acadiana not only offer an alternative place to party, but a unique night life worth taking the short trip down the highway. I hope you all had a great time and do come back real soon. There you have it—an open invitation.

John Gillan and crew at The Sound Factory have given a whole new meaning to Memorial Weekend. I must say I am glad I did not go out of town for the weekend. The non-stop entertainment and great atmosphere are just two reasons to frequent this place. Regardless of what type of entertainment you prefer, this club pleases all. Personally, I very much enjoy having the option of selecting music on a jukebox, which, by the way, has great music. If you are not a juke box junkie, this hot spot also offers pool tables, video games, television and the non-stop music they play whenever no one is playing selections on the juke box.

Those of you receiving this issue hot off the presses may still have the time to make plans this Fri., June 12 to attend the Miss Lake Shores Pageant. This event will be held at Crystal's located at 112 W. Broad St. in Lake Charles. Keep in mind that they stay open Fri. nights until 4am—Be Prepared! It is sure to be a night of great entertainment and talent. I look forward to seeing you all there.

The unique character of Jules' has definitely proven an asset. Ron and Randy listen to their clientele. Whether it be an afternoon brew or all-nighter, they take good care of you. As I have mentioned before, I just love the patio. It is wonderful to simply sit there, take in the ambience and relax.

A very special thank you to the girls at MoJo Monkey's. These girls sure know how to make a guy feel like a queen. (Yes, that's a good thing!) You all give a new meaning to "party hard." No more tequila!!

The club was recently transformed into an elegant setting for the wedding of

www.ambushmag.com/is1298

Paula and Lisa. These two make such a cute couple. Here's wishing you a lifetime filled with happiness, love and completeness. While enjoying the MoJo experience, I ran into a few friends I had not seen in ages. It was great seeing all of you doing so well. Stevie & Dawn are making plans to host special entertainment in the near future including some great bands. Watch for these events. I would like to apologize for not knowing more information about the titles and competitions for which our local entertainers are known. It has recently been brought to my attention that Acadiana will be strongly represented in the Miss Gay Louisiana competition. We are in the process of compiling information concerning the talented performers in our area, titles they hold and where they are competing. Any information you can provide will be greatly appreciated. We need to support these entertainers as they represent our area. Go get 'em girls.

Special mentions...Chili Pepper, looking as good as you want to...Carla and Jennifer, you need to visit more often...Lee, I hope you had a great birthday...Shamika & Abbey, remember I do work in Real Estate...Randal, Happy Birthday and thanks for being a remarkable friend...John and Jay, we are due for an excursion...Terry, you are such a sweetheart...Shy Shannon & Jacob, breakfast was fun...Jeremy, sorry if I was rude.

The next issue of *Ambush* will feature another insightful "Interview by Jay Norris." Those of you who know him are aware that it is unquestionably an article you do not want to miss. If you have an idea of a Gay person deserving notoriety that you would like to see profiled in a future edition, you can E-mail your ideas to jaydempsey@worldnet.att.net

Ambush Magazine 2000 has provided us with a means to promote our area and attract visitors. The Gay community has always been known to support our own. If you are interested in obtaining information on advertising your business in *Ambush*, contact us to receive a media packet, including prices and services we provide. Let our readers know you are out there and show your support for the Gay community. Together we need to make sure that everyone remains aware of our area and supports our Gay-owned & Gay-friendly businesses! Until next time, keep me informed of events and I will do my best to cover them.

Log Cabin is a nationwide organization of Republicans who believe the party should welcome Gays and Lesbians and should support the principle of non-discrimination on the basis of sexual orientation. It has more than 10,000 members with over fifty chapters in 30 states. In Texas, the group has chapters in Austin, Dallas, Houston, and San Antonio.

IL Custody Case Settled

A Gay sperm donor has dropped his efforts to claim parental to a Lesbian couple's son, and while that's probably in the best interests of the child, it fails to clarify a muddy legal

[continued on 38]

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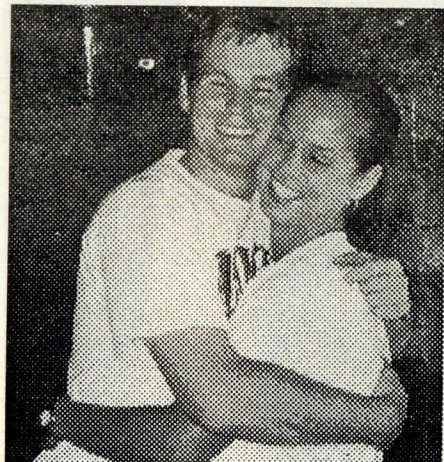
Tod, Merlin & Carlos pose for *AMBUSH*



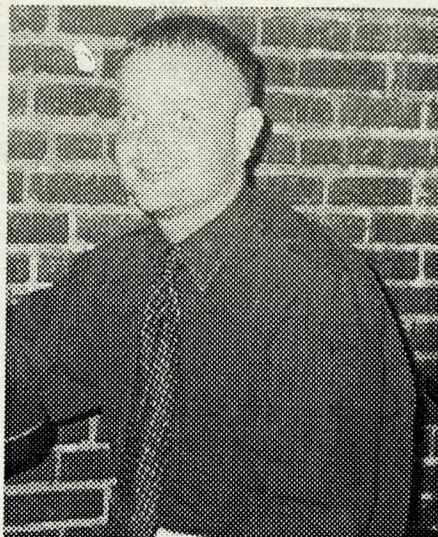
Terry at the Sound Factory



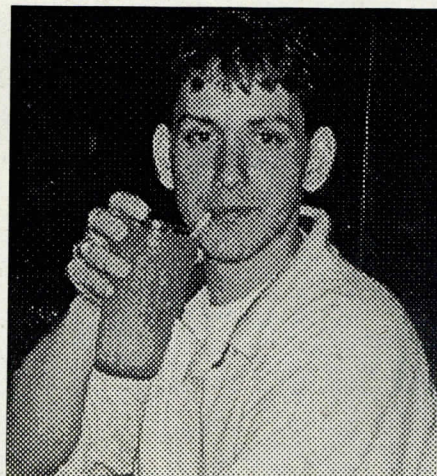
Troy & Randall catch up on old times at the Sound Factory.



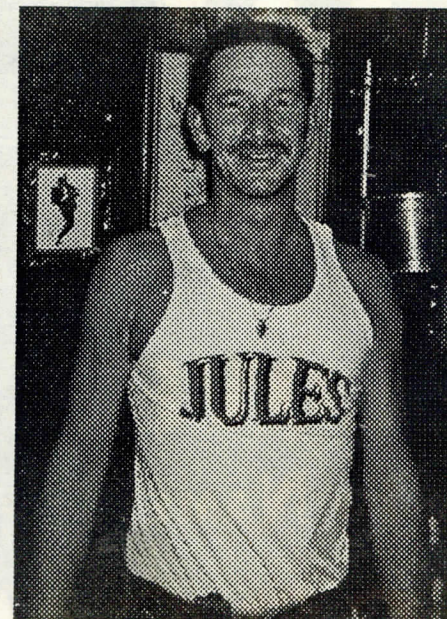
Jules' cuties Wil & Gina



Bobby at the Sound Factory



Troy sips a drink at the Sound Factory.



Co-owner Randy of Jules



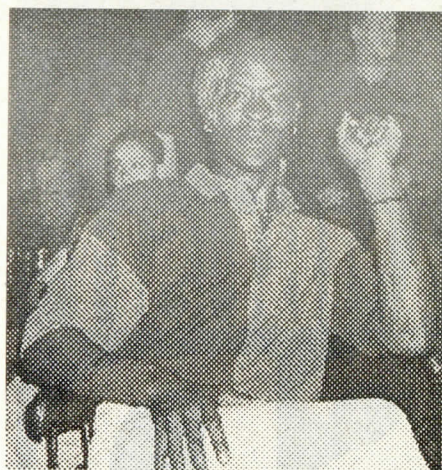
Jacob & Shy Shannon visit Lafayette.



Evette relaxing on the patio at Jules



Stephanie Stephens & Miss Chris at the Sound Factory



Miss Carla living it up at the Sound Factory



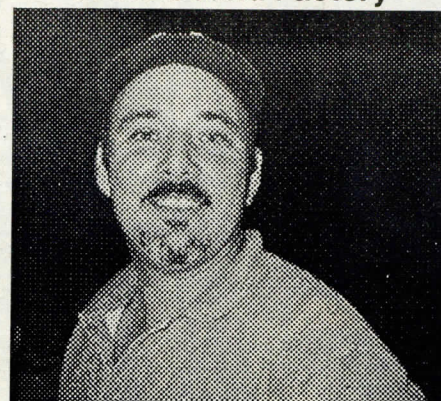
Chili Pepper, looking as good as she wants to, at the Sound Factory



The wedding couple at Mojo's – Paula & Lisa



Lee & Carla at Mojo's



Mark of the Sound Factory up close & personal

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**Directed by Ricky Graham
Costumes by Roy Haylock
Sets & Lighting by Chris Jones**

**starring
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TRODDING THE BOARDS

by George Patterson
E-mail: gp340@bellsouth.net
www.ambushmag.com/is1298

Gypsy

With book by Arthur Laurents, music by Jule Styne and lyrics by Stephen Sondheim, *Gypsy*, the musical comedy/drama that delineates the creation and rise of the star stripper Gypsy Rose Lee and her turbulent relationship with her dynamic stage mamma, Rose, is arguably the best American musical of the twentieth century—it's got everything. A successful production of this masterpiece, even at this late date, can assure the producer full houses. I should know.

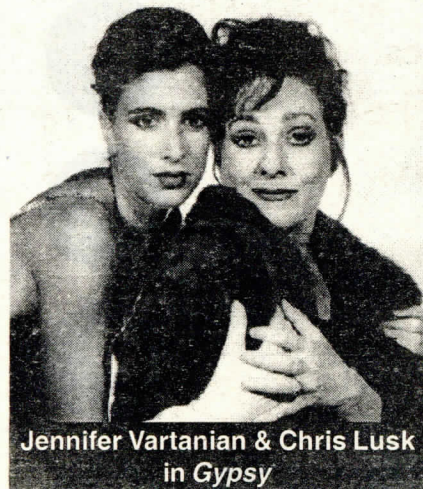
In 1967, one year after I had been promoted from technical director to artistic director at now defunct Gallery Circle Theatre, I was fortunate to produce and direct such a *succes d'estime*. Of course, I was incredibly lucky in amassing a pitch-perfect cast: Margie O'Dair as Mamma Rose, Valeka Grey as Louise (who went on to star in *As The World Turns* for over a decade), the late great Bob Crane as Herbie, with a teenaged Becky Allen as Mazeppa in only her second show, a theatre debuting Linda Fried as Electra and the amazing ballerina Judy Blumstein Latour as Tessie Tura. A teen-aged Mary Lynn Puissegur, an accomplished toe-tapper and baton twirler, played Dainty June years before she would become Dr. Mary Lynn Lupo. My choreographer was Jack Payne; my costume designer was Harvey Hysell years before Ballet Hysell; my scenic designer was Jamie Greenleaf; and, my musical director was the late Bob Cousins. The cow costume was created by Nancy Staub (now a world famous puppeteer). We had a dog and a lamb that soon turned into a sheep (the show ran an unprecedented ten weeks). The experience still glows warmly in my memory.

Imagine the outrageous *deja vu* I experienced upon arriving at the Le Petit theatre box office to retrieve my tickets for this, the theatre's second production in only 15 years, to see prominently displayed the poster from my long-ago production: the letters of "gypsy" forming full lips beside which is a full length photo of Valeka Grey in all her Hysell finery. The lips logo was even reproduced on the program. This poster, like so many from those Gallery Circle days, was designed, gratis, by the Harry Mayronne, Sr. Advertising Agency. Only Arthur Tong, Le Petit's 75 year young house manager, and I still possess those posters. Ah, salad days...

Which brings us to Le Petit's current version of *Gypsy*, the final production of this, the final season B.B.—Before Borey, as in Sonny Borey, the newly appointed "Executive/Artistic Director."

There is, however, a connection to Mr. Borey in this production and he is the director, Bill Walker, who has been the theatre's technical director for two years—ever since he was originally brought to the theatre by Mr. Borey. Mr. Walker is making his directorial debut with this production.

With a minuscule budget and an organization embroiled in intrigue, Mr. Walker was at an extreme disadvantage and, unfortunately, it shows in almost every department, from unfinished scenery to a torn house curtain, from a small sextet led by conductor Leonard Raybon (instead of Le Petit's vaunted orchestra from days of yore) to *Gypsy*'s sedate costumes (uncredited—unless "designed and directed" means Mr. Walker did it all).



Jennifer Vartanian & Chris Lusk
in *Gypsy*

The neophyte director had better luck in the casting department even though he had to replace his Mamma Rose only nine days before opening. Chris Lusk, the replacement, although too young for the role, nevertheless pulls off the difficult assignment with

INTERVIEW...

by George Patterson

www.ambushmag.com/is1298

...With David Cuthbert

David Cuthbert, a writer for the *Times Picayune* for over 30 years, has titillated and entertained New Orleans audiences through the years with wonderfully outrageous home grown musical comedies, most recently his collaboration with Ricky Graham and Harry Mayronne, Jr. that resulted in last year's Big Easy Award winning musical comedy spoof of old movie serials, *Daryl's Perils: Demon Dominatrix Of The Moon Meets The Amazon Queen Of The Lost Lagoon*.

This terrific trio is at it again. Their latest confection, *At The Club Toot Sweet On Bourbon Street*, will be unveiled, so to speak, on June 19 at the Southern Repertory Theatre, 3rd Level, One Canal Place, for the Krewe of Petronius, which has bought that night out. After a week of previews, The show opens officially June 27 and will run through July 26.

Recently we got together over a tape recorder and a bowl of mints, in the charming Victorian sitting parlor on the second floor of *Ambush* headquarters on Bourbon St. Herewith that conversation:

Q: On how many theatrical collaborations have you been involved, David?

A: Gosh, a number of them. Bob Bruce and I basically working with two different composers wrote 12 shows together and now this is the second show with Ricky [Graham], and with Philip Melancon—I've been writing for a couple of years another show—so I guess this is basically my third major collaboration.

Most have been musical comedies. We were inspired—I loved the Children's Corner shows down at Le Petit. Especially after seeing *Rapunzel* there.

Q: Who wrote *Rapunzel*?

A: That was Freddie [Palmisano] and Sharon O'Brien.

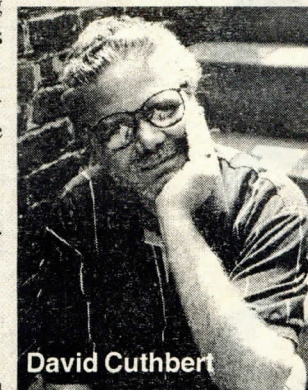
It was a great show.

Q: This was during—?

A: The Golden Era—

Q: Luis Barroso's reign?

A: Yes. And I got Ty [Tracy] and Bob [Bruce] down there to see the show and I said "isn't this wonderful?" And Ty said "you guys could do something like that." And I said "oh, I don't think so." But the great thing that Ty can



David Cuthbert

[continued on 34]

panache. She possesses enough decibels in the vocal department to do the role proud and her dramatic scenes are right on the money. Of course, she receives valuable help from handsome Houston Chase Waites as the loyal Herbie whose love for her is palpable, and the truly beautiful Jennifer Vartanian as the ugly duckling turned swan Louise, aka Gypsy Rose Lee, who, if given a better production would have surely shown as brightly as Valeka Grey ever did. Ms. Lusk and Ms. Vartanian bring this troubled production to dynamic closure in the last, and arguably the best, scene—indeed, Ms. Lusk's reading of "Rose's Turn", the soliloquy that sums up the evening's action in a scorching aria to self-preservation and ego mania belies all that has gone before. She's definitely got the chops.

Ms. Vartanian possesses a lovely voice but being saddled with singing "Little Lamb" to a stuffed toy, and unfamiliarity with the set (she walks through imaginary walls instead of using the door frames), her potential is never fully realized, especially in the ineffectual transition sequence that sees her rise from scared stripper stand-in to confident burlesque queen.

Sean Richmond as Tulsa, one of the boys in the vaudeville act who elopes with Danty June (Katie Guell) thus forcing Rose to turn to the drab Louise, acquits himself admirably in his solo turn "All I Need Is The Girl."

As the trio of strippers who usually stop the show with their second act strip lesson, "You Gotta Have A Gimmick", Dena Rispono's Mazeppa gives Becky Allen a run for the money. Her trumpet gimmick works like a charm; likewise, the Electra of Cindy Huber McCrossen whose costume's lights shine as brightly as her Helen Kane vocals. It is the floor-bound Tessie Tura of Amanda Fawcett that undercuts the song's lyrics—she has no gimmick—no toe shoes—no "finesse." The song is flatfooted, doesn't build and certainly doesn't deserve the encore written into the score.

Mr. Walker is to be commended for taking the heat and giving the theatre's subscribers what they were promised, even if it wasn't directed by Ricky Graham nor did it star Becky Allen, also promised.

Now he can return to the wings and concentrate on becoming a professional technical director who is able to deliver in a timely fashion for his mentor, Sonny Borey, who will open the 98-'99 season with *42nd Street*, Sept. 18 - Oct. 4, to be followed by: *Hay Fever* directed by Ken Risch, Oct. 30 - Nov. 15; *The Innocents* directed by Janet Shea, Jan. 15 - Jan. 31, 1999; *Ma Rainey's Black Bottom* directed by Tommye Myrick Mar. 5 - Mar. 21, 1999; and, *City Of Angels* directed by Sonny Borey, May 21 - June 6, 1999. By then, this *Gypsy*, like my *Gypsy*, will be nothing but a memory.

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ON THE BOARDS

by George Patterson

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ANYTHING GOES

Destrahan High School Auditorium, #1 Wild Cat Lane, Destrahan, LA, 504.764.1969.

The River Region Drama Guild presents Cole Porter's musical comedy set aboard the S.S. American sailing from New York to England with a bevy of chorines and a sampling of some of Porter's most popular songs. Besides the title song, hear "I Get A Kick Out Of You", "You're The Top", "Friendship" & "It's De-lovely" among many more. Kris Shaw directs Gordon Lousteau, LaVina Larkey, Patrick McKinney, Ron Oleksik, LaVerne Hooker, Brad Preddy, Lauren Landwerlin, Kathy Rhodes, Ralph Lister, and himself, while Susan Domangue supplies the choreography and Brenda Castillo, the musical direction. June 12, 13, 19 & 20, 7:30pm; June 14 & 21, 2pm.

AT THE CLUB TOO SWEET ON BOURBON STREET

Southern Repertory Theatre, 3rd Level, One Canal Place, 504.523.0945; 504.861.8163; groups: 504.897.0657.

The terrific trio that gave us *Daryl's Perils* has struck again. With book and lyrics by Ricky Graham and David Cuthbert and music by Harry Mayronne, Jr., and direction by Ricky Graham, a brand-new musical comedy about Bourbon Street entertainers, circa 1958, hits the boards. Starring Becky Allen as Busty Rusty Russell, the Saucy Sophisticate of Song who has organized a Bail Bond Benefit for her SOS fund (Save Our Strippers), and Michael Bennett as Buddy Ray, the erascible emcee of this vaudeville turn, the show features Renee Maxwell as Dixie Lee Barrymore, the Brennhardt of Burlesque, Sean Patterson as My-O-My star Dani Delmar, the dance team of Lothar and Lupe (Roy Haylock, who also doubles as costume designer, and Mandy Zirkenbach), with Chris Wecklein, Veronica Giacano, Lara Nelms, Troi Bechet, Amanda Hebert and Phil Blunt as a heckler. Chris Jones does the scenery and lighting. Previews June 19, 8pm (the Krewe of Petronius is sponsoring the world premiere performance—call 504.525.4498); June 20, 6:30pm & 9pm; June 26, 8pm. Runs June 27 - July 26; Fri., 8pm; Sat., 6:30pm & 9pm; special Sun. matinee, July 26, 3pm.

CLASS OF '70SOMETHING

CAC's Freeport MacMaRon Theatre, 900 Camp St., 504.528.3800.

Carl Walker reprises his hit musical revue of songs from the 70s that played this venue two years ago. With musical direction by Jack Fowler, costumes by Roy Haylock and Charlotte Lang and promising a more elaborate set than the original by designer Ron Williams, this edition boasts the return of Wess Hughes, Charlotte Lang and Danon Smith from the original production. The newbies are: Anthony Bailey, Eddie Collins, Randy Juneau, Daniel Morgan, Cynthia Owen (returning to New Orleans) & Dorian Rush. Thurs. & Fri., 8pm;

Sat., 6pm & 9pm; Sun., 3pm.

FUNNY GIRL

Dixon Hall, Tulane Univ., 504.865.5269.

Tulane University's Summer Lyric Theatre opens its 31st season with Isobel Lennert's musical story of Broadway's greatest singing comedienne, Fanny Brice, with songs by Jule Styne (music) & Robert Merrill (lyrics). Starring Linda Zoblotsky and Christopher Carey, it is directed by Michael Howard with musical direction by Pamel Lagendre. Alton Geno is choreographer; Rick Paul, set designer. June 18-21, Thurs., Fri. & Sat., 8pm; Sat. & Sun., 2pm.

THE GAME SHOW

Contemporary Arts Center, 900 Camp St., 504.528.3800.

Written and directed by Rene J. F. Piazza, this satire on TV game shows is described as a night of pure entertainment for the whole family...filled with zany contestants, bizarre questions, and enough audience involvement to make anyone want to play the games right along with the actors. The cast includes Daryl Cade, Gene Desrochers, Mario Taormina, Stacy Taliancich, Vic Palazzo, Gwen Chevalier, Michael Sullivan, Farrah Layne Wright & Rene J.F. Piazza. Thurs. - Sat., 7:30pm; Sun., 2:30pm, thru June 28.

GYPSY

Le Petit Theatre du Vieux Carre, 616 St. Peter St., 504.522.2081.

Le Petit presents yet another incarnation (the second for this theatre in 15 years) of the musical comedy classic about the life and times of Gypsy Rose Lee with book by Arthur Laurents, music by Jule Styne and lyrics by Stephen Sondheim, directed by the theatre's technical director, Bill Walker and featuring Chris Lusk as Mama Rose, Houston Chase Waites as Herbie, Stephanie Gill as Baby June, Katy Guell as June, Sarah Umbehagan as Baby Louise, Jennifer Vartanian as Louise and Sean Richmond, Adrienne Bolotte, Dena Rispone, Cindy Huber McCrossen and Amanda Fawcett. Mr. Walker doubles on designing the sets, with costumes by Julie Winn and lighting designed by Dan Zimmer. Blake Cohealie does the choreography. Thurs. - Sat., 8pm; Sun., 2pm, thru June 14.

JULIUS CAESAR
Lupin Theatre, Tulane Campus, 504.865.5105.
The Shakespeare Festival at Tulane presents the Bard of Avon's political drama about an ambitious leader's rise to power and tragic downfall in ancient Rome. Buzz Podewell directs a cast that includes Gavin Mahlie, Mark McLaughlin, George Sanchez & Adriana Bate Thurs -Sun., 7:30pm, Sun.,

2pm, thru June 28.

NOT ABOUT NIGHTINGALES

Alley Theatre, 615 Texas Ave., 713.228.8421.

This highly praised London premiere production of an early Tennessee Williams play about prison corruption comes to America intact, with direction by Trevor Nunn and starring the original London cast which includes Colin Redgrave, whose sister, Vanessa, was responsible for unearthing this rare gem and instigating this rare reciprocal production. Thru July 3.

OTHELLO

City Park by Lagoon near Dreyfous Meadow, adjacent to New Orleans Museum of Art, 504.897.2466.

Dog & Pony Theatre Co. presents its annual Shakespeare in the Park production this year with the Bard's powerful drama of jealousy and deceit. John Grimsley directs Tony Molina, Jr. as Othello, Philip Tracy as Iago, Eva Earls as Desdemona, Michael Arata as Cassio, Paul Soileau as Roderigo and Lynn Toal as Emilia. Thurs. - Sun., 8pm, June 18, 19, 20, 20 & 25, 26, 27 & 28.

RAPUNZEL

Salem Community Theatre, 4212 Camp Street (at Milan), 504.895.3773.

Treehouse Players reprise their hit children's show with book and lyrics by Vatican Lokey, music by Brent Crayon and direction, design and additional material by Edward R. Cox. Jennifer Cameron plays Rapunzel, with Gary Rucker, Robert Montgomery, Amanda Norman-Rucker, Amanda Spurlin & Brandon Wilks. June 12, 8pm, Sat. & Sun., 2:30pm, Sat., June 20, 8pm, thru Jun 21.

STOMP

Saenger Theatre, 143 N. Rampart St., 504.525.2490 or 504.522.5555, groups of 20 or more: 504.569.1520.

Luke Cresswell and Steven McNicholas's off-Broadway, and international, smash hit percussive

dance phenom, utilizing unlikely percussion instruments like garbage cans, tea chests, plastic bags, boots, hub caps, match boxes and brooms, returns for a one-week reprise June 16-21. Tues. - Fri., 8pm, Thurs. & Sun., 2pm; Sat., 5pm & 9pm.

IN THE WINGS OF MICE AND MEN

UNO Performing Arts Center, UNO Campus, 504.245.8884.

The New Orleans Gay Men's Chorus in concert Sat, June 27, 8pm; Sun., Jun 28, 3m.

ROMEO AND JULIET

Lupin Theatre, Tulane Campus, 504.865.5105.

The Shakespeare Festival at Tulane continues its summer activities with Shakespeare's most romantic drama. Besides directing local favorites Danny Bowen, Ron Gural, Gavin Mahlie & Ken Risch, Aimee Michel has jobbed in the two leads, Eric Keith from New York and Naomi

interview ...from 32

do is he can tell people "get up there and sing a song and show us what you've got." So Bob and I wrote *Moon Over Montevideo* and I guess that was 1974—a movie parody—which were very popular then—Alice Faye and Carmen Miranda, that kind of thing and that started us off and we had great fun and some of my happiest memories of doing things is sitting down with Bob and a legal pad and trying to make each other laugh. I loved it.

Q: Who starred in *Moon*?

A: Helen Blank was Alice Foy and Ginger Guma was Carmen Veranda. Sidney Arroyo was a combination of Don Ameche and John Payne—next year will be the 25th anniversary of that show.

Q: Now what is your official title at the *Times Picayune*?

A: I'm a staff writer with the Living section but I've done all kinds of things at the paper.

Q: How long?

A: Over 30 years now.

Q: And in those 30 years you've always been with the Living section?

A: No. I was a City Desk reporter. We used to have a Sunday Desk and I was an assistant on the Sunday Desk. All this time I was doing amusements work on the side and not getting paid for it because in those days there were only two guys doing amusements: Frank Gagnard for the *Picayune* and James Perry for the *States Item* and they did everything. Frank did everything. Jim did not do classical music. Frank did movies, theatre, classical music, opera—everything. Anyway Frank was a great teacher because he taught me to be amusing when writing amusements—you know, you're writing about entertainment you ought to be entertaining whilst doing it! I don't know, people who make me laugh are people I gravitate toward.

Q: All right, people who make you laugh—things that make you laugh—so far you've told me—in writing for the theatre that is the hook—the beginning?

A: It really is.

Q: So this we can relate also to the tremendous amount of work you've done at the *Times Picayune*. Since I've been back in New Orleans, since 1983, I've only known you to be in the Living Section and I see your work. If you were to take all this work and put it together, no telling—piles of copy—

A: There are boxes of clippings all over my house—

Q: You are constantly reviewing tele-

[continued on 39]

Peters from San Francisco. July 19 - Aug. 2.

SOUTH PACIFIC

Dixon Hall, Tulane Univ., 504.865.5269.

Summer Lyric Theatre continues its season with this musical masterpiece by Rodgers and Hammerstein. Michael Howard directs Elizabeth Argus as Nellie Forbush and Richard Hutton as Emile De Becque, while Pamela Legendre conducts the large orchestra, with sets by David Raphael and choreography by Alton Geno. July 9 - 1



The guys fly high in Stomp

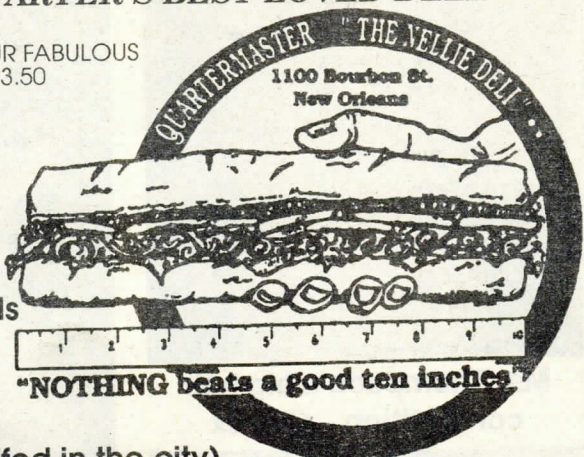
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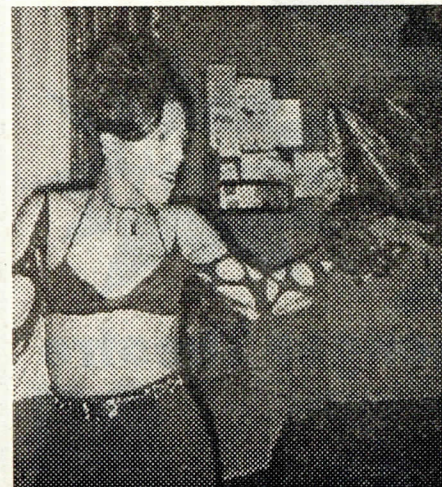
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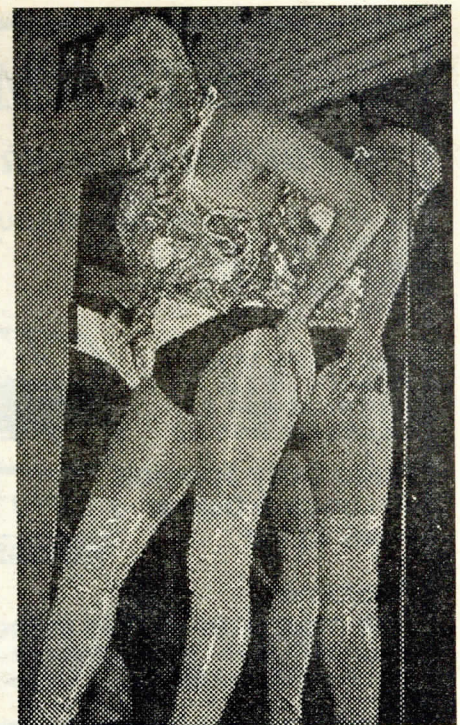
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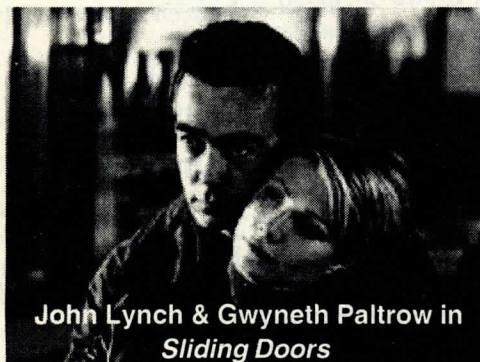
REEL TO REAL

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Sliding Doors

Have you ever wondered "what if?" In this film Helen (Gwyneth Paltrow) gets to find out. As she is running for a train, the doors slide shut. We get to see an alternate-reality in which she makes the train.

Helen is a Public Relations Executive who has just been sacked, for, of all things, borrowing vodka. She has been living for two and a half years with her boyfriend Gerry (John Lynch), a novelist who has been having an affair with his ex-girlfriend, the evil Lydia (Jeanne Tripplehorn). The Helen, who doesn't make the train, is mugged while trying to hail a taxi. She ends up having her head stitched up; thus, missing Lydia and Gerry in the clench.



John Lynch & Gwyneth Paltrow in *Sliding Doors*

In order to support Gerry, she decides that she is going to have to take a part-time job and finds one as a waitress. As the job doesn't pay enough to keep the both of them, she decides that she needs a second job and finds one as a sandwich delivery person—all this while Gerry is happily, or nearly happily, shagging the evil Lydia. Lydia has decided that she must have Gerry back, but is frustrated when it becomes more and more apparent that Gerry is in love with Helen and has no intention of leaving her.

Helen discovers she is pregnant. She

attempts to tell Gerry several times, but he is always in the middle of some sort of crisis with Lydia and Helen never has the chance to tell him. The evil Lydia, during a weekend trip with Gerry, determines that she has just had enough of Gerry and calls the affair off. Unfortunately, Helen is not the only one pregnant—Lydia decides to take her revenge out on both Helen and Gerry.

Helen is offered a job interview, but she must come to the apartment of the woman doing the hiring. Lydia calls Gerry to tell him she's pregnant and he should come over to discuss the issue, conveniently at the same time that Helen has her interview. Helen arrives at her interview appointment, rings the bell, and who

should answer the door but Gerry! She wants to know what he's doing there but, before he can answer, Lydia answers for him—he's there to discuss whether or not she's going to keep his child. Helen takes off with Gerry right behind her. In her attempt to escape she takes a header down the stairs. It is at the hospital that Gerry finally finds out that Helen was pregnant.

The Helen who made the train has a profoundly different experience. On the train she becomes acquainted with James (John Hannah). James is attractive and funny and it's clear that he is interested in Helen. Helen explains that she has been

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involved with someone for two years and is flattered but no thank you. This Helen, having been sacked, arrives home early to find Lydia perched atop Gerry.

We next see her sitting in a bar awaiting her girlfriend Anna, with whom she'll be staying. But at the bar is James, who is visiting a friend. He expresses his sympathy and quietly moves to the background, watching Helen all the while. After getting completely crooked, Anna attempts to get Helen home, but it is James who comes to the rescue with a cab. Helen goes through a vacillating stage where she alternately wants Gerry to call and doesn't want Gerry to call, wants James to call and doesn't want James to call. Ultimately, of course, she begins seeing James. James is very good

for Helen's confidence and self-esteem. He talks her into opening her own PR firm and lines up her first client, Clive, the friend of James who was with him at the bar, who is opening up a new restaurant.

Things go well with James until he quits calling. Helen, suspicious and dealing with the new knowledge that she's pregnant, goes to James' office to see him and is told that he is at the hospital visiting his mother with his wife. James makes an attempt to see Helen and Anna reads the poor guy to filth. He, desperate to explain, tears around London looking for her. He eventually finds her on a bridge that plays a part in one of the most romantic scenes in

[continued on 39]

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redstick ...from 26

show. In fact, they could both do a standup comic routine and bring the house down. They're absolutely fabulous!

Charles is king of this organization. He also was one of the two ticket sellers for that big drawing. Gerard was the other ticket seller. Michael and Kelly, another dynamic twosome, took care of the drink tickets, and bartenders (who made especially great drinks) were Tracy, Ernie and Jimmy. I also talked with Bruce, who is captain of this krew, and he's another fine young gentleman.

Le Petit Theatre du Vieux Carre is a grand old theater for the Crescent City. Supporting their programs helps to keep this facility open for such great shows. *Gypsy* was very good with a wonderful cast, including some great looking guys.

Gypsy is going to be playing through June 14, 1998, so make it on over there and see it.

Blue Parrot, George's Hot Spots For Holiday Weekend

Memorial Day in Baton Rouge was a fun time for all those who didn't make the Florida trip. Don and Tom did a bang-up job cooking at the Blue Parrot, and Bruce did the chef duty at George's.

The patio at the Blue Parrot was a wonderful place to be. George and Chris, Tony and Greg, and lots of others braved the heat to dine in this tropical oasis. The others stayed in the cool surroundings of the interior, but everyone enjoyed the camaraderie of this establishment.

Sir Richard held court at George's while Finis just worked his little buns off keeping all the patrons happy. Stan, a former bartender at George's, is back in town and was there celebrating with everyone, but my favorite little cutie was Brian, who was reading all about Red Stick in the latest *Ambush*.

Hide-A-Way Garners Another Coup

Minette and her bar business expertise has accomplished another coup for the Baton Rouge area with a suggestion from jovial Jonathan. In the last issue of *Ambush*, I told you about that fabulous photographer Mark (of George's) and his studio. Well, Sharon, a friend of Jonathan's and fellow employee at one of the local camera shops, is now doing professional photography at the Hide-A-Way. The capital city is fortunate to have these two profession-

als working in our fair city. They will be happy to capture your memories on film. You can contact Sharon at the Hide-A-Way or leave a message for her there from Wed. through Sat. She will get back with you and set up the photo shoot. She's also set up shop in the Hide-A-Way.

You also need to go by and check out the new Hubba Bubba. This sweetheart's got a buzz job done to her head, and she looks great. Hubba, Hubba, Bubba, Bubba!

Hibiscus, Mirror Lounge, Time Zone Updates

Hibiscus Bookstore has new stock of jewelry, stickers, and scads of new books, both fiction and non-fiction. The past two weeks, there was an unusual sale of 50% off all photography books. Lots of New Orleanians drive up to the capital city to check out the store's fine collection, and this brought out many old acquaintances from the Crescent City.

The Mirror Lounge has a number of contests planned, including two for men only. Complete information can be obtained from Danny or Jeff at 504.387.9797. The Lady Rhonda and another beauty, Roxanne, were on a shopping spree at Hibiscus. The Lady took time away from her bartending duties to take Roxanne around the town.

The Time Zone is having another big crawfish boil on Sat., June 20. This Main Street establishment is always packed for these sessions. They also have quite a few drink specials, so check them out and enjoy the hospitality you will find here.

CAPE Comes To BR

CAPE (Capital Area Power Exchange) is a support group for people who share an interest in the BDSM, D/S, leather, or fetish lifestyle. Meetings are held on the first and third Sat. of the month in a safe, relaxed familiar place to talk about sex and alternative sexuality, such as bondage and sado-masochism, domination and submission, consensual slavery, and a place in society. It's a pansexual group, open to adults of all sexual orientations but over 21 years of age. Appropriate dress and proper etiquette is expected. CAPE promotes safe, sane and consensual BDSM between consenting adults. It is not a sex club, or a dating service. They use a strict "touch by permission only" policy. This applies to people and their personal belongings (toys, gear, etc.). If you are new to the scene, a seasoned player, a dominant, submissive, switch, single, in a relationship or just plain

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curious, check out a meeting to discuss and share ideas, have fun and be yourself without fear of being judged. For more information, the E-mail address is capebria2@aol.com. Check CAPE's website at <http://members.aol.com/capebria1> for the latest news.

Evolution Times

I talked with Jason at length last week as well as Obry, Evolution's snazzy manager. Jason tells me he is doing some DJ work at OZ now. He has been a mainstay at Evolution for a long time, and it looks like the Crescent City may be taking a liking to him. He's a great guy, and he does have a flair for the type of music that Gay people are so connected to. That's the trait of a good music man—to know what the people want. Jason has the knack to do just that, and he does it up in fine fashion.

Evolution is open from Wed. through Sat. It's one of the hottest clubs in the Deep South, and if you haven't come out to visit this establishment, you've missed something very special.

Miscellanea

Roger, TTT's other half, has made it in from Houston two weekends in a row. TTT has the rosier cheeks in town. I haven't seen him smile this much since that guy did that weenie check in Henderson.

The Shreveport Krewe of Apollo is having their Theme Announcement Party on Sat., June 13. I'll keep you posted on this event. Burt and Kevin, two of Spanish Town's finest couples welcomed Shreveporter Steve down for a visit.

Our fabulous Patrick and perky Paul are still trekking around the LSU lakes trying to keep in shape. About the only thing they're exercising is their eye muscles behind those dark glasses. The bodies are out in force, and this duo does an excellent job checking everyone out. Patrick also had a guest over from Arizona for the Memorial Day weekend.

Damon is heading to Key West in July for the Hemingway Look-Alike Contest. He's also entered the short story contest. Later, it will be San Francisco. And speaking of San Francisco, Tom, Gene R., Blake and Rod just got back from their trip out there. They had a blast. I do hope everyone is keeping up with the Maupin series that finally made it back to TV land. *More Tales of the City* picks up where *Tales of the City* left off. Poo-poo on the religious dogooders who delayed this show for so long with their anti-Gay propaganda. Anyway

in the news from 28

situation for others. What began as an agreement among friends, Gay male couple Kevin Green and Thomas Askounis and Lesbian couple Lynn Alleruzzo and Charlene Crotty, degenerated into a legal struggle shortly after the birth of the child known as "E.P.A.," now 21 months old. Green contributed the sperm and Alleruzzo bore the child after performing a home insemination with medical advice.

Had the procedure been performed in a medical setting, the law would have clearly denied Green's claim to parenthood. In order for Crotty to co-adopt the child, the women wanted Green to sign a waiver, which they believed to have been the agreement all along. But Green's understanding was that he would be actively involved in the child's life, as he had been in the pregnancy and delivery, and when the women refused to allow him to see "E.P.A." without the waiver, he filed for joint custody.

On June 2, Green gave up, tired of the struggle and fearing he would lose the opportunity for early bonding with "E.P.A.," and said he would sign the waiver if it proved necessary for Crotty's adoption proceedings, in exchange for visitation. The attorneys are hopeful that the once-close friendship between the two couples can now be renewed. A Cook County Circuit judge had previously dismissed Green's claim "with prejudice."

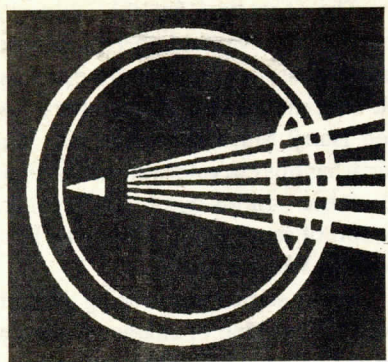
Task Force Applauds Clinton Anti-Discrimination Order

The National Gay and Lesbian Task Force recently praised President Clinton's signing of an Executive Order prohibiting discrimination based on sexual orientation in the federal civilian workforce.

"We applaud President Clinton for this act of leadership and fairness," stated Task Force political director Rebecca Isaacs. "Federal civilian workers will now be covered by a uniform policy."

The Executive Order ensures that all federal agencies ban employment discrimination based on sexual orientation. Many, but not all, federal agencies currently have some form of policy prohibiting sexual orientation discrimination. "nation," said Isaacs.

you look at it, their voices are still a form of hate, not love.



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interview ...from 34

vision shows, movies and books—

A: Well, the major thing I did at the *Picayune* was I created TV Focus and for 16 years I was the editor of TV Focus and I had this great group of people I assembled—and we were very funny with TV Focus. We got away with all kinds of things. We had a great time.

Q: Most of your theatrical productions—the things you've written, or helped to write—have tapped into this vast knowledge you have of movie or entertainment trivia.

A: Yeah. I'm the guy at the paper they come to and say, "who was in this movie?" or who sang that song?

Q: Especially your telling me about *Moon* and all the different MGM movies stars you made fun of.

A: But you've got to love it to make fun of it. In my experience anyway, you've got to have a knowledge and love of the subject and you've got to find something there that you can hang on to because if you're too acidity.... But that enjoyment doesn't come across to the audience. You want to entertain people. You want to make

real to reel ...from 37

the movie. He explains to her that he and his wife Claudia (Nina Young) have been separated for six months and will soon divorce, but that they keep up the pretense for his mother, who is in failing health. It is at this point that Helen reveals her news.

Now that they've shared their news and both are happy, Helen goes off to call Anna to give her the good news. James calls to her to tell her he loves her, she turns, and is hit by a van. This Helen, in the hospital, loses more than her child. She loses her life.

At this point our stories converge. I will tell you that both Gerry and James remain as characters in the film. What happens is for you to discover. This is a marvelously witty movie. James' dialogue is a running monologue of absurdities, and Helen can string together in one sentence more profanities than I knew existed. The movie is touching, funny and a bit surreal. Now showing at Canal Place, it is a movie to see.

them smile and laugh and you've got to have a good time with your subject to let your audience have a good time with it.

Q: But you've got to have an edge—there has to be some acid—

A: Yeah

Q: *Daryl's Perils* was the ultimate parody. I hesitate to say satire—but that's where its edge was—satire—of real movie drack.

A: It's a prime example of a sensibility where you know something is of an inferior nature but you love it partly for its inferior nature—

Q: Exactly

[continued on 40]

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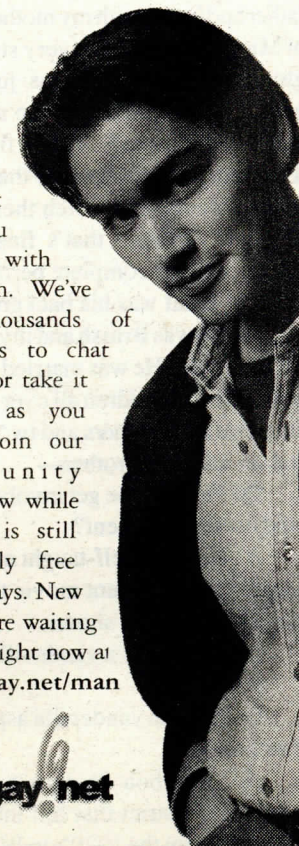
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interview ...from 39

A: You know like B movies and things—like women's pictures—*Madame X*—I can sit there and watch Lana Turner in *Madame X* and I can laugh my ass off and I can cry the next minute too—it works for me on both levels.

Q: Now we get to *At The*—

A: *At The Club Toot Sweet On Bourbon Street*—

Q: Which sounds like a lyric.

A: It is. That's why the title got changed.

Q: I'm just curious to know if in the lyric it does say "at the club toot sweet"—

A: It does.

Q: Because already there's stuff that comes out of rehearsals and things that Becky suggested you call it "*At The Club Toot Sweet On Bourbon Street*" so it would be at the top of the listings.

A: That's actually true—

Q: Like...*And The Ball And All*.

A: The song lyric had already been written and it already had it in there so we weren't like just doing something for a craven purpose!

Q: Who generated the beginnings of this particular show.

A: This is one of the few times I did.

Q: You started it. Why?

A: Because my father worked on Bourbon St. for more than twenty years. He was a comedian and a ventriloquist. He was Phil D'Rey. He had some very distinctive dummies. He had Gangrene who was a talking gorilla and he had Drunken Hines who was a life size figure that walked. It stood on its legs. Always a ventriloquist's dummy sits on something. Gangrene sat on his own cage. Daddy pushed the cage out and behind the bars you saw this gorilla in military uniform because he was in guerrilla warfare. Drunken Hines ambled out with Daddy guiding him.

I've had a sort of checkered childhood—didn't we all—but I would vacillate back and forth between living with my father and living with my mother's relatives in Michigan who were very strict and religious and my father was just anything goes. "You want to stay up all night and watch old movies? That's fine with me. You want to come down to the club and sit in the balcony and watch these girls take off their clothes, that's fine with me." Daddy was for complete permissiveness.

Q: What was his background?

A: He was British and my mother was his fifth wife. He was married seven times in all. He has children all over the world. I have two full brothers and two half-sisters and an adopted brother—

Q: How did he get involved with this kind of entertainment?

A: He was a self-taught musician. He played piano in silent movie theatres. He started doing tent shows.

Q: So he was a vaudevillian?

A: Yes.

Q: And the vaudeville aspect came to Bourbon St.?

A: Bourbon St. was a very fancy residential district that fell into complete disrepair from the 1920's to WWII and the

influx of servicemen looking for you know—a "good time"—there were already a few clubs here but most were on Rampart St. During the war that's when the shift came, from Rampart to Bourbon and these clubs started springing up. By the early 50's there were some very fancy show rooms on Bourbon St. The Casino Royale was an enormous club, very fancy, Ciro's, the Moulin Rouge, these were all big show rooms. They had variety shows. They were basically vaudeville—

Q: Burlesque...?

A: Moved over with an added element of burlesque to it. I've got ads from all these clubs—been going through the newspaper files—and your bill would have a dance act, singer, comic emcee, there were contortionists, magicians and a star stripper and maybe a supporting strip. You also had acts like Carrie Fennell who sang risqué songs and also "Cupcake" O'Mason, she sang risqué songs. And you had novelty strips—

Q: Like Rusty Warren—

A: The one Harry Mayronne loves is Ruth Wallace—she played the Monteleone a lot. This was also the era of—what was his name—guys did it too—sang risqué songs—Dwight Fiske. He didn't play Bourbon St. He played the St. Charles Hotel.

Q: *At Club Toot Sweet on Bourbon St.* is in the fifties?

A: 1958 specifically. Because that was the time when they were doing a lot of raids. There had been some police scandals and I think they were trying to erase the public's memory of that. And they would sweep down and arrest girls for b drinking, for obscenity, any infraction they could find and they would herd them into court, forty and fifty at a time, and it's very funny if you look at the newspaper files for you see the girls being escorted into the paddy wagon in their Bourbon St. flashy finery and when they go to court, two or three days later, they've got on pretty little dresses, and gloves and hats and they're holding their purses and it's—entertainment—pure entertainment. I never touched any of this. My father died in 1970 and in the 70s and 80s I was working on the paper doing news stories, general entertainment stories, from time to time I remember doing a piece on Chris Owens. You know Chris has been on Bourbon St. for more than 40 years. Our show is set in 1958 and she was a starring on Bourbon St. then.

Q: Do you mention her in the show?

A: Not yet. But the show is changing so much. It's a real organic thing. It's evolving during the rehearsals, but I didn't touch on any of this for the longest time until Peggy Scott Laborde did a special on Bourbon St. and she interviewed me and I started talking about all these people. People contacted me. I did a couple of Big Easy stories on Kitty West, who was the Evangeline Oyster Girl; on a lady I called the "Snap Queen"—she took pictures for all the night clubs. Then I did the monologue for *Native Tongues* which was based on Allouette LeBlanc who was a tassel twirler who made costumes for the girls on the street. Peggy's documentary showed years later in Charleston, SC. Allouette called me. I did a story on her. I did a story just recently

on Kalantan who was—when I was 10 years old Kalantan was to me the epitome of beauty and glamour and her husband Adolfo Martinez was a hair stylist. She and my father had the same agent when they weren't working Bourbon St., and they traveled throughout the South—Huntsville, AL, Panama City Beach, Dallas—one of these places—and we'd hook up and it was heaven for me 'cause Calantan and Adolfo were like kids and we'd just sit there and watch "Rocky" and "Bullwinkle" and stuff our faces with M & Ms and she was adorable to me. I loved her. I was always looking for a mom 'cause I didn't have one. And to find her again after all these years was just a thrill.

I started talking to these ladies, interviewed Stormy's son—Stormy's dead now but found her son—and I had an idea cooking for a long time about trying to do a show set on Bourbon St. And then people found me. Even when I wasn't looking for this material, it found me. A dancer named Audrey Maduel—Frank Gagnard told me "Oh she's a riot, David, you oughta interview this woman." So I went to her house in Metairie and interviewed her and we were talking and she was telling me some of the places she played and she had played Casino Royale. And I said, "My dad played the Casino Royale."

"Who was your dad, baby?" And I said Phil D'Rey. "Ahhh. Wait here!" And she gets her scrap book out and she opens it up and she shows me a picture of herself when she played Chicago. My dad played Chicago for years. And there's my father and his dummy with Audrey Maduel and she's putting her leg up for the dummy to inspect. So I'm running into this stuff all over the place and I'm thinking there must be a reason for all this material to be revisiting me and I oughta do something with it. But, from the various collaborators I have, nobody could see the possibilities in this until Ricky.

We got together originally to do this show but then *Daryl's Perils* came up and that was Ricky's idea which I loved, 'cause I love those serials, I've got 'em all on my video shelf, "Commander Cody," "Green Hornet," I gotta 'em all. So we had a great time doing that and now we're doing this.

You know it's kinda hard because Ricky and Becky and Roy [Haylock] make their livings from entertainment. I make my living from the newspaper and entertainment is a sideline so we're working around everyone's schedule but the planets came together and we were able to get Southern Rep for the summer so let's do it. So we're doing it. And it's become its own thing. We wrote a whole script originally with all kinds of stories going on and we had a reading and the stories interfered with the nightclub show so basically what Ricky said and I agreed was, "we've got to do a nightclub show because that is what we're supposed to be doing." It's got to work as a nightclub show first and foremost and if we can have some of this other stuff going on around it fine.

So that's what it is now, it's little bits and pieces threaded throughout.

The characters are the cashier, the doorman, the barmaid, there's an unseen gangster boss lurking around the premises. We concentrated on the numbers. And then Harry Mayronne came into it and Harry has this encyclopedic knowledge of 50s music—forms that I had forgotten—the sort of saucy patter songs—he knows the Ruth Wallace oeuvre.

Becky started out as being the sort of Evelyn West kind of character—she was the girl with the \$50,000 treasure "chest" that was insured by Lloyds of London. Evelyn gave me my first job in show business in St. Louis. I operated a follow spot for her. And by that time she was kind of old. She was in her fifties—God, I'm in my fifties now—but when I was 16 that seemed old to me. Her whole act was in rhymed patter and she just sort of shook her titties. She would have a few drinks and lose her place and all she could do was to restart her act—go back to the beginning of the act—and it really made for some long shows. That's what Becky was supposed to be. Later we thought of Becky as the Carrie Fennell or "Cupcake" O'Mason. She'll jiggle her tits and she'll jiggle in time to the music. She does a song about it's not enough to have big tits, you've gotta make 'em do something. Which is based on Allouette's remark. She said, "Honey, I don't show 'em, I just do tricks with 'em."

Q: So what's Becky's character's name?

A: She's Busty Rusty Russell, the Saucy Sophisticate of Song. And she's got a song called "It's The Bounce On Top That Counts". But then we do a little burlesque with her as well.

Q: How big is the cast.

A: I think it's eleven people now, with some doubling. We have one girl who works at Rick's Cabaret—Veronica [Giacano]—and another girl who works at the Candy Club out in New Orleans East, Lara [Nelms], who's just gorgeous. They both have some acting experience. They're adding wonderful authenticity and tell hysterical stories about what it's like to work today and we're bringing some of the ladies in, we're bringing Kitty West and Suzanne Robins in to show the real stripper walk. Kitty says, "Honey, when we walked out on the stage, we walked out like royalty." Suzanne's the one comparing yesterday to today saying, "Honey, we left the stage wearing more than some girls wear around the swimming pool today."

The doorman starts the show out with a big opening number. Michael Bennett is the emcee and the comic and our vision of him is sort of Pal Joey 30 years later. He's got a lot of lines of my father's, but also stuff my father would take and we've skewed it funny. My father had a routine with a dummy called the Bull Fighter. I took a few lines of that and we built a whole Western routine for Rusty and Buddy, which is Michael, to do a whole burlesque routine that segues into a number called "Ride 'em Cowboy." Our exotic act is Camille Leon the Lizard Lady—

Q: What's the premise?

A: The premise is that you wouldn't have all these star strips on one bill. First

of all this is one of the smaller clubs, say down around the 600 - 700 block of Bourbon. The gangster that runs it is the nephew of the mob boss, he's lower echelon mafia and Rusty is his girl friend. The girls have been arrested for b drinking and obscenity and some of these lower life forms, as Rusty says, masquerading as human beings and running these clubs, aren't bailing the girls out. So they're starting a bail bond fund, the S.O.S. fund—Save Our Strippers—so that when these girls get arrested—

Q: So this is a benefit performance.

A: Yes. A benefit performance to start this fund up.

Q: But the benefit is happening inside the club—

A: The Club Toot Sweet. Because this is Rusty's idea and Rusty and the cashier, Miss B, who was Miss Bourbon Street of 1948 and now she makes costumes for the girls and keeps the books for the gangsters. So they've enticed the girls from the Show Bar and the Old French Opera House and the Moulin Rouge, all these star strips to come. And there's some rivalry among the girls.

Q: So that's your tension.

A: Toot Sweet is so small that the other star strip at the Club Toot Sweet is Dixie Lee Barrymore, the Bernhardt of Burlesque [Renee Maxwell], who also doubles as the camera girl and doesn't like doing it one bit.

Q: Is there a denouement?

A: Yes there is. You'll have to come see it. Q: And we will—I can't wait! And thank you very much.

Dear David: My girlfriend is the outdoors type and I hate the idea of another camping trip. Judy

Dear Judy: Perhaps a compromise is in order, like renting a cabin. Remember it is mentally healthy for partners to have outside activities separate from the other.



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David Wagner, M.Ed., LPC, NCC

LETTERS

Dear Friends,

I am writing to you today to let you know that effective June 1 of this year I will no longer be working as LEGAL's executive director.

As most of you already know, after five years with LEGAL, I have taken a position with Peace Corps. I leave Louisiana on June 2, and on June 9 I depart from Pensacola, Florida (my hometown) for Washington, DC. I'll then be flying overseas on June 11 to begin my two-and-a-half year tour of duty.

Thanks for all of the help you have given me during my time here with LEGAL in Louisiana. I hope to have the chance to see all of you again in the near future.

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E-mail

From: Aimee Schmidt aimeelou@bell south.net

Subject: out on a limb

Pam Young is great! Just spent 30 mins reading her pieces "Out on a Limb." Look forward to reading more of it. Keep up the good work on Ambush. Your Ninth Ward (Bywater) Neighbor,

—Aimee Schmidt

From: ARS asouder@earthlink.net

Subject: party southern dec...

I was told that miss love would choose colors by July and I think that the new queen should be the designer of the next southern decadence don't you?

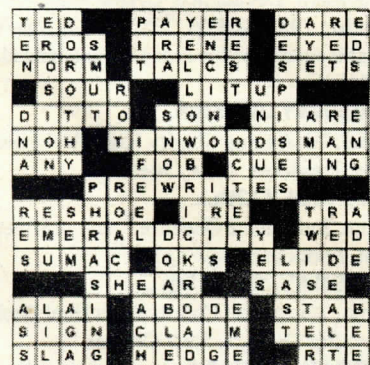
We are waiting for the colors to make our next/this years outfits. get your act together, this is a major money maker for you and the city, but if you drop the ball then it will go commercial and then it will all be lost to...? STILL WAITING, still coming regardless of your planning!

CROSSWORDS

by Bill O'Malley

ACROSS

- 1 Have the lead role
- 5 Sharp
- 10 Cry from a bullring
- 13 Shorthand taker, for short
- 14 Spindles
- 15 _____ machine, office essential
- 16 Just a hint
- 17 Not dead
- 18 Dynamite letters
- 19 Coastal bird
- 20 Clan
- 21 Erode
- 22 Tickle me _____, popular toy
- 24 With 40 Down, author of "Orlando: a Biography"
- 26 Stomach muscles, abbrev.
- 28 Crumb

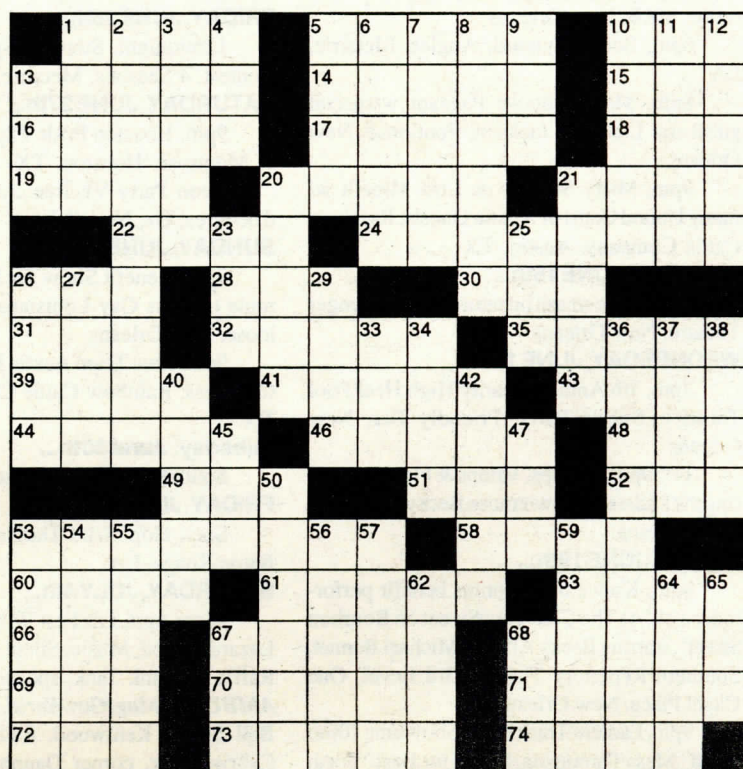


Solution to last issue's puzzle

- 30 Snake like fish
- 31 _____ Vegas
- 32 Newton or Asimov
- 35 Rims
- 39 Film star, Barrymore
- 41 With 21 Down, author of "The Importance of Being Ernest"
- 43 Ages and ages
- 44 Popular cookies
- 46 Disrobe
- 48 Decay
- 49 Mine product
- 51 Genetic letters
- 52 Curvy letter
- 53 See 2 Down
- 58 Slovak or Croat
- 60 Patron saint of Norway
- 61 Course
- 63 Ready for picking
- 66 _____ Tin Tin, old movie dog
- 67 Popular Broadway musical
- 68 Movie star, Winona
- 69 Down in the dumps
- 70 Encounters
- 71 Habit
- 72 Asner and McMahon
- 73 Clandestine romantic meeting
- 74 Actor Gibson, and namesakes
- DOWN**
- 1 Ado
- 2 With 53 Across, author of "The Glass Menagerie"
- 3 Heavenly being
- 4 _____ v. Wade, historic court case
- 5 German state
- 6 1044, in ancient Rome
- 7 Excuse
- 8 Venerate
- 9 Half of a tropical fly
- 10 Frequently
- 11 Hawaiian porch
- 12 In addition
- 13 Joan of Arc's title, abbr.
- 20 Upper body
- 21 See 41 Across
- 23 Me in Nice
- 25 Expression of surprise
- 26 Fashion designer, Gucci
- 27 Rosanne's original surname
- 29 Russian news agency
- 33 Emote
- 34 Singer, Vicki
- 36 Author of Myra Brekinridge
- 37 Grandson of Adam and Eve
- 38 Concordes, for short
- 40 See 24 Across
- 42 Washing machine cycle
- 45 _____ Lanka
- 47 Buddy
- 50 Bread winner
- 53 Not as good
- 54 Homer's epic
- 55 Comes ashore

- 56 Cash
- 57 Legal actions
- 59 Come up
- 62 Assay
- 64 Dowels
- 65 Before, to a poet
- 67 How much, abbr.
- 68 Pirates drink of choice

NEXT ISSUE~July 4th
DUE OUT: Fri., June 26th
DEADLINE
Tues., June 16th
504.522.8049



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SPECIAL EVENTS

WEDNESDAY, JUNE 10th...

11:30pm, Show Night: Movie Musicals starring Teryl-Lynn Foxx, Lisa Beaumann, Raquel Chevallier & Nikki Rich, Oz, New Orleans

FRIDAY, JUNE 12th...

7pm, Houston Pride Kick-off Party, Riva's Italian Restaurant, Houston, TX

7:30pm, Mother's 78th Birthday BBQ & Party, followed by 11pm show featuring special birthday guests, Mother Bob's, New Orleans

9pm-12am, Hot Men Taking Showers, plus after hours, Dick's Deja Disco, Austin, TX

9pm, Mike Barnes one man band, Cheers, Gretna, LA

12midnight-2am, Damsels in Disdress from Temptations & Boys in Boxers from Heaven, Rubyfruit Jungle, New Orleans

Karaoke w/Kathy Cane, Chances, Hammond, LA

Miss Lake Shores, a prelude to Miss Gay Louisiana, Crystal's, Lake Charles, LA

Toga Party w/DJ Marie, Hide-A-Way, Baton Rouge, LA

SATURDAY, JUNE 13th...

10am, Houston Pride Jamboree, Memorial Park, Houston, TX

6:30pm, Krewe of Apollo Baton Rouge presents Apollo's Follies w/hors d'oeuvres, cash bar, live variety show & buffet dinner, show at 8pm, Baton Rouge Little Theatre, Bon Marche Mall, 7155 Florida Blvd., Baton Rouge, LA

9pm, Miss High Heel Drag Show & Contest, kicking off 7th Annual Charity High Heel Pool Tournament, w/raffles, food & drink specials, Mint, New Orleans

10pm, Issac's Gun, Angles, Metairie, LA

10pm-1am, Hot Men Taking Showers, plus after hours, Dick's Deja Disco, Austin, TX

10pm, Next Exit, Angles, Metairie, LA

10:30pm, Viva Las Vamps starring Lady Magic Necha featuring Imaginary Lover, L.Gee, Kozy & Ms. Wright, Cheers, Gretna, LA

11pm, Show to be announced, Chances, Hammond, LA

SUNDAY, JUNE 14th...

10am, Pride Day in the Park at AstroWorld, Houston, TX

5pm, Spike It benefiting Volleyball New Orleans, show w/drag legends, silent auction & raffle, MRB, New Orleans

6pm, Becky Eymard, Angles, Metairie, LA

8pm, Mr. Footloose Pageant w/special guest star Lawanda Jackson, Footloose, New Orleans

9pm, Misty Stevens as Liza Minelli w/many United Court of Austin Guests, Rainbow Cattle Company, Austin, TX

TUESDAY, JUNE 16th...

Stomp, the smash hit returns to the Saenger Theatre, New Orleans

WEDNESDAY, JUNE 17th...

7pm, 7th Annual Charity High Heel Pool Tourney, Sports Party, Friendly Bar, New Orleans

11:30pm, Tramps, Vamps & Floozies starring the Ladies of Oz w/emcee Becky Allen, Oz, New Orleans

FRIDAY, JUNE 19th...

8pm, Krewe of Petronius benefit performance of "At The Club Toot Sweet on Bourbon Street", starring Becky Allen & Michael Bennet, Southern Repertory Theatre, 3rd Level, One Canal Place, New Orleans

9pm, Lantern Trash Party, Showtime 10pm w/MC Mess Thompson, Prizes for Best "Trash Fashion" Costume, Lucille's Golden Lantern,

New Orleans

10pm, Karaoke w/Elsie & Roger, Cheers, Gretna, LA

SATURDAY, JUNE 20th...

12noon, Free Crawfish Boil, Time Zone, Baton Rouge, LA

6:30pm til, Crawfish Boil, 4 Seasons, Metairie, LA

9-11pm, Grand Opening of Emerald City w/free well cocktails, domestic beer & hot food-New Orleans style, special New Orleans Drag Show: Broadway Babies @ 10pm, Emerald City, Pensacola, FL

9:30pm, Construction Party '98 Building Pride, The Hangar, Houston, TX

10pm, Sherreece, Angles, Metairie, LA

11pm, Profiles, Chances, Hammond, LA

Heaven, A Night of Celestial Proportions w/DJs Darren Thomas, Chuck Boudreaux & Wayne Mancuso, plus Heavenly Go-Go Boys, Bourbon Pub/Parade, New Orleans

1 Year Anniversary Bash, afternoon Malibu Rum Party & Cook-out on the Patio, evening Dekuyper Pucker Party w/bartender's cocktails, dance party w/Sondra & Michelle and midnight balloon drop, Blue Parrot, Baton Rouge, LA

Prom Night, w/crowning of Prom King & Queen, Lance's Pub, Harvey, LA

Robyn E, Hide-A-Way, Baton Rouge, LA

Summer Solstice Celebration featuring Hot Fantasy Men, George's, Baton Rouge, LA

SUNDAY, JUNE 21st...

5pm, Karaoke w/Mary, Angles, Metairie, LA

9pm, United Court of Austin presents Daddy's Day Off Show featuring many of your favorite performers, Rainbow Cattle Company, Austin, TX

Daddy's Day Specials, 4 Seasons, Metairie, LA

TUESDAY, JUNE 23rd...

Wolfendale's Turn-a-bout benefiting Bridge House Drop In Center, Wolfendale's, New Orleans

WEDNESDAY, JUNE 24th...

7pm, 7th Annual Charity High Heel Pool Tourney, Disco Party, Angles, Metairie, LA

11:30pm, The Disney Show starring the Ladies of Oz w/emcee Becky Allen, Oz, New Orleans

THURSDAY, JUNE 25th...

6-8pm, Reception & Signing, Rey. Troy Perry, Founder of Metropolitan Community Church, Faubourg Marigny Books, New Orleans

FRIDAY, JUNE 26th...

12midnight, Summer Splash Wet Boxer Contest, 4 Seasons, Metairie, LA

SATURDAY, JUNE 27th...

9pm, Houston Pride Parade, Westheimer & Montrose, Houston, TX

Neon Party VI, free champagne & hors d'oeuvres, Oz, New Orleans

SUNDAY, JUNE 28th...

9pm, Benefit Show for Infinity Iman, en route to Miss Gay Louisiana America, Footloose, New Orleans

9pm, Row Team Austin Benefit w/Denise Caviness, Rainbow Cattle Company, Austin, TX

Tuesday, June 30th...

South Park Party, 4 Seasons, Metairie, LA

FRIDAY, JULY 3rd...

Sock Hop w/DJ Darlene, Hide-A-Way, Baton Rouge, LA

SATURDAY, JULY 4th...

11am-6pm, Laz Fest '98 benefiting Project Lazarus: Food, Music, Silent Auction, Games, Raffle & Dunk Tank; sponsored by Absolut, AMBUSH Mag/GayWorld.net, Budweiser, Bell South, Kentwood, Radiofone & Pepsi, Cabrini Park, corner Dauphine & Barracks, French Quarter, New Orleans

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5-9pm, Committee of Friends 4th of July Picnic w/Friends, food, fun entertainment: Allison Collins Band & Karaoke w/Cody King, 15346 Perkins Road, Baton Rouge, LA

Annual July 4th Blowout, George's, Baton Rouge, LA

Raffle Drawing benefiting Team New Orleans, Laz Fest, New Orleans

SUNDAY, JULY 5th...

9pm, United Court of Austin presents Sadie Hawkins Old Fashion Dance Party & Wrangler Butts Contest w/\$250 in cash & prizes, plus over 100 Compact Disc Give-aways, Rainbow Cattle Company, Austin, TX

Southern Decadence Grand Marshal's Coronation '98, SDGM XXV Miss Love chooses his successor, location to be announced, New Orleans

WEDNESDAY, JULY 8th...

7pm, 7th Annual Charity High Heel Pool Tourney, Footloose, New Orleans

SUNDAY, JULY 12th...

8pm, 2nd Annual Queen of Rampart Street Pageant, Footloose, New Orleans

WEDNESDAY, JULY 15th...

7pm, 7th Annual Charity High Heel Pool Tourney, Big Daddy's, New Orleans

SATURDAY, JULY 18th...

Sherreece, Hide-A-Way, Baton Rouge, LA

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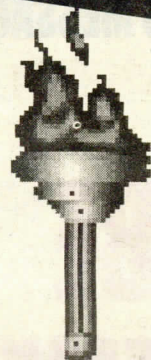
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